



US008268748B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Ogawa**(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,268,748 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 18, 2012**(54) **COMPOSITION FOR PRODUCTION OF  
PLANT BODY HAVING IMPROVED SUGAR  
CONTENT, AND USE THEREOF**2004/0052774 A1 3/2004 Creissen et al.  
2009/0099023 A1 4/2009 Ogawa et al.  
2010/0016166 A1\* 1/2010 Ogawa et al. .... 504/320(75) Inventor: **Kenichi Ogawa**, Kyoto (JP)(73) Assignees: **Japan Science and Technology Agency**,  
Kawaguchi (JP); **Okayama Prefecture**,  
Okayama (JP)(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 134 days.(21) Appl. No.: **12/599,710**(22) PCT Filed: **Nov. 7, 2008**(86) PCT No.: **PCT/JP2008/070312**§ 371 (c)(1),  
(2), (4) Date: **Nov. 11, 2009**(87) PCT Pub. No.: **WO2009/063806**PCT Pub. Date: **May 22, 2009**(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2010/0242141 A1 Sep. 23, 2010

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Nov. 13, 2007 (JP) ..... 2007-294797

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**A01H 3/04** (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **504/116.1**(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... None  
See application file for complete search history.(56) **References Cited**

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*Primary Examiner* — Anne Kubelik*Assistant Examiner* — Lee A Visone(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Edwards Wildman Palmer  
LLP; David G. Conlin; Lisa Swiszcz(57) **ABSTRACT**The composition, in accordance with the present invention,  
for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content  
includes glutathione, a polynucleotide encoding  $\gamma$ -glutamyl-  
cysteine synthetase, or a polynucleotide encoding glu-  
tathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate  
aldolase. The composition preferably includes oxidized glu-  
tathione. This allows provision of a composition for easily  
producing a plant body having an improved sugar content.**12 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**

