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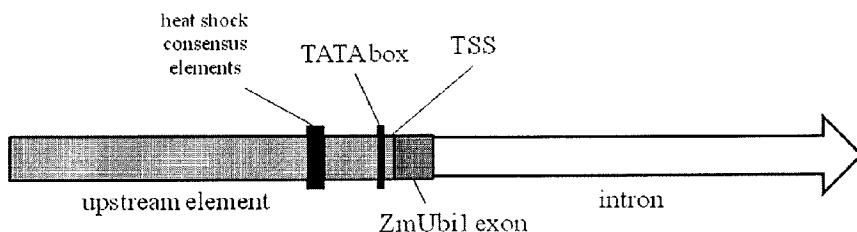
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(54) Titre : PROCEDE ET CONSTRUCTION POUR UN PROMOTEUR BIDIRECTIONNEL SYNTHETIQUE DE PLANTE SCBV

(54) Title: METHOD AND CONSTRUCT FOR SYNTHETIC BIDIRECTIONAL SCBV PLANT PROMOTER



maize Ubil promoter

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

Provided are constructs and methods for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or plant tissues. The constructs provided comprise at least one bi directional promoter linked to multiple gene expression cassettes, wherein the bi directional promoter comprises a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In some embodiments, the constructs and methods provided employs a bi directional promoter based on a minimal core promoter element from a Zea mays Ubiquitin 1 gene, or a functional equivalent thereof, and nucleotide sequence elements from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In some embodiments, the constructs and methods provided allow expression of genes between three and twenty.

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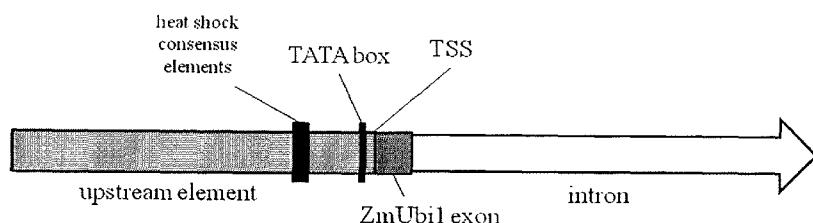
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(54) Title: METHOD AND CONSTRUCT FOR SYNTHETIC BIDIRECTIONAL SCBV PLANT PROMOTER



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(57) Abstract: Provided are constructs and methods for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or plant tissues. The constructs provided comprise at least one bi directional promoter linked to multiple gene expression cassettes, wherein the bi directional promoter comprises a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In some embodiments, the constructs and methods provided employs a bi directional promoter based on a minimal core promoter element from a Zea mays Ubiquitin 1 gene, or a functional equivalent thereof, and nucleotide sequence elements from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In some embodiments, the constructs and methods provided allow expression of genes between three and twenty.

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METHOD AND CONSTRUCT FOR SYNTHETIC BIDIRECTIONAL SCBV PLANT PROMOTER

PRIORITY CLAIM

5 This application claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 61/582,148 filed December 30, 2011. This application also claims benefit of the filing date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 61/641,956 filed May 3, 2012.

10

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention is generally related to the field of plant molecular biology, and more specifically the field of stable expression of multiple genes in transgenic plants.

BACKGROUND

15 Many plant species are capable of being transformed with transgenes from other species to introduce agronomically desirable traits or characteristics, for example, improving nutritional value quality, increasing yield, conferring pest or disease resistance, increasing drought and stress tolerance, improving horticultural qualities (such as pigmentation and growth), imparting herbicide resistance, enabling the 20 production of industrially useful compounds and/or materials from the plant, and/or enabling the production of pharmaceuticals. The introduction of transgenes into plant cells and the subsequent recovery of fertile transgenic plants that contain a stably integrated copy of the transgene can be used to produce transgenic plants that possess the desirable traits.

25 Control and regulation of gene expression can occur through numerous mechanisms. Transcription initiation of a gene is a predominant controlling mechanism of gene expression. Initiation of transcription is generally controlled by polynucleotide sequences located in the 5'- flanking or upstream region of the transcribed gene. These sequences are collectively referred to as promoters. Promoters 30 generally contain signals for RNA polymerase to begin transcription so that messenger RNA (mRNA) can be produced. Mature mRNA is translated by ribosome, thereby synthesizing proteins. DNA-binding proteins interact specifically with promoter DNA

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sequences to promote the formation of a transcriptional complex and initiate the gene expression process. There are a variety of eukaryotic promoters isolated and characterized from plants that are functional for driving the expression of a transgene in plants. Promoters that affect gene expression in response to environmental stimuli, 5 nutrient availability, or adverse conditions including heat shock, anaerobiosis, or the presence of heavy metals have been isolated and characterized. There are also promoters that control gene expression during development or in a tissue, or organ specific fashion. In addition, prokaryotic promoters isolated from bacteria and virus have been isolated and characterized that are functional for driving the expression of a 10 transgene in plants.

A typical eukaryotic promoter consists of a minimal promoter and other *cis*-elements. The minimal promoter is essentially a TATA box region where RNA polymerase II (polII), TATA-binding protein (TBP), and TBP-associated factors (TAFs) may bind to initiate transcription. However in most instances, sequence 15 elements other than the TATA motif are required for accurate transcription. Such sequence elements (e.g., enhancers) have been found to elevate the overall level of expression of the nearby genes, often in a position- and/or orientation-independent manner. Other sequences near the transcription start site (e.g., INR sequences) of some polII genes may provide an alternate binding site for factors that also contribute to 20 transcriptional activation, even alternatively providing the core promoter binding sites for transcription in promoters that lack functional TATA elements. See e.g., Zenzie-Gregory et al. (1992) *J. Biol. Chem.* 267: 2823-30.

Other gene regulatory elements include sequences that interact with specific 25 DNA-binding factors. These sequence motifs are sometimes referred to as *cis*-elements, and are usually position- and orientation-dependent, though they may be found 5' or 3' to a gene's coding sequence, or in an intron. Such *cis*-elements, to which tissue-specific or development-specific transcription factors bind, individually or in combination, may determine the spatiotemporal expression pattern of a promoter at the transcriptional level. The arrangement of upstream *cis*-elements, followed by a 30 minimal promoter, typically establishes the polarity of a particular promoter. Promoters in plants that have been cloned and widely used for both basic research and biotechnological application are generally unidirectional, directing only one gene that

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has been fused at its 3' end (*i.e.*, downstream). See, for example, Xie et al. (2001) *Nat. Biotechnol.* 19(7):677-9; U.S. Patent No. 6,388,170.

Many *cis*-elements (or “upstream regulatory sequences”) have been identified in plant promoters. These *cis*-elements vary widely in the type of control they exert on operably linked genes. Some elements act to increase the transcription of operably linked genes in response to environmental responses (*e.g.*, temperature, moisture, and wounding). Other *cis*-elements may respond to developmental cues (*e.g.*, germination, seed maturation, and flowering) or to spatial information (*e.g.*, tissue specificity). See, for example, Langridge et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:3219-23. The type of control of specific promoter elements is typically an intrinsic quality of the promoter; *i.e.*, a heterologous gene under the control of such a promoter is likely to be expressed according to the control of the native gene from which the promoter element was isolated. These elements also typically may be exchanged with other elements and maintain their characteristic intrinsic control over gene expression.

It is often necessary to introduce multiple genes into plants for metabolic engineering and trait stacking, which genes are frequently controlled by identical or homologous promoters. However, homology-based gene silencing (HBGS) is likely to arise when multiple introduced transgenes have homologous promoters driving them. See, *e.g.*, Mol et al. (1989) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 13:287-94. HBGS has been reported to occur extensively in transgenic plants. See, *e.g.*, Vaucheret and Fagard (2001) *Trends Genet.* 17:29-35. Several mechanisms have been suggested to explain the phenomena of HBGS, all of which include the feature that sequence homology in the promoter triggers cellular recognition mechanisms that result in silencing of the repeated genes. See, *e.g.*, Matzke and Matzke (1995) *Plant Physiol.* 107:679-85; Meyer and Saedler (1996) *Ann. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol.* 47:23-48; Fire (1999) *Trends Genet.* 15:358-63; Hamilton and Baulcombe (1999) *Science* 286:950-2; and Steimer et al. (2000) *Plant Cell* 12:1165-78.

Strategies to avoid HBGS in transgenic plants frequently involve the development of synthetic promoters that are functionally equivalent but have minimal sequence homology. When such synthetic promoters are used for expressing transgenes in crop plants, they may aid in avoiding or reducing HBGS. See, *e.g.*, Mourrain et al. (2007) *Planta* 225(2):365-79; Bhullar et al. (2003) *Plant Physiol.*

132:988-98. Such promoters can be generated by introducing known *cis*-elements in a novel or synthetic stretch of DNA, or alternatively by “domain swapping,” wherein domains of one promoter are replaced with functionally equivalent domains from other heterologous promoters.

Thus, there remains a need for constructs and methods for stable expression of multiple

5 transgenes effectively with minimum risk for recombination or loss of transgenes through breeding or multiple generations in transgenic plants.

DISCLOSURE

Described herein are particular synthetic promoters comprising a Ubi1 minimal promoter. In 10 embodiments, a synthetic promoter comprising a Ubi1 minimal promoter further comprises at least one sequence element of a SCBV promoter or functional equivalent thereof. In some examples, such a synthetic promoter (a “synthetic SCBV promoter”) can be a promoter that is able to control transcription of an operably linked nucleotide sequence in a plant cell. In other examples, a synthetic SCBV promoter may be a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter, for example, a nucleic acid comprising a minimal Ubi1 15 promoter element nucleotide sequences oriented in the opposite direction with respect to the SCBV promoter elements that is able to control transcription in a plant cell of two operably linked nucleotide sequences that flank the promoter. Additional elements that may be engineered to be included in a synthetic SCBV bidirectional promoter include introns (e.g., an alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) intron), exons, and/or all or part of an upstream promoter region. In certain examples, a synthetic bidirectional 20 promoter may comprise more than one of any of the foregoing.

A particular embodiment relates to a synthetic polynucleotide comprising (a) a minimal core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* wherein the minimal core promoter element comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement; (b) a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter; and (c) an intron from an alcohol dehydrogenase gene; wherein the 25 functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter and the intron from the alcohol dehydrogenase gene comprise SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement.

Particular embodiments of the invention include cells (e.g., plant cells) comprising a synthetic SCBV promoter or functional equivalent thereof. For example, specific embodiments may include a cell comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter or functional equivalent thereof. Plant cells 30 according to particular embodiments may be present in a cell culture, a tissue, a plant part, and/or a whole plant. Thus, a plant (e.g., a monocot or dicot) comprising a cell having a synthetic SCBV promoter or functional equivalent thereof are included in some embodiments.

Other embodiments of the invention include a means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest. Means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest include the synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter of SEQ ID NO: 5.

5 Also provided are constructs and methods for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or plant tissues. The constructs provided comprise at least one bi-directional promoter linked to multiple gene expression cassettes, wherein the bi-directional promoter comprises a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter. In some embodiments, the 10 constructs and methods provided employs a bi-directional promoter based on a minimal core promoter element from a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 gene, or a functional equivalent thereof, and nucleotide sequence elements from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In some embodiments, the constructs and methods provided allow expression of genes between three and twenty.

15 In one aspect, provided is a synthetic polynucleotide comprising a minimal core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians* and a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In one embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence that is at least 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, or 20 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement. In a further or alternative embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 16-40. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element consists 25 essentially of SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement. In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises an exon from an Ubiquitin-1 gene and an intron from an Ubiquitin-1 gene. In a further embodiment, the exon is from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians*. In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises an intron from an alcohol dehydrogenase 30 gene. In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises an upstream regulatory sequence from the Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In another embodiment, the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane

Bacilliform Virus promoter and the alcohol dehydrogenase gene a polynucleotide sequence that is at least 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement. In a further or alternative embodiment, the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter and the intron from the alcohol dehydrogenase gene comprise SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter and the intron from the alcohol dehydrogenase gene consist essentially of SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement.

In one embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises at least one element selected from a list comprising an upstream regulatory sequence (URS), an enhancer element, an exon, an intron, a transcription start site, a TATA box, a heat shock consensus element, and a translation START and/or STOP nucleotide sequence. In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises an element selected from the group consisting of an upstream regulatory sequence (URS), an enhancer element, an exon, an intron, a transcription start site, a TATA box, a heat shock consensus element, a translation START and/or STOP nucleotide sequence, and combinations thereof. In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided further comprises a nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the minimal core promoter element. In another embodiment, the minimal core promoter element from a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 gene and the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter are in reverse complementary orientation with respect to each other in the polynucleotide.

In another embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises an exon from an Ubiquitin-1 gene, an intron from an Ubiquitin-1 gene, and an intron from an alcohol dehydrogenase gene. In a further or alternative embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises a second coding nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter. In a further embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises a polynucleotide sequence that is at least 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided consists

essentially of SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the exon or intron is from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians*.

In a further embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises a first coding nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the minimal core 5 promoter element from a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 gene. In another further embodiment, the synthetic polynucleotide provided comprises a second coding nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter.

10 In another aspect, provided is a method for producing a transgenic cell, the method comprising transforming the cell with the polynucleotide provided herein. In one embodiment, the cell is a plant cell. In another aspect, provided is a plant cell comprising the polynucleotide provided herein. In another aspect, provided is a plant comprising the plant cell provided herein.

15 In another aspect, provided is a method for expressing a nucleotide sequence of interest in a plant cell, the method comprising introducing into the plant cell the nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to a means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest. In one embodiment, the method provided comprises introducing into the plant cell a nucleic acid comprising (a) the nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the means for initiating transcription 20 of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest; and (b) a second nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest.

25 In one embodiment, the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest comprises SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In another embodiment, the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest comprises SEQ ID NO: 5. In another embodiment, the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest comprises the reverse complement of SEQ ID NO: 5. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid is introduced into the plant cell so as to target to a predetermined site in 30 the DNA of the plant cell the nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest. In a further or alternative embodiment, the nucleotide sequence of interest

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operably linked to the means for initiating transcription of two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest is targeted to the predetermined site utilizing Zinc finger nuclease-mediated recombination.

5 In some embodiments, the exon is from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of a *Zea spp.* In some embodiments, the intron is from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of a *Zea spp.* In some embodiments, the *Zea spp.* is *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians*.

In another aspect, provided is a nucleic acid construct for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or tissues. The nucleic acid construct comprises (a) a bi-directional promoter, wherein the bi-directional promoter comprises a functional 10 promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter; and (b) two gene expression cassettes on opposite ends of the bi-directional promoter; wherein at least one of the gene expression cassettes comprises two or more genes linked via a translation switch.

15 In one embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises at least one enhancer. In another embodiment, the bi-directional promoter does not comprise an enhancer. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid construct comprises a binary vector for *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation. In one embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises an element selected from the group consisting of an upstream regulatory sequence (URS), an enhancer element, an exon, an intron, a 20 transcription start site, a TATA box, a heat shock consensus element, and combinations thereof. In another embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises a minimal core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians*. In another embodiment, the core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene and the promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane 25 Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter are in reverse complimentary orientation with respect to each other. In a further or alternative embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence at least 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement. In a further or alternative embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a 30 polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 16-40. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 and

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16-35. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 16-30. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 5 16-25. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 16-20. In a further embodiment, the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

In a further or alternative embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises 10 an exon from an Ubiquitin-1 gene and/or an intron from an Ubiquitin gene. In another embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises an intron from an alcohol dehydrogenase gene. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid construct is stably transformed into transgenic plants. In one embodiment, the plants are monocotyledons plants. In another embodiment, the plants are dicotyledons plants. 15 In another embodiment, the plants are not monocotyledons plants. In another embodiment, the plants are not dicotyledons plants.

In a further or alternative embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises an upstream regulatory sequence from an Ubiquitin gene or the Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter. In a further embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises an upstream regulatory sequence from an Ubiquitin gene. In 20 another embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises an upstream regulatory sequence from an Ubiquitin gene or the Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter.

In a further embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises a 25 polynucleotide of at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95% or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement. In a further embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises a polynucleotide of at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95% or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement. In a 30 further embodiment, the bi-directional promoter comprises a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement.

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In one embodiment, both the gene expression cassettes comprise two or more genes linked via a translation switch. In a further or alternative embodiment, the translation switch is selected from the group consisting of an internal ribosome entry site (IRES), an alternative splicing site, a ribozyme cleavage site, a polynucleotide sequence coding a 2A peptide, a polynucleotide sequence coding a 2A-like peptide, a polynucleotide sequence coding an intein, a polynucleotide sequence coding a protease cleavage site, and combinations thereof. In a further or alternative embodiment, the translation switch comprises a *cis*-acting hydrolase element (CHYSEL). In a further embodiment, the CHYSEL is a 2A or 2A-like peptide sequence. In another embodiment, a gene upstream of the translational switch does not comprise a translation stop codon. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid construct enables or allows expression of at least four genes. In a further embodiment, all four genes are transgenes. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid construct enables expression of genes between three and twenty. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid construct enables expression of genes between four and eight. In a further or alternative embodiment, the genes are transgenes. In another embodiment, at least one gene expression cassette comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding a fusion protein. In a further embodiment, the fusion protein comprises three to five genes.

In some embodiments, expression of genes from the bi-directional promoter is at least four-fold higher as compared to a uni-directional promoter. In some embodiments, expression of genes from the bi-directional promoter is from three to ten folds higher as compared to a uni-directional promoter. In some embodiments, expression of genes from the bi-directional promoter is from four to eight folds higher as compared to a uni-directional promoter. In some embodiments, a selection marker gene is placed at far end from the promoter (*i.e.*, at the 3' end of a gene expression cassette downstream of another gene).

In another aspect, provided is a method for generating a transgenic plant comprising transforming a plant cell with the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In another aspect, provided is a method for generating a transgenic cell comprising transforming the cell with the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In another aspect, provided is a plant cell comprising the nucleic acid construct provided

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herein. In a further or alternative embodiment, the nucleic acid construct is stably transformed into the plant cell. In another aspect, provided is a transgenic plant comprising the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In a further or alternative embodiment, the nucleic acid construct is stably transformed into cells of the 5 transgenic plant. In another aspect, provide is a method for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or tissues, comprising introducing into the plant cells and/or tissues the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In a further or alternative embodiment, the plant cells and/or tissues are stably transformed with the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In another aspect, provided is a binary vector for 10 *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation. In one embodiment, the binary vector comprises the nucleic acid construct provided herein. In another embodiment, the binary vector comprises the synthetic polynucleotide provided herein. In another aspect, provided is the use of the bi-directional promoter provided herein for multiple-transgenes expression in plants.

15

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS AND SEQUENCES

FIG. 1 shows an exemplary (not to scale) maize Ubi1 (ZmUbi1) promoter, which comprises an approximately 900 bp Upstream Element located 5' of the transcription start site (TSS). The upstream element contains a TATA box (located 20 approximately -30 bp of the TSS), and two overlapping heat shock consensus elements (located approximately -200 bp of the TSS). This promoter also comprises about 1100 bp 3' of the TSS region. This 3' region contains an adjacent leader sequence (ZmUbi1 exon), and an intron.

FIG. 2 shows an exemplary embodiment of the synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional 25 promoter provided, which includes a minUbi1P minimal core element cloned upstream of a ZmUbi1 promoter.

FIG. 3 shows an exemplary schematic drawing of *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes, which are each operably linked to the synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter.

30 FIG. 4 shows a representative plasmid map of pDAB105801.

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FIG. 5 shows a schematic drawing of an exemplary Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) bidirectional promoter, which includes a Min-Ubi1Pminimal core element cloned upstream of a SCBV promoter.

FIG. 6 shows a representative plasmid map of pDAB105806.

5 FIG. 7 shows an exemplary schematic drawing of *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes, which are each operably linked to a synthetic SCBV bidirectional promoter.

10 FIG. 8 shows exemplary schematic presentations of multi-gene constructs provided herein. Translation switches are shown using a special (vertical dumbbell) symbol.

FIG. 9 shows representative plasmid maps of pDAB108708 and pDAB101556.

15 FIG. 10A shows SEQ ID NO: 1, which comprises a 215 bp region of a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin 1 minimal core promoter (minUbi1P). FIG. 10B shows SEQ ID NO: 2, which comprises the reverse complement of a polynucleotide comprising a *Z. mays* minUbi1P minimal core promoter (underlined); a *Z. mays* Ubi1 leader (ZmUbi1 exon; bold font); and a *Z. mays* Ubi1 intron (lower case).

FIG. 11 shows SEQ ID NO: 3, which comprises an exemplary synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter, wherein the reverse complement of a first minUbi1P, and a second minUbi1P, are underlined.

20 FIG. 12 shows SEQ ID NO: 4, which comprises an exemplary nucleic acid comprising *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes driven by a synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter.

25 FIG. 13 shows SEQ ID NO: 5, which comprises an exemplary SCBV bidirectional promoter comprising a minUbi1P minimal core promoter, wherein the reverse complement of the minUbi1P is underlined.

FIG. 14 shows SEQ ID NO: 6, which comprises a SCBV promoter containing ADH1 exon 6 (underlined), intron 6 (lower case font), and exon 7 (bold font).

30 FIG. 15 shows SEQ ID NO: 7, which comprises a nucleic acid comprising *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes driven by an exemplary SCBV bidirectional promoter.

SEQ ID NO: 8 shows the YFP Forward Primer: 5'-GATGCCTCAG TGGGAAAGG-3'. SEQ ID NO: 9 comprises a YFP Reverse Primer:

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5' -CCATAGGTGA GAGTGGTGAC AA-3'. SEQ ID NO: 10 comprises an
Invertase Forward Primer: 5' -TGGCGGACGA CGACTTGT-3'. SEQ ID NO: 11
comprises an Invertase Reverse Primer: 5' -AAAGTTGGA GGCTGCCGT-3'.
SEQ ID NO: 12 comprises an Invertase Probe: 5' -CGAGCAGACC GCCGTGTACT
5 TCTACC-3'. SEQ ID NO: 13 comprises an AAD1 Forward Primer:
5' -TGTTCCGGTTC CCTCTACCAA-3'. SEQ ID NO: 14 comprises an AAD1
Reverse Primer: 5' -CAACATCCAT CACCTTGACT GA-3'. SEQ ID NO: 15
comprises an AAD1 Probe: 5' -CACAGAACCG TCGCTTCAGC AACAA-3' (see
also Table 7).

10 FIG. 16 shows a Western blot analysis for stable YFP expression driven by a
bidirectional SCBV Promoter construct (pDAB108708) in maize T₀ plants.
Representative plants showed stable YFP expression in leaf driven by the
Min-Ubi1P minimal core promoter element. The amount of protein which is
produced is indicated as parts per million (ppm).

15 FIG. 17 shows a Western blot analysis for stable YFP expression from the
control construct containing a ZmUbi1 promoter that only drives expression of YFP
(pDAB101556); a GUS coding sequence is not contained in this construct. The
amount of protein which is produced is indicated as parts per million (ppm).

FIG. 18 shows exemplary constructs of four-gene cassette stacks
20 pDAB105849 (AAD1-2A-YFP plus Cry34-2A-Cry35) and pDAB105865
(YFP-2A-AAD1 plus Cry34-2A-Cry35). Shaded arrows indicate direction of
transcription from the bi-directional promoter. Ubi1-mimP comprises 200nt
sequence upstream of transcriptional start site of maize Ubi1 promoter. SCBV-URS
comprises upstream regulatory sequence of SCBV promoter excluding the core
25 promoter (shown as arrow). Ubi1-Int comprises an intron of maize Ubi1 promoter.
FIG. 19 shows two additional exemplary constructs of four-gene cassette stacks.

FIG. 20 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB105818 and
pDAB105748.

FIGS. 21A-21E shows additional minimal core promoters (min-Ubi1P or
30 Ubi1-minP) of SEQ ID NOS: 16-40.

FIG. 22 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB105841 and
pDAB105847.

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FIG. 23 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB105840 and pDAB105849.

FIG. 24 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB101917 and pDAB108719.

5 FIG. 25 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB105844 and pDAB105848.

FIG. 26 shows representative maps for plasmids pDAB105865 and pDAB108720.

10 FIG. 27A-J shows nucleic acid sequence for gene expression cassettes of pDAB108719, where each gene and element is illustrated.

FIG. 28 shows exemplary protein expression data among various constructs tested for Cry34 (FIG. 28A), AAD-1 (FIG. 28B), and Cry35 (FIG. 28C).

15 FIG. 29 shows two exemplary sequences for yellow fluorescent proteins from *Phialidium* sp. SL-2003 (PhiYFP, SEQ ID NO: 51; and PhiYFPv3, SEQ ID NO: 52).

FIG. 30 shows exemplary embodiments of the synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter and constructs provided, including pDAB108706 (ZMUbi bidirectional (-200)), pDAB108707 (ZMUbi bidirectional (-90)), pDAB108708 (SCBV bidirectional (-200)), and pDAB108709 (SCBV bidirectional (-90)). pDAB101556 (ZmUbi1-YFP control), pDAB108715 (SCBV without minimal promoter), and pDAB108716 (ZMUbi1 without minimal promoter) serve as control constructs with uni-directional promoters.

25 FIG. 31A shows exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 31B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP RNA.

30 FIG. 32A shows exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for GUS protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 32B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for GUS RNA.

FIG. 33A shows exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 33B shows exemplary

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relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for AAD1 RNA.

FIG. 34A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 34B 5 shows a statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP RNA. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 35A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for GUS protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 35B 10 shows a statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for GUS RNA. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 36A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm². FIG. 36B 15 shows a statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for AAD1 RNA. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 37A, 37B, and 37C show exemplary expression results (V10) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP, AAD1, and GUS protein (LCMS) in 20 ng/cm² respectively.

FIGS. 38A, 38B, and 38C show statistical analysis of expression results (V10) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² respectively. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 39A, 39B, and 39C show exemplary expression results (R3) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in 25 ng/cm², respectively.

FIGS. 40A, 40B, and 40C show statistical analysis of expression results (R3) from the seven constructs shown in FIG. 30 for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm², respectively. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

30 FIG. 41 shows additional multi-transgene constructs using Ubi1 promoter, including pDAB108717 and pDAB108718.

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FIG. 42A shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry34 RNA from six constructs pDAB105748 (ZMUb1-YFP), pDAB105818 (ZMUb1-Cry34/ZMUb1 -Cry35/ZMUb1-AAD1), pDAB108717 (YFP/AAD-1-ZMUb1 bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), pDAB108718 5 (AAD1/YFP-ZMUb1 bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), pDAB108719 (YFP/AAD1-SCBV bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), and pDAB108720 (AAD1/YFP – SCBV bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35). FIG. 42B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry34 protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

10 FIG. 43A shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of AAD1 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 43B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of AAD1 protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

15 FIG. 44A shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of YFP RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 44B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of YFP protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

20 FIG. 45A shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry35 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 45B shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry35 protein (ELISA) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

25 FIG. 46 shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of PAT RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

30 FIG. 47A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry34 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 47B shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry34 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748,

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pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 48A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of AAD1 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, 5 pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 48B shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of AAD1 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 49A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of YFP RNA 10 from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 49B shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of YFP protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 50A shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry35 RNA 15 from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. FIG. 50B shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry35 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 51 shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of PAT RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, 20 pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 52A, 52B, 52C, and 52D show exemplary protein expression results 25 (V10) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

FIGS. 53A, 53B, 53C, and 53D show statistical analysis of protein expression 30 results (V10) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

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FIGS. 54A, 54B, 54C, and 54D show exemplary protein expression results (R3) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

5 FIGS. 55A, 55B, 55C, and 55D show statistical analysis of protein expression results (R3) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

10 FIG. 56 shows exemplary results of Western blot for protein expression of Cry34, Cry35, and AAD1 from pDAB108718, pDAB108717, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

MODE(S) FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Development of transgenic products is becoming increasingly complex, which 15 requires pyramiding multiple transgenes into a single locus. Traditionally each transgene usually requires a unique promoter for expression, so multiple promoters are required to express different transgenes within one gene stack. In addition to increasing the size of the gene stack, this frequently leads to repeated use of the same promoter to obtain similar levels of expression patterns of different transgenes 20 controlling the same trait. Multi-gene constructs driven by the same promoter are known to cause gene silencing, thus making transgenic products less efficacious in the field. Excess of transcription factor (TF)-binding sites due to promoter repetition can cause depletion of endogenous TFs leading to transcriptional inactivation. The silencing of transgenes will likely undesirably affect the performance of a transgenic 25 plant produced to express the transgenes. Repetitive sequences within a transgene may lead to gene intra-locus homologous recombination resulting in polynucleotide rearrangements.

Provided are methods and constructs combining the bidirectional promoter 30 system with bicistronic organization of genes on either one or both ends of the promoter, for example with the use of a 2A sequence from Thosea asigna virus. The 2A protein, which is only 16–20 amino acids long, cleaves the polyprotein at its own carboxyl-terminus. This “self-cleavage” or “ribosome skip” property of the 2A or

2A-like peptide can be used to process artificial polyproteins produced in transgenic plants. In one embodiment, Cry34 and Cry35 genes are fused in one gene expression cassette, while YFP (or PhiYFP) and AAD1 genes are fused into another gene expression cassette (with a single open reading frame (ORF) with a copy of the 2A protein gene placed between the two genes in each combination). For example, each of these gene expression cassettes (or gene pairs) can be placed on the either end of the bidirectional promoter to drive 4 transgenes using a single promoter. Thus, the constructs and methods provided herein are useful to avoid repeated use of the same promoter and significantly reduce the size of commercial constructs. In addition, driving four or more genes with one promoter also provides ability to co-express genes controlling a single trait.

Plant promoters used for basic research or biotechnological application are generally unidirectional, directing only one gene that has been fused at its 3' end (downstream). It is often necessary to introduce multiple genes into plants for metabolic engineering and trait stacking and therefore, multiple promoters are typically required in future transgenic crops to drive the expression of multiple genes. It is desirable to design strategies that can save the number of promoters deployed and allow simultaneous co-regulated expression for gene pyramiding. In some embodiment, the bi-directional promoters provided can drive transcription of multiple transcription units, including RNAi, artificial miRNA, or hairpin-loop RNA sequences.

Embodiments herein utilize a process wherein a unidirectional promoter from a maize ubiquitin-1 gene (e.g., ZmUbi1) and a SCBV promoter to design a synthetic bidirectional promoter, such that one promoter can direct the expression of two genes, one on each end of the promoter. Synthetic bidirectional promoters may allow those in the art to stack transgenes in plant cells and plants while lessening the repeated use of the same promoter and reducing the size of transgenic constructs. Furthermore, regulating the expression of two genes with a single synthetic bidirectional promoter may also provide the ability to co-express the two genes under the same conditions, such as may be useful, for example, when the two genes each contribute to a single trait in the host. The use of bidirectional function of promoters in plants has been reported in some cases, including the CaMV 35 promoters (Barfield and Pua (1991) *Plant Cell Rep.* 10(6-7):308-14; Xie et al. (2001)), and the mannopine synthase promoter (mas)

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promoters (Velten et al. (1984) *EMBO J.* 3(12):2723-30; Langridge et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:3219-23).

Transcription initiation and modulation of gene expression in plant genes is directed by a variety of DNA sequence elements that are collectively arranged within the promoter. Eukaryotic promoters consist of minimal core promoter element (minP), and further upstream regulatory sequences (URSs). The core promoter element is a minimal stretch of contiguous DNA sequence that is sufficient to direct accurate initiation of transcription. Core promoters in plants also comprise canonical regions associated with the initiation of transcription, such as CAAT and TATA boxes. The TATA box element is usually located approximately 20 to 35 nucleotides upstream of the initiation site of transcription.

The activation of the minP is dependent upon the URS, to which various proteins bind and subsequently interact with the transcription initiation complex. URSs comprise of DNA sequences, which determine the spatiotemporal expression pattern of a promoter comprising the URS. The polarity of a promoter is often determined by the orientation of the minP, while the URS is bipolar (*i.e.*, it functions independent of its orientation). For example, the CaMV 35S synthetic unidirectional polar promoter may be converted to a bidirectional promoter by fusing a minP at the 5' end of the promoter in the opposite orientation. See, for example, Xie et al. (2001) *Nat. Biotechnol.* 19(7):677-9.

In specific examples of some embodiments, a minimal core promoter element (minUbi1P) of a modified maize Ubi1 promoter (ZmUbi1) originally derived from the *Z. mays* inbred line, B73, is used to engineer a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter that may function in plants to provide expression control characteristics that are unique with respect to previously available bidirectional promoters. Embodiments include a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter that further includes nucleotide sequence derived from a native SCBV promoter. Particular embodiments may further include a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter comprising an intron (*e.g.*, an ADII intron) in close proximity to SCBV and minUbi1P sequence elements in the synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter.

The ZmUbi1 promoter originally derived from B73 comprises sequences located in the maize genome within about 899 bases 5' of the transcription start site,

and further within about 1093 bases 3' of the transcription start site. Christensen et al. (1992) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 18(4):675-89 (describing a B73 ZmUbi1 gene). A modified ZmUbi1 promoter derived from B73 that is used in some examples is an approximately 2 kb promoter that contains a TATA box; two overlapping heat shock consensus elements; an 82 or 83 nucleotide (depending on the reference strand) leader sequence immediately adjacent to the transcription start site, which is referred to herein as ZmUbi1 exon; and a 1015-1016 nucleotide intron (see FIG. 1 for example). Other maize ubiquitin promoter variants derived from *Zea* species and *Zea mays* genotypes may exhibit high sequence conservation around the minP element consisting of the 5 TATA element and the upstream heat shock consensus elements. Thus, embodiments of the invention are exemplified by the use of this short (~200 nt) highly conserved region (e.g., SEQ ID NO: 1) of a ZmUbi1 promoter as a minimal core promoter element for constructing synthetic bidirectional plant promoters.

10

15 Certain abbreviations disclosed are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Abbreviations used in the disclosure

Phrase	Abbreviation
bicinchoninic acid	BCA
cauliflower mosaic virus	CaMV
chloroplast transit peptide	CTP
homology-based gene silencing	HBGS
ZmUbi1 minimal core promoter	minUbi1P
oligo ligation amplification	OLA
phosphate buffered saline	PBS
phosphate buffered saline with 0.05% Tween 20	PBST
polymerase chain reaction	PCR
rolling circle amplification	RCA
reverse transcriptase PCR	RT-PCR
single nucleotide primer extension	SNuPE
upstream regulatory sequence	URS
<i>Zea mays</i> Ubiquitin-1 gene	ZmUbi1

As used herein, the articles, "a," "an," and "the" include plural references unless the context clearly and unambiguously dictates otherwise.

As used herein, the phrase “backcrossing” refers to a process in which a breeder crosses hybrid progeny back to one of the parents, for example, a first generation hybrid F_1 with one of the parental genotypes of the F_1 hybrid.

As used herein, the phrase “intron” refers to any nucleic acid sequence 5 comprised in a gene (or expressed nucleotide sequence of interest) that is transcribed but not translated. Introns include untranslated nucleic acid sequence within an expressed sequence of DNA, as well as the corresponding sequence in RNA molecules transcribed therefrom.

As used herein, the phrase “isolated” refers to biological component 10 (including a nucleic acid or protein) has been substantially separated, produced apart from, or purified away from other biological components in the cell of the organism in which the component naturally occurs (*i.e.*, other chromosomal and extra-chromosomal DNA and RNA, and proteins), while effecting a chemical or functional change in the component (*e.g.*, a nucleic acid may be isolated from a 15 chromosome by breaking chemical bonds connecting the nucleic acid to the remaining DNA in the chromosome). Nucleic acid molecules and proteins that have been “isolated” include nucleic acid molecules and proteins purified by standard purification methods. The phrase “isolated” also embraces nucleic acids and proteins prepared by recombinant expression in a host cell, as well as chemically 20 synthesized nucleic acid molecules, proteins, and peptides.

As used herein, the phrase “gene expression” refers to a process by which the coded information of a nucleic acid transcriptional unit (including, *e.g.*, genomic DNA) is converted into an operational, non-operational, or structural part of a cell, often including the synthesis of a protein. Gene expression can be influenced by external 25 signals; for example, exposure of a cell, tissue, or organism to an agent that increases or decreases gene expression. Expression of a gene can also be regulated anywhere in the pathway from DNA to RNA to protein. Regulation of gene expression occurs, for example, through controls acting on transcription, translation, RNA transport and processing, degradation of intermediary molecules such as mRNA, or through 30 activation, inactivation, compartmentalization, or degradation of specific protein molecules after they have been made, or by combinations thereof. Gene expression can be measured at the RNA level or the protein level by any method known in the art,

including, without limitation, Northern blot, RT-PCR, Western blot, or *in vitro*, *in situ*, or *in vivo* protein activity assay(s).

As used herein, the phrase “homology-based gene silencing” (HBGS) refers to a generic term that includes both transcriptional gene silencing and posttranscriptional gene silencing. Silencing of a target locus by an unlinked silencing locus can result from transcription inhibition (transcriptional gene silencing; TGS) or mRNA degradation (post-transcriptional gene silencing; PTGS), owing to the production of double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) corresponding to promoter or transcribed sequences, respectively. The involvement of distinct cellular components in each process suggests that dsRNA-induced TGS and PTGS likely result from the diversification of an ancient common mechanism. However, a strict comparison of TGS and PTGS has been difficult to achieve because it generally relies on the analysis of distinct silencing loci. A single transgene locus can be described to trigger both TGS and PTGS, owing to the production of dsRNA corresponding to promoter and transcribed sequences of different target genes. See, for example, Mourrain et al. (2007) *Planta* 225:365-79. It is likely that siRNAs are the actual molecules that trigger TGS and PTGS on homologous sequences: the siRNAs would in this model trigger silencing and methylation of homologous sequences in *cis* and in *trans* through the spreading of methylation of transgene sequences into the endogenous promoter.

As used herein, the phrase “nucleic acid molecule” (or “nucleic acid” or “polynucleotide”) refers to a polymeric form of nucleotides, which may include both sense and anti-sense strands of RNA, cDNA, genomic DNA, and synthetic forms and mixed polymers of the above. A nucleotide may refer to a ribonucleotide, deoxyribonucleotide, or a modified form of either type of nucleotide. A “nucleic acid molecule” as used herein is synonymous with “nucleic acid” and “polynucleotide.” A nucleic acid molecule is usually at least 10 bases in length, unless otherwise specified. The term may refer to a molecule of RNA or DNA of indeterminate length. The term includes single- and double-stranded forms of DNA. A nucleic acid molecule may include either or both naturally occurring and modified nucleotides linked together by naturally occurring and/or non-naturally occurring nucleotide linkages.

Nucleic acid molecules may be modified chemically or biochemically, or may contain non-natural or derivatized nucleotide bases, as will be readily appreciated by

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those of skill in the art. Such modifications include, for example, labels, methylation, substitution of one or more of the naturally occurring nucleotides with an analog, internucleotide modifications (*e.g.*, uncharged linkages: for example, methyl phosphonates, phosphotriesters, phosphoramidates, carbamates, etc.; charged linkages: 5 for example, phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, etc.; pendent moieties: for example, peptides; intercalators: for example, acridine, psoralen, etc.; chelators; alkylators; and modified linkages: for example, alpha anomeric nucleic acids, etc.). The term “nucleic acid molecule” also includes any topological conformation, including single-stranded, double-stranded, partially duplexed, triplexed, hairpinned, 10 circular, and padlocked conformations.

Transcription proceeds in a 5' to 3' manner along a DNA strand. This means that RNA is made by the sequential addition of ribonucleotide-5'-triphosphates to the 3' terminus of the growing chain (with a requisite elimination of the pyrophosphate). In either a linear or circular nucleic acid molecule, discrete elements (*e.g.*, particular 15 nucleotide sequences) may be referred to as being “upstream” relative to a further element if they are bonded or would be bonded to the same nucleic acid in the 5' direction from that element. Similarly, discrete elements may be “downstream” relative to a further element if they are or would be bonded to the same nucleic acid in the 3' direction from that element.

20 As used herein, the phrase “base position,” refers to the location of a given base or nucleotide residue within a designated nucleic acid. The designated nucleic acid may be defined by alignment (see below) with a reference nucleic acid.

As used herein, the phrase “hybridization” refers to a process where 25 oligonucleotides and their analogs hybridize by hydrogen bonding, which includes Watson-Crick, Hoogsteen or reversed Hoogsteen hydrogen bonding, between complementary bases. Generally, nucleic acid molecules consist of nitrogenous bases that are either pyrimidines (cytosine (C), uracil (U), and thymine (T)) or purines (adenine (A) and guanine (G)). These nitrogenous bases form hydrogen bonds between a pyrimidine and a purine, and the bonding of the pyrimidine to the purine is 30 referred to as “base pairing.” More specifically, A will hydrogen bond to T or U, and G will bond to C. “Complementary” refers to the base pairing that occurs between two

distinct nucleic acid sequences or two distinct regions of the same nucleic acid sequence.

As used herein, the phrases “specifically hybridizable” and “specifically complementary” refers to a sufficient degree of complementarity such that stable and 5 specific binding occurs between the oligonucleotide and the DNA or RNA target. The oligonucleotide need not be 100% complementary to its target sequence to be specifically hybridizable. An oligonucleotide is specifically hybridizable when binding of the oligonucleotide to the target DNA or RNA molecule interferes with the normal function of the target DNA or RNA, and there is sufficient degree of complementarity 10 to avoid non-specific binding of the oligonucleotide to non-target sequences under conditions where specific binding is desired, for example under physiological conditions in the case of *in vivo* assays or systems. Such binding is referred to as specific hybridization.

Hybridization conditions resulting in particular degrees of stringency will vary 15 depending upon the nature of the chosen hybridization method and the composition and length of the hybridizing nucleic acid sequences. Generally, the temperature of hybridization and the ionic strength (especially the Na⁺ and/or Mg²⁺ concentration) of the hybridization buffer will contribute to the stringency of hybridization, though wash times also influence stringency. Calculations regarding hybridization conditions 20 required for attaining particular degrees of stringency are discussed in Sambrook et al. (ed.), *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd ed., vol. 1-3, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, 1989, chs. 9 and 11.

As used herein, the phrase “stringent conditions” encompass conditions under 25 which hybridization will only occur if there is less than 50% mismatch between the hybridization molecule and the DNA target. “Stringent conditions” include further particular levels of stringency. Thus, as used herein, “moderate stringency” conditions are those under which molecules with more than 50% sequence mismatch will not hybridize; conditions of “high stringency” are those under which sequences with more than 20% mismatch will not hybridize; and conditions of “very high stringency” are 30 those under which sequences with more than 10% mismatch will not hybridize.

In particular embodiments, stringent conditions can include hybridization at 65°C, followed by washes at 65°C with 0.1x SSC/0.1% SDS for 40 minutes.

The following are representative, non-limiting hybridization conditions:

Very High Stringency: Hybridization in 5x SSC buffer at 65°C for 16 hours; wash twice in 2x SSC buffer at room temperature for 15 minutes each; and wash twice in 0.5x SSC buffer at 65°C for 20 minutes each.

5 High Stringency: Hybridization in 5x-6x SSC buffer at 65-70°C for 16-20 hours; wash twice in 2x SSC buffer at room temperature for 5-20 minutes each; and wash twice in 1x SSC buffer at 55-70°C for 30 minutes each.

10 Moderate Stringency: Hybridization in 6x SSC buffer at room temperature to 55°C for 16-20 hours; wash at least twice in 2x-3x SSC buffer at room temperature to 55°C for 20-30 minutes each.

15 In particular embodiments, specifically hybridizable nucleic acid molecules can remain bound under very high stringency hybridization conditions. In these and further embodiments, specifically hybridizable nucleic acid molecules can remain bound under high stringency hybridization conditions. In these and further embodiments, specifically hybridizable nucleic acid molecules can remain bound under moderate stringency hybridization conditions.

20 As used herein, the phrase “oligonucleotide” refers to a short nucleic acid polymer. Oligonucleotides may be formed by cleavage of longer nucleic acid segments, or by polymerizing individual nucleotide precursors. Automated synthesizers allow the synthesis of oligonucleotides up to several hundred base pairs in length. Because oligonucleotides may bind to a complementary nucleotide sequence, they may be used as probes for detecting DNA or RNA. Oligonucleotides composed of DNA (oligodeoxyribonucleotides) may be used in PCR, a technique for the amplification of small DNA sequences. In PCR, the oligonucleotide is typically 25 referred to as a “primer,” which allows a DNA polymerase to extend the oligonucleotide and replicate the complementary strand.

30 As used herein, the phrase “sequence identity” or “identity,” refers to a context where two nucleic acid or polypeptide sequences, may refer to the residues in the two sequences that are the same when aligned for maximum correspondence over a specified comparison window.

As used herein, the phrase “percentage of sequence identity” refers to the value determined by comparing two optimally aligned sequences (e.g., nucleic acid

sequences, and amino acid sequences) over a comparison window, wherein the portion of the sequence in the comparison window may comprise additions or deletions (*i.e.*, gaps) as compared to the reference sequence (which does not comprise additions or deletions) for optimal alignment of the two sequences. The percentage is calculated by 5 determining the number of positions at which the identical nucleotide or amino acid residue occurs in both sequences to yield the number of matched positions, dividing the number of matched positions by the total number of positions in the comparison window, and multiplying the result by 100 to yield the percentage of sequence identity.

Methods for aligning sequences for comparison are well-known in the art.

10 Various programs and alignment algorithms are described in, for example: Smith and Waterman (1981) *Adv. Appl. Math.* 2:482; Needleman and Wunsch (1970) *J. Mol. Biol.* 48:443; Pearson and Lipman (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 85:2444; Higgins and Sharp (1988) *Gene* 73:237-44; Higgins and Sharp (1989) *CABIOS* 5:151-3; Corpet et al. (1988) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 16:10881-90; Huang et al. (1992) 15 *Comp. Appl. Biosci.* 8:155-65; Pearson et al. (1994) *Methods Mol. Biol.* 24:307-31; Tatiana et al. (1999) *FEMS Microbiol. Lett.* 174:247-50. A detailed consideration of sequence alignment methods and homology calculations can be found in, *e.g.*, Altschul et al. (1990) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-10.

20 The National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST™; Altschul et al. (1990)) is available from several sources, including the National Center for Biotechnology Information (Bethesda, MD), and on the internet, for use in connection with several sequence analysis programs. A description of how to determine sequence identity using this program is available on the internet under the “help” section for BLAST™. For comparisons of nucleic acid 25 sequences, the “Blast 2 sequences” function of the BLAST™ (Blastn) program may be employed using the default parameters. Nucleic acid sequences with even greater similarity to the reference sequences will show increasing percentage identity when assessed by this method.

30 As used herein, the phrase “operably linked” refers to a context where the first nucleic acid sequence is operably linked with a second nucleic acid sequence when the first nucleic acid sequence is in a functional relationship with the second nucleic acid sequence. For instance, a promoter is operably linked with a coding sequence when

the promoter affects the transcription or expression of the coding sequence. When recombinantly produced, operably linked nucleic acid sequences are generally contiguous and, where necessary to join two protein-coding regions, in the same reading frame. However, elements need not be contiguous to be operably linked.

5 As used herein, the phrase “promoter” refers to a region of DNA that generally is located upstream (towards the 5' region of a gene) that is needed for transcription. Promoters may permit the proper activation or repression of the gene which they control. A promoter may contain specific sequences that are recognized by transcription factors. These factors may bind to the promoter DNA sequences and 10 result in the recruitment of RNA polymerase, an enzyme that synthesizes RNA from the coding region of the gene.

As used herein, the phrase “transforms” or “transduces” refers to a process where a virus or vector transfers nucleic acid molecules into a cell. A cell is “transformed” by a nucleic acid molecule “transduced” into the cell when the nucleic 15 acid molecule becomes stably replicated by the cell, either by incorporation of the nucleic acid molecule into the cellular genome or by episomal replication. As used herein, the term “transformation” encompasses all techniques by which a nucleic acid molecule can be introduced into such a cell. Examples include, but are not limited to: transfection with viral vectors; transformation with plasmid vectors; electroporation 20 (Fromm et al. (1986) *Nature* 319:791-3); lipofection (Felgner et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84:7413-7); microinjection (Mueller et al. (1978) *Cell* 15:579-85); *Agrobacterium*-mediated transfer (Fraley et al. (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 80:4803-7); direct DNA uptake; whiskers-mediated transformation; and microprojectile bombardment (Klein et al. (1987) *Nature* 327:70).

25 As used herein, the phrase “transgene” refers to an exogenous nucleic acid sequence. In one example, a transgene is a gene sequence (e.g., a herbicide-resistant gene), a gene encoding an industrially or pharmaceutically useful compound, or a gene encoding a desirable agricultural trait. In yet another example, the transgene is an antisense nucleic acid sequence, wherein expression of the antisense nucleic acid 30 sequence inhibits expression of a target nucleic acid sequence. A transgene may contain regulatory sequences operably linked to the transgene (e.g., a promoter). In some embodiments, a nucleic acid sequence of interest is a transgene. However, in

other embodiments, a nucleic acid sequence of interest is an endogenous nucleic acid sequence, wherein additional genomic copies of the endogenous nucleic acid sequence are desired, or a nucleic acid sequence that is in the antisense orientation with respect to the sequence of a target nucleic acid molecule in the host organism.

5 As used herein, the phrase “vector” refers to a nucleic acid molecule as introduced into a cell, thereby producing a transformed cell. A vector may include nucleic acid sequences that permit it to replicate in the host cell, such as an origin of replication. Examples include, but are not limited to, a plasmid, cosmid, bacteriophage, or virus that carries exogenous DNA into a cell. A vector can also 10 include one or more genes, antisense molecules, and/or selectable marker genes and other genetic elements known in the art. A vector may transduce, transform, or infect a cell, thereby causing the cell to express the nucleic acid molecules and/or proteins encoded by the vector. A vector may optionally include materials to aid in achieving entry of the nucleic acid molecule into the cell (e.g., a liposome).

15 As used herein, the phrase “plant” includes plants and plant parts including but not limited to plant cells and plant tissues such as leaves, stems, roots, flowers, pollen, and seeds. The class of plants that can be used in the present invention is generally as broad as the class of higher and lower plants amenable to mutagenesis including angiosperms (monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants), 20 gymnosperms, ferns and multicellular algae. Thus, “plant” includes dicotyledons plants and monocotyledons plants. Examples of dicotyledons plants include tobacco, Arabidopsis, soybean, tomato, papaya, canola, sunflower, cotton, alfalfa, potato, grapevine, pigeon pea, pea, Brassica, chickpea, sugar beet, rapeseed, watermelon, melon, pepper, peanut, pumpkin, radish, spinach, squash, broccoli, 25 cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, celery, Chinese cabbage, cucumber, eggplant, and lettuce. Examples of monocotyledons plants include corn, rice, wheat, sugarcane, barley, rye, sorghum, orchids, bamboo, banana, cattails, lilies, oat, onion, millet, and triticale.

30 As used herein, the phrase “plant material” refers to leaves, stems, roots, flowers or flower parts, fruits, pollen, egg cells, zygotes, seeds, cuttings, cell or tissue cultures, or any other part or product of a plant. In some embodiment, plant material includes cotyledon and leaf.

As used herein, the phrase "translation switch" refers to a mechanism at end of a gene allowing translation of an immediate downstream gene. The mechanism of translation switch can function at nucleic acid level (for example, viral or eukaryotic internal ribosome entry site (IRES), an alternative splicing site, or a 5 ribozyme cleavage site) or at peptide/protein level (for example, a 2A peptide, a 2A-like peptide, an intein peptide, or a protease cleavage site).

These mechanisms of translation switch at nucleic acid level or at peptide/protein level are well known in the art. See, e.g., Z. Li, H.M. Schumacher, et al. (2010) *J. Biotechnol.* 145(1): 9-16; Y. Chen, K. Perumal, et al. (2000) *Gene Expr.* 9(3):133-143; T.D. Dinkova, H. Zepeda, et al. (2005) *Plant J.* 41(5): 722-731; 10 Y.L. Dorokhov, M.V. Skulachev, et al. (2002) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* 99(8): 5301-5306; O. Fernandez-Miragall and C. Hernandez (2011) *PLoS One* 6(7): e22617; E. Gropelli, G.J. Belsham, et al. (2007) *J. Gen. Virol.* 88(Pt 5): 1583-1588; S.H. Ha, Y.S. Liang, et al. (2010) *Plant Biotechnol J.* 8(8): 928-938; A. Karetnikov 15 and K. Lehto (2007) *J. Gen. Virol.* 88(Pt 1): 286-297; A. Karetnikov and K. Lehto (2008) *Virology* 371(2): 292-308; M.A. Khan, H. Yumak, et al. (2009) *J. Biol. Chem.* 284(51): 35461-35470; and D.C. Koh, S.M. Wong, et al. (2003) *J. Biol. Chem.* 278(23): 20565-20573. Multi-gene expression constructs containing modified inteins have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 7,026,526 20 and 7,741,530, as well as U.S. Patent application 2008/0115243.

