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**1 From fruit growth to ripening in plantain: a careful balance between carbohydrate**  
**2 synthesis and breakdown**

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15  
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17 the experiments; N.C. performed the experiments using the proteomics methods and S.C. and  
18 A.M. performed the experiments based on the metabolome methods; D.A. performed the field  
19 experiment; C.C. provided technical assistance; S.C.C, N.C, S.C, A.M analyzed the data; N.C,  
20 and S.C.C. wrote the article with contributions of all the authors; S.C.C. supervised and  
21 completed the writing. S.C.C. agrees to serve as the author responsible for contact and ensures  
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30 Metabolome facility.

32

33 **Abstract**

34         We investigated the fruit development in two plantain banana cultivars from two weeks  
35 after bunch emergence till twelve weeks through high-throughput proteomics, major metabolite  
36 quantification and metabolic flux analyses. We give for the first time an insight at early stages of  
37 starch synthesis and breakdown. Starch and sugar synthesis and breakdown are processes that  
38 take place simultaneously. During the first eight to ten weeks the balance between synthesis and  
39 breakdown is clearly in favour of sugar breakdown and a net starch synthesis occurs. During this  
40 period, plantain fruit accumulates up to 48% of starch. The initiation of the ripening process is  
41 accompanied with a shift in balance towards net starch breakdown. The key enzymes related to  
42 this are phosphoglucan water dikinase (PWD), phosphoglucan phosphatase,  $\alpha$ -1,6-glucosidase  
43 starch debranching enzyme (DBE), alpha glucan phosphorylase (PHS) and 4-alpha  
44 glucanotransferase disproportioning enzyme (DPE). The highest correlations with sucrose have  
45 been observed for PHS and DPE. There is also a significant correlation between the enzymes  
46 involved in ethylene biosynthesis, starch breakdown, pulp softening and ascorbate biosynthesis.  
47 The faster ending of maturation and starting of ripening in the Agbagba cultivar are linked to the  
48 key enzymes 1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylate oxidase and DPE. This knowledge of the  
49 mechanisms that regulate starch and sugar metabolisms during maturation and ripening is  
50 fundamental to determine the harvest moment, reduce postharvest losses and improve final  
51 product quality of breeding programs.

52

## 53 **1 Introduction**

54

55 Fruit development is a complex phenomenon that encompasses several overlapping  
56 stages: cell division, cell enlargement, maturation, ripening and senescence (Paul et al., 2012). At  
57 the initiation of fruit development, fruits enlarge mainly through cell division and they reach  
58 their final size by increasing cell volume. The active cell division and cell expansion are  
59 accompanied by a net accumulation of storage products until full maturation. Ripening induces  
60 changes in flavour, texture, colour, and aroma. Fruits can be divided into two groups with  
61 contrasting ripening mechanisms. Climacteric fruit (such as tomato, avocado, apple, and banana)  
62 are linked to ethylene biosynthesis and an increase in respiration which induces ripening (White,  
63 2002). During maturation, two systems of ethylene are operational: system 1 and system 2.  
64 During early maturation, system 1 is active and the rate of ethylene production is basal and there  
65 is an auto-inhibition of ethylene production. But as maturation progresses, this inhibition process  
66 is stopped and there is an auto-induction of ethylene production leading to the onset of ripening  
67 (Paul et al., 2012).

68 Edible bananas are parthenocarpic and so the ovaries develop into seedless fruits without  
69 pollination stimulus. The pulp-initiating cells are situated within the inner epidermis of the fruit  
70 pericarp and septa. In parthenocarpic bananas, those cells start to proliferate very fast after  
71 flowering (bunch emergence) (Ram et al., 1962). The increase in cell number in the initiating  
72 region of the pulp continues up to about 4 Weeks After bunch Emergence (WAE). Then it  
73 subsides and growth is largely realized by cell enlargement (Ram et al., 1962). Sugar deposition  
74 and starch synthesis in the pulp cells commence very early and they become well established by  
75 8 WAE. The first signs of starch disappearance have been reported to be around 12 WAE (Ram  
76 et al., 1962). However, this is dependent on the environment and on the genotype. Depending on  
77 the genotype, banana fruit has been reported to accumulate between 12 and 35% of starch during  
78 4-8 WAE and from 8 WAE starch content drops to between 15 and 0% in late stages of  
79 maturation (Soares et al., 2011; Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al., 2019). Plantains are part of the group  
80 of bananas that accumulate a large amount of starch. At ripe stage, plantains still have a high  
81 starch content, which affects their taste (Soares et al., 2011). Therefore, plantains are not suitable  
82 as sweet dessert bananas and are consumed as starch source. The current practice is to harvest  
83 when fruits of the first hand show signs of ripening (Dadzie and Orchard, 1997). Plantains are an

84 important staple food in tropical and subtropical countries, being of special importance in West-  
85 Africa (Vuylsteke et al., 1993). Genetically, they are triploids and belong to the AAB genotype  
86 group. They are a product of a natural cross between *Musa acuminata* (A genotype) and *Musa*  
87 *balbisiana* (B genotype) (Simmonds, 1962). And although morphologically they are quite  
88 diverse, genetically they are extremely uniform (Crouch et al., 2000). The recent release of the B  
89 genome suggested a dominance of genes related to starch metabolism, leading to a higher starch  
90 accumulation during fruit development (Wang et al., 2019). A better understanding of the  
91 mechanisms that regulate sugar primary metabolism during fruit development will be important  
92 to select hybrids with the best post-harvest traits.

93 Most papers are focused on Cavendish sweet banana that is the most exported banana  
94 cultivar in the world (Agopian et al., 2008; Toledo et al., 2012; Asif et al., 2014; Du et al., 2016).  
95 Recently, we published the first proteome of plantain fruit and a comparison of the proteomes of  
96 Cavendish and plantain during the final ripening process (Campos et al., 2018; Bhuiyan et al.,  
97 2020). Together with the recent update from the B genome sequence (Wang et al., 2019), these  
98 works are contributing to elucidate the fruit development in plantain as well to determine the role  
99 of the B genome in fruit quality. In complement to proteome studies, metabolic flux can be  
100 predicted using constraint-based models based on metabolic network description through  
101 stoichiometric equations of reactions, and on the assumption of pseudo-steady state and the  
102 choice of an objective function (Orth et al., 2010). Such knowledge-based stoichiometric models  
103 describing central metabolism have already proved useful in tomato fruit to estimate fluxes  
104 throughout the development and to show that carbon degraded from starch and cell wall  
105 generated an excess of energy dissipated just before the onset of ripening coinciding with the  
106 respiration climacteric (Colombié et al., 2015; Colombié et al., 2017). By combining proteomics  
107 and flux studies, we gain here unique insights into the order of appearance and dominance of  
108 specific enzymes/fluxes involved in starch synthesis and breakdown and sugar synthesis in  
109 plantain fruit.

110

## 111 2 Material and Methods

112

### 113 2.1 Biological Material

114 The biological samples were collected from the IITA Experimental Field in Ibadan,  
115 Nigeria, during the period from October 2016 to February 2017.

116 Five banana plants from Agbagba and Obino L'Ewai cultivars were selected and the  
117 same plants were followed during all the experiment. One fruit per plant was collected from 2  
118 WAE until the fruits reached full maturity. The collected fruits were cleaned and measurements  
119 of fruit length (L) and circumference (C) were taken. For the fruit volume calculation our  
120 formula was based on (Simmonds, 1953). To know the correlation between fruit weight,  
121 calculated fruit volume and real fruit volume, the real volume of representative fruits was  
122 measured by submerging the them in water in a measuring cylinder. For the remainder of the  
123 fruits, the volume was calculated with the formula:  $\text{Volume (cm}^3\text{)} = ((\text{Fruit length} * (\text{Fruit}$   
124  $\text{circumference})^2 * 0.0616) + 0.3537)$ . After determination of fruit length and circumference, the  
125 fruit was separated from the peels, cut in smaller pieces and stored at  $- 80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  until  
126 lyophilization. Samples were lyophilized to ensure a safe transportation from Nigeria to Belgium  
127 and to facilitate the protein and metabolite extraction process (Carpentier et al., 2007). The  
128 lyophilized samples were then, sent to Belgium where the protein extraction, quantification and  
129 identification were performed and to France for metabolite analysis.

130

### 131 2.2 Protein extraction, quantification, identification and annotation

132 Extractions were performed following the phenol-extraction/ammonium-acetate  
133 precipitation protocol described previously (Carpentier et al., 2005; Buts et al., 2014). Samples  
134 of 2 and 4 WAE could not be analyzed through proteomics due to the presence of many  
135 interfering compounds disturbing the correct application of the protocol.

136 After extraction, 20  $\mu\text{g}$  of proteins were digested with trypsin (Trypsin Protease, MS  
137 Grade ThermoScientific, Merelbeke, Belgium) and purified by Pierce C18 Spin Columns  
138 (ThermoScientific, Merelbeke, Belgium). The digested samples (0.5 $\mu\text{g}/5\mu\text{L}$ ) were separated in  
139 an Ultimate 3000 (ThermoScientific) UPLC system and then in a Q Exactive Orbitrap mass  
140 spectrometer (ThermoScientific) as described (van Wesemael et al., 2018). For protein  
141 quantification, we used the software Progenesis® (Nonlinear Dynamics). In this software we

142 used MASCOT version 2.2.06 (Matrix Science) against the Musa V2 database of *M. acuminata*  
143 and *M. balbisiana* (Martin et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2019) (157832 proteins). Tandem mass  
144 spectra were extracted by Progenesis. All MS/MS spectra were searched with a fragment ion mass  
145 tolerance of 0,02 Da and a parent ion tolerance of 10 PPM. Carbamidomethyl of cysteine was  
146 specified in Mascot as a fixed modification. Deamidation of asparagine and glutamine and  
147 oxidation of methionine were specified in Mascot as variable modifications and the results were  
148 reintroduced in Progenesis. Scaffold (version Scaffold\_4.11.0, Proteome Software) was used to  
149 validate MS/MS based peptide and protein identifications. Peptide identifications were accepted  
150 if they could be established at greater than 95,0% probability by the Peptide Prophet algorithm  
151 with Scaffold delta-mass correction (Keller et al., 2002; Searle, 2010). Protein identifications  
152 were accepted if they contained at least 1 identified peptide. Protein probabilities were assigned  
153 by the Protein Prophet algorithm (Nesvizhskii et al., 2003). Proteins that contained similar  
154 peptides and could not be differentiated based on MS/MS analysis alone were grouped to satisfy  
155 the principles of parsimony. Proteins sharing significant peptide evidence were grouped into  
156 clusters. A protein false discovery rate of 0.8% and a spectral false discovery rate of 0.04% was  
157 observed by searching the reverse concatenated decoy database (157832 proteins). All data have  
158 been made available in the public repository PRIDE under the project name: Carbohydrate  
159 metabolism during plantain development, Project accession: PXD029901 and Project DOI:  
160 10.6019/PXD029901.

161 Gene annotations were taken from the banana Hub (Droc et al., 2013) and verified in Plant  
162 Metabolic Network (Hawkins et al., 2021) and Prosite (Expasy SIB Bioinformatics Resource  
163 Portal). Subcellular prediction were analyzed via the software DeepLoc 1.0 (Almagro  
164 Armenteros et al., 2017).

