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3 MAPK-directed activation of the whitefly transcription factor *CREB* leads to P450-  
4 mediated imidacloprid resistance

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33 **Abstract**

34 The evolution of insect resistance to pesticides poses a continuing threat to agriculture and  
35 human health. While much is known about the proximate molecular and biochemical  
36 mechanisms that confer resistance far less is known about the regulation of the specific  
37 genes/gene families involved, particularly by *trans*-acting factors such as signal-regulated  
38 transcription factors. Here we resolve in fine detail the *trans*-regulation of *CYP6CM1*, a  
39 cytochrome P450 that confers resistance to neonicotinoid insecticides in the whitefly, *Bemisia*  
40 *tabaci*, by the mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK)-directed activation of the transcription  
41 factor *cAMP-response element binding protein (CREB)*. Reporter gene assays were used to  
42 identify the putative promoter of *CYP6CM1*, but no consistent polymorphisms were observed  
43 in the promoter of a resistant strain of *B. tabaci* (IMR), that overexpresses this gene,  
44 compared to a susceptible strain (IMS). Investigation of potential *trans*-acting factors using *in*  
45 *vitro* and *in vivo* assays demonstrated that the bZIP transcription factor *CREB* directly  
46 regulates *CYP6CM1* expression by binding to a cAMP-response element (CRE)-like site in  
47 the promoter of this gene. *CREB* is overexpressed in the IMR strain and inhibitor, luciferase,  
48 and RNA interference assays revealed that a signaling pathway of MAPKs mediates the  
49 activation of *CREB*, and thus the increased expression of *CYP6CM1*, by phosphorylation-  
50 mediated signal transduction. Collectively, these results provide new mechanistic insights into  
51 the regulation of xenobiotic responses in insects, and implicate both the MAPK signaling  
52 pathway and a novel transcription factor in the development of pesticide resistance.

53

54 **Key Words**

55 Cytochrome P450, CREB, MAPK, Neonicotinoid insecticide, Insecticide resistance

56

57 **Significance statement**

58 Most studies of pesticide resistance have focused on the identification and functional analysis  
59 of resistance genes, but few studies have considered the signaling pathways involved in their  
60 regulation. In this work, we discovered that overexpression of a P450 that confers resistance  
61 to neonicotinoid insecticides in whitefly is *trans*-regulated by the transcription factor *CREB*.  
62 Further studies demonstrated that exposure to neonicotinoid insecticides activates a key  
63 pathway involved in the cellular response to extracellular signals, the MAPK signaling  
64 pathway, that activates *CREB* by phosphorylation. *CREB* then binds to a specific site on the  
65 promoter of *CYP6CM1* resulting in its increased expression. These findings reveal new  
66 mechanisms underlying the regulation of P450-mediated pesticide resistance, and also  
67 provide a potential target for pest control.

68

69 **Introduction**

70 Insect resistance to synthetic insecticides is an ongoing challenge to sustainable pest  
71 management while also an exceptional model system to study adaptive evolution. Work on  
72 this topic has provided a range of insights into the genomic and transcriptomic changes that  
73 occur in response to strong selective pressures. One such molecular alteration frequently  
74 implicated in resistant insect populations is increased production of metabolic enzymes that  
75 detoxify or sequester insecticides before they reach the target-site. A key enzyme system in  
76 this regard is insect cytochrome P450s (P450s), which play a central role in the metabolism of  
77 a wide range of natural and synthetic xenobiotics including insecticides (1, 2). The increased  
78 production of P450s in insecticide resistant insects has been shown to most commonly result  
79 from gene duplication/amplification, or from mutations in *cis*-acting promoter sequences (3–6).  
80 In contrast evidence for *trans*-acting factors regulating resistance-associated P450s comes  
81 from just a handful of studies (7-10).

82 Control of gene expression in *trans* is most commonly mediated by transcription factors,  
83 and regulation of genes involved in the metabolism of xenobiotics has been shown to involve  
84 several superfamilies, including basic leucine zipper (bZIP), basic-helix-loop-helix/Per-ARNT-  
85 Sim (bHLH-PAS), and nuclear receptors (10-12). Well characterized examples in mammals  
86 are the human steroid and xenobiotic receptor (SXR) and constitutive androstane receptor  
87 (CAR) which appear to function in a partially redundant manner in regulating a range of phase  
88 I and phase II detoxification enzymes (13). In insects, much less is known about the  
89 transcription factors that regulate the response to xenobiotics with much of our understanding  
90 stemming from work on *Drosophila melanogaster*. In this species the nuclear receptor *DHR96*  
91 and the bZIP factor *Cap n collar isoform C (CncC)* have been shown to play key roles in the  
92 regulation of xenobiotic responses, in part by modulating P450 transcription (14, 15). Much  
93 less is known about the role of transcription factors in the xenobiotic response of non-model  
94 insect species, however, recent work has also implicated *CncC*, and the bZIP factor small  
95 *muscle aponeurosis fibromatosis (maf)*, in the overexpression of P450 genes involved in  
96 insecticide resistance in several crop pest species and disease vectors (7-9). Taken together  
97 these studies suggest members of the bZIP superfamily may play a central role in regulating  
98 the transcriptional response of insects to xenobiotics. A further member of this superfamily,  
99 *CREB* is involved in wide ranging processes including glucose homeostasis, growth factor-  
100 dependent cell survival, nervous system development, learning, memory, synaptic plasticity,  
101 and drug adaptive responses (16). In insects *CREB* has also been shown to play a role in  
102 diverse processes including long-term memory formation, waking and rest homeostasis,  
103 starvation resistance, age-dependent labor division and environment-induced behavioral  
104 plasticity (17-21). However, the role of *CREB* in regulating detoxification enzymes in the  
105 context of insect resistance to insecticides has never been explored.

106 Transcription factors such as *CREB* may be themselves regulated by activity-inducible  
107 kinases such as MAPKs, components of signaling cascades that respond to extracellular  
108 stimuli such as environmental stress. MAPKs have been extensively studied and a wealth of

109 information is available from a variety of vertebrates (22) and invertebrates, including *D.*  
110 *melanogaster*, *Caenorhabditis elegans*, and *Anopheles gambiae* (23–25). Three classical  
111 kinase subfamilies have been described: extracellular signal-regulated kinases (ERKs), c-Jun  
112 N-terminal kinases (JNKs), and p38 kinases (22). To date, the role of the MAPK signaling  
113 pathway in the regulation of P450 genes associated with insecticide resistance is essentially  
114 unknown, however, a *MAP4K4* gene has recently been shown to alter the expression of  
115 genes involved in resistance to *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry1Ac toxin in diamondback moth,  
116 *Plutella xylostella* (26).

117 The sweet potato whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci*, is a highly destructive pest of many protected  
118 and field crops worldwide that causes damage via direct feeding and as a vector of more than  
119 100 plant viruses (27). Control of *B. tabaci* has largely relied on the use of synthetic  
120 insecticides with members of the neonicotinoid class, such as imidacloprid, particularly widely  
121 used. As a result, imidacloprid resistance has been widely reported in the two most  
122 economically important species of the *B. tabaci* complex from a range of geographical origins  
123 worldwide, and linked to the overexpression of a single P450 gene, *CYP6CM1* (28, 29).  
124 Subsequent functional analyses have demonstrated the capacity of the encoded enzyme to  
125 catalyze the hydroxylation of imidacloprid and other insecticides (30, 31). Despite the  
126 importance and global distribution of this mechanism the molecular basis for *CYP6CM1*  
127 overexpression in neonicotinoid resistant strains has never been elucidated. In the present  
128 study we investigated the factors that regulate the expression of *CYP6CM1* and lead to the  
129 development of resistance to imidacloprid in *B. tabaci*.

130

## 131 **Results**

### 132 **Imidacloprid resistance in the IMR strain of *B. tabaci* is conferred by overexpression of** 133 ***CYP6CM1* not mutation of the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (nAChR).**

134 A strain of *B. tabaci* MED collected in the field was split into two cultures and maintained  
135 under selection with 2.0 mM imidacloprid for more than 30 generations to form the IMR strain,  
136 or left unexposed to insecticides to form the IMS strain. At the time of this study the IMR strain  
137 exhibited 23-fold resistance to imidacloprid in comparison to the IMS strain (*SI Appendix*,  
138 Table S2). To examine if the resistance of the IMR strain was associated with mutation of the  
139 imidacloprid target site, the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (nAChR), nine nAChR subunit  
140 genes (eight  $\alpha$  subunits and one  $\beta$  subunit genes) present in the genome of *B. tabaci* were  
141 cloned and sequenced from the IMR and IMS strains. No non-synonymous mutations were  
142 observed in the sequences obtained that consistently distinguish the two strains (Dataset S4),  
143 thus target-site insensitivity plays no role in the resistance of the IMR strain. As detailed in the  
144 introduction, the primary mechanism of metabolic resistance to imidacloprid in *B. tabaci*  
145 worldwide is enhanced expression of the P450 *CYP6CM1*. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) was  
146 therefore used to assess the expression of *CYP6CM1* in the two strains, and revealed 10-fold  
147 greater expression of this P450 gene in the IMR strain than in the IMS strain (Fig. 1A). To  
148 confirm that this translated to altered expression of the encoded enzyme we used a rabbit

149 polyclonal antibody raised against a synthetic peptide of CYP6CM1 in western blot to show  
150 that the CYP6CM1 protein is expressed at higher levels in every developmental stage of the  
151 IMR strain than in the IMS strain (Fig. 1B, *SI Appendix*, S3E). To demonstrate the causal role  
152 of *CYP6CM1* in the imidacloprid resistance of the IMR strain, RNA interference (RNAi) was  
153 used to knockdown its expression and the effect of this on the lifespan of imidacloprid-treated  
154 adults of the IMR strain examined. After 48 h of feeding on a diet containing dsRNA specific  
155 for *CYP6CM1* the mRNA levels of this gene decreased by 49.7% (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S3A).  
156 Knockdown of *CYP6CM1* significantly decreased the lifespan of IMR adult whiteflies, relative  
157 to the control (fed *EGFP* dsRNA), when adults were treated with imidacloprid at 0.4 mM  
158 (median survival -23 h,  $p=2.05 \times 10^{-147}$ , Fig. 1C) or at 2.0 mM (median survival -9 h,  $p=1.44 \times$   
159  $10^{-52}$ , *SI Appendix*, Fig. S6A, S8A, Dataset S1). In contrast, no significant shift was seen in  
160 the sensitivity of the IMS strain after *CYP6CM1* knockdown. Together these results  
161 demonstrate that reducing *CYP6CM1* mRNA level is sufficient to decrease the resistance of  
162 the IMR strain to imidacloprid.

163 ***CYP6CM1* promoter analysis.** To identify the putative promoter of *CYP6CM1*, a series of  
164 constructs comprising eleven different regions upstream of the gene (-235 to +1, -458 to +1, -  
165 570 to +1, -702 to +1, -761 to +1, -812 to +1, -865 to +1, -920/ to +1, -939 to +1, -968 to +1,  
166 and -1196 to +1) were created, and the ability of each of these to drive expression of a  
167 reporter gene assessed using dual luciferase reporter assays. The construct containing the  
168 region -939 to +1 (pGL4.10-CYP6CM1<sup>-939 to +1</sup>) showed the most pronounced expression  
169 (14.3-fold higher than the reference reporter plasmid) of the reporter suggesting that the  
170 promoter is located in this region, with particularly important elements located between -920  
171 and -939 bp (Fig. 2A).

172 ***CYP6CM1* overexpression is not associated with polymorphisms in cis-acting  
173 promoter elements.** In the first study of *CYP6CM1* overexpression in *B. tabaci* SNPs were  
174 identified in a non-coding region of the gene that associate with imidacloprid resistance  
175 suggesting *CYP6CM1* may be regulated by *cis*-acting factors (28). To investigate if  
176 polymorphisms within the promoter of *CYP6CM1* are associated with its overexpression in the  
177 IMR strain the promoter region defined above, along with 6 kb upstream of this region, was  
178 PCR amplified and sequenced in 6 pools of DNA extracted from the IMR and IMS strains.  
179 While single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were observed at certain positions in the  
180 sequences obtained, no consistent polymorphisms were observed between sequences of the  
181 two strains (Dataset S2). This finding indicates that the increased expression of *CYP6CM1* in  
182 the IMR strain does not result from *cis*-acting elements in the promoter of this gene or in  
183 upstream enhancers within 6 kb.

184 **The bZIP transcription factor CREB mediates *CYP6CM1* expression.** Transcription factors  
185 that sense xenobiotic stress are known as xenobiotic sensors and we hypothesized that one  
186 or more of these factors may be involved in regulating *CYP6CM1*. Based on an extensive  
187 literature search we selected 16 transcription factors with potential roles in xenobiotic stress  
188 response from the recently sequenced genome of *B. tabaci* (detailed information on these

189 transcription factors is provided in Dataset S3). To explore if any of these regulate *CYP6CM1*  
190 expression, the 16 transcription factors were individually cloned into the pAC5.1b expression  
191 vector and co-transfected into S2 cells with pGL4.10-CYP6CM1S<sup>-939 to +1</sup>. The successful  
192 expression of these transcription factors in S2 cells was confirmed using QPCR (*SI Appendix*,  
193 Fig. S3F). In reporter gene assays a marked (5.98-fold) and significant ( $p=1.49 \times 10^{-7}$ )  
194 increase in expression driven by the *CYP6CM1* promoter was only observed in combination  
195 with the construct expressing the transcription factor *CREB* (Fig. 2B). In a follow-on  
196 experiment, *CREB* expression also significantly ( $p=0.022$ ) increased reporter expression  
197 driven by the *CYP6CM1* promoter in HEK293T cells (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S3B).

198 The full-length gene that encodes *CREB* in *B. tabaci* contains an 846-bp ORF encoding  
199 282 amino acid residues with high pairwise amino acid similarity to members of the *CREB*  
200 family from other organisms. The deduced amino acid sequence of the protein includes  
201 important conserved domains common to the bZIP family including a basic leucine zipper  
202 DNA-binding and dimerization domain (bZIP) and a central kinase-inducible domain (KID)  
203 which interacts with protein kinases (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S1). To investigate the importance of  
204 these domains in activating the promoter of *CYP6CM1* two mutated forms of *CREB*, CREB-  
205 DN1, which lacks the KID domain, and CREB-DN2, which lacks the bZIP domain, were  
206 created and co-transfected into S2 cells with pGL4.10-CYP6CM1<sup>-939 to +1</sup>. As shown in Fig. 2C,  
207 expression of either CREB-DN1 or CREB-DN2 significantly (DN1:  $p=1.05 \times 10^{-4}$ , DN2:  $p=9.81$   
208  $\times 10^{-7}$ ) reduced the activity of the *CYP6CM1* promoter compared to the control (pAC5.1b-  
209 CREB). Interestingly, in assays with CREB-DN1 reporter gene expression remained  
210 significantly ( $p=9.43 \times 10^{-5}$ ) higher than that of the negative control (pAC5.1b empty vector)  
211 whereas expression driven by CREB-DN2 was no different to the negative control. Thus  
212 these findings reveal that both the KID and bZIP domains are important for *CYP6CM1*  
213 promoter activation *in vitro* with the latter essential.

214 *CREB* stimulates target gene expression at promoters that contain cAMP response  
215 elements (CREs) (32). These typically appear as either palindromic sequences (TGACGTCA)  
216 or half-site sequences (TGACG or CGTCA). Significantly, the promoter region of *CYP6CM1*  
217 contains a CRE half-site-like sequence TGATTG between positions -930 and -926bp, which  
218 we identified as containing elements of major effect on gene expression. When this site was  
219 disrupted a significant decrease was observed in reporter gene expression driven by the  
220 mutant *CYP6CM1* promoter suggesting this region is important for CREB binding (*SI*  
221 *Appendix*, Fig. S2). To investigate this further a DNA probe of the region -920 to -968bp  
222 encompassing this site was produced, and the CREB protein expressed in *E. coli* cells and  
223 purified. Purified CREB protein and the DNA probe were then used in electrophoretic mobility  
224 shift assays (EMSA) to examine protein-nucleic acid interactions. Dose-dependent binding of  
225 CREB protein to the CRE-like containing DNA probe was observed (Fig. 2D), providing strong  
226 evidence that *CREB* enhances *CYP6CM1* expression *in vitro* as a result of its binding to a  
227 CRE-like site in the upstream promoter of this gene. To determine whether *CREB* affects  
228 *CYP6CM1* gene expression *in vivo*, RNAi was used to knockdown the expression of *CREB* in

229 adult whiteflies, and the effect of this on expression of both *CREB* and *CYP6CM1* examined  
230 using qPCR. After 48 h of feeding on a diet containing dsRNA specific for *CREB*, the mRNA  
231 levels of this gene decreased by 40.2% (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S3D). Furthermore, a  
232 corresponding significant decrease (50.3%) in the transcript and protein levels of *CYP6CM1*  
233 was observed (Fig. 2E, *SI Appendix*, Fig. S4D). Taken together, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*  
234 assays unequivocally demonstrate that *CREB* directly regulates *CYP6CM1* expression.

