

## Diapause specific expressed sequence tags of *Antheraea mylitta* Drury

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**Abstract:** *Daba bivoltine* ecorace of tropical tasar silkworm *Antheraea mylitta* Drury undergoes facultative pupal diapause and shows different type of voltinism. During course of its long pupal diapause, erratic, unseasonal and unsynchronised emergence of adults is noticed and losses of seed stock range in between 10 - 30%. In order to avoid all these problems, proper understanding of induction, maintenance and termination state of diapause of this economically important insect is felt essential. The presence of diapause specific expressed sequence tags (ESTs) through PCR clones of Hsp70, Hsp23, hexamerins and PCNA genes have been reported in the present study. The ESTs obtained from the primers of Hexamerins were only seen when pupae were 65 and 165 days old. ESTs obtained from the primers designed from Hsps 70 sequences were up regulated during early (D0), middle (D75) and late age (D135 to D165) of diapause period. The presence of Hsp23 was obtained during preparatory phase of diapause (IV instar) and pupae of early and mid aged diapause period (D0 to D75) and late age of diapause (D135 to D165). ESTs of Hsp22 were seen during preparatory phase of diapause (IV & V instar), throughout diapause period and even after diapause period was over. ESTs of Hsps90 were seen during preparatory stage (IV instar) and middle and late age of diapause period. Est of PCNA were down regulated throughout diapause period, their up regulation was seen at the time of diapause termination. Another group of ESTs obtained from different sets of Hsps 70 primers were up regulated intermittently through out the diapause period. Hsps90 were upregulated during middle and late age of true diapause period. At the fag end of true diapause period, ESTs disappeared when pupae became older than 165 days as no ESTs were seen when pupae were 195 days old indicating the actual age of diapause termination. It was also evidenced by the up regulation of PCNA. ESTs whose concentration remained very low through out the diapause period but its intensity increased at 195 days which further increased at 210 days. The pupae of *Daba BV* of 195 days and older can be further exploited for low temperature treatment to delay the moth emergence in adverse summer season so as to produce dfls matching with the actual cropping schedule.

**Key Words:** *Antheraea mylitta*, Diapause specific expressed sequence tags, Diapause termination state

### Introduction

Diapause is an arrested state of development which is pre-programmed, that allows animals to save themselves from the harsh environmental conditions the expression of which sets in during unfavourable environmental conditions, such as winter, extreme summer, periods of drought and season in which appropriate food is not available (Tauber *et al.*,

1986; Denlinger, 1986; Hairston and Kearns, 1995, Denlinger, 2002) Diapausing insects become highly tolerant to cold, heat, desiccation and starvation, but these abilities are adaptively significant only when diapause starts at an appropriate time (Masaki, 2002). This timing in most cases is controlled by the response to seasonal clues such as day length and temperature and its geographic adjustment is accomplished by a photoperiodic clue.

Diapause occurs in genetically determined stage (s) of metamorphosis which are species specific and is represented by low metabolic activity. It has been divided into three phases: diapause induction or pre-diapause (in the sensitive stage of insects), diapause maintenance (responsive stage) and diapause termination or post diapause (Tommasini, and Van Lenteren, 2003). It is widely documented that photoperiod plays a major role in diapause induction in insects and temperature is typically seen as one of the possible modifiers of the photoperiod responses (Mc Nell and Fields, 1985). Low temperature is reported to be the reason for diapause induction in tropical insects, high temperatures blocks initiation of development and the individual remain in quiescence stage and the diapause can be terminated only when temperature is lowered (Denlinger, 1986). This mechanism is used to maintain diapause during the hot dry season and development is triggered with cool rainy season. The onset of rains is frequently linked to diapause termination and may account for the rapid increase of insects (Bowden, 1976). In tropical insects termination of diapause is temperature dependent. Lower temperature results in longer diapause and in some cases diapause can be terminated rapidly by a four-day exposure to 25°C in some flesh flies (Denlinger, 1986).

Insects prepare for the molting, metamorphosis and reproduction by accumulating hexamerins in their fat body and blood (Pan and Telfer, 2001) and their occurrence and activity can differ during course of development in a single species (Telfer and Kunkle, 1991). The storage proteins are accumulated when amino acids intake is greater than demand and are utilized when amino acids demand exceeds intake (Daniel and Wheeler, 2003). Insect storage proteins are heamocynin - related group of proteins composed of six identical or similar subunits in 70-90 kDa range (Telfer and Kunkle, 1991; Burmester, 2002). These hexameric

proteins generally referred to as storage proteins have high content of aromatic amino acids and are classified as arylphorins. When diapause is terminated, they quickly disappear from the haemolymph. It is reported that in both group of insects (holometabolous and hemimetabolous) these proteins also provide amino acids for egg production and rebuilding tissue after diapause (Lewis *et al.*, 2002; Hahn and Wheeler, 2003; Chandrashekar *et al.*, 2008). These proteins are specific to different states of diapause (pre-diapause, diapause, and diapause termination) and post diapause growth period. All are controlled by their specific genes. Genes from storage hexamerins have been cloned from insects, *Spodoptera litura* (Zheng *et al.*, 2000), *Musca domestica* (Moreira *et al.*, 2004), *Drosophila melanogaster* (Arrese *et al.*, 2008), *Corcyra cephalonica* (Nagmanju *et al.*, 2003), *Manduca sexta* (Telfer and Pan, 2003), *Helicoverpa zea* (Suma and Hauerland, 2007), *Omphisa fuscidentalis* (Tungjitwitayakul *et al.*, 2008), *Sesamia nonagrioides* (Spyliotopoulos *et al.*, 2007), *Spodoptera exigua* (Tang *et al.*, 2010). Further, diapause entails molecular, physiological and morphological remodeling of living animals, culminating in a dormant state characterized by enhanced stress tolerance which is supported by the gene expression, differential mRNA and protein accumulation and protein modifications (MacRae, 2010). The understanding of the molecular basis of diapause has advanced considerably during the last decade (Flannagan *et al.*, 1998; Denlinger, 2002; Robich and Denlinger., 2005; Robich *et al.*, 2007). Based on their expression patterns, diapause-associated genes can be classified into (i) genes up regulated throughout diapause, including the 70 kDa heat shock protein (Hsp70) (Rinehart *et al.*, 2000a) and Hsp23 (Yocum *et al.*, 1998), (ii) genes down regulated throughout diapause, including proliferating cell nuclear antigen (PCNA) (Tammariello and Denlinger, 1998) and Hsp90 (Rinehart and Denlinger 2000b); (iii) unchanged genes during diapause including ecdysone receptor (Rinehart *et al.*,

