

**S5 Table. Grafted watermelon reference genes ranked according to their expression stability as determined by NormFinder in different sample sets.**

Scion samples under N, P starvation	Stability value (M)	Squash rootstock samples under N, P starvation	Stability value (M)	Bottle gourd rootstocks samples under N, P starvation	Stability value (M)	All scion and rootstocks under normal growth conditions	Stability value (M)
<i>Cla-18S</i>	0.273	<i>CmYLS8</i>	0.155	<i>Lsi-miR166b</i>	0.155	<i>miR166b</i>	0.259
<i>CLYLS8</i>	0.349	<i>Cmo-miR319a</i>	0.245	<i>Lsi-miR167f</i>	0.176	<i>miR167c</i>	0.429
<i>Cla-miR167c</i>	0.364	<i>Cmo-18S</i>	0.263	<i>Lsi-U6</i>	0.280	<i>U6</i>	0.716
<i>Cla-miR167f</i>	0.434	<i>Cmo-miR166b</i>	0.277	<i>LsPP2A</i>	0.292	<i>miR167f</i>	1.313
<i>Cla-miR1</i>	0.451	<i>Cmo-miR167b</i>	0.324	<i>Lsi-18S</i>	0.321	<i>18S</i>	1.503
<i>Cla-miR2</i>	0.470	<i>Cmo-miR167c</i>	0.335	<i>Lsi-miR167c</i>	0.332		
<i>Cla-U6</i>	0.566	<i>Cmo-miR167f</i>	0.355	<i>Lsi-miR166h-3p</i>	0.377		
<i>Cla-miR170</i>	0.597	<i>Cmo-U6</i>	0.422	<i>Lsi-miR398b</i>	0.417		
<i>Cla-miR169n-5p</i>	0.732	<i>CmPP2A</i>	0.492				
<i>Cla-miR166b</i>	0.819	<i>Cmo-miR160a</i>	0.642				
		<i>Cmo-miR3511-3p</i>	0.703				