

Developmental stage	PMC	MEI	TED	EUM	VUM	BIN	MP
Bud length (mm)	1.5	2.5	4	5	6	7	8
Days to anthesis	12	11	8	7	6	3	0

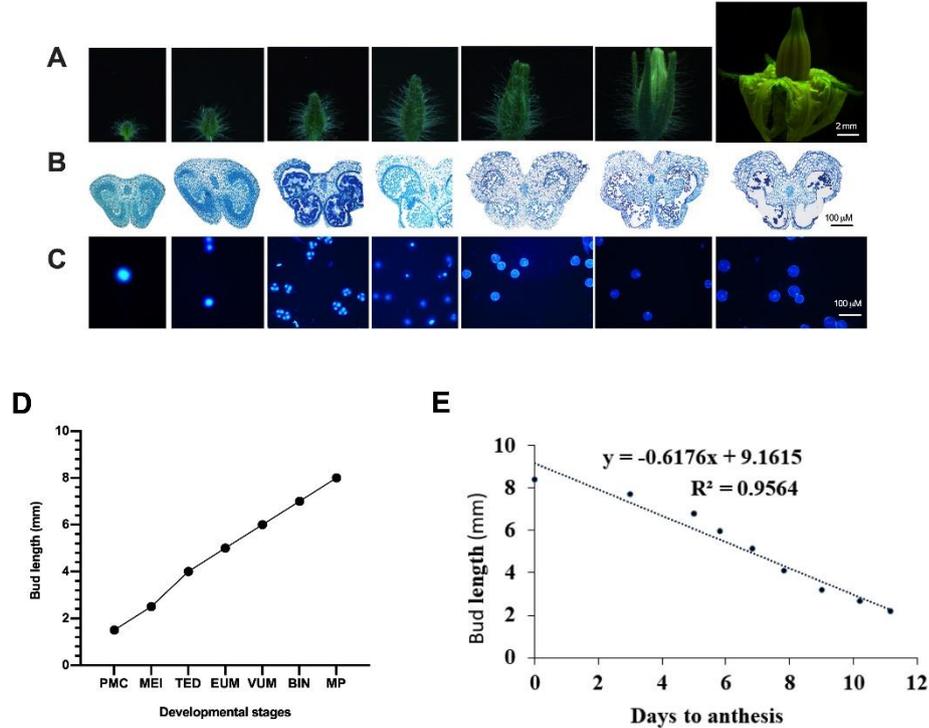


Figure S1. Anther/pollen development in tomato (*S. lycopersicum*) cultivar Micro-Tom and relationship between floral bud size and duration to anthesis. Anther/pollen development in (*Solanum lycopersicum*) cultivar ‘Micro-Tom’ Anther/pollen development was examined at six landmark stages from pollen mother cell to mature stage anthers (A) The name, floral bud/flower length (mm) and days to anthesis of specific developmental stages are indicated above A. The development stage and floral bud/flower length were correlated by measuring the length of at least 3 floral buds/flower and conducting histological observations (B) and staining with DAPI (C). Then the floral bud length and/or stage of development were correlated with time to anthesis by measuring the length and tagging/recording the position of 10 floral buds for each developmental stage from 3 biological replications. Each floral bud was monitored to determine the time (d) it took to anthesis. A direct correlation between floral bud length and stage of development was observed (D) whereas an inverse relationship between floral bud length and days to anthesis was observed (E). PMC, pollen mother cell; MEI, meiotic; TED, tetrad; EUM, early uninucleate microspore; VUM, vacuolated uninucleate microspore, BIN, binucleate; MP mature pollen.

