

Supplementary

CRISPR/Cas9 Directed Mutagenesis of *OsGA20ox2* in High Yielding Basmati Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) Line and Comparative Proteome Profiling of Unveiled Changes Triggered by Mutations

Gul Nawaz¹, Babar Usman¹, Neng Zhao¹, Yue Han¹, Zhihua Li¹, Xin Wang¹, Yaoguang Liu^{2,*} and Rongbai Li^{1,*}

¹ College of Agriculture, State Key Laboratory for Conservation and Utilization of Subtropical Agro-Bioresources, Guangxi University, Nanning 530004, China; gulnawazmalik@yahoo.com (G.N.); babarusman119@gmail.com (B.U.); nengzhao_gxu@163.com (N.Z.); hanyue0624@126.com (Y.H.); lizhihua-88@163.com (Z.L.); xinwang0112@126.com (X.W.)

² State Key Laboratory for Conservation and Utilization of Subtropical Agricultural Bioresources, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou 510642, China

* Correspondence: ygliu@scau.edu.cn (Y.L.); lirongbai@126.com (R.L.); Tel.: +86-20-8528-1908 (Y.L.); +86-136-0009-4135 (R.L.)

Abstract: In rice, semi-dwarfism is among the most required characteristics, as it facilitates better yields and offers lodging resistance. Here, semi-dwarf rice lines lacking any residual transgene-DNA and off-target effects were generated through CRISPR/Cas9-guided mutagenesis of the *OsGA20ox2* gene in a high yielding Basmati rice line, and the isobaric tags for relative and absolute quantification (iTRAQ) strategy was utilized to elucidate the proteomic changes in mutants. The results indicated the reduced gibberellins (GA₁ and GA₄) levels, plant height (28.72%), and flag leaf length, while all the other traits remained unchanged. The *OsGA20ox2* expression was highly suppressed, and the mutants exhibited decreased cell length, width, and restored their plant height by exogenous GA₃ treatment. Comparative proteomics of the wild-type and homozygous mutant line (GXU43_9) showed an altered level of 588 proteins, 273 upregulated and 315 downregulated, respectively. The identified differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) were mainly enriched in the carbon metabolism and fixation, glycolysis/gluconeogenesis, photosynthesis, and oxidative phosphorylation pathways. The proteins (Q6AWY7, Q6AWY2, Q9FRG8, Q6EPP9, Q6AWX8) associated with growth-regulating factors (*GRF2*, *GRF7*, *GRF9*, *GRF10*, and *GRF11*) and GA (Q8RZ73, Q9AS97, Q69VG1, Q8LNJ6, Q0JH50, and Q5MQ85) were downregulated, while the abscisic stress-ripening protein 5 (*ASR5*) and abscisic acid receptor (*PYL5*) were upregulated in mutant lines. We integrated CRISPR/Cas9 with proteomic screening as the most reliable strategy for rapid assessment of the CRISPR experiments outcomes.

Keywords: rice; gibberellins; plant height; CRISPR/Cas9; *OsGA20ox2*; proteomic analysis

Table S1. All the primers used in this study.

Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
Target 1	AGATCCCGGAGCCATTCGTGTGG
Target 2	GGCCCCGACTTCGCGCCAATGGG
<i>SD1T1 F:</i>	AATCTCATGGTGGCCGAGC
<i>SD1T1 R:</i>	CGGGAGGCGGAAGAAGTC
<i>SD1T2 F:</i>	CACGCACGGGTTCTTC
<i>SD1T2 R:</i>	TCCATGATCGTCAGCGACAG
U-F	CTCCGTTTTACCTGTGGAATCG
gR-R	CGGAGGAAAATTCCATCCAC
U6aTSD1-1-R	CACGAATGGCTCCGGGATCTCggcagccaagccagca
gRTSD1-1-F	AGATCCCGGAGCCATTCGTGgttttagagctagaaat
U6bT1SD1-2-R	ATTGGCGCGAAGTCGGGGCCaacacaagcggcagc
gRT1SD1-2-F	GCCCCGACTTCGCGCCAATgttttagagctagaaat
Pps-GGL	TTCAGAGGTCTCTCTCGACTAGTATGGAATCGGCAGCAAAGG
Pgs-GG2	AGCGTGGGTCTCGTCAGGGTCCATCCACTCCAAGCTC
Pps-GG2	TTCAGAGGTCTCTCTGACACTGGAATCGGCAGCAAAGG
Pgs-GGR	AGCGTGGGTCTCGACCGACGCGTATCCATCCACTCCAAGCTC
<i>HPT F:</i>	GTGCTTGACATTGGGGAGTT
<i>HPTR:</i>	ATTTGTGTACGCCCCGACAGT
<i>Actin-F</i>	GAGTATGATGAGTCGGGTCCAG
<i>Actin-R</i>	ACACCAACAATCCCAAACAGAG
<i>Cas9-F</i>	CTGACGCTAACCTCGACAAG
<i>Cas9-R</i>	CCGATCTAGTAACATAGATGACACC
<i>SD1-F</i>	GCCAATGGGGAGGGTGTAC
<i>SD1-R</i>	CTGTAGTAGCCTCGCTCCAC
<i>SP-L1</i>	GCGGTGTCATCTATGTTACTAG
<i>SP-R</i>	GCCTATACCAAGTTATTGCA
<i>CPS2 F</i>	CATCTCCAAGGTTTTGTTTCGAG
<i>CPS2 R</i>	TTTTCGCAGTCATCACTTTACG
<i>GRF2 F</i>	GACCGATGCTTTCACTCACC
<i>GRF2 R</i>	CTGAGGATTGCAGCAACCAA
<i>RBCS-F</i>	TCATTGGCTTTGACAACGTTAG
<i>RBCS-R</i>	AAAGAAAGAACATGCACGAAGG
<i>CIGR1 F</i>	TACCTCTCCTCCCGATGACA
<i>CIGR1 R</i>	AATCAACGTCGCCTTCATCG
<i>ASR5-F</i>	CTGTTTTTCACAAGAGTCTCCG
<i>ASR5-R</i>	CACCACTTATTTGGACACACAG
<i>atpB-F</i>	GCCCCGTCGAAAGTTCAATC
<i>atpB-R</i>	TAGCGCAACCCCAAATCAAC
<i>GRF7 F</i>	ATCTAGCCATGCCGCAAAAAG
<i>GRF7 R</i>	TCTATTGGGCAGCAGTCACA
<i>GRF10 F</i>	GGTGCTCATCTACCGCTACT
<i>GRF10 R</i>	AAACGGCGTCCACATTATCG
<i>Snorkel2-F</i>	AGAACGATAACAATGGCGCC
<i>Snorkel2-R</i>	GAGTGTGGTGTTCGCGAGT
<i>PYL5 F</i>	CTGTCTCCCCACTCCTTCAG
<i>PYL5 R</i>	GGCCTCGACAAAGTAGCATG

