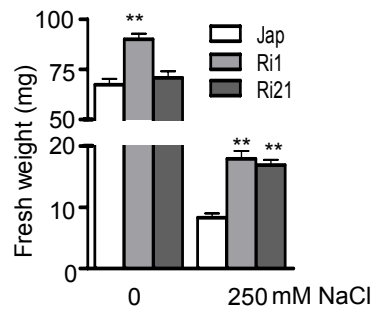
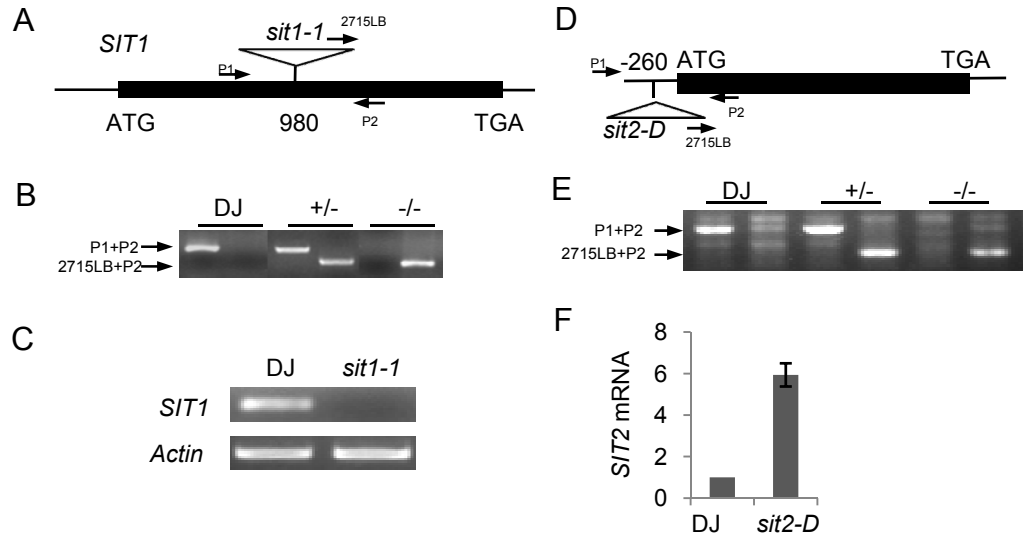


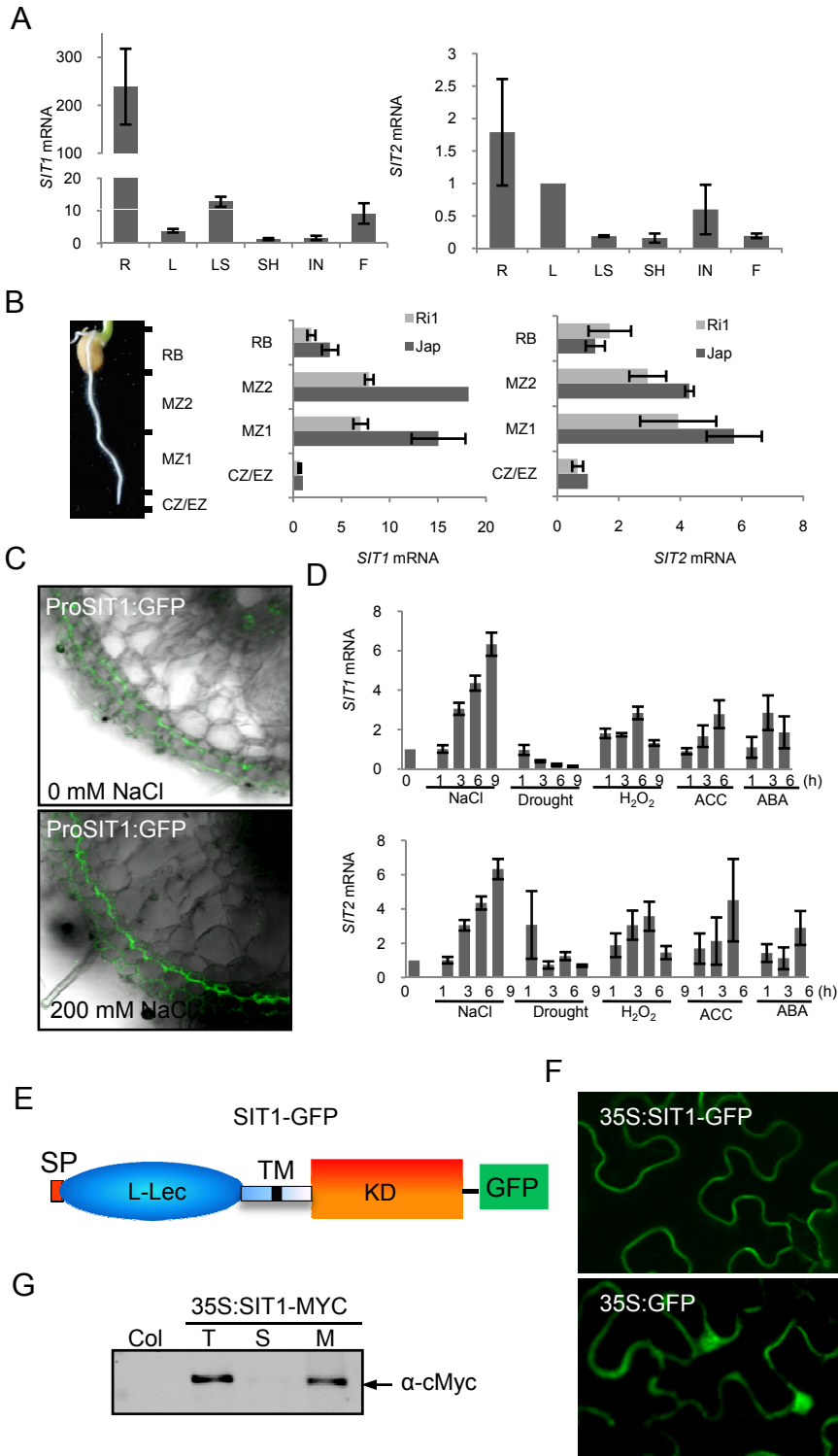
Supplemental Figure 1. DNA gel blot assay of *SIT1*-RNAi rice plants. Genomic DNA isolated from individual transgenic *SIT1*-RNAi plants was digested with *EcoRI* and *HindIII*. The blot was probed with an [α - 32 P]dATP-nucleotide acid encoding a hygromycin-resistance gene.



