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Combination of restriction endonuclease digestion with the $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method in real-time PCR to monitor etoxazole resistance allele frequency in the two-spotted spider mite

Running title: $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method to monitor etoxazole resistance

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25 Abstract

26 Monitoring resistance allele frequency at the early stage of resistance development
27 is important for the successful acaricide resistance management. Etoxazole is a mite
28 growth inhibitor to which resistance is conferred by an amino acid substitution in the
29 chitin synthase 1 (CHS1; I1017F) in *T. urticae*. If the susceptible allele can be specifically
30 digested by restriction endonuclease, the $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method using real-time PCR for genomic
31 DNA (RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method) may be available for monitoring the resistance allele
32 frequency. We tested whether the etoxazole resistance allele frequency in a pooled sample
33 was accurately measured by the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method and validated whether the resistance
34 variant frequency was correlated with etoxazole resistance phenotype in a bioassay.
35 Finally, we performed a pilot test using field populations. Strong linearity of the measures
36 by the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method with practical resistance allele frequencies; resistance allele
37 frequency in the range between 0.5% to at least 0.75% was strictly represented. The strong
38 linear relationship between hatchability of haploid male eggs after the etoxazole
39 treatments (phenotype) and resistance allele frequencies in their mothers provided direct
40 evidence that I1017F is a primary resistance factor to etoxazole in the strains used for
41 experiments. The pilot test revealed a significant correlation between egg hatchability
42 (including both diploid female eggs and haploid male eggs) and estimators in field
43 populations. Consequently, we concluded that the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method is a powerful tool
44 for monitoring a resistance allele in a pooled sample.

45

46 Keywords: Acaricide resistance; Chitin synthase 1; CHS1; qPCR; *Tetranychus urticae*;
47 Tetranychidae; Acari

48

49 1. Introduction

50

51 The two-spotted spider mite, *Tetranychus urticae* Koch, has developed resistance to
52 most acaricides that are currently available. The resistance allele frequency in a field
53 population is an important factor that determines the rate of resistance development
54 against new chemicals or the effectiveness of current ones. Therefore, monitoring
55 resistance allele frequency in the early stage of resistance development is essential for the
56 successful management of acaricide resistance. The traditional toxicological bioassay is
57 a simple and convenient means to determine susceptibility, namely resistance level, of a
58 mite population. However, because mortalities are affected by the hereditary mode of
59 resistance, gene frequencies are not precisely determined by this method in samples
60 collected from fields. This is particularly the case when evaluating ovicidal and larvicidal
61 activities against *T. urticae* because of their arrhenotokous parthenogenesis and because
62 the sexes of mites at those developmental stages are indeterminable.

63 Etoxazole is a mite growth inhibitor that was placed on the market in 1998. Although
64 this acaricide is currently used worldwide, etoxazole-resistant *T. urticae* were found in
65 northern Japan in 1997 before etoxazole was commercially available [1]. Etoxazole
66 resistance inheritance is completely recessive in *T. urticae* [2,3], which makes it difficult
67 to estimate resistance gene frequency. Molecular studies have revealed that simple amino
68 acid substitutions confer resistance to many acaricides [4,5,6,7]. A single base substitution
69 in *tetur03g08510* causing an amino acid substitution in the transmembrane region of
70 chitin synthase 1 (CHS1; I1017F) confers etoxazole resistance on *T. urticae* [3]. This
71 single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) in CHS1 may also cause hexythiazox and
72 clofentezine resistance [8], in which resistance to etoxazole is indicated by cross

73 experiments [9].

74 A pesticide resistance gene may be present at a low frequency in the natural
75 population, and gene frequency increases in recovering population sizes after chemical
76 spraying is logistically accelerated [10]. To predict future resistance development for pest
77 management, it is desirable to develop a monitoring technology in which a low frequency
78 (< 1%) SNP (resistance allele) can be detected. Many molecular techniques have been
79 developed to diagnose of SNPs associated with pesticide resistance, e.g. polymerase chain
80 reaction (PCR) amplification of specific alleles (PASA) [11], restriction fragment length
81 polymorphism (RFLP) assay on PCR products (PCR-RFLP) [12], and TaqMan SNP
82 genotyping assay (TM-SNP) [13]. PASA and PCR-RFLP may provide accurate results
83 for the diagnosis of resistance allele frequency when those are used for individual-based
84 detection. However, because spider mites are patchily distributed in their habitats, we
85 need to assess numerous individuals to accurately estimate resistance allele frequency in
86 a local population. Therefore, methods that can evaluate resistance allele frequency in a
87 pooled sample, such as TM-SNP, are preferable.

88 Van Leeuwen et al. [14] applied quantitative sequencing (QS) to assess frequency of
89 haplotypes in mitochondrial DNA (cytochrome *b*) associated with bifenthrin resistance
90 in *T. urticae*. Kwon et al. [15] established a monitoring method based on QS for several
91 acaricide resistance mutations. However, because QS is only reliable when the resistance
92 allele frequency is higher than 10% [15], the authors recommended real-time PASA
93 (rtPASA [16]) as an alternative monitoring method, which is an individual-based method,
94 when the frequency was low. Similarly, the accurate estimation of resistance allele
95 frequency may be possible with TM-SNP when the allele frequency is higher than 5%
96 (and lower than 95%) [13]. The resistance allele frequency was estimated based on the

97 calibration curve between measured and practical allele frequencies in standardized
98 samples in both QS and TM-SNP. Because the calibration curve can be affected by
99 experimental conditions, standardized samples may be required frequently.

100 The $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method was developed as an analytic method to obtain relative gene
101 expression data from quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) assays [17,18,19].
102 In the method, PCR amplification of a gene of interest is normalized by comparison with
103 an internal control gene, such as a housekeeping gene. Then, fold changes compared to
104 the normalized data are calibrated using a calibrator sample, such as an untreated control
105 sample, representing 1-fold expression of the gene of interest. We considered that if a
106 susceptible allele-specific restriction endonuclease recognition site was present, the $\Delta\Delta C_t$
107 method after qPCR for genomic DNA digested by the restriction endonuclease (RED-
108 $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method) could be used to monitor the resistance allele frequency based on
109 calibration with an undigested DNA sample as the calibrator.

110 Van Leeuwen et al. [3] reported four types of variants, including I1017F, which are
111 associated with etoxazole susceptibility and the adjoining upstream codon. We found
112 etoxazole-susceptible strain-specific restriction endonuclease recognition sites in this
113 region. Therefore, we determined if SNPs associated with resistance were accurately
114 estimated by the RED- $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method, and validated whether the resistance variant
115 frequency was practically correlated with etoxazole resistance phenotype in a bioassay.
116 Finally, we also performed a pilot test using field populations.

117

118 2. Materials and methods

119

120 2.1. Mites

121

122 An etoxazole resistant strain (SoOm1-etoR) was selected with commercial
123 formulations of etoxazole (10% suspension concentrate; Kyoyu Agri, Tokyo, Japan) at 50
124 mg l⁻¹ in a laboratory from a field population collected from strawberry plants in a
125 greenhouse in Omaezaki City, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan (34.7° N, 138.1° E) in January
126 2012. Although the selection was performed only once using an etoxazole solution at a
127 practical concentration, mortalities from etoxazole at 50 to 10,000 mg l⁻¹ were from 0%
128 to 3.9% (Supplementary Table 1), indicating that this strain had already developed
129 resistance to etoxazole. An acaricide-susceptible strain (Kyoyu-S) was obtained from
130 Kyoyu Agri Co., Ltd. (Kanagawa, Japan). Four pairs of females and males were
131 separately mated on kidney bean leaf squares (2×2 cm) on water soaked cotton in Petri
132 dishes for SoOm1-etoR (pair designations: O2, O3, O4 and O6) and Kyoyu-S (pair
133 designations: K1, K2, K3 and K4). After egg production for 4 days, the 1017 codon of
134 CHS1 of each mite was sequenced. Then we selected offspring from two pairs of each
135 strain to evaluate the linearity of the interaction between practical resistance variant
136 frequencies (R variant frequency) and its estimators using the RED-ΔΔCt method.

137 Six field populations and two laboratory strains (Table 1) were used to validate the
138 effects of resistance variant frequencies on etoxazole resistant phenotypes in a bioassay.
139 The field populations were maintained on kidney bean leaf disks without acaricide
140 selection after collection. One laboratory strain, NS, was adversely selected with
141 etoxazole and hexythiazox [9] and then reared under acaricide-free conditions [20].
142 Another laboratory strain, Tsukuba, had been reared in a laboratory without acaricide
143 selection for >15 years.

