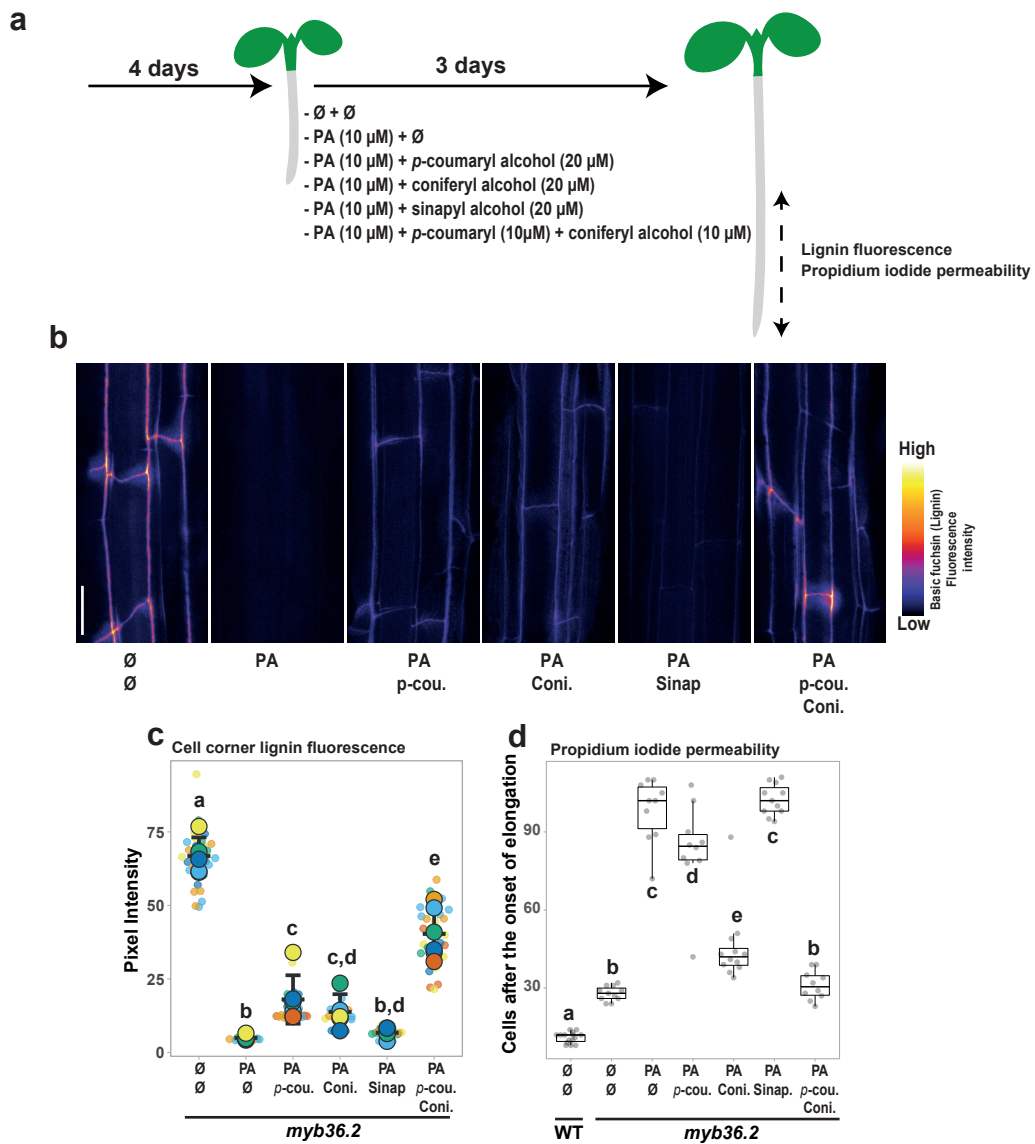


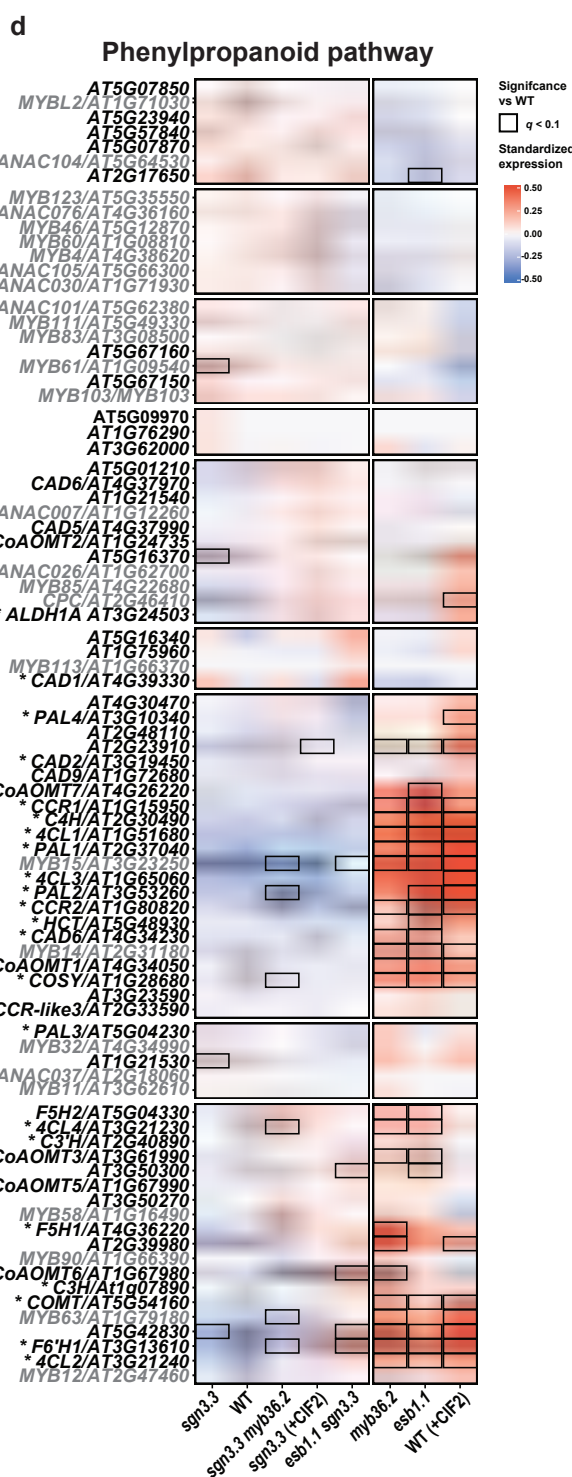
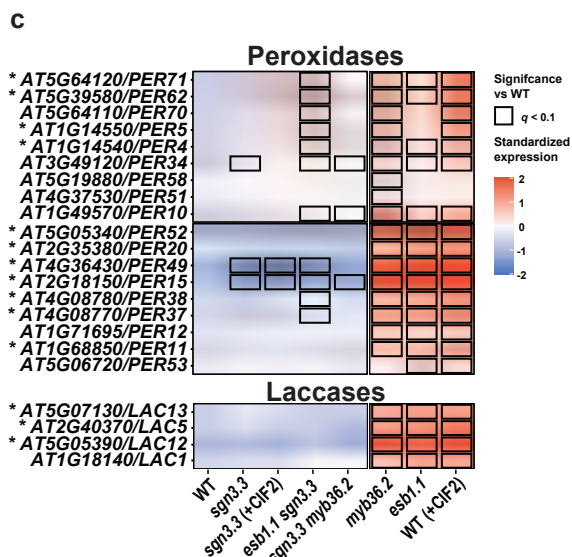
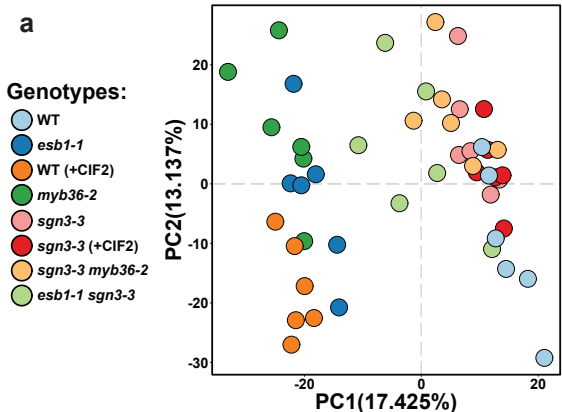
**Supplementary Fig. 1. Activation of the Schengen-pathway triggers the deposition of a distinct “stress” lignin in the endodermis.**

