A potential clue for the application of prime editing in tomato, a dicot plant

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Abstract

Precision genome editing is highly desired for crop improvement. The recently emerged CRISPR/Cas technology offers great potential applications in precision plant genome

engineering. A prime editing (PE) approach combining a reverse transcriptase (RT) with a

Cas9 nickase and a "priming" extended guide RNA has shown a high frequency for precise

genome modification in mammalian cells and several plant species. However, the

applications of the PE approach in dicot plants are still limited and inefficient. We designed

and tested prime editors for precision editing of a synthetic sequence in a transient assay

and for desirable alleles of 10 loci in tomato by stable transformation. However, our data

obtained by targeted deep sequencing also revealed inefficient PE activity in both the

tobacco and tomato systems. Further assessment of the activities of the PE components

uncovered potential reasons for the inefficiency of the PE complexes. These data could

also help explain the recent successes of some prime editors in plants using improved

expression systems. Our work provides an important clue for the application of the PE

approach in crop improvement.

Introduction

RNAs have been used for gene correction in human and yeast cells[1]. CRISPR/Cas-mediated

precision editing using a chimeric single guide RNA (sgRNA) and a donor template was shown in

rice protoplasts[2, 3]. However, the gene targeting (GT) frequency recorded using the RNA donor

was much lower than that of a single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) donor[3]. Further work needs to be

done on the use of RNA as a template for precision plant gene editing. Recently, prime editing

(PE) using guide RNA extensions for priming reverse transcription-mediated precise editing

appeared to be an excellent precision genome editing technique in mammalian cell lines[4]. The

best version of the prime editor used a CRISPR/Cas complex developed by fusing a reverse

transcriptase (RT) to the C-terminus of a Cas9 nickase (H840A) and a PE gRNA (pegRNA) with a 3'

extension that could bind to the 3' nicked strands produced by nCas9. When bound, the nicked

strand's free 3'-OH is used as the substrate for the RT to copy genetic information from the

pegRNA's 3' extension. If pegRNAs were designed to produce modified nucleotides, these

nucleotides would be inserted into the genome during downstream repair processes[4]. A second

nick site present downstream of the first nick site would support the retention of the introduced

nucleotides. The PE approach may also be an excellent alternative to GT with shorter editing

sequence coverage[5]. Prime editors have been shown to work well in monocot plants by Lin and

coworkers[6]. In the same year, other reports also showed the activities of PE complexes in

monocots such as rice[7-11] and maize[12]. However, the majority of the data showed successful PE

at the acetolactate synthase (ALS) locus. Very limited data regarding the applications of PE in

dicots were released, with relatively low efficacy in potato[13] and tomato[14], and this process would

need to be improved for further applications. Therefore, we sought to investigate the activity of

PE complexes in plants using a transient assay with a synthetic substrate in tobacco and stable

transformation for editing ten loci in tomato. Our data showed low PE efficiency at both the

somatic cell and plant levels. Additional analyses revealed the possible negative effects of the PE

components on PE performance. Our work provides an important clue for the further

improvement of the PE approach in plants.

Results and Discussion

The PE complexes did not perform better than the BE tool in a transient assay. The PE tool

includes an nCas9 fused with an RT enzyme and a pegRNA for binding to the targeted sequence,

and its 3' extension primes an RNA-dependent DNA polymerization reaction by annealing to the

sequence located upstream of the nicked site on the nontargeted strand (Fig. 1a). If a second

nick is simultaneously added, we have a PE3 or PE3b approach, depending on the position of

the second nick outside or inside the area covered by the RT, respectively[4]. To quickly validate

the PE activity in plants, we started our PE experiments with a transient *Agrobacterium*-

mediated infiltration system in tobacco leaves that was designed to modify a single nucleotide

of a synthetic substrate ((CA)n substrate) (Fig. 1b,c). A cytidine base editor (CBE) system using

PmCDA1 cytosine deaminase was used for comparison of the editing efficiency. The CBE design

included a "-sgRNA" control (pCEC1) and two test vectors, one with the T-DNA (pCE01) and one

with a geminiviral replicon system (pCE02)[15], for amplifying the editing tools (Fig. 1c). The PE3b

tools were designed with both T-DNA and replicon cargos but also included dual vector systems

to avoid possible activity in bacterial cells. One vector carried the nCas9-RT expression cassette,

the synthetic substrate, and an sgRNA expression cassette for generating a second nick

(pPEsubc1 and pPEsubc2), and the other vector contained the pegRNA expression cassette

(pPEsub1 and pPEsub2) (Fig. 1b, c). RT DNA was chemically synthesized as a tobacco codon-

optimized Moloney murine leukemia virus (M-MLV) RT based on the PE2 approach used in the

work of Anzalone and coworkers[4]. pPEsubc1 and pPEsubc2 were also used alone as controls for

the PE experiments. Three temperature conditions were applied to the infiltrated plants during

the incubation stage to study the impacts of temperature on the activities of the BE and PE

complexes. Surprisingly, we observed a very strong C to T transition at the 19th nucleotide

counted from the PAM by BE in *Agrobacterium* cells (Fig. 1d, e, *Agrobacteria* panel) that led to

indistinguishable BE activity at that position in tobacco leaves (Fig. 1d, e). By contrast, we

observed BE activities in converting C to T at the 15th and 17th nucleotides in the tobacco leaves

(Fig. 1d, e). Interestingly, the BE activities were reduced when the temperature increased from

25°C to 37°C (Fig. 1e, f and Supplemental Table 2). Our data also indicate that the replicon-

based BE tool worked much more efficiently than the T-DNA tool under transient expression

conditions (Fig. 1e, f and Supplemental Table 2). Unexpectedly, we failed to show any PE

activity with the transient system using both the T-DNA and replicon systems. Furthermore, no

improvement was obtained using the temperature treatments (Fig. 1g, h). One of the reasons

for the failure of the PE3b constructs might be due to the inefficiency of the dual

Agrobacterium-mediated infiltration that required simultaneous transfer of the two T-DNAs

carrying PE components into one cell.

The PE tools showed low precise editing efficiencies at 10 tomato loci. We decided to evaluate

the ability of the PE system to edit genomic sites in tomato by Agrobacterium-mediated stable

transformations. The tomato transformation system was efficiently used for GT experiments in

our lab (Supplemental Fig. 1)[15]. We first attempted to edit three tomato loci, SlHKT1;2,

SlEPSPS1, and SlOr, using PE2 and PE3 approaches with the T-DNA and replicon systems

(Supplemental Figs. 2-3 and Data S1). Transformed explants collected at 10 days post-

transformation (dpt) were subjected to targeted deep sequencing of the targeted sites.

However, in two replicates, we could not reveal any evidence of PE activity that was higher than

the background level of the targeted sequencing method (Table 1). PE activity was shown to be

locus-specific, and several parameters, such as PBS and RT template lengths, may also affect PE

efficiency in plants[6]. During our study, several PE data were reported that showed comparable

PE efficiencies among the PE2, PE3, and PE3b constructs[6-8, 10], and in some cases, the PE2

approach performed better than the PE3 approach[12, 13]. We then extended the PE experiment

to 7 more loci using the PE2 approach and single replicon-based vectors (Fig. 2a and

Supplemental Table 3) to check whether the PE system would work in tomato. Most of the loci

were selected to require only single nucleotide changes, and the RT template lengths were

designed within the optimal ranges shown in reports on monocots. The PBS lengths were also

appropriately selected (Table 1). Using targeted deep sequencing analysis, we found a higher PE

performance at SlWH9, SlKD1, SlALC and SlALS1 than at the mock control, albeit at low absolute

values (Table 1). The low PE efficiency might be partially explained by the sample type

(cotyledon explants) we collected for targeted deep sequencing. Since the cotyledon explants

(0.1 x 0.3 cm in size) contained many untransformed cells due to the nature of the

Agrobacterium-mediated transformation, they confer much lower editing efficiency than the

protoplast system. Therefore, we also analyzed plants regenerated from the transformed

cotyledon explants. We detected only low levels of PE alleles in several plants transformed with

the SlALC and SlALS1 PE constructs (Fig. 2c, d). Sanger sequencing data revealed that only 1% of

the PE alleles were successfully fixed in the plant genomes. Nevertheless, the PE efficiency

obtained at the plant stage in our work is comparable to that of recently published data in

tomato[14]. Moreover, in one event at SlALC, two byproducts were also formed, with frequencies

of 1 and 3% (Fig. 2d).