2001), heat shock 70 cognate, and 28S ribosomal protein (Reinhart *et al.*, 2000b); (iv) early diapause genes such as one encoding cystatin, acysteine proteinase inhibitor (v) late diapause genes such as ultraspiracle (USP) (Rinehart *et al.*, 2001); and (vi) those expressed intermittently through diapause such as a gene encoding 60S ribosomal protein PO, an apurinic/aprimidinic endonuclease (Craig and Denlinger, 2000). Among these diapause-associated genes, Hsps are a well-known family of proteins up-regulated in response to a variety of stresses. However, not all of the Hsps are upregulated in the flesh fly during diapause (Rinehart *et al.*, 2007). Two members of Hsp70 family and at least four members of the small Hsp family are upregulated, while Hsp90 is down regulated during diapause. Up-regulation of Hsps and during diapause is not specific to the flesh fly, but is rather common in many other insect orders with different diapausing stages (Li, 2008). Diapause-related genes also can be categorized into different functional groups such as genes with regulatory functions, metabolically-related genes, stress response genes, cytoskeletal genes, ribosomal genes, transposable elements, as represented in the northern house mosquito, *Culex pipiens pipiens* (Robich *et al.*, 2007). Up-regulation of Hsp70 and Hsp23 has been reported during diapause development (Parsell and Lindquist, 1993; Fedre and Hofmann, 1999; Sun and MacRae, 2005). Low expression of proliferating cell nuclear antigen (PCNA), a gene involved in cell proliferation, is associated with cell cycle arrest during the pupal diapause of *S. crassipalpis* and its level increases after termination of diapause (Tammariello and Denlinger, 1998). Its down regulation during diapause has also been reported in *Chymomyza costata* (Kostal *et al.*, 2009). Therefore the role of PCNA, Hsps and hexamerins is important during course of diapause development.

Tropical tasar silkworm, *A. mylitta* is an

important sericigenous insect of tropical India which produces tasar silk. Its Daba bivoltine ecorace is commercially exploited in Central India. It shows facultative pupal diapause. Its seed cocoons are preserved in pupal diapause stage for about 7 to 8 months (November-June). During course of preservation of seed cocoons, pupal mortality occurs due to erratic emergence and unseasonal emergence of moths. Loss is estimated to be 20-30% of the total seed cocoon stock preserved. The loss becomes more when diapause is set to terminate at the fag end of June when a larger proportion of pupae die due to uncongenial weather (high temperature). The phases of diapause in this insect have been explored based on the haemolymph biochemical markers and qualitative brain protein profile of *A. mylitta* which comprises three phases *viz.*, induction, maintenance, termination and the termination stage of pupae is temperature sensitive and as per need. This stage can be exploited for regulation/delaying of moth emergence in grainages (Mishra *et al.*, 2008).

The role of PCNA, Hsps and hexamerins gene in cell development and induction, maintenance and termination of diapause on the basis of differential gene expression has been considerably studied in other insects, however, such studies are completely lacking in tropical tasar silkworm *A. mylitta*. Therefore, the present study has been undertaken to record the presence of diapause specific expressed sequence tags in *A. mylitta* applying molecular biology techniques to find out the actual period of diapause termination.

## Materials and Methods

**Maintenance of *A. mylitta* stock:** *Antheraea mylitta* Drury [Lepidoptera: Saturniidae] stocks used in this experiment were maintained at Central Tasar Research and Training Institute, Field Laboratory, Piska-Nagri (23.21°N, 85.20°E, 654.16 meters AMSL), Ranchi, India. The non-diapausing stock was raised during July-August

whereas the diapausing stock was raised during September to November and the diapausing pupae were preserved till next June from the harvest of diapausing generation.

**Surgical operation and sample collection:**

Based on the information generated from our laboratory we have successfully identified the specific stages of diapause at physiological and biochemical level. Accordingly, the brain samples from the non-diapausing generation (i) Brain of IV and V Instar larval instars, (ii) Brain of Day 0 to day 2 pupae and (iii) Brain of Day 8-10 pupae) and diapausing generation (iv) Brain of IV and V Instar larval instars-preparatory for diapause, (v) Brain of Day 0 to day 30 pupae - the time when diapause sets in, (vi) Brain of Day 90 to 175 days pupae at 15 to 30 days interval - the refractory period of pupal diapause and (vii) Brain of 195 – 210 days pupae -when diapause terminates) were collected in sterile conditions.

Insects were dissected in cold condition (Tris buffer pH 6.8) and kept in RNA stabilization solution and stored at -80°C till utilisation. These cold stored samples were further homogenized in cold and sterilized by using RNAase free plastic (Tarson) homogenizer. Before use, all glassware and plastic wares were sterilized with DEPC treated water and autoclaved twice. Total RNA was isolated by using standard procedure of Himedia protocol with slight modification. Different stage/ age samples of *A. mylitta* brain cDNA were synthesized by using standard Fermentas protocol with slight modification. In a nuclease free tube 0.5 µg specific RNA + Random hexamer primer (0.2 µg/µl) + DEPC - treated water to a final volume of 11.5 µl were added. This whole mixture was shaken gently, centrifuged at 6000 rpm and incubated at 65°C for 5 min, chilled on ice and briefly centrifuged. Tubes were again placed on ice. Reaction mixture, 5X reaction buffer for reverse transcriptase 4 µl, RiboLock™ RNase inhibitor 0.5 µl (20µl), dNTP mix, 10 mM

each 2 µl (1 mM final concentration), RevertAid™ H Minus M- MµlV Reverse Transcriptase 1 µl (200 ul) was added to make the total volume 20 µl. and gently mixed well before it was centrifuged briefly and kept for incubation for 10 minutes at 25°C followed by 60 minutes at 42°C. For reverse transcription of GC-rich RNA reaction temperature was increased up to 45°C. The reaction was terminated by heating at 70°C for 10 min. The reverse transcription reaction product was directly used for second strand cDNA synthesis using synthesized gene specific primers, storing rest of the first strand cDNA at -20°C. The cDNA was prepared following protocol available at [http://www.fermentas.com/en/home\\_and\\_\\_info@\\_genetixbiotech.com](http://www.fermentas.com/en/home_and__info@_genetixbiotech.com) www.genetixbiotech.com

