Phospholipase pPLAIIIα Increases Germination Rate and Resistance to Turnip Crinkle Virus when Overexpressed

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Patatin-related phospholipase As (pPLAs) are major hydrolases acting on acyl-lipids and play important roles in various plant developmental processes. pPLAIII group members, which lack a canonical catalytic Ser motif, have been less studied than other pPLAs. We report here the characterization of pPLAIIIa in Arabidopsis (Arabidopsis thaliana) based on the biochemical and physiological characterization of pPLAIIIa knockouts, complementants, and overexpressors, as well as heterologous expression of the protein. In vitro activity assays on the purified recombinant protein showed that despite lack of canonical phospholipase motifs, pPLAIIIa had a phospholipase A activity on a wide variety of phospholipids. Overexpression of pPLAIIIa in Arabidopsis resulted in a decrease in many lipid molecular species, but the composition in major lipid classes was not affected. Fluorescence tagging indicated that pPLAIIIa localizes to the plasma membrane. Although Arabidopsis pplaIIIa knockout mutants showed some phenotypes comparable to other pPLAIIIa, such as reduced trichome length and increased hypocotyl length, control of seed size and germination were identified as distinctive pPLAIIIa-mediated functions. Expression of some PLD genes was strongly reduced in the pplaIIIa mutants. Overexpression of pplaIIIa caused increased resistance to turnip crinkle virus, which associated with a 2-fold higher salicylic acid/jasmonic acid ratio and an increased expression of the defense gene pathogenesis-related protein1. These results therefore show that pPLAIIIa has functions that overlap with those of other pPLAIIIa but also distinctive functions, such as the control of seed germination. This study also provides new insights into the pathways downstream of pPLAIIIa.

Lipases are a diverse group of hydrolases that break down acyl-lipids. Most of them hydrolyze the carboxyl ester bond between a fatty acid and the glycerol backbone, but lipase sequences diverge widely, and even the loose GXSXG esterase consensus for the catalytic Ser is not always present. Based on their preferred substrate, in vitro lipases are usually classified into triacylglycerol lipases, phospholipases, galactolipases, and others. However, many lipases often act in vitro on a variety of lipid classes, and the determination of their physiological role is not trivial. Genome analysis of Arabidopsis (Arabidopsis thaliana) has indicated that there are as many genes annotated as potentially involved in lipid breakdown as there are involved in lipid biosynthesis (Li-Beisson et al., 2013). Elucidation of the cellular function of the many putative plant lipases is thus a major challenge.

By hydrolyzing membrane phosphoglycerolipids, phospholipases participate in many aspects of plant cellular biology, such as signal transduction, cell growth regulation, and membrane remodeling in response to environmental stresses and lipid metabolism (Wang, 2001; Meijer and Munnik, 2003; Ryu, 2004; Matos and Pham-Thi, 2009; Scherer et al., 2010). Phospholipases of A-type (PLA) hydrolyze the carboxyl ester bond specifically at the sn-1 or sn-2 position of glycerophospholipids or in some cases at both positions. Plant PLA2 families are classified into two groups: low-molecular-weight PLA2s (PLA2-α, PLA2-β, PLA2-γ, and PLA2-δ) and patatin-related PLAs (pPLAs), the latter of which are homologous to the potato (Solanum tuberosum) tuber storage protein patatin. The pPLAs act on glycerogalactolipids as well as glycerophospholipids to release free fatty acids (FFAs) and the corresponding lysolipids (Lee et al., 2010; Scherer et al., 2010).

In Arabidopsis, the 10 members of the pPLA family have been classified into three groups based on gene...
structure and amino acid sequence similarity: pPLAII, pPLAIIα, pPLAIIβ, pPLAIIγ, pPLAIIδ, and pPLAIIe, and pPLAIIIα, pPLAIIIβ, pPLAIIIγ, and pPLAIIIδ; Holk et al., 2002; Scherer et al., 2010). Both pPLAII and pPLAIIIs are involved in plant responses to pathogens, auxin signaling, and phosphate deficiency. Although the recently characterized pPLAIIIs lack the canonical catalytic Ser-containing motif GXSXG (Holk et al., 2002; Scherer et al., 2010), some pPLAIIIα and pPLAIIIβ possess a lipase activity with broad substrate specificity (Li et al., 2011, 2013; Lin et al., 2011). In Arabidopsis, pPLAIIIδ is involved in plant response to auxin (Labusch et al., 2013). Moreover, in rice (Oryza sativa), OsPPLAIIIα overexpression and knockout (KO) have an opposite effect on the expression of the growth repressor SLENDER1 in the gibberellin signaling pathway (Liu et al., 2015). Overexpressors (OE) of pPLAIIIs display similar stunted growth patterns with additional functions, such as reduced cellulose content in pPLAIIIα-OE (Li et al., 2011) or lignin in PpPPLAIIIβ-OE and pPLAIIα-OE (Jang et al., 2019; Jang and Lee, 2020a, 2020b), and increased seed oil in pPLAIIIβ-OE (Li et al., 2013, 2015). Activation tagging of pPLAIIIβ (STURDY; Huang et al., 2001) also results in decreased longitudinal cell elongation and stunted growth, as observed in pPLAIIIβ-OE. The recessive rice mutant dep3 with OsPPLAIIβ deficiency displays a dense and erect phenotype with short, wide epidermal cells (Qiao et al., 2011). A comparative proteomic analysis of pPLAIIIβ-OE and wild type has shown that one protein significantly differs between the OE and wild-type line, and it was identified as MICROOTUBULE-ASSOCIATED PROTEIN18 (Zheng et al., 2014). Many physiological functions have been thus associated with pPLAIIIs in Arabidopsis or other plants, but the molecular pathways involved mostly remain to be elucidated.

To further shed light on the function of pPLAIIIα, we studied the activity of the recombinant protein in vitro, characterized overexpression and KO mutants in Arabidopsis at physiological and molecular levels, and performed lipidomic analyses.

RESULTS

Despite Lacking Canonical Motifs, pPLAIIIα has Retained Lipase Activity

Arabidopsis pPLAIIIα (At2g39220) was represented by a single gene encoding a protein of 499 amino acids with a predicted pl of 6.24 and a molecular mass of 54.5 kD. Like all Arabidopsis pPLAIII proteins, pPLAIIIα lacked the Ser of the putative Ser-Asp catalytic dyad because Ser present in the canonical Gx$SxG motif was replaced with G (Fig. 1A). However, the second residue of the putative catalytic Ser-Asp dyad, Asp, was present in the DGG motif. In addition, it can be noted that the phosphate or anion binding element DSGGXG was not completely conserved in the pPLAIIIα protein because the second Gly was replaced with Ser.

