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Intra-strain elicitation and suppression of plant immunity by *Ralstonia solanacearum* type-III effectors in *Nicotiana benthamiana*

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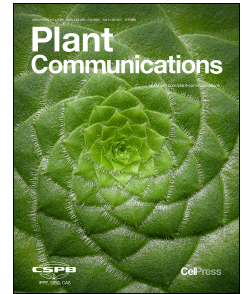
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1 **Intra-strain elicitation and suppression of plant immunity by *Ralstonia***  
2 ***solanacearum* type-III effectors in *Nicotiana benthamiana***

3

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6

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17

18 Keywords: cell death; ETI; SGT1; effector; immunity; virulence; *Ralstonia*; salicylic  
19 acid; jasmonic acid; ICS1; PAL

20

21 **Short summary:** The type-III secreted effector RipE1, from *Ralstonia solanacearum*,  
22 triggers immune responses in *Arabidopsis* and *Nicotiana benthamiana*. Such immune  
23 responses correlate with an activation of signaling mediated by Salicylic acid and  
24 Jasmonic acid. RipE1-triggered immunity is suppressed by another effector in *R.*  
25 *solanacearum*, RipAY, showing a bacterial strategy to counteract effector-triggered  
26 immunity.

27

28 **Abstract**

29 Effector proteins delivered inside plant cells are powerful weapons for bacterial  
30 pathogens, but this exposes the pathogen to potential recognition by the plant  
31 immune system. Therefore, the effector repertoire of a given pathogen must be  
32 balanced for a successful infection. *Ralstonia solanacearum* is an aggressive  
33 pathogen with a large repertoire of secreted effectors. One of these effectors, RipE1,  
34 is conserved in most *R. solanacearum* strains sequenced to date. In this work, we  
35 found that RipE1 triggers immunity in *N. benthamiana*, which requires the immune  
36 regulator SGT1, but not EDS1 or NRCs. Interestingly, RipE1-triggered immunity  
37 induces the accumulation of salicylic acid (SA) and the overexpression of several  
38 genes encoding phenylalanine-ammonia lyases (PALs), suggesting that the  
39 unconventional PAL-mediated pathway is responsible for the observed SA  
40 biosynthesis. Surprisingly, RipE1 recognition also induces the expression of jasmonic  
41 acid (JA)-responsive genes and JA biosynthesis, suggesting that both SA and JA may  
42 act cooperatively in response to RipE1. Finally, we found that RipE1 expression leads  
43 to the accumulation of glutathione in plant cells, which precedes the activation of  
44 immune responses. *R. solanacearum* secretes another effector, RipAY, which is  
45 known to inhibit immune responses by degrading cellular glutathione. Accordingly, we  
46 show that RipAY inhibits RipE1-triggered immune responses. This work shows a  
47 strategy employed by *R. solanacearum* to counteract the perception of its effector  
48 proteins by the plant immune system.

49

## 50 Introduction

51

52 *Ralstonia solanacearum* is considered one of the most destructive plant pathogens,  
53 and is able to cause disease in more than 250 plant species (Jiang et al., 2017;  
54 Mansfield et al., 2012). As a soil-borne bacterial pathogen, *R. solanacearum* enters  
55 plants through the roots, reaches the vascular system, and spreads through xylem  
56 vessels, colonizing the plant systemically (Mansfield et al., 2012). This is followed by  
57 massive bacterial replication and the disruption of the plant vascular system, leading  
58 to eventual plant wilting (Digonnet et al., 2012; Turner et al., 2009).

59

60 Most bacterial pathogens deliver proteins inside plant cells via a type-III secretion  
61 system (T3SS); such proteins are thus called type-III effectors (T3Es) (Galan et al,  
62 2014). T3Es have been reported to mediate the suppression of basal defenses and  
63 the manipulation of plant physiological functions to support bacterial proliferation  
64 (Macho et al, 2015; Macho, 2016). Resistant plants have evolved intracellular  
65 receptors defined by the presence of nucleotide-binding sites (NBS) and leucine-rich  
66 repeat domains (LRRs), thus termed NLRs (Cui et al, 2015). Specific NLRs can detect  
67 the activities of specific T3Es, leading to the activation of immune responses, which  
68 effectively prevent pathogen proliferation (Chiang & Coaker, 2015). The outcome of  
69 these responses is named effector-triggered immunity (ETI), and, in certain cases,  
70 may cause a hypersensitive response (HR) that involves the collapse of plant cells.  
71 Hormone-mediated signaling plays an essential role in plant immunity. Salicylic acid  
72 (SA) is considered the most important hormone in plant immunity against biotrophic  
73 pathogens (Vlot et al., 2009; Burger & Chory, 2019); Jasmonic acid (JA), on the other  
74 hand, is considered the main mediator of immune responses against necrotrophic  
75 pathogens (Burger & Chory, 2019). In most cases, both hormones are considered as  
76 antagonistic, balancing the effects of each other (Burger & Chory, 2019).

77

78 In an evolutionary response to ETI, successful pathogens have acquired T3E  
79 activities to suppress this phenomenon (Jones & Dangl, 2006), although reports

80 characterizing T3E suppression of ETI remain scarce, particularly among T3Es within  
81 the same strain. While the development of additional T3E activities is a powerful  
82 virulence strategy, it also exposes the pathogen to further events of effector  
83 recognition. Therefore, the benefits and penalties of T3E secretion need to be finely  
84 and dynamically balanced in specific hosts, to ensure the appropriate manipulation of  
85 plant functions while evading or suppressing ETI. This balance may be particularly  
86 important for *R. solanacearum*, which secretes a larger number of T3Es in  
87 comparison to other bacterial plant pathogens (e.g. the reference GMI1000 strain is  
88 able to secrete more than 70 T3Es) (Peeters et al, 2013).

89  
90 Plants have evolved to recognize immune elicitors from *R. solanacearum* (Wei et al,  
91 2018; Jayaraman et al., 2016). In terms of mechanism of T3E recognition, the most  
92 studied case in *R. solanacearum* is RipP2 (also known as PopP2), which is perceived  
93 in Arabidopsis by the RRS1-RPS4 NLR pair (Gassmann et al, 1999; Deslandes et al,  
94 2002; Tasset et al, 2010; Williams et al, 2014; Le Roux et al, 2015; Sarris et al, 2015).  
95 Additionally, several *R. solanacearum* T3Es were shown to induce cell death in  
96 different plant species (Peeters et al, 2013; Clarke et al, 2015), although, in most  
97 cases, it is unclear whether these are due to toxic effects caused by effector  
98 overexpression or a host immune response. Some *R. solanacearum* T3Es have also  
99 been shown to cause a restriction of host range; such is the case for RipAA and RipP1  
100 (also known as AvrA and PopP1, respectively), which are perceived and restrict host  
101 range in *Nicotiana* species (Poueymiro et al, 2009). RipP1 also triggers resistance in  
102 petunia (Lavie et al, 2002). Similarly, RipB-triggered immunity has been reported as  
103 the major cause for avirulence of *R. solanacearum* RS1000 in *Nicotiana* species  
104 (Nakano & Mukaihara, 2019), RipAX2 (also known as Rip36) have been shown to  
105 induce resistance in eggplant and its wild relative *Solanum torvum* (Nahar et al, 2014;  
106 Morel et al, 2018a), and several T3Es from the AWR family (also known as RipA)  
107 restrict bacterial growth in Arabidopsis (Sole et al, 2012). Although the utilization of  
108 these recognition systems to generate disease-resistant crops is tantalizing, it is  
109 imperative to understand the mechanisms underlying the activation of plant immunity

110 and their potential suppression by other T3Es within *R. solanacearum*.

111

112 The *ripE1* gene encodes a protein secreted by the type-III secretion system in the *R.*  
113 *solanacearum* GMI1000 strain (phylotype I) (Mukaihara et al, 2010), and is conserved  
114 across *R. solanacearum* strains from different phylotypes (Peeters et al, 2013). Based  
115 on sequence analysis, RipE1 is homologous to other T3Es in *Pseudomonas syringae*  
116 (HopX) and *Xanthomonas spp* (XopE) (Figure S1; Peeters et al, 2013), belonging to  
117 the HopX/AvrPphB T3E family (Nimchuk et al, 2007). This family is characterized by  
118 the presence of a putative catalytic triad consisting of specific cysteine, histidine, and  
119 aspartic acid residues, which are conserved in RipE1 (Nimchuk et al, 2007; Figure  
120 S1), and is similar to several enzyme families from the transglutaminase protein  
121 superfamily, such as peptide N-glycanases, phytochelatin synthases, and cysteine  
122 proteases (Makarova et al, 1999). AvrPphB, from *P. syringae* pv. *phaseolicola*, the  
123 original member of the HopX/AvrPphB family, was identified based on its ability to  
124 activate immunity in certain bean cultivars (Mansfield et al, 1994). Divergent members  
125 from this family in other strains also trigger immunity, and this requires the putative  
126 catalytic cysteine (Nimchuk et al, 2007). Previous sequence analysis of T3Es from the  
127 HopX family also identified a conserved domain (domain A) required for HopX  
128 induction of immunity in bean and Arabidopsis, which as hypothesized to represent a  
129 host-target interaction domain or a novel nucleotide/cofactor binding domain  
130 (Nimchuk et al, 2007).

