# Aldehyde dehydrogenase (ALDH) superfamily in plants: gene nomenclature and comparative genomics 

Chad Brocker,<br>Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences, Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO 80045, USA<br>Melpomene Vasiliou,<br>Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences, Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO 80045, USA<br>Sarah Carpenter,<br>Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Toxicology and Environmental Health<br>Sciences, Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO 80045, USA<br>Christopher Carpenter,<br>Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences, Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO 80045, USA<br>Yucheng Zhang,<br>Key Laboratory of Horticultural Plant Biology and Germplasm Innovation in Northwest China, College of Horticulture, Ministry of Agriculture, Northwest A\&F University, Yangling, Shanxi 712100, People's Republic of China

Xiping Wang,
Key Laboratory of Horticultural Plant Biology and Germplasm, Innovation in Northwest China, College of Horticulture, Ministry of Agriculture, Northwest A\&F University, Yangling, Shanxi 712100, People's Republic of China

Simeon O. Kotchoni,
Department of Biology, Center for Computational and Integrative Biology, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ 08102, USA

Andrew J. Wood,
Department of Plant Biology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901, USA

Hans-Hubert Kirch, Institute of Molecular Physiology and Biotechnology of Plants, (IMBIO), University of Bonn, 53115 Bonn, Germany

David Kopečný,
Faculty of Science, Department of Protein Biochemistry and Proteomics, Centre of the Region Haná for Biotechnological and Agricultural Research, Palackyý University, Šlechtitelů 11, 78371 Olomouc, Czech Republic
Daniel W. Nebert, and

[^0]Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati, Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH 45267, USA<br>Vasilis Vasiliou<br>Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences, Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO 80045, USA<br>Vasilis Vasiliou: vasilis.vasiliou@ucdenver.edu


#### Abstract

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of completely sequenced plant genomes. The comparison of fully sequenced genomes allows for identification of new gene family members, as well as comprehensive analysis of gene family evolution. The aldehyde dehydrogenase ( $A L D H$ ) gene superfamily comprises a group of enzymes involved in the $\mathrm{NAD}^{+}$or $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$-dependent conversion of various aldehydes to their corresponding carboxylic acids. ALDH enzymes are involved in processing many aldehydes that serve as biogenic intermediates in a wide range of metabolic pathways. In addition, many of these enzymes function as 'aldehyde scavengers' by removing reactive aldehydes generated during the oxidative degradation of lipid membranes, also known as lipid peroxidation. Plants and animals share many ALDH families, and many genes are highly conserved between these two evolutionarily distinct groups. Conversely, both plants and animals also contain unique $A L D H$ genes and families. Herein we carried outgenome-wide identification of $A L D H$ genes in a number of plant species-including Arabidopsis thaliana (thale crest), Chlamydomonas reinhardtii (unicellular algae), Oryza sativa (rice), Physcomitrella patens (moss), Vitis vinifera (grapevine) and Zea mays (maize). These data were then combined with previous analysis of Populus trichocarpa (poplar tree), Selaginella moellindorffii (gemmiferous spikemoss), Sorghum bicolor (sorghum) and Volvox carteri (colonial algae) for a comprehensive evolutionary comparison of the plant $A L D H$ superfamily. As a result, newly identified genes can be more easily analyzed and gene names can be assigned according to current nomenclature guidelines; our goal is to clarify previously confusing and conflicting names and classifications that might confound results and prevent accurate comparisons between studies.


## Keywords

ALDH; Aldehyde dehydrogenase; Stress response; Gene family; Nomenclature

## Introduction

The aldehyde dehydrogenase (ALDH) superfamily is composed of a wide variety of enzymes involved in endogenous and exogenous aldehyde metabolism. ALDH enzymes use either $\mathrm{NAD}^{+}$or $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$as a cofactor to convert aldehydes to their corresponding carboxylic acids plus NADH or NADPH. Compounds with aldehydic functional groups are generated as important intermediates in many catabolic and biosynthetic pathways. Moreover, the ALDH-mediated generation of NADH/NADPH represents a major source of reducing equivalents required for maintaining cellular redox balance.

The cytoprotective action of these enzymes during oxidative stress represents another major function of the ALDH superfamily. Under conditions inducing oxidative stress, ALDH enzymes act as 'aldehyde scavengers' by metabolizing reactive aldehydes produced as a consequence of the oxidative degradation of lipid membranes, also known as lipid peroxidation (LPO). Many LPO-derived aldehydes such as 4 -hydroxynoneal (4-HNE), 4oxononenal (4-ONE) and malondialdehyde (MDA), to name a few, are potent electrophiles and readily form adducts with physiologically vital nucleophiles such as nucleic acids and proteins. Adduction of these molecules can cause mutations, hinder function, and lead to
significant perturbations in homeostasis. In plants, many studies have shown that ALDH upregulation is a common target of stress response pathway activation. As such, there is significant economic interest in utilizing ALDH expression to improve both growth and quality in crops grown under harsh conditions such as poor soil quality or drought (Bartels and Sunkar 2005).

Aldehyde dehydrogenases are found throughout prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms, and the ALDH superfamily is well represented within virtually all plant species. In addition, $A L D H$ expression is variable and widespread throughout plant tissues and also developmentally regulated (Missihoun et al. 2011; Tsuji et al. 2003). Furthermore, plant ALDH proteins are found in numerous subcellular compartments-including cytosol, mitochondria, plastids (chloroplasts, chromoplasts and leucoplasts), peroxisomes and microsomes (Missihoun et al. 2011; Mitsuya et al. 2009). Many ALDH families are highly conserved between plants and animals. As predicted, numerous studies have shown that these enzymes share a number of aldehyde substrates.

ALDHs play a crucial role in many catabolic and bio-synthetic pathways including carnitine biosynthesis, glycolysis/gluconeogenesis, and amino-acid metabolism (Marchitti et al. 2008; Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Tylichova et al. 2010; Yang et al. 2011). ALDH expression is also responsible for the aroma associated with fragrant rice strains such as jasmine and basmati (Sakthivel et al. 2009). In plants, ALDH enzymes also play a role in seed development and maturation (Shin et al. 2009). The widespread expression and multifaceted functions of these enzymes in plants underscore their importance.

The plant ALDH superfamily contains 13 distinct families: ALDH2, ALDH3, ALDH5, ALDH6, ALDH7, ALDH10, ALDH11, ALDH12, ALDH18, ALDH21, ALDH22, ALDH23 and ALDH24. The ALDH10, ALDH12, ALDH21, ALDH22, ALDH23 and ALDH24 families are specific to plants, whereas the ALDH2, ALDH3, ALDH5, ALDH6, ALDH7 and ALDH18 families have mammalian orthologues. The total number of $A L D H$ genes within a given plant species varies greatly and appears to increase as plants became more complex and moved from water onto land (Table 1).

In many cases, gene expansion commonly associated with increasing organismal complexity is associated with duplication and expansion of a specific lineage or subfamily of proteins. Gene duplication is generally accepted as the predominant evolutionary force behind generation of new genes and subsequent gene functions. In most plant species, gene families account for more than half of the genes within the genome (Flowers and Purugganan 2008). A gene duplication event is generally followed by either partitioning of gene function between the duplicated genes, known as subfunctionalization, or development of a new function, known as neofunctionalization (Force et al. 1999). The two algae analyzed within this study, V. carteri and C. reinhardtii, contain seven and nine $A L D H$ genes, respectively. Mosses and vascular plants have on average twice as many ALDH family members.

The moss $P$. patens separated from flowering plants and unicellular algae more than 400 million years ago (MYA) (Rensing et al. 2008). As plants moved onto land there was a concomitant loss of many genes associated with aquatic life and expansion of genes required for adaptation to terrestrial stressors. In addition, acquisition of many genes is coupled to multicellular growth, vascularization, tissue distribution and differentiation, and the ability to coordinate organismal response via hormone-signaling pathways. Expansion of $A L D H$ genes within these species may be due to additional protection offered against environmental stresses encountered during the transition to terrestrial life, as well as increasing structural and developmental complexity (Cronk 2001).