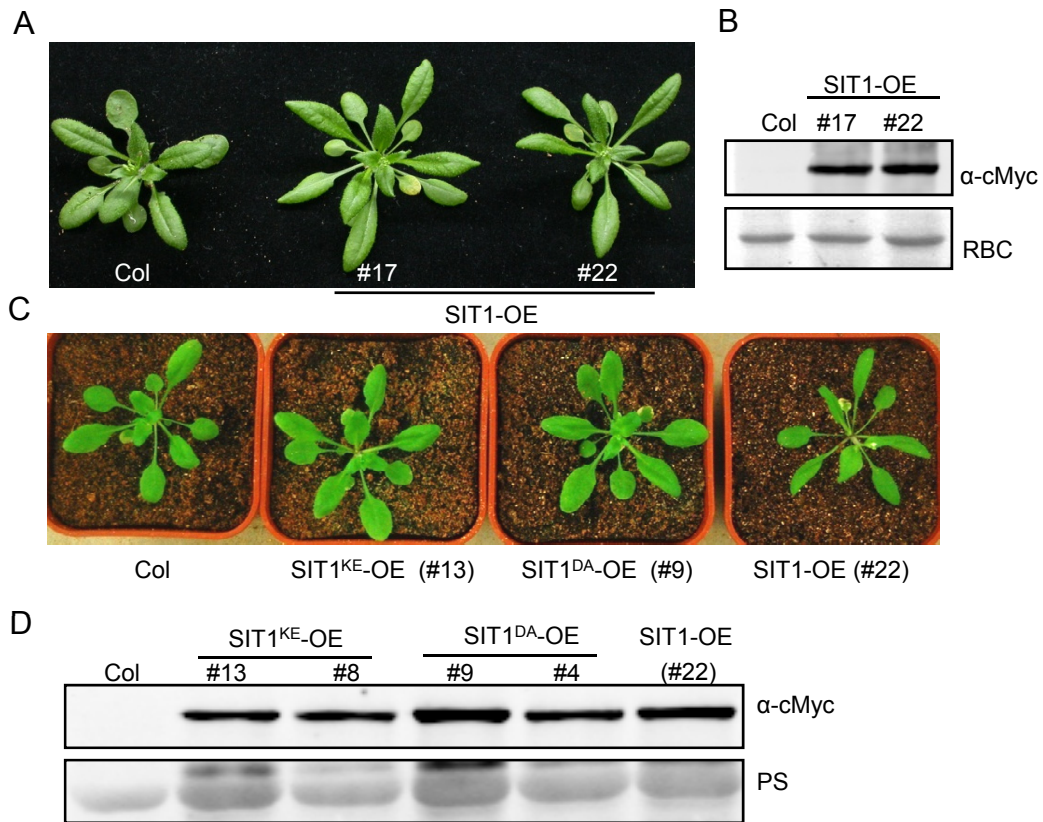
Supplemental Figure 2. The fresh weight of 20-day-old Ri1, Ri21, and wild-type (Jap) seedlings grown on 0.5×MS medium containing 0 or 250 mM NaCl.



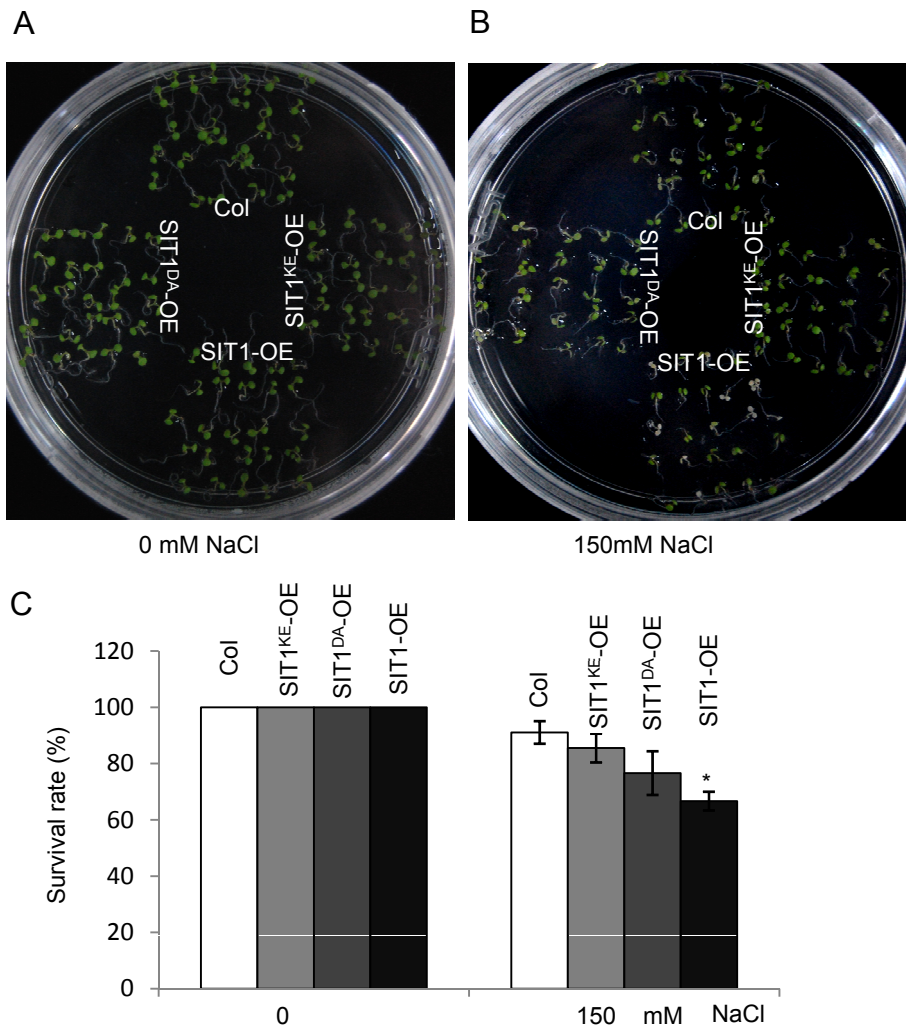
Supplemental Figure 3. Genotyping of the *sit1-1* and *sit2-D* mutants. **(A)** and **(D)** Schematic diagram of the T-DNA insertions in *sit1-1* **(A)** and *sit2-D* **(D)**. Black boxes represent coding sequences. Arrows indicate the primers (with the directions) used for PCR identification. Numbers indicate the T-DNA insertion sites. **(B)** and **(E)** Genotyping of *sit1-1* **(B)** and *sit2-D* **(E)** homozygous, heterozygous, and wild-type (DJ) plants. **(C)** and **(F)** RT-PCR **(C)** and qRT-PCR **(F)** revealed that the full-length transcript was absent in *sit1-1* **(C)** and increased in *sit2-D* due to 35S insertion (4×) in the promoter region **(F)**.



