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(12) **United States Patent**
Schroeder et al.

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(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Nov. 29, 2016**

(54) **PLANT CO₂ SENSORS, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THEM, AND METHODS FOR MAKING AND USING THEM**

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(73) Assignee: **The Regents of the University of California**, Oakland, CA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 4 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(22) Filed: **Mar. 5, 2014**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 12/597,880, filed as application No. PCT/US2008/061654 on Apr. 25, 2008, now Pat. No. 8,916,745.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/914,640, filed on Apr. 27, 2007.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
C12N 15/82 (2006.01)
C07K 14/415 (2006.01)
C12Q 1/68 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **C07K 14/415** (2013.01); **C12N 15/8222** (2013.01); **C12N 15/8261** (2013.01); **C12N 15/8273** (2013.01); **C12Q 1/6837** (2013.01); **Y02P 60/247** (2015.11)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None
See application file for complete search history.

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Assistant Examiner — Jason Deveau Rosen
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the exchange of water and/or carbon dioxide (CO₂) through plant stomata by controlling CO₂ sensor genes. The invention provides compositions and methods for enhancing or optimizing biomass accumulation in a plant. The invention provides compositions and methods for opening or closing a stomatal pore on a guard cell in the epidermis of a plant. The invention provides compositions and methods for increasing or decreasing oxygenation efficiency and/or carbon fixation in a guard cell in the epidermis of a plant by manipulating expression of a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase. The invention provides promoters for regulating expression of a nucleic acid in a plant guard cell.

18 Claims, 32 Drawing Sheets

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Fig. 1

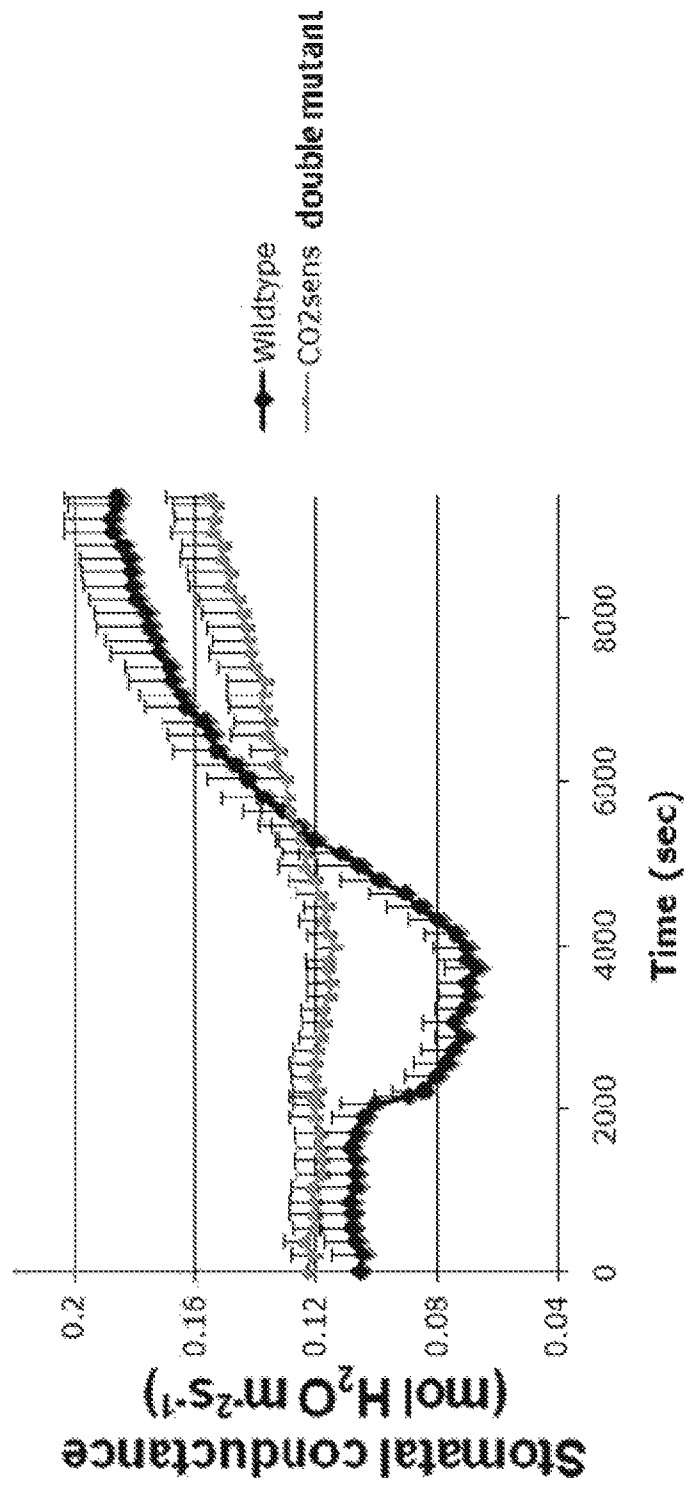


Fig. 2A

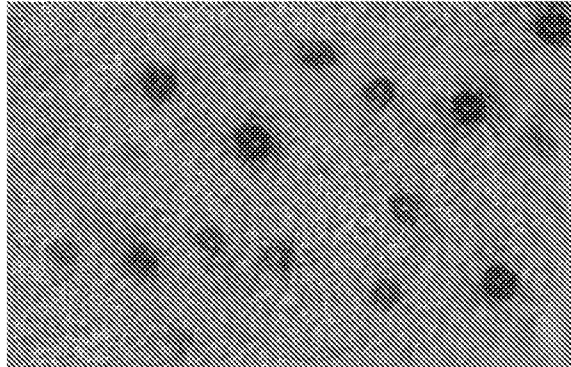


Fig. 2B

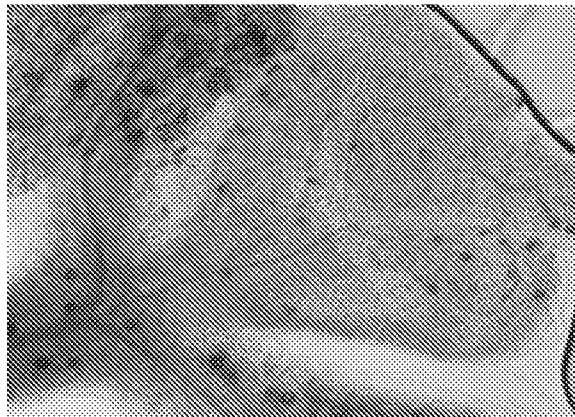


Fig. 2C

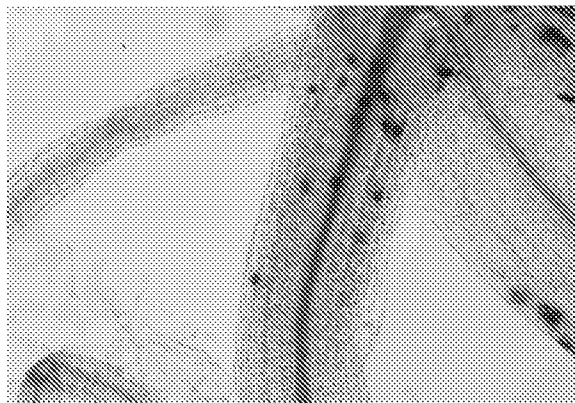


Fig. 2D

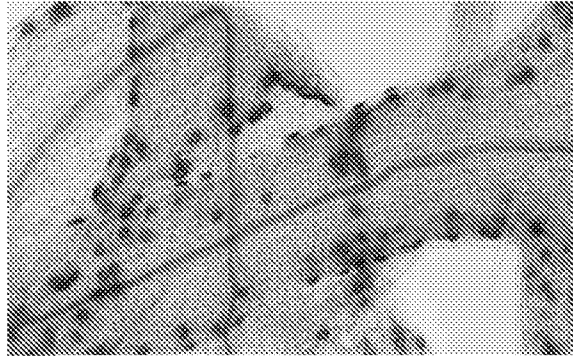


Fig. 2E

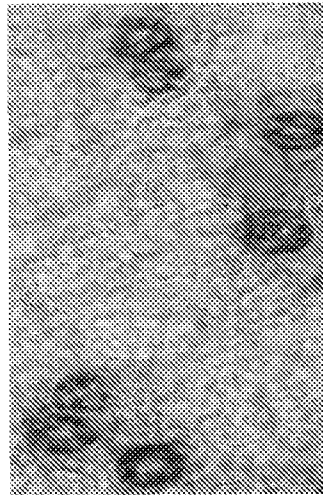
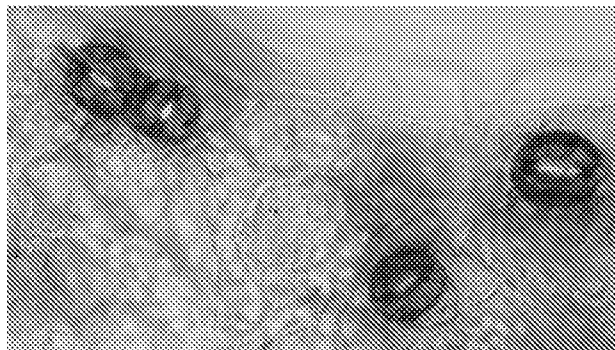
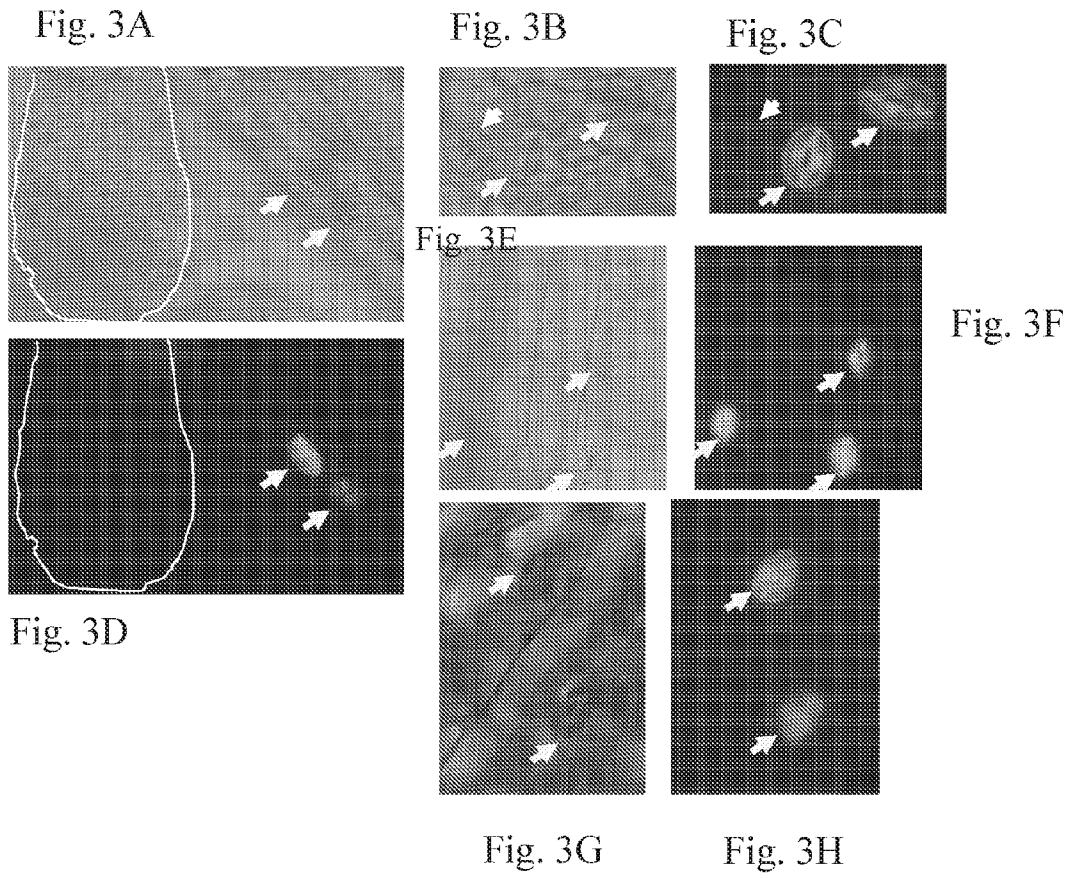


Fig. 2F





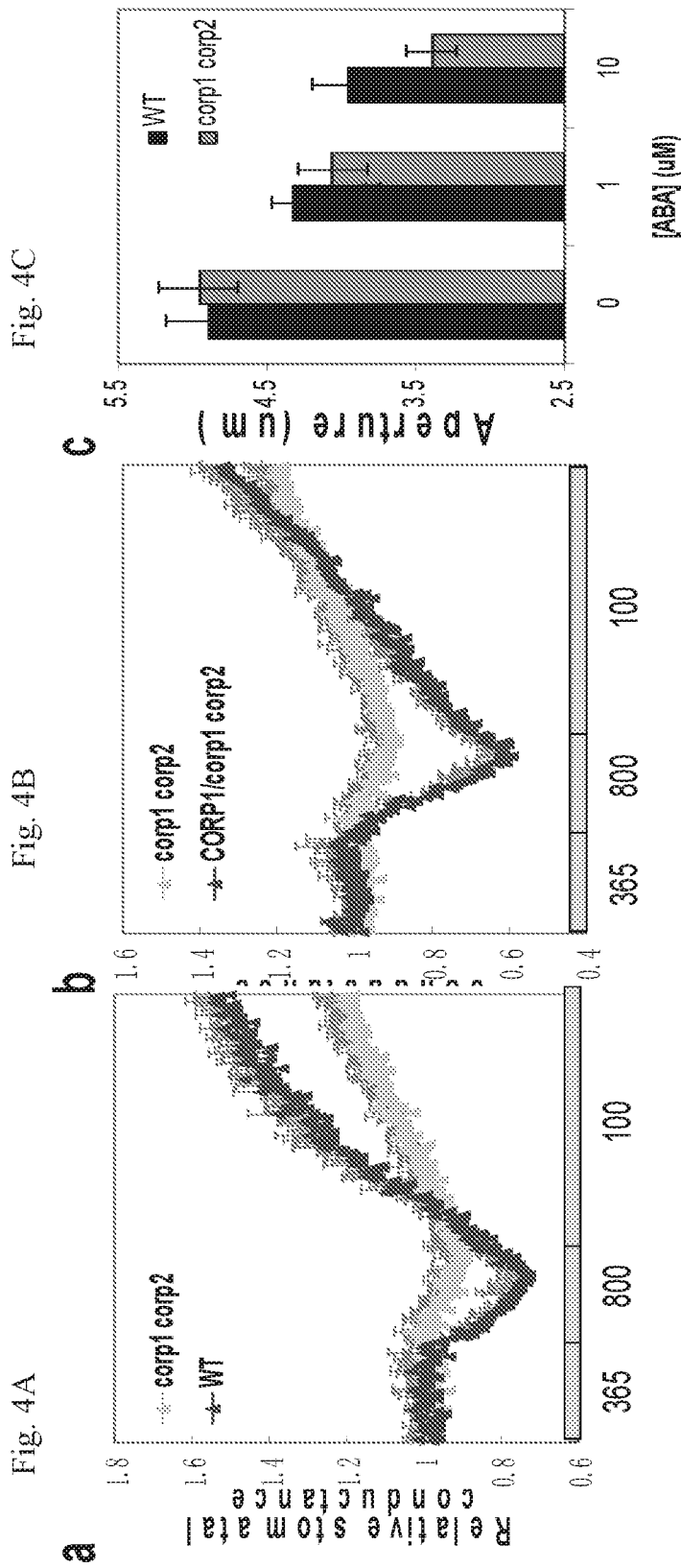


Fig. 5A

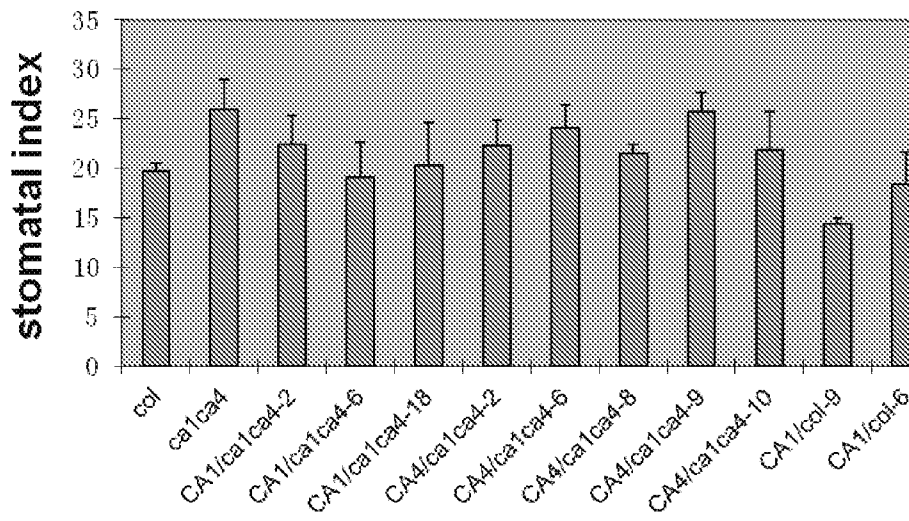


Fig. 5B

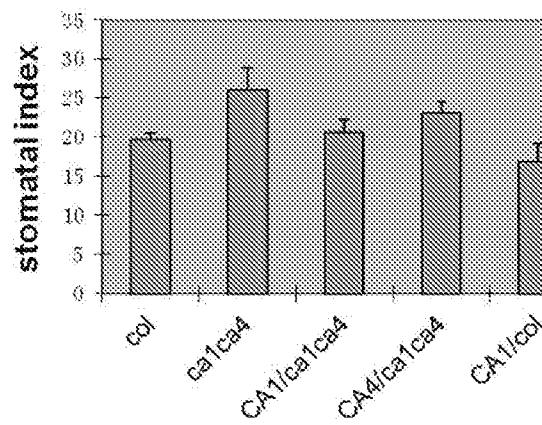


Fig. 6

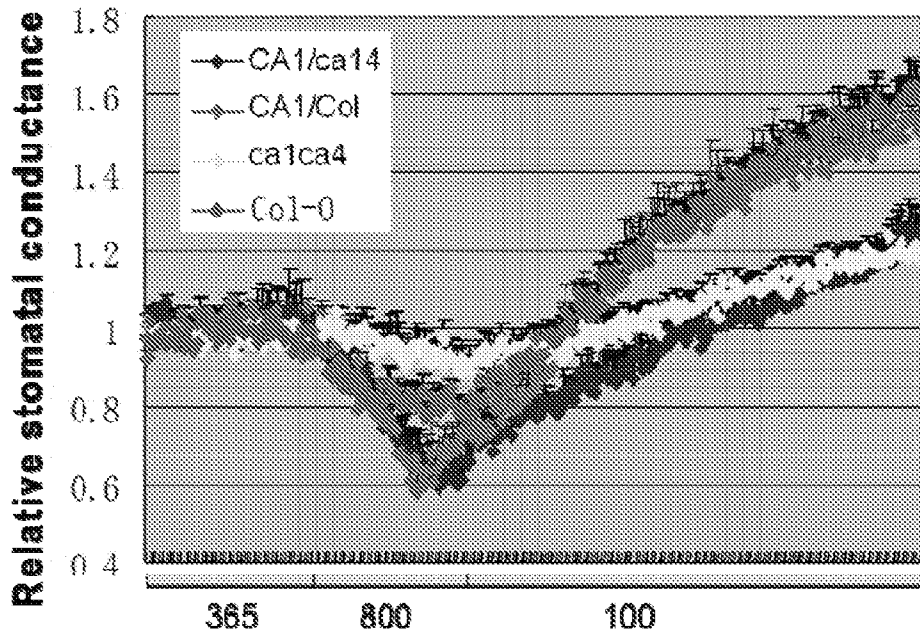


Fig. 7A

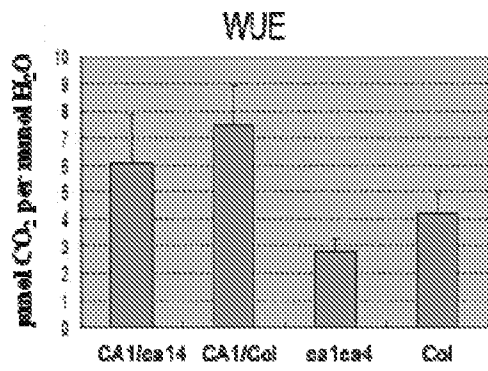


Fig. 7B

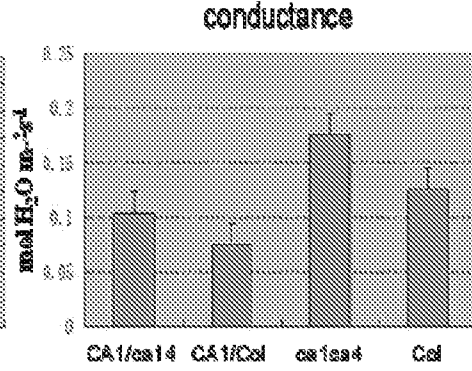


Fig. 8A

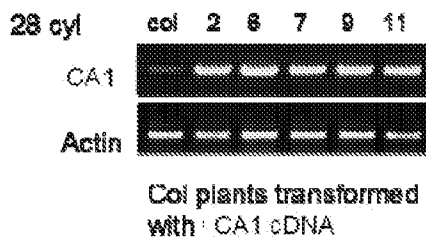


Fig. 8B

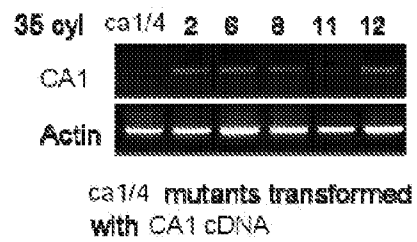
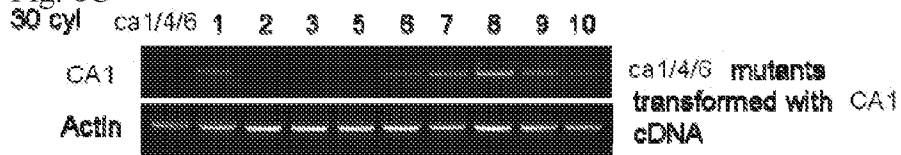


Fig. 8C



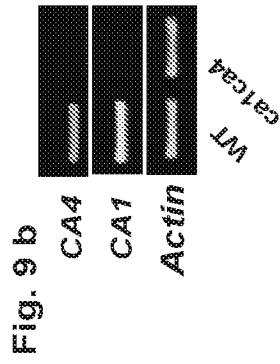
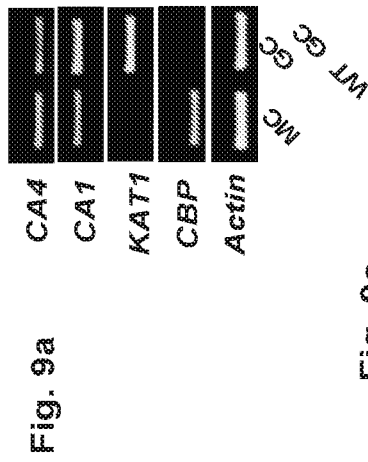


Fig. 9c

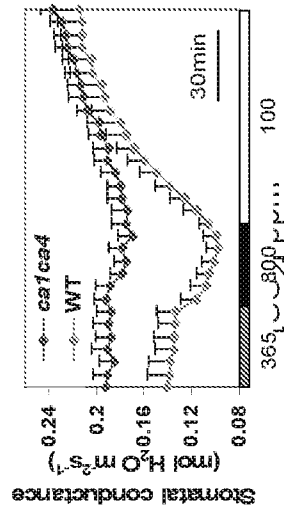


Fig. 9d

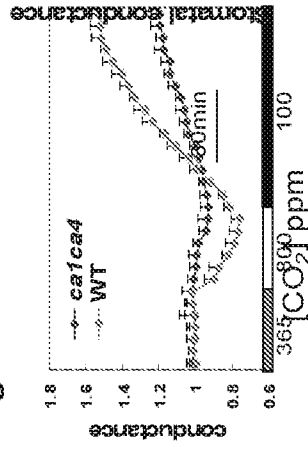
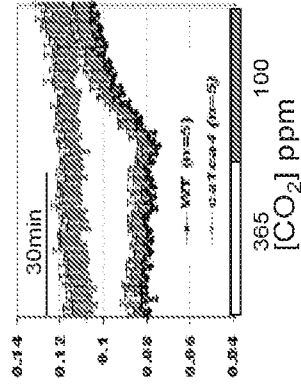


Fig. 9e



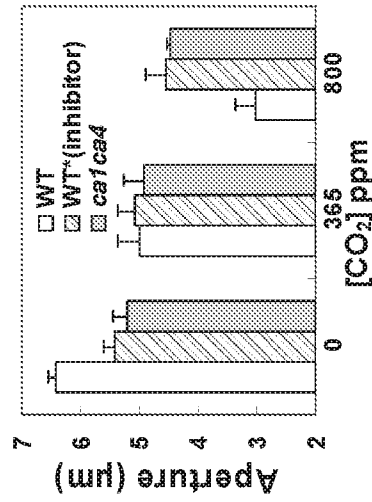
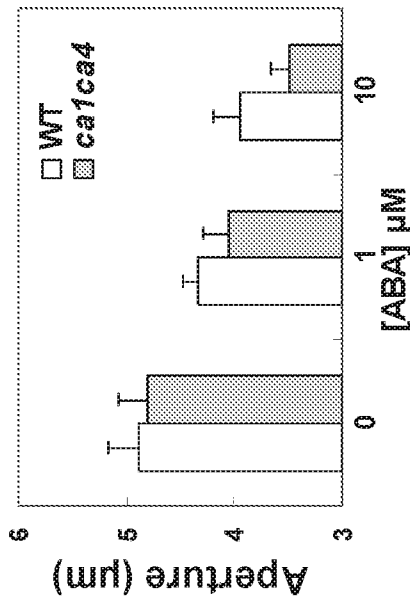
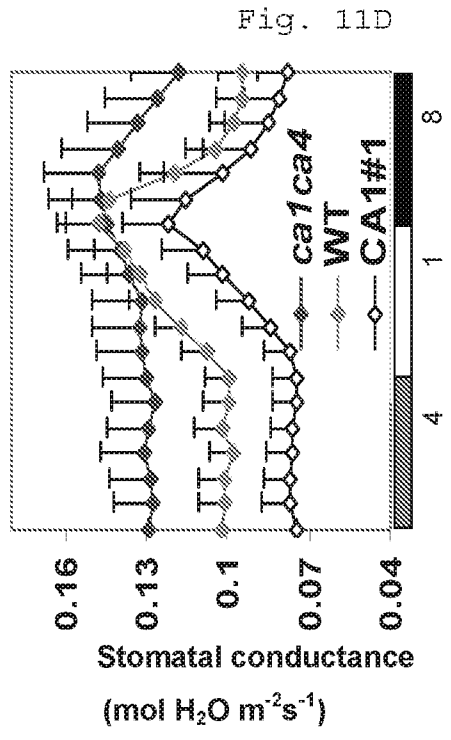
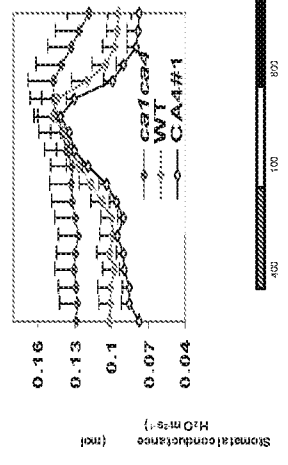
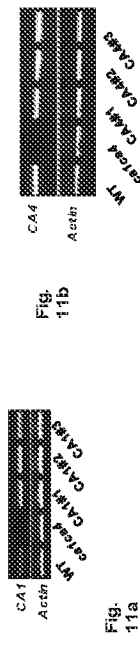
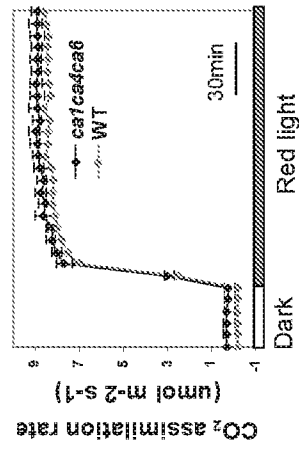
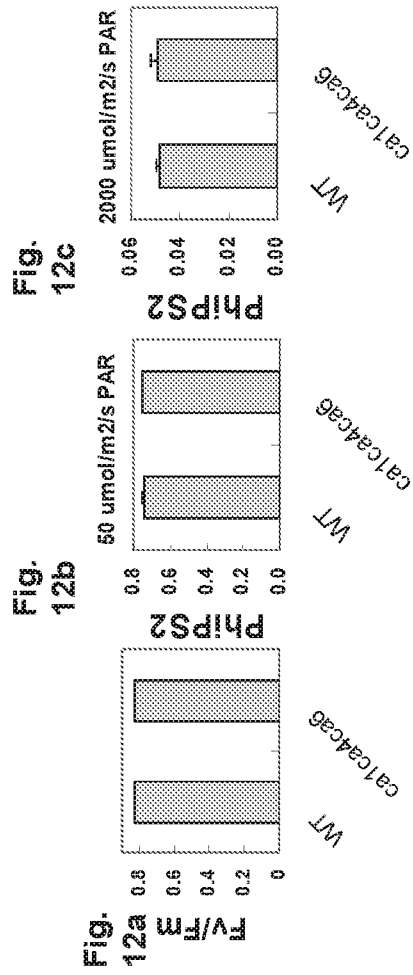


Fig. 10b
Stomatal

Fig. 10a







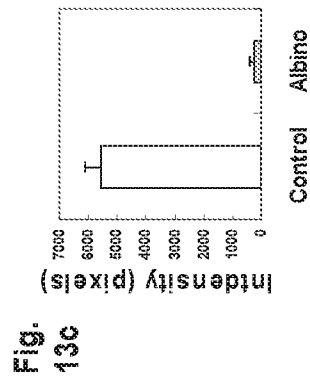
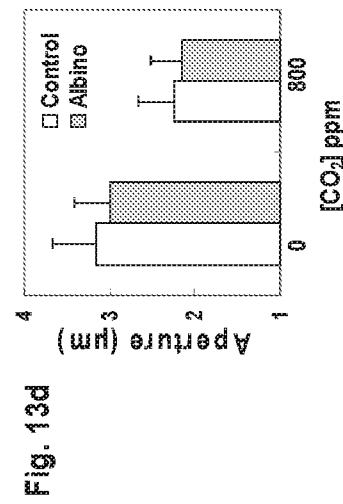
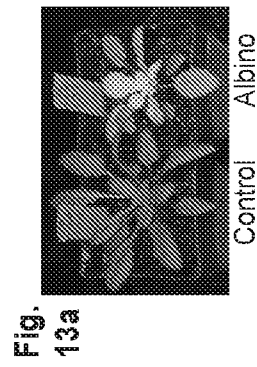
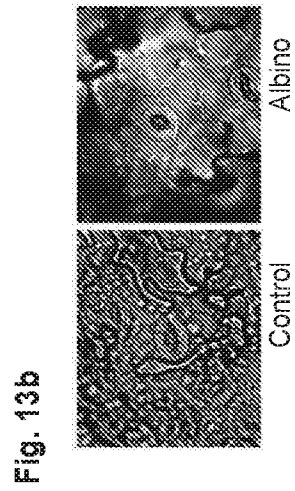


Fig 14A

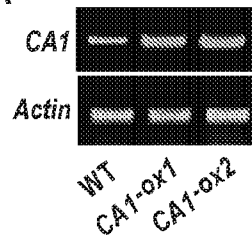


Fig 14B

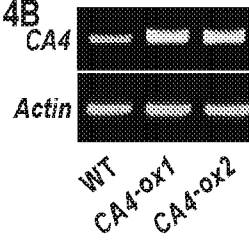
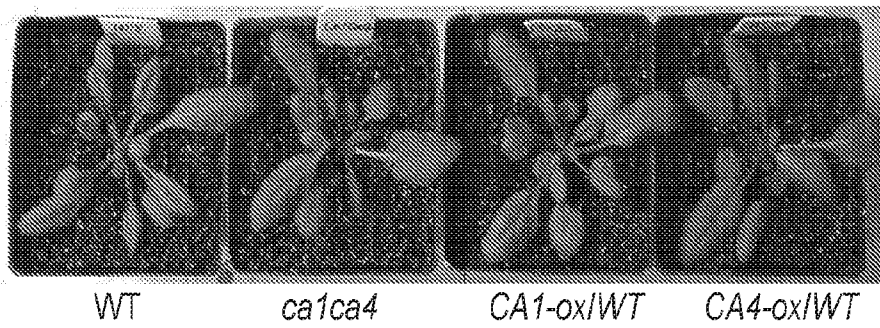


Fig. 14C



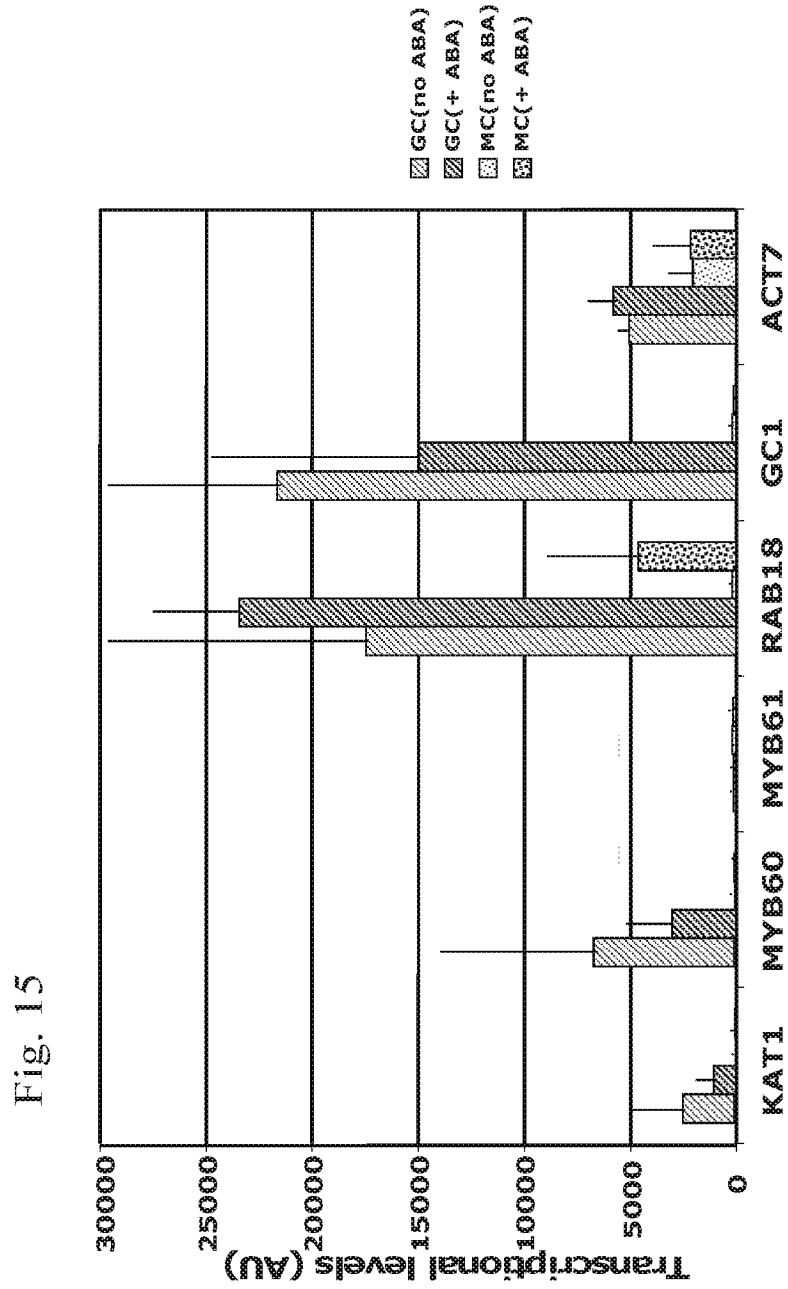


Fig. 16

-1693 GAG[**TTTT**TAAGATTCAGTAAACCCGATGCTCGTCTCTTCTCAAGACCTCCTGTGATCCGCCGGGTATGTTCTCGTCTGTGGTAGCGCCTTTGGAACT
 (+) TAAAG motif

-1593 CTACCAACCGCCCATCAAAAGGACTCTCATGSCCGCAGCGGACGCTTCTTACATCTGGTGTAGCGCTATGTTACTCCACFTCAGGAGGGAGAG

-1493 CAGAGGTTGCTTAAATGATTCGTTTTCCGGTGAATAGGAGAC[**TTTT**GGTTTACCGGGAGCCTTTCCCATGAAATGGGATGCCCRAGTGGATGGACA
 (-) TAAAG motif

-1393 GGAGTTCGGGAGAGTTCCGGAGAAATAGGAGGAAATGGAGAGGAGGAGAGAGTGAATCGCCGGTGGAAATGTTAACCTCGAGGAGAAATTCAGCG

-1293 AGTTGGATCGTACTAGTACAAATTCGGTCTTGGCGAAGTATCCATTCAAAATAGTGTTTAGTATTTGGACTTCAGAACTTGTGTCTCTTTGATCTC

-1193 TTTTAAATTAACCTTTGGACGCTAGGACAACTGTGCAACATAGAAACAAATGGTTCCACAGAGAGGATGAAATTAATAGTTTTCAACCCCTTT
 (+) ABR⁻-like

-1093 TCTTATTAGAGGCAACAATCTATAGTGGATAAATTTTATTTTTGGTAAATGGTTAGTGAATTCAAAATCTRAATTTTGTGACTCACTAACATTA
 (D1)

-993 ACAAAATATGCATAAGCACATAAAAAAAGAAAGAAATATCTTATCAAAACLAGAAAAAACCCTAATACAAATCAAA[**TTTT**TCGAATTCAGGATCTAGAAATG
 (D2)

-893 TAGATGATAAATTTCTCAATATAGATGGCCCTTATGAAAGGCTTATGATGCTGGAGTTTTCTCTTTATTTTTCTATCCAAATTCGAACTAAAAGTCTCTGTAT

-793 CCTTTTAAATCMAAATTCATTAATTTGATGTCCTCCCTCTCGGGTCAATTCCTTTCTCCCTCACAAATTAATGTAAG[**TTTT**TCGAATTTCCAGGCTGTGC
 (-) TAAAG motif

-693 TTTG[**TTTT**TATTAGTAAACACAAACATTTTGACTGTCTTGTAGTTTTTCTCTTTATTTTTCTATCCAAATTCGAACTAAAAGTCTCTGTAT
 (-) TAAAG motif

-593 ACATATATTAAM[**TTTT**TAACCTATGAAACACCAATACAAATCCGATATGTTTTTCCAGTTCCAGGTTTCAATGTTTTGAGAAATTTCTAATGACGT
 (+) TAAAG motif (*)

-493 TTGTTAAATGACACATTAAGCCCAACACTACTGCTGTGTTTTCGACAAATTTGCGTCTGCGTTTTCTCATCTCTCCAGTGTCCAGATGT
 (D3)

-393 CTGAACCTAGAGACAGCTGTAACTATCGATTAAGACATAAAGTACCAAAAGTATCAGCTAATGTAATAATTTACTCTCATTTCCACCTAACAAATTCAGCTT
 (D4)

-293 AGCTTAAGATATTAGTGAAACTAGGTTTGAATTTCTTTCTTCTTCCAGTGCCTCCGAAAAAAGGGAACCAATCAAAACTGTTTTGCTATCAAACT

-193 CCAAC[**TTTT**TCAGCBAATGCAATCTATATCTGTGATTTATCCAAATTAACCTGTGATTTGTTGGTCCAGCCGATGAAAGTCTATGCAATGTGATC
 (-) TAAAG motif

-93 TCTATCCAGCATGAGTAAATTTTCAGAAAAATAAAAGTACTGAAATGTA[**TTTTTAAG**AAATCATCCGCAAGTACTAATTTTCACACACTACTTCAAAA
 (+) TAAAG motif

+7 TCACTACTCAAGAAAT[**TTG**

Fig. 17A

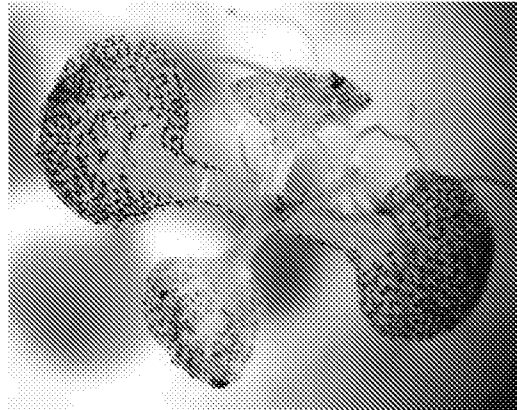


Fig. 17B

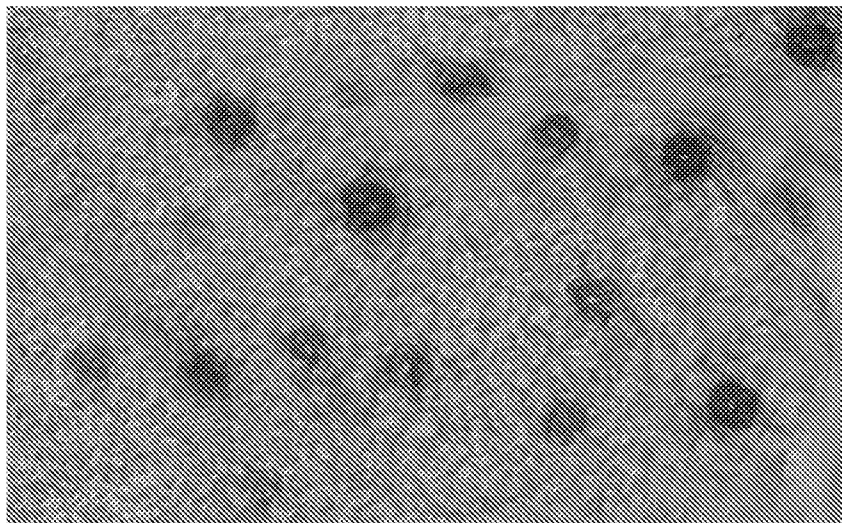


Fig. 17C

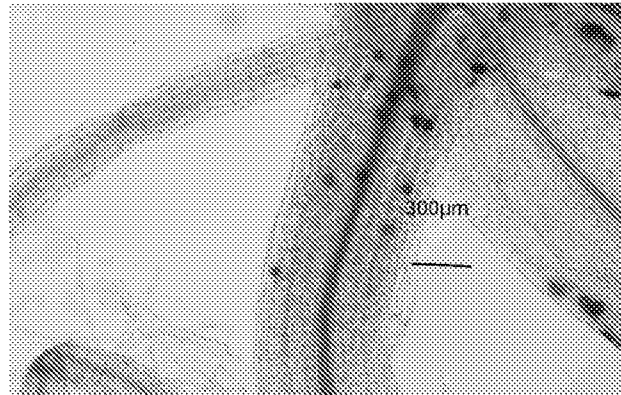


Fig. 17D

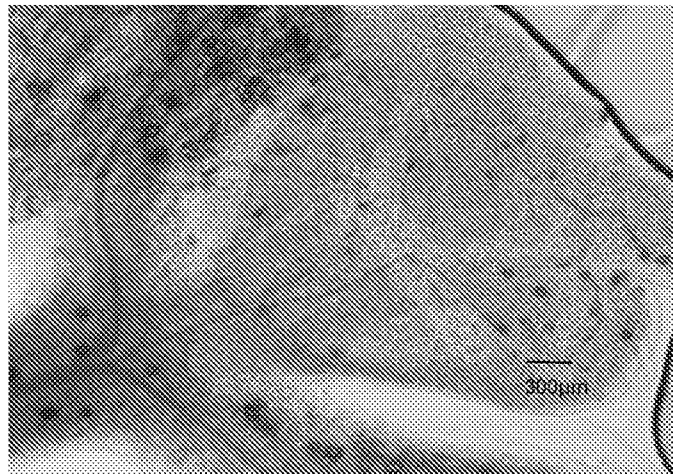


Fig. 17E

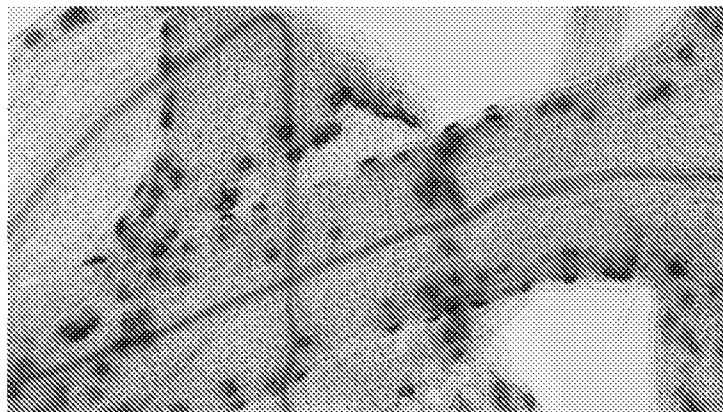


Fig. 17F

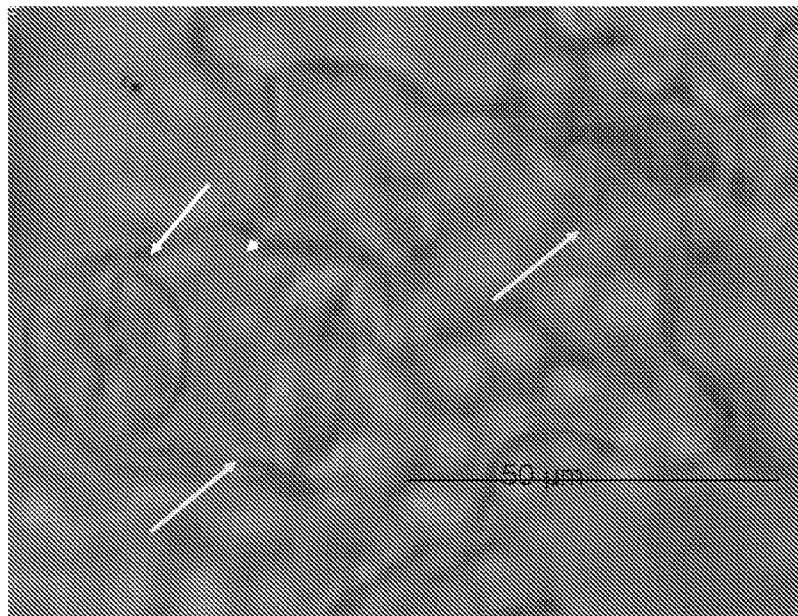


Fig. 17G

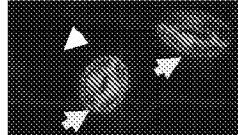


Fig. 17H

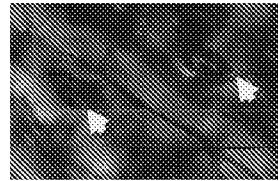


Fig. 17I

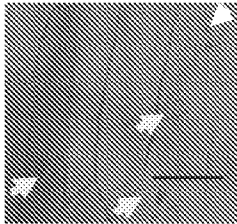


Fig. 17J

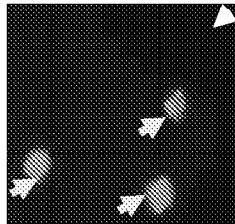


Fig. 17K

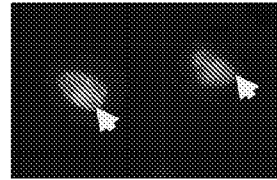


Fig. 17L

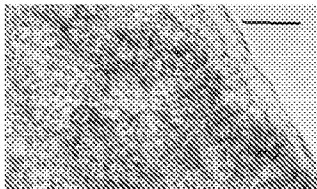


Fig. 17N

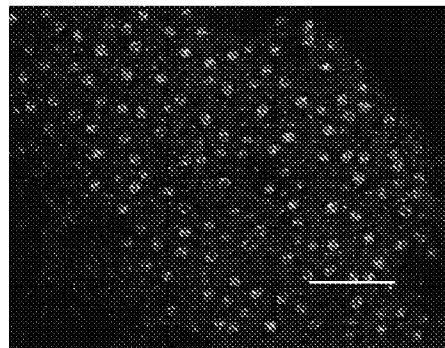


Fig. 17M



Fig. 18A

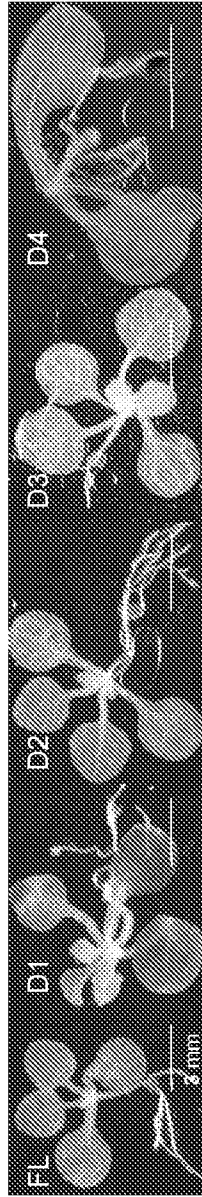


Fig. 18B

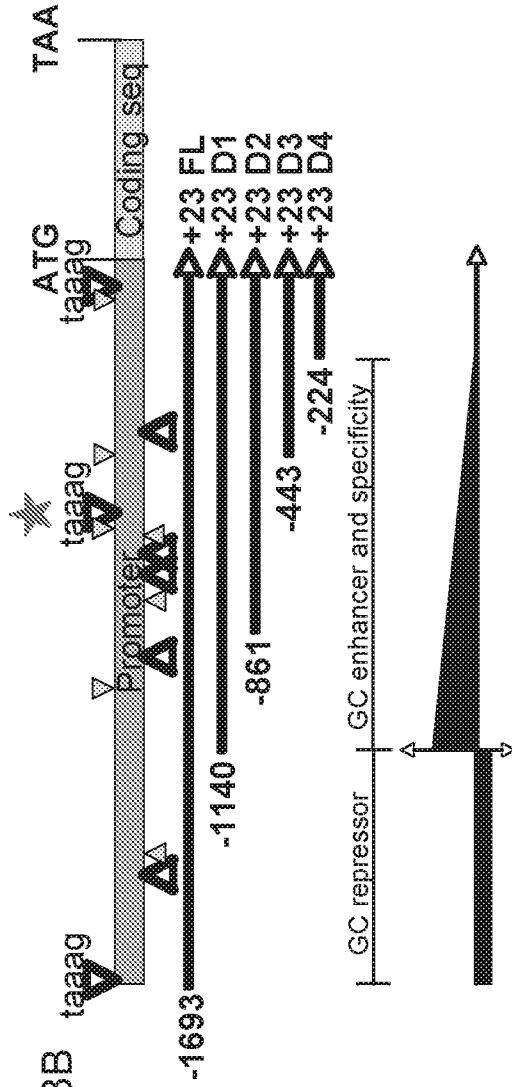


Fig. 19A

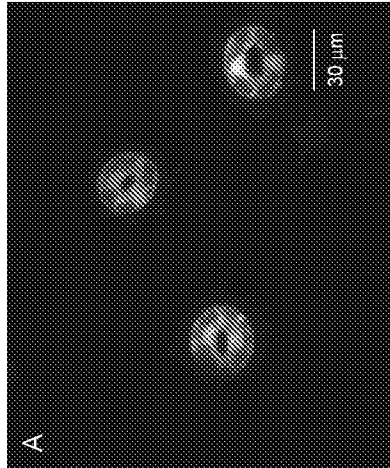
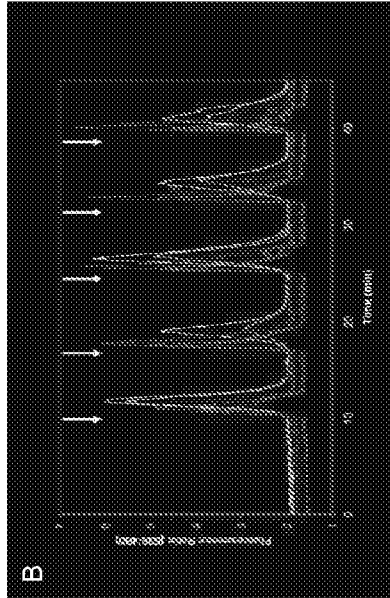
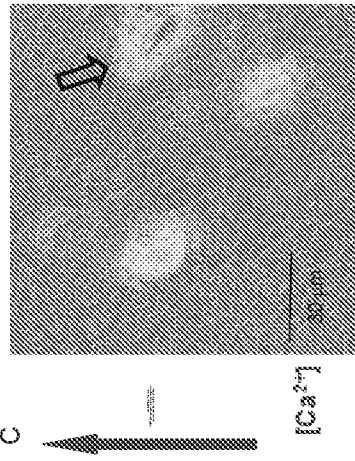


