A toolbox of engineered mosquito lines to study salivary gland biology and malaria transmission

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Abstract

Mosquito saliva is a vehicle for the transmission of vector borne pathogens such as *Plasmodium* parasites and different arboviruses. Despite the key role of the salivary glands in the process of disease transmission, knowledge of host-pathogen interactions taking place within this organ is very limited. To improve the experimental tractability of the salivary glands, we have generated fluorescent reporter lines in the African malaria mosquito *Anopheles coluzzii* using the salivary gland-specific promoters of the anopheline antiplatelet protein (AAPP), the triple functional domain protein (TRIO) and saglin (SAG). Promoter activity was specifically observed in the distal-lateral lobes or in the median lobe of the salivary gland. Besides a comparison of the expression patterns of the selected promoters, the fluorescent probes allowed us to evaluate the inducibility of the selected promoters upon blood feeding and to measure intracellular redox changes. We also combined the *aapp-DsRed* fluorescent reporter line with a pigmentation-deficient *yellow(-)* mosquito mutant to assess the feasibility of *in vivo* microscopy of parasitized salivary glands. This combination allowed locating the salivary gland through the cuticle and imaging of individual sporozoites *in vivo*, which facilitates live imaging studies of salivary gland colonization by *Plasmodium* sporozoites.

Introduction

Vector borne diseases have been a major health burden in the history of mankind. An efficient way to counteract diseases transmitted by blood sucking arthropods is to prevent transmission by reducing the number of vectors in the environment or by preventing vectors from biting humans in risk areas. As a consequence of malaria control interventions, approximately 663 million clinical malaria cases could be averted between 2000 and 2015. The most effective measure was the use of insecticide treated bet nets, which prevented an estimated 68% of cases (Bhatt *et al.*, 2015). Still, preventive measures are counteracted by the very effective transmission of vector borne pathogens, which hampers eradication approaches. The key organ for transmission of vector-borne diseases is the salivary gland, as pathogens must colonize this organ to subsequently enter the saliva and be deposited in the skin during a blood meal. Host-pathogen interactions that take place in this organ are crucial for the spread of pathogens, as the concentration of pathogens in the mosquito saliva, as well as the composition and quantity of the saliva itself, are critical for successful transmission. To successfully colonize salivary glands, different pathogens have developed different strategies. While vector-borne viruses such as DENV cause systemic infection of the mosquito and replicate in the salivary glands (Salazar *et al.*, 2007), malaria parasites of the genus *Plasmodium* proliferate exclusively in the mosquito midgut. After infection of the mosquito midgut through the uptake of a blood meal from an infected host, *Plasmodium* parasites form a cyst, called oocyst, below the basal lamina of the midgut epithelium where they undergo multiple rounds of DNA replication. Rapid cell division, called sporogony, then follows, leading to the generation of several thousand of sporozoites per oocyst. These cells are released from oocysts and travel from the midgut to the salivary glands that they specifically recognize and invade. After being deposited along with mosquito saliva in the skin during a blood meal, sporozoites traverse the dermis, enter blood capillaries and reach the human liver where they pursue development. On the path of the sporozoite from the mosquito midgut to the liver of its intermediate host, the salivary glands represent a special niche in which the sporozoites mature before being transferred to the host with the mosquito saliva.

Although the general life cycle of *Plasmodium* is well known, we lack detailed knowledge of the temporal relationships and host-parasite interactions that occur in the various tissues and cells which the parasite, particularly the sporozoite, traverses and invades. While it is believed that the invasion process of the salivary glands by sporozoites that have egressed from oocysts is rapid (~1-10 minutes), *in vivo* data supporting this assumption is lacking (Douglas

et al., 2015). Still, the time a sporozoite needs to reach and successfully invade the glands is

an important parameter, because at this timepoint, a mosquito is considered infective to

humans. In addition, microscopic examinations of infected glands revealed that sporozoites

form large aggregations in organized "stacks" in the cavities of the acinar cells. The degree of

order in these structures raises the question of whether the sporozoites recognize each other

and possibly enter a quiescent phase to bridge the time until the vector next blood meal, or

whether these stacks form by mechanical constraints alone. Based on the accumulation of

sporozoites in specific sub-regions of salivary glands, it has also been hypothesized that

sporozoites may preferentially invade the gland at specific sites (Wells and Andrew, 2019).

However, since no receptor-ligand interaction between sporozoites and acinar cells has yet

been clearly identified, the detection of such entry sites is difficult to prove. The study of

gland-sporozoite or sporozoite-sporozoite interactions in the gland has generally been limited

to the observation of infected tissues *ex vivo* because the highly pigmented cuticle of the

mosquito makes microscopy of parasite stages in living mosquitoes difficult and, at the same

time, an *in vitro* culture system for the insect stages of *Plasmodium* is not available. While *ex*

vivo studies significantly contributed to the knowledge about *Plasmodium* we have today,

samples obtained in this way are less suitable for imaging dynamic processes because

dissected tissues change and decompose rapidly. In addition the study of processes taking

place in salivary glands has been complicated by the lack of molecular tools for mosquitoes

like fluorescent reporter lines with tissue-specific gene expression, which have been slow to

develop due to difficulties in transgenesis. The implementation of CRISPR/Cas9 technology

in mosquito research has been a decisive step forward, which will give access to the analysis

of the molecular mechanisms underlying mosquito-pathogen interactions at an unprecedented

level of details. Females of *Aedes spp.* and *Anopheles spp.* mosquitoes possess two salivary

glands each consisting of two lateral lobes and one median lobe. In addition, the lateral lobes

are further subdivided into a distal-lateral and a proximal-lateral part which differ visually in

cell size and in the size of formed cavities in which cells secrete saliva components (Wells,

Villamor and Andrew, 2017). Transcriptomic studies have shown that salivary glands display

a tissue-specific expression profile in which many proteins thought to have a function in

blood uptake are indeed absent in male salivary glands (Arcà *et al.*, 2005). Consistent with the

reduction in expressed proteins, male salivary glands are smaller and differ in their

morphology, consisting of only one lobe per gland. Detailed knowledge about the expression

of proteins in the salivary glands could be obtained by applying *ex vivo* approaches. *In situ*

hybridization of gland-specific transcripts on dissected *Aedes aegypti* salivary glands has

shown that genes are spatially expressed in the median, distal-lateral, and proximal-lateral lobes or combinations thereof (Juhn *et al.*, 2011) suggesting that different sections of the salivary gland may provide different components of mosquito saliva. In addition, *Plasmodium* sporozoites have been shown to invade primarily the distal-lateral lobes (Wells and Andrew, 2019), which has led to speculation about a specific protein interface used by sporozoites to recognize the distal-lateral sections.

Recombinant salivary proteins considered to have therapeutic potential have been produced and studied *in vitro* for their vasodilator, anticoagulant and anti-inflammatory properties. Examples include aegyptin (Calvo *et al.*, 2010), anopheline (Figueiredo *et al.*, 2012), and anopheline anti-platelet protein (AAPP) (Hayashi *et al.*, 2012), all of which act as anticoagulants. From this selection, AAPP is one of the few proteins that have also been studied *in vivo*. In *A. stephensi*, the generation of one of the first transgenic mosquito lines showed that the *aapp* promoter drives DsRed expression exclusively in the distal-lateral lobes (Yoshida and Watanabe, 2006). In addition to their primary physiological function, salivary gland proteins suspected to play a role in the spread of pathogens such as the malaria parasite *Plasmodium* have been the focus of several studies. Protein-protein interaction-based approaches using sporozoite surface proteins and salivary gland proteins identified the proteins saglin and CSPBP as potential determinants for sporozoite invasion (Ghosh *et al.*, 2009; Wang *et al.*, 2013). Knockdown experiments of both proteins have shown that sporozoite numbers in the salivary glands are reduced compared to controls, indicating a lower invasion rate. However, overexpression of saglin in the distal-lateral lobes of *A. stephensi* did not result in an increase in the number of sporozoites colonizing the salivary glands, raising doubt about the importance of saglin in this process (O'Brochta *et al.*, 2019). Another protein that has been shown to affect sporozoite transmission is AgTRIO (triple functional domain protein), that, like saglin, belongs to the SG1-protein family (Francischetti *et al.*, 2002; Arcà *et al.*, 2005). Active and passive immunization of mice with recombinant AgTRIO was shown to diminish transmission of *P. berghei* sporozoites (Dragovic *et al.*, 2018; Chuang *et al.*, 2019). Interestingly, TRIO expression increases in the presence of *P. berghei* sporozoites, suggesting that sporozoites in salivary glands may influence protein expression of their host cells to potentially increase transmission efficiency. (Dragovic *et al.*, 2018). Here we generated and characterised three fluorescent salivary gland reporter lines using the upstream regions of the *aapp*, *trio* and *saglin* genes in the African malaria vector *Anopheles coluzzii*, and we use one of them in combination with a pigment-deficient line to

165   perform *in vivo* live imaging of sporozoites invading salivary glands. We expect the lines

166   described here will be of use to investigate salivary gland and sporozoite biology.

Results

Generation of transgenic mosquito lines with salivary gland-specific reporter expression and low pigmentation

To generate salivary gland reporter lines, the 5' upstream sequences of *saglin* (AGAP000610), *aapp* (AGAP009974) and *trio* (AGAP001374) were used to drive the expression of DsRed and hGrx1-roGFP2 from transgenic constructs integrated in the X1 docking line (**Fig. 1A, Fig. 1 – figure supplement 1A**) with an attP site on chromosome 2L (Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015). The fluorescence reporter hGrx1-roGFP2 was chosen because it bears the advantages of EGFP and enables the measurement of the oxidation level of the intracellular glutathione pool by ratiometric quantification (Gutscher *et al.*, 2008). We used the *aapp* promoter sequence from *Anopheles coluzzii* orthologous to the one used to drive salivary gland-specific transgene expression in *Anopheles stephensi* (Yoshida and Watanabe, 2006). For both *saglin* and *trio*, we defined putative promoter regions according to the genomic context. In addition, we also used CRISPR/Cas9 to integrate a fluorescence cassette encoding EGFP into the endogenous *saglin* locus, replacing the coding sequence, to study *saglin* promoter activity in its native genomic context. Indeed, the activity of the cloned promoter selected for ectopic expression was not ensured due to the shortness of the apparent *saglin* promoter region (220bp, **Fig. 1 – figure supplement 2**). For this, site directed knock-in mutagenesis was performed by injecting a plasmid encoding three guide RNAs targeting *saglin* and carrying a repair template marked with *3xP3*-EGFP into mosquito eggs from a line with germline-specific expression of Cas9 (*vasa-Cas9*), generating a *sag(-)KI* line (**Fig. 1B, Fig. 1 – figure supplement 3A**). To place the *EGFP* gene directly under control of the *saglin* promoter, the *3xP3* promoter used to selected transgenic mosquito larvae was flanked by lox sites to enable its excision by Cre recombination (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 3A**, Material & Methods). Similarly, we generated a knockin (KI) into the *yellow* gene that encodes a protein required for the synthesis of black pigments in insects (Hunt and Bridges, 1916; Wittkopp, True and Carroll, 2002). For this, we used a plasmid with guide RNAs specific for *yellow* and corresponding homology arms flanking a fluorescence cassette expressing *EGFP* surrounded by lox sites (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 3B**). Through crossing of salivary gland reporter lines with low pigmented *yellow(-)KI* mosquitoes, we aimed to improve the fluorescence signal of the expressed reporter and extend the range of applications, e.g. for *in vivo* imaging. Genotyping by PCR confirmed the successful generation of the salivary gland reporter lines *aapp-DsRed*,

aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2, trio-DsRed and *sag-DsRed* (**Fig 1 – figure supplement 1B**) as well as

the mosquito lines *sag(-)KI* and *yellow(-)KI* (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 3C,D**). Loss of the

3xP3 promoter in *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes (mosquitoes lacking the *3xP3* promoter after *Cre*

mediated excision) was confirmed by PCR in the progeny of a cross between the *sag(-)KI* line

and a mosquito line expressing *Cre* recombinase in the germline (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement**

3E) (Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015).

