A variably imprinted epiallele impacts seed development

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Abstract

The contribution of epigenetic variation to phenotypic variation is unclear. Imprinted genes, because of their strong association with epigenetic modifications, represent an opportunity for the discovery of such phenomena. In mammals and flowering plants, a subset of genes are expressed from only one parental allele in a process called gene imprinting. Imprinting is associated with differential DNA methylation and chromatin modifications between parental alleles. In flowering plants imprinting occurs in a seed tissue – endosperm. Proper endosperm development is essential for the production of viable seeds. We previously showed that in *Arabidopsis thaliana* intraspecific imprinting variation is correlated with naturally occurring DNA methylation polymorphisms. Here, we investigated the mechanisms and function of allele-specific imprinting of the class IV homeodomain-Leucine zipper (HD-ZIP) transcription factor *HDG3*. In imprinted strains, *HDG3* is expressed primarily from the methylated paternally inherited allele. We manipulated the methylation state of endogenous *HDG3* in a non-imprinted strain and demonstrated that methylation of a proximal transposable element is sufficient to promote *HDG3* expression and imprinting. Gain of *HDG3* imprinting was associated with earlier endosperm cellularization and changes in seed weight. These results indicate that epigenetic variation alone is sufficient to explain imprinting variation and demonstrate that epialleles can underlie variation in seed development phenotypes.

Author Summary

The contribution of genetic variation to phenotypic variation is well-established. By contrast, it is unknown how frequently epigenetic variation causes differences in organismal phenotypes. Epigenetic information is closely associated with but not encoded in the DNA sequence. In practice, it is challenging to disentangle genetic variation from epigenetic variation, as what appears to be epigenetic variation might have an underlying genetic basis. DNA methylation is one form of epigenetic information. *HDG3* encodes an endosperm specific transcription factor that exists in two states in *A. thaliana* natural populations: methylated and expressed and hypomethylated and repressed. We show that pure epigenetic variation is sufficient to explain expression variation of *HDG3* – a naturally lowly expressed allele can be switched to a higher expressed state by adding DNA methylation. We also show that expression of *HDG3* in strains where it is normally hypomethylated and relatively repressed causes a seed development phenotype. These data indicate that naturally circulating epialleles have consequences for seed phenotypic variation.

Introduction

56   DNA methylation is a heritable epigenetic mark that can, on occasion, effect

gene transcription and influence development. DNA methylation is a particularly

58   influential regulator of gene expression in endosperm, a triploid extraembryonic seed

tissue that supports embryo development. In endosperm, developmentally programmed

60   DNA demethylation causes maternally inherited endosperm genomes to be

hypomethylated compared to the paternally inherited endosperm genome (1-3).

62   Methylation differences between maternal and paternal alleles identify their parent-of-

origin and establish imprinting, an epigenetic phenomenon in which a gene is expressed

64   primarily from one parental allele (4). Imprinting is theorized to have evolved over conflict

between maternally and paternally inherited alleles in offspring over the extent of

66   maternal investment (5,6). Under the kinship theory, silencing of the maternally inherited

allele and expression of the paternally inherited allele is predicted to ultimately result for

68   genes where the paternally inherited allele's optimum expression level in offspring is

higher than the maternally inherited allele's, (7). Comparison of imprinting between

70   species in the Arabidopsis genus has provided empirical support for this hypothesis

(8,9).

72   Recent genomic approaches have revealed extensive natural DNA methylation

variation within *Arabidopsis thaliana* (10,11). Whereas the contribution of genetic

74   variation to phenotypic diversity is well-established, the impact of epigenetic variation, or

epialleles, on phenotype is only beginning to be understood (12,13). Processes affected

76   by epialleles include patterns of floral development, sex determination, fruit ripening and

nutritional content, and senescence, among others (14-19). We previously demonstrated

78   that natural variation in DNA methylation is associated with imprinting variation, with as

many as 10% of imprinted genes estimated to be variably imprinted within *A. thaliana*

80 and maize (20,21). Seed development varies extensively among Arabidopsis accessions

and has previously been shown to be influenced by parent-of-origin effects (20,22), thus

82 raising the possibility that variation in imprinting could influence seed phenotypes. One

of these variably imprinted genes, *HOMEDOMAIN GLABROUS3* (*HDG3*), is a member

84 of the class IV homedomain-Leucine zipper transcription factor (HD-ZIP) family, which

regulates diverse aspects of plant patterning and development (23,24). Studies on the

86 function of class IV HD-ZIP genes in trichome differentiation, sepal giant cell formation,

and suppression of somatic embryogenesis, among others, have led to the conclusion

88 that class IV HD-ZIP family genes promote endoreduplication and cell differentiation (24-

27). Several members of the class IV HD-ZIPs are primarily expressed in endosperm

90 and exhibit imprinted expression patterns, including *FWA/HDG6*, *HDG8, HDG9* and

HDG3 (2,23,28). *FWA, HDG8,* and *HDG9* are maternally expressed imprinted genes

92 (MEGs), whereas *HDG3* is a paternally expressed imprinted gene (PEG) (2,28). The

function of the imprinted class IV HD-ZIP genes during seed development, if any, is

94 unknown.

The activity of *HDG3* alleles is correlated with DNA methylation. In endosperm of

96 imprinted strains, the highly expressed paternal *HDG3* allele is methylated and the lowly

expressed maternal allele is hypomethylated over a Helitron TE sequence 5' of the

98 transcriptional start site (2). Maternally inherited endosperm alleles are demethylated by

the 5-methylcytosine DNA glycosylase gene *DME*; in *dme* mutants, maternal alleles

100 retain their methylation and are also expressed (2,29). Of 927 Arabidopsis accessions

with sufficient methylation data (11), 32 (3.5%) have no methylation in the *HDG3* 5'

102 region and 871 (94%) have greater than 50% methylation. When strains where *HDG3*

methylation is low, such as Cvi or Kz_9, are the paternal parent in crosses with Col,

104 there is no methylation difference between maternal and paternal alleles in endosperm

and *HDG3* is biallelically expressed (20). Together, these data suggest that (1) DNA

106 demethylation promotes repression of the maternally-inherited *HDG3* allele whereas

DNA methylation promotes expression (or inhibits repression) of the paternal *HDG3*

108 allele and that (2) imprinting variation is due to *cis* epigenetic variation at *HDG3* (20).

However, a *cis* or *trans* genetic contribution to imprinting variation cannot be excluded

110 because of DNA sequence polymorphisms between the strains and alleles that do and

do not exhibit imprinting.