Arabidopsis pPLAIIIα thus lacked the canonical phospholipase motif for the catalytic Ser found in other characterized pPLAIIIs and one could question whether this protein really possessed phospholipase activity. The recombinant pPLAIIIα protein His-tagged at the C-terminal end was therefore expressed in Escherichia coli and purified (Supplemental Fig. S1). In vitro enzymatic assays showed that the His-tagged pPLAIIIα had an acyl-ester hydrolase activity on each of the four major Arabidopsis phospholipid classes, with a slightly higher activity on phosphatidic acid (PA) than on phosphatidylcholine (PC), phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), or phosphatidylglycerol (PG; Fig. 1C).

Taken together, these results show that pPLAIIIα is a noncanonical phospholipase A that hydrolyzes various phospholipids in vitro.

Spatial and Temporal Expression Patterns of pPLAIIIα

To determine the expression pattern of pPLAIIIα in Arabidopsis, we generated PropPLAIIIα::GUS transformatants using 2,087 bp upstream from ATG with 15-bp coding sequence (total 2,105 bp). The GUS reporter gene was expressed in most organs including inflorescences, flowers, siliques, stems, and leaves (Fig. 2) but displayed further distinct spatial or temporal expression patterns compared to other pPLAIIIs promoters (Dong et al., 2014). pPLAIIIα was highly expressed in roots, with greater restriction in the vasculature and meristematic zones of the lateral roots (Fig. 2, A and C–F). In germinating seeds, GUS activity was observed in embryo cotyledons and vasculature of roots during testa rupture and radical emergence (Fig. 2, C and D). Vasculature expression in sepal and petals was also observed in whole flower organs (Fig. 2B). In cotyledons and true leaves, stomata expression was restricted in the inner wall of the guard cell region (Fig. 2G).

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**Figure 1.** Distinctive conserved motifs of pPLAIIIa and its lipase activity. A, Alignment of pPLAIIIa with other pPLAIIIs and two pPLAIIIs from Arabidopsis. Amino acid sequences were analyzed using the pairwise sequence alignment program ClustalW (http://www.clustal.org/clustal2/). Multiple sequence alignment was performed using the program BioEdit (v.7.1.9; https://bioedit.software.informer.com/7.1/). B, Immunoblot analysis of recombinant pPLAIIIa protein using anti-6×His tag antibody on E. coli purified recombinant proteins. C, In vitro enzymatic assay of recombinant pPLAIIIa protein using a NEFA kit. pPLAIIIa fusion protein and 0.5 mM of each substrate (16:0-18:1 PA, PC, PE, and PG) were incubated at 30°C for 60 min. Data represent the mean ± s.e. of four independent biological replicates. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA. Means with different lowercase letters represent significantly different (P < 0.05), according to Scheffe’s test.

PropPLAIIIa::GUS was expressed highly in hypocotyls elongating in the darkness compared with those grown in the light (Fig. 2H). Cross-sectional images of stems indicate strong expression of pPLAIIIa in the xylem and phloem (Fig. 2I). Strong expression was also observed in the hydathodes of young leaves and trichomes (Fig. 2J). Overall, GUS expression was observed in all organs, with more restriction in the vasculature.

**KO, OE, and Subcellular Localization of Arabidopsis pPLAIIIa**

To study the function of pPLAIIIa, we performed gain- and loss-of-function experiments in Arabidopsis. We first isolated homozygous transfer DNA–insertion mutants for pPLAIIIa (Fig. 3A). In addition, the full-length genomic DNA sequence of Arabidopsis pPLAIIIa was overexpressed in Arabidopsis under the control of the 35S promoter with yellow fluorescent protein (YFP)- or monomeric red fluorescent protein (mRFP)-tagging at the C-terminal end. Immunoblotting using mRFP antibody detected expected size bands only visible in OE lines but not in KO lines (Fig. 3B). Both C-terminal YFP and mRFP tagging showed that pPLAIIIa localized to plasma membranes (PMs) in root cells (Fig. 3, C and D). The fluorescence signal of PM was separated from the cell wall, indicating its signal is not wall-associated (Fig. 3D). Quantification of pPLAIIIa transcript levels in four independent homozygous OE lines (Fig. 3E) showed that pPLAIIIa was overexpressed very strongly in line 6 (440-fold), line 7 (420-fold), and line 13 (800-fold), and moderately in line 8 (5-fold). No transcripts were detected for two transfer DNA insertion lines in pPLAIIIa, indicating that they were KO mutants (Fig. 3E). Transcript expression levels corresponded to protein levels (Fig. 3B). Complementation lines (pPLAIIIa-COM) generated by crossing each OE line in the KO line 1 background (SAIL830G12) still displayed overexpression of pPLAIIIa but compromised where line 7 overexpressed 87-fold and line 13, 94-fold. This complementation result could be caused by overexpressing using the 35S promoter. Interestingly, transcripts for the closely related pPLAIIIb (72% identity with pPLAIIIa), pPLAIIIγ (56%), and pPLAIIIδ (34%; Supplemental Fig. S2) were slightly modulated by the expression level of pPLAIIIa (Supplemental Fig. S3). In seedling stages (Fig. 3F), the hypocotyl length of the pplaIIIa mutants was longer than that of controls, but OE lines were shorter than controls (Fig. 3G). The root lengths were only shorter in two of the OE lines and unaltered in the KO mutant lines (Fig. 3H). Both OE lines 6 and 7 could be considered as ectopic lines with similar levels of expression, and OE line 13 was the most highly expressing line. However, OE line 8 was the most moderate line that was perfectly complemented in KO line 1 (Fig. 3, G and H). From the seedling stages, all OE lines displayed stunted and dwarf phenotypes with thicker cotyledons (Fig. 3F),
which were also confirmed in the subsequent growth stages.

**Lipidomics Reveal a Wide Range of Acyl-Lipids Are Decreased in pPLAIIIa-OE on a Seedling-Weight Basis**

To determine which lipid molecular species may be affected in the knockout or overexpressor plants, total lipids were extracted from seedlings of a *pplaIIIa* mutant and two strong *pPLAIIIa-OE* lines, and 115 molecular species of acyl-lipids (including phospholipids, galactolipids, and sulfolipids) were analyzed by liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS; Fig. 4; Supplemental Figs. S4 and S5).

