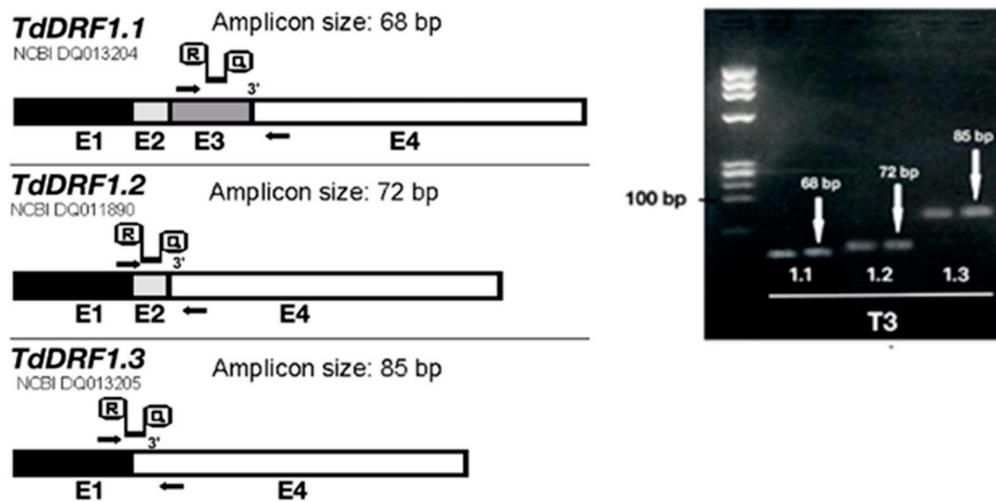


## Supplementary Materials

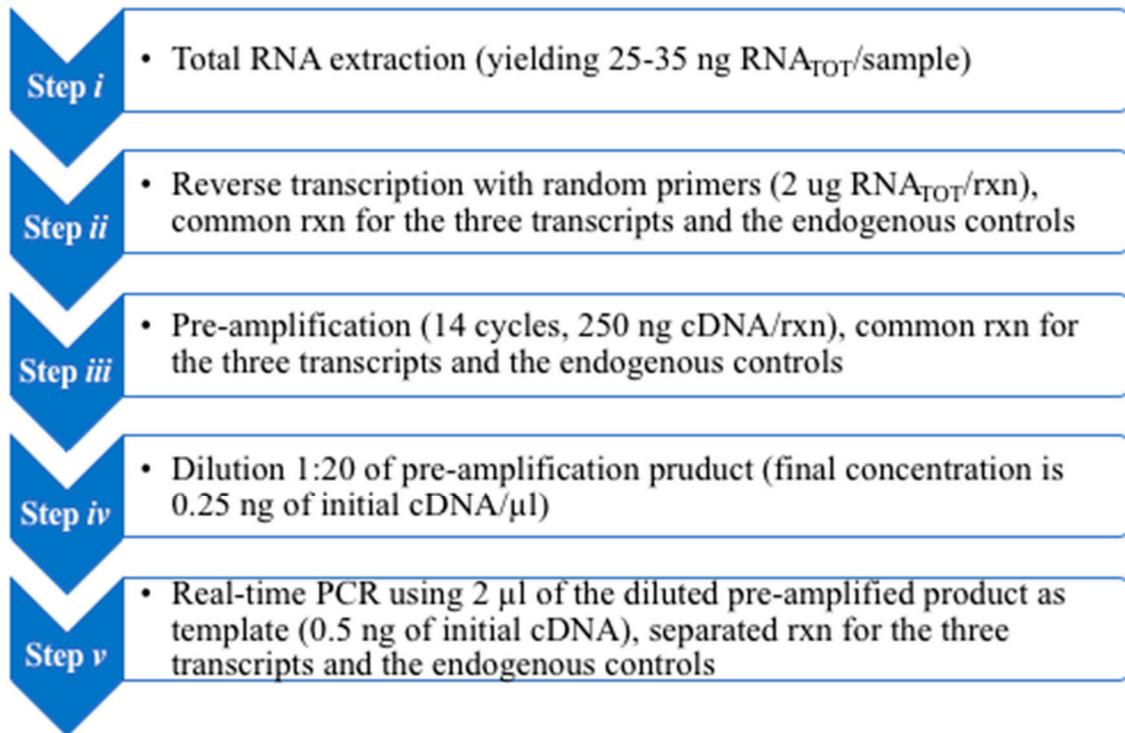
**Supplementary Figure S1:** Specific amplification and detection of the three *TdDRF1* transcripts.

On the left: experimental design of TaqMan primers and probes for the specific amplification and detection of the three *TdDRF1* gene transcripts. “R” is the “Reporter” dye attached at the 5'-end of the probe sequence and “Q” is the non-fluorescent “Quencher” on the 3'-end. E1, E2, E3, E4 indicate Exon 1, 2, 3, 4.

On the right: end-point RT-PCRs run on 3% agarose gel confirming the specificity of primers and probes (by the length and further band sequencing). The gel refers to Duilio RI samples collected at T3.



**Supplementary Figure S2:** Schematic representation of the complete procedure of reverse transcription, pre-amplification and qRT-PCR.



**Supplementary Table S1:** Gene-stability values (*M*) of the analysed reference genes

<b>Housekeeping gene</b>	<b><i>M</i></b>
<i>18S rRNA</i>	0.980
<i>Actin</i>	0.905
<i>Ta2291</i>	0.936
<i>Ta2776</i>	0.985
<i>TaSnK1</i>	0.802