The very low PE efficiency obtained for 10 tomato loci based on various editing types under our

experimental conditions indicates that there are many critical factors that affect the overall

performance of PE in tomato and other dicot plants, as concluded previously[13]. To exclude the

possibility that our tobacco codon-optimized RT coding sequence may trigger aberrant

transcription or cryptic splicing, thereby affecting nCas9-RT activity, next, we used the nCas9-PPE

coding sequence that showed good PE activities in rice and wheat[6]. The nCas9-PPE prime editor

is a rice codon-optimized RT that performed the best among the RTs tested by Lin and coworkers.

We constructed PE2 tools using nCas9-PPE with all 10 tomato loci tested earlier (Fig. 2b).

However, targeted deep sequencing data collected for two replicates showed similar levels of PE

activity across all 10 loci. The PE efficiency was even reduced in the case of the SlWH9 and SlKD1

loci but improved at the SlALC locus (Table 1), indicating that our tobacco codon-optimized RT

activity was not worse than the reported version. These data illustrate that the PE approach

needs improvement for further applications in tomato.

The PE components negatively affect dsDNA cleavage. In an attempt to improve the PE

performance, we sought to investigate the roles of the PE components (i.e., the nCas9-RT and

the pegRNAs) in the activation of the PE nuclease complex and nicking the template strand. We

constructed binary plasmids with fully functional SpCas9 fused with RT or SpCas9 alone in

combination with either pegRNAs or normal sgRNAs for four loci (SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6-1,

and SlALS1) (Supplemental Fig. 4) and assessed their ability to generate indel mutations by

targeted deep sequencing. Unexpectedly, the Cas9-RT fusion combined with the pegRNAs did

not show indel mutation efficiencies above background levels, while the conventional Cas9-

sgRNA complexes worked well at all the tested loci (Fig. 2d). Cas9-RT combined with normal

sgRNAs generated indel mutations at 2 of the 4 tested loci (SlBMP21 and SlALC), with indel

mutation efficiencies similar to those of Cas9 (Fig. 2d). The pegRNAs also supported the

formation of indel mutations when combined with the Cas9 nuclease at 2 of the 4 tested loci

(SlBMP21 and SlDMR6-1), but the indel mutation efficiencies were only half of those generated

by Cas9/sgRNA complexes (Fig. 2d). Either of the PE components alone worked at extremely

low efficiencies compared to Cas9 with normal gRNA at the ALS1 locus. These data indicate that

the PE components negatively affected the cleaving activity of the Cas9 nuclease and that the

use of pegRNAs led to reduced activity of the Cas9 enzyme (Fig. 2d). We reason that the Cas9-

RT fusion might reduce the accessibility of the larger active complexes (Cas9-RT is

approximately 236 kDa, compared to ~158 kDa for SpCas9 alone) to some genomic contexts,

such as SlDMR6-1 and SlALS1, thereby blocking their cleavage activity. Moreover, the pegRNAs

shared intramolecular complementarity between PBS and spacer sequences that potentially

altered the secondary structure of the sgRNAs (Supplemental Fig. 5), leading to possible

interference of SpCas9 activation and/or the ability of gRNA to bind to targeted sequences and

cleave them. The failure of the Cas9-RT/pegRNA complexes to produce indel mutations at all

four loci might have resulted from the combined negative impacts of both components. Based

on these data, we hypothesize that the activity of nCas9-RT/pegRNA complexes was affected by

the negative impacts of both RT fusion and pegRNA structure, which led to extremely low

efficiency, and by some unknown factor, resulting in especially low efficiencies in tomato and

other dicot plants[13, 14]. If the above assumption is true, then we expect that when the PBS is

shortened, the PE efficiency will be improved. However, the PE data in plants suggested optimal

ranges of PBS lengths that could not be too short to prime RT polymerization[6]. Higher

incubation temperatures may help to destabilize the PBS-spacer intramolecular interactions,

but they may also affect the activity of nuclease complexes or the activity of its target binding,

as observed with the transient BE data (Fig. 1). That is also why Lu and coworkers could not

obtain a significant improvement in PE activity when they incubated explants at high

temperatures[14]. Thus, we hypothesize that a range of optimized melting temperature exists for

an active PBS of pegRNA. Alternatively, introducing several mismatches between the PBS and

spacer sequences may significantly weaken the interaction and improve PE activity in plants.

We can also use a two-component PE complex that separates the nCas9 and RT polypeptides to

reduce the space constraint caused by the nCas9-RT fusion. However, the two-component

system may pose another risk for the proper assembly of the two components in a targeted

genomic context.

Taken together, the PE approach offers an excellent alternative to precision gene editing in plants.

However, we could not obtain a better editing efficiency than that of the BE tools in a transient

assay in tobacco. Similar results were also recorded for 10 tomato loci using stable

Agrobacterium-mediated transformations. We revealed low but comparable PE efficiency at the

plant stage compared with recent data in plants. Further analyses showed that the PE

components (nCas9-RT fusion and pegRNA) might largely contribute to its low activity in tomato.

Significant improvement to the PE approach needs to be made for further applications in tomato,

and our data shed light on potential solutions for the improvement of this editing tool.

Methods

System design for PE experiments in tobacco and tomato. For the transient experiment, PE constructs

were designed to modify two nucleotides of the (CA)n substrate sequence using the 3' extension

pegRNA (Fig. 1a,b and Data S1). A tobacco codon-optimized RT DNA sequence was fused with a human

codon-optimized SpCas9 nickase (H840A) (nCas9-RT, Data S1) cloned using SpCas9 of the Addgene

plasmid (#49771) that worked well in plants[16]. The PE experiment was performed by using dual

agroinfiltration (Fig. 1c). For comparison, CBE constructs were designed to convert Cs to Ts, including the

PE-targeted C at position 17 counted from the PAM of the CBE gRNA (Fig. 1b).

For PE of the selected tomato loci using *Agrobacterium*-mediated stable transformation (Supplemental

Fig. 1), PE2 and PE3b approaches were applied for SlHKT1;2, SlEPSPS1, and SlOr (Supplemental Figs. 2-3).

Further applications of the nCas9-RT and nCas9-PPE systems on the other seven loci (Supplemental

Table 7) used a PE2 strategy (Fig. 2a, b and Data S1).

In all binary vectors, the transcription of both CBE and nCas9-RT was driven by a long CaMV35S inserted

with a UBQ10 intron 1[15]. The CBE gRNA and PE pegRNA were cloned downstream of an AtU6 promoter

[16]. The CBE and PE systems were delivered by either T-DNAs or geminiviral replicons[15].

