

1 GTCGAGTATAGTAGAAGGTATATGTATAACATTACGCAATCTGTTTCACCTACGGCTCGG
61 TGCGGACGGATAACTTTTTCCATTAAACGCTGTGCACTGAATTGAACATACACTCATATGGC
121 GCTAACCAACAAAAAATAGACCAAGTGAATGAACATTTCTAACGTTTATTAGACGTCTGAA
181 AGCGACGGGGCCCTGCCTCCAACATTGATGATAGATAGATACCAAGAGTTACCTA
241 ATTTAACATTGTGCGCCGGTCATCGGGGTCAACAGTCCACCGTAAAGTTAGTTAAGAGTC
301 ACGAACCGCCATGACAGAACCGGGCCGTCGTGTTCCGCCAGCCTTGGACGGAAGAACATAA
361 GTTTTATAAATTAGTGACAATGCCTTGAGTTATTTTCGTGGAAGCGACAAGGTTGGCCGTT
421 CTGGGAAGTGGCGGCTCGTCCGCAAGTACGACTTGCTCGTGCTCGGCGTCCCCGCACTCC
481 CCGCTGCCGCGCCCCGCACCCCGCACGCGTGTTTATTTTACGTCCGAACACACCGCGCGCC
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601 CGCCGCGCAGCAACGATCACGAACCTTTCACCTCCGTGATATTATCACCTGTGATAAACAC
661 CGATGCCGGGTGAAACTGAATGTGCAGTCCGTACTTAGAAAAGCGTTTCTGTCTGCTGTGAA
721 CGGACTGCCGACCGTCGGTTTTCTGCAAATTAATTTCTCCAGTGTAGTTGTCTGGTTTTCTTC
781 GAAACTGCTTGTAAAGAGTTTTTACTGAGAAACGAAACGGCCGTAAAGTGGATTTGAGGAA
841 ATATAAGTAATTATAAGTGGGCTTTTGTGTTTCCGTGCTGTCTGTTGTTAACAAAAGACGTTTA
901 CATTGGATCCCAATCGAACATTCACACCTCCAATGGTGGTTAAACTACCAGATGCATGCG
1 TGGAAAGTGGGTGTTTCCACTGAATAGTTGGTCAACAGGTGTGGCATGTTGTCCTAACTGCA
961 V E V G V P L N S W S T G V A C C P N C
1021 GGCACGAGCTGAGGGTTTTCCCTCGCGCCGGCAGGTGGGAAATGCCACGCTTTACCGTCGC
30 R H E L R V S L A P A G G K C H A L P S
1081 CACACACGCCGCCACCGTTTACGATCCAGCCGACTTACTTGCCTTATTCACCGCTGTACG
50 P H T P P P F T I Q P T Y L P Y S P L Y
1141 CTACACCTTCGTCTCCATTATACCTACACCGTACAACGATGAACTCAGACGACTCGCAG
70 A T P S S P I I P T P Y N D E L R R L A
1201 ACACTCTCAGAGCGTTGCGTTTTGTCGGGTGGTACTACGGGAATTTGGATTGGCAGGGTG
90 D T L R A L R L S G W Y Y G N L D W Q G
1261 CAAGAACATTGTTGAAAGACGCGAGTGTGCGAGCGTTTGTGATCCGAGACTCCGGAGACA
110 A R T L L K D A S V G A F V I R D S G D
1321 GGAACCTTTATATTCTCATTGTCCGTGCAAAACGGGACCCACATCAGTGCATTGC
130 R N F I F S L S V Q T E R G P T S V R L
1381 ATTACGAGCAAGGCTTTTTTTCAGATTAGACTGTGACCTACCGCTCGCAAGGTACATGCCAA
150 H Y E Q G F F R L D C D L P L A R Y M P
1441 GATTGAGATGCGTTCGTTGAACCTGGTCCAGCACTACACGAGAGTAGGCGACAGAGGCGCGG
170 R F R C V V E L V Q H Y T R V G D R G A
1501 GAGGCACCGTGTGGGTAGACAGAGAGGGTGGCCCGCACTCTCCAGTACTCCTCAAAGTAC
190 G G T V W V D R E G C P H S P V L L K V
1561 CACTCCGGCAAAGTCCACCTTCCCTCCTCCACGCGAGCGAGGCTCGCCGTCCACAAAGCCC
210 P L R Q S P P S L L H A A R L A V H K A
1621 TGGACTCGAACCCTGACACCGAAGCTCTGGGTGTGCCCCCAAACACAGGCTCCTACCTC
230 L D S N P L T P K L W C A P K H R L L P
1681 TTCCATCAACGCTTATAGACTATCTCGGTGAATACCCGTACTCGATCTAACACCAAGATC
250 L P S T L I D Y L G E Y P Y S I *
1741 TGATATAGTTGATTAAATCCGAGTGATGAGTGAAGATATTAGTCGATTTAGTTAACTAACT
1801 CGATAATCGATCACACTAACGTTAATCATCGCCTCAGCATTATCATAATATATAATTAT
1861 TTTGTACAAAATGTATAATAATTAATGGAAATACTTAGCACAGGTTGCTAATTAGGGCCG
1921 GATCCTATAAAATAACGTTTTAACAATGTATATTTATGTTTAAATTAACGTATTAATAAT
1981 AAGTATTGAAAATGGGACTCAACTACTATGGTATTTTAGTGAAAAATATTTACGCAGTCTA
2041 TCGTTTAAAGCCGTTCCGTGTTTGTATATAGGGATTTTGTGTTGAAAGTTGAAGACTGATTT
2101 CCTAGAAGTCTGTAATTATGTTTTTGTGATGTGTGAATTTCTTTATAATTTAACATTCAT
2161 ATATATTCTGAGTTTTTTTTTTTAAATATTGACTGTAAAGACGGAAATTTAATCTCAGTGTATG
2221 ATTTATTGAAATATATATTTTCTTTTCTTTGATCGGTAATTATCATGTATCGATATTAATT
2281 CCTGTTCTAGTTTAAATCGTCTCGAAGGACCATTATGAAAGTGAAAATTCGTGTATAAATA
2341 AATTTTCATATATAATTTTAT(n)