Note: ACTAGT and ACGCGT: *SpeI* and *MluI* restriction enzyme cutting sites.

Table S2. Type of mutations obtained in T₀ generation by two constructs of CRISPR/Cas9.

Targets/sgRNA	Event ID	Zygosity	Type of mutations	Copy#	T-DNA
Target 1	GXU43_2	Homozygous	1i/1i	1	+
	GXU43_4	Homozygous	27d/27d	1	+
	GXU43_6	Biallelic	6d/1i	4	+
	GXU43_7	Heterozygous	6d/WT	2	+
	GXU43_8	Heterozygous	WT/1i	2	+
	GXU43_9	Homozygous	172d/172d	3	+
	GXU43_16	Chimeric	19d/1i/WT	1	+
	GXU43_19	Homozygous	4d/4d	3	+
	GXU43_24	Biallelic	4d/8d	3	+
	GXU43_30	Biallelic	22d/1i15d	2	+
Target 2	GXU43_1	Biallelic	d1/d5	1	+
	GXU43_2	Homozygous	3d/3d	1	+
	GXU43_4	Homozygous	1d/1d	2	+
	GXU43_8	Biallelic	4d/2d	2	+
	GXU43_9	Homozygous	12d/12d	1	+
	GXU43_10	Heterozygous	4d/WT	1	+
	GXU43_15	Biallelic	4d/1i	3	+
	GXU43_19	Homozygous	1i/1i	3	+
	GXU43_20	Biallelic	3d/1d	1	+
	GXU43_23	Biallelic	5d/1d	1	+
	GXU43_25	Chimeric	WT/5d/13d	2	+
	GXU43_29	Biallelic	1d/2d	2	+

d: deletion, i: insertion and WT: wild type. The numbers in front of the letters indicate the number of nucleotides affected. Corresponding mutations in two alleles are distinguished by '/

Table S3. Mutations detection on the potential off-targets.

Target	Name of putative off-target site	Genomic location	Sequence of the putative off-target site	Gene Locus	No. of mismatching bases	No. of plants sequenced	No. of plants with mutations
<i>SD1T1</i>	OT1	Chr5: 13412868	AGATCCAGGAGACAATTGTG AGG	LOC_Os05g23450	4	30	0
	OT2	Chr12: 5293287	AGAATACGAAGCCATTCTTG TGG	LOC_Os12g09990	5	30	0
	OT3	Chr11: 17594551	AGGTCGCGGTGGCATCCGTG TGG	LOC_Os11g30280	5	30	0
	OT4	Chr5: 20691896	AGATCCCGGCGCCGTTTCGTC TGG	LOC_Os05g34854	3	30	0
	OT5	Chr4: 2035446	AGATCCCGGAGTCGTTCTCG AGG	LOC_Os04g04330	3	30	0
<i>SD1T2</i>	OT6	Chr8: 5222727	CGCATCGACTACGCGCCAAT GGG	LOC_Os08g08970	4	30	0
	OT7	Chr2: 3673463	ACCCACGGCTTCGCGCCGAT GGG	LOC_Os02g07140	4	30	0
	OT8	Chr9: 4990938	AGCCACGGCTTTGCGCAAAT GGG	LOC_Os09g09320	5	30	0
	OT9	Chr3:4617541	GGCCCCGACTTCGCCGCCAT GCG	LOC_Os03g08920	4	30	0
	OT10	Chr3: 8521554	GGCCCGGACTTGCGCTGAT GGT	LOC_Os03g15520	4	30	0

Note: The protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) (NGG) is shown in green background.

Table S4. Segregation of mutations induced by CRISPR/Cas9 in target genes.

T0					T1			
Targets/sgRNA	Mutants	Zygosity	Type of mutations	No. of plants tested	WT	Bi	Homo	Hetero
Target 1	GXU43_2	Homozygous	1i/1i	40	0	0	40(1i/1i)	0
	GXU43_4	Homozygous	27d/27d	40	0	0	40(27d/27d)	0
	GXU43_8	Heterozygous	WT/1i	40	10	0	12(1i)	18(WT/1i)
	GXU43_9	Homozygous	172d/172d	40	0	0	40(172d/172d)	0
	GXU43_19	Homozygous	4d/4d	40	0	0	40(4d/4d)	0
Target 2	GXU43_2	Homozygous	3d/3d	40	0	0	40(3d/3d)	0
	GXU43_4	Homozygous	1d/1d	40	0	0	40(22d/22d)	0
	GXU43_8	Biallelic	4d/2d	40	0	19(4d/2d)	11(4d), 10(2d)	0
	GXU43_9	Homozygous	12d/12d	40	0	0	40(12d/12d)	0
	GXU43_19	Homozygous	1i/1i	40	0	0	40(1i/1i)	0

Table S5. Positions and efficiency score of both the targets.

Target Name	Position	Strand	Off Target Score	GC (%)	Region	Pairing with SgRNA
Target1	128–147	+	0.145	60.0	CDS	None
Target2	541–560	+	0.287	70.0	CDS	None

Table S6. List of primers utilized for analyzing off-targets.

Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
POT1	F: CAAGGGCCCATGAGCATAAC R: GTTGCCGGATAGAACAGCTG
POT2	F: CAAGTCTCAAGTGCTGGCTG R: AGAGCCCCTGGTGTATTTCC
POT3	F: TGCTACCTTGCCGAGATGTA R: TCATCCGGTGCAATCCTGTA
POT4	F: GAAGGGAGGAGGAGGAGAAG R: AGGGTGAGAGAAGTAATCGGC
POT5	F: GACCTCCTGCTCTTCGACAA R: GTTGTGTGCTGCTGAGCATGA
POT6	F: CACCTGTGCGAGTAAATGGG R: AGAGATTGGTGGCGTTGATCC
POT7	F: GATGCGAGTACGAGTCAATC R: CTACTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCG
POT8	F: TGTTTGCAAAATACCGTTTCGA R: GAAGATGTGTGCGCATGTCT
POT9	F: TTCTCCGTCCTCATCAACCG R: CTCCTCCGACTCTTCCTCCT
POT10	F: TGTACTGCGAGGCTGATCAA R: TCGATGTTCCACGGGTTAGG

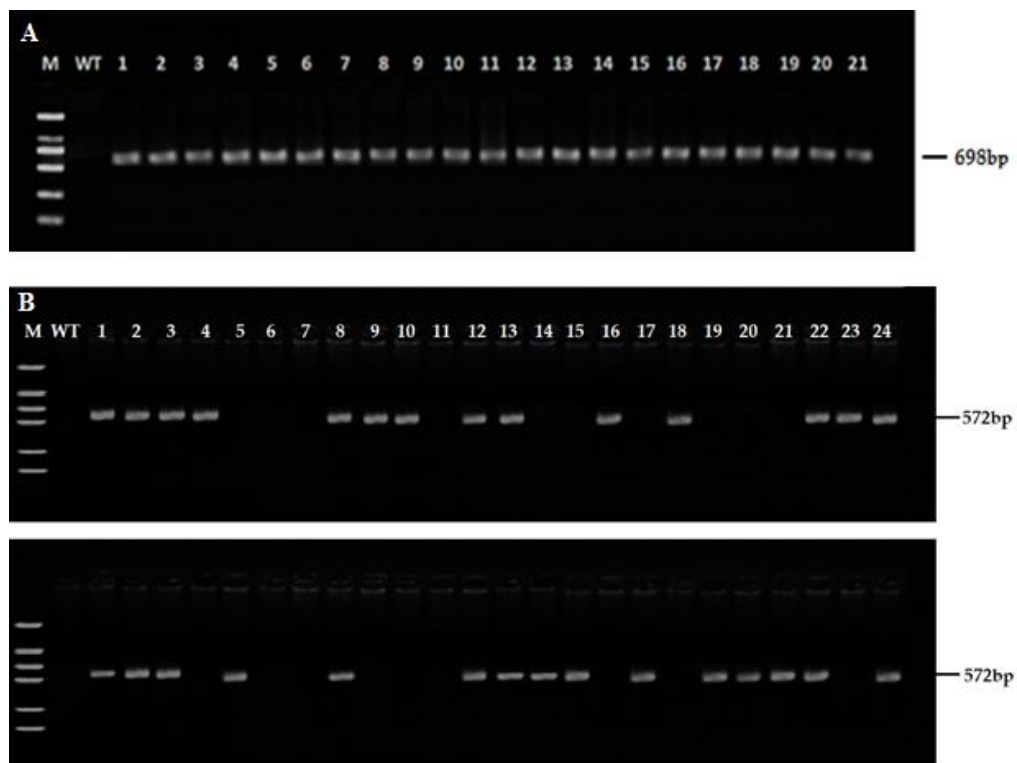
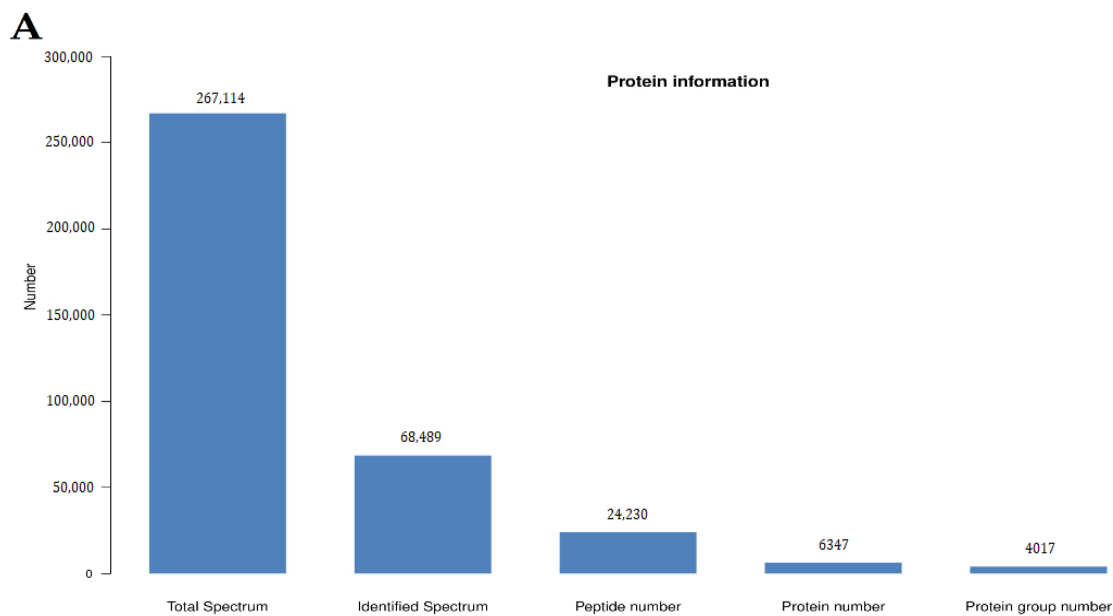
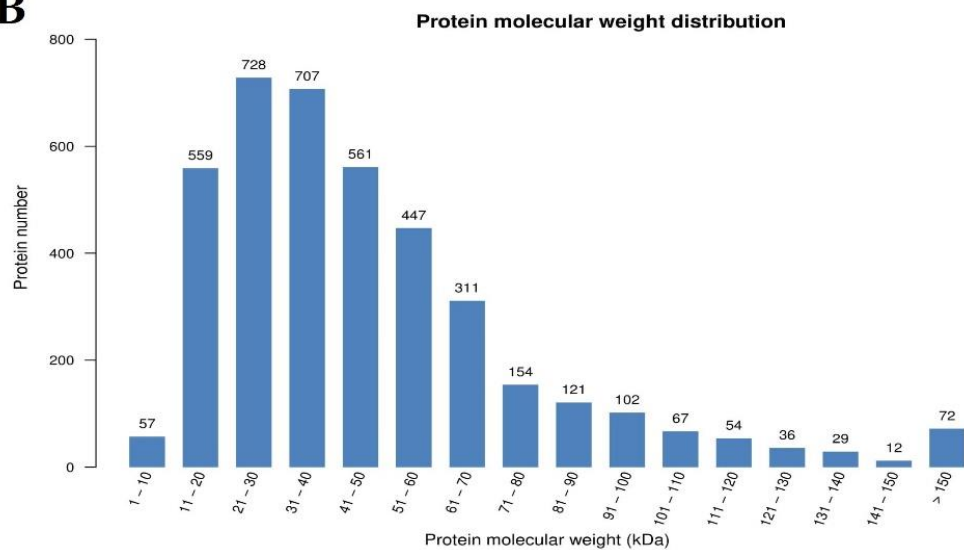
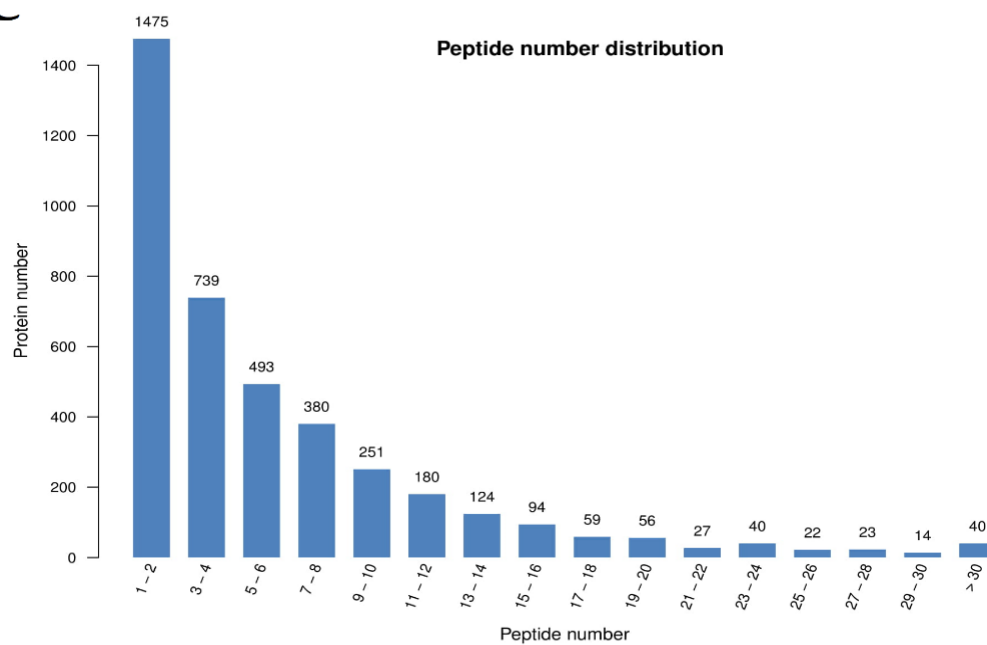


