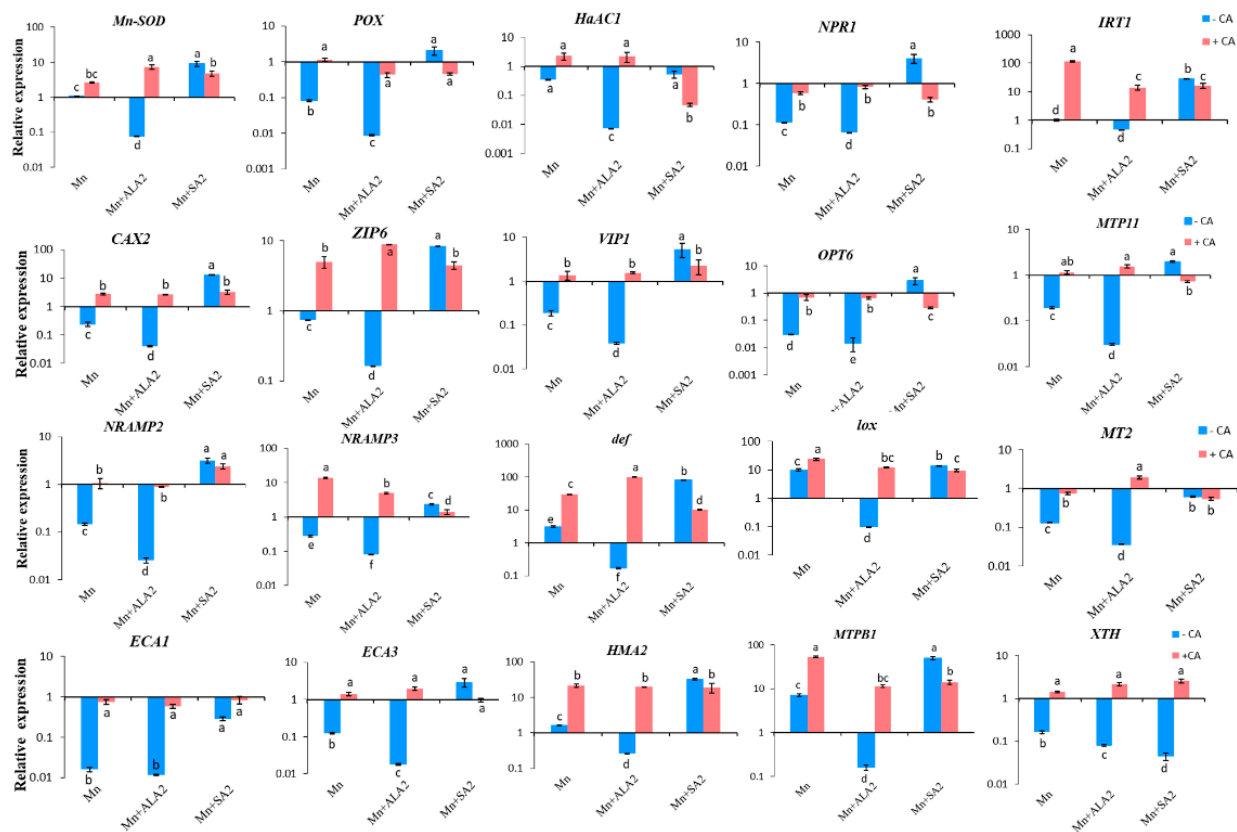


Figure S1. The heatmap of effects of 5-aminolevulinic acid or salicylic acid (ALA/SA) combined with citric acid (CA) on manganese (Mn) and other elements concentration on shoots and roots of Mn treated sunflower plants. Mn means that plants exposed to 0.8 g kg^{-1} of Mn for 7 days; Mn + ALA1/ALA2 indicates spraying with $10/20 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ALA after Mn treatment for 7 days; Mn + SA1/SA2 indicates spraying with $50/100 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ SA after Mn treatment for 7 days. Mn + CA indicates plants treated with 20 mmol kg^{-1} CA 7 days after Mn treatment. Mn + CA + ALA/SA treatment indicates plants treated with ALA/SA for one week after CA treatment. Data are the means of three replicates by Log₂ fold change.