Many plant $A L D H$ genes respond to stress, and changes in expression occur following exposure to a wide variety of stressors including dehydration, water logging, heavy metals, high salinity, heat, cold, oxidative stress, ultraviolet radiation (UVR) and many others (Chugh et al. 2011; Inostroza-Blancheteau et al. 2011; Sunkar et al. 2003). The fact that many $A L D H$ genes in plants are stress-responsive underscores their importance in supporting environmental adaptability.

Increases in $A L D H$ gene number may impart a selective advantage and enhance survival. The increased number of $A L D H$ genes found in higher plants is usually the result of expansion of one or more ALDH families. For example, the moss $P$. patens and the lycophyte $S$. moellindorffii show an increase in $A L D H 10$ homologues. In contrast, $V$. vinifera and $P$. trichocarpa have undergone expansion in the number of $A L D H 6$ family members.

The species in this manuscript were chosen because they allow for a relatively comprehensive look at ALDH superfamily expansion throughout plant evolution. There is a tremendous amount of diversity in plant genome size, structural organization, and chromosome number (Table 2). Chlamydomonas reinhardtii is a unicellular alga that belongs to the chlorophyte group, which primarily comprises aquatic photosynthetic eukaryotes. Volvox carteri is a multicellular green alga closely related to C. reinhardtii that also belongs to the chlorophytes. Physcomitrella patens is a non-vascular moss that is generally considered phyogenetically half-way between algae and seed plants-making genomic analyses very important when drawing evolutionary comparisons between species (Rensing et al. 2008). Selaginella moellendorffii, also known as the gemmiferous spikemoss, is considered one of the most basic vascular plants and belongs to the lycophytes. Lycophytes first appeared in the fossil record over 400 MY A, which makes present-day members of this family a great resource for comparative genomics. Arabidopsis thaliana is a small flowering plant that is commonly used as a model organism in plant biology. Populus trichocarpa represents the first tree to have its genome completely sequenced. The analysis of many species encompassing the full gamut of plant evolution from single-celled algae to flowering trees facilitates a comprehensive and informative comparison of ALDH evolution and superfamily expansion.

The purpose of this manuscript is to expand upon and also consolidate nomenclature currently found within the literature from a number of species-specific analyses in an effort to clarify $A L D H$ nomenclature, as well as identify new $A L D H$ genes within these species. In addition, recently sequenced genomes from additional species will be analyzed for ALDH superfamily members and the identified ALDH genes named, according to approved nomenclature guidelines.

## Nomenclature

The nomenclature system for ALDH superfamily members was established in 1999 (Vasiliou et al. 1999). The system was developed according to the Human Gene Nomenclature guidelines (http://www.genenames.org/guidelines.html) and its use is recommended for all other species. All genes are given the same root symbol 'ALDH' which is followed by an Arabic numeral denoting the family. The family designation is followed by a letter representing the given subfamily and another number signifying the individual gene within that subfamily. The guidelines are based on pairwise alignments between amino-acid sequences for any given set of ALDHs. Sequences that share $\sim 40 \%$ identity or more fall into the same ALDH family. Sequences that share $\sim 60 \%$ identity or more are grouped into the same subfamily. Gene subfamilies and numbers are designated chronologically following their identification. Genes are italicized and capitalized, whereas
proteins are only capitalized. Additional information relating to the $A L D H$ gene superfamily can be found online at the Aldehyde Dehydrogenase Superfamily Database (http:// www.aldh.org).

ALDH identification and nomenclature has been reported previously by a number of groups for various plant species. The Arabidopsis thaliana and Zea mays ALDH superfamilies were described in 2004 and 2010, respectively, according to the nomenclature system detailed above (Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010; Kirch et al. 2004). The Oryza sativa ALDH superfamily was originally described in 2009 and revised according to nomenclature guidelines outlined above in 2010 (Gao and Han 2009; Kotchoni et al. 2010). Original descriptions of the ALDH families have appeared for the moss $P$. patens and the algaes C. rein-hardtii and Ostreococcus tauri (Wood and Duff 2009), and in V. vinifera (Zhang et al. 2012).

In this report, we compile nomenclature information from the above-mentioned publications and use the information to classify a number of newly identified genes within these species. In addition, this information was combined with homology-based searches to identify and name $A L D H$ genes within four as-yet-not-studied species- $S$. moellindorffii, $S$. bicolor, $P$. trichocarpa and V. carteri. The prefixes 'arth' (A. thaliana), 'chre' (C. reinhardtii), 'hosa' (Homo sapiens), 'orsa' (O. sativa), 'phpa' ( $P$. patens), 'potr' (P. trichocarpa), 'semo' (Selaginella moellindorffii), 'sobi' (Sorghum bicolor), 'vivi' (Vitis vinifera), 'voca' (V. carteri) and 'zema' ( $Z$. mays) are used for clarification when referring to ALDH proteins or genes found within different species. $A L D H$ genes and associated sequence information used for analyses are listed in Tables 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

## ALDH2 family

The $A L D H 2$ gene family comprises mitochondrial and cytosolic enzymes that exhibit relatively broad substrate specificity (EC 1.2.1.3) (Marchitti et al. 2008). Studies have shown that ALDH2 family proteins are physiologically active as homo-tetramers (Marchitti et al. 2008). The first plant ALDH2 family members were initially identified as genes that restored fertility in plants; a mutation was identified that causes cytoplasmic male sterility (CMS) and subsequently grouped with other fertility-restorer (RF) genes (Skibbe et al. 2002). However, RF genes are classified by function, not homology, and are therefore not necessarily evolutionarily related. The $Z$. mays $A L D H$ genes originally identified as $R F$ genes were named $R F 2 A, R F 2 B, R F 2 C$ and $R F 2 D$; however, the genes were renamed $A L D H 2 B 1, A L D H 2 B 6, A L D H 2 C 2$ and $A L D H 2 C 3$, respectively, by Skibbe et al. in 2002 (Cui et al. 1996; Skibbe et al. 2002). RF2A, RF2B, RF2C and RF2D were also independently renamed $A L D H 2 B 2, A L D H 2 B 5, A L D H 2 C 1$ and $A L D H 2 C 2$, respectively, by Jimenez-Lopez et al. in 2010 after a comprehensive analysis of the entire Z. mays ALDH gene family by comparing structural 3-D conformations and specific epitope domain/ cavities/tunnels found among many well-characterized ALDH crystal structures. JimenezLopez et al. also used naming criteria corresponding to guidelines proposed by the ALDH Gene Nomenclature Committee (AGNC) (Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010). This nomenclature scheme has therefore taken precedence over previous systems. Similarly, a number of ALDH genes identified in Arabidopsis have undergone a variety of nomenclature changes. Li et al. identified three Arabidopsis ALDH genes which were named ALDH1a, ALDH2a and $A L D H 2 b$ (Li et al. 2000). The same genes were originally named AtALDH2, AtALDH1 and $A t A L D H 3$, respectively, and then renamed according to approved nomenclature as $A L D H 2 C 4, A L D H 2 B 4$ and $A L D H 2 B 7$ (Skibbe et al. 2002).

ALDH2 family members in plants metabolize acetaldehyde generated as a consequence of ethanolic fermentation (op den Camp and Kuhlemeier 1997; Wei et al. 2009). Metabolism of acetaldehyde produces acetate, which is subsequently used for CoA synthesis via acetyl-

CoA synthase activity; this pathway is known as the 'pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH) pathway'. In Arabidopsis, mitochondrial ALDH2B4 was shown to be the predominate ALDH isoform contributing to this reaction (Wei et al. 2009). Another study found that transgenic expression of the ALDH2B4 homologue identified in Chinese wild grapevine prevents mildew infection, although the exact means by which expression protects against pathogen infection is not yet understood (Wen et al. 2012). Studies characterizing a recently identified plant ALDH, ALDH2C4, suggested this enzyme plays a role in biosynthesis of ferulic acid and sinapic acid, important compounds contributing to cell wall strength (Grabber et al. 2000; Nair et al. 2004).