Figure S1: Nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences of *ApSOCS-2*. The nucleotides are numbered from the first base of the cDNA (ORF starts from 933), representing the start of the gene. The SH2 domain extending from “amino acid” position 98 to 184 is exhibited in a brown shade. The SOCS-box extending from position 216 to 256 is shown in a light green shade. The conserved domains are shaded. The poly (A) signals (AATAAA) were underlined with red colour. The 3'-UTR instability motifs (ATTTA) were boxed with blue colour.

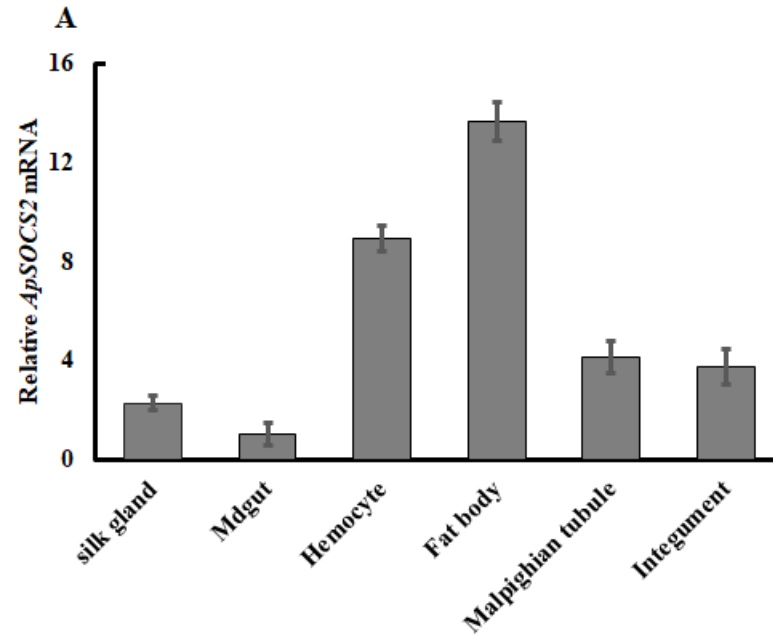


Figure S2. Expression profile of *ApSOCS-2* in various tissues of *A. pernyi* normalized to actin-1. The mRNA expression profile of *ApSOCS-2* in various tissues of the *A. pernyi* was determined using qRT-PCR. The values are represented as mean ± S.E.

