

Quantitative trait locus mapping for common scab resistance in a tetraploid potato full-sib population

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14 †Christian Thill passed away in 2014. This paper is dedicated to his memory.

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18 **Abstract**

19 Despite the negative impact of common scab (*Streptomyces* spp.) to the potato industry, little is
20 known about the genetic architecture of resistance to this bacterial disease in the crop. We evaluated
21 a mapping population (~150 full-sibs) derived from a cross between two tetraploid potatoes
22 ('Atlantic' × B1829-5) in three environments (MN11, PA11, ME12) under natural common scab
23 pressure. Three measures to common scab reaction were assessed, namely percentage of scabby
24 tubers, and disease area and lesion indices, which were highly correlated (>0.76). Due to large

25 environmental effect, heritability values were zero for all three traits in MN11, but moderate to high
26 in PA11 and ME12 (0.44~0.79). We identified a single quantitative trait locus (QTL) for lesion index
27 in PA11, ME12 and joint analyses on linkage group 3, explaining 22~30% of the total variation. The
28 identification of QTL haplotypes and candidate genes contributing to disease resistance can support
29 genomics-assisted breeding approaches.

30 **1 Introduction**

31 Common scab of potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.) is an economically important disease that occurs
32 worldwide. It is caused by pathogenic soil-borne bacteria belonging to several species in the genus
33 *Streptomyces* (Loria et al., 1995; Wanner, 2009). Common scab is characterized by brownish
34 superficial, raised or pitted lesions on tuber surfaces as a consequence of the phytotoxin thaxtomin A
35 produced by pathogenic *Streptomyces* spp. (Loria et al., 1995; Kinkel et al., 1998). This disease is
36 highly influenced by the environment (Haynes et al., 2010), especially by the soil conditions
37 (Krišťufek et al., 2015), and by the virulence of the pathogens present in the soil (Wanner, 2006;
38 Wanner and Haynes, 2009).

39 Although some management practices have been proposed to mitigate common scab damages (Dees
40 and Wanner, 2012), there are currently no chemical or cultural management approaches that provide
41 effective control of the disease. Breeding for varietal resistance is still being pursued as a more
42 effective solution (Navarro et al., 2015; Braun et al., 2017b). However, the development of resistant
43 varieties, as well as the study of the genetic architecture of resistance in potato, is quite challenging.
44 Despite scab symptoms exhibiting a quantitative distribution (Haynes et al., 1997, 2009), scab
45 resistance has been postulated as of oligogenic nature, with a dominant and a recessive locus
46 (Murphy et al., 1995). Due to the autotetraploidy of potato ($2n = 4x = 48$), such a recessive locus
47 would have to appear as in a quadruplex recessive state, which is not easy to achieve using
48 conventional breeding (Bradshaw, 2017). In this sense, marker-assisted selection (MAS) could
49 facilitate recessive allele introgression (Bethke et al., 2019).

50 Recent developments in genomics and bioinformatics tools have allowed most technical difficulties
51 to be overcome when studying the genetic architecture of a trait in autopolyploid crops. For potato,
52 strategies based on genotyping-by-sequencing (Uitdewilligen et al., 2013; Sverrisdóttir et al., 2017)
53 or chip arrays (Felcher et al., 2012; Vos et al., 2015) can now provide allele intensity information of
54 thousands of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs). After dosage calling is carried out (Schmitz

55 Carley et al., 2017; Zych et al., 2019), these variants can be ultimately utilized in several applications
56 such as linkage and quantitative trait locus (QTL) analyses (Hackett et al., 2014; Chen et al., 2018;
57 Pereira et al., 2020b), genome-wide association studies (GWAS; Rosyara et al., 2016; Yuan et al.,
58 2019), or genomic-assisted prediction (Sverrisdóttir et al., 2017; Enciso-Rodriguez et al., 2018). In
59 the case of QTL identification of resistance to common scab in potato, only two studies have been
60 carried out, one in a tetraploid population (227 F₁ clones; Bradshaw et al., 2008), and another in a
61 diploid population (49~91 F₂ clones; Braun et al., 2017a). In addition, GWAS was performed in a
62 tetraploid diversity panel (143 clones; Yuan et al., 2019).

63 In order to expand the understanding of the genetic control of common scab resistance in tetraploid
64 potatoes, we evaluated a full-sib population with ~150 clones in three environments where common
65 scab is of natural occurrence. A recently developed integrated genetic map based on a dosage-
66 sensitive SNP chip array (Pereira et al., 2020b) was used for QTL mapping, and helped us to estimate
67 haplotype-specific additive effects and to pinpoint candidate genes in the *S. tuberosum* genome that
68 could potentially help breeders in deploying MAS for common scab in potato.