Lobe-specific transcriptional activation by *sag*, *aapp* and *trio* promoter sequences

Dissection of female salivary glands revealed a highly specific expression pattern of DsRed,

EGFP and hGrx1-roGFP2 driven by *sag, aapp* and *trio* promoter sequences inside salivary

glands (**Fig. 1C**). While no fluorescence was observed for DsRed driven by the cloned 5'

upstream sequence of the *saglin* gene in dissected salivary glands (**Fig. 1 – figure**

supplement 2A), promoter activity was detected in the line where *EGFP* replaced the *saglin*

gene (**Fig. 1C**), indicating that essential transcriptional elements localize outside of the

intergenic sequence between *AGAP000609* and *AGAP000610* (*saglin*) (**Fig. 1 – figure**

supplement 2B). Interestingly, fluorescence signals in glands of female *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-*

hGrx1-roGFP2 mosquitoes were restricted to the distal-lateral lobes, while female *trio-DsRed*

and *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes displayed fluorescence exclusively in the median lobe (**Fig. 1C**).

This difference became especially evident when crossing *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* mosquitoes

with *trio-DsRed* mosquitoes giving rise to a trans-heterozygous offspring displaying hGrx1-

roGFP2 expression in distal-lateral lobes combined with DsRed expression in the median lobe

(**Fig. 1C**). Similarly, when crossing *aapp* and *trio* DsRed reporter lines, the entire salivary

gland was red fluorescent in the F1 progeny (**Fig. 1C**). Expression of *trio-DsRed* and *aapp-*

DsRed was so strong that the respective parts of the salivary gland appeared pink colored

even in brightfield microscopy (**Fig. 1C**). Of note, fluorescent reporter expression in the

salivary glands of *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *trio-DsRed* mosquito colonies was

restricted to females while no fluorescence signal could be observed in this organ in males

(**Fig. 2 – figure supplement 1A**). Imaging of *aapp-DsRedP*, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *trio-*

DsRed pupae during development revealed no distinct fluorescence signal in the head part

where the salivary glands are located (**Fig. 2 – figure supplement 1B**). Still, *DsRed*

expression was visible in the salivary glands of *aapp-DsRed* females that had been dissected

directly after emergence (**Fig. 2A**), indicating that the *aapp* promoter is already active in

pharate adults. In contrast, no *DsRed* expression was observed in the glands of freshly

hatched *trio-DsRed* females (**Fig. 2A**). To evaluate the expression profile over time we

performed a time-course experiment by dissecting and imaging salivary glands of *trio-DsRed*

and *aapp-DsRed* females every day. *DsRed* expression guided by *aapp* and *trio* promoters

increases steadily until day 5 after hatching (**Fig. 2B**). The increase in *DsRed* expression over

time in the salivary glands of *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* females could also be followed in

transmitted light based on the pink coloration of the distal-lateral lobes (**Fig. 2 – figure**

supplement 1C). In *Anopheles stephensi, AAPP* expression was shown by qRT-PCR to be

upregulated upon blood feeding (Yoshida and Watanabe, 2006). We followed DsRed

fluorescence levels in the salivary glands of *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* sibling mosquitoes

that were fed on blood or kept on sugar (**Fig. 2C,D**). Our results confirm that the *aapp*

promoter is induced upon ingestion of a blood meal while there was no difference between

blood-fed and sugar-fed in females expressing the *trio-DsRed* transgene.

Spatial expression pattern of the *saglin* and *trio* promoters in the median lobe

While expression of the fluorescent probes *DsRed* and *hGrx1-roGFP2* in the mosquito lines

aapp-DsRed, *trio-DsRed* and *aapp-DsRed* is driven by the cloned *aapp* and *trio* promoter

sequences, the selection of transgenic *sag(-)KI* larvae required the use of the synthetic *3xP3*

promoter to allow expression of *EGFP* in neonate larvae. To assess the activity of the native

saglin promoter, the *3xP3* promoter was flanked by lox sites that allowed its excision using

Cre to generate the *sag(-)EX* line (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 3).** Imaging of salivary glands

(dissected tissues or through the cuticle in live mosquitoes) from *sag(-)KI* and *sag(-)EX*

females revealed that *EGFP* expression is much stronger in specimens expressing the *sag(-*

)KI transgene, indicating that the synthetic *3xP3* promoter enhances the native transcriptional

activity of the *saglin* promoter (**Fig. 3A**). As for the *aapp* promoter, reporter expression in

Sag(-)EX was detected in salivary glands of mosquitoes that had just emerged (**Fig. 2A**), and

increased after blood feeding (**Fig. 2C,D**). Of note, EGFP signal was 1.8 and 2.6 fold stronger

at the base than at the apex of the median lobe of the salivary gland in *sag(-)KI* and *sag(-)EX*

females, respectively (**Fig. 3A,B**). The mean fluorescence of *sag(-)KI* was 5.5-fold and 3.8-

fold higher than that of *sag(-)EX* at the apex and base, respectively (**Fig. 3B**). Next, we

crossed *sag(-)KI* and *aapp-trio* mosquitoes. Confocal imaging of salivary glands dissected

from heterozygous individuals expressing both transgenes revealed a striking difference in the

expression pattern of the *trio* and *saglin* promoters. *DsRed* expression driven by *trio* was

observed strongest in the apex of the median lobe with low to no expression in cells of the

base (**Fig. 3C,D**). In contrast *EGFP* expression driven by the *saglin* promoter was detectable

along the median lobe in an opposite gradient as described above (**Fig. 3B,D**). Imaging of the

base of a gland expressing *aapp-DsRed* and *sag(-)KI* showed a remarkably sharp expression

boundary between cells with high and low *saglin* promoter activity. Only few high producer

cells close to the boundary were observed to co-express *aapp-DsRed* (**Fig. 3E**). Using z-

stacks of confocal images from dissected *sag(-)KI* salivary glands stained with Hoechst 33342,

we further determined that the median lobe consists of 144 cells on average of which 49 cells

display high and 95 low *saglin* promoter activity. Considering the observed differences in the

mean fluorescence between apex and base and assuming that the expression of *EGFP*

represents the expression of *saglin*, cells at the base of the median lobe contribute ~88% to

Saglin expression, while the cells in the apex contribute only ~12%, although the apex area

contains nearly twice as many cells as the base.

Subcellular localization of fluorescent reporters

During first microscopic examinations using low magnification, different intracellular

localizations of the fluorescent proteins DsRed, EGFP and hGrx1-roGFP2 were observed (**Fig.**

1C), which was confirmed by confocal microscopy. DsRed expressed in the salivary glands

of *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* mosquitoes appeared spotty and displayed a vesicle-like

pattern within the cytoplasm of the acinar cells, while hGrx1-roGFP2 and EGFP expressed in

the glands of *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes displayed a more cytoplasmic

localization (**Fig. 4**). Due to the anatomy of the secretory cells, which form an inward cavity

into which saliva is secreted, the vesicle-like DsRed accumulations localized mainly at the

outer rim of the salivary gland. In contrast, localization of hGrx1-roGFP2 and EGFP was

homogenous in the cytoplasm but appeared to be enriched around nuclei (**Fig. 4 – figure**

supplement 1).

Variation of DsRed expression in *trio-DsRed* mosquitoes

During the generation of the salivary gland reporter lines and their subsequent outcrossing we

observed that most L1 mosquito larvae carrying the *trio-DsRed* transgene displayed

fluorescence in the eyes (**Fig. 5A**), which was absent in the two other reporter lines *aapp-*

DsRed and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2*. Interestingly, a few L4 stage larvae of the *trio-DsRed* line

even displayed strong ubiquitous *DsRed* expression (**Fig. 5A**). At the pupal stage, *DsRed*

expression was detected in the ocellus, an eye spot close to the main compound eye, the

antennae and/or throughout the body. The observed expression patterns were highly variable

and ranged from completely non-fluorescent pupae to pupae expressing *DsRed* in all three

tissues (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 1A**). In adult mosquitoes, DsRed signal was less distinct

compared to pupae although complete body fluorescence was occasionally observed in both

males and females, with the strongest expression of *DsRed* in the salivary glands of females

and the palps and antennae of males (**Fig. 5B**). Dissections of adult mosquitoes displaying

whole body fluorescence at the pupal stage revealed strong and sex-independent DsRed

signals in Malphigian tubules, an insect organ that performs functions similar to the vertebrate

kidney (**Fig. 5C**). Of note, fluorescence in tubules strictly correlated to the high pupal

fluorescence phenotype and was never observed in mosquitoes hatched from low fluorescent

pupae (**Fig. 5D**). We next investigated sex-specificity of each fluorescence pattern at the

pupal stage and inheritance of the high and low fluorescent *trio-DsRed* transgene. Non-

fluorescent pupae were always females, while fluorescent antennae were observed exclusively

in male pupae (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 1B**). In contrast, the presence of a fluorescent

ocellus or body fluorescence was sex-independent. Quantification of the observed expression

pattern revealed that a fluorescent ocellus, either alone or in combination with body

fluorescence, was most frequently observed, and that the ratio of pupae that displayed body

fluorescence to those that did not was close to 50% (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 1C**). To

follow the inheritance pattern of high and low body fluorescence, pupae were separated

according to their fluorescence phenotype and intercrossed. Quantification of pupal *DsRed*

expression in the F1 generation revealed a strong enrichment for whole body fluorescence

(~80%) if high pupal body fluorescence was selected in the previous generation. In contrast,

no pupae with high body fluorescence were observed in the offspring of mosquitoes hatched

from low fluorescent pupae (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 1D**). This result is consistent with

Mendelian inheritance, with the locus conferring high body fluorescence being dominant over

that conferring low body fluorescence. To investigate this further, virgin female pupae of the

F1 generation displaying high pupal *DsRed* expression were crossed with wild type males.

Ten single female families were created which were all screened for pupal body fluorescence.

All families except family 8 displayed a 1:1 distribution for high and low pupal body

fluorescence (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 1E**). Family 8 displayed exclusively high pupal

body fluorescence, indicating that the founder female was homozygous for the locus

conferring high body fluorescence, while all other females were heterozygous for the

„low" and the „high" *trio-DsRed* loci. Notably, we detected high DsRed signals in the

salivary glands of all adult females in families 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 (other families were not

investigated), regardless of whether individuals hatched from pupae displaying high or low

body fluorescence. Genotyping of females homozygous for low *trio-DsRed* and heterozygous

for WT/high *trio-DsRed* revealed a single integration of the transgene into the X1 locus as

expected (**Fig. 5 – figure supplement 2**).

Glutathione redox state and morphology of acinar cells expressing hGrx1-roGFP2

To assess the redox sensitivity of hGrx1-roGFP2 expressed in the *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* line,

salivary glands were dissected and treated either with diamide or dithiothreiol to oxidize or

reduce the fluorescent probe, respectively. As control, salivary glands were treated with N-

ethyl-maleimide to preserve the native redox state of the dissected tissue. Samples were

imaged at 405 and 488 nm and the ratio of both wavelengths was plotted (**Fig. 6A**), revealing

a dynamic range of 4.2 between fully oxidized and fully reduced probes (**Fig. 6B**).

Interestingly, the ratio of native salivary glands was very similar to measurements performed

on samples treated with dithiothreiol (Red), suggesting that the glutathione pool is largely

reduced in acinar cells (**Fig. 6B**). Infection with *P. berghei* sporozoites did not affect the

redox state of salivary glands (**Fig. 6C**). Of note, initial imaging experiments pointed towards

a thinning of the tips of the distal-lateral lobes in salivary glands expressing *aapp-hGrx1-*

roGFP2, while glands obtained from *aapp-DsRed*, *trio-DsRed* and *sag(-)KI* or *sag(-)EX*

females appeared similar to wild type (**Fig. 1, Fig. 6D**). Measurement of the diameter at the

"neck-region" of the distal-lateral lobes confirmed its thinning in salivary glands expressing

aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2 compared to wild type and *aapp-DsRed* (**Fig. 6E**). This difference is

likely due to a flattening of the cell body of the acinar cells within the tips, which was

observed by confocal microscopy. (**Fig. 4**).

