

**Table S1.** Oligo primer sequences used for gene amplification and qRT-PCR to determine the gene expression of *Malus* cultivars ‘Royalty’ and ‘Flame’.

Accession Number	Gene	Primer sequence (5'-3') for gene amplification	Primer sequence (5'-3') for qRT-PCR
MF062705	<i>McAPK</i> -F	ATGGCTCCGAAAGCGAATGC	CCAAAGAGCCGTGACTATG
	<i>McAPK</i> -R	TCATTGTGCGGAGGTGGAG	TGCCCTTGAGGAAACTGT
MF062706	<i>McEF-alpha</i> -F	ATGGGTAAGGAGAAGTTCCACATC	AAGGGCAAGGTATGATGAAA
	<i>McEF-alpha</i> -R	TCACTTCTTCTAGCTGCGGC	AAATGGGGACAAAGGGGA
MF062707	<i>McFIE</i> -F	ATGGCGGCAAAGTTCGCTT	CATTGCTTGTGGCTGGAGGA
	<i>McFIE</i> -R	TTAACAACTTCCATAGCATCCCA	ACACTTAGGACTTCATTGCGGI
MF062708	<i>McMSI</i> -F	ATGGGCAAAGACGACGAAG	TTATTGCCACAAAGACCGT
	<i>McMSI</i> -R	CTAAGGCTTTCGCGTTCTT	GAACCACTGAGTAAATGACCC'
MF136604	<i>McSPL1</i> -F	ATGGAAATGGGCTCGAGTTCT	GGCTGCGAGGTAGATCTGAG
	<i>McSPL1</i> -R	TGACCAGTGATCTGCTGAC	TGCCACGCGTAGACAGTATG
MF136605	<i>McSPL2</i> -F	ATGGACTGGAAGTGAAGCAGC	CATGCCTCGTTGATGGATGC
	<i>McSPL2</i> -R	CTACTGCCAATGAAAAGGAAGTGT	GGTCTGTTGAGGCTTCCT
MF136606	<i>McSPL3</i> -F	ATGGAATCAGGCAGAGGTCATGG	GGGAGAAGATCTGGAGGGTCT
	<i>McSPL3</i> -R	TTATTGTAGGGAGGCTTCCGACGC	GCCGGCGACAACCTCTTTTA
MF136607	<i>McSPL4</i> -F	ATGGAGGGCAAAAAGTGAAGGAAAG	CTTGTC AAGCGGAAAGGTGC
	<i>McSPL4</i> -R	TTATCTGATCTGACAATGCTTGA	TCCATAAGGTTCGCTGAGC
MF136608	<i>McSPL5</i> -F	ATGGAGGGAATGAGTAAGTTG	ATGAGACAGTGCAGGCGGA
	<i>McSPL5</i> -R	TTATCTGATATGGAAATGCTTGT	CTCGTCGTCGTTGTGTCCT
MF152949	<i>McMYB26</i> -F	ATGGGACATCACTCATGCTG	TCCTGCATTGCCACCTTTTC
	<i>McMYB26</i> -R	ATGAGCGTTAAAGTTTGTGTCG	TGGAAGCGTAATTGGTCTGGT
MF062709	<i>McMYB32</i> -F	ATGGGAAGGTCTCCTTGCTG	TCCTTCGATGTGGGAAGAGC
	<i>McMYB32</i> -R	TCATTTTCATCTCCAAGCTTCTGT	GTTGTGGGGTCAATCCCTCT
MF152951	<i>McMYB103</i> -F	ATGGGTCCGATTCCATGCTG	GATGGTCTGATTGCAGCG
	<i>McMYB103</i> -R	TACTGCTCATCGTTGTCATTGTG	TCGTCCTTAAAGCAGCCGAG
MF152950	<i>McSERK2</i> -F	ATGGAGAGAAAAGTTGGGAATTCAG	CTCGGAAGCGAATTGCACTG
	<i>McSERK2</i> -R	CCTTGGACCGGATAACTCAAC	CCAATTGTGCCACGTACAGC
MF152952	<i>McSERK3/5</i> -F	ATGACGTCCTCCGCCTCTGTTTC	CTTTCAGCCAAACCATCGCC
	<i>McSERK3/5</i> -R	TCAATTCTGAAAGACAGTGAGACAC	GGCTTTTGATCTTGCTCGGC
DQ341382	<i>Mc18S</i> -F		ACCACGGGGAGGTAGTGACAA
	<i>Mc18S</i> -R		CCTCCAATGGATCCTCGTTA