

# The soil microbiome of shiro reveals the symbiotic relationship between *Tricholoma bakamatsutake* and *Quercus mongolica*

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### *Scope Statement*

*Tricholoma bakamatsutake* is an edible ectomycorrhizal fungus with increasing demand; however, its cultivation has yet to be achieved. In order to better understand its natural symbiotic relationships, we investigated *Quercus mongolica* and *T. bakamatsutake*-associated bacteria and the physicochemical properties and microbiome of the rhizosphere. We collected *T. bakamatsutake* root rhizosphere (Tb group) and corresponding environmental soil (CK group) samples from different areas and analyzed them for their physicochemical properties and microbiome structure. The results showed that *T. bakamatsutake* not only directly provided water and minerals to *Q. mongolica*, but also promoted the growth of the host by regulating the soil microbial community structure. This study is important for constructing a healthy soil microbial community structure and cultivating *T. bakamatsutake*-*Q. mongolica* mycorrhizal seedlings.

### *Conflict of interest statement*

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

### *CRediT Author Statement*

Zhaoqian Yang: Investigation, Resources, Writing - original draft. Zhenyu Wang: Investigation, Resources, Writing - original draft. Chentong Huang: Investigation, Resources, Writing - original draft. Yuqi Xie: Investigation, Resources, Writing - original draft. Jingfang Yi: Resources, Validation, Writing - original draft. Hongbo Guo: Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal Analysis, Funding acquisition, Project administration, Supervision, Validation, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Jiachen Zhao: Software, Visualization, Writing - original draft. Lidiya Alekseevna Sibirina: Conceptualization, Methodology, Project administration, Supervision, Validation, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Liu WeiYe: Data curation, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Methodology, Software, Visualization, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Xiaodan Yu: Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal Analysis, Funding acquisition, Project administration, Resources, Supervision, Validation, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing.

### *Keywords*

shiro soil, ectomycorrhizal fungi, *Quercus mongolica*, Rhizosphere microorganisms, Symbiotic system, *Tricholoma bakamatsutake*

### *Abstract*

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*Tricholoma bakamatsutake* is a delicious and nutritious ectomycorrhizal fungus. However, its cultivation is hindered owing to limited studies on its symbiotic relationships. Hence, we aimed to investigate its symbiotic relationships with *Quercus mongolica*-*T. bakamatsutake*-associated bacteria and the physicochemical properties and microbiome of its rhizosphere. In this study, *T. bakamatsutake* shiro soil (Tb group) and corresponding *Q. mongolica* rhizosphere soil (CK group) samples were collected from different areas and analyzed for their physicochemical properties and microbiome structure. The Tb group samples had significantly higher sand content and lower levels of total and available phosphorus than those in the CK group soil samples. The microbiome analysis revealed that *T. bakamatsutake* within the symbiotic system had a significant dominant effect, altering its shiro microbiome structure by suppressing other microorganisms, such as *Russula*, another ectomycorrhizal fungus, and *Penicillium*, a phytopathogenic bacteria. The accompanying bacteria, including mycorrhizal-helper bacteria and plant growth-promoting bacteria, were aggregated. Moreover, the microbiome in the symbiotic system was significantly involved in the catabolism of sugars and fats. Our findings elucidated the microbial community and relevant symbiotic environment to further understand the relationship between *T. bakamatsutake* and *Q. mongolica*.

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In review

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16 **Keywords:** shiro soil, ectomycorrhizal fungi, *Quercus mongolica*, rhizosphere microorganisms,  
17 symbiotic system, *Tricholoma bakamatsutake*

## 18 Abstract

19 *Tricholoma bakamatsutake* is a delicious and nutritious ectomycorrhizal fungus. However, its  
20 cultivation is hindered owing to limited studies on its symbiotic relationships. Hence, we aimed to  
21 investigate its symbiotic relationships with *Quercus mongolica*-*T. bakamatsutake*-associated bacteria  
22 and the physicochemical properties and microbiome of its rhizosphere. In this study, *T.*  
23 *bakamatsutake* shiro soil (Tb group) and corresponding *Q. mongolica* rhizosphere soil (CK group)  
24 samples were collected from different areas and analyzed for their physicochemical properties and  
25 microbiome structure. The Tb group samples had significantly higher sand content and lower levels  
26 of total and available phosphorus than those in the CK group soil samples. The microbiome analysis  
27 revealed that *T. bakamatsutake* within the symbiotic system had a significant dominant effect,  
28 altering its shiro microbiome structure by suppressing other microorganisms, such as *Russula*,  
29 another ectomycorrhizal fungus, and *Penicillium*, a phytopathogenic bacteria. The accompanying  
30 bacteria, including mycorrhizal-helper bacteria and plant growth-promoting bacteria, were

31 aggregated. Moreover, the microbiome in the symbiotic system was significantly involved in the  
32 catabolism of sugars and fats. Our findings elucidated the microbial community and relevant  
33 symbiotic environment to further understand the relationship between *T. bakamatsutake* and *Q.*  
34 *mongolica*.

## 35 **1 Introduction**

36 *Tricholoma bakamatsutake*, an edible mushroom, often forms ectomycorrhizae with the roots of  
37 Fagaceae trees, such as *Quercus mongolica* (Deng 2003; Ota et al. 2012). *T. bakamatsutake* has a  
38 similar appearance, smell, and nutritional value to that of *T. matsutake* (Quan et al. 2005, 2007);  
39 however, its commodity price is lower than that of *T. matsutake* (Kang et al. 2018). Market demand  
40 for *T. bakamatsutake* is increasing; however, yet its natural sources are limited. Therefore, cultivating  
41 *T. bakamatsutake* is necessary (Deng 2019; Hou 2020). Hence environmental conditions for the  
42 laboratory culture of *T. bakamatsutake* mycelia are being studied (Terashima 1994, 1999; Wu et al.  
43 2009; Yamanaka et al. 2019), with researchers attempting to obtain fruiting bodies by transplanting  
44 the mycelia into natural environments (Hou 2020; Kawai et al. 2018). However, natural  
45 environments differ from laboratory environments and factors, such as soil physicochemical  
46 properties and the microbiome, may affect the yield of the fruiting bodies in the natural environment.

47 *T. bakamatsutake* has dense underground mycelia that form a white, sponge-like structure  
48 known as shiro (Ogawa 1977). In *T. matsutake*, the shiro plays an important role in the formation of  
49 fruiting bodies (Yun et al. 1997), which form at the core of the shiro. Metagenomic analysis using  
50 high-throughput sequencing has been frequently applied to study the microbiome in the shiro (Kim et  
51 al. 2014; Oh et al. 2016; Ye et al. 2018). The technique enables the discovery of unknown microbial  
52 diversity, including non-culturable microorganisms, by directly recovering genetic material from  
53 shiro samples for an intuitive analysis and comprehensive understanding of the microbiome structure  
54 (Kim et al. 2014; Shokralla et al. 2012). Kim et al. (2014) studied the bacterial community in *T.*  
55 *matsutake* shiro using pyrophosphate sequencing to show that environmental factors may influence  
56 the bacterial community more than the dominance of *T. matsutake* may influence the bacterial  
57 community. Oh et al. (2016) identified a number of *T. matsutake*-related microorganisms, such as  
58 *Bacillus* and *Umbelopsis*, which may exploit or aid *T. matsutake*. Vaario et al. (2011) reported that *T.*  
59 *matsutake* coexisted with diverse fungal and actinobacterial species and high enzyme activity is  
60 involved in the degradation of organic carbon in the shiro. Similarly, this approach is applicable to  
61 studying *T. bakamatsutake* shiro, which can provide insight into the growth patterns and communal  
62 relationships of *T. bakamatsutake* and lay a foundation for the future cultivation of *T. bakamatsutake*  
63 by inducing shiro degradation. Moreover, *T. bakamatsutake* adapts more easily to the environment  
64 than *T. matsutake* does and is therefore suitable for artificial cultivation (Deng 2019; Hou 2020).  
65 However, studies on *T. bakamatsutake* shiro are limited; thus, hindering its artificial cultivation and  
66 economic prospects.

