

Document downloaded from:

<http://hdl.handle.net/10251/159534>

This paper must be cited as:

Pérez De Castro, AM.; Esteras Gómez, C.; Alfaro Fernández, AO.; Daròs, J.; Monforte Gilabert, AJ.; Picó Sirvent, MB.; Gómez-Guillamón, ML. (2019). Fine mapping of wmv1551, a resistance gene to Watermelon mosaic virus in melon. *Molecular Breeding*. 39(7):1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11032-019-0998-z>



The final publication is available at

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11032-019-0998-z>

Copyright Springer-Verlag

Additional Information

1 **Fine mapping of *wmv*^{I551}, a resistance gene to *Watermelon mosaic virus***
2 **in melon**

3 Pérez-de-Castro, Ana¹; Esteras, Cristina¹; Alfaro-Fernández, Ana²; Daròs, José-Antonio³;
4 Monforte, Antonio José³; Picó Sirvent, María Belén¹; Gómez-Guillamón, María Luisa⁴

5 ¹ Instituto de Conservación y Mejora de la Agrodiversidad (COMAV), Universitat
6 Politècnica de València, Camino de Vera 46022, Valencia, Spain

7 ² Grupo de Virología. Instituto Agroforestal Mediterráneo, Universitat Politècnica de
8 València, Camino de Vera 46022, Valencia, Spain

9 ³ Instituto de Biología Molecular y Celular de Plantas, Consejo Superior de
10 Investigaciones Científicas-Universitat Politècnica de València, 46022, Valencia, Spain

11 ⁴ Instituto de Hortofruticultura Subtropical y Mediterránea ‘La Mayora’ (IHSM, UMA-
12 CSIC), Algarrobo-Costa, 29760, Málaga, Spain

13

14 Corresponding author: anpedel@btc.upv.es, (+34) 963879422

15 ORCID:

16 Pérez-de-Castro, Ana: 0000-0002-4949-3323

17 Esteras, Cristina: 0000-0002-8789-4363

18 Alfaro-Fernández, Ana:

19 Daròs, José Antonio: 0000-0002-6535-2889

20 Monforte, Antonio: 0000-0003-3461-3094

21 Picó Sirvent, María Belén: 0000-0001-7761-990X

22 Gómez-Guillamón, María Luisa: 0000-0002-8060-1900

23

24 **Acknowledgements**

25 This study was partially supported by the Spanish Ministerio de Economía y
26 Competitividad grants AGL2014-53398-C2 (1-R and 2-R), by the Spanish Ministerio de
27 Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades grants AGL2017-85563-C2 (1-R and 2-R) and
28 BIO2017-83184-R, and by the Conselleria d'Educació, Investigació, Cultura i Esports de
29 la Generalitat Valenciana grant PROMETEO/2017/078 (cofinanced with FEDER funds).
30 The authors would like to thank R. Camero, I. Díaz, E. Martínez, G. Perpiñá, M. López,
31 V. Aragonés and T. Cordero for their technical support in field assays.

32

33 **Abstract**

34 Recessive resistance to *Watermelon mosaic virus* (WMV) in melon has previously been
35 reported in the African accession TGR-1551. Using a population of recombinant inbred
36 lines (RIL), derived from a cross between TGR-1551 and the susceptible Spanish cultivar
37 ‘Bola de Oro’ (BO), a major quantitative trait loci (QTL) controlling the resistance was
38 previously mapped to a region of approximately 760 kb in chromosome 11. Minor QTLs
39 were also reported with lower effects, dependent on the environmental conditions. A
40 genotyping by sequencing (GBS) analysis of the RIL population has provided new
41 information that allowed the better location of the major QTL in chromosome 11.
42 Moreover, three minor QTLs in chromosomes 4, 5 and 6 were identified. Generations
43 derived from the RIL population were subsequently phenotyped for resistance and
44 genotyped with SNP markers to fine map the resistance derived from TGR-1551. The
45 results obtained have allowed to narrow the position of the resistance gene on
46 chromosome 11, designated as *wmv¹⁵⁵¹*, to a 141 kb region, and the confirmation of a
47 minor QTL in chromosome 5. The effect of the minor QTL in chromosome 5 was
48 significant in heterozygote plants for the introgression in chromosome 11. The SNP
49 markers linked to both QTLs will be useful in breeding programs aimed at the
50 introgression of WMV resistance derived from TGR-1551. Future work will be directed
51 to identifying the resistance gene, *wmv¹⁵⁵¹*, in the candidate region on chromosome 11.

52 **Keywords:** *Cucumis melo*, WMV, potyvirus, SNP markers

53

54 **Introduction**

55 *Watermelon mosaic virus* (WMV) is a plus-strand RNA virus that belongs to the genus
56 *Potyvirus* (family *Potyviridae*) and is transmitted by different aphid species. WMV

57 infects melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) in the main production areas in countries with temperate
58 climates worldwide (Lecoq and Desbiez 2008). Symptoms of infection include mosaic,
59 leaf deformation, chlorosis and cessation of plant growth. Discoloration and slight
60 deformation are observed in fruits, with early infections causing serious yield reduction.
61 Different strategies, such as cultural practices (Ferreles and Moreno 2011), have been used
62 to control this disease in melons, although reduction in infection levels is not enough to
63 ensure profitable yields. The introgression of the virus aphid transmission resistance gene
64 (*Vat*) has been reported to have limited impact on WMV epidemics, probably due to the
65 fact that *Aphis gossypii* Glover is not the main vector of the virus in fields (Schoeny et al.
66 2017). Thus, the identification of new plant resistance genes is necessary to fight this
67 disease.

68 Tolerance to WMV has been reported in some melon genotypes (Webb 1967; Provvidenti
69 et al. 1978; Sowell and Demski 1981; Moyer et al. 1985; Munger 1991). Up to date, only
70 two accessions, PI 414723 and TGR-1551, have been identified as resistant to the disease.
71 Resistance in PI 414723 is conferred by the dominant gene *Wmr* and it is characterized
72 by a reduction in viral accumulation associated to mild symptoms after infection, with
73 subsequent recovery (Gilbert et al. 1994). Usefulness of resistance derived from PI
74 414723 is limited, as it is not a full resistance.

75 Resistance to WMV in the African accession TGR-1551 has been reported as causing a
76 reduction in virus titer, with infected plants remaining asymptomatic or exhibiting mild
77 disease symptoms (Díaz-Pendón et al. 2003). Subsequent analysis showed that resistance
78 is controlled by one recessive gene together with other additional genetic factors (Díaz-
79 Pendón et al. 2005). Evaluation of the resistance in three different environments of a
80 recombinant inbred lines (RIL) population derived from a cross between TGR-1551 and
81 the susceptible Spanish cultivar 'Bola de Oro' allowed the identification of a major

82 quantitative trait locus (QTL) responsible of the resistance on chromosome 11
83 (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011). These authors located the QTL between markers ECM215
84 and CMN04_35, in an interval of approximately 9 cM (ECM215 and CMN04_35 flank a
85 physical region of 757.9 kb in the melon genome v3.6.1). This major QTL was associated
86 with resistance in all three environments assayed. Other regions were also involved in the
87 resistance, but they showed lower and non-stable effects, dependent on the environmental
88 conditions (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011).

89 An expression analysis of 17,443 unigenes in the resistant and susceptible genotypes,
90 TGR-1551 and 'Tendral' respectively, performed to study the regulation after inoculation
91 with WMV, revealed extensive transcriptome remodeling in the resistant plants
92 (Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. 2012). Genes differentially expressed in cotyledons and
93 systemically infected leaves included those encoding proteins related to phytohormone
94 biosynthesis and signaling, to endomembrane system functions and to defense and stress-
95 response functions (Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. 2012). For most of them, deregulation was
96 stronger in TGR-1551 than in the susceptible genotype 'Tendral'. These results suggested
97 a complex resistance response of TGR-1551 plants to WMV infection. Although the
98 recessive genetics of the resistance would suggest a passive resistance mechanism, the
99 results obtained by Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. (2012) indicated that a defense response was
100 activated in infected TGR-1551 plants. The micro RNA (miRNA) profiles were also
101 analyzed in WMV infected plants of TGR-1551 and 'Tendral' genotypes, suggesting the
102 potential involvement of the RNA silencing machinery in the TGR-1551 resistance to
103 WMV (González-Ibeas et al. 2011).

