## Supplemental Information for

# Discovery of a P450-catalyzed step in vindoline biosynthesis: a link between the aspidosperma and eburnamine type alkaloid scaffolds

Franziska Kellner, Fernando Geu-Flores, Nathaniel H. Sherden, Stephanie Brown, Emilien Foureau, Vincent Courdavault, and Sarah E. O'Connor

sarah.oconnor@jic.ac.uk

## **A. Experimental Procedures**

Analysis of Catharanthus roseus expression profile data

For this analysis, a *C. roseus* expression data set<sup>1</sup> was employed

(ftp.plantbiology.msu.edu/pub/data/MPGR/Catharanthus\_roseus/). In an initial filtering step, those contigs with an expression value (log2 FPKM) lower than 1.0 in flower, mature leaf, young leaf, and three seedling tissues were eliminated. Since methyl jasmonate is a known elicitor of MIA biosynthesis,<sup>2</sup> expression values of contigs in non-elicited seedlings were compared to the corresponding expression value in seedlings after 12 days of elicitation with methyl jasmonate. Only contigs having a ratio greater than 1.0 (elicited/non-elicited) were retained. After these two filtering steps, 38 contigs annotated as cytochrome P450 were found within the remaining 6538 contigs. From these 38 contigs, five (2442, 1753, 4293, 1227 and 7549, Supplemental Table 1) were chosen for further analysis based on their high response to methyl jasmonate or tight co-expression with various MIA biosynthetic genes. All co-expression analyses used six *C. roseus* tissues (flower, mature leaf, young leaf, non-elicited seedling, seedling elicited with methyl jasmonate for 5 days and seedling elicited with methyl jasmonate for 12 days) using Pearson correlation (average linkage clustering) in the MultiExperiment Viewer (MeV v.4.8).

## Virus induced gene silencing (VIGS)

The *C. roseus* variety "SunStorm Apricot" was used for all VIGS experiments. Plants were grown in a growth chamber at 25°C for a 12 h day/12 h night regime. For each of the five contigs tested, a fragment of approximately 300 bp was cloned into the USER compatible VIGS plasmid pTRV2u as previously described (Supplemental Table 2).<sup>3</sup> VIGS experiments were conducted as described previously.<sup>4</sup> Briefly, eight *C. roseus* seedlings (12 weeks old) were infiltrated per construct. Additionally, eight seedlings were infiltrated with pTRV2 lacking an insert (empty vector negative control) and four plants were infiltrated with a vector containing a fragment of the protoporphyrin IX magnesium chelatase gene (ChlH) (visual marker for a positive control). After 21 days, seedlings infiltrated with the pTRV-ChlH vector displayed substantial yellowing of leaves; the last leaf pair to emerge above the inoculation site was harvested (50-100 mg fresh weight tissue), frozen in liquid nitrogen and homogenized using a cryo bead mill (Retsch). The samples were divided into two equal batches for RNA and metabolite extraction.

## Metabolite extraction and analysis of silenced tissues

For analysis of silenced tissues, 25-50 mg of frozen powdered leaves were incubated with 200  $\mu$ L methanol at 56°C for 45 minutes. All samples were diluted with an equal volume of water and centrifuged prior to injection onto an LCMS, Thermo-Finnigan with Deca XP ion trap detector, Phenomenex Luna column, 3  $\mu$  (100 x 2.00 mm, 3  $\mu$ m) with a binary solvent system consisting of acetonitrile (ACN) and 0.1% formic acid in water. The method began with 12%

ACN for 1 minute, then a 7 minute gradient to 25% ACN followed by a 4 minute gradient to 50% and then a 2 minute gradient to 100% ACN. The method was held for 7 minutes at 100% ACN, followed by a 2 minute gradient to 12% ACN and then 6 minutes at 12% ACN. Caffeine was used as an internal standard and peak area was calculated with the ICIS algorithm of Xcalibur (Finnigan) and normalized to the fresh weight of the sample. Measurements of changes in alkaloid levels in VIGS samples were performed in positive ion mode. Injection volume was 2  $\mu$ L for all samples.

