

Fig. S1. Simulated *M. separata* herbivory-induced priming is conserved in different maize lines and requires perception of OS.

(A) *M. separata* growth on simulated herbivory-pretreated maize lines B73, W22, and A188. The third leaves (L3) of maize seedlings were treated with W+OS (one row a day) for four consecutive days (pretreatment group), while in the control group, L3 were untreated. The plants were rested for another 7 days, before *M. separata* larvae were infested on the fourth leaves (L4) (one caterpillar/plant). The masses of insects after 48 h of feeding were recorded.

(B) *M. separata* growths on control and wounding-pretreated A188 seedlings. Maize (A188) L3 were treated with W+W (one row a day) for four consecutive days (pretreatment group), while in the control group, L3 were untreated. After 7 days of resting, the fourth leaves were infested with *M. separata* larvae (two neonates/plant), and the insect masses were recorded after 48 h of feeding (no significant differences were detected between control and pretreatment group). Data are mean \pm SE; Student's *t*-test; ***, $P < 0.001$; $n = 25$.

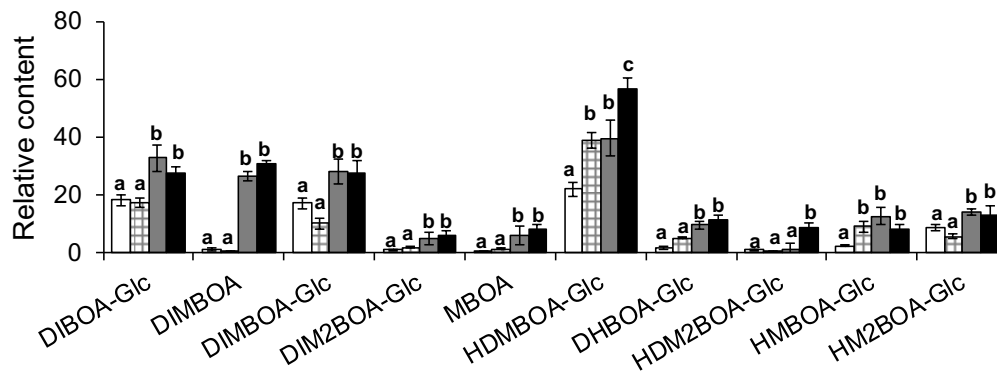


Fig. S2. More than one time of simulated *M. separata* treatment is required to induce priming in maize systemic leaves.

Maize third leaves were untreated or pretreated with W+OS as illustrated in Figure 1A, except that the treatment was performed without any time intervals. After 7 days of resting, the fourth leaves were kept untreated or treated with W+OS and harvested after 2 days for quantification of Bxs. In legends, 3 and 4 depict leaf positions, (+) and (–) respectively indicate treatment and no treatment. Data are means \pm SE (n = 5). Different small letters indicate significant differences within same compounds determined by one-way ANOVA ($P < 0.05$; post-hoc tests).