Fig. 19B



C



D

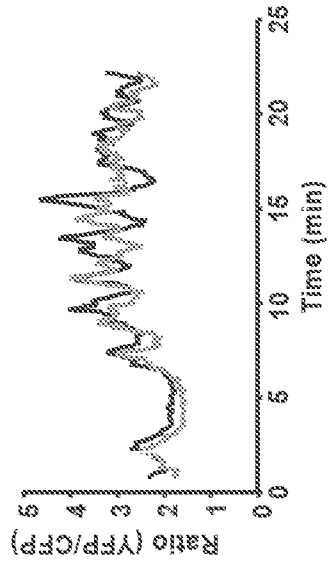


Fig. 19C

Fig. 19D

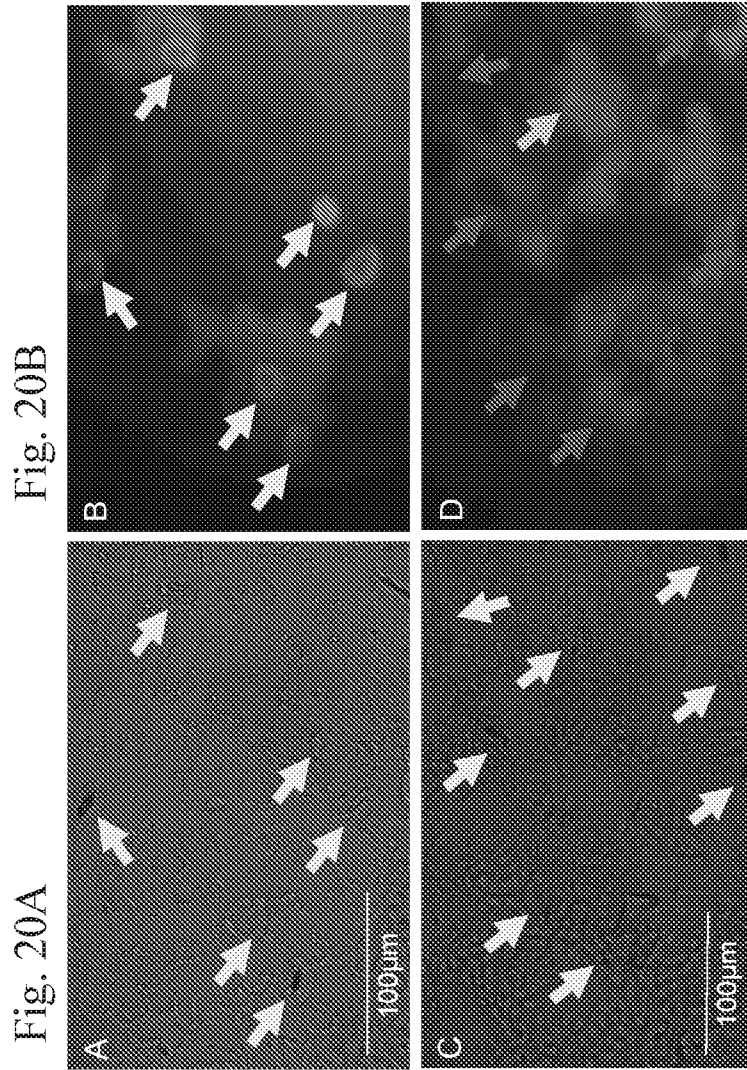


Fig. 20A

Fig. 20B

Fig. 20C

Fig. 20D

Fig. 21A

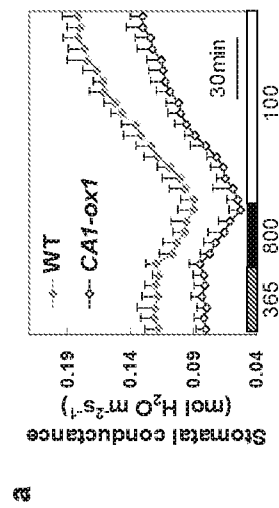


Fig. 21B

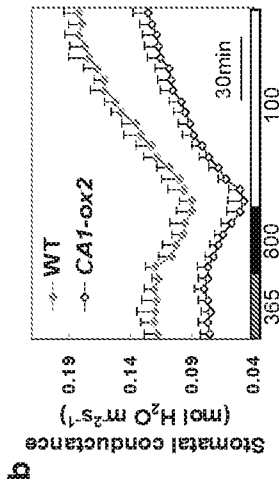


Fig. 21C

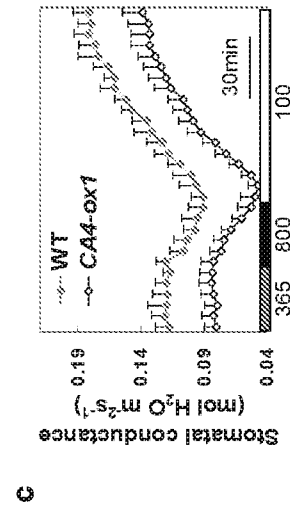


Fig. 21D

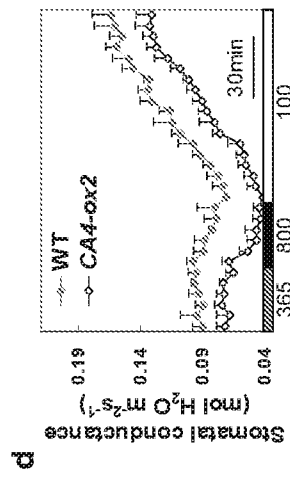


Fig. 22

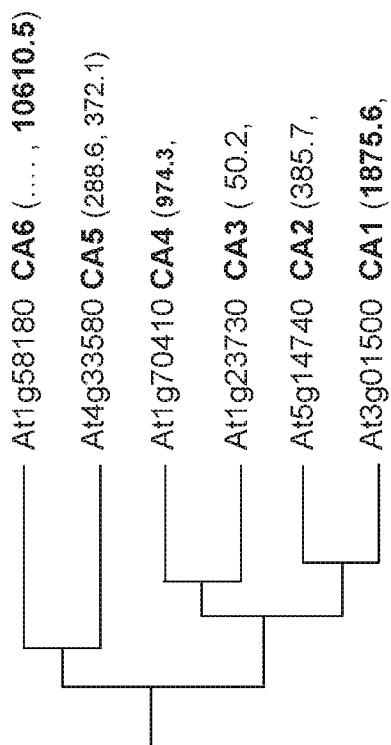


Fig. 23

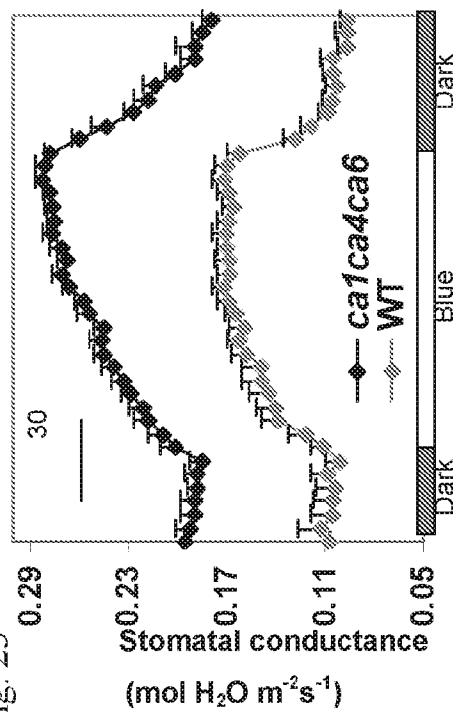


Fig. 24

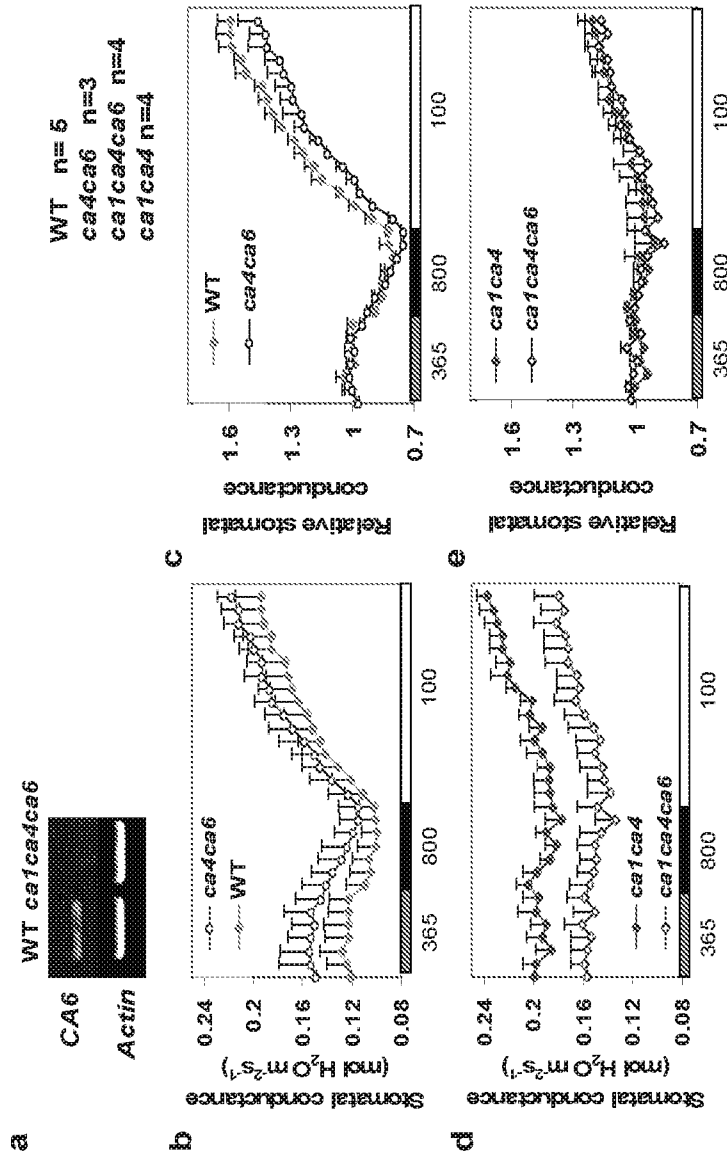


Fig. 25

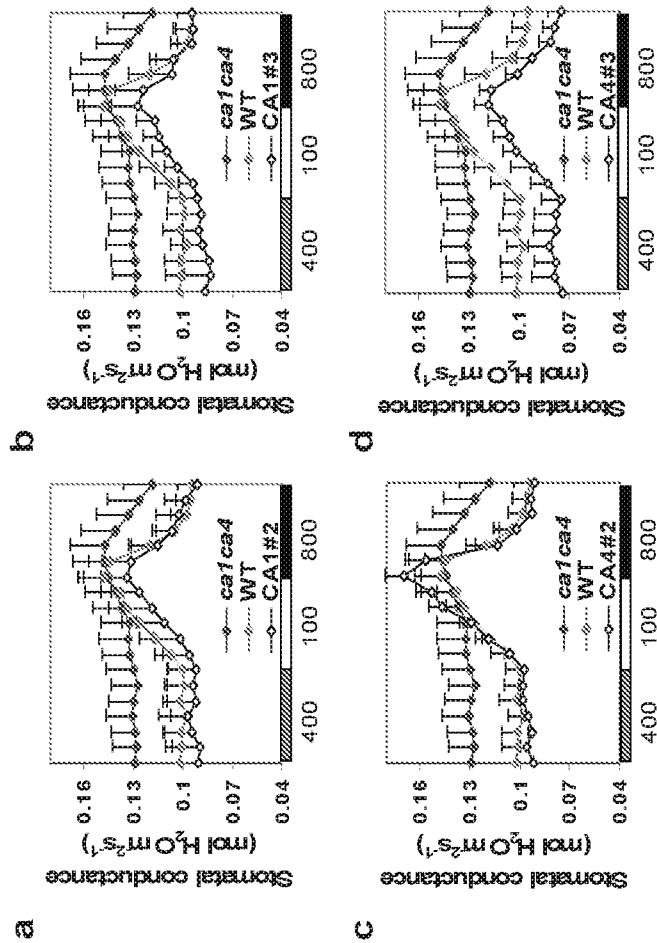


Fig. 26

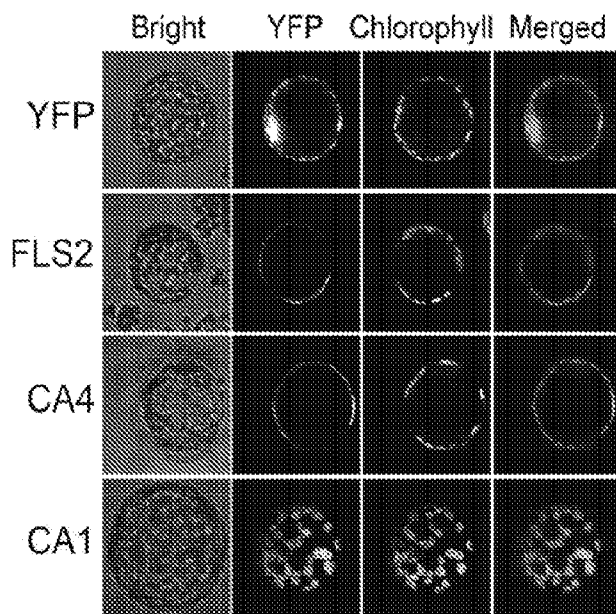


Fig. 27A

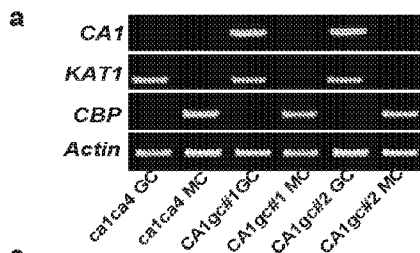


Fig. 27B

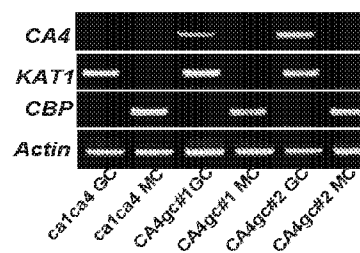


Fig. 27C

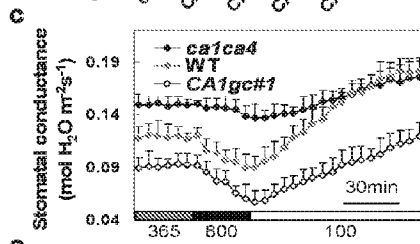


Fig. 27D

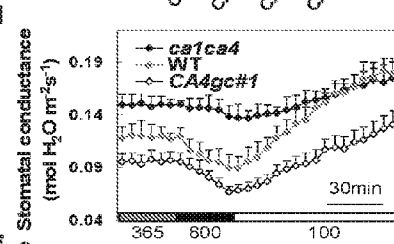


Fig. 27E

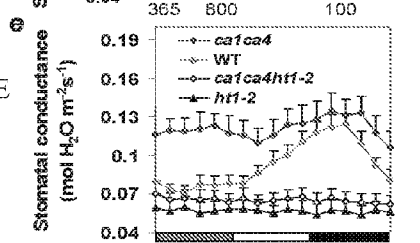


Fig. 27F

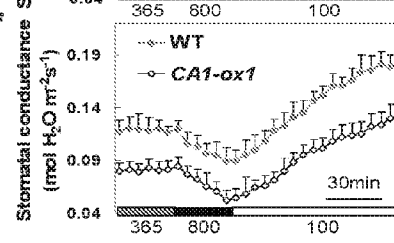
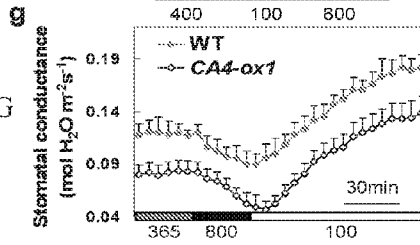


Fig. 27G



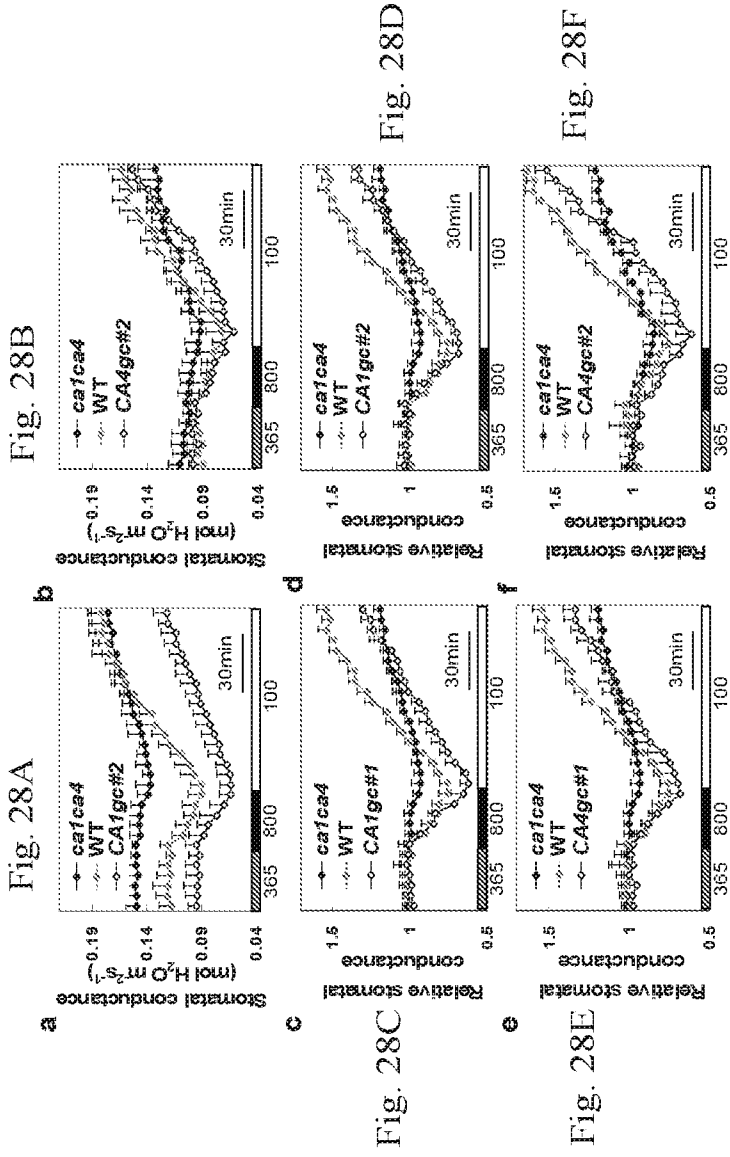
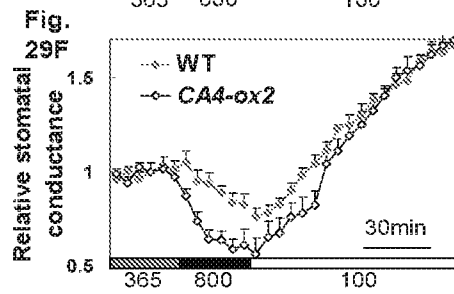
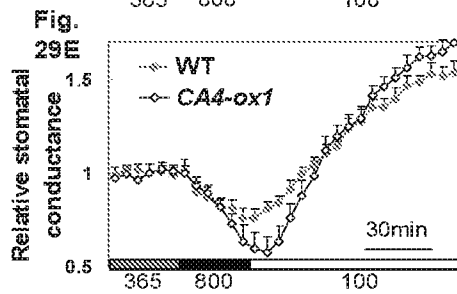
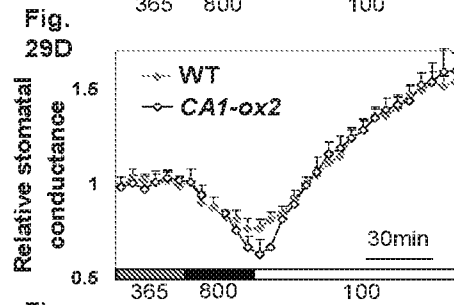
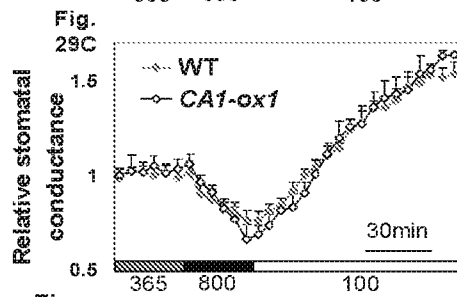
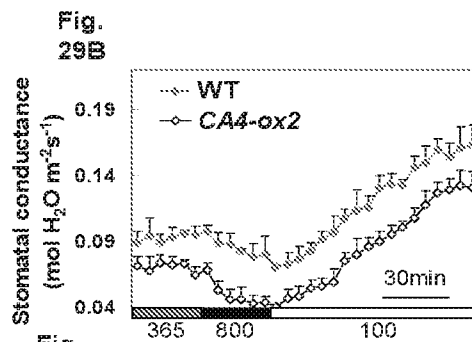
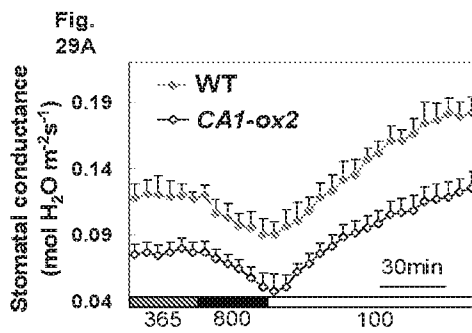


Fig. 28D

Fig. 28F

Fig. 28C

Fig. 28E



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**PLANT CO₂ SENSORS, NUCLEIC ACIDS
ENCODING THEM, AND METHODS FOR
MAKING AND USING THEM**

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This U.S. utility patent application is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/597,880, filed Jul. 12, 2010, now pending, which is a national phase under 35 USC 371 of international patent application PCT/US2008/061654, filed Apr. 25, 2008, which has as a priority document (claims the benefit of priority of) U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/914,640, filed Apr. 27, 2007. The aforementioned applications are explicitly incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and for all purposes.

STATEMENT AS TO FEDERALLY SPONSORED
RESEARCH

This invention was made with United States government support under grant number GM60396, awarded by the National Institutes of Health, and NSF contract # MCB-0417118; and NSF MCB0417118 and NIH R01GM060396. The government has certain rights in this invention.

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention generally relates to plant molecular and cellular biology. In particular, the invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the exchange of water and/or carbon dioxide (CO₂) through plant stomata by expressing and controlling CO₂ sensor genes, including the novel CO₂ sensor genes of this invention. The invention also provides drought-resistant plants; and methods for engineering plants with increased water use efficiency and drought-resistant plants.

BACKGROUND

Stomatal pores in the epidermis of plant leaves enable the control of plant water loss and the influx of CO₂ into plants from the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is taken up for photosynthetic carbon fixation and water is lost through the process of transpiration through the stomatal pores. Each stomate is made up of a specialized pair of cells named guard cells, which can modify the size of the stomatal pore by controlling guard cell turgor status. An important trait in agriculture, in biotechnological applications and the production of biofuels is the water use efficiency of plants. The water use efficiency defines how well a plant can balance the loss of water through stomata with the net CO₂ uptake into leaves for photosynthesis and hence its biomass accumulation. Several biotic and abiotic factors influence the state of stomatal opening thereby optimizing the water use efficiency of a plant in a given condition. The concentration of CO₂ regulates stomatal movements, where high levels of CO₂ will lead to stomatal closing and low levels of CO₂ will induce stomatal opening. Thus CO₂ regulates CO₂ influx into plants and plant water loss on a global scale. However, at present no CO₂ sensors have been identified. Knowledge on the CO₂ receptors that regulate CO₂ responses could be used to manipulate the CO₂ response so that the water use efficiency during plant growth could be enhanced through engineering.

How plants sense the level of carbon dioxide (CO₂) has remained unknown. Knowledge of how CO₂ is perceived by

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a plant could be used to manipulate the CO₂ response so that the carbon and water use efficiency during plant growth could be enhanced.

Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (PEPC; EC 4.1.1.31) is a key enzyme of photosynthesis in those plant species exhibiting the C₄ or CAM pathway for CO₂ fixation. The principal substrate of PEPC is the free form of PEP. PEPC catalyzes the conversion of PEP and bicarbonate to oxalacetic acid inorganic phosphate (Pi). This reaction is the first step of a metabolic route known as the C₄ dicarboxylic acid pathway, which minimizes losses of energy produced by photorespiration. PEPC is present in plants, algae, cyanobacteria, and bacteria.

Carbon fixation, or the conversion of CO₂ to reduced forms amenable to cellular biochemistry, occurs by several metabolic pathways in diverse organisms. The most familiar of these is the Calvin Cycle (or "Calvin-Benson" cycle), which is present in cyanobacteria and their plastid derivatives, such as chloroplasts, and proteobacteria. The Calvin cycle utilizes the enzyme "rubisco", or "ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase". Rubisco exists in at least two forms: form I rubisco is found in proteobacteria, cyanobacteria, and plastids, e.g., as an octo-dimer composed of eight large subunits, and eight small subunits; form II rubisco is a dimeric form of the enzyme, e.g., as found in proteobacteria. Rubisco contains two competing enzymatic activities: an oxygenase and a carboxylase activity. The oxygenation reaction catalyzed by Rubisco is a "wasteful" process since it competes with and significantly reduces the net amount of carbon fixed. The Rubisco enzyme species encoded in various photosynthetic organisms have been selected by natural evolution to provide higher plants with a Rubisco enzyme that is substantially more efficient at carboxylation in the presence of atmospheric oxygen.

SUMMARY

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the exchange of water and/or carbon dioxide (CO₂) through plant stomata by controlling CO₂ sensor genes, including the novel CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, designated "CO₂Sen genes". The invention's methods, by controlling how CO₂ is perceived by a plant, can be used to manipulate the CO₂ response so that the carbon and water are used more (or less) efficiently during plant growth. Thus, the methods of the invention can be used to modify net CO₂ uptake and water use efficiency in plants by manipulating the expression and/or activity of CO₂ sensor genes, including any of the novel CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, or any combination thereof. These findings demonstrate a potentially vital role of CO₂ sensor genes, including any of the novel CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, in the sensing and/or signaling of CO₂ perception in plants.

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the exchange of water and CO₂ through stomata by controlling CO₂ sensor genes, including any of the novel CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, including upregulating or downregulating expression, which can be accomplished by upregulating or downregulating or inhibiting CO₂ sensor genes and/or transcripts, including the sequence of this invention. The invention provides compositions and methods to modify net CO₂ uptake and water use efficiency in plants. The invention provides plants, e.g., transgenic plants, that show improved growth under limiting water conditions; thus, the invention provides drought-tolerant plants (e.g., crops). The invention provides methods for engineering enhanced water use efficiency in plants or

drought-tolerance in plants (e.g., crops). The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating biomass accumulation and/or biofuel production in a plant by controlling any one, two or three newly discovered CO₂ sensor genes and/or transcripts of this invention.

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the opening or closing of stomatal pores on guard cells in the epidermis of plant leaves, thereby enabling the control of plant water loss and the influx of CO₂ into plants from the atmosphere. The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating carbon dioxide uptake, photosynthetic carbon fixation and/or water loss through the process of transpiration through the stomatal pores; each stomate is made up of a specialized pair of cells named guard cells, which can modify the size of the stomatal pore by controlling guard cell turgor status. The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating guard cell turgor status.

The invention provides compositions and methods for enhancing the production of biomass for biofuel production by manipulating water use efficiency of plants; the water use efficiency defines how well a plant can balance the loss of water through stomata with the net CO₂ uptake for photosynthesis, and hence its biomass accumulation.

The inventors have identified a double mutant and a triple mutant in *Arabidopsis thaliana* that lacks the full-length expression of homologous genes that are highly expressed in wild-type guard cells, according to cell-specific microarray analyses. The CO₂Sen double mutant and triple mutant show an impaired stomatal response as measured by real-time gas exchange analysis to changes in carbon dioxide concentration ([CO₂]); both with regards to changes from ambient 365 ppm CO₂ to elevated 800 ppm CO₂ and from 800 ppm CO₂ to reduced 100 ppm CO₂. The CO₂Sens-encoded proteins are known to bind CO₂. These findings demonstrate a role of the nucleic acids of this invention, the so-called "CO₂Sen genes", in the sensing/signaling of CO₂ perception. The invention provides means to control how plants can sense CO₂, thus also providing means to produce crops with altered carbon and water use efficiency. Thus, the invention provides compositions (e.g., transgenic plants) and methods to ameliorate the effects of rising atmospheric [CO₂] on different plant species.

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating how CO₂ is sensed in plants, and compositions and methods for controlling the production of crops with altered water use efficiency (WUE). Many plants exhibit a weak stomatal movement response to different CO₂ concentrations. Data from the double mutant of this invention (of the CA1/CA4 genes) shows an impaired stomatal response to altered [CO₂], and over-expression of either gene in guard cells dramatically increases the water use efficiency of plants. These data demonstrate that over-expression of all or one of these genes (e.g., CO₂Sens of the invention) evokes an improved CO₂ response. Thus, overexpression of the nucleic acids of this invention (resulting in overexpression of CO₂Sens-encoded proteins) enhances WUE in light of the continuously rising atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. Transgenic or manipulated plants (e.g., crops) of this invention would close their stomata to a greater extent than wild-type plants, thereby preserving their water usage; the invention provides methods for overexpressing CO₂Sens-encoded proteins by, e.g., inserting or infecting plants with CO₂Sens-encoding nucleic acids, e.g., as plasmids, viruses, and the like. As a consequence, plants (e.g., crops) of this invention will have higher water use efficiency and will have increased drought resistance.

The invention also provides compositions and methods for inhibiting the expression of CO₂Sens genes, transcripts and CO₂Sens proteins by, e.g., antisense and/or RNAi repression of CO₂ sensors in guard cells. Crops can show a strong response to elevated atmospheric CO₂ such that they close their stomata relatively strongly, which has several disadvantages for agricultural production and yields, e.g., a strong CO₂-induced stomatal closing response will limit the ability of these crops to fix carbon for maximal growth. The CO₂Sens under-expressing transgenic plants or CO₂Sens-under-expressing plants of this invention address this issue by opening their stomata to a greater extent than wild-type plants, preventing limited yields when sufficient water is available.

The invention also provides compositions and methods that address the major problem when crops cannot withstand increased temperatures leading to "breakdown" of metabolism, photosynthesis and growth: elevated CO₂ causes stomata to close; and this increases leaf temperature because of reduced water evaporation (transpiration) from leaves. Thus, compositions and methods of this invention, by inhibiting the expression of CO₂Sens nucleic acids and/or CO₂Sens proteins, help crops that otherwise would be sensitive to elevated temperatures to cope with the increased atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, also reducing or ameliorating an accelerated increase in leaf temperatures. The invention provides compositions and methods comprising antisense and RNAi for repression of CO₂ sensors in guard cells. In one aspect, a guard cell promoter provides a means to reduce leaf temperature through enhancing transpiration in these crops and also to maximize crop yields.

The compositions and methods of the invention can be used to manipulate how plants sense CO₂, thus practicing this invention can aid in the production of crops with altered and improved carbon and water use efficiency. Practicing this invention also improves our predictions of the effects of rising atmospheric CO₂ concentrations on different plant species. This invention also demonstrates a vital role of the identified CO₂Sen genes in the sensing/signaling of CO₂ perception. The compositions and methods of the invention can be used to manipulate plant growth, e.g., by manipulating how CO₂ is perceived in a plant, the compositions and methods of the invention can be used to manipulate the plant CO₂ response such that the carbon and water use efficiency during plant growth is enhanced.

Also provided herein are kits comprising nucleic acids and/or proteins of this invention, and instructions for making and/or using them, and instructions for practicing the methods provided herein.

The invention provides isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acids (polynucleotide) comprising

(a) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:9, or functional fragments thereof,

wherein the functional fragment has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity, a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(b) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) sequence having at least about 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, 75%, 76%, 77%, 78%, 79%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or more or complete sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32,

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SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34 and/or SEQ ID NO:35, over a region of at least about 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800, 850, 900, 950, 1000, 1050, 1100, 1150 or more residues, or over the full length of a protein coding sequence (transcript) or gene,

wherein the nucleic acid encodes:

(i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein that has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity,

(ii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity; or

(iii) a polypeptide or peptide capable of generating an antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide having a sequence SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:6 and/or SEQ ID NO:9;

(c) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) encoding a functional fragment of the protein encoded by the nucleic acid of (b), wherein the functional fragment has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity or a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(d) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) sequence having at least about 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, 75%, 76%, 77%, 78%, 79%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or more or complete sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:10 and/or SEQ ID NO:11, over a region of at least about 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800 or more residues, or over the full length of a promoter having guard-cell specific activity, or a transcriptional regulatory region having guard-cell specific activity,

wherein the nucleic acid comprises or consists of a guard cell-specific promoter, or a guard cell-specific transcriptional regulatory region;

(e) the nucleic acid (polynucleotide) of (b) or (d), wherein the sequence identity is calculated using a sequence comparison algorithm consisting of a BLAST version 2.2.2 algorithm where a filtering setting is set to blastall -p blastp -d "nr pataa" -F F, and all other options are set to default;

(f) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid comprising:

(i) SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34 and/or SEQ ID NO:35, wherein the nucleic acid encodes

(A) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein that has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity, or

(B) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(ii) SEQ ID NO:10 and/or SEQ ID NO:11, wherein the nucleic acid has a guard-cell specific promoter activity, or a guard-cell specific transcriptional regulatory region;

and the stringent conditions include a wash step comprising a wash in 0.2×SSC at a temperature of about 65° C. for about 15 minutes;

(g) the nucleic acid of (f), wherein the nucleic acid is at least about 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000 or more residues in length or the full length of the protein coding region or gene, or promoter or transcriptional regulatory region; or

(h) a nucleic acid (polynucleotide) fully (completely) complementary to any of (a) to (g).

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The invention provides antisense oligonucleotides comprising

(a) a nucleic acid sequence complementary to or capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a sequence of the invention, or a subsequence thereof; or,

(b) the antisense oligonucleotide of (a), wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is between about 10 to 50, about 20 to 60, about 30 to 70, about 40 to 80, or about 60 to 100 bases in length.

The invention provides methods of inhibiting or decreasing the translation of a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein-encoding message in a cell or plant, or a plant or plant part, comprising administering to the cell, or a plant or plant part, or expressing in the cell, or a plant or plant part, an antisense oligonucleotide comprising (a) a nucleic acid of the invention; or, (b) a nucleic acid sequence complementary to or capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid sequence of the invention.

The invention provides double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecules comprising

(a) a subsequence of a nucleic acid sequence of the invention;

(b) the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of (a), wherein the double-stranded inhibitory RNA is an siRNA or an miRNA molecule, or

(c) the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of (a) or (b) having a length of about 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 or more duplex nucleotides in length.

The invention provides methods of inhibiting or decreasing the expression of CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein and/or CO₂Sen message in a cell, or a plant or plant part, comprising administering to the cell, or a plant or plant part, or expressing in the cell, or a plant or plant part: (a) the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of claim 4; or, (b) a double-stranded inhibitory RNA (iRNA), wherein the RNA comprises a subsequence of a nucleic acid sequence of the invention, wherein in one aspect the RNAi is an siRNA or an miRNA molecule.

The invention provides an expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome comprising:

(a) a nucleic acid (sequence) of the invention;

(b) the expression cassette, plasmid, virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of (a), wherein the nucleic acid of the invention comprises or consists of a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein coding sequence, and the protein coding sequence is operably linked to a promoter or a transcriptional regulatory region;

(c) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of (b), wherein the promoter is a guard-cell specific promoter, or a guard-cell specific transcriptional regulatory region;

(d) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of (c), wherein the nucleic acid of the invention comprises or consists of a guard-cell specific promoter, or a guard-cell specific transcriptional regulatory region, and the promoter is operably linked to a protein coding sequence;

(e) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of (d), wherein the protein coding sequence encodes a polypeptide having carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(f) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of (b), wherein the promoter or a transcriptional regulatory region comprises a constitutive promoter or a transcriptional regulatory region,

a tissue specific promoter or a transcriptional regulatory region, an inducible promoter or a transcriptional regulatory region, a silencing promoter, a CO₂ sensing promoter;

(g) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of any of (a) to (f), wherein the recombinant virus is a plant virus or the vector is a plant vector; or

(h) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of any of (a) to (g), wherein the promoter comprises the promoter sequence or a transcriptional regulatory region of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11, or functional (transcriptional regulatory) subsequences thereof.

The invention provides a transduced or transformed cell comprising

(a) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of the invention, or a nucleic acid (sequence) of the invention;

(b) the transduced or transformed cell of (a), wherein the cell is a bacterial cell, a mammalian cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, an insect cell or a plant cell;

(c) the transduced or transformed cell of (a), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell.

The invention provides a plant, plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed comprising

(a) the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of the invention, or a nucleic acid (sequence) of the invention;

(b) the plant, plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed of (a), wherein the plant is, or the plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed is derived from: (i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pennisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

The invention provides a transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed comprising

(a) a heterologous nucleic acid, wherein the heterologous nucleic acid comprises a nucleic acid (sequence) of the invention, or the expression cassette, plasmid, virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of the invention,

(b) the transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed of (a), wherein the plant cell is a plant guard cell; or

(c) the transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed of (a), wherein the plant is, or the plant cell, plant organ, plant fruit or seed is derived from: (i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert

willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pennisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

The invention provides isolated, synthetic or recombinant polypeptides comprising:

(a) an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:9, or functional fragments thereof,

wherein the functional fragment has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity or a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(b) an amino acid sequence having at least about 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, 75%, 76%, 77%, 78%, 79%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or more or complete (amino acid) sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:6 and/or SEQ ID NO:9, over a region of at least about 20, 30, 40, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700 or more residues, or over the full length of the polypeptide,

wherein the polypeptide has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity, or a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity, or the polypeptide is capable of generating an antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide having a sequence SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:6 and/or SEQ ID NO:9;

(c) a functional fragment of the polypeptide of (b), wherein the functional fragment has a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity or a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(d) the polypeptide of (b), wherein the sequence identity is calculated using a sequence comparison algorithm consisting of a BLAST version 2.2.2 algorithm where a filtering setting is set to blastall -p blastp -d "nr pataa" -F F, and all other options are set to default;

(e) the polypeptide of any of (a) to (d) having at least one conservative amino acid substitution and retaining its CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein activity or a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity;

(f) the polypeptide of (e), wherein the at least one conservative amino acid substitution comprises substituting an amino acid with another amino acid of like characteristics; or, a conservative substitution comprises: replacement of an aliphatic amino acid with another aliphatic amino acid; replacement of a serine with a threonine or vice versa; replacement of an acidic residue with another acidic residue; replacement of a residue bearing an amide group with another residue bearing an amide group; exchange of a basic residue with another basic residue; or replacement of an aromatic residue with another aromatic residue;

(g) the polypeptide of any of (a) to (f), further comprising a heterologous amino acid sequence.

The invention provides a transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed comprising

(a) a heterologous or synthetic polypeptide comprising the polypeptide of the invention;

(b) the transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed of (a), wherein the plant cell is a plant guard cell; or

(c) the transgenic plant, plant cell, plant part, plant leaf, plant organ, plant fruit or seed of (a), wherein the plant is, or the plant cell, plant organ, plant fruit or seed is isolated and/or derived from: (i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsam, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pannisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

The invention provides a protein preparation comprising the polypeptide of the invention, wherein the protein preparation comprises a liquid, a solid or a gel.

The invention provides an immobilized protein or an immobilized polynucleotide, wherein the protein comprises the polypeptide of the invention, and the polynucleotide comprises the nucleic acid of the invention, wherein in one aspect the protein or polynucleotide is immobilized on a wood chip, a paper, a metal, a resin, a polymer, a ceramic, a glass, a microelectrode, a graphitic particle, a bead, a gel, a plate, an array or a capillary tube.

The invention provides an isolated, synthetic or recombinant antibody that specifically binds to the polypeptide of the invention, wherein in one aspect the antibody is a monoclonal or a polyclonal antibody, or is a single chained antibody.

The invention provides a hybridoma comprising an antibody of the invention.

The invention provides an array comprising immobilized protein or an immobilized polynucleotide of the invention; or the antibody of the invention; or, a combination thereof.

The invention provides a method of producing a recombinant polypeptide comprising the steps of: (a) providing a nucleic acid operably linked to a promoter, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a nucleic acid sequence of the invention; and (b) expressing the nucleic acid of step (a) under conditions that allow expression of the polypeptide, thereby producing a recombinant polypeptide, and in one aspect the method further comprises transforming a host cell with the nucleic acid of step (a) followed by expressing the nucleic acid of step (a), thereby producing a recombinant polypeptide in a transformed cell.

The invention provides a method for enzymatically catalyzing the conversion of carbon dioxide to bicarbonate and protons comprising contacting the polypeptide of the invention, or a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid of the invention, with a carbon dioxide to under conditions allowing the enzymatic catalysis of the conversion of carbon dioxide to bicarbonate and protons.

The invention provides methods for down-regulating or decreasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising

(A) (a) providing:

(i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein-expressing nucleic acid and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message);

(ii) the CO₂Sen nucleic acid or gene of (i), wherein the protein-expressing nucleic acid or the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or the protein-expressing nucleic acid or CO₂Sen protein comprises an amino acid sequence of the invention;

(iii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (CA) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the CA polypeptide;

(iv) a nucleic acid encoding a CA polypeptide, wherein the nucleic acid comprises SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34 and/or SEQ ID NO:35;

(v) an antisense nucleic acid or a nucleic acid inhibitory to the expression of a PEPC polypeptide-encoding nucleic acid; and/or

(vi) the method of (v), wherein the antisense or inhibitory nucleic acid target a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) polypeptide-encoding nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14 and/or SEQ ID NO:15; and

(b) (i) expressing, or overexpressing, the nucleic acid or gene of (a), or a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein-expressing nucleic acid and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), and/or a carbonic anhydrase or a β-carbonic anhydrase or carbonic anhydrase-expressing nucleic acid, in the guard cell, or (ii) expressing the antisense nucleic acid or nucleic acid inhibitory to the expression of a PEPC polypeptide-encoding nucleic acid, in the guard cell, or (iii) contacting the guard cell with the polypeptide having carbonic anhydrase activity,

thereby up-regulating or increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the antisense nucleic acid or nucleic acid inhibitory to the expression of a PEPC polypeptide-encoding nucleic acid comprises miRNA or siRNA, or an antisense oligonucleotide.

The invention provides methods for up-regulating or increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising

(A) (a) providing:

(i) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or a sequence encoding the CO₂Sen protein of the invention;

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- (ii) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to a nucleic acid encoding a plant carbonic anhydrase (CA), or a plant β -carbonic anhydrase;
- (iii) a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) protein-expressing nucleic acid and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message); and/or
- (iv) a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) polypeptide; and
- (b) (i) expressing the antisense or inhibitory nucleic acid in the guard cell, or (ii) expressing the PEPC) protein-expressing nucleic acid and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) in the guard cell, or (iii) contacting the guard cell with the polypeptide having PEPC activity,

thereby up-regulating or increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or

(D) the method of (A), (B) or (C), wherein the nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), or antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the carbonic anhydrase (CA) or β -carbonic anhydrase, comprises the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 2, or the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of claim 4, or an miRNA or an siRNA.

The invention provides methods for regulating water exchange in a cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising:

(A) over-expressing or under-expressing in the plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part:

- (i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or the CO₂Sen protein comprises an amino acid sequence of the invention, or
- (ii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (CA) activity, or a β -carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the carbonic anhydrase polypeptide; or
- (iii) a polypeptide having a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the PEPC polypeptide; or
- (iv) a polypeptide having a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the Rubisco polypeptide,

thereby regulating water exchange (down-regulating or decreasing water exchange by overexpression of the CO₂Sen or CA protein, or up-regulating or increasing water exchange by under-expression of the CO₂Sen or CA protein) in the plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention; or

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water

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- exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or
- (D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the over-expression or increased expression, or under-expressing or inhibition, is in a plant guard cell; or
- (E) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein overexpressing a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) decreases water exchange, and under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) increases water exchange; or
- (F) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) decreases water exchange, or overexpressing a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) increases water exchange.

The invention provides methods for regulating water uptake or water loss in a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising over-expressing or under-expressing in the plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part:

- (A) (i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or the CO₂Sen protein comprises an amino acid sequence of the invention, or
- (ii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (CA) activity, or a β -carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide; or
- (iii) a polypeptide having a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the PEPC polypeptide; or
- (iv) a polypeptide having a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the Rubisco polypeptide,

thereby regulating water uptake or water loss (down-regulating water uptake, or causing water conservation, by overexpression of the CO₂Sen or CA protein, or up-regulating water exchange or increasing water loss by under-expression of the CO₂Sen or CA protein) in the plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the over-expression or increased expression is in a plant guard cell; or

(E) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein overexpressing a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) decreases water loss, and under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) increases water loss; or

(F) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) decreases water loss, or overexpressing a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) increases water loss.

The invention provides methods for making an enhanced water use efficiency (WUE), or drought-resistant, plant comprising:

(A) over-expressing or increasing expression of:

(i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or the CO₂Sen protein comprises an amino acid sequence of the invention, or

(ii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (CA) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide; or

(iii) a polypeptide having a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the PEPC polypeptide; or

(iv) a polypeptide having a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or “Rubisco” activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the Rubisco polypeptide,

thereby making an enhanced water use efficiency (WUE), or drought-resistant, plant;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention; or

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the overexpression or increased expression is in a plant guard cell; or

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein overexpressing a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) enhances water use efficiency (WUE), or enhances drought-resistance, and under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) or carbonic anhydrase protein and/or a CO₂Sen or carbonic anhydrase gene or transcript (message) increases water loss or decreases WUE; or

(E) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) enhances water use efficiency (WUE), or enhances drought-resistance, or overexpressing a PEPC protein and/or a PEPC gene or transcript (message) increases water loss or decreases WUE.

The invention provides a plant, plant part, plant organ, leaf or seed: (a) made by a process comprising the method of the invention; or (b) made by a process comprising the method of the invention, or modified by the method of the invention, wherein the plant is isolated and/or derived from:

(i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*,

Malus, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pannisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

The invention provides methods for making a heat-resistant plant comprising under-expressing a CO₂Sen protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), or a carbonic anhydrase (CA), in a cell or cells of a plant, the method comprising:

(A) (a) providing:

(i) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or a sequence encoding the CO₂Sen protein of the invention;

(ii) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to a nucleic acid encoding a plant carbonic anhydrase (CA), or a plant β-carbonic anhydrase; and/or

(iii) a nucleic acid encoding a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC), and

(b) expressing the CO₂Sen or CA antisense or inhibitory nucleic acid in the guard cell, and/or expressing the PEPC-encoding nucleic acid,

thereby making a heat-resistant plant by up-regulating or increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in the plant cell or cells;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention;

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or

(E) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein the nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), or antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the carbonic anhydrase (CA) or β-carbonic anhydrase, comprises the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 2, or the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of claim 4, or an miRNA or an siRNA.

The invention provides a plant, plant part, plant organ, leaf or seed: (a) made by a process comprising the method of the invention; or (b) made by a process comprising the method of the invention, or modified by the method of the invention, wherein the plant is isolated and/or derived from:

(i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*,

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Malus, Manihot, Majorana, Medicago, Nicotiana, Olea, Oryza, Panieum, Pannisetum, Persea, Phaseolus, Pistachia, Pisum, Pyrus, Prunus, Raphanus, Ricinus, Secale, Senecio, Sinapis, Solanum, Sorghum, Theobromus, Trigonella, Triticum, Vicia, Vitis, Vigna or *Zea*.

The invention provides methods for opening a stomatal pore in a plant, plant part, a plant organ, a plant leaf, or a plant cell, comprising under-expressing or inhibiting expression of a CO₂Sen protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), or a carbonic anhydrase (CA), in a cell or cells of the plant, plant part, plant organ, plant leaf or plant cell the method comprising:

(A) (a) providing:

- (i) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or a sequence encoding the CO₂Sen protein of the invention;
- (ii) a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to a nucleic acid encoding a plant carbonic anhydrase (CA), or a plant β-carbonic anhydrase; and/or
- (iii) a nucleic acid encoding a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC); and
- (b) expressing the CO₂Sen and/or CA antisense or inhibitory nucleic acid in the cell or cells of the plant, plant part, plant organ, plant leaf or plant cell, or expressing the PEPC-encoding nucleic acid in the plant, plant part, plant organ, plant leaf or plant cell,

thereby causing under-expression and/or inhibition of expression of the CO₂Sen protein and/or the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), and/or the carbonic anhydrase (CA), and/or expressing the PEPC, and causing the stomatal pore to open;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention;

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the plant is characterized by controlled CO₂ exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂, or the plant is characterized by controlled water exchange under ambient 365 ppm CO₂, elevated ppm CO₂ or reduced ppm CO₂; or

(E) the method of any of (A) to (D), wherein the nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), or antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to the expression of the carbonic anhydrase (CA) or β-carbonic anhydrase, comprises the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 2, or the double-stranded inhibitory RNA (RNAi) molecule of claim 4, or an miRNA or an siRNA.

