The Organization of Cytoplasmic Ribosomal Protein Genes in the Arabidopsis Genome[1]

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Eukaryotic ribosomes are made of two components, four ribosomal RNAs, and approximately 80 ribosomal proteins (r-proteins). The exact number of r-proteins and r-protein genes in higher plants is not known. The strong conservation in eukaryotic r-protein primary sequence allowed us to use the well-characterized rat (*Rattus norvegicus)* r-protein set to identify orthologues on the five haploid chromosomes of Arabidopsis. By use of the numerous expressed sequence tag (EST) accessions and the complete genomic sequence of this species, we identified 249 genes (including some pseudogenes) corresponding to 80 (32 small subunit and 48 large subunit) cytoplasmic r-protein types. None of the r-protein genes are single copy and most are encoded by three or four expressed genes, indicative of the internal duplication of the Arabidopsis genome. The r-proteins are distributed throughout the genome. Inspection of genes in the vicinity of r-protein gene family members confirms extensive duplications of large chromosome fragments and sheds light on the evolutionary history of the Arabidopsis genome. Examination of large duplicated regions indicated that a significant fraction of the r-protein genes have been either lost from one of the duplicated fragments or inserted after the initial duplication event. Only 52 r-protein genes lack a matching EST accession, and 19 of these contain incomplete open reading frames, confirming that most genes are expressed. Assessment of cognate EST numbers suggests that r-protein gene family members are differentially expressed.

The eukaryotic ribosome is a complex structure composed of four rRNAs and about 80 ribosomal proteins (r-proteins). It represents an essential piece of the cell machinery, responsible for protein synthesis, and as such plays a major role in controlling cell growth, division, and development. For example, previous studies have shown that genetic defects in ribosomal components, such as reduction of the levels of individual r-proteins, can cause deleterious effects on the development and physiology of an organism. In *Drosophila melanogaster*, mutations in r-proteins genes cause the haplo-insufficient *Minute* phenotype with reduced growth and cell division rates, characterized by a reduced body size and short, thin bristles (Lambertsson, 1998). In contrast, a conditional deletion in the gene encoding r-protein S6 in adult mice (*Mus musculus*) affects cell cycle progression but not cell growth (Volarevic et al., 2000). In humans, a quantitative reduction in synthesis of the X-linked form of r-protein S4 is observed in individuals with Turner syndrome (monosomic for X) and may contribute to this complex phenotype, which includes short stature and infertility (Zinn and Ross, 1998). In plants, mutations in r-protein genes affect embryo viability or plant development (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Tsugeki et al., 1996; Revenkova et al., 1999; Ito et al., 2000). In addition, a positive correlation was reported between the level of r-protein gene transcript accumulation and cell division in suspension culture cells (Joanin et al., 1993; Garo et al., 1994) or tissues such as auxin-treated hypocotyls, apical meristems, young leaves, and lateral roots (Gantt and Key, 1985; Williams and Sussex, 1995).

Numerous analyses on prokaryotic ribosomes and r-proteins have provided significantly to our knowledge of ribosome structure and composition. Three-dimensional structures of the 30S and 50S ribosomal subunits of thermophilic eubacteria (30S, *Thermus thermophilus*; 50S, *Haloarcula marismortui*) have recently been described at 5.5- and 2.5-Å resolution, respectively, from crystallographic data (Ban et al., 1999, 2000; Clemons et al., 1999). In *Escherichia coli,* 55 r-proteins have been identified and their amino acid sequences determined (Wittmann, 1982; Wittmann-Liebold et al., 1990). The ordered assembly process of eubacterial ribosomes is also reasonably well known (Nomura et al., 1984; Culver et al.,

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1999). It is generally accepted that ribosomes of an archaebacterial ancestor gave rise to the cytosolic ribosomes of eukaryotes (Matheson et al., 1990; Wittmann-Liebold et al., 1990; Wool et al., 1995). By contrast, the r-proteins of plastids and mitochondria show strong evolutionary similarity to those of eubacteria and include organelle-specific proteins (Graack and Wittmann-Liebold, 1998; Koc et al., 2000; Yamaguchi and Subramanian, 2000; Yamaguchi et al., 2000). In eukaryotes, the protein composition of rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) ribosomes was determined by direct protein sequencing followed by gene cloning and a presumed complete set of 79 proteins was compiled (Wool et al., 1995). In addition, genes corresponding to 78 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* r-proteins were identified through genome sequencing efforts (Goffeau et al., 1996; Planta and Mager, 1998). Eukaryotic r-proteins can be classified based on homology to r-proteins of archae- and eubacteria (Wool et al., 1995). The 80S rat ribosome contains 33 proteins for which orthologues can be found in eubacteria, archaebacteria, and eukaryotes (Group I); 35 proteins with orthologues in archaebacteria and other eukaryotes (Group II); and 21 proteins that appear to be unique to eukaryotes (Group III). The striking evolutionary conservation of r-proteins is not surprising given the constraints of rRNA-protein interactions, coordinated ribosome assembly, and ribosome function. In fact, phylogenetic relationships between animal, fungi, and plant kingdoms have been inferred from comparison of orthologous r-proteins (Veuthey and Bittar, 1998).

The expression and distribution of r-protein genes of both prokaryotes and eukaryotes has also been examined. In eubacteria, most of the r-protein genes are clustered in a few operons, which allows for coordinated regulation (Nomura et al., 1984). Kenmochi et al. (1998b) recently mapped 75 human r-protein genes and showed that they are distributed over all chromosomes, with a bias toward chromosome 19. Synthesis of r-proteins in eukaryotes undoubtedly requires coordination of now unlinked genes. It is striking that the regulation of r-protein gene expression appears to occur at the transcriptional level in yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*; Planta and Mager, 1998) and predominantly at the translational level in animals (Meyuhas, 2000; Meyuhas and Hornstein, 2000).

In contrast to the information available on r-proteins and r-protein genes in prokaryotes and a few eukaryotic models (rats and yeast), limited information is available on r-proteins and the number, distribution, and expression of r-protein genes in plants. Gantt and Key (1983) resolved 40 and 51 proteins of the small (40S) and large (60S) subunits of the cytosolic ribosomes of soybean (*Glycine max*) by two-dimensional gel electrophoresis. In addition, plant genes encoding 77 orthologues to rat cytosolic r-proteins were identified (Bailey-Serres, 1998), including an r-protein (P3) that is apparently limited to plants (Szick et al., 1998). Information describing the genomic distribution of r-protein genes in plants is limited to the mapping of 57 loci for r-protein genes in rice (*Oryza sativa*; Wu et al., 1995). However, because this study relied on RFLPs, many loci may have been missed due to lack of polymorphism and cross hybridization between members of gene families. Reconstruction of full-length Arabidopsis r-protein cDNAs from redundant overlapping expressed sequence tags (ESTs) demonstrated that the occurrence of small gene families with several transcribed genes seems to be the rule rather than an exception (Cooke et al., 1997).

Several studies on plant r-protein genes have revealed the presence of multigene families in which members show both overlapping and differential patterns of mRNA accumulation (Larkin et al., 1989; Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Williams and Sussex, 1995; Dresselhaus et al., 1999; Revenkova et al., 1999). Evidence that r-protein gene expression may be controlled at a posttranscriptional level was observed for L13 in rapeseed (*Brassica napus*) and Arabidopsis (Saez-Vasquez et al., 2000), P2 in anoxic roots of maize (*Zea mays*) seedlings (Fennoy and Bailey-Serres, 1998), as well as S4, S6, L3, and L16 following imbibition in embryos of maize (Beltran-Pena et al., 1995). From these analyses, it appears that r-protein expression in plants may be regulated at the transcriptional and posttranscriptional levels.

The international Arabidopsis Genome Initiative (AGI; Bevan et al., 1997; Lin et al., 1999; Mayer et al., 1999; AGI, 2000) has led to the to the accumulation of an enormous quantity of genomic sequence data, in addition to more than 112,500 ESTs (Höfte et al., 1993; Newman et al., 1994; Cooke et al., 1996; Asamizu et al., 2000). The essentially complete genome sequence is publicly accessible through The Arabidopsis Information Resource (TAIR) database (http://www.Arabidopsis.org/). This situation provided a unique opportunity for analyzing r-protein gene number, chromosomal location, and expression. Here, we report the identification and map positions of 249 r-protein genes of Arabidopsis. Location of the genes was initially determined by physical mapping using ESTs and subsequently confirmed from the genomic sequence data, in some cases of genomic regions that were not completely annotated. Analysis of r-protein gene distribution initially allowed us to discover duplications of several very large DNA sequences, which shed light on Arabidopsis genome evolution (Blanc et al., 2000). Comparison of the distribution of these gene families in the Arabidopsis genome and in other organisms and its implications on the understanding of multigene family organization and genome evolution are discussed. The systematic identification of ESTs representing different gene family members as well as reverse transcriptase (RT)-PCR on RNA ob-

tained from different tissues and PCR on a cDNA library (Newman et al., 1994) revealed that levels of r-protein pseudogenes are very low and indicated that many of genes family members are differentially expressed. Variation in r-protein gene family member sequences and expression patterns raises the possibility of ribosome heterogeneity at subcellular and intracellular levels.

RESULTS

Identification of 249 Cytoplasmic r-Protein Genes in Arabidopsis

To identify r-protein genes in the Arabidopsis genome, we chose rat as the eukaryotic model because its r-protein genes have been extensively studied and corresponding genes in plants had been identified (Bailey-Serres, 1998). We collected all 79 rat r-protein sequences from the Swiss-PROT library (Bairoch and Apweiler, 2000) and carried out TBLASTN (Altschul et al., 1997) searches on Arabidopsis EST and cDNA sequences in GenBank (Release 65.0, November 2000). Most of the 79 rat protein genes had several orthologues in Arabidopsis based on high probability BLAST scores (data not shown). An estimate of the number of expressed genes in each family was determined by constructing contigs from ESTs. The accuracy of EST contig construction was tested as described by Cooke et al. (1997) and redundancy within families was eliminated by careful comparison of the contigs to one another and to genomic sequences. In this manner, we identified 200 r-protein genes. In addition, TBLASTN alignment against Arabidopsis genomic sequence data released through the AGI allowed us to identify a total of 249 r-protein genes, including 101 encoding 32 putative small-subunit proteins and 148 encoding 48 putative large-subunit proteins (Table I). Genes identified from ESTs and genomic sequences were compared and a nonredundant set of r-proteins was collated. A perfect match to a genomic sequence was found for all 200 EST contigs. Therefore, this approach revealed an additional 49 genomic sequences that were not identified by EST contigs, including those that appear to contain an incomplete ORF. This analysis also resulted in discovery of 36 r-protein genes that were not detected by automated annotation or in which the annotation was incorrect (Table I, indicated with an asterisk after the gene name). Because no orphaned EST contigs were identified, it seems unlikely that additional r-protein genes will be identified in the centromeric regions that have not been fully sequenced.