The plant ALDH2 family is relatively diverse and includes four distinct subfamilies, namely ALDH2B, C, D and E (Fig. 1). The ALDH2 family expanded significantly during evolution of terrestrial plants and the number of ALDH2 family members varies substantially between species. Two aquatic algae species that we have analyzed, V. carteri and C. reinhardtii, each contain a single ALDH2E family member; these genes compared between the two species encode proteins that share $69.2 \%$ sequence identity and $79.0 \%$ similarity. The algae ALDH2E proteins share, on average, a higher degree of sequence homology to ALDH2B proteins than ALDH2C or ALDH2D. The lycophyte $S$. moellindorffii genome contains four $A L D H 2 B$ and two $A L D H 2 D$ family members, whereas the moss $P$. patens contains only two $A L D H 2 B$ genes. Lycophytes are considered a basal vascular plant; many novel physiological systems and pathways developed during evolution of mosses to lycophytes. For example, gibberellin-signaling pathways, which control aspects of growth and development, do not exist in $P$. patens but are present in $S$. moellindorffii (Aya et al. 2011). It is possible that expansion of the ALDH2 family occurred in concert with, or as a result of, novel pathway development when basal land plants evolved into basal vascular plants.

## ALDH3 family

Studies in mammals have shown that ALDH3 homologues are found within both the cytosol and mitochondria (EC 1.2.1.5) (Marchitti et al. 2008). Bioinformatic analysis of plant proteins predicts diverse subcellular localization- including cytosol, chloroplasts and endoplasmic reticulum (Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010; Kirch et al. 2004; Stiti et al. 2011). Expression of many of the genes within this family is believed to be regulated by the abscisic acid (ABA) stress-response pathway. The plant ALDH3 family has diverged significantly into six subfamilies, namely ALDH3E, 3F, 3H, 3I, 3J and 3K.

The three $A$. thaliana ALDH isoforms-ALDH3F1, ALDH3H1 and ALDH3I-show distinct expression and response patterns. For example, ALDH3I1 expression is restricted to leaves and responds to treatment with ABA exposure, salinity, dehydration, heavy metals, oxidants and pesticides (Kirch et al. 2001; Stiti et al. 2011; Sunkar et al. 2003). ALDH3H1 was also found to be stress-responsive and constitutively expressed at low levels throughout tissues. A complex expression pattern of ALDH 3 H 1 gene locus, regulated by gene-splicing or alternative promoters, may be responsible for the abundance of ALDH3H1 (Missihoun et al. 2012). In contrast, ALDH3F1 expression does not change in response to any of the treatments listed above (Kirch et al. 2004). Based on very distinct expression and response patterns noted in A. thaliana, it was suggested that ALDH3 isoforms have evolved as a consequence of functional specialization within specific tissues and subcellular organelles (Kirch et al. 2004).

ALDH3 proteins make up one of the most expanded and diverse groups of plant $A L D H$ gene families (Fig. 2). Z. mays, O. sativa and P. patens genomes each contain five ALDH3 homologues. Sorghum bicolor and $V$. vinifera each contain four $A L D H 3$ members, whereas S. moellindorffii, A. thaliana and P. trichocarpa each contain two, three and six ALDH3
genes, respectively. It had previously been reported that the unicellular algae C. reinhardtii lacked ALDH3; our analyses also were not successful in identifying an ALDH3 homologue within the C. reinhardtii genome. Furthermore, the colonial algae $V$. carteri lacks ALDH3suggesting that expansion and diversification of the ALDH3 gene family occurred in conjunction with the evolutionary movement of aquatic plants onto land.

## ALDH5 family

The ALDH5 gene family is made up of succinic semialdehyde dehydrogenases (SSADHs; EC 1.2.1.24), which catalyze the conversion of succinic semialdehyde (SSA) to succinate during the last step of $\gamma$-aminobutyrate (GABA) catabolism. ALDH5 participates in the GABA 'shunt' pathway found in bacteria, plants and animals-which allows these organisms to metabolically bypass the tricarboxylic acid pathway. GABA in mammals plays a very important role as a neurotransmitter. In plants, GABA is associated with pollen-pistil interactions, herbivore deterrence, oxidative stress and hypoxia (Fait et al. 2008; Palanivelu et al. 2003). ALDH5 in Arabidopsis was found to be localized to the mitochondria and is also predicted to be a mitochondrial protein in other plant species (Bouche et al. 2003; Gao and Han 2009). ALDH5 mutations in plants have been show to cause enhanced accumulation of reactive oxygen intermediates and cell death in response to light and heat stress (Bouche et al. 2003). Recently, it was also shown that SSA or its derivatives affect adaxial-abaxial polarity and thus leaf patterning (Toyokura et al. 2011).

ALDH5 orthologues were identified in all species with the exception of $V$. carteri (Fig. 3a). We identified an unknown $A L D H$ gene within the $V$. carteri genome that was phylogenetically most similar to members of the $A L D H 5$ gene family; pairwise comparisons revealed less than $35 \%$ sequence identity with other family members. Moreover, the encoded protein is predicted to contain a truncated ALDH domain and is therefore considered to be a pseudogene. The $A L D H 5$ gene identified in the other algae species analyzed in this study, C. reinhardtii, is predicted to encode a protein exhibiting significant sequence divergence from the terrestrial plant species and was placed into a new subfamily, namely ALDH5G. All other newly identified ALDH5 genes from $P$. trichocarpa, $S$. moellindorffii and $S$. bicolor showed a high degree of sequence identity to previously identified genes that currently make up the ALDH5F subfamily and were named accordingly.

## ALDH6 family

Members of the $A L D H 6$ gene family are also known as methylmalonyl semialdehyde (MMS) dehydrogenases (EC 1.2.1.27). These enzymes facilitate reactions associated with both valine and pyrimidine catabolism. To date, ALDH6 homologues are the only ALDH superfamily members to use coenzyme $\mathrm{A}(\mathrm{CoA})$ as a cofactor; they catalyze the CoAdependent conversion of MMS to propionyl-CoA (Marchitti et al. 2008). Studies have also shown that ALDH6 enzymes are capable of metabolizing malonate semialdehyde to acetylCoA and revealed up-regulation of $A L D H 6$ in rice by treatment with the plant hormones auxin and gibberellin (Marchitti et al. 2008; Oguchi et al. 2004). Unfortunately, the exact functions of the ALDH6 family in plants are yet to be thoroughly elucidated.

All plant species analyzed herein contain at least a single $A L D H 6$ gene (Fig. 3b). Furthermore all plant ALDH6 orthologues identified share $>60 \%$ sequence identity and therefore fall into the same subfamily, namely ALDH6B. In P. trichocarpa and V. vinifera, $A L D H 6$ has undergone a series of gene duplications resulting in four and three copies, respectively. Recent studies indicated that $A L D H 6 B 3$ and $A L D H 6 B 5$ are the result of a tandem duplication event in $V$. vinifera (Zhang et al. 2012). The third $V$. vinifera ALDH6 isoform identified, ALDH6B7, is predicted to encode a protein with 1031 amino acids-
making it approximately twice the size of other ALDH6 family members. It does, however, share a very high degree of sequence identity. To date, there is no EST or cDNA sequence data for ALDH6B7 which verify whether the predicted sequence accurately reflects the fulllength peptide so it is possible that there might be errors in gene prediction.

Microarray studies, however, have found ALDH6B7 to be up-regulated, along with ALDH6B3, after long-term salinity and dehydration treatments, which provides support for physiological function (Zhang et al. 2012). ALDH6B3 and ALDH6B4 from P. trichocarpa are predicted to encode proteins that share $>94 \%$ sequence identity-supporting a relatively recent gene duplication event. The remaining $P$. trichocarpa isoforms share $\sim 70 \%$ sequence identity with one other, as well as the other plant homologues, and their physiological function has yet to be determined.

## ALDH7 family

Members of ALDH7 family (EC 1.2.1.31) are also known as $\Delta 1$-piperideine-6-carboxylate dehydrogenases ( P 6 CDH ), a-aminoadipic semialdehyde dehydrogenases or antiquitins. The $A L D H 7$ gene family is highly conserved throughout evolution. A high degree of conservation observed between evolutionarily distant species implies that physiological function may also be conserved. Studies examining plant ALDH7 expression have identified responsiveness to a wide variety of insults, and expression is thought to function as a part of general stress-response pathways. ALDH7B up-regulation occurs in response to many stressors including ultraviolet radiation, dehydration, increased salinity, low temperature, heat shock and ABA treatment (Kotchoni et al. 2006; Rodrigues et al. 2006).

