

1           **Sustainable natural bioresources in crop protection:**  
2           **antimicrobial hydroxycoumarins induce membrane**  
3           **depolarization-associated changes in the transcriptome of**  
4           ***Ralstonia solanacearum***

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17          Running title: Antimicrobial hydroxycoumarins induce transcriptome change of  
18          *Ralstonia solanacearum*

19 **Abstract:**

20 **BACKGROUND:** *Ralstonia solanacearum* is one of the most devastating pathogen  
21 affect crop production worldwide. Our previous studies showed that  
22 hydroxycoumarin (umbelliferone, esculetin, daphnetin), natural plant secondary  
23 metabolites, significantly enhance antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum* and  
24 imply as sustainable natural bioresources on controlling of plant bacterial wilt.  
25 However, the antibacterial mechanism of hydroxycoumarins against plant pathogen  
26 still remains poorly understood.

27 **RESULTS:** Here we characterized the effect of three hydroxycoumarins on the  
28 transcriptome of *R. solanacearum*. All three hydroxycoumarins were able to kill *R.*  
29 *solanacearum*, but their antibacterial activity impacted differently the bacterial  
30 transcriptome, indicating that their modes of action might be different. Treatment of  
31 *R. solanacearum* cultures with hydroxycoumarins resulted in a large number of the  
32 differentially expressed genes (DEGs), involved in basic cellular functions and  
33 metabolic process, such as downregulation of genes involved in fatty acid synthesis,  
34 lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis, RNA modification, ribosomal submits, and oxidative  
35 phosphorylation and electrontansport, as well as upregulation of genes involved in  
36 transcriptional regulators, drug efflux, and oxidative stress responses. Future studies  
37 based on *in vitro* experiments are proposed to investigate lipopolysaccharides  
38 biosynthesis pathway leading to *R. solanacearum* cell death caused by  
39 hydroxycoumarins. Deletion of *lpxB* substantially inhibited the growth of *R.*  
40 *solanacearum*, and reduced virulence of pathogen on tobacco plants.

41 **CONCLUSION:** Our transcriptomic analyses show that xxx. These findings provide  
42 evidence that hydroxycoumarins inhibit *R. solanacearum* growth through

**Comentat [MVM1]:** Add here 1-2 sentences describing the main findings (general and specific effects) found in the transcriptomic analyses

43 multi-target effects. Hydroxycoumarins could serve as sustainable natural  
44 bioresources against plant bacterial wilt through membrane destruction targeting the  
45 lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis pathway.

46 **Keywords:** transcriptome analysis, *R. solanacearum*; hydroxycoumarins, antibacterial  
47 activity, membrane

## 48 1 INTRODUCTION

49 *Ralstonia solanacearum* (*R. solanacearum*) represents one of the most  
50 devastating plant bacterial pathogens among the top ten plant pathogens, infecting  
51 more than 250 plant species and causing bacterial wilt worldwide.<sup>1,2</sup> The limitation  
52 of control methods may aggravate the harm of bacterial wilt in agriculture.<sup>3</sup> In  
53 addition, the increasing host range of *R. solanacearum*, its complex pathogenicity  
54 and the wide range of hosts makes it a threat to agriculture.<sup>4-6</sup> Currently, the primary  
55 method for controlling bacterial wilt is by using chemical pesticides<sup>7</sup>; however, the  
56 extensive application of synthetic pesticide resulted in resistance in pathogen  
57 populations, and safety environmental concerns.<sup>3</sup> Thus, development of the  
58 potential control methods from natural bioresources for bacterial wilt is highly  
59 demanded. In continuation of discovering new natural products bactericidal agents,  
60 we found that coumarins inhibit bacteria growth and suppress the  
61 virulence-associated factors of *R. solanacearum*.<sup>8,9</sup> Furthermore, coumarins could  
62 preserve the host endogenous microbiome and exert little selective pressure,  
63 avoiding the rapid appearance of resistance.<sup>10</sup>

64 Coumarins are natural secondary metabolites composed of fused benzene and  
65  $\alpha$ -pyrone rings produced via the phenylpropanoid pathway and accumulate in  
66 response to infection by bacteria, fungi, virus and oomycetes.<sup>11-13</sup> The extent and  
67 timing of coumarin accumulation has often been associated with the level of disease  
68 resistance. For instance, young leaves of *Nicotiana attenuata* show higher resistance  
69 against *Alternaria alternata* than mature leaves, which is correlated with stronger  
70 induction of scopoletin.<sup>14</sup> *Nicotiana tabacum* cv. Petit Havana resistance to *Botrytis*  
71 *cinerea* is due to the accumulation of scopoletin and PR proteins.<sup>15</sup> Similarly,

72 Scopoletin accumulated in the resistant tomato line 902 upon tomato *yellow leaf curl*  
73 *virus* (TYLCV) infection. <sup>16</sup> Besides their role in aboveground plant tissues, the  
74 coumarins scopolin, coniferin and syringing have shown to be rapidly processed in  
75 the *Arabidopsis* roots upon infection by the oomycete pathogen *Pythium silyaticum*,  
76 giving rise to cell wall-fortifying lignin and antimicrobial scopoletin. <sup>17</sup> Moreover, in  
77 the wild tobacco *N. attenuata*, the content of the phytoalexin scopoletin in roots was  
78 enhanced after infection by fungus *A. alternata*. <sup>18</sup> The accumulation of specific  
79 coumarins in roots plays a role in defense against soil-borne pathogens. For instance,  
80 umbelliferone suppresses the expression of T3SS regulatory and effector genes and  
81 alters the virulence of *R. solanacearum* on tobacco. <sup>19</sup> However, the ecological  
82 relevance and the underlying biological mechanisms of coumarins against pathogens  
83 remain largely unknown. <sup>13</sup>

84 Several studies have proven that diverse coumarins showed antimicrobial  
85 activities against plant and animal pathogens. Recently discovered coumarins from  
86 plant sources, exerted antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum* and the  
87 hydroxylation on C-6, C-7 and C-8 enhanced this activity. <sup>20</sup> Similarly, the phenolic  
88 coumarin scopoletin showed strong antibacterial against *Escherichia coli* by reducing  
89 biofilm formation. <sup>21</sup> Recent studies evidenced that coumarins induced strong  
90 non-receptor mediated membrane lysis as their primary microbicide strategy. <sup>8, 22</sup>  
91 Exposure to coumarin and umbelliferone clearly reduce fimbriae production and  
92 biofilm formation of *Escherichia coli*. <sup>21</sup> Indeed, scopoletin and daphnetin were  
93 proved as promising inhibitors of the bacterial cell division protein FtsZ, and its  
94 hydroxyl, diethyl, or dimethyl amino substituents in the 7<sup>th</sup> carbon enhanced this  
95 inhibitory activity, halting the first step of bacterial cell division. <sup>23</sup> Moreover,

96 coumarins inhibit proliferation of *Mycobacteria* by targeting the assembly of MtbFtsZ.  
97 <sup>24</sup> Hydroxycoumarins also displayed antibacterial activity through inhibiting  
98 isoleucyl-transfer RNA (tRNA) synthetase gene expression. <sup>25</sup> Besides their mentioned  
99 role damaging the cell membrane, coumarins might efficiently traverse them and  
100 bind to the DNA or RNA ligase to reduce the biosynthesis of these molecules. These  
101 actions can then control the expression of genes encoding transcriptional regulators  
102 and other downstream genes. However, the antibacterial mechanism of coumarins  
103 against plant pathogen still remains poorly understood.

104 Recently, transcriptional analysis was proven a useful means to reveal  
105 antibacterial mechanism of certain compounds against pathogen. <sup>26-28</sup> For instance,  
106 Genome-wide gene expression profiling enables to investigate the antimicrobial  
107 mechanism of peptides against *Streptococcus pneumonia*. <sup>26</sup> Transcriptome analysis  
108 of *Escherichia coli* exposed to lysates of lettuce leaves revealed the upregulation of  
109 numerous genes associated with attachment and virulence, oxidative stress,  
110 antimicrobial resistance to detoxification of noxious compounds, as well as DNA  
111 repair. <sup>29</sup> Hydroxycoumarins were proven to destabilize the cell membrane and inhibit  
112 biofilm formation. <sup>20</sup> Transcriptome analysis of *R. solanacearum* provides a way to  
113 understand the antibacterial mechanism of hydroxycoumarins.

114 In this work, we aimed to investigate the effect of three hydroxycoumarins  
115 (umbelliferone, esculetin and daphnetin) on the gene expression of *R. solanacearum*  
116 using RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) approach. To better understand their mechanism of  
117 action and how their hydroxylation at the C-6, C-7 or C-8 position significantly  
118 enhanced the antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum*.