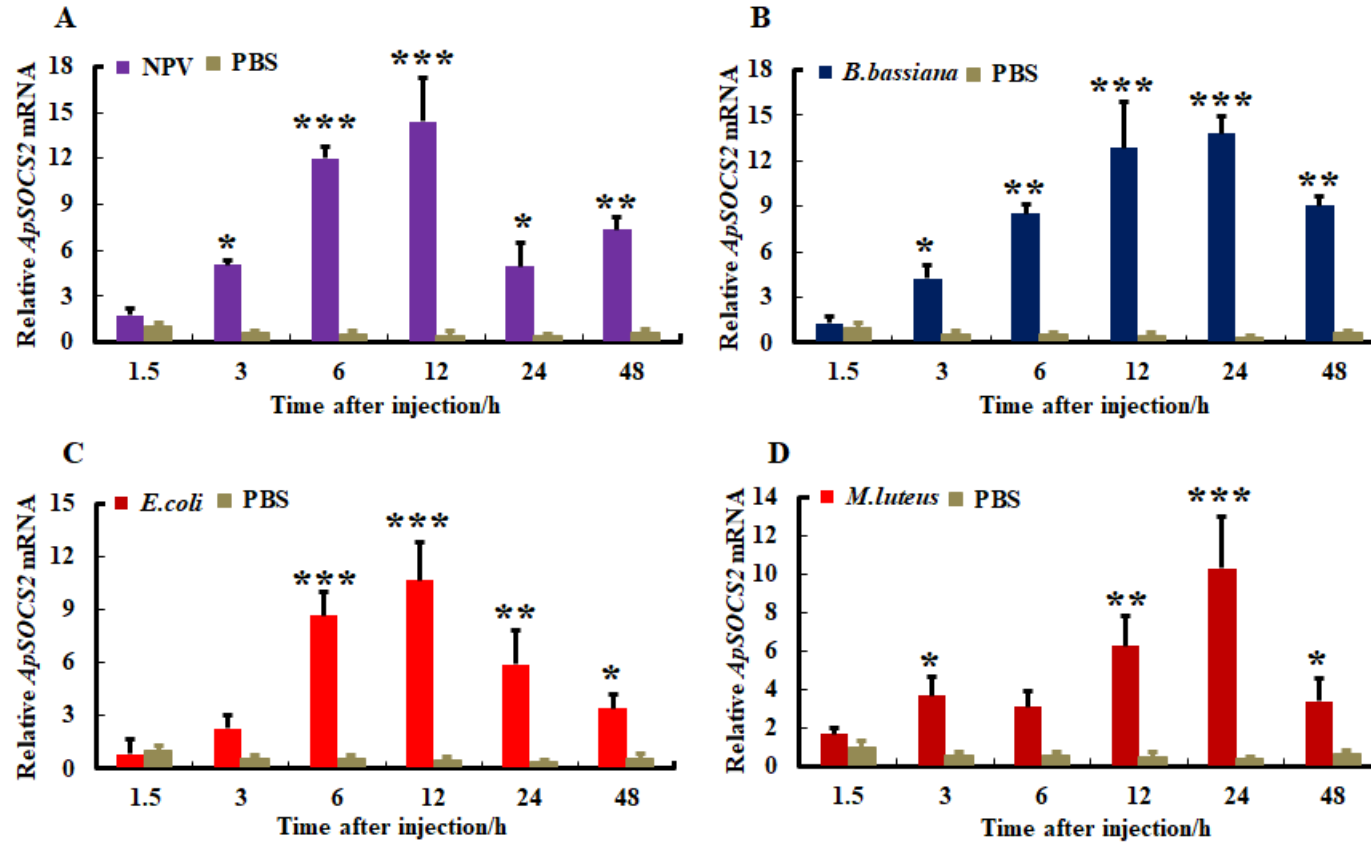


Figure S3. The mRNA expression levels of *ApSOCS-2* in fat bodies following microbial challenge normalized to actin-1. Following injection of A: *ApNPV*, B: *B. bassiana*, C: *E. coli*, D: *M. luteus*, the mRNA expression levels of *ApSOCS-2* were analyzed using qRT-PCR. Data of triplicate experiments (n = 3) are represented with mean \pm S.E. Asterisks indicate significant differences (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$).

