

Polypyrimidine tract-binding proteins of potato mediate tuberization through an interaction with StBEL5 RNA

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Supplemental Files

Fig. S1. Amino-acid sequence alignment of polypyrimidine tract-binding (PTB) proteins of potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.). RNA recognition motifs (RRM) are in bold. RNP1 and 2 for each RRM are underlined. CmRBP50 was identified as the core protein of a phloem-mobile RNA/protein complex in pumpkin (Ham et al., 2009).

StPTB6	M----- T EPSKVIHVRNVGQEISENDLLQLFQPF G V I--TKLVM L RAKNQALLQ
StPTB1	M----- S DPSKVVHVRNVGHEISENDLLQLFQPF G V I--TKLVM L RAKNQALLQ
StPTB7	MSTSGQQQFRYT Q TPSKV L HRLNLPWDCSDEELVELCKPFGKIVNTKCNVGANRNQAFVE
CmRBP50	M----- T EPSKVIHVRNVGHEISENDLLQLFQPF G V I--TKLVM L RAKNQALIQ
StPTB6	M ODIAAAVNA <u>M</u> QFYSNV-QP-SIRGRSVYVQFSSHQE L TTVDQNAQGRGDEPNRILLVSI
StPTB1	M ODVPSAVK <u>A</u> LQFYSNV-QP-SIRGRNVYVQFSSHQE L TTMDQNAQGRGDEPNRILLVTI
StPTB7	F ADLNQAI <u>N</u> MVYYASSSEPAQVRGKTVYI <u>Q</u> YSNRNEIV---NNKSPGDVPGNVLLVTI
CmRBP50	M ODVPSAVN <u>A</u> LQFFANV-QP-SIRGRNVYVQFSSHQE L TTADQNAQGRGDEPNRILLVTI
StPTB6	H HVL-YPI <u>T</u> VEVLHQVFSPHGIVEKIVTFQKSAGFQALI <u>Q</u> YELTQTAISARNSLQGRNIY
StPTB1	H HML-YPI <u>T</u> VDVLHQVFSPHGIVEKIVTFQKSAGFQALI <u>Q</u> YQVQOSSVSARNSLQGRNIY
StPTB7	E GE <u>A</u> GDVSID <u>V</u> IHLVFSAFGFQKIA <u>T</u> FEKAAGFQALI <u>Q</u> FS D VGTASAAREALDGRSIP
CmRBP50	H HML-YPI <u>T</u> VEVLHQFFPHGFIVEKIVTFQKSAGFQALI <u>Q</u> YQTRQCAISARTALQGRNIY
StPTB6	-----DGCCQLDI <u>Q</u> FSNLDELQVSYNNERPRDFTNPNLPEPKG-K-SQQ-GYGDAGA
StPTB1	-----DGCCQLDI <u>Q</u> FSNLDELQVNYNNERSRDYTNPNLPEQKGGK-SQQ-GYGD---
StPTB7	K YLLPEHVNHCHLHISYS <u>A</u> HTDLN <u>I</u> KFQSHRSRDYTNPYLPVNPTAMEGVLQPVVGPDGK
CmRBP50	-----DGCCQLDI <u>Q</u> FSNLDELQVNYNNERSRDFTNPSLPSEP K GR-PSQQPGYGDAGG
StPTB6	MPWQGSGPRGVGPQMGNAAAIA <u>T</u> APSGLPPGISGTNDRCTI <u>I</u> VSNLNP--DRIDEDK
StPTB1	MYSFQGSGAHPGGFQMGNAAEAI <u>A</u> AAFAGGLPPGISGTNDRCTI <u>I</u> VSNLNS--DRINEDK
StPTB7	KK-----EPESNV <u>L</u> FASLEN <u>M</u> QYAVTVDV
CmRBP50	MYALQASGAGPVGFQM A AAVAAAFGGGLPPGVSGTNDRCTV <u>I</u> VSNLNP--DRIDEDK
StPTB6	L FNLFSIYGNIVRIKHL-RNK <u>P</u> DHALV <u>Q</u> MGDG <u>F</u> QAE <u>L</u> A <u>V</u> HFLKG <u>A</u> ML <u>F</u> G---QRLEVNY <u>S</u>
StPTB1	L FNLCSLYGNIVSIKIL-RNK <u>P</u> DHALV <u>Q</u> LD <u>G</u> Q <u>F</u> QAE <u>L</u> A <u>V</u> HFLKG <u>A</u> ML <u>F</u> E---KRLEVNF <u>S</u>
StPTB7	L NTVFSAGTVQ <u>K</u> IA <u>I</u> FEKNGQT <u>Q</u> ALI <u>Q</u> Y <u>P</u> D <u>V</u> TIAAA <u>A</u> KA <u>D</u> ALE <u>G</u> H <u>I</u> Y <u>D</u> GG <u>Y</u> CKLHLSYS
CmRBP50	L FNLFSIYGNIA <u>R</u> IKLL-RNK <u>P</u> DHALV <u>Q</u> MGDG <u>F</u> QAE <u>L</u> A <u>V</u> HFLKG <u>A</u> ML <u>F</u> G---KRLEVNF <u>S</u>
StPTB6	KYPNINTGPETRDYSNSNLNRFNRNA <u>A</u> AKNYRYCCSPTKM <u>I</u> H <u>V</u> SS <u>L</u> P <u>Q</u> D <u>V</u> TEEE <u>I</u> VA <u>H</u> LEE
StPTB1	KYPNITTGPDTHDYSNSNLNRFNRNA <u>A</u> AKNYRYCCSPTKM <u>I</u> H <u>L</u> SS <u>L</u> P <u>Q</u> D <u>V</u> TE <u>E</u> E <u>I</u> IA <u>H</u> LEE
StPTB7	RHTDLNVQAYSD-----KSRDYTVPESSLLAMQQ <u>Q</u> AS-AV <u>H</u> ATPPVWHNP <u>Q</u>
CmRBP50	KHPNITQGADTHEYANSNLNRFNRNA <u>A</u> AKNYRYCCSPTKM <u>I</u> H <u>I</u> SS <u>L</u> S <u>Q</u> E <u>V</u> TEEE <u>I</u> VN <u>L</u> LEE
StPTB6	H GPI <u>V</u> NT <u>K</u> L <u>F</u> EM <u>N</u> G <u>K</u> --- Q A <u>L</u> V <u>L</u> F <u>D</u> NEE <u>Q</u> A <u>T</u> E <u>A</u> L <u>V</u> C <u>Q</u> -----HA
StPTB1	H GPI <u>I</u> NS <u>K</u> L <u>F</u> EM <u>N</u> G <u>K</u> --- Q A <u>L</u> V <u>L</u> F <u>D</u> KEE <u>Q</u> A <u>T</u> E <u>A</u> L <u>V</u> C <u>K</u> -----NA
StPTB7	SGPVQSSAGYATTGTVPGQAPP <u>W</u> PNLQGGG <u>S</u> TFPSAPTGYPGHSYAPPAPAYATAVHP
CmRBP50	H GPI <u>I</u> NT <u>K</u> L <u>F</u> EM <u>N</u> G <u>K</u> --- Q A <u>L</u> <u>I</u> M <u>F</u> D <u>T</u> E <u>E</u> <u>Q</u> A <u>T</u> E <u>A</u> L <u>V</u> C <u>K</u> -----HA
StPTB6	T----- S LGG <u>S</u> II <u>R</u> IS <u>F</u> S <u>Q</u> -----VQS <u>I</u>
StPTB1	T----- S LGS <u>S</u> TI <u>R</u> IS <u>F</u> S <u>Q</u> -----LQS <u>I</u>
StPTB7	PGSSQQTNHIST <u>G</u> SRPF <u>S</u> V <u>Q</u> PFQPSTMPPGGVPPP <u>G</u> H <u>A</u> P <u>Y</u> H <u>G</u>
CmRBP50	S----- S LGS <u>S</u> II <u>R</u> IS <u>F</u> S <u>Q</u> -----LQS <u>I</u>

A

Name	Gene	Genome loci from blast	Identity	TC # (DFCI)
StPTB1	PGSC0003DMG400018824	PGSC0003DMT400048465	StPTB1	TC201869
StPTB6	PGSC0003DMG400023660	PGSC0003DMT400060830	StPTB6	TC202289
StPTB7	PGSC0003DMG400001427	PGSC0003DMT400003611	StPTB7	TC207584
StPTB7-1	PGSC0003DMG400009106	PGSC0003DMT400023506	TC201749	TC201749
StPTB7-2	PGSC0003DMG400002353	PGSC0003DMT400023506	homologous to PTB7 clade	BI920231
StPTB7-3	PGSC0003DMG400019613	PGSC0003DMT400050479	homologous to PTB7 clade	TC218925

