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| **Supplementary File 5. List of primers used for qPCR or qRT-PCR in this study.** |
| Target gene | Forward Primer (5’-3’)Reverse Primer (5’-3’) | Primer pair efficiency |  Reference |
|
| (1) RT-qPCR |
| *NbAGO4-1* | F: TGGTGAAGTGCAAACATCGG | 106.7% | This study |
| R: TTGCAATGAGACCAACGAGC |
| *NbAGO4-2* | F: GCCTTGCATCAATGTTGGGA | 101.1% | This study |
| R: TGAGGGCATTGCTTAGGACT |
| *NbAGO6* | F: GCTAGTGCACCGGAAAATGT | 88.6% | This study |
| R: ATAGAGGTCGCAGTCGTGCT |
| *NbTubulin* | F: CAAGATGCTACTGCAGACGAG | 99.7% | Liu et al., 2012 |
| R: CTGGAAGTTGTGGTTTTGGC |
| *Nbcoilin* | F: TGTGCCCAAGGAAGGTCTTGTG | 96.6% | This study |
| R: GGCATCAGCAGAACTCTATTTGCTTCA |
| *SlAGO4a* | F: TCAAATGGGACAGTGGATGA | 95.9% | This study |
| R: TTTCTCCTCGAGCTTTGGAA |
| *SlAGO4b* | F: GGGTCAATGGATGAAATTCG | 98.7% | This study |
| R: GGGGCAATTGAGGAACAGTA |
| *SlAGO4c* | F: TCAGGGATGGTGTCAGTGAA | 103.9% | This study |
| R: GGGCGACCACTTTTCATCTA |
| *SlAGO4d* | F: AAGGCAAAGAGGATGCTGAA | 95.8% | This study |
| R: CAACGTTAATGCAGGGGAGT |
| *SlActin* | F: CCTCAGCACATTCCAGCAG | 92.1% | Exposito-Rodriguez et al., 2008 |
| R: CCACCAAACTTCTCCATCCC |
| (2) qPCR for virus accumulation |
| Rep | F: TGAGAACGTCGTGTCTTCCG | 94.80% | Wang et al., 2017b |
| R: TGACGTTGTACCACGCATCA |
| *ITS* | F: ATAACCGCATCAGGTCTCCA  | 101.1% | Mason et al., 2008 |
| R: CCGAAGTTACGGATCCATTT |
| (3) qPCR following ChIP or RIP in *Nicotiana benthamiana* |
| IR | F: CGGTGTCCCTCAAAGCTCTA | 88.1% | This study |
| R: TAGCCATTAGGTGTCCAGGT |
| V2 | F: AATCATTTCCACGCCCGTCT | 89.2% | This study |
| R: GTACGTCCATGATCGTCGCT |
| *Actin* | F: CGGAATCCACGAGACTACATAC | 108.1% | Maimbo et al., 2010  |
| R: GGGAAGCCAAGATAGAGC |