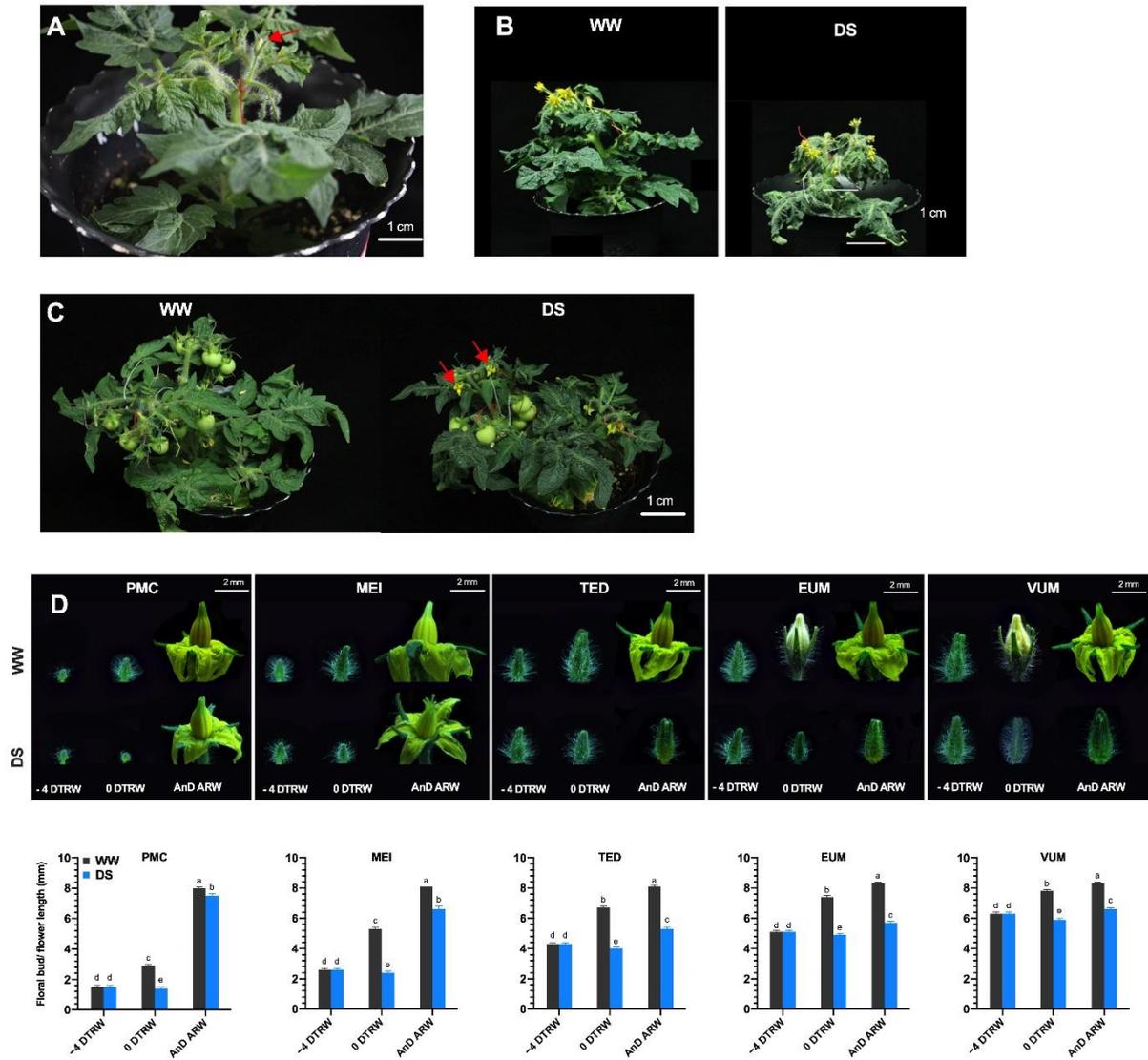


Figure S2. Floral bud development under drought stress and rewatering. (A) A tomato plant at reproductive stage, 35 days after sowing with first emerged floral bud at binucleate stage of anther/pollen development (arrow) on the first truss (tagged red) at the time watering was suspended. (B) Flowering WW and DS tomato plants at 0 DTRW, the end of the 4 days drought stress. The DS plant was clearly stunted. (C) WW plant and DS-rewatered plant 11 DARW. Flower production in the WW plants had ended while DS-rewatered plants continued with the second peak of flower production (ar-rows). (D) Drought stress caused reversible and irreversible growth inhibition in tomato anthers at different stages of development. Data presented are means \pm SD ($n = 10$). Bars with different letters are significant different (LSD $_{0.05}$).