Supplemental Figure 4. Rice expression pattern of *SIT1* and *SIT2*. (A) Tissue-specific expression of *SIT1* and *SIT2*. R, root. L, leaf. SH, shoot. LS, leaf sheath. IN, internode. F, flower. (B) A five-day-old seminal root was divided into four zones (left panel) and the mRNA levels of *SIT1* and *SIT2* in each zone were determined. RB, root base; MZ, maturation zone; EZ/CZ, elongation zone and cell division zone. (C) Merged image of a transverse section of the mature zone of a rice seminal root harboring the *ProSIT1:GFP* reporter treated with or without NaCl for 6 h. (D) *SIT1* and *SIT2* expression in response to stress and phytohormone treatment. Two-week-old wild-type (Jap) roots were treated for the indicated time with 200 mM NaCl, drought (roots exposed to air without water), 100 μ M H_2O_2 , 100 μ M ACC, and 30 μ M ABA, respectively. (E) Schematic representation of *SIT1* protein domain organization. SP, signal peptide; L-Lec, L-Lectin domain; TM, transmembrane domain; Ser/Thr kinase, serine and threonine kinase domain. (F) Subcellular localization of the *SIT1*-GFP fusion protein in tobacco epidermal cells. (G) Immunoblot assay of the *SIT1*-Myc fusion expressed in *Arabidopsis* leaves before and after cell fractionation. Wild-type Col was used as a control. T, total protein; S, soluble fraction; M, membrane fraction.



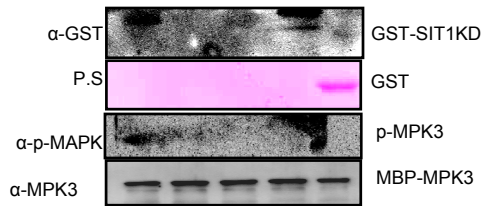
Supplemental Figure 5. Transgenic *Arabidopsis* overexpressing kinase-active, but not kinase-dead, SIT1 exhibited an obvious phenotype. **(A)** Two transgenic lines expressing wild-type *SIT1* showing narrow rosette leaves as compared with wild-type Col. Twenty-day-old seedlings grown under normal conditions were photographed. **(B)** Immunoblot assay of SIT1-Myc fusion protein expression in the transgenic *Arabidopsis* lines shown in **(A)**. **(C)** Phenotypic comparison of Col, SIT1-, SIT1^{KE}-, and SIT1^{DA}-OE seedlings. **(D)** Immunoblot assay of SIT1^{KE}-, SIT1^{DA}-, and SIT1-Myc fusion protein expression in the transgenic *Arabidopsis* seedlings shown in **(C)**. PS staining of Rubisco (RBC) indicates equal loading.



Supplemental Figure 6. Investigation of the survival rates of SIT1-OE, SIT1^{KE}-OE, and SIT1^{DA}-OE seedlings on 150 mM NaCl-containing medium. Seeds were sown on 0.5× MS medium and allowed to germinate for 3 days. The seedlings were then transferred to plates with or without 150 mM NaCl and allowed to grow for another 3 days. The survival rates were calculated and analyzed by Student's *t*-test. The data represent the mean ± SEM of three parallel experiments (n=30/genotype). a-c indicate significant differences.

