

Identification and genetic analysis of EMS-mutagenized wheat mutants conferring lesion-mimic premature aging

Weiwei Kong

Henan University of Science and Technology

Liming Wang (✉ lmwang1@163.com)

Henan University of Science and Technology <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9508-8927>

Pei Cao

Institute of Botany Chinese Academy of Sciences

Xingfeng Li

Shandong Agricultural University

Jingjing Ji

Henan University of Science and Technology

Puhui Dong

Henan University of Science and Technology

Xuefang Yan

Henan University of Science and Technology

Chunping Wang

Henan University of Science and Technology

Honggang Wang

Shandong Agricultural University

Jiaqiang Sun (✉ sunjiaqiang@caas.cn)

Institute of Crop Science Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences

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1 **Identification and genetic analysis of EMS-mutagenized wheat**
2 **mutants conferring lesion-mimic premature aging**

3 Weiwei Kong^{1#}, Liming Wang^{1##}, Pei Cao², Xingfeng Li³, Jingjing Ji¹, Puhui Dong¹, Xuefang Yan¹,
4 Chunping Wang¹, Honggang Wang³, Jiaqiang Sun^{4*}

5

6 ¹ Agronomy College, Henan University of Science and Technology, Luoyang 471023, China;

7 ² Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 10093, China

8 ³ State Key Laboratory of Crop Biology/Agronomy College, Shandong Agricultural University,
9 Taian, 271018, China

10 ⁴ Institute of Crop Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, 10081, China

11

12 # These authors contributed equally to this work.

13 * To whom correspondence may be addressed. E-mail address: lmwang1@163.com ;
14 sunjiaqiang@caas.cn.

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24 **Abstract**

25 **Background:** Lesion-mimic and premature aging (*lmpa*) mutant *lmpa1* was identified from the
26 ethyl methane sulfonate (EMS) mutant library in the bread wheat variety Keda 527 (KD527)
27 background. To reveal the genetic basis of *lmpa1* mutant, phenotypic observations and analyses of
28 chlorophyll content and photosynthesis were carried out in *lmpa1*, KD527 and their F₁ and F₂
29 derivatives. Further, bulked segregation analysis (BSA) in combination with a 660K SNP Chip
30 were conducted on the F₂ segregation population of *lmpa1*/Chinese spring(CS) to locate the *lmpa1*
31 gene.

32 **Results:** Most agronomic traits of *lmpa1* were similar to those of KD527 before lesion-like spots
33 appeared. Genetic analysis indicated that the F₁ plants from the crossing of *lmpa1* and KD527
34 exhibited the *lmpa* phenotype and the F₂ progenies showed a segregation of normal (wild type,
35 WT) and *lmpa*, with the ratios of *lmpa*:WT=124:36 ($\chi^2=1.008 \leq 3.841$), indicating that *lmpa* is a
36 dominant mutation. The combination of BSA and the SNP Chip analysis of CS, *lmpa1* and
37 *lmpa1*/CS F₂ WT pool (50 plants) and *lmpa* pool (50 plants) showed that polymorphic SNPs were
38 enriched on chromosome 5A, within a region of 30-40 Mb, indicating that the wheat premature
39 aging gene *Lmpa1* was probably located on the short arm of chromosome 5A.

40 **Conclusions:** EMS-mutagenized mutant *lmpa1* deriving from elite wheat line KD527 conferred
41 *lmpa*. *lmpa* phenotype of *lmpa1* mutant is controlled by a single dominant allele designated as
42 *Lmpa1*, which affected wheat growth and development and reduced the thousand grain weight
43 (*tgw*) of single plant in wheat. The gene *Lmpa1* was tentatively located within the region of 30-40
44 Mb near to the short arm of chromosome 5A.

45 **Keywords:** Wheat, *lmpa1*, Mutant, Chromosomal location

46 **Backgroud**

47 Lesion-like mutants (*llm*) can spontaneously form spots on leaves, sheaths, or whole plants
48 without significant damage, stress, or external pathogen infection [1]. The phenotype of *llm* is
49 very similar to the hypersensitivity response (programmed cell death, PCD) after infection with
50 pathogens [2]. Lesion-like spots (*lls*) formation is controlled by specific genes and/or affected by
51 certain environmental conditions. They may be mostly caused by cell death and partially be
52 correlated with pigment accumulation [3]. Previous researches [4] indicated that the mechanism of

53 the lesion formation is very complicated because they may be controlled by genes related to
54 disease resistance, regulation of death, and basic metabolic enzymes. Both signal molecules in
55 plant defense to diseases and in environmental responses also play important role on the formation
56 of *lls*.

57 In recent years, ethyl methane sulfonate (EMS) has been widely used to induce mutants with
58 different agronomic traits in crops because it has the advantages of higher point mutation, fewer
59 chromosomal aberrations, and easier screening of mutants over other methods [5-8]. EMS is a
60 useful tool for improving particular agronomic traits, breeding new varieties, and screening elite
61 germplasms [9]. Mutant germplasms induced by EMS can be effectively used to mine new genes,
62 promote functional genomics studies, and accelerate breeding program [10].

63 To date, *llm* have been reported in corn [11], Arabidopsis [12], barley [13], and rice [14]. In
64 recent years, wheat *lls* have been gradually found. For example, Geng [15] mapped a new wheat
65 spot-like mutation gene *lm3*. Li et al. [16] found that wheat white spot mutation *I30* was controlled
66 by a pair of recessive nuclear genes which were located on wheat chromosome 6D by using of
67 BSA method and 660K gene chip technology. Yao et al. [17] obtained a LLM from the crossing
68 between normal parents Yanzhan 1 and Zaosui 30 and the LLM was controlled by two recessive
69 genes named *lm1* and *lm2*.

