

**16th INTERNATIONAL RAPESEED CONGRESS**



**华中农业大学**  
HUZHONG AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

**Combining Physio-Biochemical Characterization and  
Transcriptome Analysis Reveal the Responses to  
Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *Brassica napus***

**Huazhong Agricultural University**

**Presenter: Shuai Fang**

**September 2023 Sydney**



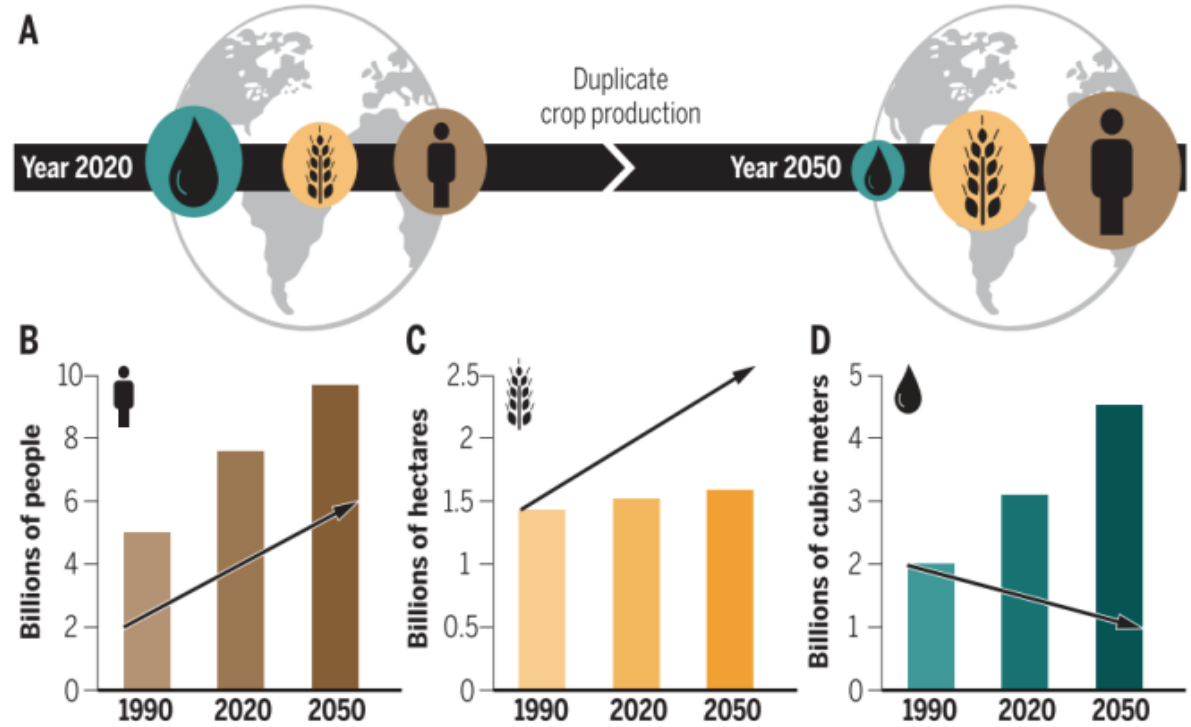
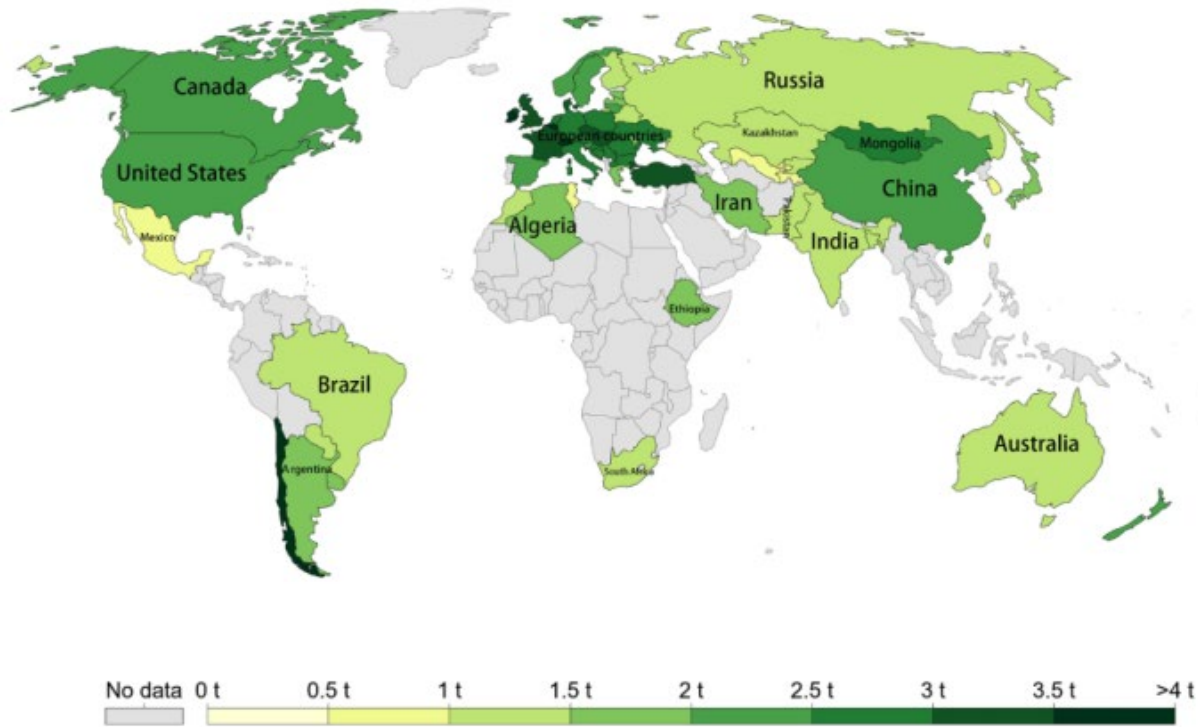
# Contents

- **Background**
- **Combining physio-biochemical characterization and transcriptome analysis reveal the Responses to Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B.napus***
- **Genome-wide association studies of stomatal conductance under mild drought stress**



# Drought seriously affected the distribution of rapeseed

- Rapeseed is a valuable, economically essential, and widely growing oilseed crop globally (Maria Batool, et al 2022).
- Over the past decade, drought has cost the world USD 30 billion in crop production losses.



Batool et al, *J Plant Growth Regul*, 2022

Gupta et al, *Science*, 2020

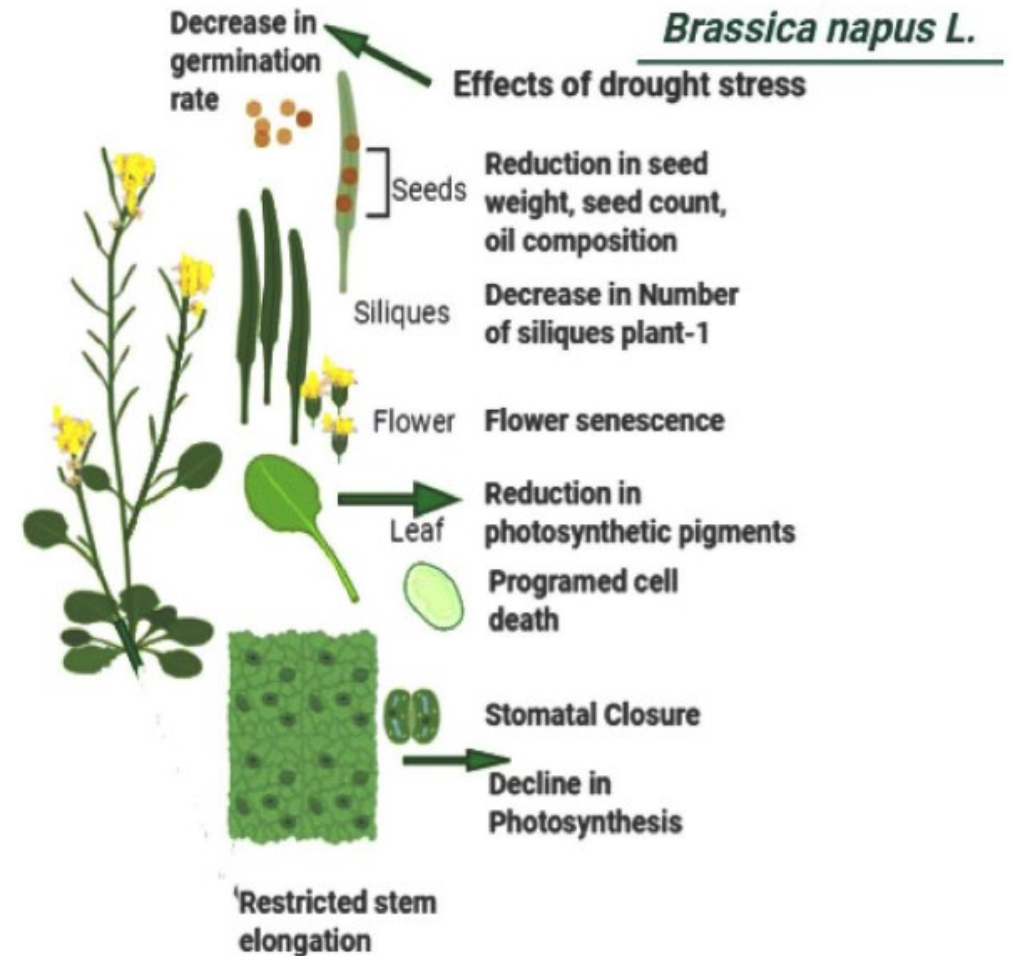


# Drought inhibits rapeseed growth and development

- Drought stress causes cellular dehydration, affecting plant's **morpho-physiological traits**, reducing **photosynthesis**, **yield-related attributes**, **seed germination** and **plant development** (Maria Batool, et al 2022).