FIG. 1

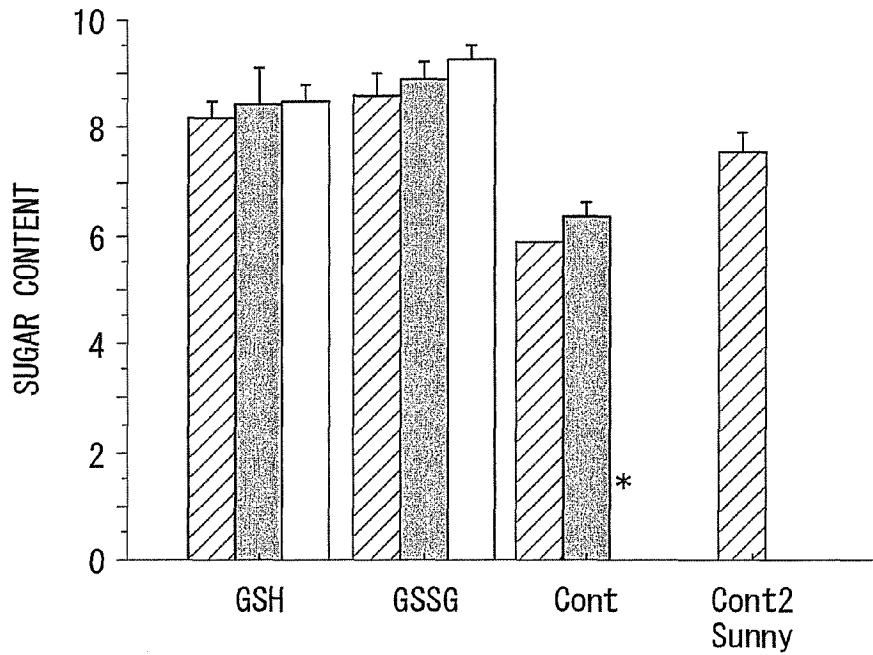


FIG. 2

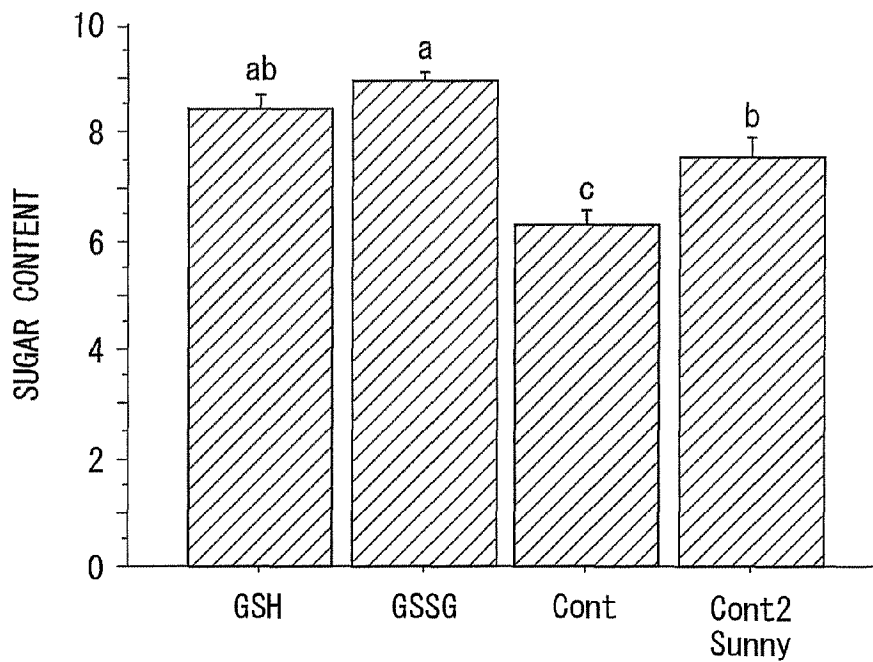


FIG. 3

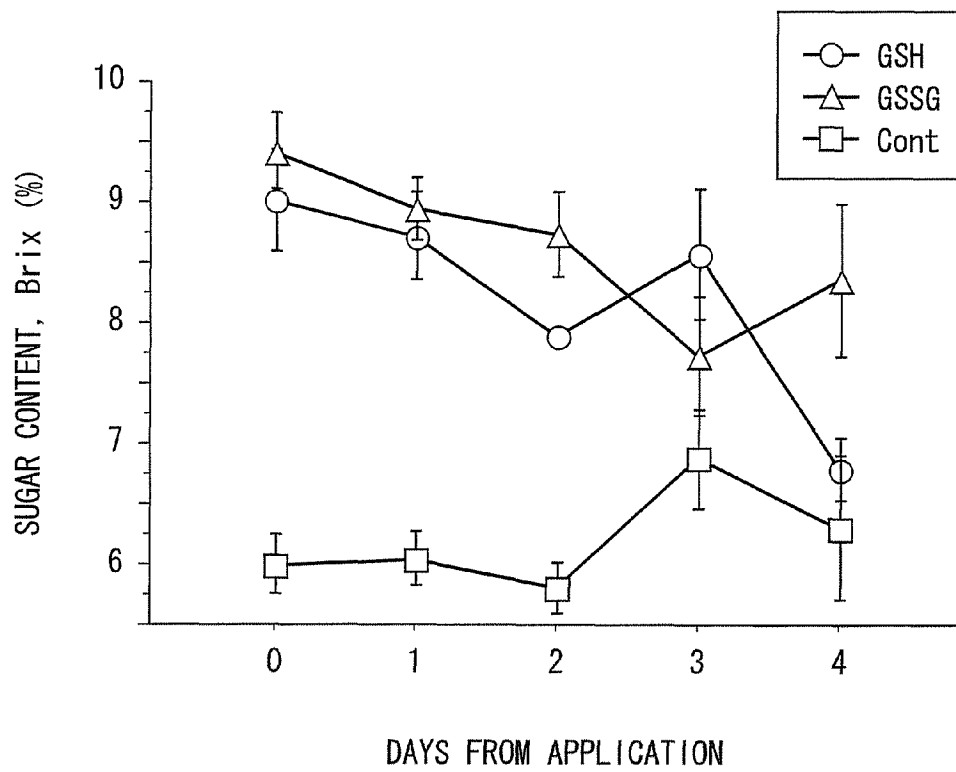


FIG. 4

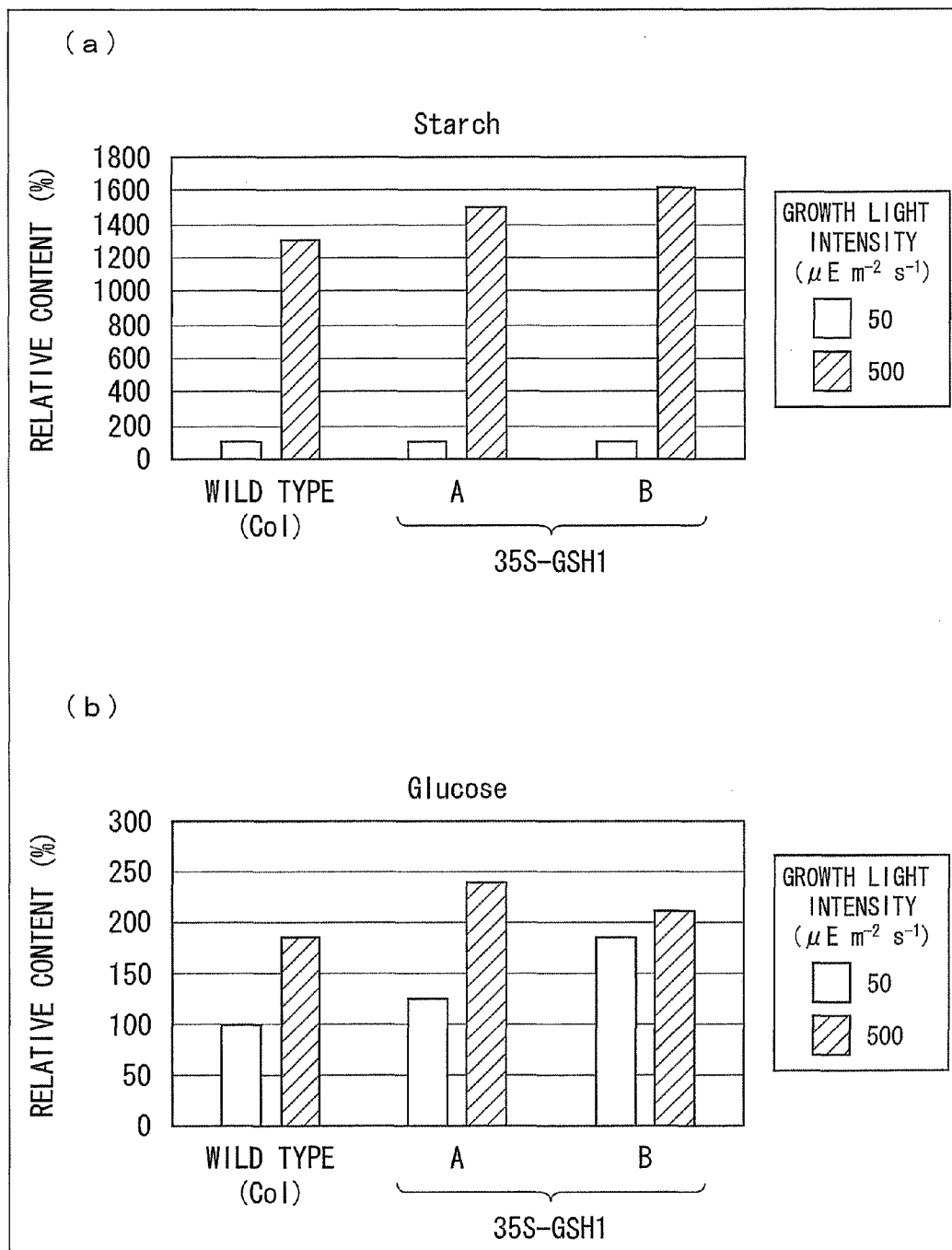


FIG. 5

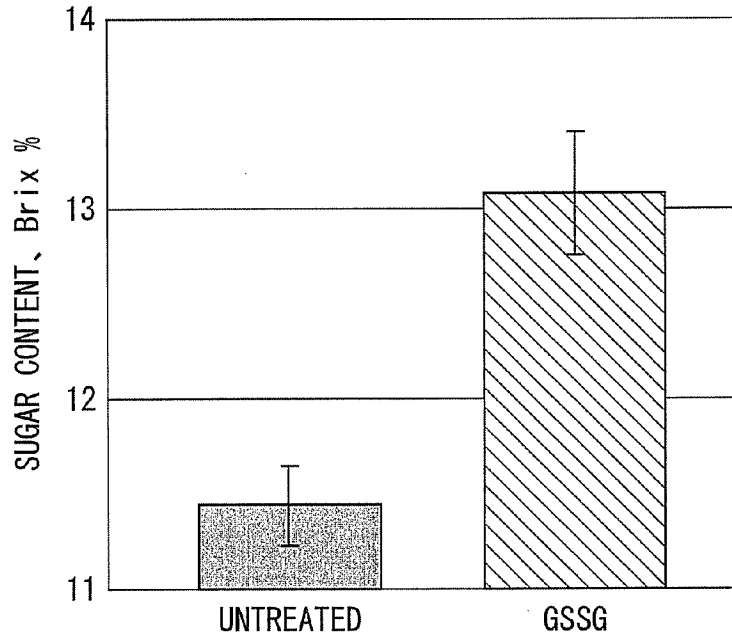


FIG. 6

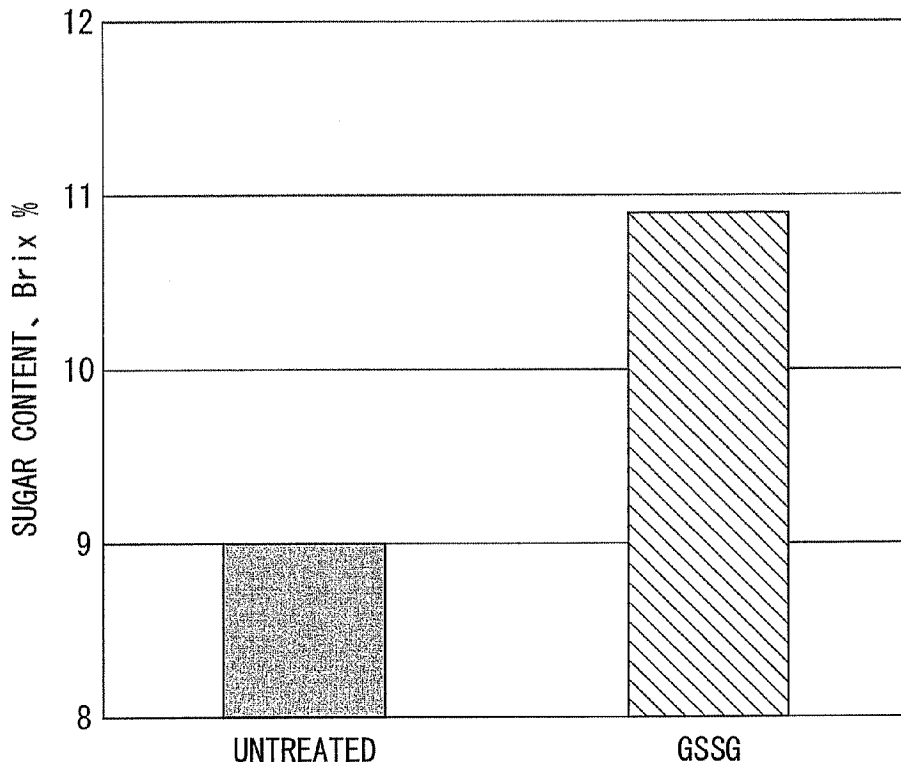


FIG. 7

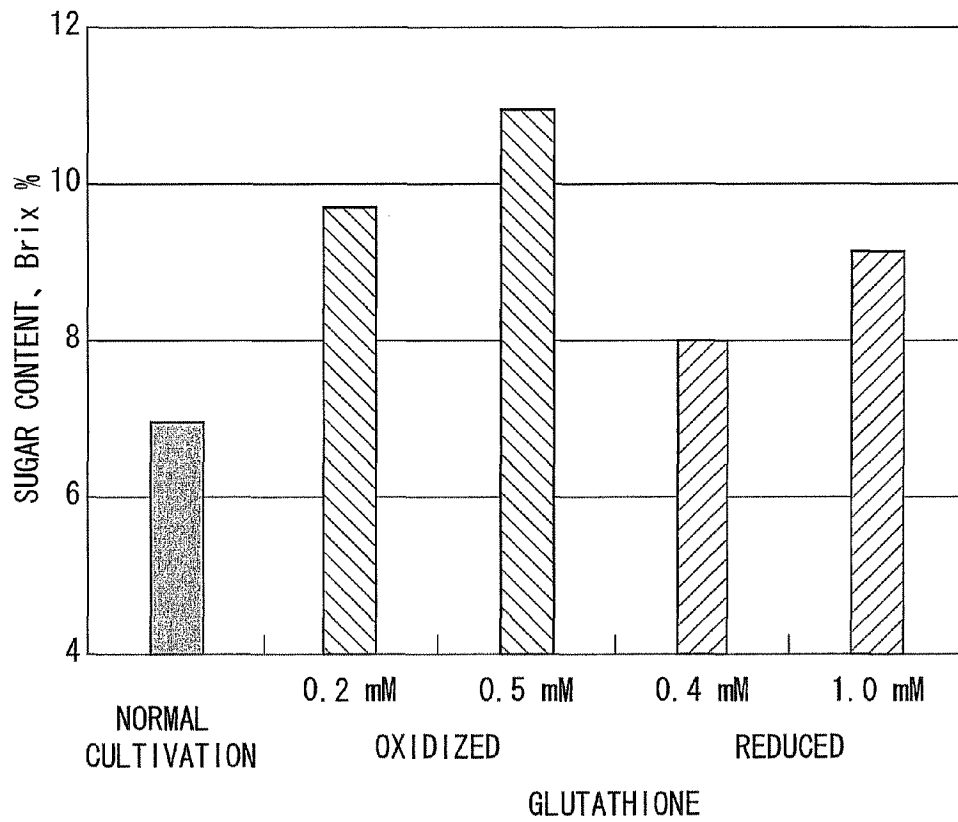


FIG. 8

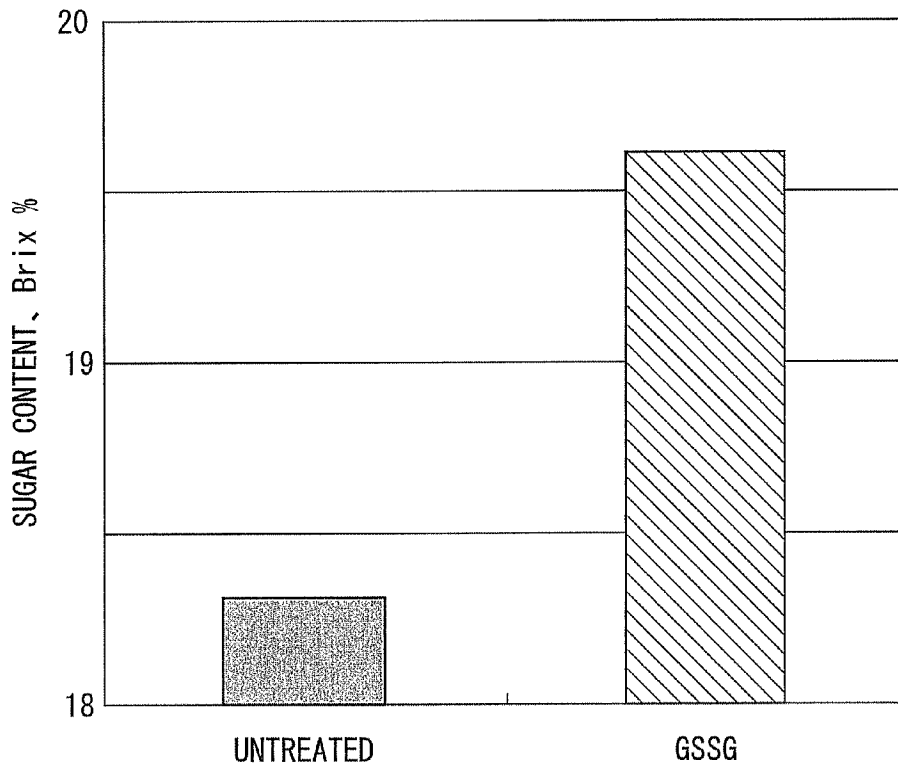
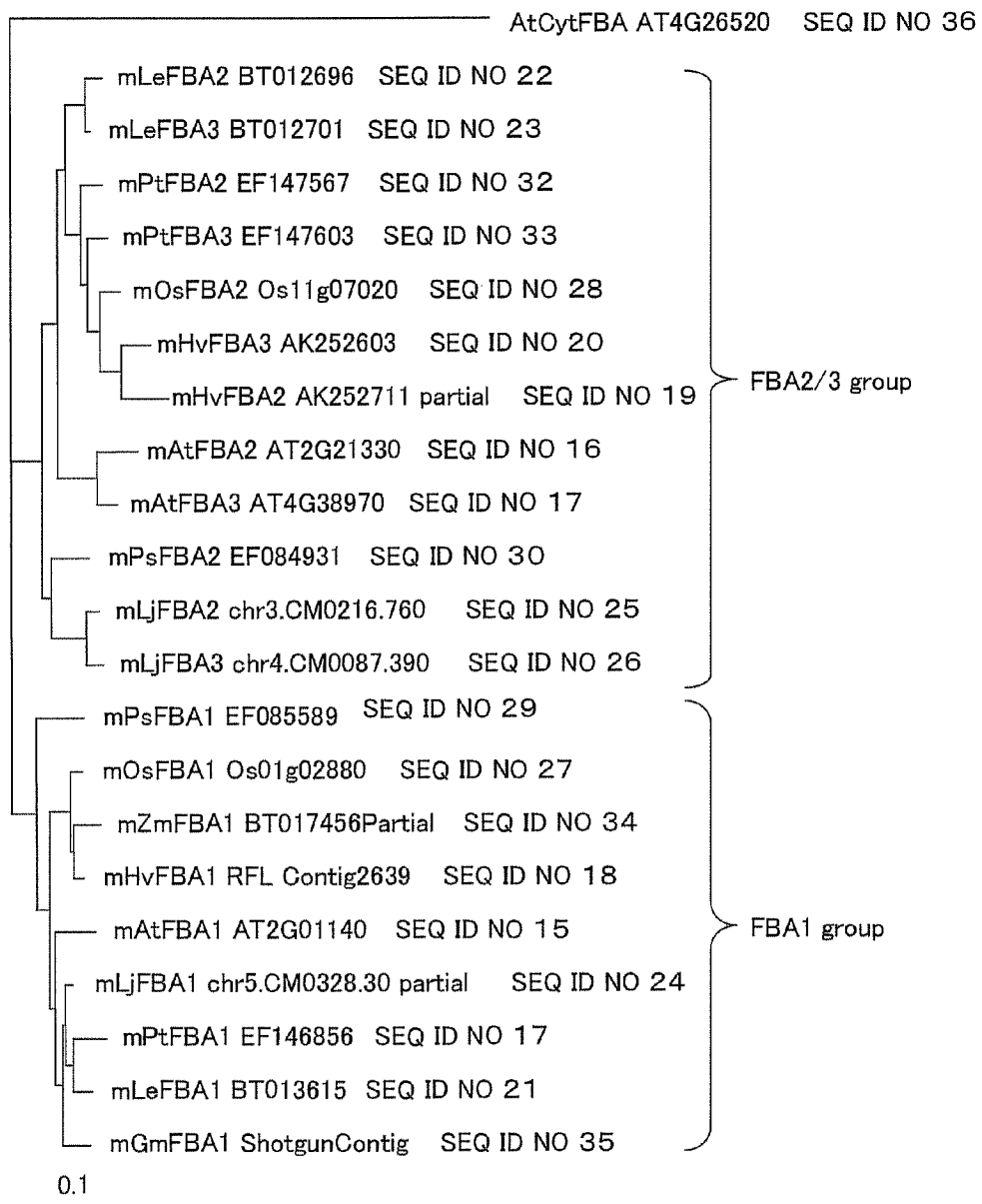


FIG. 9





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## COMPOSITION FOR PRODUCTION OF PLANT BODY HAVING IMPROVED SUGAR CONTENT, AND USE THEREOF

### TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a composition, including a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, which is for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content. The present invention also relates to use of the composition.

### BACKGROUND ART

A plant such as fruit, vegetable, and cereal generally includes sugar. An amount of sugar in the plant is represented by a sugar content. The sugar content affects a commercial value of plant depending on a type of the plant. Therefore, in recent years, technical developments for increasing a sugar content of a plant have been carried out.

For example, tomatoes of high sugar content are produced mainly by soil culture. Further, a technique for producing tomatoes of high sugar content by nutrient solution culture has been suggested (Patent Literature 1).

It is known that a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, such as glutathione, can function as a differentiation control agent for a cell or an organ (Patent Literature 2). Further, it is known that glutathione can function as a plant growth control auxiliary agent (Patent Literature 3).

### CITATION LIST

#### Patent Literature 1

Japanese Patent Application Publication, Tokukaihei, No. 10-271924 (Publication Date: Oct. 13, 1998)

#### Patent Literature 2

International Publication WO 01/080638 (Publication Date: Nov. 1, 2001)

#### Patent Literature 3

Japanese Patent Application Publication, Tokukai No. 2004-352679 (Publication Date: Dec. 16, 2004)

### SUMMARY OF INVENTION

However, the conventional technique for improving a sugar content of a plant lacks in simplicity. Those who can produce tomatoes of high sugar content by soil culture are limited to few specialists. Further, production of tomatoes of high sugar content by nutrient solution culture requires a specialized technique and specialized production apparatus for cultivation management.

The present invention has been accomplished in view of such circumstances, and an object of the present invention is to provide a composition for easily producing a plant having an improved sugar content and to provide a technique using the composition.

In order to attain the object, the inventors of the present invention studied diligently. As a result, they found that a sugar content of a plant body was improved in a case where the plant body was grown in a culture medium (which includes soil and a soil improvement agent) to which a sub-

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stance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is added, or in a case where the plant body was sprayed or directly coated with the substance. The present invention was accomplished based on this totally new finding and includes the following inventions.

The composition in accordance with the present invention is a composition for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content, the composition including a substance (excluding hydrogen peroxide) for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell.

The composition in accordance with the present invention is preferably arranged so that the substance is glutathione, a polynucleotide encoding  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase, or a polynucleotide encoding glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase

The composition in accordance with the present invention is preferably arranged so that the substance is oxidized glutathione.

The kit in accordance with the present invention is a kit for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content, the kit including a substance (excluding hydrogen peroxide) for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell.

The production method in accordance with the present invention is a method for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content, the method including the step of cultivating the plant body by using a substance (excluding hydrogen peroxide) for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell.

The present invention also includes a plant body obtained by the production method in accordance with the present invention.

Additional objects, features, and strengths of the present invention will be made clear by the description below. Further, the advantages of the present invention will be evident from the following explanation in reference to the drawings.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 illustrates a determination result of sugar content of *Lycopersicon esculentum* fruit obtained in Example 2.

FIG. 2 illustrates a result of ANOVA analysis on the determination result of sugar content shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a view illustrating a determination result of relation between sugar content and the number of days from a treatment day of GSSG or GSH.

FIG. 4 illustrates a determination result of starch and glucose of 35S-GSH1.

FIG. 5 illustrates a determination result of sugar content of *Prunus avium* fruit obtained in Example 8.

FIG. 6 illustrates a determination result of sugar content of *Citrus unshiu* fruit obtained in Example 9.

FIG. 7 illustrates a determination result of sugar content of *Fragaria ananassa* fruit obtained in Example 10.

FIG. 8 illustrates a determination result of sugar content of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt fruit obtained in Example 11.

FIG. 9 is a view illustrating a genetic family tree of the genes of SEQ ID NO: 15 through 36.

### DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

#### 1. Composition, in Accordance with the Present Invention, for Producing Plant Body Having Improved Sugar Content

A composition, in accordance with the present invention, for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content

(hereinafter referred to as “composition in accordance with the present invention”) only has to include a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell.

By using the composition in accordance with the present invention, it becomes possible to easily produce a plant body having an improved sugar content. For example, the plant body can be produced in a culture medium that includes the composition in accordance with the present invention. Further, in a case where the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is a polynucleotide as described later, what is necessary to do is only to introduce the polynucleotide into a plant by means of a conventional transformation technique and then grow the plant. This makes it possible to obtain the plant having an improved sugar content in an extremely simple way compared to the conventional technique such as the soil culture described above. This is because this case does not require skills, specialized techniques, specialized production apparatuses, or the like.

In the present invention, the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is used for the purpose of production of a plant having an improved sugar content. This usage of the substance is new and totally differs from a conventional usage of the substance. Such an effect that the plant having an improved sugar content can be obtained could not have been expected from the conventional usage. Therefore, the present invention is accomplished based on a totally new finding by the inventors of the present invention.

In the present specification, the “plant body having an improved sugar content” is a plant body having a better sugar content than a wild strain of the plant body. In other words, the “plant body having an improved sugar content” has a higher sugar content than the wild strain. That is to say, the composition in accordance with the present invention is a composition used in production of a plant body having a higher sugar content than a wild strain. For example, by cultivating a plant body by using the composition in accordance with the present invention, it is possible to improve a sugar content of the plant body compared to a case of cultivating the plant body without the composition in accordance with the present invention. It is possible to determine a sugar content by a conventional method. It is also possible to determine a sugar content by using a conventional brix refractometer as described in Examples.

In the present specification, the “substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell” is a substance that regulates oxidation/reduction of a substance that is responsible for oxidation-reduction of the cell. The substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell includes substances that change values of, for example, an occurrence frequency of active oxygen, an absolute amount of glutathione, a ratio between reduced glutathione and oxidized glutathione, an absolute amount of reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NAD(P)H), a ratio of NADPH/NADP<sup>+</sup>, a ratio of oxidized cytochrome c to reduced cytochrome c, and a ratio between oxidation and reduction of a component of electron transfer chain such as plastoquinone and ubiquinone. The substance responsible for oxidation-reduction of a cell is known in the art, but is not limited to those known in the art. The substances that change the values may be, for example, a substance that affects synthesis of glutathione or an amount of glutathione, a substance that promotes or inhibits synthesis of active oxygen, and a substance that promotes or inhibits change of a certain compound into either an oxidized form or a reduced form.

The substance, included in the composition in accordance with the present invention, for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is not limited as long as being included in

the above-mentioned meaning. However, it is preferable that the substance affects synthesis of glutathione or an amount of glutathione. Such a substance makes it possible to obtain a plant having a higher sugar content.

In the present specification, the “substance that affects synthesis of glutathione or an amount of glutathione” is a substance that changes an amount of glutathione in a cell, and is preferably a substance that increases glutathione, such as glutathione itself, an enzyme for synthesis of glutathione, and a polynucleotide encoding the enzyme.

The substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell can be classified into (i) a substance that can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant and (ii) a substance that is introduced into genome of the plant. It will be understood that these substances can be used singularly or in combination.

The substance that affects synthesis of glutathione or an amount of glutathione and can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant may be, for example, glutathione, glutathione conjugate, active oxygen (hydrogen peroxide, for example), active nitrogen, polyamine, oxidized titanium, jasmonic acid, salicylic acid, cysteine, cystine, heavy-metal cadmium, or iron ion. Polyamine can generate hydrogen peroxide. Oxidized titanium generates active oxygen in response to light. Cysteine and cystine are precursors of glutathione. In regard to heavy-metal cadmium and iron ion, excessive application is preferable. Among the substances exemplified above, glutathione is the most preferable to use. Glutathione includes reduced glutathione (hereinafter referred to as “GSH”) and oxidized glutathione (hereinafter referred to as “GSSG”). GSSG is preferable as glutathione to be included in the composition in accordance with the present invention. As described later in Examples, use of GSSG makes it possible to obtain a plant having a higher sugar content. Further, use of GSSG makes it possible to increase the number and size of fruit.

The substance that affects synthesis of glutathione or an amount of glutathione and is introduced into genome of a plant may preferably be, for example,  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase, a polynucleotide encoding the  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase (hereinafter referred to as “GSH1 gene”), glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase, or a polynucleotide encoding the glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase (hereinafter referred to as “FBA gene”).

Concrete examples of the GSH1 gene are not particularly limited, but include genes of, for example, *Zinnia elegans* (Genbank accession: AB158510), *Oryza sativa* (Genbank accession: AJ508915), and *Nicotiana tabacum* L. (Genbank accession: DQ444219). The genes of these plants can be suitably used in the present invention. Each translation product of these genes has a chloroplast transit signal peptide at its N-terminal region, like *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

In this regard, however, the following examples (a) through (d) are preferably used as the GSH1 gene in the present invention:

- (a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;
- (b) a polynucleotide encoding an polypeptide which has a  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase activity and has an amino acid sequence with deletion, substitution, or addition of one or several amino acids in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;
- (c) a polynucleotide having the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and

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(d) a polynucleotide which hybridizes under a stringent condition with a polynucleotide having a base sequence complementary to any one of the polynucleotides of the examples (a) through (c).

Note that the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 is an example of a base sequence encoding a polypeptide which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1. Note also that the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 is an example of a base sequence encoding a polypeptide which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

The FBA gene is not particularly limited, but may preferably be the following examples (e) through (h):

(e) a polynucleotide encoding a protein which has the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 5, 6, and 15 through 36;

(f) a polynucleotide encoding a protein which has an activity of glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase and has an amino acid sequence with deletion, substitution, or addition of one or several amino acids in the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 5, 6, and 15 through 36;

(g) a polynucleotide having the base sequences of SEQ ID NO: 7 and 37 through 56; and

(h) a polynucleotide which hybridizes under a stringent condition with a polynucleotide having a base sequence complementary to any one of the polynucleotides of the examples (e) through (g).

The sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shows a cDNA sequence of a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5. In the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, the sequence from position 145 to position 147 is a start codon, and the sequence from position 1318 to position 1320 is a stop codon. That is to say, an *Arabidopsis thaliana* FBA1 gene has the sequence from position 145 to position 1320 of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 as an open reading frame (ORF).

The sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 shows an example of a base sequence encoding a protein which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6. In the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, the sequence from position 104 to position 1300 is a region encoding the protein which has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6. Note that a peptide constituted by amino acids between methionine at position 1 and alanine at position 48 of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6 is a chloroplast transit peptide.

The base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 is a base sequence serving as an ORF in the *Arabidopsis thaliana* FBA1 gene. The base sequence of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* FBA1 gene is homologous with, for example, a gene (dbj|BAB55475.1) found on genome of *Oryza sativa*.

The sequences of SEQ ID NO: 37 through 56 are examples of DNA sequences encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 15 through 34, respectively.

For reference, FIG. 9 shows a dendrogram of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 15 through 36.

Persons skilled in the art can easily understand that, in a case where the above-mentioned amino acid sequences or DNA sequences include a region corresponding to a chloroplast transit signal, the region can be substituted by a chloroplast transit signal of another protein.

The wording "deletion, substitution, or addition of one or several amino acids" herein means deletion, substitution, or addition of such a number of amino acid(s) (preferably 10 or less, more preferably 7 or less, further preferably 5 or less) that can be deleted, substituted, or added by means of a known method for producing a mutant peptide, such as a site-specific mutation induction method. Such a mutant protein is not limited to a protein which is artificially mutated by means of

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a known method for producing a mutant polypeptide, but may be a naturally-existing protein being isolated and purified.

It is known in the art that some amino acids in an amino acid sequence of a protein can be easily altered without significantly affecting a structure or function of the protein. It is also known in the art that a protein has a naturally-existing mutant which does not significantly change a structure or function of the protein, apart from an artificially-altered protein.

