Structural and functional analysis of genes with potential involvement in resistance to coffee leaf rust: a functional marker based approach

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Abstract

Physiology-based differentiation of $S_H$ genes and *Hemileia vastatrix* races is the principal method employed for the characterization of coffee leaf rust resistance. Based on the gene-for-gene theory, nine major rust resistance genes ($S_H1$-$9$) have been proposed. However, these genes have not been characterized at the molecular level. Consequently, the lack of molecular data regarding rust resistance genes or candidates is a major bottleneck in coffee breeding. To address this issue, we screened a BAC library with resistance gene analogs (RGAs), identified RGAs, characterized and explored for any $S_H$ related candidate genes. Herein, we report the identification and characterization of a gene (gene 11), which shares conserved sequences with other $S_H$ genes and displays a characteristic polymorphic allele conferring different resistance phenotypes. Furthermore, comparative analysis of the two RGAs belonging to CC-NBS-LRR revealed more intense diversifying selection in tomato and grape genomes than in coffee. For the first time, the present study has unveiled novel insights into the molecular nature of the $S_H$ genes, thereby opening new avenues for coffee rust resistance molecular breeding. The characterized candidate RGA is of particular importance for further biological function analysis in coffee.

Introduction

Coffee is one of the most valuable cash crops in many developing economies as it provides employment opportunities in cultivation, processing and marketing activities, thereby sustaining the livelihoods of millions around the world [1]. *H. vastatrix*, the causative agent of coffee leaf rust, accounts for one of the major threats to coffee production in almost every coffee producing region. Despite the release of some resistant coffee cultivars in recent years, coffee rust continues to adversely affect coffee production and undermines the incomes of many households [2]. To date, at least 49 characterized physiological races of *H. vastatrix* have been reported [2,3]. The consistent emergence of new races and the sporadic outbreaks of this disease have imposed challenges in resistance breeding. The most pressing concern is, however, the breakdown of resistance genes leading to disease susceptibility of cultivars that were once validated as superior genetic material for resistance breeding [4].
The molecular profiles of coffee genes involved in different metabolic pathways, their evolution and annotation have been unveiled with the complete sequencing of *C. canephora* genome [5]. Given that *C. canephora* contributes to half of the Arabica coffee genome, being a natural hybrid of *C. canephora* and *C. eugenioides*, open access to its genome has provided valuable insights into the genome of *C. arabica* during the past five years. The discovery and successful introgression of *S*₃ resistance gene locus to cultivated Arabica coffee from *C. liberica* was another landmark often considered as one of the greatest milestones in the development of coffee rust resistance [6]. Since then, molecular and physical mapping has enabled the sequencing and annotation of *S*₃ region, resulting in the discovery of multiple resistance (R) genes [6,7]. Dominantly inherited, the largest class of R-genes encode nucleotide-binding site leucine-rich-repeat (NBS-LRR) proteins that directly recognize the corresponding virulence (v) protein of the pathogen or its effects [8,9]. These genes are believed to contain several hundred gene families, which are unevenly distributed in the genomes of different plant species [10]. Intracellular signaling domain, similar to Drosophila toll/mammalian interleukin-1 receptor (TNL, Toll-NBS-LRR) and the coiled-coil (CNL, CC-NBS-LRR), are the two major N-terminal amino acid sequences preceding the NBS domain involved in specific signal transduction [8,11]. The other N-terminal domain linked to LRR includes leucine-zipper (a transmembrane protein, TM), protein kinase (PK) and WRKY TIR proteins [12]. These domains are predominantly involved in resistance signal transduction via conformational changes [13]. On the carboxyl-terminal region is the LRR, mediating specific protein-protein interaction to recognize pathogen effectors [14,15]. Although these domains are few in number, nucleotide polymorphism and variability of the LRR region are responsible for the perception of a specific pathogen effector [9,16]. Inter and intraspecific extreme variabilities of NBS-LRR have been attributed to gene duplication, unequal crossing over, recombination, deletion, point mutation and selection pressure due to continuous response to diverse pathogen races [6].

The readily available Arabica coffee BAC libraries constructed from disease resistant genotypes at different laboratories have accelerated studies involving resistance gene cloning [17,18]. Furthermore, the application of arbitrary DNA-based and functional (gene) markers in gene cloning has benefitted crop improvement, either through map-based cloning using the former or direct gene cloning using the latter or both [19]. Direct cloning of the gene of interest over map-based gene cloning is appealing as this method is more precise and straightforward for gene characterization.
In coffee, the origin and organization of disease resistance genes have begun to emerge in recent years as part of an effort to understand the role of major rust resistance genes. One such endeavor was the assembly of R genes spanning the $S_{H3}$ locus with the objective of tracing the evolution and diversity of LRR domains in three coffee species [6]. Despite the partial sequencing and annotation of several disease resistance genes in Arabica coffee [20], completely sequenced and characterized candidate genes are not yet readily available. Resistance to rust is conferred by nine major genes ($S_{H1-9}$) and the corresponding $v_{1-9}$ pathogen factors are known long in the coffee rust pathosystem [3,21]. Nonetheless, molecular and functional characterization of any of the $S_{H}$ genes and the associated regulatory elements is entirely obscure, yet holds immense potential in changing the perspective of rust resistance breeding. Likewise, the use of functional markers that serve as a direct rust resistance screening tool amongst the host-differential coffee clones is important but is barely addressed. The lack of a typical candidate rust resistance gene is one of the bottlenecks in coffee breeding. A resistance gene analog (RGA) marker, CARF005, was previously confirmed to share disease resistance ORF region in coffee [20,22]. This polymorphic RGA marker encodes the disease resistance protein domain NB-ARC (nucleotide binding site-ARC: ARC for APAF-1, R protein and CED-4 [23], exclusive in coffee cultivars resistant to $H. vastatrix$ [22]. The complete sequencing and molecular characterization would help identify candidate disease resistance genes. The state-of-the-art bioinformatics analysis, availability of differential coffee clones with specific $S_{H}$ genes, structural and functional analysis of conserved domains and associated motifs of candidate RGAs belonging to the $S_{H}$ gene series could greatly advance coffee rust resistance breeding. Therefore, the objectives of this study were to trace the origin of resistance gene analogs (RGAs) involved in coffee rust resistance and perform comparative molecular characterization of selected candidate gene to determine whether it belongs to the $S_{H}$ gene series. We also investigated if any of the RGAs were activated during incompatible interaction between $C. Arabica$ and $H. vastatrix$.