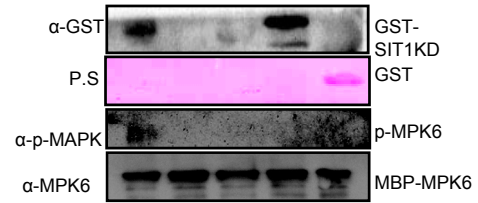
A

GST-SIT1KD	+	-	+	-	-
GST-SIT1KD ^{KE}	-	-	-	+	-
GST	-	-	-	-	+
CIP	-	-	+	-	-
MBP-MPK3	+	+	+	+	+

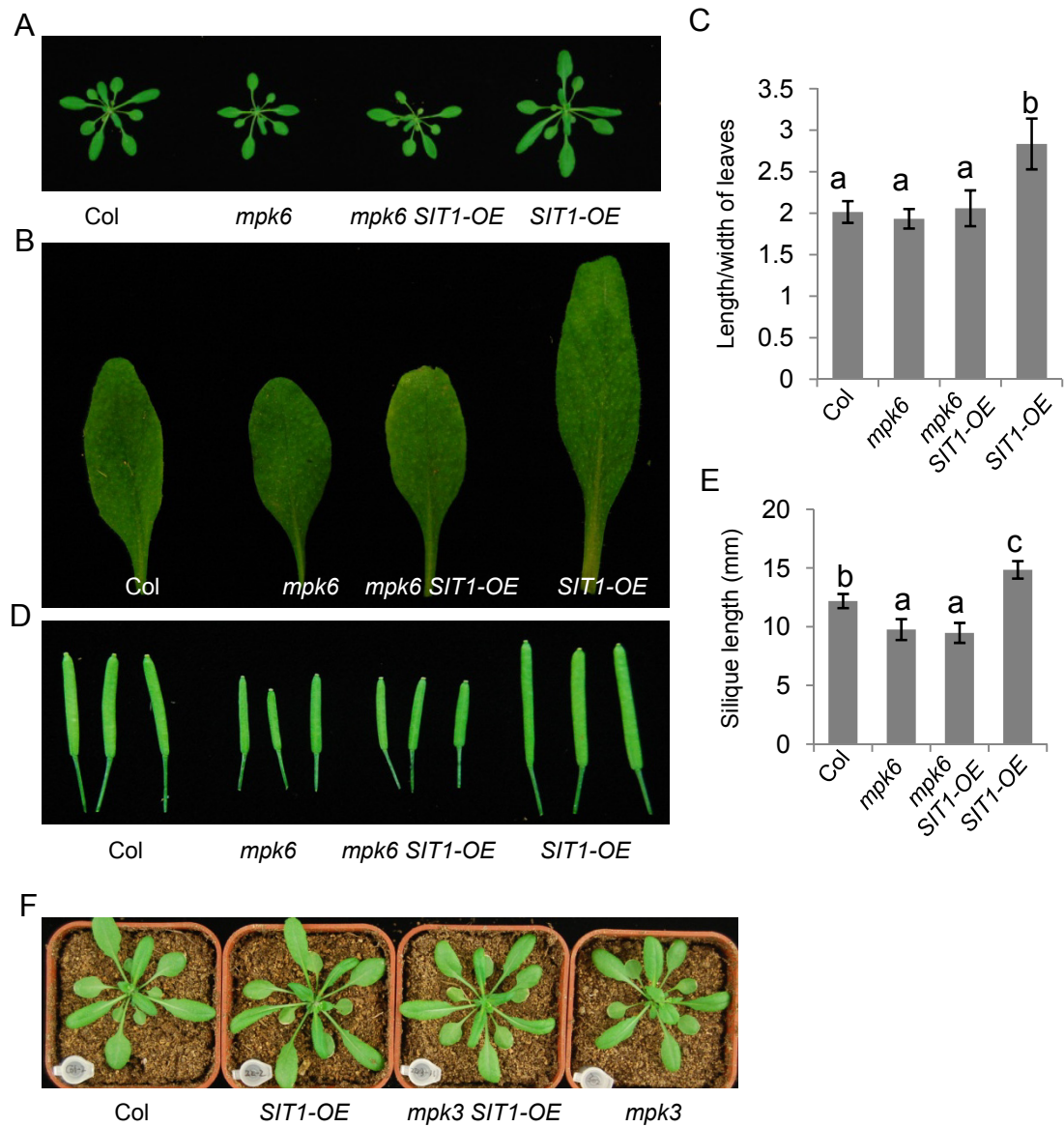


B

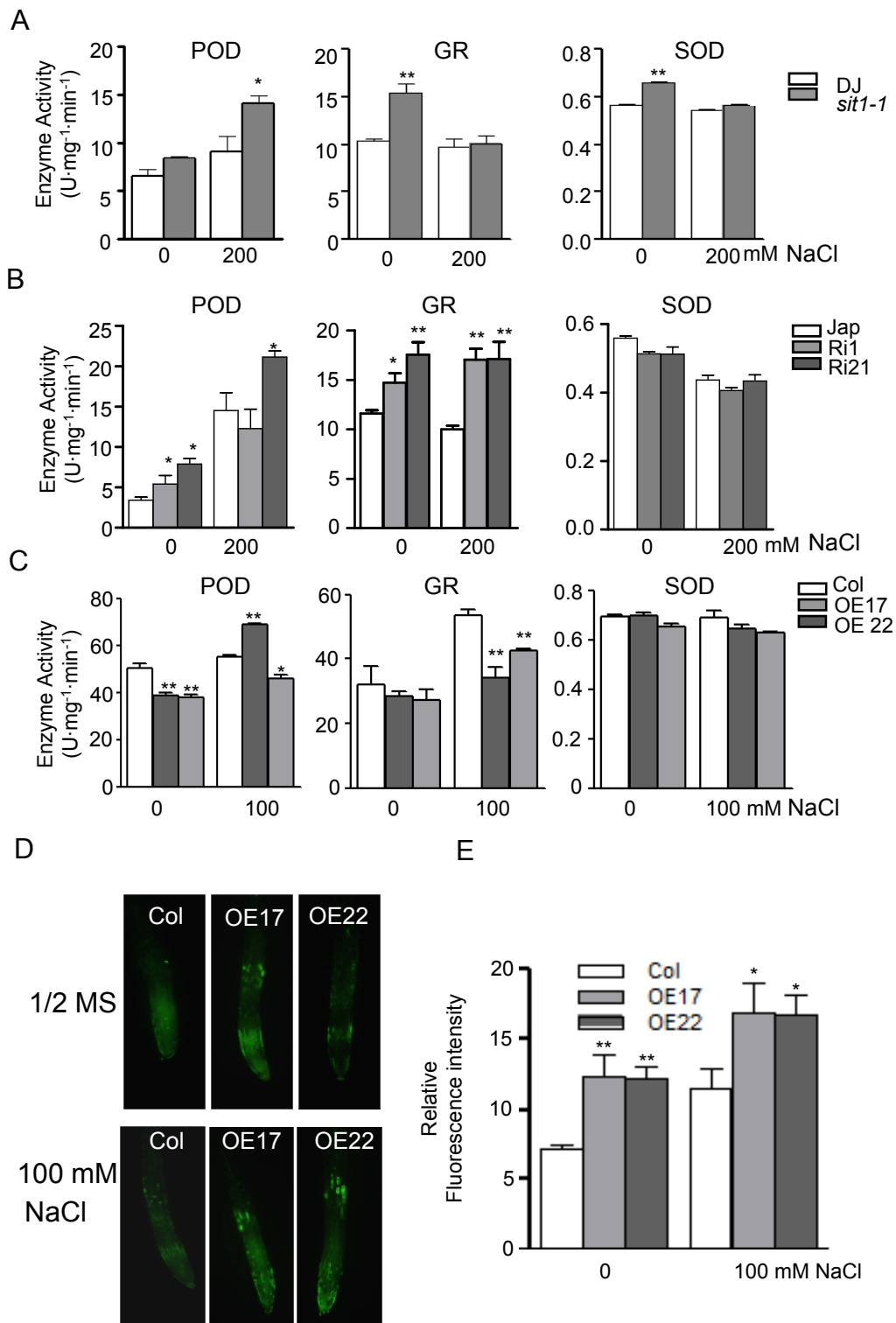
GST-SIT1KD	+	-	+	-	-
GST-SIT1KD ^{KE}	-	-	-	+	-
GST	-	-	-	-	+
CIP	-	-	+	-	-
MBP-MPK6	+	+	+	+	+