Salivary gland reporter lines as a tool to investigate sporozoite interactions with salivary

glands

We next investigated whether our highly fluorescent salivary gland reporter lines could

facilitate *in vivo* imaging of *Plasmodium* development through the cuticle of a living

mosquito using the a *GFP* expressing parasite strain (*Δp230p-GFP)* of the rodent malaria

parasite *P. berghei* (**Fig. 7A**) (Manzoni *et al.*, 2014). This strain is bright enough to make

parasites visible through the mosquito cuticle, allowing pre-sorting of infected mosquitoes

based on fluorescence in the mosquito midgut, the salivary glands and the wing joint, a

localization where hemolymph sporozoites tend to accumulate. To test if the expression of a

fluorescent reporter in the salivary glands alters parasite development in the mosquito, we

infected the three reporter lines *trio-DsRed*, *aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* as well as

the parental line *G3*. Parasite counts observed in reporter lines varied from 118 to 142 oocysts

and were not significantly different from controls (121 oocysts) (**Fig. 7 – figure supplement**

1A). The average number of salivary gland sporozoites at day 17-18 after infection was 8.200

to 17.400 sporozoites per mosquito in salivary gland reporter lines vs 9.600 in *G3* controls

(**Fig. 7 – figure supplement 1B**). An average of 10.000 salivary gland sporozoites per

mosquito is usually observed in our laboratory, with numbers fluctuating from 5.000 to more

than 20.000 sporozoites per mosquito in non-transgenic lines, indicating no significant

difference between the *G3* control and reporter lines. To normalize the counts of salivary

gland sporozoites relative to differences in oocyst numbers, we calculated the number of

sporozoites that had successfully invaded the salivary glands per oocyst. Again, no significant

difference was detected between reporter lines (86-146 sporozoites per oocyst) and *G3* control

(133) mosquitoes (**Fig. 7 – figure supplement 1C**). To assess if the *3xP3* driven expression

of EGFP in the low pigmented *yellow(-)KI* line would interfere with the imaging of GFP

positive *P. berghei* parasites, adult *yellow(-)KI* and WT females were imaged in the GFP

channel to compare emitted fluorescence signals (**Fig. 7 – figure supplement 1D**). *Yellow(-*

)KI females showed a weak GFP signal in the head and, suprisingly, strongly fluorescent

ovaries. While gene expression within parts of the eye and the nervous system of the head is

typical for the expression pattern of the *3xP3* promoter in mosquitoes, EGFP expression in the

ovaries is likely due to the endogenous promoter activity of the *yellow* promoter. However, no

significant increase in green fluorescence was observed at the throat area where the salivary

glands localize compared with WT, suggesting that imaging of GFP-positive parasites would

be feasible.

While the expression of a fluorescence reporter makes it simple to detect the location of the

salivary glands through the cuticle, light absorption by pigments and light scattering by chitin

generate signal losses reducing image quality and resolution. To reduce light absorption, we

crossed *aapp-DsRed* mosquitoes, displaying highly fluorescent salivary glands without

altered morphology, with *yellow(-)KI* mosquitoes (**Fig. 7A,B**). Yellow is a protein required

for the synthesis of black pigments in insects, its absence renders the cuticle pale and

yellowish (Hunt and Bridges, 1916; Wittkopp, True and Carroll, 2002). As expected, *yellow(-*

);aapp-DsRed mosquitoes displayed a low pigmented cuticle in combination with highly

fluorescent salivary glands (**Fig. 7B**). The decrease in pigmentation greatly increased the

observed GFP signal visible through the cuticle, notably in strongly pigmented areas that

appear almost black in WT mosquitoes (**Fig. 7C**). We also investigated whether GFP- or

mCherry-positive sporozoites can be imaged in fluorescent salivary glands. Live imaging of

dissected infected glands showed that fluorescent sporozoites can be clearly distinguished

from the fluorescent signal of salivary glands at low magnification while lobe-specific
fluorescence expression allowed for simple differentiation between median and distal-lateral
lobes (**Fig. 7D**). In addition, imaging showed that all salivary gland reporter lines may have a
high sporozoite load, suggesting that fluorescence expression in salivary glands does not
affect individual salivary gland sporozoite colonization.
We next imaged mosquitoes infected with *P. berghei Δp230p-GFP* between day 17 and day
20 after infection, when sporozoites invade the salivary glands. Mosquitoes were pre-sorted
for GFP fluorescence in the salivary glands (**Fig. 7 – figure supplement 2A**) as well as in the
wing joint (not shown) to confirm the presence of sporozoites. In a subset of mosquitoes (less
than 1 out of 5), we observed that the salivary glands localized very close to the cuticle (**Fig. 7
– figure supplement 2B,C**). To facilitate *in vivo* imaging, we further selected mosquitoes
positive for sporozoites and with cuticular localization of at least one salivary gland and
prepared them for imaging (**Fig. 7 – figure supplement 2D**). Confocal imaging enabled to
visualize precisely single sporozoites through the cuticle close to the salivary gland as well as
subcellular structures, like the cavities of acinar cells, of the gland itself (**Fig. 8A**). However,
we noted that a significant portion of the DsRed signal was also seen in the GFP channel,
especially at lower magnification, suggesting a possible spillover of the DsRed signal. This
could possibly occur due to the concentration difference between DsRed in the acinar cells
and EGFP in the sporozoites (**Fig. 7-figure supplement 2E**). Nevertheless, spillover effects
did not affect detection of sporozoites at higher magnification, and quantification of the
recorded films revealed that ~26% of persistent sporozoites were (at least 5 minutes in the
field of view) in the thorax area perform pattern of active movement while ~19% are attached
but not moving and ~55% are floating (**Fig. 8A**). The observed movement patterns resembled
in most cases the patch gliding previously described *in vitro*. During this type of movement,
sporozoite adheres in the center and performs jerky back-and-forth movements along its
adhesive patch (**Fig. 8B, Movies 1 and 2**) (Münter *et al.*, 2009; Klug *et al.*, 2020). Due to the
brevity of the recorded movies (5 minutes), many actively moving sporozoites appeared to
remain on the site without making large terrain gains. However, in some cases, the position of
the adhesive patch was observed to change slightly over time, such that sporozoites made
small terrain gains in one direction while continuously sliding back and forth. Importantly, we
were also able to observe sporozoites inside salivary glands (**Fig, 8C**).
435
436
437

Discussion

Mosquito salivary glands have long interested entomologists, parasitologists, virologists and microbiologists because they are a key organ in the transmission of vector borne diseases. Still, the host-pathogen interactions that allow the specific recognition and colonization of this organ by different pathogens has been understudied, probably in part because of the relative difficulty to access and visualize these processes in comparison to midgut invasion. The reporter lines we generated in this study represent valuable tools to circumvent some of these issues: they enable (1) easy visualization of the glands, even in brightfield or DIC microscopy, (2) distinguishing distal-lateral and median lobes of the salivary glands, and (3) imaging of single sporozoites in proximity to and inside salivary glands *in vivo*.

We used the promoters of three salivary gland genes, *aapp*, *trio* and *saglin*, to drive fluorescent reporter expression in *A. coluzzii* mosquitoes. The different fluorescence patterns obtained in the salivary glands of these lines show that the proteomes of median and distal-lateral lobes are diverse and most likely contribute different saliva components. In addition, the variable fluorescence intensity in the distal-lateral lobes of both *aapp* lines (stronger towards the apex) point towards an even more complex expression pattern along the lobe. This hierarchical expression was even more evident for the *trio* and *saglin* promoters, both of which are active in the median lobe but with opposite expression patterns. *saglin* is strongly active in cells at the base and less active in the apex, in contrast, *trio* expression is absent in cells with high *saglin* activity, but very strong in cells with low *saglin* activity. While the expression pattern of *trio* has not been investigated before, the observed activity of the *saglin* promoter is coherent with immunofluorescence studies performed in *A. stephensi* (O'Brochta *et al.*, 2019). Expression of *saglin* in the median lobe is puzzling since the protein has been shown to affect colonization of the salivary glands by *Plasmodium* sporozoites, (Ghosh and Jacobs-Lorena, 2009), whereas parasites prefer to invade the distal-lateral lobes (Wells and Andrew, 2019) that lack activity of the *saglin* promoter. A possible explanation is that the site of expression of both proteins is not the site where they interact with parasites.

The absence of reporter expression in mosquitoes expressing *DsRed* controlled by the *saglin* 5' upstream sequence is likely due to the shortness of the cloned sequence. The *saglin* gene localizes in the middle of an array of four genes believed to be salivary gland-specific (Francischetti *et al.*, 2002) and separated by short intergenic regions (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 2**). Regulatory sequences controlling transcription are likely located upstream and/or downstream of this array and might be shared by all four genes.

Notably, the reporter lines display different subcellular localizations of hGrx1-roGFP2, EGFP

and DsRed. While all expressed fluorescent proteins lack any targeting signal which could

explain a different localization, only hGrx1-roGFP2 (*aapp*) and EGFP (*saglin*) localized

within the cytoplasm. In contrast, DsRed displayed a vesicular pattern in both the median

(*trio*) and the distal-lateral lobes (*aapp*), while a DsRed2 variant driven by the *aapp* promoter

in *A. stephensi* mosquitoes was shown to be cytoplasmic (Yoshida and Watanabe, 2006).

Although AAPP was shown previously to localize in a vesicle-like fashion (Wells, Villamor

and Andrew, 2017), we believe that the observed localization differences are likely not based

on putative artefactual trafficking signals. First, vesicular localization of DsRed was observed

with both the *trio* and *aapp* promoters, and second, only DsRed appeared vesicular, whereas

hGrx1-roGFP2 was cytoplasmically localized, although both proteins were expressed from

the same *aapp* sequence. Comparison of the DsRed sequence used here with the previously

described DsRed2 sequence expressed in *A. stephensi* revealed mutations mainly in the N-

terminal region and the addition of 11 unrelated amino acids at the C-terminus of DsRed2

(Yoshida and Watanabe, 2006). It is likely that these sequence differences between the two

DsRed versions lead to the formation of a cryptic trafficking signal recognized by the acinar

cells. Interestingly, although we did not investigate their nature, we also observed the

presence of vesicles in the salivary glands of wild type mosquitoes with similar distribution

and morphology and displaying weak red autofluorescence (**Fig. 1 – figure supplement 2**).

DsRed could potentially be trafficked to these or similar compartments explaining its unique

localization. Differences in salivary gland morphology between *aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-*

hGrx1-roGFP2 expressing mosquitoes are likely due to the expression of human

Glutaredoxin 1 (hGrx1) and not of roGFP2, a protein derived from EGFP with 2 amino acid

changes. Indeed, no change in morphology was detected in *sag(-)EX* and *sag(-)KI* mosquitoes

expressing EGFP alone in the median lobe. Still, EGFP appeared less expressed in *sag(-)EX*

compared to hGrx1-roGFP2 in *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* (**Fig. 1**) and we cannot exclude that the

acinar cells of the median and distal-lateral lobes react differently to the expression of the

respective reporters, or that the cells show different responses to roGFP2 and EGFP. Despite

its influence on cell morphology, the salivary glands of hGrx1-roGFP2 expressing mosquitoes

retained their integrity even in old mosquitoes and apoptosis of cells expressing the

fluorescent reporter was not observed.

