On the Cover: Chloroplast movement is mediated by the actin cytoskeleton. The chloroplast-actin (cp-actin) filaments that are specifically localized on the chloroplast envelope are rapidly reorganized according to the intensity and position of incident blue light. Suetsugu et al. (pp. 1155–1167) showed that PLASTID MOVEMENT IMPAIRED1 (PMI1) mediates chloroplast photorelocation movement via the regulation of cp-actin filaments and is essential for nuclear photorelocation movement in Arabidopsis (Arabidopsis thaliana) mesophyll cells. PMI1 and the homolog PLASTID MOVEMENT IMPAIRED1-RELATED1 are required for photorelocation movements of both plastids and nuclei in Arabidopsis pavement cells. The cover shows the cp-actin filament distribution at the rim of the chloroplasts during avoidance response in reaction to strong blue light focused on the central part of the cell. Cover image credits: Sam-Geun Kong, Kyushu University, Japan.

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From Leaf to Kernel: Trehalose-6-Phosphate Signaling Moves Carbon in the Field. Sjef Smeekens

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Living to Die and Dying to Live: The Survival Strategy behind Leaf Senescence. Jos H.M. Schippers, Romy Schmidt, Carol Wagstaff, and Hai-Chun Jing

Leaf senescence is a highly dynamic process that has a major impact on crop production and quality.

BREAKTHROUGH TECHNOLOGIES

[OPEN] Targeted Mutagenesis, Precise Gene Editing, and Site-Specific Gene Insertion in Maize Using Cas9 and Guide RNA. Sergei Svitashev, Joshua K. Young, Christine Schwartz, Huirong Gao, S. Carl Falco, and A. Mark Cigan

Genome editing and gene insertion in maize is advanced with Cas9-guide RNA technology.

Application of Optical Topometry to Analysis of the Plant Epidermis. Miranda J. Haus, Ryan D. Kelsch, and Thomas W. Jacobs

Optical topometry is a powerful, nondestructive method for rapid, quantitative, high resolution imaging of the plant epidermis, requiring no sample preparation.


High-frequency and heritable targeted mutagenesis, transgene integration, and endogenous gene editing in soybean is realized using CRISPR Cas9-gRNA.
A CRISPR/Cas9 toolbox for multiplexed plant genome editing and transcriptional regulation.

Levi G. Loder, Dengwei Zhang, Nicholas J. Baltes, Joseph W. Paul III, Xu Tang, Xuelian Zheng, Daniel F. Voytas, Tzung-Fu Hsieh, Yong Zhang, and Yiping Qi

A CRISPR/Cas9 toolbox enables multiplex genome editing and transcriptional regulation of genes in plants.

RESEARCH REPORTS

Direct Recording of Trans-Plasma Membrane Electron Currents Mediated by a Member of the Cytochrome b561 Family of Soybean. Cristiana Picco, Joachim Scholz-Starke, Margherita Festa, Alex Costa, Francesca Sparla, Paolo Trost, and Armando Carpaneto

Electron currents mediated by a soybean cytochrome b561 protein are detected and functionally characterized using a classical electrophysiological approach.

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Analysis of the mechanisms, regulation, and consequences of protein SUMOylation in plants and other eukaryotes highlights the conservation and importance of this process across taxa.

Cellular Signaling Pathways and Posttranslational Modifications Mediated by Nematode Effector Proteins. Tarek Hewezi

Plant-parasitic nematodes produce a diverse arsenal of effector proteins that interfere with defined cellular processes in host plants to promote successful parasitism.

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Salt-Related MYB1 Coordinates Abscisic Acid Biosynthesis and Signaling during Salt Stress in Arabidopsis. Ting Wang, Takayuki Toghe, Alexander Ivakov, Bernd Mueller-Roeber, Alisdair R. Fernie, Marek Mutwil, Jos H.M. Schippers, and Staffan Persson

A salt-related transcription factor regulates abscisic acid synthesis and signaling genes in germinating Arabidopsis seeds under saline conditions.


A glycolate oxidase metabolizes t-lactate to pyruvate in vivo and may ensure the maintenance of low levels of t-lactate after its formation under normoxia.
Regulation of Nicotine Biosynthesis by an Endogenous Target Mimicry of MicroRNA in Tobacco.
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Endogenous target mimicry of an miRNA affects nicotine biosynthesis.

Differential Role for Trehalose Metabolism in Salt-Stressed Maize.
Clemence Henry, Samuel W. Bledsoe, Cara A. Griffiths, Alec Kollman, Matthew J. Paul, Soulaiman Sakr, and L. Mark Lagrimini

Salt treatment of maize increased the sugar sensing metabolite trehalose-6-phosphate, as well as sucrose and hexose sugars, leading to reductions in spikelet growth, silk growth and kernel set.

The Identification of Maize and Arabidopsis Type I FLAVONE SYNTHASEs Links Flavones with Hormones and Biotic Interactions.
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Methylated Cytokinins from the Phytopathogen Rhodococcus fascians Mimic Plant Hormone Activity.
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Isolation and Characterization of O-methyltransferases Involved in the Biosynthesis of Glaucine in Glaucium flavum.
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Ligand-Mediated cis-Inhibition of Receptor Signaling in the Self-Incompatibility Response of the Brassicaceae.
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Coexpression of the receptor and ligand that function in crucifer self-incompatibility inhibits receptor signaling and abrogates the ability of stigma epidermal cells to arrest self pollen.