As used herein, the phrase "selectable marker" or "selectable marker gene" refers to a gene that is optionally used in plant transformation to, for example, protect the plant cells from a selective agent or provide resistance/tolerance to a 25 selective agent. Only those cells or plants that receive a functional selectable marker are capable of dividing or growing under conditions having a selective agent. Examples of selective agents can include, for example, antibiotics, including spectinomycin, neomycin, kanamycin, paromomycin, gentamicin, and hygromycin. These selectable markers include gene for neomycin phosphotransferase (npt II), 30 which expresses an enzyme conferring resistance to the antibiotic kanamycin, and genes for the related antibiotics neomycin, paromomycin, gentamicin, and G418, or the gene for hygromycin phosphotransferase (hpt), which expresses an enzyme

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conferring resistance to hygromycin. Other selectable marker genes can include genes encoding herbicide resistance including Bar (resistance against BASTA® (glufosinate ammonium), or phosphinothricin (PPT)), acetolactate synthase (ALS, resistance against inhibitors such as sulfonylureas (SUs), imidazolinones (IMIs), 5 triazolopyrimidines (TPs), pyrimidinyl oxybenzoates (POBs), and sulfonylaminocarbonyl triazolinones that prevent the first step in the synthesis of the branched-chain amino acids), glyphosate, 2,4-D, and metal resistance or sensitivity. The phrase “marker-positive” refers to plants that have been transformed to include the selectable marker gene.

10 Various selectable or detectable markers can be incorporated into the chosen expression vector to allow identification and selection of transformed plants, or transformants. Many methods are available to confirm the expression of selection markers in transformed plants, including for example DNA sequencing and PCR (polymerase chain reaction), Southern blotting, RNA blotting, immunological 15 methods for detection of a protein expressed from the vector, *e.g.*, precipitated protein that mediates phosphinothricin resistance, or other proteins such as reporter genes β -glucuronidase (GUS), luciferase, green fluorescent protein (GFP), DsRed, β -galactosidase, chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), alkaline phosphatase, and the like (see Sambrook, et al., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Third 20 Edition, Cold Spring Harbor Press, N.Y., 2001).

Selectable marker genes are utilized for the selection of transformed cells or tissues. Selectable marker genes include genes encoding antibiotic resistance, such as those encoding neomycin phosphotransferase II (NEO) and hygromycin phosphotransferase (HPT) as well as genes conferring resistance to herbicidal 25 compounds. Herbicide resistance genes generally code for a modified target protein insensitive to the herbicide or for an enzyme that degrades or detoxifies the herbicide in the plant before it can act. For example, resistance to glyphosate or has been obtained by using genes coding for the mutant target enzymes, 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS). Genes and mutants for 30 EPSPS have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,940,835, 5,188,642, 5,310,667, 5,633,435, 5,633,448, and 6,566,587. Resistance to glufosinate ammonium, bromoxynil, and 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetate (2,4-D) have been obtained by using

bacterial genes encoding phosphinothricin acetyltransferase, a nitrilase, or a 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetate monooxygenase, which detoxify the respective herbicides. Enzymes/genes for glufosinate resistance/tolerance have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,273,894, 5,276,268, 5,550,318, and 5,561,236.

5 Enzymes/genes for 2,4-D resistance have been previously disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,100,446 and 6,153,401, as well as patent applications US 2009/0093366 and WO 2007/053482. Enzymes/genes for nitrilase has been previously disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,810,648.

Other herbicides can inhibit the growing point or meristem, including 10 imidazolinone or sulfonylurea, and genes for resistance/tolerance of acetohydroxyacid synthase (AHAS) and acetolactate synthase (ALS) for these herbicides have been described. Genes and mutants for AHAS and mutants have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,761,373, 5,304,732, 5,331,107, 5,853,973, and 5,928,937. Genes and mutants for ALS have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 15 5,013,659 and 5,141,870.

Glyphosate resistance genes include mutant 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3 20 -phosphate synthase (EPSPs) genes (via the introduction of recombinant nucleic acids and/or various forms of *in vivo* mutagenesis of native EPSPs genes), aroA genes and glyphosate acetyl transferase (GAT) genes, respectively). Resistance genes for other phosphono compounds include glufosinate (phosphinothricin acetyl transferase (PAT) genes from *Streptomyces* species, including *Streptomyces hygroscopicus* and *Streptomyces viridichromogenes*), and pyridinoxy or phenoxy propionic acids and cyclohexones (ACCase inhibitor-encoding genes). Herbicide resistance/tolerance genes of acetyl coenzyme A carboxylase (ACCase) have been 25 described in U.S. Patents 5,162,602 and 5,498,544.

A DNA molecule encoding a mutant aroA gene can be obtained under 30 ATCC accession number 39256, and the nucleotide sequence of the mutant gene is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,769,061 to Comai, European patent application No. 0 333 033 to Kumada et al., and U.S. Pat. No. 4,975,374 to Goodman et al., disclosing nucleotide sequences of glutamine synthetase genes which confer resistance to herbicides such as L-phosphinothricin. The nucleotide sequence of a PAT gene is provided in European application No. 0 242 246 to Leemans et al. Also DeGreef et

al., *Bio/Technology* 7:61 (1989), describes the production of transgenic plants that express chimeric bar genes coding for PAT activity. Exemplary of genes conferring resistance to phenoxy propionic acids and cyclohexones, including sethoxydim and haloxyfop, are the Acc1-S1, Acc1-S2 and Acc1-S3 genes described by Marshall et al., *Theor. Appl. Genet.* 83:435 (1992). GAT genes capable of conferring glyphosate resistance are described in WO 2005012515 to Castle et al. Genes conferring resistance to 2,4-D, fop and pyridyloxy auxin herbicides are described in WO 2005107437 and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/587,893.

Other herbicides can inhibit photosynthesis, including triazine (psbA and 1s+ genes) or benzonitrile (nitrilase gene). Przibila et al., *Plant Cell* 3:169 (1991), describes the transformation of Chlamydomonas with plasmids encoding mutant psbA genes. Nucleotide sequences for nitrilase genes are disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,810,648 to Stalker, and DNA molecules containing these genes are available under ATCC Accession Nos. 53435, 67441, and 67442. Cloning and expression of DNA coding for a glutathione S-transferase is described by Hayes et al., *Biochem. J.* 285:173 (1992).

For purposes of the present invention, selectable marker genes include, but are not limited to genes encoding: neomycin phosphotransferase II (Fraley et al. (1986) *CRC Critical Reviews in Plant Science* 4:1-25); cyanamide hydratase (Maier-Greiner et al. (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:4250-4264); aspartate kinase; dihydronicotinate synthase (Perl et al. (1993) *Bio/Technology* 11:715-718); tryptophan decarboxylase (Goddijn et al. (1993) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 22:907-912); dihydronicotinate synthase and desensitized aspartate kinase (Perl et al. (1993) *Bio/Technology* 11:715-718); bar gene (Toki et al. (1992) *Plant Physiol.* 100:1503-1507; and Meagher et al. (1996), *Crop Sci.* 36:1367); tryptophan decarboxylase (Goddijn et al. (1993) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 22:907-912); neomycin phosphotransferase (NEO) (Southern et al. (1982) *J. Mol. Appl. Gen.* 1:327; hygromycin phosphotransferase (IPT or HYG) (Shimizu et al. (1986) *Mol. Cell Biol.* 6:1074); dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) (Kwok et al. (1986) *PNAS USA* 83:4552); phosphinothricin acetyltransferase (DeBlock et al. (1987) *EMBO J.* 6:2513); 2,2-dichloropropionic acid dehalogenase (Buchanan-Wollaston et al. (1989) *J. Cell. Biochem.* 13D:330); acetohydroxyacid synthase (Anderson et al., U.S. Pat. No.

4,761,373; Haughn et al. (1988) *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 221:266); 5-enolpyruvyl-shikimate-phosphate synthase (aroA) (Comai et al. (1985) *Nature* 317:741); haloarylnitrilase (Stalker et al., published PCT application WO87/04181); acetyl-coenzyme A carboxylase (Parker et al. (1990) *Plant Physiol.* 92:1220); 5 dihydropteroate synthase (sul I) (Guerineau et al. (1990) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 15:127); and 32 kD photosystem II polypeptide (psbA) (Hirschberg et al. (1983) *Science* 222:1346).

Also included are genes encoding resistance to: chloramphenicol (Herrera-Estrella et al. (1983) *EMBO J.* 2:987-992); methotrexate (Herrera-Estrella et al. (1983) *Nature* 303:209-213; Meijer et al. (1991) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 16:807-820 (1991); hygromycin (Waldron et al. (1985) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 5:103-108; Zhijian et al. (1995) *Plant Science* 108:219-227; and Meijer et al. (1991) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 16:807-820); streptomycin (Jones et al. (1987) *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 210:86-91); spectinomycin (Bretagne-Sagnard et al. (1996) *Transgenic Res.* 5:131-137); 15 bleomycin (Hille et al. (1986) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 7:171-176); sulfonamide (Guerineau et al. (1990) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 15:127-136); bromoxynil (Stalker et al. (1988) *Science* 242:419-423); 2,4-D (Streber et al. (1989) *Bio/Technology* 7:811-816); glyphosate (Shaw et al. (1986) *Science* 233:478-481); and phosphinothricin (DeBlock et al. (1987) *EMBO J.* 6:2513-2518).

20 The above list of selectable marker and reporter genes are not meant to be limiting. Any reporter or selectable marker gene are encompassed by the present invention. If necessary, such genes can be sequenced by methods known in the art.

25 The reporter and selectable marker genes are synthesized for optimal expression in the plant. That is, the coding sequence of the gene has been modified to enhance expression in plants. The synthetic marker gene is designed to be expressed in plants at a higher level resulting in higher transformation efficiency. Methods for synthetic optimization of genes are available in the art. In fact, several genes have been optimized to increase expression of the gene product in plants.

30 The marker gene sequence can be optimized for expression in a particular plant species or alternatively can be modified for optimal expression in plant families. The plant preferred codons may be determined from the codons of highest frequency in the proteins expressed in the largest amount in the particular plant

species of interest. See, for example, EPA 0359472; EPA 0385962; WO 91/16432; Perlak et al. (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:3324-3328; and Murray et al. (1989) *Nucleic Acids Research* 17: 477-498; U.S. Pat. No. 5,380,831; and U.S. Pat. No. 5,436,391. In this manner, the nucleotide sequences can be optimized for 5 expression in any plant. It is recognized that all or any part of the gene sequence may be optimized or synthetic. That is, fully optimized or partially optimized sequences may also be used.

Genes that Confer Resistance to an Herbicide:

10 A. Resistance/tolerance of acetohydroxyacid synthase (AHAS) and acetolactate synthase (ALS) against herbicides imidazolinone or sulfonylurea. Genes and mutants for AHAS and mutants have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,761,373, 5,304,732, 5,331,107, 5,853,973, and 5,928,937. Genes and mutants for ALS have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,013,659 and 5,141, 870.

15 B. Resistance/tolerance genes of acetyl coenzyme A carboxylase (ACCase) against herbicides cyclohexanediones and/or aryloxyphenoxypropanoic acid (including Haloxyfop, Diclofop, Fenoxyprop, Fluazifop, Quizalofop) have been described in U.S. Patents 5,162,602 and 5,498,544.

20 C. Genes for glyphosate resistance/tolerance. Gene of 5-enolpyruvyl -3-phosphoshikimate synthase (EPSP synthase) has been described in U.S. Patent No. 4,769,601. Genes of 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) and mutants have been described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,940,835, 5,188,642, 5,310,667, 5,633,435, 5,633,448, and 6,566,587.

25 D. Genes for glufosinate (bialaphos, phosphinothricin (PPT)) resistance/tolerance. Gene for phosphinothricin acetyltransferase (Pat) has been described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,273,894, 5,276,268, and 5,550,318; and gene for bialaphos resistance gene (Bar) has been described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,561,236 and 5,646,024, 5,648,477, and 7,112,665. Gene for glutamine synthetase (GS) has been described in U.S. Patent No. 4,975,372 and European patent application EP 30 0333033 A1.

E. Resistance/tolerance genes of hydroxy phenyl pyruvate dioxygenase (HPPD) against herbicides isoxazole, diketonitriles, and/or triketones including

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sulcotrione and mesotrione have been described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,268,549 and 6,069,115.

F. Genes for 2,4-D resistance/tolerance. Gene of 2,4-D-monooxygenase has been described in U.S. Patent No. 6,100,446 and 6,153,401. Additional genes for 2,4-D resistance/tolerance are disclosed in US 2009/0093366 and WO 5 2007/053482.

G. Gene of imidazoleglycerol phosphate dehydratase (IGPD) against herbicides imidazole and/or triazole has been described in U.S. Patent No. 5,541,310. Genes of Dicamba degrading enzymes (oxygenase, ferredoxin, and 10 reductase) against herbicide Dicamba have been disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 7,022,896 and 7,105,724.

H. Genes for herbicides that inhibit photosynthesis, including triazine (psbA and 1s+ genes) or a benzonitrile (nitrilase gene). *See, e.g.*, Przibila et al., *Plant Cell* 3:169 (1991) disclosing transformation of *Chlamydomonas* with plasmids 15 encoding mutant psbA genes. Nucleotide sequences for nitrilase genes are disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,810,648 and DNA molecules containing these genes are available under ATCC Accession Nos. 53435, 67441, and 67442. Cloning and expression of DNA coding for a glutathione S-transferase is described by Hayes et al., *Biochem. J.* 285:173 (1992).

20 Unless otherwise specifically explained, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by those of ordinary skill in the art to which this disclosure belongs. Definitions of common terms in molecular biology can be found in, for example: Lewin, *Genes V*, Oxford University Press, 1994 (ISBN 0-19-854287-9); Kendrew et al. (eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology*, 25 Blackwell Science Ltd., 1994 (ISBN 0-632-02182-9); and Meyers (ed.), *Molecular Biology and Biotechnology: A Comprehensive Desk Reference*, VCH Publishers, Inc., 1995 (ISBN 1-56081-569-8).

30 This disclosure provides nucleic acid molecules comprising a synthetic nucleotide sequence that may function as a bidirectional promoter. In some embodiments, a synthetic bidirectional promoter may be operably linked to one or two nucleotide sequence(s) of interest. For example, a synthetic bidirectional promoter may be operably linked to one or two nucleotide sequence(s) of interest (*e.g.*, two

genes, one on each end of the promoter), so as to regulate transcription of at least one (e.g., one or both) of the nucleotide sequence(s) of interest. By incorporating a URS from a SCBV promoter in the synthetic bidirectional promoter, particular expression and regulatory patterns (e.g., such as are exhibited by genes under the control of the 5 SCBV promoter) may be achieved with regard to a nucleotide sequence of interest that is operably linked to the synthetic bidirectional promoter.

Some embodiments of the invention are exemplified herein by incorporating a minimal core promoter element from a unidirectional maize ubiquitin-1 gene (ZmUbi1) promoter into a molecular context different from that of the native promoter 10 to engineer a synthetic bidirectional promoter. This minimal core promoter element is referred to herein as “minUbi1P,” and is approximately 200 nt in length. Sequencing and analysis of minUbi1P elements from multiple *Zea* species and *Z. mays* genotypes has revealed that functional minUbi1P elements are highly conserved, such that a minUbi1P element may preserve its function as an initiator of 15 transcription if it shares, for example, at least about 75%; at least about 80%; at least about 85%; at least about 90%; at least about 91%; at least about 92%; at least about 93%; at least about 94%; at least about 95%; at least about 96%; at least about 97%; at least about 98%; at least about 99%; and/or at least about 100% sequence identity to the minUbi1P element of SEQ ID NO:1. Characteristics of minUbi1P elements that 20 may be useful in some embodiments of the invention may include, for example and without limitation, the aforementioned high conservation of nucleotide sequence; the presence of at least one TATA box; and/or the presence of at least one (e.g., two) heat shock consensus element(s). In particular minUbi1P elements, more than one heat shock consensus elements may be overlapping within the minUbi1P sequence.

25 In some embodiments, the process of incorporating a minUbi1P element into a molecular context different from that of a native promoter to engineer a synthetic bidirectional promoter may comprise incorporating the minUbi1P element into a SCBV promoter nucleic acid, while reversing the orientation of the minUbi1P element with respect to the remaining sequence of the SCBV promoter. Thus, a synthetic 30 SCBV bidirectional promoter may comprise a minUbi1P minimal core promoter element located 3' of, and in reverse orientation with respect to, a SCBV promoter nucleotide sequence, such that it may be operably linked to a nucleotide sequence of

interest located 3' of the SCBV promoter nucleotide sequence. For example, the minUbi1P element may be incorporated at the 3' end of a SCBV promoter in reverse orientation.

A synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may also comprise one or more 5 additional sequence elements in addition to a minUbi1P element and elements of a native SCBV promoter. In some embodiments, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may comprise a promoter URS; an exon (*e.g.*, a leader or signal peptide); an intron; a spacer sequence; and or combinations of one or more of any of the foregoing. For example and without limitation, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may 10 comprise a URS sequence from a SCBV promoter; an intron from a ADH gene; an exon encoding a leader peptide from a Ubi1 gene; an intron from a Ubi1 gene; and combinations of these.

In some of those examples comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter comprising a promoter URS, the URS may be selected to confer particular 15 regulatory properties on the synthetic promoter. Known promoters vary widely in the type of control they exert on operably linked genes (*e.g.*, environmental responses, developmental cues, and spatial information), and a URS incorporated into a heterologous promoter typically maintains the type of control the URS exhibits with regard to its native promoter and operably linked gene(s). Langridge et al. (1989), 20 *supra*. Examples of eukaryotic promoters that have been characterized and may contain a URS comprised within a synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter according to some embodiments include, for example and without limitation: those promoters described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,437,217 (maize RS81 promoter); 5,641,876 (rice actin promoter); 6,426,446 (maize RS324 promoter); 6,429,362 (maize PR-1 promoter); 25 6,232,526 (maize A3 promoter); 6,177,611 (constitutive maize promoters); 6,433,252 (maize L3 oleosin promoter); 6,429,357 (rice actin 2 promoter, and rice actin 2 intron); 5,837,848 (root-specific promoter); 6,294,714 (light-inducible promoters); 6,140,078 (salt-inducible promoters); 6,252,138 (pathogen-inducible promoters); 6,175,060 (phosphorous deficiency-inducible promoters); 6,388,170 (bidirectional promoters); 30 6,635,806 (gamma-coixin promoter); and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/757,089 (maize chloroplast aldolase promoter).

Additional exemplary prokaryotic promoters include the nopaline synthase (NOS) promoter (Ebert et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84(16):5745-9); the octopine synthase (OCS) promoter (which is carried on tumor-inducing plasmids of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*); the caulimovirus promoters such as the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 19S promoter (Lawton et al. (1987) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 9:315-24); the CaMV 35S promoter (Odell et al. (1985) *Nature* 313:810-2; the figwort mosaic virus 35S-promoter (Walker et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84(19):6624-8); the sucrose synthase promoter (Yang and Russell (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:4144-8); the R gene complex promoter (Chandler et al. (1989) *Plant Cell* 1:1175-83); CaMV35S (U.S. Patent Nos. 5,322,938, 5,352,605, 5,359,142, and 5,530,196); FMV35S (U.S. Patent Nos. 6,051,753, and 5,378,619); a PC1SV promoter (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,019); the SCP1 promoter (U.S. Patent No. 6,677,503); and AGRTu.nos promoters (GenBank Accession No. V00087; Depicker et al. (1982) *J. Mol. Appl. Genet.* 1:561-73; Bevan et al. (1983) *Nature* 304:184-7), and the like.

In some embodiments, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may further comprise an exon. For example, in examples it may be desirable to target or traffic a polypeptide encoded by a nucleotide sequence of interest operably linked to the promoter to a particular subcellular location and/or compartment. In these and other embodiments, a coding sequence (exon) may be incorporated into a nucleic acid molecule between the remaining synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter sequence and a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide. These elements may be arranged according to the discretion of the skilled practitioner such that the synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter promotes the expression of a polypeptide (or one or both of two polypeptide-encoding sequences that are operably linked to the promoter) comprising the peptide encoded by the incorporated coding sequence in a functional relationship with the remainder of the polypeptide. In particular examples, an exon encoding a leader, transit, or signal peptide (e.g., a Ubi1 leader peptide) may be incorporated.

Peptides that may be encoded by an exon incorporated into a synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter include, for example and without limitation: a Ubiquitin (e.g., Ubi1) leader peptide; a chloroplast transit peptide (CTP) (e.g., the *A. thaliana* EPSPS CTP (Klee et al. (1987) *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 210:437-42), and the *Petunia hybrida*

EPSPS CTP (della-Cioppa et al. (1986) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 83:6873-7)), as exemplified for the chloroplast targeting of dicamba monooxygenase (DMO) in International PCT Publication No. WO 2008/105890.

Introns may also be incorporated in a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter in 5 some embodiments of the invention, for example, between the remaining synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter sequence and a nucleotide sequence of interest that is operably linked to the promoter. In some examples, an intron incorporated into a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may be, without limitation, a 5' UTR that functions as a translation leader sequence that is present in a fully processed mRNA upstream of the translation start sequence (such a translation leader sequence may 10 affect processing of a primary transcript to mRNA, mRNA stability, and/or translation efficiency). Examples of translation leader sequences include maize and petunia heat shock protein leaders (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,865), plant virus coat protein leaders, plant rubisco leaders, and others. *See, e.g.*, Turner and Foster (1995) *Molecular 15 Biotech.* 3(3):225-36. Non-limiting examples of 5' UTRs include GmHsp (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,122); PhDnaK (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,865); AtAnt1; TEV (Carrington and Freed (1990) *J. Virol.* 64:1590-7); and AGRtunos (GenBank Accession No. V00087; and Bevan et al. (1983) *Nature* 304:184-7). In particular examples, a Ubi1 and/or ADH intron(s) may be incorporated in a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter.

Additional sequences that may optionally be incorporated into a synthetic 20 bidirectional SCBV promoter include, for example and without limitation: 3' non-translated sequences; 3' transcription termination regions; and polyadenylation regions. These are genetic elements located downstream of a nucleotide sequence of interest (*e.g.*, a sequence of interest that is operably linked to a synthetic bidirectional 25 SCBV promoter), and include polynucleotides that provide polyadenylation signal, and/or other regulatory signals capable of affecting transcription, mRNA processing, or gene expression. A polyadenylation signal may function in plants to cause the addition of polyadenylate nucleotides to the 3' end of a mRNA precursor. The polyadenylation sequence may be derived from the natural gene, from a variety of plant genes, or from 30 T-DNA genes. A non-limiting example of a 3' transcription termination region is the nopaline synthase 3' region (nos 3'; Fraley et al. (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 80:4803-7). An example of the use of different 3' nontranslated regions is provided in

Ingelbrecht et al. (1989), *Plant Cell* 1:671-80. Non-limiting examples of polyadenylation signals include one from a *Pisum sativum* RbcS2 gene (Ps.RbcS2-E9; Coruzzi et al. (1984) *EMBO J.* 3:1671-9) and AGRtu.nos (GenBank Accession No. E01312).

5 In some embodiments, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter comprises one or more nucleotide sequence(s) that facilitate targeting of a nucleic acid comprising the promoter to a particular locus in the genome of a target organism. For example, one or more sequences may be included that are homologous to segments of genomic DNA sequence in the host (e.g., rare or unique genomic DNA sequences). In some
10 examples, these homologous sequences may guide recombination and integration of a nucleic acid comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter at the site of the homologous DNA in the host genome. In particular examples, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter comprises one or more nucleotide sequences that facilitate targeting of a nucleic acid comprising the promoter to a rare or unique location in a host genome
15 utilizing engineered nuclease enzymes that recognize sequence at the rare or unique location and facilitate integration at that rare or unique location. Such a targeted integration system employing zinc-finger endonucleases as the nuclease enzyme is described in U.S. Patent Application No. 13/011,735.

20 Nucleic acids comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter may be produced using any technique known in the art, including for example and without limitation: RCA; PCR amplification; RT-PCR amplification; OLA; and SNuPE. These and other equivalent techniques are well known to those of skill in the art, and are further described in detail in, for example and without limitation: Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 3rd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory,
25 2001; and Ausubel et al., *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, John Wiley & Sons, 1998.

30 Delivery and/or transformation: The present disclosure also provides methods for transforming a cell with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter. Any of the large number of techniques known in the art for introduction of nucleic acid molecules into plants may be used to transform a plant with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter according to some embodiments, for example, to introduce one or more synthetic

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bidirectional SCBV promoters into the host plant genome, and/or to further introduce one or more nucleic acid molecule(s) of interest operably linked to the promoter.

Suitable methods for transformation of plants include any method by which DNA can be introduced into a cell, for example and without limitation: electroporation (see, e.g., U.S. Patent 5,384,253); microprojectile bombardment (see, e.g., U.S. Patents 5,015,580, 5,550,318, 5,538,880, 6,160,208, 6,399,861, and 6,403,865); *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation (see, e.g., U.S. Patents 5,635,055, 5,824,877, 5,591,616; 5,981,840, and 6,384,301); and protoplast transformation (see, e.g., U.S. Patent 5,508,184). Through the application of techniques such as the foregoing, the cells of virtually any plant species may be stably transformed, and these cells may be developed into transgenic plants by techniques known to those of skill in the art. For example, techniques that may be particularly useful in the context of cotton transformation are described in U.S. Patents 5,846,797, 5,159,135, 5,004,863, and 6,624,344; techniques for transforming *Brassica* plants in particular are described, for example, in U.S. Patent 5,750,871; techniques for transforming soya are described, for example, in U.S. Patent 6,384,301; and techniques for transforming maize are described, for example, in U.S. Patents 7,060,876 and 5,591,616, and International PCT Publication WO 95/06722.

After effecting delivery of an exogenous nucleic acid to a recipient cell, the transformed cell is generally identified for further culturing and plant regeneration. In order to improve the ability to identify transformants, one may desire to employ a selectable or screenable marker gene with the transformation vector used to generate the transformant. In this case, the potentially transformed cell population can be assayed by exposing the cells to a selective agent or agents, or the cells can be screened for the desired marker gene trait.

Cells that survive the exposure to the selective agent, or cells that have been scored positive in a screening assay, may be cultured in media that supports regeneration of plants. In some embodiments, any suitable plant tissue culture media (e.g., MS and N6 media) may be modified by including further substances, such as growth regulators. Tissue may be maintained on a basic media with growth regulators until sufficient tissue is available to begin plant regeneration efforts, or following repeated rounds of manual selection, until the morphology of the tissue is suitable for

regeneration (*e.g.*, at least 2 weeks), then transferred to media conducive to shoot formation. Cultures are transferred periodically until sufficient shoot formation has occurred. Once shoots are formed, they are transferred to media conducive to root formation. Once sufficient roots are formed, plants can be transferred to soil for further 5 growth and maturity.

To confirm the presence of the desired nucleic acid molecule comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter in the regenerating plants, a variety of assays may be performed. Such assays include, for example: molecular biological assays, such as Southern and Northern blotting and PCR; biochemical assays, such as detecting 10 the presence of a protein product, *e.g.*, by immunological means (ELISA and/or Western blots) or by enzymatic function; plant part assays, such as leaf or root assays; and analysis of the phenotype of the whole regenerated plant.

Targeted integration events may be screened, for example, by PCR amplification using, *e.g.*, oligonucleotide primers specific for nucleic acid molecules of 15 interest. PCR genotyping is understood to include, but not be limited to, polymerase-chain reaction (PCR) amplification of genomic DNA derived from isolated host plant callus tissue predicted to contain a nucleic acid molecule of interest integrated into the genome, followed by standard cloning and sequence analysis of PCR amplification products. Methods of PCR genotyping have been well described 20 (*see, e.g.*, Rios et al. (2002), *Plant J.* 32:243-53), and may be applied to genomic DNA derived from any plant species or tissue type, including cell cultures. Combinations of oligonucleotide primers that bind to both target sequence and introduced sequence may be used sequentially or multiplexed in PCR amplification reactions. Oligonucleotide primers designed to anneal to the target site, introduced nucleic acid sequences, and/or 25 combinations of the two may be produced. Thus, PCR genotyping strategies may include, for example and without limitation: amplification of specific sequences in the plant genome; amplification of multiple specific sequences in the plant genome; amplification of non-specific sequences in the plant genome; and combinations of any of the foregoing. One skilled in the art may devise additional combinations of primers 30 and amplification reactions to interrogate the genome. For example, a set of forward and reverse oligonucleotide primers may be designed to anneal to nucleic acid

sequence(s) specific for the target outside the boundaries of the introduced nucleic acid sequence.

Forward and reverse oligonucleotide primers may be designed to anneal specifically to an introduced nucleic acid molecule, for example, at a sequence 5 corresponding to a coding region within a nucleotide sequence of interest comprised therein, or other parts of the nucleic acid molecule. These primers may be used in conjunction with the primers described above. Oligonucleotide primers may be synthesized according to a desired sequence, and are commercially available (e.g., from Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc., Coralville, IA). Amplification may be 10 followed by cloning and sequencing, or by direct sequence analysis of amplification products. One skilled in the art might envision alternative methods for analysis of amplification products generated during PCR genotyping. In one embodiment, oligonucleotide primers specific for the gene target are employed in PCR amplifications.

15 Some embodiments of the present invention also provide cells comprising a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter, for example, as may be present in a nucleic acid construct. In particular examples, a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter according to some embodiments may be utilized as a regulatory sequence to regulate the expression of transgenes in plant cells and plants. In some such examples, the use 20 of a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter operably linked to a nucleotide sequence of interest (e.g., a transgene) may reduce the number of homologous promoters needed to regulate expression of a given number of nucleotide sequences of interest, and/or reduce the size of the nucleic acid construct(s) required to introduce a given number of nucleotide sequences of interest. Furthermore, use of a synthetic bidirectional SCBV 25 promoter may allow co-expression of two operably linked nucleotide sequence of interest under the same conditions (i.e., the conditions under which the SCBV promoter is active). Such examples may be particularly useful, e.g., when the two operably linked nucleotide sequences of interest each contribute to a single trait in a transgenic host comprising the nucleotide sequences of interest, and co-expression of the 30 nucleotide sequences of interest advantageously impacts expression of the trait in the transgenic host.

In some embodiments, a transgenic plant comprising one or more synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter(s) and/or nucleotide sequence(s) of interest may have one or more desirable traits conferred (e.g., introduced, enhanced, or contributed to) by expression of the nucleotide sequence(s) of interest in the plant. Such traits may

5 include, for example and without limitation: resistance to insects, other pests, and disease-causing agents; tolerances to herbicides; enhanced stability, yield, or shelf-life; environmental tolerances; pharmaceutical production; industrial product production; and nutritional enhancements. In some examples, a desirable trait may be conferred by transformation of a plant with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a synthetic

10 bidirectional SCBV promoter operably linked to a nucleotide sequence of interest. In some examples, a desirable trait may be conferred to a plant produced as a progeny plant *via* breeding, which trait may be conferred by one or more nucleotide sequences of interest operably linked to a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter that is/are passed to the plant from a parent plant comprising a nucleotide sequence of interest

15 operably linked to a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter.

A transgenic plant according to some embodiments may be any plant capable of being transformed with a nucleic acid molecule of the invention, or of being bred with a plant transformed with a nucleic acid molecule of the invention. Accordingly, the plant may be a dicot or monocot. Non-limiting examples of dicotyledonous plants for use in some examples include: alfalfa; beans; broccoli; cabbage; canola; carrot; cauliflower; celery; Chinese cabbage; cotton; cucumber; eggplant; lettuce; melon; pea; pepper; peanut; potato; pumpkin; radish; rapeseed; spinach; soybean; squash; sugarbeet; sunflower; tobacco; tomato; and watermelon. Non-limiting examples of monocotyledonous plants for use in some examples include: corn; onion; rice; sorghum; wheat; rye; millet; sugarcane; oat; triticale; switchgrass; and turfgrass.

In some embodiments, a transgenic plant may be used or cultivated in any manner, wherein presence a synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter and/or operably linked nucleotide sequence of interest is desirable. Accordingly, such transgenic plants may be engineered to, *inter alia*, have one or more desired traits, by being transformed with nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, and may be cropped and/or cultivated by any method known to those of skill in the art.

While the invention has been described with reference to specific methods and embodiments, it will be appreciated that various modifications and changes may be made without departing from the invention.

The following examples are provided to illustrate certain particular features 5 and/or embodiments. The examples should not be construed to limit the disclosure to the particular features or embodiments exemplified.

EXAMPLES

EXAMPLE 1: Transformation and Expression

10 Transformation of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*: The pDAB108706 binary vector is transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain DAt13192 ternary (U.S. Prov. Pat. No. 61/368965). Bacterial colonies are isolated and binary plasmid DNA is isolated and confirmed *via* restriction enzyme digestion.

15 Corn Transformation: Ear Sterilization and Embryo Isolation. To obtain maize immature embryos, plants of *Zea mays* (c.v. B104) are grown in the greenhouse and self or sib-pollinated to produce ears. The ears are harvested approximately 9-12 days post-pollination. On the day of the experiment, ears are surface-sterilized by immersion in a 20% solution of household bleach, which contains 5% sodium hypochlorite, and shaken for 20-30 minutes, followed by three rinses in sterile water.

20 After sterilization, immature zygotic embryos (1.5–2.2 mm) are aseptically dissected from each ear and randomly distributed into micro-centrifuge tubes containing liquid infection media (LS Basal Medium, 4.43 gm/L; N6 Vitamin Solution [1000X], 1.00 mL/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; sucrose, 68.5 gm/L; glucose, 36.0 gm/L; 2,4-D, 1.50 mg/L. For a given set of experiments, pooled embryos from 2-3 ears are used for each 25 treatment.

Agrobacterium Culture Initiation: Glycerol stocks of *Agrobacterium* containing the binary vectors described above are streaked on AB minimal medium plates containing appropriate antibiotics and are grown at 20°C for 3-4 days. A single colony is picked and streaked onto YEP plates containing the same antibiotics and was 30 incubated at 28°C for 1-2 days.

Agrobacterium Culture and Co-cultivation: On the day of the experiment, *Agrobacterium* colonies are taken from the YEP plate, suspended in 10 mL of infection

medium in a 50 mL disposable tube, and the cell density is adjusted to OD600 = 0.2-0.4 nm using a spectrophotometer. The *Agrobacterium* cultures are placed on a rotary shaker at 100 rpm, room temperature, while embryo dissection is performed. Immature zygotic embryos between 1.5-2.2 mm in size are isolated from the sterilized 5 maize kernels and placed in 1 mL of the infection medium and washed once in the same medium. The *Agrobacterium* suspension (2 mL) is added to each tube and the tubes are inverted for about 20 times then shaken for 10-15 minutes. The embryos are transferred onto co-cultivation media (MS Salts, 4.33 gm/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba- 3.30 10 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 gm/L; Gelzan™, 3.00 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L, AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Acetosyringone, 100 µM), oriented with the scutellum facing up, and incubated for 3-4 days in the light at 25°C.

15 GUS and YFP/PhiYFP Transient expression: Transient YFP/PhiYFP and GUS expression can be observed in transformed embryos and after 3 days of co-cultivation with *Agrobacterium*. The embryos are observed under a stereomicroscope (Leica Microsystems, Buffalo Grove, IL) using YFP filter and 500 nm light source. Embryos showing YFP/PhiYFP expression are selected for GUS histochemical assay. GUS staining solution is prepared as described in Maniatis et al. (1989) and embryos are 20 incubated in 1 mL solution for 24 hours at 37°C. The embryos are observed for GUS transient expression under the microscope.

Callus Selection and Regeneration of Putative Events: Following the co-cultivation period, embryos are transferred to resting media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid] 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic 25 hydrolysate 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 gm/L; Gelzan 2.30 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) without selective agent and incubated in the light for 7 days at 28°C. Embryos are transferred onto Selection 1 media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid] 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 30 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 gm/L; Gelzan™ 2.30 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) containing 100

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nM haloxyfop and incubated in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C.

Embryos with proliferating embryogenic calli are transferred onto Selection 2 media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; MES [2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid], free acid] 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 gm/L; Gelzan™ 2.30 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) containing 500 nM haloxyfop and are incubated in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for another 14 days at 28°C. This selection step allows transgenic callus to further proliferate and differentiate. The callus selection period lasts for three weeks. Proliferating, embryogenic calli are transferred onto Regeneration 1 media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; L-proline, 350.0 mg/L; MES [2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid], free acid] 250.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate 50.0 mg/L; NAA 0.500 mg/L; ABA 2.50 mg/L; BA 1.00 mg/L; sucrose, 45.0 gm/L; Gelzan™ 2.50 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 1.00 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) containing 500 nM haloxyfop and cultured in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C. Embryogenic calli with shoot-like buds are transferred onto Regeneration 2 media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; sucrose, 60.0 gm/L; Gellan Gum G434™ 3.00 gm/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) containing 500 nM haloxyfop. The cultures are incubated under 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7-10 days at 28°C. Small shoots with primary roots are transferred to shoot elongation and rooting media (MS salts, 4.33 gm/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; sucrose, 60.0 gm/L; Gellan Gum G434™ 3.00 gm/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) in MAGENTA™ boxes (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), and are incubated under 16/8 hours light/dark for 7 days at 28°C. Putative transgenic plantlets are analyzed for transgene copy number and transferred to the greenhouse.

EXAMPLE 2: Construction of a Synthetic Bidirectional SCBV Promoter and pDAB108708 Vector

An exemplary schematic drawing of the maize Ubiquitin-1 promoter (Ubi1) is shown in FIG. 1. An Ubi1 promoter is cloned from maize. A plasmid which contained the promoter is PCR amplified using a high-fidelity PCR amplification system. An approximately 200 nt region of the maize Ubi1 promoter is identified as a *Zea mays* Ubi1 minimal core promoter (minUbi1P) (SEQ ID NO: 1). The minUbi1P of SEQ ID NO: 1 is then added to a polynucleotide comprising a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 exon (ZmUbi1 exon) and a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 intron (ZmUbi1 intron) using cloning methods commonly known in the art to produce the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 2. The resulting polynucleotide was then cloned upstream in reverse orientation of a nucleic acid comprising the maize Ubi1 promoter (including the Ubi1 URS) to produce the synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter of SEQ ID NO: 3.

Reporter gene coding sequences are cloned downstream of each end of the synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter. A yellow fluorescence protein (YFP) coding sequence is inserted downstream of the polynucleotide fragment which contained the minUbi1P, ZmUbi1 exon, and ZmUbi1 intron promoter elements. In addition, a downstream leader sequence containing a 3-frame stop polynucleotide sequence and the maize consensus polynucleotide sequence is added to the minUbi1P, ZmUbi1, exon and ZmUbi1 intron promoter elements fragment. A *uidA* (*GUS*) coding sequence was also inserted downstream of the synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter in reverse orientation with respect to the *YFP* sequence to produce the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 4. The resulting polynucleotide comprising the synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter operably linked to the *YFP* and *GUS* genes was cloned into plasmid pDAB105801. FIG. 4 shows the orientation of the *YFP* and *GUS* expression cassette in relation to the synthetic bidirectional Ubi1 promoter in plasmid pDAB105801.

The native Ubi1 promoter sequence is removed from the bidirectional Ubi1 promoter of plasmid pDAB105801 and replaced with a PCR amplified fragment containing the SCBV promoter and ADH intron (SEQ ID NO: 6). The resulting exemplary synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter is set forth as SEQ ID NO: 5 (also see FIG. 5). The addition of this SCBV promoter resulted in the completion of vector pDAB105806 (FIG. 6). This vector contained the *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression

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cassettes which were driven by the SCBV bi-directional promoter (SEQ ID NO: 7; also see FIG. 7).

A binary vector which contained the *GUS* and *YFP* gene expression cassettes from plasmid pDAB105806 is completed *via* a GATEWAY L-R CLONASE reaction 5 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). The resulting vector, pDAB108708, contained the *GUS*, *YFP*, and *AAD-1* gene expression cassettes within the T-strand region (see FIG. 9).

EXAMPLE 3: Expression of Genes Operably linked to a Synthetic Bidirectional SCBV Promoter

10 Representative examples of YFP and GUS transient expression in *Zea mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108708 can be imaged. Both sides of the bidirectional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of the operably linked *YFP* and *GUS* coding sequences. The YFP expression levels are comparable to the GUS expression levels. These observations confirm that both sides of the bidirectional 15 SCBV promoter are biologically functional. Moreover, the minUbi1P element of the synthetic bidirectional SCBV promoter can express YFP at similar expression levels as compared to *Zea mays* callus transformed with a binary plasmid (pDAB101556) that contained only a unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter driving the *YFP* coding sequence. Expression of YFP or GUS is not detected in negative control immature embryos 20 which are not transformed with a binary construct, and did not contain the *YFP* or *GUS* coding sequences.

EXAMPLE 4: Stable Expression of Genes Operably linked to a Synthetic Bidirectional SCBV Promoter

25 Images of *Zea mays* callus cells that are stably transformed with the pDAB108708 binary vector, which contains a *YFP* coding sequence, can be observed. These cells are obtained from *Z. mays* embryos that have been propagating on Selection 2 medium. The microscopy conditions and protocol that are used to generate the images of the embryos. The bidirectional SCBV promoter 30 can drive robust expression of the *YFP* coding sequences. These results confirm that the Min-Ubi1P minimal promoter element of the bidirectional SCBV promoter is capable of expressing a reporter gene in stably transformed *Z. mays* callus cells. The

levels of expression of the YFP protein are similar as compared to YFP expression in *Z. mays* callus transformed with a control binary vector that contained the unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter driving the *YFP* coding sequence (pDAB101556). Expression of YFP is not detected in the negative control callus that was not 5 transformed with a binary construct and did not contain a *YFP* or *GUS* coding sequence.

**EXAMPLE 5: Transgene Copy Number Estimation Using Real Time
TaqMan™ PCR**

10 *Zea mays* embryos are transformed with a binary vector containing a bidirectional SCBV promoter, pDAB108708, and other plants are transformed with a control binary vector, pDAB101556. The presence of *YFP* transgenes within the genome of both set of *Z. mays* plants is confirmed *via* a hydrolysis probe assay. Stably transformed transgenic *Z. mays* plantlets that developed from the callus are 15 obtained and analyzed to identify events that contain a low copy number (1-2 copies) of full-length T-strand inserts from the pDAB108708 binary vector and pDAB101556 control binary vector. Identified plantlets are advanced to the green house and grown.

20 The Roche Light Cycler480™ system is used to determine the transgene copy number for events that are transformed with the pDAB108708 binary vector. The method utilizes a biplex TAQMAM® reaction that employs oligonucleotides specific to the *YFP* gene and to the endogenous *Z. mays* reference gene, invertase (Genbank Accession No: U16123.1), in a single assay. Copy number and zygosity are determined by measuring the intensity of *YFP*-specific fluorescence, relative to 25 the *invertase*-specific fluorescence, as compared to known copy number standards.

30 In *Z. mays* transformed with the pDAB108708 binary vector, a *YFP* gene-specific DNA fragment is amplified with one TAQMAM® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with FAM fluorescent dye, and invertase is amplified with a second TAQMAM® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with HEX fluorescence (Table 2). The PCR reaction mixture is prepared as set forth in Table 3, and the gene-specific DNA fragments are amplified according to the conditions set forth in Table 4. Copy number and zygosity of the samples are determined by

measuring the relative intensity of fluorescence specific for the reporter gene, *YFP*, to fluorescence specific for the reference gene, invertase, as compared to known copy number standards.

5 Table 2. Forward and reverse nucleotide primer and fluorescent probes (synthesized by Integrated DNA Technologies, Coralville, IA)

Primer Name	SEQ ID NO:	Primer Sequence
YFP Forward Primer	SEQ ID NO: 8	GATGCCTCAGTGGAAAGG
YFP Reverse Primer	SEQ ID NO: 9	CCATAGGTGAGAGTGGTGACAA
YFP Probe	SEQ ID NO: 41	ROCHE UPL Probe #125 CTTGGAGC Cat # 04693604001 (Roche, Indianapolis, IN)
Invertase Forward Primer	SEQ ID NO: 10	TGGCGGACGACGACTTGT
Invertase Reverse Primer	SEQ ID NO: 11	AAAGTTGGAGGCTGCCGT
Invertase Probe	SEQ ID NO: 12	5'HEX/CGAGCAGACGCCGTACTT CTACC /3BHQ_1/3'
AAD1 Forward Primer	SEQ ID NO: 13	TGTTCGGTTCCCTCTACCAA
AAD1 Reverse Primer	SEQ ID NO: 14	CAACATCCATCACCTTGACTGA
AAD1 Probe	SEQ ID NO: 15	CACAGAACCGTCGCTTCAGCAACA

Standards are created by diluting the vector, pDAB108708, into *Z. mays* B104 genomic DNA (gDNA) to obtain standards with a known relationship of 10 pDAB108706:gDNA. For example, samples having one; two; and four cop(ies) of vector DNA per one copy of the *Z. mays* B104 gDNA are prepared. One and two copy dilutions of the pDAB108706 mixed with the *Z. mays* B104 gDNA standard are validated against a control *Z. mays* event that is known to be hemizygous, and a control *Z. mays* event that is known to be homozygous (*Z. mays* event 278; *see* PCT 15 International Patent Publication No. WO 2011/022469 A2). A TAQMAN® bplex assay which utilizes oligonucleotides specific to the *AAD1* gene and oligonucleotides specific to the endogenous *Z. mays* reference gene, invertase, is performed by amplifying and detecting a gene-specific DNA fragment for *AAD1* with one TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with FAM 20 fluorescent dye, and by amplifying and detecting a gene-specific DNA fragment for invertase with a second TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with HEX fluorescence (Table 2). The *AAD1* TAQMAN® reaction mixture is

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prepared as set forth in Table 3 and the specific fragments are amplified according to the conditions set forth in Table 4.

Table 3. TAQMAM® PCR reaction mixture.

5

Number of Reactions	µL each	Final Concentration
H ₂ O	0.5 µL	-
PVP (10%)	0.1 µL	0.1%
ROCHE 2X Master Mix	5 µL	1X
YFP Forward Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
YFP Reverse Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
YFP Probe UPL#125 (5 µM)	0.4 µL	0.2 µM
Invertase Forward Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Invertase Reverse Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Invertase Probe (5µM)	0.4 µL	0.2 µM
DNA Template	2.0 µL	-
Total reaction volume	10 µL	-

The level of fluorescence that was generated for each reaction was analyzed using the Roche LightCycler 480™ Thermocycler according to the manufacturer's directions. The FAM fluorescent moiety was excited at an optical density of 465/510 nm, and the HEX fluorescent moiety was excited at an optical density of 533/580 nm. The copy number was determined by comparison of Target/Reference values for unknown samples (output by the LightCycler 480™) to Target/Reference values of four known copy number standards (Null, 1-Copy (hemi), 2-Copy (homo) and 4-Copy).

15

Table 4. Thermocycler conditions for PCR amplification.

PCR Steps	Temp (°C)	Time	No. of cycles
Step-1	95	10 minutes	1
Step-2	95	10 seconds	40
	59	35 seconds	
	72	1 second	
Step-3	40	10 seconds	1

Results from the transgene copy number analysis of transgenic plants obtained *via* transformation with a bidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter construct (pDAB108706), and of transgenic plants obtained *via* transformation with a control unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter YFP construct (pDAB101556) is shown in Table 5.

5 Only plants with 1-2 copies of the *yfp* transgene are transferred to the greenhouse for further expression analyses.

Table 5. Transgene copy number estimation of the transgenic plants obtained from bidirectional promoter and control constructs.

Construct	Number of Embryos Transformed	Number of Positive Events	1-2 Copies of YFP
pDAB101556	100	31	13
pDAB108708	113	26	16

10

EXAMPLE 6: Whole Plant Stable Expression of Genes Operably linked to a Synthetic Bidirectional SCBV Promoter.

Whole plants that contain a low copy number of the binary plasmid pDAB108708, and plants that contain a low copy number of the control binary plasmid pDAB101556, are grown in a greenhouse. These plants are analyzed using microscopy, where images can be observed showing *YFP* expression in *T₀* *Z. mays* plants that are stably transformed with an exemplary nucleic acid construct comprising a *YFP* expression cassette operably linked to a synthetic SCBV bidirectional promoter (pDAB108708). Representative examples of stable expression of *YFP* in leaf and root tissue of transgenic *T₀* maize plants obtained from *Z. mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108708 show good *YFP* expression. The bidirectional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of the *YFP* coding sequences both in leaf tissues and root tissues. The microscopy analysis also confirms that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element in the bidirectional SCBV promoter can drive *YFP* expression at similar expression levels as compared to *Z. mays* plants transformed with a control binary plasmid (pDAB101556) that contains a unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter driving expression of the *YFP* coding sequence. The control plants show stable *YFP* expression in leaf tissues and root tissues.

EXAMPLE 7: Western Blot Analysis of Genes Operably linked to a Synthetic Bidirectional SCBV Promoter

Total Soluble Protein: Transformed T₀ maize plants are sampled at the V6 developmental stage. A total of four leaf punches from the youngest unfolded leaf are sampled into a matrix tube and placed into a matrix box. As a negative control, four leaf punches of two untransformed B104 maize plants at the V6 developmental stage are sampled into a matrix tube. A steel bead is placed into the matrix tubes with the samples, and then 400 µL PBST is added to each tube. The tubes are capped, and protein is extracted *via* bead beating at 1500 rpm for 5 minutes in a KlecoTM tissue grinder. Debris is pelleted *via* centrifugation.

A 5 µL sample from each tube was diluted to 25 µL with PBST in a 96-well microtiter plate. These samples were analyzed for total soluble protein using a BCA protein assay kit (Thermo Scientific Pierce, Rockford, IL) according to the manufacturer's directions. Bovine serum albumin (BSA) standards provided in the kit were analyzed in duplicate, and the average of the values was used to generate a standard curve that was subsequently used to calculate total soluble protein for each sample. The total soluble protein for each sample was then normalized to mg/µL.

Table 6. Western blot protocol.

Step	Condition	Time
First Wash	PBST	5 min.
Primary Hybridization	2 µg/mL rabbit anti-PhiYFP (Axxora, San Diego, CA) in StartingBlock TM T20 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Waltham, MA)	60 min.
Rinse	PBST	3 x 5 min.
Secondary Hybridization	horse radish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG	30 min.
Second Wash	PBST	3 x 5 min.
Rinse	PBS	3 x 2 min

YFP/PhiYFP Western Blot Analysis: In the 96-well microtiter plate, each 5 µL sample of extracted protein is diluted with 5 µL 2x Laemmli Buffer + 2-β-mercaptoethanol. Control samples of purified YFP/PhiYFP in HEPES buffer

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(50 mM HEPES, 200 mM KCl, 10% glycerol) is purchased from Axxora (San Diego, CA). The samples are prepared in the same plate by diluting 1:1 with Laemmli buffer to produce a standard curve of the following concentrations: 0.5 ng/µL, 0.25 ng/µL, and 0.125 ng/µL. Samples are heated in a Thermocycler at 95°C 5 for 30 minutes, and then cooled to 4°C. A Bio-Rad Criterion gel™ is then assembled using MES/SDS buffer. The samples are allowed to warm to room temperature, and 10 µL of sample are loaded into each well of two gels. In addition, samples of purified YFP/PhiYFP used for a standard curve, and protein ladder marker, are loaded into wells of the gel. The gels are electrophoretically run at 150 10 V and 150 mA for 90 min. After the run, the gel casings are opened and the proteins are transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane using the iBlot System™ (Invitrogen). Protein is transferred from the gel to the membrane by running a current of 20 V for 10 minutes. The nitrocellulose membrane is removed and placed in StartingBlock 15 T20™ blocking buffer overnight at 4°C. The blocking buffer is then discarded, and the membrane is processed using the protocol set forth in Table 6.