**Diapause Gene Specific Primers designing and synthesis:**

Extensive literature surveys were carried out for designing the diapause specific primers using online software as shown in Table 1 and it was synthesized by Hysel India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

**Post-PCR Steps:** Extraction of DNA from PCR product was done with the help of Agarose Gel extraction kit, details of which is shown at <http://www.iwai-chem.co.jp/products/5prime/gelelute.pdf>. PCR amplified products of different samples of brain were run and DNA band was excised from the agarose gel with a clean, sharp scalpel. Gel slice was weighed in a colorless 1.5 ml microfuge tube for processing of up to 250 mg agarose. Appropriate volume of Buffer GX1 was added to 1.5 - ml microfuge tube and 30µl Gel Elute was added to the sample mixed/ suspended by vortexing for 30 sec. Suspended sample was incubated at 50°C for 10 min to solubilize the agarose and bind the DNA and mixed properly by vortexing every 2 min to keep Gel Elute in suspension at pH 7.5. Sample was incubated for an additional 5 minutes and centrifuged for 30 sec. The supernatant was carefully removed with a

**Table 1.** Diapause specific primers designed or utilized along with the source

SI. No.	Primers for the Diapause Specific Genes	Source
1.	aattgggcagtggtgtagc cctcatcctgcactgtcaga	PCNA gene from <i>Drosophila yakubi</i> Accession (Acc.) No. XM_002095658
2.	tctgacagtgcaggatgagg gcggttaggtgctgagag	
3.	ctttgccatcgtcaccacta tcacgggctttcttcaat	9D11 18 kDa <i>Sarcophaga rassisalpis</i> Acc. No.EF1103578/686
4.	ccagttggcaaagatggttt tgagctggaccagttgttg	9D11 23 kDa <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No U96099
5.	acatcaagttgctcgtcgtg cctcttgaggcttgggtaca	
6.	ctacggttgcaaagatggt cttttctgcaccgtagcc	7H7 25 kDa <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No EF1103577
7.	acgattgggatcgtttctg gaatgaggccgtgttcatct	
8.	caggtggtgatgaccaag aacgacccttgcgttttg	HSP 70 kDa <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No AF107338
9.	caagcactgaggcgacaata gagagaggagccacatcgac	
10.	actgcagcagcacttgctta acgtgctcgtgtgatctttg	<i>Chironomous yoshimatsui</i> HSP 70 mRNA Acc. No AB162946
11.	tcaaaggctgacattgatcg tccatgcatctttgccatta	
12.	actgcagcagcacttgctta tcaaacgtgctcgtgtgat	
13.	gctgaacagtatgccgatga3' acagttgggccacatagtt	5B11 Heat Shock Protein 70, <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No EF103580
14.	catagctgcacgcaatcaac aggtcagcttttccgctaa	
15.	tgaggccgaagaagaaaaga gtacggcgaggaatgaagag	5B11 Heat Shock Protein 70, <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No AF 261773
16.	tgaggccgaagaagaaaaga gagtacggcgaggaatgaag	
17.	ccttgcccaaggactatgat gatgaatgtgaacgaggttaagg	7 H 10 Small Heat Shock Protein mRNA, <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No EF 103579
18.	ccttgcccaaggactatgat tgaatgtgaacgaggttaagg	
19.	Ccagttggcaaagatggttt tgagctggaccagttgttg	23 kDa heat shock protein, <i>Sarcophaga crassipalpis</i> Acc. No U9 96099
20.	tggattgggattgtctccat tcatagcctttgggcaaac	
21.	gattgcagttcaagcgaggctgc cggagatcaatccttggttctgg	Non-diapause specific gene designed from the sequences of different Lepidopteron sequences
22.	ggaatgcaactaacgccatt gaagtggtaaggcacgggta	Locus AF 294808 2 a hexamerin <i>cephalonica</i>

23.	caaaggccggaaaactacaa gagtcgtggtgacgaacct	
24.	cccaagccgttcgataagta cggagtcacctgaagagc	LOCUS AJ 249471 <i>Spodoptera litura</i> mRNA
25.	gcattcaaggggtcaaggt cgaagaactggaatgggaaa	LOCUS MOTARYBB <i>Manduca sexta</i> beta subunit mRNA
26.	acgttaacgagggcatggt ggccttgagcaaatggata	

pipette. The pellet was washed with 500 µl of Buffer GX1 and further centrifuged for 30 sec to remove all traces of supernatant with a pipette. The pellet was washed twice with 500 µl of Buffer GE and resuspended by vortexing. Pellet was air-dried for 10–15 min or until the pellet becomes white. To elute DNA, 20 µl of 10 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.5 or H<sub>2</sub>O was added and the pellet resuspended by vortexing and incubated 5 min at room temperature. As per requirement sample was also eluted in water and the DNA stored at -20°C as DNA may degrade in the absence of a buffering agent. The purified DNA was also eluted in TE buffer (10 mM Tris-Cl, 1mM EDTA, pH 8.0). Centrifuged for 30 sec. and carefully pipetted the supernatant into a clean tube. The supernatant contained the purified DNA which was stored at -20°C till utilized. All centrifugation steps were done at maximum speed (10,000 x g, 13,000 rpm) in a conventional, table-top micro centrifuge. The gel extraction kit from 5-prime gel-elute extraction kit mentioned at [www.5Prime.com](http://www.5Prime.com) was used.