## 119 **2 MATERIALS AND METHODS**

## 120 **2.1 Strain and compounds**

121 The bacterial wilt pathogen *R. solanacearum* CQPS-1 (phylotype I, race 1, biovar  
122 3) used in this study (accession number NZ\_CP016914.1), was originally isolated from  
123 an infected tobacco plant in Chongqing, China by Laboratory of Natural Products  
124 Pesticides.<sup>30</sup> The strain was preserved in nutrient broth supplemented with 25%  
125 glycerol stocked and stored at -80 °C and grown in rich B medium or minimal medium  
126 (M63) incubated at 28 °C.

127 Umbelliferone (7-hydroxycoumarin, ES), esculetin (6,7-dihydroxycoumarins, ES),  
128 and daphnetin (7,8-dihydroxycoumarins, DA) were purchased from Shanghai Yuanye  
129 Bio-Technology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China), and the purity of compounds (> 98%) was  
130 validated by using High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry.

## 131 **2.2 Total RNA extraction**

132 *R. solanacearum* was overnight inoculated in rich B medium, then the bacterial  
133 suspension ( $10^8$  to  $10^9$  CFU per mL) was centrifugated at 5000 rpm for 10 min, the  
134 bacteria were collected and diluted in M63 medium adjusted to with  $OD_{600}$  0.2 and  
135 incubated on a shaker at 180 rpm and 28 °C for 4-5 h. Then bacterial cells were  
136 treated with hydroxycoumarins at the concentration with half of minimum inhibitory  
137 concentration (MIC) for 1 h (UM 128 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, ES 96 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, and DA 32 mg L<sup>-1</sup>). The 0.1%  
138 DMSO treatment was used as the control (CK).<sup>20</sup> The 1 h treatment duration was  
139 chosen as it was found that treatment for 2 h or more caused lower yield and poor  
140 quality of the RNA obtained, probably due to bacterial lysis by hydroxycoumarins and  
141 release of RNA before extraction. The samples were harvested by centrifugation at  
142 5000 rpm for 10 min at 4 °C, the supernatants were removed, and the treated  
143 bacterial cells were collected and frozen in liquid nitrogen if RNA isolation was not

144 conducted immediately. RNA was extracted by using TRNzol reagent according to the  
145 manufacturer's instructions (Tiangen Biotech Co. Ltd, Beijing, China) and then treated  
146 with RNase-free DNase I (Tiangen Biotech Co. Ltd, Beijing, China) to remove genomic  
147 DNA contaminations. RNA degradation and contamination were checked on 1%  
148 agarose gels and RNA concentration and purity were monitored using the Nanovue  
149 UV-Vs spectrophotometer (GE Healthcare Bio-Science, Uppsala, Sweden). All  
150 experiments were performed three times, which constituted biological replicas.

### 151 **2.3 RNA-Seq library construction**

152 RNA concentrations were assessed using Qubit® RNA Assay Kit in Qubit® 2.0  
153 Fluorometer (Life Technologies, CA, United States) and Nano 6000 Assay Kit of the  
154 Bioanalyzer 2100 system (Agilent Technologies, CA, United States). The quality  
155 standard of RNA samples including minimum RNA integrity number (RIN) of 7,  
156 absorbance values A260/280 in the range 1.8-2.0 and A260/230 over 1.8. Libraries  
157 construction and RNA-Seq were performed by Shenzhen Hengchuan (Shenzhen,  
158 China). RNA-Seq libraries were generated using NEBNext® Ultra™ RNA library Prep  
159 Kit for Illumina (NEB, United States) following manufacturer's recommendations.  
160 After synthesis first strand cDNA and second strand cDNA, the samples were  
161 sequenced on the Agilent Bioanalyzer 2100 system. The length of the reads was  
162 around 150 bp. Quality control of the RNA-Seq raw data was performed using FastQC.

163 <sup>31</sup>

### 164 **2.4 Mapping and differential gene expression analysis**

165 The reference genome of *R. solanacearum* CQPS-1 was downloaded from  
166 GenBank (NZ\_CP016914.1).<sup>30</sup> The raw data were filtered by discarding low-quality  
167 sequences and removing adaptor sequences. Read mapping against the reference



168 genome was performed by using HITAT2.<sup>32</sup>

169 To determinant the expression level for each gene, we measured numbers of  
170 reads uniquely mapped to the specific gene and total number of uniquely mapped  
171 reads in the sample using the feature Counts tool.

172 Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) upon hydroxycoumarin treatments were  
173 obtained using the DESeq2.<sup>33</sup> To extract genes with differentially expression changes,  
174 the cutoff of q-value < 0.05 and  $|\log_2 \text{Fold change}| > 2$  was applied.<sup>34</sup> Moreover, we  
175 performed gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) on the basis of q-values resulted  
176 from differential expression analysis with the OmicsBox 1.2.4  
177 (<https://www.biobam.com/omicsbox/>).

#### 178 **2.5 Validation of the RNA-Seq using qRT-PCR**

179 To validate the results of RNA-Seq, ten differentially expressed genes (DEGs)  
180 (seven down-regulated and three up-regulated) were examined using quantitative  
181 real-time PCR (qRT-PCR). Independent RNA samples were collected as described for  
182 RNA-Sequencing and first-strand cDNA was synthesized using the iScript gDNA clear  
183 cDNA synthesis kit (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's  
184 instructions. Primers were synthesized by BGI Technologies (Shenzhen, Guangzhou,  
185 China) (Table S1) and qRT-PCR analysis was carried out in 96-well plates in a 20  $\mu\text{L}$   
186 reaction system with C1000 Thermal Cyclers (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA). Three  
187 technical replicate reactions were used for each sample. Normalized gene expression  
188 was calculated by Bio-Rad CFX and SerC was used as the reference gene to normalize  
189 gene expression.<sup>35</sup> All assays were carried out three times using biological replicas.

#### 190 **2.6 Construction of *lpxB* deletion mutant of *R. solanacearum***

191 In this study, the *lpxB* deletion mutant was generated by pK18mobsacB- based  
192 homolog recombination as previously described.<sup>36</sup> The primer pairs *lpxB*\_A1B  
193 (GCGGATCCTGCATGCGACCATGCT) with *lpxB*\_B1C (ATCTTCTGAACTTGCGTCATTCAGTCG  
194 GCCCACGCCGTCT) and *lpxB*\_A2C  
195 (AGACGGCGTGGGCCGACTGAATGACGCAAGTTCAGAA  
196 GAT) with *lpxB*\_B2H (ATAAGCTTGCCCAATCGCCCACTTCC) were used for constructing  
197 plasmid *pK18-lpxB-d*. After validating the sequence, the *pK18-lpxB-d* was horizontal  
198 transferred from *E. coli* S17-1 into *R. solanacearum* strain CQPS-1. The *lpxB* deletion  
199 mutant were confirmed by cloning PCR.

## 200 **2.7 Bacterial biofilm formation, swimming activity and virulence assay**

201 Biofilm formation of *R. solanacearum* and *lpxB* mutant were performed in  
202 96-well polystyrene microtiter plates.<sup>37</sup> Briefly, bacteria suspension mix with B  
203 medium were inoculated in plates at 30 °C for 24 h. Then biofilms were stained with  
204 crystal violet, dissolved in 95% ethanol and quantified by absorbance at 530 nm  
205 (OD<sub>530</sub>).

206 Swimming motility were assessed on M63 minimal medium supplemented with  
207 20 mM L-Glutamate.<sup>38</sup> The bacteria suspension was stab-inoculated into agar with  
208 sterilized tips. The diameter of swimming halo was measured after 36 h, 48 h and 60  
209 h cultivation at 30 °C.

210 The drenching assay was used to evaluate virulence of *R. solanacearum* and *lpxB*  
211 mutant as described previously.<sup>9</sup> Tobacco plants (Yunyan 87) were used to virulence  
212 assay with soil-soaking, which mimics the natural invasion through the roots. Each  
213 assay was repeated independently three times with 16 plants. Wilt symptoms of  
214 plants were scored daily using disease index (scale of 1-4) and the mean values of all

215 experiments were averaged with SD. The data were analyzed with the SPSS 17.0  
216 statistical software program using student's t test under the significance level of 0.05  
217 (P-value=0.05)

### 218 **3 RESULTS**

#### 219 **3.1 *R. solanacearum* transcriptome signatures influenced by hydroxycoumarins**

220 We profiled *R. solanacearum* transcriptomes under three hydroxycoumarin  
221 treatments in M63 medium. As showed in Figure 1B, all three treatments significantly  
222 affect the transcriptome of *R. solanacearum* compared to the control treatment.  
223 Furthermore, the effect of daphnetin (DA) and esculetin (ES) on bacteria were similar,  
224 but different to the umbelliferone (UM) treatment.