104 Recently, a new source of resistance to WMV in melon has been reported (line ME8094),
105 and argued to be different from those derived from PI 414723 and TGR-1551 (Bachlava
106 et al. 2014, Patent No. US20140059712). Resistance to WMV from this source maps to

107 the same region on chromosome 11 as the resistance from TGR-1551. However, in
108 contrast to the recessive resistance derived from TGR-1551, inheritance of the resistance
109 from this source has been reported as mainly dominant, although the level of resistance
110 in heterozygotes depends on environmental conditions and inoculation pressure.

111 Genes conferring resistance to WMV have been studied in other plant species. A recessive
112 gene responsible of resistance to WMV has been identified and cloned in *Arabidopsis*
113 *thaliana* (L.) Heynh. The resistance gene, *rmv1*, encodes an evolutionary conserved
114 nucleus-encoded chloroplast phosphoglycerate kinase (cPGK2; At1g56190), with a key
115 role in cell metabolism (Ouibrahim et al. 2014). A single amino acid substitution that
116 affected a putative phosphorylation site is involved in *rmv1*-mediated resistance. In the
117 case of cucumber (*Cucumis sativus* L.) different results have been obtained when
118 analyzing inheritance of WMV resistance derived from different sources. In a recent
119 work, the resistance in the Northern China type inbred line ‘02245’ was characterized
120 (Tian et al. 2016). Resistance in this line is conferred by a recessive gene, *wmv*⁰²²⁴⁵, which
121 maps to chromosome 6. The 134.7 kb candidate region contains 21 predicted genes from
122 which two encode proteins with zinc finger structures, two encode proteins with nucleic
123 acid and protein binding sites, and one corresponds to a pathogenesis-related
124 transcriptional factor.

125 The objective of this work was to further map the *locus* derived from TGR-1551
126 conferring resistance to WMV by analyzing advanced segregating generations from the
127 RILs evaluated by Palomares-Rius et al. (2011). Molecular-markers tightly linked to the
128 resistance, useful in marker-assisted selection, and the identification of candidate genes
129 for the resistance to WMV derived from this source are also presented.

130 **Material and methods**

131 **Plant material**

132 The plant material used in this work derives from the RIL population developed by
133 Palomares-Rius et al. (2011). This population was initiated from a cross between TGR-
134 1551 (TGR), an African genotype belonging to the *acidulus* group of *Cucumis melo*,
135 which was WMV-resistant (Díaz-Pendón et al. 2003), and the Spanish cultivar ‘Bola de
136 Oro’ (BO) (*C. melo* ibericus group), susceptible (Online resource 1) selfed up to the F7
137 generation. In previous works, 58, 77 and 66 RILs of this population were phenotyped
138 for resistance to WMV in three different environments, to map the major QTL controlling
139 resistance to WMV between two flanking simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers
140 (ECM215 and CMN04.35) (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011). The whole RIL population has
141 been now genotyped by sequencing (GBS) within this work to increase marker coverage
142 and to conduct a new QTL analysis with SNP markers (see details below). Eight RILs
143 with high resistance levels were selected from the whole RIL population and backcrossed
144 to the susceptible parent BO. The selfing progenies (BC1S1) were then tested for
145 resistance to WMV. The BC1S1 plants with the highest resistance levels derived from
146 two of those RILs (RIL143 and RIL408) were backcrossed again to BO, selfed, and two
147 BC1S1BC2S1 populations were generated and phenotyped for resistance. The selfing
148 population derived from RIL143 was genotyped using a previously designed SNP-based
149 Sequenom platform. Selected plants of the BC1S1BC2S1 generation obtained from
150 RIL408 were used to construct advanced selfing generations (BC1S1BC2S2,
151 BC1S1BC2S3 and BC1S1BC2S4) employed for fine mapping purposes using new
152 Sequenom platforms designed for this study (see details below).

153 **Markers and genotyping methods**

154 Total DNA was extracted from young leaves following the method described by Doyle
155 and Doyle (1990) with minor modifications (Esteras et al. 2013). DNA concentration was

156 measured using spectrophotometry in a Nanodrop ND-1000 Spectrophotometer v.3.5.
157 DNA was diluted to a concentration of 10 ng/ μ L and adjusted to the concentration suited
158 for the different genotyping analysis.

159 Previously existing SNPs and new ones developed in this study were used for genotyping
160 the different segregating populations. At the beginning of the study an existing panel of
161 124 SNPs evenly distributed throughout the genome was implemented in a Sequenom
162 iPLEX® Gold MassARRAY platform by the Epigenetic and Genotyping unit of the
163 University of Valencia (Unitat Central d'Investigació en Medicina (UCIM), Spain), and
164 used to genotype the BC1S1BC2S1 population derived from RIL143. This SNP set had
165 been previously validated in populations derived from ibericus x acidulus melon crosses
166 (Esteras et al. 2013; Leida et al. 2015; Perpiñá et al. 2016; Sáez et al. 2017)

167 New SNPs were generated for this study. The whole RIL population (148 RILs), both
168 parents (BO and TGR-1551) and their F1, were genotyped by GBS (GBS1 assay) and the
169 generated SNP collection was used to construct a high density genetic map and to conduct
170 a QTL analysis using the RILs population.

171 These new SNPs were also used for further QTL analyses and fine mapping purposes in
172 advanced backcross/selfing generations derived from RIL408 (BC1S1BC2S2,
173 BC1S1BC2S3, BC1S1BC2S4). For these analyses, SNPs derived from the GBS1 assay
174 were combined with new SNPs identified in two additional GBS experiments (GBS2 and
175 3 assays), conducted to perform genetic diversity studies (including many genotypes,
176 among others, BO and TGR-1551). Two SNP sets located in the candidate regions,
177 selected from GBS1, 2 and 3 were implemented in two Sequenom iPLEX® Gold
178 MassARRAY platforms, WMV1 and WMV2 (Online resources 2 and 3). The panel
179 WMV1 included SNPs derived from GBS1 and GBS2 and was used to genotype

180 generations BC1S1BC2S2 and BC1S1BC2S3 derived from RIL408. The panel WMV2
181 was designed with SNPs obtained in GBS3, prioritizing SNPs located in genes involved
182 in resistance and defense responses, according to the information found in
183 MELONOMICS (2018) (Online resource 3). BC1S1BC2S3 plants derived from RIL408
184 were genotyped with WMV2. Selected plants of generations BC1S1BC2S2,
185 BC1S1BC2S3 and BC1S1BC2S4 included in the final offsprings assay were genotyped
186 with both, WMV1 and WMV2.

187 The two SSR, ECM215 and CMN04_35, markers (Fukino et al. 2007; Fernández-Silva
188 et al. 2008) that had previously been reported as the flanking markers for the candidate
189 region in chromosome 11 in the preliminary study by Palomares-Rius et al. (2011) were
190 used in some of the segregating populations.

191 **High density linkage map and QTL analysis in the RILs population**

192 A genetic map was constructed with the SNPs generated with the RILs population in
193 GBS1. SNP calling was done in the Bioinformatics and Genomics Service of COMAV at
194 the Universitat Politècnica de València. SNPs were filtered discarding those no biallelic,
195 with more than 30% of missing data, with a minimum allele frequency < 20%, or with
196 heterozygosity > 75%. The software used was MAPMAKER 3.0 (Lincoln et al. 1993).
197 The map was generated using the Kosambi map function.

198 The genotyping results of GBS1 and previous phenotypic data of the evaluation for
199 resistance to WMV of a total of 69 RILs were used to conduct a SNP-based QTL analysis
200 with the RIL population. Phenotypic data were the same used in Palomares-Rius et al.
201 (2011): averaging symptom scoring at 21 dpi of four plants per RIL, with a scale from 0
202 (no symptoms) to 5 (severe mosaic and leaf distortion in the five to six youngest leaves),
203 after mechanical inoculation of the RIL population cultivated in three environments.

204 When QTLs for the different assays colocalized in the same map position, the overlapping
205 region was considered as candidate region. Kruskal-Wallis non-parametric test was used
206 for QTL detection, with MapQTL version 4.1 software (Van Ooijen 2009). In addition, a
207 composite interval mapping approach was performed (CIM) (Zeng 1994), using a
208 windows size of 15 cM and 5 cofactors, with Windows QTL Cartographer v.2.5-009
209 (Wang et al. 2012). QTLs retained were those with LOD scores higher than the threshold
210 determined by a permutation test (1,000 cycles). *Loci* detected by both, Kruskal-Wallis
211 and CIM methods, were considered sturdy QTLs. Map location of each QTL was
212 determined using a drop interval of 2 from the peak LOD. The phenotypic effect,
213 expressed as the percentage of phenotypic variance explained, R^2 , and the additive (when
214 possible) and dominance effects were estimated for each QTL.