**Sequencing of Agarose gel extracted PCR amplican:** The gel eluted sample were collected from different age/stage group of *A. mylitta* in sterilized conditions were sent for sequencing to Genei Merck Specialties Private Limited, Bangalore. Different sequences of *A. mylitta* Brain were subjected to NCBI blast analysis and submitted to <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/> for obtaining gene bank expressed sequence tag numbers. Based on the presence of these expressed sequence tags through out the diapause and non-diapause state the actual state of diapause termination was worked out.

NCBI blast analysis revealed that diapause specific of Accession (Acc.) No.HO348172.1 of *A. mylitta* had a maximum score of 42.8 with mRNA sequence of sea anemone, *Anemonia viridis*, an invertebrate. Acc. No. HO348173.1) had maximum matching score of 462 with the mRNA sequences of *Escheria coli* challenged fat body of fifth instar larvae of eri silkworm, *Samia cynthia ricini* (DC 860126.1), mulberry silkworm *Bombyx mori* cDNA (DC571932.1 and AV401659.1), *Manduca sexta* bacteria induces sequences (DC870552.1) and its fat body mRNA sequence (BI262519.1), *Spodoptera frugiperda* (FP364396.1 and FP362966.1) mRNA. Acc. No.HO3481714.1 matched to some extent with mRNA sequences of *A. mylitta* (EB742974.1, EB 743516.1, EB 7403050.1) with maximum score of 49.6, *A. pernyi* pupal tissue mRNA (GH334854.1). Acc. No. HO348175.1 matched with silk gland of fifth instar mRNA of *A. assama* (EG592266.1, EB743205.1); larval testes (FG222882.1); ovary (FG217142.1); 96 h embryo (FE962005.1); brain (FG203515.1), *S. cynthia ricini* (DC861008.1). Acc. No. HO348176.1 had homology with the mRNA sequence of *S. littoralis* (FQ0204331.1). Acc. No. HO348177.1 matched with a maximum score of 42.8 with mRNA sequences of *D. auraria* obtained from whole body adults (DK298279.1 & DK290469.1). Acc. No. HO348180.1 matched to some extent (score 48.2) with the sequences of *Drosophila melanogaster* (BI 586581.1, BI 584228.1), *Glossina moristans* (FM960111.1). Acc. No. HO348181.1 matched with Acc. No. DY792975.1 of *S. frugiperda*. Acc. No.

**Table 2.** Details of diapause specific ESTs of *A. mylitta*

dbEST_Id	User_Id	Gen Bank_Ac	Primers	Sequences
70774952	PKM001	HO348172	tctgacagtgcaggatgagg gcggttaggtgctgagag	TATGCTGATTATTGTGTGATTACATGAGCCGCCT TTGACTGCCTCGATTAATTCTGATGAAAAATTT TGATGATCTTTTTAGCCAAAACATGTCGAGAGA TTTGTGACATAGTGGATTGTGTTGACCCATAATG GACACTGATTTACATGTTTCCAATTCTCATCATCAT CTCGGAATGAGCAGCCTTCTTCTCTAAAAAGTTC TATAACTGGGGACACCTGTTTTGCTGCCCAATGC AAACTATTGCCTCCACTGAGTCTATGCCATGAAT GACTTACCCCACTTACTATACACATATTTGCTGA CTGCTCACAGGTACTTTATCAAACACCCCACCAC CA
70774953	PKM002	HO348173	ctacggttgcaagatggt cttttctgcaccgtagcc	CGAATAAGGTGATAAGGAACTCAGGTTCTCCGG GCTATGGCTTACCTGGAGTTCTTGCTTTAAAG GAGACACGGGAATGCCAGGTTTAGATGGATCG CCAGGATTACAGGGGCAAAAGGGAGATCGCGG TTTCCAGGCTTAATAGGGCAGAAAGGTAATAC AGGCTTGCCTGGTGTATCAGGGCGACCCGGAG AACCAGGTTTGGATGGTGTCTCCAGGTTTACCAG GAGAAATAGGACTACCCGGCTTACAAGGTGAAA AAGGCGATAATGGAGACATAGGACTTCTGGTA GAGATGGCTTTGATGGTCAAAAAGGTGATCAAG GCCCAATGGGTCCCGTTGGGTTGACAGGACCC TCAGGTTTTCCAGGCCTAAAAGGAGATCGAGGT CTTCTGGTTTTGTCTATAAACGTAAAAGGAGAT AAAGGAGAAGTTGGTCCACCGGGAATAATTGG GGCTCAAGGCCAAAAGGAGAAAGAGGCTTGG AGGGAGCTCAAGGATTCCAGGGTGAAAAGGT GATCGTGGTTTTACCCGGAGCTAAAGGAGAAGC AGGACGCATAGGACTTACAGGAGAAAAAGGTA ATAATTCTAATTATTACTTATAGTTAATATTATTT TGTTGTTTATATATTAATACTCAGATAGTCTTA GCCATTATATTTATGTAAGTCTTCTACATGCCA CTTCGTTACAGTGAATAAGTTCTATGGGGCTA ACGGGGCAAAAAGG
70774954	PKM003	HO348174	caggtggtgtgatgaccaag aacgaccctgtcgTTTTg	AGGATACTTTGGTTGTGTTGGCATGCCGTTTCTC TGTCCTGCTTTTCTATTCTCTTTGCTCAGTCGT TTCTGATACTTGCTTTGACAAGGTTTCGTTGTTAC TGGAGCTCGCCCGAGGCTCCGGATAGGTATCTT TCTTACGCAAGTGATTGACGCTCACCCTTATCGA GAGATCACAAAATTCGACGCCGAACGGCGAGGC CCTGTACCGCATTGACCACCGCTGTACAGGGGC TCCGCATTGCCATTTTGTCTGTGTGTCGCGCTC GTTGGGTAGATTAGGTTACTTGGCTCGGAGG TCACCATATCCCGACTACCGACGGACCTCCATTA TCAAGTCAACCTCTTCGGTTAGCTCCTCAGAAAC TACTGCTGCATAGAGCGAATTTGATAGCTCGGT AAGGAACGGAATTGCCCGCCCGTCTCAGATTGC TTGGTCTCACACCACCCGGA