70 Senescence is the final stage of plant development and an active process of extracting
71 nutrients from old tissues. Premature aging can shorten the growth stage of crops, cause premature
72 senility of functional organs earlier before grain filling [18], thus affecting crop yield and quality
73 [19]. Many reports and in-depth studies on premature senescence in rice have been documented to
74 date [20]. The gene of leaf premature senescence mutant *wss1* was located within 1200 kb near the
75 centromere region of the long arm of chromosome 11 in rice [21]. Signs of senescence began to
76 appear in the rice premature senescence mutant *es4* in about 60 days, due to the loss of function of
77 the calcium-dependent protein kinase *OsCPK12* [22]. The 3-bp deletion in the gene of *WLS5* also
78 leads to premature senescence in rice [23]. The early senescence mutations *es12* [24], *es13*[25],
79 *es14*[26], *es15*[27], and *es16* [28] selected by the Rice Research Institute of Southwest University
80 by EMS mutation were controlled by mononuclear genes. Xiao et al. [29] located the mutant gene
81 of premature aging mutant *zs* in the 600 kb region on the short arm of rice chromosome 12. The
82 rice premature senescence gene *PLS2* was preliminarily determined to encode a

83 glycosyltransferase by Wang et al [30]. In recent years, wheat premature senescence has also been
84 reported. Two additive QTLs on chromosomes 3A and 3B detected by Wei [31] were related to
85 wheat early senescence indicators and six physiological traits related to premature senescence. An
86 additive QTL controlling the flag leaf senescence was located between markers *gwm526* and
87 *gwm382* on the long arm of chromosome 2A [32]. The leaf senescence gene *els1* was located on
88 the chromosome of 2BS by bulked segregant RNA sequencing (BSR-Seq) method in common
89 wheat [33].

90 This study reports the isolation of wheat lesion-like premature senescence mutants by EMS
91 mutagenesis, and the genetic analysis of these mutants. The chromosomal localization of the
92 premature aging gene was performed by the analysis of the segregating populations. This study
93 generated germplasm resource for future cloning of new genes related to early senescence and
94 exploring the regulatory mechanism of early senescence in wheat. It also laid a foundation for
95 breeding new wheat varieties conferring resistance to premature senescence.

96 **Results**

97 **Generation and identification of *lmpa* mutant**

98 Multi-year agronomy comprehensive identification was used to select the *lmpa* mutant from
99 the M₆ generation induced by EMS in KD527 (Figure 1A, 1C), which was named *lmpa1* (Figure
100 1B, 1D). The agronomic identifications were conducted in KD527 and *lmpa1* and shown in Table
101 1. As can be seen from Table 1 and Figure 1, the agronomic characters of *lmpa1* is similar to
102 KD527 in *ph*, flag leaf length (*fl*), ear length (*el*), number of grains per ear (*ngpe*) and other
103 agronomic traits. The process of the formation of *lmpa* in *lmpa1* was observed throughout its
104 whole growth period. *lmpa1* grows normally at seedling stage. After flag leaf picking, it appeared
105 *lls* before senescence. Its leaves present some brown-yellow round disease spots which can
106 gradually enlarge and expand. After heading, the disease spots quickly spread to the leaf sheath,
107 stem and spike of *lmpa1*. With the extension of growth period, *lmpa1* emerges more and more
108 disease spots over the whole plant and dried up even died during the filling stage (Figure 2). In
109 addition, the number of mutant individuals increases obviously after rain during grain filling and
110 they get worse than before rain. The reason is unclear yet.

111 **Genetic analysis of *lmpa* mutant**

112 In order to clarify the inheritance and genetic effects of the *lmpa* traits, the single plant *lmpa*

113 traits and other agronomic traits of *lmpa1*, KD527 and CS crosses F₁ and F₂ were investigated.
114 The results were statistically shown in Table 1 and 2.

115 As can be seen from Table 1 and Figure 3, the KD527 plants behaved normally, *lmpa1*
116 suffered from plaque-like premature aging. The plants of the constructed hybrid F₁ population all
117 showed lesion-like premature senescence characters. The plants from the F₂ population showed
118 two types of premature senescence plants and normal plants. Chi-square test showed that *Lmpa1*
119 gene is dominant and conforms to the separation ratio of single gene 3:1.

120 *lmpa1* had shorter *el* and lower *npge* than that of KD527 (Table 2). The *tgw* and *ypp* in F₂
121 were significantly higher than those in *lmpa* plants, indicating that the mutant's early-like traits
122 could significantly reduce wheat yield. However, the reduction extent to which it causes wheat
123 yield and whether it has other disease resistance still needs further identification.

124 **Photosynthetic assay of *lmpa* mutants**

125 In order to further understand the effects of mutants on wheat photosynthetic physiology,
126 *SPAD-502 Plus* and *LI-6400 XT* were used to measure chlorophyll content (SPAD), stomatal
127 conductance (Cond), and transpiration rate (Tr) of KD527, *lmpa1*, and their hybrids in the field
128 (Figure 4).

129 Physiological indicators comprising SPAD, Cond and Tr of *lmpa1*/KD527 F₁ are higher than
130 that of *lmpa1*. However, these indicators in normal plants from F₂ population were not
131 significantly different from that of KD527 and were significantly higher than those of *lmpa* plants.
132 It indicated that the *lmpa* mutant had a significant effect on wheat photosynthetic physiological
133 process. As a result, *lmpa1* affected wheat growth and development so seriously that the plant
134 cannot age normally and premature senescence occurs, which may also be one of the reasons for
135 reducing the thousand grain weight of single plant in wheat.

136 **Chromosomal location of *Lmpa1* gene**

137 DNA samples from CS, *lmpa1*, and mixed samples of normal plants (50) and premature
138 senescent plants (50) in the F₂ population of combination *lmpa1*/CS was used to construct a BSA
139 pool for 660K SNP chip analysis. As a result, 170 polymorphic SNP loci distributed on
140 chromosomes 1A, 2A, 3B, 4B, 5A, 5B respectively were found (Figure 5) and 164 SNP loci were
141 located on chromosome 5A. It is presumed that the *Lmpa1* gene is located on the 5A chromosome

142 of wheat. Based on physical positions of the polymorphic SNPs in Chinese Spring (IWGSCv2.0),
143 a genetic linkage map of SNPs linked with *Lmpa1* genes on chromosome 5A were constructed by
144 MapChart (Figure 6). The results showed that most of the polymorphic SNPs are enriched within a
145 30-40Mb region near to the short arm of chromosome 5A, indicating that the *LMPA1* gene is
146 highly possible within this region.

147 **Screening of candidate genes related to *Lmpa1***

148 Based on the results of the 660K SNP chip, we used the website of
149 JBrowse(http://202.194.139.32/jbrowse-1.12.3-release/?data=Chinese_Spring) to screen related
150 genes in the 30-40Mb segment of the short arm of wheat 5A chromosome. A total of 120 genes
151 were found within the 30-40Mb region of chromosome 5A. And 13 genes related to plant growth
152 and development may be the candidate genes associated with *Lmpa1* (Table 3).

