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| **Table S1** Sequence of the primers used for real-time PCR |
| **Gene** | **Accession No.** | **Primer** |
| *ZmAMT1;1a* | GRMZM2G175140 | F-5'-GTGGCGGGCTGCTGGTCAAGA-3' |
|  |  | R-5'-CGACCGTCAAAGCCGCTAGATTG -3' |
| *ZmAMT1;3* | GRMZM2G028736 | F-5'-GCAGTTCGTGGCGTACCTCATC-3' |
|  |  | R-5'-CACCATGTGGACAACGCTGGAC-3' |
| *ZmNRT2;1* | GRMZM2G010280 | F-5'-CGACGAGAAGAGCAAGGGACT-3' |
|  |  | R-5'-GGCATATTCGTACATACAAAGAGGT-3' |
| *ZmNRT2;2* | GRMZM2G010251 | F-5’-CGACGAGAAGAGCAAGGGACT-3’ |
|  |  | R-5’-AGGTGAACATGGATGATGGAT-3’ |
| *Zm**GAPDH* | GRMZM2G046804 | F-5'-CTGGTTTCTACCGACTTCCTTG-3' |
|  |  | R-5'-CGGCATACACAAGCAGCAAC-3' |