Examples of small Raman maps for endodermal cells of root cross-sections in WT( $\emptyset$ ) and WT(+CIF2) and for xylem of WT( $\emptyset$ ) and WT(+CIF2) used for determining the lignin spectra using Multivariate Curve Resolution (MCR) presented in Fig. 2c, d. The colour code represents the intensity of the lignin factor presented in Fig. 2c, d. Similar small Raman maps were obtained from independent plants for CS lignin of WT (n = 8 plants), cell-corner lignin of WT treated with CIF2 (+CIF2; n = 5 plants), for xylem lignin of WT (n = 2 plants) and xylem lignin of WT treated with CIF2 (n = 2 plants).



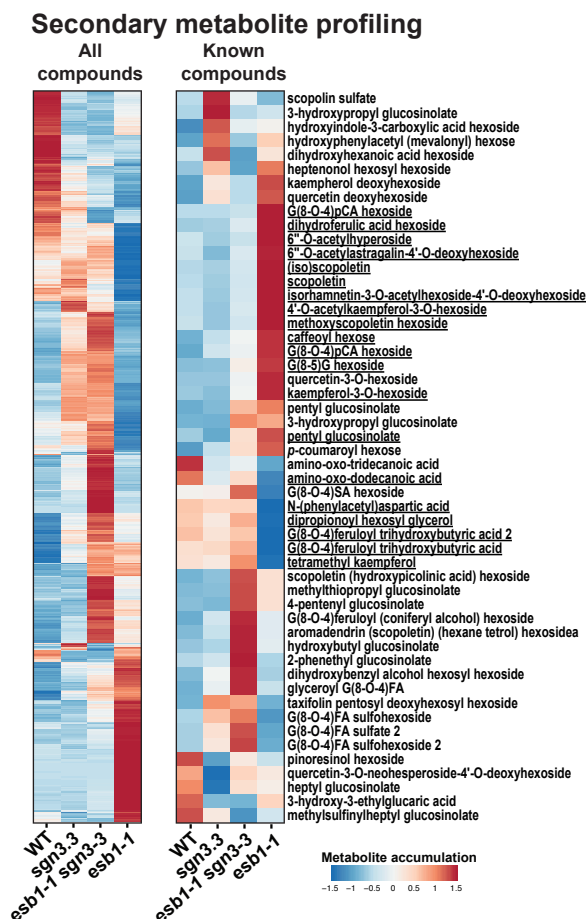
### Supplementary Fig. 2. The lignin compositional changes induced by the Schengen pathway contributes to the sealing of the apoplast.

