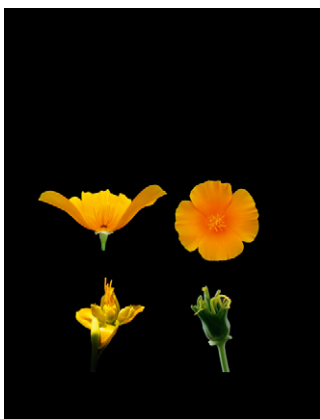


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**ON THE COVER**



The products of B class floral homeotic genes specify petal and stamen identity. Lange et al. (pages 438–453) describe the molecular characterization of *seirena-1*, a mutant from the basal eudicot California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) that shows homeotic changes characteristic of floral homeotic B class mutants. *SEIRENA* is found to be a B function gene of the PI/GLO clade, and the *sei* mutant protein lacks a conserved PI domain present in most PI/GLO proteins. The results suggest that the PI domain is required for specific multimeric associations of MADS proteins necessary to confer stamen identity, and possibly petal identity, in most flowering plants. The cover shows mature flowers of wild type (top), a plant treated with *SEI* Virus-Induced gene Silencing (bottom left), and a *sei* mutant poppy (bottom right) (photos by Matthias Lange, cover design by Annette Becker).

**IN BRIEF**

- Gene Expression in Angiosperm Organ Evolution** 357  
Nancy R. Hofmann
- Phosphorylation and Dark Reversion of Phytochrome B** 358  
Nancy R. Hofmann
- COP9 Signalosome-Regulated Proteolysis: Turning Off Ascorbic Acid Synthesis When the Lights Go Out** 359  
Jennifer Mach

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

- Assigning Gene Function in Biosynthetic Pathways: Camalexin and Beyond** 360  
Morten Emil Møldrup, Fernando Geu-Flores, and Barbara Ann Halkier
- Reply: Complexity in Camalexin Biosynthesis** 367  
Tongbing Su, Yuan Li, Hailian Yang, and Dongtao Ren

**RESEARCH ARTICLES**

- A Large-Scale Identification of Direct Targets of the Tomato MADS Box Transcription Factor RIPENING INHIBITOR Reveals the Regulation of Fruit Ripening** 371  
Masaki Fujisawa, Toshitsugu Nakano, Yoko Shima, and Yasuhiro Ito
- GLUCAN SYNTHASE-LIKE8 and STEROL METHYLTRANSFERASE2 Are Required for Ploidy Consistency of the Sexual Reproduction System in *Arabidopsis*** 387  
Nico De Storme, Joachim De Schrijver, Wim Van Criekeing, Vera Wewer, Peter Dörmann, and Danny Geelen
- The WD40-Repeat Proteins NFC101 and NFC102 Regulate Different Aspects of Maize Development through Chromatin Modification** 404  
Iride Mascheretti, Raffaella Battaglia, Davide Mainieri, Andrea Altana, Massimiliano Lauria, and Vincenzo Rossi
- The TIE1 Transcriptional Repressor Links TCP Transcription Factors with TOPLESS/TOPLESS-RELATED Corepressors and Modulates Leaf Development in *Arabidopsis*** 421  
Qing Tao, Dongshu Guo, Baoye Wei, Fan Zhang, Changxu Pang, Hao Jiang, Jinzhe Zhang, Tong Wei, Hongya Gu, Li-Jia Qu, and Genji Qin