153 **Discussions**

154 Premature senescence is a phenomenon that aging of plants physiological and biochemical
155 process in their growth period takes place earlier than that of normal plants. Premature senescence
156 in cereal crops such as wheat, rice and corn, will affect the production of photosynthetic products
157 and their transportation and accumulation into grains and in turn decrease grain yield. Premature
158 aging mutants can be regarded as an important tool to understand premature senescence and
159 benefit elucidating the PCD in plants. Precious researches on premature senescence mainly focus
160 on rice premature senescence mutants and their gene mapping. There are few reports on the
161 creation of wheat premature senescence mutants. This study reports the *lmpa1* mutant deriving
162 from the EMS-induced mutant library in the KD527 background. The mutant with the
163 characteristics of both lesion-like spots and premature senescence, will enrich the wheat premature
164 senescence mutant library and lay the germplasm foundation for further research on the traits
165 related to early senescence in wheat.

166 In this study, we characterized the mutants *lmpa1* and analyzed its photosynthetic physiology.
167 We found that lesion-like spots and premature senescence can significantly affect *el*, seed setting
168 rate(*ssr*), *tgw* and other agronomic traits in wheat. They can reduce the expression of chlorophyll,
169 cause the physiological dysfunction of leaves and decrease the ability of photosynthetic
170 assimilation. As a result, the grain filling time was shortened, the dry matter accumulation of the
171 grain was reduced, the *ssr* and the *tgw* were affected, and the yield and quality were damaged. In

172 order to better understand the physiological and biochemical mechanisms of premature senescence,
173 we will refer to Wang Beifang's [34] methods on premature aging mutants in rice. It is planned to
174 use cell histochemical staining, determination of net photosynthetic rate and photosynthetic
175 pigment content and determination of enzyme activity to find physiological and biochemical
176 indicators related to senescence. In the meantime, cell morphology of mutants will be observed by
177 transmission electron microscope. And the expression of gene related to senescence and hormone
178 content in mutants will be analyzed. The differences in physiological and biochemical, hormone,
179 and cell morphology between premature aging mutants and normal plants will be discussed. It has
180 been reported that rice lesions-like mutant *sp141* [35] can enhance resistance to rice bacterial leaf
181 blight. Therefore, disease resistance of *lmpa1* should be identified in the future.

182 In this study, the *Lmpa1* was located within 30-40 Mb region on chromosome 5A by using of
183 SNP chip sequencing and BSA analysis. Up to date, there is no report of premature aging gene on
184 the chromosome 5A in wheat. Among the 13 candidate genes, the candidate gene
185 *TraesCS5A01G040300.1* encoding a zinc finger protein is similar to the zinc finger transcription
186 factor found in wheat leaf premature senescence mutant *m68* [36] and may be associated with
187 premature aging. It is important to screen premature aging genes and explore the causes and
188 mechanisms of premature aging. It was found [37] that water deficit during grain filling period
189 could cause premature senescence of flag leaves, but the senescence process could be delayed by
190 changing hormone concentration of plants. There are many reasons for rice premature aging, for
191 example, the effect of NAC transcription factors on abscisic acid (ABA) [19], the functional
192 impairment of calcium-dependent protein kinase *OsCPK12* [22], the deletion of gene fragment
193 [23], the response and regulation of genes related to antioxidant and carbohydrate metabolism [38],
194 and so on. Based on the research experience of rice early senescence, further work should be
195 focused on the cloning and functional verification of candidate gene for premature aging. The
196 effects of premature aging on protein expression, hormone signaling pathways, and gene
197 expressing related to metabolism, will be emphasized in order to further reveal the molecular
198 mechanism of wheat premature senility.

199 **Conclusions**

200 We identified an EMS-mutagenized mutant *lmpa1*, which derived from elite wheat line
201 KD527 and conferred *lmpa*. Genetic analysis indicated that the *lmpa* phenotype of *lmpa1* mutant

202 is controlled by a single dominant allele designated as *Lmpal*, which affected wheat growth and
203 development and reduced the *tgw* of single plant in wheat. By applying BSA method and 660K
204 SNP Chip sequencing, the gene *Lmpal* was tentatively located within the region of 30-40 Mb near
205 to the short arm of chromosome 5A.

206 **Methods and materials**

207 **Plant materials**

208 The materials in this study included a new wheat line KD527 bred in our laboratory, the
209 mutant *lmpal* isolated from the EMS mutant library in the KD527 background, the hybrid
210 populations of F₁ and F₂ between *lmpal* with KD527, and the hybrid F₁ and F₂ populations from
211 the crossing of *lmpal* with CS. All materials from the Wheat Germplasm Innovation Group of the
212 Henan University of Science and Technology are maintained and planted in Luoyang City, Henan
213 Province, China.

214 **EMS mutagenesis**

215 Seeds were soaked with distilled, deionized water at room temperature for 16~20h until seeds
216 completely absorb water and fully swell. Seeds were then treated with 0.3% EMS in phosphate
217 buffer, pH 7 at room temperature for 4~6h. The treated seeds were then rinsed in tap water for 12h,
218 dried for 30mins, and immediately sown in the field.

219 **Screening of *lmpa* mutants**

220 EMS-mutagenized KD527 seeds were grown with row spacing of 20 cm and plant spacing of
221 5 cm. Individual plants with lesion-like spots were identified from the M₀ population materials
222 and harvested as M₁. In the second year, M₁ seeds were grown in the field, evaluated for their
223 agronomic traits during growth, and harvested as a single plant as M₂. M₂ were planted and
224 evaluated on the stability of mutant traits during their growth. From M₃ generation on, field
225 investigation was conducted every 7 days. Ten plants were randomly selected from typical mutant
226 lines and were evaluated on the agronomic traits including plant height (*ph*), plant panicle number
227 (*ppn*), panicle length (*pl*), panicle grain number (*pgn*) and other traits. All individuals from stable
228 mutant lines were harvested and threshed to survey ear length (*el*), thousand-grain weight (*tgw*),
229 yield per plant (*ypp*) and other seed traits. The agronomy identification and stability evaluation

230 were carried out continuously in M₄ and M₅ generations. Finally, the stable mutant *lmpa1* was
231 bred in M₆ generation.

232 **Construction of segregating population of premature senescence mutants**

233 *lmpa1* was first crossed with KD527. The F₁ seeds were harvested on a single plant basis and
234 were planted in the field to investigate the lesion-like spot premature senescence trait and other
235 agronomic traits during the growing period. They were harvested as F₂ seeds. The lesion-like spot
236 premature senescence trait and other agronomic traits of the individual plants in F₂ population
237 were also investigated to determine the genetic mode and genetic effect of the *LMPA* gene.