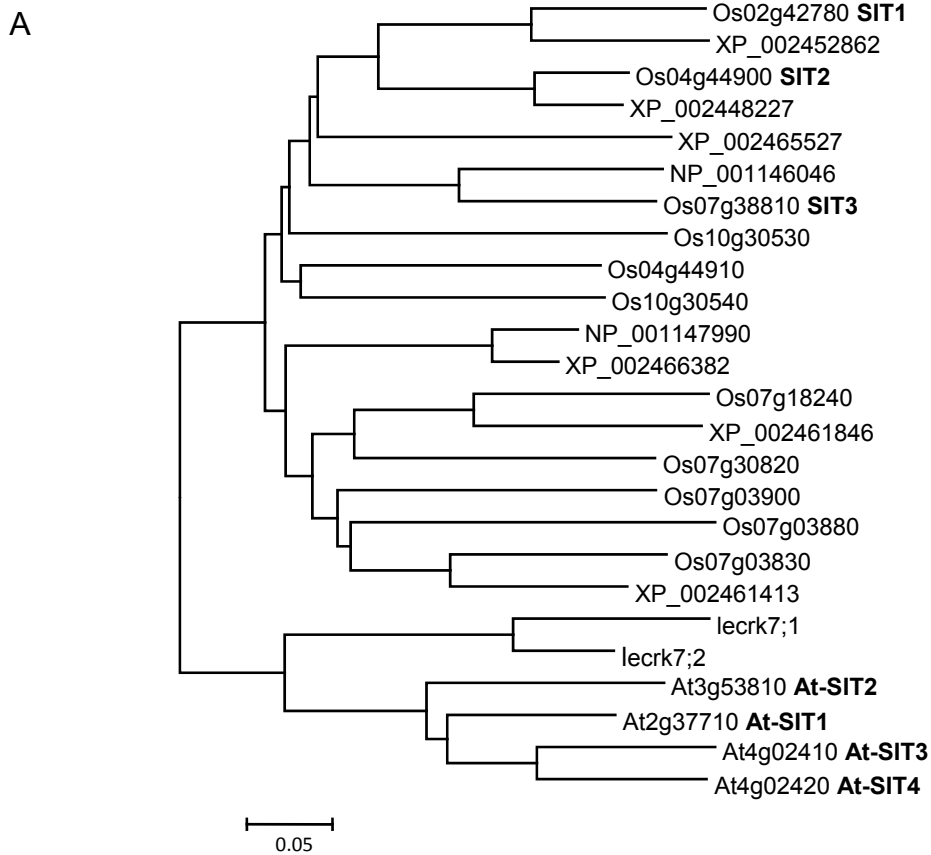
Supplemental Figure 7. SIT1 phosphorylates MPK3 (**A**) and MPK6 (**B**) *in vitro*. SIT1^{KE}, although used in sufficient quantities, could not phosphorylate MPK3 or MPK6. Phospho-MPK3 or -MPK6 was probed for using anti-p-MAPK antibodies; non-phospho-MPK3 and -MPK6 were probed for using anti-MPK3 and anti-MPK6 antibodies, respectively.



Supplemental Figure 8. Phenotypic comparison of the *Arabidopsis* mutants *mpk6* and *mpk3* with the double homozygotes *mpk6 SIT1-OE* and *mpk3 SIT1-OE*. **(A–E)** Cross of *mpk6* with *SIT1-OE* plants. **(A)** and **(B)** Rosette leaf morphology. **(C)** Length/width ratio of the leaves shown in **(B)**. **(D)** Silique morphology. **(E)** Lengths of the siliques shown in **(D)**. The data were analyzed by Student's *t*-test. Bars indicate the mean \pm SEM ($n=20$). a–c indicate significant differences. **(F)** Cross of *mpk3* with *SIT1-OE* plants. Four-week-old seedlings were observed.



