

Figure S1 The survival rates of seven alfalfa cultivars.

Two months after salt treatment, the survival rates of seven alfalfa cultivars were counted (n=50). All data are shown as mean \pm standard error. Different lowercase letters indicate significant differences among cultivars (Tukey' HSD test; $P < 0.05$).

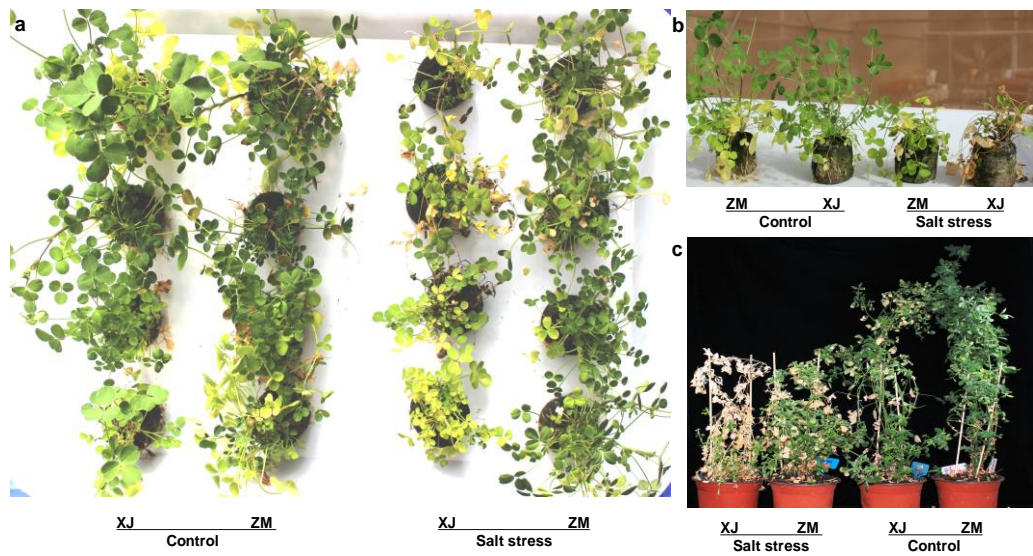


Figure S2 The growth phenotypes of XJ and ZM cultivars.

Thirty days old XJ and ZM plants, which were cultivated in seedling blocks or 1-L pots, were irrigated with water or 0.5 M NaCl solution. Thereafter, plants grown in seedling blocks were further cultivated for 20 days (a) or 30 days (b); plants cultivated in 1-L pots were further cultivated for 40 days (c). The growth phenotypes of the two cultivars were photographed.

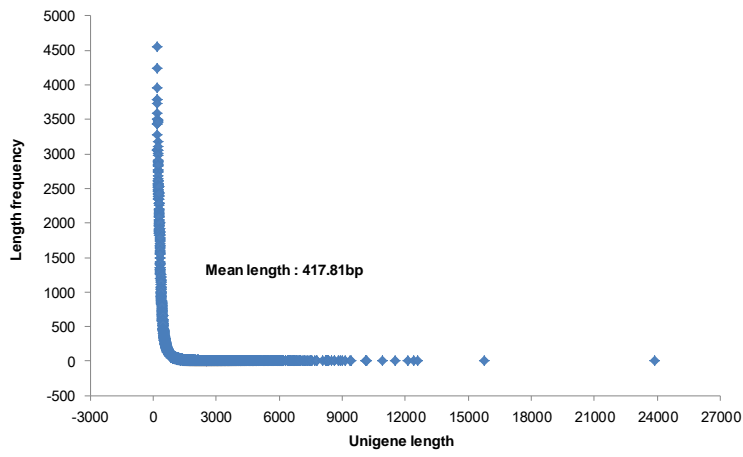


Figure S3 Distribution of the lengths of the assembled unigenes in the transcriptomes of alfalfa leaf tissue.

