Supplementary Text S4 RT-qPCR technique

PCR amplification was conducted in 50 μL reaction volumes, with an initial denaturation at 95 °C for 30 s, followed by 40 cycles of denaturation at 95 °C for 5 s, annealing at 55 °C for 30 s, and extension at 72 °C for 30 s. Relative gene expression levels were determined using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ method, with 16S rRNA as the internal reference.