



Figure S1. Effect of separately applied different doses of ZnSO₄ (0.25, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, and 2.0 g Kg⁻¹ soil) and ZnO (0.25, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, and 2.0 g Kg⁻¹ soil) on cotton plants that were subjected to water deprivation-induced drought stress for 6 days. (A,B) Cotton plants were photographed after being subjected to drought stress. (C) Shoot length and (D) shoot dry weight of cotton plants supplemented with different doses of ZnSO₄. (E) Shoot length and (F) shoot dry weight of cotton plants supplemented with different doses of ZnO. The means and standard deviations ($n = 3$) are displayed as bars. Significant changes ($p < 0.05$) among the treatments are denoted by different letters above the bars as calculated using the least significant difference test. WW, well-watered plants; DS, drought-stressed plants.