144 Five field populations were newly collected from commercial strawberry

145 greenhouses in Nara Prefecture from November to December 2016 (Table 2) and used for
146 comparison of the RED- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method with a common toxicological bioassay. One (Uda)
147 of the five field populations was also used for sequencing analysis of CHS1. The mites
148 were reared on kidney bean leaves on water soaked cotton in Petri dishes in a laboratory
149 at 25°C with a 16 h light:8 h dark cycle, except the newly collected field populations,
150 which were reared in a laboratory at 25°C with natural day length condition (app. 10 h
151 light:14 h dark light cycle).

152

153 *2.2. Sequence analysis of mated mites from resistant and susceptible strains*

154

155 We prepared crude DNA extracts, which were directly used as DNA templates for
156 PCR amplification, following the method of Osakabe et al. [21]. A single adult female or
157 male of a mated pair described in section 2.1 was homogenized in 20 μ l lysis buffer (10
158 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 100 mM EDTA, 0.5% Igepal CA-630 [Sigma, Tokyo, Japan], 10
159 mM NaCl, and 1 mg/ml proteinase K [Takara, Kusatsu, Japan]) with a plastic pestle
160 (Pellet mixer; Toho, Tokyo, Japan) in a 0.2 ml PCR tube. The homogenate was incubated
161 at 65°C for 20 min and then at 95°C for 10 min. The lysate was diluted with 380 μ l
162 (female) or 180 μ l (male) nuclease-free water (Qiagen, Tokyo, Japan).

163

164 A 1,277-base region, including the 1017 codon of CHS1, was amplified by PCR. The
165 PCR amplification was conducted using 1 μ l of each DNA template in a total reaction
166 volume of 20 μ l of PCR buffer for KOD FX Neo (Toyobo, Osaka, Japan) containing 0.4
167 mM of each dNTP, 0.25 μ M of each primer, and 0.4 U of KOD FX Neo DNA polymerase
168 (Toyobo). PCR conditions were an initial 2 min at 94°C followed by 10 s at 98°C, 30 s at
60°C, and 77 s at 68°C for 40 cycles, and a final 7 min at 68°C. Primers used for

169 amplification were TuCHS1-R666628, 5'-CTTATGTTGGTCGGAGCTATGG-3', and
170 TuCHS1-F667904b, 5'-CCGAATCGATGAAACAGCATAC-3'. After removal of the
171 remaining PCR primers using MicroSpin S-400 HR Columns (GE Healthcare UK, Little
172 Chalfont, UK), sequencing was performed in an ABI PRISM 3130 Genetic Analyzer
173 (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) using BigDye Terminator Cycle Sequencing
174 Kit version 3.1 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) with an internal primer:
175 TuCHS1-R666768, 5'-AATGTCCGCTTGTTATGCAC-3'. Primers used in this study
176 were designed using GENETYX ver. 9.1.0 (GENETYX, Tokyo, Japan) referring to the
177 *tetur03g08510* DNA sequence and that in the scaffold_3 of *T. urticae* genome DNA
178 (<http://bioinformatics.psb.ugent.be/orcae/overview/Tetur>).

179

180 *2.3. Evaluation of linearity in the relationship between practical resistance variant*
181 *frequencies and measurements using the RED- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method*

182

183 *2.3.1. Genomic DNA preparation*

184 Genomic DNA samples were prepared from offspring lines of two pairs of SoOm1-
185 etoR (O4 and O6) and Kyoyu-S (K1 and K4) selected by sequencing data obtained by the
186 method described above. DNA was extracted using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit
187 (Qiagen) following the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, 50 adult females were
188 homogenized in 180 μ l of extraction buffer in a 1.5 ml sample tube, 20 μ l of proteinase
189 K were added to the homogenate, and the mixture was incubated at 56°C overnight. After
190 incubation with RNase A for 2 min, the DNA sample was purified from the resulting
191 sample mixture on the following day. The resulting DNA sample was cleaned using
192 NucleoSpin gDNA Clean-up XS (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany) and the

193 concentration was adjusted to 1 ng μl^{-1} . We prepared two DNA samples for each offspring
194 line from the two pairs and used them as four replications for each strain.

195

196 *2.3.2. Evaluation of amplification efficiency*

197 We tested the efficiency of amplification in qPCR with a primer set for CHS1
198 (tu03CHS1 forward: 5'-GGCACTGCTTCATCCACAAG-3', and reverse: 5'-
199 GTGTTCCCAAGTAACAACGTTC-3') and for an internal reference gene,
200 glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase
201 [GAPDH]; tu25GAPDH forward: 5'-GCACCAAGTGCTAAAGCATGGAG-3', and
202 reverse: 5'-GAACTGGAACACGGAAAGCCATAC-3'). DNA (1 ng μl^{-1}) from O6 and
203 K4 were separately diluted 10-fold to 1×10^{-4} ng μl^{-1} with nuclease free water, and 8 μl
204 of the DNA solution was used for each qPCR amplification. qPCR analysis using the
205 intercalator method was performed using the LightCycler Nano System (Roche
206 Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland) with SYBR Fast qPCR Mix (Takara). The reaction mix
207 contained 0.4 μM each of forward and reverse primers and 8 μl of diluted DNA samples.
208 PCR conditions were an initial 30 s at 95°C followed by 10 s at 95°C, 10 s at 62°C, and
209 15 s at 72°C for 45 cycles, with a melting curve analysis. Although the LightCycler Nano
210 System produced Cq values instead of Ct values, we phrased the Cq (quantification cycle)
211 value as Ct (cycle threshold) values because Cq values have similar semantic content to
212 Ct values. Regression lines and amplification efficiency were analyzed using LightCycler
213 Nano Software ver. 1.1.0 (Roche). Parallelism between regression lines for CHS1 and
214 GAPDH were statistically analyzed based on an interaction in a two-way analysis of
215 variance (ANOVA) using the "aov" and "lm" modules in R version 3.2.1 [22] for each
216 strain.

217

218 2.3.3. qPCR for DNA samples digested by restriction endonucleases

219 We deliberately mixed the DNA samples from the SoOm1-etoR and Kyoyu-S groups
220 as four discrete combinations. We dealt with those four combinations as biological
221 replications in the subsequent statistical analysis. Resistance variant frequencies in the
222 mixed samples (total DNA concentration: 1 ng μl^{-1}) were set at 0%, 0.1%, 0.5%, 1%, 5%,
223 10%, 25%, 50%, 75% and 100%. A total of 15 ng of the mixed sample were incubated in
224 the manufacturer's buffer (20 μl) for restriction endonucleases, including *MluC* I (10
225 units) and *Taq^oI* (20 units; New England BioLabs, Ipswich, MA, USA), at 37°C for 3 h
226 followed by incubation at 65°C for 3 h. Then the enzymes were inactivated by an
227 incubation at 80°C for 20 min. The buffer was removed using MicroSpin S-200 HR
228 columns (GE Healthcare). Prior to testing for the linearity of the relationship between
229 practical R variant frequencies and measurement by the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method, we tested
230 the efficiency of incubation times at 15 min, 1 h, and 3 h to determine an appropriate
231 incubation time to estimate resistance variant frequencies.

232 The 1017 codon of *T. urticae* includes ATT (susceptible) and TTT (etoxazole
233 resistant) variants, and both variants adjoin the upstream synonymous TCG and TCA
234 variants (1016 codon) [3]. Thus, the susceptible strain possibly has TCGATT or TCAATT,
235 whereas the resistant strain has TCGTTT or TCATTT (Fig. 1a). Because recognition site
236 sequences of *MluC* I and *Taq^oI* are AATT and TCGA, only the susceptible variant (S
237 variant) should be digested by double digestion with these restriction endonucleases,
238 meaning that only resistant variants should be amplified by qPCR amplification.

239 qPCR analysis for CHS1 and GAPDH (internal control) was performed using 8 μl of
240 digested and undigested intact DNA samples. We calculated the ΔCt value by subtracting

241 the Ct value of GAPDH from that of CHS1 and $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ values by subtracting ΔCt values
242 for an undigested intact DNA sample containing the R variant at 100% (intact SoOm1-
243 etoR DNA; calibrator) from the ΔCt values for corresponding digested DNA samples.
244 Finally, resistant variant frequencies were calculated as $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$. Given a regression line
245 through the origin, a linear regression between the practical R variant frequency and
246 $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$ was analyzed using the “lm” module of R version 3.2.1 [22].

