

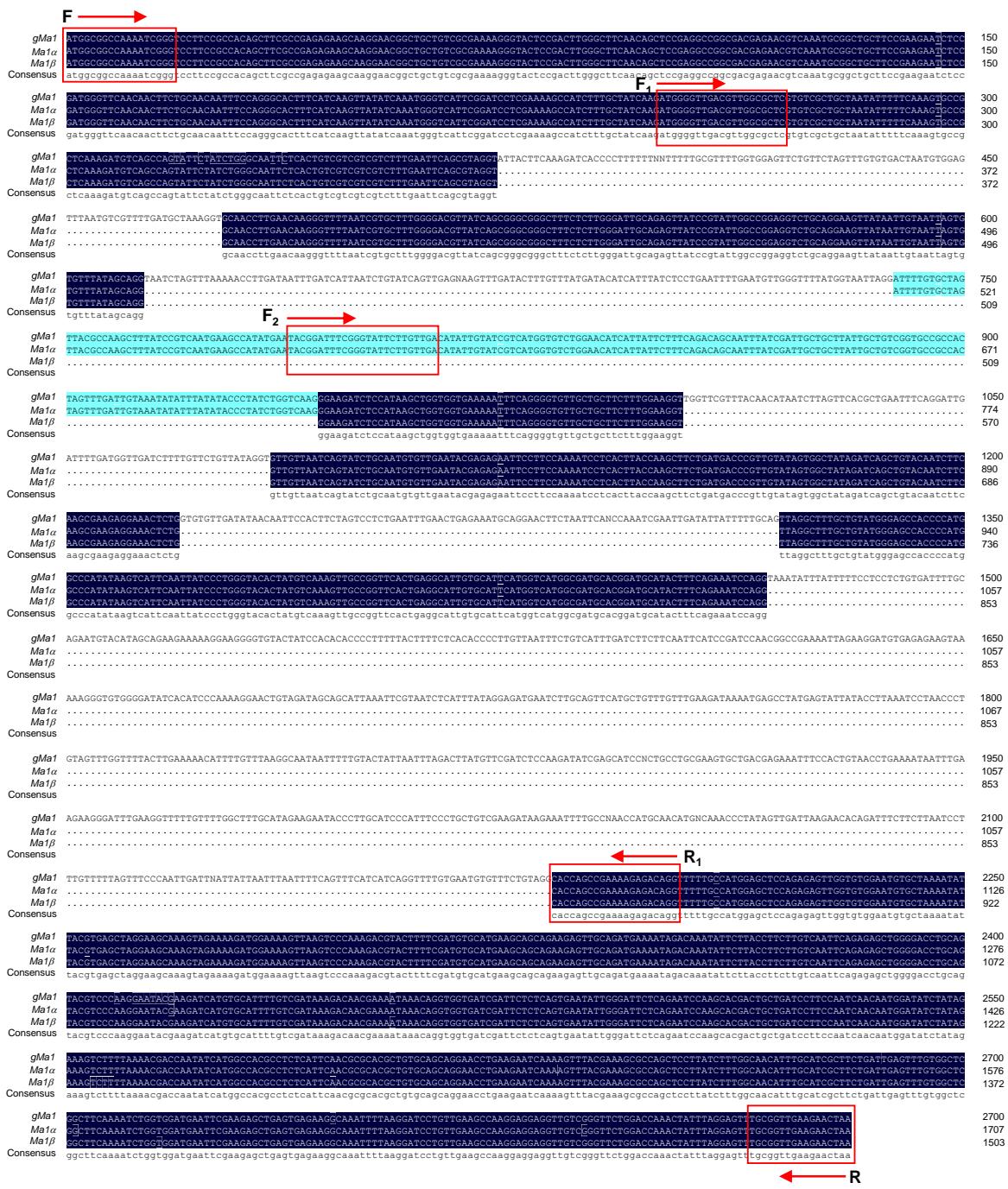


Supporting Information

for *Adv. Sci.*, DOI 10.1002/advs.202310159

Alternative Splicing Underpins the ALMT9 Transporter Function for Vacuolar Malic Acid Accumulation in Apple

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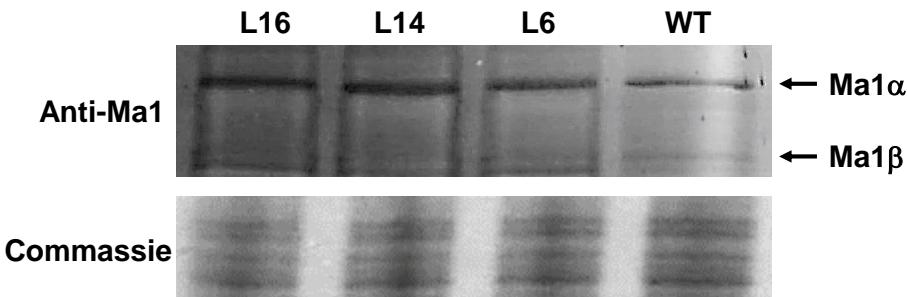
Supplemental Figure 1. Nucleotide sequence alignment of genomic *Ma1* (*gMa1*), *Ma1 α* CDS and *Ma1 β* CDS using DNAMAN software.

The primers used for the PCR assay of Figure 2A-C are highlighted in the red box.

