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Fine mapping of RYMV3: a new resistance gene to Rice yellow mottle virus from *Oryza glaberrima*

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Abstract: Rice yellow mottle virus (RYMV) disease is a serious constraint to the cultivation of rice in Africa and selection for resistance is considered to be the most effective management strategy. The aim of this study was to characterize the resistance of Tog5307, a highly resistant accession belonging to the African cultivated rice species (*Oryza glaberrima*), that has none of the previously identified resistance genes to RYMV. The specificity of Tog5307 resistance was analyzed using 18 RYMV isolates. While three of them were able to infect Tog5307 very rapidly, resistance against the others was effective despite infection events attributed to resistance-breakdown or incomplete penetrance of the resistance. Segregation of resistance in an interspecific backcross population derived from a cross between Tog5307 and the susceptible *Oryza sativa* variety IR64 showed that resistance is dominant and is controlled by a single gene, named RYMV3. RYMV3 was mapped in an approximately 15 kb interval in which two candidate genes, coding for a putative transmembrane protein and a CC-NBS-LRR domain-containing protein, were annotated. Sequencing revealed non-synonymous polymorphisms between Tog5307 and the *O. glaberrima* susceptible accession CG14 in both candidate genes. An additional resistant *O. glaberrima* accession, Tog5672, was found to have the Tog5307 genotype for the CC-NBS-LRR gene but not for the putative transmembrane protein gene. Analysis of the cosegregation of Tog5672 resistance with the RYMV3 locus suggests that RYMV3 is also involved in Tog5672 resistance, thereby supporting the CC-NBS-LRR gene as the best candidate for RYMV3.

Keywords: fine mapping, RYMV, rice, *Oryza glaberrima*, resistance, NB-LRR

Authors Contributions: AG, LA, SC developed the mapping populations. IS, DS, EH provided and characterized the viral material. HP, LA, AG conceived and designed the experiments. HP, SC, OK performed phenotyping and genotyping of the mapping population. HP, FS performed the sequence analysis. HP, LA analyzed the data and wrote the paper. FS, EH revised the paper.

Key Message: A new resistance gene against Rice yellow mottle virus was identified and mapped in a 15 kb interval. The best candidate is a CC-NBS-LRR gene.

Introduction

Rice is the staple food of more than half the world population. Africa produced 24 million tons between 2004 and 2013, which is only 3.5% of world rice production but Africa accounts for 29.6% of world imports (<http://faostat3.fao.org/>). Despite regular improvement, yields remain low, and are not sufficient to feed the growing population.

Among various abiotic and biotic stresses that reduce rice yield, *Rice yellow mottle virus* (RYMV) disease is a major cause of losses in sub-Saharan Africa (Ochola et al. 2011; Issaka et al. 2012; Kam et al. 2013). RYMV is a *Sobemovirus* endemic to Africa, and is prevalent in all the sub-Saharan countries where rice is cultivated. Extensive characterization of its diversity has revealed different viral strains, i.e. genetic groups, with gradual differentiation from East Africa, where it originated, to West Africa (Pinel-Galzi et al. 2015). The epidemiology of RYMV is complex (Traoré et al. 2009) and the efforts to manage the disease has thus been directed towards discovery of resistance genes.

Resistance to RYMV has been investigated in the two cultivated species of rice: *Oryza sativa*, originating from Asia and cultivated worldwide, and *O. glaberrima*, more recently domesticated and only cultivated locally in West Africa (Linares 2002). Several accessions, mostly of *O. glaberrima* species, were found to show no symptoms after RYMV inoculation, nor detectable virus content by an enzyme linked immuno-sorbent assay (ELISA), and were thus considered highly resistant (Thiemele et al. 2010). So far, two genes conferring high resistance to RYMV have been identified. The first one, *RYMV1*, encodes a translation initiation factor, eIF(iso)4G1 (Albar et al. 2006). Four recessive resistance alleles have been described: *rymv1-2* in two resistant *O. sativa* accessions, and *rymv1-3*, -4 and -5 in *O. glaberrima* accessions. As observed for eIF4E or eIF(iso)4E translation initiation factors involved in resistance against plant viruses (Sanfaçon 2015), the eIF(iso)4G1 factor of susceptible plants interacts with the VPg (viral protein genome-linked) of RYMV, a viral protein covalently linked to the 5' end of the viral RNA, while resistance is gained by the rupture of the interaction (Hébrard et al. 2010). The second resistance gene, *RYMV2*, also named *CPR5-1*, is homologous to the *Arabidopsis thaliana* gene for Constitutive expressor of Pathogenesis-Related genes-5 (*CPR5*), a nucleoporin controlling defense mechanisms (Bowling et al. 1997; Wang et al. 2014a; Gu et al. 2016). *RYMV2* mediated resistance is recessive and is conferred by a null allele identified in seven *O. glaberrima* accessions (Orjuela et al. 2013).

Even if using genetic resistance is efficient and environment friendly, the emergence of resistance-breaking virus variants is frequent and the durability of resistance genes is still a challenge (Kobayashi et al. 2014). Among resistance genes and alleles involved in high resistance to RYMV, only *rymv1-2* allele has been transferred to high yielding varieties, and very recently deployed in the fields (Bouet et al. 2013; Ndjiondjop et al. 2013), so its durability is unknown. However, the resistance breakdown of accessions carrying resistance alleles at *RYMV1* and *RYMV2* genes has already been observed and characterized in experimental conditions. Mutations in RYMV associated with *RYMV1* and *RYMV2* resistance breakdown were found in the central domain of the VPg (Pinel-Galzi et al. 2007; Traore et al. 2010) and the membrane anchor domain of polyprotein P2a (Pinel-Galzi et al. 2016), respectively. In addition, regardless of the resistance gene, the ability of the different isolates to overcome *O. glaberrima* or *O. sativa* resistant accessions may be associated with a trade-off among host species involving a polymorphism at amino acid 49 of the VPg (Poulicard et al. 2012; Pinel-Galzi et al., 2016). Although experimental conditions are not fully representative of field conditions, these results suggest that *RYMV1* and *RYMV2* resistance genes may not be sufficient to achieve durable resistance against RYMV.

