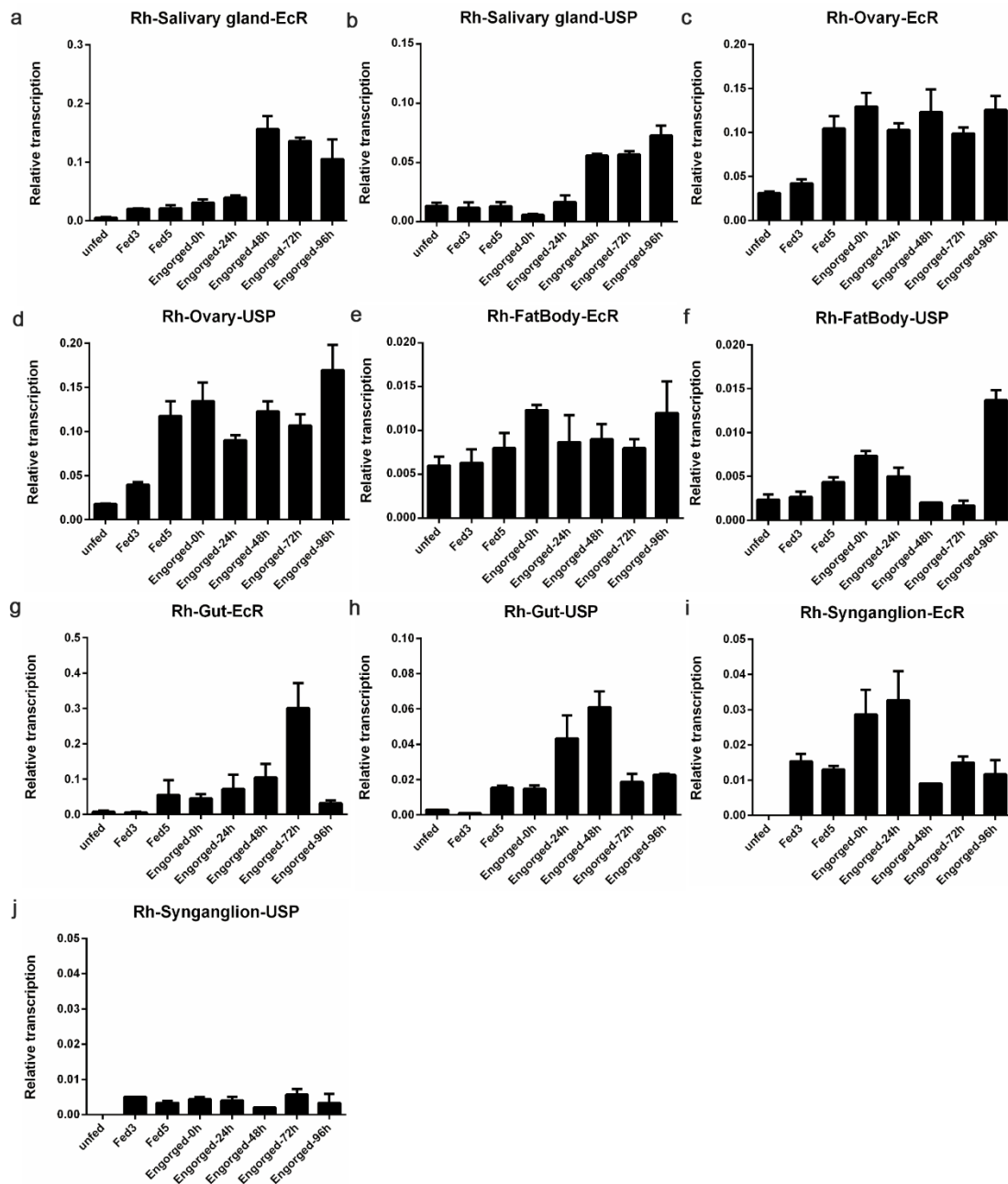




**Additional file1: Figure S5.** Tissue and temporal dynamics of RhEcR and RhUSP expression during the blood feeding process and post-engorgement. (a-j) Both components of the ecdysone receptor complex, RhEcR and RhUSP, showed a wide time and tissue distribution profile. The RhEcR and RhUSP RNA levels were higher in the SG, Gut, and Ov than in the FB and Sy. The RhEcR and RhUSP RNA levels were higher after engorgement in the SG and Gut (a-d and g-h). In the Ov, when the weight of female ticks reached the “critical weight”, RhEcR and RhUSP RNA levels increased quickly and this high level was maintained until the beginning of oviposition (c and d). In FB and Sy, the expression was low during the entire period (e, f, i and j).