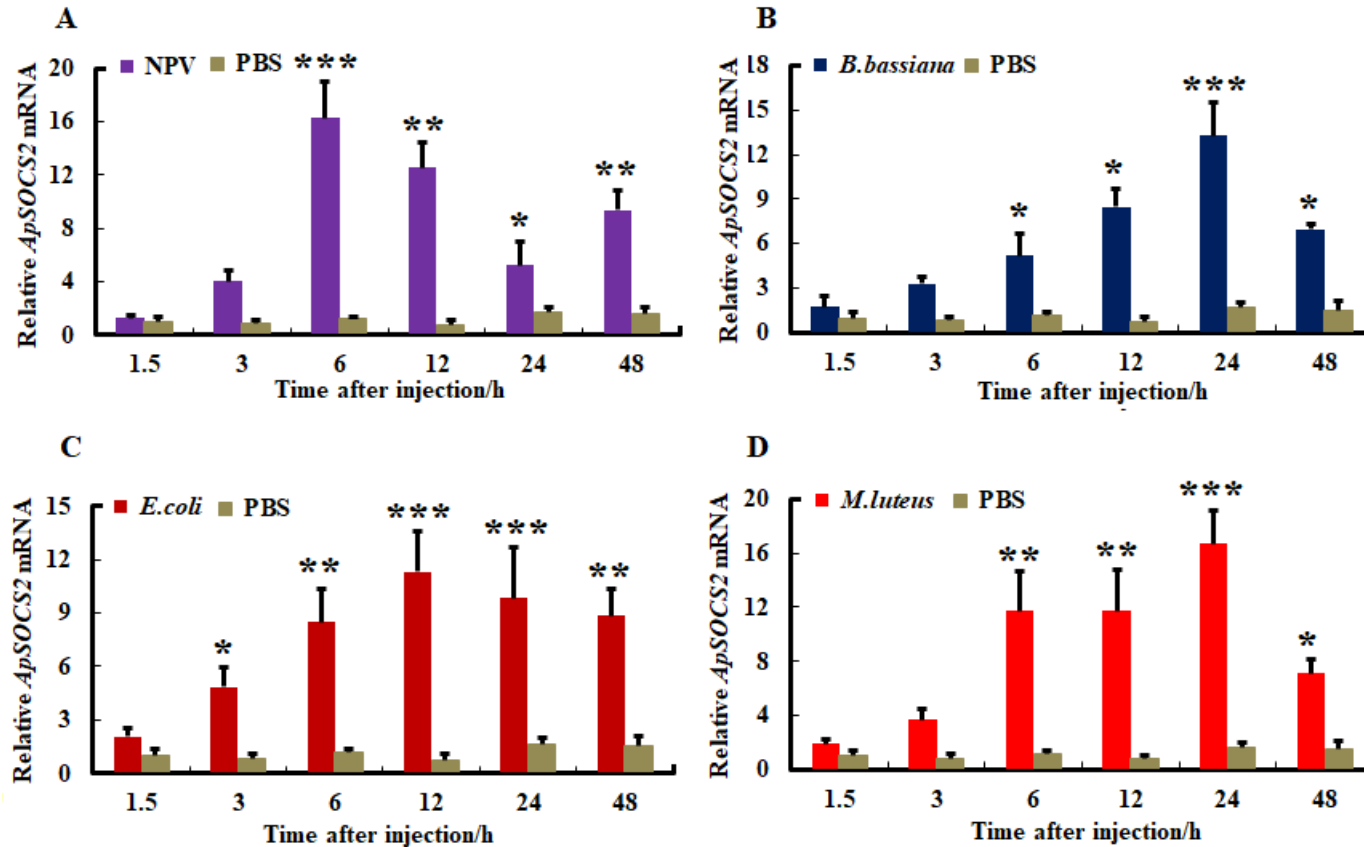


Figure S4. The mRNA expression levels of *ApSOCS-2* in hemocytes following microbial challenge normalized to actin-1. Following injection of A: *ApNPV*, B: *B. bassiana*, C: *E. coli*, D: *M. luteus*, the mRNA expression levels of *ApSOCS-2* were analyzed using qRT-PCR. Data of triplicate experiments ($n = 3$) are represented with mean \pm S.E. Asterisks indicate significant differences (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$).

