

## **Supplementary materials and methods**

### **Bioinformatics Analysis/Gene characterisation**

For sequence retrieval and identification of caleosin in fungal species, putative CLO sequences of *Aspergillus flavus* (AflCLO), *Erysiphe necator* (EnCLO), *Neurospora crassa* (NcCLO), *Magnaporthe oryzae* (MoCLO), *Beauveria bassiana* (BbCLO), *Ustilago maydis* (UmCLO), *Rhodotorula toruloides* (RtCLO), *Gonapodya prolifera* (GprCLO), *Rhizophagus irregularis* (RiCLO), *Allomyces macrogymus* (AmaCLO), *Rozella allomycis* (RaCLO) were obtained from NCBI (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>) via local BLAST+ searches (Chen *et al.*, 2015). After scanning the sequences using InterProScan program and visually inspecting for the presence of CLO-like domains, one representative caleosin sequence from each species was selected for further analysis (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro>) (see Supplementary Table S4 for accession numbers and physical properties). Chemical and physical properties of caleosin proteins (Molecular Weight (MW), isoelectric point (pI), amino acid length) were computed using ExPASy ([http://web.expasy.org/compute\\_pi/](http://web.expasy.org/compute_pi/)) (Gasteiger *et al.*, 2005). Multiple sequence alignments were performed using COBALT software version 2.1.0 (<ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pub/cobalt/>) and ClustalOmega software version 1.2.2 (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>) (Sievers *et al.*, 2011). The multiple sequence alignments were inspected using CLC sequence viewer (<http://www.clcbio.com>) and are presented using RasMol colour codes (Sayle and Milner-White, 1995) in Figure 1C. The multiple sequence alignment of all the caleosin sequences revealed that the Ca<sup>2+</sup> binding EF hand and lipid-binding domains were highly conserved in all fungal species. For motif, Intron/exon and phylogeny analysis, see supplementary information.

### **Motif, Intron/exon and phylogeny analysis**

The identified caleosin sequences were analysed to discover motifs using expectation maximization technique (Bailey and Elkan, 1994). MEME software version 4.11.2 was used to investigate  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  binding, lipid-binding domain and histidine motifs in caleosin sequences. Five possible motifs were searched using a width between 15-50 (Figure 1A, 1B) (Bailey and Elkan, 1994). The Scipio program version 1.4 was used to identify gene structure of each caleosin sequence (Keller *et al.*, 2008) (Figure 1D). Intron-exon patterns were inspected using WebScipio and are presented in (Figure 1D). The caleosin sequences were utilised to construct a phylogenetic tree using ClustalW2 version 2.1 and COBALT. The tree was generated following a Bayesian Inference (BI), neighbour joining (NJ), and Unweighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Mean (UPGMA) methods. The tree topologies constructed using the three methods showed complete consistency. The NJ tree constructed using the ClustalW2 program was inspected using FigTree and shown in Figure 1E (Rambaut and Drummond, 2009).

### **Replacement and siRNA-silencing of *AfPXXG* gene**

The replacement of the *AfPXXG* gene by the hygromycin-resistance gene (*Hyg<sup>r</sup>*) in the genome of *A. flavus* NRRL3357 was performed by fusion PCR as recently described (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Primers used for the PCR amplifications are listed in Table S3. The *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* gene was amplified by PCR using as a template the binary vector pCAMBIA1381 (<http://www.cambia.org/daisy/cambia/585.html>) (NCBI accession number AF234302). The three PCR-products, 5'-UTR, *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* and 3'-UTR were mixed and used as a template in a fusion PCR (Kuwayama *et al.*, 2002) (Fig. S2 A supplementary info). The fusion PCR product was analysed on agarose gels (1 %) then delivered into protoplasts of *A. flavus* strain NRRL3357 (wild type) by electroporation as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Verification of the replacement of *AfPXXG* with *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* was done using Southern hybridization. The probe consisted