112   Here, we show that a naturally occurring epiallele can contribute to variation in

seed phenotypes in Arabidopsis. We tested whether *cis* epigenetic variation is sufficient

114 to explain imprinting variation by generating a methylated *HDG3* Cvi allele that mimicked

a methylated *HDG3* Col allele. We found that the *HDG3* Cvi allele switched from a

116 hypomethylated, non-imprinted, repressed state to an imprinted, paternally biased,

expressed state. Additionally, gain of *HDG3* imprinting altered endosperm development

118 and final seed size. These data indicate that naturally occurring epialleles can have

phenotypic consequences in endosperm, a tissue where methylation is dynamic as a

120 programmed part of development.

122 **Results**

Natural variation in *HDG3* imprinting is associated with gene expression

124 **differences**

      We previously showed that several genes that are imprinted in endosperm when

126 Col is the paternal parent are not imprinted when Cvi is the paternal parent (20). To

further examine naturally occurring endosperm gene expression variation, we

128 sequenced the transcriptomes of endosperm from Col x Col and Col x Cvi F_1 seeds.

Comparison of these transcriptomes identified 957 genes that were expressed two-fold

130 or higher in Col x Col and 1187 that were expressed two-fold or higher in Col x Cvi

endosperm (Fig 1A; S1 Table). The gene with the lowest expression in Col x Cvi relative

132   to Col is *HDG3*, which is expressed 64-fold lower in Col x Cvi endosperm (Fig 1A).

We previously reported that *HDG3* is a PEG in Cvi x Col crosses but is

134   biallelically expressed in Col x Cvi (20). To further explore the expression variation of

HDG3, we performed *in situ* hybridization on developing seeds (Fig 1B-C; S1 Fig). In Col

136   x Col seeds, *HDG3* is expressed specifically in the micropylar, peripheral, and chalazal

endosperm, with the highest expression at the heart stage of development (Fig 1C). The

138   same pattern was observed in Cvi x Col (Fig 1C). Whereas *HDG3* expression was

detected by in situ hybridization in F_1 endosperm when Col was the paternal parent, it

140   was not detected in endosperm when Cvi was the paternal parent (Fig 1C). Additionally,

we performed RT-qPCR on biological triplicates of Col, Cvi, and Col-Cvi F_1 endosperm.

142   Expression in Col x Col and Cvi x Col was approximately 10-fold higher than in Cvi x Cvi

or Col x Cvi, indicating that *HDG3* expression is higher when it is imprinted (Fig 1D),

144   consistent with the mRNA-seq (Fig 1A) and *in situ* data (Fig 1C). Thus, although

expression is from both maternally and paternally inherited alleles in Col x Cvi crosses

146   (and presumably Cvi x Cvi crosses) as detected by mRNA-seq (20), the total expression

in those crosses is lower than when *HDG3* is imprinted. As we previously showed that

148   the Cvi allele is naturally hypomethylated (20), together these results suggest that DNA

methylation of the *HDG3* 5' region promotes *HDG3* expression (Fig 1E).

150   There is also evidence for imprinting variation of *HDG3* in other species. In

Arabidopsis lyrata, expression of *HDG3* is also specific to the endosperm but levels

152   differ between two accessions, MN47 and Kar, and their reciprocal crosses (S2 Fig). In

endosperm with high *HDG3* expression (Kar x MN47), expression is strongly paternally

154   biased (76% paternal instead of the expected 33%), whereas in the reciprocal cross

expression of *HDG3* is much lower and more reflective of the 2:1 maternal:paternal ratio

156   in the endosperm (79% maternal) (S2 Fig) (8). The correlation between high expression

of *HDG3* and paternal allele bias in *A. lyrata* thus mirrors *A. thaliana*.

Reduced *HDG3* expression affects seed development

160   To examine if *HDG3* influenced endosperm development, we compared seeds

from *hdg3* mutant plants and segregating wild-type siblings in the Col background. We

162   confirmed predominantly paternal expression of *HDG3* (2,20) by reciprocal crosses

between wild type and *hdg3-1* mutants (Fig 2A). When *hdg3* was crossed as a female to

164   a wild-type sibling male, expression of *HDG3* was detected in endosperm in a similar

manner as in Col x Col (Fig 2A). In contrast, when wild-type females were crossed to

166   *hdg3-1* mutant males, the accumulation of *HDG3* transcript in endosperm was

dramatically affected, with no transcript detected in most cases, despite the presence of

168   a wild-type maternally inherited allele (Fig 2A). We assessed embryo stage and the

extent of endosperm cellularization for sectioned wild-type and *hdg3* seeds at 5 days

170   after pollination. Embryo development was more variable in *hdg3*, although this

difference was not statistically significant, but endosperm cellularization was significantly

172   delayed compared to wild-type seeds (Fig 2B, S2 and S3 Table). Reciprocal crosses

between wild-type and *hdg3* mutant plants indicated that the endosperm cellularization

174   phenotype was dependent on paternal genotype, consistent with *HDG3* function being

primarily supplied from the paternally-inherited allele (S2 and S3 Table). Additionally,

176   the weight and area of *hdg3* seeds was slightly reduced compared to Col, suggesting

that in the Col background *HDG3* promotes seed growth or filling (Fig 2C-D). Several

178   PEGs have been shown to influence seed abortion phenotypes in interploidy crosses

(30,31), but we found no effect of *hdg3* on this process (S3 Fig). To understand the

180   potential molecular consequences of the loss of *hdg3,* we profiled endosperm gene

expression in wild-type Col and *hdg3-1* by RNA-seq at 7 days after pollination (DAP)

182   (Fig 3). 150 genes had at least two-fold higher expression upon loss of *hdg3*, while 238

genes had at least two-fold lower expression in *hdg3* mutant endosperm (Fig 3, S4

184   Table). Differentially expressed genes included developmental regulators such as

Homeobox 3 (*WOX9*) and gibberellin oxidases, which effect the level of a key

186   phytohormone necessary for typical seed development (32) (Fig 3). The loss of *hdg3*

also impacted the expression of ten imprinted genes, including the MEG *HDG9* (Fig 3).

188   We hypothesized that the endosperm gene expression phenotypes associated with low

expression of *HDG3* from Cvi paternal alleles might in some respects mimic *hdg3*

190   mutants. Indeed, of the 238 genes that are down-regulated in *hdg3* mutants, 100 are

also down regulated in Col x Cvi crosses, where *HDG3* expression is also low (Fig 3).

