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2 *Title:* Meiotic drive of female-inherited supernumerary chromosomes in a pathogenic fungus

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18

19 **Abstract**

20 Meiosis is a key cellular process of sexual reproduction involving the pairing of homologous
21 sequences. In many species however, meiosis can also involve the segregation of
22 supernumerary chromosomes, which can lack a homolog. How these unpaired
23 chromosomes undergo meiosis is largely unknown. In this study we investigated
24 chromosome segregation during meiosis in the haploid fungus *Zymoseptoria tritici* that
25 possesses a large complement of supernumerary chromosomes. We used isogenic whole
26 chromosome deletion strains to compare meiotic transmission of chromosomes when paired
27 and unpaired. Unpaired chromosomes inherited from the male parent as well as paired
28 supernumerary chromosomes showed Mendelian inheritance. In contrast, unpaired
29 chromosomes inherited from the female parent showed non-Mendelian inheritance but were
30 amplified and transmitted to all meiotic products. We concluded that the supernumerary
31 chromosomes of *Z. tritici* show a meiotic drive and propose an additional feedback
32 mechanism during meiosis which initiates amplification of unpaired female-inherited
33 chromosomes.

34 In eukaryotes meiosis is a highly conserved mechanism that generates gametes and
35 facilitates recombination by pairing of homologous chromosomes. Meiosis combines one
36 round of DNA replication with two subsequent rounds of chromosome segregation (reviewed
37 in (*Klutstein and Cooper, 2014; Zickler and Kleckner, 2015*)). DNA replication during the
38 meiotic S-phase progression is coupled directly to interactions between homologous
39 sequences and results in the pairing of chromosomes and recombination (*Cha et al., 2000*).
40 The initial pairing of homologous chromosomes is important for meiosis and proper
41 chromosome segregation (reviewed in (*Loidl, 2016*)). However, it is less clear how meiosis
42 proceeds when pairing of homologous chromosomes does not take place due to unequal
43 sets of chromosomes, as is the case in organisms with non-essential supernumerary
44 chromosomes.

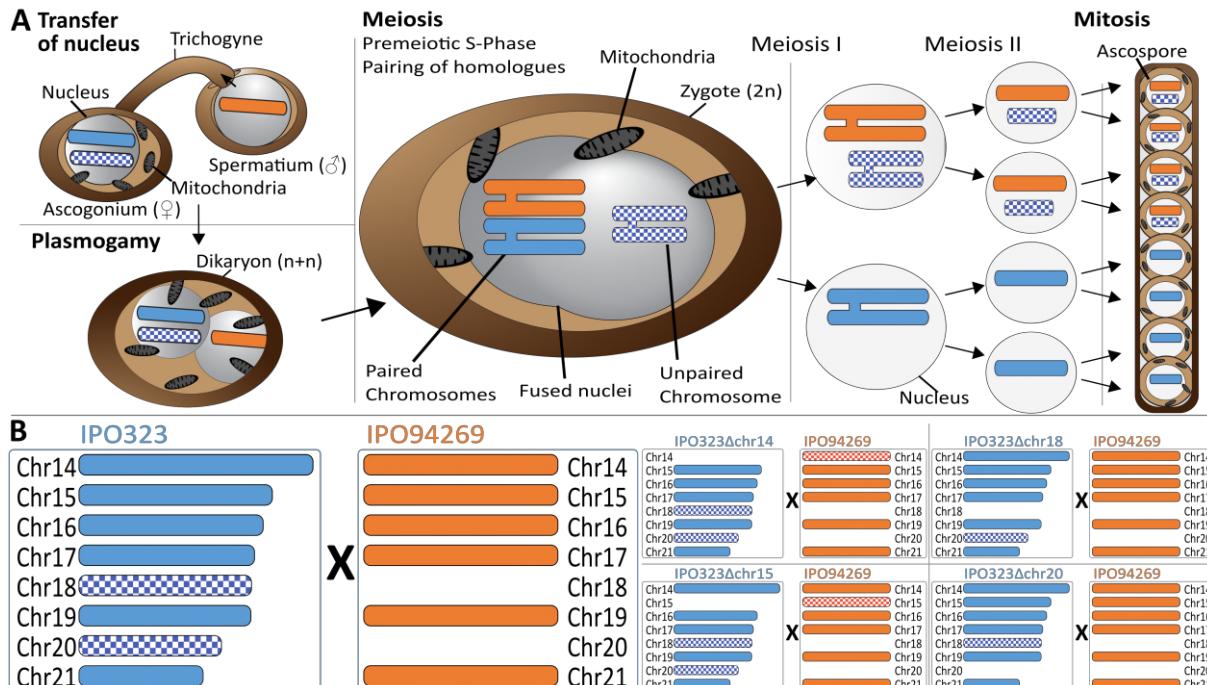
45 Supernumerary chromosomes, also known as B chromosomes, conditionally dispensable
46 chromosomes or accessory chromosomes, are present in some but not all members of a
47 population, and estimated to be present in 14% of karyotyped orthopteran insect species
48 (*Jones, 1995*), 8% of monocots, and 3% of eudicot species (*Levin et al., 2005*). These
49 chromosomes commonly show non-Mendelian modes of inheritance, leading to segregation
50 distortion during meiosis and a change in the frequency of the supernumerary chromosome
51 in the progeny – a process that has been described as a chromosome drive (*Jones et al.,*
52 *2008; Valente et al., 2017*). Segregation advantage of supernumerary chromosomes can be
53 due to drive mechanisms at the pre-meiotic, meiotic, or post-meiotic stages of gamete
54 formation (*Hasegawa, 1934; Houben et al., 2014; Houben, 2017; Mroczek et al., 2006; Ohta,*
55 *1996*) and has been demonstrated in animals and plants (*Akera et al., 2017; Mroczek et al.,*
56 *2006*). In fungi, supernumerary chromosomes have been characterized in several species
57 and notably studied in fungal pathogens where their presence in some cases is associated
58 with virulence (*Ma et al., 2010; Miao et al., 1991*). The underlying mechanisms causing non-
59 Mendelian inheritance of the supernumerary chromosomes in fungi are however poorly
60 understood.

61 The genomic composition of the fungal plant pathogen *Zymoseptoria tritici* provides an
62 attractive model to analyze supernumerary chromosome transmission. The genome of this
63 fungus contains one of the largest complements of supernumerary chromosomes reported to
64 date (Goodwin *et al.*, 2011). The eight distinct supernumerary chromosomes (chr14 to chr21)
65 of the reference isolate IPO323 show presence/absence polymorphisms among isolates and
66 differ in their genetic composition compared to the essential chromosomes (Goodwin *et al.*,
67 2011; Plissonneau *et al.*, 2016). The supernumerary chromosomes in *Z. tritici* are enriched in
68 repetitive elements (Dhillon *et al.*, 2014; Goodwin *et al.*, 2011; Grandaubert *et al.*, 2015),
69 mainly heterochromatic (Schotanus *et al.*, 2015) and frequently lost during mitosis (Moeller *et*
70 *al.*, 2018) and meiosis (Croll *et al.*, 2013; Fouché *et al.*, 2018; Goodwin *et al.*, 2011;
71 Wittenberg, Alexander H J *et al.*, 2009) and they show a considerably lower recombination
72 rate compared to the core chromosomes (Croll *et al.*, 2015; Stukenbrock and Dutheil, 2017).
73 However, core and supernumerary share many repetitive element families and their
74 subtelomeric regions contain the same transposable element families (Dhillon *et al.*, 2014;
75 Grandaubert *et al.*, 2015; Schotanus *et al.*, 2015). In contrast to many gene-poor
76 supernumerary chromosomes described in plants and animals, those in *Z. tritici* possess a
77 relatively high number of protein-coding genes (727, corresponding to 6% of all genes)
78 (Grandaubert *et al.*, 2015). Recently, we demonstrated that the supernumerary
79 chromosomes of *Z. tritici* confer a fitness cost: Isogenic strains lacking distinct
80 supernumerary chromosomes produce higher amounts of asexual spores during host
81 infection when compared to wild type with the complete set of supernumerary chromosomes
82 (Habig *et al.*, 2017). Despite the instability and fitness cost of the supernumerary
83 chromosomes, they have been maintained over long evolutionary times (Stukenbrock *et al.*,
84 2011; Stukenbrock and Dutheil, 2017), and it is therefore intriguing to address the
85 mechanisms of supernumerary chromosome maintenance in the genome in *Z. tritici*.

86 Here, we used *Z. tritici* with its unique set of supernumerary chromosomes as a model to
87 study the dynamics of unpaired chromosomes during meiosis. *Z. tritici* is a heterothallic,
88 haploid ascomycete (i.e. two individuals of different mating type [*mat1-1* and *mat1-2*] are

89 required to form a diploid zygote) (Kema *et al.*, 1996; Kema *et al.*, 2018). If two haploid cells
90 of opposite mating types contain a different complement of supernumerary chromosomes,
91 the resulting diploid zygote consequently contains unpaired chromosomes. Upon Mendelian
92 segregation during meiosis (segregation of the homologues chromosomes during meiosis I
93 followed by chromatid segregation during meiosis II), four (50%) of the eight produced
94 ascospores are predicted to contain the unpaired chromosomes (Figure 1A). To test this
95 prediction, we performed crosses between isolates with different subsets of supernumerary
96 chromosomes (Figure 1B). Based on controlled experiments and tetrad analyses, we
97 surprisingly found that the supernumerary chromosomes of *Z. tritici* are subject to a meiotic
98 drive restricted to unpaired chromosomes inherited from the female parent. Our results
99 suggest that this drive mechanism is due to an additional, female-specific amplification of
100 unpaired chromosomes during meiosis, a process that can ensure the maintenance of these
101 chromosomes over long evolutionary times.

102



104 **Figure 1.** Meiosis and chromosome segregation in *Z. tritici*. (A) Schematic overview of the
105 assumed sexual process between two parental strains of *Z. tritici* (Alexopoulos and Mims;
106 *Kema et al., 2018*) with one supernumerary chromosome shared and therefore paired
107 (blue/orange) and one supernumerary chromosome unique to one strain (blue checkered)
108 and unpaired in the zygote. The spermatial nucleus is transferred from the male partner via
109 the trichogyne to the ascogonium of the female partner, resulting in plasmogamy and a
110 dikaryon with two separate nuclei. Prior to karyogamy, the chromosomes are replicated and
111 this comprise each two chromatids and meiosis is initiated by pairing of homologous
112 chromosomes. In meiosis I, homologous chromosomes are segregated, followed by
113 chromatid separation in meiosis II. A subsequent mitosis results in the production of eight
114 ascospores contained within one ascus. The expected segregation of chromosomes
115 according to Mendelian law of segregation is shown - which for unpaired chromosomes is
116 4:0. (B) Schematic illustration of the distribution of supernumerary chromosomes present in
117 the parental strains exemplified for five of nine different crosses performed in this study.
118 Parental strain IPO323 contains eight supernumerary chromosomes (chr14-21, blue).
119 Parental strain IPO94269 contains six supernumerary chromosomes with homolog in IPO323
120 (chr14, chr15, chr16, chr17, chr19, and chr21 in orange). The IPO323 chromosomes chr18
121 and chr20 are not present in IPO94269. We used a set of IPO323 chromosome deletion
122 strains to generate an additional unpaired chromosome (as example IPO323Δchr14 X
123 IPO94269, IPO323Δchr15 X IPO94269, IPO323Δchr18 X IPO94269, IPO323Δchr20 X
124 IPO94269 to demonstrate the one to three unpaired chromosomes and the five to six paired
125 chromosomes present in the different crosses). Orange and blue indicate chromosomes that
126 are shared between both strains. Checkered orange and checkered blue indicate
127 chromosomes that are unique to one parent and therefore unpaired in the zygote.