The invention provides methods for closing a stomatal pore on a guard cell in the epidermis of a plant, a plant leaf, plant organ, or a plant cell, comprising over-expressing a CO₂Sen protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) in a cell or cells of the plant, comprising:

(A) (a) over-expressing or increasing expression of:

- (i) a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), wherein the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message) comprises a sequence of the invention, and/or the CO₂Sen protein comprises an amino acid sequence of the invention, or

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- (ii) a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (CA) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide,

thereby causing over-expression and/or increase in expression of the CO₂Sen protein and/or the CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), and/or the carbonic anhydrase (CA), and causing the stomatal pore to close, or

- (b) inhibiting or decreasing expression of a Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) gene or message (transcript);

(B) the method of (A), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell; or

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention.

The invention provides methods for enhancing or optimizing biomass accumulation in a plant, a plant leaf, a plant organ, a plant part, a plant cell or seed by balancing the loss of water through stomata with the net CO₂ uptake for photosynthesis, and hence enhancing or optimizing biomass accumulation in the plant, plant leaf, plant part, plant organ, plant cell or seed, comprising opening or closing stomatal pores using a composition and/or method of the invention.

The invention provides methods for reducing leaf temperature and enhancing transpiration in a plant, a plant leave, or a plant cell, comprising opening a stomatal pore a cell or cells of the plant using a composition and/or method of the invention.

In alternative embodiments of any of the methods of the invention, the plant or plant cell is isolated and/or derived from: (i) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (ii) wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or, (c) a specie from the genera *Anacardium, Arachis, Asparagus, Atropa, Avena, Brassica, Citrus, Citrullus, Capsicum, Carthamus, Cocos, Coffea, Cucumis, Cucurbita, Daucus, Elaeis, Fragaria, Glycine, Gossypium, Helianthus, Heterocallis, Hordeum, Hyoscyamus, Lactuca, Linum, Lolium, Lupinus, Lycopersicon, Malus, Manihot, Majorana, Medicago, Nicotiana, Olea, Oryza, Panieum, Pannisetum, Persea, Phaseolus, Pistachia, Pisum, Pyrus, Prunus, Raphanus, Ricinus, Secale, Senecio, Sinapis, Solanum, Sorghum, Theobromus, Trigonella, Triticum, Vicia, Vitis, Vigna* or *Zea*.

The invention provides transcriptional activators, e.g., acting as promoters or enhancers, for regulating expression of a nucleic acid in a plant cell, wherein the transcriptional activator (e.g., promoter) comprises a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11, or functional (transcriptional regulatory) subsequences thereof,

wherein in one aspect the transcriptional activator (e.g., promoter) up-regulates transcription, and in one aspect the transcriptional activator (e.g., promoter) up-regulates transcription in a plant guard cell-specific manner, and in one aspect the guard cell is a leaf guard cell or a stem guard cell.

The invention provides methods for decreasing oxygenation efficiency and increasing carbon fixation in a guard cell in the epidermis of a plant, a plant leaf, plant organ, or a plant cell, comprising inhibiting or decreasing a ribulose-1, 5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" activ-

ity enzyme and/or a Rubisco gene or transcript (message) in a cell or cells of the plant, comprising:

(A) (a) providing a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to a nucleic acid encoding a plant Rubisco; and (b) inhibiting or decreasing expression of a Rubisco gene or message (transcript) in the plant guard cell;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention; or

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the Rubisco-encoding nucleic acid is a Rubisco gene or message (transcript), or a Rubisco-encoding nucleic acid comprising all or a subsequence of SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18 or SEQ ID NO:19.

The invention provides methods for increasing oxygenation efficiency and decreasing carbon fixation in a guard cell in the epidermis of a plant, a plant leaf, plant organ, or a plant cell, comprising increasing expression of a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" activity enzyme and/or a Rubisco gene or transcript (message) in a cell or cells of the plant, comprising:

(A) (a) providing a nucleic acid encoding a plant Rubisco; and

(b) expressing the Rubisco-encoding nucleic acid in the guard cell;

(B) the method of (A), wherein the cell is a plant guard cell;

(C) the method of (A) or (B), wherein the plant is a transgenic plant of the invention, or a plant transduced, transformed or infected with the expression cassette, plasmid, virus or vector of the invention, or the plant cell is the transduced cell of the invention; or

(D) the method of any of (A) to (C), wherein the Rubisco-encoding nucleic acid is a Rubisco gene or message (transcript), or a Rubisco-encoding nucleic acid comprising all or a subsequence of SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18 or SEQ ID NO:19.

The details of one or more embodiments of the invention are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features, objects, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims.

All publications, patents, patent applications, GenBank sequences and ATCC deposits, cited herein are hereby expressly incorporated by reference for all purposes.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

FIG. 1 graphically illustrates data showing stomatal conductance in wild-type *Arabidopsis thaliana* and the CO₂ sense double mutant of this invention; as described in detail in Example 1, below.

FIGS. 2A-2F illustrates pictures showing various expression levels in different stages of guard cell (GC) development: FIG. 2A: various expression levels in different stages of guard cell development; FIG. 2B: Expression of 27-GUS in young leaf and leaf stems; FIG. 2C: Expression of 27-GUS in upper level of hypocotyl; FIG. 2D: Expression of

27-GUS in leaf stem and edge; FIG. 2E and FIG. 2F: Four lips in wild type (wt); as described in detail in Example 1, below.

FIGS. 3A-H are pictures showing expression of 27-YC3.6 (SEQ ID NO:10) in GC on the stem of adjacent leaf but not in the very young leaf (outlined) (A & A'). 27-YC3.6 is mainly expressed in mature GC, very weak in young or immature GC (white arrow in B & B'). 27-YC3.60 (SEQ ID NO:11) is also expressed in GCs on hypocotyle (C & C'). 27-YC3.6 (SEQ ID NO:10) is also expressed in GCs on sepals (D & D'); as described in detail in Example 1, below.

FIG. 4A graphically illustrates data showing that in double mutant SEQ ID NO:1/SEQ ID NO:7 plants loss of ability to express these two genes resulted in a strong impairment in CO₂-induced stomatal closing compared to wild-type (wt) plants; FIG. 4B graphically illustrates studies showing complementation of the double mutant SEQ ID NO:1/SEQ ID NO:7 CO₂ phenotype by transgenic expression of the CORP1 cDNA (SEQ ID NO:7); FIG. 4A and FIG. 4B, illustrate (a) the relative stomatal conductances of double mutant (corp1 corp2), WT (wild-type) and (b) a transgenic complemented line (CORP1/corp1 corp2) expressing CORP1 in response to changes in CO₂ concentrations (X-axis: ppm [CO₂]); FIG. 4C graphically illustrates data showing that double mutant corp1/corp2 plants did not show disruption of other important signaling pathways in guard cells, including stomatal closing induced by the drought-induced hormone abscisic acid (ABA), FIG. 4C graphically illustrates data demonstrating the intact response of the SEQ ID NO:7/SEQ ID NO:1, or corp1/corp2, double mutant and WT plants to abscisic acid (ABA); as described in detail in Example 2, below.

FIG. 5A and FIG. 5B, graphically illustrates data showing that both CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) can complement ca1ca4 (mutants are designated by lower case italics) double mutants to varying degrees; as described in detail in Example 2, below.

FIGS. 6 and 7A-B: FIG. 6 illustrates data showing the relative stomatal conductance, which reflect gas exchange and water use efficiency (WUE), of the CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) complementation plants; these results are summarized and graphically illustrated in FIGS. 7A-7B, FIG. 7A graphically illustrating the water use efficiency (WUE) data, and FIG. 7B graphically illustrating the relative stomatal conductance data; as described in detail in Example 2, below.

FIGS. 8A-C illustrates photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in complementation plants, in particular, in leaves, and in guard cells and in mesophyll cells, as indicated in the Figures, FIG. 8A illustrating Col plants transformed with CA1 cDNA; FIG. 8B illustrating CA1/4 mutants transformed with CA1 cDNA; and, FIG. 8C FIG. 8B illustrating CA1/4/6 mutants transformed with CA1 cDNA; as described in detail in Example 2, below.

FIGS. 9A and 9B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)). FIGS. 9C, 9D and 9E illustrate data from a CO₂ sensor showing deficient CO₂ regulation of gas exchange; note: Light condition=red light (50 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹), blue light (6 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹); as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIG. 10A graphically illustrates a summary of data showing intact abscisic acid response in the ca1ca4 (CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)) double mutant. FIG. 10B graphically illustrates a summary of data showing that

an inhibitor of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and/or CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) mimics CO₂ Insensitivity in wild-type (WT) plants; as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIGS. 11A and 11B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)), and FIGS. 11C and 11D graphically illustrate data showing that genomic DNA of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) (FIG. 11C) or CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) (FIG. 11D) genes can complement CO₂ response; light condition: red light (50 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹), blue light (6 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹); as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIGS. 12A, 12B and 12C, graphically illustrate a summary of data showing that photosynthesis is not impaired in triple CO₂ sensor knockout mutant: Light during pre-adaptation time, prior to PS fluorescence measurements: 50 umol/m²/s: 88% red light, 12% blue light; 2000 umol/m²/s: 90% red light, 10% blue light. FIG. 12D illustrates the CO₂ assimilation rate in dark and in red light (where the red light: 300 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹); as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIGS. 13A, 13B, 13C and 13D, graphically and pictorially illustrate that photosynthesis-impaired bleached leaves show intact CO₂ regulation of gas exchange; as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIGS. 14A and 14B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)); and FIG. 14C, graphically and pictorially illustrate that CO₂ sensor over-expression plants where the CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) are operatively linked to guard cell targeted promoters of this invention show enhanced water use efficiency (WUE); in FIG. 14C, the data shows no effect observed on flowering time; as described in detail in Example 2 and Example 4, below.

FIG. 15 graphically summarizes data showing the transcriptional profiles of guard cell expressed genes in both guard cells and mesophyll cells; as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 16 is the nucleic acid sequence of GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10); as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 17A to L illustrate photomicrographs of a GC1 (At1g22690) gene expression analysis in response to different treatments: FIG. 17A illustrates a picture showing that the GC1 promoter mediates strong reporter expression in guard cells of wild-type *Arabidopsis* seedlings, the picture showing a two-week-old pGC1::GUS transgenic seedling; FIG. 17B illustrating that the pGC1::GUS delivered strong GUS expression in guard cells in leaves, and also in guard cells in petioles and hypocotyls as illustrated in FIGS. 17C, D, E; younger or immature guard cells showed no or much less GFP expression, as illustrated in FIGS. 17F, G; and guard cells in sepals and hypocotyls also showed GFP expression, as illustrated in FIGS. 17H, I, J, K; and GUS staining showed reporter gene expression in clustered stomata, as illustrated in FIGS. 17L; GFP expression was observed in clustered stomata in tmm plants transformed with pGC1::YC3.60, as illustrated in FIG. 17M; and, strong guard cell GFP expression was observed in tobacco leaves, as illustrated in FIG. 17N, as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 18A illustrates photographs that are representative T1 plants from different promoter::GUS transgenic lines; and, FIG. 18B graphically illustrates serial (structural, or

sequence) deletion of the pGC1 promoter to define regions for guard cell expression, as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 19A-C illustrates imposed intracellular calcium transients in pGC1::YC3.60 expressing guard cells and spontaneous calcium transients occur in guard cells of intact pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic plants: FIG. 19A illustrates fluorescence image of leaf epidermis of pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic plant; FIG. 19B illustrates data showing that the 6 guard cells in panel A all produced intracellular calcium transients in response to imposed calcium oscillations; FIG. 19C illustrates a pseudo-colored ratiometric image of a leaf from an intact Col plants transformed with pGC1::YC3.60; FIG. 19D illustrates a time course of the emission ratios of the two guard cells marked by an arrow in C shows that spontaneous calcium transients occur in intact *Arabidopsis* plants, as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 20A-D illustrates micrographs of pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP caused reduction of GFP expression in guard cells of a 35S::GFP plants: FIG. 20A illustrates leaf epidermis of a 35S::GFP transgenic plant (bright field with GFP filter); FIG. 20B illustrates the fluorescence imaging of same leaf epidermis shown in 20A; FIG. 20C illustrates leaf epidermis of a T1 transgenic plant expressing pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP in the 35S::GFP background; FIG. 20D illustrates the fluorescence imaging of the same leaf epidermis shown in 20C, as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 21A, FIG. 21B, FIG. 21C, and FIG. 21D illustrate that CO₂ sensor, guard cell-targeted, over-expression in plants show enhanced CO₂ responses in gas exchange regulation, as described in detail in Example 3, below.

FIG. 22 illustrates a phylogenetic tree of *Arabidopsis* carbonic anhydrases, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIG. 23 graphically illustrates data showing carbonic anhydrase mutant plants showed robust stomatal responses to blue light and light-dark transition, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIG. 24A illustrates data showing that the calca4ca6 triple mutant does not express CA6, where a positive control is a wild type (WT) expressing CA6. FIG. 24B, FIG. 24C, FIG. 24D and FIG. 24E graphically illustrate data showing that the ca4ca6 double mutants exhibit intact CO₂ responses while ca1ca4 and ca1ca4ca6 display the same impairment of CO₂ perception; FIG. 24B, FIG. 24C, FIG. 24D and FIG. 24E graphically illustrate stomatal conductance in mol water m⁻² sec⁻¹, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIG. 25 illustrates data demonstrating that several independent transgenic lines of calca4 transformed with wild-type copy of either CA1 or CA4 exhibit recovery of [CO₂] changes-induced responses: Two additional complemented lines with CA1, CA1#2 (FIG. 25A) and CA1#3 (FIG. 25B) or CA4, CA4#2 (FIG. 25C) and CA4#3 (FIG. 25D) show normal stomatal conductance increase and decrease in response to [CO₂] changes, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIG. 26 illustrates fluorescent pictures (confocal imaging) of cells with different localization patterns of CA1-YFP and CA4-YFP in tobacco protoplasts: plasmids encoding YFP, FLS2-YFP, CA1-YFP and CA4-YFP were transiently expressed in tobacco protoplasts; filters are indicated on the top of the figure, while the fusions are indicated on the left of the figure; pictures on the far right of FIG. 26 show an overlay of YFP and chlorophyll images, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIGS. 27A to G, and FIG. 14C, graphically illustrate data showing that guard cell preferential driven expression of

CA1 or CA4 cDNAs restores CO₂ perception in calca4 and CA over-expressing plants exhibit improved water use efficiency: FIG. 27A and FIG. 27B graphically illustrate a RT-PCR analysis of CA1 and CA4 expression in guard cell protoplasts and mesophyll cells of complementation plants with CA1 or CA4 driven by the guard cell-targeted promoter of this invention; FIG. 27C and FIG. 27D graphically illustrate CO₂-induced stomatal conductance change of guard cell-targeted lines, calca4 double mutant and wild-type (WT) plants in response to the indicated [CO₂] shifts: CA1 or CA4 expression in guard cells is sufficient for restoration of the CO₂ response; FIG. 27E graphically illustrates stomatal conductance of calca4, wild-type, ht1-2 and triple calca4ht1-2 mutant leaves in response to the indicated [CO₂] changes; FIG. 27F and FIG. 27G graphically illustrate stomatal conductance of CA over-expressing lines and wild-type (WT) plants in response to the indicated [CO₂] changes, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIGS. 28A to F graphically illustrate guard-cell specific complementation of either CA1 or CA4 restores stomatal CO₂ responses in calca4: CO₂ response data of an additional line complemented with CA1 or CA4 guard cell-targeted expression, as graphically illustrated in FIG. 28A and FIG. 28B and relative stomatal conductance CO₂ response of the guard cell-targeted 4 independent complemented lines analyzed; two in FIG. 27C and FIG. 27D; two in FIG. 28A and FIG. 28B; FIGS. 28C to F graphically illustrate relative stomatal conductance values were normalized to the last data point prior to the 365-800 ppm CO₂ switch, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

FIG. 29A-F graphically illustrates data showing that the over-expression of either CA1 or CA4 in wild-type guard cells decreases the overall stomatal conductance and slightly increases the magnitude of the stomatal CO₂ response; FIG. 29C and FIG. 29D graphically illustrate RT-PCR analysis of CA1 or CA4 in leaves of over-expressing lines driven by the preferential guard cell promoter pGC1; stomatal conductance measurements of an additional line over-expressing the CA1 gene, as illustrated in FIG. 29A, and additional line over-expressing the CA4 gene, as illustrated in FIG. 29B. Relative stomatal conductance values, as illustrated in FIG. 29C, FIG. 29D, FIG. 29E, and FIG. 29F, were normalized to the last data point prior to the 365-800 ppm CO₂ switch, as described in detail in Example 4, below.

Like reference symbols in the various drawings indicate like elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating the exchange of water and carbon dioxide (CO₂) through plant stomata by controlling CO₂ sensor genes, designated "CO₂Sen genes", including the CO₂ sensor nucleic acids (e.g., as genes or messages or transcripts) and polypeptides of this invention. The invention provides compositions and methods for over or under-expressing CO₂ sensor nucleic acids and CO₂ sensor polypeptides, including the CO₂ sensor nucleic acids and polypeptides of this invention, to engineer an improved CO₂ response in a plant, plant part, plant organ, a leaf, and the like.

Over-expression of one or several CO₂ sensor genes, designated "CO₂Sen genes", including the CO₂ sensor nucleic acids (e.g., as genes or messages or transcripts), or

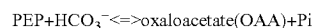
CO₂ sensor polypeptides, including the CO₂ sensor polypeptides of this invention, evokes an improved CO₂ response. Thus, overexpression of all or one of the nucleic acids of this invention (to overexpress the CO₂Sen proteins) enhances WUE and produces a more efficient and drought resistant plant, particularly in light of the continuously rising atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. Transgenic plants (e.g., crops) of this invention (by overexpressing of all or one of the CO₂Sen proteins of this invention) close their stomata to a greater extent than wild-type plants, thereby preserving their water usage. Because water use efficiency defines how well a plant can balance the loss of water through stomata with the net CO₂ uptake for photosynthesis, and hence its biomass accumulation, the invention can be used to increase a plant's biomass, and thus the methods of the invention have applications in the biofuels/alternative energy area.

The invention also provides compositions and methods for inhibiting the expression of CO₂Sens genes, transcripts and CO₂Sens proteins by, e.g., antisense and/or RNAi repression of CO₂ sensors in guard cells in any plant or plant cell, e.g., an agricultural crops. The CO₂Sens underexpressing transgenic plants or CO₂Sens-under-expressing plants of this invention can open their stomata to a greater extent than wild-type plants.

The invention also provides plants, e.g., agricultural crops, that can withstand increased temperatures—thus preventing a "breakdown" of metabolism, photosynthesis and growth. Thus, compositions and methods of this invention, by inhibiting the expression of CO₂Sens nucleic acids and/or CO₂Sens proteins, help crops that otherwise would be sensitive to elevated temperatures to cope with the increased atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, also reducing or ameliorating an accelerated increase in leaf temperatures. The invention provides compositions and methods comprising antisense and RNAi for repression of CO₂ sensors in guard cells. In one aspect, a guard cell promoter provides a means to reduce leaf temperature through enhancing transpiration in these crops and also to maximize crop yields.

The invention provides compositions and methods for down-regulating/decreasing or alternatively increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a plant, e.g., through the guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising inter alia use of a polypeptide having carbonic anhydrase, "Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase" (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) and/or a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" enzyme activity.

The invention provides compositions and methods for manipulating PEP carboxylase, which is a key enzyme in photosynthesis in C4 plants. Since PEP carboxylase, or PEPC, cannot use CO₂ directly as a substrate PEPC relies on carbonic anhydrase (CA) to provide HCO₃⁻. The reaction catalyzed by PEP carboxylase (PEPC) is (note: Pi is inorganic phosphate):



OAA can be subsequently reduced into malate. In some plant cells, CO₂ is released for Rubisco and C3 photosynthesis.

In C4 plants (using the C4 carbon fixation pathway, also called the Hatch-Slack pathway) the malate can be transported into bundle sheath cells (in C4 plants, bundle sheath cells are photosynthetic cells arranged into tightly packed sheaths around the veins of a leaf; the Calvin cycle is confined to the chloroplasts of bundle sheath cells) where CO₂ is released for Rubisco and C3 photosynthesis; and the invention also provides compositions and methods for

manipulating Rubisco enzymes. In one aspect of the invention, expression of Rubisco enzymes, e.g., a Rubisco small subunit, is inhibited or repressed (decreased), e.g., in a guard cell of a plant. By inhibiting or repressing (decreasing) Rubisco expression, oxygenation efficiency decreases and carbon fixation may increase, and CO₂ levels in guard cells goes down. This could reduce CO₂ regulation of stomatal closing.

In one aspect of the invention, high or reduced levels of PEP carboxylase, or PEPC, are engineered in guard cells of plants to manipulate CO₂ control of stomatal movements and the amount of intracellular organic anion malate²⁻. An increase in PEPC levels will induce stomatal opening; a decrease in PEPC will result in stomatal closing; so, while the invention is not limited by any particular mechanism of action, increase in PEPC levels will induce an increase in malate, which balances the positive potassium ion (K⁺) accumulation during stomatal opening; and because an increase in the intracellular potassium (K⁺) salt concentration this will induce stomatal opening. Thus, the invention provides compositions and methods for opening and closing plant stomata, or increasing or decreasing the amount of stomata, by over- or under-expressing PEPC, respectively.

The invention provides compositions and methods for regulating carbon dioxide (CO₂) exchange and CO₂ use and uptake in a plant or plant part, e.g., a leaf, by manipulating expression of a CO₂ binding protein "Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase" (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) and/or a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or "Rubisco" enzyme; thus, the invention also provides compositions and methods for manipulating CO₂ signal transduction and regulation of gas exchange in a plant or plant part. For example, in one aspect, the invention provides compositions and methods for engineering an increased amount of PEPC (to facilitate stomatal opening) and/or engineering the amount of "Rubisco" enzyme.

In alternative aspects of this invention, PEPCs and Rubisco nucleic acids are expressed in plant cells, e.g., in plant guard cells and mesophyll cells; and in one aspect, they are expressed at high levels (higher than wild type levels); or, PEPCs and Rubisco nucleic acids expression is inhibited, decreased or repressed in plant cells, e.g., in plant guard cells and mesophyll cells; and in one aspect, they are expressed at lower levels (lower than wild type levels). Plant cells engineered in these alternative embodiments include isolated, cultured or transgenic plants and plant cells of this invention.

Transcriptional Regulatory Elements

The invention also provides promoters for regulating expression of a nucleic acid in a plant cell, wherein the promoter comprises a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11, or functional (transcriptional regulatory) subsequences thereof, wherein in one aspect the promoter upregulates transcription, and in one aspect the promoter upregulates transcription in a plant guard cell specific manner, and in one aspect the guard cell is a leaf guard cell or a stem guard cell. The invention also provides expression cassettes, plasmids, viruses and vectors comprising the promoter of invention. In one aspect, the invention also provides expression cassettes, plasmids, viruses and vectors comprising a promoter of invention operably linked to a nucleic acid of the invention, e.g., any genus of polynucleotides based on the exemplary SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:8.

This promoter of the invention is a strong promoter, particularly in plant guard cells, and in some embodiments

is guard cell specific, e.g., the exemplary SEQ ID NO:10 and SEQ ID NO:11 (its expression can be weak in other cells, e.g., epidermal cells, or mesophyll cells, and still be considered "guard cell specific").

Based on multiple microarray data, the promoters of the invention are about 20 times stronger than the known guard cell KAT1 promoter, and is also stronger in guard cells than the known cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter. See Figures of this invention, and Examples, below.

While a nucleic acid of the invention can be operably linked to a promoter of this invention, in alternative embodiments, it also can be operatively linked to any constitutive and/or plant specific, or plant cell specific promoter, e.g., a cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S promoter, a man-nopine synthase (MAS) promoter, a 1' or 2' promoter derived from T-DNA of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, a figwort mosaic virus 34S promoter, an actin promoter, a rice actin promoter, a ubiquitin promoter, e.g., a maize ubiquitin-1 promoter, and the like.

Examples of constitutive plant promoters which can be useful for expressing the TF sequence include: the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S promoter, which confers constitutive, high-level expression in most plant tissues (see, e.g., Odell et al. (1985) *Nature* 313: 810-812); the nopaline synthase promoter (An et al. (1988) *Plant Physiol.* 88: 547-552); and the octopine synthase promoter (Fromm et al. (1989) *Plant Cell* 1: 977-984).

The transcription factors (e.g., the promoters) of the invention, or other transcription factors, may be operably linked to a coding sequence of the invention, e.g., a CO₂ regulatory protein of the invention. CO₂ regulatory proteins of the invention may be operably linked with a specific promoter or enhancer that causes the transcription factor, and thus the coding sequence, to be expressed in response to environmental, tissue-specific or temporal signals. A variety of plant gene promoters that regulate gene expression in response to environmental, hormonal, chemical, developmental signals, and in a tissue-active manner can be used for expression of a TF sequence in plants. Choice of a promoter is based largely on the phenotype of interest and is determined by such factors as tissue (e.g., seed, fruit, root, pollen, vascular tissue, flower, carpel, etc.), inducibility (e.g., in response to wounding, heat, cold, drought, light, pathogens, etc.), timing, developmental stage, and the like.

Numerous known promoters have been characterized and can favorably be employed to promote expression of a polynucleotide of the invention in a transgenic plant or cell of interest. For example, tissue specific promoters include: seed-specific promoters (such as the napin, phaseolin or DC3 promoter described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,773,697), fruit-specific promoters that are active during fruit ripening (such as the dru 1 promoter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,783,393), or the 2A11 promoter (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 4,943,674) and the tomato polygalacturonase promoter (e.g., see Bird et al. (1988) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 11: 651-662), root-specific promoters, such as those disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,618,988, 5,837,848 and 5,905,186, pollen-active promoters such as PTA29, PTA26 and PTA13 (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 5,792,929), promoters active in vascular tissue (e.g., see Ringli and Keller (1998) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 37: 977-988), flower-specific (e.g., see Kaiser et al. (1995) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 28: 231-243), pollen (e.g., see Baerson et al. (1994) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 26: 1947-1959), carpels (e.g., see Ohl et al. (1990) *Plant Cell* 2: 837-848), pollen and ovules (e.g., see Baerson et al. (1993) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 22: 255-267), auxin-inducible promoters (such as that described in van der Kop et al. (1999) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 39: 979-990 or Baumann et al., (1999) *Plant Cell*

11: 323-334), cytokinin-inducible promoter (e.g., see Guevara-Garcia (1998) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 38: 743-753), promoters responsive to gibberellin (e.g., see Shi et al. (1998) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 38: 1053-1060, Willmott et al. (1998) *Plant Molec. Biol.* 38: 817-825) and the like.

Additional promoters that can be used to practice this invention are those that elicit expression in response to heat (e.g., see Ainley et al. (1993) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 22: 13-23), light (e.g., the pea *rbcS*-3A promoter, Kuhlemeier et al. (1989) *Plant Cell* 1: 471-478, and the maize *rbcS* promoter, Schaffner and Sheen (1991) *Plant Cell* 3: 997-1012); wounding (e.g., wunl, Siebertz et al. (1989) *Plant Cell* 1: 961-968); pathogens (such as the PR-1 promoter described in Buchel et al. (1999) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 40: 387-396, and the PDF1.2 promoter described in Manners et al. (1998) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 38: 1071-1080), and chemicals such as methyl jasmonate or salicylic acid (e.g., see Gatz (1997) *Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol.* 48: 89-108). In addition, the timing of the expression can be controlled by using promoters such as those acting at senescence (e.g., see Gan and Amasino (1995) *Science* 270: 1986-1988); or late seed development (e.g., see Odell et al. (1994) *Plant Physiol.* 106: 447-458).

Tissue-specific promoters can promote transcription only within a certain time frame of developmental stage within that tissue. See, e.g., Blazquez (1998) *Plant Cell* 10:791-800, characterizing the *Arabidopsis* LEAFY gene promoter. See also Cardon (1997) *Plant J* 12:367-77, describing the transcription factor SPL3, which recognizes a conserved sequence motif in the promoter region of the *A. thaliana* floral meristem identity gene AP1; and Mandel (1995) *Plant Molecular Biology*, Vol. 29, pp 995-1004, describing the meristem promoter eIF4. Tissue specific promoters which are active throughout the life cycle of a particular tissue can be used. In one aspect, the nucleic acids of the invention are operably linked to a promoter active primarily only in cotton fiber cells. In one aspect, the nucleic acids of the invention are operably linked to a promoter active primarily during the stages of cotton fiber cell elongation, e.g., as described by Rinehart (1996) supra. The nucleic acids can be operably linked to the Fhl2A gene promoter to be preferentially expressed in cotton fiber cells (Ibid). See also, John (1997) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:5769-5773; John, et al., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,608,148 and 5,602,321, describing cotton fiber-specific promoters and methods for the construction of transgenic cotton plants. Root-specific promoters may also be used to express the nucleic acids of the invention. Examples of root-specific promoters include the promoter from the alcohol dehydrogenase gene (DeLisle (1990) *Int. Rev. Cytol.* 123:39-60). Other promoters that can be used to express the nucleic acids of the invention include, e.g., ovule-specific, embryo-specific, endosperm-specific, integument-specific, seed coat-specific promoters, or some combination thereof; a leaf-specific promoter (see, e.g., Busk (1997) *Plant J.* 11:1285-1295, describing a leaf-specific promoter in maize); the ORF 13 promoter from *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* (which exhibits high activity in roots, see, e.g., Hansen (1997) supra); a maize pollen specific promoter (see, e.g., Guerrero (1990) *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 224:161-168); a tomato promoter active during fruit ripening, senescence and abscission of leaves and, to a lesser extent, of flowers can be used (see, e.g., Blume (1997) *Plant J.* 12:731-746); a pistil-specific promoter from the potato SK2 gene (see, e.g., Ficker (1997) *Plant Mol. Biol.* 35:425-431); the Blec4 gene from pea, which is active in epidermal tissue of vegetative and floral shoot apices of transgenic alfalfa making it a useful tool to target the expression of foreign genes to the epidermal layer of actively growing shoots or fibers; the

ovule-specific BEL1 gene (see, e.g., Reiser (1995) *Cell* 83:735-742, GenBank No. U39944); and/or, the promoter in Klee, U.S. Pat. No. 5,589,583, describing a plant promoter region is capable of conferring high levels of transcription in meristematic tissue and/or rapidly dividing cells.

Alternatively, plant promoters which are inducible upon exposure to plant hormones, such as auxins, are used to express the nucleic acids of the invention. For example, the invention can use the auxin-response elements E1 promoter fragment (AuxREs) in the soybean (*Glycine max* L.) (Liu (1997) *Plant Physiol.* 115:397-407); the auxin-responsive *Arabidopsis* GST6 promoter (also responsive to salicylic acid and hydrogen peroxide) (Chen (1996) *Plant J.* 10: 955-966); the auxin-inducible parC promoter from tobacco (Sakai (1996) 37:906-913); a plant biotin response element (Streit (1997) *Mol. Plant Microbe Interact.* 10:933-937); and, the promoter responsive to the stress hormone abscisic acid (Sheen (1996) *Science* 274:1900-1902).

The nucleic acids of the invention can also be operably linked to plant promoters which are inducible upon exposure to chemicals reagents which can be applied to the plant, such as herbicides or antibiotics. For example, the maize In2-2 promoter, activated by benzenesulfonamide herbicide safeners, can be used (De Veylder (1997) *Plant Cell Physiol.* 38:568-577); application of different herbicide safeners induces distinct gene expression patterns, including expression in the root, hydathodes, and the shoot apical meristem. Coding sequence can be under the control of, e.g., a tetracycline-inducible promoter, e.g., as described with transgenic tobacco plants containing the *Avena sativa* L. (oat) arginine decarboxylase gene (Masgrau (1997) *Plant J.* 11:465-473); or, a salicylic acid-responsive element (Stange (1997) *Plant J.* 11:1315-1324). Using chemically- (e.g., hormone- or pesticide-) induced promoters, i.e., promoter responsive to a chemical which can be applied to the transgenic plant in the field, expression of a polypeptide of the invention can be induced at a particular stage of development of the plant. Thus, the invention also provides for transgenic plants containing an inducible gene encoding for polypeptides of the invention whose host range is limited to target plant species, such as corn, rice, barley, wheat, potato or other crops, inducible at any stage of development of the crop.

One of skill will recognize that a tissue-specific plant promoter may drive expression of operably linked sequences in tissues other than the target tissue. Thus, a tissue-specific promoter is one that drives expression preferentially in the target tissue or cell type, but may also lead to some expression in other tissues as well.

The nucleic acids of the invention can also be operably linked to plant promoters which are inducible upon exposure to chemicals reagents. These reagents include, e.g., herbicides, synthetic auxins, or antibiotics which can be applied, e.g., sprayed, onto transgenic plants. Inducible expression of the nucleic acids of the invention will allow the grower to select plants with the optimal protein expression and/or activity. The development of plant parts can thus be controlled. In this way the invention provides the means to facilitate the harvesting of plants and plant parts. For example, in various embodiments, the maize In2-2 promoter, activated by benzenesulfonamide herbicide safeners, is used (De Veylder (1997) *Plant Cell Physiol.* 38:568-577); application of different herbicide safeners induces distinct gene expression patterns, including expression in the root, hydathodes, and the shoot apical meristem. Coding sequences of the invention are also under the control of a tetracycline-inducible promoter, e.g., as described with transgenic tobacco plants

containing the *Avena sativa* L. (oat) arginine decarboxylase gene (Masgrau (1997) Plant J. 11:465-473); or, a salicylic acid-responsive element (Stange (1997) Plant J. 11:1315-1324).

In some aspects, proper polypeptide expression may require polyadenylation region at the 3'-end of the coding region. The polyadenylation region can be derived from the natural gene, from a variety of other plant (or animal or other) genes, or from genes in the *Agrobacterium* T-DNA.

Plants Comprising a Nucleic Acid of this Invention

The invention provides transgenic plants and seeds comprising a nucleic acid, a polypeptide (e.g., a CO₂Sen protein), an expression cassette or vector or a transfected or transformed cell of the invention. The invention also provides plant products, e.g., seeds, leaves, extracts and the like, comprising a nucleic acid and/or a polypeptide (e.g., a CO₂Sen protein of the invention). The transgenic plant can be dicotyledonous (a dicot) or monocotyledonous (a monocot). The invention also provides methods of making and using these transgenic plants and seeds. The transgenic plant or plant cell expressing a polypeptide of the present invention may be constructed in accordance with any method known in the art. See, for example, U.S. Pat. No. 6,309,872.

Nucleic acids and expression constructs of the invention can be introduced into a plant cell by any means. For example, nucleic acids or expression constructs can be introduced into the genome of a desired plant host, or, the nucleic acids or expression constructs can be episomes. Introduction into the genome of a desired plant can be such that the host's a CO₂Sen protein production is regulated by endogenous transcriptional or translational control elements, or by a heterologous promoter, e.g., a promoter of this invention. The invention also provides "knockout plants" where insertion of gene sequence by, e.g., homologous recombination, has disrupted the expression of the endogenous gene. Means to generate "knockout" plants are well-known in the art.

The nucleic acids and polypeptides of the invention can be expressed in or inserted in any plant, plant part, plant cell or seed. Transgenic plants of the invention, or a plant or plant cell comprising a nucleic acid of this invention (e.g., a transfected, infected or transformed cell) can be dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous. Examples of monocots comprising a nucleic acid of this invention, e.g., as monocot transgenic plants of the invention, are grasses, such as meadow grass (blue grass, *Poa*), forage grass such as *festuca*, *lolium*, temperate grass, such as *Agrostis*, and cereals, e.g., wheat, oats, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, and maize (corn). Examples of dicots comprising a nucleic acid of this invention, e.g., as dicot transgenic plants of the invention, are tobacco, legumes, such as lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean and soybean, and cruciferous plants (family Brassicaceae), such as cauliflower, rape seed, and the closely related model organism *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Thus, plant or plant cell comprising a nucleic acid of this invention, including the transgenic plants and seeds of the invention, include a broad range of plants, including, but not limited to, species from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Capsicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pennisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna*, and *Zea*.

The nucleic acids and polypeptides of the invention can be expressed in or inserted in any plant cell, organ, seed or tissue, including differentiated and undifferentiated tissues or plants, including but not limited to roots, stems, shoots, cotyledons, epicotyl, hypocotyl, leaves, pollen, seeds, tumor tissue and various forms of cells in culture such as single cells, protoplast, embryos, and callus tissue. The plant tissue may be in plants or in organ, tissue or cell culture.

Transgenic Plants

The invention provides transgenic plants comprising and expressing the CO₂Sen genes and proteins of this invention; for example, the invention provides plants, e.g., transgenic plants, that show improved growth under limiting water conditions; thus, the invention provides drought-tolerant plants (e.g., crops).

A transgenic plant of this invention can also include the machinery necessary for expressing or altering the activity of a polypeptide encoded by an endogenous gene, for example, by altering the phosphorylation state of the polypeptide to maintain it in an activated state.

Transgenic plants (or plant cells, or plant explants, or plant tissues) incorporating the polynucleotides of the invention and/or expressing the polypeptides of the invention can be produced by a variety of well established techniques as described above. Following construction of a vector, most typically an expression cassette, including a polynucleotide, e.g., encoding a transcription factor or transcription factor homolog, of the invention, standard techniques can be used to introduce the polynucleotide into a plant, a plant cell, a plant explant or a plant tissue of interest. In one aspect the plant cell, explant or tissue can be regenerated to produce a transgenic plant.

The plant can be any higher plant, including gymnosperms, monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants. Suitable protocols are available for Leguminosae (alfalfa, soybean, clover, etc.), Umbelliferae (carrot, celery, parsnip), Cruciferae (cabbage, radish, rapeseed, broccoli, etc.), Cucurbitaceae (melons and cucumber), Gramineae (wheat, corn, rice, barley, millet, etc.), Solanaceae (potato, tomato, tobacco, peppers, etc.), and various other crops. See protocols described in Ammirato et al., eds., (1984) Handbook of Plant Cell Culture—Crop Species, Macmillan Publ. Co., New York, N.Y.; Shimamoto et al. (1989) Nature 338: 274-276; Fromm et al. (1990) Bio/Technol. 8: 833-839; and Vasil et al. (1990) Bio/Technol. 8: 429-434.

Transformation and regeneration of both monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plant cells is now routine, and the selection of the most appropriate transformation technique will be determined by the practitioner. The choice of method will vary with the type of plant to be transformed; those skilled in the art will recognize the suitability of particular methods for given plant types. Suitable methods can include, but are not limited to: electroporation of plant protoplasts; liposome-mediated transformation; polyethylene glycol (PEG) mediated transformation; transformation using viruses; micro-injection of plant cells; micro-projectile bombardment of plant cells; vacuum infiltration; and *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* mediated transformation. Transformation means introducing a nucleotide sequence into a plant in a manner to cause stable or transient expression of the sequence.

Successful examples of the modification of plant characteristics by transformation with cloned sequences which serve to illustrate the current knowledge in this field of technology, and include for example: U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,571,706; 5,677,175; 5,510,471; 5,750,386; 5,597,945; 5,589,

615; 5,750,871; 5,268,526; 5,780,708; 5,538,880; 5,773,269; 5,736,369 and 5,619,042.

Following transformation, plants are preferably selected using a dominant selectable marker incorporated into the transformation vector. Typically, such a marker will confer antibiotic or herbicide resistance on the transformed plants, and selection of transformants can be accomplished by exposing the plants to appropriate concentrations of the antibiotic or herbicide.

After transformed plants are selected and grown to maturity, those plants showing a modified trait are identified. The modified trait can be any of those traits described above. Additionally, to confirm that the modified trait is due to changes in expression levels or activity of the polypeptide or polynucleotide of the invention can be determined by analyzing mRNA expression using Northern blots, RT-PCR or microarrays, or protein expression using immunoblots or Western blots or gel shift assays.

Nucleic acids and expression constructs of the invention can be introduced into a plant cell by any means. For example, nucleic acids or expression constructs can be introduced into the genome of a desired plant host, or, the nucleic acids or expression constructs can be episomes. Introduction into the genome of a desired plant can be such that the host's CO₂ sensor production is regulated by endogenous transcriptional or translational control elements.

The invention also provides "knockout plants" where insertion of gene sequence by, e.g., homologous recombination, has disrupted the expression of the endogenous gene. Means to generate "knockout" plants are well-known in the art, see, e.g., Strepp (1998) Proc Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 95:4368-4373; Miao (1995) Plant J 7:359-365. See discussion on transgenic plants, below.

In one aspect, making transgenic plants or seeds comprises incorporating sequences of the invention and, in one aspect (optionally), marker genes into a target expression construct (e.g., a plasmid), along with positioning of the promoter and the terminator sequences. This can involve transferring the modified gene into the plant through a suitable method. For example, a construct may be introduced directly into the genomic DNA of the plant cell using techniques such as electroporation and microinjection of plant cell protoplasts, or the constructs can be introduced directly to plant tissue using ballistic methods, such as DNA particle bombardment. For example, see, e.g., Christou (1997) Plant Mol. Biol. 35:197-203; Pawlowski (1996) Mol. Biotechnol. 6:17-30; Klein (1987) Nature 327:70-73; Takumi (1997) Genes Genet. Syst. 72:63-69, discussing use of particle bombardment to introduce transgenes into wheat; and Adam (1997) supra, for use of particle bombardment to introduce YACs into plant cells. For example, Rinehart (1997) supra, used particle bombardment to generate transgenic cotton plants. Apparatus for accelerating particles is described U.S. Pat. No. 5,015,580; and, the commercially available BioRad (Biolistics) PDS-2000 particle acceleration instrument; see also, John, U.S. Pat. No. 5,608,148; and Ellis, U.S. Pat. No. 5,681,730, describing particle-mediated transformation of gymnosperms.

In one aspect, protoplasts can be immobilized and injected with a nucleic acids, e.g., an expression construct. Although plant regeneration from protoplasts is not easy with cereals, plant regeneration is possible in legumes using somatic embryogenesis from protoplast derived callus. Organized tissues can be transformed with naked DNA using gene gun technique, where DNA is coated on tungsten microprojectiles, shot 1/100th the size of cells, which carry the DNA deep into cells and organelles. Transformed tissue is

then induced to regenerate, usually by somatic embryogenesis. This technique has been successful in several cereal species including maize and rice.

In one aspect, the third step can involve selection and regeneration of whole plants capable of transmitting the incorporated target gene to the next generation. Such regeneration techniques rely on manipulation of certain phytohormones in a tissue culture growth medium, typically relying on a biocide and/or herbicide marker that has been introduced together with the desired nucleotide sequences. Plant regeneration from cultured protoplasts is described in Evans et al., *Protoplasts Isolation and Culture, Handbook of Plant Cell Culture*, pp. 124-176, MacMillan Publishing Company, New York, 1983; and Binding, *Regeneration of Plants, Plant Protoplasts*, pp. 21-73, CRC Press, Boca Raton, 1985. Regeneration can also be obtained from plant callus, explants, organs, or parts thereof. Such regeneration techniques are described generally in Klee (1987) Ann. Rev. of Plant Phys. 38:467-486. To obtain whole plants from transgenic tissues such as immature embryos, they can be grown under controlled environmental conditions in a series of media containing nutrients and hormones, a process known as tissue culture. Once whole plants are generated and produce seed, evaluation of the progeny begins.

After the expression cassette is stably incorporated in transgenic plants, it can be introduced into other plants by sexual crossing. Any of a number of standard breeding techniques can be used, depending upon the species to be crossed. Since transgenic expression of the nucleic acids of the invention leads to phenotypic changes, plants comprising the recombinant nucleic acids of the invention can be sexually crossed with a second plant to obtain a final product. Thus, the seed of the invention can be derived from a cross between two transgenic plants of the invention, or a cross between a plant of the invention and another plant. The desired effects (e.g., expression of the polypeptides of the invention to produce a plant in which flowering behavior is altered) can be enhanced when both parental plants express the polypeptides, e.g., a CO₂ sensor of the invention. The desired effects can be passed to future plant generations by standard propagation means.

Antisense Inhibitory Molecules

In one aspect, the invention provides an antisense inhibitory molecules comprising a sequence of this invention (which include both sense and antisense strands). Naturally occurring or synthetic nucleic acids can be used as antisense oligonucleotides. The antisense oligonucleotides can be of any length; for example, in alternative aspects, the antisense oligonucleotides are between about 5 to 100, about 10 to 80, about 15 to 60, about 18 to 40. The optimal length can be determined by routine screening. The antisense oligonucleotides can be present at any concentration. The optimal concentration can be determined by routine screening. A wide variety of synthetic, non-naturally occurring nucleotide and nucleic acid analogues are known which can address this potential problem. For example, peptide nucleic acids (PNAs) containing non-ionic backbones, such as N-(2-aminoethyl) glycine units can be used. Antisense oligonucleotides having phosphorothioate linkages can also be used, as described in WO 97/03211; WO 96/39154; Mata (1997) Toxicol Appl Pharmacol 144:189-197; Antisense Therapeutics, ed. Agrawal (Humana Press, Totowa, N.J., 1996). Antisense oligonucleotides having synthetic DNA backbone analogues provided by the invention can also include phosphoro-dithioate, methylphosphonate, phosphoramidate, alkyl phosphotriester, sulfamate, 3'-thioacetal, methylene

(methylimino), 3'-N-carbamate, and morpholino carbamate nucleic acids, as described above.

RNA Interference (RNAi)

In one aspect, the invention provides an RNA inhibitory molecule, a so-called "RNAi" molecule, comprising a sequence of this invention. In one aspect, the RNAi molecule comprises a double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) molecule. The RNAi molecule can comprise a double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) molecule, e.g., siRNA, miRNA (microRNA) and/or short hairpin RNA (shRNA) molecules. The RNAi molecule, e.g., siRNA (small inhibitory RNA) can inhibit expression of a CO₂Sen genes, and/or miRNA (micro RNA) to inhibit translation of a CO₂Sen gene, or any related CO₂ sensor genes.

In alternative aspects, the RNAi is about 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 or more duplex nucleotides in length. While the invention is not limited by any particular mechanism of action, the RNAi can enter a cell and cause the degradation of a single-stranded RNA (ssRNA) of similar or identical sequences, including endogenous mRNAs. When a cell is exposed to double-stranded RNA (dsRNA), mRNA from the homologous gene is selectively degraded by a process called RNA interference (RNAi). A possible basic mechanism behind RNAi, e.g., siRNA for inhibiting transcription and/or miRNA to inhibit translation, is the breaking of a double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) matching a specific gene sequence into short pieces called short interfering RNA, which trigger the degradation of mRNA that matches its sequence. In one aspect, the RNAi's of the invention are used in gene-silencing therapeutics, see, e.g., Shuey (2002) Drug Discov. Today 7:1040-1046. In one aspect, the invention provides methods to selectively degrade RNA using the RNAi's of the invention. The process may be practiced in vitro, ex vivo or in vivo. In one aspect, the RNAi molecules of the invention can be used to generate a loss-of-function mutation in a cell, an plant tissue or organ or seed, or a plant.

In one aspect, intracellular introduction of the RNAi (e.g., miRNA or siRNA) is by internalization of a target cell specific ligand bonded to an RNA binding protein comprising an RNAi (e.g., microRNA) is adsorbed. The ligand is specific to a unique target cell surface antigen. The ligand can be spontaneously internalized after binding to the cell surface antigen. If the unique cell surface antigen is not naturally internalized after binding to its ligand, internalization can be promoted by the incorporation of an arginine-rich peptide, or other membrane permeable peptide, into the structure of the ligand or RNA binding protein or attachment of such a peptide to the ligand or RNA binding protein. See, e.g., U.S. Patent App. Pub. Nos. 20060030003; 20060025361; 20060019286; 20060019258. In one aspect, the invention provides lipid-based formulations for delivering, e.g., introducing nucleic acids of the invention as nucleic acid-lipid particles comprising an RNAi molecule to a cell, see, e.g., U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 20060008910.

Methods for making and using RNAi molecules, e.g., siRNA and/or miRNA, for selectively degrade RNA are well known in the art, see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,506,559; 6,511,824; 6,515,109; 6,489,127.

Methods for making expression constructs, e.g., vectors or plasmids, from which a CO₂Sen gene inhibitory polynucleotide (e.g., a duplex siRNA of the invention) is transcribed are well known and routine. A regulatory region (e.g., promoter, enhancer, silencer, splice donor, acceptor, etc.) can be used to transcribe an RNA strand or RNA strands of a CO₂Sen gene inhibitory polynucleotide from an expression construct. When making a duplex siRNA CO₂Sen gene

inhibitory molecule, the sense and antisense strands of the targeted portion of the targeted IRES can be transcribed as two separate RNA strands that will anneal together, or as a single RNA strand that will form a hairpin loop and anneal with itself. For example, a construct targeting a portion of a CO₂Sen gene is inserted between two promoters (e.g., two plant, viral, bacteriophage T7 or other promoters) such that transcription occurs bidirectionally and will result in complementary RNA strands that may subsequently anneal to form an inhibitory siRNA of the invention. Alternatively, a targeted portion of a CO₂Sen gene can be designed as a first and second coding region together on a single expression vector, wherein the first coding region of the targeted CO₂Sen gene is in sense orientation relative to its controlling promoter, and wherein the second coding region of the CO₂Sen gene is in antisense orientation relative to its controlling promoter. If transcription of the sense and antisense coding regions of the targeted portion of the targeted CO₂Sen gene occurs from two separate promoters, the result may be two separate RNA strands that may subsequently anneal to form a CO₂Sen gene inhibitory siRNA, e.g., a CO₂Sen gene-inhibitory siRNA of the invention.

In another aspect, transcription of the sense and antisense targeted portion of the targeted CO₂Sen gene is controlled by a single promoter, and the resulting transcript will be a single hairpin RNA strand that is self-complementary, i.e., forms a duplex by folding back on itself to create a CO₂Sen gene-inhibitory siRNA molecule. In this configuration, a spacer, e.g., of nucleotides, between the sense and antisense coding regions of the targeted portion of the targeted CO₂Sen gene can improve the ability of the single strand RNA to form a hairpin loop, wherein the hairpin loop comprises the spacer. In one embodiment, the spacer comprises a length of nucleotides of between about 5 to 50 nucleotides. In one aspect, the sense and antisense coding regions of the siRNA can each be on a separate expression vector and under the control of its own promoter.

Inhibitory Ribozymes

The invention provides ribozymes capable of binding CO₂ sensor gene message. These ribozymes can inhibit CO₂ sensor gene activity by, e.g., targeting mRNA. Strategies for designing ribozymes and selecting the CO₂ sensor gene-specific antisense sequence for targeting are well described in the scientific and patent literature, and the skilled artisan can design such ribozymes using the novel reagents of the invention. Ribozymes act by binding to a target RNA through the target RNA binding portion of a ribozyme which is held in close proximity to an enzymatic portion of the RNA that cleaves the target RNA. Thus, the ribozyme recognizes and binds a target RNA through complementary base-pairing, and once bound to the correct site, acts enzymatically to cleave and inactivate the target RNA. Cleavage of a target RNA in such a manner will destroy its ability to direct synthesis of an encoded protein if the cleavage occurs in the coding sequence. After a ribozyme has bound and cleaved its RNA target, it can be released from that RNA to bind and cleave new targets repeatedly.