Antibody binding was detected using the Amersham ECL™ plus chemiluminescent detection system following the manufacturer's directions. Film was exposed at 10 minutes and 30 minutes. The 10 minute exposed film was used to quantify protein, and the 30 minute overexposure film was used to confirm the 20 absence of protein in B104 and other control samples. The membrane was taped to the back of the exposed film, and protein was quantified *via* pixel density analysis. The pixel density of the purified protein standards was first used to generate a standard curve that was used to quantify protein in the samples. Though membrane showed bands for a PhiYFP monomer and dimer even in the purified standard, only 25 the PhiYFP monomer was used to quantify protein expression. Values for the protein were then normalized to ng/µL. The ratio of normalized total soluble protein (TSP) to PhiYFP was calculated to the units of ng YFP/mg TSP, or alternatively, parts per million (ppm).

GUS Western Blot Analysis: Expression of GUS protein is quantified in a 30 similar manner to PhiYFP, with the following exception: a 10 µL sample of extract is diluted 1:1 with 2x Laemmli + 2-β-mercaptoethanol, denatured at 95°C for 30

minutes, and then 15 μ L is loaded into the gel. Processed membranes with film (1 minute exposure) are overlayed with the membrane for pixel density analysis.

Results of a Western blot analysis of 12 transgenic T_0 maize plants obtained from *Z. mays* embryos transformed with the binary vector, pDAB108708, are shown in FIG. 16. The bidirectional SCBV promoter shows robust expression of the *YFP* and *GUS* coding sequences from leaf tissue. These observations confirm that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element isolated from a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin1 Promoter and fused to the SCBV promoter can express YFP at similar expression levels as compared to *Z. mays* callus transformed with a binary plasmid containing a unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter driving the *YFP* coding sequence (pDAB101556; see FIG. 17).

EXAMPLE 8: Construct of a Four-gene Cassette Stack

A plasmid pDAB105806 construct is used as the starting plasmid to generate a four-gene cassette stack (AAD1-2A-PhiYFP and Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35) driven by a single SCBV bi-directional promoter. A representative map of plasmid pDAB105806 is shown in FIG. 6, which contains a SCBV bi-directional Promoter.

The AAD1-2A-PhiYFP fragment derived from plasmid pDAB105841 (FIG. 22) is cloned into the *Pst*I and *Sac*I cut vector backbone of the plasmid pDAB105806 using cloning methods commonly known in the art. This resulted in the intermediate plasmid pDAB105847 (FIG. 22). A *Not*I/*Xba*I digested Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 fragment obtained from the plasmid pDAB105840 is cloned between *Not*I/*Spe*I sites of plasmid pDAB105847 to construct plasmid pDAB105849 (FIG. 23). The plasmid pDAB105849 contains Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 and AAD1-2A-PhiYFP gene cassettes on each side of the SCBV bidirectional promoter.

A binary vector containing the SCBV bidirectional promoter, and gene expression cassettes Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 and AAD1-2A-PhiYFP from plasmid pDAB105849 is generated via a GATEWAY L-R CLONASE reaction (Invitrogen, 30 Carlsbad, CA) into a destination plasmid pDAB101917 (FIG. 24). The resulting vector, pDAB108719, contains the Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35, AAD1-2A-PhiYFP, and PAT gene expression cassettes within the T-DNA borders (FIG.24).

EXAMPLE 9: Construct of a Second Four-gene Cassette Stack

A PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 fragment derived from plasmid pDAB105844 (FIG. 25) is cloned into the PstI and SacI cut vector backbone of the plasmid 5 pDAB105806 using cloning methods commonly known in the art. This resulted in the intermediate plasmid pDAB105848 (FIG. 25). A NotI/XbaI digested Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 fragment obtained from the plasmid pDAB105840 is cloned between NotI/SpeI sites of plasmid pDAB105848 to construct plasmid pDAB105865 (FIG. 26). The plasmid pDAB105865 contains 10 Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 and PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 gene cassettes on each side of the SCBV bidirectional promoter.

A binary vector containing the SCBV bidirectional promoter, and gene cassettes Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35 and PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 from plasmid 15 pDAB105865 is generated via a GATEWAY L-R CLONASE reaction (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) into a destination plasmid pDAB101917 (FIG. 24). The resulting vector, pDAB108720, contains the Cry34(8V6)-2A-Cry35, PhiYFP-2A-AAD1, and PAT gene expression cassettes within the T-DNA borders (FIG. 26).

EXAMPLE 10: Transformation of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* Strain

20 **DAt13192**

The pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 binary vectors are transformed into 25 *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* ternary strain DAt13192 (see U.S. Prov. Pat. App. No. 61/368965). Bacterial colonies are isolated and binary plasmid DNA is extracted and verified via restriction enzyme digestions.

25

EXAMPLE 11: Transformation into Maize

Ear Sterilization and Embryo Isolation: To obtain maize immature embryos, 30 plants of *Zea mays* (c.v. B104) are grown in the greenhouse and self or sib-pollinated to produce ears. The ears are harvested approximately 9-12 days post-pollination. On the day of the experiment, ears are surface-sterilized by immersion in a 20% solution of household bleach, which contains 5% sodium hypochlorite, and shaken for 20-30 minutes, followed by three rinses in sterile water. After sterilization, immature zygotic

embryos (1.5–2.2 mm) are aseptically dissected from each ear and randomly distributed into micro-centrifuge tubes containing liquid infection media (LS Basal Medium, 4.43 g/L; N6 Vitamin Solution [1000X], 1.00 mL/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; sucrose, 68.5 g/L; glucose, 36.0 g/L; 2,4-D, 1.50 mg/L. For a given set of experiments, pooled embryos from 2-3 ears are used for each treatment.

10 *Agrobacterium* Culture Initiation: Glycerol stocks of *Agrobacterium* strains containing the binary vectors described above are streaked on AB minimal medium plates containing appropriate antibiotics and are grown at 20°C for 3-4 days. A single colony is picked and streaked onto YEP plates containing the same antibiotics and is incubated at 28°C for 1-2 days.

15 *Agrobacterium* Culture and Co-cultivation: On the day of the experiment, *Agrobacterium* colonies are picked from the YEP plate, suspended in 10 mL of infection medium in a 50 mL disposable tube, and the cell density is adjusted to OD₆₀₀ = 0.2-0.4 nm using a spectrophotometer. The *Agrobacterium* cultures are placed on a rotary shaker at 115 rpm, room temperature, while embryo dissection is performed. Immature zygotic embryos between 1.5-2.2 mm in size are isolated from the sterilized maize kernels and placed in 1 mL of the infection medium and washed once in the same medium. The *Agrobacterium* suspension (2 mL) is added to each tube and the tubes were inverted for about 20 times then shaken for 10-15 minutes. The embryos 20 are transferred onto co-cultivation media (MS Salts, 4.33 g/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 g/L; GelzanTM, 3.00 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Acetosyringone, 100.0 μM), oriented with the scutellum facing up, and incubated for 3-4 days in the light at 25°C.

25 YFP/PhiYFP Transient expression: Transient YFP/PhiYFP expression can be observed in transformed embryos after 3 days of co-cultivation with *Agrobacterium*. The embryos are observed under a stereomicroscope (Leica Microsystems, Buffalo Grove, IL) using YFP filter and 500 nm light source.

30 Callus Selection and Regeneration of Putative Events: Following the co-cultivation period, embryos are transferred to resting media (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid], 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic

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hydrolysate, 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 g/L; GelzanTM, 2.30 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L) without selective agent and incubated in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C. Embryos are transferred onto selection 1 media
5 (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid], 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate, 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 g/L; GelzanTM, 2.30 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L), containing 3 mg/L Bialaphos and incubated in 24 hours light with light
10 intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C.

Embryos with proliferating embryogenic calli are transferred onto selection 2 media (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; L-proline, 700.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid], 500.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate, 100.0 mg/L; Dicamba, 3.30 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 g/L; GelzanTM 2.30 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 15.0 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L), containing 5 mg/L Bialaphos and are incubated in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for another 14 days at 28°C. This selection step allows transgenic callus to further proliferate and differentiate. The callus selection period may last for three weeks. Proliferating, embryogenic calli are transferred onto
15 regeneration 1 media (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; L-proline, 350.0 mg/L; MES [(2-(n-morpholino)-ethanesulfonic acid), free acid], 250.0 mg/L; casein enzymatic hydrolysate, 50.0 mg/L; NAA, 0.500 mg/L; ABA, 2.50 mg/L; BA, 1.00 mg/L; sucrose, 45.0 g/L; GelzanTM 2.50 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; AgNO₃, 1.00 mg/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L), containing 3 mg/L Bialaphos
20 and cultured in 24 hours light with light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C.
25

Embryogenic calli with shoot/buds are transferred onto regeneration 2 media (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; modified MS-Vitamin [1000X], 1.00 ml/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; sucrose, 60.0 g/L; Gellan Gum G434TM, 3.00 g/L; Carbenicillin, 250.0 mg/L), containing 3 mg/L Bialaphos. The cultures are incubated under 24 hours light with
30 light intensity of 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ for 7-10 days at 28°C. Small shoots with primary roots are transferred to shoot elongation and rooting media (MS salts, 4.33 g/L; N6 Vitamin Solution [1000X], 1.00 mL/L; myo-inositol, 100.0 mg/L; sucrose, 30.0 g/L;

agar 5.50 g/L; in phytatray and are incubated under 16/8 hours light/dark at 90 μ mol $m^{-2}s^{-1}$ for 7 days at 28°C. Healthy putative transgenic plantlets are selected then incubated in 16/8 hours light/dark at 200 μ mol $m^{-2}s^{-1}$ for another 2-5 days at 25°C and are analyzed for transgene copy number and transferred to the greenhouse.

5

EXAMPLE 12: Transient PhiYFP Expression

Transient expression of PhiYFP from *Zea mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108719 is performed. The bi-directional SCBV promoter can express PhiYFP from the AAD1-2A-PhiYFP gene expression cassette, where non-transformed embryo does not show any PhiYFP fluorescence. Similar level of PhiYFP expression can be observed from *Zea mays* embryos transformed with a binary plasmid pDAB105748 (FIG. 20) containing a uni-directional *Zea mays* (Zm) Ubi1 promoter driving single *PhiYFP* coding sequence displayed expected level of YFP/PhiYFP expression. Transient expression of PhiYFP can be observed from *Zea mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108720, where bi-directional Zm Ubi1 promoter can express PhiYFP from the PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 gene expression cassette.

EXAMPLE 13: PhiYFP Expression in Stably Transformed Maize

PhiYFP Expression in Stably Transformed *Zea mays* Callus Driven by a Bi-Directional Zm Ubi1 Promoter: *Zea mays* embryos transformed with the pDAB108719 binary vector containing the AAD1-2A-PhiYFP gene expression cassette show good PhiYFP expression. The bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of PhiYFP. These results confirm that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element of the bi-directional SCBV promoter is capable of expressing a reporter gene, for example PhiYFP or YFP. The levels of expression of the PhiYFP protein are similar as compared to *Zea mays* callus transformed with a control binary vector which contained the uni-directional Zm Ubi1 promoter driving the *PhiYFP* coding sequence (pDAB105748). Expression of PhiYFP is not detected in the negative control callus which is not transformed with a binary construct and did not contain the *PhiYFP* coding sequences.

Zea mays embryos transformed with the pDAB108720 binary vector which contains the PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 gene expression cassette show good PhiYFP

expression. The bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of PhiYFP. These results confirm that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element of the bi-directional SCBV promoter is capable of expressing a reporter gene, for example PhiYFP or YFP.

5

EXAMPLE 14: Estimation of Transgene Copy Number

Transgene Copy Number Estimation Using Real Time TaqMan™ PCR: *Zea mays* plants were transformed with binary vectors containing a bidirectional SCBV promoter, pDAB108719 and pDAB108720, and other plants are transformed with a 10 control binary vector, pDAB105748. The presence of coding sequence (*PhiYFP*, *AADI*, *Cry34*, *Cry35*, *Pat*) within the genome of *Z. mays* plants transgenic to pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 is confirmed *via* a TaqMan hydrolysis probe assay. The plants transgenic to control vector pDAB105748 are analyzed for the presence of PhiYFP sequence. Stably transformed transgenic *Z. mays* plantlets that 15 developed from the callus are obtained and analyzed to identify events that contain a low copy number (1-2 copies) of full-length T-strand inserts from the pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 binary vectors, and pDAB105748 control binary vector. Confirmed plantlets are advanced to the green house and grown.

The Roche Light Cycler480™ system is used to determine the transgene 20 copy number for events that are transformed with the pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 binary vector. The method utilized a biplex TAQMAM® reaction that employs oligonucleotides specific to the coding sequence and to the endogenous *Z. mays* reference gene, *invertase* (Genbank Accession No: U16123.1), in a single assay. Copy number and zygosity are determined by measuring the intensity of 25 coding sequence-specific fluorescence, relative to the *invertase*-specific fluorescence, as compared to known copy number standards.

Table 7. Forward and reverse nucleotide primer and fluorescent probes (synthesized by Integrated DNA Technologies, Coralville, IA).

Primer Name	Primer Sequence
YFP Forward Primer	GATGCCCTCAGTGGGAAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 8)
YFP Reverse Primer	CCATAGGTGAGAGTGGTACCAA (SEQ ID NO: 9)
YFP Probe	ROCHE UPL Probe #125 CTTGGAGC (SEQ ID NO: 41) Cat # 04693604001 (Roche, Indianapolis, IN)
Invertase Forward Primer	TGGCGGACGACGACTTGT (SEQ ID NO: 10)
Invertase Reverse Primer	AAAGTTGGAGGCTGCCGT (SEQ ID NO: 11)
Invertase Probe	5'HEX/CGAGCAGACCGCCGTACTTCTACC/3BHQ_1/3' (SEQ ID NO: 12)
AAD1 Forward Primer	TGTTCGGTTCCCTCTACCAA (SEQ ID NO: 13)
AAD1 Reverse Primer	CAACATCCATCACCTTGACTGA (SEQ ID NO: 14)
AAD1 Probe	CACAGAACCGTCGCTTCAGCAACA (SEQ ID NO: 15)
Cry34 Forward Primer	GCCAACGACCAGATCAAGAC (SEQ ID NO: 42)
Cry34 Reverse Primer	GCCGTTGATGGAGTAGTAGATGG (SEQ ID NO: 43)
Cry34 Probe	CCGAATCCAACGGCTTCA (SEQ ID NO: 44)
Cry35 Forward Primer	CCTCATCCGCCCTCACCG (SEQ ID NO: 45)
Cry35 Reverse Primer	GGTAGTCCTTGAGCTTGGTGTC (SEQ ID NO: 46)
Cry35 Probe	CAGCAATGGAACCTGACGT (SEQ ID NO: 47)
PAT Forward Primer	ACAAGAGTGGATTGATGATCTAGAGAGGT (SEQ ID NO: 48)
PAT Reverse Primer	CTITGATGCCTATGTGACACGTAAACAGT (SEQ ID NO: 49)
PAT Probe	GGTGTGTTGGCTGGTATTGCTTACGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 50)

For *Z. mays* samples transformed with the pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 5 binary vectors, a coding sequence-specific DNA fragment is amplified with one TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with FAM fluorescent dye, and invertase is amplified with a second TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with HEX fluorescence (Table 7). The PCR reaction mixture is prepared as set forth in Table 8, and the gene-specific DNA fragments are amplified 10 according to the conditions set forth in Table 9. Copy number and zygosity of the samples are determined by measuring the relative intensity of fluorescence specific for the coding sequence to fluorescence specific for the reference gene, invertase, as compared to known copy number standards.

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Standards are created by diluting the vector (pDAB108719 or pDAB108720) into *Z. mays* B104 genomic DNA (gDNA) to obtain standards with a known relationship of vector:gDNA. For example, samples having one, two, and four cop(ies) of vector DNA per one copy of the *Z. mays* B104 gDNA are prepared. One and two copy dilutions of the vector mixed with the *Z. mays* B104 gDNA standard are validated against a control *Z. mays* event that is known to be hemizygous, and a control *Z. mays* event that is known to be homozygous (*Z. mays* event 278; See PCT International Patent Publication No. WO 2011/022469 A2). A TAQMAN® bplex assay which utilizes oligonucleotides specific to the coding sequence gene and oligonucleotides specific to the endogenous *Z. mays* reference gene, invertase, is performed by amplifying and detecting a gene-specific DNA fragment for coding sequence with one TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with FAM fluorescent dye, and by amplifying and detecting a gene-specific DNA fragment for invertase with a second TAQMAN® primer/probe set containing a probe labeled with HEX fluorescence. According to Table 7, the coding sequence TAQMAN® reaction mixture is prepared as set forth in Table 8 and the specific fragments are amplified according to the conditions set forth in Table 9.

Table 8. TAQMAN® PCR reaction mixture.

Number of Reactions	µl each	Final Concentration
H ₂ O	0.5 µL	-
PVP (10%)	0.1 µL	0.1%
ROCHE 2X Master Mix	5.0 µL	1X
Coding sequence Forward Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Coding sequence Reverse Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Coding sequence Probe UPL#125 (5 µM)	0.4 µL	0.2 µM
Invertase Forward Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Invertase Reverse Primer (10 µM)	0.4 µL	0.4 µM
Invertase Probe (5 µM)	0.4 µL	0.2 µM
Template DNA	2.0 µL	-
Total reaction volume	10 µL	-

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The level of fluorescence generated for each reaction is analyzed using the Roche LightCycler 480™ Thermocycler according to the manufacturer's directions. The FAM fluorescent moiety is excited at an optical density of 465/510 nm, and the HEX fluorescent moiety is excited at an optical density of 533/580 nm. The copy 5 number can be determined by comparison of Target/Reference values for unknown samples (output by the LightCycler 480™) to Target/Reference values of four known copy number standards (for example, Null, 1-Copy (hemi), 2-Copy (homo), and 4-Copy).

10 Table 9. Thermocycler conditions for PCR amplification.

PCR Steps	Temp (°C)	Time	No. of cycles
Step-1	95	10 minutes	1
Step-2	95	10 seconds	
	59	35 seconds	
	72	1 second	
Step-3	40	11 seconds	1

Results from the transgene copy number analysis of transgenic plants obtained *via* transformation with a bidirectional SCBV promoter constructs (pDAB108719 and pDAB108720), and of transgenic plants obtained *via* 15 transformation with a control unidirectional ZmUbi1 promoter PhiYFP construct (pDAB105748) are summarized in Table 10. Only plants with 1-2 copies of the all transgenes are transferred to the greenhouse for further expression analyses.

Table 10. Transgene copy number estimation of the transgenic plants obtained from bidirectional promoter and control constructs.

Construct	Number of Embryos Transformed	Number of Positive Events	1-2 Copies of all genes
pDAB108719	250	78	13
pDAB108720	225	57	13
pDAB105748	32	8	2

EXAMPLE 15: Stable PhiYFP Expression in Maize T0 Plants

Stable PhiYFP Expression in *Zea mays* T₀ Plants Driven by bidirectional SCBV Promoter: *Zea mays* embryos transformed with the pDAB108719 binary vector containing the AAD1-2A-PhiYFP gene expression cassette can be observed.

5 The bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of the PhiYFP both in shoot and root tissues. The results confirm that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element of the bi-directional SCBV promoter is capable of expressing a reporter gene, for example PhiYFP or YFP that is bicistronically fused with aad1 using a 2A sequence. The levels of expression of the PhiYFP protein is similar to *Z. mays*

10 embryos transformed with a control binary vector which contains the uni-directional Zm Ubi1 promoter driving the *PhiYFP* coding sequence (pDAB105748). Expression of PhiYFP is not detected in the negative control plants which are not transformed with a binary construct and do not contain the *PhiYFP* coding sequences.

15 PhiYFP expression in leaf and root tissues of *Zea mays* T0 plants transgenic to pDAB108720 binary vector which contains the PhiYFP-2A-AAD1 gene expression cassette can be observed. The bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of PhiYFP. The results confirm that the Min-UbiP1 minimal promoter element of the bi-directional SCBV promoter is capable of expressing a reporter gene, for example PhiYFP or YFP fused to aad1 with a 2A sequence or 2A-like sequence.

EXAMPLE 16: Cry34, Cry35, and AAD1 Protein Analysis

Plants are sampled into columns 1-10 of a matrix box in 1.5mL conical tubes to which 1 steel bead is added followed by PBST+0.5% BSA (0.6mL). The box is then bead beaten for sample grinding in a Geno Grinder for 5 minutes at 1500 rpm then centrifuged at 3700 rpm for 7 minutes at 4°C.

30 Cry34/35 ELISA assay: In a separate, 96 deep well plate, a sample of the extract is diluted 1:200 in PBST + 1% blotto. Two volumes of 25 µL of the diluted sample are then transferred to separate 96- well plates that have been arrayed with anti-Cry34 and anti-Cry35 (Meso Scale Discovery). In the 11 and 12 columns of each plate standard concentrations of Cry34 and Cry35 in PBST+1% blotto are

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added (25 μ L). The plates are then incubated while shaking at room temperature for one hour. The plates are then washed with PBST (3x300 μ L). Then 25 μ L of a solution of SulfoTAG conjugated anti-Cry34 and anti-Cry35 is added to each well and incubated with shaking at room temperature for one hour. The plates are then 5 washed with PBST (3x300 μ L). A volume of 150 μ L Read Buffer T (Meso Scale Discovery) is then added and the plate is immediately read on a SECTOR® 6000 reader. Concentrations of proteins in the sample can be calculated using the standard curve for the respective protein generated from the same plate.

10 AAD-1 ELISA assay: In a separate, 96 deep well plate, a sample of the extract is diluted 1:20 in PBST + 0.5% BSA. Two volumes of 200 μ L of the diluted sample are then transferred to separate 96 well plates that have been coated with anti-AAD1 (provided by Acadia Bioscience LLC). In the 11 and 12 columns of each plate standard concentrations of AAD1 in PBST + 0.5% BSA are added (200 μ L). A volume of 50 μ L of biotinylated anti-AAD1 is then added to each well and 15 the plates are incubated while shaking at room temperature for one hour. The plates are then washed with PBST (5x300 μ L). Then 100 μ L of a streptavidin-alkaline phosphate conjugate solution is added to each well and incubated with shaking at room temperature for 30 minutes. The plates are then washed with PBST (5x300 μ L). A volume of 100 μ L substrate (p-nitrophenylphosphate, PNPP) is then added 20 and incubated with shaking at room temperature for 45 minutes. The plates are then read at A405 on a SpectraMax M5 plate reader (Molecular Devices). Concentrations of proteins in the sample can be calculated using the standard curve generated from the same plate.

25 **EXAMPLE 17: Protein Analysis of Maize T0 Plants**

Protein analysis of maize T0 plants driven by the bi-directional *Zea mays* SCBV Promoter construct (pDAB108719) is performed in this example.

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Table 11. Cry34/Cry35/AAD1 expression in T0 maize pDAB108719 transgenic plants

Plant ID	Cry34 ng/cm ²	Cry35 ng/cm ²	AAD1 ng/cm ²
108719[2]-102.001	56	0	2
108719[3]-058.001	20	0	3
108719[3]-061.002	25	0	3
108719[3]-057.001	37	0	1
108719[3]-064.001	20	0	5
108719[1]-009.001	31	0	3
108719[1]-013.001	15	0	8
108719[1]-014.001	31	0	4
108719[1]-016.001	27	2	2
108719[1]-020.001	20	10	5
108719[2]-096.001	20	12	7
108719[2]-101.001	21	4	3

5 Representative ELISA analysis of 12 transgenic T0 maize plants obtained from *Zea mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108719 that contains Cry34-2A-Cry35 gene expression cassette is summarized in Table 11. Bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of both Cry34 and Cry35 coding sequences in leaf. These observations show that the single SCBV 10 bidirectional promoter in construct pDAB108719 can express multiple genes (e.g., Cry34, Cry35, and AAD1).

15 Protein analysis of maize T0 plants driven by the bi-directional *Zea mays* Ubiquitin1 Promoter construct (pDAB108720): Representative ELISA analysis of 9 transgenic T0 maize plants obtained from *Zea mays* embryos transformed with pDAB108720 that contains the Cry34-2A-Cry35 gene expression cassette is summarized in Table 12. Bi-directional SCBV promoter can drive robust expression of both Cry34 and Cry35 coding sequences in leaf.

Table 12. Cry34/Cry35/AAD1 expression in T0 maize pDAB108720 transgenic plants

Plant ID	Cry34 ng/cm ²	Cry35 ng/cm ²	AAD1 ng/cm ²
108720[1]-017.001	19	24	10
108720[1]-024.001	21	0	9
108720[1]-027.001	20	2	8
108720[1]-032.001	32	12	8
108720[2]-085.001	16	0	8
108720[2]-086.001	30	0	5
108720[2]-088.001	0	26	4
108720[2]-092.001	0	0	13
108720[2]-105.001	26	0	2

EXAMPLE 18: Transgene Stacking: Synthetic Bidirectional Promoters (T1 data)

Gene expression of T1 plants driven by the bi-directional promoter constructs: ten to twelve single copy events per construct are selected for analysis except that the control construct pDAB108716 has only one event. Five plants/events for the V6 stage are tested and three plants/events for the V10-12 and/R3 stages are tested. Protein assays are performed using LCMS or ELISA.

The constructs used in this example are shown in FIG. 30. pDAB108708 (SCBV bidirectional (-200)) and pDAB108709 (SCBV bidirectional (-90)) are constructs with representative bidirectional promoter of the present invention in addition to constructs with maize Ubi1 bidirectional promoter (pDAB108706 [ZMUBi bidirectional (-200)]) and pDAB108707 (ZMUBi bidirectional (-90))]; pDAB101556 (ZmUbi1-YFP control), pDAB108715 (SCBV without minimal promoter), and pDAB108716 (ZMUBi1 without minimal promoter) serve as control constructs with uni-directional promoters.

Exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for YFP protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² are shown in FIG. 31A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for YFP RNA are shown in FIG. 31B.

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Exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for GUS protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² are shown in FIG. 32A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for GUS RNA are shown in FIG. 32B.

5 Exemplary expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² are shown in FIG. 33A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for AAD1 RNA are shown in FIG. 33B.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for 10 YFP protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² is shown in FIG. 34A. A statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for YFP RNA is shown in FIG. 34B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for 15 GUS protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² is shown in FIG. 35A. A statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for GUS RNA is shown in FIG. 35B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for 20 AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm² is shown in FIG. 36A. A statistical analysis of relative expression results (V6) from the seven constructs for AAD1 RNA is shown in FIG. 36B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 37A, 37B, and 37C show exemplary expression results (V10) from the 25 seven constructs for YFP, AAD1, and GUS protein (LCMS) in ng/cm², respectively.

FIGS. 38A, 38B, and 38C show statistical analysis of expression results (V10) from the seven constructs for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm², respectively. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 39A, 39B, and 39C show exemplary expression results (R3) from the 25 seven constructs for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm², respectively.

FIGS. 40A, 40B, and 40C show statistical analysis of expression results (R3) from the seven constructs for YFP, GUS, and AAD1 protein (LCMS) in ng/cm², respectively. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

The results show that both SCBV bidirectional promoters of the present 30 invention and maize Ubi1 bidirectional promoters can drive robust expression of GUS and YFP. The YFP expression from Maize Ubi1 bidirectional promoter is similar to unidirectional maize Ubi1 driven YFP. The YFP expression from SCBV bidirectional

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promoter is significantly higher than unidirectional maize Ubi1 driven YFP or Maize Ubi1 bidirectional promoter. However, this difference becomes less significant at V10 stage. The results also suggest that bidirectional transcription has non-significant effect on GUS expression (GUS expression compared to the constructs lacking minimal promoter without YFP expression). SCBV bidirectional promoters also provide significantly higher GUS expression compared to maize Ubi1 bidirectional promoters.

EXAMPLE 19: A Combination of Bidirectional Promoter and 2A Bicistronic Sequence to Drive Four Transgenes from One Single Promoter (T1 data)

10 Gene expression of T1 plants driven by the bi-directional promoter constructs: ten to twelve single copy events per construct are selected for analysis except that the control constructs have four or five events per construct. Five plants/events for the V6 stage are tested and three plants/events for the V10-12 and/R3 stages are tested. Protein assays are performed using LCMS or ELISA.

15 pDAB108719 and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 19. pDAB105748 and pDAB105818 are shown in FIG. 20. Additional multi-transgene constructs using Ubi1 promoter, including pDAB108717 and pDAB108718 are shown in FIG. 41.

Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry34 RNA from six constructs pDAB105748 (ZMUBi1-YFP), pDAB105818 (ZMUBi1-Cry34/ZMUBi1-Cry35/ 20 ZMUBi1-AAD1), pDAB108717 (YFP/AAD-1-ZMUBi1 bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), pDAB108718 (AAD1/YFP-ZMUBi1 bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), pDAB108719 (YFP/AAD1-SCBV bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35), and pDAB108720 (AAD1/YFP – SCBV bidirectional-Cry34-Cry35) are shown in FIG. 42A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry34 protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs 25 pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 42B.

Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of AAD1 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 43A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) 30 of AAD1 protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 43B.

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Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of YFP RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 44A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of YFP protein (LCMS) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, 5 pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 44B.

Exemplary relative expression results (V6) of Cry35 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 45A. Exemplary relative expression results (V6) 10 of Cry35 protein (ELISA) from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 are shown in FIG. 45B.

FIG. 46 shows exemplary relative expression results (V6) of PAT RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, 15 pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry34 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 47A. A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry34 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, 20 pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 47B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of AAD1 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 48A. A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of AAD1 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, 25 pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 48B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of YFP RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, 30 and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 49A. A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of YFP protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818,

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pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 49B.

The mean values and statistical results are listed.

A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry35 RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 in FIG. 50A. A statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of Cry35 protein from the same six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720 is shown in FIG. 50B. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 51 shows a statistical analysis of expression results (V6) of PAT RNA from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 52A, 52B, 52C, and 52D show exemplary protein expression results (V10) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

FIGS. 53A, 53B, 53C, and 53D show statistical analysis of protein expression results (V10) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIGS. 54A, 54B, 54C, and 54D show exemplary protein expression results (R3) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

FIGS. 55A, 55B, 55C, and 55D show statistical analysis of protein expression results (R3) of YFP, AAD1, Cry34, and Cry35 respectively from the six constructs pDAB105748, pDAB105818, pDAB108717, pDAB108718, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720. The mean values and statistical results are listed.

FIG. 56 shows exemplary results of Western blot for protein expression of Cry34, Cry35, and AAD1 from pDAB108718, pDAB108717, pDAB108719, and pDAB108720.

The results show that all four transgenes in the single promoter-driven constructs are functional with good expression levels. Three genes

(Cry34/Cry35/AAD1) in Ubi1 bidirectional stack show robust expression levels as similar to expression levels provided by the single Ubi1-driven gene stack (DExT).

While a number of exemplary aspects and embodiments have been discussed above, those of skill in the art will recognize certain modifications, permutations, additions and 5 sub-combinations thereof. It is therefore intended that the following appended claims and claims hereafter introduced are interpreted to include all such modifications, permutations, additions and sub-combinations as are within their true spirit and scope.

SEQUENCE LISTING IN ELECTRONIC FORM

10 In accordance with Section 111(1) of the Patent Rules, this description contains a sequence listing in electronic form in ASCII text format (file: 55118-38 Seq 29-04-14 v1.txt).

A copy of the sequence listing in electronic form is available from the Canadian Intellectual Property Office.

CLAIMS:

1. A synthetic polynucleotide comprising

(a) a minimal core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* wherein the

5 minimal core promoter element comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement;

(b) a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter; and

(c) an intron from an alcohol dehydrogenase gene;

wherein the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus

10 promoter and the intron from the alcohol dehydrogenase gene comprise SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement.

2. The synthetic polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the minimal core promoter element from a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin-1 gene and the functional promoter nucleotide sequence from a Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus promoter are in reverse complementary orientation with respect to each 15 other in the polynucleotide.

3. The synthetic polynucleotide of claim 2, wherein the synthetic polynucleotide comprises an exon from an Ubiquitin-1 gene, an intron from an Ubiquitin-1 gene, and the intron from the 20 alcohol dehydrogenase gene.

4. The synthetic polynucleotide of claim 1, comprising SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement.

5. A nucleic acid construct for expressing multiple genes in plant cells and/or tissues 25 comprising

(a) a bi-directional promoter, wherein the bi-directional promoter comprises a functional promoter nucleotide sequence from Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter; and

(b) two gene expression cassettes on opposite ends of the bi-directional promoter;

30 wherein at least one of the gene expression cassettes comprises two or more genes linked via a translation switch.

6. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the bi-directional promoter further comprises at least one enhancer.

7. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid construct further 5 comprises a binary vector for *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

8. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the bi-directional promoter further comprises an element selected from the group consisting of an upstream regulatory sequence (URS), an enhancer element, an exon, an intron, a transcription start site, a TATA box, a heat 10 shock consensus element, and combinations thereof.

9. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the bi-directional promoter further comprises a minimal core promoter element from an Ubiquitin-1 gene of *Zea mays* or *Zea luxurians*.

15 10. The nucleic acid construct of claim 9, wherein the minimal core promoter element comprises a polynucleotide sequence at least 75% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 or its complement.

20 11. The nucleic acid construct of claim 9, wherein the bi-directional promoter further comprises an exon from an Ubiquitin-1 gene and/or an intron from an Ubiquitin gene.

12. The nucleic acid construct of claim 9, wherein the bi-directional promoter further comprises an upstream regulatory sequence from an Ubiquitin gene or an upstream regulatory 25 sequence from the Sugar Cane Bacilliform Virus (SCBV) promoter.

13. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the bi-directional promoter comprises a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 5 or its complement.

14. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the bi-directional promoter comprises a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 6 or its complement.

15. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein both the gene expression cassettes
5 comprise two or more genes linked via the translation switch.

16. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the translation switch is selected from the group consisting of an internal ribosome entry site (IRES), an alternative splicing site, a polynucleotide sequence coding a 2A peptide, a polynucleotide sequence coding a 2A-like
10 peptide, a polynucleotide sequence coding an intein, a polynucleotide sequence coding a protease cleavage site, and combinations thereof.

17. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein a gene upstream of the translational switch does not comprise a translation stop codon.

15

18. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid construct enables expression of at least four genes.

19.

19. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5 wherein the nucleic acid construct enables
20 expression of genes between three and twenty.

20. The nucleic acid construct of claim 19, wherein the nucleic acid construct enables expression of genes between four and eight.

25

21. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein expression of genes from the bi-directional promoter is at least four-fold higher as compared to a uni-directional promoter.

22. The nucleic acid construct of claim 5, wherein expression of genes from the bi-directional promoter is from three to ten fold higher as compared to a uni-directional promoter.

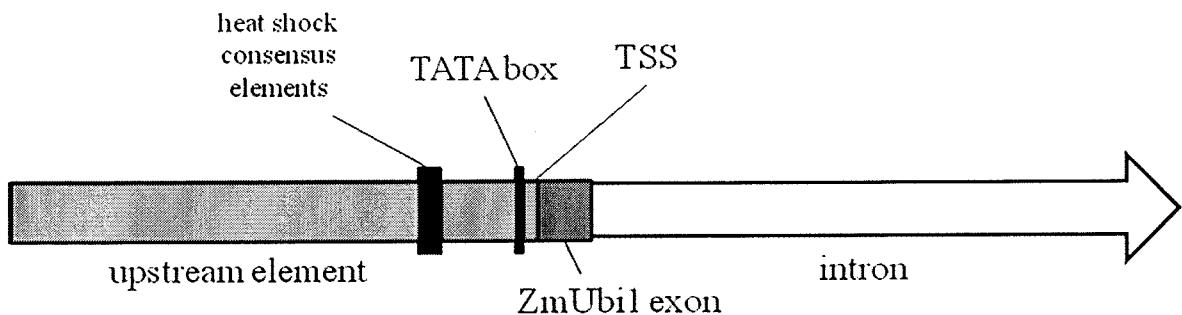
23. A method for generating a transgenic plant, comprising transforming a plant cell with the nucleic acid construct of claim 5.

24. A method for generating a transgenic cell, comprising transforming the cell with the
5 nucleic acid construct of claim 5.

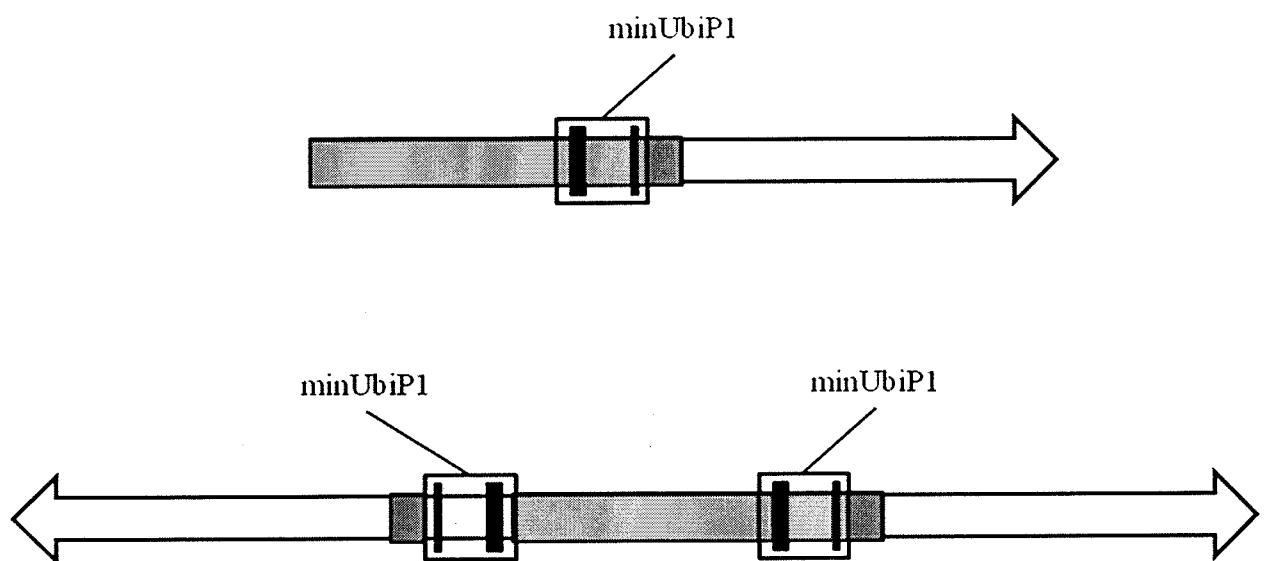
25. A plant cell comprising the nucleic acid construct of claim 5.

26. The plant cell of claim 25, wherein the nucleic acid construct is stably transformed
10 into the plant cell.

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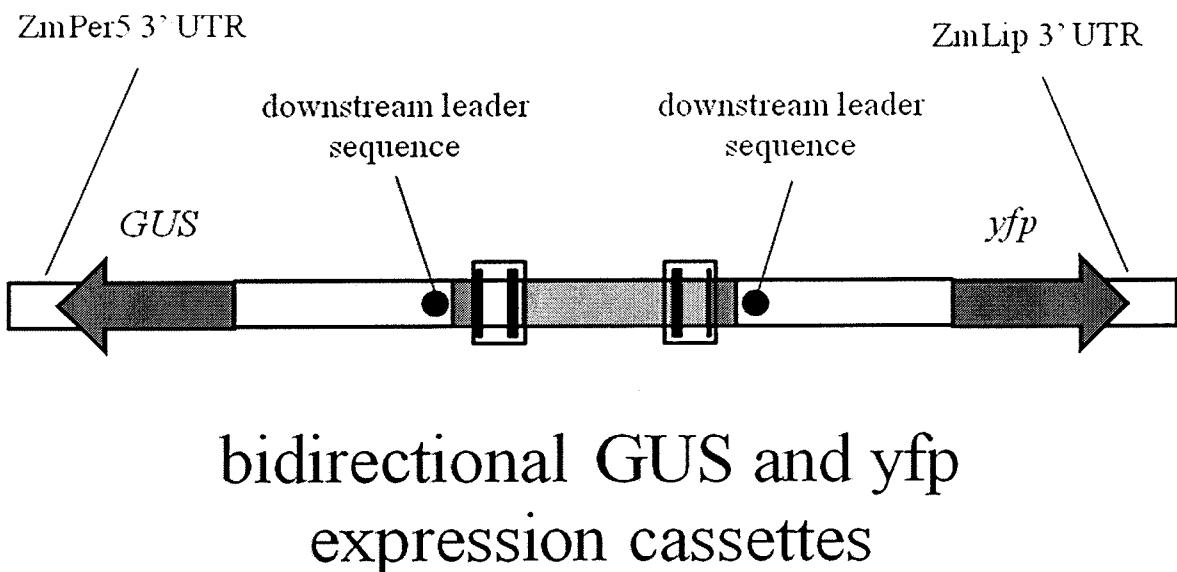
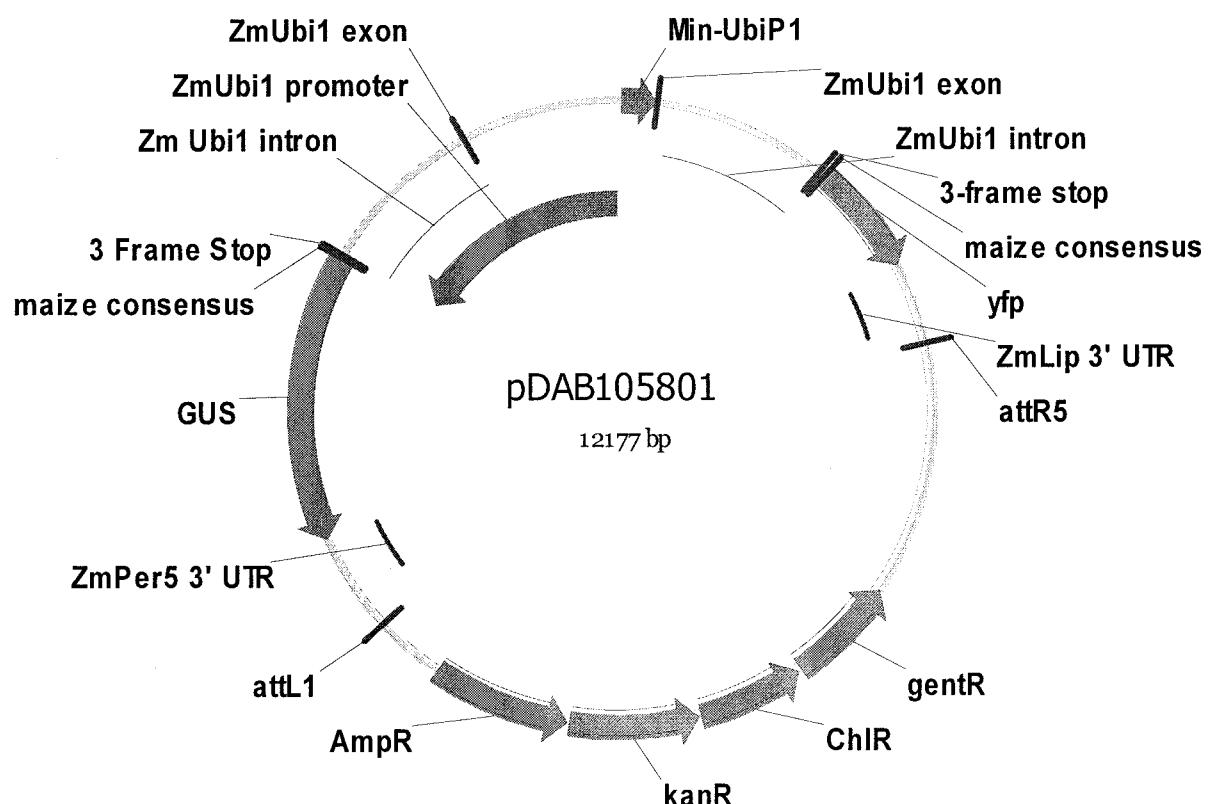


maize Ubil promoter

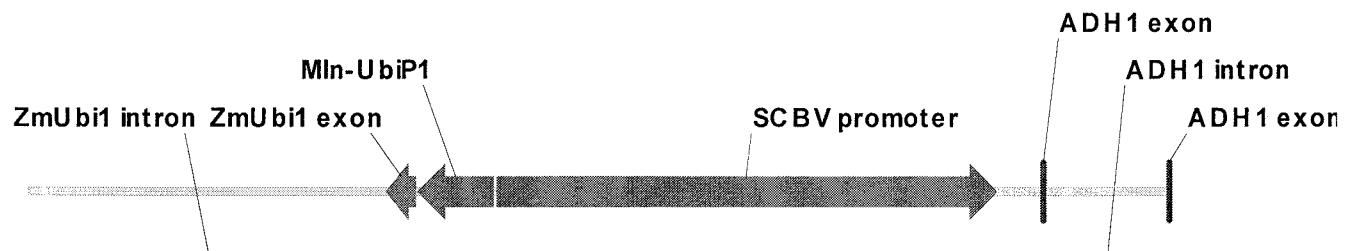
FIG. 1

synthetic bidirectional Ubil promoter

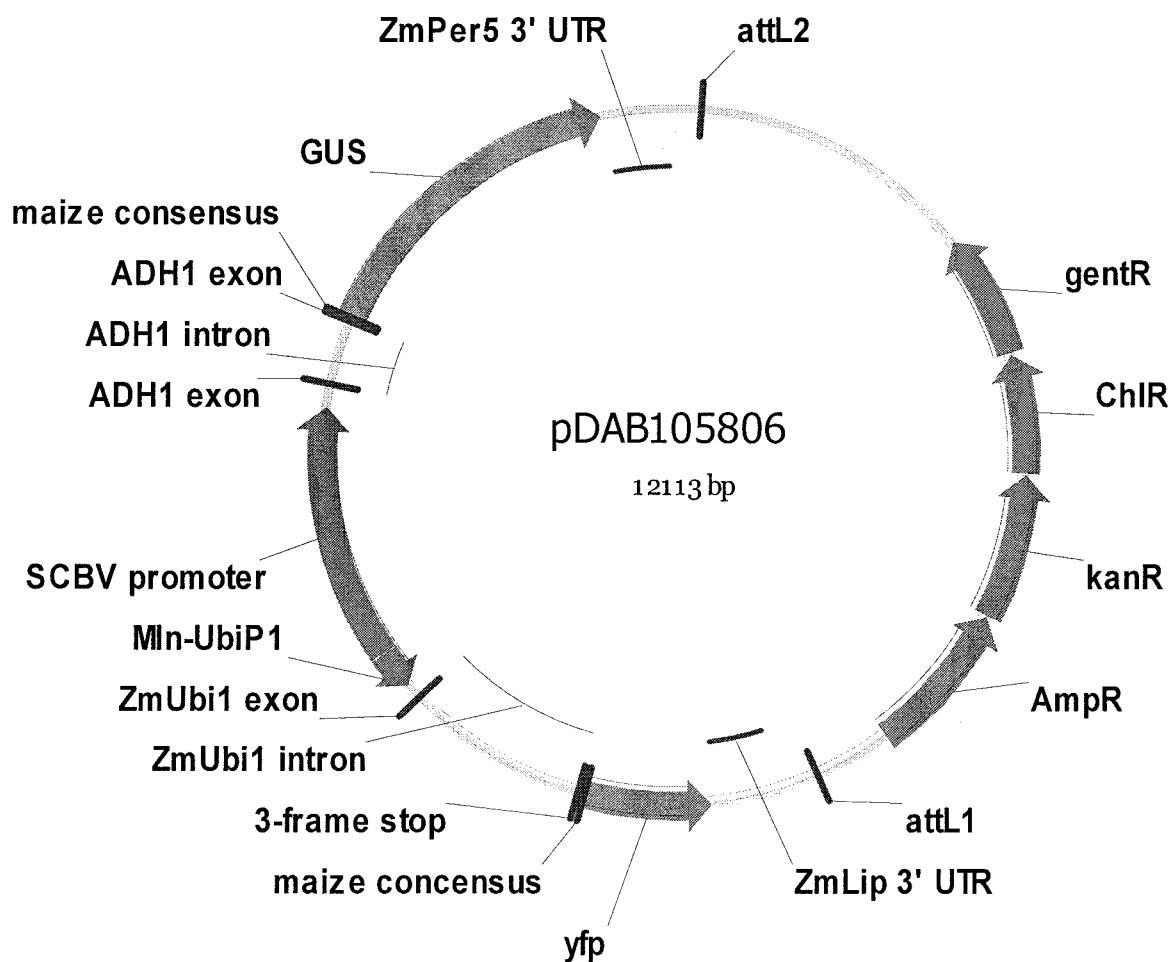
FIG. 2

**FIG. 3****FIG. 4**

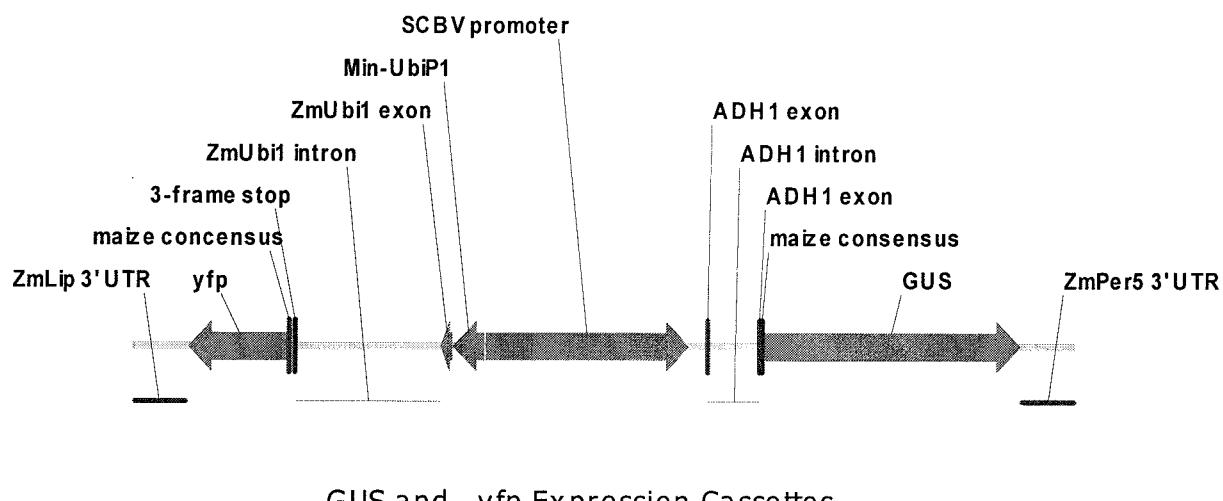
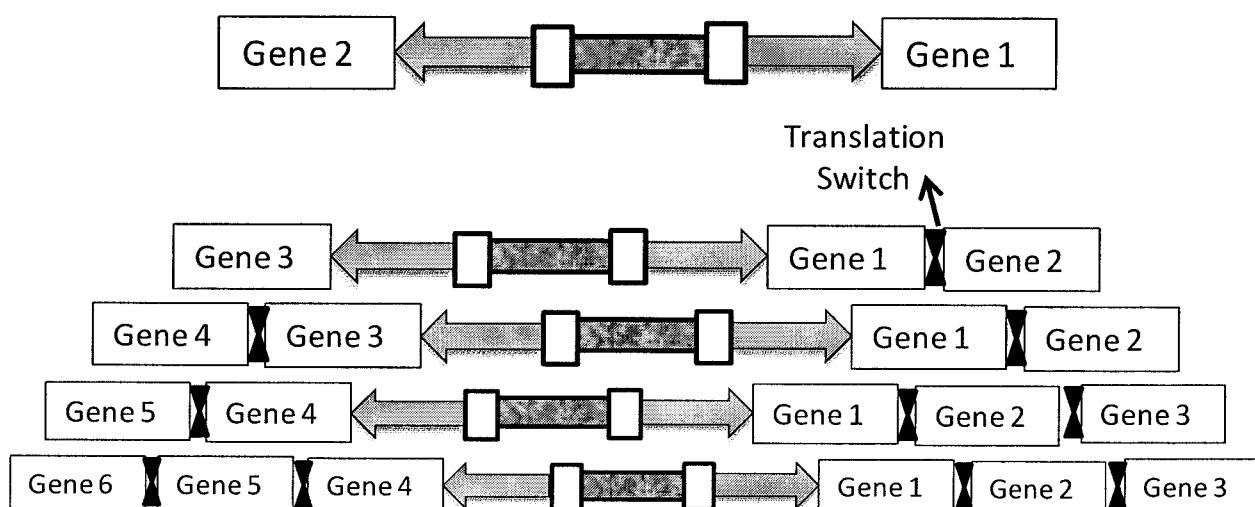
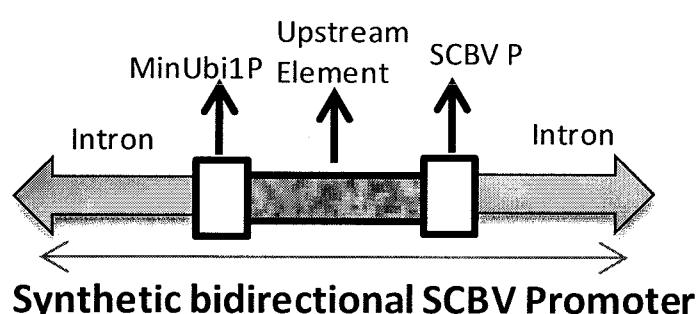
3/91