**Materials and methods**

**Plant materials**

Twenty-one differential coffee clones containing at least one of the coffee rust resistance genes ($S_{H1-9}$) and three genotypes susceptible to all the virulence factors ($v1-9$) of $H. vastatrix$ were used in the CARF005 screening. The differential clones were initially characterized by CIFC (Centro de Investigação...
das Ferrugens do Cafeciero, Portugal) for the identification of the different physiological races of *H. vastatrix*. All clones were vegetatively propagated at the Plant Pathology Department greenhouse of the Universidade Federal de Viçosa (Brazil). Genomic DNA was extracted from a young, second pair of leaves following [24]. DNA integrity was checked by electrophoresing in 1% gel and visualized after staining with ethidium bromide (0.5 µg/ml) and Nanodrop (NanoDrop Technologies, Wilmington, USA). DNA was stored at -20 °C until further use. RNA-Seq libraries (hereafter, referred to as transcriptome) were constructed at 12 and 24 h after infection (hai) during the *C. arabica* CIFC 832/2 – *H. vastatrix* (race XXXIII) incompatible interaction [25] and were used as the reference in the search for novel candidate resistance genes.

### PCR conditions

A Sigma made (Sigma-Aldrich, Belo Horizonte, Brazil) disease RGA primer pair, CARF005, (F: 5'-GGACATCAACACCAACCTC-3' and R: 5'-ATCCCTACCATCCACTTCAAC-3') [26] was used to screen the differential host clones. PCR reagents were 1x buffer, 0.2 mM dNTPs, 0.2 µM primers, 1 mM MgCl₂, 0.8 units of Taq polymerase (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, USA) to which 5 ng gDNA was added to form a reaction volume of 20 µl. PCR cycling parameters were as follows: DNA denaturation at 95°C for 5 min followed by 35 cycles of 94°C for 30 s, 60°C for 30 s and 72°C for 1 min, followed by an extension step at 72°C for 10 min. PCR products were screened for target inserts by electrophoresing in 1% UltraPure™ agarose (Invitrogen) and visualized after staining with ethidium bromide (0.5 µg/ml). All PCR and gel electrophoresis conditions were maintained consistently throughout the study unless stated otherwise.

### Screening of BAC clone

BAC library comprising 56,832 clones, constructed using renowned rust resistant Hibrido de Timor clone CIFC 832/2 [18] was used as the target source for RGA (CARF005). These clones were replicated in 384-well titer plates using a plate replicator sterilized with 10% H₂O₂ for 2 min, rinsed in sterile water for 10 seconds and soaked in 70% ethanol in laminar airflow cabinet. After the alcohol evaporated (3-5 min), the old cultures were copied to a new 384-well titer plate containing 70 µl fresh LB media (supplemented with 12.5 µgml⁻¹ chloramphenicol) in each well. Culture multiplication was
achieved by incubating the plates at 37 °C for 18 h and shaking at 180 rpm. The identification of clones using the CARF005 insert was performed by grouping and subsequent group decomposition of the 384 clones until a single clone was identified as outlined in S1 Fig. BAC DNA was extracted using the centrifugation protocol of Wizard® SV Plus Minipreps DNA Purification System (Promega, Fitchburg, USA).

**Sequencing and contig assembly**

The single BAC clone isolated using the CARF005 fragment was sequenced using the Illumina HiSeq2000/2500 100PE (paired-end reads) platform at Macrogen (Seoul, South Korea). Paired-end sequence processing and contig assembly were done using SPAdes software [27]. Contigs that matched bacterial genome (E. coli) and sequences of the flanking vector (pCC1BAC™) were excluded prior to any downstream sequence processing. The assembled BAC contigs were used to map against a transcriptome constructed from coffee genes that were activated in response to *H. vastatrix* infection by Tophat 2 [28] and to locate the contig region with active gene expression.

**Gene prediction and annotation**

Contigs with ≥ 200 bp size and sharing ≥ 90% identity with *C. canephora* were subjected to Augustus gene prediction [29]. Among the available genomes in the Augustus dataset, *Solanum lycopersicum* was used as a reference genome, as they shared common gene repertoires and had similar genome sizes [30]. The predicted ORFs were annotated using different online annotation tools. First, BLASTp (NCBI) was used to detect the conserved domains and retrieve their description, followed by the use of Predict Protein Server tool [31] molecular analysis and associated GO search. Protein 3D structure and nucleotide (ATP/ADP/GTP/GDP) binding sites were predicted using I-TASSER suite online tool [32]. As an annotation complement, the predicted ORFs were queried against the database to check for coding sequences (CDS) of *S. lycopersicum* (Sol Genomics Network: https://solgenomics.net/tools/blast/) and *V. vinifera* (Phytozome 11: https://phytozome.jgi.doe.gov) genomes.

**Sequence alignment and comparative analysis**
Genes encoding resistance proteins were mapped to the *C. canephora* genome [5] to trace their probable origin and organization. BLASTn program was used to query the obtained sequences against the *C. canephora* genome (http://coffee-genome.org/blast). The transcriptome reads (differentially expressed against *H. vastatrix*) were aligned to contig 9 as per Tophat2 (-N 3 --read-gap-length 3 --read-edit-dist 6 -no-coverage-search --b2-very-sensitive) [33] and to locate the region of the contig containing the genes encoded in response to pathogenicity. The intergenic physical position, distance and orientation were analyzed for the RGAs.

**Point mutation analysis**

The RGAs were analyzed for indels and substitutions using the EMBL MUSCLE multiple sequence alignment tool (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/muscle/) and MEGA7 [34]. Gene duplication was exclusively analyzed using MEGA 7, while DNA polymorphism and non-synonymous/synonymous substitution rates (ka/ks) were analyzed using DnaSP v5.1 [35].

**Functional and phylogenetic analysis**

Based on the molecular evolution of protein domains, functional diversity between two NBS-LRR RGAs from coffee was analyzed. Homology was compared for the two RGAs and to identify orthologous genes in the genomes of *S. lycopersicum* (https://solgenomics.net/tools/blast/) and *V. vinifera* (https://phytozome.jgi.doe.gov/pz/portal.html). Subsequently, a protein sequence-based comparative phylogenetic tree was constructed for the two genes and their orthologs from the two related genomes using MEGA7 program [34]. The evolutionary history was inferred using the minimum evolutionary method [36].

