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RNA interference of *NtNCED3* reduces drought tolerance and impairs plant growth through feedback regulation of isoprenoids in *Nicotiana tabacum*

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Highlights

- Two variants of the *NCED3* gene were isolated from tobacco
- Suppression of *NtNCED3* reduced endogenous ABA content and drought stress resistance
- Silencing of *NtNCED3-2* inhibited primary root development and root hair growth
- Suppression of *NtNCED3* negatively affected trichome development and photosynthesis