**a** Scheme of experimental design. The *myb36-2* mutant was germinated for 4 days on control condition and then transferred for three more days on a control media (Ø + Ø), on a media containing 10 µM piperonylic acid only (PA + Ø), or supplemented with 20 µM *p*-coumaryl alcohol (PA + *p*-cou.), with 20 µM coniferyl alcohol (PA + Coni.), with 20 µM sinapyl alcohol (PA + Sinap.) and with the combination of 10 µM *p*-coumaryl alcohol and 10 µM coniferyl alcohol (PA + *p*-cou + Coni.). **b** Maximum intensity projection of the top endodermal cells at ~20 cells after the onset of elongation in roots stained with Basic fuchsin (lignin). Scale bar = 25 µm. Representative pictures are shown. The experiment was repeated two times independently with similar results. **c** Fluorescence intensity of lignin stained using Basic fuchsin in the cortex-facing cell wall corner of endodermal cells at ~20 cells after the onset of elongation in *myb36-2*. Individual data points (small dots) represent the pixel intensity for one endodermal cell. Measurements of pixel intensity were performed in 3 to 6 individual cells per plants and measurements were performed in 5 plants for (Ø + Ø), 4 plants for (PA + Ø), 6 plants for (PA + *p*-cou.), 5 plants for (PA + coni.), 5 plants for (PA + Sinap.) and 6 plants for (PA + *p*-cou + Coni.). Large dots represent the mean of pixel intensity measured in each plant. Black lines represent the mean and standard deviation for each treatment. Letters show significantly different treatments determined by an ANOVA and Tukey's test as post hoc analyses ( $p < 0.01$ ). **d** Boxplot showing the number of cells from the onset of elongation permeable to propidium iodide in wild-type (WT) and *myb36.2* in control condition (Ø + Ø) and after pharmacological treatments described in (a) for *myb36.2*. Measurements were performed in 15 plants for WT (Ø + Ø) WT, 11 plants for *myb36.2* (Ø + Ø), 10 plants for *myb36.2* (PA + Ø), 10 plants for *myb36.2* (PA + *p*-cou.), 12 plants for *myb36.2* (PA + *p*-con.), 11 plants for *myb36.2* (PA + Sinap.) and 10 plants for *myb36.2* (PA + *p*-cou + Coni.). Center lines show the medians; box limits indicate the 25th and 75th percentiles. Different letters represent significant differences between treatments using a two-sided Mann-Whitney test ( $p < 0.05$ ).



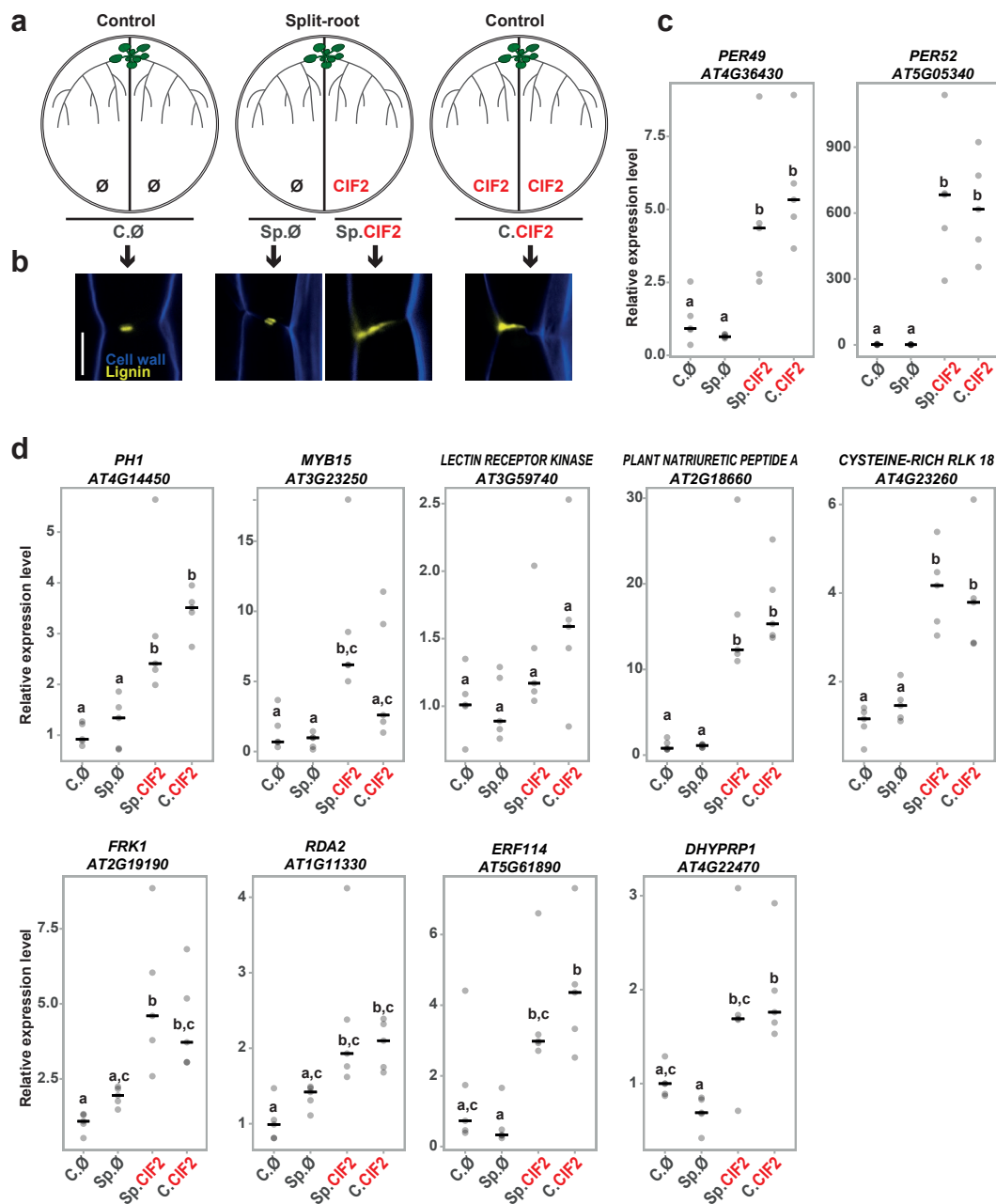
**Supplementary Fig. 3. Gene expression profiling in response to the activation of the Schengen-pathway.**