Figure S1. PCR amplification and detection of CRISPR/Cas9 T-DNA integration and the *OsGA20ox2* target sequence assembled in pYLCRISPR/Cas9Pubi-*H*. **(A)** Detection of T0 positive mutant lines; M: DL2000 DNA marker; WT: wild type; **(B)** Assessment of transgene free mutant lines; M: DL2000 DNA marker; WT: wild type.

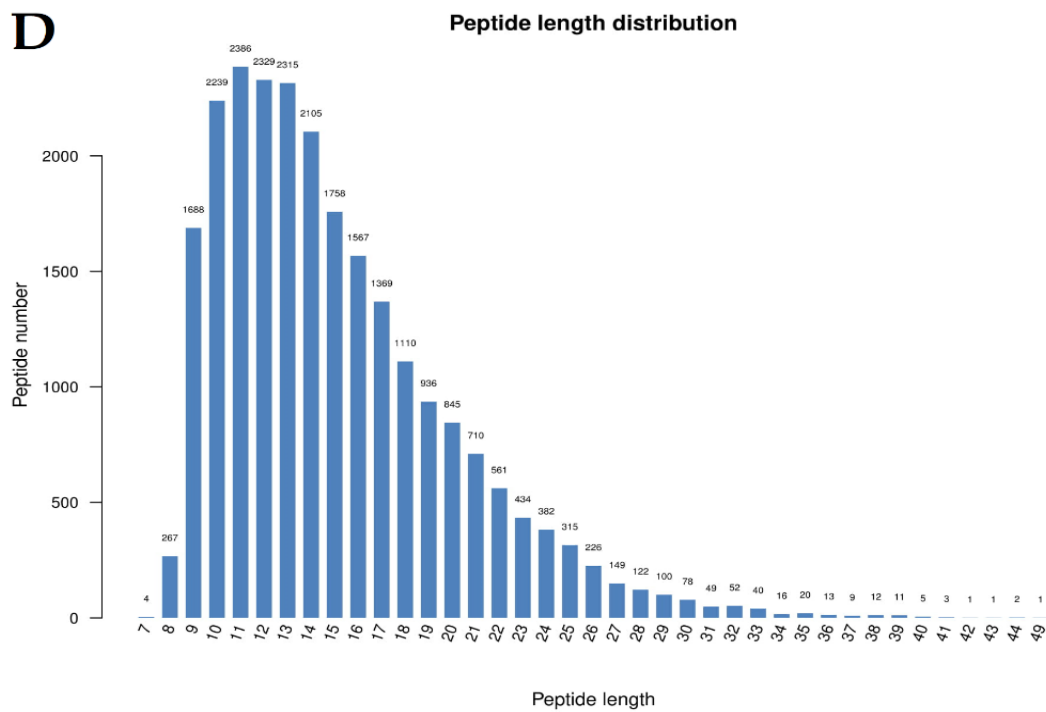


Cont. Figure S2.