131

132 In this work, we studied the impact of RipE1 in plant cells, and found that RipE1 is  
133 recognized by the plant immune system in both *N. benthamiana* and Arabidopsis,  
134 leading to the activation of immune responses. We further investigate the immune  
135 components and signaling pathways associated to this effector recognition. Finally,  
136 we found that another effector in *R. solanacearum* GMI1000 is able to inhibit  
137 RipE1-triggered immune responses in *N. benthamiana*, explaining the fact that RipE1  
138 does not seem to be an avirulence determinant in this plant species.

139 **Results**

140

141 **RipE1 triggers cell death upon transient expression in *Nicotiana benthamiana***

142

143 In order to understand the impact of RipE1 in plant cells, we first used an  
144 *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (hereafter, *Agrobacterium*)-mediated expression system  
145 in *Nicotiana benthamiana* leaves to transiently express RipE1 that is fused to a  
146 carboxyl-terminal green fluorescent protein (GFP) tag (RipE1-GFP). Two days after  
147 *Agrobacterium* infiltration, we noticed the collapse of infiltrated tissues expressing  
148 RipE1-GFP, but not a GFP control (Figure 1a). This tissue collapse correlated with a  
149 release of ions from plant cells (Figure 1b), and cell death was confirmed by trypan  
150 blue staining (Figure S2). Mutation of the catalytic cysteine to an alanine residue has  
151 been shown to disrupt the catalytic activity of enzymes with a catalytic triad similar to  
152 that conserved in RipE1 (Gimenez-Ibanez et al, 2014; Figure 1c). To determine if the  
153 putative catalytic activity is required for RipE1 induction of cell death, we generated an  
154 equivalent mutant in RipE1 (C172A; Figure 1c). We also generated an independent  
155 mutant with a deletion on the eight amino acids that constitute the conserved domain  
156 A (Nimchuk et al, 2007; Figure 1c). These mutations did not affect the accumulation of  
157 RipE1 (Figure 1d), but abolished the induction of tissue collapse and the ion leakage  
158 caused by RipE1 expression (Figure 1e and 1f), indicating that RipE1 requires both  
159 the catalytic cysteine and the conserved domain A for the induction of cell death in  
160 plants.

161

162 Interestingly, RipE1 was also identified in a systematic screen performed in our  
163 laboratory to identify *R. solanacearum* T3Es that suppress immune responses  
164 triggered by bacterial elicitors. In this screen we found that RipE1 expression  
165 suppresses the burst of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and the activation of  
166 mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPKs) triggered upon treatment with the  
167 bacterial flagellin epitope flg22, which acts as an immune elicitor (Figure S3a and  
168 S3b). RipE1 requires both the catalytic cysteine and the conserved domain A for this

169 activity (Figure S3c). However, we considered the possibility that these responses are  
170 abolished by the death of plant cells rather than an active immune suppression.  
171 Time-course experiments showed that the suppression of flg22-triggered ROS  
172 correlated with the appearance of cell death (Figure S3a and S3d), making it difficult  
173 to uncouple these observations.

174

### 175 **RipE1 activates salicylic acid-dependent immunity in *N. benthamiana***

176

177 The induction of cell death by pathogen effectors may reflect toxicity in plant cells or  
178 the activation of immune responses that lead to a HR. Salicylic Acid (SA) plays a  
179 major role in the activation of immune responses after the perception of different types  
180 of invasion patterns (Vlot *et al.*, 2009). To determine whether RipE1 activates immune  
181 responses, we first measured the expression of the *N. benthamiana* ortholog of the  
182 Arabidopsis gene *PATHOGENESIS-RELATED-1* (*PR1*), which is a hallmark of  
183 SA-dependent immune responses (Vlot *et al.*, 2009, Ward *et al.*, 1991). Expression of  
184 RipE1-GFP (but not the C172A catalytic mutant) significantly enhanced the  
185 accumulation of *NbPR1* transcripts (Figure 2a). In keeping with the notion that RipE1  
186 activates a defense response against *R. solanacearum*, RipE1 expression in *N.*  
187 *benthamiana* leaves enhanced resistance against subsequently inoculated *R.*  
188 *solanacearum* Y45, which is otherwise pathogenic in *N. benthamiana* (Li *et al.*, 2011)  
189 (Figure 2b). The bacterial salicylate hydroxylase NahG converts SA to catechol, which  
190 leads to the suppression of SA-dependent responses (Delaney *et al.*, 1994). The  
191 expression of NahG-GFP in *N. benthamiana* slightly enhanced the accumulation of  
192 RipE1 fused to a carboxyl-terminal N-luciferase tag (Nluc) (Figure S4), consistent with  
193 the reported role of SA in hindering Agrobacterium-mediated transformation  
194 (Rosas-Diaz *et al.*, 2016); despite this, *NahG* expression partially suppressed  
195 RipE1-triggered cell death, ion leakage, and *NbPR1* expression (Figure 2c, d and e).  
196 Altogether, these data suggest that RipE1 induces SA-dependent immune responses  
197 in plant cells, which cause the development of a HR.

198



199 **RipE1 enhances the expression of *PAL* genes and the biosynthesis of salicylic**  
200 **acid and jasmonic acid**

201

202 The expression of RipE1 led to a dramatic increase in SA accumulation in *N.*  
203 *benthamiana* (Figure 3a), consistent with the observed overexpression of *NbPR1*  
204 (Figure 2a). This reinforces the idea that RipE1 is perceived by the plant immune  
205 system and this leads to the activation of SA biosynthesis and SA-dependent immune  
206 responses. In Arabidopsis, the chloroplastic pathway mediated by isochorismate  
207 synthetase 1 (*ICS1*) plays a predominant role in the pathogen-induced SA  
208 biosynthesis (Wildermuth et al, Nature, 2001; Garcion et al, Plant Physiology, 2008).  
209 However, gene expression analysis showed that the expression of the *N.*  
210 *benthamiana* ortholog of the Arabidopsis *ICS1*, *NbICS1*, was significantly reduced  
211 upon RipE1 expression (Figure 3b), despite the simultaneous high *NbPR1* transcript  
212 accumulation (Figure 2a). SA can also be synthesized from phenylalanine in a  
213 pathway mediated by phenylalanine ammonia lyases (*PALs*). In contrast with the  
214 expression of *NbICS1*, several genes encoding *NbPALs* were up-regulated upon  
215 expression of RipE1, but not the catalytic mutant version (Figure 3c-e), suggesting  
216 that this pathway may mediate the enhancement of SA biosynthesis upon perception  
217 of RipE1 activity. SA and Jasmonic Acid (JA) are considered antagonistic hormones in  
218 plant immune responses. Surprisingly, instead of a reduction of the expression of  
219 genes associated to JA biosynthesis, we found an increase in the accumulation of  
220 transcripts of *NbLOX2* and *NbAOS* upon expression of catalytically active RipE1  
221 (Figure 3f). In Arabidopsis, *LOX2* and *AOS* contribute to the biosynthesis of JA (Bell et  
222 al, 1995; Laudert et al, 1996). Accordingly, we detected an increase in JA contents  
223 upon RipE1 expression (Figure S5), indicating that RipE1 perception does not inhibit  
224 JA signalling, but rather leads to an enhancement of JA biosynthesis and associated  
225 gene expression.

226

227 **RipE1-triggered immunity requires *SGT1*, but not *EDS1* or *NRC* proteins**

228

229 The suppressor of the G2 allele of *skp1* (SGT1) plays an essential role in ETI, and is  
230 required for the induction of disease resistance mediated by most NLRs (Azevedo *et*  
231 *al.*, 2002; Kadota *et al.*, 2010). Virus-induced gene silencing (VIGS) of *NbSGT1*  
232 abolished RipE1-triggered cell death, ion leakage, and *NbPR1* expression (Figure  
233 4a-d), indicating that RipE1-triggered immunity requires SGT1. While most NLRs  
234 require SGT1 to function, a specific group of NLRs containing an N-terminal Toll-like  
235 interleukin-1 receptor (TIR) domain also require EDS1 (Wiermer *et al.*, 2005; Schultink  
236 *et al.*, 2017). *N. benthamiana* plants carrying a stable knockout mutation in *EDS1*  
237 (Schultink *et al.*, 2017) displayed clear RipE1-triggered cell death (Figure 4e),  
238 suggesting that RipE1-triggered immunity is not mediated by a TIR-NLR. Other NLRs  
239 contain a C-terminal coiled coil (CC) domain, and a specific subset of CC-NLRs  
240 require a network of helper NLRs termed NRC proteins (Wu *et al.*, 2016). Interestingly,  
241 silencing of NRC proteins did not impact RipE1-triggered cell death (Figure S6),  
242 suggesting that RipE1-triggered immunity is not mediated by an NLR within the NRC  
243 network.

