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SI Materials and Methods

Bacterial Strains. SL44 has a deletion of the nodD1-nodABC region (1). The exoA strain ($Rm7031$) is described in ref. 2. The exoX $(MB801)$, $lpsB$ (R1A6), and $ndvB$ (B587) mutants are described in refs. 3 and 4.

A. rhizogenes–Mediated Hairy Hoot Transformations. Modifications to the protocol described in ref. 5 are as follows.

We found that transformation efficiency was increased if the plants were first placed on modified Fahraeus medium containing 1 mM α-aminoisobutyric acid (AIB) without selection for 7 days. All emergine roots were removed and plants were transferred to selective media with no ethylene inhibitor and either 25 mg/L kanamycin (remained on selective media for 17–21 days) or 10 mg/L hygromycin (for 10 days). Plants remained on selective media until roots reached ≈ 2.5 cm (we found that less time was often needed for Jemalong A17 than for Jemalong). Plants were then transferred to 1/2× Gamborg's B5 Basal Salt medium (Sigma) with 1% agar to recover from antibiotic selection. For confocal microscopy studies, 300 mg/mL Augmentin (Research Products International) and 500 mg/L Cefotaxime (Sigma) were added to the B5 medium to reduce the amount of A. rhizogenes carryover. Plants remained on B5 for 1 week and were then transferred to buffered nodulation medium (BNM) (6) containing 0.1 μM aminoethoxyvinylglycine (AVG).

Quantitative RT-PCR. To prepare template for qRT-PCR, RNA was DNase-treated by using DNase-free turbo (Ambion). 35 PCR cycles using actin-specific primers ([Table S2](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0910081107/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=st02)) were used to check for DNA contamination after DNase treatment. The DNasetreated RNA was used in single-stranded cDNA synthesis with SuperScript III (Invitrogen) and oligo(dT) primer (Invitrogen). 25 PCR cycles were used to check for successful cDNA synthesis. Template concentration per reaction was determined empirically based on relative abundance of the transcript of each FLOT; each template was run at two different concentrations. Template quantification was done at the level of total RNA; an internal actin control in each PCR controlled for differences in efficiency of cDNA synthesis. Actin was amplified from cDNA made from 2.5 ng and 7.5 ng of RNA; *FLOT2*, *FLOT3*, and *FLOT4* were amplified from cDNA made from 7.5 and 25 ng of RNA; FLOT1 was amplified by using cDNA made from 25 and 75 ng of total RNA. qPCR was performed by using the DyNAmo Flash SYBR Green qPCR kit (Finnzymes).

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Artificial miRNA Construct Design. The amiRNAweb-based designer described in ref. 7 (http://wmd2.weigelworld.org) cross-references with available Medicago EST databases. The full-length sequence for the desired FLOT target was entered as the "target gene," and available ESTds for that target were entered as "accepted offtargets." The suggested amiRNAs were BLASTed against the available M. truncatula genome to ensure that there were no offtarget sequences that are absent from the available EST library. The pRS300 plasmid (8) was used as a template to create the amiRNA hairpin with an intron.

Hairy Root Time Course. To determine whether regulation of FLOTs was altered in hairy roots, we assayed FLOT expression levels in uninoculated and inoculated M. truncatula cv. Jemalong seedlings transformed with the amiRNA empty vector construct EX117 (Table $S3$) at 1, 4, 7, 14, and 21 dpi. Plants were grown as described above and inoculated with 1/2× BNM or Rm1021 in 1/ 2× BNM. Plants were harvested just below the callus at the appropriate time point and flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen. Three independent replicates of the entire time course were performed; each time point sample was a pool of the 10 plants from a single plate. RNA was isolated with a yield of approximately 50–100 μg per 10 plants.

Protein Localization. pCH010 was constructed in two steps by first inserting eGFP (with added 5′ EcoRI and XmaI sites) into the BamHI/XbaI sites of pJG159; then the NPTII ORF was amplified from the pHELLSGATE8 vector and inserted into the XhoI site in pJG159. pJG159 is a small (7.8 kb) binary vector that was constructed by J. Griffitts (unpublished) by a three-way ligation of inserts A and B from pEGAD (9) [\(Table S3\)](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0910081107/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=st03) and the SphI/ XhoI fragment from pCAMBIA1300 (www.cambia.org). To create insert A (Sph-RB-P35S-RI), pEGAD was amplified with primers oJG346/347 and 348/349 followed by overlap extension-PCR with oJG346/349. Insert B (RI-nosT-P35S-XhoI) was amplified from pEGAD with oJG350/351. pQDN03 was constructed by replacing GFP in pDG71 (10) with mCherry [\(Table S5\)](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/data/0910081107/DCSupplemental/Supplemental_PDF#nameddest=st05). FM4-64 was dissolved in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.0) to a final concentration of 20 μM and kept on ice until use (11). The GFP/FM4- 64 experiment was imaged on a system described in ref. 12 with the same excitation settings listed above for GFP/RFP and 1,000-ms exposures. Typical exposure times were 1,000 ms for GFP, 500 ms for mCherry, and 1,000 ms for FM4-64.