In the *pplaIIIa KO* mutant, analysis of the lipid molecular species did not reveal significant differences, including in the phospholipid species potentially localized to the PM (Fig. 4C; Supplemental Fig. S4). In *OE* lines, total acyl-lipids were reduced ~25% on a seedling
Figure 3. KO, OE, and complementation lines for *pPLAIIIa* in Arabidopsis. A, The transfer DNA insertion sites in two Arabidopsis *pplall* KO mutants and a diagram showing the OE construct of *pPLAIIIa* (*pPLAIIIa*-OE) under the control of the 35S promoter with YFP or mRFP fusion at the C terminus. B, Immunoblotting of mRFP-tagged pPLAIIIa from Col-0, vector control, KO, and OE plants. After SDS-PAGE separation, protein was immunoblotted with anti-mRFP antibody. C, Subcellular localization of pPLAIIIa-YFP in the PM merged with FM4-64. Scale bars = 50 μm. D, Plasmolysis of root epidermal cells of the pPLAIIIa-mRFP with 0.2 M of NaCl for 1 min. Scale bars = 50 μm. E, Transcript levels of *pPLAIIIa* genes in the controls, KO, OE, and complementation (COM) lines as measured by RT-qPCR. n = 3. F, Phenotypes of 4-d-old seedlings. Scale bar = 1 cm. G and H, The hypocotyl length and root length.
fresh weight (FW) basis in both lines compared to the vector control (Fig. 4A). Significant decreases were observed in many lipid classes (Fig. 4B). This included major phospholipid classes, such as the mostly extraplastidial PC and PE and the plastidial/mitochondrial PG, the minor phospholipid class PA, and some purely plastidial lipid classes such as the galactolipid monogalactosyldiacylglycerol (MGDG) and digalactosyldiacylglycerol (DGDG), and the sulfolipid class sulfoquinovosyldiacylglycerol (SQDG). For plastidial lipids, both “prokaryotic” species (C18/C16, i.e. C34) and “eukaryotic” species (C18/C18, i.e. C36) were affected (Fig. 4C). The reduction was almost evenly distributed among all glycerolipid classes, and the lipid class composition was thus not significantly affected in the two OE lines (Supplemental Fig. S5). In the OE lines, a reduction was seen in most of the major molecular species (Fig. 4C) and the minor ones also (Supplemental Fig. S4). The PA class appeared to be particularly impacted with almost all molecular species of PA reduced by 30% to 50% (Fig. 4C). Lysolipids were not significantly changed, except for the lysoMGDG and lysoPG species, which were significantly reduced in both OE lines. No accumulation of a particular FFA species (Fig. 4C) or of total FFAs (Fig. 4B) was measured in the OE lines.

In conclusion, lipidomic analyses show that total lipid amount per FW and the composition in glycerolipid molecular species remained unchanged in the pplaIIIa KO mutant. In OE lines, FFAs did not accumulate, and composition in glycerolipid classes was not significantly changed in either of the OE lines.

### pPLAIIIa Expression Level Affects the Size and Shape of Many Cells and Organs

Transversely expanded cell morphology with altered longitudinal cell elongation has been previously reported after the overexpression of pPLAIIIb and pPLAIIIb (Huang et al., 2001; Li et al., 2011, 2013; Dong et al., 2014). We thus investigated the possible role of pPLAIIIa in Arabidopsis growth and development by performing a detailed phenotypic analysis of several organs in OE and KO lines for pPLAIIIa. Overall, OE plants were, on average, 9 cm shorter in strongly expressing lines compared with the controls (Fig. 5A). The size of the rosette leaves decreased, and the number of leaves decreased with increasing pPLAIIIa expression (Fig. 5, B and C). In three strong pPLAIIIa-OE lines (lines 6, 7, and 13), leaves were 1.7-fold thicker and contained more water (3%) on average (Fig. 5, D and E). A reduction in organ size in pPLAIIIa-OE lines was also clearly seen in other organs such as flowers and siliques (Fig. 5, F and G), hypocotyls (Fig. 3G), roots (Fig. 3H), and petioles (Supplemental Fig. S6).

At the cellular level, when pPLAIIIa was overexpressed, longitudinal elongation patterns from cells were reduced as observed in stems (Fig. 5I) and roots (Fig. 5F; Supplemental Fig. S7A); conversely, stem cells expanded transversely (Fig. 5J). However, the number of cells per stem cross section was similar in wild-type, KO, OE, and COM lines (Fig. 5J). Here, OE line 8 was again solely complemented in the KO background, and OE line 13 displayed partial complementation in stem thickness (Fig. 5I). The effect of pPLAIIIa overexpression on cell size and shape was also observed on trichomes (Supplemental Fig. S7, B and C) and pollen grains (Fig. 5K). Trichomes are predominantly three-branched on the adaxial surfaces of the rosette and cauline leaves of wild type (Higginson et al., 2003). The overall trichome size was strongly reduced in pPLAIIIa-OE (Supplemental Fig. S7, B and C), and a greater number of two-branched trichomes were observed compared with that in control (Supplemental Fig. S7B). While overexpression of pPLAIIIa had a strong effect on the sizes of many organs, silencing of the gene did not produce drastic effects in Arabidopsis plants. However, some differences occurred in KO mutants compared with Col-0, including an increase in length of hypocotyls (Fig. 3, F and G) and petioles (Supplemental Fig. S6). This observation suggests the possible involvement of pPLAIIIa in hormonal growth control by auxin, ethylene, and gibberellin that is essential for hypocotyl and petiole elongation (de Wit et al., 2016; Yang and Li, 2017) in wild-type plants.

### pPLAIIIa-OE Is Involved in the Control of Seed Size and Germination

An exception to the reduction in organ size in OE lines occurred in seeds, which increased in width without alteration in length (Fig. 6, A and B). Consistently, seed weight increased 23% in pPLAIIIa-OE (line 13) and decreased 10% in KO mutants (Fig. 6C), thus showing that pPLAIIIa is involved in seed development in wild-type plants. In highly overexpressing OE lines, it was clear that the increased seed weights were at the expense of seed number per silique (Fig. 6D).

The fact that seed weights decreased in KO mutants prompted us to check seed germination rates (Zhong et al., 2016) and kinetics. After 20 h in the light, KO mutants showed 19% lower germination rates than the control, and the OE line showed a 10% greater germination rate on average (Fig. 6E). However, all KO seeds germinated by 30 h, which indicated that the germination rate was not affected, but that germination was

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### Figure 3. (Continued.)