244

### 245 **RipE1 activates immunity in Arabidopsis**

246

247 Arabidopsis transgenic plants expressing RipE1-GFP from a 35S inducible promoter  
248 died after germination (data not shown). Therefore, we generated Arabidopsis  
249 transgenic plants expressing RipE1-GFP and RipE1<sup>C172A</sup>-GFP from an estradiol  
250 (EST)-inducible promoter. Five-week-old plants expressing RipE1-GFP, but not  
251 RipE1<sup>C172A</sup>-GFP, showed reduced growth in soil upon EST treatment for 14 days  
252 (Figure 5a). To determine whether RipE1-triggered growth reduction in Arabidopsis  
253 correlates with the activation of immunity, we first monitored the expression of  
254 defence-related genes. Similar to the result observed upon expression in *N.*  
255 *benthamiana*, expression of RipE1 in Arabidopsis triggered the overexpression of  
256 *AtPR1* (Figure 5b). However, in Arabidopsis, the enhanced *PR1* expression correlated  
257 with an overexpression of *AtICS1*, but not *AtPAL1*, upon RipE1 expression (Figure 5b).  
258 As observed in *N. benthamiana*, RipE1 expression led to the overexpression of the JA

259 marker genes *AtVSP2* and *AtPDF1.2* (Figure 5b). This indicates that, as observed in  
260 *N. benthamiana*, RipE1 activates SA- and JA-dependent signalling in Arabidopsis. To  
261 determine whether the activation of defence-related genes in Arabidopsis leads to an  
262 efficient immune response against *R. solanacearum*, we inoculated RipE1-expressing  
263 plants by soil-drenching with *R. solanacearum* after EST treatment for 2 days. As  
264 shown in the figure 5c, RipE1-expressing plants displayed weaker and delayed  
265 disease symptoms upon *R. solanacearum* inoculation, reflecting an enhanced  
266 disease resistance upon *RipE1* expression. RipE1-expressing plants also showed a  
267 moderate reduction in bacterial growth after *R. solanacearum* infiltration in the leaves  
268 (Figure S7a), suggesting that the immune response is not exclusively associated to  
269 invasion or proliferation in the root. However, RipE1-expressing plants did not display  
270 enhanced resistance against the leaf-borne pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* pv.  
271 *tomato* DC3000 (Figure S7b and S7c).

272

### 273 **RipE1-triggered immune responses are suppressed by RipAY**

274

275 RipE1 expression activates immunity in Arabidopsis and *N. benthamiana*, although  
276 both plant species are susceptible hosts for *R. solanacearum* GMI1000 (or a  
277 derivative strain carrying mutations in *ripP1* and *ripAA*, in the case of *N. benthamiana*;  
278 Poueymiro et al, 2009), which carries RipE1. Therefore, we reasoned that other T3E(s)  
279 in GMI1000 may be able to suppress RipE1-triggered immunity in the context of  
280 infection. We recently identified a *R. solanacearum* T3E, RipAY, which is able to  
281 suppress SA-dependent immune responses through the degradation of glutathione  
282 (Sang et al, 2016; Mukaihara et al, 2016); however, the ability of RipAY to suppress  
283 immunity triggered by other *R. solanacearum* T3Es remained unknown. Interestingly,  
284 the expression of RipE1 in *N. benthamiana* leads to an increase in glutathione  
285 accumulation in plant tissues, which precedes the onset of immune responses (Figure  
286 6a). Considering that both RipAY and RipE1 are present in GMI1000, we sought to  
287 determine if RipAY has the ability to suppress RipE1-triggered immunity. Indeed,  
288 expression of RipAY in *N. benthamiana* did not affect the accumulation of RipE1

289 (Figure S8), but inhibited the tissue collapse and ion leakage caused by *RipE1*  
290 expression (Figure 6b and c). Moreover, RipAY was able to suppress the  
291 overexpression of several SA-related genes triggered by RipE1 (Figure 6d and S9),  
292 indicating that RipAY suppresses RipE1-triggered immune responses. RipAY did not  
293 significantly suppress the expression of *NbLOX2* or *NbAOS* (Figure S9). This could  
294 reflect a predominant role of RipAY in the suppression of RipE1-triggered SA  
295 responses, and may be responsible for the absence of a full suppression of  
296 RipE1-triggered HR (Figure 6b and c). Interestingly, however, a RipAY point mutant  
297 unable to degrade glutathione (RipAY<sup>E216Q</sup>; Sang et al, 2016) did not suppress  
298 RipE1-triggered responses (Figure 6b-d), suggesting that RipAY suppresses  
299 RipE1-triggered immunity through the degradation of cellular glutathione.

300

301

302 **Discussion**

303

304 Expression of T3Es in plant cells may either induce cell death because of cell toxicity  
305 or lead to the activation of an immunity-associated HR. Over-expression of RipE1 in *N.*  
306 *benthamiana* leads to a HR that: (i) is dependent on the immune regulator SGT1; (ii)  
307 activates SA accumulation and *PR1* expression; (iii) restricts growth of *R.*  
308 *solanacearum* Y45; and (iv) is suppressed by the NahG and other *R. solanacearum*  
309 effectors, indicating that RipE1-mediated cell death is due to the activation of  
310 immunity in the host. It is, however, noteworthy that cell death induced by RipE1  
311 develops slower than that triggered by other HR-inducing T3Es (*i.e.* RipAA; Figure  
312 S2). Several T3Es within the HopX/AvrPphB family are predicted enzymes that are  
313 associated with activation of host immunity, although the association of the predicted  
314 catalytic activity with the activation of immunity seems to be differ among them. While  
315 the ability of AvrPphB and several other family members to trigger immunity requires  
316 the putative catalytic cysteine (Mansfield et al, 1994; Nimchuk et al, 2007), other  
317 members with the predicted catalytic activity, such as HopX from *P. syringae* pv *tabaci*  
318 or *P. syringae* pv *phaseolicola* race 6, do not trigger immunity in the same hosts  
319 (Stevens et al, 1998; Nimchuk et al, 2007). In the case of RipE1, the putative catalytic  
320 cysteine is required for the induction of immunity, which suggests that RipE1 is an  
321 active enzyme, and that this catalytic activity leads to perception by the host immune  
322 system. Moreover, the conserved domain A (Nimchuk et al, 2007) is also required for  
323 the activation of immunity by RipE1. In addition, we found that RipE1 is able to  
324 suppress elicitor-triggered immune responses in *N. benthamiana*. However, since this  
325 activity correlates with the induction of cell death, it is difficult to uncouple both  
326 observations, and further studies on the virulence activity of RipE1 will require the  
327 utilization of a host plant that is unable to recognize it.

328

329 The fact that RipE1 is recognized, and activate immune responses, in both *N.*  
330 *benthamiana* and *Arabidopsis* suggests at least two scenarios: it is possible that the  
331 NLR responsible for this recognition is conserved in both species; on the other hand, it

332 is also possible that both species have independently develop NLRs that recognize  
333 RipE1. Although we did not identify the NLR involved, we determined that, at least in  
334 *N. benthamiana*, RipE1 recognition does not rely on EDS1 or the NRC network,  
335 pointing to a CC- NRC-independent NLR. Interestingly, although RipE1 perception  
336 leads to the accumulation of SA in both plant species, the associated gene expression  
337 patterns seem to differ. The ICS pathway plays a predominant role in the  
338 pathogen-induced SA biosynthesis in Arabidopsis (Wildermuth et al, Nature, 2001;  
339 Garcion et al, Plant Physiology, 2008). In agreement with this, the RipE1-triggered  
340 overexpression of *AtPR1* in Arabidopsis correlates with an enhanced expression of  
341 *AtICS1*, but not *AtPAL1*. However, it seems that the RipE1-induced increase in SA  
342 content in *N. benthamiana* correlates with a reduction of *NbICS1* gene expression,  
343 and an increase in the expression of several *NbPAL* genes. Considering that ICS1 is  
344 normally regulated at the transcriptional level upon pathogen perception (Wildemurth  
345 et al, 2001), our results suggest that the PAL pathway is more relevant than the ICS  
346 pathway for the induction of RipE1-triggered immunity in *N. benthamiana*, indicating  
347 that both pathways are differentially required for distinct immune responses in  
348 different plant species. Similarly, both the ICS and PAL pathways have been reported  
349 to be required for pathogen-induced SA biosynthesis in soybean (Shine et al, 2016).  
350 The reduction in ICS1 expression in *N. benthamiana* may reflect a compensatory  
351 effect between the ICS and PAL pathway. In addition to different gene expression  
352 patterns, the physiological output in both plant species may be different. Although  
353 RipE1 expression caused an inhibition of Arabidopsis growth, we did not observe any  
354 signs of cell death (data not shown), which contrasts with our observation in *N.*  
355 *benthamiana*. However, this may be caused by differences in the expression system  
356 used in both plants (Agrobacterium-mediated transient expression in *N. benthamiana*  
357 vs EST-induced expression in Arabidopsis stable transgenic plants).

