TableS1 Description of the candidate reference genes

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| **Gene symbol** | **Gene product** | **Gene name** | **Function** |
| *18S* | 18S ribosomal RNA | X69846.1a | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit, translation |
| *GAPDH* | Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate hydrogenase | METBIDRAFT\_42262 | Oxidoreductase in glycolysis and gluconeogenesis |
| *ACT1* | Beta-actin | METBIDRAFT\_223113 | Structural integrity of the cellular cytoskeleton |
| *LSC2* | Succinate-CoA ligase | METBIDRAFT\_12019 | Protein present in the B-subunit cells of Succinyl CoA synthetase |
| *PMA1* | Plasma membrane ATPase 1 | METBIDRAFT\_29315 | Hydrogen-exporting ATPase activity, phosphorylative  mechanism |
| *RIP* | Ubiquinol cytochrome-c reductase | METBIDRAFT\_42881 | Ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase enzyme |
| *TAF10* | transcription initiation factor IID,TAF10 subunit | METBIDRAFT\_29739 | RNA pol II transcription factor activity |

a The sequence of *18S* was retrieved using a NCBI accession number that is different from the locus number of *Metschnikowia bicuspidata*.