69 **2 Material and Methods**

70 **2.1 F₁ population and field trials**

71 A mapping population named B2721, initially composed by 156 full-sibs, was derived from a cross
72 between ‘Atlantic’ and B1829-5, and it was previously analyzed regarding its segregation to internal
73 heat necrosis and several yield- and quality-related traits (McCord et al., 2011; Schumann et al.,
74 2017; Pereira et al., 2020b). ‘Atlantic’ is a widely grown chipping variety in the USA, whereas
75 B1829-5 is an advanced round white clone from the USDA-ARS Beltsville potato breeding program.
76 Although both parents have shown susceptibility to common scab, B1829-5 was found to be less
77 susceptible than ‘Atlantic’.

78 The B2721 was evaluated at three locations (hereafter also referred to as environments) in Becker,
79 Minnesota in 2011 (MN11), in Pennsylvania Furnace, Pennsylvania in 2011 (PA11), and in Presque
80 Isle, Maine in 2012 (ME12) in fields with a history of common scab pressure. In each location, the
81 experimental design consisted of a randomized complete block with two replications, with four hills
82 per plot. A total of 153 full-sibs were evaluated across locations, where MN11 included 146 full-sibs
83 plus one check (B1829-5), PA11 included 151 full-sibs plus two checks (‘Atlantic’ and B1829-5),
84 and ME12 included 139 full-sibs plus six checks (B1829-5, ‘Atlantic’, ‘Green Mountain’, ‘Ontario’,

85 ‘Russet Burbank’ and ‘Superior’). All trials were carried out from early June (7~12) to late
86 September (19~26) of their respective years. Standard crop management practices for the respective
87 locations were followed.

88 All tubers were collected and visually assessed per plot for three traits of interest. First, the
89 percentage of tubers with scab lesions in each plot (PS). Second, the tubers were rated for percentage
90 of surface area covered by lesions (1 = <2% surface area; 2 = 2.1~5%; 3 = 5.1~10%; 4 = 10.1~25%;
91 5 = 25.1~50%; 6 = >50%) following Merz scale (Merz, 2000), which was then converted to an area
92 index (AI) as the sum of the individual tuber ratings of surface area infected divided by six times the
93 number of tubers (Goth et al., 1993). Third, the tubers were also rated for type of lesion (0 = no
94 lesions; 1 = superficial discrete; 2 = coalescing superficial; 3 = raised discrete; 4 = raised coalescing;
95 5 = pitted discrete and coalescing) following James (1971), which was then converted to a lesion
96 index (LI) as the sum of the individual tuber ratings of lesion type divided by six times the number of
97 tubers (Goth et al., 1993). The average number of tubers scored per plot was 30 in MN11, 24 in
98 PA11, 21 in ME12.

99 2.2 Phenotypic analyses

100 Adjusted means were obtained based on a two-stage analysis approach using ASReml-R package v.
101 4.1.0 (Butler et al., 2018) and its restricted maximum likelihood (REML) estimation algorithm. In the
102 first stage, phenotypic data was fitted for each separate environment using the model $y_{ij} = \mu + b_j +$
103 $g_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$, where y_{ij} is the phenotypic value of individual i in block j , μ is the intercept, b_j is the fixed
104 effect of block j ($j = 1, \dots, J; J = 2$), g_i is the fixed effect of individual i ($i = 1, \dots, n; n = n_g + n_c$
105 with $n_g = 139, 146$ or 151 full-sibs, and $n_c = 1, 2$ or 6 checks depending on the environment), and
106 ε_{ij} is the random effect of the residual error with $\varepsilon_{ij} \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$.

107 In the second stage, both adjusted means and weights derived from the diagonal of the variance-
108 covariance inverse matrix from each first-stage model (Method 4 of Möhring and Piepho, 2009) were
109 used to fit the model $\mu_{ik} = \phi + g_i + e_k + ge_{ik} + \epsilon_{ik}$, where μ_{ik} is the adjusted mean of individual i
110 in environment k from the first-stage model, ϕ is the intercept, g_i is the fixed effect of individual i
111 ($i = 1, \dots, n$), e_k is the random effect of environment k ($k = 1, \dots, K; K = 3$) with $e_k \sim N(0, \sigma_e^2)$,
112 ge_{ik} is the random effect of genotype-by-environment interaction with $ge_{ik} \sim N(0, \sigma_{ge}^2)$, and ϵ_{ik} is
113 the random effect of the residual error as a function of the weights from the first-stage model.