A recent study also found that ALDH7B in $O$. sativa is required for seed viability and maturation (Shin et al. 2009). Mutant seeds accumulate malondialdehyde and yellow pigment named oryzamutaic acid A, a product of aminoadipic semialdehyde polymerization (Shen et al. 2012; Shin et al. 2009). Unfortunately, studies have yet to look at the comprehensive substrate specificity of plant ALDH7 homologues. A study in rice found that purified ALDH7B was capable of metabolizing MDA, acetaldehyde and glyceraldehyde (Shin et al. 2009). Analysis of ALDH7B from Z. mays and P. sativum shows that both enzymes exhibit highest rates with aminoadipic semialdehyde followed by guanidinobutyraldehyde. Human ALDH7A1 has wider substrate specificity than both maize and pea enzymes (Kopečný et al. unpublished). In mammals, ALDH7A1 was shown to have relatively broad substrate specificity and was found to play a major role in metabolizing aminoadipic semialdehyde, betaine aldehyde, and manylipid peroxidation-derived aldehydes. Human ALDH7A1 shares slightly less than 60 \% amino-acid identity with plant ALDH7B ortho-logues. The high degree of identity suggests that orthologous proteins might metabolize the same physiological substrates; however, further studies will be needed to confirm this supposition.

Similar to other $A L D H$ gene families, ALDH7 proteins are highly conserved between individual plant species (Fig. 3c). Surprisingly, both algae analyzed in this study lack an $A L D H 7$ gene. It is uncertain whether the gene has been lost through evolutionary pressure or gene deletion within these species. Vitis vinifera and $P$. trichocarpa contain two $A L D H 7$ genes. Vitis vinifera $A L D H 7 B 4$ and $A L D H 7 D 1$ are located on chromosomes 11 and 9, respectively; the two genes share $\sim 57 \%$ sequence identity and $69 \%$ similarity. ALDH7D1 shares between 50 and $57 \%$ identity with other plant ALDH7B proteins. There is currently no information relating to the function or up-regulation of ALDH7D1 in plants.

## ALDH10 family

Members of the ALDH10 family are also known as amino-aldehyde dehydrogenases (AMADHs; EC 1.2.1.19) but also 4-aminobutyraldehyde dehydrogenases, 4guanidinobutyraldehyde dehydrogenases (EC 1.2.1.54) and also as betaine aldehyde dehydrogenases (BADHs; EC 1.2.1.8). This family has been studied in connection to polyamine catabolism i.e. deactivation of reactive and cytotoxic $\omega$-aminoaldehydes, such as 3-aminopropionaldehyde (APAL) or 4-aminobutyraldehyde (ABAL), which appear after oxidation of various polyamines by plant amine oxidases (Sebela et al. 2000). Their oxidation by AMADHs results in a formation of the nontoxic metabolites $\beta$-alanine and $\gamma$ aminobutyric acid (GABA). In recent years, studying the physiological aspects of plant AMADHs has become attractive for economic reasons as it has been shown that an $A M A D H$ gene mutation leads to the acetylation of free ABAL (or its cyclic form $\Delta^{1}$ pyrroline) and accumulation of 2-acetyl- $\Delta^{1}$-pyrroline, a potent flavor component conferring a fragrance to several rice varieties like Jasmine and Basmati or to soybean (Arikit et al. 2011; Bradbury et al. 2008).

Members of ALDH10 family have also been extensively studied for their role in stress responses and in the production of the osmoprotectant glycine betaine (GB). GB is a major cellular osmolyte and also acts as a molecular chaperone by helping to stabilize protein structure and function (Allakhverdiev et al. 2008). During drought conditions, GB synthesis and accumulation increase to counter the negative consequences of osmotic imbalance. With this respect, higher plants can be divided into GB-accumulating plants and nonaccumulating plants (Fitzgerald et al. 2009). Interestingly, both GB-accumulating and nonaccumulating plants contain $A L D H 10$ genes within their genomes, suggesting that the function of these enzymes may be multifaceted. Interestingly, many ALDH10 homologues show preference for aminoaldehyde substrates over betaine aldehyde (BAL). Numerous studies have shown that some ALDH10 isoforms act primarily as AMADHs by metabolizing ABAL, APAL and GBAL (Bradbury et al. 2008; Missihoun et al. 2011; Trossat et al. 1997; Tylichova et al. 2010; Wei et al. 2009). Also data on tomato and maize AMADHs show that all enzymes preferentially oxidize $\omega$-aminoaldehydes rather than BAL (Kopečný et al., unpublished). Nevertheless, there are several ALDH10 members like those from mangrove (Avicennia marina), amaranth (Amaranthus hypochondriacus) or spinach (Spinacia oleracea) showing high activity with BAL and they are referred to BADHs (Hibino et al. 2001; Incharoensakdi et al. 2000; Valenzuela-Soto and Munoz-Clares 1993). From this point of view, members of the ALDH10 family can be categorized into two groups: first one with low BADH activity and second one with high BADH activity. Mammalian genomes do not contain ALDH10 orthologues. In mammals, ALDH7 and ALDH9 are thought to be the primary GB- and $\gamma$-butyrobetaine-synthesizing enzymes (Brocker et al. 2010; Vaz et al. 2000).

ALDH10 genes identified within most plant species share a relatively high degree of sequence homology with one another and fall into the $A L D H 1 O A$ subfamily (Fig. 4a). The primitive plants, namely algae and mosses, analyzed herein each have a single $A L D H 10$ gene. The $A L D H 10$ gene identified in the unicellular algae $C$. reinhardtii is predicted to encode a protein that shares $\sim 72 \%$ sequence identity with the gene product identified in the colonial algae $V$. carteri and $\sim 60 \%$ identity with the other plant sequences, including those from higher plants. Because it shares on average $>60 \%$ identity with other plant $A L D H 10$ family members, the C. reinhardtii gene falls into the $A L D H 10 A$ subfamily.

Interestingly, the gene product from $V$. carteri shares significantly less homology with the other plant ALDH10 sequences. This gene therefore represents a new subfamily and was subsequently named $A L D H 10 C 1$. Vascular plants each have two $A L D H 10 A$ genes,
suggesting a duplication event sometime after these groups diverged. Evidence supporting a gene duplication event is noted in P. trichocarp. The two ALDH1OA genes identified in the P. trichocarp genome, $A L D H 10 A 8$ and $A L D H 10 A 9$, reside on different chromosomes but share common gene architecture within the surrounding chromosomal regions suggestive of a segmental duplication event (data not shown). There is also evidence that some plant species might carry more than two $A L D H 10$ genes. Namely maize genome reveals presence of three $A L D H 10$ genes. Two of them, ALDH1OA8 and ALDH1OA9 (also called $A M A D H 1 a$ and $A M A D H 1 b)$ are paralogs and clearly duplicated.

## ALDH11 family

The $A L D H 11$ gene family represents a group of cytosolic non-phosphorylating glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenases (GAPNs; EC 1.2.1.9). These enzymes catalyze the irreversible $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$-dependent oxidation of GAP to 3-phosphoglycerate and NADPH (Valverde et al. 1999). This reaction is required for the glycolytic 'bypass'' pathway unique to photosynthetic eukaryotes-including both plants and microalgae-which circumvents the first substrate level phosphorylation step of glycolysis (Plaxton 1996; Valverde et al. 1999). This reaction represents the main source of NADPH utilized for mannitol biosynthesis in many plant species (Gao and Loescher 2000).

Amino-acid sequence comparisons indicate a high degree of sequence homology within the ALDH11 gene family (Fig. 4b). All members are categorized into the ALDH11A subfamily with the exception of $V$. vinifera ALDH11B1 previously described by Zhang and coworkers. Interestingly, moss genomes have undergone an expansion in the number of ALDH11 genes. Physcomitrella patens and S. moellindorffii have five and six ALDH11 genes, respectively. It remains unclear why these species possess such a high number of these genes or why this would provide a selective advantage.