Arabidopsis Cytoplasmic r-Proteins Are Encoded by Small Gene Families

We identified multiple Arabidopsis r-protein genes for all 79 r-protein types of rat. We propose a unifying r-protein gene nomenclature in which Arabidopsis r-protein gene names contain the prefix *RP* (r-protein) and the suffix *S* or *L* referring to r-protein type (small or large) modeling that found for the mammalian nomenclature. For example, *RPL3* encodes r-protein L3. The one exception to this rule is the conventional nomenclature for the acidic ribosomal phosphoproteins, known as the P proteins (here, *RPP2* encodes P2). For each distinct gene family member a letter is provided (i.e. *RPL3A* and *RPL3B* are distinct genes that encode L3). This alphabetic designation of gene family members is ordered by chromosomal location. In addition, previously published gene designations are included in Table I in parentheses. The number of genes within an r-protein gene family varies between two and seven (L41), with most families containing three or four genes (Table I and Fig. 1). In 21 instances, the genomic sequences lacked a complete ORF (for example, the deduced ORF encoded a truncated protein due to a premature translational stop codon, a frameshift in the ORF, or an internal deletion) and these were designated an incomplete ORF; in most of these cases (19), there was no cognate EST identified for these presumed pseudogenes. The copy number of r-protein genes is apparently random. There was no bias based on ribosomal subunit or r-protein group classification (see Table I).

Arabidopsis r-Protein Genes Are Not Distributed Randomly

Database mining allowed us to identify bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC) or phage artificial chromosome (P1) clones carrying one or several genes for r-proteins (Table I). In addition, existing knowledge of the location of these clones allowed us to identify the positions of the r-protein genes on the AGI map (http://www.Arabidopsis.org). A composite map of the 249 r-protein genes, integrating genomic sequence information and nearest genetic marker data available through AGI, was constructed (Fig. 1). Chromosome map positions are given in centiMorgans from the top of the chromosome, and the nearest genetic marker to each r-protein gene is indicated in Table I. Mapping results are also summarized in Table II. We observed differences in the number of genes per chromosome as the number of r-protein genes located on chromosomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are 54, 45, 71, 29, and 50, respectively. The distribution of the r-protein genes is visible on the gene map (Fig. 1; r-protein gene density is 538 Kb per r-protein gene for chromosome 1, 436 Kb per r-protein gene for chromosome 2, 326 Kb per r-protein gene for chromosome 3, 605 Kb per r-protein gene for chromosome 4, and 519 Kb per r-protein gene for chromosome 5. This situation ap-

(*Continues on p.408*)

Table I. *Identification of Arabidopsis orthologues of rat small (40S) and large (60S) ribosomal subunit proteins*

Ribosomal protein type corresponding to rat nomenclature. Asterisk, Gene and gene family member designation and genes that were not annotated or incorrectly annotated. NA, Standard AGI gene name and genes that have not been annotated. Classification based on evolutionary group (Group I, represented in eubacteria, archaebacteria, and eukaryotes; Group II, represented in archaebacteria and eukaryotes; and Group III, represented in eukaryotes only). GenBank accession no. corresponding to genomic sequence. BAC clone and position of annotated gene corresponding to genomic sequence. NF, Representative EST or cDNA GenBank accession no. and genes with no corresponding EST are indicated none found. No. of ESTs present in GenBank release 65.0, 0 if no EST is identified, NE if no expression is detected by RT-PCR, and E if expression is detected by RT-PCR. Chromosomal location, AGI map position (Mbp), nearest genetic marker as determined from the AGI map and AGI map position of nearest genetic marker (cM). Percent identity to the rat orthologue determined by the BESTFIT algorithm. iORF, Incomplete open reading frame. Predicted molecular mass (kDa), no. of amino acids of deduced ORF (A.A.), and predicted pI.

r-Protein		Evolutionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromosome No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
Sa	*RPSaA*	I	AC016529	T10D10.16	At1g72370	T14000	22	1	27.0	nga111	115.5	54.1	32.3	298	4.9
	RPSaB		AC011437	F7O18.26	At3g04770	U66223	1	3	1.25	GAPC	8.4	56.9	30.7	280	4.9
S2	*RPS2A*	I	AC082643	F9K23.9	At1g58380	AV550768	3	1	21.3	SGCSNP301	85.9	75.3	30.7	284	11.0
	RPS2B		AC027036	T4M14.3	N.A.	N.F.	0	1	21.4	ARR3	87	76.3	30.8	284	11.0
	RPS2C		AC002339	T11A7.6	At2g41840	B10274	5	2	17.7	COR15	76.8	74.5	30.9	285	11.1
	RPS2D		AL133248	T8H10.90	At3g57490	F14347	2	3	21.8	SNP7	77	74.9	30.1	276	11.0
S3	*RPS3A*	I	AC007071	T9H9.13	At2g31610	AV553035	7	2	13.7	nga361	63	81.5	27.5	250	10.4
	RPS3B		AL132960	F5K20.170	At3g53870	T04067	17	3	20.4	AFC1	73.9	81.9	27.3	249	10.4
	RPS3C		AB015477	MOK9.14	At5g35530	AV550513	8	5	13.8	PHYC	71.1	76.3	27.5	248	10.4
S3a	*RPS3aA*	II	AC009465	T9J14.21	At3g04840	AV545036	13	3	1.4	GAPC	8.4	67.6	29.9	262	10.6
	RPS3aB		AL023094	T4L20.250	At4g34670	AJ001342	2	4	15.8	g3088	83.3	69.6	29.8	262	10.5
S4	*RPS4A**	II	AC002329	F5J6.12	At2g17360	F20029	7	2	7.8	m216	33.1	69.7	30.1	263	11.0
	RPS4B		AL163652	T28J14.30	At5g07090	AV554668	16	5	2.2	SGCSNP21	18	69.8	29.9	262	10.9
	*RPS4C**		AB017068	MJG14.8	N.A.	N.F.	0	5	14.8	gln1-1	77.3	iORF	–	–	–
	*RPS4D**		AB025632	MQJ2.2	At5g58420	AV551244	14	5	23.7	mi184	113.7	69.8	29.8	262	11.0
S5	*RPS5A*	I	AC005896	F3G5.6	At2g37270	AI099638	8	2	15.9	Ve018	69.7	78.0	23.0	207	10.5
	RPS5B		AC016795	F26K24.23	At3g11940	BE038477	20	3	3.7	SGCSNP245	14.8	76.7	22.9	207	10.4
S6	*RPS6A*	II	AL031004	F28M20.110	At4g31700	AV550020	6	4	14.5	g8300	81.2	67.6	28.4	250	11.4
	RPS6B		AL353995	F12B17.290	At5g10360	AV37347	18	5	3.4	ve033	25.42	67.6	28.1	249	11.5
S7	*RPS7A*	III	AC073555	F11I4.1	N.A.	AV549012	4	1	17.6	mi441	72.9	55.4	21.9	191	10.6
	RPS7B		AC021640	F16B3.19	At3g02560	Z47625	2	3	0.5	MI74B	5.8	53.8	22.2	191	10.6
	RPS7C		AL391148	T21H19.50	At5g16130	AV544115	5	5	5.3	nga106	33.3	54.3	22.1	190	10.6
S8	*RPS8A**	II	AF296825	F5O24	At5g20290	BE037738	10	5	6.9	mi433	42.2	62.4	24.1	213	11.2
	RPS8B		AB016890	MNC17.15	At5g59240	AI999676	E	5	24.0	mi184	113.7	64.5	23.8	210	11.3
S9	*RPS9A*	I	AL161533	F16J13.230	At4g12160	N.F.	0	4	6.4	g4108	43.5	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS9B		AL353993	F8M21.90	At5g15200	AV54959	30	5	5.0	SNP13	30.3	74.7	23.0	198	10.9
	RPS9C		AB010077	MYH19.1	At5g39850	AV010077	1	5	16.1	SNP150	83.2	74.2	23.2	197	11.1
S10	*RPS10A*	III	AL049480	F14M19.20	At4g25740	AI997138	6	4	12.4	RPS2	75.6	58.9	19.4	177	10.5
	RPS10B		AB005233	MBK23.4	At5g41520	AV536209	11	5	16.7	g4028	86.2	52.9	19.7	180	10.6
	RPS10C		AB025606	F6N7.14	At5g52650	AI999527	4	5	21.4	SGCSNP242	107.1	53.5	19.8	181	10.4
S11	*RPS11A*	I	AL132967	T2J13.230	At3g48930	Z26185	5	3	18.6	SGCSNP352	68.3	61.0	18.0	160	11.3
	RPS11B		AL022198	F6I18.290	At4g30800	N.F.	E	4	14.3	PRHA	78.9	64.7	17.9	159	11.5
	RPS11C		AB005244	MRO11.22	At5g23740	AV561164	2	5	8.2	CDPK9	44.5	61.4	17.7	159	11.4
S12	*RPS12A*	III	AC010924	T24D18.3	At1g15930	T14030	9	1	5.5	srp54a	18.9	52.6	15.4	144	5.3
	RPS12B		AC011713	F23A5.10	At1g80750	N.F.	0	1	30.1	mi157	124.3	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS12C		AC006223	F22D22.19	At2g32060	AI999579	6	2	13.9	ASP1	62.7	52.6	15.3	144	5.8
S13	*RPS13A*	I	AL162295	T4C21.180	At3g60770	Z17784	10	3	22.9	snp74	84.6	77.3	17.0	150	11.2
	RPS13B(A)		AF069299	F6N15.7	At4g00100	Z29915	6	4	0.5	NOR4	0.0	78.0	16.9	150	11.2