67 *T. bakamatsutake* is an ectomycorrhizal (ECM) fungus. Therefore, its effects on other ECM  
68 fungi, host plants, and the environment require consideration. ECM fungi colonize plant roots and  
69 expand their shiro by altering the soil microbiome structure (Calvaruso et al. 2007; Li et al. 2019),  
70 thereby dominating their environment. The mechanisms underlying ECM fungi dominance include  
71 ecological niche competition, metabolite secretion, and mycorrhization helper bacteria (MHB)  
72 enrichment (Poole et al. 2001; Moeller and Peay 2016). The symbiotic relationship between ECM  
73 fungi and host plants is important; ECM fungi mycelia adhere closely to plant roots, effectively  
74 protecting woody plants from pathogens (Tedersoo et al. 2020). This symbiotic relationship improves  
75 nutrient exchange between ECM fungi and the plants. Plants transport photosynthates to the roots  
76 where ECM fungi are located, whereas ECM fungi transport minerals to the plant via mycorrhiza

77 (Nehls et al. 2010, 2018). Additionally, ECM fungi play important roles in increasing plant resilience  
78 and improving forest environments (Song et al. 2015; Bennett et al. 2017; Yu and Yuan 2023).

79 This study aimed to aid in the artificial cultivation of *T. bakamatsutake* by examining the  
80 dominant effect of *T. bakamatsutake* on the shiro and microorganisms associated with the growth and  
81 dispersal of its mycelia. Further, we evaluated the contribution of *T. bakamatsutake* to the symbiotic  
82 system of the host and environment.

## 83 2 Materials and methods

### 84 2.1 Sample collection

85 In August 2022, 28 soil samples were collected from four cities in Liaoning Province, China.  
86 These 28 samples included 14 Tb and 14 corresponding CK samples, which were collected in a  
87 similar manner. The Tb samples were collected from the shiro soil under the fruiting body of *T.*  
88 *bakamatsutake*, and CK samples from the rhizosphere soil of *Q. mongolica* located 5 m outside the  
89 shiro. Their contents are presented in **Table 1**. Each sample was mixed and divided into three parts:  
90 the first was dried and passed through a 20-mesh sieve for determining chemical properties; the  
91 second was dried and passed through a 100-mesh sieve for determining mechanical composition; and  
92 the third was stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  for DNA extraction.

### 93 2.2 Analysis of soil physicochemical properties

94 Soil physicochemical properties were analyzed at the Analytical and Testing Center of  
95 Shenyang Agricultural University. The standards for the physicochemical properties were: pH value:  
96 NY/T 1121.2-2006; total nitrogen (TN): NY/T 53-1987; total potassium (TK): NY/T 87-1988; total  
97 phosphorus (TP): NY/T 88-1988; available nitrogen (AN): DB13/T 843-2007; available potassium  
98 (AK): NY/T 889-2004; available phosphorus (AP): NY/T 1121.7-2014; organic matter (OM): NY/T  
99 1121.6-2006; and soil machinery composition: NY/T 1121.3-2006.

### 100 2.3 DNA extraction, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification, and Illumina MiSeq 101 sequencing

102 Total genomic DNA of the microbiome was extracted using the E.Z.N.A.® soil DNA kit  
103 (Omega Bio-tek, Norcross, GA, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The quality of  
104 the extracted genomic DNA was determined using 1% agarose gel electrophoresis, while its  
105 concentration and purity were determined using a NanoDrop 2000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific,  
106 Waltham, MA, USA).

107 For bacteria, 16S-specific primers 338F (5'-ACTCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG-3') and 806R (5'-  
108 GGACTACHVGGGTWTCTAAT-3') were used to amplify different regions of the 16S ribosomal  
109 RNA (rRNA) gene. For fungi, specific primers, internal transcribed spacer ITS1F (5'-  
110 CTTGGTCATTTAGAGGAAGTAA-3') and ITS2R (5'-GCTGCGTTCTTCATCGATGC-3') were  
111 used to amplify different regions of the ITS gene. The PCR reactions were performed as previously  
112 described (Zhang Y. et al. 2020). The PCR products were extracted using 2% agarose gel and  
113 purified using the AxyPrep DNA Gel Extraction Kit (Axygen Biosciences, Union City, CA, USA)  
114 according to manufacturer's instructions and then quantified using a Quantus™ Fluorometer  
115 (Promega, Madison, WI, USA).

116 Purified PCR amplicons were pooled in equimolar amounts, paired-end, and sequenced on an  
117 Illumina MiSeq PE300 platform (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA), according the Majorbio Bio-  
118 Pharm Technology Co. Ltd. (Shanghai, China) protocol. Raw sequencing reads were deposited in the  
119 database of the National Center for Biotechnology Information Sequence Read Archive (BioProject:  
120 PRJNA955660).

## 121 **2.4 Data processing**

122 Raw FASTQ files were de-multiplexed using an in-house perl script, quality-filtered using fastp  
123 version 0.19.6 (Chen et al. 2018), and merged using FLASH version 1.2.7 (Magoč and Salzberg  
124 2011). The optimized sequences were clustered into OTUs using UPARSE 7.1 (Edgar 2013;  
125 Stackebrandt and Goebel 1994) with a 97% sequence similarity level. The most abundant sequence  
126 in each OTU was selected as the representative sequence. The taxonomy of each OTU representative  
127 sequence was analyzed using RDP Classifier version 2.2 (Wang et al. 2007) against the Silva 16S  
128 rRNA and Unite ITS gene databases with a confidence threshold of 0.7. Finally, metagenomic  
129 functions were predicted for bacterial and fungal communities. The functions of the bacterial  
130 community were predicted using PICRUSt2, FAPROTAX, and BugBase based on OTU  
131 representative sequences. Functions of the fungal communities were predicted using PICRUSt2 and  
132 FunGuid.

## 133 **2.5 Statistical analysis**

134 Data analysis was performed on the Majorbio Cloud platform (<https://cloud.majorbio.com>).  
135 Mothur (Schloss et al. 2009) software (<http://www.mothur.org/.com/calculators>) was used to  
136 calculate the alpha diversity indices, such as Chao and Shannon's indices. The Wilcoxon rank-sum  
137 test was used for inter-group variation analysis of the alpha diversity indices, and NMDS analysis  
138 based on the Bray-Curtis distance algorithm was used to test the similarity between the samples'  
139 microbial community structure. CCA and RDA were used to investigate the interactions between the  
140 soil physicochemical indicators and microbial community structure. To detect differences between  
141 the samples and overall differences and exclude chance data, the significant differences between the  
142 two groups were analyzed using a multiple-group sample analysis (eight groups) and two-group  
143 analysis of Tb and CK. The means of the differences in the physicochemical properties of the  
144 samples were determined using Duncan's multiple range test of variance and t-tests on SPSS  
145 Statistics software (version 17.0; IBM Inc., Armonk, NY, USA). The Kruskal-Wallis H test and  
146 Wilcoxon rank-sum test of variance were performed on the Majorbio Cloud platform.

## 147 **3 Results**

### 148 **3.1 Physicochemical properties of the soil samples**

149 The pH range of all the soil samples was 5.04–6.19. The results of the multigroup and two-  
150 group analyses showed that the two groups differed significantly based on physicochemical  
151 properties (**Table 2 and Supplemental Table 1**). The available phosphorus AP, TP, TN, and silt  
152 values for *T. bakamatsutake* shiro soil (Tb) group samples were lower than those of the *Q. mongolica*  
153 rhizosphere soil (CK) group. The TK and sand were higher in Tb than in those of CK samples.

### 154 **3.2 Microbial genome annotation and alpha diversity indices of the microbiome**

155 The raw data results from MiSeq for fungal community and bacterial community are presented  
156 in **Supplemental Tables 2 and 3**. Sample sequences were drawn flat according to the minimum

157 number of sample sequences before analysis. The fungal and bacterial coverage indices were 99.57–  
 158 99.93% and 96.70–98.76%, respectively, after drawing flat. This indicated that most fungal and  
 159 bacterial taxa were detected in the soil samples and the sequencing results depicted the  
 160 microorganisms in the samples correctly.

161 Fungal alpha diversity indices were analyzed for significant differences (**Supplementary**  
 162 **Figure 1**). For all regions, the Shannon index was significantly lower in the Tb group than in the CK  
 163 group. Additionally, the Chao index was lower in the Tb group than in the CK group, indicating that  
 164 the diversity of the fungal communities was significantly lower in the Tb group than in the CK group.  
 165 In both groups, Xinbin (XB) Tb and XBCK had the lowest and highest Shannon and Chao indices,  
 166 respectively. For bacteria, both the Shannon and Chao indices were higher in the Tb group than in the  
 167 CK group, with significant differences in the Kuandian (KD) region. This indicates that bacterial  
 168 community diversity increased in the Tb group.