**Results**

**Resistance gene screening among the differential coffee clones**
To investigate the linkage of RGAs to known SH genes, differential coffee clones with different
SH genes were subjected to RGA screening using the functional marker, CARF005. Of the 21 differential
coffee clones, the marker was detected in eight clones as presented in Table 1 and S2 Fig. All clones with
the $S_{H6}$ gene had the marker, while those without the gene failed to amplify in the PCR. Thus, gel
analysis of the PCR amplicon revealed that this particular RGA marker amplified the $S_{H6}$ gene locus;
however, two exceptions were observed. One of them was that the gene’s allele was detected in CIFC
128/2-Dilla & Alghe, which is supposed to have just the $S_{H1}$ gene. In addition, CARF005 was found to be
amplified in a differential-host clone CIFC 644/18 H. Kawisari, for which no $S_{H1}$ gene has been reported
to date.
Table 1. *S*<sub>H</sub> gene allelic polymorphism detection in 22 differential coffee clones using CARF005 marker.

| No. | Differential clone* | Susceptible to (*H. vastatrix* physiological race) | *S*<sub>H</sub> gene conferred** | Allelic difference (+/-) |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1   | 832/1- Híbrido Timor | -                                                   | 6,7,8,9,?                       | +                        |
| 2   | HW17/12             | XVI,XXIII                                           | 1,2,4,5                         | -                        |
| 3   | 1343/269- Híbrido Timor | XXII,XXV,XXVI,XXVII,XXVIII,XXIX,XXXI,XXXII,XXXIII,XXXVII,XXXIX,XXL | 6                               | +                        |
| 4   | H153/2              | XII, XVI                                            | 1,3,5                           | -                        |
| 5   | H420/10             | XXIX                                               | 5,6,7,9                         | +                        |
| 6   | 110/5-S 4 Agaro     | X,XIV,XV,XXVI,XXIII,XXIV,XXVI,XXVIII               | 4,5                             | -                        |
| 7   | 128/2-Dilla and Alghe | III, X, XII, XVI, XVII, XIX,XXIII,XXVII         | 1                               | +                        |
| 8   | 134/4-S12 Kaffa     | X, XVI, XIX, XX, XXIII,XXVII,                      | 1,4                             | -                        |
| 9   | H419/20             | XXXIX, XXXI                                         | 5,6,9                           | +                        |
| 10  | 635/3-S 12 Kaffa    | X, XIV,XXVI,XXVII,XXIII,XXIV,XXVI,XXVII,XXVIII     | 1,4,5                           | -                        |
| 11  | 87/1-Geisha         | III, X, XII, XVI, XVII, XXIII                      | 1,5                             | -                        |
| 12  | 1006/10-KP 532      | XII,XVI,XVII,XXIII                                 | 1,2,5                           | -                        |
| 13  | 7963/117-Catimor    | XXXIII                                             | 5,7 or 5,7,9                    | -                        |
| 14  | H420/2              | XXIX, XXX                                           | 5,8                             | -                        |
| 15  | 4106                |                                                     | 5,6,7,8,9,?                     | +                        |
| 16  | 644/18 H. Kawisari  | XIII                                               | ?                               | +                        |
| 17  | 832/2- Híbrido Timor | -                                                  | 6,7,8,9,?                       | +                        |
| 18  | H147/1              | XIV, XVI                                            | 2,3,4,5                         | -                        |
| 19  | 32/1-DK1/6          | I,VIII, XII, XIV, XVI, XVII,XXIII,XXIV,XXV,XXVIII, XXXI | 2,5                             | -                        |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | H152/3 | XIV, XVI, XXIII, XXIV, XXVII | 2, 4, 5 |   |
| 21 | 33/1-S.288-23 | VII, VIII, XII, XIV, XVI | 3, 5 |   |
| 22 | Caturra (c) | All | 5 |   |
| 23 | Catuai 2143-236 (c) | All | 5 |   |
| 24 | Mundo Novo -376/4 (c) | All | 5 |   |

*Differential clones were from CIFC (Centro de Investigação das Ferrugens do Caffeeiro, Portugal).

**S_{H}1-9 genes as inferred by CIFC.

Unknown race (-), coffee genotypes used as negative control (c), presence/absence of allelic differences among S_{H} genes (+/-) and unknown S_{H} gene (s) (?).
Sequence analysis of ORFs

Identification of a BAC clone using CARF005 and the comparative analysis of the RGAs with the other ORFs from *C. canephora* was performed to localize their relative position and determine the putative function. To characterize genetic loci conferring resistance to leaf rust, a BAC clone 78-K-10 (with ~146 kb insert) was identified as shown in S1 b & c Fig. Illumina HiSeq2000/2500 100PE generated 8,711,320 reads. After removing vector sequences and noisy sequences, quality sequences (>20 QC) were assembled into 86 contigs of ≥ 200bp from which the two contigs, contigs 3 (16570 bp) and 9 (8285 bp), were selected (as they had >90% similarity with *Coffea canephora* DNA sequence) and then subjected to downstream processing. The sequences of the two contigs were combined and deposited at NCBI (accession number: KY485942). These contigs shared ≥ 90% identity with *C. canephora* contigs at different chromosomal regions with the highest identity (99% for contig 3 and 97% for contig 9) being on chromosome 0. All the 13 ORFs predicted (eight in contig 3 and five in contig 9) had matched to different species when queried against BLASTp database or to the *C. canephora* genome hub with significant similarities (≤ 1e-05 e-value) when BLASTn was used as presented in S3 Table. Among these, five genes (genes 5, 9, 10, 11 and 12) shared significant identities with RGAs from *C. canephora*. These genes are homologous to sequences in the *C. canephora* genome with the highest query coverage being on chromosome 0 as presented in Table 2. Genes 5 (intron-less, 1130 aa) and 11 (with two introns and two exons, 1118 aa) were the largest genes predicted. Both genes were located on the negative reading frames that belong to the CC-NBS-LRR gene family. Mapping to the *C. canephora* genome showed that these genes are separated by 1,634,522 bp, although they are delimited with a shorter length (460 bp) in *C. arabica*. In contrast, the other four RGAs matched and retained their expected positions in the *C. arabica* genome as shown in S4 Fig.
Table 2. Size and structure of five resistance gene analogs and their mapping to chromosome 0 of *C. canephora* genome.