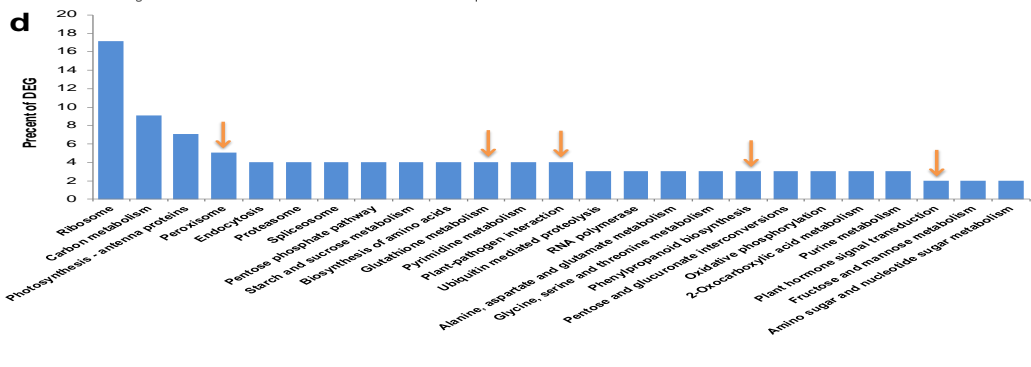
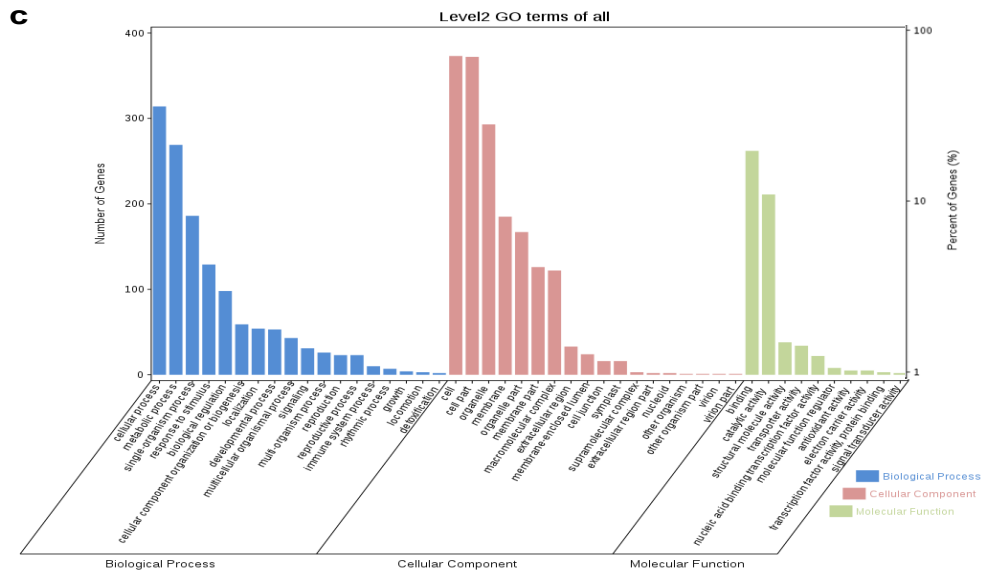
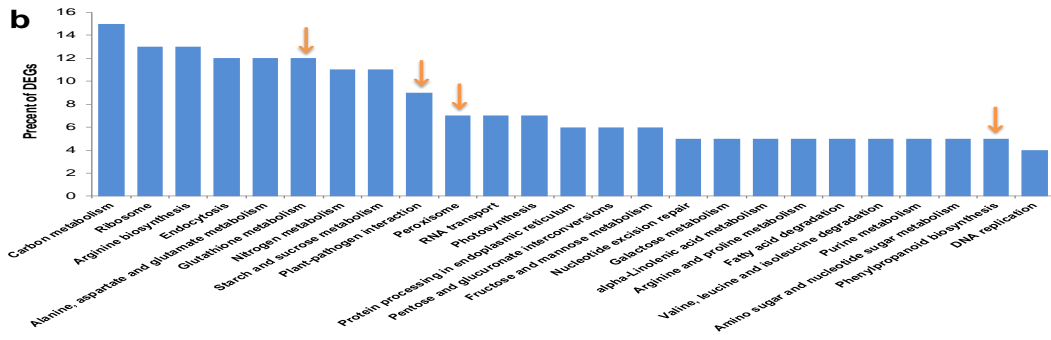
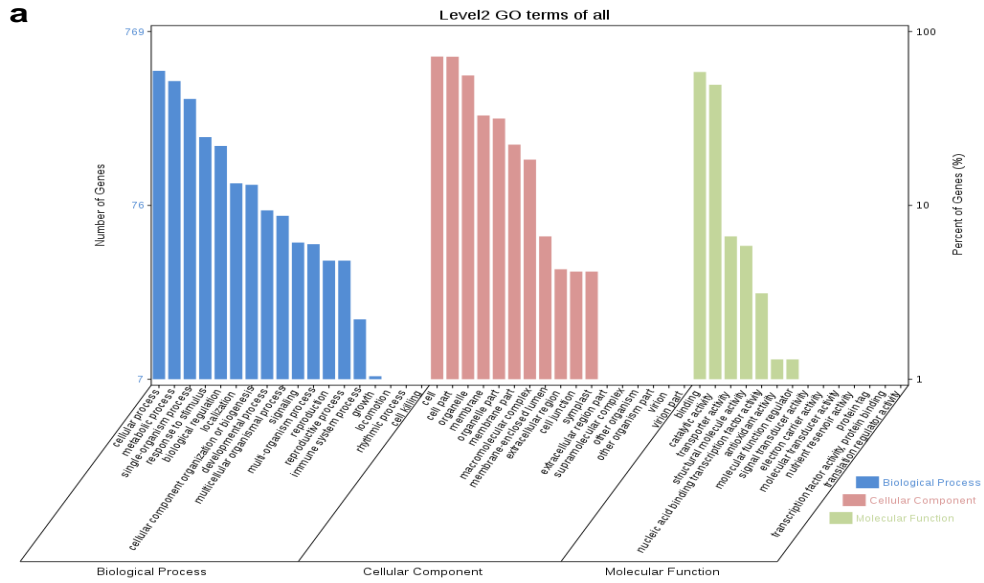


Figure S4 The GO and KEGG annotations of DEGs between XJ and ZM.