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- The *seirena* B Class Floral Homeotic Mutant of California Poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) Reveals a Function of the Enigmatic PI Motif in the Formation of Specific Multimeric MAD5 Domain Protein Complexes** [C](#)[W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 438  
Matthias Lange, Svetlana Orashakova, Sabrina Lange, Rainer Melzer, Günter Theißen, David R. Smyth, and Annette Becker
- Coordination of the Vernalization Response through a *VIN3* and *FLC* Gene Family Regulatory Network in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#) 454  
Dong-Hwan Kim and Sibum Sung
- Self-Incompatibility in *Petunia inflata*: The Relationship between a Self-Incompatibility Locus F-Box Protein and Its Non-Self S-RNases** [W](#) 470  
Penglin Sun and Teh-hui Kao
- The *Arabidopsis* F-Box Protein CORONATINE INSENSITIVE1 Is Stabilized by SCF<sup>COI1</sup> and Degraded via the 26S Proteasome Pathway** [C](#)[W](#) 486  
Jianbin Yan, Haiou Li, Shuhua Li, Ruifeng Yao, Haiteng Deng, Qi Xie, and Daoxin Xie
- Clathrin Light Chains Regulate Clathrin-Mediated Trafficking, Auxin Signaling, and Development in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 499  
Chao Wang, Xu Yan, Qian Chen, Nan Jiang, Wei Fu, Bojun Ma, Jianzhong Liu, Chuanyou Li, Sebastian Y. Bednarek, and Jianwei Pan
- The PP6 Phosphatase Regulates ABI5 Phosphorylation and Abscisic Acid Signaling in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#) 517  
Mingqiu Dai, Qin Xue, Tyra Mccray, Kathryn Margavage, Fang Chen, Jae-Hoon Lee, Cynthia D. Nezames, Liquan Guo, William Terzaghi, Jianmin Wan, Xing Wang Deng, and Haiyang Wang
- Phosphorylation of Phytochrome B Inhibits Light-Induced Signaling via Accelerated Dark Reversion in *Arabidopsis*** [W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 535  
Mátyás Medzihradzky, János Bindics, Éva Ádám, András Viczián, Éva Klement, Séverine Lorrain, Péter Gyula, Zsuzsanna Mérái, Christian Fankhauser, Katalin F. Medzihradzky, Tim Kunkel, Eberhard Schäfer, and Ferenc Nagy
- A Dual Strategy to Cope with High Light in *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*** [W](#) 545  
Guillaume Allorent, Ryutaro Tokutsu, Thomas Roach, Graham Peers, Pierre Cardol, Jacqueline Girard-Bascou, Daphné Seigneurin-Berry, Dimitris Petroutsos, Marcel Kuntz, Cécile Breyton, Fabrice Franck, Francis-André Wollman, Krishna K. Niyogi, Anja Krieger-Liszakay, Jun Minagawa, and Giovanni Finazzi
- Nitrated Cyclic GMP Modulates Guard Cell Signaling in *Arabidopsis*** [W](#) 558  
Takahiro Joudoi, Yudai Shichiri, Nobuto Kamizono, Takaaki Akaike, Tomohiro Sawa, Jun Yoshitake, Naotaka Yamada, and Sumio Iwai
- Rapid Severing and Motility of Chloroplast-Actin Filaments Are Required for the Chloroplast Avoidance Response in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 572  
Sam-Geun Kong, Yoshiyuki Arai, Noriyuki Suetsugu, Toshio Yanagida, and Masamitsu Wada
- The *Arabidopsis nox* Mutant Lacking Carotene Hydroxylase Activity Reveals a Critical Role for Xanthophylls in Photosystem I Biogenesis** [C](#)[W](#) 591  
Luca Dall'Osto, Maria Piques, Michela Ronzani, Barbara Molesini, Alessandro Alboresi, Stefano Cazzaniga, and Roberto Bassi
- Osmotic Stress Responses and Plant Growth Controlled by Potassium Transporters in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#) 609  
Yuriko Osakabe, Naoko Arinaga, Taishi Umezawa, Shogo Katsura, Keita Nagamachi, Hidenori Tanaka, Haruka Ohiraki, Kohji Yamada, So-Uk Seo, Mitsuru Abo, Etsuro Yoshimura, Kazuo Shinozaki, and Kazuko Yamaguchi-Shinozaki
- Arabidopsis* CSN5B Interacts with VTC1 and Modulates Ascorbic Acid Synthesis** [W](#) 625  
Juan Wang, Yanwen Yu, Zhijin Zhang, Ruidang Quan, Haiwen Zhang, Ligeng Ma, Xing Wang Deng, and Rongfeng Huang
- CYCLIN-DEPENDENT KINASE G1 Is Associated with the Spliceosome to Regulate *CALLOSE SYNTHASE5* Splicing and Pollen Wall Formation in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 637  
Xue-Yong Huang, Jin Niu, Ming-Xi Sun, Jun Zhu, Ju-Fang Gao, Jun Yang, Que Zhou, and Zhong-Nan Yang