215 **Fine mapping of WMV resistance genes**

216 After screening the BC1S1 generations derived from eight selected RILs, we produced
217 two BC1S1BC2S1 populations from the two BC1S1 plants with the highest level of
218 resistance (derived from RILs 143 and 408). These two populations were phenotyped for
219 resistance to WMV (227 and 168 plants, respectively). All these plants were genotyped
220 with the two SSR markers reported to flank the major QTL in chromosome 11 controlling
221 resistance to WMV in TGR (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011). Plants derived from RIL143
222 were genotyped using a Sequenom iPLEX® Gold MassARRAY with a set of 124 SNPs
223 evenly distributed throughout the genome, available from previous genotyping assays
224 (Esteras et al. 2013).

225 Nineteen selfing progenies (BC1S1BC2S2), 20 plants each, of selected plants of the
226 BC1S1BC2S1 generation derived from RIL408 were phenotyped for resistance and
227 genotyped using a Sequenom iPLEX® Gold MassARRAY with the new panel of SNPs
228 WMV1, tagging the major and minor candidate regions in chromosomes 4, 5, 6 and 11.

229 Broad sense heritability was estimated as the ratio of genetic variance and total variance.
230 Between-family variance component from the ANOVA was used as estimate of genetic
231 variance.

232 Selfing progenies (BC1S1BC2S3) of six of them selected for their genotype in the
233 candidate region in chromosome 11 were phenotyped to confirm the results and were
234 further genotyped using the additional Sequenom iPLEX® Gold MassARRAY set
235 WMV2, covering with a higher density the candidate regions in chromosomes 5 and 11.
236 Also the progenies of three BC1S1BC2S2 plants heterozygous for the candidate region
237 were selfed to construct a BC1S1BC2S3 population of 178 plants used to generate a new
238 high density map of the candidate region of chromosome 11 and to perform an additional
239 QTL analysis. Symptom scores at 30 dpi and virus detection by ELISA, as phenotypic
240 data, and genotypes for the Sequenom WMV1 and WMV2 SNPs panels, were used.

241 A final phenotyping assay was conducted using 10 selfing progenies (three
242 BC1S1BC2S2, five BC1S1BC2S3 and two BC1S1BC2S4) selected to represent
243 homozygous TGR/TGR and BO/BO and heterozygous TGR/BO for the candidate final
244 intervals. Ten plants were assayed in the offspring of homozygous plants and 20 in the
245 case of those heterozygous. These plants were genotyped with the SNPs panel WMV2.

246 The combined effect of QTLs in different chromosomes was difficult to quantify because
247 of the unbalance sizes of the samples obtained. The effect of the genotype for the minor
248 QTL in chromosome 5 on plants with each of the genotypes for the major QTL in
249 chromosome 11 was analyzed using one-way ANOVAs performed with the
250 STATGRAPHICS Centurion XVI.I software. Symptom scores at 30 dpi and genotypic
251 data for the linked SNPs in the BC1S1BC2S3 generation were used. The closest markers
252 to the LOD peak, b11wmv09 in chromosome 11 and b5wmv11 in chromosome 5, were
253 selected for the analysis.

254 **Phenotyping for resistance to WMV**

255 Virus inoculations were performed mechanically in plants at one-to-two true leaf stage.
256 Firstly, inoculation was carried out at one cotyledon and the first true leaf; the other
257 cotyledon and the second true leaf were inoculated one week later. The virus used in the
258 experiments was originally isolated from naturally infected melon plants in Huerta de
259 Vera (Valencia, Spain) in 2013. This isolate, WMV-Vera (accession number
260 MH469650.1), has been recently characterized (Aragonés et al. 2018) and showed to be
261 closely related to the WMV FMF00-LL1 isolate (EU660581.1), collected in France in
262 year 2000 (Desbiez and Lecoq 2008). Inoculum was prepared by grinding symptomatic
263 leaves of melon infected plants (Aragonés et al. 2018).

264 Symptoms were scored visually at 15 and 30 days post-inoculation (dpi), according to a
265 scale from 0 (no symptoms) to 4 (severe mosaic and leaf distortion). Virus infection was
266 assessed by double-antibody sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (DAS-
267 ELISA) using the commercial polyclonal antiserum for WMV (Sediag, Longvic, France).
268 Uncertain cases were confirmed by Western blot analysis (Cordero et al. 2017), using a
269 polyclonal antibody against WMV coat protein conjugated to alkaline phosphatase
270 (Bioreba).

271 **Results**

272 **QTL analysis in the RILs population**

273 The GBS analysis carried out with the RIL population, BO, TGR-1551 and their F1,
274 allowed the identification of 5766 high quality SNPs, polymorphic between both parents.
275 Markers with a significant segregation distortion were discarded to construct the genetic
276 map. Bins were defined as groups of markers with the same genotyping pattern among
277 all the RILs, i.e., completely linked markers. For map construction, only one SNP per bin

278 was used. Samples with more than 20% missing values and those heterozygous for more
279 than 50% of the markers were also discarded. A total of 126 RILs and 1713 SNPs met
280 these criteria and were used for map construction (Online resource 4 and 5).

281 A revisited QTL analysis was performed using the genetic map constructed with the 1713
282 SNPs and the previous RIL phenotypic data, focusing on symptom score at 21 days after
283 inoculation in three environments, spring greenhouse, fall greenhouse and climatic
284 chamber (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011). A major QTL on chromosome 11 was identified
285 in each of the three environments. The interval position of the putative QTL in the three
286 assays overlapped. The overlapping region defined by the three QTLs spanned from 81.2
287 to 83 cM (positions 29,588,875-29,844,067 bp). LOD peaks (values 8.7, 11.8 and 10.8)
288 were located at 82.6, 78.8 and 83.7 cM and the percentages of explained variance were
289 31, 44 and 46% in environment 1, 2 and 3, respectively (Table 1). This interval partially
290 overlapped with the interval of 760 kb previously defined between markers ECM215 and
291 CMN34_05 (physical positions between 28,895,450 and 29,653,352 bp), but was
292 displaced to the region of marker CMN04_35 (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011).

293 Additional regions involved in WMV resistance were also detected on chromosomes 6,
294 4, and 5, in environments 1, 2 and 3, respectively, what suggests that they are dependent
295 on the environmental conditions. The significance of these minor QTLs was lower and
296 they explained a lower percentage of the variation (Table 1). Minor QTLs were previously
297 reported also on chromosomes 4 and 5 by Palomares-Rius et al. (2011) using a low
298 density SSR map, although their position did not overlap with the current report. These
299 minor QTLs were targeted by SSR markers CMN06_25 (18,762,823 bp) and ECM203
300 (18,478,227 bp), respectively, located in the same chromosome but physically far from
301 the intervals defined here with SNPs (chromosome 4: 23,744,558-28,597,859 and 5:

302 24,791,006-27,852,627). The minor QTL in chromosome 6 (4,552,376-6,043,604 bp) had
303 not been previously described.

304 **Phenotyping for resistance and genotyping of BC1S1BC2S1 populations derived**
305 **from RIL143 and RIL408**

306 Before genotyping the RILs population with SSRs in Palomares-Rius et al. (2011), a
307 backcross and selfing program was started with some selected RILs (the most vigorous
308 RILs that showed the highest resistance levels in the three phenotyping assays were
309 selected), conducting resistance selection in each generation to produce BC1S1BC2S1
310 populations. Once the SSR genotyping of RILs was available and used to conduct the
311 preliminary QTL analysis (Palomares-Rius et al. 2011), two of these populations, the
312 BC1S1BC2S1 derived from RILs 143 and 408, were selected for further phenotyping. As
313 stated before in the study by Palomares-Rius et al. (2011), both RILs, 143 and 408, were
314 homozygous for the TGR-1551 alleles in the major candidate region of chromosome 11
315 (flanked by SSRs ECM215 and CMN04_35), and in the candidate region of chromosome
316 4, targeted by the SSR CMN06_25. For the candidate region of chromosome 5, targeted
317 by SSR ECM203, the line 143 was heterozygous and the line 408 homozygous for TGR-
318 1551 alleles. These genotypes were later confirmed with the SNPs generated with the
319 GBS (Online resource 4).