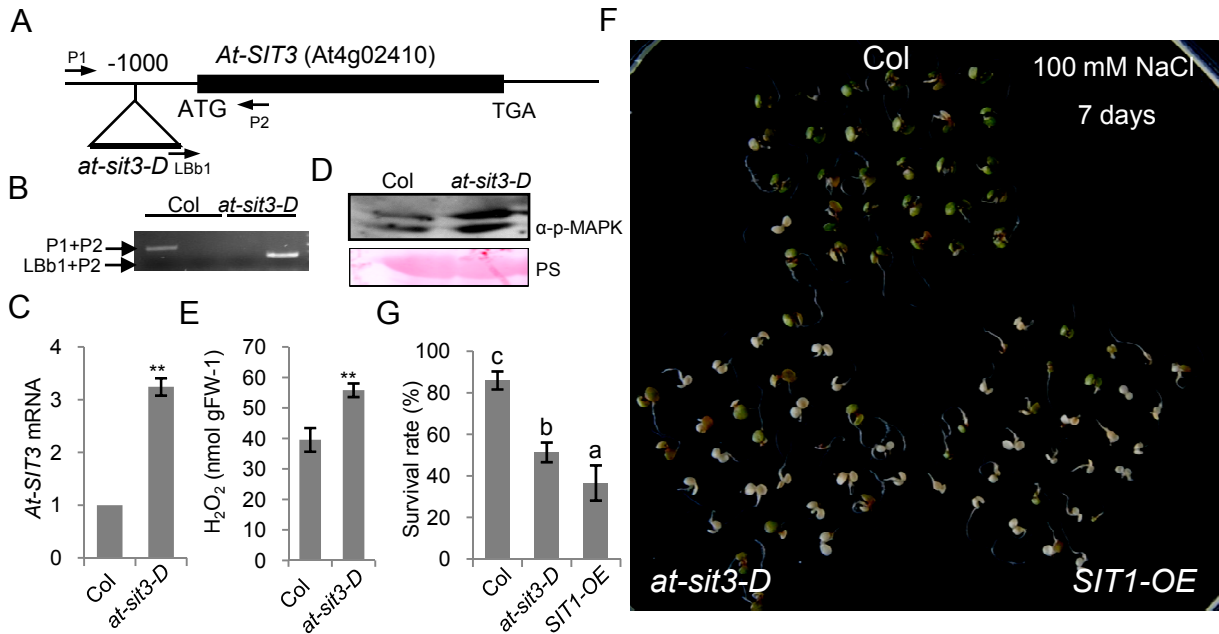
Supplemental Figure 9. Anti-oxidase activity and the ROS level in the mutant and transgenic plants. (A–C) POD, GR, and SOD were measured in the roots of *sit1-1* (A) and *SIT1-RNAi* (B) rice plants, and in wild-type Col, *SIT1-OE17*, and *SIT1-OE22* *Arabidopsis* seedlings (C) before and after treatment with the indicated concentrations of NaCl. (D) and (E) ROS levels in the roots of Col and *SIT1-OE17* and *SIT1-OE22* with or without 12 h of NaCl treatment. (D) Representative images of CM-H2DCFDA staining. (E) Quantification of the relative fluorescence intensity in the mature zone of the roots shown in (D). Three biological repeats were used for Student's *t*-test. The data represent the mean \pm SEM ($n \geq 15$ in [A] and [B]; $n \geq 20$ in [C]; $n \geq 8$ in [E]). * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$