We also report a surprisingly large panel of fluorescence patterns in mosquitoes expressing

the *trio-DsRed* transgene. The *trio* promoter activated transcription of DsRed in the salivary

glands of all females (but not in males), but also in ocelli, antennae and Malpighian tubules as

well as whole body in some but not all mosquitoes, independently of their sex but for
antennae that were strictly restricted to males, and with a strict correlation between strong
DsRed expression in pupal body and adult Malpighian tubules. The fact that *trio* expression
was reported to be salivary gland-specific (Dragovic *et al.*, 2018) suggests that the region we
selected upstream of *trio* does not contain all regulatory elements that control its natural
expression, or that the genomic context of the X1 locus may influence its expression. To date,
the number of available promoters able to drive ubiquitous expression of transgenes in
Anopheles mosquitoes is limited (Adolfi *et al.*, 2018), thus replacing DsRed in a selected
highly fluorescent line could provide a new means to ubiquitously express transgenes. By
sorting and crossing according to the observed pupal fluorescence phenotype, it was possible
to separate alleles conferring high and low pupal body fluorescence, which allowed the
production of a colony enriched with the high pupal fluorescence phenotype and a colony
showing only low pupal body fluorescence. This observation pointed towards a genetically
encoded difference which is inherited in a Mendelian manner rather than a transient
(epi)genetic modification. Genotyping confirmed the presence of a single copy of the
transgene in the X1 locus in both lowly and highly fluorescent mosquitoes. Since fluorescent
ocelli, antennae and whole body expression were only observed in the *trio-DsRed* population,
we propose that the different *DsRed* expression patterns are locus-specific variegation effects
caused by interactions between the selected *trio* promoter sequence and polymorphic
regulatory elements that could be linked or unlinked to the transgene. Although unlikely, we
cannot rule out the possibility that some mosquitoes carried an extra copy of the transgene
that caused the highly fluorescent phenotype. Still, DsRed positive ocelli and antennae were
observed in both high and low fluorescence populations, which is most likely explained by a
variable *DsRed* expression from the transgene inserted at X1. While the observed *DsRed*
expression patterns in larvae and pupae are helpful in the laboratory to select transgenic
individuals, it also urges caution in interpreting results as it clearly shows that transcription is
contextual.
Intravital imaging has revealed the dynamics of parasite development inside its vertebrate
host (Sturm *et al.*, 2006; Wang *et al.*, 2020). While optical windows in mice is a well
implemented method (De Niz *et al.*, 2019), *in vivo* imaging through the cuticle of insects is
rarely performed, mostly because it is difficult to achieve good resolution by imaging through
the insect cuticle that scatters and absorbs light. Recent studies have explored the possibility
to circumvent this issue through the application of clearing protocols on infected mosquitoes
to improve resolution and enable imaging through whole mosquitoes (Mori, Hirai and Mita,

2019; De Niz *et al.*, 2020). However, while these improvements are remarkable, imaging of
cleared specimens only represents snapshots whereas mapping of dynamic processes are
desirable. Imaging of tissues *ex vivo* in combination with the use of hemolymph-like media
allows the observation of dynamic processes (Klug and Frischknecht, 2017). Still, imaging *ex*
vivo samples can only be performed for a limited amount of time and artifacts due to the
artificial tissue environment cannot be excluded. A step towards intravital imaging was made
recently by developing a protocol that combines feeding of dyes relevant for imaging with
blood feeding prior to sample preparation (Trisnadi and Barillas-Mury, 2020). Due to the
inflation of the mosquito abdomen directly after feeding, cuticle plates open up and create
temporary optical windows that can be exploited for microscopy. Still, in this case,
mosquitoes were decapitated and tightly flattened between microscopy slide and cover slip,
thus allowing for optimal imaging but maintaining *in vivo* conditions only for a limited time.
To demonstrate the use of the salivary gland reporter lines for imaging purposes, we crossed
aapp-DsRed mosquitoes with the weakly pigmented mosquito line *yellow(-)KI* deficient for
black pigment synthesis. In a subset of mosquitoes, salivary glands localized very closely to
the cuticle allowing the recognition of subcellular structures of the gland in living mosquitoes.
In addition, the more transparent cuticle allowed better visibility of individual sporozoites
through the cuticle. It is generally believed that sporozoites, after they have been released
from the oocyst, are passively transported to the salivary glands and engage in active motility
only upon contact with acinar cells (Douglas *et al.*, 2015). Our *in vivo* observations show that
~26% of persistent thorax sporozoites perform active motility mostly in a patch gliding
manner (**Movie 1** and **2**) (Münter *et al.*, 2009; Klug *et al.*, 2020). This could be an indication
that the motility of the sporozoites is already crucial to reach the salivary glands and ensure
efficient colonization. Testing mutants that produce immobile sporozoites could provide more
sophisticated information on the extent to which sporozoite motility promotes invasion of
salivary glands.
Here we provide a proof of concept of *in vivo* salivary gland imaging, and we hope that the
method can be further improved to gain a better insight in the invasion process of salivary
glands by sporozoites. Potential spillover effects of the DsRed signal in salivary glands of
aapp-DsRed females could possibly be avoided by using a *P. berghei* reporter line with
stronger GFP expression (Natarajan *et al.*, 2001). Furthermore the injection of fluorescent
beads or dyes could be used as vitality measure to monitor the active movement of the
hemolymph while, at the same time, highlighting contact areas with hemolymph and salivary
glands. Also, we did not exhaust the repertoire of possible genetic modifications to decrease

pigmentation of the cuticle. Deletion of the genes *tan* and *ebony*, two enzymes which regulate

the homeostasis of the pigment precursors dopamine and N-ß-alanyldopamine, in

combination with the deletion of *yellow* could potentially further decrease cuticle

pigmentation (Wittkopp, True and Carroll, 2002; True *et al.*, 2005). Another possibility could

be the overexpression of arylalkylamine-*N*-acetyltransferase, an enzyme converting dopamine

into the sclerotizing precursor molecule N-acetyldopamine, which was shown to affect

pigmentation in different insect species by enhancing the production of colorless components

of the cuticle (Osanai-Futahashi *et al.*, 2012). A key improvement for *in vivo* imaging would

be an increase in the number of mosquitoes displaying ideally positioned salivary glands.

Preliminary monitoring experiments showed that the position of the gland does not

significantly change over time in adult mosquitoes indicating that positioning occurs during

metamorphosis. Should salivary gland positioning be genetically determined, selective

breeding may help to improve the ratio of mosquitoes with cuticular salivary glands. Taken

together, we hope that the transgenic lines developed in this study can contribute to improve

in vivo imaging and salivary gland dissections in *Anopheles* mosquitoes, and enable real-time

imaging of *Plasmodium* and other vector borne pathogens.

Key Resources Table

Reagent type (species) or resource	Designation	Source or reference	Identifiers	Additional information
strain, (*Escherichia coli*)	*DH5h*	self made	/	Chemically competent cells
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*X1*	(Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015)	/	attP docking line
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*vasa-Cas9*	(Keller Valsecchi *et al.*, 2021)	/	Strain with germline-specific Cas9 expression
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*Ngousso*	MR4	MRA-1279	Wild type strain
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*G3*	/	/	Wild type strain
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*aapp-DsRed*	this study	/	DsRed expression in distal lobes
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*trio-DsRed*	this study	/	DsRed expression in median lobe

Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2*	this study	/	hGrx1-roGFP2 expression in distal lobes
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*sag-DsRed*	this study	/	No DsRed expression
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*sag(-)KI*	this study	/	Knockin into Saglin expressing EGFP from 3xP3 promoter
Strain, (*Anopheles coluzzii*)	*sag(-)EX*	this study	/	Knockin into Saglin with excised 3xP3 promoter
Strain, (*Mus musculus*)	*CD-1*	Janvier Labs	/	self-bred
Strain, (*Plasmodium berghei*)	*Δp230p-GFP*	(Manzoni *et al.*, 2014)	/	Constitutive expression of GFP
Strain, (*Plasmodium berghei*)	*Δp230p-mCherry*	(Manzoni *et al.*, 2014)	/	Constitutive expression of mCherry
Recombinant DNA reagent	*pENTR R4 ATCC LacZ GCTT*	(Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015)	Addgene: #1773668	/

Recombinant DNA reagent	*pDSAP*	(Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015)	Addgene: #62293	/
Recombinant DNA reagent	P1 / P44, aapp 5'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA TCCCTTTTC TTTTACCCT TTGTAACA CGCTAATA ACG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P2, aapp 5'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGC TCTGTCGT TTTTTTGTT GTTGTGGT ATTATTTCA CTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P3 / P46, hGrx1-roGFP2 forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA GAGATGGC TCAAGAGT TTGTGAAC TGCAAAAT C
Recombinant DNA reagent	P4, hGrx1-roGFP2 reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGCTTACT TGTACAGC TCGTCCAT GCCG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P5, DsRed aapp / trio forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA GAGATGGT GCGCTCCT CCAAGAAC G
Recombinant DNA reagent	P6, DsRed aapp / trio reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGCCTACA GGAACAGG TGGTGGCG GC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P7 / P45, trio 5'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA TCCTTTTCT GAGGTGAT CTTTCGAA AAGATCG

Recombinant DNA reagent	P8, trio 5'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGC TCTGTAAC TGGGAGCA GATTGATTT TATGG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P9 / P42, saglin 5'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA TCCCTTTC ATGCGTAC AATGTGTA TGATCACT G
Recombinant DNA reagent	P10, saglin 5'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	CGTTCTTG GAGGAGCG CACCATTT ATAAGTGA ACCTTATG CAAACCTT CCCTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P11 / P40, DsRed saglin forward	this study	Primer	CAGGGAAG GTTTGCAT AAGGTTCA CTTATAAAT GGTGCGCT CCTCCAAG AACG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P12, DsRed saglin reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGCCTACA GGAACAGG TGGTGGCG G
Recombinant DNA reagent	P13, Yellow gRNA1 forward	this study	Oligonucleotid e	CCTTGTAG CGTGCCTG GTGGCCGC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P14, Yellow gRNA1 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotid e	AAACGCGG CCACCAGG CACGCTAC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P15, Yellow gRNA2 forward	this study	Oligonucleotid e	CCTTGGCG ACTACGTG CCCACGAA

Recombinant DNA reagent	P16, Yellow gRNA2 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotide	AAACTTCG TGGGCACG TAGTCGCC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P17, Yellow gRNA3 forward	this study	Oligonucleotide	CCTTGGAG AACAAGCT GTTCGTCT
Recombinant DNA reagent	P18, Yellow gRNA3 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotide	AAACAGAC GAACAGCT TGTTCTCC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P19 / P33, Yellow 5'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA ACAGAATT GAACGCCC AAGGTACG GCTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P20 / P34, Yellow 5'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCAC CCCGCTTC TGCCACTA AGGAACTT CTGTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P21, Yellow 3'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGACGTGT GTCCTGGA AGTGTGAT TTATCG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P22, Yellow 3'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGCGTAGC GTGCCTGG TGGCCGCC GGAACGCT TTCCCTGC AGCGTAC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P23, Saglin gRNA1 forward	this study	Oligonucleotide	CCTTGCGT TCAAGTCA TCTCGAGC

Recombinant DNA reagent	P24, Saglin gRNA1 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotide	AAACGCTC GAGATGAC TTGAACGC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P25, Saglin gRNA2 forward	this study	Oligonucleotide	CCTTGCCG CAGTCCTC GCGGCTGG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P26, Saglin gRNA2 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotide	AAACCCAG CCGCGAGG ACTGCGGC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P27, Saglin gRNA3 forward	this study	Oligonucleotide	CCTTGAAG TTTGCAAC GTTTGCGA
Recombinant DNA reagent	P28, Saglin gRNA3 reverse	this study	Oligonucleotide	AAACTCGC AAACGTTG CAAACTTC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P29, Saglin 5'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA ACATGGGT TCACTCGC TGTTAGAC TGTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P30, Saglin 5'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCAA TGGTTATA AGTGAACC TTATGCAA ACCTTCCC TG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P31, Saglin 3'UTR forward	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGAGCGTC GGCGACG GTCTAAAA G

Recombinant DNA reagent	P32, Saglin 3'UTR reverse	this study	Primer	GGTCTCGA AGCGTTCA AGTCATCT CGAGCCGG CTTCTTCT GCTGCCGC AGAAAC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P35, X1 forward 1	this study	Primer	CCCGTCAT GAGTTCAA GCCTGAA
Recombinant DNA reagent	P36, attB reverse	this study	Primer	CCCGGTCT CAAATTGC CCGCCGTG ACCGTCGA
Recombinant DNA reagent	P37, OpiE2 forward	this study	Primer	CAAGCACC TTTATACTC GGTGGCCT C
Recombinant DNA reagent	P38, PuroR reverse 1	this study	Primer	TTCCAGGA AGGCGGG CACCCC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P39, X1 reverse	this study	Primer	ACTGCAAC CCATTCAC ACTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P41, SV40 reverse	this study	Primer	CCTCTACA AATGTGGT ATGGCTGA
Recombinant DNA reagent	P43, X1 forward 2	this study	Primer	CCTTGAAG ATTGGAAT CCATCCAT

