

Figure S1. (+)-strand coverage map and read alignments plot for IVT CY1 gRNA. (**A**) Coverage map for the CY1 IVT RNA (reproduced here from Figure 1B). (**B**) Read alignment plot showing every read at a discrete position on the Y-axis and arranged according to aligned length. Full-length gRNA reads are colored red and the percentage of full-length reads among all CY1 IVT reads is shown. Full-length gRNA reads are defined as having a single continuous segment, a 5'end position within 30 nt of position 1 of the viral genome, and a 3'end position within 10 nt of the 3'end of the viral genome (i.e., position 2692). 5' terminal positions were allowed to be less precise due to the lower precision of 5'end sequencing by DRS (the last portion sequenced), which can affect where the CY1 alignment ends. (**C**) Ethidium bromide-stained agarose gel of IVT CY1 input RNA for the DRS run.



Figure S2. Comparison of coverage map and read alignments plot for CY1 (+)-strands from 6wpi leaves. (**A**) Top, enlarged coverage map. Major drop-offs (labeled DO1 through DO5) and grooves (labeled Gr1 through Gr7) are denoted. Approximate positions for drop-offs and grooves are given in parentheses. Groove positions indicate the 5'- and 3'-most positions inside the groove. Bottom, enlarged read alignments plot. Locations where a large number of CY1 fragments both terminate and begin are denoted by arrows labeled C1 (corresponds to Gr2) and C2 (corresponds to Gr5). Location of the 3' terminal 61 nt (corresponds to DO5), which are missing in many (+)-strand transcripts containing otherwise 3' proximal sequences, is also labeled and likely represents an additional cleavage site. Major (+)-strand RNA reads are color coded. (**B**) Enlargement of the boxed region in A showing missing 3' terminal sequence centered around 61 nt from the 3' end.



Figure S3. Read alignments plot of single segment (+)-strand reads for CY1 6-wpi leaves. Prominent cleavages C1 and C2 are only found in the single segment read alignment plot, indicating that they do not arise from deletions within discontinuous multi-segment reads.



Figure S4. Coverage map and read alignments plot for IVT CY1 gRNA subjected to limited in-line cleavage do not contain distinctive grooves or cleavage sites. (**A**) Ethidium bromide-stained agarose gel of the IVT CY1 gRNA before (untreated) and after in-line probing. (**B**) Coverage map (top) and read alignments plot (bottom) obtained for IVT CY1 gRNA subjected to in-line probing. Reads corresponding to full-length gRNA are colored red and are defined as in the legend to Figure 2. The 3' skew in the coverage map likely results from the lack of a 3'OH on 5' fragments after autocleavage, which would not be sequenced by DRS. These 5' fragments may eventually gain a 3'OH through hydrolysis of their 2',3'-cyclic phosphate group, possibly explaining the relatively small number of 5' co-terminal fragments.



Figure S5. Identification of foldback RNA reads for CY1 6-wpi leaf. (A) Read counts grouped by the number of aligned segments present in reads among the 87 (±)-strand hybrid reads for which (+)-strand segment(s) were detected by sequence alignment using BLAST+ (termed the alignable (±)-hybrids). Due to sequencing errors committed by DRS for the upstream sides of long hairpin structures (such as foldback RNAs) the (+)-strand segments of many (+/-)-hybrid reads were not detected by sequence alignment. (B) Dot plot in which positions in a read were plotted against their corresponding aligned position in the viral genome. This results in (+)-strand sequences going from bottom-left to top-right, and (-)-strand sequences going from top-left to bottom-right. (C) Dot plot of the 87 alignable (±)-hybrid reads. (D) Dot plot of the 80 alignable (±)-hybrid reads possessing exactly two segments, with X and Y axes normalized according to the 5' end of the second segment present in each read. First and second segments also colored black and red, respectively, for each read. With this normalization, these 80 (±)-hybrid reads almost all perfectly overlap, and were termed the alignable (±)-foldback reads. (E) Histogram of the ratio of the starting position of (-)-strand sequence in each read divided by the read length for the 80 alignable (±)-foldback reads. (F) Histogram of the same ratio as in E but for the 503 reads for which (-)-strand sequence was detected by sequence alignment but for which no (+)-strand sequence was detected by sequence alignment. 340 reads had a ratio ≤ 0.05 , indicating minimal upstream sequence, and were true (-)-strand reads. 105 reads had a ratio between 0.4 and 0.53, inclusive, indicating upstream sequence of comparable length to the downstream (-)-strand sequence present in each read, and were termed unalignable (±)-foldback reads. (G) Distributions of the normalized mountain plot heights for the 80 alignable (±)-foldback reads, 105 unalignable (±)-foldback reads, 13,762 (+)-strand reads, and 340 true (-)strand reads. Read sequences were folded using RNAfold (Vienna RNA software suite). The mountain plot height of a structure refers to the maximum number of base-pairs enclosing any one position in a structure. Mountain plot heights were normalized for each read by dividing by the read length. The maximum normalized mountain plot height is 50%, corresponding to a perfect hairpin structure with zero unpaired bases in the loop. Larger normalized mountain plot heights correspond with structures that were more hairpin-like, and vice versa for smaller normalized mountain plot heights. Foldback and non-foldback reads exhibited inverted distributions, with foldback reads largely exhibiting hairpin-like structures.



Figure S6. Examples of (+/-)-foldback loop and loop-proximal sequences. (**A**) (+/-)-foldbacks with (+)-strand sequence in the hairpin loop that extends partially down the 3' side of the foldback stem. (+)-strand sequence in the foldbacks is shaded black, (-)-strand sequence is shaded red. (**B**) (+/-)-foldbacks possessing non-CY1 sequence between the (+)- and (-)-strands. Sequences that are apparently non-viral are shaded light blue. (**C**) (+/-)-foldbacks that contain (-)-strand sequence in their loops and partially down the 5' sides of the foldback hairpins. Corresponding (+)-strand sequence that should be the template for these (-)-strand sequences is not present in these (+/-)-foldbacks, which disagrees with the generally held model of how (+/-)-foldbacks are generated by viral RdRp (e.g., Vignuzzi and López. 2019. *Nat Microbiol 4:1075-1087*).