114 Approximate broad-sense heritability values were calculated using $H^2 = 1 - PEV/\sigma_G^2$ (Cullis et al.,
115 2006; Isik et al., 2017, p. 223), where PEV is the best linear unbiased prediction error variance, and
116 σ_G^2 is the genetic variance associated with g_i when full-sib genotypes were treated as random in the
117 two previous models, i.e. $g_i \sim N(0, \sigma_G^2)$. Pearson's correlations were estimated between pairs of
118 adjusted means derived from the first- and second-stage models using Hmisc R package v. 4.3-0
119 (Harrel Jr, 2019), correlograms were plotted using ggcorrplot2 R package v. 0.1.0 (Cai, 2019), and
120 the remaining plots were obtained using ggplot2 R package v. 3.3.2 (Wickham, 2016).

121 2.3 Linkage mapping and QTL analyses

122 An integrated, fully phased genetic map was constructed using MAPpoly R package v. 0.1.0
123 (Mollinari et al., 2020) by Pereira et al. (2020b). This map is 1,630-centiMorgan (cM) long,
124 comprises the 12 *S. tuberosum* base chromosomes, and contains 4,285 single nucleotide
125 polymorphisms (SNPs) derived from the Illumina Infinium[®] 8,303 Potato Array (Felcher et al.,
126 2012). Genotype conditional probabilities were computed every cM using a hidden Markov model
127 adapted to autopolyploids (Mollinari and Garcia, 2019), and ultimately employed in the QTL
128 analyses.

129 For each trait, we used a random-effect multiple interval mapping (REMIM) model implemented in
130 QTLpoly R package v. 0.2.1 (Pereira et al., 2020a) for QTL detection using the adjusted means
131 derived from the phenotypic analyses. Variance components associated with putative QTL were
132 tested using score statistics, whose P -values were compared to a genome-wide significance (α)
133 assessed via score-based resampling method (Zou et al., 2004). In short, QTL were added (forward
134 search) to a random-effect model using a more relaxed genome-wide significance level ($\alpha = 0.20$).
135 Then, QTL already in the model were re-evaluated under a more stringent significance level ($\alpha =$
136 0.05) and excluded (backward elimination) if not significant. These steps were repeated under the
137 more stringent significance level ($\alpha = 0.05$), and the forward-backward algorithm was stopped once
138 no more QTL were either added to or excluded from the model. Putative QTL were tested every cM
139 position along the B2721 genetic map, and a 20-cM window on each side of QTL already in the
140 model was avoided when searching for another QTL. The genotypic values derived from the final
141 QTL model were used to compute additive allele effects (Pereira et al., 2020a).

142 3 Results

143 The reaction to common scab in the B2721 mapping population was evaluated across three
144 environments, and the raw phenotypic data, as well as the adjusted means and weights, are made
145 available in the Supplementary File S1.

146 All three evaluated traits showed broad phenotypic value ranges, with several full-sib clones showing
147 transgressive segregation, i.e. being more resistant or more susceptible when compared to parental
148 means (Table 1). Although similar ranges were observed for all evaluated traits across environments,
149 reaction to common scab in PA11 and ME12 were skewed towards more severe phenotypes, whereas
150 MN11 behaved in the opposite direction, hence towards resistance (Figure 1a-c). In fact, the mapping
151 population mean of percentage of scabby tubers (PS) was only 18.88% in MN11, but 91.64% and
152 81.15% in PA11 and ME12, respectively (Table 1). Similar trends were observed for area index (AI),
153 with 0.07 in MN11, but 0.27 and 0.31 in PA11 and ME12, and lesion index (LI), with 0.13 in MN11,
154 but 0.60 and 0.64 in PA11 and ME12. The common check, B1829-5, also performed very
155 inconsistently across locations, showing 95.22% and 85.00% of scabby tubers in PA11 and ME12,
156 respectively, but only 3.85% in MN11. Variation for these traits in MN11 could not be attributed to
157 genetics, as evidenced by their null heritability estimates. In PA11 and ME12, the heritability values
158 were 0.53 and 0.72 for PS, 0.48 and 0.70 for AI, and 0.78 and 0.79 for LI, respectively. For the joint
159 model, the respective heritability values for PS, AI and LI were 0.48, 0.44 and 0.67 (Table 1).