#### Gene expression analysis (qRT-PCR) of silenced tissues

RNA was extracted (RNeasy Plant Minikit, Qiagen) from an aliquot of each harvested sample of silenced tissues and converted to cDNA (iScript cDNA Synthesis Kit, Bio-Rad). The 40S Ribosomal Protein S9 (rps9) was used as a reference gene. The primer pair for *16t3o* was designed for the sequence of *16t3o* from the *C. roseus* variety "SunStorm Apricot" (Supplemental Table 2). Quantitative PCR was performed on a CFX96 Real Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad). Technical duplicates were measured for all biological samples, and determination of normalized relative expression was calculated as previously reported.<sup>3</sup>

#### Localization

The subcellular localization of 16T3O was determined according to the procedures described previously.<sup>5</sup> Briefly, the *16t3o* coding sequence was amplified by PCR using specific primers (Supplemental Table 2) and cloned into the SpeI restriction sites of the pSC-A cassette YFPi plasmid in frame with the 5' extremity of the YFP coding sequence. The resulting plasmid was used for transient transformation of *C. roseus* cells by particle bombardment in combination with a plasmid expressing the ER-CFP marker.

#### Yeast strains

*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strains were cultured in YPD or synthetic complete drop-out (SC) media with 2% glucose lacking specific amino acids (Formedium, Hunstanton, UK). *S. cerevisiae* competent cells for the parental strain BY4741 (EUROSCARF, Frankfurt, Germany), strain A described below, and WAT11, a yeast strain harbouring the *A. thaliana* P450 reductase,<sup>6</sup> were prepared as described previously<sup>7</sup> with a modified transformation procedure. For transformation, the cells were incubated at 30°C for 15 minutes (vortexing briefly every 5 minutes) then 42°C for 15 minutes prior to plating on selective media. All primers, plasmids, and yeast strains used are listed in Supplemental Table 2 and Supplemental Table 3.

To construct strain A, T16H,<sup>8</sup> 16OMT,<sup>9</sup> NMT,<sup>10</sup> DAT,<sup>11</sup> D4H<sup>12</sup> and CPR<sup>13</sup> genes were amplified from cDNA isolated from *C. roseus* ("Little Bright Eyes") young leaves. The pXP plasmid set (Addgene, Cambridge, MA)<sup>14</sup> was used as a base to construct additional pXP plasmids with different sets of yeast promoters (TDH3, ADH1) and terminators (ENO2, TPI1, ADH1) (Supplemental Table 2 and Supplemental Table 3).<sup>15</sup> The yeast promoters and terminators were PCR amplified from BY4741 genomic DNA, digested with the appropriate restriction enzymes, and ligated into a similarly digested pXP. The CPR, T16H, 16OMT, NMT, DAT and D4H genes were amplified, digested, and subcloned into pXP plasmids at the SpeI and XhoI restriction sites. The plasmids were used as a template to amplify a linear fragment containing the desired region flanked by 50 bp homologous to either the *S. cerevisiae* genomic DNA integration site or the adjoining linear DNA fragment. The fragments were co-transformed into yeast for selection on appropriate selection media. Correct integration of all six *C. roseus* genes to yield strain A was confirmed by PCR analysis. pXP218 plasmid containing *16t3o* and empty pXP218 plasmid were transformed

into strain A to yield strain\_A+p16T3O and strain\_A+pEV. The same plasmids were also transformed into *S. cerevisiae* WAT11 to yield strains WAT11+p16t3o and WAT11+pEV, respectively.

#### Production, extraction, and purification of 16-methoxytabersonine (2)

For the production of 16-methoxtabersonine (2), a 500 mL culture of strain A was grown in YPD media to an OD600 of 0.5 and supplemented with tabersonine (1) to a final concentration of 120 µM. Conversion was monitored every 24 hours by UPLC-MS. To monitor reaction progress, samples (100  $\mu$ L) were taken at 24 and 48 hours after addition of substrate and subsequently centrifuged to separate the cell pellet from the culture supernatant. An equal amount of methanol was added to the supernatant, and the sample was then incubated for 45 minutes at 56°C, centrifuged again and then directly analyzed by UPLC-MS. An AQUITY UPLC with a Xevo TQ-S Mass-spec equipped with a BEH Shield RP18 1.7 µm column (Waters) was used for analysis. The 11 minute elution program applied a binary solvent system consisting of ACN and 0.1% formic acid in water. The gradient began with 12% ACN for 50 seconds, followed by a 180 second gradient to 25% ACN, a 130 second gradient to 50% ACN, a 50 second gradient up to 100% and then held at 100% ACN for 130 seconds. The gradient was then ramped to 12% ACN over 12 seconds, finishing with a 110 seconds at 12% ACN. Injection volume was 2 µL for all samples. Total ion chromatograms were collected in positive ion mode. After 48 hours, no tabersonine (1) could be detected, and the resulting enzymatic product was extracted from the culture supernatant with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 400 \text{ mL})$ . The extract was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to a vellow oil. The oil was subjected to silica column chromatography using 2:8 ethyl acetate (EtOAc)/hexanes. The product eluted as the salicylic acid salt as judged by NMR. The salt was then dissolved in a small volume of EtOAc and filtered through  $K_2CO_3$  to recover 3.9 mg of 2.