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolu-tionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromo-some No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
S14	*RPS14A*	I	AC007135	F9C22.9	At2g36160	AV552523	1	2	5.5	ve016	67.6	85.3	16.3	150	11.3
	RPS14B		AC008153	F24K9.19	At3g11510	R89968	3	3	3.6	SNP245	14.7	85.3	16.3	150	11.3
	RPS14C		AL050300	F2206.40	At3g52580	AV55346	3	3	19.9	mi456	72.7	85.3	16.2	150	11.3
S15	*RPS15A*	I	AC000104	F19P19.29	At1g04270	AV544758	17	1	1.1	SGCSNP151	3.3	75.4	17.1	152	11.1
	RPS15B		AL391712	T5E8.290	At5g09490	N.F.	0	5	2.9	ve033	25.4	71.7	17.1	152	10.9
	RPS15C		AL391712	T5E8.300	At5g09500	N.F.	0	5	2.9	ve033	25.4	73.9	16.7	150	11.3
	RPS15D		AL391712	T5E8.310	At5g09510	AV549585	6	5	2.9	ve033	25.4	75.4	17.1	152	11.1
	RPS15E		AB016875	K9D7.14	At5g43640	N.F.	0	5	17.6	mi194	90.5	74.7	16.8	149	11.3
	RPS15F		AB008265	MCD12.3	At5g63070	N.F.	0	5	25.3	mi211A	119	iORF	–	–	–
S15a	*RPS15aA*	I	AC007583	F24B9.12	At1g07770	AV538172	9	1	2.5	ve004	7.76	77.7	14.8	130	10.7
	RPS15aB		AC005169	F6F22.25	At2g19720	Z26126	1	2	8.9	MI148	36.1	47.6	14.7	129	10.6
	RPS15aC		AC004218	F12L6.25	At2g39590	N.F.	NE	2	16.8	M429	73.1	73.1	15.3	130	10.0
	RPS15aD		AL355775	F12M12.10	At3g46040	AW004284	3	3	17.5	M249	61.3	77.7	14.8	130	10.8
	RPS15aE		AL161575	F27B13	At4g29430	N.F.	0	4	13.8	prha	78.9	48.0	14.9	129	10.7
	RPS15aF		AB015475	MMN10.8	At5g59850	AV554198	7	5	24.2	SNP2	115.9	77.7	14.8	130	10.7
S16	*RPS16A*	I	AC006586	F7B19.13	At2g09990	AV536848	2	2	4.1	mi421	19.1	73.3	16.6	146	11.0
	RPS16B		AC016829	T6K12.15	At3g04230	Z17479	2	3	1.1	GAPC	8.4	73.3	16.6	146	11.0
	*RPS16C**		AC051626	F20L16	At5g18380	AV534112	1	5	6.1	GDH1	33.29	74.0	16.6	146	11.0
S17	*RPS17A*	II	AC006951	T1O3.20	At2g04390	AV550538	3	2	1.6	lgs1	13.2	61.1	16.0	141	10.8
	*RPS17B**		AC007018	F5G3.12	At2g05220	AV534112	7	2	1.9	m497A	13.3	61.9	16.0	140	10.8
	RPS17C		AC011560	F13M14.10	At3g10610	AV534760	4	3	3.3	SNP11	14.7	60.2	16.0	140	10.8
	RPS17D		AB008271	MUK11.12	At5g04800	AV553023	8	5	1.4	nga225	14.3	61.1	16.0	141	10.8
S18	*RPS18A (A)*	I	AC003979	T22J18.5	At1g22780	AV552655	12	1	8.1	m235	34.0	74.3	17.5	152	11.3
	RPS18B (B)		AC015446	F12G12.15	At1g34030	BE037678	10	1	12.5	AIG1	55.62	74.3	17.5	152	11.3
	RPS18C (C)		AL049482	F17A8.150	At4g09800	AV530846	4	4	5.4	DET1	31.4	74.3	17.5	152	11.3
S19	*RPS19A*	II	AC011664	F1C9.13	At3g02080	AV536148	7	3	0.3	mi74b	5.8	56.9	15.8	143	10.9
	RPS19B		AL391143	T20K14.130	At5g15520	AV559770	1	5	5.1	nga106	33.2	56.5	15.8	143	11.0
	RPS19C		AB006696	MAF19.17	At5g61170	AI996699	1	5	24.7	LFY3	116.8	59.0	15.7	143	11.0
S20	*RPS20A*	I	AL353992	F14D17.100	At3g45030	AV353992	3	3	16.9	TOPP5	59.2	74.1	13.1	117	10.5
	*RPS20B**		AL096860	T21L8.120	At3g47370	AV532791	3	3	17.9	ASN1	61.4	74.1	13.7	117	10.5
	RPS20C		AB019235	MMI9.13	At5g62300	AV533085	3	5	25.1	LFY3	116.8	74.1	13.1	117	10.5
S21	*RPS21A**	III	AB024028	K1G2	At3g27450	N.F.	0	3	10.1	mi287	43.6	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS21B		AL132960	F5K20.190	At3g53890	AI997498	2	3	20.4	Ve042	76.2	46.3	9.1	82	8.1
	*RPS21C**		AC069556	T1G16	At5g27700	AV536952	6	5	9.9	SO262	65.2	43.8	9.0	81	8.4
S23	*RPS23A**	I	AC016661	F11F8.27	At3g09680	N.F.	0	1	2.9	mi357	16.2	76.1	15.8	142	11.1
	RPS23B		AL162973	F9G14.270	At5g02960	AV553972	19	5	0.6	SNP241	3.7	78.9	16.2	146	11.1

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolu-tionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromo-some No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
S24	*RPS24A*	II	AC009465	T9J14.13	At3g04920	BE038406	4	3	1.4	GAPC	8.4	67.5	15.4	133	11.0
	*RPS24B**		AC007627	F15F15	At5g28060	BE037704	4	5	10.1	SO262	65.2	65.1	15.4	133	11.3
S25	*RPS25A*	III	AC007047	F16F14.14	At2g16360	N.F.	NE	2	7.4	mi398	29.2	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS25B		AC007119	F2G1.15	At2g21580	BE038441	19	2	9.5	mi238	39.9	59.4	12.1	108	11.5
	RPS25C		AP002066	T4A2.5	At3g30740	N.F.	0	3	12.4	atpox	52.4	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS25D		AL023094	T4L20.250	At4g34670	N.F.	0	4	15.7	SNP232	83.4	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS25E		AL050351	T22F8.100	At4g39200	AV533470	29	4	17.5	AP2	95.9	58.5	12.1	108	11.5
S26	*RPS26B*	III	AC002336	T2P4.14	At2g40510	BE038315	11	2	17.2	g4514	73.7	67.3	14.8	133	11.7
	RPS26A		AC002336	T2P4.6	At2g40590	Z26184	1	2	17.2	g4514	73.7	67.3	14.8	133	11.7
	RPS26C		AL163763	F18O21.300	At3g56340	AI998355	11	3	21.3	SNP189	77.2	70.9	14.6	130	11.7
S27	*RPS27A (C)*	II	AC004665	F4I18.31	At2g45710	AA712867	4	2	19.1	ve019	82.1	75.3	9.5	84	9.1
	RPS27B (A)		AL137898	T20K12.10	At3g61110	AL137898	6	3	23.2	SNP221	85.8	77.9	9.5	85	8.7
	*RPS27C (φ)**		AL137898	T20K12	N.A.	N.F.	0	3	23.2	SNP221	85.8	iORF	–	–	–
	RPS27D (B)		AB024025	K16F13.1	At5g47930	AV531451	12	5	19.5	SGCSNP147	99.5	79.2	9.5	84	9.1
S27a	*RPS27aA*	II	AC007945	F28C11.5	At1g23410	Z25557	2	1	8.4	m235	34	81.4	17.7	156	10.6
	RPS27aB		AC004411	F14M4.6	At2g47100	AV548497	3	2	19.6	Athb7	84.5	84.9	17.8	157	10.6
	RPS27aC		AL138651	T17J13.210	At3g62250	AA728493	6	3	23.5	mi424	82.8	84.2	17.8	157	10.6
S28	*RPS28A*	II	AC010927	T22K18.8	At3g10090	N.F.	NE	3	3.1	mi357	16.2	78.3	7.4	64	11.5
	RPS28B		AB005235	MED24.15	At5g03850	AV530936	2	5	1.9	SGCSNP396	9.28	78.3	7.4	64	11.5
	RPS28C		AB008266	MHJ24.12	At5g64140	Z17569	2	5	25.7	ve032	123.3	80.0	7.3	64	11.7
S29	*RPS29A*	I	AL163975	T15B3.120	At3g43980	T22180	3	3	16.2	TOPP5	59.2	72.2	6.4	56	10.8
	RPS29B		AL163975	T15B3.150	At3g44010	Z47604	3	3	16.2	TOPP5	59.2	72.2	6.4	56	10.8
	*RPS29C**		AL161584	F17I5	N.A.	AI996253	5	4	15.5	pCITd104	83.3	70.4	6.1	54	10.9
	*RPS29D**		AL161584	F17I5	N.A.	N.F.	0	4	15.5	pCITd104	83.3	iORF	–	–	–
S30	*RPS30A**	II	AC005169	F6F22.22	At2g19750	AV532814	4	2	8.9	mi148	36.1	75.9	6.9	62	12.8
	RPS30B		AL161575	F19B15	At4g29390	N.F.	0	4	13.5	mi232	76.7	76.3	6.9	62	12.8
	RPS30C		AB013392	M1K19.12	At5g56670	AI100293	2	5	23.0	mi69	114.3	75.9	6.9	62	12.8
P0	*RPP0A*	I	AF002109	T28M21.17	At2g40010	N.F.	0	2	16.9	SGCSNP214	74.7	51.6	33.7	317	5.0
	RPP0B		AC011436	F3L24.7	At3g09200	T21000	40	3	2.8	mi467	15.6	53.8	34.1	320	4.8
	RPP0C		AC073395	F11B9.17	At3g11250	AV561267	6	3	3.5	SGCSNP11	14.7	55.7	34.4	323	4.9
P1	*RPP1A*	I	AC007323	T25K16.9	At1g01100	AV536016	4	1	12.1	Ve001	2.9	58.2	11.2	112	4.1
	RPP1B		AL161472	T18A10.9	At4g00810	AV522332	3	4	0.3	mi122	5	56.1	11.0	110	4.0
	RPP1C		AB016886	MCA23.2	At5g47700	AV530633	3	5	19.4	SGCSNP147	99.4	57.7	11.2	113	4.1