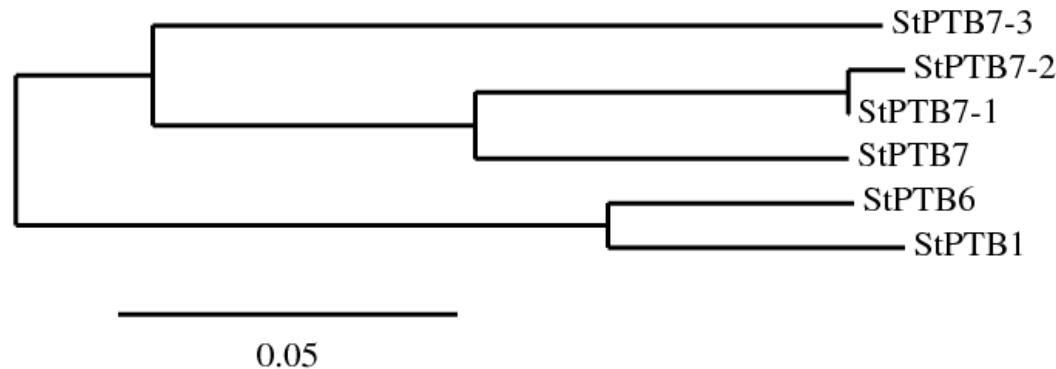
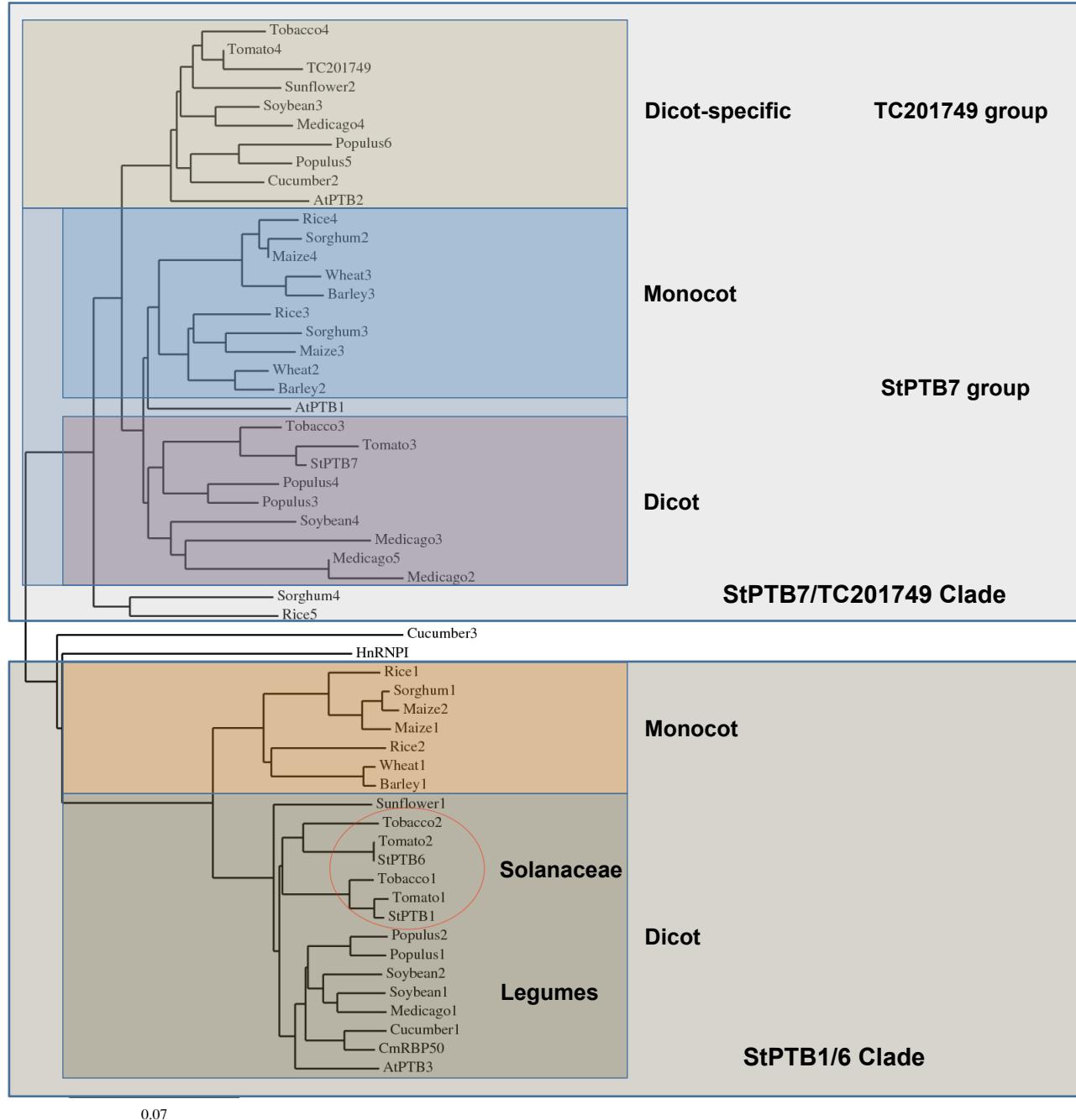
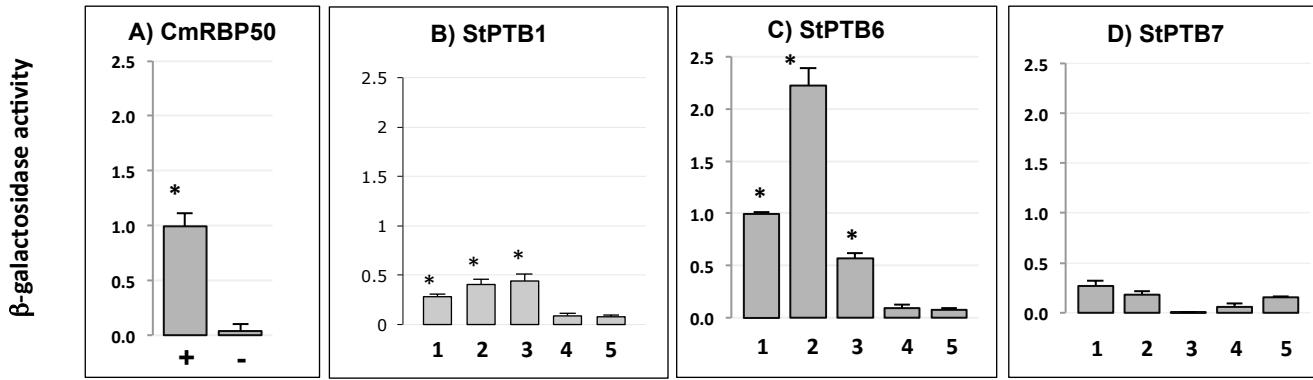
B

Figure S2. Classification and accession numbers of the gene family of polypyrimidine tract-binding (PTB) proteins of potato (A). Four proteins containing only three RNA-recognition motifs (RRMs) are from the PTB7 group (Supplementary Fig. S3), whereas PTB1 and -6 contain four RRM s and are similar in sequence to CmRBP50 (B) (Ham et al., 2009). As a comparison, *Arabidopsis* has one RBP50-type and two PTB7-types. Gene and Genome loci numbers are from the potato genome website (<http://potatogenomics.plantbiology.msu.edu/index.html>). TC accession numbers are from the DFCI Potato Gene Index (<http://compbio.dfci.harvard.edu/tgi/cgi-bin/tgi/gimain.pl?gudb=potato>).

Figure S3. Phylogenetic relationship of PTB proteins in plants. The deduced amino-acid sequences from the full-length cDNAs for *StPTB1*, -6, -7 and TC201749 were compared to 56 PTB protein sequences. Two other *StPTBs* (BI920231, TC218925) were identified from the Potato Genome Consortium website. Conserved RRM domains characteristic of PTB proteins were also identified using BLAST. For comparison to other plant PTB proteins, 56 protein sequences from 15 plants (Supplementary Table S2) were analyzed along with HnRNP, human PTB, as a control. Amino-acid sequence alignments and phylogenetic analysis were performed using T-COFFEE (<http://www.ch.embnet.org/software/TCoffee.html>) and graphical representation of the phylogenetic tree was performed with TreeDyn (v198.3) (Dereeper et al., 2008).



Bait RNA



(+) *CmGAIP*
(-) *CmGAIPO*

1. FL *BEL5* 3' UTR
2. *BEL5* T1 (137 nt)
3. *StGAI* 3' UTR (120 nt)
4. *StBEL5-N*
5. empty *pIII/MS2-1*

Figure S4. Yeast three-hybrid analysis. The yeast three-hybrid system (Bernstein et al., 2002) was utilized to assess the interaction of putative bait RNAs with CmRBP50, StPTB1, StPTB6, and StPTB7 proteins (A-D). Bait RNAs were known mobile RNAs: 1. *StBEL5* 3' UTR; 2. *StBEL5* T1; 3. *StGAI* 3' UTR; 4. *StBEL5-N*; 5. *pIII/MS2-1* empty vector. The bait RNAs tested were *CmGAIP* with CmRBP50 as a positive control, full-length *BEL5* 3' UTR (503 nt), the T1 fragment of the *StBEL5* 3' UTR (137 nt), and a fragment of the 3' UTR of *StGAI* (120 nt) with the StPTB proteins. As negative controls, *CmGAIPO* (no CU motifs, Ham et al., 2009), a cds fragment (*StBEL5-N*) of *StBEL5* (no CU motifs), and empty *pIII/MS2-1* vector were used. *CmGAIP*, *StGAI*, and *T1* contain 6, 5, and 5 CU motifs, respectively (Supplementary Fig. S5). Based on β-galactosidase activity, the strongest interactions occurred with CmRBP50/*CmGAIP* and StPTB6/*T1* (A, C). Although, the interaction of StPTB1/full-length *BEL5* 3' UTR, *T1* and *StGAI* were statistically significant (B), β-galactosidase activity was relatively low in these interactions compared to the strongest interactions of CmRBP50/*CmGAIP* and StPTB6/*T1*. No significant interaction of StPTB7 protein with any of the RNA baits was observed (D).