In the absence of salt stress, the distribution of these GO terms (a) and KEGG (b) of DEGs between XJ and ZM. Under salt stress conditions, the distribution of these GO terms (c) and KEGG (d) of DEGs between XJ and ZM. The KEGG pathways pointed by arrows represent the pathways contributing to plant stress-resistance in previous studies.

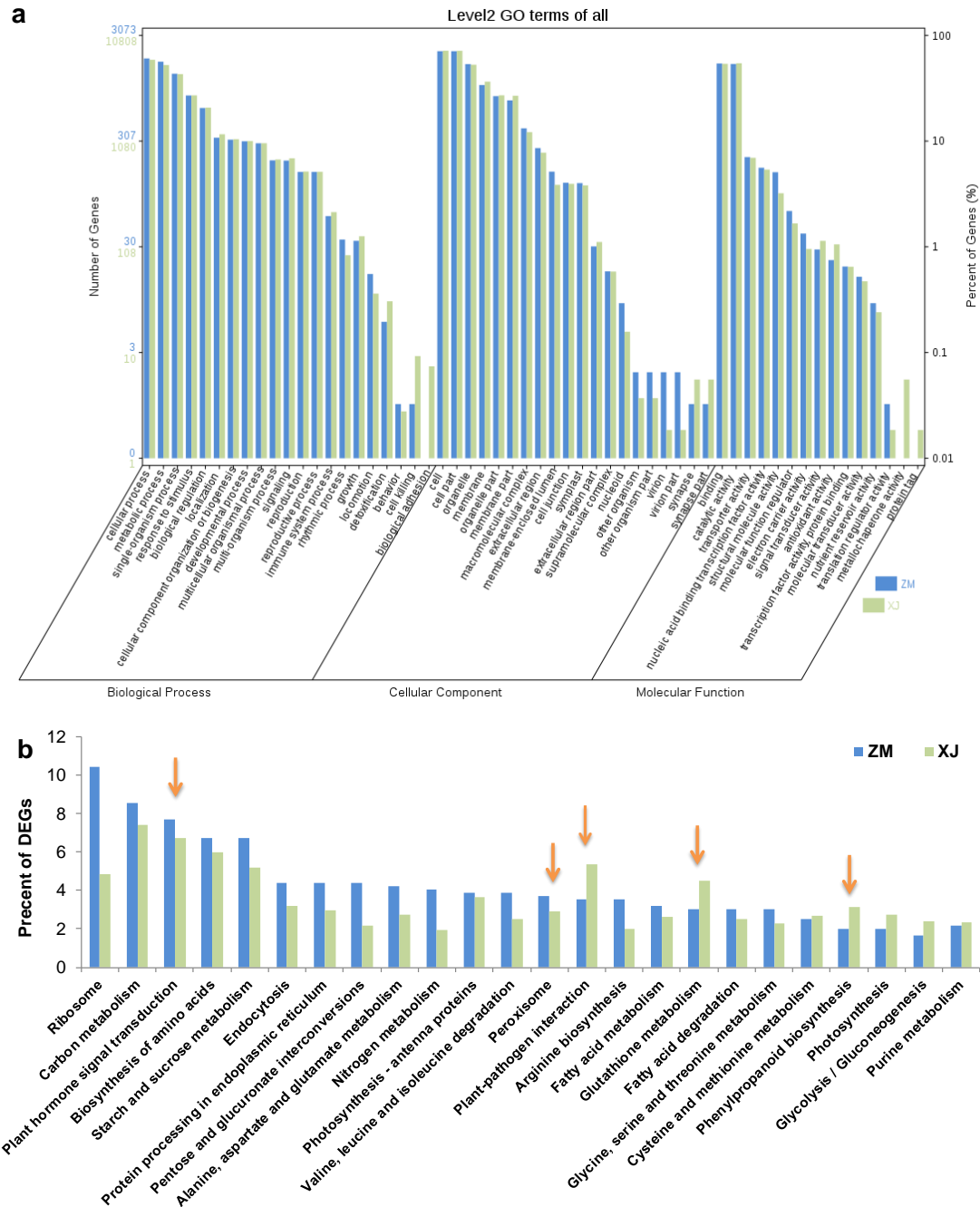


Figure S5 The GO and KEGG annotations of the salt-responsive genes compared between XJ and ZM.

The GO terms (a) and KEGG pathways (b) of salt-responsive genes compared between XJ and ZM. The KEGG pathways pointed by arrows represent the pathways contributing to plant stress-resistance in previous studies.