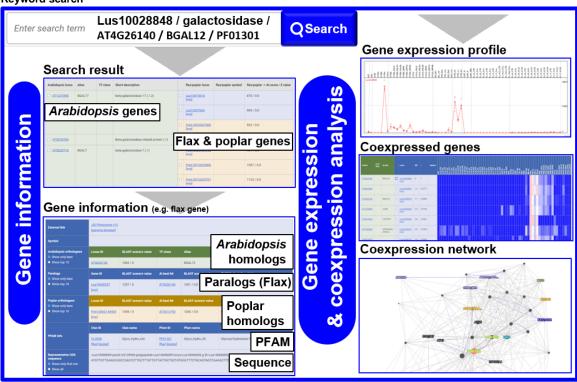


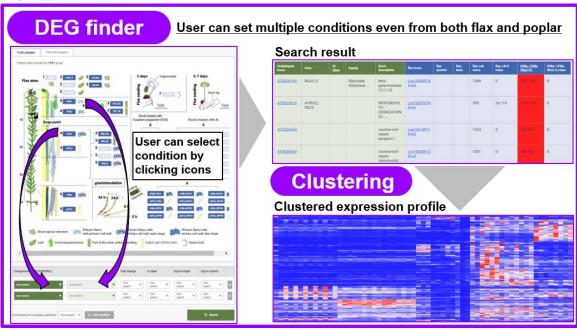
Quick start

There are two major ways to use FIBexDB: (i) browsing expression patterns of single or multiple genes and finding coexpressed genes by keyword (**Keyword search**), and (ii) finding up/downregulated genes in particular situations/tissues (**DEG finder**). Gene information contains information about gene symbol, Arabidopsis homologs, flax/poplar paralogs/homologs, PFAM, and sequence. Expression profile, coexpressed genes, and coexpression network are also shown. In DEG finder, users can set multiple search conditions even from both flax and poplar simultaneously.

Keyword search



DEG finder



Feel free to send a question, comment and/or bug report to Nobutaka Mitsuda (nobutaka.mitsuda@aist.go.jp).

To cite FIBexDB

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Introduction

FIBexDB is a database of gene expression profiles in different tissues of flax and poplar and at the different stages of plant development, with a major focus on samples bearing fibers with the thickened (tertiary) cell wall. For flax, we collected RNA-seq data for 61 samples from 9 different projects, comprising transcriptomes for 7 tissue types (shoot apical meristem, phloem fibers at different stages of development, core parenchyma, xylem tissue, hypocotyls, roots, and leaves), fibers from different flax cultivars and subspecies, as well as parts of mutant stems (reduced fibers); a complete list of samples with their detailed description can be found here. For poplar, we collected RNA-seq data for 88 samples from 7 projects, comprising transcriptomes of roots, leaves, normal wood, tension wood of wild type and transgenic poplars, and samples after treatments related to tension wood formation; a complete list of samples with their detailed description can be found here. To bridge the genes from two species, information regarding homologous relationships between flax, poplar and *Arabidopsis* is stored.

1. Main (top/home) page:

Top page includes;

Query box for keyword search (A). You can paste a gene symbol, keyword, gene identifier (Lus100XXXXX, PotriXXXGXXXXXX, ATXGXXXXX) or PFAM number (PFxxxx). In case of symbol, use abbreviated names with numbers (for example, like "CESA" but not like "CESA") (see 2. for the search result.). Links for BLAST search, Search by multiple queries, and integrated search for differentially expressed genes (DEG finder) in both flax and poplar (B; see 4., 5., 7. for detail). Link to a flax database (C), which only searches flax genes. Link to a poplar database (D), which only searches poplar genes.

The search from the top page of FIBexDB only searches genes with Arabidopsis homologue while a search from the top page of each plant searches genes without Arabidopsis homolog, too.



Fig.1 FIBexDB top page

(A) Query box for keyword search. (B) Links to BLAST search, search by multiple queries, and DEG finder. (C) Link to flax database, which only searches flax gene. (D) Link to poplar database, which only searches poplar gene.

2. Result of keyword search

The list of genes found in flax and poplar with their closest homologous *Arabidopsis* gene is given in the form of a table (Fig. 2). Arabidopsis locus (A) is linked to corresponding TAIR page and flax/poplar locus (B) is linked to corresponding gene page in FIBexDB. You can select several genes and can compare gene expression profile by clicking Compare button (C; see 5. for the result.). When you hover a mouse cursor on a "[exp]" hyperlink, you can preview the expression graph (D) without actually going to the corresponding page. When you click gene ID, the page for each gene in FIBexDB is shown (see 3.).



