

Microbacterium pollutisoli

August 9, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Microbacterium pollutisoli Latest News

Recently, researchers have discovered a new species of bacteria thriving in the harsh, toxic soil of a banned pesticide dumpsite and named *Microbacterium pollutisoli*.

About *Microbacterium pollutisoli*

- It is a **new species of bacteria** discovered in toxic soil of a banned pesticide Hexachlorocyclohexane in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- It is named by combining the Latin words pollutus, meaning “**contaminated,**” and solum, meaning “**soil.**” Together, the name literally translates to “the *Microbacterium* of polluted soil.”
- **Characteristics**
 - It forms shiny, yellow circular colonies and is shaped like a short rod.
 - It is capable of **growing in temperatures ranging from 12°C to 46°C** and **surviving in highly alkaline conditions**.
 - Its genome revealed **biosynthetic gene clusters**.
 - These are sets of instructions in their **DNA** that allow the bacteria to produce valuable compounds **like carotenoids** (natural pigments used in vitamins), **ectoine** (a substance that protects cells from stress), and **beta-lactones** (chemicals often studied for their ability to fight bacteria or even cancer).

cells.

Source: RM

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