(a)



(b)

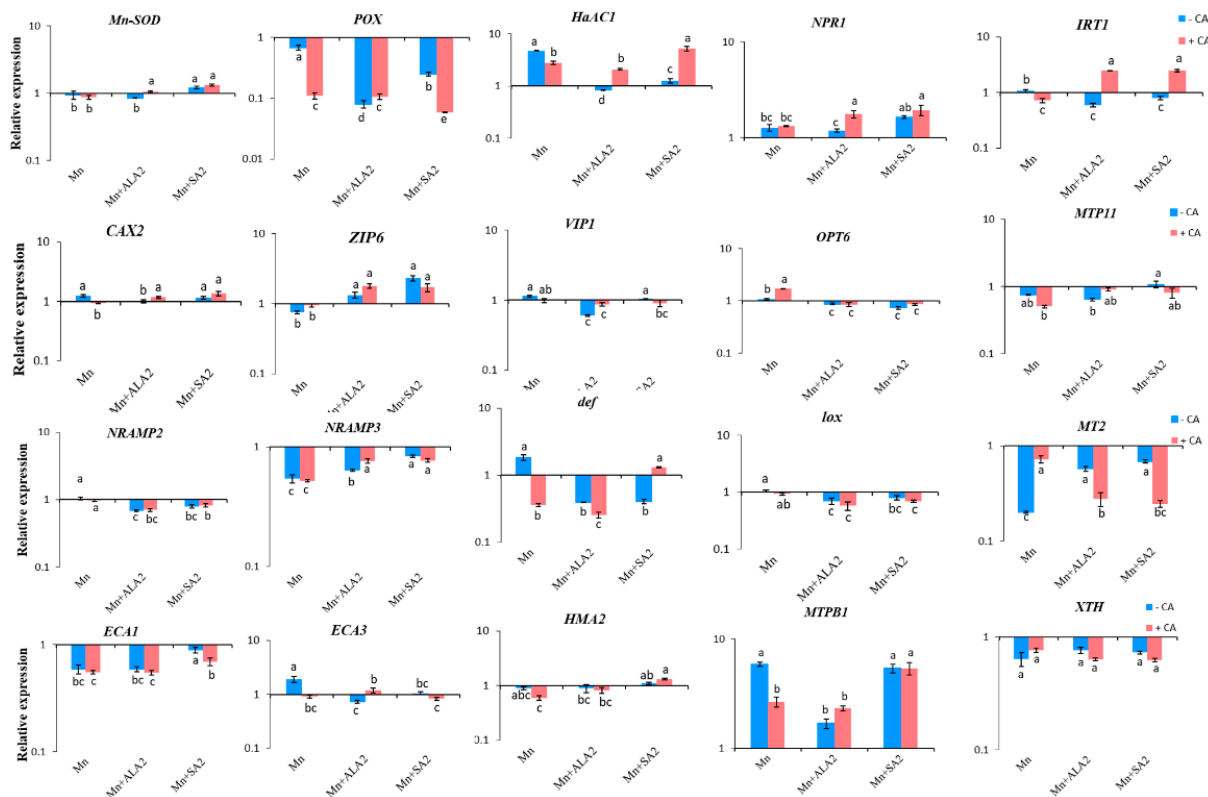


Figure S2. Effects of 5-aminolevulinic acid or salicylic acid (ALA/SA) combined with citric acid (CA) on tolerant-related gene expression patterns in the leaves (a) and roots (b) of manganese (Mn)-treated sunflower plants. CA, 20 mmol kg⁻¹ citric acid treatment. CK, control plants without any treatment; Mn, plants exposed to 0.8 g kg⁻¹ of Mn for 7 days; Mn + CA, plants

treated with CA 7 days after Mn treatment; Mn + CA + ALA2, plants treated with 20 mg L⁻¹ ALA for one week after CA treatment; Mn + CA + SA2, plants treated with 100 mg L⁻¹ SA for one week after CA treatment. The relative expression levels are calculated by $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ method compared with that of *EF-1 α* with three replicates. The results are represented by means \pm standard errors. The expression level in control is normalized as "1". Means are denoted by the same letter when there is no significant difference at $P < 0.05$ as determined by Duncan's multiple range test.

