

Fig. S1. Heatmap of expression, subcellular localization, and pollen viability. (A,B) Analysis of expression of DEAD-box RNA helicases with homologies to yeast and human ribosomal binding factors (Liu and Imai, 2018). (A) Heatmap of log2-transformed mean expression values in a total of 74 cell types and tissues in Arabidopsis as used in (Kotliński et al., 2017). (B) Heatmap of normalized log2-transformed read counts from reproductive cell and tissue types of Arabidopsis or *Boechera gunnisoniana* as reported in (Schmidt et al., 2014). (A,B) Hierarchical clustering of genes and samples was based on euclidean distance and agglomerative hierarchical clustering. Red denotes high expression and black low expression. Blue boxes indicate the row of *RH17* expression values and the columns of the megaspore mother cell and surrounding sporophytic nucellus tissues. “A” indicates the absence in the majority of biological replicates evaluated as previously described (Schmidt et al., 2011). (C-G) Subcellular localization of RH17 fused to mVenus by epifluorescence microscopy after transient expression in *Nicotiana benthamiana* leaves under the control of the Arabidopsis *UBIQUITIN10* (*UBI10*) promoter. As control for expression in the nucleus, co-transformation with a construct driving the expression of H2B-RFP under the control of the *UBI10* promoter was applied (Lucas et al., 2013). (C) Cells visualized by differential interference contrast (DIC) microscopy, (E) RH17-mVenus and (F) H2B-RFP localization in the nucleus (arrows), and (D) overlay of DIC, YFP and RFP channels. (G) Colocalization of RH17-mVenus and H2B-RFP in the nucleus (arrow). (H) Analysis of pollen viability analyzed by Alexander Staining (Ross et al., 2010) and light microscopy. Pink staining indicates viable pollen and blue staining aborted pollen. Scale bars are 20 μ m.

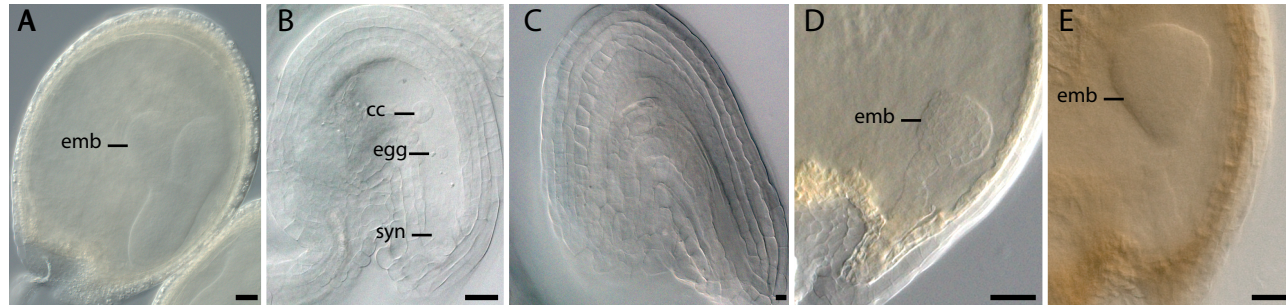


Fig. S2. Morphological investigation of ovule and seed development. (A) Seed with embryo (emb) at torpedo stage of development in the wild-type. Unfertilized or unfertile mature gametophyte (B) and over-proliferated embryo (E) in silique of *rh17-1/RH17* (egg, egg cell; cc, central cell; syn, synergids). Seed with only seed coat formed (C) and over-proliferated embryo (D) in *rh17-2/RH17*. Scale bars are 20 μ m.