It is preferable that a mutant includes conservative or non-conservative substitution, deletion, or addition of amino acid(s). In this regard, silent substitution, addition, and deletion are more preferable, and conservative substitution is particularly preferable. Such mutations do not change a polypeptide activity in accordance with the present invention.

It is considered that representative examples of the conservative substitution are: substitution of one amino acid with another among aliphatic amino acids Ala, Val, Leu, and Ile; replacement of hydroxyl residues Ser and Thr; replacement of acidic residues Asp and Glu; substitution between amide residues Asn and Gln; replacement of basic residues Lys and Arg; and substitution between aromatic residues Phe and Tyr.

The "stringent condition" in the present specification means such a condition that sequences hybridize with each other only when the sequences have at least 90% identity, preferably at least 95% identity, most preferably 97% identity. Specifically, the "stringent condition" includes, for example, incubation overnight at 42° C. in a hybridization solution (50% formamide, 5×SSC (15 mM trisodium citrate and 150 mM NaCl), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH7.6), 5×Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 µg/ml denatured fragmented salmon sperm DNA) and washing of a filter in 0.1×SSC at approximately 65° C. The hybridization can be carried out by means of a known method such as one described in Sambrook et al., Molecular cloning, A Laboratory Manual, 3rd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (2001). Generally, the higher the temperature is and the lower the salt concentration is, the higher the stringency becomes (the hybridization becomes more difficult to occur). The higher stringency makes it possible to obtain a polynucleotide with a higher homology.

In a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention includes a polynucleotide among the above-mentioned polynucleotides, the composition in accordance with the present invention may include an expression vector including the polynucleotide. The expression vector may be constructed with a known method and is not particularly limited in construction method.

It is possible to use various known vectors as a base of the expression vector. For example, a plasmid, a phage, a cosmid, or the like can be used and selected as appropriate according to an introduction method or a plant cell into which the expression vector is introduced. Specifically, a pBR322 vector, a pBR325 vector, a pUC19 vector, a pUC119 vector, a pBluescript vector, a pBluescriptSK vector, a pBI vector, or the like can be used, for example. In particular, it is preferable to use a pBI binary vector in a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention is used in introducing a vector that includes the polynucleotide into a plant body by means of the *Agrobacterium* method. Specifically, the pBI binary vector may be pBIG, pBIN19, pBI101, pBI121, pBI221, or the like, for example.

In the expression vector, a promoter is not particularly limited as long as being able to express a gene in the plant body, and a known promoter can be suitably used. The promoter may be, for example, a cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter (CaMV35S), an actin promoter, a nopaline syn-

thetase promoter, a tobacco PR1a gene promoter, a tomato ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxydase small sub-unit promoter, or the like. Among these promoters, the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter or the actin promoter can be preferably used. The expression vector with each of the promoters can strongly express a given gene when introduced into a plant cell.

The promoter only has to be introduced into the vector so as to be connected so that a gene encoding a transcription factor can be expressed. The promoter is not particularly limited in specific structure as the expression vector.

The expression vector may further include a DNA segment in addition to the promoter and the polynucleotide. The DNA segment is not particularly limited and may be a terminator, a selection marker, an enhancer, a base sequence for increasing translation efficiency, and the like. Further, the expression vector may include a T-DNA region. The T-DNA region can increase efficiency of gene introduction particularly in a case where the expression vector is introduced into a plant body by means of *Agrobacterium*.

The terminator is not particularly limited as long as having a function as a transcription termination site, and may be a known terminator. Specifically, it is possible to preferably use a transcription termination site of a nopaline synthetase gene (Nos terminator), a transcription termination site of a cauliflower mosaic virus 35S (CaMV35S terminator), or the like, for example. Among these, the Nos terminator can be more preferably used. By arranging the terminator at an appropriate site in the expression vector, it becomes possible to prevent, after introduction of the expression vector into a plant body, such phenomena that an unnecessarily-long transcript is synthesized and that a strong promoter decreases the number of plasmid copies.

The selection marker may be a drug resistance gene, for example. The drug resistance gene is, for example, one resistant to hygromycin, bleomycin, kanamycin, gentamycin, chloramphenicol, or the like. With the drug resistance gene, it is possible to easily select a transformed plant by cultivating plant bodies in a culture medium that includes the above-mentioned antibiotic and thereafter selecting a plant body that can grow in the culture medium.

The polynucleotide for increasing translation efficiency may be, for example, an omega sequence derived from a tobacco mosaic virus. By arranging the omega sequence in an untranslated region (5'UTR) of a promoter, it is possible to increase translation efficiency of the gene encoding a transcription factor. As described above, various DNA segments can be included in the expression vector according to purposes.

Specifically, the expression vector is constructed by, for example, a method which the promoter, the polynucleotide, and the DNA segment, if necessary, are introduced into a base vector which is selected accordingly, so as to be arranged in a predetermined order. The polynucleotide and the promoter (and the terminator and the like, if necessary) can be connected so that an expression cassette is constructed, and the expression cassette can be introduced into the base vector. When constructing the expression cassette, it is possible to arrange so that, for example, each DNA segment includes a cleavage site as a protruding end that is complementary to a protruding end of other DNA segment, and these protruding ends are reacted via a ligation enzyme. This makes it possible to regulate an order of the DNA segments. In a case where the terminator is included in the expression cassette, the promoter, a polynucleotide encoding N-acetylglucosamine transferase, and the terminator are arranged in this order from the upstream. Reagents used in constructing the expression

vector, i.e., restriction enzymes, ligation enzymes, and the like, are not particularly limited in type, and commercially available reagents can be accordingly selected and used.

The expression vector can be multiplied by a known method and a multiplication method (production method) of the expression vector is not particularly limited. In general, the expression vector is multiplied in *Escherichia coli* serving as a host. In this case, a type of *E. coli* can be selected as appropriate according to a type of the expression vector.

It is possible to singularly use the substances exemplified above and to use two or more kinds of the substances in combination.

In a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention includes, as a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, a substance that can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant, an amount of the substance is not particularly limited, but is preferably 0.01 mM to 20 mM, more preferably 0.1 mM to 2 mM. When the amount of the substance is within the range, it is possible to better improve a sugar content of the plant to be produced. It should be noted that the concentration of the substance may be changed as appropriate according to a desired sugar content, a type of the plant to which the substance is applied, and the like.

The composition in accordance with the present invention may include other component to such an extent that an effect of the composition in accordance with the present invention is not impaired. For example, in a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention includes, as a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, a substance that can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant, the composition may be dissolved in water, a known liquid carrier, or the like so as to be provided in the form of a liquid agent, an emulsion, a gel agent, or the like. Such a liquid carrier may be, for example, aromatic hydrocarbon such as xylene; alcohol such as ethanol and ethylene glycol; ketone such as acetone; ether such as dioxane and tetrahydrofuran; dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, acetonitrile, and the like, but is not limited to these. Alternatively, the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell may be supported by a solid carrier component so that the composition is provided as a solid agent, a powder agent, or the like. Such a solid carrier component may be, for example, an inorganic material such as talc, clay, vermiculite, diatomite, kaolin, calcium carbonate, calcium hydroxide, white clay, and silica gel; and an organic material such as flour and starch, but is not limited to these. Further, the composition in accordance with the present invention may be combined with other auxiliary agent accordingly. Such an auxiliary agent may be, for example, an anion surface-active agent such as alkyl sulfate, alkyl sulfonate, alkyl aryl sulfonate, dialkyl sulfosuccinate; a cationic surface-active agent such as higher aliphatic amine salt; a nonionic surface-active agent such as polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl ether, polyoxyethylene glycol acyl ester, polyoxyethylene glycol polyalcohol acyl ester, and cellulose derivative; a thickening agent such as gelatin, casein, and gum arabic; a weighting agent; a binding agent; and the like.

Usage of the composition in accordance with the present invention is not particularly limited. For example, in a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention includes, as a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, a substance that can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant, and where the composition is a liquid agent or the like, the composition may be included in a culture medium or the like which is used in cultivation of the plant, or may be sprayed, dropped, or

applied to entire plant body or a part of the plant body such as a vegetative point, a bud, a leaf, and a stem. Note that a "culture medium" used in cultivation of a plant in the present specification includes soil and a soil improvement agent.

In a case where the composition is a solid agent or the like, the composition may be included in a culture medium which is used in cultivation of a plant. Alternatively, in a case of hydroponic cultivation, the composition may be added to water and gradually dissolved therein. The composition may be applied as a solid agent or the like to be dissolved in water, and dissolved in water at the time of use. Further, the composition in accordance with the present invention may be applied to a plant as a mixture with a known fertilizer and an agent such as a plant hormone.

The composition in accordance with the present invention is not particularly limited in timing of application to a plant. For example, the composition may be applied to the plant from the time of sowing. Specifically, in a case where the composition is applied to a plant such as *Lycopersicon esculentum* which produces fruit approximately 2 months to half year after sowing, the composition may be applied on the day of sowing and preferably applied in regular intervals during 30 days after sowing, more preferably during 60 days after sowing, further preferably from the day of sowing to the day of harvest. In this case, an interval of application of the composition is not particularly limited, but is preferably one to four times a week, more preferably two or three times a week. The composition is not particularly limited in applied amount. The applied amount can be arranged as appropriate according to a type of plant. In a case of *Lycopersicon esculentum* or the like, for example, preferably 0.001 mmol or more and 0.1 mmol or less, more preferably 0.01 mmol or more and 0.05 mmol or less, of the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is applied at a time per plant. In a case where the composition is included in a culture medium as described above, the composition is applied to a plant from the time when the plant is sowed in the culture medium or the time when a seedling or the like of the plant is transplanted to the culture medium.

The composition in accordance with the present invention may be applied to a plant after sowing and after the plant is grown to some extent, e.g., after a seedling of the plant is produced. For example, in a case where the composition is applied to a Gramineae plant such as *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt, the composition may be applied to the plant after a seedling of the plant is grown. In this case, the composition in accordance with the present invention may be included in advance in a culture medium to which the seedling is to be transplanted, or may be periodically applied to the culture medium after the seedling is transplanted to the culture medium. In a case where the composition is applied after transplanting of the seedling, timing of the application is not particularly limited. However, it is preferable that, for example, the composition is applied one to four times a week, more preferably two or three times a week, from transplanting of the seedling until harvest. The composition in accordance with the present invention is not particularly limited in applied amount. The applied amount can be arranged as appropriate according to a type of plant. In a case of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt or the like, for example, preferably 0.001 mmol or more and 0.1 mmol or less, more preferably 0.01 mmol or more and 0.05 mmol or less, of the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is applied at a time per plant.

It is also possible to arrange timing of application of the composition in view of timing of flower production. For example, the composition may be applied while a flower bud

is unbroken, after petals are fallen, from a period that the flower bud is unbroken until fruit bearing, from flowering time until fruit bearing, or from when the petals are fallen until fruit bearing. In a case where the composition is applied to *Vitis labrusca* as described later in Example, the composition may be applied to anthotaxy. In this Example, the composition is mixed with a plant hormone (gibberellin), which is for producing seedless fruit of *Vitis labrusca*, and applied when the plant hormone should be applied.

It is also possible to arrange timing of application of the composition based on back calculation of days from harvest time. For example, the composition may be applied 10 days or 20 days before harvest.

In a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention is applied to a plant during cultivation of the plant as described above, the composition may be mixed with a fertilizer and/or an agent such as a plant hormone as described above. In this case, timing of application of a mixture of the composition and the fertilizer or the like is not particularly limited, and the mixture may be applied at a time exemplified above or at a preferable time to apply the fertilizer or the like.

In a case where the composition in accordance with the present invention includes, as a substance for increasing glutathione in a cell, a substance to be introduced into genome of a plant, such as a polynucleotide described above, the composition may be used in such a way that the polynucleotide is introduced into the genome of the plant body by means of a known transformation method. For example, the composition may include a polynucleotide and may be introduced into a plant body by a known plant expression vector, or may include a vector that includes the polynucleotide.

The polynucleotide content of the composition in accordance with the present invention is not particularly limited. The polynucleotide may be dissolved in a buffer or the like which is generally used in polynucleotide preservation.

Introduction of a vector to a plant cell is carried out by a transformation method known in the art (for example, the *Agrobacterium* method, the particle gun, the polyethylene glycol method, and the electroporation method). In a case of the *Agrobacterium* method, for example, a constructed plant expression vector is introduced into suitable *Agrobacterium* (e.g., *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*) and a aseptically-cultured leaf disc is infected with this strain by the leaf disc method (Hirofumi UCHIMIYA, Manuals for plant genetic manipulation, 1990, 27-31 pp, Kodansha Scientific Ltd., Tokyo) or the like, so that a transformed plant can be obtained. In a case of the particle gun, it is possible to use (i) a plant body, plant organ, or plant tissue without any treatment, (ii) a cut piece of the plant body, plant organ, or plant tissue, or (iii) a protoplast of the plant body, plant organ, or plant tissue. Such a prepared sample can be processed using a gene introduction apparatus (e.g., PDS-1000, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.). In this process, conditions differ according to a plant or a sample, however, are generally arranged so that a pressure is approximately 450 psi to 2000 psi and a distance is approximately 4 cm to 12 cm.

The cell or plant tissue into which a target gene is introduced is selected with a drug-resistance marker such as a kanamycin-resistance marker and a hygromycin-resistance marker, and then reproduced to be a plant body by a standard method. Reproduction of a plant body from a transformed cell can be carried out by a method known in the art according to a type of the plant cell.

In order to determine whether or not a target gene is introduced into a plant, it is possible to use PCR, southern hybridization, northern hybridization, or the like. For example, DNA is prepared from a transformed plant and then subjected

to PCR with use of a primer specific to DNA having been introduced into the transformed plant. Then, an amplification product thus obtained is subjected to agarose gel electrophoresis, polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, or capillary electrophoresis and thereafter stained with ethidium bromide. As a result, a target amplification product can be detected. In this way, it is possible to determine whether or not the plant is transformed.

Once a transformed plant body in which a target gene is introduced into genome is obtained, it is possible to obtain a progeny of the transformed plant body by sexual or asexual reproduction. Further, it is possible to mass-produce target plant bodies with a reproduction material (e.g., seed, protoplast) obtained from the plant body or the progeny or clone of the plant body.

In the present invention, a target plant for transformation is an entire plant body, a plant organ (for example, leaf, petal, stem, root, and seed), a plant tissue (for example, epidermis, phloem, parenchyma, xylem, vessel bundle, palisade parenchyma, sponge parenchyma), a plant culture cell, a plant cell in various forms (for example, suspension culture cell), protoplast, a cut piece of leaf, callus, or the like. The target plant for transformation is not particularly limited, and a plant capable of expressing a target gene may be selected accordingly.

The polynucleotide mentioned above is derived from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. It has been reported that, for example, transformed plants of *Nicotiana tabacum* L., *Populus*, *Citrus limon*, and the like can be produced with use of a gene of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Such reports also can be used as references for how to use the composition in accordance with the present invention (Franke R, McMichael C M, Meyer K, Shirley A M, Cusumano J C, Chapple C. (2000) Modified lignin in tobacco and poplar plants over-expressing the *Arabidopsis* gene encoding ferulate 5-hydroxylase. *Plant J.* 22: 223-234; Pena L, Martin-Trillo M, Juarez J, Pina JA, Navarro L, Martinez-Zapater J M. (2001) Constitutive expression of *Arabidopsis* LEAFY or APETALA1 genes in citrus reduces their generation time. *Nat Biotechnol.* 19: 263-267).

Target plants for the composition in accordance with the present invention are not particularly limited. The composition can be applied to almost all plants such as various monocotyledonous plants, dicotyledonous plants, and trees. Examples of monocotyledonous plants include: Lemnaceae such as *Spirodela* (*Spirodela polyrrhiza* Schleid) and *Lemna* (*Lemna paucicostata* and *Lemna trisulca*); Orchidaceae such as *Cattleya*, *Cymbidium*, *Dendrobium*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Vanda*, *Paphlopeddium* and *Oncidium*; Typhaceae; Sparganiaceae; Potamogetonaceae; Najadaceae; Scheuchzeriaceae; Alismataceae; Hydrocharitaceae; Triuridaceae; Gramineae (e.g., *Zea mays* such as *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt), Cyperaceae; Palmae; Araceae; Eriocaulaceae; Commelinaceae; Pontederiaceae; Juncaceae; Stemonaceae; Liliaceae; Amaryllidaceae; Dioscoreaceae; Iridaceae; Musaceae; Zingiberaceae; Cannaceae; and Burmannia.