of *AfPXG* flanking sequences surrounding *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). In wild-type DNA cut with *NcoI* (lane WT), the probe hybridizes to bands of 16, 11.5 and 4.5 kb at the *AfPXG* locus as shown in S2A (see bottom panel). Lane *PXGΔ* shows DNA from a *AfPXGΔ* digested by *NcoI* whereas a single 16-kb fragment was detected (S2A, bottom panel). The positions of DNA size standards (kb) are at the left. The absence of *AfPXG* transcripts and the peroxygenase activity in the strain *AfPXGΔ* as well as the subsequent effects of *AfPXG* deletion on the fungal growth were confirmed (Fig. S1E). The siRNA primers, siRNAPXGF and siRNAPXGR (Table S3), used in this study were designed as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Protoplasts were prepared from fungal conidia as described by Cheng and Belanger (Cheng and Belanger, 2000). Briefly, about  $1 \times 10^8$  conidia of 7-day old cultures of *A. flavus* NRRL3357 were cultured onto PDA plates, harvested, washed with sterile water then suspended in 20 mL of a solution of 25 mM L-mercaptoethanol and 5 mM Na<sub>2</sub>EDTA pH 8.0 under gentle shaking for 20 min at room temperature. The spores were collected by centrifugation for 5 min at 5000 rpm and pellets resuspended and incubated for 2 h at 25° C in 5 mL of digestion buffer (10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1.2 M MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 10 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> Lysozyme) (Sigma-Aldrich). The protoplasts were filtered through a small mass of cotton (about 2 cm<sup>3</sup>) then centrifuged at 5000 rpm for 15 min at 4° C. Cells were washed twice with 5 mL STC buffer (1M Sorbitol, 50 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8), taken up in 1 mL of STC buffer, and divided into 50 μL aliquots.

### **Overexpression of *AfPXG* or *OLE1***

Overexpression of *AfPXG* was carried out under the control of *AdhI* promoter using *Gfp* as a reporter gene. The construct *AdhI/AfPXG/Gfp* was introduced into the genome of the *AfPXGΔ*. To that end, the *AdhI* promoter region was amplified using genomic DNA of *A. flavus* and

primers P7 and P8. In parallel, the full-length *Gfp* gene, encoding enhanced green fluorescent protein (GFP), was amplified by PCR using vector pEGFP-N1 (Clontech Laboratories) (<http://www.addgene.org/vector-database/2491/>) (NCBI accession number U55762) as a template with primers P9 and P10. The full length *AfPXG* gene was amplified using the recombinant yeast expression vector pVT102U (Vernet *et al.*, 1987) and primers P11 and P12. The three PCR-products, corresponding to *AdhI*, *AfPXG* and *Gfp*, were mixed and used as templates for fusion PCR (Kuwayama *et al.*, 2002) (Fig. S2A, supplementary data). The fusion PCR product (*AdhI/AfPXG/Gfp*) was analysed on an agarose gel (1 %), purified then used to replace the *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* gene in the strain *AfPXGΔ*. The replacement was performed by fusion PCR approach as described above using P13, P14, P15 and P16 primers (Fig. S1 B, supplementary data). This approach allowed the function of *AfPXG* to be regained with enhanced expression under the control of *AdhI* promoter. The final fusion PCR product 5'-UTR/*AdhI/AfPXG/Gfp*/3'-UTR was delivered into protoplasts of the strain *AfPXGΔ* by electroporation as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). The resulting phenotype was characterized by PCR and sequencing of the insert using the primers P14 and P15, by observation of GFP fluorescence under a 365 nm UV light, and by measuring PXG activity and *Hyg* susceptibility. For OLE1 expression, the Oleosin 1 gene (OLE1) from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (AT4G25140, gene ID: 828617) was amplified by PCR from cDNAs of one-week old *Arabidopsis* seedlings. The fusion PCR product (*AdhI/OLE1*) was analysed on agarose gels (1 %), purified and sequence-verified. It was then introduced via electroporation into *A. flavus* protoplasts prepared from background lines *AfWT* and *AfPXGΔ* as described above using P13, P14, P16 and P17 primers (Fig. S2 C, supplementary data). After five days of culture, the transformants, referred to as OLE/*AfWT* or OLE1/ *AfPXGΔ* were subjected to analysis in respect of their morphology,

immunology, LD accumulation and aflatoxin production. All experiments were performed using three biological replicates.

### **Preparation of *A. flavus* subcellular fractions and Peroxygenase activities assay**

Isolation of microsomal and LD fractions from fungal cells was performed essentially as described by Ferreira de Oliveira and coworkers (Record *et al.*, 1998; Ferreira de Oliveira *et al.*, 2010) with brief modification as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). In brief, five grams of fungal mycelium were ground into a brass mortar in the presence of liquid nitrogen until a fine powder was obtained. After the liquid nitrogen was evaporated, the total powder was immediately hydrated with 10 mL of buffer A (100 mM potassium pyrophosphate, 0.1 M sucrose and pH 7.4). The mixture was then gently homogenized for 5 min using an ultra-dispenser (T25 digital ULTRA-TURRAX, IKA laboratory, Germany) and centrifuged for 10 min at  $10,000 \times g$ , and the supernatant centrifuged at  $100,000 \times g$  for 1 h to produce a floating white pad layer, consisting of LDs, and a pellet, corresponding to microsomes. LDs were collected from the top of the tube using a Pasteur pipette and then carefully washed twice with 5 mL of buffer B (buffer A without sucrose). After a final centrifugation ( $100,000 \times g$  for 1 h), the LD fraction was suspended in 1 mL of buffer B and stored at 4 °C for further analysis. In parallel, microsomes were taken, homogenized, washed twice and finally suspended in 1 mL buffer B. Peroxygenase activity was assayed by oxygenation of aniline or thiobezamide substrates (Blee and Durst, 1987) and by epoxidation of [1- $^{14}$ C] oleic and linoleic acids according to Blée and Schuber (Blee and Schuber, 1990).