Table S1 The combinations of different treatments in the experiment.

Agentia Treatments	CK	Mn (800 mg kg ⁻¹)	CA (20 mmol kg ⁻¹)	ALA1 (10 mg L ⁻¹)	ALA2 (20 mg L ⁻¹)	SA1 (50 mg L ⁻¹)	SA2 (100 mg L ⁻¹)
1	√						
2				√			
3					√		
4						√	
5							√
6		√					
7		√		√			
8		√			√		
9		√				√	
10		√					√
11		√	√				
12		√	√	√			
13		√	√		√		
14		√	√			√	
15		√	√				√

Table S2 Primers of sunflower genes used for the RT-qPCR analysis

Gene	Description	PCR primers	Accession No.
<i>EF-1α</i>	elongation factor 1 alpha (reference gene)	GGATACAACCCCGACAAA CCTGAAGTGGGAGACGGA	LOC110904321
<i>Mn-SOD</i>	superoxide dismutase [Mn], mitochondrial	TGAATGCTGAAGGTGCTG CCCAAACATCTATGCCAAT	LOC110872653
<i>POX</i>	basic peroxidase	CAGCTCGTGATGCTTCTGTC GCGACCATTCTCTCGTGTT	LOC110921228
<i>HaAC1</i>	auxin-induced protein PCNT115	AGTGTCCATCCAATAACTGCCA ACCTTGAAAGTTCGGACGAT	LOC110908643
<i>NPR1</i>	BTB/POZ domain and ankyrin repeat-containing protein NPR1	TGGGTATGATGCGTTTCTCGT AGTTGAGAAGACGACGCTGA	LOC110898811
<i>CAX2</i>	vacuolar cation/proton exchanger 3	CCCACTTCAACCCACCAATC GGTGGGCAGATCATACTGGA	LOC110935436
<i>IRT1</i>	probable zinc transporter 10	ACTCATGGTGGACTCGATGG TGGCTACGACACGATAACGA	LOC110872294
<i>OPT6</i>	oligopeptide transporter 6	AAGACGAAAGGTGCATTTCGG TAGCAACACCACAAGCCAAC	LOC110936446
<i>NRAMP2</i>	metal transporter Nramp2	CTGATGTGGGCGACGGTAAT AGCAATCGCACTCCCAATCA	LOC110915178
<i>NRAMP3</i>	metal transporter Nramp1-like	CGAGTACGGAACCAATACGC GCTGAACAAGCAAGCCGATA	LOC110903996
<i>ZIP6</i>	zinc transporter 6, chloroplastic	CTTCACAAGCGTCATCGGAA GAGATGACACCTGGCAATCG	LOC110869063
<i>VIP1</i>	transcription factor VIP1	ACCATGCTCCAGCGGGATA AACATATGCGCATGCTGAGG	LOC110942245
<i>MTPB1</i>	metal tolerance protein B	GTCTTGTGACCGTTGTTGCT AAATGGGCTGCATCCGTAAG	LOC110940073
<i>MTP11</i>	metal tolerance protein 11	GATGGATCCC GTTGGAGCTA GCCCGTACGGTATCAATGTG	LOC110877757
<i>def</i>	defensin (anther-specific protein SF18-like)	TCCGGAACATGTGGCAAGAC CTTCTCCTTGGCGAGCTCTT	LOC110893837
<i>lox</i>	lipoxygenase 2, chloroplastic	GTGTCATCACCATCCAAC GCATAAGCCTTCACTGTCT	LOC110898679
<i>ECA1</i>	calcium-transporting ATPase 1, endoplasmic reticulum-type	GGCTGGCCAAGAACTTCAA TACACCCGAGAGTCTCAACG	LOC110908087
<i>ECA3</i>	calcium-transporting ATPase 3, endoplasmic reticulum-type	GGCTGGCCAAGAACTTCAA TACACCCGAGAGTCTCAACG	LOC110894822
<i>HMA2</i>	cadmium/zinc-transporting ATPase HMA2	TCAAATGGTTGGCACTCGGA TCAGTGCTTCATAGCAGGCTT	LOC110929174
<i>MT2/mt</i>	metallothionein-like protein type 2	CTTGCTGCAGCGGAAAGT GTTTCCACCCTCAGCAACAA	LOC110873772
<i>XTH</i>	xyloglucan endotransglucosylase/hydrolase protein 9	GTGTTGGTAACAGGGAGCAG TACACCCATGGCTTGGTCTT	LOC110911614

Table S3 Pearson correlation coefficients among plant biomass (DW), POD in root, oxidative damage in root, Mn uptake, Mn translocation in sunflower under Mn treatment (n=3).