Of the resistant accessions identified in *O. glaberrima* species by Thiemele et al. (2010), some do not have a known resistant allele on either *RYMV1* or *RYMV2* and therefore may represent genetic diversity to be exploited against RYMV. We characterized here the specificity of the resistance of the *O. glaberrima* Tog5307 accession using isolates representative of RYMV diversity and report the fine mapping of the *RYMV3* gene, which is involved in the resistance of Tog5307 and Tog5672 accessions.

Materials and Methods

Plant material

Four rice accessions were used in this study. Tog5307 and Tog5672 are *O. glaberrima* accessions resistant to RYMV. Tog5672 has the resistance allele *rymv1-4* for *RYMV1* (Albar et al. 2006) but is suspected to carry an additional unknown resistance gene (Thiemele et al. 2010). *O. sativa* spp *indica* IR64 variety and *O. glaberrima*

Tog6206 accession are highly susceptible to RYMV. An interspecific population derived from the Tog5307 x IR64 cross was developed to map Tog5307 resistance. Successive backcrosses, with IR64 as the recurrent parent and phenotypic selection for RYMV resistance at each step, were performed to introgress Tog5307 resistance into the IR64 genetic background. Independent lineages were derived from four resistant BC₁F₁ progenitors. The BC₃F₂ and BC₃F₃ generations were used for segregation analysis and fine genetic mapping of the resistance gene (Supplemental Figure 1). The genetic basis of Tog5672 resistance was analyzed in an F₂ population derived from the Tog5672 x Tog6206 cross.

Viral material

Eighteen RYMV isolates were used in this study. Their characteristics are listed in Table 1. Isolates were classified according to their country of origin, their viral strain, i.e. genetic group, and the presence of a glutamic acid (E49) or a threonine (T49) at position 49 of their VPg. The sample included nine T49 isolates from West Africa representing strains S1 and S2, four E49 isolates from West Africa representing strain S1, and five E49 isolates from East Africa, representing strains S4, S5 and S6. Isolates were propagated on IR64 susceptible plants and stored at -20 °C.

Four new isolates, collected on cultivated rice in Togo and Niger, were included in the viral corpus. For their characterization, total RNA was extracted with the RNeasy Plant Mini kit (Qiagen, Germany). The coat protein (CP) and the VPg genes of the RYMV genome were amplified by reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) (Fargette et al. 2002; Hebrard et al. 2006). The CP sequences were compared to a set of CP sequences for phylogenetic reconstruction using the maximum-likelihood method (Traoré et al. 2010). All four isolates belonged to strain S1.

Table 1 Characteristics of the RYMV isolates used in this study. The country of origin, the amino acid at position 49 of the VPg, and the strain, i.e. genetic group, are indicated for each isolate.

Name	Country of origin	VPG49 a. a.	Strain	Reference
BF1	Burkina Faso	T	S2	Pinel et al. 2000
CIa	Côte d'Ivoire	T	S2	Fargette et al. 2004
CI2	Côte d'Ivoire	T	S1	Pinel et al. 2000
CI3	Côte d'Ivoire	T	S1	Pinel et al. 2000
CI8	Côte d'Ivoire	T	S2	Pinel et al. 2000
CI4	Côte d'Ivoire	E	S1	Pinel et al. 2000
Ni1	Nigeria	T	S1	Pinel et al. 2000
Tg274	Togo	T	S1	this study
Ng106	Niger	T	S1	Traoré et al. 2010
Ng119	Niger	T	S1	this study
Ng109	Niger	E	S1	Traoré et al. 2010
Ng111	Niger	E	S1	this study
Ng113	Niger	E	S1	this study
Mg1	Madagascar	E	S4	Pinel et al. 2000
Tz5	Tanzania	E	S4	Fargette et al. 2004
Tz11	Tanzania	E	S6	Abubakar et al. 2003
Tz201	Tanzania	E	S4	Fargette et al. 2008
Tz211	Tanzania	E	S5	Fargette et al. 2008

Phenotypic evaluation

The resistance spectrum was characterized in four different trials conducted in similar conditions. The plants were cultivated in greenhouse conditions in trays holding 28 individual 350 ml pots. Between 40 and 56 Tog5307 plants and eight IR64 control plants were inoculated with each isolate. Inoculum was prepared by grinding IR64 infected leaves in 0.1M phosphate buffer (0.1g of plant material per ml of buffer) and adding 600-mesh carborundum. Plants were mechanically inoculated at approximately two weeks after sowing by rubbing the inoculum on all the leaves. Resistance was assessed based on the presence/absence of symptoms and eventually by ELISA. Symptoms were observed on the leaves emerged after inoculation, at two, four and six weeks after inoculation. Samples from the last emerged leaf were collected at four and six weeks after inoculation and virus content was estimated by direct double antibody sandwich (DAS-) ELISA, as described by Ndjiondjop et al. (1999), using a polyclonal antiserum directed against an RYMV isolate from Madagascar (Nguessan et al. 2000). About 1 mg of fresh leaves in 1 ml buffer was used. Samples were considered negative if the optical density at 405 nm was less than three times the negative control. Since recovery from the infected state is highly unlikely, ELISA was first performed on samples collected at four weeks after inoculation on symptomatic plants, and, if negative, on samples collected at six weeks after inoculation; in the case of non-symptomatic plants, ELISA was first performed on samples collected at six weeks and, if positive, on samples collected at four weeks after inoculation.

For the genetic analysis of Tog5307 and Tog5672 resistance, BF1 isolate was used. The conditions for culture and RYMV inoculation were the same as described above. Resistance was assessed based on the presence/absence of symptoms and eventually confirmed by ELISA. Susceptible plants developed clear yellow mottles at 10 to 15 days post-inoculation, whereas resistant plants had no symptoms at all. ELISA was performed as described above on samples collected between 2 and 3 weeks after inoculation.

Genomic resources

Three different genome sequences were used in this study: the *O. sativa* spp. *japonica* Nipponbare release Os-Nipponbare-Reference-IRGSP-1.0 (Kawahara et al. 2013), the *O. sativa* spp. *indica* IR64 sequence Os-IR64-Draft-CSHL-1.0 (Schatz et al. 2014) and the *O. glaberrima* CG14 genome assembly *Oryza_glaberrima_AGI1.1* (Wang et al. 2014b). The IR64 scaffold corresponding to the resistance gene region was identified with Blast 2.2.31+ (Camacho et al. 2009). Annotations on CG14 refer to the 2011-05-AGI conducted by Munich Information Center for Protein Sequences and browsed through Gramene release 49 (<http://www.gramene.org/>). Sequence comparison in the candidate region was visualized with Artemis software (Rutherford et al. 2000). Tog5307 and Tog5672 sequences at candidate open reading frames (ORFs) were obtained by Sanger sequencing of PCR amplification fragments at Beckman Coulter Genomics (Takeley, UK).