## Drought stress responses in plant

- Decreased in leaf expansion
- Stomatal closure
- Activation of Antioxidant system
- Synthesis of Phytohormones especially ABA
- Accumulation of Organic solutes for osmotic adjustment
- Signal transduction  
Cell Homeostasis  
Maintain Photosynthesis

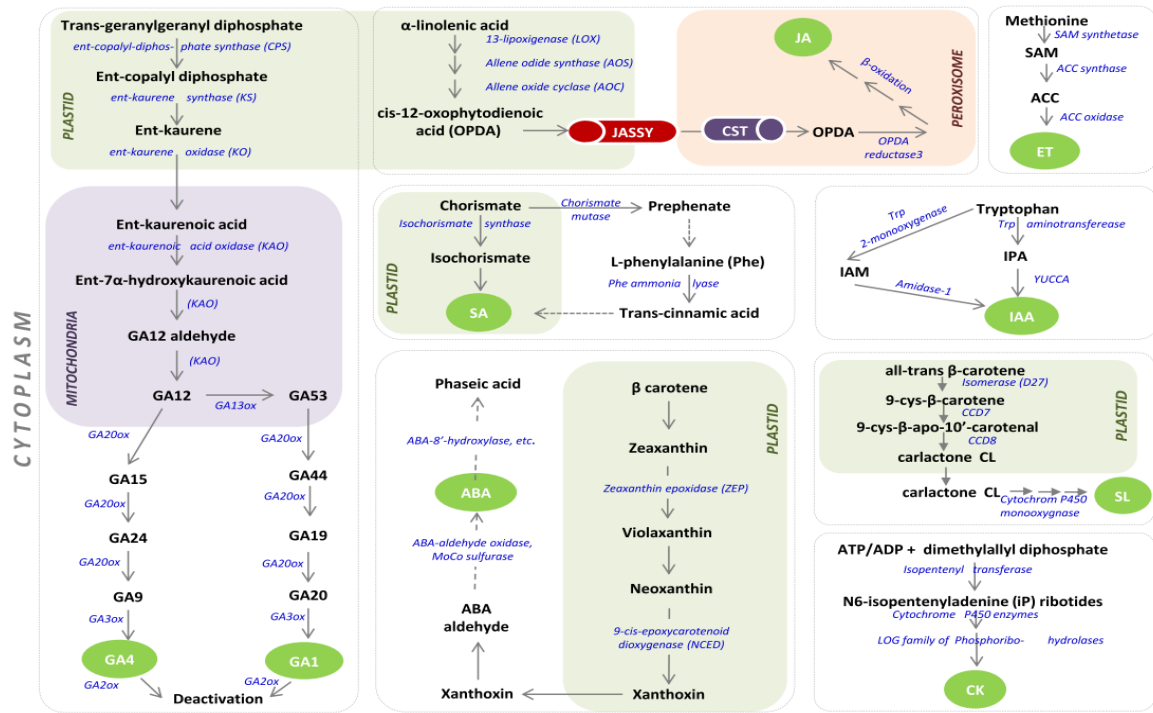


Batool et al, *J Plant Growth Regul*, 2022

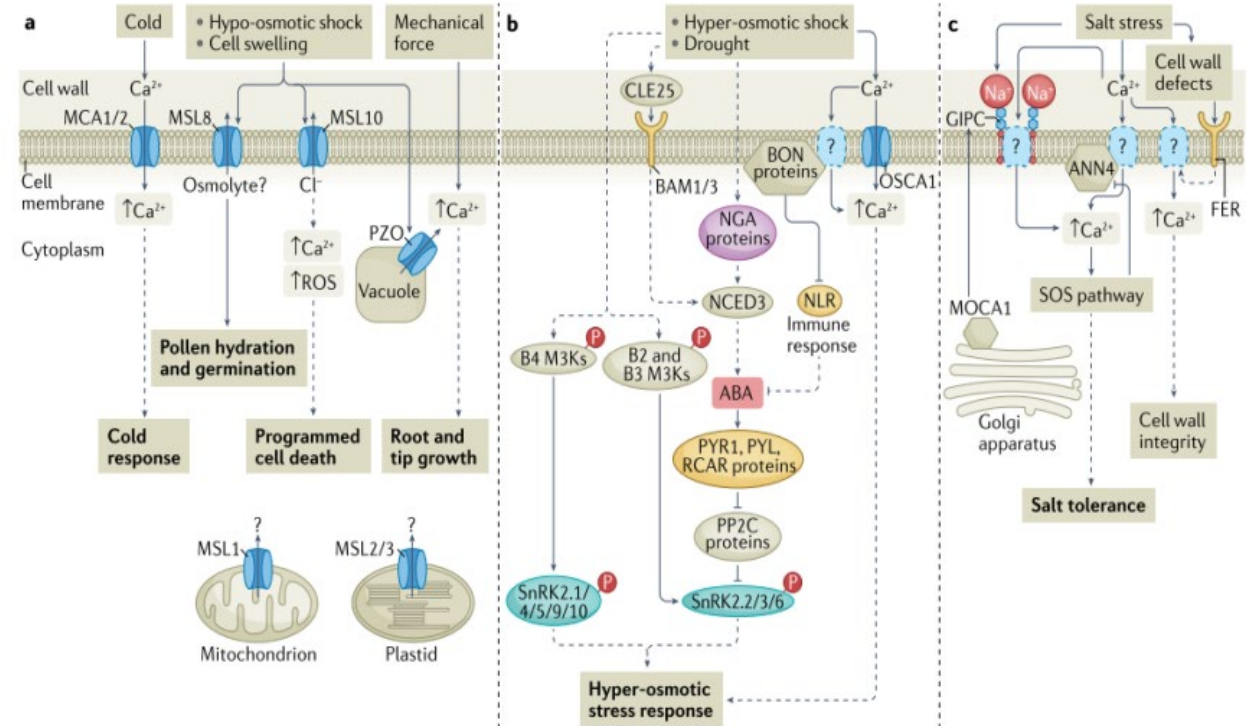


# Plants respond to drought stress

➤ Phytohormones are ubiquitously involved in plant biological processes and regulate cellular signaling pertaining to unheralded environmental cues, such as salinity, drought, extreme temperature and nutrient deprivation (Pravall Salvi, et al 2021).



Salvi et al, *Plant Cell Rep*, 2021



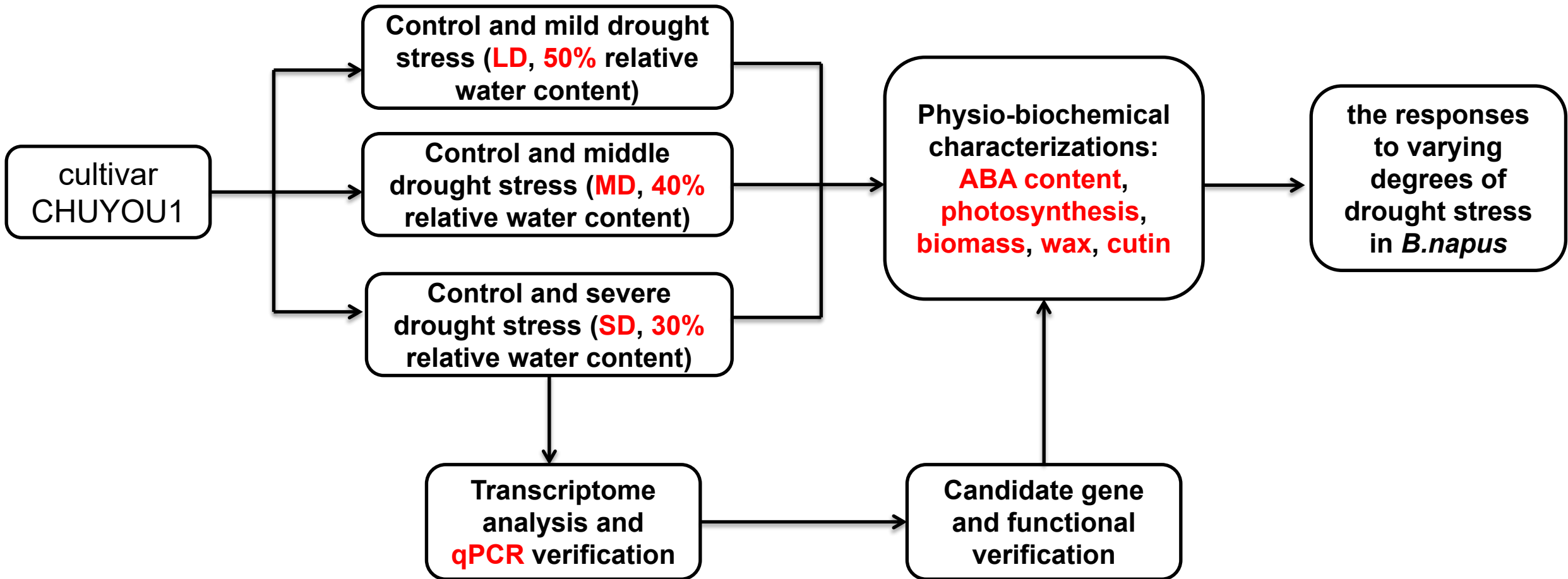
Waadt et al, *Nat. Rev. Mol. Cell Biol*, 2022



- ① **Combining physio-biochemical characterization and transcriptome analysis reveal the Responses to Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B.napus***
- ② **Genome-wide association studies of stomatal conductance under mild drought stress**



