

Article

Construction of a Single-Nucleotide Polymorphism Marker Based Quantitative Trait Loci Map and Validation of Resistance Loci to Bacterial Wilt (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) in Tomato

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Abstract: Bacterial wilt (BW), caused by *Ralstonia solanacearum* is one of the major biotic factors limiting tomato production in the humid tropics. Pyramiding of resistance genes through marker-assisted selection is an efficient way to develop durable BW resistant cultivars. Tomato line 'Hawaii 7996' (H7996) is a stable and robust resistance source against various *R. solanacearum* strains. Major BW resistance quantitative trait loci (QTLs) *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6*, and several minor or strain specific QTLs have been coarse-mapped in this line, but none has been fine-mapped and validated. The objective of the current study was to construct a high density genetic map using single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers derived from genotyping-by-sequencing, fine-map *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* and determine the effects of these QTLs using a near isogenic line (NIL) population. A high density genetic map using 1,604 SNP markers with an average distance of 0.82 cM was developed for 188 F₉ recombinant inbred lines derived from the cross H7996 × WVa700. A total of seven QTLs associated with BW resistance to race 1-phyloptype I or/and race 3-phyloptype II strains were located on chromosomes 6 (*Bwr-6.1*, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4) and 12 (*Bwr-12.1*, *Bwr-12.2* and *Bwr-12.3*) with logarithm of odds (LOD) scores of 6.2-15.6 and 6.2-31.1, explaining 14.2-33.4% and 15.9-53.9% of the total phenotypic variation contributed from H7996, respectively. To validate the genetic effects of the two QTL regions, a set of 80 BC₃F₃ NILs containing different sections of *Bwr-6* with or without *Bwr-12* was phenotyped for disease severity after challenge with either race 1-phyloptype I Pss4 or race 3-phyloptype II Pss1632 BW strains over two seasons. *Bwr-6.1* specific to Pss4 and *Bwr-6.3* specific to Pss1632 were mapped to an interval of 5.0 cM ($P < 0.05$) between 6_33,444,000_SLM6-47 and 6_33,868,000_SLM6-124 SNP marker, and to 2.7 cM ($P < 0.01$) between positions 6_35,949,000_SLM6-107 to 6_36,750,000_SLM6-82 marker, respectively. In addition, the specific effect of *Bwr-12* for resistance to Pss4 (LOD score of 5.8-16.1, $P < 0.01$) was confirmed and markers for this QTL have already been made available previously.

Keywords: bacterial wilt; *Ralstonia solanacearum*; genotype-by-sequencing; disease resistance; quantitative trait loci; *Solanum lycopersicum*

1. Introduction

Bacterial wilt (BW) caused by the soil-borne bacterium *Ralstonia solanacearum* is a major limiting factor for tomato production in the humid tropics, leading to wilting and plant death [1-5]. The pathogen has a large host range encompassing more than 200 plant species, and is capable of reaching very high cell densities in the host xylem through rapid multiplication. *R. solanacearum* is reported to cause yield losses up to 91%, dependent of the tomato cultivar, climate, soil type, cropping pattern, and strain [6-9]. Based on host range, biochemical properties, geographical origin, multilocus sequence analysis and partial sequencing of the endoglucanase gene, *R. solanacearum* has been

delineated into five races, six biovars, four phylotypes, nine clades and 53 sequevars, respectively [2, 10-14]. Due to its broad genetic diversity, *R. solanacearum* was ranked second in a list of the top ten most scientifically and economically impactful plant bacteria [15]. Because the pathogen can survive in the soil without host plants for long periods it is difficult to control by agronomical practices or chemical treatments. The use of genetic resistance is considered to be the cheapest, most efficient and environmentally friendliest approach to control bacterial wilt, but breeding for durable resistance against *R. solanacearum* is challenging owing to the site-specific and strain-specific nature of resistance [16-22]. The complex interaction between host and BW strains causes an unstable host defense response. Several screening tests for resistant host plants have been conducted using phylotype I or/and phylotype II strains [5, 23-27] and various resistance sources were identified. Wang et al. [5] found that Hawaii 7996 (H7996, *Solanum lycopersicum*) demonstrated high levels of resistance on the basis of trials conducted in 11 countries in Asia, America and Australia. BW resistance quantitative trait loci (QTLs) in tomato have been mapped using various marker systems, such as simple sequence repeat (SSR), amplified fragment length polymorphic (AFLP), sequence characterized amplified region (SCAR), restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP), cleaved amplified polymorphic sequences (CAPS) markers [28-38] and were located on different chromosomes, depending on the resistance sources and pathogen strains. Two resistance QTLs derived from L285 against UW365 (biovar 2, race 3) strain were situated on chromosomes 6 and 10 [30]. F₃ and F_{2:3} H7996 × West Virginia 700 (WVa700) populations inoculated by Pss4 (biovar 3, race 1-phylotype I), JT519 (biovar 3, race 1-phylotype I), GMI8217 (biovar 1) and JT516 (biovar 2, race 3-phylotype II) showed that resistance factors were located on five chromosomes (3, 4, 6, 8 and 12) [29, 33, 36]. Wang et al [37] identified two major BW resistance QTLs in H7996, *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6*, based on ten screening trials with an F₉ recombinant inbred line (RIL) population derived from a cross between H7996 and the BW susceptible line WVa700; screening trials were conducted in the field or in the greenhouse and included phylotype I and phylotype II strains. *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* located in a 2.8 and 15.5 cM interval on chromosome 12 and 6, respectively, controlled up to 56 and 22 % of the phenotypic variation. These experiments also showed that *Bwr-12* was effective for phylotype I, and *Bwr-6* was associated with resistance to race 1-phylotype I and race 3-phylotype II strains [37]. These results showed that resistance to BW in tomato is a complex strain-specific trait and is controlled by multiple genes. Although several QTLs for resistance to *R. solanacearum* have been mapped, none of them was fine-mapped, hindering efficient marker-assisted selection and gene cloning. Availability of a high quality reference genome and improved marker technologies such as single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers capable of high-throughput genotyping made fine mapping of QTLs in segregating populations easier and allow for efficient introgression of favorable alleles from a donor to a recipient by both positive and background selection [39-40]. Next-generation sequencing (NGS) technologies have facilitated the construction of reference genome sequences, which provide valuable information for understanding genomic variation and genome evolution [41]. NGS technologies also are used for genotyping. Genotyping by sequencing (GBS) is the most efficient tool for simultaneous genome-wide SNP discovery and genotyping. GBS is simple, quick, and reproducible and SNP markers are obtained at relatively low cost in short time through multiplex sequencing of restriction site-associated DNA [42]. The draw backs of the method are often large amounts of missing data due to low coverage sequencing [43-44] and uneven genome coverage, due to the sequence specificity of the chosen restriction enzyme [45]. GBS is used for genotyping for a wide range of purposes including for QTL mapping and genomic prediction in many crop and animal species, including for example rice [46], tomato [47-48], grape [49] and livestock species [50]. GBS can be successfully adapted to model species like tomato with well-characterized reference genomes, as well as to crops without reference genome sequences [51]. The software Tassel for GBS analysis is a very powerful pipeline to efficiently handle studies where up to hundreds of thousands or even millions of SNPs are generated from up to 100,000 individuals [52]. QTL validation is an essential step before using marker-assisted selection to introgress QTLs into new genetic backgrounds [53]. A large number of QTLs and molecular markers related with them have been identified and published, but only very few have been utilized in breeding programs. Failure to validate the QTLs and unexpected results in QTL introgression programs were mostly due to false positive QTLs, QTLs affected by environmental

conditions, traits encoded by multiple genes, recombination between genes and the selectable markers, and epistatic effects with another QTL or with the genetic background [39, 54]. Near isogenic lines (NILs) have been used advantageously to identify and validate, as well as for fine mapping of QTLs. Moreover, NILs are highly useful to confirm that the QTL effect is indeed associated with the introgressed segments [55-57]. In this study, a high-density genetic map of a population derived from H7996 × WVa700 was constructed with more than 1000 SNP markers produced by GBS and markers flanking resistance genes to *R. solanacearum* were identified by QTL analysis. Furthermore, a NIL population containing different segments of Bw-6 was phenotyped over two seasons using two strains (Pss4 in phylotype I and Pss1632 in phylotype II) and genotyped with CAPS and SSR markers located in BW resistance QTL regions, specifically in Bw-6, to validate the effect of resistance alleles at main resistance QTL. A dense genetic map with markers flanking and within QTL regions will help to improve the efficiency to breed tomato resistant to BW.