165

### 166 2.3 Metabolic Analysis

167 To complement our proteomics data and improve our insights about plantain fruit  
168 development, we analyzed major metabolic traits in pulp. Metabolites were extracted from 10  
169 mg aliquots of lyophilized ground samples via three successive extractions with ethanol-buffer  
170 mixtures successively composed of 80, 80 and 50% ethanol and 10 mM HEPES/KOH buffer (pH  
171 6). The supernatants were collected and pooled in order to measure soluble metabolites. Glucose,  
172 fructose and sucrose were measured enzymatically (Stitt et al., 1989). Glucose-6-phosphate,



173 fructose-6-phosphate and glucose-1-phosphate were measured using an enzyme cycling assay  
174 (Gibon et al., 2002). Malate was measured enzymatically as in (Mollering, 1985). Total free  
175 amino acids were measured using fluorescamine (Bantan-Polak et al., 2001). Polyphenols were  
176 measured using Folin-Ciocalteu's reagent (Blainski et al., 2013). In order to quantify the total  
177 protein content, the pellets were resuspended in 100 mM NaOH and then heated for 20 min.  
178 After centrifugation (5,000 g, 5 min), the total protein content was measured with Coomassie  
179 Blue (Bradford, 1976). After neutralization with HCl, starch was quantified in the pellets as  
180 described previously (Hendriks et al., 2003). Finally, the pellet was washed twice with water and  
181 twice with ethanol 96% v/v, dried and weighed to estimate the cell wall content.

182

#### 183 *2.4 Flux calculation by constrain-based modelling*

184 A flux-balance model was constructed by integrating biochemical and physiological knowledge  
185 about central metabolism previously described (Colombié et al., 2015; Soubeyrand et al., 2018)  
186 dedicated to breakdown and transformation of extracellular nutrients to produce energy and  
187 metabolites and a specialized metabolic pathway producing the main polyphenol compounds.  
188 Energy intermediates, both ATP and NAD(P)H, were explicitly considered and all the cofactors  
189 were defined as internal metabolites, which means that they were balanced, thus constraining the  
190 metabolic network not only through the carbon and nitrogen balance but also through the redox  
191 and energy status.

192 To solve the flux balance model, constraints were applied for (1) flux reversibility or  
193 irreversibility and for (2) outfluxes boundaries. Therefore, concentrations of accumulated  
194 metabolites and biomass components, expressed on a mole per fruit basis, were fitted to calculate  
195 the corresponding fluxes. Stoichiometric network reconstruction encompassing central and  
196 polyphenol metabolism and mathematical problems were implemented using MATLAB  
197 (Mathworks R2012b, Natick, MA, USA) and the optimization toolbox, solver quadprod with  
198 interior-point-convex algorithm for the minimization. Flux maps were drawn with the flux  
199 visualization tool of VANTED 2.1.0.

200

#### 201 *2.5 Statistical analyses*

202 For proteins, statistical analyses were made using the software Statistica 8 (TIBCO)  
203 based on the exported protein quantifications of Progenesis. We performed a principal



204 component analysis (PCA, with NIPALS algorithm) to get an overview of the proteome data. We  
205 performed a partial least squares analysis (PLS) (NIPALS algorithm) to differentiate proteins  
206 with a significant correlation to the time points, the genotype, metabolite using all protein  
207 quantifications as continuous predictors (x matrix) and the time points, genotype and quantified  
208 metabolite as dependent variables (y matrix). We applied a two-way ANOVA ( $P<0.05$ ) to the  
209 selected proteins to verify their significance affected by the time point, genotype or the  
210 interaction between both.

211 For metabolites, a principal component analysis was performed on the averages per  
212 cultivar and time point.

213 All displayed regressions were made in Microsoft excel and based on the best fit  $R^2$ . Pearson  
214 correlations between proteins or between proteins and selected metabolites or other variables  
215 were calculated with Statistica 8 (TIBCO).

216 To integrate the different omics data, the protein inference and isoform redundancy issue was  
217 tackled by quantifying the proteins at protein cluster level and EMPAI quantification  
218 (Scaffold\_4.11.0, Proteome Software). To find the protein clusters that correlated to the  
219 modelled fluxes, we performed a two-block sparse partial-least-squares discriminant analysis  
220 (sPLS-DA) with mixOmics package of R (Rohart et al., 2017) using DIABLO application (Singh  
221 et al., 2019) with default parameters. To the relationships between the proteins and fluxes were  
222 calculated with  $P<0.001$  (after false discovery rate [FDR] correction) threshold for Pearson  
223 correlations.

224

### 225 **3 Results**

#### 226 *3.1 The different growth stages are characterized by a particular proteome and metabolic profile*

227 Based on an unsupervised principal component analysis, the proteome differed at each time point  
228 (Figure 1). The first component explained 23% of total variability and clearly separated the  
229 different time points. The second component explained 17% of total variability, and was  
230 correlated to the cultivar. Both cultivars had a similar proteome except for the last time point at  
231 12 Weeks After bunch Emergence (WAE). The same is true for the metabolite and the flux  
232 analysis data, expect that the largest difference between the two cultivars is observed at 6 WAE  
233 for the metabolites and both at 6 and 12 WAE for the fluxes (Figure S1).

234

235 Concerning fruit growth, in both cultivars we observed a sigmoid curve with three growth  
236 phases: a fast growth phase (0-6 WAE), a phase of slow growth (6-8 WAE) and a second phase  
237 of fast growth (8-12 WAE) (Figure 2, S2). Based on the observed abundance pattern of Sucrose  
238 Synthase (SuSy) and invertase, we hypothesize that the first fast growth phase is completely  
239 dominated by Sucrose Synthase (SuSy), while the third growth phase is dominated by invertase.  
240 The abundance of invertase showed an excellent correlation with the growth rate (Figure 3).

241  
242 We did find evidence to confirm the involvement of cell division in growth in our proteomics  
243 data. Based on the identified histone proteins we deduce that cell division takes place up till 8  
244 WAE (Table 1). A fast cell division is also accompanied with a high activity of cell wall building  
245 and modifying enzymes (UDP-glucose 6-dehydrogenase, UDP-glucuronic acid decarboxylase,  
246 Beta-glucosidase), mRNA translation (eukaryotic initiation factors, ribosomal proteins), protein  
247 folding (T-complex proteins) and turnover (proteasome complex) (Table 1). The identified  
248 proteins involved in the cell division processes significantly decrease in abundance from 6  
249 WAE.

### 250 *3.2 Starch and sugar metabolism: synthesis and breakdown are processes that take place*

251 *simultaneously*  
252 The pulp at 6 WAE contained three times more fructose than glucose, but the concentration of  
253 fructose represented <1 % of that of starch and less than 15% of that of sucrose. Among the  
254 hexose phosphates, the amount of Glc-6-P was 20-fold higher than Glc-1-P (Table 2). The pulp at  
255 12 WAE contained twice more fructose than glucose, but the concentration of fructose  
256 represented <0.5 % of that of starch and less than 5% of that of sucrose. Among the hexose  
257 phosphates, the amount of Glc-6-P was 20-fold higher than Glc-1-P (Table 2).

258 The accumulation of starch in the pulp cells started very fast and was the highest between 0 and  
259 2 WAE (Figure 4). The balance between the synthesis and the breakdown was clearly in favour  
260 of starch synthesis breakdown during the first 8-10 WAE resulting in a net increase in starch  
261 content (Figure 4). During the net starch accumulation period, plantain fruit accumulated up to  
262 48% (DW) of starch (Table 2).

### 263 264 *3.2.1 Starch synthesis* 265

266 Next to the high abundance of fructose and glucose-6-phosphate (Table 2), a high abundance of a  
267 glucose-6-phosphate translocator (6), phosphoglucomutase (5) the glucose-1-phosphate  
268 adenyltransferase (2) and plastidic fructokinase (12) was observed (Table 3, Figure 6A). We  
269 did identify a so far uncharacterized sugar translocator (11) (Ma10\_p26490) that has an almost  
270 perfect correlation ( $p < 0.0001$ ,  $R = 0.99$ ) with SuSy (1) (Table 3, Figure 5).).

271  
272 Following the uptake of glucose-6-P into the pulp amyloplast, starch synthesis starts via the  
273 concerted action of phosphoglucomutase (7), glucose-1-phosphate adenyltransferases  
274 (AGPase) (8) and the starch polymerizing reactions (9, 10) (Table 3, Figure 6A). In case of  
275 fructose, the action of fructokinase (12) and glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (13) are required  
276 (Table 3, Figure 6A). The soluble starch synthase (10) decreased in abundance during the further  
277 development while granule bound starch synthase raised in abundance (9) (Table 3).  
278 Amyloplasts have to import ATP coming from respiration via the cytosol through an ATP/ADP  
279 transport protein (19). This enzyme is highly abundant when starch synthesis is high (Table 3,  
280 Figure 6A).

281 Beyond their role as intermediates in the conversion of sucrose to starch, hexose phosphates also  
282 serve as substrates for glycolysis and the oxidative pentose phosphate pathway. The significant  
283 correlation to starch from pyrophosphate-fructose 6-phosphate 1-phosphotransferase (15) and  
284 glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (18) (Table 3) is probably due to their function in  
285 the glycolysis. Whereas in chloroplasts the ATP necessary for starch synthesis is provided  
286 through photosynthesis, in pulp the amyloplasts have to import ATP coming from respiration via  
287 the cytosol through an ATP/ADP transport protein (19). This enzyme is highly abundant when  
288 starch synthesis is high (Table 3, Figure 6A).

289

### 290 *3.2.2 Starch breakdown*

291

292 The enzymes phosphoglucan water dikinase (PWD) (21), phosphorylase (20), phosphoglucan  
293 phosphatases (22),  $\alpha$ -1,6-glucosidase starch debranching enzyme (DBE) (23) and 4- $\alpha$ -  
294 glucanotransferase disproportionating enzymes (DPE) (24) and the transporters glucose-6P  
295 transporter (6) and the plastidic glucose transporter (25) increased significantly in abundance  
296 over time (Table 3, Figure 6B).

297

### 298 *3.3 Sucrose synthesis*

299 The concentration of sucrose significantly increases with time (Table 2). The enzymes with the  
300 highest correlation to sucrose were 4- $\alpha$ -glucanotransferase Disproportionating enzymes (DPE)  
301 (24), Alpha-1,4 glucan phosphorylase (20) and Phosphoglucomutase, chloroplastic (7) (Table 3).  
302 UTP-glucose-1-phosphate uridylyltransferase (2) was one of the most abundant proteins in pulp  
303 and its abundance increased with time (Table 3, Figure 6). The production of UGP-glucose can  
304 lead to sucrose synthesis either through SuSy (1), which is still abundantly present, or through  
305 sucrose-phosphate synthase (27) which had its highest abundance at 12 WAE (Table 3, Figure  
306 6B).

307 The formed sucrose can then be transported to the vacuole for storage or further processing or  
308 can be degraded by invertase (29) and/or SuSy (1) (Table 3, Figure 6B). Invertase (29)  
309 Mba10\_g13890.1, is only encoded on the B genome and is predicted via the software DeepLoc  
310 1.0 (Almagro Armenteros et al., 2017) to be localized in the cytoplasm. The cytoplasmatic  
311 homologue coded on the acuminata genome is most probably not or expressed in a very low  
312 level since we did not find a confident specific spectrum. Part of the metabolized sucrose is most  
313 likely also transported to the vacuole since we have identified a monosaccharide transporter (30)  
314 (Ma04\_p22640.1;Mba04\_g23280.1) that has the highest abundance at 12 WAE (Table 3, Figure  
315 6B). DeepLoc predicts the membrane protein to the plasma membrane with a likelihood of 0.49  
316 and to the vacuole with a likelihood of 0.35. Since no cell wall invertase has been identified and  
317 since we did identify invertase in the cytoplasm, we assume that the monosaccharide transporter  
318 (30) is located in the vacuolar membrane (Figure 6B). Also the upregulation of the vacuolar  
319 pyrophosphate energized proton pump (28) (Ma07\_p22370.1) (Table 3) facilitates the transport  
320 of sugars across the vacuolar membrane. We have observed an increased abundance of soluble  
321 inorganic pyrophosphatase, in the amyloplast (26) and at the vacuole (28) that coincides with the  
322 decrease in starch synthesis and increase in sugars. (Tables 2, 3, Figure 6B).