***Agrobacterium*-mediated infiltration and sample analysis**. Leaves of tobacco (*Nicotiana benthamiana*)

at the 6-leaf stage were infiltrated with *Agrobacteria* containing binary plasmids. *Agrobacteria*

(GV3101::pMP90 strain) were prepared by an overnight primary culture with a subsequent 6-8 h

secondary culture using liquid LB medium containing 75 mg/L kanamycin, 30 mg/L rifampicin, and 30

mg/L streptomycin. *Agrobacterium* cells were collected by centrifugation at 4,000 rpm for 10 minutes,

resuspended in MS buffer containing 100 μM acetosyringone to an OD_{600nm} of 0.8, and incubated for one

hour before infiltration. At three days post-infiltration, the infiltrated zones were cut, and total genomic

DNA (gDNA) was isolated using the CTAB method. PCRs were then conducted using primers flanking the

targeted sequences (Supplemental Table 1), and the gDNA templates and PCR products were purified

and sequenced by the Sanger method. The editing efficiency was calculated based on the level of peaks

of C and T at the targeted positions revealed by the chromatograms (Fig. 1 d, e, g, h).

***Agrobacterium*-mediated tomato transformation and assessment of PE efficiency.** *Agrobacterium*-

mediated tomato transformation was performed using our in-house protocol (Supplemental Fig. 1)[15].

Briefly, seven-day-old cotyledons were cut and used for transformation. For targeted deep sequencing,

thin cotyledon explants (0.1 x 0.3 cm) were used to reduce the area containing untransformed cells

beyond the cut edges of the explants. The *Agrobacteria* containing the PE constructs were cultured and

harvested as in the transient assay but were resuspended in an ABM-MS solution[15] containing 100 μM

acetosyringone to an OD_{600nm} of 0.8. The *Agrobacteria* were then incubated for one hour before

transformation. Regenerated shoots were selected on medium containing 80 mg/L kanamycin.

Subsequently, hardened plants were checked for PE activity.

For the assessment of PE efficiency, samples were collected at 10 dpt and analyzed by targeted deep

sequencing. At the plant stage, plant leaves were collected and screened for PE alleles by Sanger

sequencing, and targeted deep sequencing analysis was conducted for the events carrying PE alleles.

Targeted deep sequencing. Genomic DNA was isolated from cotyledon explants or plant leaves using

the CTAB method. The MiSeq sequencing service (MiniSeqTM System, Illumina, USA) was used. MiSeq

samples were prepared in three PCRs according to the manufacturer's guidelines, with genomic DNAs as

templates for the first PCR. The first and second PCRs used the primers listed in Supplemental Table 1,

whereas the third PCR was conducted with the manufacturer's primers to assign sample IDs. The MiSeq

raw data FASTQ files were analyzed by the Cas-Analyzer tool[17] and PE-Analyzer

(http://www.rgenome.net/pe-analyzer). The PE efficiency was assessed using the RT template

sequences as the input HDR donor sequence.

Data analysis and presentation. Most of the experiments analyzed by targeted deep sequencing were

conducted in two replicates. The editing data, statistical analysis if applicable, and plots were further

processed by the MS Excel program. The data are appropriately explained in detail in the legends of

figures and/or tables.

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Author contributions

T.V.V. and J.Y.K. conceived and designed the research. T.V.V., J.K., and S.D. conducted the

experiments. T.V.V. and J.Y.K. analyzed the data. T.V.V. wrote the manuscript. T.V.V. and J.Y.K.

finalized the manuscript. All authors read and approved the manuscript.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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Figure legends

Fig. 1: Failure of prime editing in tobacco cells in transient assays. a. Schematic processes of primed editing. The nontargeted strand is nicked by CRISPR/Cas9 nickase (H840A), and the 3' nicked end binds to a complementary RNA (priming binding site, PBS, 13-15 nt) introduced by extending the 3' end of the sgRNA (RT template) and primes reverse transcription by the nCas9-fused RT using its free OH group. RT copies the genetic information from the RNA template that is complementary to the sequence downstream from the nicked site and includes intentionally

introduced base modifications (indicated by red and bright orange lines). The RT product

appears as a 3'-flap sequence that competes with the full complement of the original 5'-flap

during the repair process, and a precisely edited sequence could be fixed to the targeted site

after 5'-flap removal and subsequent replication of the DNA. A second nick is introduced during

the improvement of the prime editor for supporting 3'-edited flap fixation. **b**. Selected synthetic

target and pegRNA design. pegRNA and its 3' extension and second nick spacer sequences are

indicated. A PmCDA1-based C->T editing tool is designed in parallel for comparison, and its

spacer sequence is also shown. Intended base modifications are denoted and explained. **c**.

Vector arrangements for the study. The nCas9(D10A)-PmCDA1 base editing system is designed

with control plasmid (pCEc, -gRNA), T-DNA (pCE1), and replicon (pCE2)-based editors. The prime

editors are designed with a dual vector system for T-DNA (pPEsubc1 + pPEsub1) and replicon

(pPEsubc2 + pPEsub2)-based tools for editing C->T and C->A (shown in **b**). **d-e**. Sequencing data

showing C->T editing by T-DNA- (**d**) and replicon-based (**e**) tools (Supplemental Table 2, (**e**)). The

–sgRNA (pCEc) chromatogram represents for all the temperature tested. **f**. Editing efficiency of

the base editors. The T-DNA construct represents the pCE1 plasmid, and the replicon construct

is for the pCE2 plasmid. The editing efficiencies at different temperatures are plotted for the

15th, 17th and 19th bases counted from the PAM site to its upstream spacer sequence. **g-h**.

Failure of the T-DNA- (**g**) and replicon-based (**h**) prime editors to edit the intended bases. The -

pegRNA (pPEsubc1) and -pegRNA (pPEsubc2) chromatograms represent for all the temperature

tested. Discontinuous red boxes denote the intended modifications in each of the editing

conditions (25, 31 and 37°C) for the editors and the control.

Fig. 2: Prime editing performance in tomato. a-b. PE2 prime editing constructs using the

geminiviral replicon in tomato with synthetic tobacco codon-optimized RT (**a**, 7 loci) or rice

codon-optimized PPE (**b**, 10 loci). The NptII expression cassette (Addgene plasmid #51144) was

used for the kanamycin selection of transformed cells, tissues and plants. The expression of the

prime editors was driven by the p35S promoter with the UBQ10 intron 1 and CaMV 35S

terminator (Data S1). The transcription of the pegRNAs was controlled by the AtU6 core

promoter sequence (Data S1). **c**. PE performance data obtained from the analysis of the plant-

stage transformants of SlWH9, SlALC and SlALS1 by Sanger sequencing and ICE Synthego. **d**. The

traces of PE-edited alleles obtained for SlALC (upper two panels) and SlALS1 (bottom panel).

The precisely edited alleles are shown at the bottom of each panel and are denoted by "HDR"

labels. The PE-mediated replaced bases are highlighted with an orange background. **e**. Targeted

deep sequencing data for the assessment of the activities of the PE components via indel

mutation formation. The SpCas9 or SpCas9-RT fusion was used in combination with either the

pegRNA or sgRNA to target 4 loci (SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6 and SlALS1). The sequences flanking

the targeted sites were amplified at 10 dpt and analyzed by targeted deep sequencing in two

replicates. The mock control (WT) and the nCas9-RT + pegRNA complexes were analyzed once.

List of Supplementary Tables

Supplemental Table 1. Sequences and primers used in this study.

Supplemental Table 2. Base editing efficiency obtained in the tobacco leaf infiltration assay.

Supplemental Table 3. PE targets in tomato used in the study.

List of Supplementary Figures

Supplemental Fig. 1: *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation protocol used in this work.

Supplemental Fig. 2: PE targeting maps of the SlHKT1;2, SlEPSPS1 and SlOr loci.

Supplemental Fig. 3: PE constructs for editing the SlHKT1;2, SlEPSPS1 and SlOr loci by PE2 and

PE3 approaches.

Supplemental Fig. 4: Constructs used for the assessment of indel mutation formation by

different combinations of either Cas9-RT or Cas9 with either sgRNAs or pegRNAs at the

SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6 and SlALS1 loci.