#### Production, extraction, and purification of 16T3O product 9

The substrate for 16T3O, 16-methoxytabersonine (2), was produced using a 500 mL culture of strain A supplemented with 120 µM tabersonine (1). This culture was grown for 48 hours, as described above, centrifuged and the culture supernatant containing 16methoxytabersonine (2) was reserved. In parallel, a 500 mL culture of the WAT11+pT3O strain (SC media with 2% galactose) was grown from a starter culture to an OD600 of 0.5, after which the cells were harvested by centrifugation, washed, and then resuspended in the reserved culture supernatant that contained 16-methoxytabersonine (2). The culture was supplemented with 2% glucose and grown for a further 24 hours, at which point the 16methoxytabersonine starting material was completely consumed as observed by UPLC-MS. The oxidized product was extracted from the liquid fraction using EtOAc (3 x 400 mL). The extract was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to a vellow oil. The oil was subjected to silica column chromatography using first EtOAc and then followed with 10% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. As judged by UPLC-MS, the product eluted in the latest EtOAc fractions and the initial 10% MeOH fractions. These fractions were combined, concentrated, and subjected to preparative HPLC using a C18 column and an increasing gradient of acetonitrile in 0.1% formic acid/water. All product-containing fractions were pooled and concentrated to give 10 mg of 9. For mass spectrometry analysis, an equal amount of methanol was added to the supernatant, and the sample was then incubated for 45 minutes at 56°C, centrifuged again and then directly analyzed by UPLC-MS. An AQUITY UPLC with a Xevo TQ-S Mass-spec equipped with a BEH Shield RP18 1.7 µm column (Waters) was used for analysis. The 11 minute elution program applied a binary solvent system consisting of ACN and 0.1% formic acid in water. The gradient began with 12% ACN for 50 seconds, followed by a 180 second gradient to 25% ACN, a 130 second gradient to 50% ACN, a 50 second gradient up to 100%

and then held at 100% ACN for 130 seconds. The gradient was then ramped to 12% ACN over 12 seconds, finishing with a 110 seconds at 12% ACN. Injection volume was 2  $\mu$ L for all samples. Total ion chromatograms were collected in positive ion mode.

#### Characterization of 16-methoxytabersonine (2) and 16T3O product 9

IR spectra were obtained on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum BX equipped with a Pike technologies MIRacle<sup>TM</sup> single reflection horizontal ATR accessory possessing a zinc selenide (ZnSe) crystal lens. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz / 54 mm UltraShield Plus, long hold time automated NMR system (at 400 HMz, 100 MHz, and 40 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>15</sup>N respectively). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are reported relative to residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> at  $\delta$  7.26 and 77.16 ppm respectively. Data for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm) (multiplicity, coupling constant (Hz), integration). Multiplicities are reported as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, p = pentent, m = multiplet, comp. m = complex multiplet, app. = apparent, br. = broad. <sup>15</sup>N NMR was referenced electronically by TOPSPIN. <sup>15</sup>N chemical shifts were obtained indirectly through a <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>15</sup>N HMBC. This experiment yielded only the indole nitrogen (N1) and not the aliphatic one (N4). The shift reported for N1 is in a range consistent with that for other previously reported <sup>15</sup>N spectra of related vincamine-like alkaloids.<sup>16</sup> The purified product existed in an equilibrium mixture as shown in Figure 2 of the main text, but product **9** could be assigned completely from the 2D spectra.

The NMR solvent CDCl<sub>3</sub> (Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc.) was used as received. All other standard solvents were purchased from Fisher Scientific and used as received. Column chromatography (MPLC) was done on neutral silica gel (particle size  $35-70 \mu m$ ) from Fluorochem. TLC was done on Merck silica gel 60 F254 precoated (0.25 mm) glass backed plates, 20 x 20 cm cut down to various sizes for use.