(G) and root length (H) of the controls, for the KO, OE, and COM lines. n = 19 to 43. In E, G, and H, data represent the mean ± se (SE) of independent replicates. Asterisks indicate significant difference compared with the controls using Student’s t test (*P < 0.05 and **P < 0.01). Col-0 and an empty vector line were used as control for mutant and OE lines, respectively.
Figure 4. Total lipid content and abundance of lipid molecular species in OE and KO lines. A to C, Total lipid content (A), total content of each lipid class (B), and major lipid molecular species content (C) in OE and KO lines. Each molecular species of acyl-lipid was identified and quantified using UPLC-MS/MS in the KO mutant and OE lines compared with the controls. Values were normalized by FW of rosette leaves analyzed. Data represent the mean ± se of three (controls) to six (KO and OEs) independent biological replicates. Asterisks indicate significant differences using Student’s t test (* P < 0.05 and ** P < 0.01) compared with the controls. Molecular species are indicated as the total number of carbon atoms in acyl chains: the total number of double bonds.
Increased during gibberellic acid (GA) did not alter the germination delayed compared to that in wild type. Treatment with abscisic acid (ABA) and GA plays a key role in controlling seed germination (Koornneef et al., 2002), we quantified ABA in dry seeds. ABA content increased in the mutant compared to the wild type (Fig. 6G). Altogether, the data suggest that the KO of pPLAIIIa delays the initial germination rate by changing endogenous GA and ABA biosynthesis.

Transcript Levels of Ethylene and GA Biosynthesis Genes Increased during pPLAIIIa-OE Seed Imbibition

The antagonistic effects of ethylene and ABA in the regulation of seed germination have also been extensively studied (for review, see Corbineau et al., 2014). Increased ethylene production is associated with an accumulation of ACC oxidase (ACO) transcripts (Corbineau et al., 2014). ACO1 and ACO2 are the major ACOs involved in ethylene synthesis. ACO1, ACO2, and ACO4, which exhibit ACO activity (Gómez-Lim et al., 1993; Linkies et al., 2009; Park et al., 2018), were all upregulated in OE lines, whereas ACO1 and ACO4 expression decreased in KO lines (Fig. 7A). Numerous data also suggest that ethylene stimulates seed germination by affecting GA biosynthesis (Corbineau et al., 2014). To uncover a possible role of bioactive GA biosynthesis, we analyzed expression of four GA oxidase genes. GA20ox and GA3ox encode enzymes that catalyze bioactive gibberellin biosynthesis, whereas GA2ox1 and GA2ox2 are involved in the conversion of bioactive gibberellins into an inactive form. Two GA2ox were upregulated 1.4-fold in KO lines, whereas GA2ox1 was upregulated 1.3-fold and GA2ox2 was downregulated 0.6-fold in the OE lines (Fig. 7B). These data explain that the faster germination in OE lines might be due to more active forms of GA and increased levels of ethylene.

OE of pPLAIIIa Delayed Senescence by Reducing ROS

Suppression of the PA-generating PLDα1 leads to reduced superoxide synthesis, and addition of exogenous PA to leaves promotes reactive oxygen species (ROS) production (Sang et al., 2001). Besides, in several plant systems, minor lipid PA content has been studied in relation to stress responses (Wang et al., 2006) through the modulation of ROS (Hong et al., 2008). Therefore, we decided to monitor hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) levels in 8-week-old mutant and OE lines (Fig. 8A) using 3,3-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB) staining (Fig. 8B). DAB is oxidized by H2O2 in the presence of heme-containing proteins to generate a dark-brown precipitate (Thordal-Christensen et al., 1997). In OE lines, leaves were greener in 8-week-old plants, when the leaves of wild-type plants had already become chlorotic (Fig. 8A). All plant leaves were green up to 28 d, but the levels of H2O2 were lower when pPLAIIIa was highly expressed, as observed in the OE lines compared with the wild type (Fig. 8B) after DAB staining. To confirm that the delayed senescence was caused by pPLAIIIa, we analyzed the expression of a representative downstream gene, SENESCENCE-ASSOCIATED GENE12 (SAG12), which encodes a Cys protease (Lohman et al., 1994) upregulated during senescence. Expression of SAG12 was 10-fold lower in four strong OE lines (Fig. 8C), which shows that high expression of pPLAIIIa retards senescence. By contrast, expression of SAG13, which may be induced by stress or cell death, was only slightly increased in two of the four OE lines analyzed (Fig. 8D).

OE of pPLAIIIa Confers Turnip Crinkle Virus Resistance by Altering Salicylic Acid and Jasmonic Acid Contents

OE of phospholipase activity by SOBER1 reduces PA levels and suppresses plant immunity to the bacterial effector AvrBsT (Kirik and Mudgett, 2009). However, a plant immunity study focusing on virus relative to the level of PA has not been previously reported. Considering that plant viruses are pathogens associated with major threats, resistance to turnip crinkle virus (TCV) in Arabidopsis, which is one of the few manipulative plant-virus systems, was tested in mutant and OE lines (Fig. 9). Formation of the hypersensitive response (HR) was visible in TCV-inoculated plant leaves 3-d post-inoculation (DPI; Fig. 9, A and B) and in inflorescences at 12 DPI (Supplemental Fig. S8A), with the most severe effects in the KO mutant. Only highly expressing pPLAIIIa-OE (line 13) displayed an intact inflorescence (Fig. 9B). These phenotypes were consistent with the corresponding patterns of TCV gene expression, whereby the relative gene expression dramatically decreased in OE line 13 and increased in the KO mutant (Fig. 9C; Supplemental Fig. S8B). After TCV infection, several defense genes, such as pathogenesis-related protein1 (PR1), PR2, and PR5, are expressed, and salicylic acid (SA) accumulates (Kachroo et al., 2000). To determine whether this mechanism could be involved in higher virus resistance of pPLAIIIa-OE, the gene expression patterns of two representative SA and jasmonic acid (JA) pathway genes were analyzed using leaves at 3 DPI (Fig. 9, D and E). PR1 was upregulated in both OE lines, whereas PDF1.2 expression significantly...
Figure 5. Overexpression of *pPLAIII* alters the size and shape of many cells and organs. A and C to E, Statistical analysis of plant height (A), leaf surface area (C), leaf thickness (D), and leaf water content (E) in 4-week-old plants. Mean ± se of three independent replicates. Asterisks indicate significant difference using Student’s *t* test (*P < 0.05 and **P < 0.01) compared with the controls. B, The aerial part of each 4-week-old plant with all individual leaves. The leaves are arranged from cotyledons (left) to the youngest leaves (right). Scale bars = 1 cm. F, Floral organs and siliques in the *pPLAIII*-OE line (13) and Col-0. Scale bars = 0.2 mm (top), 2 mm (middle), and 5 mm (lower). G, Flower in the Col-0 and OE lines. Scale bars = 0.5 mm. H, Stems in the Col-0 and OE lines. Scale bars = 500 μm (upper) and 100 μm (lower). I, The area (millimeters squared) of cross-sectioned stems. J, Cell number of each sectioned stems. Data represent the mean ± SD of 10 independent replicates. Asterisks indicate significant difference using Student’s *t* test (**P < 0.01) compared with the controls. K, Pollen structures in Col-0, KO, and OE lines. Scale bars = 10 μm. All surface images were captured using a low-vacuum scanning electron microscope (model no. JSM-IT300; JEOL Korea) at a 10.8-mm working distance and 20.0 kV.
Figure 6. pPLAIIIα expression associates with increased germination rate and seed size. A and B, Mature seeds (A) and size (B) of control, KO, OE, and COM lines. Scale bar = 1 mm. Average n = 50 for seed size. C, The hundred-seed weight of control, KO, and OE lines. Average n = 10. D, Seed number per silique (n = 10). E and F, Germination rates of control, KO, and OE lines after 20-h germination under light conditions. n = 120. F, The germination rate after treatment with 1 μM of GA3. G, ABA content was analyzed using UPLC. Mean ± SE (n) of three independent replicates. Asterisks indicate significant difference using Student’s t test (*P < 0.05 and **P < 0.01) compared with the controls. 1/2 MS, One-half strength Murashige and Skoog.
decreased in OE line 13. The 2-fold increase in PR1 gene expression in the KO mutant and OE lines may be explained by two endogenous antagonistic plant hormones. SA content was higher in the KO mutant and OE line 13 compared with the controls (Fig. 9F). This finding indicates that both SA level and PR1 gene expression are modulated by the threshold level of relative pPLAIIIa expression or activity in response to developmental and environmental cues. However, the endogenous JA level was two times higher in the mutant and 25% lower in OE lines compared with that in the controls (Fig. 9G). Thus, differential cellular levels of SA and JA seem to be coordinately involved in TCV resistance due to the function of pPLAIIIa.