# Technical route

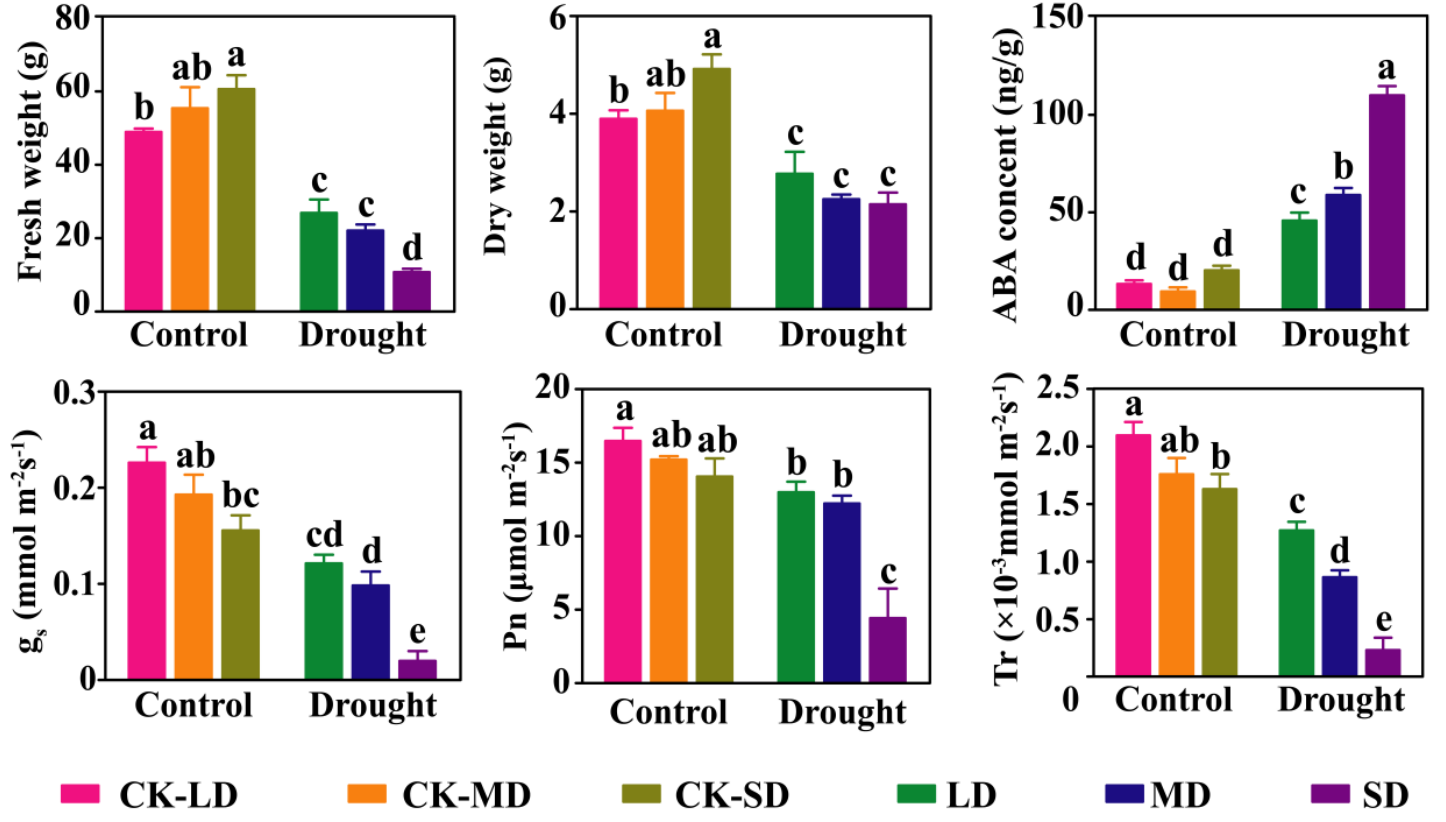




# Characterization of Physio-biochemical Traits at Seedling Stage under Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B. napus*