B**C**

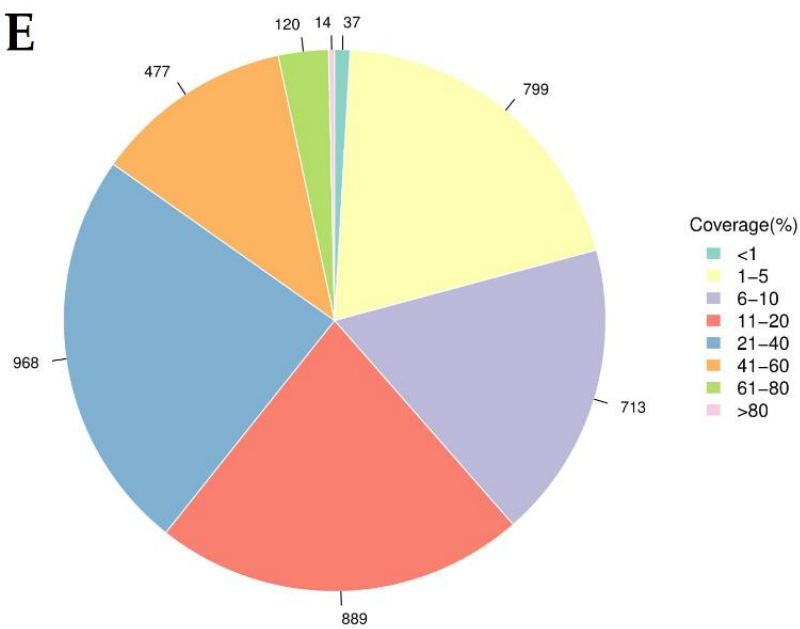
Cont. Figure S2.

D



Cont. Figure S3.

E



Cont. Figure S2.

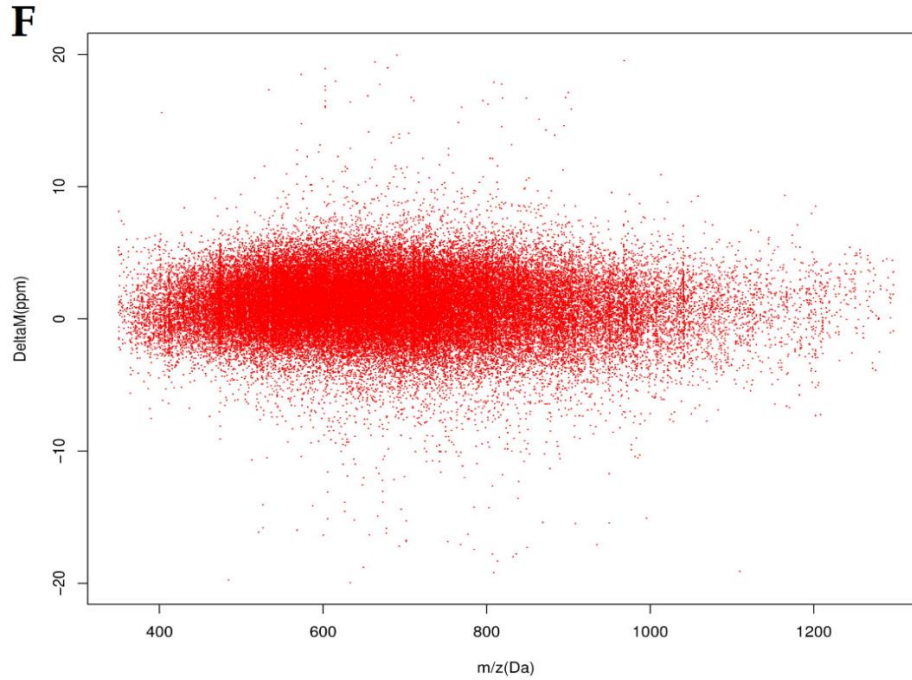


Figure S2. Analysis of the proteome of wild type (WT) and CRISPR/Cas9 mutants of rice. **(A)** Protein information histogram. The x-axis is the information of the identified protein. From left to right: total spectrum of MS/MS, the number of matched spectra the peptide number, the protein number and the protein group number of identified proteins were grouped based on their protein mass; **(B)** Protein molecular weight distribution histogram. The X-axis is the molecular weight of the identified protein. Y-axis is the number of identified proteins; **(C)** Peptide number distribution histogram. X-axis is the peptide number of identified proteins. Y-axis is the number of identified proteins; **(D)** Peptide length distribution. X-axis is the length of the identified peptide which represents the number of amino acid residues in the peptide. Y-axis is the number of peptides matched its length; **(E)** Protein coverage distribution pie chart. Each fan represents the proportion of the protein coverage in all identified proteins. The larger area in the fans, the greater proteins in the protein coverage. The numbers represent the number of the proteins in this area; **(F)** Matching error along peptide. X-axis is the mass-to-charge ratio, which represents the ratio of fragmented ions' mass with charge. Y-axis presents the matching error of fragmented ions' mass. For protein identification, a mass tolerance of 10 ppm was permitted for intact peptide masses.