225 In total, differential expression of 344 genes in *R. solanacearum* supplemented  
226 with UM treatment (representing 6.46% of the predicted protein-coding sequences  
227 in the CQPS-1 genome) could be observed, including 163 genes up-regulated and 181  
228 genes down-regulated. Esculetin affected a higher number of genes than UM,  
229 causing up- and down-regulation of 326 and 372 genes. Furthermore, DA, which  
230 exhibits the strongest antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum* showed the  
231 biggest number of differential expressed genes, including up-regulation of 420 genes  
232 and down-regulation of 502 genes (Fig. 2A, Fig. S1). There were 191 common genes  
233 involving in three hydroxycoumarins treated bacteria, including 90 upregulated genes  
234 and 94 downregulated genes (Fig. 2, Fig. S2).

235 To validate the RNA-Seq results, a total of ten genes were selected from DGEs  
236 for qRT-PCR analysis. The results indicated gene-expression data obtained by this  
237 RNA-Seq strategy strongly correlated with RT-PCR measurements (Fig.1(C)).

238 **3.2 Treatment by any of the hydroxycoumarins alters expression of 191 *R.***  
239 ***solanacearum* genes**

240 We investigated the functional categories enriched by con differential  
241 expression genes treated with three hydroxycoumarins. In cellular component  
242 category, intracellular, intracellular organelle, intracellular non-membrane-bounded  
243 organelle, non-membrane-bounded organelle, organelle, and protein-containing  
244 complex were enriched. Then, structural molecule activity, structural constituent of  
245 ribosome, binding, transporter activity were enriched in molecular function category.  
246 In biological process, cellular metabolic process, primary metabolic process, peptide  
247 process, protein metabolic process, transport, transmembrane transport were  
248 enriched (Table 1).

249 Hydroxycoumarin treatments up-regulated expression of different family  
250 transcriptional regulators (*Rsc0149*, *Rsc1997*, *Rsc1851*, *Rsp0447*, *Rsp0443*, *Rsp1668*  
251 and *Rsp0816*), genes coding for drug efflux lipoprotein and transmembrane proteins  
252 (*Rsc0009*, *Rsc2499*, *Rsc1852*, *Rsp0819*, *Rsp0818*, *Rsc1294* and *Rsp0817*), several  
253 genes involved in putative signal peptide proteins (*Rsc0153*, *Rsc3092*, *Rsc2725*, and  
254 *Rsp0992*), and genes encoding stress-related proteins (*coxM* and *Rsp0993*) (Table S2).

255 Otherwise, hydroxycoumarins significantly suppressed expression of genes  
256 involved in intracellular organelle, such as fatty acid synthesis genes (*accC1*, *accB1*,  
257 *Rsp0035*, *Rsp0782*, and *Rsp0783*) and lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis genes  
258 (*Rsc0686* and *Rsc0685*). Genes coding for peptide proteins (*Rsc3300*, *Rsc3285*,  
259 *Rsp1461*, *Rsp1269*, *Rsp0811*, and *Rsp0699*), RNA modification related genes (*Rsc1419*  
260 and *Rsp0782*), translation (*tsf*, *infA*, and *Rsp0039*), subunits of 50S and 30S ribosomal  
261 proteins (*rplS*, *rplJ*, *rplL*, *rpoC*, *rplE*, *rpsH*, *rpsF*, *rpsR*, *rpsE*, *rpmD*, *rplO*, *rpmJ*, *rpsM*,

262 *rpsK*, *rplQ*, *prmA*, *rpmG*, *rplT*, *rplI*, and *rpsR*), and oxidative phosphorylation and  
263 electron transport (*cyoB1*, *cyoC1*, and *cyoD1*) were down-regulated by  
264 hydroxycoumarins (Table S2).

### 265 **3.3 DA and ES treatment cause similar change on *R. solanacearum* transcriptome**

266 We investigated the functional categories enriched by 395 differential  
267 expression genes treated with DA and ES treatment. As showed in Table 1, In cellular  
268 component category, membrane and plasma membrane were enriched. In molecular  
269 function, rRNA binding, heterocyclic compounds binding, organic cyclic compound  
270 binding and nucleic acid binding were enriched. There were more biological process  
271 categories were enriched, such as cellular biosynthetic process, metabolic process,  
272 translation and gene expression.

273 Based on enriched GO terms and the antibacterial effect of DA and ES treatment  
274 against *R. solanacearum*, we choose the differential expression genes enriched in GO  
275 terms and involved in bacterial basic processed. Lipopolysaccharides and fatty acid  
276 play a key role in cell membrane components in *R. solanacearum*. As showed in Table  
277 2, the gene expression of lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis clusters (LpxA, LpxB, LpxD  
278 and FabZ) and lipid A biosynthesis lauroyl acyltransferase (Rsc0135 and Rsc0136)  
279 were significantly inhibited by DA and ES treatments. Mostly of fatty acid synthesis  
280 pathway genes (*fabB*, *fabD*, *fabG*, *fabH*, *fabI*) and fatty acid synthesis regulated  
281 associated genes (*Rsc0265*, *Rsp0652*, *Rsp0648*, *acpF*, *Rsc0434*, and *Rsc2546*) were  
282 down-regulated by DA and ES treatments. Meanwhile, genes coding for modification  
283 of RNA (*cysS*, *yibK*, *hrpA*), elongation factor Tuf showed decreased transcriptional  
284 expression. Certain genes involved in transcription, transcriptional regulation and  
285 membrane transport were down-regulated. The expression of genes coding for the

286 two component response regulator transcription regulators Rsc3160, cold shock-like  
287 transcription regulator CspC, and response transcription regulators (Rsc2430 and  
288 Rsc1584), LPS export ABC transporter permease (LptG and LptF), D-xylose ABC  
289 transporter substrate-binding proteins (XylF, XylG and XylH) and protein translocase  
290 subunit (SecF and SecD) were significantly reduced by DA and ES treatments.  
291 Furthermore, DA and ES affect energy production in *R. solanacearum* by suppression  
292 gene expression of oxidative phosphorylation and electron transport (*ctaG*, *xyoA1*,  
293 *atpB*, *atpE*, *atpF*, *atpA*, *atpD*, *atpC*, *nuoH*, *nuoJ*, *nuoK*, *nuoL*, *nuoM* and *nuoN*).

294 Furthermore, we analysis the differential genes involved in generally  
295 upregulated function by DA and ES treatments. 6 genes coding of fatty acid  
296 degradation pathway (*pcaB*, *pcaC*, *pcaD*, *pcaF*, *pcaJ*, *Rsc0161*) were upregulated.  
297 Several genes involved in transcriptional regulation and membrane transport were  
298 significantly induced by DA and ES treatments, such as *RSc2361*, *RSc2114*, *RSc1857*,  
299 *RSc1185*, *RSc0993*, *RSp0415*, *fur2*, *emrB*, *exbD1*, *exbB1*. Furthermore, the expression  
300 of two genes involved in stress related proteins (MsrA and RpoN2) were increased  
301 (Table 2).

### 302 **3.4 Hydroxycoumarins specifically alter the expression of *R. solanacearum* gene** 303 **sets**

304 ES and DA treatment resulted in similar expression changes, and UM treatment  
305 showed different expression pattern (Fig. 3). In order to investigate the specific gene  
306 regulation in hydroxycoumarin treatments, we used the Venn diagrams of differential  
307 expression genes to identify specific genes of each hydroxycoumarin treatment (UM,  
308 ES and DA).

309 UM treatment specifically resulted in 33 genes down-regulation and 44 genes

310 up-regulation (Table S3), such as flagellar-associated genes *flgC*, *flgF*, *flgH*, *fliJ* and *fliK*  
311 were down-regulated about 4-fold; also type III secretion system transcription  
312 regulator gene *prhG* was down-regulated by UM treatment. Among the up-regulated  
313 genes, there were several genes coding for myo-inositol catabolism pathway (*Rsc1247*,  
314 *Rsc1246*, *iolH* and *Rsc1242*) were up-regulated about 4-fold.

