

**Additional file 9.** Real time RT-PCR validation of MYBA1/MYBA2 (VIT\_02s0033g00410/VIT\_02s0033g00390), F3'Hb (VIT\_17s0000g07210), DFR (VIT\_18s0001g12800), and MYBPA1 (VIT\_15s0046g00170) expression profiles in pre-bloom defoliated (PB), veraison defoliated (V) and control (C) berries during ripening. The amplification of MYBA1 and MYBA2 transcripts was performed by using a primer pair that recognizes both sequences [47]. Expression profiles measured by real time RT-PCR were determined by calculating the relative expression *ratio* value for each stage relative to the BV stage. Real time RT-PCR data are reported as means  $\pm$  SE of three biological replicates, obtained using elongation factor 1 (VIT\_06s0004g03220) for normalization.