320 BC1S1BC2S1 populations derived from RILs 143 and 408 were phenotyped for
321 resistance to WMV. In both assays, plants of the susceptible parent, used as susceptible
322 controls, exhibited mosaic and leaf distortion, while plants of the resistant parent TGR-
323 1551, used as resistant controls, remained asymptomatic or showed mild symptoms. Most
324 of the F1 plants were susceptible, although around 20% of them showed only mild
325 symptoms.

326 The progeny from RIL143, a total of 227 BC1S1BC2S1 plants, were grown and
327 inoculated. However, many of them resulted to be weak plants that were strongly affected
328 by the process of mechanical inoculation and, consequently, could not be clearly
329 phenotyped. In any case, sets of the most resistant and susceptible plants were selected in
330 this population, a total of 50 plants: 20 resistant plants that were asymptomatic and
331 negative for the presence of virus as detected by Western blot and 30 susceptible plants
332 with severe symptoms and the virus detected by Western blot. These plants were
333 genotyped with a set of 124 SNPs evenly distributed throughout the genome.
334 Cosegregation was detected between the marker PSI_41-B07 (chromosome 11, position
335 29,558,791 bp) and the resistant phenotype ($\chi^2=6.70$, $p=0.03$), confirming the presence
336 of the major QTL on chromosome 11.

337 To further study the effect of the major and the additional *loci*, we analyzed the population
338 derived from the RIL408 (known to be carrier of homozygous resistant introgressions in
339 chromosomes 11, 4 and 5). A total of 168 BC1S1BC2S1 descendants from RIL408 were
340 phenotyped. Segregation was observed for symptom severity. Plants showing moderate
341 to very severe symptoms were considered susceptible. The 48 plants that remained
342 symptomless or showed mild symptoms were analyzed by Western blot for viral
343 accumulation. All the plants analyzed, were virus-free, and thus were considered
344 resistant. The observed ratio was 120 susceptible/48 resistant. The segregation observed
345 fitted the expected (3 susceptible/1 resistant) ($\chi^2=1.14$, $p=0.29$), which confirmed that the
346 generation evaluated corresponds to the selfing progeny of a plant heterozygous for the
347 major resistance gene.

348 All the plants were also genotyped with the two flanking SSR markers for the major
349 resistance QTL in chromosome 11 (ECM215 and CMN04_35) described in Palomares-
350 Rius et al. (2011). Segregation obtained for both markers fitted the expected ratio in the

351 selfing progeny from a heterozygote (ECM215: $\chi^2=0.13$, $p=0.94$; CMN04_35: $\chi^2=0.29$,
352 $p=0.87$). According to the segregation found in this population, these two SSR markers
353 were located at 6.3 cM. As expected, genotype and phenotype segregation were not
354 independent (ECM215: $\chi^2=11.20$, $p=0.004$; CMN04_35: $\chi^2=10.81$, $p=0.004$), but some
355 plants showed unexpected phenotypes according to their genotype. A 5.4% of these plants
356 were resistant to WMV but homozygous for the allele of the susceptible parent BO in
357 both SSRs. These could be escapes from infection, or could derive from double
358 recombination events. Additionally, an 8.9% of the plants were homozygous for the allele
359 of the resistant parent, TGR-1551, but susceptible. This could also be a consequence of
360 double recombination events, assuming that the resistance gene is flanked by these SSR
361 markers. In any case, the occurrence of double recombinants would be expected in much
362 lower proportion considering the size of the interval. The phenotype of plants
363 recombinant between both markers, also pointed that the resistant gene is out of this
364 interval and located below SSR CMN04_35 (position 29,653,352 bp), as suggested by
365 RILs QTL analysis.

366

367 **Phenotyping for resistance and genotyping of BC1S1BC2S2 offsprings derived from** 368 **RIL408**

369 A total of 19 BC1S1BC2S1 plants from the previously described population derived from
370 RIL408 were selected according to their phenotype for resistance and their genotype for
371 both SSRs, ECM215 and CMN04_35 (Table 2). The selfing progenies of these 19
372 selected plants were phenotyped for resistance to WMV. A perfect cosegregation was
373 found between the CMN04_35 genotype of the parental plants and the progenies
374 phenotype (all offsprings derived from plants homozygous for the BO allele, homozygous

375 for the TGR-1551 allele and heterozygous, were susceptible, resistant and segregant
376 respectively) (Table 2). However, three recombinant plants were found according to the
377 ECM215 genotype: two heterozygous (BC1S1BC2S1 plants 91 and 173) and one
378 homozygous for the TGR allele (BC1S1BC2S1 plant 124), with susceptible and segregant
379 progenies respectively (Table 2). Therefore, progeny test confirmed the hypothesis that
380 the resistant gene is closer to CMN04_35. The selected plant set was genotyped with the
381 SNPs panel WMV1 (panel selected to cover the region of the major QTL and the three
382 minor QTLs detected in the QTL analysis performed with the RILs and the high density
383 SNP-based map). Results obtained for the resistance phenotype and the genotype with
384 WMV1 for the region on chromosome 11 (defining a candidate interval between markers
385 ECM215 and SNP11, 28,895,450 bp-29,952,168 bp) were compatible with the candidate
386 interval defined with the RILs population (Table 2).

387 The heritability value obtained with these offsprings was 0.46. The results showed that
388 the generations obtained from RIL408 did not contain the TGR-1551 introgression for
389 the regions corresponding to the minor QTLs associated with resistance in chromosome
390 4 and 6, while they kept the introgression for the region in chromosome 5. Most likely
391 regions in chromosomes 4 and 6 were lost during the backcrossing and selection program,
392 which suggest that they do not significantly increase the resistance levels in presence of
393 the candidate regions of chromosomes 1 and 5.

394 **Phenotyping for resistance and genotyping of BC1S1BC2S3 population derived** 395 **from RIL408**

396 One susceptible BC1S1BC2S2 plant from a uniformly susceptible BC1S1BC2S2
397 offspring (derived from BC1S1BC2S1 plant 21, Table 2) and two resistant BC1S1BC2S2
398 plants selected from two BC1S1BC2S2 offsprings, one uniformly resistant and the other
399 segregant (derived from BC1S1BC2S1 plant 36 and plant 174, respectively, Table 2),

400 were selected according to their genotype for the candidate regions. The susceptible plant,
401 21-8, was homozygous BO for all the markers analyzed on chromosome 11 and for
402 SNP29 in chromosome 5, and homozygous TGR for SNPs 25 and 26 in chromosome 5,
403 whereas the two resistant plants had a TGR introgression variable in length for
404 chromosome 11 (from SNP2 to SNP17 in 36-13 and from SNP2 to SNP12 in 174-12) and
405 heterozygous for the three SNPs in chromosome 5. Selfing progenies from these plants
406 were phenotyped for resistance. Susceptibility was confirmed among descendants of 21-
407 8 and uniform resistance among descendants of 36-13 and 174-12.

408 Moreover, three BC1S1BC2S2 plants heterozygous in the candidate region from SNP6
409 to SNP12 (selected from segregant BC1S1BC2S2 offsprings derived from BC1S1BC2S1
410 plants 75, 124 and 168, Table 2) were selfed to produce a recombinant segregating
411 population of 178 BC1S1BC2S3 plants. A new SNPs panel was designed to saturate the
412 chromosome 11 region (Online resource 3). The BC1S1BC2S3 population was then
413 genotyped with this new SNP panel, generating a new map covering 19.1 cM, which
414 corresponded to 2.1 Mb (Fig. 1). A QTL was detected explaining 23% of the variation in
415 symptom scores and located at 5.5 cM, with LOD 10 (Table 1), being the closest marker
416 b11wmv09 (29,724,835 bp).

417 This population also segregated for introgression in chromosome 5. The combined effect
418 of QTLs in chromosome 11 and chromosome 5 was difficult to quantify because of the
419 unbalanced size of the samples obtained. In any case, the marker with the most significant
420 effect when analyzing separately each of the genotypes for the chromosome 11 (i.e.,
421 homozygotes for BO allele, heterozygotes and homozygotes for TGR-1551 allele) was
422 marker b5wmv11 (27,806,146 bp). The putative effect of the region in chromosome 5 on
423 the major QTL in chromosome 11 was analyzed (Fig. 2). Plants homozygous for the TGR
424 introgression in chromosome 11 (marker b11wmv09) showed mild or no symptoms,

425 independently of the genotype at marker b5wmv11. Similarly, there was not a significant
426 effect on symptom severity in plants homozygous for the BO introgression in
427 chromosome 11. However, the effect of the minor QTL in chromosome 5 was significant
428 in plants heterozygote for the introgression in chromosome 11. Symptom severity was
429 significantly lower in plants homozygous for TGR allele at b5wmv11 marker than in
430 homozygotes for the BO allele.