2. Results

Confirmation of *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* in *H7996*

Table 1. Overview of GBS sequence data and alignment to the reference sequence

		Total	Average/plant
Raw data	Reads	214,317,283	1,127,986
	Bases (Mb)	21,646	114
Filtered ^a	Reads	203,971,914	1,073,536
Mapped ^b	Reads	187,279,899	985,684
	Tags (regions)	333,914	
Average depth	Reads	3.03	

^a The number of reads after filtering and removing barcodes

^b The number of reads and tags mapped on reference genome of *S_lycopersicum_chromosomes.2.40.fa*

Table 2. Summary of GBS-SNPs mapped on the tomato genome.

Chromosome	Start (Mb)	End (Mb)	SNPs	Genetic length (cM)	Reference map ^a (Mb)
C01	1.217	87.177	95	146.2	90.304
C02	10.534	46.508	67	109.8	49.918
C03	1.316	61.363	140	103.7	64.841
C04	0.214	64.040	314	142.0	64.064
C05	1.608	64.957	83	103.8	65.021
C06	0.630	45.966	697 (28) ^b	111.5	46.042
C07	1.669	62.696	101	97.8	65.269
C08	1.118	62.418	117	105.0	63.033
C09	0.070	67.609	71	127.1	67.662
C10	0.203	63.324	142	112.9	64.834
C11	0.070	52.523	412	74.5	53.386
C12	0.179	62.072	78 (23)	87.7	65.486
Total		740.653	2,317	1,322	759.861

^a The number of reads and bins mapped on reference genome of *S_lycopersicum_chromosomes.2.40.fa*

^b No. of SSR markers that mapped on the physically identical position with SNPs are shown in the parentheses.

GBS-SNP Identification

A total of ~214 million single-end (SE) reads comprising 21.6 Gbp sequence information were generated for 188 F₉ RILs and the parents using the Illumina sequencing platform (Table 1). After removing low-quality reads and barcode sequences, about 95% of the sequence data, in average 1.1 million reads per plant sample were analyzed. In total 98% of the bases had a sequencing quality over

Q30 and 91.87% of the filtered reads with 3.0 of average depth were successfully mapped to the reference genome 2.4. All genotyped markers were attributed to 12 linkage groups representing the 12 chromosomes of tomato, spanning ~741 Mb with an average distance of 0.32 Mb between neighboring markers. The generated map covered 97.5% of the total physical distance of that the tomato reference genome (Table 2).

SNPs-based Linkage Map

Of the 2,951 polymorphic SNPs, 1,404 were used to develop a linkage map for the 188 RILs (Figure 1). The genetic map spanned 1,322 cM with 0.94 cM average genetic distance between two adjacent markers, suggesting that the marker density was sufficient to capture major genetic effects causing phenotypic variance for QTL analysis. However, gaps between markers of over 20 cM length were found on chromosomes 1, 4, 5 and 10 and the greatest gap was 33.5 cM from physical position 1.2 to 5.6 Mb at a distal region of chromosome 1. Significant segregation distortion ($P < 0.05$) in the RIL population concerned 1,048 (45.2%) markers. The segregation distortion rates (SDRs) varied from chromosome to chromosome. The highest significant SDR was in chromosome 11, where $-\log P$ reached 24.7 (Figure 2).

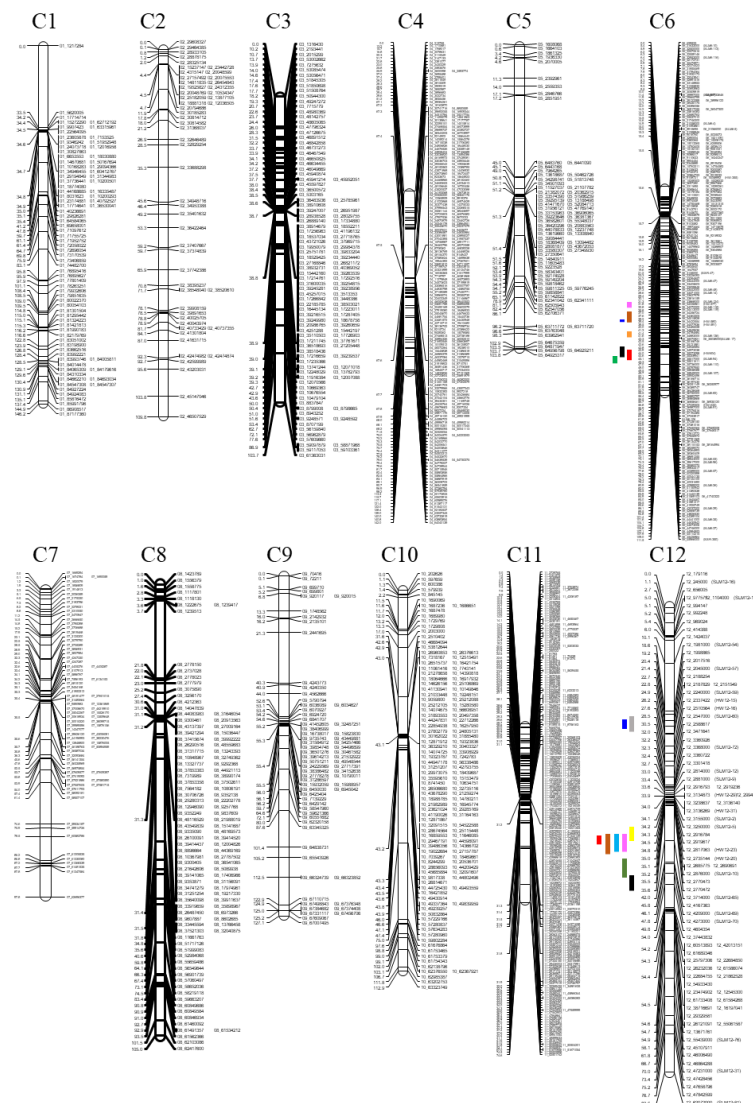


Figure 1. Genetic linkage map constructed using SNP markers including co-localized PCR-based markers (51 SSRs prefixed with SLM and 12 CAPS/dCAPS prefixed with HW). QTL regions identified in 10 individual trials named with ID-PW (Indonesia-Purwakarta), PH (the Philippines-UPLB)-Tm151, RE (Reunion-CIRAD)-JT516, RE (Reunion-CIRAD)-JT519, TH-CM (Thailand-Chiangmai), TW (Taiwan-WorldVeg)-Pss186, TW (Taiwan-WorldVeg)-Pss4a (in greenhouse), TW (Taiwan-WorldVeg)-Pss4b (in screenhouse), TW (Taiwan-WorldVeg)-

Pss4c (colonization test) and TW-TC (Taiwan-Taichung) are shown as blue, yellow, orange, red, green, pink, sky blue, brown, grey and black, respectively.

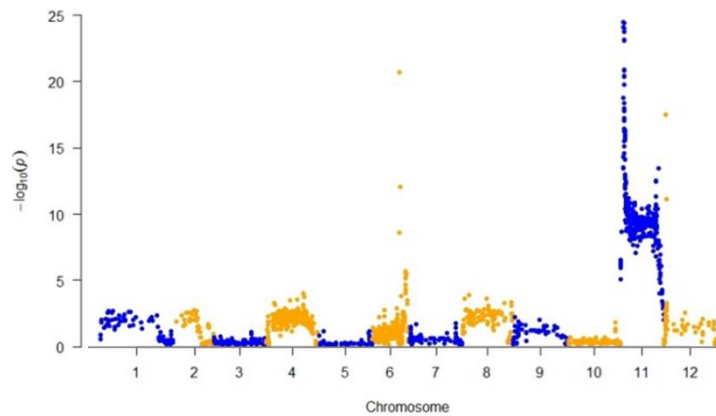


Figure 2. Manhattan plot of segregation distortion loci mapping of the F₉ RIL mapping population.