192   This is a highly significant overlap (hypergeometric test in R, p = 6.079e-69) (Fig 3).

These data suggest that the Cvi *HDG3* allele, in its hypomethylated and relatively

194   transcriptionally repressed state, could be important for some of the accession-specific

developmental traits imparted by Cvi (20,22,33). Thus, to test both the imprinting

196   mechanism and function of *HDG3* further, we introduced methylation at the *HDG3* locus

in Cvi.

An inverted repeat induces methylation in the region 5' of *HDG3* in Cvi

200   To distinguish the importance of genetic variation from epigenetic variation for

HDG3 expression and imprinting, we generated transgenic lines in which the

202   endogenous *HDG3* Cvi allele gained methylation in the same region that is methylated in

Col. Cvi was transformed with a transgene consisting of an inverted repeat (*HDG3* IR) of

204   the 450 bp *HDG3* 5' region from Cvi under the control of the constitutive 35S promoter.

Processing of the expressed hairpin RNA into small RNAs is expected to direct

206   methylation to the endogenous *HDG3* Cvi locus. We identified multiple independent

transgenic lines in which the *HDG3* 5' region gained methylation in leaves (S4 Fig). DNA

208   methylation was present in the same region as in Col, although non-CG methylation was

considerably higher (S4 Fig).

210   To determine whether the Cvi allele remained methylated when paternally

inherited in endosperm, Cvi *HDG3* IR plants from three independent transgenic lines

212   were crossed as males to wild type Col females and DNA methylation was evaluated in

F_1 endosperm by locus-specific bisulfite-PCR. Although the 35S promoter has been

214   reported to have no activity in syncytial endosperm (34), we detected transcripts from

the hairpin RNA in endosperm at 7 DAP (S5 Fig). Bisulfite sequencing showed that the

216   paternally inherited *HDG3* Cvi allele from the IR line was hypermethylated relative to the

paternally inherited *HDG3* Cvi allele in Col x Cvi endosperm (Fig 4; S6 Fig). The *HDG3*

218   Cvi allele from Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR endosperm was methylated in both CG and non-CG

contexts, indicative of RNA-directed DNA methylation, although at a lower level than in

220   leaves or in F_1 embryos (S6 Fig). Examination of the bisulfite clones indicated some

variation in paternal allele methylation, with clones with 0% methylation detected, unlike

222   naturally methylated paternal alleles from Cvi x Col crosses (S6 Fig). This could be due

to stochastic silencing of the IR transgene in individual siliques/seeds or ineffective RNA-

224   directed DNA methylation. The maternally inherited Col allele was unaffected in Col x

Cvi *HDG3* IR endosperm, remaining hypomethylated like in Col x Cvi endosperm. Thus,

226   we successfully established an alternate epigenetic state specifically for the Cvi *HDG3*

allele in endosperm.

Methylation of the *HDG3* 5' region is sufficient to promote expression and

230   **imprinting**

Having established a methylated Cvi *HDG3* allele, we tested whether paternal allele

232   methylation was sufficient to switch *HDG3* from a non-imprinted, repressed state to an

imprinted, more active state. In two independent lines, *in situ* hybridization of F$_1$ seeds

234   from Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR crosses indicated the presence of *HDG3* transcript in

endosperm, in contrast to Col x Cvi endosperm (Fig 5A). Hybridization signal was

236   primarily detected in uncellularized endosperm on the chalazal side of the peripheral

endosperm (Fig 5A). However, the penetrance of Cvi *HDG3* expression was variable,

238   with about half of the seeds exhibiting *HDG3* expression detectable by *in situ* (Fig 5A).

This might be related to the variation in methylation of the *HDG3* Cvi allele in Col x Cvi

240   *HDG3* IR seeds (S6 Fig). Analysis of total *HDG3* transcript abundance by RT-qPCR at

6-7 days after pollination showed that *HDG3* expression was 2-3-fold higher in Col x Cvi

242   *HDG3* IR endosperm compared to Col x Cvi endosperm (Fig 5B). Higher expression of

HDG3 in Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR endosperm is consistent with *HDG3* being more highly

244   expressed when imprinted (Fig 1). Thus, to measure allele-specific expression of *HDG3*,

Col and Cvi alleles were distinguished using TaqMan probes in an RT-qPCR assay. In

246   crosses between Col females and three independent Cvi *HDG3* IR lines, the fraction of

transcript derived from the Cvi allele increased compared to control crosses between Col

248   females and Cvi males. In Col x Cvi, the Cvi allele accounts for 23% of the transcripts by

this assay, in good agreement with prior allele-specific mRNA-seq results (20). In Col x

250   Cvi *HDG3* IR lines, the Cvi fraction was between 50-60%, indicating paternal allele bias

(the expectation for non-imprinted genes is 33% paternal) (Fig 5C). This is slightly less

252   than the fraction of paternal allele expression in Cvi x Col crosses by mRNA-seq (79%)

(20). Together, these data indicate that the naturally occurring methylation variation at

254   *HDG3* is sufficient to explain imprinting variation. We conclude that the methylated Cvi

HDG3 allele in Cvi *HDG3* IR plants is active and the gene is imprinted.

Expression of *HDG3* in Cvi promotes endosperm cellularization

258   Does the change of *HDG3* expression and imprinting in Cvi affect seed

development? To test the phenotypic consequences of expressing *HDG3* from

260   previously repressed Cvi alleles, we compared the phenotypes of seeds from Col x Cvi

(low *HDG3* expression) and Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR (2-4-fold increased *HDG3* expression)

262   seeds by sectioning and staining (Fig 6). In crosses with the *HDG3* IR lines, endosperm

cellularization occurred at a significantly earlier stage of embryo development, where it

264   was observed as early as the globular stage of embryogenesis (Fig 6A-B, S2 and S3

Table). Whereas endosperm development appeared accelerated, embryo development

266   was significantly delayed (Fig 6B, S2 and S3 Table). The effect on endosperm

cellularization was also observed in Cvi x Cvi *HDG3* IR F_1 seeds, although to a lesser

268   extent (S2, S3 Table). Mature selfed seeds from Cvi *HDG3* IR plants weighed

significantly less than selfed seeds from Cvi and had reduced area (Fig 6C-D). This is

270   consistent with known correlations between early endosperm cellularization and the

production of smaller seeds (35-37). These observations support the hypothesis that

272   hypomethylation and repression of the Cvi *HDG3* allele is important for Cvi-directed

developmental programs and that epiallelic variation contributes to the natural variation

274   in seed development in Arabidopsis.

