**Supplementary Table 1**

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| **Sequence ID** | **Target description** | **Primers for RT-qPCR** | | Reference |
| **Forward primer** | **Reverse primer** |
| GRMZM2G118345 | phenylalanine ammonia-lyase | TACTGCTCCGAGCTCCAGTT | AACGTCGACGACATGAGCTT | Lanubile et al., 2014 |
| AC205274.3\_FG001 | pathogenesis-related maize protein | ATCCAACAAGCTCGCAGTCT | CTCTGTGCGGCGTACTTCTC | Lanubile et al., 2014 |
| GRMZM2G12503 | β-glucanase | TCCATTCCTACAACCGTGCA | GATGCCCTTGGACCTGTAGA | Lanubile et al., 2014 |
| GRMZM2G109056 | lipoxygenase | TACCGTGACACGCTGAACAT | CACAGCCACACCTCTCTTGA | Lanubile et al., 2014 |
| GRMZM2G125032 | Chitinase | CCTCGCGAAAAGTAAACCAA | CATGCTGCAAACGGAAAGTA | Campos-Bermudez et al., 2013 |
| GRMZM2G320373 | Lipid-transfer protein | GTACAAGAGGAACCCCAGCA | GCCCAAAGGTGCTCAAGTAG | Campos-Bermudez et al., 2013 |
| GRMZM2G126010 | Actin 1 | CTTCGAATGCCCAGCAAT | CGGAGAATAGCATGAGGAAG | Campos-Bermudez et al., 2015 |