QTL Mapping and Detection of Epistatic Effects

Seven significant QTL sites (four in chromosome 6 and three in chromosome 12) conferring resistance to bacterial wilt were contributed by 'H7996'. Combining the phenotypic data obtained in 10 trials with the SNP genotyping data, the reported QTLs associated with BW resistance in tomato were corroborated [37], one on chromosome 6, hereafter referred to as *Bwr-6*, and the other on 12, hereafter referred to as *Bwr-12* (Figure 1). Four *Bwr-6* with logarithm of odds (LOD) scores ranging from 6.2 to 15.6 ($P < 0.01$) that were detected with phenotypic data from seven independent trials were situated in 1.3 (*Bwr-6.1*), 2.5 (*Bwr-6.2*), 0.3 (*Bwr-6.3*) and 2.3 cM (*Bwr-6.4*) intervals located at 31.3-32.5, 36.9-39.4, 41.3-41.6 and 42.8-45.2 cM, respectively; the most significant *Bwr-6.4* with 15.6 LOD score was located at 44.1 cM and ~35.3 Mb (Figure 3). Of the four QTLs, *Bwr-6.3* has been identified as a specific resistance site against phylotype II, the remaining were associated with defense to phylotype I strains. The phenotypic variation explained (PVE) of overall *Bwr-6* ranged from 14.2% to 33.4% (Table 3). Similarly, *Bwr-12* was consistently associated with resistance to phylotype I strains in all trials, but not to the phylotype II strain of trial RE-JT516 conducted by CIRAD on Reunion. This QTL with a LOD score ranging from 6.2 to 31.1 and a PVE of 15.9% to 53.9%, was confirmed to be located at three sites of chromosome 12 at 28.5 to 31.9 cM (*Bwr-12.1*), 34.2 to 34.9 cM (*Bwr-12.2*) and 35.0 to 35.6 cM (*Bwr-12.3*). Considering the highest LOD score on chromosome 12, the SNP marker associated with resistance to *R. solanacearum* phylotype I strain was located at ~34.5 cM in *Bwr-12.2* (the vicinity of physical position ~2.9 Mb).

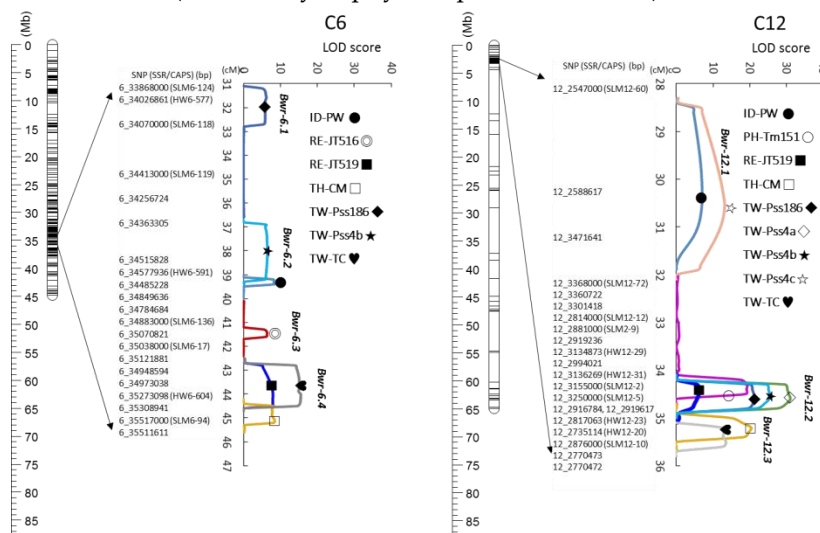


Figure 3. Mapping significant QTLs on chromosome 6 and 12 in an F₉ RIL segregating tomato population. Marker names consist of chromosome number and physical position (bp) separated by an underscore and, if available, co-localized SSR or CAPS/dCAPS marker in parenthesis. A total of 16 QTL regions, seven for QTL-6 and nine for QTL-12 were identified in 10 trials. The trials are represented as different symbols in colors according to each trial. The left lateral axis shows genetic position (cM) and upper axis shows the LOD score.

Table 3. Overview of resistance QTLs against *R. solanacearum* strains in 10 trials based on composite interval mapping (CIM) analysis of GBS-SNP markers mapped on reference genome of *S. lycopersicum*_chromosomes.2.40.fa using Qgene.

Linkage group	Trial ^a	Map position		LOD ^b	PVE (%) ^c	Additive effect ^d
		(bp)	(cM)			
6	ID-PW	34,577,936	39.4	8.4	18.5	8.26
	RE-JT516	34,784,684-34,883,000	41.5	6.4	24.0	7.25
	RE-JT519	35,273,098-35,308,941	44.0	8.0	29.2	9.19
	TH-CM	35,511,611-35,517,000	45.1	8.5	18.8	9.69
	TW-Pss186	33,868,000-34,026,861	31.6	6.2	14.2	5.37
	TW-Pss4b	34,363,305-34,515,828	38.2	6.5	14.7	6.53
	TW-TC	35,273,098-35,308,941	44.1	15.6	33.4	12.68
7		33,868,000-35,517,000	31.6-45.1	6.2-15.6	14.2-33.4	5.4- 12.7
12	ID-PW	2,547,000-2,588,617	30.3	7.1	15.9	11.56
	PH-Tm151	2,916,784	34.3	19.2	37.6	11.71
	RE-JT519	2,919,617	34.5	6.2	23.3	8.10
	TH-CM	2,876,000	35.2	20.4	39.3	16.79
	TW-Pss186	2,817,063-2,919,617	34.6	21.5	40.9	11.40
	TW-Pss4a	2,817,063-2,919,617	34.6	31.1	53.9	14.38
	TW-Pss4b	2,817,063-2,919,617	34.6	25.3	46.2	14.82
	TW-Pss4c	2,588,617	30.5	13.2	35.0	12.64
TW-TC	2,770,473	35.5	13.5	29.8	11.67	
9		2,547,000-2,919,617	30.3-35.5	6.2-31.1	15.9-53.9	8.1- 16.8

^a The same trial code and phenotype datasets as a previous study [37] (Wang et al., 2013) were applied to this analysis. All trials except RE-JT516 using phylotype II were infected by phylotype I.

^b Maximum LOD score of the QTL, highly significant ($P < 0.01$), except RE-JT516 on LG6 and RE-JT519 on LG12, significant ($P < 0.05$).

^c Percentage of phenotypic variance explained (PVE) at the peak of QTL.

^d The positive values of additive effects indicated that the resistance alleles are introgressed from 'Hawaii 7996' (resistant parent).

By multiple QTL analysis using the R/qtl package, an additional QTL with a LOD score of 3.6~7.5 depending on interaction between QTL was found on chromosome 5 for only one trial (TW-Pss4b) (Table 4). Interactions between QTLs were tested to confirm epistatic effects of QTLs associated with BW resistance on chromosomes 5, 6 and 12. In seven trials more than two QTL regions were identified. In four trials (ID-PW, TW-Pss186, TW-Pss4b and TW-TC) significant interaction ($P < 0.05$) between *Bwr-5*, *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12* was detected from using two versions (2.5 and 3.0) of the tomato reference genome.