Examples of dicotyledonous plants include: Convolvulaceae such as *Pharbitis* (*Pharbitis nil* Choisy), *Calystegia* (*Calystegia japonica* Choisy, *Calystegia hederacea* and *Calystegia soldanella* Rohm. et Schult.), *Ipomoea* (*Ipomoea pes-caprae* and *Ipomoea batatas* Lam. var. *edulis* Maikno) and *Cuscuta* (*Cuscuta japonica* Choisy and *Cuscuta australis*); Caryophyllaceae such as *Dianthus* (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L.), *Stellaria*, *Minuartia*, *Cerastium*, *Sagina*, *Arenaria*, *Moehringia*, *Pseudostellaria*, *Hankenya*, *Spergularia*, *Silene*, *Lychnis*, *Melandryum* and *Cucubalus*; Casuarinaceae; Saururaceae; Piperaceae; Choranthaceae; Salignaceae; Myricaceae; Juglandaceae; Betulaceae; Fagaceae;

Ulmaceae; Moraceae; Urticaceae; Podostemaceae; Proteaceae; Olacaceae; Santalaceae; Loranthaceae; Aristolochiaceae; Rafflesiaceae; Balanophoraceae; Polygonaceae; Chenopodiaceae; Amaranthaceae; Nyctaginaceae; Cynocrmbaceae; Phytolaccaceae; Aizoaceae; Portulacaceae; Magnoliaceae; Trochodendraceae; Cercidphyllaceae; Nymphaeaceae; Ceratophyllaceae; Ranunculaceae; Lardizabalaceae; Berberidaceae; Menispermaceae; Calycanthaceae; Lauraceae; Papaveraceae; Capparidaceae; Cruciferae; Dros-  
 5 eraceae; Nepenthaceae; Crassulaceae; Saxifragaceae; Pittosporaceae; Hamamelidaceae; Platanaceae; Rosaceae; Leguminosae; Oxalidaceae; Geraniaceae; Linaceae; Zygo-  
 10 phyllaceae; Rutaceae; Cimaroubaceae; Meliaceae; Polygalaceae; Euphorbiaceae; Callitrichaceae; Buxaceae; Empe-  
 15 traceae; Coriariaceae; Anacardiaceae; Aquifoliaceae; Celastraceae; Staphyleaceae; Icacinaceae; Aceraceae; Hip-  
 pocastanaceae; Sapindaceae; Sabiaceae; Balsaminaceae; Rhamnaceae; Vitaceae; Elaeocarpaceae; Tiliaceae; Mal-  
 20 vaceae; Stearculiaceae; Actinidiaceae; Theaceae; Guttiferae; Elatinaceae; Tamaricaceae; Violaceae; Flacourtiaceae; Stachyuraceae; Passifloraceae; Begoniaceae; Cactaceae;  
 Thymelaeaceae; Elaeagnaceae; Lythraceae; Punicaceae; Rhizophoraceae; Alangiaceae; Melastomataceae; Hydro-  
 25 caryaceae; Oenotheraceae; Haloragaceae; Hippuridaceae; Araliaceae; Umbelliferae; Cornaceae; Diapensiaceae; Clethraceae; Pyrolaceae; Uricaceae; Myrsinaceae; Primu-  
 laceae; Plumbaginaceae; Ebenaceae; Symplocaceae; Styra-  
 caceae; Oleaceae; Loganiaceae; Gentianaceae; Apocyn-  
 30 aceae; Asclepiadaceae; Polemoniaceae; Boraginaceae; Verbenaceae; Labiatae; Solanaceae (e.g., *Lycopersicum escu-  
 lentum*); Scrophulariaceae; Bignoniaceae; Pedaliaceae; Orobanchaceae; Gesneriaceae; Lentibulariaceae; Acan-  
 thaceae; Myoporaceae; Phrymaceae; Plantaginaceae; Rubi-  
 35 aceae; Caprifoliaceae; Adoxaceae; Valerianaceae; Dipsa-  
 caceae; Cucurbitaceae; Campanulaceae; and Compositae.

The present invention includes a kit for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content (hereinafter referred to as "kit in accordance with the present invention"). The kit in accordance with the present invention only has to include a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell (for example, glutathione, a polynucleotide encoding  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase, or a polynucleotide encoding glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase). Further, the kit in accordance with the present invention may include a component other than the substance above. The substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell and the component may be provided together in a single container for containing the substance and the component of an appropriate amount and/or in an appropriate form, or may be separately provided in different containers.  
 40 Further, the kit in accordance with the present invention may include an instrument for plant cultivation, a culture medium, and the like. In a case where a polynucleotide is included in the kit in accordance with the present invention, the kit may be such that a base vector of an expression vector for express-  
 45 ing the polynucleotide may be provided in a different container from the polynucleotide. Alternatively, the kit may include the base vector into which the polynucleotide is introduced in advance. Further, the kit in accordance with the present invention may include a reagent and the like which is  
 50 used in a known plant transformation method.  
 55

## 2. Method, in Accordance with the Present Invention, for Producing Plant Body Having Improved Sugar Content

A method, in accordance with the present invention, for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content

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(hereinafter referred to as “method in accordance with the present invention”) only has to include a step for cultivating a plant body with use of a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell (for example, glutathione, a polynucleotide encoding  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase, or a polynucleotide encoding glutathione-binding plastid type fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase).

In a case where a substance that can be absorbed into a plant by having contact with the plant is used in regulation of an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, the step may include, for example, causing the plant to absorb the substance. How to cause the plant to absorb the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell is not particularly limited. For example, it is possible to cause the plant to absorb the substance by cultivating the plant on a culture medium (including soil and an soil improvement agent) that includes the substance, or by spraying or coating the plant with the substance during cultivation of the plant. Alternatively, it is also possible to cultivate the plant on a culture medium that includes absorbent such as an ion-exchange resin into which the substance is absorbed, where the absorbent is buried in soil of the culture medium, for example.

In a case where a substance such as a polynucleotide which is to be introduced into genome of a plant is used in regulation of an oxidation-reduction state of a cell, the method does not include causing the plant to absorb the substance, but may include introducing the substance to the plant in advance so as to produce a transformed plant and then cultivating the transformed plant. How to introduce a polynucleotide into the plant is described above in the explanation of the composition in accordance with the present invention.

The present invention includes a plant body obtained by the method in accordance with the present invention. It is possible to easily identify the plant body by measuring at least either a content or ratio, in the plant body, of the substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell. Therefore, it is possible to clearly distinguish the plant body from one obtained by other method. The plant body can be identified also by, for example, comparing gene expression patterns by means of DNA microarray or the like, other than by measuring the content and concentration of the substance. In a case where GSSG is used as the substance, it is possible to take the following procedures, for example: (i) a gene expression pattern of a plant cultivated after being applied with GSSG is analyzed in advance; (ii) an expression pattern unique to the plant body applied with GSSG (GSSG expression pattern) is determined by comparison of gene expression pattern between the plant body applied with GSSG and a plant body cultivated by other method; (ii) an expression pattern of a target plant body is analyzed; and then (iv) the expression pattern of the target plant body is compared with the GSSG expression pattern. This allows an easy identification of the plant body applied with GSSG. Further, as another example of the identification, comparison of a two-dimensional electrophoretic profile of a glutathione-binding protein to a pattern change analyzed in advance makes it possible to determine whether or not GSSG is applied. In a case where a polynucleotide is used, it is possible to distinguish the plant body in accordance with the present invention from other plant body by identifying the polynucleotide in the plant body by means of PCR, southern hybridization, northern hybridization, or the like.

Details of the embodiments of the present invention are described below in Examples. It will be obvious that the present invention is not limited to the descriptions of the examples below and details of the present invention may be varied in many ways. The present invention is not limited to

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the description of the embodiments above, but may be altered by a skilled person within the scope of the claims. An embodiment based on a proper combination of technical means disclosed in different embodiments is encompassed in the technical scope of the present invention. All documents cited is incorporated herein by reference.

## EXAMPLES

## Example 1

Production of *Lycopersicum esculentum*

In the present example, *Lycopersicum esculentum* was cultivated with use of GSSG or GSH. Details of cultivation are described below.

First, *Lycopersicum esculentum* seedlings (TAKII & CO. Ltd., product name: Osama tomato reika) were transplanted into a hydroponic culture pot ( $\frac{1}{2000}$  a). In the hydroponic culture pot, 6 L of vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD.), 3 L of KUREHA horticultural soil (KUREHA CORPORATION), and 3 L of vermiculite were layered as a lower, middle, and upper layers, respectively.

During the cultivation of *Lycopersicum esculentum*, 50 mL of 0.5 mM GSSG or 0.5 mM GSH (adjusted with 0.1N NaOH to be at pH 7) was applied twice a week at a root per plant. The *Lycopersicum esculentum* plants were grown for 60 days without being subjected to bud removal. Last 10 days was used as a harvest period for harvesting fruit of the plants. For comparison, a *Lycopersicum esculentum* plant was grown under the same condition, except that GSSG and GSH were not applied. To the plants of any condition, 3 g of Kumiai phosphate ammonium nitrate potassium S-604 (Chisso Asahi Fertilizer Co., Ltd.) was applied as an additional fertilizer once in 2 weeks.

Next, the fruit harvested was subjected to sensory tests of sugar content and the like. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSSG increased in sugar content compared to that of the plant not applied with GSSG or GSH. Further, it was determined that the plant applied with GSSG increased in number of fruit. It was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSH increased in sugar content and acidity.

These results indicated that *Lycopersicum esculentum* having an increased sugar content could be produced by cultivation using a culture medium that contains GSSG or GSH.

## Example 2

## Sugar Content Determination

Cultivated were *Lycopersicum esculentum* plants to which GSSG or GSH was applied by the method described in Example 1. Then, obtained fruit of the plants was subjected to sugar content determination using “Pocket” Refractometer APAL-1 (ATAGO CO., LTD.).

For comparison, *Lycopersicum esculentum* plants were cultivated under two types of conditions (referred to as “Cont” and “Cont2 Sunny”). In the Cont condition, *Lycopersicum esculentum* plants were cultivated by the same method as in Example 1, except that GSSG and GSH were not applied. In the Cont2 Sunny condition, a *Lycopersicum esculentum* plant was not applied with GSSG or GSH and was independently cultivated at a site sufficiently irradiated with sunlight so that illuminance on the *Lycopersicum esculentum* plant becomes 100%. In the Cont condition and a condition in which GSSG or GSH was applied, the plants were planted at



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intervals of 40 cm to 50 cm. In this case, a plant may intercept light irradiating another plant. Therefore, illuminance on such plants becomes less than 100%.

In the condition in which GSSG was applied, the condition in which GSH is applied, and the Cont condition, three *Lycopersicon esculentum* plants were cultivated, respectively. In the Cont2 Sunny condition, one *Lycopersicon esculentum* plant was cultivated.

FIGS. 1 and 2 show results of the sugar content determination. FIG. 1 shows a result of sugar content determination of *Lycopersicon esculentum* plants obtained in the present example. In FIG. 1, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %) and the horizontal scale indicates cultivation conditions. In FIG. 1, the reference sign \* indicates that fruit could not be obtained during the harvest period. FIG. 2 shows a result of ANOVA analysis on the result of sugar content determination shown in FIG. 1. In FIG. 2, the vertical scale indicates sugar content and the horizontal scale indicates cultivation conditions. In FIG. 2, alphabetic characters above each bar are for indicating that bars indicated by a same character belong to a same group when being grouped based on ANOVA analysis. The ANOVA analysis was carried out by means of StatView 5.0 (SAS Institute Inc.) with a significant difference level of 5%.

As shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, application of GSSG or GSH made it possible to obtain *Lycopersicon esculentum* fruit which was significantly increased in sugar content compared to *Lycopersicon esculentum* fruit cultivated under the Cont condition and also to *Lycopersicon esculentum* fruit sufficiently irradiated with sunlight. Especially, application of GSSG made it possible to obtain *Lycopersicon esculentum* having an extremely high sugar content.

## Example 3

Production of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt

In the present example, *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt was cultivated. First, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt seed (TAKII & CO. Ltd., product number: Canberra 90) was sown in vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD.). Two weeks after sowing, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was transplanted to a hydroponic culture pot described in Example 1. To the plant, 3 g of Kumiai phosphorate ammonium nitrate potassium S-604 (Chisso Asahi Fertilizer Co., Ltd.) was applied as an additional fertilizer 4 weeks and 6 weeks after the sowing.

Within 2 weeks from the 5th week after the sowing, 50 mL of 0.2 mM GSSG was applied 4 times at a root of the plant. Within 2 weeks from the 7th week after the sowing, 50 mL of 0.2 mM GSSG was sprayed 4 times to leaves of the plant. For comparison, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was cultivated by the same method as in the present example, except that GSSG was not applied, and fruit thereof was harvested.

Fruit was harvested 90 days after the sowing and subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSSG increased in sugar content compared to that of the plant applied with no GSSG. Further, it was determined that the plant applied with GSSG increased in size and number of fruit.

## Example 4

Production of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt (2)

In the present example, *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt was cultivated under a condition different from Example 3 in

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how to apply GSSG. First, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt seed (TAKII & CO. Ltd., product number: Canberra 90) was sown in vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD.). One week after sowing, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was transplanted to a hydroponic culture pot described in Example 1. To the plant, 3 g of Kumiai phosphorate ammonium nitrate potassium S-604 (Chisso Asahi Fertilizer Co., Ltd.) was applied as an additional fertilizer 4 weeks and 6 weeks after the sowing.

During 12 weeks after germination, 200 mL of 0.5 mM GSSG was applied at a root of the plant twice a week. For comparison, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was cultivated by the same method as in the present example, except that GSSG was not applied, and fruit thereof was harvested.

Fruit was harvested 12 weeks after the sowing and subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSSG increased in sugar content compared to that of the plant applied with no GSSG. Further, it was determined that the plant applied with GSSG increased in size and number of fruit.

## Example 5

Production of *Vitis labrusca*

In the present invention, *Vitis labrusca* was cultivated. Specifically, immediately after flowering of a *Vitis labrusca* (Delaware) plant, a mixed solution of 1 mM gibberellin (GA3) and 1 mM of an agent was applied to anthotaxy of the plant. The agent was GSSG or GSH. Then, the plant was coated with the agent and thereafter produced fruit was harvested. For comparison, a *Vitis labrusca* plant was cultivated in the same way, except that GA3, but not GSSG or GSH, was applied, and fruit thereof was harvested and subjected to a sensory test described below.

The fruit harvested was subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GA3 and GSSG or GSH increased in sugar content compared to that of the plant applied with only GA3. Further, it was determined that the plant applied with GSSG and GA3 increased in size of fruit.

In addition, it was determined that a *Vitis labrusca* plant applied with GSSG or GSH but not GA3 increased in sugar content. In this case, effect of producing seedless grape was suppressed without GA3.

## Example 6

## Change Over Time after Application of Substance for Regulating Oxidation-Reduction State of Cell

In the present example, a sugar content of a plant was determined after a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell was applied to the plant. The substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell was GSH or GSSG. As in the case of Example 1, *Lycopersicon esculentum* was used as the plant. Specifically, the following operations were carried out.

Ninety days after sowing of *Lycopersicon esculentum* seeds, *Lycopersicon esculentum* plants were subjected to a GSH or GSSG treatment. The *Lycopersicon esculentum* plants were cultivated by the same method as in Example 1 except for the GSH or GSSG treatment. The GSH or GSSG treatment was such that 50 mL of 0.5 mM GSSH or 0.5 mM GSH (adjusted with 0.1N NaOH to be at pH 7) was applied



once at a root per plant. Then, fruit of the plants was harvested every day from the 0th day until the 4th day after application of GSH or GSSG, and subjected to sugar content determination. FIG. 3 shows a result of the sugar content determination. FIG. 3 is a graph showing a determination result of relation between sugar content and the number of days from an application day of GSH or GSSG. In FIG. 3, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %) and the horizontal scale indicates days from the application day. In FIG. 3, lines labeled with circles, triangles, and squares show results of the plants applied with GSH, GSSG, and no GSH and no GSSG, respectively. Note that GSSG or GSH was applied in the morning of the 0th day, and a result of the 0th day in FIG. 3 was obtained by harvesting fruit and determining a sugar content of the fruit in the evening of the 0th day.

As shown in FIG. 3, it was shown that application of GSSG or GSH made it possible to rapidly improve a sugar content of fruit.

#### Example 7

##### Production of Plant into which GSH1 Gene is Introduced

In the present example, a clone of a  $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase gene was used as a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell. The clone is a polynucleotide having a sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, is one of GSH1 genes, and is referred to merely as "GSH1 gene" in the present example.

##### (1) Plant to be Used

In order to produce a transformed plant, a wild type *Arabidopsis thaliana* Columbia (Col-0) was used as a parent plant. The Columbia (Col-0) was sown in soil in a square plastic pot (6.5×6.5×5 cm), which soil is constituted by three layers of vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD., Okayama), KUREHA culture soil (KUREHA horticultural soil, KUREHA CORPORATION, Tokyo), and vermiculite being layered in this order from the bottom at a ratio of 2:1:1. Then, the Columbia (Col-0) was cultivated at a growth temperature of 22° C. under a long-day condition (16-hour light period/8-hour dark period).

##### (2) Cloning of GSH1 Gene, Alteration of GSH1 Gene, and Production of GSH1-Transformed Plant

Entire RNA of a 3-week-old wild type *Arabidopsis thaliana* Columbia (Col-0) was isolated, and cDNA was synthesized based on the RNA by using a Prostar first strand RT-PCR kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif., USA).

With use of the following specific primers designed based on a cDNA sequence of a GSH1 gene, a full-length cDNA was amplified as two fragments by PCR:

GSH1\_5'-3':  
5'-GCTTTCTTCTAGATTTTCGACGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 10)

GSH1\_3'-3':  
5'-CCTGATCATATCAGCTTCTGAGC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 11)

GSH1\_5'-2':  
5'-ATGCCAAAGGGGAGATACGA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 12)

GSH1\_3'-2':  
5'-GGAGACTCGAGCTCTTCAGATAG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 13)

Then, subcloning was carried out so that each of the fragments was inserted into a pGEM-T Easy vector (Promega, Madison, Wis., USA). The primers GSH1\_5'-3' and GSH1\_3'-2' respectively includes XbaI and SacI cleavage sites

required for introduction of the fragments to a binary vector pBI121 used in plant transformation.

The two fragments were fused with each other at a KpnI cleavage site, so that a vector (Ch1.GSH1-pGEM) including the full-length cDNA was constructed. The Ch1.GSH1-pGEM was treated with restriction enzymes XbaI and SacI and a fragment thus obtained was substituted with a region of a binary vector pBI121, which region encodes  $\beta$ -glucuronidase (GUS) and is located downstream of a cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter. As a result, a construct (35S-Ch1.GSH1-pBI121) for producing the transformed plant was produced.

There is only one copy of the GSH1 gene in genome of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, and the GSH1 gene includes a chloroplast transit signal. For the purpose of accumulating GSH1 gene products ( $\gamma$ -glutamylcysteine synthetase) in cytoplasm, produced was a construct (35S-cyt.GSH1-pBI121) for expressing a protein in which the 73rd amino acid from an N-terminal, which amino acid was presumed to be the chloroplast transit signal, was deleted and an alanine residue at the 74<sup>th</sup> position from the N-terminal was substituted with a methionine residue. First, PCR was performed with the primer GSH1\_3'-3' and the following primer GSH1(cyt.)\_5' (a base substitution site is underlined) in which the alanine residue at the 74th position from the N-terminal was substituted with the methionine residue and an XbaI cleavage site was inserted upstream of the 74<sup>th</sup> position:

GSH1 (cyt.)\_5':  
5'-AGGGCATCTAGAGACCATGGCAAGTCC-3'. (SEQ ID NO: 14)

Then, a fragment thus obtained was treated with restriction enzymes XbaI and KpnI. Thereafter, subcloning was carried out so that the fragment was inserted into a pBluescript vector (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif. USA) (cyt.GSH1-pBS). The cyt.GSH1-pBS was treated with the restriction enzymes XbaI and KpnI, and a fragment thus obtained was substituted with a XbaI-KpnI fragment of the 35S-Ch1.GSH1-pBI121. As a result, the 35S-cyt.GSH1-pBI121 was produced.