358

359 Another surprising aspect of RipE1-triggered immunity is the fact that it leads to the  
360 simultaneous accumulation of SA and JA, and to a strong and moderate SA- and  
361 JA-triggered gene expression, respectively, in both *N. benthamiana* and Arabidopsis.

362 This suggests that, in the case of RipE1-triggered immunity, SA and JA may play a  
363 cooperative role, possibly reflecting the complexity of the *R. solanacearum* infection  
364 process compared to other pathogens. In keeping with this notion, although  
365 RipE1-expressing Arabidopsis plants displayed enhanced resistance against *R.*  
366 *solanacearum* and up-regulation of SA-related genes, they did not show enhanced  
367 resistance against the leaf-borne pathogen *P. syringae* pv. *tomato* DC3000 (Figure  
368 S6). Since the enhancement of JA signalling has been associated to a promotion of  
369 virulence by this pathogen (Gimenez-Ibanez *et al*, 2016), the observed up-regulation  
370 of JA-related genes may underlie this phenomenon.

371

372 If RipE1 triggers immunity in *N. benthamiana*, why is it that a GMI1000 strain without  
373 RipP1 and RipAA (but having RipE1) can cause a successful infection in *N.*  
374 *benthamiana* without triggering immunity (Poueymiro *et al*, 2009)? Here, we found  
375 that another effector within GMI1000, RipAY, is able to inhibit RipE1-triggered  
376 immunity. Since RipE1 perception correlates with an enhancement of cellular  
377 glutathione, and RipAY requires its gamma-glutamyl cyclotransferase activity to inhibit  
378 RipE1-triggered HR, the degradation of glutathione or other gamma-glutamyl  
379 compounds (Sang *et al*, 2016; Mukaihara *et al*, 2016; Fujiwara *et al*, 2016) is the most  
380 likely mechanism for this inhibition. Besides RipAY, other T3Es within GMI1000  
381 contribute to the suppression of RipE1-triggered HR by targeting other immune  
382 functions (Yu *et al*, bioRxiv, 2019; Wang & Macho, unpublished data), playing a  
383 redundant role that likely leads to the robust suppression of RipE1-triggered immunity  
384 in GMI1000. This reflects bacterial adaptation: RipE1 could be important for virulence,  
385 but also triggers immunity. In this context, instead of losing RipE1, *R. solanacearum*  
386 has developed other effectors to suppress the induction of immunity, while keeping  
387 RipE1 virulence activity. This is reminiscent of what has been shown for *P. syringae* pv.  
388 *syringae* B728a, where several effectors within the same strain suppress the HR  
389 triggered by HopZ3, which otherwise acts as a virulence factor (Rufian *et al*, 2018).  
390 Similarly, although transient expression of HopX from *P. syringae* pv *tomato* (*Pto*)  
391 triggers HR in specific Arabidopsis accessions, it does not trigger HR in the context of

392 *Pto* infection (Nimchuk et al, 2007). It is possible that, as in the case of RipE1, the  
393 immune responses triggered by HopX are masked during *Pto* infection (as suggested  
394 in Nimchuk et al, 2007), likely due to the suppression by other effectors within the  
395 same strain.

396

397

Journal Pre-proof



## 398 **Materials and Methods**

399

### 400 **Plant materials and growth conditions**

401 *N. benthamiana* plants were grown on soil at one plant per pot in an environmentally  
402 controlled growth room at 25 °C under a 16-h light/8-h dark photoperiod with a  
403 light-intensity of 130  $\mu\text{E m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ . *A. thaliana* plants were grown under the same  
404 conditions as *N. benthamiana* for collection of seeds. For bacterial virulence and ROS  
405 burst assays, *A. thaliana* plants were grown in a growth chamber controlled at 22°C  
406 with a 10 h photoperiod and a light-intensity of 100-150  $\mu\text{E m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ . After *R.*  
407 *solanacearum* inoculation, Arabidopsis plants were transferred to a growth chamber  
408 at 27°C with 75% humid under a 12-h light/12-h dark photoperiod.

409

### 410 **Chemicals**

411 The flg22 peptide (TRLSSGLKINSAKDDAAGLQIA) was purchased from Abclonal,  
412 USA. All other chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich unless otherwise  
413 stated.

414

### 415 **Plasmids, bacterial strains and cultivation conditions**

416 *R. solanacearum* GMI1000 was grown on solid BG medium plates or cultivated  
417 over-night in liquid BG medium at 28°C (Morel et al., 2018b). The *ripE1* gene from *R.*  
418 *solanacearum* GMI1000 cloned in pDONR207 (donated by Nemo Peeters and  
419 Anne-Claire Cazale) was subcloned into pGWB505 by LR reaction (ThermoFisher,  
420 USA) to generate a fusion protein with eGFP tag at the C-terminal (Nakagawa *et al.*,  
421 2007). *RipE1* and *ripE1* mutants were inserted between BamHI and XhoI restriction  
422 sites on sXVE:GFPc:Bar estradiol inducible vector using enzyme digestion  
423 (Schlücking et al., 2013). These generated binary vectors were transformed into  
424 *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (Agrobacterium) GV3101 for transient or stable gene  
425 expression in *N. benthamiana* and *A. thaliana* plants. Agrobacterium carrying  
426 pGWB505 vectors were grown at 28°C and 220 rpm in L B medium supplemented with  
427 rifampicin 50 mg/l, gentamycin 25 mg/l and spectinomycin 50 mg/l, while those

428 carrying estradiol inducible vectors were grown in rifampicin 50 mg/l, gentamycin 25  
429 mg/l and kanamycin 50 mg/l.

430

#### 431 **Site-directed mutagenesis**

432 *RipE1*<sub>C172A</sub> and *RipE1*  $\Delta AD$  mutant variants were generated using the QuickChange  
433 Lightning Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Life technologies, USA) following the  
434 manufacturer's instructions. *RipE1*/pDONR207 plasmid was used as template.  
435 Primers used for the mutagenesis are listed in Table S1.

436

#### 437 **Agrobacterium-mediated gene expression in *A. thaliana* and *N. benthamiana***

438 Stable transgenic Arabidopsis plants with *RipE1* and *RipE1* mutated variants driven  
439 by estradiol inducible promoter were obtained using the floral dip method (Zhang et. al,  
440 2006). Homozygous T<sub>3</sub> lines were used for all the experiments.  
441 Agrobacterium-mediated transient expression in *N. benthamiana* was performed as  
442 described (Li, 2011). Agrobacterium carrying the resultant plasmids were suspended  
443 in infiltration buffer to a final OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.1~0.5 and infiltrated into the abaxial side of the  
444 leaves using the 1 ml needleless syringe. Leaf samples were taken at 1-3 dpi (days  
445 post infiltration) for analysis based on experimental requirements.

446

#### 447 **Protein extraction and western blots**

448 Plant tissues were collected into 2 ml tubes with metal beads and frozen in liquid  
449 nitrogen. After grinding with a tissue lyser (Qiagen, Germany) for 1 min at 30 rpm/s,  
450 proteins were extracted using protein extraction buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 150  
451 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, 5 mM Ethylene diamine tetra acetic acid (EDTA), 2 mM  
452 Dithiothreitol (DTT), 1x Plant Protease Inhibitor cocktail, 1% NP-40, 2 mM  
453 Phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), 10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>, 10 mM NaF, 2 mM Na<sub>3</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>)  
454 and incubating for 5 min. After centrifugation, the supernatants were mixed with SDS  
455 loading buffer, incubated at 70 °C for 10 min, and resolved using SDS-PAGE.  
456 Proteins were transferred to a PVDF membrane and monitored by western blot using  
457 anti-GFP (Abicode, M0802-3a) and anti-luciferase (Sigma, L0159) antibodies.

458

**459 Measurement of ROS generation and MAPK activation**

460 PAMP-triggered ROS burst and MAPK activation in plant leaves were measured as  
461 described previously (Sang et al., 2017; Segonzac *et al.*, 2011). ROS was elicited with  
462 50 nM flg22. MAPK activation assays were performed using 4 to 5-week-old *N.*  
463 *benthamiana*. Two days after Agrobacterium infiltration at OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.1, the intact  
464 leaves were elicited for 15 min after vacuum infiltration of 100 nM flg22. Leaf discs  
465 were taken to monitor MAPK activation by western blot with Phospho-p44/42 MAPK  
466 (Erk1/2; Thr-202/Tyr-204) antibodies.