Recombinant DNA reagent	P47, Saglin 5' forward genotyping	this study	Primer	GCTTATAA GAGCGCTA CGGGTGTA C
Recombinant DNA reagent	P48, Saglin 3' reverse genotyping	this study	Primer	CTGTCCCT TCAGCTTC ACCAGCTC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P49, Yellow 5' forward genotyping	this study	Primer	GAACGACA GGTGAGCT GACAGTAA C
Recombinant DNA reagent	P50, Yellow 3' reverse genotyping	this study	Primer	GATTTGGC GAGATGGT TTGTGCGA C
Recombinant DNA reagent	P51, PuroR reverse 2	this study	Primer	GAGCTCGA GTTCAGGC ACCGGGCT TGC
Recombinant DNA reagent	P52, EGFP reverse	this study	Primer	CTTCGGGC ATGGCGGA CTTG
Recombinant DNA reagent	P53, SV40 forward	this study	Primer	CAGCCATA CCACATTT GTAGAG
Commercial assay or kit	CloneJET PCR Cloning Kit	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat#K1231	/
Software, algorithm	Prism 5.0	GraphPad, San Diego, US	/	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/

Software, algorithm	FIJI	(Schindelin *et al.*, 2012)	/	https://imagej.net/software/fiji/
Software, algorithm	MetaMorph	Molecular Devices, San Jose, US	/	https://www.moleculardevices.com/contact
Software, algorithm	VectorBase (version 36-55)	(Amos *et al.*, 2022)	/	https://vectorbase.org/vectorbase/app
Software, algorithm	NIS-Elements, F 4.20.01, 64 Bit	Nikon Instruments Inc., Melville, US	/	https://www.microscope.healthcare.nikon.com/products/software/nis-elements
Software, algorithm	DNAStar Lasergene, SeqBuilder Pro	DNASTAR, Madison, US	/	https://www.dnastar.com/
Other	Hoechst 33342	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat#H3570	/

Materials & methods

Animals

Transgenesis was performed in the *Anopheles coluzzii* strain X1 (Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015) or in a strain expressing Cas9 from the X1 locus under control of the *vasa* promoter (transgenesis plasmid: Addgene # 173670) and introgressed into the *Ngousso* genetic background. Wild type *Anopheles coluzzii* strains *Ngousso* and *G3* were used as controls. CD1 mice purchased from Charles River or from our own colonies were used for both mosquito maintenance through blood meals, and for parasite maintenance and mosquito infections. For infections with rodent malaria parasites, we made use of the *Plasmodium berghei* line *Δp230p-GFP* derived from the wild type background *P. berghei ANKA* (Manzoni *et al.*, 2015).

Breeding of mosquitoes

Anopheles coluzzii mosquitoes were kept in standard conditions (27°C, 75-80% humidity, 12-hr/12-hr light/dark cycle). Larvae were hatched in pans of osmosed water and fed with pulverized fish food (TetraMin, Melle, Germany). Adult mosquitoes were maintained on a 10% sucrose solution. To propagate colonies, four to seven-day old mosquitoes were blood fed for 10-15 minutes on anesthetized mice and allowed to lay eggs on wet filter paper 2-3 days later. For mosquito blood feeding, female CD-1 mice (> 35g) were anesthetized with a mixture of Zoletil (42.5 mg/kg) and Rompun (8.5 mg/kg) in 0.9% NaCl solution.

Construction of salivary gland reporter transgenes

The 5'upstream sequences of *saglin* (primers P9 and P10), *aapp* (primers P1 and P2) and *trio* (primers P7 and P8) were amplified from genomic DNA of *G3* mosquitoes isolated with the Blood & Tissue Kit (Qiagen) as shown in **File S1**. DsRed (primers P5 and P6 for *aapp/trio*; P11 and P12 for *saglin*) and hGrx1-roGFP2 (primers P3 and P4) were amplified from the plasmids pJET-DsRed-SV40 and pDSAP_actin-hGrx1-roGFP2 (donated by Raquel Mela-Lopez). Primers are shown in **Table S1**. PCR was performed using Phusion polymerase according to the manufacturer recommendations (ThermoFisher Scientific) and subcloned in the pJET vector using the CloneJET PCR Cloning Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific). The 5'upstream sequence of the *saglin* gene was fused to the *DsRed* gene by a Phusion mediated assembly PCR (TerMaat *et al.*, 2009) before cloning into pJET. After sequence verification,

assembly blocks were fused into the destination vector pDSAP (Volohonsky et al., 2015,

Addgene # 62293) using Goldengate cloning and generating pDSAP-aapp-DsRed, pDSAP-

aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2, pDSAP-trio-DsRed and pDSAP-saglin-DsRed.

Construct cloning for site-directed mutagenesis into *yellow* and *saglin* genes

For the design of guide RNAs (gRNAs), the coding sequence of *saglin* as well as the first

exon of the *yellow* gene were manually searched for PAMs (NGG), with N representing any

nucleotide. Candidate gRNA sequences were investigated for potential off-target effects using

http://www.rgenome.net/cas-designer/ (Cas-OFFinder) (Bae, Park and Kim, 2014). We

selected gRNAs starting with a G considering the transcription start from the U6 promoter

and differing by ≥3 nucleotides from putative off-target sequences in the *A. coluzzii* genome.

For each knockin construct, linkers encoding the protospacer motif of three gRNAs (**Table**

S1) were generated by annealing two primers ordered from IDT DNA and cloned using *BbsI*

into pKSB-sgRNA (Addgene #173671—3) vectors containing the U6 snRNA polymerase III

promoter (AGAP013557), the invariable sequence of a standard crRNA-tracerRNA fusion

(Jinek et al., 2012), and the RNA polIII TTTTT terminator. The three complete gRNAs

blocks were then assembled into a single pKSB-sgRNA destination plasmid by GoldenGate

cloning using different but matching *BsaI* overhangs. For the construction of repair templates,

regions of homology on the 5' side (*saglin*: primers P29 and P30; *yellow*: primers P19 and

P20) and on the 3' side (*saglin*: primers P31 and P32; *yellow*: primers P21 and P22) of the

region targeted by the gRNAs were amplified from *Ngousso* genomic DNA and subcloned in

the pJET vector, generating plasmids pJET-5'saglin, pJET-5'yellow, pJET-3'saglin and

pJET-3'yellow. After sequence validation, all building blocks were fused in the correct order

in the destination plasmid pENTR using GoldenGate assembly together with a building block

containing either the fluorescence cassette pKSB-Lox3xP3Lox-EGFP or pKSB-Lox3xP3-

EGFP-Lox, generating pENTR-Saglin;Lox3xP3Lox-EGFP and pENTR-Yellow;Lox3xP3-

EGFP-Lox. Primers are shown in **Table S1**.

Transgenesis of *A. coluzzii*

All plasmids used for DNA injections were purified using Endofree kits (Qiagen). Freshly

laid eggs of the docking line X1 or the *vasa-Cas9* line were injected as described (Fuchs,

Nolan and Crisanti, 2013; Pondeville *et al.*, 2014; Volohonsky *et al.*, 2015). For ΦC31-

integrase mediated transgenesis a mix of three plasmids (pDSAP-aapp-DsRed, pDSAP-aapp-

hGrx1-roGFP2 and pDSAP-trio-DsRed) (~160 ng/μL) and the integrase helper plasmid

carrying the Vasa2-ΦC31-Integrase gene (Addgene # 62299, ~200 ng/µL) diluted in 0.5x

phosphate buffered saline (0.1 mM NaHPO4 buffer, 5 mM KCl, pH 6.8) was injected into

approximately 500 embryos. The plasmid pDSAP-saglin-DsRed was injected in the same

way but into a different batch of eggs. For site-directed knock-in mediated by Cas9, the

plasmid solution (pENTR-Saglin;Lox3xP3Lox-EGFP or pENTR-Yellow;Lox3xP3Lox-

EGFP) (~200-300 ng/µL) was diluted in PBS supplemented with 1 µM Scr7 to inhibit non-

homologous end joining. Each construct was injected in a separate batch of approximately

500 eggs obtained from *vasa-Cas9* females.

Salivary gland reporter lines *sag-DsRed, trio-DsRed, aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-

roGFP2

Following egg micro-injection, surviving pupae were sorted according to sex, hatched in

separate cages (G0 generation) and crossed with ~100 mosquitoes of the other sex from a

mosquito line expressing CFP from the X1 docking site that was used as a balancer of the

new, non-fluorescent but puromycin resistant transgenic insertions at the same locus. Neonate

larvae from this cross were treated with puromycin (0.05 mg/mL). G1 pupae were

subsequently sex sorted and crossed with CFP positive mosquitoes to expand the population.

Adult puromycin resistant G2 females were sorted according to the observed fluorescence

phenotype (DsRed or roGFP2) in their salivary glands, reflecting the expression of the *trio-*

DsRed, *aapp-DsRed* or *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* transgenes and crossed to CFP balancer males.

For *sag-DsRed* females, sorting was not necessary, as transgenesis was performed separately

by injection of the pDSAP-saglin-DsRed plasmid alone. Puromycin-resistant G3 larvae were

raised, intercrossed and the G4 offspring was sorted by COPAS (Marois et al., 2012) for the

absence of CFP to select lines homozygous for *sag-DsRed*, *trio-DsRed*, *aapp-DsRed* and

aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2. Lines were then raised without puromycin treatment. Single females of

all generated colonies were genotyped by PCR to monitor correct integration of the transgene

into the docking site (**Fig. S1A,B**). Successfully genotyped mosquito colonies were expanded

and used to perform experiments.

yellow(-)KI **and** *sag(-)KI* **lines**

Pupae obtained from plasmid injected eggs were sorted according to sex and crossed with 100

Ngousso wild type partners. G1 neonate larvae were screened for the expression of EGFP

using a Nikon SMZ18 fluorescence Stereomicroscope. Selected transgenic larvae were sex

sorted at the pupal stage and crossed with an excess of wild type partners. The G2 progenies

(from a single positive G1 female for *sag(-)KI* and from 10 positive individuals for *yellow(-*
)KI) were COPAS sorted to enrich for the integrated transgene and to remove the *vasa-Cas9*
transgene (marked with DsRed). The generated *sag(-)KI* colony was kept in equilibrium with
the wild type allele, while the *yellow(-)KI* colony was completely homozygotized for the
transgene by selecting for mosquitoes with a yellow body color. Homozygous *sag(-)KI*
mosquitoes were crossed with the C2S line expressing Cre in the germline (Volohonsky *et al.*,
2015) for Cre recombinase-mediated excision of the lox cassette to generate *sag(-)EX*
mosquitoes.

Genotyping of mosquito lines

Genotyping was performed on genomic DNA extracted from single mosquitoes of *aapp-*
DsRed, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2*, *trio-DsRed*, *sag(-)KI, sag(-)EX* and *yellow(-)KI* colonies.
Genotyping PCRs were performed using GoTaq Green Mastermix (Promega) (**Fig. S1B**),
Phusion polymerase (ThermoFisher Scientific) or the Phire Tissue Direct PCR Master Mix
(ThermoFisher Scientific) (**Fig. S2** and **S7**) according to manufacturer recommendations. See
Table S2 for genotyping primers.

Mosquito infection and evaluation of parasite numbers

Parasites were maintained as frozen stocks at -80ºC or by passage between mice. For this,
blood was taken by heart puncture from a donor mouse with a parasitaemia of 3-5%, diluted
to 2.10^7 parasitized erythrocytes in 100 µL 0.9% NaCl that were injected intravenously into a
naïve mouse. Parasitemia was monitored via flow cytometry (Accuri C6, BD biosciences)
three days later. Mosquitoes were fed for 10-15 min on anesthetized mice with $2.5 - 3.5\%$
parasitemia. Blood fed females were sorted and kept on 10% sucrose at 21ºC and 50-70%
humidity. Midguts and salivary glands were dissected in PBS under a SZM-2 Zoom
Trinocular stereomicroscope (Optika). Images were acquired with the Nikon SMZ18
Stereomicroscope (without coverslip) or with a Zeiss LSM 780 confocal microscope (sealed
coverslip). To count oocysts, midguts were dissected 7-8 days post infection. Fluorescence
images of infected midguts were processed using the watershed segmentation plugin (Soille
and Vincent, 1990) and oocysts were subsequently counted using the „analyze
particles" function implemented in Fiji (Schindelin *et al.*, 2012). To count salivary gland
sporozoites, salivary glands were collected in PBS 17-18 days post infection and ground with
a plastic pestle for one minute. The number of sporozoites was measured using a Neubauer

hemocytometer under a light microscope (Zeiss).