Fine-mapping and Validation of BW Resistance QTLs in the NIL Population

To verify the phenotypic contribution of specific sections of *Bwr-6* and of *Bwr-12*, a total of 80 BC₃F₃ NILs were developed from a cross between the BW resistant RIL 'NHG41' and the recurrent parent 'BL1413' through marker-assisted backcrossing. The NILs were homozygous for four different fragments of the original *Bwr-6* interval reported by Wang et al., [37] and either carried the R or S allele at the QTL *Bwr-12*. The NIL population and the parental lines were inoculated with Pss4

(phylotype I) and Pss1632 (phylotype II) strains in the spring and autumn season, and the percentage of wilted plants (W) was assessed four weeks after inoculation. The temperatures during the two seasons were significantly ($P < 10^{-8}$) cooler in spring (daily mean temperature of 17.7-24.7°C than in autumn 21.3-29.8°C). Over two seasons, the susceptible checks 'L390' and 'WVa700' were highly susceptible with 52-74% W with Pss4 and 90% W with Pss1632 in the spring, and 82-90% W with Pss4 and 66-90% W with Pss1632 in the autumn (Table 5). High susceptibility of these lines indicated sufficient disease pressure in the experiments and increased wilting in autumn showed that elevated temperatures led to increased wilting. The W of resistant 'NHG41' inoculated with each strain did not show significant differences between trials with 16.2% W with Pss4 and 26.9% W with Pss1632 in the spring, and 0.3% W with Pss4 and 16.2% W with Pss1632 in the autumn, respectively. In contrast, susceptible 'BL1413' displayed more severe symptoms in the autumn than in spring, except with Pss1632.

Table 4. Evaluation of epistatic effect of QTL associated with BW resistance from chromosome 5, 6 and 12 in F₉ RIL population according model formula $Y \sim Q1+Q2+Q1:Q2$ or $Y \sim Q1+Q2+Q3+Q1:Q2+Q1:Q3+Q2:Q3$ of R-software using reference genome of *S_lycopersicum_chromosomes.3.0*.

Trial	CC ^a	Degree of freedom	Sum of square	LOD	%var	F value	P-Value (χ^2)	P-Value (F)
ID-PW	6 : 12	4	3758	2.76	2.469	3.125	0.013	0.016* ^b
	6		17532	11.52	11.519	9.719	0.000	2.8e-09***
	12		71486	34.61	34.609	46.971	0.000	< 2e-16***
RE-JT519	6 : 12	4	735	0.67	1.630	0.723	0.540	0.578
	6		7458	6.09	16.530	4.888	0.000	2.0e-04***
	12		6925	5.70	15.350	4.539	0.000	4.1e-04***
TH-CM	6 : 12	4	2510	1.33	1.585	1.488	0.188	0.208
	6		21783	10.36	13.752	8.609	0.000	3.1e-08***
	12		54652	22.28	34.505	21.600	0.000	< 2e-16***
TW-Pss186	6 : 12	4	2487	2.98	3.998	3.388	0.008	0.011*
	6		7052	7.94	11.34	6.404	0.000	3.9e-06***
	12		21418	20.53	34.44	19.45	0.000	< 2e-16***
TW-Pss4b	5 : 6	4	4894	2.85	5.177	3.237	0.011	0.014*
	5		13579	7.47	14.364	5.989	0.000	9.9e-06***
	6		16765	9.04	17.734	7.394	0.000	4.3e-07***
	5 : 12	4	226	0.19	0.239	0.211	0.927	0.932
	5		4483	3.64	4.743	2.785	0.000	0.013*
	12		36611	23.18	38.727	22.746	0.000	< 2e-16***
	6 : 12	4	2706	2.42	2.863	2.739	0.025	0.030*
TW-Pss4c	6		8326	7.05	8.807	5.617	0.000	2.3e-05***
	12		37267	25.01	39.421	25.143	0.000	< 2e-16***
	6 : 12	4	1332	1.03	1.946	1.124	0.317	0.348
	6		7332	5.27	10.714	4.128	0.000	7.8e-4***
TW-TC	12		19788	12.57	28.915	11.140	0.000	4.6e-10***
	6 : 12	4	3135	2.21	2.784	2.484	0.038	0.046*
	12							

6	27757	16.20	24.646	14.663	0.000	1.9e-13***
12	26319	15.51	23.368	13.903	0.000	8.0e-13***

^a Chromosome combination for evaluation of epistatic effect between two QTLs.

^b Significance at $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$ and $P < 0.001$ is indicated by *, ** and ***, respectively.

Table 5. Descriptive statistics of percentage of wilted plants of the NIL population, parents (NHG41 resistant donor; BL1413, susceptible recipient), and resistant (H7996) and susceptible control (WVa700 and L390) for resistance to *R. solanacearum* Pss4 and Pss1632 strains according to season (spring and autumn). The differences between the mean values of W were evaluated using Duncan's multiple range tests, and $P < 0.05$ was considered a significant difference. Prepositive capital letters and postpositive small ones of percentage of wilted plant displayed differences between values within the same row and within the same column, respectively.

Plant	Variables	Pss4		Pss1632	
		Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn
NIL	Mean	D 21.4cd	A 80.6ab	C 57.4 b	B 77.5 a
	Minimum	0.3	26.9	26.4	54.8
	Median	23.2	89.7	58.5	79.9
	Maximum	62.2	89.7	89.7	89.7
	Standard deviation	17.3	14.1	13.4	10.0
NHG41	Mean	A 16.2 d	A 0.3 c	A 26.9 c	A 16.2 b
BL1413	Mean	B 38.0bc	A 81.7ab	A 78.0ab	A 81.7 a
H7996	Mean	0.3 d	0.3 c	38.0bc	0.3 b
WVa700	Mean	73.8 a	81.7ab	89.7 a	66.4 a
L390	Mean	52.0 b	89.7 a	89.7 a	89.7 a

The NIL population inoculated with Pss1632 showed a continuous distribution of resistance. W through Pss1632 inoculation during the spring trial was nearly normal distributed among NILs, whereas during the autumn season, the disease symptoms were skewed towards susceptibility. In the Pss4 trial, W in spring was skewed towards the resistant parent, whereas disease incidence in the autumn season was skewed towards the susceptible parent. Distributions showed that disease incidence (W) was significantly ($P < 0.01$) higher in the hot season (autumn) than in the cooler season (spring) (Figure 4). Also the virulence of race 3-phylogroup II Pss1632 strain was significantly ($P < 0.01$) greater in autumn (mean temperature: 21-30°C) than in spring (mean temperature: 18-25°C), similar to that reported using 45 race 3-phylogroup II stains isolated in Taiwan by Lin et al. [58].

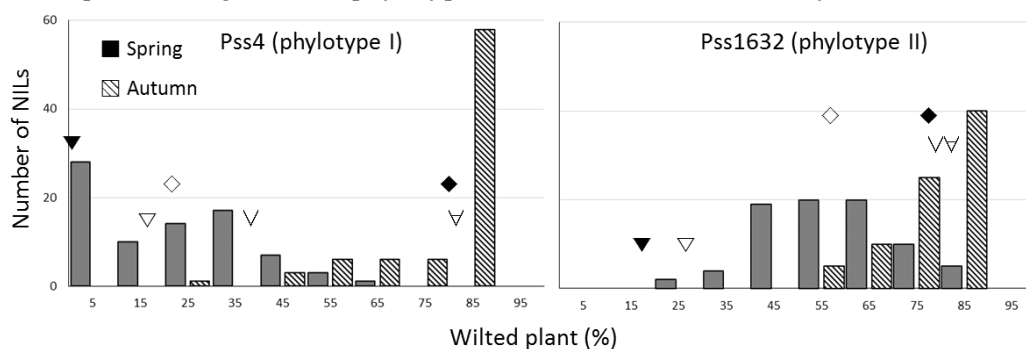


Figure 4. Frequency distribution of percentage of wilted plant of the 80 NILs for resistance to *R. solanacearum* Pss4 and Pss1632 strains according to season (spring and autumn). Mean values of the donor parent (NHG41), the recipient parent (BL1413) and NIL population are shown as ∇ , ∇ and \diamond for the spring trial and \blacktriangledown , \blacktriangledown and \blacklozenge for the autumn trials, respectively.

