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Research Letter

Title:

Functional characterization of the manganese transporter *smf2* homologue gene, *PsMnt*, of *Phanerochaete sordida* YK-624 via homologous overexpression

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1 **Abstract**

2 A homologue gene of the yeast natural resistance-associated macrophage protein (Nramp) family  
3 transporter *smf2* was identified in the white-rot fungus *Phanerochaete sordida* YK-624. Relative  
4 expression levels of the homologue, designated *PsMnt*, were roughly equivalent in cultures containing 0 to  
5 1,000  $\mu\text{M}$  Mn(II), a concentration nontoxic to the fungus. In the *PsMnt*-overexpressing mutant, cellular Mn  
6 accumulation and manganese peroxidase (MnP) activity increased significantly in 4-day cultures  
7 containing 10  $\mu\text{M}$  MnSO<sub>4</sub>. Compared with the wild-type strain, MnP activity in the overexpressing mutants  
8 was higher at lower Mn concentrations (specifically 10-15 times higher). These results suggest that *PsMnt*  
9 is a high-affinity Mn transporter involved in cellular Mn accumulation under Mn-deficient conditions. This  
10 is the first report of an *smf2* homologue in wood rot fungi.

## 11 **Introduction**

12 Filamentous white-rot fungi can degrade recalcitrant woody polymer components such as  
13 cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin. The name 'white rot' derives from the tendency of these fungi to  
14 degrade brown lignin prior to white polysaccharides during wood degradation. As other microorganisms  
15 generally do not degrade lignin, this fungal group plays a very important role in carbon cycling in forest  
16 ecosystems. Lignin, a heterogeneous aromatic biopolymer gives mechanical strength and highly resistance  
17 for chemical/biological degradation to wood. Lignin form amorphous matrix together with hemicellulose  
18 in cell wall to protect cellulose and other polysaccharides by preventing penetration of enzymes. Although  
19 white rot fungi secrete various enzymes for lignin degradation, it is said that ligninolytic enzymes (e.g.  
20 lignin peroxidase (LiP), manganese peroxidase (MnP), and laccase) take most important part of lignin  
21 degradation (Dashtban *et al.* 2010; Martínez *et al.* 2005).

22 It is well known that metal ions are important for lignin degradation as well as polysaccharide  
23 decomposition. Manganese (Mn), in particular, are directly involved in lignin degradation by white-rot  
24 fungi. Mn is a well-known inducer of MnP (Bonnarme and Jeffries 1990), and Mn(II)-chelator is oxidized  
25 as a substrate of MnP; the resulting Mn(III)-chelator functions as a radical mediator to oxidize phenolic  
26 residues contained in lignin. The Mn(III)-chelator also oxidizes other organic compounds, such as  
27 derivatives of unsaturated fatty acids and sulfur compounds to produce respective reactive radicals that  
28 attack the recalcitrant "condensed structures" of lignin (Hofrichter 2002). Addition of Mn at an optimum  
29 concentration enhances lignin degradation (Kerem and Hadar 1995). *Phanerochaete sordida* YK-624, a  
30 typical white-rot fungus with excellent lignin-degradation capability, secretes MnP and LiP as major  
31 ligninolytic enzymes. (Hirai, Kondo and Sakai 1994, Sugiura, Hirai and Nishida 2003). Although this  
32 fungus usually produces MnP, LiP is produced under Mn-deficient conditions (Hirai *et al.* 2005). Generally,

33 Mn is abundant in trees; thus, Mn deficiency in trees is rare. Stone (1968) well summarized about the  
34 concentration of Mn contained in various tree species. Mn concentrations in trees had various values  
35 depending on tree species, habitat, site, season, but the deficiency level (less than 20 ppm) was hardly  
36 observed except in orchard trees. Therefore, Mn is considered a critical micronutrient in lignin degradation  
37 by *P. sordida* YK-624 in natural environment. Based on these facts and a speculation, it is expected that *P.*  
38 *sordida* YK-624 retains the efficient Mn uptake systems and MnP expression mechanisms.

