



Genome-Wide Analysis of Odorant-Binding Proteins and Chemosensory Proteins in the Bean bug *Riptortus pedestris*

Jin-Bu Li^{1,2}, Mao-Zhu Yin², Wei-Chen Yao³, Sai Ma³, Yousef Dewer⁴, Xing-Zhou Liu², Yue-Ying Wang², Chao-Wei Wang², Bao-Ping Li^{1*} and Xiu-Yun Zhu^{3*}

¹Department of Entomology, College of Plant Protection, Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China, ²Institute of Plant Protection, Suzhou Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Suzhou, China, ³Anhui Province Key Laboratory of Pollutant Sensitive Materials and Environmental Remediation, Anhui Provincial Engineering Laboratory for Efficient Utilization of Featured Resource Plants, College of Life Sciences, Huaibei Normal University, Huaibei, China, ⁴Phytotoxicity Research Department, Central Agricultural Pesticide Laboratory, Agricultural Research Center, Giza, Egypt

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*Correspondence:

Bao-Ping Li
lbp@njau.edu.cn
Xiu-Yun Zhu
xyzhuhbnu@163.com

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Insects have sensitive olfactory systems to interact with environment and respond to the change in host plant conditions. Key genes in the system can be potential targets for developing new and efficient pest behaviour control methods. *Riptortus pedestris* is an important soybean pest in East Asia and has caused serious damage to the soybean plants in Huang-Huai-Hai region of China. However, the current treatment of pests is dominated by chemical insecticides and lacks efficient sustainable prevention and control technologies. In this study, we identified 49 putative odorant-binding proteins (OBPs) (43 were new genes) and 25 chemosensory proteins (CSPs) (17 were new genes) in *R. pedestris* genome. These OBP and CSP genes are clustered in highly conserved groups from other hemipteran species in phylogenetic trees. Most *RpedOBPs* displayed antennal-biased expression. Among the 49 *RpedOBPs*, 33 were significantly highly expressed in the antennae, including three male-biased and nine female-biased. While many *RpedCSPs* were detected both in the antennae and in non-antennal tissues, only 11 *RpedCSPs* displayed antennal-biased expression, in which four *RpedCSPs* were male-biased and five *RpedCSPs* were female-biased. Some *OBP* and *CSP* genes showed sex-biased expression profiles. Our results not only provide a foundation for future exploration of the functions of *RpedOBPs* and *RpedCSPs* but also aid in developing environmentally friendly insecticides in the future.

Keywords: *Riptortus pedestris*, genome analysis, odorant-binding proteins, chemosensory proteins, olfactory

INTRODUCTION

Insects have a sensitive olfactory system, which enhances their ability to adapt to the complex external environment to accurately complete behavioural reactions such as feeding, mating, and avoiding natural enemies (Leal, 2013; Robertson, 2019). A large amount of studies on the molecular mechanisms of insect olfactory systems have found that the accurate operation of the system is inseparable from the participation of olfactory genes such as odorant-binding proteins (OBPs), chemosensory proteins (CSPs), and olfactory receptors (ORs) (Zhang et al., 2013; Glaser et al., 2015; Li et al., 2015; Elfekih et al., 2016; Larter et al., 2016; Paula et al., 2016; Renou and Anton, 2020; Rihani et al., 2021).

OBPs and CSPs are located in the lymph of insect antennal sensilla, and can accurately bind to external odorants and transport them to the corresponding ORs, ionotropic receptors (IRs) or gustatory receptors (GRs) to initiate behavioural responses. Therefore, the action of OBPs and CSPs is the first step in activating insect olfactory perception (Zhou, 2010; Dani et al., 2011; Pelosi et al., 2018; Rihani et al., 2021), which can be used as potential target genes to develop new and efficient pest behaviour control agents. Since the discovery of the first OBP and CSP in *Antheraea polyphemus* (Vogt and Riddiford, 1981) and *Drosophila melanogaster* (McKenna et al., 1994), respectively, a large number of OBPs and CSPs have been confirmed and studied in different insects (Latorre-Estivalis et al., 2021; Li et al., 2021; He et al., 2022).

These two types of genes have been the subject of studies on evolution, molecular structure, tissue distribution, and functional analysis (Spinelli et al., 2012; Pelosi et al., 2018; Li et al., 2021). It is now clear that both OBPs and CSPs are soluble small-molecule proteins. Generally, OBPs use six positionally conserved cysteines to form three interlocking disulfide bridges that stabilise the three-dimensional structure of the proteins. OBPs can be divided into three distinct subfamilies: classic OBPs (six conserved cysteines), minus-C OBPs (four conserved cysteines), and plus-C OBPs (more than six conserved cysteines) (Zhou, 2010; Schultze et al., 2012; Spinelli et al., 2012; Li et al., 2013; He and He, 2014; Zhang et al., 2017b). Compared with OBPs, CSPs are smaller, display greater evolutionary conservation, and have only two disulfide bridges with four conserved cysteines (Maleszka and Stange, 1997; Bohbot et al., 1998; Pelosi et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2014; Zhu J. et al., 2016; Yi et al., 2017; Pelosi et al., 2018). Additionally, OBPs are often specifically or highly expressed in the antennae and are mainly involved in odorant recognition (Krieger et al., 1996; Sengul and Tu, 2010; Missbach et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2017a), whereas many CSPs are expressed in the antennal and other non-olfactory organs (Pelosi et al., 2005; Vogt, 2005; Zhang et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014; Zhang L.-W. et al., 2016; Chen G.-L. et al., 2018). This suggests that CSPs may play both olfactory and non-olfactory roles in insects.

The bean bug *Riptortus pedestris* (Fabricius) (Hemiptera: Alydidae) is an important soybean pest in East Asia (Xu et al., 2021) and has a wide range of hosts. In addition to soybean, it can also harm Cruciferae, Gramineae, and other crops (Huang et al., 2021). *R. pedestris* damages soybeans by sucking, which results in poor growth and development of plants and insufficient pods (Chen J. H. et al., 2018). In recent years, *R. pedestris* has caused serious damage to the soybean plants in Huang-Huai-Hai region of China and has greatly reduced the yield of soybean, or lost the harvest. It has now become an important pest in China's summer soybean producing areas (Chen J. H. et al., 2018; Li et al., 2019). However, the current treatment of pests is still dominated by the use of chemical insecticides and lacks efficient green prevention and control technologies. This has become a growing consensus that the development of green and efficient behaviour disruptors is a popular research direction based on the exploration of insect olfactory systems (Sun et al., 2011; Cui and Zhu, 2016; Qin et al., 2020). In this study, we identified 49 OBPs and 25 CSPs in the *R. pedestris* genome and found that these genes were clustered in highly

conserved groups comprising OBP and CSP genes from other hemipteran species, respectively. The gene expression profiles of OBPs and CSPs showed that most RpedOBPs displayed antennal-biased expression, while many RpedCSPs were highly expressed in the antennae and non-antennal tissues, and some genes showed sex-biased expression. These results will help us identify the functions of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs and develop environmentally friendly insecticides against this pest in the future.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Insect Rearing and Tissue Extraction

R. pedestris were fed with bean sprouts and maintained at a temperature of $26 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ under a 14:10 h light:dark photoperiod. Female and male adults, as well as larvae, were placed in insect cages for reproduction. Fifth instar larvae were collected and raised separately to obtain three-day-old virgin adults. The heads, thoraxes, abdomens, legs, wings, and antennae of virgin adults were collected. All collected samples were immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C for future use.

