

The electronic form of this issue, available as of February 11, 2009, at www.plantphysiol.org, is considered the journal of record.

On the Cover: Karrikins are a novel family of plant growth regulators recently discovered in smoke. In this issue, the initial characterization of karrikin action in *Arabidopsis* (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) provides the first mechanistic insights into the broadly conserved karrikin response. (See Nelson et al., pp. 863–873.) The cover image depicts KAR₁, the first identified karrikin, promoting *Arabidopsis* seed germination, surrounded by seeds from 28 smoke-responsive Australian native species. Australian seed images were kindly provided by Luke Sweedman and David Merritt (Kings Park and Botanic Garden, Perth, WA, Australia). *Arabidopsis* images and cover design by David Nelson.

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