70774955	PKM004	HO348175	actgcagcagcacttgctta tcaaaacgtgctcggtgat	CTTTTGCCCCTCAAACATTCAAAGGAAGTTTTTG TGGCATTTTCAGAATTTCTTGCTCCGTGGTACTAT TTTCCATTTACTTCACTTATGCACAATAAACTAAC TATATTACGTAAAAACACCACCAAGTTTACAAAATA TAGAGTCAAATAACACAAGATTATGAATTAATAT AAAATCCACTACATGACATACTAAAATCAAGCAA AAAACCTCTTTAACGTTGTTTTATACTTTTTATAA CGTGTCGTGAATGTTACACTAAAAAGGTTAATAG TTCTTATAAAAAAGAGAAAGACAGTTCCTACACGAA TATAAACTAAATACGAATAAAATAGAATACTAGT TTTTGCCAGCGGCTTCGGTCCCTATTAATAATATA GACTCGACTTATTTTATTTATTTTTTTTATTTATAT ATTTAGCGCACCAACATAAATATTCACATAGTTAA AATTACATATGGTCACTTACAAAATAAAATTACAG TGTAATAATTACAATCACAGGCATGCATGACATT AATAGATGACAAAAAAAACAATAATTACAAACTA CTTTGAAAGAATAATATCTTAATTTGCACAAATAC GCCATCAAGCTATGTTTTTAAAGCAAGGGGCTGC TGCAAATAAAA
70774956	PKM005	HO348176	actgcagcagcacttgctta tcaaaacgtgctcggtgat	ATTCTTTACAAGGCCTCGTAAGCTCAAATTCAT TAATCTTCAGTCGACCTTCCACTAAGCTCGGTTG TCTGGGTTAAAGCACCAATGAATCGAAAACCGA TAAAATTCTATTAATGTTTGC GTTGAAAAAAAAC GTGACAGCGCTCGTTTCGCTCTCATGATAGATT GAAATTTCTTTGTTGGAATACACAATGCCAAGTA TTTAACTAGCTACTGGATCATAAATCACGTTAAC TACGAGTATGTAAGTTGTTTATATTAGTGAGTTTA TCACAGTCACTCAAATTGCTACTGAGTTGATCA AAAATCTAAGTAACTCATTCTATTGAGCGATTCA TTTATTACACACATATCACACGAGCACGTTTTTGA AAAAAA
70774957	PKM006	HO348177	gctgaacagtatgccgatga acagttgggccaccatagtt	TAATTTGTCGCTTCTTTCCGTCTGTTTCGTATGC ATTGGCTCGGATTTCTTCTGCCCTATCATTCTTC TCACACTGGCTTGATGCCCGTGTTTTGCTTTGTT ACATACCCATTTCCCTGCACAGTCCATTCTCCAT GCTCCGGAATGCACCTGATTTCGAACTACTATAT TATGAATAACCTTCTCCGGAGAAGGATAAGCAC CCCTTCTAGGTGATTATTGTTCTTAAAACCTATT ATTGATTTTTTCGATTTCTCTTGTCGAAATCAAAG TGAGGAACACCGGTTAGCTTACTATCCCTTAATA CACCGTCAGATTTTACCTTCTCCTTACCAGGAAT AGGTTCTTCATTATATAGTATTTCTATATATGGTA CATGCCTTTTTTTGGAGAATATGACTGCTGAAGA TTTGGGTATGGCCAATGACAAACCATGGTCATC AAGCCACTGTCTAAGTATGATAAGGCAGTATTT AACTGAGCCACTGCATAAGAAATAGACGGATTA GAAGCGTACACTACTAAATCATCGGATTA CTGTT CAGCAA



