

# **GENETIC MANIPULATION OF CROP PLANTS AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES**

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# Drought Stress

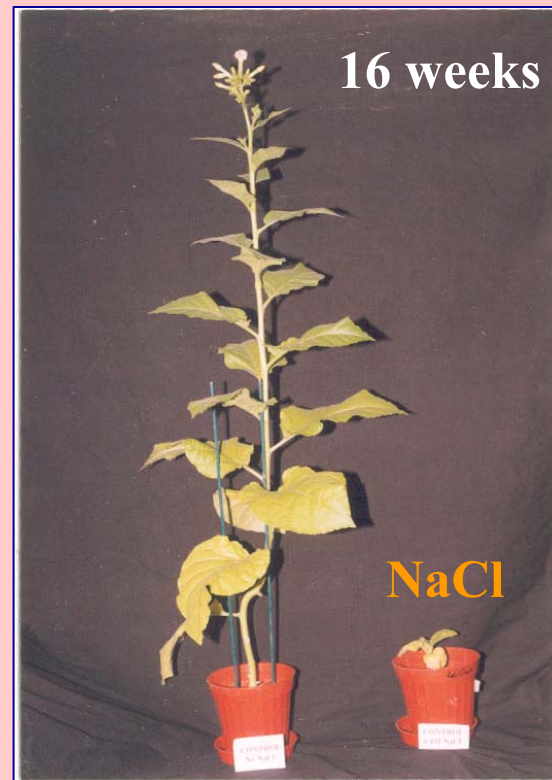
Plants grown for 3 weeks under normal conditions and subjected to drought conditions (**D**) or watered (**W**) for 2 weeks.

At 4 leaf stage plants are subjected to drought stress (**D**) (6 days no water & 1 day watered) or watered (**W**) regularly. Photographed after 8 weeks of treatment



# Salt (NaCl) Stress

At four leaf stages plants are subjected to 0.4 M NaCl stress (NaCl) or watered regularly. Plants were photographed after 2, 8 and 16 weeks.



**Most environmental stress forms such as drought, salt, low and extreme temperature; have a common denominator.**

## **WATER DEFICIT = OSMOTIC STRESS**

**Since plants can not escape from these stresses they adopted a variety of mechanisms at morphological and molecular level**

- Avoidance*: deep roots & small leaves
- Escape*: fast flowering-seed set
- Water saving*: stomatal closure
- Osmotic adjustment*: osmolytes-osmoprotectants

### ***Molecular aspects of OSMOTIC STRESS***

- 1. Genes, their products & their functions**
- 2. Strategies for genetic manipulation of plants against osmotic stress**