For the yeast three-hybrid constructs, the coding sequences for StPTB1, -6 and -7 were generated by PCR amplification (Supplementary Table S4-1) and introduced into *pACTII*, an activation domain vector. DNA fragments encoding various RNA baits were amplified by PCR with gene-specific primers (Supplementary Table S4-2) and cloned into the *pIII/MS2-1* vector to generate the hybrid RNAs. The host yeast strain YBZ-1 was utilized with RNA hybrid plasmids by the standard yeast protocol (Bernstein et al., 2002). To determine RNA-protein interaction, *HIS3* and *lacZ* were utilized as reporters. Induction of the *lacZ* reporter gene was measured with a Yeast β-galactosidase Assay Kit (Pierce Biotechnology). β-galactosidase activity was determined by following the equation: $[1,000 \times OD_{420}]/[time \text{ of color reaction (min)} \times volume \text{ of cells used (ml)} \times OD_{660}]$. Each assay was replicated in three independent experiments. The YBZ-1 strains, plasmids *pIII/MS2-1* and *pACTII* were generous gifts of Dr. Marvin Wickens, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

A) *T1* sequence

ACUCUUUAUAUUGUGAGGCCUUCUGGCCAAGUCGGAGGACCCAUUUGAUACAACCU**
AUCAUAGGAGAAAAGAAGUGGAGACUAAAUAAGUAACAAAAUUUAAGCACA**CUUU**
CUAGUAUAUAUACUUCUUU**

B) *StGAI* bait

UUUAAGUCAGCC**CUUUAUUACUUUUUACCACUUCUUUAUUU**U**GUUCUAGUUUA
UUUUUUUUUU**AUCUUA****

C) Negative control *StBEL5 N*

UGAAGAGGUGGAGCAAAGGUACAGACAGUACCAUCACCAAAUGCAAUAUUGUAUUAU
CAUUUGAGCAAGUAGCAGGAUUGGAUCAGCCAAUCAUACA

D) 3' UTR of *StBEL22*

UUAAGAUAGUGUAUU**UCAAACACUGCUACAUAAAUAUGAUUUUAUAUAUAUAU
GUCA**UCCG**AUUAGUUU**

Figure S5. RNA bait sequences used for the yeast 3-hybrid and gel-shift assays (Supplementary Fig. S4; Figure 1). The *T1* sequence (A) is 137 nt in length from the 3' UTR of *StBEL5*, is near the 5' end of the UTR, and contains five cytosine/uracil motifs. The *StGAI* bait (B) is 77 nt from the 3' UTR of *StGAI* and contains five cytosine/uracil motifs. The negative control *StBEL5 N* (C) is 101 nt from the *StBEL5* cds, near the amino-terminus and contains no cytosine/uracil motifs longer than 2 nt. (D) is the 74-nt 3' UTR of *StBEL22*. Cytosine/uracil runs of at least 3 nt are shown in bold.

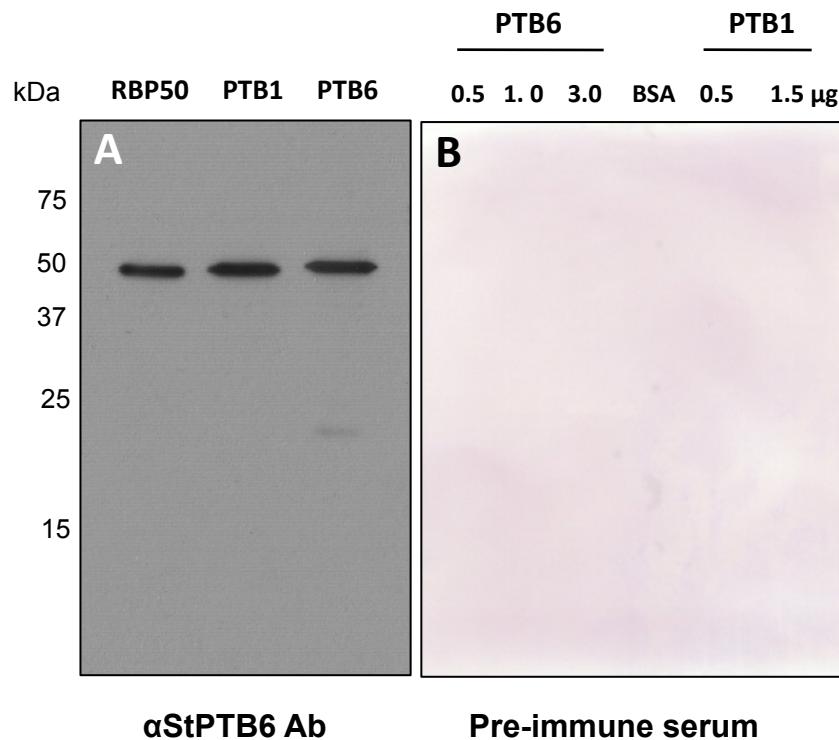
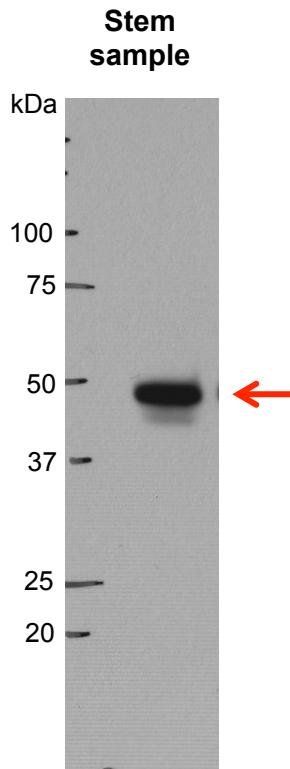


Figure S6. Detection of purified recombinant PTB proteins using anti-PTB6 antibody. One microgram of purified CmRBP50, StPTB1 or -6 protein was separated via SDS-PAGE. After blotting and incubation with antibody, all three proteins were readily detected by the anti-PTB6 antibody (A). The antibody was diluted 1:10,000 and the pre-immune serum 1:1,000 (B) for the immunodetection protocols used here.

A**B**

StPTB6

PTB6 PTB6 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1
protein model: PTB6 PTB6 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1

the **gpm**

model | homologues | details | XML |
gpmDB | wiki |

Show: all | Display as: html | go | Show/hide: save | clear

log(e) = -4.4 PTB6 PTB6 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1

1 MTEPSKVIHVP NVGQEISENDLLQLFQPFVGVIK LVMILRAK NQALLQM QDIAAVNAMET 60
61 QFYSNVQPSIR GR SVYVQFSSHQELTTVDQNAQGRGDEPNRILLVSIHHVLYPITVEVLH 120
121 QVFSPFHGIVEKIVTFQKSAGFQALI QYELTQTAISARNSLQGRNIYDGCCQLDIQFSNLID 180
181 ELQVSYNNERPR DFTNP NLPSEPK GKP SPQQGYGDAGAMY PWQGS GPRGVGFPMQMGNAAAI 240
241 ATAFPSGLP PPGISGT NDRC TII VSNLNPDR IDEP LFNLFSI YGNIVR LKHDR NKP DHAL 300
301 VQMGDGFQAE LAVHFLKGAMLFGQR LEV NYSKYPN INTGP ET RDY SNSN LNR FNR NAARK 360
361 YF YCCSPTK MIHVSSL P QDVTEE EIVAH LEEH GP IVNTKL FEMNGKK QALVLF DNEE QAT 420
421 EALVCQHAT SLGGSI IRISFSQVQSI 446

Identified Peptides

spectrum	log(e)	log(l)	m+h	delta	z	sequence	n
3951.1	-4.4	3.46	1358.6587	0.0071	2	erpr ¹⁹³ DFTNP NLPSE PK 204 gksp (0)	

StPTB1

PTB1 PTB1 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1...
protein model: PTB1 PTB1 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1...

the **gpm**

model | homologues | details | XML |
gpmDB | wiki |

Show: all | Display as: html | go | Show/hide: save | clear

log(e) = -10.3 PTB1 PTB1 OS=Solanum tuberosum GN=Bel5 PE=2 SV=1...

1 MSDPSK VVHV R NVGHE I SENDLLQLFQPFVGVIK LVMILRAK NQALLQM QDVP SAVK ALQF 60
61 YSNVQPSIR GR NVYVQFSSHQELTTMDQNAQGRGDEPNRILLVTHHMLY PITVDVLHQV 120
121 FSPFHGIVEKIVTFQKSAGFQALI QYQVQQSSVSARNSLQGRNIYDGCCQLDIQFSNLDEL 180
181 QVNYYNNER PR DYTNP NLPSEQ K GRS SQQGYGDMY S FQGS GAHP PGFP QMGN AEA TAA AFA 240
241 GGLPPGIGSGTN DR CTIL VSNL NSDR INED LFNLCSL YGNIVR LKHDR NKP DHAL VQLGD 300
301 GFQAE LAVHFLKGAMLFEK RL BVNF SKY PN ITTGP DHDY SNSN LNR FNR NAARK YCC 360
361 SPTK MIHSSL P QDVTE AEII IAHL EEH GP II NSKL FEMNGK QQAL VL FDKEE QATE ALVC 420
421 KNATSLGSSTIR ISFSQI QSI 441

Identified Peptides

spectrum	log(e)	log(l)	m+h	delta	z	sequence	n
2327.1	-3.2	3.90	1405.659	0.012	2	ersr ¹⁹¹ DYTNP NLPSE QK 202 gkss (0)	
2384.1	-2.3	2.96	1405.6594	-0.0007	2	ersr ¹⁹¹ DYTNP NLPSE QK 202 gkss (0)	
1982.1	-2.7	4.32	1106.5800	-0.0036	2	lvck ⁴²² NATSLGSSTIR 432 iffs (0)	
2018.1	-2.5	3.56	1106.5800	0.0017	2	lvck ⁴²² NATSLGSSTIR 432 iffs (0)	

Figure S7. Identification of reactive protein bands recognized by the anti-PTB6 antibody. Total protein was extracted from various tissues of the potato cv. Désirée and separated via SDS-PAGE. The band of approximately 48 kDa recognized by the anti-PTB6 antibody (A, red arrow) was excised for analysis. Sample preparation and in-gel trypsin digestion were performed and peptides were identified by using LC-MS/MS as described previously (Shah et al., 2011). The reactive band contained both StPTB1 and -6 proteins (B).