467

**468 Cell death measurement**

469 Cell death in plant leaves was quantified as previously described (Yu et al, bioRxiv,  
470 2019) by measuring the electrolyte leakage using a conductivity meter (ThermoFisher,  
471 USA) or observing the autofluorescence using the BioRad Gel Imager (Bio-Rad, USA).  
472 Briefly, one day after Agrobacterium infiltration in *N. benthamiana*, one 13 mm leaf  
473 disk was immersed in 4 ml of distilled water for 1 h with gentle shaking and then  
474 transferred to a 6-well culture plate containing 4 ml distilled water in each well. The ion  
475 conductivity was then measured at different time intervals. Autofluorescence in intact  
476 *N. benthamiana* leaves was measured at 2.5 dpi. Trypan blue staining was performed  
477 as previously described (Lv *et al*, 2019).

478

**479 RNA isolation and qRT-PCR**

480 Five-to-eight day-old Arabidopsis seedlings were grown in sterile conditions and 8-10  
481 seedlings grown in an independent plate were collected as one biological sample. For  
482 *N. benthamiana* tissues, 3 leaf discs were taken from each leaf from different plants  
483 and collected as one biological sample. Total RNA was extracted using the E.Z.N.A.  
484 Plant RNA kit with DNA digestion on column (Biotek, China) according to the  
485 manufacturer's instructions. RNA samples were quantified with a Nanodrop  
486 spectrophotometer (ThermoFisher, USA). First strand cDNA was synthesized using  
487 the iScript<sup>TM</sup> cDNA synthesis kit (Bio-Rad). qRT-PCR was performed using the iTaq<sup>TM</sup>

488 Universal SYBR Green Supermix (Bio-Rad) and CFX96 Real-time system (Bio-Rad)  
489 and the qPCR data was analyzed as previously described (Livak & Schmittgen, 2001;  
490 Wang et al, 2019). The identifiers of the genes analyzed by qRT-PCR are: *NbPR1*  
491 (Niben101Scf03376g03004); *NbICS1* (Niben101Scf00593g04010); *NbPAL05*  
492 (Niben101Scf05617g00005); *NbPAL08* (Niben101Scf03712g01008); *NbPAL10*  
493 (Niben101Scf12881g00010); *NbLOX2* (Niben101Scf06364g00003); *NbAOS*  
494 (Niben101Scf05799g02010); *NbEF1a* (Niben101Scf08618g01001); *AtPR1*  
495 (AT2G14610); *AtICS1* (AT1G74710); *AtPAL1* (AT2G37040); *AtPDF1.2* (AT5G44420);  
496 *AtVSP2* (AT5G24770); *AtACTIN2* (AT3G18780). Primer sequences are listed in Table  
497 S1.

498

#### 499 **Measurements of SA and JA content in plant leaves**

500 SA and JA content were quantified using the method described by Forcat and  
501 collaborators (2008) with the following modifications. Leaves (50 mg FW) were  
502 collected 42 hours after *Agrobacterium* infiltration and frozen in liquid nitrogen before  
503 grounding into fine powder with the Qiagen tissue lyser. SA and JA were extracted at  
504 10 °C for 1 h using 70% methanol extraction solvent spiked with d4-SA as internal  
505 standards. Supernatant was taken after centrifugation at 20000 rcf for 10 min and  
506 analyzed on ACQUITY UPLC I-class coupled with AB SCIEX TripleTOF 5600+. The  
507 analytical column used was an ACQUITY UPLC BECH C18 1.7 µm, 2.1X150 mm  
508 column. The JA concentration was calculated based on the calibration curve created  
509 by running a JA standard solution. The results were analyzed by Peakview1.2.

510

#### 511 **Measurements of total cellular glutathione in *N. benthamiana* leaves**

512 Total cellular glutathione was measured as previously described (Sang et al, 2016).  
513 Briefly, 10 mg of *N. benthamiana* leaves were collected and glutathione was  
514 measured using a Glutathione Assay Kit (Beyotime, China) according to the  
515 manufacturer's instructions.

516

**517 Virus-induced gene silencing (VIGS) in *N. benthamiana***

518 VIGS in *N. benthamiana* plants was performed using TRV vectors as described  
519 (Senthil-Kumar & Mysore, 2014). VIGS of *NbSGT1* was performed with several  
520 modifications described by Yu and collaborators (2019). Cultures of *Agrobacterium*  
521 carrying pTRV2:*NbSGT1* plasmids or pTRV2 plasmids were mixed at 1:1 ratio and  
522 co-infiltrated into the lower leaves of 3-week-old *N. benthamiana* plants. The upper  
523 leaves were used for experimental assay within 7-10 days after VIGS application.  
524 Silencing of NRCs (NLR required for cell death) in *N. benthamiana* and subsequent  
525 expression of T3Es was performed as described by Wu and collaborators (2017).

526

**527 *Pseudomonas syringae* virulence assays**

528 For leaf infiltration with *P. syringae*, *Arabidopsis* plants were treated with 100  $\mu$ M EST  
529 for 2 days before inoculation. Plants showed no difference in root or shoot size at the  
530 time of inoculation. *Pto* DC3000 was resuspended in water at  $10^5$  cfu/ml. The bacterial  
531 suspensions were then infiltrated into 4-to-5-week-old *Arabidopsis* leaves using a  
532 needleless syringe. For spray inoculation, *Pto* DC3000 was resuspended in water at  
533  $10^8$  cfu/ml, and silwet-L77 was added to a final concentration of 0.02% before  
534 spraying onto 3-week-old *Arabidopsis* seedlings. Bacterial numbers were determined  
535 3 days post-inoculation as previously described (Macho *et al.*, 2012; Wang *et al.*,  
536 2019).

537

**538 *Ralstonia solanacearum* virulence assays**

539 For standard *R. solanacearum* virulence assays, 4-week-old *A. thaliana* plants, grown  
540 in Jiffy pots, were inoculated with *R. solanacearum* without wounding by soil  
541 drenching. For experiments using inducible transgenic lines, all the plants were  
542 treated with 100  $\mu$ M EST for 2 days before inoculation. Plants showed no difference in  
543 root or shoot size at the time of inoculation. An overnight-grown bacterial suspension  
544 was diluted to obtain an inoculum of  $5 \times 10^7$  cfu/ml. Once the Jiffy pots were completely  
545 drenched, the plants were removed from the bacterial solution and placed back on a  
546 bed of potting mixture soil. The genotypes to be tested were placed in a random order

547 in order to allow an unbiased analysis of the wilting. Daily scoring of the visible wilting  
548 on a scale ranging from 0 to 4 (or 0 to 100% leaves wilting) led to an analysis using  
549 the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, log-rank test and hazard ratio calculation as  
550 previously described (Morel et al., 2018b).

551 To determine *R. solanacearum* growth in Arabidopsis leaves, a  $10^7$  cfu/ml inoculum  
552 was infiltrated into leaves of 4-week-old Arabidopsis plants 2 days after EST treatment,  
553 and samples were taken 2 days after inoculation. To determine *R. solanacearum*  
554 growth in *N. benthamiana* leaves, a  $10^5$  cfu/ml inoculum of *R. solanacearum* Y45 was  
555 infiltrated into *N. benthamiana* leaves expressing RipE1-GFP or a GFP control.  
556 RipE1-GFP was expressed using Agrobacterium, and *R. solanacearum* Y45 was  
557 infiltrated in leaf tissues 24 hours after Agrobacterium infiltration, before the  
558 development of cell death. *R. solanacearum* Y45 is a strain originally isolated from  
559 tobacco (Li et al., 2011), which is pathogenic in *N. benthamiana* (unpublished data).

560 To determine bacterial numbers, leaf discs (3 leaf discs from Arabidopsis plants and 4  
561 leaf discs from *N. benthamiana* plants) were taken and weighed. The plant tissue was  
562 ground and homogenized in distilled water before plating serial dilutions to determine  
563 cfu per gram of fresh weight.

564

**565 Author contributions**

566 Y.S., W.Y., L.D., and A.P.M. designed the experiments. Y.S., W.Y., H.Z., Y.W., L.D.,  
567 G.Y., and J.L. performed the experiments and analysed the data. A.P.M. conceived  
568 the project, analysed the data, and wrote the manuscript with input from all the  
569 authors.