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolutionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromosome No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
P2	*RPP2A*	I	AC005824	F15K20.18	At2g27720	AV532448	17	2	12.0	nga1126	50.6	50.4	11.4	115	4.4
	RPP2B		AC005824	F15K20.19	At2g27710	AV535852	13	2	12.0	nga1126	50.6	50.4	11.4	115	4.4
	RPP2C		AP002059	T20D4.1	At3g28500	F19923	2	3	10.7	AIG2	50.59	39.1	11.7	115	4.4
	RPP2D		AL353818	F14L2.140	At3g44590	AV534715	2	3	16.6	m249	61.3	57.7	11.0	111	4.2
	RPP2E		AB022222	MUD12.2	At5g40040	Z17443	2	5	16.1	SGCSNP150	83.2	53.2	11.8	114	4.3
P3	*RPP3A*	I	AL049480	F14M19	At4g25890	AV556500	1	4	12.3	RSP2	75.6	Planta	11.8	119	4.2
	RPP3B		AB019233	MJB24.10	At5g57290	AV535058	7	5	23.3	m558a	113.8	Planta	11.9	120	4.3
L3	*RPL3A (1)*	I	AC005687	F1I21.L3	At1g43170	AV562764	21	1	15.8	SGCSNP163	63	66.2	44.6	389	11.0
	RPL3B(2)		AC005850	T25B24.7	At1g61580	AV557676	1	1	22.3	mi230	86.5	67.4	44.5	390	11.1
	RPL3C		AB016888	MDH9.14	N.A.	N.F.	E	5	17.0	DFR	89.5	iORF	–	–	–
L4	*RPL4A*	II	AC016661	F11F8.22	At3g09630	AV551524	8	1	2.9	APX1B	16.2	58.1	44.7	406	11.1
	RPL4B		AC079605	T32G9.26	At1g35200	N.F.	0	1	12.9	mi342	58.7	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL4C		AC007266	F27A10.4	N.A.	N.F.	0	2	10.7	SNP203	44.4	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL4D		AL162973	F9G14.180	At5g02870	AV541474	6	5	0.6	SNP241	3.7	56.7	44.7	407	11.1
L5	*RPL5A*	I	AB025639	MWL2.17	At3g25520	AV5645486	5	3	9.2	m433	38	57.0	34.2	300	10.1
	RPL5B		AB016876	MKM21.5	At5g39740	AV525399	9	5	16.0	SGCSNP150	83.2	57.3	34.4	301	10.0
	RPL5C		AB010699	MSN9.3	At5g40130	N.F.	0	5	16.1	SGCSNP164	83.7	iORF	–	–	–
L6	*RPL6A*	III	AC026238	F25I16.12	At1g18540	AV566810	22	1	6.4	mi348	23.6	52.6	26.2	233	10.9
	RPL6B		AC016662	F2P9.7	At1g74060	H36726	6	1	27.5	bw54	116	54.4	26.0	233	11.2
	RPL6C		AC016662	F2P9.8	At1g74050	AV442576	11	1	27.5	bw54	116	54.8	26.1	233	11.2
L7	*RPL7A*	I	AC011713	F23A5.10	At1g80750	AV561722	1	1	30.1	SGCSNP355	131.1	37.7	28.3	247	10.5
	RPL7B		AC006200	F10A8.13	At2g01250	AV550374	6	2	0.2	rga	1.7	60.8	28.1	242	10.7
	RPL7C		AC004005	F6E13.25	At2g44120	AI100283	3	2	18.4	m336	79	60.3	28.5	242	10.7
	RPL7D		AP002038	K20M4.2	At3g13580	N.F.	0	3	4.4	nga162	20.5	61.7	28.4	240	10.8
L7a	*RPL7aA*	II	AC002535	T30B22.8	At2g47610	T76559	7	2	19.7	mi79a	87.5	57.9	29.1	257	10.9
	RPL7aB		AL162651	F26K9.300	At3g62870	AV536728	16	3	23.7	SNP264	89.3	57.1	29.0	256	11.0
L8	*RPL8A*	I	AC006201	T27K22.11	At2g18020	T44362	8	2	8.1	m216	33.1	71.4	27.9	258	11.6
	RPL8B		AL132980	F24M12.230	At3g51190	N.F.	0	3	19.5	MUR 1	72.7	71.0	28.0	260	11.3
	RPL8C		AL022141	F23E13.20	At4g36130	H37035	8	4	16.3	fah1	86.3	70.6	27.9	258	11.5
L9	*RPL9A*	I	AC027035	T16O9.23	N.A.	AV533409	19	1	12.1	mi2532	51.8	57.1	22.0	194	10.2
	RPL9B		AC021045	T9L6.2	At1g33120	AV549042	15	1	12.0	mi2532	51.8	57.1	22.0	194	10.2
	RPL9C		AC021045	T9L6.5	At1g33140	AV549555	28	1	12.0	mi2532	51.8	57.1	22.0	194	10.2
	RPL9D		AL049524	F7L13.30	At4g10450	AV541541	6	4	5.6	SGCSNP24	30.88	58.3	22.0	194	10.3
L10	*RPL10A*	II	AC012188	F14L17.9	At1g14320	AV553316	25	1	4.9	SGCSNP303	14.6	69.9	24.9	220	11.3
	RPL10B		AC005508	T2P11.10	At1g26910	N.F.	E	1	9.4	mi192	41.1	69.4	24.9	221	11.2
	*RPL10C**		AC079285	T12I7.3	At1g66580	AI998557	3	1	24.4	mi185	102.1	69.8	24.1	214	11.3
L10a	*RPL10aA**	I	AC006932	T27G7.6	At1g08360	AV554254	14	1	2.6	SGCSNP308	0.89	63.0	24.3	215	10.7
	*RPL10aB**		AC005824	F15K20.37	At2g27530	AV551399	11	2	12.1	ngal126	50.65	64.2	24.3	215	10.7
	RPL10aC		AB007651	MWD9.24	At5g22440	AV553355	16	5	7.5	mi433	42	62.8	24.5	217	10.6

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolutionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromosome No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
L11	*RPL11A(A)*	I	AC006931	F7D19.26	At2g42740	N.F.	0	2	18.0	COR15	76.8	72.0	20.9	182	10.7
	RPL11B		AL353032	T20N10.50	At3g58700	Z29916	3	3	22.2	SNP7	77.1	70.1	20.9	182	10.8
	RPL11C(B)		AL035526	F28A21.140	At4g18730	AA712813	18	4	9.4	AG	63	70.3	21.1	184	10.8
	RPL11D		AB012245	MRA19.21	At5g45775	AV532938	6	5	18.5	mi61	98.1	70.1	20.9	182	10.8
L12	*RPL12A*	I	AC006260	T2N18.5	At2g37190	AV540047	5	2	15.8	ve018	69	70.6	18.0	166	9.6
	RPL12B		AL132966	F4P12.130	At3g53430	BE038784	8	3	20.2	AFC1	73.9	69.3	18.0	166	9.6
	RPL12C		AB005246	MUP24.9	At5g60670	AV530701	7	5	24.4	SGCSNP2	115.9	69.9	17.8	166	9.6
L13	*RPL13A*	III	AL096856	T24C20.10	At3g48130	N.F.	0	3	18.3	m409	64	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL13B		AL132967	T2J13.150	At3g49010	AV553216	10	3	18.6	SGCSNP291	68.2	55.2	23.8	206	11.7
	RPL13C		AL132967	T2J13.200	At3g48960	Z34694	18	3	18.6	SGCSNP291	68.2	51.2	23.5	206	11.3
	RPL13D		AB005244	MRO11.6	At5g23900	AI100098	11	5	8.1	CDKP9	44.5	57.1	23.5	206	11.7
L13a	*RPL13aA*	I	AC012395	T1B9.24	At3g07110	AV541696	14	3	2.3	SGCSNP115	3.32	60.5	23.5	206	11.2
	RPL13aB		AB028609	K7P8.12	At3g24830	AA042521	4	3	9.1	g4711	38	60.5	23.5	206	11.1
	RPL13aC		AL049751	F17N18.60	At4g13170	AI999348	1	4	6.8	mi465	45	61.1	23.6	206	11.2
	RPL13aD		AB012242	K24G6.9	At5g48760	AV542288	6	5	19.9	M331	102.6	60.5	23.6	206	11.2
L14	*RPL14A*	III	AC007109	T13C7.4	At2g20450	N.F.	0	2	9.1	SNP71	35.8	46.9	15.5	134	10.9
	RPL14B		AL161566	T24A18.40	At4g27090	BE038422	8	4	12.8	mi123	75.6	44.6	15.5	134	10.8
L15	*RPL15A*	III	Z97341	FCA6	At4g16720	BE039553	6	4	~8.0	SGCSNP272	56	70.4	24.2	204	12.0
	*RPL15B**		Z97343	FCA8	At4g17390	AV549804	7	4	~8.0	mi112	58.1	70.0	24.2	204	12.0
L17	*RPL17A*	I	AC004557	F17L21.19	At1g27400	AI996162	8	1	9.6	ve008	47.7	66.7	19.3	172	11.0
	RPL17B		AC004393	T1F15.11	At1g67430	BE03992	12	1	25.0	mi185	102.2	67.3	19.9	175	10.9
L18	*RPL18A*	II	AC002535	T30B22.13	At2g47570	N.F.	E	2	19.7	mi79a	87	62.5	20.8	187	11.3
	RPL18B		AC011620	F18C1.14	At3g05590	AV550190	6	3	1.7	mi355	13.9	64.9	20.9	187	11.7
	*RPL18C**		AC007399	F14I23	At5827850	AV552450	8	5	10.0	SO262	65.2	63.8	20.9	187	11.7
L18a	*RPL18aA**	II	AC022455	T1P2.8	At1g29970	N.F.	0	1	10.5	m215	41.6	53.3	21.4	178	11.2
	RPL18aB		AC004077	T31E10.18	At2g34480	AV549659	12	2	14.8	ve016	67.6	53.3	21.3	178	11.3
	RPL18aC		AB023038	MIE1.10	At3g14600	AV542705	3	3	4.8	SNP20	20	51.5	21.3	178	11.1
L19	*RPL19A*	II	AC009525	F22D16.23	N.A.	AV536229	25	1	0.7	GST1	3.9	68.9	24.6	214	12.0
	RPL19B		AB022217	MGL6.25	At3g16780	AV549838	3	3	5.7	m228	23	69.5	24.3	209	11.9
	RPL19C		AF075597	T2H3.3	At4g02230	T04719	5	4	1.0	ve023	11.9	71.2	23.3	200	12.0
L21	*RPL21A*	II	AC003970	F14J9.25	At1g09590	AV552764	5	1	3.0	phyA	11.3	48.7	18.7	164	11.3
	*RPL21B**		AC003970	F14J9	N.A.	N.F.	0	1	3.0	phyA	11.3	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL21C		AC000132	F21M12.8	At1g09690	AV537606	7	1	3.1	ve005	11.4	48.7	18.7	164	11.3
	RPL21D		AC007654	T19E23.15	N.A.	BE527706	2	1	11.2	UFO	47	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL21E		AC079733	T8L23.13	At1g57660	R65045	7	1	20.9	nga280	83.8	48.7	18.7	164	11.3
	RPL21F		AL132977	T10K17.30	At3g57820	AA585876	1	3	21.9	SNP7	77.1	iORF	–	–	–
L22	*RPL22A*	III	AC009525	F22D16.17	At1g02830	N.F.	NE	1	0.6	GST1	3.9	58.4	14.5	127	10.6
	RPL22B		AC011620	F18C1.17	At3g05560	T88520	1	3	1.7	mi355	13.9	68.7	14.0	124	10.4
	*RPL22C**		AC069556	T1G16	At5g27770	Z33746	1	5	9.8	SO262	65.2	64.1	14.0	124	10.1