### **Genes, primers and transcripts analysis**

Table S1 summarizes the gene order, NCBI-accession number, gene name, enzyme name and the respective catalytic activity for the *Aspergillus flavus* NRRL3357 aflatoxins-biosynthesis

cluster genes. Nucleotide sequences of primers used in this section are listed in Table S2. For the expression studies of *AfPXXG* genes, *A. flavus* was grown as described previously. Total fungal biomass was collected for total RNAs isolation using an RNeasy kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (Qiagen, Germany). DNA traces were removed by 2 units of RNase-free RQI DNase (Promega, USA) for 1 h at 37° C. RNAs were diluted to 50 ng  $\mu\text{L}^{-1}$  using RNase-free water and stored at - 80° C. cDNA synthesis was performed using M-MLV RT (Invitrogen) as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Real-time PCR was carried out in 48-well plates using a StepOne cycler from Applied Biosystems, USA. The 25- $\mu\text{L}$  reaction mixtures contained 0.5  $\mu\text{M}$  of each target and reference genes primers, 12.5  $\mu\text{L}$  of SYBR Green qRT-PCR mix (Bio-Rad, USA) and 2.5  $\mu\text{L}$  of 10-fold diluted cDNA. qRT-PCR conditions were as previously described (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Each point was triplicated and the average of  $C_T$  was taken. The relative quantification  $\text{RQ} = 2^{(-\Delta\Delta C_T)}$  of the target gene was calculated using installed software from an Applied Biosystems StepOne cycler, USA.

### **Analysis of LDs**

Microscopic imaging was performed at a magnification of 40 $\times$  under a LEICA MPS60 microscope using an Olympus FE-4000 camera. The purity of LD preparation, their native encapsulation and their number per mL were evaluated by a Flow cytometer (BD FACSCALIBUR, Biosciences, USA). LD size distributions (% frequency) were determined using a laser granulometer (Malvern Mastersizer S; Malvern Instruments, England) fitted with a 320 mm lens as described previously (White *et al.*, 2006).

### **Biomass and conidia number measurements**

Fungal biomass was determined as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015). Mycelium dry weights were subsequently evaluated according to Rasooli and Razzaghi-Abyaneh (Rasooli and Razzaghi-Abyaneh, 2004). Fungal growth inhibition (%) was calculated according to the following formula: Fungal growth inhibition (%) = [(Total control weight - Total sample weight)/Total control weight] ×100. In parallel, the total conidia fraction for each plate was harvested and taken up in 5 ml solution of 0.01 % Tween 80, diluted to 1:10, and counted using a hemocytometer.

### **SDS-PAGE and Western blotting**

LD-associated proteins were isolated according to Katavic *et al.* (Katavic *et al.*, 2006) and analysed by SDS–PAGE using 12% polyacrylamide gels and electroblotted onto a PVDF membrane (Millipore) in a Semi-Dry Transfer Cell (Bio-Rad). Caleosins were immunodetected by incubating the membrane with a polyclonal antibody prepared from the complete sequence of the CLO1 caleosin isoform from *Arabidopsis thaliana*, as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2006; Hanano *et al.*, 2016). The signal was detected in a Pharos FX molecular imager (Bio-Rad).

### **Extraction, clean-up, TLC and HPLC analysis of aflatoxin**

The extraction of aflatoxin (AF) was carried out according to Bertuzzi *et al.*, (Bertuzzi *et al.*, 2011) using 100 mL of chloroform for one hour on a rotary-shaker and extracts were purified as described previously (Shannon *et al.*, 1983). Extracted AF samples were spotted onto a C<sub>18</sub> reversed-phase TLC plate (Aluminium sheets 20 × 20 cm, 200 µm layer, Merck, Germany) and the chromatogram was developed using a solvent system of chloroform/acetone (90:10, v/v). After development, the spot with the same *R<sub>f</sub>* value as the AFB1 standard was scraped off, re-extracted with chloroform, and evaporated to dryness under nitrogen. The extract was taken up