Figure S8

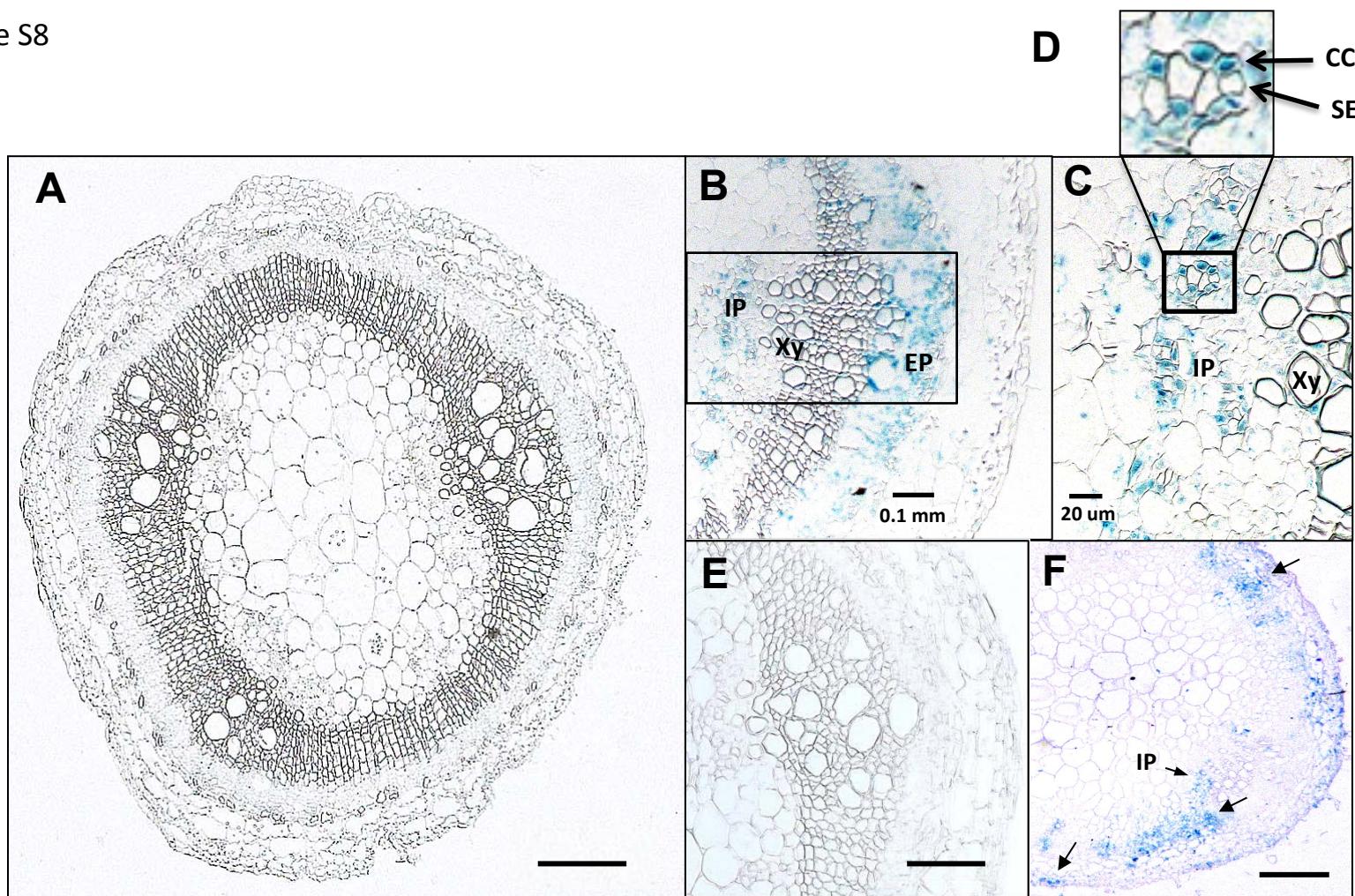


Figure S8. Localization of GUS activity within stems of *StPTB1_{prom}* (A-D) and *StPTB6_{prom}* (E-F) transgenic lines. Stem internodes of four-week old soil grown plants were embedded in paraffin for histochemical detection of GUS activity within tissues of the stem. Panel (A) is a transverse section of *StPTB1_{prom}* with a higher magnification image of a vascular bundle (boxed area) in (B) showing xylem (Xy) and internal (IP) and external (EP) phloem tissues (C-D). Panels (E-F) are higher magnification images of a transverse section of *StPTB6_{prom}* showing a vascular bundle in (E) and GUS staining in the interfascicular region, the IP, and the epidermis (F, arrows). The scale bars represent 200 μ m in (A) and 100 μ m in (E-F). GUS activity for the *StPTB1* promoter was detected specifically in phloem cells (B-D), both external (EP) and internal phloem (IP). Under higher magnification (D), blue staining could be detected in companion cells (CC) but not sieve elements (SE). Results presented here are representative of several sections from different stem samples.

Figure S9

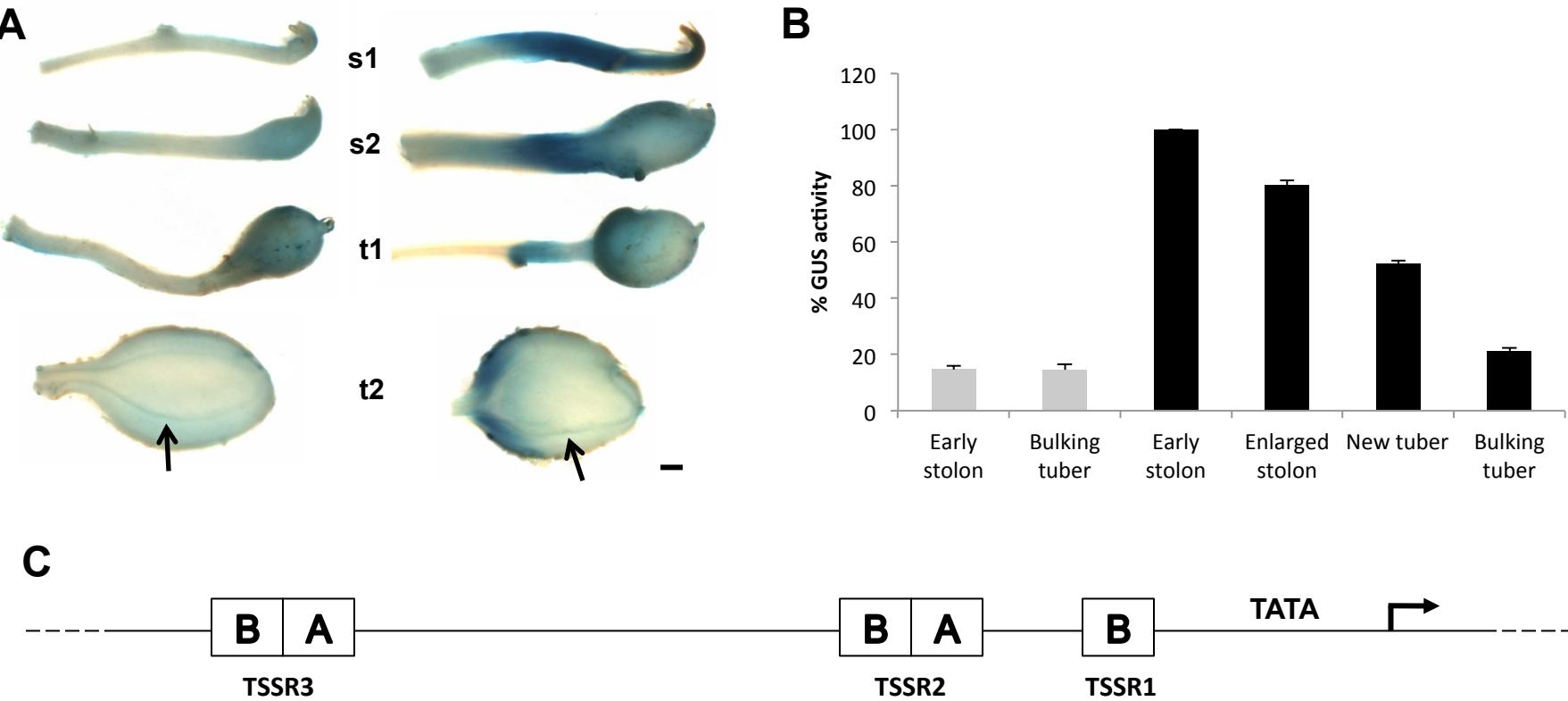


Figure S9. GUS activity within stolons and tubers of *StPTB1_{prom}* (A, left column) and *StPTB6_{prom}* (A, right column) transgenic lines. Stolons and tubers of various developmental stages from eight-week old soil-grown transgenic plants of *StPTB1_{prom}* (B, gray bars) and *StPTB6_{prom}* (B, black bars) were quantified to assess promoter activity. Two stages of stolon development designated "s1" and "s2" in panel (A) correspond to early and enlarged stolon stages, respectively. The two tuber developmental stages designated "t1" and "t2" correspond to new and bulking tuber stages, respectively. The arrows on the t2 tubers (A) indicate GUS activity in the vascular strands. Similar materials from panel A were used for quantification (B) and are shown as means of three replicate samples from four plants with standard errors. The presence of two complete and one incomplete tuber-specific sucrose responsive elements (TSSR1-3, panel C) were discovered upstream of the *StPTB6* transcriptional start site (arrow) based on *cis*-regulatory elements described in the promoters of patatin and proteinase inhibitor II genes (Butler and Hannapel, 2012). Percent GUS activity (B) was normalized to early stolon activity of the *StPTB6_{prom}*. The scale bar in (A) represents 1.0 mm.