Fig. 2 Result of keywrord search

(A) Closest Arabidopsis gene of flax / poplar found genes. (B) Flax / poplar found genes. (C) "Compare" button to compare gene expression profiles of selected genes. (D) Preview of gene expression profile of each gene which appears when a mouse cursor is hovered on the "[exp]" hyperlink.

3. Information page for each gene

Information page for each gene is consisted of 4 consequent blocks (Figs. 3-7):

3-1. Basic information table (Fig. 3) contains;

External links (A; to corresponding page of <u>JGI Phytozome v13</u> and <u>[genome browser]</u> in flax and poplar, as well as <u>Popgenie</u> and <u>AspWood</u> for poplar) Gene symbol (B; if exists)

Arabidopsis homologues (C; show only best / show top 10) linked to TAIR DB

Paralogs within same species (D; show only best / show top 10) linked to FIBexDB corresponding gene page

Poplar / flax homologues (E; show only best/show top 10) linked to FIBexDB corresponding gene page

PFAM info including Clan/Pfam ID and name according to Pfam DB (F), linked to the search result of FIBexDB by the Clan/Pfam ID

Representative CDS sequence (G; Show only first row / Show all)

AA sequence (H; Show only first row / Show all).

The "[exp]" hyperlink in "Paralogs" and "Poplar / flax homologues" (I) shows a preview of gene expression profile when mouse cursor is hovered.

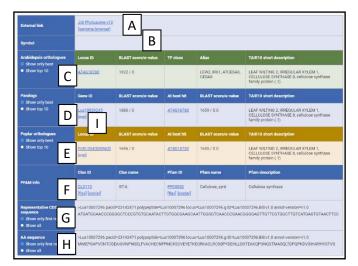


Fig. 3 Information page for each gene

- (A) External links. (B) Gene symbol. (C) Arabidopsis homologues.
- (D) Paralogs within same species. (E) Poplar / flax homologues.
- **(F)** PFAM information. **(G)** Representative CDS sequence. **(H)** Amino-acid sequence. **(I)** Link for a preview of gene expression profile.

3-2. DESeq2's median of ratios (expression profile of each gene) are shown as a line graph (Fig. 4). The order of the samples can be switched to "Tissue" or "Experiment" (A; select and click Show again to change). "Core collection" (B) set for flax and poplar includes the samples collected from stems of plants grown in normal conditions (without additional treatments) and samples from experiments performed in wild-type plants, respectively. A short sample description and expression value appear on the graph (C) and text box below (D) when you hover a mouse cursor on the corresponding point in the graph. Show schematic diagram (E) shows schematic illustration of sample collection.

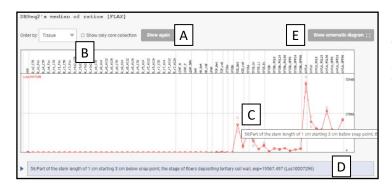


Fig. 4 Graph of expression profile of each gene
(A) "Show again" button to switch the order of samples
("tissue" or "experiment"). (B) Checkbox to show only "core
collection" samples. (C and D) Sample description and
expression value which appear when a mouse cursor is
hovered on each point.

3-3. List of coexpressed genes is shown in table format (Fig. 5). As a default, only top 10 genes are shown. Click Show all (A) to get a full list of coexpressed genes (r > 0.6 [Pearson's correlation coefficient] [max limit 300 genes]). Compare expression of checked genes (B) allows you to compare expression profiles of selected genes (see 5.). Download tab-delimited text (C) allows you to download the resultant table as a tab-delimited text file. Arabidopsis gene (D) in the table is linked to TAIR DB. Locus (E) in the table is linked to the gene information page of FIBexDB. The "[exp]" hyperlink shows a preview of gene expression profile when mouse cursor is hovered. At TF class column (F) represents a belonging TF family based on Mitsuda et al. 2009, Plant Cell Physiol., 50: 1232-1248. MR column (G) represents a mutual rank of coexpression between a pair of genes (proposed as an alternative to PCC measure of coexpression, Obayashi and Kinoshita, 2009, DNA research, 16: 249-260). Column (G) represents a Pearson's correlation coefficient of expression profiles between the query gene and each gene. Color of the heat map represents relative expression level among samples for each gene and therefore doesn't represent the absolute expression level. Sample name and expression value appear when a mouse cursor is hovered on each cell (H).

