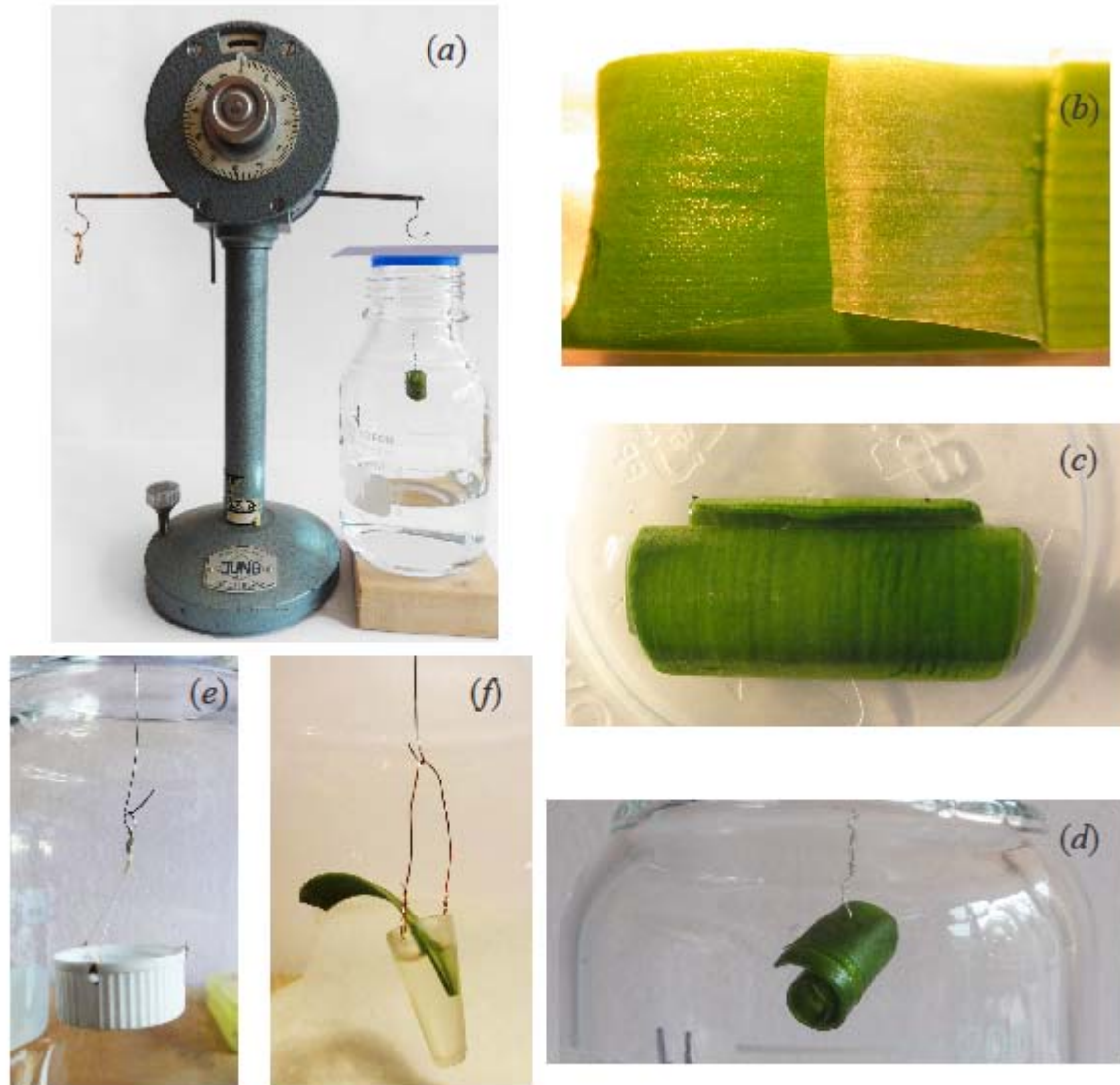


Supplementary material



Supporting information figure

Fig. S1. Experimental arrangements for measurement of water fluxes. (a) Torsion balance with leaf piece suspended in the air above a solution of NaCl, which determines the relative humidity of the air within the bottle. (b) Piece of leaf of *Agapanthus* with adaxial epidermis partly stripped. (c) Stripped piece of *Agapanthus* leaf equilibrated with water, having reached relative water loss = 0 (saturated mass m_x). The naked cells have expanded, increasing the length of the adaxial surface, and causing the piece to coil into a loose spiral. (d) Stripped

piece of *Agapanthus* leaf at low relative water loss (~ 0.1), at an early stage of a course of drying during the measurement of rates of water loss. The coiled leaf straightens as it loses water. (e) The water atmometer suspended in the bottle during the course of measurement of rates of evaporation. (f) Stripped piece of *Agapanthus* leaf supplied with water and suspended in the bottle during the course of measurements of rates of transpiration.