Development of molecular markers and PCR procedure

The 384 single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) chip described in Orjuela et al. (2014) was used for the first step of Tog5307 resistance mapping.

PCR markers based on polymorphisms between CG14 and Nipponbare or IR64 sequences were developed for the fine mapping of Tog5307 resistance. A marker specific to the *rymv1-4* allele was also developed to screen the Tog5672 x Tog6206 F₂ population. Primers were designed using Primer3 (Untergasser et al. 2007) and checked for specificity in the Nipponbare genome using Primer blaster tool (Droc et al. 2009). Most of the markers were either indel markers or cleaved amplified polymorphic sequence (CAPS) markers. One derived CAPS (dCAPS) marker was developed based on the dCAPS Finder 2.0 software (Neff et al. 2002). The complete characteristics of the markers are listed in Table 2.

Genotyping was performed by direct PCR amplifications using leaf extracts or by standard PCR amplifications using extracted DNA. PCR conditions are described in detail in Orjuela et al. (2013). After amplification of CAPS or dCAPS markers, 10 µl of buffer-restriction enzyme mixture (2 µl of 10x reaction buffer, 0.4 µl of appropriate restriction enzyme, 0.2 µl of bovine serum albumin, and 7.4 µl of double-distilled H₂O) was added to 10 µl of PCR product and incubated at 37 °C for 2 h. Electrophoresis of PCR or digestion products was performed in agarose and DNA bands were visualized with ethidium bromide.

Table 2 Characteristics of the markers developed for mapping and segregation analysis. For CAPS and dCAPS markers, the restriction enzyme used to reveal polymorphism is in parentheses. All the markers are located on chromosome 11, except SNP_rymv1-4, which was designed on the *RYMV1* gene, on chromosome 4.

Name	Marker type	Forward primer (5'-3')	Reverse primer (5'-3')
C5	CAPS (HindII)	TCACTGACCGCGTTCTATGG	CGCTTGGATCATGCTTGCAA
C11	CAPS (HindII)	AACAAGCTTTGAATCGTTTCGT	ACTCTCCGTTTGGTCATATTACA
C10	CAPS (CfoI)	CTTTCCCCGACCTGTTCTTGA	ACAGAAGCAACGGTACAGCC
M6	InDel	CTGGTGACCCATCTTGCTT	TGTATTTACAGGGGCGGACC
C34	CAPS (AluI)	CTTTAGGCGCTGCGTACATC	GAGAGGGGAGGGGAGATTGT
C31	CAPS (HindII)	ATCTACCGGGGACAACCTCCA	GAGGCGCATCTTCACTCAGT
C16	CAPS (PstI)	TAACGGCATCCCAGCACATT	CCCCTTCTTCTCCAGCAACA
C26	CAPS (CfoI)	GCCTATCCATGTCCACACCA	GGTGACCATGATTGCCACCT
M4	CAPS (CfoI)	CCCTGCCTCCCTGATTGTTT	GCAAGGTAGAGTGTGTGCAA
LRR_RYMV3	dCAPS (HaeIII)	CTACACAAACTCCGCCGTCT	AGTACAGTGAAGAAATACATGGGC
SNP_rymv1-4	CAPS (EarI)	GAGCCCACCTTCTGTCCGATG	AGTAGCTACCAATTAGACGGA

Results

Tog5307 resistance spectrum

Tog5307 accession was inoculated with 18 isolates of RYMV, selected as representative of the genetic diversity of the virus in Africa.

Clear symptoms were observed at 12 days after inoculation on all IR64 plants that had been inoculated with any of the isolates tested and on all the Tog5307 plants inoculated by Ng119 and Tz211 isolates. After Ni1 inoculation, symptoms were also observed on 60% of the plants at 12 days after inoculation, and on all the plants but one, at four weeks after inoculation. ELISA on randomly selected Tog5307 plants confirmed the presence of the virus. For the other isolates, almost all the Tog5307 inoculated plants were symptom free at two weeks after inoculation and the percentage of diseased plants was assessed by ELISA performed on all the plants (Figure 1). It ranged from 0 to 25% at four weeks after inoculation and from 0 to 45% at six weeks after inoculation. Infection rates at these two dates were highly correlated ($R^2 = 0.95$).

Infection rates with Ni1, Ng119 and Tz211 isolates ranged between 98 or 100 % at four weeks after inoculation and were significantly different from those obtained with other isolates (Fisher exact test, $p < 10^{-3}$), revealing a strong specificity of interactions between Tog5307 resistance and RYMV isolates. At four weeks after inoculation, no infection cases were observed with isolates Cla, Ng111, Tz201 and Tz11, and a single case of infection each with isolates Cl4, Ng113 and Mg1. These isolates differed significantly from BF1, Cl2, Cl8, and Ng106, which showed over 18% of infected plants, while the infection rate of Cl3, Ng109, Tg274 and Tz5 was between the two.

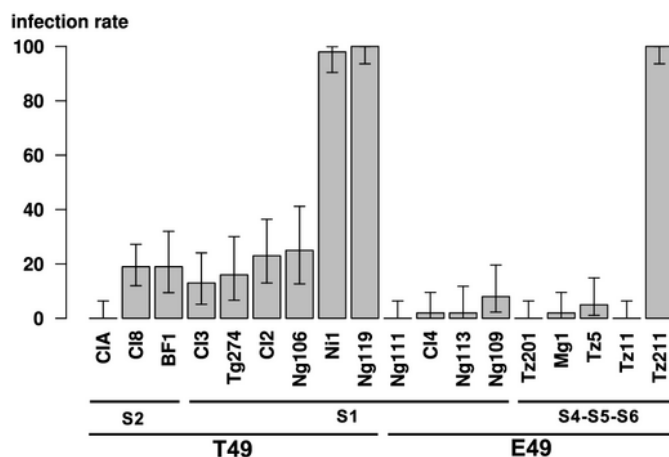


Fig. 1 Percentage of diseased plants on Tog5307 accessions for 18 RYMV isolates at four weeks after inoculation. Plants were inoculated with RYMV isolates representing different strains of the virus (S1, S2, S4, S5, S6) and distinguished by a T or a E amino acid at position 49 of the VPg. The error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

As the T/E polymorphism at codon 49 of the VPg is associated with RYMV1 and RYMV2 resistance-breakdown ability and with a selective advantage of T49 isolates on *O. glaberrima* susceptible accessions (Traoré et al. 2010; Poulicard et al. 2012; Pinel-Galzi et al. 2016), its association with the infection rate on Tog5307 was analyzed. Considering all the isolates except Tz211, Ng119 and Ni1, significantly different infection rates (Fisher exact test, $p < 10^{-3}$) were observed between T49 isolates (average infection rate of 16.3%) and E49 isolates (2.5%), suggesting that E/T polymorphism also plays a role in the interaction between RYMV isolates and Tog5307 resistance.