238 *lmpa1* was also crossed with CS as described above. Based on the lesion-like spot premature
239 senescence trait of the F₂ population, the leaf DNA samples of typical *Lmpa* and normal individual
240 plants were extracted and combined as a BSA pool for the 660K SNP chip sequencing analysis to
241 locate *LMPA* gene to specific chromosome. DNA extraction from leaves was performed according
242 to the methods described by Wang et al. [39].

243 **Measurement of chlorophyll content and photosynthesis activities**

244 After wheat heading, the chlorophyll content and photosynthesis activities of *lmpa1*, KD527
245 and their hybrid F₁ and F₂ populations were measured by using chlorophyll meter *SPAD-502Phu*
246 (Konica Minolta, Japan) and portable photosynthesis meter *LI-6400 XT* (LI-COR, American) on
247 May 1st and May 18th, 2019, respectively. The measurement methods were strictly in accordance
248 with the operation manuals.

249 **Chromosomal location analysis**

250 Fifty typical *lmpa* plants and 50 normal plants selected from the *lmpa1* x CS F₂ population
251 were combined respectively into two DNA BSA pools marked *lmpa* pool(LP) and normal pool
252 (WT). The 660K SNP chip analysis was conducted by Zhongyujin Label Biotechnology Co., Ltd.
253 in Beijing, China. Using the DNA pools of CS and *lmpa1* as controls, the candidate chromosome
254 segments were estimated by screening significant differences in allele frequencies (AF) of
255 polymorphic sites (SNPs) between the two BSA pools of LP and WT respectively.

256 **Ethics approval and consent to participate**

257 Not applicable.

258 **Consent for publication**

259 Not applicable.

260 **Availability of data and materials**

261 The data sets supporting the results of this article are included in this manuscript.

262 **Competing of interests**

263 The authors declare no competing or financial interests.

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268 **Author' contributions**

269 Liming Wang and Jiaqiang Sun designed the research project; Weiwei Kong and Liming
270 Wang performed the experiments and wrote the manuscript; Jingjing Ji, Xuefang Yan and Puhui
271 Dong performed the experiments and managed experimental materials in the field; Weiwei Kong,
272 Xingfeng Li and Chunping Wang analyzed the data; Liming Wang and Jiaqiang Sun edit paper;
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274 the final manuscript.

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279 **Author information**

280 Agronomy College, Henan University of Science and Technology, Luoyang 471023, Henan,
281 China;

282 Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 10093, Beijing, China

283 State Key Laboratory of Crop Biology/Agronomy College, Shandong Agricultural University,
284 Taian, 271018, Shandong, China

285 Institute of Crop Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, 10081,
286 Beijing, China

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398 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

399 **Figure 1** Phenotypes of the WT KD527 (A, C) and the mutants *lmpa1* (B, D) during late heading
400 (A, B) and mid-late filling stage (C, D), respectively

401 **Note:** **A:** WT KD527 grows normally during late heading stage; **B:** A small amount of brown
402 spots can be found on the leaves of mutant *lmpa1* at the late heading stage; **C:** KD527 grows
403 normally at mid-late filling stage stage; **D:** *Lls* expand quickly to the leaves, stems and even spikes
404 of *lmpa1* and premature aging appears during mid-late filling stage.

405

406 **Figure 2** Formation, expansion and spread of *lmpa1* of *lmpa1* mutant at different growth stages
407 after heading in 2019

408 **Note:** **A:** *lmpa1* single plants have not been found *lls* on 23th April; **B:** *lmpa1* leaves have a small
409 amount of brown spots on 24th April; **C:** *lmpa1* leaves have a significant increase in brown spots
410 on 26th April; **D:** A large number of brown-yellow spots spread on the stem of *lmpa1* on 30th April;
411 **E:** *lls* on the leaf spread to the leaf sheath, and a few brown-yellow spots appeared on the stem of
412 *lmpa1* on 4th May; **F:** The brown and yellow spots on the stems continued to increase, and a few
413 brown and yellow spots appeared on the spikes of *lmpa1* on 16th May; **G:** *lmpa1* leaves began to
414 dry, and the brown and yellow spots on the spikes continued to increase on 20th May; **H:** *lmpa1*
415 leaves and stems were withered, part spikes were drying up on 24th May.

416

417 **Figure 3** Phenotype of spikes (a) and flag leaves (b) of KD527(A) and *lmpa1*(E) and the F₁ (B)
418 and F₂ (C, D) offspring of *lmpa1*/KD527 (bar = 2 cm)

419 **Note:** **A:** KD527, WT; **B:** *lmpa1*/KD527 F₁, *lmpa1*; **C:** *lmpa1*/KD527 F₂ *lmpa1*; **D:** *lmpa1*/KD527 F₂,
420 WT; **E:** *lmpa1*, *lmpa1*.

421

422 **Figure 4** Determination of photosynthetic physiological indexes of KD527 and *lmpa1* and their
423 hybrids

424 **Note:** **A:** relative chlorophyll content (SPAD); **B:** stomatal conductance ($\text{mmol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$); **C:**
425 transpiration rate ($\text{g} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$); a,b,c: significant difference at 0.05 level

426

427 **Figure 5** Distribution of polymorphic SNPs on each chromosome

428

429 **Figure 6** Genetic linkage map of SNPs related to premature aging gene on chromosome 5A

430 **Notes:** The red segment indicates the estimated centromeric region. The rectangle in green on the
431 right of the chromosome indicates the estimated chromosomal region of the gene *Lmpa1*.

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433 **SUPPLEMENTARY FILES**

434 **Table S1** Statistical analysis of *lmpa* traits in mutants and their hybrid progenies

435

436 **Table S2** Agronomic traits of KD527, *lmpa1* and their hybrids

437

438 **Table S3** List of Candidate Genes Related to Wheat Early Aging

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Table 1 Statistical analysis of *lmpa* traits in mutants and their hybrid progenies

Material / Combination	Gener- ations	Phenotype			Separation ratio	Theoretical ratio	X ²	P
		<i>lmpa</i>	WT	Total				
KD527		/	WT	All	/	/	/	/
<i>lmpa1</i>		<i>lmpa</i>	/	All	/	/	/	/
<i>lmpa1</i> /KD527	F ₁	10	0	10	/	/		
	F ₂	124	36	160	3.44	120:40	1.008	0.465

448 Note: df=1; $\chi^2_{0.05}=3.841$, $\chi^2_{0.01}=6.635$

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Table 2 Agronomic traits of KD527, *lmpa1* and their hybrids