323

### 324 *3.4 Cultivar specific ripening*

325 Proteins involved in ascorbate synthesis (GDP-mannose 3,5-epimerase) and anti-oxidant defense  
326 (ascorbate peroxidase, Monodehydroascorbate reductase) had their highest abundance at 12  
327 WAE (Table 4). The increase in sucrose production in time is significantly correlated to 1-

328 aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylate oxidase (ACO) (Table 4). We see a cultivar specific  
329 interaction between cultivar and WAE meaning that the abundance of ACO changes differently  
330 over time in both cultivars (Table 4). A pectinesterase related protein and a lichenase were  
331 correlated to both sugar and ACO (Table 4). We did find a GLP (Germin-like protein 12-1)  
332 protein that has a significant correlation with ACO (Table 4). A prosite scan shows that the  
333 protein has a Fe(2+) 2-oxoglutarate dioxygenase domain profile. The protein had moreover also a  
334 cultivar specific pattern associated to the earlier ripening Agbagba cultivar (Table 4). We  
335 observed an excellent correlation between ACO and a sorbitol dehydrogenase, which catabolize  
336 sorbitol into fructose (Fru) and glucose (Glu). Also here the cultivar Agbagba had a significantly  
337 earlier response than Obino '1 Ewai (Table 4).  
338 *3.5 The global flux decreased throughout fruit development*

339 The measured concentrations of the biomass and the accumulated metabolites in the pulp,  
340 determined at 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 WAE (Table 2) were fitted to calculate the corresponding  
341 fluxes used as constraints in the metabolic model. The estimated fluxes showed the highest  
342 activity for fluxes involved in respiration, glycolysis and TCA cycle (Figure S3). At the early  
343 stage of development (Figure 7, 2 WAE) those fluxes had their heighest activity and a global  
344 decrease throughout fruit development was noticed, in agreement with metabolic fluxes  
345 described on tomato fruit (Colombié et al., 2015). This decrease in flux activity throughout fruit  
346 development was similar in both cultivars. We assessed that a high respiration is associated with  
347 the cell division associated with the first growth phase followed by a global decrease in flux  
348 activity during the second and third-growth phase, where only elongation takes place. No  
349 increase in respiration was detected at the end of the maturation, probably because the burst did  
350 not take place yet in the investigated fruits.

351  
352 The flux analysis complemented the proteome data (Figures 6 A and B). Nice concordance was  
353 observed for major reactions in starch biosynthesis: sucrose synthase (1), fructokinase (3),  
354 glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (4), and glucose-1-phosphate adenylyltransferase (8) (Figure  
355 6A).

356 For the flux at 12 WAE in the starch degradation pathway (Figure 6B) next to invertase (29) also  
357 fluxes through sucrose synthase (1), and glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (4) pointed towards a

358 net cleavage of sucrose. Some uncertainties in flux calculations might be attributed to the  
359 assumptions required to solve the model (flux minimization).

360

## 361 **5 Discussion**

### 362 *5.1 Three different fruit growth phases with their particular proteome and metabolic profile*

363 In banana, the growth pattern is cultivar dependent and fertilization influences the growth and  
364 the shape of the fruit (Simmonds, 1953). A sigmoid type of growth has been described before in  
365 a triploid banana with a B (balbisiana) genome (Awak legor) (Simmonds, 1953). The first period  
366 of fast growth is characterized by cell division and cell elongation, while the second one is due to  
367 cell elongation only (Ram et al., 1962). The increase in cell number in the initiating region of the  
368 pulp has been reported to continue up to about 4 WAE in the cultivar Pisang lilin (a partenocarp  
369 AA) (Ram et al., 1962). We did find evidence to confirm the involvement of cell division in  
370 growth in our proteomics data. Histones are one of the primary components of chromatin and are  
371 synthesized during the S-phase. The speed of DNA replication is depending on the rate of  
372 histone biosynthesis (Ma et al., 2015).

373 Banana pulp tissue is a starch synthesizing sink tissue that needs to get all its energy from the  
374 sucrose unloaded from the phloem and from starch degradation. From tomato, it is known that  
375 the fruit growth consists of two phases: (i) a period of rapid fruit growth where sucrose synthase  
376 is determining the sink strength, and (ii) a phase after rapid growth has ceased, where invertase  
377 takes over (Nguyen-Quoc and Foyer, 2001). Based on the observed abundance pattern of  
378 Sucrose Synthase (SuSy) and invertase, we hypothesize that the first fast growth phase is  
379 completely dominated by Sucrose Synthase (SuSy), while the second fast growth phase is  
380 dominated by invertase. The abundance of invertase showed an excellent correlation with the  
381 growth rate (Figure 3).

382

### 383 *5.2 Starch synthesis: cytosolic glucose -6 phosphate and fructose are important sources for* 384 *starch synthesis*

385 Because starch synthesis in pulp is confined to amyloplasts, it relies entirely on translocation of  
386 metabolites from the cytosol through the amyloplast envelope. The form in which carbon enters  
387 the amyloplast has long been a matter of debate (Hofius and Börnke, 2007). The triose phosphate  
388 transporter from chloroplasts is a perfectly annotated and studied transporter in the plastid



389 envelope of many plants. However, there is discussion as to whether the genes are expressed in  
390 non-green tissue (Tobias et al., 1992; Neuhaus and Emes, 2000). In potato it is clear that triose  
391 phosphate is not the substrate taken up to support starch synthesis (Hofius and Börnke, 2007).  
392 Our data also point into the same direction since we were not able to identify a triose phosphate  
393 transporter protein in plantain pulp. Amyloplasts of tubers or fruits are also normally not able to  
394 generate hexose phosphates from C3 compounds due to the absence of fructose 1,6-  
395 biphosphatase activity (Nguyen-Quoc and Foyer, 2001; Hofius and Börnke, 2007). They rely on  
396 the import of cytosolically generated hexose phosphates as the source of carbon for starch  
397 biosynthesis (Entwistle and Rees, 1988; Hofius and Börnke, 2007). This seems also to be the  
398 case here in plantain since we were not able to identify a fructose 1,6-biphosphatase protein  
399 during the period of investigation. The enzyme does seem active though in non-photosynthetic  
400 tissues where it controls the rate of F6P production in the gluconeogenic pathway (Hofius and  
401 Börnke, 2007). We did identify the enzyme though in low quantities in our previous analysis  
402 where we analyzed ripening detached fruits (Bhuiyan et al., 2020). So also in our case it might  
403 play a role in the starch breakdown much later when the ripening and sugar synthesis is more  
404 advanced. None of the three predicted adenine nucleotide BT1 transporters (Ma10\_p26970,  
405 Ma07\_p09880, Ma06\_p06780) that transport ADP-glucose across the plastid membrane was  
406 identified in the present study. Therefore, it is also unlikely that ADP-glucose is moving across  
407 the amyloplast envelope to provide substrates for starch synthesis. We suggest that in plantain  
408 banana the cytosolic glucose -6 phosphate is an important direct source of sugar for starch  
409 synthesis as it is the case in maize (Tobias et al., 1992). This was confirmed by the high  
410 abundance of the glucose-6-phosphate/phosphate translocator (6), phosphoglucomutase (5) and  
411 the glucose-1-phosphate adenylyltransferase (2) (Table 3). We did identify a so far  
412 uncharacterized sugar translocator (11) (Ma10\_p26490) that has an almost perfect correlation  
413 ( $p < 0.0001$ ,  $R = 0.99$ ) with SuSy (1) (Table 3, Figure 5). Plastids are able to transport sugars across  
414 their membranes (Patzke et al., 2019). However, only two plastidic sugar transporters are well  
415 known and described (Weber et al., 2000; Niittylä et al., 2004). These transporters reside in the  
416 inner envelope membrane and respectively mediate the export of maltose and glucose  
417 (Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al., 2019). Considering our observed tight correlation with SuSy, we  
418 hypothesize that the Ma10\_p26490.1 transporter transports fructose across the amyloplast  
419 membrane. The abundance pattern of the plastidic fructokinase (12) corroborates this hypothesis



420 (Table 3, Figure 6A). Since only very few reports are available on plastid  
421 fructose/glucose/sucrose H transporters (Patzke et al., 2019), more studies are needed to confirm  
422 our hypothesis and confirm its physiological role in starch synthesis.

423 The soluble starch synthase (10) decreased in abundance during the further development while  
424 granule bound starch synthase raised in abundance (9) (Table 3). This abundance pattern  
425 suggests that during the early starch synthesis, soluble starch synthase is more important. The  
426 fact that the polymerizing reactions of starch synthesis are not dominant in the control of starch  
427 accumulation has to do with the balance between sink strength, starch synthesis and starch  
428 breakdown and has been observed before (Tetlow et al., 2004). So based on the ANOVA  
429 analysis and the correlations, the main drivers of starch synthesis in plantain pulp seem to be  
430 Sucrose Synthase (1), Glucose-1-phosphate adenylyltransferase (ADP-glucose  
431 pyrophosphorylase (AGPase)) (8), ADP,ATP carrier protein (19) and the so far uncharacterized  
432 membrane sugar transporter (11) (Figure 6A, Table 3).

433

434 *5.3 Starch breakdown: phosphoglucan water dikinase, alpha-1,4 glucan phosphorylase,*  
435 *phosphoglucan phosphatase, isoamylase and 4-alpha-glucanotransferase initiate breakdown.*

436

437 The starch-to-sucrose metabolism has been extensively studied in model systems in the context  
438 of energy sources for plant growth and development (Streb and Zeeman, 2012). However, the  
439 starch breakdown in fleshy fruits such as bananas is less understood (Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al.,  
440 2019). All the genes involved in starch breakdown have been mapped on the banana genome  
441 (Xiao et al., 2018). Based on what is known from Arabidopsis, it was hypothesized that in  
442 banana starch-phosphorylating enzymes, termed glucan water dikinase (GWD), phosphorylate  
443 the C6 position and the phosphoglucan water dikinase (PWD) phosphorylate the C3 position of  
444 the glycosyl residues in starch (Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al., 2019). The role of phosphorylases  
445 including GWD and PWD in starch breakdown during banana ripening is less understood, but  
446 phosphorylation at the C3 and C6 position of the glucosyl residues in the starch of freshly  
447 harvested unripe bananas has already been found, as well as the presence of PWD and GWD  
448 (Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al., 2019). The steric hindrance of these phosphorylated groups alters  
449 the organization of the granule and it has been hypothesized that PWD acts downstream of GWD  
450 and that the induced phosphorylation of banana starch favors granule hydration and phase

451 transition from the crystalline state to the soluble state (Cordenunsi-Lysenko et al., 2019). Our  
452 data confirm that dikinases play a role in early starch breakdown but not that PWD would act  
453 downstream of GWD. We have identified the sole PWD protein present in the banana genome  
454 (21) (Ma09\_p07100.1;Mba09\_g06570.1) as being present at the early stage of starch breakdown  
455 process and being significantly upregulated (Table 3) while none of the two GWD proteins could  
456 be detected. We did identify GWD1 in our previous study during the ripening of detached  
457 plantain fruits (Bhuiyan et al., 2020) and also Xiao and coworkers identified GWD1 in ripening  
458 detached fruits as being expressed at the late ripening stages (Xiao et al., 2018).