276   **Discussion**

        The establishment, maintenance, and inheritance of DNA methylation are fairly

278   well understood processes. Disruption of methylation patterns by mutations in DNA

methyltransferase enzymes have clear gene expression consequences. However,

280   whether or not methylation is regulatory during development – meaning that dynamic

loss or gain of methylation is a normal aspect of gene regulation – is less well

282   understood. An exception to this is in the endosperm, where active DNA demethylation

in the female gamete before fertilization establishes differential DNA methylation after

284   fertilization, a step that is essential for normal seed development (38). We thus

hypothesized that the phenotypic impact of naturally occurring epialleles might be

286   particularly evident in the endosperm, because the differential methylation between

maternal and paternal alleles that is required for gene imprinting could be variable

288   across accessions (20). We have shown that *HDG3* represents a case study of this

proposed phenomenon. By placing a methylation trigger in Cvi (the *HDG3* IR transgene),

290   we were able to convert the Cvi *HDG3* allele from a hypomethylated to a methylated

state. This switch in methylation was sufficient to promote expression of the paternally

292   inherited Cvi *HDG3* allele in endosperm to 3-fold higher levels. Because we altered

methylation at the endogenous *HDG3* Cvi locus, which retains all DNA sequence

294   polymorphisms, we have shown that methylation variation alone is sufficient to cause

expression, and thus imprinting, variation. However, our results also show that it is

296   unlikely that methylation of the proximal TE accounts for all of the expression differences

between paternal Col and Cvi *HDG3* alleles in endosperm. The paternally inherited

298   methylated Cvi allele, while more highly expressed than paternally inherited naturally

hypomethylated Cvi allele, was not as highly expressed as paternally inherited

300   methylated Col alleles in endosperm (Figs 1 and 5). Additional *cis* genetic or *trans*

genetic or epigenetic variation likely also affects *HDG3* expression levels. Finally, it is

302   not possible to determine from the experiments presented here whether the original

difference in methylation between naturally methylated and non-methylated alleles lacks

304   any genetic basis. Cvi lacks the small RNAs associated with the 5' TE that are found in

many other accessions, but the ultimate cause of this difference remains unknown (S4

306   Fig).

Our experiments also shed light on the relative receptiveness of maternal and

308   paternal endosperm genomes to *de novo* methylation. The *HDG3* inverted repeat

transgene should create endosperm small RNAs that are homologous to both Col and

310   Cvi alleles (there are only 4 SNPs and a 3 bp indel between Col and Cvi in the IR target

region). Yet, in endosperm from Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR crosses, the paternally inherited Cvi

312   allele had high levels of non-CG methylation, whereas the maternally inherited Col

alleles remained hypomethylated despite the presence of the IR transcript (Fig 4, S5 Fig,

314   S6 Fig). In contrast, F_1 embryos from the same crosses were indeed more highly

methylated in the non-CG context on maternal Col alleles compared to maternal Col

316   alleles from Col x Cvi crosses (S6 Fig). Thus, maternally inherited *HDG3* alleles in

endosperm are refractory to *de novo* methylation even when a methylation trigger is

318   present, in contrast to maternally inherited *HDG3* alleles in embryos. These results

further support findings that once a region is actively demethylated on the maternally

320   inherited endosperm genome, it is "protected" from *de novo* methylation even when

triggering small RNAs are present (31).

322   Finally, although the direct targets of the *HDG3* transcription factor are still

unknown, we have shown that natural variation in *HDG3* expression (expressed in Col,

324   low expression in Cvi) has consequences for seed gene expression programs and

development (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7). Expression of *HDG3* in seeds fathered by Cvi caused

326   dramatically early endosperm cellularization and the seeds were smaller and lighter at

maturity (Fig 6). These findings are consistent with class IV HD-ZIP genes inhibiting the

328   cell cycle and promoting cellular differentiation (24,27). However, mutation of *hdg3* in

Col, while displaying the predicted opposite effect on endosperm cellularization timing,

330   also resulted in smaller seeds weighing slightly less than wild-type (Figs 2, 6 and 7).

Although the effects on final seed size are seemingly contradictory and the physiological

332   basis remains incompletely understood, these results are predicted under the aegis of

the kinship theory (7). The theory predicts that PEGs promote maternal investment in

334   offspring, which is consistent with the effects of the *hdg3* mutation in Col (i.e. less

maternal investment results in smaller seeds). Our results suggest that this effect is

336   specific to a Col seed developmental program. In Cvi endosperm, expression of *HDG3* is

seemingly maladaptive, leading to the production of smaller seeds. Cvi naturally

338   produces much larger seeds than Col or L*er*, although fewer in number (20,22,33) (Figs

2 and 6). Our results suggest that the loss of *HDG3* expression in Cvi was an important

340   part of the process that resulted in these phenotypic differences.

In summary, we have demonstrated that seed phenotypic differences can be

342   caused by methylation differences at single genes. This study provides further evidence

that epigenetic differences underlie developmental adaptations in plants. We have

344   previously shown that the imprinting status of many genes varies between accessions;

our current study argues that intraspecific variation in imprinting is an important

346   determinant of seed developmental variation.

Materials and Methods

Plant material

350   The SALK insertion mutant was obtained from the Arabidopsis Biological Resource

Center (39). *hdg3-1* (SALK_033462) was backcrossed to Col-0 three times before

352   experimentation. For experiments comparing or crossing wild-type and *hdg3* mutant

plants, plants were F_3 segregants from selfed progeny of *HDG3/hdg3-1*. Plants were

354   grown in a growth chamber or greenhouse with 16-hour days at 22° C. For crosses,

flowers were emasculated and then pollinated after 2 days.

***In situ* hybridization**

358   Controlled floral pollinations were performed for each specified cross. At least two

independent *in situ* experiments were performed for each genotype. Siliques were

360   harvested 5 or 6 days after pollination (DAP) and fixed in FAA overnight at 4°C.