Fluorescence imaging, fluorescence measurements and image analysis

Samples imaged using the Nikon SMZ18 Stereomicroscope were usually acquired using the

respective fluorescence filter to visualize expression of DsRed or roGFP2/EGFP combined

with brightfield to visualize the whole specimen. Images were taken using a 63-fold

magnification objective (NA 1.4) on a Zeiss LSM 780 confocal microscope (**Fig. 3A**), a

Zeiss Axiovert 200 fluorescence microscope **(Fig. S2A)** or using an iPhone 6 for the mounted

mosquitoes prepared for microscopy in **Fig. S8D**. All other images as well as images used for

fluorescence measurements were acquired with a Nikon SMZ18 Stereomicroscope. For

fluorescence quantifications, images were acquired in the DsRed channel and settings were

kept the same for all experiments. For each salivary gland, only a single lobe was measured

by analyzing a square of 51×51 pixels covering the central part of the fluorescent area to

determine the mean fluorescence intensity. The image processing for all experiments was

performed with Fiji (Schindelin *et al.*, 2012).

roGFP measurements

Dissected salivary glands were treated as in (Albrecht *et al.*, 2011). In brief, tissues were

alkylated in 20 mM N-ethyl-maleimide (NEM) for 15 min to preserve the redox state of

roGFP and then fixed in paraformaldehyde (4% PFA) for 20 min. In parallel, full oxidation

and reduction controls were prepared by incubating some samples in 2 mM diamide or 20

mM dithiotreitol (DTT), respectively, prior to alkylation with NEM and fixation as described

before. All compounds were prepared in phosphate-buffered saline. Salivary glands were

mounted with VectaShield (Vector Laboratories) and samples were stored at 4°C in the dark

until analysis. Samples were imaged with a Zeiss Axio Observer Z1 confocal LSM780

microscope by using a Plan-Apochromat 63x/1.4 oil objective. The expressed fluorescent

probe hGrx1-roGFP2 was excited sequentially at 405 and 488 nm, and its emission signal was

recorded at 500-530 nm. Images were processed in ImageJ following the protocol described

in (Kardash, Bandemer and Raz, 2011). In brief, background was subtracted by using the

rolling ball procedure set to 50 pixels and images were converted to 32-bit. Then, images

were smoothed and stacked. The intensity of the 488 nm image was thresholded with the

default settings in black and white; values below threshold were set to "not a number". The

ratio image was generated by dividing the 405 nm picture by the 488 nm picture using the

"Ratio Plus" plugin, and colored using the lookup table "fire". Subsequently, intensities were normalized to the DTT control.

In vivo imaging

For *in vivo* imaging experiments, infected *yellow(-);aapp-DsRed* mosquitoes were pre-screened between days 17 - 21 post infection for the presence sporozoites (GFP fluorescence) in the hemolymph (hinge of the wing) and salivary glands, as well as for cuticular positioning of the salivary gland (DsRed signal) (**Fig. 7 – Supplement 2**). After removing their legs, mosquitoes were glued on a microscopy slide using small amounts of UV-light reactive glue (Bondic Pocket) and covered with a coverslip prepared with plasticine feet at each corner to prevent a squeezing of the sample. Corners of the cover slip were coated with nail polish to prevent sliding. Imaging was performed on a Zeiss Axio Observer Z1 confocal LSM780 microscope with GaAsP detector using a Plan-Apochromat 63x/1.4 oil objective. Single images or movies of sporozoites and salivary glands were acquired with a duration of 5 minutes and 2 seconds per image using the Metamorph acquisition software.

Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Prism 5.0 (GraphPad, San Diego, CA, USA). Data sets were either tested with a one-way ANOVA or a Mann Whitney test. A value of $p < 0.05$ was considered significant.

Data availability

All data have been made available within this manuscript. Transgenic mosquito lines as well as plasmids are available upon request.

Ethics statement

Experiments were carried out in conformity with the 2010/63/EU directive of the European Parliament on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes. Our animal care facility received agreement #I-67-482-2 from the veterinary services of the département du Bas Rhin (Direction Départementale de la Protection des Populations). The use of animals for this project was authorized by the French ministry of higher education, research and innovation under the number APAFIS#20562- 2019050313288887 v3. The generation and use of transgenic lines (bacteria, mosquitoes, parasite) was authorized by the French ministry of higher education, research and innovation under the number 3243.

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Authors contributions

DK designed and performed experiments, analyzed data, made figures and wrote the draft.
KA cloned constructs, performed initial experiments and analyzed data. EM performed
transgenesis of mosquitoes. SB edited the draft and helped with conceptualization of
experiments. All authors edited and approved the manuscript for publication.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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Figure 1. Lobe-specific reporter expression observed in female *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-hGrx1-*
***roGFP2*, *trio-DsRed* and *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes.**
A) ΦC31 integrase-mediated transgene insertion. The *aapp*, *trio* and *saglin* promoter
sequences were fused to *DsRed* or *hGrx1-roGFP2* within the pDSAP vector which enables
chemical selection of mosquito larvae by puromycin. Transgenes were integrated by ΦC31
integrase-mediated recombination into the X1 line harbouring an *attP* site on chromosome 2L.
B) Cas9-mediated knockin of a fluorescence cassette in the *saglin* gene (AGAP000610).
Upstream and downstream sequences of *saglin* were cloned into the pENTR vector flanking a
fluorescence cassette expressing *EGFP* under the control of the *3xP3* promoter. Three guides
targeting *saglin* controlled by *U6* promoters were encoded on the same pENTR vector.
Transgenesis was performed in mosquitoes with germline-specific expression of Cas9 (vasa-
Cas9). **C)** Fluorescent reporter expression in mosquitoes homozygous for *trio-DsRed*, *aapp-*
DsRed, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *sag(-)EX* (*3xP3* promoter excised) as well as in females

heterozygous for *trio-DsRed* and *aapp-DsRed,* and *trio-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2.*
Salivary glands of wild type (*G3*) are shown as controls. Illustrations on the left of each panel
indicate the genotype of the gland as well as the observed fluorescence pattern. Images of
salivary glands are shown in brightfield beside an image of the same gland in the relevant
fluorescence channel. Red arrows in brightfield images highlight the pink parts of *aapp-*
DsRed and *trio-DsRed* salivary glands in the absence of fluorescence excitation indicating the
high expression of DsRed. Median (M) and distal-lateral lobes (DL) are indicated on the
images of wild type glands. Salivary glands were dissected from 2-10 day old females that
had not previously received blood feeding. Scale bars: 250 μm.
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Figure 2. Onset, strength and inducibility by blood feeding of reporter expression in
***aapp-DsRed*, *trio-DsRed* and *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes.**
A) Images of salivary glands dissected directly after mosquitoes emerged. Fluorescence
signals were observed in salivary glands expressing *aapp-DsRed* and *sag(-)EX* (marked by
red arrowheads) but not *trio-DsRed*. Scale bar: 250 µm. **B)** Mean fluorescence intensity
measurements of dissected *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* salivary glands from day one to day
five after hatching. Data were normalized for the highest exposure time. Each dot represents a
single gland (2-5 glands / timepoint) and bars the median. *$p<0.01$, one-way-ANOVA
(Dunn's Multiple Comparison Test). **C)** The blood meal inducibility of the *trio*, *aapp* and
saglin promoters was assessed by providing sibling females either with a blood meal or sugar
solution. Approximately 24h later, salivary glands were dissected, imaged and the mean
DsRed or EGFP fluorescence intensities were quantified. Data pooled from three (*aapp-*
DsRed and *trio-DsRed*) or four (*sag(-)EX*) independent experiments. Horizontal black bars
represent the median. **$p<0.001$ and *** $p<0.0001$, Mann Whitney test. ns: not significant.
D) Images of salivary glands dissected 24h after blood feeding in comparison to sugar fed
controls. Scale bar: 250 µm.
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Figure 3. Fluorescent reporter expression in the median lobe reveals spatial expression
differences of *saglin* and *trio* promoters.
A) *EGFP* expression in homozygous *sag(-)KI* and *sag(-)EX* females seven days after
emergence (left side). Red arrows point towards the location of the salivary glands. Scale bar:
0.5 mm. Brightfield and GFP signal in dissected salivary glands of homozygous *sag(-)KI* and
sag(-)EX females (right side). Positions of the base and apex of the median lobe are indicated.

Scale bar: 250 µm. **B)** Mean EGFP fluorescence quantification at the apex and at the base of the median lobe of *sag(-)EX* and *sag(-)KI* salivary glands dissected after sugar feeding. The number of measured salivary glands is indicated above each column. Data from four (*sag(-)KI)* and three (*sag(-)EX*) experiments obtained from two different mosquito generations. The black line indicates the median. ***$p<0.0001$, one-way-ANOVA (Bonferroni's Multiple Comparison Test). **C)** Optical (C, D) and confocal (E) imaging of salivary gland heterozygous for *sag(-)KI* and *trio-DsRed*. Left to right (C): Illustration of the genotype and observed fluorescence pattern, differential interference contrast (DIC) and nuclear staining with Hoechst 33342, GFP signal and DsRed signal as black on white. Positions of the base and apex of the median lobe are indicated. Scale bar: 100 µm. **D)** Merge of the GFP and DsRed signals shown in (C). Line plot on the right shows measured GFP and DsRed signals along the dotted white line. Scale bar: 100 µm. **E)** Confocal imaging of a salivary gland heterozygous for *sag(-)KI* and *trio-DsRed*. The basal area of the median lobe is shown. The black dotted line indicates the outline of the salivary gland as seen in DIC while the red dotted line indicates the border between cells displaying high and low *saglin* promoter activity. Scale bar: 20 µm.

Figure 4. Different subcellular localizations of the expressed DsRed, EGFP and hGrx1-roGFP2 fluorescent reporters.

Differential interference contrast (DIC) and confocal fluorescence images of the distal-lateral lobes (*aapp-DsRed*, *trio-DsRed*) or the median (*trio-DsRed*, *sag(-)EX*) salivary gland lobes. Different z-sections (top, middle and bottom) of the same glands are displayed in the relevant fluorescence channel. Cell bodies of acinar cells in the tips of distal lobes expressing high levels of hGrx1-roGFP2 appeared flattened (as indicated) compared to cells expressing *aapp-DsRed*. Note that DIC and fluorescence images were taken with a Hamamatsu Orca Flash 4.0 V1 and a Yokogawa CSU X-1 camera, respectively. Images between different channels are therefore not completely matching although depicting the same salivary gland. Illustrations on the left depict the genotype of the lines and corresponding expression patterns. All images were acquired in the same microscopy session. Scale bars: 20 μm.