### 169 **3.3 Analysis of the microbiome structure**

#### 170 3.3.1 Fungal community

171 At the operational taxonomic unit (OTU) level (**Supplementary Figure 2a**), the Tb and CK  
 172 groups shared 47 OTUs. These are common fungi found in the soil environment of oak forests. The  
 173 number of unique OTUs was higher in the CK group than in the Tb group. The Tb group and the CK  
 174 group (**Supplementary Figure 3**) were analyzed separately. The samples in the Tb group shared 63  
 175 OTUs, with XBTb and KDTb having the lowest (57) and highest (168) number of unique OTUs,  
 176 respectively. All samples in the CK group shared 136 OTUs, with Anshan (AS)CK and Xiuyan  
 177 (XY)CK having the highest (567) and lowest (92) number of unique OTUs, respectively. At the  
 178 phylum level, Basidiomycota, Ascomycota, and Mortierellomycota were dominant in all soil groups.  
 179 Basidiomycota (96.21–99.77%) and Ascomycota (56.02–83.65%) were the dominant phyla in the Tb  
 180 and CK groups, respectively. At the genus level, the heatmap and abundance bubble map (**Figure 1**)  
 181 indicated that *Tricholoma*, *Russula*, and *Mortierella* were the dominant fungal genera in the different  
 182 regions. Except for *Tricholoma*, most genera in the Tb group were less abundant than those in the CK  
 183 group. At the species level, *T. bakamatsutake* was the dominant species in the Tb group having 87.7,  
 184 88.0, 99.1, and 89.1% abundance in the AS, KD, XB, and XY regions, respectively.

#### 185 3.3.2 Bacterial community

186 At the OTU level (**Supplementary Figure 2b**), 663 OTUs were shared between the Tb and CK  
 187 groups. The Tb group had more unique OTUs than those in the CK group. A total of 1,674 OTUs  
 188 were observed in the Tb group (**Supplementary Figure 4**). The most (536) and fewest (157) unique  
 189 OTUs were observed in the XBTb and KDTb regions, respectively. A total of 1,039 OTUs were  
 190 observed in the CK group (**Supplementary Figure 4**). The most (816) and fewest (163) unique  
 191 OTUs were observed in the ASCK and XYCK regions, respectively. At the phylum level,  
 192 Actinobacteria, Proteobacteria, and Acidobacteria were dominant in all soil groups. Proteobacteria  
 193 and Actinobacteria were the most abundant phyla in the CK and Tb groups, respectively. The genus-  
 194 level heatmap (**Figure 2a**) and abundance bubble map (**Figure 2b**) indicated that the genera  
 195 *Bradyrhizobium*, *Acidotherrmus*, *Mycobacterium*, *norank\_f\_Xanthobacteraceae*, *Burkholderia*-  
 196 *Caballeronia-Paraburkholderia* (BCP) were the dominant genera in both groups.

### 197 **3.4 Analysis and comparison of the microbiome structure and significant differences in both** 198 **groups**

199 The non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) analysis results showed differences in the  
200 microbiome structures in the CK and Tb groups. The fungal communities (**Supplementary Figure**  
201 **5a**) in the CK and Tb groups differed. In the CK group, the KDCK region was far from the other CK  
202 regions, indicating that the structure of the fungal community of the oak forests in the KD region  
203 differed from those of other areas. The bacterial communities (**Supplementary Figure 5b**) in both  
204 groups were generally similarly distant, but different from each other.

205 The Kruskal-Wallis H test (eight groups) and Wilcoxon rank-sum test (CK and Tb) were used to  
206 analyze the differences in the abundance of microorganisms between the groups. In the fungal  
207 community (**Supplementary Figure 6**), *T. bakamatsutake* was significantly more abundant in the Tb  
208 group than in the CK group, whereas almost all other fungi, such as *Russula* and *Penicillium*, were  
209 significantly lower in abundance in the Tb group than in the CK group. This suggests that the  
210 dominance of Tb has a broad and significant effect on other fungi. The dominance of one species did  
211 not result in an overwhelming change in the bacterial community. In the Tb group (**Supplementary**  
212 **Figure 7**), a significant increase in the Actinobacteria, such as *norank\_f\_\_67-14*, *Streptomyces*,  
213 *Pseudonocardia*, *Bradyrhizobium*, *norank\_f\_\_Xanthobacteraceae*, *norank\_f\_\_norank\_o\_\_Elsterales*,  
214 *Bryobacter*, and other genera were significantly lower in the Tb group than in the CK group. The  
215 multi-group analysis results showed that BCP was significantly more abundant in the ASTb and  
216 XYTb regions than in the corresponding CK group regions, and less abundant in the KDTb and  
217 XBTb regions than in the corresponding CK group region, a phenomenon that may not be by chance.  
218 We further focused on the abundance of common MHB (Frey-Klett et al. 2007) for the analysis  
219 (**Supplementary Figure 8**). The MHB identified, which were significantly more abundant in the Tb  
220 group than in the CK group, were *Sphingomonas*, *Paenibacillus*, and *Bacillus*.

### 221 **3.5 Correlation between environmental factors and microorganism levels**

222 Based on the canonical correspondence analysis (CCA)/ redundancy analysis (RDA) correlation  
223 between environmental factors and the fungal and bacterial communities (**Figure 3**), environmental  
224 factors that had significant effects on the fungal community, including AP, TP, TN, sand, silt, and silt  
225 with sand, were positively correlated with Tb samples. Environmental factors that had a significant  
226 effect on bacterial communities, including AK, AP, TK, TP, TN, sand, silt, and silt with sand and TK,  
227 were significantly positively correlated with most Tb samples.

228 According to the Spearman analysis results(**Figure 4**) , fungal and bacterial communities had  
229 almost identical correlation trends between *T. bakamatsutake* soil physicochemical properties and a  
230 few Actinobacteria genera, which were almost all positively correlated with clay, TK, and sand, and  
231 negatively correlated with other physicochemical factors.

### 232 **3.6 Functional prediction of microorganisms**

233 Functional predictions were made for the bacterial and fungal communities, and the number of  
234 enzymes and pathways is explained in **Supplemental Table 4**. The fungal community function was  
235 predicted using Phylogenetic Investigation of Communities by Reconstruction of Unobserved States  
236 (PICRUSt2) and FunGuild. The results of the enzyme-level analysis of Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes  
237 and Genomes (KEGG) function indicated that adenosine triphosphatase, glucan 1,4-alpha-  
238 glucosidase, and unspecific monooxygenase were the most abundant across the samples. MetaCyc  
239 pathway abundance statistics showed that aerobic respiration I, aerobic respiration II, fatty acid, and  
240 beta oxidation were the most abundant metabolic pathways in each sample. To analyze the significant  
241 differences, we focused on the top 50 data points on abundance. The results showed that the  
242 abundance of enzymes (**Supplementary Figure 9a and c**), such as glucan 1,4- $\alpha$ -glucosidase and

243 carboxylesterase, and metabolic pathways (**Supplementary Figure 9b and d**), such as aerobic  
 244 oxidation and fatty acid degradation, were significantly more in the Tb group than in the CK group.  
 245 Fungal communities were classified using the fungal FunGuild function and its results showed that  
 246 ectomycorrhizal fungi (including ectomycorrhizal and ectomycorrhizal-fungal parasites) were the  
 247 most abundant fungi in all groups. Analysis of the significance of these differences (**Supplementary**  
 248 **Figure 10a and b**) showed that ectomycorrhizal-fungal parasites were significantly higher in the Tb  
 249 than in the CK group, whereas ectomycorrhizal and saprotrophic parasites were significantly lower in  
 250 the Tb than in each of the CK groups.