## ALDH12 family

ALDH12 genes encode $\Delta$-1-pyrroline-5-carboxylate dehydrogenases (P5CDH; EC 1.5.1.12). These enzymes play a key role in the degradation of proline (and also arginine) to glutamate. $A L D H 12$ gene is widely distributed in bacteria, fungi, plants and animals. A thoroughly studied Arabid-opsis P5CDH is localized in the mitochondrial matrix and its expression is induced by externally supplied proline but not by the osmotic stress (Deuschle et al. 2001, 2004; Kirch et al. 2005). The $p 5 c d h$ mutants are hypersensitive to proline, arginine and ornithine and it was hypothesized that accumulation of P5C is the causative agent of cell death induced by proline supply. Each plant species analyzed contains a single $A L D H 12$ gene. The predicted protein sequences exhibited $>60 \%$ identity and therefore belong to single subfamily, namely $A L D H 12 A$ (Fig. 5a). Such a high degree of conservation observed between evolution-arily distant species suggests that there must exist strong selective pressure to maintain gene function. For example, the single-celled algae $V$. carteri and the angiosperm $A$. thaliana express putative proteins that share $61 \%$ sequence identity and $74 \%$ sequence similarity.

## ALDH18 family

ALDH18 family contains $\Delta$-1-pyrroline-5-carboxylate synthetases (P5CSs; EC 1.2.1.41 and EC 2.7.2.11). ALDH18 genes represent the most phylogenetically distantly related ALDH family. These enzymes are bi-functional proteins that contain an $N$-terminal amino-acid kinase domain and a C-terminal aldehyde dehydrogenase domain. In mammals, ALDH18A1 facilitates ATP- and NADPH-dependent conversion of glutamate to pyrroline-5-carboxylate (P5C), which is subsequently converted to ornithine and used for de novo biosynthesis of proline and arginine (Marchitti et al. 2008). In many terrestrial plants, ALDH18 is
significantly up-regulated in response to dehydration (Yoshiba et al. 1997). ALDH18 upregulation is believed to increase proline synthesis and accumulation. Similar to betaine, proline represents one of the most common, compatible osmolytes in plants; proline accumulation also counters osmotic imbalances encountered during water stress.

The $A L D H 18$ gene is evolutionarily conserved and represented in all green plant species analyzed within this study (Fig. 5b). The $A L D H 18$ genes identified in C. rein-hardtii and $V$. carteri encode proteins that share $\sim 80 \%$ amino acid identity with each other but only $40 \%$ sequence identity with other family members indicating a degree of divergence between genes found in algae and terrestrial plants. Furthermore, a gene duplication event appears to have occurred in vascular plant genomes that is not found in the algae or moss species analyzed. A previous study identified a third $A L D H 18$ gene within the $Z$. mays genome (Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010). However, reading frame analysis indicates that the gene would translate a truncated 545-amino acid protein that lacks much of the aldehyde dehydrogenase domain and throws any physiological activity into question. Therefore, the gene identified as ALDH18B3 by Jimenez-Lopez et al. may represent a pseudogene, perhaps generated through partial gene duplication.

## ALDH21, 22, 23 and 24 families

The ALDH21, 22, 23 and 24 families represent relatively new additions to the $A L D H$ gene superfamily. To date, there is little information related to the physiological actions of these enzymes or to expression patterns and levels in plants.

A single $A L D H 21$ gene was found within the $S$. moellindorffii and $P$. patens genomes. Another study identified an ALDH21 homologue in the moss Tortula ruralis, suggesting that expression might be restricted to primitive terrestrial plants (Chen et al. 2002). These genes are predicted to encode proteins most closely related to the ALDH11 family members; thus perhaps ALDH11 and ALDH21 might have related origins.

The $A L D H 22$ gene family was recently identified, and little is known about specific substrate specificities (Fig. 5c). A recent study looking at the gene in $Z$. mays found ALDH22A1 up-regulation in response to a variety of stressors-including dehydration, high salinity and ABA treatment (Huang et al. 2008). They also found that transgenic overexpression of ALDH22A1 elevated stress tolerance. The group also identified the protein is localized to the plastid, whereas the ALDH22A1 protein in Arabidopsis is localized in cytosol (Kirch et al. 2005).

The ALDH23 and ALDH24 families are closely related and grouped phylogenetically. The chreALDH24A1 protein sequence shares $\sim 30 \%$ sequence identity with each of the three ALDH23 family members. Further research is needed in order to determine the function of these new families and the roles they play in plant homeostasis.

## Discussion and conclusion

Our understanding of how ALDH enzymes participate in plant homeostasis has greatly expanded in recent years. However, there are still areas that are relatively unexplored and warrant further investigation. The observation that many ALDH enzymes appear to play a primary role in abiotic stress-response pathways suggests that these enzymes represent an important target for increasing plant resistance to stressful conditions, such as elevated soil salinity or dehydration; which becomes especially important when developing stress-tolerant crops.

## Materials and methods

Amino-acid sequences for plant species were obtained from the Phytozome and NCBI websites. Phytozome.org is maintained by the Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute and the Center for Integrative Genomics (Goodstein et al. 2012).

Phytozome (v8.0) and NCBI utilized the following sequences for gene prediction analyses. Volvox carteri sequences were obtained from the Volvox v2.0 gene set, $8 \times$ genome assembly and annotation (Prochnik et al. 2010). Selaginella moellendorffii sequences originated from the v1.0 Dec 20, 2007 Filtered Models 3 annotation. Phytozome v8.0 includes the v1.6 gene annotation of $P$. patens (Lang et al. 2005; Rensing et al. 2005). Sequences include the annotation release 10 of the $A$. thaliana genome release 9 from the 'The Arabidopsis Information Resource (TAIR)' (Lamesch et al. 2012). Phytozome v8.0 features the v4.3 release of annotations for the C. reinhardtii genome and includes the Augustus update 10.2 (u10.2) annotation of JGI assembly v4.

The MSU Release 7.0 of the genome annotation of the Nipponbare/japonica subspecies of $O$. sativa was used for gene prediction (Ouyang et al. 2007). The 5b. 60 annotation (unfiltered working set) of the maize "B73" genome v2 produced by the Maize Genome Project was used for $Z$. mays gene prediction. Sorghum bicolor gene prediction was based on the v1.0 release that includes the Sbil assembly and Sbi1.4 gene set (Paterson et al. 2009). Finally, $V$. vinifera predictions on Phytozome.org were made using the $12 \times$ March 2010 release of the draft genome and annotation by the French-Italian Public Consortium for GrapevineGenome Characterization (Jaillon et al. 2007).

Multiple alignments were created using the ClustalW2 program (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ Tools/msa/clustalw2/). Phylogenetic trees were constructed using TreeIllustrator software (v0.52). Pairwise alignments of amino acid sequences were performed using EMBOSS global alignment software using the Needleman-Wunsch algorithm (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ Tools/psa/).

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Fig. 1.
Phylogenetic analysis of ALDH2 family members. Phylogram created using ALDH2 protein sequences and ClustalW2 multiple sequence alignment software. Tree edited using TreeIllustrator (v0.52) software. The prefixes 'arth' (Arabidopsis thaliana), 'chre' (Chlamydomonas reinhardtii), 'hosa' (Homo sapiens), 'orsa' (Oryza sativa), 'phpa' (Physcomitrella patens), 'potr' (Populus trichocarpa), 'semo' (Selaginella moellindorffii), 'sobi' (Sorghum bicolor), 'vivi’ (Vitis vinifera), 'voca' ( Volvox carteri) and 'zema' (Zea mays) are used for clarification when referring to ALDH proteins or genes found within different species


Fig. 2.
Phylogenetic analysis of ALDH3 family members. Creation of the phylogram, use of ClustalW2 multiple sequence alignment software, editing of the tree, and prefix abbreviations of genus and species are identical to that in Fig. 1


Fig. 3.
Phylogenetic analyses of ALDH5 (a), ALDH6 (b) and ALDH7 (c) family members. Creation of the phylogram, use of ClustalW2 multiple sequence alignment software, editing of the tree, and prefix abbreviations of genus and species are identical to that in Fig. 1


Fig. 4.
Phylogenetic analyses of ALDH10 (a) and ALDH11 (b) family members. Creation of the phylogram, use of ClustalW2 multiple sequence alignment software, editing of the tree, and prefix abbreviations of genus and species are identical to that in Fig. 1