Sequence Data Collection and Analyses

Genome data, gene, protein, RNA and annotation files of *R. pedestris* were obtained from the Genome Warehouse (<https://ngdc.cncb.ac.cn/gwh/Assembly/18849/show>). We used the protein data of *R. pedestris* and blasted with different database of Nr (Non-Redundant Protein Sequence), Nt (nucleotide sequence database), UniProt (The Universal Protein Resource), KOG (Clusters of orthologous groups for eukaryotic complete genomes), eggNOG (evolutionary genealogy of genes: Non-supervised Orthologous Groups), Interpro (the integrative protein signature), GO (Gene Ontology), and KEGG (Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes) databases (Huang et al., 2021), so *R. pedestris* proteins were annotated based on homology (These data were derived from a previous genome paper). We acquired the genes and ORF sequences of OBPs and CSPs by corresponding protein ID using *R. pedestris* genomic database. To ensure the accuracy of gene sequences, we used OBP and CSP genes to blast with Nr (Non-Redundant Protein Sequence) database in NCBI BLAST (<http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>). We also selected some genes (RpedOBP8, RpedOBP37, RpedCSP5) to clone and sent to sequencing to verify the correctness of the sequences. A total of 49 OBPs and 25 CSPs were obtained based on the similarity analysis. Putative N-terminal signal peptides of all OBPs and CSPs were predicted using SignalP 4.1 (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP/>), (Petersen et al., 2011).

RNA Isolation and cDNA Synthesis

Total RNA was extracted using a FastPure[®] Cell/Tissue Total RNA Isolation Kit (Vazyme, Nanjing, China) following the manufacturer's instructions, and RNA quality was checked using a spectrophotometre (NanoDrop[™] 2000; Thermo Fisher Scientific, United States). Single-stranded cDNA templates were synthesised from 1 μg of total RNA from various tissue samples using the MonScript[™] RTIII Super Mix with dsDNase (Two-Step) (Monad, Shanghai, China).

TABLE 1 | The sequences information of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs.

Gene Name	Gene ID	ORF (aa)	Signal Peptide	Complete ORF	Best blastx match					
					Name	Acc. number	Subject ORF(aa)	Species	E value	Identity (%)
Odorant binding protein (OBP)										
RpedOBP1	Rp.chr1.1194	170	N	Y	odorant-binding protein 1	AWW17235.1	223	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	6E-10	43
RpedOBP2	Rp.chr1.1641	331	N	Y	odorant-binding protein 5	AOV87022.1	224	<i>Halyomorpha halys</i>	1E-48	41
RpedOBP3	Rp.chr1.1971	173	1-16	Y	general odorant-binding protein 70	XP_014286615.1	225	<i>Halyomorpha halys</i>	2E-83	80
RpedOBP4	Rp.chr2.0376	170	1-19	Y	odorant-binding protein 7	AYN07348.1	226	<i>Yemma signatus</i>	1E-74	71
RpedOBP5	Rp.chr2.0393	215	1-25	Y	odorant-binding protein 19	AXB87334.1	227	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	5E-24	34
RpedOBP6	Rp.chr2.0394	280	1-21	Y	odorant-binding protein 11	AYN07352.1	228	<i>Yemma signatus</i>	2E-27	46
RpedOBP7*	Rp.chr2.0395	215	N	Y	odorant-binding protein 2	AWW17236.1	229	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	2E-129	100
RpedOBP8*	Rp.chr2.0396	223	1-22	Y	odorant-binding protein 1	AWW17235.1	230	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-126	99
RpedOBP9	Rp.chr2.0983	248	N	Y	odorant binding protein 47	QCZ25104.1	231	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	5E-86	58
RpedOBP10	Rp.chr2.1234	165	1-24	Y	odorant binding protein 39	QCZ25096.1	232	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	9E-39	44
RpedOBP11	Rp.chr2.1239	146	1-18	Y	odorant-binding protein 15	AXB87330.1	233	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-53	53
RpedOBP12*	Rp.chr2.1378	153	1-18	Y	odorant-binding protein 5	AWW17239.1	234	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-95	100
RpedOBP13	Rp.chr2.1485	211	1-20	Y	odorant-binding protein 1	AXB87316.1	235	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	2E-72	73
RpedOBP14	Rp.chr2.1635	148	1-20	Y	odorant-binding protein 10	AYN07351.1	236	<i>Yemma signatus</i>	1E-40	56
RpedOBP15	Rp.chr2.1704	147	1-21	Y	odorant binding protein 45	QCZ25102.1	237	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-56	67
RpedOBP16	Rp.chr2.1706	137	1-18	Y	odorant binding protein 42	QCZ25099.1	238	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	6E-7	34
RpedOBP17	Rp.chr2.2024	151	1-20	Y	odorant-binding protein 14	AXB87329.1	239	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-67	74
RpedOBP18*	Rp.chr2.2170	142	1-18	Y	odorant-binding protein 6	AWW17240.1	240	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-100	100
RpedOBP19	Rp.chr2.3105	159	1-24	Y	odorant-binding protein 4	AWW17238.1	241	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	8E-89	91
RpedOBP20	Rp.chr2.3220	144	1-21	Y	odorant-binding protein 11	AXB87326.1	242	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-21	38
RpedOBP21	Rp.chr2.3271	148	1-27	Y	odorant binding protein 14	QCZ25071.1	243	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-53	65
RpedOBP22	Rp.chr2.3272	136	1-17	Y	odorant-binding protein 4	AYN07346.1	244	<i>Yemma signatus</i>	2E-52	71
RpedOBP23	Rp.chr2.3273	109	N	Y	odorant binding protein 34	QCZ25091.1	245	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	5E-42	61
RpedOBP24	Rp.chr2.3274	155	1-19	Y	odorant-binding protein 3	AXB87318.1	246	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-34	51
RpedOBP25	Rp.chr2.3275	151	1-17	Y	odorant binding protein 41	QCZ25098.1	247	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-51	65
RpedOBP26	Rp.chr2.3276	121	N	Y	odorant binding protein 41	QCZ25098.1	248	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	8E-14	40
RpedOBP27	Rp.chr2.3278	149	1-17	Y	odorant binding protein 41	QCZ25098.1	249	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	2E-12	31
RpedOBP28	Rp.chr2.3320	309	1-17	Y	odorant binding protein 41	QCZ25098.1	250	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	5E-12	36
RpedOBP29	Rp.chr2.3321	148	1-22	Y	odorant-binding protein 11	AXB87326.1	251	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-18	43
RpedOBP30	Rp.chr2.3326	148	1-22	Y	odorant-binding protein 11	AXB87326.1	252	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	3E-13	36
RpedOBP31	Rp.chr2.3445	94	N	Y	odorant binding protein 16	QCZ25073.1	253	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	1E-8	32

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 1 | (Continued) The sequences information of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs.