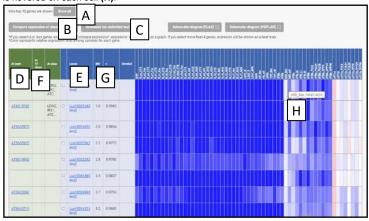


Fig. 5 List of coexpressed genes

(A) "Show all" button to show all coexpressed genes with r > 0.6 (max limit 300 genes). (B) "Compare expression of checked genes" button to show comparison of expression profiles of selected genes. (C) "Download tab-delimited text" button to allow you to download the expression profiles as a tab-delimited text file. (D) Closest Arabidopsis gene. (E) Flax/poplar coexpressed genes. (F) Transcription factor family of Arabidopsis gene. (G) Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) of expression profiles between a query gene and each gene and a mutual geometically averaged rank (MR) of them. (H) Sample name and expression value of the cell where a mouse cursor is hovered.

3-4. Coexpression network (Fig. 6)

The number of genes in the network is adjusted within 50 genes by changing cut-off value of MR (A). Gene name represents symbol(s) of closest Arabidopsis gene if the symbol(s) for the gene itself doesn't exist. Size of each node represents the number of connection with other genes within this network. Color for gene name represents subnetwork based on the result of network clustering. Open in a new window (B) opens a new window only showing the network. Square node represents transcription factor (TF) gene. Circle represents non-TF. Pink-filled node represents the query gene. Black line represents coexpression with the query gene. Grey line represents coexpression. Purple line represents amino-acid sequence homology with the query gene. Plum line represents amino-acid sequence homology. You can move each node to anywhere you want by mouse dragging. Left click on each node moves you to the page for each gene. Right click on each node highlights the node, connected nodes, and connections. Right click on anywhere without node or edge cancels the highlight. A list of genes from the coexpressed network is presented in the table (Fig. 7).

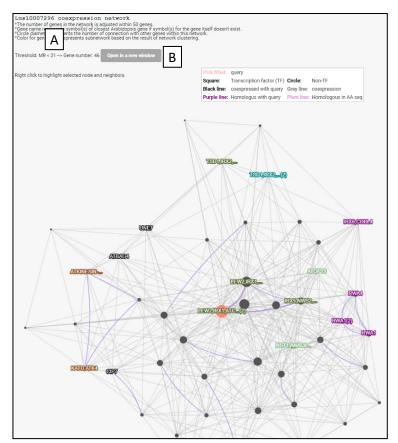


Fig. 6 Coexpression network

(A) Adopted Cut-off value of MR regarding coexpression to adjust the number of genes in the network within 50 genes (B) "Open in a new window" opens a new window only showing the network.

3-5. List of genes in the coexpression network (Fig. 7)

Genes appeared in the coexpression network (Fig. 6) is listed in the table below the network (Fig. 7). Subnetwork column (A) represents the subnetwork ID shown by the same color in the network. Query genes column (B) shows "Y" for the query gene of the coexpression network analysis.

Num connect (C) indicates number of connections from each gene. |u-> At score |pt-> At score | and |u-> At E val (|pt-> At E value) (D) represent score and E-value of BLAST search of flax/poplar gene against Arabidopsis closest gene, respectively.

Submetwork Query genes	Num	Locus	Symbol	At closest	At TF class	At alien	At done	lu-sAt score
A B	С	C LUS10002209		AT3G51780		ATBAG4	BCL-2-associated athanogene 4 (.1)	149
1	11	US10042088		AT5G50130			NAD(P)-binding Rossmann- fold superfamily protein (.1), NAD(P)-binding Rossmann- fold superfamily protein (.2)	460
1	12	O LUS10020316		AT3G03690		UNE7	unfertilized embryo sac 7, Core-2/l-branching beta-1,6-N- acetylglucosaminyltransferase family protein (.1)	457
1	13	US10043092		AT4G27430		CIP7	COP1-interacting protein 7 (.1.2)	540
1	12	US10032661		AT1G61100			disease resistance protein (TiR class), putative (.1), disease resistance protein (TiR class), putative (.2)	127
2	23	US10021450		AT5G60720			Protein of unknown function, DUF547 (.1)	541
2	18	US10016114		AT5G60720			Protein of unknown function, DUF547 (.1)	308
2	36	LUS10022242		AT5G14550			Core-2/I-branching beta-1,6-N- acetylglucosaminyitransferase family protein (.1.2)	554
2	13	US10028000		AT4G02900			ERD (early-responsive to dehydration stress) family protein (.1)	1116

 $\textbf{Fig. 7} \ \mathsf{List} \ \mathsf{of} \ \mathsf{genes} \ \mathsf{in} \ \mathsf{the} \ \mathsf{coexpression} \ \mathsf{network}$

(A) Subnetwork ID shown by the same color in the network. (B) "Y" is shown for the query gene. (C) The number of connections from each gene. (D) BLAST score and E-value from flax/poplar genes to Arabidopsis closest gene.