247

248 *2.4. Validation of the effects of resistant variant frequencies in the etoxazole resistant* 249 *phenotype*

250

251 Because of the completely recessive inheritance of etoxazole resistance, we analyzed
252 the relationship between resistant variant frequencies of virgin females and hatchability
253 of their haploid male eggs after etoxazole treatment. Virgin females (34–43 ♀♀ for each
254 population; ~4 days after the last molt) from six field populations and two laboratory
255 strains (Table 1) were introduced to four kidney bean leaf squares (2×2 cm) on water
256 soaked cotton in a Petri dish and kept in a laboratory at 25°C with a 16 h light:8 h dark
257 light cycle. The next day, surviving females (31–42 ♀♀ for each population) were
258 collected, and their DNA was prepared and cleaned using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue
259 kit and NucleoSpin gDNA Clean-up XS, respectively, as described above. Eggs laid on
260 the leaf squares were sprayed with etoxazole at 50 mg l⁻¹, which is a practical
261 concentration (adhesion amount: 1.91 ± 0.16 mg cm⁻²). We used commercial
262 formulations of etoxazole (10% suspension concentrate). Hatchability was determined by
263 observation with a binocular microscope after 5 days.

264 The DNA samples were used for qPCR after double digestion with *MluC* I and *Taq*^oI.

265 Estimators of R variant frequencies were calculated as $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$. We performed digestion
266 and qPCR twice for each population as technical replications, and an averaged $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$
267 value between the technical replications for each population was used in subsequent linear
268 regression analyses. Given a regression line through the origin, a linear regression
269 between $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ and egg hatchability was analyzed using the “lm” module of R version
270 3.2.1 [22].

271

272 *2.5. Comparison of the RED- $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method with a common toxicological bioassay*

273

274 Preparation of DNA samples for the RED- $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method was fundamentally the same
275 as in section 2.4, but DNA extraction from 100 adult females was performed using the
276 Wizard Genomic DNA Purification kit (Promega, Fitchburg, WI, USA) following the
277 method of Hinomoto et al. [23] with some modifications. Females were homogenized in
278 a 1.5-ml microtube and crushed using several zirconium dioxide beads in 100 μ l of the
279 manufacturer supplied Nuclei Lysis Solution. Then the resulting DNA sample solution
280 was cleaned using NucleoSpin gDNA Clean-up XS. qPCR was performed using an
281 Applied Biosystems 7500 Real-Time PCR System (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham,
282 MA, USA). Toxicological tests were also performed as in section 2.4. Briefly, 20 adult
283 females were randomly collected from a stock culture and introduced to a kidney bean
284 leaf square (5 \times 5 cm) in a Petri dish, allowed to lay eggs for 48 h in a laboratory at 25°C
285 with a 16 h light:8 h dark light cycle, and then removed. We prepared three Petri dishes
286 for etoxazole treatment and three as control (sprayed with distilled water) per population.
287 Eggs on the leaves were sprayed with etoxazole at 50 mg l⁻¹ (adhesion amount: 4 mg
288 cm⁻²) immediately after the removal of adult females. Hatchability was observed on day

289 9 (Sakurai population) or 10 (others). We corrected mortality using Abbott's correction
290 as in following the formula [24]:

$$291 \quad M = \frac{X - Y}{X},$$

292 where M is the corrected mortality, X is egg hatchability in the control sprayed with water,
293 and Y is that of eggs sprayed with etoxazole.

294 For sequencing analysis of CHS1, we prepared crude DNA extracts from 10
295 individual adult females of the Uda population. The methods for DNA preparation and
296 sequencing analysis were the same as those in section 2.2.

297

298 3. Results

299

300 3.1. Sequencing analysis of mated mites in resistant and susceptible strains

301

302 The nucleotide sequences analyzed in this section are available from the
303 DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank database under accession numbers LC218436–LC218439. All
304 females and males of Kyoyu-S were Haplotype I for the 1016 and 1017 codons (Fig. 1,
305 Supplementary Fig. 1). The O4 female and all males of SoOm1-etoR were Haplotype III.
306 The O3 and O6 females were heterozygotes of Haplotypes III and IV. The O2 female was
307 also a heterozygote, but we could not determine between the heterozygote of Haplotypes
308 I and IV or Haplotypes II and III (Fig. 1, Supplementary Fig. 1). We chose two pairs from
309 SoOm1-etoR (O4 and O6) and from Kyoyu-S (K1 and K4) to establish offspring lines for
310 use in the following experiments to evaluate the RED- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method.

311

312 3.2. Evaluation of linearity in the relationship between practical resistance variant
313 frequencies and measures by the RED- $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method

314

315 3.2.1. Evaluation of amplification efficiency

316 Amplification efficiencies (e) for CHS1 were 1.075 and 0.997 for SoOm1-etoR (O6)
317 and Kyoyu-S (K4), respectively, indicating that about 100% amplification was realized
318 with the primer set. Similarly, e for GAPDH was also 1.073 for O6 and 1.019 for K4. The
319 contribution ratios (R^2) of regression lines were high (> 0.99) in all of the cases.
320 Parallelism of the CHS1 and GAPDH regression lines was not significant in both O6
321 (two-way ANOVA [gene \times DNA concentration]: $df = 1$, $F = 0.001$, $P = 0.262$) and K4 (df
322 $= 1$, $F = 1.767$, $P = 0.232$). Two-way ANOVA was also used to evaluate the effects of
323 genes and DNA concentrations. In O6, no significant differences were detected in genes
324 ($df = 1$, $F = 1.532$, $P = 0.262$), but there were differences in DNA concentrations ($df = 1$,
325 $F = 1303.8$, $P = 3.01 \times 10^{-8}$). Significant differences were observed in both DNA
326 concentrations ($df = 1$, $F = 28274.4$, $P = 2.98 \times 10^{-12}$) and the effects of genes ($df = 1$, $F =$
327 39.04 , $P = 7.79 \times 10^{-4}$) in K4. This may be caused by extremely high linearity; R^2 was 1
328 for both CHS1 and GAPDH in K4 and the lines were also close to each other in O6,
329 indicating that a combination of these primer sets would work for subsequent qPCR
330 analyses.

331

332 3.2.2. qPCR for DNA samples digested by restriction endonucleases

333 Digestion times for genomic DNA of 15 min and 1 h for each endonuclease, *MluC* I
334 and *Taq^{HI}*, did not ensure the separation of ΔC_t values for practical resistance variant
335 frequencies at 0.01 or lower (Fig. 3). We made sure that ΔC_t values increased by

336 decreasing the practical R variant frequencies after digestion for 3 h for each
337 endonuclease. As PCR amplification occurs (allowing to calculate the ΔCt value) even if
338 the DNA sample only includes a susceptible variant (practical R variant frequency was 0)
339 that should be completely digested by endonucleases, digestion efficiencies might
340 become rate-limiting. Therefore, we used a digestion time of 3 h in the following analyses
341 of the linearity of correlation between the practical resistance gene frequencies and
342 estimators, $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$, produced by the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method.

343 There was a strong correlation between practical R variant frequencies in the
344 genomic DNA samples and $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$ (Fig. 4, Supplementary Fig. 2), and no serious non-
345 specific amplification was observed (Supplementary Fig. 3). A slope of the linear
346 regression line given through the origin was approximately 1 (Fig. 4), ensuring accurate
347 estimation of resistant variant frequencies by the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method. However, the plots
348 for R variant frequencies of 0 and 0.001 tended to deviate from the regression line. This
349 may be due to the influence of rate-limitation by digestion efficiency described above.
350 The plot for an R variant frequency of 1 also tended to deviate from the regression line,
351 although the reason was not clear. We also performed linear regression analyses using the
352 same dataset above, but excluding data in the R variant frequencies of 0, 0.001, and 1.
353 The resulting regression line formula was

354
$$y = 1.015x (R^2 = 0.982, P < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}),$$

355 where y represents $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$ and x is the practical R variant frequency. The slope was 1 and
356 R^2 increased. Therefore, we can accurately estimate R variant frequencies in the range
357 from 0.005 to at least 0.75 using the RED- $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method.

358

359 *3.3. Validation of the effects of resistance variant frequencies on etoxazole resistant*

360 *phenotypes*

361 After spraying with etoxazole, no eggs hatched in the two laboratory strains. Their
362 R variant frequencies ($2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$) were measured to be 0.2% and 0.5% in Tsukuba and NS,
363 respectively (Supplementary Table 2). Because the numbers of females introduced to
364 kidney bean leaves were 41 and 35, minimum R variant frequencies (assuming the
365 presence of one heterozygote in susceptible individuals) were expected to be 1.2% and
366 1.4% in Tsukuba and NS, respectively. Therefore, it is possible that the R variant was not
367 present in these laboratory strains. Egg hatchability and estimated R variant frequencies
368 ($2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$) ranged from 33.5% to 97.7% and from 30.2% to 94.5% in the field populations,
369 respectively (Supplementary Table 2). A strong correlation was detected between $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$
370 and hatchability over the field populations and laboratory strains (Fig. 5, solid regression
371 line). Moreover, the slope of the regression line (0.963) was close to 1 and supported by
372 a high R^2 value (0.987), indicating compatibility between the estimator by the RED- $\Delta\Delta Ct$
373 method and results of the bioassay with haploid male eggs.