**DISCUSSION**

While the molecular and biochemical functions of pPLAIIIβ and pPLAIIIδ have been characterized in Arabidopsis (Li et al., 2011, 2013), pPLAIIIα has only been studied in rice (Liu et al., 2015). Here, we characterized
Figure 9. Increased SA in pPLAla-OE enhances TCV resistance by changing transcript levels of PR1 and PDF1.2. A, Inflorescences of each line 12 DPI of mock and TCV. B, Magnified images of TCV infected plants from each line. Scale bars = 2 cm. C to E, The relative gene expression of TCV, PR1, and PDF1.2 in the inoculated leaves of TCV- and mock-infected plants. The inoculated leaves were monitored for the presence or absence of the HR, and RNA was extracted from inoculated leaves on 0 (1 h), 1, 2, and 3 DPI. Expression of PR1 and PDF1.2 was analyzed from the leaves at 1 DPI only. F and G, Hormone contents of SA and JA as measured by UPLC in rosette leaves of 5-week-old plants in control, KO, and OE lines. C to G, Four-week-old seedlings were used for the analysis. Mean ± se (SE) of three independent replicates. Asterisks indicate significant difference using Student’s t test (*P < 0.05 and **P < 0.01) compared with the controls.
pPLAIIIα KO and OE lines in Arabidopsis at the biochemical, morphological, and physiological levels. Phenotypes that confirm and extend those reported in rice were observed, such as reduced longitudinal growth and enlarged seed width and a strong relative decrease in the contents of PA as well as most other polar glycerolipid classes. But we also provide evidence for the association of pPLAIIIα with new processes, such as seed germination and virus resistance, and we give new molecular insights into pPLAIIIα signaling via regulation of expression of PLD genes.

Lipid Substrates of pPLAIIIα In Vivo

OE of Arabidopsis pPLAIIIβ increases all lipid species analyzed: phospholipids, including PE, PC, phosphatidylinositol (PI), phosphatidylserine, PA, and PG; and galactolipids, including MGDG and DGDG (Li et al., 2011). Similarly, overexpression of Arabidopsis pPLAIIIβ also tends to increase the levels of lipid species, including seed lipid reserves (Dong et al., 2014; Li et al., 2015). These counterintuitive results showing increased lipid content in plants overexpressing lipid-degrading enzymes may be explained by the fact that pPLAIIIβ may normally act in acyl editing mechanisms involved in lipid biosynthesis. Acyl editing mechanisms involve the removal by phospholipases of specific fatty acids from membrane phospholipids (for example, PC) to yield lysophospholipids and a pool of acyl-CoAs enriched in specific fatty acids that are used for synthesis of other lipids such as storage lipids (Bates et al., 2012). Increasing the pool of acyl editing-involved lysophospholipids through overexpression of specific phospholipases may create an imbalance in membrane lipid composition. This imbalance may in turn trigger an increased flux of de novo fatty acid and membrane lipid synthesis and eventually result in an overall accumulation of lipids.

By contrast, Arabidopsis pPLAIIIα-OE displayed reduced levels of many molecular lipid species compared to wild type (Fig. 4; Supplemental Fig. S4). Thus, it seems that pPLAIIIα overexpression does not act on the same mechanisms that are altered by pPLAIIIβ and pPLAIIIβ overexpression (possibly acyl editing cycles, as discussed before). This idea is consistent with the fact that lysophospholipids, which are key players in acyl editing mechanisms, accumulate in pPLAIIIβ-OE and pPLAIIIβ-OE but not in pPLAIIIα-OE. Interestingly, despite the decrease in many lipid species in the OE lines, FFAs did not accumulate in these lines compared to wild type, which showed that the FA breakdown machinery was not overwhelmed by the overexpression of pPLAIIIα. Therefore, the phenotypes observed in the OE lines are not likely caused by an excess of FFAs. Some of these phenotypes may result from the decrease in one or several of the many molecular lipid species significantly affected in both OE lines (Fig. 4; Supplemental Fig. S4). The fact that the Arabidopsis protein localizes to the PM suggests that pPLAIIIα acts directly on phospholipid molecular species and indirectly on plastidial lipid species such as galactolipids, sulfolipids, or PG. Concerning the major plastidial lipids MGDG and DGDG, it should be noted that in OE lines the decrease in their molecular species impacts similarly both prokaryotic and eukaryotic species (Fig. 4C; Supplemental Fig. S4) and does not affect the mol % fraction (Supplemental Fig. S5) of these classes. It is thus likely that the pPLAIIIα activity in extraplastidial membranes of OE has an indirect effect on the overall content in chloroplast membranes, but does not compromise lipid homeostasis in these organelles.