160 The correlation among separately adjusted means for different environments can be observed in
161 Figure 1d-f. Between PA11 and ME12 means, the correlations were positive and moderate for PS
162 (0.42), AI (0.38) and LI (0.68), but low between these environments and MN11 (0.05~0.20). The
163 lack of consistency in the individual ranking across environments can be visualized in Figure 1a-c,
164 especially in relation to MN11, implying strong genotype-by-environment interaction. The
165 correlation estimates between the jointly adjusted means with the PA11 and ME12 means were high
166 (0.77~0.90), and with MN11 were moderate (0.34~0.40). As these three environments were under
167 natural common scab pressure, meaning that no inoculum was artificially applied to the clones, we
168 believe that in MN11 certain environmental conditions, including availability of less pathogenic
169 *Streptomyces* spp. or strains, did not allow the disease to progress as much as in PA11 and ME12.
170 Although MN11 had little to offer for genetic analysis purposes, the adjusted means derived from this
171 environment were carried along with the analysis as a sort of negative control for QTL mapping.

172 We also compared the correlation among traits using their jointly adjusted means (Figure 2). We
173 observed that the traits were highly, positively correlated (0.76~0.83). This is likely related to the

174 progression of the disease, such that in a susceptible genotype, more scabby tubers resulted in
175 broader areas covered by scab-like lesions, which in turn appeared to be more severe. Despite the
176 high correlation, we were able to identify QTL only for LI. QTL mapping models were fitted using
177 separately and jointly adjusted means derived from the phenotypic analyses. The QTL for LI was co-
178 localized on linkage group 3 at 99 cM for PA11, ME12 and jointly adjusted means, but no QTL was
179 found for MN11 (Figure 3a). This QTL explained as much as 30.1% of the trait variation in PA11.
180 For ME12 and jointly adjusted means, the QTL heritability was 22.5% and 25.4%, respectively
181 (Table 2). The significance of the score statistics (P -values) ranged from $4.17E-05$ (ME12) to $1.05E-$
182 06 (PA11).

183 The QTL allele contributions for LI were relatively consistent among PA11, ME12 and joint analyses
184 (Figure 3b). The parent B1829-5 showed more pronounced additive effects, with haplotype *e*
185 contributing to increasing (+0.0583) and haplotype *f* contributing to decreasing (-0.0476) the mean
186 (0.587) LI in PA11. In this case, in addition to haplotype *f*, one would have to select haplotype *g*
187 from B1829-5, and haplotypes *a* and *c* from ‘Atlantic’ in order to potentially drive LI down.

188 The SNP markers at ~95% support interval boundaries of the QTL in PA11 (96~103 cM) were
189 *solcap_snp_c2_1830* (ST4.03ch3:51731168) and *solcap_snp_c1_7076* (ST4.03ch3:54368685). This
190 region spanned 2,637,517 bp (4.23%) of the chromosome 3 of the *S. tuberosum* v. 4.03 reference
191 genome (Sharma et al., 2013), and contained 263 genes (Supplementary File S2). The closest
192 markers on the left and on the right of the QTL peak were *solcap_snp_c2_57263*
193 (ST4.03ch3:53439319) and *solcap_snp_c1_5812* (ST04.03ch3:53665337), respectively, and spanned
194 226,018 bp; this region contained 23 genes.

195 **4 Discussion**

196 While both B2721 parents and most of the full-sibs are highly susceptible to common scab for two
197 environments, namely PA11 and ME12, the absence of more severe symptoms in MN11 can be
198 attributed to a strong genotype-by-environment interaction. The variation observed in this
199 environment is hence due to non-genetic, environmental effects. For all traits, the lack of correlation
200 between MN11 and the other two environments confirms such a divergent pattern. This also explains
201 how there was no evidence for QTL in the same region as for PA11 and ME12, where common scab
202 was relatively more severe. That is, in order to map QTL for resistance to a disease, the environment
203 pathogen pressure should be such that the genotypes can express their genetic merit and be
204 phenotypically evaluated. In the case of potato common scab, the variation present within pathogenic

205 *Streptomyces* spp., and other soil variables, such as moisture content and pH, are known to influence
206 the severity of scab (Braun et al., 2017b). The distribution of different *Streptomyces* spp. isolates
207 predominating in different parts of the USA (Wanner, 2009) could partially explain the lack of
208 agreement between MN and either ME or PA.