Figure S10

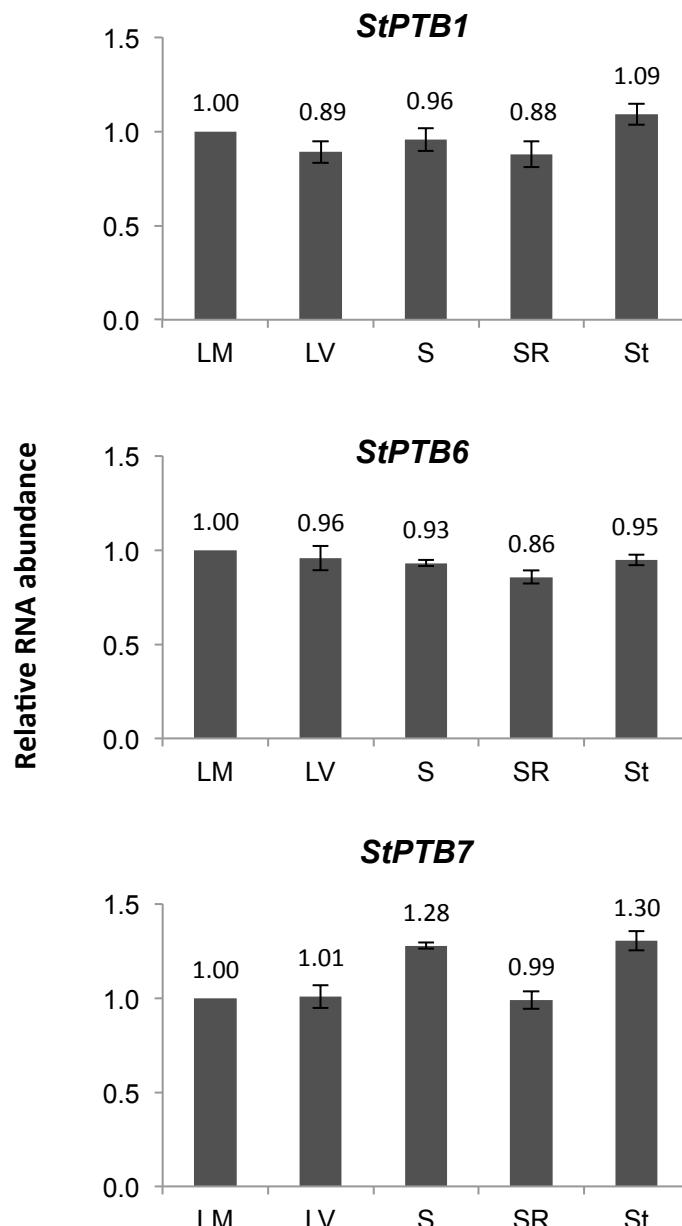


Figure S10. Relative levels of mRNAs for *StPTB1*, -6, and -7 in various organs of *Solanum tuberosum* ssp. *andigena* plants grown under long-day conditions. One-step RT-PCR was performed using 150 ng of total RNA and gene-specific primers. All PCR reactions were standardized and optimized to yield product in the linear range. Homogenous PCR products were quantified by using ImageJ software (Abramoff et al., 2004) and normalized by using 18S rRNA values. Standard errors of the means of three biological replicates are shown. LM, leaf mesophyll; LV, leaf veins; S, stem; SR, secondary roots; and St, stolon tips.

Figure S11

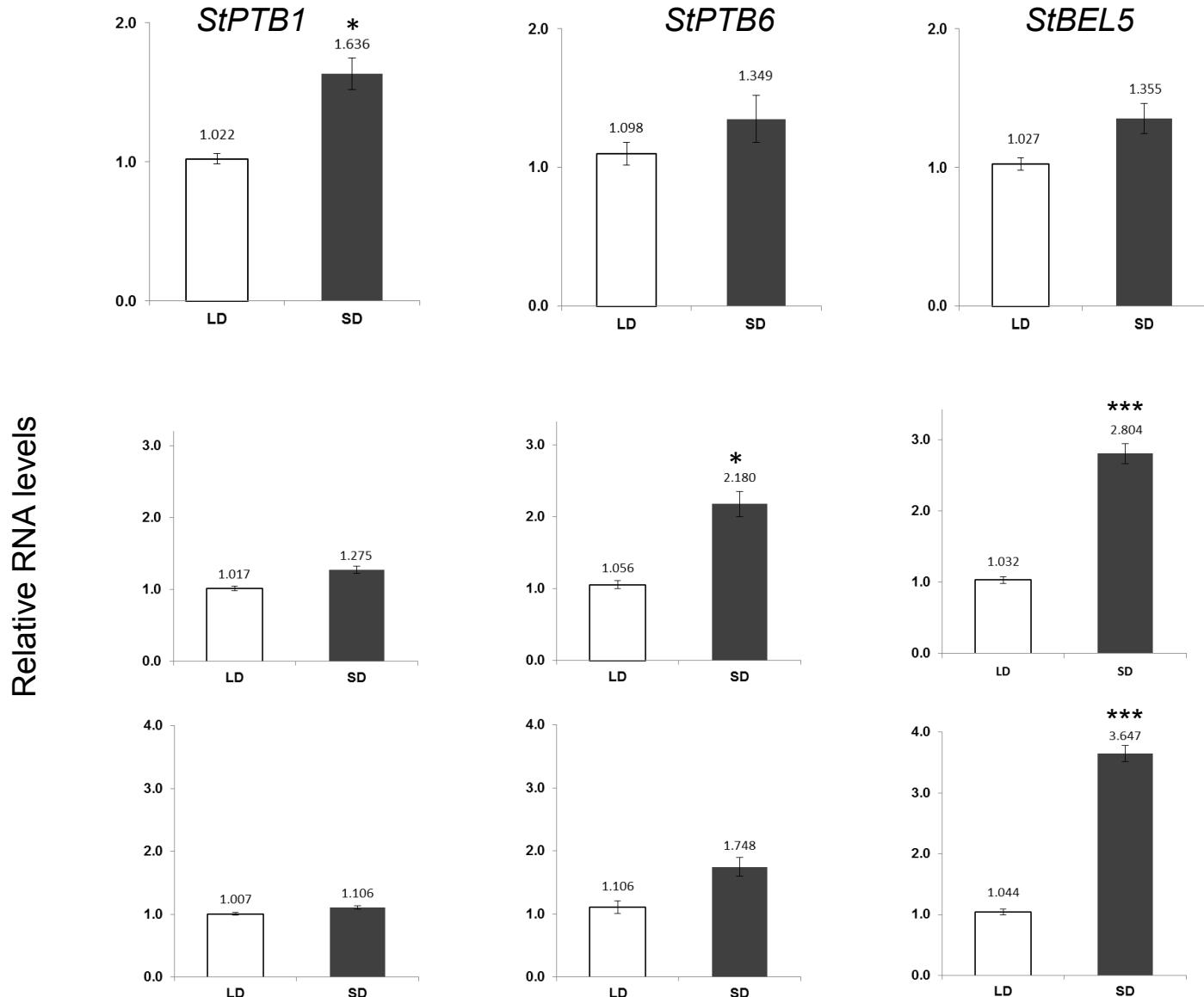


Figure S11. Effect of photoperiod on transcript accumulation of *StPTB1* and -6 in petioles, lateral roots, and stolons from potato (*S. tuberosum* ssp. *andigena*). Short-day plants were harvested after 14d of SD conditions (8h light, 16h dark). Quantitative real-time RT-PCR with gene-specific primers was used to calculate the relative amounts of RNA for each *StPTB* gene. *StBEL5* was included as a positive control. Each sample was measured in triplicate and normalized against *StActin8* RNA. The fold change in expression was calculated as the $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ value relative to the mean values obtained in the long-day (LD) samples. Standard errors of the means of three biological replicates are shown with one asterisk indicating a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) using a Student's *t* test.