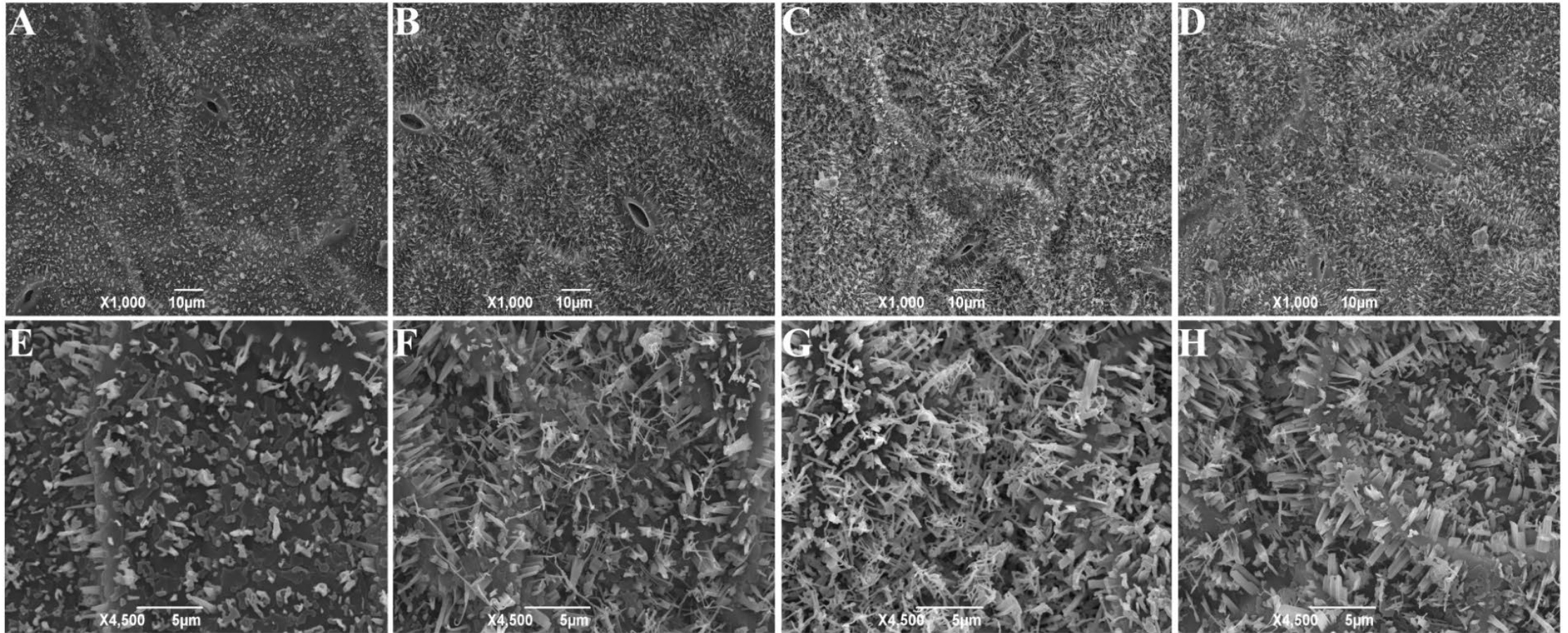


Control      LD      MD      SD





# Changes in Crystal Morphology under Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B. napus*



**Control**

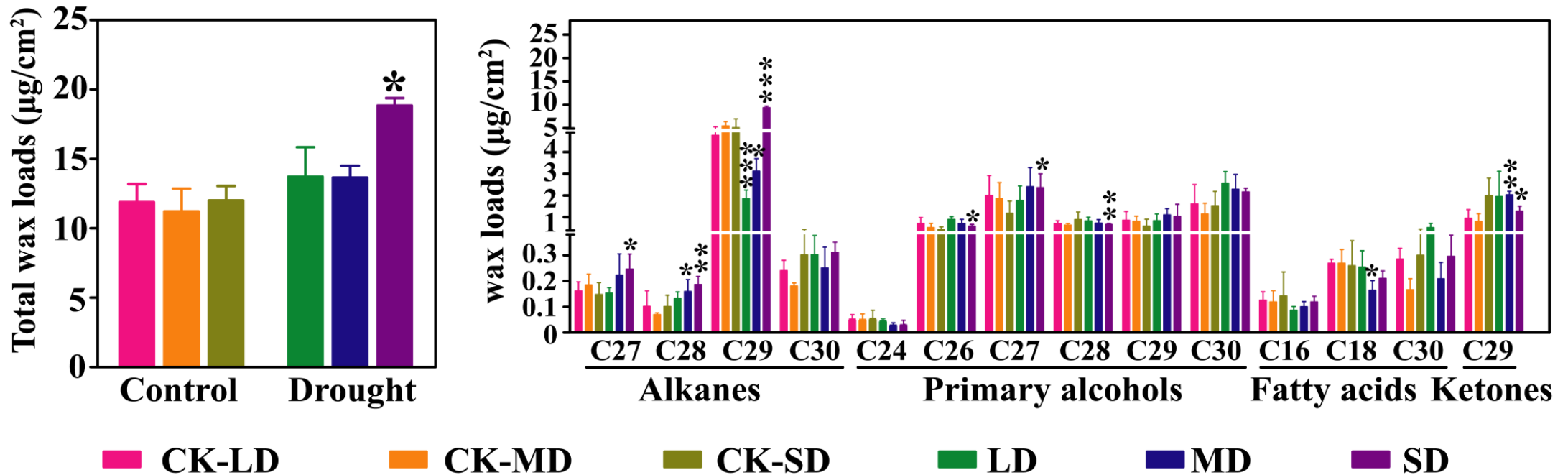
**LD**

**MD**

**SD**



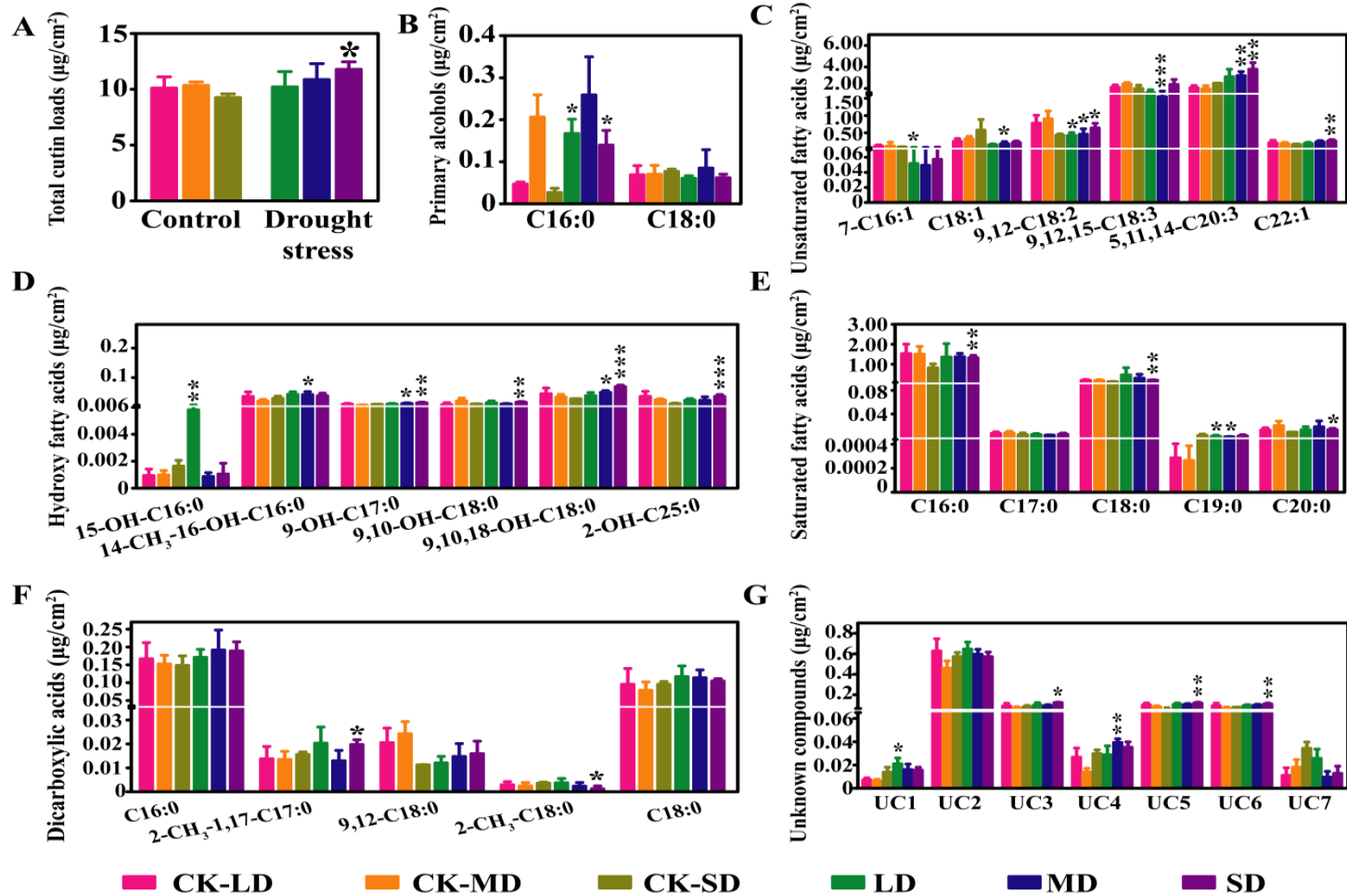
# Changes in Wax Content and Composition of Epidermal Wax under Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B. napus*



- Severe drought (SD) stress resulted in a significant increase in epidermal wax content
- The main components of surface wax are alkanes, primary alcohols, fatty acids and ketones



# Changes in Cutin Content and Composition under Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B. napus*

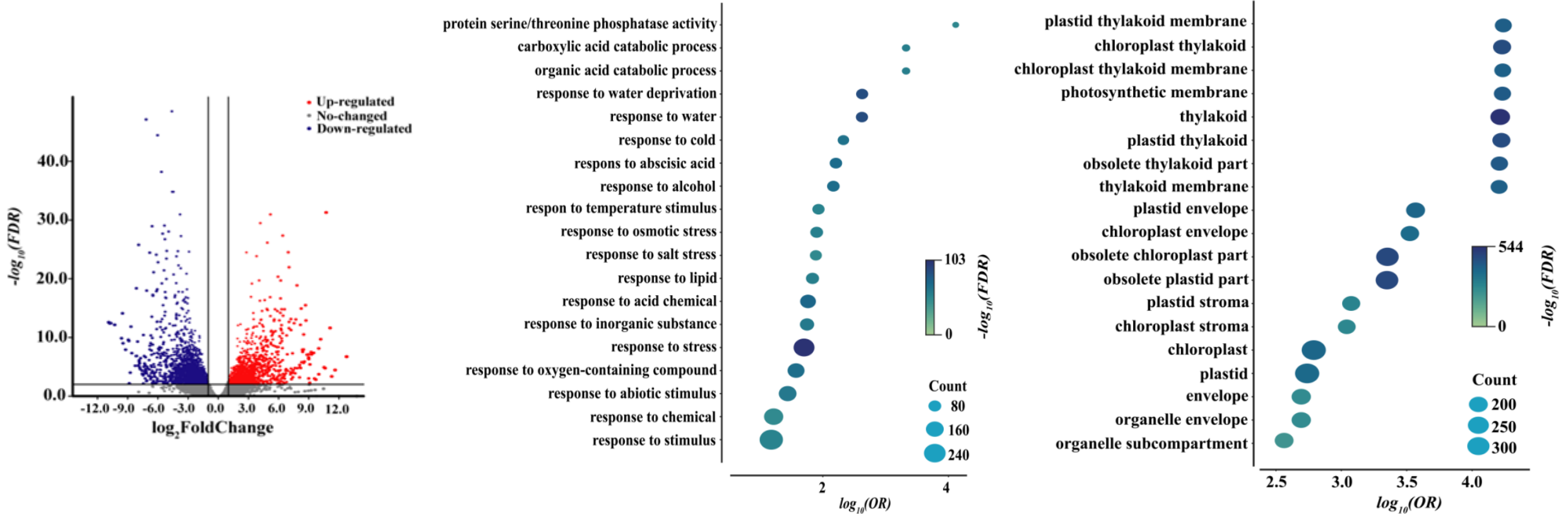


➤ Severe drought (SD) stress caused a **significant increase** in the total cutin loads.

➤ A total of **six** types of substances were identified in the cutin composition and most of their content **significant increased** under SD conditions.



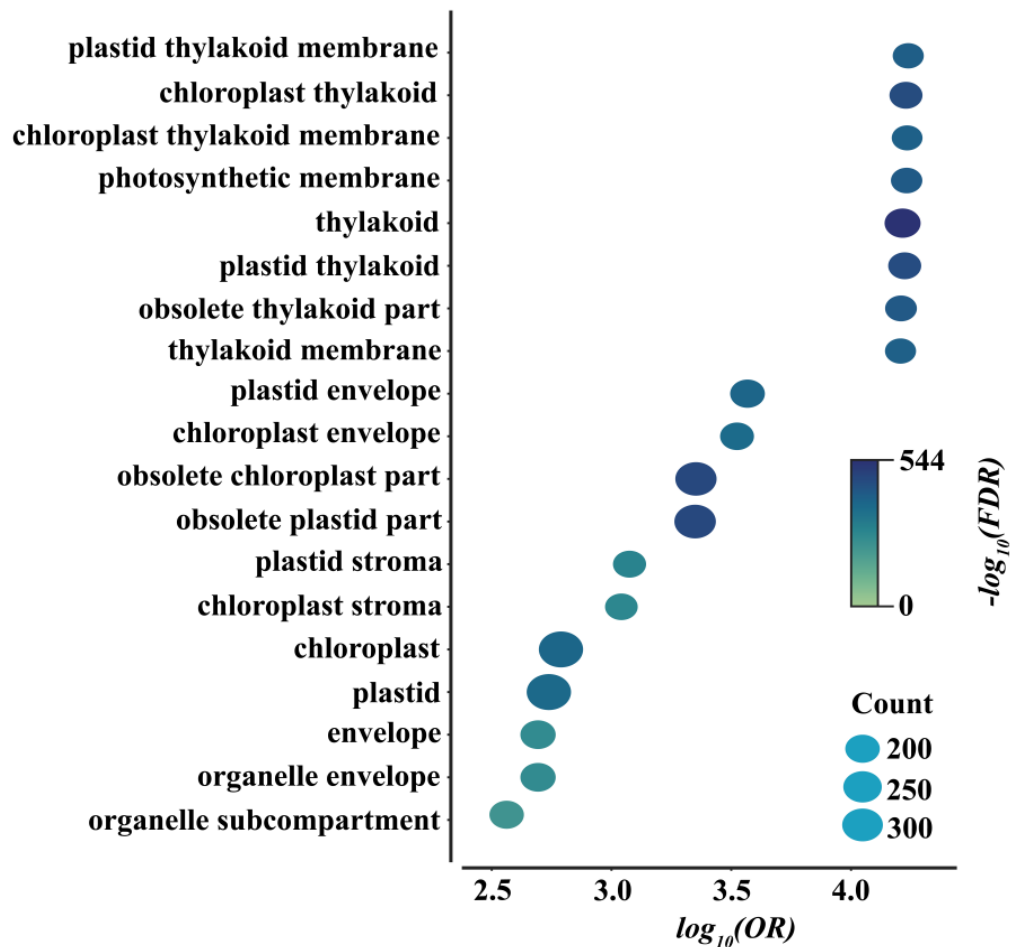
# Transcriptome Analysis Revealed Gene Expression Alternation under Severe Drought Stress-GO analysis