Inheritance of Tog5307 resistance

The inheritance of Tog5307 resistance was analyzed in populations derived from the Tog5307 x IR64 cross and subsequent backcrosses using IR64 as the recurrent parent (Supplemental Table 1). Resistance phenotype was assessed by inoculation with isolate BF1.

Preliminary observations of the presence/absence of symptoms were made on BC₁F₁, BC₂F₁ and BC₃F₁ hybrids in the course of the introgression process. Two contrasted phenotypes were observed. IR64 and some hybrids exhibited very clear symptoms as early as 10 to 14 days after inoculation, while Tog5307 and other hybrids showed no symptoms even several weeks after inoculation.

The segregation of resistance was evaluated in five BC₃F₃ families derived from four independent BC₁F₁. Between 16 and 24 plants per family were phenotyped. Resistance was assessed by the presence/absence of symptoms and ELISA. The presence of symptoms was perfectly correlated with the detection of virus in ELISA. A total of 82 resistant and 32 susceptible plants were identified, which fit a 3:1 resistant/susceptible segregation pattern ($\chi^2 = 0.57$; $P = 0.45$). This segregation pattern was also supported by each individual family (Table 3). This result is in agreement with monogenic and dominant inheritance of resistance.

Table 3 Segregation of resistance in five BC₃F₃ families derived from the (IR64 x Tog5307) cross and subsequent backcrosses on IR64. The names of families refer to their lineage, and the BC₁F₁ and BC₂F₁ plants from which they are derived are listed in the first three columns. The results of the Chi squared test used to determine the goodness-of-fit to a 3:1 ratio, expected for a dominant monogenic gene, and the corresponding p-value (P) are given.

Lineage			Number of resistant plants	Number of susceptible plants	χ^2	P
BC ₁ line	BC ₂ line	BC ₃ F ₃ family				
1	1.2	1.2.1.1	14	9	2.44	0.12
1	1.3	1.3.1.C	18	6	0	1
2	2.5	2.5.6.2	16	8	0.89	0.35
4	4.1	4.1.3.1	20	4	0.89	0.35
6	6.5	6.5.2.1	14	5	0.02	0.89
Total			82	34	0.57	0.45

Identification of a candidate locus for Tog5307 resistance on chromosome 11

To identify the genomic region carrying the Tog5307 resistance gene, 18 BC₁F₁ plants which did not show any symptoms after RYMV inoculation were genotyped with the SNP chip described in Orjuela et al. (2014). Among the 384 SNP markers on the chip, 119 were polymorphic in the target population. As expected, BC₁F₁ were either heterozygous, or homozygous for IR64 alleles. Two markers showed a strong segregation distortion towards the heterozygous state (17 out of 18 individuals) (Figure 2). This segregation strongly diverged from the 1:1 ratio ($\chi^2 = 14.2$; $P = 1.6 \times 10^{-4}$), as expected for markers associated with resistance. These markers were on chromosome 6 at position 2,346,023 on the *O. sativa* Nipponbare reference genome and on chromosome 11 at position 26,619,446. On chromosome 6, the marker was located on the interspecific sterility locus *S1* (Garavito et al. 2010), which is known to induce major segregation distortions toward the *O. glaberrima* allele in interspecific crosses between *O. sativa* and *O. glaberrima* (Lorieux et al. 2000). Thus, the distortion observed on chromosome 6 is likely to be due to *S1*. As no sterility locus has ever been reported in this region of chromosome 11 (Garavito et al. 2010), the second distortion is assumed to result from the resistance gene.

Since none of the previously identified resistance genes (Albar et al. 2003; Orjuela et al. 2013) or QTLs (Boisnard et al. 2007) against RYMV cosegregated with resistance in this population, the resistance gene of Tog5307 was considered to be new and was named *RYMV3*, for *Resistance-to-yellow-mottle-virus-3*.