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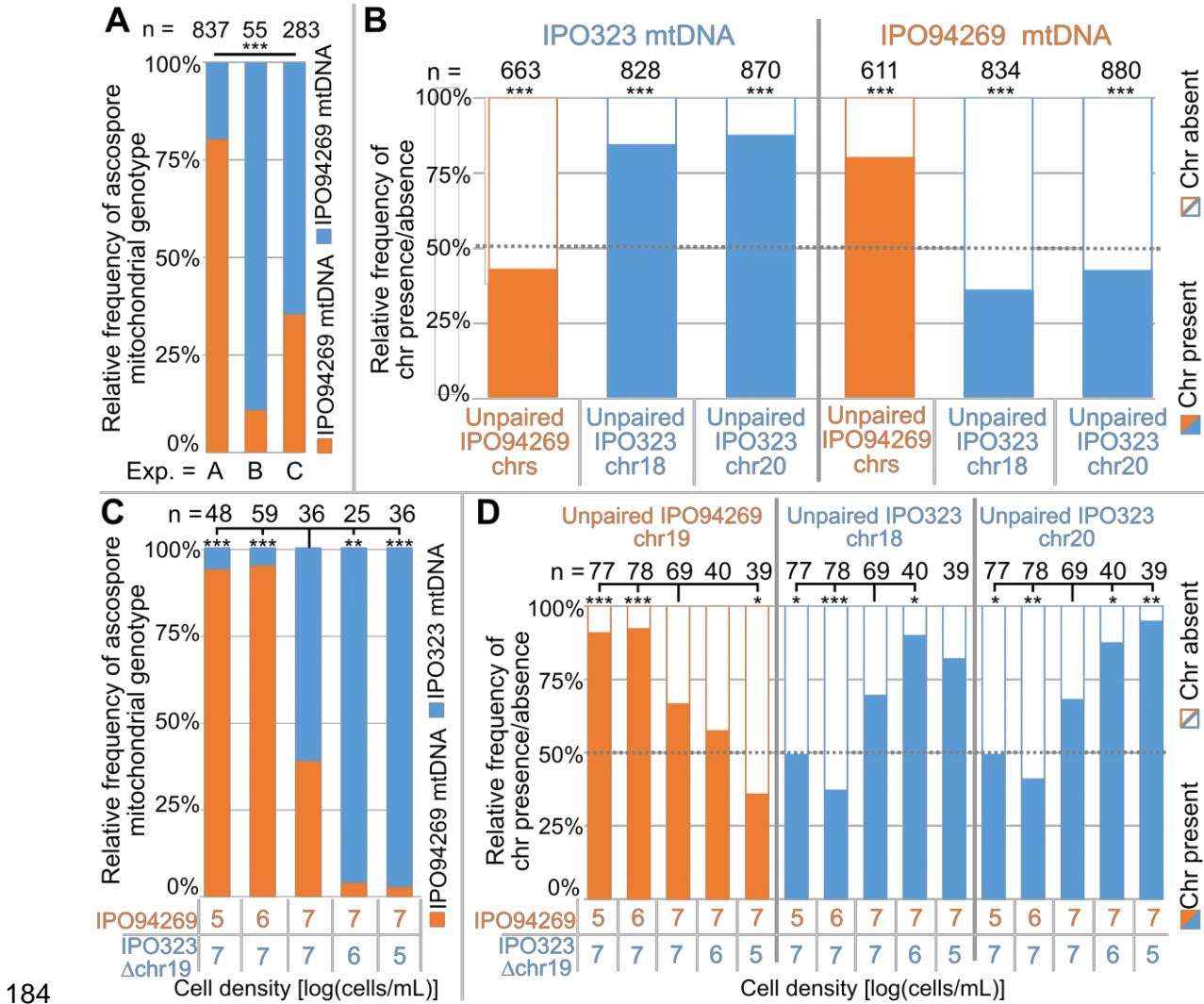
130 **Results**

131 **Unpaired supernumerary chromosomes show drive correlated with mitochondrial**
132 **transmission.** To test the transmission of supernumerary chromosomes during meiosis we
133 used the reference strain IPO323 (mating type *mat1-1*) and eight isogenic chromosome
134 deletion strains (IPO323 Δ chr14-21, mating type *mat1-1*) generated in a previous study
135 (Habig *et al.*, 2017). Each of the chromosome deletion strains differs in the absence of one
136 supernumerary chromosome, thereby allowing us to compare the transmission of individual
137 chromosomes in a paired and an unpaired state. We crossed these strains, *in planta*, with
138 another *Z. tritici* isolate: IPO94269 (*mat1-2*) (Figure 1B) in three separate experiments (A, B
139 and C) and used a combination of PCR assays, electrophoretic karyotyping and whole
140 genome sequencing to assess the segregation of chromosomes during meiosis. IPO94269
141 contains six supernumerary chromosomes homologous to the IPO323 chromosomes 14, 15,
142 16, 17, 19, and 21 (Figure S1)(Goodwin *et al.*, 2011). The experiments included a total of 39
143 crosses of IPO323/IPO323 chromosome deletion strains with IPO94269 resulting in different
144 complements of paired and unpaired supernumerary chromosomes in the diploid zygote
145 (Table 1, Table S1). We hypothesized that the inheritance of the unpaired supernumerary
146 chromosomes could be linked to the female or male role of the parental strain. Sexual mating
147 of heterothallic fungi of the genus *Zymoseptoria* involve a female partner that produces a
148 sexual structure called the ascogonium. The ascogonium receives the spermatium with the
149 male nucleus from the fertilizing male partner through a particular structure called the
150 trichogyne (Crous, 1998) (Figure 1A). Importantly, the same strain can act as either the
151 female or male partner (Kema *et al.*, 2018). Mitochondrial transmission is generally
152 associated with the female structure (Ni *et al.*, 2011). We used specific mitochondrial PCR
153 based markers to distinguish the mitochondrial genotype in the progeny and thereby
154 determine which of the two parental strains (in this case IPO323 or IPO94269) acted as a
155 female partner in a cross.

156

157 In all three experiments the ascospore progeny showed either the mitochondrial genotype of
158 IPO94269 or IPO323 therefore both strains can act as the female and male partner during
159 crosses (Table S2, S3, S4). However, transmission of the mitochondrial genotype varied
160 significantly between experiments whereby the relative frequency of the IPO94269
161 mitochondrial genotype in the progeny was 80%, 11% and 65% in experiment A, B and C,
162 respectively (Figure 2A). Interestingly, the transmission of unpaired chromosomes correlated
163 to the sexual role (female/male) of the parent from which the unpaired chromosome was
164 inherited. Unpaired chromosomes inherited from IPO94269 were underrepresented among
165 ascospores with the IPO323 parent mitochondrial genotype (Figure 2B). In contrast, the
166 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes 18 and 20, which were always inherited from the
167 parent IPO323, were highly overrepresented among ascospores with the IPO323
168 mitochondrial genotype (Figure 2B). For ascospores with the mitochondrial type of the
169 IPO94269 parent, this segregation distortion was reversed. Unpaired chromosomes inherited
170 from IPO94269 were highly overrepresented among ascospores with the mitochondrial
171 genotype of the IPO94269 parent. On the other hand, the unpaired supernumerary
172 chromosomes 18 and 20, always inherited from the IPO323 parent, were underrepresented
173 among ascospores with the mitochondrial genotype of the IPO94269 parent (Figure 2B).

174 Although the transmission of the supernumerary chromosomes was highly similar between
175 experiments A, B and C when the mitochondrial genotype was used to group the data
176 (Figure S2A), the overall transmission of the supernumerary chromosomes varied
177 considerable between the experiments due to the highly divergent mitochondrial genotype
178 inheritance in the three experiments (Figure S2B). However, we find a clear transmission
179 advantage for all supernumerary chromosomes, except chromosome 14, when pooling all
180 data from the three experiments (transmission to more than 50% of the progeny) (Figure
181 S2C). Based on these observations, we conclude that unpaired supernumerary
182 chromosomes show a chromosome drive mechanism, but this drive is restricted to
183 chromosomes inherited from the mitochondria-donating female parent.



185 **Figure 2.** Unpaired supernumerary chromosomes show a segregation advantage only when
 186 inherited from the female parent. (A) Relative frequencies of mitochondrial genotypes in
 187 random and randomized ascospores in experiments A, B and C. The mitochondrial
 188 transmission varied significantly between the three experiments. Statistical significance was
 189 inferred by Fisher's exact test ($p < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$). (B) Relative frequencies of the presence and
 190 absence of unpaired supernumerary chromosomes in all progeny ascospores pooled for
 191 experiments A, B and C according to the mitochondrial genotype of the ascospore. Orange
 192 and blue indicate unpaired chromosomes originating from IPO94269 or IPO323, respectively.
 193 For simplification the frequencies of unpaired chromosomes 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 21
 194 originating from IPO94269 are pooled, while data for both unpaired chromosome 18 and 20
 195 originating from IPO323 are depicted separately. Unpaired chromosomes inherited from the
 196 parent that provided the mitochondrial genotype (i.e. the female parent) are overrepresented
 197 in the progeny, while the same chromosomes when originating from the male parent are not.
 198 Statistical significance was inferred by a two-sided binomial test with a probability of $p=0.5$.
 199 (C) Cell density affects the sexual role during mating and thereby the transmission of the
 200 mitochondria. Relative frequencies of mitochondrial genotype in random and randomized
 201 ascospores isolated from crosses of IPO94269 and IPO323 Δ chr19 that were co-inoculated
 202 on wheat at different cell densities. The resulting progeny shows a correlation between cell-
 203 density and mitochondria transmission. Strains inoculated at lower density in general take
 204 the female role as observed by the mitochondrial transmission. Statistical significance was

205 inferred by a two-sided Fisher's exact test compared to the co-inoculation with equal cell
206 densities of both strains. d) The cell density affects the transmission of unpaired
207 chromosomes. Relative frequencies in all ascospores of the presence and absence of
208 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes 19, inherited from parent IPO94269 and unpaired
209 chromosomes 18 and 20, inherited from IPO323 Δchr19 are indicated according to the cell
210 density of the parental strains IPO94269 and IPO323Δchr19 at inoculation. Statistical
211 significance was inferred by a two-sided Fisher's exact test compared to the co-inoculation
212 with equal cell density of both strains. (* = $p < 0.05$, ** = $p < 0.005$, *** = $p < 0.0005$, see Table S5
213 for details on all statistical tests).