**a** Principal component analysis (PCA) of the differentially expressed genes identified in root tips of wild-type (WT), *sgn3-3*, *esb1-1*, *myb36-2*, *esb1-1 sgn3-3*, *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants. Treatment with 100 nM CIF2 was applied as indicated (+CIF2) for WT and *sgn3-3* plants (n = 6 biological replicates from two independent experiments). **b** Gene ontology enrichment in the different gene clusters from Fig. 3a. The colour of each point represents the p-value adjusted using the Benjamin-Hochberg procedure, and the size of each point denotes the percentage of total differential expressed genes in the given gene ontology term (Gene Ratio). **c** Heatmap of gene expression for peroxidases and laccases that are upregulated by the constitutive activation of the Schengen pathway as defined by the Cluster 1 (C1) of the Fig. 3a. Asterisks indicate genes previously identified as upregulated in response to CIF2<sup>1</sup>. **d** Heatmap of gene expression of genes related to the phenylpropanoid pathway (black)<sup>2</sup> and their transcriptional regulators (grey)<sup>3,4</sup>. Genes names are given according to<sup>5</sup> for genes related to the phenylpropanoid pathway. Asterisks indicate demonstrated function in lignin biosynthesis with an activity demonstrated *in vitro* or *in vivo* for *PALI-4*<sup>6</sup>, *C4H*<sup>7</sup>, *4CL1-4*<sup>8,9</sup>, *CCR1* and *2*<sup>10,11</sup>, *CAD1*, *2* and *6*<sup>12,13</sup>, *C3'H*<sup>14</sup>, *C3H*<sup>15</sup>, *COMT* and *CCoAOMT1*<sup>16</sup>, *HCT*<sup>17</sup>, *CSE*<sup>18</sup>, *ALDH1A*<sup>19</sup>, *F6'HI*<sup>20</sup>, *COSY*<sup>21</sup> and *F5HI*<sup>22</sup>.