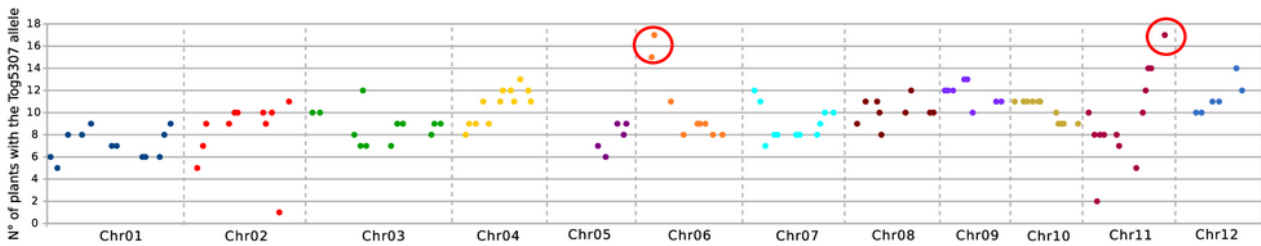
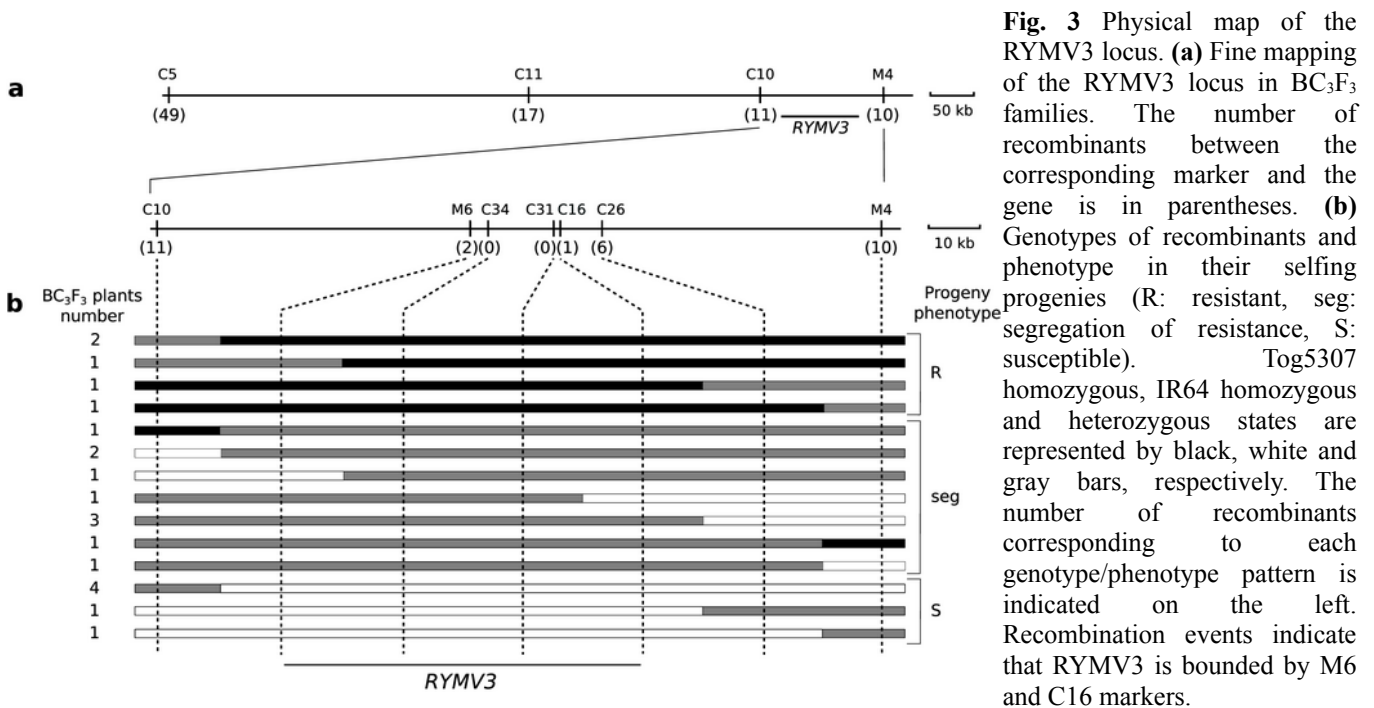


Fig. 2 Genomic regions in linkage disequilibrium with resistance in a population of 18 resistant BC₁F₁ plants from the cross (IR64 x Tog5307) x IR64. Plants were challenged with BF1 isolate and genotyped with the SNP chip described in Orjuela et al. (2014). The number of heterozygous BC₁F₁ plants at each marker over the genome is indicated in ordinates. The two encircled regions on chromosomes 6 and 11 show segregation distortion toward the heterozygous state.

Fine mapping of *RYMV3*

Mapping of *RYMV3* was confirmed and refined on BC₃F₂ and BC₃F₃ plants. In the first step, a BC₃F₂ population was phenotyped based on the presence/absence of symptoms. Thirty-seven symptom-free plants were genotyped with 13 markers designed in the candidate region on chromosome 11. The cosegregation of resistance with a region comprised between markers C5 and M4, corresponding to an 880 kb-region on the Nipponbare genomic sequence was confirmed.

In the second step, 1363 BC₃F₃ plants were genotyped at markers C5 and M4 (Figure 3). Fifty-eight recombinant individuals were identified and genotyped with additional markers in the interval. The phenotyping of the most informative recombinants was performed based on symptom observation on their progenies, with 10 to 16 plants tested per progeny. The interval containing *RYMV3* was finally bounded by markers M6 and C16. Two recombination events were located between marker M6 and *RYMV3*, and one event between *RYMV3* and C16.



RYMV3 candidate genes

The length of the M6-C16 region containing *RYMV3* is 15 kb, 17 kb and 42 kb in the CG14, IR64 and Nipponbare genomic sequences, respectively. The differences in size were mainly explained by 2.1 kb and 3.5 kb insertions/deletions between the CG14 and IR64 genomes, and insertions of 2.4 kb, 6.7 kb and 16 kb in the Nipponbare genome that were absent in the IR64 genome (Figure 4).

Two ORFs had been annotated in the CG14 genome in the M6-C16 interval (Figure 5). The first one (ORGLA11g0175700) was labeled as a gene coding for a hypothetical protein. Protein sequence analysis (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro/>) revealed a transmembrane structure with a 69 amino acid (aa) cytoplasmic domain, a 28 aa transmembrane domain and a 129 aa non-cytoplasmic domain, but no known conserved functional domains. Any ORF orthologous to the ORF of ORGLA11g0175700 was absent in the Nipponbare and IR64 sequences. However, two homologs of ORGLA11g0175700 were identified in the CG14 genome (ORGLA11g0103500 and ORGLA11g0189200) and in the Nipponbare genome (LOC_Os11g25530 and LOC_Os11g47750) on chromosome 11, 8.3 Mb upstream and 1.5 Mb downstream of locus *RYMV3* in the CG14 genome.

The second ORF (ORGLA11g0175800) was only partially located within the M6-C16 region, as C16 is located on the first intron. The orthologous ORF in the Nipponbare sequence is named LOC_Os11g43700. The encoded protein showed a coiled-coil (CC), a nucleotide binding site (NBS) and a leucine rich repeat (LRR) domain, characteristic of the large family of resistance genes, and consequently named CC-NBS-LRR genes (Takken and Govere 2012).

These ORFs were sequenced by Sanger methodology in the Tog5307 accession. Three SNPs were detected between Tog5307 and the susceptible accession CG14 on gene ORGLA11g0175700. One of them was intronic, and the other two resulted in a glycine to arginine change at aa position 28 in the cytoplasmic domain, and a proline to leucine change at aa position 212 in the non-cytoplasmic domain. Two polymorphisms were identified in the part of the ORGLA11g0175800 gene located within the M6-C16 region. The first one was a 33 bp deletion in the first intron, and the second one a non-synonymous SNP in the LRR domain inducing a conversion of a lysine into an arginine at aa position 779.