| Genes  | 5     | 9    | 10   | 11    | 12    |
|--------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Contig | 3     | 9    | 9    | 9     | 9     |
| Exon 1 | 3393  | 113  | 121  | 1175  | 345   |
| Intron 1 | -  | 554  | 87   | 611   | 1786  |
| Exon 2 | -    | 118  | 112  | 2222  | 183   |
| Intron 2 | -  | 121  | 711  | 124   | -     |
| Exon 3 | -    | 69   | 121  | -     | -     |
| Intron 3 | - | 91   | -    | -     | -     |
| Exon 4 | -    | 155  | -    | -     | -     |
| Intron 4 | - | 476  | -    | -     | -     |
| Exon 5 | -    | 130  | -    | -     | -     |
| Query coverage (%) | 99.94 | 72.68 | 30.48 | 99.46 | 97.33 |
| Identity (%) | 76.00 | 85.00 | 79.00 | 68.84 | 73.00 |
| E-value | 0.00  | 9.00E-30 | 5.00E-17 | 0.00  | 3.00E-48 |
| Frame | N | N    | P    | N     | P     |
| Start hit-End hit | 108638370-108641761 | 106998076-106999730 | 107000654-107000761 | 107000357-107003848 | 107000234-107004551 |
| Protein (aa) | 1130  | 194  | 117  | 1118  | 175   |

*Exon and intron sizes are in nucleotides.

N, negative reading frame and P, positive reading frame.

Gene prediction was performed by Augustus command-line version gene prediction [29].
CARF005 amplicon verification

Web-based PCR analysis was conducted to validate the specificity of the CARF005 primer pair and to complement the PCR amplification experiments. In silico PCR analysis using contig 9 and gene 11 ORF as the template strands, indicated that the CARF005 marker had a size of 400 bp (http://www.bioinformatics.org/sms2/pcr_products.html). This size of the amplicon was confirmed by PCR using the template DNA from the clone 78-K-10 as outlined in S1 c Fig. Notably, the amplicon spans from position 6867 to 7266 bp in contig 9 (8285 bp) in a negative orientation and from position 2065 to 3115 bp in the ORF of gene 11(3354 bp), respectively.

Gene annotation

Gene annotation was performed to identify the putative protein-coding gene. The annotation of 13 ORFs showed a range of protein arrays most of which had no role in disease resistance and lacked conserved domains. Among the five RGAs detected in either NCBI BLASTp, or BLASTn against the C. canephora genome, genes 9 (unnamed protein product), 10 (putative resistance gene) and 12 (putative resistance gene) had similarity to RGAs as observed by mapping to C. canephora genome as presented in S3 Table. Yet, genes 5 and 11 encoded the largest resistance proteins (Gene 5: 126.81 kDa and pi: 7.65; gene 11: 126.67 kDa and pi: 8.44) and identified several resistance associated GO terms characterizing their multiple functional domains as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Annotation and functional comparison of gene 5 and 11.

| Molecular function ontology | GO ID     | GO term                    | Reliability (%) | Gene 5 | Gene 11 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|
| GO:1901363                  | Heterocyclic compound binding | 49              | ✓    | ✓       |
| GO:0000166                  | Nucleotide binding            | 49              | ✓    | ✓       |
| GO:0005488                  | Binding                      | 49              | ✓    | ✓       |
| GO:1901265                  | Nucleoside phosphate binding  | 49              | ✓    | ✓       |
| GO:0097159 | Organic cyclic compound binding | 49 | ✓ | ✓ |
|------------|---------------------------------|----|---|---|
| GO:0036094 | Small molecule binding          | 49 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0097367 | Carbohydrate derivative binding | 41 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0017076 | Purine nucleotide binding       | 41 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0032559 | Adenyl ribonucleotide binding   | 41 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0032555 | Purine ribonucleotide binding   | 41 | ✓ | ✓ |

**Biological process ontology**

| GO:0006952   | Defense response                | 36 | ✓ | ✓ |
|--------------|---------------------------------|----|---|---|
| GO:0006950   | Response to stress              | 36 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0050896   | Response to stimulus            | 36 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0002376   | Immune system process           | 16 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0006955   | Immune response                 | 16 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0045087   | Innate immune response          | 16 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0044699   | Single-organism process         | 14 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0009987   | Cellular process                | 14 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0044763   | Single-organism cellular process| 14 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0033554   | Cellular response to stress     | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0016265   | Death                           | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0051716   | Cellular response to stimulus   | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0012501   | Programmed cell death           | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0008219   | Cell death                      | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0034050   | Host programmed cell death      | 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
|              | induced by symbiont             |    |   |   |
| GO:0009626   | Plant-type hypersensitive response| 12 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0009814   | Defense response, incompatible  | 7  | ✓ | ✓ |
|              | interaction                     |    |   |   |

**Cellular component ontology**

| GO:0016020 | Membrane           | 33 | ✓ | ✓ |
|------------|--------------------|----|---|---|
| GO:0044464 | Cell part          | 33 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0005623 | Cell               | 33 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0005737 | Cytoplasm | 32 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0044424 | Intracellular part | 32 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0005886 | Plasma membrane | 31 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0071944 | Cell periphery | 31 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0043227 | Membrane-bounded organelle | 24 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0043226 | Organelle | 24 | ✓ | ✓ |
| GO:0005634 | Nucleus | 24 | ✓ | ✓ |

Annotation was performed by Predict Protein online server [31] (URL: https://www.predictprotein.org).