39           Diss *et al.* (2011) identified multiple candidate Mn transporter genes in fungal genomes. In this  
40 report, 11 transporters belonging to several Mn transporter families were identified in the genome of a  
41 typical white-rot fungus, *P. chrysosporium*. Some of these candidates are predicted to function in Mn  
42 homeostasis based on the results of heterologous expression in yeast, and PcPHO84 (plasma membrane  
43 phosphate transporter family) is predicted to be involved in Mn uptake under excess Mn conditions. Yeast  
44 phosphate transporter PHO84p is involved in cellular phosphate accumulation, and it prefers of a divalent  
45 metal complex of phosphate as a substrate. PHO84p transports Mn-phosphate complex under Mn surplus  
46 conditions, but the expression level is strongly regulated by phosphate (Reddi, Jensen and Culotta 2009).  
47 On the other hand, functional characterization of SMF homologues has been not carried out in white rot  
48 fungi. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* SMF1 and SMF2 are members of the Nramp (natural resistance–  
49 associated macrophage protein) family of metal transporters that are widely conserved in bacteria, plants,  
50 fungi, and animals. It is considered that SMFs are the significant important transporter on cellular  
51 manganese homeostasis, and are involved in activation of Mn-dependent enzymes, resistance in oxidative  
52 stress (Reddi, Jensen and Culotta 2009). These metal-proton symporters act on a broad range of divalent  
53 metals (Culotta, Yang and Hall 2005). In yeasts, SMF transporters are localized at the cellular surface or  
54 intercellular vesicles, where they play a role in Mn uptake or distribution under Mn-starvation conditions.

55 Under high Mn conditions, by contrast, SFM transporters are moved into vacuoles and degraded to prevent  
56 toxic effects caused from high Mn concentrations (Reddi, Jensen and Culotta 2009). SFM2 significantly  
57 affects Mn accumulation and the activities of numerous Mn-dependent enzymes other than SFM1.

58 As mentioned above, there is no report on the function of the *smf* homolog in the white rot  
59 fungi. However, we speculated that *smf* homologues in white rot fungi are strongly involved in the uptake  
60 of Mn and the expression of the Mn dependent enzyme including MnP, as with yeast SMF. Hence, we  
61 searched for *smf* homologues retained by *P. sordida* YK-624, a strong ligninolytic white rot fungus. In this  
62 study, we identified the gene encoding an *smf2* homologue in *P. sordida* (*PsMnt*). And the function of  
63 *PsMnt* was then characterized, particularly with respect to its involvement in MnP activity, using a  
64 homologous overexpression strategy.

65

## 66 **Materials and methods**

### 67 **Strains and cultivation conditions**

68 White-rot fungus *P. sordida* YK-624 (ATCC 90872), the isogenic uracil auxotrophic strain  
69 UV-64, and the prototrophic transformant strain U2 were used in this study (Mori *et al.* 2016a). Strain U2  
70 was used as control strain, because it had best ligninolytic properties (ligninolytic activity and selectivity)  
71 among all 7 prototrophic transformants (Mori *et al.* 2016a). All strains were maintained on potato dextrose  
72 agar (PDA) medium at 4°C. And strains were pre-cultured on PDA medium (9-cm inner diameter) at 30°C  
73 for 3 days, and then two mycelial pellets (10 mm i.d.) were inoculated into the liquid medium described  
74 below.

75

### 76 ***PsMnt* sequence determination and *PsMnt* expression plasmid construction**

77 *P. sordida* YK-624 genomic DNA and total RNA were obtained from mycelia grown on potato  
78 dextrose broth (PDB) medium and Kirk's low-nitrogen (LN, ligninolytic condition) medium (Fenn and Kirk  
79 1981; Tien and Kirk 1988), respectively. DNA extraction (from PDB culture), RNA extraction (from LN  
80 culture), and cDNA synthesis were performed as previously reported (Mori *et al.* 2016b). Full-length DNA  
81 and cDNA sequences of *PsMnt* were determined using PCR techniques. The primers were designed from  
82 a partial cDNA sequence of putative *PsMnt* obtained from unpublished RNA-seq data (see Supplementary  
83 Figure 1). Downstream of 3'-sequence of cDNA was determined by 3'-RACE (rapid amplification of cDNA  
84 ends) method and genomic PCR for determination of full-length *PsMnt* gene was performed by thermal  
85 asymmetric interlaced (TAIL)-PCR using degenerate primers (Liu and Whittier 1995)(Yamagishi *et al.*  
86 2007).

87 Restriction sites (*KpnI* and *XbaI*) were incorporated into the *PsMnt* gDNA sequence using the  
88 following primers: 5'-GGTACCGTGTGGTACCATGCCCCCTGAGCCTC-3' and 5'-  
89 AAGAGTCTAGACTGCTGGACATGGTTGAGAG-3'. The amplified product was digested with *KpnI*  
90 and *XbaI* and cloned into *KpnI-XbaI*-digested p*GPDpro* (Suzuki *et al.* 2014), yielding p*PsMnt*.