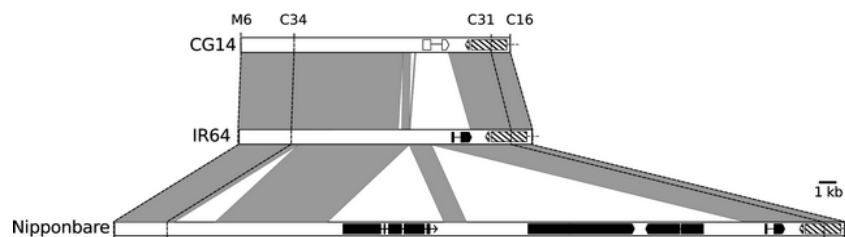


Fig. 4 Collinearity between the CG14, IR64 and Nipponbare genomes in the genomic region containing *RYMV3*, visualized with Artemis software (Rutherford et al. 2000). Collinear regions are in gray. Genes annotated in the different genomes are indicated by boxes representing exons. Annotations in the IR64 genome were obtained from Nipponbare ones. The white gene is ORGLA11g0175700. The hatched gene is the CC-NBS-LRR gene (ORGLA11G75800 on the CG14 genome and LOC_Os11g43700 on the Nipponbare genome). It is only partially included in the region M6-C16 containing *RYMV3*. Markers used for mapping are shown with dashed lines.

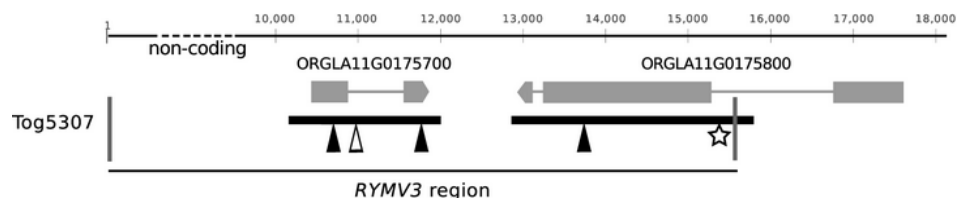


Fig. 5 Annotation of the *RYMV3* candidate region and polymorphisms detected between CG14 and Tog5307. The regions sequenced in Tog5307 are indicated by thick black bars. Black arrows represent non-synonymous SNPs, the white arrow a synonymous SNP, and the white star a deletion of 33 bp. ORGLA11G0175700 is a putative transmembrane gene. ORGLA11G0175800 is a typical CC-NBS-LRR resistance gene.

Tog5672 second resistance gene is linked to RYMV3

Tog5672 has the *rymv1-4* resistance allele of the *RYMV1* gene (Albar et al. 2006) but segregation analysis suggested that this accession contains another resistance gene (Thiemele et al. 2010). As no evidence for a resistance allele on the *RYMV2* gene was reported by Orjuela et al. (2013), we investigated if Tog5672 carries *RYMV3*. The sequence of the *RYMV3* candidate genes in Tog5672 was assessed by Sanger sequencing. Out of the five polymorphisms identified between Tog5307 and CG14, Tog5672 displayed the Tog5307 genotype only for the SNP corresponding to aa position 779 in the LRR domain of the CC-NBS-LRR gene.

A cross was performed between Tog5672 and Tog6206, a susceptible *O. glaberrima* accession. F₂ plants were inoculated with the BF1 isolate and resistance was assessed by the presence/absence of symptoms and ELISA. Plants were genotyped using the CAPS marker SNP_rymv1-4, targeting a polymorphism characterizing *rymv1-4* allele, and the dCAPS marker LRR_RYMV3, targeting the polymorphism in the LRR domain of the candidate gene for *RYMV3*. As expected, plants homozygous for *rymv1-4* turned out to be resistant (Table 4). Of the others, the seven plants homozygous for the Tog6206 allele at the LRR_RYMV3 marker were susceptible, whereas the 12 plants homozygous for the Tog5672 allele were resistant, clearly demonstrating that the second resistance determinant of Tog5672 is linked to *RYMV3*. However, regardless of being homozygous or heterozygous for the susceptibility allele at *RYMV1*, 12 out of 20 *RYMV3* heterozygous plants had a clearly resistant phenotype, but the eight others showed symptoms and/or had low but positive ELISA scores. This may suggest that resistance expression may be influenced by additional factors.

Some F₂ plants were also inoculated with Ng119 isolate. All the plants that were non-homozygous for *rymv1-4* and heterozygous (eight plants) or homozygous for the Tog5672 allele (two plants) for *RYMV3* were homogeneously infected at two weeks after inoculation. The second resistance determinant of Tog5672 thus showed the same specificity of interaction as Tog5307 with BF1 and Ng119 isolates, which is in agreement with *RYMV3* being involved in Tog5672 resistance.

Table 4. Segregation of resistance in the F₂ population derived from the (Tog5672 x Tog5307) cross.

Genotype	Resistant	Susceptible
Homozygous for <i>rymv1-4</i> allele	9	0
Non homozygous for <i>rymv1-4</i> allele		
Homozygous for Tog5672 allele at <i>RYMV3</i>	12	0
Heterozygous at <i>RYMV3</i>	12	8
Homozygous for Tog6206 allele at <i>RYMV3</i>	0	7

Discussion

RYMV is one of the main causes of losses in rice crops in Africa and Madagascar, and breeding resistant cultivars is likely the best strategy to control this disease. However, understanding the specificity of interactions between *RYMV* isolates, resistance genes or alleles, and the genetic background is crucial to achieving durable resistance. The analysis of the Tog5307 resistance spectrum revealed contrasted patterns of interaction with *RYMV* isolates. Tog5307 behaved like a susceptible accession when challenged with Tz211, Ng119 and Ni1 isolates, that are thus presumed to be virulent on Tog5307, according to the definition of Vanderplanck (1968). With the other isolates, infection occurred later and in a limited number of plants. These observations may reflect incomplete penetrance of resistance, i.e. the occurrence of plants with the resistant genotype that develop the disease, as previously described in other plant/virus pathosystems (Ouibrahim et al. 2014; Chandra-Shekara et al. 2008; Poque et al. 2015). However, they may also result from the emergence in some plants of a viral variant able to overcome resistance, as frequently observed in host/pathogen interactions (Lecoq et al. 2004; Quenouille et al. 2013 for plant/virus interactions) and well described for *RYMV1* and *RYMV2* mediated resistance (Hébrard et al. 2006; Pinel-Galzi et al. 2016). The two hypotheses may also coexist. Analysis of infected Tog5307 samples based on back-inoculation on Tog5307 plants and Illumina sequencing, as performed in Pinel-

Galzi et al. (2016), is planned to determine which hypothesis applies. Nevertheless, in most of the cases, RYMV is unable to multiply in Tog5307 plants, which confirmed that Tog5307 resistance is as efficient as the resistance conferred by RYMV1 or RYMV2 genes.