4. BLAST search

The BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool) tool is implemented to find out flax and poplar genes by sequence homology (**Fig. 8**). You can simply paste the nucleotide (or amino acids [AA]) sequence (with or without a FASTA header) into the query sequence box (**A**; space and digit will be ignored). Select the desired dataset from the list of available databases (**B**). You can select multiple databases if your search is intended as TBLASTN search. "Translate longest ORF for query" option (**C**) allows you to use the translated amino-acids sequence of the longest ORF as a query. "Filter query" option (**D**) allows you to mask the sequence with low complexity.



Fig. 8 BLAST search input

(A) Query sequence box. (B) Available database. (C) "Translate longest ORF for query" allows you to use the translated amino-acids sequence of the longest ORF as a query (D) "Filter query" option allows you to mask the sequence with low complexity.

BLAST search result is organized into a table format (Fig. 9) containing:

Locus/Gene

Organism (flax, poplar)

Symbol/Alias

Description

E value

Bit score

Compare expression allows you to compare expression profiles of selected genes.

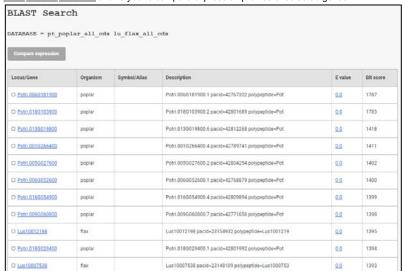
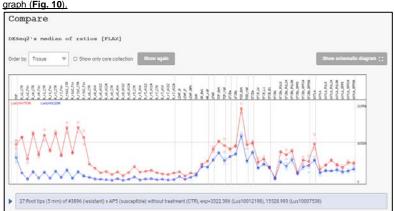


Fig. 9 Result of BLAST search

5. Comparison of multiple expression profiles

Expression profiles of multiple genes can be browsed in FIBexDB. If you select 4 or less genes from the result tables of coexpressed genes, genes in the coexpression network, BLAST search result, or Cluster Analysis (see 6.), overlayed expression profiles of selected genes are shown in a graph (Fig. 10).



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Fig. 10} & \textbf{Comparison of expression profiles of 4 or less genes} \end{tabular}$

If you select more than 4 genes from above-mentioned result tables or use "Search by multiple queries" function (Fig. 11) from top pages of FIBexDB, heat-map table is shown as a result (Fig. 12). You can paste a list of flax/poplar genes (A) and select required samples from the list (B).

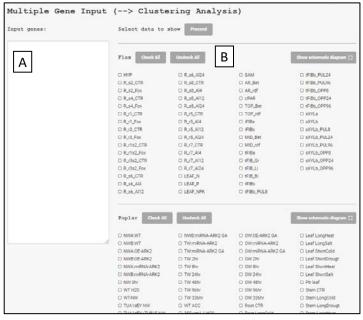


Fig. 11 Search by multiple queries

(A) You can paste a list of flax/poplar genes. (B) You can select required samples.

Result is shown as a heat-map table (**Fig. 12**) but for up to 10 genes as a default and the entire retrieved data can be sent to cluster analysis (**see 6.**). Color of the heat map represents relative expression level among samples for each gene and therefore doesn't represent the absolute expression level. If you enter this function from the top page of FIBexDB, only genes with Arabidopsis homologue (**A**) are shown with the data of the page of FIBexDB, only genes with the absolute expression value for missing species is shown as 0 (**C**). You can send the retrieved data to clustering analysis (**D**) after setting parameters (**E**). Distance between genes / samples can be calculated by one of following methods; "Uncentered correlation (default)", "Pearson correlation", "Uncentered correlation, absolute value", "Pearson correlation, absolute value", "Spearman's rank correlation", "Kendall's tau", "Euclidean distance", "City-block distance". Coloration of the heat map in the result page of clustering analysis can be selected from "local (auto)" and "global (auto)". "local (auto)" determines cell color dependent on expression level among all samples of each gene. "global (auto)" determines cell color dependent on expression level among all cells and therefore reflects absolute expression level.

