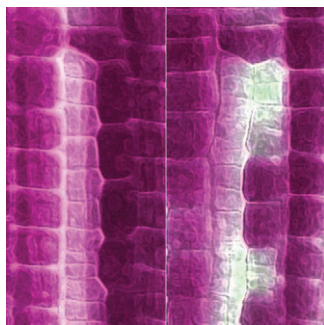


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ON THE COVER



Correct specification of cell fate is critical during development of multicellular organisms, and it requires precise regulatory mechanisms to ensure robust cell type patterns. Kang et al. (pages 1080–1094) investigated the role of *MYB23* in the *Arabidopsis* root, which encodes a MYB-type transcription factor. They found that *MYB23* is necessary for precise establishment of the root epidermal pattern, particularly under the conditions that compromise the cell specification process. The results show that *MYB23* participates in a positive feedback loop that reinforces cell fate decisions and ensures robust establishment of the cell type pattern. The cover shows the disrupted expression pattern of a *PGL2::GUS* reporter gene in an epidermal clone in the *myb23* mutant (right) compared with the position-dependent expression pattern in a wild-type epidermal clone (left).

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
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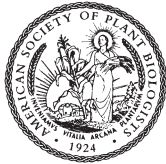
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