431 **Phenotyping for resistance of selected BC1S1BC2S3 and BC1S1BC2S4 populations** 432 **derived from RIL408**

433 Selfing offsprings from three selected BC1S1BC2S1, five BC1S1BC2S2 and two
434 BC1S1BC2S3 plants, previously genotyped were phenotyped for resistance to confirm
435 the candidate interval in chromosome 11 (Table 3). All the results obtained were
436 compatible with the candidate interval obtained in the QTL analysis of BC1S1BC2S3
437 plants. Moreover, the fact that all descendants from plant 124-2 were resistant allowed
438 the location of the QTL over marker b11wmv11 (29,794,533 bp), shortening the
439 candidate interval. Thus, the final interval would be of approximately 141 kb, spanning
440 from 29,653,352 bp (CMN04_35) to 29,794,533 bp (Fig. 1). This region has 11 annotated
441 genes, some of which could be good resistance candidates (Online resource 6).

442 **Discussion**

443 In this work, two *loci* derived from TGR-1551 conferring resistance to WMV have been
444 mapped. Resistance to WMV derived from TGR-1551 was previously described as
445 monogenic recessive, with modifier genes affecting symptom severity (Díaz-Pendón et
446 al. 2005; Palomares-Rius et al. 2011). The segregation observed in this work among
447 BC1S1BC2S1 descendants from RIL408 fitted the expected for a monogenic recessive
448 model. The existence of a major QTL on chromosome 11, designated as *wmv*¹⁵⁵¹, was

449 confirmed here, initially with the subset of the RILs that have been both, phenotyped for
450 resistance and genotyped by sequencing. Palomares-Rius et al. (2011) located the major
451 QTL between markers ECM215 and CMN04_35, which corresponds to a region of 760
452 kb, being CMN04_35 the closest marker. The highest density of markers used here to
453 genotype this population allowed the narrowing of the physical region and the better
454 location of the interval, which is displaced to the region of marker CMN04_35. Moreover,
455 the QTL analyses developed with descendants from RIL408 and the selfing progenies
456 analyses have allowed a more accurate location of the interval, reducing the candidate
457 region to approximately 130 kb (from 29,667,149 to 29,794,533 bp) not comprising
458 CMN04_35. The chromosome interval containing WMV resistance derived from the
459 other melon line ME8094 (Bachlava et al. 2014, Patent No. US20140059712) includes
460 the candidate region defined here for resistance derived from TGR-1551.

461 Three minor QTLs were also identified in this work using the RILs population, on
462 chromosomes 4, 5 and 6, each of them in one of the assays, thus, dependent on
463 environmental conditions. Several minor QTLs were described by Palomares-Rius et al.
464 (2011), two of them on chromosomes 4 and 5, respectively. However, their physical
465 positions differ from those obtained here. The highest density of markers has allowed a
466 better delimitation of the position of the minor QTLs. The descendants from RIL408
467 segregated for the QTL in chromosome 5. The effect of this minor QTL has been
468 confirmed in plants heterozygous for the QTL in chromosome 11. Saez et al. (2017)
469 obtained a similar interaction between the major resistance QTL and one of the minor
470 QTLs affecting resistance to *Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus* in melon. The effect of
471 this minor QTL could explain the discrepancies between the phenotype for resistance and
472 the genotype for the candidate region on chromosome 11 when analyzing heterozygous
473 plants in segregant generations. QTL on chromosome 11 showed consistent important

474 effects across experiments and generations, what would explain the high heritability.
475 Other QTLs with minor effects may not be detected across experiments due to QTL x
476 environment interactions or by sampling. Those minor QTLs probably would not
477 contribute to the high heritability estimate.

478 The recessive nature of *wmv*¹⁵⁵¹ contrasts with the defense response activated in infected
479 TGR-1551 plants (González-Ibeas et al. 2012). Recessive resistance is frequent against
480 potyviruses, if compared with viruses belonging to other families (Díaz-Pendón et al.
481 2004). However, dominant resistant genes have also been reported against some
482 potyviruses, as is the case of *RTM1* and *RTM2* genes effective in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
483 against *Tobacco etch virus* (TEV) (Maule et al. 2007) or the *Pvr7* gene conferring
484 resistance to *Pepper mottle virus* (PepMoV) in pepper (*Capsicum annuum* L.) (Venkatesh
485 et al. 2018). Different alternatives of recessive resistance genes compatible with the
486 transcriptome remodeling observed in infected TGR-1551 plants were proposed by
487 González-Ibeas et al. (2012), such as mlo-like genes, stearyl-ACP desaturases or
488 translational initiation factors. More specifically, eukaryotic translation initiation factors
489 (eIF4Es)-mediated resistance against potyviruses has been found in several resistant
490 crops, such as pepper (*Capsicum annuum*), lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.), and wild tomato
491 (*Solanum habrochaites* S. Knapp & D.M Spooner) (Hashimoto et al. 2016). None of these
492 genes has been found among the annotated sequences in the candidate regions in
493 chromosome 11 or chromosome 5 (Online resource 6). Melon lines silenced for *eIF4E*
494 did not result resistant to WMV, suggesting either that the virus is able to use the isoform6
495 *eIF(iso)4E* or that WMV does not need these factors (Rodríguez-Hernández et al. 2012).
496 The responsible gene of WMV resistance in *A. thaliana*, *rwm1*, a recessive gene, encodes
497 a nucleus-encoded chloroplast phosphoglycerate kinase (Ouibrahim et al. 2014). No
498 similar gene is annotated in the candidate region in chromosome 11. In fact, the melon

499 orthologue of *rwm1* maps to chromosome 11 (MELO3C019634.2, position 25,348,721
500 to 25,351,874 bp) outside the candidate interval. Moreover, this gene, although
501 represented in the expression array studied in Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. (2012), was not
502 differentially expressed after inoculation with WMV in TGR-1551 compared to the
503 susceptible genotype ‘Tendral’.

504 In the case of cucumber, the candidate region, on chromosome 6, contains 21 predicted
505 genes, 18 of them annotated (Tian et al. 2016). Some of the predicted functions match
506 with those identified in our candidate region on melon chromosome 11, such as dual
507 specificity phosphatase. In any case, the orthologues in melon of the genes identified in
508 cucumber are mainly located on melon chromosome 5 (between 2,353,694 and 2,504,064
509 bp), in the syntenic region of the candidate cucumber region of chromosome 6, which
510 does not include the minor QTL identified here in melon. Three of the genes in the
511 candidate region in cucumber (*Csa6G421630*, *Csa6G421640* and *Csa6G421660*) have
512 also significant blast hits with melon genes on chromosome 11 (MELO3C019735,
513 MELO3C019734, and MELO3C019725 located between 23,244,951 and 23,527,925
514 bp), again, outside the candidate region for WMV resistance identified here.

515 Several of the annotated genes in the melon candidate region on chromosome 11 play
516 roles related to plant defense responses and also some of them were found to be
517 differentially expressed after WMV infection by Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. (2012). One
518 example was a heavy metal-associated isoprenylated plant protein (HIPP;
519 MELO3C021404). HIPP are metallochaperone proteins exclusive to plants, which have
520 been reported to be involved in plant defense responses (Abreu-Neto et al. 2013;
521 Zschiesche et al. 2015). This gene was found to be differentially expressed in cotyledons
522 non-infected and infected with WMV (González-Ibeas et al. 2012). Other examples were
523 the dual specificity protein phosphatase 1 (MELO3C021405) or the mitogen-activated

524 protein kinase (MAPK) (MELO3C021394), both involved in the MAPK cascade in plant
525 defense (Colcombet and Hirt 2008), but that were not differentially expressed in
526 Gonzalez-Ibeas et al. (2012). Another interesting gene is the Serine incorporator
527 (MELO3C021398), a vesicle-mediated transport gene that was reported to be up-
528 regulated under the potyvirus PVY infection in tobacco. The interest of these genes relays
529 in the fact that it has been suggested that mutations in genes encoding a component of
530 plant defense responses could confer resistance to viruses (Hashimoto et al. 2016).