**Gene characterization**

To identify the candidate R genes activated against *H. vastatrix* incursion, two contigs (contigs 3 and 9) were mapped against the transcriptome of *C. arabica-H. vastatrix* interaction [25]. Genes 9, 10, 11 and 12 were mapped to transcripts differentially-expressed during incompatible interactions at 12 and 24 hai with *H. vastatrix* (race XXXIII) as illustrated in S5 Fig. Contig 3, from which gene 5 was predicted, was also mapped against the same transcriptome resulting in no matching transcripts that were differentially expressed at the two time points (12 and 24 hai) following pathogen inoculation. Contig 9 region, where most R genes are positioned was estimated by mapping against the transcriptome. The result showed approximately 81.58% of the contig encodes transcripts of varying lengths associated with rust resistance, which are activated at 12 and 24 hai in response to *H. vastatrix* inoculation. Further analysis of genes 5 and 11 revealed that they belong to the NBS-LRR gene family (the major R genes in plants), suggesting the importance of continuing the *in silico* comparative structural and functional analysis. Intriguingly, both have the Rx-cc-like coiled-coil potato virus x resistance protein domain and four additional multi-domains featuring the entire protein sequence (Fig 1). These genes can be referred as CC-NBS-LRR, as they comprise the N-terminal CC and LRR C-terminal domains flanking the NBS on either side.

![Fig 1. Comparison of conserved domains and motif architecture in genes 5 and 11.](https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi?PAGE=Proteins)
In addition, annotation of both genes indicates that they encode defense proteins involved in various biological defense as demonstrated in Table 3. Notably, although these genes share 90.24% nucleotide identity, their amino acid sequence identity is only 80.03% (Fig 2). The possibility of substitution mutation events was considered in explaining the diversity. Accordingly, the overall amino acid diversity was attributed to non-synonymous substitution events (non-synonymous/synonymous ratio, ka/ks = 1.5913) in both genes. Further analysis of LRR region showed a higher rate of non-synonymous substitution mutation (ka/ks, non-synonymous/synonymous substitution ratio = 1.9660).

Fig 2. Alignment of proteins encoded by genes 5 and 11 and the protein binding regions. In silico prediction of protein binding regions of gene 5 (boxed in red), protein binding regions of gene 11 (boxed in green) and conserved protein binding region (boxed in blue) are shown. Amino acid substitution: unrelated amino acid substitution (space), weakly similar substitution (period), strongly similar substitution (colon) and conserved amino acids (star, unmarked). Note the seven substitution mutations resulting in polymorphism of seven protein binding sites (purple encircled) in either of the sequence. Sequence alignment was carried out using Clustal Omega (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/).

Comparative analysis of structural and functional sites

Structural modeling and comparative analyses of the identified genes was performed in order to infer the possible protein functions. Therein, we found that the number of LRR domains in genes 5 and 11 is conserved (13 repeats in both), but arranged differently. We noted the introduction of a coenzyme domain (CoaE, dephospho-CoA kinase) in gene 5, while a LRR variant (LRR_8) seemed to be introduced in gene 11 (Fig 1). Despite sharing similar protein multi-domains, two trans-membrane motifs (spanning 5-22 and 102-119 amino acid regions) were detected exclusively in the coiled-coil domain of gene 11 (data not shown). The amino acid sequences of genes 5 and 11 were further analyzed for protein and nucleotide binding site polymorphism. Protein binding sites of the two genes revealed different sensitivity to substitution mutations. Few sites that were specific to each gene were highly affected while most of the binding sites had moderate to
no effect as presented in S6 Table. The analysis revealed 17 protein binding sites in gene 5 and 14 sites in
gene 11. Similarly, their secondary structures and solvent accessibility properties revealed conserved features
(Fig 3a-IV & c-IV). Nevertheless, the amino acid residues forming the protein binding sites of the two genes
showed high variability in the LRR regions (Fig 2; Fig 3a & c). Although most of the residues are not
conserved, the ADP binding site of the NBS domain contained some conserved sites (Fig 3b.II & d.II).

Fig 3. In silico 3D structure, protein and nucleotide binding site prediction for gene 5 (A and B) and 11
(C and D). Protein binding and secondary structure (A and C): Protein binding sites (I), the three types of
secondary structures are assumed at different regions (helical: red boxes, strand: blue boxes and loop:
intervening white spaces) (II), solvent accessibility (exposed: blue boxes, buried: yellow boxes and
intermediate: white spaces) (III) and high protein disorder and flexibility: green boxes (IV). 3D structure and
nucleotide binding sites (B and D): 3D structures with Rx-CC-like (blue) to LRR (red to light: orange forming
the ‘horseshoe’ structure) domains are as shown in Figs 3b.I & d.I and the colored residues (NBS) forming
the nucleotide (ATP/GTP/ADP/GDP)-binding site (BII and DII). Nucleotide binding site residues with the
highest C-score are listed in the right box (conserved residues highlighted in yellow) with the red arrow
indicating the sites. I-TASSER modelling C-score [32] was -1.73 and -1.75 (C-score ranging from -5 to 2,
where 2 refers to the highest confidence) and 0.29 and 0.17 (C-score ranging from 0-1, where higher score
indicates reliable prediction) for nucleotide binding prediction for the two proteins, respectively.

Interlocus comparison of \(S_H\) genes

To investigate the conserved regions in the five RGAs (genes 5, 9, 10, 11 and 12), contigs 3 and 9
were queried against three \(C.\) \(canephora\) and 10 \(C.\) \(arabica\) specific contigs assembled from BAC clones
spanning \(S_H\) locus from the work of [6]. All the 10 \(S_H\) contigs matched with contig 3 but with varying
alignment lengths and identities as presented in S7 Table. Contig GU123898 and HQ696508 (both specific to
\(C.\) \(arabica\)) had the highest number of matches to contig 9 (from which four clustered RGAs were predicted)
with alignment lengths of 170 nts (77.647% identity and 1.57e\(^{-31}\) e-value) and 179 nts (76.536% identity and
1.21e-26 e-value), respectively. The closest contig (HQ696508) is located on the complementary strand of gene 11 and is 505 bp upstream of the position where CARF005 forward primer annealed to gene 11.

### Phylogenetic analysis

In an attempt to discern the ancestral relationship of a set of sequences, phylogenetic analysis was performed. Accordingly, two resistance gene families (the NBS-LRR and non-NBS-LRR) were identified, completely sequenced and mapped to chromosome 0 of *C. canephora* genome with a query coverage of 99.94% for genes 5 and 11, 72.68% for gene 9, 33.05% for gene 10 and 97.52% for gene 12. The diversity of the NBS-LRR family was detected by analyzing the \( \text{ka/ks} \) ratios as presented in Table 4. The analysis revealed that the non-synonymous substitution event is common in the CDS, as revealed from all the pairwise analyses. Furthermore, the non-synonymous substitution of CDS is more prominent in the LRR region (in almost all pairwise comparisons) as demonstrated in Table 4.