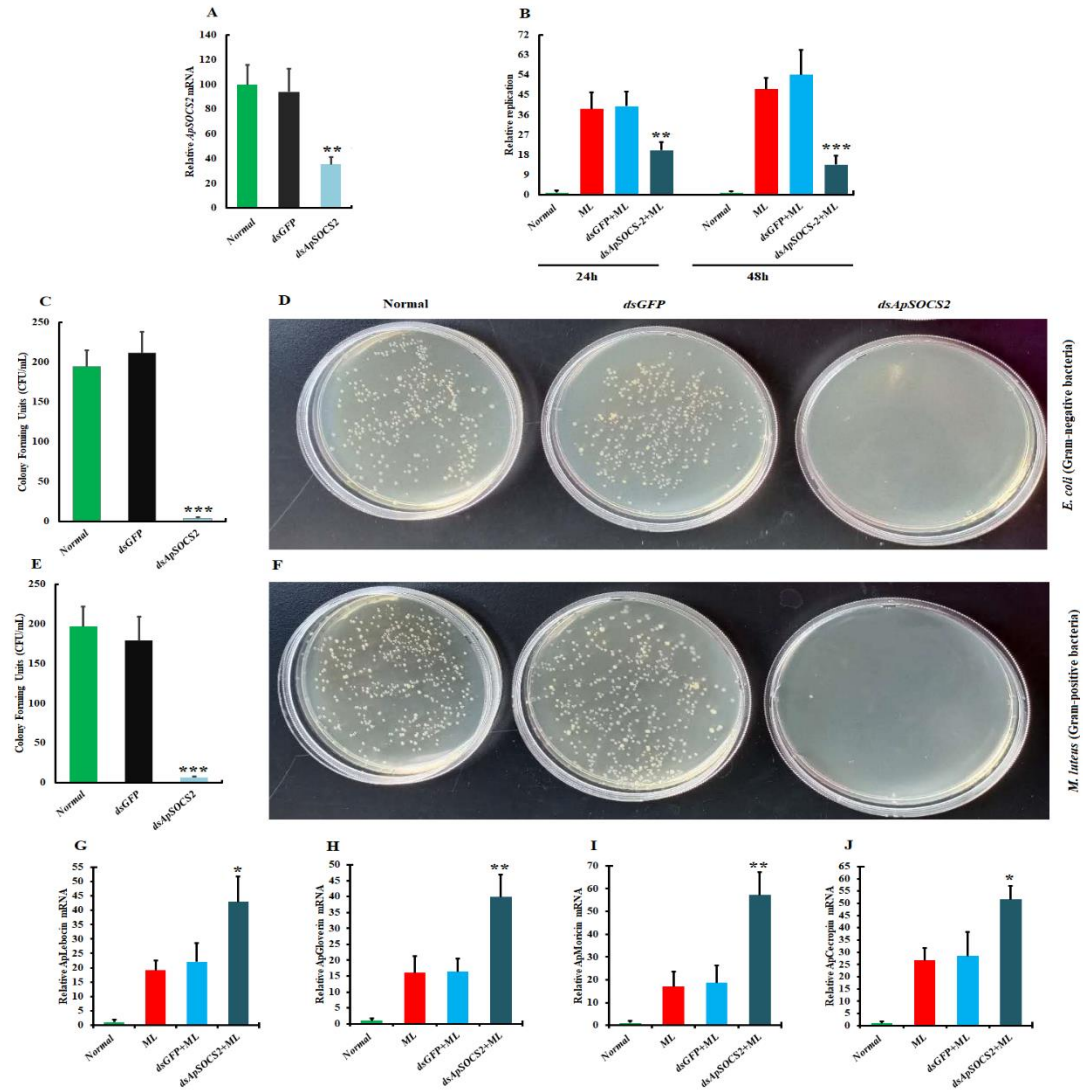


Figure S5. Loss-of-function analysis of *ApSOCS-2* on bacterial survival and antimicrobial peptides production normalized to actin-1. A: *dsApSOCS-2* injection strongly reduced the production of *ApSOCS-2* in hemocytes; B: qPCR replication rate analysis exhibited that treatment of *A. pernyi* larvae with *dsApSOCS-2* decreased the replication rate of *M. luteus*. The plasma antibacterial activity was

increased in the *ApSOCS-2* depletion (C-F). Plasma was sampled from *A. pernyi* treated with *ApSOCS-2* dsRNA or GFP dsRNA. Equal volumes (10 μ l) of plasma and bacterial suspension were incubated at 25 °C for 1 h. Bacteria (*M. luteus*) was injected into *dsApSOCS-2* treated *A. pernyi* larvae, and mRNA expression levels of (G) lebocin, (H) gloverin, (I) moricin, and (G) cecropin were measured by qRT-PCR. Normal: untreated sample; ML: *M. luteus* -treated; *dsGFP*+ML: treated with both *dsGFP* and *M. luteus*; and *dsApSOCS-2*+ML: treated with both *dsApSOCS-2* and *M. luteus*. Asterisks indicate significant differences (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$).

