

Supplementary materials

Table S1. Primer pairs for stress-responsive genes used in reverse-transcription qPCR

Gene ID	Primers	Primer sequences (5'-3')	Reference
Contig_970	<i>AVP-F</i>	AGAAGTACATTGAGGCTGGTG	[15]
	<i>AVP-R</i>	GTCCAGAGGTGTCCTTCAATG	
Contig_13195	<i>NHX1-F</i>	CAATGCCGGGTTTCAAGTAAAG	[15]
	<i>NHX1-R</i>	AGTAGCACCCGTGGTTATAATG	
Contig_34725	<i>P5CS-F</i>	GGCTGCAGGATAATCAGTCTTT	[15]
	<i>P5CS-R</i>	GTTCTTGGTCATGCTGATGGA	
AF056621.1	<i>CuZnSOD-F</i>	TAATTGCTGATGCCAACG	[36]
	<i>CuZnSOD-R</i>	ACCACAGGCTAATCTTCCAC	
BE205441.1	<i>POD-F</i>	CTACCTGGCCCTCATTTCAA	[37]
	<i>POD-R</i>	CTTCTTGGGCTGAATCCGTA	
JQ028730.1	<i>Actin 2-F</i>	ATTCACGAGACCACCTAC	[38]
	<i>Actin 2-R</i>	AACCACCACTAAGAACAATG	

Figure S1.

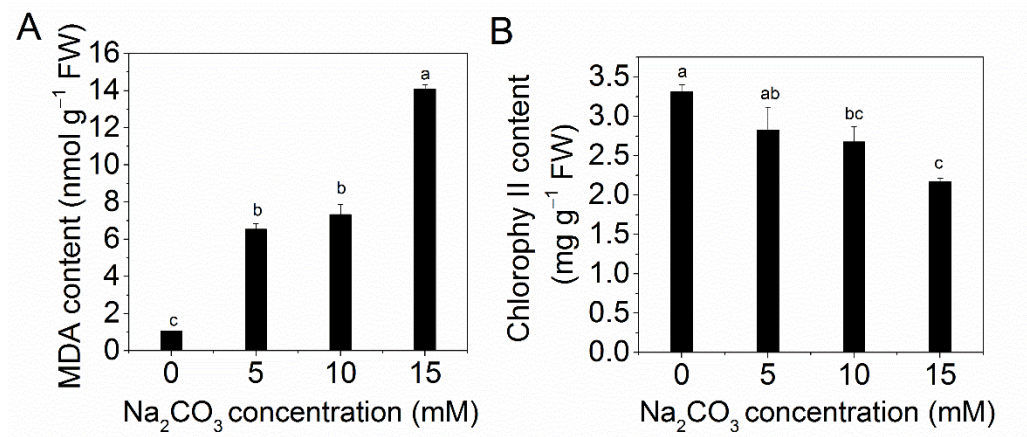


Figure S1. Effects of different concentrations of Na_2CO_3 on the (A) MDA (malondialdehyde) and (B) chlorophyll contents in the leaves of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) seedlings. Different letters on the columns indicate significant differences ($p < 0.05$) among concentrations based on Duncan's test.

Figure S2.

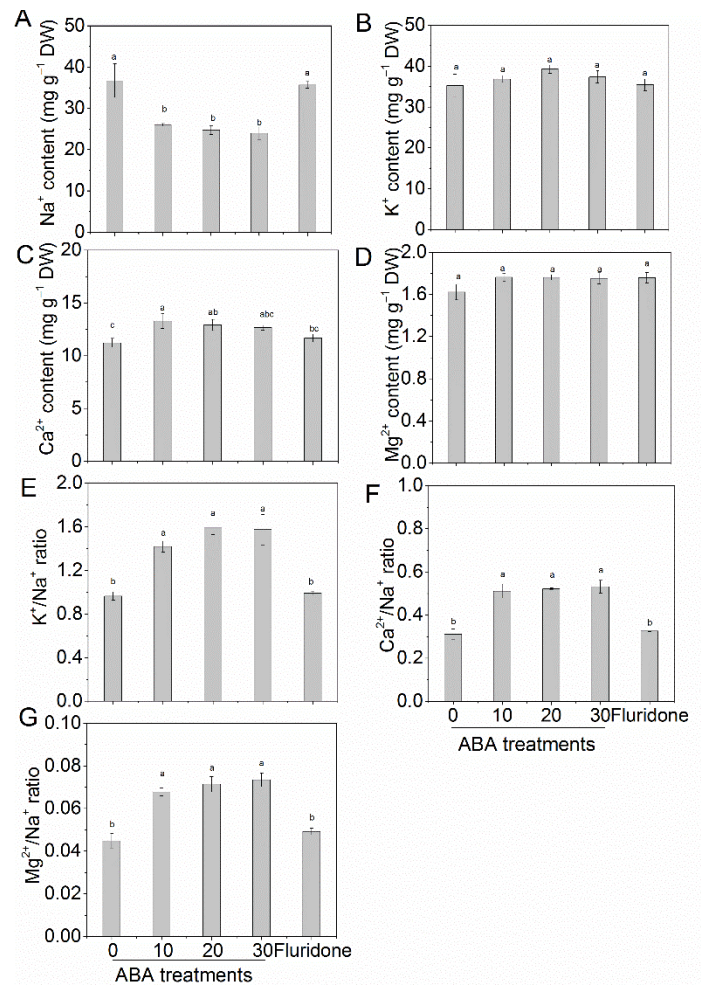


Figure S2. Abscissic acid (ABA) priming alleviated damage to alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) seedlings under alkaline conditions. Eighteen-day-old alfalfa seedlings were also root-drenched with an ABA concentration of 0, 10, 20, or 30 μM or with fluridone (an ABA biosynthesis inhibitor, 10 μM) for 16 h and then exposed to alkaline stress (15 mM Na_2CO_3). (A) Na^+ content; (B) K^+ content; (C) Ca^{2+} content; (D) Mg^{2+} content; (E) K^+/Na^+ ratio; (F) $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Na}^+$ ratio; (G) $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Na}^+$ ratio. Values are the mean \pm standard error, $n = 3$. Different letters on the columns indicate significant differences ($p < 0.05$) at (A to G) between ABA treatments and fluridone treatment based on Duncan's test.