531 The melon interval in chromosome 5 obtained from the QTL analysis of the RILs
532 included the 700 kb region of chromosome 5 with the highest concentration of resistance
533 genes in the melon genome (González et al. 2013). Thus, several resistance genes were
534 annotated in this region. Among them, the *virus aphid transmission resistance gene* (*Vat*)
535 is located in this region. This gene that is carried by TGR-1551 prevents melon
536 colonization by *Aphis gossypii*, and subsequent aphid virus transmission, through a
537 microscopic hypersensitive response (Sarria-Villada et al. 2009). However, no
538 interference of this gene in the results of our work is expected because WMV was
539 mechanically inoculated in all our experiments. Moreover, a QTL associated with
540 resistance to *Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus* (CYSDV) (Palomares-Rius et al.
541 2016) and the major QTL for resistance to powdery mildew caused by *Podosphaera*
542 *xanthii* (Castagne) U. Braun & N. Shishkoff races 1, 2, and 5 (Yuste-Lisbona et al. 2009)
543 derived from TGR-1551 also map to this region on chromosome 5.

544 A total of 28 NBS-LRR genes were previously reported in the 700 kb region of
545 chromosome 5 (González et al. 2013). In any case, it is not probable that the minor QTL
546 corresponds to this type of dominant resistant genes. Several genes associated with plant
547 defense responses were also annotated in the candidate region, some of them similar to
548 those aforementioned for chromosome 11, such as phosphatase 2C family proteins

549 (MELO3C004209.2 and MELO3C004439.2, differentially expressed in susceptible and
550 resistant genotypes after infection in Gonzalez Ibeas et al., 2012), heavy metal-associated
551 isoprenylated plant protein 3-like (MELO3C004225.2, differentially expressed only in
552 the susceptible genotype), a mitogen-activated protein kinase (kinase NPK1 isoform X2
553 (MELO3C004269.2), or a receptor-like cytosolic serine/threonine-protein kinase
554 (MELO3C004315.2), among others. Several pentatricopeptide repeat-containing proteins
555 were annotated in this region. Recent findings have identified them as RGA (Sekwahl et
556 al. 2015). However, the analysis of the segregating populations derived from RIL408
557 suggested the location of the minor QTL near the end of the candidate interval, which has
558 a lower density of resistance-related genes. Further work will be done to confirm the
559 location of this minor QTL.

560 The virus isolate used in the analysis was WMV-Vera (accession number MH469650.1),
561 a wild-type virus collected in Spain in 2013 on infected melon plants (Aragónés et al.
562 2018). Additionally, a uniformly resistant response was reported previously in TGR 1551
563 against a selection of Spanish isolates (Díaz-Pendón et al. 2005). All isolates included in
564 this previous study belonged to the group described as ‘classical’ isolates, whereas the
565 WMV-Vera isolate showed the highest similarity with FMF00-LL1 (EU660581.1), which
566 belongs to the group of ‘emerging’ isolates (Desbiez and Lecoq 2008). The ‘emerging’
567 isolates are characterized by being more aggressive and by rapidly replacing the
568 ‘classical’ isolates when both groups occurred, as was the case in France (Desbiez et al.
569 2009) and in Spain (Juárez et al. 2013). Therefore, the resistance derived from TGR1551
570 could be of interest to breed new varieties with wide resistance to different isolates of
571 WMV.

572 The SNPs tightly linked to the WMV-resistance QTLs on chromosome 11 and
573 chromosome 5 identified in this work will be useful in marker-assisted selection in the

574 context of melon breeding programs. Future work will include the expression analysis
575 and co-segregation assays of the most interesting genes in the candidate regions, in order
576 to clarify the mechanisms underlying resistance.

577 Conflict of Interest: The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

578 **References**

579 Abreu-Neto JB, Turchetto-Zolet AC, Valter de Oliveira LF, Bodanese Zanettini MH,
580 Margis-Pinheiro M (2013) Heavy metal-associated isoprenylated plant protein (HIP):
581 characterization of a family of proteins exclusive to plants. *The FEBS Journal* 280:1604-
582 1616.

583 Aragonés V, Pérez-de-Castro A, Cordero T, Cebolla-Cornejo J, López C, Picó B, Daròs
584 JA (2018) A *Watermelon mosaic virus* clone tagged with the yellow visual marker
585 phytoene synthase facilitates scoring infectivity in melon breeding programs. *Eur J Plant*
586 *Pathol.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10658-018-01621-x>

587 Bachlava E, Bertrand F, De Vries J, Joobeur T, King J, Kraakman P (2014) Patent No.
588 US20140059712. Multiple-virus-resistant melon.

589 Chen S, Li F, Liu D, Jiang C, Cui L, Shen L, Liu G, Yang A (2017) Dynamic expression
590 analysis of early response genes induced by potato virus Y in PVY-resistant *Nicotiana*
591 *tabacum*. *Plant Cell Rep* 36:297-311.

592 Colcombet J, Hirt H (2008) Arabidopsis MAPKs: a complex signalling network involved
593 in multiple biological processes. *Biochem J* 413:217–226.

594 Cordero T, Cerdán L, Carbonell A, Katsarou K, Kalantidis K, Daròs JA. (2017) Dicer-
595 Like 4 Is Involved in Restricting the Systemic Movement of *Zucchini yellow mosaic virus*
596 in *Nicotiana benthamiana*. *Mol Plant Microbe Interact* 30:63-71.

597 Desbiez C, Joannon B, Wipf-Scheibel C, Chandeysson C, Lecoq H (2009) Emergence of
598 new strains of Watermelon mosaic virus in South-eastern France: evidence for limited
599 spread but rapid local population shift. *Virus Res* 141:201-208.

600 Desbiez C, Lecoq H (2008) Evidence for multiple intraspecific recombinants in natural
601 populations of *Watermelon mosaic virus* (WMV, Potyvirus). *Arch Virol* 153:1749-1754.

602 Díaz-Pendón JA, Fernández-Muñoz R, Gómez-Guillamón ML, Moriones E (2005)
603 Inheritance of Resistance to *Watermelon mosaic virus* in *Cucumis melo* that Impairs Virus
604 Accumulation, Symptom Expression, and Aphid Transmission. *Phytopathology* 95:840-
605 846.

606 Díaz-Pendón JA, Mallor C, Soria C, Camero R, Garzo E, Fereres A, Alvarez JM, Gómez-
607 Guillamón ML, Luis-Arteaga M, Moriones E (2003) Potential Sources of Resistance for
608 Melon to Nonpersistently Aphid-borne Viruses. *Plant Dis* 87:960-964

609 Díaz-Pendón JA, Truniger V, Nieto C, Garcia-Mas J, Bendahmane A, Aranda MA (2014)
610 Advances in understanding recessive resistance to plant viruses. *Mol Plant Pathol* 5:223-
611 233.

612 Doyle JJ, Doyle JL (1990) Isolation of plant DNA from fresh tissue. *Focus* 12:13-15.

613 Esteras C, Formisano G, Roig C, Díaz A, Blanca J, Garcia-Mas J, Gómez-Guillamón,
614 ML, López-Sesé AI, Lázaro A, Monforte AJ, Picó B (2013) SNP genotyping in melons:
615 genetic variation, population structure, and linkage disequilibrium. *Theor Appl Genet*
616 126:1285-1303.

617 Fereres A, Moreno A (2011) Integrated Control Measures Against Viruses and their
618 Vectors. In: Caranta C, Aranda MA, Tepfer M, López-Moya J (eds) *Recent Advances in*
619 *Plant Virology*, Caister Academic Press, Norfolk, pp 237-262

620 Fernández-Silva I, Eduardo I, Blanca J, Esteras C, Picó B, Nuez F, Arús P, García-Mas
621 J, Monforte A (2008) Bin mapping of genomic and EST-derived SSRs in melon (*Cucumis*
622 *melo* L.). Theor Appl Genet 118:139-150.

623 Fukino N, Sakata Y, Kunihiisa M, Matsumoto S (2007) Characterization of novel simple
624 sequence repeat (SSR) markers for melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) and their use for genotyping
625 identification. J Hort Sci Biotechnol 82:330-334. Details about primer sequences:
626 http://cse.naro.affrc.go.jp/nbk/List_CMN.xls;

627 Gilbert RZ, Kyle MM, Munger HM, Gray SM (1994) Inheritance of resistance to
628 *Watermelon mosaic virus* in *Cucumis melo* L. HortSci 29:107-110.

629 González VM, Aventín N, Centeno E, Puigdomènech P (2013) High presence/absence
630 gene variability in defense-related gene clusters of *Cucumis melo*. BMC Genomics
631 14:782.