Ma1 α	MAAKIGSFRHSFAERSKERLLSRKGYS	DLGFNS	SEAGDENVKCGCFRRISDG	FNNFCNNQGTFIKLYQM	GHS	SPRKAIFAIKMG	LTLALV	SLLIFFKVP	100							
Ma1 β	MAAKIGSFRHSFAERSKERLLSRKGYS	DLGFNS	SEAGDENVKCGCFRRISDG	FNNFCNNQGTFIKLYQM	GHS	SPRKAIFAIKMG	LTLALV	SLLIFFKVP	100							
Consensus	maakigsfrhsfaerskerllsrkgys	digfns	seagdenvkcgcfrrisdg	fnnfcnnqgtfiklyqm	ghs	prkaifaikmg	ltlalv	slliffkvp								
Ma1 α	LKDVSQYSIWAILT	VVVVF	EFSGVATLNKG	FGNRALGTL	SAGGLSLGIAELSVL	AGGLQEVIVIVS	VFIAG	ECASYAKLYPSM	KPYEYGF	RVFL	TYCIVM	200				
Ma1 β	LKDVSQYSIWAILT	VVVVF	EFSGVATLNKG	FGNRALGTL	SAGGLSLGIAELSVL	AGGLQEVIVIVS	VFIAG	.....	.....	.....	.....	170			
Consensus	lkdv	sqysi	wailtvvvfef	sgvatlnkgfnralgt	lsagg	slgiaelsvl	agglqe	vivivs	vfiag	.....	.....			
Ma1 α	VGTS	LFQTAIYR	LLLIAVG	AATSLIVNIFIYPIWSE	EDLHKLVV	KNF	RGVAASLEG	VNVQYLQC	VEYERI	PSKILTYQ	ASDDPLYSGY	RSAVQS	300			
Ma1 β	.....	.....	.....	.....	EDLHKLVV	KNF	RGVAASLEG	VNVQYLQC	VEYERI	PSKILTYQ	ASDDPLYSGY	RSAVQS	232		
Consensus	edlh	klvv	knfrgva	aslegvvnqylqc	veyerip	skil	tyqasddpl	ysgyr	rsavqs	see	.....	.....		
Ma1 α	ETLLGFAVWEPPHGPYKSFNYPWV	HV	VAGSLR	CAF	MVMAMHGC	I	SEI	QAPAEKRQ	VFAMEL	QRVG	VECA	KILRELGS	KVEKMEKLSPKDVL	400		
Ma1 β	ETLLGFAVWEPPHGPYKSFNYPWV	HV	VAGSLR	CAF	MVMAMHGC	I	SEI	QAPAEKRQ	VFAMEL	QRVG	VECA	KILRELGS	KVEKMEKLSPKDVL	332		
Consensus	etllgfa	vwepphgp	psfnypwv	hykv	agslr	caf	mvmamhgc	isel	qapaekrq	vfamel	qrvg	veca	kme	klspkdvlfdvhe		
Ma1 α	AAEELQMKIDKSY	LLVN	SESWGPAVRP	KEYEDHV	HVFVDK	DNE	NKQV	VIDS	LEYWDS	QNP	STTADP	SNQQWISIES	LLKRPISWPRLSFNAH	AVQQEPE	500	
Ma1 β	AAEELQMKIDKSY	LLVN	SESWGPAVRP	KEYEDHV	HVFVDK	DNE	NKQV	VIDS	LEYWDS	QNP	STTADP	SNQQWISIES	LLKRPISWPRLSFNAH	AVQQEPE	432	
Consensus	aaeelqmkidk	syllvn	seswgpa	rpk	eyehv	fvdkd	nenkq	vvvids	lseywd	snqnp	sttadp	snqqw	iesllk	rpiswprlsfna	havqqepe	
Ma1 α	ESKVYESASSLSLAT	FA	SLLIEF	VARLQNL	VDEF	E	ELSEKAN	FKDP	VEA	KEEV	VGVFT	TKLFR	SLRL	KN	568	
Ma1 β	ESKVYESASSLSLAT	FA	SLLIEF	VARLQNL	VDEF	E	ELSEKAN	FKDP	VEA	KEEV	VGVFT	TKLFR	SLRL	KN	500	
Consensus	eskvyesass	sls	latfas	lliefvarlqnl	vdefe	e	elsekan	fkdp	vea	keev	vgvft	tklfr	slrl	kn		

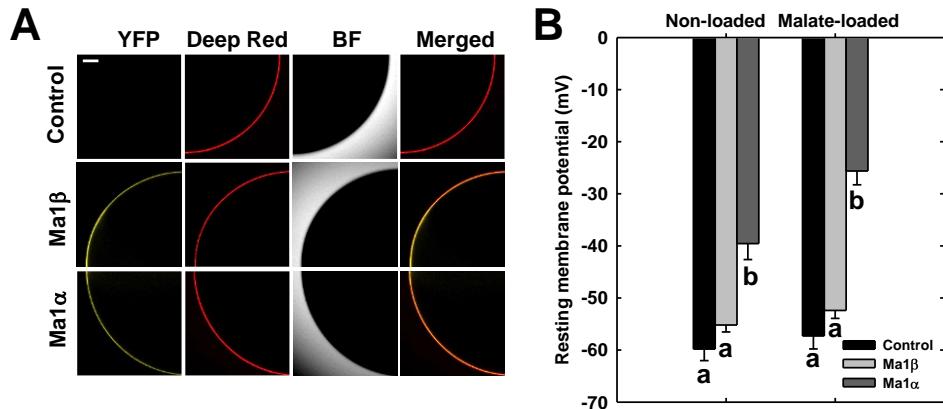
Supplemental Figure 2. Protein sequence alignment of Ma1 α and Ma1 β using DNAMAN software.

The peptide sequence ELSEKANFKDPVEA used to generate the antibody against Ma1 is highlighted in the red box.



Supplemental Figure 3. Detection of Ma1 α and Ma1 β proteins by immunoblotting at the peak of malic acid accumulation (31 days after bloom) during fruit development in wild type (WT) and cMa1-OE lines (L6, L14, L16) of 'Royal Gala' apple.

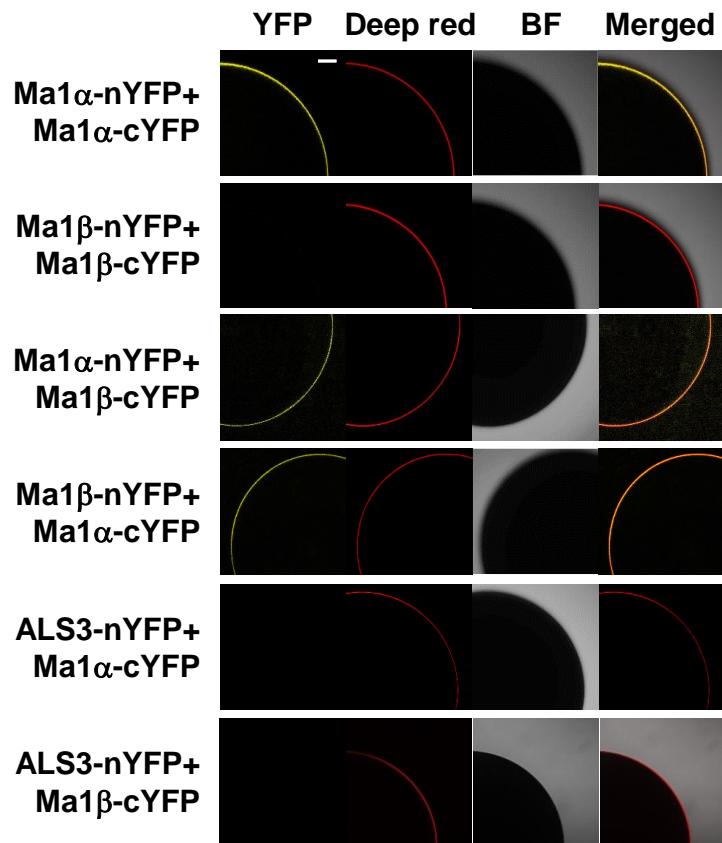
The antibody was generated against peptide ELSEKANFKDPVEA in rabbit, which recognizes both Ma1 α and Ma1 β .