The variance components of the genotype \times season and genotype \times strain interaction were significant at $P < 0.001$ for W and, consequently, data from each of the two seasons and two strains

were separated for QTL validation. Broad sense heritability estimates of the disease incidence for the Pss4 strain were higher, i.e., 0.61 in spring and 0.63 in autumn than 0.32 and 0.20 for Pss1632, respectively, which indicated that most of the phenotypic variation of resistance to Pss1632 strain observed resulted from environmental factors such as temperature. The Pearson correlation coefficients between trials were significant for season and pathogen strain combination analyzed in the BC₃F₃ NIL population (Table 6). Within Pss4 inoculation, spring and autumn trials were significantly correlated with each other ($R^2 = 0.58$, $P < 0.0001$), while there was no significant correlation ($P < 0.076$) in Pss1632 inoculation across seasons, which confirmed that phenotypic data for validation of QTL effect should be treated separately for each season and strain, as the responses to these factors probably rely on different genetic loci.

Table 6. Phenotypic correlation coefficients among percentage wilted plants and pathogen strains estimated in the BC₃F₃ NIL population. Correlation coefficient values and P -values were represented with italic letters and plain letters, respectively.

Strain (W ^a)	Season	Pss4		Pss1632	
		Spring ^b	Autumn	Spring	Autumn
Pss4	1st	1	<i>0.58</i>	<i>0.36</i>	<i>0.18</i>
	2nd	<i>2.13E-08</i>	1	<i>0.19</i>	<i>0.33</i>
Pss1632	1st	0.00100	0.08359	1	<i>0.20</i>
	2nd	0.10310	0.00269	<i>0.07577</i>	1

^a Percentage of wilted plants (W) was used for disease assessment methods to record disease incidence of plants after inoculation with *R. solanancerum* race 1-phylo-type I strain Pss4 and race 3-phylo-type II strain Pss1632.

^b Disease incidence was assessed over two seasons: cool spring and hot autumn.

To explore whether the selected markers from *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12* were associated with disease resistance, a single marker analysis was conducted with 34 PCR-based markers flanking the *Bwr-6* (17: 12 SSR and 5 CAPS) and *Bwr-12* (17: 11 SSR and 6 CAPS) loci and phenotyping data of W against race 1-phylo-type I strain Pss4 and race 3-phylo-type II strain Pss1632 over two seasons. A total of 16 markers located in the *Bwr-12* region were confirmed over two seasons. They were significantly related with BW resistance against Pss4, but not Pss1632. *Bwr-12.2* was located in a 0.6 cM interval between SNP12-3250000 (34.2 cM) and SNP12-2770472 (34.8 cM) in the F₉ RIL population. However, the QTL region controlling BW caused by Pss4 (LOD score > 10; phenotypic variation explained > 47.5%) was extended to a 9.7 cM segment ranging from HW12-72 CAPS (32.3 cM) to SLM12-65 SSR (42.0 cM) (Figure 5). In contrast to *Bwr-12*, *Bwr-6* had low LOD scores of 3.9 and 2.3 and it was estimated that the resistance gene located in this region reduces BW incidence of Pss1632 and Pss4 in hotter condition, respectively. The effect of this QTL could be delimited to markers SLM6-110 and SLM6-107 spanning over 2.7 cM.

3. Discussion

Several QTL mapping studies have been performed to understand the genetic nature of BW resistance in tomato [29-31, 33-34, 36-38]. QTLs around *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12* have been detected in several studies and resulted in design of markers for selection in breeding. Marker-assisted selection for *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* is widely practiced in tomato breeding programs. However, QTL intervals were relatively large, especially for *Bwr-6*, and knowledge of the precise locations of these QTLs would lead to better marker, and reduction of linkage drag from the donor parent. Information of the specificity of resistance loci to different pathogen strains and their activity under different climatic condition would facilitate pyramiding the most promising QTLs in breeding. The current study used high density genetic and physical maps and phenotyping data from multilocation BW screening of the HW RIL population to fine-map *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12*, and then to confirm and validate the resistance loci in a NIL population.

A GBS approach resulted in over 10,000 polymorphic SNP markers that were ordered along the chromosomes of a reference sequence [44]. In this study, over 87% of the produced reads could be aligned to the tomato reference genome (*S_lycopersicum_chromosomes.2.40.fa*). On the basis of

stringent selection criteria including missing data percentage, minor allele frequency and percent heterozygosity for filtering SNPs, a panel of robust SNPs comprising about 19% of the 12,654 SNPs called by comparison of the *S. lycopersicum* genome sequences was used for constructing a genetic map. In spite of the dramatic reduction in marker number, a sufficient number of SNP markers (2,317 SNPs) remained available for QTL mapping. The GBS approach of this work facilitated the construction of SNP-based physical and genetic maps of sufficient resolution for QTL mapping. A total of 1,404 SNPs (11%) were finally used for constructing a dense genetic map for the F₉ RIL population. Polymorphic SNPs with below 3.0 LOD score or showing high SDR or low crossover rate that especially situated in chromosome 6 and 11 was excluded to construct precise genetic map. The current dense map will be useful for the development of high-density consensus maps and fine-mapping of QTL.

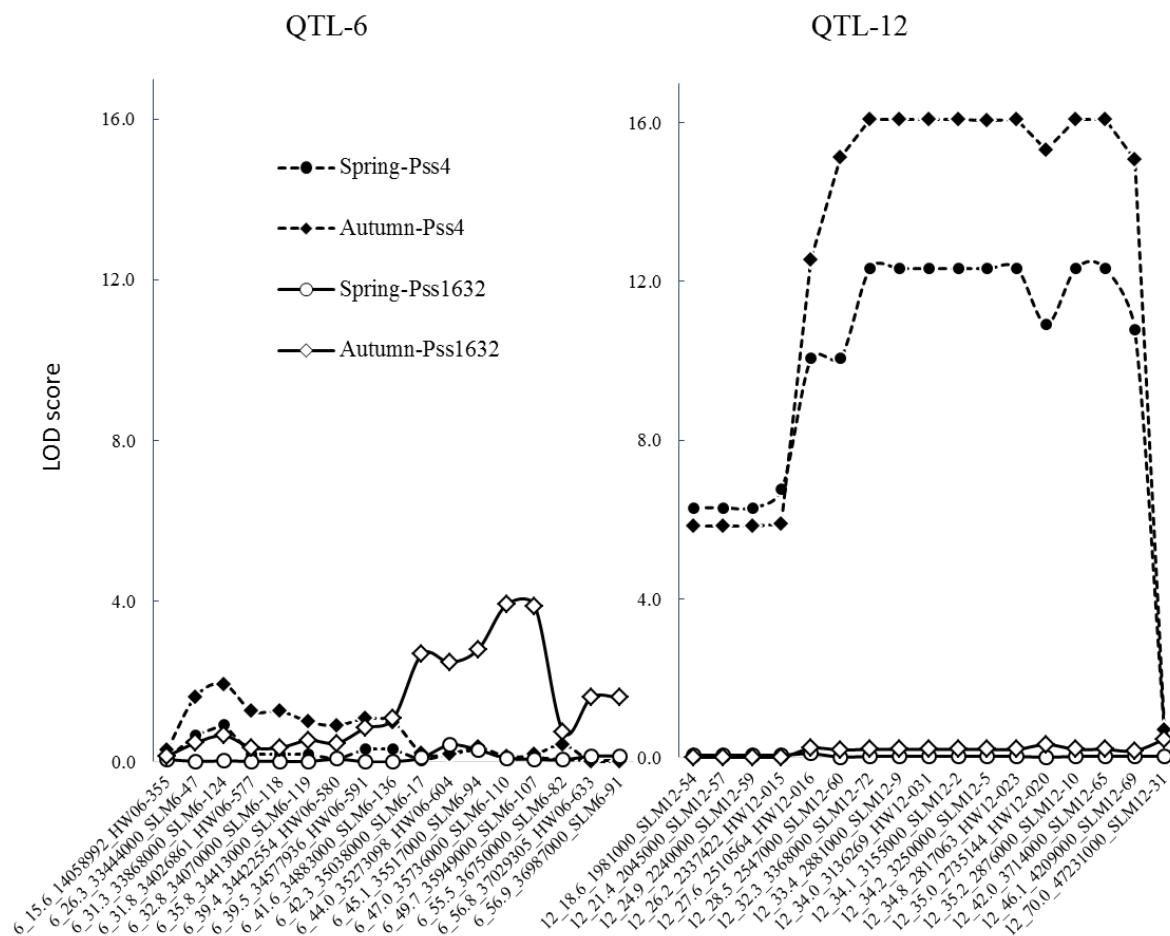


Figure 5. Single marker analysis for flanking markers situated on QTL-6 and QTL-12 region identified from F₉ RIL population based on percentage of wilted plant (W) in plants challenged with race 1-phyTOTYPE I strain Pss4 and race 3-phyTOTYPE II strain Pss1632 over two seasons in the BC₃F₃ NIL population. Trial code consists of two parts, first the season (1st = spring or 2nd = autumn) followed by strain name (Pss4 or Pss1632). Y-axis shows the LOD score and X-axis shows the marker labels. Each marker is named as A_B_C_D, with 'A' being the chromosome number, 'B' the genetic position, 'C' the physical position, and 'D' co-localized SSR or CAPS/dCAPS marker with SNP.