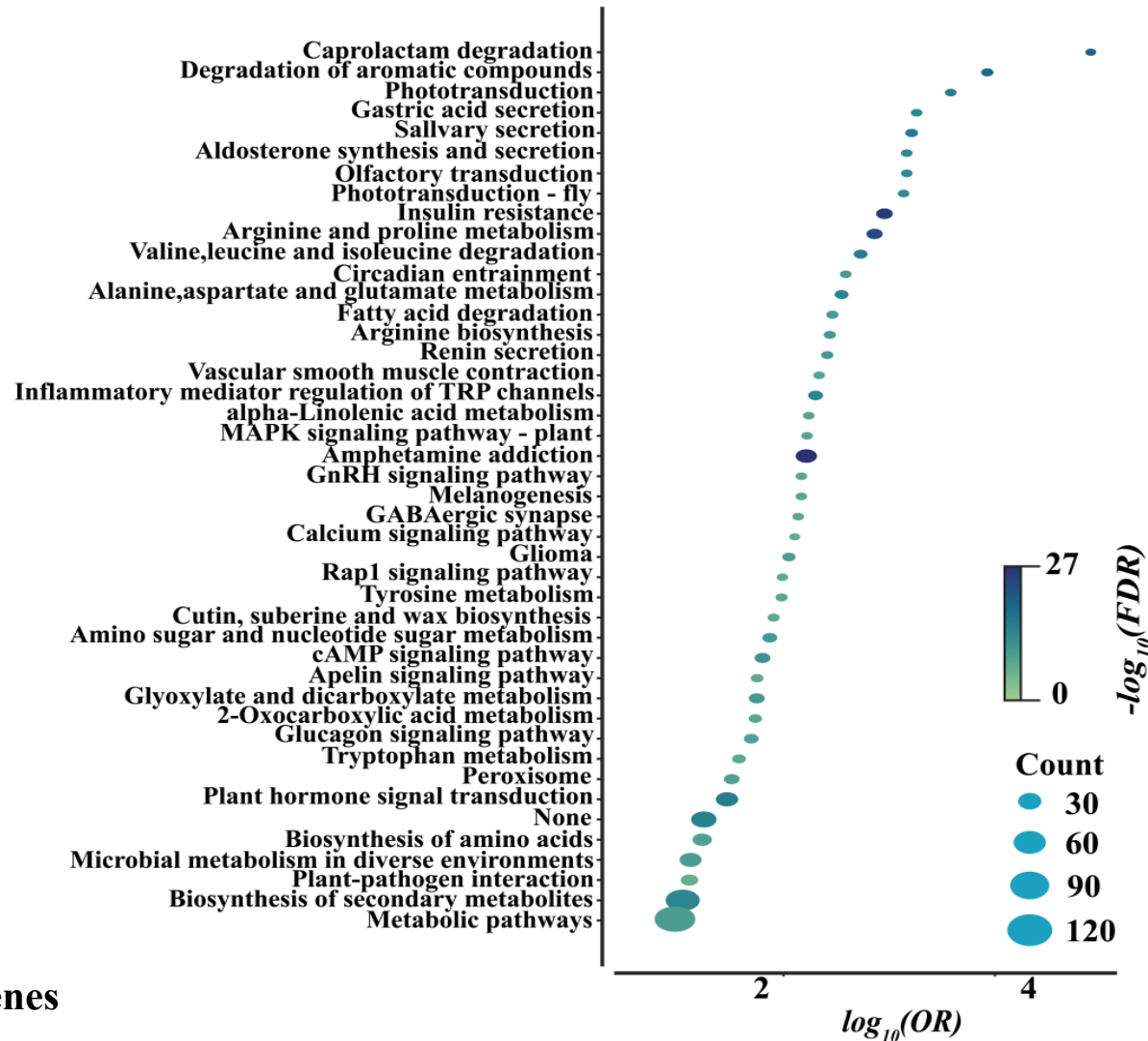
**795 up-regulated** and **1050 down-regulated** differentially expressed genes were identified.