91

## 92 **Genetic transformation**

93 The p*PsMnt* expression plasmid was transformed into UV-64 protoplasts using a co-  
94 transformation method with p*PsURA5* (Yamagishi *et al.* 2007). Regenerated Ura<sup>+</sup>-prototrophic  
95 transformants were screened by genomic PCR for verification of target gene transformation. Mycelia were  
96 boiled in 50 mM NaOH solution for 5 min, then neutralized with 1 M Tris-HCl (pH 8.0). The resulting  
97 supernatant was used as crude DNA solution. The primer pair 5'-AAGCAGCGAGGATTGTACC-3' and  
98 5'-CAGACAGAGGAAGGCATACG-3' was used to amplify the transformed gene.

99

## 100 **Transcriptional analysis**

101 Fungal strains were cultivated in 10 ml of LN medium with 0, 1, 10, 100, or 1000  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{MnSO}_4$   
102 for 4 days, at 30 °C. Mycelia were separated from the culture broth by filtration. The filtrate was used for  
103 MnP activity testing, as described below. Total RNA was extracted from mycelia using an RNeasy Mini  
104 kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany) according to the instruction manual; cDNA was synthesized from 200 ng of  
105 total RNA using a PrimeScript RT-PCR kit (TaKaRa Bio Inc., Shiga, Japan). Synthesized cDNA was used  
106 in quantitative reverse transcription (qRT)-PCR analyses to evaluate the *PsMnt* expression level (primers:  
107 5'-GACGGGTCTCGATCTTGC-3' and 5'-CCATACAGACTAGCACGGTGAA-3'; standard curve was  
108 illustrated in Supplementary Figure 2). Actin was used as a reference gene (primers: 5'-  
109 CCCTCAAGCATGAAGGTCAAG-3' and 5'-TAGAAGCACTTGCGGTGGAC-3') (Hirabayashi *et al.*  
110 2015). SYBR Premix Ex Taq II (Tli RNaseH Plus, TaKaRa Bio Inc.) was used as qRT-PCR reagents  
111 following manufactured protocol and qRT-PCR conditions were as follows: 95 °C for 3 min; 44 cycles of  
112 95 °C for 10 sec, 58 °C for 30 sec, and 72 °C for 30 sec.

113

## 114 **MnP activity**

115 Two mycelial discs on PDA medium (i.d. 10 mm) were inoculated into 10 ml of LN medium  
116 (containing 10 or 30  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{MnSO}_4$ ) or Mn-deficient LN medium. In the case of Mn-deficient cultures,  $\text{MnSO}_4$   
117 solution was added (final concentration 0, 1.0, 5.0, or 10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after 3 days incubation, and the cultures were  
118 incubated for an additional 24 h. After incubation for a total of 96 h, the culture broth was collected and  
119 filtered through a 0.22- $\mu\text{m}$  membrane filter. In the case of Mn-supplemented LN medium, filtrate was  
120 collected every 2 days. MnP activity in the filtrate was measured according to a method described



121 previously (Hirai, Kondo and Sakai 1994).

122

### 123 **Mn uptake**

124 Fungal strains were cultivated in Mn-deficient (10  $\mu$ M) LN medium (50 ml) for 4 days at 30°C.

125 Mycelia were collected by centrifugation and washed 3 times with Tris-EDTA buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 1

126 mM EDTA, pH 7.4), freeze-dried, then weighed. Dried mycelia (15-30 mg) were mineralized with 8%

127 nitric acid and 6% hydrogen peroxide at 120°C for 8 h. After dilution to 10 ml with milli-Q water, the Mn

128 content was determined using inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry on an SPS7800

129 instrument (Seiko Instruments Inc., Chiba, Japan).

130

### 131 **Statistical analysis**

132 Data presented are the average of three or more replicates in each experiment. One-way analysis

133 of variance (ANOVA) was carried out to determine the significance of differences in *PsMnt* expression and

134 MnSO<sub>4</sub> concentration. For other statistical analyses, the Student's *t*-test was performed to determine the

135 significance of differences compared with control strain U2. Differences between means at a 5% confidence

136 level ( $P < 0.05$ ) were considered statistically significant.

137

### 138 **Results and discussion**

139 We initially sought to determine the DNA and mRNA sequences of the putative *P. sordida*

140 YK-624 manganese transporter. From RNA-seq analysis (unpublished), a partial SMF-like sequence

141 exhibiting low expression levels on beech wood meal culture was obtained. Based on this sequence data,