Supplemental Fig. 5: MFOLD-predicted secondary structures of pegRNAs and sgRNAs of

SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6-1 and SlALS1.

Table 1. Prime editing efficiency in tomato using tobacco codon-optimized RT and rice codon-optimized PPE

No.	Locus	Targeted change	PBS length (nt)	RT length (nt)	Second nick position	Mock control		nCas9-RT		nCas9-PPE	
						Total reads	PE-mediated precise editing efficiency (%)	Total reads	PE-mediated precise editing efficiency (%)	Total reads	PE-mediated precise editing efficiency (%)
1	SlHKT1;2	N217D: +21 T to C; +10 A to G (reverse complement)	12	26	+76 (PE3)	321183	0.007	104610	0.000	-	-
			12	26	PE2			151412	0.000	312118	0.000
2	SlEPSPS1	T178I: +16 TG to GA; P182S: +4 CGG to AGA (reverse complement)	15	20	-55 (PE3)	2526	0.000	1357	0.000	-	-
			15	20	PE2			1380	0.000	351540	0.000
3	SlOr	R95H: +1 AGG to CAT	12	14	+61 (PE3)	449607	0.000	140325	0.000	-	-
			12	14	PE2			155826	0.000	322070	0.000
4	SlMBP21	Premature Q108stop: +1 C to T	13	13	PE2	49811	0.018	57943	0.022	148426	0.019
5	WH9	G69D (s-classic): +6 G to A	13	14	PE2	59484	0.018	54735	0.110	202599	0.032
6	SlKD1	1 bp deletion at 1266 bp upstream of an open reading frame (ORF): +21 A del	13	26	PE2	44911	0.002	60765	0.018	169327	0.008
7	SlPRD	A46 deletion: DELLAVLG to DELLVLG: +18 CTG del	13	22	PE2	46727	0.000	50399	0.000	130662	0.000
8	SlALC	ALC to alc allele: T to A; V106D: +2 A to T (reverse complement)	13	12	PE2	51754	0.015	45543	0.042	159889	0.064
9	SlDMR6-1	Premature truncation of the protein; E140stop: +1 G to T	13	13	PE2	37532	0.128	50231	0.020	170289	0.021
10	SlALS1	P186S: +1 C to T	13	13	PE2	56496	0.057	63128	0.095	201599	0.095

Figure 1

Fig. 1: Failure of prime editing in tobacco cells in transient assays. a. Schematic processes of primed editing. The nontargeted strand is nicked by CRISPR/Cas9 nickase (H840A), and the 3' nicked end binds to a complementary RNA (priming binding site, PBS, 13-15 nt) introduced by extending the 3' end of the sgRNA (RT template) and primes reverse transcription by the nCas9-fused RT using its free OH group. RT copies the genetic information from the RNA template that is complementary to the sequence downstream from the nicked site and includes intentionally introduced base modifications (indicated by red and bright orange lines). The RT product appears as a 3'-flap sequence that competes with the full complement of the original 5'-flap during the repair process, and a precisely edited sequence could be fixed to the targeted site after 5'-flap removal and subsequent replication of the DNA. A second nick is introduced during the improvement of the prime editor for supporting 3'-edited flap fixation. **b**. Selected synthetic target and pegRNA design. pegRNA and its 3' extension and second nick spacer sequences are indicated. A PmCDA1-based C->T editing tool is designed in parallel for comparison, and its spacer sequence is also shown. Intended base modifications are denoted and explained. **c**. Vector arrangements for the study. The nCas9(D10A)-PmCDA1 base editing system is designed with control plasmid (pCEc, -gRNA), T-DNA (pCE1), and replicon (pCE2)-based editors. The prime editors are designed with a dual vector system for T-DNA (pPEsubc1 + pPEsub1) and replicon (pPEsubc2 + pPEsub2)-based tools for editing C->T and C->A (shown in **b**). **d-e**. Sequencing data showing C->T editing by T-DNA- (**d**) and replicon-based (**e**) tools (Supplemental Table 2, (**e**)). The –sgRNA (pCEc) chromatogram represents for all the temperature tested. **f**. Editing efficiency of the base editors. The T-DNA construct represents the pCE1 plasmid, and the replicon construct is for the pCE2 plasmid. The editing efficiencies at different temperatures are plotted for the 15th, 17th and 19th bases counted from the PAM site to its upstream spacer sequence. **g-h**. Failure of the T-DNA- (**g**) and replicon-based (**h**) prime editors to edit the intended bases. The -pegRNA (pPEsubc1) and -pegRNA (pPEsubc2) chromatograms represent for all the temperature tested. Discontinuous red boxes denote the intended modifications in each of the editing conditions (25, 31 and 37°C) for the editors and the control.

Figure 2

Fig. 2: Prime editing performance in tomato. a-b. PE2 prime editing constructs using the geminiviral replicon in tomato with synthetic tobacco codon-optimized RT (**a**, 7 loci) or rice codon-optimized PPE (**b**, 10 loci). The NptII expression cassette (Addgene plasmid #51144) was used for the kanamycin selection of transformed cells, tissues and plants. The expression of the prime editors was driven by the p35S promoter with the UBQ10 intron 1 and CaMV 35S terminator (Data S1). The transcription of the pegRNAs was controlled by the AtU6 core promoter sequence (Data S1). **c**. PE performance data obtained from the analysis of the plant-stage transformants of SlWH9, SlALC and SlALS1 by Sanger sequencing and ICE Synthego. **d**. The traces of PE-edited alleles obtained for SlALC (upper two panels) and SlALS1 (bottom panel). The precisely edited alleles are shown at the bottom of each panel and are denoted by "HDR" labels. The PE-mediated replaced bases are highlighted with an orange background. **e**. Targeted deep sequencing data for the assessment of the activities of the PE components via indel mutation formation. The SpCas9 or SpCas9-RT fusion was used in combination with either the pegRNA or sgRNA to target 4 loci (SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6 and SlALS1). The sequences flanking the targeted sites were amplified at 10 dpt and analyzed by targeted deep sequencing in two replicates. The mock control (WT) and the nCas9-RT + pegRNA complexes were analyzed once.

SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES, TABLES AND REFERENCES

Stage	Germination	Pre-culture, callus induction	Co-cultivation, callus induction	Selection, callus induction and shoot regeneration	Selection, callus induction and shoot regeneration	Selection, shoot formation and elongation	Selection, root formation
Medium	1/2MSO	PREMC	ABM-MS+AS	SEL4-80	SEL4-80	SEL4-80	RIM
Temperature (°C)	25±2	25±1	25±1	28±1 for 5 days and then 25±2	25±2	25±2	25±2
Photoperiod	3 days-dark and then 4days 16L/8D	1 day dark	2 days-dark	5 days-8L/16D and then 9 days-16L/8D	14 days 16L/8D	14 days 16L/8D	10-14 days 16L/8D
Data collection (if needed)	-	-			Sampling at 10dpt		Sampling at plant stage

Supplemental Fig. 1: *Agrobacterium*-**mediated transformation protocol used in this work.** The step-by-step protocol is presented with each number in the circles indicating the number of days after seed sowing (upper panel), and the treatments used in each step are shown in the lower panel.

Supplemental Fig. 2: PE targeting maps of the SlHKT1;2, SlEPSPS1 and SlOr loci.

Supplemental Fig. 3: PE constructs for editing the SlHKT1;2, SlEPSPS1 and SlOr loci by PE2 and PE3 approaches.