209 Bradshaw et al. (2008), working with 227 full-sib progenies, encountered similar issues when only
210 one out of three environments showed scorable severity for common scab, for which heritability was
211 0.66. While studying 23 tetraploid potatoes, Haynes et al. (1997) found higher broad-sense
212 heritability values for AI (0.89) and LI (0.93), where a rather low genotype-by-environment
213 interaction was observed. For 370 clones evaluated over nine years, Enciso-Rodriguez et al. (2018)
214 found low genotype-by-year interaction and a genomic heritability estimate of 0.45 for common scab
215 scoring. In another study involving diploid potatoes, where lesion type and percentage of surface area
216 was scored for common scab over three years, Braun et al. (2017b) found heritability values ranging
217 from 0.48 to 0.79. Finally, in a diversity panel with 148 clones, heritability was estimated as 0.81 for
218 a three-year evaluation data (Yuan et al., 2019). Therefore, except for the null heritabilities resulting
219 from MN11, our estimates (0.44~0.79) were in relative agreement with those found in literature.

220 Some genomic regions have been found to be associated to common scab resistance, but none on
221 chromosome 3 as identified in the present study. Previous QTL mapping studies in tetraploid
222 (Bradshaw et al., 2008) or diploid (Braun et al., 2017a) populations found two (on homology groups
223 II and IV) or one QTL (on chromosome 11), respectively. Using GWAS, Yuan et al. (2019) found
224 associations on chromosomes 2, 4, and 12. Modernly, molecular breeding has been taking advantage
225 of the high-density markers covering the whole genome to perform selection based on genomic
226 estimated breeding values. For potato common scab, such genomic-assisted prediction models have
227 shown prediction accuracies as high as 0.278, and a SNP with major effect on chromosome 9
228 (Enciso-Rodriguez et al., 2018). Haplotypic and QTL information, such as that provided here, can be
229 used to leverage genomic-assisted prediction models in order to deliver higher predictive abilities,
230 notably for less complex traits (Gemenet et al., 2020).

231 At least, three out of the 23 genes located within the QTL marker interval were previously implicated
232 in plant responses to biotic stresses in signaling pathways or hypersensitive responses, namely MYB
233 transcription factor (PGSC0003DMT400063172, ~53.60 Mbp) (Ambawat et al., 2013), calcium-
234 dependent protein kinase 1 (CDPK1; PGSC0003DMT400034291, ~53.43 Mbp) (Lee and Rudd,
235 2002), and ubiquitin-protein ligase (PGSC0003DMT400092368, ~53.59 Mbp) (Craig et al., 2009;

236 Duplan and Rivas, 2014). In addition, there were several other genes among the remaining 240
237 transcripts retrieved from the ~95% QTL support interval that were known for encoding proteins
238 involved in plant defense, such as receptor-like kinase (PGSC0003DMT400046807, ~52.47 Mbp;
239 PGSC0003DMT400046778, ~52.57 Mbp) (Nazarian-Firouzabadi et al., 2019), proteins containing
240 nucleotide binding-ARC domain (PGSC0003DMT400087730, ~52.37 Mbp) and leucine-rich repeat
241 (LRR; PGSC0003DMT400046655, ~52.18 Mbp) (Takken et al., 2006), and transcription factors such
242 as NAC (PGSC0003DMT400097372, ~54.15 Mbp; PGSC0003DMT400096000, ~54.17 Mbp)
243 (Nuruzzaman et al., 2013) and WRKY (PGSC0003DMT400046570, ~53.04) (Bhattarai et al., 2010;
244 Enciso-Rodriguez et al., 2018).

245 Although the list of candidate genes is still hypothetical, several transcripts encoding related protein
246 isoforms (e.g. MYB, WRKY, LRR receptor-like serine/threonine-protein kinase) were found to be
247 differentially expressed between the resistant ‘Hindenburg’ and susceptible ‘Green Mountain’
248 cultivars inoculated with *S. scabies* (Fofana et al., 2020). Here, we detected a single QTL consistently
249 in two out of three environments, that explains up to 30% of the variation for lesion index. In order to
250 effectively apply genes and haplotypes in breeding, the QTL identified in this study needs to be
251 further investigated in a more diverse genetic background. If an oligogenic-like inheritance confirms
252 and upon QTL validation, specific markers to retrieve the haplotypes conferring resistance to
253 common scab can be screened in breeding populations to perform early selection (Bradshaw, 2017).
254 Progress of MAS in potato is relatively slow when compared to diploid, inbred species, and needs to
255 take into consideration several aspects in addition to the genetic architecture of a trait, such as
256 polyploidy, high heterozygosity, and clonal propagation (Slater et al., 2014; Bethke et al., 2019).