142 *PsMnt* full-length DNA and cDNA sequences were determined using PCR techniques. The open reading  
143 frame of *PsMnt* (accession number: LC326251) has 2,141 bp and six introns, with an 1,824-bp coding  
144 sequence. Blast search (Altschul *et al.* 1997) results indicated that *PsMnt* homologues are preserved with  
145 high homology among Agricomycetes (especially Polyporales) at the amino acid sequence level  
146 (Supplementary Table 1). The translated amino acid sequence showed high similarity (identity 32~41 %)  
147 to the Nramp family of divalent ion transporters, according to SmartBlast analysis (Table 1). Therefore,  
148 *PsMnt* was presumed to be an *SMF* homologue. In yeast, it is thought that SMF2 (for which evidence of  
149 cell surface localization is still lacking) is the most important proton-coupled transporter of Mn ion into the  
150 cell. Reportedly, Mn homeostasis is significantly affected in *smf2*Δ deletion yeast, reducing Mn  
151 accumulation and the activity of Mn-dependent enzymes (Reddi, Jensen and Culotta 2009; Cyert and  
152 Philpott 2013). The relative *PsMnt* expression level and dry mycelial weight of *P. sordida* YK-624 in  
153 cultures containing various Mn concentrations are shown in Figure 1. As no significant difference was  
154 observed in mycelial dry weight between cultures at any MnSO<sub>4</sub> concentration, it can be said that MnSO<sub>4</sub>  
155 concentrations in the range used in this experiment are physiologic for *P. sordida* YK-624 (except 0 μM).  
156 Because *P. sordida* YK-624 produces LiP instead of MnP as a ligninolytic enzyme under Mn(II)-deficient  
157 conditions (Hirai *et al.* 2005), it is likely that a lack of Mn in the culture medium does not critically affect  
158 the growth of this fungus. *PsMnt* was constitutively expressed; no significant difference was observed in  
159 relative *PsMnt* expression level.

160           A previous review described Mn transporters in *S. cerevisiae* (Culotta, Yang and Hall 2005).  
161 According to this report, transcription of yeast *smf1* and *smf2* is not regulated by the Mn concentration; Mn  
162 starvation just increases the stability of SFM proteins. Portony *et al.* have reported post-translational  
163 regulation of SMF1 and SMF2, these transporter protein levels have been repressed under culture condition

164 supplemented 10  $\mu$ M Mn (Portnoy, Liu and Culotta 2000). As other transporters also function in controlling  
165 the cellular Mn concentration under physiologic conditions, it is difficult to characterize the function of  
166 *PsMnt* from the transcription level. Therefore, we investigated the involvement of *PsMnt* in Mn(II) uptake  
167 using homologous overexpression. By genomic PCR screening, 15 clones (MT-1 to -15) of *PsMnt* co-  
168 transformants were obtained from 180 uracil prototrophic clones. Bonnarme and Jeffries (1990) reported  
169 that the production of MnP is regulated by Mn(II) in several white-rot fungi. In addition, MnP activity in  
170 *P. sordida* is reportedly regulated by the Mn(II) concentration in liquid culture (Rüttimann-Johnson, Cullen  
171 and Lamar 1994). Therefore, Mn(II) uptake driven by *PsMnt* was indirectly evaluated by measuring MnP  
172 activity. MnP activity in the culture filtrates obtained from 4-day LN cultures (30  $\mu$ M Mn) incubated with  
173 the wild-type strain, control strain U2, and the 15 MT strains was measured. Although 80% of all  
174 transformants showed higher MnP activity than the wild type, only two co-transformants (MT-20 and -40)  
175 showed significantly higher activity than control strain U2 (Supplementary Figure 3).

176           To evaluate the Mn uptake activity in more detail, MnP activity was measured after 24 h of  
177 induction by the addition of Mn(II) to a Mn-deficient LN culture. As shown in Figure 2A, the MnP activity  
178 of all strains was correlated with the addition of Mn. However, *PsMnt* transformants MT-20 and -40 showed  
179 significantly higher MnP activity than the control strain in all tested ranges. Furthermore, the reduction rate  
180 of MnP activity in the co-transformants (especially MT-20) due to the decrease in Mn(II) concentration  
181 was lower than that of control strains. MnP activity relative to the wild-type strain is shown in Figure 2B.  
182 Although control strain U2 showed almost constant ratios in the tested range, the co-transformants showed  
183 much higher relative MnP activity at lower Mn(II) concentrations. Time-course analysis of the MnP activity  
184 of U2 and MT-20 in cultures containing 30 or 10  $\mu$ M MgSO<sub>4</sub> are shown in Figure 3A and B, respectively.  
185 At both Mn(II) concentrations, both strains secreted MnP 2 days after inoculation and showed maximum

186 activity at 4 days of incubation. Although MT-20 consistently showed higher MnP activity (except for day  
187 2), these strains exhibited similar MnP expression patterns in both cultures. From these results, we  
188 hypothesized that co-transformants exhibit higher Mn uptake activity and higher resulting intracellular  
189 Mn(II) concentrations.