315 There were 44 genes down-regulated and 48 genes up-regulated in ES  
316 treatment. Among the down regulation genes, 8 open reading frames coding for  
317 hypothetical proteins, seven genes coding for transcriptional regulator (*Rsc1016*,  
318 *livH2*, *Rsc2437*, *Rsc0002*, *Rsp0985*, and *Rsp0983*). In addition, there were 48  
319 specifically up-regulated genes by ES treatment, including 10 genes involved in  
320 hypothetical proteins, 4 genes involved in transcriptional regulator (*Rsc2325*,  
321 *Rsc0029*, *Rsp0821* and *BC350\_RS25620*), and several genes involved in  
322 virulence-associated genes (*fliO*, *hrcC* and *hrpK*). Two genes related with tryptophan  
323 synthesis pathway (*trpE* and *trpB*) were up-regulated in ES treatment (Table S4).

324 Due to the strongest antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum*, DA  
325 treatment resulted in 126 specifically genes up-regulation and 150 genes  
326 down-regulation. As showed in Table S5, the significant enrich gene ontology (GO)  
327 terms of specifically genes were focused on biological process, such as nucleotide  
328 biosynthetic process, ion transmembrane transport and phosphorus metabolic  
329 process. In the molecular function, RNA binding, nucleotide binding, nucleoside  
330 phosphate binding and cation transmembrane were enriched. Among the  
331 up-regulated genes, certain genes were involved in basic cellular functions, such as  
332 transcriptional regulators (*Rsc1201*, *Rsc0635*, *Rsc0302*, *Rsc2505*, *Rsc2498*, *Rsc2466*,  
333 *BC350\_RS12595*, *Rsc2018*, *Rsc1960*, *Rsc1511*, *BC350\_RS16690*, *Rsp0440*, *Rsp1512*,

334 *Rsp1616, Rsp1667, Rsp1178* and *BC350\_RS23395*), molecular chaperone *DnaK* and  
335 two DNA damage-inducible mutagenesis protein (*Rsp0799* and *imuA*) involved in  
336 DNA damage. Gene coding for basic biological process such as *prpC, prpB, paaE,*  
337 *paaB, paaA, otsB, paaC, paaD, trxB, xdhB* and *xdhC* were enriched. The expression of  
338 150 specifically genes were suppressed by DA treatment, including several genes  
339 encoding extracellular polysaccharide (*epsA, epsP, epsB, epsC, wecC, epsF, Rsp1013,*  
340 *Rsp1012, Rsp1011, Rsp1010* and *xpsR*), type III secretion system (*prhA, hrpG* and  
341 *prhJ*), type VI secretion system (*Rsp0746, Rsp0745, Rsp0629* and *tssH*), ATP synthase  
342 subunit (*atpH* and *atpG*), IS3 and IS4 family transposase (*BC350\_RS12015* and  
343 *BC350\_RS15970*) (Table S5).

### 344 **3.5 Enrichment analysis of GO pathway**

345 Based on the Gene Ontology (GO) - cellular component (CC), molecular function  
346 (MF) and biological process (BP), we observed that among the DEGs in *R.*  
347 *solanacearum* responded to hydroxycoumarins, the GO terms of DA treatment was  
348 more than other two hydroxycoumarins (ES and UM). In cellular component,  
349 ribosome, membrane, plasma membrane, and cell periphery were enriched.  
350 Structural constituent of ribosome, heterocyclic compound binding, organic cyclic  
351 compound binding, nucleotide binding, transporter activity, transmembrane  
352 transporter activity and nucleic acid binding were enriched in molecular function  
353 category. Primary metabolic process, protein metabolic process, transport, peptide  
354 biosynthetic process, translation, cation transport, cation transmembrane transport  
355 and lipid metabolic process were enriched in biological process category (Table 1).

### 356 **3.6 DA and ES inhibit bacterial growth and virulence of *R. solanacearum* by altering**

#### 357 ***lpxB* expression**



358 DA and ES treatment significantly reduced expression of genes coding for  
359 lipopolysaccharides synthase pathway (Table 2). Especially, expression of *lpxB*  
360 involved in lipid-A-disaccharide synthase was most down-regulated with 9.58-fold  
361 and 10.83-fold. *LpxB* involved in one of key step for lipid A biosynthesis and is  
362 important for bacterial cell membrane (Fig. 5(A)). So, we generated a *lpxB*  
363 in-frame-deleted mutant ( $\Delta lpxB$ ) to confirm its effect on bacterial growth and  
364 virulence.

365 Compared with WT (CQPS-1), *lpxB* mutant exhibited slower bacterial growth in  
366 liquid medium ( $P < 0.05$ ) (Fig. 5(C)). Biofilm formation and swimming motility are  
367 important for virulence of *R. solanacearum* in host plants. The *lpxB* mutant forms red  
368 and small colonies with less mucoid, indicating that EPS production was suppressed  
369 by *lpxB* deletion (Fig. 5(B)). The biofilm formation and swimming motility of *lpxB*  
370 deletion were significantly inhibited (Fig 6(A), (B)). The *lpxB* mutant significantly  
371 altered the disease progress of bacterial wilt ( $P < 0.05$ ). The results suggest that *lpxB*  
372 is required for EPS production, biofilm formation, swimming motility and virulence of  
373 *R. solanacearum*.

#### 374 **4 DISCUSSION**

375 Coumarins are produced via the phenylpropanoid pathway and accumulated in  
376 plant tissues, respond to infection of a diversity of pathogens and play dual roles in  
377 plant defense due to the antimicrobial activity and plant defense signaling.<sup>12, 13</sup>  
378 Further, coumarins play role in the interaction of plant and soil-borne pathogens. As  
379 a landmark discovery, advances in the study of interaction between plant pathogen  
380 and host have provided evidence that metabolites could inhibit pathogen growth and  
381 alter the transcriptome of *R. solanacearum*.<sup>39, 40</sup> Plant-derived antibacterial

382 compounds were originally proposed to change plasma membrane permeability,  
383 leading to membrane rupture and rapid lysis of microbial cells. Recently, it has been  
384 proposed that coumarin induces strong non-receptor mediated membrane lytic  
385 mechanism as the primary microbicide strategy.<sup>8</sup> In this study, potent antibacterial  
386 properties of three hydroxycoumarins were demonstrated, indicating the potential  
387 use in plant protection. Hydroxycoumarins (UM, ES, DA) were proved strong  
388 antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum*.<sup>20</sup> At present, the mode of action of  
389 hydroxycoumarins is not known, although in our previous work PI stain results  
390 indicated that the compounds changed the permeability of the bacterial membranes.  
391<sup>9</sup> To further investigate the molecular mechanism of actions of hydroxycoumarins  
392 against *R. solanacearum*, we perform RNA-Seq to study the transcriptomic response  
393 of *R. solanacearum* treated with three hydroxycoumarins. Our results revealed that  
394 the expression of genes involved in fatty acid synthesis, lipopolysaccharides  
395 biosynthesis, RNA modification, ribosomal subunits was extensively down regulated  
396 by hydroxycoumarins treatment (Fig. 1, Table 2).

397 In addition, the bactericidal action of hydroxyl-substituents on C-6, C-7 and C-8  
398 in three hydroxycoumarins might be differentially accessible in various species.  
399 Coumarins, naturally plant derived secondary metabolites composed of fused  
400 benzene and  $\alpha$ -pyrone rings. Umbelliferone (7-hydroxycoumarin), esculetin (6,  
401 7-dihydroxycoumarins) and daphnetin (7, 8-dihydroxycoumarins) have different  
402 number of hydroxyl-substituents in different position. Further, our previous study  
403 indicated that three hydroxycoumarins have different antibacterial activity, the MICs  
404 of UM, ES and DA were 256 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, 192 mg L<sup>-1</sup> and 64 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.<sup>20</sup> Based on  
405 the previous results, we hypothesize that these compounds might destroy cell

406 membranes or affect specific action targets. In this study, the antibacterial  
407 mechanisms affected upon *in vitro* exposure to the hydroxycoumarins were studied  
408 by transcriptome analysis of *R. solanacearum*. We infer similar or different modes of  
409 action of the tested compounds from the changes in the expression of different  
410 genes at the tested time. This does not preclude the possibility that similar genes are  
411 expressed with a different timing, which would not imply a similar mode of action, as  
412 has been widely demonstrated in plant immunity  
413 (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20585331/> ;  
414 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29794063/>). The effect of ES and DA on the  
415 bacterium were similar, but different to the UM treatment (Fig. 1A, Fig. 3), indicating  
416 that the number of hydroxyl-substituent was more important than the  
417 hydroxyl-position in antibacterial activity. DA, which exhibits the strongest  
418 antibacterial activity against *R. solanacearum* showed the biggest number of  
419 differential expressed genes. There were 191 common genes involving in three  
420 hydroxycoumarins treated bacterial, including 90 upregulated genes and 94  
421 downregulated genes (Fig. 2, Fig. S2). These fiunding indicates that the core potent  
422 target protein might play an important role in the antibacterial activity of Hycs.