257 **5 Conflict of Interest**

258 The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial
259 relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

260 **6 Author Contributions**

261 KH designed the experiments and supervised the project. KH, XQ and CT performed field
262 experiments and collected phenotypic data. CY provided genotypic data. GSP analyzed data and
263 drafted the manuscript. MM and ZBZ supervised data analyses. All authors reviewed and approved
264 the manuscript.

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268 **8 Data Availability Statement**

269 The phenotypic data analyzed for this study can be found as Supplementary Material. The genotypic
270 data and linkage map information are available at https://github.com/mmollina/B2721_map (Pereira
271 et al., 2020b). MAPpoly (<https://github.com/mmollina/mappoly>) and QTLpoly
272 (<https://github.com/guilherme-pereira/QTLpoly>) source codes are available at their respective GitHub
273 pages.

274 **9 Supplementary Material**

275 Supplementary File S1. Raw phenotypic data, adjusted means and weights from phenotypic analyses.
276 (XLSX)

277 Supplementary File S2. List of annotated genes within the ~95% support interval for the QTL for
278 lesion index (LI) in PA11. (XLSX)

279 **10 Conflict of Interest Statement**

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281 relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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440 **12 Tables**

441 Table 1. Summary of percentage of scabby tubers (PS), area index (AI) and lesion index (LI) of
 442 common scab reaction in the B2721 potato mapping population based on separate (MN11, PA11,
 443 ME12) and joint analyses.

Trait	Location	Means			F ₁ range	σ_G^2 ^b	H ^{2c}
		'Atlantic'	B1829-5	F ₁			
PS	Joint	72.32	65.12	63.68	16.13-78.40	5.61E+01	0.485
	MN11	NA ^a	3.85	18.88	0.00-86.93	4.32E-05	0.000
	PA11	100.00	95.22	91.64	53.57-100.00	4.90E+01	0.531
	ME12	NA	85.00	81.15	0.00-100.00	2.65E+02	0.724
AI	Joint	0.29	0.24	0.22	0.02-0.44	2.64E-03	0.437
	MN11	NA	0.01	0.07	0.00-0.49	8.11E-10	0.000
	PA11	0.33	0.28	0.27	0.09-0.50	3.19E-03	0.481
	ME12	NA	0.40	0.31	0.00-0.64	1.48E-02	0.702
LI	Joint	0.64	0.54	0.45	0.02-0.77	1.87E-02	0.668
	MN11	NA	0.01	0.13	0.00-0.74	2.60E-09	0.000
	PA11	0.79	0.80	0.60	0.11-1.00	3.67E-02	0.777
	ME12	NA	0.72	0.64	0.00-0.98	3.70E-02	0.791

^aNA = not available

^b σ_G^2 = genetic variance

^cH² = broad-sense heritability by Cullis et al. (2006)

444

445 Table 2. QTL detected for lesion index (LI) of common scab reaction in the B2721 potato mapping
 446 population based on separate (PA11, ME12) and joint analyses.

Environment	LG ^a	Position (cM)	SI ^b (cM)	Score	P-value	Intercept	σ_{QTL}^2 ^c	h_{QTL}^2 ^d
PA11	3	99	96-103	195.32	1.05E-06	0.587	0.0162	0.301
ME12	3	99	43-134	131.90	4.17E-05	0.626	0.0110	0.225
Joint	3	99	43-103	161.17	1.40E-05	0.446	0.0078	0.254