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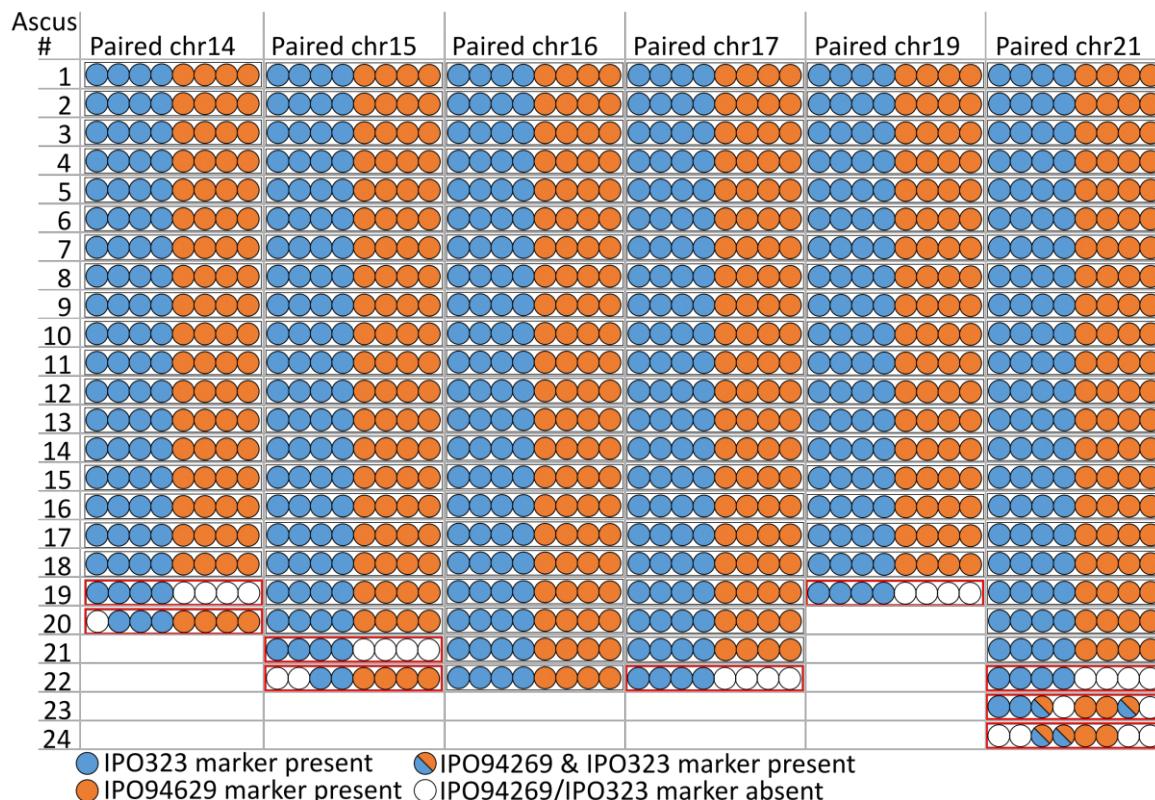
215 **Transmission of mitochondria is affected by the cell density.** We next asked which
216 factors determine the sexual role and thereby the mitochondrial inheritance in the sexual
217 crosses of *Z. tritici*. To this end, we considered the cell density of the two parental strains as
218 well as the relative timing of infection as determining factors of the sexual role. To test this,
219 we set up crosses between the strains IPO323Δchr19 and IPO94269 in which the cell
220 density varied from 10^5 cells to 10^7 cells/mL of each of the parental strains. Furthermore, we
221 set up crosses in which we varied the relative timing of the infection of the two parental
222 strains to each other by inoculating one parental strain 6 or 12 days later than the other
223 parental strain. To distinguish the female and male partner in the crosses we again assessed
224 the mitochondrial transmission frequencies. Interestingly, we find that the cell density of the
225 two parental strains strongly correlates with the transmission of the mitochondrial genotype.
226 Crosses with a lower cell density of IPO323Δchr19 resulted in a higher proportion of the
227 progeny carrying the IPO323 mitochondrial genotype (Figure 2C). Similarly, a lower cell
228 density of IPO94269 resulted in a higher proportion of the progeny carrying the IPO94269
229 mitochondrial genotype. This illustrates that a density-dependent mechanism affects the
230 sexual role of the *Z. tritici* strains during sexual mating.

231 Variation in the sexual role in turn affected the transmission of unpaired supernumerary
232 chromosomes. The unpaired chromosome 19 inherited from the parent IPO94269 increased
233 in frequency in the meiotic progeny with increasing frequency of the IPO94269 mitochondrial
234 genotype. Unpaired chromosome 18 and chromosome 20 inherited from the parent
235 IPO323Δchr19 increased in frequency in the meiotic progeny with an increase in frequency

236 of the IPO323 mitochondrial genotype (Figure 2D). Moreover, we find that the relative timing
237 of the infection of the two strains affected the transmission of the *Z. tritici* strains. In crossing
238 experiments where one strain was inoculated with six or twelve days delay, the later-
239 inoculated strain more frequently exhibited the female role (Figure S2D). This could be either
240 due to the later inoculated strain having a growth disadvantage compared to the earlier
241 inoculated strain therefore producing a lower density of cells. This scenario would be in
242 agreement with our observation that the parental strain with lower cell density develops the
243 female structure (Figure 2C). Alternatively, the timing of maturation of the male and female
244 structures might differ and possibly the female and male structures of different age could be
245 incompatible. However, a clear effect of cell density and timing is discernable and we
246 therefore conclude that environmental factors that affect the infection density and timing of
247 different *Z. tritici* strain also strongly affect the sexual role of strains and thereby the
248 transmission of supernumerary chromosomes.

249 **Paired supernumerary chromosomes show Mendelian segregation with frequent**
250 **losses.** In *Z. tritici*, as in other ascomycetes, one meiosis produces eight ascospores by an
251 additional mitosis following meiosis (Ni *et al.*, 2011; Wittenberg, Alexander H J *et al.*, 2009).
252 The outcome of single meiotic events can be analyzed by tetrad analyses whereby the eight
253 ascospores of a tetrad - in ascomycetes an ascus - are isolated and genotyped. We used
254 tetrad analyses to address how paired supernumerary chromosomes segregate during
255 meiosis. For a total of 24 separate asci, we verified that all eight ascospores originated from
256 the same ascus and were the products of a single meiosis using six segregating markers
257 located on the essential chromosomes (Table 2). With these 24 asci we could identify
258 segregation patterns and furthermore eliminate post-meiotic effects on the observed
259 chromosomal frequencies. Each tetrad allowed the analysis of the segregation pattern for
260 both unpaired and paired chromosomes. First, we focused on the segregation of paired
261 chromosomes within these tetrad. In the 24 asci we could observe the transmission of paired
262 accessory chromosomes in 129 instances. We could discern the segregation of each paired
263 supernumerary chromosome using specific segregating markers for each of the

264 supernumerary chromosomes from both parental strains. In general, the paired
265 supernumerary chromosomes showed Mendelian segregation (Figure 3). Of the 129
266 instances of supernumerary chromosome pairing, 120 (93%) showed Mendelian segregation
267 with the expected 4:4 ratio (Figure 3, black outline) and only nine instances (7%) showed a
268 deviation from the 4:4 ratio (Figure 3, red outline). In no instances did the number of
269 ascospores with a segregating marker for a paired supernumerary chromosome exceed the
270 four ascospores predicted by Mendelian segregation. In two of the nine instances however,
271 we found ascospores with two copies of supernumerary chromosome 21, representing one
272 copy from IPO323 and another from IPO94269. Whole genome sequencing validated the
273 presence of two copies of chromosome 21 in the genomes of these ascospores. In the two
274 additional ascospores of the tetrad analysis the chromosome 21 was missing (Figure S3A-C)
275 suggesting that the deviations from non-Mendelian segregation are due to loss of
276 chromosomes, non-disjunction of sister chromatids, or non-disjunction of homologous
277 chromosomes during meiosis (Wittenberg, Alexander H J et al., 2009).



278 **Figure 3.** Paired supernumerary chromosomes show Mendelian segregation. Analysis of
279 segregation of paired supernumerary chromosomes in 24 complete tetrads. The
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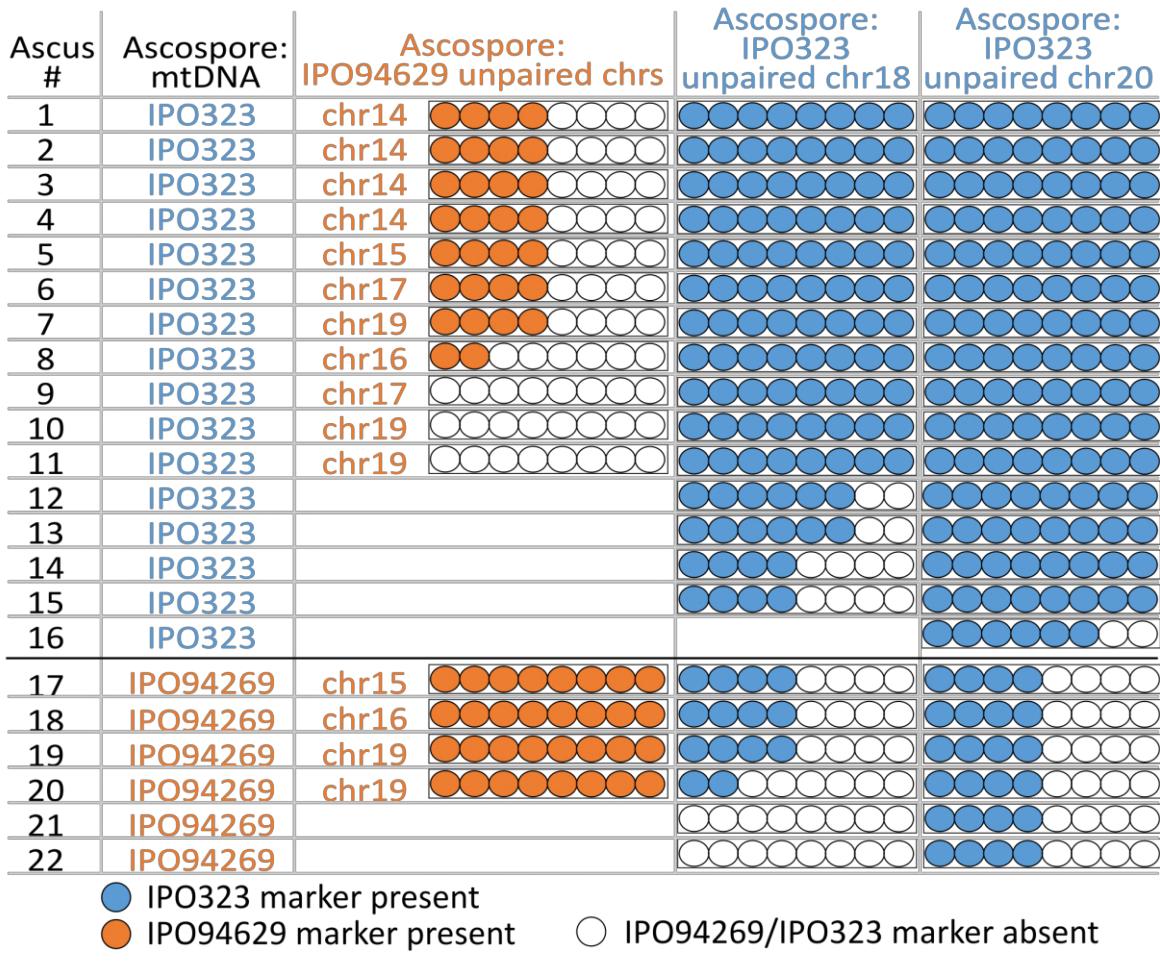
281 transmission of chromosomes 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 21 with homologs in both parental
282 strains IPO94269 and IPO323 was detected using segregating markers for chromosomes
283 inherited from the parental strains IPO94269 (orange) and IPO323/IPO323 Δ chr14-21 (blue)
284 in the eight ascospores originating from 24 asc. In 120 of the 129 cases (black outline) we
285 observed a 4:4 ratio in the progeny. Note: for crosses/chromosome combinations where no
286 paired chromosome was present no ascus is shown, which reduces the number of shown
287 asc. from the 24 asc. that were analyzed in both Figure 3 and Figure 4.