251 Functional prediction of bacterial communities was performed using PICRUSt2, BugBase,  
 252 and FAPROTAX. Enzyme-level analysis of KEGG function showed that NADH: ubiquinone  
 253 reductase, DNA-directed DNA polymerase, and DNA helicase were the most abundant across the  
 254 samples. MetaCyc pathway abundance statistics showed that aerobic respiration I and pyruvate  
 255 fermentation of isobutanol were the most abundant pathways in each sample. Analysis of significant  
 256 differences showed that these enzymes (**Supplementary Figure 11a and c**), such as enoyl-CoA  
 257 hydratase and long-chain-fatty-acid-CoA ligase, and metabolic pathways (**Supplementary Figure**  
 258 **11b and d**), such as fatty acids, beta, and-oxidation I, were significantly more abundant in the Tb  
 259 group than in the CK group. The bacteria were phenotypically predicted using BugBase and analyzed  
 260 for significant differences (**Supplementary Figure 12**). The results showed that seven of the nine  
 261 phenotypes differed significantly. The phenotypes that were most frequent in the Tb group were  
 262 gram-positive, contained mobile elements, and stress-tolerance, whereas the phenotypes that were  
 263 more frequent in the CK group were facultative, anaerobic, potentially pathogenic, gram-negative,  
 264 and aerobic. The metabolic and ecological functions of the bacteria were predicted using  
 265 FAPROTAX software. The results (**Supplementary Figure 13**) showed that chemoheterotrophy and  
 266 aerobic chemoheterotrophs were the most abundant in each sample. The abundance of  
 267 chemoheterotrophy, aerobic chemoheterotrophs, and aromatic compound degradation was higher in  
 268 the Tb group than in the CK group, whereas nitrogen fixation was lower in the Tb group than in the  
 269 CK group.

## 270 4 Discussion

### 271 4.1 Physicochemical properties of *T. bakamatsutake* shiro

272 The pH value range for all samples was between 5.04 and 6.19, which is optimal for the growth  
 273 of most ECM fungi (Yamanaka 2003); therefore, ECM was most abundant in both the Tb and CK  
 274 groups. The TP and AP levels were significantly lower in the Tb group than in the CK group. TP  
 275 most likely forms AP through phosphorus solubilization in *T. bakamatsutake* soil, whereas AP is  
 276 passed on to oak through symbiotic nutritional relationships.

277 Sand content was significantly higher in the Tb group than in the CK group, whereas silt  
 278 content was significantly lower in the Tb group than in the CK group. This result is similar to that of  
 279 the soil structure of the *T. matsutake* habitat (Ji et al. 2022). Improved air and water permeability in  
 280 the soil may be necessary for the survival of *T. bakamatsutake*. The relationship between the  
 281 physicochemical properties and microorganisms was determined using subsequent correlation  
 282 analysis.

### 283 4.2 *T. bakamatsutake* alters microbiome diversity

284 The fungal diversity in the *T. bakamatsutake* shiro was significantly lower than that in the  
 285 ambient soil in almost every region. This indicates that *T. bakamatsutake* has an absolute dominant

286 effect on its shiro, which reduces or eliminates other fungi, thereby reducing the diversity of the  
287 fungal community. The fungal diversity in the XBTb region is lower than that of the other areas in  
288 the Tb group because the XB sampling site is abundant in *T. bakamatsutake* and its dominance  
289 produces a significant impact. Fungal diversity was highest in XBCK among all the samples,  
290 suggesting that the soil environment in XB is suitable for a wide range of fungi. Thus, the XB  
291 environment is favorable for the growth of *T. bakamatsutake*.

292 For the bacterial community, all Tb groups had higher bacterial diversity than that of the  
293 corresponding CK groups. ECM fungi roots can support different types of bacteria (Liu et al. 2018),  
294 as the expanded mycelial network of the ECM fungi provides a habitat for bacterial communities  
295 (Miquel et al. 2018), and the photosynthetic products obtained from the ECM fungi provide nutrition  
296 for many bacteria (Colin et al. 2017; Read and Perez-Moreno 2003; Van Schöll et al. 2006). In our  
297 study, *T. bakamatsutake* received most carbohydrates from the plants and its mycelia expanded in a  
298 denser network, attracting various types of bacteria. OM degraded or secreted by *T. bakamatsutake*  
299 may cause bacterial aggregation; however, the exact substances need to be confirmed.

300

### 301 4.3 Bacterial community analysis

#### 302 4.3.1 MHB and endophytic bacteria associated with *T. bakamatsutake*

303 MHB can increase mycorrhization by inducing the rapid expansion of fungal mycelia and  
304 stimulating the formation of plant lateral roots to increase contact opportunities (Riedlinger et al.  
305 2006; Rigamonte et al. 2010). Mycorrhizal fungi are selective regarding the type of bacteria in their  
306 rhizosphere (Izumi and Finlay 2011), with different mycorrhizal fungi selecting different bacteria  
307 based on their requirements. In our study, *Sphingomonas*, *Paenibacillus*, and *Bacillus* had high  
308 abundance and were significantly different between the Tb group and CK group. These bacteria,  
309 often found in mycorrhizal environments (Bending et al. 2002; Timonen and Hurek 2006; Nguyen  
310 and Bruns 2015), promote the growth and colonization of ectomycorrhizal mycorrhizae (Ji et al.  
311 2022; Requena et al. 1997; Hrynkiewicz et al. 2009). Species of the genera *Bacillus* and  
312 *Paenibacillus* were significantly high in abundance in the *T. matsutake* shiro (Oh et al. 2016).  
313 *Sphingomonas* are endophytic bacteria in the ECM, such as *T. matsutake* cotyledons (Liu et al. 2021),  
314 which possess the ability to degrade aromatic compounds and exhibit metabolic activity against toxic  
315 pollutants (Yang et al. 2022). Thus, several of the above-mentioned bacteria may contribute to the  
316 growth and development of *T. bakamatsutake* and its root-colonizing mycelia.

#### 317 4.3.2 *T. bakamatsutake* aggregated plant growth-promoting bacterium (PGPB)

318 In our study, bacterial genera that have been confirmed as PGPB, such as BCP, *Solirubrobacter*,  
319 and *Bacillus*, were significantly more abundant in the Tb group than in the CK group. In future  
320 studies, several genera with high abundances will be explored. BCP are widely distributed in the soil  
321 and plant roots and promote plant growth, improve plant resistance, and reduce self-toxicity (Luo et  
322 al. 2021; Beukes et al. 2017). In our study, BCP abundance was higher in both the ASTb and XYTb  
323 samples than in the corresponding CK samples. Inter-root secretions are enriched with and degraded  
324 by BCP to reduce plant auto-toxicity (Luo et al. 2021). Therefore, the possibility of Tb inter-root  
325 secretions, whether enriched with BCP or not, requires further study.

326 In addition to being beneficial to plants, BCP aid the development of *T. matsutake* (Xu 2021).  
327 Actinobacteria are considered special PGPB that promote plant growth and help plants resist  
328 pathogenic bacteria in several ways, including the decomposition of OM, secretion of antibiotics,  
329 degradation of pollutants, and secretion of phytohormones (Bhatti et al. 2017; Olanrewaju and

330 Babalola 2019; Hayat et al. 2021). In our study, the relative abundance of Actinobacteria was  
331 significantly higher in Tb samples than in CK samples. The significant increase in Actinobacteria  
332 was mainly concentrated in the genera *Streptomyces*, *Pseudonocardia*, *norank\_f\_67-14*,  
333 *Nocardioides*, and *Solirubrobacter*. *Streptomyces*, the most highly anticipated PGPB among  
334 actinomycetes, can efficiently colonize the inter-root surfaces and promote plant growth through the  
335 direct production of phytohormones and the decomposition of OM (Olanrewaju and Babalola 2019;  
336 Verma et al. 2011). *Norank\_f\_67-14* and *Solirubrobacter* species belong to the order  
337 Solirubrobacterales, which increase phosphorus flow and inhibit the flow of toxic aluminum and  
338 manganese from the soil to the plant, thereby promoting high crop yields (Wang et al. 2022).  
339 *Nocardioides* and *Pseudonocardia* are highly metabolically active against toxic pollutants and their  
340 secretions have antimicrobial activity (Yang et al. 2022; Carr et al. 2012; Singha and Pandey 2021).  
341 Therefore, *T. bakamatsutake* aggregates Actinobacteria to degrade soil contaminants, secrete  
342 antibiotics to suppress pathogenic bacteria, and provide nutrients for itself, thereby aiding in growth  
343 and development of itself and that of the oak environment.