In vitro assays on the partially purified pPLAIIIα showed that the protein hydrolyzed various phospholipids, with a slightly higher activity on PA (Fig. 1B). This seems to be consistent with a decrease in all phospholipid classes with a stronger reduction in PA molecular species in OE lines (Fig. 4C). Measurement of total phospholipase activities in plant extracts did not yield further insight into pPLAIIIα in vivo activity, as no difference could be detected between wild-type and OE lines using four different phospholipid substrates (Supplemental Fig. S9). This result was possibly due to highly active phospholipases other than pPLAIIIα, or to the presence of inhibitors of pPLAIIIα activity in the extract.

In vitro activity assays and lipidomic analyses show that pPLAIIIα protein is therefore probably a nonspecific phospholipase A acting on a variety of phospholipids in the PM, with a possible slight preference for PA.

PA Levels and PLD Expression

PA accumulates at significant levels at the PM in Arabidopsis (Platre et al., 2018). The possibility that PA is one of the phospholipid classes targeted by pPLAIIIα in wild-type plants is supported by the slight preference of pPLAIIIα for PA in in vitro assays (Fig. 1C) and the strong reduction of almost all PA lipid species observed in Arabidopsis pPLAIIIα-OE (Fig. 4). These results on Arabidopsis and the previous observation in rice that a preferential decrease in PA occurs when OspPLAIIIα is overexpressed (Liu et al., 2015) thus support the view that PA is one of the possible substrates of pPLAIIIα in wild-type plants of both organisms. However, it should be stressed that hydrolysis of other phospholipid classes by Arabidopsis pPLAIIIα in vivo cannot be ruled out, because lipid species from other phospholipid classes are also reduced in OE lines (Fig. 4).

Intriguingly, no increases in PA molecular species were detected in pplaIIIα mutants in rice (Liu et al., 2015) or Arabidopsis (Fig. 4). Because PA is mostly generated by the activation of PLD (Sang et al., 2001), we checked the expression of several PLD isoforms in the Arabidopsis pplaIIIα KO mutants. Interestingly, the expression of the major PLD isoforms PLDα1, PLDζ1, and PLDζ2 decreased significantly compared to the controls in the mutant seedlings (Supplemental Fig. S10). Taken
together, these data thus suggest that pPLAIIIα hydrolyzes PA in Arabidopsis wild-type plants and that absence of this activity in the pplaIIIα KO results in decreased expression of several PLD genes to possibly maintain PA levels in the PM. Other PA-producing pathways, such as DAG phosphorylation, could also be involved and may warrant further investigation. However, in OE lines, the situation is clearly more complex than a simple counterbalance of PA levels by modulation of PLD expression. Indeed, in OEs there was an increase in expression of PLD genes only in the stronger OE line, while other ones showed even a decrease in PLD expression. Complexity of the response observed in OEs may be enhanced by the fact that pPLAIIIs is also active on other PM phospholipids than PA, which may activate membrane homeostasis mechanisms and interfere with lipid signaling.

Role of pPLAIIIα in Cell Elongation and Plant Growth

OE of pPLAIIIB results in shorter leaves, petioles, hypocotyls, primary roots, and root hairs compared with the wild type (Li et al., 2011), which is partly reminiscent of the phenotypic characteristics of pPLAIIIα-OE in Arabidopsis (Figs. 3, F–H, and 5; Supplemental Figs. S5 and S6). Conversely, the recessive rice mutant dep3 defective in OspPLAIIIα displays a taller plant stature (Qiao et al., 2011). Generally, short and stuntened morphology is observed in pPLAIIIα-OE in camelina (Camelina sativa; Li et al., 2015), pPLAIIIα-OE in Arabidopsis and Brassica napus (Dong et al., 2014), pPLAIIβ-OE in Arabidopsis (Li et al., 2011), and pPLAIIIα-OE in rice (Liu et al., 2015), and FgpPLAIIβ in Arabidopsis and poplar (Populus alba × Populus glandulosa; Jang et al., 2019; Jang and Lee, 2020a). Because pPLAIIβ-OE and pPLAIIIα-OE show accumulation of lysolipids and FFAs, which have deleterious effects on cell membranes, it is tempting to think that the stunted phenotypes of pPLAIII-OEs are caused by the accumulation of PPLAIII products, which are deleterious to cellular activities. However, our data show clearly that pPLAIIIα-OE have stunted phenotypes in the absence of accumulation of FFAs or lysolipids. These results thus suggest that pPLAIIIs, at least pPLAIIIα, are involved in plant growth and development through the modulation of minor membrane lipid species (such as PA for pPLAIIIα) rather than via large changes in FFAs. Modified PA levels by pPLAIIIα may indirectly regulate cell elongation and plant growth, for example by affecting subcellular localization of regulatory proteins (Yao et al., 2013).

Trichomes are the outermost epidermal cells, which develop on almost all aerial structures of Arabidopsis. The pPLAIIIα-induced changes in trichome branching (Supplemental Fig. S7B) and pollen structure (Fig. 5K) might also be caused by altered patterns of epidermal cell elongation. Endogenous JA content is involved in trichome patterning (Yoshida et al., 2009). Overexpression of pPLAIIIα reduced the level of JA content (Fig. 9G). Thus, it will be interesting to further investigate how pPLAIIIα-mediated lowered JA affects the trichome branching patterning.

Role of pPLAIIIα in Seed Germination

Overexpression of rice pPLAIIIα in rice (Liu et al., 2015) and Arabidopsis pPLAIIIβ in camelina (Li et al., 2015) thickened seed widths, but the length of seeds was reduced or not changed significantly. The recessive rice mutant dep3, where part of the pPLAIIIβ gene is deleted, shows smaller and rounder seeds but greater grain yields than control (Qiao et al., 2011). Seed sizes and weights can affect germination, but no study has yet been reported from pPLA gene families. Here, we show that alteration of seed morphology and weight can delay germination among pPLAs (Fig. 6). The importance of the plant hormone GA in promoting seed germination is well known, and ABA can act antagonistically. Ethylene also regulates germination and dormancy of many species via complex hormonal signaling networks (Corbineau et al., 2014). The knockout pplaIIIα mutant contained more ABA and increased gene expression of GA2ox1, which is involved in GA inactivation (Fig. 7B). The overexpression of pPLAIIIα displayed more transcripts of GA oxidases, which catalyze bioactive GA (Fig. 7B). Ethylene stimulates seed germination by affecting GA biosynthesis or signaling. Thus, the alternation of pPLAIIIα delays initial germination speed, possibly by modulating active and nonactive forms of GA, and increasing ethylene biosynthesis.