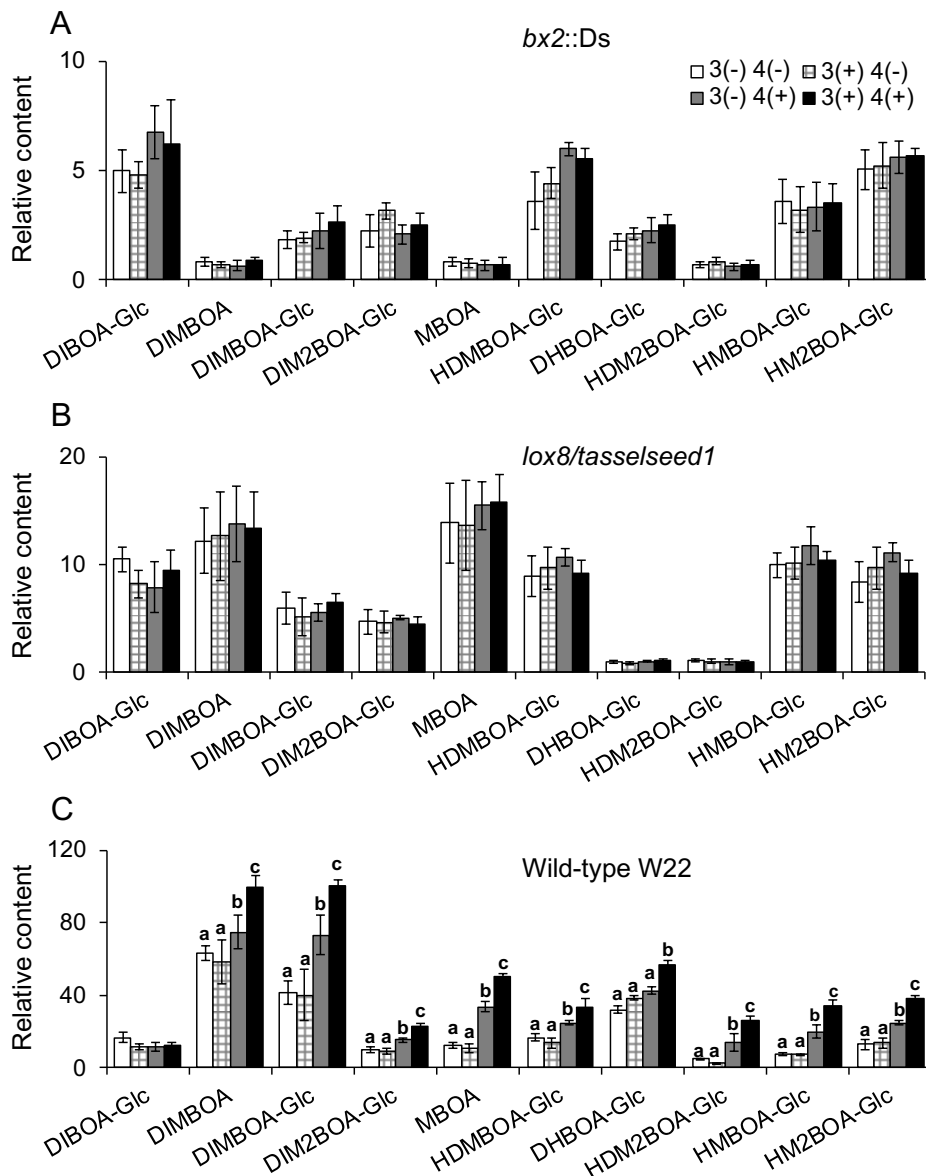


Fig. S3. *Bx2* and *lox8/tasselseed1* mutants do not exhibit priming-induced elevation of Bxs.

The third leaf of wild-type maize (W22) and mutants *bx2::Ds* and *lox8/tasselseed1* were untreated (control) or pretreated with W+OS for consecutively 4 days (pretreatment), as shown in Figure 1A. After resting of 7 days, the fourth leaves were untreated or treated with W+OS (indicated as 4(-) and 4(+) respectively). After another 2 days, the contents of Bxs were analysed in fourth leaves. Data are means \pm SE (n = 5). Different small letters indicate significant differences within same compounds determined by one-way ANOVA ($P < 0.05$; post-hoc tests).

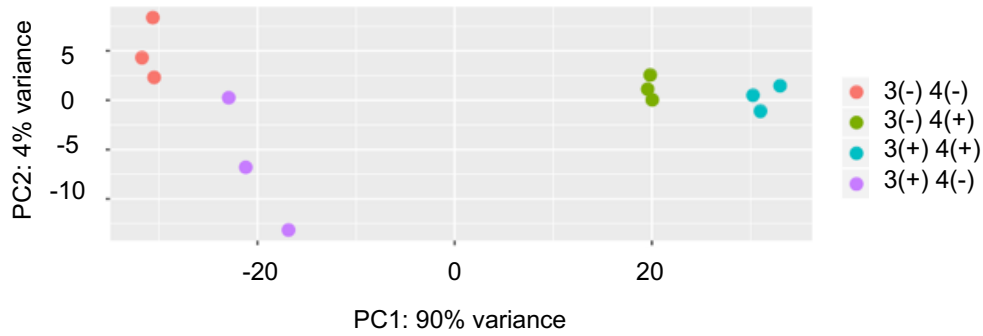


Fig. S4. Overview of RNA-seq data from maize fourth leaves after different treatments.

Maize (A188) third leaves were untreated or pretreated with W+OS for 4 consecutive days (3(-) and 3(+), respectively). After 7 days of resting, the fourth leaves were untreated or treated with W+OS (4(-) and 4(+), respectively). After another 6 h, samples of fourth leaves were collected for RNA-seq analysis. PLS-DA plot was drawn using count data table of 3(-)4(-), 3(+)-4(-), 3(-)4(+), and 3(+)-4(+ groups.