374 One sample, Yokote, obviously deviated from the regression line. The number of
375 eggs laid per female was lowest for Yokote (1.9 eggs), then Izu2 (3.6 eggs) and Yawata
376 (4 eggs; Supplementary Table 2). The number of eggs produced per female ranged from
377 4.8 to 9.4 in other field populations and laboratory strains. The low number of eggs may
378 be due to bias of oviposition in that a substantial number of females did not lay eggs.
379 Therefore, we also performed linear regression analyses excluding Yokote, obtaining a
380 regression line slope of 1 and an increased R^2 (Fig. 5, dashed regression line).

381

382 *3.4. Comparison of the RED- $\Delta\Delta Ct$ method with a common toxicological bioassay*

383

384 Prior to the experiments, we tentatively confirmed the height of amplification
385 efficiency (e) and parallelism of regression lines between CHS1 and GAPDH because we
386 conducted the analysis using distinct equipment. e for CHS1 and GAPDH was 0.933 and
387 0.945, respectively, in the Uda population (Supplementary Fig. 5). Parallelism was not
388 rejected (two-way ANOVA, [gene×DNA concentration]: $df = 1$, $F = 0.112$, $P = 0.75$). The
389 difference between genes was not significant ($df = 1$, $F = 0.006$, $P = 0.942$), while the
390 difference among concentrations was significant ($df = 1$, $F = 4540.6$, $P = 0.942$).

391 The R variant frequencies ($2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$) were 16.3% in the Kashihara population and
392 ranged from 79% to 86.5% in the remaining four populations. Egg hatchability after
393 etoxazole treatment was lowest in Kashihara at 41.4% and ranged from 73.9% to 100%
394 in the remaining four populations (Supplementary Table 3). Although the slope of the
395 linear regression line (1.104) was greater than 1 and R^2 (0.956) was lower than in the
396 validation (3.4; Fig. 5), significant correlation was detected between egg hatchability and
397 $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$. In this experiment, we used gravid females, so that diploid female and haploid
398 male eggs were mixed in the toxicological bioassay. This may be a reason for the
399 increased regression variation; residual standard error, which is a possible indicator of
400 variation, was 0.174 in this experiment, higher than 0.073 in the case of validation (3.4).

401 The nucleotide sequences analyzed in this section are available from the
402 DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank database under accession numbers LC218440–LC218442.
403 Sequencing analysis of the Uda population revealed a high frequency of synonymous
404 SNPs at the 1016 codon (Fig. 1). Of the 10 adult females, 9 were homozygotes with
405 synonymous SNPs (TCA) and only 1 was a heterozygote (TCG/TCA; Supplementary Fig.
406 4). With regard to the 1017 codon, seven females were homozygotes of the etoxazole
407 resistant variant (TTT), while the remaining three females were heterozygotes

408 (ATT/TTT) and their 1016 codons were all TCA. Consequently, the Uda population
409 consisted of at least Haplotypes II, III, and IV (Fig. 1).

410

411 4. Discussion

412

413 We developed a monitoring method that enabled the detection of a variant associated
414 with etoxazole resistance in a pooled DNA sample of *T. urticae*. Resistance allele
415 frequency in a pooled DNA sample is estimated by referring to a calibration curve in
416 ongoing monitoring methods [13,15]. By contrast, R variant detection in a pooled DNA
417 sample was enabled by restriction endonuclease digestion of an S variant and was
418 calibrated using the ΔCt of the intact sample from the same pooled DNA in the RED-
419 $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method.

420 The strong linearity in the correlation between practical frequencies of the resistant
421 variant and estimator, $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$, supported a high degree of accuracy. In addition to the
422 general $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method in the analysis of gene expression level with RT-PCR,
423 correspondence between a gene of interest and reference and height of e are indispensable
424 requirements [25]; thus, the accuracy of the estimator largely depends on the design of
425 primer sets and purification of the DNA sample. The amplification efficiency test
426 evidenced correspondence between the height of the efficiencies of the primers for CHS1
427 and GAPDH used in this study.

428 Experiments on the effectiveness of digestion time showed that the accuracy of the
429 estimator at low frequency for the variant of interest, a SNP associated with etoxazole
430 resistance, depended on the efficiency of digestion by restriction endonucleases. The
431 accuracy was also estimated by comparing the ΔCt of a sample consisting of a 100%

432 susceptible variant with the ΔC_t in a test of amplification efficiency calculated using the
433 C_t for GAPDH at $1 \text{ ng } \Gamma^{-1}$ as a reference (Supplementary Fig. 6). The averaged ΔC_t value
434 in the linearity test (for O6 and K4 in 3.2.2) was 9.29 for a sample of the S variant at
435 100%. The DNA concentration corresponding with a ΔC_t of 9.29 was calculated to be
436 $0.00137 \pm 0.00024 \text{ ng } \Gamma^{-1}$ (averaged among regression lines for O6, K4, and Uda;
437 Supplementary Fig. 6), implying that 0.1–0.2% of the susceptible variant remained
438 undigested by restriction endonucleases. This may be the reason why 0.1% of the R
439 variant frequency was accurately undetectable in the conditions of this study. Conversely,
440 modification to complete digestion, such as elongating the time for digestion, may enable
441 the detection of etoxazole R variants at very low frequencies.

442 Strong correlation of haploid egg hatchability after etoxazole treatment with the
443 estimation of R variant frequencies ($2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$) demonstrated the reliability of the RED- $\Delta\Delta C_t$
444 method as a monitoring method for etoxazole resistance alleles in a pooled DNA sample.
445 Association of the R variant was probed from the population bulk segregation and the
446 common presence over resistant strains of the SNP in CHS1 [3,8,26]). The strong
447 correlation between survivability and the variant frequency provides direct evidence that
448 I1017F is a primary factor of life and death for *T. urticae* in the place where sprayed with
449 etoxazole in the strains used for experiments.

450 Results of ovicidal toxicological tests may deviate from the proper resistance allele
451 frequency in the population due to factors whether resistance inheritance is dominant or
452 recessive and whether egg production ability varies based on the condition of the female
453 (young or aged, well-fed or undernourished, and fertile or infertile). Etoxazole resistance
454 inheritance is completely recessive in *T. urticae* [2]. A common toxicological test on a
455 field population is usually performed using females in various conditions. These

456 potentially weaken the correlation between practical resistance allele frequencies and egg
457 hatchability after acaricide treatment as the correlation between the common
458 toxicological test and $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ in this study, demonstrating the significance of an accurate
459 monitoring method for resistance allele frequency. The mutation (I1017F) in CHS1 also
460 confers cross-resistance to clofentezine and hexythiazox [8], although another mechanism
461 also suggested in hexythiazox resistance [9]. Therefore, this method is relevant to
462 resistance against those chemicals.

463 Greenhouse populations of *T. urticae* fundamentally divide into breeding patches
464 when the population density is low, which may be the usual condition, rather than high
465 density in a commercial greenhouse [27,28,29]. It is important to monitor resistance allele
466 frequency when the population density remains under the control threshold. In such cases,
467 we need to increase the number of monitored breeding patches in a greenhouse to avoid
468 missing the rare resistance allele, because even if the resistance allele frequency is very
469 low in a greenhouse, its frequency may be at mid or high level in a few local breeding
470 patches due to the founder effect. The RED- $\Delta\Delta Ct$ method is an appropriate monitoring
471 method to meet these demands.

472 To the best of our knowledge, etoxazole resistance mechanisms other than the
473 mutation in CHS1 in *T. urticae*, whereas the resistance in a phytoseiid mite *Phytoseiulus*
474 *persimilis* Athias-Henriot was suggested to have a relevance to the activities of
475 detoxification enzymes by Salman et al. [30]. Application of this method to such
476 metabolic resistance system may mostly be difficult, and the application to the detection
477 of SNPs is also limited by the availability of restriction enzyme as well as PCR-RFLP.

478

479 5. Conclusions

480

481 The RED- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method is a powerful tool for monitoring resistance alleles in a
482 pooled sample and analyzing the spatial distribution and dynamics of the resistance allele.

483 Therefore, studies on the expansion of the RED- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method to monitor resistance

484 allelic variation against other acaricides are worthwhile. However, lack of proper

485 restriction endonucleases to digest the S variant will limit the scope of its application.

486

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488

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495 or donation of mites.