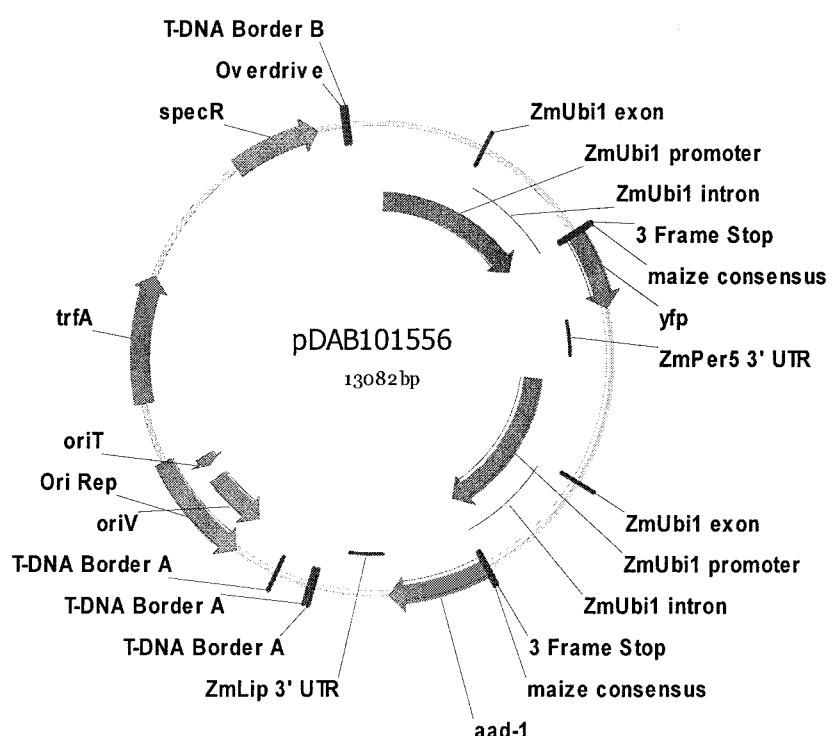
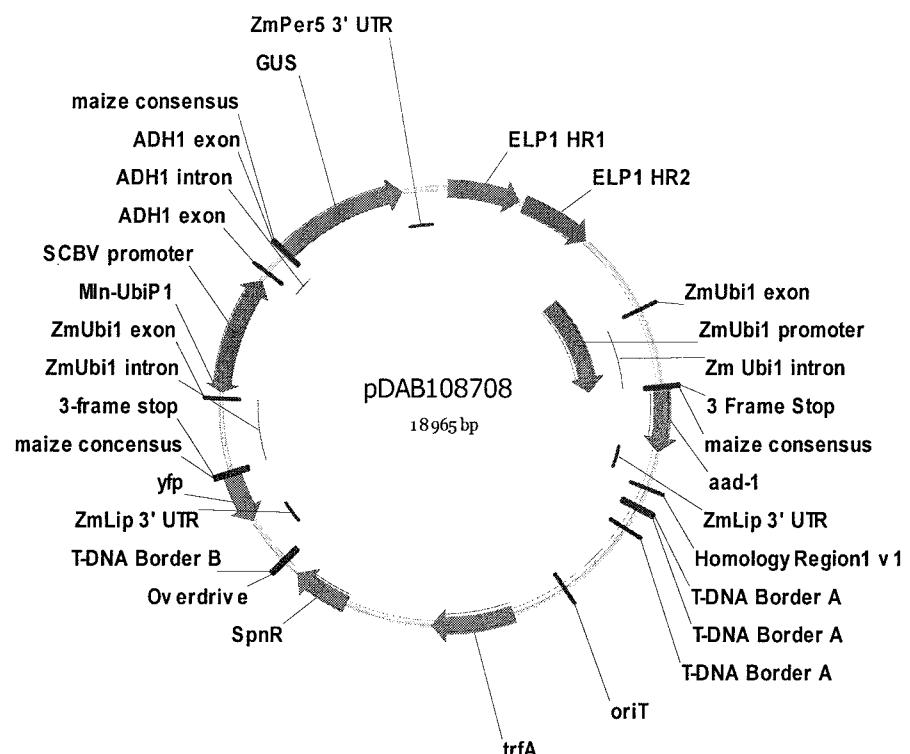


108708-bidirectional SCBV (promoter only)

FIG. 5**FIG. 6**

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**FIG. 7****FIG. 8**

**FIG. 9**

SEQ ID NO: 1 shows a 215 bp region of a *Zea mays* Ubiquitin 1 minimal core promoter (minUbi1P):

CTGGACCCCTCTCGAGAGTTCCGCTCCACCGTTGGACTGCTCCGCTGTCGGCATCCAG
AAATTGCGTGGCGGAGCGGCAGACGTGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGCAGGCAGGCCTCCTCCT
CTCACGGCACCGCAGCTACGGGGATTCTTCCCACCGCTCCCTCGCTTCCCTTCC
TCGCCCCGCCGTAATAATAGACACCCCCCTCCACACCCCTCT

FIG. 10A

SEQ ID NO: 2 shows the reverse complement of a polynucleotide comprising a *Z. mays* minUbi1P minimal core promoter (underlined); a *Z. mays* Ubi1 leader (ZmUbi1 exon; bold font); and a *Z. mays* Ubi1 intron (lower case):

FIG. 10B

SEQ ID NO: 3 shows an exemplary synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter, wherein the reverse complement of a first minUbi1P, and a second minUbi1P, are underlined:

CTGCAGAAGTAACACCAAACAACAGGGTGAGCATCGACAAAAGAAACAGTACCAAG
 CAAATAAATAGCGTATGAAGGCAGGGCTAAAAAAATCCACATATAGCTGCTGCATAT
 GCCATCATCCAAGTATATCAAGATCGAAATAATTATAAAACATACTTGTATTATAA
 TAGATAGGTACTCAAGGTTAGAGCATATGAATAGATGCTGCATATGCCATCATGTATA
 TGCATCAGTAAAACCCACATCAACATGTATACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCAT
 CTTAAACTCGTAACTATGAAGATGTATGACACACACATACAGTCCAAAATTAAATAAA
 TACACCAGGTAGTTGAAACAGTATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGAATGAACGACCGCC
 CAACCACACCACATCATCACAACCAAGCGAACAAAAGCATCTGTATATGCATCAG
 TAAAACCGCATCAACATGTATACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCATTTCA
 ATTGTAACATATGAATATGTATGGCACACACATACAGATCCAAAATTAAATAATCCAC
 CAGGTAGTTGAAACAGAATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGACCGCCAACAGACCCACA
 TCATCACAACCAAGACAAAAAAAGCATGAAAAGATGACCCGACAAACAAGTGCAC
 GGCATATATTGAAATAAAGGAAAAGGGCAAACCAAACCCCTATGCAACGAAACAAAAAA
 AAATCATGAAATCGATCCGTCTCGGAACGGCTAGAGCCATCCAGGATTCCCCAAA
 GAGAACACTGGCAAGTTAGCAATCAGAACGTGTCTGACGTACAGGTCGATCCGTGT
 ACGAACGCTAGCAGCACGGATCTAACACAAACACGGATCTAACACAAACATGAACAG
 AAGTAGAAACTACCAGGGCCCTAACCATGCATGGACCAGAACGCCATCTAGAGAAGGT
 AGAGAGGGGGGGGGGGGGAGGACGAGCGCGTACCTGAAGCGGAGGTGCCGACG
 GGTGGATTGGGGAGATCTGGTTGTGTGTGCGCTCCGAACAACACAGAGGTTGG
GGAGGTACCAAGAGGGTGTGGAGGGGGTGTCTATTATTACGGCGGGGAGGAAGGG
AAAGCGAAGGAGCGGTGGAAAGGAATCCCCGTAGCTGCCGGTCCGTGAGAGGA
GGAGGAGGCCGCTGCCGTGCCGCTCACGTCTGCCGCTCCGACGCAATTCTGGA
TGCCGACAGCGGAGCAAGTCCAACGGTGGAGCGGAACCTCTCGAGAGGGTCCAGCCG
 CGGAGTGTGCAGCGTACCCGGTGTGCCCCCTCTAGAGATAATGAGCATTGCATGT
 CTAAGTTATAAAATTACACATATTTTTGTCACACTGTTGAAGTGCAGTTA
 TCTATCTTATACATATTTAAACTTACTCTACGAATAATATAATCTATAGTACTAC
 ATAATATCAGTGTAGAGAATCATATAAATGAACAGTTAGACATGGTCTAAAGGA
 CAATTGAGTATTGACAACAGGACTCTACAGTTATCTTTAGTGTGATGTGTT
 TCCTTTTTGCAAATAGCTCACCTATATAACTTCATCCATTAGTACATCTATT
 CATTAGGGTTAGGGTTATGGTTATAGACTAATTTTTAGTACATCTATT
 TCTATTAGCCTCTAAATTAGAAAACAAAACCTCTATTAGTTAGTTTTATTAAATAG
 TTTAGATATAAAATAGAATAAAATAAAGTGACTAAAATTAAACAAATACCCCTTAAG
 AAATTAAAAAAACTAAGGAAACATTTCCTGTTGAGTAGATAATGCCAGCCTGTT
 AAACGCCGTCGACGAGTCTAACGGACACCAACCAGCGAACAGCAGCGTCGCGTCGG
 GCCAAGCGAACAGCAGACGGCACGGCATCTCTGTCGCTGCCCTGGACCCCTCTCGAGAG
TTCCGCTCCACCGTTGGACTTGCTCCGCTGCGCATCCAGAAATTGCGTGGCGGAGC
GGCAGACGTGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGCGGCCCTCCTCCTCACGGCACCGGAGCT
ACGGGGGATTCCCTTCCACCCGCTCCTCGTTCCCTCCTCGCCCGCCGTAATAAAT
AGACACCCCTCCACACCCCTTTCCCCAACCTCGTGTGTT

GGAGCGCACACACACACACAACCAGATCTCCCCCAAATCCACCCGTCGGCACCTCCGCTTCAAGGTACGCCGCTCGTCCTCCCCCCCCCCCCCTCTACCTCTAGATCGCGTTCGGTCCATGCATGGTTAGGGCCGGTAGTTCTACTCTGTTCATGTTGTGTTAGATCCGTGTTGTGTTAGATCCGTGCTGCTAGCGTTCGTACACGGATGCGACCTGTACGTGACACGTTCTGATTGCTAACTGCCAGTGTTCCTTGGGAATCCTGGATGGCTCTAGCCGTTCCGCAAGACGGATCGATTCATGATTTTTGTTCGTTGCATAGGGTTGTTGCCCTTTCCTTATTCAATATATGCCGTGCACTGTTGTCGGGTCACTTTTCATGCTTTTTGTTGTTGATGATGTGGTCTGGTTGGCGGTGTTCTAGATCGGAGTAACTCTGTTCAAACACTACCTGGTGGATTATTAAATTGGATCTGTATGTGTTGCCATACATATTGATAGTACGAATTGAAGATGATGGATGGAAATATCGATCTAGGATAGGTATACATGTTGATGTGGTGTGGTTGGCGGTGTTCACTCGTTCTAGATCGGAGTAGAATACTGTTCAAACACTACCTGGTGTATTATTAAATTGGAACTGTATGTGTGTCATACTCTCATAGTTACGAGTTAACAGATGGATGGAAATATCGATCTAGGATAGGTATACATGTTGATGTGGGTTTACTGATGCATATACATGATGGCATATGCAGCATCTATTGATGCTCTAACCTGAGTACCTATCTATTATAATAACAAGTATGTTTATAATTATTGATGCTTGTGGTACTGTTCTTGTGATGCTCACCCCTGTTGTTGGTGTACTTCTGCAG

9/91

SEQ ID NO: 4 shows an exemplary nucleic acid comprising *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes driven by a synthetic Ubi1 bidirectional promoter.

AGCACTTAAAGATCTTACAAGAAAGCAAAGCATTATTAATAACATAACAATGTCCAG
 GTAGCCCAGCTGAATTACAATACGCAACTGCTCATAATAATTCAACAAACCCAAAGTAG
 TACACAACATCCAGAAGCAAATAAAGCCCACAGTACCAAAAGCCTACACAAGCAGCA
 ACACACTCACTGCCAGTGCCGGTGGGTCTTAAAGCACACGGGCCTGACCACGCGATCC
 ACCTTGAAACAAACTTGGTAAAATTAAAGCAAACCAAGAAGCACACACACGCCAACGC
 AACGCTTCTGATCGCGGCCAAGGCCGGGCCAGAACGTACGACGGACACGCA
 CACGCTGCGACCGAGCTCTAGGTGATTAAGCTAACTACTCAAAGGTAGGTCTGCGAC
 AGTCAACAGCTCTGACAGTTCTTCAAGGACATGTTGTCCTGTGGTCTGTACATCT
 TTGGAAAGTTCACATGGTAAGACATGTGATGATACTCTGGAACATGAACACTGGACCTC
 CACCAATGGGAGTGTTCATCTGGGTGTGGTCAGCCACTATGAAGTCGCCCTTGCTGCC
 AGTAATCTCATGACAGATCTGAAGGCTGACTTGAGACCGTGGTGGCTGGTACCC
 CAGATGTAGAGGCAGTGGGAGTGAAGTTGAACCTCAAGTTCCAAACACATGAC
 CATCTTCTTGAAGCCTGACCATTGAGTTGACCCATTGTAGACAGACCCATTCTCA
 AAGGTGACTTCAGCCCTAGTCTGAAGTTGCCATCTCCTCAAAGGTGATTGTGCGCTC
 TTGCACATAGCCATCTGGCATACAGGACTTGTAGAAGTCCTCAACTCTGGACCATAC
 TTGGCAAAGCACTGTGCTCCATAGGTGAGAGTGGTGACAAGTGTGCTCCAAGGCACA
 GGAACATCACCAGTTGTGCAGATGAACGTGCATCAACCTTCCACTGAGGCATCTC
 CGTAGCCTTCCACGTATGCTAAAGGTGTGGCCATCAACATTCCCTCATCTCCACA
 ACGTAAGGAATCTTCCATGAAAGAGAAGTGTCCAGATGCCATGGTGTGTTGGGAT
 CCGGTACACACGTGCCTAGGACCGGTTCAACTAACTACTGCAGAAGTAACACCAAAC
 AACAGGGTGAGCATCGACAAAGAAACAGTACCAAGCAAATAATAGCGTATGAAG
 GCAGGGCTAAAAAAATCCACATATAGCTGCTGCATATGCCATCATCCAAGTATATCAA
 GATCGAAATAATTATAAAACATACTTGTATTATAATAGATAGGTACTCAAGGTTAG
 AGCATATGAATAGATGCTGCATATGCCATCATGTATATGCATCAGTAAAACCCACATC
 AACATGTATACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCTAAACTCGTAACTATGAAG
 ATGTATGACACACACATACAGTCCAAAATTAAATAATACACCAGGTAGTTGAAACA
 GTATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGAATGAACGACCGCCCAACCACACCACATCATCACA
 ACCAAGCGAACAAAAAGCATCTGTATATGCATCAGTAAAACCCGCATCAACATGTA
 TACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCATCTCAATTGTAACTATGAATATGTA
 TGGCACACACATACAGATCCAAAATTAAATAATCCACCAAGGTAGTTGAAACAGAATT
 CTACTCCGATCTAGAACGACCGCCCAACCAGACCACATCATCACAACCAAGACAAAA
 AAAAGCATGAAAAGATGACCCGACAAACAAAGTGCACGGCATATATTGAAATAAGGA
 AAAGGGCAACCAAACCCATGCAACGAAACAAAAAAATCATGAAATCGATCCCCT
 CTGCGGAACGGCTAGAGCCATCCCAGGATTCCCAAAGAGAAACACTGGCAAGTTAG
 CAATCAGAACGTGTCTGACGTACAGGTGCGATCCGTGTACGAACGCTAGCAGCACGG
 ATCTAACACAAACACGGATCTAACACAAACATGAACAGAAGTAGAAACTACCGGGCCC
 TAACCATGCATGGACCGGAACGCCGATCTAGAGAAGGTAGAGAGGGGGGGGGGGGG
 GAGGACGAGCGCGTACCTGAAGCGGAGGTGCCGACGGTGGATTGGGGAGGAGTC
 TGGTTGTGTGTGCCTCCGAACAAACAGAGGTTGGGGAGGTACCAAGAGGGTGT
 GGAGGGGGTGTCTATTATTACGGCGGGCGAGGAAGGAAAGCGAAGGAGCGGGTGG
 AAAGGAATCCCCGTAGCTGCCGGTCCCGACGCAATTCTGGATGCCGACAGCGGAGCAAGTC
 CCGGCTACGTCTGCCGCTCCGCCACGCAATTCTGGATGCCGACAGCGGAGCAAGTC
 CAACGGTGGAGCGGAACCTCTCGAGAGGGGTCCAGCCGGAGTGTGCAGCGTACCC
 GGTCGTGCCCTCTAGAGATAATGAGCATTGCATGTCTAAGTTATAAAAAATTACC
 ACATATTTTTTGTACACTTGTGAAGTGCAG

FIG. 12 (page 1 of 3)

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TTTATCTATCTTATACATATTTAAACTTACTCTACGAATAATATAATCTATAGTAC
 TACAATAATATCAGTGTAGAGAATCATATAAATGAACAGTTAGACATGGTCTAAA
 GGACAATTGAGTATTTGACAACAGGACTCTACAGTTATCTTTAGTGTGCATGTG
 TTCTCCTTTTTGCAAATAGCTCACCTATATAACTTCATCCATTATTAGTAC
 ATCCATTAGGGTTAGGGTAATGGTTATAGACTAATTAGTACATCTATT
 TATTCTATTAGCCTCTAAATTAAAGAAAACAAAACCTCTATTAGTTTATTAA
 TAGTTAGATATAAAAGAATAAAAGTGAACAAAATTAAACAAATACCCCTT
 AAGAAATTAAAAAAACTAAGGAAACATTTCCTGTTGAGTAGATAATGCCAGCCT
 GTTAAACGCCGTCGACGAGTCTAACGGACACCAACCAGCGAACAGCAGCGTCGCGT
 CGGGCCAAGCGAACAGCACGGCACGGCATCTCTGCGCTGCCTGGACCCCTCGA
 GAGTTCCGCTCACCCTGGACTTGCTCCGCTGTCGGCATCCAGAAATTGCGTGGCG
 AGCGGCAGACGTGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGCGGCCTCCTCCCTCACGGCACCGC
 AGCTACGGGGATTCTTCCCACCGCTCCTCGCTTCCCTCGCCCGCTGAAT
 AAATAGACACCCCTCACACCCCTTCCCCAACCTCGTGTGTTGGAGCGCACAC
 ACACACAACCAAGATCTCCCCAAATCCACCCGTCGGCACCTCCGCTCAAGGTACGCC
 GCTCGTCCTCCCCCCCCCCCCCTCTACCTCTAGATCGCGTCCGGTCCATG
 CATGGTTAGGGCCCGTAGTTCTACTCTGTTCATGTTGTGTTAGATCCGTGTTG
 TTAGATCCGTGCTGCTAGCGTTGTCACCGATGCGACCTGTACGTCAGACACGTTCT
 GATTGCTAACTGCCAGTGTGTTCTCTTGGGAATCCTGGATGGCTCTAGCCGTTCCG
 CAGACGGGATCGATTTCATGATTGTTGTTGTTGTCATAGGGTTGGTTGCCCTT
 TCCTTATTCAATATGCCGTGCACTGTTGTCGGTCATCTTCAATGCTTTTT
 GTCTGGTTGTGATGATGTGGCTGGTGGCGGTCTAGATCGGAGTAGAATTCT
 GTTCAAACACTACCTGGTGGATTATTAAATTGGATCTGTATGTGTGTCATACAT
 TCATAGTTACGAATTGAAGATGATGGATGGAAATATCGATCTAGGATAGGTACATG
 TTGATGCCGGTTTACTGATGCATATACAGAGATGCTTGTGTCATACATCTTCAAGT
 ATGTGGTGTGGTGGCGGTCTTCATTGTTCTAGATCGGAGTAGAATACTGTTCAA
 ACTACCTGGTGTATTATTAAATTGGAACTGTATGTGTGTCATACATCTTCAAGT
 TACGAGTTAACGATGGATGGAAATATCGATCTAGGATAGGTACATGTTGATGTGG
 TTTTACTGATGCATATACATGATGGCATATGCAGCATCTATTCAATGCTCTAACCTG
 AGTACCTATCTATTATAATAAACAGTATGTTATAATTATTGATCTTGTGATGTT
 TGGATGATGGCATATGCAGCTATGTGGATTAGGTTAGCCCTGCCTCATACGCT
 ATTATTGCTGGTACTGTTCTTGTCATGCTCACCCGTTGTTGGTGTACTTCT
 GCAGGTACAGTAGTTAGTGAGGTACAGCGGCCGAGGGCACCAGGTCCTGCTGTA
 GAAACCCAACCGTGAATCAAAAAACTCGACGGCCTGGCATTAGTCTGGATC
 GCGAAAACGTGGAATTGATCAGCGTTGGTGGAAAGCGCGTTACAAGAAAGCCGG
 CAATTGCTGTGCCAGGCAGTTAACGATCAGTCGGCATGCAAGATATTGTAATTAT
 GCAGGCAACGTCTGGTATCAGCGGAAGTCTTATACCGAAAGGTTGGCAGGCCAG
 CGTATCGTGTGCTGGTCTCGATGCGGTCACTCATTACGGCAAAGTGTGGGCAATAATC
 AGGAAGTGTGGAGCATCAGGGCGCTACCGCCATTGAAGCCGATGTCACGCCGT
 ATGTTATTGCCGGAAAAGTGTACGTATCACCCTGTTGTAACAACGAAACTGAAC
 GCAGACTATCCGCCGGAAATGGTATTACCGACGAAAACGGCAAGAAAAGCAGTC
 TTACTTCATGATTCTTAACATGCCGAATCCATCGCAGCGTAATGCTCTACACCA
 CGCCGAACACCTGGTGGACGATATCACCCTGGTACCGCATGTCGCGCAAGACTGTA
 ACCACGCGTCTGGTACTGGCAGGTGGCCAATGGTGTGTCAGCGTTGAACGCG
 TGATGCCGGATCAACAGGTGGTGCACACTGGACAAGGCACTAGCGGGACTTGC
 AAGTGGTAAT

FIG. 12 (page 2 of 3)

CCGCACCTCTGGCAACCGGGTGAAGGTTATCTCTATGAACGTGCGTCACAGCCAAAA
GCCAGACAGAGTGTGATATCTACCCGCTCGCGTCGGCATCCGGTCAGTGGCAGTGAA
GGCGAACAGTCCTGATTAACCACAAACCGTTCTACTTTACTGGCTTGGTCGTGATG
AAGATGCGGACTTGCCTGGCAAAGGATTGATAACGTGCTGATGGTGCACGACCACG
CATTAATGGACTGGATTGGGCCAACTCCTACCGTACCTCGCATTACCCCTACGCTGA
AGAGATGCTGACTGGCAGATGAACATGGCATCGTGGTATTGATGAAACTGCTGCT
GTCGGCTTAACCTCTTTAGGCATTGGTTCGAAGCGGGCAACAAGCCGAAAGAAC
TGTACAGCGAAGAGGCAGTCACCGGGAAACTCAGCAAGCGCACTTACAGGCGATTA
AAGAGCTGATAGCGCTGACAAAAACCAACCGAAGCGTGGTATGTGGAGTATTGCCA
ACGAACCGGATACCGTCCGCAAGGTGCACGGGAATATTCGCGCCACTGGCGGAAG
CAACCGTAAACTCGACCCGACCGTCCGATCACCTCGCTCAATGTAATGTTCTGCGA
CGCTCACACCGATACCATCAGCGATCTTTGATGTGCTGCGCTGAACCGTTATTACG
GATGGTATGTCCAAAGCGCGATTGGAAACGGCAGAGAAGGTACTGGAAAAAGAAC
TTCTGGCCTGGCAGGAGAAACTGCATCAGCGATTATCATCACCGAATACGGCGTGG
TACGTTAGCCGGGCTGCACTCAATGTACACCGACATGTGGAGTGAAGAGTATCAGTGT
GCATGGCTGGATATGTATCACCGCGTCTTGATCGCGTCAGCGCCGTCGGTGAAC
AGGTATGGAATTCCCGATTGCGACCTCGCAAGGCATATTGCGCGTTGGCGGTAA
CAAGAAAGGGATCTTCACTCGCGACCGCAAACCGAAGTCGGCGGCTTTCTGCTGCAA
AAACGCTGGACTGGCATGAACCTCGGTAAAAAACCGCAGCAGGGAGGCAAACAATGA
GACGTCCGGTAACCTTAAACTGAGGGACTGAAGTCGCTGATGTGCTGAATTGTTT
GTGATGTTGGTGGCGTATTTGTTAAATAAGTAAGCATGGCTGTGATTTATCATATG
ATCGATCTTGGGGTTTATTAACACATTGAAAATGTGTATCTATTAAATAACTCAAT
GTATAAGATGTGTTCATCTCGGTTGCCATAGATCTGCTTATTGACCTGTGATGTTT
GACTCCAAAAACCAAAACTACAACCAACTCATGGAATATGTCCACCTGTTCT
TGAAGAGTTCATCTACCAATTCCAGTTGGCATTATCAGTGTGCAAGCGCGCTGTGCTT
TGTAAACATAACAATTGTTACGGCATATATCCAA

12/91

SEQ ID NO: 5 shows an exemplary SCBV bidirectional promoter comprising a minUbi1P minimal core promoter, wherein the reverse complement of the minUbi1P is underlined:

CTGCAGAAGTAACACCAAACAACAGGGTGAGCATCGACAAAAGAAACAGTACCAAG
 CAAATAAATAGCGTATGAAGGCAGGGCTAAAAAAATCCACATATAGCTGCTGCATAT
 GCCATCATCCAAGTATATCAAGATCGAAATAATTATAAAACATACTTGTATTATAA
 TAGATAGGTACTCAAGGTTAGAGCATATGAATAGATGCTGCATATGCCATCATGTATA
 TGCATCAGTAAAACCCACATCAACATGTATACCTACCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCAT
 CTTAAACTCGTAACTATGAAGATGTATGACACACACATACAGTCCAAAATTAAATAAA
 TACACCAGGTAGTTGAAACAGTATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGAATGAACGACCGCC
 CAACCACACCACATCATCACAACCAAGCGAACAAAAGCATCTGTATATGCATCAG
 TAAAACCGCATCAACATGTATACCTACCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCATCTCA
 ATT CGTAACTATGAATATGTATGGCACACACATACAGATCCAAAATTAAATAATCCAC
 CAGGTAGTTGAAACAGAATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGACCGCCAACCAGACCA
 TCATCACAACCAAGACAAAAAAAGCATGAAAAGATGACCCGACAAACAAGTGCAC
 GGCATATATTGAAATAAAGGAAAAGGGCAAACCAAACCCATGCAACGAAACAAAAAA
 AAATCATGAAATCGATCCGTCTCGGAACGGCTAGAGCCATCCCAGGATTCCCCAA
 GAGAAACACTGGCAAGTTAGCAATCAGAACGTGTCTGACGTACAGGTGCGATCCGTG
 ACGAACGCTAGCAGCACGGATCTAACACAAACACGGATCTAACACAAACATGAAACAG
 AAGTAGAACTACCGGGCCCTAACCATGCATGGACCAGAACGCCATCTAGAGAAGGT
 AGAGAGGGGGGGGGGGGGAGGACGAGCGGCGTACCTGAAGCGGAGGTGCCGACG
 GGTGGATTGGGGAGATCTGGTTGTGTGTGCGCTCCGAACAAACACGAGGGTTGG
GGAGGTACCAAGAGGGTGTGGAGGGGGTGTCTATTATTACGGCGGGCGAGGAAGGG
AAAGCGAAGGAGCGGTGGAAAGGAATCCCCGTAGCTGCCGTGCCGTGAGAGGA
GGAGGAGGCCGCTGCCGTGCCGCTACGTCTGCCGTCCGCCACGCAATTCTGGA
TGCCGACAGCGGAGCAAGTCCAACGGTGGAGCGGAACCTCTCGAGAGGGTCCAGCCG
CGGAGTATCGGAAGTTGAAGACAAAGAAGGTCTTAAATCCTGGCTAGCAACACTGAA
CTATGCCAGAAACCACATCAAAGCATATCGGCAAGCTTCTGGCCCATTATATCCAAA
GACCTCAGAGAAAGGTGAGCGAAGGCTCAATTCAAGAAGATTGGAAGCTGATCAATAG
GATCAAGACAATGGTGAGAACGCTTCAAATCTCACTATTCCACCAAGAGATGCATAC
ATTATCATTGAAACAGATGCATGTGCAACTGGATGGGAGCAGTATGCAAGTGGAAAG
AAAAACAAGGCAGACCCAAGAAATACAGAGCAAATCTGTAGGTATGCCAGTGGAAAAA
TTTGATAAGCCAAAAGGAACCTGTGATGCAGAAATCTATGGGTTATGAATGGCTTAG
AAAAGATGAGATTGTTCTACTTGGACAAAAGAGAGATCACAGTCAGAACTGACAGTA
GTGCAATCGAAAGGTTCTACAACAAGAGTGCTGAACACAAGCCTCTGAGATCAGAT
GGATCAGGTT

CATGGACTACATCACTGGTGCAGGACCAGAGATAGTCATTGAACACATAAAAGGGAA
GAGCAATGGTTAGCTGACATCTTGTCCAGGCTCAAAGCCAAATTAGCTCAGAATGAA
CCAACGGAAGAGATGATCCTGCTTACACAAGCCATAAGGGAAAGTAATTCTTATCCAG
ATCATCCATACACTGAGCAACTCAGAGAATGGGGAAACAAAATTCTGGATCCATTCCC
CACATTCAAGAAGGACATGTTGAAAGAACAGAGCAAGCTTTATGCTAACAGAGGA
ACCAGTTCTACTCTGTGCATGCAGGAAGCCTGCAATTCAAGTTAGTGTCCAGAACATCT
GCCAACCCAGGAAGGAAATTCTCAAGTGCAGCAATGAACAAATGCCATTGCTGGTACT
GGGCAGATCTCATTGAAGAACACATTCAAGACAGAACATTGATGAATTCTCAAGAACATCT
TGAAGTTCTGAAGACCAGGTGGCGTGCAAACAAATGGAGGAGGAACCTATGAAGGAAGT
CACCAAGCTGAAGATAGAACAGCAGGAGTCAGGAATACCAGGCCACACCAAGGG
CTATGTCGCCAGTAGCCGCAGAACAGATGTGCTAGATCTCAAGACGTAAGCAATGACG
ATTGAGGAGGCATTGACGTCAAGGATGACCGCAGCGGAGAGTACTGGGCCATTCAAG
TGGATGCTCCACTGAGTTGTATTATTGTGTGCTTTGGACAAGTGTGCTGTCCACTTT
CTTTGGCACCTGTGCCACTTATTCTTGTCTGCCACGATGCCATTGCTTAGCTGTAA
GCAAGGATCGCAGTGCAGTGTGACACCACCCCCCTCCGACGCTCTGCCTATATAAG
GCACCGTCTGTAAGCTTACGATCATCGTAGTTACCAAGGCCGGGTCGGATCT
AGCTGAAGGCTCGACAAGGCAGTCCACGGAGGAGCTGATATTGGTGGACAAGCTGT
GGATAGGAGCAACCCCTATCCCTAATATACCAGCACCACCAAGTCAGGGCAATCCCCA
GATCACCCCCAGCAGATTGAAGAAGGTACAGTACACACACATGTATATGTATGATG
TATCCCTCGATCGAAGGCATGCCATTGGTATAATCACTGAGTAGTCATTATTACTTT
GTTTGACAAGTCAGTAGTCATCCATTGTCCCATTTCAGCTTGGAAAGTTGGTT
GCACTGGCCTTGGTCTAATAACTGAGTAGTCATTATTACGTTGTTGACAAAGTCAG
TAGCTCATCCATCTGCCCCATTTCAGCTAGGAAGTTGGTGCACGGCCTGGAC
TAATAACTGATTAGTCATTATTACATTGTTGACAAAGTCAGTAGCTCATCCATCTG
TCCCATTTTCAGCTAGGAAGTTC

14/91

SEQ ID NO: 6 shows a SCBV promoter containing ADH1 exon 6 (underlined), intron 6 (lower case font), and exon 7 (bold font).

ATCGGAAGTTGAAGACAAAGAAGGTCTAAATCCTGGCTAGCAACACTGAACATATGC
 CAGAAACCACATCAAAGCATATCGGCAAGCTCTGGGCCATTATATCCAAAGACCTC
 AGAGAAAGGTGAGCGAAGGCTCAATTAGAAGATTGGAAGCTGATCAATAGGATCAA
 GACAATGGTGAGAACGCTTCAAATCTCACTATTCCACCAGAACAGATGCATACATTATC
 ATTGAAACAGATGCATGTGCAACTGGATGGGAGCAGTATGCAAGTGGAAAGAAAAAC
 AAGGCAGACCCAAAGAAATACAGAGCAAATCTGTAGGTATGCCAGTGGAAAATTGAT
 AAGCCAAAAGGAACCTGTGATGCAGAAATCTATGGGTTATGAATGGCTTAGAAAAG
 ATGAGATTGTTCTACTTGGACAAAAGAGAGATCACAGTCAGAACTGACAGTAGTGCA
 ATCGAAAGGTTCTACAACAAGAGTGCTGAACACAAGCCTCTGAGATCAGATGGATC
 AGGTTCATGGACTACATCACTGGTGAGGACCAGAGATAGTCATTGAACACATAAAA
 GGGAAAGAGCAATGGTTAGCTGACATCTGTCCAGGCTCAAAGCCAAATTAGCTCAGA
 ATGAACCAACGGAAGAGATGATCCTGCTTACACAAGCCATAAGGGAAAGTAATTCTT
 ATCCAGATCATCCATACTGAGCAACTCAGAGAAATGGGAAACAAATTCTGGATC
 CATTCCCCACATTCAAGAAGGACATGTTGAAAGAACAGAGCAAGCTTATGCTAAC
 AGAGGAACCAGTTCTACTCTGTGATGCAGGAAGCCTGCAATTCAAGTTAGTGCCAGA
 ACATCTGCCAACCCAGGAAGGAAATTCTCAAGTGCAGCAATTGAAACAAATGCCATTGCT
 GGTACTGGCAGATCTCATTGAAGAACACATTCAAGACAGAACATTGATGAATTCTCAA
 GAATCTTGAAGTTCTGAAGACCGGTGGCGTGCACAAACATGGAGGAGGAACCTATGAA
 GGAAGTCACCAAGCTGAAGATAGAACAGAGCAGGAGTTGAGGAATACCAGGCCACACC
 AAGGGCTATGTCGCCAGTAGCCGCAGAACAGATGTGCTAGATCTCAAGACGTAAGCAA
 TGACGATTGAGGAGGCATTGACGTGCAGGGATGACCGCAGCGGAGAGTACTGGGCCA
 TTCAGTGGATGCTCCACTGAGTTGATTATTGTGTGCTTTCGGACAAGTGTGCTGTCC
 ACTTCTTTGGCACCTGTGCCACTTATTCTTGTCTGCCACGATGCCTTGCTTAGCT
 TGTAAGCAAGGATCGCAGTGCAGTGTGACACCACCCCCCTCCGACGCTCTGCCTAT
 ATAAGGCACCGTCTGTAAGCTTACGATCATCGGTAGTTACCAAGGCCGGGGTCG
 GATCTAGCTGAAGGCTCGACAAGGCAGTCCACGGAGGAGCTGATATTGGTGGACAA
 GCTGTGGATAGGAGCAACCTATCCCTAATATACCAGCACCACCAAGTCAGGGCAATC
 CCCAGATCACCCAGCAGATT~~CGAAGAAG~~Ggtacagtacacacatgtatatgtatgtatccctcgatcgaa
 ggcattgcctgtataatcactgagtagtcatttattactttttgacaagtcaagttagtcatccattgtccattttcagcttggaaagttgggtgc
 actggcctggtaataactgagtagtcatttattacgttgcacaagtcaagtcaagttagtcattccatgtccattttcagcttaggaagttgggtgc
 cactggcctggactaataactgattagtcatttattacattgtttcgacaagtcaagtcaagtctcatccatgtccattttcagCTAGGAAGT
TC

FIG. 14

SEQ ID NO: 7 shows a nucleic acid comprising *YFP* and *GUS* gene expression cassettes driven by an exemplary SCBV bidirectional promoter.

AGCACTTAAAGATCTTAGAAGAAAGCAAAGCATTATTAATACATAACAATGTCCAG
 GTAGCCCAGCTGAATTACAATACGCAACTGCTCATAATAATTCAACAAACCCAAGTAG
 TACACAACATCCAGAAGCAAATAAGCCCACAGTACCAAGCCTACACAAGCAGCA
 ACACACTCACTGCCAGTGCCGGTGGGTCTTAAAGCACACGGGCCTGACCACGCGATCC
 ACCTTGAAACAAACTTGGTAAAATTAAAGCAAACCAGAAGCACACACAGCCAACGC
 AACGCTTCTGATCGCGGCCAAGGCCGGCCAGAACGTACGACGGACACGCA
 CACGCTGCGACCGAGCTCTAGGTGATTAAGCTAACTACTCAAAGGTAGGTCTTGCAC
 AGTCAACAGCTCTGACAGTTCTTCAAGGACATGTTGTCCTGTGGTCTGTACATCT
 TTGGAAAGTTTACATGGTAAGACATGTGATGATACTCTGGAACATGAACGGACCTC
 CACCAATGGGAGTGTTCATCTGGGTGTGGTCAGCCACTATGAAGTCGCCTTGCTGCC
 AGTAATCTCATGACAGATCTTGAAGGCTGACTTGAGACCGTGGTGGCTGGCACCC
 CAGATGTAGAGGCAGTGGGAGTGAAGTTGAACCTCAAGTTCTTCCAACACATGAC
 CATCTTCTTGAAGCCTGACCATTGAGTTGACCCATTGTAGACAGACCCATTCTCA
 AAGGTGACTTCAGCCCTAGTCTTGAAGTTGCCATCTCCTCAAAGGTGATTGTGCGCTC
 TTGCACATAGCCATCTGGCATACAGGACTGTAGAAGTCCTCAACTCTGGACCACATC
 TTGGCAAAGCACTGTGCTCCATAGGTGAGAGTGGTGACAAGTGTGCTCCAAGGCACA
 GGAACATCACCAGTTGTGCAGATGAACGTGACATCAACCTTCCACTGAGGCATCTC
 CGTAGCCTTCCCACGTATGCTAAAGGTGTGGCCATCAACATTCCCTCATCTCCACA
 ACGTAAGGAATCTTCCATGAAAGAGAAGTGTCCAGATGCCATGGTGTGTTGGAT
 CCGGTACACACGTGCCTAGGACCGGTTCAACTAACTACTGCAGAAGTAACACCAAAC
 AACAGGGTGAGCATCGACAAAAGAAACAGTACCAAGCAAATAATAGCGTATGAAG
 GCAGGGCTAAAAAAATCCACATATAGCTGCTGCATATGCCATCATCCAAGTATATCAA
 GATCGAAATAATTATAAAACATACTTGTATTATAATAGATAGGTACTCAAGGTTAG
 AGCATATGAATAGATGCTGCATATGCCATCATGTATATGCATCAGTAAAACCCACATC
 AACATGTATACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCTTAAACTCGTAACTATGAAG
 ATGTATGACACACACATACAGTTCCAAAATTAAATAATACACCAGGTAGTTGAAACA
 GTATTCTACTCCGATCTAGAACGAATGAACGACCGCCCAACCACACCACATCATCACA
 ACCAAGCGAACAAAAAGCATCTCTGTATATGCATCAGTAAAACCCGCATCAACATGTA
 TACCTATCCTAGATCGATATTCCATCCATCATCTTCAATTGTAACTATGAATATGTA
 TGGCACACACATACAGATCCAAAATTAAATAATCCACCAAGGTAGTTGAAACAGAATT
 CTACTCCGATCTAGAACGACCGCCCAACCAGACCACATCATCACAACCAAGACAAAAA
 AAAAGCATGAAAAGATGACCCGACAAACAAAGTGCACGGCATATATTGAAATAAGGA
 AAAGGGCAAACCAACCCATTGCAACGAAACAAAAAAATCATGAAATCGATCCCCT
 CTGCGGAACGGCTAGAGCCATCCCAGGATTCCCCAAAGAGAAACACTGGCAAGTTAG
 CAATCAGAACGTGTCTGACGTACAGGTGCGATCCGTGTACGAACGCTAGCAGCACGG
 ATCTAACACAAACACGGATCTAACACAAACATGAACAGAAGTAGAAACTACCGGGCCC
 TAACCATGCATGGACCGGAACGCCGATCTAGAGAAGGTAGAGAGGGGGGGGGGGGG
 GAGGACGAGCGCGTACCTTGAAGCGGAGGTGCCACGGGTGGATTGGGGAGGTACCAAGAGGGTGT
 TGGTTGTGTGTGCGCTCCGAACAAACACGAGGTTGGGGAGGTACCAAGAGGGTGT
 GGAGGGGGTGTCTATTATTACGGCGGGCGAGGAAGGGAAAGCGAAGGGAGCGGTGGG
 AAAGGAATCCCCGTAGCTGCCGGTGCCGTGAGAGGAGGAGGAGGCCCTGCCGTG
 CCGGCTACGTCTGCCGCTCCGCCACGCAATTCTGGATGCCGACAGCGGAGCAAGTC
 CAACGGTGGAGCGGAACCT

CTCGAGAGGGTCCAGCCGGAGTATCGGAAGTTGAAGACAAAGAAGGTCTTAAAT
 CCTGGCTAGCAACACTGAACATGCCAGAAACCACATCAAAGCATATCGGCAAGCTTC
 TTGGCCCATTATATCCAAAGACCTCAGAGAAAGGTGAGCGAAGGCTCAATTAGAAG
 ATTGGAAGCTGATCAATAGGATCAAGACAATGGTGAGAACGCTCCAAATCTCACTAT
 TCCACCAGAAGATGCATACATTATCATTGAAACAGATGCATGTGCAACTGGATGGGA
 GCAGTATGCAAGTGGAAAGAAAAACAAGGCAGACCCAAAGAAATACAGAGCAAATCTGT
 AGGTATGCCAGTGGAAAATTGATAAGCCAAAGGAACCTGTGATGCAGAAATCTAT
 GGGGTTATGAATGGCTAGAAAAGATGAGATTGTTCTACTTGGACAAAAGAGAGATC
 ACAGTCAGAACTGACAGTAGTGAATCGAAAGGTTCTACAACAAGAGTGCTAACAC
 AAGCCTCTGAGATCAGATGGATCAGGTTCATGGACTACATCACTGGTGCAGGACCAG
 AGATAGTCATTGAACACATAAAAGGAAGAGCAATGGTTAGCTGACATCTTGTCCAG
 GCTCAAAGCCAAATTAGCTCAGAATGAACCAACGGAAAGAGATGATCCTGCTTACACA
 AGCCATAAGGGAAAGTAATTCTTATCCAGATCATCCATACACTGAGCAACTCAGAGAA
 TGGGGAAACAAAATTCTGGATCCATTCCCCACATTCAAGAAGGACATGTTGAAAGA
 ACAGAGCAAGCTTTATGCTAACAGAGGAACCGAGTTCTACTCTGTGCATGCAGGAAGC
 CTGCAATTCTCAGTTAGTGTCCAGAACATCTGCCAACCCAGGAAGGAAATTCTCAAGTG
 CGCAATGAACAAATGCCATTGCTGGTACTGGCAGATCTCATTGAAGAACACATTCAA
 GACAGAATTGATGAATTCTCAAGAACATCTGAAGTTCTGAAGAACCGGTGGCGTGCAAA
 CAATGGAGGAGGAACCTATGAAGGAAGTCACCAAGCTGAAGATAGAACAGCAGGAG
 TTCGAGGAATACCAGGCCACACCAAGGGCTATGTCGCCAGTAGCCGCAGAACAGATGTG
 CTAGATCTCAAAGACGTAAGCAATGACGATTGAGGAGGCATTGACGTCAAGGATGAC
 CGCAGCGGAGAGTACTGGGCCATTCTCAGTGGATGCTCCACTGAGTTGTATTATTGTGT
 GCTTTCCGACAAGTGTGCTCCACTTTCTTTGGCACCTGTGCCACTTATTCTTGT
 CTGCCACGATGCCATTGCTTAGCTGTAAGCAAGGATCGCAGTGCCTGTGACACCA
 CCCCCCTCCGACGCTCTGCCTATATAAGGCACCGTCTGTAAGCTCTACGATCATCGG
 TAGTTCACCAAGGCCGGGTGGATCTAGCTGAAGGCTCGACAAGGCAGTCCACGG
 AGGAGCTGATATTGGTGGACAAGCTGTTGAGGAGAACCCCTATCCCTAATATACC
 AGCACCACCAAGTCAGGGCAATCCCCAGATCACCCAGCAGATTGAAAGAACGGTACA
 GTACACACACATGTATATGTATGATGATCCATTGCTGACAGGATGCCATTGTT
 AACTACTGAGTAGTCATTATTACTTTGTTGACAAGTCAGTAGTCATTGCTCCATTGTT
 CCCATTTCAGCTTGGAAAGTTGGTGCCTGGACTAATAACTGATTAGTCATTGAGTAGTC
 ATTGTTACGTTGTTGACAAGTCAGTAGCTCATCCATTGCTCCATTTCAGCTAGGAAAGT
 TCGACAAGTCAGTAGCTCATCCATTGCTCCATTTCAGCTAGGAAAGTTCGCGGCCGC
 AGGGCACCATTGGTCCGCTGTAGAAACCCCAACCGTGAATCAAAAAACTCGACG
 GCCTGTGGCATTCTCAGTGGATCGCAGAACACTGTGGAATTGATCAGCGTTGGTGGGA
 AAGCGCGTTACAAGAAAGCCGGCAATTGCTGTCAGGAGCATCAGGGCGCTATACGCC
 GCCGATGCAGATATTGTAATTATGCCGGCAACGTCTGGTATCAGCGCAAGTCATT
 TACCGAAAGGTTGGGCAGGCCAGCGTATCGTGCCTGCTGCGTTGATGCGGTCACTCATTA
 CGGCAAAGTGTGGGTCAATAATCAGGAAGTGTGAGGAGCATCAGGGCGCTATACGCC
 ATTGAAAGCCGATGTCAGCCGTATGTTATTGCCGGAAAAGTGTACGTATCACCCTT
 TGTGTGAACAACGAACTGAACTGGCAGACTATCCCGCCGGGAATGGTATTACCGAC
 GAAAACGGCAAGAAAAAGCAGTCTTACTCCATGATTCTTAACATATGCCGGAAATCC
 ATCGCAGCGTAATGCTCTACACCACGCCAACACACTGGTGGACGATATCACCGTGGT
 GACGCATGTCGCGCAAGACTGTAACCACG

CGTCTGTTGACTGGCAGGTGGTGGCCAATGGTGATGTCAGCGTTGAACTCGCGTGATGC
GGATCAACAGGTGGTTGCAACTGGACAAGGCACTAGCGGGACTTGCAGTGGTGA
TCCGCACCTCTGGCAACCAGGGTGAAGGTTATCTCTATGAACTGTGCGTCACAGCCAAA
AGCCAGACAGAGTGTGATATCTACCCGCTCGCGTCCGCATCCGGTCAGTGGCAGTGA
AGGGCGAACAGTCCTGATTAACCACAAACCGTTCTACTTACTGGCTTGGTCGT
GAAGATGCGGACTTGCCTGGCAAAGGATTGATAACGTGCTGATGGTCACGACCAC
GCATTAATGGACTGGATTGGGGCCAACCTCCTACCGTACCTCGCATTACCCCTACGCTG
AAGAGATGCTGACTGGCAGATGAACATGGCATCGTGGTATTGATGAAACTGCTG
CTGTCGGCTTAACCTCTTTAGGCATTGGTTCGAAGCAGGGCAACAAGCCGAAAGA
ACTGTACAGCGAAGAGGCAGTCACGGGAAACTCAGCAAGCGCACTTACAGGGCAGT
TAAAGAGCTGATAGCGCGTACAAAAACCAAGCGTGGTATGGAGTATTGC
CAACGAACCGGATACCGTCCGCAAGGTGCACGGGAAATTTCGCGCCACTGGCGGA
AGCAACCGTAAACTCGACCCGACCGTCCGATCACCTCGCTCAATGTAATGTTCTGC
GACGCTCACACCGATACCATCAGCGATCTCTTGATGTGCTGCGCTAACCGTTATT
CGGATGGTATGTCCAAAGCGCGATTGGAAACGGCAGAGAAGGTACTGGAAAAGA
ACTTCTGGCCTGGCAGGAGAAACTGCATCAGCCGATTATCATCACCGAATACGGCGTG
GATACGTTAGCCGGCTGCACTCAATGTACACCGACATGTGGAGTGAAGAGTATCAGT
GTGCATGGCTGGATATGTATCACCGCGTCTTGATCGCTCAGCGCCGTCGCGTGA
ACAGGTATGGAATTTCGCCGATTTGCGACCTCGCAAGGCATATTGCGCGTGGCGGT
AACAAAGAAAGGGATCTTCACTCGCAGCGAAACCGAAGTCGGCGGCTTCTGCTGC
AAAAACGCTGGACTGGCATGAACTCGGTAAAAACCGCAGCAGGGAGGCAAACAAT
GAGACGTCCGGTAACCTTAAACTGAGGGACTGAAGTCGCTGATGTGCTGAATTGT
TTGTGATGTTGGTGGCGTATTTGTTAAATAAGTAAGCATGGCTGTGATTITATCATA
TGATCGATCTTGGGGTTTATTAACACATTGTAAGGTATCTATTAAACTCA
ATGTATAAGATGTGTTCATCTCGGTTGCCATAGATCTGCTTATTGACCTGTGATGT
TTGACTCCAAAAACCAAAATCACAACCAACTCAATAAAACTCATGGAATATGTCCACCTGTT
TCTTGAAGAGGTTCATCTACCATTCCAGTTGGCATTATCAGTGTGACCGCGCTGTG
CTTGTAAACATAACAAATTGTTACGGCATATACTCAA

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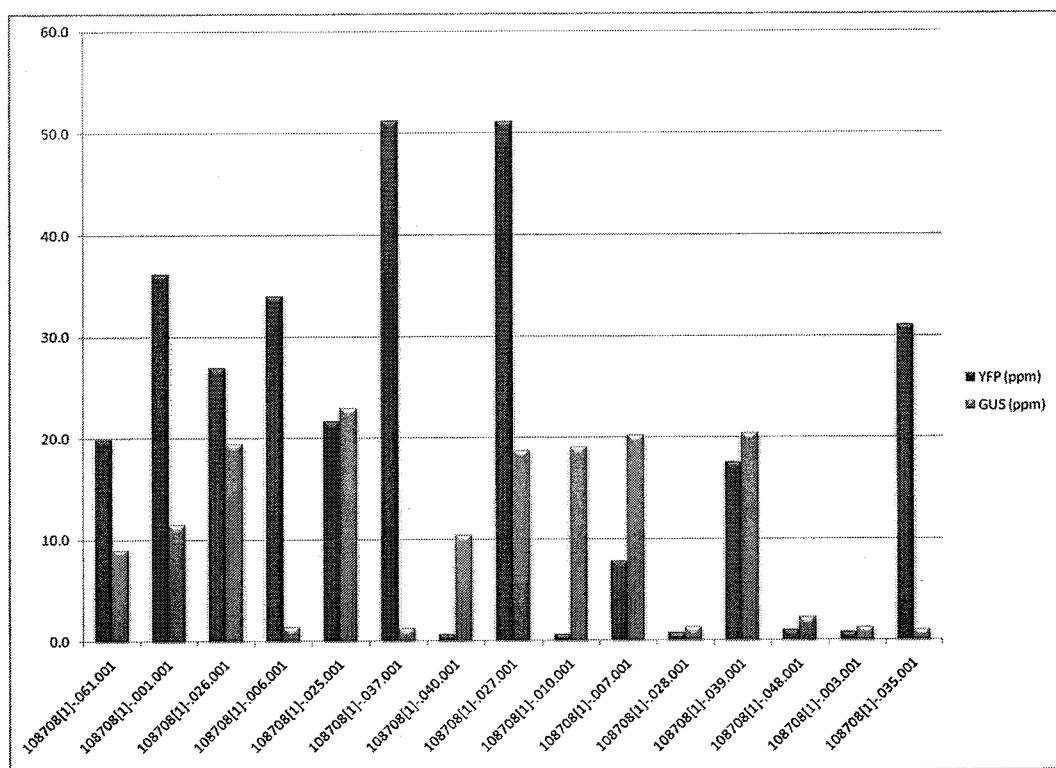