Supplemental Figure 4. Localization of Ma1 β -YFP and Ma1 α -YFP fusion proteins in oocytes and Resting Membrane Potentials (RMPs) recorded in control and *Ma1 β* or *Ma1 α* -expressing cells

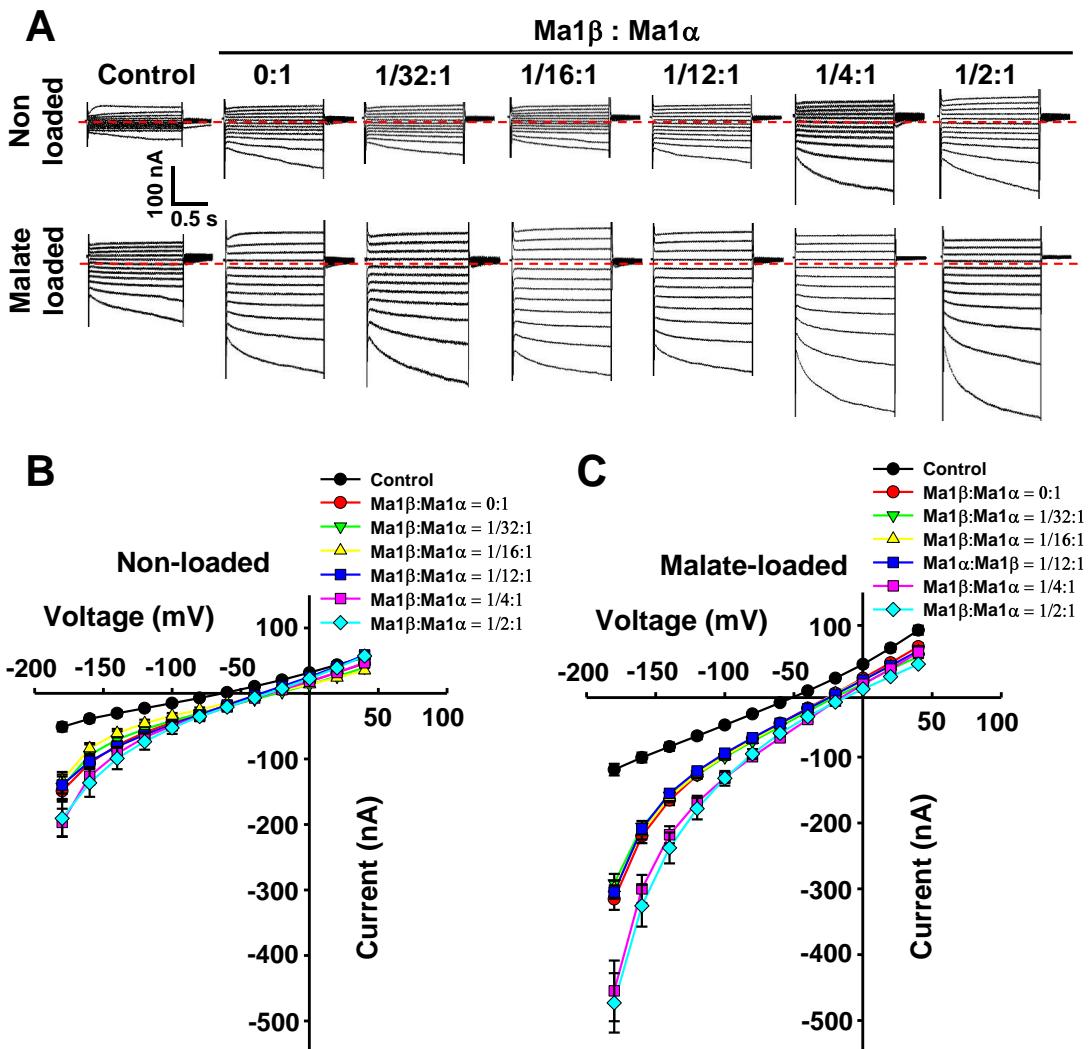
(A) Expression and localization of Ma1 β -YFP and Ma1 α -YFP fusion proteins in oocytes, with Deep Red as a plasma membrane marker (PM Marker). Each oocyte was injected with 25 ng cRNA. Bar = 100 μ m. BF: Bright Field.

(B) RMPs recorded in control and Ma1 β or Ma1 α -expressing cells. RMPs were recorded in cells non-loaded or loaded with malate by microinjecting cells with 50 nl of 100 mM Na-Malate (increasing cytosolic malate $^{2-}$ concentration by 4.5 mM) 2 to 3 hours prior to the electrophysiological recordings. Data are mean \pm SE. The number of cells recorded: Control-non-loaded ($n = 11$), Ma1 β -non-loaded ($n = 18$), Ma1 α -non-loaded ($n = 9$), Control-malate-loaded ($n = 10$), Ma1 β -malate-loaded ($n = 20$), and Ma1 α -malate-loaded ($n = 19$). Different letters (a, b, c) indicate significant differences between groups using Tukey's HSD test at $P < 0.05$ after ANOVA.



Supplemental Figure 5. BiFC assays of Ma1 α and Ma1 β in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes.

BiFC assays of Ma1 α and Ma1 β in *X. laevis* oocytes co-expressing Ma1 α -nYFP/Ma1 α -cYFP, Ma1 β -nYFP/Ma1 β -cYFP, Ma1 α -nYFP/Ma1 β -cYFP, or Ma1 β -nYFP/Ma1 α -cYFP fusion constructs, with a tonoplast localized protein ALS3 and empty vector (nYFP) as negative controls. Deep Red was used as a plasma membrane marker (PM Marker). Bar = 100 μ m. BF: Bright Field.