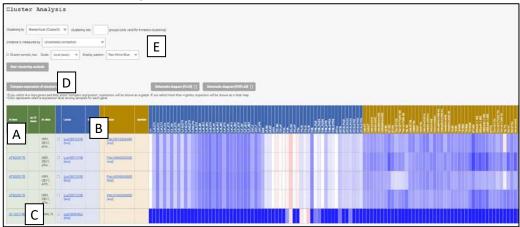


Fig. 12 The result of multiple gene input

(A) Homologous Arabidopsis gene is shown. (B) flax/poplar gene is shown. (C) A gene with a homolog only in either species shows 0 expression value in the missing species. (D) You can send the entire retrieved data to clustering analysis. (E) You can select two modes of clustering namely, hieralchical clustering and k-means clustering. The number of groups should be designated for k-means clustering. If you check "cluster sample, too", then the order of samples is changed according to the expression similarity of samples.

6. Clustering Analysis

FIBexDB can perform clustering analysis after showing expression profiles of multiple genes to sort out the listed genes based on expression profile. Hierarchical clustering changes order of genes based on expression profile of each gene (Fig. 13). The phylogeny of the genes is shown in left (A) but this may be omitted if the number of genes is too many. The phylogeny of samples is shown in top (B) if the "cluster sample, too" option is selected. If You enter "Search by multiple queries" from the top page of FIBexDB and select samples from both flax and poplar, expression in both plants is shown. If you set conditions for both flax and poplar in the "DEG finder" and send the resultant DEGs to the clustering analysis, it's same. You can extract the particular clade of genes by selecting cluster ID shown in left (A) and press "Extract checked genes as queries for multiple search" (C). This sends extracted genes to multiple gene input (Fig. 11).

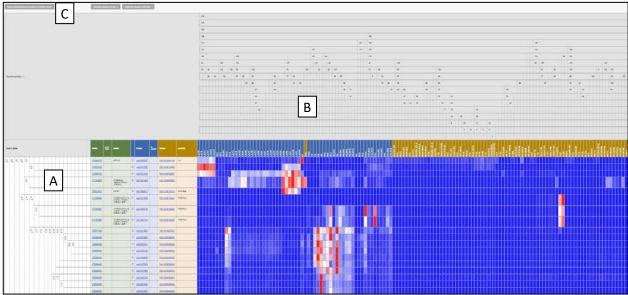


Fig. 13 Result of hieralchical clustering analysis

(A) Phylogeney of the genes is shown with cluster ID. Genes in a particular cluster can be extracted by selecting the cluster ID and press "Extract checked genes as queries for multiple search" button (C). (B) Phylogeny of the samples is shown if the "cluster sample, too" option was selected. Entire heat-map image is shown at the bottom of the result page (Fig. 14).



Fig. 14 Entire heat-map image (A) is shown at the bottom of the result page

K-means clustering classifies genes into pre-determined number of groups based on gene expression profile (Fig. 15).

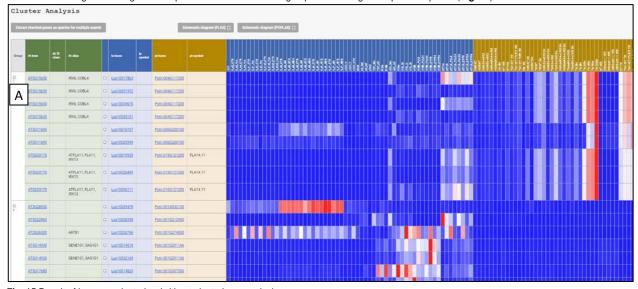
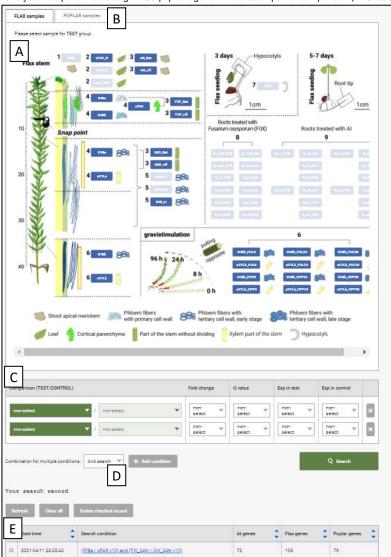


Fig. 15 Result of k-means clustering (without clustering samples)
Genes are classified into pre-determined number of groups. Group (cluster) ID is shown in left (A).