496

497 References

498

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- 590

591 Figure legends

592

593 Fig. 1 Haplotypes of CHS1 reported by Van Leeuwen et al. [6] and endonuclease
594 recognition sites in susceptible haplotypes (I and II) (a) and SNP detected in mated
595 SoOm1-etoR (O2, O3, O4 and O6) and Kyoyu-S (K1, K2, K3 and K4) females and
596 males (b). R: G/A, W: A/T.

597

598 Fig. 2 Amplification efficiency for CHS1 (solid circle) and GAPDH (open circle) for the
599 SoOm1-etoR (O6) (a) and Kyoyu-S (K4) (b) strains. DNA concentration: $\log_{10}(\text{ng}$
600 $\mu\text{l}^{-1})$. For O6 regression line equations for CHS1 and GAPDH were $y = -3.15x +$
601 19.98 ($E = 2.075$, $R^2 = 0.997$) and $y = -3.16x + 20.27$ ($E = 2.073$, $R^2 = 0.994$),
602 respectively. For K4 regression line equations for CHS1 and GAPDH were $y =$
603 $-3.33x + 19.37$ ($E = 1.997$, $R^2 = 1$) and $y = -3.28x + 19.82$ ($E = 2.019$, $R^2 = 1$),
604 respectively. E : amplification efficiency (e) + 1 (if 100% amplification was achieved
605 E would be “2”).

606

607 Fig. 3 Effects of restriction enzyme digestion periods on ΔCt values of various practical
608 frequencies of the resistance variant (R variant frequency). Digestion time shows the
609 digestion times for *MluC* I and *Taq^a* I. $\Delta\text{Ct} = (\text{Ct for CHS1}) - (\text{Ct for GAPDH})$.

610

611 Fig. 4 Correlation between practical resistance variant frequency (R variant frequency)
612 and the estimator, $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$. Regression line: $y = 1.077x$, $R^2 = 0.980$, $P < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$.
613 Vertical lines on the plots indicate standard error. $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct} = (\Delta\text{Ct in digested sample}) -$
614 $[\Delta\text{Ct in undigested corresponding intact DNA samples (calibrator)]$.

615

616 Fig. 5 Correlation between hatchability of male haploid eggs of local populations after
617 treatment with etoxazole (50 mg l⁻¹) and 2^{-ΔΔCt} of mother females. Solid regression
618 line includes Yokote: $y = 0.963x$, $R^2 = 0.987$, $P < 4.661 \times 10^{-8}$. Dashed gray
619 regression line excludes Yokote: $y = 1.009x$, $R^2 = 0.997$, $P < 7.37 \times 10^{-9}$.

620

621 Fig. 6 Correlation between egg hatchability (mixture of female and male eggs) in newly
622 collected local populations after treatment of females with etoxazole (50 mg l⁻¹) and
623 2^{-ΔΔCt}. Solid regression line: $y = 1.104x$, $R^2 = 0.956$, $P < 4.670 \times 10^{-4}$. The dashed
624 gray line represents the regression line excluding Yokote in Figure 5.