190           The intracellular Mn concentration was compared in strains MT-20 and U2 cultured in 10  $\mu$ M  
191 Mn(II). Because the amount of Mn accumulated in mycelia obtained after Mn(II) addition to Mn-deficient  
192 cultures did not reach the lower detection limit, the cultures were scaled up (10 to 50 ml), and strains were  
193 cultivated at constant Mn concentrations. As shown in Table 2, the amount of Mn accumulated in MT-20  
194 mycelia was 1.36 times higher than that in U2 mycelia at 4 days of incubation. At 4 days of culture, the  
195 MnP activity of MT-20 was 2.8 and 3.0 times higher per unit volume and per unit mycelium dry weight,  
196 respectively, than the activity of U2. The relative level of *PsMnt* expression in MT-20 was also much higher.  
197 These results indicate that overexpression of *PsMnt* leads to incremental increases in the amount of Mn  
198 taken up and a resulting increase in MnP activity. Although the increase in MnP activity for Mn uptake  
199 seems reasonable, the values for the increment of the activity and Mn uptake with respect to the fold change  
200 in relative *PsMnt* expression appear too small. In *S. cerevisiae*, most Nramp-type Mn transporters (SMF1  
201 and SMF2) are quickly degraded under physiologic conditions (Reddi, Jensen and Culotta 2009); therefore,  
202 it is assumed that the product of *PsMnt* overexpression is also degraded under these experimental conditions.  
203 It was reported that yeast SMFs are regulated by manganese and metal homeostatic protein BSD2. SMF  
204 proteins are delivered for the degradation to vacuole through the function of BSD2. On the other hand,  
205 there is no knowledge about the mechanism of degradation of *smf* homologue proteins and the presence of  
206 *bsd2*-like gene of white rot fungi. In addition to these question, the investigation of the function of *PsMnt*  
207 during wood decay will be a future research subject.

208

209 **Conclusion**

210                 Several transporter proteins mediate import and distribution of cellular Mn in all organisms,  
211 including white-rot fungi. Nevertheless, the expression and function of SMF Nramp-family high-affinity  
212 Mn transporters in the white-rot fungi had not been explored. In this study, we found an *smf2* homologue,  
213 *PsMnt*, in a *P. sordida* YK-624 cDNA library. Overexpression of *PsMnt* led to significantly enhanced Mn  
214 uptake and activity of MnP (a Mn-dependent enzyme). These results indicate that *PsMnt* is a high-affinity  
215 Mn transporter exhibiting significant Mn uptake activity under Mn-deficient conditions. By clarifying the  
216 action of *PsMnt* on ligninolysis in future research, some useful information will be obtained to elucidate  
217 the details of lignin degradation mechanism of white rot fungi.

218

219 **Reference**

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270 hyper lignin-degrading basidiomycete *Phanerochaete sordida* YK-624. *Appl Microbiol Biotechnol*  
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272

273 **Figure captions**

274 Fig. 1. *PsMnt* expression (gray bars) and dry mycelial weight (white circles) in wild-type *P. sordida* YK-  
275 624 in cultures containing various MnSO<sub>4</sub> concentrations. Data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA to  
276 determine the significance of differences. Actin was used as reference gene for expression normalization.

277 Fig. 2. Enhancement of MnP activity in *PsMnt* recombinant strains at various MnSO<sub>4</sub> concentrations. A)  
278 MnP activity in culture supernatants of wild type, control strain U2, and *PsMnt* transformants (MT-20 and  
279 MT-40) incubated for 4 days. Asterisks indicate significant difference from control strain U2 as determined  
280 using the Student's *t*-test ( $P < 0.05$ ). B) Rate of increase in MnP activity in U2, MT-20, and MT-40 at each  
281 MnSO<sub>4</sub> concentration, compared with the wild-type strain.

282 Fig. 3. Activity of total MnP secreted from control strain U2 and *PsMnt* recombinant MT-20 over time in  
283 cultures containing 30 μM (A) or 10 μM (B) MnSO<sub>4</sub>. Asterisks indicate significant differences from control  
284 strain U2, as determined using the Student's *t*-test ( $P < 0.05$ ).

285



286 Table 1. Function and accession number (AN) of proteins showing high similarity to the *PsMnt* translated  
287 amino acid sequence.

Function	Organism	AN	Identity	Coverage
Divalent metal ion transporter SMF2	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	NP_011917	34%	96%
<i>Nramp</i> family manganese ion transporter	<i>Schizosaccharomyces pombe</i>	NP_594537	41%	74%
<i>Nramp</i>	<i>Dictyostelium discoideum</i>	XP_643409	32%	80%

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290 Table 2. Cellular accumulation of Mn, MnP activity, and *PsMnt* expression by co-transformant MT-20  
 291 and control strain U2.