Following dehydration and clearing (HistoClear, National Diagnostics), samples were

362   embedded in Paraplast Plus (McCormick Scientific), and sectioned at 9 μM (Leica RM

2065 rotary microtome). Ribbons were mounted with DEPC water on ProbeOn Plus

364   slides (Fisher) at 42°C and dried overnight at 37°C. For probes, a 278 bp region of

HDG3 (S5 Table) and previously published 602 bp probe for *PDF1* (40) were amplified

366   from endosperm cDNA and cloned into P-GEM T vectors (Promega). Plasmids

containing sense and antisense oriented fragments were identified and linear templates

368   were amplified using M13 forward and reverse primers for probe synthesis. Antisense

and sense RNA probes were synthesized in vitro with digoxigenin-UTPs using T7 or SP6

370   polymerase (DIG RNA labeling kit, Roche/Sigma Aldrich). Probes were subsequently

hydrolyzed and dot blots were performed to estimate probe concentration. Pre-

372   hybridization steps were preformed according to (41) except Pronase digestion occurred

for 15 minutes at 37°C. Hybridization and post-hybridizations were performed according

374   to (42), with minor modifications. For higher confidence in directly comparing expression

patterns, slides corresponding to the cross and its reciprocal were processed face to

376   face in the same pairs for hybridization, antibody, and detection steps. Negative controls

consisted of hybridizing sense probes to wild-type tissue and antisense probes to *hdg3*

378   tissue. The sense probe lacked signal (S1 Fig). A probe to *PDF1*, which is expressed in

the L1 embryo layer (43), served as a positive control for successful *in situ* hybridization

380   (S1 Fig). Hybridization was performed overnight at 55°C, slides were then washed twice

in 0.2X SSC for 60 mins each at 55°C, then twice in NTE for 5 min at 37°C and RNaseA

382   treated for 20 min at 37°C, followed by two more 5 min NTE washes. Slides were

incubated at room temperature for 1 hour with Anti-DIG antibody (Roche/Sigma Aldrich)

384   diluted 1:1250 in buffer A (42). Slides were then washed four times for 20 min each at

room temperature with buffer A and once for 5 min with detection buffer (42).

386   Colorimetric detections were performed using NBT/BCIP Ready-To-Use Tablets

(Roche/Sigma Aldrich) dissolved in water. Slides were allowed to develop 16-24 hours

388   before stopping. Slides were dehydrated, mounted in Permount (Electron Microscopy

Sciences) and imaged using a Zeiss Axio Imager M2. Minor level adjustments and smart

390   sharpen were applied to images to compensate for image transfer from live to digital

(Adobe Photoshop).

Seed staining

394   Plant material was fixed and embedded as previously described and sectioned at 9 µm.

Slides were dewaxed twice in xylenes for 5 minutes, rehydrated through a graded

396   ethanol/0.85% salt series from 100%-30%, 1 minute each, stained in 0.6% Safranin O

Solution (Cat# 2016-03, Sigma Aldrich) for 5 minutes, washed with water, stained with a

398   saturated 2.5% Aniline blue (Harleco–EMD Millipore, #128-12) in 2% glacial acetic acid

aqueous solution for 3 minutes, washed with water, rapidly dehydrated though graded

400   ethanol/salt series to 100%, 5 seconds for each step, and then twice in xylenes for 5

minutes each. Slides were briefly drained, cover slipped and mounted with Cytoseal™

402   60 (Thermo Scientific) and imaged using a Zeiss Axio Imager M2.

404   **Seed phenotypic analysis**

Previously processed slides from double staining and *in situ* hybridization experiments

406   were re-examined and used for embryo and endosperm developmental analyses. Using

previously published endosperm cellularization and embryogenesis stages (34,44),

408   individual seeds at 5 DAP were scored first for embryo stage and then for respective

endosperm stage. Endosperm stage was given a numerical score (-3 to +5) depending

410   on the relative stage of endosperm cellularization compared to the expected endosperm

cellularization stage given the embryo stage. Individual seeds with matching

412   embryogenesis and endosperm cellularization stages were scored "normal" and ranged

from 0-1; seeds that were scored "early" were defined as being +1.5 to +5 stages further

414   along in the cellularization process compared to normal. Seeds that were scored

"delayed" were defined as being -1 to -3 stages behind in the cellularization process

416   compared to normal. To determine whether any developmental differences in

endosperm cellularization or embryogenesis were statistically significant, we

418   implemented the asymptotic generalized Pearson chi-squared test from the coin

package (45) in R with default scoring weights. Developmental stage was treated as an

420   ordinal variable, while cross genotype was treated as a non-ordinal, nominal variable.

Pairwise comparisons were carried out with the R function pairwiseOrdinalIndependence

422   from the rcompanion package. For all tests, embryo development data was collapsed

into three categories young (pre-globular to globular), middle (late globular to early

424   heart), and older (heart to torpedo) and detailed endosperm cellularization data was

collapsed into the categories delayed, normal, and early.

Inverted repeat transgene

428   The 450 bp sequence 5' of *HDG3* corresponding to a fragment of AT2TE60490 from

Chr2: 13740010-13740460 was amplified from Cvi (S5 Table) and cloned into the

430   directional entry vector pENTR-TOPO-D (Invitrogen). The sequence was then inserted

twice in an inverted repeat conformation into the vector pFGCGW (46) with a LR clonase

432   reaction (Invitrogen). Cvi plants were transformed with the inverted repeat transgene by

floral dipping and T_1 lines were screened for DNA methylation using bisulfite sequencing.

434   T_3 plants homozygous for the IR transgene and with a methylated *HDG3* 5' region in

leaves, or their T_4 progeny, were identified and used for subsequent experiments.

Quantitative RT-PCR

438   RNA was isolated from endosperm dissected from seeds at 6 or 7 DAP as described

(47) using RNAqueous Micro Kit (Ambion, Life Technologies Corporation). DNAse I-

440   treated RNA (Invitrogen, Life Technologies Corporation) was used for cDNA synthesis

with oligo-dT primer using Superscript II reverse transcriptase (Invitrogen) according to

442   manufacturers' instructions. Quantitative RT-PCR (RT-qPCR) was performed using Fast

Sybr-Green mix or TaqMan Mastermix (Applied Biosystems). All reactions were

444   performed in three or four technical replicates using a StepOne Plus Real-Time PCR

system (Applied Biosystems). For Sybr-Green based assays, relative expression was

446   calculated using the ddCt method as described (48). The reference gene was

AT1G58050 (49). For allele-specific expression in Col-Cvi crosses, a multiplex TaqMan

448   assay was developed by designing primers and PrimeTime® Double-quenched Custom

Probes with online tool http://www.idtdna.com/pages/products/gene-expression/custom-

450   qpcr-probes. Cycling conditions were 15 cycles: 95 °C for 15 seconds, 63 °C for 30

seconds, 72 °C for 30 seconds followed by 25 cycles: 95 °C for 15 seconds, 63 °C for 30

452   seconds with touchdown 0.05°C/cycle, and 72 °C for 30 seconds. The relative

expression of each allele within each genotype was calculated using a standard curve

454   (R^2 value >0.99) as reference. Primer and probe sequences are available in S5Table.