625

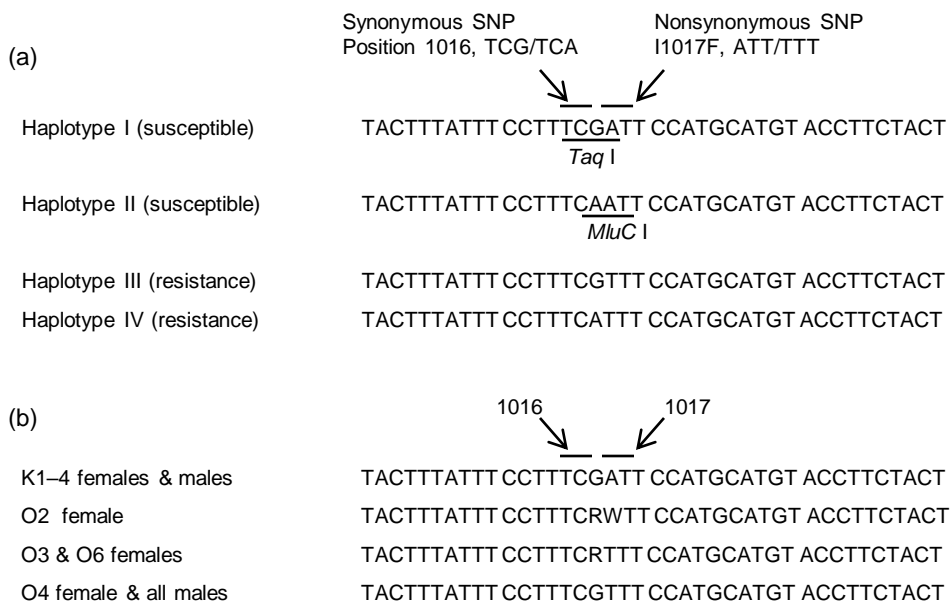


Fig. 1

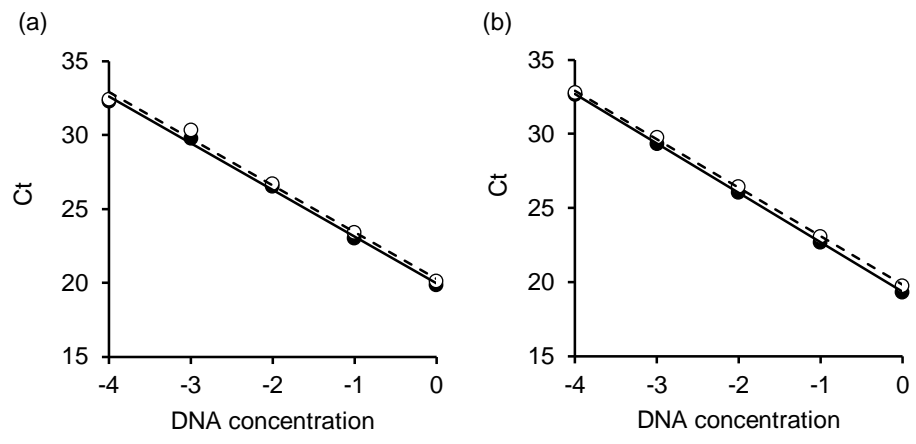


Fig. 2

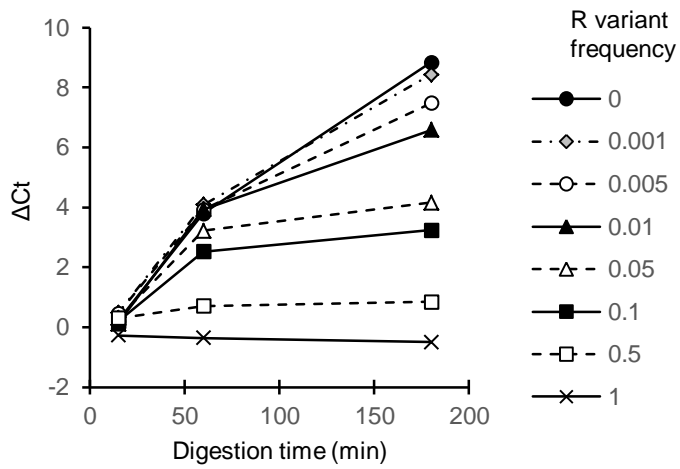


Fig. 3

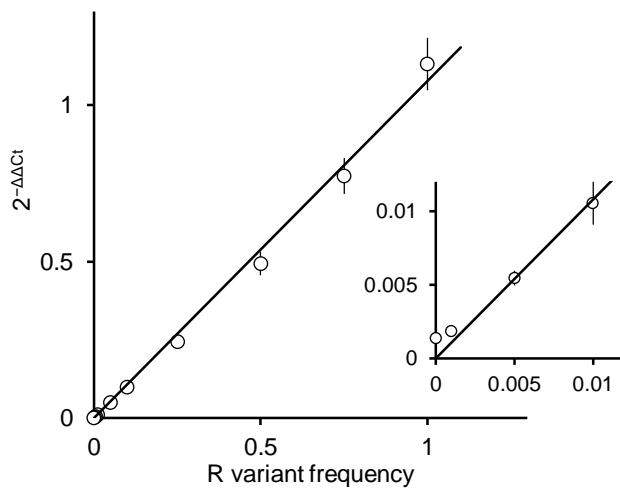


Fig. 4

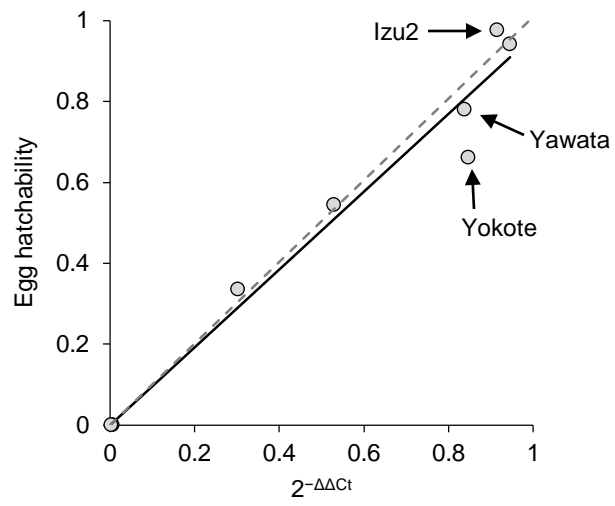


Fig. 5

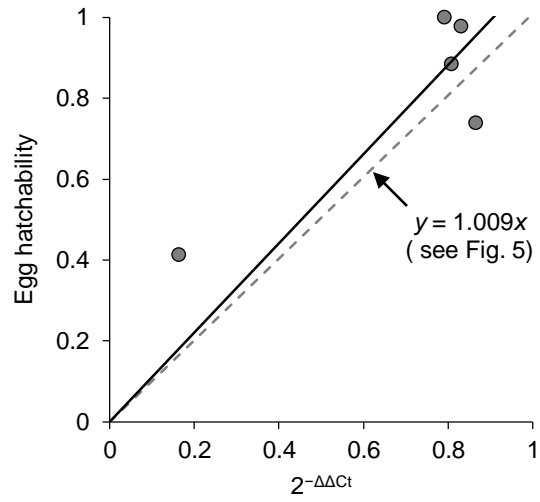


Fig. 6

Table 1 Collection records of field populations and laboratory strains

| Population | Date | Host plant | Site |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--|
| Field population | | | |
| Iwate | Oct. 1999 | Apple | Shimokuriyagawa, Morioka, Iwate Pref., Japan (39.8° N, 141.1° E) |
| Yokote | Jun. 2014 | Apple | Hiraga, Yokote, Akita Pref., Japan (39.2° N, 140.6° E) |
| Izu2 | Feb. 2013 | Strawberry | Nagasaki, Izunokuni, Shizuoka Pref., Japan (35.1° N, 139.0° E) |
| Masu | Jan. 2012 | Strawberry | Shimizu, Shizuoka, Shizuoka Pref., Japan (35.0° N, 138.5° E) |
| Komagoe | Jan. 2012 | Strawberry | Shimizu, Shizuoka, Shizuoka Pref., Japan (35.0° N, 138.5° E) |
| Yawata | Oct. 2014 | Japanese pear | Uchizato, Yawata, Kyoto Pref., Japan (34.9° N, 135.7° E) |
| Laboratory strain | | | |
| Tsukuba | unknown | Kidney bean | Laboratory strain |
| NS | 1998 | Chrysanthemum | Katsuragi, Nara Prefecture, Japan (34.5° N, 135.7° E) |

Table 2 Collection records of field populations newly collected for pilot experiments

| Population | Date | Host plant | Site |
|------------|-----------|------------|---|
| Gojo_Ada | Nov. 2016 | Strawberry | Ohno Shinden, Gojo, Nara Pref., Japan (34.4° N, 135.7° E) |
| Gojo_Oka | Nov. 2016 | Strawberry | Oka, Gojo, Nara Pref., Japan (34.4° N, 135.7° E) |
| Sakurai | Dec. 2016 | Strawberry | Higaida, Sakurai, Nara Pref., Japan (34.5° N, 135.8° E) |
| Kashihara | Nov. 2016 | Strawberry | Toichi, Kashihara, Nara Pref., Japan (34.5° N, 135.8° E) |
| Uda | Dec. 2016 | Strawberry | Ohuda Hirao, Uda, Nara Pref., Japan (34.5° N, 135.9° E) |

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tetur03g08510 3241:TATGCACTACTCATGATGGCTGTCTTTGTTGGTACCGCTATTCAAATGGCTGAAGATGGT 3300
K4M      1:-----GATGGT 6
K3M      1:-----GATGGT 6
K2M      1:-----GATGGT 6
K1M      1:-----GATGGT 6
K4F      1:-----GATGGT 6
K3F      1:-----GATGGT 6
K2F      1:-----GATGGT 6
K1F      1:-----GATGGT 6
O6M      1:-----GATGGT 6
O4M      1:-----GATGGT 6
O3M      1:-----GATGGT 6
O2M      1:-----GATGGT 6
O6F      1:-----GATGGT 6
O4F      1:-----GATGGT 6
O3F      1:-----GATGGT 6
O2F      0:----- 0

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tetur03g08510 3301:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 3360
K4M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K3M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K2M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K1M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K4F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K3F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K2F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
K1F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O6M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O4M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O3M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O2M      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O6F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O4F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O3F      7:GTTACTTCACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 66
O2F      1:-----GGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 21

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I1017F

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TuCHS1_cyber-F
tetur03g08510 3361:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 3420
K4M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K3M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K2M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K1M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K4F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K3F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K2F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
K1F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O6M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O4M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O3M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O2M      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O6F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O4F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O3F      67:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 126
O2F      22:CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCTTTCGATT 81

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Supplementary Fig. 1 Alignment of CHS1 DNA sequences of females (F) and males (M) in SoOm1-etoR (O2, O3, O4 and O6) and Kyoyu-S (K1, K2, K3 and K4). The first position of sequence except O2F are corresponding with 3295 b in *tetur03g08510*. TuCHS1_cyber-F (forward) and TuCHS1_cyber-R (reverse) are the primers designed for the RED-ΔΔCt method.

Supplementary Fig. 1 continue

TuCHS1_cyber-R

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K3F 127:CCATGCATGTACCTTCTACTTATGATCTATTCTCTGGTCAACTTGAACGTTGTTACTTGG 186
K2F 127:CCATGCATGTACCTTCTACTTATGATCTATTCTCTGGTCAACTTGAACGTTGTTACTTGG 186
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O3M 127:CCATGCATGTACCTTCTACTTATGATCTATTCTCTGGTCAACTTGAACGTTGTTACTTGG 186
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O4F 127:CCATGCATGTACCTTCTACTTATGATCTATTCTCTGGTCAACTTGAACGTTGTTACTTGG 186
O3F 127:CCATGCATGTACCTTCTACTTATGATCTATTCTCTGGTCAACTTGAACGTTGTTACTTGG 186
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Supplementary Fig. 1 continue

tetur03g08510 3601:GAAGAAGAAGGATCTATTGAATTTAGTCTGGCAAACCTGTTTCAGGTGCTCTTTCTGTACA 3660
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Supplementary Fig. 1 continue