Data for exact mass was obtained on a Shimadzu IT-ToF using the Nexera LC system. The mass spectrometer was set up to collect spectra from m/z 250-2000, and data-dependent MS2 of the most abundant ions, at an isolation width of m/z 3.0, 50% collision energy, and 50% collision gas. Spray chamber conditions were 250°C curved desorbation line, 1.5 L min<sup>-1</sup> nebulizing gas, and 300°C heat block. The instrument was calibrated before use, using sodium trifluoroacetate according to the manufacturer's instructions, and additionally background phthalate contaminant ions were used for mass compensation within the run. The identity of 16-methoxytabersonine (**2**) was validated by comparing NMR results (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C HSQC) to reported literature values.<sup>17</sup> Data for the 16T3O product **9**<sup>18</sup> is reported in the main text.

# **B.** Supporting Tables

		FPKM for <i>C. roœus</i> tissues						
contig	vindoline decrease	flowers	sterile seedlings	sterile seedlings MJ 12 days	sterile seedlings MJ 5 days	mature leaf	immature leaf	seedling MJ 12 days/ seedling no MJ
era locus 1753	no	7.67	1.12	2.05	3.82	4.75	4	1.83
era locus 4293	no	8.07	2.16	3.53	2.8	5.69	5.08	1.63
era locus 7549	ves	3	5.67	6.96	7.84	4.18	5.41	1.23
era locus 2442	no	5.06	7.93	9.36	9.97	7.19	8	1.18
era locus 1227	no	5.55	7.11	7.85	6.33	5	5.25	1.10

**Table 1.** Candidate contigs that were tested by VIGS, with expression values in six tissues (MJ = methyl jasmonate).

For VIGS plasmid	
Construction	
Contig 7540 reverse	
Contig 7349 leverse	
Contig 2442 forward	GGCGCGAUACCAGGTCCAAGAACACTACC
Contig 2442 reverse	<u>GGTTGCGAU</u> GTAATCTCCATACTGAGCAAAGGTAACAC
Contig 1753 forward	GGCGCGAUTTATCAAGTAGAACAATTCTCAATGCAATTC
Contig 1753 reverse	GGTTGCGAUCTTGAGATGAATTTGAATCATAAGTAGCAAAATCT
Contig 4293 forward	GGCGCGAUGCTTCCCTACTTGCAAGCAATAGTTA
Contig 4293 reverse	<u>GGTTGCGAU</u> CCGCCAACTGGACAGTCATG
Contig 1227 forward	<u>GGCGCGAU</u> GCCTAGCTTCAAGAACAGGATGC
Contig 1227 reverse	<u>GGTTGCGAU</u> ATCCTAAGTATTGGTCCGAACCTGA
For qPCR analysis	
qT3O forward	GGCAACTCCCAGATGGTTCTACT
qT3O reverse	TCATGCATAGGACGTAGCGATTAAATGAA
qRPS9 forward	TTACAAGTCCCTTCGGTGGT
qRSP9 reverse	TGCTTATTCTTCATCCTCTTCATC
For localization	
T3Oy-for	CTGAGA <u>ACTAGT</u> ATGGAGTTTCATGAATCTTCTCCCTTC
T3Oy-rev	CTGAGA <u>ACTAGT</u> TGCATAGGACGTAGCGATTAATTGAAG
For pXP construction	
adh1p forward	TTAGATTC <u>CATATG</u> TTAAAACAAGAAGAGGGTTGACTACAT
adh1p reverse	ATAAGTAT <u>CTCGAG</u> AATATC <u>ACTAGT</u> TTGTATATGAGATAGTTGATTGT
tdh3p forward	TTAGATTC <u>CATATG</u> TCAGTTCGAGTTTATCATTATCAATACTG
tdh3p reverse	ATAAGTAT <u>CTCGAG</u> AATATC <u>ACTAGT</u> TTTGTTTGTTTATGTGTGTTTATTC
eno2t forward	TATCTTATCTCGAGTAAAGTGCTTTTAACTAAGAATTATTAGTCTT
eno2t reverse	CTTAAGAT <u>CTGCAG</u> AGGTATCATCTCCATCTCCCATAT
tpilt forward	TATCTGCT <u>CTCGAG</u> CTAAGATTAATATAATTATATAAAAAATATTATC
tpilt reverse	CTTAAGAT <u>CTGCAG</u> CTATATAACAGTTGAAATTTGGATAAGAACATC
adh1t forward	TTAATAAT <u>CTCGAG</u> GAGCGACCTCATGCTATACCTGAGAAA