459 Phosphorolytic cleavage seems to be one of the first starch breakdown reactions. This hypothesis  
460 is corroborated by the abundance profiles of phosphorylase (20) and from the glucose-6P  
461 transporter (6) (Table 3, Figure 6B). The increase in abundance and activity of phosphorylase  
462 was also observed when investigating phosphorylase during maturation and ripening (Da Mota et  
463 al., 2002). Also other enzymes appear to contribute to the early degradation of starch.  
464 Phosphoglucan phosphatases (22),  $\alpha$ -1,6-glucosidase starch debranching enzyme (DBE) (23) and  
465 4- $\alpha$ -glucanotransferase Disproportionating enzymes (DPE) (24) increase significantly in  
466 abundance (Table 3, Figure 6B). We also observed the increased abundance of the plastidic  
467 glucose transporter (25) (Table 3, Figure 6B), while the Maltose transporter, Maltose Excess  
468 Protein transporter was not detected. Since also neither alpha nor beta-amylases were detected at  
469 this early stage of ripening, we hypothesize that they act later in the ripening process. While  
470 investigating detached ripening fruits, we found that plastidic alpha amylase acts before beta  
471 amylase (Bhuiyan et al., 2020). This was also found by (Purgatto et al., 2001). Beta amylase is  
472 essential to complete the breakdown and its upregulation was reported to be correlated to a  
473 decrease in starch during fruit ripening (Purgatto et al., 2001; Bhuiyan et al., 2020)

474

475 *5.4 Sucrose synthesis: competition between vacuolar storage and recycling sucrose for growth*  
476 *and starch resynthesis*

477 Starch breakdown products G1P and glucose are produced which can be metabolized further.  
478 The cytoplasmic G1P has been proven to flow to the production of UGP-glucose (Figure 6B).  
479 UGP-glucose can lead to sucrose synthesis either through SuSy (1), which is still abundantly  
480 present, or through sucrose-phosphate synthase (27) which has its highest abundance at 12 WAE  
481 (Table 3, Figure 6B). We did not confidently identify sucrose phosphatase at this early stage of

482 ripening. Only one peptide was found with low confidence. The reason for the low confidence is  
483 probably the low abundance of the enzyme. We did confidently identify sucrose phosphatase in  
484 our study of detached ripening fruits; it proved to be low abundant and was significantly  
485 upregulated in the very late ripening stages (Bhuiyan et al., 2020). The formed sucrose can then  
486 be transported to the vacuole for storage or further processing or can be degraded by invertase  
487 (29) and/or SuSy (1) (Table 3, Figure 6B). Most banana production, both of dessert and cooking  
488 types, is based on triploid cultivars. Banana cultivars are natural combinations of different A  
489 (*acuminata*) and B (*balbisiana*) genomes and have been fixed over hundreds of years of human  
490 selection. Plantain is an allopolyploid crop with an AAB genome (Carreel et al., 2002). Invertase  
491 (29) Mba10\_g13890.1, is only encoded on the B genome. The cytoplasmatic homologue coded  
492 on the *acuminata* genome is most probably not or expressed in a very low level since we did not  
493 find a confident specific spectrum. We have shown before that invertase is more abundant in  
494 plantain compared with a Cavendish type (Bhuiyan et al., 2020). A higher invertase activity in  
495 cooking bananas has already been associated with a changed sucrose/(glucose + fructose) ratio  
496 (Fils-Lycaon et al., 2011). The breakdown of sucrose in the cytoplasm by invertase would enable  
497 to flow back to starch synthesis and glycolysis to support further growth as discussed above  
498 (Figure 3). Plantains are indeed a lot bigger than dessert bananas and contain much more starch.  
499 Part of the metabolized sucrose is most likely also transported to the vacuole since we have  
500 identified a monosaccharide transporter (30) (Ma04\_p22640.1;Mba04\_g23280.1) that has the  
501 highest abundance at 12 WAE (Table 3, Figure 6B). Also the upregulation of the vacuolar  
502 pyrophosphate energized proton pump (28) (Ma07\_p22370.1) (Table 3) facilitates the transport  
503 of sugars across the vacuolar membrane (Maeshima, 2000). Alterations in PPI metabolism have a  
504 strong effect on sugar metabolism in which higher PPI levels increase starch accumulation and  
505 decrease the level of sucrose. Decreased PPI levels have been associated with lower starch  
506 biosynthetic rates (Osorio et al., 2013). The overexpression of a pyrophosphatase in tomato  
507 resulted in an increase in the major sugars, a decrease in starch and an increase in vitamin C  
508 (ascorbic acid) (Osorio et al., 2013). We have observed an increased abundance of soluble  
509 inorganic pyrophosphatase, in the amyloplast (26) and at the vacuole (28) that coincides with the  
510 decrease in starch synthesis and increase in sugars. (Tables 2, 3, Figure 6B). Indeed also proteins  
511 involved in ascorbate synthesis (GDP-mannose 3,5-epimerase) and anti-oxidant defense  
512 (ascorbate peroxidase, Monodehydroascorbate reductase) were higher abundant at 12 WAE

513 (Table 4). Ascorbic acid is also a cofactor of 1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid oxidase  
514 (ACO) that catalyzes the final step in the biosynthesis of the plant hormone ethylene (Smith et  
515 al., 1992).

516

### 517 *5.5 Cultivar specific ethylene biosynthesis and auxin scavenging*

518 Climacteric fruits show a dramatic increase in the rate of respiration during ripening and this is  
519 referred to as the climacteric rise (Paul et al., 2012). The rise in respiration is logarithmic and  
520 occurs either simultaneously with the rise in ethylene production or it follows soon afterwards  
521 (Burg, 1962). However, this large change in the magnitude of ethylene production can be  
522 misleading. The important point is when the tissue becomes more sensitive to ethylene and  
523 internal concentration reaches a threshold concentration required to induce biological responses  
524 (Paul et al., 2012). Thus, ethylene plays a major role in the ripening process of climacteric fruits.  
525 Climacteric fruits can ripen fully if they are harvested at completion of their growth period. We  
526 finish our analysis at this point since this is the point that plantains are harvested and consumed.  
527 The increase in sucrose production in time is significantly correlated to 1-aminocyclopropane-1-  
528 carboxylate oxidase (ACO) (Table 4). ACO is the enzyme that produces ethylene. It is well-  
529 known that banana is a climacteric fruit and so that ripening and net sugar synthesis starts upon  
530 ethylene production (Cordenunsi and Lajolo, 1995; do Nascimento et al., 2000; Cordenunsi-  
531 Lysenko et al., 2019). Banana has two interconnected feedback loops (Lü et al., 2018). The first  
532 one is a positive feedback loop dependent on NAC transcription factors, while the second one is  
533 controlled by MADS transcription factors and is able to maintain the ethylene synthesis even  
534 when the first loop is blocked. It has been shown that banana ACO has a NAC motif in the  
535 promoter sequence (Lü et al., 2018). It has been illustrated that ripening is a highly coordinated  
536 process regulated at the transcript level (Kuang et al., 2021). We see a cultivar specific  
537 interaction between cultivar and WAE meaning that the abundance of ACO changes differently  
538 over time in both cultivars (Table 4). The disappearance of the large stock of starch in favour of  
539 the accumulation of soluble sugars has also already been proven to contribute to pulp softening  
540 (Shiga et al., 2011). A pectinesterase related protein and a lichenase are associated to pulp  
541 softening (Li et al., 2019; Bhuiyan et al., 2020) and were correlated to both sugar and ACO  
542 (Table 4). Proteins with sequence similarity to germins have been identified in various plant  
543 species. Those ‘germin-like proteins’ (GLPs) have a global low sequence identity with germins

544 and constitute a large and highly diverse family with diverse functions among them auxin  
545 binding (Bernier and Berna, 2001). Two auxin correlated GLPs were isolated in plum that were  
546 correlated to the change of levels of autocatalytic ethylene levels and associated ripening (El-  
547 Sharkawy et al., 2010). The authors found differential expression in two contrasting cultivars and  
548 hypothesized that the differential endogenous auxin levels in the two cultivars change the levels  
549 of available ethylene and so the ripening phenotype. We did find a GLP (Germin-like protein 12-  
550 1) protein that has a significant correlation with ACO (Table 4). A prosite scan shows that the  
551 protein has a Fe(<sup>2+</sup>) 2-oxoglutarate dioxygenase domain profile. A 2-oxoglutarate-dependent-Fe  
552 (<sup>2+</sup>) dioxygenase in rice has been shown to convert active auxin (indole acetic acid) into  
553 biologically inactive 2-oxoindole-3-acetic acid, supporting a key role in auxin catabolism (Zhao  
554 et al., 2013). The protein has moreover also a cultivar specific pattern associated to the earlier  
555 ripening Agbagba cultivar (Table 4). We hypothesize that this GLP/2-oxoglutarate dioxygenase  
556 would catabolize auxin and hence stimulate ripening. In banana it has been proven that ethylene  
557 promotes ripening and auxins delay it (Purgatto et al., 2001; Mainardi et al., 2006; Kuang et al.,  
558 2021). Also in papaya the same has been proven (Zhang et al., 2020).

559 In plum, it has been shown that ethylene was a crucial factor affecting overall sugar metabolism  
560 (Farcuh et al., 2018). More specifically, ethylene reduced sucrose catabolism and induced  
561 sucrose biosynthesis but inversely, stimulated sorbitol breakdown via increased sorbitol and  
562 dehydrogenase decrease sorbitol biosynthesis via decreased sorbitol-6-phosphate-dehydrogenase.  
563 Also here, we observed an excellent correlation between ACO and a sorbitol dehydrogenase,  
564 which catabolize sorbitol into fructose (Fru) and glucose (Glu). Also here the cultivar Agbagba  
565 has a significantly earlier response than Obino '1 Ewai (Table 4).

566

## 567 **6 Conclusions**

568 By combining proteomics and flux studies, we gain here unique insights into the order of  
569 appearance and dominance of specific enzymes/fluxes involved in starch and sugar synthesis and  
570 breakdown. Fluxes give a broader analysis of the metabolism. Despite fluxes are calculated in a  
571 non-compartmented network, we showed that proteome data complemented by fluxes can give a  
572 satisfactory picture of the dynamics of metabolism during fruit development. The maturation in  
573 plantain is completed around 10 WAE, indicated by a net breakdown in starch. The import of  
574 G6P into the amyloplast and possibly fructose are the main drivers of starch synthesis. The

575 soluble starch synthase likely plays a more important role in the starch synthesis during the early  
576 fruit development while granule bound starch synthase most likely influences the starch at the  
577 mature stage. For starch breakdown, mainly DPE and phosphorylase produce the first hexoses  
578 for sugar synthesis and amylases come into play at a later stage in ripening. In plantain  
579 cytoplasmic invertase seems to play an important role in the breakdown of sucrose to support  
580 further growth. The data pointed towards an interplay between auxins and ethylene, controlling  
581 the ripening process. Despite the fact that both plantain cultivars are extremely close genetically,  
582 we did find significant differences in ripening. The earlier ripening in Agbagba might be related  
583 to an earlier induction of the second ethylene system and a bigger scavenging of auxins. This  
584 information contributes to a better understanding of fruit development and maturation in banana  
585 and more specifically plantains.