Reduced PA and JA Levels May Explain the Low Level of ROS in pPLAIIIα-OE

Characteristic features of leaf senescence are the ordered disassembly of the altered photosynthetic apparatus and the loss of chlorophyll (Yoshida 2003). Expression of a well-studied senescence-response gene, SAG12, markedly decreased in all pPLAIIIα-OE lines (Fig. 8C); the higher the expression of pPLAIIIα, the greater the reduction in SAG12 transcripts. Suppression of PLDα leads to reduced superoxide synthesis via reduction in the minor phospholipid class PA (Sang et al., 2001). In addition, the formation of PA leads to the production of other lipid messengers, such as JA (Wang et al., 2000). Thus, reduced content of PA (Fig. 4C) and JA (Fig. 9G) due to the overexpression of pPLAIIIα could be one possible reason for the reduction in H2O2. Mostly reduced transcript levels of PLD genes in pPLAIIIα-OE lines (Supplemental Fig. S10) should support this notion. Although PLDA1 was slightly upregulated, other PLDs were all downregulated. Alternation of lipid species by the reduction of lysolipids and FFAs (Fig. 4) and hormonal signaling, such as auxin, ethylene, and GAs (Figs. 6 and 7),
could also affect the level of ROS (Corbineau et al., 2014).

A Higher SA to JA Ratio May Increase the Resistance of pPLAII\textsubscript{a}-OE to TCV

Some evidence suggests that at least one member of the pPLAI and pPLAI\textsubscript{b} subclasses is involved in plant defenses. ppla\textsubscript{I} mutants are more sensitive to Botrytis cinerea infection without altering JA levels (Yang et al., 2007), whereas pPLAI\textsubscript{a}-deficient mutants are more resistant to Botrytis spp. or avirulent Pseudomonas syringae infection (La Camera et al., 2005). Among three isoforms, pPLAI\textsubscript{a}, pPLAI\textsubscript{b}, and pPLAI\textsubscript{b}, only pPLAI\textsubscript{b} is upregulated upon Botrytis spp. and P. syringae infection (La Camera et al., 2005). However, there is no clear evidence of the involvement of pPLAI\textsubscript{b} genes in plant innate immunity. Here we found that higher expression of pPLAI\textsubscript{a} confers TCV resistance via the regulation of SA and JA (Fig. 9). Increased levels of SA with decreased levels of JA may play crucial roles. In Col-0 and the vector control, the ratio of SA/JA was ~0.9 and 1, respectively. In KO mutants, this ratio reduced to 0.8 whereas it increased 1.4- to 2-fold in two pPLAI\textsubscript{a}-OE lines, 8 and 13, respectively (Fig. 9, F and G), which indicates a 2-fold higher SA level compared to the JA level in TCV resistance. During TCV infection, the HR is reportedly mediated by increased expression of defense genes, such as pathogenesis-related genes, and the accumulation of SA, phytoalexin, and camalexin (Dempsey et al., 1993; Kachroo et al., 2000). The 2.5-fold increase in PRI expression and ~50% reduction in PDF1.2 expression mediated by SA might have increased TCV virus resistance.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant Materials and Growth Conditions

Arabidopsis (Arabidopsis thaliana; Col-0) was used as the wild-type plant. The ppla\textsubscript{I} knockout mutants (KO 1: SAIL830C12 and KO 2: SALK_040363) were purchased from the stock center (http://www.arabidopsis.org/). Seeds were maintained as reported in Jang and Lee (2020a, 2020b).

Transgene Constructs and Arabidopsis Transformation

The modified pCAMBIA1390 vector containing the CaMV 35S promoter, YFP, and/or mRFP was used (Lee et al., 2010) to express pPLAI\textsubscript{a}. The full pPLAI\textsubscript{a} genomic fragment was amplified using primers containing SaII and AvrII sites (Supplemental Table S1). Enzyme-digested PCR products were cloned into the vector (Pro-35s: pPLAI\textsubscript{a}-YFP/mRFP). The promoter:GUS fusion construct was generated based on the obtained upstream intergenic region of pPLAI\textsubscript{a}. The promoter region was amplified using primers as follows: 5'-TC CTG CAG ATC ATC AAT GTA GAA-3' (forward) and 5'-TC CTG GAC TTC CAT CGT AGT TAA CAT-3' (reverse). The amplified PCR product was subsequently cloned into a pCAMBIA90 vector containing a gusA reporter gene. All transgene-confirmed constructs were transformed into Arabidopsis using Agrobacterium tumefaciens C58C1 (pMP90; Bechtold and Pelletier, 1998). Col-0 and the empty vector line were used as controls for the ppla\textsubscript{I} mutant and pPLAI\textsubscript{a}-OE, respectively.

GUS Histochemical Analysis

Histochromic GUS staining was performed by incubating Prop-PLAI\textsubscript{a}:GUS transformants in staining buffer following Kim et al. (2014). Seedlings were photographed under a microscope (Axio Observer D1; Zeiss).

Observation of Reporter Gene Expression

Fluorescence was observed by confocal laser scanning microscopy (model no. TCS SP5 AOBS/Tandem; Leica). YFP and mRFP were detected using 514/530 nm, and 453/560-nm excitation/emission filter sets, respectively. The images were acquired at the Korea Basic Science Institute, Gwanganri, Korea.

Gene Expression Analysis by Reverse Transcription Quantitative PCR

Total RNA extraction, quantification of total RNA, synthesis of complementary DNA (cDNA), and reverse transcription quantitative PCR (RT-qPCR) were performed following Jang and Lee (2020a, 2020b). Three independent experiments were performed for each primer set (Supplemental Table S1).