The two types of expression vectors produced as above, i.e., the 35S-Ch1.GSH1-pBI121 and the 35S-cyt.GSH1-pBI121, were introduced into the Col-0 by the *Agrobacterium* method (Clough, S. J. and SH1-pB Bent, A. F. (1998) Floral dip: A simplified method for *Arabidopsis thaliana*-mediated transformation of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Plant J. 16: 735-743). As a result, a transformed plant was produced.

Specifically, selection of the transformed plant was repeated on an agar medium (Murashige-Skoog medium of a half concentration) which contains kanamycin serving as a selection marker, until such a generation occurred that all seeds exhibit kanamycin resistance (a generation does not exhibit divergence). In process of the selection, it was determined that characters of the kanamycin resistance were diverged at a ratio of 3:1 and that the expression vectors were introduced into at least single chromosome.

The plant obtained as above is hereinafter referred to as "35S-GSH1".

##### (3) Sugar Content Determination

A 35S-GSH1 and a wild type *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Col-0) for comparison were cultivated at a growth light intensity of 50  $\mu\text{Em}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  or 500  $\mu\text{Em}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ . After one-week cultivation, each plant body was collected. Then, each plant body was frozen with liquid nitrogen, ground into powder, and thereafter subjected to extraction using 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of 50 mM sodium acetate buffer per 50 mg of plant body.

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Next, a glucose content and a starch content of each extract thus obtained were determined. The glucose content was determined using Glucose CII-Test Wako (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.). The starch content was determined by mixing the extract with 35 Units/ml amyloglucanase and a sodium acetate buffer (50 mM, pH4.5), leaving at rest the resulting mixture for 1 hour, and then determining an amount of glucose. Results of determination are shown in FIG. 4. FIG. 4 shows determination results of starch and glucose contents of 35S-GSH1. In FIG. 4, (a) shows starch contents, and (b) shows glucose contents. In (a) and (b) of FIG. 4, the vertical scales indicate relative contents of starch and glucose, respectively, and the horizontal scales indicate types of plants. A and B shown in FIG. 4 are results of the 35S-GSH1. In the present example, two 35S-GSH1 plants were used in an experiment as A and B shown in FIG. 4. The term "relative content" above means a relative amount where an amount in the Col-0 cultivated at a growth light intensity of  $50 \mu\text{Em}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  is 100.

As shown in FIG. 4, the 35S-GSH1 had a higher starch content and a higher sugar content than the Col-0.

## Example 8

Production of *Prunus avium*

In the present example, *Prunus avium* was cultivated. Specifically, 4 weeks and 3 weeks before an expected date of harvesting *Prunus avium* (Napoleon) fruit, a surface of a leaf on a branch having the fruit to be harvested was coated with 0.5 mM GSSG. The fruit was harvested on the expected date.

Next, the fruit harvested was subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that the fruit applied with GSSG increased in sugar content and decreased in acidity. Further, it was determined that the fruit applied with GSSG increased in weight. Furthermore, the fruit obtained was subjected to sugar content determination using "Pocket" Refractometer APAL-1 (ATAGO CO., LTD.). For comparison, fruit applied with no GSSG was also subjected to the sugar content determination. FIG. 5 shows a result of determination of sugar content of *Prunus avium* fruit obtained in the present example. In FIG. 5, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %). Further, an ANOVA analysis was carried out by using StatView5.0 (SAS Institute Inc.) with a significant difference level of 5%. As a result, a significant difference was shown.

As described above, application of GSSG made it possible to obtain *Prunus avium* fruit having a significantly improved sugar content.

## Example 9

Production of *Citrus unshiu*

In the present example, *Citrus unshiu* was cultivated. Specifically, one week before an expected date of harvesting *Citrus unshiu* fruit, a surface of a leaf on a branch having the fruit to be harvested was coated with 0.5 mM GSSG. The fruit was harvested on the expected date.

Next, the fruit harvested was subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that the fruit applied with GSSG increased in sugar content and decreased in acidity. Further, it was determined that the fruit applied with GSSG increased in weight. Furthermore, the fruit obtained was subjected to sugar content determination using "Pocket" Refractometer APAL-1 (ATAGO CO., LTD.). For comparison, fruit applied with no GSSG was also subjected to

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the sugar content determination. FIG. 6 shows a result of determination of sugar content of *Citrus unshiu* fruit obtained in the present example. In FIG. 6, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %). Further, an ANOVA analysis was carried out by using StatView5.0 (SAS Institute Inc.) with a significant difference level of 5%. As a result, a significant difference was shown.

As described above, application of GSSG made it possible to obtain *Citrus unshiu* fruit having a significantly improved sugar content.

## Example 10

Production of *Fragaria ananassa*

In the present example, *Fragaria ananassa* was cultivated with use of GSSG or GSH. Details of cultivation are described below.

First, *Fragaria ananassa* seedlings were transplanted to a planter. In the planter, 6 L of vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD.), 3 L of KUREHA horticultural soil (KUREHA CORPORATION), and 3 L of vermiculite were layered as a lower, middle, and upper layers, respectively.

During cultivation of *Fragaria ananassa* plants, 50 mL of 0.2 mM or 0.5 mM GSSG or 50 mL of 0.4 mM or 0.5 mM GSH (adjusted with 0.1N NaOH to be at pH7) was applied once a week at a root per plant. The plants were grown for 63 days without being subjected to bud removal. For comparison, a *Fragaria ananassa* plant was grown under the same condition, except that GSSG and GSH were not applied. To the plants of any condition, 3 g of Kumiai phosphate ammonium nitrate potassium S-604 (Chisso Asahi Fertilizer Co., Ltd.) was applied as an additional fertilizer once in 2 weeks.

Next, the fruit harvested was subjected to sensory tests of sugar content and the like. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSSG increased in sugar content and decreased in acidity compared to that of the plant not applied with GSSG or GSH. Further, it was determined that the plant applied with GSSG increased in number of fruit. It was also determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSH increased in sugar content and acidity.

Further, the fruit obtained was subjected to sugar content determination using "Pocket" Refractometer APAL-1 (ATAGO CO., LTD.). For comparison, fruit not applied with GSSG or GSH was also subjected to the sugar content determination. FIG. 7 shows a result of determination of sugar content of *Fragaria ananassa* fruit obtained in the present example. In FIG. 7, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %). Further, an ANOVA analysis was carried out by using StatView5.0 (SAS Institute Inc.) with a significant difference level of 5%. As a result, a significant difference was shown.

These results indicated that *Fragaria ananassa* fruit having an increased sugar content could be produced by cultivation using a culture medium that contains GSSG or GSH.

## Example 11

Production of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt

In the present example, *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt was cultivated. First, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt seed (TAKII & CO. Ltd., product number: Canberra 86) was sown in vermiculite (ASAHI INDUSTRIES Co., LTD.). Two weeks after sowing, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was transplanted to a hydroponic culture pot described in Example 1. To the plant, 3 g of Kumiai phosphate ammo-

nium nitrate potassium S-604 (Chisso Asahi Fertilizer Co., Ltd.) was applied as an additional fertilizer 4 weeks and 6 weeks after the sowing.

In the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th week after the sowing, 0.5 mM GSSG (dissolved in 0.1% Tween80 serving as a spreading agent) was sprayed onto a leaf surface. For comparison, a *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt plant was cultivated by the same method as in the present example, except that Tween80, but not GSSG, was applied, and fruit thereof was harvested.

Fruit was harvested 86 days after the sowing and subjected to a sensory test of sugar content. As a result, it was determined that fruit of the plant applied with GSSG increased in sugar content compared to that of the plant applied with no GSSG. Further, the fruit obtained was subjected to sugar content determination using "Pocket" Refractometer APAL-1 (ATAGO CO., LTD.). For comparison, the fruit of the plant applied with no GSSG was also subjected to the sugar content determination. FIG. 8 shows a result of determination of sugar content of *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt fruit obtained in the present example. In FIG. 8, the vertical scale indicates sugar content (Brix, unit: %). Further, an ANOVA analysis was carried out by using StatView5.0 (SAS Institute Inc.) with a significant difference level of 5%. As a result, a significant difference was shown.

It was also determined that the plant applied with GSSG increased in size and number of fruit. Further, it was determined that the fruit of the plant applied with GSSG was already able to be harvested 70 days after the sowing.

The results above indicated that *Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Sturt fruit having an increased sugar content could be produced by cultivation using a culture medium that includes GSSG.

The composition, in accordance with the present invention, for producing a plant body having an improved sugar content includes a substance for regulating an oxidation-reduction state of a cell. Therefore, with the composition in accordance with the present invention, it is possible to easily produce the plant body having an improved sugar content.

The embodiments and concrete examples of implementation discussed in the foregoing detailed explanation serve solely to illustrate the technical details of the present invention, which should not be narrowly interpreted within the limits of such embodiments and concrete examples, but rather may be applied in many variations within the spirit of the present invention, provided such variations do not exceed the scope of the patent claims set forth below.

#### INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The composition in accordance with the present invention, with which a plant having an improved sugar content can be easily produced, is industrially applicable in agriculture, food industry, and the like. Further, because ethanol can be produced with high efficiency from a plant having a high sugar content, the composition in accordance with the present invention is applicable to a wide range of industries such as energy industry.

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#### SEQUENCE LISTING

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Glu Ala Val Val Ala Thr Glu Pro Leu Thr Arg Glu Asp Leu Ile Ala  
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-continued-

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Asn	Tyr	Met	Pro	Lys	Val	Gly	Thr	Leu	Gly	Leu	Asp	Met	Met	Leu	Arg
				165					170						175
Thr	Cys	Thr	Val	Gln	Val	Asn	Leu	Asp	Phe	Ser	Ser	Glu	Ala	Asp	Met
			180					185						190	
Ile	Arg	Lys	Phe	Arg	Ala	Gly	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gln	Pro	Ile	Ala	Thr	Ala
		195					200					205			
Leu	Phe	Ala	Asn	Ser	Pro	Phe	Thr	Glu	Gly	Lys	Pro	Asn	Gly	Phe	Leu
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Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Val	Phe	Asp	Asp	Ser	Phe	Gly	Phe	Glu	Gln	Tyr	Val
				245					250						255
Asp	Tyr	Ala	Leu	Asp	Val	Pro	Met	Tyr	Phe	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Lys	Asn	Lys
		260						265					270		
Tyr	Ile	Asp	Cys	Thr	Gly	Met	Thr	Phe	Arg	Gln	Phe	Leu	Ala	Gly	Lys
		275					280					285			
Leu	Pro	Cys	Leu	Pro	Gly	Glu	Leu	Pro	Ser	Tyr	Asn	Asp	Trp	Glu	Asn
	290					295					300				
His	Leu	Thr	Thr	Ile	Phe	Pro	Glu	Val	Arg	Leu	Lys	Arg	Tyr	Leu	Glu
305					310					315					320
Met	Arg	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly	Pro	Trp	Arg	Arg	Leu	Cys	Ala	Leu	Pro
				325					330						335
Ala	Phe	Trp	Val	Gly	Leu	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Asp	Asp	Ser	Leu	Gln	Ala	Ile
			340					345					350		
Leu	Asp	Leu	Thr	Ala	Asp	Trp	Thr	Pro	Ala	Glu	Arg	Glu	Met	Leu	Arg
	355						360					365			
Asn	Lys	Val	Pro	Val	Thr	Gly	Leu	Lys	Thr	Pro	Phe	Arg	Asp	Gly	Leu
	370					375					380				
Leu	Lys	His	Val	Ala	Glu	Asp	Val	Leu	Lys	Leu	Ala	Lys	Asp	Gly	Leu
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Glu	Arg	Arg	Gly	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Ala	Gly	Phe	Leu	Asn	Ala	Val	Asp	Glu
				405					410					415	
Val	Val	Arg	Thr	Gly	Val	Thr	Pro	Ala	Glu	Lys	Leu	Leu	Glu	Met	Tyr
			420					425					430		
Asn	Gly	Glu	Trp	Gly	Gln	Ser	Val	Asp	Pro	Val	Phe	Glu	Glu	Leu	Leu
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&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 4

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 1350

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: DNA

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 4

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catgagaaat ttggttttga ggtcaactact ttgccccta tgaagtatga tcaaatagcc	180
gagcttctta atggtatcgc tgaagattt gaatgggaaa aagtaatgga aggtgacaag	240

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 taccagttga aagcagttgc tgaagaaatg ggaatttgtt tcttagaat tggcttccag 420  
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 cagttatcc tggattttag ctccagaagt gatatacga ggaattctg tgcgtgtctt 600  
 gctttacaac ctatagcaac ggcctctatt gccaattccc ctttaccaga aggaaagcca 660  
 aagcattc tcaagcattag aagccacata tggacagaca ctgacaaagga ccgcaagga 720  
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<210> SEQ ID NO 5  
 <211> LENGTH: 391  
 <212> TYPE: PRT  
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana  
 <400> SEQUENCE: 5

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 Pro Arg Val Ser Phe Ala Ile Arg Ala Gly Ala Tyr Ser Asp Gln Leu 35  
 Val Lys Thr Ala Lys Ser Ile Ala Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala 50  
 Ile Asp Gln Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly 65  
 Leu Asp Asn Thr Gln Asp Asn Arg Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Leu 85  
 Thr Thr Pro Gly Leu Gly Asp Tyr Ile Ser Gly Ser Ile Leu Phe Gln 100  
 Gln Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Lys Asp Gly Lys Thr Phe Val Asp Cys 115  
 Leu Arg Asp Ala Asn Ile Val Pro Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu 130  
 Ser Pro Leu Ala Gly Ser Asn Gln Gln Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp 145  
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 Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Ser Val Pro Cys Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu 175

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180				185				190							
Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser
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	210					215					220				
Gly	Asp	His	Pro	Ile	Glu	Arg	Thr	Leu	Glu	Val	Ala	Glu	Lys	Val	Trp
	225				230					235				240	
Ser	Glu	Val	Phe	Phe	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Gln	Asn	Asn	Val	Met	Phe	Glu	Gly
			245						250				255		
Ile	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val	Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala	Glu	His	Lys	Asn
			260						265				270		
Lys	Ala	Ser	Pro	Glu	Thr	Val	Ala	Asp	Phe	Thr	Leu	Thr	Met	Leu	Lys
		275					280					285			
Arg	Arg	Val	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro	Gly	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gly
		290				295					300				
Gln	Ser	Glu	Ala	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu	Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Ser
	305				310					315				320	
Pro	Asn	Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn
				325					330					335	
Ser	Val	Leu	Arg	Thr	Trp	Gln	Gly	Lys	Pro	Glu	Lys	Ile	Glu	Ala	Ser
			340						345				350		
Gln	Lys	Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Arg	Ala	Lys	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu
		355					360					365			
Gly	Lys	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Glu	Gly	Glu	Asn	Glu	Asp	Ala	Lys	Lys	Gly	Met
	370					375					380				
Phe	Val	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Tyr									
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&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 6

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 398

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 6

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Glu	Trp	Val	Lys	Gly	Gln	Ser	Val	Leu	Phe	Arg	Gln	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ala
			20					25					30		
Ser	Val	Val	Leu	Arg	Asn	Arg	Ala	Thr	Ser	Leu	Thr	Val	Arg	Ala	Ala
		35				40						45			
Ser	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Glu	Leu	Val	Lys	Thr	Ala	Lys	Thr	Ile	Ala	Ser
	50				55						60				
Pro	Gly	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Met	Asp	Glu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Thr	Cys	Gly
	65				70					75				80	
Lys	Arg	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Asn	Thr	Glu	Ala	Asn	Arg	Gln
				85					90					95	
Ala	Phe	Arg	Thr	Leu	Leu	Val	Ser	Ala	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gly	Gln	Tyr	Val
			100					105					110		
Ser	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Phe	Glu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Thr	Thr	Glu
		115					120					125			
Gly	Lys	Lys	Met	Val	Asp	Val	Leu	Val	Glu	Gln	Asn	Ile	Val	Pro	Gly
	130					135					140				
Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Val	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn	Glu
	145				150					155					160
Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ser	Ser	Arg	Thr	Ala	Ala	Tyr



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165					170					175					
Tyr	Gln	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ile
			180					185					190		
Pro	Asn	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly	Leu
		195					200					205			
Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile	Val
	210					215					220				
Glu	Pro	Glu	Ile	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly	Glu	His	Asp	Ile	Asp	Arg	Thr	Tyr
	225					230					235				240
Asp	Val	Ala	Glu	Lys	Val	Trp	Ala	Glu	Val	Phe	Phe	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Gln
				245					250					255	
Asn	Asn	Val	Met	Phe	Glu	Gly	Ile	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val	Thr
			260					265					270		
Pro	Gly	Ala	Glu	Ser	Lys	Asp	Arg	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu	Gln	Val	Ala	Ala
		275					280					285			
Tyr	Thr	Leu	Lys	Leu	Leu	Arg	Asn	Arg	Val	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro	Gly
	290					295					300				
Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu	Asn	
	305					310			315					320	
Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Ala	Pro	Asn	Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe	Ser
				325					330					335	
Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn	Thr	Cys	Leu	Lys	Thr	Trp	Gly	Gly	Arg
			340					345					350		
Pro	Glu	Asn	Val	Asn	Ala	Ala	Gln	Thr	Thr	Leu	Leu	Ala	Arg	Ala	Lys
			355				360					365			
Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Glu	Gly	Glu	Ser
	370					375					380				
Glu	Glu	Ala	Lys	Glu	Gly	Met	Phe	Val	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Tyr		
	385					390					395				