FIG. 16

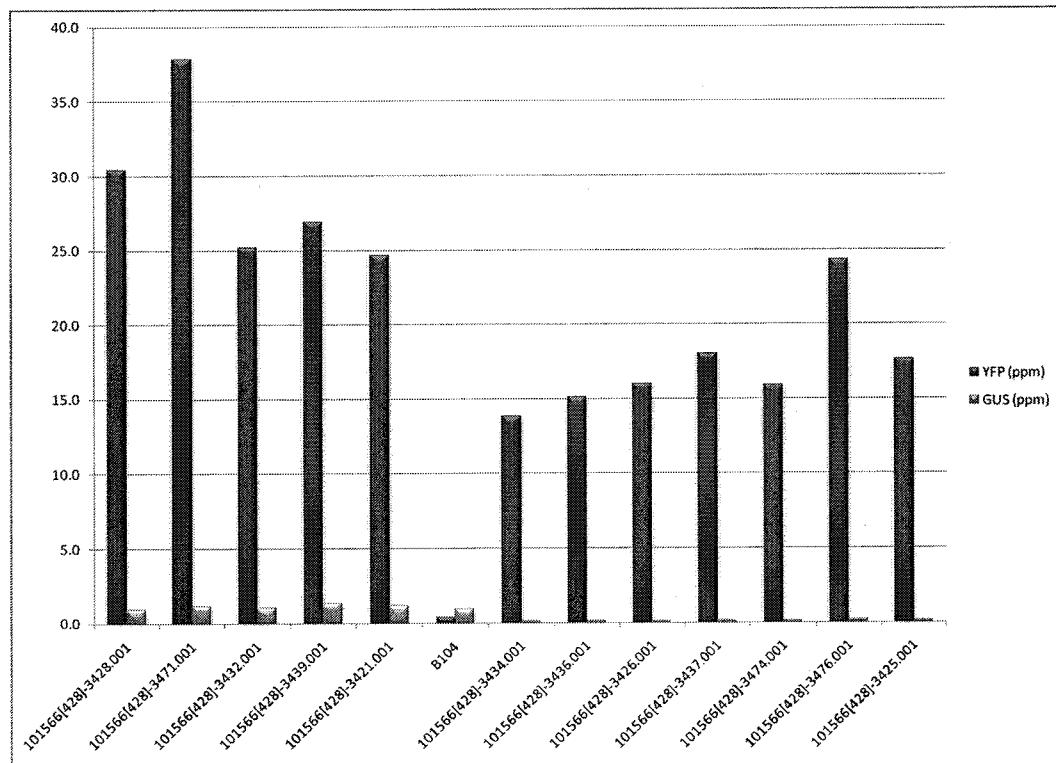


FIG. 17

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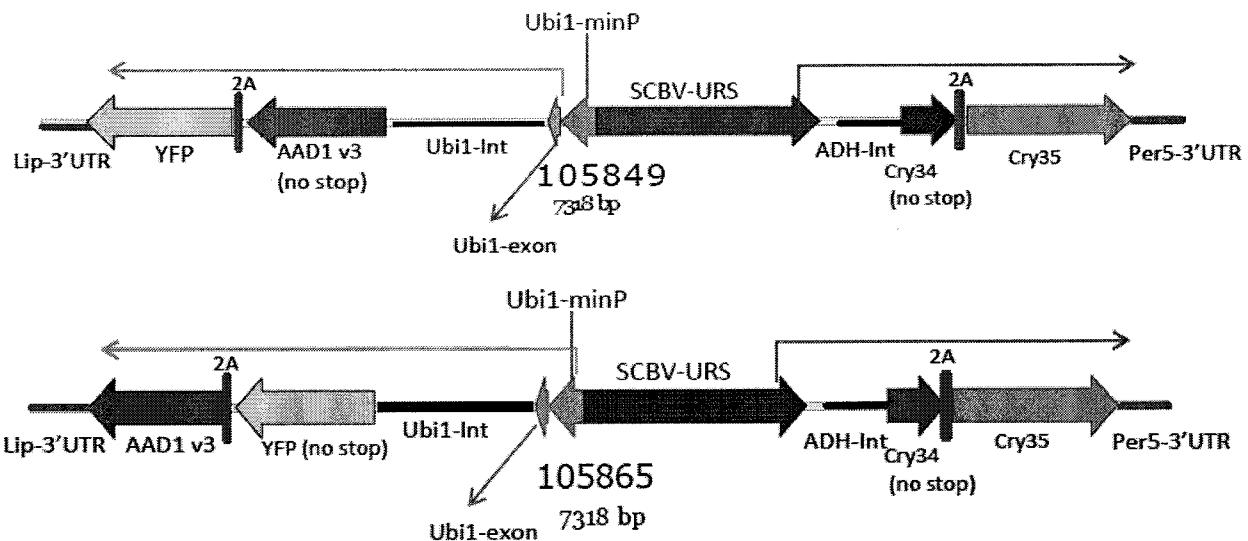


FIG. 18

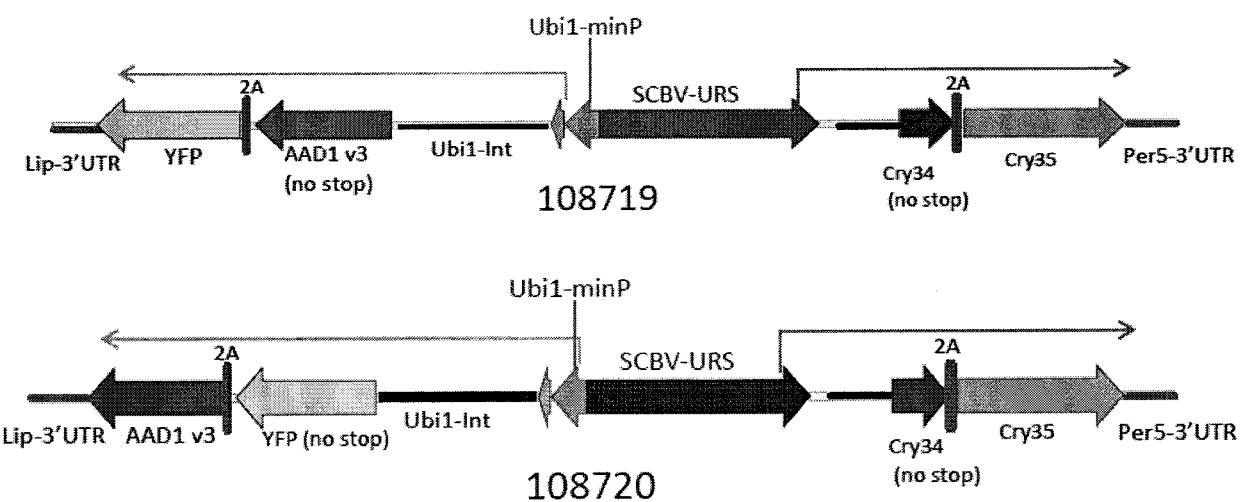


FIG. 19

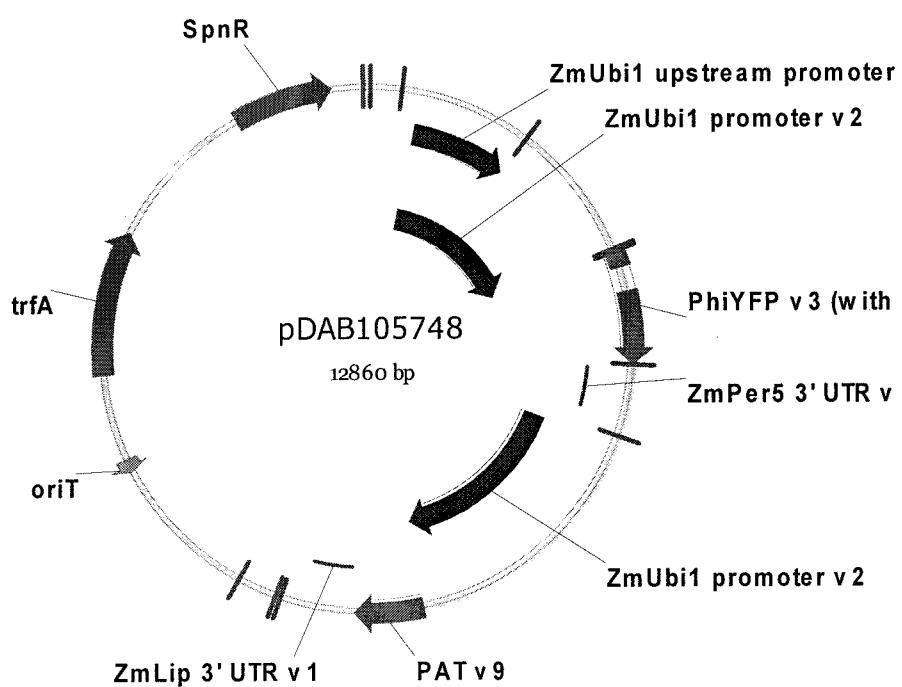
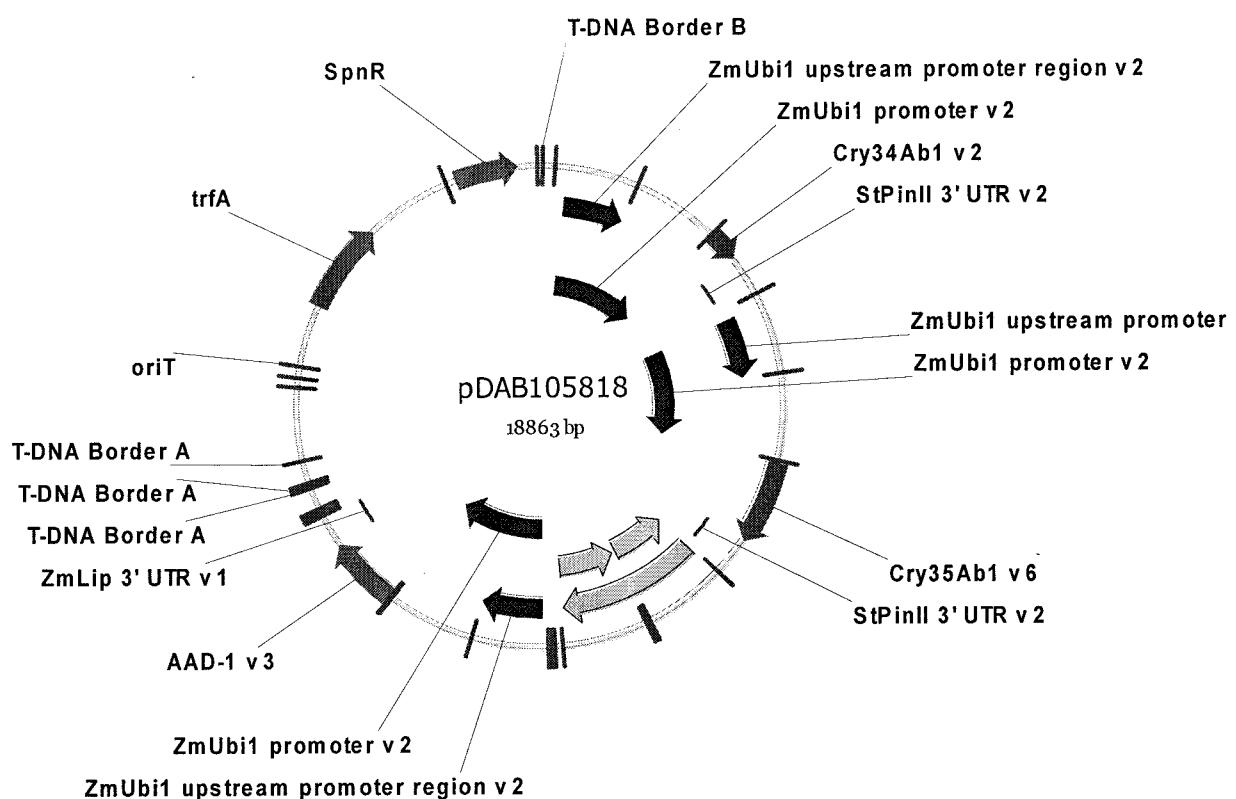


FIG. 20

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SEQ ID NO: 16

CTGGACCCCTCTCGAGTGTCCGCTTCACCGTTGGACTTGCTACGCTGTCAGCATCGA
 GATGTTGCGTGGCGAGCGGCAGACTTGAGCCGTCACGGCAGGCAGGCAGGCCTCCTCC
 TCTCACGGCATCTGTAGCTACGGGGATTCTTCGACCGCTCGTTCGCTTCCCTT
 CCTCGTCTGCCGAAATAATGTTACACCCCTCACAGCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 17

CTGGACCCCTCTCGAGAGTTCCGCTCCACCGTTGGACTAGCTCTGCTGTCGGCATCCA
 GAAAATGCTTGGCAGTGCAGCAGACGTGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGGGGCCTCCTCCTG
 CTCTCACGGCACATGAAGCTACGGGTGATAGCTTCCCCACCGCTCCAACGCTTCCC
 TTACTCTCACGCCGTAAATAATAGACACCCCTCCACAACCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 18

CTGGACCTCTCTCGAGAGTTGCGCTCCACCGATGGACTTGCTCCGCTGTCGGCGTCC
 ATAATTGCGTGGCGGAGCGGCAGACGGGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGGAGCCTCGTCCT
 CCTCTCACGGCACCTGCAACTACGGGGATTCTATCCCACCGCTCCTCGCTTCAC
 TTCTCGCCCTCTTAATAAGTAGACACCCCATCCGAGCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 19

CAAGACCCCTCTCGAGAGTTCCGCACCACCGTTGGACGTGCTCCGCTATCTGCATCC
 AGAAATTGCGTGGCGGAACGGTAAACGTGAGCCGTCACGGCAGGCAGGCCTCCTCCT
 CCTCTCACGACACCGGCAGCTACGGGGATACCTGTACACAGCTCCTCGCTTTCT
 TTCCTCGCCCGCCGTAAATATGTATACTCCCTCCGACCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 20

CTGGACCCCTCTCGAGGGTTCCGTTCCACCGTTGGCTTGGTCCGCTGTCGGGATCCA
 GAAATAGCGTGGCGGAGCGGCAGACGTGATCCGGCACGGCATGCGGCTCCTAGTC
 CTATCACAGCACCGGCAGCTATGGGAGATTCCATTCCCACCGCTCCTGCGCTTCACT
 GGCTGGCCCGCCGTGATAGATAGACACCCCTCCACACCCCTCT

FIG. 21A

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SEQ ID NO: 21

GTTGGCTTCTCTTGAGTTCTGCTTCACGGATGGACTTGGTCAACGGACGGCATCCA
 GAATTGCGTGGCGTAGCGGCGGACGTGATCCGGCGGGCAGGCGGCTCCTCCTCC
 TCTCACTTAAGCGACAGCTACAGGGGATTCTTCCCACCGCTCCTCGCTGCCGTA
 CCTCGCCCGCGTAATAAATAGACACCCCTCACTCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 22

CTGGATCCCTCTCGAGAGTGCAGCTCCGACGTTGGACTTGCTCCGAAGTCGGCATCC
 AAAAATTGCGTGGTGGAGAGGCAGACTTGAGCCGGCACGGCAGGAGGCCTCGTCCT
 ACTCGCACGGTATCGGCAGCAACGGGAGAATCCTTGCACTCTGCTCCTCGCTGTAC
 CTTCCTCGCCCGCTGATATTGATAGACACCCCTGCATACCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 23

ATGGACCCCTCTCGAGTGTTCGGCTCCACCGTTAGACTTGCTCCACGATCGACATCA
 AGAAATTGCGAGACGGAGCTACAAACGTAAGAAATCTCGGTAGGGGGCCTCCTCCT
 CCTCTCACGGCACCGGCAGCTACGGGGGATTCTTCCCACCTCTCCTCACGTTCCC
 TACCTCGCCGCCATAATTATAAGCACCCCTCCGCACCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 24

CTGGACCCCTCTAAAGAGTTCCACGCCACCGTTATAATGGCTCCGCTGCGGCATCC
 AGAAATTACTTGGCGGATCAGCAGACGTGAGCCAGCATGGCTGGCGGCCTCCTCCTC
 CTCTCACGATGCCGTCAAGCTACGGGGGATTCTTCCCACGCTCCTCGCTTCTA
 TGCAGCGCCTGCCGGATTAAATAGGCAGCTCTCGTACCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 25

CAAGACACCTCTCGATTGTTCCGCTTCACCGTTGGACTTCTCCTCAGTCGGCATACA
 GAAATTGCTTGGCGAACGCGCAGACATGAGCCGGCACGACATGCGTCCTCATCTCC
 TCTCATGGCACCGGCAGTTACTGGTGAATCCTATCGCACCGCTCCTCGCTGTCCTT
 AATCGCCCGCCGAAAATAATTGACACCCCATCCACACCCCTCT

FIG. 21B

SEQ ID NO: 26

GAGGACCCCTCTCGTGTATCGCTCACCTTGGAGTTGGTCCACTATCGCGTACA
 GAAAATTCTGTTGCGAACGGCAGACGTGAGCCTACACGGCAGTCGGCCTTACCTCC
 TGACAAGGCACGTGCAGCTACAGATGATGCCTTCCCACCACTCCTCGCGTCCCTT
 CCTCGCCATCAGTAATGAATGGACACGTCCAGACTCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 27

CTGAACCCATCTCGAGTATGCCGCACGATCGATTGACATGCTCCACTGGCAGCATCC
 AGAAATTGCATTGGGGAGCATCAGGCGTGAGCCTGCACGGCAGGCGGACTATTCC
 CCTCGCGCGGACCGGCAACTACGGGGGATGCTTGACCGACCGCTCCATCGATTCC
 CAATCTCGCTGCCGTATTAAATAGATAACCCCTCACACCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 28

CTGGACTCCTTACGGGAGATCCGCTCACCGTTGGACTAGCTCCGTTTCGGCTTCAA
 TAAAGGGCGTGGGGAGCGGCAGTCGGGGCAGGCACGGCAGTGGCCTCATCCAT
 ATCTCACGGGGCCGGCAGTTGAGGGGGATTCCCTGTCCCACCTCACCTACTTTCCCT
 ACCTCGTCTGCCATATTAAATAGTCACCCCTCCACACCCCTT

SEQ ID NO: 29

TTGGACCCCTCTGAAAGTTAGGCTCCGCCGTGGACTGGTTCGCGGTCAATC
 AGGAATTGCGGGCGGAGGGTCAGACGTGCGGCCACAGCAGGTGGCCTCCTCAT
 CGTCACAAGGCACTGGCAACTACGGGTGATTCATTTCTTCAGCACCTACGCTTACC
 CTGCCACGCCCTCCGTATTATAATGACACCCCTCCACACCCCTT

SEQ ID NO: 30

CTGGACCCCACGCCGGGTTTCGTTCCCGTTGGATAGCTCCGGTGTCAACATAC
 AGAGAATATATGTCGGAGCGGAAGACGTGAGCCGACACGGCGGGCTGCCGCTCCT
 CCTGTCACGACACCGGCAGGTACGGGGGATTCCGTTCCGCCGCACAGTCACCTTCG
 CTTCCTGCCGGTGTATTAAATAGACACCGTGTCCACAGCCTCT

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SEQ ID NO: 31

CTTGAGCCCCACTCTAGAGTTCCGTTCACCGAATGACTAGCTCCGCTGCGGTATCCA
 TTAAGTGGGAGGCAGAACGTATGAGAGTCGGCACGGGAGGCCTGCCACGTC
 CGCGCACTACAGCGGGAGCTCGGAATATACCTGTCCCAATGCTGCTACGCTTCCC
 TTCCCGGCCACCCTAGAAAAATGACAGTCCCTCACACCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 32

TAGGAGGCCTCTCGAAAGGTCCGAACTCCGTAGGACGTGCTCCGCTGACAGCATCC
 AGGAATATCATGGGGGAGCTGCAGACGAGAGCCTGGACGACAAGGGGTACCTCGG
 CCGCTGACAGCTGCAGCACGGAGTATGCTTTCTCACCCTCCGGCGCTTCC
 CTTCGACGCAGGCCAGAATAAGTAGACATCAGGCCACACCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 33

CTTGTCTCCACTCTGATGTTCCGCTCCAACATTGATTGCTCCTCTGTAGGCATACA
 GTTATTGGGGGACTGATCGGCAGACGTGAGGCCAGCACTGCAAACGGCCAACCTCCTCC
 TCTCTGACTAAGGGATTAATTAAGGATACTTACCCGGCTCCTCTCTTCCCTA
 CCTAGCCCCCTTATTAAATAGAGACCGCCTCACAGCCGCT

SEQ ID NO: 34

CTGTACCCCTACAAGGGTACACGCTACCGATGGACTTGCACCACTGTGGGTTCC
 AATAATTGCGTGGCTGGCGTCAGACATATTCCGGCATGGCAAGCGGCCTGCTCCTC
 CTCTGGGAGCACCAGCAACAATGGGGGATTCCAAGCCCGCAGGTCTCGTTTACC
 GTCCTCGCCCGCCGTAGTATGTAGGCATCCAGAGACTACCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 35

CAGGAACCTAACGAGGGTTCCGCACGACCAAATGACTTGTATCTCTGCGGCATCC
 AGAAATGGGGTGTCAAGAGCGGCATCGGTGAGCCGGGGCGTGCAGGCCTCATGCT
 GCTCTCGCGGGACTAGGAGTTACGGGGGATACCTGTATTGCCGCTCCGACACTGTAC
 CATCCTCTCCGCCGGAGTATAGAGACACCCCTCGACGCCATAT

FIG. 21D

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SEQ ID NO: 36

CTGTGCTCCTGTATGGGGTTCAACTCCACCGTGAAATTGCGCCTCTGTCGTATCCA
 GAAATTGCGTGGTTGATCTGCTGACGTTAAAGGGCTCTGCAGGCGGCTTCCTCGGC
 TATGAAGGTACTGGCGTCTGCAAGTGATGCTTTGCTAACTCGCCTCGATGTCCCTT
 CCTCGCGTCTTAATAGGTTGTCAGCCGCTCCAGACCATT

SEQ ID NO: 37

CTGGTCCCATCGCTAGTGGTACGCTCCACCGGTGGAGTAGCTCAGATGTCTGAAGGG
 TGGAAATTAGAGGTGGAGAGACAGACGTGAGCTAGAGCGGCATGGGACCTGGTCCA
 CCGCTCGAGGCAATGGAACGACTGTTGAAACCTTGCCCACCACCTGCAATTTC
 CATCCTCACCGGCCGAATGAATTAAAACCCACGTACACACCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 38

CGTGACAGGGCTCGGGTGTTCGGCTCCATCGTAGTGCATGCCGATGTAAGTATAC
 AAGAAGTACGTGGCTTGGCGTCTGACGAGGGCCGTCAAGGCAGGCGGCCTCCTCTA
 AGCTTACGGCGCCGGCAGGTTCGTAGGTTACCTTACACTCAACTCATAGTCTATCTAT
 TACTCGTACTGCGTTATAAATTGTCACCCCTCCACACCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 39

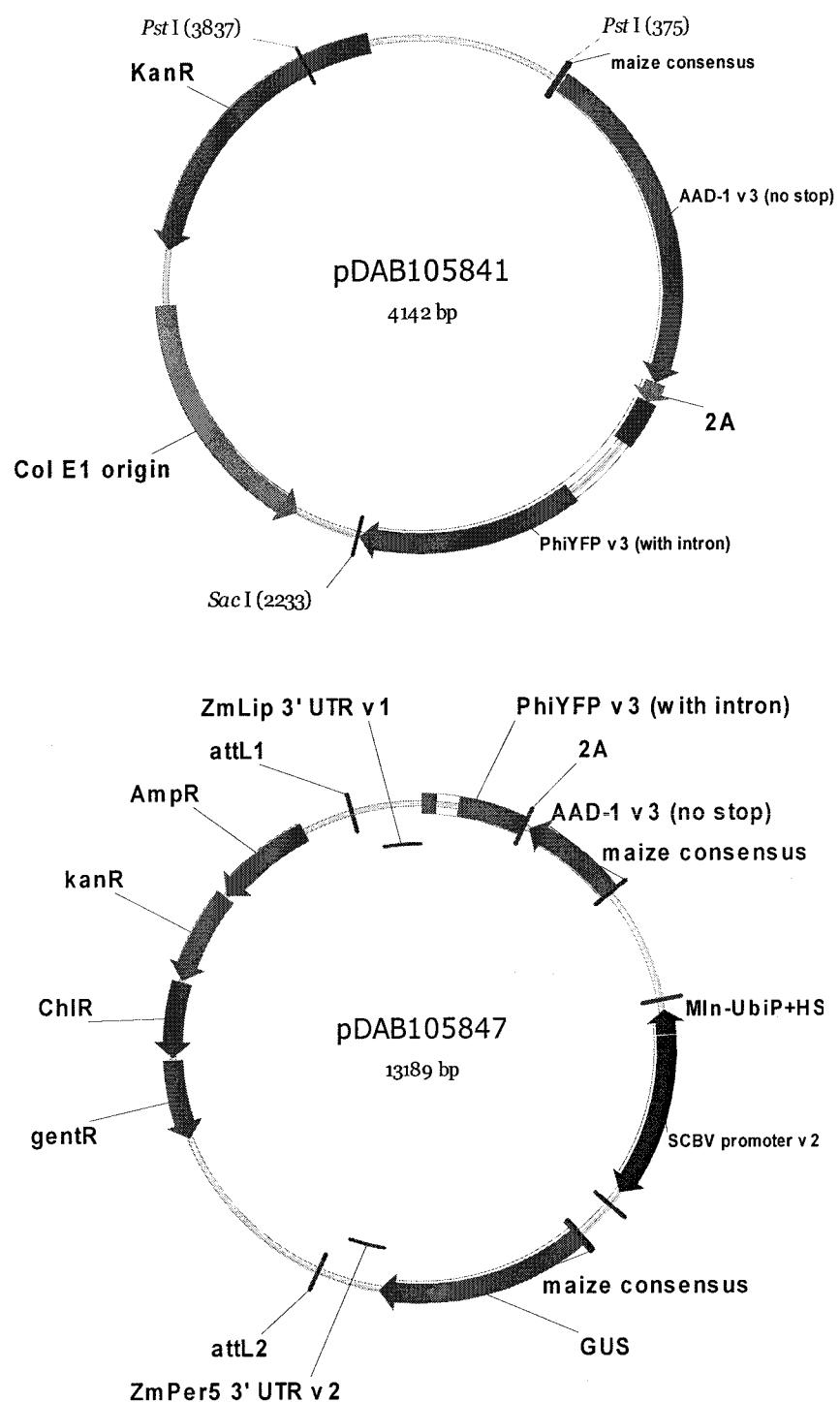
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 AAGAATTGCATATCAGATCTGACGACGTTAGCCGACATGGCTAGCAGACTACTCCGC
 TTCACACGTCAGCGAAAGCGACGGAGGATTCTTGCCAACGGCGCCTCGCGAACCC
 TTCCTCGCCCGTCTGGAAAGAAAGATACTCCCCTGCACACCCCTCT

SEQ ID NO: 40

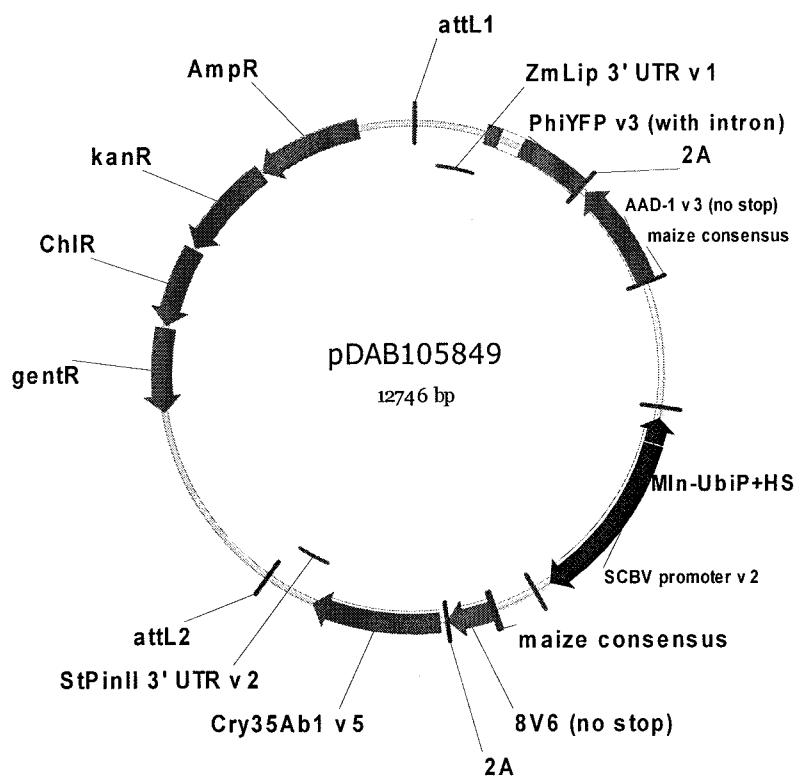
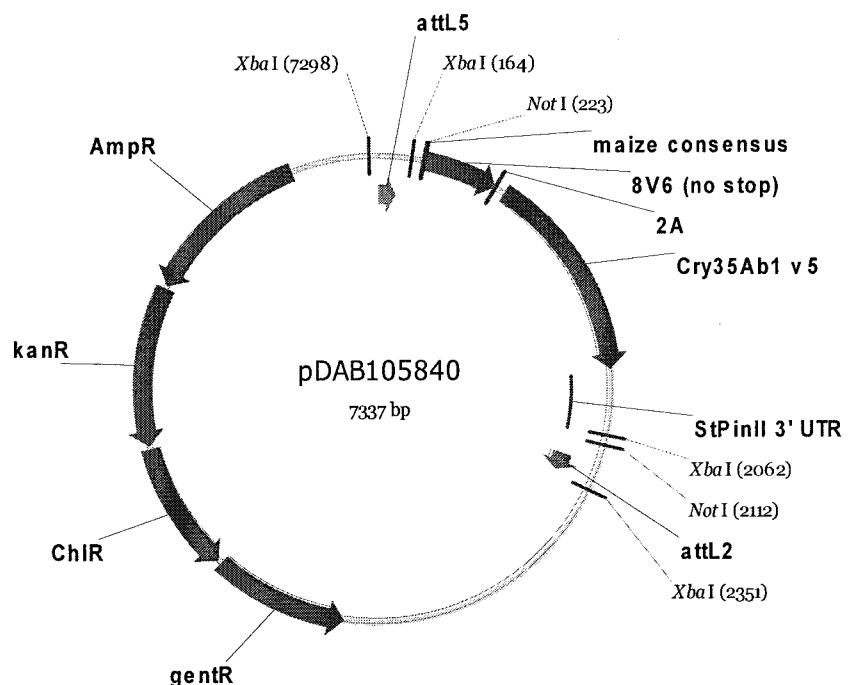
CTTGACTTGGCTCGAGAGATTCTGCGCTTCCATTGTAGTTGCAGCGATTCGGAGTCCG
 AGGGTTGCGTGGCGGTGCGGACAGACGTGGCAGATACGACTGTATGCCAGCACCTA
 AACATACGGTACCAGAAAGCTGCGGTGGATACCTTCCGACGCATATACGTTTCCG
 TGCCTCTCACGCCGTAGTAAATAACTCCCCCTCCTGTTCCCTT

FIG. 21E

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**FIG. 22**

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**FIG. 23**

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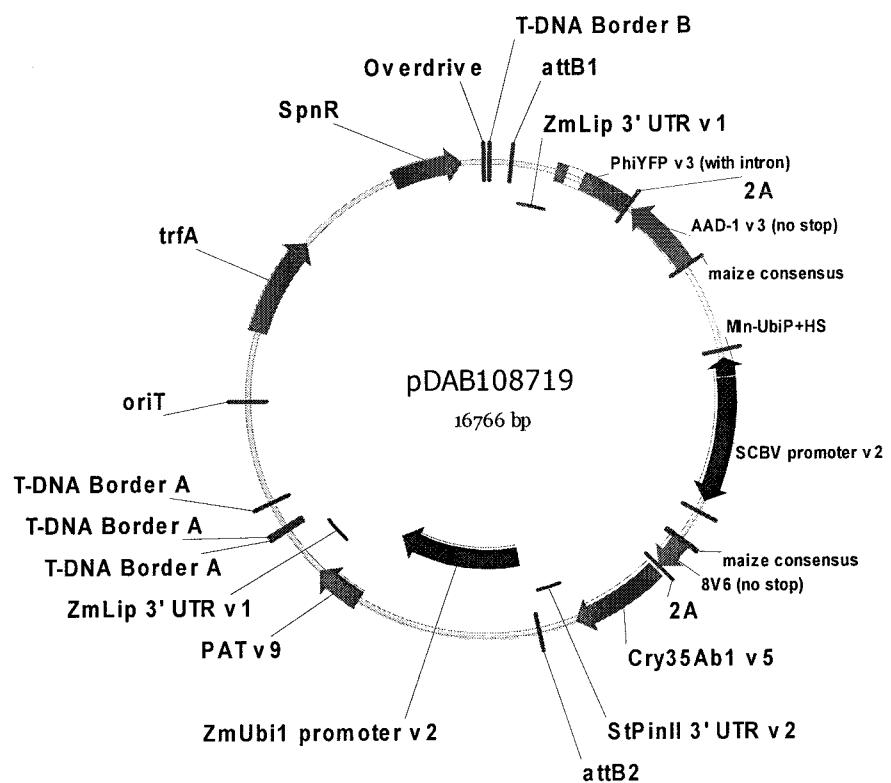
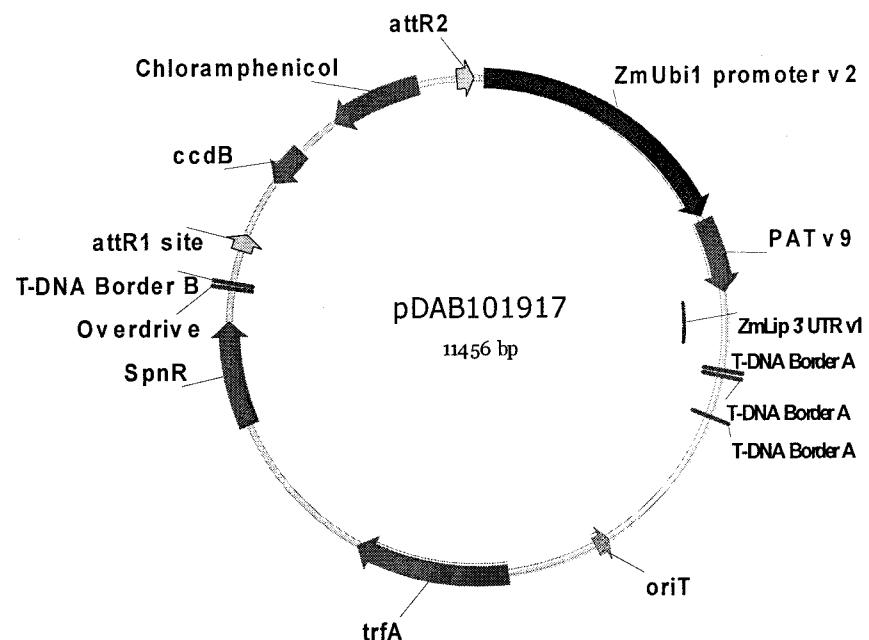


FIG. 24

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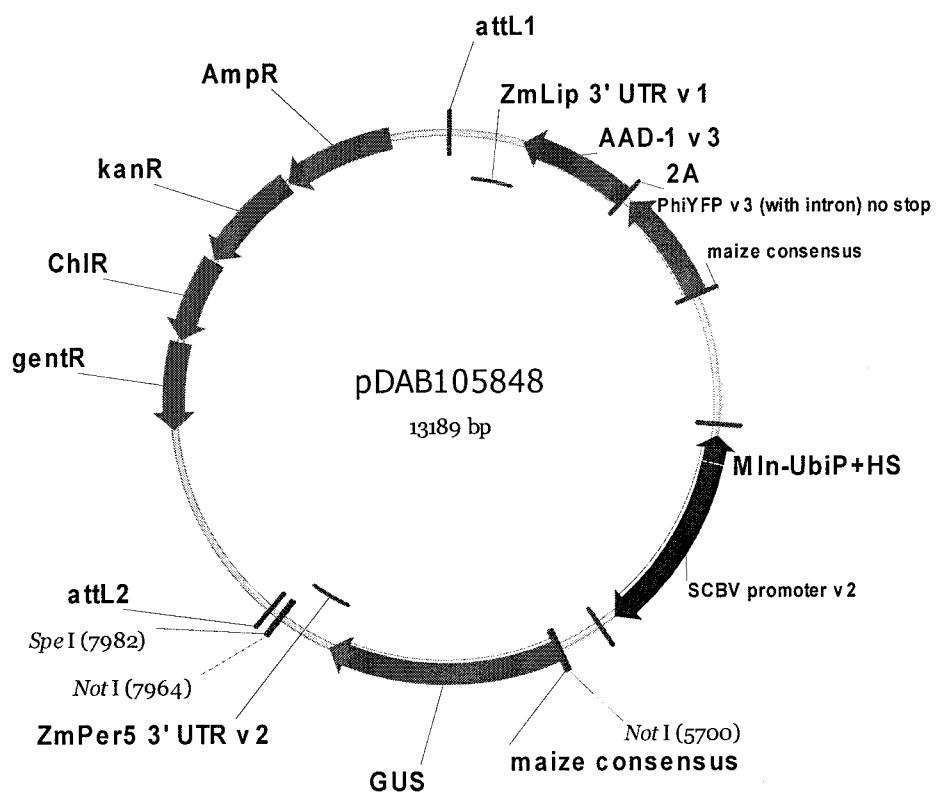
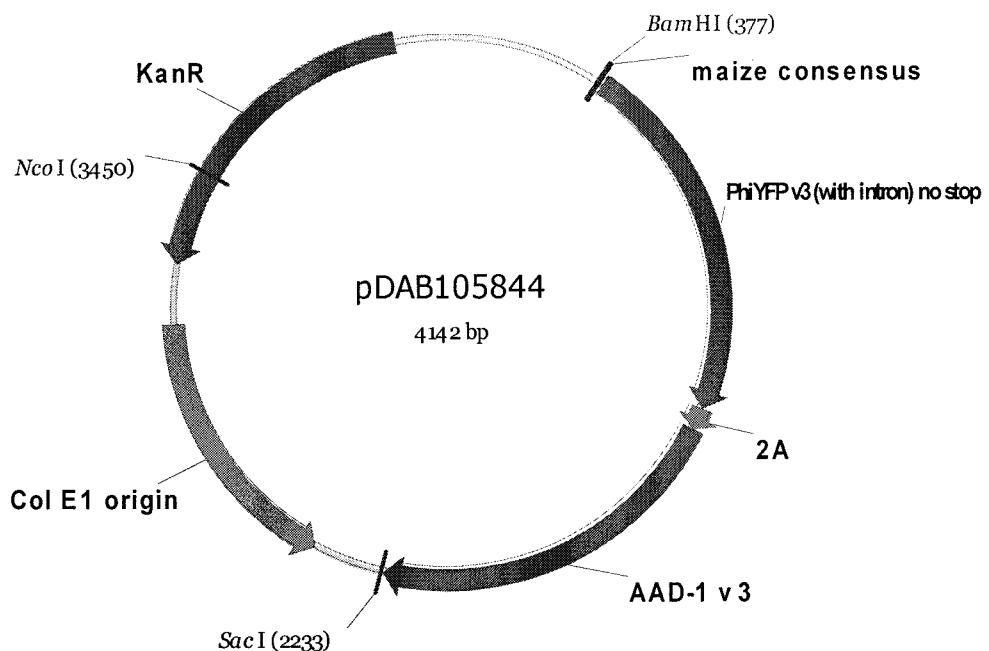
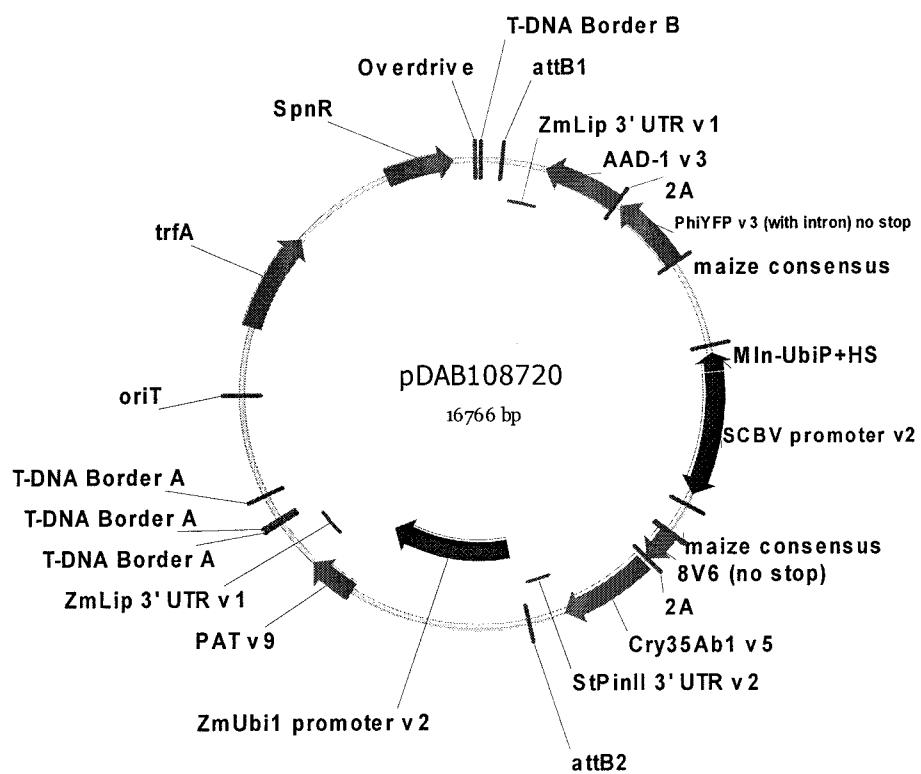
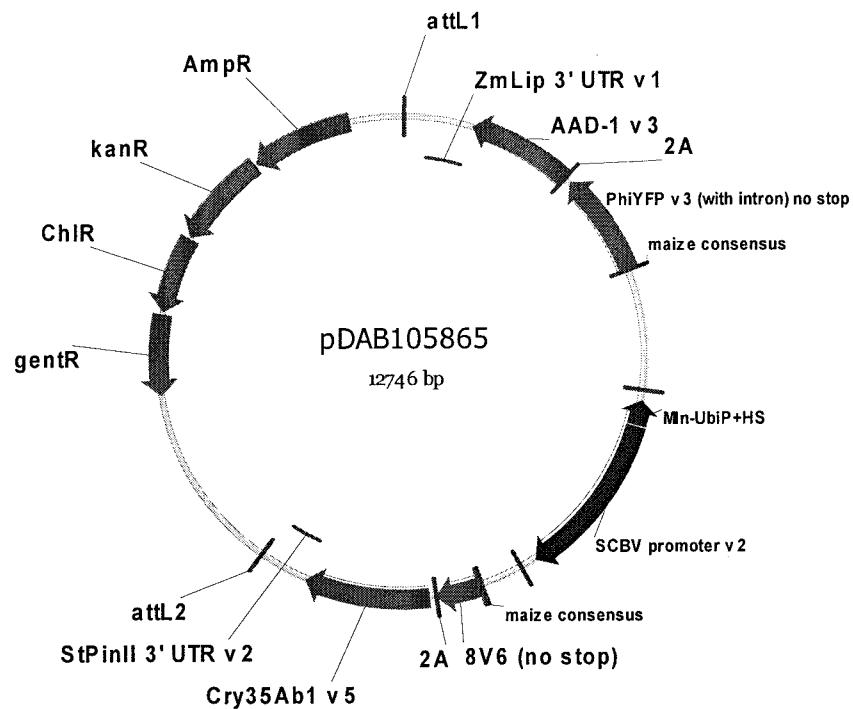


FIG. 25

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**FIG. 26**

1 AATTACAACG GTATATATCC TGCCAGTCAG CATCATCACA CCAAAAGTTA GGCCCGAATA
 61 GTTTGAAATT AGAAAGCTCG CAATTGAGGT CTACAGGCCA AATTGCTCT TAGCCGTACA
 121 ATATTACTCA CCAGATCCTA ACCGGTGTGA TCATGGGCCG CGATTAAGAA TCTCAATTAT
 181 ATTTGGTCTA ATTTAGTTTG GTATTGAGTA AAACAAATTC GGCGCCATGC CGGGGCAAGC
 241 GGCCGCACAA GTTTGTACAA AAAAGCAGGC TGAGTATTCA CTACAGTAGT GCATCGATGG
 301 AGTCATCACG CAGACTATCT CAGCATGTGC GTAGCACGTC TAGACCTAGG TAGGTTAATT
 361 AAGCTTGCAT GCCGGAGGAA ATATGAATTC AGCACTAAA GATCTTTAGA AGAAAGCAAA
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1  
 421 GCATTTATTA ATACATAACA ATGTCCAGGT AGCCCAGCTG AATTACAATA CGCAACTGCT  
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1
 481 CATAATAATT CAACAAACCC AAGTAGTACA CAACATCCAG AAGCAAATAA AGCCCATAACG
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1  
 541 TACCAAAGCC TACACAAGCA GCAACACTCA CTGCCAGTGC CGGTGGGTCT TTAAAGCACA  
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1
 601 CGGGCCTTGA CCACGCGATC CACCTGAAA CAAACTTGGT AAAATTAAAG CAAACCAGAA
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1  
 661 GCACACACAC GCCAACGCAA CGCTTCTGAT CGCGCGCCCA AGGCCCGGCC GGCCAGAACG  
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1
 721 TACGACGGAC ACGCACACGC TGCGACCGAG CTCTCAAAGG TAGGTCTTGC GACAGTCAAC
 ~~~~~  
 ZmLip 3' UTR v1 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 781 AGCTCTGACA GTTTCTTTCA AGCTCATGTT GTCTCTGTGG TCTGTCACAT CTTTGGAAAG  
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)
 841 TTTCACATGG TAAGACATAT GATGATACTC TGGAACATGA ACTGGACCTC CACCAATGGG
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 901 AGTGTTCATC TGGGTGTGGT CAGCCACTAT GAAGTCGCCCT TTGCTGCCAG TAATCTCATG  
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)
 961 ACATATCTTG AAGGCTGACT TGAGACCGTG GTTGGCTTGG TCTCCCCAGA TGTAGAGGCA
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 1021 GTGGGGAGTG AAGTTGAACCT CCAAGTTCTT TCCCAACACG TGACCATCTT TCTTGAAGCC  
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)
 1081 TTGACCATTG AGTTTGACCC TATTGTAGAC AGACCCATTC TCAAAGGTGA CTTCAGCCCT
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 1141 AGTCTTGAAG TTGCCATCTC CTTCAAAGGT GATTGTGCGC TCTTGCACAT AGCCATCTGG  
 ~~~~~  
 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)
 1201 CATAACAGGAC TTGTAGAAGT CCTTCAAACCTC TGGACCATAC TTGGCAAAGC ACTGTGCTCC
 ~~~~~

1261 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 ATAGGTGAGA GTGGTGACAA GTGTGCTCCA AGGCACAGGA ACATCTCCGG TAGTACAGAT

1321 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 GAATTGTGCA TCAACCTGCA CATCACCATG TTTGGTCAT ATATTAGAAA AGTTATAAAT

1381 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 TAAAATATAC ACACCTTATAA ACTACAGAAA AGCAATAGCT ATATACTACA TTCTTTTATT

1441 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 TTGAAAAAAA TACTTGAAAT ACTATATTAC TACTAATTAG TGATAATTAT TATATATATA

1501 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 TCAAAGGTAG AAGCAGAAC ATACCTTCC CACTGAGGCA TCTCCGTAGC CTTTCCCACG

1561 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 TATGCTAAAG GTGTGGCCAT CAACATCCC TTCCATCTCC ACAACGTAAG GAATCTCCC

1621 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 ATGAAAGAGA AGTGCTCCAG ATGACATAGG GCCGGGATTC TCCTCCACGT CACCGCATGT

1681 PhiYFP v3 (with intron)  
 TAGAAGACTT CCTCTGCCCT CGCGGGCAGG CCTAACTCCA CCAACTGTGG TGCGAGTC

1741 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 GTATCTGAAC TTGCCAGCAT AGTCAGGAAC AGCACGGTGC ATGGTGCACA AGTTGTCCC

1801 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 GACAAGGACT TGGTCTTCT TCCACCTCAC ACGGCAAGTG AAGTCAAATC TGGTGGCATG

1861 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 CTCATAGAGG AACTGAAGCA ATGGCTTGA TTCTGCATCT GTCATGCCCT CAATTCTCTG

1921 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 ACAGTAGACT TGATTCACAT AAAGGCCTT CCTTCCAGAG CCAGGATGAG TCACAACCAA

1981 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 GGGATGGACT GTCTCTCTGT CACCAGCATC AACATCCATC ACCTTGACTG AGGTGTTGCT

2041 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 GAAGCGACGG TTCTGTGCTT GGTAGAGGGA ACCGAACACA CGTGTGGCAG AGTGCACAAC

2101 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 GTTGAGCCCT TCGATGGTGG CTTGCATGGT TGGAGACAAG GTCTCCAAG CTGTGTACAT

2161 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 TGAAAGGAAC CCAGTGTCTC CGCCATGCTC AGGAACATCT ATGGCCCTCA TCACAAACAGC

2221 AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 AGCTGGAGGT GCATCAAGGA AAGTGGAGTC TGTGTGCCAG TCATCACCAA TCACCCCTCC

2281 AGACTCATTG GCTTCTCTGC GGATCATCTG AACCTCTGGA TAGCCTTCAA TGCTCTTGAG  
 ~~~~~ AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 2341 AAGAGGCACT GGATCAACTG GTCCAAACCT TCTTGAGAAT GCAATGTGCT GCTCATTGGT
 ~~~~~ AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 2401 GATTGCTTGG CCAGGAAAGT AGATGACTTG GTAAAGTGTGG AAGGCATCCA ATATCTCATT  
 ~~~~~ AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 2461 CCAGGTGCTG TCATCAAGTG GTTCCCTCAA GTCCACTCCA GTGATCTCAG CACCAAGGAC
 ~~~~~ AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 2521 ACCAGTGAGT GGCTGGACAG CTATTCTCTC AAAGCGTTGG GAGAGAGGGC TGAGGGCAGC  
 ~~~~~ AAD-1 v3 (no stop)  
 2581 ATGAGCCATG GTGTCGTGTG GATCCCTGCA GAAGTAACAC CAAACAAACAG GGTGAGGCATC
 ~~~~~ GACAAAAGAA ACAGTACCAA GCAAATAAAT AGCGTATGAA GGCAGGGCTA AAAAAATCCA  
 2701 CATATAGCTG CTGCATATGC CATCATCCAA GTATATCAAG ATCGAAATAA TTATAAAACA  
 2761 TACTTGTAA TTATAATAGA TAGGTACTCA AGGTTAGAGC ATATGAATAG ATGCTGCATA  
 2821 TGCCATCATG TATATGCATC AGTAAAACCC ACATCAACAT GTATACCTAT CCTAGATCGA  
 2881 TATTTCCATC CATCTAAAC TCGTAACAT GAAGATGTAT GACACACACA TACAGTTCCA  
 2941 AAATTAATAA ATACACCAGG TAGTTGAAA CAGTATTCTA CTCCGATCTA GAACGAATGA  
 3001 ACGACCGCCC AACCAACACCA CATCATCACA ACCAAGCGAA CAAAAGCAT CTCTGTATAT  
 3061 GCATCAGTAA AACCCGCATC AACATGTATA CCTATCCTAG ATCGATATT CCATCCATCA  
 3121 TCTTCATTC GTAACTATGA ATATGTATGG CACACACATA CAGATCCAAA ATTAATAAAAT  
 3181 CCACCAGGTA GTTTGAAACA GAATTCTACT CCGATCTAGA ACGACCGCCC AACCAAGACCA  
 3241 CATCATCACA ACCAAGACAA AAAAAAGCAT GAAAARGATGA CCCGACAAAC AAGTGCACGG  
 3301 CATATATTGA AATAAAAGGAA AAGGGCAAAAC CAAACCCCTAT GCAACGAAAC AAAAAAAATC  
 3361 ATGAAATCGA TCCCCTGCTGC GGAACGGCTA GAGCCATCCC AGGATTCCCC AAAGAGAAAC  
 3421 ACTGGCAAGT TAGCAATCAG AACGTGTCTG ACGTACAGGT CGCATCCGTG TACGAACGCT  
 3481 AGCAGCACGG ATCTAACACA AACACGGATC TAACACAAAC ATGAACAGAA GTAGAACTAC  
 3541 CGGGCCCTAA CCATGCATGG ACCGGAACGC CGATCTAGAG AAGGTAGAGA GGGGGGGGGGG  
 3601 GGGGAGGAGC AGCGGCGTAC CTTGAAGCGG AGGTGCCGAC GGGTGGATTT GGGGGAGATC  
 3661 TGGTTGTGTG TGTGTGCGCT CGAACAAACA CGAGGTTGGG GAGGTACCAA GAGGGTGTGG  
 ~~~~~ MIN Ubi1P  
 3721 AGGGGGGTGTC TATTTATTAC GGCGGGCGAG GAAGGGAAAG CGAAGGGAGCG GTGGGAAAGG
 ~~~~~ MIN Ubi1P  
 3781 AATCCCCCGT AGCTGCCGGT GCCGTGAGAG GAGGAGGAGG CGGCCTGCCG TGCCGGCTCA  
 ~~~~~ MIN Ubi1P  
 3841 CGTCTGCCGC TCCGCCACGC AATTTCTGGA TGCCGACAGC GGAGCAAGTC CAACGGTGGA
 ~~~~~ MIN Ubi1P  
 SCBV promoter v2  
 3901 GCGGAACTCT CGAGAGGGGT CCAGCCGCAG AGTATCGGAA GTTGAAGACA AAGAAGGTCT  
 ~~~~~ MIN Ubi1P