288

289 We next extended the analysis of transmission fidelity to include all ascospores isolated in
290 experiments A, B and C to compare the rate of loss of paired supernumerary chromosomes.
291 We assessed the rate of chromosome loss from 10078 instances of paired supernumerary
292 chromosomes in isolated meiotic progenies. In 377 cases (3.7%) we found evidence for
293 supernumerary chromosome loss in the ascospores based on the absence of specific
294 chromosome markers (Table S6). Interestingly, the frequency of loss of paired
295 supernumerary chromosomes varies significantly between the individual chromosomes (χ^2 -
296 Test: exp. A: $p=1.96 \times 10^{-6}$, exp. B: $p=1.72 \times 10^{-9}$, exp. C: $p=4.18 \times 10^{-4}$) (Table S6) with
297 chromosome 16 showing the lowest rate of loss in all three experiments. The frequency of
298 chromosome loss, however, shows no correlation to particular chromosome characteristics
299 like chromosome size or the extent of homology between the chromosomes from IPO323
300 and IPO94269 (Figure S1B).

301 **Unpaired supernumerary chromosomes inherited from the female show meiotic drive.**
302 Using the same 24 complete tetrads we dissected the fate of unpaired chromosomes during
303 single meiotic events. Each tetrad contained between one to three unpaired chromosomes
304 with chromosome 18 and 20 being solely inherited from IPO323 and chromosome 14, 15, 16,
305 17, and 19 being solely inherited by the IPO94269 in crosses performed with the five IPO323
306 whole-chromosome-deletion strains. In contrast to paired supernumerary chromosomes,
307 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes show distinct segregation distortion (Figure 4) that
308 correlates with mitochondrial transmission; unpaired chromosomes originating from the
309 female parent show a strong meiotic chromosome drive. On the other hand, unpaired

310 chromosomes originating from the male parent (i.e. the parent that did not provide the
311 mitochondria) show Mendelian segregation and are more frequently lost.



312
313 **Figure 4.** Unpaired supernumerary chromosome show meiotic drive if inherited from the
314 female parent. Analysis of segregation of unpaired supernumerary chromosomes in 24
315 complete tetrads according to the mitochondrial genotype. The transmission of
316 chromosomes unique to one of the parental strains and the mitochondrial genotype was
317 detected using chromosomal or mitochondrial markers originating from IPO94269 (orange)
318 and IPO323 (blue) in eight ascospores derived from 24 ascii. When IPO323 was the female
319 parent (i.e. the ascospores inherited the mitochondrial genotype of the IPO323 parent)
320 unpaired chromosomes 18 and 20 originating from IPO323 show a strong chromosome drive
321 and are overrepresented in the ascospores. When IPO94269 was the female parent
322 unpaired chromosomes originating from IPO94269 show a strong chromosome drive.
323 Unpaired chromosomes originating from the male parent (i.e. the one not donating the
324 mitochondrial genotype) show Mendelian segregation or are lost. Note: for
325 crosses/chromosome combinations where no unpaired chromosome was present no ascus
326 is shown, which reduces the number of shown ascii from the 24 ascii that were analyzed in
327 both Figure 3 and Figure 4.

328

329

330 In the 24 tetrads dissected here, all eight ascospores originating from the same ascus
331 showed the same mitochondrial genotype (Table S3-S4) confirming previous results on the
332 uniparental inheritance of mitochondria in *Z. tritici* (Kema *et al.*, 2018). Isolated ascospores
333 had the mitochondrial genotype of the parent IPO323 in 18 asci, while the ascospores of the
334 remaining six asci showed the IPO94269 genotype, confirming that both parental strains,
335 IPO323 and IPO94269, can act as the female parent during sexual mating with no significant
336 difference between the two strains (two sided binomial ($p=0.5$), $p=0.25$) (Kema *et al.*, 2018).
337 In 18 asci that showed the IPO323 mitochondrial genotype, supernumerary chromosomes 18
338 and 20, inherited from IPO323 (the female), were unpaired in 15 and 16 meioses,
339 respectively (Figure 4). Chromosome 18 was present in all eight ascospores in 11 of the 15
340 asci (ascus #1-11) instead of the expected four ascospores. In two asci, the chromosome
341 was present in six ascospores (ascus #12-13). Chromosome 20 was present in all eight
342 ascospores (ascus #1-15) in 15 of the 16 asci and in one ascus in six ascospores (ascus
343 #16). This transmission pattern was reversed for the six asci exhibiting the IPO94269
344 mitochondrial genotype (Figure 4) Here, the female-inherited unpaired chromosomes from
345 IPO94269 show meiotic drive while the male-inherited unpaired chromosomes from IPO323
346 show Mendelian segregation or were lost (Figure 4). We validated our PCR-karyotyping by
347 sequencing the genomes of 16 ascospore isolates originating from two asci and mapped the
348 resulting reads to the reference genome of IPO323. For all 16 ascospores we find similar
349 coverage for all essential chromosomes and supernumerary chromosomes (Figure S3) and
350 all 16 ascospores show similar coverage for chromosome 18 and 20 verifying the
351 transmission of these chromosomes to the eight ascospores of each ascus instead of the
352 expected four ascospores.
353 The meiotic drive of the unpaired supernumerary chromosome could imply an additional
354 amplification step that only affects unpaired chromosomes derived from the female parent.
355 We found however that in one cross, this additional amplification of an unpaired chromosome
356 was incomplete: In the ascus A08-1, unpaired chromosome 18 was transmitted to all eight
357 ascospores, but four of the ascospores contained only a partial chromosome 18, (Figure

358 S3F). The partial chromosomes 18 showed Mendelian segregation, indicating that the
359 additional amplification step of the unpaired chromosome 18 occurred prior to the first
360 meiotic division, which in this rare case was incomplete.

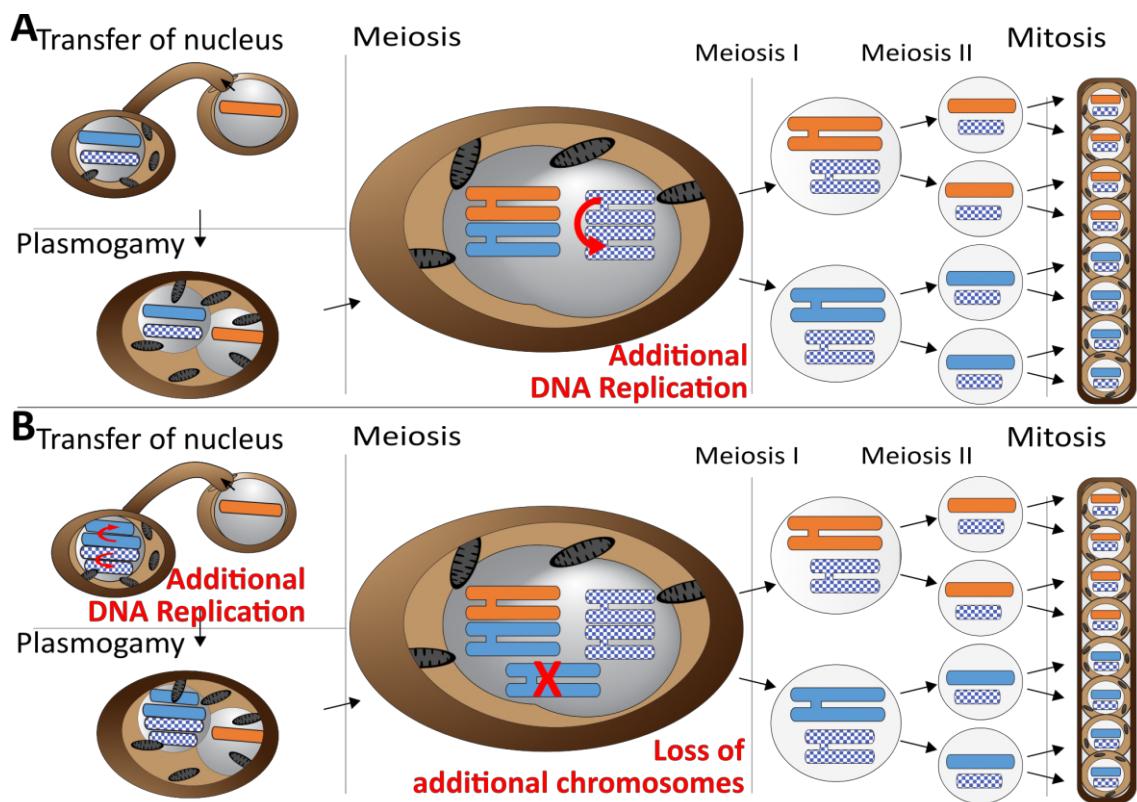
361

362 **Discussion**

363 The fate of supernumerary chromosomes during meiosis is poorly understood despite the
364 widespread occurrence of this type of chromosome in different taxa. Here, we show that
365 unpaired chromosomes of the fungal plant pathogen *Z. tritici* are transmitted and amplified by
366 a meiotic drive which acts only on chromosomes inherited from the female parent (Figure
367 5A). Crossing experiments of haploid individuals of opposite mating types document this as:
368 i) unpaired supernumerary chromosomes show chromosome drive only when inherited from
369 the female parent; ii) unpaired supernumerary chromosomes show Mendelian segregation
370 with frequent losses when inherited from the male parent; and iii) paired supernumerary
371 chromosomes show Mendelian segregation, but with frequent losses during meiosis.