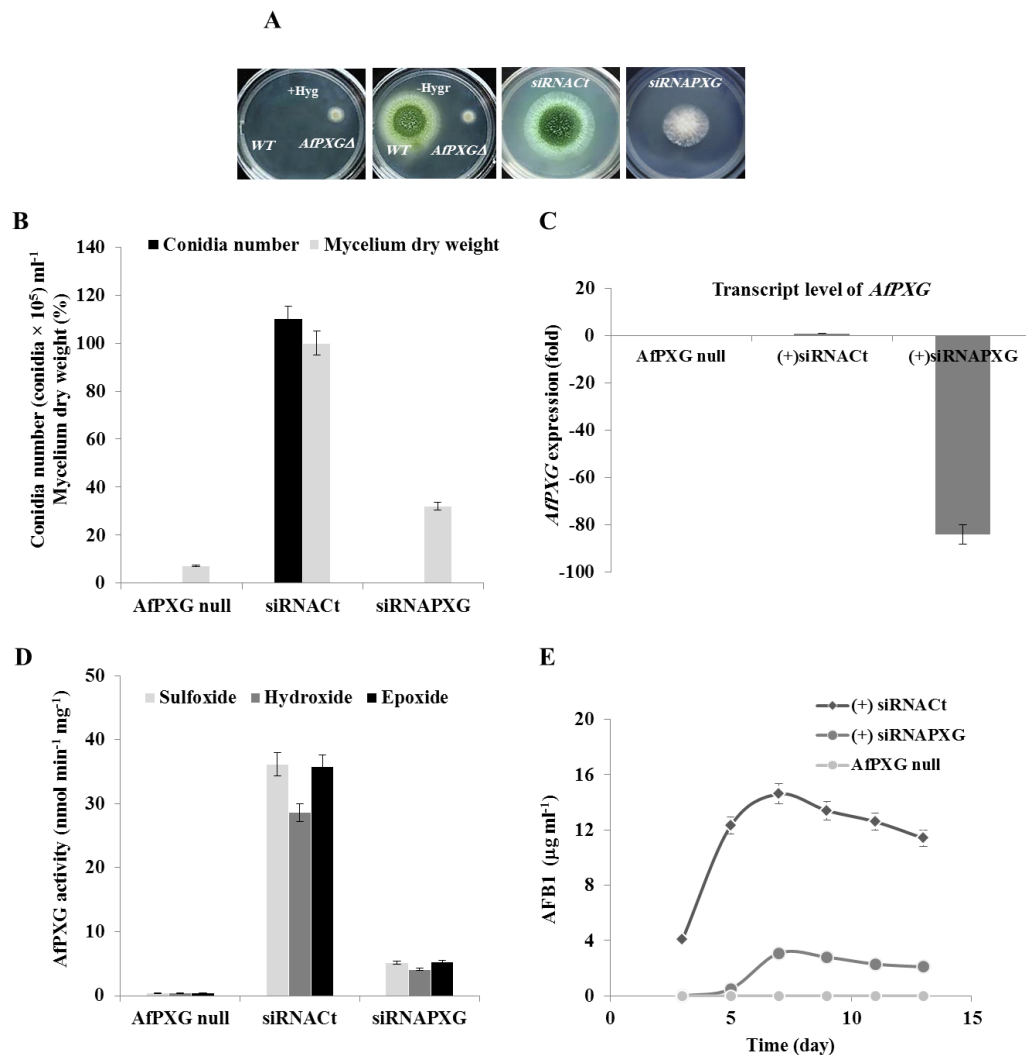
in 100  $\mu$ L acetonitrile in an amber-coloured vial under refrigeration. AF was analysed using a Jasco LC-2000 plus series HPLC system (Jasco, USA) with a fluorescence detector (RF-10Ax1, Shimadzu) ( $\lambda_{exc}$  247 nm;  $\lambda_{em}$  480 nm) and a C18 column (Eclipse XDB-C18 150  $\times$  4.6 mm, 5  $\mu$ m; Agilent, USA, column temperature 35° C) as described previously (Hanano *et al.*, 2015).