423 The outer membrane (OM) of Gram-negative bacteria is essential for sustaining  
424 cell morphology and poses a significant barrier to unwanted molecules from entering  
425 the cell and thus accumulating to toxic levels inside of the pathogen.<sup>41, 42</sup> The  
426 membrane of bacteria usually contains three major macromolecules, including  
427 lipopolysaccharides, outer membrane proteins and lipoproteins.<sup>41</sup> Since the OM  
428 serves as a protective barrier, disruption or interference with the biosynthesis of the  
429 OM presents an attractive strategy for antibacterial drug discovery. It's been proved

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430 that polymyxin involves binding to the lipid A component of lipopolysaccharide  
431 portion of OM, indicated strong antibacterial activity.<sup>43</sup> In this study, the expression  
432 of genes involved in the biosynthesis of lipopolysaccharides (*lpxA*, *lpxB*, *lpxD*, *fabZ*,  
433 *Rsc0135* and *Rsc0136*) were significantly suppressed supplemented with ES and DA  
434 treatment (Table 2).

435 Fatty acids are essential components of membranes and are important sources  
436 of metabolic energy in bacteria. There, fatty acid biosynthesis and degradation  
437 pathways could be switched on and off according to the availability of fatty acids to  
438 maintain membrane lipid homeostasis.<sup>44</sup> The indispensable fatty acid synthase  
439 pathway is a special attractive target for antibacterial agents. Platensimycin,  
440 platencin and phomallenic were demonstrated to inhibit the condensation step in in  
441 the bacteria fatty acid biosynthesis pathway.<sup>45</sup> Recent studies showed that  
442 antibacterial peptides NCR335 reduced the expression of fatty acid biosynthesis  
443 genes.<sup>46</sup> In the current study, we found that Hycs might altered the expression of  
444 genes involved in basic cellular function. DA and ES treatment suppressed the  
445 expression of several genes involved in fatty acid synthesis pathway (*fabB*, *fabD*, *fabG*,  
446 *fabH* and *fabI*). Further, a variety of genes coding fatty acid degradation pathway  
447 (*pcaB*, *pcaF*, *gabD*, *pcaJ* and *Rsc0161*) were induced. These results indicated that  
448 Hycs might destroyed membrane lipid homeostasis by suppressing gene expression  
449 of lipopolysaccharide synthesis pathway in *R. solanacearum*, and imbalance  
450 availability of fatty acid by suppressing gene expression of fatty acid biosynthesis  
451 pathway and inducing gene expression of fatty acid pathway degradation pathway.

452 The global transcriptional response of *R. solanacearum* to Hycs indicated that  
453 exposure to these chemical is stressful to the pathogen. Compared with DMSO

454 treatment, Hycs downregulated these genes involved in basic cellular functions, such  
455 as transporter activity, oxidative phosphorylation and ribosomal. Compared with the  
456 limited data available on the effect of antibacterial agents, salicylic acid  
457 demonstrated similar result in down-regulation of the transcription-translation  
458 machinery in *R. solanacearum*.<sup>39</sup> Furthermore, The F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> ATP synthase genes involved  
459 in oxidative phosphorylation were down-regulated by DA and ES treatment. Similar  
460 with diarylquinolines target subunit c of mycobacterial ATP synthase.<sup>47</sup> Hycs  
461 inhibited the expression of ribosomal subunits, like the nodule-specific cysteine-rich  
462 peptides down-regulated the expression of ribosomal subunits and shown antifungal  
463 activity against *Sinorhizobium meliloti*.<sup>46</sup> Meanwhile, antimicrobial peptide MAF-1A  
464 reduced the ribosomal subunits transcription level in *Candida albicans*.<sup>27</sup> Oxidative  
465 stress is caused by exposure to reactive oxygen intermediates, which can damage cell  
466 membranes proteins, and nucleic acids.<sup>48</sup> Recent studies proven that oxidative stress  
467 could suggested as a key antibacterial mechanism of nanoparticles (NPs), such as  
468 fullerene and graphene oxide.<sup>49</sup> The produced ROS mediated by oxidative stress can  
469 irreversibly damage bacteria (e. g., their membrane, DNA), resulting in bacteria death.  
470<sup>50</sup> Salicylic acid was demonstrated to cause oxidative stress in *R. solanacearum*,  
471 upregulated expression of oxidative stress genes.<sup>39</sup> In this study, Hycs treatment  
472 induced oxidative stress genes in *R. solanacearum* (*coxM* and *Rsp0993*). In order to  
473 adapt to antibacterial agent stress, bacteria encode drug efflux pump protein to  
474 exudate the toxic chemicals. In present study, we found that Hycs treatment  
475 up-regulated expression of drug efflux pump genes (*Rsc0009*, *Rsc2499*, *Rsc1852*,  
476 *Rsp0819*, *Rsp0818*, *Rsc1294* and *Rsp0817*). Similarly, *R. solanacearum* also  
477 upregulates drug efflux pump genes in response to a high concentration of 500 μM

478 SA.<sup>39</sup> Following exposure to UM, *R. solanacearum* cells displayed reduced expression  
479 of virulence genes encoding type III secretion components (PrhG) and  
480 flagellar-associated genes. These results were similar with our previously study,  
481 which proven that UM could suppressed expression of T3SS regulators through the  
482 HrpG-HrpB and PrhG-HrpB pathways.<sup>19</sup> This is consistent with multiple effect of  
483 plant-derived compounds on virulence genes in plant pathogen. For example,  
484 Oleanolic acid induces the type III secretion system of *R. solanacearum*.<sup>51</sup> Salicylic  
485 acid derivative compound inhibited the expression of type III secretion components.  
486<sup>52</sup> Interesting, extracellular polysaccharide biosynthesis enzymes were specially  
487 suppressed by DA treatment. Hycs indicated inhibition effect on virulence genes,  
488 might suggest these compounds not only could use as antibacterial agents, but also  
489 might be virulence inhibitor under low concentration.

490 In conclusion, it was demonstrated that plant-derived metabolites  
491 hydroxycoumarins ((umbelliferone, esculetin and daphnetin) significantly alter the  
492 transcriptome level of *R. solanacearum*. The transcription change pattern of DA was  
493 similar with ES treatment, different to the pattern exposure to UM. Compared with  
494 the hydroxyl substituent site, the number of hydroxylation substituent of  
495 hydroxycoumarins shown more important role in changing the gene expression in *R.*  
496 *solanacearum*. Transcriptome analysis of cells treated with Hycs revealed  
497 characteristic genes expression change, mainly included fatty acid pathway,  
498 lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis pathway and ATP synthase pathway, accompanied  
499 with the stress caused by the disruption of bacteria cell membrane, which can cause  
500 the death of bacterial cells. This study provided important insights into the  
501 bactericidal actions of Hycs against *R. solanacearum*.

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507 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

508 Supporting information may be found in the online version of this article.

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641 **Figure 1. *R. solanacearum* transcriptome signatures influenced by**  
642 **hydroxycoumarins.** (A) Chemical structure of hydroxycoumarins (umbelliferone, UM;  
643 esculetin, ES; daphnetin, DA). (B) Principal component analysis (PCA) analysis of  
644 transcriptome level supplemented with hydroxycoumarins. (C) Comparison of ten  
645 genes expression levels between RNA-Seq and qRT-PCR. Choose genes involved in  
646 F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> ATP synthase subunits (*atpB*, *atpD*, *atpD* and *atpG*), lipopolysaccharides  
647 biosynthesis (*lpxB* and *Rsc0135*), fatty acid biosynthesis (*accC1*), and fatty acid  
648 degradation (*Rsc0064* and *Rsc0161*) and out membrane drug efflux lipoprotein  
649 *Rsp0817*. The gene-expression data obtained by RNA-Seq strategy strongly correlated  
650 with RT-PCR measurements.

651 **Figure 2. Differentially expressed genes supplemented with three**  
652 **hydroxycoumarins (UM, ES and DA).** (A) Differentially up and down-regulated genes  
653 number under hydroxycoumarins. (B) The volcano plots of up-regulated genes in *R.*  
654 *solanacearum* regulated by hydroxycoumarins. (C) The volcano plots of  
655 down-regulated genes in *R. solanacearum* regulated by hydroxycoumarins.

656 **Figure 3. Heatmaps of read counts of differentially expressed genes** (q-value  $\leq$  0.05,  
657  $|\log_2$  Fold change)  $>$  2). The color going white to red represents the number of reads  
658 from low to high, respectively. The grouping of samples is indicated in the tips of the  
659 vertical clustering tree with red (CK), green (UM), purple (DA) and blue colors (ES).  
660 Each group is classified into eight clusters.