Carbonic Anhydrase (Carbonate Dehydratase)

The invention provides methods for down-regulating or decreasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising expressing in a cell a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β -carbonic anhydrase activity. In alternative aspects, any carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) can be used, e.g., including plant or bacterial carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) enzymes. Exemplary carbonic

anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) enzymes that can be used to practice this invention include carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) enzymes isolated or derived from: Rice (*Oryza sativa*)

NM_001072713 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os12g0153500 (Os12g0153500) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115487387|refl|NM_001072713.1|[115487387]

NM_001072308 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os11g0153200 (Os11g0153200) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115484228|refl|NM_001072308.1|[115484228]

NM_001069944 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os09g0464000 (Os09g0464000) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115479630|refl|NM_001069944.1|[115479630]

NM_001069887 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os09g0454500 (Os09g0454500) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115479516|refl|NM_001069887.1|[115479516]

NM_001068550 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os08g0470200 (Os08g0470200) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115476837|refl|NM_001068550.1|[115476837]

NM_00106836 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os08g0423500 (Os08g0423500) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115476469|refl|NM_001068366.1|[115476469]

NM_001064586 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os06g0610100 (Os06g0610100) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115468903|refl|NM_001064586.1|[115468903]

NM_00105356 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os02g0533300 (Os02g0533300) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115446500|refl|NM_001053565.1|[115446500]

NM_001050212 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os01g0640000 (Os01g0640000) mRNA, complete cds
gi|115438794|refl|NM_001050212.1|[115438794]

NM_001050211 (=Genbank accession number)

Oryza sativa (*japonica* cultivar-group) Os01g0639900 (Os01g0639900) mRNA, partial cds
gi|115438792|refl|NM_001050211.1|[115438792]

EF576561

Oryza sativa (*indica* cultivar-group) clone OSS-385-480-G10 carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds
gi|149392692|gb|EF576561.1|[149392692]

AF182806

Oryza sativa carbonic anhydrase 3 mRNA, complete cds
gi|5917782|gb|AF182806.1|AF182806[5917782]

U08404

Oryza sativa chloroplast carbonic anhydrase mRNA, complete cds
gi|606816|gb|U08404.1|OSU08404[606816]

Corn: (*zea may*)

NM_001111889

Zea mays carbonic anhydrase (LOC542302), mRNA
gi|162459146|refl|NM_001111889.1|[162459146]

U08403

Zea mays Golden Bantam carbonic anhydrase mRNA, complete cds
gi|606814|gb|U08403.1|ZMU08403[606814]

U08401

Zea mays carbonic anhydrase mRNA, complete cds
gi|606810|gb|U08401.1|ZMU08401[606810]

M95073

Zea mays putative carbonic anhydrase homolog mRNA, partial cds
gi|168561|gb|M95073.1|MZEORFN[168561]

5 Soybean: (*Glycine*)

AJ239132

Glycine max mRNA for carbonic anhydrase
gi|4902524|embl|AJ239132.1|[4902524]

Tomato (*Lycopersicon*)

10 AJ849376

Lycopersicon esculentum mRNA for chloroplast carbonic anhydrase (ca2 gene)
gi|56562176|embl|AJ849376.1|[56562176]

AJ849375

15 *Lycopersicon esculentum* mRNA for carbonic anhydrase (ca1 gene)

gi|56562174|embl|AJ849375.1|[56562174]

Tobacco *Nicotiana*

AF492468

20 *Nicotiana langsdorffii* × *Nicotiana sanderae* nectarin III (NEC3) mRNA, complete cds

gi|29468279|gb|AF492468.1|[29468279]

AF454759

25 *Nicotiana tabacum* beta-carbonic anhydrase (CA) mRNA, complete cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product

gi|22550385|gb|AF454759.2|[22550385]

AB009887

30 *Nicotiana tabacum* mRNA for carbonic anhydrase, partial cds

gi|8096276|dbj|AB009887.1|[8096276]

AB012863

Nicotiana paniculata mRNA for NPCA1, complete cds
gi|30612701|dbj|AB012863.1|[30612701]

35 L19255

Nicotiana tabacum chloroplastic carbonic anhydrase mRNA, 3' end
gi|3109201|gb|L19255.1|TOBCARANHY[310920]

M94135

40 *Nicotiana tabacum* chloroplast carbonic anhydrase gene, complete cds

gi|170218|gb|M94135.1|TOBCLCAA[170218]

AY97460

45 *Nicotiana benthamiana* clone 30F62 chloroplast carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product

gi|62865756|gb|AY974608.1|[62865756]

AY974607

50 *Nicotiana benthamiana* clone 30C84 chloroplast carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product

gi|62865754|gb|AY974607.1|[62865754]

AY974606

55 *Nicotiana benthamiana* clone 30B10 chloroplast carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product

gi|62865752|gb|AY974606.1|[62865752]

Barley (*Hordeum*)

L36959

60 *Hordeum vulgare* carbonic anhydrase mRNA, complete cds

gi|558498|gb|L36959.1|BLYCA[558498]

Cotton (*Gossypium*)

AF132855

65 *Gossypium hirsutum* carbonic anhydrase isoform 2 (CA2) mRNA, partial cds; nuclear gene for plastid product

gi|4754914|gb|AF132855.1|AF132855[4754914]

AF132854
Gossypium hirsutum carbonic anhydrase isoform 1 (CA1) mRNA, partial cds; nuclear gene for plastid product
 gi|4754912|gb|AF132854.1|AF132854[4754912]
 Poplar
 U55837
Populus tremula×*Populus tremuloides* carbonic anhydrase (CA1a) mRNA, nuclear gene encoding chloroplast protein, complete cds
 gi|1354514|gb|U55837.1|PTU55837[1354514]
 U55838
Populus tremula×*Populus tremuloides* carbonic anhydrase (CA1b) mRNA, nuclear gene encoding chloroplast protein, complete cds
 gi|1354516|gb|U55838.1|PTU55838[1354516]
 Cucumis
 DQ641132
Cucumis sativus clone CU8F3 carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds
 gi|117663159|gb|DQ641132.1|[117663159]
 Lycopersicon
 AJ849376
Lycopersicon esculentum mRNA for chloroplast carbonic anhydrase (ca2 gene) gi|56562176|emb|AJ849376.1|[56562176]
 AJ849375
Lycopersicon esculentum mRNA for carbonic anhydrase (ca1 gene)
 gi|56562174|emb|AJ849375.1|[56562174]
 Medicago
 X93312
M. sativa mRNA for carbonic anhydrase
 gi|1938226|emb|X93312.1|[1938226]
 Phaseolus
 AJ547634
Phaseolus vulgaris partial mRNA for carbonic anhydrase (ca gene)
 gi|28556429|emb|AJ547634.1|[28556429]
 Pisum
 X52558
 Pea cap mRNA for carbonic anhydrase (EC 4.2.1.1)
 gi|20672|emb|X52558.1|[20672]
 M63627
P. sativum carbonic anhydrase mRNA, complete cds
 gi|169056|gb|M63627.1|PEACAMRA[169056]
 Pyrus
 AF195204
Pyrus pyrifolia strain Whangkeumbae carbonic anhydrase isoform 1 (CA1) mRNA, complete cds
 gi|8698882|gb|AF195204.1|AF195204[8698882]
 Prunus
 EF640698
Prunus dulcis clone Pdbs-E45 putative carbonic anhydrase mRNA, partial cds
 gi|148807206|gb|EF640698.1|[148807206]
 Vigna
 AF139464
Vigna radiata carbonic anhydrase (CipCa1) mRNA, complete cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product
 gi|8954288|gb|AF139464.2|AF139464[8954288]
 Carbonic anhydrase encoding nucleic acids from any carbonic anhydrase gene, e.g., including plant and bacterial genes, can be used to practice this invention; for example, a nucleic acid from any carbonic anhydrase gene of any plant can be used, including any carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid sequence from any gene family of *Arabidopsis*, e.g., any carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid

sequence from an *Arabidopsis* family, e.g., from *Arabidopsis thaliana*, can be used to practice the compositions and methods of this invention, such as the exemplary carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid sequences (see Example 6, below):

Carbonic anhydrase encoding nucleic acids:			
Gene family	AGI number ^a	Official Nomenclature ^b	designation
alpha (α)	At3g52720	AtαCA1	SEQ ID NO: 21
	At2g28210	AtαCA2	SEQ ID NO: 22
	At5g04180	AtαCA3	SEQ ID NO: 23
	At4g20990	AtαCA4	SEQ ID NO: 24
	At1g08065	AtαCA5	SEQ ID NO: 25
	At4g21000	AtαCA6	SEQ ID NO: 26
	At1g08080	AtαCA7	SEQ ID NO: 27
	At5g56330	AtαCA8	SEQ ID NO: 28
beta (β)	At3g01500	AtβCA1	CA1 (SEQ ID NO: 7)
	At5g14740	AtβCA2	CA2 (SEQ ID NO: 20)
	At1g23730	AtβCA3	SEQ ID NO: 29
	At1g70410	AtβCA4	CA4 (SEQ ID NO: 1)
gamma (γ)	At4g33580	AtβCA5	SEQ ID NO: 30
	At1g58180	AtβCA6	CA6 (SEQ ID NO: 4)
	At1g19580	AtγCA1	SEQ ID NO: 31
	At1g47260	AtγCA2	SEQ ID NO: 32
25	At5g66510	AtγCA3	SEQ ID NO: 33
	At5g63510	AtγCAL1	SEQ ID NO: 34
	At3g48680	AtγCAL2	SEQ ID NO: 35

^a *Arabidopsis thaliana* Genome Initiative locus numbers

^b according to Fabre N. et al. (2007) Plant, Cell Environment 30: 617-629; or from The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource web site (Carnegie Institution for Science, Department of Plant Biology, Stanford, CA, funded by the National Science Foundation).

Accordingly, in alternative aspects, any carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) can be used to practice this invention.

35 Generating and Manipulating Nucleic Acids

In alternative aspects, the invention provides, e.g., isolated, synthetic and/or recombinant nucleic acids encoding novel CO₂ sensor genes and coding sequences of this invention, nucleic acids (e.g., siRNA, microRNA, antisense) that can inhibit the expression of CO₂ sensor genes or messages, and guard cell specific transcriptional regulatory elements, such as promoters. The nucleic acids of the invention can be made, isolated and/or manipulated by, e.g., cloning and expression of cDNA libraries, amplification of message or genomic DNA by PCR, and the like.

The nucleic acids used to practice this invention, whether RNA, iRNA, antisense nucleic acid, cDNA, genomic DNA, vectors, viruses or hybrids thereof, may be isolated from a variety of sources, genetically engineered, amplified, and/or expressed/generated recombinantly. Recombinant polypeptides (e.g., glycosyl hydrolases of the invention) generated from these nucleic acids can be individually isolated or cloned and tested for a desired activity. Any recombinant expression system can be used, including bacterial, fungal, mammalian, yeast, insect or plant cell expression systems.

Alternatively, these nucleic acids can be synthesized in vitro by well-known chemical synthesis techniques, as described in, e.g., Adams (1983) J. Am. Chem. Soc. 105: 661; Belousov (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25:3440-3444; Frenkel (1995) Free Radic. Biol. Med. 19:373-380; Blommers (1994) Biochemistry 33:7886-7896; Narang (1979) Meth. Enzymol. 68:90; Brown (1979) Meth. Enzymol. 68:109; Beaucage (1981) Tetra. Lett. 22:1859; U.S. Pat. No. 4,458,066.

Techniques for the manipulation of nucleic acids, such as, e.g., subcloning, labeling probes (e.g., random-primer labeling using Klenow polymerase, nick translation, amplifica-

tion), sequencing, hybridization and the like are well described in the scientific and patent literature, see, e.g., Sambrook, ed., *MOLECULAR CLONING: A LABORATORY MANUAL* (2ND ED.), Vols. 1-3, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, (1989); *CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY*, Ausubel, ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York (1997); *LABORATORY TECHNIQUES IN BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY: HYBRIDIZATION WITH NUCLEIC ACID PROBES*, Part I. Theory and Nucleic Acid Preparation, Tijssen, ed. Elsevier, N.Y. (1993).

Another useful means of obtaining and manipulating nucleic acids used to practice the methods of the invention is to clone from genomic samples, and, if desired, screen and re-clone inserts isolated or amplified from, e.g., genomic clones or cDNA clones. Sources of nucleic acid used in the methods of the invention include genomic or cDNA libraries contained in, e.g., mammalian artificial chromosomes (MACs), see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,721,118; 6,025,155; human artificial chromosomes, see, e.g., Rosenfeld (1997) *Nat. Genet.* 15:333-335; yeast artificial chromosomes (YAC); bacterial artificial chromosomes (BAC); P1 artificial chromosomes, see, e.g., Woon (1998) *Genomics* 50:306-316; P1-derived vectors (PACs), see, e.g., Kern (1997) *Biotechniques* 23:120-124; cosmids, recombinant viruses, phages or plasmids.

The invention provides fusion proteins and nucleic acids encoding them. A polypeptide of the invention can be fused to a heterologous peptide or polypeptide, such as N-terminal identification peptides which impart desired characteristics, such as fluorescent detection, increased stability and/or simplified purification. Peptides and polypeptides of the invention can also be synthesized and expressed as fusion proteins with one or more additional domains linked thereto for, e.g., producing a more immunogenic peptide, to more readily isolate a recombinantly synthesized peptide, to identify and isolate antibodies and antibody-expressing B cells, and the like. Detection and purification facilitating domains include, e.g., metal chelating peptides such as polyhistidine tracts and histidine-tryptophan modules that allow purification on immobilized metals, protein A domains that allow purification on immobilized immunoglobulin, and the domain utilized in the FLAGS extension/affinity purification system (Immunex Corp, Seattle Wash.). The inclusion of a cleavable linker sequences such as Factor Xa or enterokinase (Invitrogen, San Diego Calif.) between a purification domain and the motif-comprising peptide or polypeptide to facilitate purification. For example, an expression vector can include an epitope-encoding nucleic acid sequence linked to six histidine residues followed by a thioredoxin and an enterokinase cleavage site (see e.g., Williams (1995) *Biochemistry* 34:1787-1797; Dobeli (1998) *Protein Expr. Purif* 12:404-414). The histidine residues facilitate detection and purification while the enterokinase cleavage site provides a means for purifying the epitope from the remainder of the fusion protein. Technology pertaining to vectors encoding fusion proteins and application of fusion proteins are well described in the scientific and patent literature, see e.g., Kroll (1993) *DNA Cell. Biol.*, 12:441-53.

Nucleic acids or nucleic acid sequences of the invention can be an oligonucleotide, nucleotide, polynucleotide, or to a fragment of any of these, to DNA or RNA of genomic or synthetic origin which may be single-stranded or double-stranded and may represent a sense or antisense strand, to peptide nucleic acid (PNA), or to any DNA-like or RNA-like material, natural or synthetic in origin. The phrases "nucleic acid" or "nucleic acid sequence" includes oligo-

nucleotide, nucleotide, polynucleotide, or to a fragment of any of these, to DNA or RNA (e.g., mRNA, rRNA, tRNA, iRNA) of genomic or synthetic origin which may be single-stranded or double-stranded and may represent a sense or antisense strand, to peptide nucleic acid (PNA), or to any DNA-like or RNA-like material, natural or synthetic in origin, including, e.g., iRNA, ribonucleoproteins (e.g., e.g., double stranded iRNAs, e.g., iRNPs). The term encompasses nucleic acids, i.e., oligonucleotides, containing known analogues of natural nucleotides. The term also encompasses nucleic-acid-like structures with synthetic backbones, see e.g., Mata (1997) *Toxicol. Appl. Pharmacol.* 144:189-197; Strauss-Soukup (1997) *Biochemistry* 36:8692-8698; Samstag (1996) *Antisense Nucleic Acid Drug Dev* 6:153-156. "Oligonucleotide" includes either a single stranded polydeoxynucleotide or two complementary polydeoxynucleotide strands that may be chemically synthesized. Such synthetic oligonucleotides have no 5' phosphate and thus will not ligate to another oligonucleotide without adding a phosphate with an ATP in the presence of a kinase. A synthetic oligonucleotide can ligate to a fragment that has not been dephosphorylated.

In alternative aspects, the term gene means the segment of DNA involved in producing a polypeptide chain; it can include regions preceding and following the coding region (leader and trailer) as well as, where applicable, intervening sequences (introns) between individual coding segments (exons). "Operably linked" can refer to a functional relationship between two or more nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) segments. In alternative aspects, it can refer to the functional relationship of transcriptional regulatory sequence to a transcribed sequence. For example, a promoter is operably linked to a coding sequence, such as a nucleic acid of the invention, if it stimulates or modulates the transcription of the coding sequence in an appropriate host cell or other expression system. In alternative aspects, promoter transcriptional regulatory sequences can be operably linked to a transcribed sequence where they can be physically contiguous to the transcribed sequence, i.e., they can be cis-acting. In alternative aspects, transcriptional regulatory sequences, such as enhancers, need not be physically contiguous or located in close proximity to the coding sequences whose transcription they enhance.

In alternative aspects, the invention provides "expression cassette" comprising a nucleotide sequence of this invention, which can be capable of affecting expression of the nucleic acid, e.g., a structural gene (i.e., a protein coding sequence of the invention) in a host compatible with such sequences. Expression cassettes can include at least a promoter operably linked with the polypeptide coding sequence; and, in one aspect, with other sequences, e.g., transcription termination signals. Additional factors necessary or helpful in effecting expression may also be used, e.g., enhancers. In alternative aspects, expression cassettes also include plasmids, expression vectors, recombinant viruses, any form of recombinant "naked DNA" vector, and the like. In alternative aspects, a "vector" of the invention can comprise a nucleic acid that can infect, transfect, transiently or permanently transduce a cell. In alternative aspects, a vector can be a naked nucleic acid, or a nucleic acid complexed with protein or lipid. In alternative aspects, vectors comprise viral or bacterial nucleic acids and/or proteins, and/or membranes (e.g., a cell membrane, a viral lipid envelope, etc.). In alternative aspects, vectors include, but are not limited to replicons (e.g., RNA replicons, bacteriophages) to which fragments of DNA may be attached and become replicated. Vectors thus include, but are not

limited to RNA, autonomous self-replicating circular or linear DNA or RNA (e.g., plasmids, viruses, and the like, see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,879), and include both the expression and non-expression plasmids. In alternative aspects, the vector may either be stably replicated by the cells during mitosis as an autonomous structure, or is incorporated within the host's genome.

In alternative aspects, "promoter" used to practice this invention include all sequences capable of driving transcription of a coding sequence in a cell, e.g., a plant cell. Thus, promoters used in the constructs of the invention include cis-acting transcriptional control elements and regulatory sequences that are involved in regulating or modulating the timing and/or rate of transcription of a gene. For example, a promoter used to practice this invention can be a cis-acting transcriptional control element, including an enhancer, a promoter, a transcription terminator, an origin of replication, a chromosomal integration sequence, 5' and 3' untranslated regions, or an intronic sequence, which are involved in transcriptional regulation. These cis-acting sequences typically interact with proteins or other biomolecules to carry out (turn on/off, regulate, modulate, etc.) transcription. "Constitutive" promoters used to practice this invention can be those that drive expression continuously under most environmental conditions and states of development or cell differentiation. "Inducible" or "regulatable" promoters used to practice this invention can direct expression of the nucleic acid of the invention under the influence of environmental conditions or developmental conditions. Examples of environmental conditions that may affect transcription by inducible promoters used to practice this invention include anaerobic conditions, elevated temperature, drought, or the presence of light. "Tissue-specific" promoters used to practice this invention can be transcriptional control elements that are only active in particular cells or tissues or organs, e.g., in plants or animals. Tissue-specific regulation may be achieved by certain intrinsic factors that ensure that genes encoding proteins specific to a given tissue are expressed.

"Hybridization" refers to the process by which a nucleic acid strand joins with a complementary strand through base pairing. Hybridization reactions can be sensitive and selective so that a particular sequence of interest can be identified even in samples in which it is present at low concentrations. Suitably stringent conditions can be defined by, for example, the concentrations of salt or formamide in the prehybridization and hybridization solutions, or by the hybridization temperature and are well known in the art. In particular, stringency can be increased by reducing the concentration of salt, increasing the concentration of formamide, or raising the hybridization temperature. In alternative aspects, nucleic acids of the invention are defined by their ability to hybridize under various stringency conditions (e.g., high, medium, and low), as set forth herein.

For example, hybridization under high stringency conditions could occur in about 50% formamide at about 37° C. to 42° C. Hybridization could occur under reduced stringency conditions in about 35% to 25% formamide at about 30° C. to 35° C. In particular, hybridization could occur under high stringency conditions at 42° C. in 50% formamide, 5×SSPE, 0.3% SDS and 200 ug/ml sheared and denatured salmon sperm DNA. Hybridization could occur under reduced stringency conditions as described above, but in 35% formamide at a reduced temperature of 35° C. The temperature range corresponding to a particular level of stringency can be further narrowed by calculating the purine to pyrimidine ratio of the nucleic acid of interest and

adjusting the temperature as desired. Variations on the above ranges and conditions are well known in the art.

Protein and/or nucleic acid sequence homologies may be evaluated using any of the variety of sequence comparison algorithms and programs known in the art. Such algorithms and programs include, but are by no means limited to, TBLASTN, BLASTP, FASTA, TFASTA and CLUSTALW (Pearson and Lipman, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85(8): 2444-2448, 1988; Altschul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215(3):403-410, 1990; Thompson et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 22(2):4673-4680, 1994; Higgins et al., Methods Enzymol. 266:383-402, 1996; Altschul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215(3):403-410, 1990; Altschul et al., Nature Genetics 3:266-272, 1993).

Homology or identity is often measured using sequence analysis software (e.g., Sequence Analysis Software Package of the Genetics Computer Group, University of Wisconsin Biotechnology Center, 1710 University Avenue, Madison, Wis. 53705). Such software matches similar sequences by assigning degrees of homology to various deletions, substitutions and other modifications. The terms "homology" and "identity" in the context of two or more nucleic acids or polypeptide sequences, refer to two or more sequences or subsequences that are the same or have a specified percentage of amino acid residues or nucleotides that are the same when compared and aligned for maximum correspondence over a comparison window or designated region as measured using any number of sequence comparison algorithms or by manual alignment and visual inspection.

One example of a useful algorithm is BLAST and BLAST 2.0 algorithms, which are described in Altschul et al., Nuc. Acids Res. 25:3389-3402, 1977 and Altschul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-410, 1990, respectively. Software for performing BLAST analyses is publicly available through the National Center for Biotechnology Information. This algorithm involves first identifying high scoring sequence pairs (HSPs) by identifying short words of length W in the query sequence, which either match or satisfy some positive-valued threshold score T when aligned with a word of the same length in a database sequence. T is referred to as the neighborhood word score threshold (Altschul et al., supra). These initial neighborhood word hits act as seeds for initiating searches to find longer HSPs containing them. The word hits are extended in both directions along each sequence for as far as the cumulative alignment score can be increased. Cumulative scores are calculated using, for nucleotide sequences, the parameters M (reward score for a pair of matching residues; always >0). For amino acid sequences, a scoring matrix is used to calculate the cumulative score. Extension of the word hits in each direction are halted when: the cumulative alignment score falls off by the quantity X from its maximum achieved value; the cumulative score goes to zero or below, due to the accumulation of one or more negative-scoring residue alignments; or the end of either sequence is reached. The BLAST algorithm parameters W, T and X determine the sensitivity and speed of the alignment. The BLASTN program (for nucleotide sequences) uses as defaults a wordlength (W) of 11, an expectation (E) of 10, M=5, N=-4 and a comparison of both strands. For amino acid sequences, the BLASTP program uses as defaults a wordlength of 3 and expectations (E) of 10 and the BLOSUM62 scoring matrix (see Henikoff & Henikoff, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:10915, 1989) alignments (B) of 50, expectation (E) of 10, M=5, N=-4 and a comparison of both strands.

In one aspect, protein and nucleic acid sequence homologies are evaluated using the Basic Local Alignment Search

Tool (“BLAST”) In particular, five specific BLAST programs are used to perform the following task:

- (1) BLASTP and BLAST3 compare an amino acid query sequence against a protein sequence database;
- (2) BLASTN compares a nucleotide query sequence against a nucleotide sequence database;
- (3) BLASTX compares the six-frame conceptual translation products of a query nucleotide sequence (both strands) against a protein sequence database;
- (4) TBLASTN compares a query protein sequence against a nucleotide sequence database translated in all six reading frames (both strands); and
- (5) TBLASTX compares the six-frame translations of a nucleotide query sequence against the six-frame translations of a nucleotide sequence database.

Polypeptides and Peptides

In one aspect, the invention provides isolated, synthetic or recombinant polypeptides and peptides having CO₂ sensor

activity, or polypeptides and peptides capable of generating an antibody that specifically binds to a CO₂ sensor, including a CO₂ sensor of this invention, including the amino acid sequences of the invention, which include those having at least 50%, 51%, 52%, 53%, 54%, 55%, 56%, 57%, 58%, 59%, 60%, 61%, 62%, 63%, 64%, 65%, 66%, 67%, 68%, 69%, 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, 75%, 76%, 77%, 78%, 79%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99% or more, or 100% (complete) sequence identity to an exemplary CO₂ sensor polypeptide of the invention.

For example, exemplary sequences of this invention include:

CA4 At1g70410 CO₂Sen Protein-Encoding Gene (CO₂Sen),
Coding Nucleic Acid Sequence (SEQ ID NO:1):

Encodes: CO₂-Response Protein 2 (CORP2) (SEQ ID NO:3).

Also designated “CA4”, or At1g70410 or SEQ ID NO:1.

Full-length CO₂Sen cDNA

(SEQ ID NO: 1)

CGAACGGTCGTCATAATTCCTTGAAACCTCGAAAATCCAAAACCCATATCCAATCTTCTCCCATATAAAATTAAGATTTTATT
TATTTATTTGTTTACTTATTTCAATCCCAAAATCCTCTGCCTCATCATCTTCAAACGTGTACCACGTCATAGGGTTGTCGAAG
AGCTAGGAAGAGCCTTACCAAGAGCTTCTTCTCCCTAACATTTAGGTTGGTAGGAGAAGCAAAGGAAGAGATCATTATAATG
GCTCCTGCATTCGGAATAATGTTTCATGTTCTGTGCGCTAAAACCTCCCGGAAAAAGACGAAATGGCAACGGAATCGTAGCAAG
CCGCCATTAAGGACTCAATGATCTTCTCAGTACGAAAGCGGATCTCGGAAACGTCGCGCGCGAAGATCAAAGCGTTGACGGC
GGAGCTAAAGGAGCTTGACTCAAGCAATTCAGACGCAATGGAACGAATCAAGACCGGTTTTACTCAATTCAAAACCGAGAATAT
TTGAAGAATAGTACTTTGTTCATCATCTTGCCAAGACTCAGACCCAAAAGTTTCTGGTGTGTTGCTTGCTCGATTCGAGTTT
GTCCATCTCACATCTTGAATTTCAAACCTGGTGAGGCTTTTGTGTGTCAGAAACATAGCCAAATATGGTTCCACCTTTTGACCAGAA
GAGACTCTGGAGTTGGCGCCCGCTTGAATACGAGTTGTACATCTCAAGGTGGAGAACATTTTGGTGTAGGCCATAGCTGCT
TGTGGTGGTATTAAGGAGCTCATGTCATTGAAGATGATGCTGCCCAACTCAAAGTGACTTCATGAAAATTTGGGTGAAGATAG
GCGCATCAGCGAGGAACAAGATCAAGGAGGAACATAAAGACTTGAGCTACGATGATCAATGCAACAAGTGTGAGAAGGAAGCTGT
GAACGTATCGTTGGAAACTTGCTTTCGTACCCATTCGTGAGAGCTGAGGTGGTGAAGAACACACTTGCAATAAGAGGAGGTAC
TACAAATTCGTCAAAGGAACGTTTGAATCTGGAGGCTCGATTTCAGAACCACTCTGCTTTTGCTCTCTCTTAAAGAAAGAAAG
TACCGGAACATATAAACTCTTTGAGATAAAAAAGACACTTTGACTCATCTTCTTCTCATTCTCTCATGTTGATGATTCCTCTC
CAACTTCTTGTATTTCTTTGTGTAATTCAAAACCTCAACTTTGCTGCTTCTATTTCAAAGCTCAAACAATAAAGCTGTAACCA
ACGTTTGAACCTCTATATTTGTCTAATTTGATGTTTGAACGAAGATTTGAACCTTTCCTTCT

Full-length CO₂Sen CDS

(SEQ ID NO: 2)

ATGGCTCCTGCATTCGGAAAATGTTTCATGTTCTGCTGCGCTAAAACCTCCCGGAAAAAGACGAAATGGCAACGGAATCGTACG
AAGCCGCCATTAAGGACTCAATGATCTTCTCAGTACGAAAGCGGATCTCGGAAACGTCGCGCGCGAAGATCAAAGCGTTGAC
GGCGAGCTAAAGGAGCTTGACTCAAGCAATTCAGACGCAATTCAGAACCAAGTGAACGAAATCAAGACCGGTTTTACTCAATTCAAA
TATTTGAAGAATAGTACTTTGTTCAATCATCTTGCCAAGACTCAGACCCAAAAGTTTCTGGTGTGTTGCTTGCTCGATTCCTCGAG
TTTGTCCATCTCACATCTTGAATTTCAAACCTGGTGAGGCTTTTGTGTGTCAGAAACATAGCCAAATATGGTTCCACCTTTTGACCA
GAAGAGACTCTGGAGTTGGCGCCCGCTTGAATACGCAAGTTGTACATCTCAAGGTGGAGAACAATTTTGGTGTAGGCCATAGC
TGCTGTGGTGGTATTAAGGAGCTCATGTCATTGAAGATGATGCTGCCCAACTCAAAGTGACTTCATTGAAAATTTGGGTGAAGA
TAGGCGCATCAGCGAGGAACAAGATCAAGGAGGAACATAAAGACTTGAGCTACGATGATCAATGCAACAAGTGTGAGAGGAAGC
TGTGAACGTATCGCTTGGAAACTTGTCTTTCGTACCCATTCGTGAGAGCTGAGGTGGTGAAGAAACAACCTTCAATAAAGAGGAGGT
CACTACAATTCGTCAAAGGAACGTTTGAATCTGCGGAGCTCGATTTCAGAACCACTCTGCTTTTGCTTCTCTTAA

CO₂Sen Protein sequence: CO₂-Response Protein 2 (CORP2)
Encoded by, e.g., “CA4”, or At1g70410 or SEQ ID NO: 1.

(SEQ ID NO: 3)

MAPAFGKCFMFCCAITSPEKDEMATESYEAAIKGLNDLLSKADLGNVAAAKIKALTAELKELDSNSDAIERIKTGFTQPKTEK
YLKNSTLFNHLAKTQTPKPLVFACSDSRVCPHILNFQPGAEFVVRNIANMVPFPDQKRHSVGVAAVEYAVVHLKVENILVIGHS
CCGGIKGLMSIEDDAAPTQSDPIENWVKIGASARNKIKBEHKDLSYDDQCNKCEKEAVNVSLGNLLSYFVVRABVKNLTAIRGG
HYNFVKGTFDLWELDFKTTPAFAFS

CA6 At1g58180 CO₂Sen Protein-Encoding Gene (CO₂Sen),
Coding Nucleic Acid Sequence:

Encodes SEQ ID NO:6, a CO₂-response protein.

Full-length CO₂Sen cDNA

(SEQ ID NO: 4)

CAAAATTCATGTGTTAGTTCTTCTTTTACAAAATGAGTTTAAACTGTTTATTACTAATCCAAATGAGGAATCAGCTTTGCA
CTATTAATAGAAAATAATACACACCAACATCTAAAGATACATATAATAGTAGAGATCAAAGACCTGAGCAAAAACCTGAAAGA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGACTTCTCTCAAAAATGGCGTTTACACTAGGTGGAAGAGCTCGTCTAGTCTCTGCAACAT
CAGTTCAATAAATGGTTGCTTACCAAACTGCAACAATTTGGATCGGATCGGTTTCAAGTGTGAGGAAAGCAATAAGAT
TACTACCCAGGAGAACAAACATGGTTCAAGAAATAGGAATCAGGGAAGAAATTTATGGATCTAAACAGAGAAACAGAGACAAGTT
ATGATTTTCTGGATGAAATGAGACACAGATTTCTGAAATTCAGAGACAAAAGTATCTACCGGAGATAGAAAAGTTTAAAGCTT
TGGCCATAGTCAATCACCAGGTAATGGTGTAGGATGTGCAGATTCAAGGATATGTCCATCTTATGTACTAGGATTTCAAC
CTGGTGAAGCTTTACTATCCGAAATGTCCGCAATCTCGTTACCCCGTTTCAAGATGAGAACCAAGCAACCACTCGGCTCTGTG
AGTTTGGCGTCCACTCTTCAGTTGAGAACATTATAGTTATGGGTCATAGCAATTTGGAGGAATTCAGCACTTATGAGTCT

- continued

ATCAAACCACCAAGGGCAACACTCTAGTTTAGTAGAAAGTGGGTTATGAATGGGAAAGCCGCTAAGTTAAGAACACAATTAG
CTTCATCACATTTATCCTTTTGATGAACAATGCAGAACTGTGAGAAGGAATCTATAAAGGATTCGTGATGAATTTGATAACTT
ATTTCATGGATAAGAGATAGAGTAAAGAGAGGTGAAGTCAAGATTTCATGGATGTTATTACAATTTGTGATTTGTAGTCTTGAGA
AGTGGAGATTAAGTTCAGACAAGACTAACTATGGATTCTATATTTTCAGACAGAGAGATATGGAGTTGAGTAAATATTGAACAAT
CCTCAGTTCTAATATTTCAGATGTATCTTTGTACATACGAAATGATATTTACACAATTGG

Full-length CO₂Sen CDS

(SEQ ID NO: 5)

ATGGCGTTTACACTAGGTGGAAGAGCTCGTCTGTCTAGTCTCTGCAACATCAGTTCATCAAATGGTTGCTTACACAACTGCAA
CAAATGGATCGGATCGGTTTCAGCTTGGTGAAGCAAAGCAATAAGATTACTACCAGGAGAACAAACATGGTTCAAGAATTA
GGAATCAGGGAAGAATTTATGGATCTAAACAGAGAAACAGAGACAAGTTATGATTTCTGGATGAAATGAGACACAGATTTCTG
AATTCAGAGACAAAAGTATCTACCCGGAGATAGAAAAGTTTAAAGCTTTGGCCATAGCTCAATCACCAAAGGTATATGGTGATA
GGATGTGCAGATTCAAGGGTATGTCCATCTTATGTACTAGGATTTCAACCTGGTGAAGCTTTTACTATCCGAAATGTGCGCAA
CTCGTTACCCCGTTTCAGAAATGGACCAACAGAAACCAACTCGGCTCTTGAGTTTGGCGTCACCACTCTTCAGGTTGAGAACAT
ATAGTTATGGGTCTATAGCAATTTGAGGGAATTCAGCACCTTATGAGTTCATCAAACCACCAAGGGCAACACTCTAGTTTAGTA
GAAAGTGGGTTATGAATGGGAAAGCCGCTAAGTTAAGAACACAATTAGCTTCATCACATTTATCCTTTGATGAACAATGCAGA
AACTGTGAGAAGGAATCTATAAAGGATTCGTGTGATGAATTTGATAACTTATTCATGGATAAGAGATAGAGTAAAGAGAGGTGAA
GTCAAGATTTCATGGATTTATTAACAATTTGTCAGATTGTAGTCTTGAGAAGTGGAGATTAAGTTTCAGACAAGACTAACATGGA
TTCTATATTTTCAGACAGAGAGATATGGAGTTGA

CO₂Sen Protein sequence, a CO₂-Response Protein

Encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO: 4, or "CA6", or At1g58180, a CO₂Sen protein-encoding gene (CO₂Sen)

(SEQ ID NO: 6)

MAFTLGGRRRLVSVTHQNGCLHLKQQIGSDRFQLGEAKAIRLLPRRTNMVQELGIREEFMDLNRETTSETSYDFLDEMRHRL
KFKRQKYLPIEIKFKALAIQAQSPKVMVIGCADSRVCPVYVLFQFQPEAFTIRNVANLVTVPVQNGPTEITNSALEFAVTTLQVENI
IVMGNHSCGGIAALMSHQNHQGHSLVERVVMNGKAALRTQLASSHLSFDEQCRNCEKESIKDSVMNLI TYSWIRDRVKRGE
VKIHGCYYNLSDCSLEKWLRLSSDKTNYGFYISDREIWS

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CA1: CO₂Sen Protein-Encoding Gene (CO₂Sen) (SEQ ID NO:7)

Encodes: CO₂-Response Protein 1 (CORP1) (SEQ ID NO:9).

Also designated "CA1", or At3g01500 or SEQ ID NO:7.

CA1 At3g01500: CO₂Sen protein-encoding gene (CO₂Sen), coding nucleic acid sequence:

30

Full-length CO₂Sen cDNA

(SEQ ID NO: 7)

ATGAGACTCCGTTCTTTTAAACTCCCAATCTTTCAACCAATCCCATTATTCACCTAAGTATATAGTAGCTTCCATAAGAGTCTTAG
TTCTAATAAATACACATATCTCACTCTCTCTGATCTCCGCTTCTCTTCGCCAACAAATGTCGACCGCTCCTCTCTCCGGCTTCT
TTCTCACTTCACTTTCTCCTTCTCAATCTTCTCTCCAGAAACTCTCTCTTCGTACTTCTTCCACCGTTCGCTTCCACCCGCTCT
CTTCTTCTTCTCATCTTCT
CTATCATTGCCCCCTTATTGGAGTGAAGAGATGGGAACCGAAGCATACGACGAGGCTATTGAAGCTTCAAGAAGCTTCTCATCGAGA
AGGAAGAGCTAAAGACGGTTGCAGCGGCAAGGTGGAGCAGATCACAGCGGCTCTTTCAGACAGGTAATTCATCCGACAAGAAAGCTT
TCGACCCCGTCGAAACCATTAAGCAGGGCTTCATCAAATTCAAGAAGGAGAAATACGAAACCAACCTGCTTTGTACGGTGAGCTCG
CAAAGGTCAAAGTCTAAGTACATGGTGTGTTGCTGTTTACAGCTACAGTGTGTGCCATCACAGTTCCTGGACTTTTCAGCCAGGAG
ATGCCCTTCGTGGTCCGTAACATAGCCAAACATGGTTCTCTCTCTTCGACAGGTCAAATACGTTGGCGTTGGAGCAGCCATTGAATACG
CGGTCTTACACCTTAAGGTGGAGAACATTGTTGGTATAGGACATAGCGATGTGGTGGGATCAAAGGCTTATGTCTTTCCCTTAG
ATGGAACAACCTCCACTGACTTCATAGAGGACTGGGTCAAATCTGTTTACAGCCAAGTCAAAGTTATATCAGAACTTGGAGATT
CAGCCTTTGAAGATCAATGTGGCCGATGTGAAAGGGAGGCGGTGAATGTTTCACTAGCAAACCTATGACATATCCATTGTGAGAG
AAGGACTTGTGAAGGGAACACTTGCTTTGAAGGGAGGCTACTATGACTTCGTCAGGGTGCCTTTGAGCTTTGGGGACTTGAATTTG
GCCTCTCGAAACTAGCTCTGTTAAAGATGTGGTACCATACTACATTGGAAGCTGTAGGAAACTCTTTGAAGCCTTACCCGATTTT
ACATTGTCAATTCAATAACCAAGTTGTTGTTTACATGCAGATCTTGATGAACTGGTTTTTGTATTTTACAGAATTAATACTTTGG
GGACAGAAATTTG

Full-length CDS

(SEQ ID NO: 8)

ATGTCGACCGCTCCTCTCTCCGGCTTCTTTCTCACTTCACTTTCTCCTTCTCAATCTTCTCTCCAGAAACTCTCTCTTCGTACTTCT
TCCACCGTTCGCTTGCCTCCACCCGCTCTTCTTCTTCTCTCATCTTCT
AACGAGCCAGTTTTCGCGCTCTGCTCCTATCATTGCCCTTATTGGAGTGAAGAGATGGGAACCGAAGCATACGACGAGGCTATT
GAAGCTCTCAAGAAGCTTCTCATCGAGAAGGAAGACTAAAGACGGTTGCAGCGGCAAGGTGGAGCAGATCACAGCGGCTCTTTCAG
ACAGGTAATTCATCCGACAAGAAAGCTTTCGACCCCGTCGAAACCATTAAGCAGGGCTTCATCAAATTCGAAGAAGGAGAAATACGAA
ACCAACCTGCTTTGTACGGTGAGCTCGCAAAGGTCAAAGTCTAAGTACATGGTGTGTTGCTGTTTTCAGACTCACGTGTGTGCCA
TCACAGTTCCTGGACTTTTCAGCCAGGAGATGCCTTCGTGGTCCGTAACATAGCCAAACATGGTTCTCTCTTTCGACAAGTCAAATAC
GGTGGCGTTGGAGCAGCAATTGAATACGCGGTCTTACACCTTAAGGTGGAGAACATGTGGTGTAGGACACAGTGCATGTGGTGGG
ATCAAAGGCTTATGCTTTCCCTTAGATGGAACAACCTCCACTGACTTCATAGAGGACTGGGTCAAATCTGTTTACAGCCAAAG
TCAAAGGTTATATCAGAACTTGGAGATTACGCTTTGAAGATCAATGTGGCCGATGTGAAGGGAGGCGGTGAATGTTTCACTAGCA
AACCTATTGACATATCCATTTGTGAGAGAGAGACTTGTGAAGGGAACACTTGCCTTTGAAGGGAGGCTACTATGACTTTCGTCAGGGT
GCTTTTGGAGCTTTGGGGACTTGAATTTGCCTCTCCGAACTAGCTCTGTTAAAGATGTGGTACCATACTACATTGGAAGCTGTAG

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Protein Sequence for CO₂-Response Protein 1 (CORP1)
Encoded by, e.g., the gene (coding sequence) designated "CA1",
or At3g01500 or SEQ ID NO: 7.

(SEQ ID NO: 9)

MSTAPLSGFFLTSLSPSQSSLQKLSLRTSSTVACLPPASSSSSSSSSSSSSVPTLIRNEPVFAAPAPIIAPYWSEEMGTEAYDEAT
EALKKLLIEKEELKTVAARKVEQITAAALQTGTSSDKKAFDPVETIKQGFIFKFKKYEETNPALYGELAKGQSPKYMVFACSDSRVCP
SHVLDQPGDAFVVRNIANMVPFDPVKYGGVGAIEYAVLHLKVENIVVIHGSACGGIKGLMSFPLDGNNSDFIEDWVKICLPAK
SKVISELGD SAFEDQCGRCEAVNVS LANLLTYPFVREGLVKGLTALKGGYDFVKGAFELWGLEFGLSETS SVKDVATILHWKL

Guard Cell Promoter of this Invention (SEQ ID NO:10):

(SEQ ID NO: 10)

GAGTAAAGATTAGTAAACCGGATGCTCCTGCTCTTCTCAAGACCTTCTTGATTGCGCCGCGGTATGTTCTCCGTCTGTGGTA
GCGCCTTTGGAACACTCTACCAACGCCGCCATGAAAGGATCTCTCATGGCCGAGGGGACGTGTTCTTCTTACATCTGGTGTTA
GGGCTATGGTTACTCCAGTGAGGAGGGAGAGGCAAGAGGTTGCTTAATGATTTCGTTTTCCGGTGATACGAGAATCTTTAGGT
TTACCGGAAGCTTTTCCATGAAAATGGGATGCCAAGTGGATGGAGAGGAGTTGCCGAGAGTTGCCGAGAATAGGAGGGAA
TTGGAGGAGGAGGAGAGAGTGATCGCCGGTTGAAATGTTAACCGTCGAGGAGAATTTGACCGAGTTGGATCGTCTAGTAGGT
ACAATTCGGGTCCTTGGCGAAGTATCCATcaaaaatagtggttagtttgacttgagaactggtgctctctttgatctcttt
atataaaactttggacgtgtaggacaaaactgtcaacataagaacaaaatggttgcaacagagaggatgaattataagtttt
caacaccgcttttcttattagacggacaacaatctatagtgagtaaatttttatgttggtaaaatggttagtgaattcaaat
atctaaatgttgactcactaacattaacaaatagcataagacataaaaaaagaagaataatcttatgaaacaagaaaa
aaaaactatacaatcaatctttaggaattgacgatgtagaattgttagatgataaatttctcaaatatagatgggctaatgaa
gggtgcccgttattggatctgacccatttgaggacattaattttcatgtggtataagccttttaatacaaaattgctatta
aattgatgtctcctctcgggtcattttcctttctcctcacaataatgtagactttagcaatttgacgctgtgctttgtct
ttatatttagtaacacaaactttgacttgctctgtagagttttctctttattttctatccaatatgaaaactaaaagtg
ttctcgtatacatatataaaataaagaacctatgaaaacccaatacaaatgcgatattggtttcagttcgacgtttcatg
tttgttagaaaaattctaatgacgtttgtataaaatagacaattaaacgccaacactacatctgtgtttcgaacaatattgc
gtctgcgtttccttcatctatctctcagtgctcacaatgtctgaactaagagacagctgtaactatcattaagacataaaact
accaaagtatcaagcctaagtataaaatctctcatttccacgtaacaaatgagttagcttaagatattagtgaaactaggtt
tgaattttcttcttcttccatgcatcctccgaaaaagggaaacaaactgtttgcatatcaaaactccaacacttta
cagcaaatgcaatctataatctgtgattatccaataaaaactgtgattatggttggtccagcgatgaaagtctatgcatg
tgatctctatccaacatgagtaattgttcagaaaaaaaagtagctgaaatgtatctataaagaatcatccacaagtacta
ttttcacacactacttcaaaatcactactcaagaaat

Alternative Guard Cell Promoter of this Invention (SEQ ID NO:11), a Truncated, but "Stronger", Promoter than the SEQ ID NO:10 Promoter:

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(SEQ ID NO: 11)

atggttgcaacagagaggatgaatttataagttttcaacaccgcttttc
ttattagacggacaacaatctatagtgagtaaaatttttttttggta
aaatggttagtgaattcaaatatctaaatttgtgactcactaacatta
acaaatagcataagacataaaaaaagaagaataatcttatgaaac
aagaaaaaaacatatacaatcaatcttttaggaattgacgatgtagaat
tgtagatgataaattttctcaaatatagatgggctaatgaagggtgcc
gcttatggatctgaccattttaggacattaatattttcattggtta
taagccttttaatacaaaatgtcattaatgtatgtctcctctcgggt
cattttcctttctcctcacaataatgtagacttttagcaatttgacag

ctgtgctttgtctttatatttagtaacacaaaactttgacttgctgt
50 tagagttttctctttattttctatccaatatgaaaactaaaagtg
tctcgtatacatataataaaataaagaacccatgaaaacccaatac
aaatgagatattggtttcagttogacgtttcatggttgtagaaaatt
55 ctaatgacgtttgtataaaatagacaattaaacgccaacactacatct
gtgtttcgaacaatattgctgctgctttccttcatctatctctctca
gtgtcacaatgtctgaactaagagacagctgtaactatcattaagaca
60 taaactacaaagtatcaagctaagtataaaatctctcatttccacg
taacaaattgagttagcttaagatattagtgaaactagggttgaattt
cttctctcttccatgcatcctccgaaaaagggaaacaaactcaaaact
65 gtttgcatatcaaaactccaacactttacagcaaatgcaatctataatct

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gtgatttatccaataaaaacctgtgatttatgtttggctccagcagatga
 aagctctatgcatgtgatctctatccaacatgagtaattgttcagaaaaat
 aaaaagtagctgaatgtatctatataaagaatcatccacaagtactat
 tttcacacactacttcaaatcactactcaagaaat

Polypeptides and peptides of the invention can be isolated from natural sources, be synthetic, or be recombinantly generated polypeptides. Peptides and proteins can be recombinantly expressed *in vitro* or *in vivo*. The peptides and polypeptides of the invention can be made and isolated using any method known in the art. Polypeptide and peptides of the invention can also be synthesized, whole or in part, using chemical methods well known in the art. See e.g., Caruthers (1980) *Nucleic Acids Res. Symp. Ser.* 215-223; Horn (1980) *Nucleic Acids Res. Symp. Ser.* 225-232; Banga, A. K., *Therapeutic Peptides and Proteins, Formulation, Processing and Delivery Systems* (1995) Technomic Publishing Co., Lancaster, Pa. For example, peptide synthesis can be performed using various solid-phase techniques (see e.g., Roberge (1995) *Science* 269:202; Merrifield (1997) *Methods Enzymol.* 289:3-13) and automated synthesis may be achieved, e.g., using the ABI 431A Peptide Synthesizer (Perkin Elmer) in accordance with the instructions provided by the manufacturer.

The peptides and polypeptides of the invention can also be glycosylated. The glycosylation can be added post-translationally either chemically or by cellular biosynthetic mechanisms, wherein the later incorporates the use of known glycosylation motifs, which can be native to the sequence or can be added as a peptide or added in the nucleic acid coding sequence. The glycosylation can be O-linked or N-linked.

In alternative aspects, amino acids and/or amino acid sequences of this invention include an oligopeptide, peptide, polypeptide, or protein sequence, or to a fragment, portion, or subunit of any of these and to naturally occurring or synthetic molecules. In alternative aspects, polypeptides of the invention are amino acids joined to each other by peptide bonds or modified peptide bonds and may contain modified amino acids other than the 20 gene-encoded amino acids. The polypeptides may be modified by either natural processes, such as post-translational processing, or by chemical modification techniques that are well known in the art. Modifications can occur anywhere in the polypeptide, including the peptide backbone, the amino acid side-chains and the amino or carboxyl termini. It will be appreciated that the same type of modification may be present in the same or varying degrees at several sites in a given polypeptide. Also a given polypeptide may have many types of modifications. Modifications include acetylation, acylation, ADP-ribosylation, amidation, covalent attachment of flavin, covalent attachment of a heme moiety, covalent attachment of a nucleotide or nucleotide derivative, covalent attachment of a lipid or lipid derivative, covalent attachment of a phosphatidylinositol, cross-linking cyclization, disulfide bond formation, demethylation, formation of covalent cross-links, formation of cysteine, formation of pyroglutamate, formylation, gamma-carboxylation, glycosylation, GPI anchor formation, hydroxylation, iodination, methylation, myristoylation, oxidation, pegylation, phosphorylation, prenylation, racemization, selenoylation, sulfation and transfer-RNA mediated addition of amino acids to protein such as arginylation. See for example, Creighton, T. E., *Proteins—Struc-*

ture and Molecular Properties 2nd Ed., W.H. Freeman and Company, New York (1993); *Posttranslational Covalent Modification of Proteins*, B. C. Johnson, Ed., Academic Press, New York, pp. 1-12 (1983)).