372 Our data strongly suggest that this chromosome drive does not result from pre- or post-
373 meiotic mechanisms but occurs during meiosis. First of all, we exclude the occurrence of a
374 post-meiotic chromosome drive, e.g. killing of ascospores that did not contain the drive
375 element, as this would make it impossible to isolate complete tetrads, which we were able to.
376 Second, we consider any pre-meiotic mechanisms that could affect the number of accessory
377 chromosomes unlikely. These mechanisms could either be a premeiotic amplification (Figure
378 5B) or preferential segregation of the supernumerary chromosomes. Both mechanism would
379 affect all supernumerary chromosomes in the haploid nucleus prior to karyogamy, because
380 at this stage it not defined which of the supernumerary chromosomes will become paired and
381 which will be unpaired. Therefore, these mechanisms should always affect all supernumerary
382 chromosomes irrespective of whether they will become paired or unpaired after karyogamy.
383 If such a pre-meiotic amplification or preferential segregation would occur, the diploid zygote
384 resulting after karyogamy would be trisomic for all paired supernumerary chromosomes and

385 disomic for the unpaired chromosomes. This trisomie would result in a non-Mendelian
386 inheritance of paired supernumerary chromosomes. We did however, observe Mendelian
387 segregation for the paired supernumerary chromosomes and importantly did not find any
388 indication of additional copies of paired supernumerary chromosomes in the tetrad analysis.
389 This segregation pattern would only be possible if the additional copies of the female-
390 inherited paired supernumerary chromosomes would be lost during meiosis (Figure 5B).



391

392 **Figure 5.** Meiotic chromosome drive in *Z. tritici*. Schematic illustration depicting two possible
393 mechanisms for the observed meiotic chromosome drive of female derived unpaired
394 supernumerary chromosomes. Light blue/orange: paired supernumerary chromosome.
395 Checkered blue: unpaired supernumerary chromosome. (A) Chromosome drive occurring
396 during meiosis, only those unpaired supernumerary chromosomes in the zygote that
397 originated from the female parent are subject to an additional round of DNA replication,
398 allowing for pairing of the two copies of the chromosome. (B) Alternative scenario under
399 which the chromosome drive occurs prior to meiosis. All supernumerary chromosomes are
400 amplified to double the copy number during development of the female ascogonium. The
401 supernumerary chromosomes are paired in the zygote during meiosis. Only additional copies
402 of the supernumerary chromosomes inherited from the female are lost while the
403 supernumerary chromosomes inherited from the male are unaffected.

404

405 Tightly regulated chromosome loss has been described for sex chromosomes in several
406 insect species during embryonic development, where maternal and paternal imprinting
407 determine the elimination of chromosomes (Sánchez, 2014). For *Z. tritici*, a similar
408 mechanism would imply that all additional copies of all female supernumerary chromosomes
409 would be eliminated during meiosis - except for the two copies of the female-inherited
410 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes - while male supernumerary chromosomes would be
411 unaffected. We consider this mechanism to be unlikely. In general, any pre-meiotic
412 mechanism should affect both unpaired and paired chromosomes and therefore would
413 require a counteracting mechanism after karyogamy that results in the Mendelian
414 Segregation pattern observed in the paired supernumerary chromosomes. Instead, we
415 propose that an additional amplification affecting only female-inherited supernumerary
416 chromosomes could be a plausible scenario explaining the observed meiotic drive of
417 supernumerary chromosomes in *Z. tritici* during sexual mating. The additional amplification of
418 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes would require an additional initiation of DNA-
419 replication restricted to unpaired chromosomes and therefore a feedback between pairing of
420 homologous chromosomes and DNA replication. Although DNA-replication is a highly
421 regulated process and any feedback from chromosome pairing is currently unknown, we
422 suggest that this model is the most likely to explain the observed pattern. Feedback between
423 meiotic S-phase and the pairing of homologous chromosomes has been proposed based on
424 the effects of interchromosomal interaction proteins like Spo11 - a key mediator of
425 interhomolog interactions that is responsible for the initiation of meiotic recombination - on
426 the progression of meiotic DNA replication (Cha et al., 2000). Although Spo11 cannot explain
427 the additional amplification of unpaired chromosomes it highlights a potential for a feedback
428 between pairing of homologues and DNA-replication. In addition, pairing of homologous
429 chromosomes or sequences has also been described for somatic cells in *Saccharomyces*
430 *cerevisiae*, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* and *Drosophila melanogaster* highlighting the
431 possible existence of homologues pairing prior to DNA-replication (Burgess et al., 1999;
432 Dernburg et al., 1996; Joyce et al., 2013; Scherthan et al., 1994; Weiner and Kleckner,

433 1994). We therefore consider it possible that meiosis in *Z. tritici* involves an additional
434 feedback mechanism that induces an additional round of amplification based on the unpaired
435 chromosome status.

436 A meiotic chromosome drive can explain the continued maintenance of supernumerary
437 chromosomes in *Z. tritici* despite the negative effects on fitness during host infection (Habig
438 *et al.*, 2017). However, it is unclear how this type of chromosome drive can act
439 simultaneously on several separate chromosomes. In our experiments, we found that seven
440 of the eight supernumerary chromosomes showed drive, and we hypothesize that the drive
441 mechanism (i.e., the additional amplification of the unpaired female supernumerary
442 chromosomes) depends on a general characteristic of the supernumerary chromosomes.

443 Interestingly, we observed the meiotic drive of unpaired accessory chromosomes for 7 of the
444 8 accessory chromosomes of the reference isolate IPO323. Chr14 for which no such
445 transmission advantage was observed, is the largest of the accessory chromosomes (773
446 kb) in IPO323 (Goodwin *et al.*, 2011). A large insertion spanning approx. 400 kb in chr14
447 shows presence/absence polymorphism in *Z. tritici* resulting in isolates that contain a much
448 smaller chr14 (Croll *et al.*, 2013). Interestingly the smaller chr14 showed a transmission
449 advantage when present in one the parental strains in a previous study (Croll *et al.*, 2013),
450 which could point to chromosome size as a factor influencing the observed drive.

451 Currently, we cannot explain why the hypothesized additional amplification of the
452 supernumerary chromosome is restricted to unpaired chromosomes inherited from the
453 female parent. In ascomycetes, plasmogamy and karyogamy are separated by a dikaryon
454 stage, in which the female and male nuclei are separate (Ni *et al.*, 2011). Consequently,
455 there is a temporal separation of the processes determining uniparental inheritance of the
456 mitochondria, nuclear inheritance, and the proposed additional amplification of the unpaired
457 supernumerary chromosomes. Female chromosome drive in the fungus would depend on a
458 female-derived signal that persists through plasmogamy to karyogamy when DNA

459 amplification takes place. We currently do not know the nature of this signal, but speculate
460 that it could be mediated by epigenetic mechanisms similar to genomic imprinting.

461 In this study, we have shown that supernumerary chromosomes of *Z. tritici* are subjected to a
462 meiotic drive, which is probably dependent on an additional meiotic amplification of unpaired
463 chromosomes. This mechanism may explain the continued maintenance of supernumerary
464 chromosomes in *Z. tritici* over long evolutionary times in spite of their frequent loss during
465 mitosis and their fitness cost during plant infection and asexual propagation.

466

467 **Materials and Methods**

468 **Fungal and plant material.** The Dutch isolates IPO323 and IPO94269 are available from
469 the Westerdijk Institute (Utrecht, The Netherlands) with the accession numbers CBS115943
470 and CBS115941. *Triticum aestivum* cultivar Obelisk used for the *in planta* fungal mating was
471 obtained from Wiersum Plantbreeding BV (Winschoten, The Netherlands). Sexual crosses
472 were conducted as described in (Kema *et al.*, 1996; Kema *et al.*, 2018).

473 **Fungal growth conditions.** IPO94269 was maintained in liquid yeast glucose (YG) broth (30
474 g/L glucose and 10 g/L yeast extract) at 15°C on an orbital shaker. Due to their tendency to
475 form hyphal lumps in liquid media IPO323 and IPO323-derived whole chromosome deletion
476 strains and all progeny were maintained on solid YMS (4 g/L yeast extract, 4 g/L malt extract,
477 4 g/L sucrose, and 20 g/L agar) at 18°C. For infection cells were washed once and diluted in
478 H₂O including 0.05% Tween20 to the indicated cell density.

479 **Sexual mating of *Z. tritici* strains.** Sexual crosses were performed as previously described
480 in (Kema *et al.*, 1996; Kema *et al.*, 2018). In short: 11-14 day old wheat plants were infected
481 by spraying until droplets run-off the leaf surface. Plants were kept at 100% humidity for 48
482 hours before placing them for 12 hours at 90% humidity and 16 hours light days. At day 14
483 post infection all except the first leaf of each plants were removed, the plants transferred to
484 buckets with fertilized soil, and the buckets put into coarse netting, placed outside and

485 regularly watered. Seven to eleven weeks after infection infected leaves were harvested
486 weekly and placed in tap water over night at room temperature. The infected leaves were
487 placed on wet filter paper occupying ¼ of a Petri dish lid, excessive water removed and a
488 Petri dish containing 2% water agar (WA) was placed on top to collect the forcefully ejected
489 ascospores. Every 10 min for a total of 80 min the water agar containing petri dish was
490 rotated by 45° to collect the ejected ascospores. The WA plates were incubated for 18-24h at
491 room temperature and ascospores were counted by visual inspection using a dissecting
492 stereo microscope. A total of 39 independent crosses were conducted for this study. Table 1
493 provides a summary of the crosses performed and the verified progeny obtained within these
494 crosses.

495

496 **Table 1.** Summary of crosses and progeny generated in this study

#	Parental strain 1	Parental strain 2	Unpaired chr from IPO94269	Unpaired chr from IPO323	Condition	Ascospores (random*/all)			Verified tetrads (mtlPO323/mltPO94269)			
						Exp A	Exp B	Exp C	Exp A	Exp B	Exp C	
1	IPO323	IPO94269	-	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	12/96	51/88	-	2/2	0	
2	IPO323 Δchr14	IPO94269	chr14	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	8/64	38/72	-	3/0	1/0	
3	IPO323 Δchr21	IPO94269	chr21	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	89/89	4/32	52/78	-	0	0	
4	IPO323 Δchr16	IPO94269	chr16	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	6/48	38/115	-	1/0	0/1	
5	IPO323 Δchr17	IPO94269	chr17	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	2/16	15/59	-	0	2/0	
5	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	9/72	38/77	-	3/1	0/1	
7	IPO323 Δchr20	IPO94269	-	chr18	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	4/32	19/31	-	2/0	0	
8	IPO323 Δchr18	IPO94269	-	chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	4/32	30/67	-	1/0	2/0	
9	IPO323 Δchr15	IPO94269	chr15	chr18, chr20	Co-inoculation 10 ⁷ cells/mL	96/96	6/48	14/54	-	1/0	0/1	
10	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO323 10 ⁶ cells/mL	-	-	25/42	-	-	0	
11	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO323 10 ⁵ cells/mL	-	-	38/43	-	-	0	
12	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO323 10 ⁴ cells/mL	-	-	2/16	-	-	0	
13	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO94269 +6dpi	-	-	40/46	-	-	0	
14	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO94269 +12dpi	-	-	11/11	-	-	0	
15	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO94269 10 ⁶ cells/mL	-	-	60/84	-	-	0	
16	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO94269 10 ⁵ cells/mL	-	-	48/80	-	-	0	
17	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO94269 10 ⁴ cells/mL	-	-	28/28	-	-	0	
18	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO323 +6dpi	-	-	5/29	-	-	0	
19	IPO323 Δchr19	IPO94269	chr19	chr18, chr20	IPO323 +12dpi	-	-	51/71	-	-	1/0	
						Σ	761/761	55/440	603/1091	-	13/3	5/3

497 * Includes random and randomized ascospores. Randomized ascospores were generated by
498 randomly selecting one ascospore per tetrad.