586

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596

597 The authors have declared no conflict of interest.

### 598 **Table Legends**

599

600 Table 1: Proteins linked to growth in plantain banana pulp

601 WAE: Weeks After Emergence

602 This table only displays the ANOVA p-values of the protein paralog with the lowest value. The  
603 full list of significant protein paralogs can be seen in Table S1.

604

605 Table 2: Metabolite data of plantain banana pulp.



606 Homogeneous groups over time within the same metabolite are indicated by a letter.  
607 A<B<C<D<E, Groups sharing a letter are not significantly different (Fisher test).

608 WAE: weeks after emergence

609 OB: Obino 'l Ewai

610 AG: Agbagba

611

612 Table 3: Proteins linked to starch and sugar metabolism and correlations to starch and sucrose in  
613 plantain banana pulp. This table only displays the ANOVA p-values of the protein paralog with  
614 the lowest value. The full list of significant protein paralogs can be seen in Table S1.

615 WAE: Weeks After Emergence

616 R: Pearson correlation coefficient. Correlations in bold are statistically significant  $p < 0.05$ . This  
617 table is non redundant and only displays the most significant protein paralogs. The full list can be  
618 seen in Table S1

619

620 Table 4: Proteins linked to Ethylene response and correlations to ACO in plantain banana pulp

621

622 WAE: Weeks After Emergence

623 R: Pearson correlation coefficient. Correlations in bold are statistically significant  $p < 0.05$ . This  
624 table only displays the ANOVA p-values of the protein paralog with the lowest value. The full  
625 list of significant protein paralogs can be seen in Table S1.

626

627

628

## 629 **Figure legends**

630 FIGURE 1: Principal Component Analysis of the proteomics data (2183 proteins) of the two  
631 varieties of plantain banana during fruit development. Displayed are the average scores per  
632 cultivar and time point. Agbagba (blue) and Obino l'Ewai (red). The size of the data points is  
633 proportional to the time of sampling. Pulp samples were analyzed at 6, 8, 10 and 12 WAE,  $n = 3-$   
634 5.

635

636 FIGURE 2: Changes in growth of fruit of two plantain varieties from 2 to 12 WAE (derivative of



637 cubic regression model). AG: Agbaba (Blue); OB: Obino l'ewai (Red).

638

639 FIGURE 3: Correlation between the average growth rate (6-12 WAE) and the average  
640 normalized abundance of cytoplasmic invertase Mba10\_g13890.1 for two plantain varieties.  
641 Agbaba (blue); Obino l'ewai (red).

642

643 FIGURE 4: Changes in starch (derivative quadratic regression model). Samples harvested at 2, 4,  
644 6, 8, 10 and 12 WAE. n =4-5 Agbaba (blue); Obino l'ewai (red) Net starch breakdown and so the  
645 end of maturation is estimated to take place at 9.3 and 10.2 WAE for Agbaba and Obino l'ewai,  
646 respectively.

647

648 FIGURE 5: Correlation between plastidic membrane transporter (11, Ma10\_p26490) and SuSy  
649 (1, Ma08\_p23180) abundances. Samples have been harvested at 6, 8, 10 and 12 WAE. Agbaba  
650 (blue); Obino l'ewai (red).

651

652 FIGURE 6A: Net starch synthesis at 6 WAE based on proteomic data in two plantain varieties.  
653 Enzyme numbers in bold are significantly higher abundant at 6WAE (Table 3). The net direction  
654 of the flux is indicated by an arrow. Enzymes and arrows in green have been confirmed by the  
655 calculated fluxes (average of two cultivars). The size of the arrow indicates the protein  
656 abundance (EMPAI). Grey arrows indicate unidentified or unsure proteins.

657 FIGURE 6B: Net starch breakdown at 12WAE. Enzymes in bold are significantly higher  
658 abundant at 12WAE (Table 3). The net direction of the flux is indicated by an arrow. Enzymes  
659 and arrows in green have been confirmed by the calculated fluxes (average of two cultivars).  
660 The size of the arrow indicates the protein abundance (EMPAI). Grey arrows indicate unknown  
661 or unsure proteins.

662

663 1: Sucrose synthase, 2: UTP-glucose-1-phosphate uridylyltransferase, 3: Fructokinase, 4:  
664 Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase, cytosolic, 5: Phosphoglucomutase, 6: Glucose-6-  
665 phosphate/phosphate translocator , chloroplastic, 7: Phosphoglucomutase, chloroplastic, 8:  
666 Glucose-1-phosphate adenylyltransferase large subunit 2, chloroplastic, 9: Granule-bound starch  
667 synthase , chloroplastic/amyloplastic, 10: Soluble starch synthase , chloroplastic/amyloplastic,

668 11: D-xylose-proton symporter-like 3, chloroplastic, 12: fructokinase, 13: Glucose-6-phosphate  
669 isomerase 14: ATP-dependent 6-phosphofructokinase, 15: Pyrophosphate--fructose 6-phosphate  
670 1-phosphotransferase subunit beta, 16: Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase, 17: Triosephosphate  
671 isomerase, cytosolic, 18: Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, cytosolic, 19: ADP,ATP  
672 carrier protein , chloroplastic, 20: Alpha-1,4 glucan phosphorylase L isozyme,  
673 chloroplastic/amyloplastic, 21: Phosphoglucan, water dikinase, chloroplastic, 22: Phosphoglucan  
674 phosphatase LSF1, chloroplastic, 23: Isoamylase 3, chloroplastic, 24: 4-alpha-glucanotransferase  
675 disproportioning enzyme, 25: Plastidic glucose transporter, 26: Soluble inorganic  
676 pyrophosphatase, chloroplastic, 27: Sucrose-phosphate synthase, 28: Pyrophosphate-energized  
677 vacuolar membrane proton pump, 29: Invertase, 30: Monosaccharide-sensing protein; 31:  
678 Invertase; 32: Sucrose-phosphatase (identification unsure, only 1 peptide)

679

680 Figure 7: Simplified flux map, based on constrain-based modelling for Agbaba plantain cultivar  
681 at 2 WAE, showing a high activity for fluxes in glycolysis, TCA cycle and mostly respiration (in  
682 red). The same trend was obtained for both cultivars (see Figure S3). The arrow width is  
683 proportional to flux intensity.

684

685

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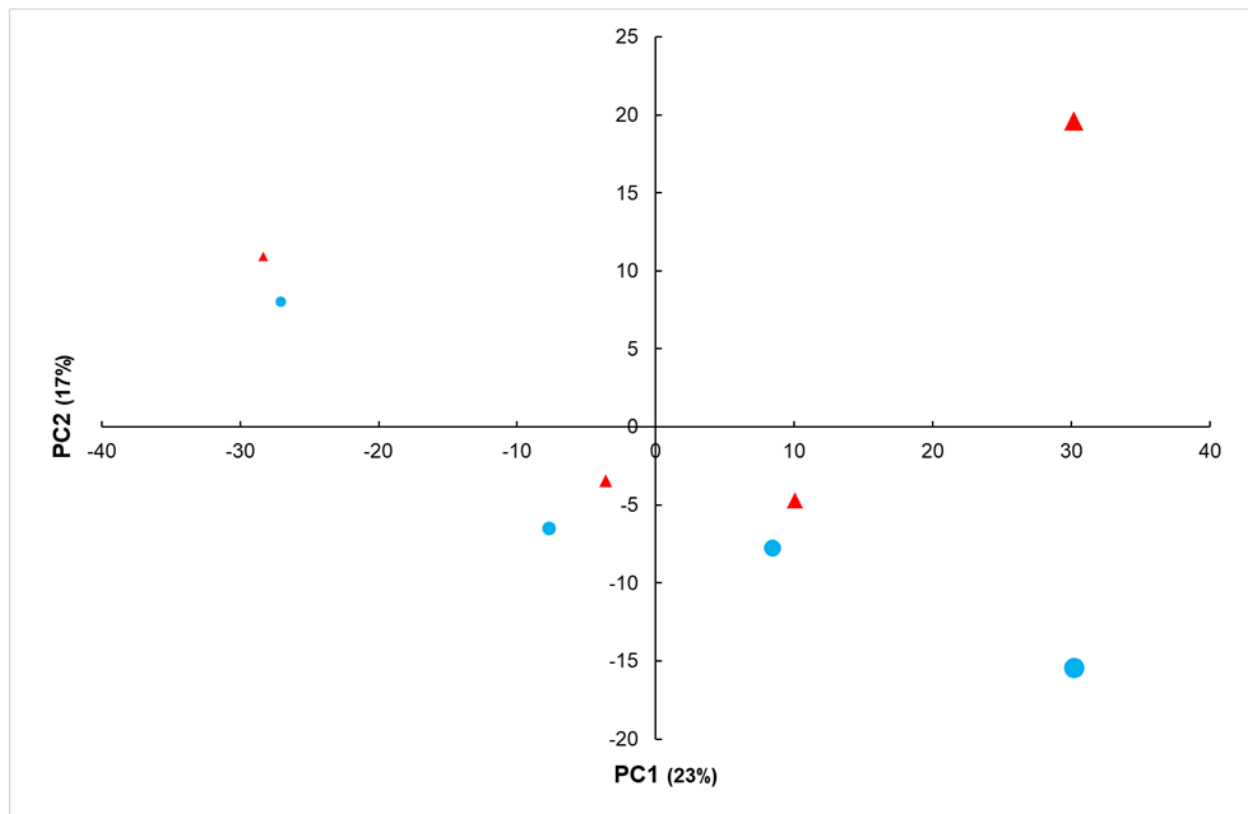
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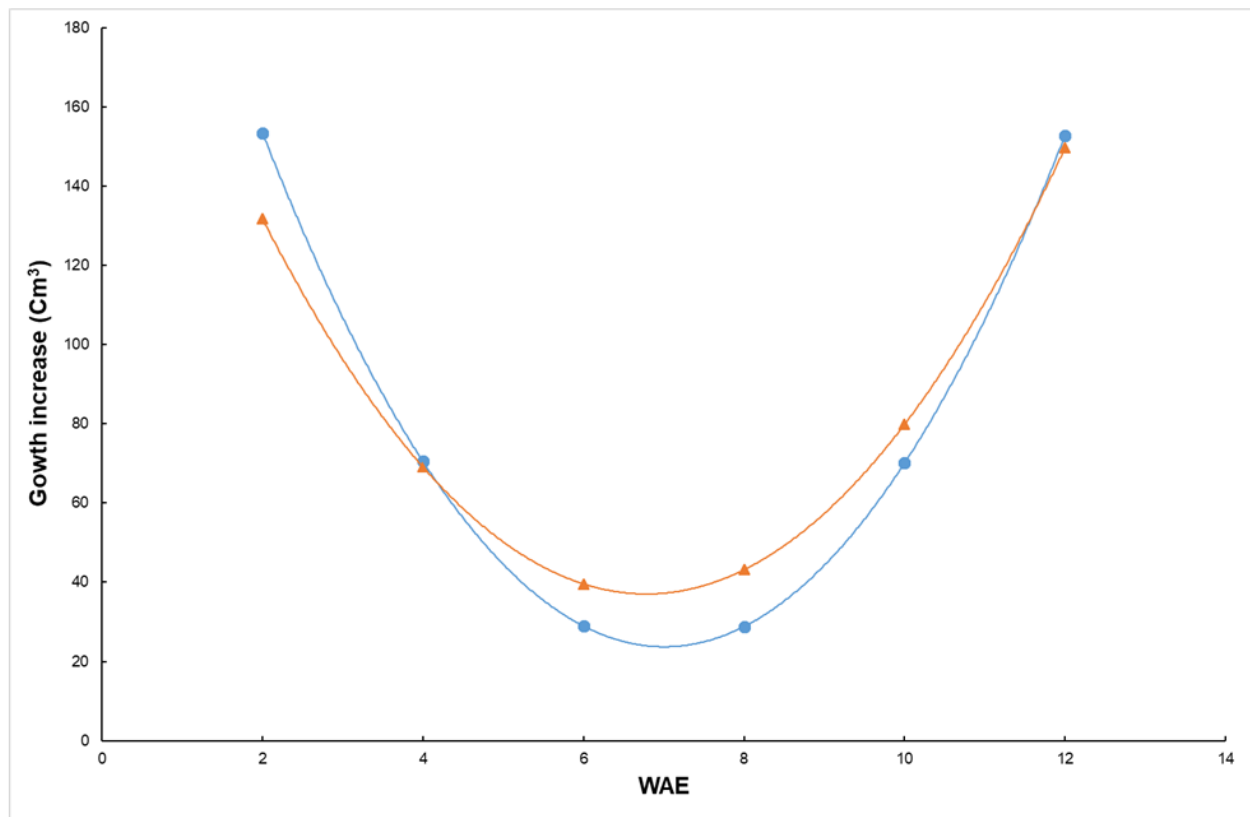
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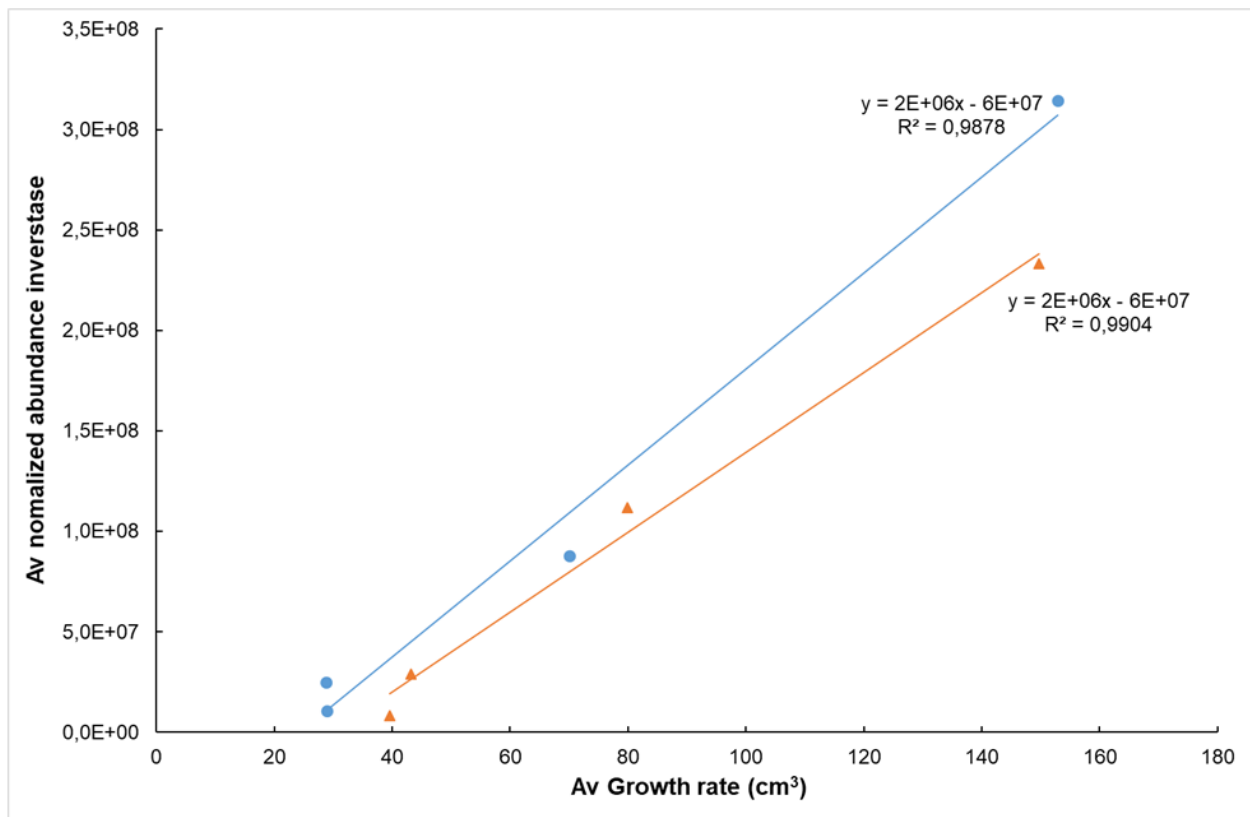