Based on field and greenhouse evaluations conducted worldwide, 'H7996' was identified as a promising breeding resource with stable resistance to *R. solanacearum* [5, 37]. QTL mapping using QGene 4.0 with reference genome of *S. lycopersicum_chromosome.2.4* version in a 188 F₉ RIL population developed from a cross between 'H7996' and 'WVa 700' revealed two QTLs for BW resistance, one major QTL on chromosome 12 important for resistance to phyTOTYPE I isolates, and another QTL on chromosome 6 associated with resistance to both phyTOTYPE I and phyTOTYPE II

isolates. These results corroborated findings of previous H7996 mapping studies [29, 36-37] except in this study the *Bwr-12* region in trials PH-Tm151 and ID-PW were shifted toward the distal end of a 2.9 cM interval around SLM12-2 SSR marker located at the end of QTL region. *Bwr-6.3* identified from JT-516 strain, the only race 3-phyloptype II strain among the 10 trials provided little resistance (LOD 6.4, $P < 0.05$) compared with the finding of Wang et al. [37]. *Bwr-12* with a LOD score ranging from 7.1 to 31.1 and a PVE from 15.9% to 53.9%, respectively, provided strong and stable BW resistance to race 1-phyloptype I strains, while a race 3-phyloptype II isolate was affected by the only *Bwr-6*. Additional HW RIL phenotyping trials with phylotypes II, III, and IV would advance progress towards fine-mapping BW resistance. Several studies reported additional QTLs on chromosome 3, 4, 8, 10 and 11 connected with BW resistance [29, 33, 36] in the same HW mapping population but these QTLs were not detected in this study. Additional multi QTL analysis by R/qtl package with a new SNP set however revealed significant ($P < 0.05$) new QTL regions on chromosome 5 in trial TW-Pss4b (Table 4). In addition, this analysis confirmed a significant QTL epistasis ($P < 0.05$) between *Bwr-5* and *Bwr-6* at TW-Pss4b, and between *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12* at ID-PW, TW-Pss186, TW-Pss4b, and TW-TC. QTLs identified in the ten trials were considered major when PVE was greater than 10%. The genetic effect of all QTLs was lower than the broad-sense heritability for disease resistance (0.64-0.94, Table 7), therefore we assume that additional minor QTLs contributed to resistance against race 3-phyloptype II strains. Whole genome re-sequencing of RILs and read assembly could help detecting minor QTLs and elucidate their interaction with other QTLs. 'H7996' is not resistant to all *R. solanacearum* isolates and was susceptible to *R. solanacearum* UW551, a typical sequevar 1 (Race 3 biovar 2) strain [59] that causes losses in temperate zones and tropical highlands. This isolate killed about 80% of H7996 plants within 14 days post inoculation [60]. Therefore, exploitation of new breeding sources especially against race 3-phyloptype II is required to develop multi-phyloptype resistance tomato cultivars.

Table 7. Estimates of phenotypic variation (PV), coefficient of variation (CV), genotypic and phenotypic coefficients of variation (GCV and PCV), broad-sense heritability (H^2), and genetic advance (GA) for bacterial wilt incidence in RIL population evaluated in various environments.

Trial	PV	CV	GCV	PCV	H^2	GA	GA(% mean)
ID-PW	1264.80	53.27	50.89	15.99	0.91	66.78	100.15
PH-Tm151	899.10	44.17	35.42	26.48	0.64	39.68	58.52
RE-JT516	364.09	25.94	24.39	8.99	0.88	34.65	47.21
RE-JT519	546.14	124.32	120.91	30.07	0.94	45.40	242.06
TH-CM	1407.50	90.84	80.04	43.16	0.77	59.96	145.33
TW-Pss186	726.10	47.44	39.29	26.67	0.68	38.06	67.06
TW-Pss4a	601.10	30.45	25.60	16.53	0.71	35.69	44.37
TW-Pss4b	872.90	41.90	36.66	20.39	0.76	46.55	66.09
TW-Pss4c	899.70	57.53	52.77	23.19	0.84	51.87	99.67
TW-TC	1260.50	84.90	79.53	30.13	0.87	64.05	153.43

BW susceptibility bio assays on 80 BC₃F₃ NILs, parents and resistant/susceptible controls with race 1-phyloptype I Pss4 and race 3-phyloptype II Pss1632 strains over two seasons, confirmed the resistance phenotype of the NILs against two strains under two temperature regimes, the cooler spring season and the warmer autumn season. Mean values of NILs, the susceptible parent and controls showed different sensitivity patterns depending of the bacterial strain and season. Under higher temperatures (21-30°C) the plant defense response against BW seems to be lower [61-62], while Pss4 and Pss1632 or other tropical strains such as of K60 and GMI1000 have reduced virulence in cooler conditions (18-25°C) [3, 63-64]. Consequently, the percentage of wilted NILs was significantly higher in the relative warm conditions of the autumn trial than in the cool spring trial. Carmeille et al. [29] reported

contrasting results that wilting symptoms in tomato were more severe during the cool season after inoculation with the race 3-phyloptype II JT-516 stain

The broad heritability estimate of resistance in the NIL population was 0.61 in the spring and 0.63 in the autumn infected with Pss4, and 0.32 in the spring and 0.20 in the autumn inoculated with Pss1632, suggesting that resistance to the phyloptype II strain was mainly affected by non-genetic effects, especially temperature, in contrast to phyloptype I. It was also found that the phenotypic coefficient of variation for Pss1632 had two-fold higher values than the genetic coefficient of variation in both seasons. Both QTLs *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12* contributed 54% for Pss4, but only 19% for Pss1632 of the phenotypic effect on the resistance. Thus it is suggested that there are additional genetic factors playing a role on the resistance, which might have been lost during backcrossing. The minor QTLs on chromosome 5 detected by R/qtl is a candidate for explaining this effect. Consistent with previous studies, major genes have been identified on chromosome 6 and 12. The new information of the current work is the fine mapping of specific *Bwr-6* sites conferring resistance to Pss1632 and Pss4. Resistance to Pss1632 was mapped to an interval of 2.7 cM between 6_35, 736,000_SLM6-110 to 6_35,949,000_SLM6-107 SNP marker, while resistance to Pss4 with a low LOD value (< 3.0) was associated with a 5.0 cM interval between 6_33,444,000_SLM6-47 and 6_33,868,000_SLM6-124. *Bwr-12* had a significant effect, LOD scores of 5.8-16.1 ($P < 0.01$) to control BW disease caused by the Pss4 strain was confirmed to be located in ~30 cM wide interval ranged from 12_1,981,000_SLM12-54 to 12_4,209,000_SLM12-69 marker in the NIL population. The NIL population was designed to fine-map *Bwr-6* and not *Bwr-12*, therefore the *Bwr-12* interval remained very large in this population. Previous reports showed that *Bwr-12* is confined to phyloptype I defense response [29, 36-37]. Recently it was reported by Kim et al., [65] that genes encoding leucine-rich repeat (LRR) receptor-like proteins are located in the *Bwr-12* region and may be associated with resistance.