#### 344 4.3.3 Interactions among the bacteria in *T. bakamatsutake* shiro

345 Microorganisms interact via metabolites. In our study, actinomycetes had the most significant  
346 effect on other bacteria, especially gram-negative bacteria. The abundance of  
347 *norank\_f\_norank\_o\_Elsterales* was lower in the Tb group than in the CK group. Elsterales may be  
348 associated with plant pathogenicity, soil carbon metabolism, aluminum accumulation, and soil  
349 impoverishment (Xu 2021). This suggests that actinomycetes can suppress microorganisms that are  
350 detrimental to *T. bakamatsutake* and oak forests.

351 However, actinomycetes can inhibit beneficial microorganisms, such as the BCP. The analysis  
352 of the significant differences in the bacterial communities and Spearman's analysis (**Supplementary**  
353 **Figure 14**) showed that Actinobacteria, *Pseudonocardia*, *Solirubrobacter*, and *Nocardioides*, were  
354 significantly and negatively correlated with BCP, with significant differences in the abundance of the  
355 three genera in XB and KD. Nocardicin A, a metabolite of *Nocardioides*, has a broad-spectrum gram-  
356 negative inhibitory effect (Aoki et al. 1976; Nishida et al. 1977; Luo et al. 2014) and is a natural  
357 product of *Pseudonocardia* (Carr et al. 2012). Therefore, bacteria that belong to BCP genera may be  
358 more sensitive than other bacteria are to the inhibitory effects of these three genera. This explains the  
359 low abundance of the BCP in XBTb and KDTb. Other beneficial bacteria, such as *Bryobacter* (Wang  
360 et al. 2022) and *Roseiarcus* (Yu et al. 2020) were similarly significantly affected. Despite the  
361 inhibitory effects of actinomycetes, beneficial bacteria still prevailed, and some of which, such as  
362 *Bacillus* were not as negatively affected; therefore, this did not affect the growth and development of  
363 *T. bakamatsutake*.

364 Bacterial competition for ecological niches was considered in our study. *Bradyrhizobium* and  
365 *norank\_f\_Xanthobacteraceae*, which are nitrogen-fixing rhizobia (Rhizobiales) that promote the  
366 growth and root development of some plants (Yang et al. 2022), were highly abundant in all samples.  
367 Therefore, Rhizobiales are *T. bakamatsutake* symbionts; however, they were lower in the Tb samples  
368 than in the corresponding CK samples, which is very significant. In addition to antibiotic antagonism,  
369 Rhizobiales compete with other bacteria, such as *Frankia* (Wall 2000) for nitrogen fixation,  
370 ecological niches, and other aspects.

371 The interactions between bacterial communities are not limited to antagonistic and competitive  
372 interactions, and symbiotic interactions were observed in our study. A prime example is the manner  
373 in which actinomycetes suppress some bacteria and degrade many toxic pollutants to provide  
374 nutrients and a good habitat for other bacteria and plants. These effects are not as widespread as the  
375 antagonistic effects of actinomycetes; however, they were apparent.

#### 376 4.4 Fungal community analysis

##### 377 4.4.1 Effect of *T. bakamatsutake* on other fungi

378 *T. bakamatsutake* dominated its shiro, with the highest relative abundance of 99.1% in XBTb.  
379 Most fungi in the Tb group were affected by the dominant effect of *T. bakamatsutake*; therefore, we  
380 divided the fungi affected by *T. bakamatsutake* into two main groups. The first group comprised  
381 other ECM fungi that mainly included *Russula*, *Piloderma*, *Laccaria*, and *Sebacina*. The dominant  
382 effect of *T. bakamatsutake* on other ECM fungi is reflected in the competition for ecological niches,  
383 such as plant root symbiosis sites and soil nutrients, whereas *T. bakamatsutake* metabolites may have  
384 a suppressive effect on other ECM fungi. The second group included reported plant pathogenic fungi  
385 such as *Penicillium* (Li et al. 2010) and *Trichoderma* (Gajera et al. 2015). The dominant effect of *T.*  
386 *bakamatsutake* on pathogenic fungi is reflected in the competition for nutrients and survival space,  
387 while actinomycetes enriched by *T. bakamatsutake* inhibit some pathogenic fungi. In addition to  
388 these two groups of fungi, other common fungi in oak forests were affected by the dominance of *T.*  
389 *bakamatsutake*.

##### 390 4.4.2 Characteristics of the *T. bakamatsutake* habitat

391 The fungal communities in the CK group from the four areas were analyzed jointly (**Figure 5**).  
392 We found that ECM fungi, such as *Russula*, *Piloderma*, and *Lactifluus* shared a similar habitat with *T.*  
393 *bakamatsutake*—the oak forest. However, these ECM fungi are the main competitors of *T.*  
394 *bakamatsutake*, the most competitive being *Russula*, which is the most abundant among the ECM  
395 fungi (Ji et al. 2019). In addition to mycorrhizal fungi, genera, such as *Mortierella* are common fungi  
396 present under oak trees, which may contribute to the growth of oak forests (Guo et al. 2022) and  
397 indirectly help the formation of symbiotic relationships between oak forests and mycorrhizal fungi.

#### 398 4.5 The potential function of *T. bakamatsutake* in relation to *Q. mongolica*

399 We made preliminary predictions about the function of *T. bakamatsutake* by comparing the  
400 function of the fungi in the Tb group with that in the CK group. In the predicted results for MetaCyc  
401 pathways, we found a significantly high abundance of pathways related to sugar and lipid catabolism  
402 in the Tb group. For example, aerobic respiration I, tricarboxylic acid cycle II, glycolysis III, pentose  
403 phosphate pathway, and fatty acid beta-oxidation were significantly higher in the Tb group than in  
404 the CK group. As a member of ECM fungi, *T. bakamatsutake* derives nutrients mainly from the host  
405 plant sugars and fats for its own nutritional development (Nehls et al. 2010). Therefore, *T.*  
406 *bakamatsutake*'s function is related to the catabolism of sugars and fats. Notably, the glyoxylate  
407 cycle was significantly more abundant in the Tb group than in the CK group. This may indicate that  
408 the source of sugars in *T. bakamatsutake* is not only supplied directly by the host plant, but some may  
409 be derived from sugars formed by acetyl CoA through the glyoxylate cycle and other pathways.  
410 Additionally, octane oxidation was significantly higher in the Tb group than in the CK group. The  
411 application of microbial degradation of aromatic hydrocarbons is of great value; however, studies on  
412 the degradation of aromatic compounds by mycorrhizal fungi are limited. Our results indicate that *T.*  
413 *bakamatsutake* may be a new direction.

414 To predict enzyme levels for KEGG functional abundance based on the PICRUSt2 function, we  
415 focused on the abundance of a number of enzymes with high and variable abundance. Glucan 1,4-  
416 alpha-glucosidase was the most abundant in the Tb group, and the 1,4-alpha glycosidic bond was  
417 mostly present in starch, which is related to the function of *T. bakamatsutake* in the breakdown of  
418 sugars, such as starch. Carboxylesterase was significantly more abundant in the Tb group than in the  
419 CK group, and this enzyme hydrolyzed tannins and corneum from the cell wall. The corneum is a

420 hydroxy fatty acid mixed with wax on the outside of the cell wall to form the cuticle (Samuels et al.  
 421 2008; Arya et al. 2021). The ECM fungi adheres closely to the host roots and secretes cell wall-  
 422 degrading enzymes to remodel the cell wall, forming a Hartig net that expands the interface for  
 423 nutrient exchange with the plant (Yu and Yuan 2023). The plant cuticle is a barrier against microbial  
 424 infestation (Yeats and Rose 2013; Ziv et al. 2018); hence, the role of carboxylesterases from *T.*  
 425 *bakamatsutake* may be reflected in their association with host plant root cells. Chitinase abundance  
 426 was significantly high in the Tb group. Chitinase degrades the fungal cell wall and releases spores, a  
 427 phenomenon that is often observed in ECM fungi. The abundance of gibberellin 2-beta-dioxygenase,  
 428 an enzyme involved in gibberellin anabolism, was also increased in the Tb group. This may have a  
 429 facilitative and regulatory role for plant hosts in the habitat and for the growth of *T. bakamatsutake*.  
 430 Choline dehydrogenase can oxidize choline, which is subsequently oxidized by the enzyme betaine-  
 431 aldehyde dehydrogenase to form betaine (Zhang Y.J. et al. 2020); however, the latter was in low  
 432 abundance in the Tb group. Additionally, enzymes such as tripeptidyl-peptidase I and non-specific  
 433 monooxygenase were also significantly high in abundance in the Tb group, which may provide us  
 434 with interesting findings in the future.