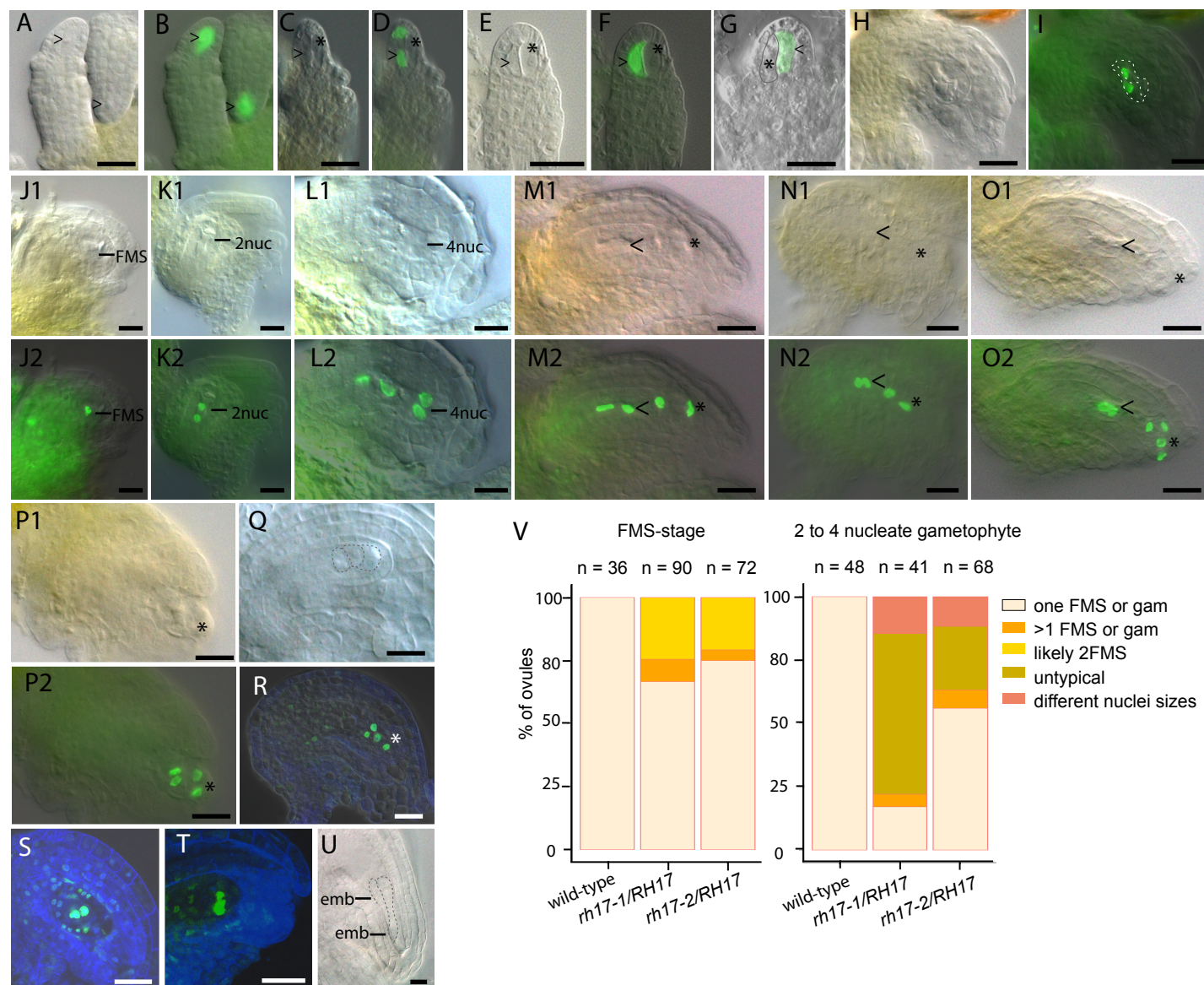


Fig. S3. Formation of more than one germline lineage per ovule. Epifluorescence microscopy (B, D, F, I, J2-O2, P2), (corresponding) DIC images (A, C, E, H, J1-O1, P1, Q, U), and laser scanning microscopy (G, R-T; blue signal: Renaissance 2200 cell-wall dye). MMCs are indicated by arrows, additionally enlarged cells are marked with a star. (A, B) Single MMCs in ovules of the *pKNU::nlsYFP* marker line serving as control. (C, D, G) Young ovules of *rh17-1/RH17*, and (E, F) *rh17-2/RH17*. (J-L) *pAKV::H2B-YFP* marker line used as control (Rotman et al., 2005). (M, O, R, S) Investigation of H2B-YFP activity driven by the AKV-promoter labelling gametophytic nuclei in *rh17-1/RH17*, and (N, P, T) *rh17-2/RH17*. Developing gametophytes are indicated by an arrow, ectopic gametophytes by a star. (S, T) Untypical positioning of nuclei likely indicates formation of two gametophytic lineages (counted as likely 2 FMS in V). (Q) Morphological investigation showing more than one FMS per ovule, and (U) two embryos in one seed in *rh17-2/RH17*. Scale bars are 20 μ m. (V) Bar plot showing the frequencies of formation of additional gametophytic lineages, untypical numbers or positioning of gametophytic nuclei (untypical), or differences in sized of gametophytic nuclei observed based on H2B-YFP activity. Only ovules were