4. Materials and Methods

4.1. Confirmation of *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* in H7996

Bwr-12 and *Bwr-6* was confirmed in the 188 F₉ RILs developed from the cross between 'Hawaii 7996' (H7996, resistant, *S. lycopersicum*) and 'West Virginia 700' (WVa700, susceptible, *S. pimpinellifolium*) (HW), the same population previously used to map *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* [37]. The RILs had been evaluated in ten greenhouse or field trials, including five countries (Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Reunion), six locations (World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) and Taichung in Taiwan; Chiangmai in Thailand; UPLB in the Philippines; Purwakara in Indonesia; CIRAD in Reunion) and against eight pathogen strains (Pss4, Pss186, TC, Tm151, CM, PW, JT516 and JT519) (Table 8). The genetic parameters (estimates of phenotypic variation, coefficient of variation, genotypic and phenotypic coefficients of variation, broad sense heritability, and genetic advance) for bacterial wilt incidence in RIL population in various environments were estimated according to the methods suggested by previous reports [66-68] after analysis of variance by means of R package 'lme4'. All strains used in phenotyping were classified as race 1-phyloptype I except for JT516, which was race 3-phyloptype II. DNA of 188 F₉ RILs and parents was provided by the Bacteriology Unit of WorldVeg and used for GBS after quantification using a spectrophotometer (Beckman coulter, DU 800, Krefeld, Germany) and integrity check on 1% agarose gels. Genomic DNA from BC₃F₃ NIL plants including parents and controls was extracted from young leaves using DNeasy Plant Mini Kit (Qiagen Inc., Hilden, Germany) in 2016-2017.

4.1.1. Genotyping by Sequencing (GBS)

Genomic DNA from 95 F₉ RILs H7996 x WVa700 representing the resistance spectrum of the population and from parental plants was submitted to GBS analysis. Sequencing library preparation was done as described by Elshire et al. [42] and SE sequencing was performed on two lanes of an Illumina Hi-seq 2500 (Illumina Inc.) at the Genomics Core Facility, Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taiwan. FASTQ files for 100 bp single reads were analyzed using the Tassel5 GBS v2 Pipeline [69]. Quality trimming was conducted using the GBSSeqToTag-DBPlugin with the following parameters: kmerLength 93, minKmerL 20, mnQS 20 and mxKmer- Num 10⁸. The

alignment to the reference sequence of *S. lycopersicum* (ftp://ftp.solgenomics.net/tomato/genome/assembly/build_2.40) was done using the BWA aligner with $n=3$ maxSeedDiff as the parameter for maximal sequence differences. The SAMToGBSdbPlugin was applied to determine the positions of tags on the reference genome by setting the parameters aProp to 0.05 and aLen to 70. SNPs were identified in the aligned tags by the DiscoverySNP CallerPlugin with 0.6 and 0.1 for minimum locus coverage and minimum minor allele frequency, respectively. The SNP data set was obtained by sequential application of the following three plugins: SNPQualityFilterPlugin for quality control, UpdateSNPPositionQualityPlugin for verifying debugging SNPs/tags position with false for deleteOldData, and ProductionSNP CallerPluginV2 for the final SNP calling with kmer-Length 93. The F₉ lines were highly homozygous (93.97%) and heterozygous loci were changed to missing data. SNPs were filtered by setting 165 for minimum count out of 190 sequences with minimum and maximum frequency as 0.02 and 0.99, respectively.

Table 8. Descriptive statistics for bacterial wilt incidence in the H7996 × WVa700 RIL population, parents and susceptible control evaluated in various environments.

Plant	Variables	ID- PW ^a	PH- Tm151	RE- JT516	RE- JT519	TH - CM	TW- Pss186	TW- Pss4a	TW- Pss4b	TW- Pss4c	TW - TC
RIL	Mean	66.7	83.3	76.4	20.6	41.3	56.7	80.4	70.4	52.0	56.7
	Minimum	0	12.5	20.0	0	0	0	12.5	6.3	0	0
	Median	82.5	90.6	75.0	7.5	31.3	56.3	87.5	81.3	56.3	31.1
	Maximum	100	100	100	87.5	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Standard deviation	34.8	22.8	18.5	23.2	35.3	24.7	22.6	27.7	28.3	34.4
H7996	Mean	0	18.8	19.9	0	0	4.2	24.0	19.8	12.5	15.0
WVa700	Mean	100	100	89.2	79.7	100	86.5	99.0	96.9	56.3	100
L390	Mean	100	100	n.d.	n.d.	100	100	100	100	81.3	100

^a Trial code is named as A - B, with 'A' the country abbreviation and 'B' strain code: ID - PW (Purwakarta, Indonesia in 2004 - Race 1, biovar 3), PH - Tm151 (Institute of Plant Breeding, University of Philippines Los Baños in 2000- Tomato, race 1, biovar 3), RE - JT516 (Centre de cooperation internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD) in 2003 - Potato, race 3, biovar 2, phylotype II), RE - JT519 (CIRAD, Reunion in 2003 - Geranium, race 1, biovar 3, phylotype I), TH - CM (Chiangmai, Thailand in 2004 - Race, biovar 3), TW - Pss186 (The World Vegetable Center (Worldveg), Taiwan in 2004 - Tomato, race 1, biovar 4, phylotype I), TW - Pss4a (Greenhouse, Worldveg, Taiwan in 2003 - Tomato, race 1, biovar 3, phylotype I), TW - Pss4b (Screenhouse, Worldveg, Taiwan in 2003- Tomato, race 1, biovar 3, phylotype I), TW - Pss4c (Colonization, Worldveg, Taiwan in 2006 - Tomato, race 1, biovar 3, phylotype I), TW - TC (Taichung, Taiwan in 2004 - Tomato, race 1, biovar 4, phylotype I).

4.1.2. Linkage Map Construction and QTL Mapping

A linkage map for HW was constructed in two steps using JoinMap 4.0 [70] with a minimum LOD-score of 3.0 in the maximum likelihood mode. First, a preliminary linkage map was constructed with 2,951 polymorphic SNP markers obtained from GBS. Among the SNPs belonging to 13 genetic LG obtained from first map construction, a total of 1,347 redundant SNP markers co-localizing with other markers were removed. Finally, 1,604 markers including SSR and CAPS/ dCAPS obtained from genomic sequences of anchored BAC clones in tomato [71-72] and SNP markers of this study, respectively were genetically mapped to 12 chromosomes. The 28 and 23 SSR markers located in *Bwr-6* and *Bwr-12*, respectively [37], were added for linkage analysis and map construction. When several markers co-localized at a locus, only one of these markers was considered. Segregation distortion of individual markers was calculated by Chi-square test in JoinMap. QTLs were detected using composite interval mapping (CIM) in QGene 4.0 [73] with stepwise cofactor selection and a scanning interval of 0.2 Mb for physical mapping and 2 cM for genetic mapping. Significance thresholds for $p < 0.05$ and 0.01 of LOD (logarithm of odds) values were estimated by permutation tests. The proportion of phenotypic variation and additive effects of the each QTL were obtained from CIM analysis. Data analysis was repeated using the R/qtl package and reference genome of

S_lycopersicum_chromosomes.2.4 as well as 3.0 to confirm the presence of QTL and their interaction [74].

4.1.3. CAPS Marker Design

The SNP markers associated to BW resistance QTLs were converted to PCR-based CAPS or dCAPS markers using CAPS Designer (https://solgenomics.net/tools/caps_designer/caps_input.pl), SNP2CAPS (<http://pgrc.ipk-gatersleben.de/snp2caps/>) [75] and dCAPS Finder 2.0 (<http://helix.wustl.edu/dcaps/dcaps.html>) [76] (Table 9). Primer design and quality check was conducted by primer3 0.4.0 (<http://bioinfo.ut.ee/primer3-0.4.0/primer3>) and PCR Primer Stats (http://www.bioinformatics.org/sms2/pcr_primer_stats.html), respectively. The PCR mixture for CAPS amplification contained 40 ng plant genomic DNA, 0.25 μ M of each forward and reverse primers, 200 μ M dNTPs (FOCUSBio, P-2.5M), 10 \times Supertherm GOLD buffer with 15 mM MgCl₂ (Bersing, JMR-470), and 0.125 U of Supertherm GOLD Taq (hot start) polymerase (Bersing, JMR-851, Taiwan) in a total volume of 10 μ L. Template DNA was initially denatured at 95°C for 10 min, then 35 cycles for PCR amplification, using the following conditions: denaturation at 95°C for 30 s, annealing at 50, 55, or 60°C depending on the primer for 45 s, extension at 72°C for 45 s, and then final extension at 72°C for 5 min. The reaction mixture for the enzyme digestion contained: 2 μ L PCR product, 7 μ L ddH₂O, and 0.3 μ L restriction enzyme (10 U/ μ L), and incubation was done according to the instructions of the supplier for 14–16 h. Twelve CAPS/dCAPS markers were subsequently tested in the RIL parents, NIL parents, and 20 BC₃F₃ NIL lines. The enzyme-digested products were visualized after electrophoresis on 1% agarose gels.