Strain	Mn accumulation (ng/mg <sup>a</sup> )	MnP activity		Relative PsMnt expression
		(nkat/ml)	(nkat/mg)	
U2	6.85 ± 0.12	0.35 ± 0.36	205.2 ± 16.4	1.0 ± 0.5
MT-20	9.33 ± 0.32*	9.71 ± 0.38*	613.0 ± 38.2*	10.2 ± 0.7*

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293 Dry mycelial weight.

294 \*Asterisks indicate significant difference from control strain U2, as determined using the Student's *t*-test ( $P < 0.05$ ).

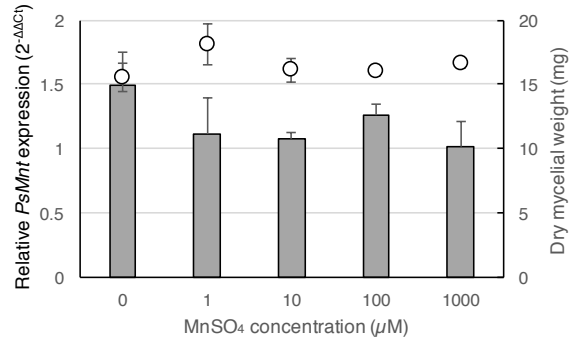
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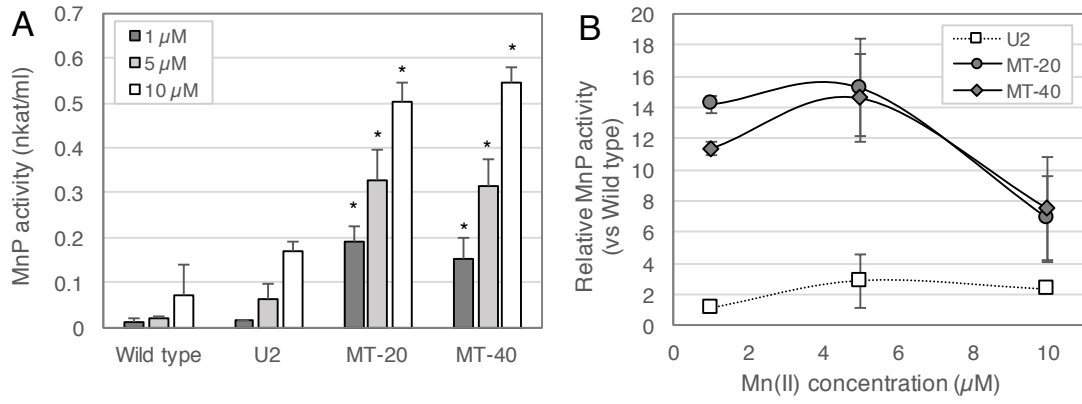
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Fig. 1

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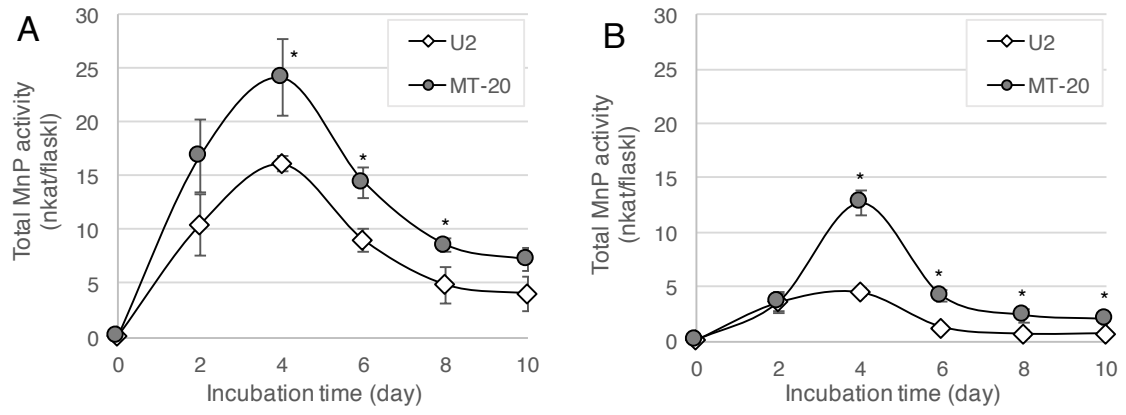
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Fig. 2

