

Chapter 40, *The Bacteriophages* 2nd edition, R. Calendar (ed), Oxford University Press

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Table 1. Properties of the genera in the Class Mollicutes¹

Taxonomy	Oxygen requirement ²	Sterol requirement	Genome size	Habitat
Family: <i>Mycoplasmataceae</i>				
Genus: <i>Mycoplasma</i>	FA	yes	580-1350 kbp	animals and humans
Genus: <i>Ureaplasma</i>	FA	yes	760-1170 kbp	animals and humans
Family: <i>Entomoplasmataceae</i>				
Genus: <i>Entomoplasma</i>	FA	yes	790-1140 kbp	plants and insects
Genus: <i>Mesoplasma</i>	FA	no	870-1100 kbp	plants and insects
Family: <i>Spiroplasmataceae</i>				
Genus: <i>Spiroplasma</i>	FA	yes	780-2200 kbp	plants and insects
Family: <i>Acholeplasmataceae</i>				
Genus: <i>Acholeplasma</i>	FA	yes	1500-1650 kbp	animals, some plants and insects
Genus: <i>Phytoplasma</i> ³	C	C	640-1185 kbp	plants and insects
Family: <i>Anaeroplasmataceae</i>				
Genus: <i>Anaeroplasma</i>	OA	yes	1500-1600 kbp	bovine and ovine rumens
Genus: <i>Asteroleplasma</i>	OA	no	1500 kbp	bovine and ovine rumens

¹ Based on data reviewed in [31](#).

² Abbreviations: FA, facultative aerobe; OA, obligate anaerobe

³ Phytoplasmas have not been cultured and, therefore, have no official taxonomic status.

These microorganisms may be obligate intracellular parasites. Phytoplasmas form a putative genus phylogenetically close to *Acholeplasma* ([25](#)). Although no phytoplasma growth data are available, genome sizes have been determined from phytoplasma-infected plant and insect tissues.