Diapause specific expressed sequence tags of *Antheraea mylitta* Drury

70774958	PKM007	HO348178	tgaggccgaagaagaaaaga gtacggcgaggaatgaagag	CATGATCACCGACCGACAGGCATTGATAAATAA ACTATTCCGAGGTTAGTGGTAGATTAACACTGAA TTTATTATAGCATTAGTCAATAAACCGGAGTAATT CACCGAATTTTGTCTGAAATTTACGTTGGGATGC ATAGAGTTTACCAAAGCACAAATATTGTTTTTACAA GTGCCATGCCTTGACTTATGACTCAACTTGAAAT ATCGATACAGATTATTTTAAAATTTATTAAGAAAT TAGGTAAGGTAGTTATAGGTAGTGTATATATAGA TAGGTAAGGAGACTAAATGTTCTTTGTAAAAAAA AACAAAATTATTTTATTTAATTTATTTTTTCGAGA TTTATTTTACTTATTTCAATTATTTTAAATTTCCA AAGGCAGAATCATAATTAAGCTCAAATCTGTAC AAAGGGGATGCTTATATTTTTTGGACCTCGAAAT TCATTGGAAATCAACCGAGCAAATTTATCTTATA TTAATGGAATTTAAATGAAACTCTGCACTCAAC CCTATGAAAACCTCTTATTCTCGCCGTACATT CCGGTGAAAACCCCTCCCCCTCCTTCTCCCC GAAAAAAAAAAAA
70774959	PKM008	HO348179	gattgcagttcaagcgaggctgc cggagatcaatccttggttctgg	TTTTTTTTACTGTTGACACTTTTCCATAATCTACC CCTACTGCCAGCCTCCGCTTGATTGTCAGCACT ATGGCTGCCGAGCGTGGGATAACAAGCTTAGCA GGTGTCTCTTGGGTAACGCCTTCTTTGTCTTTG CTGGGGGTTTTTCTTGGCCCCACGACTTGCCA CCACGGCCCAGCTTTCTTTGTAATAGGCGCTT GTACAGAAGAAGTTTTTGTGAGGTTGAAGCCTC CTGTGCTGCCATCGATTTCTTTTTCCCCTTTTTT TCTTTCCAGCTGTATCAAAGGAAATAGCGGCTG GAGGCGCTACTGTCTCAGGGGCTACAGTGCTAT CTGTCACTTGAGCCGACCGTTTATCCCCGGCTA GTGAAGGACGCAAACGTTGCTTCAAGGGCCT CGAAATAAGTTTTCATCTTATTCCCCATCTCGGC CATTAGGTTGCCATTGCCTCATTACAGCATATCG CTGGTCACCACAAAGGAGCCATCGCGCTGAGA GAATGATCTACGTGGCTTTGGTAGCTGAGGGAA ATCATTCTTCTCTGTTTTCGTGAGGAGAGCCA GCATCTCCATGCTTGGGCCAGCCGGAGCATTG CAATCCAAAGCAGGGGCCACAATTCGACTGTTT TCCAGACTGGCTCTCAACTCAGCCAGCTCCTTG CGGAGCTCATCCATCTCTGCAGACCTTTTGCCT CATTGGCCTTCAGGGTGTTATAGGCATCTTGAG CCTGTTGACCTCCTCTGAGGCAGTCTGTTGGC CAGCTCGACGACTTCTCTGCGATCGAGTCGCGAG CTCCCCCTTGAAGTGCATCACA
70774960	PKM009	HO348180	gcattcaaggggtgaaggt cgaagaactggaatgggaaa	CTGTTTCGATTACTAGATTGACGGCACATTTCTGT TTCTGATCCATTATACTATCCAGCTGAATGCTTT GTGAAAATATTAATTTCTTATATTAACCATTACT TAACTGAAACTCTCTATTTTTTTCAGGAAATATTTT CACCATAGCTATTATTAATTTGTTTATACAGTACA TTCAAATAAACTGTAAAGAACAAGGTTATGAAT TACAAAGTTATATAACGTTGAGAAGAAAATTTCT CCTCCAAAAACTAATTGGATAATTACTACCGAC TGTGTTGTGCAAAGTATTGTAAGAAAATTGAGA TTGATTGTAAAAACAGTAAACAAAAACATGCTG ATTGTAATCTGCAATTAGTCACATAATCTGTACCT TACTTCTAATTTGTAGTTAAAAAAAAGCACATATG TAAATTGTAATACATTTTTGGACCACGTGAGGCG TAAATTTTTTGGTCAAACAACGAATCTATGCAT CGATTTTTCGATGGCAAATGTAATCTACAAACAA ATAAAAAAACTATGAACAATACTAAATGCACCCA ACATTTCCATTTGATTAATAATGAATCATGAAC AGCAAATCTGCCGTCTCTTAATATATCGAAC TAACTTGACACCCTTGAATGCA

70774961	PKM010	HO348181	gcattcaagggtgcaaggt cgaagaactggaatgggaaa	CGCTCAGGTATATTCCATGTCTTCAGCGATTGG TAAAATGCGTGACGGACTGGACTGCGACACGC GACGCGTGCCCTGGCTAGTTTCAGCCTCGGGC ACACGTGGTTCCTCATGTTAGGTTTTAGTCTTT TATGACCCCTTTTTGACACACGCTCTTTAGCCTT ATCGAGTAATGGAAGTAGCTTCTTATCCTTTGCT AATATTTGCAGGAGCGTTATTATAAACGGCATG TAGTTATGGCGTCTGCGTGCCAATTCCAACCTTA TATTTTCCCATTCCAGTTCTTC
70774962	PKM011	HO348182	tgaggccgaagaagaaaaga gagtacggcgaggaatgaag	CCGGAACGATGCGGTATCTGCGCTTCGTCTGCC GGAGGTGGATTGAGCCTTTGGTAAGAAATTTGG TTTGACCCCTGAACATTTGCTGAAACGACGGAC AACTACCAGAGGCATGAGTCTGAGCAGCAACCC GTTCCGCCCTAGAGGCCGCCGCTGAATATGCA GGAGCATGGTTTCAGCGGCCGAAGTGCCGCC G
70774963	PKM012	HO348183	ccagttggcaaatggttt tgagctggaccagttgtg	AAAGGTGAGGTGAGTAGACCGTCTGACGCGG TACTATCGTTTAGCCCTAGATATATGGCTATGTC TAAGACGTCTTGTGTTGTGGGGCCGTAGTATGT AGGCTCGTCTGGCCACAAATCTCGTAACGAGC GCTCTCCGCATGTTGTTGCAAGAGCCTACCTGC TGAGTGGTAGTCGAGGAGTTC
70774964	PKM013	HO348184	actgcagcagcacttgctta tcaaacgtgctcgtgtgat	AAAAATAATTTACAAGGCCTCGTAAAGCTCAAAA ATTCACTAATCTTCAGTCGACCTTCCACTAAGC TCGGTTGTCTGGGTAAAGCACCAATGAATCGA AAACCGATAAAATTCTATTAATGTTTGCGTTGAAA AAAAACGTGACAGCGCTCGTTTCGCTCTCATG ATAGATTGAAATTTCTTTGTTCAATACACAATGC GAAGTATTTAACTAGCTACTGGATCATAAATCAC GTTAACTACGAGTATGTAAGTTGTTTATATTAGT GAGTTTATCACAGTCACTCAAATTGCTACTGAG TTGATCAAAAATCTAAGTAACTCATTCTATTGAGC GATTCATTTATTACACACATATCACACGGGCACG TTTTGAAAAA
70774965	PKM014	HO348185	ccagttggcaaatggttt tgagctggaccagttgtg	GGAGGGGGCCGGTTCGAGTAGACCGTCTGACG CGGTAACGTTTCAGCCCTGAATATATGGCTATC TCTAAGACGTCTTGTGTTGTGGGGCCGTAGTAT GTAGGCTCGTCTGGCCACAAATCTCGTAACCA GCGCTCTCCGCATGTTGTTGCAAGAGCCTACCT GCTGTAGTGGTAGTCGAGGAGTTCCAGTAGGCC TTTTTAATGTTGAAGTCGCTGCCAAGATTGTAG GCGTAGGCGAGTCCAACAACTGGTCCAGCTCA AGAA
70774968	PKM015	HO348188	ggaatgcaactaacgccatt gaagtgtaaggcacgggta	AAAACAGGGGAAAAGCGTGCCATGGTTGAGGCA GGCCAATACCTAGGAGTTAACATCGACAGCCTA CTGAGGTTCAAGAACCACACCGATTACTTAGTG GGTCGAGTCCGAGCGAAACGAGCTAAACTTAAG CCCGTGCTGTCATCATCGCTCCCTCTAAGAACG AAGCTCGGATTTACAAAATTATATTAGATCTC GCCTAACATACGCGGCACCGGTTTGTACGCAT ACCTGTTC GAAACTCAAAGAGGACTCAAGTAAGACGCTCA TGCTCAATTTCAAGATCAATGCAA