Gene Name	Gene ID	ORF (aa)	Signal Peptide	Complete ORF	Best blastx match					
					Name	Acc. number	Subject ORF(aa)	Species	E value	Identity (%)
RpedOBP32	Rp.chr2.3446	184	N	Y	odorant binding protein 15	QCZ25072.1	254	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	2E-10	33
RpedOBP33	Rp.chr2.3447	129	1–16	Y	odorant binding protein 42	QCZ25099.1	255	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-11	39
RpedOBP34	Rp.chr3.2341	149	N	Y	odorant-binding protein 10	AXB87325.1	256	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	2E-41	48
RpedOBP35	Rp.chr3.2343	146	1–19	Y	odorant-binding protein 10	AXB87325.1	257	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	1E-39	52
RpedOBP36	Rp.chr3.2431	146	1–21	Y	odorant-binding protein 14	AYN07355.1	258	<i>Yemima signatus</i>	3E-31	44
RpedOBP37	Rp.chr3.2644	132	1–18	Y	odorant-binding protein 1	AYN07343.1	259	<i>Yemima signatus</i>	1E-61	77
RpedOBP38*	Rp.chr5.1134	153	1–19	Y	odorant-binding protein 7	AWW17241.1	260	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	2E-108	100
RpedOBP39*	Rp.chr5.2242	147	1–23	Y	odorant-binding protein 3	AWW17237.1	261	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	5E-49	100
RpedOBP40	Rp.chr5.2243	144	1–20	Y	odorant-binding protein 3	AWW17237.1	262	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	1E-47	98
RpedOBP41	Rp.chr5.2244	146	1–20	Y	odorant-binding protein 10	AXB87325.1	263	<i>Tropidothorax elegans</i>	4E-36	47
RpedOBP42	Rp.chr5.2493	196	1–23	Y	odorant binding protein 24	QCZ25081.1	264	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	4E-10	28
RpedOBP43	Rp.chr5.2533	134	1–19	Y	general odorant-binding protein 56 h	XP_016995790.1	265	<i>Drosophila takahashii</i>	3E-6	27
RpedOBP44	Rp.chr5.2536	148	1–21	Y	odorant binding protein 3	KAF2903755.1	266	<i>Sirex nitobei</i>	3E-4	36
RpedOBP45	Rp.chr5.2537	152	1–21	Y	odorant-binding protein 2	AIX97125.1	267	<i>Rhyzopertha dominica</i>	9E-6	41
RpedOBP46	Rp.chr5.2538	152	1–21	Y	general odorant-binding protein 19d-like	XP_031341271.1	268	<i>Photinus pyralis</i>	3E-7	35
RpedOBP47	Rp.chr5.2539	144	1–19	Y	odorant binding protein 13	QCZ25070.1	269	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	0.02	29
RpedOBP48	Rp.chr5.2578	141	1–22	Y	odorant binding protein 56	QCZ25112.1	270	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	7E-12	30
RpedOBP49	Rp.scaffold.288	125	N	Y	odorant binding protein 56	QCZ25112.1	271	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	8E-11	28
Chemosensory Protein (CSP)										
RpedCSP1	Rp.chr1.2826	120	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein	AID61322.1	121	<i>Calliphora stygia</i>	2E-26	43
RpedCSP2	Rp.chr3.0416	128	N	Y	putative chemosensory protein	SAJ59007.1	113	<i>Triatoma brasiliensis</i>	3E-50	75
RpedCSP3*	Rp.chr3.2183	126	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 7	AWW17231.1	126	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	1E-56	100
RpedCSP4*	Rp.chr3.2650	133	1–20	Y	chemosensory protein 5	AWW17229.1	133	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	2E-65	100
RpedCSP5*	Rp.chr3.2651	131	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 10	AWW17234.1	131	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-74	100
RpedCSP6	Rp.chr3.2661	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	7E-72	84
RpedCSP7	Rp.chr3.2662	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	7E-72	84
RpedCSP8	Rp.chr3.2682	134	1–15	Y	chemosensory protein	AVM86426.1	131	<i>Corythucha ciliata</i>	3E-33	45
RpedCSP9	Rp.chr3.2683	126	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 7	AWW17231.1	126	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	4E-45	68
RpedCSP10	Rp.chr3.2684	127	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 5	QCZ25119.1	126	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-51	70
RpedCSP11	Rp.chr3.2687	139	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein CSP3	ABM67690.1	126	<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>	2E-22	39
RpedCSP12*	Rp.chr3.2688	133	1–18	Y	chemosensory protein 3	AWW17227.1	133	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	5E-76	100
RpedCSP13	Rp.chr3.2689	187	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 7	AWW17231.1	126	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	4E-29	63
RpedCSP14	Rp.chr3.2690	127	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-64	83

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 1 | (Continued) The sequences information of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs.

Gene Name	Gene ID	ORF (aa)	Signal Peptide	Complete ORF	Best blastx match					
					Name	Acc. number	Subject ORF(aa)	Species	E value	Identity (%)
RpedCSP15	Rp.chr3.2692	127	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	1E-63	82
RpedCSP16*	Rp.chr3.2693	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	6E-75	100
RpedCSP17	Rp.chr3.2694	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	5E-68	91
RpedCSP18	Rp.chr3.2695	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	2E-67	91
RpedCSP19	Rp.chr3.2696	127	1–19	Y	chemosensory protein 1	AWW17225.1	127	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	2E-68	92
RpedCSP20	Rp.chr3.2697	129	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 4	AWW17228.1	121	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	1E-63	91
RpedCSP21	Rp.chr3.2698	130	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 4	AWW17228.1	121	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	6E-68	98
RpedCSP22*	Rp.chr3.2699	132	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 9	AWW17233.1	132	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	7E-79	100
RpedCSP23*	Rp.chr5.2503	125	1–17	Y	chemosensory protein 2	AWW17226.1	125	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	5E-87	100
RpedCSP24*	Rp.chrX.0381	155	N	Y	chemosensory protein 6	AWW17230.1	130	<i>Riptortus pedestris</i>	3E-54	99
RpedCSP25	Rp.chrX.0979	121	1–16	Y	chemosensory protein 7	QCZ25121.1	124	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	3E-50	70

*indicates that this gene has been saved in GenBank by other researchers.