235 ***CREB* is overexpressed in the IMR strain and RNAi knockdown of *CREB* reduces**  
236 **resistance to imidacloprid.** To explore the expression of *CREB* in the IMR and IMS strain,  
237 we used qPCR and a rabbit polyclonal antibody raised against a synthetic peptide of *CREB*  
238 protein in western blot to measure mRNA and protein levels respectively. *CREB* mRNA levels  
239 were 2.9-fold greater in the IMR strain than in the IMS strain (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S3C) with  
240 western blot confirming that the encoded protein is overexpressed in the IMR strain as a  
241 result (Fig. 2F). To further examine the role of *CREB* overexpression in imidacloprid  
242 resistance in the IMR strain, we used RNAi to knockdown the expression of *CREB* in adult  
243 whiteflies and examined the effect of this on the lifespan of IMR adults that were treated with  
244 imidacloprid. Knockdown of *CREB* significantly decreased the lifespan of whiteflies relative to  
245 the control (fed ds*EGFP*) when treated with imidacloprid at 0.4 mM (median survival -14 h,  
246  $p=2.37 \times 10^{-52}$ , Fig. 2G) and at 2.0 mM (median survival -9 h,  $p=9.28 \times 10^{-58}$ , *SI Appendix*, Fig.  
247 S6B, S8B, Dataset S1). This finding confirmed that reducing *CREB* transcript levels (and  
248 thereby reducing *CYP6CM1* expression) is sufficient to decrease *B. tabaci* resistance to  
249 imidacloprid. Sequencing of the *CREB* promoter failed to identify consistent polymorphisms in  
250 the region 2.2kb upstream of the translation start site between the IMR and IMS strains  
251 (Dataset S2) suggesting overexpression of *CREB* results from *trans*-acting factors.

252 **The ERK and p38 MAPK signaling pathways activate *CREB* transcription.** *CREB*  
253 proteins are themselves regulated via phosphorylation by several kinases, including protein  
254 kinase A (PKA) (33) and MAPKs (34). To investigate whether PKA and MAPKs activate *CREB*  
255 *in vitro*, S2 cells were treated with a specific inhibitor of PKA (H89) (35) and with three  
256 inhibitors (PD98059, SB203580, and SP600125) (36) of three classical MAPK pathways  
257 (ERK, p38, and JNK respectively) and co-transfected with pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup>. As  
258 shown in Fig. S4A, reporter gene expression driven by the *CYP6CM1* promoter was much  
259 greater in cells treated with H89 than in untreated control cells, suggesting PKA suppresses  
260 the expression of *CYP6CM1* in this system. In contrast, inhibition of the ERK and p38  
261 pathways significantly (ERK:  $p=6.35 \times 10^{-6}$ , p38:  $p=4.73 \times 10^{-5}$ ) decreased reporter gene  
262 expression driven by *CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> suggesting that these signaling pathways may  
263 positively regulate *CYP6CM1* expression. Inhibition of the JNK pathway significantly ( $p=4.52$   
264  $\times 10^{-7}$ ) increased the expression of *CYP6CM1* (Fig. 3A) suggesting a negative regulatory role  
265 on *CYP6CM1* expression. To examine the effect of inhibition of the ERK and p38 pathways *in*  
266 *vivo*, PD98059 and SB203580 were fed to IMR adults in artificial diet and the effect of this on  
267 the lifespan of IMR adults that were treated with imidacloprid examined. As shown in Fig. S4C  
268 both ERK inhibition (median survival -19 h,  $p=5.84 \times 10^{-91}$ ) and p38 inhibition (median survival



269 -16 h,  $p=2.27 \times 10^{-45}$ ) significantly decreased the resistance of the IMR strain to imidacloprid.  
270 The efficacy of these inhibitors was further explored on tomato plants in combination with  
271 imidacloprid (0.4 mM) with 100 *B. tabaci* adults released onto each plant. The lifespan of adult  
272 *B. tabaci* was significantly decreased on plants exposed to 0.4 mM imidacloprid treatment +  
273 PD98059 or SB203580 in comparison to plants exposed to imidacloprid without inhibitors  
274 (PD98059 treatment: median survival -3.96 days,  $p=8.65 \times 10^{-184}$ , SB203580 treatment:  
275 median survival -26 h,  $p=7.46 \times 10^{-91}$ , *SI Appendix*, Fig. S4E).

276 To examine if inhibition of the ERK and p38 pathways increased sensitivity to  
277 imidacloprid as a result of their effects on *CYP6CM1* gene expression in *B. tabaci*, the mRNA  
278 levels of the *ERK* and *p38* MAPKs were knocked down using RNAi and the effect of this on  
279 the expression of *CYP6CM1* explored using qPCR. As shown in Fig. S4D, the mRNA  
280 transcript levels of *ERK* and *p38* decreased by 47.2 and 41.4%, respectively, after 48 h of  
281 feeding on a diet containing *ERK* and *p38* dsRNA (0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ ), and knock down of the MAPKs  
282 *ERK* and *p38* resulted in a significant decrease (65.7% and 61.9% respectively) in the  
283 expression of *CYP6CM1* in the IMR strain. Moreover, a corresponding significant decrease in  
284 protein levels of *CYP6CM1* was observed (Fig. 3B). Furthermore, knock-down of *ERK* or *p38*  
285 significantly decreased the lifespan of IMR adults treated with 0.4 mM imidacloprid (*ERK*  
286 treatment: median survival -23 h,  $p=1.04 \times 10^{-133}$ ; *p38* treatment: median survival -26 h,  
287  $p=2.05 \times 10^{-147}$ , Fig. 3C and E, Dataset S1) and 2.0 mM imidacloprid (*ERK* treatment: median  
288 survival -9 h,  $p=9.22 \times 10^{-31}$ ; *p38* treatment: median survival -12 h,  $p=1.44 \times 10^{-52}$ , *SI*  
289 *Appendix*, Fig. S6C and D, S8 C and D, Dataset S1) demonstrating that a reduction in *ERK*  
290 and *p38* expression is sufficient to decrease *B. tabaci* resistance to imidacloprid. No  
291 difference was observed in the expression of *ERK* in the IMR and IMS strains, however, the  
292 expression of *p38* was significantly higher in the IMR strain (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S4B). Both of  
293 the MAPKs are phosphorylated in order to activate down-stream proteins (analysis of  
294 phosphorylation sites is shown in *SI Appendix*, Fig. S5). To explore if differences were  
295 observed in the phosphorylation profile of ERK and p38 protein in the IMR and IMS strains,  
296 homo phosphorylation antibodies were used in western blots with the two strains. A significant  
297 increase in the level of protein phosphorylation of ERK was observed in the IMR strain  
298 compared to the IMS strain (Fig. 3D). Furthermore, when the IMR strain was treated with  
299 imidacloprid, the level of protein phosphorylation of ERK increased rapidly (within 0.5 h, Fig.  
300 3D), suggesting that differential phosphorylation, rather than differential expression, of ERK  
301 plays a role in the resistance of the IMR strain. Similarly, a dramatic increase in the level of  
302 protein phosphorylation of p38 was observed in the IMR strain compared to the IMS strain,  
303 and when adult whiteflies were treated with imidacloprid, phosphorylation occurred much  
304 more rapidly and reached higher levels in the IMR strain (Fig. 3D), suggesting that both  
305 differential phosphorylation and expression of p38 plays a role in the resistance of the IMR  
306 strain.

307 To further explore the role of phosphorylation in resistance we investigated  
308 phosphorylation of *CREB* itself. In humans MAPKs activate *CREB* by phosphorylation of

309 Ser133 which promotes the recruitment of transcriptional coactivators (37). The equivalent  
310 site in *B. tabaci* CREB is Ser111 (RRPSYRK). We first demonstrated the importance of this  
311 site on function by mutating site 111 (Ser to Tyr) and cotransfecting S2 cells with the mutant  
312 construct and plasmid pGL4.10-CYP6CM1<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and examining the effect on luciferase  
313 activity. Mutation of CREB at site 111 significantly ( $p=0.005$ ) decreased reporter gene  
314 expression driven by the promoter of CYP6CM1 (Fig. 4A) demonstrating its functional role. A  
315 rabbit polyclonal antibody for the phosphorylated form of *B. tabaci* CREB protein was then  
316 raised and used to determine the phosphorylation profile of this enzyme in the IMR and IMS  
317 strain by western blot. Consistent with the elevated phosphorylation of the upstream MAPKs  
318 we observed higher levels of the phosphorylated form of CREB in the IMR strain suggesting  
319 that resistance results from increased production of the activated (phosphorylated) form of  
320 this transcription factor (Fig. 4B).

321 **Increased phosphorylation of CREB, ERK and p38 is also observed in imidacloprid**  
322 **resistant field strains of *B. tabaci*.** To examine if the key findings on the regulation of  
323 resistance in the IMR strain extend to imidacloprid resistant field populations of *B. tabaci* MED  
324 we conducted further analysis on four field samples collected in 2018 (*SI Appendix*, Table S1).  
325 In insecticide bioassays the NK and YC strains exhibited strong resistance to imidacloprid, the  
326 LF strain showed modest resistance and the SY strain was susceptible to this compound (*SI*  
327 *Appendix*, Table S2). Western blot was used to estimate the total protein level of CYP6CM1,  
328 CREB, ERK, p38 and the phosphorylation level of CERB, ERK and p38 (Fig. 4D). The  
329 expression of CYP6CM1 protein was higher in the resistant NK and YC strains than the SY  
330 susceptible strain. In parallel, the level of both total CREB and total P38, and their  
331 phosphorylated forms, was greater in the two field resistance strains than the susceptible  
332 strain. While no difference was seen in the level of total ERK protein in the four field strains,  
333 the level of phosphorylated ERK was higher in the NK and YC strains than both of the other  
334 strains. RNAi knockdown of CYP6CM1, CREB, ERK and p38 in the NK resistant strain  
335 (CYP6CM1 treatment: median survival -21 h,  $p=3.96 \times 10^{-289}$ ; CREB treatment: median  
336 survival -6 h,  $p=7.63 \times 10^{-67}$ , ERK treatment: median survival -6 h,  $p=3.41 \times 10^{-54}$ ; p38  
337 treatment: median survival -6 h,  $p=9.76 \times 10^{-37}$ ) and YC resistant strain (CYP6CM1 treatment:  
338 median survival -18 h,  $p=1.70 \times 10^{-291}$ ; CREB treatment: median survival -15 h,  $p=6.06 \times 10^{-$   
339  $279$ , ERK treatment: median survival -18 h,  $p=5.65 \times 10^{-249}$ ; p38 treatment: median survival -18  
340 h,  $p=7.21 \times 10^{-274}$ ) significantly decreased the resistance levels to imidacloprid at 2.0 mM (*SI*  
341 *Appendix*, Fig. S7). In contrast, no significant shift was seen in the sensitivity of the SY strain  
342 after these genes were knocked down. Thus the increased expression of CYP6CM1 in field  
343 strains of *B. tabaci* MED also appears to be mediated, at least in part, by CREB and  
344 phosphorylation-mediated signal transduction involving the MAPK signaling pathway.

345

## 346 Discussion

347 Herbivorous insects have evolved complex defense systems to protect themselves against  
348 xenobiotic stressors such as the secondary metabolites produced by their host plants,

349 however, how these toxins are sensed and this signal transduced into a physiological  
350 response is poorly understood. From an applied perspective such knowledge is important as  
351 some of these natural insect defense mechanisms have been co-opted during the evolution of  
352 insect resistance to synthetic insecticides. Our data demonstrate that *CYP6CM1*, a P450  
353 recruited during the evolution of *B. tabaci* resistance to neonicotinoid insecticides, is regulated  
354 by *CREB* a transcription factor belonging to the bZIP superfamily. Members of this  
355 superfamily have been previously implicated in the regulation of P450 genes involved in  
356 resistance to plant allelochemicals and insecticides, however, CREB has never previously  
357 been implicated in this role. Indeed, only a single very recent study has previously linked  
358 *CREB* to the regulation of a P450, in this case human *CYP2J2*, which is highly expressed in  
359 the human brain, and is responsible for metabolizing endogenous polyunsaturated fatty acids  
360 (38, 39). More broadly in mammals, *CREB* has been shown to play a role in a remarkably  
361 diverse range of processes. Of particular relevance to this study is the role of *CREB* in the  
362 response to stressful stimuli including oxidative stress, ischemia, and excitotoxicity, with  
363 evidence from knockout mice revealing a role in neuroprotection and neuronal survival (32).  
364 Exactly how CREB mediates this activity is not fully understood. Here we demonstrate that  
365 CREB performs a neuroprotective function in *B. tabaci* by upregulating a key detoxification  
366 enzyme. This in turn increases the metabolic conversion of imidacloprid, an agonist of insect  
367 nAChRs in neuronal cells, into its less toxic 5-hydroxy form.

368 Importantly, we show that, while CREB is overexpressed in resistant *B. tabaci* a marked  
369 increase is also observed in the activated form of this transcription factor as a result of  
370 phosphorylation of a key amino acid (Ser111) in the kinase-inducible domain. This finding  
371 suggests that additional upstream activators of CREB also play a role in CYP6CM1-mediated  
372 insecticide resistance. We confirmed this by demonstrating that two protein kinases, ERK and  
373 p38, that are focal points of two different MAPK signaling pathways, are involved in  
374 CYP6CM1-mediated resistance to imidacloprid in *B. tabaci*. The MAPK signaling pathway  
375 plays a key role in responses to both endogenous and xenobiotic substances (22); increased  
376 expression of cytochrome P450 2E1 induces heme oxygenase-1 through the ERK MAPK  
377 pathway (40), and p38 regulates the nuclear receptor CAR that activates the *CYP2B6* gene in  
378 human primary hepatocytes (41). Furthermore, the MAPK p38 pathway has been implicated  
379 in insect defense against pore-forming toxins such as Bt Cry toxins (42). We demonstrate that  
380 exposure of *B. tabaci* to imidacloprid results in the phosphorylation of p38 and ERK, and thus  
381 implicate the MAPK signaling pathway in resistance to synthetic insecticides for the first time.  
382 MAPKs function in multi-tiered signaling cascades (43), in which an activated MAP4K  
383 phosphorylates and activates a MAP3K, which, in turn, activates a downstream MAP2K,  
384 which activates a MAPK (ERK/p38/JNK) that can regulate transcription factors. A *MAP4K4*  
385 gene was identified in *P. xylostella*, that is constitutively transcriptionally-activated in resistant  
386 larvae and alters expression of midgut *ALP* and *ABCC* genes leading to resistance to Bt  
387 Cry1Ac toxin (26). Furthermore, a MAPK gene was found to be up-regulated in *Anopheles*  
388 *stephensi* after exposure to pyrethroid for 24 and 48 hours (44). In the case of whiteflies RNA-

389 seq analysis of a thiamethoxam resistant and susceptible strain of *B. tabaci* MEAM1 identified  
390 the MAPK signaling pathway as a significantly enriched biological pathway in the differentially  
391 expressed genes (45). Together with our results these findings suggest that the MAPK  
392 signaling pathway may play a previously unappreciated role as a *trans*-regulator of important  
393 insecticide resistance gene effectors in a range of insect species.

394 Exactly how do the *p38* and *ERK* MAPK pathways and *CREB* work together to increase  
395 the expression of *CYP6CM1*? We present a model for the regulation of *CYP6CM1* in the  
396 resistant IMR strain in Fig 4C and S9. In this model, the activation of the MAPK signaling  
397 pathway upon insecticide exposure via an unknown receptor triggers a signaling cascade  
398 resulting in the phosphorylation of the MAPKs *ERK* and *p38* by MAPK kinases (MAPKKs),  
399 these in turn phosphorylate *CREB*; once phosphorylated, *CREB* activates the expression of  
400 *CYP6CM1* by binding to a CRE-like site in the promoter of this gene; as shown previously  
401 (28), increased production of *CYP6CM1* results in imidacloprid resistance in *B. tabaci*.  
402 Overexpression of *CREB* plays an additional role in the increased production of *CYP6CM1*  
403 protein. This model sets out a framework for future studies to identify potential genetic  
404 changes at key points in this pathway that result in the constitutive overexpression of  
405 *CYP6CM1* observed in imidacloprid resistant strains of *B. tabaci*.