FIG. 27C

SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

3961 TAAATCCTGG CTAGAACAC TGAACATATGC CAGAAACCAC ATCAAAGCAT ATCGGCAAGC  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4021 TTCTTGGCCC ATTATATCCA AAGACCTCAG AGAAAGGTGA GCGAAGGCTC AATTCAGAAG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4081 ATTGGAAGCT GATCAATAGG ATCAAGACAA TGGTGAGAAC GCTTCCAAAT CTCACTATTC  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4141 CACCAGAAGA TGCATACATT ATCATTGAAA CAGATGCATG TGCAACTGGA TGGGGAGCAG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4201 TATGCAAGTG GAAGAAAAAC AAGGCAGACC CAAGAAATAC AGAGCAAATC TGTAGGTATG  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4261 CCAGTGGAAA ATTTGATAAG CCAAAAGGAA CCTGTGATGC AGAAATCTAT GGGGTTATGA
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4321 ATGGCTTAGA AAAGATGAGA TTGTTCTACT TGGACAAAAG AGAGATCACA GTCAGAACTG  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4381 ACAGTAGTGC AATCGAAAGG TTCTACAAACA AGAGTGCTGA ACACAAGCCT TCTGAGATCA
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4441 GATGGATCAG GTTCATGGAC TACATCACTG GTGCAGGACC AGAGATAGTC ATTGAACACA  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4501 TAAAAGGGAA GAGCAATGGT TTAGCTGACA TCTTGTCCAG GCTCAAAGCC AAATTAGCTC
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4561 AGAATGAACC AACCGGAAGAG ATGATCCTGC TTACACAAAGC CATAAGGGAA GTAATTCCCT  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4621 ATCCAGATCA TCCATACACT GAGCAACTCA GAGAATGGGG AAACAAAATT CTGGATCCAT
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4681 TCCCCACATT CAAGAAGGAC ATGTTGAAA GAACAGAGCA AGCTTTATG CTAACAGAGG  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4741 AACCAAGTTCT ACTCTGTGCA TGCAGGAAGC CTGCAATTCA GTTAGTGTCC AGAACATCTG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4801 CCAACCCAGG AAGGAAATTG TTCAAGTGGCG CAATGAACAA ATGCCATTGC TGGTACTGGG  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4861 CAGATCTCAT TGAAGAACAC ATTCAAGACAA GAATTGATGA ATTTCTCAAG AATCTTGAG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4921 TTCTGAAGAC CGGTGGCGTG CAAACAATGG AGGAGGAAC TATGAAGGAA GTCACCAAGC

SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

4981 TGAAGATAGA AGAGCAGGAG TTCGAGGAAT ACCAGGCCAC ACCAAGGGCT ATGTCGCCAG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5041 TAGCCGCAGA AGATGTGCTA GATCTCCAAG ACCTAACCAA TGACGATTGA GGAGGCATTG  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5101 ACGTCAGGGA TGACCGCAGC GGAGAGTACT GGGCCCATTC AGTGGATGCT CCACTGAGTT
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5161 GTATTATTGT GTGCTTTTCG GACAAGTGTG CTGTCCACTT TCTTTGGCA CCTGTGCCAC  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5221 TTTATTCCCT GTCTGCCACG ATGCCCTTGC TTAGCTTGTA AGCAAGGATC GCAGTGCCTG
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5281 TGTGACACCA CCCCCCTTCC GACGCCTCTGC CTATATAAGG CACCGTCTGT AAGCTTTAC  
SCBV promoter v2

~~~~~

5341 GATCATCGGT AGTTCACCAA GGCCCGGGGT CGGATCTAGC TGAAGGCTCG ACAAGGCAGT
5401 CCACGGAGGA GCTGATATTT GGTGGACAAG CTGTGGATAG GAGCAACCCAT ATCCCTAATA
5461 TACCAGCACC ACCAAGTCAG GGCAATCCCC AGATCACCCCC AGCAGATTGCA AAGAAGGTAC
5521 AGTACACACA CATGTATATA TGTATGATGT ATCCCTTCGA TCGAAGGCAT GCCTTGGTAT
5581 AATCACTGAG TAGTCATTT ATTACTTTGT TTTGACAAGT CAGTAGTTCA TCCATTGTC
5641 CCATTTTTC AGCTTGGAG TTTGGTGCA CTGGCCTTGG TCTAATAACT GAGTAGTCAT
5701 TTTATTACGT TGTGGACACA AGTCAGTAGC TCATCCATCT GTCCCATTTT TTCAGCTAGG
5761 AAGTTGGTT GCACTGGCCT TGGACTAATA ACTGATTAGT CATTGTTATTA CATTGTTTCG
5821 ACAAGTCAGT ACCTCATCCA TCTGTCCCCT TTTTCAGCTA GGAAGTTCGC GGCGCACAC
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

5881 GACACCATGT CCGCCCGCGA GGTGCACATC GACGTGAACA ACAAGACCGG CCACACCCCTC  
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

5941 CAGCTGGAGG ACAAGACCAA GCTCGACGGC GGCAGGTGGC GCACCTCCCC GACCAACGTG
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

6001 GCCAACGACC AGATCAAGAC CTTCGTGGCC GAATCCAACG GCTTCATGAC CGGCACCGAG  
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

6061 GGCACCACATCT ACTACTCCAT CAACGGCGAG GCCGAGATCA GCCTCTACTT CGACAACCCG
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

6121 TTCCGGGCT CCAACAAATA CGACGGCCAC TCCAACAAGT CCCAGTACGA GATCATCACC  
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

6181 CAGGGCGGCT CGGGCAACCA GTCCCACGTG ACCTACACCA TCCAGACCA CTCCTCCCGC
8V6 (no stop)

~~~~~

6241 TACGGCCACA AGTCCGAGGG CAGAGGAAGT CTTCTAACAT GCGGTGACGT GGAGGAGAAT

## Cry35Ab1 v5

6301 CCCGGCCCTA TGCTCGACAC CAACAAGGTG TACGAGATCA GCAACCACGC CAACGGCCTC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6361 TACGCCGCCA CCTACCTCTC CCTCGACGAC TCCGGCGTGT CCCTCATGAA CAAGAACGAC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6421 GACGACATCG ACGACTACAA CCTCAAGTGG TTCCTCTTCC CGATCGACGA CGACCAGTAC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6481 ATCATCACCT CCTACGCCGC CAACAACTGC AAGGTGTGGA ACGTGAACAA CGACAAGATC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6541 AACGTGTCCA CCTACTCCTC CACCAACTCC ATCCAGAACT GGCAGATCAA GGCAACGGC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6601 TCCTCCTACG TGATCCAGTC CGACAAACGGC AAGGTGCTCA CGGCCGGCAC CGGCCAGGCC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6661 CTCGGCCTCA TCCGCCTCAC CGACCGAGTCC TCCAACAACC CGAACCAAGCA GTGGAACCTG  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6721 ACGTCCGTGC AGACCATCCA GCTCCCGCAG AAGCCGATCA TCGACACCAA GCTCAAGGAC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6781 TACCCGAAGT ACTCCCCGAC CGGCAACATC GACAACGGCA CCTCCCCGCA GCTCATGGGC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6841 TGGACCCTCG TGCCGTGCAT CATGGTGAAC GACCCGAACA TCGACAAGAA CACCCAGATC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6901 AAGACCACCC CGTACTACAT CCTCAAGAAG TACCAAGTACT GGCAGAGGGC CGTGGGCTCC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

6961 AACGTCGCGC TCCGCCCGCA CGAGAAGAAG TCCTACACCT ACGAGTGGGG CACCGAGATC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

7021 GACCAGAAGA CCACCATCAT CAACACCCCTC GGCTTCCAGA TCAACATCGA CAGCGGCATG  
Cry35Ab1 v5

7081 AAGTTCGACA TCCCCGGAGGT GGGCGGGCGGT ACCGACGAGA TCAAGACCCA GCTCAACGAG  
Cry35Ab1 v5

7141 GAGCTCAAGA TCGAGTACTC CCACGGAGACG AAGATCATGG AGAAGTACCA GGAGCAGTCC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

7201 GAGATCGACA ACCCGACCGA CCAGTCCATG AACTCCATCG GCTTCCTCAC CATCACCTCC  
Cry35Ab1 v5

7261 CTGGAGCTCT ACCGCTACAA CGGCTCCGAG ATCCGCATCA TGCAAGATCCA GACCTCCGAC

## Cry35Ab1 v5

7321 AACGACACCT ACAACGTGAC CTCCTACCCG AACCACCAGC AGGCCCTGCT GTGAGTAGTT  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7381 AGCTTAATCA CCTAGAACCT AGACTTGTCC ATCTTCTGGA TTGGCCAAGT TAATTAATGT  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7441 ATGAAATAAA AGGATGCACA CATAGTGACA TGCTAATCAC TATAATGTGG GCATCAAAGT  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7501 TGTGTGTTAT GTGTAATTAC TAGTTATCTG AATAAAAGAG AAAGAGATCA TCCATATTTC  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7561 TTATCCTAAA TGAATGTCAC GTGCTTTAT AATTCTTGA TGAACCAGAT GCATTCATT  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7621 AACCAAATCC ATATACATAT AAATATTAAT CATAATATAAT TAATATCAAT TGGGTTAGCA  
StPinII 3' UTR v2

7681 AAACAAATCT AGTCTAGGTG TGTGCTGCTC TAGTGCTAGC CTCGAGGTGG ACTCTGATCA  
7741 TGGATGCTAC GTCACGGCAG TACAGGACTA TCATCTTGA AGTCGATTGA GCATCGAAC  
7801 CCAGCTTTCT TGTACAAAGT GGTTGCGGCC GCTTAATTAA ATTAAATGT TTGGGGATCC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

7861 TCTAGAGTCG ACCTGCAGTG CAGCGTGACC CGGTCGTGCC CCTCTCTAGA GATAATGAGC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

7921 ATTGCATGTC TAAGTTATAA AAAATTACCA CATATTTTT TTGTCACACT TGTTGAAGT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

7981 GCAGTTTATC TATCTTATA CATATTTTA AACTTTACTC TACGAATAAT ATAATCTATA  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8041 GTACTACAAT AATATCAGTG TTTAGAGAA TCATATAAT GAAACAGTTAG ACATGGTCTA  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8101 AAGGACAATT GAGTATTTG ACAACAGGAC TCTACAGTTT TATCTTTA GTGTGCATGT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8161 GTTCTCCTTT TTTTTGCAA ATAGCTTCAC CTATATAATA CTTCATCCAT TTTATTAGTA  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8221 CATCCATTAA GGGTTTAGGG TTAATGGTTT TTATAGACTA ATTTTTTAG TACATCTATT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8281 TTATTCTATT TTAGCCTCTA AATTAAGAAA ACTAAAATC TATTTAGTT TTTTTATTAA  
ZmUbil promoter v2

8341 ATAGTTAGA TATAAAATAG AATAAAATAA AGTGACTAAA AATTAACAA ATACCCTTA

ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8401 AGAAATTAAA AAAACTAAGG AAACATTTT CTTGTTTCGA GTAGATAATG CCAGCCTGTT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8461 AAACGCCGTC GACGAGTCTA ACGGACACCA ACCAGCGAAC CAGCAGCGTC GCGTCGGGCC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8521 AAGCGAAGCA GACGGCACGG CATCTCTGTC GCTGCCTCTG GACCCCTCTC GAGAGTTCCG
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8581 CTCCACCGTT GGACTTGCTC CGCTGTCGGC ATCCAGAAAT TCCGTGGCGG AGCGGCAGAC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8641 GTGAGCCGGC ACGGCAGGCG GCCTCCTCCT CCTCTCACGG CACCGGCAGC TACGGGGAT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8701 TCCTTTCCCA CCGCTCCTTC GCTTCCCTT CCTCGCCCGC CGTAATAAAAT AGACACCCCC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8761 TCCACACCCCT CTTTCCCCAA CCTCGTGTG TTCGGAGCGC ACACACACAC AACCAAGATCT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8821 CCCCCAAATC CACCCGTCCG CACCTCCGCT TCAAGGTACG CCGCTCGTCC TCCCCCC  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8881 CCCCCCTCTC TACCTTCTCT AGATCGGC GT TCCGGTCCAT GCATGGTTAG GGCCCGGTAG
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

8941 TTCTACTTCT GTTCATGTTT GTGTTAGATC CGTGTGTTG TTAGATCCGT GCTGCTAGCG  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9001 TTCGTACACG GATGCGACCT GTACGTCAGA CACGTTCTGA TTGCTAACTT GCCAGTGT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9061 CTCTTGGGG AATCCTGGGA TGGCTCTAGC CGTTCCGCAG ACGGGATCGA TTTCATGATT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9121 TTTTTGTTT CGTTGCATAG GGTTGGTTT GCCCTTTCC TTTATTTCAA TATATGCCGT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9181 GCACTTGTTT GTCGGGTCAT CTTTCATGC TTTTTTTGTT CTTGGTTGTT ATGATGTGGT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9241 CTGGTTGGGC GGTGTTCTA GATCGGAGTA GAATTCTGTT TCAAACCTACC TGGTGGATT
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9301 ATTAATTTG GATCTGTATG TGTGTGCCAT ACATATTCA AGTTACGAAT TGAAGATGAT  
ZmUbil promoter v2

~~~~~

9361 GGATGGAAAT ATCGATCTAG GATAGGTATA CATGTTGATG CGGGTTTTAC TGATGCATAT

ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9421 ACAGAGATGC TTTTGTTCG CTTGGTTGTG ATGATGTGGT GTGGTTGGC GGTGTTCAT  
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9481 TCGTTCTAGA TCGGAGTAGA ATACTGTTTC AAAACTACCTG GTGTATTTAT TAATTTGGA
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9541 ACTGTATGTG TGTGTCATAC ATCTTCATAG TTACGAGTTT AAGATGGATG GAAATATCGA  
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9601 TCTAGGATAG GTATACATGT TGATGTGGGT TTTACTGATG CATATACATG ATGGCATATG
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9661 CAGCATCTAT TCATATGCTC TAACCTTGAG TACCTATCTA TTATAATAAA CAAGTATGTT  
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9721 TTATAATTAT TTCGATCTTG ATATACTTGG ATGATGGCAT ATGCAGCAGC TATATGTGGA
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

~~~~~

9781 TTTTTTAGC CCTGCCTTCA TACGCTATTT ATTTGCTTGG TACTGTTCT TTTGTCGATG  
ZmUbi1 promoter v2

PAT v9

~~~~~

9841 CTCACCCCTGT TGTTTGGTGT TACTTCTGCA GGGTACAGTA GTTAGTTGAC ACGACACCAT
PAT v9

~~~~~

9901 GTCTCCGGAG AGGAGACCAAG TTGAGATTAG GCCAGCTACA GCAGCTGATA TGGCCGCGGT  
PAT v9

~~~~~

9961 TTGTGATATC GTTAACCATT ACATTGAGAC GTCTACAGTG AACTTTAGGA CAGAGCCACA
PAT v9

~~~~~

10021 AACACCACAA GAGTGGATTG ATGATCTAGA GAGGTTGCAA GATAGATACC CTTGGTTGGT  
PAT v9

~~~~~

10081 TGCTGAGGTT GAGGGTGTG TGGCTGGTAT TGCTTACGCT GGGCCCTGGA AGGCTAGGAA
PAT v9

~~~~~

10141 CGCTTACGAT TGGACAGTTG AGAGTACTGT TTACGTGTCA CATAGGCATC AAAGGTTGGG  
PAT v9

~~~~~

10201 CCTAGGATCC ACATTGTACA CACATTTGCT TAAGTCTATG GAGGCGCAAG GTTTAAGTC
PAT v9

~~~~~

10261 TGTGGTTGCT GTTATAGGCC TTCCAAACGA TCCATCTGTT AGGTTGCATG AGGCTTTGGG  
PAT v9

~~~~~

10321 ATACACAGCC CGTGGTACAT TGCGCGCAGC TGGATACAAG CATGGTGGAT GGCATGATGT
PAT v9

~~~~~

10381 TGGTTTTGG CAAAGGGATT TTGAGTTGCC AGCTCCTCCA AGGCCAGTTA GGCCAGTTAC

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	PAT v9	ZmLip 3' UTR v1
10441	CCAGATCTGA CTGAGCTTGA GCTTATGAGC TTATGAGCTT AGAGCTCGGT CGCAGCGTGT ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10501	GCCTGTCCGT CGTACGTTCT GGCGGGCCGG GCCTTGGCG CGCGATCAGA AGCGTTGCCT ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10561	TGGCGTGTGT GTGCTTCTGG TTTGCTTTAA TTTTACCAAG TTTGTTCAA GGTGGATCGC ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10621	GTGGTCAAGG CCCGTGTGCT TTAAAGACCC ACCGGCACTG GCAGTGAGTG TTGCTGCTTG ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10681	TGTAGGCTTT GGTACGTATG GGCTTTATTT GCTTCTGGAT GTTGTGTACT ACTTGGGTTT ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10741	GTTGAATTAT TATGAGCAGT TGCCTATTGT AATTCAAGCTG GGCTACCTGG ACATTGTTAT ZmLip 3' UTR v1	~~~~~
10801	GTATTAATAA ATGCTTTGCT TTCTTCTAAA GATCTTAAG TGCTTCTAGA GCATGCACAT	
10861	AGACACACAC ATCATCTCAT TGATGCTTGG TAATAATTGT CATTAGATTG TTTTTATGCA	
10921	TAGATGCACT CGAAATCAGC CAATTTAGA CAAGTATCAA ACGGATGTGA CTTCACTACA	
10981	TTAAAAACGT CCGCAATGTG TTATTAAGTT GTCTAACCGT CAATTTGATT TACAATTGAA	
11041	TATATCCTGC CCCAGCCAGC CAACAGCTCG ATTTACAATT GAATATATCC TGCCGGCCGG	
11101	CCCACCGCTG TCGAGGAATT CTGATCTGGC CCCCCATTGG ACGTGAATGT AGACACGTG	
11161	AAATAAAGAT TTCCGAATTA GAATAATTG TTTATTGCTT TCGCCTATAA ATACGACGGA	
11221	TCGTAATTG TCGTTTTATC AAAATGTACT TTCATTAT AATAACGCTG CGGACATCTA	
11281	CATTTTGAA TTGAAAAAAA ATTGGTAATT ACTCTTCTT TTTCTCCATA TTGACCATCA	
11341	TACTCATTGC TGATCCATGT AGATTTCCCG GACATGAAGC CATTACAAAT TGAATATATC	
11401	CTGCCG	

**FIG. 27J**

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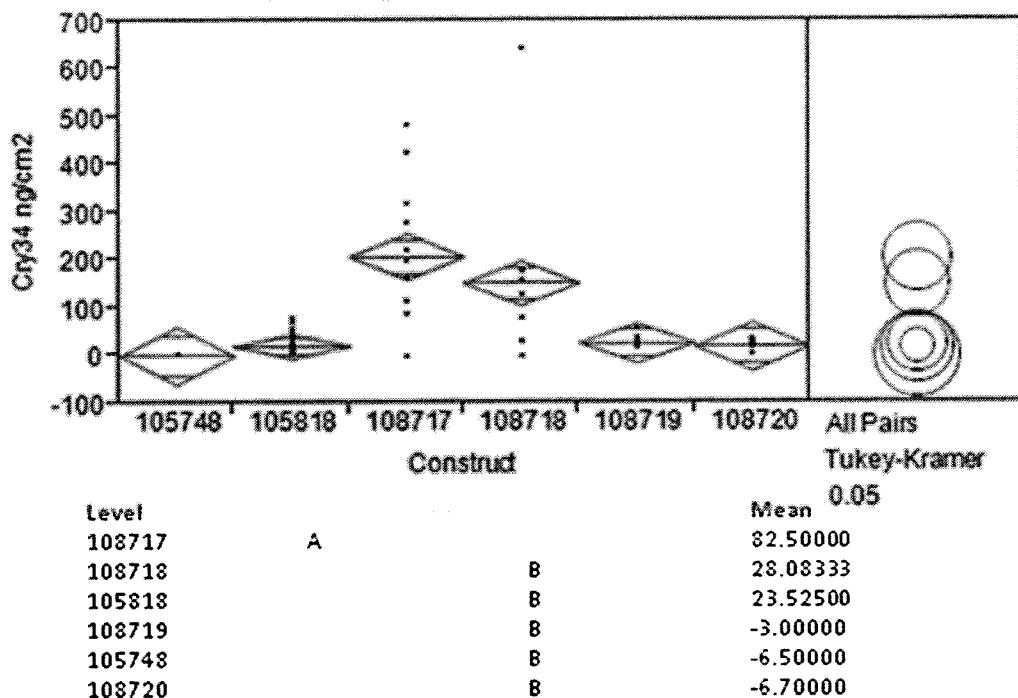


FIG. 28A

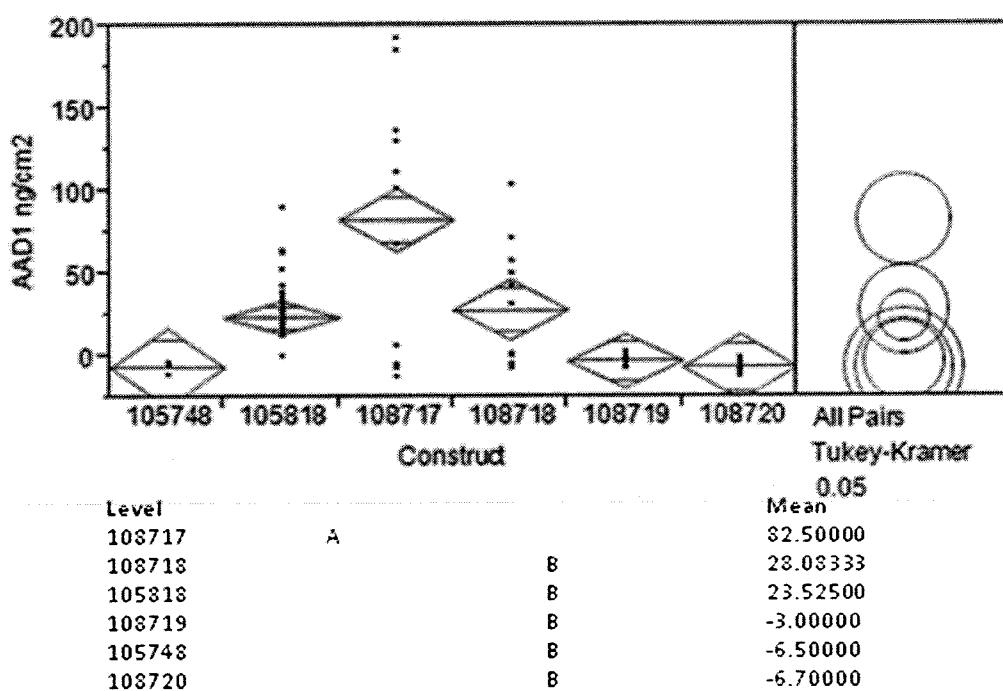
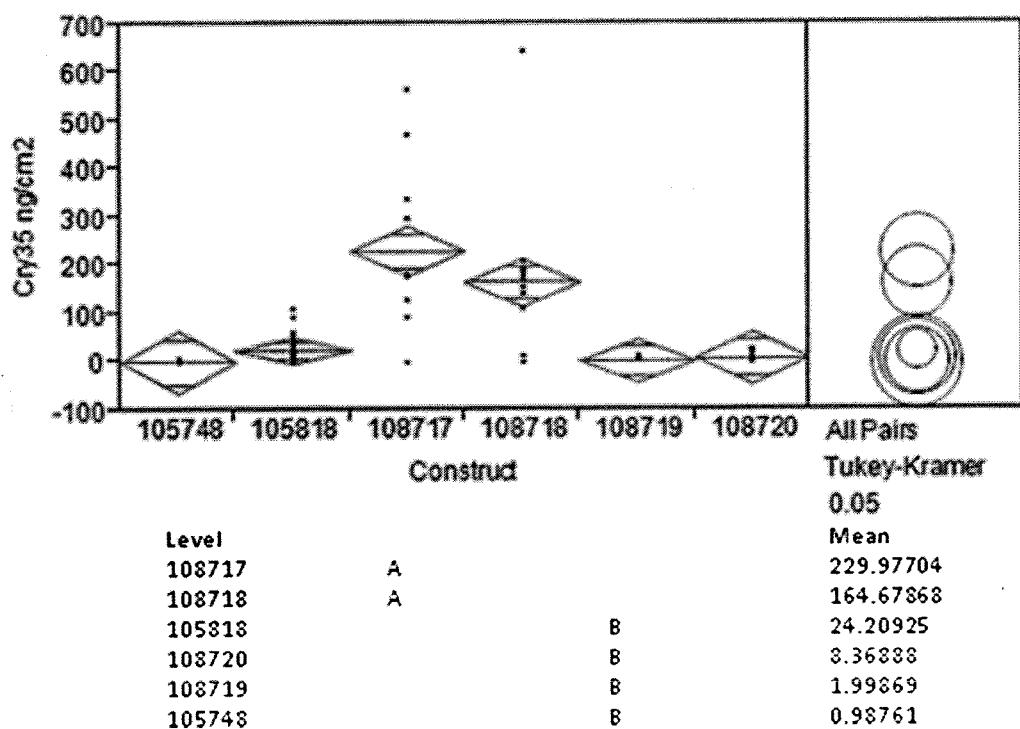


FIG. 28B

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**FIG. 28C**

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SEQ ID NO: 51: yellow fluorescent protein from *Phialidium* sp. SL-2003 (PhiYFP; 234 a.a.; GenBank: AAR85349.1):

MSSGALLFHG KIPYVVEMEG NVDGHTFSIR GKGYGDASVG KVDAQFICCTT  
GDVPVPWSTL VTTLYGAQC FAKYGPELKD FYKSCMPEGY VQERTITFEG  
DGVFKTRAEV TFENGSVYNR VKLNGQGFKK DGHVLGKNLE FNFTPHELTYI  
WGDQANHGLK SAFKIMHEIT GSKEDFIVAD HTQMNTPIGG GPVHVPEYHH  
ITYHVTLSKD VTDHRDNMSL VETVRAVDCR KTYL

SEQ ID NO: 52: PhiYFPv3; 234 a.a.

MSSGALLFHG KIPYVVEMEG NVDGHTFSIR GKGYGDASVG KVDAQFICCTT  
GDVPVPWSTL VTTLYGAQC FAKYGPELKD FYKSCMPDGY VQERTITFEG  
DGNFKTRAEV TFENGSVYNR VKLNGQGFKK DGHVLGKNLE FNFTPHELTYI  
WGDQANHGLK SAFKICHEIT GSKGDFIVAD HTQMNTPIGG GPVHVPEYHH  
MSYHVKLSKD VTDHRDNMSL KETVRAVDCR KTYL

***FIG. 29***

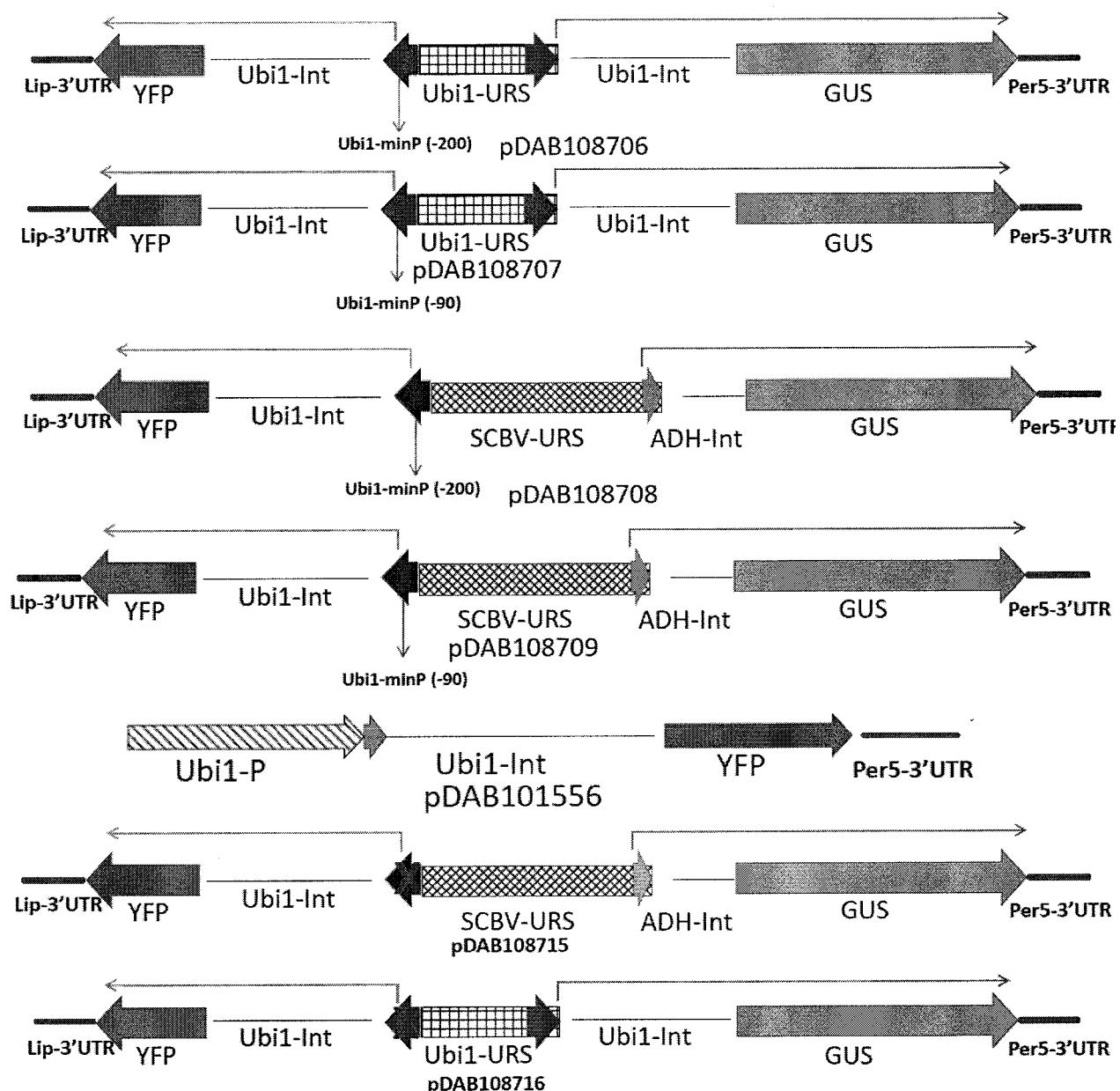
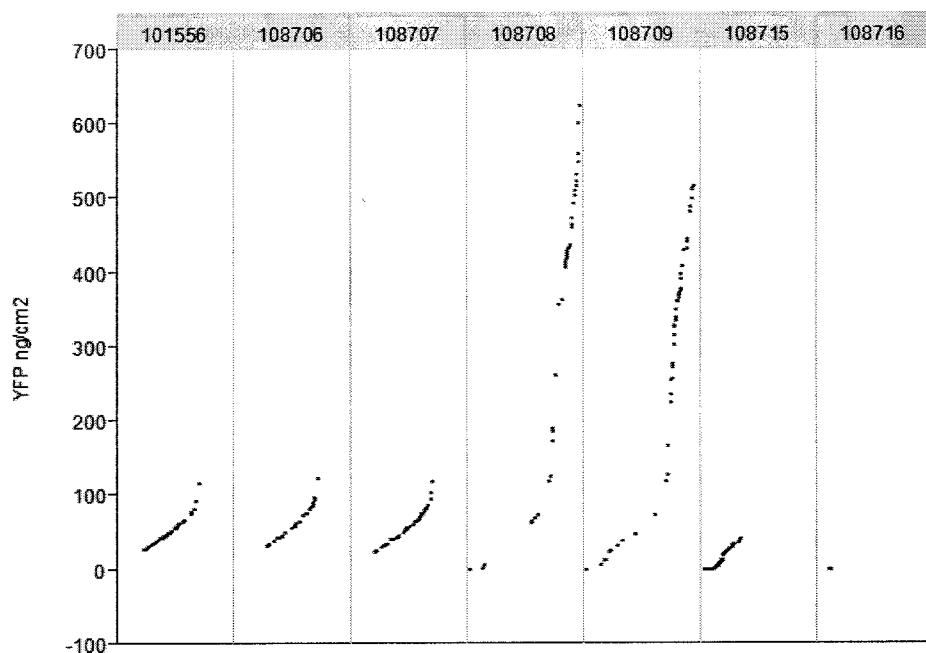
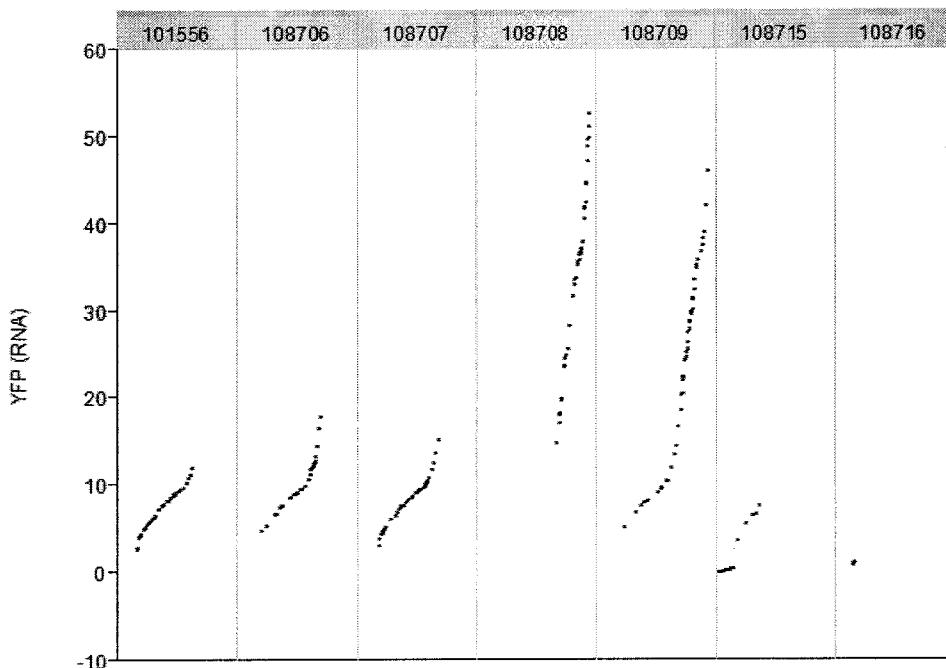
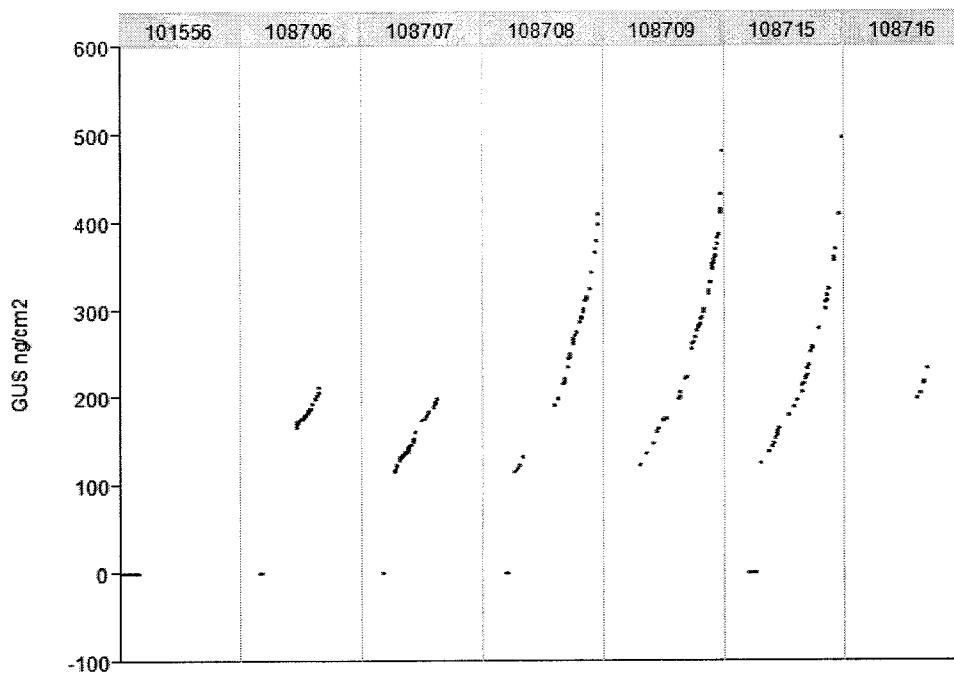
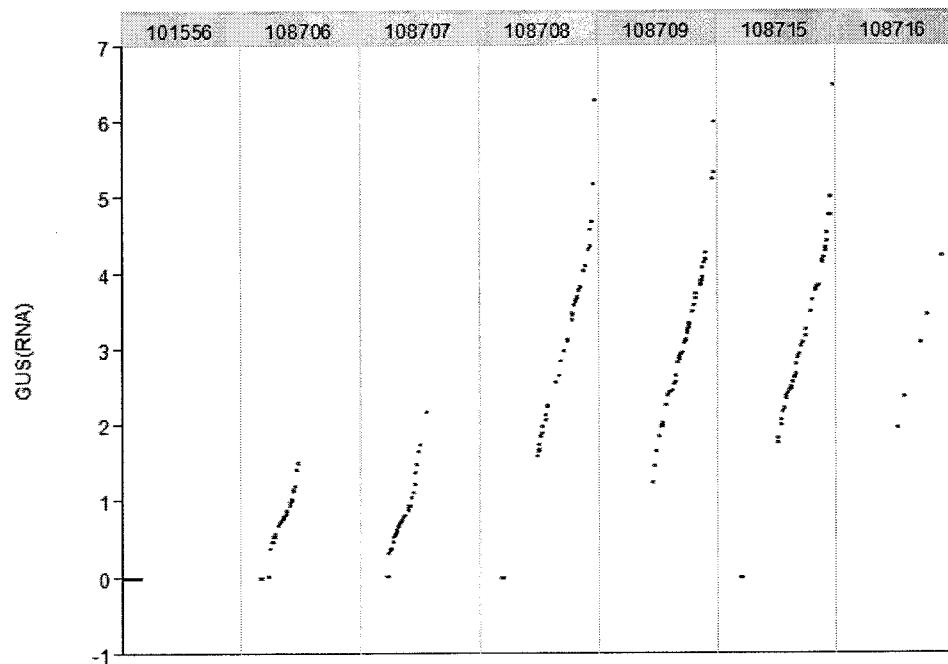


FIG. 30

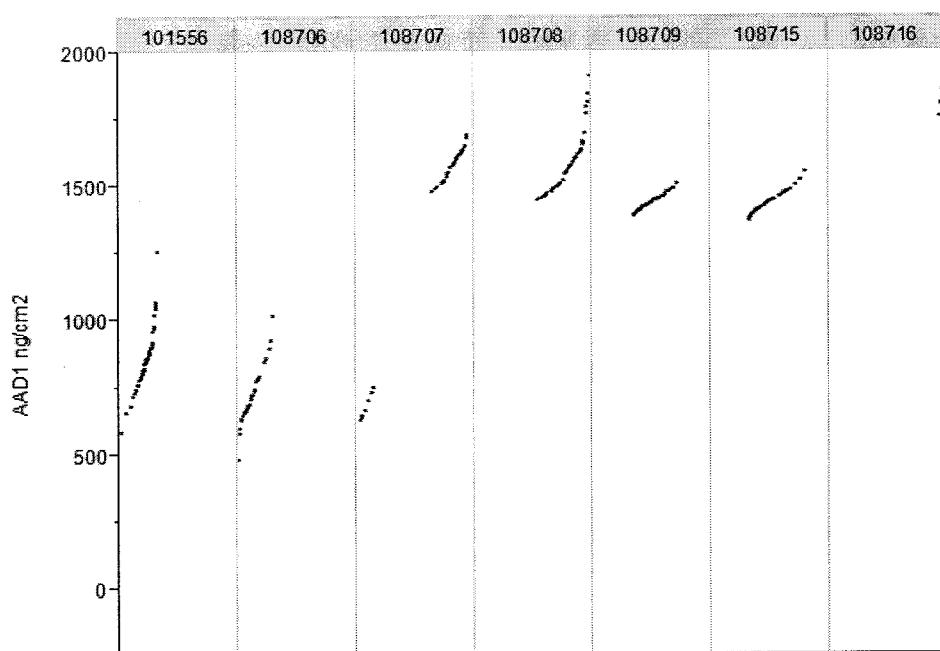
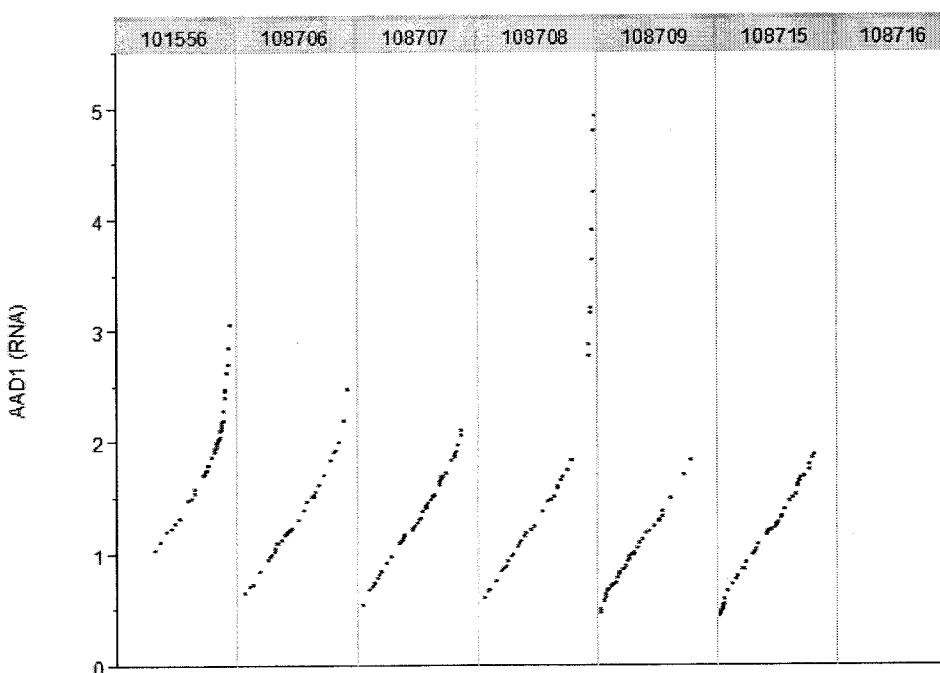
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**FIG. 31A****FIG. 31B**

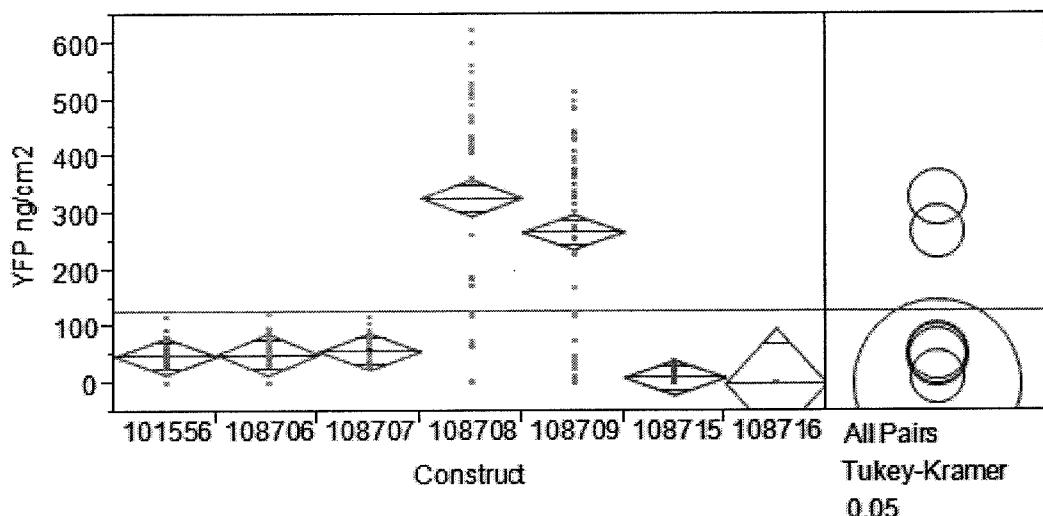
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**FIG. 32A****FIG. 32B**

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**FIG. 33A****FIG. 33B**

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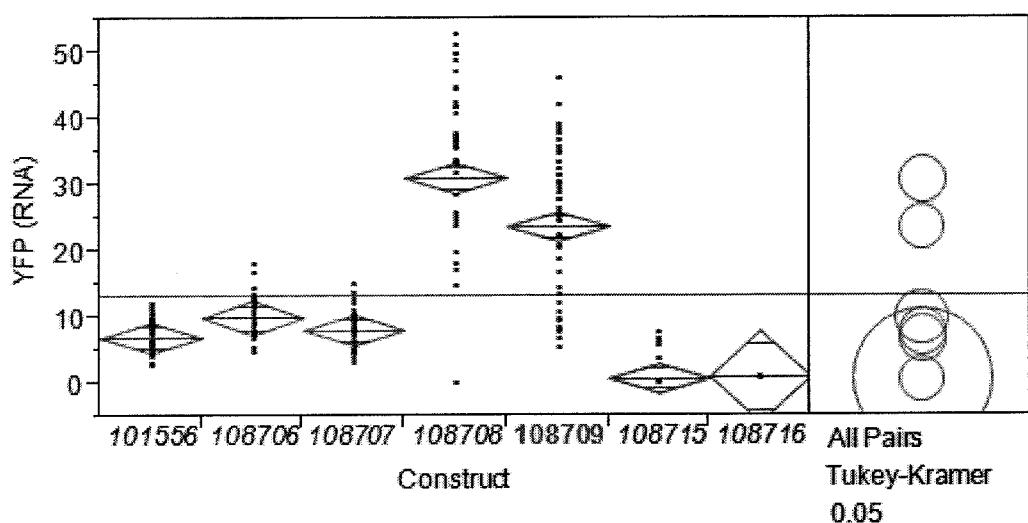


108708 A		328.3276
108709 A		267.6876
108707	B	57.63336
108706	B	52.6654
101556	B	49.75972
108715	B	10.63202
108716	B	0

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 34A**

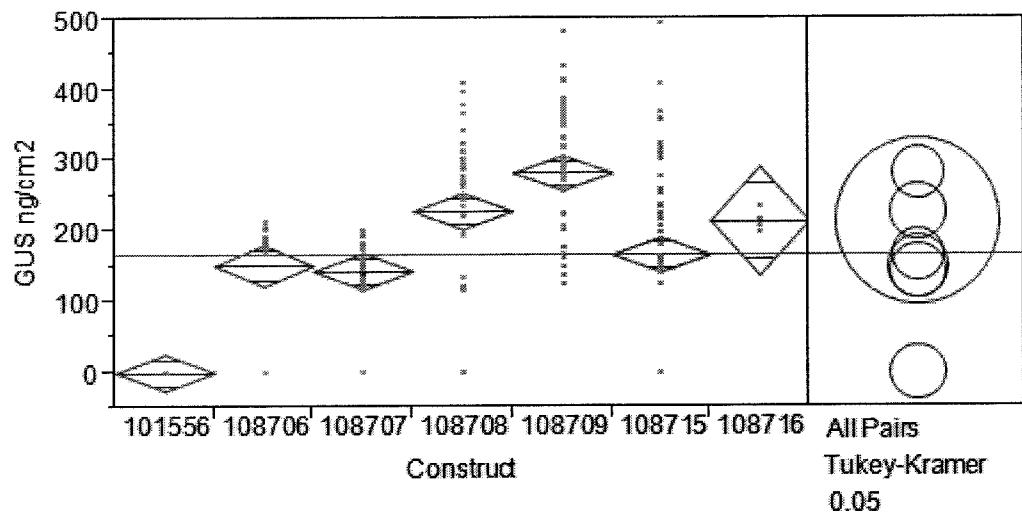
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108708.A			31.02019
108709	B		23.68044
108706		C	9.966029
108707		C	8.0728
101556		C	6.954422
108716		D	1.01158
108715		D	0.767854

**FIG. 34B**

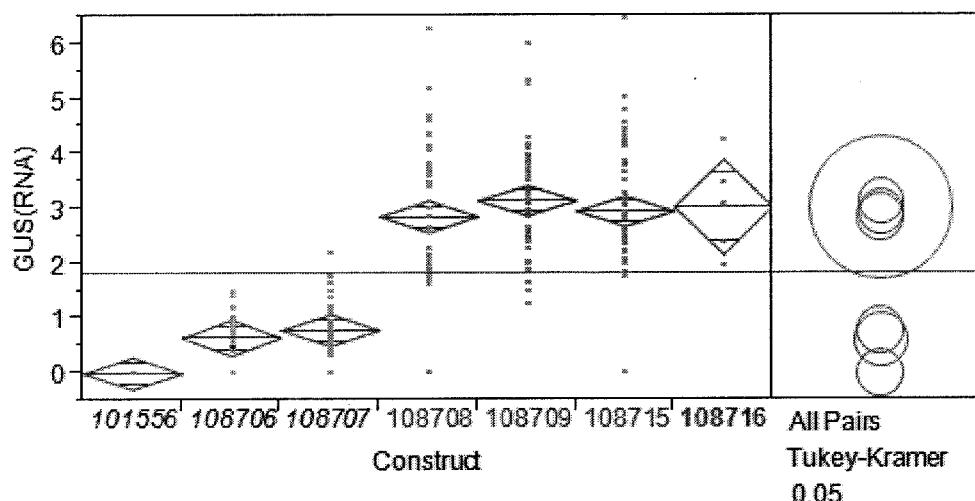
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Level	Mean
108709 A	282.22909
108708 B	228.17205
108716 A B C	213.97739
108715 C	166.52102
108706 C	151.27776
108707 C	143.22297
101556 D	0.00000