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolutionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromosome No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
L23	*RPL23A**	I	AC000104	F19P19.5	At1g04480	AV557949	9	1	1.1	SGCSNP151	3.3	84.4	14.5	136	11.1
	RPL23B		AC002332	F4P9.14	At2g33370	Z33670	10	2	14.4	ve015	63.9	84.9	15.0	140	11.2
	RPL23C		AC022287	T27C4.4	At3g04400	BE037765	4	3	1.1	GAPC	8.4	84.9	15.0	140	11.2
L23a	*RPL23aA(2)*	I	AC004218	F12L6.12	At2g39460	BE039409	5	2	16.7	SGCSNP37	72.4	74.8	17.4	154	11.0
	RPL23aB(3)		AL132954	T26I12.160	At3g55280	AV544539	7	3	20.9	ve022	76.8	74.1	17.9	158	11.0
L24	*RPL24A**	II	AC006282	F13K3.2	At2g36620	AV551827	4	2	15.6	ve017	64.1	47.0	18.4	160	11.5
	RPL24B		AL132969	F8J2.190	At3g53020	Z26463	4	3	20.1	SGCSNP188	74.4	48.0	18.6	163	11.5
L26	*RPL26A*	I	AL132965	T16K5.260	At3g49910	AW004134	6	3	18.9	SGCSNP398	72.2	73.4	16.9	146	11.5
	RPL26B		AB013390	K9I9.7	At5g67510	Z26419	1	5	27.0	m555	132.6	76.7	16.8	146	11.8
L27	*RPL27A*	III	AC006223	F22D22.3	At2g32220	AI995587	2	2	13.8	SGCSNP26	63.27	57.8	15.5	135	11.0
	RPL27B		AP001306	MKA23.13	At3g22230	AV550432	7	3	7.8	PAP606	30	56.3	15.6	135	11.1
	RPL27C		AL161540	FCA2	At4g15000	T76226	5	4	~7.5	mi198	49.6	55.6	15.6	135	11.1
L27a	*RPL27aA*	I	AC012187	F13K23.22	At1g12960	N.F.	0	1	4.3	ve006	16.1	61.5	16.5	144	11.0
	RPL27aB		AC005292	F26F24.13	At1g23290	Z26208	8	1	8.3	m235	34	67.6	16.3	146	11.3
	RPL27aC		AC010796	F24J13.17	N.A.	AV537006	6	1	26.3	mi462	110.7	67.6	16.5	146	11.4
L28	*RPL28A*	III	AC005169	F6F22.24	At2g19730	BE038429	4	2	8.8	mi148	36.1	34.9	15.9	143	11.4
	*RPL28B**		AP000600	MAG2	N.A.	N.F.	0	3	4.7	nga162	20.5	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL28C		AL161574	F19B15	At4g29410	AV545939	8	4	13.5	mi232	76.7	35.7	15.9	143	11.6
L29	*RPL29A*	III	AC023912	F3E22.16	At3g06700	T46465	3	3	2.1	SGCSNP115	3.32	69.2	7.0	61	12.0
	RPL29B		AC023912	F3E22.18	At3g06680	N.F.	0	3	2.1	SGCSNP115	3.32	69.2	7.0	61	12.0
L30	*RPL30A*	II	AC025781	F15C21.6	At1g36240	N.F.	0	1	13.7	SGCSNP279	61.13	72.5	12.3	112	10.6
	*RPL30B**		AC009243	F28K19.15	At1g77940	AV532452	13	1	29.0	ve011	119.4	69.7	12.4	112	10.1
	RPL30C		AB026654	MVE11.10	At3g18740	N.F.	0	3	6.4	ve039	24.6	69.7	12.3	112	10.5
L31	*RPL31A*	II	AC005169	F6F22.23	At2g19740	AA712836	4	2	8.8	mi148	36.1	58.8	13.7	119	10.7
	RPL31B		AL049171	T25K17.40	At4g26230	BE526625	2	4	12.4	RPS2	75.6	59.3	13.8	119	10.6
	RPL31C		AB013392	MIK19.16	At5g56710	AF162852	4	5	23.0	mi69	114.2	57.5	13.8	119	10.7
L32	*RPL32A*	II	AL110123	F15J5.70	At4g18100	Z17739	3	4	9.2	mi32	60.9	66.9	15.5	133	11.6
	RPL32B		AB019223	K11I1.2	At5g46430	AA042212	3	5	18.9	SGCSNP219	96.8	64.6	14.5	133	11.5
L34	*RPL34A*	III	AC005508	T2P11.7	At1g26880	F20073	3	1	9.3	mi92	41.1	52.2	13.7	120	12.2
	RPL34B		AC013289	T6C23.18	At1g69620	AI013289	9	1	26.0	mi462	110.7	51.3	13.7	119	12.2
	RPL34C		AP000386	MLD15.7	At43g28900	N.F.	0	3	10.9	AIG2	50.5	49.6	13.6	120	12.0
L35	*RPL35A*	I	AC016661	F11F8.7	At3g09500	N.F.	0	1	2.9	APX1B	16.2	64.8	14.3	123	11.6
	RPL35B		AC004218	F12L6.5	At2g39390	BE038438	6	2	16.7	SGCSNP37	72.4	64.8	14.3	123	11.6
	RPL35C		AL132954	T26I12.50	At3g55170	BE038964	2	3	20.9	SGCSNP134	75.75	63.9	14.2	123	11.6
	RPL35D		AL162971	T22P11.200	At5g02610	AV549599	6	5	0.5	SNP241	3.7	64.8	14.3	123	11.6
L35a	*RPL35aA*	II	AC067971	F10K1.22	At1g06980	N.F.	0	1	2.1	GT45 1	8.52	55.9	12.9	112	11.5
	RPL35aB		AC008046	F5A13.4	At1g41880	AV535617	6	1	15.2	mi133	61	55.9	12.8	111	11.5
	RPL35aC		AC020579	F1O17.6	At1g74270	N.F.	0	1	27.6	SGCSNP380	117.2	56.9	12.9	112	11.5
	RPL35aD		AL161667	F1I16.160	At3g55750	AI994336	6	3	21.1	SGCSNP189	77.2	55.9	12.8	111	11.5
L36	*RPL36A*	III	AC004684	F13M22.10	At2g37600	AI999791	1	2	16.0	ve018	69.7	58.3	12.7	113	12.3
	RPL36B		AL132960	F5K20.40	At3g53740	AV533586	14	3	20.3	ve042	76.29	60.0	12.7	112	12.3
	RPL36C		AL162971	T22P11.40	At5g02450	T04630	2	5	0.5	SGCSNP241	3.7	59.6	12.2	108	12.1

(*Table continues*)