- Ca<sup>2+</sup>-Dependent Protein Kinase11 and 24 Modulate the Activity of the Inward Rectifying K<sup>+</sup> Channels in *Arabidopsis* Pollen Tubes** [W](#) 649  
Li-Na Zhao, Li-Ke Shen, Wen-Zheng Zhang, Wei Zhang, Yi Wang, and Wei-Hua Wu
- Progressive Transverse Microtubule Array Organization in Hormone-Induced *Arabidopsis* Hypocotyl Cells** [W](#) 662  
Laura Vineyard, Andrew Elliott, Sonia Dhingra, Jessica R. Lucas, and Sidney L. Shaw
- Altered Lipid Composition and Enhanced Nutritional Value of *Arabidopsis* Leaves following Introduction of an Algal Diacylglycerol Acyltransferase 2** [C](#)[W](#) 677  
Sanjaya, Rachel Miller, Timothy P. Durrett, Dylan K. Kosma, Todd A. Lydic, Bagyalakshmi Muthan, Abraham J.K. Koo, Yury V. Bukhman, Gavin E. Reid, Gregg A. Howe, John Ohlrogge, and Christoph Benning
- Metabolic Fluxes in an Illuminated *Arabidopsis* Rosette** [W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 694  
Marek Szecowka, Robert Heise, Takayuki Tohge, Adriano Nunes-Nesi, Daniel Vosloh, Jan Huege, Regina Feil, John Lunn, Zoran Nikoloski, Mark Stitt, Alisdair R. Fernie, and Stéphanie Arrivault
- NOT2 Proteins Promote Polymerase II-Dependent Transcription and Interact with Multiple MicroRNA Biogenesis Factors in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#) 715  
Lulu Wang, Xianwei Song, Lianfeng Gu, Xin Li, Shouyun Cao, Chengcai Chu, Xia Cui, Xuemei Chen, and Xiaofeng Cao
- The *SUD1* Gene Encodes a Putative E3 Ubiquitin Ligase and Is a Positive Regulator of 3-Hydroxy-3-Methylglutaryl Coenzyme A Reductase Activity in *Arabidopsis*** [C](#)[W](#) 728  
Verónica G. Doblás, Vítor Amorim-Silva, David Posé, Abel Rosado, Alicia Esteban, Montserrat Arró, Herlander Azevedo, Aureliano Bombarely, Omar Borsani, Victoriano Valpuesta, Albert Ferrer, Rui M. Tavares, and Miguel A. Botella
- Salicylic Acid Suppresses Jasmonic Acid Signaling Downstream of SCF<sup>COI1</sup>-JAZ by Targeting GCC Promoter Motifs via Transcription Factor ORA59** [C](#)[W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 744  
Dieuwertje Van der Does, Antonio Leon-Reyes, Annemart Koornneef, Marcel C. Van Verk, Nicole Rodenburg, Laurens Pauwels, Alain Goossens, Ana P. Körbes, Johan Memelink, Tita Ritsema, Saskia C.M. Van Wees, and Corné M.J. Pieterse
- The *Arabidopsis* Elongator Complex Subunit2 Epigenetically Regulates Plant Immune Responses** [W](#)[O](#)[A](#) 762  
Yongsheng Wang, Chuanfu An, Xudong Zhang, Jiqiang Yao, Yanping Zhang, Yijun Sun, Fahong Yu, David Moraga Amador, and Zhonglin Mou

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