Supplemental Fig. 4: Constructs used for the assessment of indel mutation formation by different combinations of either Cas9-RT or Cas9 with either sgRNAs or pegRNAs at the SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6 and SlALS1 loci.

pegRNA secondary structure   sgRNA secondary structure

SlBMP21

dG=-36.96 kcal/mol   dG=-22.70 kcal/mol

SlALC

dG=-44.98 kcal/mol   dG=-23.20 kcal/mol

SlDMR6-1

dG=-41.57 kcal/mol   dG=-21.50 kcal/mol

SlALS1

dG=-37.28 kcal/mol   dG=-24.20 kcal/mol

Supplemental Fig. 5: MFOLD-predicted secondary structures of pegRNAs and sgRNAs of SlBMP21, SlALC, SlDMR6-1 and SlALS1. The pegRNA structures (left panel) and sgRNA structures (right panel) were predicted using MFOLD software. The deltaG (dG) of each structure is denoted at the bottom of it. The discontinuous light blue boxes indicate the intermolecular annealing of the PBS and spacer sequences.

Supplemental Table 1. Sequences and primers used in this study

No.	Name	Sequence (5'-3')	Note
Primers for PCR amplification of sequences flanking targeted sites			
1	t35S-F1	TGTGTGAGTAGTTCCCAGATAAG	Sequences flanking the (CA)n substrate of pCEc and pCE02
2	RRA-R8	CTGACGAGGACTGGATGTTATC	
3	RB-qF2	CTCTTAGGTTTACCCGCCAATA	Sequences flanking the (CA)n substrate of pCE01
4	PmCDA1-R1	GATGGTTTCCGAGCACTATCA	
5	RT-F1	AGGCTAGAGGTAACCGGATG	Sequences flanking the (CA)n substrate of pEsubc1
6	PE-R1	TCGGTCACATGTGCATCCTC	
7	RT-F1	AGGCTAGAGGTAACCGGATG	Sequences flanking the (CA)n substrate of pEsubc2
8	PE-R2	CTGCGATATTACCGAGGACTAC	
9	t35S-sF1	TAGGGTTTCGCTCATGTGTTG	sequencing
Primers for targeted deep sequencing sample preparation			
9	HKPE-F1	ACAAAGATTATGAGCTAGGGAATGT	First PCR for SlHKT1;2
10	HKPE-R1	CCTTCAGAATTCCACTCCAATGA	
11	HKPE-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT CGCCAAACAAATCCTTGACC	Second PCR for SlHKT1;2
12	HKPE-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CTTGAGGGATAAGAATGAGAAGAAGAC	
13	EPPE-F1	TGAGTTACTTACAACCTTGTGCT	First PCR for SlEPSPS1
14	EPPE-R1	GTAATTTATCACCAGGGCAACTATTATC	
15	EPPE-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT GGCAGTTTCCTGTCGGTAA	Second PCR for SlEPSPS1
16	EPPE-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CTAAACAAATGGCACGAAGAAGG	
17	ORPE-F1	ATGCGAATCGTAGAAATGGAATTAG	First PCR for SlOr
18	ORPE-R1	ACTCGTTTCTTCGGTCCTTAAT	
19	ORPE-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT AGGACCTGAGACAGTAGA	Second PCR for SlOr
20	ORPE-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CTAGACATCACAGTAATAAATACGA	
21	BMP-F1	CCGGTTAGTGATACTCAGGTATTG	First PCR for SlBMP21
22	BMP -R1	TGACTGCTTCCTAAGATGCTAAA	
23	BMP-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT CTCGACGTTTTTCTCTTTCAACAGAT	Second PCR for SlBMP21
24	BMP-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT CACTTATTAAAAACTTATGTAAATCTAAC	
25	WH9-F1	GGAGTCTATATAAGAAGTGTGTTAGGG	First PCR for SlWH9
26	WH9-R1	TCATTAAGAAGAAGTCCAGAAGAAGA	
27	WH9-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT CAGAGCCAAAGCCTCGAT	Second PCR for SlWH9

28	WH9-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CTAGCATCACCTACTTGACCATATT	
29	KD1-F1	TTTGGTTACAACGTGTGAGATAAC	First PCR for SlKD1
30	KD1-R1	ACCATGTATAGTAGTCGTGTATGTT	
31	KD1-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT ACACACAATCTGTAACAATGATAGTAAT	Second PCR for SlKD1
32	KD1-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT CCTGACTAGTTTGAAGGGTATGT	
33	PRD-F1	GTGAATATTATTGCTGGCCTGTT	First PCR for SlPRD
34	PRD-R1	CAACTAGTACAACAGGTCTCGT	
35	PRD-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT GGTGCTGTTTCTTCAGGGAA	Second PCR for SlPRD
36	PRD-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT TAGCCATCTCAAGCTGTTCAAG	
37	ALC-F1	AAGTAGTGGACAAACATAAAGTAGTGG	First PCR for SlALC
38	ALC-R1	AATAATCTATGTCGAACCTCTTTCGG	
39	ALC-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT ATATCCTAACGGGGCGAGGCCAAAT	Second PCR for SlALC
40	ALC-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT GCATGATCCAATTAGTTTTTACCCCT	
41	DMR-F1	CTTTCAGGTTCTTATCGTTGGATTC	First PCR for SlDMR6-1
42	DMR-R1	AGGTTAGCTAGGTAGATTAGGTAGT	
43	DMR-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT GGAGACAGTTCATAATTGGAGAGATTAT	Second PCR for SlDMR6-1
44	DMR-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT TTGAAGTATGACTCAGATAGCA	
45	ALS-F1	CCTCACCATCTCCATGTTTCTC	First PCR for SlALS1
46	ALS-R1	GTCTCAGCTCCTCACTTGATTG	
47	ALS-F2	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT GCTACAAATCTTGTTAGTGGTCTTG	Second PCR for SlALS1
48	ALS-R2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT CT GCTTCGTAATAGATCTCGTTACCTC	
49	HKT12-sF1	CAAAGATTATGAGCTAGGGAATGT	Sequencing primer for the SlHKT1;2 targeted site
50	EPSPS1-sF3	GGAGATATTTGTTAGAGTACCATCA	Sequencing primer for the SlEPSPS1 targeted site
51	WH9-sR1	CACCGAAGAAGTAGGAGAATTGA	Sequencing primer for the SlWH9 targeted site
52	ALC-sF1	CATGTGTTTAACGCAGCTAAGG	Sequencing primer for the SlALC targeted site
53	ALS1-sF1	CCCAGAAAGGGTTGTGATGT	Sequencing primer for the SlALS1targeted site

Supplemental Table 2. Base editing efficiency obtained in the tobacco leaf infiltration assay

Position counted from PAM	T-DNA			Replicon		
	25°C	31°C	37°C	25°C	31°C	37°C
15th	4.57 ± 0.14	3.37 ± 0.55	3.64 ± 1.5	7.06 ± 0.41	5.59 ± 0.25	2.82 ± 1.02
17th	1.38 ± 0.21	0.36 ± 0.22	0.70 ± 1.5	13.67 ± 1.74	10.55 ± 1.63	5.84 ± 2.03
19th	1.63 ± 0.41	1.73 ± 0.10	1.86 ± 0.03	10.46 ± 0.10	9.87 ± 0.57	11.36 ± 0.83