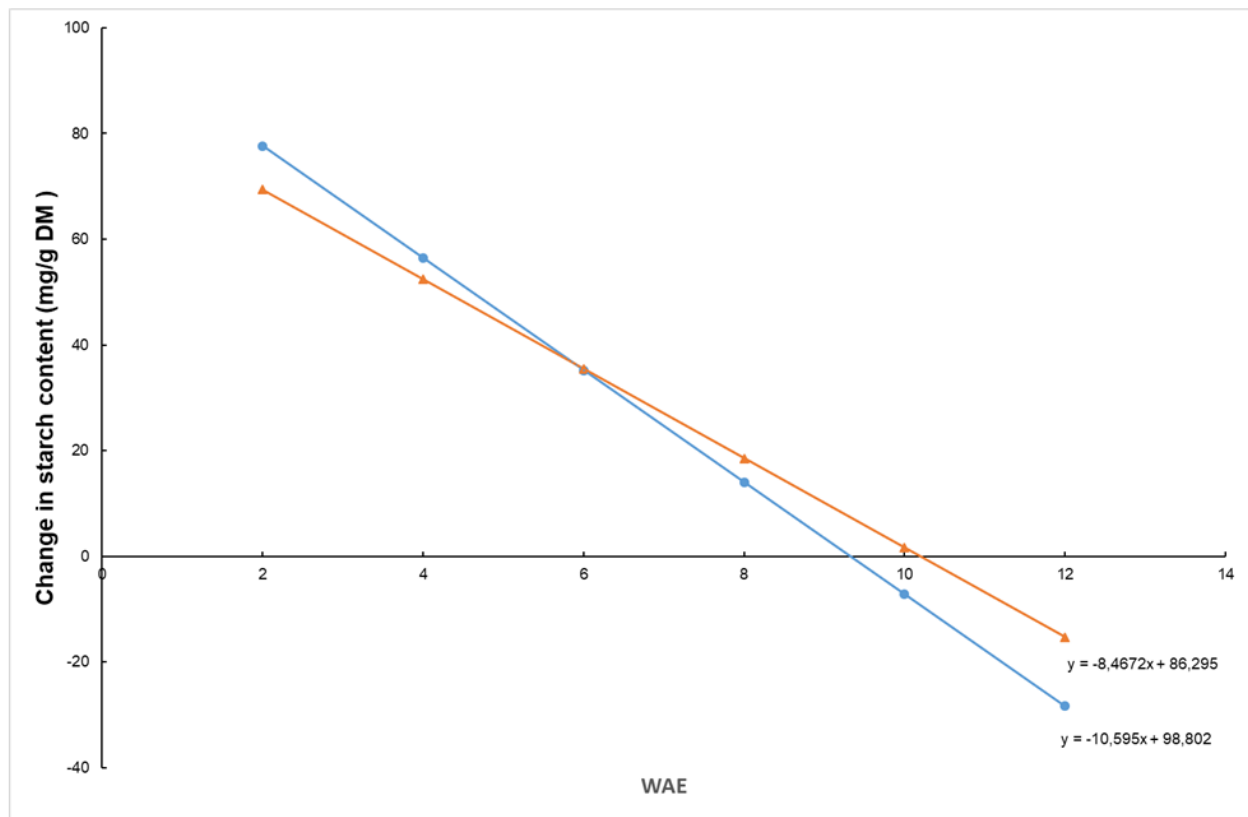
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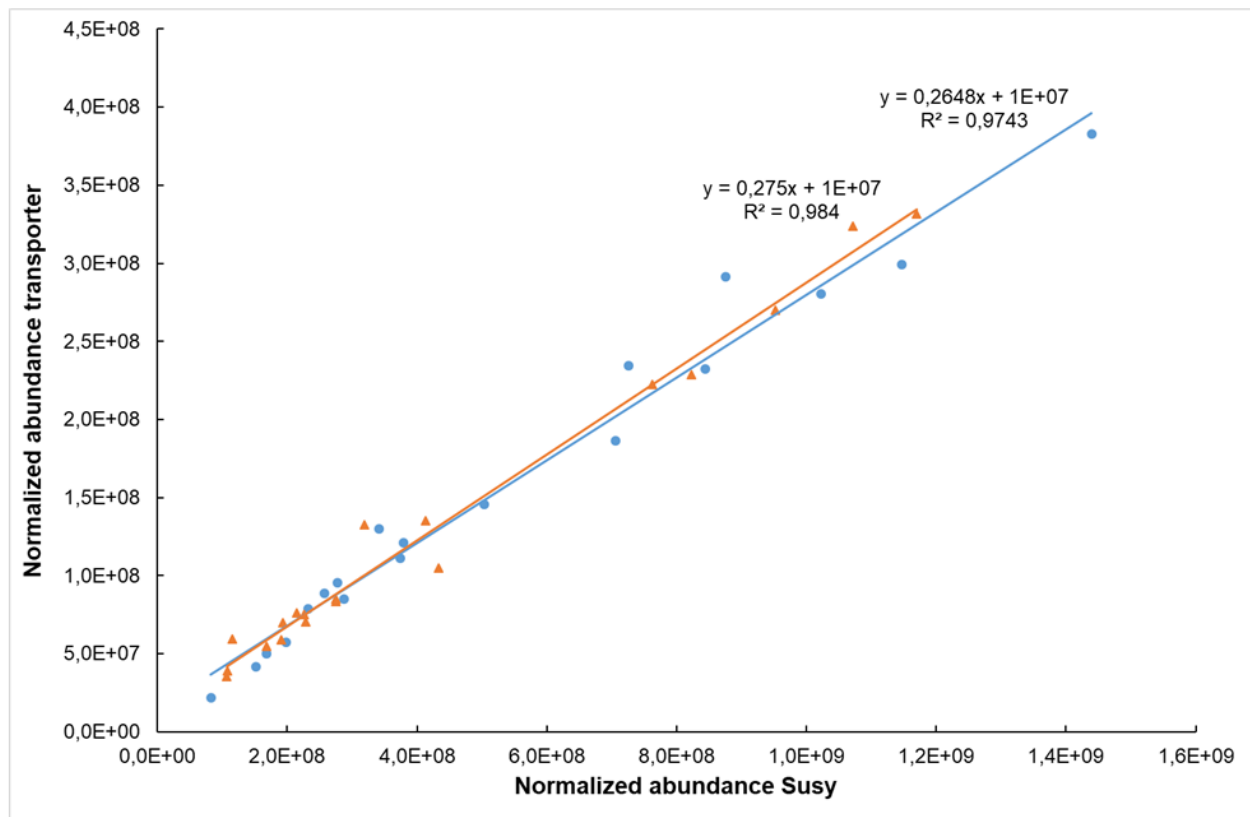