PLASTID MOVEMENT IMPAIRED1 and PLASTID MOVEMENT IMPAIRED1-RELATED1 Mediate Photorelocation Movements of Both Chloroplasts and Nuclei.
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Two C2 domain proteins regulate light-mediated movements of plastids and nuclei in both mesophyll and pavement cells.

Intracellular targeting of guard cell carbonic anhydrases is characterized and modeled in relation to their roles in CO₂ control of stomatal movements.

Rice TUTOU1 Encodes a Suppressor of cAMP Receptor-Like Protein That Is Important for Actin Organization and Panicle Development. Jiaoteng Bai, Xudong Zhu, Qing Wang, Jian Zhang, Hongqi Chen, Guojun Dong, Lei Zhu, Huakun Zheng, Qingjun Xie, Jiqiang Nian, Fan Chen, Ying Fu, Qian Qian, and Jianru Zuo

An actin nucleation protein affects rice panicle development as well as root growth.

ECOPHYSIOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

High-Resolution Three-Dimensional Structural Data Quantify the Impact of Photoinhibition on Long-Term Carbon Gain in Wheat Canopies in the Field. Alexandra J. Burgess, Renata Retkute, Michael P. Pound, John Foulkes, Simon P. Preston, Oliver E. Jensen, Tony P. Pridmore, and Erik H. Murchie

A digital reconstruction method models the effect of photoinhibition on daily canopy photosynthesis in three contrasting wheat canopies.

Stomatal Blue Light Response Is Present in Early Vascular Plants. Michio Doi, Yuki Kitagawa, and Ken-ichiro Shimazaki

Blue light responses of stomata occur in a wide lineage of plants except the fern species of Polypodiopsida.

GENES, DEVELOPMENT, AND EVOLUTION


The functional characterization of two Arabidopsis floral repressors unravels their role and regulation at low ambient temperatures.

EARLY SENESCENCE1 Encodes a SCAR-LIKE PROTEIN2 That Affects Water Loss in Rice. Yuchun Rao, Yaolong Yang, Jie Xu, Xiaojing Li, Yujia Leng, Liping Dai, Lichao Huang, Gaosheng Shao, Deyong Ren, Jiang Hu, Longbiao Guo, Jianwei Pan, and Dali Zeng

An actin nucleation protein affects water loss by regulating stomatal density.

Meta-Analysis of Arabidopsis KANADI1 Direct Target Genes Identifies a Basic Growth-Promoting Module Acting Upstream of Hormonal Signaling Pathways. Yakun Xie, Daniel Straub, Tenai Eguen, Ronny Brandt, Mark Stahl, Jaime F. Martínez-García, and Stephan Wenkel

The comparative study of the gene targets of the KANADI1 transcription factor indicates that it is part of a basic growth-promoting module.


Several species from an ancient legume lineage independently evolved a novel class of cysteine-rich peptides to impose a differentiation process on their endosymbionts.
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SENEGENCE-SUPPRESSED PROTEIN PHOSPHATASE Directly Interacts with the Cytoplasmic Domain of SENESCENCE-ASSOCIATED RECEPTOR-LIKE KINASE and Negatively Regulates Leaf Senescence in Arabidopsis. Dong Xiao, Yanjiao Cui, Fan Xu, Xinxin Xu, Guanxiao Gao, Yaxin Wang, Zhaoxia Guo, Dan Wang, and Ning Ning Wang

A protein phosphatase negatively regulates Arabidopsis leaf senescence through dephosphorylating a senescence-promoting receptor-like kinase.

MEMBRANES, TRANSPORT, AND BIOENERGETICS

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Lack of Phosphatidylglycerol Inhibits Chlorophyll Biosynthesis at Multiple Sites and Limits Chlorophyllide Reutilization in Synechocystis sp. Strain PCC 6803. Jana Kopečná, Jan Pilník, Vendula Krynická, Aleš Tomáček, Mihály Kis, Zoltán Gombos, Josef Komenda, and Roman Sobotka

The lack of lipid phosphatidylglycerol inhibits chlorophyll biosynthesis and induces accumulation of an aberrant protein complex containing monomeric PSI and CP43 antenna of PSI.


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Overexpression of BAX INHIBITOR-1 Links Plasma Membrane Microdomain Proteins to Stress. Toshiki Ishikawa, Toshihiko Aki, Shuichi Yanagisawa, Hirofumi Uchimiya, and Maki Kawai-Yamada

Overexpression of a cell death suppressor modulates sphingolipid and protein composition of plasma membrane microdomains, leading to enhanced tolerance to stress.

Phosphorylation and Dephosphorylation of the Presequence of Precursor MULTIPLE ORGANELLAR RNA EDITING FACTOR3 during Import into Mitochondria from Arabidopsis. Yee-Song Law, Renshan Zhang, Xiaoqian Guan, Shifeng Cheng, Feng Sun, Owen Duncan, Monika W. Murcha, James Whelan, and Boon Leong Lim

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