JA biosynthesis and catabolic genes

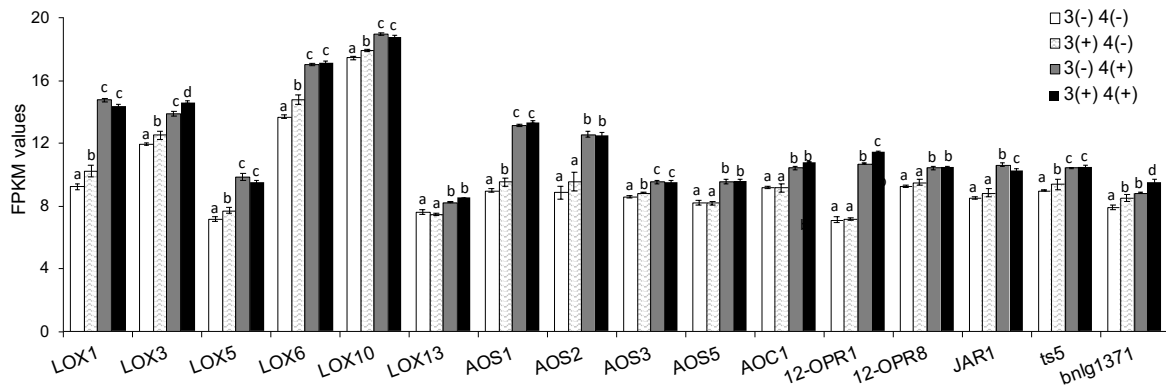


Fig. S5. JA biosynthesis and catabolism genes in 3(-) 4(+) and 3(+) 4(+) group do not have different transcript levels.

Maize (A188) third leaves were untreated or pretreated with W+OS for 4 consecutive days (3(-) and 3(+), respectively). After 7 days of resting, the fourth leaves were untreated or treated with W+OS (4(-) and 4(+), respectively). After another 6 h, samples of fourth leaves were collected for analyzing global transcriptomic changes. The relative transcript levels of genes involved in JA biosynthesis and catabolism were retrieved from the RNA-seq data (n = 3). Different small letters indicate significant differences within same gene determined by one-way ANOVA ($P < 0.05$; post-hoc tests).

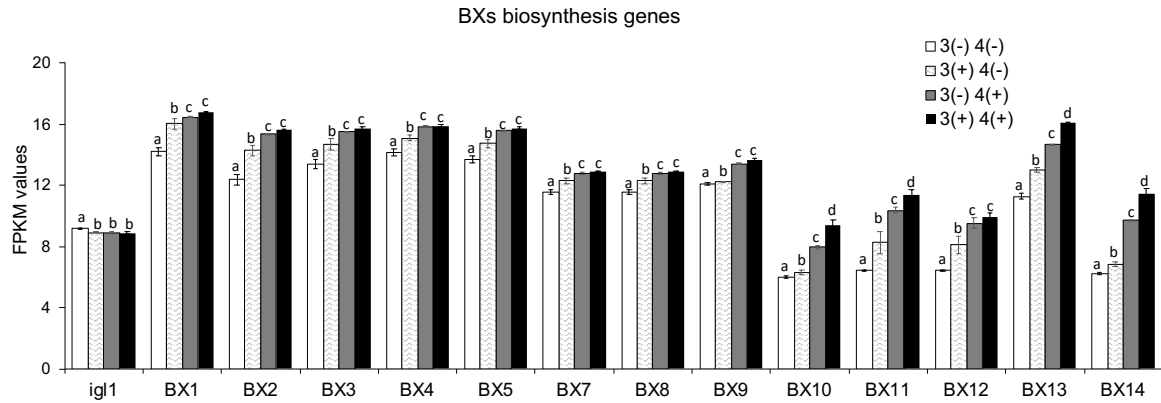


Fig. S6. Most Bx biosynthesis genes in 3(-) 4(+) and 3(+) 4(+) group do not have different transcript levels.

Maize (A188) third leaves were untreated or pretreated with W+OS for 4 consecutive days (3(-) and 3(+), respectively). After 7 days of resting, the fourth leaves were untreated or treated with W+OS (4(-) and 4(+), respectively). After another 6 h, samples of fourth leaves were collected for analyzing global transcriptomic changes. The relative transcript levels of genes involved in Bx biosynthesis were retrieved from the RNA-seq data (n = 3). Different small letters indicate significant differences within same gene determined by one-way ANOVA ($P < 0.05$; post-hoc tests).