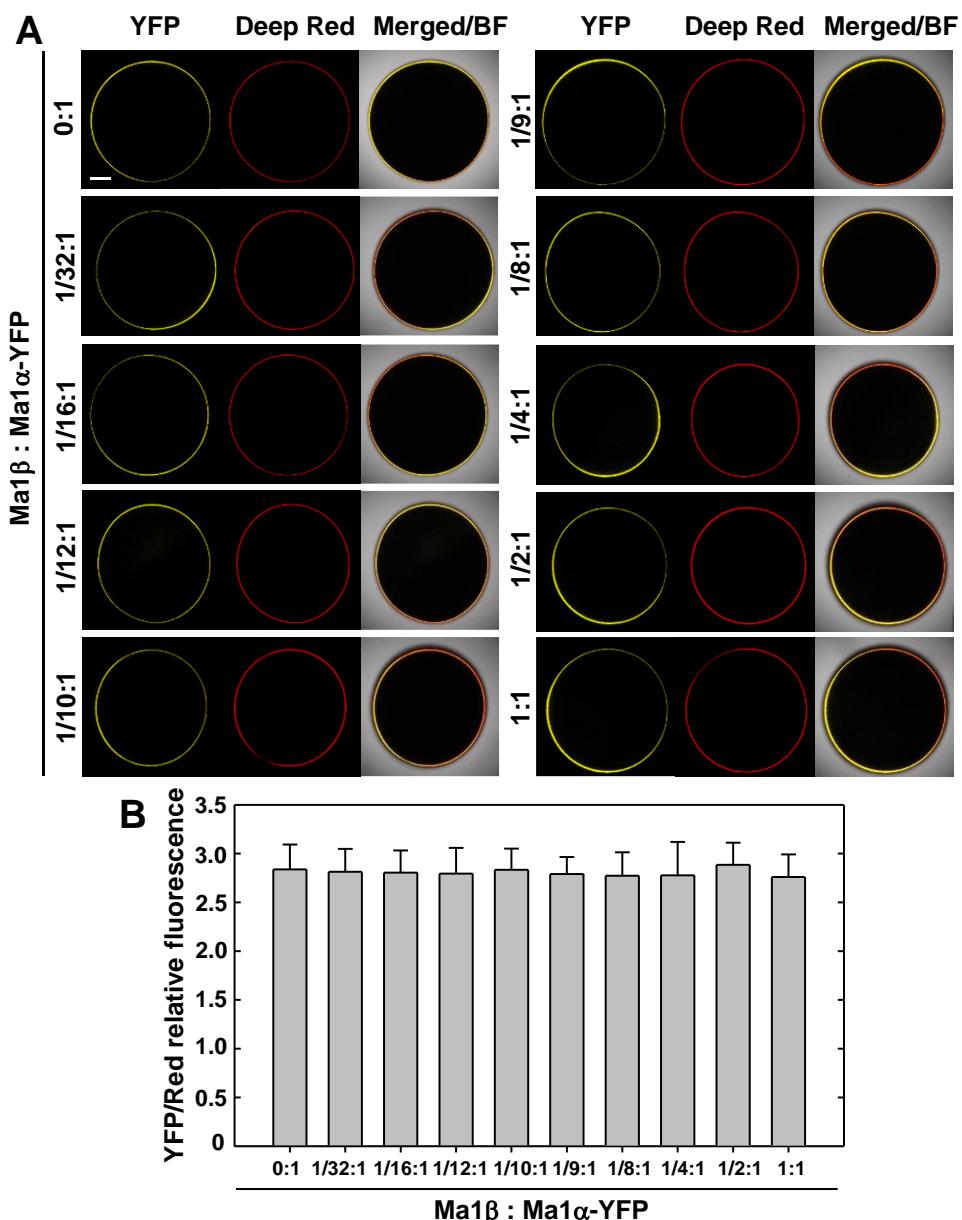


Supplemental Figure 6. Malate transport activity in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes co-expressing *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* genes in various ratios.

(A) Examples of currents elicited in response to holding potentials ranging from +40 to -180 mV (in 20 mV steps) recorded in control, *Ma1 β* / *Ma1 α* co-expressing cells, either non-loaded or loaded with malate. *Ma1 β* : *Ma1 α* = 0:1, 1/32:1, 1/16:1, 1/12:1, 1/4:1, 1/2:1 at a fixed amount (25 ng) of *Ma1 α* cRNA. The zero-current level is indicated by the red dotted line.

(B) Current-voltage (I/V) relationships constructed from steady-state current recordings with non-loaded cells such as those shown in A. Data are mean \pm SE. The number of cells recorded: Control ($n = 18$), 0:1 ($n = 15$), 1/32:1 ($n = 10$), 1/16:1 ($n = 10$), 1/12:1 ($n = 10$), 1/4:1 ($n = 10$), and 1/2:1 ($n = 10$).

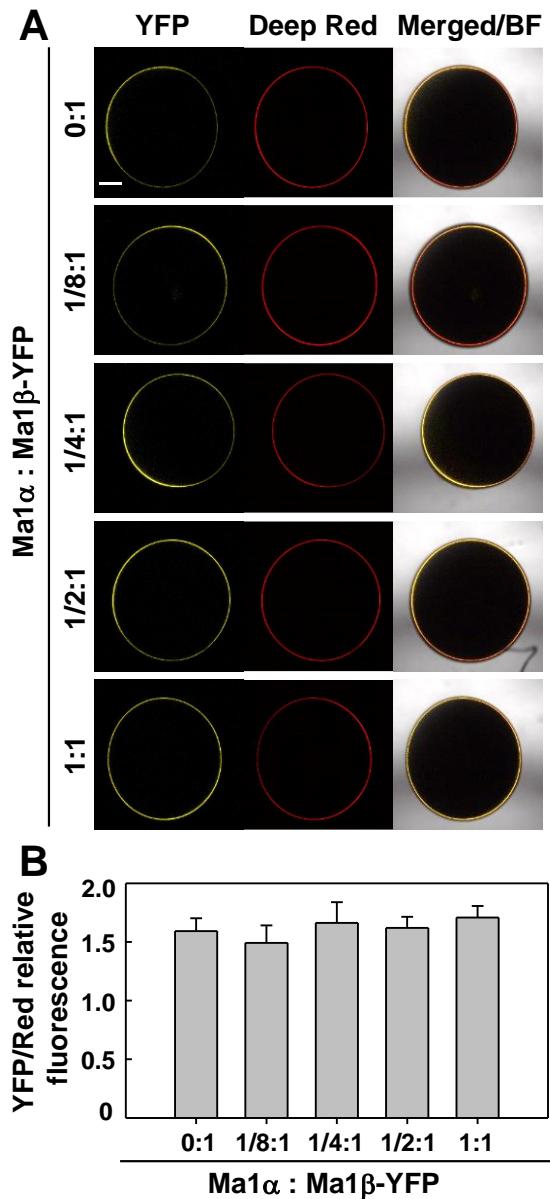
(C) Current-voltage (I/V) relationships constructed from steady-state current recordings with malate-loaded cells such as those shown in A. Data are mean \pm SE. The number of cells recorded: Control ($n = 16$), 0:1 ($n = 17$), 1/32:1 ($n = 10$), 1/16:1 ($n = 24$), 1/12:1 ($n = 22$), 1/4:1 ($n = 22$), and 1/2:1 ($n = 15$).



Supplemental Figure 7. Ma1 α protein expression is not affected by injection of *Ma1 β* cRNA at different ratios in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes.

(A) Representative images of the Ma1 α -YFP fluorescence signals in oocytes co-injected with *Ma1 β* at the indicated ratios, at a fixed amount of Ma1 α cRNA (25 ng) per oocyte. Deep red was used as a plasma membrane marker and a reference fluorescence signal. Bar = 200 μ m. BF: Bright Field.

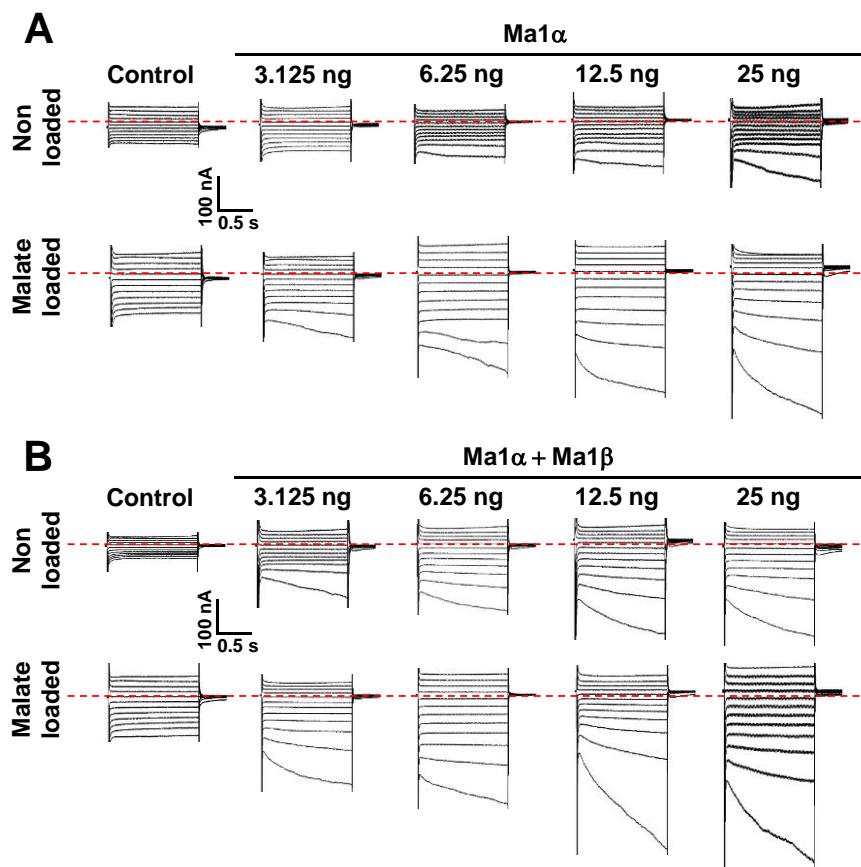
(B) The expression of Ma1 α protein indicated by the YFP/Red relative fluorescence in response to the addition of *Ma1 β* . Data are mean \pm SE of 20 cells recorded.