Table I. *Continued*

r-Protein		Evolutionary Group	Genomic		MATDB AGI Gene Name	EST		Chromosome No.	Mbp	Nearest Marker		Deduced Polypeptide			
Protein name	Gene name		GenBank accession no.	Clone position		GenBank accession no.	Frequency			Marker name	Map position	% ID Rat	kD	Amino acids	pI
L36a	*RPL36aA*	II	AB015474	MLM24.12	At3g23390	AV541635	10	3	8.3	mi386	36.3	76.8	12.1	105	11.1
	RPL36aB		Z97336	FCA1	At4g14320	BE528949	6	4	7.2	ve024	51.9	76.8	12.1	105	11.1
L37	*RPL37A**	II	AC007591	F9L1	At1g15250	F20017	3	1	5.2	SRP54A	18.9	66.7	10.6	93	12.4
	RPL37B		AC037424	F19K6.12	At1g52300	AV524548	17	1	19.1	PAP240	81.1	67.4	10.8	95	12.4
	*RPL37C**		AB012247	MSL1	At3g16080	AI998492	5	3	5.4	m228	23.4	63.8	10.7	95	12.4
L37a	*RPL37aA*	III	AC004667	T4C20.10	N.A.	N.F.	E	2	15.1	m323	67.9	iORF	–	–	–
	RPL37aB		AC009991	F9F8.23	At3g10950	N.F.	0	3	3.5	MNSOD	14.7	69.3	10.4	92	11.1
	*RPL37aC**		AL163852	F27H5	N.A.	BE577732	13	3	22.7	SGCSNP74	84.6	70.9	10.0	89	11.0
L38	*RPL38A*	III	AC002335	T1O24.20	At2g43460	N96748	5	2	18.2	COR15	76.8	78.3	8.1	69	10.7
	RPL38B		AL138659	T16L24.90	At3g59540	N.F.	0	3	22.4	SNP74	84.6	78.3	8.1	69	10.7
L39	*RPL39A**	II	AC007070	T22F11.20	At2g25210	Z17538	3	2	11.0	g6842	46.7	72.5	6.4	51	12.8
	*RPL39B**		AC009755	F14P3.16	At3g02190	N.F.	NE	3	0.4	mi74b	5.8	74.5	6.4	51	12.8
	*RPL39C**		AL021636	F10N7	At4g31981	AV536940	3	4	14.7	g8300	81.2	72.9	6.3	50	12.8
L40	*RPL40A*	III	AC006921	F9C22.10	At2g36170	AV533842	4	2	14.4	SGCSNP333	67.97	92.2	14.7	128	10.7
	RPL40B		AL050300	F22O6.30	At3g52590	Z35369	15	3	19.9	mi456	72.7	92.2	14.7	128	10.7
L41	*RPL41A*	III	AC009894	T6H22.15	N.A.	AI998257	2	1	3.4	mi3030	83.7	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.
	*RPL41B**		AC002986	YUP8H12R	N.A.	N.F.	0	1	29.5	SNP253	120.4	iORF	–	–	–
	*RPL41C**		AC018721	T7M7	N.A.	N.F.	0	2	17.0	SNP241	74.4	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.
	RPL41D		AC074395	T8G24.5	At3g08520	N.F.	0	3	2.5	SNP192	11	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.
	RPL41E		AC009991	F9F8.7	At3g11120	N.F.	0	3	3.4	SNP11	14.7	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.
	*RPL41F**		AC024128	MGH6	N.A.	T41975	3	3	4.1	nga162	20.5	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.
	RPL41G		AL163832	F27K19.200	At3g56020	AI998878	1	3	21.2	SNP189	77.2	96.0	3.4	25	N.D.

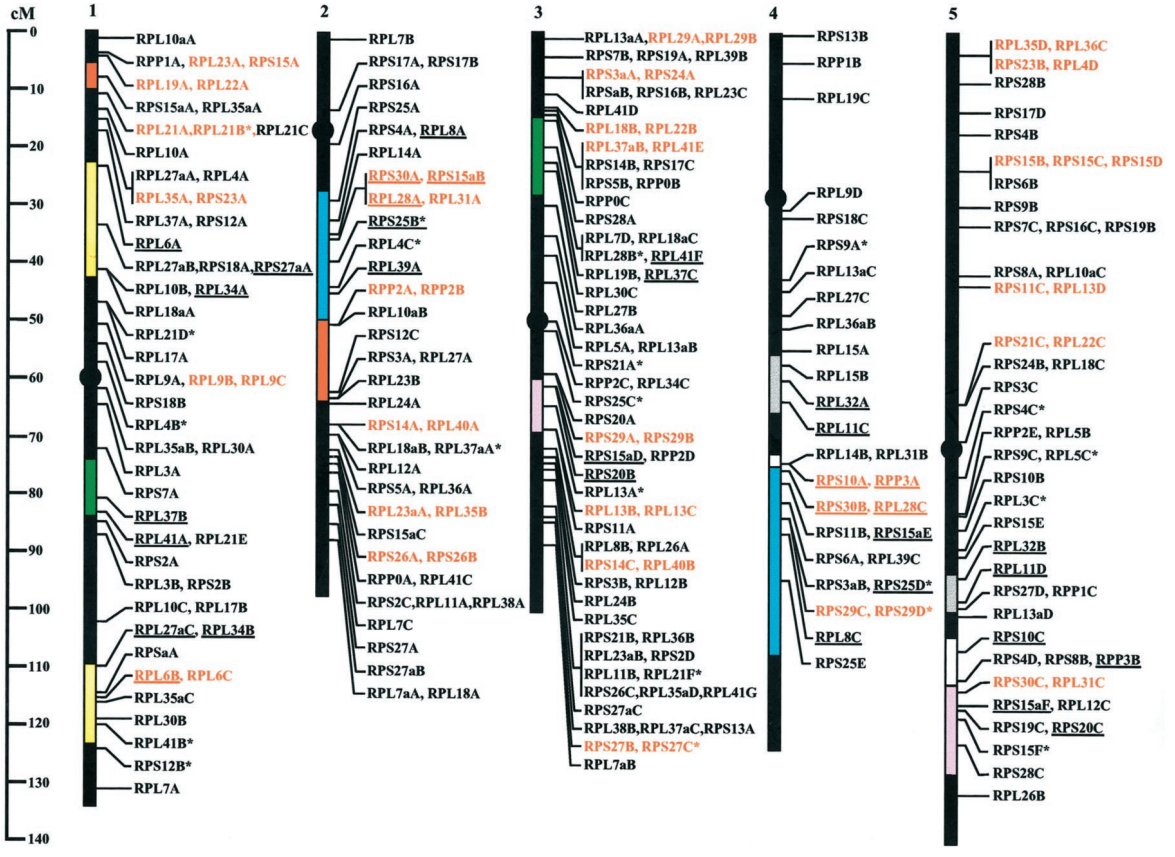

Figure 1. Genomic location of Arabidopsis r-protein genes. The 249 Arabidopsis r-protein genes are mapped by distance (centiMorgans) to nearest genetic marker from the distal short arm on the genetic map of each chromosome (Lister et al., 1993). Centromeres are shown as black circles. Genes listed linearly are tandemly arranged on the same chromosome and those located on the same BAC clone are depicted in red. An asterisk indicates genes with an incomplete ORF. Duplicated regions corresponding to numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 from Table III are indicated in yellow, red, blue, green, pink, gray, and white, respectively. Genes conserved between duplicated regions are underlined.

(*Continued from p. 400*)

pears to contrast with the even distribution of all protein coding sequences observed for the five chromosomes (AGI, 2000); however, statistical analysis (g test, P value = 0.4522) indicated that these differences are not significant. If the r-protein genes were randomly distributed, approximately one gene per 500 kb would be expected; however, in 29 instances, two to four r-protein genes were found on a single BAC (Table II). In eight instances, genes that encode different r-proteins are within 5 kb. In several additional cases, r-protein genes have been duplicated and found on the same BAC, and in one instance the genes are triplicated within the same BAC (S15 on chromosome 5). In addition, there are several examples where only one r-protein gene is found within a BAC; nevertheless, the density of r-protein genes within that region may still be rather high (Fig. 1). These data indicate that localized duplication of these genes has occurred infrequently.

In the analysis of the distribution of r-protein genes, we observed that *RPL28A* and *RPS30A* are on chromosome 2 and *RPL28C* and *RPS30B* are on chromosome 4. This observation led us to compare adjacent genes in these two BACs (Table III, Fig. 1, genes conserved between duplications are underlined; about one-half of the 249 r-protein genes are in currently identified duplicated regions; in Fig. 1, large duplicated regions are shown). However, the percentage of genes encoding the same type of r-protein found in conserved positions in both copies of the duplicated regions is 25% to 30% with a range between 0% to 66% (Table III). This observation is consistent with another study that found only 28% of genes in duplicated regions are actually present in duplicate copies (Vision et al., 2000). The most extreme situation is illustrated by two duplicated segments on chromosomes 1 (6.1–10.8 cM) and 2 (50.6–63.9 cM), which contain two and seven r-protein genes, respectively, of which none are paralogous (Table III, Duplicated Region 2; Fig. 1, red colored regions). In summary, analysis of the distribution of the r-protein genes in the Arabidopsis genome

Table II. *Arabidopsis BAC clones containing more than one r-protein gene*

Chromosome No.	BAC Clone	Genes	Intergene Distance
			Kb
1	F19P19	*RPL23A,RPS15A*	73.2
	F22D16	*RPL22A,RPL19A*	15.7
	F14J9	*RPL21A,RPL21B*	44.3
	F11F8	*RPL35A,RPS23A*	49.3
	T9L6	*RPL9B,RPL9C*	11.1
	T2P11	*RPL34A,RPL10B*	5.0
	F2P9	*RPL6B,RPL6C*	1.2
2	F6F22	*RPS15aB,RPL28A*	0.3
		RPL28A,RPL31A	0.3
		RPL31A,RPS30A	0.6
	F15K20	*RPP2B,RPP2A*	0.7
	F9C22	*RPS14A,RPL40A*	1.0
	F12L6	*RPL35B,RPL23aA*	23.2
	T2P4	*RPS26A,RPS26B*	15.5
3	F3E22	*RPL29A,RPL29B*	2.6
	T9J14	*RPS3aA,RPS24A*	29.4
	F18C1	*RPL18B,RPL22B*	6.2
	F9F8	*RPL37aB,RPL41E*	56.5
	T15B3	*RPS29A,RPS29B*	20.9
	T2J13	*RPL13B,RPL13C*	15.5
	F22O6	*RPS14C,RPL40B*	0.9
	T20K12	*RPS27B,RPS27C*	0.6
4	F14M19	*RPS10A,RPP3A*	50.8
	F19B15	*RPS30B,RPL28C*	2.5
	F17I5	*RPS29C,RPS29D*	14.5
5	T22P11	*RPL35D,RPL36C*	53.2
	F9G14	*RPS23B,RPL4D*	3.2
	T5E8	*RPS15B,RPS15C*	0.8
		RPS15C,RPS15D	1.6
	MRO11	*RPS11C,RPL13D*	54.8
	T1G16	*RPS21C,RPL22C*	28.1
	MIK19	*RPS30C,RPL31C*	8.0

showed no evident clustering of these genes. However, r-protein gene density in some regions of the Arabidopsis genome is much higher than that expected for a uniform distribution.