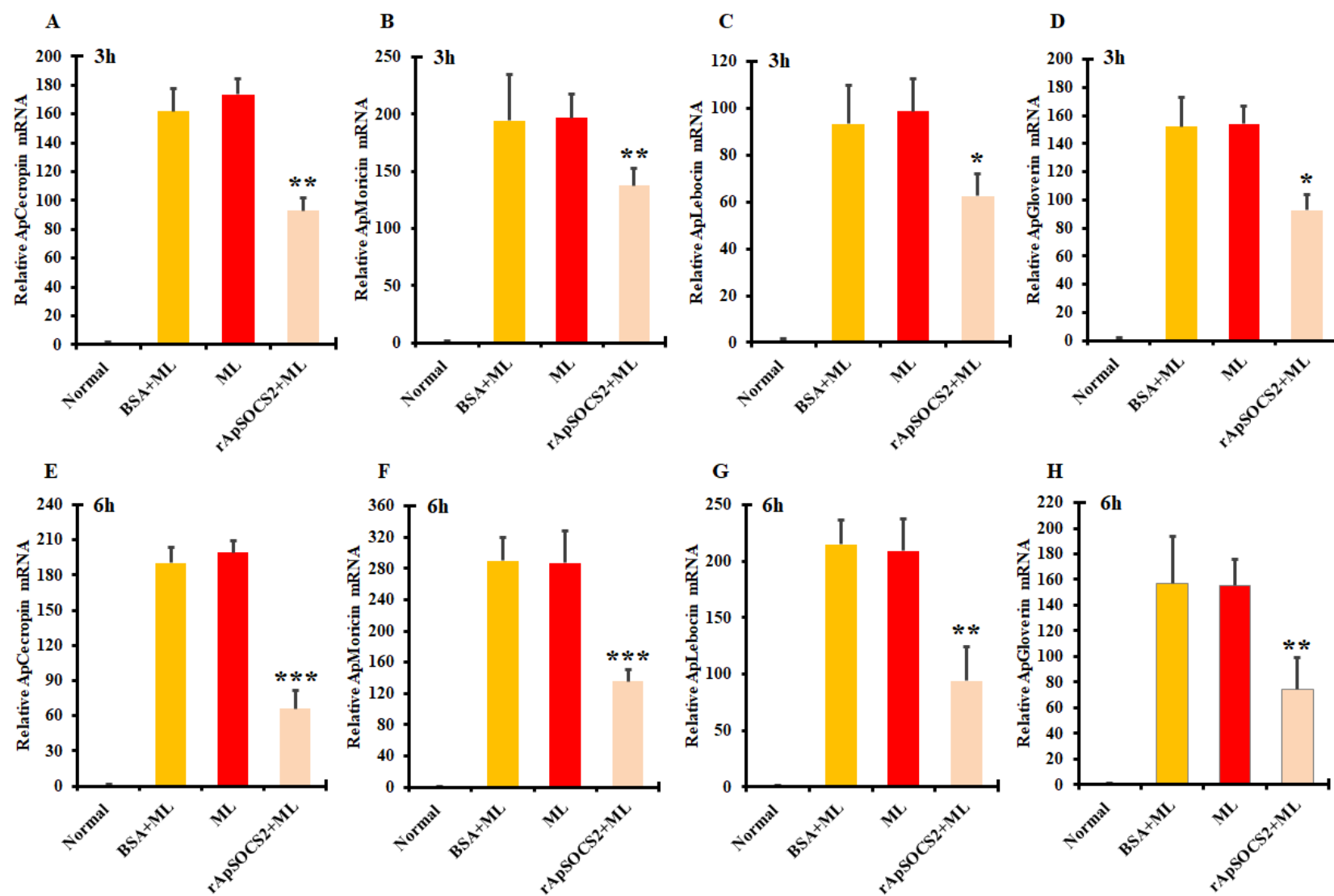
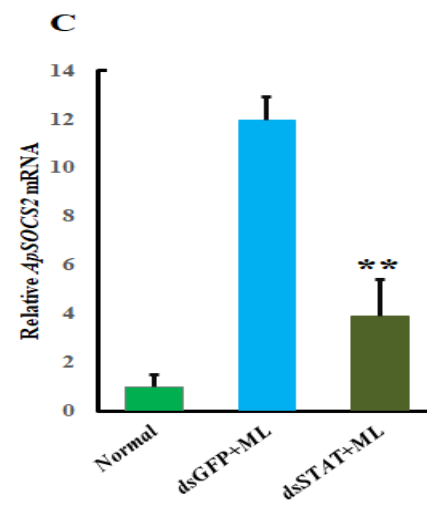
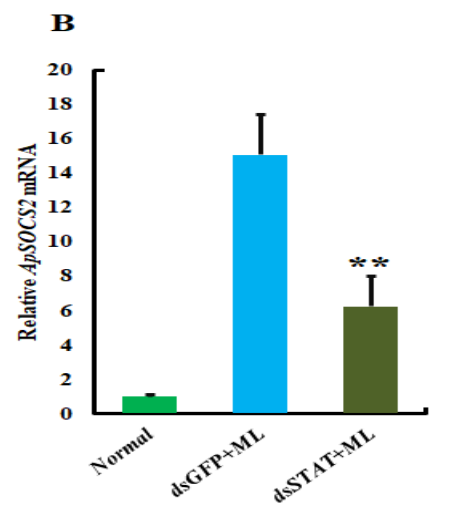
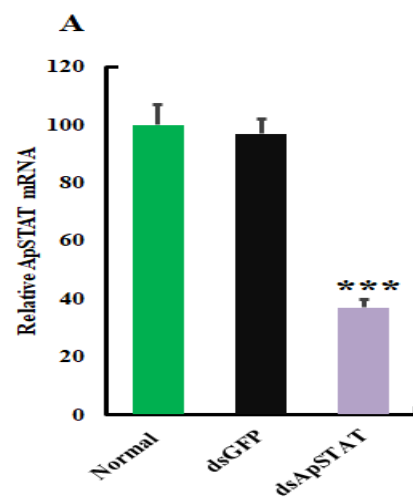


Figure S6. Relative mRNA expression levels of the pertinent AMPs, namely cecropin, moricin, lebocin, and gloverin (A–D) at 3 h after the recombinant ApSOCS-2 protein injection and (E–H) at 6 h after the recombinant ApSOCS-2 protein injection normalized to actin-1. Normal: untreated; BSA+ML: treated with bovine serum albumin and *M. luteus*; ML: *M. luteus*-treated; and recombinant ApSOCS-2+ML: treated with both recombinant ApSOCS-2 protein and *M. luteus*. Asterisks indicate significant differences (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$).

