

Table S4 Least-squares means of descriptors of RNA quality among different plant tissues types. The least-squares mean \pm 1 SE and sample size are provided for each tissue type.

Tissue type	<u>log_e(RNA conc.)</u>		<u>26S:18S</u>		<u>RIN</u>		<u>OD 260/280</u>		<u>OD 260/230</u>	
	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N
Belowground	3.67 \pm 0.08	12	1.43 \pm 0.18	12	7.49 \pm 7.49	12	1.57 + 0.33	1	0.91 + 0.64	1
Shoots/Stems	3.58 \pm 0.09	7	1.50 \pm 0.24	7	6.24 \pm 6.24	7	1.98 + 0.33	1	1.93 + 0.64	1
Buds (lvs ^a /flws ^b)	3.65 \pm 0.22	15	1.26 \pm 0.16	15	6.75 \pm 6.75	15	1.73 + 0.14	6	1.38 + 0.26	6
Leaf	3.53 \pm 0.05	492	1.15 \pm 0.03	489	6.21 \pm 6.21	480	1.97 + 0.02	378	1.69 + 0.04	258
Flower	3.96 \pm 0.34	4	1.00 \pm 0.31	4	4.68 \pm 4.68	4	2.07 + 0.24	2	1.40 + 0.46	2
Fruit	2.73 \pm 0.34	10	1.55 \pm 0.20	10	7.41 \pm 7.41	10	-	0	-	0
Mixed tissue	3.67 \pm 0.07	276	1.07 \pm 0.04	276	5.99 \pm 5.99	273	1.87 + 0.03	121	1.55 + 0.06	121
Algal cells	3.30 \pm 0.06	274	1.47 \pm 0.04	168	6.75 \pm 6.75	268	1.03 + 0.33	1	0.94 + 0.64	1

^aleaves. ^bflowers.