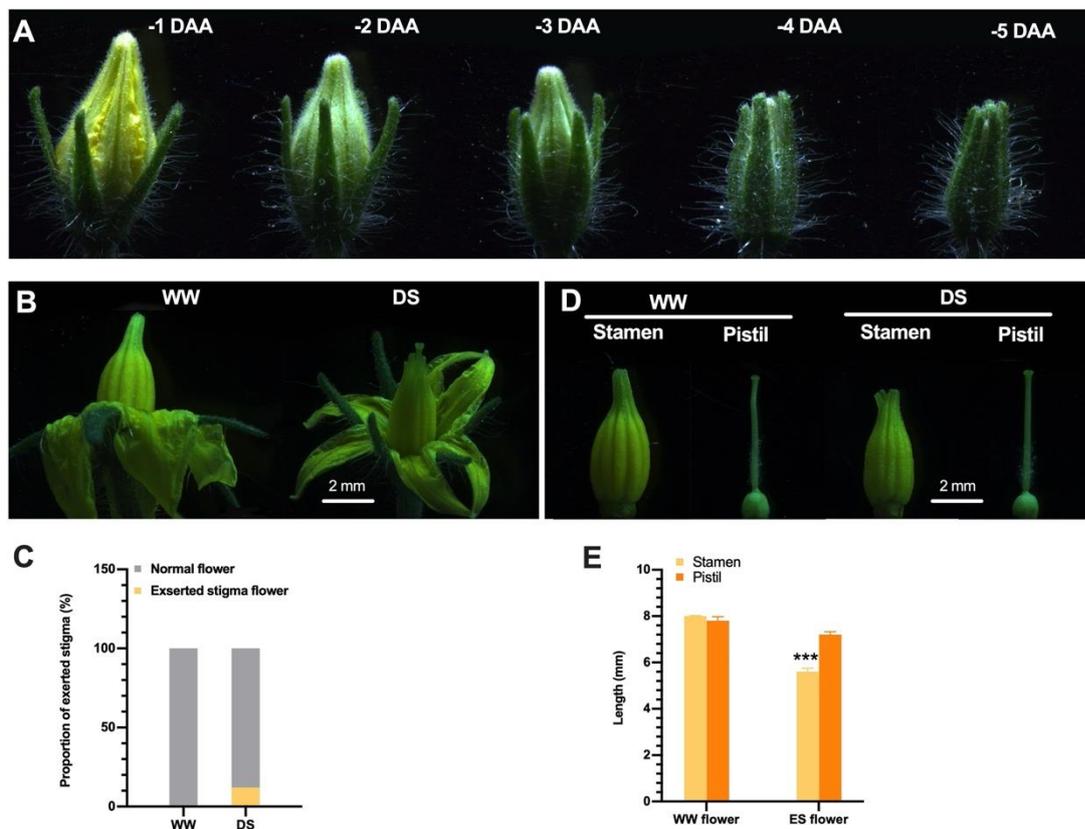


Figure S3. Binucleate to mature (BIN-MP) floral buds at onset drought stress period and stigma exertion in tomato caused by drought stress. **(A)** Morphology of group 3 floral buds at the start of DS period when soil moisture reached 6% i.e. -4 DTRW. From left to right: binucleate (BIN, -1DAA), BIN (-2DAA), BIN (-3DAA), Early binucleate (EBIN, -4 DAA), transition to pollen mitosis 1 (TPM1, -5 DAA). During the DS, the -1, -2 and -3 DAA floral buds reached anthesis during -3,2 and -1 DTRW respectively. At 0 DTRW, the -4 DAA floral bud reached anthesis and the -5 DAA anther remained unopened but was at an advanced stage of development i.e. at -1 DAA. DAA, days to anthesis. Often flowers do not open daily on a single truss, therefore the above floral buds were obtained from WW plants for the purpose of demonstration. **(B-E)** Drought stress induced stigma exertion in flowers drought stressed at Meiotic stage. **(B)** Morphology of normal flower from WW plant and exerted stigma flower from DS plant 9 days after rewatering. **(C)** Proportion of flowers with exerted stigma from all recorded floral buds that reached anthesis in DS plants. **(D,E)** Length of stamen and pistil within exerted stigma flower compared. Values are means \pm SD ($n > 10$). *** $p < 0.0001$ (t-test). WW, well-watered; DS, drought stress; ES exerted stigma.