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

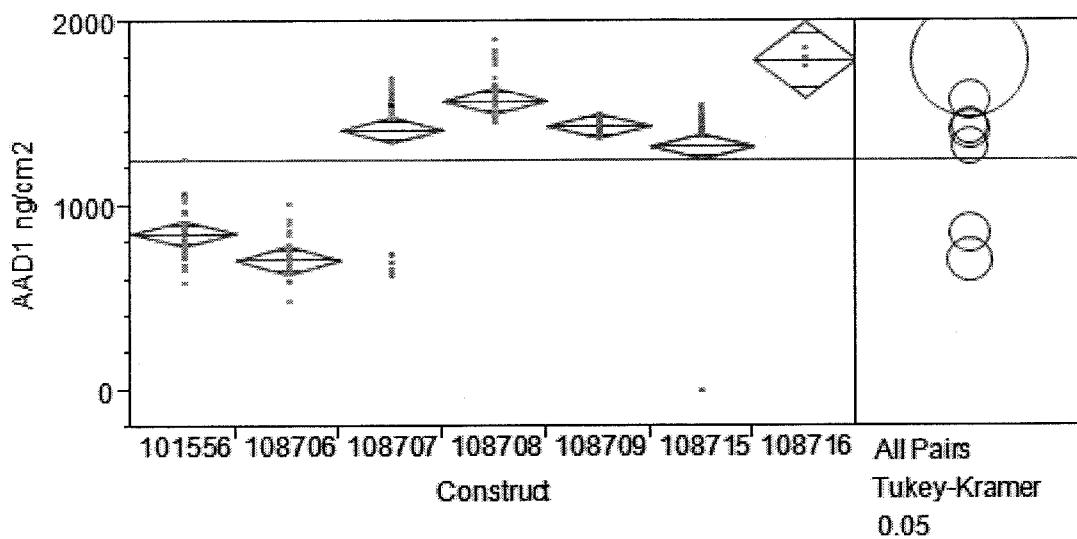
**FIG. 35A**



108709A			3.14136
108716A			3.0266
108715A			2.949466
108708A			2.851752
108707	B		0.784242
108706	B	C	0.647211
101556		C	0

**FIG. 35B**

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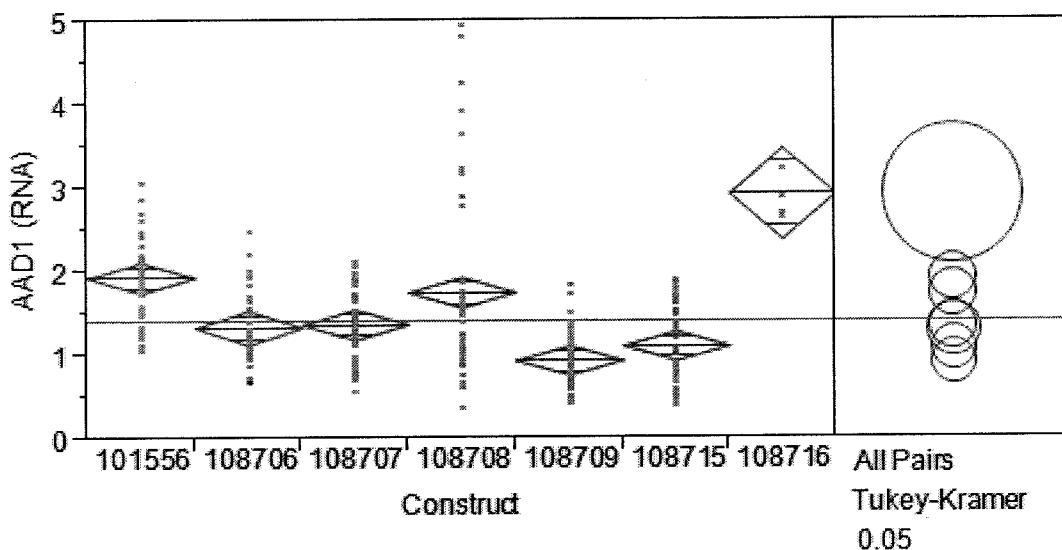


Level	Mean
108716 A	1795.4332
108708 A B	1574.8654
108709 B C	1437.2658
108707 C	1417.0101
108715 C	1325.8135
101556 D	856.5800
108706 D	710.6802

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 36A**

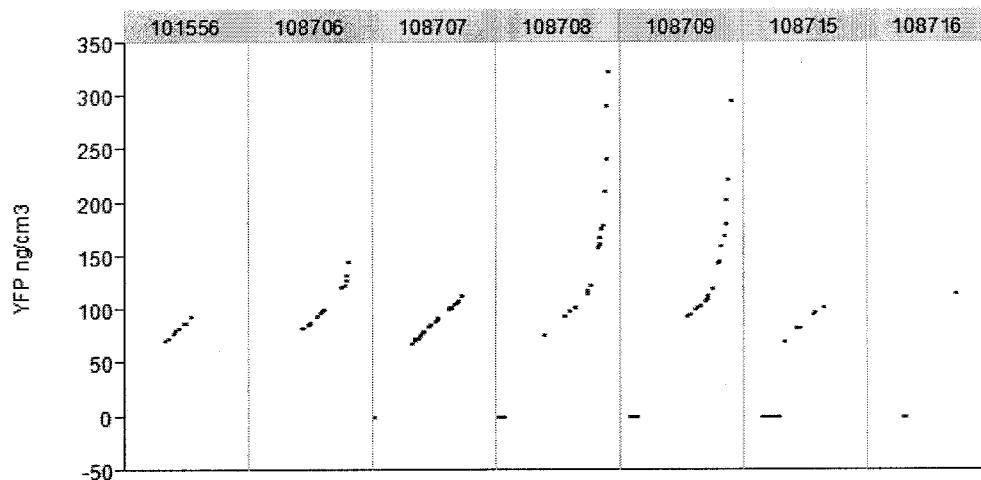
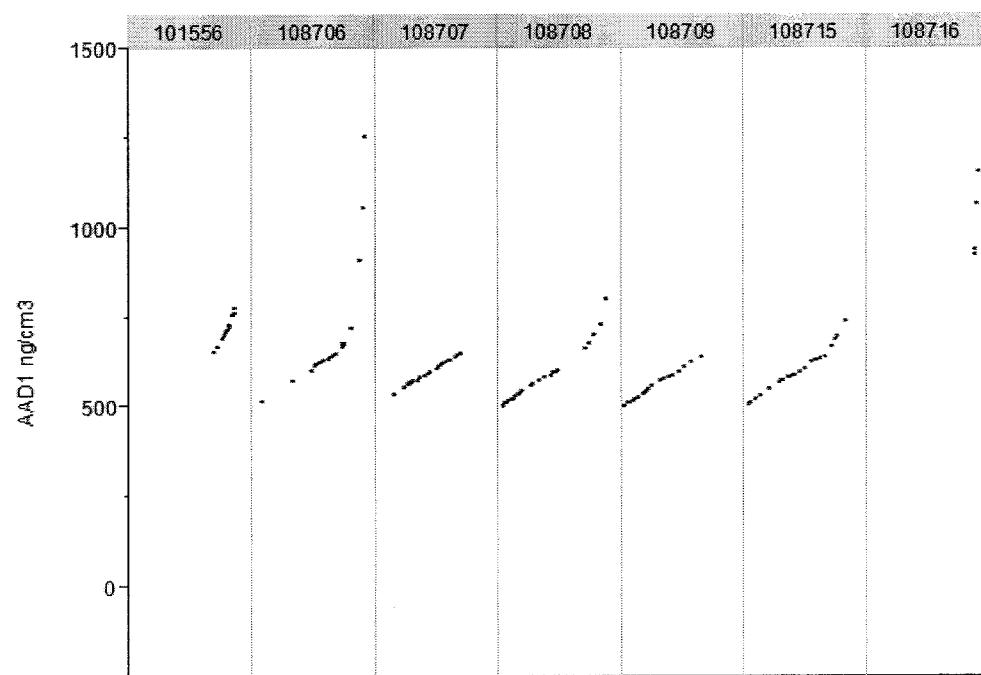
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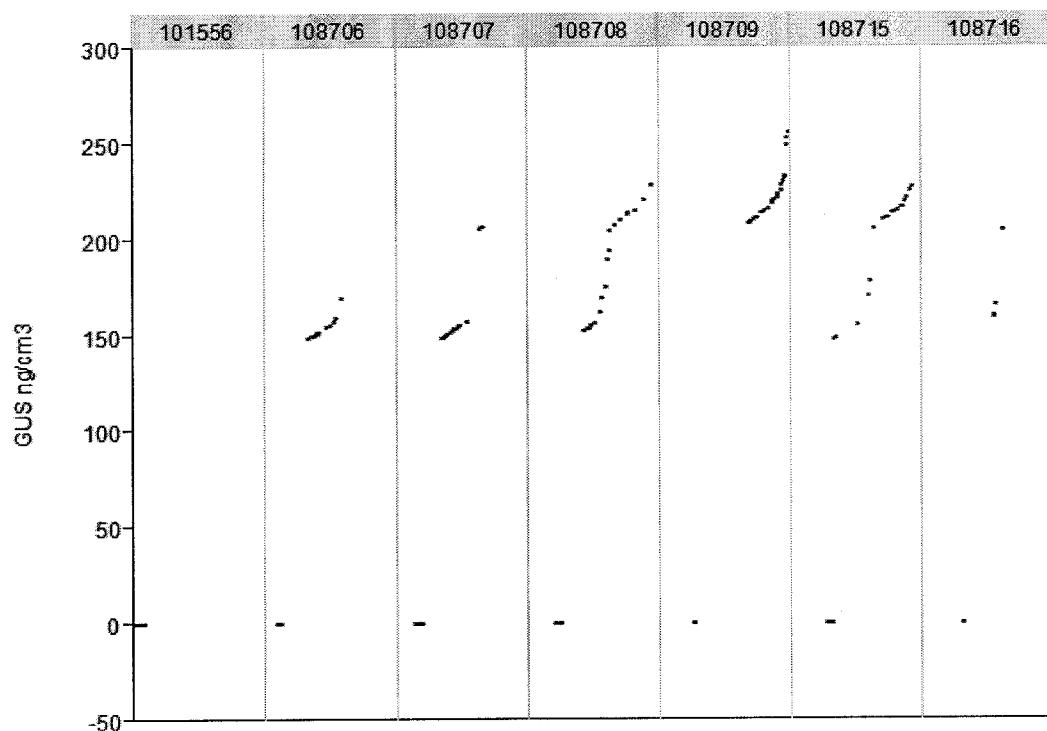
108716A					2.9338
101556	B				1.936933
108708	B	C			1.752869
108707	C		D		1.368713
108706		D	E		1.333686
108715		D	E		1.11043
108709			E		0.937108

**FIG. 36B**

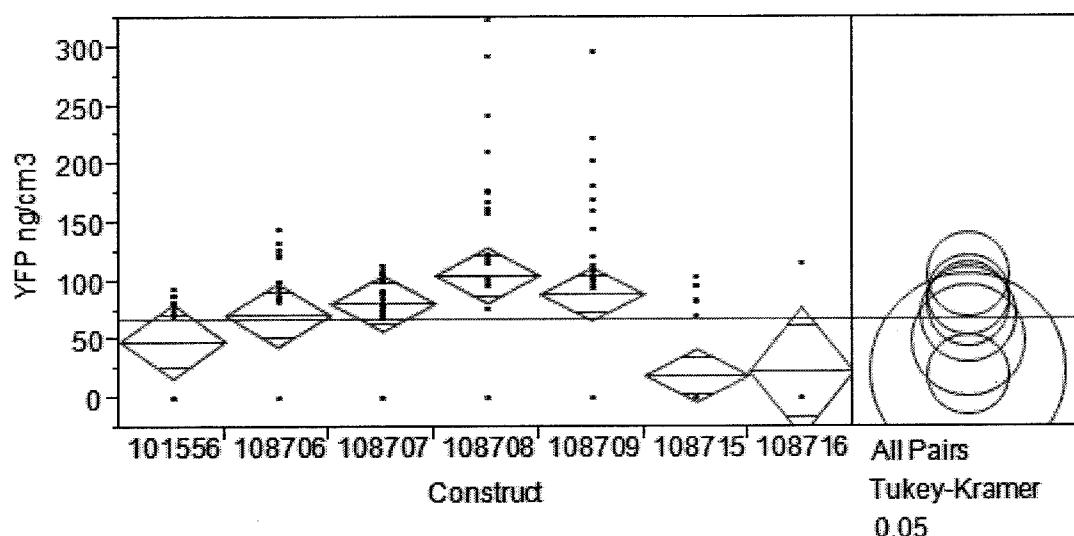
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**FIG. 37A****FIG. 37B**

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**FIG. 37C**

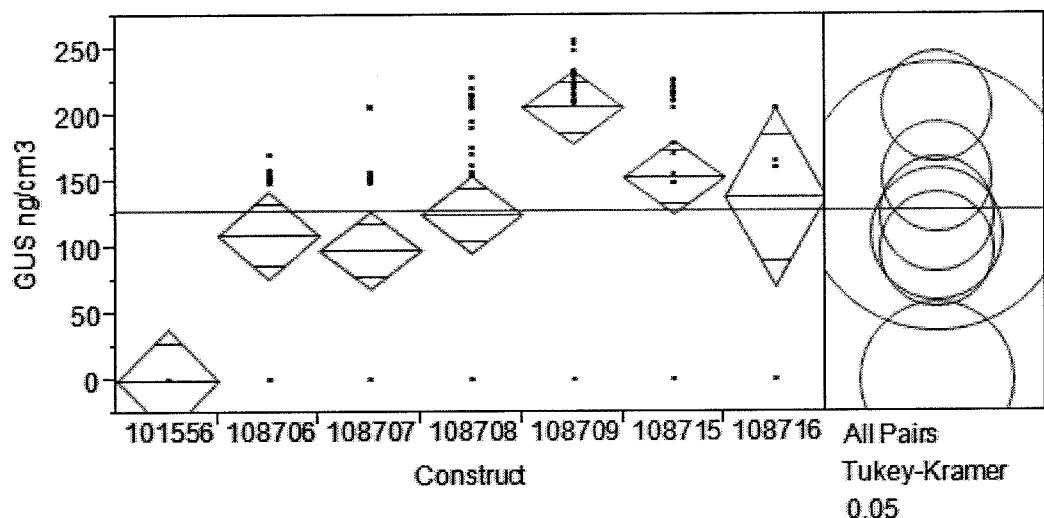
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Level	Mean
108708 A	105.53451
108709 A	89.43307
108707 A	81.80872
108706 A B	71.76678
101556 A B	49.58332
108716 A B	23.01201
108715 B	19.94290

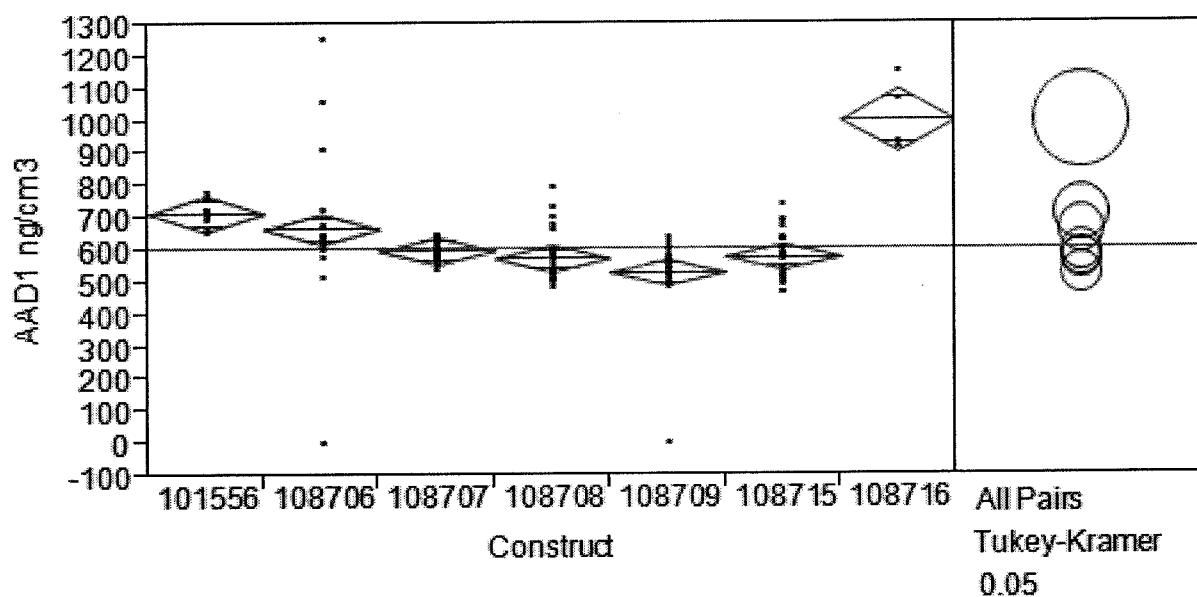
Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 38A**



Level	Mean
108709 A	205.13021
108715 A B	153.06273
108716 A B	138.02009
108708 B	125.00936
108706 B	109.53065
108707 B	98.24549
101556 C	0.00000

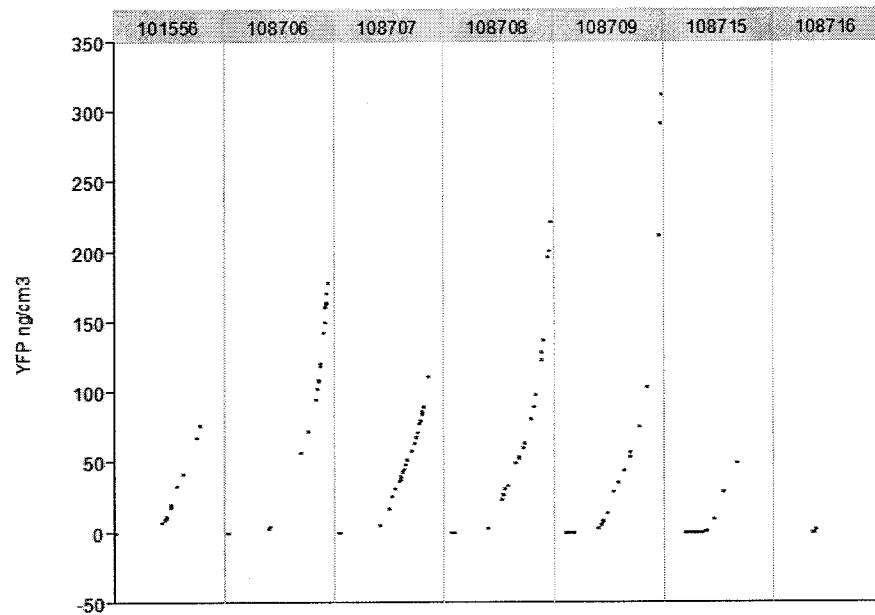
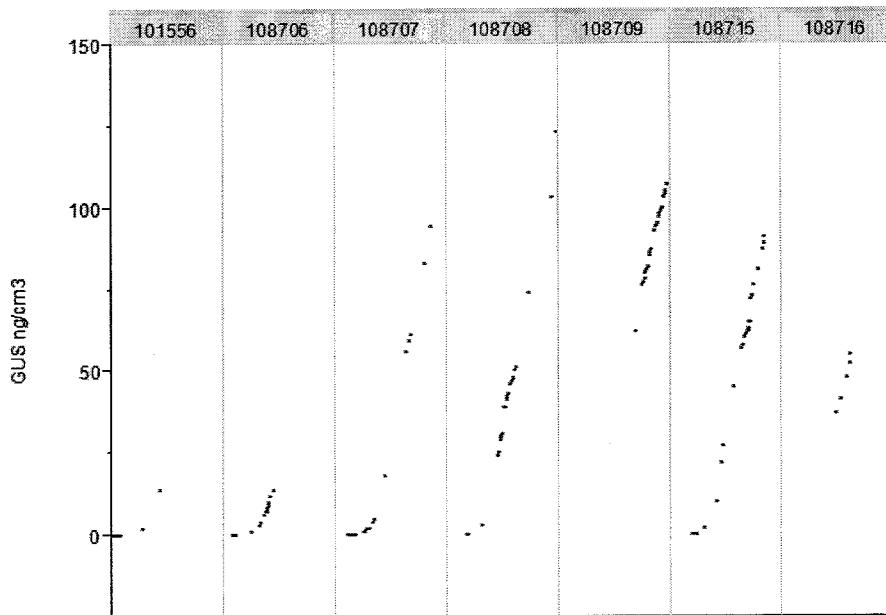
Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.



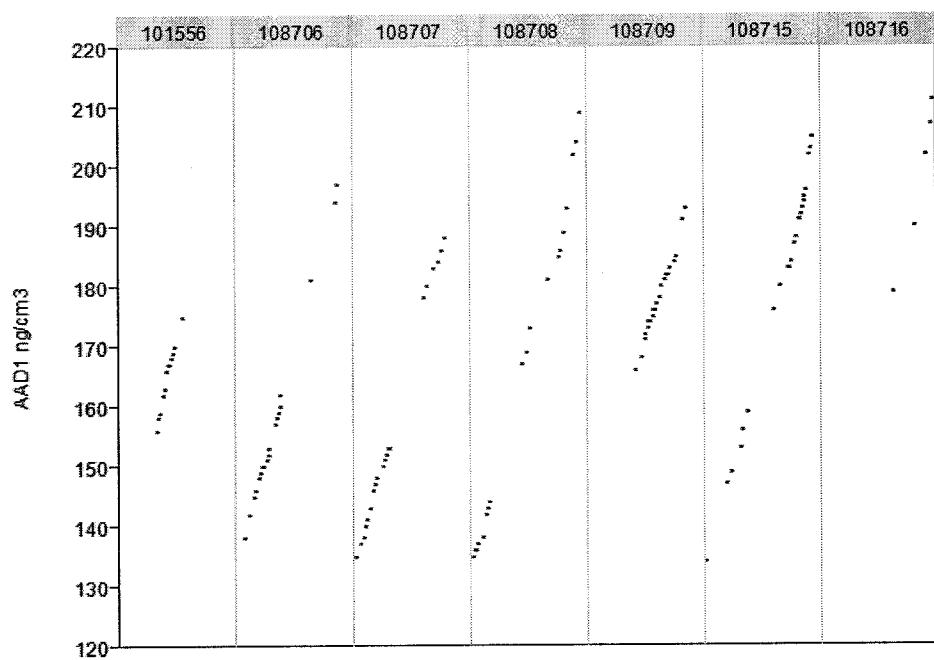
Level	Mean
108716 A	1002.8448
101556 B	715.1248
108706 B C	666.1088
108707 C D	597.8005
108715 C D	578.7276
108708 C D	574.1088
108709 D	530.3379

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

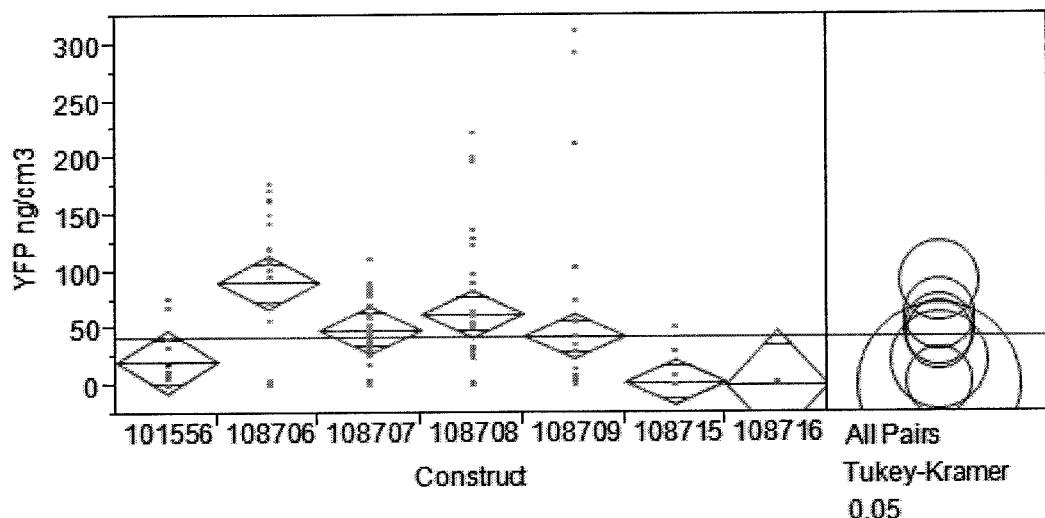
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**FIG. 39A****FIG. 39B**

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**FIG. 39C**

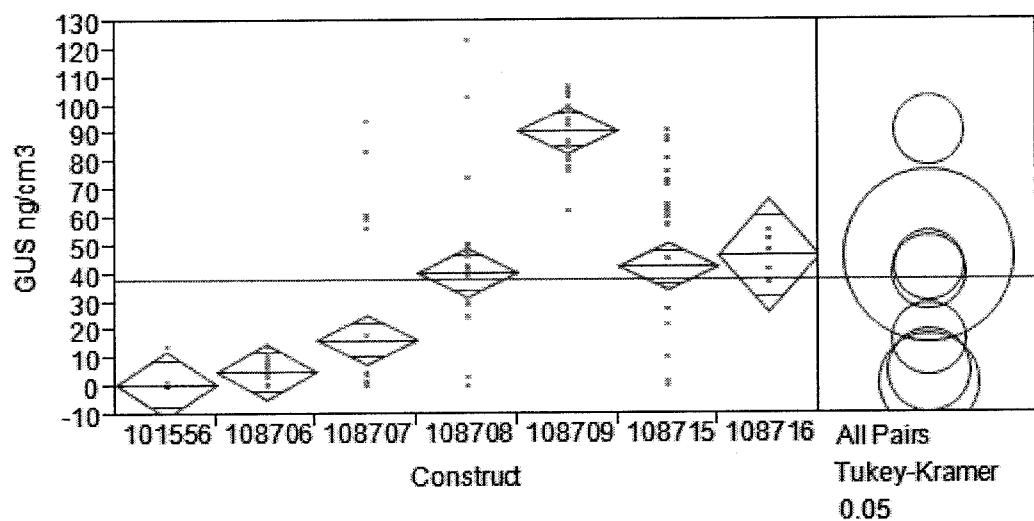
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Level	Mean
108706 A	91.380952
108708 A B	63.222222
108707 A B	49.185185
108709 B C	43.600000
101556 B C	21.666667
108715 C	3.000000
108716 B C	0.400000

**FIG. 40A**

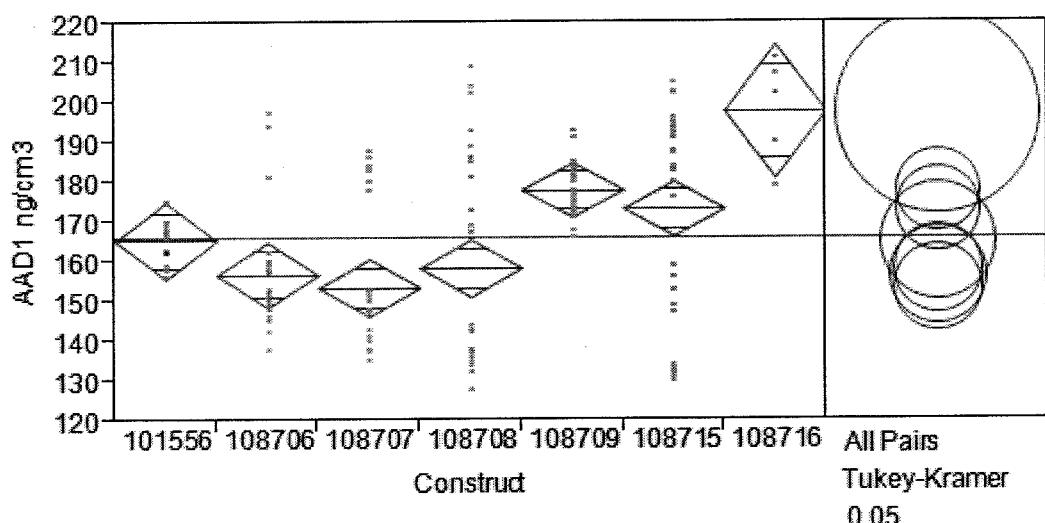
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Level	Mean
108709 A	91.200000
108716 B C	46.600000
108715 B	42.766667
108708 B	40.629630
108707 C D	16.814815
108706 D	5.523810
101556 D	1.066667

**FIG. 40B**

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Level	Mean
108716 A	197.80000
108709 A B	178.00000
108715 A B C	173.30000
101556 B C D	165.40000
108708 C D	158.33333
108706 D	156.71429
108707 D	153.44444

**FIG. 40C**

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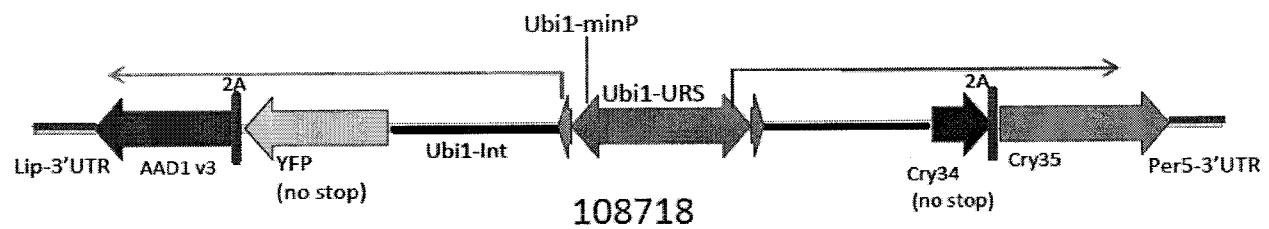
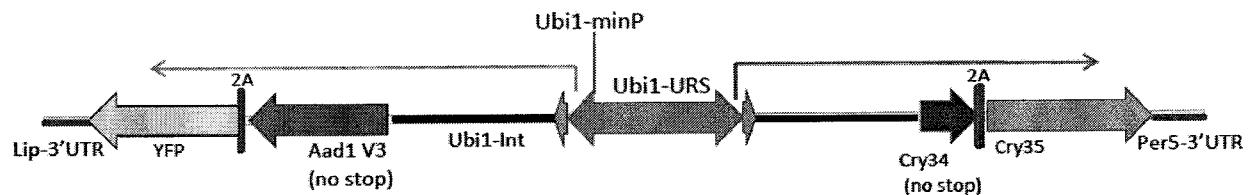
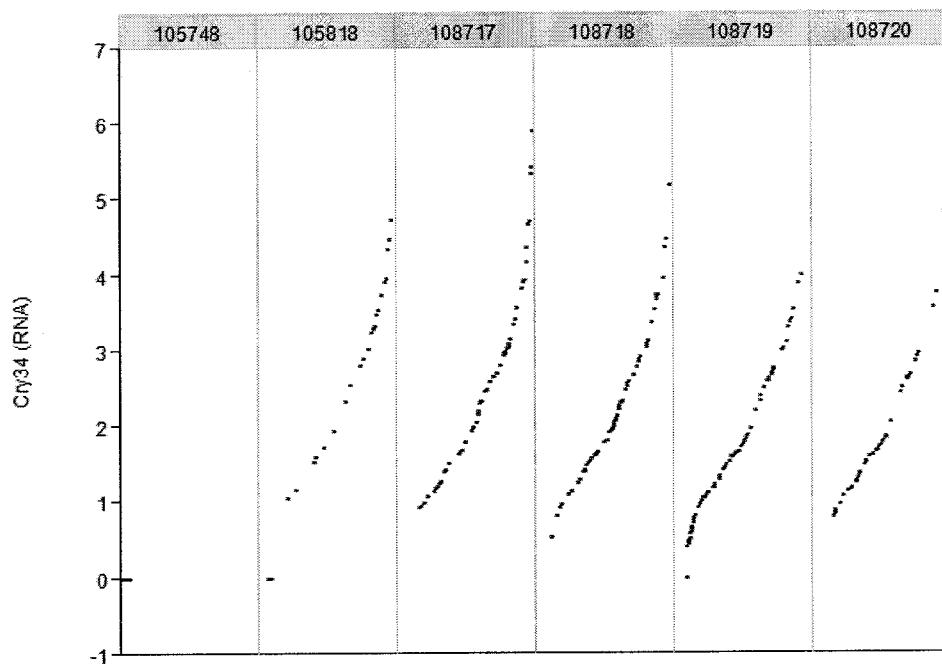
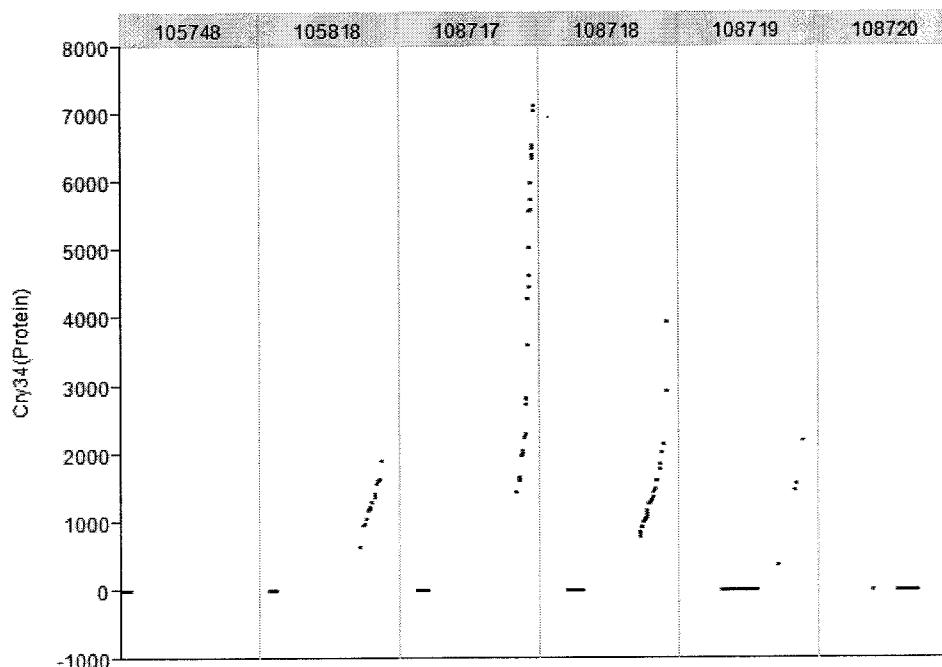
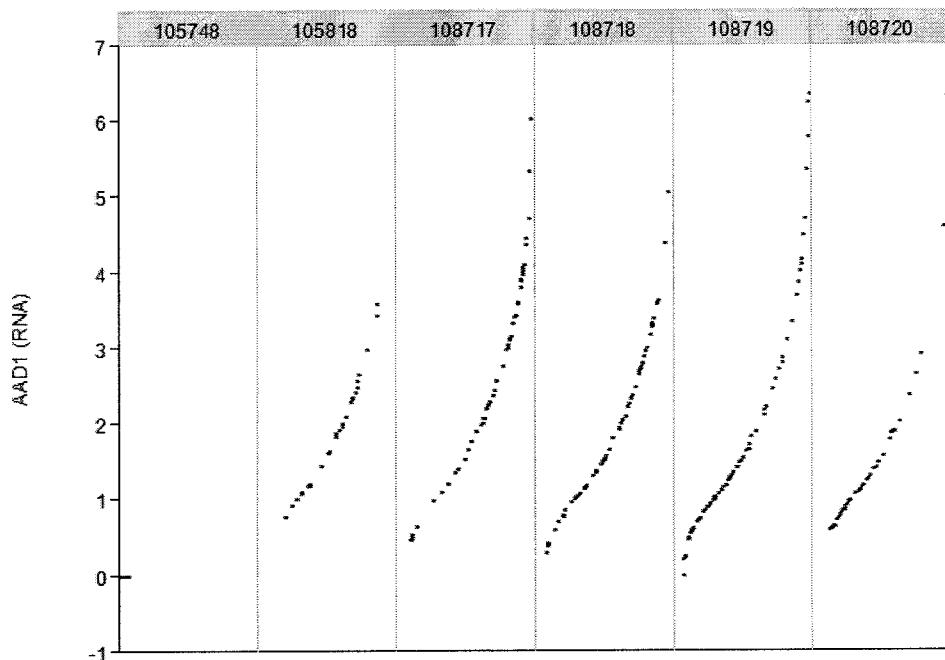
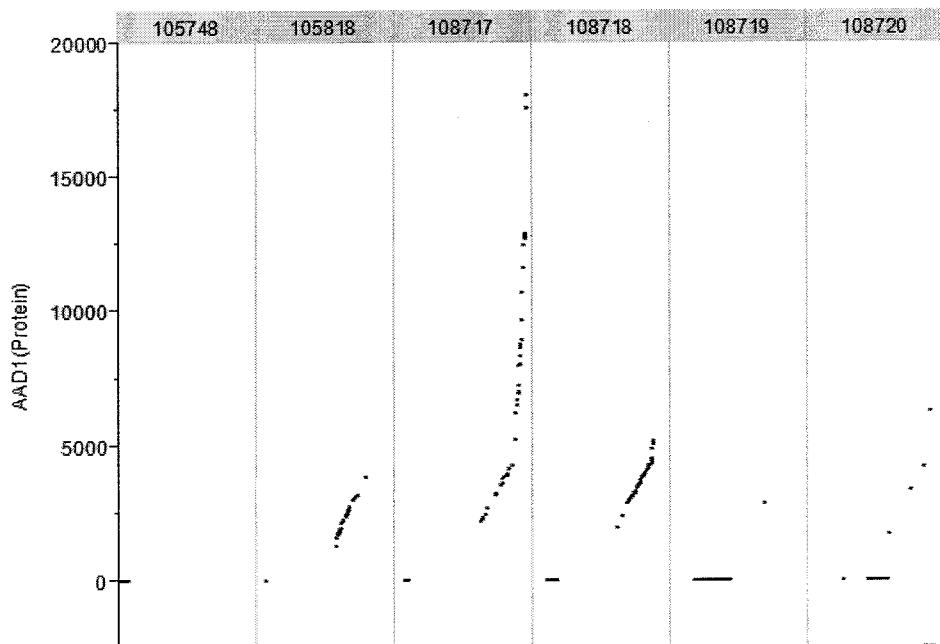


FIG. 41

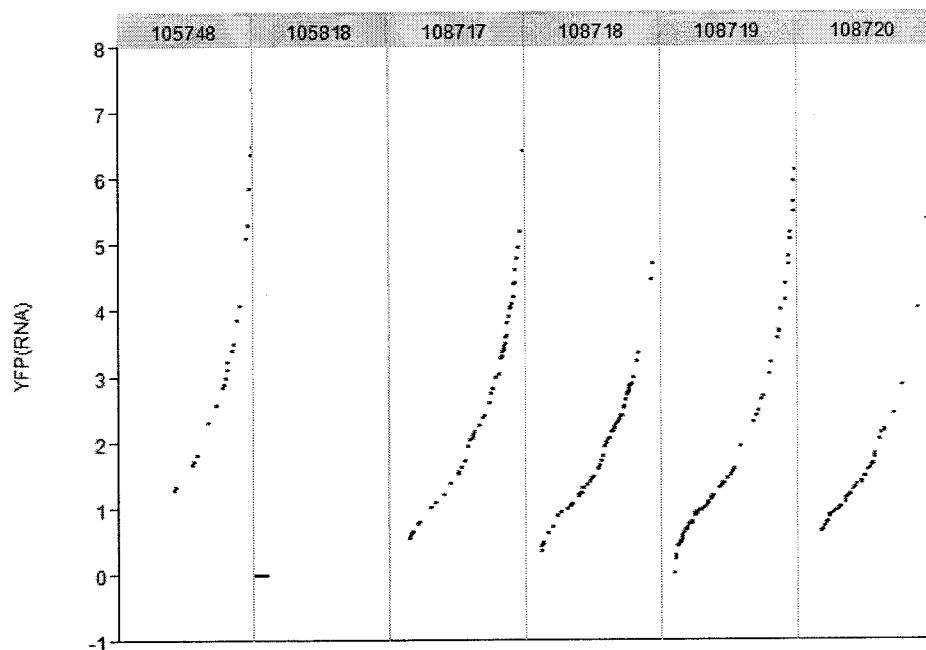
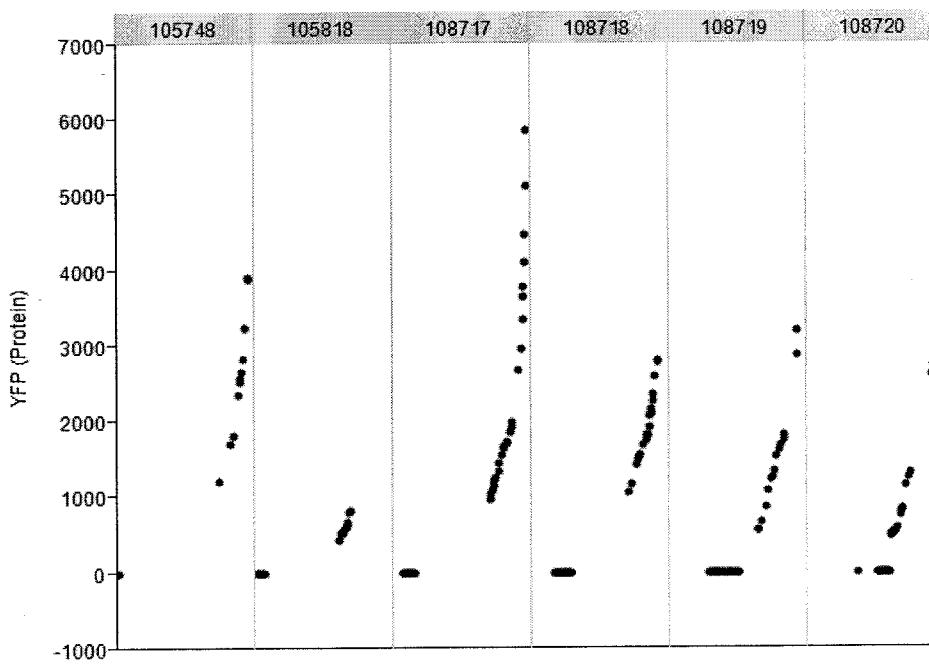
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**FIG. 42A****FIG. 42B**

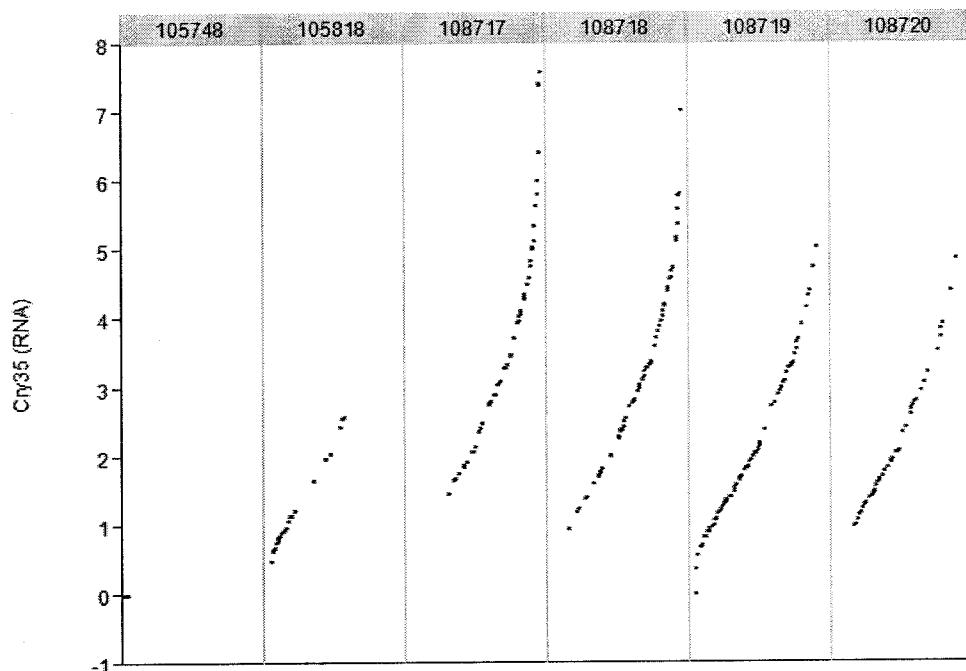
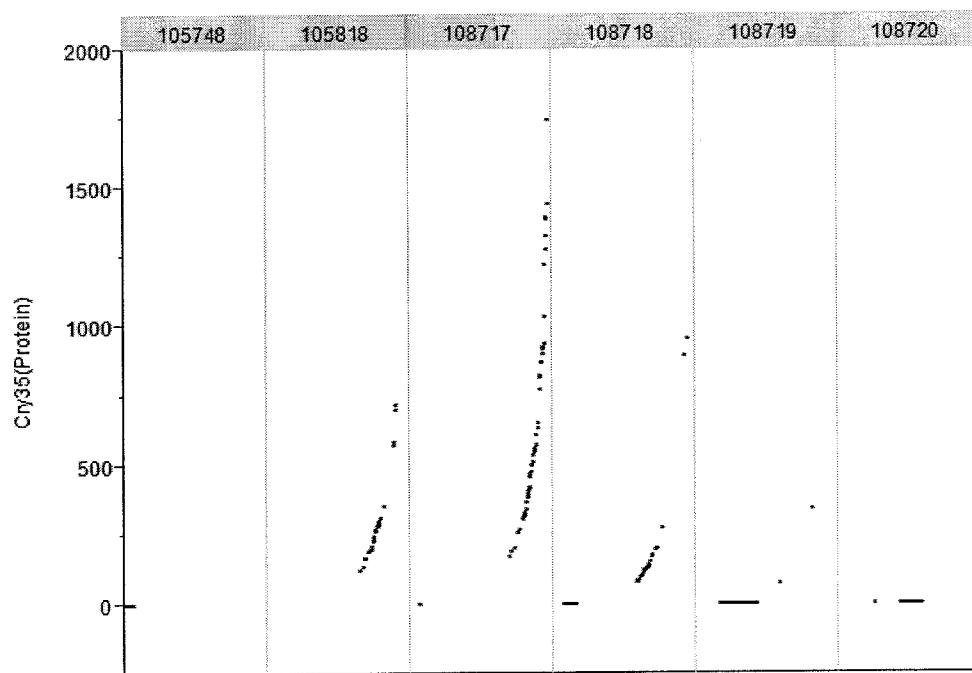
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**FIG. 43A****FIG. 43B**

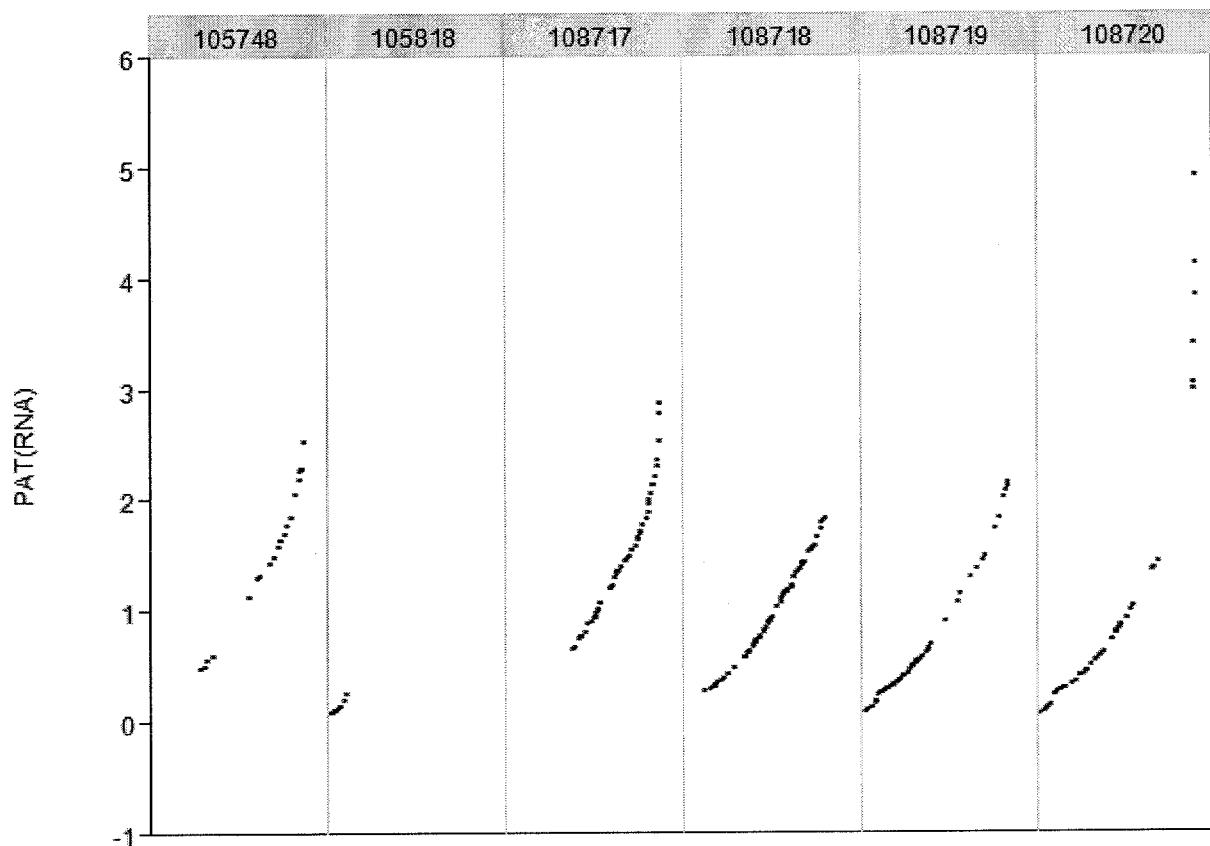
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**FIG. 44A****FIG. 44B**

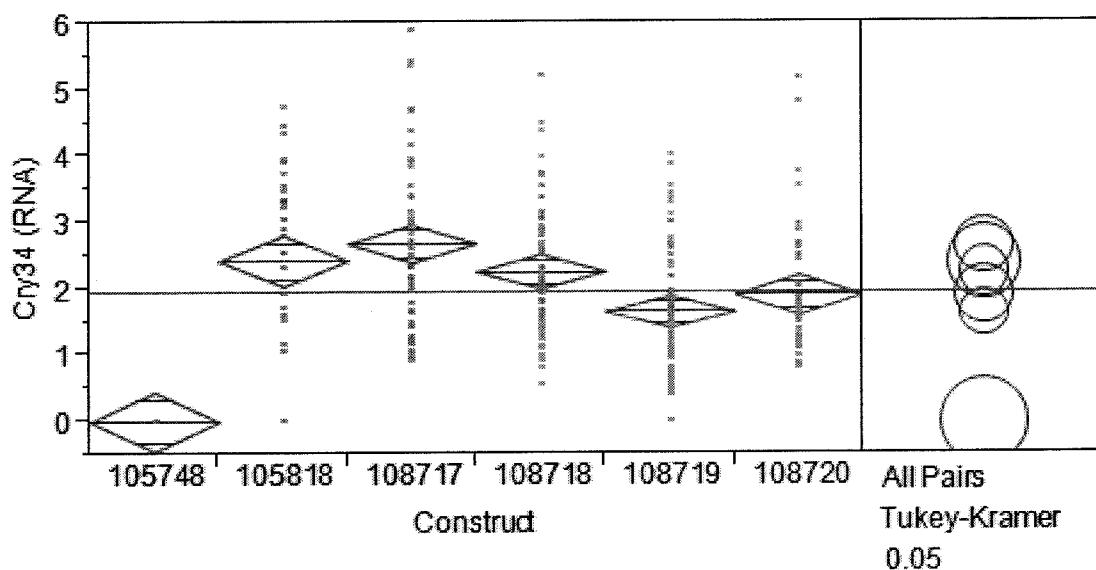
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**FIG. 45A****FIG. 45B**

