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On the Cover: *Nicotiana attenuata* is a native diploid tobacco that has been developed as a model system for the study of traits important for ecological performance. It grows in the post-fire habitat in the Great Basin Desert of the southwestern United States and is attacked by a variety of herbivores and pathogens as it germinates from long-lived seedbanks after fires. Depicted is a fourth instar larva of *Manduca quinquemaculata* attacking a flowering-stage plant growing in Utah. Attack elicits increases in transcripts of a germin-like protein (GLP). When *NaGLP* is silenced by transformation or virus-induced gene silencing, attack-elicited H₂O₂, diterpene glycoside, and trypsin proteinase inhibitor defense responses are also silenced and the plant's susceptibility to herbivore attack increases, without influencing herbivore-elicited jasmonate and salicylate bursts or the release of the volatile organic compounds that function as an indirect defense. These results (described by Lou and Baldwin, pp. 1126–1136) demonstrate that *NaGLP* mediates some of the herbivore-elicited direct defenses in *N. attenuata*. Cover image by Danny Kessler. Cover layout by Ash Csikos.

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^[W] Indicates Web-only data.

^[OA] Open Access articles can be viewed online without a subscription.