adh1t reverse	AATCTAGT <u>GGATCC</u> CGAATTTCTTATGATTTATGATTTTTAT
t3o forward	TTATTACT <u>ACTAGT</u> ATGGAGTTTCATGAATCTTCTCCCTTC
t3o reverse	AATCTAAT <u>CTCGAG</u> TCATGCATAGGACGTAGCGATTAAA
For gene amplification	
CPR forward	ATATTCAT <u>GCTAGC</u> ATGGATTCTAGCTCGGAGAAGTT
CPR reverse	TAATTAAT <u>GTCGAC</u> TCACCAGACATCTCGGAGATACCTT
16OMT forward	TTATTACT <u>ACTAGT</u> ATGGATGTTCAATCTGAGGAGTTCCGTGGAG
16OMT reverse	AATCTAAT <u>CTCGAG</u> TCAAGGATAAACCTCAATGAGACTCCTT
NMT forward	ATACTATT <u>ACTAGT</u> ATGAAAAACATACAACAATACAATGGAAGAG
NMT reverse	TTTAATTC <u>CTCGAG</u> TCATATTGATTTTCGTCCCGTAACTACA
D4H forward	TATTTCTA <u>ACTAGT</u> ATGCCTAAGTCTTGGCCAATTGTGATAT
D4H reverse	TACTGACT <u>CTCGAG</u> CTAATTGTTTAACCTGAAAGGAGATAAG
DAT forward	TAAATTCTGCTAGCATGGAGTCAGGAAAAATATCGGTT
DAT reverse	AATTCCTTGTCGACTTAATTAGAAACAAATTGAAGTAGCTGTT
For integration fragments	
trpUTRtdh	ATCTAAAAGAGCTGACAGGGAAATGGTCAGAAAAAGAAACGTGCATCAGTTCGAGTTTATCA TT
ENO2ADH1rev	TTTCTTCGATCCCCCTCATCGTGATGTAGTCAACCCTCTTCTTGTTTTAAAGGTATCATCTCCA TCTCCC
ENO2adh	AAATGCGGGGCCACGACCACAGTGATATGCATATGGGAGATGGAGATGATACCTTTAAAACAA GAAGAGGGTTG
trpUTRleulox1	TTGCTTTTCAAAAGGCCTGCATAACTTCGTATAATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATGGATTTTCTT AACTT
trpUTRleulox2	TTACAGATTTTATGTTTAGATCTTTTATGCTTGCTTTTCAAAAGGCCTGC
adeUTRpgk	ACCAGTATATCATCTCATTTCCGTAAATACCAAATGTATTATATATTGAAAGGCCGCAAATTA AAGCCT
Pgk1tef1reverse1	GGGATTGGGTGTGATGTAAGGATTCGCGGTAGGCATTTGCAAGAATTACT
Pgk1tef1reverse2	GTGTGGGGGATCACTTGTGGGGGGATTGGGTGTGATGTAAG
pgktefforward	CGATAGTTCCTCACTCTTTCCTTACTCACGAGTAATTCTTGCAAATGCCTACCGCGAATCCTTA CATCAC
Adh1tdh3	TTTACGTATTCTTTGAAATGGCAGTATTGATAATGATAAACTCGAACTGACGAATTTCTTATG ATTTATG
adhttdhforward	GAGCGACCTCATGCTATACCTGAGAAAGCAACCTGACCTACAGGAAAGAGTCAGTTCGAGTT TATCATTA
adeUTRloxmet1	TATGTATGTATGTATAAAAAAAAAAAACTTCGTATAATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATGTATAGTAC TTGTGA
adeUTRloxmet2	GGTAATTATTCCTTGCTTCTTGTTACTGGATATGTATGTA
For strain confirmation	
Trp1upconfirm	GATATTCCTTATGGCATGTCTGGCGATG
Trp1downconfirm	CCTGTACAATCAAAAAAGCCAAATGATTTAGC
Ade2upconfirm	GTTAGCTATTTCGCCCAATGTGTCCAT
Ade2downconfirm	GGTTCTGCATTGAGCCGCCTTATA
TEFconfirm	CACTTCAAAACACCCCAAGCACAGCATACTAAATTT
LEU2markerconfirm	TCTGCCCCTAAGAAGATCGTCGTTTT