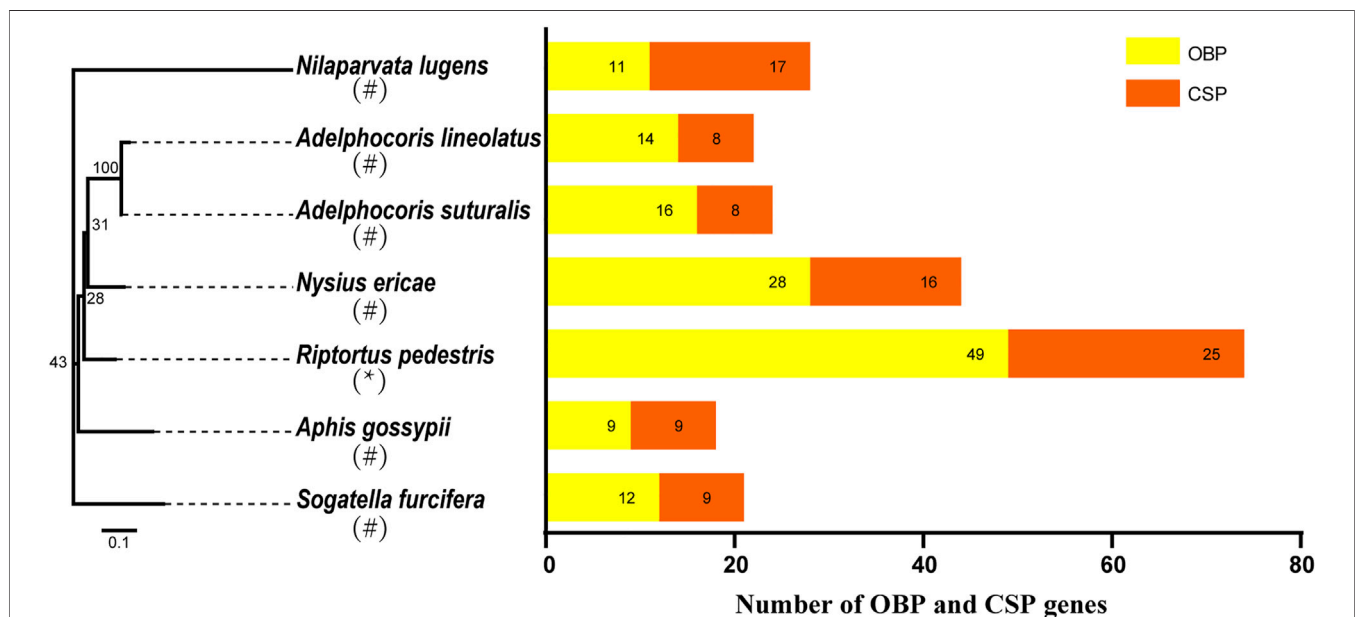


FIGURE 1 | The number of OBP and CSP genes in different insect species, obtained from genome (*) or antennal transcriptome (#). The digits by the histogram bars represent number of OBP and CSP genes in different hemipteran species (*Aphis gossypii*, *Nilaparvata lugens*, *Sogatella furcifera*, *Adelphocoris lineolatus*, *Adelphocoris suturalis*, *Nysius ericae*, *R. pedestris*) and phylogenetic tree was built by these hemipteran species COI genes.

Quantitative Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction

The qRT-PCR primers for 49 OBPs and 25 CSPs (Supplementary Table S1) were designed using Beacon Designer 7.9 (PREMIER

Biosoft International, CA, United States). Expression profilings of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs were performed using qRT-PCR in a LightCycler[®] 96 (Roche, Switzerland) with a mixture of 5 μ L MonAmp[™] ChemoHS qPCR Mix (Monad, Shanghai, China),

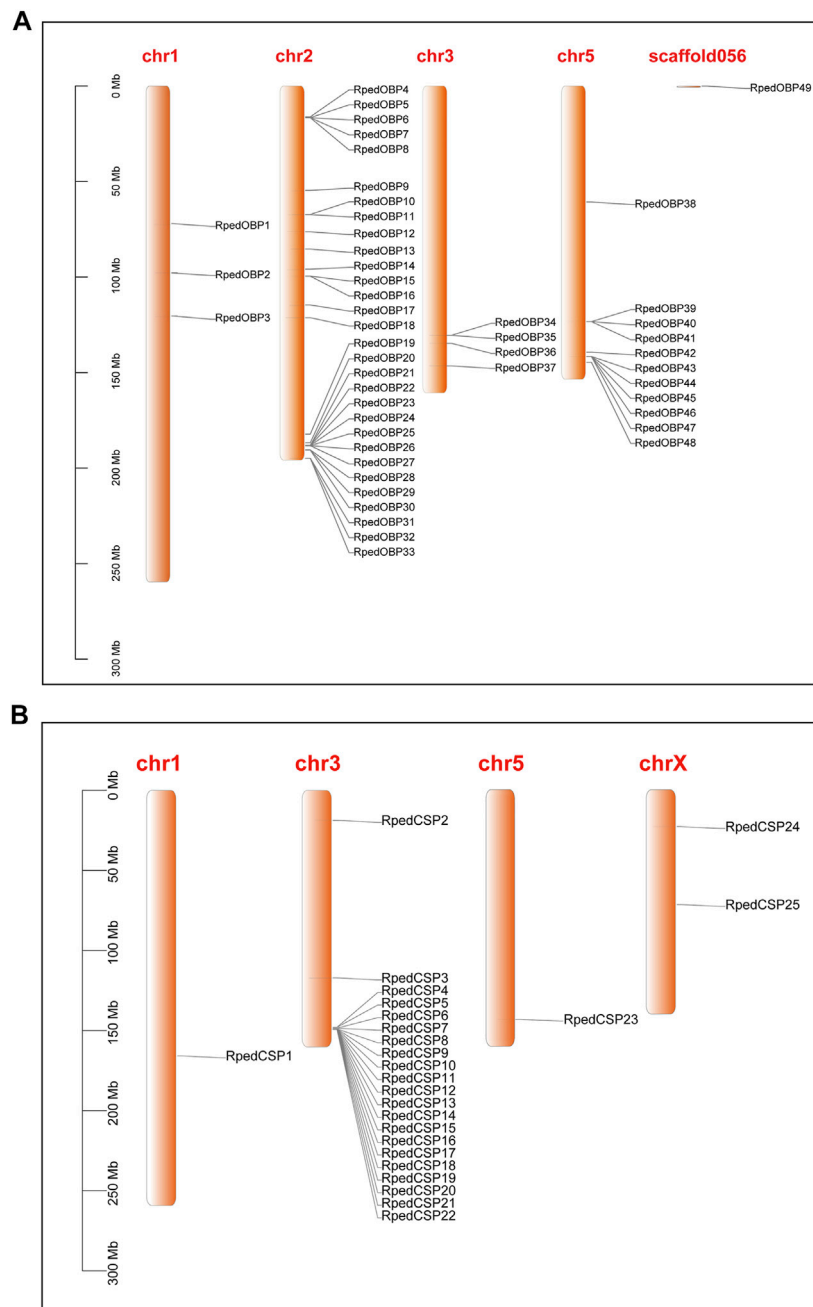
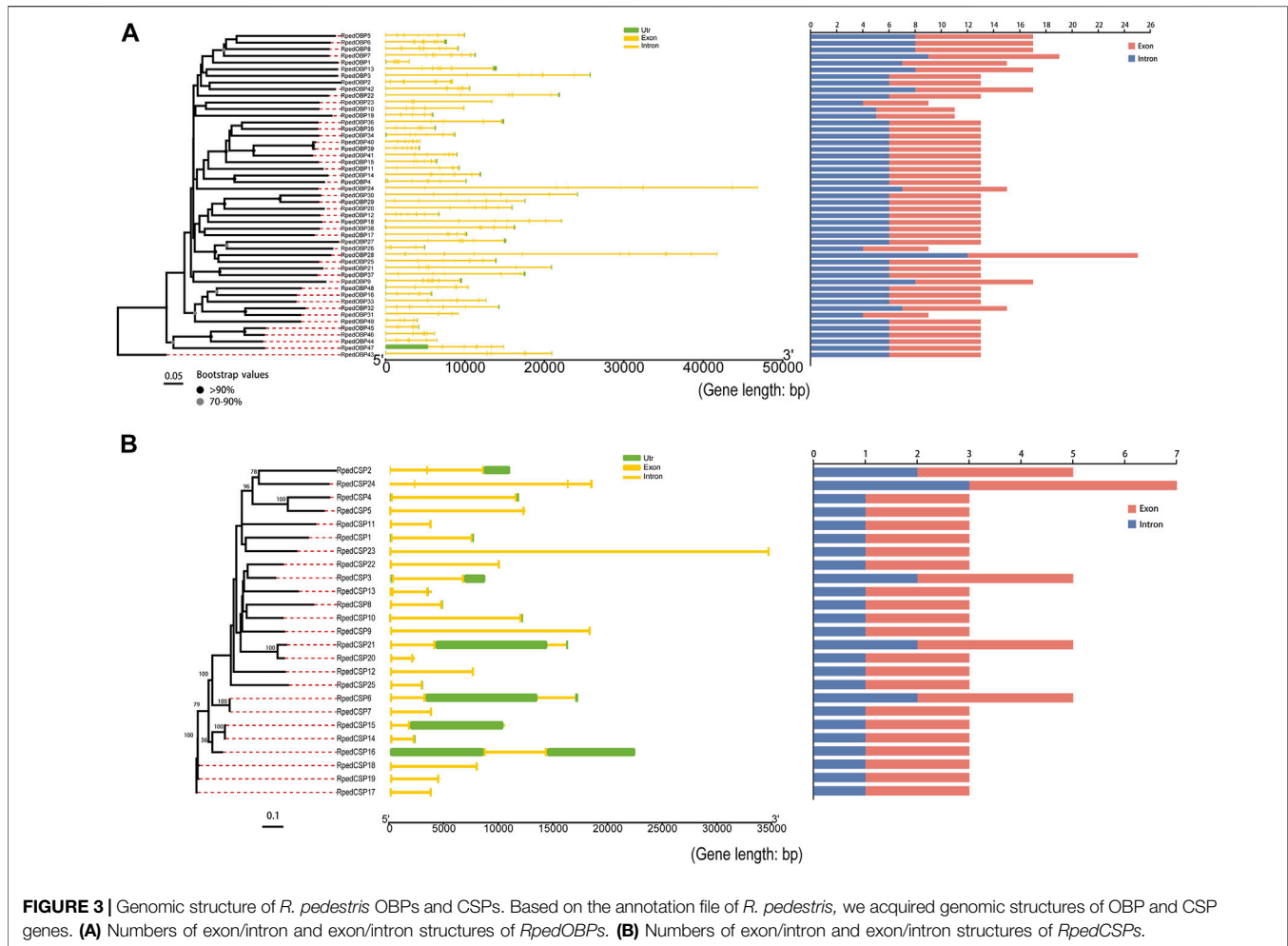