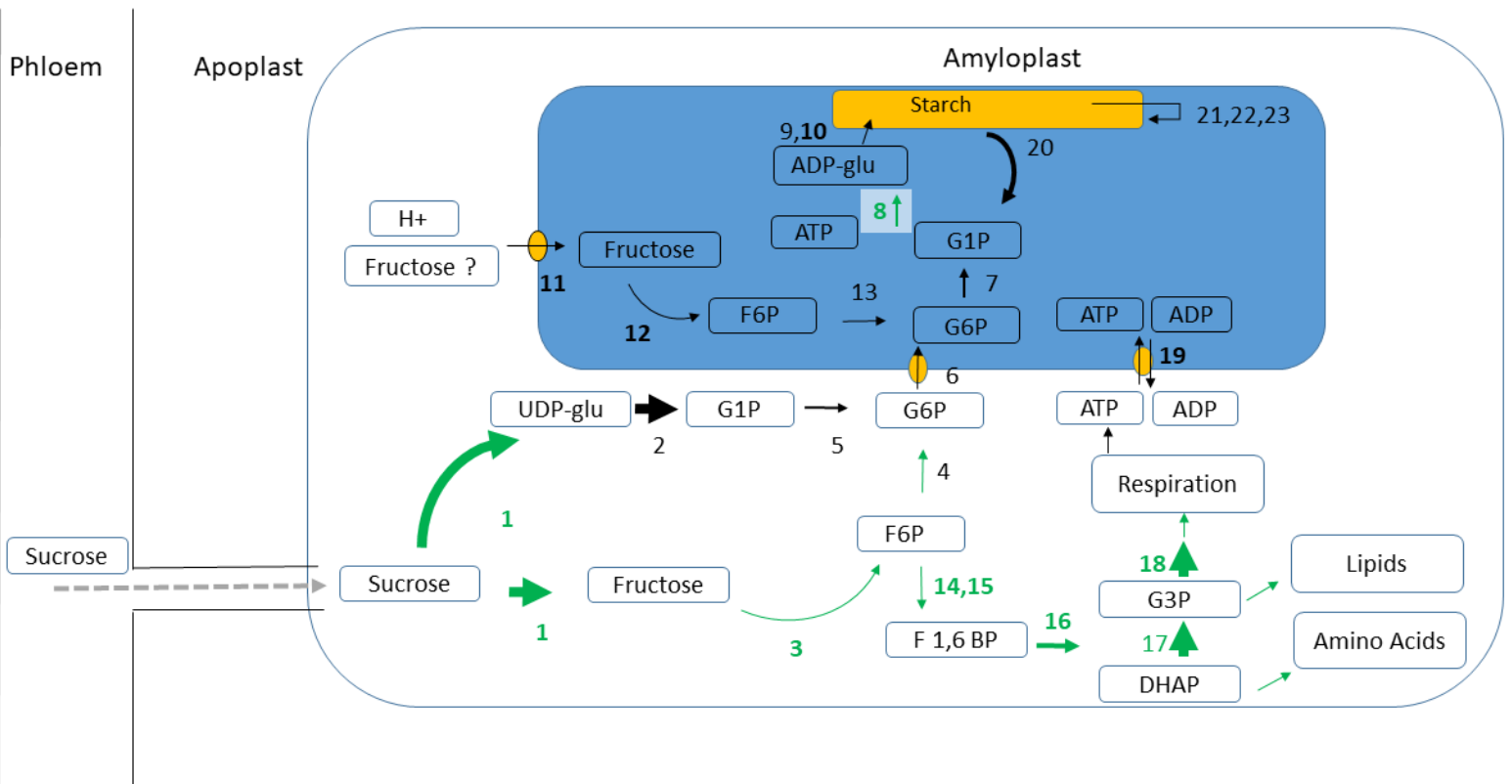




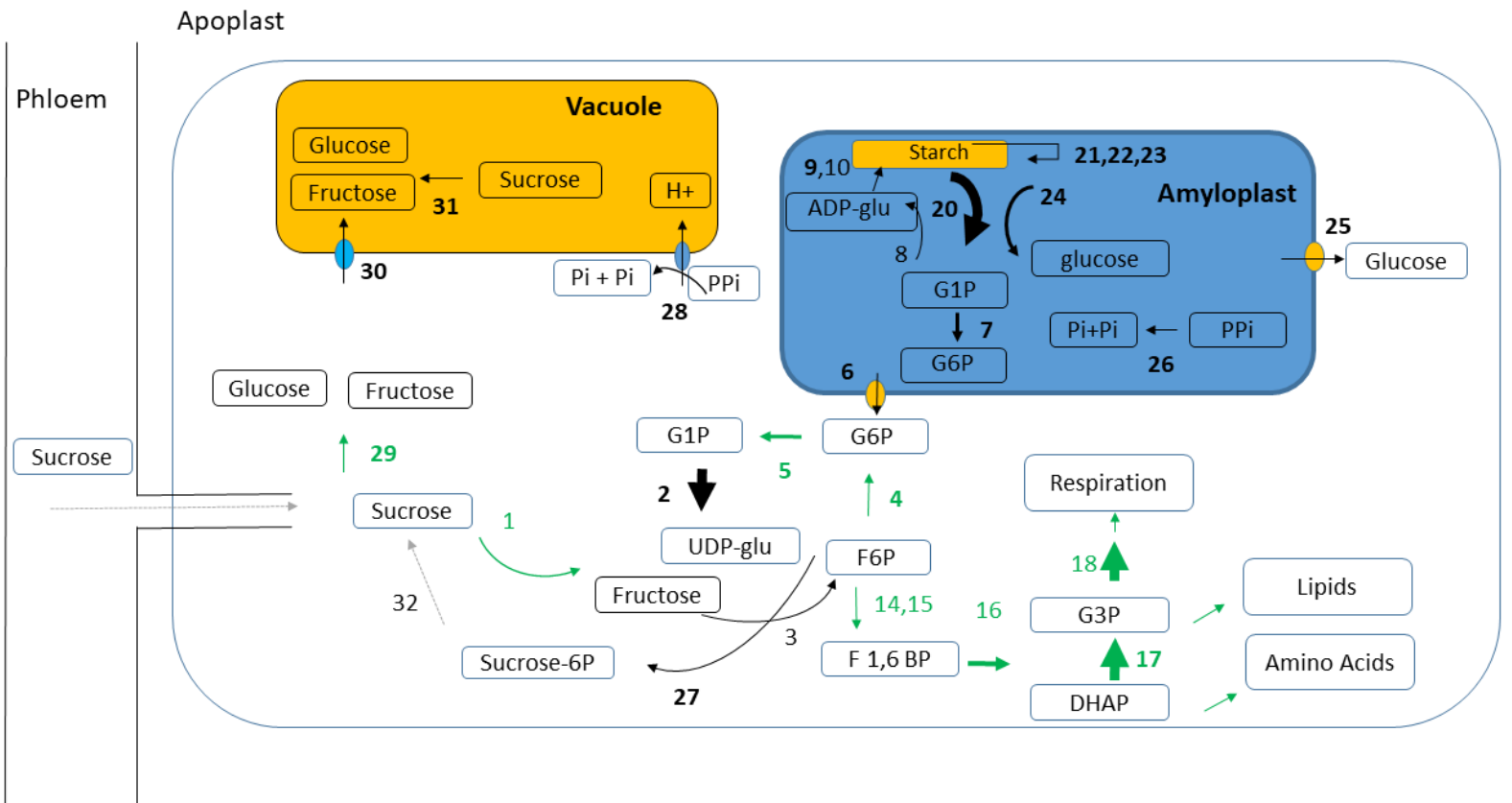


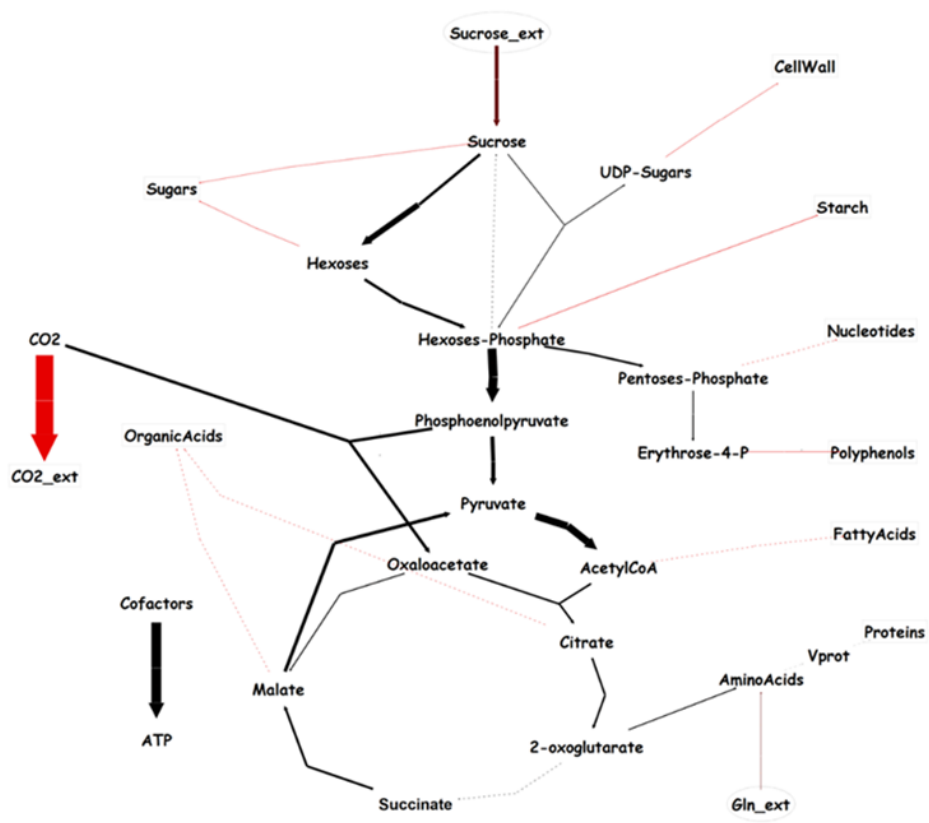


A



B







description	ANOVA p value			Peptides used for quantitation	max fold change	WAE	
	WAE	Genotype	WAE*Genotype			Highest mean condition	Lowest mean condition
26S protease regulatory subunit 7	0,00	0,87	0,94	6	1,7	6	12
26S proteasome non-ATPase regulatory subunit 1	0,00	0,01	0,01	7	2,9	6	12
26S proteasome regulatory subunit 6B homolog	0,00	0,07	0,01	11	2,2	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S11	0,00	0,92	0,45	8	3,0	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S13	0,00	0,89	0,72	4	1,9	6	10
40S ribosomal protein S14	0,00	0,40	0,79	9	3,2	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S16	0,00	0,73	0,53	10	1,6	6	10
40S ribosomal protein S18	0,00	0,13	0,03	14	1,8	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S19	0,00	0,21	0,80	11	2,4	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S24-2	0,00	0,54	0,54	3	3,7	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S25-4	0,00	0,62	0,53	6	1,8	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S26-1	0,00	0,08	0,70	3	2,0	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S3a	0,00	0,48	0,34	8	2,0	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S5 (Fragment)	0,00	0,06	0,32	7	2,5	6	12
40S ribosomal protein S9-2	0,00	0,69	0,86	10	1,7	6	10
40S ribosomal protein S9	0,00	0,75	0,17	8	3,5	6	12
50S ribosomal protein L12, chloroplastic	0,00	0,28	0,86	2	4,7	6	12
60S acidic ribosomal protein P2B	0,00	0,40	0,82	5	2,3	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L11	0,00	0,43	0,13	6	2,6	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L12	0,00	0,21	0,06	8	1,9	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L13-1	0,00	0,55	0,82	8	1,9	6	10
60S ribosomal protein L22-2	0,01	0,88	0,14	2	2,0	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L23	0,00	0,88	0,68	5	1,6	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L23A	0,00	0,03	0,79	8	3,0	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L30	0,00	0,97	0,58	2	2,3	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L34	0,01	0,69	0,45	5	2,5	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L35	0,00	0,65	0,87	6	2,6	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L35a-3	0,00	0,70	0,36	2	2,2	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L36-3	0,00	0,06	0,65	6	2,9	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L37a	0,00	0,46	0,79	2	10,8	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L4-1	0,00	0,49	0,40	13	2,9	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L6	0,00	0,42	0,60	7	2,1	6	10
60S ribosomal protein L7-2	0,00	0,75	0,11	7	2,1	6	12
60S ribosomal protein L9	0,00	0,57	0,00	6	2,4	6	12
Actin-depolymerizing factor 2	0,00	0,05	0,12	2	3,9	6	12
Beta-glucosidase 1	0,00	0,46	0,91	3	1,9	6	12
Eukaryotic initiation factor 4A-3	0,00	0,19	0,63	24	1,7	6	12
Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 3 subunit I	0,00	0,61	0,62	3	4,9	6	12
Guanine nucleotide-binding protein subunit beta-	0,00	0,13	0,14	11	2,6	6	12
Histone H2A.1	0,00	0,07	0,09	2	9,7	6	12
Histone H2B	0,00	0,00	0,28	2	2,4	6	12
Histone H2B.6	0,00	0,00	0,92	6	4,5	6	12
Histone H4	0,00	0,04	0,58	4	57,1	6	12
Proteasome subunit alpha type-1-A	0,00	0,84	0,54	8	1,7	6	12
Proteasome subunit alpha type-2-A	0,00	0,40	0,45	7	1,6	6	12
Proteasome subunit alpha type-5	0,00	0,13	0,51	16	3,0	6	12
Proteasome subunit alpha type-6	0,00	0,18	0,05	12	2,3	6	12
Proteasome subunit alpha type-7	0,00	0,05	0,05	7	1,8	6	12
Proteasome subunit beta type-4	0,00	0,26	0,77	5	4,1	6	10
Protein ASPARTIC PROTEASE IN GUARD CELL 1	0,00	0,25	0,83	8	3,6	6	10
T-complex protein 1 subunit epsilon	0,00	0,27	0,71	6	2,2	6	12
T-complex protein 1 subunit theta	0,00	0,55	0,04	8	3,0	6	12
UDP-glucose 6-dehydrogenase 4	0,00	0,13	0,02	5	3,0	6	12
UDP-glucuronic acid decarboxylase 6	0,00	0,90	0,66	6	2,0	6	10

time point WAE	2	4	6	8	10	12	2	4	6	8	10	12
Genotype	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	OL	OL	OL	OL	OL	OL
Biological replicates	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4
	Mean $\mu\text{mol/gDW}$											
F6P	0,5 <sup>D</sup>	0,4 <sup>ABCD</sup>	0,3 <sup>AB</sup>	0,3 <sup>AB</sup>	0,3 <sup>ABC</sup>	0,5 <sup>CD</sup>	0,5 <sup>CD</sup>	0,4 <sup>ABCD</sup>	0,3 <sup>A</sup>	0,3 <sup>AB</sup>	0,4 <sup>BCD</sup>	0,4 <sup>ABCD</sup>
Fructose	82,7 <sup>C</sup>	51,5 <sup>BC</sup>	19,1 <sup>AB</sup>	9,5 <sup>A</sup>	12,1 <sup>A</sup>	9,7 <sup>A</sup>	40,1 <sup>AB</sup>	54,9 <sup>BC</sup>	9,2 <sup>A</sup>	8,3 <sup>A</sup>	7,6 <sup>A</sup>	4,1 <sup>A</sup>
G1P	0,4 <sup>C</sup>	0,3 <sup>ABC</sup>	0,1 <sup>A</sup>	0,2 <sup>AB</sup>	0,2 <sup>ABC</sup>	0,2 <sup>AB</sup>	0,3 <sup>ABC</sup>	0,3 <sup>BC</sup>	0,1 <sup>A</sup>	0,2 <sup>AB</sup>	0,2 <sup>A</sup>	0,2 <sup>AB</sup>