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 7

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 1176

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: DNA

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 7

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atggcgtctg ctagcttctg taagcctaac accctctctt ctccatggat cggccaacgc      60
tcctttgtct acacctctgc ttctctctct cctcctctct gactctctct cgcgatccgc      120
gccggtgctt actccgacga gcttggttaa accgcaaaa gcattgcctc cctggggaga      180
ggtatcttgg cgatcgatga gtccaatgca acctgtggga agagccttgc ttctatcggc      240
ttggataaca ccgaggacaa ccgtcaggcc tacaggcaac ttctgcttac cactcctggc      300
ctcggcgatt acatctctgg ttccattctc ttcgaggaga ctctttacca gtccaccaag      360
gacggtaaga cctttgtcga ttgcttgcgc gatgccaaca tcgtccctgg catcaaagtt      420
gacaagggct tgtctccctc agccggttcc aacgaagagt cttgggtgcca aggcttggat      480
ggattggcct cacgctctgc tgagtactac aagcaaggcg ctcgttttgc caagtggagg      540
acagtgggtg gtgttccctg cggtccttca gcaactggctg tgaaggaagc tgcgtggggg      600
ctggctcgct atcgagccat ctctcaggat aatggtcttg tccccattgt ggagccagag      660
atccttctgg acggggacca cccaatagag aggactctgg aggtggcaga gaaagtgtgg      720
tcagaggtgt tcttctactt ggcacagaac aacgtcatgt ttgagggcat tctgttgaag      780
ccgagcatgg tcaccccagg cgctgagcac aagaacaagg cctctcccga gaccgttgca      840

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<210 > SEQ ID NO 9  
<211 > LENGTH: 1518  
<212 > TYPE: DNA  
<213 > ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

ccaagataga cgaactataa tagtagtaaa caaaacctt gctttaaca cctcctcca  
60  
aatccagat cctcctctgt cctgttcccg cggagttccc gagagattga tcaoccatcac  
120  
ttctgtaacr tccctgtaacr accatagtccr tctgtctagc tctgtctagc tcaaacctcc  
180  
ctctctccat ggcactccga accgtcctt gctcaacct ctgctctctc tctcctcct  
240  
cctcgtgact cctcctcgtat ccgctcctcgt gcttactccg agctctgtt taaaaccgcc  
300  
aaagactctg cactccctcgg gagaggtatc tggctgactc atgagttccaa tgcacaactg  
360  
gggaagagcc tctctctctat ccgctctggt aaccaccgag acaaccgtca ggcctcaggg  
420  
caactctcgc ttaaccactcc tggcctcctgc gatatacact ctgtgtccat tctcctcggag  
480  
gagactctt caaccgtccac caagggaccgt aagaccttct tctgattctt gctcgtatgccc  
540  
aaactcctcc ctggcctcaca agtttgtacaag ggcctctgctc cctcagccgg tcccaacgaa  
600  
gactcctctgt gccaagctct ggtatggtatg gctcctcagct ctgtctgagt ctaacaagcaaa  
660  
ggcctcctct tctgccaagctg gtagaacagct gctgagttggtc cctcggctggtcc tccagcactg  
720  
gctctgtgaa gactcctcctg gggcctcctg cctcctctcag ccactcctcca ggtatatagtg  
780  
cctctgcccaca tctgtgtgagcc agatctcctt ctgtgaccggg acccaaccacat agatgaggtact  
840  
ctgtgaggtg cagtagaaagt gctgtctcaggg acttctcctc acttggctcaca gaaacaactc  
900  
ctgtttgtgag gcatctctgtt gaagctcctc atctgtcctc acttggctcaca gaaacaactc  
960  
atgtttgtgag gcatctctgtt gaagctcctc atctgtcctc acttggctcaca gaaacaactc  
1020  
aaagctcctc gcttctctctc tgcagatctc agagctcctc acttggctcaca gaaacaactc  
1080  
aaactcctcc caggtatctcact gttctctgca gtaggtgacaaat cagagctcagaa ggcctcacaactg  
1140  
atgtatgtga gcaaccgtgaa aacatcctct taaactctata tttcctcctca gaaagactga  
1500  
ttactgttctg actgc

<210 > SEQ ID NO 8  
<211 > LENGTH: 1515  
<212 > TYPE: DNA  
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence  
<220 > FEATURE:  
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Description of Artificial Sequence:Artificially  
Synthesized Primer Sequence

<400 > SEQUENCE: 8

gatttcaagc tcaaccatgct gaaagaggg gttcctccgg cttcctccag gactcactgtt  
900  
ctgtctcagag gacatctaga ggcagagggc acaactgaaac tgaacggcat gaaccagagc  
960  
ccaaccacat ggcattgtctc cttcctcatc gcaactgccc tgcagaaactc cgtgtctcaga  
1020  
acatggccag gcaagctgag gaaagttag gctcctcagaa aggcactgtt ggtgagggca  
1080  
aaggccaact cactggccca gctcggcaca tactcagccg agggagagaa cgaagtatgccc  
1140  
aagaagaa tgttgtcaaa ggttacaacc tactga  
1176

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<400> SEQUENCE: 9
60      aaaaagagagga gtaggtgagag ataggggtgg tgtcataagc gttacatcgt agtcctcaaa
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180      cctcaagct ctcctcggtc tggacaatc cgaatgggtc aagggacaaa gctgtctctt
240      ccgtcagcc tcttccggtc ctgtcgtcct ccgcaaccgt gccaccctcc tcaaccgtccg
300      tgcctcctc cctcaaccg atgagctgt taagagcagc aaaaactatg cgtcctcccg
360      acgtggatc tggcgtatgg acgagttcaaa cgtgacttgc gggaaaactt tggatctcgtat
420      agggctagag aacactgtag caatctgca agccttcccg acttggctgg tctcctgcaacc
480      gggactcgg aagtacgtc ccggtgcgat tctattttag agaacctcgt accagctcac
540      cacaggagc aagaaaatgg tcaagctcct cgtcagagcag aacatgtcct ctggtatcaaa
600      agtcagcaag ggttgggtgc cacttgggtgg atcccaaat gagtcatcgt gccaaaggact
660      agatggtctc tcaatcctcga ctgctcgtca ctatcaacag ggtgctgctgt tccgccaatg
720      gctatctgtc cgatcagctc caatctcaaa gaaacagctgg tctgtctcga tctgttagcc
780      ggtatcttg tggatggag aacacagcat tgcagagcaaa gaaacagctc atgttctcctc
840      agatctctg tggatggag aacacagcat tgcagagcaaa tgcagagctc agagaaagt
900      tctggctcgg gtttctctt accctgtcga gaaacatgtc atgttcttag gttatcctcct
960      aaaaaccagc atggtgactc ccgtagctga gtctaaagc agatgctcac ctgaaacagt
1020      tgcctcctc accctcaagc tctcctcga cagagctcct ccgagctcc ccggaatcat
1080      gtttcttcc gtaggacagc cggaggtgga ggcacaacatc aactgtaagc caatgaaacc
1140      ggcaccaaac ccactgagc tgtcctctc ctacgcaact gcgttgcaag acactgtctc
1200      gaaaacatgg ggcctcagc ccggaacagt gaaacagct cagaaaccac tcttggcccg
1260      tgcgaagcc aatctggtgg ctacgctcgg aaaaatacacc ggtgaggtgg agtcaggagga
1320      ggtcaaggag ggcactgtcc tcaagggtca caccatctga agagatctga ctgtgaaaaa
1380      agagatgagc agatgttct atccaactt gtttcttagt tgcctctgta tcaatcatgt
1440      caatcatata tttctcctgc tcaacttgcg tagctacac ctttataaa gttctatbat
1500      attgaagta tcatctctc tgatctat taaacttga aactcaacta tccatcatc
1518      aaccaattt aatttgg

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<210> SEQ ID NO 10
<211> LENGTH: 22
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer
<400> SEQUENCE: 10
gcttctctc agattcagc gg
22

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<210> SEQ ID NO 11
<211> LENGTH: 23
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer
<400> SEQUENCE: 11
cctgatacata tcaagctctg agc
23

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<210> SEQ ID NO 12  
 <211> LENGTH: 20  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence  
 <220> FEATURE:  
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer  
  
 <400> SEQUENCE: 12  
  
 atgccaaagg ggagatacga 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 13  
 <211> LENGTH: 23  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial  
 <220> FEATURE:  
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer  
  
 <400> SEQUENCE: 13  
  
 ggagactcga gctcttcaga tag 23

<210> SEQ ID NO 14  
 <211> LENGTH: 27  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial  
 <220> FEATURE:  
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer  
  
 <400> SEQUENCE: 14  
  
 agggcatcta gagacatgg caagtcc 27

<210> SEQ ID NO 15  
 <211> LENGTH: 351  
 <212> TYPE: PRT  
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana  
  
 <400> SEQUENCE: 15  
  
 Ala Gly Ala Tyr Ser Asp Glu Leu Val Lys Thr Ala Lys Ser Ile Ala  
 1 5 10 15  
  
 Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Ile Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys  
 20 25 30  
  
 Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Asp Asn Thr Glu Asp Asn Arg  
 35 40 45  
  
 Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Leu Thr Thr Pro Gly Leu Gly Asp Tyr  
 50 55 60  
  
 Ile Ser Gly Ser Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Lys  
 65 70 75 80  
  
 Asp Gly Lys Thr Phe Val Asp Cys Leu Arg Asp Ala Asn Ile Val Pro  
 85 90 95  
  
 Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Ser Pro Leu Ala Gly Ser Asn Glu  
 100 105 110  
  
 Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Ser Ala Glu  
 115 120 125  
  
 Tyr Tyr Lys Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Val Ser  
 130 135 140  
  
 Val Pro Cys Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala Trp Gly  
 145 150 155 160  
  
 Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ser Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val Pro Ile  
 165 170 175  
  
 Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Asp His Pro Ile Glu Arg Thr  
 180 185 190  
  
 Leu Glu Val Ala Glu Lys Val Trp Ser Glu Val Phe Phe Tyr Leu Ala











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20					25					30					
Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Asn	Thr	Glu	Ala	Asn	Arg
		35					40					45			
Gln	Ala	Phe	Arg	Thr	Leu	Leu	Val	Ser	Val	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gly	Asn	His
		50					55					60			
Ile	Ser	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Phe	Glu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Thr	Val
							70					75			80
Asp	Gly	Lys	Lys	Ile	Val	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ala	Glu	Gln	Gly	Ile	Val	Pro
															95
Gly	Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asp
															110
Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ser	Arg	Glu	Ala	Ala
															125
Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser
															140
Ile	Pro	Asn	Gly	Pro	Ser	Glu	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly
															160
Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Asn	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile
															175
Val	Glu	Pro	Glu	Ile	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly	Glu	His	Gly	Ile	Gly	Arg	Thr
															190
Phe	Glu	Val	Ala	Gln	Lys	Val	Trp	Ala	Glu	Thr	Phe	Tyr	Gln	Met	Ser
															205
Gln	Asn	Asn	Val	Met	Phe	Glu	Gly	Ile	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val
															220
Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala	Glu	Cys	Lys	Asp	Arg	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu	Gln	Val	Ala
															240
Gly	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Lys	Leu	Leu	Ser	Arg	Arg	Val	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro
															255
Gly	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu
															270
Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Gly	Pro	Asn	Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe
															285
Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn	Thr	Cys	Leu	Lys	Thr	Trp	Gly	Gly
															300
Arg	Pro	Glu	Asn	Val	Lys	Ala	Ala	Gln	Glu	Ala	Leu	Leu	Leu	Arg	Ala
															320
Lys	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Thr	Ser	Asp	Gly	Glu
															335
Ala	Ala	Glu	Ala	Lys	Glu	Gly	Met	Phe	Val	Lys	Asn	Tyr	Ser	Tyr	
															350

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 21

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 352

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Lycopersicon esculentum

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 21

Ala	Ala	Gly	Ser	Tyr	Thr	Asp	Glu	Leu	Ile	Lys	Thr	Ala	Lys	Thr	Ile
1				5						10					15
Ala	Ser	Pro	Gly	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Ile	Asp	Glu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Thr
				20					25					30	
Ala	Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu	Ala	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Asp	Asn	Thr	Glu	Ala	Asn
				35					40					45	
Arg	Gln	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Gln	Leu	Leu	Leu	Thr	Thr	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gly	Asp



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85					90					95					
Gly	Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Ala	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn
			100					105					110		
Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ser	Arg	Ser	Ala	Ala
			115					120					125		
Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser
			130					135					140		
Ile	Pro	Asn	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly
			145					150					155		
Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Asn	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile
				165					170					175	
Val	Glu	Pro	Glu	Ile	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly	Glu	His	Asn	Ile	Asp	Arg	Thr
			180					185					190		
Phe	Glu	Val	Ala	Lys	Gln	Val	Trp	Ala	Glu	Val	Phe	Phe	Tyr	Leu	Ala
			195					200					205		
Gln	Asn	Asn	Val	Met	Phe	Glu	Gly	Ile	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val
			210					215					220		
Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala	Glu	Cys	Lys	Asp	Arg	Ala	Thr	Pro	Gln	Gln	Val	Ala
			225					230					235		
Asp	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Ser	Leu	Leu	Arg	Gln	Arg	Ile	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro
				245					250					255	
Gly	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu
			260					265					270		
Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Ser	Pro	Asn	Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe
			275					280					285		
Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn	Thr	Cys	Leu	Lys	Thr	Trp	Ser	Gly
			290					295					300		
Arg	Pro	Glu	Asn	Val	Lys	Ala	Ala	Gln	Asp	Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Arg	Ala
			305					310					315		
Lys	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Glu	Gly	Glu
				325					330					335	
Ser	Asp	Glu	Ala	Lys	Lys	Gly	Met	Phe	Val	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Val	Tyr	
			340					345					350		

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 23

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 351

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Lycopersicon esculentum

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 23

Ala	Ser	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Glu	Leu	Val	Lys	Thr	Ala	Lys	Thr	Val	Ala
1				5					10					15	
Ser	Pro	Gly	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Met	Asp	Glu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Thr	Cys
			20					25					30		
Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Asn	Thr	Glu	Ala	Asn	Arg
			35					40					45		
Gln	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Thr	Leu	Leu	Val	Ser	Ala	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gly	Asn	Tyr
			50				55						60		
Ile	Ser	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Phe	Glu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Thr	Val
			65				70						75		80
Asp	Gly	Lys	Lys	Ile	Val	Asp	Val	Leu	Leu	Glu	Gln	Asn	Ile	Val	Pro
				85					90					95	
Gly	Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Ala	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn
			100					105						110	
Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ser	Arg	Ser	Ala	Ala

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115					120					125					
Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser
130						135					140				
Ile	Pro	Asn	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly
145					150					155					160
Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Asn	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile
				165					170					175	
Val	Glu	Pro	Glu	Ile	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly	Glu	His	Asn	Ile	Asp	Arg	Thr
			180					185					190		
Phe	Glu	Val	Ala	Gln	Gln	Val	Trp	Ala	Glu	Val	Phe	Phe	Tyr	Leu	Ala
			195				200					205			
Glu	Asn	Asn	Val	Met	Phe	Glu	Gly	Ile	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val
	210					215					220				
Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala	Glu	Cys	Lys	Glu	Arg	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu	Gln	Val	Ala
225					230					235					240
Asp	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Lys	Leu	Gln	Arg	Arg	Ile	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro	
				245				250						255	
Gly	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ser	Glu	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu
			260				265						270		
Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Ser	Pro	Asn	Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe
	275					280						285			
Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn	Thr	Cys	Leu	Lys	Thr	Trp	Gly	Gly
	290					295					300				
Arg	Pro	Glu	Asn	Val	Glu	Ala	Ala	Gln	Lys	Ala	Leu	Leu	Thr	Arg	Ala
305					310					315					320
Ser	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Glu	Gly	Glu
				325					330					335	
Ser	Glu	Glu	Ala	Lys	Glu	Gly	Met	Phe	Val	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Val	Tyr	
			340					345					350		

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 24

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 339

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Lotus japonicus

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 24

Lys	Thr	Ile	Ala	Ser	Pro	Gly	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Ile	Asp	Glu	Ser
1				5					10					15	
Asn	Ala	Thr	Ala	Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu	Ala	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Asp	Asn	Thr
			20					25					30		
Glu	Thr	Asn	Arg	Gln	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Gln	Leu	Leu	Leu	Thr	Thr	Pro	Gly
			35				40						45		
Leu	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Ile	Ser	Gly	Ala	Ile	Phe	Phe	Glu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Tyr
	50					55					60				
Gln	Ser	Thr	Thr	Asp	Gly	Lys	Lys	Phe	Val	Asp	Cys	Leu	Arg	Glu	Glu
65				70					75					80	
Asn	Ile	Val	Pro	Gly	Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Pro
				85					90					95	
Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn	Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ser
			100					105					110		
Arg	Ser	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Lys	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg
		115					120					125			
Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ile	Pro	Cys	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu
	130					135					140				
Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Asn	Gly





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Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu Ser Lys Asp Lys Val Ser Pro Gln Gln Val Ser  
 225 230 235 240  
 Asp Tyr Thr Leu Lys Leu Leu Gln Arg Arg Ile Pro Pro Ala Val Pro  
 245 250 255  
 Gly Ile Met Phe Leu Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Glu Val Glu Ala Thr Leu  
 260 265 270  
 Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Ser Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe  
 275 280 285  
 Ser Phe Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Ala Leu Lys Thr Trp Gly Gly  
 290 295 300  
 Arg Ala Glu Asn Val Lys Ala Ala Gln Asp Ala Leu Leu Phe Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320  
 Lys Ser Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Lys Tyr Thr Gly Asp Gly Glu  
 325 330 335  
 Ser Glu Glu Ala Lys Lys Glu Leu Phe Val Lys Gly Tyr Ser Tyr  
 340 345 350