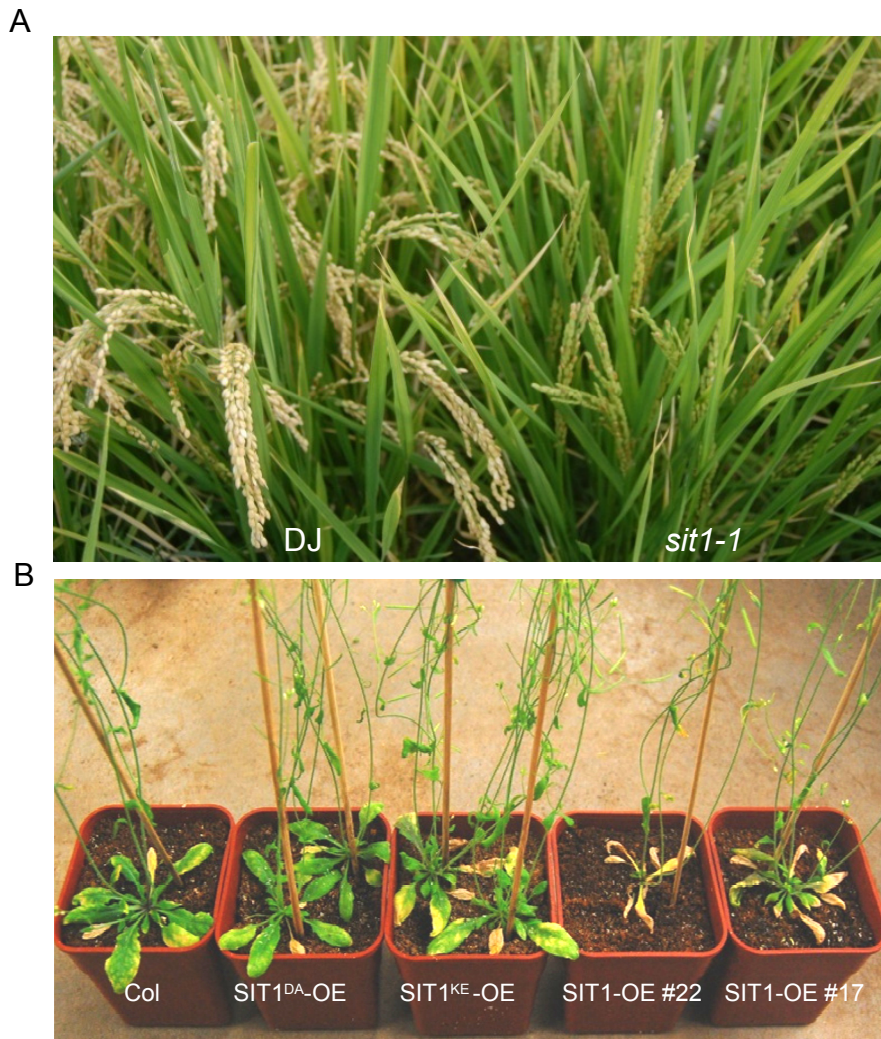
B

	SIT1	SIT2	SIT3	At-SIT1	At-SIT2	At-SIT3	At-SIT4
SIT1	100%						
SIT2	68%	100%					
SIT3	59%	65%	100%				
At-SIT1	52%	56%	55%	100%			
At-SIT2	51%	54%	53%	77%	100%		
At-SIT3	50%	53%	52%	74%	70%	100%	
At-SIT4	50%	52%	54%	76%	70%	78%	100%

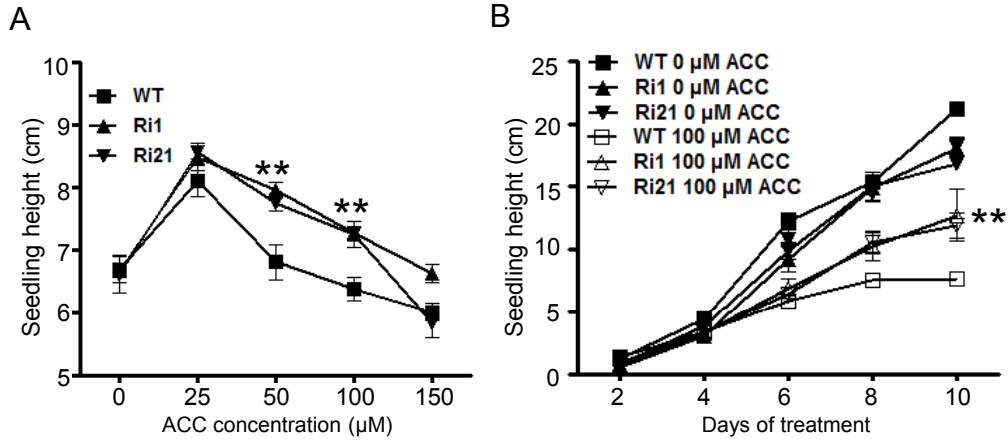
Supplemental Figure 10. Sequence similarity matrix of SIT1. (A) A phylogenetic tree of closely-related genes to *SIT1* constructed using MEGA6.06. The full-length amino acid sequence of *SIT1* was compared against the NCBI database; homologs of *SIT1* with >55% identity in monocots and 50% in dicots were selected. On this scale, 0.05 represents a 5% change. (B) Sequence similarity matrix. Amino acid sequence identity of *SIT1* with two rice homologs and four *Arabidopsis* homologs.



Supplemental Figure 11. *At-SIT3*-activation seedlings with increased MPK3 and MPK6 phosphorylation, and an increased level of ROS were sensitive to NaCl. **(A)** Schematic diagram of the T-DNA insertion in *at-sit3-D* (Salk_079614). The number indicates the insertion site upstream of the start codon. Directed arrows indicate the primers used in **(B)** and **(C)**. **(B)** Genotyping revealed that *at-sit3-D* was homozygous. **(C)** qRT-PCR showed that the expression of *At-SIT3* was enhanced in *at-sit3-D*. **(D)** A immunoblot probed with anti-p-MAPK antibodies showed MAPK phosphorylation in *at-sit3-D*. **(E)** ROS level in *at-sit3-D* and Col plants as quantified using a POD assay kit (see the Methods). **(F)** Phenotypes of Col, *at-sit3-D*, and SIT1-OE plants grown on 0.5× MS medium containing 100 mM NaCl for 7 days. **(G)** Survival rate of the seedlings shown in **(F)**. Seedlings with green cotyledons were judged as alive. The data represent the mean ± SEM of three parallel experiments and analyzed by Student's *t*-test (n=30/genotype). a–c indicate significant differences. **P<0.01.



Supplemental Figure 12. Phenotypic comparisons among wild-type, *sit1-1* mutant, and *SIT1-OE* plants. (A) *sit1-1* mutant rice showed delayed maturation compared with wild-type (DJ) at harvest stage. (B) *SIT1-OE Arabidopsis* plants displayed early leaf senescence when compared with Col, SIT1^{KE}-OE, and SIT1^{KD}-OE at the flowering stage.



Supplemental Figure 13. *S/T1*-RNAi rice seedlings showed reduced sensitivity to exogenous ACC. (A) Effect of increasing the concentration of ACC on seedling height. Five-day-old seedlings grown on 0.5×MS agar medium supplemented with or without ACC were measured. (B) Time-course analysis of seedling height in rice plants grown on 0.5× MS agar medium supplemented with or without 100 μM ACC. Asterisks indicate a significant difference compared to wild type (Jap) by Student's *t*-test. Bars indicate the means ± SEM (n=12, **P<0.01).