#### 435 4.6 Changes in the function of mycorrhizal bacterial communities

##### 436 4.6.1 Prediction of bacterial function using PICRUSt2

437 At the enzyme level, the abundance of enzymes involved in fatty acid and sugar catabolism,  
 438 such as enoyl-CoA hydratase, long-chain-fatty-acid-CoA ligase, pyruvate dehydrogenase, and  
 439 dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase, was significantly higher in the Tb group than in the CK group. The  
 440 abundance of metabolic pathways, such as fatty acid beta-oxidation I, was also significantly high in  
 441 the Tb group. Hence, Tb group soils may be enriched with bacteria related to fatty acid and sugar  
 442 catabolism. Additionally, the abundance of betaine-aldehyde dehydrogenase at the enzyme level was  
 443 significantly higher in the Tb group than in the CK group, suggesting that in the Tb group, the  
 444 bacterial community may fill the gap in the fungal community with less abundance of this enzyme,  
 445 and perhaps a collaborative effect between the fungus and bacteria exists for improved betaine  
 446 formation.

##### 447 4.6.2 Prediction of bacterial phenotypes using BugBase

448 The main factor contributing to the significantly different BugBase phenotypes of the bacterial  
 449 communities was the aggregation of actinomycetes in Tb. The inhibitory effect of the actinomycetes  
 450 on gram-negative bacteria may be more pronounced such that more gram-positive and fewer gram-  
 451 negative bacteria than those in the CK group were observed in the Tb group. The significantly high  
 452 stress-tolerance phenotype in the Tb group may be related to antibiotic stress resistance, as fewer  
 453 non-resistant bacteria were inhibited in Tb. The possibility that the bacterial community in the Tb  
 454 group had high stress tolerance cannot be ruled out. Further, the relative abundance of potentially  
 455 pathogenic bacteria was lower in the Tb group than in the CK group, and some plant pathogenic  
 456 bacteria were included; therefore, the probability of pathogenic bacteria being attacked in Tb soils  
 457 was low for both the plants and *T. bakamatsutake* itself.

##### 458 4.6.3 Prediction of bacterial function using FAPROTAX

459 Both chemoheterotrophy and aerobic chemoheterotrophs were more abundant in Tb than in the  
 460 CK group. The carbon and energy sources of chemoheterotrophic microorganisms originate from the  
 461 oxidative decomposition of OM. Saprophytic bacteria were the most abundant among  
 462 chemoheterotrophic bacteria. In the Tb group, *T. bakamatsutake* dominated and significantly reduced  
 463 the abundance of saprophytic fungi. However, *T. bakamatsutake* had limited scope and efficiency in

464 decomposing OM; therefore, an increase in saprophytic bacteria is needed to compensate for the  
 465 scope and efficiency of saprophytic functions in the Tb group. Nitrogen fixation was significantly  
 466 reduced in Tb, possibly because of the antagonistic effects mentioned in the bacterial community and  
 467 competition for ecological niches, resulting in a reduction in nitrogen-fixing bacteria such as  
 468 *Bradyrhizobium*. Degradation of aromatic compounds was higher in the Tb group than in the CK  
 469 group. Aromatic compounds can cause serious environmental pollution, and the significantly high  
 470 abundance of aromatic compound-degrading bacteria in the Tb group were mainly from the several  
 471 aforementioned actinomycetes. Plant pathogens were significantly less abundant in the Tb group than  
 472 in the CK group, suggesting that some plant pathogenic bacteria were inhibited by Tb.

## 473 5 Conclusion

474 In this study, the diversity and population structure of microbiology in the soils of the Tb group  
 475 and the CK group were compared using a microbiome approach. In the Tb group samples, *T.*  
 476 *bakamatsutake* was the absolute dominant species, and the species diversity and other fungal species  
 477 richness decreased significantly. On the contrary, bacterial diversity increased and bacterial  
 478 community structure was changed in the Tb group compared with that of the CK group. There were  
 479 more abundant PGPB and MHB in the Tb group than in the CK group. Abundant MHB  
 480 (*Sphingomonas*, *Paenibacillus*, and *Bacillus*) promotes fungal hyphal growth and mycorrhizal  
 481 formation. PGPB is capable of producing plant growth regulators, promoting plant growth, and  
 482 improving resistance to drought and salt tolerance. The results showed that *T. bakamatsutake* not  
 483 only directly provided water and minerals to *Q. mongolica*, but also promoted the growth of the host  
 484 by regulating the soil microbial community structure (Figure 6). This study is important for  
 485 constructing a healthy soil microbial community structure and cultivating *T. bakamatsutake-Q.*  
 486 *mongolica* mycorrhizal seedlings.

487 **TABLE 1.** | Collection and grouping of the 28 soils samples.

Cities	<i>T. bakamatsutake</i> shiro soils	<i>Q. mongolica</i> rhizosphere soils
AnShan (AS)	ASTb1, ASTb2, ASTb3	ASCK1, ASCK2, ASCK3
KuanDian (KD)	KDTb1, KDTb2, KDTb3	KDCK1, KDCK2, KDCK3
XinBin (XB)	XBTb1, XBTb2, XBTb3, XBTb4, XBTb5	XBCK1, XBCK2, XBCK3, XBCK4, XBCK5
XiuYan(XY)	XYTb1, XYTb2, XYTb3	XYCK1, XYCK2, XYCK3

488 Tb: *T. bakamatsutake* shiro soil, CK: *Q. mongolica* rhizosphere soil. AS: Anshan (123°9'26"E,  
 489 41°0'13"N, 267 m), KD: Kuandian (124°53'0"E, 41°30'15"N, 323 m); XB: Xinbin (125°24'5"E,  
 490 41°36'54"N, 662.94 m); XY: Xiuyan (123°41'35"E, 40°19'13"N, 254.53 m).

491

492

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494

495 **TABLE 2.** | Physicochemical properties of *Tricholoma bakamatsutake* shiro soils.

Sample	AK (mg/kg)	AP (mg/kg)	AN (mg/kg)	TK (%)	TP (%)	TN (%)	OM (g/kg)	pH	Sand (%)	Silt (%)	Clay (%)
ASTb	142.6e	1.133f	252.10f	2.41a	0.069e	0.402e	108d	5.41d	57.333a	28.00e	14.667d
ASCK	161.8c	2.60e	215.80g	2.13b	0.087a	0.489a	116c	5.66c	48.00b	37.00c	15.00c,d
KDTb	127.6f	3.40d	322.10c	1.63d	0.059g	0.412d	122b	5.31e	49.333b	33.333d	17.333b,c,d
KDCK	157.8d	5.50b	302.20d	1.33f	0.072d	0.452c	116c	5.81b	34.00c	47.00a	19.00a,b,c
XBTb	36.4h	2.70e	283.10e	1.39e	0.065f	0.348f	106d	5.24e	36.00c	42.00b	22.00a
XBCK	124.6g	6.50a	327.70b	1.21g	0.079b	0.461b	117c	6.19a	35.00c	50.00a	15.00c,d
XYTb	252.6a	3.30d	348.20a	1.78c	0.054h	0.398e	136a	6.17a	60.00a	30.00e	10.00e
XYCK	176.8b	4.80c	283.10e	1.23g	0.075c	0.413d	121b	5.04f	30.00d	50.00a	20.00a,b

496 Values are presented as the means of three replicates. Means in a column followed by different letters  
 497 are significantly different at  $P \leq 0.05$  according to the Duncan's multiple range test.

## 498 **6 Conflict of Interest**

499 *The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial*  
 500 *relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.*

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504

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## 737 **9 Supplementary Material**

### 738 **Supplementary Material**

739 The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at:

740 **Supplementary Figure 1** | Alpha-diversity of bacterial and fungal communities of the different  
741 groups.

742 **Supplementary Figure 2** | Venn diagram of operational taxonomic unit (OTU) numbers of the  
743 different groups.

744 **Supplementary Figure 3** | UpSet Venn diagram of fungal OTU number in the different groups. (a)  
745 Tb group; (b) CK group. Set Size (top bar) is a count of the number of OTUs in each group itself.  
746 Intersection Size (bottom bar) is a count of the number of OTUs for each group after taking the  
747 intersection, with the individual dots below indicating OTUs specific to one group and the line  
748 between the dots indicating OTUs for the intersection of different groups. OTU, operational  
749 taxonomic unit; Tb, *Tricholoma bakamatsutake* shiro soils; CK, *Quercus mongolica* rhizosphere soils.