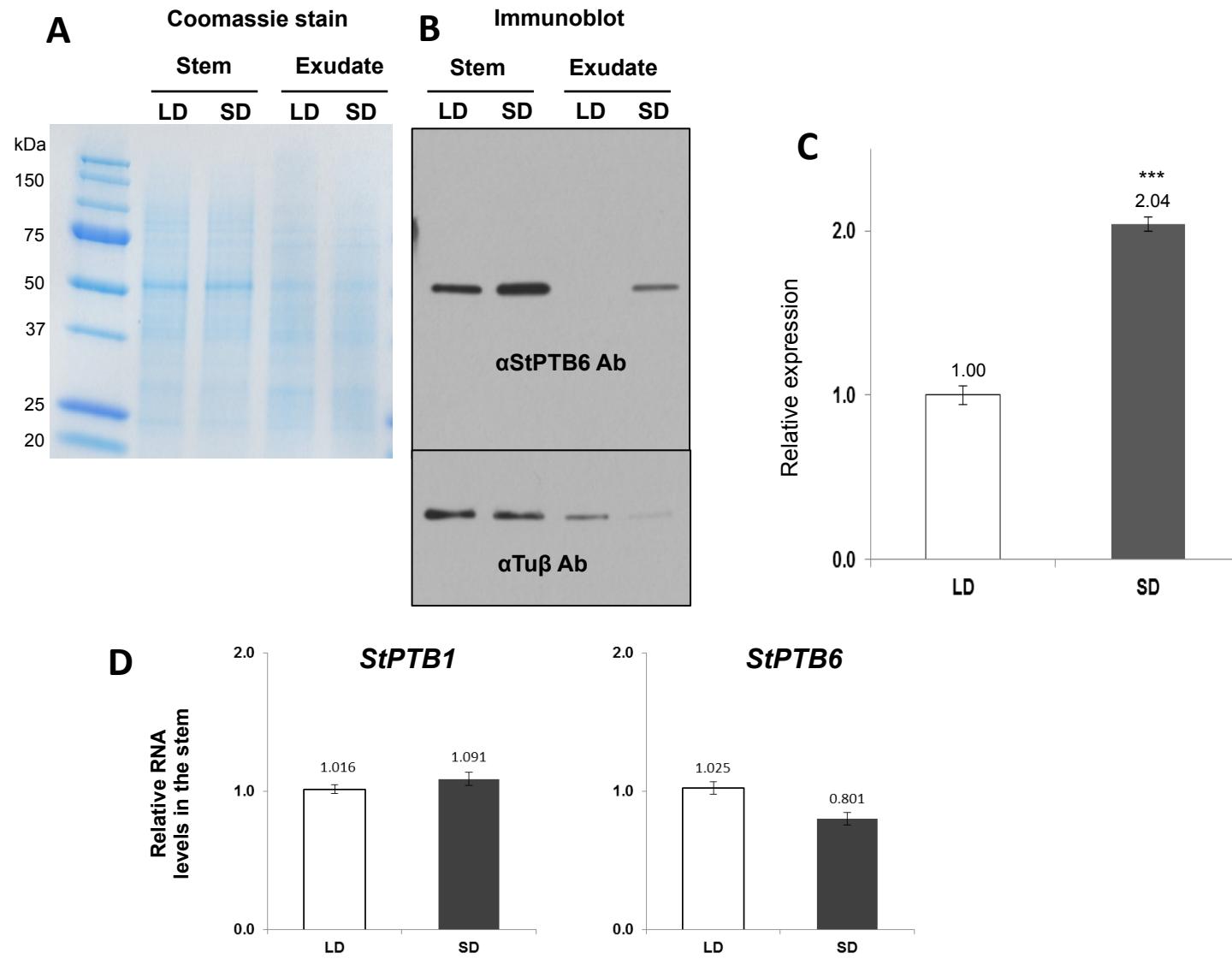


Figure S12. Immunodetection of StPTB proteins in stem and stem exudate of *S. tuberosum* ssp. *andigena* grown under long- (LD) or short-day (SD) conditions (A). Immunodetection was performed using either antibody to StPTB6 (B, upper panel) or tubulin (B, lower panel) protein. The StPTB6 antibody recognizes both StPTB1 and -6 (Figures S6-7). To collect stem exudate, stems of *Solanum tuberosum* ssp. *andigena* plants grown under long- or short-day conditions were cut into 0.5 cm pieces and centrifuged at 10,000xg for 2 min in 1.5 ml Eppendorf tubes. After spinning, the stem exudate was collected and proteins were extracted with SDS buffer (Laemmli, 1970). Forty μ g of proteins from stems and exudate were separated using Any kD resolving gel (Bio-Rad), and stained using GelCode Blue Stain reagent (Thermo Scientific). The proteins were transferred to Immobilon-P transfer membranes (Millipore), stained with MemCode Reversible Protein Stain kit (Thermo Scientific) to confirm transfer efficiency, and incubated with α -StPTB6 or α -tubulin antibody (Santa Cruz). The antibody interactions were visualized using the ECL plus detection kit (GE Healthcare) and CL-Xposure (Thermo Scientific) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Signal intensities were quantified by ImageJ software (Abramoff et al., 2004), normalized with tubulin (C). Standard errors of the means of three biological replicates are shown with three asterisks indicating a significant difference ($p < 0.001$) using a Student's *t* test. RNA levels of *StPTB1* and -6 from stems of *andigena* plants grown under LD or SD were measured using qRT-PCR (D).

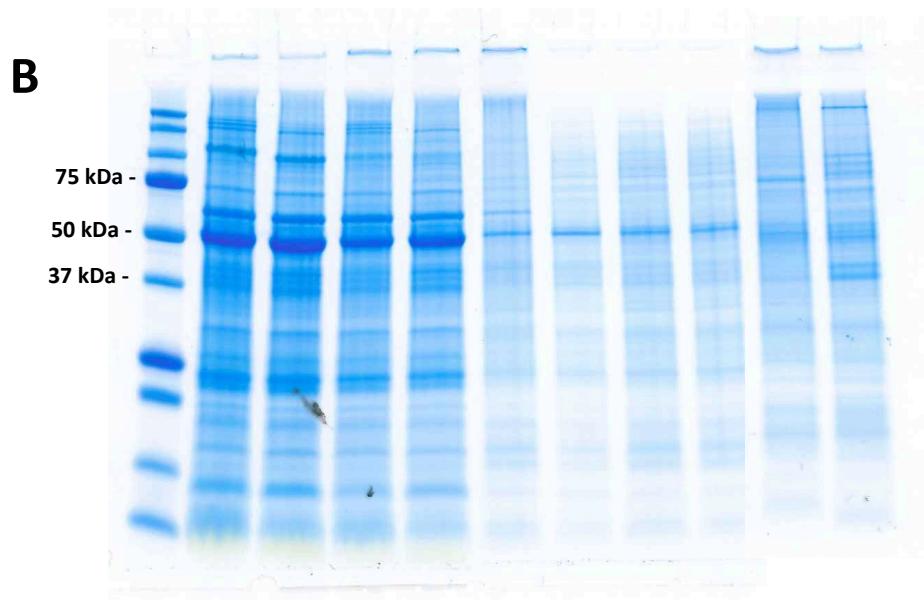
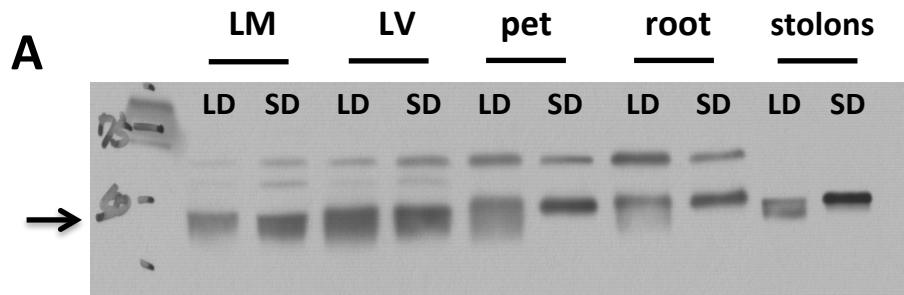


Figure S13. Immunoblot (A) of protein extracted from several organs from the photoperiod-sensitive potato, *S. tuberosum* ssp. *andigena*, grown under long-day (LD) and short-day (SD) conditions. LM, leaf mesophyll; LV, leaf vein; pet, petiole. LD plants were grown under LD for 21d. SD plants were grown under LD for 21d and then transferred to SD for 10d. The arrow in A indicates the band for the StPTB proteins at approximately 50 kDa. Coomassie blue-stained proteins and markers loaded onto the gel for transfer are shown in panel B.