70774966	PKM016	HO348186	ggaatgcaactaacgccatt gaagtggtaaggcacgggta	AAGGTAGTCTTGATATTACTATTCCATGAAAAGC AACTACAGCAATATTGCGTAGTCGAAACAGCGA CCACATTCAAATAGTAGCCGGCAAAATATGGAAA CAACCTGTTCTATTAATAAATAAATAAATTGAG TCGTACGAGACGCCTGGCAGATATGAAGCATC GAAATTGTTATCATCGTACAAATATTAATTATAC TATAGGTACGCGAGCTCAGTGCGGCAAGAGAAA TTACGCACGGTCGCTTGCGCATGCCGTGTCGC GTCGTGCAACACCAACAGTCAGGTTAACC GC GCCTATAGATGTTTTACATCAATAAAAAATTGTT GAATCGAACGATTCTCAAATTACACTATAGGTAT GCAAGCTCAATGCGGCAAAGGAGATCGCGCAC AATCGCTTGCGCATGGCATCGCGTCACGTCTCA CACACTCGCCACGCCACTAATTACGTTTACCCGT GCCTTAACCACTTCAAAAAAAAAA
70774967	PKM017	HO348187	actgcagcagcacttgctta acgtgctggtgatctttg	ACGAAACTGAATTAATCCATCTCTTTATTCTATT CATATAGTTCGTAAATTCGTTTTTTTGTGCATCTA TTAATGTCATGAGCACGCCTGTGATTGTAATTAT TACACTGTAATTTTATTTTGTAAAGTGACCATATGT AATTTTAACTATGTGTAATTTTATGTTGGTGCGC TAAATATATAAAATAAAAATGAAATAAAATATCTT AAATTAATATGCGCCACTGTCAATTATTGTATCTC AATGTGTAATCGGGTATTAGGCTTCCATTAGACA GGTATTGACTAGTTGTCTAATTTGAAAGAAAGAA AGAAGATACATTTATTCATCACATACACACAGA ATTATATGTACATAAACA AAAAGCACAAATTAAG TAAGACGAGATGTGTTGCATGAGGTTAAAAGGA TTTTGTATCAGCATTAGCTGCAGGCTTGCATGTA GGAGCATTGCAGCGCTGGTTTTTCAGACAAAGCC ATTGTATTATTATGACATACACAAAATTACAAATA CACGGACGTATTTAAATTACGAATCCAAATTAAT ATTATACACGCCCTAAATTCCTAAGTAGTAAAGT GTAATCTAGTACTGCCTACACATCATAACAGCACA CTAGCTCAAAGATCAACACGAGCACGTA

HO348182.1 had little homology with mRNA sequence of *Aedes aegypti* (DV409461.1 and DV409459.1). Acc. No. HO348183.1, HO348185.1 and HO348188.2 did not match with any sequence of insects available. Acc. No. HO348184.1 showed little matching (score 41.0) with *S. litura* sequence Accession No. GW415437.17. Acc. No. HO348186.1 had little matching with sequences of *S. cynthia ricini* (DC862805.1), *A. mylitta* (EB742615.1), *B. mori* (BY923721.1), *S. littoralis* (FQ021141.1). Acc. No. HO34817.1 matched (score - 244.1) with sequences of *Choristoneura fumifera* (FC964358.1), *Aphis gossypii* (GW559870.1). None of the sequences which showed some matching in EST data base are reported in relation with diapause in any one of the insect species mentioned in the preceding lines. Although the sequences obtained under the

present study matched with the sericigenous insects as well as wild insects' species belonging to Lepidoptera and Diptera. These sequences can be used as good marker for monitoring the diapause in *A. mylitta*.

Based on the presence of these expressed sequence tags (ESTs) throughout pupal diapause period a chart was prepared as shown in Table 3. It may be seen that most of these ESTs were only present during actual period of diapause. The ESTs obtained with the help of diapause specific primers designed from the different diapause specific sequences of Hsp23, Hsp70, Hsp22 and Hexamerins were abundantly present during course of pupal diapause. Some of the ESTs were also prevalent during preparatory period of diapause. The ESTs obtained from the primers of

**Table 3.** Expression pattern of diapause specific expressed sequence tags in non-diapausing and diapausing generations

GENE SPECIFIC PRIMER S/ S TA GE	LARVA						PUPA													
	III		IV		V		N				DD									
	NDD	DD	NDD	DD	NDD	DD	D0	D4	D6	D12	D0	D30	D45	D75	D105	D135	D165	D195	D210	
Am.PCNA																				
Am.HP23																				
Am.25H																				
Am.70HA1																				
Am.70HSA																				
Am.70HS Am.70HA2 Am.70HA3																				
Am.70HA5B Am.70HA5B																				
Am.90HA																				
Am.AP90A																				
Am.23HSD																				
Am.70HA5A																				
Am.HEX1 Am.HEX2																				
Am.A22A Am.A22B																				