## **Supplementary data**

### **Generation and characterization of *AfPXG*-deficient lines of *A. flavus***

Deletion of the *AfPXG* gene in *A. flavus* reference strain NRR3357 (ATCC Number: 200026) using the replacement *AfPXG* :: *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* dramatically affects fungal growth and development (Fig S1A and B). Growth of this line, referred to as *AfPXG* $\Delta$ , was dramatically decreased and its dry weight did not exceed 8% of the wild-type strain and *AfPXG* $\Delta$  cultures failed to produce any visible spores after 7 days of culture. We then partially silenced *AfPXG* via a small interference RNA (siRNA) approach to obtain putative intermediate phenotypes. The *AfPXG*-silenced strain, siRNA*AfPXG*, retained only 16 % of *AfPXG* transcript compared to control (Fig. S1C), showed a reduced growth (32% compared to control strain siRNACt), but was still unable to sporulate (Fig. S1B). Deletion or silencing of *AfPXG* was confirmed by measuring peroxygenase (PXG) activities in term of sulfoxidation, hydroxylation and epoxidation reactions. PXG activity was completely abolished in crude extracts of *AfPXG* $\Delta$ , and did not exceed 14% in crude extracts of siRNA*AfPXG* compared to the control, siRNACt (Fig. S1D). *AfPXG*-deficient lines also had dramatically reduced aflatoxigenicity. While line siRNA*AfPXG* produced only 21% of aflatoxin B1 (AFB1) compared with the control siRNACt, line *AfPXG* $\Delta$  failed to secrete any detectable AFB1 (Fig. S1E). Together, these data confirm and extend our previous results suggesting a pivotal role of *AfPXG* in the development and aflatoxigenicity of *A. flavus*.

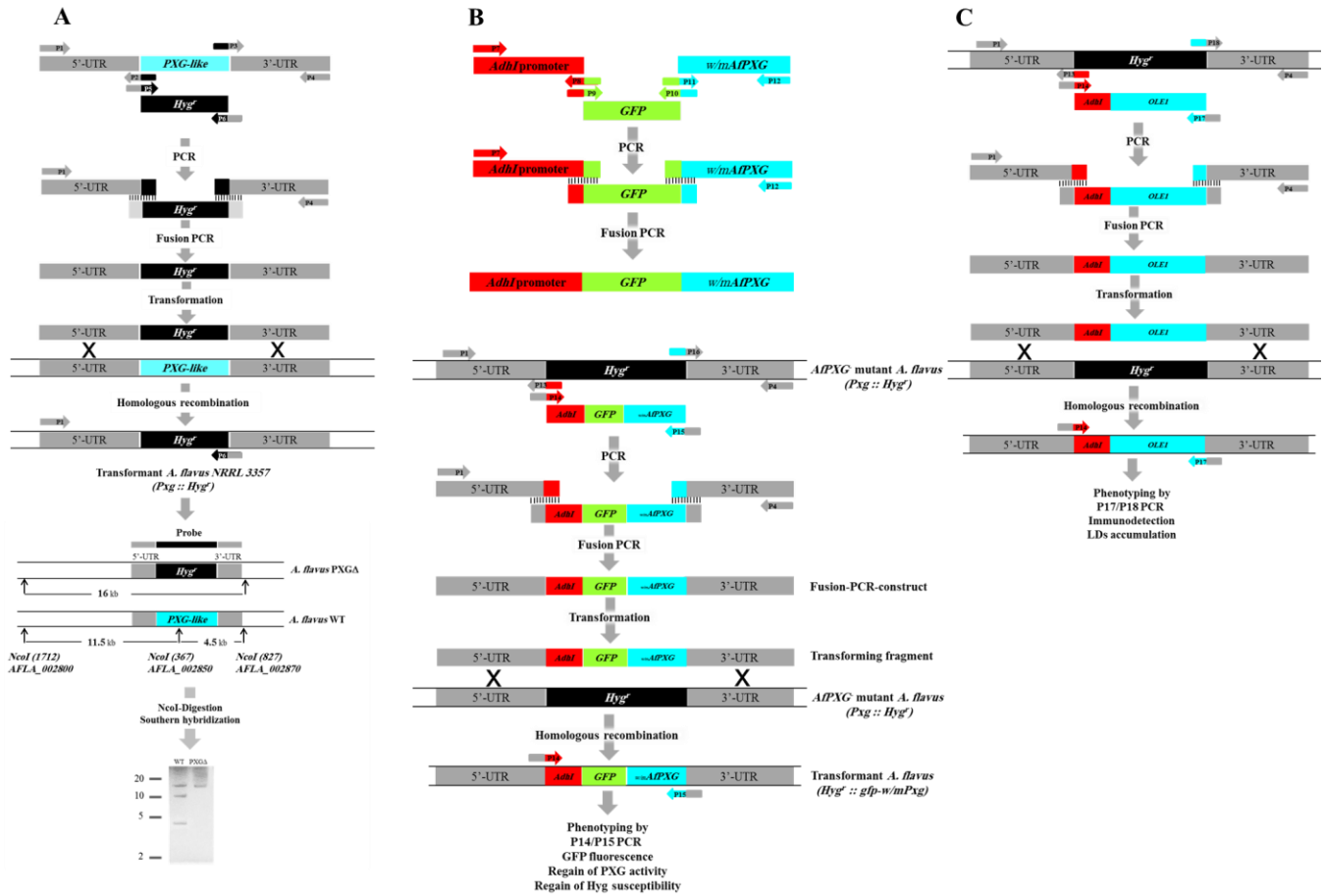




**Figure S1. Phenotypic characteristics of *Aspergillus flavus* NRRL3357 following silencing or deletion of the *AfPXG* gene**