Materials		<i>ph</i> (cm)	<i>fl</i> (cm)	<i>el</i> (cm)	<i>ngpe</i>	<i>tgw</i> (g)	<i>ypp</i> (g)
KD527		58.3±2.9 a	17.4±0.4 a	9.7±0.5 a	62.7 a	54.45 a	27.31 a
<i>lmpa1</i>		50.3±3.3 c	17.2±0.6 ab	8.8±0.6 c	52.5 c	42.17 c	17.71 c
	F ₁	55.9±4.5 ab	16.8±0.7 b	9.5±0.5 ab	57 b	44.67 bc	20.37 bc
<i>lmpa1</i> / KD527	F ₂ <i>lmpa</i>	52.6±2.1 bc	16±0.5 c	9.1±0.7 bc	57.51 b	43.50 c	20.01 bc
	F ₂ WT	54.6±2.2 b	16.6±0.2 b	9.4±0.4 ab	59.3 ab	49.17 b	23.33 b

451 Note: a,b,c: significant difference at 0.05 level

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Table 3 List of Candidate Genes Related to Wheat Early Aging

Gene name	Gene annotation	Gene length (bp)	Protein length (aa)
<i>TraesCS5A01G034300.1</i>	Protein kinase superfamily protein	1194	397
<i>TraesCS5A01G035200.1</i>	Protein kinase family proteins	2346	781
<i>TraesCS5A01G037100.1</i>	Kinase family proteins	1831	477
<i>TraesCS5A01G043600.1</i>	Protein kinase family proteins	2148	715
<i>TraesCS5A01G038300.2</i>	Auxin response factor	4008	899
<i>TraesCS5A01G039100.1</i>	peroxidase	1250	340
<i>TraesCS5A01G039400.1</i>	peroxidase	1129	277
<i>TraesCS5A01G039500.1</i>	peroxidase	1400	340
<i>TraesCS5A01G040300.1</i>	Zinc finger protein	1246	287
<i>TraesCS5A01G040500.1</i>	Remorin	1800	449
<i>TraesCS5A01G041500.1</i>	Myb-related transcription factor	390	309
	Pentapeptide repeat superfamily	1248	266
<i>TraesCS5A01G041600.2</i>	protein		
	Protein	1660	446
<i>TraesCS5A01G042500.1</i>	TRIGALACTOSYLDIACYLGLY CEROL 2		

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463 **Figure 1**

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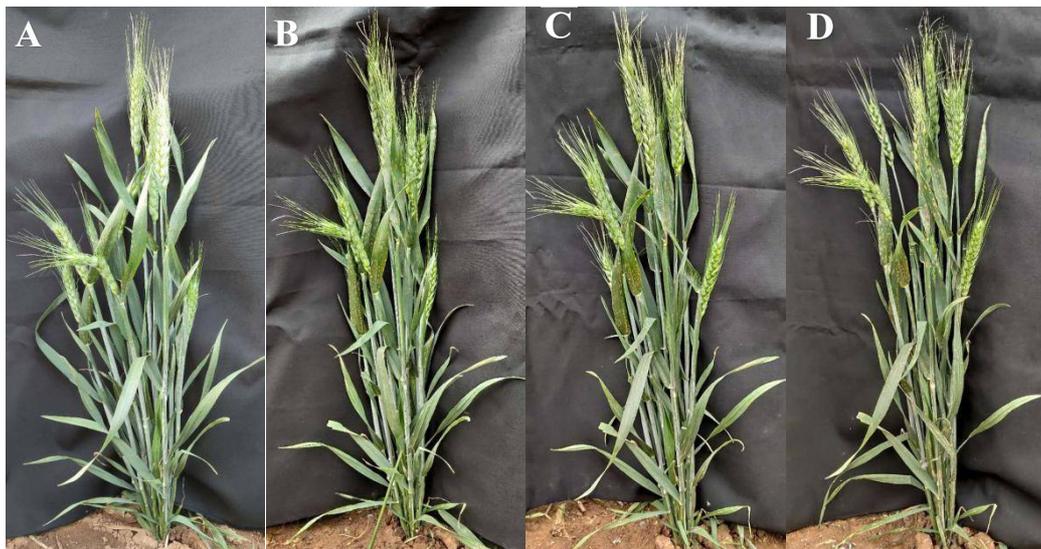
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487 **Figure 2**



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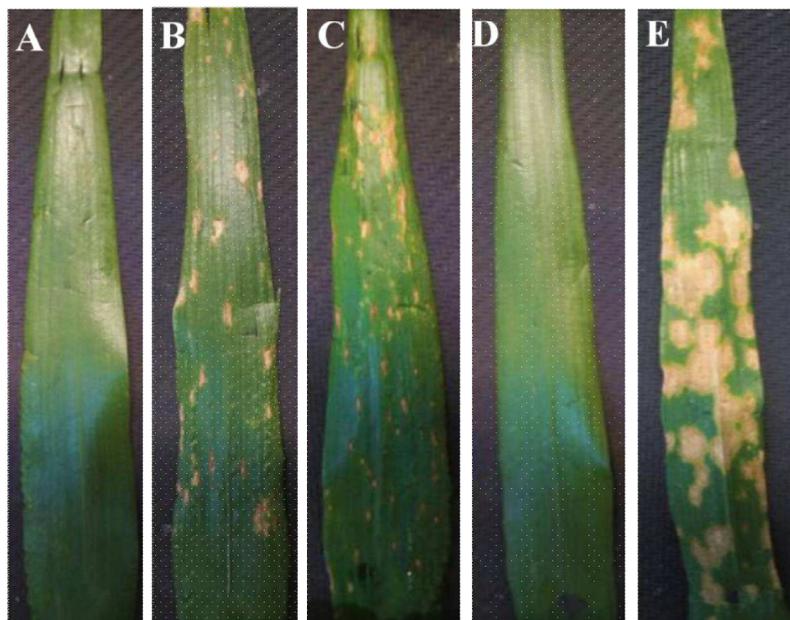
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497 **Figure 3**



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(b)