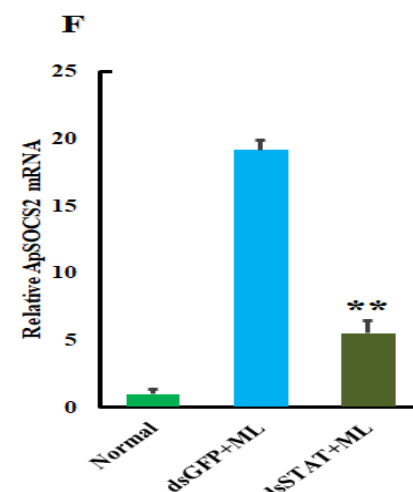
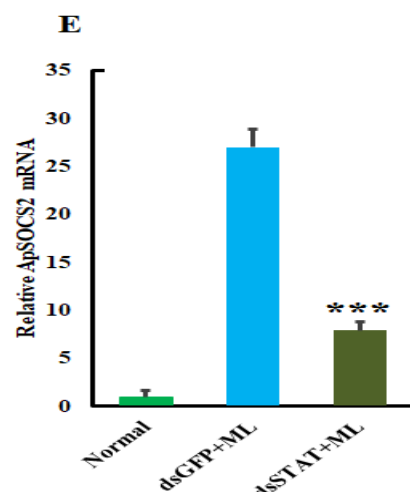
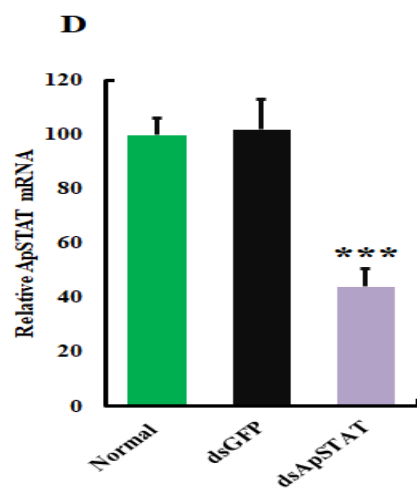
Fat body



6h

12h

Hemocytes



6h

12h

Figure S7. *ApStat* regulates *ApSOCS-2* expression in silkworm challenged with *M. luteus* at 6 and 12 h normalized to actin-1. The efficiency of *ApStat*-RNAi in fat bodies (A) and hemocytes (D). (C-D) After *dsApStat* injection, the *ApSOCS-2* expression in fat bodies of silkworm challenged with *M. luteus* at 6 (B) and 12 h (C) was detected by qRT-PCR in fat bodies. Following *dsApStat* injection, the *ApSOCS-2* expression in hemocytes of silkworm challenged with *M. luteus* at 6 (E) and 12 h (F) was detected by qRT-PCR. The GFP-RNAi was used as the control. Asterisks indicate significant differences (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.001$).

Table S1. Primers used in this study.

| Primer Name | Fwd./Rev. | Purpose | Sequence (5'-3') | Reference |
|-------------|-----------|------------------------|---|------------|
| ApSOCS-2 | Fwd. | Amplification of ORF | AGACGTTTACATTGGATCCC | This study |
| | Rev. | | TACGGGTATTCACCGAGATAG | |
| ApSOCS-2 | Fwd. | Recombinant expression | CGGGATCCGTGGTTAACTACCAGA | This study |
| | Rev. | | CCGCTCGAGTCTCGTGTAGTGCTGGA | |
| ApSOCS-2 | Fwd. | RNAi | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGCCGACTTACTTGCCTTA | This study |
| | Rev. | | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGTGGTACTTTGAGGAG | |
| GFP | Fwd. | | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGATGGTGAGCAAGGGCGAGGA | [31] |
| | Rev. | | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGTTACTTGTACAGCTCGTCCA | |
| ApStat | Fwd. | | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGTTGTTTGGCGCCATGGATTG | This study |
| | Rev. | | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGCGTCTCCTCGATCTGACTGC | |
| ApSOCS-2 | Fwd. | qPCR | CACGATCCAGCCGACTTACT | This study |
| | Rev. | | GACACTCGCGTCTTTCAACA | |
| ApStat | Fwd. | | AAGCTGACGTTGCTCTTCCA | This study |
| | Rev. | | GACCCACGTCACCTTATCG | |
| Ap18s rRNA | Fwd. | | CGATCCGCCGACGTTACTACA | [18] |
| | Rev. | | GTCCGGGCCTGGTGAGATTT | |
| ApActin-1 | Fwd. | | TCGCGATCTCACAGACTACC | This study |
| | Rev. | | TCGTAGGACTTCTCGAGGGA | |
| ApCecropin | Fwd. | | CGTCCTGGCTTTGACAACAG | This study |
| | Rev. | | TCTCCTAAAACTGCTACCGC | |
| ApMoricin | Fwd. | | TCTTATTTTGTGATCCTTGCG | This study |
| | Rev. | | CAGCACTGATCACACGGAAC | |
| ApLebocin | Fwd. | | ATGATGATGCTCCGGGTGAA | This study |
| | Rev. | | CCTCCAGAAAGACCCATCGT | |
| ApGloverin | Fwd. | | CCCGTCGTCATTTTGTCCAA | This study |
| | Rev. | | GGCAAGCGTCTACTCACAAG | |