**WATER STRESS**

**SIGNAL PERCEPTION**

**SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION**

**GENE EXPRESSION**

**GENE PRODUCTS**

Group 1  
**FUNCTIONAL  
PROTEINS \***

Group 2  
**REGULATORY  
PROTEINS \*\***

**STRESS  
TOLERANCE**

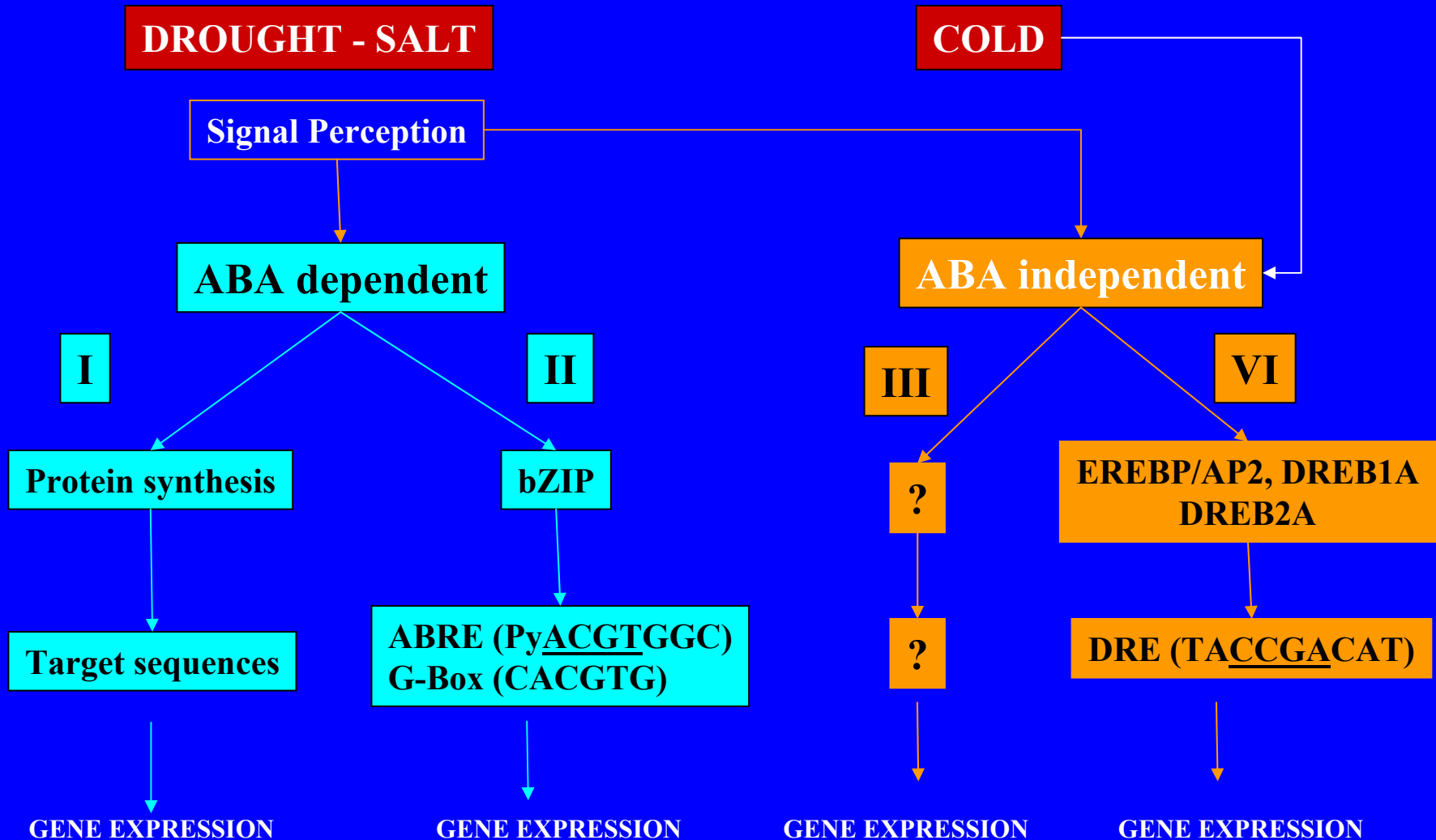
**STRESS  
RESPONSE**

\*Protecting cells from water deficit by the production of important metabolic proteins

\*\*Regulation of genes for signal transduction in the water stress response

# CONTROL OF GENE EXPRESSION DURING WATER STRESS

There are **4 independent pathways** for the expression of water stress induced genes. Two of the pathways are abscisic acid (ABA) dependent and the other two is ABA independent



# GROUP I GENES & PRODUCTS

## 1) *Water channel proteins (Aguaporins) :*

Involves in movement of water through membranes

## 2) *Enzymes require for biosynthesis of various osmoprotectants*

sugars, proline, glycine-betaine, sorbitol

## 3) *Proteins that may protect macromolecules and membranes*

LEA, osmotin, dehydrins, antifreeze proteins, chaperon, mRNA binding proteins

## 4) *Proteases for protein turnover*

thiol protease, Clp protease, ubiquitin, (protease inhibitors-Kuintz)

## 5) *Detoxification enzymes*

Superoxide dismutase (SOD), glutathion-S-transferase, soluble epoxide hydroxylase, catalase, ascorbate peroxidase

## 6) *Transport proteins*

Na<sup>+</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> transporter

Function in stress tolerance





# GROUP II GENES & PRODUCTS

## 1) *PROTEIN KINASES*

MAPK, MAPKK, MAPKKK, CDPK

## 2) *TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS*

DREB1A, DREB1B etc.

## 3) *PHOSPHOLIPASE-C (PL-C)*

PIP turnover

## 4) *PHOSPHATASES*

calcineurin

•Function in stress response  
•Regulation of signal transduction  
and gene expression



# STRATEGIES FOR ENGINEERING OSMOTIC STRESS TOLERANCE

- 1) **Protection against (oxygen) free radicals  
via overexpression of antioxidant enzymes (1990-)**
- 2) **Osmoprotectant engineering via transferring  
osmolyte producing enzymes (1993-)**
- 3) **Alternation in lipid membrane composition (1996-)**
- 4) **Enhanced stress related gene expression  
via transfer of transcriptional factors (1998-)**
- 5) **Enhanced ion compartmentalisation via  
 $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$  antiport overexpression (1999-)**
- 6) **Protection against toxic by-products via  
expressing detoxification enzymes (2000-)**

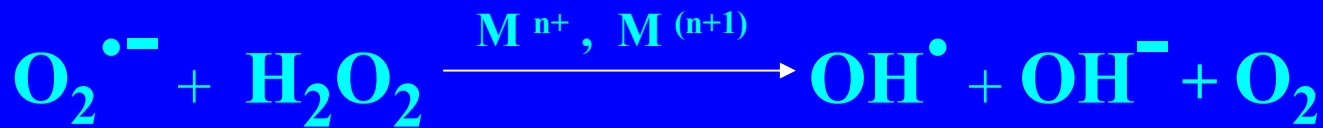
**1) Protection against (oxygen) free radicals  
via overexpression of antioxidant enzymes  
(1990-)**

One of the important mechanisms by which plants are damaged during adverse environmental conditions is the excess production of active oxygen species.