**Table 4.** Pair-wise synonymous and non-synonymous nucleotide substitution analysis among the six resistance gene analogs (gene 5 and 11 and their respective two top hits as mined by BLASTn in NCBI).

| Seq. 1    | Seq. 2    | Entire protein | LRR region |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|------------|
|           |           | Ks  | Ka   | ka/ks | Ks  | Ka   | ka/ks |
| gene5_hit1| gene11_hit1| 0.0786 | 0.1302 | 1.6565 | 0.0702 | 0.1383 | 1.9701 |
| gene5_hit1| gene11_hit2| 0.0899 | 0.1614 | 1.7953 | 0.0536 | 0.1408 | 2.6269 |
| gene5_hit1| gene11    | 0.0723 | 0.1177 | 1.6279 | 0.0622 | 0.1233 | 1.9823 |
| gene5_hit1| gene5_hit2| 0.0635 | 0.0999 | 1.5732 | 0.0583 | 0.1029 | 1.7650 |
| gene11_hit1| gene11_hit2| 0.0009 | 0.0039 | 4.3333 | 0.0015 | 0.0045 | 3.0000 |
| gene11_hit1| gene11    | 0.1092 | 0.1854 | 1.6978 | 0.0756 | 0.1602 | 2.1190 |
| gene11_hit1| gene11    | 0.0061 | 0.0164 | 2.6885 | 0.0095 | 0.0170 | 1.7895 |
| gene11_hit1| gene5_hit2| 0.0761 | 0.1309 | 1.7201 | 0.0736 | 0.1369 | 1.8601 |
| gene11_hit1| gene5      | 0.0786 | 0.1288 | 1.6387 | 0.0701 | 0.1383 | 1.9729 |
| gene11_hit2| gene11    | 0.1074 | 0.1742 | 1.6220 | 0.0686 | 0.1445 | 2.1064 |
| gene11_hit2| gene5_hit2| 0.0846 | 0.5829 | 6.8901 | 0.0607 | 0.1440 | 2.3723 |
| gene11_hit2| gene5      | 0.0902 | 0.1620 | 1.7960 | 0.0540 | 0.1430 | 2.6481 |
| gene11    | gene5_hit2| 0.0704 | 0.1155 | 1.6406 | 0.0616 | 0.1199 | 1.9464 |
| gene11   | gene5   | 0.0723 | 0.1164 | 1.6100 | 0.0622 | 0.1234 | 1.9839 |
|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| gene5_hit2 | gene5   | 0.0635 | 0.0997 | 1.5701 | 0.0583 | 0.1052 | 1.8045 |

Seq., sequence, non-synonymous/synonymous substitution rate was computed by DnaSP v5.1 [35].

Moreover, phylogenetic analysis showed that the tomato gene 5 was closely related to genes 5 and 11 of coffee than the gene 11 of both tomato and grape (Fig 4). Within coffee itself, a significant diversity between genes 5 and 11 was detected by the MEGA 7 bootstrap method of the phylogenetic test.

**Fig 4.** Phylogenetic history of genes 5 and 11 in three related genomes. The evolutionary history was inferred using the Minimum Evolution method [36]. The optimal tree with the sum of branch length = 2.98805978 is shown. The percentage of replicate trees with the associated taxa clustered together in the bootstrap test (500 replicates) are shown next to the branches [67]. The tree is drawn to scale, with branch lengths in the same units as those of the evolutionary distances used to infer the phylogenetic tree. The evolutionary distances were computed using the Poisson correction method [68] and are in the units of the number of amino acid substitutions per site. The ME tree was searched using the Close-Neighbor-Interchange (CNI) algorithm [69] at a search level of 1. The Neighbor-joining algorithm [70] was used to generate the initial tree. The analysis involved 6 amino acid sequences. All positions containing gaps and missing data were eliminated. A total of 554 positions were there in the final dataset. Evolutionary analyses were conducted in MEGA7 [34]. Subject IDs are indicated in parenthesis for the corresponding two homologous sequences mined by BLASTx against tomato (Sol Genomics Network) and grape (Phytozome) genome databases.

**Discussion**

The majority of NBS-LRR encoding genes are known to be clustered but unevenly distributed in plant genomes [10,37–39]. The NBS-ARC domain is known to be involved in directly blocking the biotrophic pathogens by activating the hypersensitive response (HR) [40]. HR starts with programmed cell death of affected and surrounding cells and ends with the activation of systemic acquired resistance (SAR), in which
the defense is induced in distal non-infected cells of the host under attack [41,42]. By recognizing the
 corresponding virulence (vr) factors or their effects, NBS-LRR proteins are sufficient to induce HR
[8,9,42,43]. In the present study, a cluster of two different classes of RGAs resistant to coffee rust, the NBS-
LRRs linked to non-NBS-LRR genes were reported. The two NBS-LRR genes (genes 5 and 11) are the
largest non-TNL genes sequenced in Arabica coffee and most other plants investigated to date [6,44–46].

We identified 13 genes: genes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (gene 5 is a RGA) from contig 3 and genes 9,
10, 11, 12, and 13 (only 13 is not a RGA) from contig 9. We also report, a completely sequenced and
characterized novel RGA (gene 11), from Híbrido de Timor CIFC 832/2, probably a major component of the
$S_H$ gene. This Híbrido de Timor (HDT) ($C. arabica$ x $C. canephora$) is immune to all known virulence factors
of $H. vastatrix$ physiological races and therefore, is an extremely important source of resistance [47].
Additionally, the mapping against the transcriptome of $C. arabica$-$H. vastatrix$ interaction suggests that the
three other clustered RGAs (genes 9, 10 and 12) have differential-expression during the incompatible
interaction. Mapping study has also revealed the presence of reads exclusively mapped to transcripts of
pathogen-infected plants at 12 and 24 hai.