5 The peptides and polypeptides of the invention, as defined above, include all "mimetic" and "peptidomimetic" forms. The terms "mimetic" and "peptidomimetic" refer to a synthetic chemical compound which has substantially the same structural and/or functional characteristics of the polypeptides of the invention. The mimetic can be either entirely composed of synthetic, non-natural analogues of amino acids, or, is a chimeric molecule of partly natural peptide amino acids and partly non-natural analogs of amino acids. The mimetic can also incorporate any amount of natural amino acid conservative substitutions as long as such substitutions also do not substantially alter the mimetic's structure and/or activity. As with polypeptides of the invention which are conservative variants, routine experimentation will determine whether a mimetic is within the scope of the invention, i.e., that its structure and/or function is not substantially altered. Thus, in one aspect, a mimetic composition is within the scope of the invention if it has a CO₂ sensor activity.

Polypeptide mimetic compositions of the invention can contain any combination of non-natural structural components. In alternative aspect, mimetic compositions of the invention include one or all of the following three structural groups: a) residue linkage groups other than the natural amide bond ("peptide bond") linkages; b) non-natural residues in place of naturally occurring amino acid residues; or c) residues which induce secondary structural mimicry, i.e., to induce or stabilize a secondary structure, e.g., a beta turn, gamma turn, beta sheet, alpha helix conformation, and the like. For example, a polypeptide of the invention can be characterized as a mimetic when all or some of its residues are joined by chemical means other than natural peptide bonds. Individual peptidomimetic residues can be joined by peptide bonds, other chemical bonds or coupling means, such as, e.g., glutaraldehyde, N-hydroxysuccinimide esters, bifunctional maleimides, N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) or N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC). Linking groups that can be an alternative to the traditional amide bond ("peptide bond") linkages include, e.g., ketomethylene (e.g., —C(=O)—CH₂— for —C(=O)—NH—), aminomethylene (CH₂—NH), ethylene, olefin (CH=CH), ether (CH₂—O), thioether (CH₂—S), tetrazole (CN₄—), thiazole, retroamide, thioamide, or ester (see, e.g., Spatola (1983) in *Chemistry and Biochemistry of Amino Acids, Peptides and Proteins*, Vol. 7, pp 267-357, "Peptide Backbone Modifications," Marcell Dekker, NY).

A polypeptide of the invention can also be characterized as a mimetic by containing all or some non-natural residues in place of naturally occurring amino acid residues. Non-natural residues are well described in the scientific and patent literature; a few exemplary non-natural compositions useful as mimetics of natural amino acid residues and guidelines are described below. Mimetics of aromatic amino acids can be generated by replacing by, e.g., D- or L-naphylalanine; D- or L-phenylglycine; D- or L-2 thienylalanine; D- or L-1, -2, 3-, or 4-pyrenylalanine; D- or L-3 thienylalanine; D- or L-(2-pyridinyl)-alanine; D- or L-(3-pyridinyl)-alanine; D- or L-(2-pyrazinyl)-alanine; D- or L-(4-isopropyl)-phenylglycine; D-(trifluoromethyl)-phenylglycine; D-(trifluoromethyl)-phenylalanine; D-p-fluorophenylalanine; D- or L-p-biphenylphenylalanine; D- or L-p-methoxy-biphenylphenylalanine; D- or L-2-indole(alkyl) alanines; and, D- or L-alkylalanines, where alkyl can be

substituted or unsubstituted methyl, ethyl, propyl, hexyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, iso-butyl, sec-isotyl, iso-pentyl, or a non-acidic amino acids. Aromatic rings of a non-natural amino acid include, e.g., thiazolyl, thiophenyl, pyrazolyl, benzimidazolyl, naphthyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, and pyridyl aromatic rings.

Mimetics of acidic amino acids can be generated by substitution by, e.g., non-carboxylate amino acids while maintaining a negative charge; (phosphono)alanine; sulfated threonine. Carboxyl side groups (e.g., aspartyl or glutamyl) can also be selectively modified by reaction with carbodiimides ($R'-N-C-N-R'$) such as, e.g., 1-cyclohexyl-3-(2-morpholinyl-(4-ethyl) carbodiimide or 1-ethyl-3-(4-azonia-4,4-dimethylpentyl) carbodiimide. Aspartyl or glutamyl can also be converted to asparaginy and glutaminy residues by reaction with ammonium ions. Mimetics of basic amino acids can be generated by substitution with, e.g., (in addition to lysine and arginine) the amino acids ornithine, citrulline, or (guanidino)-acetic acid, or (guanidino)alkyl-acetic acid, where alkyl is defined above. Nitrile derivative (e.g., containing the CN-moiety in place of COOH) can be substituted for asparagine or glutamine. Asparaginy and glutaminy residues can be deaminated to the corresponding aspartyl or glutamyl residues. Arginine residue mimetics can be generated by reacting arginyl with, e.g., one or more conventional reagents, including, e.g., phenylglyoxal, 2,3-butanedione, 1,2-cyclo-hexanedione, or ninhydrin, preferably under alkaline conditions. Tyrosine residue mimetics can be generated by reacting tyrosyl with, e.g., aromatic diazonium compounds or tetranitromethane. N-acetylimidazol and tetranitromethane can be used to form O-acetyl tyrosyl species and 3-nitro derivatives, respectively. Cysteine residue mimetics can be generated by reacting cysteinyl residues with, e.g., alpha-haloacetates such as 2-chloroacetic acid or chloroacetamide and corresponding amines; to give carboxymethyl or carboxyamidomethyl derivatives. Cysteine residue mimetics can also be generated by reacting cysteinyl residues with, e.g., bromo-trifluoroacetone, alpha-bromo-beta-(5-imidazolyl) propionic acid; chloroacetyl phosphate, N-alkylmaleimides, 3-nitro-2-pyridyl disulfide; methyl 2-pyridyl disulfide; p-chloromercuribenzoate; 2-chloromercuri-4 nitrophenol; or, chloro-7-nitrobenzo-oxa-1,3-diazole. Lysine mimetics can be generated (and amino terminal residues can be altered) by reacting lysinyl with, e.g., succinic or other carboxylic acid anhydrides. Lysine and other alpha-amino-containing residue mimetics can also be generated by reaction with imidoesters, such as methyl picolinimate, pyridoxal phosphate, pyridoxal, chloroborohydride, trinitro-benzenesulfonic acid, O-methylisourea, 2,4, pentanedione, and transamidase-catalyzed reactions with glyoxylate. Mimetics of methionine can be generated by reaction with, e.g., methionine sulfoxide. Mimetics of proline include, e.g., pipercolic acid, thiazolidine carboxylic acid, 3- or 4-hydroxy proline, dehydroproline, 3- or 4-methylproline, or 3,3,-dimethylproline. Histidine residue mimetics can be generated by reacting histidyl with, e.g., diethyl-procarbonate or para-bromophenacyl bromide. Other mimetics include, e.g., those generated by hydroxylation of proline and lysine; phosphorylation of the hydroxyl groups of seryl or threonyl residues; methylation of the alpha-amino groups of lysine, arginine and histidine; acetylation of the N-terminal amine; methylation of main chain amide residues or substitution with N-methyl amino acids; or amidation of C-terminal carboxyl groups.

The invention also provides methods for modifying the polypeptides of the invention by either natural processes, such as post-translational processing (e.g., phosphorylation,

acylation, etc), or by chemical modification techniques, and the resulting modified polypeptides. Modifications can occur anywhere in the polypeptide, including the peptide backbone, the amino acid side-chains and the amino or carboxyl termini. It will be appreciated that the same type of modification may be present in the same or varying degrees at several sites in a given polypeptide. Also a given polypeptide may have many types of modifications. Modifications include acetylation, acylation, ADP-ribosylation, amidation, covalent attachment of flavin, covalent attachment of a heme moiety, covalent attachment of a nucleotide or nucleotide derivative, covalent attachment of a lipid or lipid derivative, covalent attachment of a phosphatidylinositol, cross-linking cyclization, disulfide bond formation, demethylation, formation of covalent cross-links, formation of cysteine, formation of pyroglutamate, formylation, gamma-carboxylation, glycosylation, GPI anchor formation, hydroxylation, iodination, methylation, myristoylation, oxidation, pegylation, proteolytic processing, phosphorylation, prenylation, racemization, selenoylation, sulfation, and transfer-RNA mediated addition of amino acids to protein such as arginylation. See, e.g., Creighton, T. E., *Proteins—Structure and Molecular Properties* 2nd Ed., W.H. Freeman and Company, New York (1993); *Posttranslational Covalent Modification of Proteins*, B. C. Johnson, Ed., Academic Press, New York, pp. 1-12 (1983).

Solid-phase chemical peptide synthesis methods can also be used to synthesize the polypeptide or fragments of the invention. Such method have been known in the art since the early 1960's (Merrifield, R. B., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 85:2149-2154, 1963) (See also Stewart, J. M. and Young, J. D., *Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis*, 2nd Ed., Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, Ill., pp. 11-12)) and have recently been employed in commercially available laboratory peptide design and synthesis kits (Cambridge Research Biochemicals). Such commercially available laboratory kits have generally utilized the teachings of H. M. Geysen et al, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA*, 81:3998 (1984) and provide for synthesizing peptides upon the tips of a multitude of "rods" or "pins" all of which are connected to a single plate. When such a system is utilized, a plate of rods or pins is inverted and inserted into a second plate of corresponding wells or reservoirs, which contain solutions for attaching or anchoring an appropriate amino acid to the pin's or rod's tips. By repeating such a process step, i.e., inverting and inserting the rod's and pin's tips into appropriate solutions, amino acids are built into desired peptides. In addition, a number of available Fmoc peptide synthesis systems are available. For example, assembly of a polypeptide or fragment can be carried out on a solid support using an Applied Biosystems, Inc. Model 431A™ automated peptide synthesizer. Such equipment provides ready access to the peptides of the invention, either by direct synthesis or by synthesis of a series of fragments that can be coupled using other known techniques.

The invention includes polypeptides of the invention with and without signal sequences, i.e., leader sequences. The polypeptide comprising a signal sequence of the invention can be a CO₂ sensor of the invention or another CO₂ sensor or another enzyme or other polypeptide.

60 Antibodies and Antibody-Based Screening Methods

The invention provides isolated, synthetic or recombinant antibodies that specifically bind to a CO₂ sensor of the invention. These antibodies can be used to isolate, identify or quantify the CO₂ sensor polypeptides of the invention or related polypeptides. These antibodies can be used to isolate other polypeptides within the scope the invention or other related CO₂ sensors. The antibodies can be designed to bind

to an active site of a CO₂ sensor. Thus, the invention provides methods of inhibiting CO₂ sensor using the antibodies of the invention.

The invention provides fragments of the enzymes of the invention, including immunogenic fragments of a polypeptide of the invention. The invention provides compositions comprising a polypeptide or peptide of the invention and adjuvants or carriers and the like.

The antibodies can be used in immunoprecipitation, staining, immunoaffinity columns, and the like. If desired, nucleic acid sequences encoding for specific antigens can be generated by immunization followed by isolation of polypeptide or nucleic acid, amplification or cloning and immobilization of polypeptide onto an array of the invention. Alternatively, the methods of the invention can be used to modify the structure of an antibody produced by a cell to be modified, e.g., an antibody's affinity can be increased or decreased. Furthermore, the ability to make or modify antibodies can be a phenotype engineered into a cell by the methods of the invention.

In alternative aspects, an antibody of the invention includes a peptide or polypeptide derived from, modeled after or substantially encoded by an immunoglobulin gene or immunoglobulin genes, or fragments thereof, capable of specifically binding an antigen or epitope, see, e.g. *Fundamental Immunology*, Third Edition, W. E. Paul, ed., Raven Press, N.Y. (1993); Wilson (1994) *J. Immunol. Methods* 175:267-273; Yarmush (1992) *J. Biochem. Biophys. Methods* 25:85-97. The term antibody includes antigen-binding portions, i.e., "antigen binding sites," (e.g., fragments, subsequences, complementarity determining regions (CDRs)) that retain capacity to bind antigen, including (i) a Fab fragment, a monovalent fragment consisting of the VL, VH, CL and CH1 domains; (ii) a F(ab')₂ fragment, a bivalent fragment comprising two Fab fragments linked by a disulfide bridge at the hinge region; (iii) a Fd fragment consisting of the VH and CH1 domains; (iv) a Fv fragment consisting of the VL and VH domains of a single arm of an antibody, (v) a dAb fragment (Ward et al., (1989) *Nature* 341:544-546), which consists of a VH domain; and (vi) an isolated complementarity determining region (CDR). Single chain antibodies are also included by reference in the term "antibody."

Methods of immunization, producing and isolating antibodies (polyclonal and monoclonal) are known to those of skill in the art and described in the scientific and patent literature, see, e.g., Coligan, *CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN IMMUNOLOGY*, Wiley/Greene, NY (1991); Stites (eds.) *BASIC AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY* (7th ed.) Lange Medical Publications, Los Altos, Calif. ("Stites"); Goding, *MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE* (2d ed.) Academic Press, New York, N.Y. (1986); Kohler (1975) *Nature* 256:495; Harlow (1988) *ANTIBODIES, A LABORATORY MANUAL*, Cold Spring Harbor Publications, New York. Antibodies also can be generated *in vitro*, e.g., using recombinant antibody binding site expressing phage display libraries, in addition to the traditional *in vivo* methods using animals. See, e.g., Hoo-genboom (1997) *Trends Biotechnol.* 15:62-70; Katz (1997) *Annu. Rev. Biophys. Biomol. Struct.* 26:27-45.

Arrays, or "Biochips"

Nucleic acids and/or polypeptides of the invention can be immobilized to or applied to an array, e.g., a "biochip". Arrays can be used to screen for or monitor libraries of compositions (e.g., small molecules, antibodies, nucleic acids, etc.) for their ability to bind to or modulate the activity of a nucleic acid or a polypeptide of the invention. For

example, in one aspect of the invention, a monitored parameter is transcript expression of a CO₂ sensor gene. One or more, or, all the transcripts of a cell can be measured by hybridization of a sample comprising transcripts of the cell, or, nucleic acids representative of or complementary to transcripts of a cell, by hybridization to immobilized nucleic acids on an array, or "biochip." By using an "array" of nucleic acids on a microchip, some or all of the transcripts of a cell can be simultaneously quantified. Alternatively, arrays comprising genomic nucleic acid can also be used to determine the genotype of a newly engineered strain made by the methods of the invention. Polypeptide arrays" can also be used to simultaneously quantify a plurality of proteins. The present invention can be practiced with any known "array," also referred to as a "microarray" or "nucleic acid array" or "polypeptide array" or "antibody array" or "biochip," or variation thereof. Arrays are generically a plurality of "spots" or "target elements," each target element comprising a defined amount of one or more biological molecules, e.g., oligonucleotides, immobilized onto a defined area of a substrate surface for specific binding to a sample molecule, e.g., mRNA transcripts.

The terms "array" or "microarray" or "biochip" or "chip" as used herein is a plurality of target elements, each target element comprising a defined amount of one or more polypeptides (including antibodies) or nucleic acids immobilized onto a defined area of a substrate surface, as discussed in further detail, below.

In practicing the methods of the invention, any known array and/or method of making and using arrays can be incorporated in whole or in part, or variations thereof, as described, for example, in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,277,628; 6,277,489; 6,261,776; 6,258,606; 6,054,270; 6,048,695; 6,045,996; 6,022,963; 6,013,440; 5,965,452; 5,959,098; 5,856,174; 5,830,645; 5,770,456; 5,632,957; 5,556,752; 5,143,854; 5,807,522; 5,800,992; 5,744,305; 5,700,637; 5,556,752; 5,434,049; see also, e.g., WO 99/51773; WO 99/09217; WO 97/46313; WO 96/17958; see also, e.g., Johnston (1998) *Curr. Biol.* 8:R171-R174; Schummer (1997) *Biotechniques* 23:1087-1092; Kern (1997) *Biotechniques* 23:120-124; Solinas-Toldo (1997) *Genes, Chromosomes & Cancer* 20:399-407; Bowtell (1999) *Nature Genetics Supp.* 21:25-32. See also published U.S. patent applications Nos. 20010018642; 20010019827; 20010016322; 20010014449; 20010014448; 20010012537; 20010008765.

Kits and Libraries

The invention provides kits comprising compositions and methods of the invention, including cells and/or fish of the invention, target sequences, transfecting agents, transducing agents, instructions (regarding the methods of the invention), or any combination thereof. As such, kits, cells, vectors and the like are provided herein.

The invention provides compositions and methods for modulation of a plant's size and/or stature, e.g., including selection modulation of, for example, an entire plant, or a particular portion of a plant, or growth rate, or seedling vigor allows production of plants better suited for a particular industry. For example, reductions in the height of specific crops and tree species can be beneficial by allowing easier harvesting. Alternatively, increasing height, thickness or organ size, organ number may be beneficial by providing more biomass useful for processing into food, feed, fuels and/or chemicals. Other examples of commercially desirable traits include increasing the length of the floral stems of cut flowers, increasing or altering leaf size and shape or enhancing the size of seeds and/or fruits. Changes in organ size, organ number and biomass also result in changes in the mass

of constituent molecules such as secondary products and convert the plants into factories for these compounds. Thus, the compositions and methods of the invention can be used to modulate plant size, vegetative growth, plant growth rate, organ number, plant architecture and/or biomass.

The invention will be further described with reference to the following examples; however, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to such examples.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Manipulating the Exchange of Water and Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Through Plant Stomata by Controlling CO₂ Sensor Genes of the Invention

The invention provides methods for manipulating the exchange of water and carbon dioxide (CO₂) through plant stomata by controlling CO₂ sensor genes of this invention.

A double mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* was constructed: this double mutant lacks the full-length expression of two homologous genes that are highly expressed in wildtype guard cells, according to cell-specific microarray analyses was constructed.

The double mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* lacks the full-length expression of homologous genes highly expressed in wildtype guard cells, according to cell-specific microarray analyses. The CO₂Sen double mutant shows an impaired stomatal response as measured by real-time gas exchange analysis to changes in [CO₂]; both with regards to changes from ambient 365 ppm CO₂ to elevated 800 ppm CO₂ and from 800 ppm CO₂ to reduced 100 ppm CO₂. The CO₂sen-type encoded proteins bind CO₂.

FIG. 1 graphically illustrates data showing stomatal conductance in wild-type *Arabidopsis thaliana* ecotype Columbia and the CO₂ sense double mutant. Ambient 365 ppm CO₂ 0-1800 seconds, 800 ppm CO₂ 1800-3600 seconds, 100 ppm CO₂ 3600-9000.

FIG. 2 illustrates various expression levels in different stages of guard cell (GC) development:

FIG. 2A: various expression levels in different stages of GCs

FIG. 2B: Expression of 27-GUS in young leaf and leaf stems.

FIG. 2C: Expression of 27-GUS in upper level of hypocotyl.

FIG. 2D: Expression of 27-GUS in leaf stem and edge.

FIG. 2E & FIG. 2F: Four lips in wt.

FIG. 3 illustrates expression of 27-YC3.6 (SEQ ID NO:10) in GC on the stem of adjacent leaf but not in the very young leaf (outlined) (A & A'). 27-YC3.6 is mainly expressed in mature GC, very weak in young or immature GC (white arrow in B & B'). 27-YC3.60 (SEQ ID NO:11) is also expressed in GCs on hypocotyle (C & C'). 27-YC3.6 (SEQ ID NO:10) is also expressed in GCs on sepals (D & D').

Example 2

Characterization of CO₂ Receptors that Control Plant CO₂ Uptake and Water Use Efficiency

The invention provides compositions and methods for controlling the opening and/or closing of plant stomatal pores. Stomatal pores are formed by guard cells pairs in the epidermis of leaves and enable the control of plant water loss

and influx of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into plants. The invention provides compositions and methods for controlling the amount of CO₂ taken up for photosynthetic carbon fixation, and amount of water lost through the process of transpiration through these "controlled" stomatal pores. The invention provides compositions and methods for providing signal transduction mechanisms in guard cells to sense CO₂ levels, water status, light and other environmental stimuli to regulate stomatal apertures for optimization of CO₂ influx, water loss and plant growth under diverse conditions.

The invention provides compositions and methods for sensitizing plants to high levels of CO₂ to trigger stomatal closing, and to sensitize plants to low CO₂ levels to induce stomatal opening. In one aspect, the compositions and methods of the invention are used to aid in sequestering(?) atmospheric [CO₂] (which in one aspect is accomplished by inhibiting the expression of CO₂-Response proteins in vivo or in situ), for example, to ameliorate increasing levels of atmospheric [CO₂], which is predicted to double within the present century. In one aspect, the compositions and methods of the invention will ameliorate the "stomatal closing" effect of increasing levels of atmospheric [CO₂] (which in one aspect is accomplished by enhancing the expression of CO₂-Response proteins in vivo or in situ), noting that ambient CO₂ increases will reduce stomatal apertures of different plant species by up to 40%. In one aspect, the compositions and methods of the invention can be used to ameliorate the profound effects on gas exchange, carbon fixation, leaf temperature and/or water use efficiency of plants caused, e.g., on a global scale, by the increasing levels of atmospheric [CO₂].

For the first time mutants that show CO₂ insensitivity in stomatal CO₂ responses, but do not impair the abscisic responses, have been made and characterized by the inventors. Using guard cell specific microarray analysis, this invention identified a double mutant in two homologous genes named: CO₂-Response Protein 1 (CORP1), also designated "CA1", or At3g01500 or SEQ ID NO:7; and, CO₂-Response Protein 2 (CORP2), also designated "CA4", or At1g70410 or SEQ ID NO:1; both of which are highly expressed in guard cells of *Arabidopsis* plants. Whereas single knock-out mutants showed no phenotype, double mutant plants in these two genes showed a strong impairment in CO₂-induced stomatal closing compared to wild-type (wt) plants, as illustrated in FIG. 4a. Studies show complementation of this CO₂ phenotype by transgenic expression of the CORP1 cDNA (SEQ ID NO:7), as illustrated in FIG. 4b. FIG. 4a and FIG. 4b, illustrate the relative stomatal conductances of double mutant (corp1 corp2), WT (wild-type) and (b) a transgenic complemented line (CORP1/corp1 corp2) expressing CORP1 in response to changes in CO₂ concentrations (X-axis: ppm [CO₂]).

CORP proteins bind CO₂. corp1 (encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO:7) and corp2 (encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO:1) are also expressed in other plant cells. Double mutant corp1/corp2 plants did not show disruption of other important signaling pathways in guard cells, including stomatal closing induced by the drought-induced hormone abscisic acid (ABA), as illustrated in FIG. 4c. FIG. 4(c) graphically illustrates data demonstrating the intact response of the SEQ ID NO:7/SEQ ID NO:1, or corp1/corp2, double mutant and WT plants to abscisic acid (ABA).

These data demonstrate that CORP1 (encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO:7) and CORP2 (SEQ ID NO:1) function as CO₂ receptors in guard cells that control global plant gas exchange and to achieve an understanding of the molecular mechanisms that mediate CO₂ signal transduction via

CORP1 (encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO:7) and CORP2 (encoded by, e.g., SEQ ID NO:1) in guard cells.

In another aspect, to facilitate analyses of subcellular localization(s) of CORP proteins, including the CORP proteins of this invention, e.g., CORP1 and CORP2 proteins, the invention also provides N- and C-terminal tags (e.g., YFP fusions) with CORP proteins, including the CORP proteins of this invention, e.g., CORP1 and CORP2. These tagged CORP proteins are introduced into wild-type and *corp1 corp2* double mutant plants. Cellular localization and simultaneous complementation are analyzed.

In another aspect, CORP-encoding genes, such as the nucleic acids of this invention encoding CORP proteins, e.g., *corp 1* and *corp 2*, are operatively linked to various transcriptional regulatory sequences, e.g., promoters, such as the guard cell specific transcriptional regulatory sequences, e.g., guard cell specific promoters of this invention. These nucleic acids are used to determine whether CORP1 and/or CORP2 can be expressed in guard cells for functional stomatal CO₂ signaling; e.g., whether CORP1 and/or CORP2 alone or together are sufficient for functional stomatal CO₂ signaling in a plant cell, tissue or organ.

In one aspect, the invention introduces these two genes under the control of a guard cell specific promoter, e.g., guard cell specific transcriptional regulatory sequences of this invention, e.g., guard cell specific promoters of this invention, mesophyll cell specific promoter and/or the ecotopic 35S promoter, into *corp1 corp2* double mutant plants to determine the cell specific requirement for complementation of the impaired CO₂ response. Gas exchange and stomatal signaling transduction analysis are conducted for this goal. Data has shown that these receptors function in stomatal CO₂ signaling in guard cells.

In one aspect, the invention characterizes the CO₂ signaling mechanisms mediated by CORP proteins, e.g., using CORP-encoding nucleic acids of this invention, and in one exemplary methods, CORP-interacting proteins are isolated from plant, bacteria or other cells. In one aspect, methods comprise use of yeast two-hybrid screening systems, split ubiquitin system screening and/or co-immunoprecipitation systems using, e.g., YFP-tagged (or equivalently tagged) CORP proteins. The functions of CORP interactors in CO₂ signal transduction are identified and analyzed.

In one aspect, the invention provides cell type-specific CORP over-expression cells, tissues, organs and/or cell lines to, e.g., analyze water use efficiency of plants at different CO₂ concentrations and engineer improved water use efficiency in *Arabidopsis* and selected important economical crops, e.g., important economically for fixing carbon. Data shows a greater than fifty percent (>50%) increase in water use efficiency in *Arabidopsis* by CORP over-expression (using *corp*-encoding nucleic acids of this invention).

Complementation of the double mutant of the two homologous genes CO₂-Response Protein 1 (CORP1), also designated "CA1", or At3g01500 or SEQ ID NO:7; and, CO₂-Response Protein 2 (CORP2), also designated "CA4", or At1g70410 or SEQ ID NO:1, was made. We measured the stomatal index of complementation plants and overexpression plants. As illustrated in FIG. 5A and FIG. 5B, both CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) can complement this double mutants to varying degrees. Overexpression of CA1 decreases the "stomatal index". A "stomatal index" is defined as: (number of stomata per mm²×100)/(number of stomata per mm²+number of epidermal cells per mm²; or alternatively phrased: Stomatal Index (I)=[S/(E+S)]*100, where S is the number of stomata per unit area, and E is the

number of epidermal cells per same unit area. This "stomatal index" value can be useful in comparing leaves of different sizes; relative humidity and light intensity during leaf development affect the value of stomata index.

The gas exchange and water use efficiency (WUE) of the CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) complementation plants were also measured. Plant gas exchange and WUE are measured in the morning. Exemplary results are analyzed and shown in FIG. 6, showing the relative stomatal conductance; where these results are summarized and graphically illustrated in FIG. 7, FIG. 7A graphically illustrating the water use efficiency (WUE) data, and FIG. 7A graphically illustrating the relative stomatal conductance data.

FIG. 8 illustrates photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in complementation plants, in particular, in leaves, and in guard cells and in mesophyll cells; FIG. 8A illustrating Col plants transformed with CA1 cDNA; FIG. 8B illustrating CA1/4 mutants transformed with CA1 cDNA; and, FIG. 8C FIG. 8B illustrating CA1/4/6 mutants transformed with CA1 cDNA.

FIGS. 9A and 9B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)). FIGS. 9C, 9D and 9E illustrate data from a CO₂ sensor showing deficient CO₂ regulation of gas exchange; note: Light condition=red light (50 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹), blue light (6 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹).

FIG. 10A graphically illustrates a summary of data showing intact abscisic acid response in the *ca1ca4* (CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)) double mutant. FIG. 10B graphically illustrates a summary of data showing that an inhibitor of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and/or CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) mimics CO₂ Insensitivity in wild-type (WT) plants.

FIGS. 11A and 11B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)), and FIG. 11C illustrates data showing that genomic DNA of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) or CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) genes can complement CO₂ response under different light conditions: red light (50 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹), blue light (6 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹).

FIGS. 12A, 12B and 12C, graphically illustrate a summary of data showing that photosynthesis is not impaired in *ca1ca4* triple CO₂ sensor knockout mutant plants: Light during pre-adaptation time, prior to PS fluorescence measurements: 50 umol/m2/s: 88% red light, 12% blue light; 2000 umol/m2/s: 90% red light, 10% blue light. FIG. 12D illustrates the CO₂ assimilation rate in dark and in red light (where the red light: 300 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹).

FIGS. 13A, 13B and 13C, graphically and pictorially illustrate that photosynthesis-impaired bleached leaves show intact CO₂ regulation of gas exchange.

FIGS. 14A and 14B illustrate photomicrographs of Northern blots showing the expression level of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) in double knockouts (of CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1)); and FIG. 14C, graphically and pictorially illustrate that CO₂ sensor over-expression plants where the CA1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and CA4 (SEQ ID NO:1) are operatively linked to guard cell targeted promoters of this invention show enhanced water use efficiency (WUE). In FIG. 14C, the data shows no effect observed on flowering time.

Isolation and Characterization of a Strong
Arabidopsis Guard Cell Promoter and its Use as a
Guard Cell Transcriptional Activator

The invention provides transcriptional activators that are very active in plant guard cell; including guard cell-specific transcriptional activators, such as promoters. For example, the invention provides nucleic acids (polynucleotides) having a sequence at least about 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, 75%, 76%, 77%, 78%, 79%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or more or complete sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:10 and/or SEQ ID NO:11, over a region of at least about 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800 or more residues, or over the full length of a promoter having guard-cell specific activity, or a transcriptional regulatory region having guard-cell specific activity, wherein the nucleic acid comprises or consists of a guard cell-specific promoter, or a guard cell-specific transcriptional regulatory region.

In one aspect, the invention provides guard-cell transcriptional regulatory regions that consistently give high expression of heterologous sequences in a plant cell, e.g., consistently give high expression of transgenes of interest. In one aspect, the transcriptional regulatory regions of this invention are used to improve available methods for targeted gene expression in guard cells.

Strong guard cell promoter candidates were isolated based on new guard cell-specific microarray analyses of 23,000 genes. A guard cell specific microarray-based approach was used to analyze putative strong guard cell specific promoters. A promoter pGC1 (At1g22690) drove very strong expression of reporter genes (GUS and GFP-based calcium reporter) in guard cells of both *Arabidopsis* and tobacco. Specific gene suppression in guard cells was also achieved by pGC1 driving antisense repression.

Results:

A promoter, pGC1(At1g22690), drove strong and relatively specific reporter gene expression in guard cells including GUS (beta-glucuronidase) and yellow cameleon YC3.60 (GFP-based calcium FRET reporter). Reporter gene expression was weaker in immature guard cells. The expression of YC3.60 was sufficiently strong to image intracellular Ca²⁺ dynamics in guard cells of intact plants and resolved spontaneous calcium transients in guard cells. The GC1 promoter also mediated strong reporter expression in clustered stomata in the stomatal development mutant too-many-mouths (tmm).

Furthermore, the same promoter::reporter constructs also drove guard cell specific reporter expression in tobacco, illustrating the potential of this promoter as a method for high level expression in guard cells. A serial deletion of the promoter defined a guard cell expression promoter region. In addition, anti-sense repression using pGC1 was powerful for reducing specific GFP gene expression in guard cells while expression in leaf epidermal cells was not repressed, demonstrating strong cell-type preferential gene repression.

Conclusion:

The pGC1 promoter of this invention drives strong reporter expression in guard cells of *Arabidopsis* and tobacco plants. The promoters of this invention can provide a potent tool for targeted guard cell expression or gene silencing. Promoters of this invention can be used to reduce specific gene expression in guard cells, providing a method

for circumvention of limitations arising from genetic redundancy and lethality. Promoters of this invention can be used for manipulating signaling pathways in guard cells and modifying plant performance under stress conditions.

5 Results

Isolation of pGC1, a Strong Guard Cell Promoter

Guard cell-specific microarray data were analyzed side by side with mesophyll cell-specific microarray data [see reference 26, cited below] to search for strong guard cell promoter candidates with low expression levels in mesophyll cells. Additional guard cell and mesophyll cell microarray experiments were conducted covering 234,000 genes (source: ATH1 Affymetrix, Santa Clara, Calif.). Furthermore, candidate genes were analyzed using GENEVESTIGATOR™ to select genes with low expression levels in non-leaf tissues across more than 2000 microarray experiments [see reference 27, cited below]. Guard cells and mesophyll cells exposed to ABA were also analyzed, as ABA synthesis is induced under several stress conditions. The following criteria were used for selection of strong guard cell promoter candidates. The raw signal in guard cells was set above 10000, the raw signal in mesophyll cells was set below 1000, and the reduction or induction fold by ABA was set to be less than two. Transcriptional profiles of several genes passed these criteria, see FIG. 15, which graphically summarizes data showing the transcriptional profiles of guard cell expressed genes in both guard cells and mesophyll cells.

In FIG. 15, average transcript levels of KAT1 (At5g46240), AtMYB60 (At1g08810), AtMYB61 (At1g09540), RAB18 (At5g66400), GC1 (At1g22690) (SEQ ID NO:10), and AtACT7 (At5g09810) from two independent microarrays are displayed. While KAT1, AtMYB60 and GC1 all exhibited guard cell-specific expression, the transcript level of GC1 was the highest among the three genes. RAB18 also exhibited very strong guard cell expression, but its expression level in mesophyll cells was strongly induced by ABA treatment.

The putative promoters (1 to 2 kb upstream of the annotated ATG start codon, see FIG. 16) were amplified by PCR and cloned into a GUS reporter vector. GUS staining of the T1 transgenic plants showed guard cell specific staining for one particular promoter candidate (At1g22690), designated as pGC1. At1g22690 is among the most highly expressed genes in guard cells. It showed relatively high expression in guard cells and low expression in mesophyll cells. At1g22690 encodes a small cysteine rich protein (119 amino acids). It belongs to the GASA family (GA-stimulated transcript (GAST1) protein homolog). A study by Wigoda et al. [28] suggested that GIP2 (a GASA protein from *Petunia hybrida*) exhibited in planta antioxidant activity. T-DNA insertional line in At1g22690 did not yield any noticeable stomatal phenotypes under our typical laboratory conditions (unpublished data). Furthermore, our guard cell microarray data showed that two other GASA genes also showed high expression level in guard cells (GASA 1 (At1g75750) and GASA 4 (At5g15230)).

FIG. 16 is the promoter sequence of GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10, but the sequence of FIG. 16 also having an ATG added at the 3' end): in GC1 the transcriptional start site is denoted as +1, and the putative start codon (ATG) is located at +23/+25 bp. The Dof target sites, 5'-TAAAG-3' (+) or 5'-CTTTA-3'(-), which have been shown to contribute to guard-cell specific gene expression [24], are boxed. The ABRE, abscisic acid-response element, 5'-ACGTG-3' (+) or 5'-CACGT-3' (-), are underscored and labeled. The TATA box (5'-TATATAA-3') and the start codon (ATG) are shown

in bold with dotted boxes. The arrowheads mark the positions for promoter deletion analyses in FIG. 18.

We analyzed GC1 (At1g22690) gene expression in response to different treatments in the microarrays data compiled by GENEVESTIGATOR™ [27, 29] Among 96 treatments, 8 treatments affected At1g22690 expression more than two fold. Salt and osmotic stress dramatically decreased At1g22690 gene expression (more than 10 fold) [30]. Meanwhile, light, ABA, GA, cold or drought did not induce more than a two-fold change in gene expression of At1g22690. This suggests that GC1 (At1g22690) has a relatively constant expression under most common situations.

Interestingly, the pGC1::GUS not only delivered strong GUS expression in guard cells in leaves (FIG. 17A, B), but also in guard cells in petioles and hypocotyls (FIG. 17C, D, E). GUS staining from other candidate promoter-GUS fusions was either not very strong in guard cells and/or showed reporter expression in other tissues. We therefore focused on pGC1 for the rest of this study. The GC1 promoter was also fused to a second reporter, a GFP-based calcium reporter, yellowameleon 3.60 (YC3.60) [31]. Most T1 transgenic plants (approximately 75%) transformed with pGC1::YC3.60 exhibited strong guard cell specific fluorescence, indicating a high degree of guard cell expression efficiency per transformant. Some plants also showed fluorescence in some leaf epidermal cells (data not shown). However, younger or immature guard cells showed no or much less GFP expression (FIG. 17F, G). Furthermore, guard cells in sepals and hypocotyls also showed GFP expression (FIG. 17H, I, J, K).

We further examined whether the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter could drive guard cell specific reporter expression in a guard cell development mutant, too many mouths (tmm) [32]. The tmm mutant was transformed with either the pGC1::GUS or the pGC1::YC3.60 construct. GUS staining showed reporter gene expression in clustered stomata (FIG. 17L). Similarly, GFP expression was observed in clustered stomata in tmm plants transformed with pGC1::YC3.60 (FIG. 17M).

To test if the GC1 promoter can drive guard cell specific reporter gene expression in plants besides *Arabidopsis*, we also transformed pGC1::YC3.60 into tobacco plants. Interestingly, strong guard cell GFP expression was observed in tobacco leaves, see FIG. 17N.

In summary, for FIG. 17: the GC1 promoter mediates strong reporter expression in guard cells of wild-type *Arabidopsis* seedlings, too many mouths mutant and also in tobacco:

FIG. 17A: A two-week-old pGC1::GUS transgenic seedling.

FIG. 17B. Different stages of guard cells exhibited different levels of GUS expression.

FIG. 17C. Upper part of the hypocotyl.

FIG. 17D: Young leaf and petiole.

FIG. 17E: Leaf edge and petiole.

FIG. 17F and Figure G: pGC1::YC3.60 was mainly expressed in mature guard cells, very weak in young or immature guard cells (white arrows in (f) & (g)).

FIGS. 17H and 17I: pGC1::YC3.60 was expressed in guard cells on the hypocotyl.

FIGS. 17J and 17K: pGC1::YC3.60 was expressed in guard cells on the sepal.

FIGS. 17L and 17M: pGC1 mediated GUS (L) and GFP (M) reporter expression in clustered stomata in too many mouths.

FIG. 17N: pGC1 mediated strong reporter gene expression in tobacco guard cells.

Serial Promoter Deletions Define a Region for Guard Cell Specificity and Strength

A promoter region may contain both enhancer and repressor elements. To probe which part of the original 1716 base pair (bp) promoter (full length, FL, -1693 bp/+23 bp) is required for strong guard cell specific reporter expression, four 5' truncated versions of the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter were generated as D1 (-1140 bp/+23 bp), D2 (-861 bp/+23 bp), D3 (-443 bp/+23 bp), and D4 (-224 bp/+23 bp), see FIG. 18. These truncated promoters were fused to the GUS reporter to generate the following constructs: pGC1(D1)::GUS, pGC1 (D2)::GUS, pGC1(D3)::GUS and pGC1 (D4)::GUS. These GUS reporter constructs were transformed into Columbia wild type plants side-by-side with the original pGC1 (FL)::GUS construct. T1 seedlings (n=50-100) from each transformation event were pooled and stained. The truncated pGC1(D1) drove similar or stronger GUS expression in seedlings than the original full-length promoter (FIG. 4A), suggesting that elements in the region from -1693 bp to -1140 bp might repress promoter activity in guard cells. Promoters pGC1(D2) and pGC1(D3) led to weaker reporter gene expression in guard cells than pGC1(FL), suggesting elements in the region from -1140 bp to -443 bp might enhance the promoter activity in guard cells. The shortest promoter, pGC1(D4), drove reporter gene expression in tissues other than guard cells, such as roots and seed coats, suggesting the region from -861 bp to -224 bp was required for guard cell specific activity. This region contains 8 (T/A)AAAAG elements that have been shown to be required for guard cell specific activity of the KST1 promoter in potato [24]. The truncated promoter, pGC1(D1), showed strong guard cell expression, suggesting that it contains elements for both guard cell specificity and promoter strength. Accordingly, the invention provides transcriptional activators (such as promoters) that are guard cell specific that comprise or consist essentially of the region from -861 bp to -224 bp; and provides transcriptional activators (such as promoters) that are guard cell specific that comprise or consist essentially of the region from -1140 bp to -443 bp.

In summary, FIG. 18 illustrates serial deletions of the pGC1 promoter to define regions for guard cell expression, where FIG. 18A illustrates photographs that are representative T1 plants from different promoter::GUS transgenic lines. The pGC1(D1) (-1140/+23) promoter mediated stronger GUS expression in guard cells than the original full-length promoter (FL) (-1693/+23). GUS expression of pGC1 (D2)::GUS and pGC1 (D3)::GUS was weaker than that of the pGC1 (FL)::GUS and pGC1 (D1)::GUS. The shortest promoter pGC1(D4) (-224/+23) drives reporter expression in tissues and cells besides guard cells.

FIG. 18B graphically illustrates serial (structural, or sequence) deletion of the pGC1 promoter to define regions for guard cell expression. The black arrowheads stand for TAAAG elements while the smaller gray arrowheads stand for AAAAG elements. Arrowheads on the top of the promoter line are on the sense strand while arrowheads below the promoter line are on the antisense strand. The central TAAAG on the sense strand was also marked by a star and was chosen for block mutagenesis. The region from -1693 to -1140 contains repressor elements for guard cell expression and the region from -1140 to -224 contains elements for guard cell specificity and also enhancer elements for guard cells expression.

Calcium Imaging in Guard Cells of Intact Plants

Many physiological stimuli in plant cells induce changes in the intracellular calcium concentration. Calcium acts as a secondary messenger in many signal transduction cascades [33]. Cytosolic calcium concentrations can be monitored either by chemical reporters such as the ratiometric Ca^{2+} -sensitive fluorescent dye fura-2 [34, 35], the genetically encoded calcium sensitive luminescent protein aequorin [14] or the fluorescent ratiometric calcium reporter yellow cameleon [12, 15, 36]. Stomatal closing signals, such as ABA and CO_2 , have been shown to induce calcium elevations in guard cells [16, 18, 19, 37-42]. Spontaneous calcium transients in leaf epidermal samples have also been observed without any ABA treatment [15, 43, 44]. It is not clear whether spontaneous calcium transients occur in guard cells in intact plants as fura-2 injected *Vicia faba* guard cells did not show such transients [45].

A new generation calcium indicator, yellow cameleon, YC3.60, shows an enhanced calcium-dependent change in the ratio of YFP/CFP by nearly 600% compared with yellow cameleon 2.1 [31]. By combining the GC1 promoter (SEQ ID NO:10) with YC3.60, pGC1::YC3.60, as described before, we observed strong guard cell expression of the YC3.60 in intact leaves, hypocotyls, and sepals, as illustrated in FIG. 19.

In brief, FIG. 19 illustrates imposed intracellular calcium transients in pGC1::YC3.60 expressing guard cells and spontaneous calcium transients occur in guard cells of intact pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic plants:

FIG. 19A illustrates fluorescence image of leaf epidermis of pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic plant. Note the surrounding epidermal cells were not fluorescent.

FIG. 19B illustrates that the six guard cells in panel A all produced intracellular calcium transients in response to imposed calcium oscillations. The arrows mark the switch point from the depolarizing buffer to the Ca^{2+} -containing hyperpolarizing buffer (see Methods section).

FIG. 19C illustrates a pseudo-colored ratiometric image of a leaf from an intact Col plants transformed with pGC1::YC3.60. The orange-yellow color indicates higher $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ and the blue color indicates lower $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$. Spontaneous calcium transients occurred in leaves of intact *Arabidopsis* plants.

FIG. 19D illustrates a time course (25 minutes) of the emission ratios of the two guard cells marked by an arrow in C shows that spontaneous calcium transients occur in intact *Arabidopsis* plants. The ratio was calculated for individual cells by dividing the YFP emission intensity by the CFP emission intensity.

We first measured calcium transients in intact leaf epidermis from plants transformed with pGC1::YC3.60 by imposing calcium oscillations as described previously [11, 46]. Robust calcium transients with ratiometric changes of up to a factor of 4 relative to the baseline ratio could be observed in guard cells, see FIG. 19B. Ratiometric changes of approximately 0.5 were observed using 35S::YC2.1 in response to imposed calcium transients [15, 43, 44, 46]. This further confirmed the robust ratiometric signal to noise efficiency of YC3.60.

Next, we performed calcium imaging in intact *Arabidopsis* seedlings by mounting leaves to a microscope cover glass. Two different methods were tested: the first one was to submerge only the root with water and leave the shoot in air, and the second one was to submerge the entire plant in water. Spontaneous calcium transients were detected under both conditions, see Table 1, below.

A representative calcium transients/time course is shown in FIG. 19D.

Interestingly, the spontaneous calcium transients of two guard cells from the same stomate were often not synchronized, see FIG. 19C, D. These experiments clearly demonstrate that spontaneous calcium transients occurred in guard cells of intact plants and were not an artifact of imaging excised epidermis and illustrate the potential of the pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter of this invention as a method for driving transgene and reporter expression in guard cells.

The Use of pGC1 to Manipulate Specific Gene Expression in Guard Cells

Manipulation of specific gene expression in guard cells, either by highly expressing the wild-type gene or a dominant mutant form, or reducing its expression in guard cells, would be very powerful to probe a specific gene function in guard cells. To further explore the application of the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter, we took the antisense approach to analyze reduction of gene expression in guard cells. For this purpose, a 35S::GFP transgenic line with stable GFP expression in both guard cells and epidermal cells, see FIG. 20A, B, was transformed with a pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP construct (anti-GFP fused to the truncated GC1 promoter pGC1(D1)). 34 out of 40 T1 plants of 35S::GFP plants transformed with pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP showed greatly reduced GFP expression in guard cells while the GFP expression level in epidermal cells was unchanged, as illustrated in FIG. 20C, D.

In summary, FIG. 20 illustrates micrographs of pGC1 (D1)::anti-GFP caused reduction of GFP expression in guard cells of 35S::GFP plants:

FIG. 20A illustrates leaf epidermis of a 35S::GFP transgenic plant (bright field with GFP filter). The arrows mark stomata.

FIG. 20B illustrates the fluorescence imaging of same leaf epidermis shown in A. Stomata are marked by lighter (yellow) arrows. Note that both the guard cells and surrounding epidermal cells are fluorescent.

FIG. 20C illustrates leaf epidermis of a T1 transgenic plant expressing pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP in the 35S::GFP background. All stomata are marked by lighter (yellow) arrows.

FIG. 20D illustrates the fluorescence imaging of the same leaf epidermis shown in 20C. Note that 7 (marked by relatively darker (blue) arrows) out of 8 stomata showed reduced GFP expression compared with the surrounding epidermal cells. One pair of guard cells (marked by the lighter (yellow) arrow) still exhibited moderate GFP expression. This stomate was relatively immature compared with the other 7 stomata.

These observations demonstrate a remarkable antisense repression efficiency using the sequence of this invention pGC1(D1) (SEQ ID NO:10). Interestingly, less suppression of GFP expression was observed in immature guard cells (see lighter (yellow) arrow in FIG. 20D, versus the relatively darker (blue) arrows). This is consistent with the observation that pGC1 drove less reporter gene expression in immature guard cells, see e.g., FIG. 17G, discussed above. This experiment demonstrates that an antisense approach using sequences of this invention can be used to reduce expression of selected genes in guard cells without affecting its expression in other cell types.

Discussion

This invention for the first time identifies the strong *Arabidopsis* guard cell promoter, pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10). Promoter::reporter fusion analyses showed pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) has strong guard cell specific reporter gene expres-

sion in e.g. wild-type *Arabidopsis* plants and the guard cell development mutant, too many mouths [32] and also tobacco plants. Serial deletions of the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter defined regions for guard cell expression. Calcium imaging in guard cells in intact plants was made possible via the combination of the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter and a new generation of calcium reporter, YC3.60 [31]. The GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter of the invention was also powerful for knocking down specific gene expression in guard cells using an antisense approach.

Comparison Between the GC1 Promoter and Other Known Guard Cell Promoters

As the central regulator of water transpiration and CO₂ uptake, guard cells have been developed as an integrative model system to investigate interplay among ion channel/transporter activities, light, plant hormones, secondary messengers, the cytoskeleton and membrane trafficking in regulating the physiological output: the stomatal aperture [2, 4, 5, 47, 48]. Several guard cell promoters have been reported. The KAT1 (At5g46240) promoter delivered specific reporter expression in guard cells even though it sometimes induced reporter expression in other cells and tissues such as roots and inflorescences [25]. AtMYB60 (At1g08810) also showed specific expression in guard cells based on promoter::GUS and promoter::GFP study [49]. AtMYB61 (At1g09540) has also been shown to be mainly expressed in guard cells [50].

Based on our guard cell-specific microarray data, we estimated the average transcription levels in FIG. 15, discussed above. The AtMYB61 gene expression signal was the lowest among these genes. In the case of KAT1, its expression in guard cells was much higher than that in mesophyll cells. But its raw signal was approximately 5 to 10 fold lower than that of GC1. AtMYB60 also exhibited highly guard cell specific expression compared with its expression in mesophyll cells. However, the raw signal of AtMYB60 was only approximately one third of that of the promoter of this invention GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10). Furthermore, AtMYB60 is also highly expressed in seeds based on GENEVESTIGATOR™ microarray analyses [27, 29, 51-54]. Similarly, RAB18 (At5g66400) is also highly expressed in seeds besides its strong expression in guard cells. pGC1 drove very strong and specific reporter gene expression in guard cells (expression is very low in non-leaf tissues/organs), although reporter gene expression was observed in epidermal cells in some plants transformed with the pGC1::YC3.60. In summary, the GC1 promoter is a very strong guard cell promoter among those analyzed.

Spontaneous Calcium Transients in Guard Cells

Studies with intact *Arabidopsis* plants using the genetically encoded calcium reporter YC3.60 driven by the GC1 promoter showed that spontaneous calcium transients occurred in guard cells in intact *Arabidopsis* plants. This is consistent with previous observations of spontaneous calcium transients in *Arabidopsis* guard cells [15, 43, 44]. However, the mechanisms causing spontaneous calcium transients are not yet characterized in depth. Several lines of evidence suggest a connection between hyperpolarization of the guard cell plasma membrane and spontaneous calcium transients in guard cells.

In experiments where membrane potential and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyr}$ were measured simultaneously, hyperpolarization caused ABA-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyr}$ increases. Maintaining guard cells in a more hyperpolarized state produced spontaneous $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyr}$ oscillations in *Vicia faba* guard cells [38], in a sub-population of *Commelina* guard cells [39] and in *Arabidopsis* guard cells [43]. Calcium imaging analyses in intact *Arabidopsis*

plants using pGC1::YC3.60 show that spontaneous calcium transients also occur in intact plants.

These spontaneous Ca²⁺ transients may also be the result of integrated signaling by multiple stimuli converging in guard cells, such as light conditions, CO₂ and water balance. In *Vicia faba* no spontaneous calcium transients were observed in guard cells in intact plants [45]. In this case fura-2 (ca. 100 μM) was injected into guard cells. High concentrations of fura-2 may inhibit spontaneous calcium elevations, as loading the close fura-2 analogue, BAPTA, into *Arabidopsis* guard cells effectively inhibits these calcium transients [44].