scored in the category of more than one FMS or gametophyte when two cells were clearly distinguished. Differences in distributions of observations as compared to wild-type were confirmed for the lines carrying a mutant allele of *RH17* by fisher's exact test ($p < 0.001$). Per genotype, data from at least 4 plants are summarized.

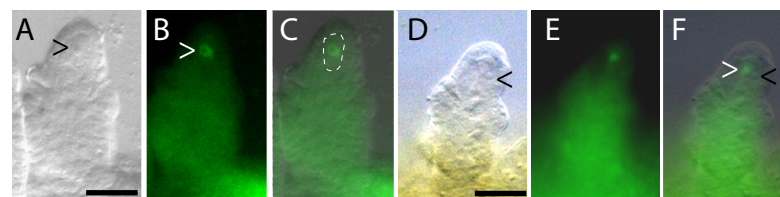


Fig. S4. REC8-mEGFP indicates meiosis of a single MMC in *rh17-1/RH17*. (A, D) DIC image of a MMC marked with an arrow. (B, E) Activity of *PROREC8::REC8:mGFP* (Prusicki et al., 2019) in a single MMC shown by epifluorescence microscopy, and (C, F) overlay with DIC image. Scale bars are 20 μ m.

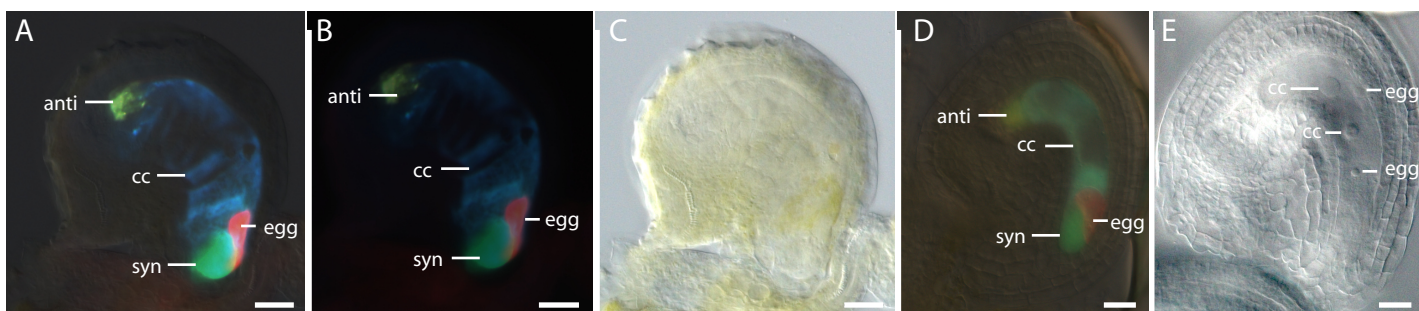


Fig. S5. Cell-type identities in mature gametophytes. Epifluorescence microscopy of representative ovules at 2-3 DAE ($n = 95$ and $n = 62$ gametophytes showing marker activity in *rh17-1/RH17* (A-C) and wild-type (D), respectively) expressing a quadruple-cassette labelling each cell of the mature gametophyte with a different fluorescent protein (Lawit et al., 2013): egg cell (egg) with DsRed, central cell (cc) with AmCyan, synergids (syn) with AcGFP, and antipodals (anti) with ZsYellow. (A,D) Overlay of DIC and fluorescent channels. (C) DIC image. (D) Clearing of mature ovule harboring two gametophytes in *rh17-2/RH17*. Scale bars are 20 μm .