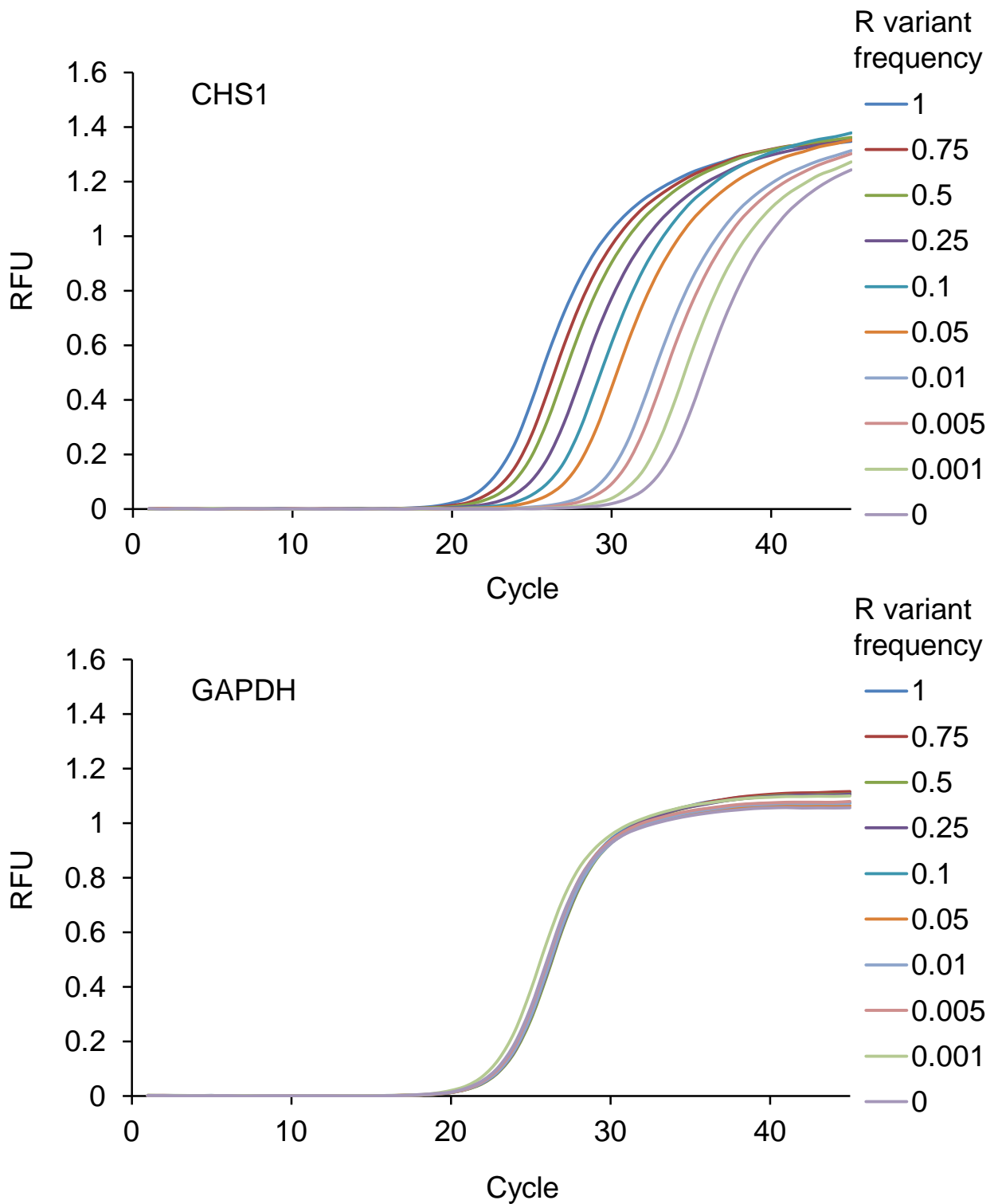
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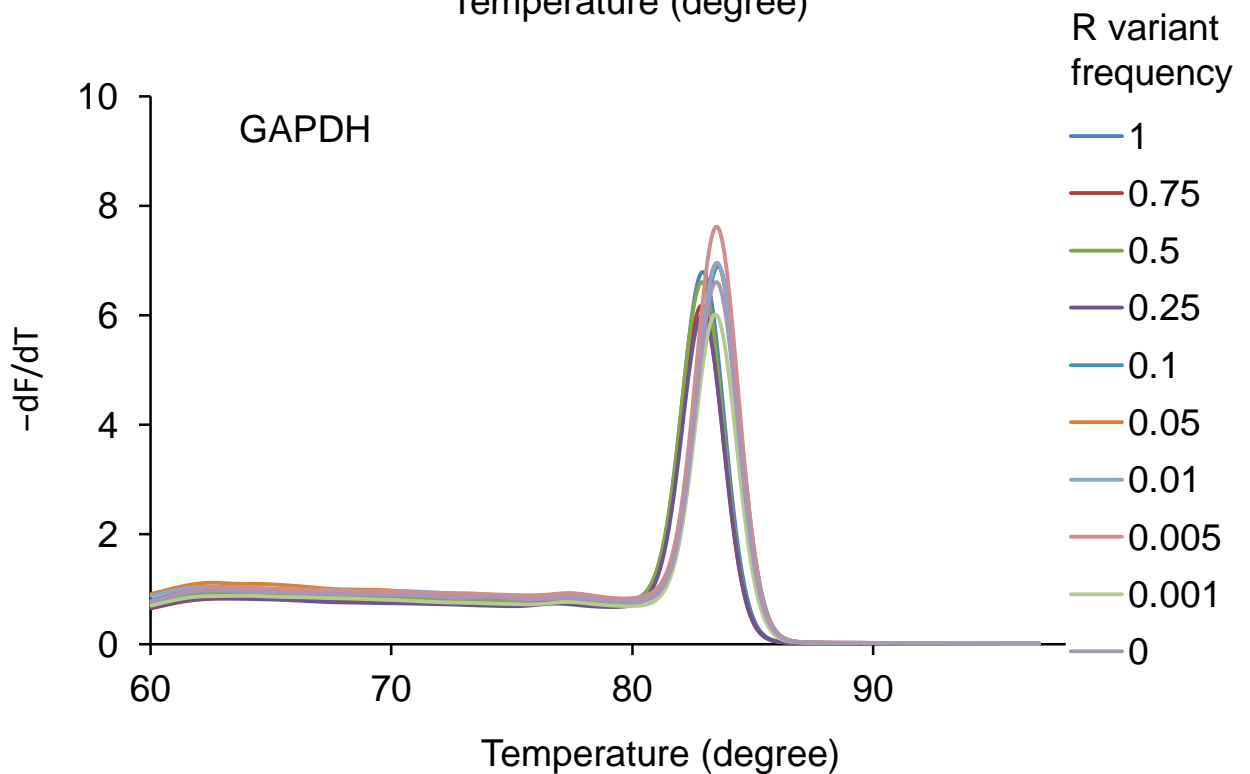
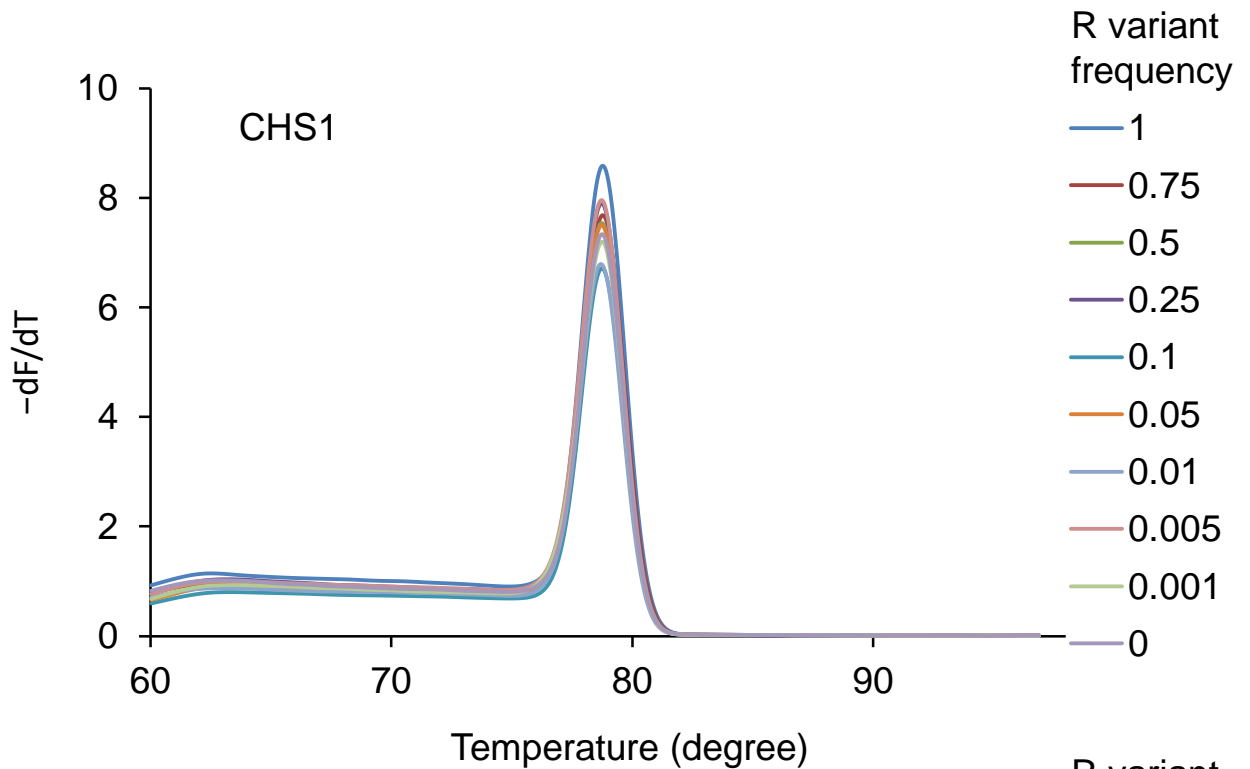
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O4F 607:ATTAAGGATAATGAAGAAGTTGCTCCACGATTTGATGAAGACCATCCATACTGGATTGAA 666
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Supplementary Fig. 1 continue

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O2F      622:GATAAAGATTTGAGAGATGGTCAAATCAAGCAGCTTGCAGAAAATGAAATCGCATTTT -- 679
      *** . ***** *
      *
      *
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Supplementary Fig. 2 Amplification curves for CHS1 and GAPDH of genomic DNA with various practical R variant frequencies after digestion by restriction endonuclease, *MluC* I and *Taq^qI*, for 3 h. RFU: relative fluorescent unit.