# Transcriptome Analysis Revealed Gene Expression Alternation under Severe Drought Stress-KEGG analysis



KEGG enrichment of **down-regulated** differentially expressed genes

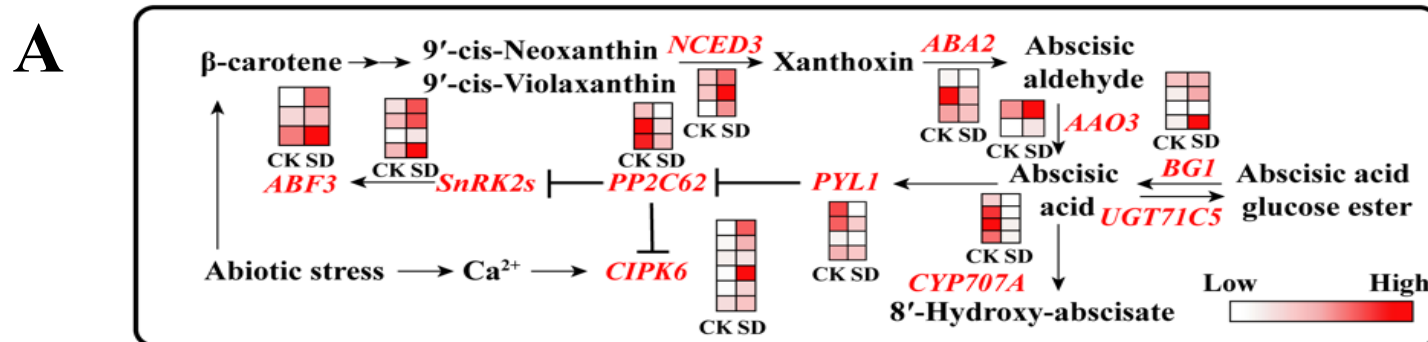


KEGG enrichment of **up-regulated** differentially expressed genes

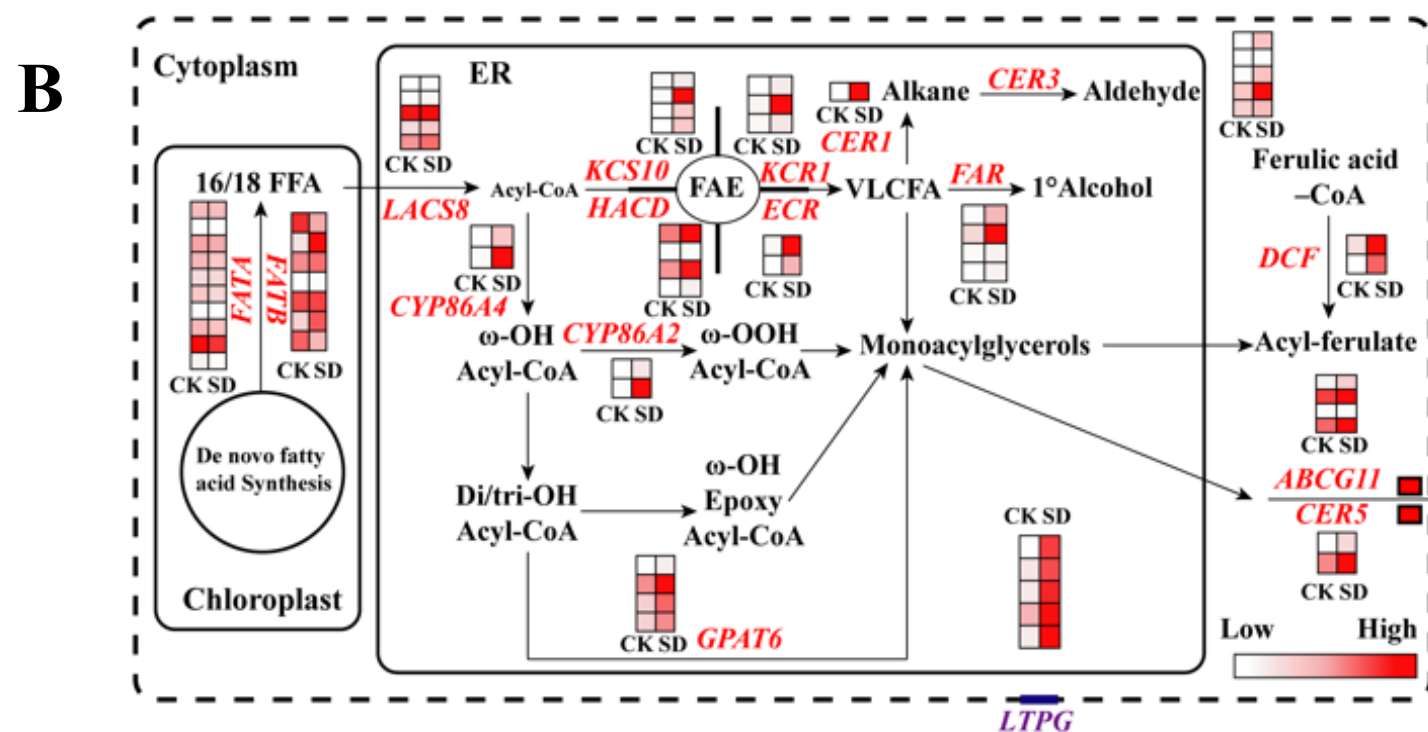


# Transcriptome Analysis Revealed Gene Expression Alternation under Severe Drought Stress

ABA biosynthesis and signaling transduction pathway

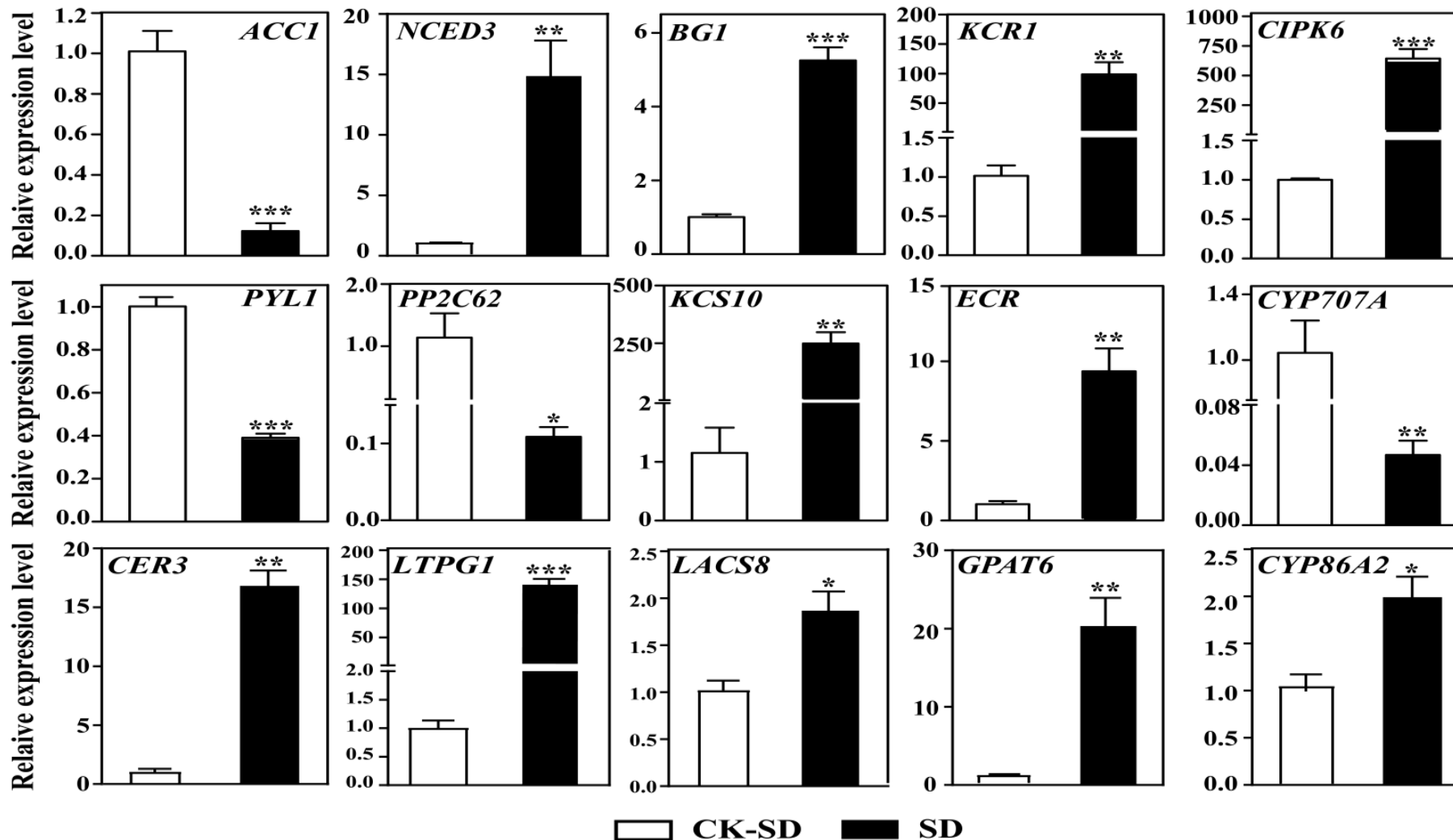


Wax and cutin biosynthesis and signaling transduction pathway



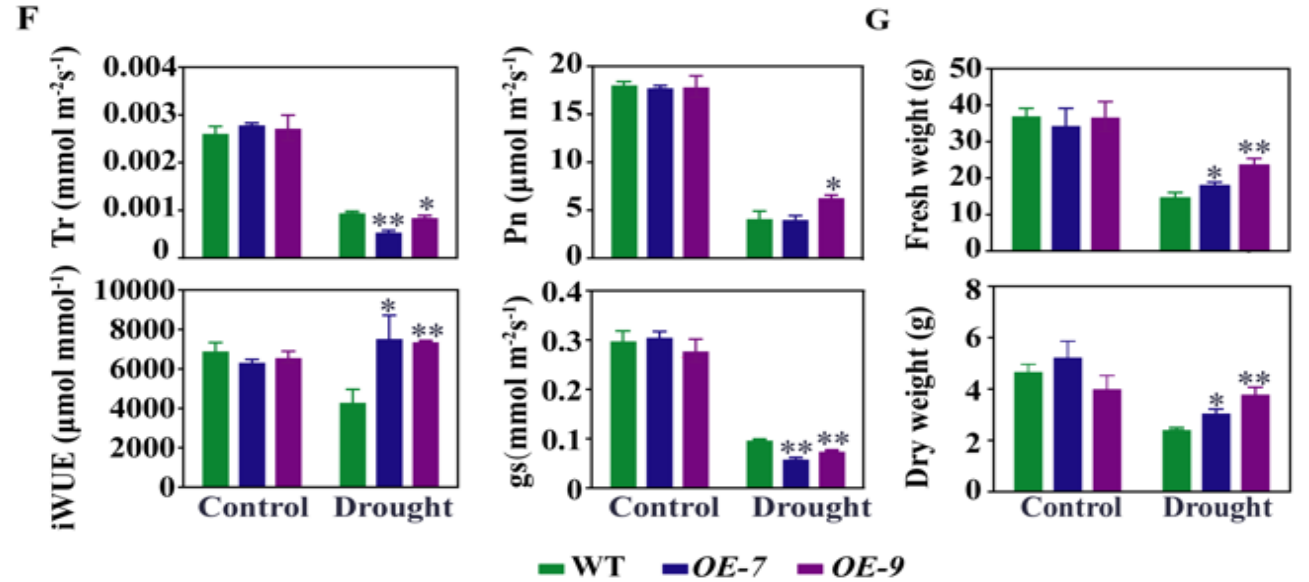
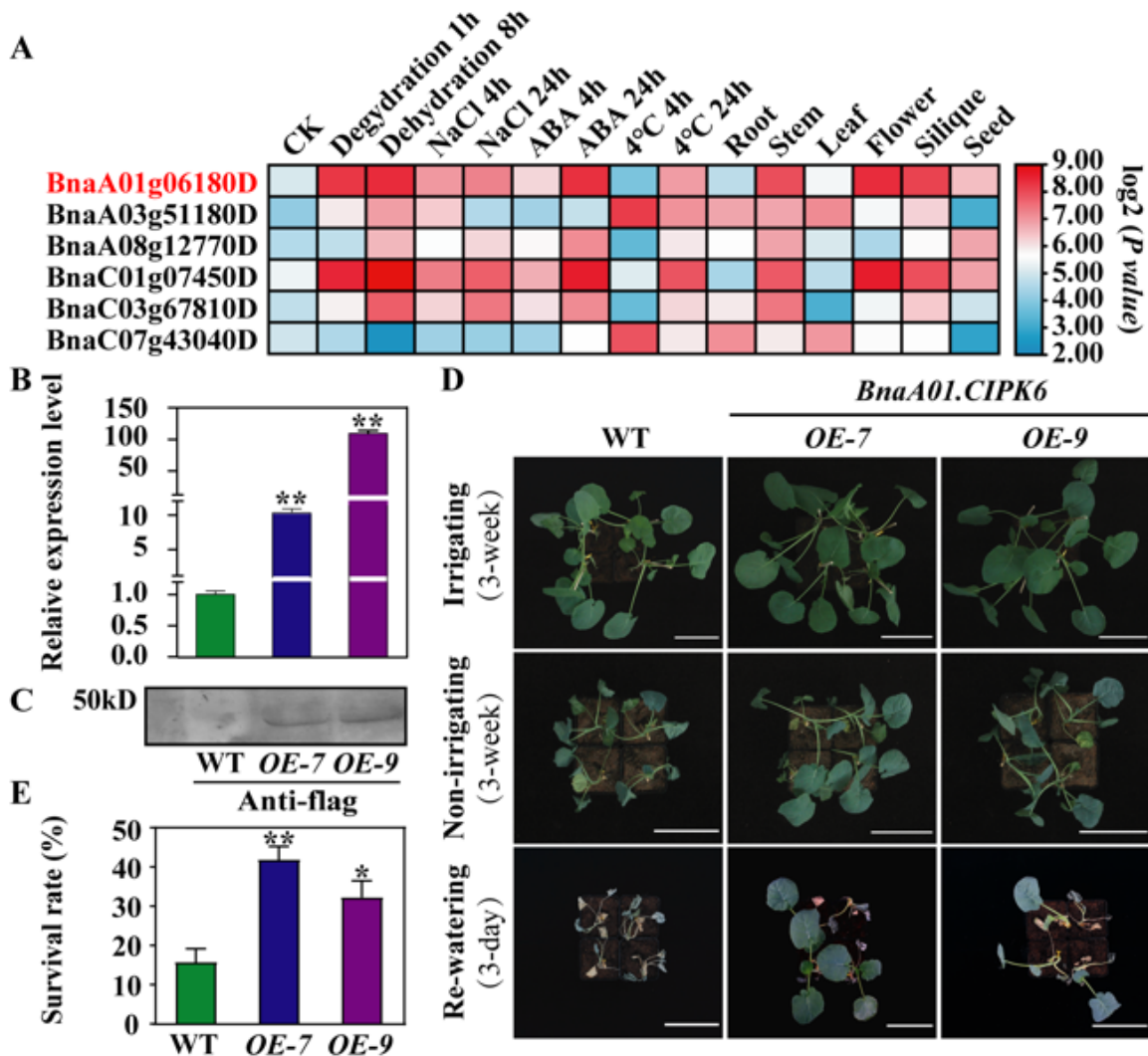