406 The receptor that triggers the initiation of the signaling pathway illustrated in Fig 4C is  
407 unknown. However, several previous studies have demonstrated a role for G-protein-coupled  
408 receptors (GPCRs) in modulating the expression of P450 genes that lead to resistance (46-  
409 48). These previous findings and the fact that GPCRs can activate the conserved MAPK  
410 pathway (49, 50) makes these receptors candidate upstream activators of the MAPK  
411 signaling pathway associated with imidacloprid resistant *B. tabaci*.

412 In conclusion, we uncover the *trans*-regulatory pathway involved in the increased  
413 expression of a key resistance gene in *B. tabaci* and implicate both the MAPK signaling  
414 pathway and a novel transcription factor in the development of resistance to synthetic  
415 insecticides. Collectively, these results advance our understanding of the regulation of  
416 xenobiotic responses in insects, and illustrate the remarkable sophistication of the molecular  
417 pathways involved. Finally, from an applied perspective identification of the pivotal genes  
418 involved in the regulation of *CYP6CM1* also highlight potential new targets for control  
419 interventions against a global crop pest. In this regard we provide preliminary demonstration  
420 of the potential use of inhibitors of these pathways to enhance the effectiveness of  
421 imidacloprid applications against *B. tabaci*.

422

## 423 **Materials and Methods**

424 Detailed information on insect strains and cell lines, extraction of DNA and RNA, qRT-PCR,  
425 promoter analysis, dual-luciferase reporter assay, RNAi experiments, lifespan measurement,  
426 Western blot and inhibitor assays, and statistical analysis are described in *SI Appendix, SI*  
427 *Materials and Methods*.

428

429

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441

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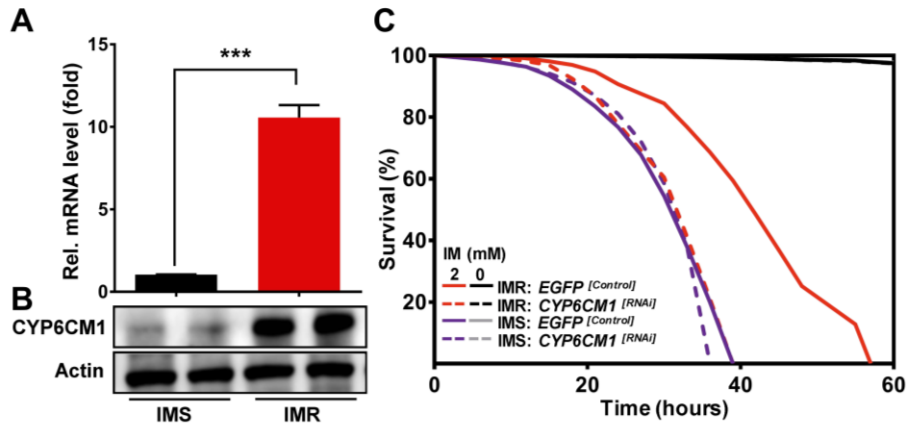
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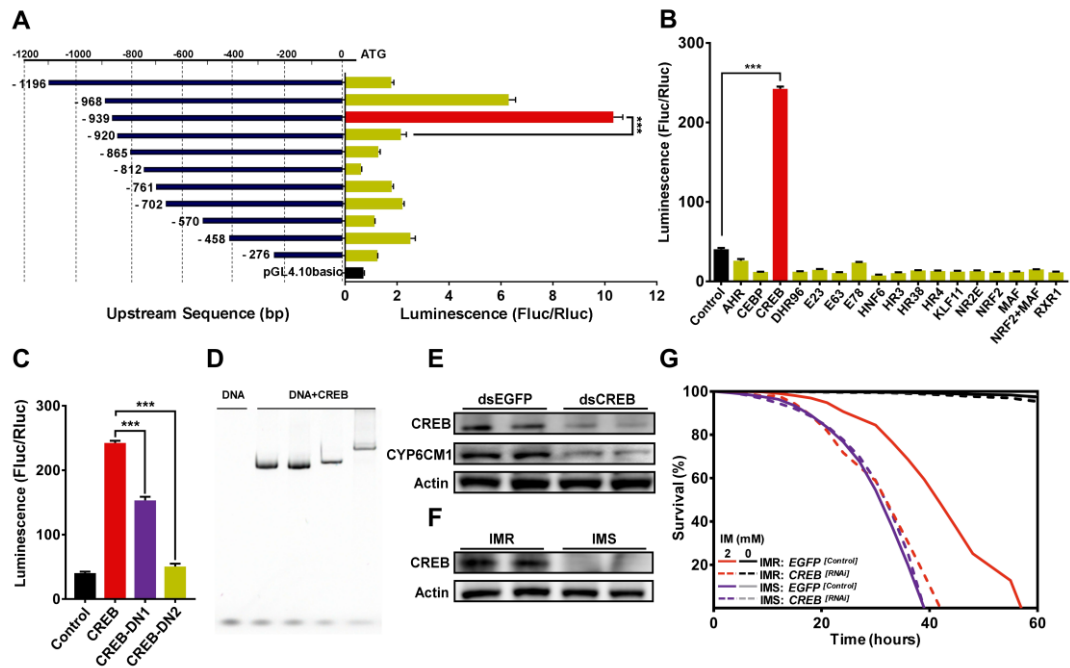


570

571 **Figure 1. *CYP6CM1* contributes to imidacloprid (IM) resistance in the *B. tabaci* strain**  
 572 **IMR. (A)** Relative expression of *CYP6CM1* mRNA (A) and protein (B) in the imidacloprid-  
 573 resistant strain IMR and the susceptible strain IMS as determined by qPCR and Western blot  
 574 respectively (qPCR:  $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , two-tailed Student's  $t$ -test). Actin was  
 575 used as a loading control in Western blot. (C) Lifespan of adults of the IMR and IMS strains  
 576 exposed to 2.0 mM imidacloprid (2) or no imidacloprid (0) after RNAi knockdown of  
 577 *CYP6CM1*. Adults fed on dsEGFP were used as a negative control.

578

579



580

581 **Figure 2. The transcription factor CREB regulates CYP6CM1 expression.** (A)

582 Identification of the promoter of *CYP6CM1* using progressive deletion constructs in dual

583 luciferase reporter assays. S2 cells were cotransfected with pGL4.10 reporter plasmids

584 carrying the indicated promoter regions conjugated to firefly luciferase and a reference

585 reporter plasmid (pGL4.73, containing the *hRluc* reporter gene and an SV40 early promoter).

586 Fluc/Rluc represents the ratio of Firefly to Renilla luciferase activity ( $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*\*  $P <$

587 0.001, ANOVA with Tukey's HSD post hoc test). (B) Influence of 16 different *B. tabaci*

588 transcription factors on expression driven by the promoter of *CYP6CM1* in dual luciferase

589 reporter assays. pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 were cotransfected into S2 cells

590 with each of the 16 transcription factors in pAC5.1b. Empty pAC5.1b was used as a control ( $n$

591 = 3, mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*\*  $P <$  0.001, ANOVA with Tukey's HSD post hoc test). (C) Identification of

592 important functional domains in CREB using dual luciferase reporter assays. pGL4.10-

593 *CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 were co-transfected into S2 cells with pAC5.1b-CREB (CREB),

594 with modified CREB in which the KID domain (CREB-DN1) or the bZIP domain (CREB-DN2)

595 was deleted, or with the pAC5.1b empty vector (control) ( $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*\*  $P <$  0.001,

596 two-tailed Student's *t*-test). (D) CREB binds to the upstream promoter sequences of

597 *CYP6CM1*. EMSA results showing dose-dependent binding of CREB to a CRE-like containing

598 DNA probe. (E) Expression of CREB and *CYP6CM1* protein after RNAi knockdown of CREB

599 in the IMR strain as assessed by Western blot. Actin was used as a loading control. (F)

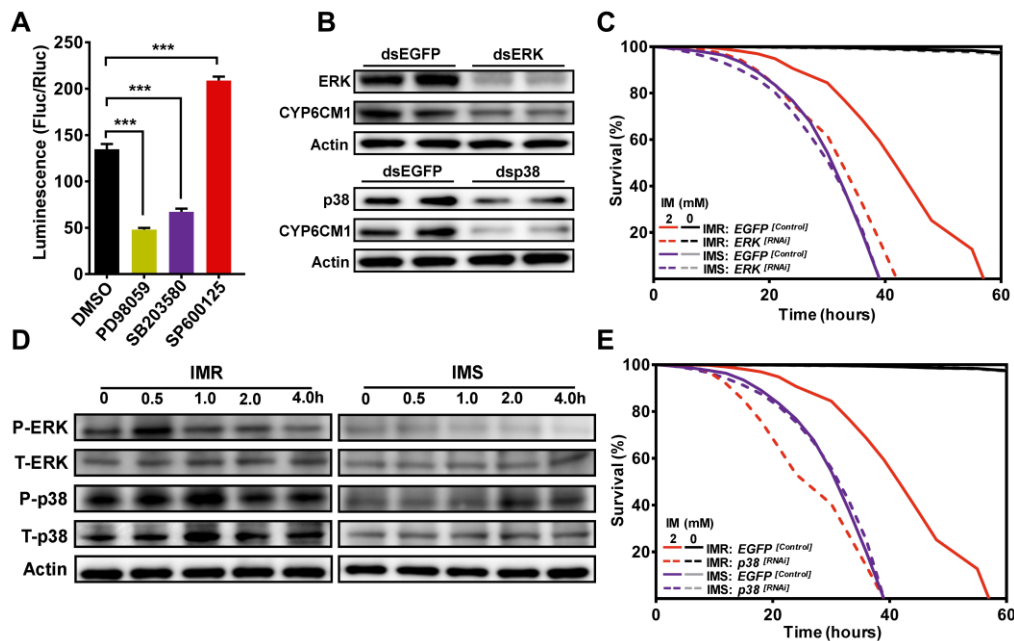
600 Expression of CREB protein in the IMR and IMS strain as assessed by Western blot. Actin

601 was used as a loading control. (G) Lifespan of adults of the IMR and IMS strains exposed to

602 2.0 mM imidacloprid (2) or no imidacloprid (0) after feeding on CREB dsRNA for 48 h. Adults

603 fed on dsEGFP were used as a negative control.

604



605

606

**Figure 3. The MAPK signaling pathway regulates *CYP6CM1* expression and**

607

**imidacloprid resistance.** (A) Expression driven by the promoter of *CYP6CM1* in the

608

presence of inhibitors of the ERK, p38 and JNK MAPK pathways. Dual luciferase reporter

609

assays, in which pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 were cotransfected into S2 cells

610

with either the ERK inhibitor PD98059 (75  $\mu$ M), the p38 inhibitor SB203580 (53  $\mu$ M), or the

611

JNK inhibitor SP600125 (45  $\mu$ M) are shown. Fluc/Rluc represents the ratio of Firefly to Renilla

612

luciferase activity. ( $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , ANOVA with Tukey's HSD post hoc test).

613

(B) Expression of *CYP6CM1* protein after knockdown of *ERK* or *p38* in the IMR strain as

614

assessed by Western blot. Actin was used as a loading control. (C) Lifespan of adult

615

whiteflies of the IMR and IMS strains after feeding on *ERK* dsRNA for 48 hours followed by

616

exposure to 2.0 mM imidacloprid. Adults fed on dsEGFP were used as a negative control. (D)

617

Levels of Total-ERK, Total-p38, and phosphorylated ERK and p38 in IMR and IMS adults

618

assessed by Western blot at four time points after exposure to 2.0 mM imidacloprid. Actin was

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used as a loading control. (E) Lifespan of adult whiteflies of the IMR and IMS strains after

620

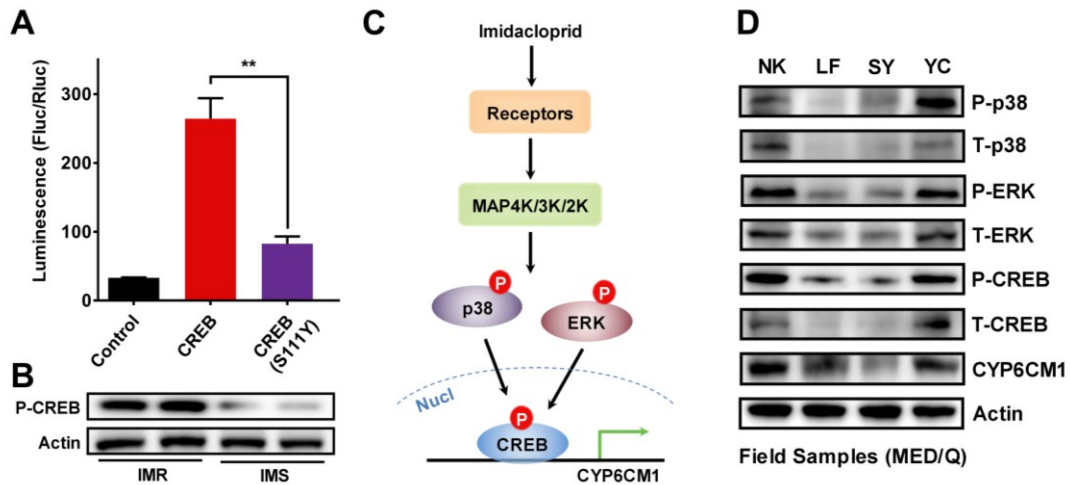
feeding on *p38* dsRNA for 48 hours followed by exposure to 2.0 mM imidacloprid (2) or no

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imidacloprid (0). Adults fed on dsEGFP were used as a negative control.

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625

**Figure 4. Model of the regulation of *CYP6CM1* in *B. tabaci*.** (A) Expression driven by the

626

promoter of *CYP6CM1* in the presence of wild type or mutated (Ser111Tyr) CREB. pGL4.10-

627

*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 plasmids were cotransfected into S2 cells with either CREB or

628

mutated CREB (Ser111Tyr) or the pAC5.1b empty vector (control) and expression assessed

629

using dual luciferase reporter assays ( $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , two-tailed Student's  $t$ -

630

test). (B) Phosphorylation levels of Ser111 in CREB in the IMR and IMS strain as assessed by

631

Western blot. Actin was used as a loading control. (C) A model of the regulation of *CYP6CM1*

632

in *B. tabaci*. In this model, exposure to imidacloprid is detected by an unknown receptor that

633

activates mitogen-activated protein kinases of the MAPK pathway to phosphorylate ERK and

634

p38. These in turn phosphorylate CREB, which then activates the expression of *CYP6CM1*.

635

Activation and over-expression of CREB in the resistant strain increases the production of

636

*CYP6CM1* protein, which reduces the toxicity of imidacloprid. (D) Levels of Total-*CYP6CM1*,

637

Total-CREB, Total-ERK, Total-p38, and phosphorylated CREB, ERK, and p38 in four field

638

strains of *B. tabaci* MED. Actin was used as a loading control.

639

Supplementary Information for

MAPK-directed activation of the whitefly transcription factor *CREB* leads to P450-mediated imidacloprid resistance

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Supplementary Materials and Methods  
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SI References

**Other supplementary materials for this manuscript include the following:**

Datasets S1 to S5

## SI Results

### Lifespan of no-imidacloprid controls

The mean mortality observed at the conclusion of the experiment in all of the no-imidacloprid controls run in RNAi experiments was 13% and did not exceed 17% in any strain (Dataset S1). No significant difference was observed between the survival curves of no-imidacloprid controls treated with control *EGFP* dsRNA and those treated with whitefly gene-specific dsRNA (Dataset S1). No significant difference was observed in the no-imidacloprid survival curves obtained from the IMS and IMR strains (Dataset S1). A significant difference was observed between the no-imidacloprid survival curves obtained from the IMS strain and the three field strains, NK, YC, SY, however in all cases the mortality at the conclusion of the experiment was very similar for all four strains (Dataset S1).

### SI Materials and Methods

**Insect Strains.** A field strain of *B. tabaci* MED was collected in 2011 from Hangzhou in Zhejiang Province and split into two cultures one of which was treated with 2.0 mM imidacloprid for more than 30 generations by soil drench application to form the IMR strain, and the other left unexposed to insecticides to form the IMS strain. The IMR and IMS strains were maintained, and experiments were conducted, at 25 °C with a 14 h: 10 h light: dark cycle and 70% humidity on pepper (cv. Zhongjiao #4, *Capsicum annuum*) plants. Four field strains of *B. tabaci* MED were collected in 2018 from northern China (*SI Appendix*, Table S1). A total of approximately 2000 adults were collected per location, 500 of which were snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C for protein extraction and western blot analysis, the remaining adults were used immediately in insecticide bioassays and RNAi experiments.