| | | | | |
|----------|------|--|------------------------|------|
| 16s rRNA | Fwd. | | AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG | [48] |
| | Rev. | | TACGGYTACCTTGTTACGACTT | |

Table S2. List of species, genes and their accession numbers used in this study.

| Sr. no. | Gene | Species | Accession no. |
|---------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | CIS | | |
| 1 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_034025 |
| 2 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | AAH31590 |
| 3 | | <i>Danio rerio</i> | NP_001070085 |
| | SOCS-1 | | |
| 4 | | <i>Danio rerio</i> | NP_001003467 |
| 5 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_003736 |
| 6 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_034026 |
| 7 | | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | NP_665886 |
| | SOCS-2 | | |
| 8 | | <i>Papilio xuthus</i> | KPJ02665 |
| 9 | | <i>Papilio machon</i> | KPJ08265 |
| 10 | | <i>Danaus plexippus</i> | EHJ63976 |
| 11 | | <i>Antheraea pernyi</i> | Present study |
| 12 | | <i>Tribolium castaneum</i> | EFA08217 |
| 13 | | <i>Eriocheir sinensis</i> | ACU42699 |
| 14 | | <i>Crassostrea gigas</i> | EKC24772 |
| 15 | | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | NP_478115 |
| 16 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_001257400 |
| | SOCS-3 | | |
| 17 | | <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> | NP_001139640 |
| 18 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_003946 |
| 19 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_031733 |
| 20 | | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | NP_446017 |
| | SOCS-4 | | |

| | | | |
|----|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 21 | | <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> | NP_523593 |
| 22 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_543143 |
| 23 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_543119 |
| | SOCS-5 | | |
| 24 | | <i>Danio rerio</i> | NP_001107269 |
| 25 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_659198 |
| 26 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_062628 |
| 27 | | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | NP_001102744 |
| | SOCS-6 | | |
| 28 | | <i>Bombyx mori</i> | NP_001185652 |
| 29 | | <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> | NP_523659 |
| 30 | | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | NP_001258078 |
| 31 | | <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> | CAP17278 |
| 32 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_004223 |
| | SOCS-7 | | |
| 33 | | <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> | NP_523390 |
| 34 | | <i>Homo sapiens</i> | NP_055413 |
| 35 | | <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> | NP_001182101 |
| 36 | | <i>Danio rerio</i> | NP_001274006 |
| 37 | | <i>Mus musculus</i> | NP_619598 |

Table S3. Statistics of the transcriptome sequence data.

| | Clean Bases | Clean Reads | Mapped Reads | Mapped Ratio (%) | Q20% | Q30% | GC% |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <i>dsApSOCS-2+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 6,923,641,600 | 23,130,124 | 18,504,665 | 80.00 | 98.10 | 94.43 | 42.55 |
| <i>dsApSOCS-2+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 7,797,146,398 | 26,102,106 | 20,111,717 | 77.05 | 98.22 | 94.63 | 43.40 |
| <i>dsApSOCS-2+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 5,967,163,040 | 19,942,159 | 16,024,304 | 80.35 | 98.23 | 94.69 | 42.91 |
| <i>dsGFP+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 6,737,393,200 | 22,531,058 | 17,926,445 | 79.56 | 97.63 | 93.25 | 42.68 |
| <i>dsGFP+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 5,970,481,000 | 19,948,172 | 15,703,121 | 78.72 | 97.56 | 93.08 | 43.35 |
| <i>dsGFP+Micrococcus luteus</i> | 8,441,303,376 | 28,210,831 | 22,130,524 | 78.45 | 97.47 | 92.88 | 43.35 |