661 **Figure 4. Hydroxycoumarins significantly reduce expression of genes coding for**  
662 **lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis.** (A) Biosynthesis pathway of lipopolysaccharides in  
663 *R. solanacearum*, there were nine enzymes involved in the pathway. (B) *R.*  
664 *solanacearum* wild-type (CQPS-1) and *lpxB* mutant grow on solid medium after

665 inoculated 48 h. (C) The growth curve of wild-type (CQPS-1) and *lpxB* mutant in rich B  
666 liquid medium. Bacterial density was measured at OD<sub>600</sub> every two hour during 24  
667 hours inoculation in liquid medium. \* indicates statistically significant differences  
668 between *lpxB* mutant and WT (CQPS-1) with student's *t* test analysis (P<0.05).

669 **Figure 5. Effect of LpxB on biofilm formation, swimming motility and virulence of *R.***  
670 ***solanacearum* on tobacco.** (A) Biofilm formation of *R. solanacearum* in polystyrene  
671 microtiter plates. Bacterial suspension were inoculated in rich medium and kept at  
672 30 °C for 24 h without shaking. Biofilm formation was measured by OD530 after  
673 stained with crystal violet. (C) Swimming motility of *R. solanacearum* in minimal  
674 medium. The diameter of swimming halo was measured after 36 h, 48 h and 60 h  
675 cultivation at 30 °C.

676 **Table 1. The significant enrich Gene ontology (GO) terms of differentially expressed**  
677 **genes (DEGs) of *R. solanacearum* under hydroxycoumarins treatment.**

678 **Table 2. Selected differentially expression genes in *R. solanacearum* regulated by**  
679 **DA and ES treatments based on GO term enrichment.**

680

681 **Figure S1. The volcano plots of differentially expression genes in *R. solanacearum***  
682 **regulated by hydroxycoumarins.** (A) Differentially expressed genes of *R.*  
683 *solanacearum* treated with umbelliferone (UM). (B) Esculetin treatment (ES). (C)  
684 Daphnetin treatment (DA). Significantly differentially expressed genes were marked  
685 with red dots (including upregulated and downregulated), and others indicated with  
686 blue dots. The cutoff of q-value < 0.05 and |log<sub>2</sub> Fold change| > 2 was identified as  
687 significantly differentially expressed gene. The abscissa indicated fold change, and  
688 the ordinate represents adjusted P value (q-value).

689 **Figure S2. The Venn diagram of significantly differentially expressed genes**  
690 **supplemented with three hydroxycoumarins (UM, ES and DA).** The number in each  
691 circle represents the number of differentially expressed genes that were expressed in  
692 UM, ES and DA treatment. And the overlapping part of circles indicated that the gene  
693 was co-expressed in two treatments or three treatments.

Table 1 The significant enrich Gene ontology (GO) terms of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) of *R. solanacearum* under hydroxycoumarins treatment.

GO Category	GO ID	GO Name	FDR q-value		
			DA vs CK	ES vs CK	UM vs CK
Cellular component	GO:0005622	intracellular	$1.68 \times 10^{-7}$	$7.32 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.61 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0043229	intracellular organelle	$2.50 \times 10^{-4}$	$7.66 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.16 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0043232	intracellular non-membrane-bounded organelle	$4.39 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.92 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.56 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0005840	ribosome	$1.22 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.73 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.26 \times 10^{-3}$
	GO:0043228	non-membrane-bounded organelle	$1.24 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.74 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.37 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0043226	organelle	$1.63 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.62 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.60 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0110165	cellular anatomical entity	$1.87 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.08 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.78 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0032991	protein-containing complex	$3.38 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.63 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.44 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0016020	membrane	$1.78 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.45 \times 10^{-4}$	NA
	GO:0005886	plasma membrane	$1.83 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.55 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0005737	cytoplasm	$2.81 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA	
GO:0071944	cell periphery	NA	NA	$1.63 \times 10^{-2}$	
Molecular function	GO:0005198	structural molecule activity	$2.71 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.24 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0003735	structural constituent of ribosome	$2.32 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.46 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0005488	binding	$2.68 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.18 \times 10^{-2}$	0.011
	GO:0005215	transporter activity	$2.91 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.56 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.94 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0019843	rRNA binding	$2.29 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.86 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:1901363	heterocyclic compound binding	$6.55 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.62 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0097159	organic cyclic compound binding	$8.54 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.41 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0003676	nucleic acid binding	$3.63 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.76 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0022857	transmembrane transporter activity	$3.38 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	$2.81 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0000166	nucleotide binding	$2.43 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
	GO:0003723	RNA binding	$7.14 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
	GO:1901265	nucleoside phosphate binding	$3.01 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0008324	cation transmembrane transporter activity	$4.05 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA	
Biological process	GO:0044237	cellular metabolic process	$3.14 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.67 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.03 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:1901564	organonitrogen compound metabolic process	$1.32 \times 10^{-13}$	$3.13 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.27 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0044238	primary metabolic process	$2.45 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.42 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.07 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0019538	protein metabolic process	$3.25 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.14 \times 10^{-2}$	$7.13 \times 10^{-3}$
	GO:0051234	establishment of localization	$6.11 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.19 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.13 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0006810	transport	$5.75 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.11 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.14 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0044267	cellular protein metabolic process	$6.06 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.22 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.99 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0043043	peptide biosynthetic process	$7.96 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.79 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.54 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0006518	peptide metabolic process	$7.60 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.77 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.64 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0055085	transmembrane transport	$1.76 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.70 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.07 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0043603	cellular amide metabolic process	$2.37 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.84 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.87 \times 10^{-2}$
	GO:0044249	cellular biosynthetic process	$2.21 \times 10^{-14}$	$4.66 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0008152	metabolic process	$1.76 \times 10^{-12}$	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0071704	organic substance metabolic process	$2.08 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.09 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
	GO:0009058	biosynthetic process	$1.90 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.67 \times 10^{-2}$	NA

GO:1901576	organic substance biosynthetic process	$2.95 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.53 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0044260	cellular macromolecule metabolic process	$2.07 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.97 \times 10^{-3}$	NA
GO:0034645	cellular macromolecule biosynthetic process	$2.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.57 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0006412	translation	$2.63 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.70 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0009059	macromolecule biosynthetic process	$2.79 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.10 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0043170	macromolecule metabolic process	$3.33 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.21 \times 10^{-3}$	NA
GO:0006807	nitrogen compound metabolic process	$3.94 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.76 \times 10^{-3}$	NA
GO:0043604	amide biosynthetic process	$6.80 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.68 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0044271	cellular nitrogen compound biosynthetic process	$1.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.34 \times 10^{-2}$	NA
GO:0010467	gene expression	$2.95 \times 10^{-2}$	$8.65 \times 10^{-3}$	NA
GO:0051179	localization	$5.76 \times 10^{-4}$	NA	$1.02 \times 10^{-2}$
GO:0044255	cellular lipid metabolic process	$2.01 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	$1.20 \times 10^{-2}$
GO:0006629	lipid metabolic process	$2.26 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	$8.47 \times 10^{-3}$
GO:0009987	cellular process	$2.14 \times 10^{-4}$	NA	NA
GO:1901566	organonitrogen compound biosynthetic process	$5.44 \times 10^{-4}$	NA	NA
GO:0019637	organophosphate metabolic process	$3.61 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:0006812	cation transport	$5.78 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:1901293	nucleoside phosphate biosynthetic process	$5.89 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:0009165	nucleotide biosynthetic process	$6.44 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:0090407	organophosphate biosynthetic process	$7.12 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:0098655	cation transmembrane transport	$9.48 \times 10^{-3}$	NA	NA
GO:1901135	carbohydrate derivative metabolic process	$1.38 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0098662	inorganic cation transmembrane transport	$1.36 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0034220	ion transmembrane transport	$1.60 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0009117	nucleotide metabolic process	$2.04 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0006753	nucleoside phosphate metabolic process	$2.45 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:1901137	carbohydrate derivative biosynthetic process	$2.47 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0006796	phosphate-containing compound metabolic process	$2.50 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0098660	inorganic ion transmembrane transport	$2.98 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0015672	monovalent inorganic cation transport	$3.02 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:1902600	proton transmembrane transport	$3.42 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA
GO:0006793	phosphorus metabolic process	$3.38 \times 10^{-2}$	NA	NA

Table 2. Selected differentially expression genes in *R. solanacearum* regulated by DA and ES treatments according to GO term enrichment.