**Extraction of DNA and RNA and qRT-PCR.** Genomic DNA was extracted from a pool of 50 adult whiteflies of the IMR strain using the MiniBEST universal genomic DNA extraction kit (Takara Biotech) following the manufacturer's instructions. Total RNA was isolated from 50 whole adult whiteflies using standard TRIZOL (Invitrogen) protocols; the extracted RNA was converted to cDNA using oligo (dT) primer and Superscript II reverse transcriptase with gDNA Eraser (Takara Biotech). qRT-PCR was performed using Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Tiagen) in quadruplicate on the 7500 system (Applied Biosystems). A total of 150 adults (three biological replicates, n = 50) from different populations were used for qRT-PCR analysis. Primers were designed to amplify a 90-200 bp fragment. The total reaction volume of 20- $\mu$ l comprised 1  $\mu$ l of diluted cDNA, 10  $\mu$ l of SYBR® Green Real-time PCR Master Mix (Tiagen) and 0.3  $\mu$ l of each primer. Samples were run on an ABI 7500 real-time system using the following temperature cycling conditions: 15 min of activation at 95°C followed by 40 cycles of 30 s at 95°C and 40 s at 60°C. A 2-fold dilution series of cDNA was used to construct a relative standard curve, and the PCR efficiency was determined (see Dataset S5 for amplification efficiencies). PCR efficiency was used to convert quantification cycle (Ct-values) into processed data (relative quantities). The

fold-changes in the expression of whitefly genes of interest, normalized to three reference genes (*Actin*, *EF1a* and *RPL29*), were calculated using the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$  method (1).

**Cell Culture.** *Drosophila* S2 cells were cultured in Hyclone SFX-insect medium (Thermo Scientific) at 27 °C. Human HEK293T cells were maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) at 37°C in a humidified incubator containing 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Approximately  $5 \times 10^5$  cells per well were added to 24-well plates 6 h before transfection. Plasmids were transfected into the S2 and HEK293T cells using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen).

**Promoter Analysis of *CYP6CM1*.** The promoter sequence of *CYP6CM1* was analyzed by PCR and sequencing. Primers were designed based on the genomic sequence of *B. tabaci* (2) and used to characterize the ~6-kb putative promoter region immediately upstream of the translation start codon of *CYP6CM1* of the IMR strain (listed in Dataset S2). PCR products were recovered from agarose gels, PCR amplified using LA Taq (TaKaRa) and direct-sequenced. For reporter gene assays, a 1.2 kb promoter sequence was amplified from genomic DNA extracted from the IMR strain using a high-fidelity taq (TaKaRa). These were ligated into pGL4.10-Basic (Promega) and transformed into Trans1-T1 (Transgen). Plasmids were extracted with the EndoFree Mini Plasmid Kit (TIANGEN), sequenced, and adjusted to 100 ng/μL for use in dual luciferase assays.

**Dual-luciferase Reporter and Dominant Negative Assays.** The 5'-flanking and first intron regions of *CYP6CM1* were amplified from *B. tabaci* genomic DNA by PCR and were subcloned into the pGL4.10 reporter plasmids (Promega) carrying the indicated promoter regions conjugated to firefly luciferase. Reporter plasmids carrying deleted and mutated 5'-flanking regions of *CYP6CM1* were constructed from the pGL4.10<sup>-1196</sup> plasmids. The primers used for the construction of reporter plasmids are listed in Dataset S5. The coding sequence of *CREB* and 15 other transcription factors (3-22) were cloned into the pAC5.1b/V5/His expression vector (Invitrogen) for expression in S2 cells and into the pcDNA3.1V5/His vector for expression in 293T cells. q-PCR was used to estimate the expression of each transcription factor in cells. Two mutated forms of CREB (DN1, deletion of amino acids 178-282; and DN2, deletion of amino acids 1-206) were also cloned into the pAC5.1b/V5/His expression vector. pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> (200 ng) and a reference reporter pGL4.73 plasmid (100 ng, containing the hRluc reporter gene and an SV40 early promoter) were then cotransfected with pAC5.1b-transcription factors (600 ng) into S2 cells (24-well plates) and were kept at 27 °C. Luciferase activity was determined using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay System and a GloMax 96 Microplate Luminometer (Promega) at 48 h post-transfection. Construct luciferase activity was normalized to Renilla luciferase activity.

**RNAi Experiments.** dsRNA was prepared using the T7 RiboMAX Expression RNAi system (Promega) following the manufacturer's instructions. *Enhanced green fluorescent protein (EGFP)* was used to generate control *EGFP* dsRNA. All primers used for producing dsRNA are listed in Dataset S4. dsRNAs were fed to adult whiteflies, within 2 days after emergence, using previously

described methodology (23). Briefly, dsRNA was fed to whitefly adults in a feeding chamber comprising a glass tube (20 mm in diameter × 50 mm long, open at both ends), which was covered at the top by one layer of Parafilm-membrane stretched as thinly as possible. A total of 0.2 mL of diet solution (5% yeast extract and 30% sucrose, wt/vol) was pipetted onto the outer surface of the stretched Parafilm. Insecticide or dsRNA (0.5 µg/µL) was dissolved in the diet solution. A second layer of Parafilm was stretched on top of the first membrane to form a feeding sachet. Fifty adult whiteflies (mixed sexes) were transferred into each tube, and the remaining opening was sealed with a black cotton plug and covered with a shade cloth. The tubes were placed in an environmental chamber (Panasonic MLR-352H, Gunma, Japan) at 25 °C and with a photoperiod of L14: D10 and 80% RH. The ends of the tubes with the Parafilm sachets were turned toward the light source, which was approximately 0.2 m away. Whiteflies were collected after 48 h of feeding and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen prior to molecular analyses.

**Lifespan Measurements.** The effect of the neonicotinoid insecticide imidacloprid (Sigma) on the lifespan of *B. tabaci* adults was determined in glass tubes as described by Yang et al (23). Two imidacloprid concentrations (0.4 and 2.0 mM) were dissolved in the diet solution, and introduced to adult whiteflies using the same sachet feeding system used for RNAi. An additional control comprised whiteflies fed on diet without imidacloprid. 100–200 adult whiteflies were tested for each whitefly strain for each treatment/control with each glass tube containing 10 adult whiteflies. Mortality was recorded every 3 hours. The Kaplan-Meier method was used for survival curve analysis, and the log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test was used to determine the statistical significance of differences between survival curves using GraphPad Prism 6.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA) and SPSS 19.0 (SPSS for Windows, Chicago, SPSS Inc.). Plant lifespan experiments used tomato plants (*Lycopersicon esculentum*, cv. Zhongza 9) treated with imidacloprid (both spray and soil drench) for 7 days. Inhibitors were then applied by spray application and 100 whiteflies placed on plants, with mortality recorded every day until all whiteflies had died.

**Insecticide Bioassays.** Leaf-dip bioassays were conducted with formulated imidacloprid (700 g kg<sup>-1</sup> WG, Bayer Hangzhou Crop Science China Co. Ltd.) on adult whiteflies using the method described by Feng et al (24). Imidacloprid was dissolved and diluted with distilled water containing Triton X-100 (0.01%) to obtain serial concentrations of insecticide. Leaf discs (22 mm diameter) from cotton plants were dipped for 10 s in the insecticide solution or in distilled water (containing 0.01% triton X-100) as a control. After they were air dried, the leaf discs were placed with their adaxial surface downwards on agar (2 mL of 15 g/L) in a flat-bottomed glass tube (78 mm long). 15–30 adult whiteflies were added to each tube and kept in an incubator at 25°C with a 14:10 (L:D) photoperiod. Mortality was recorded after 48 h, and each combination of population and imidacloprid concentration was represented by four replicate tubes.

**Western Blot.** Total protein was extracted from 200 adult whiteflies per sample with the ProteinExt Mammalian Total Protein Extraction Kit (Transgen) following the manufacturer's

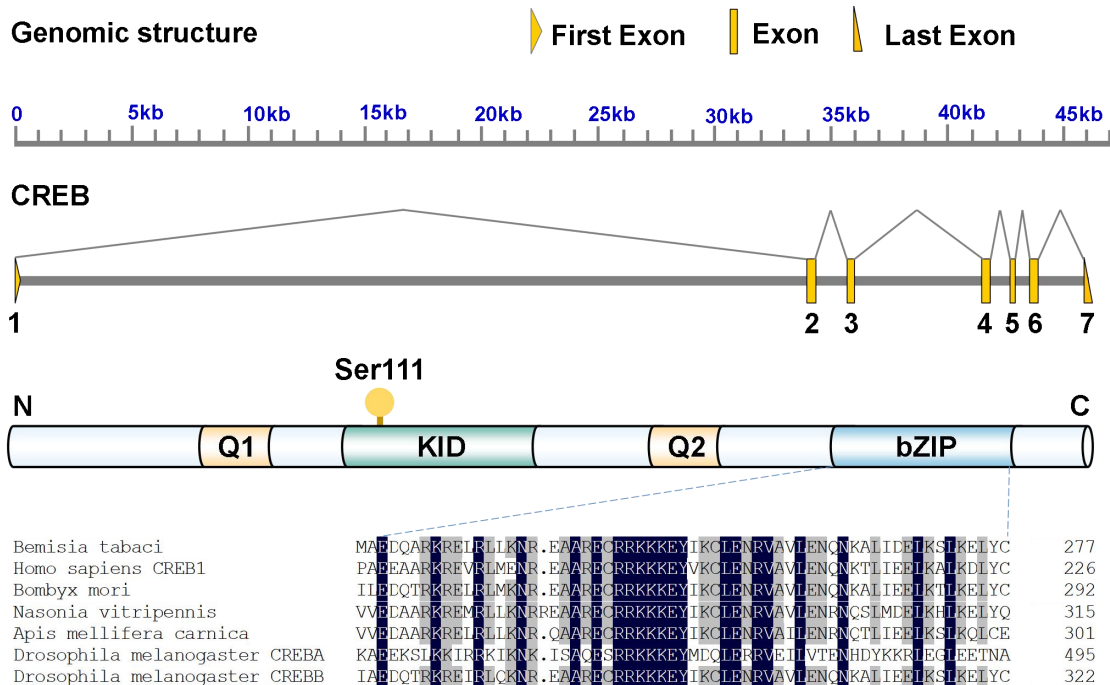


instructions. Rabbit polyclonal antibodies of CYP6CM1, total CREB, phosphorylated CREB, total ERK, and total p38 were raised against a synthetic peptide. The sequence of the peptide of CYP6CM1 was T-T-P-K-T-P-K-K-I-T-F-D-T-N (from tyrosine 486 to asparagine 500). The sequence of the peptide of total CREB was S-G-D-P-L-S-S-S-P-S-A-N-T-T (from serine 11 to tyrosine 25). The sequence of the peptide of phosphorylated CREB was D-I-L-T-R-R-P-pS-Y-R-K-I-L-N (from aspartic acid 103 to asparagine 117), in which Ser-111 was phosphorylated. Western blots were probed for phospho-p44/42 MAPK (Erk1/2) (Thr202/Tyr204) (#4370), phosphor-p38 (Thr180/Tyr182) (#4631) (Cell Signaling Technologies). The sequence of the peptide of total ERK was L-E-Q-Y-Y-D-P-A-D-E-P-V-A-E (from serine 315 to tyrosine 328), and the sequence of the peptide of total p38 was D-P-E-D-E-P-T-S-P-P-Y-D-Q-S (from serine 309 to tyrosine 322), and  $\beta$ -actin antibody (#ab8227) (Abcam). The sequence of peptides of total CYP6CM1, CREB, ERK, and p38 were analyzed in the genome of *B. tabaci* MED, they are present only in the target proteins.  $\beta$ -actin was used as a loading control in Western blot.

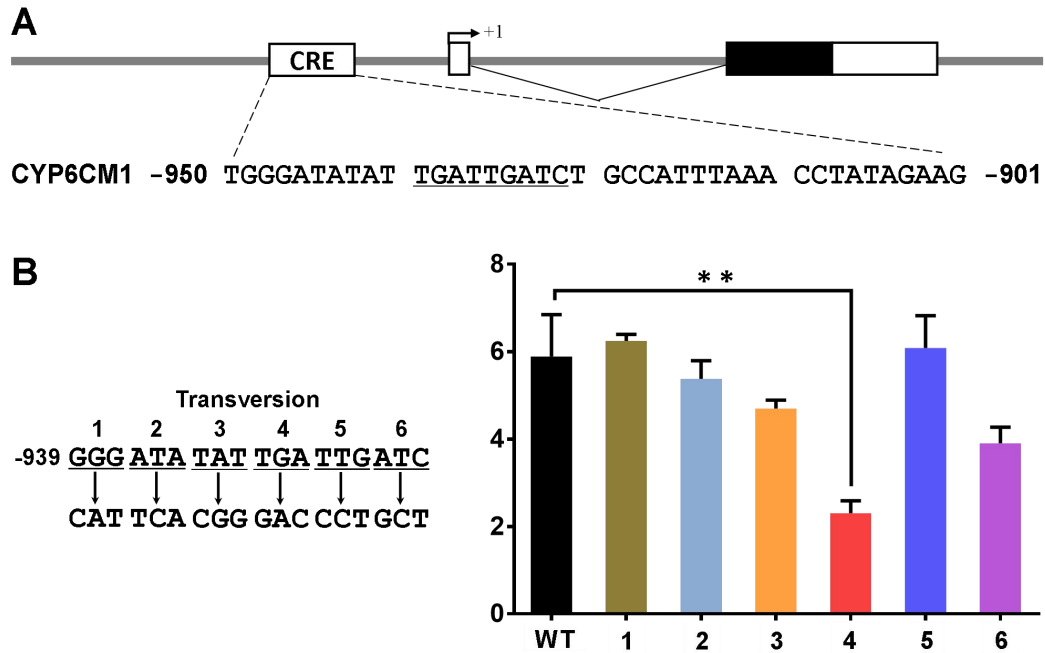
**Inhibitor Assays.** The following kinase inhibitors were purchased from Selleck: PD98059 (#S1102), SB203580 (#S1076), and SP600125 (#S1460). Dual luciferase reporter assays, in which pGL4.10-CYP6CM1<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 were co-transfected into S2 cells with either the ERK inhibitor PD98059 (75  $\mu$ M), the p38 inhibitor SB203580 (53  $\mu$ M), or the JNK inhibitor SP600125 (45  $\mu$ M) were performed. Luciferase activity was determined using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay System and a GloMax 96 Microplate Luminometer (Promega) at 48 h post-transfection. Inhibitors were dissolved in DMSO as stock solutions with DMSO alone added to the cell culture as a control. An ERK inhibitor (PD98059 at 1.8mM) or a p38 inhibitor (SB203580 at 1.3 mM) were fed to adult whiteflies, within 2 days after emergence, using the RNAi system as previously described (23). The efficacy of these inhibitors was further explored on tomato plants in combination with imidacloprid (0.4 mM) with 100 *B. tabaci* adults released onto each plant. The lifespan of adult *B. tabaci* was analyzed on plants exposed to 0.4 mM imidacloprid treatment + PD98059 or SB203580 in comparison to plants exposed to imidacloprid without inhibitors.

**Electrophoretic Mobility Shift Assays.** EMSA assays were performed using the Electrophoretic Mobility Shift Assay (EMSA) Kit (Invitrogen #E33075) according to the manufacturer's protocols. The assays were conducted using a synthetic DNA segment that contained putative *CREB* binding sites. The samples of CREB protein were expressed using the pEASY-Blunt E1 Expression Kit (Transgen) and purified with the Capturem<sup>TM</sup> His-tagged purification Kit (TaKaRa). The DNA amount was constant at 1.0  $\mu$ g per reaction, and the protein/DNA ratios were 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, and 1:4. Samples were size-fractionated by gel electrophoresis using 6% TBE DNA retardation native gels at 150 V for 30 min. The DNA in the gel was stained using SYBR Green (provided in the same kit) and was visualized using the GE Typhoon LFA 9500 Imaging System (GE Healthcare LifeScience).

