ON THE COVER

As key components in the eukaryotic gene regulatory network, microRNAs (miRNAs) themselves are regulated at the levels of both metabolism and functioning. Wang et al. (pages 3565–3576) utilized an Arabidopsis thaliana transgenic line expressing an artificial miRNA (amiR-trichome) that causes trichome clustering to identify factors that are involved in modulating miRNA activity. They showed that mutations in an Importin β protein enhanced miRNA activity and caused highly clustered trichomes as shown in the cover image.

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