By contrast, the estimated yellow cameleon concentration in guard cells of pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10)::YC3.60 transgenic plants was approximately 1 μM (see Methods, discussed herein). The lower concentration of yellow cameleon should interfere less with guard cell calcium homeostasis and could monitor more faithfully calcium concentration dynamics. Note that low concentrations of injected fura-2 also allowed resolution of repetitive calcium transients in guard cells [38, 39]. Note that BAPTA-derived fluorescent dyes such as fura-2 and indo-1 have certain complementary advantages to cameleon, as they can be loaded into cells that are not easily transformed [55] and these dyes can report rapid millisecond scale Ca²⁺ transients that occur in neurons [56], but have presently not yet been reported in plants using fura-2 or indo-1.

Circadian calcium oscillations at the whole plant leaf level with a daily rhythm have been demonstrated by several groups using aequorin as the calcium reporter [57-59]. Most likely this circadian calcium oscillation results from synchronous changes in baseline cytosolic calcium in a cell population [60]. As the circadian calcium oscillation is related to the baseline of intracellular calcium, the rapid spontaneous calcium transients in individual guard cells likely would be filtered from circadian calcium measurements [60]. Repetitive calcium transients may reflect functions that include continuous calcium homeostasis between extracellular calcium, cytoplasmic calcium, and intracellular calcium stores. Spontaneous calcium transients in guard cells also correlate with the recent proposed calcium sensor priming hypothesis for calcium specificity in signaling, in which the stomatal closing signals ABA and CO₂ are proposed to prime (de-inactivate) calcium sensitive steps that mediate stomatal closing [44, 61].

(T/A)AAAG Cis Elements and Guard Cell Specific Expression

(T/A)AAAG, a binding motif for Dof zinc finger transcription factors, has been suggested to play a critical role for guard-cell specific expression of KST1 promoter activity in potato based on block mutagenesis [24]. However, the putative promoter regions (1800 bp before ATG start codon) for AtACT7 (At5g09810), KAT1 (At5g46240), RAB18 (At5g66400), AtMYB60 (At1g08810), AtMYB61 (At1g09540) and GC1 (At1g22690) all contain a similar number of Dof factor binding motifs, the (T/A)AAAG elements, even though some of them do not show guard cell expression preference. AtMYB61, which showed low expression in guard cells (FIG. 15), contains 29 (T/A) AAAG elements in its putative promoter region, while the AtACT7 promoter contains 23 (T/A)AAAG elements. Promoter truncation suggests that the region from -861 bp to -224 bp in the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter contains elements for guard cell specific promoter activity; see FIG. 18, discussed above. This region contains 8 (T/A)AAAG elements. However, block mutagenesis of the central TAAAG motif on the sense strand (marked by a star in FIG.

18B) in this region did not affect reporter expression in guard cells. Thus the (T/A)AAAG element alone may not explain why GC1 and other guard cell-specific genes exhibited guard cell-specific expression.

Conclusions

Microarray (ATH1) analyses of guard cell expressed genes was used to isolate and characterize a novel strong guard cell promoter of this invention, pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10). We analyzed the potential of pGC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) as a tool for manipulating gene expression in guard cells. The GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter was used to test several experimental manipulations. The GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter was used to express the calcium reporter YC3.60 in guard cells. This enabled us to perform calcium imaging experiments in guard cells of intact *Arabidopsis* plants.

For T-DNA insertional mutants hundreds of transformants are often needed to be generated to obtain at best a few lines expressing a reporter gene in guard cells when using the 35S promoter. In contrast, use of the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter of this invention provides a method to dramatically increase the success rate of reporter gene expression. Furthermore, guard cell-specific antisense GFP expression using the GC1 promoter efficiently silenced GFP expression in guard cells of 35S::GFP transgenic plants.

These data and the high transformation efficiency together demonstrate that promoters of this invention, including the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter of this invention, provide a powerful tool for manipulating the expression of guard cell signaling components and for expressing reporters of diverse secondary messengers. Thus, promoters of this invention, including the GC1 (SEQ ID NO:10) promoter, provide compositions and methods to selectively enhance expression in guard cells, to monitor signaling events in guard cells in response to different treatments, and to study whole plant responses in guard cell specific transgenic mutants.

Material and Methods

Plant Material

Arabidopsis thaliana (Columbia ecotype) plants were used for transformation experiments unless otherwise specified. The 35S::GFP transgenic line was generated for a previous study [62]. The guard cell development mutant, too many mouths, was a kind gift from Dr. Fred Sack at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

GeneChip Microarray Experiments

Plant growth, ABA treatment, guard cell protoplast isolation, and RNA extraction were performed as previously described [26]. Affymetrix *Arabidopsis* ATH1 genome arrays (Affymetrix, Santa Clara, Calif.) were used, representing approximately 24,000 genes. Transcripts were amplified, labeled, and hybridized at the University of California, San Diego Gene Chip Core facility. For each condition (with or without ABA treatment, guard cell or mesophyll cell), two independent hybridizations were performed. Transcriptional inhibitors (33 mg/L actinomycin D and 100 mg/L cordycepin) were added during protoplast isolation for RNA samples for four chip hybridizations as described [26]. ATH1 microarray data were deposited at MIAMEXPRESS™ [63] with an accession number E-MEXP-1443.

Construction of Recombinant Plasmids

To amplify the GC1 (At1g22690) promoter from the Col genomic DNA by PCR, primers YZ27 (5'-CATGCCATG-Gatttatgagtgtgatttgaag-3' (SEQ ID NO:37), right before the ATG start codon with NcoI site) and YZ28 (5'-ACGCGTCGACgagtaaagattcagtaacccg-3' (SEQ ID

NO:38), 1693 bp upstream of the transcriptional start (FIG. 16) with Sall site) were utilized. The PCR product was cloned into pGEM-Teasy vector (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, Calif.) to create pGEM-T-pGC1.

To clone the GC1 promoter into the pBI101 vector, pGEM-T-pGC1 was first cut by NcoI. The sticky end was then filled-in by T4 DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs) to create a blunt end. The pGC1 fragment was then released by Sall digestion. Meanwhile, the destination vector, pBI101, was cut sequentially by SmaI and Sall. The pGC1 fragment was then inserted upstream of the GUS reporter gene in the pBI101 vector to create pBI101-pGC1::GUS construct (simplified as pGC1::GUS).

To create the 5'-deletion series of the pGC1 promoter, primer YZ27 was used with primers YZ159 (5'-GCGTC-GACatgttgcaacagagaggatga-3' (SEQ ID NO:39), 1141 bp upstream of the transcriptional start, D1), YZ160 (5'-GCGTCGACctaatgaagggtgcccgttattg-3' (SEQ ID NO:40), 861 bp upstream of the transcriptional start, D2), YZ161 (5'-GCGTCGACcaatattgcgtctgcttct-3' (SEQ ID NO:41), 466 bp upstream of the transcriptional start, D3) and YZ162 (5'-GCGTCGACgaaccaatcaaaactgttgcata-3' (SEQ ID NO:42), 224 bp upstream of the transcriptional start, D4) respectively for genomic PCR to amplify pGC1(D1), pGC1(D2), pGC1(D3) and pGC1(D4) respectively (FIG. 4). The PCR fragments were then cloned into pGEM-T-easy vector and then subcloned into pBI101 vector to create pBI101-pGC1(D1)::GUS, pBI101-pGC1(D2)::GUS, pBI101-pGC1(D3)::GUS, and pBI101-pGC1(D4)::GUS.

To create pBI101-pGC1:YC3.60 construct, YC3.60 was first released from pcDNA3-YC3.60 [31] by EcoRI/BamHI double digestion. Then the BamHI-5'-YC3.60-3'-EcoRI fragment was cloned into pSK vector (prepared by EcoRI and BamHI digestion) to create pSK-YC3.60 construct. The pSK-YC3.60 was then digested with NotI and NcoI to receive NotI-5'-pGC1-3'-NcoI fragment from pGEM-T-pGC1. This ligation resulted in the pSK-pGC1::YC3.60. The pGC1::YC3.60 fragment was released by Sall/SacI double digestion, meanwhile the pBI101 vector was digested with Sall/SacI to remove the GUS reporter gene. The pBI101 (Sall/SacI) was ligated with Sall-5'-pGC1::YC3.60-3'-SacI to create pBI101-pGC1::YC3.60 construct.

To create pGreenII 0179-pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP binary vector with hygromycin selective marker in plant, the 35S terminator was amplified with YZ439 (5'-AAGAGATC-TATCTAGAGTCCGCAA-3'(SEQ ID NO:43), with XbaI) and YZ440 (5'-GCACGCTCGAGCTCgtcaactggattttagg-3' (SEQ ID NO:44), with SacI site) from vector pAVA319 [64]. The PCR product was then subsequently digested with XbaI and SacI. The 5'-XbaI-35S terminator-SacI-3' was ligated into pGreenII 0179-XbaI . . . SacI to create pGreenII 0179-terminator. The pGC1(D1) was released from pGEM-T-pGC1(D1) by NotI digestion, then filled-in, then cut by Sall to create 5'-Sall-pGC1(D1)-NotI (filled-in blunt end). Meanwhile, the pGreenII 0179-terminator was double digested with Sall and EcoRV. These two fragments were ligated to generate pGreenII 0179-pGCP (D1)-terminator vector. The antisense GFP was amplified with primers YZ449 (5'-ACATGCCATGgttactgtacagctcgtccatgcc-3' (SEQ ID NO:45), reverse end of GFP with NcoI) and YZ513 (5'-ctagTCTAGAatgtgagcaaggcgagg-3' (SEQ ID NO:46), start of GFP with XbaI). The PCR fragment was double digested with NcoI and XbaI. The pGreenII 0179-pGC1(D1)-Terminator was also double digested with NcoI and XbaI. The pGreenII 0179-pGC1

(D1)-Terminator fragment was ligated with 5'-NcoI-anti-GFP-XbaI-3' to produce pGreenII 0179-pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP binary construct.

The central TAAAG motif (-579→-575) on the sense stand was changed to CGGGA by block mutagenesis using the QUICKCHANGE™ site-directed mutagenesis kit from Stratagene (La Jolla, Calif.).

Arabidopsis transformation and selection

The binary constructs, pBI101-pGC1::YC3.60, pBI101-pGC1::GUS, pBI101-pGC1(D1)::GUS, pBI101-pGC1(D2)::GUS, pBI101-pGC1(D3)::GUS and pBI101-pGC1(D4)::GUS were transformed into the *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain GV3101 by electroporation. The transformants were selected on LB plates with both kanamycin (selective marker for the construct) and gentamycin (selective marker for the *Agrobacterium*). *Arabidopsis* plants were then transformed by *Agrobacterium* GV3101 hosting respective constructs following the dipping method as described by Clough and Bent [65]. The T0 seeds were selected on 1/2 MS plates with 50 µg/ml kanamycin.

In the case of pGreenII 0179-pGC1(D1)::anti-GFP, the GV3101 with the helper plasmid pSOUP was used as the host strain, and the selection for *Agrobacterium* transformants was carried on LB plates with Kanamycin, gentamycin, and tetracycline. This was used to transform 35S::GFP transgenic plants (kanamycin resistant). The T0 seeds were selected on 1/2 MS plates with 25 µg/ml hygromycin (Roche).

GUS Staining

Seedlings were stained following a previously described protocol [62].

Epi-Fluorescence Image Acquisition

Transgenic *Arabidopsis* seedlings or sepals of pBI101-pGC1::YC3.60 were simply placed between a microscope slide and a cover glass. A NIKON™ digital camera was attached to the microscope. Exposure time for the bright image is 5 seconds and 15-25 seconds for fluorescence image (excitation wavelength is 440 nm). For 35S::GFP plants and 35S::GFP plants transformed with pGREENII™ 0179-pGC1 (D1):: anti-GFP, intact leaf epidermis were used for epi-fluorescence image acquisition.

Tobacco Plant Transformation

In vitro sterile shoot cultures of *Nicotiana tabacum* cv. SR1 were maintained on 1/2MS agar medium containing 15 g/l sucrose. The pH was adjusted to 5.5 before autoclaving. The tobacco culture was grown at 25° C., with a light/dark cycle of 16/8 h (light intensity was approximately 70 µmol m⁻² s⁻¹). Stable transformation of *Nicotiana tabacum* SR1 with pBI101-pGC1-YC3.60 was performed as described previously [66]. Transgenic regenerated tobacco shoots were selected by kanamycin (100 µg/ml) resistance and were then transferred on 1/2MS agar medium containing 15 g/l sucrose supplemented with kanamycin (100 µg/ml) and cefotaxime (200 µg/ml). T1 regenerated plants, which were able to set up root organogenesis in presence of kanamycin, were then analyzed for cameleon expression.

Confocal Analysis of Transgenic Tobacco

The tobacco leaves of plant transformed with pBI101-pGC1-YC3.60 were observed with a Leica TCS SP2™ laser confocal microscope (Leica Microsystems). For cameleon detection, excitation was at 514 nm and emission between 525 and 540 nm. The images acquired from the confocal microscope were processed using IMAGE J™ [67].

Calcium Imaging and Imposed Ca²⁺ Transients

All calcium imaging in this work was performed with a TE300™ inverted microscope using a TE-FM™ epi-fluorescence attachment (Nikon Inc. Melville, N.Y.). Excitation

from a 75 W xenon lamp (Osram, Germany) was always attenuated 97% by using both 4× and 8× neutral density filters (3% transmission) to reduce bleaching of reporters during time-resolved imaging. Wavelength specificity was obtained with a cameleon filter set (440/20 excitation, 485/40 emission1, 535/30 emission2, 455DCLP™ dichroic; filter set 71007a™ Chroma Technology, Rockingham, Vt.). Filter wheel, shutter and COOLSNAP™ CCD camera from Photometrics (Roper Scientific, Germany) were controlled with METAFLUOR™ software (MDS, Inc., Toronto, Canada).

Intact leaf epidermes of pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic plants were prepared for microscopy as described in Mori et al. (2006)[11]. On the microscope, intact epidermis was perfused with depolarization buffer (10 mM MES-Tris buffer, pH 6.1 containing 25 mM dipotassium imminodiacetate, and 100 µM BAPTA) for 10 minutes to obtain a background. Subsequently hyperpolarizing buffer containing Ca²⁺ (10 mM MES-Tris buffer, pH 6.1, 1 mM dipotassium imminodiacetate, and 1 mM CaCl₂) was applied for 2 minutes intervals, followed by 5 minutes of depolarizing buffer.

Calcium Imaging in Guard Cells of Intact Plants

Both intact leaves and intact plants were used in this study. Medical adhesive (Hollister Inc., Libertyville, Ill.) was used to attach leaves to microscope cover glasses. A paintbrush was used to gently press the leaf to the coverslip. In the case of intact plants two different methods were followed. The first method was to submerge only the root with water while the shoot was left in air. The second method was to completely submerge entire seedlings in water. Sometimes submerging only the root but not the shoot caused the leaf attached to the cover slip to show wilting in less than 10 minutes with subsequent closure of the stomata. Most of the intact plant imaging experiments were therefore carried out by submerging both the shoot (leaves) and the root in water. The submersion of the entire plant prevented the leaf from drying out and no stomatal closure was observed for more than 50 minutes. The imaging protocol was the same as in Mori et al., 2006 [11].

Estimation of Yellow Cameleon Concentration in Guard Cells

Recombinant yellow cameleon protein was isolated after expression in *E. coli*. Recombinant cameleon protein was then added at defined concentrations to a glass cover slip for fluorescence imaging. Then two additional cover slips were used to create a slanted gradient of cameleon solution thicknesses. This enabled analysis of various solution thicknesses in the range of stomatal guard cell thicknesses. Diluted yellow cameleon protein solutions at different concentrations were analyzed and the fluorescence intensity was measured for each concentration at various thicknesses. Calibration curves were generated for protein concentrations and fluorescent intensities at different thicknesses. This was utilized to estimate the yellow cameleon protein concentration in guard cells of pGC1::YC3.6 transgenic plants.

TABLE I

Summary of calcium imaging in guard cells of intact pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic <i>Arabidopsis</i> plants.				
Experiments	plants	GCs analyzed	GCs with Spontaneous Ca ²⁺ transients	Percentage %
I	5	24	18	75
II	11	52	36	62.23

TABLE I-continued

Summary of calcium imaging in guard cells of intact pGC1::YC3.60 transgenic <i>Arabidopsis</i> plants.				
Experiments	plants	GCs analyzed	GCs with Spontaneous Ca ²⁺ transients	Percentage %
III	11	55	36	65.45
IV	9	54	24	44.44
Total	36	185	114	61.78%

Only roots were submerged in water in experiment I. Both leaves and roots were submerged in water in experiments II, III, and IV.

Example 4

Characterization of CO₂ Receptors that Control Plant CO₂ Uptake and Water Use Efficiency

The invention provides compositions and methods for down-regulating or decreasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising inter alia use of a polypeptide having a carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase) activity, or a β-carbonic anhydrase activity, or a nucleic acid encoding the carbonic anhydrase polypeptide; and, expressing, or overexpressing, a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein-expressing nucleic acid and/or a CO₂Sen gene or transcript (message), and/or a carbonic anhydrase or a β-carbonic anhydrase, in the guard cell. The invention provides compositions and methods for up-regulating or increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising inter alia use of a nucleic acid antisense to or otherwise inhibitory to a nucleic acid encoding a plant carbonic anhydrase (carbonate dehydratase), or a plant β-carbonic anhydrase; and expressing the antisense or inhibitory nucleic acid in the guard cell.

The invention provides compositions and methods for controlling guard cells in vivo, including their ability to form adjustable stomatal pores in the plant epidermis; thus, the invention provides compositions and methods for controlling CO₂ influx for photosynthesis and transpirational water loss from plants to the atmosphere.

The invention provides compositions and methods for controlling the diurnal rise in leaf CO₂ concentration during the night phase, as well as the continuing rise in atmospheric [CO₂] causes closing of the stomatal gas exchange pores; and thus the invention can affect carbon fixation and water use efficiency of plants. The invention provides compositions and methods for controlling signal transduction mechanisms that control CO₂-induced stomatal movements, including CO₂ sensors that control this response.

Using guard cell and leaf mesophyll cell specific microarrays, we identified highly expressed β-carbonic anhydrase genes, e.g., as designated CA1 and CA4 herein, also called in this application SEQ ID NO:3 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:1, or "CA4" or "CORP2"), or SEQ ID NO:9 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:7, or "CA1", or "CORP1"); and also including SEQ ID NO:6 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:4, or "CA6").

This invention demonstrates that double knock-out mutant plants (for the nucleic acids of the invention CA1 and CA4) show a dramatic reduction in CO₂ regulation of plant gas exchange and stomatal movements. calca4 double

mutant plants exhibit functional responses to other physiological stimuli including blue light, light-dark transitions and the phytohormone abscisic acid. Short-term addition of a carbonic anhydrase enzyme (CA) inhibitor to wild-type leaf epidermi mimics the CO₂ insensitivity of calca4, consistent with this invention's demonstrated role for carbonic anhydrases in CO₂ signaling.

Guard cell-targeted expression of either CA gene of this invention complements CO₂ perception and signaling in calca4 mutant plants, demonstrating that this CO₂ response originates from guard cells. Analyses of photosynthesis of intact mutant leaves show that calca4 mutation does not affect chlorophyll fluorescence or the CO₂ assimilation rate. Moreover, norflurazon-bleached wild-type leaves show intact CO₂-induced stomatal movements, together suggesting that the CA-mediated signaling pathway that controls gas exchange is not, in first order, linked to photosynthesis.

Epistasis analyses with the ht1 kinase mutant (e.g., see Hashimoto et al., 2006) further provide genetic evidence that CA1 and CA4 function upstream in the guard cell CO₂ signaling pathway.

Targeted over-expression of either CA1 or CA4 in guard cells greatly enhances the water use efficiency of *Arabidopsis* plants, consistent with a vital role for these CAs in CO₂ regulation of plant gas exchange. Together these findings demonstrate for the first time an essential function of these guard cell-expressed carbonic anhydrases, including polypeptides of this invention, in CO₂ regulation of CO₂ influx and water use efficiency of plants, and also demonstrate that CA1 and CA4 function within the CO₂ sensory machinery of CO₂ signaling.

The invention compositions and methods of this invention can be used to ameliorate the continuing rise in atmospheric [CO₂] that is predicted to affect natural and agricultural ecosystems on a global level.

Results:

The invention provides compositions and methods for over- and under-expressing β-carbonic anhydrase genes, e.g., genes of the invention as designated CA1 and CA4 herein, also called in this application SEQ ID NO:3 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:1, or "CA4" or "CORP2", or At1g70410), or SEQ ID NO:9 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:7, or "CA1", or "CORP1", or At3g01500); and also including SEQ ID NO:6 (encoded, e.g., by SEQ ID NO:4, or "CA6", or At1g58180).

Among the different carbonic anhydrase (CAs) classes that catalyze the reversible hydration of CO₂, the β-class CA members CA1 (At3g01500), CA4 (At1g70410) and CA6 (At1g58180) showed high expression levels in guard cells according to cell-specific microarray analyses, see FIG. 22, as described e.g., by Leonhardt et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2008. FIG. 22 illustrates a phylogenetic tree of *Arabidopsis* carbonic anhydrases (CAs), see e.g., Fabre et al., 2007, and corresponding guard cell specific microarray expression data in brackets; Left, 8K microarray data from Leonhardt et al., 2004; Right, 23K microarray data from Yang et al., 2008. As noted in FIG. 22, CA1, CA4 and CA6 (in bold) show the highest expression values among CAs in guard cells.

FIG. 9 illustrates that disruption of the guard cell-expressed carbonic anhydrases CA1 and CA4 impair CO₂-induced stomatal movements. For example, guard-cell expression of CA1, CA4 and CA6 was confirmed by RT-PCR along with the highly guard cell-specific KAT1 (At5g46240) and mesophyll-specific CBP (At4g33050) marker genes (Mori et al., 2006), as illustrated in FIG. 9A.

RT-PCR was used to confirm CA1 and CA4 expression in guard cells and mesophyll cells compared to the highly

guard cell marker KAT1 (At5g46240) and mesophyll cell marker CBP (At4g33050); see e.g., Nakamura et al., 1995; Mori et al., 2006. FIGS. 9B and 9C illustrate RT-PCR analysis of calca4 double mutant leaves, the data shows lack of CA1 and CA4 transcripts.

FIG. 9C, FIG. 9D, FIG. 9E, and FIG. 23 illustrate stomatal conductance responses to CO₂, blue-light and light-dark transitions in WT, calca4 or calca4ca6 mutant plants (d, e, n=7; n=5). The calca4 double mutant leaves show strong insensitivity to high CO₂-induced closing (FIG. 9C, FIG. 9C, FIG. 9C) and consistent with this phenotype show elevated stomatal conductance at ambient (365-400 ppm) [CO₂] (FIG. 9C, FIG. 9E); while ca mutant plants showed robust stomatal responses to blue light and light-dark transition (FIG. 23). Values in d were normalized to the last data point prior to the 365-800 ppm CO₂ transition.

FIG. 10A illustrates stomata in calca4 double mutant leaves close in response to abscisic acid; n=3 experiments, 30 stomata/experiment and condition. Error bars depict means±s.e.m. FIG. 10B illustrates CO₂-induced stomatal movements are impaired in calca4 double mutant leaves and in wild-type leaf epidermis treated with the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor 6-ethoxy-2-benzothiazolesulphonamide (EZA) (n=6, 30 stomata/sample); see e.g., Becker et al., 2007.

One sequence-indexed T-DNA (transfer DNA) insertion mutant were obtained through The *Arabidopsis* Information Resource (TAIR) center for each of the three CAs genes and referred to as ca1 (SALK_106570), ca4 (WiscDsLox508D11) and ca6 (SALK_044658). Because initial data indicated that all single mutants retained normal CO₂ sensitivity, the calca4, ca4ca6, calca6 double mutants as well as the calca4ca6 triple mutant were subsequently generated for assessment of CO₂ sensitivity. CA1 and CA4 expression was not detected in calca4 double mutant leaves, as illustrated in FIG. 9B, and the additional lack of CA6 transcript in calca4ca6 was also confirmed, as illustrated in FIG. 24A. FIG. 24B, FIG. 24C, FIG. 24D and FIG. 24E graphically illustrate data showing that ca4ca6 double mutants exhibit intact CO₂ responses while calca4 and calca4ca6 display the same impairment of CO₂ perception. FIG. 24B, FIG. 24C, FIG. 24D and FIG. 24E graphically illustrate stomatal conductance in mol water m⁻² sec⁻¹.

Stomatal conductance analyses in response to [CO₂] changes showed a strong CO₂ insensitivity in calca4 double mutant, as illustrated in FIG. 9C, FIG. 9D, FIG. 9E; and calca4ca6 triple mutant, as illustrated in FIG. 24B, FIG. 24C, FIG. 24D and FIG. 24E, plants while calca6 and ca4ca6 plants were behaving like wild-type.

FIG. 9C illustrates that the ca mutant plants showed a higher stomatal conductance at ambient [CO₂] (365-400 ppm). In contrast to the impairment in CO₂ responses, as illustrated in FIG. 9C, FIG. 9D, FIG. 9E and FIG. 24D, FIG. 24E and FIG. 24F, calca4ca6 plants showed robust blue light and light-dark transitions induced responses despite the higher starting stomatal conductance of the ca mutant plants, as illustrated in FIG. 23.

To determine whether the impaired CO₂ responses in intact leaves (see FIG. 9C, FIG. 9D, FIG. 9E) are linked to stomatal movements, CO₂ responses were analyzed in leaf epidermis. CO₂-induced stomatal movements were impaired in calca4 as compared to wild-type, as illustrated in FIG. 10B. Furthermore, when wild-type leaf epidermis were treated for 30 min with the membrane-permeable CA inhibitor EZA (see, e.g., Becker et al., 2007), CO₂-induced stomatal opening and closing were inhibited, which correlates with a role for carbonic anhydrases in CO₂ sensing, rather

than a long-term developmental effect of CA gene disruption on the rapid CO₂ response, as illustrated in FIG. 10B. In contrast, abscisic acid (ABA)-induced stomatal closing was completely functional in calca4 leaf epidermis, as illustrated in FIG. 10A.

When genomic constructs (approximately 4.5 Kb) containing only the wild-type CA1 or CA4 gene and flanking sequences were introduced in the calca4 mutant, CA1 or CA4 expression was restored in leaves of several independent transgenic lines, as illustrated in FIG. 11A and FIG. 11B. In contrast to calca4, all transgenic lines exhibited wild-type-like response to [CO₂] changes, as illustrated in FIG. 11C and FIG. 11D, and FIG. 25. These data therefore demonstrate that disruption of CA1 and CA4 is indeed responsible for the phenotypes observed in calca4 plants and that expression of either gene is sufficient for complementation.

In summary, FIG. 11 illustrates that introduction of wild-type genomic copies of CA1 or CA4 complements the calca4 CO₂-insensitive phenotypes. FIG. 11A and FIG. 11B: illustrates data of RT-PCR analyses (29 cycles) confirming restoration of CA1 (FIG. 11A) and CA4 (FIG. 11B) expression in calca4 double mutant leaves transformed with genomic CA1 (FIG. 11A) or CA4 (FIG. 11B) constructs. Three independent transgenic lines per genomic construct were analyzed. Actin (At2g37620) was used as a control. FIG. 11C and FIG. 11D in contrast to calca4, both complemented CA1#1 (FIG. 11C) and CA4#1 (FIG. 11D) lines exhibit recovery of [CO₂]-regulated stomatal conductance changes (n=8 leaves for calca4, n=10 for WT and n=4 for any of the complemented lines). Error bars depict means±s.e.m. See also FIG. 25 for data from other independent transgenic lines.

In summary, FIG. 25 illustrates data demonstrating that several independent transgenic lines of calca4 transformed with wild-type copy of either CA1 or CA4 exhibit recovery of [CO₂] changes-induced responses. Two additional complemented lines with CA1, CA1#2 (FIG. 25A) and CA1#3 (FIG. 25B) or CA4, CA4#2 (FIG. 25C) and CA4#3 (FIG. 25D) show normal stomatal conductance increase and decrease in response to [CO₂] changes. n=4 leaves for each of the complemented lines. Wild-type (n=10) and calca4 (n=8) shown here are the same as the ones depicted in FIG. 11, discussed above. Error bars depict means±s.e.m.

To examine the subcellular localization of CA1 and CA4, the yellow fluorescent protein (YFP) fused to the C-terminus of CA1 or CA4 was transiently expressed in tobacco protoplasts, as illustrated in FIG. 26; which illustrates fluorescent pictures (confocal imaging) of cells with different localization patterns of CA1-YFP and CA4-YFP in tobacco protoplasts. As noted in FIG. 26, plasmids encoding YFP, FLS2-YFP, CA1-YFP and CA4-YFP were transiently expressed in tobacco protoplasts; filters are indicated on the top of the figure, while the fusions are indicated on the left of the figure; pictures on the far right of FIG. 26 show an overlay of YFP and chlorophyll images. Similar to the plasma membrane-localized FLS2-YFP fusion, this data demonstrates that CA4-YFP localizes to the cell periphery, while CA1-YFP fluorescence appears to co-localize with the chloroplasts.

Confocal imaging of the CA4-YFP showed a cell-peripheral expression pattern identical to the Leu-rich repeat transmembrane receptor kinase FLS2-YFP (FLAGELLIN SENSITIVE2) (see e.g., Robatzek et al, 2006) fusion pattern, as illustrated in FIG. 26. In contrast, fluorescence from the CA1-YFP fusion seemed to surround the autofluorescence of the chlorophyll suggesting that CA1 may be

localized to the chloroplasts, as illustrated in FIG. 26. This differential expression pattern of CA1-YFP and CA4-YFP fusions is in accordance with another CA localization study (see, e.g.,

Fabre et al., 2007.

Since CA4 appeared to be localized to chloroplasts, we then assessed whether the role of CAs in CO₂ perception is dependent on photosynthesis by comparing the chlorophyll fluorescence of wild-type and the *calca4ca6* mutant in which the three major guard cells-expressed CA genes (see FIG. 22) are knocked-out. The maximum efficiency of photosystem II (Fv/Fm) in dark-adapted leaves was unaffected by CA mis-expression, as illustrated in FIG. 12A. Similarly, no difference between quantum yield of photosystem II (PSII, Φ_{PSII}) in wild-type and *calca4ca6* leaves pre-adapted at low (50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$) or high (2000 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$) photosynthetically active radiation was detected, as illustrated in FIG. 12B and FIG. 12C. If the role of CAs in CO₂ perception is mediated through photosynthetic activities, the onset of photosynthesis at the transition from darkness to illumination with photosynthetically active red light should be affected. Analysis of the CO₂ assimilation rate in *calca4ca6* and wild-type showed that both genotypes reached their steady-state photosynthetic activity in the same time frame upon 300 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ red light irradiation, as illustrated in FIG. 12D.

To further analyze whether intact photosynthesis is required for CO₂ regulation of stomatal movements, another approach was carried out. Photosynthetic activities were blocked in newly emerging leaves by watering 3 to 4 week-old wild-type *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants with the carotenoid biosynthesis inhibitor Norflurazon (Nf) yielding albino chlorophyll-deficient wild-type leaves devoid of functional chloroplasts, as illustrated in FIG. 13A (see, e.g., Roelfsema et al., 2006). The absence of functional chloroplasts in the Nf-treated plants was confirmed by visualizing, as illustrated in FIG. 13B, and quantifying, as illustrated in FIG. 13C, chlorophyll fluorescence with confocal microscopy As illustrated in FIG. 13D, the stomatal CO₂ response to both high and low [CO₂] in intact leaves was not affected by the absence of functional chloroplasts (albino 0 ppm. [CO₂] compared to albino 800 ppm. [CO₂], $P=8.9E-21$, $n=6$). Thus, our data demonstrate that photosynthetic activities are not disrupted in *ca* mutant plants which display impaired CO₂ perception and are not required for a functional stomatal CO₂ response in *Arabidopsis* (as illustrated in FIGS. 12 and 13) as previously reported in *Vicia faba* (see, e.g., Roelfsema et al., 2006). However, noting that this invention is not limited by any particular mechanism of action, these findings do not exclude additional CA-independent mechanisms by which photosynthesis may be linked to stomatal movements (see, e.g. Messinger et al., 2006).

In summary, in FIGS. 12 and 13: photosynthesis-related activities are not directly linked to CA-mediated CO₂-induced stomatal response. FIG. 12A, FIG. 1B and FIG. 12C graphically illustrate chlorophyll fluorescence analysis that revealed no differences between WT and *calca4ca6* mutant plants with respect to the maximum efficiency of photosystem II (PSII) -Fv/Fm, in dark-adapted leaves ($n=10$) (FIG. 12A) or to the quantum yield of PSII- Φ_{PSII} in leaves ($n=6$) pre-adapted at 50 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ (FIG. 12B) or 2000 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ (FIG. 12C) photosynthetically active radiation. FIG. 12D illustrates red light-induced photosynthetic activity of intact leaves was not impaired in *calca4ca6* ($n=6$).

FIG. 13A illustrates an image of chlorophyll-deficient albino wild-type leaves devoid of functional chloroplasts

were generated by application of the carotenoid biosynthesis inhibitor norflurazon. The absence of chlorophyll in albino guard cells compared to wild-type was visualized by confocal microscopy (FIG. 13B graphically illustrates data) and quantified by image analysis of the chlorophyll fluorescence intensity (FIG. 13C graphically illustrates data) ($n=3$, 12 stomata/sample.). FIG. 13D graphically illustrates data showing CO₂-induced stomatal movements in albino versus control plant leaves ($n=7$, 50 stomata/sample). Error bars depict means \pm s.e.m.

CA1 and CA4 are expressed in both guard cells and mesophyll cells (see FIG. 9A) and knock-out mutant plants show impaired CO₂ responses. We next analyzed whether CA1 or CA4 expression targeted to guard cells is sufficient to complement the CO₂ response phenotypes of the *calca4* mutant.

The cDNAs of CA1 or CA4 driven by a strong guard cell promoter of this invention, as described in Example 3, above, were transformed into *calca4* double mutant plants and their preferential guard cell expression was confirmed by RT-PCR in several independent transgenic lines, as illustrated in FIG. 27A and FIG. 27B, using the guard cell specific marker KAT1 (see, e.g., Nakamira et al., 1998) and the mesophyll cell marker CBP (see, e.g., Mori et al., 2006). Transgenic *calca4* plants expressing CA1 or CA4 preferentially in guard cells showed stronger stomatal conductance changes in response to [CO₂] shifts, as illustrated in FIG. 27C, FIG. 27D; and FIG. 28; four total independent transgenic lines were analyzed. These results demonstrate that generating expression of CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, including CA1 or CA4 expression, in guard cells is sufficient to complement the impaired CO₂ response of *calca4* double mutant, and that these carbonic anhydrases (CAs) function in CO₂ perception primarily in guard cells. Thus, these results demonstrate that expressing CO₂ sensor genes of this invention, including CA1 or CA4 expression, in guard cells can manipulate plant CO₂ responses.

The earliest component of CO₂ signaling identified thus far in guard cells is the HT1 kinase, a negative regulator of the pathway (see, e.g., Hashimoto et al., 2006). The strong *ht1-2* allele exhibits a constitutive high-[CO₂] response. To investigate whether the carbonic anhydrases (CAs) function upstream or downstream of HT1, the *calca4ht1-2* triple mutant was generated and its stomatal conductance was analyzed in response to [CO₂] changes. As clearly depicted in FIG. 27E, and in clear contrast with *calca4* double mutant or wild-type, *calca4ht1-2* plants exhibited a phenotype indistinguishable from the single *ht1-2* mutant. These data provide genetic evidence that CA1 and CA4 act upstream of the earliest CO₂ signaling component known to date, consistent with a CO₂ sensor function for these carbonic anhydrases (CAs).

In summary, FIG. 27A to G, and FIG. 14C, graphically illustrate data showing that guard cell preferential driven expression of CA1 or CA4 cDNAs restores CO₂ perception in *calca4* and CA over-expressing plants exhibit improved water use efficiency. FIG. 27A and FIG. 27B graphically illustrate a RT-PCR analysis of CA1 and CA4 expression in guard cell protoplasts and mesophyll cells of complementation plants with CA1 or CA4 driven by the guard cell-targeted promoter of this invention pGC1 (see Example 3, above). GC, guard cell; MC, mesophyll cell. CA1gc #n, complementation line n with CA1 cDNA driven by the guard cell promoter. KAT1, At5g46240, guard cell marker (Nakamura et al., 1998); CBP, At4g33050, mesophyll cell marker (Mori et al., 2006).'

FIG. 27C and FIG. 27D graphically illustrate CO₂-induced stomatal conductance change of guard cell-targeted lines, calca4 double mutant and wild-type (WT) plants in response to the indicated [CO₂] shifts (in ppm, n=4, ±s.e.m.). CA1 or CA4 expression in guard cells is sufficient for restoration of the CO₂ response. FIG. 27E graphically illustrates stomatal conductance of calca4 (n=4), wild-type (n=4), ht1-2 (n=7) and triple calca4ht1-2 mutant (n=7) leaves in response to the indicated [CO₂] changes (in ppm, ±s.e.m.). FIG. 27F and FIG. 27G graphically illustrate stomatal conductance of CA over-expressing lines and wild-type (WT) plants in response to the indicated [CO₂] changes (in ppm, n=4, ±s.e.m.).

FIG. 14A and FIG. 14B graphically illustrate CA1 (FIG. 14A) and CA4 (FIG. 14B) over-expressing plants show improved water use efficiency (WUE, μmol CO₂ mmol H₂O⁻¹) (n=5, ±s.e.m.). FIG. 14C illustrates photographs of wild-type, calca4 and CA over-expressing lines grown under standard conditions.

In summary, FIGS. 28A to F graphically illustrate guard-cell specific complementation of either CA1 or CA4 restores stomatal CO₂ responses in calca4. CO₂ response data of an additional line complemented with CA1 or CA4 guard cell-targeted expression, as graphically illustrated in FIG. 28A and FIG. 28B=4) and relative stomatal conductance CO₂ response of the guard cell-targeted 4 independent complemented lines analyzed (two in FIG. 27C and FIG. 27D; two in FIG. 28A and FIG. 28B). FIGS. 28C to F graphically illustrate relative stomatal conductance values were normalized to the last data point prior to the 365-800 ppm CO₂ switch. Error bars depict means±s.e.m.

We also analyzed whether over-expression of CA1 or CA4 in guard cells of wild-type plants could be a good strategy to enhance plant response to atmospheric [CO₂] changes. Transgenic plants over-expressing CA1 or CA4 under control of a strong guard cell promoter of this invention (as described in Example 3, above) were generated in the wild-type background and confirmed by RT-PCR, as illustrated in FIG. 14A and FIG. 14B. Four independent CA1- and CA4-overexpressing lines displayed a reduced stomatal conductance at all CO₂ concentrations tested, consistent with an enhanced CO₂ response, as illustrated in FIG. 27F and FIG. 27G. Interestingly, a significant difference in water use efficiency (WUE) among the double calca4 mutant, CA over-expressing and wild-type plants was consistently noticed. Over-expression of either the CA1 or CA4 gene in wild-type substantially improved water use efficiency by 50% at ambient [CO₂], as illustrated in FIG. 14C, where p<0.01. Under the imposed standard condition, no other phenotypic growth differences were observed among wild-type and CA over-expressing plants, as in the photo illustrated in FIG. 14C. These data demonstrate that guard cell targeted over-expression of carbonic anhydrases (CAs), including the CA genes of this invention, provide an efficient and effective approach for improving the water use efficiency of plants. These data demonstrate that the compositions and methods of this invention can be used to address and ameliorate the increase in atmospheric CO₂ concentrations.

In summary, in FIG. 29 graphically illustrates data showing that the over-expression of either CA1 or CA4 in wild-type guard cells decreases the overall stomatal conductance and slightly increases the magnitude of the stomatal CO₂ response. FIG. 29C and FIG. 29D graphically illustrate RT-PCR analysis of CA1 or CA4 in leaves of over-expressing lines driven by the preferential guard cell promoter pGC1. Stomatal conductance measurements of an additional

line over-expressing the CA1 gene, as illustrated in FIG. 29A, and additional line over-expressing the CA4 gene, as illustrated in FIG. 29B. Relative stomatal conductance values, as illustrated in FIG. 29C, FIG. 29D, FIG. 29E, and FIG. 29F, were normalized to the last data point prior to the 365-800 ppm CO₂ switch. Error bars depict means±s.e.m. FIG. 29A, FIG. 29C, FIG. 29D, and FIG. 29E, n=4; FIG. 29B, FIG. 29F, n=3.

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Exemplary PEPC and Rubisco Enzymes to Control Plant CO₂ Uptake and Water Use Efficiency

The invention provides compositions and methods for regulating carbon dioxide (CO₂) exchange and CO₂ use and uptake in a plant or plant part, e.g., a leaf, by manipulating expression of a CO₂ binding protein “Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) Carboxylase” (or PEP carboxylase, or PEPC) and/or a ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase, or “Rubisco” enzyme; thus, the invention also provides compositions and methods for manipulating CO₂ signal transduction and regulation of gas exchange in a plant or plant part, e.g., a plant organ, leaf and the like. For example, in one aspect, the invention provides compositions and methods for engineering an increased amount of PEPC (to facilitate stomatal opening) and/or engineering the amount of “Rubisco” enzyme.

In alternative aspects of this invention, PEPCs and Rubisco nucleic acids are expressed in plant cells, e.g., in plant guard cells and mesophyll cells; and in one aspect, they are expressed at high levels (higher than wild type levels); or, PEPCs and Rubisco nucleic acids expression is inhibited, decreased or repressed in plant cells, e.g., in plant guard cells and mesophyll cells; and in one aspect, they are expressed at lower levels (lower than wild type levels). Plant cells engineered in these alternative embodiments include isolated, cultured or transgenic plants and plant cells of this invention.

The following exemplary PEPCs and Rubisco nucleic acids and subsequences thereof, including sense coding, and antisense sequences (such as siRNA, miRNA, and the like) can be used to practice the compositions and methods and methods of this invention:

Name-activity	SEQ ID NO: and Genbank No.	sequence
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RBCS-1B	SEQ ID NO: 17 At5g38430	attaggcaaaagaagaagaagaagtaatggcttctctatgctctctctgccc tgtggttacctcccggctcaagccacctaggtcgctccattcactgggttgaagtca tccgctcttctcccggctcaccgcaaggccaacaacgacattacttccatcacaagca atgggggaaagattagctgcatgaaggtgtggccaccaatcggaaagaagaagttgga gactctatcttacctccctgaccttactgacgtcgaattggctaaaggaagttgactac cttctccgcaacaaatggatctctgtgtgaaatcgagttggagcaggtattgtgt accgtgagcagcgaacactcccgatactacgatggacggctactggacaatgtgga gcttccattgttcggatgacccgactccgctcaagtgtagaaggaagtgaaagatgc aagaagagtagccgggccccttcataggatcatcggatcagacaacaccctcaag tccaatgcatcagtttcttgcctacaagccccaagctcactgatgcttaactcct

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RBCS-2B	SEQ ID NO: 18 At5g38420	caagttaagtaagagaaaaaccaaagaagaagagaacaacaagaagaagtaatggct tcctctatgttctcctccaccgctgtggttacctccccggctcaagccaccatggctcg ctccattcaccggcttgaagtcacccgctctcttccccggtcaaccgcaaggccaacaa cgacattacttccatcacaaagcaacggaggaagagttagctgcatgaaggtgtggcca ccaatcggaagaagaagttgagactctatcttacctcctgaccttagtgacgttg aatgggtaaggaagtgcactacctctccgcaacaagtggattccttgtgtgaatt cgagttggagcacggatttgtgtaccgtgagcacggaaacactccggatactatgat ggacgatactggacaatgtggaagcttccatgttgcggatgcaccgactccgctcaag tgttgaaggaagtgaagaatgcaagaaggagttaccctggcgccctcattaggatcat cggattcgacaaccccgtaagtcacatgcatcagttctatgcctacaagccccca agcttcaccgaagcttaatcccccttctggaatattcagcgttgattattctggaacc cattctctatgtggtaaatgcaaatttaagaaattatttggcgcactaacagttgagga actattgtttgaaagtgaaatgttattctctatcagttctctataattatagttatc atttcattcttttgccttaaatcttgaatcttattttctgtttagctccttt aaacaacattgtggctcctttaaattatcctcataattcttctgct
RBCS-3B	SEQ ID NO: 19 At5g38410	gggcttttgcctttagggggtctcattatataaagatgacaacaccagtaggaaaa caagtcaagtaagtaaacgagcaaaagaagaagaacaacaagaagtagtaatggct tcctctatgctctcctccgcccgtgtggttacatccccggctcaggccaccatggctcg ctccattcaccggcttgaagtcacccgctctcttccccggtcaaccgcaagccaacaa ggacatcacttccatcgcaagcaacgggggaagagtttagctgcatgaaggtgtggcca ccaattggaagaagaagttgagactctatcttacctcctgaccttagtgacgttg aatgggtaaggaagtgcactacctctccgcaacaagtggattccttgtgtgaatt cgagttagagcacggaaacactcccgatactacgatggacggtactggacaatgtgg aagcttccattgttcggatgcaccgactccgctcaagtggtgaaggaagtgaagaat gcaagaaggagttaccgggcccctcattaggatcatcggattcgacaacaccgctca agtccaatgcatcagttcttctgacctacaagcccccaagcttcaccgaagcttaattt ctttctaaaaacattcttgaattatctctgctcatcttcttctattgtctgtgt tcttttctctttatgagacaatttctatcggattgtcaaatgtctgatttatgaata tgtaattatatactcgtgctcttgatttttccgatgggttaactagttgaaaatt tccgatgagatgaacaacatacaaaaaatcgaataaatgtgtgtaaatatagataata gtgacataggattgtattcatattgtccattgttttaagggaaaaaagttacaa aatcttattttcttaataaagtaaatcttctt

Example 6

Exemplary Carbonic Anhydrase Enzymes to Control Plant CO₂ Uptake and Water Use Efficiency

The invention provides compositions and methods for down-regulating or decreasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and/or water exchange in a guard cell of a plant, plant cell, plant leaf, plant organ or plant part comprising inter alia use of a polypeptide having carbonic anhydrase activity. Carbonic

anhydrase-encoding nucleic acids from any carbonic anhydrase gene, e.g., including plant and bacterial genes, can be used to practice this invention; for example, a nucleic acid from any carbonic anhydrase gene of any plant can be used, including any carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid sequence from any gene family of *Arabidopsis*, e.g., any carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid sequence from an *Arabidopsis* family, e.g., from *Arabidopsis thaliana*, can be used to practice the compositions and methods of this invention, such as the exemplary carbonic anhydrase-encoding nucleic acid sequences:

Name-acti-vity	SEQ ID NO: and Genbank No.	sequence
CA2 Full length AtβCA2 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 20 At5g14740	aaatagagaagctctcctcaagatccgatgttttggtttaatacaacaagagggcgagatccggga gaaattgcatgtgtaatacaaaaatgtagatgttagcttcgctgcttttactatagtttagttc tcttctctctcttttctgctcattacaatctcttcttaattacttctctttgatagataaa ttaagttgtttgtaataatctgtacaagaagatgtgtgtctcataaaaaattcaatttgttaa gaagctctacatgcttctcctgctctgtaaacatggccccctttggactacagtttctcgaatg gctcatcagactcagagacgactctccaatctgcttcaaaagccacaaaaacagatataaatatcc ttctcttcgctcctctcaatcgctgctctcctcttctcttccccgtccattatccgcaaac ggagctgttttccggtgcaacctgcttccagccactcaaacctgaaactgagaaggatgggaaac gaatcatatgaagacgccatcgaagctctcaagaagcttctcattgagaaggatgatctggaag atgtagctcgggccaaggtgaagaagatcacggcggagctcaggcagcctcgtcatcggacag caaatcttttgatcccgctgaaacgaattaaaggaagcttcgctcactcaagaaggagaatac gagaccaatcctgctttgtatggtagctcgcgaaggtcaaaagcccaaggtacatgggtttg ctgttcggactcacgagtggtgccatcacagctactagacttccatcctggagatgctctcgt ggttcgtaatacgcctaatgggttctcctctttgacaaggtaaaatcagcaggagttggagcc gccattgaaatcagctgtctgacacctaaaggtggaaacatgtgggtgataggccacagtgcat