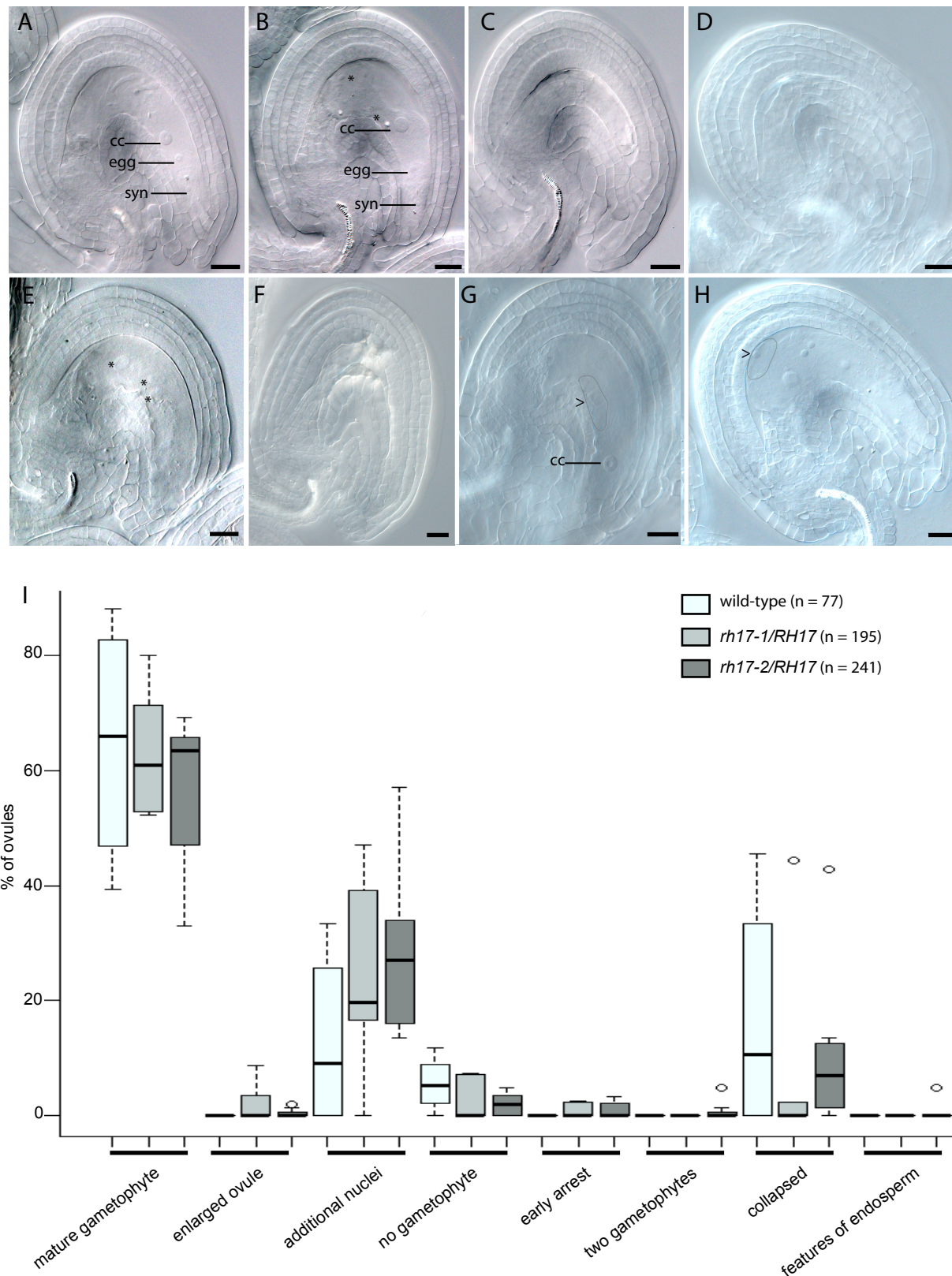


Fig. S6. Clearing of ovules at 5 DAE. (A-C) Wild-type, and (D-H) *rh17-1/RH17*. (A) Mature gametophyte. (B) Mature gametophyte with nuclei at chalazal end counted as “additional nuclei” which might represent antipodals (indicated by *). (C,D) Early developmental arrest of gametogenesis. (E) Features of autonomous endosperm (nuclei indicated by *). (F) Enlarged ovule showing features of parthenocarpy. (G,H) Ovules with additional gametophytes which have not reached maturity (indicated by >). egg egg cell, cc central cell, syn synergids; scale bars are 20 