Poulicard et al. (2012) reported a selective advantage of isolates with a T at position 49 of the VPg in susceptible *O. glaberrima* accessions when T49 and E49 isolates were inoculated in competition, and interpreted it as an adaptation to *O. glaberrima* species. This T/E polymorphism has also been previously identified as a key determinant of the ability to overcome resistance of Gigante (*O. sativa* accession carrying *rymv1-2*), Tog5681 (*O. glaberrima* accession carrying *rymv1-3*) and Tog7291 (*O. glaberrima* accession carrying a resistance allele at RYMV2 gene): E49 isolates rarely overcome the resistance of Tog5681 or Tog7291, while T49 isolates rarely overcome the resistance of Gigante (Traoré et al. 2010; Pinel-Galzi et al. 2016). Here we observed that, excluding the isolates that infected all Tog5307 plants, infection rate was significantly higher for T49 isolates than for E49 isolates. This result also supports the association of T/E polymorphism with the efficiency of resistant accessions independently/regardless of the resistance gene. We are currently investigating the pattern of interaction between T49 and E49 isolates and near isogenic lines of IR64 (*O. sativa* spp. *indica*) introgressed with different resistance genes to confirm these hypothesis. However, the E/T polymorphism is not the only determinant of the specificity of interaction between Tog5307 and RYMV isolates. In particular, this polymorphism does not explain why the T49 Cla isolate did not infect Tog5307 and why 100% infection rate was observed with the E49 Tz211 isolate.

Tog5307 resistance is under the control of RYMV3, the third major resistance gene to RYMV identified in *O. glaberrima*. Our mapping, sequencing and isolate specificity results suggest it is also involved in Tog5672 resistance. We think RYMV3 is sufficient to explain the resistance of Tog5307, but we cannot totally exclude that an interaction between RYMV3 and a gene closely linked to the *S1* locus, on chromosome 6, is involved. In *O. sativa* x *O. glaberrima* crosses, the *S1* locus is the main interspecific sterility locus and was shown to undergo a strong segregation distortion toward the *O. glaberrima* allele in progenies (Lorieux et al. 2000). This locus explains why such distortion was observed in BC₁F₁. In the same way, BC₃F₂ and BC₃F₃ used for RYMV3 fine mapping are expected to be homozygous for the *O. glaberrima* allele at locus *S1*. This lack of segregation would prevent the detection of a gene linked to locus *S1* that may be involved in resistance in interaction with RYMV3. A small fraction of plants with the *O. sativa* allele at locus *S1* would be sufficient to exclude the implication of such a gene. To date, back crosses for introgression of RYMV3 in IR64 are as advanced as BC₆. We confirmed the association of RYMV3 with resistance in BC₆F₂ but, despite screening more than one hundred BC₆F₂ plants, no plants with the *O. sativa* *S1* allele were identified (data not shown).

The segregation of resistance in the Tog5672 x Tog6206 population does not exclude the involvement of another resistance gene, which could have been masked by *S1* distortion or by the absence of polymorphism in the Tog5307 x IR64 population. Some plants belonging to the Tog5672 x Tog6206 population that were heterozygous for RYMV3 were only partially resistant, thereby supporting the involvement of such a gene. However incomplete penetrance of RYMV3 mediated resistance could also explain the observed segregation. Penetrance may be affected by environmental factors and by a dosage effect, as previously described for different NB-LRR genes (Collmer et al. 2000; Chandra-Shekara et al. 2006 ; Zhu et al. 2010) or other resistance genes (Ouibrahim et al. 2014). In the Tog5307 × IR64 population, phenotyping was mostly performed on progenies and a small bias in the ratio between resistant and susceptible plants, that may be due to an incomplete penetrance of the resistance in heterozygous plants, would not have been detected. We checked the penetrance of the resistance in 84 BC₅F₃ plants from three segregating families developed during the introgression process of RYMV3 in IR64 and no heterozygous plants developed the disease (data not shown) which do not support a strong dosage effect in this population.. All these results highlight the overriding role of RYMV3 in resistance but suggest that complex interactions between the gene, the genetic background and the features of the RYMV isolates may affect the expression of resistance.

We mapped RYMV3 in a 15 kb-long interval on the CG14 reference genome. Two candidate genes are annotated in this interval. ORGLA11g0175700, encodes a hypothetical protein with a probable transmembrane domain but this gene has no homologs outside the *Oryza* genus nor has any known conserved domain. However, resistance genes with no significant homology to any characterized proteins have already been described (Xiao et al. 2001; Wang et al. 2015). If ORGLA11g0175700 is involved in resistance, two non-synonymous polymorphisms between Tog5307 and CG14, one in the probable cytoplasmic domain and the other outside, are candidates to