456   **Bisulfite sequencing**

Genomic DNA was isolated from leaves, endosperm, and embryo at 6 or 7 days after

458   pollination using a CTAB procedure. Bisulfite treatment was performed using the

MethylCode Bisulfite Conversion Kit (Invitrogen, Life Technologies Corporation) or

460   BisulFlash DNA Bisulfite Conversion Easy Kit (Epigentek Group Inc.) following the

manufacturer's protocols. 2 µl bisulfite treated DNA was used in PCR reactions with 2.5

462   U ExTaq DNA polymerase (Takara) and 0.4 µM primers using the following cycling

conditions (95 °C 3 minutes, 40 cycles of [95 °C for 15 seconds, 50 °C for 30 seconds,

464 72 °C for 45 seconds], 72 °C for 5 minutes). PCR products were gel purified, cloned

using a TOPO-TA (Invitrogen) or CloneJet (Life Technologies) PCR cloning kit and

466 individual colonies were sequenced. Sequences were aligned using SeqMan and

methylation was quantified using CyMate (50).

mRNA-seq

470 RNA was isolated from endosperm of Col-0, *hdg3-1* and Col-0 x Cvi seeds at 7 DAP as

described above. Three replicates for each cross were obtained. DNAse treated RNA

472 was used as input for the SmartSeq Clontech Ultralow RNA-Seq kit. Libraries were

constructed by the Genome Technology Core at Whitehead Institute. Six libraries were

474 multiplexed per lane in a Hi-Seq 2500 Standard mode, 40 base, single read run. Each

replicate was sequenced to a depth of between 33 and 41 million reads. Reads were

476 processed with Trim_galore using the command "*trim_galore -q 25 --phred64   --fastqc*

--stringency 5 --length 18". Processed reads were aligned to the TAIR10 genome with

478 Tophat2 (51) using the command "*tophat -i 30 -I 3000 --b2-very-sensitive --solexa1.3-*

quals -p 5 --segment-mismatches 1 --segment-length 18". Differential gene expression

480 was detected with Cuffdiff2 (52) and the ARAPORT11 annotation (S1 and S2 Tables).

Reads are deposited in GEO GSE118371.

Acknowledgements

484 We thank R. Jaenisch and P. Reddien for sharing equipment for *in situ* hybridization, B.

Williams for comments on the manuscript, and R. Povilus for assistance with statistical

486 analysis.

488 **Author Contributions**

Conceptualization: MG and DP. Investigation: KN, DP, PRVS, and MG. Writing –

Original Draft and Preparation: MG and PRVS. Writing – Reviewing and Editing: KN, DP,

PRVS, MG. Funding Acquisition: MG.

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Supporting Information

634 **S1 Fig. Negative and positive controls for *in situ* hybridization.**

S2 Fig. *HDG3* expression in *A. lyrata*.

636 **S3 Fig. Tetraploid *hdg3-1* does not rescue interploidy seed lethality caused by paternal genomic excess.**

638 **S4 Fig. Gain of *HDG3* methylation in Cvi *HDG3* IR lines.**

S5 Fig. Accumulation of inverted repeat RNA in Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR endosperm.

640 **S6 Fig. Bisulfite-PCR analysis of *HDG3* methylation in seeds.**

S1 Table. Gene expression difference in Col x Cvi endosperm vs. Col endosperm

642 **at 7 DAP determined using CuffDiff.**

S2 Table. Endosperm cellularization timing and embryogenesis stages at 5 DAP.

644 **S3 Table. Tests for statistical significance for pairwise comparisons of differences in endosperm or embryo development.**

646 **S4 Table. Gene expression differences in *hdg3-1* endosperm vs. Col endosperm at 7 DAP determined using CuffDiff.**

648 **S5 Table. Oligos used in this study.**

650 ## Figure Legends

Fig 1. Natural variation in imprinting is associated with differences in *HDG3*

652 **expression levels.**

(A) *HDG3* expression is decreased in Col x Cvi endosperm compared to Col, as

654 determined by mRNA-seq. (B) Schematic of the *HDG3* locus. DMR, differentially

methylated region. (C) *In situ* hybridization of *HDG3* (purple) in F_1 seeds from the

656 indicated crosses. Female parent written first. In crosses where Col is the male parent,

HDG3 is detected in the micropylar (MCE), peripheral (PEN), and chalazal (CZE)

658 endosperm. Arrowheads indicate nuclear-cytoplasmic domains. Number of seeds with

shown pattern out of total seeds assayed is in corner of each image. Scale bars, 50 μm.

660 (D) RT-qPCR analysis of relative *HDG3* transcript abundance in F_1 endosperm. Values

are the average of 3 biological replicates, bars represent upper and lower range. (E)

662 Schematic representation of relationship between *HDG3* methylation, expression, and

imprinting in endosperm. Thickness of arrows denotes relative expression level.

664 Lollipops represent methylated (filled) and unmethylated (open) cytosines.

666 **Fig 2. Phenotypic effects of mutation of *HDG3* in Col.**

(A) *In situ* hybridization of *HDG3* (purple) in seeds from the indicated crosses. Scale

668 bars, 50 μm. (B) Endosperm cellularization is slightly delayed in *hdg3* compared to wild-

type at 5 DAP. For each seed the embryo stage was determined and then the stage of

670 endosperm cellularization was defined as normal, early, or delayed given that embryo

stage. (C) Seed weight of wild-type and *hdg3* seeds. Individual data points and mean +/-

672 SD shown. P-value from unpaired two-tailed t-test. (D) Seed area is significantly reduced

in *hdg3* seed (n=275) compared to wild-type siblings (n=376) (p=8.51e-11 by Welch's

674 two tailed t-test). Seeds were quantified with ImageJ.

676 **Fig 3. Transcriptional effects associated with low *HDG3* expression.**

(left panel) Genes downregulated in *hdg3* mutant endosperm also have reduced

678 expression in Col x Cvi endosperm compared to Col. The plot shows the expression

profile of genes with significantly altered expression in *hdg3-1* endosperm (p<0.05).

680 Genes were hierarchically clustered by Euclidean distance and complete linkage using

Gene-E. (right panel) A subset of putative developmental regulators with reduced

682 expression in *hdg3* and Col x Cvi endosperm.