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Fig. 3

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316 CCTCCTCGTTCGCTTTTACCTCGAGCCCCCATGGCCGTCGCTCTCCAGCCTCGCTCTCCGACCACCCGC  
 317 CATGCCCCCTGAGCCTCCCGCGCCCGACGCCGCCAGCATCGCCAGCGCCGACAGCGCCGGAAGCTACCA  
 318 CCGTCCGGTGC GCGGGCATCCTCGCGCGTGCACGCCGCTCGGCCCGTGTGCTCGTTCGAGCATGCCGTCA  
 319 CTCACACAGGTGTGGGAATCGTCTGCGCCGTCGCCCTACTTTGACCCCGGCAACTGGGGTGTGACCTGCA  
 320 GCGGGGCTCGCAGTACGGCTACAAGTACTCTTTGTGCTGCTCCCTCGCCGGCATCTTCGCGGTCTTTCTC  
 321 CAGATTCTTTGCTTCGCGCCTTGGCTGCGTGACGGGTCTCGATCTTGCCGCACACTGTGCGCTTCTACTCC  
 322 ACTCACGGACCAAACATAACCTACTATACCGATGGGCACCTTTATAACCCACTATATGTTCTATCAGAAGT  
 323 CGCTATAATCGCCACCGACCTCGCCGAGCTCCTGGGATCCGCCATCGCGCTGACACTCCTCTTTCCCAAG  
 324 CTCCCTTATGGGCCGGCGTACTCATTACCGCTCTGACGTATTGCTCCTGCTTGGCGCTCAAGGATCCGC  
 325 TGGGTGGGAAGCCTGTCAGGATATTTGAGATTGTAATAGGCGCACTAGTATTACCGTGTAGTCTGTAT  
 326 GCGGATAAATAATATCTCAGGTTGACGTCAACTGGGGCAAGGCCCTTCGATGGCTTTGTCCCGTCAGACTCG  
 327 ATATTCAAGTCGGGAGCGCTGTACATCTCGATTGGTATCATTTGGTGCCACCGTCATGCCGCACAGCATAT  
 328 TCCTCGGGTCAGCACTTGCCACTCAGGACCGCATATCGAAGCCGGACAAGCTCACACGCATCGACACTGT  
 329 CGACACCGGCACGACCCCTTGCCTCGCACGATCAAGTCGAGACTGACGCCGCCGCCACACGAATTG  
 330 CTTTCGTCGCTTCAAGAAAGGATTCGGCAACGCTTTTCGTATTGTGCCCATCGGCGAGCTCCCGACCGACC  
 331 CGAAATCGCACGCAGAGCACGAAAACAACACGTACACATTTGTGAGAGCGCATATATACCACGGCATGAT  
 332 CGACATTGCCGTGAGCTTGTGTGTCATCGCAGTCGTCAACGCCATGATTCTCATTTCTCGCGAGCGCC  
 333 GTCTTCTACTACGGTGC GGGGCGGGGCTCGGGCGGGCCGGCGAGCCTCTTCGATGCGTACGACCTGTGTA  
 334 AGCAGATCGTGGGGCAGGGTGCAGCGACGCTCTTCGCGCTCGCGCTGCTCGCGTGGGGCAGAGCTCGTTC  
 335 GATCATCGCGACGATGGCAGGCCAGGTCGTGTCCGAGGGCTTCCCTGCGCTGGCGCGTGTGCGCCGTGTTT  
 336 CGGCGCGGGCTCACGCGCGGATCGGGCTCGTGCCGTCGATGGCCGTCGCGCTCGCGGGGGCCGCGAGCG  
 337 GCGTCGACACGATGCTCGTTCGCGAGCCAGGTTGTGCTCAGCATCGTCCCTCCCGTTCATCGTCTTCCCGCT  
 338 GCTGTACCTCACCAACTCGCGCGCGGTGATGACCGTCAAGAAGCTCCCGCCAGAGGACACCGTCGATATG  
 339 CTCGGGCTCGACAAGGACGCGGACGAGGACCGCGAGCAGCCCCGACGAGGACGAAGACCTGCAGGAGG  
 340 AGGAGCCGGACAA . . . . . AAAAAAAAAAAAA

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342 **Supplementary Figure 1**

