

**Supplementary table S1.** Oligonucleotides used as primers for real-time RT-PCR.

Gene	Accession no.	Primer orientation	Primer <sup>a</sup>	Primer amount <sup>b</sup>	Amplicon size	% identity at the amino acid level with the best score (accession no.)
Pheophorbide a oxygenase	DY261492 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-GCGACAAATGACGGTAAAAAGC-3'	3.6 µl	103 bp	81% <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> (AF321984)
		R	5'-CGTTCTTCATCTGATGCTGCA-3'	3.6 µl		
RCC reductase	CX306368 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-CTTCCAGCTCTCATCCATCG-3'	1.2µl	104 bp	64% <i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (NM119863)
		R	5'-GTGCGGCAGAACATTGACTTT -3'	1.2µl		
Geranylgeranyl reductase	DY275174 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-GCGTGATTAACGGGTTAT-3'	3.6 µl	353 bp	75% <i>Medicago truncatula</i> (AY960125)
		R	5'-CACTGTGCCTGTACCA-3'	3.6 µl		
Phytoene synthase	AF220218 <sup>d</sup>	F	5'-GGTCGTCCATTGATATGCTTG-3'	1.2µl	111 bp	100% <i>Citrus unshiu</i> PSY
		R	5'-CCTAAGGTCCATCCTCATTCCT-3'	0.2µl		
Stay green	CX308230 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-CATCTTCTCCAAGGAACCCCC-3	1.2µl	101 bp	86% <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> (DQ100158)
		R	5'-CCCAAACCAAAGCCTCCTGTA-3	1.2µl		
Secretory peroxidase	CX308252 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-GTTCTTGAGAGGTTTGAGCCA-3	1.2µl	101 bp	89% <i>Nicotiana tabacum</i> (AF149251)
		R	5'-TGCACCAGCTTCACACAATGA-3	1.2µl		
Cysteine proteinase	CX305503 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-CGAGAGAACTCCAAGGACCAGA-3	1.2µl	113 bp	100% <i>Citrus sinensis</i> (Z47793)
		R	5'-GCACATGCGTTCTCTGCAA-3	1.2µl		
Early light induced protein	CX289917 <sup>c</sup>	F	5'-CATACGAAAGCTGAGCCTCA -3'	1.2µl	113 bp	80% <i>Brassica rapa</i> (AY433944)
		R	5'-TCGCAAGCCTCCGTTTAT-3'	1.2µl		
Chlorophyllase	AF160869 <sup>e</sup>	F	5'-TCATCGTTGCTCCTCAGC-3'	0.5µl	69 bp	100% <i>Citrus sinensis</i> CLH
		R	5'-TGCCTGTTAACGTTATTGG-3'	0.5µl		

<sup>a</sup>Oligonucleotides were designed using the Primer express software (Applied Biosystems). <sup>b</sup>Optimized amounts of a 5µM oligonucleotide solution. <sup>c</sup>Citrus ESTs sequences. <sup>d</sup>Citrus full length cDNA sequence (Kim et al., 2001). <sup>e</sup>Citrus full length cDNA sequence (Jacob-Wilk et al. 1999).