The known rust resistance genes, $S_H$3 in $C. liberica$ [48], $S_H$6, 7, 8 and 9 in $C. canephora$ [49] and
$S_H$1, 2, 4 and 5 genes in $C. arabica$ are dominantly-inherited genes [50]. One of the fundamental questions to
be clarified is how different are these 9 $S_H$ genes that belong to different coffee species. The comparative
analysis of contigs from the $S_H$3 locus of $C. arabica$ and $C. canephora$ [6] revealed different levels of
conservation of motifs in the two contigs examined: contigs 3 and 9. The results indicate that the RGAs may
share large conserved regions, but few highly polymorphic regions encoding specific protein motifs necessary
for critical roles. This characteristic conservation of domains was once more confirmed based on comparative
analysis of the cloned gene (gene 11) and using differential coffee clones for $S_H$ gene identification. PCR
amplification of gene 11 also indicated the existence of allelic difference/polymorphism among the $S_H$ gene
loci and considerable sequences of conserved domain (on which CARF005 primer was designed) with $S_H$6
and possibly with $S_H$1. As PCR amplification using CARF005 primer (constituting gene 11) was detected in
all the differential clones with $S_H$6 and 832/1-HT and 832/2-HT containing $S_H$6, 7, 8, 9 and $S_H$? . In addition,
we report a conserved sequence of gene 11 11 in CIFC 128/2-Dilla & Alghe, previously considered to contain
only the $S_H$1 gene, and in CIFC 644/18 H. Kawisari with an uncharacterized $S_H$-gene. Overall, we propose
the following hypothesis for extensive and rigorous biological investigation: the identified gene (gene 11) could be one of the unidentified and a not yet supplanted (at least in Brazil) S_{i6} gene in HDT consisting of a conserved domain (CARF005) shared with the S_{i6} and S_{i1} genes.

Mapping of the RGAs to *C. canephora*, the result from differential clone screening and annotation altogether confirmed that gene 11 locus is descended from *C. canephora*, hence is a sibling of S_{i6}-9 [49]. Besides, mapping of RGAs to *C. canephora* was complemented by the differential clone screening for SH genes, which affirms the existence of strong linkage of SH gene locus and the RGAs as their conserved sequences (CARF005) were detected in eight of the differential clones. The disparity of the position of gene 5 in relation to gene 9 (the fact that all the predicted genes are from an insert size of ~146 kbp) could be attributed to the linked LTR-retrotransposon (GROUP_78_RLC4) as demonstrated in S4 Fig and the transposase gene (gene 1). Transposons could have interrupted and separated the two genes apart by 1.6 Mb, since *C. arabica* is known to have diverged from *C. canephora*. Multiple transposable elements linked to NBS-LRR regions were reported in other plants [45,51]. Transposition of genes and gene fragments are some of the mechanisms that generate variability and positional changes among the NBS-LRR genes in different plants [45,51–54].

Rx-CC, PLN and NB-ARC domains are conserved in the NBS-LRR genes across diverse plant species [44,55,56]. The potato virus x resistance (Rx) protein-like N-terminal coiled-coil domain mediates intramolecular interaction with NB-ARC and intermolecular interactions through RanGAP2 (Ran-GTPase-activating protein-2) in potato [43,57]. Rx-CC, RanGAP2 interaction site and NB-ARC were detected in genes 5 and 11, suggesting similarity in their defense role in coffee. However, unlike the Rx-CC domain with four helical structures, five helical structures are conserved in genes 5 and 11, indicating polymorphic differences between the species. The PLN00113 domain in gene 5 and PLN03210 in gene 11, span the LRR region and were initially reported in *A. thaliana* [44]. The distinct position of these domains in genes 5 and 11 indicates high variability in the LRR region in both genes. Functional motif prediction indicated that the PLN03210 (LRR domain) is likely engaged in direct effector interaction while the corresponding PLN00113 of gene 5 is engaged in LRR-reception and downstream kinase-mediated signaling. These observations are in accordance with the functional and structural analysis data of LRR proteins in *A. thaliana* [44,58–61]. Based of their annotations, the two genes (genes 5 and 11) products are intracellular resistance proteins that directly
or indirectly recognize pathogen effector proteins and subsequently trigger a response that may be as severe  
as localized cell death [42].

Different selection pressures shape the evolution of domains in the NBS-LRR encoding genes. The  
NBS domain was assumed to be under the purifying selection (a negative selection in which variation is  
minimized by stabilizing selection) than by the diversifying selection, which acts on the LRR domain [9,62].  
In contrast, the diversifying selection (positive selection) act on all the domains of genes 5 and 11 (ka/ks >1).  
This result is contrary to the general assumption that diversifying selection is diluted when the overall non-  
synonymous substitution is considered [6], indicating an intense diversifying selection action on both genes.  
Further investigation of four more orthologous genes also resulted in similar findings, indicating that the  
NBS-LRR genes are highly variable due to substitution mutations. As the LRR domains are involved in direct  
ligand binding, their variability due to non-synonymous substitution is higher than that seen in other domains.  
This results in the formation of a super-polymorphic region to cope with the continuously evolving pathogen  
effectors. Similar findings (from different plants, including coffee) on diversifying selection have been  
reported [6,9,11,38,45,63,64]. Diversifying selection by non-synonymous substitution was detected in non-  
NBS-LRR genes (genes 10 and 12) (data not shown), reiterating the importance of substitution mutation in  
such clustered R genes. Synergistic activation of the two groups (NBS-LRR and non-NBS-LRR) may  
enhance the resistance durability; and so their expression pattern merits further investigation.

Based on the phylogenetic tree of orthologous genes originated from related genomes, the six genes  
could be divided into two groups. Gene 5 from tomato is closely related to genes 5 and 11 from coffee,  
making the first group, whereas genes 5 and 11 from grape happens to be the second highly diversified group.  
Intraspecies diversity of non-TIR-NBS-LRR due to substitution and genetic recombination exist in grape [65]  
and tomato [66] while gene duplication and conversion events were observed in coffee [6]. In general, the  
phylogenetic tree revealed that genes 5 and 11 may have recently diverged in coffee, while the divergence  
observed in the other species may have been earlier events.

