

**Figure S2.** Anatomy and statistics of sheath blades. (A) Sheath blades at the base of the bamboo shoot. (B) Sheath blades in the middle of the bamboo shoot. (C) Sheath blades at the upper part of the bamboo shoot. fc, fusoid cells; ph, phloem; pc, parenchymal cells; sc, sclerenchymal cells; xy, xylem duct; ec, epidermal cells. Bar = 100  $\mu\text{m}$ . (D) Vascular bundle sectional area of sheath blades. (E) Phloem sectional area of sheath blades. (F) Xylem duct sectional area of sheath blades. (G) Epidermal cell thickness of sheath blades. (H) Distance between vascular bundles of sheath blades.  $P < 0.05$ .