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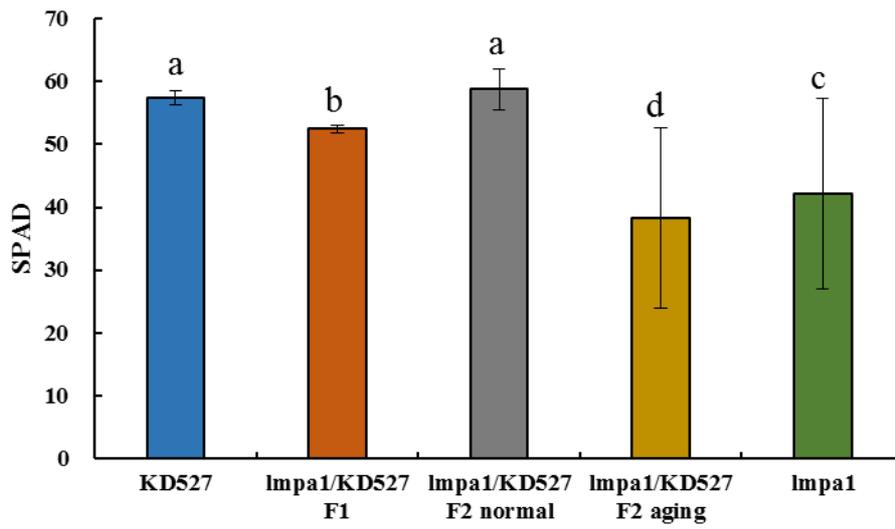
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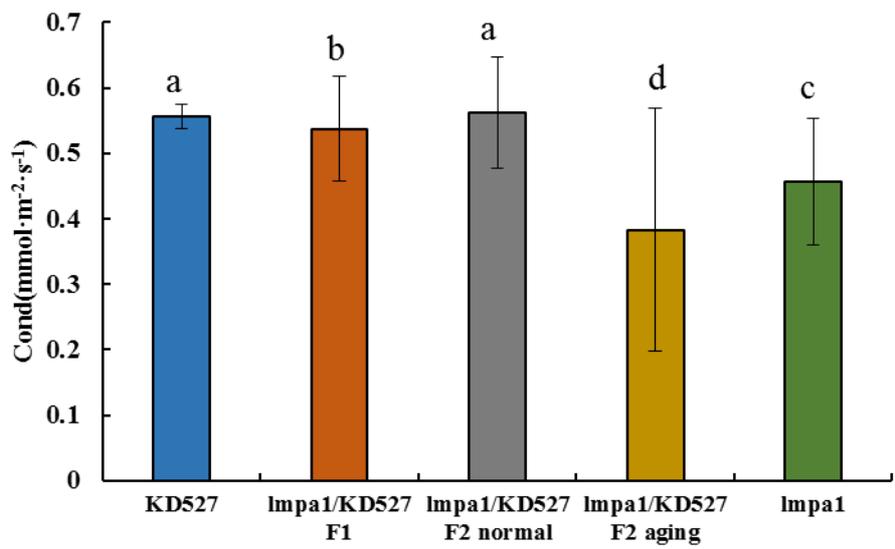
508 **Figure 4**



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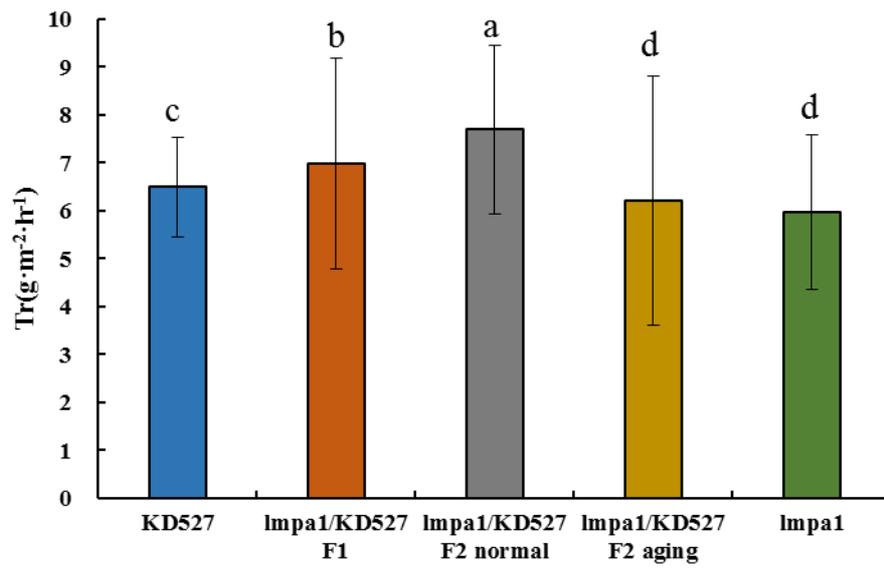
(A)



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(B)



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(C)

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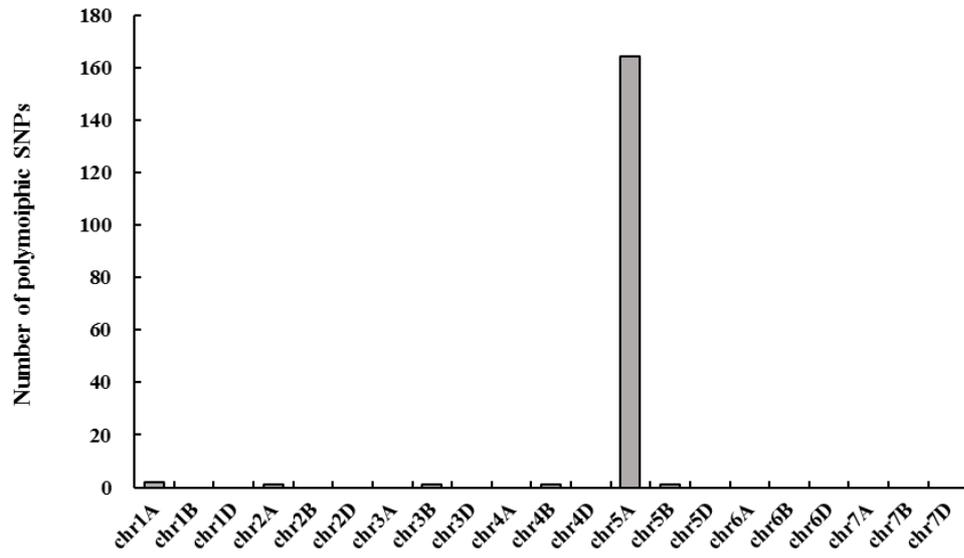
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528 **Figure 5**