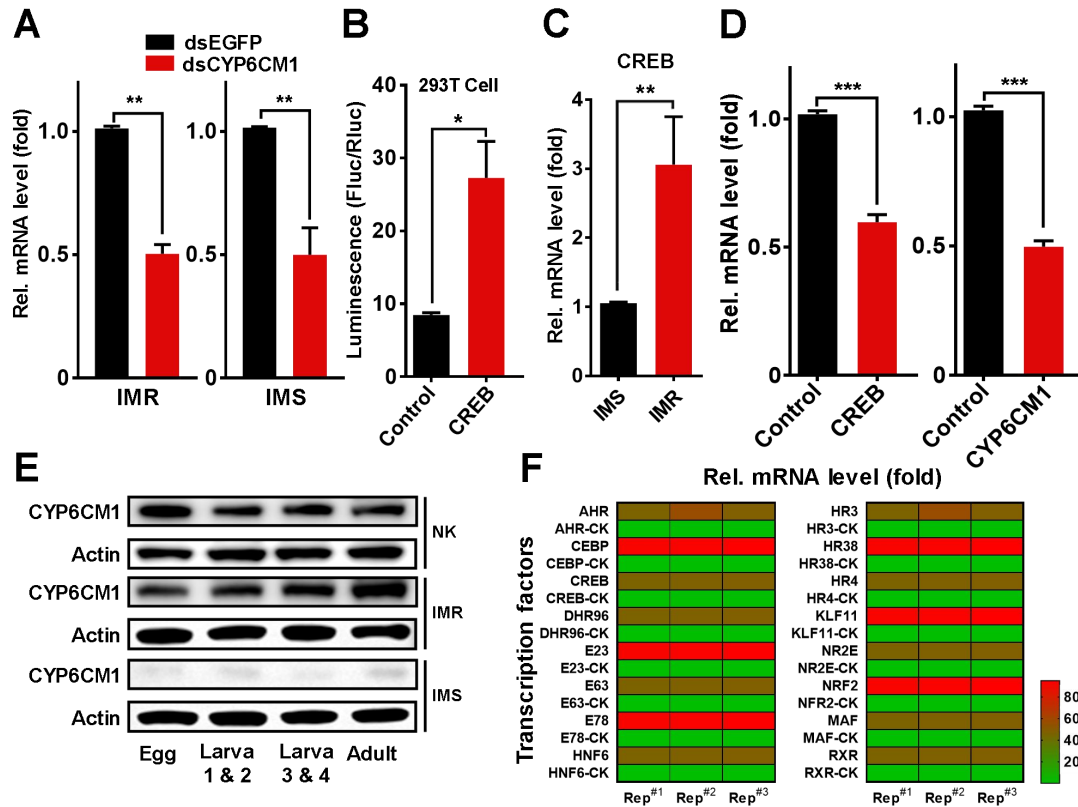
**Statistical Analysis.** The statistical significance of differences between samples was analyzed using Student's t-test and ANOVA with Tukey's HSD post hoc test (GraphPad 6.0, San Diego, CA). All quantitative data are reported as means  $\pm$  SEMs from at least three independent experiments.



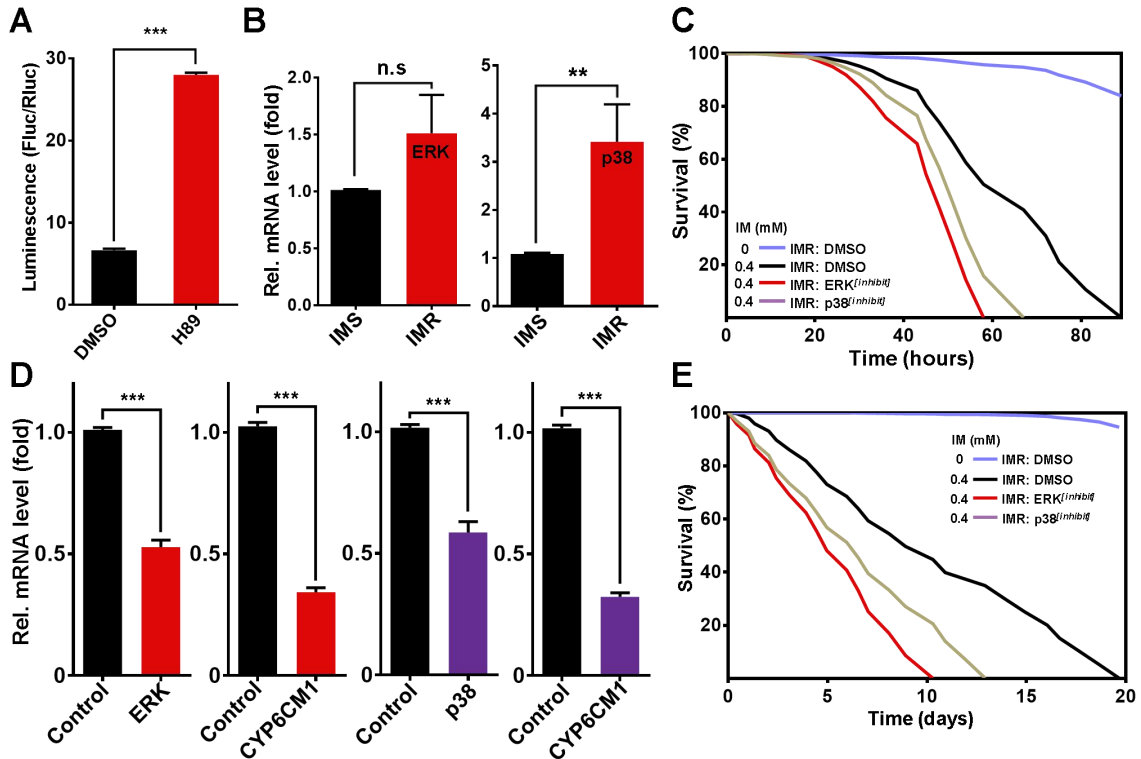
**Fig. S1.** Gene structure of *CREB* from the whitefly *B. tabaci*. The full-length gene that encodes *CREB* in *B. tabaci* contains an 846-bp ORF encoding 282 amino acid residues. Genomic structure analysis indicated that *CREB* contains 7 exons and 6 introns. *CREB* family members share similar modular organization: they all contain a carboxy-terminal basic Leu zipper (bZIP) DNA-binding and dimerization domain and an amino-terminal transactivation domain (TAD). The TAD contains a central kinase-inducible domain (KID) and two Gln-rich (Q1 and Q2) constitutive activation domains. A homo CREB1 Ser133-like site (RRPSYRK) is present in the *B. tabaci* KID domain (Ser 111). The deduced amino acid sequence includes important conserved domains common to other bZIP families, such as the leucine zipper and basic motif.



**Fig. S2.** The CRE-like site upstream of *CYP6CM1*. **(A)** Analysis of the CRE site in *CYP6CM1*. The upstream sequences of the *CYP6CM1* gene were analyzed in the MED/Q genomic sequences, and a half CRE-like site was identified at position -930 and -926bp. **(B)** The functionality of the CRE-like region was assayed with mutations causing a triplet transversion (each triplet has a transition) in the -939 to -920bp region of the upstream sequences of the *CYP6CM1* reporter (pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup>). Mutations of the core sequence of the CRE-like region (TGA) significantly decreased the expression of *CYP6CM1*. Values are means ± SEs (n=3). Data were analyzed using the Tukey-Kramer test (\*\*  $P < 0.01$ ).



**Fig. S3.** (A) Efficiency of RNA knockdown of *CYP6CM1* as assessed by qRT-PCR. Relative mRNA abundance was measured in *B. tabaci* adults (IMR strain) that were fed dsCYP6CM1; adults that were fed dsEGFP served as the negative control. (B) Dual luciferase reporter assay, in which pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 plasmids were cotransfected into 293T cells with either the pcDNA3.1-CREB vector or the pcDNA3.1 empty vector (control). (C) Expression of *CREB* mRNA levels in the IMR and IMS strain as determined by qPCR. (D) The effect of feeding *CREB* dsRNA to *B. tabaci* for 48 h on the expression of *CREB* and *CYP6CM1*. mRNA levels were determined by qRT-PCR and are expressed as fold-change between control and treated whiteflies. Whiteflies fed on dsEGFP were used as a control. All values are means  $\pm$  SEs (n=3). Data were analyzed using the Tukey-Kramer test (n = 3, mean  $\pm$  SE; \*  $P < 0.05$ , \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , two-tailed Student's t-test). (E) Levels of *CYP6CM1* protein in different developmental stages of *B. tabaci* in the IMR and IMS strains, and a field resistance NK strain. Actin was used as a loading control. (F) The expression of 16 whitefly transcription factors after transfection into S2 cells in pAC5.1b as assessed by qPCR. Empty pAC5.1b was used as a control.



**Fig. S4.** (A) Dual luciferase reporter assays, in which pGL4.10-*CYP6CM1*<sup>-939 to +1</sup> and pGL4.73 plasmids were cotransfected into S2 cells with either the PKA inhibitor H89 or DMSO alone as the control. Fluc/Rluc represents the ratio of firefly to Renilla luciferase activity. (B) Real-time qPCR analysis of the mRNA levels of *ERK* and *p38* in the imidacloprid resistant IMR strain and the susceptible strain IMS. mRNA levels are shown as fold-change between the susceptible and resistant strain. (C) The lifespan of adult whiteflies of the IMR strain after feeding on the inhibitors PD98059 (1.8 mM) and SB203580 (1.3 mM) for 24 hours on exposure to 0.4 mM imidacloprid. Adults fed on equivalent concentrations of DMSO were used as a negative control. (D) Expression of *CYP6CM1* mRNA after feeding adult whiteflies dsRNA of *ERK* (red) or *p38* (purple) for 48 h. For reference the expression of *ERK* and *p38* after dsRNA feeding is also shown. Adults fed on ds*EFGP* were used as a control. mRNA levels were determined by qRT-PCR. (E) Inhibition of *ERK* and *p38* enhances the control of *B. tabaci* (IMR adults) on tomato using imidacloprid. Lifespan of adult *B. tabaci* was significantly decreased when adults were exposed to 0.4 mM imidacloprid and to an *ERK* inhibitor (PD98059 at 1.8mM) or a *p38* inhibitor (SB203580 at 1.3 mM). For the control, adults were exposed to 0.4 mM imidacloprid without inhibitor. All values are means  $\pm$  SEs (n=3). Data were analyzed using the Tukey-Kramer test (n = 3, mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , two-tailed Student's t-test).

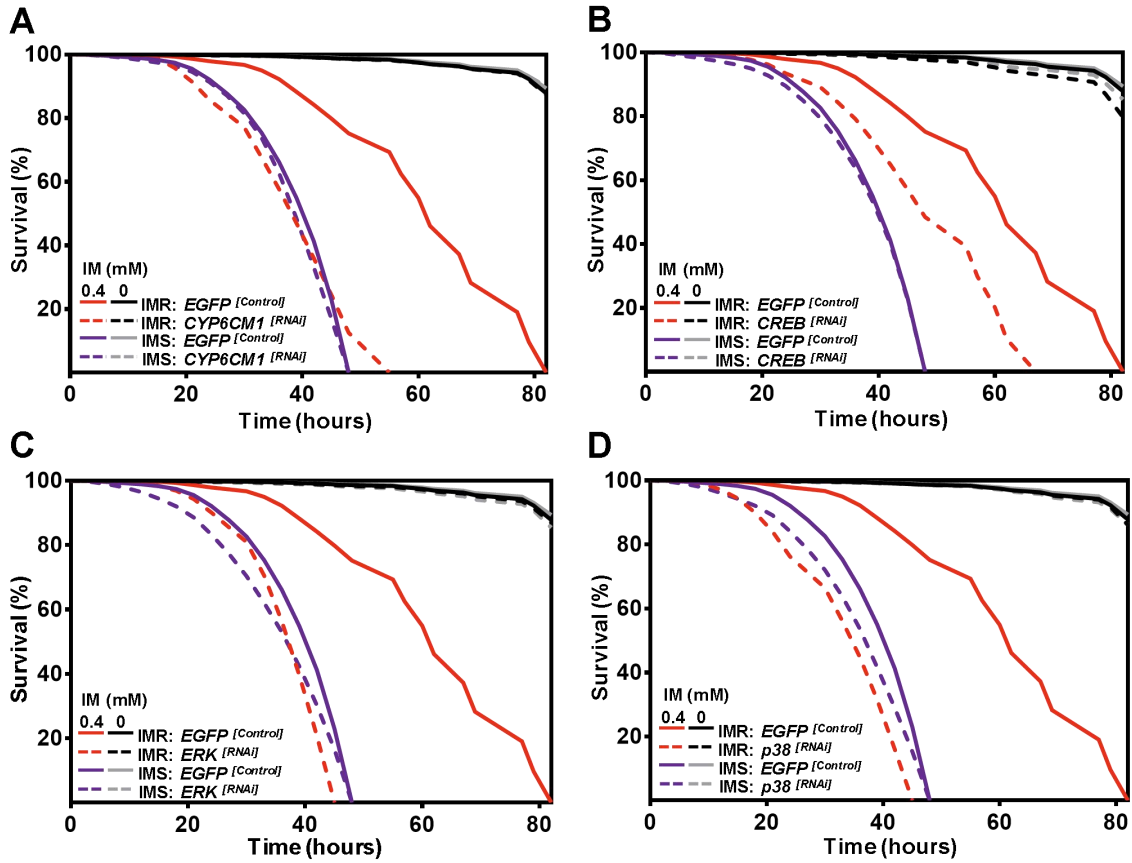
**A**

Bemisia tabaci ERK BT A017617	... NAAESESAR..... NSMRGCFEAVGPRYINAVI CEGAYGVA SAEINVTKTRVAI KKI SPFEHQTYCQRTLRRI QILIRFRHENI	85
Homo sapiens ERK1 P27361	NAAAAAGGGGEPRTTEGVGVPGEVEMRGCDFEAVGPRYITLQVI CEGAYGVA SAEINVTKTRVAI KKI SPFEHQTYCQRTLRRI QILIRFRHENI	100
Homo sapiens ERK2 P28482	NAAAAAG..... AGP..... EMRGCDFEAVGPRYINAVI CEGAYGVA SAEINVTKTRVAI KKI SPFEHQTYCQRTLRRI QILIRFRHENI	83
Drosophila melanogaster rolled FBgn0003256	MEEFNSLSVVNGTGSTVEVPCS... NAEVIRGCFEAVGPRYIKLAVI CEGAYGVA SAEITLTNQRVAI KKI SPFEHQTYCQRTLRRI QILIRFRHENI	96
Bemisia tabaci ERK BT A017617	IIRNIRSSSTIDQKRVYI VGLNETDILKLLKIQELSNDEH CVFLYCI LRGLKYI HSANVLRDLKPSNLLNITCDLKI CDFGLARV ADPEHDHTGF	185
Homo sapiens ERK1 P27361	IIRNIRASSTIDQKRVYI VGLNETDILKLLKIQELSNDEH CVFLYCI LRGLKYI HSANVLRDLKPSNLLNITCDLKI CDFGLARV ADPEHDHTGF	200
Homo sapiens ERK2 P28482	IIRNIRASSTIDQKRVYI VGLNETDILKLLKIQELSNDEH CVFLYCI LRGLKYI HSANVLRDLKPSNLLNITCDLKI CDFGLARV ADPEHDHTGF	183
Drosophila melanogaster rolled FBgn0003256	IIRNIRASSTIDQKRVYI VGLNETDILKLLKIQELSNDEH CVFLYCI LRGLKYI HSANVLRDLKPSNLLNITCDLKI CDFGLARV ADPEHDHTGF	196
Bemisia tabaci ERK BT A017617	LTEYVATRWYRAPEI MNSKGYTKSI IIVS VGGI LAEMLS NRPF PGKHYLDQLNHI LGLGSPSCEIDNCHII NKARNYLSLPKRNVAARLFPKSD	285
Homo sapiens ERK1 P27361	LTEYVATRWYRAPEI MNSKGYTKSI IIVS VGGI LAEMLS NRPF PGKHYLDQLNHI LGLGSPSCEIDNCHII NKARNYLSLPKRNVAARLFPKSD	300
Homo sapiens ERK2 P28482	LTEYVATRWYRAPEI MNSKGYTKSI IIVS VGGI LAEMLS NRPF PGKHYLDQLNHI LGLGSPSCEIDNCHII NKARNYLSLPKRNVAARLFPKSD	283
Drosophila melanogaster rolled FBgn0003256	LTEYVATRWYRAPEI MNSKGYTKSI IIVS VGGI LAEMLS NRPF PGKHYLDQLNHI LGLGSPSRDIECHII NKARNYLSLPKRNVAARLFPKSD	296
Bemisia tabaci ERK BT A017617	AKMILLLDKLTFNPNKRI VFEALAHPLYECYDPEDEPFAEPFRESNEIDDLPKELRQVIF EETARFCDEAG... .	363
Homo sapiens ERK1 P27361	SKALLLDLNLTNPNKRI VFEALAHPLYECYDPEDEPFAEPFRESNEIDDLPKELRQVIF EETARFCDEAG... .	379
Homo sapiens ERK2 P28482	SKALLLDKNLTNPNKRI VFEALAHPLYECYDPEDEPFAEPFRESNEIDDLPKELRQVIF EETARFCDEAG... .	360
Drosophila melanogaster rolled FBgn0003256	AKMILLLDKLTFNPNKRI VFEALAHPLYECYDPEDEPFAEPFRESNEIDDLPKELRQVIF EETARFCDEAG... .	376

