

Table S2: Oligonucleotides/primers used in this work

Identifier	Sequence	Use/Source
DGEN-1	GGCCACGCGTCGACTAGTCAGNNNNNNNNNNACGCC	Arbitrary PCR (Miller-Williams, Loewen, and Oresnik, 2006) ¹
DGEN-2	GGCCACGCGTCGACTAGTCAG	(Miller-Williams, Loewen, and Oresnik, 2006) ¹
IS50-1	CACGATGAAGAGCAGAAG	(Miller-Williams, Loewen, and Oresnik, 2006) ¹
IS50-2	TAGGAGGTCACATGGAAGTCAGAT	(Oresnik, Pacarynuk, O'Brien, Yost, and Hynes, 1998) ²
lacZ Ext	AGGTTCCGTTTCAGGACGCTACTTGTG	Arbitrary PCR
lacZ Int	CCTCCAGATCCTGGAAAACGGGAA	Arbitrary PCR
Irp knockout F	TGTAGTTCAGGGTCTGGCAGGTAAGGGAAGAAATATATGAGAGACAC TAGTGTAGGCTGGAGCTGCTTC	Site-directed deletion of Irp
Irp knockout R	GAATTCACAGGAGTGTAGCGAAAATATCAGGTTTTGCACCTGCCCTGT GCATATGAATATCCTCCTTA	"
Irp complementation F	CCCGACTGGAAGCGGGCAGTGGGTGGCGTCAATCAACTGCC	In-vivo assembly cloning of Irp with native promoter
Irp complementation R	GTTGCGTCGCGGTGCATGGGACAAGCCCGACGCTGAACC	"
pBBR1MCS F	CACTGCCCCTTTCCAGTCGGG	In-vivo assembly amplification of pBBR1MCS-2 backbone
pBBR1MCS R	CCATGCACCGCGACGCAAC	"
Linker primer	ACTGACATGGAGGAGGGA	(Urban and Vogel, 2007) ³
Irp RACE	GTTTTTGTAGCGAGCTGAGCGGTATAACC	Mapping 5' transcriptional start site of Irp
Irp translational fusion F	GAGATTGACATCCCTATCAGTGATAGAGATACTGAGCACATTATAACGC GACAGGCTCTATGTC	In-vivo assembly of Irp translational fusion
Irp translational fusion R	AGTTCTTCTCCTTGCTCATGAATTCGCCAGAACCTTCGACGTTAGAAAT ACGTCCATC	"
pXG20 F	TGTGCTCAGTATCTCTATCACTGATAGGGATGTCAATCTC	In-vivo assembly amplification of pXG20
pXG20 R	GGTTCTGGCGAATTCATGAGCAAAGGAGAAGAACT	"
Irp qPCR F	CGCATTATCTGGACGCTTCT	
Irp qPCR R	TGTACAGCGGCGTTAAATTG	
Irp promoter F	GAGCTCGGTACCCGGGGATCCTCGGTGGCGTCAATCAACTGCC	In-vivo assembly cloning of Irp promoter
Irp promoter R	CGACCTGAATGGAAGCCGGCCTGCCAGACCCTGAACTACATC	"
pPROBE F	GAGGATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTC	In-vivo assembly amplification of pPROBE-NT
pPROBE R	GCCGGCTTCATTAGGTCG	"
flhDC F	CATGAGCTCGAACCGAATGGTTTTGCCTA	Cloning FlhDC1 into pML123
flhDC R	GTCTCTAGAAAACGTGTGGGTGAGAGGAG	"

¹Miller-Williams, M., Loewen, P. C., & Oresnik, I. J. (2006). Isolation of salt-sensitive mutants of *Sinorhizobium meliloti* strain Rm1021. *Microbiology*, 152(7), 2049-2059.

²Oresnik, I. J., Pacarynuk, L. A., O'Brien, S. A., Yost, C. K., & Hynes, M. F. (1998). Plasmid-encoded catabolic genes in *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii*: evidence for a plant-inducible rhamnose locus involved in competition for nodulation. *Molecular plant-microbe interactions*, 11(12), 1175-1185.

³Urban, J. H., & Vogel, J. (2007). Translational control and target recognition by *Escherichia coli* small RNAs in vivo. *Nucleic acids research*, 35(3), 1018-1037.