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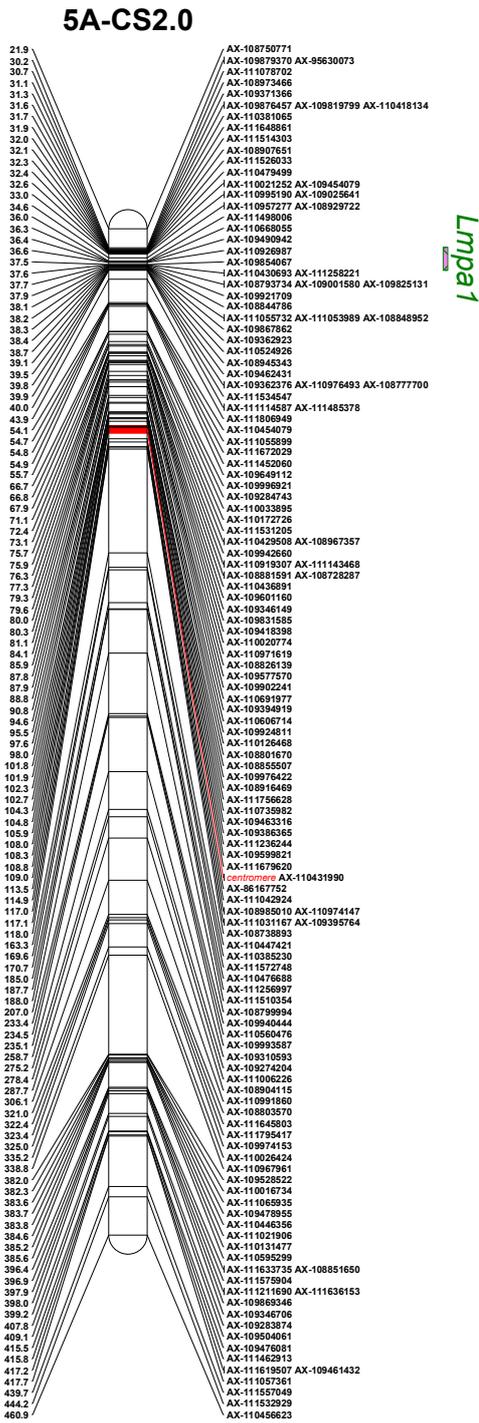
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Figures



Figure 1

Phenotypes of the WT KD527 (A, C) and the mutants Impa1 (B, D) during late heading (A, B) and mid-late filling stage (C, D), respectively. Note: A: WT KD527 grows normally during late heading stage; B: A small amount of brown spots can be found on the leaves of mutant Impa1 at the late heading stage; C: KD527 grows normally at mid-late filling stage; D: Lls expand quickly to the leaves, stems and even spikes of Impa1 and premature aging appears during mid-late filling stage.



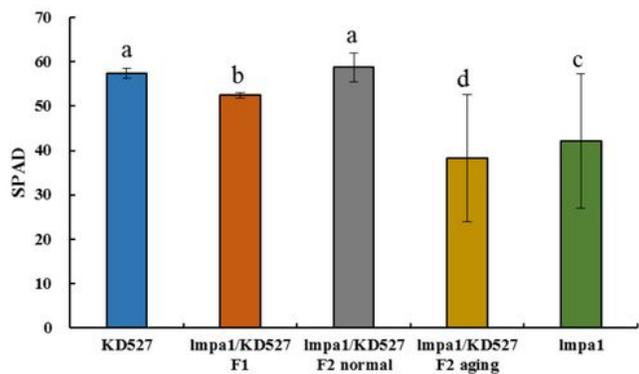
Figure 2

Formation, expansion and spread of Impa of Impa1 mutant at different growth stages after heading in 2019. Note: A: Impa1 single plants have not been found lls on 23th April; B: Impa1 leaves have a small amount of brown spots on 24th April; C: Impa1 leaves have a significant increase in brown spots on 26th April; D: A large number of brown-yellow spots spread on the stem of Impa1 on 30th April; E: lls on the leaf spread to the leaf sheath, and a few brown-yellow spots appeared on the stem of Impa1 on 4th May; F: The brown and yellow spots on the stems continued to increase, and a few brown and yellow spots appeared on the spikes of Impa1 on 16th May; G: Impa1 leaves began to dry, and the brown and yellow spots on the spikes continued to increase on 20th May; H: Impa1 leaves and stems were withered, part spikes were drying up on 24th May.

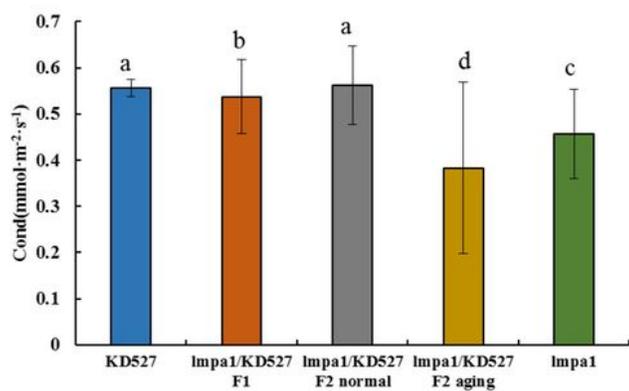


Figure 3

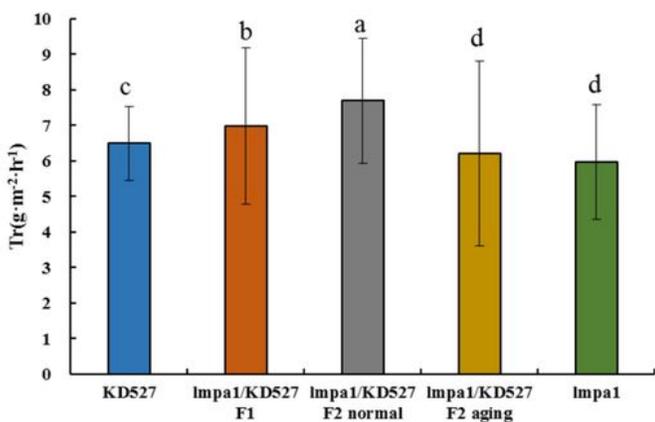
Phenotype of spikes (a) and flag leaves (b) of KD527(A) and Impa1(E) and the F1 (B) and F2 (C, D) offspring of Impa1/KD527 (bar = 2 cm). Note: A: KD527, WT; B: Impa1/KD527 F1, Impa; C: Impa1/KD527 F2 Impa; D: Impa1/KD527 F2, WT; E: Impa1, Impa.