(A) Morphology of fungal phenotypes grown on YPD plates for 4 days at 28° C. (B) Evaluation of conidia number (black columns) and dry weight (light-grey columns) in *AfPXG*-deficient and control strains. (C) *AfPXG* transcripts were quantified by qRT-PCR. (D) Peroxygenase (PXG) enzymatic activity in the total crude extract of fungal growth. Sulfoxidation of thiobenzamide (light-grey columns), hydroxylation of aniline (dark-grey columns) and epoxidation of [1-<sup>14</sup>C]

oleic acid (black columns). Results are the means  $\pm$  S.D. ( $n = 3$ ). **(E)** Time course of AFB1 production in *A/PXG*-deficient lines compared with WT. AFB1 was extracted and analyzed on days 2, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13 after inoculation as described in Methods. Measurements were done in triplicate. Values are means  $\pm$  S.D. ( $n = 3$ ). The significance of the differences between WT and other lines were analyzed by t-test (\*  $P < 0.05$ ; \*\*  $P < 0.01$ ).



**Figure S2:** Strategy for replacing *PXG* by *Hyg<sup>r</sup>* (A), overexpression of *PXG* (B) and overexpression of *OLE1* (C) by Fusion PCR-construct.

## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1** *Aspergillus flavus* NRRL3357 AF-biosynthesis cluster genes.

Gene order	Accession N. <sup>a</sup>	Gene name	Enzyme name	Catalytic activity
<i>aflA</i>	XM_002379907	<i>fas-2</i>	Fatty acid synthase $\alpha$ -subunit	Acetate $\rightarrow$ polyketide
<i>aflB</i>	XM_002379906	<i>fas-1</i>	Fatty acid synthase $\beta$ -subunit	Acetate $\rightarrow$ polyketide
<i>aflC</i>	XM_002379910	<i>pksA</i>	Polyketide synthase	Acetate $\rightarrow$ polyketide
<i>aflD</i>	XM_002379908	<i>nor-1</i>	NOR reductase	NOR $\rightarrow$ AVN
<i>aflE</i>	XM_002379901	<i>norA</i>	NOR dehydrogenase	NOR $\rightarrow$ AVN
<i>aflG</i>	XM_002379896	<i>avnA</i>	CYP450 monooxygenase	AVN $\rightarrow$ HAVN
<i>aflH</i>	XM_002379903	<i>adhA</i>	Alcohol dehydrogenase	HAVN $\rightarrow$ AVF or AVNN
<i>aflI</i>	XM_002379893	<i>avfA</i>	CYP450 oxidase	AVF $\rightarrow$ VHA
<i>aflJ</i>	XM_002379902	<i>estA</i>	Esterase	VHA $\rightarrow$ VAL
<i>aflK</i>	XM_002379889	<i>vbs</i>	VERB synthase	VAL $\rightarrow$ VERB
<i>aflL</i>	XM_002379895	<i>verb</i>	VERB desaturase	VERB $\rightarrow$ VERA
<i>aflM</i>	XM_002379900	<i>ver-1</i>	Ketoreductase	VERA $\rightarrow$ DMST
<i>aflN</i>	XM_002379898	<i>verA</i>	Monooxygenase	VERA $\rightarrow$ DMST
<i>aflO</i>	XM_002379892	<i>omtB</i>	<i>O</i> -methyltransferase B	DMST $\rightarrow$ ST DHDMST $\rightarrow$ DHST
<i>aflP</i>	DQ176782	<i>omtA</i>	<i>O</i> -methyltransferase A	ST $\rightarrow$ OMST DHST $\rightarrow$ DHOMST
<i>aflQ</i>	XM_002379890	<i>ordA</i>	Oxidoreductase	OMST $\rightarrow$ AFB1, AFG1 DHOMST $\rightarrow$ AFB2, AFG2
<i>aflR</i>	XM_002379905	<i>apa-2</i>	Transcription activator	Pathway regulator
<i>aflS</i>	XM_002379904	UN <sup>b</sup>	Transcription enhancer	Pathway regulator

<sup>a</sup> Gene accession number in Gen-Bank NCBI databases.