Note: Colour intensity denotes the band intensity in a specific stage

Abbreviations: NDD=Non-diapause destined generation; DD=Diapause destined generation; D = Days (the age of diapausing pupae); III=Third instar larva; IV= Fifth instar larva

Hexamerins were only seen when pupae were 65 and 165 days old. ESTs obtained from the primers designed from Hsps 70 sequences were upregulated during early (D0), middle (D75) and late age (D135 to D165) of diapause period. The presence of Hsp23 was obtained during preparatory phase of diapause (IV instar) and pupae of early and mid aged diapause period (D0 to D75) and late age of diapause (D135 to D165). ESTs of Hsp22 were seen during preparatory phase of diapause (IV and V instar), through out diapause period and even after diapause period was over. ESTs of Hsps90 were seen during preparatory stage (IV instar) and middle and late age of diapause period. ESTs of PCNA were down regulated through out diapause period but their upregulation was seen at the time of diapause termination. Another group of ESTs obtained from different

set of Hsps 70 primers were up regulated intermittently through out the diapause period. Hsps90 were up regulated during middle and late age of true diapause period. At the fag end of true diapause period, these ESTs disappeared when pupae became older than 165 days because they were not seen when pupae were 195 days old indicating that actual state of diapause termination starts when pupae are 190-195 days old. It was also evidenced by the upregulation of AmPCNA ESTs whose concentration remained very low through out the diapause period but its intensity increased at 195 days showing an increasing trend up to 210 days. The ESTs from PCNA sequences were also seen when diapause had terminated. Most of the ESTs disappeared when pupae were more than 195 days old. Thus the pupae of 195 days and older can be further exploited for low

temperature treatment to delay the moth emergence in adverse summer season so as to produce dfls matching with the actual cropping schedule. The sequences obtained from these ESTs were observed to be unique and *A. mylitta* specific as they did not entirely match with the original sequences from which the primers were designed.

Diapausing animals switch between favouring some metabolic substrates early in diapause and then favouring others later in diapause (Yocum *et al.*, 2005; Zhou and Miesfeld, 2009). Deciphering proteomic signatures in early diapause of *Nasonia vitripennis*, a metabolic shift from reconstruction to maintenance occurs which is evidenced by high levels of proteins involved in replication/transcription (histones) and translation (ribosomal protein, translation factor) followed by an increase of metabolic enzymes and maintenance proteins (ferritin, some hexamerins) results into induction and further maintenance of diapause (Wolschin and Gadau, 2009). The expression of a hexamerin protein, AgSP-1, changed throughout diapause development (Lewis *et al.*, 2002). The PCNA ESTs were up-regulated at the fag end of diapause when pupae attained the age of 195 days and same trend continued up to 210 days of pupae.

The enrichment of diapause gene sets have been reported in the pupae of flesh fly and the lists of these genes overlap in between diapause and oxidative stress responses in three major areas; metabolism genes involved in glycolysis/gluconeogenesis, general stress response elements including HSPs and antioxidants/detoxification genes, and mechanism that suppress anabolic synthetic activity (Ragland *et al.*, 2010). Pupal diapause has been reported to be in the form of reduced cellular growth (Tammariello and Denlinger, 1998). Heat shock proteins (Hsps) are up regulated by diverse stresses (Parsell and Lindquist, 1993; Fedre and Hofmann, 1999; Sun and MacRae,

2005). The Hsps sequences have been divided into two groups based on their expression pattern: those with low expression under non-stress conditions, but can quickly be induced under stress conditions (Hsp70) and as second group consisting of sequences that are constitutively expressed under non-stress conditions, but with little or no induced expression after shock, Hsc70 (Michael *et al.*, 2003). Both act as molecular chaperones helping to stabilize protein during folding, and both participate in reactions to remove abnormal cellular proteins (Terlecky *et al.*, 1992) and Hsps are correlated with thermal tolerance (Li and Werb, 1982). A small Hsp (Hsp23) and Hsp70 are highly up-regulated during pupal diapause (Yocum *et al.*, 1998; Flannagan *et al.*, 1998; Reinhert *et al.*, 2000). During diapause Hsp70, Hsp60 and the small Hsps are all up-regulated but Hsp90 is actually down regulated and show an interesting dichotomy of function under these two different circumstances in insects (Reinhert *et al.*, 2007). In case of *A. mylitta* also the up regulation of small heat shock proteins and primer designed from Hsp 70 expressed in through out pupal diapause, in some cases a primer of Hsp 90 also expressed. This indicates that *A. mylitta* may also have a similar mechanism for surviving harsh conditions prevailing during diapause. However, there may be differences in the level of expression as this species is a tropical species and passes both winter and summer during pupal diapause. A tentative period of diapause termination is found when all these expressed proteins disappear from the brain tissues when pupae attain the age of 195 to 200 days. This particular age can be exploited for consigning diapausing pupae to low temperature for getting delayed and synchronized emergence during adverse seasons. The partial clones of Hsp70 are also reported from other insects by using PCR primers designed from conserved insect sequences following established protocol such as in walnut husk maggot (Gene bank Acc. No.

EF103585), European corn borer, *Ostrinia nubilais* (Gene Bank Acc. No. EF103583) and the apple maggot, *Rhagoletis pommenella* (Gene bank Acc. No. EF103584). In the present study too the partial clones of Hsp70, Hsp 23, Hsp 90 and Hexamerins obtained in the brain tissue of *A. mylitta* are up-regulated during diapause and playing a major role in maintenance of diapause state in *A. mylitta*. Their up regulation at a specific age of diapause indicates that there was demand of more amino acids during course of diapause development in *A. mylitta*. Upregulation of PCNA gene fragments occurs at the fag end of diapause when pupae were 195 days old. This indicates the stage of diapause termination. Therefore 195 days and older pupae can be exploited for working out a low temperature treatment schedule for delaying moth emergence matching with cropping schedule in unfavourable climatic conditions during summer.

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