^aLG = linkage group

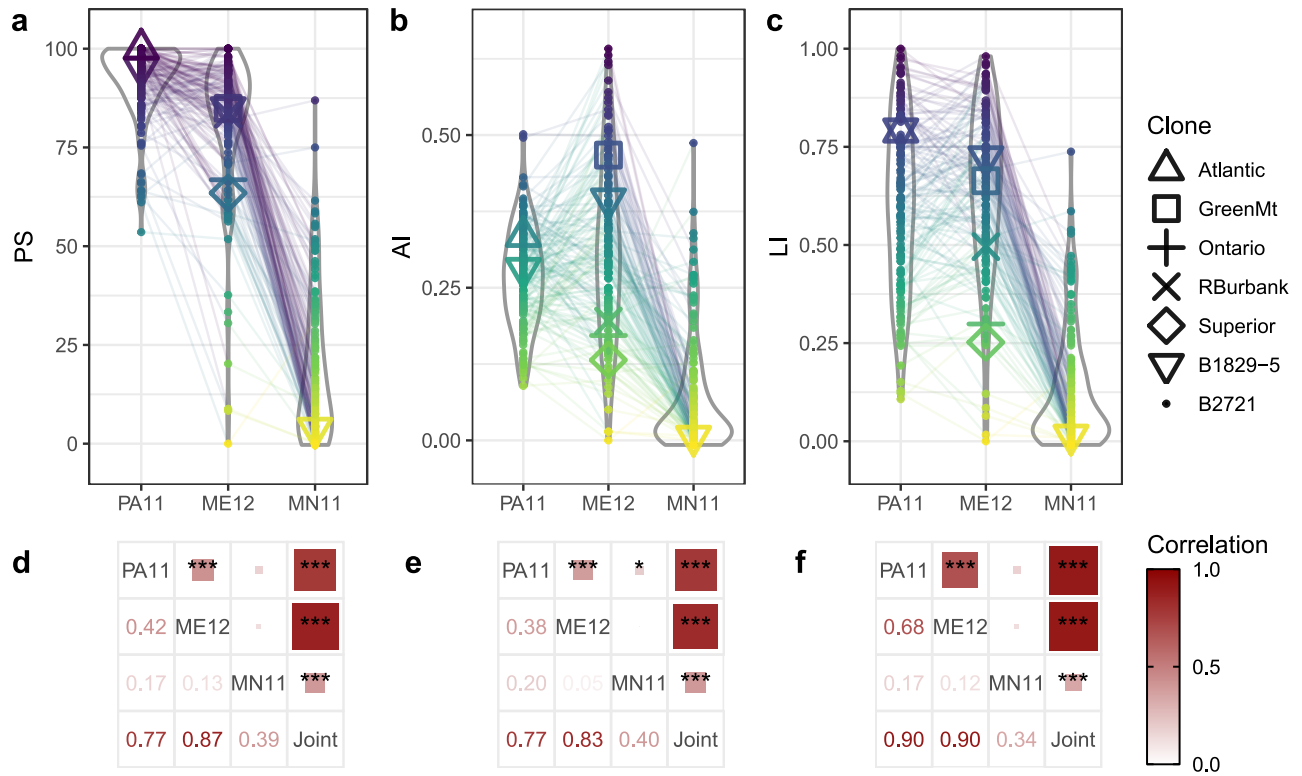
^bSI = ~95% support interval

^c σ_{QTL}^2 = variance component associated with the QTL

^d h_{QTL}^2 = QTL heritability

447

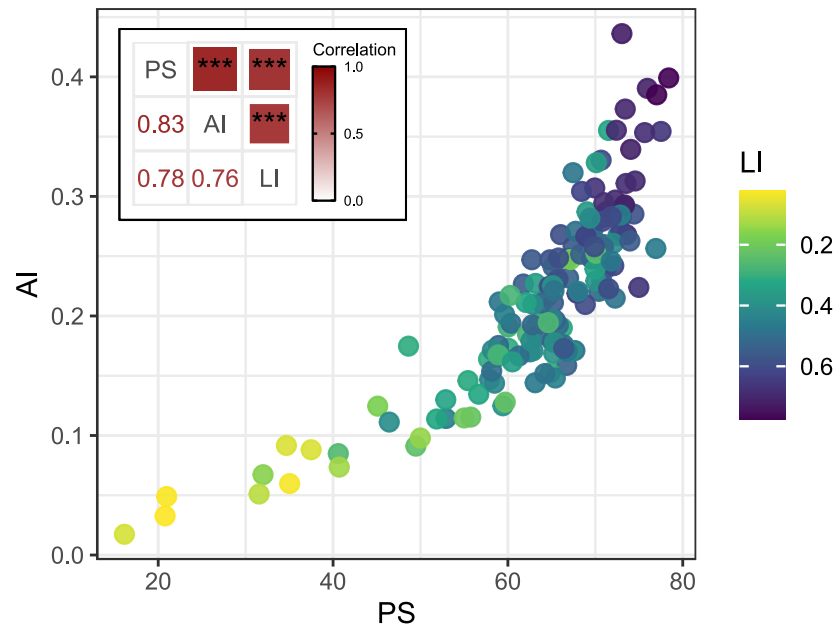
448 **13 Figures**



449

450 Figure 1. Violin (a-c) and correlogram (d-f) plots for percentage of scabby tubers (PS; a and d), area
 451 index (AI; b and e) and lesion index (LI; c and f) of common scab reaction in the B2721 potato
 452 mapping population evaluated across three environments (MN11, PA11, ME12). Symbols represent
 453 different checks. Lines connect the same B2721 clone in consecutive environments. Correlograms
 454 show Pearson's correlation values ($*P < 0.05$, $***P < 0.001$) between separately and jointly
 455 adjusted means.