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Full length AtaCA1 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 21 AtaCA1 (At3g52720)	ATGCAGTAATCTGATAAAACCCCTCCACAGAGATTTCCAACAAAACAGGAATAAAACACAAGAT GAAGATTATGATGATGATTAAGCTCTGCTTCTTCCATGTCCTCATCTGCATTGCACCTGCA GATGCTCAGACAGAAGGAGTAGTGTGGATATAAAGGCAAAAATGGACCAAACCAATGGGGAC ACTTAAACCCCTCACTTACCACATGCGCGGTGGTAAATGCAATCTCCAATTGATATCAAAG GAGGCAAAATATTTTACAAACCACAAATGAATCAAATACCCGTGAATACTACTTCAAAAACGCA ACACTAGTGAACCACGCTGTAAATGTTGCCATGTTCTTCGGGGAGGGAGCAGGAGATGTGATAA TAGAAAAAAGAACTATACCTTACTGCAATGCAATGGCACACTCTTCTGAACATCACTCCA TGGAGTCCAATATGCAGCTGAGCTGCACATGGTACACCAAGCAAAAAGATGGAAGCTTGTGTG GTGGCAAGTCTCTTCAAATCGGCACTGAAGAGCCTTCTCTCTCAGATGAAGGAGAAATGG TGAAGCTAAGGAAGAGAGACTCAAAGGGAACACACAGCACAAAGTGAAGTAGGAGAAATCGA CACAAAGACATTTGAACGTAAGACTCGAAAGTACTACAGATACATGGTTCACTCACTACTCCT CCTTGCTCCGAGAACGTTTCTTGGACCATCCTTGGCAAGGTGAGGTCAATGTCAAAGGAACAAG TAGAACTACTCAGATCTCATTGGACACTTCTTCAAGAAACAATCAAGACCGTGTCAACCCCT CAACGGCCGGAGAGTTGAGATGTTCCACGACACAGAGCGTGTGATATAAAAAGAAACCGGTAAC AAAAAGAAAAACCAATAAAAATAGTTTACATTGTCTATTGGTTTGTGTAGAACCCATAATTA GCTTTGTAATAACTAATAATCTCTTATGTAGTACTGTGTTGTTGTTTACGACTTGATATACGAT TCCAAAT
Full length AtaCA2 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 22 AtaCA2 (At2g28210)	ATGGATGAATATGTAGAGGATGAACCGAATTCAGCTACGAATGGAACCAAGAGAACGGGCCAG CGAAATGGGAAAGCTAAGACCGGAATGGAAAATGTGCGGAAAAGGAGAAATGCAATCGCTAT TGATCTTATGAACAAAAGAGTTAGACTTGTACTCATCTTAAAAAGCTTACTAGACACTACAAA CCTTGTAACGCCACTCTCAAAAATAGAGGCCATGATATGATGCTGAAATTTGGAGAGAAGGGT CAGGGAGTATTACGGTCAATGGAACTGAGTATAAACTTTACAGCTTCATTGGCATTCTCCCT TGAACATACTATGAATGGAAGAAGGTTTGTCTCGAGCTACACATGGTTTACGAAAAATTAAC GGAAATTTGGCTGTAGTCAAGTCTCTCAAAAATCGGAAGGCCAGATTCTTTTCTCGGATGTC TGGAAAAATAAATTTGTCGGCAATTCAGATCAAAATGAGGCGGAGAAATATGTAGATGTGATTGA CCCAAGGGATATTAAGATGGGAGCAGAAAATTTTATAGATACATTGGATCACTTACTACTCCT CCTTGATCGCAAAATGTTATTTGGACCGTCTTAAAAAGGTAATACTCATCGTTATTTTCTTC TCTTTTACTTAATCAACATAGCATTAAATAGATCATTACAAGGTACTAATAGTGTGAATATC CATATCCAAAAGGTTTATCCATCTACATGTTA
Full length AtaCA3 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 23 AtaCA3 (At5g04180)	AAAACACATTTGAGAAGAAGAAGAAAATAAGAAAAACAAAAGATGAAAACATTATCCT TTTTGTAACATTTCTTGCCTTTCTTCTTATCTTAGCCGATGAGACAGAGACTGAATTTTCA TACAAACCCGGTGAGATAGCCGATCCCTCGAAATGGAGCAGTATCAAGGCTGAATGGAAAATTT GCGGGACAGGGAAAGGGCAATCGCCAAATCAATCTTACTCAAAATAGCTCGCATTGTTTCAAAA TTCTACAGAGATTTCTCAGACATATTACAAAACCTGTAGAGGCTATTCTTAAAGAACCTGGATT GACATGAAGGTTAAGTGGGAAAGACGATGCAGGGAAGATCGTGTCAATGATACCGACTATAAAT TGGTTCAAAGCCACTGGCAGCACCTTCAGAGCATTTCTCGATGGACAGAGGTTGGCAATGGA ACTTCACATGGTACACAAAAGTGTAGAAGGGCACTTGGCAGTGATTGGAGTTCTCTTACAGAAA GGAGAACCAAAATGCTTTTCAATTTTCGGGATCATGGACAAGATCCATAAGATCGCAGACGTACAAG ATGGAGAGGTCAGCATCGGAAAGATAGATCCAAAGAAATTTGGATGGGATCTTACAAAGTTTTA TGAATACAGAGGTTCTCTCAGACTCTCTTGCACGGAAGATGTCATGTGGACCATCATCAAC AAGGTGGGGACTGTTTACCGTGAAGCAATTTGATGATTGACAGATGCTCGTCGGGTTGTTATG AGAAGAACCGGAGACCAGCTCAACCTCTGAACGGGACGCTGGTTTATTTAAACGAGCAGTCCAG TCCAAGTCCAATCCACGGCTAAGAAATACACAGGTTGGTCCGGCTAAGACAGTCTTATAGGA CAAGGCACTCCGAGCCCTAATTTCCATACAAAAGAAAATTCGAAAAGAAATTTGAAGATGAT GAAAATTTGGGAGCCATAACTATTTTTTTTAACTATTTCTTTGATTAAGATAAAAGTAAACTACGCA ATATTATATGCATAAAGTTTTTCTTTTATACATGATTTCAATAAAACAAGATGTAATAATATCC AACCATAATGAGTTGTTGATTATTTTATAACACAAGATCTCTCAC
Full length AtaCA4 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 24 AtaCA4 (At4g20990)	ATGGATACCAACGCAAAAACAATTTCTTTCATGGCTATGTGTTTCACTATCTATCTTTCCCTA ATATTTACACGCTCATCTGAACTGACGACGAAACTCATTACTACGAAACAAAACGGA AAAGGGACACAGAGGGATGGGGCAAAAATAAATCCGACTGGAAAGTTTGTAAACCCGGAAGATAT CAATCCCGATCGATCTTACTAACGAAAGAGTCAGTCTTATTATGATCAAGCATGGACAAAGC AATATAAACAGCTCCGGCTGTAATTACAAAACAGAGGCCATGACATATGGTATCATGGAAAGG AGATCTGGGAAGATGACAAATCGGAAAACGGATTTAATTTGGTCAATGCCATTGGCATTCA CCTTCTGAGCATACCGTTAACGGAACCTAGGTACGACCTAGAGCTTACATGGTTTACACGAGTG CAGCAGGAGAACTGCGGTTATCGGAGTTCTTTACAAATTAGCGCAACTAATGAATCTCTCAC CAAGCTACTAAATGGAATAAAAAGCAGTGGGAAATAAAGAGATAAATCTAGGGATGATGATGAT CGAGAGATTAGGTTTCAACAAGAAAATCTATAGATACATTGGCTCTCTCACTGTTCTCTCTT GCACTGAAGGCGTCAATTTGGACTGTGCTCAAAGGTTGAACACAATATCAATGGAGCAAATTAC AGCTCTTAGGCAAGCCGTTGACGATGGATTTGAGACAAAATCAAGACCGGTTCAAGACTCAAAG GGAAGATCAGTTTGGTTTATGATCCTTAAATGTTGA

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Name- acti- vity	SEQ ID NO: and Genbank No.	sequence
Full length AtaCA5 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 25 AtaCA5 (At1g08065)	GATCAACATCTCCTTGAAGTTGTTTCATAAGAATAAGAGCTATAAAAGAGGATAAAACAAAAAT TTGAATTTTTTTCTTCTATCTCTCTCCCAAGATATATAGCACAAGAAAATGAAGATACCATCA ATTGGCTATGTCTTTTTCTTATCTTTCATCTCTATTACAATTGTTTCGAGTTTACCAGATCATG GAGAAGTTGAGGACGAAACGCAGTTTAACTACGAGAAGAAAGGAGAGAAGGGCCAGAGAAGCTG GGGAAGACTAAAGCCAGAGTGGGCAATGTGTGGAAAAGGCAACATGCAGTCTCCGATTGATCTT ACGGA CAAAAGAGTCTTGATTGATCATAATCTTGATACCTTCGTAGCCAGTATTACCTCAA ATGCCACCATTAAGAACAGAGGCCATGATATCATGATGAAATTTGAAGGAGGAAATGCAGGTTT AGGTATCACTATTAATGGTACTGAATATAAACTTCAACAGATTCATTGGCACTCTCCTCCGAA CACACACTCAATGGCAAAAGGTTTGTCTTGAGGAACACATGGTTCATCAGAGCAAGATGGAC GCAACGCTGTTGTCGCTTTCTTTTACAAATGGGAAAACCTGACTATTTTCTCCTCAGTTGGA AGATACTTGAAGAGGATAACTGATACACACGAATCCAGGAATTTGTGCGAGATGGTTCATCCT AGAACATTCGGTTTGAATCAAAACACTATTATAGATTTATCGGATCATTACAACCTCCACCGT GTTCTGAAAATGTGATTTGGACGATTTCCAAAGAGATGAGGACTGTGACATTAATAAACAATTGAT CATGCTTCGAGTGACTGTACACGATCAATCTAACTCAAATGCTAGACCCGCTTCAGCGTAAAAAT GAGCGTCGGTGGCACTTTACATACCAACATGGCA TAGTAACCTATATTAATTTAAAGTTG GTTTATATTCTTTCTAGTAATCTTTGAAATATTGTAAGAGATAATGCTTCTAATAATAACATT GGATTTATGGAATTAATGTATTGAAAAAATATGCAAAATACACAGTGTATTTTGGAACGACC
Full length AtaCA6 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 26 AtaCA6 (At4g21000)	ATGGATGCCAACACAAAAACAATTTTATTTTTGTAGTGTCTTCATCGATTTATTTTCCCTCA ATATTTTATTCGTTTATGCTCGTGAATCGGCAACAAACCGCTATTTACATACAAACAAAAAAC AGAGAAAGGAC CAGCGAATGGGGCAAATAGACCCTCAATGGAAAGTTTGTAGCACCCGAAAA ATTCAATCTCCGATTGATCTCACTGACGAAAGAGTCACTTATTTCATGATCAAGCCTTGAGTA AACATTACAAACCGACTTCGGCTGTAATTCAAAGTAGAGGACATGACGTTATGGTATCGTGGAA AGGAGATGGTGGGAAAATAACAATACATCAACCGATTATAAATTTGGTGCAGTGCCATTGGCAT TCACCGTCTGAGCATACCAATTAACGGAAC TAGCTATGACCTAGAGCTTCACATGGTTACACGA GTGCTAGTGGCAAAACCACTGTGGTTGGAGTCTTTATAAATTAGGTGAACCTGATGAAATCCT CACAAAGATAC TAAATGGAAATAAAAGGAGTAGGGAAAAGAGATAGATCTAGGAATCGTGGAT CCTCGAGATAT TAGATTTGAAACCAACAATTTCTATAGATACATTGGCTCTCTCACTATTCTC CATGCCGGAAGGCGTTATTTGGACCGTCCAGAAAAGGGTATATATTTTTTTGTTTCTGTTA TAGATTAATTA TCTTCGTTACACCTTACATAAACATTTTTTGGATTTTTGTTTTTGTATTTGG TGTATGCTAATGTAA
Full length AtaCA7 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 27 AtaCA7 (At1g08080)	ATGGTGAAGTACTCATCAATCAGTTGCATCTTCTTTGGGCTCTGTTTAGTATTTTACAAATG TTTCGATTTTCGAGTGTCTGCTCAAGT CACGGAGAAGTTGAGGACGAAACCGAGTTTAACTACAA GAAGAACGATGAGAGGGGCCAGAGAGATGGGGAGAACTTAAACCGGAATGGGAAATGTGTGGA AAAGGAGAGATGCAATCTCCCATAGATCTTATGAAACGAGAGAGTTAACATTTGTTTCTCATCTG GAAGGCTTAATAGAGACTATAATCTTCAAATGCAACTCTTAAGAACAGAGGCCATGACATCAT GTTAAAAATTTGAAGATGGAGCAGGAATTAAGA TCAATGGTTTTGAAATGAACTTCAACAG CTTCACTGGCACTCTCCGCTGAACTACTTAAATGGAAGAAGGTTTGCATTTGAGCTGCATA TGGTTACGAAAGGCAGGAATAGAAGAATGGCTGTTGTGACTGTGTTGTACAAGATCGGAAGGC AGATACTTTTATCAGATCGTTGGAGAAAGAAATAGAGGGCATTGCTGAAATGGAGGAGGCTGAG AAAAATG TAGGAATGATTGATCCCACAAAATTAAGATCGGAAGCAGAAAATATTACAGATACA CTGGTTCACTTACCCTCTCCTTGCCTCAAAACGTTACTTTGGAGCGTCTGTTAGAAAGGTTAG GACCGTGACAGAAAACAAGTGAAGCTCTCCGCTGGCAGTGCACGATGATGCTAATCGAAT GCGAGGCCGGTTCAACCAACCAACAGCGCATAGTGCATTTATACAGACCAATAGTTTAAATATA TGAAGATACTGAAAGCTTTTACTAATC
Full length AtaCA8 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 28 AtaCA8 (At5g56330)	ATGAAGATATCATCACTAGGATGGGTCTTAGTCCTTATCTTCATCTCTATTACCATTGTTTCGA GTGCACCAGCACCTAAACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCTGCACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAA GCCACACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCT AAGCCTGCACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCGCACCCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAAC CTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAAC ACCTAAGCCTGCACCAGCACCAACACCCAGCACCGAAACCTAAACCTGCACCTAAACCA GCACCAGTGGAGAAGTTGAGGACGAAACCGAGTTTAGCTACGAGACGAAAGGAAACAAGGGGC CAGCGAAATGGGAAACAC TAGATGCAGAGTGGAAAATGTGTGGAATAGGCAAAATGCAATCTCC TATTGATCTTCGGGACAAAAATGTGGTAGTTAGTAATAAATTTGGATTGCTTCGTAGCCAGTAT CTGCCCTCTAATACCACCTTAAGAACAGAGGTCATGATATCATGTTGAAATTCAAAGGAGGAA ATAAAGGTATTGGTGTCACTATCCGTGGTACTAGATATCAACTTCAACAACCTCATTGGCACTC TCCCTCCGAACATACAATCAATGGCAAAAGGTTTTCGCTAGAGGAACACTTGGTTTATGAGAGC AAAGATAAACGCTACGCTGTGTTCGATTCTTATACAATCTCGGAGCATCTGACCTTTTCTCT TTTCGTTGGAAAACAATGAAGAAGATAACTGATACACATGCGTCCGAGGAACATATTTCGCAC TGTGTCAAGTAAACAAGTGAAGCTCTCCGCTGGCTGTACACGATGCTTCAGATTCAAATGCC AGGCCGCTTCAAGCAGTCAATAAGCGCAAGGTATATTTATACAAACCAAAGGTTAAGTTAATGA AGAAATACTGTAATATAAGTTCTTACTAG
Full length AtβCA1 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 7 AtβCA1 (At3g01500)	ATGAAGATATCATCACTAGGATGGGTCTTAGTCCTTATCTTCATCTCTATTACCATTGTTTCGA GTGCACCAGCACCTAAACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCTGCACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAA GCCACACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCT AAGCCTGCACCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCGCACCCAGCACCTACACCTCCTAAAC CTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAACCTAAGCCCAAACCGCACCTACACCTCCTAAAC ACCTAAGCCTGCACCAGCACCAACACCCAGCACCGAAACCTAAACCTGCACCTAAACCA GCACCAGTGGAGAAGTTGAGGACGAAACCGAGTTTAGCTACGAGACGAAAGGAAACAAGGGGC CAGCGAAATGGGAAACAC TAGATGCAGAGTGGAAAATGTGTGGAATAGGCAAAATGCAATCTCC TATTGATCTTCGGGACAAAAATGTGGTAGTTAGTAATAAATTTGGATTGCTTCGTAGCCAGTAT CTGCCCTCTAATACCACCTTAAGAACAGAGGTCATGATATCATGTTGAAATTCAAAGGAGGAA ATAAAGGTATTGGTGTCACTATCCGTGGTACTAGATATCAACTTCAACAACCTCATTGGCACTC TCCCTCCGAACATACAATCAATGGCAAAAGGTTTTCGCTAGAGGAACACTTGGTTTATGAGAGC AAAGATAAACGCTACGCTGTGTTCGATTCTTATACAATCTCGGAGCATCTGACCTTTTCTCT TTTCGTTGGAAAACAATGAAGAAGATAACTGATACACATGCGTCCGAGGAACATATTTCGCAC TGTGTCAAGTAAACAAGTGAAGCTCTCCGCTGGCTGTACACGATGCTTCAGATTCAAATGCC AGGCCGCTTCAAGCAGTCAATAAGCGCAAGGTATATTTATACAAACCAAAGGTTAAGTTAATGA AGAAATACTGTAATATAAGTTCTTACTAG

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Full length AtβCA3 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 29 AtβCA3 (At1g23730)	CTAGAGAGCATCTTCTTATATCAACTAAACTTTGTATTCAATTTCCAAGTATCACTCTAAATCAT CTTTTTCGAATTCGCCTCCCAAGATATGTCGACAGAGTCGTACGAAGACGCCATTAAGACTC GGAGAGCTTCTCAGTAAGAAATCGGATCTCGGGAACTGGCAGCCGCAAGATCAAGAAGTTAA CGGATGAGTTAGAGGAACCTTCAATCCAAACAAGTTAGATGCCGTAGAACGAATCAAATCCGGATT TCTCCATTTCAAGACTAATAATTATGAGAAGAATCTACTTTGTACAATTCACTTGCACAAGGC CAGACCCCCAAGTTTTTGGTGTGTGCTTGTGCGGATTCACGAGTAGTCCATCTCACATCTTGA ATTTCCAACCTTGGGAAGCTTCATCGTTAGA AACATTGCAAACATGGTGCCACCTTATGACAA GACAAAGCACTCTAATGTGGTGGCCCTTGAATATCCAATTACAGTCTCAACGTGGAGAAC ATTCTGTATTGGACACAGCTGTGTGGTGAATAAAGGGACTCATGGCCATTGAAGATAATA CAGCTCCCACTAAGACCGAGTTCATAGAAAACCTGGATCCAGATCTGTGCAACCGCCCAAGAACG GATCAAGCAGGATTGTAAGACCTAAGCTTTGAAGATCAGTGCACCAACTGTGAGAAGGAAGCC GTGAACGTGTCTTGGGGAACTTTTGTCTTACCCATTCTGTGAGAGAAAGAGTGGTGAAGAAAC AGCTTGGCATAAGAGGAGCTCACTATGATTTTCGTAAGAAAGCAAGCTTTGATCTTTGGGAACCTG CTTCAAGACTACCCCTGCCTTTGCCTTGTCTTAAAGATTCCTCTACTCAAATATTTCTCTA TGTGTTTTCTAATATGTTCTTATAATCTTCTCTGTGCTTCTGTAATGTCATCTTTGCTACT TCTATTCCAATAGAAATGAATAAGCTTTAAAGAGC
Full length AtβCA5 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 30 AtβCA5 (At4g33580)	TTGTTGTGTAAAACTCTTGTCTCTTCTTCAACGTGAACACTTCTATTCTCAGAGAACA TTCACCTATATGTCTTCTTCAAGGAGAAGTCTTCTCTTTCAGATTTAGATGAACACTCTTC AGATGCCTTGTGCCTTATGATCCAGATTGCAAGTACCCAACCTTACTCTCTAGACCTTTTTCA TGGCAGCCACTCCCACACTTCTCTGTCTCCCATGATCCTTTTTCTTCCACGCTCTCTCTTAA TCTCCAACCTCAAGCGATCTTTGGTCCCAATCACAGTTTAAAGACAACCCAGTTGAGAAATCCA GCTTCTTTCAGAAGAAAAGCTACAACCTTGAAGTATGGCTTCAGGAAAGACACCTGGACTGA CTCAGGAAGCTAATGGGTTGCAATTGATAGACAAAACAACACTGATGATTTGACGACATGAA ACAGCGGTTCTTGGCTTCAAGAAGCTTAAAGTACATCAGGATGACTTTGAACTACAAAAAT CTGGCAGATGCTCAAGCTCCAAAGTTTCTGGTGTGCTTGTGCGAGCTCTAGAGTTTGTCTT CTGCTGTCTTGGGATTCCAACCGGTTGACGCTTCACTGTTCTGTAACATTCGCAAAATTTAGTACC TCCATATGAGTCTGGACTTACTGAAACCAAAGCTGCTCTAGAGTTCTCTGTGAATACTCTTAAT GTGGAAAACATCTTAGTCAATGGTCAATAGCCGTTGAGGAAATCAAGCTTTAATGAAAATGG AAGACGAAGGAGATTCCAGAAGTTTCATACACAACCTGGGTAGTTTGGGAAAAGAGGCAAAAGGA AAGCACAAGAGCTGTTGCTTCAAACCTCCATTTTGTATCATCAGTGCACACATTTGTGAAAAGGCA TCGATAAATCATTATGAAAAGGCTGCTTGGGTACCCGTTGATAGAAGAGAAAGTCCGGCAAG GTTCACTGTCTCTCATGGTGGATACTATAATTTTGTGATTGACGTTCCGAGAAATGGACAGT GGATTATGCAGCAAGCAGAGGTAAGAAGAAGGAAGGCAAGTGGAAATCGCTGTTAAAGACCCGCTCA GTTTGGTCTTGACTTACGACTATCTCAATCTTCATAGAGTTTTTTTTTATAATTTATAGAGAAA CATCAAACCCCTTTTGGTGGGATATCATGTGTTTGTCCACTTGTGTGTTGAAGTCATTTTCT CTTCTTGTCTTATTGAGGACGGGACTAATGTTTGTTTTATCTTTCAGTTGTTTCGTTTTAAAT TCCACATTTGTGCAATGAACCTGGTGGTGTCTTTAAGATATAATCATTTTGCCACTGTAGTG AGATCGGAGGCATGCAT
Full length AtγCA1 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 31 AtγCA1 (At1g19580)	ATATTAACCACTGTAACGTAAATTTATTGTTTCGCCGTCGCCGAATGTTCTGTGTAATCCA TTTTTCGCTGATTTTTTTCTTCCGCTCTTCTTTCAGCTTCGACCATTTTCGTTCTTCTTCA GTGTTGAGTCTCGTTTACCTGTGAGCTCGAAGAAAAGTACGATCAATGGGAACCTCAGGACGA GCATTTTACTCGGTCGGTTTTTGGATCCGTGAGACTGGTCAAGCTCTTGTATCGCCTCGGTTGTC GCCTTCAAGGCAAAAATTAATCCGAGAACAACTGTCAAGGCATCGGACACTGATGAATGATTT TGATAAGGCTCCGATTGTGGACAAGGAAGCTTTTGTGGCACCAAGCGCTCAGTTATTGGGGAC GTTCACTTGGAAAGAGGATCGTCCATTTGGTATGGATGCGTATTACGAGGCGATGTAACACCG TAAGTGTGGGTCAGGAATAATTTCAAGACAACCTCACTTGTGCAATGTGGCAAAATCAAACCT AAGCGGAAAGGTGCACCAACCATAAATGGAGACAATGTAACCATTTGGTCAATAGTGTGTTTTA CATGGATGTACTGTTGAGGATGAGACCTTTATGGGATGGGTGCGACACTTCTGTATGGGGTCG TTGTTGAAAAGCATGGGATGGTGTGCTGCTGGTGCATGTACGACAAAACACAGAAATCCTTTC TGGAGAGGTATGGGAGGAAAACCCAGCAAGGTTCTCAGGAAGCTCACTGATGAGGAAATGCT TTTTATCTCAGTCAAGCAAACTACTCAAACCTCGCACAGGCTCAGCTGCAGAGAAATGCAA AGCCATAAATGTGATTGAGTTCCGAGAAGGTTCTACGCAAGAAGCATGCTCTAAAGGACGAGGA GTATGACTCAATGCTCGGAATAGTGAGAGAACTCCACAGAGCTTAACTCCCTCAACACATA CTGCCGTATAAAGAAAACCAAGCGTCTTCTAATGTGAACGATTTTTACAGGGGATGTTTTCTG GCCGAAGCCCTACAGGTTGAGATACTCAAGGGGATATGTTTTCGGTCTCTGGTTTGAATATGGC AGGTAGAGTACATTAGGGTAGACGGATTTACAGCTTTTGAAGAAGCTATGTTCAACATTTTTCT ATGGTTTTCTAGGGAGTATTATGTTCTAATCAAACCTTGTATGTATCACTTCCGCTTTTTGAA CGTAAGAATCAAGTTCATGAAACATGAGTGAATATAGTCTGATGCATGTGCGTATGCAAAAAT CCATGTGCGCTATGTTGCTAGGCAAGCATGAAGAATAAAGATCCAAAACCTGGATATATCATATA TTTTATCTTTTATAAATACTGC
Full length AtγCA2 cDNA	SEQ ID NO: 32 AtγCA2 (At1g47260)	CGAACTCACTCGAGTTAAAAAATAATCCTCCATCAATACGCCTCCATAAACCTCTCTCTAT CTGGTGGAGCGACCAAAAAACAAGCCCTTCTCATTTTACACTTTGGGTAATCGGAGAAAT CACAAAAAATGGAAACCTAGGACGAGCAATTTACACTGTGGTAACTGGATTCTGTGGAACTG GTCAGCTCTTGTATCGCGTTGGTTCTCTTCTTCAAGGAAGTCCAGTATCGAGGAACATCTGTCT

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Full length AtyCA3 cdNA	SEQ ID NO: 33 AtyCA3 (At5g66510)	CAAAGACTGCACCTCTCTCTCTCTCTCTGGCTCCGGCGAAAACCCCTTTTCGATTTTATTGAT AAAACGCAAATCGATCTCTCGTGTGGAAGAAGAAGAACAACGATGGGAACATGGGTAAAGC ATTCTACAGCGTAGGATCTGGATCCGTGAAACTGGTCAAGCATTGATCGGCTCGGTTGTGCG CTCCAAGGGAAAATCATTTCCGAGAACAGCTATCAAGGCACCGCACACTCATGAATGTTTTGT ACAAAACCCCTAATGTGGATAAGGGGGCTTTTGTGGCTCCTAACGCTTCTCTCTCTGGTGTG CCATGTGGGAAGAGGTTCTTCCATTTGGTATGGATGTGCTTTGAGAGACATACCCCTTGATTTA ATGACCGACTCTGCAGGAGATGCTAACAGCATTAGTGTGGAGCTGGGACCAATATTCAAGACA ACGCTCTTGTCCACGTTGCTAAGACCAACTTAAGTGGGAAGGCTTACCTACTGTGATTTGGAGA CAATGTCAACATTGGTCAATAGTGTGTTTACATGGCTGCACGTGTCGAGGATGAGGCCTATATT GGTACAAGTGCACCTGCTTGGATGGAGCTCATGTTGAAAAACATGCCATGGTTGCTTCAAGGAG CTCTTGTAGGCAGAACTAGAAATCCCTCTGGCGAGGTTTGGGGAGGCAACCCAGCTAAAT TCTGAGGAAGGTGACAGAAGAAGAAGAGTCTTCTTCCAGTTCGGCTGTGGAGTACTCCAAC TAAACAAGAAGAAGCTCCGATACAGAATATGATTACAGTACTCGATGATCTCACGCTCCCTGA GAATGTACAAAAGCAGCTTGGAGCGTTTAACTGTGCCGCTTGGCAATCTTGATTTGTTTGG ATTTGAAAAGTAAAAACAAGAACTGATTTCTCTGCTTCCAAATAAAGTTTTCTTGGGCGTAA AATCCATTGGCCAGTGTCTCACTGGGAAAGTTTTCCGCTTAAAGGCATTCAATTTCTGTTAAAG ATTTGAGGGGTTTTGTTCTCTTGTAACTTGAAGAAAGAAAGTTGAACCTTTTCTTCTTCTTTT ATGTCGCTAATAAATGTTGATCAGACAGACATTAGGTTGACCTTTGCCATAAAAAGATAG CTCTGCTTCAATAA
Full length AtyCAL1 cdNA	SEQ ID NO: 34 AtyCAL1 (At5g63510)	ACTCTCTCTCTTTTCTCTTTTGAATCCTTGAAGAAATCCAAAATCCATAGCAATGGCGACTT CGATAGCTCGATTGTCTCGGAGAGGAGTCACTTCTAACCTGATCCGTCGTTGCTTCGCTGCGGA AGCGCGCTTGGCGAGGAAGACAGAGTTACCTAAACCGCAATTCACGGTGTCCGCGCTCGACGGAT CGTGTGAAATGGGACTACAGAGGCCAACGACAGATCATTCCTTTGGGACAGTGGCTTCCGAAGG TAGCCGTTGATGCTTACGTGGACCCAACTGTTGCTGGCTGGTCAAGTCAAGTCTGGGACGG CTCGTCTGTTTGAACGGTGCCTTTTGCAGCGGATCTCAACAAAATCACTGTTGGATTCTGC TCGAATGTACAGGAACGGTGTGTTGTTTATGCGCCCTGGTCTTCCCAACAGGATACCAGCAG CGACAATAATCGACAGGTATGTGACAGTAGGTGCCATACAGTCTTCTGAGATCATGTACCATCGA ACCAAGTGCATCATCGGTCAACACTCAATACTAAAGGAAGGCTCACTGGTTGAGACCCGCTCA ATCTTGAAGCGGGTTCAGTTGTGCCGCCAGGAAGAAGGATCCCATCAGGTGAACATATGGGGAG GCAATCCAGCAAGATTATTAGAACCCTAACCAACGAAGAAACCTTAGAGATCCCAAACTCGC TGTAGCCATCAACACTTAAGCGGAGATTACTTCTCTGAGTTCCTACCTTACTCAACTGTCTACT TTAGAGGTAGAGAAGTCAAGAAGTCCCTTGGGATCGCCGTTTAGAAGTTCATCTTTTTCGCTG ATTCATTTTCAATGTTTATCTATCATATGAGGCTTTTCTCTCTGATATGCAATAAGTAGCT GATGAACATCAAAACAAGTCCGCTCTCTTTTGGTCTTAAACGTTTGTCTATTTCTGTTTTT GGGTTCTTTGAAAATCCATTTAAACTGATTTTGGCTGAATATTGTCTGAATGATAATGGCG ACGACTTCTGGTTTTGTT
Full length AtyCAL2 cdNA	SEQ ID NO: 35 AtyCAL2 (At3g48680)	CTCCCGACGACTCCTCTCTGTCTCCTCCCGGGAAGCTTCTGTCTCTCTCTCTCTCTCTA CACAAAGCTTGAAGAATCCGATCCATAACAATGGCGACTTCGTTAGCACGAATCTCTAAAAG AAGCATAACATCGGCTGTTTTCTATCGAATCTGATTCGGCTTACTTCGCGCGGAAGCAGTAGCG GTGGCGACGACGAAACCTTAAACCGAAATCGCAGGTGACGCGCTCGCCGGATCGGGTAAAAT GGGACTACAGAGGCCAGACAGATAATTCCTCTGGGACAGTGGCTACCGAAGGTAGCTGTAGA GCTTACGTGGCACCTAACGTTGTGTTGGTGGTTCAGGTCACCGCTGCGGACGGCTCGTCTGTA TGGAAACGGTGCCTTTTGAAGAGGATCTTAATAAGATCACCGTTGGATTCTGCTCAAAATGCTC AGGAAACGGTGTGTTTCTATGCTGCGTGGTGGTTCGCTACAGGATACCAGCACAAACATGAT CGATAGGTACGTGACAGTTGGTGCATACAGTCTTTTAAAGATATGCACTATCGAACCCAGAAATG ATCATCGGGCAACACTCAATCCTAATGGAAGGTTCACTGGTCGAAACCCGCTCAATCTAGAAG CTGGTCTGTTTTTACCACCTGGCAGAAGAAATCCATCTGGTGAACATATGGGGAGGCAATCCAGC AAGGTTTTATCGAACACTACCAATGAAGAAACCTTAGAGATCCCGAACTTGCTGTGCCATT

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A number of aspects of the invention have been described. Nevertheless, it will be understood that various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, other aspects are within the scope of the following claims. ¹⁵

SEQUENCE LISTING

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Ser Ser Asn Ser Asp Ala Ile Glu Arg Ile Lys Thr Gly Phe Thr Gln
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Arg Val Cys Pro Ser His Ile Leu Asn Phe Gln Pro Gly Glu Ala Phe
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His Ser Gly Val Gly Ala Ala Val Glu Tyr Ala Val Val His Leu Lys
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Val Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Gly His Ser Cys Cys Gly Gly Ile Lys
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Gly Leu Met Ser Ile Glu Asp Asp Ala Ala Pro Thr Gln Ser Asp Phe
180 185 190
Ile Glu Asn Trp Val Lys Ile Gly Ala Ser Ala Arg Asn Lys Ile Lys
195 200 205
Glu Glu His Lys Asp Leu Ser Tyr Asp Asp Gln Cys Asn Lys Cys Glu
210 215 220
Lys Glu Ala Val Asn Val Ser Leu Gly Asn Leu Leu Ser Tyr Pro Phe
225 230 235 240
Val Arg Ala Glu Val Val Lys Asn Thr Leu Ala Ile Arg Gly Gly His
245 250 255
Tyr Asn Phe Val Lys Gly Thr Phe Asp Leu Trp Glu Leu Asp Phe Lys
260 265 270
Thr Thr Pro Ala Phe Ala Phe Ser
275 280

<210> SEQ ID NO 4
<211> LENGTH: 1151
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 4

caaaattcat gtgtagtgc ttcttcttta caaaattgag tttaaactgt tttattacta 60
atccaaatga ggaatcactt tgcaactatta atagaaaata atacacaacc aaacatctaa 120
aagatactat aatagtagag atcaaagacc tgagcaaaaa ctgaaagaaa aaaaaaaaaa 180

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aaaaaaaaaga cttctcctca aaaatggcgt ttactactagg tggaaagagct cgtcgtctag 240
tctctgcaac atcagttcat caaaatgggt gcttacacaa actgcaacaa attggatcgg 300
atcggtttca gcttggtgaa gcaaaagcaa taagattact acccaggaga acaaacatgg 360
ttcaagaatt agaatcagg gaagaattta tggatctaaa cagagaaaca gagacaagtt 420
atgattttct ggatgaaatg agacacagat ttctgaaatt caagagacaa aagtatctac 480
cggagataga aaagtttaaa gctttggcca tagctcaatc accaaaggta atggtgatag 540
gatgtgcaga ttcaagggta tgtccatctt atgtactagg atttcaacct ggtgaagctt 600
ttactatccg aatgtcgc cc aatctcgta ccccggttca gaatggacca acagaaacca 660
actcggctct tgagtttgcg gtcaccactc ttcaggttga gaacattata gttatgggtc 720
atagcaattg tggaggaatt gcagcactta tgagtcatca aaaccaccaa gggcaacact 780
ctagtttagt agaaaggtgg gttatgaatg ggaaagccgc taagttaaga acacaattag 840
cttcatcaca ttatctctt gatgaacaat gcagaaactg tgagaaggaa tctataaagg 900
attctgtgat gaatttgata acttattcat ggataagaga tagagtaaag agaggtgaag 960
tcaagattca tggatgttat tacaatttgt cagattgtag tcttgagaag tggagattaa 1020
gttcagacaa gactaactat ggattctata tttcagacag agagatatgg agttgagtaa 1080
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<210> SEQ ID NO 5
<211> LENGTH: 873
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: CDS
<222> LOCATION: (1)..(873)

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<400> SEQUENCE: 5

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Met Ala Phe Thr Leu Gly Gly Arg Ala Arg Arg Leu Val Ser Ala Thr
1 5 10 15
tca gtt cat caa aat ggt tgc tta cac aaa ctg caa caa att gga tcg 96
Ser Val His Gln Asn Gly Cys Leu His Lys Leu Gln Gln Ile Gly Ser
20 25 30
gat cgg ttt cag ctt ggt gaa gca aaa gca ata aga tta cta ccc agg 144
Asp Arg Phe Gln Leu Gly Glu Ala Lys Ala Ile Arg Leu Leu Pro Arg
35 40 45
aga aca aac atg gtt caa gaa tta gga atc agg gaa gaa ttt atg gat 192
Arg Thr Asn Met Val Gln Glu Leu Gly Ile Arg Glu Glu Phe Met Asp
50 55 60
cta aac aga gaa aca gag aca agt tat gat ttt ctg gat gaa atg aga 240
Leu Asn Arg Glu Thr Glu Thr Ser Tyr Asp Phe Leu Asp Glu Met Arg
65 70 75 80
cac aga ttt ctg aaa ttc aag aga caa aag tat cta ccg gag ata gaa 288
His Arg Phe Leu Lys Phe Lys Arg Gln Lys Tyr Leu Pro Glu Ile Glu
85 90 95
aag ttt aaa gct ttg gcc ata gct caa tca cca aag gta atg gtg ata 336
Lys Phe Lys Ala Leu Ala Ile Ala Gln Ser Pro Lys Val Met Val Ile
100 105 110
gga tgt gca gat tca agg gta tgt cca tct tat gta cta gga ttt caa 384
Gly Cys Ala Asp Ser Arg Val Cys Pro Ser Tyr Val Leu Gly Phe Gln
115 120 125
cct ggt gaa gct ttt act atc cga aat gtc gcc aat ctc gtt acc ccg 432
Pro Gly Glu Ala Phe Thr Ile Arg Asn Val Ala Asn Leu Val Thr Pro

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130	135	140	
gtt cag aat gga cca aca gaa acc aac tcg gct ctt gag ttt gcg gtc			480
Val Gln Asn Gly Pro Thr Glu Thr Asn Ser Ala Leu Glu Phe Ala Val			
145	150	155	160
acc act ctt cag gtt gag aac att ata gtt atg ggt cat agc aat tgt			528
Thr Thr Leu Gln Val Glu Asn Ile Ile Val Met Gly His Ser Asn Cys			
	165	170	175
gga gga att gca gca ctt atg agt cat caa aac cac caa ggg caa cac			576
Gly Gly Ile Ala Ala Leu Met Ser His Gln Asn His Gln Gly Gln His			
	180	185	190
tct agt tta gta gaa agg tgg gtt atg aat ggg aaa gcc gct aag tta			624
Ser Ser Leu Val Glu Arg Trp Val Met Asn Gly Lys Ala Ala Lys Leu			
	195	200	205
aga aca caa tta gct tca tca cat tta tcc ttt gat gaa caa tgc aga			672
Arg Thr Gln Leu Ala Ser Ser His Leu Ser Phe Asp Glu Gln Cys Arg			
	210	215	220
aac tgt gag aag gaa tct ata aag gat tct gtg atg aat ttg ata act			720
Asn Cys Glu Lys Glu Ser Ile Lys Asp Ser Val Met Asn Leu Ile Thr			
	225	230	235
tat tca tgg ata aga gat aga gta aag aga ggt gaa gtc aag att cat			768
Tyr Ser Trp Ile Arg Asp Arg Val Lys Arg Gly Glu Val Lys Ile His			
	245	250	255
gga tgt tat tac aat ttg tca gat tgt agt ctt gag aag tgg aga tta			816
Gly Cys Tyr Tyr Asn Leu Ser Asp Cys Ser Leu Glu Lys Trp Arg Leu			
	260	265	270
agt tca gac aag act aac tat gga ttc tat att tca gac aga gag ata			864
Ser Ser Asp Lys Thr Asn Tyr Gly Phe Tyr Ile Ser Asp Arg Glu Ile			
	275	280	285
tgg agt tga			873
Trp Ser			
290			
<210> SEQ ID NO 6			
<211> LENGTH: 290			
<212> TYPE: PRT			
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana			
<400> SEQUENCE: 6			
Met Ala Phe Thr Leu Gly Gly Arg Ala Arg Arg Leu Val Ser Ala Thr			
1	5	10	15
Ser Val His Gln Asn Gly Cys Leu His Lys Leu Gln Gln Ile Gly Ser			
	20	25	30
Asp Arg Phe Gln Leu Gly Glu Ala Lys Ala Ile Arg Leu Leu Pro Arg			
	35	40	45
Arg Thr Asn Met Val Gln Glu Leu Gly Ile Arg Glu Glu Phe Met Asp			
	50	55	60
Leu Asn Arg Glu Thr Glu Thr Ser Tyr Asp Phe Leu Asp Glu Met Arg			
	65	70	75
His Arg Phe Leu Lys Phe Lys Arg Gln Lys Tyr Leu Pro Glu Ile Glu			
	85	90	95
Lys Phe Lys Ala Leu Ala Ile Ala Gln Ser Pro Lys Val Met Val Ile			
	100	105	110
Gly Cys Ala Asp Ser Arg Val Cys Pro Ser Tyr Val Leu Gly Phe Gln			
	115	120	125
Pro Gly Glu Ala Phe Thr Ile Arg Asn Val Ala Asn Leu Val Thr Pro			
	130	135	140
Val Gln Asn Gly Pro Thr Glu Thr Asn Ser Ala Leu Glu Phe Ala Val			
	145	150	155
			160

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Thr Thr Leu Gln Val Glu Asn Ile Ile Val Met Gly His Ser Asn Cys
 165 170 175
 Gly Gly Ile Ala Ala Leu Met Ser His Gln Asn His Gln Gly Gln His
 180 185 190
 Ser Ser Leu Val Glu Arg Trp Val Met Asn Gly Lys Ala Ala Lys Leu
 195 200 205
 Arg Thr Gln Leu Ala Ser Ser His Leu Ser Phe Asp Glu Gln Cys Arg
 210 215 220
 Asn Cys Glu Lys Glu Ser Ile Lys Asp Ser Val Met Asn Leu Ile Thr
 225 230 235 240
 Tyr Ser Trp Ile Arg Asp Arg Val Lys Arg Gly Glu Val Lys Ile His
 245 250 255
 Gly Cys Tyr Tyr Asn Leu Ser Asp Cys Ser Leu Glu Lys Trp Arg Leu
 260 265 270
 Ser Ser Asp Lys Thr Asn Tyr Gly Phe Tyr Ile Ser Asp Arg Glu Ile
 275 280 285
 Trp Ser
 290

<210> SEQ ID NO 7
 <211> LENGTH: 1319
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana
 <400> SEQUENCE: 7

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 ataatagtagc ttccataaga gtcttagttc taactataaa tacacatatc tcaactctctc 120
 tgatctccgc ttctcttcgc caacaaatgt cgaccgctcc tctctccggc ttctttctca 180
 cttcaactttc tccttctcaa tcttctctcc agaaactctc tcttcgtact tcttccaccg 240
 tegcttgect cccaccgcgc tcttcttctt cctcatcttc ctctctctcg tcttcccggt 300
 ccggtccaac gcttatccgt aacgagccag tttttgccgc tctgtctctc atcattgccc 360
 cttattggag tgaagagatg ggaaccgaag catacgacga ggctattgaa gctctcaaga 420
 agcttctcat cgagaaggaa gagctaaaga cggttgcagc ggcaaagggtg gagcagatca 480
 cagcggctct tcagacaggt acttcatccg acaagaaagc tttcgacccc gtcgaaacca 540
 ttaagcaggg ctatcatcaa ttcaagaagg agaaatacga aaccaacctt gctttgtacg 600
 gtgagctcgc aaagggtaa agtcctaagt acatgggtgt tgcttgttca gactcacgtg 660
 tgtgtccate acacgttctg gactttcagc caggagatgc cttcgtggtc cgtaacatag 720
 ccaacatggt tctctcttgc gacaaggta aatacggtag cggttgagca gccattgaat 780
 acgcggtctt acaccttaag gtggagaaca ttgtgggtgat aggacacagt gcatgtgggt 840
 ggatcaaagg gcttatgtct tcccccttag atggaaacaa ctccactgac ttcatagagg 900
 actgggtcaa aatctgttta ccagccaagt caaaggttat atcagaactt ggagattcag 960
 cctttgaaga tcaatgtggc cgatgtgaaa gggaggcggg gaatgtttca ctagcaaacc 1020
 tattgacata tccatttctg agagaaggac ttgtgaaggg aaccttctct ttgaagggag 1080
 gctactatga ctctgcaag ggtgcttttg agctttgggg acttgaattt ggcctctccg 1140
 aaactagctc tgttaaagat gtggctacca tactacattg gaagctgtag gaaactcttt 1200
 gaagccttac ccgatttcac attgtcaatt caataacacc aagttgttgt ttacatgcag 1260
 atcttgatga aactggtttt tgattttaca gaattaaaat cttggggggac agaaatttg 1319

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<210> SEQ ID NO 8
 <211> LENGTH: 1044
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

 <400> SEQUENCE: 8

 Ala Thr Gly Thr Cys Gly Ala Cys Cys Gly Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr Cys
 1 5 10 15
 Thr Cys Thr Cys Cys Gly Gly Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Thr Thr Cys Thr
 20 25 30
 Cys Ala Cys Thr Thr Cys Ala Cys Thr Thr Thr Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr
 35 40 45
 Thr Cys Thr Cys Ala Ala Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Cys Thr Cys Cys
 50 55 60
 Ala Gly Ala Ala Ala Cys Thr Cys Thr Cys Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Gly
 65 70 75 80
 Thr Ala Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Cys Ala Cys Cys Gly Thr Cys
 85 90 95
 Gly Cys Thr Thr Gly Cys Cys Thr Cys Cys Cys Ala Cys Cys Cys Gly
 100 105 110
 Cys Cys Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Cys Thr Cys
 115 120 125
 Ala Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr Cys Gly
 130 135 140
 Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Cys Cys Gly Thr Thr Cys Cys Gly Thr Thr Cys
 145 150 155 160
 Cys Ala Ala Cys Gly Cys Thr Thr Ala Thr Cys Cys Gly Thr Ala Ala
 165 170 175
 Cys Gly Ala Gly Cys Cys Ala Gly Thr Thr Thr Thr Thr Gly Cys Cys
 180 185 190
 Gly Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr Gly Cys Thr Cys Cys Thr Ala Thr Cys Ala
 195 200 205
 Thr Thr Gly Cys Cys Cys Cys Thr Thr Ala Thr Thr Gly Gly Ala Gly
 210 215 220
 Thr Gly Ala Ala Gly Ala Gly Ala Thr Gly Gly Gly Ala Ala Cys Cys
 225 230 235 240
 Gly Ala Ala Gly Cys Ala Thr Ala Cys Gly Ala Cys Gly Ala Gly Gly
 245 250 255
 Cys Thr Ala Thr Thr Gly Ala Ala Gly Cys Thr Cys Thr Cys Ala Ala
 260 265 270
 Gly Ala Ala Gly Cys Thr Thr Cys Thr Cys Ala Thr Cys Gly Ala Gly
 275 280 285
 Ala Ala Gly Gly Ala Ala Gly Ala Gly Cys Thr Ala Ala Ala Gly Ala
 290 295 300
 Cys Gly Gly Thr Thr Gly Cys Ala Gly Cys Gly Gly Cys Ala Ala Ala
 305 310 315 320
 Gly Gly Thr Gly Gly Ala Gly Cys Ala Gly Ala Thr Cys Ala Cys Ala
 325 330 335
 Gly Cys Gly Gly Cys Thr Cys Thr Thr Cys Ala Gly Ala Cys Ala Gly
 340 345 350
 Gly Thr Ala Cys Thr Thr Cys Ala Thr Cys Cys Gly Ala Cys Ala Ala
 355 360 365
 Gly Ala Ala Ala Gly Cys Thr Thr Thr Cys Gly Ala Cys Cys Cys Cys

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370				375				380								
Gly	Thr	Cys	Gly	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala	Cys	Cys	Ala	Thr	Thr	Ala	Ala	Gly	Cys
385					390						395					400
Ala	Gly	Gly	Gly	Cys	Thr	Thr	Cys	Ala	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Thr
				405					410						415	
Cys	Ala	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Ala	Cys
			420						425					430		
Gly	Ala	Ala	Ala	Cys	Cys	Ala	Ala	Cys	Cys	Cys	Thr	Gly	Cys	Thr	Thr	
			435				440						445			
Thr	Gly	Thr	Ala	Cys	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	Ala	Gly	Cys	Thr	Cys	Gly	Cys	
	450					455					460					
Ala	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly	Gly	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Gly	Thr	Cys	Cys	Thr	
465					470						475				480	
Ala	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ala	Cys	Ala	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	Thr	Thr	Thr	Gly	
				485					490						495	
Cys	Thr	Thr	Gly	Thr	Thr	Cys	Ala	Gly	Ala	Cys	Thr	Cys	Ala	Cys	Gly	
			500						505				510			
Thr	Gly	Thr	Gly	Thr	Gly	Thr	Cys	Cys	Ala	Thr	Cys	Ala	Cys	Ala	Cys	
		515					520					525				
Gly	Thr	Thr	Cys	Thr	Gly	Gly	Ala	Cys	Thr	Thr	Thr	Cys	Ala	Gly	Cys	
	530					535						540				
Cys	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ala	Thr	Gly	Cys	Cys	Thr	Thr	Cys	Gly	Thr	
545					550					555					560	
Gly	Gly	Thr	Cys	Cys	Gly	Thr	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Thr	Ala	Gly	Cys	Cys	
				565					570					575		
Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr	Thr	Cys	Cys	Thr	Cys	Cys	Thr	Thr	
			580						585				590			
Thr	Cys	Gly	Ala	Cys	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Ala	
		595					600						605			
Cys	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	Gly	Cys	Gly	Thr	Thr	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Cys	Ala	
	610					615						620				
Gly	Cys	Cys	Ala	Thr	Thr	Gly	Ala	Ala	Thr	Ala	Cys	Gly	Cys	Gly	Gly	
625					630					635					640	
Thr	Cys	Thr	Thr	Ala	Cys	Ala	Cys	Cys	Thr	Thr	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly	Thr	
				645					650					655		
Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Thr	Thr	Gly	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	
			660						665					670		
Ala	Thr	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Cys	Ala	Cys	Ala	Gly	Thr	Gly	Cys	Ala	Thr	
		675					680						685			
Gly	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	Gly	Gly	Ala	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly
	690					695					700					
Gly	Cys	Thr	Thr	Ala	Thr	Gly	Thr	Cys	Thr	Thr	Thr	Cys	Cys	Cys	Cys	
705					710					715					720	
Thr	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ala	Thr	Gly	Gly	Ala	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Ala	Cys	Thr	
				725					730						735	
Cys	Cys	Ala	Cys	Thr	Gly	Ala	Cys	Thr	Thr	Cys	Ala	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ala	
			740						745				750			
Gly	Gly	Ala	Cys	Thr	Gly	Gly	Gly	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Cys	
		755							760				765			
Thr	Gly	Thr	Thr	Thr	Ala	Cys	Cys	Ala	Gly	Cys	Cys	Ala	Ala	Gly	Thr	
	770					775						780				
Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly	Thr	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ala	Thr	Cys	Ala	Gly	Ala	
785					790					795					800	

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Ala Cys Thr Thr Gly Gly Ala Gly Ala Thr Thr Cys Ala Gly Cys Cys
 805 810 815
 Thr Thr Thr Gly Ala Ala Gly Ala Thr Cys Ala Ala Thr Gly Thr Gly
 820 825 830
 Gly Cys Cys Gly Ala Thr Gly Thr Gly Ala Ala Ala Gly Gly Gly Ala
 835 840 845
 Gly Gly Cys Gly Gly Thr Gly Ala Ala Thr Gly Thr Thr Thr Cys Ala
 850 855 860
 Cys Thr Ala Gly Cys Ala Ala Ala Cys Cys Thr Ala Thr Thr Gly Ala
 865 870 875 880
 Cys Ala Thr Ala Thr Cys Cys Ala Thr Thr Thr Gly Thr Gly Ala Gly
 885 890 895
 Ala Gly Ala Ala Gly Gly Ala Cys Thr Thr Gly Thr Gly Ala Ala Gly
 900 905 910
 Gly Gly Ala Ala Cys Ala Cys Thr Thr Gly Cys Thr Thr Thr Gly Ala
 915 920 925
 Ala Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Cys Thr Ala Cys Thr Ala Thr Gly Ala
 930 935 940
 Cys Thr Thr Cys Gly Thr Cys Ala Ala Gly Gly Gly Thr Gly Cys Thr
 945 950 955 960
 Thr Thr Thr Gly Ala Gly Cys Thr Thr Thr Gly Gly Gly Gly Ala Cys
 965 970 975
 Thr Thr Gly Ala Ala Thr Thr Thr Gly Gly Cys Cys Thr Cys Thr Cys
 980 985 990
 Cys Gly Ala Ala Ala Cys Thr Ala Gly Cys Thr Cys Thr Gly Thr Thr
 995 1000 1005
 Ala Ala Ala Gly Ala Thr Gly Thr Gly Gly Cys Thr Ala Cys Cys
 1010 1015 1020
 Ala Thr Ala Cys Thr Ala Cys Ala Thr Thr Gly Gly Ala Ala Gly
 1025 1030 1035
 Cys Thr Gly Thr Ala Gly
 1040

<210> SEQ ID NO 9
 <211> LENGTH: 346
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 9

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

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

<210> SEQ ID NO 10
 <211> LENGTH: 1716
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