750 **Supplementary Figure 4** | UpSet Venn diagram of bacterial OTU number in the different groups. (a)  
751 Tb group; (b) CK group. Set Size (top bar) is a count of the number of OTUs in each group itself.  
752 Intersection Size (bottom bar) is a count of the number of OTUs for each group after taking the  
753 intersection, with the individual dots below indicating OTUs specific to one group and the line  
754 between the dots indicating OTUs for the intersection of different groups. OTU, operational  
755 taxonomic unit; Tb, *Tricholoma bakamatsutake* shiro soils; CK, *Quercus mongolica* rhizosphere soils.

756 **Supplementary Figure 5** | Differences in microbial community structure of the different groups.

757 **Supplementary Figure 5** | Significance analysis of genus-level differences in fungal communities.  
758 (a) Kruskal-Wallis H test; (b) Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

759 **Supplementary Figure 7** | Significance analysis of genus-level differences in bacterial communities.  
760 (a) Kruskal-Wallis H test; (b) Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

761 **Supplementary Figure 8** | Significance analysis of the differences in the abundance of MHB in  
762 different groups. (a) Kruskal-Wallis H test; (b) Wilcoxon rank-sum test. MHB, mycorrhization helper  
763 bacteria.

764 **Supplementary Figure 9** | Analysis of the significant differences in the predicted function of  
765 PICRUST2 in fungal communities.

766 **Supplementary Figure 10** | Significant differences in the functional prediction of fungal  
767 communities (top 5).

768 **Supplementary Figure 11** | Analysis of significant differences in the predicted function of  
769 Phylogenetic Investigation of Communities by Reconstruction of Unobserved States (PICRUSt2) in  
770 bacterial communities.

771 **Supplementary Figure 12** | Significance analysis of the variance of BugBase phenotype predictions  
772 for bacterial communities.

773 **Supplementary Figure 13** | Functional prediction of FAPROTAX in bacterial communities.

774 **Supplementary Figure 14** | Spearman's analysis of the correlation between bacteria within bacterial  
775 communities.

776 **Supplementary Table 1** | Paired samples t-test of significant differences in soil physicochemical  
777 properties for two groups.

778 **Supplementary Table 2** | The raw data results from MiSeq for fungal community.

779 **Supplementary Table 3** | The raw data results from MiSeq for bacterial community.

780 **Supplementary Table 4** | Description of the number of enzymes and pathways.

## 781 **Figures legends**

782 **FIGURE 1.** | The composition of fungal communities at the genus level in the different groups. (a)  
783 Heatmap; (b) Abundance bubble map. Bubble size and color indicate the abundance and  
784 classification of the genus, respectively.

785 **FIGURE 2.** | The composition of bacterial communities at the genus level in the different groups. (a)  
786 Heatmap; (b) Abundance bubble map. Bubble size and color indicate the abundance and  
787 classification of the genus, respectively.

788 **FIGURE 3.** | CCA/RDA analysis of the relationship in the microbial communities and  
789 environmental factors. (a) Fungal communities; (b) Bacterial communities. AP ( $r^2 = 0.5386$ ,  $P =$   
790  $0.001$ ), TP ( $r^2 = 0.7456$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ), TN ( $r^2 = 0.6587$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ), sand ( $r^2 = 0.318$ ,  $P = 0.01$ ), and silt  
791 ( $r^2 = 0.5227$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ) were significant factors that influenced fungal community structure. AK ( $r^2$   
792  $= 0.2546$ ,  $P = 0.021$ ), AP ( $r^2 = 0.6052$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ), TK ( $r^2 = 0.203$ ,  $P = 0.049$ ), TP ( $r^2 = 0.4041$ ,  $P =$   
793  $0.001$ ), TN ( $r^2 = 0.4976$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ), sand ( $r^2 = 0.2562$ ,  $P = 0.025$ ), and silt ( $r^2 = 0.4882$ ,  $P = 0.001$ )  
794 were significant factors that influenced bacterial community structure. CCA/RDA, correspondence  
795 analysis/ redundancy analysis.

796 **FIGURE 4.** | Heatmap of Spearman correlations in the microbial communities and environmental  
797 factors. (a) Fungal communities; (b) Bacterial communities.

798 **FIGURE 5.** | Pieplot of fungal community composition at the genus level in the *Quercus mongolica*  
799 rhizosphere soil (CK) group. (a) ASCK; (b) KDCK; (c) XBCK; (d) XYCK.

800 **FIGURE 6.** | Direct or indirect effects in the members of the *Quercus mongolica-Tricholoma*  
801 *bakamatsutake*-associated bacteria symbiosis. The soil of the *Q. mongolica* forest provides a soil

802 environment that contributes to the widespread presence of ECM fungi. However, the composition of  
803 the soil affects the colonization of different ECM species, and *T. bakamatsutake* may prefer to  
804 colonize environments with high sand and low silt levels owing to good aeration, permeability, and  
805 poor water storage; hence, the competition for *T. bakamatsutake* is low in this soil. Once *T.*  
806 *bakamatsutake* colonizes the roots of the oak tree, it receives photosynthetic products from the oak  
807 tree through its mycorrhizal roots and transports active soil material to the oak tree. As *T.*  
808 *bakamatsutake* grows, its dominance suppresses other fungi and aggregates its companion bacteria,  
809 which are beneficial to its growth and development and that of *Q. mongolica*, whereas *Q. mongolica*  
810 and *T. bakamatsutake* provide nutrients to these companion bacteria. ECM, ectomycorrhizal.

## 811 **10 Data Availability Statement**

812 The datasets presented in this study can be found in online repositories. The name of the repository  
813 and accession number can be found below: National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI)  
814 BioProject, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject/>, PRJNA955660.

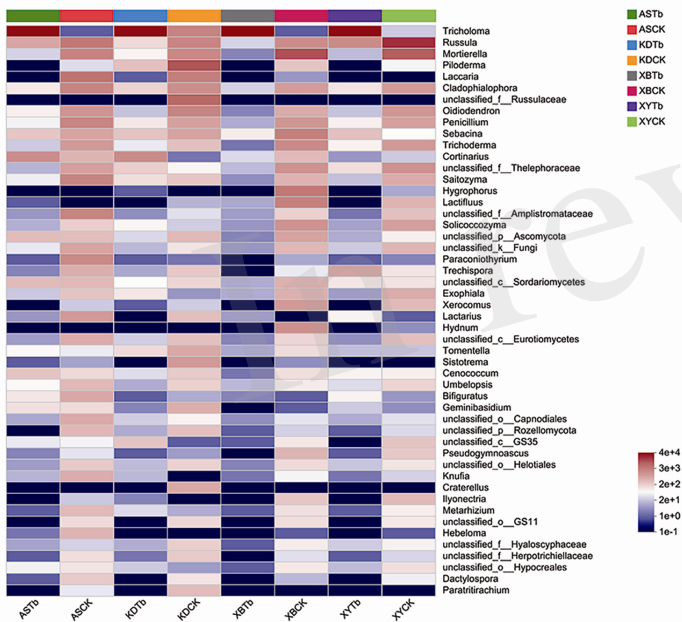
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In review