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 27

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 353

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: *Oryza sativa*

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 27

Ala Ala Ala Val Ser Tyr Ala Asp Glu Leu Val Ser Thr Ala Lys Ser  
 1 5 10 15  
 Val Ala Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Ile Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala  
 20 25 30  
 Thr Cys Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Asp Asn Thr Glu Val  
 35 40 45  
 Asn Arg Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Leu Thr Thr Ala Gly Leu Gly  
 50 55 60  
 Glu Tyr Ile Ser Gly Ala Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser  
 65 70 75 80  
 Thr Thr Asp Gly Lys Lys Phe Val Asp Cys Leu Lys Asp Gln Asn Ile  
 85 90 95  
 Met Pro Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Val Pro Leu Pro Gly Ser  
 100 105 110  
 Asn Asn Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Cys  
 115 120 125  
 Ala Glu Tyr Tyr Lys Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val  
 130 135 140  
 Val Ser Ile Pro Cys Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala  
 145 150 155 160  
 Trp Gly Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ala Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val  
 165 170 175  
 Pro Ile Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Asp His Ala Ile Glu  
 180 185 190  
 Arg Thr Leu Glu Val Ala Glu Lys Val Trp Ser Glu Val Phe Phe Tyr  
 195 200 205  
 Leu Ala Gln Asn Asn Val Leu Phe Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Lys Pro Ser  
 210 215 220  
 Met Val Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu His Lys Gln Lys Ala Thr Pro Glu Ala  
 225 230 235 240  
 Ile Ala Lys His Thr Leu Thr Met Leu Arg Arg Arg Val Pro Pro Ala  
 245 250 255





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Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Gly Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe  
 275 280 285

Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Cys Leu Lys Thr Trp Gly Gly  
 290 295 300

Gln Pro Glu Asn Val Lys Ala Ala Gln Asp Ala Leu Leu Leu Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Lys Ala Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Lys Tyr Thr Ser Asp Gly Glu  
 325 330 335

Ala Ala Glu Ala Lys Glu Gly Met Phe Val Lys Asn Tyr Val Tyr  
 340 345 350

<210> SEQ ID NO 29  
 <211> LENGTH: 351  
 <212> TYPE: PRT  
 <213> ORGANISM: Picea sitchensis

<400> SEQUENCE: 29

Ala Gly Ser Tyr Ala Glu Glu Leu Val Gln Thr Ala Lys Thr Val Ala  
 1 5 10 15

Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Ile Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys  
 20 25 30

Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Glu Asn Asn Glu Thr Asn Arg  
 35 40 45

Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Thr Thr Pro Gly Leu Gly Glu Tyr  
 50 55 60

Ile Ser Gly Ser Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Thr  
 65 70 75 80

Asp Gly Arg Lys Phe Val Asp Cys Leu Arg Glu Gln Asn Ile Met Pro  
 85 90 95

Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Val Pro Leu Pro Gly Ser Asn Asn  
 100 105 110

Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Ser Ala Glu  
 115 120 125

Tyr Tyr Lys Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Val Ser  
 130 135 140

Ile Pro Asn Gly Pro Ser Asp Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala Trp Gly  
 145 150 155 160

Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ser Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val Pro Ile  
 165 170 175

Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Asp His Ser Ile Asp Arg Thr  
 180 185 190

Leu Glu Val Ala Glu Lys Val Trp Ala Glu Val Phe Phe Tyr Leu Ala  
 195 200 205

Glu Asn Asn Val Phe Phe Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Lys Pro Ser Met Val  
 210 215 220

Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu His Lys Glu Lys Ala Thr Pro Gln Gln Val Ala  
 225 230 235 240

Asp Tyr Thr Leu Lys Met Leu Lys Arg Arg Val Pro Pro Ala Val Pro  
 245 250 255

Gly Ile Met Phe Leu Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Glu Val Glu Ala Thr Leu  
 260 265 270

Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Ser Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe  
 275 280 285

Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Ser Leu Lys Thr Trp Lys Gly  
 290 295 300

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Leu Pro Glu Asn Ile Glu Ala Ala Gln Arg Ala Leu Leu Ile Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Lys Ala Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Arg Tyr Ser Ala Glu Gly Glu  
 325 330 335

Ser Glu Glu Ser Lys Lys Gly Met Phe Val Lys Gly Tyr Thr Tyr  
 340 345 350

<210> SEQ ID NO 30  
 <211> LENGTH: 351  
 <212> TYPE: PRT  
 <213> ORGANISM: Picea sitchensis

<400> SEQUENCE: 30

Ala Gly Ala Tyr Ser Glu Glu Leu Ile Lys Thr Ala Lys Arg Val Ala  
 1 5 10 15

Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Met Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys  
 20 25 30

Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Glu Asn Thr Glu Ala Asn Arg  
 35 40 45

Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Val Ser Ala Pro Gly Leu Gly Gln Tyr  
 50 55 60

Ile Ser Gly Ser Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Thr  
 65 70 75 80

Asp Gly Lys Lys Met Val Asp Val Leu Val Gln Gln Asp Ile Val Pro  
 85 90 95

Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Val Pro Leu Ala Gly Ser Asn Asp  
 100 105 110

Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Cys Ala Ala  
 115 120 125

Tyr Tyr Gln Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Val Ser  
 130 135 140

Ile Pro Asn Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala Trp Gly  
 145 150 155 160

Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ala Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val Pro Ile  
 165 170 175

Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Glu His Gly Leu Glu Arg Thr  
 180 185 190

Phe Glu Val Ala Leu Lys Val Trp Ala Glu Val Phe Phe Tyr Leu Ala  
 195 200 205

Glu Asn Asn Val Leu Phe Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Lys Pro Ser Met Val  
 210 215 220

Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu Cys Lys Asp Arg Ala Ser Pro Glu Thr Val Ala  
 225 230 235 240

Gln Tyr Thr Leu Asn Leu Leu Arg Arg Arg Val Pro Pro Ala Val Pro  
 245 250 255

Gly Ile Met Phe Leu Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Glu Val Glu Ala Thr Leu  
 260 265 270

Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Ala Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe  
 275 280 285

Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Cys Leu Lys Thr Trp Ala Gly  
 290 295 300

Arg Pro Glu Asn Val Asp Ala Ala Gln Lys Ile Leu Leu Val Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Lys Ala Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Lys Tyr Ser Ala Glu Gly Glu  
 325 330 335

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Ser Ala Glu Ser Lys Glu Gly Met Phe Val Lys Gly Tyr Thr Tyr  
 340 345 350

<210> SEQ ID NO 31  
 <211> LENGTH: 351  
 <212> TYPE: PRT  
 <213> ORGANISM: Populus trichocarpa

<400> SEQUENCE: 31

Ala Asn Ser Tyr Thr Asp Glu Leu Val Gln Thr Ala Lys Thr Ile Ala  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Ile Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys  
 20 25 30  
 Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Asp Asn Thr Glu Thr Asn Arg  
 35 40 45  
 Gln Ala Tyr Arg Gln Leu Leu Thr Thr Pro Ser Leu Gly Glu Tyr  
 50 55 60  
 Ile Ser Gly Ala Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Thr  
 65 70 75 80  
 Asp Gly Lys Lys Phe Val Asp Cys Leu Arg Asp Glu Asn Ile Val Pro  
 85 90 95  
 Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Val Pro Leu Pro Gly Ser Asn Asn  
 100 105 110  
 Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Ser Ala Glu  
 115 120 125  
 Tyr Tyr Lys Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Val Ser  
 130 135 140  
 Ile Pro Cys Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala Trp Gly  
 145 150 155 160  
 Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ser Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val Pro Ile  
 165 170 175  
 Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Asp His Pro Ile Asp Arg Thr  
 180 185 190  
 Leu Glu Val Ala Glu Lys Val Trp Ser Gly Val Phe Tyr Tyr Leu Ala  
 195 200 205  
 Glu Asn Asn Val Val Phe Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Lys Pro Ser Met Val  
 210 215 220  
 Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu His Lys Glu Lys Ala Ser Ala Asp Thr Ile Ala  
 225 230 235 240  
 Lys Tyr Thr Leu Thr Met Leu Lys Arg Arg Val Pro Pro Ala Val Pro  
 245 250 255  
 Gly Ile Met Phe Leu Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Glu Val Gln Ala Thr Leu  
 260 265 270  
 Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Ser Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe  
 275 280 285  
 Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Val Leu Lys Thr Trp Gln Gly  
 290 295 300  
 Arg Pro Asp Asn Val Glu Ala Ala Gln Lys Ser Leu Leu Val Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320  
 Lys Ala Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Arg Tyr Ser Ala Glu Gly Glu  
 325 330 335  
 Ser Glu Glu Ala Thr Lys Gly Met Phe Val Lys Gly Tyr Thr Tyr  
 340 345 350

<210> SEQ ID NO 32  
 <211> LENGTH: 351

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<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Populus trichocarpa

<400> SEQUENCE: 32

Ala Gly Ser Tyr Ala Asp Glu Leu Val Lys Thr Ala Lys Thr Ile Ala
1          5          10          15
Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly Ile Leu Ala Met Asp Glu Ser Asn Ala Thr Cys
          20          25          30
Gly Lys Arg Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Glu Asn Thr Glu Ala Asn Arg
          35          40          45
Gln Ala Tyr Arg Thr Leu Leu Val Thr Val Pro Gly Leu Gly Asn Tyr
          50          55          60
Val Ser Gly Ala Ile Leu Phe Glu Glu Thr Leu Tyr Gln Ser Thr Thr
65          70          75          80
Asp Gly Lys Lys Met Val Asp Val Leu Val Glu Gln Lys Ile Val Pro
          85          90          95
Gly Ile Lys Val Asp Lys Gly Leu Val Pro Leu Ala Gly Ser Asn Asp
          100          105          110
Glu Ser Trp Cys Gln Gly Leu Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Arg Ser Ala Ala
115          120          125
Tyr Tyr Gln Gln Gly Ala Arg Phe Ala Lys Trp Arg Thr Val Val Ser
130          135          140
Ile Pro Asn Gly Pro Ser Ala Leu Ala Val Lys Glu Ala Ala Trp Gly
145          150          155          160
Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ile Ser Gln Asp Asn Gly Leu Val Pro Ile
165          170          175
Val Glu Pro Glu Ile Leu Leu Asp Gly Glu His Gly Ile Glu Arg Thr
180          185          190
Phe Glu Val Ala Gln Lys Val Trp Ala Glu Val Phe Tyr Tyr Met Ala
195          200          205
Glu Asn Asn Val Met Phe Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Lys Pro Ser Met Val
210          215          220
Thr Pro Gly Ala Glu Cys Lys Asp Arg Ala Ser Pro Asp Gln Val Ala
225          230          235          240
Glu Tyr Thr Leu Lys Leu Leu His Arg Arg Ile Pro Pro Ala Val Pro
245          250          255
Gly Ile Met Phe Leu Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Glu Val Glu Ala Thr Leu
260          265          270
Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Gln Ser Pro Asn Pro Trp His Val Ser Phe
275          280          285
Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Leu Gln Asn Thr Cys Leu Lys Thr Trp Gly Gly
290          295          300
Arg Pro Glu Asn Val Gln Asp Ala Gln Glu Thr Leu Leu Ile Arg Ala
305          310          315          320
Lys Ala Asn Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Lys Tyr Thr Gly Glu Gly Glu
325          330          335
Ser Asp Asp Ala Lys Lys Gly Met Tyr Val Lys Asn Tyr Ser Tyr
340          345          350

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<210> SEQ ID NO 33
<211> LENGTH: 351
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Populus trichocarpa

<400> SEQUENCE: 33

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Thr Gly Ser Tyr Ala Glu Glu Leu Val Lys Thr Ala Lys Thr Ile Ala

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1	5	10	15
Ser	Pro	Gly	Arg
	20	Gly	Ile
		Leu	Ala
		Met	Asp
		25	Glu
			Ser
			Asn
			Ala
			30
			Thr
			Cys
Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu
	35	Ala	Ser
		Ile	Gly
		40	Leu
			Glu
			Asn
			Thr
			45
			Glu
			Ala
			Asn
			Arg
Gln	Ala	Tyr	Arg
	50	Thr	Leu
		Leu	55
		Val	Thr
		Val	Val
		Pro	Gly
		60	Leu
			Gly
			Asp
			Tyr
Val	Ser	Gly	Ala
	65	Ile	Leu
		70	Phe
			Glu
			Glu
			Thr
			75
			Leu
			Tyr
			Gln
			Ser
			Thr
			80
Asp	Gly	Lys	Lys
		85	Met
			Val
			Asp
			Val
			Leu
			90
			Val
			Glu
			Gln
			Lys
			Ile
			95
			Val
			Pro
Gly	Ile	Lys	Val
	100	Asp	Lys
		Gly	Gly
		Leu	Val
		105	Pro
			Leu
			Ala
			Gly
			110
			Ser
			Asn
			Asp
Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys
	115	Gln	Gly
		Leu	Asp
		120	Gly
			Leu
			Ala
			Ser
			Arg
			125
			Thr
			Ala
			Ala
Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Gln
	130	Gly	Ala
		Arg	Phe
		135	Ala
			Lys
			Trp
			Arg
			140
			Thr
			Val
			Val
			Ser
Ile	Pro	Asn	Gly
	145	Pro	Ser
		150	Ala
			Leu
			Ala
			Val
			Lys
			155
			Glu
			Ala
			Ala
			Trp
			Gly
Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr
	165	Ala	Ile
			Ser
			Gln
			Asp
			170
			Asn
			Gly
			Leu
			Val
			175
			Pro
			Ile
Val	Glu	Pro	Glu
	180	Ile	Leu
		Leu	Asp
		185	Gly
			Glu
			His
			Gly
			Ile
			Asp
			190
			Arg
			Thr
Phe	Glu	Val	Ala
	195	Gln	Lys
		Val	Trp
		200	Ala
			Glu
			Val
			Phe
			205
			Phe
			Tyr
			Met
			Ala
Glu	Asn	Asn	Val
	210	Met	Phe
		215	Glu
			Gly
			Ile
			Leu
			Leu
			Lys
			220
			Pro
			Ser
			Met
			Val
Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala
	225	Glu	Cys
		230	Lys
			Asp
			Arg
			Ala
			Thr
			235
			Pro
			Glu
			Gln
			Val
			Ala
Glu	Tyr	Thr	Leu
	245	Lys	Leu
		Leu	Gln
		Arg	Arg
		250	Ile
			Pro
			Pro
			Ser
			Val
			255
			Pro
Gly	Ile	Met	Phe
	260	Leu	Ser
		Gly	Gly
		265	Gln
			Ser
			Glu
			Val
			Glu
			270
			Ala
			Thr
			Leu
Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala
	275	Met	Asn
		Gln	Ser
		280	Ala
			Asn
			Pro
			Trp
			His
			285
			Val
			Ser
			Phe
Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg
	290	Ala	Leu
		Gln	Asn
		295	Thr
			Cys
			Leu
			Lys
			300
			Thr
			Trp
			Gly
			Gly
Arg	Pro	Glu	Asn
	305	Val	Asn
		Ala	Ala
		310	Gln
			Glu
			Ala
			Leu
			Leu
			Ile
			Arg
			Ala
			320
Lys	Ala	Asn	Ser
	325	Leu	Ala
		Gln	Leu
		Gly	Lys
		330	Tyr
			Thr
			Gly
			Glu
			Gly
			335
			Glu
Ser	Asp	Glu	Ala
	340	Lys	Lys
		Gly	Met
		345	Phe
			Val
			Lys
			Asn
			Tyr
			Ala
			350
			Tyr

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 34

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 245

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Zea mays

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 34

His	Glu	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn	Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gln	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu
1				5					10					15	
Ala	Ser	Arg	Cys	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Lys	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys
			20					25					30		
Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ile	Pro	Cys	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val

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35					40					45					
Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ala	Gln	Asp
50					55					60					
Asn	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile	Val	Glu	Pro	Glu	Ile	Leu	Leu	Asp	Gly	Asp
65					70					75					80
His	Gly	Ile	Glu	Arg	Thr	Leu	Glu	Val	Ala	Glu	Lys	Val	Trp	Ser	Glu
				85					90					95	
Val	Phe	Phe	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Gln	Asn	Asn	Val	Leu	Phe	Glu	Gly	Ile	Leu
				100					105					110	
Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Met	Val	Thr	Pro	Gly	Ala	Asp	His	Lys	Glu	Lys	Ala
				115					120					125	
Ser	Pro	Glu	Ala	Ile	Ala	Lys	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Thr	Met	Leu	Arg	Arg	Arg
				130					135					140	
Val	Pro	Pro	Ala	Val	Pro	Gly	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ser
				145					150					155	
Glu	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Leu	Asn	Leu	Asn	Ala	Met	Asn	Gln	Ser	Pro	Asn
				165					170					175	
Pro	Trp	His	Val	Ser	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Gln	Asn	Ser	Val
				180					185					190	
Leu	Lys	Thr	Trp	Gln	Gly	Arg	Pro	Glu	Asn	Val	Glu	Ala	Ala	Gln	Lys
				195					200					205	
Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Arg	Ala	Lys	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Arg
				210					215					220	
Tyr	Thr	Gly	Glu	Gly	Glu	Ser	Asp	Glu	Ala	Lys	Lys	Gly	Met	Phe	Gln
				225					230					235	
Lys	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Tyr											
				245											

&lt;210&gt; SEQ ID NO 35

&lt;211&gt; LENGTH: 350

&lt;212&gt; TYPE: PRT

&lt;213&gt; ORGANISM: Glycine max

&lt;400&gt; SEQUENCE: 35

Ala	Ser	Ser	Tyr	Gln	His	Glu	Leu	Val	Gln	Thr	Ala	Lys	Ser	Ile	Ala
1				5					10					15	
Ser	Pro	Ser	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Ile	Asp	Glu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Thr	Cys
			20					25					30		
Gly	Lys	Arg	Leu	Ala	Ser	Ile	Gly	Leu	Asp	Asn	Thr	Glu	Val	Asn	Arg
		35					40					45			
Gln	Ala	Tyr	Arg	Gln	Leu	Leu	Leu	Thr	Thr	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gly	Glu	Tyr
		50			55						60				
Ile	Ser	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Phe	Glu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Thr	Thr
		65			70						75				80
Asp	Gly	Asn	Lys	Phe	Val	Asp	Cys	Leu	Arg	Asp	Gln	Asn	Ile	Val	Pro
			85					90						95	
Asp	Ile	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Pro	Gly	Ser	Asn	Asn
			100					105						110	
Glu	Ser	Trp	Cys	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ser	Arg	Ser	Ala	Glu	Tyr
			115					120						125	
Tyr	Lys	Gln	Gly	Ala	Arg	Phe	Ala	Lys	Trp	Arg	Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ile
						135								140	
Pro	Cys	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ala	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala	Trp	Gly	Leu
					150									160	
Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser	Gln	Asp	Asn	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Ile	Val