Supplemental Figure 8. Ma1 β protein expression is not affected by co-injection of Ma1 α cRNA at different ratios in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes.

(A) Representative images of the Ma1 β -YFP fluorescence signals in oocytes co-injected with Ma1 α at the indicated ratios, at a fixed amount of Ma1 β cRNA (25 ng) per oocyte. Deep red was used as a plasma membrane marker and a reference fluorescence signal. Bar = 200 μ m. BF: Bright Field.

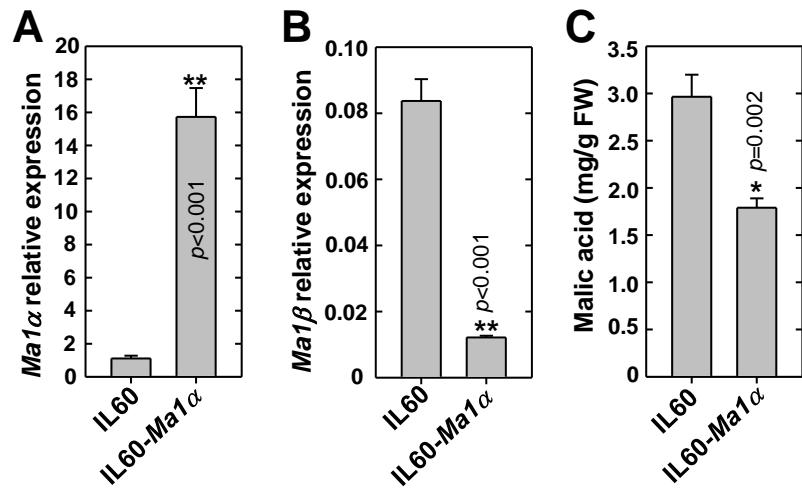
(B) The expression of Ma1 β protein indicated by the YFP/Red relative fluorescence in response to the addition of Ma1 α . Data are mean \pm SE of 20 cells recorded.



Supplemental Figure 9. Traces of currents elicited in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes in response to increasing amounts of *Ma1 α* cRNA alone or co-expressed at a constant ratio with *Ma1 β* .

(A) Examples of currents elicited in response to holding potentials ranging from +40 to -180 mV (in 20 mV steps) recorded in non-loaded and malate-loaded oocyte cells injected with various amounts of *Ma1 α* cRNA (0 to 25 ng). The red dotted line indicates the zero-current level.

(B) Examples of currents elicited in response to holding potentials ranging from +40 to -180 mV (in 20 mV steps) recorded in non-loaded and malate-loaded oocyte cells injected with *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* cRNA in a constant ratio of 1 to 1/8 at various amounts of *Ma1 α* cRNA (0 to 25 ng). The red dotted line indicates the zero-current level.



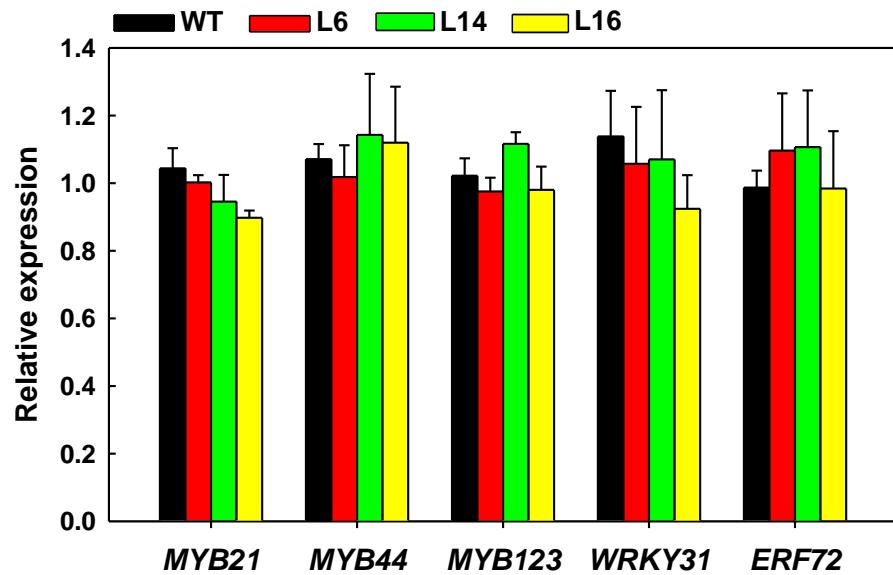
Supplemental Figure 10. Virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1α* decreases malic acid concentrations in wild-type ‘Royal Gala’ mature fruit.

(A) The expression of *Ma1α* after rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1α*.

(B) The expression of *Ma1β* after rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1α*.

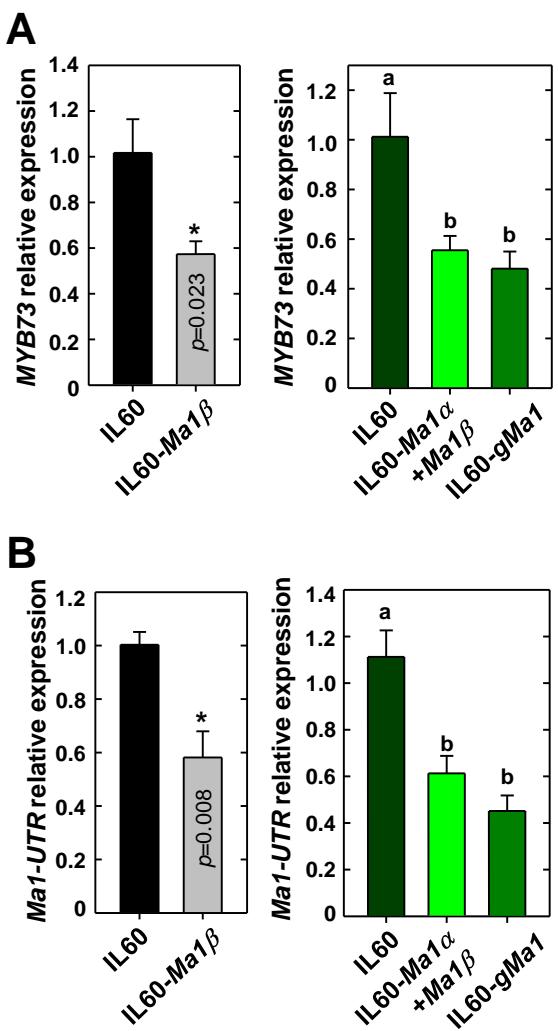
(C) Fruit malic acid concentrations in response to rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1α*.