μ m. (I) Box and whiskers plot summarizing observations for wild-type, *rh17-1/RH17*, and *rh17-2/RH17*.

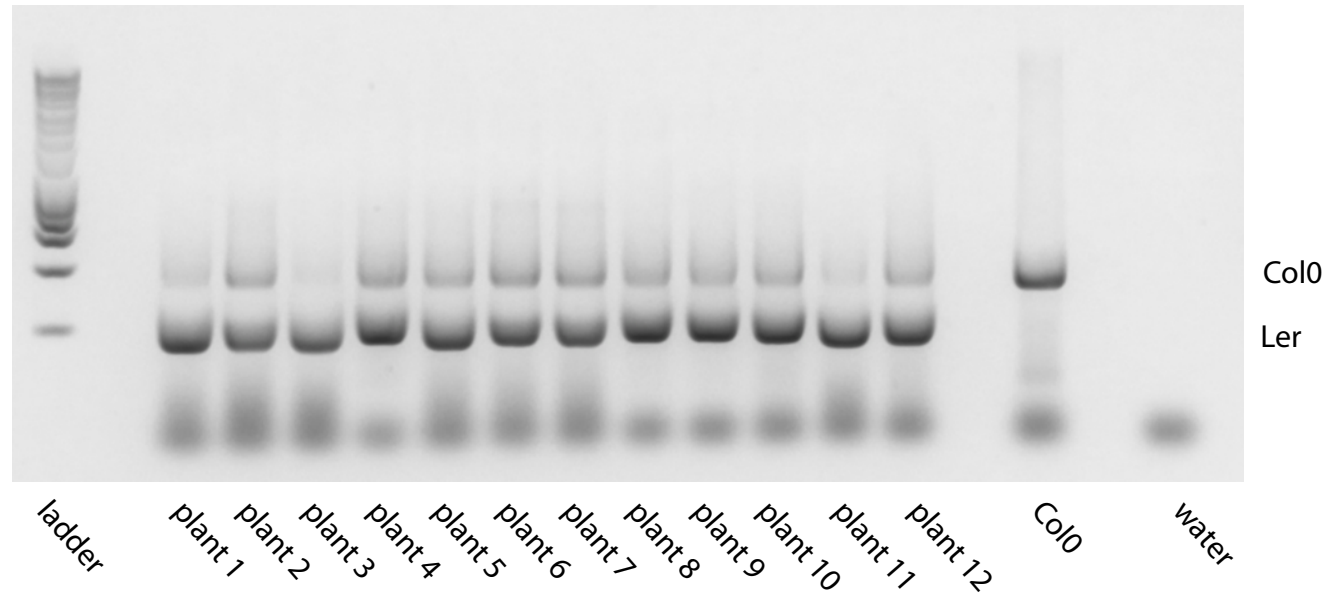


Fig. S7. Mapping approach shows hybrid identity in F1 offspring of *rh17-1/RH17* (Col-0) x *Ler*. Image of a 1% agarose gel stained with gelred showing amplification of Col-0 and *Ler* DNA genomic DNA from samples of 12 representative seedlings. Mapping primers T2E12F and T2E12R were used as described (Zhang et al., 2007), generating distinguishable band sizes for amplification products of each ecotype. As ladder Hyperladder I (Bioline) was used.