Lipid Extraction and Lipidomic Analysis

Total lipids were extracted using the hot isopropanol method. Briefly, 3-week-old Arabidopsis rosettes were cut, immediately weighed, and placed in 2 mL of boiling isopropanol (85°C) containing 0.01% (w/v) butylated hydroxytoluene. After 10-min heating, samples were cooled down to room temperature, and 1 μg of each internal standard was added (PE 17/0/17/0, MGDG 18/0/18/0, and TAG 17/0/17/0/17/0). Samples were then ground for 1 min using an Ultra-Turrax T25 apparatus (IKA Labortechnik), and 3 mL of methyl tert-butyl ether was added. After vortexing for 30 s, 1 mL of water was added and the mixture was shaken vigorously for 30 min and allowed to phase-separate by centrifugation at 3,000g for 2 min. The uppermost (organic) phase was collected, and 1 mL of methyl tert-butyl ether was added to the remaining lower phase. The mixture was shaken for 30 s and allowed to phase-separate by centrifugation. The upper phase was then combined with the previous organic phase, and the solvent of the total lipid extract was evaporated to dryness under a gentle stream of nitrogen gas. The total lipid extract was resuspended in 200 μL of acetone/iso/propanol/ammonium formate (65:30:5, v/v/v, final concentration of ammonium formate was 10 ms) and kept at −20°C until use. Quality control (QC) samples were prepared for data quantification by pooling aliquots of the lipid extract samples from Col-0 plants to make a QC stock solution. QC samples were evaporated to dryness under a gentle stream of nitrogen gas and resuspended in 200 μL of the same acetone/iso/propanol/ammonium formate mixture used for samples. A QC sample contained, in addition to the three internal standards coming from samples, the following quantification standards added in the molar proportions: PG (17/0/17/0), 4; PA (17/0/17/0), 1; PE (17/0/17/0), 2; PC (17/0/17/0), 4; PI (17/0/14/1), 1; MGDG (18/0/16/0), 28; DGDG (18/0/16/0), 12; SQDG (16/0/18/3), 2; LysoPG (17/1), 1; LysoPE (17/1), 1; LysoPC (17/0), 1; and FFA (17/0), 1 (purity of standards was determined before use by LC-MS/MS analysis). Samples and QC samples were subjected to ultra-performance liquid chromatography (UPLC)-MS/MS analyses using an Ultimate RS 3000 UPLC system (Dionex) connected to a quadrupole-time-of-flight 5600 mass spectrometer (AB Sciex). Samples were run in negative mode. Lipids were separated using a C8 2.1 × 150 mm, 2.6-μm column (Kinetex) and a binary gradient of solution A (60:40% water/acetone) and solution B (90:10% isopropanol/acetone). Elution was achieved through a gradient of solution B from 27% to 97%, as compared to solvent A within 20 min at a speed of 0.3 mL min\(^{-1}\), and then at 97% for 5 min. Solution B was then decreased to a 27% enrichment during 7 min for column reequilibration. Relative quantification of lipid molecular species in samples was achieved with the software MULTIQANT (AB Sciex) using intensity values obtained by extracting masses of the different lipids previously identified, and by normalizing based on rosette FW and the internal standard (to control for lipid extraction). In samples, absolute amounts of lipid molecular species (picomole per milligram FW) in each lipid class were estimated using intensities of the corresponding quantification standards of the QC samples (normalized by the internal standard). For lysoMGDCs and lysoDGDCs, estimates were based on one of the lysolipid standards (LPE). The estimated absolute amounts of lipid molecular species were used to calculate total amounts in each lipid class, total lipid amounts, and lipid class compositions in each line.
Protein Purification/Extraction, and Immunoblotting

The full-length cDNA of pPLAIIla was cloned into the pET28a vector with the 6×His. The BL21 (DE3) bacteria expressing pPLAIIla-His fusion protein were induced with 1 μg of isopropyl-1-thio-D-galactopyranoside, and the fusion protein was purified. The bacterial pellet was resuspended in lysis buffer (50 mM of NaH2PO4, 300 mM of NaCl, 10 mM of imidazole 1% [v/v] Triton X-100, adjusted pH to 8.0) containing 1 mg mL−1 of lysozyme and 1 μg of phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride. The suspension was sonicated. After centrifugation at 10,000 rpm for 20 min, the supernatant was mixed with Ni-NTA agarose resin (10% [w/v]; Qiagen). The fusion proteins bound to agarose beads were washed with washing buffer (50 mM of NaH2PO4, 300 mM of NaCl, and 20 mM of imidazole, adjusted pH to 8.0), and pPLAIIla proteins were eluted with elution buffer (50 mM of NaH2PO4, 300 mM of NaCl, and 250 mM of imidazole, adjusted pH to 8.0). The proteins from 7-d-old seedlings were extracted using extraction buffer (250 mM of Tris-HCl at pH 7.5, 100 mM of EDTA, 5% [v/v] evaporated, and dissolved in 70% methanol. Isotope-labeled standards (2H4-SA using T7 RNA polymerase were used for viral infections as described in

In Vitro Enzymatic Assays

Phospholipids (each 16:0-18:1 PA, PC, PE, and PG) were purchased from Avanti Polar Lipids. Acyl hydrolizing activities were assayed in a reaction mixture (25 μL of HEPS at pH 7.5, 10 μL of CaCl2, and 10 μL of MgCl2). Each 0.35 μL of lipids was used as substrate and 0.1 μg of purified protein was added to the mixture in a final volume of 100 μL. The reaction samples were incubated at 30°C for 60 min. The released nonesterified fatty acids (NEFA) products were measured with a NEFA-HR colorimetric kit (Wako Pure Chemicals, http://www.wako-chem.co.jp/english/) using an Epoch microplate spectrophotometer (BioTek) at 546 nm.

3,3′-Diaminobenzidine Staining

For the in situ detection of H2O2, leaves were detached and stained with 3,3′-diaminobenzidine (DAB) solution for 4 to 5 h. DAB solution was generated by dissolving 1 mg mL−1 of DAB in sterile water and adjusting to pH 3.0 with 0.2 μL of HCl. Additionally, 25 μL of Tween20 (0.05% [v/v]) and 2.5 μL of 200 μM of NaH2PO4 were added. This process generated 10 μL of NaH2PO4-DAB staining solution and increased the pH.

TCV Infection and HR Response Analysis

Transcripts synthesized in vitro from a cloned cDNA of the TCV genome using T7 RNA polymerase were used for viral infections as described in Dempsey et al. (1993). Resistance and susceptibility were confirmed by RT-qPCR.

Phytohormone Analysis

Samples were extracted twice with ethyl acetate. The extracts were combined, and the mixture (25 mM of HEPES at pH 7.5, 10 mM of CaCl2, and 10 mM of MgCl2). Each 0.35 μL of lipids was used as substrate and 0.1 μg of purified protein was added to the mixture in a final volume of 100 μL. The reaction samples were incubated at 30°C for 60 min. The released nonesterified fatty acids (NEFA) products were measured with a NEFA-HR colorimetric kit (Wako Pure Chemicals, http://www.wako-chem.co.jp/english/) using an Epoch microplate spectrophotometer (BioTek) at 546 nm.

Accession Numbers

Arabidopsis Genome Initiative locus identifiers for the genes described in this study are depicted in Supplemental Table S1.