<sup>b</sup> Unnamed gene

**Table S2** Primers used for the transcriptional analysis of AF-biosynthesis cluster genes.

Gene	Primers name	Nucleotide sequence (5'-3')	Primer position	Amplicon (bp)
<i>fas-α</i>	<i>fasαF</i>	CAACGCCAACGCTATTCGAG	537- 556	180
	<i>fasαR</i>	GTAATGCCACACGATTCGGC	697- 716	
<i>fas-β</i>	<i>fasβF</i>	ATCCACTCGACATCATCGCC	2468- 2487	115
	<i>fasβR</i>	TTGATGTCACGTCGGCTGAA	2563-2582	
<i>pksA</i>	<i>pksAF</i>	TAGTGTGCCTCTGCCAGTTG	254- 273	107
	<i>pksAR</i>	GGAACCCATGCAGAATCCCA	341- 360	
<i>nor-1</i>	<i>nor1F</i>	GCATCGGACGAGGTCTCATT	158-177	170
	<i>nor1R</i>	CTGGGCATCAGTTTCCGAGT	308-327	
<i>norA</i>	<i>norAF</i>	TTGGTACTGAGCGAGGAGGA	940-959	159
	<i>norAR</i>	TTCTAGCCGAGTGTTGCAGG	1079-1098	
<i>avnA</i>	<i>avnAF</i>	ATCGACGACTGTTGGCCTTT	386-405	188
	<i>avnAR</i>	CGAGTCTCCAAAAGCGAGGT	554-573	
<i>adhA</i>	<i>adhAF</i>	TCTAGAGACGGGGCAGAACA	147-166	172
	<i>adhAR</i>	TGCAAAGGAGACACCTGCAA	299-318	
<i>avfA</i>	<i>avfAF</i>	AGTACCGGCCTTCGTTTCATC	411-430	177
	<i>avfAR</i>	AGTCTGTAGCCCGTTGGTTG	568-587	
<i>estA</i>	<i>estAF</i>	ACGCTACGAGATGATGCCAG	766-785	150
	<i>estAR</i>	TCCCCCGAAGAAAGTCCTCT	896-915	
<i>vbs</i>	<i>vbsF</i>	CCGCTCTGATGACTCCCTTC	1509-1528	158
	<i>vbsR</i>	GTCCGATGCAACAATCTCGC	1647-1666	
<i>verb</i>	<i>verbF</i>	GATGCTCAATAACGCTGCCG	963-982	186
	<i>verbR</i>	GTAAGGTACGGCAGATGCGA	1129-1148	
<i>ver-1</i>	<i>ver1F</i>	TGGTGAACCTACGCCATTCC	110-129	137
	<i>ver1R</i>	CACCGTCTCCGCCATTAAT	227-246	
<i>verA</i>	<i>verAF</i>	CCTCAGCAGCCACCCAAATA	290-309	128
	<i>verAR</i>	CCGCCACTTCTTCCAAGTCT	398-417	
<i>omtB</i>	<i>omtBF</i>	GCAAACGGCAAATTCAGGGT	71-90	173
	<i>omtBR</i>	CGCTAGAGTTATCGGCGTGT	224-243	
<i>omtA</i>	<i>omtAF</i>	ATGTGACGAAGTGATGCGGT	294-313	156
	<i>omtAR</i>	CTCGCATTTTCAGCTGCGTTC	430-449	
<i>ordA</i>	<i>ordAF</i>	ATTTGTGTTTCGGCTTTGGGC	1524-1543	107
	<i>ordAR</i>	TGGGCGAGATGAAGAAGCAG	1611-163	
<i>apa-2</i>	<i>apa2F</i>	CGCTATTGCTGCTTTTCGCT	691-710	158
	<i>apa2R</i>	GCATCGGTAGCCCTCTTGTT	829-848	
<i>TE<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>TEF</i>	AGGCTTTCTTTGTGAGCCGT	357-376	132
	<i>TER</i>	ATAGCTGATGCTGACGGAGC	469-488	

<sup>a</sup>TE: Transcriptional Enhancer encoding gene

**Table S3** Primers used for cloning, silencing, mutagenesis, deletion and PCR-fusion constructions. Under-lined nucleotides indicate *Bam*HI, *Hind*III and *Sal*I restriction sites, respectively. Modified codon for a punctual mutagenesis is indicated in bold.