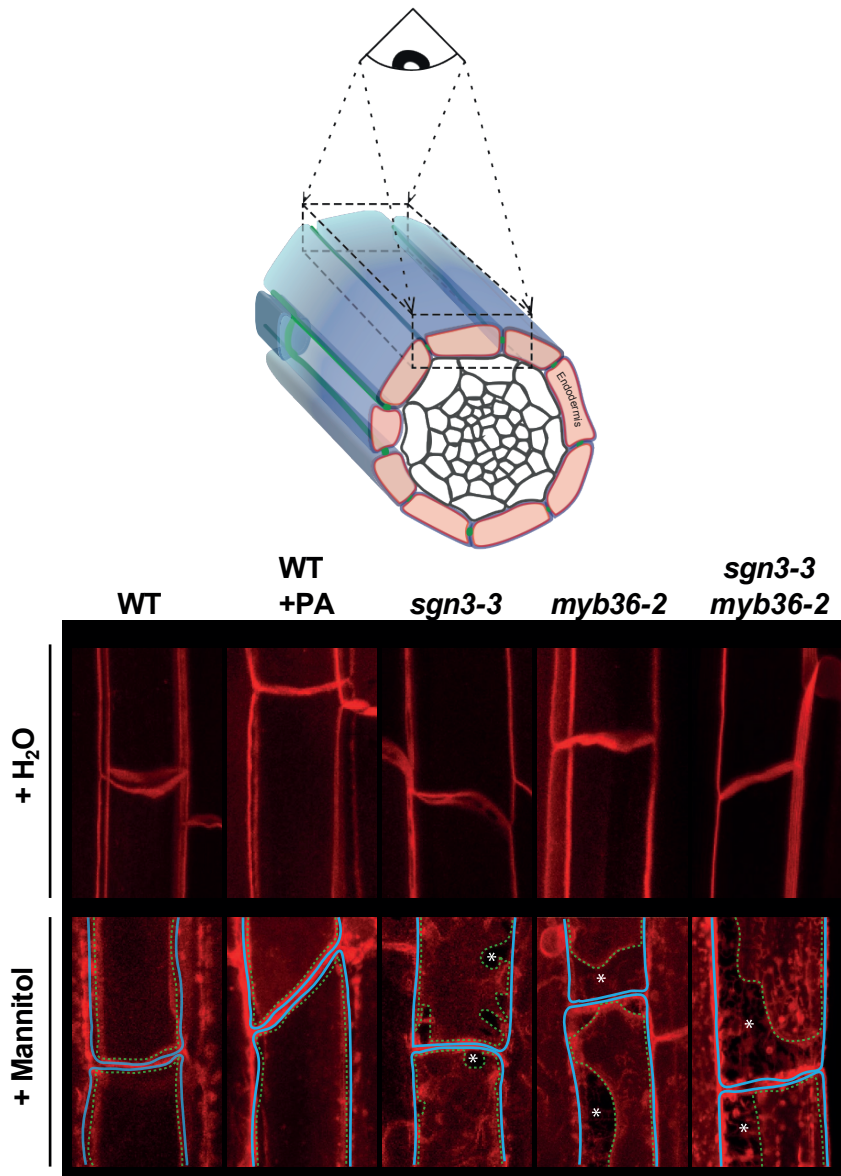
### Supplementary Fig. 4. Metabolite profiling in response to the activation of the Schengen-pathway.

Heatmaps of metabolite profiling determined using Ultra High Performance Liquid Chromatography (UHPLC) in 5 mm roots tips of wild-type (WT), *sgn3-3*, *esb1-1 sgn3-3* and *esb1-1*. The heatmaps show all the compounds (2497, left) and characterised compounds (52, right) that are differentially accumulated ( $q$ -value < 0.01, left;  $q$ -value < 0.1, right  $n = 8$  biological replicates from two independent experiments). Underlined names are for compounds that are only differentially accumulated ( $q$ -value < 0.1) in *esb1-1* and not changed in *sgn3-3* and *esb1-1 sgn3-3* in comparison with WT. Data for the known compounds are presented in Supplementary Data 3.