**Table 2.** Primer sequences used in this study. Cloning/restriction sites are underlined.

Strain	Description	Source or Reference
S. cerevisiae BY4741	MAT <b>a;</b> $his3\Delta1$ ; $leu2\Delta0$ ; $met15\Delta0$ ; $ura3\Delta0$	EUROSCARF
SB1	BY4741 <i>trp1</i> ::P <sub>TDH3</sub> - <i>t16h</i> -T <sub>EN02</sub> -P <sub>ADH1</sub> - <i>cpr</i> -T <sub>TPI1</sub> -loxPLEU2-d8-loxP	This Study
	SB1 <i>ade2</i> :: $T_{CYC1}$ -160mt- $P_{PGK1}$ - $P_{TEF1}$ -nmt- $T_{ADH1}$ - $P_{TDH3}$ -d4h- $T_{ENO2}$ - $P_{ADH1}$ -dat- $T_{TP11}$ -loxP-	This Study
SB3	MET15-loxP	
Plasmid		
pXP218	P <sub>pgK1</sub> , T <sub>cyc1</sub> , URA3, 2μ	Fang, 2011
pXP622	P <sub>HX7-391</sub> , T <sub>CYC1</sub> , LEU2-d8, 2μ	Fang, 2011
pXP416	P <sub>TEF1</sub> , T <sub>CYC1</sub> , TRP1, 2μ	Fang, 2011
pXP(adh1p/tpi1)	pXP622 with $P_{ADH1}$ , $T_{TP11}$ replacing $P_{HX7-391}$ , $T_{CYC1}$	This Study
pXP(tdh3/eno2)	pXP622 with $P_{TDH3}$ , $T_{EN02}$ replacing $P_{HX7-391}$ , $T_{CYC1}$	This Study
pXP(adh1p/tpi1)MET	pXP(adh1p/tpi1) with loxP-MET15-loxP (from pXP214) replacing the loxP-LEU2- d8-	This Study
pXP(tef/adh1t)	pXP416 with $T_{ADH1}$ replacing $T_{CYC1}$	This Study
pXP-CPR	pXP(adh1p/tpi1) with cpr inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study
pXP-160MT	pXP218 with 16omt inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study
pXP-NMT	pXP(tef/adh1t) with nmt inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study
pXP-D4H	pXP(tdh3/eno2) with d4h inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study
pXP-DAT	pXP(adh1p/tpi1)MET with <i>dat</i> inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study
pXP-T16H	pXP(tdh3/eno2) with <i>t16h</i> inserted in XhoI, SpeI sites	This Study

 Table 3. Yeast strains and plasmids used in this study.

#### **C. Supporting Figures**



Figure S1. Virus induced gene silencing (VIGS) demonstrates the function of 16T3O *in planta*. A. Silencing of *16t3o* leads to accumulation of the precursor tabersonine (1) and 16methoxytabersonine (2) and decreased accumulation of vindoline (4) and vindorosine (7). Data shown corresponds to average of MIA measurements of 8 plants silenced with construct for gene *16t3o* (white) in comparison to 8 plants silenced with empty vector (dark grey). Error bars indicate standard error. Statistical significance calculated with Student's *t* test (EV in comparison to *16t3o*) is indicated as followed: \*P<0.05, \*\*P<0.005, \*\*\*P<0.0005. **B.** VIGS results in significantly reduced accumulation of *16t3o* transcripts in *16t3o* silenced tissues compared to empty vector tissues. Values represent average of 6 plants for both constructs, *16t3o* (white) and empty vector (EV) (dark grey).



Figure S2. 16T3O is located at the endoplasmic reticulum. *C. roseus* cells were transiently transformed with the 16T3O-YFP expressing vector (T3O-YFP; **A**) in combination with the plasmid expressing an endoplasmic reticulum-CFP marker ("ER"-CFP; **B**). Co-localization of the two fluorescence signals appears on the merged images (**C**). Cell morphology (**D**) was observed with differential interference contrast (DIC). Bars = 10  $\mu$ m.



Figure S3. Chromatogram of purified 9. A. Total ion chromatogram. B. Selected ion monitoring at m/z 383. C. Mass spectrum for the major peak at 2.147 minutes. D. Mass spectrum for the minor peak at 2.273 minutes. Monitoring was performed by UPLC in tandem with mass spectrometry (UPLC-MS) as described in section "Production, extraction, and purification of 16T3O product 9" above.



Comparison of NMR data from compound **9** with NMR data from previously reported compounds having similar structure. See supplemental reference 19.

Compound 9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR















#### **Supplemental References**

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