explain the gain in resistance. The other gene, ORGLA11g0175800, is a typical NB-LRR gene belonging to the CC-NBS-LRR subfamily. Genes in this class are the most common dominant resistance genes in all types of pathosystems. Resistance to plant viruses is not an exception to the rule, as 20 NB-LRR genes against plant viruses have been cloned so far (Boualem et al. 2016). NB-LRR proteins are cytoplasmic. They are composed of a central LRR domain involved in pathogen specificity, linked to a C-terminal NB-ARC (nucleotide-binding adaptor shared by APAF-1, certain R gene products and CED-4) domain required for signal transduction, and either a TIR (toll and interleukin-1 receptor) or a CC (coiled coil) domain in the N terminal, which play a role in the auto-inhibition of the protein in and protein-protein interactions (Takken and Govere 2012). NB-LRR genes directly or indirectly specifically recognize a strain or isolate specific avirulence factor and trigger the resistance signaling cascade, which in the majority of cases leads to local cell death, named hypersensitive response. In the plant/virus pathosystem, an extreme resistance, characterized by no detectable viral accumulation and no visible necrosis, can also be observed (Bendahmane et al. 1999). In the ORGLA11g0175800 gene, we detected a single non-synonymous SNP between Tog5307 from CG14, leading to a conversion from a lysine to an arginine in the LRR domain. Although both are positively charged amino acids, they may confer different specificities to the protein. The LRR domain of NB-LRR proteins has been shown to play a central role in virus recognition (Farham and Baulcombe 2006; Tomita et al. 2011; Sekine et al. 2012) and such polymorphism can explain the difference between a resistant and a susceptible plant, as previously demonstrated in rice/blast interactions (Bryan et al. 2000; Liu et al. 2007). The involvement of a NB-LRR gene would be in agreement with the observed isolate-specific resistance mediated by *RYMV3* gene. Therefore, we believe ORGLA11g0175800 is the best candidate for Tog5307 resistance. The functional complementation of a susceptible *O. sativa* variety with the Tog5307 allele of the candidate genes will confirm the role of the candidates, and exclude the involvement of additional genes in Tog5307 resistance.

In conclusion, we mapped *RYMV3*, a new resistance gene to RYMV, and identified a NB-LRR as a very convincing candidate gene. We showed that *RYMV3*-associated resistance can be codominant or incompletely penetrant, depending on the genetic background or the environmental conditions. The three known resistance genes to RYMV are presumed to be involved in different mechanisms of interaction with the virus. Their pyramiding will probably render the emergence of resistance-breaking variants difficult. This is thus a very promising way to achieve durable resistance, in particular in the regions of Africa where specific interactions between the local isolates, the resistance genes and the genetic background may rapidly impair the efficiency of varieties with a single resistance gene.

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Conflict of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Ethical standards: The authors declare that the experiments comply with the current laws of the country in which they were performed.

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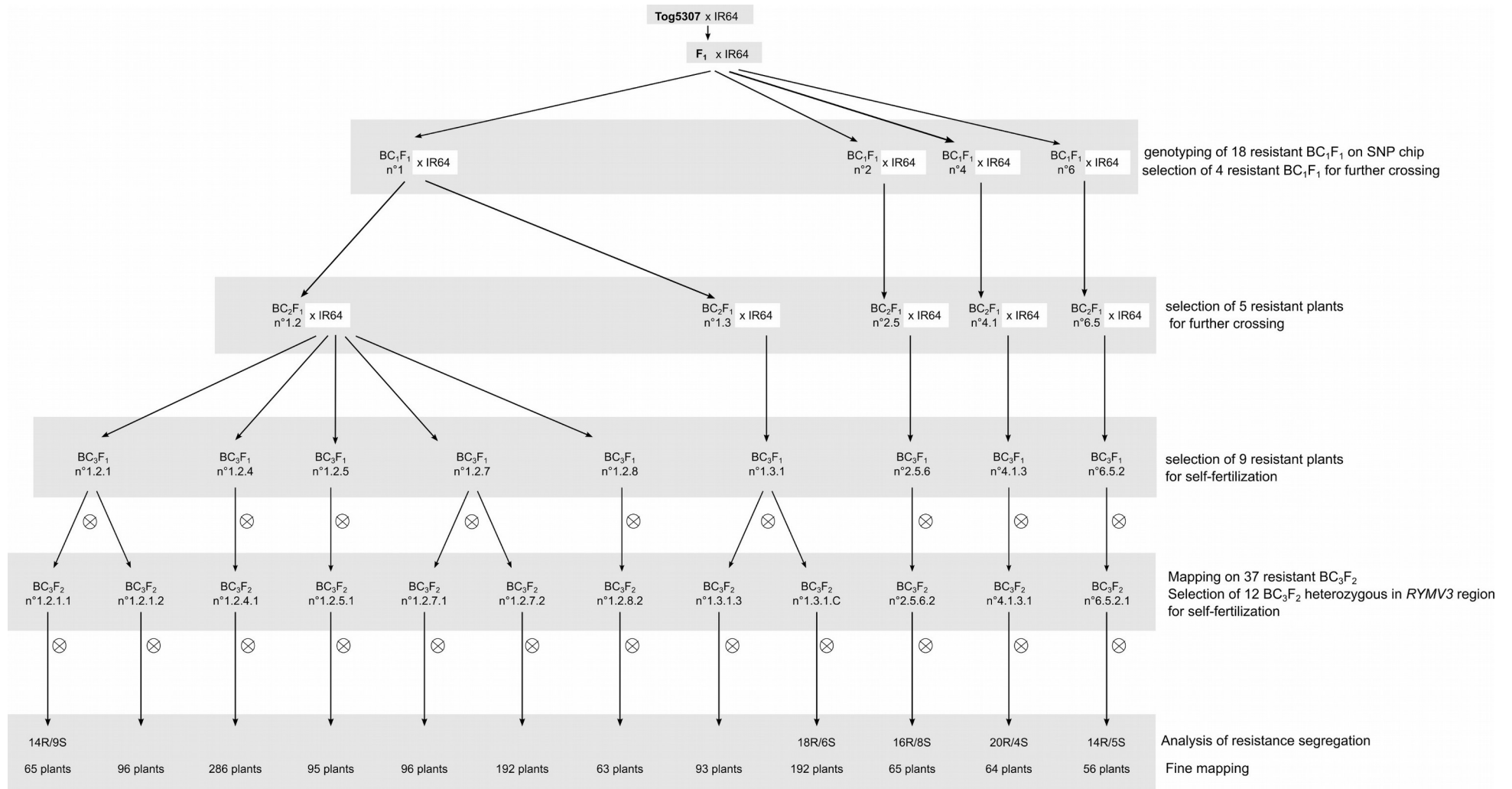
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Supplementary Figure 1. Populations derived from the IR64 x Tog5307 cross and used for the mapping of the *RYMV3* gene.

Pidon H, Ghesquière H, Chéron S, Issaka S, Hébrard E, Sabot F, Kolade O, Silué D, Albar L. Fine mapping of *RYMV3*: a new resistance gene to *Rice yellow mottle virus* from *Oryza glaberrima*. *Theoretical and Applied Genetics*.

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