Fig. 5.
Phylogenetic analyses of ALDH12 (a), ALDH18 (b) and ALDH22 (c) family members. Creation of the phylogram, use of ClustalW2 multiple sequence alignment software, editing of the tree, and prefix abbreviations of genus and species are identical to that in Fig. 1

| Species | ALIDH Family |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  |
| A. thaliana | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 16 |
| C. reinhardtii | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 9 |
| O. sativa | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 20 |
| P. patens | 2 | 5 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 5 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 21 |
| P. trichocarpa | 4 | 6 | - | 1 | 4 | 2 | - | - | 2 | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 26 |
| S. moellindorffii | 6 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 6 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 24 |
| S. bicolor | 5 | 4 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 19 |
| V. vinifera | 5 | 4 | - | 3 | 3 | 2 | - | - | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 25 |
| V. carteri | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 7 |
| Z. mays | 6 | 5 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 22 |
| H. sapiens | 7 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 |

Table 2
Genome information of analyzed plant species

| Species | Common name | Chrm number | Genome size (Mbp) | ALDH number |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Arabidopsis thaliana | Thale cress | 5 | 135 | 16 |
| Chlamydomonas reinhardtii | Unicellular green algae | ND | 112 | 9 |
| Oryza sativa | Asian rice | 12 | 372 | 20 |
| Physcomitrella patens | Moss | 27 | 480 | 21 |
| Populus trichocarpa | Black cottonwood | 19 | 403 | 26 |
| Selaginella moellindorffii | Gemmiferous Spikemoss | 27 | 100 | 24 |
| Sorghum bicolor | Sorghum | 10 | 660 | 19 |
| Vitis vinifera | Common grape vine | 19 | 300 | 25 |
| Volvox carteri | Colonial green algae | ND | 138 | 7 |
| Zea mays | Maize | 10 | 3,000 | 22 |
| Homo sapiens | Human | 23 | 3,000 | 19 |

$N D$ not determined
Table 3
Arabidopsis thaliana ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Chrm | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family 2 | ALDH2B4 | 823955 | ALDH2; ALDH2A; ALDH2B4 | NP_190383.1 | AT3G48000 | 3 | 11 | 538 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
|  | ALDH2B7 | 838991 | ALDH2B; F5O8.35; F5O8_35 | NP_564204.1 | AT1G23800 | 1 | 11 | 534 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Kirch et al. 2004 |
|  | ALDH2C4 | 822042 | ALDH1A; REF1 | NP_566749.1 | AT3G24503 | 3 | 9 | 501 | Kirch et al. 2004 |
| Family 3 | ALDH3F1 | 829782 | F23E13.140; F23E13_140 | NP_195348.2 | AT4G36250 | 4 | 9 | 484 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
|  | ALDH3H1 | 841020 | ALDH4; T7O23.15; T7O23_15 | NP_175081.1 | AT1G44170 | 1 | 10 | 484 | Kirch et al. 2004 |
|  | ALDH3I1 | 829573 | ALDH3; F10M10.10; F10M10_10 | NP_567962.1 | AT4G34240 | 4 | 11 | 550 | Kirch et al. 2004 |
| Family 5 | ALDH5F1 | 844282 | SSADH; SSADH1 | NP_178062.1 | AT1G79440 | 1 | 20 | 528 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B2 | 815903 | T22C12.10; T22C12_10 | NP_179032.1 | AT2G14170 | 2 | 19 | 607 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B4 | 841849 | F15I1.19; F15I1_19 | NP_175812.1 | AT1G54100 | 1 | 14 | 508 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 10 | ALDH1OA8 | 843831 | F25A4.11; F25A4_11 | NP_001185399.1 | AT1G74920 | 1 | 15 | 496 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
|  | ALDH10A9 | 823972 | - | NP_190400.1 | AT3G48170 | 3 | 15 | 503 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A3 | 816962 | F27D4.18; F27D4_18; NP-GAPDH | NP_001189589.1 | AT2G24270 | 2 | 9 | 496 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Kirch et al. 2004 |
| Family 12 | ALDH12A1 | 836373 | K19B1.14; K19B1_14; P5CDH | NP_568955.1 | AT5G62530 | 5 | 16 | 556 | Kirch et al. 2004 |
| Family 18 | ALDH18B1 | 818566 | ATP5CS; P5CS1; T5I7.10; T517_10 | NP_181510.1 | AT2G39800 | 2 | 20 | 717 | - |
|  | ALDH18B2 | 824727 | P5CS2 | NP_191120.2 | AT3G55610 | 3 | 20 | 726 | - |
| Family 22 | ALDH22A1 | 819849 | T8E24.4; T8E24_4 | NP_974242.1 | AT3G66658 | 3 | 14 | 596 | Kirch et al.2004 |

[^1]

[^2]Table 5
Oryza sativa ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Chrm | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family 2 | ALDH2BI | 4340725 | Os06g15990; OsALDH2-5; ALDH2b | NP_001057358.1 | LOC_Os06g15990 | 6 | 11 | 549 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH2B5 | 4330612 | Os02g49720; OsALDH2-4; ALDH2a | NP_001048010.1 | LOC_Os02g49720 | 2 | 9 | 553 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003, Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH2Cl | 4326375 | Os01g40860; OsALDH2-1; ALDH1a | NP_001043453.1 | LOC_Os01g40860 | 1 | 8 | 502 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003, Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH2C2 | 4326376 | Os01g40870; OsALDH2-2; ALDH1b | NP_001043454.1 | LOC_Os01g40870 | 1 | 9 | 507 | Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH2C3 | No entry | Os06g39230; OsALDH2-3; CU607043 | BAD32861.1 | LOC_Os06g39230 | 6 | 8 | 423 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 3 | ALDH3E1 | 4330146 | Os02g43194; OsALDH3-1 | NP_001047575.1 | LOC_Os02g43194 | 2 | 10 | 487 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003, Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH3E2 | 4336538 | Os04g45720; OsALDH3-3 | NP_001053442.1 | LOC_Os04g45720 | 4 | 9 | 499 | Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH3E3 | 4330149 | Os02g43280; OsALDH3-2 | NP_001047578.1 | LOC_Os02g43280 | 2 | 10 | 491 | Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH3H1 | No entry | Os12g07810; OsALDH3-5 | ABA96616.1 | LOC_Os12g07810 | 12 | 10 | 484 | Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH3H2 | 4349966 | Os11g08300; OsALDH3-4 | NP_001065921.1 | LOC_Os11g08300 | 11 | 10 | 482 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 5 | ALDHSFI | No entry | OsI_06045; Os02g07760; OsALDH5; CU606989 | B9F3B6.1 | LOC_Os02g07760 | 20 | 2 | 527 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B1 | 4342610 | Os07g09060; OsALDH6 | NP_001059082.1 | LOC_Os07g09060 | 7 | 19 | 534 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B6 | 4347172 | Os09g26880; OsALDH7 | NP_001063281.1 | LOC_Os09g26880 | 9 | 14 | 509 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 10 | ALDHIOA5 | 4336081 | Os04g 39020; OsALDH10-1; BADH | NP_001053016.1 | LOC_Os04g39020 | 4 | 15 | 505 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDHIOA9 | 4345606 | Os08g32870; OsALDH10-2 | NP_001061833.1 | LOC_Os08g32870 | 8 | 15 | 503 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A3 | 4345685 | Os08g34210; OsALDH11 | NP_001061905.1 | LOC_Os08g34210 | 8 | 9 | 499 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 12 | ALDH12AI | 4339448 | Os05g45960; OsALDH12 | EEE64501.1 | No entry | Un | Un | 716 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 18 | ALDH18BI | 4338979 | Os05g38150;OsALDH18-2; P5CS; BAA19916 | NP_001055723.1 | LOC_Os05g38150 | 5 | 19 | 716 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003; Gao and Han 2009 |
|  | ALDH18B2 | 4324853 | Os01g62900; OsALDH18-1 | NP_001044802.1 | LOC_Os01g62900 | 1 | 20 | 735 | Gao and Han 2009 |
| Family 22 | ALDH22AI | 4344358 | Os07g48920; OsALDH22 | NP_001060704.1 | LOC_Os07g48920 | 7 | 14 | 597 | Gao and Han 2009 |

