

**Table S1.** DNA primers used in qRT-PCR analysis of maize centromeric genes

Genes	Primer Sequences	Amplicon sizes (bp)
<i>Actin</i>	F: 5' AAGTACCCGATTGAGCATGGCA 3' R: 5' CATCACAATACCAGTTGTTTCGCCC 3'	258
GRMZM2G040843	F: 5' CAAGGATGCCATGAATAACGC 3' R: 5' GGTATGAAGTCCCGAATAAACACC 3'	270
GRMZM2G175425	F: 5' CTCATCGGTTTCGCGGTTGTG 3' R: 5' CTCAGTGAAGCTGGCAAACGGT 3'	241
GRMZM2G137715	F: 5' TCCACGAGTACGCAGACGACT 3' R: 5' CATCCTCCACAACTTGACATAG 3'	204
GRMZM5G820434	F: 5' CTGACATCCATGGTTGGGGACAG 3' R: 5' CTGAGCTCTCTCTCCCATGCCG 3'	249
GRMZM2G071042	F: 5' CCACCCAGACCAAACCCAG 3' R: 5' GGAGACTGCCGAGGAGGAAT 3'	255
GRMZM2G409893	F: 5' TTTTGTGCTGGGGAAGAGTGGG 3' R: 5' CAACCAGGTTTACCATGAATTGCT 3'	265
GRMZM2G083935	F: 5' TCCACGCTGGAGAGTATTTGCG 3' R: 5' TGTCTACGTTGCGCATAGACCG 3'	268