570

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583

584



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- 828

829 **Figure legends**830 **Figure 1. RipE1 triggers cell death in *Nicotiana benthamiana*.**

831 (a) RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control) were expressed in the same leaf of *N.*  
832 *benthamiana* using *Agrobacterium* with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. Photos were taken 2 days  
833 post-inoculation with a CCD camera (upper panel) or an UV camera (lower panel). UV  
834 signal corresponds to the development of cell death (not GFP fluorescence). UV  
835 images were taken from the abaxial side and flipped horizontally for representation. (b)  
836 Ion leakage measured in leaf discs taken from *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing  
837 RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control), representative of cell death, at the indicated time  
838 points. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). (c) Simplified diagram  
839 of RipE1, including the residues comprising the Domain A and the predicted catalytic  
840 triad. (d) Western blot showing the accumulation of RipE1 mutant variants.  $\Delta$ AD  
841 corresponds to a deletion mutant of the Domain A (residues 121-128). Molecular  
842 weight (kDa) marker bands are indicated for reference. (e) Cell death triggered by  
843 RipE1 mutant variants (conditions as in (a)). (f) Ion leakage measured in leaf discs  
844 taken from *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing RipE1 mutant variants (conditions as  
845 in (b)). Each experiment was repeated at least 3 times with similar results.

846

847 **Figure 2. RipE1 activates SA-dependent immune responses in *N. benthamiana*.**

848 (a) Quantitative RT-PCR to determine the expression of *RipE1* and *NbPR1* in *N.*  
849 *benthamiana* tissues expressing GFP, RipE1, or RipE1 C172A, using *Agrobacterium*  
850 with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.1. Samples were taken at the indicated times after *Agrobacterium*  
851 infiltration. In each case, the RipE1 variants and their respective GFP control were  
852 expressed in the same leaf, and values are represented side-by-side. Expression  
853 values are relative to the expression of the housekeeping gene *NbEF1a*. Values  
854 indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). (b) RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control)  
855 were expressed in the same leaf of *N. benthamiana* using *Agrobacterium* with an  
856 OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. Twenty-four hours after *Agrobacterium* infiltration, before the  
857 appearance of cell death, a 10<sup>5</sup> cfu/ml inoculum of *R. solanacearum* Y45 was  
858 infiltrated into the same tissues. Samples were taken one day post-inoculation to



859 determine Y45 colony-forming units (cfu) per gram of tissue. Values indicate mean  $\pm$   
860 SE (n=6 biological replicates). (c-e) RipE1-Nluc was expressed 24 hours after  
861 expression of GFP (as control) or with NahG-GFP in the same leaf. Protein  
862 accumulation is shown in the figure S4. (c) Photos were taken 2.5 days  
863 post-inoculation with a CCD camera (upper panel) or an UV camera (lower panel). UV  
864 signal corresponds to the development of cell death (not GFP fluorescence). UV  
865 images were taken from the abaxial side and flipped horizontally for representation. (d)  
866 Ion leakage measured in leaf discs taken from *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing  
867 RipE1 together with GFP or NahG-GFP, representative of cell death, at the indicated  
868 time points. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). (e) Quantitative  
869 RT-PCR to determine the expression of *NbPR1* in *N. benthamiana* tissues 48 hours  
870 after Agrobacterium infiltration. Expression values are relative to the expression of the  
871 housekeeping gene *NbEF1a*. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates).  
872 Asterisks indicate significant differences compared to the mock control according to a  
873 Student's t test (\* p < 0.05; \*\*\* p < 0.001). Each experiment was repeated at least 3  
874 times with similar results.

875

876 **Figure 3. RipE1 perception enhances the expression of PAL genes and SA**  
877 **biosynthesis in *N. benthamiana*.**

878 (a) Measurement of SA accumulation in *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing GFP,  
879 RipE1, or RipE1 C172A, using Agrobacterium with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. Samples were  
880 taken 42 hours after Agrobacterium infiltration. Three independent biological repeats  
881 were performed, and the different colors indicate values from different replicates.  
882 Values are represented as % of the GFP control in each replicate. (b-f) Quantitative  
883 RT-PCR to determine the expression of *NbICS1* (b), *NbPAL05* (c), *NbPAL08* (d),  
884 *NbPAL10* (e), *NbLOX2* (f), and *NbAOS* (g), in *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing  
885 GFP, RipE1, or RipE1 C172A, using Agrobacterium with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. Samples  
886 were taken at the indicated times after Agrobacterium infiltration. In each case, the  
887 RipE1 variants and their respective GFP control were expressed in the same leaf, and  
888 values are represented side-by-side. Expression values are relative to the expression

889 of the housekeeping gene *NbEF1a*. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological  
890 replicates). Asterisks indicate significant differences compared to the mock control  
891 according to a Student's t test (\* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.01; \*\*\* p < 0.001). Each experiment  
892 was repeated at least 3 times with similar results.

893

894 **Figure 4. RipE1-triggered responses require SGT1, but not EDS1.**

895 (a-d) RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control) were expressed in the same leaf of *N.*  
896 *benthiana* undergoing VIGS of *NbSGT1* or VIGS with an empty vector (EV)  
897 construct (as control), using *Agrobacterium* with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. (a) Western blot  
898 showing the accumulation of GFP, RipE1-GFP, and endogenous *NbSGT1*. Molecular  
899 weight (kDa) marker bands are indicated for reference. (b) Photos were taken 2 days  
900 post-inoculation with a CCD camera (upper panel) or an UV camera (lower panel). UV  
901 signal corresponds to the development of cell death (not GFP fluorescence). UV  
902 images were taken from the abaxial side and flipped horizontally for representation. (c)  
903 Ion leakage measured in leaf discs taken from *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing  
904 RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control), representative of cell death, 48 hours after  
905 *Agrobacterium* infiltration. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). (d)  
906 Quantitative RT-PCR to determine the expression of *NbPR1* in *N. benthamiana*  
907 tissues 48 hours after *Agrobacterium* infiltration. Expression values are relative to the  
908 expression of the housekeeping gene *NbEF1a*. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3  
909 biological replicates). (e) RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control) were expressed in the same  
910 leaf of *N. benthamiana* wild type or a stable *eds1* knockout mutant, using  
911 *Agrobacterium* with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. Photos were taken 2 days post-inoculation with a  
912 CCD camera (upper panel) or an UV camera (lower panel). UV signal corresponds to  
913 the development of cell death (not GFP fluorescence). UV images were taken from  
914 the abaxial side and flipped horizontally for representation. Asterisks indicate  
915 significant differences compared to the mock control according to a Student's t test  
916 (\*\*\* p < 0.001). Each experiment was repeated at least 3 times with similar results.

917

918 **Figure 5. RipE1 triggers immunity in Arabidopsis.**



919 (a) *Arabidopsis* Col-0 wild type or independent stable transgenic lines expressing  
920 RipE1 or RipE1 C172A from an estradiol (EST)-inducible promoter were grown for 3  
921 weeks and then treated sprayed with 100  $\mu$ M EST daily. Photographs were taken 2  
922 weeks after beginning the EST treatment. (b) *Arabidopsis* 4 day-old seedlings were  
923 treated with 25  $\mu$ M EST and samples were taken 1, 2, 3, or 4 days after EST  
924 treatment. Quantitative RT-PCR to determine the expression of *RipE1*, *AtPR1*,  
925 *AtPAL1*, *AtICS1*, *AtVSP2*, and *AtPDF1.2*. Expression values are relative to the  
926 expression of the housekeeping gene *AtACT2*. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3  
927 biological replicates). (c) *Arabidopsis* Col-0 wild type or EST-RipE1 transgenic plants  
928 were grown for 4 weeks and then treated with 100  $\mu$ M EST for 2 days before  
929 inoculation with *R. solanacearum* GMI1000 by soil-drenching. Plants showed no  
930 difference in root or shoot size at the time of inoculation. The results are represented  
931 as disease progression, showing the average wilting symptoms in a scale from 0 to 4  
932 (mean  $\pm$  SEM). n=20 plants per genotype. Asterisks indicate significant differences  
933 compared to the mock control according to a Student's t test (\* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.01;  
934 \*\*\* p < 0.001). Each experiment was repeated at least 3 times with similar results.

935

936 **Figure 6. RipE1-triggered immune responses are suppressed by RipAY.**

937 (a) RipE1-GFP or GFP (as control) were expressed in the same leaf of *N.*  
938 *benthamiana* using *Agrobacterium* with an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5, and samples were taken at  
939 the indicated time points to measure the accumulation of glutathione (GSH). (b-d)  
940 RipE1-Nluc was expressed 24 hours after expression of GFP (as control), RipAY-GFP,  
941 or RipAY-E216Q-GFP, respectively, in the same leaf. Protein accumulation is shown in  
942 the figure S8. (b) Photos were taken 2.5 days post-inoculation with a CCD camera  
943 (upper panel) or an UV camera (lower panel). UV signal corresponds to the  
944 development of cell death (not GFP fluorescence). UV images were taken from the  
945 abaxial side and flipped horizontally for representation. (c) Ion leakage measured in  
946 leaf discs taken from *N. benthamiana* tissues expressing RipE1 together with GFP or  
947 RipAY-GFP, representative of cell death, at the indicated time points. Values indicate  
948 mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). (d) Quantitative RT-PCR to determine the

949 expression of *NbPR1* in *N. benthamiana* tissues 48 hours after *Agrobacterium*  
950 infiltration. Expression values are relative to the expression of the housekeeping gene  
951 *NbEF1a*. Values indicate mean  $\pm$  SE (n=3 biological replicates). Asterisks indicate  
952 significant differences compared to the mock control according to a Student's t test (\*  
953  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ). Each experiment was repeated at least 3 times with similar  
954 results.