locus_tag	GMI1000	gene	Description	log2 Fold change (DA-vs-CK)	log2 Fold change (ES vs CK)	log2 Fold change (UM vs CK)
<b>Lipopolysaccharides biosynthesis</b>						
BC350_RS06480	RSc0136	-	lipid A biosynthesis lauroyl acyltransferase	-2.15	-2.37	#N/A
BC350_RS06485	RSc0135	-	lipid A biosynthesis lauroyl acyltransferase	-3.16	-2.80	#N/A
BC350_RS17350	RSc1370	<i>lplT</i>	putative lysophospholipid transporter	-2.82	-2.68	#N/A
BC350_RS17110	RSc1417	<i>lpxB</i>	lipid-A-disaccharide synthase	-3.26	-3.44	#N/A
BC350_RS17115	RSc1416	<i>lpxA</i>	UDP-N-acetylglucosamine acyltransferase	-2.49	-2.60	#N/A
BC350_RS17125	RSc1414	<i>lpxD</i>	UDP-3-O-(3-hydroxymyristoyl)glucosamine N-acyltransferase	-2.42	-2.50	#N/A
BC350_RS17120	RSc1415	<i>fabZ</i>	3R-hydroxyacyl-ACP dehydratase FabZ	-2.75	-2.69	#N/A
BC350_RS03430	RSc0684	<i>rfbA</i>	glucose-1-phosphate thymidyltransferase protein	-2.97	-2.00	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in fatty acid synthesis and metabolism and membrane modification</b>						
BC350_RS05760	RSc0265	-	acyl-CoA carboxylase subunit alpha	-2.48	-2.37	#N/A
BC350_RS25670	RSp0652	-	acyl-CoA dehydrogenase oxidoreductase protein	-2.11	-2.22	#N/A
BC350_RS25690	RSp0648	-	enoyl-CoA hydratase	-2.48	-3.91	#N/A
BC350_RS00385	RSc1172	<i>fabI</i>	enoyl-[acyl-carrier-protein] reductase FabI	-3.76	-2.96	#N/A
BC350_RS01040	RSc1052	<i>fabG</i>	3-ketoacyl-(acyl-carrier-protein) reductase	-2.22	-2.04	#N/A
BC350_RS01045	RSc1051	<i>fabD</i>	acyl-carrier-protein S-malonyltransferase	-2.35	-2.51	#N/A
BC350_RS01050	RSc1050	<i>fabH</i>	3-oxoacyl-(acyl carrier protein) synthase III	-2.85	-3.40	#N/A
BC350_RS22070	RSp0357	<i>fabB</i>	3-oxoacyl-[acyl-carrier-protein] synthase I	-2.30	-2.08	#N/A
BC350_RS01035	RSc1053	<i>acpF</i>	acyl carrier protein	-3.24	-3.76	#N/A
BC350_RS04755	RSc0434	-	acyl carrier protein	-3.97	-2.81	#N/A
BC350_RS11530	RSc2546	-	putative glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase PlsY	-3.15	-2.39	#N/A
BC350_RS13210	RSc2253	<i>pcaJ</i>	3-oxoadipate CoA transferase subunit B	2.03	2.84	#N/A
BC350_RS13215	RSc2252	<i>pcaF</i>	beta-ketoadipyl CoA thiolase	2.15	2.15	#N/A
BC350_RS13220	RSc2251	<i>pcaB</i>	3-carboxy-cis,cis-muconate cycloisomerase	2.65	2.49	#N/A
BC350_RS13225	RSc2250	<i>pcaD</i>	B-ketoadipate enol-lactone hydrolase transmembrane protein	2.10	2.11	#N/A
BC350_RS13230	RSc2249	<i>pcaC</i>	4-carboxymuconolactone decarboxylase	2.37	2.61	#N/A
BC350_RS06355	RSc0161	-	transmembrane aldehyde dehydrogenase oxidoreductase protein	3.04	2.88	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in conformational modification of RNA</b>						
BC350_RS00415	RSc1167	<i>cysS</i>	cysteine-tRNA synthetase	-3.15	-2.88	#N/A
BC350_RS05290	RSc0358	<i>yibK</i>	putative tRNA/rRNA methyltransferase protein	-2.58	-2.51	#N/A
BC350_RS17950	RSc1251	<i>hrpA</i>	ATP-dependent RNA helicase protein	-2.12	-2.31	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in translation</b>						
BC350_RS08680	RSc3041	<i>tuf</i>	elongation factor Tu	-2.73	-2.01	#N/A
BC350_RS13735	RSc2152	<i>greB</i>	transcription elongation factor GreB	2.84	2.38	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in transcriptional regulation</b>						
BC350_RS08275	RSc3160	-	two component sensor histidine kinase transcription regulator protein	-2.76	-2.26	#N/A
BC350_RS08305	RSc3156	<i>cspC</i>	cold shock-like transcription regulator protein	-2.85	-2.09	#N/A
BC350_RS12010	RSc2430	-	putative transcription regulator protein	-2.31	-3.68	#N/A
BC350_RS15545	RSc1584	-	putative transcription regulator protein	-2.35	-2.09	#N/A
BC350_RS12345	RSc2361	-	RNA polymerase sigma-E factor sigma-24 homolog transcription regulator protein	2.51	2.13	#N/A
BC350_RS13910	RSc2114	-	transcription regulator protein	2.92	2.81	#N/A
BC350_RS16745	RSc1857	-	putative transcription regulator	2.34	2.79	#N/A

BC350_RS00285	<i>RSc1185</i>	-	protein/PLP-dependent aminotransferase family protein	2.80	2.44	#N/A
BC350_RS01335	<i>RSc0993</i>	-	transcription regulator protein	2.82	2.40	#N/A
BC350_RS18850	<i>RSp0415</i>	-	putative transcriptional regulatory DNA-binding transcription regulator protein	6.48	6.20	#N/A
BC350_RS21525	<i>RSp0247</i>	<i>fur2</i>	extracytoplasmic function sigma factor transcription regulator protein	4.47	4.72	#N/A
BC350_RS24180	<i>RSp0962</i>	-	ferric uptake transcriptional (FUR)-like transcription regulator protein	2.39	2.97	#N/A
BC350_RS24195	<i>RSp0959</i>	-	putative transcription regulator protein	2.57	2.23	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in transcription</b>						
BC350_RS24675	<i>RSp0849</i>	<i>prhI</i>	anaerobic nitric oxide reductase transcription regulator	-2.06	2.14	#N/A
BC350_RS00275	<i>RSc1187</i>	-	RNA polymerase sigma factor	-3.09	-2.86	#N/A
BC350_RS18350	<i>RSp0553</i>	-	transcription termination factor Rho	-2.71	-2.65	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in membrane transport</b>						
BC350_RS17375	<i>RSc1365</i>	-	metal/formaldehyde-sensitive transcriptional repressor	-2.11	-2.57	#N/A
BC350_RS01230	<i>RSc1015</i>	-	putative multidrug resistance-like efflux transmembrane protein	-2.33	-3.12	#N/A
BC350_RS01425	<i>RSc0975</i>	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-2.79	-2.33	#N/A
BC350_RS04505	<i>RSc0484</i>	<i>gltL</i>	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	-3.07	-2.58	#N/A
BC350_RS04515	<i>RSc0482</i>	<i>gltI</i>	putative glutamate/aspartate transport ATP-binding ABC transporter protein	-2.47	-2.47	#N/A
BC350_RS04520	<i>RSc0481</i>	-	glutamate/aspartate transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-2.23	-2.04	#N/A
BC350_RS07625	<i>RSc3344</i>	-	amino-acid-binding periplasmic (PBP) ABC transporter protein	-2.47	-2.60	#N/A
BC350_RS07630	<i>RSc3343</i>	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	-2.54	-2.45	#N/A
BC350_RS07635	<i>RSc3342</i>	-	putative substrate-binding periplasmic (PBP) ABC transporter protein	-2.96	-3.10	#N/A
BC350_RS07640	<i>RSc3341</i>	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-3.10	-2.87	#N/A
BC350_RS07645	<i>RSc3340</i>	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-2.30	-2.22	#N/A
BC350_RS07700	<i>RSc3329</i>	-	amino-acid-binding periplasmic (PBP) ABC transporter protein	-2.95	-2.42	#N/A
BC350_RS11350	<i>RSc2631</i>	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-2.35	-2.32	#N/A
BC350_RS11955	<i>RSc2441</i>	-	putative amino acid-binding periplasmic ABC transporter protein	-4.01	-4.27	#N/A
BC350_RS12085	<i>RSc2417</i>	-	LPS export ABC transporter permease LptG	-2.90	-3.01	#N/A
BC350_RS12090	<i>RSc2416</i>	-	LPS export ABC transporter permease LptF	-3.14	-2.75	#N/A
BC350_RS15255	<i>RSc1529</i>	<i>pstS1</i>	phosphate ABC transporter substrate-binding protein PstS	-2.15	-2.59	#N/A
BC350_RS20000	<i>RSp1575</i>	-	amino-acid-binding periplasmic (PBP) ABC transporter protein	-2.98	-2.29	#N/A
BC350_RS20005	<i>RSp1576</i>	-	amino-acid transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-2.62	-2.59	#N/A
BC350_RS20255	<i>RSp1633</i>	<i>xyfI</i>	D-xylose ABC transporter substrate-binding protein	-4.35	-3.95	#N/A
BC350_RS20260	<i>RSp1634</i>	<i>xyfG</i>	xylose ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	-3.71	-3.66	#N/A
BC350_RS20265	<i>RSp1635</i>	<i>xyfH</i>	xylose transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-3.41	-3.73	#N/A
BC350_RS20540	<i>RSp0016</i>	-	amino-acid ATP-binding ABC transporter protein	-2.66	-2.74	#N/A
BC350_RS20545	<i>RSp0017</i>	-	amino-acid ATP-binding ABC transporter protein	-2.36	-2.18	#N/A
BC350_RS21755	<i>RSp0292</i>	<i>cyoB</i>	cyclolysin-type secretion composite ATP-binding transmembrane ABC transporter protein	-3.52	-3.54	#N/A
BC350_RS04295	<i>RSc0522</i>	-	putative acyltransferase transmembrane protein	-3.03	-2.12	#N/A
BC350_RS08340	<i>RSc3150</i>	-	putative transmembrane protein	-2.63	-3.10	#N/A
BC350_RS09510	<i>RSc2976</i>	<i>mrcA</i>	penicillin-binding 1 transmembrane protein	-2.54	-2.32	#N/A
BC350_RS10520	<i>RSc2784</i>	-	putative thioredoxin-related transmembrane protein	-2.29	-2.02	#N/A
BC350_RS11620	<i>RSc2528</i>	<i>exbB2</i>	biopolymer transport EXBB-like	-3.72	-3.16	#N/A



