LIST OF FIGURES

**Figure 1.1** The housefly (*Musca domestica*) .................................................................2

**Figure 1.2** The fleshfly (*Sarcophaga* sp.) [Larval & Adult stage].................................6

**Figure 2.1** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from cultured isolates of house fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database ........................................................................................................42

**Figure 2.2** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from clone library of house fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database ........................................................................................................44

**Figure 2.3** Rarefaction curves of OTUs clustered at 97 % similarity from cultured isolate and clone library sequences ..........................................................46

**Figure 2.4** A bar chart indicating the percentage distribution of cultured isolates and clone library sequence in different taxa ..................................................46

**Figure 3.1** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from cultured isolates from larval stage flesh fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database ........................................................................70

**Figure 3.2** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from clone library of larval stage flesh fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database .........................................................................................72

**Figure 3.3** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from cultured isolates from adult stage flesh fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database ........................................................................74

**Figure 3.4** Unrooted phylogenetic dendrogram of 16S rRNA genes amplified from clone library of adult stage flesh fly gut homogenate, with representative sequences from the EzTaxon database ........................................................................76

**Figure 3.5** Rarefaction curves of OTUs generated at 97 % 16S rRNA gene sequence similarity from clone libraries (larval and adult stage) sequences ........................................79

**Figure 3.6** A bar chart indicating the percentage distribution of cultured isolates and clone library sequences from the larval and adult stage flesh fly gut homogenate in different divisions/phyla ........................................................................79

**Figure 4.1** Longitudinal section of strain FFA1\(^T\) as depicted by TEM ....................98
Figure 4.2 Longitudinal section of strain FFA3<sup>T</sup> as depicted by TEM.......................98
Figure 4.3 Transmission electron micrograph of negatively stained cells of strain FFA1<sup>T</sup> (A) and strain FFA3<sup>T</sup> (B)..............................99
Figure 4.4 Scanning electron micrograph (SEM) of cells of strain FFA1<sup>T</sup> (A) and strain FFA3<sup>T</sup> (B) .................................................99
Figure 4.5 Polar lipid profiles of strains FFA1<sup>T</sup> (A) and FFA3<sup>T</sup> (B) after two-dimensional silica gel TLC .........................................................101
Figure 4.6 Neighbor-joining tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria.............103
Figure 4.7 Neighbor-joining tree based on 23S rRNA gene sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria.............104
Figure 4.8 Neighbor-joining tree based on gyrB amino acid sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria.............105
Figure 4.9 ERIC (A) and REP (B) PCR genomic fingerprint of newly isolated strains compared with its closest relative within genus Ignatzschineria..............................106
Figure 4.10 Maximum-parsimony tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria...........109
Figure 4.11 Maximum-parsimony tree based on 23S rRNA gene sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria...........110
Figure 4.12 Maximum-parsimony tree based on gyrB amino acid sequences showing the phylogenetic position of FFA1<sup>T</sup> and FFA3<sup>T</sup> among Gammaproteobacteria...........111
Figure 5.1 Phylogenetic affiliation of Myroides sp. strain FFA2 isolated from adult flesh fly gut Sarcophaga sp. (Diptera: Sarcophagidae).................................120