- Superoxide  $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$
- Hydrogen peroxide  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

- Lignin formation in cell walls
- oxidative burst upon infection (hypersensitive cell death)
- 2nd messengers (PR, phytoalexin gene expression)

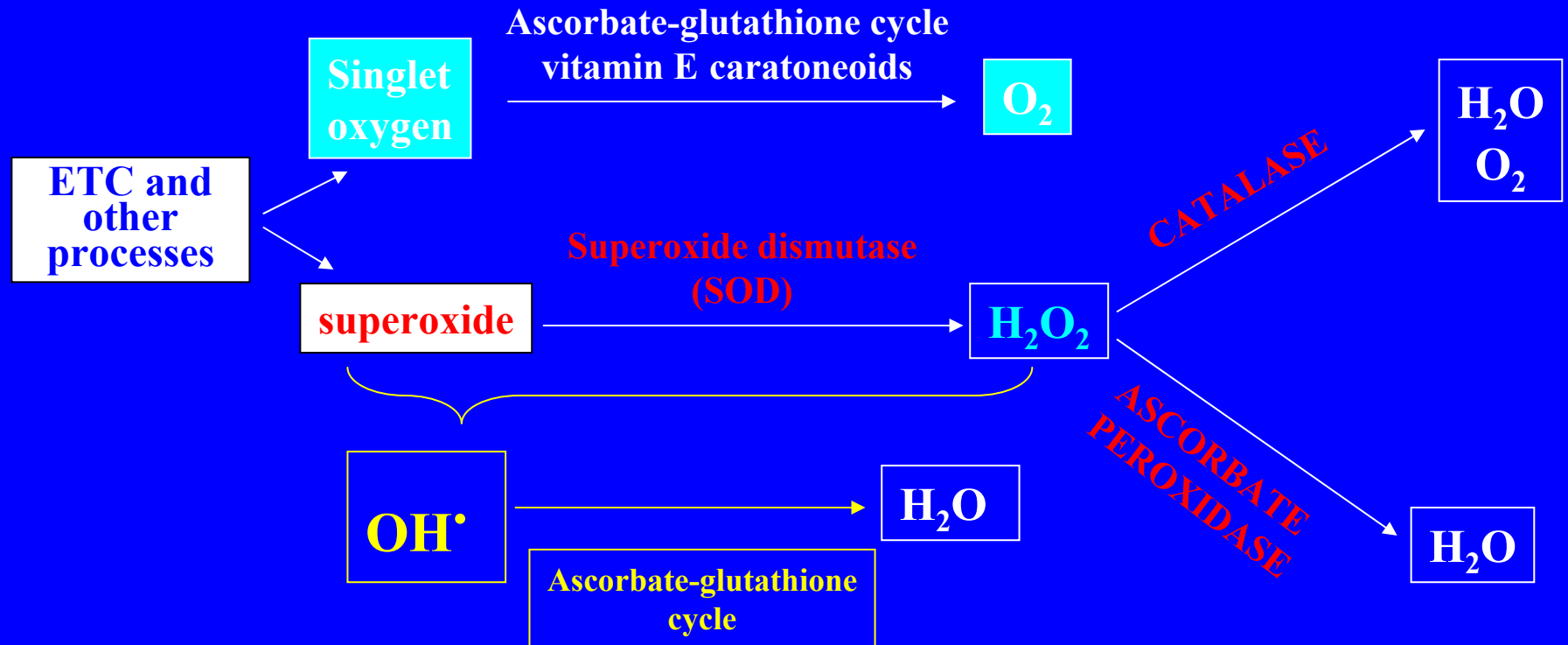
Haber-Weiss reaction (metal (M) ion dependent)