7. DEG finder

FIBexDB can be used to list genes up/downregulated in a particular tissue or condition via DEG finder (Fig. 16). This function is available from the top page of FIBexDB as well as from each flax and poplar top pages. To select pairs for comparison, click graphical icon in schematic pictures of flax (and/or poplar) (A). You can switch species by clicking each tab (B). Once selecting a sample for a target (TEST), samples that can be selected as a CONTROL are shown as active state. By clicking the graphical icons for test and control samples, condition is automatically set in the list of comparisons below picture (C). Multiple combined comparisons up to 9 pairs of samples can be done simultaneously both from flax and poplar. Differential expression analysis was performed using DESeq2 package for R. For each pair of comparison (TEST/CONTROL), following conditions can be set;



Fold change (>10/ >5/ >3/ >2/ >1.5/ >0/ <0.67/ <0.5/ <0.33/ <0.2/ <0.1)

Q value (<0.1/<0.05/<0.03/<0.01)

Exp in target (expression value in test sample; >0.1/>10)

Exp in control (expression value in control sample; >0.1/>10)

Select "And search" or "Or search" (D; for multiple conditions). Click + Add condition to add pair for comparison (up to 9 pairs simultaneously). History of your search conditions is shown below (E). Delete checked record or clear all to delete your search records. This search history is stored in your browser and not stored in our server. Mixed search of flax and poplar identifies common Arabidopsis homologues whose counterparts in flax and poplar meet search conditions (Fig. 17).

Fig. 16 DEG finder input

(A) You can select samples to set as a test and control sample for comparison by clicking icons. (B) You can switch flax/poplar by clicking each tab. (C) Set conditions by click of above picture are indicated. Search parameters should be set. (D) Your search history is shown.

DEGs finder results are shown as a table (Fig. 17) with the following columns;

Arabidopsis locus is linked to TAIR DB

Alias according to TAIR DB

At TF class showing TF family name. By clicking the header, genes are sorted by alphabetical order of the TF family name.

Family showing more general name of gene family. By clicking the header, genes are sorted by alphabetical order of the family name.

Short description according to TAIR DB

flax locus (poplar locus)

flax symbol (poplar symbol) Gene symbol according to Phytozome DB

flax desc (poplar desc) description of flax (poplar) gene according to Phytozome DB

flax ->At score (poplar-> At score) score of BLAST search result against closest Arabidopsis homologue

flax ->At E value (poplar-> At E value) E-value of BLAST search result against closest Arabidopsis homologue

TEST/CONTROL (flax) FC (TEST/CONTROL (poplar) FC) Fold change (FC) value of the comparison. By clicking the header, genes are sorted by the value in this column (A).

TEST/CONTROL (flax) Q value (TEST/CONTROL (poplar) Q value) Q value of the comparison. By clicking the header, genes are sorted by the value in this column (B).

Avg for up/down Average FC of all comparisons if you commonly select either of "upregulation" or "downregulation" for all comparisons. By clicking the header, genes are sorted by the value in this column (C).

You can switch "Show fold change in normal value" or "Show fold change in In (natural logarithm) value" by selecting radio button **(D)**. You can send genes to clustering analysis through the "multiple gene input" (**Fig. 11**) by clicking Send genes to clustering analysis button **(E)**. You can download the result as a tab-delimited text by clicking Download tab-delimited text button **(F)**.

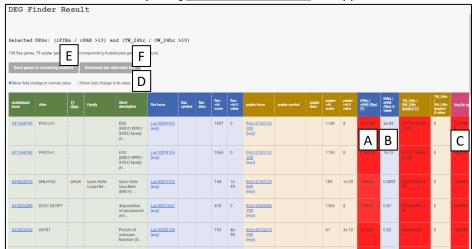


Fig. 17 DEG finder result

Fold change (FC) value of the comparison. (B) Q value of the comparison is shown. (C) Average FC of all comparisons if you commonly select either of "upregulation" or "downregulation" for all comparisons. (D) You can switch "Show fold change in normal value" or "Show fold change in In (natural logarithm) value" by selecting radio button. (E) You can send genes to clustering analysis through the "multiple gene input" by clicking this button. (F) You can download the result as a tab-delimited text by clicking this button.

For **(A-C)**, by clicking the header, genes are sorted by the value in this column.