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Fig. S1. Alignment of predicted amino acid sequences of FLOTs and arrangement of FLOT1-5 within a single BAC. (A) Sequences were aligned using CLUSTALW available from SDSC Biology Work Bench (http://workbench.sdsc.edu). Conserved residues between all FLOTs are highlighted green, residues conserved between four or more sequences are yellow, and similar residues are blue. Note change in FLOT4 Cys35 to Tyr (residue 37 as numbered). (B) BAC CT009553 (mth2-115c19) (IMGAG, http://www.medicago.org/genome/IMGAG/).

Fig. S2. Expression of FLOT1-4 in different plant tissues. Semiquantitative RT-PCR was conducted to monitor expression of FLOT1-7 in leaves, stems, flowers, green pods. Actin primers were used to monitor total input of cDNA. 25 rounds in amplification were used to amplify actin, 30 cycles for FLOT2,3 and 4 and 35 cycles for FLOT1. Expression of FLOT5,6, and 7 was not detectible after 35 cycles.

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Fig. S3. Expression of FLOT2 and FLOT4 in response to polysaccharide mutants. Bacterial mutants in lipopolysaccharide biosynthesis (lpsB:Tn5), cyclic β-1,2glucan synthesis (ndvB:Tn5) and exopolysacchride biosynthesis (exoA:Tn5 and exoX:Tn5) cause up-regulation of FLOT2 and FLOT4 at 1 dpi.

Fig. S4. FLOT2 and FLOT4 are expressed in inoculated root hairs. M. truncatula cv Jemalong A17 plants were transformed to generate hairy roots expressing FLOT2 and 4 promoter-GUS fusions; GUS activity is shown for buffer- and Rm1021-inoculated roots at 1 dpi. Ten transgenic lines were observed for each construct at each time point. (Scale bars: 30 nm.) A representative sample at the indicated time points is shown.

Fig. S5. FLOT2 and FLOT4 localize to membrane-associated puncta. We generated A17 hairy roots expressing 35S:FLOT2::GFP or FLOT4p:FLOT4:GFP. Transgenic roots were visualized using a spinning disk confocal microscope (scale bars: 15 μm). At least six transgenic lines were observed for each treatment. Representative images are shown. (A) 35S:FLOT2:GFP in root cells is punctate. (B) FM4-64 membrane-associated dye. (C) Colocalization of FLOT2:GFP puncta (green) and FM4-64 (red).

Fig. S6. Root and nodule phenotypes of roots transformed with amiRNA and RNAi constructs, expression of FLOT1-4 in hairy root time course, and silencing data for FLOT1. (A) A representative plant for amiRNA and RNAi constructs described in this study is shown. Nodules that formed in silenced lines were small and white (with the exception of FLOT1+3(4) amiRNA line). Note smaller overall roots in FLOT3-silenced lines, shorter primary roots in FLOT2-silenced lines and increase in short secondary lateral roots in FLOT4-silenced lines. (B) Silencing data including the data for FLOT1 and one additional construct that primarily targets FLOT1 (FLOT1(2) amiRNA). Gene expression of FLOTs in individual hairy roots expressing the indicated RNAi or amiRNA construct was assessed using qRT-PCR, normalized to an internal actin control and then to expression in control plants (average of at least 10 roots). Constructs are designated by their primary target gene(s); numbers in parentheses show genes that have partial but significant (P < 0.05) reduction in expression due to cross silencing. (C) Hairy root timecourse. Jemalong seedlings were transformed using A. rhizogenes with the amiRNA empty vector to generate hairy roots. Plants were inoculated with S. meliloti Rm1021 or 1/2× BNM and harvested at the indicated time. qRT-PCR was performed to analyze expression of FLOT2 and FLOT4 at all time points; FLOT1 and FLOT3 expression were monitored at 21 dpi only. Expression of each gene is normalized to an actin internal control; the ratio of inoculated to uninoculated plants is shown. Error bars are standard error of the ratio. (D) Average root weight of silenced lines. The ten plants per construct used to count infection events (Fig. 4 A–G) were weighed. Error bars represent standard error; pair-wise t tests were done to determine significance (*, P < 0.05). (E) Linear regressions were conducted on plants described in Fig. S4B to determine whether a correlation exists between expression of FLOTs and nodule number. FLOT1 expression does not correlate with nodule number (P slope = 0.9).

Table S1. Summary of the FLOT gene family

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Location, size, gene structure, and available ESTs for putative M. truncatula flotillin-like genes are shown. Data were compiled from the Noble foundation (http://bioinfo.noble.org/gene-atlas/), GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/), the International Medicago Genome Annotation Group (IMGAG, http://www.medicago.org/genome/IMGAG/), and the M.t. Gene Index (http://compbio.dfci.harvard.edu/tgi/cgi-bin/tgi/gimain.pl?gudb=medicago).

FLOT2 UTR

O FLOT2 chh281 CCACATGAAAATTTACCGGGTCGC CHECATGAAATTTACCGGGTCGC
GAGTTTGATGTCTTTGAAAATAAATA

Q FLOT1-4 Chh285 CACCGTAAGGGATTACTTGATGATAAA

chh280 TCACGTAATAAAAAGTACTGCTAC

Chh286 TATTATCACCACCATTAGTCCAAAT

GAGTTTGATGTCTTTGATGAAAATAC

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Table S4. Primers and constructs described in this study: amiRNA construct primers (Figs. 4 and 5 and Fig. S5)

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Table S5. Primers and constructs described in this study: Vector construction

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