Supplemental Table 3. PE targets in tomato used in the study

No.	Gene/allele name	Accession no.	Genotype vs WT	Phenotype	Reference
1	*jointless-2*/SlMBP21	Solyc12g038510	L169Stop (T->A)	Absence of abscission layer in Pedicels/short pedicels	Roldan et al., 2017
2	WUSCHEL HOMEOBOX 9 (SlWH9)/*compound inflorescence (s)*	Solyc02g077390.1	G69D (s-classic)	Mutant alleles of s dramatically increase branch and flower number	Lippman et al., 2008
3	*Petroselinum (Pts) allele/KNOTTED 1-LIKE HOMEOBOX (KNOX)/SlKD1 (TOMATO KNOX-LIKE HOMEODOMAIN PROTEIN 1)*	*AF375969/* Solyc06g072480.1	1 bp deletion at 1266 bp upstream of the open reading frame (ORF)	A semidominant KD1 mutant in tomato with multiply compound leaves. TKD1 silencing delay absicion.	Kimura et al., 2008
4	PROCERA D/DELLA D allele (SlPRD)	Solyc11g011260	A46 deletion: DELLAVLG to DELLVLG	Dwarf/gibberellin-responsive dominant dwarf DELLA allele	Nir et al., 2017; Tomlinson et al., 2019
5	SlALC (Alcobaca)	FJ404469	ALC to alc allele: T to A; V106D	Long-shelf life	Garg et al., 2008
6	SlDMR6-1	Solyc03g080190.2	small deletions in the *SlDMR6-1* gene that result in frameshift and premature truncation of the protein	No significant detrimental effects in terms of growth and development under greenhouse conditions and show disease resistance against different pathogens, including *P. syringae*, *P. capsici* and *Xanthomonas* spp.	Thomazella et al., 2016
7	SlALS1 gene	Solyc03g044330	Any substitution to change Pro186 amino acid to Ser, Ala or Thr residues	Strong resistance to chlorsulfuron. After two weeks, explants were transferred onto a fresh culture medium with 40 ng/mL chlorsulfuron.	Yu et al., 2009; Veillet et al., 2019

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SEQUENCES USED IN THE STUDY

❖ **Moloney Murine Leukemia Virus reverse transcriptase (MMLVrt) coding sequence (tobacco codon-optimized)**

TCTGGAGGATCTAGCGGAGGATCCTCTGGGTCGGAAACACCAGGTACTAGCGAGTCAGCTACACCAGAGTCT
AGTGGAGGCAGCAGCGGCGGGAGTAGCACACTAAATATAGAAGATGAATATCGGCTACATGAAACTTCAAA
AGAGCCAGATGTTTCTCTAGGGAGCACATGGCTATCTGATTTTCCTCAAGCCTGGGCGGAAACCGGCGGCAT
GGGACTGGCAGTTAGACAAGCTCCTCTGATTATACCACTGAAAGCAACATCTACTCCCGTTTCCATAAAACAAT
ATCCCATGTCACAAGAAGCCAGATTAGGAATCAAGCCTCATATACAGAGACTGTTGGACCAGGGAATACTGG
TACCCTGCCAGTCCCCTTGGAACACACCACTGCTACCCGTTAAGAAACCTGGTACTAATGATTATAGGCCTGTC
CAAGATCTGAGAGAAGTCAATAAGCGTGTGGAAGATATTCACCCTACCGTGCCAAACCCTTACAACCTCTTGT
CTGGACTACCACCGTCCCACCAATGGTACACTGTGCTTGATTTAAAGGATGCCTTTTTCTGTCTGAGACTCCAT
CCCACAAGTCAGCCTCTTTTCGCCTTTGAATGGAGAGATCCAGAAATGGGGATTTCAGGACAATTGACCTGGA
CTAGACTCCCACAGGGTTTCAAAAACAGTCCCACCCTGTTTAATGAGGCATTACACCGTGATTTGGCAGACTTT
AGAATCCAGCACCCAGACTTGATTCTGCTACAGTACGTGGATGATTTACTGTTAGCCGCAACTTCTGAACTAG
ACTGTCAACAGGGTACTCGAGCCCTGTTACAAACCTTGGGGAACCTTGGGTATCGGGCTTCAGCAAAGAAAG
CTCAAATTTGCCAAAAACAAGTCAAGTATCTGGGGTATCTTCTAAAAGAGGGTCAGAGATGGCTTACTGAGG
CAAGAAAAGAGACTGTGATGGGGCAGCCTACTCCGAAAACCCCTCGACAACTAAGGGAGTTCCTAGGGAAA
GCAGGCTTCTGTCGCCTCTTCATCCCAGGATTTGCAGAAATGGCAGCCCCCCTGTACCCTCTCACCAAACCGG
GTACTCTGTTTAATTGGGGCCCAGATCAACAAAAGGCTTATCAAGAAATTAAGCAAGCTTTGCTCACTGCCCC
AGCCCTGGGTTTGCCAGATTTGACTAAGCCCTTTGAACTCTTTGTGGACGAGAAGCAAGGATACGCGAAAGG
TGTTCTAACGCAAAAATTAGGACCTTGGCGTAGACCAGTGGCATACCTGTCAAAAAAATTGGATCCAGTTGCA
GCTGGGTGGCCTCCTTGCCTAAGGATGGTAGCAGCCATTGCCGTACTGACAAAGGATGCCGGCAAGCTAACC
ATGGGACAGCCACTAGTCATTCTGGCCCCACATGCAGTTGAAGCACTAGTCAAGCAACCTCCCGACCGCTGGC
TTTCCAATGCGCGGATGACTCATTATCAGGCCTTACTTTTGGATACGGACCGGGTTCAGTTCGGACCGGTGGT
AGCCTTAAACCCGGCTACGCTGTTACCACTGCCTGAGGAAGGACTACAACACAATTGTCTTGATATTTTAGCC
GAAGCACACGGAACCCGACCCGATCTAACGGACCAGCCGCTCCCAGATGCCGATCATACCTGGTACACTGAT
GGAAGCAGTTTGTTACAAGAGGGACAGCGTAAGGCGGGAGCTGCGGTTACCACCGAGACAGAGGTAATCTG
GGCTAAAGCACTGCCAGCCGGTACATCCGCTCAGCGGGCTGAACTGATAGCACTCACCCAGGCACTAAAAAT
GGCAGAAGGTAAGAAGCTAAACGTTTATACTGATAGCAGATATGCTTTTGCTACTGCTCATATCCATGGAGAA
ATATACAGAAGGCGTGGTTGGCTCACATCAGAAGGCAAGGAAATCAAAAATAAAGACGAGATTTTGGCCCTA
CTAAAAGCCCTCTTTCTTCCTAAAAGATTAAGCATAATTCATTGTCCAGGACATCAAAAAGGACACAGCGCCG
AGGCTAGAGGTAACCGGATGGCTGATCAAGCTGCCCGAAAGGCAGCTATTACTGAGACTCCAGATACCTCTA
CACTCCTCATTGAAAATTCATCACCTTCTGGCGGATCAAAAAGAACCGCCGACGGTTCGGAATTCGAACCAAA
GAAGAAGAGGAAAGTGTAA

Blue font: linker; purple font: MMLVrt; green font: SV40 NLS; black font: spacer sequence; red font: stop codon.

❖ **Moloney Murine Leukemia Virus reverse transcriptase (MMLVrt) coding sequence (rice codon-optimized) from Addgene Plasmid #140445.**

❖ **(CA)n substrate sequence**

TCTCAAGTGCGAGCATGCATCGACACACACACAGGCTTAGAATCTGGGGCAGATAGACACGACCGCAGCTGG
CACGACAGGTTTCCCGACTGGAAAGCGGcCAGTGAGCGCAACGCAATCCACCAGCGcC