Table 9. List of CAPS/dCAPS markers used in the study.

Primer	Chr	MP (bp)	Sequence	AS (bp)	T _m	RE	Tr (°C)	Fragment (bp)
HW06-355	6	14058992	CGTGAAGCGAAGTAATCACG GCATCGTGGGGTCAATTC	118	60	Hpy188I	37	80, 38, 118
HW06-577	6	34026861	GCTCCTTAATGGGACATTC GATGGGGCAATAGCTCAG	115	60	MluCI	37	5, 47, 63, 68
HW06-580	6	34422554	AGCAACAATCGAAAGCCAAG TCATGCTGCTTGAATGTTT	115	60	ScaI	37	25, 90, 115
HW06-591	6	34577936	GGGTAGCTTCTCCCAATCT ATTCAAGCTGCTCGGAACAC	96	60	MspI	37	32, 64, 96
HW06-604	6	35273098	CTGCCGTGATACTCTCTCCA CAGAGGATATGTCGCCAAGG	115	60	BstUI	60	28, 87, 115
HW06-633	6	37029305	TAGATTTCGCTGCTGATTT ACTTTTCATCAAACAGATCC	99	60	AluI	37	22, 77, 99
HW12-015	12	2337422	CAGCAACGATGTCTATTTGG CGATGTATGAACTCTGAAGATTACC	85	55	AluI	37	35, 50, 85
HW12-016	12	2510564	CAAAGCAACCTGCCTCTCGT CAGGAAGCAGCAGCAAAGCT	98	57	HindIII	37	20, 78, 98
HW12-020	12	2735144	CAGCTAGTTGAAGTTTCATTCC CCTTCTTCACCACTGATTT	131	55	BsmI	65	46, 85, 131
HW12-023	12	2817063	TTGTGTTTCTAAGCGCTGGCT CGTCATTAGATTGTTATAGCAC	89	55	BspMI	37	31, 58, 89
HW12-031	12	3134873	CCTCCTCAAATGAGAACACACA CAGCAACAGACAAAGTGTTT	92	57	BsmAI BcoDI	55 37	32, 60 92

Chr, chromosome; MP, map position; AS, amplicon size; Length of the amplicon; T_m, melting temperature; RE, restriction enzyme; Ti, incubating temperature. Candidate CAPS sequences were targeted by 11 restriction

endonucleases (RE): *Alu*, *BcoDI*, *BsmAI*, *BsmI*, *BspMI*, *BstUI*, *HindIII*, *Hpy188I*, *MluCI*, *MspI*, *ScaI* (New England BioLabs Inc., Massachusetts, USA) and selected based on location of RE cutting site, and resolution ratio.

4.2. Fine-mapping and Validation of *Bwr-12* and *Bwr-6* in the NIL Population

To reduce the *Bwr-6* QTL interval size and to validate the effects of resistance alleles at major QTLs identified in the RILs against phylotype I and phylotype II strains, backcrosses were carried out between the BW resistant F₉ RIL NHG41 as donor line and the recurrent susceptible parent BL1413. Over all the backcross and selfing generations during NIL production, eight SSR markers (six for *Bwr-6* and two for *Bwr-12*) from Wang et al. (2013) and four SNP markers designed from limited resequencing experiments of the QTL-6 interval in NHG41 and BL1413 were used for marker-assisted foreground selection. At each backcross generation, all progenies were genotyped to select plants carrying different fragments of *Bwr-6* in absence or presence of *Bwr-12*. In addition, the backcrossed plants were screened with 24 background markers for maximal reconstitution of the recurrent BL1413 genotype. 76 BC₃F₁ progenies were then self-pollinated and a total of 156 BC₃F₂ progenies were screened for homozygous insertions of *Bwr-6* fragments, followed by a second generation of self-pollination. BC₃F₃ lines carrying diverse fragments of *Bwr-6* at homozygote state were selected. Out of the 145 BC₃F₃ NILs, 80 NILs with various marker *Bwr-6* fragments at the QTL region were used for genotyping and phenotyping.

4.2.1. Phenotyping for Disease Resistance in the NIL Population

The NIL population was assessed for BW resistance at WorldVeg Taiwan using two pathogen strains, Pss4 (race 1-phylotype I) and Pss1632 (race 3-phylotype II). Entries were arranged in a random complete block design with three replications and six plants per replication in a plastic house at WorldVeg during (1) the cooler spring season from Mar. 1 through Apr. 11 (17.7-24.7°C) and (2) the warmer autumn season from Sep. 19 through Oct. 31 (21.3-29.8°C) in 2017, respectively. Both parental lines, WorldVeg lines CLN2026D and CLN2585D, susceptible checks WVa700, L390 and CLN286, and resistant checks H7996, CRA66 and L285 were included in each replication. Three to six seeds of each genotype were sown in plastic pots (8 cm diameter) which were placed in plastic containers (34×50 cm²) holding 24 pots arranged in four rows and six columns. Among germinated seedlings in a pot, the healthiest plant was left for artificial inoculation and the others were roughed around two weeks after sowing. Approximately four-week-old plants were inoculated by drenching 30 ml bacterial suspension (10⁸ CFU/ml) on the soil surface near the base of each plant. A wilting score was recorded once a week for four weeks on a scale of 0 to 5, where 0 = no visible wilt, 1 = one leaf wilted, 2 = two or three leaves wilted, 3 = all except top leaves wilted, 4 = all leaves wilted, and 5 = dead [36]. Percentage of wilted plant (W) was calculated as described by Winstead and Kelman [77] and Mohamed et al. [78] using the formula $W = [(Nt-Nh)/Nt] \times 100$, where Nt is number of total plants and Nh is number of unwilted plants. W was arcsine square root-transformed for data normalization before QTL analysis using the PROC MIXED procedure of SAS (SAS 9.2, SAS Institute, Cary, USA)

4.2.2. SSR and CAPS/dCAPS genotyping

To verify the QTL effect against race 1-phylotype I Pss4 and race 3-phylotype II Pss1632 strains and to narrow down the *Bwr-6* interval, totally 34 SSR [37] and CAPS/dCAPS markers located on chromosome 6 (17 markers) and 12 (17 markers) were used for genotyping. PCR reactions were carried out as described above and the PCR products were visualized on 6% acrylamide gels. Ten μL of the PCR product was mixed with 5 μL of the loading dye. Out of the 15 μL, 2 and 3-4 μL were loaded on the gel and run for 50 and 25 min for SSR and CAPS/dCAPS genotyping at 160V, respectively.

4.3. Statistical Analyses

R software was utilized to perform statistical analyses for analysis of variance (ANOVA), Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT), single marker analysis (SMA) and correlation analysis. Broad-sense heritability for each season and each strain was calculated as described by Allard [67].

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Abbreviations

SNP	Single-nucleotide polymorphism
QTL	Quantitative trait loci
GBS	Genotype-by-sequencing
RIL	Recombinant inbred line
NIL	Near isogenic line
LOD	Logarithm of odds
SSR	Simple sequence repeat
(d)CAPS	(derived) Cleaved amplified polymorphic sequences
NGS	Next-generation sequencing
SDR	Segregation distortion rate
PVE	phenotypic variation explained
CIM	composite interval mapping

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