684   **Fig 4. Gain of Cvi *HDG3* paternal allele methylation in endosperm.**

Total methylcytosine 5' of *HDG3* in F_1 endosperm, determined by bisulfite-PCR.

686   Maternally inherited Col allele in orange, paternally inherited Cvi allele in blue. Scale to

100%, tick marks below line indicate unmethylated cytosines. Col x Cvi data published in

688   Pignatta et al., *eLife* 2014.

690   **Fig 5. *HDG3* is imprinted in Cvi *HDG3* IR lines.**

HDG3 in situ for indicated genotypes. Arrowheads indicate regions of *in situ* signal. Right

692   panels shows magnification of chalazal region. Scale bars, 50 μm. (B) RT-qPCR of

relative *HDG3* transcript abundance in F_1 endosperm at 6-7 DAP. Dashed line separates

694   experiments done at different times. Left, avg of 3 technical replicates. Right, avg of

biological duplicates. Bars show upper and lower range. (C) % of *HDG3* from Cvi allele

696   in endosperm by TaqMan RT-qPCR assay.

698   **Fig 6. Effects of *HDG3* imprinting on Cvi seed development.**

(A) Aniline blue and safranin O staining of seed sections at 5 DAP from the indicated F_1

700   seeds. Scale bars, 50 μm. (B) Phenotypic characterization of sectioned seeds, assaying

degree of endosperm cellularization relative to embryo stage. (C) Seed weight in selfed

702   Cvi and Cvi *HDG3* IR plants. Individual data points and mean +/- SD shown. P-value

from unpaired two tailed t-test. (D) Seed area for self-fertilized Cvi (n=287 seeds), Cvi

704   *HDG3* IR 2-5 (n=496) and Cvi *HDG3* IR 3-4 (n=386). Differences between IR seeds and

Cvi are significant at $p < 2.2e-16$ as determined by Welch's two-tailed t-test.

Fig 7. Schematic summary of relative seed development at 5 DAP. Shapes

708   represent phenotypic space occupied by the indicated genotypes.

Fig 1.

Fig 2.

Fig 3.

Fig 4.

Fig 5.

Fig 6.

Fig 7.

S1 Fig. Negative and positive controls for *in situ* hybridization. (A) *HDG3* sense probe hybridization for Col x Col seed. (B) *PDF1* antisense probe hybridization for *hdg3-1* x *hdg3-1* seed. Scale bars, 50 μm.

S2 Fig. *HDG3* expression in *A. lyrata*. (A) Expression of *HDG3* (ALAl_scaffold_0004_1698 on scaffold 4:15306009-15309421) is specific to endosperm. Bars show mean FPKM values with std deviation for 2-4 biological replicates per genotype. (B) Percent maternal and paternal allele transcripts for the indicated crosses. All data are culled from Klosinska et al., *Nature Plants* 2016.

S3 Fig. Tetraploid *hdg3-1* does not rescue interploidy seed lethality caused by paternal genomic excess. Tetraploid plants were created by colchine treatment and confirmed by flow cytometry analysis of DNA content. Tetraploid *pol iv* mutants are a positive control for interploidy seed rescue. Number of seeds analyzed on top of bars.

A

B

Tissue	# clones	% CG	% CHG	% CHH
Col leaf	15	80	24	14
Cvi leaf	11	1	0	0
Cvi IR #1-6 leaf	10	94	73	38
Cvi IR #2-4 leaf	7	96	38	21
Cvi IR #2-5 leaf	6	93	72	48
Cvi IR #3-4 leaf	15	99	69	51
Cvi IR #3-5 leaf	8	90	75	46

C (label at left of table)

S4 Fig. Gain of *HDG3* methylation in Cvi *HDG3* IR lines. (A) Cvi naturally lacks small RNAs at the TE 5' of *HDG3*. DNA methylation data is from Col embryos (data from Pignatta et al., *eLife* 2014); small RNA data is from Col, L*er* and Cvi embryos (data from Erdmann et al., *Cell Rep.* 2017). (B) Total DNA methylation in Col, Cvi, and Cvi *HDG3* IR leaves as determined by bisulfite-PCR. Scale is 100%, tick marks below line indicate unmethylated cytosines. (C) Quantification of above data. Col and Cvi leaf data are from Pignatta et al., *eLife* 2014.

S5 Fig. Accumulation of inverted repeat RNA in Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR endosperm. Mapping of mRNA-seq reads to the *HDG3* (AT2G32370) locus in Col x Cvi and Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR #2 endosperm. Reads that match the inverted repeat target region represent expression of the inverted repeat transgene in endosperm from a different location.

A

Cross	Tissue	Allele	# Clones	% CG	% CHG	% CHH
Cvi x Col	Endosperm	Col	14	77.6	9.5	4.8
		Cvi	9	1.6	0	0
	Embryo	Col	9	74.1	3.7	7
		Cvi	18	2.3	0	2.5
Col x Cvi	Endosperm	Col	14	34.5	9.5	0.4
		Cvi	9	0	0	0.6
	Embryo	Col	16	87.5	14.6	3.6
		Cvi	6	2.4	5.6	0
Col x Cvi IR #1	Endosperm	Col	20	16	13.6	9.5
		Cvi	9	64.5	66.7	35.9
Col x Cvi IR #2	Endosperm	Col	31	31	14.0	5.7
		Cvi	21	18	19.1	28.2
	Embryo	Col	11	100	42.4	35.9
		Cvi	17	92.2	37.3	32
Col x Cvi IR #3	Endosperm	Col	8	30	24.0	17.4
		Cvi	23	86.1	69.6	40.6

B

S6 Fig. Bisulfite-PCR analysis of *HDG3* methylation in seeds. (A) % methylation from the indicated crosses. Female parent listed first. IR lines are independent transgenic events. Cvi x Col and Col x Cvi data are from Pignatta *et al.*, *eLife* 2014. (B) Endosperm total DNA methylation (%) for each bisulfite clone from the above data. Maroon circles, maternal allele clones; blue diamonds, paternal allele clones.

S2 Table: Endosperm Cellularization Timing and Embryogenesis Stages at 5 DAP

Cellularization timing columns are grouped as **Delayed** (←, red), **Normal** (light blue), and **Early** (→, blue/purple). D = Delayed sub‑columns, N = Normal sub‑columns, E = Early sub‑columns.