FIGURE 2 | Localization of OBPs and CSPs in the *R. pedestris* genome. Based on the annotation file of *R. pedestris*, we acquired the localization of OBP and CSP genes in genome. **(A)** The *RpedOBPs* in the *R. pedestris* genome, they clustered together in 4 chromosomes and one scaffold. **(B)** The *RpedCSPs* in the *R. pedestris* genome, they clustered together in 4 chromosomes.

0.2 μ L of each primer (10 μ M), 2.5 ng of sample cDNA, and 3.6 μ L of sterilised ultrapure H₂O. The reaction program was as follows: 10 min at 95°C, 40 cycles at 95°C for 10 s, 60°C for 10 s, and 72°C for 30 s. The results were analysed using LightCycler® 96 SW 1.1. Then, fluorescence was measured over a 55–95°C melting curve to detect a single gene-specific peak and to check the absence of primer dimer peaks; a single and discrete peak was detected for all

primers tested. Negative controls consisted of non-template reactions in which the cDNA was replaced with H₂O.

The expression levels of *RpedOBPs* and *RpedCSPs* were calculated relative to the reference genes *RpedGAPDH* (*R. pedestris* glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase) and *RpedEF* (*R. pedestris* elongation factor) using the Q-Genes method in Microsoft Excel-based software Visual Basic



(Muller et al., 2002; Simon, 2003). For each sample, three biological replicates were performed with three technical replicates per biological replicate.

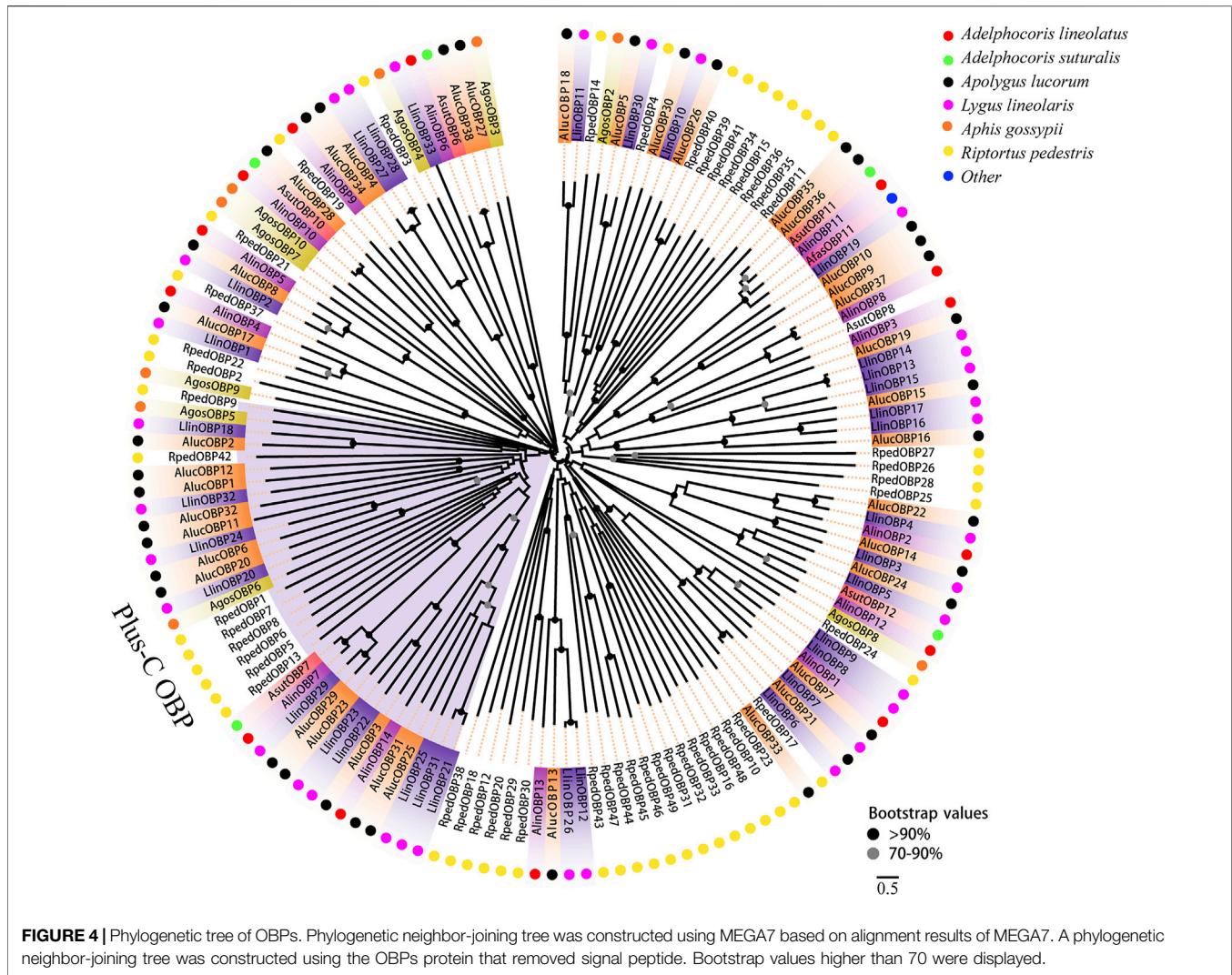
Sequence Analyses

Based on sequence alignments, all phylogenetic trees in this study were constructed using the MEGA7 software (Kumar et al., 2016) using the neighbour-joining method, and each tree was tested by bootstrapping with 1,000 replicates. A phylogenetic tree was constructed based on the alignment results of cytochrome oxidase subunit I (COI) genes from different species (*Aphis gossypii*: KR017753.1, *Nilaparvata lugens*: AB325705.1, *Sogatella furcifera*: LC005703.1, *Adelphocoris lineolatus*: MZ608737.1, *Adelphocoris suturalis*: KY367052.1, *Nysius ericae*: KM022105.1, and *R. pedestris*: MG838422.1). The amino acid sequences of the RpedOBPs, RpedCSPs, and other hemipteran OBPs and CSPs were listed in **Supplementary Table S2**. The totals numbers of OBPs and CSPs in other insects have been reported in previous studies (Gu et al., 2011; Gu et al., 2013;