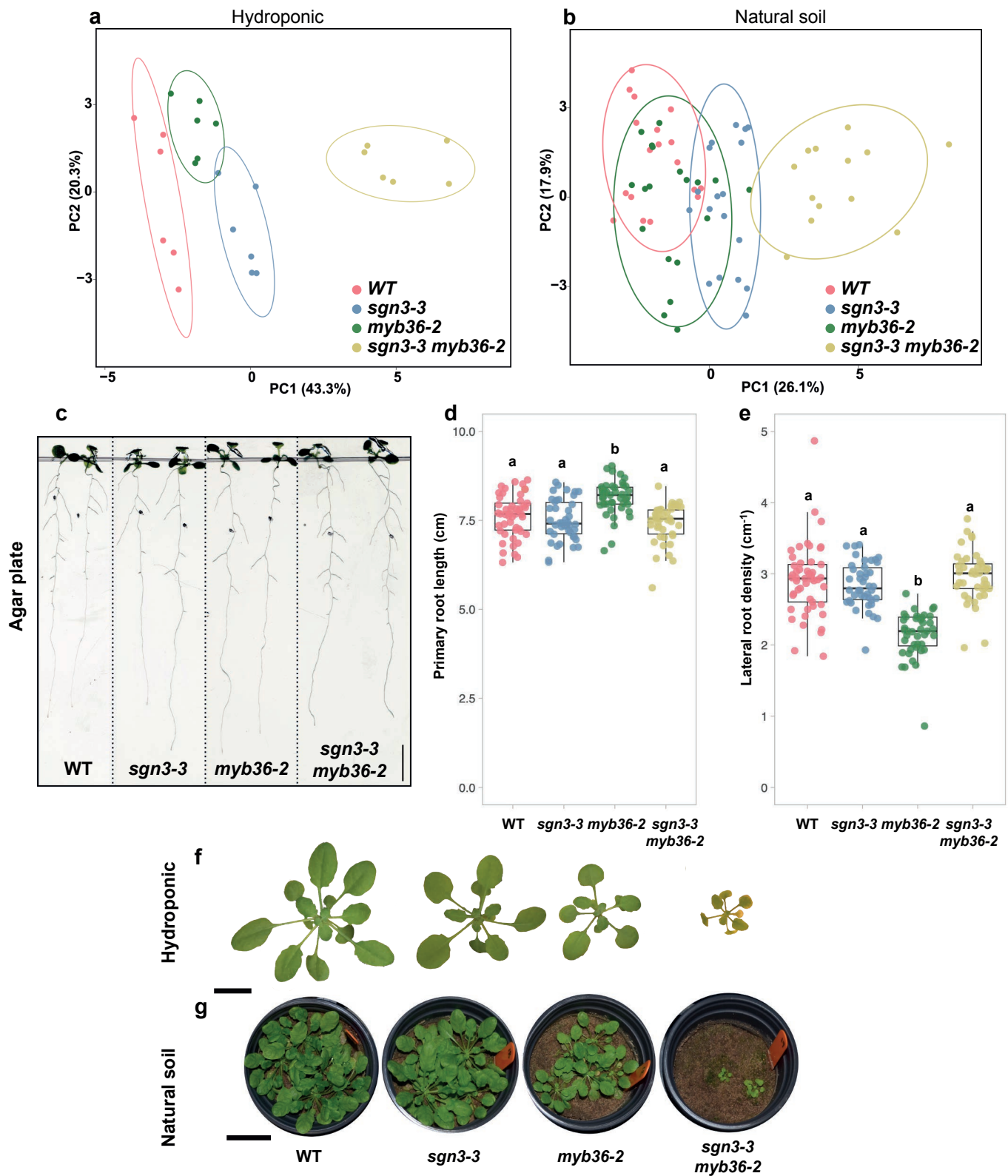
### Supplementary Fig. 5. Activation of the Schengen-pathway triggers local lignification and induction of defense-related genes.

**a.** Scheme of experimental design. Twelve day-old wild-type plants were transferred on round plates containing two compartments. The compartments were filled with control media on both compartments (C.Ø), media supplemented with 100 nM CIF2 on both compartments (C.CIF2) or media only on one side (Sp.Ø) and media supplemented with 100 nM CIF2 (Sp.CIF2) on the other side for the split condition. Plants were grown for 3 more days on these plates and then the roots exposed to each compartment were harvested. **b.** Median view of endodermal cells stained with Direct Yellow 96 (cell wall, blue) and Basic Fuchsin (lignin, yellow). Cells were imaged at 15 cells after the onset of elongation. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m. Representative pictures are shown. Similar results were observed in at least 5 plants. **c.** Gene expression of *Peroxidase 49* and *52* (*PER49* and *52*) determined by qPCR on each compartment described in a. **d.** Gene expression of genes related to defense (*PH1*, *MYB15*, *LECTIN RECEPTOR KINASE*, *PLANT NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE A*, *CYSTEINE-RICH RLK 18*, *FRK1*, *RDA2*, *ERF114* and *DHYPRP1*) determined by qPCR. Different letters in panels a et b indicate significant differences between treatments determined by an ANOVA and Tukey's test as post hoc analyses ( $p < 0.05$ ,  $n = 6$  biological replicates). Horizontal black lines indicate median values.



