Sup. Text 1. Detailed description of the amplification of the open reading frames and subsequent cloning in yeast 2-hybrid vectors.

Analysis of the complete Arabidopsis genome revealed the presence of 107 genes belonging to the MADS box transcription factor family (Pařenicová et al., 2003). For each gene specific primers with a linker were designed and the Open Reading Frames (ORFs) were amplified from cDNA, followed by cloning as has been described previously by Pařenicová et al. (2003). Subsequently, each clone was reamplified with general primers containing the attB1 and attB2 sites and each PCR fragment was recombined in the GatewayTM pDONRTM201 vector (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA), which resulted in an entry clone. Some ORFs could not be cloned due to lack of expression (AGL33, AGL94, AGL95), because they are almost identical to other family members (MAF3, MAF4, AGL75), or due to technical difficulties (AGL30, AGL41, AGL74-I, AGL100). For some ORFs (SEP4, ABS, AGL74) various splicing variants were identified and these were also included in the experiments (SEP4-I, U81369, SEP4-II, AY141229, ABS-I, AJ318098, ABS-II, AY141212, AGL74-II, AY726781, AGL74-N, AY141254). Further information about nomenclature and accession numbers can be found at The Arabidopsis Information Resource (TAIR) http://www.arabidopsis.org/info/genefamily/MADSlike.html. All entry clones were controlled by sequencing analysis (BigDye sequencing kit, Applied Biosystems) and afterwards, the ORFs were recombined into the pBDGAL4 bait vector (pDESTTM32, Invitrogen) and pADGAL4 prey vector (pDEST™22, Invitrogen). For SEP1 and SEP3 no bait constructs were made because it has been shown that the proteins encoded by these two genes give strong autoactivation of the yeast reporter genes (Honma and Goto, 2001). For AGL58 the bait construct is missing due to technical problems.