	Shoot biomass	Root biomass	POD in leaves	APX in leaves	MDA in leaves	H ₂ O ₂ in leaves	Shoot Mn concentrations	Root Mn concentrations	TF	RE
Shoot biomass	1									
Root biomass	0.497**	1								
POD in leaves	0.039	0.092	1							
APX in leaves	0.453*	-0.026	-0.490**	1						
MDA in leaves	0.233	-0.277	-0.330	0.410*	1					
H ₂ O ₂ in leaves	-0.549**	-0.605**	-0.206	-0.164	0.457*	1				
Shoot Mn concentrations	-0.730**	-0.383*	0.444*	-0.620**	-0.276	0.368*	1			
Root Mn concentrations	0.705**	0.620**	0.084	0.381*	-0.056	-0.598**	-0.407*	1		
Translocation factor	-0.855**	-0.577**	0.260	-0.648**	-0.146	0.586**	0.879**	-0.717**	1	
Remove efficiency	-0.509**	-0.207	0.540**	-0.562**	-0.235	0.175	0.945**	-0.194	0.718**	1

* and ** represent significant correlations at level $p < 0.05$ and $p < 0.01$, respectively.

Table S4 Pearson correlation coefficients among different metal elements, including Mn, B, Na, Mg, Al, P, K, Ca, Fe, Cu and Zn (n=3) in sunflower shoot.

	Mn concentration	B	Na	Mg	Al	P	K	Ca	Fe	Cu	Zn
Mn	1										
B	0.645**	1									
Na	0.202	0.034	1								
Mg	0.379*	0.491**	0.199	1							
Al	0.656**	0.777**	0.217	0.155	1						
P	0.823**	0.701**	0.248	0.588**	0.584**	1					
K	-0.042	-0.014	-0.059	0.420*	-0.156	0.246	1				
Ca	0.545**	0.611**	0.206	0.794**	0.441*	0.609**	0.041	1			
Fe	0.734**	0.815**	0.211	0.316	0.947**	0.720**	-0.010	0.522**	1		
Cu	0.764**	0.895**	0.175	0.477**	0.810**	0.845**	0.056	0.643**	0.900**	1	
Zn	0.872**	0.720**	0.322	0.314	0.793**	0.797**	-0.130	0.514**	0.850**	0.813**	1

* and ** represent significant correlations at level $p < 0.05$ and $p < 0.01$, respectively.

Table S5 Pearson correlation coefficients among different metal elements, including Mn, B, Na, Mg, Al, P, K, Ca, Fe, Cu and Zn (n=3) in sunflower root.

	Mn concentration	B	Na	Mg	Al	P	K	Ca	Fe	Cu	Zn
Mn	1										
B	0.049	1									
Na	0.358	-0.045	1								
Mg	0.468**	0.058	0.568**	1							
Al	0.192	0.144	0.008	0.398*	1						
P	0.017	0.365*	0.258	0.010	0.099	1					
K	-0.045	0.284	-0.394*	-0.383*	0.037	0.540**	1				
Ca	0.268	0.504**	-0.063	0.361	0.299	0.262	0.418*	1			
Fe	0.161	0.178	-0.202	0.262	0.858**	0.023	0.091	0.281	1		
Cu	0.485**	0.155	0.277	0.523**	0.288	0.244	0.215	0.493**	0.266	1	
Zn	-0.108	0.246	-0.132	0.042	-0.046	-0.082	0.090	0.211	0.160	0.248	1

* and ** represent significant correlations at level $p < 0.05$ and $p < 0.01$, respectively.