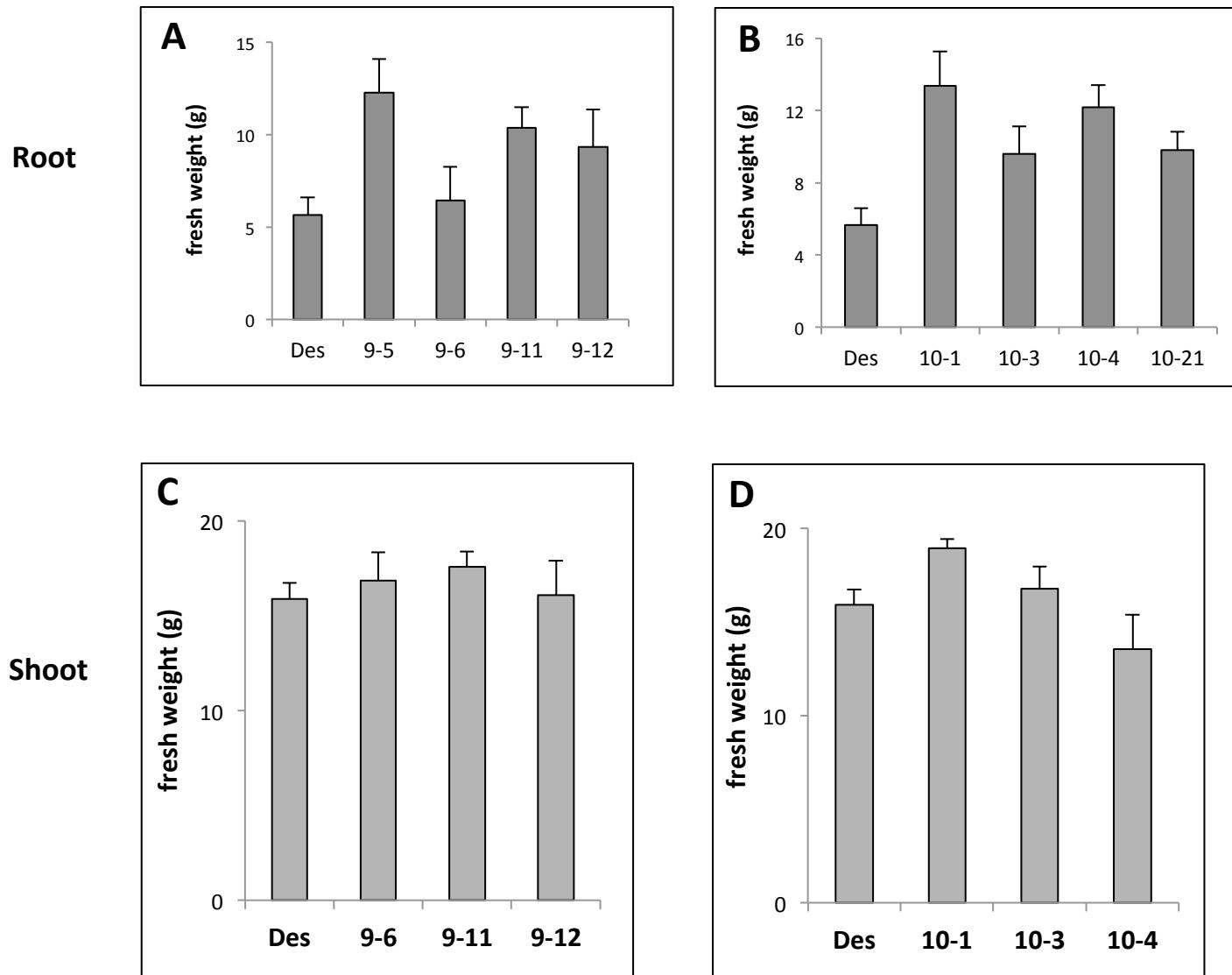


Figure S14. Morphological analyses of StPTB1 (A, C) and -6 (B, D) OE lines. Three or four replicates from selected lines were grown in vitro to a size of approximately 5 cm for two to three weeks before being transferred to soil. Plantlets were allowed to grow in 6-cm pots for two weeks and then transferred to 10-cm pots for the remainder of the experiment. Root (A-B) and shoot (C-D) fresh weight were scored from day 45 plants. All plants were grown under long-day conditions (16h light, 8 h dark) with a fluence rate of $300 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ at 24°C and 18°C using a 12-h diurnal temperature cycle. Des, non-transgenic potato cv Désirée. The #9 lines are PTB1. The #10 lines are PTB6.

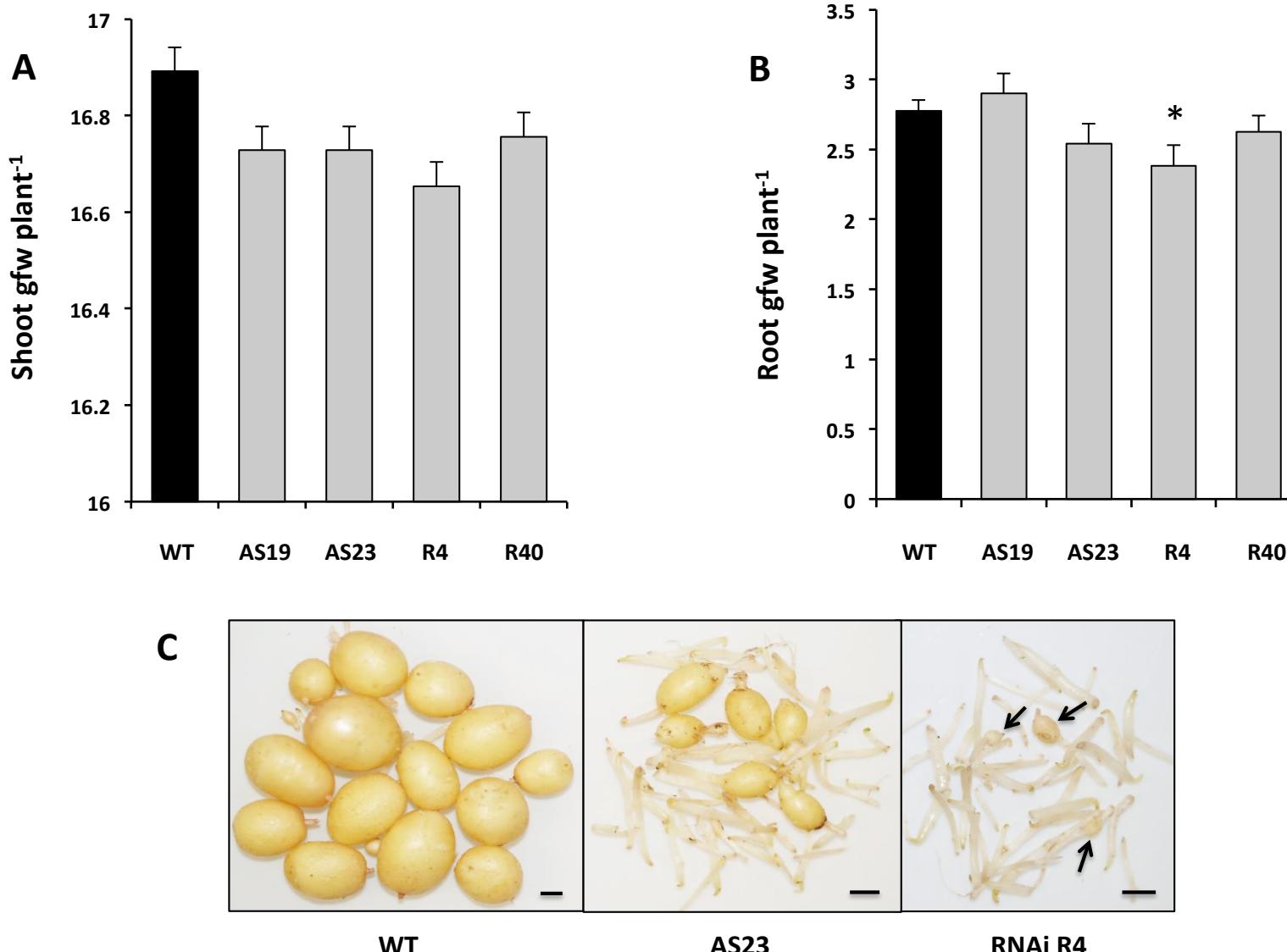


Figure S15. Shoot (A) and root (B) fresh wt of RNA suppression lines for StPTB1 and StPTB6. Lines AS19 and AS23 expressed antisense sequence, whereas lines R4 and R40 expressed a RNAi sequence. Both types suppressed expression of both PTB types. StPTB RNA levels in stolons for these suppression lines are shown in Fig. 5A. Plants from select RNAi lines were grown in soil in 13-cm pots. Shoot and root yields (g fr wt plant⁻¹) were assessed at 30d. Tuber yield from five plants of WT and lines AS23 and R4 harvested at 30d (C). Arrows indicate the small tubers harvested from line R4. Plants were grown under long-day conditions (16h light, 8h dark) with a fluence rate of 300 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ at 24 °C during a 12-h day cycle and 18 °C for the remaining time. WT, non-transgenic Désirée control. Standard errors of the means of five plants are shown with the asterisk indicating a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) using a Student's *t*-test. The size bars in D are equivalent to 0.5 cm.

Table S1. Primers used for RACE, full-length cDNA and Antisense/RNAi cloning.

RACE	Outer primer (5' to 3')	Inner (nested) primer (5' to 3')
StPTB1 5' RACE	TTGAGAGGAGTTGCCCTTCT	AAAGCTTGAAAACCAGCCGA
StPTB1 3' RACE	GAATTCTCTTAGTCACAATAC	ACTAACCCAAATCTACCATC
StPTB6 5' RACE	CCTTATGCTGGGCTGAACAT	AAAGGGCTGAAATAGCTGAA
StPTB6 3' RACE	ATGTACCCCTGGCAAGGTTCT	TCGTTTCTCAGGTGCAAAGCATCTGAGA
StPTB6 5' RACE	CCTTATGCTGGGCTGAACAT	AAAGGGCTGAAATAGCTGAA
StPTB6 3' RACE	ATGTACCCCTGGCAAGGTTCT	TCGTTTCTCAGGTGCAAAGCATCTGAGA
StGAI 5' RACE	CCATAGCCATCTCAAGTTG	GCTCATCCATTCTGCATC
StGAI 3' RACE	CGATGGTTACAGAGTGG	TTATAGCAACCTCCGCCT
For Full-length cDNA	Forward primer (5' to 3')	Reverse primer (5' to 3')
StPTB1	AAAC CCTAGTCCCCCTCTCCCTTCCATT	TTTTTTTTTACATAAGGAAAGCAG
Truncated StPTB1	AAAC CCTAGTCCCCCTCTCCCTTCCATT	TTTTTTTTTGTAAAGATCGACAAT
StPTB6	ATTCTATCTGGTCTTCAAGCCCTAATT	TTTTTAACAAACACAGAAGAAAGGAAGCA
Truncated StPTB6	ATTCTATCTGGTCTTCAAGCCCTAATT	TTTTTTTTGAAAGAAAGAATCTTACATCTGGA
StPTB7	CCCAAAGGAAAGAACAGACTCAAAGTCCGTTAA	TTTTTTTTGCAGATGAATCTTCCA
StGAI	GATATCTCACGAGCACTTCT	TTTTTTTTCCCCAACACCAAAT
For Antisense/RNAi	Forward primer (5' to 3')	Reverse primer (5' to 3')
PTB6AS	GAGCTCTCATGTCGCAACGTGGCCA	ACTAGTTCCATATCCTGTTGAGGAGATTG
PTB6RNAi	CACCTCATGTCGCAACGTGGCCA	TCCATATCCTGTTGAGGAGATTG

Table S2. Accession numbers of PTB proteins

Protein	Accession/Gene ID	Protein	Accession/Gene ID
HnRNP I	AAC99798.1	Barley1	TC217740
StPTB1	JF710641	Barley2	BAJ92028
StPTB6	JF710642	Barley3	BAJ94455
StPTB7	JF710643	Rice1	LOC_Os05g36120
TC201749	TC201749	Rice2	LOC_Os01g64770
CmRBP50	ACI43571	Rice3	LOC_Os03g25980
AtPTB1	At3g01150	Rice4	LOC_Os08g33830
AtPTB2	At5g53180	Rice5	LOC_Os01g43170

AtPTB3	At1g43190	Maize1	NP_001169470
Populus1	XP_002302167	Maize2	NP_001169809
Populus2	XP_002306709	Maize3	NP_001151769
Populus3	ABK95931	Maize4	NP_001137030
Populus4	XP_002324068	Soybean1	ACU20184
Populus5	ABK95840	Soybean2	TC392885
Populus6	XP_002322027	Soybean3	ACU23122
Sunflower1	TC53857	Soybean4	ACU18422
Sunflower2	TC47059	Medicago1	TC148772/Medtr1g098530.1
Tobacco1	TC84265	Medicago2	Medtr6g043520.1
Tobacco2	TC78548	Medicago3	Medtr6g012590.1
Tobacco3	TC80926	Medicago4	Medtr3g090960.1
Tobacco4	TC100085	Medicago5	Medtr7g011070.1
Tomato1	TC227660	Cucumber1	Csa005592
Tomato2	BF098030	Cucumber2	Csa015458
Tomato3	TC229790	Cucumber3	Csa009211
Tomato4	TC231069	StBEL5	AF406697
Wheat1	TC403305	StGAI	JF834157
Wheat2	TC377105	CmGAI	AY326306
Wheat3	TC386686	POTH1	U65648
Sorghum1	XP_002441164/09g021560	StGA2ox1	EU003995
Sorghum2	XP_002444395/07g021250	StGA2ox1	AJ291453
Sorghum3	XP_002467789/01g034060		

Table S3. Gene-specific primers used for RT-PCR.

