

T H E
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ON THE COVER



The transition from a vegetative to a floral meristem is a complex process involving a host of transcription factors and interacting partners that engage in an intricate balancing act between activation and repression of downstream genes influencing meristem and organ identity. The MADS box genes *AGAMOUS-LIKE 24* (*AGL24*) and *SHORT VEGETATIVE PHASE* (*SVP*) are known to function as a promoter and a repressor, respectively, of floral meristem identity in *Arabidopsis*. Gregis et al. (pages 1373–1382) show that *AGL24* and *SVP* function in the floral meristem via their interaction with the MADS domain protein *APETALA1* (*AP1*). Their work shows that dimers composed of *AP1-AGL24* and *AP1-SVP* interact with the *LEUNIG-SEUSS* repressor complex, and this influences the regulation of the C-class gene *AGAMOUS* during the early stages of flower development.

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