❖ **p35S-nCas9-PmCDA1-UGI-t35S**

GAATTCCAATCCCACAAAAATCTGAGCTTAACAGCACAGTTGCTCCTCTCAGAGCAGAATCGGGTATTCAACA
CCCTCATATCAACTACTACGTTGTGTATAACGGTCCACATGCCGGTATATACGATGACTGGGGTTGTACAAAG
GCGGCAACAAACGGCGTTCCCGGAGTTGCACACAAGAAATTTGCCACTATTACAGAGGCAAGAGCAGCAGCT
GACGCGTACACAACAAGTCAGCAAACAGACAGGTTGAACTTCATCCCCAAAGGAGAAGCTCAACTCAAGCCC
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CCCAGCAGTGATCCAGCCCCAAAAGAGATCTCCTTTGCCCCGGAGATTACAATGGACGATTTCCTCTATCTTTA
CGATCTAGGAAGGAAGTTCGAAGGTGAAGGTGACGACACTATGTTCACCACTGATAATGAGAAGGTTAGCCT
CTTCAATTTCAGAAAGAATGCTGACCCACAGATGGTTAGAGAGGCCTACGCAGCAAGTCTCATCAAGACGATC
TACCCGAGTAACAATCTCCAGGAGATCAAATACCTTCCCAAGAAGGTTAAAGATGCAGTCAAAAGATTCAGG
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AAGGCTTGCTTCATAAACCAAGGCAAGTAATAGAGATTGGAGTCTCTAAAAAGGTAGTTCCTACTGAATCTAA
GGCCATGCATGGAGTCTAAGATTCAAATCGAGGATCTAACAGAACTCGCCGTCAAGACTGGCGAACAGTTCA
TACAGAGTCTTTTACGACTCAATGACAAGAAGAAAATCTTCGTCAACATGGTGGAGCACGACACTCTGGTCTA
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CCTACAAATGCCATCATTGCGATAAAGGAAAGGCTATCATTCAAGATCTCTCTGCCGACAGTGGTCCCAAAGA
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ATGTGACATCTCCACTGACGTAAGGGATGACGCACAATCCCACTATCCTTCGCAAGACCCTTCCTCTATATAAG
GAAGTTCATTTCATTTGGAGAGGACACGCTCGAGTATAAGGTAAATTTCTGTGTTCCTTATTCTCTCAAAATCT
TCGATTTTGTTTTCGTTCGATCCCAATTTCGTATATGTTCTTTGGTTTAGATTCTGTTAATCTTAGATCGAAGAT
GATTTTCTGGGTTTGATCGTTAGATATCATCTTAATTCTCGATTAGGGTTTCATAGATATCATCCGATTTGTTCA
AATAATTTGAGTTTTGTCGAATAATTACTCTTCGATTTGTGATTTCTATCTAGATCTGGTGTTAGTTTCTAGTTT
GTGCGATCGAATTTGTCGATTAATCTGAGTTTTTCTGATTAACAGGAGCTCATTTTTACAACAATTACCAACAA
CAACAAACAACAAACAACATTACAATTACATTTACAATTATCGATACAATGCCCAAAAAGAAAGAAAAGTGG
ACAAGAAGTACTCCATTGGGCTCGCTATCGGCACAAACAGCGTCGGCTGGGCCGTCATTACGGACGAGTACA
AGGTGCCGAGCAAAAAATTCAAAGTTCTGGGCAATACCGATCGCCACAGCATAAAGAAGAACCTCATTGGCG
CCCTCCTGTTCGACTCCGGGGAGACGGCCGAAGCCACGCGGCTCAAAAGAACAGCACGGCGCAGATATACCC
GCAGAAAGAATCGGATCTGCTACCTGCAGGAGATCTTTAGTAATGAGATGGCTAAGGTGGATGACTCTTTCTT
CCATAGGCTGGAGGAGTCCTTTTTGGTGGAGGAGGATAAAAAGCACGAGCGCCACCCAATCTTTGGCAATAT
CGTGGACGAGGTGGCGTACCATGAAAAGTACCCAACCATATATCATCTGAGGAAGAAGCTTGTAGACAGTAC
TGATAAGGCTGACTTGCGGTTGATCTATCTCGCGCTGGCGCATATGATCAAATTTCGGGGACACTTCCTCATC
GAGGGGGACCTGAACCCAGACAACAGCGATGTCGACAAACTCTTTATCCAACTGGTTCAGACTTACAATCAGC
TTTTCGAAGAGAACCCGATCAACGCATCCGGAGTTGACGCCAAAGCAATCCTGAGCGCTAGGCTGTCCAAATC
CCGGCGGCTCGAAAACCTCATCGCACAGCTCCCTGGGGAGAAGAAGAACGGCCTGTTTGGTAATCTTATCGC
CCTGTCACTCGGGCTGACCCCCAACTTTAAATCTAACTTCGACCTGGCCGAAGATGCCAAGCTTCAACTGAGC
AAAGACACCTACGATGATGATCTCGACAATCTGCTGGCCCAGATCGGCGACCAGTACGCAGACCTTTTTTTGG
CGGCAAAGAACCTGTCAGACGCCATTCTGCTGAGTGATATTCTGCGAGTGAACACGGAGATCACCAAAGCTC

CGCTGAGCGCTAGTATGATCAAGCGCTATGATGAGCACCACCAAGACTTGACTTTGCTGAAGGCCCTTGTCAG
ACAGCAACTGCCTGAGAAGTACAAGGAAATTTTCTTCGATCAGTCTAAAAATGGCTACGCCGGATACATTGAC
GGCGGAGCAAGCCAGGAGGAATTTTACAAATTTATTAAGCCCATCTTGGAAAAAATGGACGGCACCGAGGA
GCTGCTGGTAAAGCTTAACAGAGAAGATCTGTTGCGCAAACAGCGCACTTTCGACAATGGAAGCATCCCCCA
CCAGATTCACCTGGGCGAACTGCACGCTATCCTCAGGCGGCAAGAGGATTTCTACCCCTTTTTGAAAGATAAC
AGGGAAAAGATTGAGAAAATCCTCACATTTCGGATACCCTACTATGTAGGCCCCCTCGCCCGGGGGAAATTCCA
GATTCGCGTGGATGACTCGCAAATCAGAAGAGACTATCACTCCCTGGAACTTCGAGGAAGTCGTGGATAAGG
GGGCCTCTGCCCAGTCCTTCATCGAAAGGATGACTAACTTTGATAAAAATCTGCCTAACGAAAAGGTGCTTCC
TAAACACTCTCTGCTGTACGAGTACTTCACAGTTTATAACGAGCTCACCAAGGTCAAATACGTCACAGAAGGG
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AAAGTTACCGTGAAACAGCTCAAAGAAGATTATTTCAAAAAGATTGAATGTTTCGACTCTGTTGAAATCAGCG
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CCTGGACAATGAGGAGAACGAGGACATTCTTGAGGACATTGTCCTCACCCTTACGTTGTTTGAAGATAGGGA
GATGATTGAAGAACGCTTGAAAACTTACGCTCATCTCTTCGACGACAAAGTCATGAAACAGCTCAAGAGGCG
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ACCTTTAAGGAGGACATCCAGAAAGCACAAGTTTCTGGCCAGGGGGACAGTCTCCACGAGCACATCGCTAAT
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TTCTCAAAGATGATTCTATTGATAATAAAGTGTTGACAAGATCCGATAAAAATAGAGGGAAGAGTGATAACG
TCCCCTCAGAAGAAGTTGTCAAGAAAATGAAAAATTATTGGCGGCAGCTGCTGAACGCCAAACTGATCACAC
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GCAGTGGTAGGCACTGCACTTATCAAAAAATATCCCAAGCTTGAATCTGAATTTGTTTACGGAGACTATAAAG
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CGAAACAAACGGAGAAACAGGAGAAATCGTGTGGGACAAGGGTAGGGATTTCGCGACAGTCCGGAAGGTC
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GACACCACCATAGACAGAAAGCGGTACACCTCTACAAAGGAGGTCCTGGACGCCACACTGATTCATCAGTCA
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TCTGAGGGACAATGGTGTAGGCCTGAACGTGATGGTTTCCGAGCACTATCAGTGTTGTCGGAAGATTTTCATC
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CAAGAGTCGATACTCATGCTTCCTGAAGAAGTTGAGGAGGTCATTGGGAATAAGCCGGAAAGTGACATTCTC
GTACACACTGCGTATGATGAGAGCACCGATGAGAACGTGATGCTGCTCACGTCAGATGCCCCAGAGTACAAA
CCCTGGGCTCTGGTGATTCAGGACTCTAATGGAGAGAACAAGATCAAGATGCTATAAGCTTCTCTAGCTAGAG
TCGATCGACAAGCTCGAGTTTCTCCATAATAATGTGTGAGTAGTTCCCAGATAAGGGAATTAGGGTTCCTATA
GGGTTTCGCTCATGTGTTGAGCATATAAGAAACCCTTAGTATGTATTTGTATTTGTAAAATACTTCTATCAATA
AAATTTCTAATTCCTAAAACCAAAATCCAGTACTAAAATCCAGAT

Blue font: CaMV 35S promoter with UBQ10 intron; black font: nCas9 (D10A, <u>underlined</u>); purple font: PmCDA1; orange font: UGI; red font: CaMV 35S terminator.