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ccggtatggt ctccgtctgt ggtagcgctt ttggaacct ctaccaacgc cgccatgaaa      120
ggatctctca tggccgcagg ggacgtgttc ttcttacatc tggtgttagg gctatggtta      180
ctccagttag gagggagagg caagaggttg cttaatgatt cgtttttccg gtgatacgag      240
aactctttag gttaccggg aagcttttcc catgaaaatg ggatgccaag tggatggaga      300
ggagttgccg gagagttgcc ggagaatagg aggaattgg aggaggagga agagagtgat      360
cgccgggttg aaatgttaac cgtcgaggag aatttgaccg agttggatcg tctagtaggt      420
acaattcggg tccttggcga agtatccatt caaaatagtg tttagttttg gacttgagaa      480
cttgtgtctc ctttgatctc ttttatataa aactttggac gtgtaggaca aacttgtaaa      540
cataagaaac aaaatggttg caacagagag gatgaattta taagttttca acaccgcttt      600
tcttattaga cggacaacaa tctatagtgg agtaaatttt tatttttggg aaaatggtta      660
gtgaattcaa atatctaaat tttgtgactc actaacatta acaaatatgc ataagacata      720
aaaaaaaaaa agaataatc ttatgaaaca agaaaaaaaa cctatacaat caatctttag      780
gaattgacga tgtagaattg tagatgataa attttctcaa atatagatgg gcctaatagaa      840
    
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gggtgcgct tattgatct gaccatttt gaggacatta atattttcat tggttataag 900
ccttttaate aaaattgtca ttaaattgat gtctccctct cgggtcattt tctttctcc 960
ctcacaatta atgtagactt tagcaatttg cacgctgtgc tttgtcttta tatttagtaa 1020
cacaaacatt ttgacttgtc ttgtagagtt tttctctttt atttttctat ccaatatgaa 1080
aactaaaagt gttctcgtat acatatatta aaattaaaga aacctatgaa aacaccaata 1140
caaatgcgat attgttttca gttcgcagtt tcatgtttgt tagaaaattt ctaatgacgt 1200
ttgtataaaa tagacaatta aacgccaaac actacatctg tgttttcgaa caatattgag 1260
tctgctttc cttcatctat ctctctcagt gtcacaatgt ctgaaactaag agacagctgt 1320
aaactatcat taagacataa actaccaaag tatcaagcta atgtaaaaat tactctcatt 1380
tcccagtaac aaattgagtt agcttaagat attagtgaac ctagggttga attttctctt 1440
tcttcttcca tgcctcctcc gaaaaaaggg aaccaatcaa aactgtttgc atatcaaact 1500
ccaacacttt acagcaaatg caatctataa tctgtgattt atccaataaa aacctgtgat 1560
ttatgtttgg ctccagcgat gaaagtctat gcatgtgatc tctatccaac atgagtaatt 1620
gttcagaaaa taaaaagtag ctgaaatgta tctatataaa gaatcatcca caagtactat 1680
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<210> SEQ ID NO 11

<211> LENGTH: 1163

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

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acaacaatct atagtggagt aaatttttat ttttggtaaa atggttagtg aattcaaata 120
tctaattttt gtgactcact aacattaaca aatatgcata agacataaaa aaaagaaaga 180
ataattctta tgaacaaga aaaaaaacct atacaatcaa tctttaggaa ttgacgatgt 240
agaattgtag atgataaatt ttctcaataa tagatgggcc taatgaaggg tgcgcttat 300
tggactctgac ccattttgag gacattaata ttttcattgg ttataagcct tttaatcaaa 360
attgtcatta aattgatgtc tccctctcgg gtcattttcc tttctcctc acaattaatg 420
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<210> SEQ ID NO 12
<211> LENGTH: 3221
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<210> SEQ ID NO 13

<211> LENGTH: 3309

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 13

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<210> SEQ ID NO 14
<211> LENGTH: 3313
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

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gtcggaaacat agagaagatg gcatctattg atgctcagct tcggcaactc gttcctgcta    240
aagtcagtga agacgataag cttgttgagt acgatgctct tctccttgat cgctttctcg    300
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<210> SEQ ID NO 15

<211> LENGTH: 3102

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

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gatgctggac gttttactgc agcatgggaa ctctacaag ctcaagaaaa tgtgttgct 2160
gcttgaatg aatttggaa caaaaataca ttatttcatg gacgaggagg aagcattggt 2220
cgtggtggtg gtccaaccta tctcgctatt cagtcccaac caccaggctc tgtaatgggc 2280
tctttcggtt caactgagca aggtgagatg gttcaagcta agtttgggat accacaacg 2340
gctgttaggc aactagaggt atacacaacc gcggttctac tcgctacctt aaagcctcct 2400
cagccacctc gagagggaaa atggcgaaa ctaatggaag aaatctctgg aatcagttgc 2460
caaacctata gaagcacagt gtatgaaaac ccagagtttc tatcttattt tcatgaggca 2520
acaccgcaag cagaacttgg tttcctcaat ataggaagcc gaccaacacg aagaaagagc 2580
tctagtggaa taggacatct ccgagctatc ccttgggtct ttgcttggac tcaacaagg 2640
ttgttcttc cagcttggct tgggttaggg gctggtttaa agggagtctc tgagaagggt 2700
catgcggatg atcttaaga gatgtacaaa gaatggccat ttttctcagc caccctttaa 2760
cttatagaga tgggttagc taaagcagac attccaatga ccaaacacta cgacgaacaa 2820
cttgtgtctg agaaaagaag aggacttggc actgagctaa gaaaagaact aatgactact 2880
gagaagtacg ttcttctgat aagtggctc gagaaactct tgcaggacaa taagagcttg 2940
aagaaactca ttgatagtag acttccgtat ctcaacgcaa tgaacatggt acaagttgaa 3000
attcttaaga ggctaagagc tgatgaagat aacaataagc taagagatgc tttgcttacc 3060
acaatcaatg gtattgctgc aggaatgaga aataccggtt aa 3102

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 16

<211> LENGTH: 878

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

-continued

<400> SEQUENCE: 16

```

tcagtcacac aaagagtaaa gaagaacaat ggcttcctct atgctctctt ccgctactat    60
ggttgcctct ccggctcagg ccaactatggc cgctcctttc aacggactta agtctctcgc    120
tgccttccca gccaccgcga aggctaacaa cgacattact tccatcacia gcaacggcgg    180
aagagttaac tgcattgcagg tgtggcctcc gattggaaag aagaagtttg agactctctc    240
ttaccttctt gaccttaccg attccgaatt ggctaaggaa gttgactacc ttatccgcaa    300
caagtggatt ccttgtgttg aattcgagtt ggagcacgga tttgtgtacc gtgagcacgg    360
taactcaccg ggatactatg atggacggta ctggacaatg tggaagcttc ccttgttcgg    420
ttgcaccgac tccgctcaag tgttgaagga agtggagag tgcaagaagg agtaccocaa    480
tgccttcatt aggatcatcg gattcgacaa caccctcaa gtccagtga tcagtttcat    540
tgcctacaag ccaccaagct tcaccggta atttcccttt gcttttgtgt aaacctcaaa    600
actttatccc ccatctttga ttttaccctt tgtttttctg cttttttctt ctttcttggg    660
ttttaatttc cggacttaac gtttgttttc cggtttgcga gacatattct atcggattct    720
caactgtctg atgaaataaa tatgtaagt tctataagtc tttcaatttg atatgcatat    780
caacaaaaag aaaataggac aatgcggcta caaatatgaa atttacaagt ttaagaacca    840
tgagtcgcta aagaaatcat taagaaaatt agtttcac                                878

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 17

<211> LENGTH: 808

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

```

attaggcaaa agaagaagaa gaagaagtaa tggttctctc tatgctctcc tctgccgctg    60
tggttacctc cccggctcaa gccaccatgg tgcctccatt cactggtttg aagtcattccg    120
cttctttccc ggtcaccgcg aaggccaaca acgacattac ttccatcaca agcaatgggg    180
gaagagttag ctgcattgaag gtgtggccac caatcgaaa gaagaagttt gagactctat    240
cttacctccc tgaccttact gacgtcgaat tggctaagga agttgactac cttctccgca    300
acaaatggat tccttgtgtt gaattcgagt tggagcacgg atttgtgtac cgtgagcacg    360
gaaacactcc cggatactac gatggacggg actggacaat gtggaagctt ccattgttcg    420
gatgcaccga ctccgctcaa gtgttgaagg aagttgaaga atgcaagaag gactaccgag    480
gcgccttcat taggatcatc ggattcgaca acaccctgca agtccaatgc atcagtttca    540
ttgctacaaa gccccaaagc ttcactgatg cttaaactct tttctggaat attcaatggt    600
gactatccgg aaccaatgtt tgtatggta atgtaaatgt aagtaattat tttgcaaaag    660
tgaaaaaact gaaggtttgt tttctctatg tttctctat aaaaatctct attcatatca    720
cttcattttt gctcttatca cttttaactc tttttattcg ttttatctct ttttaactaa    780
attttagttc ctttaaatgt ctctccta                                808

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 18

<211> LENGTH: 856

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

```

caagtaagta agagaaaaac caaaagaaga agagaaacaa caagaagaag taatggcttc    60
ctctatgttc tcctccaccg ctgtgggttac ctccccggt caagccacca tggctgctcc    120

```

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attcacggc ttgaagtcac ccgcttcttt cccggtcacc cgcaaggcca acaacgacat 180
tacttccatc acaagcaacg gaggaagagt tagctgcatg aaggtgtggc caccaatcgg 240
aaagaagaag tttgagactc tatcttacct cctgacctt agtgacgttg aattggctaa 300
ggaagttgac taccttctcc gcaacaagtg gattccttgt gttgaattcg agttggagca 360
cggatttgtg taccgtgagc acggaaacac tcccggatac tatgatggac gatactggac 420
aatgtggaag cttccattgt tcggatgcac cgactccgct caagtgttga aggaagttga 480
agaatgcaag aaggagtacc ctggcgcctt cattaggatc atcggattcg acaacaccgg 540
tcaagtccaa tgcatcagtt tcattgccta caagcccca agcttcaccg aagcttaatc 600
ccctttctgg aatattcagc gttgattatt ctggaacca tttctatgtg gtcaatgcaa 660
atttaagaaa ttatttgccg acttaacagt tgaggaacta ttgtttgaaa gtgaaaatgt 720
tattcctatc agtttctcta taattatagt tatcatttca tttcattttt gcccttaaat 780
ctttgaaatc ttattttctg tttagctcct ttaacaaca ttgtggctcc tttaaattat 840
cctcataatt cttgct 856

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 19
<211> LENGTH: 963
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

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```

gggcttttcc cctttagggg gttctcatta tataaagatg acaacaccag taggaaaaca 60
agtcagtaag taaacgagca aaagaagaag agaaacaaca agaagtagta atggcttctc 120
ctatgctctc ctccgcccgt gtggttacat ccccggtcca ggccaccatg gtcgctccat 180
tcaccggctt gaagtcaccc gctgcattcc cggtcaccgg caagaccaac aaggacatca 240
cttccatcgc aagcaacggg ggaagagtta gctgcatgaa ggtgtggcca ccaattggaa 300
agaagaagtt tgagactcta tcttaacctc ctgaccttag tgacgtcgaa ttggctaagg 360
aagttgacta ccttctccgc aacaagtgga ttccttgtgt tgaattcgag ttagagcagc 420
gaaacactcc cggatactac gatggacggg actggacaat gtggaagctt ccattgttgc 480
gatgcaccga ctccgctcaa gtgttgaagg aagttgaaga atgcaagaag gactaccggg 540
gcgccttcat taggatcacc ggattcgaca acaccgctca agtccaatgc atcagtttca 600
ttgctacaaa gccccaaagc ttcaccgaag cttaatttct tttctaaaac attcttatga 660
attatctctg ctcaattcat ttcctattgt ctgtgttctt tttctcttta tgagacaatt 720
tctatcggat tgtcaaatgt ctgatttatg aatagtaat ttatatatcc gtgcgtcttg 780
atTTTTTCCG atggttaact agtttgaaaa tttccgatga gataagacaa cataaaaaa 840
atcgaataaa ttgtgtaaat atagataata gtgacatatg gatttgtatt catatttgtc 900
cattgtttta agaggaaaa agttacaaaa tcttattttc ttaataataa gtaaatttac 960
ttt 963

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 20
<211> LENGTH: 1514
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

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<400> SEQUENCE: 20

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```

aaatagagaa gctcttcaag tatccgatgt tttgttttaa tcaacaagag gcggagatac 60

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gggagaaatt gcatgtgtaa tcataaaatg tagatgtag cttcgtcgtt tttactatag 120
tttagttctc ttcttcttct tttttcgtca ttacaatctc tttcttaatt tacttcttct 180
tgatagtata attaagttgt ttgtaataat ctgtacaaag atgttgtggt ctcataaaaa 240
attcaatfff gtaaagaagc tctacatggt ccttgctctg taaacatggt ccccttttgg 300
actacagttt ctcgaaatgg ctcatcagac tcagagacga ctctccaatc tgcttcaaaa 360
gccacaaaac agtataaata tccttctctt cgtccctctc atcgctctgc tctctctctc 420
ctcttcccgt tccatttate cgcaaacgga gcttgttttc ggtgcacctg cttcagccac 480
ttcaaacctg aactgagaag gatgggaaac gaatcatatg aagacgccat cgaagctctc 540
aagaagcttc tcattgagaa ggatgatctg aaggatgtag ctgctggccaa ggtgaagaag 600
atcacggcgg agcttcaggc agcctcgtca tcggacagca aatcttttga tcccgctgaa 660
cgaattaagg aaggcttctg caccttcaag aaggagaaat acgagaccaa tctgctttg 720
tatggtgagc tcgccaaagg tcaaagccca aagtacatgg tgtttgcttg ttcggactca 780
cgagtgtgcc catcacacgt actagacttc catcctggag atgcctcgtt ggttcgtaat 840
atcgccaata tggttctctc ttttgacaag gtcaaatatg caggagtgg agccgccatt 900
gaatacgtct tcttgacct taaggtggaa aacattgtgg tgatagggca cagtgcattg 960
ggtggcatca aggggcttat gtcatttctt cttgacggaa acaactctac tgacttcata 1020
gaggattggg tcaaaatctg tttaccagca aagtcaaaag ttttggcaga aagtgaaggt 1080
tcagcatttg aagaccaatg tggccgatgc gaaagggagg cagtgaatgt gtcactagca 1140
aacctattga catatccatt tgtgagagaa ggagtttga aaggaacct tgctttgaag 1200
ggaggctact atgactttgt taatggctcc tttgagcttt gggagctcca gtttgaatt 1260
tccccgttc attctatag aactaacaca tcaccatcac catcgctacc accaccatca 1320
caaacatcat catcgtcgtc atcatcatga tcagcatctt catatataaa tgttttactc 1380
ttatftaatt gctacttga atggtataca tttacttgcg atgagcttct tttccttcat 1440
tatccagtta taaaataaat aaataaatca tgtttacttt cacagatate gttttgctga 1500
agttgctttg attt 1514

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 21

<211> LENGTH: 1031

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 21

```

atgcagtaat ctgataaaac cctccacaga gatttccaac aaaacaggaa ctaaaacaca 60
agatgaagat tatgatgatg attaagctct gcttcttctc catgtccctc atctgcattg 120
cacctgcaga tgctcagaca gaaggagtag tgtttggata taaaggcaaa aatggaccaa 180
accaatgggg acactttaaac cctcacttca ccacatgcgc ggtcggtaaa ttgcaatctc 240
caattgatat tcaaaggagg caaatatfff acaaccacaa attgaattca atacaccgtg 300
aatactactt cacaaacgca acactagtga accacgtctg taatggtgcc atgttctctg 360
gggaggggagc aggagatgtg ataatagaaa acaagaacta taccttactg caaatgcatt 420
ggcactctcc ttctgaacat cacctccatg gagtccaata tgcagctgag ctgcacatgg 480
tacaccaage aaaagatgga agctttgctg tgggtgcaag tctcttcaaa ateggcactg 540
aagagccttt cctctctcag atgaaggaga aattggtgaa gctaaaggaa gagagactca 600
aagggaacca cacagcacia gtggaagtag gaagaatcga cacaagacac attgaacgta 660

```

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agactcgaaa gtactacaga tacattgggt cactcactac tcctccttgc tccgagaacg 720
tttcttggac catccttggc aaggtgaggt caatgtcaaa ggaacaagta gaactactca 780
gatctccatt ggacacttct tccaagaaca attcaagacc gtgtcaaccc ctcaacggcc 840
ggagagtga gatgttccac gaccacgagc gtgtcgataa aaaagaaacc ggtaacaaaa 900
agaaaaaac caattaaat agttttacat tgtctattgg tttgtttaga accctaatta 960
gctttgtaaa actaataatc tcttatgtag tactgtgttg ttgtttacga cttgatatac 1020
gatttccaaa t 1031

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 22
<211> LENGTH: 736
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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```

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

```

```

atggatgaat atgtagagga tgaacacgaa ttcagctacg aatggaacca agagaacggg 60
ccagcgaaat ggggaaagct aagaccggaa tggaaaatgt gcgaaaagg agaaatgcaa 120
tcgctattg atcttatgaa caaaagagtt agacttgta ctcacttaa aaagcttact 180
agacactaca aaccttgtaa cgccactctc aaaaatagag gccatgatat gatgctgaaa 240
tttgagaag aagggtcagg gagtattacg gtcaatggaa ctgagtataa actcttacag 300
cttcattggc attctccctc tgaacatact atgaatggaa gaaggtttgc tctcgagcta 360
cacatggttc acgaaaaatc taacggaagt ttggctgtag tcacagctct ctacaaaatc 420
ggaaggccag attcttttct cggattgctg gaaaaataat tgtcggcaat tacagatcaa 480
aatgaggcgg agaaatattg agatgtgatt gacccaaggg atattaagat tgggagcaga 540
aaatttata gatacattgg atcacttact actcctcctt gtacgcaaaa tgttatttgg 600
accgtcgta aaaaggtaaa tactcatcgt tattttcttc tcttttttac ttaatcaaac 660
atagcattaa tagatcatta caaggtacta atagtgtgaa tatccatata caaaaggttt 720
atccatctac atgtta 736

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 23
<211> LENGTH: 1134
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 23

```

```

aaaacacatt ctgagaagaa gaagaagaaa ataagaaaa acaaaagatg aaaaccatta 60
tcctttttgt aacatttctt gctctttctt cttcatctct agccgatgag acagagactg 120
aatttcatta caaacccggt gagatagccg atccctcgaa atggagcagt atcaaggctg 180
aatggaaaaa ttgctgggaca ggaagaggc aatcgccaat caatcttact caaaaatag 240
ctcgattgt tcacaattct acagagattc ttcagacata ttacaaacct gtagaggcta 300
ttcttaagaa ccgtggatcc gacatgaagg ttaagtggga agacgatgca ggaagatcg 360
tgatcaatga taccgactat aaattgggtc aaagccactg gcacgcacct tcagagcatt 420
ttctcgatgg acagaggttg gcaatggaac ttcacatggt acacaaaagt gtagaagggc 480
acttggcagt gattggagtt ctcttcagag aaggagaacc aatgctttc atttcgcgga 540
tcatggacaa gatccataag atcgcagacg tacaagatgg agaggtcagc atcgaaaga 600
tagatccaag agaatttggg tgggatctta caaagtttta tgaatacaga ggttctctca 660

```

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cgactcctcc ttgcacggaa gatgtcatgt ggaccatcat caacaagggtg gggactgttt 720
cacgtgagca aattgatgta ttgacagatg ctcgtcgcgg tggttatgag aagaacgcga 780
gaccagctca acctctgaac ggacgtctgg tttattttaa cgagcagtcc agtccaagtc 840
caactccacg gctaagaata ccacgagttg gtccggctca agacagtctt ataggacaag 900
gcaactccga gcctaatatt ccatacaaaag aaaattcggg aaagaatttt gaagatgtat 960
gaaaattggg agccataact attttttttt aactattctt ttgattaaaa gataaaacta 1020
cgcaatatta tatgcataaa gtttttcttt tatacatgta ttccaataaa caagatgtaa 1080
taatatccaa ccataatgag ttgtttgatt attttataac acaagatctc tcac 1134

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 24
<211> LENGTH: 804
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 24

```

```

atggatacca acgcaaaaac aattttcttc atggctatgt gtttcatcta tctatctttc 60
cctaataattt cacacgctca ttctgaagtc gacgacgaaa ctccatttac ttacgaacaa 120
aaaaacggaaa agggaccaga gggatggggc aaaataaatc cgcactggaa agtttgtaac 180
accggaagat atcaatcccc gatcgatctt actaacgaaa gagtcagtct tattcatgat 240
caagcatgga caagacaata taaaccagct cggctgtaa ttacaaacag aggccatgac 300
attatgggat catggaagg agatgctggg aagatgacaa tacggaaaac ggattttaat 360
ttggtgcaat gccattggca ttcacctctt gagcataccg ttaacggaac taggtacgac 420
ctagagcttc acatggttca cacgagtgca cgaggcagaa ctgcggttat cggagtctct 480
tacaaattag gcgaacctaa tgaattcctc accaagctac taaatggaat aaaagcagtg 540
ggaaataaag agataaatct agggatgatt gatccacgag agattaggtt tcaacaaga 600
aaattctata gatacattgg ctctctcact gttctctctt gactgaagg cgtcatttgg 660
actgtcgtca aaagggtgaa cacaaatca atggagcaaa ttacagctct taggcaagcc 720
gttgacgatg gatttgagac aaattcaaga cgggttcaag actcaaaggg aagatcagtt 780
tggttctatg atccaaatgt ttga 804

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 25
<211> LENGTH: 1088
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 25

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```

gatcaacatc tccttgaagt tgtttcataa gaataagagc tataaaagag gataaaacca 60
aaatttgaat tttttctctc tatctctctc cccaagatat atagcacaag aaaatgaaga 120
taccatcaat tggctatgtc tttttctcta tcttcatctc tattacaatt gtttcgagtt 180
caccagatca tggagaagtt gaggaacgaaa cgcagttaa ctacgagaag aaaggagaga 240
aggggccaga gaactgggga agactaaagc cagagtgggc aatgtgtgga aaaggcaaca 300
tgcagtctcc gattgatctt acggacaaaa gagtcttgat tgatcataat cttggatacc 360
ttcgtagcca gtatttacct tcaaatgcca ccattaagaa cagaggccat gatatcatga 420
tgaaatttga aggaggaaat gcaggtttag gtatcactat taatggtact gaatataaac 480
ttcaacagat tcattggcac tctcttccg aacacacact caatggcaaa aggtttgttc 540
ttgaggaaca catggttcat cagagcaaa atggacgcaa cgctgtgtgc gctttctttt 600

```

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acaattggg aaaactgac tattttctcc tcacgttggg aagatacttg aagaggataa 660
ctgatacaca cgaatcccag gaatttgcg agatggttca tcctagaaca ttcggttttg 720
aatcaaaaca ctattataga tttatcggat cacttacaac tccaccgtgt tctgaaaatg 780
tgatttggac gattttccaaa gagatgagga ctgtgacatt aaaacaattg atcatgcttc 840
gagtgactgt acacgatcaa tctaactcaa atgctagacc gcttcagcgt aaaaatgagc 900
gtccgggtggc actttacata ccaacatggc atagtaaact atattaataa ttttaagttg 960
gtttatattc tttctagtaa tctttgaaat attgtaagag ataatgcttc taataaataa 1020
cattggattt attggaatta atgtattgaa aaaactatgc aaatactaca gtgtattttg 1080
gaacgacc 1088

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 26
<211> LENGTH: 783
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

```

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

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```

atggatgcca acacaaaaac aattttattt tttgtagtgt tcttcacoga tttattttcc 60
cctaataattt tattcgttta tgctcgtgaa atcggcaaca aaccgctatt tacatacaaa 120
caaaaaacag agaaaaggacc agcggaatgg ggcaaattag accctcaatg gaaagtttgt 180
agcaccggaa aaattcaate tccgattgat ctactgacg aaagagtcag tcttattcat 240
gatcaagcct tgagtaaaaca ttacaacca gcttcggctg taattcaaag tagaggacat 300
gacgttatgg tatcgtggaa aggagatggg gggaaaataa caatacatca aacggattat 360
aaattggtgc agtgccattg gcattcaccg tctgagcata ccattaacgg aactagctat 420
gacctagagc ttcacatggt tcacacgagt gctagtggca aaaccactgt ggttgagatt 480
ctttataaat taggtgaacc tgatgaattc ctcaaaaaga tactaaatgg aataaaagga 540
gtagggaaaa aagagataga tctaggaatc gtggatcctc gagatattag atttgaacc 600
aacaatttct atagatacat tggctctctc actattctct catgcaccga aggcgttatt 660
tggaccgtcc agaaaagggg atttatattt ttttgtttct gttatagatt aattatcttc 720
gttacacctt acataaacat tttttggatt tttgtttttg tattttgggtg tatgctaattg 780
taa 783

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```

<210> SEQ ID NO 27
<211> LENGTH: 859
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

```

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<400> SEQUENCE: 27

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```

atggtgaact actcatcaat cagttgcac tcctttgtgg ctctgtttag tattttcaca 60
attgtttcga tttcagatgc tgcttcaagt cacggagaag ttgaggacga acgcgagttt 120
aactacaaga agaacgatga gaaggggcca gagagatggg gagaacttaa accggaatgg 180
gaaatgtgtg gaaaaggaga gatgcaatct cccatagatc ttatgaacga gagagttaac 240
attgtttctc atcttggaa gcttaataga gactataatc cttcaaatgc aactcttaag 300
aacagaggcc atgacatcat gttaaaattt gaagatggag caggaaactat taagatcaat 360
ggttttgaat atgaacttca acagcttcac tggcactctc cgtctgaaca tactattaat 420
ggaagaaggt ttgcacttga gctgcatatg gttcacgaag gcaggaatag aagaatggct 480

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gttgtgactg tgttgtacaa gatcggaaga gcagatactt ttatcagatc gttggagaaa 540
gaattagagg gcattgctga aatggaggag gctgagaaaa atgtaggaat gattgatccc 600
accaaaatta agatcggaag cagaaaatat tacagataca ctggttccact taccactcct 660
ccttgcactc aaaacgttac ttggagcgtc gttagaaagg ttaggaccgt gacaagaaaa 720
caagtgaagc tctcccgctg gccagtgcac gatgatgcta attcgaatgc gaggccggtt 780
caaccaacca acaagcgcat agtgcactta tacagaccaa tagtttaata tatgaagata 840
ctgaaagctt ttactaatc 859

```

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 28
<211> LENGTH: 1028
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 28

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atgaagatat catcactagg atgggtctta gtccttatct tcactctat taccattggt 60
tcgagtgcac cagcacctaa acctcctaaa cctaagcctg caccagcacc tacacctcct 120
aaacctaaag ccacaccagc acctacacct cctaaaccta agcccaaacc agcacctaca 180
cctcctaaac ctaagcctgc accagcacct acacctccta aacctaaagc cgcaccagca 240
cctacacctc ctaaacctaa gcccaaacca gcacctacac ctctaatcc taagcccaca 300
ccagcaccta cacctcctaa acctaagcct gcaccagcac cagcaccaac accagcaccg 360
aaacctaaac ctgcacctaa accagcacca ggtggagaag ttgaggacga aaccgagttt 420
agctacgaga cgaaaggaaa caaggggcca gcgaaatggg gaacactaga tgcagagtgg 480
aaaatgtgtg gaataggcaa aatgcaatct cctattgatc ttcgggacaa aaatgtggta 540
gttagtaata aatttggtt gcttcgtagc cagtatctgc cttctaatac caccattaag 600
aacagaggtc atgatatcat gttgaaatc aaaggaggaa ataaaggat tgggtgcact 660
atccgtggta ctagatatca actcaacaa cttcattggc actctccttc cgaacatata 720
atcaatggca aaaggtttgc gctagaggaa cacttggttc atgagagcaa agataaacgc 780
tacgctgttg tcgattctt atacaatctc ggagcatctg acaattgaag aagataactg 840
atacacatgc gtccaggaa catattcgca ctgtgtcaag taaacaagtg aagcttctcc 900
gtgtggctgt acacgatgct tcagattcaa atgccaggcc gcttcaagca gtcaataagc 960
gcaaggtata tttatacaaa ccaaaggta agttaatgaa gaaatactgt aatataagtt 1020
cttactag 1028

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<210> SEQ ID NO 29
<211> LENGTH: 996
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 29

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ctagagagca tcttcttata tcaactaaac tttgtattca tttccaagta tcactctaaa 60
tcactctttt cgaattcgcc tccaagata tgcgacaga gtcgtacgaa gacgccatta 120
aaagactcgg agagcttctc agtaagaat cggatctcgg gaactggca gccgcaaaga 180
tcaagaagtt aacggatgag ttagaggaac ttgattccaa caagttagat gccgtagaac 240
gaatcaaate cggatttctc catttcaaga ctaataatta tgagaagaat cctactttgt 300
acaattcact tgccaagagc cagaccccca agtttttggg gtttgcttgt gcggattcac 360
gagttagtcc atctcacatc ttgaatttcc aacttgggga agccttcac gttagaaca 420

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ttgcaaacat ggtgccacct tatgacaaga caaagcactc taatgttggg ggggcccttg 480
aatatccaat tacagtcctc aacgtggaga acattcttgt tattggacac agctgttgtg 540
gtggaataaa gggactcatg gccattgaag ataatacagc tcccactaag accgagtcca 600
tagaaaaactg gatccagatc tgtgcaccgg ccaagaacag gatcaagcag gattgtaaag 660
acctaagctt tgaagatcag tgcaccaact gtgagaagga agccgtgaac gtgtccttgg 720
ggaatctttt gtcttaccba ttcgtgagag aaagagtggg gaagaacaag cttgccataa 780
gaggagctca ctatgatttc gtaaaaggaa cgtttgatct ttgggaactt gacttcaaga 840
ctaccctgc ctttgccttg tcttaaaaga ttctcctac tcaaatattt tctctatgtt 900
gtttctaatt atgttcttat aatcttcttc tgttgcttct gtaatgtcat ctttgctact 960
tctattccaa tagaaatgaa taaagcttta aagagc 996

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<210> SEQ ID NO 30
<211> LENGTH: 1361
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 30

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ttgttgtgta aaactcttgt tcctcttctc cttcaacgtg aacacttcta tttctcagag 60
aacattcacc tatatgtctt tcttcaagga gaagtcttcc tctttccaga tttagatgaa 120
cactcttcag atgccttgtg ccttattgat ccagattcga agtaccacaac tttactctct 180
agaccttttt catggcagcc actcccacac acttctctgt ctcccatgat cctttttctt 240
ccacgtctct ccttaatctc caaaactcaag cgatctttgg tcccaatcac agtttaaaga 300
caaccagtt gagaattcca gcttctttca gaagaaaagc taaaaacttg caagtgatgg 360
cttcaggaaa gacacctgga ctgactcagg aagctaattg ggttgcaatt gatagacaaa 420
acaacactga tgtatttgac gacatgaaac agcggttcct ggccttcaag aagcttaagt 480
acatcagggg tgactttgaa cactacaaaa atctggcaga tgcctcaagct ccaaagtttc 540
tggtgattgc ttgtgcagac tctagagttt gtccttctgc tgcctggga tccaaccgg 600
gtgacgcatt cactgttctg aacattgcaa atttagtacc tccatagag tctggacctt 660
ctgaaaccaa agctgctcta gagttctctg tgaatactct taatgtggaa aacatcttag 720
tcattggtca tagccggtgt ggaggaatc aagctttaat gaaaatggaa gacgaaggag 780
attccagaag tttcatcac aactgggtag ttgtgggaaa gaaggcaaag gaaagcacia 840
aagctgttgc ttcaaacctc cttttgatc atcagtgcca acattgtgaa aaggcatcga 900
taaatcattc attagaaagg ctgcttgggt acccgtggat agaagagaaa gtgcggcaag 960
gttccactgc tctccatggt ggatactata attttgttga ttgtacgttc gagaaatgga 1020
cagtggatta tgcagcaagc agaggaaga agaaggaagg cagtggaatc gctgttaaag 1080
accggtcagt ttggcttga cttacgacta tctcaatctt catagagttt tttttcataa 1140
tttatagaga aacatcaaac ccttttgggt tgggattatc atgtgtttgt tccacttgtg 1200
tgttgaagtc attttctctc ttctgtctta ttgaggcagg gactaatgtt tgttttatct 1260
ttcagttggt tcgtttaaat tccacatttg tgcaatgaac tggttggtgt tcttttaaga 1320
tataatcatt ttgccactgt agtgagatcg gaggcattgca t 1361

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<210> SEQ ID NO 31
<211> LENGTH: 1366
<212> TYPE: DNA

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<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 31

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atattaaacc actgtaactg taatttattg tttcgccgtc cgggaatggt cctggtgaaa    60
tccattttcg ctgatttttt ttcttccgtc tcttcttcag cttcgacat ttcgtcttc    120
ttcattcagt gttgagtcct cgtttacctg tgagctcgaa gaaagtgacg atcaatggga    180
accctaggca gagcatttta ctccggtcgg ttttggatcc gtgagactgg tcaagctctt    240
gatcgctcgt gttgtcgcct tcaaggcaaa aattacttcc gagaacaact gtcaaggcat    300
cggacactga tgaatgtatt tgataaggct cggattgtgg acaaggaagc ttttgggca    360
ccaagcgcct cagttattgg ggacgttcac attggaagag gatcgccat ttggtatgga    420
tgcgtattac gaggcgatgt gaacaccgta agtgttgggt caggaactaa tattcaggac    480
aactcacttg tgcattgtgc aaaatcaaac ttaagcggga aggtgcaccc aaccataatt    540
ggagacaatg taaccattgg tcatagtgtt gttttacatg gatgtactgt tgaggatgag    600
acctttattg ggatgggtgc gacacttctt gatggggctg ttgttgaaaa gcatgggatg    660
gttctgctgy gtgcacttgt acgacaaaac accagaattc cttctggaga ggtatgggga    720
ggaaaccagc caaggttctc caggaagctc actgatgagg aaattgcttt tatctctcag    780
tcagcaacaa actactcaaa cctcgcacag gctcacgctg cagagaatgc aaagccatta    840
aatgtgattg agttccagaa ggttctacgc aagaagcatg ctctaaagga caggagtat    900
gactcaatgc tcggaatagt gagagaaaac ccaccagagc ttaacctccc taacaacata    960
ctgctgata  aagaaaccaa gcgtccttct aatgtgaact gatttttcag gggatggtt    1020
tctggccgaa gccctacagg gtgagatact caaggggatt atgtttcggg cctctggtt    1080
aatatggcag gtagagtaca ttagggtaga cggatttaca gcttttgaag aagctatggt    1140
caacattttt tcatggttct ttagggagta ttattgtcta atcaacttt gtatgttacc    1200
acttcggtct tttgaacgta agaatcaagt tcatgaaaca tgagtgaata ttagtctgat    1260
gcatgtcgtt atgcaaaaat ccatgtgcgc ctatgttctt aggcaagcat gaagaataaa    1320
gatccaaact ggatatatca tatatttacc tttttataat tactgc                    1366

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<210> SEQ ID NO 32

<211> LENGTH: 1185

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 32

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cgaactcact cgagttaaaa aaaaaaatcc tccatcaat acgctccat aaacctctct    60
ctatctggtg gagcgacacc aaaaacaaca aagccttctc attttcacac tttgggtaat    120
cggagaatca caaaaaaatg ggaaccctag gacgagcaat ttacactgtg ggtaactgga    180
ttcgtggaac tggccaagct cttgatcgcg ttggttctct tcttcaagga agtcaccgta    240
tcgaggaaca tctgtcaggg catcggagct tgatgaatgt gtttgataaa tcaccattgg    300
tgataaaga tgtgtttgtg gctccagagt cttctgttat tggatgatgt cagatcgga    360
aaggctcgtc gatttgggat ggctgtgttc ttcgaggtga tgtgaataac atcagtgtt    420
gatctgggac gaataatcaa gataatacgc ttgtacatgt tgcaagacc aacataagt    480
gcaaggttct acctactctg attggggaca atgtaacagt aggtcacagt gctgtcatt    540
atgggtgtac tgttgaggat gatgcttttg ttggtatggg agcaacacta cttgatgggt    600
tgggtggtga gaaacatgcc atggttctct ctggttctct tgtgaaacag aacacgcgaa    660

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teccttctgg agaggtgtgg ggaggaaatc cagcaaagtt catgagaaag ttaacagatg 720
aagagatagt atacatctca cagtcagcaa agaattacat caatctcgca cagattcacg 780
cctcagagaa ttcaaagtca tttgagcaga tcgaggttga gagagcgctt aggaagaagt 840
atgcacgcaa ggacgaggat tacgattcaa tgcttgggat taccctgtaa actccaccgg 900
agttgattct tcccgacaat gtcttaccag gtggtaaacc cgtcgccaag gttccgtcta 960
ctcagtactt ctaattocaa tctcaggttg tttttgtgtg ttgaaatcat ttaagacag 1020
gattgattct ctggaaggtc aagagagata ttattttggg ttttaactttt cttccgagca 1080
agcaggagat ttatcatcct tgctcaataa tgatggttg cattatgaag tcatttcttc 1140
gaggaacaat ttgcagaaag agaaacaaag ttggattaat ctttc 1185

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<210> SEQ ID NO 33
<211> LENGTH: 1230
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 33

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caaagactgc actctctcct cttcctctgg ctccggcgaa aaacccttt tcgatttcat 60
tgataaacg caaatcgatc tctcgtgtgg aagaagaaga agaacacgat ggaacaatg 120
ggtaaagcat tctacagcgt aggattctgg atccgtgaaa ctggtcaagc acttgatcgg 180
ctcggttgtc gcctccaagg gaaaaatcat ttccgagaac agctatcaag gcaccgcaca 240
ctcatgaatg tttttgacaa aaccctaat gtggataagg gggcttttgt ggctcctaac 300
gcttctctct ctggtgatgt ccattgtgga agaggttctt ccatttggtg tggatgtgtc 360
ttgagagaca taccctttga tttaatgacc gactctgcag gagatgctaa cagcattagt 420
gttgagctg ggaccaatat tcaggacaac gctcttgtcc acgttgctaa gaccaactta 480
agtgggaagg tcttacctac tgtcattgga gacaatgtca ccattggtca tagtgctgtt 540
ttacatggct gcactgtcga ggatgaggcc tatattggtg caagtgcaac tgtcttggat 600
ggagctcatg ttgaaaaaca tgccatggtt gcttcaggag ctcttgttag gcagaacact 660
agaattccct ctggcgagggt ttgggggggc aaccagcta aatttctgag gaaggtgaca 720
gaagaagaaa gagtcttctt ctccagttcg gctgtggagt actccaactt agctcaagct 780
cacgccacag agaacgcaaa gaacttggac gaggtgagt tcaagaagct tctaaacaag 840
aagaacgctc gcgatacaga atatgattca gtactcgatg atctcacgct cctgagaat 900
gtacaaaaag cagcttgagg cgtttaacct gtgccgcctt gcgaatcttg atttgttgg 960
atttgaaaag taaaaacaaa gaacttgatt tctgtcttct ccaataaagt tttcttggc 1020
gtaaaatcca ttggccagtg ctcaactggga aagttttcgg cttaaaggca ttcatttctc 1080
tgtaaagat tgtgaggggt tttgttctct tgtaacttga gaaagaaaag ttgtaacctt 1140
ttcttctctt ttatgtcgtc taataaattg ttgatcagac agacatttag gttgacctt 1200
gcccataaaa agatagctct gcttcaataa 1230

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<210> SEQ ID NO 34
<211> LENGTH: 1042
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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<400> SEQUENCE: 34

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actctctctc ttttctctt tgcaaatcct tgaagaaatc caaaatccat agcaatggcg 60

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acttcgatag ctcgattgtc tcggagagga gtcacttcta acctgatccg tcgttgcttc 120
gctgcggaag cggcgttgge gaggaagaca gagttaccta aaccgcaatt cacgggtgctg 180
ccgtcgacgg atcgtgtgaa atgggactac agaggccaac gacagatcat tectttggga 240
cagtggtctc cgaaggtage cgttgatgct tacgtggcac ccaacgttgt gctggctggt 300
caggtcacag tctgggacgg ctcgtctggt tggaacgggtg ccgttttgcg cggcgatctc 360
aacaaaaatca ctggttgatt ctgctogaat gtacaggaac ggtgtgttgt tcatgcgcgc 420
tggtcttccc caacaggatt accagcagcg acaataatcg acaggtatgt gacagtaggt 480
gcctacagtc ttctgagatc atgtaccatc gaaccagagt gcatcatcgg tcaaacctca 540
ataactaagg aaggctcact ggttgagacc cgggtcaatct tggaagcggg ttcagttgtg 600
ccgccaggaa gaaggatccc atcaggtgaa ctatggggag gcaatccagc aagattcatt 660
agaacctaa ccaacgaaga aaccctagag atcccaaac tcgctgtagc catcaaccac 720
ttaagcggag attacttctc tgagttccta ccttactcaa ctgtctactt agaggtagag 780
aagttcaaga agtcccttgg gatcgcgctt tagaagcttc atctttttcg tgattcactt 840
tcatgtgttt atctatcata tgaggtcttt ctctctgcat attgcaataa gtagctgatg 900
aacatcaaaa caagtcgcgc tctctttttt ggttctaaaa cgtttgtcat ttcgtttttt 960
gggttctttg taaaattcca tttaaaactg attttggtg aatattgtct gaatgataat 1020
ggcgacgact tctggttttg tt 1042

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<210> SEQ ID NO 35

<211> LENGTH: 1130

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 35

```

ctcccacga ctctctctg tctcctctc cgggaagctt tctgtctctc tctctctctc 60
tctacacaag accttgaaga atccgattcc ataacaatgg cgacttcggt agcacgaatc 120
tctaaaaaga gcataacatc ggctgtttca tcgaatctga ttcggcgtaa cttcgcgcgc 180
gaagcagtag cggtgggcac gacggaaaca cctaaccga aatcgcaggt gacgccgtcg 240
ccggatcggg taaaatggga ctacagaggc cagagacaga taattcctct gggacagtgg 300
ctaccgaagg tagctgtaga tgcttacgtg gcacctaacg ttgtgttggc tggtcaggte 360
accgtctggg acggctcgtc tgtatggaac ggtgccgttt tgagaggaga tcttaataag 420
atcaccgttg gattctgctc aaatgtccag gaacgggtg ttgttcatgc tgcgtggctg 480
tcgctacag gattaccagc aaaaacattg atcgataggt acgtgacagt tggtcatac 540
agtcttttaa gatcatgcac tatcgaacca gaatgcatca tcgggcaaca ctcaatccta 600
atggaagggt cactggtcga aaccgcgtca atcctagaag ctggttctgt tttaccacct 660
ggcagaagaa tcccctctgg tgaactatgg ggaggcaatc cagcaagggt tattcgaaca 720
ctcaccaatg aagaaacctt agagatcccg aaacttgctg ttgccattaa ccacctaaat 780
ggagattact tctcagagtt cttgccttac tcaactatct atctagaggt tgagaagttc 840
aagaaatccc ttggaatcgc catctagaaa gcttcttcca ggtttctggc tacttccctc 900
attaagaaag cttctctggt ttcggaattt gatctgaata agtagctgcg gaacaagaaa 960
aagagcagag ctgtgtttca aatgtgtct tctctggttg tttgttttaa gttcatalcc 1020
ttgtgttcaa actttctatg aagatgataa tggtgaaaac tggaaagtgt aaaacttctt 1080
tcgtctcccc tcacaattgg aaaagcta atctcgtag tgttatagaa 1130

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<210> SEQ ID NO 36
<211> LENGTH: 1719
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 36
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ccggtatggt cccgctctgt ggtagcgctt ttggaacact ctaccaacgc cgccatgaaa      120
ggatctctca tggccgcagg ggacgtgttc ttcttacatc tgggttagg gctatggtta      180
ctccagtgag gagggagagg caagagggtg cttaatgatt cgtttttccg gtgatacgag      240
aactctttag gtttaccggg aagcttttcc catgaaaatg ggatgccaag tggatggaga      300
ggagttgccg gagagttgcc ggagaatagg agggaattgg aggaggagga agagagtgat      360
cgccgggttg aaatgttaac cgtcaggagg aatttgaccg agttggatcg tctagtaggt      420
acaattcggg tccttggcga agtatccatt caaaatagtg tttagttttg gacttgagaa      480
cttgtgtctc ctttgatctc ttttatataa aactttggac gtgtaggaca aacttgtaaa      540
cataagaaac aaaatgggtg caacagagag gatgaattta taagttttca acaccgcttt      600
tcttattaga cggacaacaa tctatagtgg agtaaatttt tatttttggg aaaatggtta      660
gtgaattcaa atatctaaa tttgtgactc actaacatta acaaatatgc ataagacata      720
aaaaaaaaaa agaataatc ttatgaaaca agaaaaaaaa cctatacaat caatcttttag      780
gaattgacga ttagaattg tagatgataa attttctcaa atatagatgg gcctaatagaa      840
gggtgccgct tattggatct gaccattttt gaggacatta atattttcat tggttataag      900
ccttttaatc aaaattgtca ttaaattgat gtctccctct cgggtcattt tcctttctcc      960
ctcaacatta atgtagactt tagcaatttg cacgctgtgc tttgtcttta tatttagtaa      1020
cacaaaacatt ttgactgtc ttgtagagtt tttctctttt atttttctat ccaatatgaa      1080
aactaaaagt gttctcgtat acatatatta aaattaaaga aacctatgaa aacaccaata      1140
caaatgcgat attgttttca gttcgcgctt tcatgtttgt tagaaaattt ctaatgacgt      1200
ttgtataaaa tagacaatta aacgccaaac actacatctg tgttttcgaa caatattgag      1260
tctgcgtttc cttcatctat ctctctcagt gtcacaatgt ctgaactaag agacagctgt      1320
aaactatcat taagacataa actaccaaag tatcaagcta atgtaaaaat tactctcatt      1380
tccacgtaac aaattgagtt agcttaagat attagtgaaa ctagggttga attttcttct      1440
tcttcttcca tgcactctcc gaaaaaaggg aaccaatcaa aactgtttgc atatcaaact      1500
ccaacacttt acagcaaatg caatctataa tctgtgattt atccaataaa aacctgtgat      1560
ttatgtttgg ctccagcgat gaaagtctat gcatgtgatc tctatccaac atgagtaatt      1620
gttcagaaaa taaaagtag ctgaaatgta tctatataaa gaatcatcca caagtactat      1680
tttcacacac tacttcaaaa tcactactca agaaatatg      1719

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What is claimed is:

1. An isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide, operably linked to a heterologous nucleic acid sequence, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide:

(a) has a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 10 and/or SEQ ID NO: 11, and has guard cell-specific promoter activity; 65
 comprises a transcriptional regulatory region having guard cell-specific activity; comprises a guard cell-

specific promoter; or, comprises guard cell-specific transcriptional regulatory region; or

(b) wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide comprises:

(i) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 from nucleotide at position 833 to nucleotide at position 1716, or

(ii) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 from nucleotide at position 1251 to nucleotide at position 1716.

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2. An expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome comprising or having contained therein the isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1.

3. A transduced or transformed cell comprising or having contained therein a heterologous nucleic acid or polynucleotide comprising or consisting of the isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1.

4. A transduced or transformed cell comprising or having contained therein a heterologous nucleic acid or polynucleotide comprising or consisting of the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of claim 2.

5. A plant cell, a plant organ, a plant leaf, a plant fruit or a seed comprising or having contained therein a heterologous nucleic acid or polynucleotide comprising or consisting of the isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1.

6. A plant cell, a plant organ, a plant leaf, a plant fruit or a seed comprising or having contained therein a heterologous nucleic acid or polynucleotide comprising or consisting of the expression cassette, plasmid, recombinant virus, vector, cosmid or artificial chromosome of claim 2.

7. The plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed of claim 5, wherein the plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed is or is derived from: (a) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (b) a wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or (c) a species from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Cap-sicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pannisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Raphanus*, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

8. The plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed of claim 6, wherein the plant cell, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed is or is derived from: (a) a dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plant; (b) a wheat, oat, rye, barley, rice, *sorghum*, maize (corn), tobacco, a legume, a lupins, potato, sugar beet, pea, bean, soybean (soy), a cruciferous plant, a cauliflower, rape (or *rapa* or canola), cane (sugarcane), flax, cotton, palm, sugar beet, peanut, a tree, a poplar, a lupin, a silk cotton tree, desert willow, creosote bush, winterfat, balsa, ramie, kenaf, hemp, roselle, jute, or sisal abaca; or (c) a species from the genera *Anacardium*, *Arachis*, *Asparagus*, *Atropa*, *Avena*, *Brassica*, *Citrus*, *Citrullus*, *Cap-sicum*, *Carthamus*, *Cocos*, *Coffea*, *Cucumis*, *Cucurbita*, *Daucus*, *Elaeis*, *Fragaria*, *Glycine*, *Gossypium*, *Helianthus*, *Heterocallis*, *Hordeum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lactuca*, *Linum*, *Lolium*, *Lupinus*, *Lycopersicon*, *Malus*, *Manihot*, *Majorana*, *Medicago*, *Nicotiana*, *Olea*, *Oryza*, *Panicum*, *Pannisetum*, *Persea*, *Phaseolus*, *Pistachia*, *Pisum*, *Pyrus*, *Prunus*,

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Raphanus, *Ricinus*, *Secale*, *Senecio*, *Sinapis*, *Solanum*, *Sorghum*, *Theobromus*, *Trigonella*, *Triticum*, *Vicia*, *Vitis*, *Vigna* or *Zea*.

9. The isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the heterologous sequence comprises: (a) a nucleic acid encoding a CO₂Sen protein; (b) a CO₂Sen gene or transcript; or (c) a nucleic acid encoding a carbonic anhydrase polypeptide.

10. The isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence comprises:

- (a) a nucleic acid encoding a CO₂Sen (CO₂ sensor) protein;
- (b) a CO₂Sen gene, transcript or message; or
- (c) a nucleic acid encoding a carbonic anhydrase (CA) polypeptide; wherein optionally said CO₂Sen gene or transcript comprises:

a nucleic acid or polynucleotide having at least about 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34 and/or SEQ ID NO:35.

11. A method for selectively expressing a polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid in a plant guard cell, comprising: inserting, transforming or placing into the plant guard cell a nucleic acid expressing the polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid, wherein the nucleic acid expressing the polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid comprises: (i) the polynucleotide or nucleic acid of claim 1.

12. A method for selectively expressing a polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid in a plant, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed, comprising: inserting, transforming or placing into a cell of the plant, plant organ, plant leaf, plant fruit or seed, a nucleic acid expressing the polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid, wherein the nucleic acid expressing the polypeptide, protein, gene or nucleic acid comprises: (i) the polynucleotide or nucleic acid of claim 1.

13. The isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence having at least 98% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 10 and/or SEQ ID NO: 11.

14. The isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous nucleic acid sequence of claim 13, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10.

15. The isolated, synthetic or recombinant nucleic acid or polynucleotide operably linked to the heterologous sequence of claim 13, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence having at least 98% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 10 and/or SEQ ID NO: 11.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein the nucleic acid or polynucleotide has a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11.

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