

Welcome Niklaus Ammann

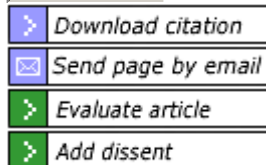


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EndNote



Response to Prins: broad virus resistance in transgenic plants.

Uhrig JF

Trends Biotechnol 2003 Sep 21(9):376-7 [[abstract on PubMed](#)] [[citations on Google Scholar](#)]

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PLANT BIOLOGY



Hypothesis

Comments

Referring to an article of Prins in the same journal {1} and based on a detailed characterization of tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV) nucleocapsid (N) protein, the MPI research group of Uhrig have devised a novel strategy for engineering virus-resistant plants using peptide 'aptamers' selected for by the yeast two-hybrid system to target specifically the protein domain necessary for homo-multimerization. However, Uhrig points to the fact that the aptamer strategy for engineering virus resistant plants might also have an impact on developing antiviral drugs, a field that has not been exploited in agronomy and pest control. Furthermore, Uhrig hints to the structural properties of peptide aptamers which could be helpful for the elucidation of the bioactive structure, an essential requirement for identifying lead-compounds for the design of non-peptide mimetics - after all, the aptamer strategy has been used successfully to inhibit hepatitis B virus (HBV) capsid formation, replication and virion production. {1} Prins M *Trends Biotechnol* 2003, 21:373-5 [PMID:12948665].

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