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Figure 1

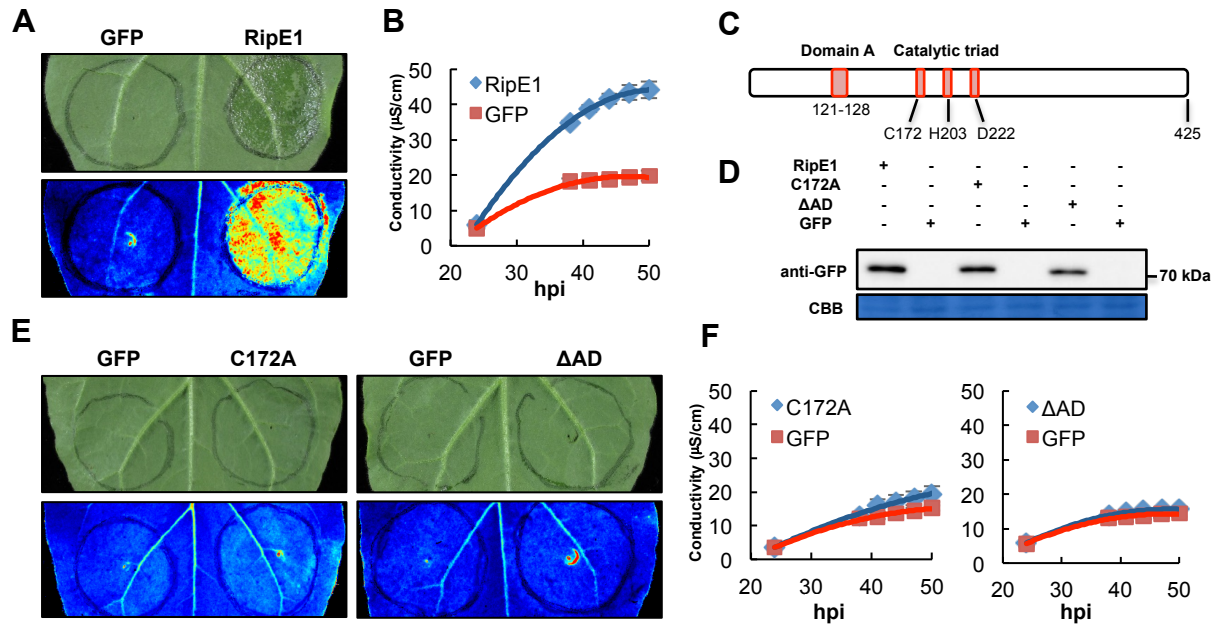


Figure 2

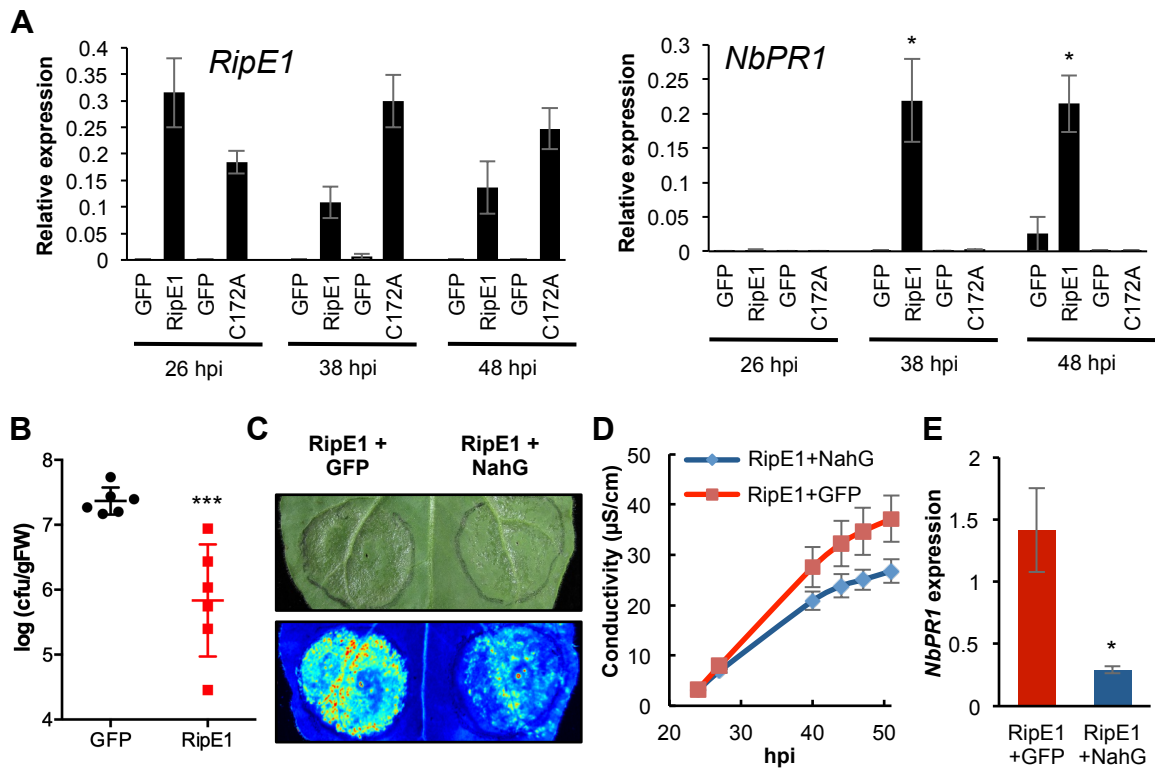


