**S1 Table.** **Primers used to amplify mature miRNAs and their targets using qRT-PCR.**

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| Name | Primer | Sequence (5'-3') |
| zma-miR160a-e,g | Forward primer | tGCCtGGCtCCCtGtAtGCC |
| zma-miR164a-d,g | Forward primer | tGGAGAAGCAGGGCACGtGCA |
| zma-miR164f | Forward primer | tGGAGAAGCAGGGCACGtGC |
| zma-miR164h | Forward primer | tGGAGAAGCAGGGCACGtGtG |
| zma-miR167a-d | Forward primer | tGAAGCtGCCAGCAtGAtCt |
| zma-miR169r | Forward primer | CAGCCAAGGAtGACttGCCGG |
| zma-miR393a,c | Forward primer | tCCAAAGGGAtCGCAttGAtCt |
| T160a-e,g(GRMZM2G159399\_T01)-S |  | CGGCTTGGTGCTATGA |
| T160a-e,g(GRMZM2G159399\_T01)-A |  | GCTTTCCGAACAGCATTA |
| T164a-d,g/f/h(GRMZM2G063522\_T01 )-S |  | AGCGATGCGGATCGAAAT |
| T164a-d,g/f/h(GRMZM2G063522\_T01 )-A |  | GGCATAGGGCATACAGACAT |
| T167a-d (GRMZM2G078274\_T03)-S |  | ACCGCAGGAGAAAGGC |
| T167a-d (GRMZM2G078274\_T03)-A |  | CTCAGCCACATCAAAGCA |
| T169r(GRMZM2G000686\_T01)-S |  | CAAGAAGCGTCTGGAAT |
| T169r(GRMZM2G000686\_T01)-A |  | AGGTTGCCTGAATGGTC |
| T393a,c(GRMZM2G137451\_T01)-S |  | TGGCACGGTGGATTGT |
| T393a,c(GRMZM2G137451\_T01)-A |  | TCCCGACAGTTCTCAGGTT |
| 18S-A |  | CCTGCGGCTTAATTGACTC |
| 18S-S |  | GTTAGCAGGCTGAGGTCTCG |