[^3]Physcomitrella patens ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information
Populus trichocarpa ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI Gene ID | Other names/aliases | NCBI Protein ID | Phytozome ID | Chrm | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family 2 | ALDH2B4 | 7483487 | Pt-ALDH1.2; POPTRDRAFT_823362 | XP_002318034.1 | POPTR_0012s08010 | 12 | 11 | 536 | - |
|  | ALDH2B6 | 7453761 | Pt-ALDH1.3; POPTRDRAFT_666446 | XP_002321583.1 | POPTR_0015s08540 | 15 | 11 | 542 | - |
|  | ALDH2B7 | 7481430 | Pt-ALDH2.1; POPTRDRAFT_830473 | XP_002301540.1 | POPTR_0002s19060 | 2 | 11 | 540 | - |
|  | ALDH2C4 | 7458755 | Pt-REF1.1; POPTRDRAFT_809215 | XP_002324977.1 | POPTR_0018s06060 | 18 | 9 | 497 | - |
| Family 3 | ALDH3FI | 7480157 | Pt-ALDH3.2; POPTRDRAFT_832403 | XP_002310836.1 | POPTR_0007s13650 | 7 | 10 | 480 | - |
|  | ALDH3HI | 7460961 | Pt-ALDH3.3; POPTRDRAFT_831510 | XP_002306641.1 | POPTR_0005s20150 | 5 | 10 | 488 | - |
|  | ALDH3H4 | 7466457 | Pt-ALDH3.1; POPTRDRAFT_754562 | XP_002302229.1 | POPTR_0002s08230 | 2 | 10 | 488 | - |
|  | ALDH3H5 | 7471422 | POPTRDRAFT_928126 | XP_002330375.1 | POPTR_0001s42150 | 1 | 10 | 458 | - |
|  | ALDH3H6 | 7479170 | POPTRDRAFT_861574 | XP_002307060.1 | POPTR_0005s07090 | 5 | 10 | 488 | - |
|  | ALDH3JI | 7480051 | POPTRDRAFT_706284 | XP_002298405.1 | POPTR_0001s26630 | 1 | 10 | 472 | - |
| Family 5 | ALDH5F1 | 7481606 | Pt-ALDH5.2; POPTRDRAFT_1091519 | XP_002315079.1 | POPTR_0010s18120 | 10 | 20 | 536 | - |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B3 | 7478778 | Pt-ALDH6.4; POPTRDRAFT_202375 | XP_002313217.1 | POPTR_0009s08220 | 9 | 17 | 496 | - |
|  | ALDH6B4 | 7487827 | Pt-ALDH6.5; POPTRDRAFT_846793 | XP_002300008.1 | POPTR_0001s28990 | 1 | 17 | 497 | - |
|  | ALDH6B5 | 7478777 | POPTRDRAFT_1087520 | XP_002313216.1 | POPTR_0009s08230 | 9 | 17 | 506 | - |
|  | ALDH6B7 | 7476429 | - | XP_002307307.1 | No entry | 5 | 17 | 496 | - |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B4 | 7477690 | Pt-ALDH7.2; POPTRDRAFT_853157 | XP_002304124.1 | POPTR_0003s06570 | 3 | 14 | 516 | - |
|  | ALDH7B5 | 7460180 | Pt-ALDH7.1; POPTRDRAFT_745820 | XP_002331178.1 | POPTR_0001s16730 | 1 | 14 | 508 | - |
| Family 10 | ALDHIOAS | 7484775 | Pt-ALDH10.1; POPTRDRAFT_661953 | XP_002318630.1 | POPTR_0012s07730 | 12 | 15 | 503 | - |
|  | ALDHIOA9 | 7462540 | Pt-ALDH10.2; POPTRDRAFT_666405 | XP_002322147.1 | POPTR_0015s08190 | 15 | 15 | 503 | - |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A3 | 7493404 | Pt-ALDH11.1; POPTRDRAFT_578767 | XP_002325142.1 | POPTR_0018s11820 | 18 | 9 | 496 | - |
|  | ALDH11A4 | 7485231 | Pt-ALDH11.2; POPTRDRAFT_717030 | XP_002308391.1 | POPTR_0006s20090 | 6 | 9 | 496 | - |
|  | ALDH11A5 | 7458414 | POPTRDRAFT_912477 | XP_002324322.1 | POPTR_0018s02400 | 18 | 9 | 498 | - |
| Family 12 | ALDH12AI | 7491541 | Pt-FIS1.3; POPTRDRAFT_581353 | XP_002330119.1 | POPTR_0015s07550 | 15 | 16 | 566 | - |
| Family 18 | ALDH18B1 | 7490371 | Pt-P5CS.1; POPTRDRAFT_833794 | XP_002315202.1 | POPTR_0010s20590 | 10 | 20 | 719 | - |
|  | ALDH18B2 | No entry | - | No entry | POPTR_0008s06060 | $8^{a}$ | $19^{a}$ | 691 | - |
| Family 22 | ALDH22AI | 7471107 | Pt-ALDH22.1; POPTRDRAFT_820566 | XP_002312334.1 | POPTR_0008s10550 | 8 | 14 | 594 | - |

Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries unless specified
${ }^{a}$ Exon and amino acid figures obtained from Phytozome entry

Selaginella moellindorffii ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Scaffold | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family 2 | ALDH2D1 | 9657137 | - | XP_002977953.1 | 268124 | 35 | 10 | 491 | - |
|  | ALDH2B2 | 9632783 | - | XP_002961274.1 | 164447 | 0 | $11^{a}$ | $500^{\text {a }}$ | - |
|  | ALDH2B4 | 9633073 | - | XP_002961352.1 | 266598 | 0 | 10 | 491 | - |
|  | ALDH2B1 | 9635245 | - | XP_002982106.1 | 233921 | 52 | 10 | 495 | - |
|  | ALDH2B3 | 9631989 | - | XP_002970420.1 | 231526 | 14 | 10 | 488 | - |
|  | ALDH2D2 | 9657142 | - | XP_002977958.1 | 233053 | 35 | 10 | 491 | - |
| Family 3 | ALDH3H1 | 9652402 | - | XP_002966639.1 | 227647 | 7 | 10 | 479 | - |
|  | ALDH3H2 | 9652527 | - | XP_002966702.1 | 168397 | 7 | 10 | 480 | - |
| Family 5 | ALDH5FI | 9656931 | - | XP_002961441.1 | 230009 | 1 | 19 | 499 | - |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B1 | 9636001 | - | XP_002965586.1 | 407088 | 6 | 19 | 557 | - |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B4 | 9642264 | - | XP_002961173.1 | 164276 | 0 | 14 | 511 | - |
| Family 10 | ALDHIOAI | 9658015 | - | XP_002974519.1 | 174224 | 24 | 15 | 503 | - |
| Family 11 | ALDH11AI | 9643335 | - | XP_002962724.1 | 79174 | 2 | 9 | 540 | - |
|  | ALDH11A2 | 9643415 | - | XP_002963205.1 | 80113 | 3 | 9 | 553 | - |
|  | ALDH11A3 | 9637846 | - | XP_002974975.1 | 232458 | 26 | $10^{a}$ | $497{ }^{\text {a }}$ | - |
|  | ALDH11A4 | 9630484 | - | XP_002961562.1 | 77620 | 1 | 10 | 497 | - |
|  | ALDH11A5 | 9655811 | - | XP_002960309.1 | 75347 | 0 | 8 | 497 | - |
|  | ALDH11A6 | 9655302 | - | XP_002963773.1 | 270375 | 3 | 9 | 497 | - |
| Family 12 | ALDH12AI | 9650766 | - | XP_002968656.1 | 90262 | 11 | 15 | 526 | - |
| Family 18 | ALDHI8BI | 9646044 | - | XP_002970003.1 | 410685 | 13 | $20^{a}$ | $771{ }^{\text {a }}$ | - |
| Family 21 | ALDH21AI | 9657643 | - | XP_002981136.1 | 420552 | 47 | 8 | 481 | - |
| Family 22 | ALDH22AI | 9660395 | - | XP_002979353.1 | 110267 | 40 | 14 | 586 | - |
| Family 23 | ALDH23B1 | 9657190 | - | XP_002977683.1 | 443623 | 35 | 16 | 494 | - |
|  | ALDH23B2 | 9657189 | - | XP_002977682.1 | 417609 | 35 | 16 | 480 | - |

Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries unless specified

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/ aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Chrm | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family 2 | ALDH2B1 | No entry | - | BAB92019.1 | Sb10g009790 | 10 | 11 | 556 | - |
|  | ALDH2B5 | No entry | - | BAB92018.1 | Sb04g029040 | 4 | 9 | 551 | - |
|  | ALDH2CI | No entry | - | No entry | Sb03g026550 | 3 | 7 | 501 | - |
|  | ALDH2C2 | 8082171 | - | XP_002455869.1 | Sb03g026570 | 3 | 7 | 504 | - |
|  | ALDH2C3 | 8065048 | - | XP_002437214.1 | Sb10g023000 | 10 | 6 | 520 | - |
| Family 3 | ALDH3E1 | 8078880 | - | XP_002452841.1 | Sb04g033420 | 4 | 9 | 486 | - |
|  | ALDH3E2 | 8083334 | - | XP_002448250.1 | Sb06g023975 | 6 | 6 | 319 | - |
|  | ALDH3H1 | 8079901 | - | XP_002441918.1 | Sb08g004840 | 8 | 10 | 487 | - |
|  | ALDH3H2 | 8079744 | - | XP_002449124.1 | Sb05g005470 | 5 | 10 | 478 | - |
| Family 5 | ALDH5F1 | No entry | - | No entry | Sb04g004920 | $4^{a}$ | $20^{a}$ | 527 | - |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B1 | 8075050 | - | XP_002459473.1 | Sb02g005200 | 2 | 19 | 540 | - |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B2 | 8080995 | - | XP_002462451.1 | Sb02g025790 | 2 | 14 | 509 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 10 | ALDH10A1 | 8057487 | - | AAC49268 | Sb06g019200 | 6 | 9 | 494 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
|  | ALDH10A9 | 8075627 | - | XP_002444357.1 | Sb07g020650 | 7 | 15 | 505 | - |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A3 | 8080604 | - | XP_002444416.1 | Sb07g021630 | 7 | 9 | 498 | - |
| Family 12 | ALDH12A1 | 8068986 | - | XP_002441445.1 | Sb09g026810 | 9 | 15 | 549 | - |
| Family 18 | ALDH18B2 | No entry | - | ACU65226.1 | Sb03g039820 | 3 | 21 | 729 | - |
|  | ALDH18B1 | No entry | - | ACU65227.1 | Sb09g022290 | 9 | 20 | 716 | - |
| Family 22 | ALDH22A1 | 8077508 | - | XP_002463429.1 | Sb02g043660 | 2 | 14 | 593 | - |

Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries unless specified
${ }^{a}$ Exon and amino acid figures obtained from Phytozome entry

## Vitis vinifera ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

Table 11
Volvox carteri ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/ aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Scaffold | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family 2 | ALDH2E1 | 9621060 | - | XP_002948098.1 | 73567 | 6 | 8 | 528 | - |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B1 | 9618616 | - | XP_002949543.1 | 59269 | 18 | 11 | 524 | - |
| Family 10 | ALDH1OC1 | 9620250 | - | XP_002947147.1 | 73155 | 4 | 10 | 503 | - |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A1 | 9617583 | - | XP_002946341.1 | 56054 | 1 | 7 | 497 | - |
| Family 12 | ALDH12A1 | 9623193 | - | XP_002958122.1 | 69010 | 37 | 10 | 550 | - |
| Family 18 | ALDH18D1 | 9625062 | - | XP_002954612.1 | 65082 | 14 | 16 | 661 | - |
| Family 22 | ALDH22B1 | 9628231 | - | XP_002958773.1 | 84639 | 1 | 13 | 529 | - |

[^4]Table 12
Zea mays ALDH superfamily: unified nomenclature and gene information

| Family | Gene name | NCBI gene ID | Other names/aliases | NCBI protein ID | Phytozome ID | Chrm | Exon \# | AA \# | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family 2 | ALDH2B2 | 732806 | ALDH2B1 ${ }^{b} ;$ ZmALDH2B1; rf2a | NP_001105891.1 | GRMZM2G058675 | 9 | 11 | 549 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH2B5 | 542567 | ALDH2B6 ${ }^{6}$; ZmALDH2B5; rf2b; ac182825.4 | NP_001105576.1 | GRMZM2G125268 | 4 | 9 | 550 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH2Cl | 541913 | ALDH2C2 ${ }^{\text {b }}$; ZmALDH 2 Cla ; rf2c | NP_001105046.1 | GRMZM2G071021 | 3 | 7 | 503 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH2C2 | 541914 | ALDH2C3 ${ }^{b}$; ALDHRF2D; rf2d; rf2d1; ALDH5; ZmALDH2C1b | NP_001105047.1 | GRMZM2G097706 | 3 | 8 | 511 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH2C4 | No entry | rf2e | No entry | GRMZM2G380438G | $8^{a}$ | $8^{a}$ | $324{ }^{\text {c }}$ | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  |  |  |  |  | RMZM2G407949 |  |  |  |  |
|  | ALDH2C5 | No entry | rf2f | No entry | GRMZM2G122172 | $6^{a}$ | $8^{a}$ | 516 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 3 | ALDH3E1 | 100280692 | ZmALDH3E1 | NP_001147083.1 | GRMZM2G169458 | 5 | 10 | 485 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH3E2 | 100284774 | ZmALDH3E2 | NP_001151141.1 | GRMZM2G155502 | 10 | 9 | 489 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH3H1 | 100285809 | ZmALDH3H1 | NP_001152171.1 | GRMZM2G103546 | 10 | 10 | 491 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH3H2 | 100281700 | ZmALDH3H2 | NP_001148092.1 | GRMZM2G060800 | 4 | 10 | 481 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH3H3 | 100382449 | ZmALDH3H3 | NP_001168661.1 | GRMZM2G118800 | 2 | 10 | 478 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 5 | ALDHSFI | 100280779 | ZmALDH5F1 | NP_001147173.1 | GRMZM2G128114 | 5 | 20 | 493 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH5F2 | 100284047 | ZmALDH5F2 | NP_001150417.1 | GRMZM2G119482 | 4 | 20 | 527 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 6 | ALDH6B1 | 100274311 | ZmALDH6B1 | NP_001142146.1 | GRMZM2G001898 | 7 | 13 | 537 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 7 | ALDH7B6 | 100282748 | ZmALDH7B6 | NP_001149126.1 | GRMZM2G130440 | 2 | 14 | 509 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 10 | ALDHIOAS | 541949 | ZmALDH10A5; AMADH2 | ACS74868.1 | GRMZM2G135470 | 10 | 15 | 506 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDHIOAS | 100302679 | ZmALDH10A8; AMADH1a | ACS74867.1 | GRMZM2G013214 | 4 | 15 | 505 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  |  |  |  |  | GRMZM2G146754 |  |  |  |  |
|  | ALDHIOA9 | No entry | ZmALDH10A9; AMADH1b | AEP68091.1 | GRMZM2G016189 | 1 | 15 | 506 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 11 | ALDH11A3 | 542583 | ZmALDH11A3 | NP_001105589.1 | GRMZM2G035268 | 4 | 9 | 498 | Sophos and Vasiliou 2003 |
| Family 12 | ALDHI2AI | No entry | ZmALDH12A1 | AAL70108.1 | GRMZM2G090087 | 6 | 15 | 549 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 18 | ALDH18B2 | 100280719 | ZmALDH18B2 | NP_001147111.1 | GRMZM2G028535 | 8 | 21 | 731 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
|  | ALDH18BI | No entry | ZmALDH18B1 | ACR33941.1 | GRMZM2G375504 | 8 | 20 | 717 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |
| Family 22 | ALDH22AI | 100125658 | ZmALDH22A1; AC212124.5 | NP_001106059.1 | GRMZM2G135341 | 7 | 15 | 593 | Jimenez-Lopez et al. 2010 |

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    Correspondence to: Vasilis Vasiliou, vasilis.vasiliou@ucdenver.edu
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[^1]:    Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries

[^2]:    Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries unless specified
    ${ }^{a}$ Exon and amino acid figures obtained from phytozome entry

[^3]:    Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries Un undetermined

[^4]:    Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries

[^5]:    Exon and amino acid figures obtained from NCBI entries unless specified