Gene/region	Primer name	Nucleotide sequence (5'-3')
<b>AfPXG</b>	AfPXGF	GGGGATCC <u>ATGCCTTCCAAAGTAAACATCG</u>
	AfPXGR	GGAAGCTT <u>TTACGAATATATCTTTTCTCCT</u>
<b>AfPXG</b>	siRNAPXGF	UGGGCCAAUAAGGUCCGGGUU
	siRNAPXGR	CCCGGACCUUAUUGGCCCAUU
AfPXG/His85	H85/VF	GGG <u>TCGACT</u> ACACCCCTCTCCAGCAGG <b>T</b> CGTCCTATTCTGGG
	H85/VR	GGG <u>TCGAC</u> ACGGTCCCAGAATAGGACG <b>AC</b> CTGCTGGAGAGG
AfPXG/D	D126-140F	GGG <b>T</b> CGACCTGTGGTTTCGAGTTTAT
	D126-140R	GGG <b>T</b> CGACTTATACTACTAGTTGTGCCG
5'-UTRF	P1	AAGTTCGGTTAAGTATGATATCAA
5'-UTR <sub>Hyg</sub> R	P2	GAGTTCAGGCTTTTT <b>CATAAACTATTAATAACTCA</b>
3'-UTR <sub>Hyg</sub> F	P3	<b>CCGAGGGCAAAGAAATAGT</b> AAAGAGGCGGTTGATAC
3'-UTRR	P4	TCTTTGTACAGCGGTTACCAT
5'-UTR <sub>Hyg</sub> F	P5	TGAGTTATTAATTAGTTT <b>ATGAAAAAGCCTGAACTC</b>
3'-UTR <sub>Hyg</sub> R	P6	AACTATGTATCAACCGCCCT <b>ATTTCTTTGCCCTCGG</b>
<b>Adh1Pro</b> F	P7	<b>AAGCTTGACGTTTGACAGGGAA</b>
<b>Adh1Pro</b> <sub>gfp</sub> R	P8	<b>CAGTCCTCGCCCTTGCTCATTTGACTTTGGGATCTTGTGTTG</b>
Gfp <sub>Adh1pro</sub> F	P9	<b>CAACACAAGATCCCAAAGTCAGTGAGCAAGGGCGAGGAGCTG</b>
Gfp <sub>AfPXG</sub> R	P10	CTTGTACAGCTCGTCCATGCC <b>TACGGAAGGTTTCATTTGTA</b>
<b>AfPXG</b> <sub>gfp</sub> F	P11	<b>GGCATGGACGAGCTGTACTTGATGCCTTCCAAAGTAAACAT</b>
<b>AfPXGR</b>	P12	<b>TTACGAATATATCTTTTCTCCT</b>
5'-UTR <sub>Adh1pro</sub> R	P13	GAGTTCAGGCTTTTT <b>TCCCTGTCAAACGTCAAGCTT</b>
5'-UTR <sub>Adh1pro</sub> F	P14	TGAGTTATTAATTAGTTT <b>AAGCTTGACGTTTGACAGGGAA</b>
3'-UTR <sub>AfPXG</sub> R	P15	AACTATGTATCAACCGCCCT <b>TTACGAATATATCTTTTCTCCT</b>
3'-UTR <sub>AfPXG</sub> F	P16	<b>GGAGAAAAGATATATTCGTAATAAAGAGGCGGTTGATAC</b>
3'-UTR <sub>Ole1</sub> R	P17	AACTATGTATCAACCGCCCT <b>TTAAGTAGTGTGCTGGCCACCA</b>
3'-UTR <sub>Ole1</sub> F	P18	<b>TGGTGGCCAGCACACTACTTAAATAAAGAGGCGGTTGATAC</b>

**Table S4.** NCBI accession number and physiological characteristics.

Species Name	Clo isoform	NCBI Accession No	Order Locus (gene)	Amino acids	Major CLO domains	MW (kDa)	Isoelectric point (pI)	Exons	Introns
<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	AfCLO1	XP_002382486	AFLA_002850	290	77-261	32.81	5.53	4	3
<i>Erysiphe necator</i>	EnCLO1	KHJ32187	EV44_g5777	244	66-234	27.97	6.76	3	2
<i>Neurospora crassa</i>	NcCLO1	XP_958990	NCU09043	299	75-244	34.19	5.18	3	2
<i>Magnaporthe oryzae</i>	MoCLO1	XP_003708880	MGG_02110	265	84-251	30.4	5.42	3	2
<i>Beauveria bassiana</i>	BbCLO1	XP_008600624	BBA_07305	254	77-244	29.20	5.76	5	5
<i>Ustilago maydis</i>	UmCLO1	XP_011389113	UMAG_02753	252	58-234	28.77	7.09	3	2
<i>Rhodotorula toruloides</i>	RtCLO1	XP_016271628	RHTO_03428	345	104-272	39.38	5.85	5	4
<i>Gonapodya prolifera</i>	GprCLO1	KXS22162	M427DRAFT_106558	258	56-258	26.63	7.02	9	8
<i>Rhizophagus irregularis</i>	RiCLO1	ESA08389	GLOINDRAFT_349121	316	122-290	36.14	6.92	6	5
<i>Allomyces macrogynus</i>	AmaCLO1	KNE62883	AMAG_08061	378	126-298	41.55	6.14	4	3
<i>Rozella allomycis</i>	RaCLO1	EPZ32993	O9G_003724	162	1-153	19.12	6.43	4	3