ON THE COVER

Many plant species accumulate densely packed anthocyanin deposits called anthocyanin vacuolar inclusions (AVIs). Despite their conspicuousness and importance in organ coloration, the origin and nature of AVIs have remained controversial for decades. Chanoca et al. (pages 2545–2559) analyzed AVI formation in Arabidopsis cotyledons and in purple petals of lisianthus (Eustoma grandiflorum) and found that cytoplasmic anthocyanin aggregates are directly engulfed by the vacuolar membrane in a process reminiscent of microautophagy. The authors hypothesize that this novel microautophagy mechanism also mediates the transport of other flavonoid aggregates into the vacuole. The cover image by Rafael Buono shows lisianthus flowers; the color of the purple flowers is due to the vacuolar accumulation of anthocyanins.

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CORRECTION


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