Virus vector IL60-*Ma1α* was infiltrated into fruit for overexpression of *Ma1α*, with empty vector (IL60) as a control. Data are mean \pm SE of 5 biological replicates with 3 fruits per replicate (3 injection sites per fruit). * Represents significant differences using Student’s *t* test at P < 0.05, ** Represents significant differences using Student’s *t* test at P < 0.01.



Supplemental Figure 11. Expression levels of several transcription factors at the peak of malic acid accumulation (31 days after bloom) during fruit development in wild type (WT) and *cMa1*-OE lines (L6, L14, L16) of 'Royal Gala' apple.

Quantitative RT-PCR was performed using gene-specific primers (Supplemental Table 1), with *actin* as the internal reference gene, and the relative expression level of each gene was obtained using the ddCT method. Data are mean \pm SE of 5 biological replicates, with 6 fruits pooled from 2 trees per replicate.



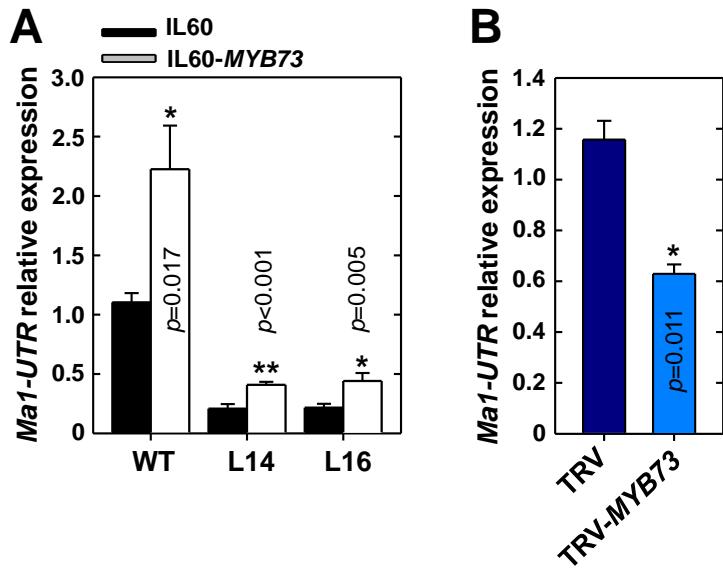
Supplemental Figure 12. Transcript levels of *MYB73* and the native *Ma1* gene in response to overexpression of *Ma1 β* , *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* , or *gMa1* in wild-type ‘Royal Gala’ apple.

(A) The expression level of *MYB73* after rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1 β* , both *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* or genomic sequence of *Ma1* (*gMa1*) in WT mature fruits. Fruit was infiltrated with virus vector IL60-*Ma1 β* for overexpression of *Ma1 β* . IL60-*Ma1 α* and IL60-*Ma1 β* were co-infiltrated, or IL60-*gMa1* was infiltrated into fruits for overexpression of *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* . Fruit infiltrated with empty vector (IL60) was used as control.

(B) The expression level of native *Ma1* gene after rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *Ma1 β* , both *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* or genomic sequence of *Ma1* (*gMa1*) in WT mature fruits. Fruit was infiltrated with virus vector IL60-*Ma1 β* for overexpression of *Ma1 β* . IL60-*Ma1 α* and IL60-*Ma1 β* were co-infiltrated, or IL60-*gMa1* was infiltrated into fruits for overexpression of *Ma1 α* and *Ma1 β* . Fruit infiltrated with empty vector (IL60) was used as control.

Quantitative RT-PCR was performed using gene-specific primers (Supplemental Table 1), with *actin* as the internal reference gene, and the relative expression level of each gene was obtained using the ddCT method. Data are mean \pm SE of 5 biological replicates with 3 fruits

per replicate (3 injection sites per fruit). * Represents significant differences using Student's *t* test at $P < 0.05$. Different letters (a, b) indicate significant difference between groups using Tukey's HSD test at $P < 0.05$ after ANOVA.



Supplemental Figure 13. The native *Ma1* transcript levels in response to virus-based gene-overexpression or silencing of *MdMYB73* in mature fruits of wild-type and *cMa1*-OE lines of 'Royal Gala' apple.

(A) The expression of native *Ma1* in response to rattle virus-based gene-overexpression of *MdMYB73* in mature fruits of WT and *cMa1*-OE lines (L14 and L16).

(B) The expression of native *Ma1* in response to rattle virus-induced gene-silencing of *MdMYB73* in WT mature fruit.

Virus vectors IL60-MYB73 and TRV-MYB73 were infiltrated into fruit for overexpression and silencing of *MYB73*, with empty vectors (IL60 or TRV) as control, respectively. Data are mean \pm SE of 5 biological replicates with 3 fruits per replicate (3 injection sites per fruit). * Represents significant differences using Student's *t* test at $P < 0.05$, ** Represents significant differences using Student's *t* test at $P < 0.01$.

Supplemental Table 1. Statistical analysis of transmembrane current (nA) at various ratios of Ma1 β /Ma1 α under malate-loaded conditions in oocytes.