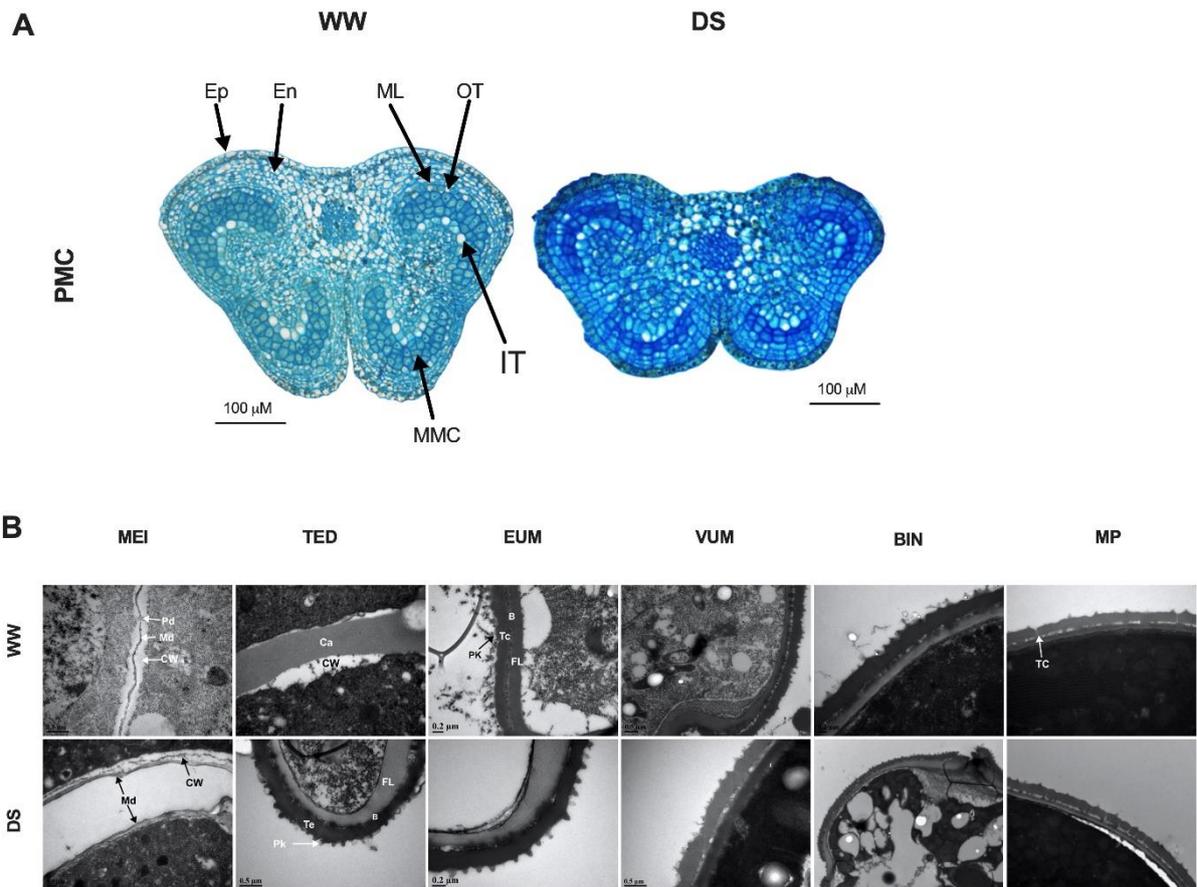


Figure S4. Histology of pollen mother cell anthers and pollen wall development under drought stress. (A) Cross-sections of anthers at pollen mother cell stage from WW and DS plants after 4 d of drought stress. WW, well-watered; DS, drought stressed; Ep, epidermis; En, endothecium; ML, middle layers; OT, outer tapetum; IT, inner tapetum; MMC, microspore mother cell. (B) Transmission electron micrographs of developing pollen wall from anthers at six different stages of development under DS. (WW), wall of pollen from anthers of well-watered plants; (DS), wall of pollen from anthers of drought-stressed plants. Pd, plasmodesma; Md, middle lamella; Cw, cell wall; Ca, callose wall; B, baculum; Tc, tectum; FL, foot layer; PK, pollenkit; TC, tectal chamber.