❖ **p35S-nCas9-RT-t35S**

GAATTCCAATCCCACAAAAATCTGAGCTTAACAGCACAGTTGCTCCTCTCAGAGCAGAATCGGGTATTCAACA
CCCTCATATCAACTACTACGTTGTGTATAACGGTCCACATGCCGGTATATACGATGACTGGGGTTGTACAAAG
GCGGCAACAAACGGCGTTCCCGGAGTTGCACACAAGAAATTTGCCACTATTACAGAGGCAAGAGCAGCAGCT
GACGCGTACACAACAAGTCAGCAAACAGACAGGTTGAACTTCATCCCCAAAGGAGAAGCTCAACTCAAGCCC
AAGAGCTTTGCTAAGGCCCTAACAAGCCCACCAAAGCAAAAAGCCCACTGGCTCACGCTAGGAACCAAAAGG
CCCAGCAGTGATCCAGCCCCAAAAGAGATCTCCTTTGCCCCGGAGATTACAATGGACGATTTCCTCTATCTTTA
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CTTCAATTTCAGAAAGAATGCTGACCCACAGATGGTTAGAGAGGCCTACGCAGCAAGTCTCATCAAGACGATC
TACCCGAGTAACAATCTCCAGGAGATCAAATACCTTCCCAAGAAGGTTAAAGATGCAGTCAAAAGATTCAGG
ACTAATTGCATCAAGAACACAGAGAAAGACATATTTCTCAAGATCAGAAGTACTATTCCAGTATGGACGATTC
AAGGCTTGCTTCATAAACCAAGGCAAGTAATAGAGATTGGAGTCTCTAAAAAGGTAGTTCCTACTGAATCTAA
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CTCATTATCAGGCCTTACTTTTGGATACGGACCGGGTTCAGTTCGGACCGGTGGTAGCCTTAAACCCGGCTAC
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CCCGATCTAACGGACCAGCCGCTCCCAGATGCCGATCATACCTGGTACACTGATGGAAGCAGTTTGTTACAAG
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AATTAGGGTTCCTATAGGGTTTCGCTCATGTGTTGAGCATATAAGAAACCCTTAGTATGTATTTGTATTTGTAA
AATACTTCTATCAATAAAATTTCTAATTCCTAAAACCAAATCCAGTACTAAAATCCAGATC

Blue font: CaMV 35S promoter with UBQ10 intron; orange font: nCas9 (H840A, underlined); purple font: linker; dark blue font: MMLVrt; green font: SV40 NLSs; red font: CaMV 35S terminator.

❖ **pegRNA1_CA**

5'-
GCATGCATCGACACACACACGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTGTCGTGCCAGCTGCtgtcgTGTCTATCTGCCCCAGATTCTAAGCCTGTAT
GTGTGTCGATGCAT-3'
Red font sequence: gRNA; Purple sequence: 5' pgeRNA linker; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide: base substitution; black font: spCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgRNA_nick for second nick on the (CA)n substrate**

GAAACCTGTCGTGCCAGCTGGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC
Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: spCas9 scaffold

❖ **sgRNA_CA for base editing on the (CA)n substrate**

ACACACAGGCTTAGAATCTGGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC
Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: spCas9 scaffold

❖ **pegR_HKT12**

5'-
ATCATCATGTTTTCATTTGTGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTTGCAgATTGTGGTTTcTTACCTACAAATGAAAACATG -3'

❖ **sgR_HKT12_2n for second nick at the SlHKT1;2**

AAACAAATCCTTGACCAAAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: spCas9 scaffold

❖ **pegR_EPSPS1**

5'-
ACAGTAACTGCTGCTGTCAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCAGGAAtcGCAATGCGTtctTTGACAGCAGCAGTT-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT template; green nucleotide: base substitution.

❖ **sgR_EPSPS1_2n for second nick at the SlEPSPS1**

AATAAATACGAATTTTGAGAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: spCas9 scaffold

❖ **pegR_Or**

GAGATAATATTAGAAGTAGGGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCATCTTGTTCCTatgACTTCTAATATT

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT template; green nucleotide: base substitution.

❖ **sgR_Or_2n for second nick at the SlOr**

AAAAACAAATGGCACGAAGAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTT
GAAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: spCas9 scaffold

❖ **pegR1_ MBP21**

5'-
AGCTCCTTCAACGTTCTCAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTATCTTACCTTTaAGAACGTTGAAGG-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide: base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_WH9**

5'-
CTTGAAGCAATCTTTAATTCGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTCACCATGtCTGAATTAAAGATTGCTT-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_KD1**

5'-
TTTGACAAAGACACATTTTGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCACTGTAAAAAATGTTCTTTTCCAAAAATGTGTCTTTGTC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_PRD**

5'-
AGAAAAACCAGATGCTGGAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTT
GAAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCAAAACTAAAAGCTCATCCATTCCAGCATCTGGTTT-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_ALC**

5'-
GTTCCACCGGAAGTAAAAACGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCGACAAGCCGGaTTTTACTTCCGGTG-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT tem plate; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_DMR6**

5'-
TAGAGAAGTATGCTCCTGAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTAGAAGGCCATTaAGGAGCATACTTC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT template; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **pegR1_ALS1**

5'-
CTATTACAGGTCAAGTGCCAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCTCATCCTCCTTGaCACTTGACCTGTA-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; Blue sequence: PBS; orange sequence: RT template; green nucleotide:
base substitution.

❖ **sgR1_ MBP21**

5'-
AGCTCCTTCAACGTTCTCAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_WH9**

5'-
CTTGAAGCAATCTTTAATTCGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_KD1**

5'-
TTTGACAAAGACACATTTTGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGA
AAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_PRD**

5'-
AGAAAAACCAGATGCTGGAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTT
GAAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_ALC**

5'-
GTTCCACCGGAAGTAAAAACGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_DMR6**

5'-

TAGAGAAGTATGCTCCTGAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **sgR1_ALS1**

5'-

CTATTACAGGTCAAGTGCCAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTG
AAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC-3'

Red font sequence: gRNA; black font: SpCas9 scaffold.

❖ **p35S-Cas9-RT-t35S**

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<center>11</center>

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Blue font: CaMV 35S promoter with UBQ10 intron; orange font: full function Cas9 (H840, underlined); purple font: linker; dark blue font: MMLVrt; green font: SV40 NLSs; red font: CaMV 35S terminator.

❖ **p35S-Cas9-t35S**

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- ❖ **p35S-nCas9-PPE-t35S expression cassette**:

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CAGTACTAAAATCCAGAT

Blue font: CaMV 35S promoter with UBQ10 intron; orange font: nCas9 (H840A, underlined); purple font: linker; dark blue font: MMLVrt; green font: SV40 NLSs; red font: CaMV 35S terminator.

❖ **Plant selection marker**: pNOS-NptII-tOCS cloned from pICSL11024 (pICH47732::NOSp-NPTII-OCST) (Addgene Plasmid #51144).