



FIGURE 8 Disease responses of maize *s5hMu* mutant plants against infection with *Colletotrichum graminicola*. a and b) Disease symptoms in WT and *s5hMu* mutants, 6 (a) and 13 (b) days after *Colletotrichum graminicola* infection. (c) Lesion area measured in WT and *s5hMu* leaves 13 days postinfection. Results represent the average of at least 6 biological replicates \pm S.E. from one experiment. The asterisk over the bar indicates significant differences between genotypes (Student's t-test, $p < 0.05$). Three independent experiments were performed with similar results. d-f) Expression analysis of maize gene responsive to pathogen attack. Relative expression levels of *PR1* (d), *PR5* (e), and *MPK1* (f) in control and infected leaves from *s5hMu* mutants and WT siblings 1-day post-infection analyzed by qRT-PCR. Each reaction was normalized using the cycle threshold values corresponding to the *ACTIN1* mRNAs. Data are represented as the means \pm S.E. of 3 biological replicates from three different experiments. Different letters indicate statistically significant differences applying two-way ANOVA ($P < 0.05$).