	-180 mV	-160 mV	-140 mV	-120 mV	-100 mV	-80 mV	-60 mV	-40 mV	-20 mV	0 mV	20 mV	40 mV
Control	-112.60 \pm 4.64 a	-89.10 \pm 4.17 a	-72.26 \pm 3.73 a	-57.16 \pm 3.21 a	-42.62 \pm 2.67 a	-28.19 \pm 2.17 a	-13.91 \pm 1.75 a	0.68 \pm 1.55 a	16.19 \pm 1.69 a	33.16 \pm 2.26 a	53.26 \pm 3.15 a	76.80 \pm 3.95 a
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 0:1	-300.86 \pm 8.23 b	-206.86 \pm 6.33 b	-154.49 \pm 4.93 b	-118.55 \pm 3.91 b	-90.69 \pm 3.18 b	-66.87 \pm 2.59 b	-45.23 \pm 2.11 b	-24.88 \pm 1.73 b	-5.11 \pm 1.63 b	14.50 \pm 2.03 b	34.80 \pm 2.83 b	56.31 \pm 3.80 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/32:1	-291.76 \pm 14.43 b	-205.90 \pm 8.96 b	-158.61 \pm 6.59 b	-126.41 \pm 5.21 b	-99.90 \pm 3.75 b	-76.18 \pm 2.57 b	-53.61 \pm 1.66 b	-30.64 \pm 2.16 b	-8.47 \pm 2.89 b	11.02 \pm 1.99 b	33.39 \pm 2.65 b	52.54 \pm 2.19 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/16:1	-299.25 \pm 11.57 b	-214.14 \pm 11.03 b	-160.57 \pm 8.02 b	-125.22 \pm 6.52 b	-98.08 \pm 5.78 b	-73.88 \pm 4.97 b	-50.72 \pm 4.27 b	-27.22 \pm 3.71 b	-3.19 \pm 3.33 b	17.88 \pm 2.39 b	37.77 \pm 2.02 b	60.14 \pm 2.03 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/12:1	-304.83 \pm 10.14 b	-208.80 \pm 7.94 b	-155.19 \pm 6.27 b	-121.16 \pm 5.08 b	-94.08 \pm 4.07 b	-70.78 \pm 3.35 b	-48.69 \pm 2.96 b	-26.84 \pm 2.58 b	-4.69 \pm 2.43 b	16.98 \pm 2.68 b	38.81 \pm 3.19 b	61.26 \pm 3.83 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/10:1	-308.66 \pm 13.21 b	-219.93 \pm 9.68 b	-163.19 \pm 6.71 b	-128.11 \pm 5.08 b	-100.29 \pm 4.13 b	-76.57 \pm 3.42 b	-54.83 \pm 2.77 b	-33.86 \pm 2.18 b	-12.49 \pm 1.85 c	9.64 \pm 2.07 b	33.19 \pm 2.96 b	58.49 \pm 4.35 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/9:1	-329.18 \pm 18.99 b	-231.59 \pm 11.88 b	-172.16 \pm 9.53 b	-133.91 \pm 7.08 b	-103.68 \pm 5.42 b	-77.66 \pm 4.19 b	-53.96 \pm 3.23 b	-30.95 \pm 2.48 b	-8.56 \pm 2.03 b	13.48 \pm 2.42 b	35.77 \pm 3.63 b	59.20 \pm 5.36 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/8:1	-454.62 \pm 10.30 c	-296.18 \pm 7.21 c	-212.51 \pm 5.64 c	-160.70 \pm 4.20 c	-123.52 \pm 3.07 c	-93.38 \pm 2.22 c	-67.47 \pm 1.60 c	-43.60 \pm 1.20 c	-20.55 \pm 1.06 c	1.89 \pm 1.22 c	24.08 \pm 1.61 b	46.62 \pm 2.16 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/4:1	-454.96 \pm 46.06 c	-300.20 \pm 21.36 c	-217.95 \pm 13.02 c	-168.72 \pm 10.00 c	-131.27 \pm 7.69 c	-99.52 \pm 6.15 c	-70.84 \pm 4.60 c	-43.02 \pm 3.30 c	-15.08 \pm 3.05 c	10.61 \pm 3.92 b	33.55 \pm 5.27 b	59.20 \pm 6.47 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1/2:1	-473.26 \pm 45.09 c	-325.74 \pm 31.69 c	-237.94 \pm 23.49 c	-178.20 \pm 16.39 c	-132.23 \pm 11.16 c	-95.11 \pm 7.24 c	-63.83 \pm 4.42 c	-38.56 \pm 2.50 c	-16.58 \pm 1.49 c	3.48 \pm 1.12 c	22.15 \pm 1.22 b	41.09 \pm 1.87 b
Ma1 β :Ma1 α = 1:1	-466.60 \pm 19.21 c	-314.89 \pm 13.73 c	-230.52 \pm 11.39 c	-173.52 \pm 9.24 c	-131.01 \pm 7.27 c	-95.80 \pm 5.49 c	-66.61 \pm 4.13 c	-41.02 \pm 3.05 c	-18.14 \pm 2.19 c	4.44 \pm 1.80 c	28.12 \pm 2.32 b	54.21 \pm 3.92 b

Note: Different letters (a, b, c) indicate significant difference between groups using Tukey's Honest Significant Difference test at $P < 0.05$ after one-way ANOVA.

Supplemental Table 2. Statistical analysis of transmembrane current (nA) at different amounts of Ma1 α alone or co-expressed with Ma1 β (at 1/8 Ma1 α) under malate-loaded conditions in oocytes.

	-180 mV	-160 mV	-140 mV	-120 mV	-100 mV	-80 mV	-60 mV	-40 mV	-20 mV	0 mV	20 mV	40 mV
0 ng Ma1 α	Control-1	-103.35 \pm 7.74	-84.17 \pm 6.13	-69.36 \pm 5.19	-54.15 \pm 3.97	-37.88 \pm 2.93	-21.27 \pm 2.17	-4.63 \pm 1.66	11.51 \pm 1.57	26.57 \pm 1.68	41.90 \pm 2.24	58.99 \pm 3.10
	Control-2	-101.59 \pm 12.10	-75.78 \pm 10.71	-59.47 \pm 9.14	-45.32 \pm 7.67	-30.68 \pm 6.28	-15.74 \pm 4.99	-0.82 \pm 3.73	13.66 \pm 2.59	26.92 \pm 1.76	40.13 \pm 1.39	56.36 \pm 1.87
	P value	0.904	0.904	0.372	0.334	0.328	0.339	0.379	0.499	0.889	0.503	0.468
3.125 ng Ma1 α	Ma1 α	-170.83 \pm 10.10	-125.77 \pm 7.89	-99.35 \pm 6.83	-76.99 \pm 5.72	-55.85 \pm 4.72	-35.29 \pm 3.61	-15.01 \pm 2.50	4.62 \pm 1.61	22.74 \pm 1.32	40.67 \pm 1.76	59.29 \pm 2.63
	Ma1 α +Ma1 β	-280.47 \pm 17.93*	-193.56 \pm 17.63*	-149.42 \pm 15.52*	-114.37 \pm 13.42*	-83.15 \pm 10.89*	-54.57 \pm 8.25*	-27.78 \pm 5.62*	-2.30 \pm 3.11*	20.46 \pm 1.64	41.28 \pm 3.14	62.18 \pm 5.71
	P value	<0.001	0.001	0.004	0.011	0.021	0.030	0.035	0.047	0.287	0.860	0.624
6.25 ng Ma1 α	Ma1 α	-235.34 \pm 29.88	-150.91 \pm 10.12	-111.26 \pm 5.76	-84.85 \pm 4.80	-61.65 \pm 3.89	-40.51 \pm 2.91	-19.83 \pm 2.13	0.19 \pm 1.59	18.19 \pm 1.36	35.18 \pm 1.78	52.65 \pm 2.76
	Ma1 α +Ma1 β	-432.63 \pm 35.16*	-255.76 \pm 19.55*	-178.87 \pm 17.30*	-132.97 \pm 14.79*	-97.84 \pm 12.35*	-68.23 \pm 10.07*	-40.59 \pm 7.68*	-14.45 \pm 5.34*	9.56 \pm 1.95*	30.70 \pm 1.72	50.10 \pm 2.35
	P value	<0.001	<0.001	0.003	0.011	0.020	0.027	0.029	0.028	0.003	0.090	0.490
12.5 ng Ma1 α	Ma1 α	-340.73 \pm 19.45	-197.47 \pm 10.15	-130.87 \pm 8.05	-92.93 \pm 6.35	-64.69 \pm 4.96	-41.06 \pm 3.80	-20.14 \pm 2.84	-1.08 \pm 1.98	15.31 \pm 1.91	30.48 \pm 2.57	46.24 \pm 3.67
	Ma1 α +Ma1 β	-526.67 \pm 58.45*	-285.59 \pm 24.10*	-182.37 \pm 12.74*	-125.27 \pm 8.76*	-79.63 \pm 4.38*	-55.98 \pm 1.96*	-29.07 \pm 2.67*	-8.66 \pm 2.85*	9.99 \pm 2.32	26.74 \pm 2.07	43.81 \pm 2.23
	P value	0.006	0.003	0.008	0.039	0.004	0.036	0.041	0.093	0.282	0.590	0.843
25 ng Ma1 α	Ma1 α	-333.37 \pm 34.87	-188.46 \pm 16.19	-122.49 \pm 9.59	-85.39 \pm 6.31	-59.46 \pm 4.53	-38.87 \pm 3.36	-21.14 \pm 2.57	-4.60 \pm 1.92	9.73 \pm 1.52	24.63 \pm 2.17	40.73 \pm 5.31
	Ma1 α +Ma1 β	-568.68 \pm 69.48*	-311.58 \pm 36.61*	-206.52 \pm 37.36*	-153.95 \pm 21.45*	-117.68 \pm 12.38*	-85.20 \pm 12.12*	-52.51 \pm 12.60*	-22.42 \pm 7.96*	8.88 \pm 4.41	30.61 \pm 2.01	55.37 \pm 5.31
	P value	0.008	0.007	0.045	0.007	<0.001	0.002	0.027	0.045	0.858	0.061	0.069