Expression of Arabidopsis r-Protein Genes Appears to Be Differentially Regulated

The occurrence of r-protein gene families raises the question of whether the genes are differentially regulated. The frequency of ESTs available in GenBank (database of expressed sequence tags) has been proposed as a useful tool for preliminary analysis of gene expression (Adams et al., 1995). Despite the limited number of Arabidopsis ESTs (112,500; release 022301, February 2001) available in GenBank, we used this approach to obtain a first assessment of r-protein gene expression. All gene families have at least one EST for at least one gene, but the frequency of ESTs for individual genes varies greatly between different gene family members and gene families. Many r-protein genes (approximately 20%) apparently are very highly expressed, as indicated by the EST number in Table I (10–40 ESTs). The frequency of ESTs observed per gene was variable among genes from the same family. For example, in the P0 gene family, the three genes encode complete ORFs but were represented by 40, 6, and 0 ESTs. On the other hand, in many cases a representative EST was observed for each member of a given family. Cognate ESTs were not found for 52 of the r-protein genes (approximately 20%). Of these, 19 lack a complete ORF and hence are most likely pseudogenes. Genes with a complete deduced ORF may lack a representative EST due to low levels of mRNA accumulation solely in specific cell types or at a specific developmental stage. To examine this possibility, PCR and RT-PCR (with gene specific primers) using a cDNA library or RNA prepared from 3-week-old plants was performed on a subset of r-protein genes lacking a corresponding EST. A PCR (or RT-PCR) product was observed for many (72%) of these genes (data not shown), suggesting that they may be transcribed at some stage in development. Consistent with analyses from other groups, we observed differential levels of expression of individual gene family members.

Global analysis of the expression of the 54, 45, 71, 29, and 50 r-protein genes located on chromosomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, showed that the percentage of these r-protein genes for which an EST is available is 74.1%, 80%, 77.4%, 79.3%, and 84%, respectively. The average numbers of ESTs per mapped r-protein gene per chromosome are 7.8, 5.3, 5.4, 5.3, and 6.1 (chromosomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively). These results suggest a positive bias in favor of chromosome 1 and 5: The r-protein genes on the two chromosomes, in average, seemed to be more abundantly expressed. However, statistical analysis using a non-parametric ANOVA (Kruskal-Wallis test, performed because the data failed to meet the assumption of normality [data not shown] for a standard ANOVA) indicates that there is no significant difference (P value = 0.6087) in the expression of the r-protein genes, among the five chromosomes, based on EST frequency (SAS Institute Inc., 1989).

Biochemical Characteristics of Deduced Arabidopsis r-Proteins

The deduced amino acid sequence for each of the 80 types of r-proteins was determined. In addition, for each r-protein, the predicted molecular mass and pI was calculated, and the percent identity to the rat ortholgue was determined. The deduced Arabidopsis r-proteins range in size from 44.7 (L4) to 3.4 (L31) kD. Of the deduced proteins, Sa, P0, P1, P2, P3, and S12 were acidic (pI 4.0–5.8) and the remainder were basic, ranging in pI from 8.1 (S27) to 12.8 (S30 and L39). The positive charge of the majority of r-proteins is consistent with their interaction with rRNA. The identity between Arabidopsis and rat orthologues averaged 66% and ranged from 96% for L41% to 35% for L28.

Table III. *Large duplicated regions of the Arabidopsis genome-containing r-protein genes*

Duplicate No.	Duplicated Regions			No. of Genes within Duplicated Regions	No. of Genes Conserved between Duplicated Regions	% Genes Conserved between Duplicated Regions
	Chromosome	Border BAC clones	Position			
			cM			
1	1	F20D23-T7N9	23.6–41.1	6	3	50
	1	T6C23-F18B13	110.7–123.8	8	–	38
2	1	F19P19-F22O13	6.1–10.8	2	0	0
	2	T22O13-F4P9	50.6–63.9	7	–	0
3	2	F16F14-T19L18	30.9–50.6	10	6	60
	4	T13J8-T5J17	76.8–108.5	12	–	50
4	1	F27J15-T6H22	73.5–83.8	3	2	66
	3	MBK21-MOE17	16.2–28.1	8	–	25
5	3	T6H20-F24M12	60.5–68.2	7	2	29
	5	K19M22-K1L20	113.7–128	8	–	25
6	4	FCA8-T13K14	57.6–65.4	3	2	66
	5	K23L20-MNJ7	94.1–99.4	4	–	50
7	4	F22K18-T27E11	72.4–76.8	4	3	50
	5	K2I5-MJB24	105.4–113.7	4	–	50

It is interesting that an L28 orthologue was not identified in the genomic sequence of *S. cerevisiae* (Planta and Mager, 1998), indicating that it is a rather divergent r-protein. A final observation was that the identity between rat and individual Arabidopsis orthologues (deduced proteins from the same gene family) were usually within 0% to 5.0% of one another, indicating that members of individual r-protein families are highly conserved. However, there were a few exceptions where the identities within an r-protein family varied 14.1%, 24.0%, and 30.1%, corresponding to the r-proteins P2, L7, and S15a, respectively. These distinctions in proteins encoded by these classes could result in ribosomal heterogeneity or may reflect the evolution of proteins with extraribosomal function.

DISCUSSION

Arabidopsis Ribosomes Contain at Least 80 r-Protein Types, Encoded by 249 Genes

Previous work from our two groups identified 106 Arabidopsis r-protein genes by contig construction from EST sequences coding for 50 orthologues of yeast r-proteins (Cooke et al., 1996) and 77 Arabidopsis orthologues of rat r-proteins (Bailey-Serres, 1998). This report extends the parallel analyses of our two groups on the set of Arabidopsis r-proteins that can be defined by homology to the 79 known eukaryotic r-proteins. All rat r-protein genes have an orthologue in Arabidopsis; however, plants possess an additional r-protein, P3, that appears to be limited to the plant kingdom (Szick et al., 1998). A total of 80 r-protein types encoded by 249 genes were classified, positioned on the AGI map, and the nearest genetic marker identified. Based on this study, Arabidopsis has at least 32 small ribosomal subunit proteins encoded by 101 genes and 48 large ribosomal subunit proteins encoded by 148 genes. Due to the extensive segmental duplication of the Arabidopsis genome, all r-protein genes have between two and several paralogues. Our study included analysis of genomic sequences and ESTs encoding r-proteins. Because all ESTs were assigned to specific genomic sequences, it is unlikely that additional genes that encode rat r-protein orthologues will be identified in the unsequenced centromeric and rDNA regions. Based on this analysis of Arabidopsis r-protein genes, the protein composition of plant ribosomes is very similar to that of other eukaryotes. Our study provides an entry to several important issues such as systematic annotation of r-protein genes; normalization of nomenclature; evolutionary studies of gene structure; analysis of gene expression at the transcriptional, posttranscriptional, and translational levels; examination of r-protein transport to the nucleolus; and ribosome biogenesis.

Analysis of Arabidopsis r-Protein Gene Distribution Provides Insight into r-Protein Gene Evolution

In humans, r-protein genes are found on all chromosomes but with a bias toward chromosome 19 (Kenmochi et al., 1998b). In prokaryotic genomes, r-protein gene clustering is found in the form of operons in which expression of several genes is coordinately regulated under a single promoter (Nomura et al., 1984). No obvious similar clustering has been reported in eukaryotic genomes and recent results (Kenmochi et al., 1998a) showed only one example of local clustering in the human genome, three genes encoding L13A, S11, and L18 being located within 0.6 cM. It is noteworthy that in the Arabidopsis genome, r-protein gene density is much higher in

several regions than would be expected from a uniform distribution. For example, the chromosome 2 BAC clone F6F22 contains four different r-protein gene types within 1.2 kb (Table II). Whether this grouping corresponds to a fossil functional clustering remains to be established by the analysis of different plant genomes.

Analysis of r-protein gene organization has served as a starting point for new insights on genome organization and dynamics in Arabidopsis. It has become obvious that the Arabidopsis genome is a mosaic of duplicated regions (AGI, 2000; Blanc et al., 2000; Paterson et al., 2000; Vision et al., 2000). These data have extended observations made by comparison of chromosomes 2 and 4 (Lin et al., 1999; Mayer et al., 1999). These duplications are either the result of reciprocal translocations between Arabidopsis chromosomes or of an ancient polyploidisation event. It can be reasonably assumed that large duplications constitute one of the main factors of gene duplication in Arabidopsis and have certainly contributed to the increase in r-protein gene number because one-half of the 249 mapped genes are located in duplicated regions. However, closer examination of r-protein genes in duplicated regions shows that considerable rearrangements involving r-protein genes have taken place following duplication of chromosomal segments. Genes encoding the same r-protein are found in conserved positions in both duplicated segments for only approximately 25% of the genes. This observation indicates that although many r-protein genes occur in large duplicated segments, the story is much more complex. It appears that one copy frequently was lost for many of the pairs following duplication of a large chromosomal region, or r-protein genes have been inserted following duplication events. However, the relatively low number of intron-less genes having an intron-containing paralogue argues against the latter mechanism (Martinez et al., 1989).

Because r-proteins form a complex macromolecule in which coordinated regulation of protein levels as well as steric constraints are essential, it is possible that negative selection has led to the elimination of duplicated copies of certain genes. However, the Group I class of r-proteins are found to occur within eubacteria, archaebacteria, and eukaryotes (Wool et al., 1995), yet do not show any bias toward lower copy number than Group II and III r-proteins. Our analysis has shown in addition that tandem duplication, which is another mechanism to increase gene copy number, does not appear to have been important in the expansion of r-protein gene families. Because Arabidopsis is a model genome that will be used to investigate the genomes of many cultivated crops, and because r-protein genes have been conserved throughout evolution, this work should serve as a basis to analyze the distribution and expression of r-protein genes in crop plant species.

