Supplementary Material I. Oligonucleotides used in this study

Oligonucleotides	Sequence (5´-3´)
L100074*	CCCTAGCTGGACGTGGAATC
L100075*	GCCCCGAGAAAGTCTTGTGC
L100078	GGGCAACGTACTCGTCCAGGCGA
L100079	GGGGGTCTCGAACGCTTGCG
L100063phtM	GCTGGTCCCGCGCCTCATGG
L100143phtMF/med	TGCAGGTGTTTAACGCCTTAATTCA
L100144phtMR/med	CATTACTCAGTAAGTAGCCCATATA
L100145phtMF5A´	CGATGCCTTTCAGATCAGCTTTGCA
L100146phtMR5a´	ACTTCCTTGAATTAAGGCGTTAAAC
L100148phtMR3A´	GACCTGAAGCGATAACCGGAACACA
L100147phtMF3A´	GGAAGTTATATGGGCTACTTACTGA

* Oligonucleotides sequences previously reported by Arvizu-Gómez *et al.*, 2011

Supplementary material II

Competition assays to delimit the binding site of the putative regulatory proteins of the *phtM* operon. Gel shift competition assays using different fragments of the upstream region of the *phtM* operon as competitors of the labelled P_{phtM} fragment (a). The competitors was used in increasing concentrations: 50 ng, 60 ng , 100 ng, 150 ng, 200 ng, 250 ng, 300 ng and/or 400 ng. The letters indicate the fragments of the upstream region of the *phtM* operon used as competitors in the assays. Only the fragments d, f, g were unable to compete the DNA-protein complexes.