Note: Student *t*-test was used to detect the difference between Ma1 α alone and co-expression of Ma1 α and Ma1 β at each level of Ma1 α . An asterisk indicates a significant difference at $P < 0.05$.

Supplemental Table 3. List of primers used in this paper.

Name	Sequence (5'-3')
Gateway primers	
Ma1-GW-F	GGGGACAAGTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTCATGGCGGCCAAATCGG
Ma1-GW-R	GGGGACCACTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTCTTAGTTCTCAACCGCA
Ma1-GW-R-W/O	GGGGACCACTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTCTTCAACCGCAAAC
MYB73-GW-F	GGGGACAAGTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTCATGGAAGCGATGAATATGTGC
MYB73-GW-R	GGGGACCACTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTCTTAATTAAATCTATGAAGCTCCG
MYB73-GW-R-W/O	GGGGACCACTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTCTTAATTAAATCTATGAAGCTCCGAAG
AtALS3-GW-F	GGGGACAAGTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTCATGGATCTGAAATGGGATGAT
AtALS3-GW-R	GGGGACCACTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTCTCAATCTGAGGAGAACATG
Alternative splicing primers	
AS-F	ATGGCGGCCAAATCGG
AS-R	TTAGTTCTTCACCGCA
AS-F1	ATGGGGTTGACGTTGGCGCTC
AS-R1	CCTGTCTCTTCGGCTGGTG
AS-F2	TACGGATTCGGGTATTCTTGTGA
RT-qPCR	
qMa1-UTR-F	TTCAAATCCTCTTCTCCGACG
qMa1-UTR-R	CTGTTGAAGCCCAAGTCGGAG
qMYB73-F	CCAACAAGCCCGAACGAA
qMYB73-R	ACCACCTGAGCCTGCACGAC
qMa1 β -F	GTGTGTTATAGCAGGGGAAGATC
qMa1 β -R	CAACGGTCATCAGAAGCTTGG
qMa1 α -F	CAGGATTTGTGCTAGTTACGCC
qMa1 α -R	CAGCAATAAGCAGCAATCGATA

qMa1-F	GCGGCTGTTCCGAAGAATCTC
qMa1-R	TATTAGCAGCGACACGAGCGCC
qRT-MdMYB21-F	CCTTCCGTGCCACTCTCAAC
qRT-MdMYB21-R	TAAGCTGCTGTAGCCAAGTCG
qRT-MdMYB44-F	ATCGCTCAGCCTTCCCTTC
qRT-MdMYB44-R	TCTCGCTGTTCTGGTTGCTC
qRT-MdMYB123-F	AGGAAACAAATGCAGGGGGA
qRT-MdMYB123-R	AGTCGTCGTGGTTAACCTCCG
qRT-MdWRKY31-F	ACCAACAACTACAGTGCAGTC
qRT-MdWRKY31-R	CAATCCTTGCTCTTTCTTGATC
qRT-MdERF72-F	AGAGGGCTCTTTTCTC
qRT-MdERF72-R	ACCTTGTGATTCTCCGG
qActin-F	TGACCGAATGAGCAAGGAAATTACT
qActin-R	TACTCAGCTTGGCAATCCACATC
User primers	
Ma1-USER-F	GGCTTAAUATGGCGGCCAAAATCGG
Ma1-USER-R	GGTTTAAUCCTTAGTTCTCAACCGCAAAC
Ma1-USER-R-W/O	GGTTTAAUCCGTTCTCAACCGCAAACCTCC
IL60 expression	
Ma1-IL60-F	CCGTCGACATGGCGGCCAAAATCGG
Ma1-IL60-R	GCTCTAGATTAGTTCTCAACCGCAAACCTCC
MYB73-IL60-F	CCGTCGACATGGAAGCGATGAATATGTGC
MYB73-IL60-R	GCTCTAGATTAATTAAATCTATGAAGCTCCG
TRV2 expression	
Ma1-TRV2-F	GCTCTAGAATGGCGGCCAAAATCGG
Ma1-TRV2-R	GGGGTACCAACTGATGAAAGTGCCCTGG
MYB73-TRV2-F	GCTCTAGAATGGAAGCGATGAATATGTGC
MYB73-TRV2-R	GGGGTACCCGACCTTTATGTACCGGC

Y1H assay	
pGADT7-MdMYB73-F	TGGAATTCATGGAAGCGATGAATATGTGC
pGADT7-MdMYB73-R	TAGGATCCTAATTAAATCTATGAAGCTCCG
pHis2-Ma1-Pro-F	TAGAATTCGTATAAACATGTAAGCCAGGTG
pHis2-Ma1-Pro-R	TTGAGCTTCGTCGGAGAAGAAGGATTG
ChIP-PCR	
Ma1-ChIP-F	CCAAAATAGTATAACCACATGTCTCC
Ma1-ChIP-R	GAGGGAAAGTGGAAAGCAGAG
Dual LUC assay	
MYB73-SK-F	GAATTCTGGAAGCGATGAATATGTG
MYB73-SK-R	GTCGAGATTAAATCTATGAAGCTCCG
Ma1-Pro-LUC-F	GTCGACAGAGAGAGTTATAAGCTTAG
Ma1-Pro-LUC-R	GGATCCTTGTGGAAGAGAGGAAAGTG
LCI assay	
Ma1-JW771-F	ACGGGGGACGAGCTCGGTACCATGGCGGCCAAATCGG
Ma1-JW771-R	CGCGTACGAGATCTGGTCGACGTTCTCAACCGCAAAC
Ma1-JW772-F	TACCGTCCCAGGGCGGTACCATGGCGGCCAAATCGG
Ma1-JW772-R	ACGAAAGCTCTGCAGGTCGACTTAGTTCTCAACCGCAA