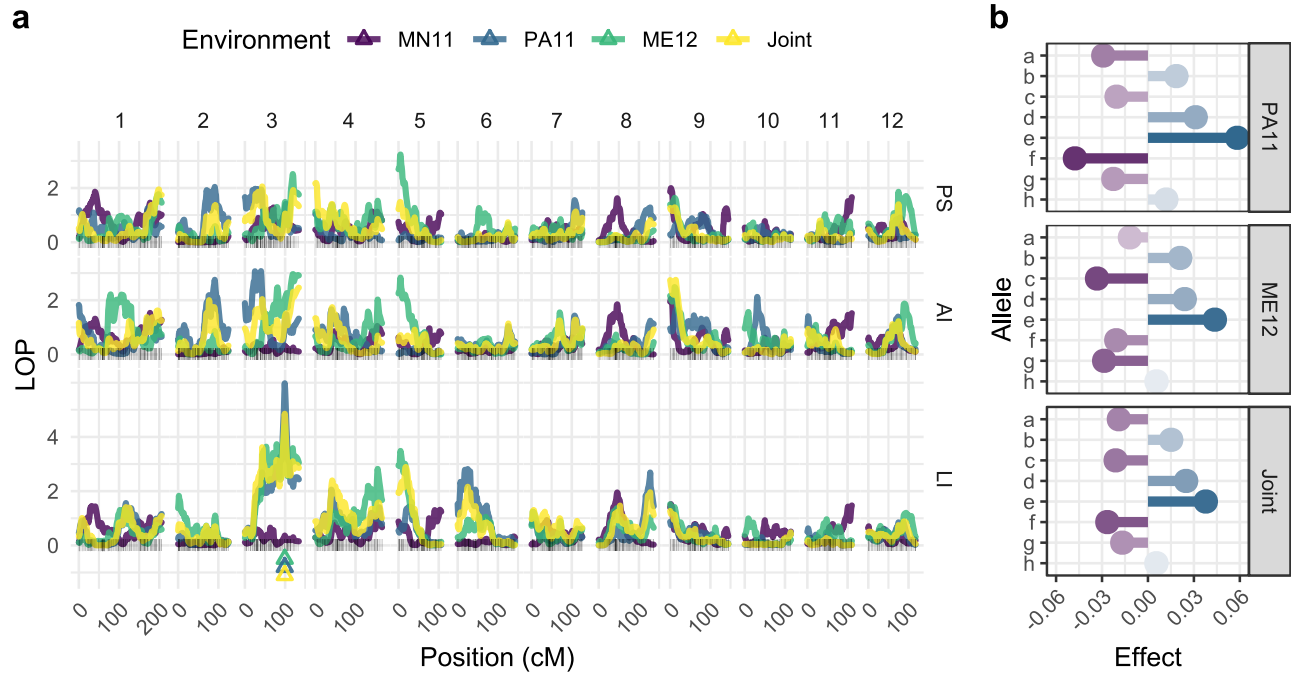
456



457

458 Figure 2. Scatterplot of jointly adjusted means for percentage of scabby tubers (PS), area index (AI)
459 and lesion index (LI) of common scab reaction in the B2721 potato mapping population evaluated
460 across three environments. Correlogram (top-left) shows Pearson's correlation values ($***P <$
461 0.001).

462



463

464 Figure 3. (a) QTL profiles for percentage of scabby tubers (PS), area index (AI) and lesion index (LI)
 465 of common scab reaction in the B2721 potato mapping population evaluated across three
 466 environments (MN11, PA11, ME12). “Joint” refers to the QTL analysis using the jointly adjusted
 467 means, triangles represent the QTL peak, and $LOP = -\log_{10}(P)$. (b) Additive effects of the QTL on
 468 linkage group 3 at 99 cM for LI in PA11, ME12 and Joint analyses. Parental alleles (haplotypes):
 469 ‘Atlantic’ = *a, b, c, d*, and B1829-5 = *e, f, g, h*.

470