Gene	Primer sequences (5' to 3')		Amplicon (bp)
	Forward primer	Reverse primer	
StPTB1	ATATGGAGACATGTACTCC	GGTTTATTGCGCAGAAC	246
StPTB6	TTTCCTCAGATGGGAATGC	CTGGTCCGGTGTAAATT	331
StPTB7	CAACAGCAGTCCGGTAC	ATTGCCTGATTAAGGTCA	188
StPTB1-1	GCCGTGGAGATGAGGTTTCA	GGTCCATATAATCAAGTGA	122
StPTB6-1	GAGGAGATGAGGTTTCA	ATTTGCCCTCGGCTGTGAT	212
StPTB6-2	TTTCAGAACGCGCCGGTT	AGAGAGATGCACACCTGA	393 (6-2.1), 314 (6-2.2)
StBEL5	GGGAGATTTGAAAGGTTG	TCAAATTGGTCCTCCGACT	375
StGAI	AGCTGAAACAATCGGAGTTG	CATTGAAACCCAGATGAACC	527
18S	GGATGTTGCTTTAGGACTC	CATCACAGACCTGTTATTGC	315
GA20ox1AS	GAGAAGCCTGTGCCGTAGT	GAAGTCCGCCAACACAACTCT	GA20ox1 Intron (WT: 649 bp, AS: 848 bp)

Table S4. Primers used for various constructs used in this report.

4-1. For cloning into pACT2 Yeast Protein Vector		
Gene	Forward Primer (5' to 3')	Reverse Primer (5' to 3')
CmRBP50	tacggatccatATGACTGAACCCCTCAAAG (BamHI)	ctcgagtcTATACTCTGCAGCTGGGA (SacI)
StPTB1	tacggatccatATGTCTGATCCTTCAAA (BamHI)	cgtatcgcgatGATGCTCTGTAAGTGA (XbaI)
StPTB6	tacggatccatATGACTGAGCCGTCAAAA (BamHI)	ctcgagtcGATGCTTGCACCTGAGA (SacI)
StPTB7	tacggatccatATGTCACATCCGGGCA (BamHI)	cgtatcgcgatACCATGATAAGGTGCAT (XbaI)
4-2. For cloning into pIIIa/MS2-1 Yeast RNA vector		
Gene	Forward Primer (5' to 3')	Reverse Primer (5' to 3')
CmGAI3	atccccgggTCATCCTGACCCCTT (SmaI)	cagcccgaaATACATAAATCCTT (SmaI)
CmGAI0	atccccgggATTTCACCGCGAAT (SmaI)	cagcccgaaAAAGCCGGCCACTG (SmaI)
StBEL5 3'UTR	atccccgggATACCAAGAAAGTCTCGTA (SmaI)	cagcccgaaGCTAATCTAATAATGATA (SmaI)
StBEL5 T1	atccccgggACTCTTATATTGTG (SmaI)	cagcccgaaAAAGAAGTATATAT (SmaI)
StBEL5 N	atccccgggGAAGAGGTGGAGCA (SmaI)	cagcccgaaTGTATGATTGGCT (SmaI)
StGAI 3' UTR	atccccgggTTATAAGTCAGCCT (SmaI)	cagcccgaaTAAGATAAAATAAATA (SmaI)
4-3. For promoter cloning into pBI101:GUS vector		
Gene	Forward primer (5' to 3')	Reverse primer (5' to 3')
StPTB1	agtgtcgacGGTCTTGTCCCCACTTCCATC (SalI)	gtcgatccGGATCAGACAATTATACCTGAATC (BamHI)
StPTB6	agtgtcgacGCACAATAGCGATAAAATGACATAGTTC (SalI)	gtcgatccCGGCTCAGTCATTTTACCTGAATC (BamHI)
4-4. For pBI121-GFP vector and 35S:StPTB-GFP constructs		
Gene	Forward primer (5' to 3')	Reverse primer (5' to 3')
GFP (for pBI121-GFP)	tagaggatccATGGT GAGCAAGGGCGA (BamHI)	aattcgatccTTACTGTACAGCTCGT (SacI)
StPTB1	tactctagaATGTCTGATCCTTCAAA (XbaI)	cgtatcgatccGATGCTCTGTAAGTGA (BamHI)
StPTB6	tactctagaATGACTGAGCCGTCAAAA (XbaI)	cgtatcgatccACCATGATAAGGTGCAT (BamHI)
StPTB7	tactctagaATGTCACATCCGGGCA (XbaI)	cgtatcgatccACCATGATAAGGTGCAT (BamHI)

Table S5. Primers for quantitative RT-PCR, RIP and mobility assay (RMA)

Name	Primer sequence	Purpose
StBEL5F	CTGCAACAGCTAGGAATGATG	<i>StBEL5</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 137 bp)
StBEL5R	ATGATTTGTCTGAATCCTTGGG	
Ga2Ox1F	AGTCCCACCTGATCCCTAC	<i>Ga2Ox1</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 143 bp)
Ga2Ox1R	GCCCTCCAAAGTAAACCATTG	
StPTB1P	GCGCAATAAACAGATCATGC	<i>StPTB1</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 112 bp)
StPTB1R	GTTGACTTCCAGACGCTTTC	
StPTB6F	TCATGCTCTTGTTCAGATGGG	<i>StPTB6</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 150 bp)
StPTB6R	TGGTCCGGTGTAAATATTGGG	
StPIN1F	GCACCAAATCCTGGCATGT	<i>StPIN1</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 63 bp)
StPIN1R	AGCTGTATTCTTGTGTGCTTGGT	
StPIN4F	GTTCATTGCGGCAGGATTG	<i>StPIN4</i> real-time PCR primer (amplicon 60 bp)
StPIN4R	CCCATAGCGAAAGAACAAACC	
B5H-F (w <i>Mlu</i> I)	tctACGCGTTCTCAAAGCTTAGAGAGC	Construction of PVX/B5H for RMA of <i>StBEL5</i>
B5H-R (w <i>Eco</i> RV)	tctGATATCGTGGTGATGGTGATGGCTAATCTAATAATGATAGCAC	
B14H-F (w <i>Mlu</i> I)	tctACGCGT GATCATGGCCTTCGTCTTAAG	Construction of PVX/B5H for RMA of <i>StBEL14</i>
B14H-R (w <i>Eco</i> RV)	tctGATATCGTGGTGATGGTGATGTATCATCATTCAACCAATATATTA	
GFP-F	ATGAGTAAAGGAGAAGAACTTTCACTGGAG	GFP RT-PCR primer for RMA (Li et al., 2009)
GFP-R	TTTGTGTCCAAGAATGTTCCATCTTC	
PVX-F	CAAGGTGCGCAGGTTACCAATC	PVX RT-PCR primer for RMA (Li et al., 2009)
PVX-R	GTATGCTGTTCCGTTGTGATCTCTGTGAG	
B5HNP2F	GTTGTGATATTGTCCTCTCAATTGCA	Real-time PCR of B5H for RMA (amplicon 151 bp)
B5HNP2R	ATCGTGGTGATGGTGATGATGGCT	
B14HF	TGGATAGTGAAAATCAGAATTGCC	Real-time PCR of B14H for RMA (amplicon 142 bp)
B14HR	ATCGTGGTGATGGTGATGATGTATCATC	
18SF	GGGCATTCTGATTTCATAGTCAGAG	18S rRNA RT-PCR primer (Nicot et al., 2005)
18SR	CGGTTCTGATTAATGAAAACATCCT	
StAct8F	GGAAAAGCTTGCCTATGTGG	Actin8 real-time PCR primer (Hannapel et al., 2013)
StAct8R	CTGCTCCTGGCAGTTCAA	

RIPB22F	AACATTTGGGACCACTACGG	BEL22 RIP qRT-PCR
RIPB22R	ATCATAATTATGTAGCAGTGTGAATAC	BEL22 RIP qRT-PCR
RIPB5R	ATTTGTTACTTAATTAGTCTCCACTTC	BEL5 RIP qRT-PCR
RIPB5F	TCTTATATTGTGTGAGGCCTCTG	BEL5 RIP qRT-PCR
BEL5GSP2	GTGATATTGTT CCTCTCAATTGCA	GSP for heterograft RNA assay
NT-2	GCAACAGGATTCAATCTTAAGAACT	GSP for heterograft RNA assay