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**FIG. 46**

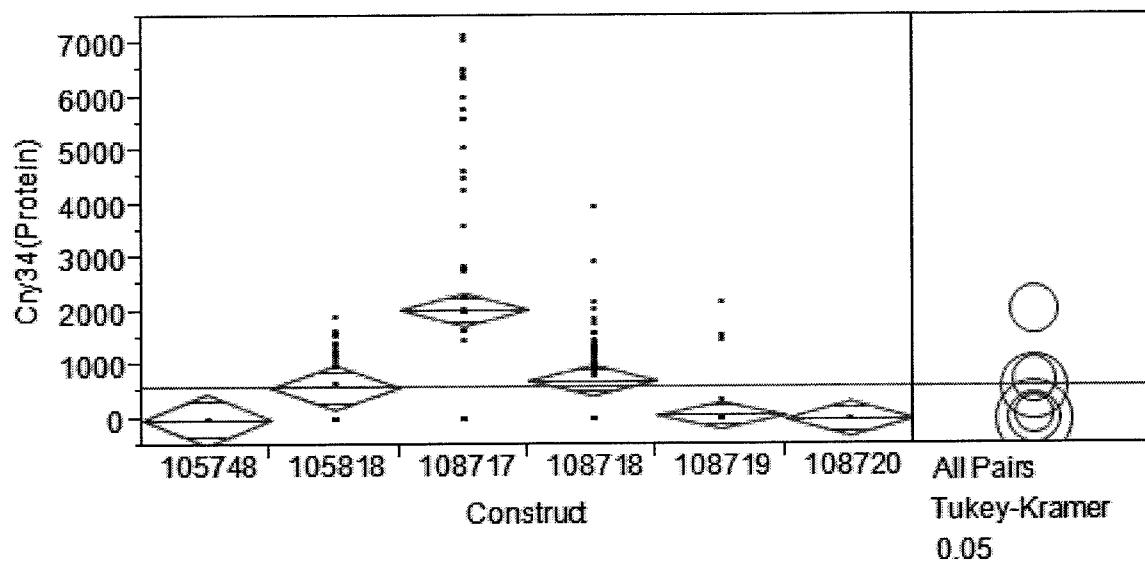
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Level	Mean
108717 A	2.6770370
105818 A B	2.4213333
108718 A B	2.2554545
108720 B C	1.9048980
108719 C	1.6506329
105748 D	0.0000000

**FIG. 47A**

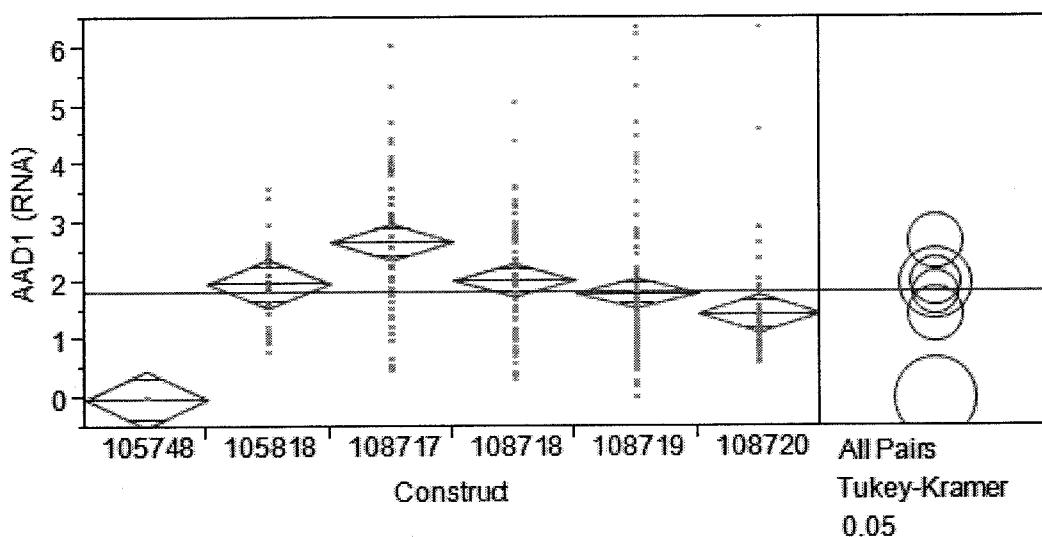
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Level	Mean
108717 A	2044.7248
108718 B	719.1750
105818 B C	596.9441
108719 C	66.9930
105748 B C	0.0000
108720 C	0.0000

**FIG. 47B**

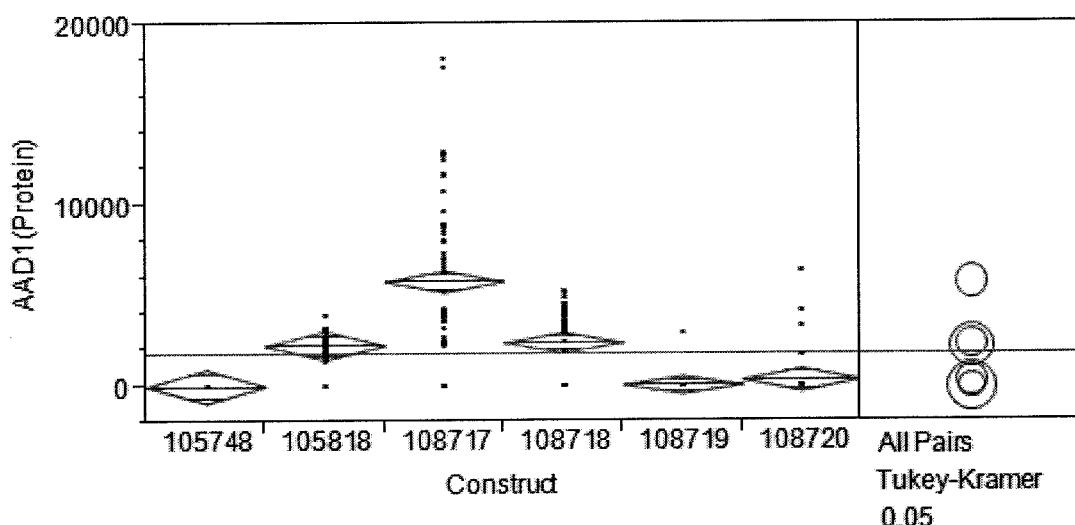
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Level	Mean
108717 A	2.6842593
108718 B	2.0268182
105818 A B	1.9756667
108719 B	1.8015190
108720 B	1.4540816
105748 C	0.0000000

**FIG. 48A**

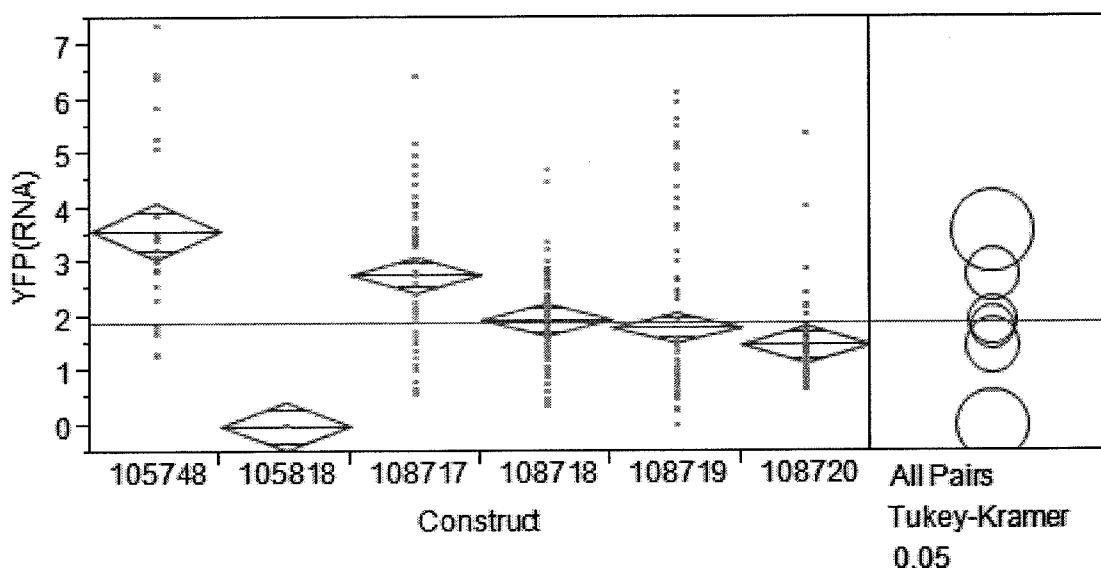
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Level	Mean
108717 A	5763.8761
108718 B	2379.1465
105818 B	2237.5350
108720 C	315.9063
108719 C	34.4708
105748 C	0.0000

**FIG. 48B**

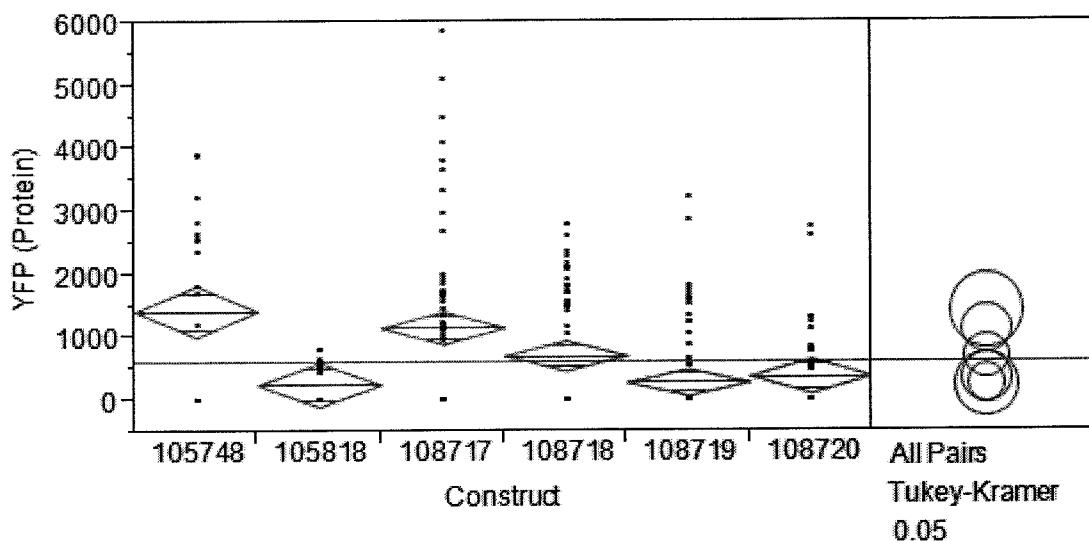
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Level	Mean
105748 A	3.5986364
108717 A	2.7827778
108718 B	1.9533333
108719 B	1.8054430
108720 B	1.4918367
105818 C	0.0000000

**FIG. 49A**

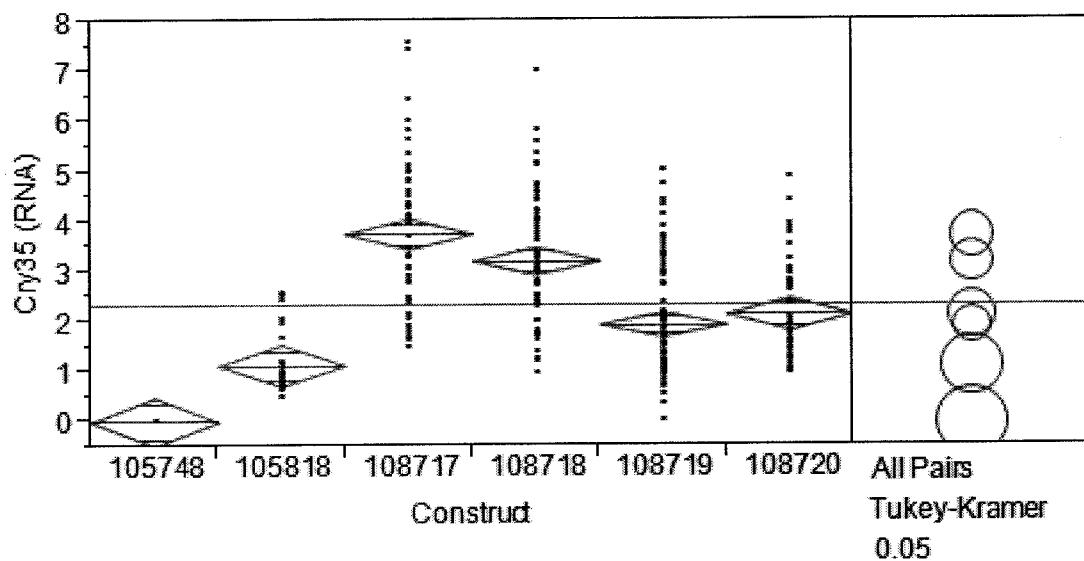
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Level	Mean
105748 A	1420.6883
108717 A, B	1154.0353
108718 B, C	706.0426
108720 C	381.0429
108719 C	283.5958
105818 C	251.6821

**FIG. 49B**

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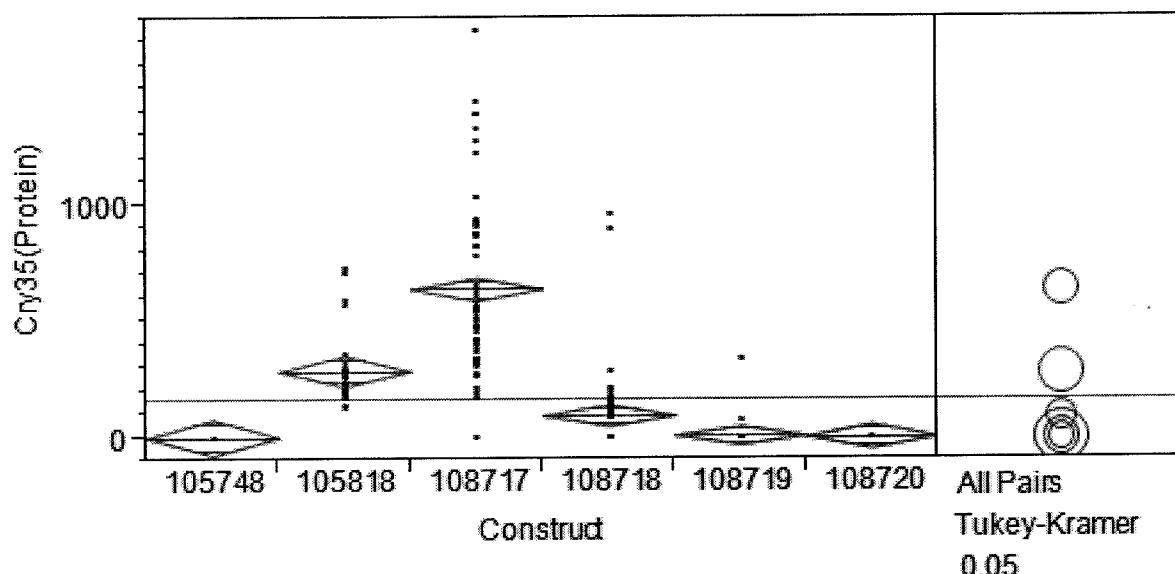


Level	Mean
108717 A	3.7442593
108718 A	3.2030303
108720 B	2.1365306
108719 B	1.9309302
105818 C	1.1190000
105748 D	0.0000000

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 50A**

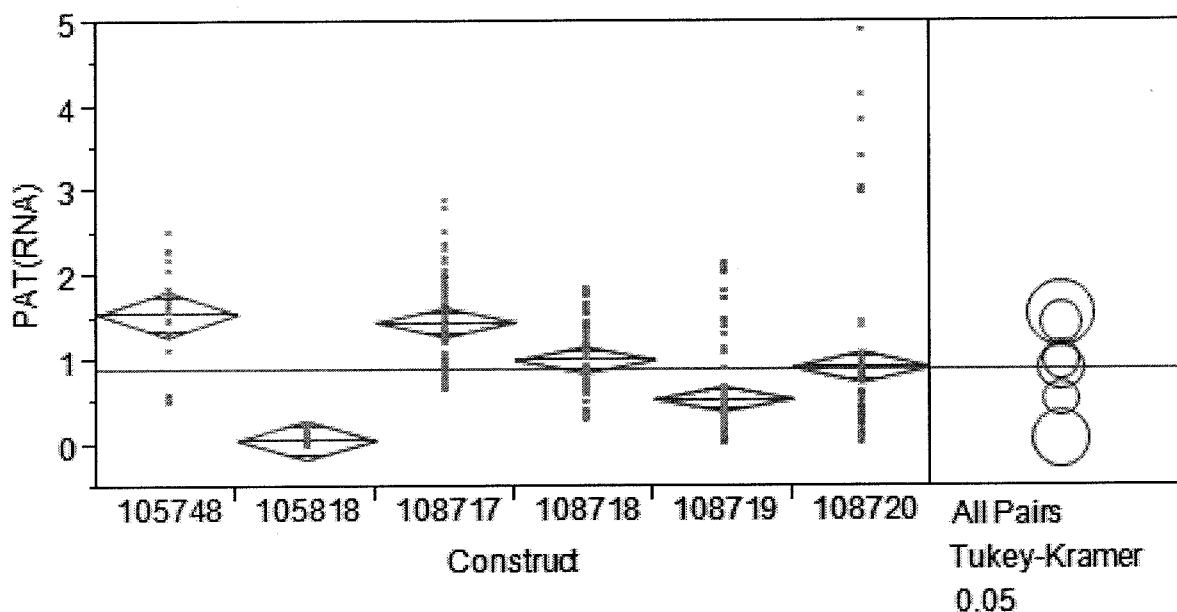
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Level	Mean
108717 A	635.82520
105818 B	283.54176
108718 C	90.97016
108719 C	4.91214
105748 C	0.00000
108720 C	0.00000

**FIG. 50B**

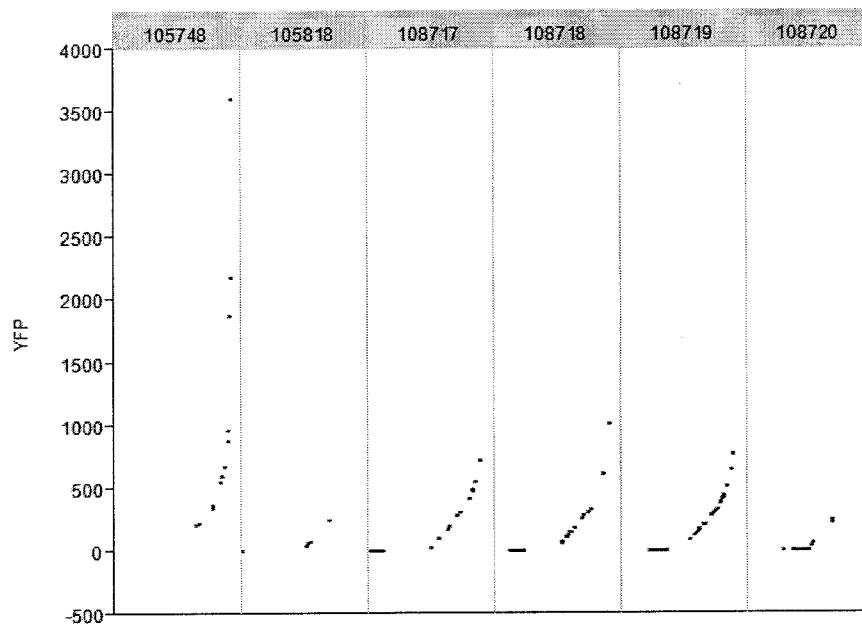
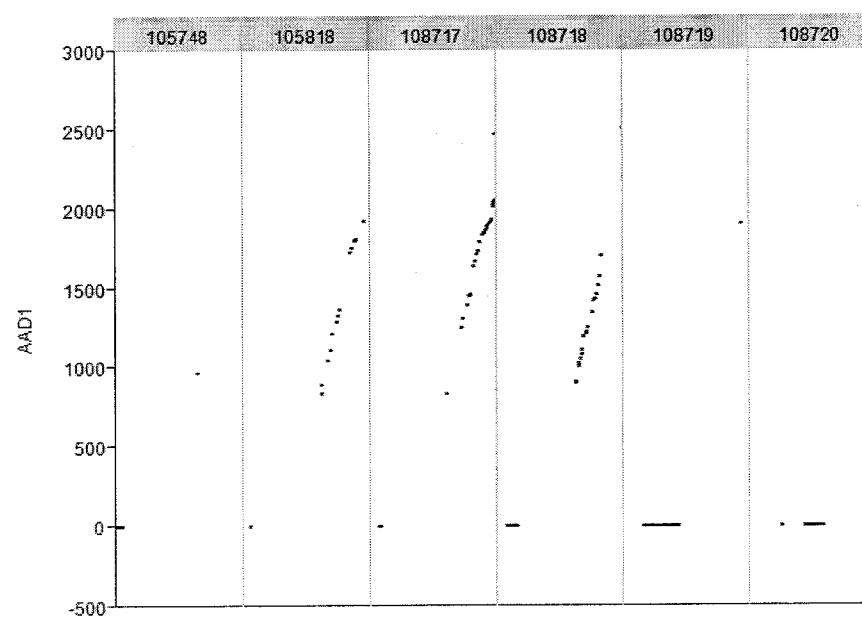
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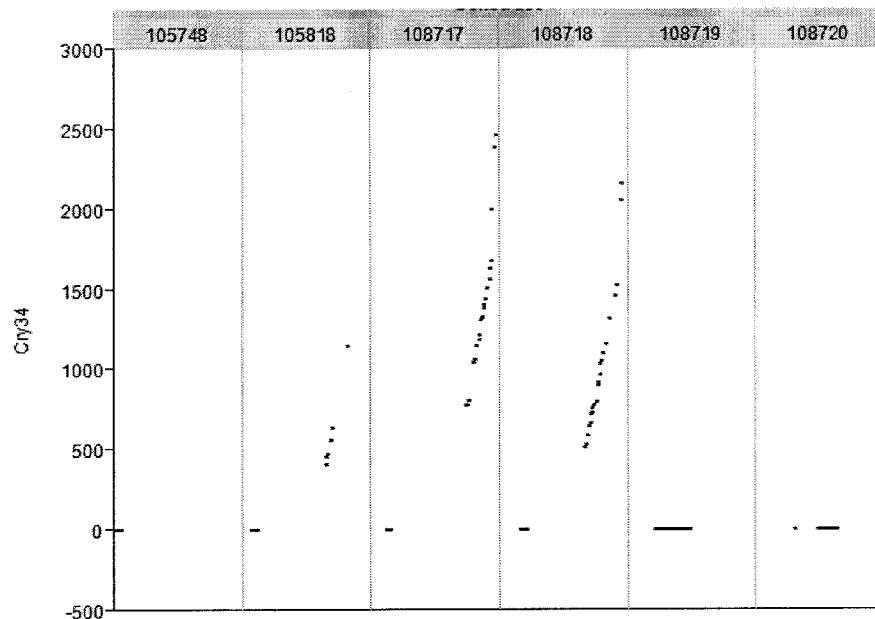
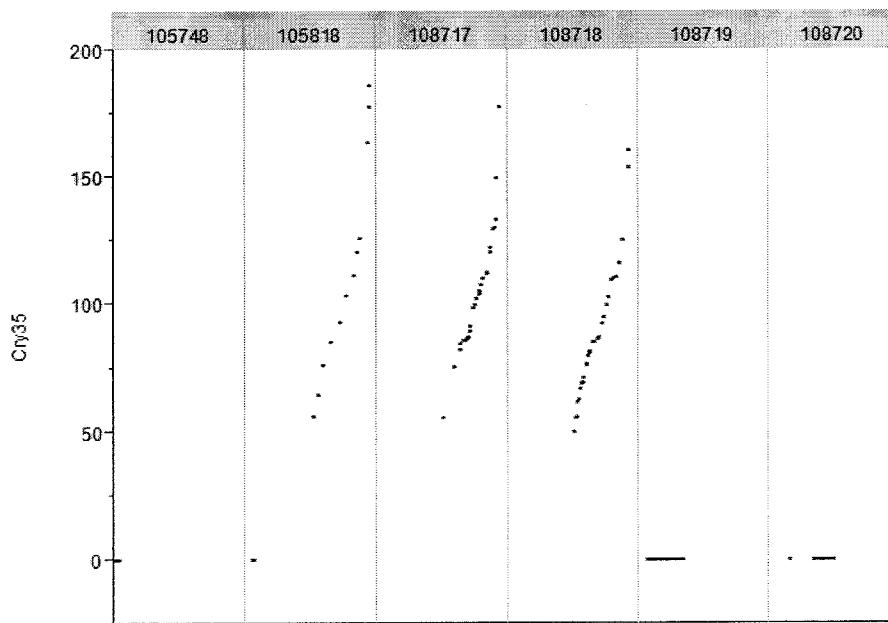
Level	Mean
105748 A	1.5627273
108717 A	1.4614815
108718 B	1.0131818
108720 B	0.9251020
108719 C	0.5496203
105818 D	0.0706667

FIG. 51

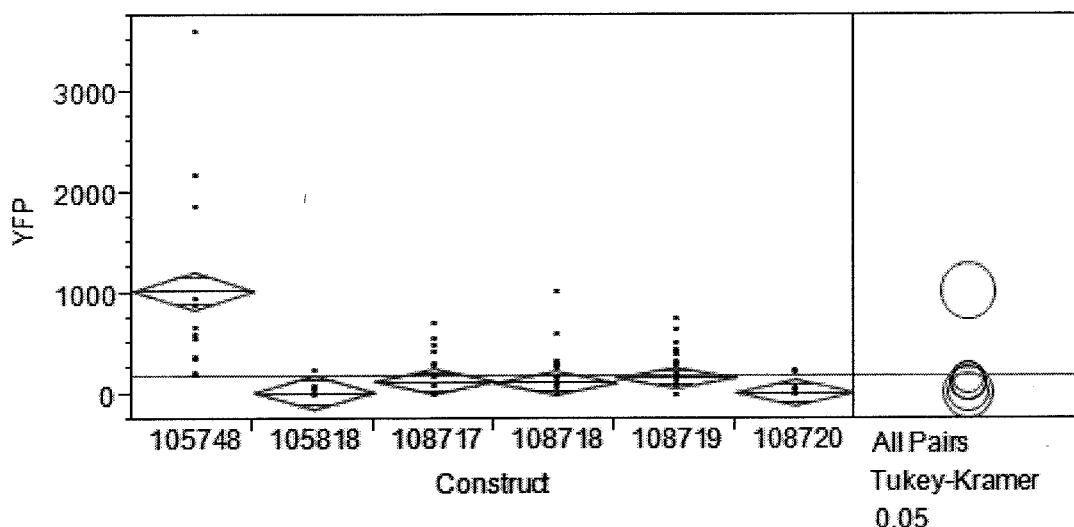
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**FIG. 52A****FIG. 52B**

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**FIG. 52C****FIG. 52D**

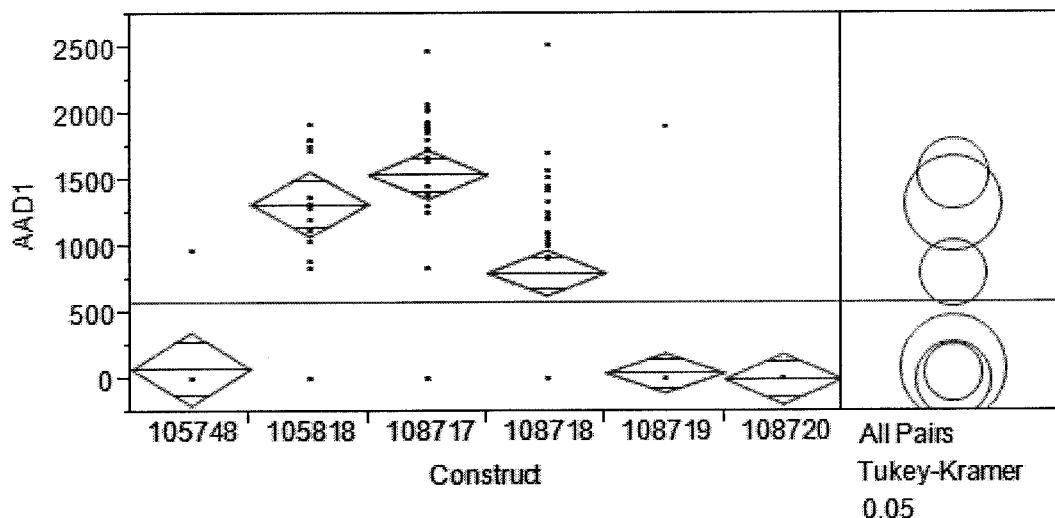
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Level	Mean
105748 A	1033.4667
108719 B	169.8439
108717 B	136.1815
108718 B	119.0613
105818 B	27.5133
108720 B	22.4840

**FIG. 53A**

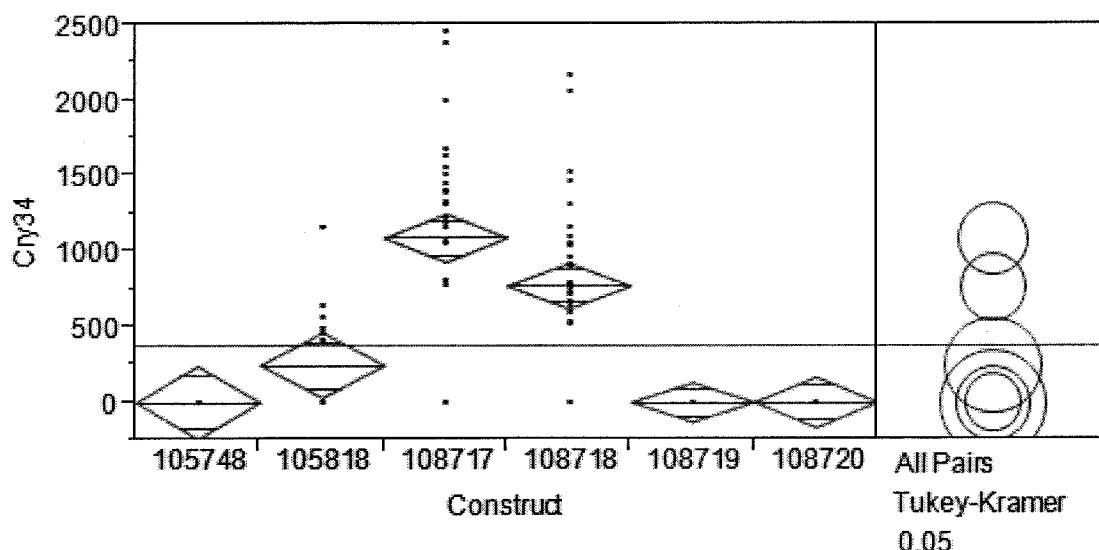
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Level	Mean
108717 A	1544.6963
105818 A	1323.8000
108718 B	802.5000
105748 C	80.8917
108719 C	46.4927
108720 C	0.0000

**FIG. 53B**

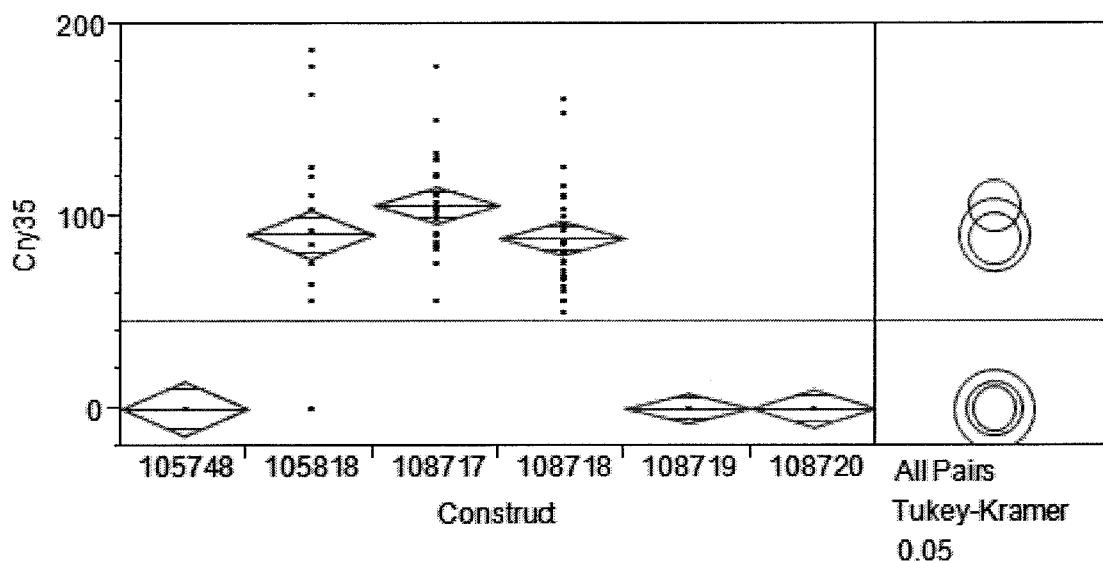
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Level	Mean
108717 A	1089.1778
108718 A	769.8065
105818 B	246.0533
105748 B	0.0000
108719 B	0.0000
108720 B	0.0000

**FIG. 53C**

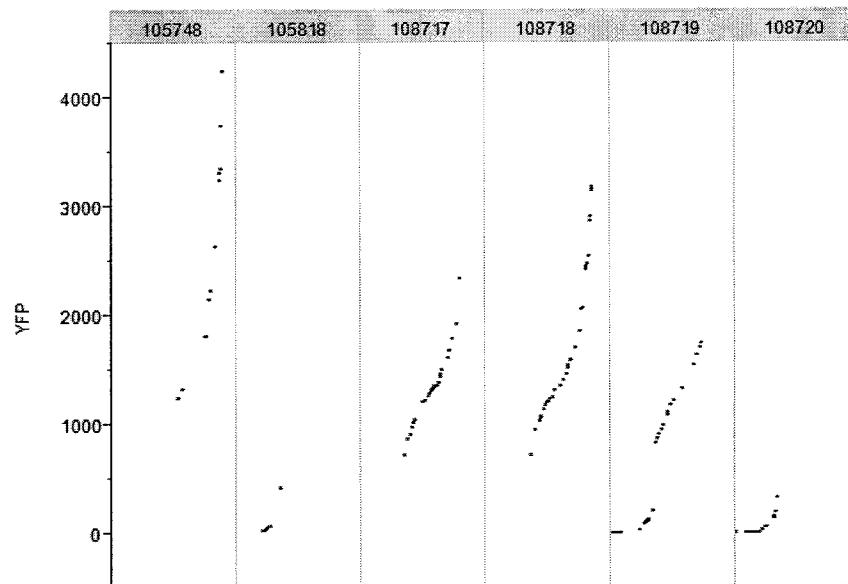
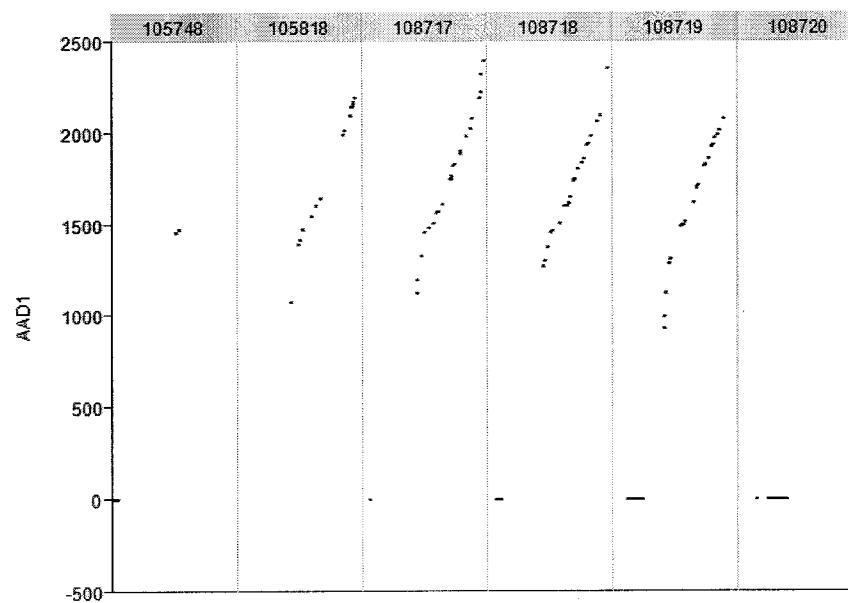
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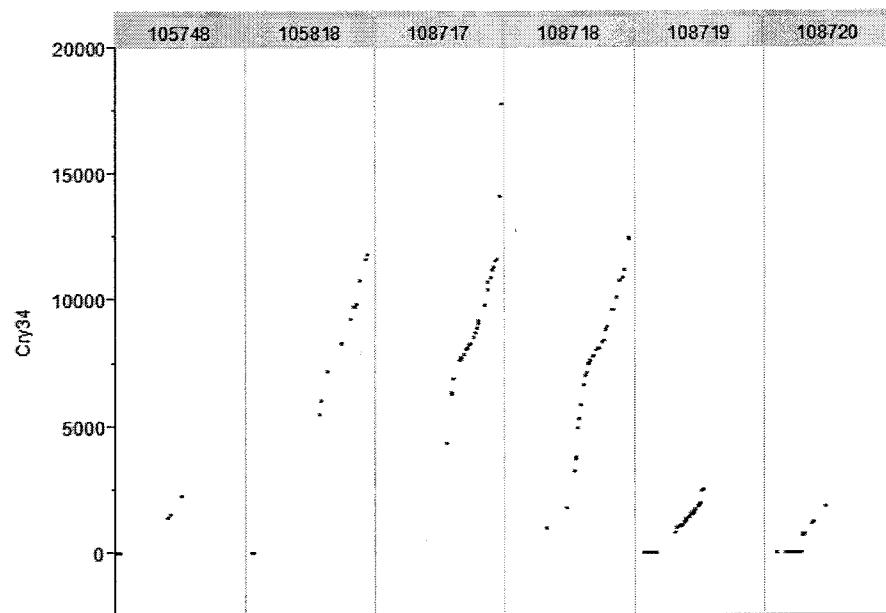
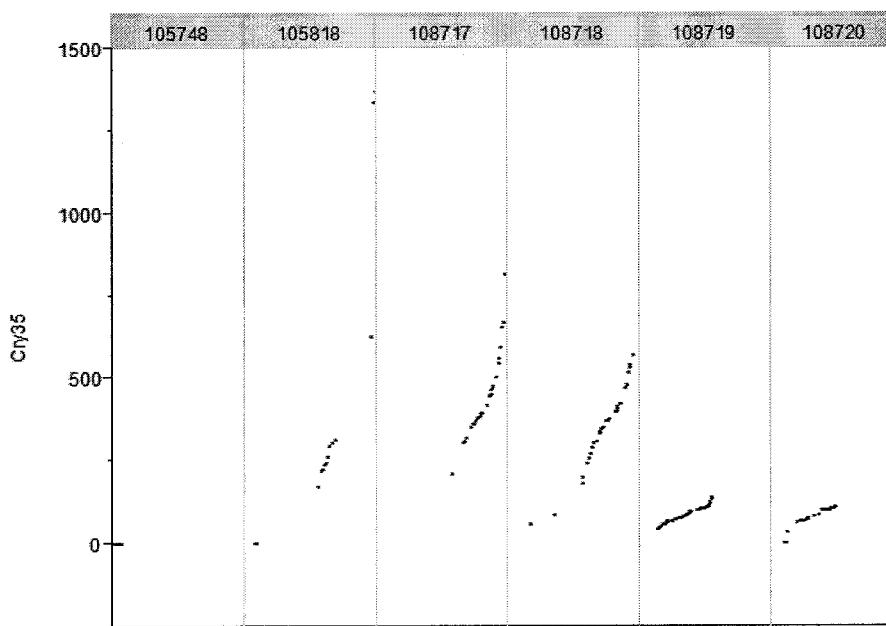
Level	Mean
108717 A	106.08519
105818 A	90.74667
108718 A	88.80323
105748 B	0.00000
108719 B	0.00000
108720 B	0.00000

**FIG. 53D**

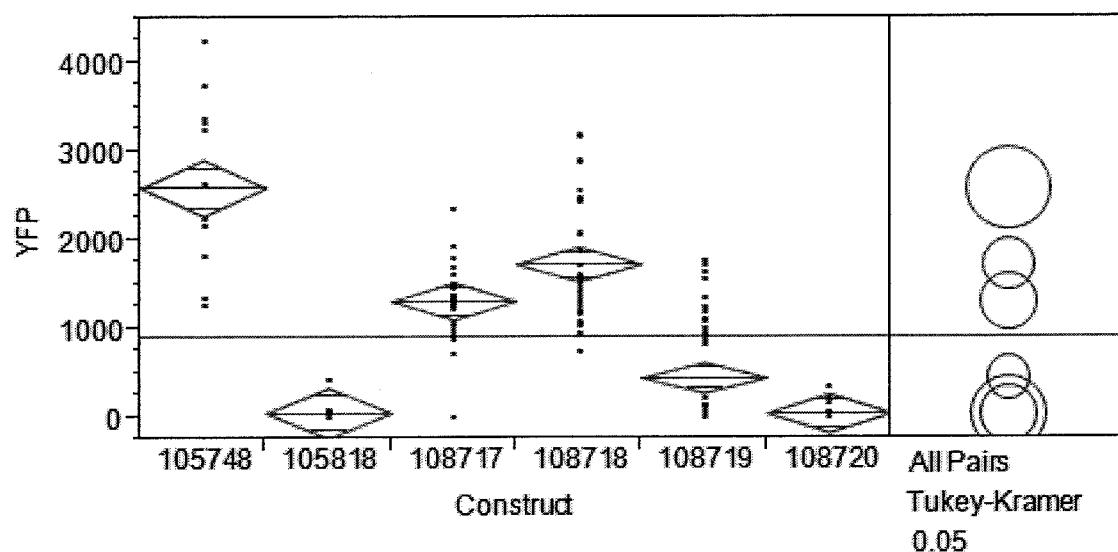
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**FIG. 54A****FIG. 54B**

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**FIG. 54C****FIG. 54D**

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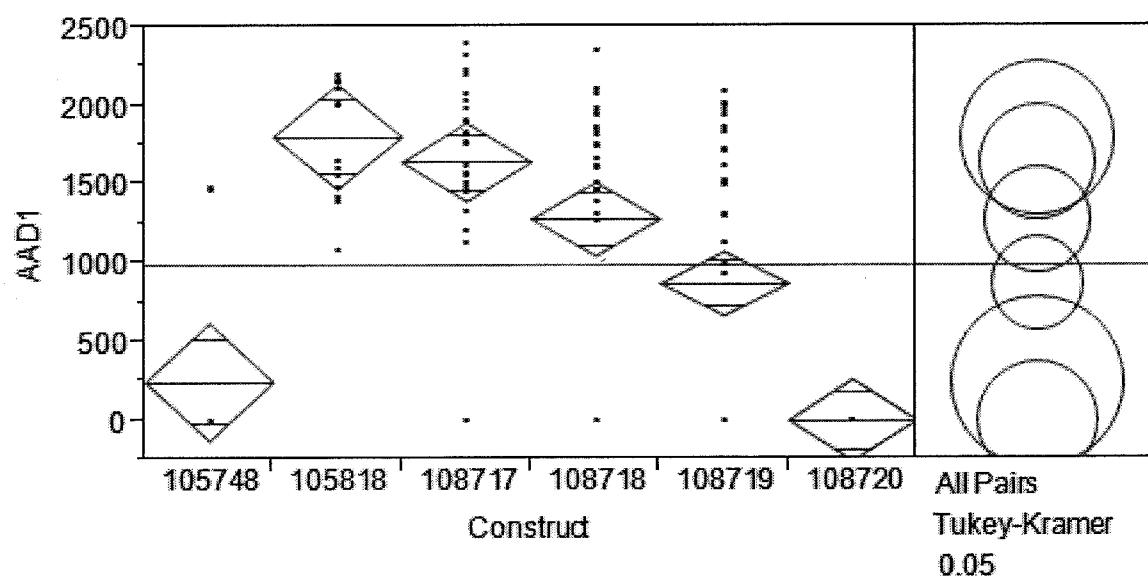


Level	Mean
105748 A	2589.6333
108718 B	1721.9581
108717 B	1305.2741
108719 C	438.8829
105818 C	43.6267
108720 C	37.4400

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 55A**

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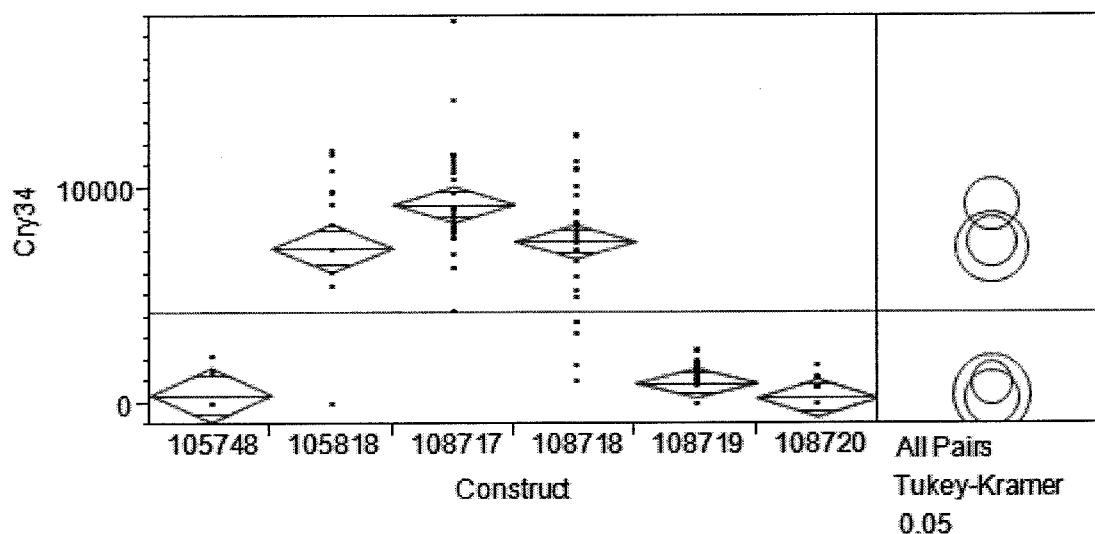


Level	Mean
105818 A	1803.9867
108717 A	1642.4370
108718 A B	1279.1677
108719 B	869.0707
105748 C	244.4083
108720 C	0.0000

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 55B**

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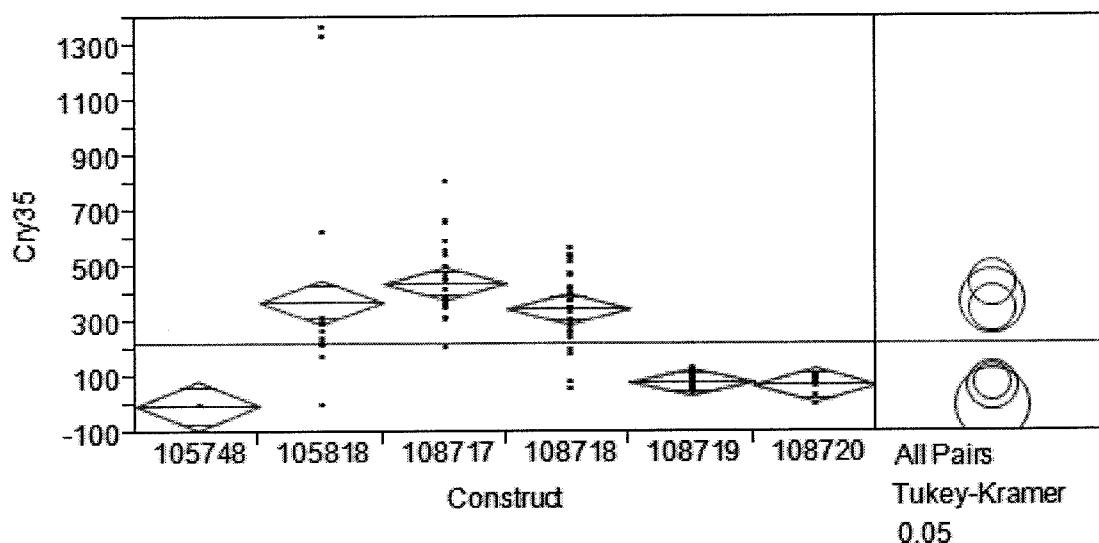


Level	Mean
108717 A	9285.7370
108718 B	7544.7484
105818 A B	7258.1533
108719 C	950.5341
105748 C	422.4500
108720 C	247.9240

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 55C**

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Level	Mean
108717 A	441.10741
105818 A	373.34667
108718 A	348.44839
108719 B	83.04634
108720 B	71.80800
105748 B	0.00000

Levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.

**FIG. 55D**

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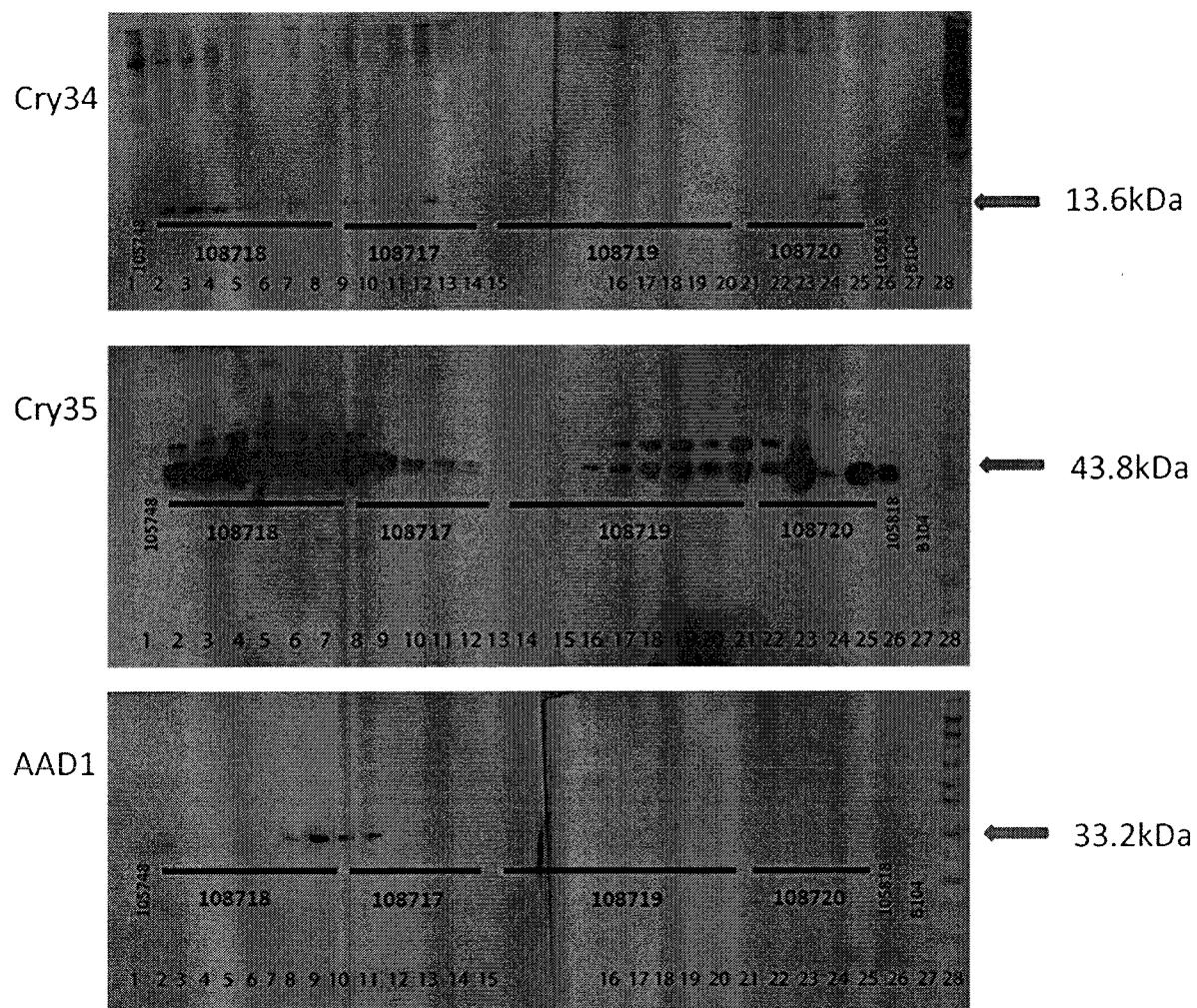
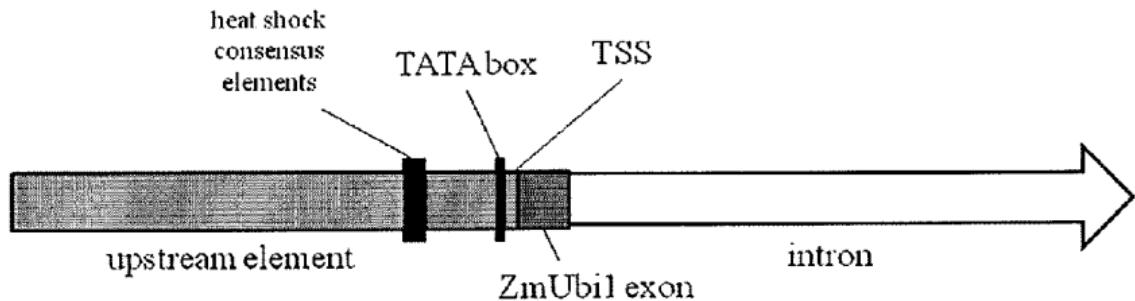


FIG. 56



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