632 González-Ibeas D, Blanca J, Donaire L, Saladié M, Marcarell-Creus A, Cano-Delgado
633 A, García-Mas J, Llave C, Aranda MA (2011) Analysis of the melon (*Cucumis melo*)
634 small RNAome by high-throughput pyrosequencing. BMC Genomics 12:393

635 González-Ibeas D, Cañizares J, Aranda MA (2012) Microarray analysis shows that
636 recessive resistance to *Watermelon mosaic virus* in melon is associated with the induction
637 of defense response genes. Mol Plant-Microbe Interact 25:107-118.

638 Hashimoto M, Neriya Y, Yamaji Y, Namba S (2016) Recessive Resistance to Plant
639 Viruses: Potential Resistance Genes Beyond Translation Initiation Factors. Front
640 Microbiol 7:1695.

641 Juárez M, Legua P, Mengual CM, Kassem MA, Sempere RN, Gómez P, Truniger V,
642 Aranda MA (2013) Relative incidence, spatial distribution and genetic diversity of
643 cucurbit viruses in eastern Spain. *Ann Appl Biol* 162:362-370.

644 Lecoq H, Desbiez C (2008) *Watermelon mosaic virus* and *Zucchini yellow mosaic virus*.
645 In: Mahy BWJ and Van Regenmortel MHV (eds) *Encyclopedia of Virology*, vol. 5, 3rd
646 edn. Elsevier, Oxford, pp 433-440

647 Leida C, Moser C, Esteras C, Sulpice R, Lunn JE, De Langen F, Monforte AJ, Picó B
648 (2015) Variability of candidate genes, genetic structure and association with sugar
649 accumulation and climacteric behavior in abroad germplasm collection of melon
650 (*Cucumis melo* L). *BMC Genet* 16:28.

651 Lincoln S, Daly M, Lander ES (1993) Constructing genetic maps with
652 MAPMAKER/EXP 3.0: a tutorial and reference manual. Whitehead Inst Biomed Res
653 Tech Rpt. 3 edition. Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

654 Maule A, Caranta C, Boulton MI (2007) Sources of natural resistance to plant viruses:
655 status and prospects. *Mol Plant Pathol* 8:223-231.

656 Moyer JW, Kennedy GG, Romanow LR (1985) Resistance to *Watermelon Mosaic Virus*
657 *II* Multiplication in *Cucumis melo*. *Phytopathol* 75:201-205.

658 Munger HM (1991) Progress in Breeding Melons for Watermelon Mosaic Resistance.
659 *Rep Cucurbit Genet Coop* 14:53-54.

660 Ouibrahim L, Mazier M, Estevan J, Pagny G, Decroocq V, Desbiez C, Moretti A, Gallois
661 JL, Caranta C (2014) Cloning of the Arabidopsis *rwm1* gene for resistance to *Watermelon*
662 *mosaic virus* points to a new function for natural virus resistance genes. *Plant J* 79:705-
663 716.

664 Palomares-Ríos F, Viruel M, Yuste-Lisbona F, López-Sesé A, Gómez-Guillamón ML
665 (2011) Simple sequence repeat markers linked to QTL for resistance to *Watermelon*
666 *mosaic virus* in melon. *Theor Appl Genet* 123:1207-1214.

667 Palomares-Ríos FJ, Garcés-Claver A, Gómez-Guillamón ML (2016) Detection of Two
668 QTLs Associated with Resistance to *Cucurbit Yellow Stunting Disorder Virus* in Melon
669 Line TGR 1551. In: Kozik EU and Paris HS (eds.) *Proceedings of Cucurbitaceae 2016,*
670 *XIth Eucarpia Meeting on Genetics and Breeding of Cucurbitaceae, July 24-28, 2016,*
671 *Warsaw, Poland, pp 334-337*

672 Perpiñá G, Esteras C, Gibon Y, Monforte AJ, Picó B (2016) A new genomic library of
673 melon introgression lines in a cantaloupe genetic background for dissecting desirable
674 agronomical traits. *BMC Plant Biol* 16:154.

675 Provvidenti R, Robinson RW, Munger HM (1978) Resistance in feral species to six
676 viruses infecting *Cucurbita*. *Plant Dis Report* 62:326.

677 Rodríguez-Hernández AM, Gosalvez B, Sempere RN, Burgos L, Aranda MA, Truniger
678 V (2012) Melon RNA interference (RNAi) lines silenced for Cm-eIF4E show broad virus
679 resistance. *Mol Plant Pathol* 13:755-763.

680 Sáez C, Esteras C, Martínez C, Ferriol M, Dhillon NPS, López C, Picó B (2017)
681 Resistance to *Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus* in melon is controlled by a major QTL
682 located in chromosome 11. *Plant Cell Rep* 36:1571-1584.

683 Sarria-Villada E, Garzo E, López-Sesé AI, Fereres A, Gómez-Guillamón ML (2009)
684 Hypersensitive response to *Aphis gossypii* Glover in melon genotypes carrying the *Vat*
685 gene. *J Exp Bot* 60:3269-3277. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jxb/erp163>

686 Schoeny A, Desbiez C, Millot P, Wipf-Scheibel C, Nozeran K, Gognalons P, Lecoq H,
687 Boissot N (2017) Impact of Vat resistance in melon on viral epidemics and genetic
688 structure of virus populations. *Virus Res* 241:105-115.

689 Sekhwal, MK, Li P, Lam I, Wang X, Cloutier S, You FM (2015) Disease Resistance Gene
690 Analogs (RGAs) in Plants. *Int J Mol Sci* 16:19248–19290.
691 <http://doi.org/10.3390/ijms160819248>

692 Sowell G, Demski JW (1981) Resistance to *Watermelon mosaic virus* in muskmelon.
693 *FAO Plant Prot Bull* 29:71-73.

694 Tian G, Miao H, Yang Y, Zhou J, Lu H, Wang Y, Xie B, Zhang S, Gu X (2016) Genetic
695 analysis and fine mapping of *Watermelon mosaic virus* resistance gene in cucumber. *Mol*
696 *Breed* 36:131. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11032-016-0524-5>

697 Van Ooijen JW (2009) MapQTL® 6 Software for the mapping of quantitative trait loci
698 in experimental population of diploid species Kyazma BV. Wageningen, The Netherlands

699 Venkatesh J, An J, Kang WH, Jahn M, Kang BC (2018) Fine Mapping of the Dominant
700 Potyvirus Resistance Gene *Pvr7* Reveals a Relationship with *Pvr4* in *Capsicum annuum*.
701 *Phytopathol* 108:142-148.

702 Wang S, Basten CJ, Zeng ZB (2012) Windows QTL cartographer 2.5 department of
703 statistics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.
704 <http://statgen.ncsu.edu/qtlcart/WQTLCart.htm> Accessed 20 Feb 2018

705 Webb RE (1967) Cantaloupe breeding line B66-5: Highly resistant to watermelon mosaic
706 virus I. *HortSci* 2:58-59.

707 Yuste-Lisbona FJ, Capel C, Gómez-Guillamón ML, Capel J, López-Sesé AI, Lozano R
708 (2011) Codominant PCR-based markers and candidate genes for powdery mildew
709 resistance in melon (*Cucumis melo* L.). *Theor Appl Genet* 122:747-758.

710 Zeng ZB (1994) Precision mapping of quantitative trait loci. *Genet* 136:1457-1468.

711 Zschiesche W, Barth O, Daniel K, Böhme S, Rausche J, Humbeck K (2015) The zinc
712 binding nuclear protein HIPP3 acts as an upstream regulator of the salicylate-dependent
713 plant immunity pathway and of flowering time in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. *New Phytol*
714 207:1084-1096.

715

716 Table 1. Quantitative trait loci (QTLs) identified in two different populations. RILs1, RILs2 and RILs3 correspond to analysis in the recombinant
 717 inbred lines RILs population derived from the cross between TGR-1551 and the cultivar ‘Bola de Oro’, phenotyped for resistance to *Watermelon*
 718 *mosaic virus* by Palomares-Rius et al. (2011) and genotyped by sequencing. The trait used was symptom score at 21 days post-inoculation.
 719 Generation RIL408 corresponds to the BC1S1BC2S3 population derived from RIL408, phenotyped for resistance to *Watermelon mosaic virus* and
 720 genotyped with SNP panel WMV2. The trait used was symptom score at 30 days post-inoculation. See Materials and methods section for details.