499

500 **Ascospore isolation and ascus verification**

501 Ascospores were isolated from the WA 18-28h after ejection from the ascus using a
502 dissecting stereo microscope and a sterile syringe needle, placed onto YMS plates and
503 grown for 6-7 days at 18°C. One colony per isolated ascospore was streaked out on YMS
504 plates and grown again for 6-7 days at 18°C. Single colonies were isolated and used for all

505 further characterisation. To isolate all ascospore from an ascus eight germinated ascospores
506 that were spatially separate on the WA were considered to be ejected from one ascus. All
507 eight ascospores were isolated.

508 To verify that the eight ascospores originated from the same ascus, the following six
509 segregating markers located on the essential chromosomes were used: *mat1-1/mat1-2*
510 (Waalwijk *et al.*, 2002), 11O21, 04L20, caa-0002, ggc-001 and ac-0001 (Goodwin *et al.*,
511 2007) (Table 2).

512 **Table 2.** Overview of six segregating markers located on the essential chromosomes.

Marker	Primer1	Primer 2	Product size in IPO323 [bp]	Product size in IPO94269 [bp]
<i>mat1-1/mat1-2</i>	MAT1-1F, MAT1-1R	MAT1-2F, MAT1-2R	340	660
11O21	11O21F	11O21R	205	199
04L20	04L20F	04L20R	192	199
caa-0002	2996	2997	412	396
ggc-001	2998	2999	254	234
ac-0001	3000	3001	187	173

513
514 Only when i) all eight ascospores from one putative ascus showed a 4:4 ratio based on the
515 amplification of these markers AND ii) exactly two ascospores were twins, we considered the
516 ascospores to be derived from one ascus. As an internal PCR control an amplification of the
517 *gapdh* (primer: 879, 880) was used to verify negative PCR results.

518 In experiment B a total of 440 ascospores were isolated from 55 asci, and of these, 128
519 ascospores from 16 asci met the criteria and were considered to be derived from within one
520 ascus. In experiment C a total of 504 ascospores were isolated from a total of 63 asci, and of
521 these, 64 of eight asci met these criteria. The mitochondrial genotype was determined using
522 the primers Mt-SSR-F and Mt-SSR-R (Kema *et al.*, 2018).

523 Ascospores were karyotyped for the presence of supernumerary chromosomes using primer
524 pairs specifically designed to test for the presence of chromosomes 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19,
525 20, and 21 derived from IPO323 and from IPO94269 (Table S1, Figure S4) using standard
526 conditions (Habig *et al.*, 2017). For unpaired chromosomes that were overrepresented in the
527 ascospores of experiment B and C, we validated their presence by two additional PCRs that
528 amplify a sequence in the right subtelomeric and left subtelomeric regions of the
529 chromosome (Table S1, Figure S4). For paired supernumerary chromosomes, we designed
530 the primers to reveal a size difference in the amplification products of IPO323-derived and
531 IPO94269-derived chromosomes (Table S1, Figure S4). In addition, verification of the
532 karyotype was conducted using a pulsed-field gel electrophoresis system as described
533 previously (Habig *et al.*, 2017) (Figure S5).

534 **Statistical analysis.** All statistical analyses were conducted in R (version R3.4.1) (*R Core*
535 *Team*, 2015) using the suite R Studio (version 1.0.143) (*RStudio Team*, 2015). Two-sided
536 Fisher's exact tests were performed at a confidence level of 0.95. Due to the codependency
537 of mitochondrial data of ascospores isolated from a potential or verified ascus, due to the fact
538 that all ascospores of an ascus will receive the same mitochondrial genotype, one ascospore
539 from each potential and verified ascus was randomly selected and included in the statistical
540 analysis of the mitochondrial genotype transmission. For large datasets the Fisher's exact
541 test was replaced by the Pearson's Chi-squared test. Two-sided binomial tests were
542 performed with a hypothesized probability of $p=0.5$ at a confidence level of 0.95 on all
543 statistical analysis on a deviation of an assumed Mendelian segregation of unpaired
544 supernumerary chromosomes which would be predicted to be present in 50% of the progeny.
545 All statistical analysis on transmission of supernumerary chromosomes included all randomly
546 selected ascospores as well as all ascospores selected from potential and verified asci.

547 **Genome sequencing.** For sequencing, DNA of IPO94269 and 16 ascospores was isolated
548 using a phenol-chloroform extraction protocol as described previously (Sambrook and
549 Russell, 2001). Library preparation and sequencing using a Pacific Biosciences Sequel for

550 IPO94269 and Illumina HiSeq3000 machine for 16 ascospore-derived colonies were
551 performed at the Max Planck Genome Centre, Cologne, Germany. Reads have been
552 deposited in the Sequence Read Archive and are available under the BioProject
553 PRJNA438050. Assembly of the IPO94269 genome was conducted at the Max Planck
554 Genome Center, Cologne using the software suite HGAP 4 (*Chin et al., 2016*) from Pacific
555 Biosciences using the default settings. Synteny analysis was conducted with SyMAP version
556 4.2 (*Soderlund et al., 2006; Soderlund et al., 2011*) (Figure S5). Illumina reads of the
557 ascospores were filtered and mapped to the reference genome of IPO323 (*Goodwin et al.,*
558 *2011*) as previously described (*Habig et al., 2017*) in which the transposable elements were
559 masked (*Grandaubert et al., 2015*).

560 **Reference mapping of Illumina reads.** Paired-end reads of 150 bp were mapped directly to
561 the genome of the reference isolate IPO323 (*Goodwin et al., 2011*). Processing of the reads
562 were carried out using the below listed pipeline:

563 1) Quality filtering using Trimmomatic V0.30 (*Bolger et al., 2014*)

564 `java -jar /trimmomatic-0.30.jar PE -phred33 R1.fastq R2.fastq R1_paired.fastq
565 R1_unpaired.fastq R2_paired.fastq R2_unpaired.fastq HEADCROP:2 CROP:149
566 LEADING:3 TRAILING:3 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:15 MINLEN:50`

567 <http://www.usadellab.org/cms/?page=trimmomatic>

568 2) Mapping to IPO323 reference genome using Bowtie 2 version 2.1.0 (*Langmead and*
569 *Salzberg, 2012*)

570 `bowtie2 -p 6 -q -x IPO323_reference -1 R1_paired.fastq -2 R2_paired.fastq -S R.sam`

571 <http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/bowtie2/index.shtml>

572 3) Converting to BAM and sorting using Picard 1.141

573 `java -jar /picard.jar SortSam INPUT=R.sam OUTPUT=R.bam SORT_ORDER=coordinate`

574 <http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard>

575

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728

729 **Acknowledgments**

730 The authors thank Michael Freitag and members of the Environmental Genomics group for
731 helpful discussions and Diethard Tautz for comments to a previous version of this
732 manuscript. The study was funded by a personal grant to EHS from the State of Schleswig
733 Holstein and the Max Planck Society. The funders had no role in study design, data
734 collection and interpretation, or the decision to submit the work for publication.

735

736 **Competing interests**

737 The authors declare no competing interests.

738

739 **Author contributions**

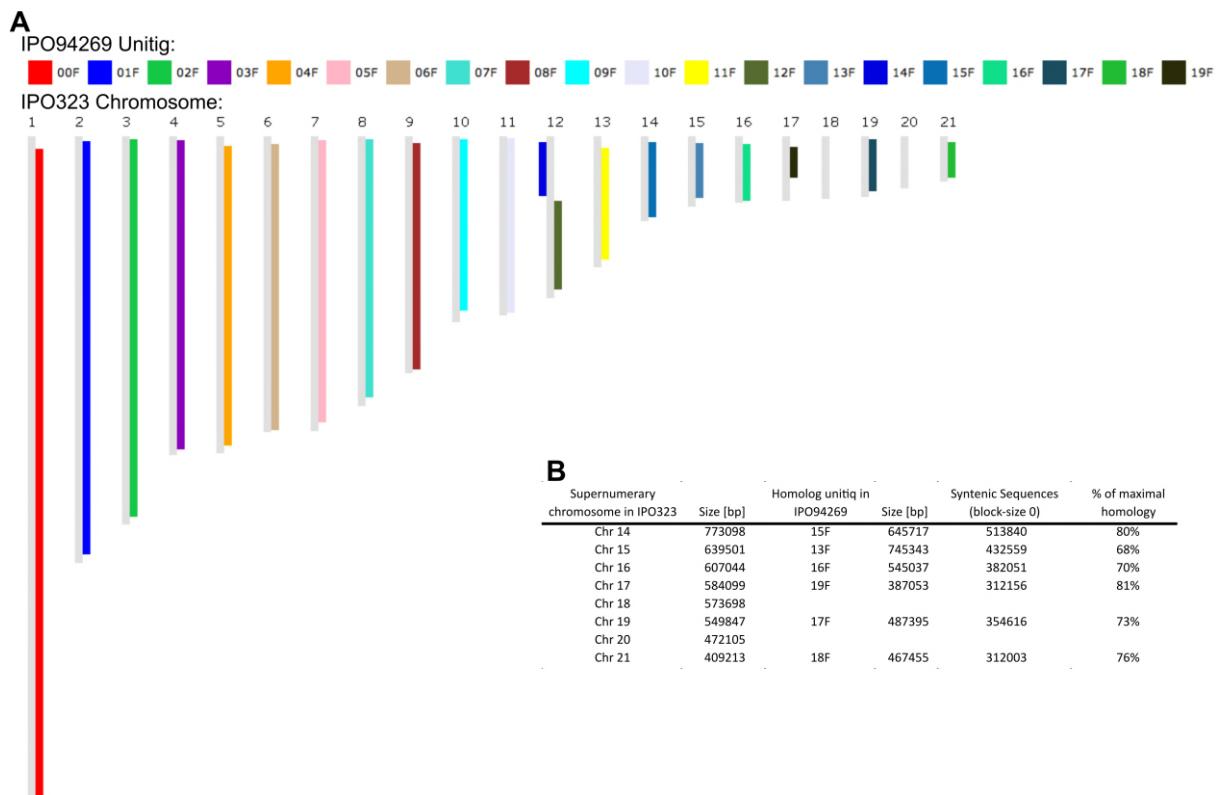
740 MH: Conceptualization, Investigation, Formal analysis, Visualization, Writing-original draft

