

T H E
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ON THE COVER



In many plant leaves, starch is synthesized during the day and degraded at night to fuel growth and metabolism. Starch is degraded primarily by β -amylases, liberating maltose, but this activity is preceded by glucan phosphorylation and is accompanied by dephosphorylation. A glucan phosphatase family member, LIKE SEX4 1 (LSF1), binds starch and is required for normal starch degradation. Schreier et al. (pages 2169–2186) show that LSF1 does not dephosphorylate glucans, and that glucan binding, but not phosphatase activity, is required for the function of LSF1 in starch degradation. They propose that LSF1 binds β -amylases at the starch granule surface, thereby promoting starch degradation. The cover images show *Arabidopsis* rosettes harvested at the end of the night and stained for starch with iodine. The lightly stained plants are either wild type, *lsf1* mutant complemented with LSF1, or *lsf1* mutant complemented with LSF1 carrying a mutated phosphatase domain. The dark-stained plants are uncomplemented *lsf1* mutants or *lsf1* mutants complemented with LSF1 carrying a mutated starch binding domain: these plants incompletely degrade their starch during the night and thus accumulate excess starch.

EDITOR PROFILE

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Christian Danve M. Castroverde

1931

IN BRIEF

Senescence: The Genetics behind Stay-Green Corn^[OPEN]

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1934

To Golgi and Beyond!^[OPEN]

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1936

Polyploid Pairing Problems: How Centromere Repeat Divergence Helps Wheat Sort It All Out^[OPEN]

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1938

In the Pale Red Light: Control of Pre-mRNA Splicing by RRC1 and SFPS^[OPEN]

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1940

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1941

Resistance on Tap: PDR Transporters Direct Antimicrobial Metabolites Toward Invading Pathogens^[OPEN]

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1943

REVIEW

Ribosome Biogenesis in Plants: From Functional 45S Ribosomal DNA Organization to Ribosome Assembly Factors^[OPEN]

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1945

LARGE-SCALE BIOLOGY ARTICLES

Integrated Genome-Scale Analysis Identifies Novel Genes and Networks Underlying Senescence in Maize^[OPEN]

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Evolutionary Metabolomics Identifies Substantial Metabolic Divergence between Maize and Its Wild Ancestor, Teosinte^[OPEN] 1990
Guanghai Xu, Jingjing Cao, Xufeng Wang, Qiuyue Chen, Weiwei Jin, Zhen Li, and Feng Tian

Separating Golgi Proteins from *Cis* to *Trans* Reveals Underlying Properties of Cisternal Localization^[OPEN] 2010
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- Zhang, Q., Ma, C., Zhang, Y., Gu, Z., Li, W., Duan, X., Wang, S., Hao, L., Wang, Y., Wang, S., and Li, T. (2018). A Single-Nucleotide Polymorphism in the Promoter of a Hairpin RNA Contributes to *Alternaria alternata* Leaf Spot Resistance in Apple (*Malus × domestica*). *Plant Cell* 30: 1924–1942; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1105/tpc.18.00042>. 2276

^[OPEN] Articles can be viewed without a subscription.



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