# Transcriptome results were verified by qPCR





# Over-expression of *BnaA01.CIPK6* Confers Drought Tolerance in *B. napus*



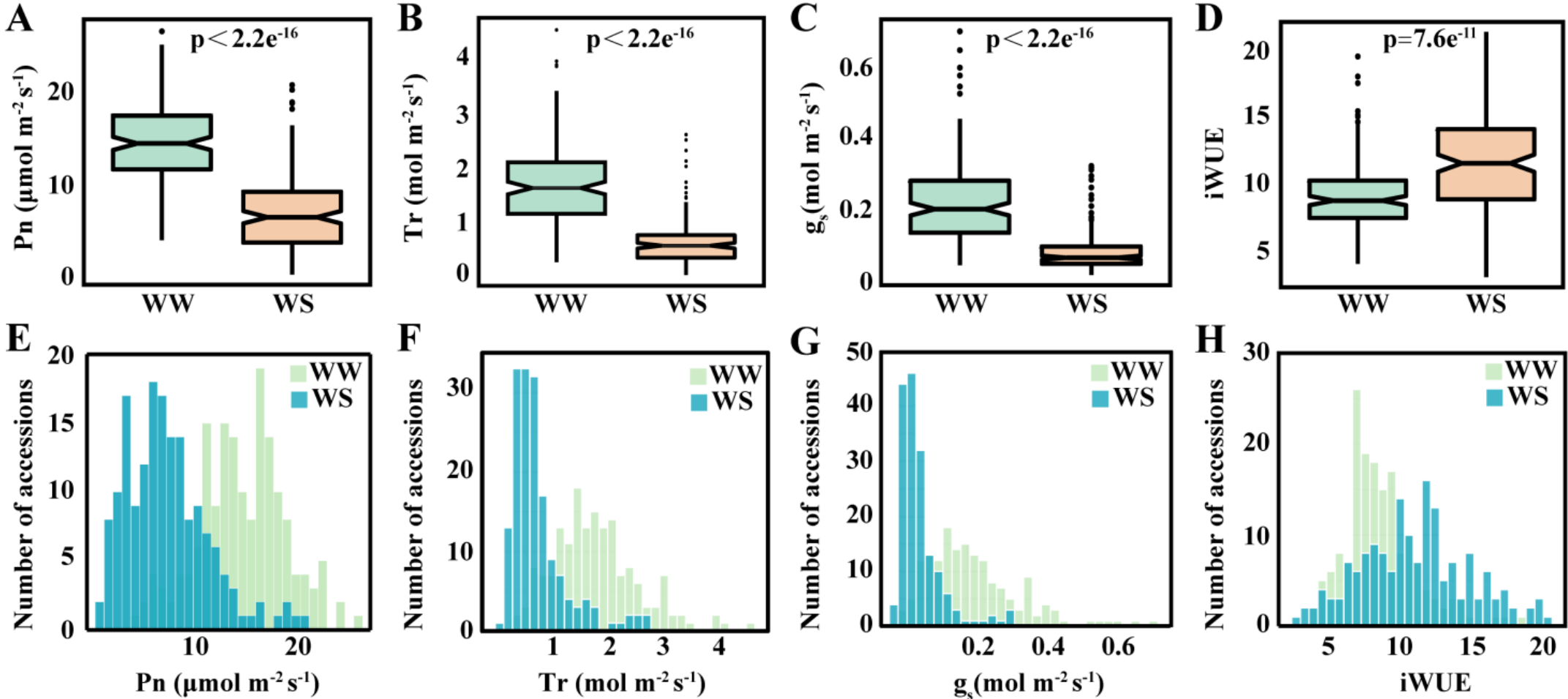
- The differentially expressed gene *BnaA01.CIPK6* was induced by various abiotic stresses
- *BnaA01.CIPK6* positively regulated drought resistance in *B.napus*



- ① combining physio-biochemical characterization and transcriptome analysis reveal the Responses to Varying Degrees of Drought Stress in *B.napus*
- ② **Genome-wide association studies of stomatal conductance under mild drought stress**

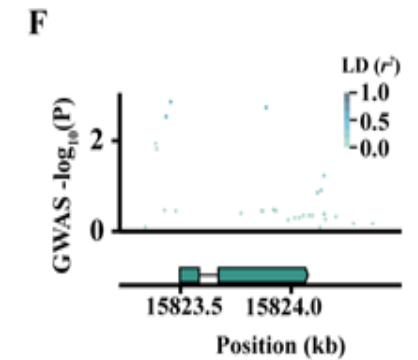
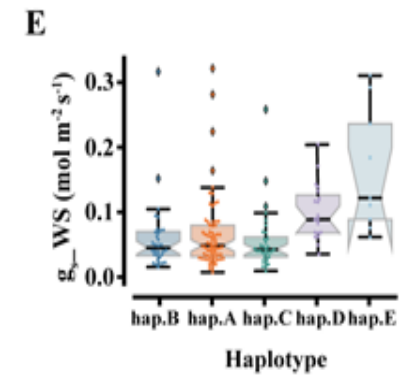
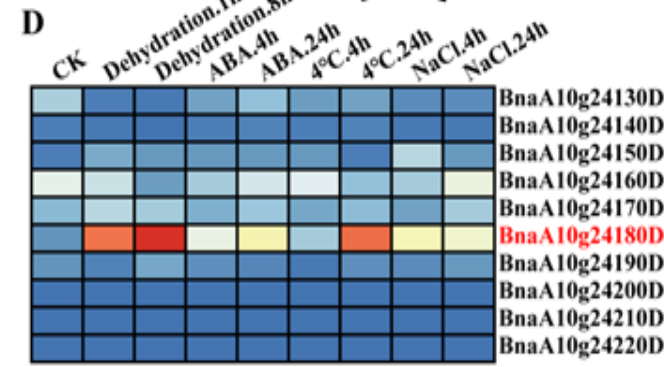
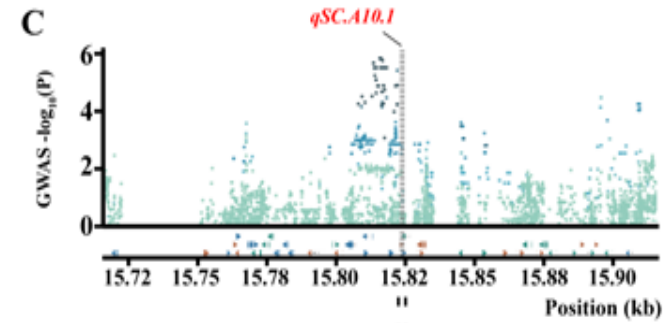
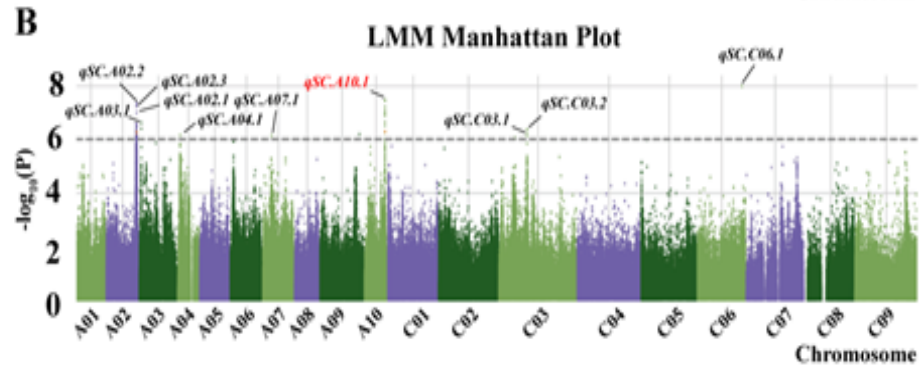
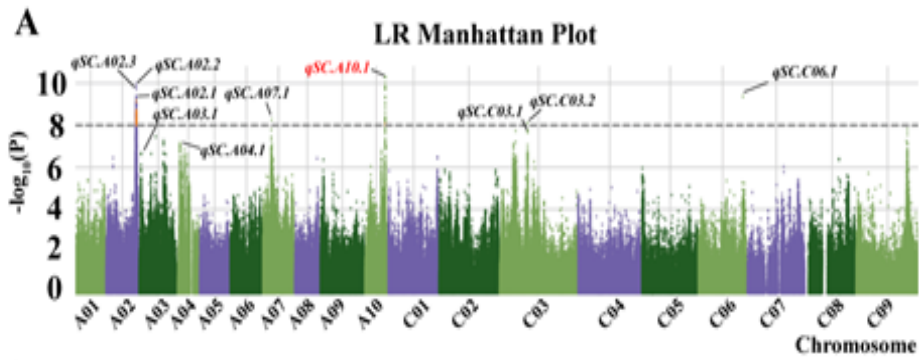