			transmembrane protein			
BC350_RS11645	RSc2523	-	putative transmembrane protein	-2.39	-2.13	#N/A
BC350_RS15570	RSc1588	-	amino-acid transporter transmembrane protein	-2.73	-2.74	#N/A
BC350_RS16185	RSc1757	-	lysine-specific permease transmembrane protein	-2.25	-2.52	#N/A
BC350_RS16190	RSc1758	<i>lysP</i>	lysine-specific permease transmembrane protein	-2.59	-2.55	#N/A
BC350_RS19280	RSp1423	-	putative transmembrane protein	-2.78	-2.29	#N/A
BC350_RS20250	RSp1632	<i>oprB</i>	putative porin B precursor outer (glucose porin) transmembrane protein	-3.70	-3.38	#N/A
BC350_RS21080	RSp0150	-	general secretion pathway GSPG-like transmembrane protein	-2.20	-2.38	#N/A
BC350_RS21145	RSp0169	-	putative transmembrane protein	-3.05	-2.28	#N/A
BC350_RS21700	RSp0282	-	amino-acid permease transmembrane protein	-3.70	-3.17	#N/A
BC350_RS21750	RSp0291	-	hemolysin secretion-like transmembrane protein	-3.20	-3.62	#N/A
BC350_RS22515	RSp1294	-	serin-rich transmembrane protein	-3.49	-2.52	#N/A
BC350_RS24670	RSp0850	<i>prhR</i>	3-compartment signal transduction system, component PRHR transmembrane protein	-2.78	2.19	#N/A
BC350_RS25805	RSp0628	<i>hoxN</i>	high affinity cobalt transporter transmembrane protein	-4.07	-2.57	#N/A
BC350_RS17745	RSc1292	<i>emrB</i>	multidrug resistance B (translocase) transmembrane protein	4.97	4.48	#N/A
BC350_RS10805	RSc2726	-	multidrug ABC transporter transmembrane protein	2.20	2.39	#N/A
BC350_RS06340	RSc0164	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	3.62	3.92	#N/A
BC350_RS16435	RSc1808	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	4.05	4.77	#N/A
BC350_RS16440	RSc1809	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	4.72	5.10	#N/A
BC350_RS17290	RSc1382	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	4.27	4.56	#N/A
BC350_RS17295	RSc1381	-	transmembrane ABC transporter protein	4.34	4.90	#N/A
BC350_RS17300	RSc1380	-	substata-binding periplasmic (PBP) ABC transporter protein	4.46	5.07	#N/A
BC350_RS17305	RSc1379	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	4.75	4.96	#N/A
BC350_RS23245	RSp1145	-	ABC transporter ATP-binding protein	2.54	2.08	#N/A
BC350_RS14640	RSc1965	<i>exbD1</i>	biopolymer transport transmembrane protein	2.81	2.49	#N/A
BC350_RS14645	RSc1964	<i>exbB1</i>	biopolymer transport transmembrane protein/MotA/TolQ/ExbB proton channel family protein	3.16	2.51	#N/A
BC350_RS00565	RSc1138	-	putative transmembrane protein	2.29	2.84	#N/A
BC350_RS07350	RSc3400	-	transporter transmembrane protein	5.09	4.32	#N/A
BC350_RS12875	RSc2324	-	putative transport transmembrane protein	4.60	4.70	#N/A
BC350_RS12880	RSc2323	-	transport transmembrane protein	2.23	2.20	#N/A
BC350_RS12945	RSc2310	-	putative GSPG-related transmembrane protein	2.60	2.12	#N/A
BC350_RS14650	RSc1963	<i>tonB</i>	TONB transmembrane protein	4.03	4.63	#N/A
BC350_RS20335	RSp1650	-	putative transmembrane protein	2.53	2.11	#N/A
BC350_RS21465	RSp0235	-	putative maltoooligosyl trehalose synthase transmembrane protein	4.40	3.09	#N/A
BC350_RS21540	RSp0250	-	putative transmembrane protein	3.68	2.69	#N/A
BC350_RS25600	RSp0663	-	transport transmembrane protein	2.71	2.96	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding proteins involved in oxidative phosphorylation and electron transport</b>						
BC350_RS05260	RSc0365	<i>ctaG</i>	cytochrome c oxidase assembly protein	-2.42	-2.39	#N/A
BC350_RS09820	RSc2917	<i>cyoA1</i>	transmembrane cytochrome O ubiquinol oxidase subunit II	-2.92	-2.23	#N/A
BC350_RS07730	RSc3323	<i>atpB</i>	FOF1 ATP synthase subunit A	-2.31	-2.53	#N/A
BC350_RS07735	RSc3322	<i>atpE</i>	FOF1 ATP synthase subunit C	-2.62	-2.01	#N/A
BC350_RS07740	RSc3321	<i>atpF</i>	FOF1 ATP synthase subunit B	-2.43	-2.25	#N/A
BC350_RS07750	RSc3319	<i>atpA</i>	ATP synthase subunit alpha	-2.94	-2.03	#N/A
BC350_RS07760	RSc3317	<i>atpD</i>	ATP synthase subunit beta	-2.96	-2.17	#N/A
BC350_RS07765	RSc3316	<i>atpC</i>	ATP synthase subunit epsilon	-2.80	-2.46	#N/A
BC350_RS14210	RSc2055	<i>nuoH</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit H	-2.09	-2.03	#N/A
BC350_RS14220	RSc2053	<i>nuoJ</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit J	-2.02	-2.19	#N/A

BC350_RS14225	RSc2052	<i>nuoK</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit K	-2.21	-2.10	#N/A
BC350_RS14230	RSc2051	<i>nuoL</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit L	-2.41	-2.61	#N/A
BC350_RS14235	RSc2050	<i>nuoM</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit M	-2.26	-2.20	#N/A
BC350_RS14240	RSc2049	<i>nuoN</i>	NADH dehydrogenase subunit N	-2.43	-2.21	#N/A
<b>Genes encoding stress-related proteins</b>						
BC350_RS03010	RSc0764	<i>msrA</i>	methionine sulfoxide reductase A	2.81	3.19	#N/A
BC350_RS20430	RSp1671	<i>rpoN2</i>	RNA polymerase factor sigma-54 factor	3.60	2.92	#N/A
<b>Protein export</b>						
BC350_RS10860	RSc2716	<i>secF</i>	protein translocase subunit SecF	-2.13	-2.26	#N/A
BC350_RS10865	RSc2715	<i>secD</i>	protein translocase subunit SecD	-2.17	-2.16	#N/A