Supplementary Fig. 3 Melt peak chart for CHS1 and GAPDH of genomic DNA with various practical R variant frequencies after digestion by restriction endonuclease, *MluC* I and *Taq*^qI, for 3 h. dF/dT : derivative of melting curve.

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Uda-F2 1:-----CACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 53
Uda-F3 1:-----CACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 53
Uda-F4 1:-----CACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 53
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Uda-F9 1:-----CACCGTCTGCCGTATTTTTTCATAGCTTTATCTGGGTCTTTTGTAGTGGCGGCA 53
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TuCHS1 cyber-F 1016 I1017F
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Uda-F3 54: CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCCTTTCATT 113
Uda-F4 54: CTGCTTCATCCACAAGAGTTTCACTGTTTATATCCATGTTTACTTTATTTCCCTTTCATT 113
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Uda-F10 174: GGAACACGTGAAGTTCAGACTAAAAAGACCAAGGCTGAGCTGGAAGAGGAAAAGAAAGCT 233
*****

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Supplementary Fig. 4 Alignment of CHS1 DNA sequences of females of Uda population. The first position of sequence is corresponding with 3308 b in *tetur03g08510*. TuCHS1_cyber-F (forward) and TuCHS1_cyber-R (reverse) are the primers designed for the RED-ΔΔct method.

Supplementary Fig. 4 continue

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Supplementary Fig. 4 continue

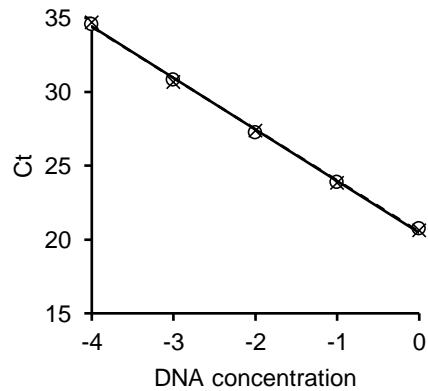
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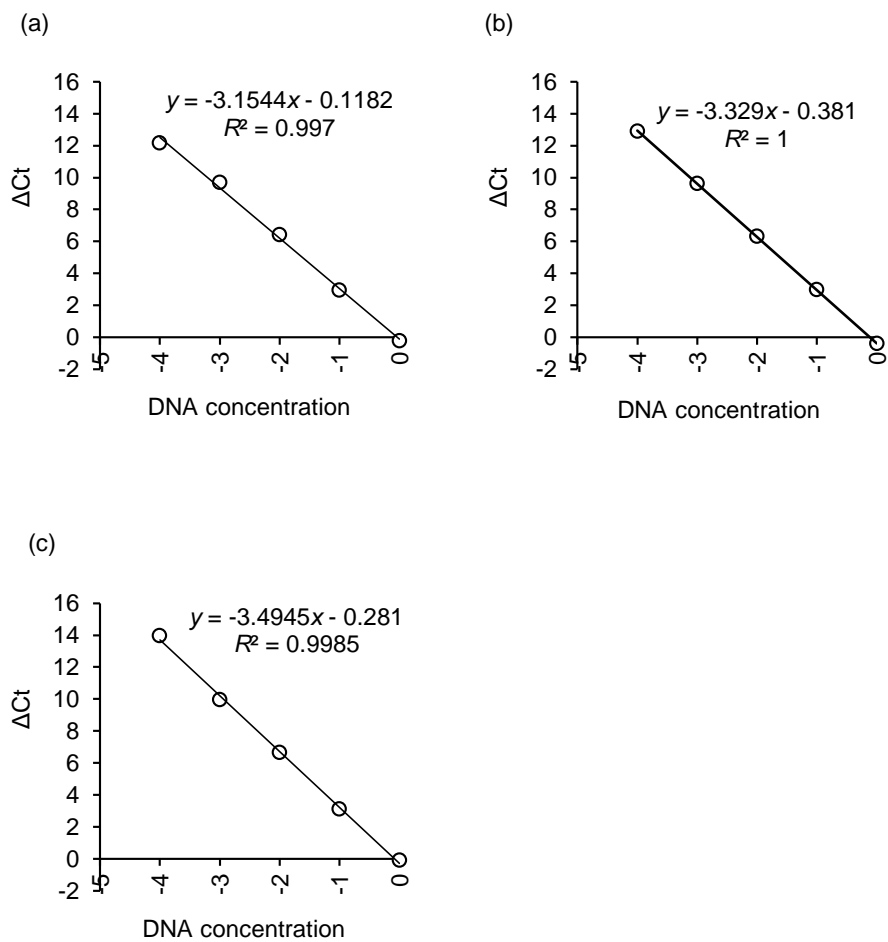
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Supplementary Fig. 5 Amplify efficiency for CHS1 (cross) and GAPDH (open circle) in Uda population. DNA concentration: $\log_{10}(\text{ng } \mu\text{l}^{-1})$. Equations of regression lines for CHS1 and GAPDH were $y = -3.49x + 20.46$ ($E = 1.933$, $R^2 = 0.985$) and $y = -3.46x + 20.54$ ($E = 1.945$, $R^2 = 0.997$). E : amplification efficiency (e) + 1 (if 100% amplification was achieved E would be “2”).



Supplementary Fig. 6 Correlation between DNA concentration ($\text{ng } \mu\text{l}^{-1}$) and ΔCt value in amplify efficiency experiments in SoOm1-etoR (O6) (a) and Kyoyu-S (K4) (b) strains and Uda population (c) using the Ct values of GAPDH at the concentration of $1 \text{ ng } \mu\text{l}^{-1}$ as references.

Supplementary Table 1 Susceptibility of SoOm1_etoR strain to etoxazole at 50–3,200 mg l⁻¹ (a) and at 5,000 and 10,000 mg l⁻¹ (b)

(a)

| Etoxazole (mg l ⁻¹) | No. of eggs tested | No. of unhatched eggs | Hatchability (%) | Corrected mortality (%) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 3,200 | 94 | 6 | 93.6 | 0 |
| 1,600 | 112 | 10 | 91.1 | 0.9 |
| 800 | 103 | 8 | 92.2 | 0 |
| 400 | 95 | 8 | 91.6 | 0.4 |
| 200 | 96 | 2 | 97.9 | 0 |
| 100 | 96 | 5 | 94.8 | 0 |
| 50 | 77 | 7 | 90.9 | 1.1 |
| Control (DW) | 99 | 8 | 91.9 | — |

(b)

| Etoxazole (mg L ⁻¹) | No. of eggs tested | No. of unhatched eggs | Hatchability (%) | Corrected mortality (%) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 10,000 | 110 | 11 | 90.0 | 1.9 |
| 5,000 | 135 | 20 | 88.1 | 3.9 |
| Control (DW) | 157 | 13 | 91.7 | — |

DW: distilled water

Supplementary Table 2 Record of virgin adult females laid eggs and used for DNA extraction, hatchability of their eggs after spraying with etoxazole at 50 mg l⁻¹, and estimator of resistant variant frequency (R variant frequency) in CHS1

| Population | No. of females introduced to leaves | No. of females used for DNA extraction | No. of haploid male eggs tested | Egg hatchability | Estimator of R variant frequency ($2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$) ^a |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Field population | | | | | |
| Iwate | 42 | 42 | 202 | 0.545 | 0.529 |
| Yokote | 34 | 31 | 62 | 0.661 | 0.846 |
| Izu2 | 36 | 36 | 129 | 0.977 | 0.914 |
| Masu | 43 | 41 | 392 | 0.941 | 0.945 |
| Komagoe | 42 | 42 | 346 | 0.335 | 0.302 |
| Yawata | 37 | 36 | 146 | 0.781 | 0.837 |
| Laboratory strain | | | | | |
| Tsukuba | 41 | 39 | 255 | 0 | 0.002 |
| NS | 35 | 34 | 217 | 0 | 0.005 |

Supplementary Table 3 Egg hatchability of newly collected field populations after spraying with etoxazole at 50 mg l⁻¹ and CHS1 R variant frequency estimated in the populations

| Population | No. of eggs for etoxazole | Egg hatchability in etoxazole | No. of eggs for control | Egg hatchability in control | Corrected hatchability | Estimator of R variant frequency ($2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$) ^a |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Gojo_Ada | 852 | 0.863 | 790 | 0.975 | 0.885 | 0.807 |
| Gojo_Oka | 1179 | 0.997 | 1046 | 0.996 | 1 | 0.790 |
| Sakurai | 432 | 0.951 | 802 | 0.973 | 0.978 | 0.829 |
| Kashihara | 469 | 0.386 | 434 | 0.933 | 0.414 | 0.163 |
| Uda | 997 | 0.737 | 1032 | 0.998 | 0.739 | 0.865 |