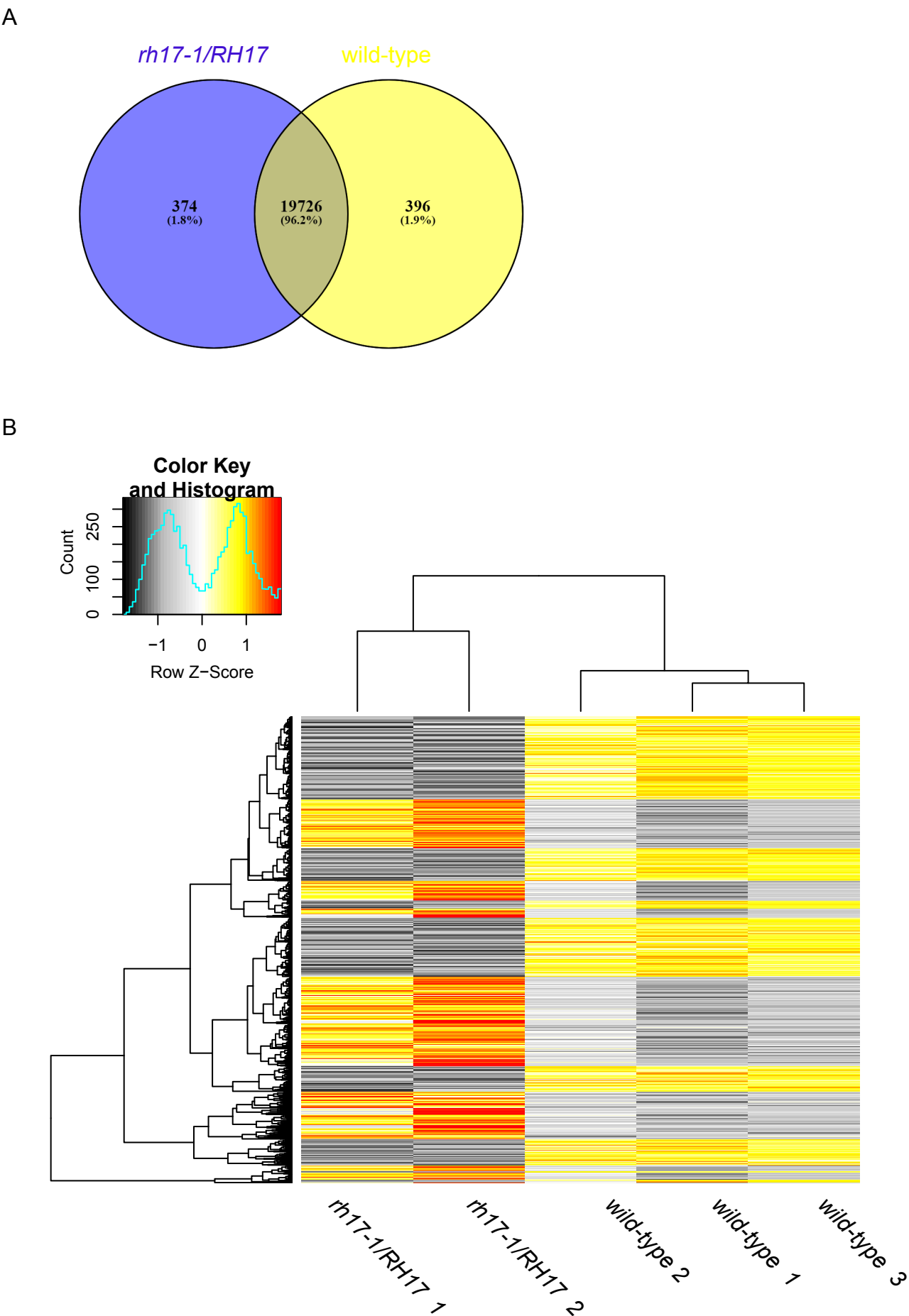


Fig. S8. Differential gene expression in ovules of *rh17-1/RH17* as compared to the wild-type at three days after emasculation. (A) Venn Diagram showing the overlap of genes expressed (> or = 10 read counts) in both samples of *rh17-1/RH17* or all samples of wild-type. (B) Heatmap based on log2-transformed TMM normalized read counts of 1'558 genes differentially expressed in samples from *rh17-1/RH17* as compared to wild-type as analyzed by EdgeR (Robinson et al., 2009). Hierarchical clustering of samples and genes was based on euclidean distance and hierarchical agglomerative clustering. Colors are scaled per row with red indicating high and black low expression.

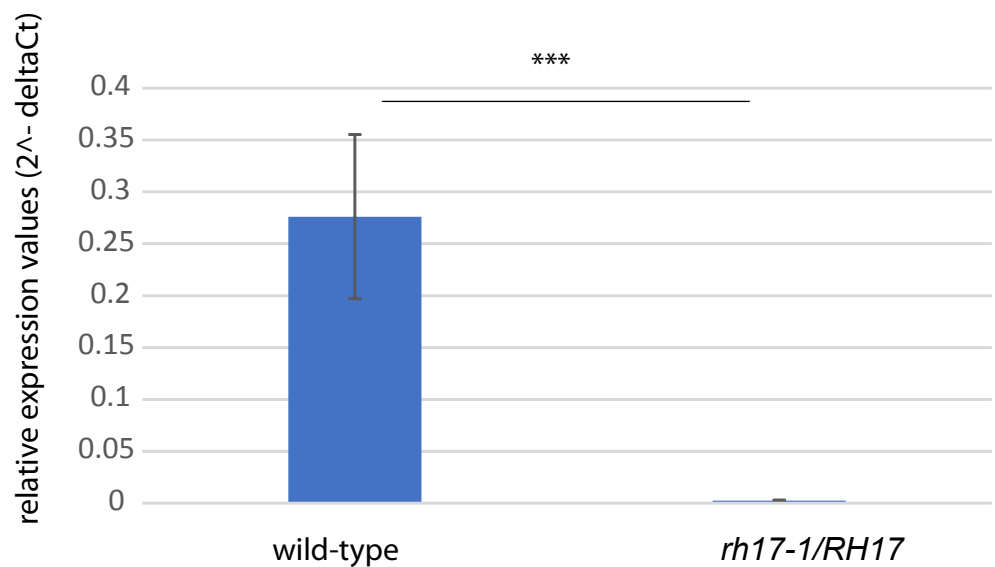


Fig. S9. Real time quantitative PCR. Relative expression levels of the long non-coding RNA AT1G07887 in ovules of wild-type as compared to *rh17-1/RH17* three days after emasculation. Shown are values averaged from three biological replicates and standard deviation. Significance of differences was inferred with students t-test ($p < 0.001$).

Table S1. Summary of samples and mapping statistics. Given are for RNA-Seq libraries numbers of total raw reads and reads mapped to the *A. thaliana* reference genome, in addition to the numbers of genes mapped to exons using Star and counted with featureCounts (Dobin et al., 2013; Liao et al., 2014). Percentages refer to raw read numbers.

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Table S2. TMM normalized read counts of 1’558 differentially expressed genes.

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Table S3. Differential expression of genes in ovules of *rh17-1/RH17* or wild-type at three days after emasculation.

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Table S4. Gene ontology analysis to identify enriched biological processes.

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Table S5. Genes represented in different enriched GO categories.

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