741 GHJK: Conceptualization, Writing-review & editing, Supervision

742 EHS: Conceptualization, Writing-review & editing, Supervision, Project administration,

743 Funding acquisition

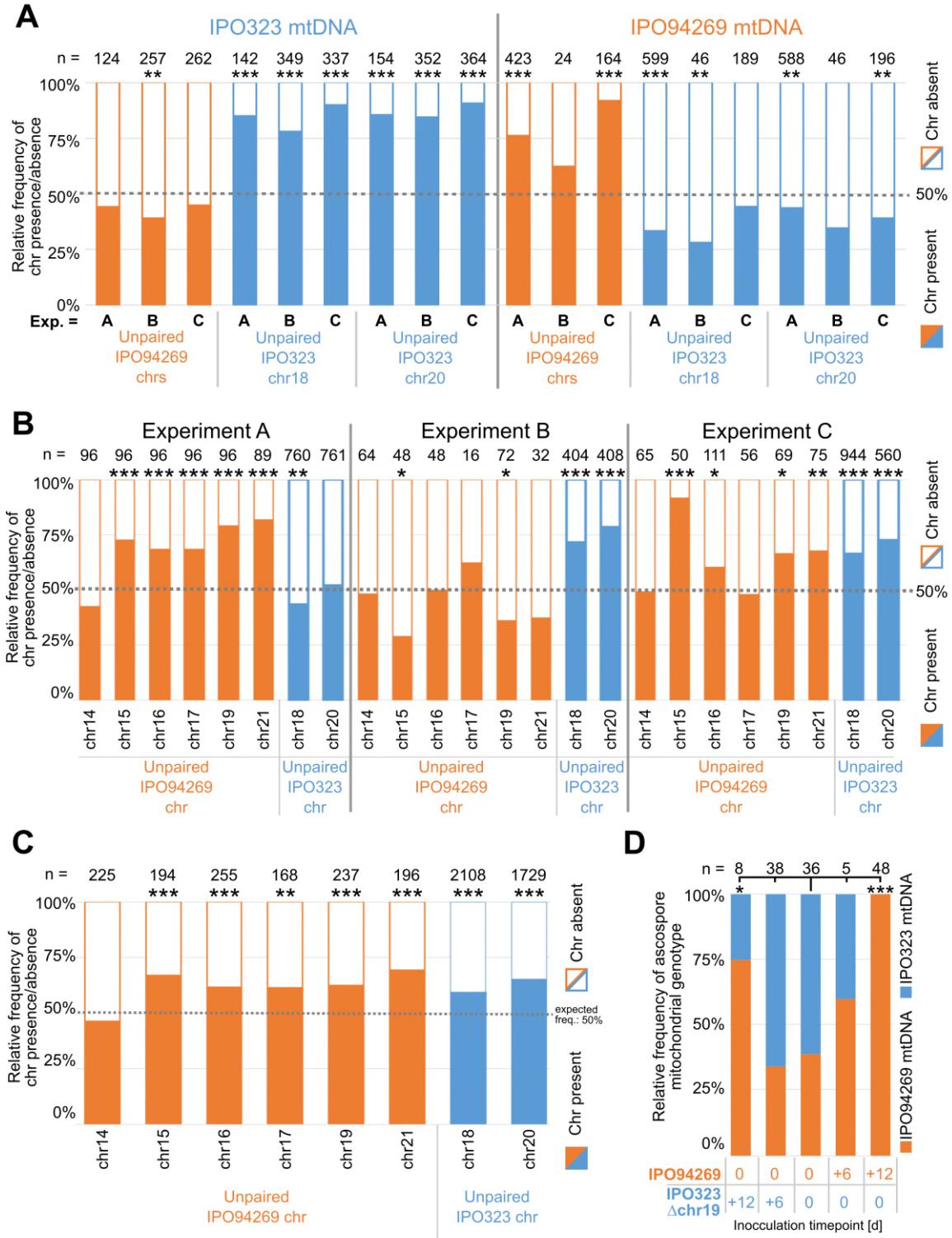
744 **Supplementary figures**



745

746 **Figure S1.** Synteny comparison of IPO94269 and IPO323. (A) Synteny blot for IPO94269
747 unitigs on IPO323 chromosomes. (B) Summary table of syntenic regions of IPO323 and
748 IPO94269.

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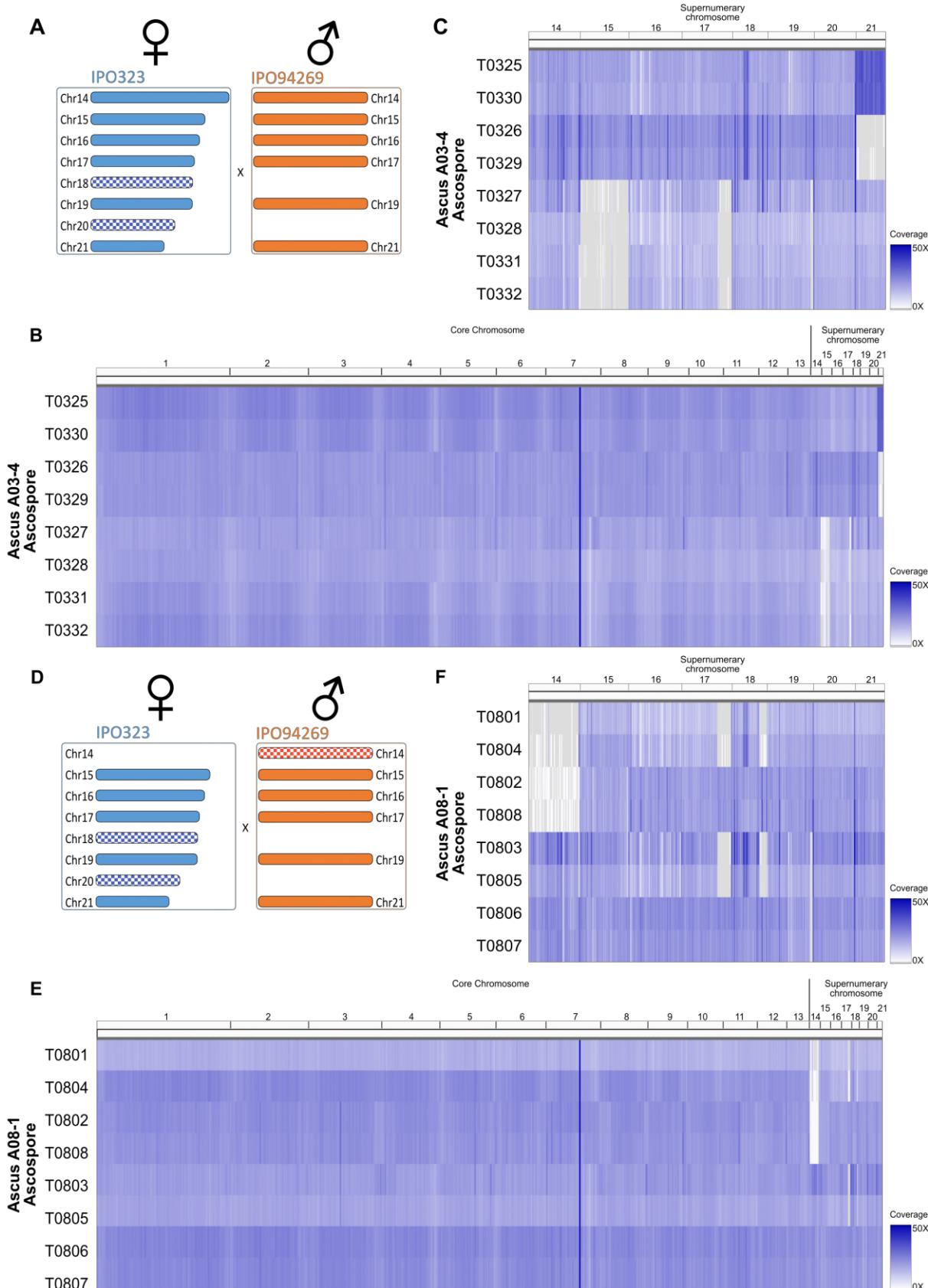


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Figure S2. Transmission of unpaired chromosomes and mitochondria. (A) Detailed presence/absence frequencies for all unpaired supernumerary chromosomes according to the mitochondrial genotype present in all ascospores. Data for the three experiments A, B and C are depicted separately. Statistical significance was inferred by a two-sided binomial test with a probability of $p=0.5$. (B) Detailed presence/absence frequencies for all unpaired supernumerary chromosome in experiment A, B and C, restricted to all co-inoculation crosses using 1×10^7 cells/mL cell density for both parental strains. Experiment A, B and C

758 differ in the observed transmission advantage for the chromosomes originating from the
759 parent IPO94269 (orange) or IPO323 (blue). Statistical significance was inferred by a two-
760 sided binomial test with a probability of $p=0.5$. (C) Presence/absence frequencies of all
761 unpaired supernumerary chromosomes pooled for all three experiments A, B and C,
762 restricted to all co-inoculation crosses using the $1*10^7$ cells/mL cell density for both parental
763 strains. All supernumerary chromosomes, with the exception of chromosome 14 show a
764 highly significant transmission advantage. Statistical significance was inferred by a two-sided
765 binomial test with a probability of $p=0.5$. (D) Varying the infection time points impact the
766 sexual role in crosses. Relative frequency of ascospore mitochondrial genotype is affected
767 by the relative timing of the infection of the two parental strains IPO94269 (orange) and
768 IPO323 Δ chr19. IPO94269 and IPO323 Δ chr19 were inoculated at either day 0, day +6 and
769 day +12 creating situations were one parental strains had already established an infection
770 when at day +6 and day +12 the other parental strains was inoculated on the same leaf.
771 Parental strains infecting relatively later will preferentially assume the female role. Statistical
772 significance was inferred by a two-sided Fisher's exact test compared to the co-inoculation of
773 both strains at day 0. (* = $p<0.05$, ** = $p<0.005$, *** = $p<0.0005$, see Table S5 for details on
774 all statistical tests).

775



776

777 **Figure S3.** Whole genome sequencing confirms chromosome drive for unpaired
 778 supernumerary chromosomes. Coverage heatmap for eight ascospores (T0325-T0332) of
 779 ascus A03-4 (A-C) and eight ascospores (T0801-T0808) of ascus A08-1 (D-F). a)

780 Supernumerary chromosome complement in cross resulting in ascus A03-4 between IPO323
781 and IPO94269. (B) Heatmap coverage of all chromosomes on from ascus A03-4 reflecting
782 similar coverage for essential and supernumerary chromosomes. (C) Heatmap coverage of
783 supernumerary chromosomes of ascus A03-4 indicating constant coverage of chromosome
784 18 and 20 in all eight ascospores, loss of paired chromosome 15 in four ascospores and
785 non-disjunction of sister-chromatids in meiosis 2 resulting in two ascospores containing two
786 chromosomes 21 and two corresponding ascospores lacking chromosome 21. (D)
787 Supernumerary chromosome complement in cross resulting in ascus A08-1 between
788 PO323 Δ chr14 and IPO94269. (E) Heatmap coverage of all chromosomes on from ascus
789 A08-1 reflecting similar coverage for essential and supernumerary chromosomes. (F)
790 Heatmap coverage of supernumerary chromosomes of ascus A08-1 indicating constant
791 coverage of chromosome 20 in all eight ascospores, segregating unpaired chromosome 14
792 inherited from the male parental strain and segregating loss of coverage on right arm of
793 chromosome 18 in four ascospores.