Cao et al., 2014; He and He, 2014; Xue et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2014; Zhou et al., 2014; He et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2015; Cui et al., 2017). Gene structure and exon/intron structure maps were generated using TBTools (version 1.098728) (Chen et al., 2020) based on *R. pedestris* annotated file (Gene Location Visualisation from GTF/GFF and Visualisation of Gene Structure). Pairwise similarity of sequences was also generated by TBTools based protein sequences (Protein Pairwise Similarity Matrix). Expression heat maps and bars were drawn using TBtools and GraphPad Prism 9.0, respectively, based on the qRT-PCR results.

Statistical Analysis

The qRT-PCR data (mean \pm SE) of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs from various samples were subjected to one-way nested analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by a least significant difference test (LSD) to compare means using the SPSS Statistics software (version 22.0; SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, United States).



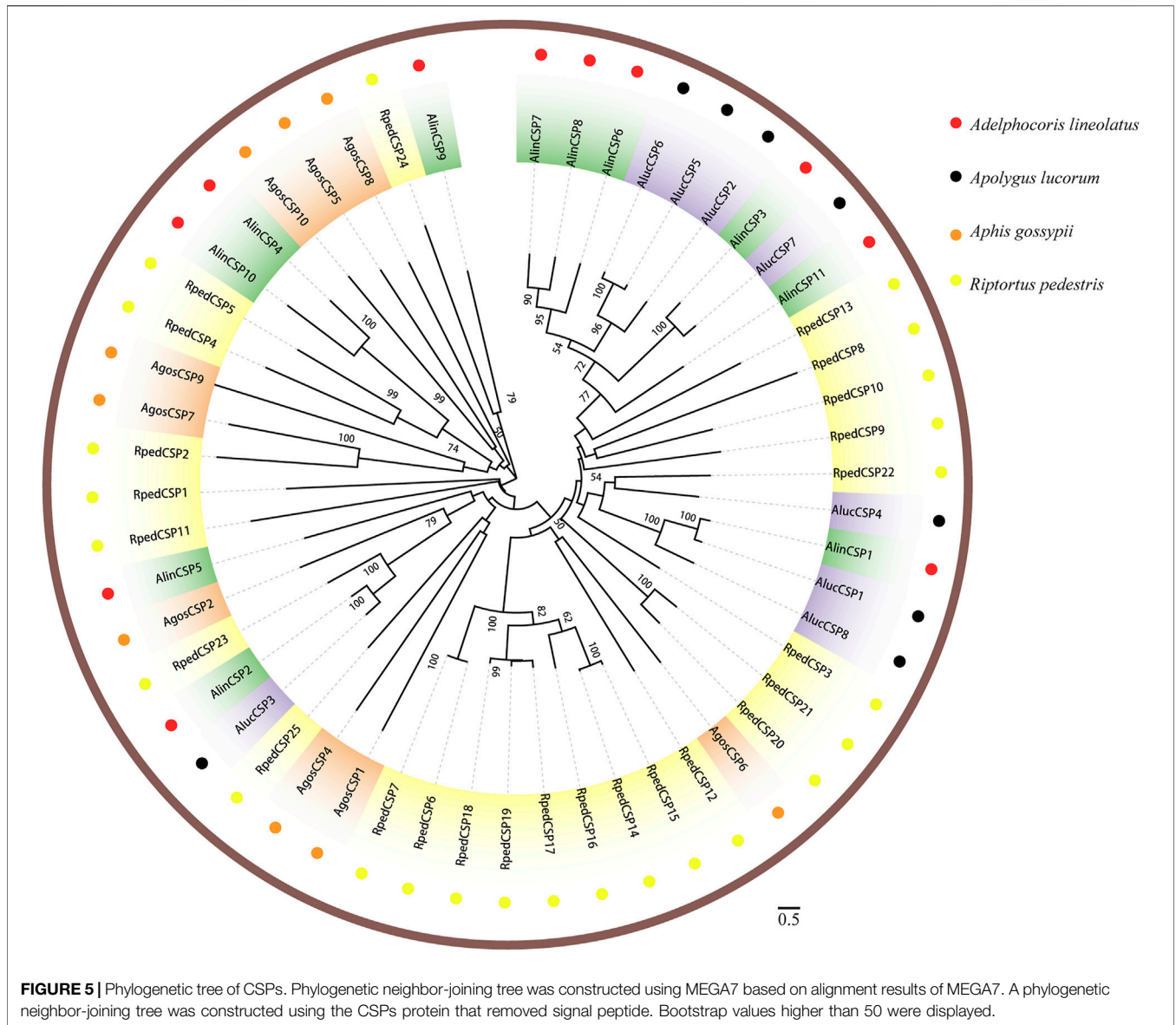
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Identification of OBP and CSP Genes in *R. pedestris*

Recent progress in the whole-genome sequencing provides insights into the molecular mechanisms of olfaction in insects (Cheng et al., 2017; Wan et al., 2019). Second- and third-generation sequencing methods have also been successfully used for *R. pedestris* genome assembly. Based on BUSCO completeness and contig length, the Wtdbg2 assembly was used for the draft assembly of the *R. pedestris* genome (Huang et al., 2021). We downloaded the *R. pedestris* genome, protein, RNA and annotation files using Genome Warehouse and further annotated them using the Nr, Nt, SwissProt, KOG, eggNOG, Interpro, GO, and KEGG databases. A total of 53 OBPs and 25 CSPs of *R. pedestris* were identified and corrected using the following correction through BLAST. Finally, 49 OBPs and 25 CSPs were identified and named RpedOBP1-49 (43 were new genes), RpedCSP1-25 (17 were new genes) (Table 1). The

predicted results of the sequences analysis revealed that all OBPs and CSPs had full-length open reading frames (ORF), and 39 OBPs and 23 CSPs had a signal peptide, respectively. The 49 OBPs without signal peptides share 22.5–99.19% amino acid identities with each other, while the 25 CSPs share 22.5–99.07% amino acid identities with each other (Supplementary Table S3). Full-length sequences of the 49 RpedOBPs and 25 RpedCSPs were presented in the supplementary files.

The number of RpedOBP and RpedCSP genes identified for *R. pedestris* is larger than those in other hemipterans (Figure 1). For example, 11 OBPs and 17 CSPs were identified in *N. lugens* (Xue et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2014; Zhang Y.-N. et al., 2016), 14 OBPs and 8 CSPs in *A. lineolatus* (Gu et al., 2011; Zhang Y.-N. et al., 2016), 16 OBPs and eight CSPs in *A. suturalis* (Cui et al., 2017), 28 OBPs and 16 CSPs in *N. ericae* (Zhang Y.-N. et al., 2016), nine OBPs and nine CSPs in *A. gossypii* (Gu et al., 2013; Zhang Y.-N. et al., 2016), and 12 OBPs and nine CSPs were identified in *S. furcifera* (He and He, 2014; Zhou et al., 2015). The differences in gene numbers may be explained by: 1) the different behaviours of different insects



requiring distinct molecular mechanisms that have been developed over evolutionary time, and 2) the genomic data of *R. pedestris* that is more conducive to the comprehensive mining of OBP and CSP genes than other hemipteran species.