343 A partial cDNA sequence of putative *PsMnt* obtained from RNA-seq data.

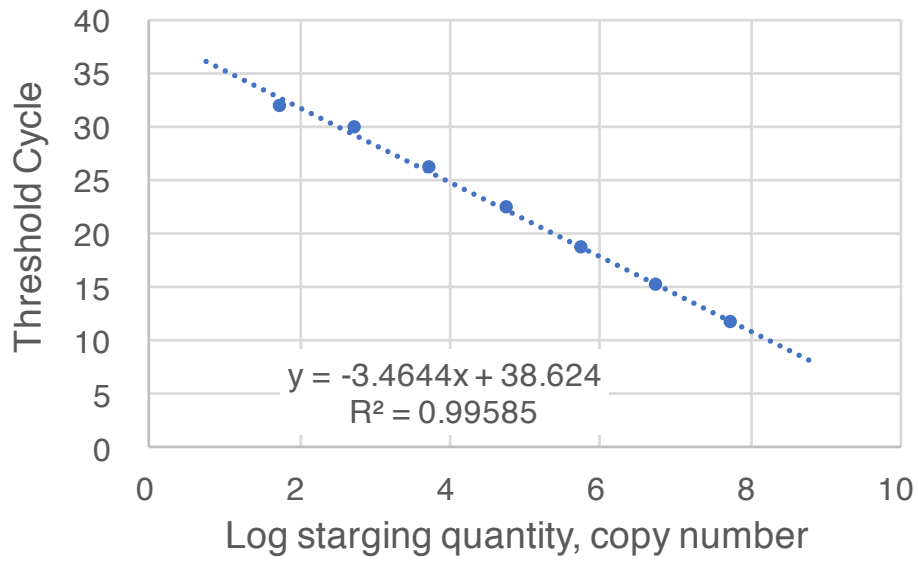
344 Enclosed sequences were used as RT-PCR primers. The PCR conditions were as follows: 98 °C for 3

345 min, 30 cycles at 98 °C for 10 sec, 54 °C for 30 sec, and 72 °C for 2 min, 72 °C for 5min.

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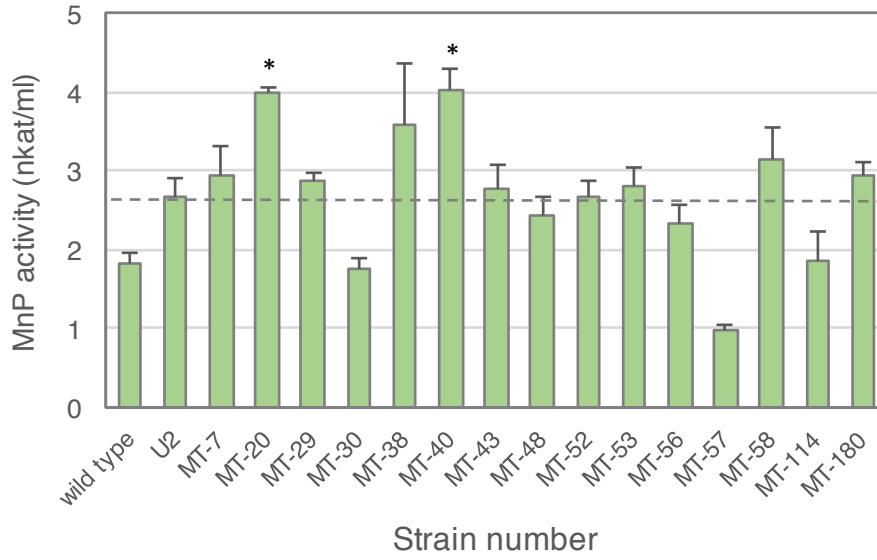
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**Supplementary Figure 2**

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The qRT-PCR standard curve made by gradient dilution of PsMnt RT-PCR product.

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**Supplementary Figure 3**

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MnP activities in culture filtrate of MT strains and control strains. The filtrate was obtained from Mn

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supplemented culture incubated with fungal strains for 2 days, at 30 °C. Asterisks indicate significant

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difference from control strain U2 as determined using the Student's t-test ( $P < 0.05$ ).

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**Supplementary Table 1**

365 Function and accession number (AN) of proteins showing high homology to the *PsMnt*  
 366 translated amino acid sequence

Putative function	Organism	AN	Identity	Coverage
hypothetical protein	<i>Phanerochaete carnosae</i>	XP_007391169	76%	100%
hypothetical protein	<i>Phlebiopsis gigantia</i>	KIP03915	68%	97%
Manganese transporter pdt1	<i>Trametes pubescens</i>	OJT03088	60%	95%
Manganese transporter pdt1	<i>Hypsizygus marmoreus</i>	KYQ32377	58%	99%
Nramp-domain-containing protein	<i>Dichomitus squalens</i>	XP_007360725	59%	94%
smf Mn <sup>2+</sup> and Fe <sup>2+</sup> transporter	<i>Wolfiporia cocos</i>	PCH34295	58%	96%
hypothetical protein	<i>Trametes cinnabaria</i>	CDO73418	57%	99%
hypothetical protein	<i>Gelatopria subvermispora</i>	EMD42264	58%	97%
Nramp protein	<i>Pycnoporus coccineus</i>	OSD00839	59%	95%
Nramp family transporter	<i>Heterobasidion irregulare</i>	XP_009540380	59%	95%
Nramp protein	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	XP_008032913	58%	99%

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