Gen ^a	Chr ^b	Interval ^c	Nearest marker ^d	Kruskal-Wallis		Composite interval mapping					
				K ^e	Mean TGR ^f	Mean BO ^g	LOD ^h	Add ⁱ	Dom ^j	d/a ^k	R ² ^m
RILs1	6	42.2-54.5 cM 4,552,376-6,043,604 bp	S6_5175540	0.001	1.10	2.90	4.6	0.70	-	-	0.13
	11	81.2-89.9 cM 29,588,875-30,547,485 bp	S11_29844067	0.0001	0.29	2.93	8.7	1.12	-	-	0.31
RILs2	4	79-94.6 cM 23,744,558-28,597,859 bp	S4_25496808	0.05	1.45	2.75	6.4	0.67	-	-	0.15
	11	79-83 cM 29,314,773-29,844,067 bp	S11_29588837	0.0001	0.40	2.87	11.8	1.26	-	-	0.44
RILs3	5	65.4-86.3 cM 24,791,006-27,852,627 bp	S5_26193386	0.05	1.32	2.67	3.3	0.51	-	-	0.07
	11	77.9-88.3 cM 29,213,661-30,188,068 bp	S11_29455618	0.0001	0.51	3.23	10.8	1.41	-	-	0.46
RIL408	11	3.0-7.5 29,276,266-29,952,168	b11wmv09	0.0001	0.29	2.05	10	0.88	0.88	1.00	0.23

721

722 ^a Gen: Generation and experiment. RILs1, RILs2 and RILs3 correspond to the three experiments with the RILs population; RIL408 corresponds
 723 to the BC1S1BC2S3 population derived from RIL408

724 ^b Chromosome

725 ^c Interval position of the putative QTL on the genetic and the physical map according to a LOD drop of 2
726 ^d Closest marker to the LOD peak
727 ^e Significance level in the Kruskal-Wallis test
728 ^f Mean of the genetic class TGR-1551 for the corresponding marker
729 ^g Mean of the genetic class 'Bola de Oro' for the corresponding marker
730 ^h Higher logarithm of the odds score
731 ⁱ Additive effect of the BO allele
732 ^j Dominant effect of the BO allele
733 ^k Degree of dominance
734 ^m Percentage of phenotypic variance explained by the QTL
735

736 Table 2. Genotype for the SSRs ECM215 and CMN04_35 and for SNPs in the panel WMV1, for the BC1S1BC2S1 plants selected to evaluate
737 their descendants (A: homozygous for 'Bola de Oro' allele; H: heterozygous; B: homozygous for TGR-1551 allele). The phenotype of the
738 descendants is indicated (SU: susceptible; R: resistant; SE: segregating). Markers in the candidate interval for chromosome 11 are highlighted in
739 grey.

Marker	Chr ^a	Position (bp)	Number of BC1S1BC2S1 plant																		
			36	54	88	107	137	160	170	21	91	100	173	8	10	62	75	104	124	168	174
SNP1	11	27320918	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP2	11	28286948	B	B	B	H	B	B	B	A	H	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	B	H	H
ECM215	11	28895450	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	H	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	B	H	H
SNP6	11	29455618	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
SNP7	11	29630096	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
CMN04_35	11	29653352	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
SNP9	11	29694206	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
SNP11	11	29952168	B	B	B	H	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
SNP12	11	30188018	B	B	H	H	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
SNP 15	11	31264349	B	B	H	H	B	B	H	A	A	A	H	H	H	B	H	H	H	H	A
SNP16	11	32304043	B	B	H	H	B	B	H	A	A	A	H	H	A	B	H	H	H	A	H
SNP17	11	32731899	H	B	H	H	B	B	H	A	A	A	H	H	A	B	H	H	A	A	H
SNP18	11	33796187	A	B	H	H	H	H	H	A	A	A	H	H	H	B	H	H	A	A	H
SNP19	11	34367855	A	B	H	H	H	H	H	A	A	A	H	B	H	B	H	H	A	A	H
SNP24	4	21507155	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP23	4	23744558	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP21	4	25496808	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP20	4	28057027	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP25	5	25081882	H	B	H	H	A	A	H	B	H	H	H	H	B	H	H	A	H	B	H
SNP26	5	25229866	H	B	H	H	A	A	H	B	H	H	H	H	B	H	H	A	H	B	H
SNP29	5	27772725	H	H	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	A	A	B	B	H	A	H	H	H	H

SNP32	6	4785824	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP31B	6	5541959	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Phenotype			R	R	R	R	R	R	SU	SU	SU	SU	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE

740

741 ^a Chromosome

742

743

744

745 Table 3. Genotype for the SSRs ECM215 and CMN04_35 and for SNPs in the panels WMV1 and WMV2, for the BC1S1BC2S1, BC1S1BC2S2
746 and BC1S1BC2S3 plants selected to evaluate their descendants (A: homozygous for 'Bola de Oro' allele; H: heterozygous; B: homozygous for
747 TGR-1551 allele). The phenotype of the descendants is indicated (SU: susceptible; R: resistant; SE: segregating). Markers in the candidate interval
748 for chromosome 11 are highlighted in grey.

Marker	Chr ^a	Position (bp)	Generation assayed and parent genotype										
			BC1S1BC2S2	BC1S1BC2S3	BC1S1BC2S3	BC1S1BC2S3	BC1S1BC2S3	BC1S1BC2S2	BC1S1BC2S2	BC1S1BC2S2	BC1S1BC2S3	BC1S1BC2S4	BC1S1BC2S4
			107	10-3	124-2	163-3	163-11	91	100	173	75-9	75-7-49	168-7-65
SNP1	11	27320918	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv01	11	28181279	H	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	B	A	H
b11wmv01B	11	28182749	H	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	B	A	H
SNP2	11	28286948	H	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	B	A	H
ECM215	11	28895450	B	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	-	A	-
b11wmv02	11	29113537	B	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	A	A	A
b11wmv03	11	29216444	B	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	A	A	A
b11wmv04	11	29276266	B	B	B	B	B	H	A	H	A	A	A
SNP6	11	29455618	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv05	11	29570883	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv06	11	29596257	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv7B	11	29630012	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP7	11	29630096	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
CMN04_35	11	29653352	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A

b11wmv8	11	29667149	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP9	11	29694206	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv9	11	29724835	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv10	11	29756985	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv11	11	29794533	B	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv12	11	29813505	B	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv13	11	29843972	H	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv13C	11	29846583	H	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
b11wmv15B	11	29887364	H	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP11	11	29952168	H	B	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	H
b11wmv16	11	30046950	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	H	A	H	H
b11wmv17	11	30063592	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H
b11wmv18	11	30136174	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H
b11wmv19	11	30162440	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	H	A	H	H
SNP12	11	30188018	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	A	A	H	H
b11wmv20	11	30284318	H	H	H	B	B	A	A	H	A	H	H
b11wmv21	11	30547485	H	H	H	B	B	-	A	H	A	H	H
SNP15	11	31264349	H	H	H	A	A	A	A	H	A	H	H
SNP16	11	32304043	H	A	H	A	A	A	A	H	A	H	A
SNP17	11	32731899	H	A	A	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	A
SNP18	11	33796187	H	A	A	A	A	A	A	H	H	B	A
SNP19	11	34367855	H	A	A	A	A	A	A	H	H	B	A
SNP24	4	21507155	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP23	4	23744558	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP21	4	25496808	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP20	4	28057027	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
b5wmv1	5	4723072	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

b5wmv2	5	14945725	A	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	H	H	B
b5wmv3	5	20677985	A	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	H	B
SNP25	5	25081882	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	H	B
SNP26	5	25229866	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	H	B
b5wmv4	5	25314558	H	B	H	A	A	H	-	B	A	A	B
b5wmv4C	5	25326396	H	-	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	A	B
b5wmv6	5	26629651	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	A	A
b5wmv7C	5	26940315	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	A	A
b5wmv8	5	27194925	H	B	H	A	A	H	H	H	A	A	A
b5wmv9	5	27509294	H	B	H	A	A	H	A	B	A	A	A
b5wmv10	5	27698241	H	B	H	A	A	H	A	H	A	A	A
SNP29	5	27772725	B	B	H	A	A	H	A	A	A	A	A
b5wmv11	5	27806146	H	B	H	A	A	H	A	A	A	A	A
SNP32	6	4785824	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
SNP31B	6	5541959	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Phenotype			R	R	R	R	R	SU	SU	SU	SU	SU	SU

749

750 ^a Chromosome

751