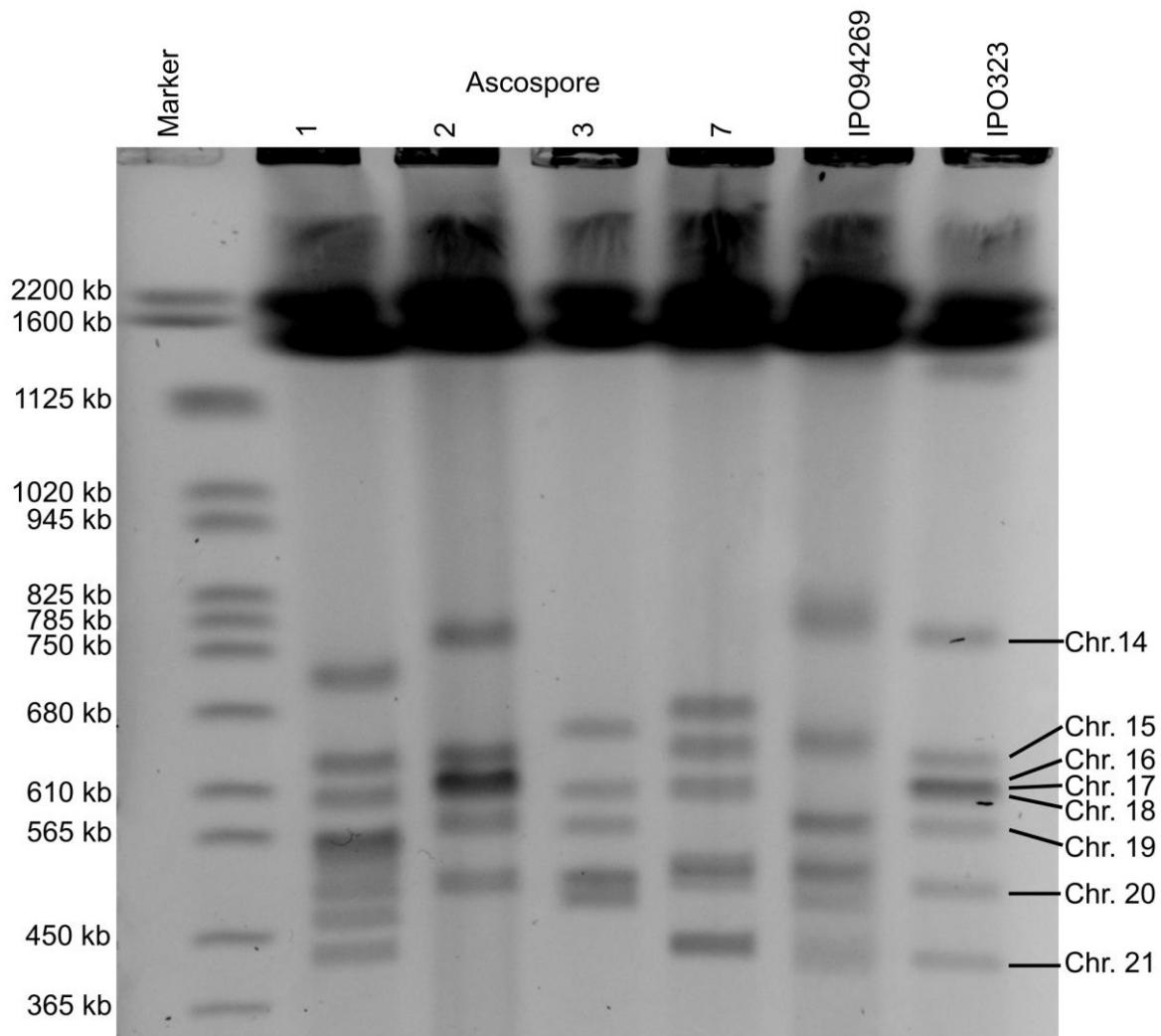
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796 **Figure S4.** Examples of gel-electrophoresis of PCR products for A) segregating marker of
797 the mitochondrial genotype, B) segregating marker of the supernumerary chromosome 14,
798 C) segregating marker of the supernumerary chromosome 15, D) segregating marker of the
799 supernumerary chromosome 16, E) segregating marker of the supernumerary chromosome
800 17, F) segregating marker of the supernumerary chromosome 19, G) segregating marker of
801 the supernumerary chromosome 19, H) subtelomeric marker of the supernumerary
802 chromosome 19, I) subtelomeric marker of the supernumerary chromosome 19, J)
803 segregating marker of the supernumerary chromosome 21, K) subtelomeric marker of the
804 supernumerary chromosome 18, L) centromeric marker of the supernumerary chromosome
805 18, M) subtelomeric marker of the supernumerary chromosome 18, N) subtelomeric marker
806 of the supernumerary chromosome 20, O) centromeric marker of the supernumerary
807 chromosome 20, P) subtelomeric marker of the supernumerary chromosome 20.

808 (See attached PDF file)

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810

811 **Figure S5.** Pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) of one unique ascospore per twin of the
812 ascus A03-04, including the parental strains IPO94269 and IPO323. Although the parent
813 IPO94269 does not contain chromosome 18 and 20, all progeny show a band of the
814 expected sizes of chromosomes 18 and 20. Size marker: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
815 chromosomes.

816

817 **Supplementary Tables**

818 **Table S1.** All primers used in this study.

Pimer Number	Full Primer Name	Sequence
879	oES879	CCGAGAAGGACCCAGCAAAC
880	oES880	TGACGGGAATGTCGGAGGTG
2100	chr_18	GTTTCTCCCTGCACCTTG
2101	chr_18	TATGGCACCTCCGAACAATG
2102	chr_18	GAGAATGTGGTCGGAGAT
2103	chr_18	GAGCCCTTCACCAACACACA
2108	chr_20	CGGTTCAGATCAGGTGCAA
2109	chr_20	CGTGGAAAGAGCATCGACAAG
2110	chr_20	GGCACCAACTGCACATGATT
2111	chr_20	ACATGCGAGCTGGATCTGAA
2902	chr21_cen	TGCGAAGCTAAAAGAACGCG
2903	chr21_cen	TTGGAAGTCCGGAAAGACCG
2904	chr20_cen	ATGATGTGTTGTGCCACGC
2905	chr20_cen	TACTGGACTAGCAAACCGCC
2906	chr19_cen	CAGCGTCAACAATCTCAGCG
2907	chr19_cen	TCCGAACCACGGATGTCTTG
2908	chr18_cen	AACAGTCGGCTAGCTGTTCC
2909	chr18_cen	TCCAGACGCAACGCACTTA
2912	chr17_cen	CTGTGCTCTGTCATGGTGG
2913	chr17_cen	TGATCACTGGACTGCGCTAC
2914	chr16_cen	GAATCCGGCTAGGTAAGCGA
2915	chr16_cen	TCTCTCCGGTCCACTGTGCG
2916	chr15_cen	CGGTCTTCGCGAATGAGAGT
2917	chr15_cen	GC GGATTTCTGGACCTGAGT
2918	chr14_cen	TACTGTTTGGAGTGCCTGC
2919	chr14_cen	CCTACGGTGGACGCTACAAT
2972	11O21F	TCCACCTCTCTGGGCTGATT
2973	11O21R	CATTTCTGCTCTGGAGGT
2980	04L20F	GCGAATTGTTGAGAAGTCCA
2981	04L20R	TCTCGAAGGATCAGCGACAT
2994	Mt-SSR-F	CTCAGTTCAAGTCTGAGTGC
2995	Mt-SSR-R	GACGCACGCATTCCACTCTA
2996	SSR_Goodwin2007 ac-0001	CACCAACACCGTCGTTCAAG
2997	SSR_Goodwin2007 ac-0001	CGTAAGTTGGTGGAGATGG
2998	SSR_Goodwin2007 ggc-0001	GATACCAAGGTGGCCAAGG
2999	SSR_Goodwin2007 ggc-0001	CACGTTGGAGTGTGAAAG
3000	SSR_Goodwin2007 caa-0002	TCTCGAGAGATCCCGTTACC
3001	SSR_Goodwin2007 caa-0002	ATCCATCACATGACGCACAC
3006	Chr14_SSR1	GCACTAATTGTCGTGACCGC
3007	Chr14_SSR1	CTCGTCTAGAAAGCCAGCGT
3008	Chr15_SSR2	CAACATGGGGGGGACAAAAG
3009	Chr15_SSR2	TCAAGACCAAAGTCCCTCCG
3010	Chr16_SSR3	CGATCGAACGTGAACGCAA
3011	Chr16_SSR3	CTGTCACTGGAGATCACGGG
3012	Chr17_SSR4	ATCAACCTACGTCCCTCGC
3013	Chr17_SSR4	CGTCCTTGCCTCGAACAGA
3014	Chr19_SSR5	ACGATCGTATGTGTCGGACG
3015	Chr19_SSR5	GGGAAGGTGGACTGCATCTC
3016	Chr21_SSR6	GCAAGACCTTTTCCCTCGC
3017	Chr21_SSR6	CCACTAGCACCTGGGAGTT
3024	Zt94269_F17_R	CTACATCGACAGACGGGAGC
3025	Zt94269_F17_R	TGTTGAGGTAACGGGACGTG
MAT1-1F	mating type locus 1	CCGCTTCTGGCTCTTCGCACTG
MAT1-1R	mating type locus 1	TGGACACCATGGTGAGAGAACCT
MAT1-2F	mating type locus 2	GGCCGCTCCGAAGCAACT
MAT1-2R	mating type locus 2	GATGCGGTTCTGGACTGGAG
3093	IPO94269_Ch16_TelR_716F	GGGGACCGATTGACCATAC
3094	IPO94269_Ch16_TelR_716R	CGATCGGTCTGTACTCAGCC

819

820

821 **Table S2.** Summary of all PCR marker results for experiment A.

822 (see attached Excel file)

823

824 **Table S3.** Summary of all PCR marker results for experiment B.

825 (see attached Excel file)

826

827 **Table S4.** Summary of all PCR marker results for experiment C.

828 (see attached Excel file)

829

830 **Table S5** Summary of statistical tests performed in this study.

831 (see attached Excel file)

832

833 **Table S6.** Frequency of transmission of paired chromosomes to progeny ascospores.

Experiment	Paired chromosome	Count of ascospores in which chromosome is absent	Count of ascospores in which chromosome is present	Relative frequency	Pearson's Chi-squared test
A	Chr14	34	726	4.5%	X-squared = 34.422, df = 5, p-value = 1.962e-06
	Chr15	26	734	3.4%	
	Chr16	6	754	0.8%	
	Chr17	33	727	4.3%	
	Chr19	14	746	1.8%	
	Chr21	40	723	5.2%	
	Total A	153	4410	3.4%	
B	Chr14	19	352	5.1%	X-squared = 49.548, df = 5, p-value = 1.715e-09
	Chr15	31	356	8.0%	
	Chr16	0	388	0.0%	
	Chr17	22	397	5.3%	
	Chr19	4	359	1.1%	
	Chr21	32	372	7.9%	
	Total B	108	2224	4.6%	
C	Chr14	17	524	3.1%	X-squared = 22.513, df = 5, p-value = 0.0004181
	Chr15	24	535	4.3%	
	Chr16	5	495	1.0%	
	Chr17	35	522	6.3%	
	Chr19	20	519	3.7%	
	Chr21	15	472	3.1%	
	Total C	116	3067	3.6%	
Total (A+B+C)		377	9701	3.7%	

834