(A)



(B)



(C)

Figure 4

Determination of photosynthetic physiological indexes of KD527 and Impa1 and their hybrids. Note: A: relative chlorophyll content (SPAD); B: stomatal conductance (mmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹); C: transpiration rate (g·m⁻²·h⁻¹) a,b,c: significant difference at 0.05 level

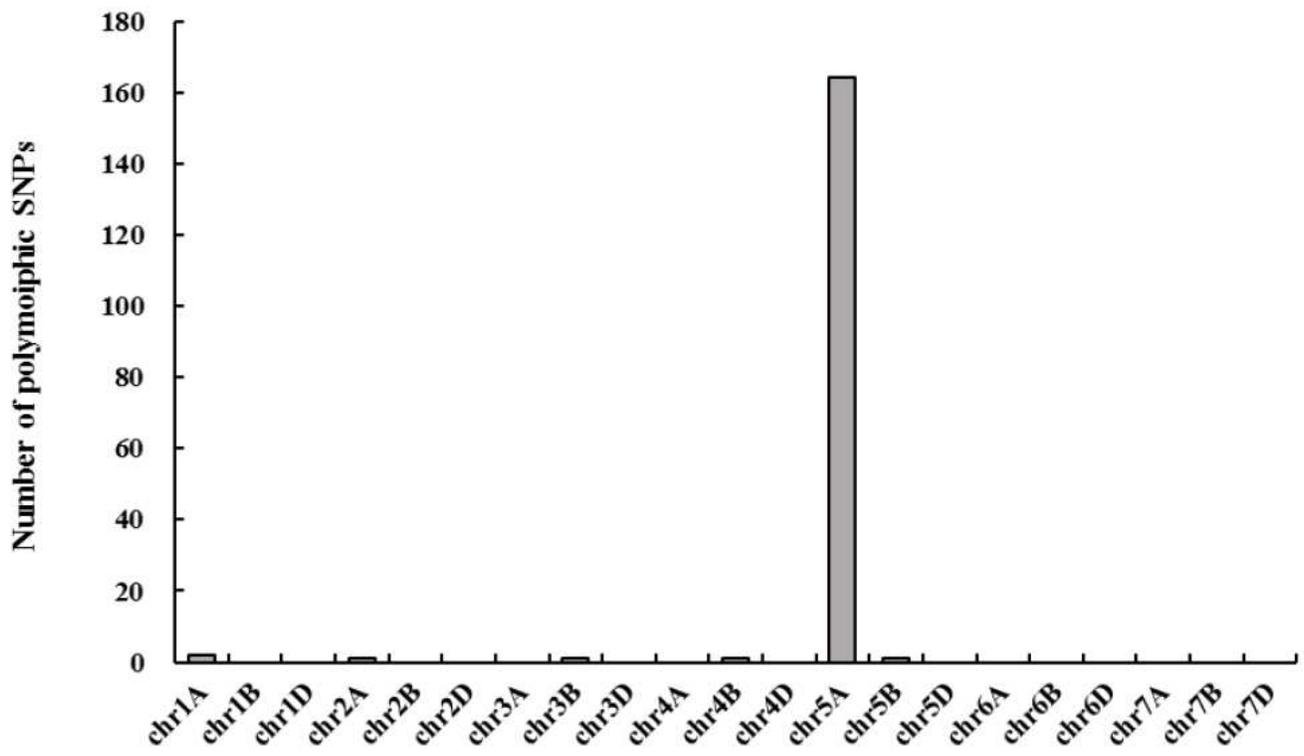


Figure 5

Distribution of polymorphic SNPs on each chromosome

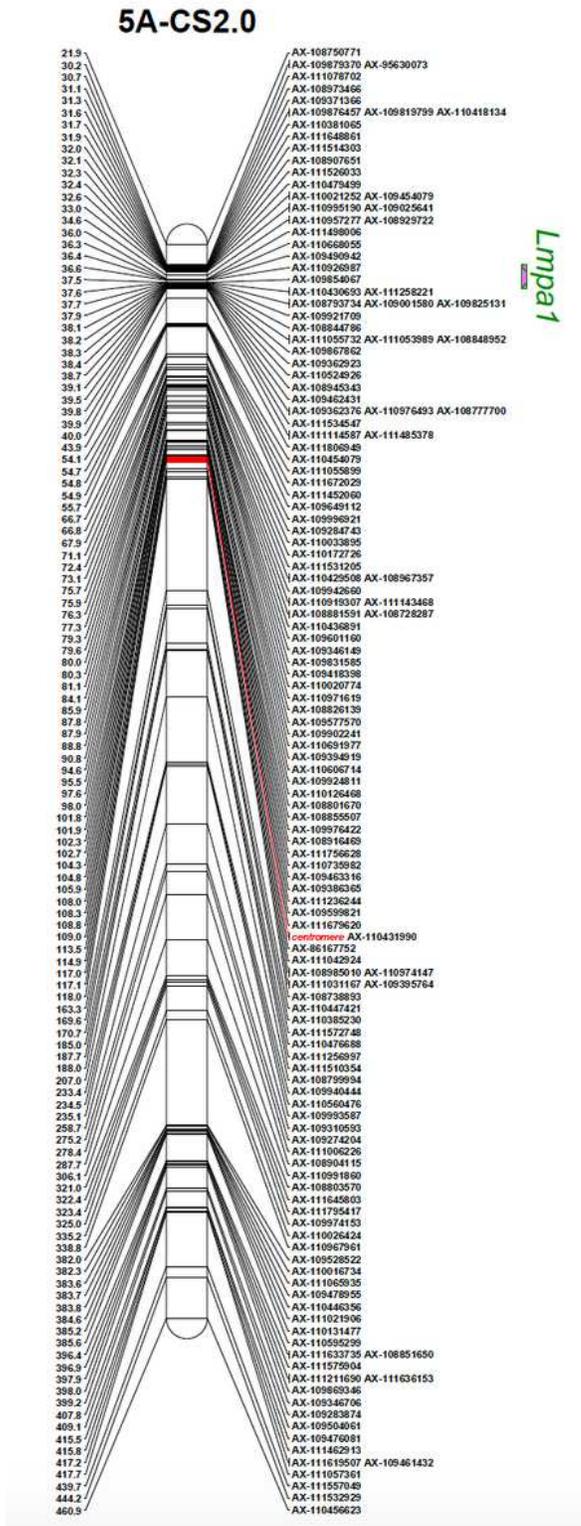


Figure 6

Genetic linkage map of SNPs related to premature aging gene on chromosome 5A. Notes: The red segment indicates the estimated centromeric region. The rectangle in green on the right of the chromosome indicates the estimated chromosomal region of the gene Lmpa1.

Supplementary Files

This is a list of supplementary files associated with this preprint. Click to download.

- [SupplementalTables.pdf](#)