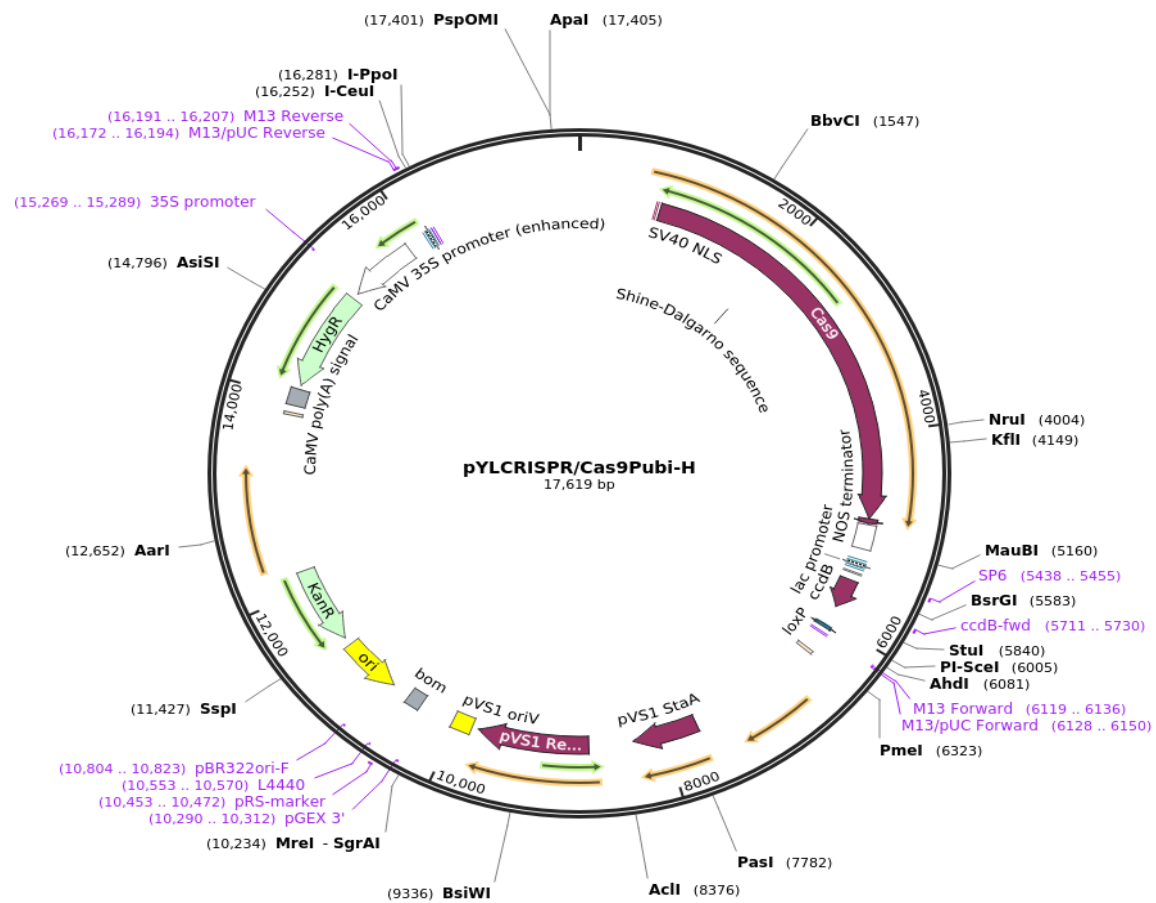


Figure S3. Structure of pYLCRISPR/Cas9Pubi-H binary vector with fragment containing a modified ccdB flanked by two *BsaI* sites.

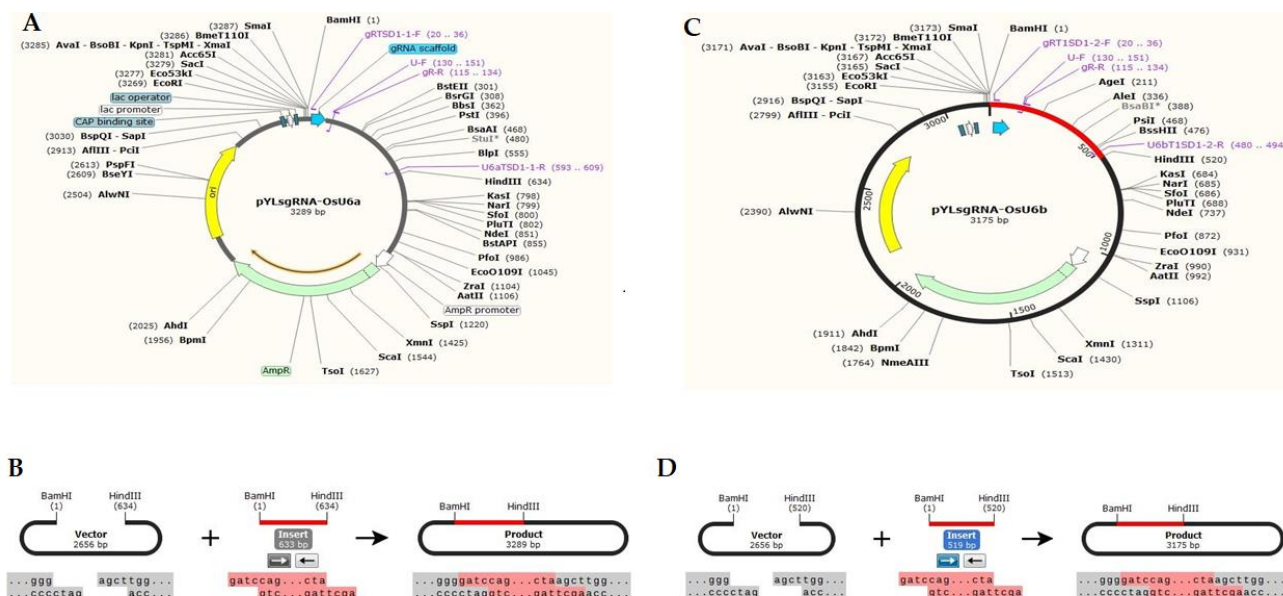


Figure S4. Embedded view of plasmids (A) pYLsgRNA-OsU6a (3289bp); (B) Cloning strategy of pYLsgRNA-OsU6a showing sticky ends created by cutting with two enzymes (BamHI and HindIII), selected fragments replaced indicated in white and the remaining vector fragment is in black (C) pYLsgRNA-OsU6b (3175bp) (D) Cloning strategy of pYLsgRNA-OsU6b showing sticky ends created by cutting with two enzymes (BamHI and HindIII), selected fragments replaced indicated in white and the remaining vector fragment is in black.