Conclusion
The two groups of RGAs, NBS-LRR and non-NBS-LRR, are clustered in a single locus from which multiple variants of resistance genes are expressed to confer specific resistance functions. The four cloned, sequenced and characterized RGAs span a rust resistance gene locus descended from *C. canephora*. The two CC-NBS-LRR protein encoding genes are under strong diversifying selection impacting all component domains. A more intense diversification of LRR region indicates that the variability in the effector binding site is the cause of divergence in resistance specificity. Although conserved sequences were detected for the *S_H*6 gene across the various differential coffee clones, it could be inferred that the *S_H* gene loci have a characteristic polymorphism conferring different resistance phenotypes against coffee leaf rust. This is the first report unveiling new insights into the molecular nature of *S_H* genes. The CC-NBS-LRR gene thus characterized is the largest and most complete sequence ever reported in Arabica coffee. The work demonstrated a cluster of resistance genes spanning the R gene locus that could serve as functional markers for subsequent functional analysis. These findings could also serve as a benchmark for validation of expression patterns in response to pathogenicity and gene segregation along generations. Such studies can be applied in molecular breeding as it has the potential to replace arbitrary DNA-based marker-assisted breeding at least for two reasons. First, there is no loss due to segregation, which is the case even for finely saturated markers. Second, four of the RGAs (genes 9, 10, 11 and 12) are stacked in a locus, from which different primers can be designed to screen genotypes to verify co-segregation analysis.

**Supporting information**

**S1 Fig. Work flow in BAC clone screening.** Clone pooling and subsequent group decomposition to isolate a single clone with CARF005 insert (A), DNA of isolated clone 78-K-10 (B) and CARF005 PCR amplicon (C) as revealed by 1% UltraPure™ agarose gel electrophoresis. M is 100 bp DNA size marker.

**S2 Fig. The 21 differential coffee clones screened for CARF005 marker (listed in order as in Table 1).** Clones with CARF005 were 1 (832/1-HT), 3 (1343/269-HT), 5 (H420/10), 7 (128/2-Dilla and Alghe), 9 (H419/20), 15 (4106), 16 (644/18 H. Kawisan, a new report) and 17 (832/2-HT). M: DNA weight marker.
ladder (the lightest band being 100 bp). No gel cropping was performed to any of the lanes displayed in the
gel above.

S3 Fig. Mapping of RGAs clustered on chromosome 0 of *C. canephora*. Putative mRNA transcription
orientations are shown by black arrows. The relatively larger size of gene 12 is due to the largest size of its
intron 1 (Table 2). Green boxes are used to mark query positions relative to subject genes (other gene
products, all in blue boxes). Note that gene 10 and 12 are in positive orientation (Table 2) with no matching
transcript here, hence probably originated from different parent or attributed to mutation events in *C. arabica*.
Mapping was carried out by CDS (coding sequence) BLASTn followed by track assembly on *C. canephora*
genome hub server 5.

S4 Fig. Mapping of contig 9 to transcriptome of differentially expressed genes during *C. arabica-H. vastatrix* (race XXXIII) incompatible interaction to show the region of active gene (gene 9, 10, 11 and
12) expression. Note the three expression profiles (three rows) corresponding to control (uninoculated at 0
hour, top row), 12 (middle row) and 24 hai (bottom row) of transcriptome reads mapped against contig 9 of
resistant coffee clone (CIFC HDT 832/2). Grey shades indicate matching transcriptome reads while
nucleotide substitutions (mismatches) were shown by colored strips (yellow: G, green: A, red: R and blue: C).
Large red shades indicate deletions. Contig mapping was performed by Tophat 228 setting alignment
parameter as ‘-N 3 --read-gap-length 3 --read-edit-dist 6 --no-coverage-search --b2-very-sensitive’ to locate
the region of the contig encoding genes against the pathogen and visualized with Integrative Genomics
Viewer (IGV) v. 2.333.

S1 Table. Top hits for the 13 ORFs as found in NCBI by BLASTp or at *C. canephora* genome by
BLASTn. *Homologous sequences for which no ID/Accession number has been assigned are indicated in
hyphen. BLASTp was performed by NCBI online server (https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi?PAGE=Proteins).

S2 Table. Mutation (substitution) effect on protein binding regions of gene 5 and 11 indicated by amino
acid sequence in respective genes. *Hyphen indicates range of amino acids constituting the binding site.
Yellow highlighted residues are conserved residues in both genes while purple highlighted residues are specific protein binding sites in respective gene. Substitution mutation effect analysis was performed by The Predict Protein Server. 

S3 Table. Output of the two contigs BLASTed against S_03 locus contigs specific to C. arabica and C. canephora*. *Ten contigs specific to C. arabica and three contigs specific to C. canephora, all assembled from BAC clones with S_03 locus were taken from the work of.

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### List of domain hits

| Accession | Name       | Description                                                                 | Interval   | E-value |
|-----------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| PLN00113  | PLN00113   | Leucine-rich repeat receptor-like protein kinase, Provisional               | 507-655    | 1.03e-06|
| cd14798   | RX-CC_like | Coiled-coil domain of the potato virus X resistance protein and similar proteins; The potato ... | 2-132      | 3.45e-06|
| COG4886   | LRR        | Leucine-rich repeat (LRR) protein [Transcription];                         | 545-688    | 3.25e-04|
| COG0237   | CoAE       | Dephospho-CoA kinase [Coenzyme transport and metabolism];                  | 192-283    | 1.13e-03|
| PLN03210  | PLN03210   | Resistant to P. syringae 6; Provisional                                   | 880-1117   | 2.98e-03|
### List of domain hits

| Name        | Accession | Description                                                                 | Interval  | E-value   |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| NB-ARC      | pfam00931 | NB-ARC domain;                                                             | 192-414   | 3.15e-37  |
| PLN03210    | PLN03210  | Resistant to P. syringae 6; Provisional                                    | 677-1082  | 1.04e-06  |
| PLN00113    | PLN00113  | Leucine-rich repeat receptor-like protein kinase, Provisional               | 512-912   | 1.26e-05  |
| LRR         | COG4886   | Leucine-rich repeat (LRR) protein [Transcription];                         | 439-645   | 1.37e-05  |
| RX-CC_like  | cd14798   | Coiled-coil domain of the potato virus X resistance protein and similar proteins; The potato ... | 8-132     | 2.00e-05  |
| LRR         | COG4886   | Leucine-rich repeat (LRR) protein [Transcription];                         | 515-635   | 1.29e-04  |
| LRR_3       | pfam13855 | Leucine rich repeat;                                                       | 515-571   | 2.14e-04  |
| LRR_5       | pfam13306 | Leucine rich repeats (6 copies); This family includes a number of leucine rich repeats. This ... | 854-977   | 2.12e-03  |