# Frequency distribution of photosynthesis-related traits under mild drought stress and normal conditions





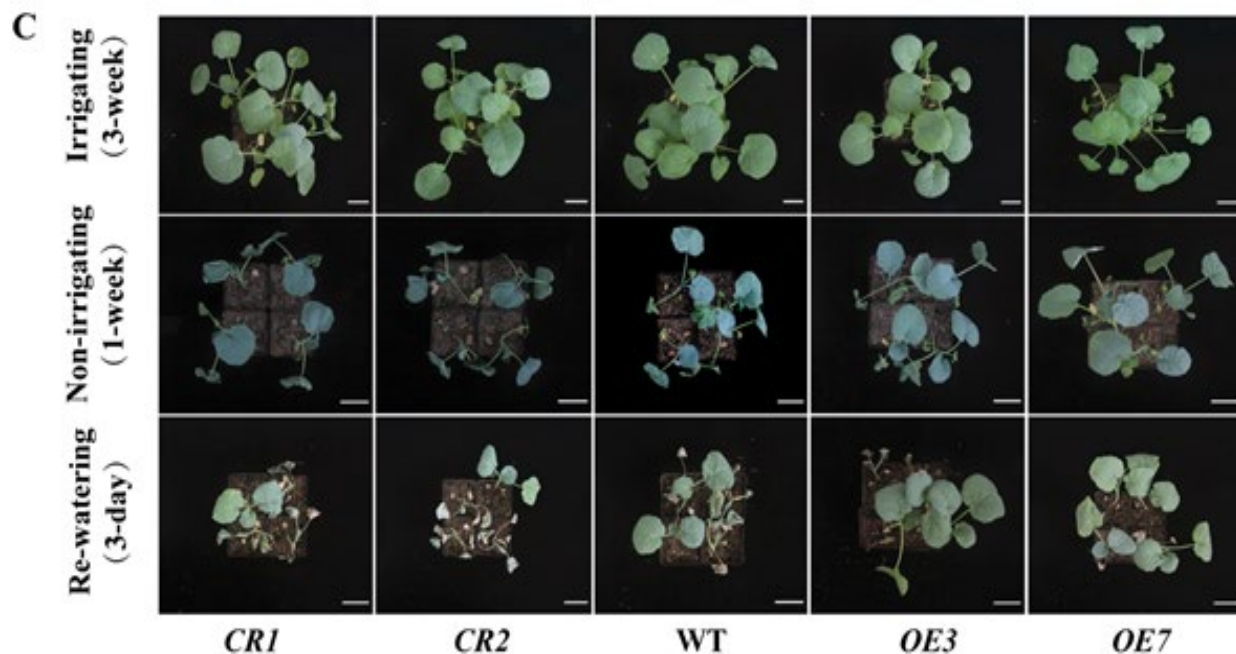
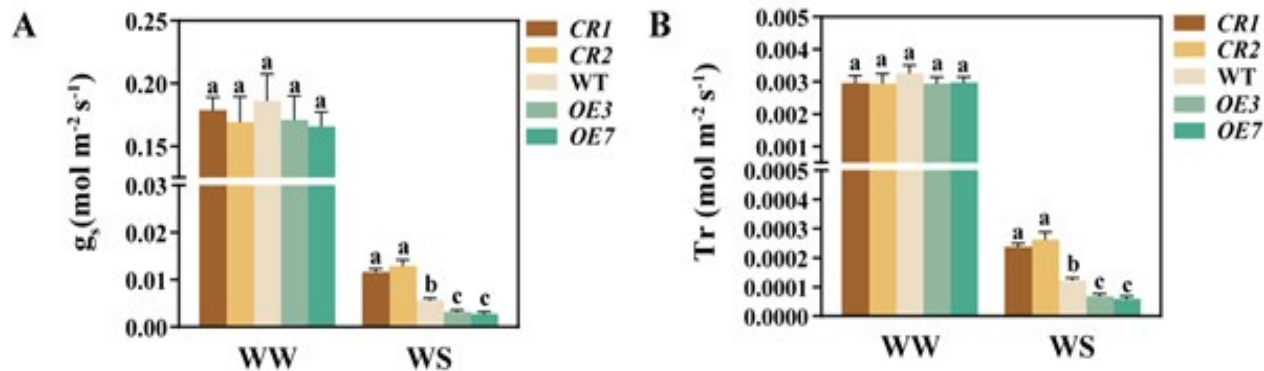
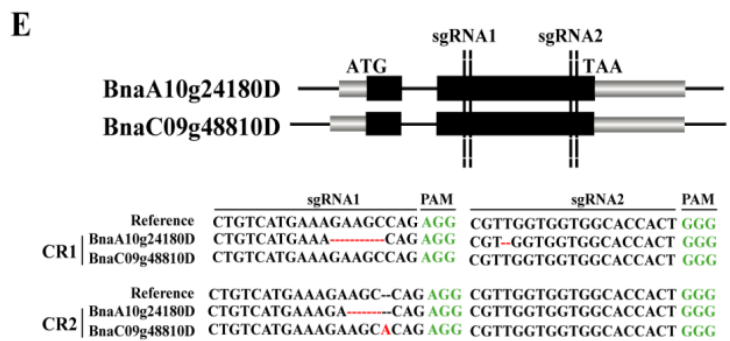
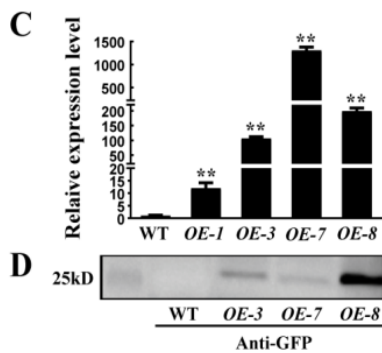
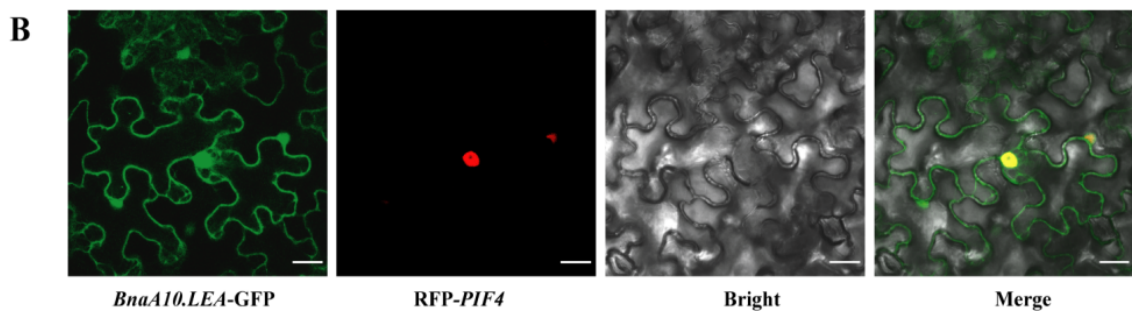
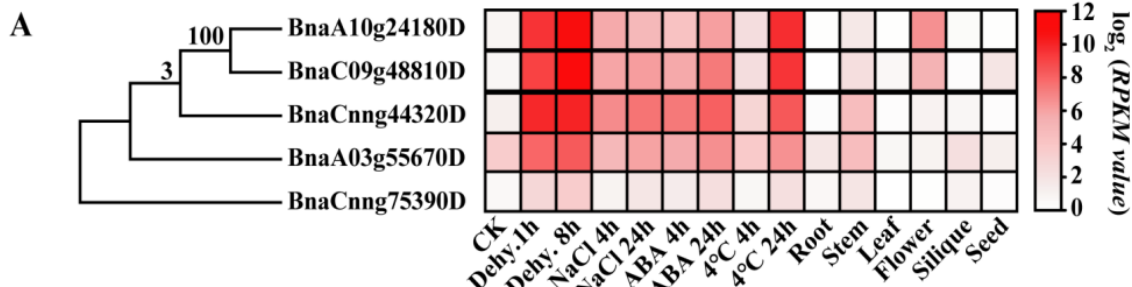
# Genome-wide association studies were used to locate QTLs and candidate genes related to stomatal conductance under mild drought stress.



Unpublished data



# Expression pattern analysis and gene function identification of *BnaLEA4-5*



Unpublished data



# Summary

- **Stomatal transpiration** is the main way of water loss in rape under LD and MD stress conditions while **cuticle transpiration** plays an important role in the SD stress conditions.
- A total of **1845** DEGs were identified under severe drought stress and most of them involved in the stress responses. And we also proved *BnaA01.CIPK6* positively regulated drought resistance in rapeseed.
- **14 QTLs have been identified** through stomatal conductance under mild drought and *BnaLEA* may positively affect drought resistance of rapeseed.



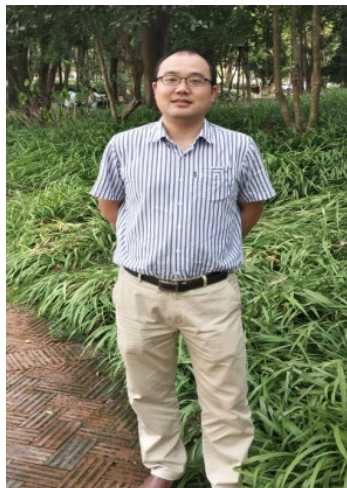
# Acknowledgement



**Prof. Liang Guo**



**Prof. Xuan Yao**



**Prof. Shaoping Lu**



**Huazhong Agricultural University**

**National Key Laboratory of Crop Genetic Improvement**

A photograph of a field of yellow flowers, likely rapeseed, under a clear blue sky. A single bee is perched on a flower in the center. The text "Thank you !" is overlaid on the image in a black serif font.

Thank you !