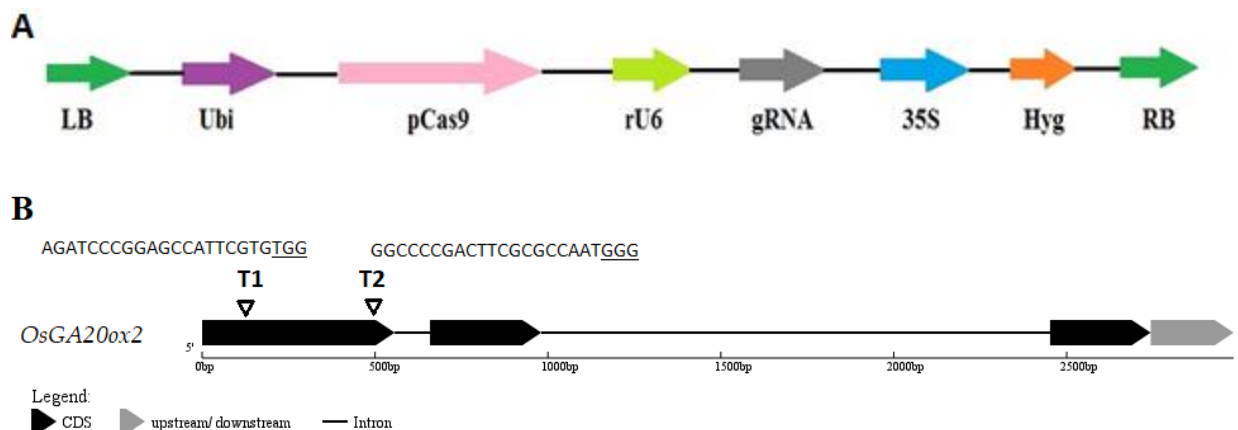


Figure S5. Schematic diagram of Vector map and sgRNA target sites in *OsGA20ox2*. (A) Vector map of Cas9/gRNA. LB: Vector left border; Ubi: ubiquitin promoter; pCas9, Cas9 protein; gRNA: Guided RNA; rU6: Rice U6 promoter; 35S: CaMV 35S promoter; Hyg: Hygromycin; RB, Vector right border; (B) Exons are indicated as black boxes. T₁ and T₂ represent Target 1 and Target 2, respectively. Target 1 was from 128–147 bp and Target 2 was 541–560bp in the first exon.

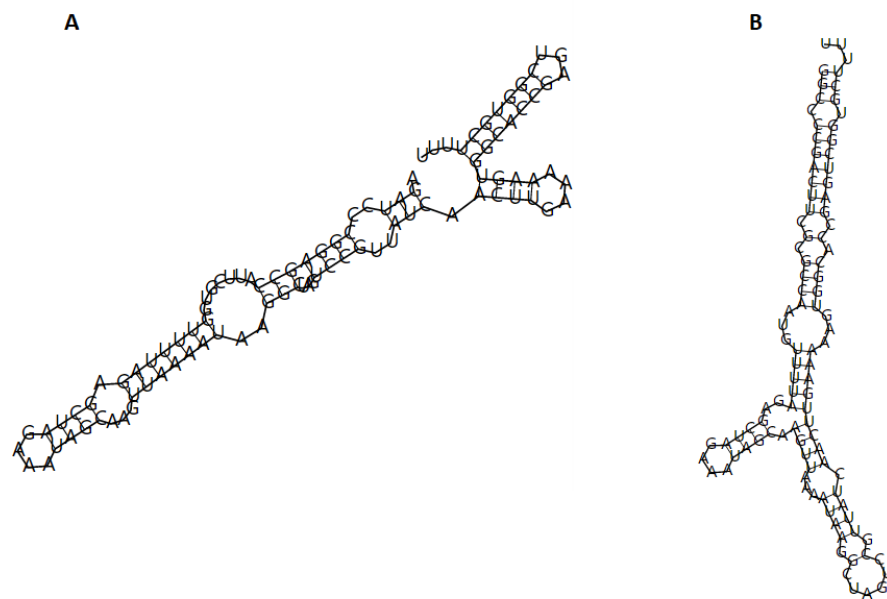


Figure S6. Schematic representation of secondary structures (A) sgRNA1 and (B) sgRNA2, used in for experiment. The secondary structure of both sgRNAs was developed by CRISPR P (<http://crispr.hzau.edu.cn/cgi-bin/CRISPR/CRISPR>).