The Majority of Arabidopsis r-Protein Genes Appear to Be Expressed

An important question raised by the occurrence of multigene families is the regulation and level of expression of each member in the family. Assessing r-protein gene expression by the presence of an EST showed that at least 77% of r-protein genes (not including the 21 genes with incomplete ORFs) are expressed at a level detectable by an EST. Most or all copies of genes in the individual families have been tagged. The r-protein genes for which no EST is yet available could correspond either to genes that are rarely transcribed or to pseudogenes. As shown in Table I, several r-protein genes for which an EST was not identified have truncated ORFs or deletions within their ORFs. Analysis of expression, PCR, or RT-PCR indicated that many of these genes are in fact expressed (Table I, EST column, represented with an E or NE). Only 7% of r-protein genes were not expressed in the tissues tested. The infrequent nature (7%) of potential r-protein pseudogenes is in agreement with previous data of Lin et al. (1999), who reported that only 10% of all the genes identified or predicted on chromosome 2 correspond to pseudogenes. Our observation that the majority of r-protein genes are expressed in plants is notably different from the situation reported in mammals, in which multiple pseudogenes and only one functional, intron-containing gene was observed for most r-proteins (Wiedemann and Perry, 1984; Wagner and Perry, 1985; Baker and Board, 1992).

The large number of expressed genes in multigene families in plants is probably due to the fact that plants have evolved by polyploidy (Dornelas et al., 1998), followed by specialization of the function or expression patterns of gene family members, thus allowing increased plasticity in response to nonoptimal growth conditions. The high degree of sequence identity between different r-proteins suggests specialization by different temporal or spatial expression patterns to increase protein synthesis at certain developmental times. To date, all detailed analyses of Arabidopsis r-protein genes have illustrated distinctions in regulation of expression of gene family members. For example, high levels of expression of one Arabidopsis L11 gene (*RPL11C*, previously called RPL16B) was observed in shoot and primary root meristems and lateral root primordia in response to auxin treatment, whereas expression of another L11 gene (*RPL11A*, previously called RPL16A) showed more cell type-specific gene expression (Williams and Sussex, 1995). Mutations in Arabidopsis S13 and S18 genes were shown to cause a pointed first leaf (*pfl*) phenotype, remarkably indicating that mutations that alter the expression of r-protein genes may confer a similar phenotype (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Ito et al., 2000). In *pfl1*, a T-DNA insertion into the S18A (*RPS18A*) gene results in complete abrogation of gene expression (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994).

Although S18 is encoded by three genes that appear to have overlapping expression, synthesis in mitotically active tissues seems to be required for normal leaf development. In *pfl2*, caused by a *Ds* insertion into the S13A (*RPS13B*) gene, a significantly reduced number and increased size of subepidermal palisade cells of the first leaf was observed (Ito et al., 2000). Consistent with the apparent effects on cell division, a conditional deletion of r-protein S6 gene in mice does not impair the growth of liver cells following partial hepatectomy but does block the progression through the cell cycle (Volarevic et al., 2000). In this example, existing levels of ribosomes are sufficient for cell growth. In contrast, r-protein gene mutations in *Drosophila melanogaster* are known to cause the haploinsufficient *Minute* phenotype that shows slower rates of cell growth and division (Lambertsson, 1998). Further studies using DNA microarray studies, r-protein gene promoter fusions to a reporter gene, and r-protein gene mutants will be necessary to assess the regulation and role of individual r-protein genes. These studies hopefully will shed light on the role of r-proteins and ribosome biogenesis on regulation of cell growth and proliferation in plants.

Our results show varying numbers of r-protein genes in different families, although it is clear that control mechanisms must exist to ensure the presence of stoichiometric levels of each protein in the ribosomes. This could be achieved by higher expression levels of members of smaller gene families. However, expression levels of different members deduced from the number of cognate ESTs show no clear inverse relationship between the level of expression and the number of genes. Therefore, it is likely that r-protein synthesis is also controlled at a posttranscriptional step. It has been determined that vertebrate r-protein levels are regulated at the translational level, possibly by sequences around a polypyrimidine tract present at the 5′ end of the mRNA, through the regulation of r-protein S6 phosphorylation (Fumagalli and Thomas, 2000; Meyuhas, 2000; Meyuhas and Hornstein, 2000). In plants, posttranscriptional regulation of rapeseed L13 r-protein (Sáez-Vásquez et al., 2000), maize P2a (Fennoy et al., 1998), and maize S6 (Sanchez de Jimenez et al., 1999) expression was reported. Preliminary surveys suggest that a number of plant r-protein mRNAs possess 5′-polypyrimidine tracts (A. Williams and J. Bailey-Serres, unpublished data). In addition, studies with a cell-free wheat germ translation system confirmed that translation of an mRNA with a 5′-polypyrimidine tract was regulated by levels of a titratable repressor protein (Shama and Meyuhas, 1996). Furthermore, the phosphorylation of r-protein S6 is regulated in plants (Turck et al., 1998; A. Williams and J. Bailey-Serres, unpublished data). These observations indicate that the role of translational regulation in r-protein synthesis needs to be rigorously examined.

The existence of differentially regulated multigene families encoding r-proteins raises the additional possibility of ribosomal heterogeneity and its possible functional significance. Here, we observed that the frequency of ESTs for different r-protein gene family members is variable (Table I). Szick-Miranda and Bailey-Serres (2001) recently demonstrated developmentally and environmentally regulated heterogeneity of the composition of the P2-type of r-protein in ribosomes of maize. This, along with our results, raises the intriguing possibility that microheterogeneity in the protein composition of ribosomes may occur at the tissue or cellular level. Such heterogeneity might be used for fine tuning of the efficiency of the translational machinery during development or under specific growth conditions.

In conclusion, this work reports a number of original findings: (a) 249 r-protein genes encoding 79 rat orthologues, and one plant-specific r-protein (P3), were identified and mapped in Arabidopsis; (b) the analysis revealed that r-protein genes are distributed over all Arabidopsis chromosomes; (c) the examination of frequency of ESTs for the different r-proteins gene family members and RT-PCR analysis of a several r-protein genes families demonstrated differential patterns of gene expression with no clear relationship between expression levels and gene number; (d) the expression analysis utilizing the number of ESTs suggest that there is no significant bias in the expression of the r-protein genes among the five chromosomes; and (e) large duplications of chromosomal segments have contributed to the increase in gene copy number but is insufficient to account for all copies because it seems that many duplicated genes have been eliminated during evolution. The identification of the r-protein genes and the determination of their primary structure and organization constitutes a first step to determine their biological role, mechanisms controlling their expression, and modeling of ribosome structure and function in plants.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Identification and Mapping of ESTs Corresponding to r-Protein Genes

The 79 rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) r-protein sequences were obtained from Swiss-PROT (Bairoch and Apweiler, 2000) and the corresponding Arabidopsis ESTs were identified by TBLASTN alignment (Altschul et al., 1997) against all Arabidopsis sequences available in the database of expressed sequence tags and GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov). Sequences whose putative translation product showed significant similarity to the rat sequence were collected using the Query server at NCBI (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/GenBank/GenBankEmail.html), imported into Sequencher (Gene Codes Corp. Ann Arbor, MI), trimmed at the 3′ end to remove ambiguous sequences, and contigs were constructed with 90% identity in 30-nucleotide steps.

Assembled contigs were manually adjusted to identify members of the same gene family as described by Cooke et al. (1997). ESTs were also compared with genomic sequences to confirm identity. From this analysis, the minimal number of genes expressed in each r-protein gene family was determined. The sequence of each identified contig is available on request.

At the beginning of this work, the easiest strategy to map available EST contigs was by PCR on yeast artificial chromosome (YAC) DNA pools using gene-specific primers (Camilleri et al., 1998). Because most of the YACs in the library have been progressively anchored with respect to the genetic map (Lister and Dean, 1993), positioning of an EST on a YAC immediately gave an approximate map position.

Identification of r-Protein Genes and Mapping by Genomic Sequencing

Arabidopsis r-protein genes were identified in the genomic sequence using the same approach as for ESTs using TBLASTN of rat r-proteins against Arabidopsis genomic sequences. Despite the fact that gene annotation lagged behind sequencing, it became easiest to retrieve r-protein genes from the genomic sequence. Careful attention was paid to identify gene exons based on perfect match to ESTs (so that the same gene was not counted twice). Genes encoding plastidic or mitochondrial r-proteins were frequently identified by similarity to known chloroplast or mitochondiral proteins. These genes usually possessed targeting sequences and had higher identity to *Escherichia coli* r-protein genes than those of rat, and were excluded. Identification of a gene by genomic sequence mining allowed for positioning the gene on the AGI map. The percent identity to rat r-protein genes was determined by BESTFIT algorithm available through GCG (University of Wisconsin Genetics Computer Group, Madison, WI). The predicted molecular mass and pI of deduced r-proteins was determined by use of PEPTIDESORT (University of Wisconsin Genetics Computer Group). Genes that were not annotated or were annotated incorrectly were translated using MBS Translator (available at http://mbshortcuts.com/translator/) and intron/exon boundaries were determined by visual inspection of translated sequences comparing genes within a given family that were correctly annotated.

Expression Analysis of r-Protein Genes

Expression levels were estimated based on the number of ESTs in contigs, constructed as described by Cooke et al. (1997), corresponding to individual r-protein genes. Expression analysis of r-protein genes lacking a corresponding EST was examined using PCR or RT-PCR, with gene-specific primers. PCR analysis was performed on an Arabidopsis cDNA library (Newman et al., 1994). RT-PCR was performed on RNA extracted from 3-week-old Arabidopsis ecotype Col 0 plants. Total RNA extraction was performed as previously described (Raynal et al., 1999). Amplification products were resolved on agarose gels and visualized by staining with ethidium bromide. Specific primers for Arabidopsis r-protein genes were designed using regions presenting a sequence polymorphism. Primer sequences are available on request.

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