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Figure 5. *DsRed* **expression in Malphigian tubules (MT) of** *trio-DsRed* **mosquitoes is**
linked to ubiquitous *DsRed* **expression in larvae, pupae and adults.**
A) *Trio-DsRed* L1 and L4 larvae were classified as *trio-DsRed low fluo* or *trio-DsRed high*
fluo according to their body DsRed fluorescence intensity. Red arrowheads point towards the
DsRed positive eyes observed in the majority of larvae. Scale bar L1: 250 μm. Scale bar L4:
0.5 mm. **B)** Whole body fluorescence of *trio-DsRed high fluo* male and female mosquitoes.
From top to bottom: brightfield, inverted DsRed fluorescence signal displayed in black and
white and in red on black. Note that images were stitched from two separate images showing
either the head or the abdominal part. Scale bar: 0.5 mm. **C)** Representative images of male
and female midguts dissected from mosquitoes that displayed high body fluorescence at the
pupal stage in comparison to *wild type* (WT: *G3*). Malphigian tubules (MT) and midguts
(MG). Scale bar: 0.5 mm. **D)** Correlation of high body fluorescence at the pupal stage with
DsRed expression in malphigian tubules (MT). Data were collected from two different
mosquito generations. The number of analyzed mosquitoes is indicated above each column.
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Figure 6. hGrx1-roGFP2 expressed in the salivary glands is functional but affects gland
morphology.
A) Dissected salivary glands expressing *hGrx1-roGFP2* were incubated in diamide (ox),
dithiothreiol (red) or N-ethylmaleimide (untr) and imaged at 405 nm and 488 nm wavelengths.
The 405/488 ratio is given in false colors to indicate the oxidation level of the glutathione
pool. Scale bars: 100 μm. **B)** Quantification of glutathione oxidation based on the 405/488
ratio. Salivary glands were treated as in (A). Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of
examined salivary glands. DR: dynamic range. **C)** Image of a salivary gland infected with
mCherry-expressing *P. berghei* sporozoites. Scale bar: 50 μm. **D)** Brightfield images of
salivary glands from wild type (*G3*), *aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* females. The
„neck region" of the distal-lateral lobes is indicated by a red asterisk and the measured
diameter by a black line. Between 54 and 71 images were acquired for each line in ≥3
independent preparation and imaging sessions. Representative images presented here were all
acquired in the same session. Scale bars: 250 μm. **E)** Diameter measurements of the distal-
lateral lobe neck region of *aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* in comparison to wild type
(*G3*). The number of measurements is indicated above each genotype. Note that only the
diameter of one distal-lateral lobe per gland was measured. Data represent ≥3 independent
experiments. The black line indicates the median. ***p<0.0001, one-way-ANOVA
(Bonferroni's Multiple Comparison Test). ns: not significant.
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Figure 7. *Yellow(-)* and salivary gland reporter lines as tools for *in vivo* imaging.
A) Genetic models used for *in vivo* imaging. Mosquitoes carrying the *aapp-DsRed* transgene
were crossed with *yellow(-)KI* mosquitoes displaying reduced black pigmentation. Infections
were carried out using the highly fluorescent *P. berghei* line *Δp230p-GFP* constitutively
expressing *EGFP*. **B)** Pigmentation phenotype and salivary gland-specific *DsRed* expression
in *P. berghei* infected *yellow(-);aapp-DsRed* and wild type (*WT*) mosquitoes. *GFP*-expressing
sporozoites are displayed in green. Brightfield and DsRed signal of the same field of view.
Scale bar: 0.5 mm. **C)** Images of the abdomen of infected *yellow(-)KI* and wild type
(*Ngousso*) mosquitoes. Brightfield and GFP expression of the same field of view. White
arrows point towards oocysts visible through strongly pigmented areas of the cuticle of
yellow(-)KI mosquitoes. Scale bar: 250 μm. **D)** Images of salivary glands highly infected with
P. berghei. Wild type (*WT*), *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* have been infected with *GFP*
expressing *P. berghei* (*Δp230p-GFP*) while *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* mosquitoes were infected
with *mCherry* expressing *P. berghei* (*Δp230p-mCherry*). M = median lobe; DL = distal lobes.
Scale bar: 250 μm.
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Figure 8. Confocal imaging of sporozoite motility in live mosquitoes.
A) View of the thorax area of a *yellow(-)-aapp-DsRed* female mosquito with persistent sporozoites indicated by red asterisks in the proximity of the salivary gland (outlined with a dashed line). Differential interference contrast image (DIC, left) and GFP signal (right). Note that *DsRed* expression in the salivary glands was strong enough to be visible in the GFP channel. Cav: salivary gland cavity. Scale bar: 20 μm. The behavior of observed persistent sporozoites was classified as "stuck", "floating" and "actively moving". The number of examined sporozoites is indicated above the column. Combined results of four different experiments. **B)** Time series of sporozoites showing active movements. DIC images at 0 s and time series of the GFP signal with 6 s (top) and 40 s (bottom) between frames. Red arrows point towards sporozoites displaying active movement. Scale bar: 10 μm. **C)** Sporozoites inside the salivary gland imaged through the cuticle of a living mosquito. Left to right: DIC, inverted signals of DsRed and EGFP in black on white and merge of both in colors. Note that the sporozoites follow the circular shape of the cavities. Scale bar: 20 μm.

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Figure 1 – figure supplement 1. Genotyping of the salivary gland reporter lines *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2*, *trio-DsRed* and *sag-DsRed*.
A) Schematic representation of salivary gland reporter transgenesis cassettes inserted on chromosome 2L. Fusion of *attB* and *attP* sites generate *attL* and *attR* sites after integration. The *Lox* site upstream of the transgene is a remnant of the fluorescence cassette initially required to select the docking line X1. Note that the illustration is not drawn to scale. **B)** Genotyping of generated transgenic mosquito colonies in comparison to *wild type* (WT: *G3*) or the parental line X1. Five different analytical PCRs were performed. The 5'INT and 3'INT PCRs amplify the integration borders upstream and downstream of the transgene, respectively. The presence of the puromycin resistance cassette was tested (OpiE2-Puro PCR). To ensure integration of the relevant fluorescence cassette, the PCRs aapp-DsRed, aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2, trio-DsRed and sag-DsRed were performed. In addition, a PCR control amplifying the 5'UTR of the *yellow* gene on chromosome X was included. Genotyping primers and amplified sequences are indicated with arrowheads and thin black lines, respectively, in scheme (A). Expected amplicon sizes are indicated under the gel images, (-) indicates that no amplification is expected. Red asterisks mark unspecific amplicons.

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Figure 1 – figure supplement 2. The intergenic sequence between AGAP000609 and AGAP000610 (*saglin*) displays no promoter activity.
A) Images of the apex of the salivary gland median lobe from a *sag-DsRed* and a wild type female (*Ngousso*). Dissected glands were stained with Hoechst 33342 to detect the nuclei of acinar cells. The dotted black line in DsRed images indicates the outline of the salivary gland lobe observed in DIC. Scale bar: 20 μm. **B)** Genomic context of *saglin* (AGAP000610) with neighboring genes. The length of intergenic sequences is indicated above the scheme and the sequence tested for promoter activity located between AGAP000609 and *saglin* is shown. The stop codon TAA of AGAP000609 and the start codon of *saglin* are highlighted in black. The length of the cloned sequenced intergenic sequence was 220 bp (without stop codon of AGAP000609 and start codon of *saglin*). Note that the illustration is not drawn to scale.

Figure 1 – figure supplement 3. Genotyping of *sag(-)KI*, *sag(-)EX* and *yellow(-)KI* mosquitoes.

Sag(-)KI (**A**) and *yellow(-)KI* (**B**) mosquitoes were generated by injecting embryos expressing Cas9 (*vasa-Cas9*) with plasmids carrying repair templates that contain a Lox3xP3Lox-EGFP or a Lox3xP3-EGFP-Lox cassette flanked with upstream and downstream sequences of the respective targeted loci, in combination with three guide RNAs specific for the *saglin* (AGAP000610) or *yellow* gene (AGAP000879). Genotyping of the 5' and 3' integration borders revealed successful integration of the transgenes into *saglin* (**C**) and *yellow* (**D**). The red asterisk marks an unspecific PCR product observed in the wild type control (WT:

1157   *Ngouss*o). **E)** To investigate the native expression of the *saglin* promoter, the *3xP3* promoter
1158   initially used to select transgenic *sag(-)KI* mosquito larvae was removed by Cre-mediated
1159   excision. The loss of the *3xP3Lox* sequence in *sag(-)EX* mosquitoes was confirmed by PCR.
1160   Expected amplicon sizes are indicated under the gel images, (-) indicates that no amplification
1161   is expected (C, D, E).
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Figure 2 – figure supplement 1. Expression driven by *trio* and *aapp* promoters is female- and adult-specific and the fluorescent reporter accumulates after the emergence of adults.

A) Fluorescence and brightfield images of female / male pairs of *trio-DsRed*, *aapp-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* mosquitoes. Note that all depicted mosquitoes were bred in synchrony and were seven day old (+/- 1 day). Scale bar: 0.5 mm. **B)** Fluorescence and

brightfield images of *aapp-DsRed, trio-DsRed* and *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* pupae in comparison to *wild type* (*G3*). Dotted circles indicate the putative position of the salivary glands. *Trio-DsRed* pupae with low and high DsRed body fluorescence are shown for comparison. The red arrows indicate DsRed positive ocelli observed in most *trio-DsRed* pupae. Note that the fluorescence and brightfield images do not fully overlap as images pupae were able to move between the two pictures. Scale bar: 0.5 mm. **C)** Brightfield images of *aapp-DsRed* and *trio-DsRed* female salivary glands from day 1 to day 5 after hatching (a single image per day and per line). All images were acquired using the same settings. Scale bar: 250 μm.

Figure 4 - figure supplement 1. EGFP and hGrx1-roGFP2 concentrate around nuclei of acinar cells.

Dissected salivary glands from *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *sag(-)KI* were stained with Hoechst 33342 (DNA) and imaged by confocal microscopy. The *sag(-)KI* line was chosen instead of the *sag(-)EX* line as it displays the same EGFP pattern but with stronger signal. Distal-lateral (top) and median (bottom) lobes are shown for *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2* and *sag(-)KI*, respectively. Left to right: DNA and EGFP signals in black on white, combination of both signals in colors, and zooms of cells framed in the previous images. Scale bars: 20 µm except for zooms (10 µm).

Figure 5 – figure supplement 1. *Trio-DsRed* **pupae display high variability in** *DsRed* **expression.**

A) Representative images of *DsRed* expression patterns in *trio-DsRed* pupae. A subpopulation of pupae displayed high body DsRed fluorescence (images in red frames) while remaining pupae showed no DsRed body fluorescence (black frames). Some pupae displayed fluorescent ocelli and/or fluorescent antennae. The presence of DsRed expression in body, ocelli and antennae occurred in different combinations that are represented by rectangles with different shades and frames. Scale bar: 0.5 mm **B)** Fluorescence patterns in pupae in relation to their sex. Number of pupae indicated above columns. Data pooled from four generations (≥20 pupae per generation). **C)** Proportion of each fluorescence pattern in relation to the whole population. Shading and framing of the different patterns as in (A). **D)** Proportion of pupae with high and low body fluorescence in the *trio-DsRed* colony (F0) and after intercrossing individuals displaying high or low pupal body fluorescence (F1). The number of analyzed individuals is given above each column. **E)** Females hatched from pupae with high body fluorescence analyzed in (D, high fluo F1) were kept separately and crossed to wild type males (*Ngousso*). The progeny of single females was evaluated at the pupal stage for body fluorescence (same color code as D, dashed line indicates 50% of the population).

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Figure 5 – figure supplement 2. Genotyping of *trio-DsRed low fluo* and *trio-DsRed high*
***fluo* mosquitoes.**
Genotyping of a female mosquito homozygous for the *trio-DsRed* low fluorescence transgene
(*trio-DsRed low fluo*) taken from the colony generated by the intercross of pupae displaying
no body fluorescence (see **Fig. 4 – Supplement 1D**) and of a female mosquito heterozygous
for the *trio-DsRed* high fluorescence transgene (*trio-DsRed low fluo*) and the wild type allele
(*WT*) obtained from family 1 (**Fig. 4 – Supplement 1E**). An illustration of the modified X1
locus containing the *trio-DsRed* transgene in comparison to the unmodified wild type allele is
shown on top. Genotyping primers and expected products are shown as black arrows and lines,
respectively. The length of the expected PCR products is indicated below the gel images.
Note that for the heterozygous female carrying the *trio-DsRed* high fluorescence transgene,
the smaller PCR fragment amplifying the unmodified locus dominates while the long PCR
fragment representing the transgene containing allele is visible as a faint band at the upper
edge (marked by a red arrow). The OpiE2-Puro PCR to verify the presence of the transgene
gave several unspecific bands. PCRs were performed on genomic DNA obtained from single
mosquitoes.