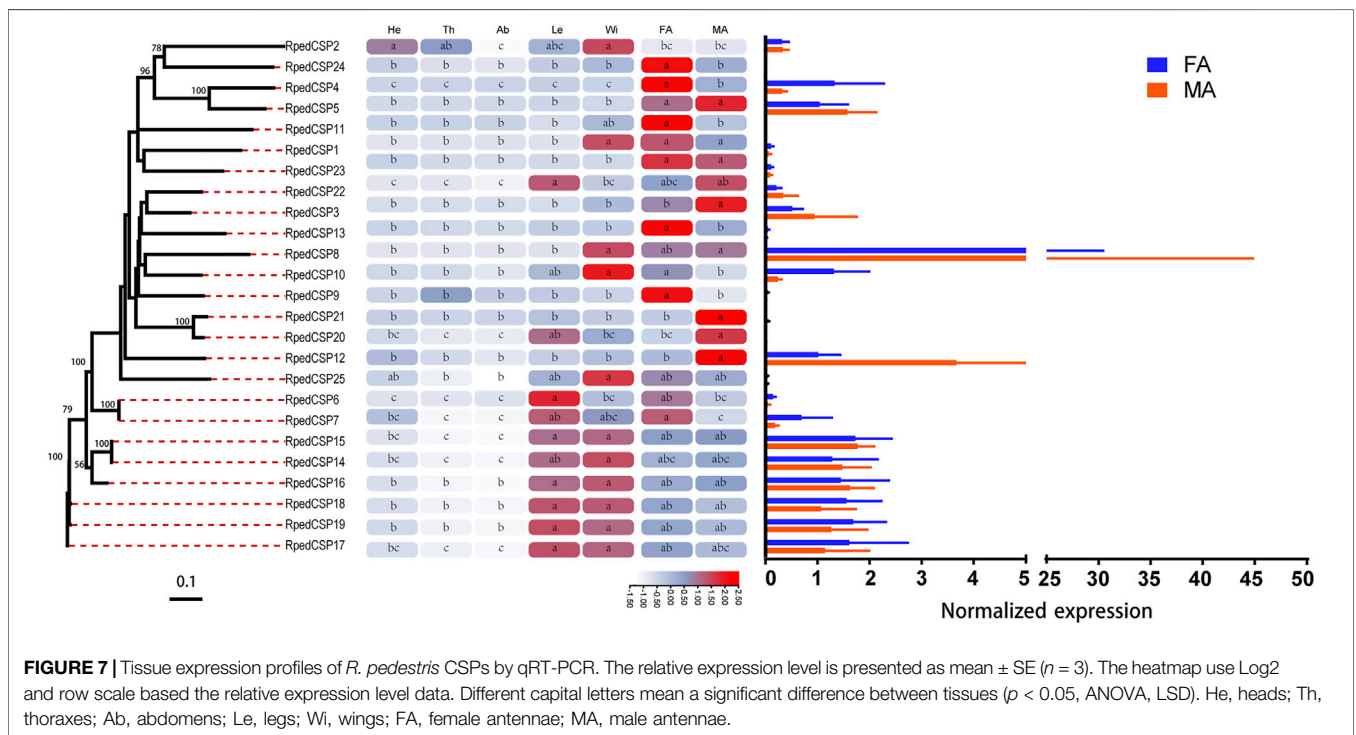
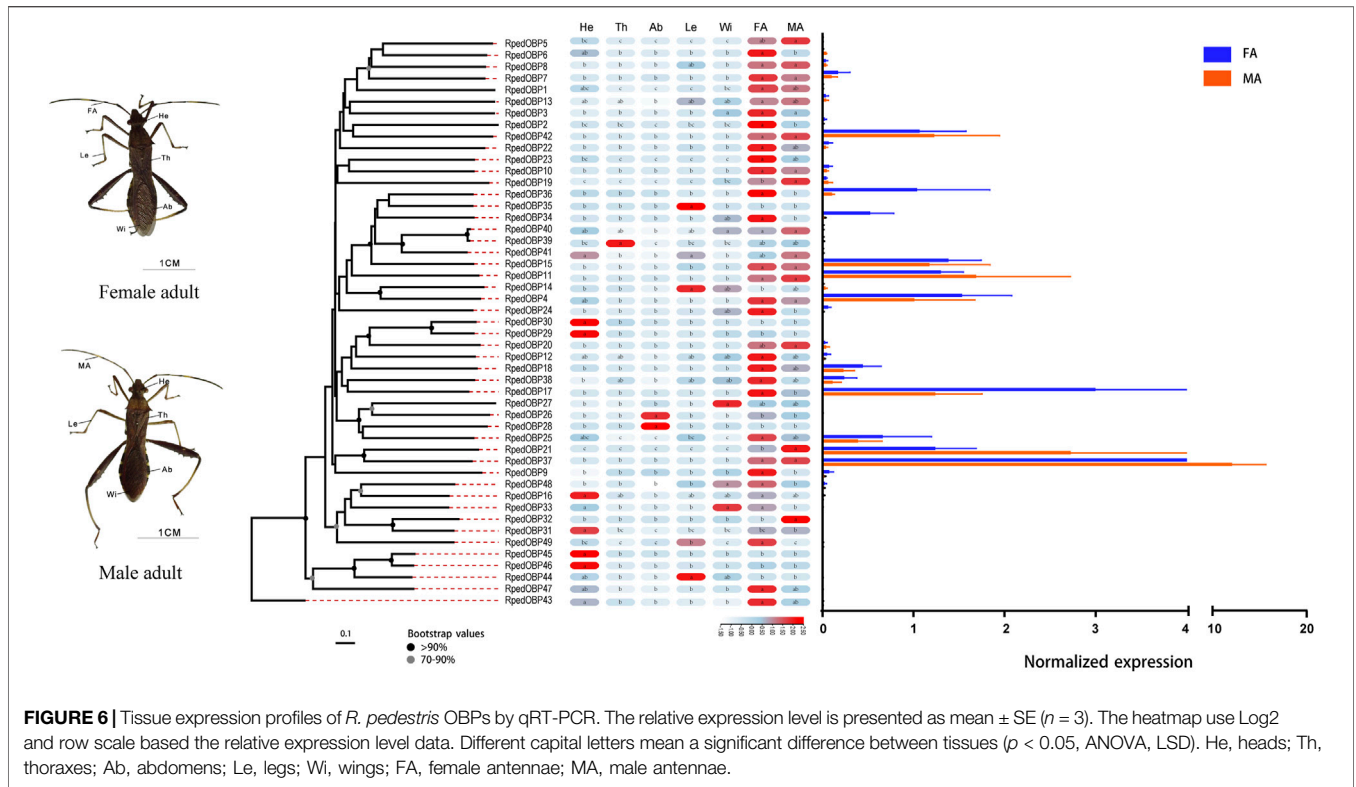
Localization of OBPs and CSPs in the *R. pedestris* Genome

To clarify the position of OBPs and CSPs in chromosomes, we carried out chromosome location analysis of all genes, and the results showed that 48 OBP genes were distributed across four chromosomes (**Figure 2A**); only *RpedOBP49* was located on scaffold056, which could not be mapped to a chromosome based on the current genome assembly. Thirty OBPs clustered together on chromosome 2, followed by chromosome 5 (11 OBPs), 3 (four OBPs), and 1 (three OBPs). Twenty-five CSP genes were distributed across four

chromosomes, with 21 CSPs clustered together on chromosome 3 and the others on chromosome X (two CSPs), 1 (one CSP), and 5 (one CSP) (**Figure 2B**). More than 60% OBP and 80% CSP genes are located within clusters, as seen in other insects (Gong et al., 2009; Gu et al., 2013), indicating a relatively recent expansion of the OBP and CSP families of *R. pedestris* and the diverse functions of genes have evolved in response to different odorants in the environment.