195 200 205

Phe Lys Ala Leu Asn Tyr His His Val Leu Leu Gln Gly Thr Leu Leu 210  
Lys Pro Asn Met Val Thr Pro Gly Ser Asp Ser Pro Lys Val Ala Pro 225  
Glu Leu Ile Ala Gln Tyr Thr Val Thr Ala Leu Arg Arg Thr Val Pro 245  
Pro Ala Ile Pro Gly Ile Val Phe Leu Ser Gly Ile Gln Arg Gln Gln 260  
Gln Ala Thr Leu Asn Leu Asn Ala Met Asn Lys Leu Asp Val Leu Lys 275  
Pro Trp Thr Leu Thr Phe Ser Phe Gly Gly Ala Leu Gln Gln Ser Ala 290  
Ile Lys Ala Trp Ala Gly Lys Pro Gln Asn Val Ala Lys Ala Gln Ala 305  
Lys Phe Leu Thr Arg Cys Lys Ala Asn Lys Asp Ala Thr Leu Gly Lys 325  
Tyr Thr Gly Trp Ala Ser Gly Asp Ser Ala Ala Phe Gln Asn Leu Val 340  
Val Ile Gly Tyr Arg Tyr 355

<210> SEQ ID NO 37

<211> LENGTH: 1056

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 37

60 gccgggtgctt actccgcaaaa accgccaataa gcttggttaa accgccaataa gccatgtcatc ccttgaggaga  
120 ggtatccttgg cgatcagatga gtccaatga accctgtggga agagacttgc tctatcaggc  
180 tctgataaca ccgaggaaca ccgtcaggcc tacaaggcaac tctcgtctac cactcctggc  
240 ctcggcgatc acatcctctg tccattctc ttcgagagaa cttcttaca gtcaccaaga  
300 gacggtaaga ccttctctga tgccttgcgc gatgccaaca tgcctccctgg catcaagtt  
360 gacaaggctc tctctccctc agccgggtcc aacgaagagt cttggctgcca aggtcctggat  
420 ggtctggcct caccctctgc ttagtactac aagcaaggcg ctcglttctg caagtggagg  
480 acagtgtgtg gttgtccctc cgttccctca gcactggctg tgaaggagcg tgcgtggggg  
540 cctgctcctc atgacagccat cctcctcagat atgtgtctctg tcccctatgt gtagccagag  
600 atcctctctg accggggaaca cccaatagag agtactcttg agtctgctga gaaagtgtgg  
660 tcaagagtgt ccttctactt ggcacaagaa accgtcactg ttagagggtcat tctgtctgaa  
720 ccgagcactgg tcaaccocagg cgtctgagca acgaaacaag cctcctccga gaccgttga  
780 gatctcaagc tcaaccatgct gaaaggaggt gttcctccgg gtctcctccgg gatcactgtt  
840 cctctcagag gacaatcagag gtcagagggc acactgaaac tgaactgaaac tgaaccagagc  
900 ccaaacccat ggcactgtct cctcctcatc gcaactgccc tgcagaaactc cgtgtctcaga  
960 acatggccaag gcaagccggg gaaagattgag gctcctcagag aggcactgtt gttgagggca  
1020 aaggccaact cactgggccc gctcggcaaa taccctcagcg agggagagaa cgaaggatggcc  
1056 aagaaagaa tgtttgtcaa ggggtcaacc tactga

<210> SEQ ID NO 38  
<211> LENGTH: 1059  
<212> TYPE: DNA



60 gctccgtctcct cctacgctcgtc tgaagctcgtc aagacagctcga aacatctctg gtcctccggga  
120 cgtcgtgacatc tggcgtgacatc cgaatcgaac gctgacatcgaac gctgacatcgaac gctgacatcgaac  
180 gggctcagagaa acacggagagc taacggctcaa gcttaacagga gctcctcctcgtc cctcctcctcgtc  
240 ggaactcctgac agtacaatcctc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc  
300 actgacatcgaac agaaatctctc tgaatctctc gtcctcctcgtc gtcctcctcgtc gtcctcctcgtc  
360 gtcgacaaagg gctcgtcgtcgc actcgtcgtcgc tcttaacgagc agtcaatcgtcgc ccaaggacatc  
420 gacgtctcag cctcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc taacaaacaaag gctcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc  
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720 aagcacaagca tggctcctcgtc aggagcctcga gccaacagaa gacgctcctcgtc tgaagcagctc  
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900 gccaacggaaac catcgtcgtcgc tcaagcagctc cctcctcctcgtc cctcctcctcgtc cctcctcctcgtc  
960 aagacatcctgg gacggcaagaa agaaagcgtc agagcgtcgc agaaagcgtc cctcctcctcgtc  
1020 gccaagcaca atcctcctcgtc tcaagcctcgtc aatatacactg gaaagcgtc gctcctcgtcga  
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<210> SEQ ID NO 39  
<211> LENGTH: 1059  
<212> TYPE: DNA  
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana  
<400> SEQUENCE: 39

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120 cagcagatca tggcgtgacatc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc cgtcctcctcgtc  
180 gggctcagagaa acacggagagc taacggctcaa gcttaacagga gctcctcctcgtc gctcctcctcgtc  
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900 gccaacggaaac catcgtcgtcgc tcaagcagctc cctcctcctcgtc cctcctcctcgtc cctcctcctcgtc  
960 aagacatcctgg gacggcaagaa agaaagcgtc agagcgtcgc agaaagcgtc cctcctcctcgtc  
1020 gccaagcaca atcctcctcgtc tcaagcctcgtc aatatacactg gaaagcgtc gctcctcgtcga  
60 gctcctcctcgtc ctaagcctcgtc aaaaacgctc aaaaacgctc aaaaacgctc gtcctccggga

<400> SEQUENCE: 38  
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<210> SEQ ID NO 40

<211> LENGTH: 1062

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Hordeum vulgare

<400> SEQUENCE: 40

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120 ggcggctggga tccctggcag cgaacgagctc gctgcaaacat gctggcaatc

180 atctggctctg acaacaaccgaa agttaaccgc cagcttacaag gctcagccact

240 gctggctctctg gctgaatctat cctctgctctg atctcctctg agtcaaccct

300 actacagatg gcaagaccct tcttgatctc tctgaaagacc agaatctatc

360 aaggtctgaca aggttctctg tccatctgcc ggaatccaca atgaaatcctg

420 cctgatatctg tggctcccaag gctgctgctg tactacaagc aggtctgctcag

480 tggcggactg tctgttagcat cctctgtgct cctactgcat tagctgtcca

540 tgggactctg cctgctatctg caggaacatg gttctagctcc aatctgtgag

600 ccagatctcc tccctcgaagc tgaaccatctg atccgagagaa ctcctgagct

660 gctgtgctccg agtctctctc ctaccctggc gaaacaactg tctcttctga

720 ctgaagccca gcatgcttac cctctggtct gagcaacaag agaaagcttc

780 atctgcaagaa acaaccctcac aatgctgag agagagctac ccctggtgact

840 atctccctc ctggccggca gtcaggactg gaggccgca tgaaccctgaa

900 cagtcccgca accctctgca cgtctcctc tctgtaaccgc gggccctcca

960 ctgaagacat ggcaggggca gcccagagac atccgagagcc cctgctctg

1020 cggcccaag ccaactcgtc ggcgcagctc ggcagctaca cgggccgaggg

1062 gaggccaaga agggcatctc cagaaagggc taccactcat ga

<210> SEQ ID NO 41

<211> LENGTH: 732

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Hordeum vulgare

<400> SEQUENCE: 41

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120 gctatccctg ccatgcatgaa gctcgaatgct accctgctggca agaaatctg

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240 tctggaaact accatcctctgg tctgtatctcc tctgagagaa cctctcaaca

300 gactgcaagaa agatctctgca catcctctgct gacgcaagggaa tctctccgg

360 gcaagagctc tctctgcccact tctctgctcc aacgatatgagt cactgctgca

420 ggcctctgct cccgctgtaagc agcatctatgc cagcaagggc cccgctcctg

480 actgtctgca gcatctccaa ccgacccact gacgctctgct tcaaggaagc

540 cctctcccgct accgctgcccac tccacaaagac aatctggctctg tggccatctg

600 atctatctcg atctgtgagca cggcatctcga aggtaccctcga gaaagctctg

660 gctggagacat tctatctacat ggcaccagaa aacgtccatgt tctgagggcat

720 ccaagctatgg tgaaccctctg tgcctcctgct aagtaaccaggg ccaaccctga

<210> SEQ ID NO 42

<211> LENGTH: 1056

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Hordeum vulgare

<400> SEQUENCE: 42

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gcccgaagcat tctaacagat gtcaccagaaac aacgtctcatg tccgagggcat cctgctcaaa

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<210> SEQ ID NO 43

<211> LENGTH: 1059

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Lycopersicon esculentum

<400> SEQUENCE: 43

gctgctcgtgat ctacaaccga tgaagctcacc aaacctcgtc tccctccctggaa

agggggcaccct tggaccattgaa tgaactcggact gcaacttggccg gaaagagactc

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accgatgtggga aggaagtctgtt tgaatgtctcctc cgcgactcaggaa agatctgtt

gcttggaacaagg gttctgtgtcc cctaaccaaggaa tcccaacaatgg aatccctgggtg

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420 ggtctctgccc ctcgctccagc agccatctac caacaagctg ccgattccg caaatgctg  
 480 accgttgtag gcatccccca cgtcccat gctctgtag taagtagag accctggtg  
 540 ctgctcgtc atgtctgcat tctcagagc attggtctag tccaattgt gtagcctgag  
 600 atccctctg accgttgagc atgtatgaa agaacctttg agttagcccc aaggtctggtg  
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 780 gattcacccc tcaagctcc taaaggtgaa atccccctg cgtctccctg aatcactgtt  
 840 tctctctgt gacatctga gtttagagc accctgacct tgaatgccat gaaccatct  
 900 ccaaacccat ggcattgttc gcaagctc tccaataac ccgctctgag  
 960 acatggtggg gtcgctgag gaacgttag gcaagctc atgcaacct ttcctgctc  
 1020 aagagcaact cactggtca gcttggtag tacaatgtg atgttagatc tgaagtagcc  
 1056 aagaaagagt tgtctgta agtatctcc tatcaa

<210> SEQ ID NO 48  
 <211> LENGTH: 1056  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <213> ORGANISM: Lotus japonicus

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 180 ctgaaagta cggtaagca tggcgtacct tctctgtgac tgcctccctggc  
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 300 gatgctgag agtatgttga tgtctctatt agcaaaaaca tctctccctg tatctaaagt  
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 720 cctagcatctg ttaaccctgg agctgtagagc aagtagcaag tctctctca gacgttctc  
 780 gattcacccc tcaagctcc taaaggtgaa atccccctg cgtctccctg aatcactgtt  
 840 tctctctgt gacatctga gtttagagc accctgacct tgaatgccat gaaccatct  
 900 ccaaacccat ggcattgttc gcaagctc tccaataac ccgctctgag  
 960 acatggtggg gtcgctgag gaacgttag gcaagctc atgcaacct ttcctgctc  
 1020 aagagcaact cactggtca gcttggtag tacaatgtg atgttagatc tgaagtagcc  
 1056 aagaaagagt tgtctgta agtatctcc tatcaa

<400> SEQUENCE: 48  
 <213> ORGANISM: Lotus japonicus  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <211> LENGTH: 1056  
 <210> SEQ ID NO 48

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 120 ggcatttctg ccatgttag gttccatgct accctgtggg agctgttggc tcaattggg  
 180 ctgaaagta cggtaagca tggcgtacct tctctgtgac tgcctccctggc  
 240 cttgtgtag acgtctctgg ggcattctc tctgaaagaa cttctcaac atccccaac  
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 420 ggtctctgccc ctcgctccagc agccatctac caacaagctg ccgattccg caaatgctg  
 480 accgttgtag gcatccccca cgtcccat gctctgtag taagtagag accctggtg  
 540 ctgctcgtc atgtctgcat tctcagagc attggtctag tccaattgt gtagcctgag  
 600 atccctctg accgttgagc atgtatgaa agaacctttg agttagcccc aaggtctggtg  
 660 gctgaggtt cctctaccc atctgagacc atgtccctg tctgaggtat tctccctcag  
 720 cctagcatctg ttaaccctgg agctgtagagc aagtagcaag tctctctca gacgttctc  
 780 gattcacccc tcaagctcc taaaggtgaa atccccctg cgtctccctg aatcactgtt  
 840 tctctctgt gacatctga gtttagagc accctgacct tgaatgccat gaaccatct  
 900 ccaaacccat ggcattgttc gcaagctc tccaataac ccgctctgag  
 960 acatggtggg gtcgctgag gaacgttag gcaagctc atgcaacct ttcctgctc  
 1020 aagagcaact cactggtca gcttggtag tacaatgtg atgttagatc tgaagtagcc  
 1056 aagaaagagt tgtctgta agtatctcc tatcaa

<400> SEQUENCE: 49  
 <213> ORGANISM: Oryza sativa  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <211> LENGTH: 1062  
 <210> SEQ ID NO 49

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 120 ggcatttctg ccatgttag gttccatgct accctgtggg agctgttggc tcaattggg  
 180 ctgaaagta cggtaagca tggcgtacct tctctgtgac tgcctccctggc  
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 300 gatgctgag agtatgttga tgtctctatt agcaaaaaca tctctccctg tatctaaagt  
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 420 ggtctctgccc ctcgctccagc agccatctac caacaagctg ccgattccg caaatgctg  
 480 accgttgtag gcatccccca cgtcccat gctctgtag taagtagag accctggtg  
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 720 cctagcatctg ttaaccctgg agctgtagagc aagtagcaag tctctctca gacgttctc  
 780 gattcacccc tcaagctcc taaaggtgaa atccccctg cgtctccctg aatcactgtt  
 840 tctctctgt gacatctga gtttagagc accctgacct tgaatgccat gaaccatct  
 900 ccaaacccat ggcattgttc gcaagctc tccaataac ccgctctgag  
 960 acatggtggg gtcgctgag gaacgttag gcaagctc atgcaacct ttcctgctc  
 1020 aagagcaact cactggtca gcttggtag tacaatgtg atgttagatc tgaagtagcc  
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<400> SEQUENCE: 49  
 <213> ORGANISM: Oryza sativa  
 <212> TYPE: DNA  
 <211> LENGTH: 1062  
 <210> SEQ ID NO 49

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300 accactgattg gtaagagatt tgttgactgc tgaagattc agtatattact gcccggttact  
360 aagttctgaca aggtgctcttgg tccatttgcg ggttccaaca atgaaacttg gttgcccaaggc  
420 ctgatatgtt tggctctcag gttgtctcag tactacaagc aggtggttcagc cttcgtctag  
480 ttggtgactg ttgttagact cctctggtt cctcagctt tagcagttcaa gtagagctgca  
540 ttggtgactg ctcgatatgct tgcacttgc caggaacaatg gcttagttcga aattgtttgag  
600 ccagatctcc tctcttgatg ttgaccatgct atctgagagaa ctcttgatg agtcagaa  
660 gttgtgtctt agttatcttctt caaaaacaatg ttcttttttg aggttatctcctg  
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780 attgctgagc acaaccctac attgctgag agtagagttg cgtccttgctt ccttgatct  
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900 caagaaaca aaccatgttca ttgttctctt caatacagcc ttatctcctc gaaactcgtt  
960 ctgaaagcat ggtcaggtgct ccccgtagaac gttgtagagc cgtcagaaagc actgctggtc  
1020 cgtgccaag gcaactcgtc ggtcactcagc ggtcgtaca cggctgagagtt ctagagagctg  
1062 gaggccaaga aggtgatatg tccaagaggt tactacttact ga

<210> SEQ ID NO 51  
<211> LENGTH: 1056  
<212> TYPE: DNA

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660 ggtgtagagc tctctctcact gttcctcact gttcgtgaaac aattgtgaaact tctgaaag  
720 ccaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc  
780 gactcaacaacc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc caaagctctc  
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1020 caagctctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc  
1056 caagctctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc gttcctcctc

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<210> SEQ ID NO 55  
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The invention claimed is:

1. A method for producing a plant with increased sugar content relative to a corresponding untreated plant, the method comprising the steps of:

applying glutathione to a plant or soil in which a plant is to be cultivated;

cultivating the plant under conditions suitable for growth; and

selecting for a plant having increased sugar content relative to a corresponding untreated plant.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the glutathione is oxidized glutathione.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying 0.01 mM to 20 mM to the plant or soil.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying 0.1 mM to 2 mM to the plant or soil.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione to the plant comprises applying glutathione to an entire plant, or to one or more portions of the plant.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the plant is grown from one or more seeds, and the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying in regular intervals for at least 30 days beginning on the day of sowing the seeds.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying in regular intervals for at least 60 days beginning on the day of sowing.

8. The method according to claim 6, further comprising harvesting the plant, and wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying glutathione one to four times per week from the day of sowing until harvesting.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein glutathione is applied one to four times per week in an amount of 0.001-0.1 mmol per application.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying glutathione in regular intervals selected from the group consisting of: until bud break, after flower petals have fallen, from bud break until production of fruit, from flowering time until production of fruit, or from a time after petals have fallen until production of fruit.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising harvesting the plant, and wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying glutathione in regular intervals 10 days before harvesting until harvesting.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising harvesting the plant, and wherein the step of applying the effective amount of glutathione comprises applying glutathione in regular intervals 20 days before harvesting until harvesting.

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