G6P	3,6 <sup>BCDE</sup>	2,6 <sup>ABC</sup>	2,2 <sup>A</sup>	2,5 <sup>AB</sup>	3,4 <sup>BCDE</sup>	4,5 <sup>E</sup>	4,1 <sup>DE</sup>	3,1 <sup>ABCD</sup>	2,9 <sup>ABCD</sup>	3,3 <sup>ABCDE</sup>	3,8 <sup>CDE</sup>	4,3 <sup>DE</sup>
Glucose	39,8 <sup>B</sup>	23,2 <sup>AB</sup>	6,3 <sup>A</sup>	4,2 <sup>A</sup>	4,4 <sup>AB</sup>	4,2 <sup>A</sup>	21,2 <sup>AB</sup>	21,8 <sup>AB</sup>	3,7 <sup>A</sup>	4,2 <sup>A</sup>	4,1 <sup>A</sup>	4,3 <sup>A</sup>
Starch	266,2 <sup>A</sup>	313,6 <sup>ABC</sup>	386,6 <sup>ABCD</sup>	410,2 <sup>BCD</sup>	457,4 <sup>D</sup>	442,7 <sup>CD</sup>	268,3 <sup>A</sup>	264,2 <sup>A</sup>	305,8 <sup>AB</sup>	423,3 <sup>BCD</sup>	449,1 <sup>D</sup>	434 <sup>BCD</sup>
Sucrose	92,1 <sup>ABC</sup>	67,0 <sup>ABC</sup>	75,5 <sup>AB</sup>	108,3 <sup>BCD</sup>	127,8 <sup>CDE</sup>	160,2 <sup>E</sup>	98,8 <sup>ABC</sup>	68,6 <sup>A</sup>	108,3 <sup>BCD</sup>	141,6 <sup>DE</sup>	156,1 <sup>E</sup>	148,7 <sup>DE</sup>

enzyme	description	ANOVA p value			Peptides used for quantitation	max fold change	Highest mean condition	Lowest mean condition	R	
		WAE	Genotype	DAF*Genotype					starch	sucrose
1	Sucrose synthase	0,00	0,03	0,59	10	8,2	6	12	-0,41	-0,68
2	UTP-glucose-1-phosphate uridylyltransferase	0,00	0,42	0,07	30	2,1	12	6	0,16	0,50
3	Fructokinase-1	0,00	0,26	0,83	9	2,0	6	12	-0,28	-0,56
4	Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase, cytosolic 1	0,00	0,05	0,19	12	9,0	12	6	0,21	0,44
5	phosphoglucosyltransferase, putative, expressed	0,06	0,47	0,55	7	8,2	12	8	0,12	0,21
6	Glucose-6-phosphate/phosphate translocator 2, chloroplast	0,00	0,55	0,45	5	3,0	12	6	0,02	0,29
7	Phosphoglucosyltransferase 2C chloroplast	0,00	0,40	0,94	24	1,9	12	6	0,21	0,60
8	Glucose-1-phosphate adenylyltransferase large subunit 2, chl	0,00	0,55	0,35	14	2,8	6	12	-0,43	-0,67
9	Granule-bound starch synthase 1, chloroplast/amyloplastic	0,02	0,65	0,45	4	2,4	12	6	0,27	0,23
10	Soluble starch synthase 3, chloroplast/amyloplastic	0,03	0,29	0,30	11	3,2	6	12	0,13	-0,34
11	D-xylose-proton symporter-like 3, chloroplast	0,00	0,06	0,58	4	6,2	6	12	-0,40	-0,67
12	Probable fructokinase-6, chloroplast	0,04	0,12	0,29	3	1,7	6	12	-0,03	-0,22
13	Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase 1, chloroplast	0,06	0,32	0,25	13	1,3	12	10	0,23	0,50
14	ATP-dependent 6-phosphofructokinase 3	0,01	0,45	0,51	5	1,5	6	12	-0,12	-0,53
15	Pyrophosphate-fructose 6-phosphate 1-phosphotransferase	0,00	0,42	0,78	4	2,0	6	10	-0,39	-0,52
16	Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase cytoplasmic isozyme	0,00	0,01	0,68	28	1,3	6	12	-0,27	-0,39
17	Triosephosphate isomerase, cytosolic	0,00	0,01	0,08	3	2,7	12	6	0,05	0,31
18	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase 2, cytosolic	0,00	0,18	0,13	25	1,6	6	10	-0,39	-0,17
19	ADP/ATP carrier protein 1, chloroplast	0,00	0,23	0,03	3	72,7	6	12	-0,44	-0,57
20	Alpha-1,4 glucan phosphorylase L isozyme, chloroplast/amy	0,00	0,89	0,29	92	3,3	12	6	0,22	0,64
21	Phosphoglucan, water dikinase, chloroplast	0,00	0,57	0,99	28	3,5	12	6	0,15	0,52
22	Phosphoglucan phosphatase LSF1, chloroplast	0,00	0,26	0,96	6	1,8	12	6	0,03	0,43
23	Isoamylase 3, chloroplast	0,00	0,15	0,92	14	2,5	12	6	0,13	0,51
24	4-alpha-glucanotransferase	0,00	0,29	0,00	32	2,3	12	6	0,18	0,68
25	Plastidic glucose transporter	0,00	0,66	0,10	4	2,4	10	6	0,19	0,13
26	Soluble inorganic pyrophosphatase, chloroplast	0,00	0,29	0,17	7	3,3	12	6	0,12	0,34
27	Sucrose-phosphate synthase	0,01	0,93	0,90	25	2,0	12	6	0,15	0,45
28	Pyrophosphate-energized vacuolar membrane proton pump	0,00	0,05	0,23	20	5,6	12	6	0,21	0,46
29	Beta-fructofuranosidase 2C insoluble isoenzyme 3	0,00	0,54	0,42	17	37,3	12	6	0,11	0,41
30	Monosaccharide-sensing protein	0,00	0,69	0,91	3	9,7	12	6	0,20	0,50
31	Beta-fructofuranosidase, insoluble isoenzyme 3	0,00	0,82	0,82	5	19,5	12	6	0,11	0,41

Description	ANOVA p value			Peptides used for quantitation	max fold change	WAE		R	
	WAE	Genotype	WAE*Genotype			Highest mean condition	Lowest mean condition	sucrose	ACO
1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylate oxidase	0,00	0,30	0,03	39	19,1	12	6	<b>0,60</b>	<b>1,00</b>
Sorbitol dehydrogenase	0,00	0,42	0,02	13	3,4	12	6	<b>0,63</b>	<b>0,91</b>
Germin-like protein 12-1	0,00	0,06	0,00	5	123,8	12	6	<b>0,58</b>	<b>0,88</b>
Pectinesterase/pectinesterase inhibitor PPE8B	0,00	0,34	0,01	18	12,8	12	6	<b>0,59</b>	<b>0,84</b>
Putative Pectinesterase	0,00	0,86	0,39	11	7,1	12	6	<b>0,57</b>	<b>0,82</b>
L-ascorbate peroxidase, cytosolic	0,00	0,07	0,00	14	2,5	12	6	<b>0,57</b>	<b>0,82</b>
GDP-mannose 3,5-epimerase 1	0,00	0,21	0,56	13	1,9	12	6	<b>0,50</b>	<b>0,82</b>
Probable L-ascorbate peroxidase 7, chloroplastic	0,00	0,12	0,87	7	3,4	12	6	<b>0,50</b>	<b>0,75</b>
Lichenase	0,00	0,23	0,00	20	46,1	12	6	<b>0,56</b>	<b>0,73</b>

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