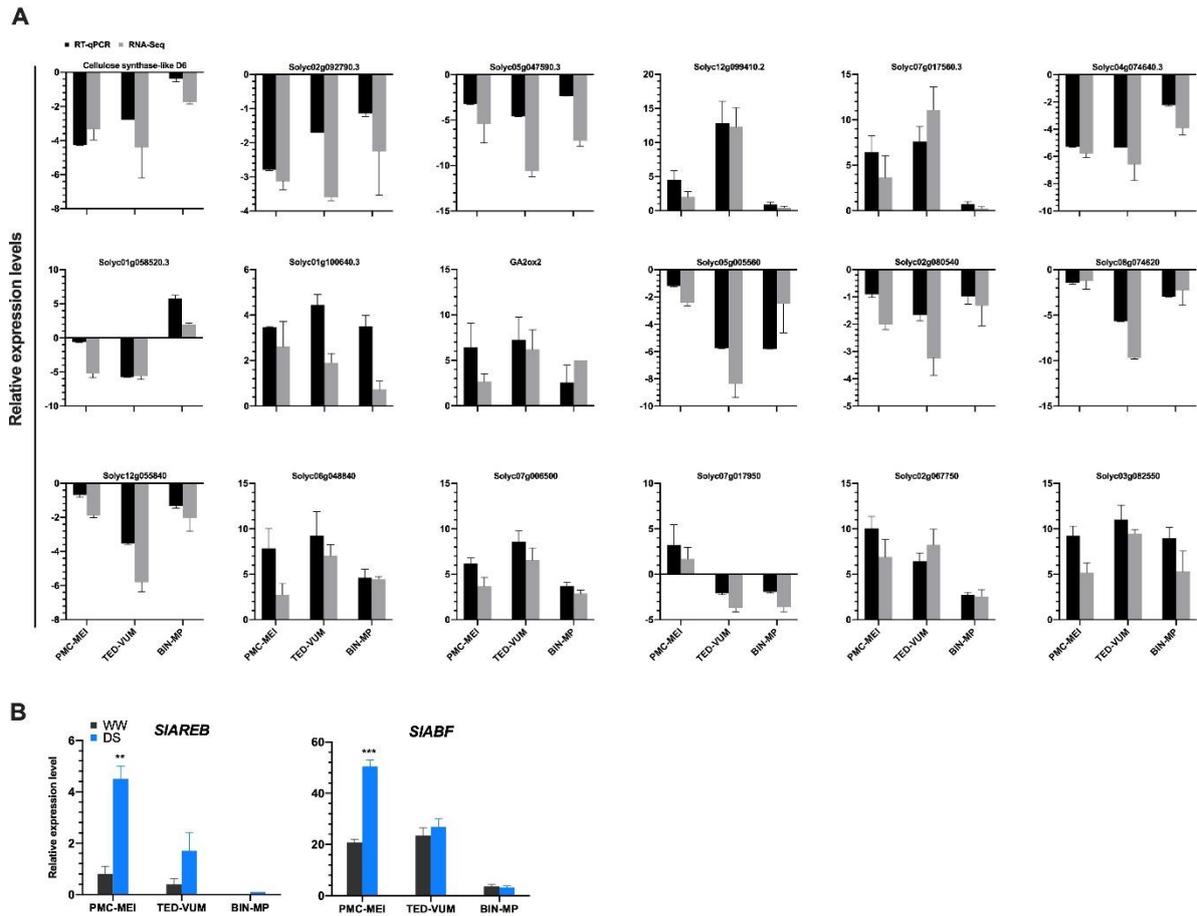


Figure S5. Confirmation of RNA-Seq results by RT-qPCR and expression analysis of transcriptions factors in ABA signal-ing. **(A)** Comparison of RNA-Seq and RT-qPCR results of 18 randomly selected genes. PMC-MEI, pollen mother cell-meiotic stage anthers; TED-VUM, tetrad-vacuolated uninucleate microspore stage anthers; BIN-MP, binucleate-mature pollen stage anthers. Data presented as means \pm SD ($n = 3$ replications, 24 plants). *Slubi3* was used as the internal control geneduringRT-qPCRanalysis. **(B)** Expression analysis based on RNA-Seq data of TFs genes involved in the regulation of ABA-dependent drought responsive genes expressions. Values are means \pm SD ($n = 3$ replications, 24 plants each) ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$ (T -test).