Genomic Structure of *R. pedestris* OBPs and CSPs

To further clarify the genomic structural characteristics of OBPs and CSPs, we obtained the gene lengths and intron numbers of OBPs and CSPs based on the genome annotation file of *R. pedestris* (**Figure 3**). The lengths of the OBP genes ranged from 3.065 to 46.888 kb, with 33 OBPs having six introns and



the other 16 OBPs having four, five, seven, eight, nine, and 12 introns, respectively (Figure 3A). The CSP genes were much shorter, ranging from 2.114 to 34.628 kb, with one, two, or three

introns (Figure 3B). The phylogenetic trees of OBPs and CSPs in *R. pedestris* showed that the genes clustered together tended to have similar genomic structures, which also implies that they may

have similar functions. The sequences of RpedOBPs were longer and had more introns than those of RpedCSPs, indicating that they may have complex features of functional differentiation.

Phylogenetic Analyses of Hemipteran OBPs and CSPs

Two phylogenetic trees were constructed for the OBPs and CSPs using protein sequences from *R. pedestris*, *A. lineolatus*, *Apolygus lucorum*, *Aphis gossypii*, and other hemipteran species (Gu et al., 2011; Gu et al., 2013; Cao et al., 2014; He and He, 2014; Xue et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2014; Zhou et al., 2014; He et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2015; Cui et al., 2017). Similar to that in other studies (Gu et al., 2011; Zhang Y.-N. et al., 2016; Cui et al., 2017), the OBP tree in this study showed that eight RpedOBPs (OBP1, 5–9, 13, and 42) could be divided into the Plus-C OBP subfamily, and the other 41 RpedOBPs clustered into the classic OBP subfamily (Figure 4). In the constructed CSP tree, our results indicated that all 25 RpedCSPs were distributed along various branches, and each clustered with at least one other moth orthologue (Figure 5). The diversity of the RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs families suggests a role for positive selection in the rapid evolution and functional diversification of these genes. We speculate that both RpedOBP and RpedCSP genes had some gene expansions, such as OBP1/5/6/7/8/13, OBP23/10/48/16/33/32/31/49/46/45/44/47/43, OBP25/26/27/28, OBP40/39/41/34/15/36/35/11, CSP13/8/19/22, and CSP12/15/14/16/17/19/18/6/7, indicating that these genes may be involved in the recognition of important odorants related to *R. pedestris* behaviour (Pelosi et al., 2005; Matsuo et al., 2007; Gu et al., 2012; Poivet et al., 2013; Martin-Blazquez et al., 2017; He et al., 2019).

Expression Profiles of *R. pedestris* OBP and CSP Genes

We used qRT-PCR to assess expression profiles of all *R. pedestris* OBPs and CSPs in the heads, thoraxes, abdomens, legs, wings, and antennae of the adults. The results showed that all OBPs and CSPs were expressed in the adult antennae of *R. pedestris*. Among the 49 RpedOBPs, 33 (approximately 67%) were significantly highly expressed in the antennae, including three male-biased (RpedOBP19, RpedOBP21, and RpedOBP32) and nine female-biased (RpedOBP2, RpedOBP6, RpedOBP9, RpedOBP17, RpedOBP24, RpedOBP34, RpedOBP36, RpedOBP48, and RpedOBP49). Among the 49 RpedOBPs, RpedOBP37 exhibited the highest expression level in male and female antennae (Figure 6). Compared to RpedOBPs, RpedCSPs were highly expressed in adult antennae as well as in non-antennal tissues. Of the 25 identified RpedCSP genes, only 11 RpedCSPs (approximately 44%) displayed antennal-biased expression; four RpedCSPs (RpedCSP3, RpedCSP12, RpedCSP20, and RpedCSP21) were male-biased and five RpedCSPs (RpedCSP4, RpedCSP9, RpedCSP11, RpedCSP13, and RpedCSP24) were female-biased in their expression (Figure 7). Several studies have shown that OBPs and CSPs are required for the correct recognition of some odorants from the external environment (Zhang et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2015; Chen G.-L. et al., 2018; Pelosi

et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2020a; Zhang et al., 2020b), therefore, we infer that the 33 RpedOBPs and 11 RpedCSPs highly expressed in adult antennae are likely to be involved in the crucial odorant reorganisation of *R. pedestris* (Krieger et al., 1996; Bohbot and Vogt, 2005; Zhang et al., 2014; Missbach et al., 2015; Chen G.-L. et al., 2018). The sex-biased RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs may be involved in the reorganisation of plant volatiles from oviposition sites or other sex-related odorants (He et al., 2010; Zhou et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2019). Further analysis is needed to explore their exact roles, such as through fluorescence competitive binding assays (Liu et al., 2015; Ingham et al., 2020; Li et al., 2022), CRISPR/Cas9 mediated genome editing (Zhu G.-H. et al., 2016; Han et al., 2022), and gene mutations (Stowers and Logan, 2008; Zhang et al., 2020b).

Similar to the findings of previous studies (Zhang et al., 2013; McKenzie et al., 2014; Gu et al., 2015; Zhang L.-W. et al., 2016), we also found that there were 12 RpedOBP and six RpedCSP genes highly expressed in non-antennal tissues, including four leg-biased genes (RpedOBP14, RpedOBP35, RpedOBP44, and RpedCSP6), six head-biased genes (RpedOBP16, RpedOBP29, RpedOBP30, RpedOBP31, RpedOBP45, and RpedOBP46), one thorax-biased gene (RpedOBP39), two abdomen-biased genes (RpedOBP26 and RpedOBP28), and five wing-biased genes (RpedCSP1, RpedCSP2, RpedCSP8, RpedCSP10, and RpedCSP25), indicating that these genes may have other non-olfactory functions.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we identified 49 OBPs and 25 CSPs in the *R. pedestris* genome and found that these genes were clustered in highly conserved groups comprising OBP and CSP genes from other hemipteran species. To further understand the functions of these genes, we conducted comprehensive and comparative phylogenetic analyses and studied the gene expression profiles of OBPs and CSPs. We found that most RpedOBPs displayed antennal-biased expression, but many RpedCSPs were detected in the antennae and were highly expressed in non-antennal tissues, and some genes showed characteristics of sex-biased expression. Tissue- and sex-biased expression patterns will help us identify the functions of RpedOBPs and RpedCSPs, which will also aid in understanding the olfactory mechanism of *R. pedestris* and the development of environmentally friendly insecticides against this pest in the future.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding authors.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

JL, BL, and XZ conceived and designed the experimental plan. MY, WY, and SM performed the experiment. JL, MY, YD, CW,

and XZ processed and analyzed the experiment data. YD, XL, and YW provided important suggestions to help modify the manuscript. JL, MY, YD, and XZ wrote the manuscript.

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphys.2022.949607/full#supplementary-material>

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