Figure 3

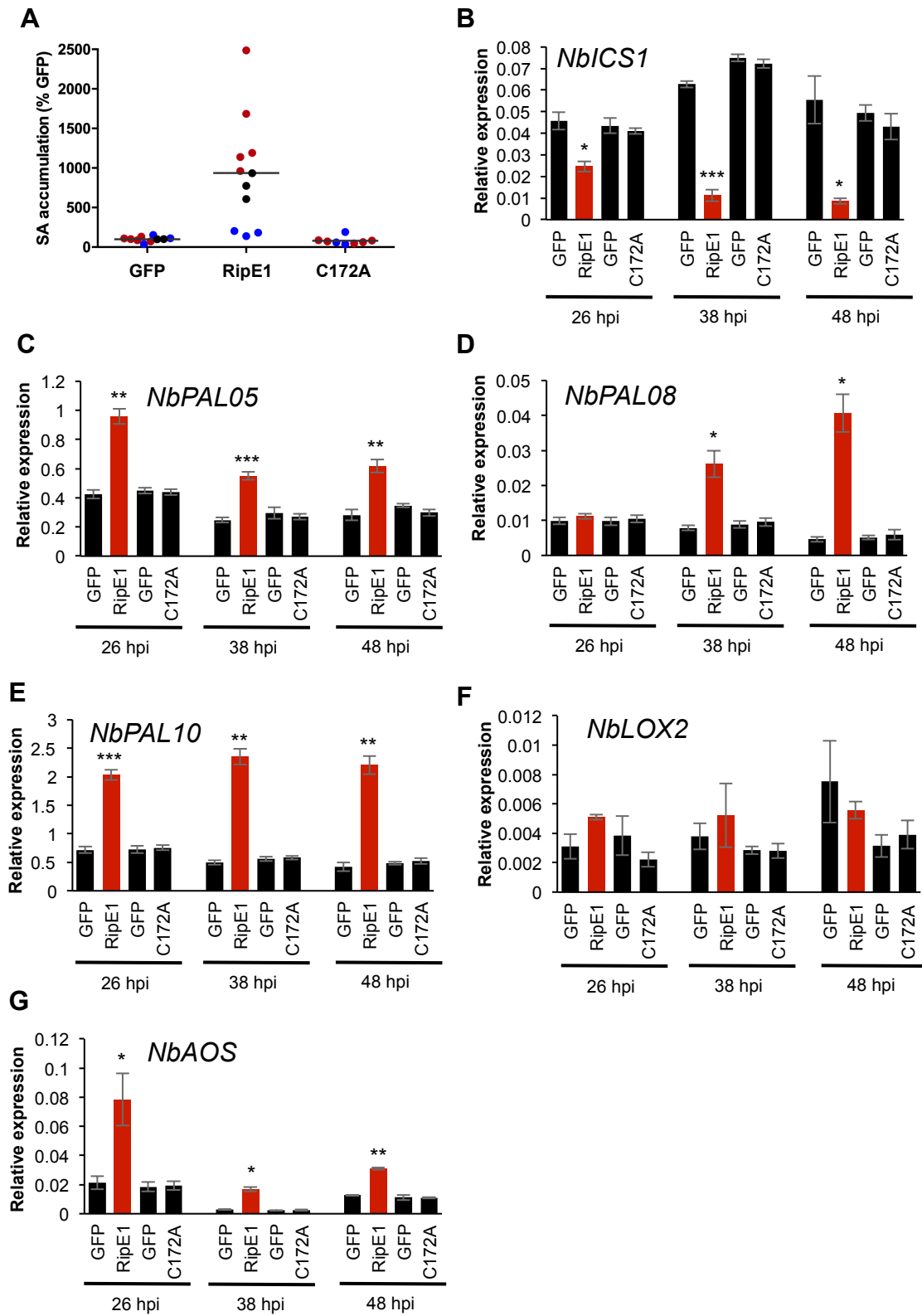


Figure 4

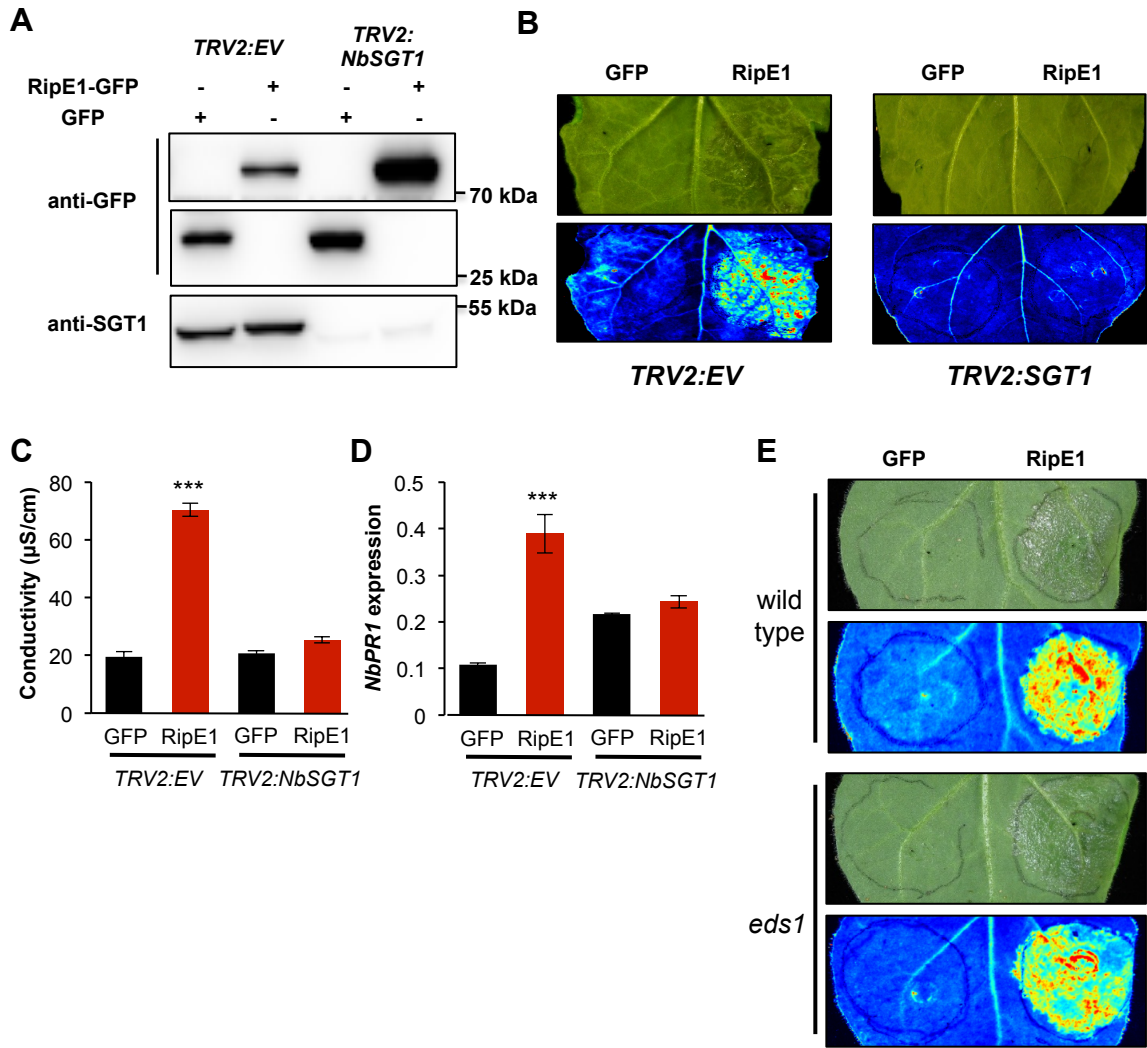


Figure 5

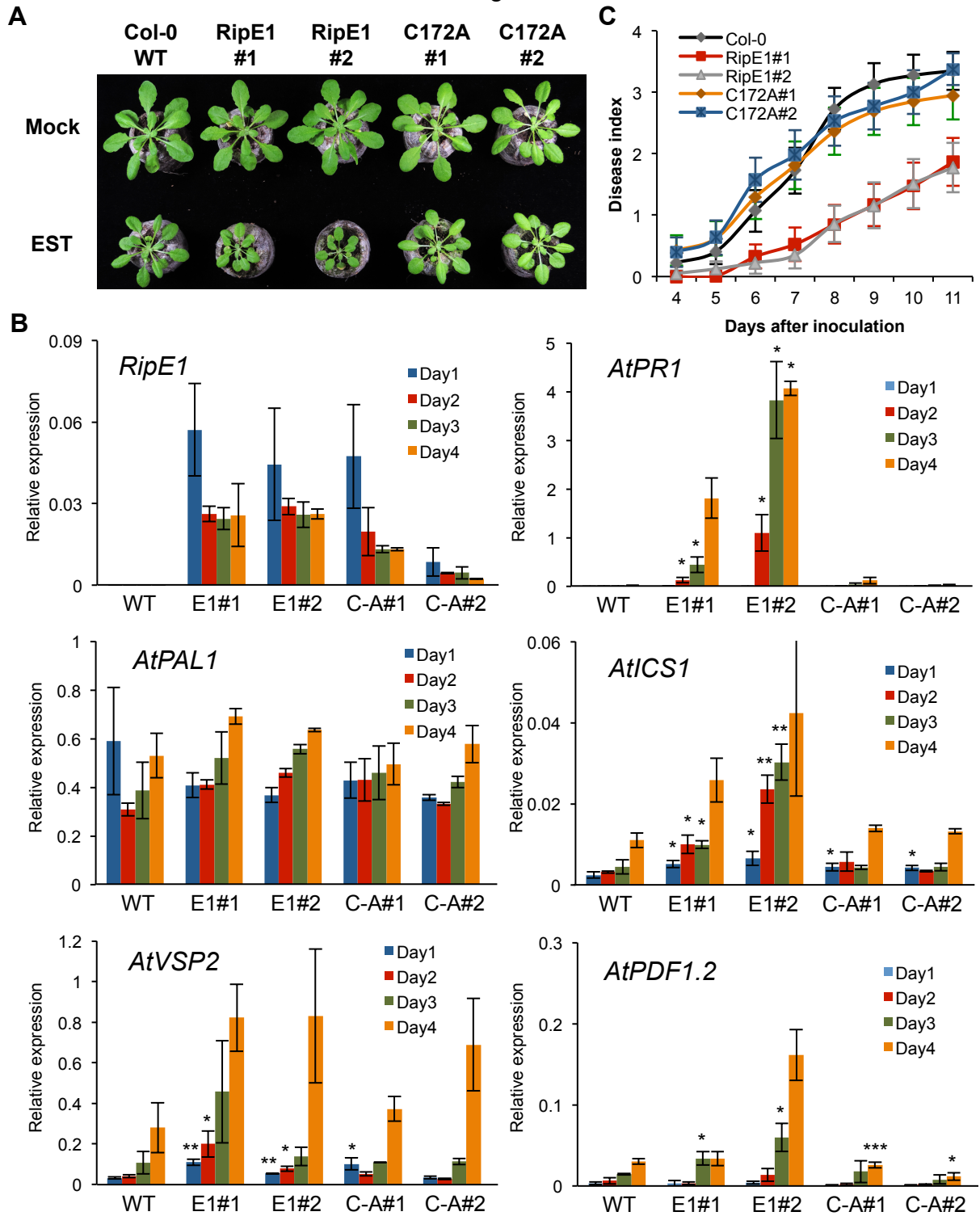


Figure 6