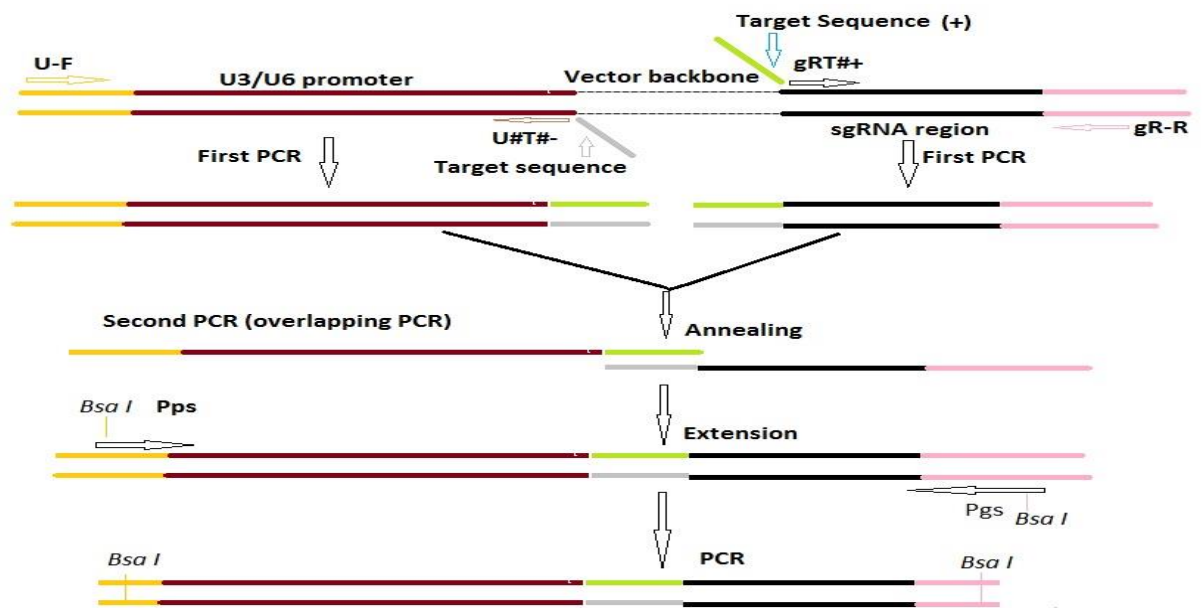


Figure S7. Illustration of overlapping PCR for generation of expression cassette. U-F/U#T#- and gRT#+/gR-R primers are used in separately in both reactions. U#, T#+, and T#- indicates a given promoter, forward and reverse strands of a target sequence, respectively.

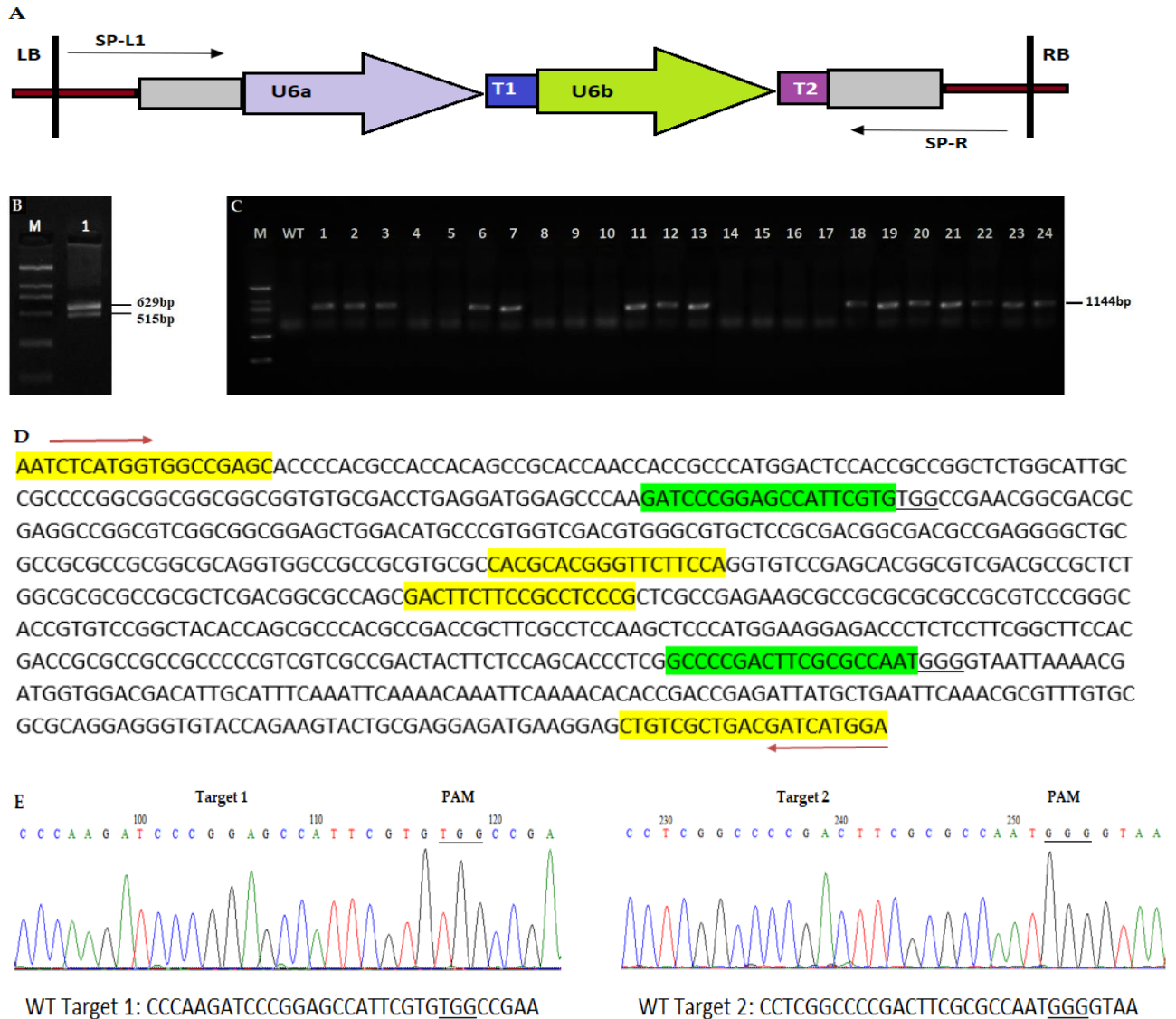


Figure S8. Detection and amplification of CRISPR/Cas9 T-DNA integration and the *OsGA20ox2* target sequence assembly in vector (**A**) Linking sequence of two expression cassettes U6a-driven Target 1 and U6b-driven Target 2 on pYL CRISPR/Cas9 vector (**B**) Gel electrophoresis detection of expression cassette for both targets, M: DL2000 DNA marker; (**C**) detection of expression cassettes after transformation of DH5α; M: DL2000 DNA marker; 1~12: amplified bacterial colonies; 1144 bp: total amplified length of U6a and U6b expression cassette assembly; (**D**) Schematic representation of *SD1* target region showing the location and corresponding sequences of the two 20 bp gRNAs, gRNA1 and gRNA2 are highlighted in green while the PAM is underlined. Positions of forward and reverse primers flanking the target region are highlighted in yellow and indicated with red arrows, respectively; (**E**) Sequencing peak map of both target sites assembled in pYLCRISPR/Cas9 Pubi-*H* vector.