

**Table 1.** Clustering of bacteria in the rhizosphere of wheat roots from the field.<sup>a</sup>

	Rhizospheres with clustered cells (% total observed)	Cells in clusters (% total rhizosphere cells)	Volume rhizosphere with clustered cells (% total rhizosphere volume)	Cells per cluster volume ( $\times 10^5 \text{ mm}^{-3}$ )	Features associated with clusters (% total clusters observed)					Cluster volume ( $\text{mm}^3$ )	Distances between cells in clusters ( $\mu\text{m}$ )		
					None visible	Soil	Root hairs	Axial grooves	Cap cells		Mean	Smallest	Largest
Bacteria non-filamentous	37	52 (19–86)	12 (0.1–37)	73.6 (9.57–244)	42	21	7	28	2	$5.57 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $1.23 \times 10^{-7}$ to $1.54 \times 10^{-4}$ )	84 (64–110)	0.88 (0.38–1.45)	170 (118–204)
<i>Pseudomonas</i>	43	63 (30–100)	15 (1–37)	24.4 (9.92–60.3)	41	31	10	7	10	$5.44 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $3.22 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ )	87 (73–103)	1.05 (0.66–1.44)	165 (119–213)

a. Groups of cells judged by eye to be clustered compared with overall cells were outlined with analysis software and volumes of clusters and their cells were compared with the total rhizosphere volume and cell numbers (see *Experimental procedures* for additional information). Mean and range in brackets presented.