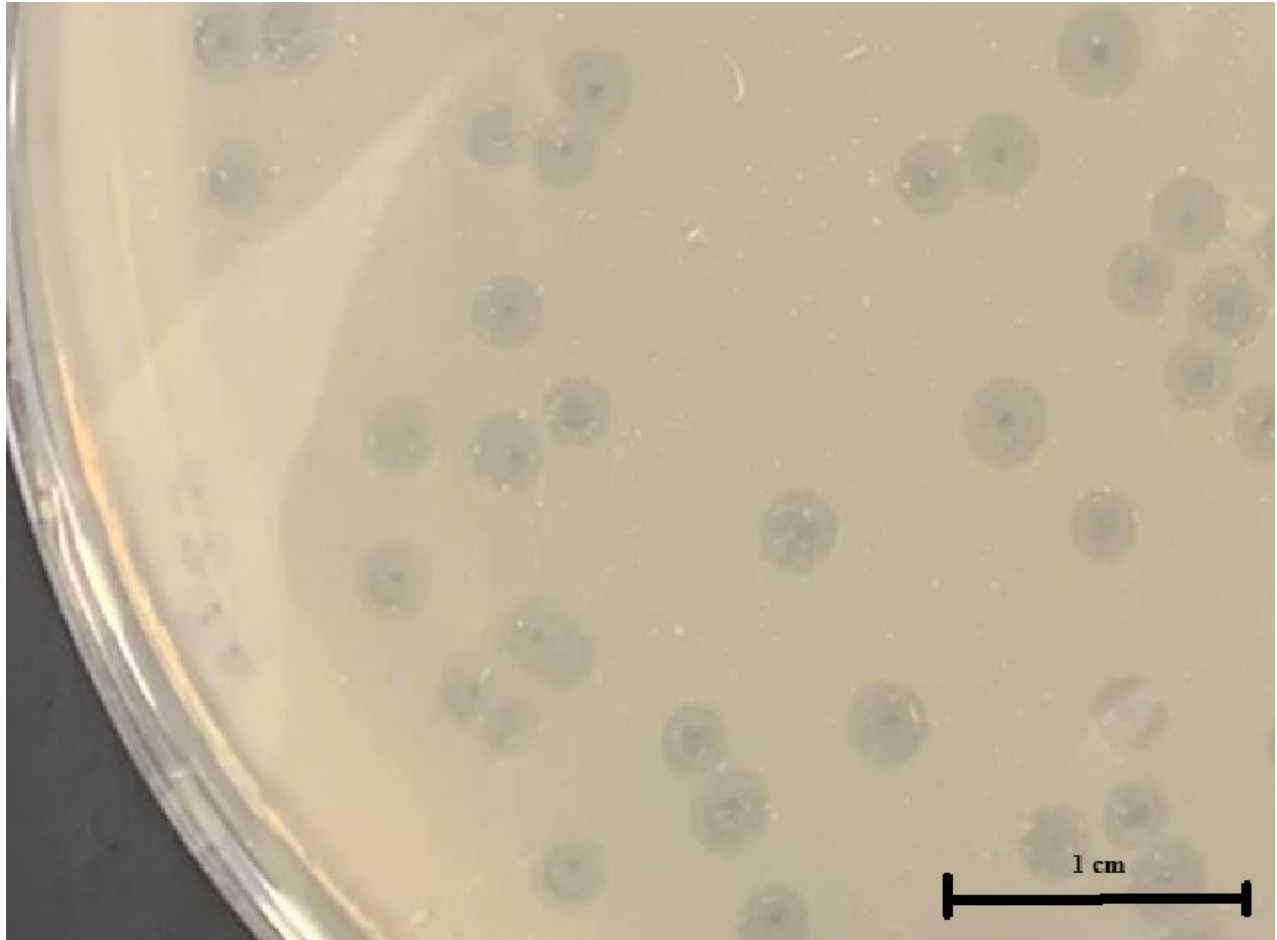




Plaques of Willica. A culture of *Mycobacterium smegmatis* was infected with the isolated bacteriophage collected from environmental sampling and mixed with top agar before being plated on a 7H10 plate. Plates were incubated at 37 °C, typically for up to 3 days, to allow plaque formation. The resulting plate showed a webbed appearance, indicating near-complete lysis of the bacterial lawn. Following incubation, the webbed plate was flooded with phage buffer and left to incubate either overnight at 4 °C or for at least 3 hours at 37 °C to allow phage particles to diffuse into the buffer. After flooding and incubation, the plate was imaged to document plaque morphology and lysis patterns.