Col × Col

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart			2									2
Early Heart				15								15
Triangle				13								13
Late Globular												0
Globular				1								1
Early Globular												0
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	2	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**31**

hdg3‑1 × hdg3‑1

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart		4	5									9
Early Heart			24	1								25
Triangle			6	5								11
Late Globular				2	1							3
Globular												0
Early Globular							1					1
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	4	35	8	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	**49**

Col × hdg3‑1

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart			3									3
Early Heart			9	1								10
Triangle			8	2								10
Late Globular				1								1
Globular				1								1
Early Globular												0
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**25**

hdg3‑1 × Col

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart				1								1
Heart			1	10	3							14
Early Heart				21	3							24
Triangle				25	3	1						29
Late Globular				8	1							9
Globular												0
Early Globular												0
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	1	65	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	**77**

Col × Cvi

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart					1	1						2
Heart				22	5	3	9					39
Early Heart				2	2							4
Triangle												0
Late Globular				1								1
Globular				3	1					1		5
Early Globular				1						1		2
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	29	8	5	9	0	0	2	0	**53**

Col × Cvi IR 2‑5

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart							3	2		2	1	8
Early Heart							2	2	2	2	3	11
Triangle						2	2	2	2	2	1	11
Late Globular						1				1	1	3
Globular										5	2	7
Early Globular								1	1		1	3
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	7	5	12	9	**43**

Col × Cvi IR 3‑4

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart					1				1	1		3
Heart				4		3	1	3	1	2	1	15
Early Heart				1					1	2	1	5
Triangle				1	1				3	1		6
Late Globular										1		1
Globular								1	2	3	2	8
Early Globular											1	1
Pre Globular (4 cell)										1		1
Timing Totals	0	0	0	6	2	3	1	4	8	11	5	**40**

hdg3‑1 × Cvi IR 2‑5

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo											1	1
Late Heart												0
Heart									2	3		5
Early Heart							1	2		2	1	6
Triangle						3			1	1	1	6
Late Globular											3	3
Globular						1				3	6	10
Early Globular												0
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	3	9	12	**31**

Cvi × Cvi

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart												0
Early Heart												0
Triangle				10								10
Late Globular				23								23
Globular				222								222
Early Globular				17								17
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	272	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**272**

Cvi × Cvi IR 2‑5

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart						1						1
Heart					2							2
Early Heart				3	3							6
Triangle				4	4	2						10
Late Globular				3	1							4
Globular				2	1							3
Early Globular				2								2
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	14	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	**28**

Cvi × Cvi IR 3‑4

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart												0
Early Heart						5						5
Triangle					3	1						4
Late Globular					2	1						3
Globular												0
Early Globular												0
Pre Globular (4 cell)												0
Timing Totals	0	0	0	0	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	**12**

Cvi × Col

Stage	D1	D2	D3	N1	N2	N3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	Stage Total
Torpedo												0
Late Heart												0
Heart												0
Early Heart												0
Triangle												0
Late Globular				5								5
Globular				54								54
Early Globular				24								24
Pre Globular (4 cell)				5								5
Timing Totals	0	0	0	88	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**88**

S3 Table. Tests of statistical significance for pairwise comparisons of differences in endosperm or embryo development.

Seed Genotype 1	Seed Genotype 2	Endosperm diff?	Embryo diff?
Col x Col	*hdg3* x *hdg3*	***	
Col x Col	Col x *hdg3*	***	
Col x Col	*hdg3* x Col		
hdg3 x Col	Col x *hdg3*	***	
Col x Cvi	Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR 2-5	***	***
Col x Cvi	Col x Cvi *HDG3* IR 3-4	***	*
Col x Cvi	*hdg3* x Cvi *HDG3* IR 2-5	***	***
Cvi x Cvi	Cvi x Cvi *HDG3* IR 2-5		***
Cvi x Cvi	Cvi x Cvi *HDG3* IR 3-4		***
Col x Col	Col x Cvi	**	***
Col x Cvi	Cvi x Col	***	***
Col x Col	Cvi x Cvi	***	***
Col x Cvi	Cvi x Cvi	***	***
Cvi x Col	Cvi x Cvi		
Col x Col	Cvi x Col	*	***

***= difference significant, $p_{adj} < 0.001$; **= difference significant, $p_{adj} < 0.01$; *=difference significant, $p_{adj} < 0.05$; no stars = no significant difference

S5 Table. Oligos used in this study.

Oligo Name	Sequence 5'-3'	Gene	Purpose
Expression			
HDG3 Fwd Set 4	CATCATGGAGTTGGCATTTGG	*HDG3*	TaqMan RT-qPCR
HDG3 Rev Set 4	CAAAGCTAAGCTAGTGCCATTAAA	*HDG3*	TaqMan RT-qPCR
HDG3 Prb Set 4	/56-JOEN/ACT TGA GCC/ZEN/ ATC ACC AAG AGC TCC/3IABKFQ/	*HDG3* – Col	Col probe for TaqMan RT-qPCR
HDG3_Cvi	/56-FAM/ACT TGA GTC /ZEN/ ATC ACC AAG AAC TCC/3IABkFQ/	*HDG3* – Cvi	Cvi probe for Taqman RT-qPCR
MG510	TGCAACGGAGAGATGATGCACAAG	*HDG3*	Sybr Green RT-qPCR
MG511	TGCTCTTGCTAGTGTGTCCATGCC	*HDG3*	
MG446	CCATTCTACTTTTTGGCGGCT	AT1G58050	Sybr Green RT-qPCR
MG447	TCAATGGTAACTGATCCACTCTGATG	AT1G58050	
DNA methylation			
MG422	GTTTAAGGATATTTTGGATAATGTATTGA	*HDG3* 5' TE	BS-PCR
MG423	CTATRCTTTTATTAACTATATARATCRTTATACAC	*HDG3* 5' TE	
MG424	TACATCTCATATCTACAAATARTATTATTAAC	*HDG3* 5' TE	BS-PCR
MG425	TGGTATGAGYYTAGGAGAAATAATGTAAG	*HDG3* 5' TE	
In situ			
KN13	TCTCACCCTTCACCTCCATC	*PDF1*	Amplify 602 bp of *PDF1* coding sequence for in situ probe
KN14	GGGGTTGTGAAAGGGAACTT	*PDF1*	
KN19	GATGGGATCTAAGGGAAATGTCG	*HDG3*	Amplify 278 bp of *HDG3* coding sequence for in situ probe
KN20	ACATTGCCACGAGTGCAGTT	*HDG3*	
IR cloning			
DP215	CACCTACCAAATTATTATCTATTGAT	*HDG3* 5' TE	Amplify IR sequence for cloning
DP216	GAATTTCATAGTGAAATGGACCATC	*HDG3* 5' TE	