**B**

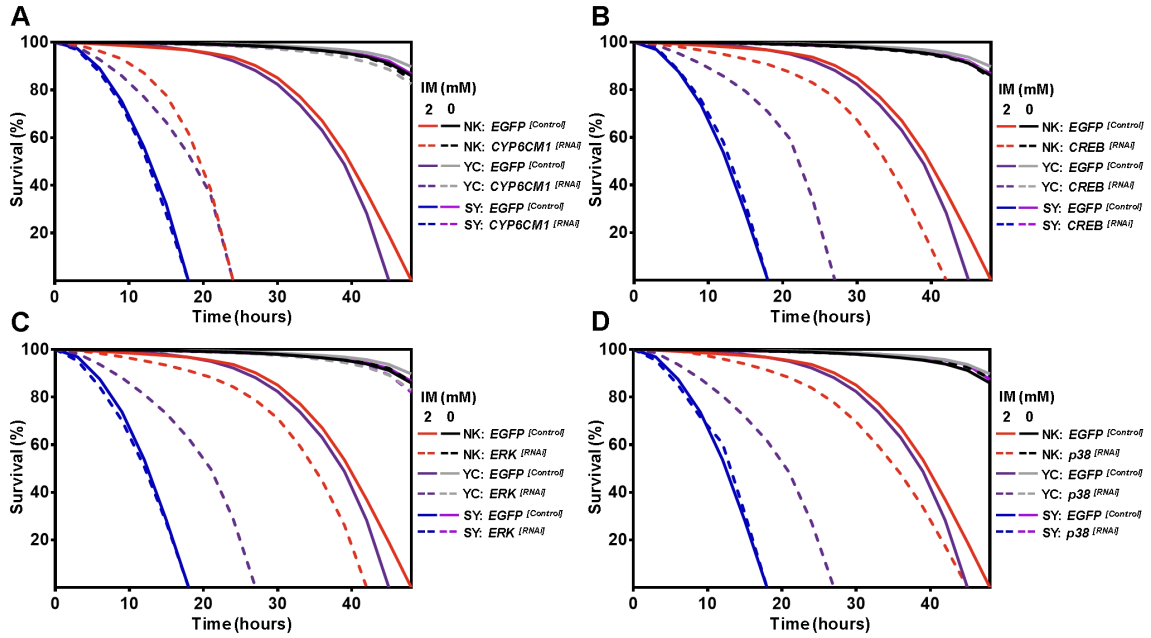
Bemisia tabaci p38 BT A002431	MSN... FYRVEI NRTHEVEVPERVQNIHPVGS GAYGVSVAEAFITRIGLRVAKKI SRPFQSI THAKRTYRELRLKHKHIE NVI GLLDITPEP... STSPN	93
Homo sapiens p38 Q16539	MSRNPFTYRCELNRTIWEVPERVQNIHPVGS GAYGVSVAEAFITRIGLRVAKKI SRPFQSI THAKRTYRELRLKHKHIE NVI GLLDITPEP... ARSLE	97
Drosophila melanogaster p38 FBpp0080111	MSRKNAKTYKLDI NRTHEVEVPERVQNIHPVGS GAYGVSVAEAFITRIGLRVAKKI SRPFQSI THAKRTYRELRLKHKHIE NVI GLLDITPEP... GQPALSLD	100
Bemisia tabaci p38 BT A002431	DFNQVIVTHLNGAELNNI IRTQKLSDEHVQCFI VYQILRGLKYI HSAGV I HRELKPSN AVNEDCELR I LDFGLARPTENENTGYVATRWYRAPEI MLNW	193
Homo sapiens p38 Q16539	DFNQVIVTHLNGAELNNI VKGCKIIDLHVQCFI VYQILRGLKYI HSADI I HRELKPSN AVNEDCELR I LDFGLARHTDENENTGYVATRWYRAPEI MLNW	197
Drosophila melanogaster p38 FBpp0080111	DFNQVIVTHLNGAELNNI IRTQKLSDEHVQCFI VYQILRGLKYI HSAGV I HRELKPSN AVNEDCELR I LDFGLARPAESENTGYVATRWYRAPEI MLNW	200
Bemisia tabaci p38 BT A002431	MHYNQIVDI VSVGGI NAEELTGRITLFPCTDHI I IQLTRVLVLCGTFSEDTFQR I SSESARNYI CSLPNLKKKDFKQVIRGANPLA I DLEELM I LLELADKRI	293
Homo sapiens p38 Q16539	MHYNQIVDI VSVGGI NAEELTGRITLFPCTDHI I IQLKLLRLVLCGTFSEDTFQR I SSESARNYI CSLTQMPKNFANVETGANPLA I DLEELM I LLELADKRI	297
Drosophila melanogaster p38 FBpp0080111	MHYNQIVDI VSVGGI NAEELTGRITLFPCTDHI I IQLNLI NEVLGTFSEDFSR I SSESARNYI RSLPVMPRRNE RDI I RGANPLA I DLEELM I LLELADKRI	300
Bemisia tabaci p38 BT A002431	IAEKALAPVLSKVAADPEDEPFTSPFYDCSFEENI I PVKRVKELVVEVYLS I RHPHPSLLPEGEVAS S	359
Homo sapiens p38 Q16539	IAEKALAPVLSKVAADPEDEPVAADFYDCSFEENI I I DPKNSLTVDYEM I S I RHPHPSLLPEGEVAS S	360
Drosophila melanogaster p38 FBpp0080111	IAEKALAPVLSKVAADPEDEPFTSPFYDCSFEENI I PVKRVKELVVEVYLS I RHPHPSLLPEGEVAS S	365

**Fig. S5.** Analysis of phosphorylation sites of the MAPKs ERK and p38 in *B. tabaci* in comparison with the orthologs from *Homo sapiens* and *Drosophila melanogaster*. Asterisks indicate the phosphorylation sites of *Homo sapiens*.

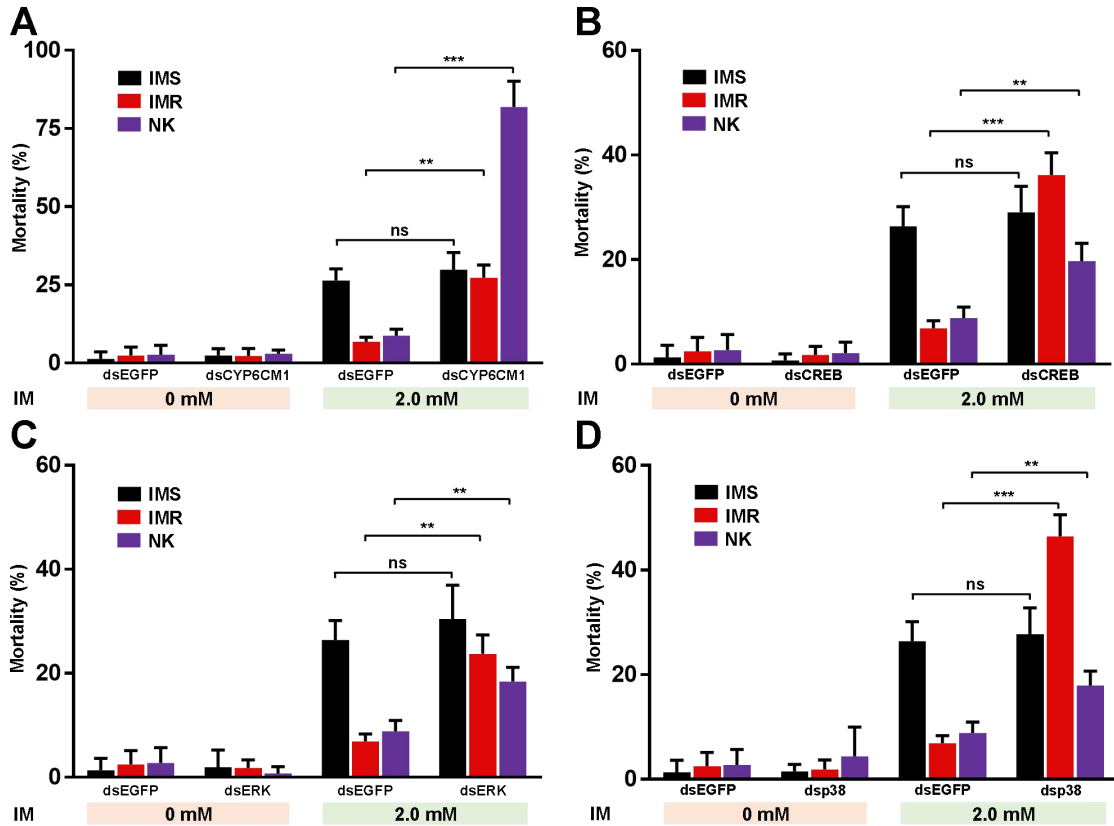


**Fig. S6.** Lifespan of IMR and IMS strains adults exposed to 0.4 mM imidacloprid (0.4) or no imidacloprid (0) after RNAi knockdown of *CYP6CM1* (A), *CREB* (B), *ERK* (C), and *p38* (D). Adults fed on ds*EGFP* were used as a negative control.

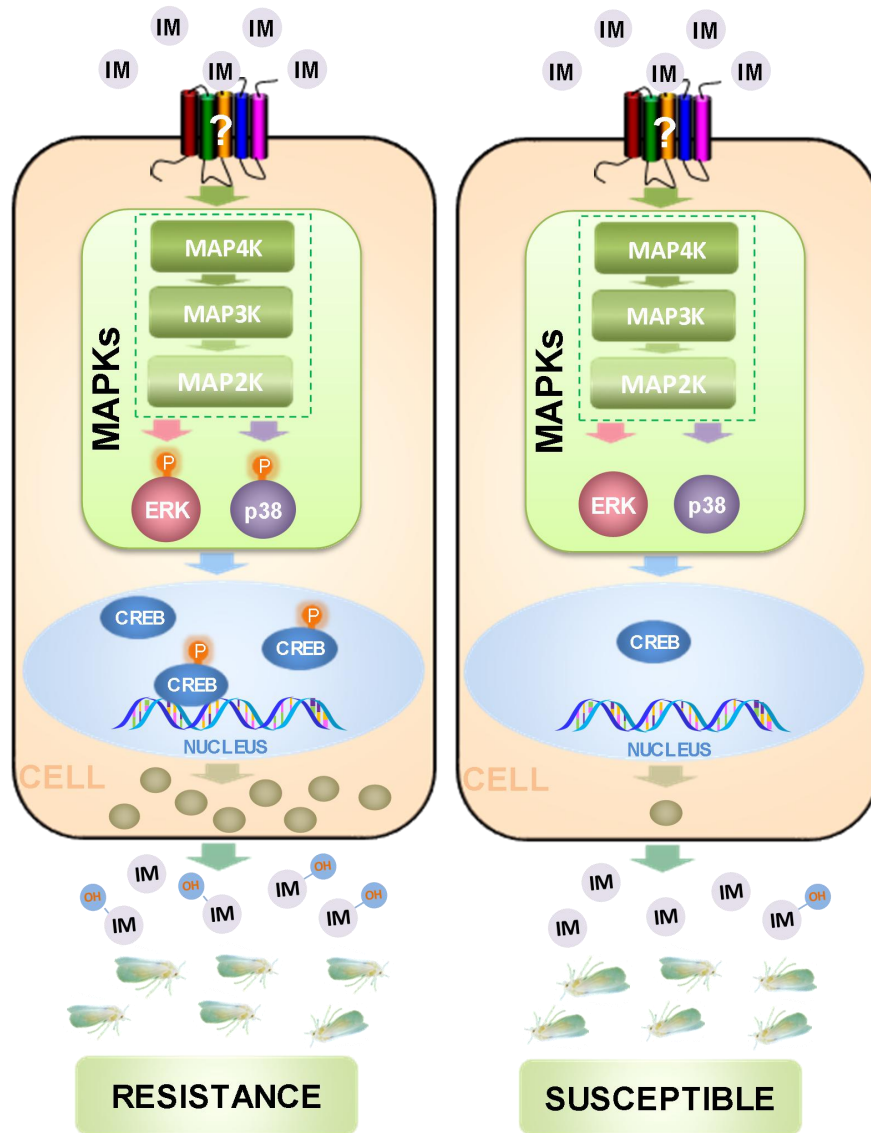




**Fig. S7.** Lifespan of three field resistance strains (NK, YC and SY) adults exposed to 2.0 mM imidacloprid (2) or no imidacloprid (0) after RNAi knockdown of *CYP6CM1* (A), *CREB* (B), *ERK* (C), and *p38* (D). Adults fed on ds*EGFP* were used as a negative control.



**Fig. S8.** Bioassays of one susceptible strain (IMS) and two resistance strains (IMR and NK) adults exposed to 2.0 mM imidacloprid (2.0) or no imidacloprid (0) for 24 hours after RNAi knockdown of *CYP6CM1* (A), *CREB* (B), *ERK* (C), and *p38* (D). Adults whitefly fed on dsEGFP were used as a negative control. (bioassays:  $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SE; \*\*  $P < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , two-tailed Student's  $t$ -test).



**Fig. S9.** A model of the regulation of *CYP6CM1* in *B. tabaci*. In this model, mitogen-activated protein kinases of the MAPK pathway phosphorylate ERK and p38. These in turn phosphorylate CREB, which then activates the expression of *CYP6CM1*. Activation and over-expression of *CREB* in the resistant strain increases the production of *CYP6CM1* protein, which reduces the toxicity of imidacloprid.

**Table S1. Origin of the *Bemisia tabaci* strains used in this study.**

<b>Population code</b>	<b>Population name</b>	<b>Sampling location</b>	<b>Sampling date</b>	<b>Host plant</b>	<b><i>B. tabaci</i> composition</b>
1	IMS/IMR	Hangzhou, Zhejiang (30°20' N, 12°38' E)	2011.10	Melon	MED/Q
2	NK	Nankou, Beijing (40°13' N, 116°08' E)	2018.09	Tomato	MED/Q
3	LF	Langfang, Hebei (39°36' N, 116°35' E)	2018.09	Pepper	MED/Q
4	YC	Yuncheng, Shanxi (35°26' N, 110°58' E)	2018.10	Cotton	MED/Q
5	SY	Shunyi, Beijin (40°11' N, 116°43' E)	2018.11	Tomato	MED/Q

**Table S2: Log-dose probit-mortality data for *B. tabaci* strains in response to imidacloprid.**

Strain	N <sup>a</sup>	Slope ( $\pm$ SE)	LC <sub>50</sub> (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	95% FL <sup>b</sup>	df <sup>c</sup>	$\chi^2$	RR <sup>d</sup>
IMS	486	2.16 ( $\pm$ 0.18)	123	98-154	4	5.47	1
IMR	424	1.56 ( $\pm$ 0.19)	2790	638-3125	4	4.68	23
NK	639	1.72 ( $\pm$ 0.12)	1674	894-6869	3	7.81	14
YC	444	1.83 ( $\pm$ 0.24)	2146	1437-4731	4	5.36	17
LF	852	1.26 ( $\pm$ 0.10)	505	337-801	5	16.69	4
SY	353	1.17 ( $\pm$ 0.16)	35	7-71	3	3.86	0.3

<sup>a</sup>N = Number of *B. tabaci* used in each bioassay.

<sup>b</sup>df = Degrees of freedom.

<sup>c</sup>FL = Fiducial limit.

<sup>d</sup>RR (Resistance Ratio) = LC<sub>50</sub> of the sample strains/LC<sub>50</sub> of strain IMS.

**Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:**

**Dataset S1.** Results and analysis of lifespan bioassays conducted on the IMR, IMS, SY, NK and YC strains.

**Dataset S2.** Upstream sequence analysis of *CYP6CM1* and *CREB* in the IMR and IMS strains.

**Dataset S3.** Information on the proteins characterised in this study.

**Dataset S4.** Analysis of the sequences of eight nAChR  $\alpha$  subunits and one  $\beta$  subunit in the IMR and IMS strains.