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Figure 7 – figure supplement 1. Evaluation of *P. berghei* parasite infection in salivary
gland reporter lines and background fluorescence in *yellow(-)KI* mosquitoes.
Oocyst (**A**) and salivary gland sporozoite (spz) (**B**) counts in infected *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-*
hGrx1-roGFP2 and *trio-DsRed* females in comparison to *wild type* (*G3*) females. Data pooled
from 3-4 experiments generated with three different mosquito generations. The total number
of dissected mosquitoes is given above each genotype. Data points represent parasites counted
per midgut (A) and mean number of sporozoites per mosquito in independent experiments (B).
C) Number of salivary gland sporozoites (spz) per oocyst for all three reporter lines in
comparison to *wild type* (WT: *G3*). The invasion rate was calculated using the data shown in
(A) and (B). Each dot represents the mean of a independent experiments, the median is
indicated by a bar. All data were tested for significance using a one-way-ANOVA (Kruskal-
Wallis test). ns: not significant ($p > 0.05$). **D)** GFP background fluorescence of *yellow(-)KI* in
comparison to a wild-type (*Ngousso*) female. Combinatorial transcriptional activity guided by
the *3xP3* and the endogenous *yellow* promoter drive EGFP expression in the eye and the
ovaries of *yellow(-)KI* females (indicated by red asterisks). No EGFP-like fluorescence was
observed in the throat region where the salivary glands localize (indicated by dashed red
circle). Scale bar: 1 mm. The image on the right shows EGFP fluorescence from a dissected
ovary of a *yellow(-)KI* female at higher magnification.

Figure 7 – figure supplement 2. Selection and sample preparation of mosquitoes for *in*
vivo **imaging and comparison of sporozoite and salivary gland fluorescence signals.**
A) Images of two infected mosquitoes with sporozoites (Spz, GFP channel) inside or close to
DsRed-expressing salivary glands (SG, red channel). The bottom image was acquired with a
filter set visualizing signals of DsRed and GFP. Salivary glands in both mosquitoes localised
close to the cuticle. Their position is even visible in brightfield as a light red dot. **B)** The
position of salivary glands varies between mosquitoes, either deep (rows 1 & 2) or close to
the cuticle (rows 3 & 4). Brightfield (left) and DsRed (right) images of the same field of view.
Images were acquired with the same settings. Scale bar: 250 µm. **C)** Quantification of
salivary gland positioning according to the fluorescence pattern shown in (B). Two mosquito
batches were evaluated per time point post emergence (p.e.). The number of evaluated
mosquitoes is indicated above each column. **D)** Sample preparation before imaging. Legless
mosquitoes were glued on a microscopy slide and covered with a cover slip underlaid with
orange plasticine to avoid squeezing. Corner areas were subsequently coated with teal-colored
nail polish to prevent the cover slip from moving. **E)** DsRed, GFP and merging the two
signals of the image shown in Fig. 8A. Note that a significant portion of the DsRed signal is
also visible in the GFP channel, whereas the sporozoites are exclusively visible in the GFP
channel, potentially indicating spillover of the red signal due to the high DsRed concentration.

Movie 1. Sporozoites display active motility inside the mosquito.
Movie showing three sporozoites imaged in close proximity to the salivary gland. Sporozoites
appear to be attached to a larger vessel and observed movements might be a combination of
active motility and passive hemolymph flow. Imaging performed with a Hamamatsu Orca
Flash 4.0 V1 camera using a 63x (NA 1.4) objective. GFP signal of a 3 min movie with 3
seconds between frames.
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1278 **Movie 2. Sporozoites form accumulations close to the salivary gland.**
1279 Movie showing several sporozoites directly below the cuticle. Three sporozoites display
1280 different patterns of active movement. Imaging performed with a Hamamatsu Orca Flash 4.0
1281 V1 camera using a 63x (NA 1.4) objective. GFP signal of a 2 min and 30 s movie with 2
1282 seconds between frames.
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Appendix 1 - figure 1.

Promoter sequences of the *trio*, *saglin* and *aapp* genes used to generate the mosquito lines *aapp-DsRed*, *aapp-hGrx1-roGFP2*, *trio-DsRed* and *sag-DsRed*. Nucleotides highlighted in red are part of the primer sequence used to amplify the promoter sequence. Sequences with a grey background indicate the 5'UTRs of the *trio* and *aapp* transcript, respectively.

***aapp* promoter sequence (AGAP009974, 1673 bp):**

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    CTTTTCTTTTACCCTTTGTAACACGCTAATAACGAAAGACCTCCTGCGTGTTAGTACG
TGGTGAGGATGATGCGTTTTAGCCTAGCTAGTATTCAAAAAACCTATTAATGCAACAATTAC
AGTGTGAGGTTACAAAATGGAATTAATTAAACACACTGCTCAACACAGCCATCGTGCTGCAT
CGTGCTTTGTTGAGGCGCAACAGTTAAATTGTAAGTGCAACCACCGGTATAGAGAGCTGCTT
TTGGCAAATGATATGGAATTGTGCTAAATTATGTAATGTTTTTTTTAACTAACTCGTTTACC
CGTTAATGGTGGAATGTTTGCAGGTGCGTAGATTAATTTTTTTTAAATGTGCAAATGGAGAA
AACAGGATAACGCAAAAGTATTTCCTTCGCTGTAGTAATAGGCTATTATTTATGTACGTCTT
TATGTGACCCCGCTAGTGTTGGCTGTATTTTATATCTGTAGGTAAATGACGCGCTATGTATT
GTAATAAAATTGGACAAACATTTGCATGTACGATCTGTTAGCTTAGAGAATAAGTATTTTTC
TTTTTCGCTACATTTCTCTAAATTCGACCGACGATGACTGTTTTAGGTGTTTTTTCGTAACT
TGATCAAGGTAACACCTTTTCTTGGCGTAACGTCCTACGCGGACATGCCGGCCGGCCTTATT
CAGGCTTTCGAGACTTAATTCATTACCACGTAGCCGGATAAGTCCAATCCTTGCACAACGGG
GGAACGGGTGTCCATTTCAGGCTTGGGCCCATGACGGGCATGTTATTGAGTCGTTCGAGTTG
ACGACTGTACCATGGGACCGCCCCATTTTTGGCAGTCCATTGATCGTTACGTCGTTTTACGT
CTACTGAAGGATGTCCGTTATCAGGTCAAGTCCAGCATAGATTAAGTCTCCCATACGAAGGA
TTGATTAGCTCGAGACTTAATGTTATATACAAAATTCTTATACATGTTCTAGATCAGGATTG
TTGCGCTACACTGTCTTCCATGTCGATCTTCTATATTCAGTTTTTGGCACAGTGATCGTCAC
TGTAATCTCAATAGATTTGAATTTCAATACTTCTATGGGAGGAGGATGAGTAGAAAGGTGTC
CAAAGCGCTGGATCTATGGCTGCAACTCCTCATGCTTGTAAGCACCCGACAGCCAATTCGAT
CTACCTGACCTGATGCGGTATTCGAACTAAAGCACAGATCAAGCACTGTTTCACACGATCT
GAAGCACTGTTCTACTGCAAAGATAAGTGCATATTAGTTATTTTTCATACCGATCTTCACTG
CGACGGTTTAGCGATCTTCATTATTTTCCACCTTCACCCCTCAACCCAGGGAGTGCGCTTTT
CCCCGTCGAGATAAAATTACTAAATGTAAACTTTGCATGCAATTATGTAGCTGTATGGTAAG
CAAATAAAAATCTTTCCTCCTATTGCAACACGTCGCTTGTTTGCAGCGGATATTTGCCCACA
GTAAAGCCCGATCGCCTGTGCATTGTGTTTAACACGTGCTGCAAGCTGTATCAATACCGATC
GATTGTATGATTCCACGATCTTCGTGTGGTATAAAAACGGCGCTGAACAGCAGTAAAGATCA
TCACTTACATTTGTTTTATTCTCCACGGAGTCAGTGAAATAATACCACAACAACAAAAAAAC
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1321   *trio* **promoter sequence (AGAP001374, 1537 bp):**

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TTTTCTGAGGTGATCTTTCGAAAAGATCGATCGACCGACCCCCAACGGCAACTCTCCC

TCGGATGACCTCAGCCCAGAATAGGCATTCTTTCAGCAAGTCATTCTATCATCCCTTTTACA

TCTTACGTTACTCCAAAAAAAGAGAAGCTTTCCACCCCAAAGCTTTCGTTGTGGTGCAGCTT

TCGATGGTGATCGCGATCACGGTACCACACGTACGTTTGTTTGCTACTCTCGCTCACCGTTT

TCTTCGATTTCGTGTCTCGGGTACCGTTTGCTCGGTGCGGTAGTGCTGCGAAGAAAGCCGTT

GGCCGAGAGAATAATGCTCACTTCGGCTGCACGCAACTCGCCGTGCCACAGCCGTGGAAGGG

GTAGGTTGGATGGTCGGGGTCGGGACCGCAACGCCGAAGTGAACGCCGGCGTGCCAGCGAAC

GATCGCACCCCGGCACAGTCCAACTGCGTCGCTGGGCGCGCTCGGCGGACGGTTCTCGGTGT

GTGCGCCCCCTTTGGTGCTCATCCCTCATATCTCATCTCATCCTTTCGCGCTGCTCGCGGTT

CCCGCAGAACCACGCGCGAGAGGGAGTTGCGCGAACCAGGGAGAGCCCGACACCTGGGCAGC

GTCCAGGCGGACCTGTTCGGGAACGGTCGCGGTGTATAAACTCGATTCCCGCCCGCCGTTA

GGTAACAGTCCATTGTGTAACGTTGCCGGGATCGCGAGCCATCCTGCAGGAACACAGCCGTG

CGAGTTTGTGTGCGCGTGTATTTTGCCTACAAGCAAGTGAGCAGCAATCAGTGAGAACAACA

TCTAAAACAGAAAACAAACAGTGAACTACAGTGCTGTGGAGCAGTGGAAATTGGTGTTAAT

TGAAGAGCTTTGTACATCGATCACACGGACAACCACGCACGTGGAGAAAGTTCTGCTGCGGT

GCGGGTTACTTGCGTACACCACATTAAACATTGTGTGTGGCATTTAAAATAAATATACTCGC

GCCCTCCCCTCAGCTGCTCTCGCGGGCACGCCCGATGCCAGAGGTCGCCCCGACCGGACATT

GAACGTGGAAAGAAGAAAGTTGTCGGTTGTTTACACTTCCGTCCTGAGTGGTGTTGTGGCTA

CCGTTTGTGACCGTTGGTGAAATAAAGTAACATACCCCTCCCGAGGGCAGCAGCGACAATGA

CCTCCGGAAATTCGATAACAATACGTAAGTTACTTTCATTTTTTGCAAATTAAATTACCTCG

TGATAATTGAGTGGAGTGAGTAGGTACAGGTTGTTAACGCGTCTTTTGTTTAGTTCGGCAAT

CCGGATCCGAAGATGAGAGGAGATTGCCTCTGATGATGATGTTATCATGATTGCTTGTGTAA

CGACGCAAAGATTCTCAGAGAACAACTTCTCCCAACATAATTAATCTTGTTGAAGGGTCTGT

AAACACGTGGTGGGATATCTTACAACTGAACCAATATTCGACCGATAGTATAAAGTCCTTCG

CACCATCGATGCGTTTAC<mark>CATTTTCCCATAAAATCAATCTGCTCCCAGTTACA</mark>

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1349   *sag* **5' upstream sequence without promoter activity (AGAP000610, 220 bp):**

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1351   CTTTCATGCGTACAATGTGTATGATCACTGATGACAAAGCGCTTGGGTGGGCGCTTGC

1352 TGCTGAAGCGTGGCTGACAAATGGGGGGGGGGGGGGCTTGAACAAATATTTGCACACACGAT

1353 AATGCTCTTGTTTGCCATGCGCTGACGGAAGACAAATCGCTGCAAGCGACGGCTCAAACCTG

1354 CTCAAACCAGGGAAGGTTTGCATAAGGTTCACTTATAA