

**Table S7 Primers for qPCR of lignin biosynthetic genes**

| <b>Gene</b>                   | <b>Forward (5'-3')</b>    | <b>Reverse (5'-3')</b>   | <b>Size (bp)</b> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| $\beta$ -Tubulin <sup>1</sup> | GGAGGAGTACCCTGACAGAATGA   | CAGTATCGGAAACCTTTGGTGAT  | 68               |
| PAL                           | GACATCCTGAAGCTCATGTCTG    | ACCGACGTCTTGATGTTCTCC    | 92               |
| C4H                           | G TTCACCGTGTACGGCGACCACT  | GAAGAAGGGCACCGTCATGATCC  | 61               |
| 4CL                           | CTTCCCGACATCGAGATCAACAAC  | CTCATCTTCCCGAAGCAGTAGGC  | 62               |
| C3H                           | GTCGACGAGCAGGTCTTCAAAGC   | CGTGCTCCTCCATGATCTTCAC   | 73               |
| CCoAOMT                       | ACCTCATCGCAGACGAGAAGAAC   | AGCCGCTCGTGGTAGTTGAGGTAG | 91               |
| CCR                           | AGCAGCCGTACAAGTTCTCG      | GAAGGTTCTTCACCGTGTCG     | 96               |
| F5H                           | GGTTCATCGACAAGATCATCGAC   | GTCGGGGCTCTTCCCGCGCTTCAC | 53               |
| COMT                          | TACGGGATGACGGCGTTTCGAGTAC | GTGATGATGACCGAGTGGTTCTT  | 92               |
| CAD                           | ATCAGCTCGTCGTCCAAGAAG     | ACCGTGTCGATGATGTAGTCC    | 128              |