**Dataset S5.** Sequences of the oligonucleotide primers used in this study.

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A. Survival data for IMR, IMS, NK and YC strains: <i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup> (related to Fig. 1C; S.6A; S.7A)									
Strain	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Tested time <sup>b</sup>	Median survival <sup>c</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>d</sup>	Chi square <sup>e</sup>	df <sup>f</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>g</sup>	
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)			vs control	
IMS Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	168 (168)	81	39					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	159 (159)	81	39	0	0.004205	1	0.94830	
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	117 (117)	81	33					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	139 (139)	81	33	0	0.02655	1	0.87060	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
Control (EGFP)	130 (16)	81	Undefined						
<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	111 (15)	81	Undefined	Undefined	1.955	1	0.162		
IMR Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	156 (156)	81	62					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	114 (114)	81	39	37.1	1926	1	2.05 × 10 <sup>-147</sup>	
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	189 (189)	81	42					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	153 (153)	81	33	21.4	878	1	1.44 × 10 <sup>-52</sup>	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
Control (EGFP)	138 (17)	81	Undefined						
<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	125 (16)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.9398	1	0.3323		
NK Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	107 (107)	48	42					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	123 (123)	48	21	50	1321	1	3.96 × 10 <sup>-289</sup>	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	98 (12)	48	Undefined					
<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	108 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.8432	1	0.9269		
YC Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	146 (146)	48	39					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	120 (120)	48	21	46.2	1713	1	1.70 × 10 <sup>-291</sup>	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	116 (16)	48	Undefined					
<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	101 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.253	1	0.615		
SY Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	108 (108)	48	15					
	<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	116 (116)	48	15	0	1.549	1	0.2133	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	106 (13)	48	Undefined					
<i>CYP6CM1</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	121 (15)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.9041	1	0.34170		
<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets								
<b>b</b>	The total tested time for the treatment.								
<b>c</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of the experiment								
<b>d</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group								
<b>e</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test								
<b>f</b>	Degree of freedom								
<b>g</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of control versus treatment (null hypothesis is that treatment did not change survival)								



B. Survival data for IMR, IMS, NK and YC strains: <i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup> (related to Fig. 2G; S.6B; S.7B)								
Strain	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Tested time <sup>b</sup>	Median survival <sup>c</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>d</sup>	Chi square <sup>e</sup>	df <sup>f</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>g</sup>
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)			vs control
IMS Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	168 (168)	81	39				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	150 (150)	81	42	-7.7	3.72	1	0.05370
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	117 (117)	81	33				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	123 (123)	81	33	0	1.593	1	0.05200
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
Control (EGFP)	130 (16)	81	Undefined					
<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	122 (17)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.833	1	0.3614	
IMR Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	156 (156)	81	62				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	144 (144)	81	48	22.6	835	1	2.37 × 10 <sup>-52</sup>
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	189 (189)	81	42				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	220 (220)	81	33	21.4	1099	1	9.28 × 10 <sup>-58</sup>
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
Control (EGFP)	128 (17)	81	Undefined					
<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	112 (19)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.1909	1	0.6621	
NK Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	107 (107)	48	42				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	110 (110)	48	36	14.3	298.3	1	7.63 × 10 <sup>-67</sup>
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	98 (12)	48	Undefined				
<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	123 (16)	48	Undefined	Undefined	1.922	1	0.1657	
YC Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	146 (146)	48	39				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	99 (99)	48	24	38.5	1274	1	6.06 × 10 <sup>-279</sup>
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	116 (16)	48	Undefined				
<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	103 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.3889	1	0.5329	
SY Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	108 (108)	48	15				
	<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	97 (97)	48	15	0	1.996	1	0.1577
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
	Control (EGFP)	106 (13)	48	Undefined				
<i>CREB</i> <sup>[RNAi]</sup>	135 (17)	48	Undefined	Undefined	1.04	1	0.30780	
<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets							
<b>b</b>	The total tested time for the treatment.							
<b>c</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of the experiment							
<b>d</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group							
<b>e</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test							
<b>f</b>	Degree of freedom							
<b>g</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of control versus treatment (null hypothesis is that treatment did not change survival)							

C. Survival data for IMR, IMS, NK and YC strains: ERK <sup>[RNAi]</sup> (related to Fig. 2G; S.6C; S.7C)									
Strain	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Tested time <sup>b</sup>	Median survival <sup>c</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>d</sup>	Chi square <sup>e</sup>	df <sup>f</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>g</sup>	
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)			vs control	
IMS Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	168 (168)	81	39					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	169 (169)	81	39	0	2.83	1	0.06170	
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	117 (117)	81	33					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	142 (142)	81	33	0	2.65	1	0.07560	
IMR Strain	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	130 (16)	81	Undefined					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	120 (15)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.4805	1	0.4881	
	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	156 (156)	81	62					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	126 (126)	81	39	37.1	1926	1	$1.04 \times 10^{-133}$	
IMR Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	189 (189)	81	42					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	162 (162)	81	36	14.3	2677	1	$9.22 \times 10^{-31}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	138 (17)	81	Undefined					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	118 (15)	81	Undefined	Undefined	1.97	1	0.1605	
NK Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	107 (107)	48	42					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	139 (139)	48	36	14.3	240.3	1	$3.41 \times 10^{-54}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	98 (12)	48	Undefined					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	130 (19)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.1756	1	0.6751	
YC Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	147 (147)	48	39					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	86 (86)	48	21	46.2	1463	1	$5.65 \times 10^{-249}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	116 (16)	48	Undefined					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	123 (17)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.021	1	0.8848	
SY Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	108 (108)	48	15					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	116 (116)	48	15	0	1.243	1	0.123	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	106 (13)	48	Undefined					
	<i>ERK [RNAi]</i>	121 (16)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.2497	1	0.61730	
<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets								
<b>b</b>	The total tested time for the treatment.								
<b>c</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of the ex								
<b>d</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group								
<b>e</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test								
<b>f</b>	Degree of freedom								
<b>g</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of control versus treatment (null hypothesis is that treatment did not change survival)								

D. Survival data for IMR, IMS, NK and YC strains: <i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i> (related to Fig. 2G; S.6D; S.7D)									
Strain	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Tested time <sup>b</sup>	Median survival <sup>c</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>d</sup>	Chi square <sup>e</sup>	df <sup>f</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>g</sup>	
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)			vs control	
IMS Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	168 (168)	81	39					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	168 (168)	81	39	0	2.28	1	0.05610	
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	117 (117)	81	33					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	132 (132)	81	33	0	1.593	1	0.06160	
IMR Strain	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	130 (16)	81	Undefined					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	119 (15)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.6104	1	0.4346	
	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	156 (156)	81	62					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	156 (156)	81	33	46.8	857	1	$2.05 \times 10^{-147}$	
NK Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	189 (189)	81	42					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	147 (147)	81	33	21.4	1609	1	$1.44 \times 10^{-52}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	138 (17)	81	Undefined					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	134 (16)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.1387	1	0.7096	
YC Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	107 (107)	48	42					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	139 (139)	48	36	14.3	160.3	1	$9.76 \times 10^{-37}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	98 (12)	48	Undefined					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	106 (13)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.0931	1	0.7603	
SY Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	147 (147)	48	39					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	115 (115)	48	21	46.2	1648	1	$7.21 \times 10^{-274}$	
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>								
	Control (EGFP)	116 (16)	48	Undefined					
	<i>p38<sup>[RNAi]</sup></i>	125 (15)	48	Undefined	Undefined	0.5304	1	0.4665	
Legend	<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets							
	<b>b</b>	The total tested time for the treatment.							
	<b>c</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of the experiment							
	<b>d</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group							
	<b>e</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test							
	<b>f</b>	Degree of freedom							
<b>g</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of control versus treatment (null hypothesis is that treatment did not change survival)								

E. Survival data for IMR: <i>ERK/p38</i> <sup>[inhibit]</sup> on <i>B.tabaci</i> (related to Fig. S.4C)							
Strain <sup>a</sup>	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Median survival <sup>b</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>c</sup>	Chi square <sup>d</sup>	df <sup>e</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>f</sup>
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)			vs control
IMR Strain	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	136 (136)	67				
	<i>ERK</i> <sup>[PD98059]</sup>	144 (144)	48	28.4	836	1	5.84 × 10 <sup>-91</sup>
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	120 (7)	Undefined				
	<i>ERK</i> <sup>[PD98059]</sup>	112 (7)	Undefined	Undefined	1.714	1	0.1904
	<b>0.4 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	136 (136)	67				
	<i>p38</i> <sup>[SB203580]</sup>	116 (116)	51	23.9	409	1	2.27 × 10 <sup>-45</sup>
<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
Control (DMSO)	120 (7)	Undefined					
<i>p38</i> <sup>[SB203580]</sup>	125 (8)	Undefined	Undefined	0.7982	1	0.3716	
E. Survival data for IMR > <i>ERK/p38</i> <sup>[inhibit]</sup> on plant (related to Figure S.4E)							
Strains <sup>a</sup>	Insecticide/RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Median survival <sup>b</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>c</sup>	Chi square <sup>d</sup>	df <sup>e</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>f</sup>
		(n Dead)	(days)	(days)			vs control
IMR Strain	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	100 (100)	8.92				
	<i>ERK</i> <sup>[PD98059]</sup>	100 (100)	4.96	44.4	849	1	8.65 × 10 <sup>-184</sup>
	<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	100 (5)	Undefined				
	<i>ERK</i> <sup>[PD98059]</sup>	100 (7)	Undefined	Undefined	0.4234	1	0.5152
	<b>2.0 mM Imidacloprid</b>						
	Control (DMSO)	100 (100)	8.92				
	<i>p38</i> <sup>[SB203580]</sup>	100 (100)	6.54	26.7	562	1	7.46 × 10 <sup>-91</sup>
<b>0 mM Imidacloprid</b>							
Control (DMSO)	100 (5)	Undefined					
<i>p38</i> <sup>[SB203580]</sup>	100 (8)	Undefined	Undefined	3.023	1	0.0821	
<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets						
<b>b</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of						
<b>c</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group						
<b>d</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test						
<b>e</b>	Degree of freedom						
<b>f</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of control versus treatment (null hypothesis is that treatment did not change survival)						

**F. Survival data for no-imidacloprid controls (comparison of data derived from the IMR, IMS, YC, NK and SY strains).**

Strain	RNAi Treatment	Sample size <sup>a</sup>	Tested time <sup>b</sup>	Median survival <sup>c</sup>	Percentage Decrease <sup>d</sup>	Chi square <sup>e</sup>	df <sup>f</sup>	p-value (log rank) <sup>g</sup>	
		(n Dead)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)			vs IMS control	
IMS	Control (EGFP)	130 (16)	81	Undefined					
IMR	Control (EGFP)	138 (17)	81	Undefined	Undefined	1.234	1	0.2666	
NK	Control (EGFP)	98 (12)	48	Undefined	Undefined	53.2	1	$1.03 \times 10^{-28}$	
YC	Control (EGFP)	116 (16)	48	Undefined	Undefined	145.9	1	$1.38 \times 10^{-33}$	
SY	Control (EGFP)	106 (13)	48	Undefined	Undefined	156.4	1	$7.04 \times 10^{-36}$	
IMS	<i>CYP6CM1</i> [RNAi]	111 (15)	81	Undefined					
IMR	<i>CYP6CM1</i> [RNAi]	125 (16)	81	Undefined	Undefined	2.281	1	0.131	
NK	<i>CYP6CM1</i> [RNAi]	108 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	103.4	1	$2.74 \times 10^{-24}$	
YC	<i>CYP6CM1</i> [RNAi]	101 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	125.8	1	$3.36 \times 10^{-29}$	
SY	<i>CYP6CM1</i> [RNAi]	121 (15)	48	Undefined	Undefined	125.4	1	$1.09 \times 10^{-24}$	
IMS	<i>CREB</i> [RNAi]	122 (17)	81	Undefined					
IMR	<i>CREB</i> [RNAi]	112 (19)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.0573	1	0.8108	
NK	<i>CREB</i> [RNAi]	123 (16)	48	Undefined	Undefined	168.4	1	$1.64 \times 10^{-38}$	
YC	<i>CREB</i> [RNAi]	103 (14)	48	Undefined	Undefined	137.1	1	$1.23 \times 10^{-31}$	
SY	<i>CREB</i> [RNAi]	135 (17)	48	Undefined	Undefined	122	1	$2.29 \times 10^{-28}$	
IMS	<i>ERK</i> [RNAi]	120 (15)	81	Undefined					
IMR	<i>ERK</i> [RNAi]	118 (15)	81	Undefined	Undefined	0.1374	1	0.7109	
NK	<i>ERK</i> [RNAi]	130 (19)	48	Undefined	Undefined	150.5	1	$1.33 \times 10^{-34}$	
YC	<i>ERK</i> [RNAi]	123 (17)	48	Undefined	Undefined	137.4	1	$9.71 \times 10^{-32}$	
SY	<i>ERK</i> [RNAi]	121 (16)	48	Undefined	Undefined	130.3	1	$3.44 \times 10^{-30}$	
IMS	<i>p38</i> [RNAi]	119 (15)	81	Undefined					
IMR	<i>p38</i> [RNAi]	134 (16)	81	Undefined	Undefined	2.275	1	0.1315	
NK	<i>p38</i> [RNAi]	106 (13)	48	Undefined	Undefined	96.94	1	$7.12 \times 10^{-23}$	
YC	<i>p38</i> [RNAi]	125 (15)	48	Undefined	Undefined	98.99	1	$2.53 \times 10^{-23}$	
SY	<i>p38</i> [RNAi]	98 (11)	48	Undefined	Undefined	114.5	1	$1.01 \times 10^{-26}$	
<b>a</b>	The total number of whiteflies tested for the treatment, with the number dead at the conclusion of the experiment shown in brackets								
<b>b</b>	The total tested time for the treatment.								
<b>c</b>	Median survival time in hours (time at which fractional survival equals 50%). Note this cannot be computed for no-imidacloprid controls as survival exceeded 50% at the conclusion of the experiment								
<b>d</b>	The percentage decrease in median survival (hours) between the control and test group								
<b>e</b>	Chi-square value reported by the logrank test								
<b>f</b>	Degree of freedom								
<b>g</b>	P value of logrank (Mantel-Cox) test of the survival curves of each strain compared to the IMS strain (null hypothesis is there is no significant difference in survival)								









S2 TTGAAATTGATAGACAAAGCGGATAGACGAAAGGAATACAAAAGGACTCTGTTGATGGAGTGGTGGTTCGCAATAAACGAAAGGGGATAAGTAATAGACTGACTGACGCGGAATCCACGAGAACGCTTCGTTCTCTCGCATCTTTCCCCCTACTCTATTACATACCCGTTTCAGCTGATAAGATCGCTCTATTTT 2192

R1 CCCTTACATTTTATGCTATTATTTCAAATAACGAGCCACGGGAGCTCTTCGTTGATCAGTTGGATCCATTTTGCAAAGAGGAAACCAACAGAGCATTCAAIGTGCCTTAGATTGTGGAACCTTTTCAACTTGCATATAAACTGATCACCTAAACAAAGTTTTATTTTACTCCAGAGAAATATAAATCAAAC 2399

R1 AAAAATACCTCTGTAATTTAATTTTTGTAGGTTTCAGTAATTTATCGCAAGGTATGTAAGTGCACAATCCTAGCAACTTGGAAATGCTCTGGTTCCTTTGTGCAAAATGCAGTCCACTTATTTGGTATTAAAAACGGTCCGGAAAGGGGATTTTCACGTCACGTGCATTAAGCTCAGCTTGCCTTT 2599

R1 CGTAATGCAAAAGTTCCATAATTTAAATGAAATTTTTATGTTATATTAGTAGTATTGAGTATTGAGTATGAGACTTGCATCGCAATTTCCGAAATATTACCACTAAAATTTAAAGAGAAATCAGGAATTTTCAAAGTTTAAAGTGTACATTTCCCGGAAAACAACTATCAGAGGAATGAGAAAAGCA 2799

R1 GCGGAGATTTCAATGTAACGAACAAGGACGTTTTTCGAGTGGCCATTCGTTTTACCAGATCGCCTTGTCTGAAAGAAAACGTCGTATGGAAATATGCGCTGTCAAACCTTGTAGTAGATACGTGATTTCTCAATATTTATGCGTAATTTACCACAAATTTTCCAGAAATCATTACAGTGCCTTAT 2999

R1 AAATTAACGGAGCCTTTGGAGAAAATAATCATGTCGTATATATGAAATAAACCTTTTGCAGAGGAAATTTGGCAACGTTCCGGATATATTTTAAACGTTCCGTTCCGCGTTTTCTTCCATGCGCAGCGATGGACTCGCCGC 3199







R5 TCCGTTTAAAAAATAGATATGGCAGGAAGTCTGCAACCGCAGCTGCAAAACCGAGTTACCGACTTACACCGTCGATATGTCCACCAAGAGTGGTAAAAATGGIATGAGGAATAAGGATGCTTCAAACGATGTAGCAGCTGTATAAGATTATTCAGCTTTGGCTGATGATGGGTACTAAAAAACTATGTTTCATTTT 4396

