

T H E  
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**ON THE COVER**



Parasitic plants attack other plants by connecting their vasculature to that of the host via a multicellular infectious organ called the haustorium. Ishida and Wakatake et al. (pages 1795–1814) show that a YUCCA flavin monooxygenase plays an important role in the development of the haustorium after recognition of host-released signals. The cover is a microscopic image of a haustorium in the model parasitic plant *Phtheirospermum japonicum* infecting the root of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The lignin in host vascular tissue and invading cells is stained with safranin-O (pink). The newly induced vasculature in the laterally growing haustorium connects with that of the host root. Photo by Takanori Wakatake.

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