Supplemental Table 1. Primers for RNAi construction

Gene Locus	Primer	Primer sequence	Purpose
Os03g08550	QRT-F	TGGCCCCAGAAGCAAATCT	QRT for expression analysis
	QRT-R	GAGCGTATTGAGGACAGTAACATCA	
	RNAi-F	GGGAATTAAGTAGTTGCTCCGCTACTTCCCCTG	RNAi construction
RNAi-R	CGGGATCCGAGCTCTCGATCTCAATCAATGAACCCA		
Os09g38850	QRT-F	CACAGCAGCAAGAGCATGGT	QRT for expression analysis
	QRT-R	GGGTAGCTCCAGGAGACATGAT	
	RNAi-F	GGGTACCACTAGTACCCTCCAGGTCGTCGACATCT	RNAi construction
RNAi-R	CGGGATCCGAGCTCTCAAGGCTGAGGAAGTGCACG		
Os09g02250	QRT-F	TGTTGAGTTCTTGATGCTTTGCA	QRT for expression analysis
	QRT-R	GGAAAACCATGGCAAACCA	
	RNAi-F	GGGTACCACTAGTATCCACCCATCAATGGCACG	RNAi construction
RNAi-R	CGGGATCCGAGCTCTCCGTCCACCGTCACCA		
Os04g51040	QRT-F	CCATGGTCCTTGACAGTTG	QRT for expression analysis
	QRT-R	GCAAAGCCTGGAGTTGACG	
	RNAi-F	GGGAATTCAGTAGTTGTCGTTCTGCGCATCAAATG	RNAi construction
RNAi-R	CGGGATCCGAGCTCCTACAGTAGACAACATTGTTG		
Os02g02120	QRT-F	GAATCTGCGACAACACAATTGG	QRT for expression analysis
	QRT-R	CAGGGCTCTCTTTGGATCTG	
	RNAi-F	GGGTACCACTAGTATCCCTACCCCTTCGGCATC	RNAi construction
RNAi-R	CGGGATCCGAGCTCTCAAGCACAGTGGGAACCCCT		

Supplemental Table 2. Primers used in this study

Primer	Nucleotide sequence	Purpose
pSIT1-f	5' CCAAGCTTCCAATGGCTGCATTGTTCCAC 3'	SIT1 promoter amplification
pSIT1-r	5' CGGGATCCGGCGTTTGCGCCAAACTTG 3'	
SIT1-f	5' GCTCTAGATGCGGCGTCCCAGCTAA 3'	SIT1 coding sequence amplification
SIT1-r	5' GAAGATCTCGCTCGAGGAATGTCA 3'	
SIT1K386E-f	5' GTGGAGATTGCAGTGGAGAAGGTATCCCACG 3'	SIT1 ^{KE} and SIT1KD ^{KE} construction
SIT1K386E-r	5' CCACTGCAATCTCCACTCGGGATACCAGTA 3'	
SIT1D482A-f	5' CAAGTCGTTCTGCATCGAGCCATCAAGGCA 3'	SIT1 ^{DA} and SIT1KD ^{DA} construction
SIT1D482A-r	5' CGTCCAACAATACGTTGCTTGCCTTGATGT 3'	
SIT1KD-f	5' CACCAGACGACGCAGGTATGCGGA 3'	SIT1KD construction
SIT1KD-r	5' TCATCTCGCTCGAGGAATGT 3'	
SIT1P1	5' CGTCCGCAGGTAACCTCTAG 3'	SIT1 mutant identification
SIT1P2	5' GTGAACATGAGCCTGCTCAG 3'	
SIT2P1	5' AGGATGGTGTGCGAACTCCAC 3'	SIT2 mutant identification
SIT2P2	5' CGAGGTGACCCACAGGATAT 3'	
2715LB	5' ACGTCCGCAATGTGTTATTAA 3'	T-DNA left primer for rice mutant identification
QSIT1-f	5' ATGCAAATCAGATGGGCAACT 3'	QRT for SIT1 expression
QSIT1-r	5' CGAAGAGACTAAAACCTTGTGGTCAT 3'	
QSIT2-f	5' CCGGATGTAGTTAATCAGTACCTAACTAGTA 3'	QRT for SIT2 expression
QSIT2-r	5' TCGTAACACCACTTACATCATAGATAAAC 3'	
QSIT3-f	5' CAAGGAGTTCAACCGCAATTC 3'	QRT for SIT3 expression
QSIT3-r	5' TCACGAGCTCCCTTCCTTTG 3'	
Hyg-f	5' AAGTTCGACAGCGTCTCCGAC 3'	Transgenic plant identification
Hyg-r	5' TCTACACAGCCATCGGTCCAG 3'	
At-SIT3P1	5' TGTTGGTCAAAGGAAAAGTCG 3'	At-SIT3 mutant identification
At-SIT3P2	5' TCAATGGGCATGCTCTAAGAC 3'	
LBb1	5' GCGTGGACCGCTTGCTGCAACT 3'	T-DNA left primer for rice mutant identification
Qat-SIT3-f	5' CGCTTTCTACACCGAACCAATC 3'	QRT for At-SIT3 expression
Qat-SIT3-r	5' TCGGGATCCCAGAGTAGATACC 3'	
QACS2-f	5'GGAGGGCGTCTCGCAGTT3'	QRT for Os-ACS2expression
QACS2-r	5'CCCTCACCTGCCCATAAA 3'	
QERF1-f	5'TCGAACACACCACACACTGAAG 3'	QRT for Os-ERF1 expression
QERF1-r	5'GTGGTTCCGCAACATGCTT 3'	
QMAPK5a-f	5'AACCCGCTGCAGAGAATCAC 3'	QRT for Os-MAPK5a expression
QMAPK5a-r	5'GAGAAGGGCTCCAGGCAGAT 3'	
QERF3-f	5'AGGCTGGATACCGTATGATGAAG3'	QRT for Os-ERF3 expression
QERF3-r	5'TGACGGCGCGAGATCAA3'	
QEBP1-f	5'CTGCTGCAAAGTCTGCCAAA 3'	QRT for Os-EBP1 expression
QEBP1-r	5'CTTGCGAGGATCTCTGATTTCA 3'	
QOs-DREB1A-f	5'GGAATCAGGAGCAAGCAGAAA3'	QRT for Os-DREB1A expression
QOs-DREB1A-r	5'CGACTCGCCGCTCATCTC3'	