**Supplementary Fig. 6. Plasma membrane attachment to the cell wall.**

Maximum projection of the top endodermal cells as shown in the schematic view. The observations were done in lines expressing the plasma membrane marker line pELTP::SYP122mCitrine before plasmolysis (+H<sub>2</sub>O) and after plasmolysis (+Mannitol) at 15 cells after the onset of elongation. The dashed line represents the contours of the cells. Asterisks show the plasmolysis generated space where no attachment is observed. Scale bar = 5  $\mu$ m. Representative pictures are shown. The experiment was repeated three times independently with similar results.



**Supplementary Fig. 7. Absence of endodermal apoplastic barrier triggers major ionic changes in different growth conditions.**

**a, b** Principal component analysis (PCA) based on the concentration of 20 elements in shoots of WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36.3* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants grown in **(a)** hydroponics (short day, n=6) and **(b)** natural soil (short day, n = 18 for WT, n = 18 for *sgn3-3*, n = 18 for *myb36-2* and n = 13 for *sgn3-3 myb36-2*). Ellipses show confidence level at a rate of 90%. **c** Pictures of 2-week-old wild-type (WT), *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants grown in agar plates. **d, e** Boxplots showing the primary root length (**d**) and lateral roots density (**e**) of 2-week-old WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants grown in agar plates. Letters show significantly different groups determined by an ANOVA and a Tukey's test as post hoc analyses (n = 49 for WT, n = 42 for *sgn3-3*, n = 43 for *myb36-2* and n = 41 for *sgn3-3 myb36-2*),  $p < 0.01$ ). Center lines show the medians; box limits indicate the 25th and 75th percentiles. **f** Pictures of 5-week-old WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants grown in hydroponics. Scale bar = 1 cm. **g** Pictures of 9-week-old WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants grown in natural soil. Scale bar = 3 cm.





**Supplementary Fig. 8. Activation of the Schengen-pathway maintains plant growth under fluctuating environment.**

**a** Quantification of suberin staining along the root of 6 days-old plants. The results are expressed in percentage of root length divided in three zones: unsuberised (white), discontinuously suberised (yellow), continuously suberised (orange).  $n = 7$  individual plants, error bars: SD, the centre of the error bars represents the mean. Individual letters show significant differences using a two-sided Mann-Whitney test between the same zones ( $p < 0.01$ ). The experiment was repeated two times independently with similar results. **b** Graphs showing leaf surface area of WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2*, *sgn3-3 myb36-2*, WT-*pELTP::CDEF* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2-pELTP::CDEF* plants germinated in soil with a high humidity (80%) for 7 days and then transferred in an environment with constant (80% RH, blue) or with a lower humidity (60% RH, red). Data were collected at 0, 2, 5 and 8 days after the transfer. Each point is the average leaf surface per plant from a single pot ( $n = 36$  pots at 0 day for each genotype,  $n = 6$  pots at 2, 5 and 8 days for each genotype). Each pot contained at least 6 plants for each genotype. The line shows the average value for each measured time points. Black asterisk indicates a significant difference between high and low humidity for a same genotype at one time point. Blue and red asterisk indicate a significant difference in comparison with WT at the same time point respectively for the high and low humidity environment. The significant differences were determined by an ANOVA and a Tukey's test as post hoc analyses ( $p < 0.01$ ). **c** Graphs showing ions accumulation (Z-score) in shoots of WT, *sgn3-3*, *myb36-2* and *sgn3-3 myb36-2* plants germinated in soil with a high humidity (80%) for 10 days and then transferred in an environment with constant (80% RH, "High" in blue) or with a lower humidity (60% RH, "Low" in red) for 5 more days. Large dots represent the median value for each genotypes and small dots represent individual replicates ( $n = 9$  biological replicates). Thick lines indicate a significant difference using a two-sided *t*-test ( $p < 0.05$ ).

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