Figure 1.TIF

(a) Community heatmap analysis on Genus level



(b) Abundance bubble map on Genus level

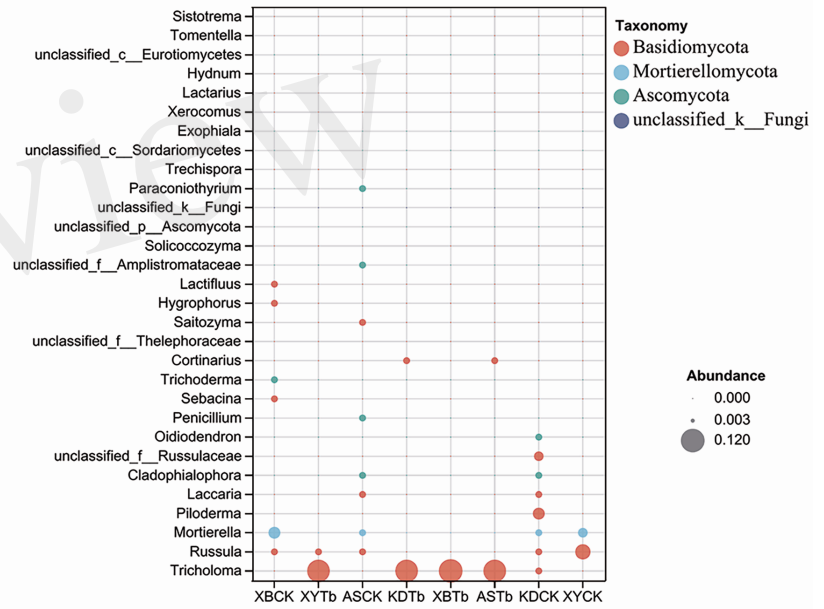
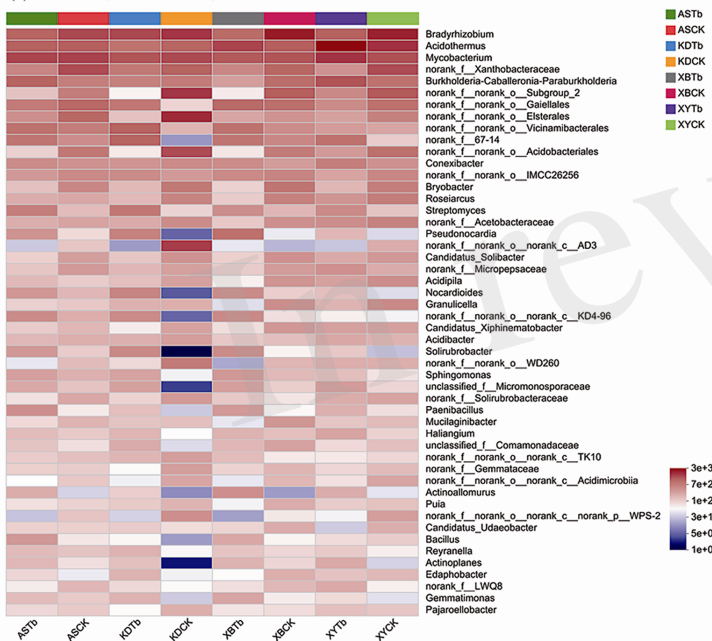


Figure 2.TIF

(a) Community heatmap analysis on Genus level



(b) Abundance bubble map on Genus level

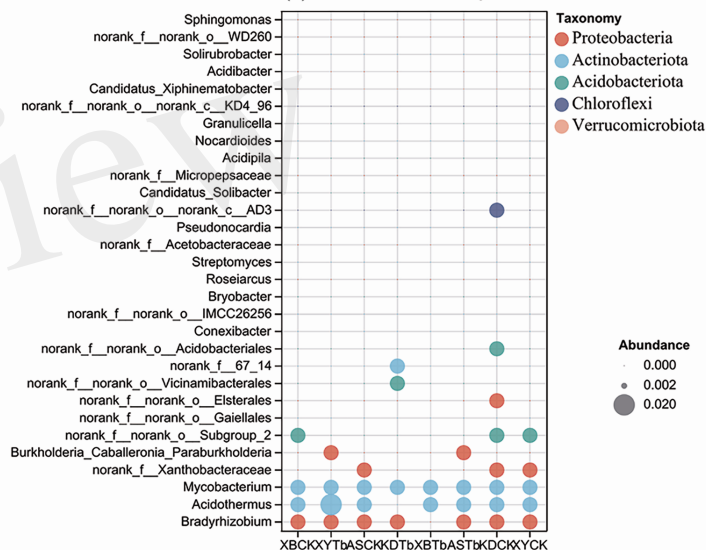


Figure 3.TIF

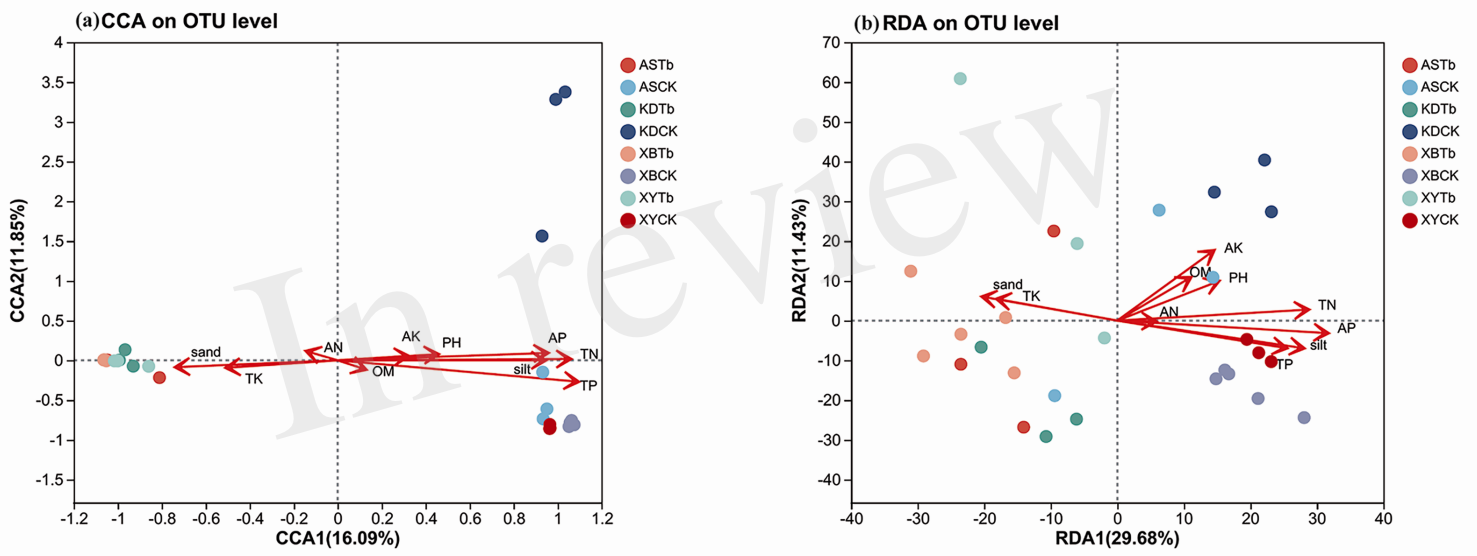
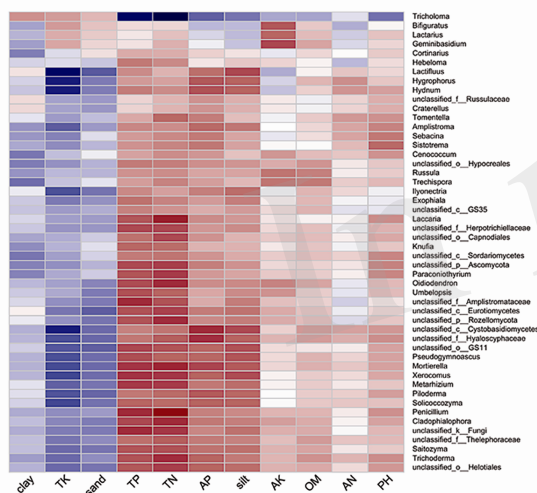


Figure 4.TIF

(a) Spearman Correlation Heatmap



(b) Spearman Correlation Heatmap

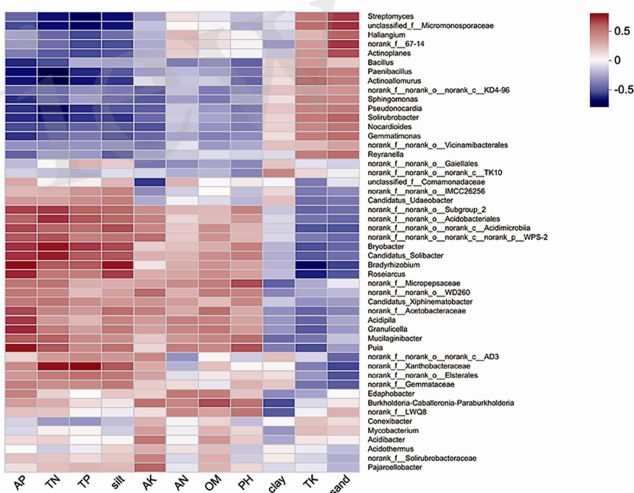




Figure 6.TIF