R1 ATATCATAATGTTGGGAATTTCCACGATGTTCCCTTGAAACTTGATAATTTTAAATTTTATAAATTTTGAACCCCTGCTTGTACGACCCAAATGAGCATTGGCAAAACATAGATTAATTCGTCCTATTGAATTAATAAATAAAAAAATACCTTTTAGAACAAITTTGTTTTGTAATGTTCCGTCGGTAAGA 4598

R1 AACTCTCAGACTGGGATATTTTACACTCGGGTCTGTACAAAAGCTGCTTTATTTACAATCCTCTCCACTTGGAAACCTCAGTTCAAAAACGAGGTGTAAAAATCGGGCTGGAGTCTATATAGCGCCCAAAACACCAAGTTATATGGATACGAAGTGGAAATAGCACCGTAAAAGCGTATATGACACCCCGCAAAA 4798

R1 AGAGTAGATTTCCGTCGATAAAAAGTGTCTCTGCATTCAATCACTCGGGGGTTTGGGGCGCTACATGATTCCGGCAGCAGGATTCACCTTCGAAATTTTAAACAGTCGAGACCTGATATTAACGTATAATGAGTCAGTTGCAAACTTGATCAAGTGGAGTAGAAATAACAAGGATTAATTCATATGGGAGAGGGGAATGG 4998

R1 CTCAAAATTAACGATGAGGGCATTTCCAATGTCTAAAATAGGTAAACTCCCCGCATGAGAAATAAATCCTGAAACTGAGTTCAACAGCAGTGGCGTGGCAGCCTACTTTGGGATATATTGATGATCTGCCATTTAAACCTTAGAAGAGGGTGTTCACAAACAACGCCCTTAATAATCGATTCCCTACCAGCGCTTCA 5198

R1 AACGGGGAATAACATCGATAATCGATCATTCAACCTCGCAATTACTGTTTCGACAGGCGCAGGCTGTAAAGTTTTCTGTAAATATGTTATGTAAACATGATTCAAGTGGACCGACTAATCTGCACGCTCGTATTTACCACACTTCCCTTTATCTCGTCAACCGAGGGTAAAACCTGTCAAAGTGTGCACCTCGAAATG 5398



























# Analysis the sequences of nAChR-α6 in IMR and IMS strain

IMR-1	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMR-2	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMR-3	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMR-4	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMR-5	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMR-6	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMS-1	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMS-2	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMS-4	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMS-5	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140
IMS-6	MIRADSYFVLVLMTOFGDS	QGRHERLLDKLLDSYNVLERPVANESAALLVRF	SITLQOIIDVDEKNQILTTNAWNLEWVDYSLGN	SSDYGGVKDLRI	PPNRVWKPDILMYS	ADEKFDGTFHTNVLVRN	GTCLY	140

IMR-1	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMR-2	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMR-3	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMR-4	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMR-5	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMR-6	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMS-1	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMS-2	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMS-4	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMS-5	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280
IMS-6	IPPGIEKSTCKID	TWFPFDQ	CDMKFGSWYDGFQDLQKSEEGDLSDF	IPNGEYLLGMPGKRNVL	YQCCPEPYVDIT	FQIQIRRTLYFFNL	IIVPCVLISSMALLGFTLPPDSGEKLT	LVGVTILLSTVFLN	280

IMR-1	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMR-2	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMR-3	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMR-4	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMR-5	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMR-6	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMS-1	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMS-2	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMS-4	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMS-5	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420
IMS-6	LVAESMTTSDAVPL	STYFNCIMF	WASSVVLTVL	VLYHHRTPENHKMSGFVQKLFLE	YLPWVLRMRGPKKITLKT	ISISHRMRELEIRERSRSL	LANILD	DDDLQRF	FRANVNNSTNTTCHQRQGH	TVSQSVDET	420

IMR-1	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMR-2	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMR-3	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMR-4	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMR-5	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMR-6	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMS-1	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMS-2	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMS-4	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMS-5	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462
IMS-6	AMCSIAQREMQRH	LRELRFITGRLRKKDEAEVIS	DNKFAAM							462









Dataset S4. Primers used in this study.								
Gene Name	Abbreviation	Genome ID (MEAM1)	Direction	Primer (5'-3')	Annealing temperature (°C)	Product (bp)	Usage	Amplification efficiency (%)
CYP6CM1	CYP6CM1	Bta07221	Left	CACTCTTTGGATTACTGCACCC	62	110	qRT-PCR	99
			Right	GTGAAGCTGCCTCTTTAATGGC	61			
			Left	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG ACTTTTCAGGGAGGCCATT	58	378	RNAi	
			Right	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG GTCGCAGCGTCTCATCAATA	58			
			CM1 upstream (-2146 to +1)	CGACAACACAAGGAAATCCTATTCC	63	2146		
				TGCTCTCGGTTAAATCTGCAAAAAG	64			
			CM1 upstream (-2026 to -4190)	GGTGGGATTCTTCATAGTTTTCTTATTTG	64	2165	CYP6CM1 up sequences analysis	
				CGTCGATATGAGGAAAAGGGGTAC	63			
			CM1 upstream (-4033 to -6084)	GATTGGCCGTACAGTTAGTTAGCC	61	2052		
				CCATCAACAGGATCCTTTTGATTC	61			
cAMP-response element binding protein	CREB	Bta05712	Left	ATGGACGGGATGGTGGAGG	62	849	Gene clone	
			Right	TCAAATCTGTTTTTGCTGGCAATAGAGC	63			
			Left	ACTCAAGGCAGTCTCCAAACCC	62	154	qRT-PCR	99
			Right	TTTCTGCTCCGCCTAAATCGTT	63			
			Left	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG AAGCGGTGACCCTTTATCCT	58	365	RNAi	
			Right	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG TTGACGACTCCACTTTGCGAG	58			
			Left	ATGACAAATGCATCATCAGGAGG	61	312	CREB-DN1	
			Right	ATCTGTTTTTTGCTGGCAATAGAGC	63			
			Left	ATGGACGGGATGGTGGAGG	63	618	CREB-DN2	
			Right	CACCACAATTCACCTGGTACG	60			
CREB upstream (-2259 to +1)	GAAGAACTGGTGTAGCCAGGATC	61	2259	CREB up sequences analysis				
	AGCCTGGGACCTCCCCTCACAG	65						
p38	p38	Bta12848	Left	ATGTCTAATTTTACAGGGTTGAAATC	60	1080	Gene clone	
			Right	AGAGGAAGCAACTTCACCTTCC	59			
			Left	GAACGCCGTCGGAGGATACTT	63	115	qRT-PCR	103
			Right	TTGGCTCCTTTGAACACATTC	61			
			Left	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG AAGGGTTTTGGTGCTTTGTG	58	371	RNAi	
			Right	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG CTGGCAGAAGAGAAGGATGG	58			
Extracellular signal-regulated kinase	ERK	Bta01850	Left	ATGGCGCCGAGGGCTCG	65	1092	Gene clone	
			Right	CATGCCTGCCTCATCTTGCC	63			
			Left	AGATTAATTCCTTCAGCCGATGC	62	100	qRT-PCR	98
			Right	GGCAAGGGCATCTTCAACTAC	63			
			Left	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG AGGTGCTTATGGAATGGTCG	58	389	RNAi	
			Right	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG GGTCACACGTTGTGTTGAGG	58			
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-276 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-276		Left	AATGGAAAAATGCCGCCAAAATG	64	276	Promoter analysis	
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-458 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-458		Left	GAACCAAACAGACGGCAGGATAA	63	458		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-570 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-570		Left	GAAACCTGCCTGCGGTAAAT	62	570		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-702 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-702		Left	CTTTATCTCGTCAACGCAGGGTA	61	702		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-761 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-761		Left	GTAATACATGATTCAAGTGGACCGACT	62	761		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-812 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-812		Left	GCAATTACTGTTTCGACAGGCG	61	812		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-865 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-865		Left	CTTACCACAGCTTCAAACGGGG	63	865		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-920 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-920		Left	GCCATTTAAACCTATAGAAGAGGGTG	63	920		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-939 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-939		Left	TATTGATTGACTGCCATTTAAACCTAT	62	939		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-968 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-968		Left	TCAACAGCAGTGGCGTGGC	63	968		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>-1196 to +1</sup>	CM4.1F-1196		Left	GGGGCGTACATAGATTCCG	62	1196		
pGL4.10-CYP6CM1 <sup>+1</sup>	CM4.1R-1		Right	TGCTCTCGGTTAAATCTGCAAAAAG	64			
Aryl hydrocarbon receptor	AHR	Bta13125	Left	ATGICTGCATTAGCTCAATCTGTCCCTT	64	1965		
			Right	CTCAAAGGGCCCATTTGAACATAT	62			
			Left	GCGGAACGTGTAAGAAAGAAAGGT	61	183	qRT-PCR	96
			Right	CAGCGTAGTTATGACCGTCTTTT	60			
CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein	CEBP	Bta03941	Left	ATGGACTCGCCGAGATGTAC	62	846	Gene clone	
			Right	CTGAACACCGTGGTGAGGATAG	59			
			Left	CAAACACCACCATCACCACAGT	60	184	qRT-PCR	99
			Right	CAAGCGTTCGTTTTCTTCACT	59			
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> nuclear hormone receptor HR96	DHR96	Bta02014	Left	ATGGACTTGAAACATGATACAGCG	61	1593	Gene clone	
			Right	TGAAACAACATCCCAAATCTCC	59			
			Left	GGCGAATAGTTTTGAACGGGTA	59	137	qRT-PCR	95
			Right	TGAGGGCGTTGTAGTGGTAGC	60			

Ecdysone-Induced Protein 23	E23	Bta04225	Left	ATGGTCAAGCCTGGCGAACT	62	1956	Gene clone	98
			Right	TTGGGTGTTTCGAAAATAACG	58			
			Left	CCAGGGATGGATGTTTTCTCTA	60			
			Right	GCTCTTTGTTTATGACCTCCCGT	61			
Ecdysone-Induced Protein 63	E63	Bta13636	Left	ATGGCTGATCAGCTGACGG	59	450	Gene clone	99
			Right	CTTTGATGCATCATTGTCACAAAC	59			
			Left	TGGAGATGGAACAATCACGACA	62			
			Right	CGTATCTGIGTCTTTCATTTTCT	61			
Ecdysone-Induced Protein 78	E78	Ssa11354	Left	ATGGAGACCCTCACGACACC	60	1302	Gene clone	99
			Right	CTGGAGATCCTCTCACACTTAGG	59			
			Left	CATCAAACAGCATCAAGATAGGC	59			
			Right	TAAACCAGTCTAAATGAGCGGAA	59			
Hepatocyte nuclear factor 6	HNF6	Bta12954	Left	ATGGTGTCCACGCCGTCG	63	822	Gene clone	96
			Right	AAGTCGTGGTGTGGCCGC	64			
			Left	ATGGACAAGTGGAAAGGACGAGG	62			
			Right	GATGGCTGGTCGTCGGAGA	61			
Hormone receptor 3	HR3	Bta04882	Left	ATGTCCAGAGATGCGGTGAAATTTCG	63	1362	Gene clone	99
			Right	GCTATCAACCGAGAACAACCTTTT	59			
			Left	TGGCTGTGATAAGGATGTGCG	60			
			Right	CCGCAGAATACAGGGCAAGTT	61			
Hormone receptor 4	HR4	Bta02331	Left	ATGGAGGATTTACATCTCATCAAAT	60	2268	Gene clone	96
			Right	ATTATAAAATCGGTGCGGAGTG	59			
			Left	TGTTCCGTTTTGATTACGCATTT	61			
			Right	CTTTTTACAATCTTGCCTTTACCT	60			
Hormone receptor-like in 38	HR38	Bta11834	Left	ATGATTCTCGCTGGCGGGG	62	2271	Gene clone	97
			Right	AAATGGTAAACTAGCAACAAACATGT	59			
			Left	AGTTTTGGTGACTGGCTCTTCG	61			
			Right	TCCGTGACGCTCTGTGATGATA	61			
Kruppel-like factor 11	KLF11	Bta10336	Left	ATGGTGCTCACTATTGATACTAGCG	60	1248	Gene clone	103
			Right	AATCATTTGAGTGAGGAAAGTCTTC	58			
			Left	CGTTACCTGAAAGGAATGGACC	60			
			Right	GCTTCTTCCATAGTCAACATCCAT	61			
Muscle aponeurosis fibromatosis-S	Maf-S	Bta07674	Left	ATGAACAGGAAATATGAACGAAAAATT	61	417	Gene clone	99
			Right	TAAGCATCCACTTTTTAAGGACTCC	60			
			Left	CGAAATGATGGAAAAAGATAACAGTC	61			
			Right	GAATAGGCCTTTCCTCATCAGC	60			
Nuclear receptors 2E	NR2E	Bta00533	Left	ATGGAGGTCTGTGCGGAGACG	63	1182	Gene clone	102
			Right	TTGCCGGAGCATGTCTGTG	60			
			Left	GAAAGAGGATGAAGTAAGCAGTTCAG	60			
			Right	GAAACATCGTCTGTGCTCTT	60			
Nuclear factor E2-related factor-2	NRF2	Bta00634	Left	ATGACCTCGCCCTCCCG	65	1518	Gene clone	96
			Right	ATGATCCAGACTCCCCAGTTCC	62			
			Left	AACGGAACCATTTCTCCTCTTG	61			
			Right	TGTGCGGAGGGTCTCTGTG	62			
Retinoid X Receptor	RXR1	Bta11398	Left	ATGGAAGGCAGTGAAAGAGGAC	60	1203	Gene clone	97
			Right	CAGTGTGCGATCGGAAATTTTC	61			
			Left	ATCTCCTCTTCCACCAAACCATC	61			
			Right	TTCACGGCAAGCATAAGACAAGT	61			
pAc5.1b	—	—	Left	GACACAAAGCCGCTCCATCAG	63	252	Vector linearization	
pGL4.10	—	—	Right	CCTTAGAAGGCACAGTCGAGGC	63	283	Vector linearization	
			Left	TAGCAAAATAGGCTGTCCCCAG	61			
			Right	CGTCGGTAAAGCGATGGTG	63			
60S ribosomal protein L29	RPL29	Bta02466	Left	TCGGAAAATTACCGTGAG	60	144	qRT-PCR	101
			Right	GAACTTGTGATCTACTCCTCTCGTG	60			
elongation factor 1 alpha	EF-1a	Bta04011	Left	TAGCCTTGTGCCAATTTCCG	60	110	qRT-PCR	103
			Right	CCTCAGCATTACCGTCC	60			
β-actin	Actin	Bta08780	Left	TCTCCAGCCATCCTTCTTG	60	174	qRT-PCR	96
			Right	CGGTGATTCCTTCTGCATT	60			

nAChRs- $\alpha$ 1	$\alpha$ 1	Bta11027	Left	ATGCTGGGCGTGTTAGAATG	62	1686	Gene clone	
			Right	ATCCTCCTCGGGGCCAT	63			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 2	$\alpha$ 2	Bta11032	Left	ATGTGCTTCCGGGAGTGGCT	64	1671	Gene clone	
			Right	AAAATCGGAGGTGACGTCCG	62			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 3	$\alpha$ 3	Bta14972	Left	ATGAGGATAATTTACTGGATAATCGTTG	61	1707	Gene clone	
			Right	TAGAGTCGTGGTAGTAACTTGCGGC	64			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 4	$\alpha$ 4	Bta05486	Left	ATGATCTTCGTTTTGCTTTAATCCT	61	1602	Gene clone	
			Right	AAGTGCATCTAAAATCTTGTCCTCGG	61			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 5	$\alpha$ 5	Bta11534	Left	ATGCGCCTGTTGAGTGACAATC	62	1452	Gene clone	
			Right	CGGGCCGTATGGGGATCC	65			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 6	$\alpha$ 6	Bta05486	Left	ATGATTTCGGCCGACTCCTATT	63	1386	Gene clone	
			Right	TCACGCCTGGCTGTGGATACTT	64			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 7	$\alpha$ 7	Bta02663	Left	ATGGTGCGGATCGGTGTTGT	63	1515	Gene clone	
			Right	GTTGACGATAATATGCGGGGC	62			
nAChRs- $\alpha$ 8	$\alpha$ 8	Bta05486	Left	ATGCTCTTCGTTTTGCTTTAATCC	62	1602	Gene clone	
			Right	AAGTGCATCTAAAATTTGTCTCGG	61			
nAChRs- $\beta$ 1	$\beta$ 1	Bta03349	Left	ATGAAAACGTTCGCTAGTGGCTACT	61	1524	Gene clone	
			Right	CTTCCACGGTAGATCTCAATTATTC	60			
MEAM1 Genome Website		<a href="http://www.whiteflygenomics.org/cgi-bin/bta/blast.cgi">http://www.whiteflygenomics.org/cgi-bin/bta/blast.cgi</a>						