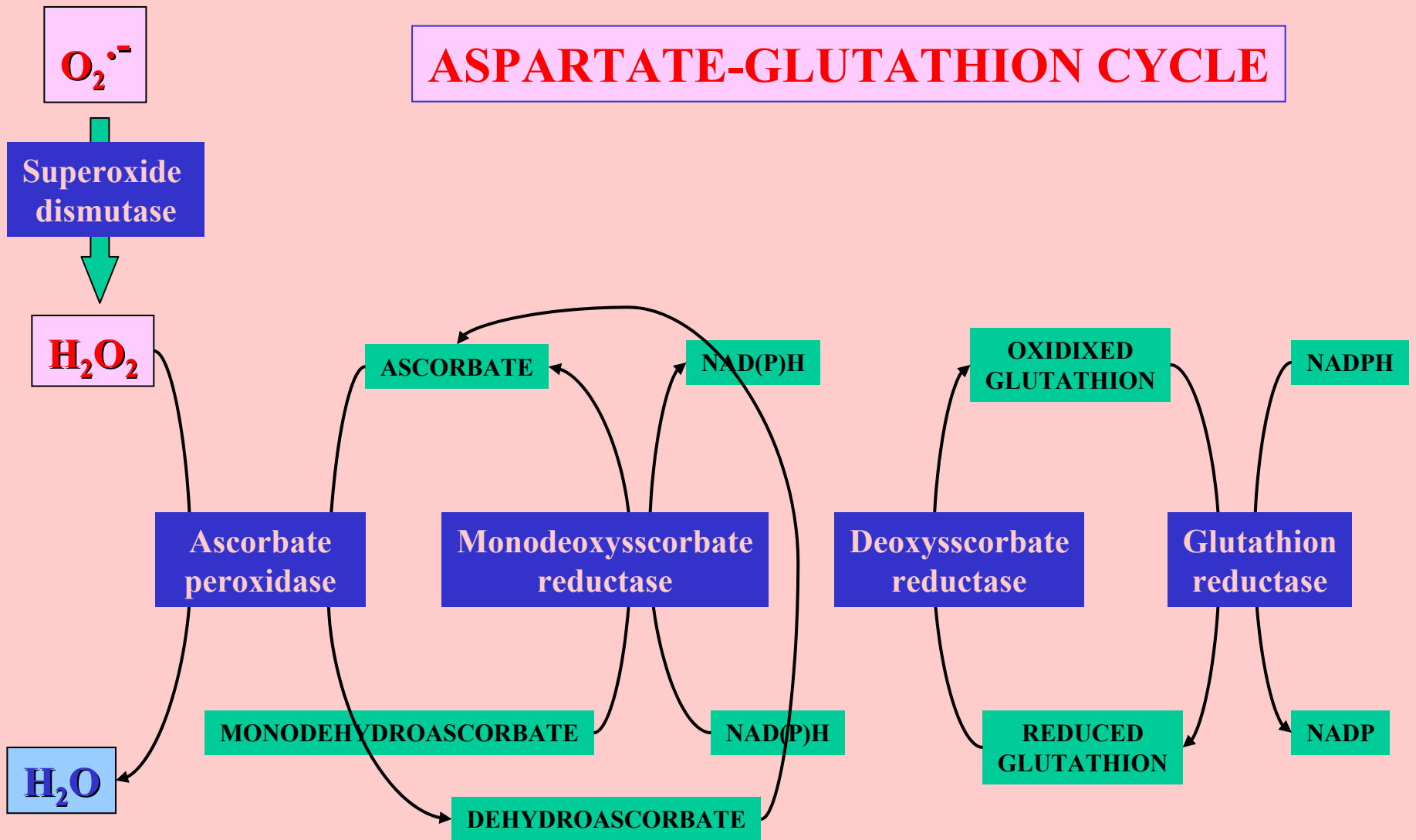
- Hydroxyl radicals  $\text{OH}^{\bullet}$

- One of the most reactive species known to chemistry
- mutate DNA, initiate chain reactions of lipid peroxidation, react with proteins
- cause rapid cell damage

- Plants possess non-enzymatic and enzymatic protection mechanisms that efficiently scavenge active oxygen species.
- Antioxidants such as ascorbic acid (vitamin-C), glutathione,  $\alpha$ -tocopherols, and carotenoids occur in high concentrations in plants.
- Hydroxyl radicals are too reactive to be eliminated enzymically, but their formation is limited by scavenging of superoxide and hydrogen peroxide.



# ASPARTATE-GLUTATHION CYCLE



## LITERATURE DATA

**Teppeman J.M. & Dunsmuir P. (1990) Transformed plants with Elevated levels of chloroplastic SOD are NOT more resistant to superoxide toxicity. Plant Mol. Biol., 14: 501-511.**

**Pitcher L.H. (1991) Overproduction of petunia chloroplastic Copper/zinc superoxide dismutase does not confer ozone tolerance in transgenic tobacco. Plant Physiol., 97: 452-455.**

**Bowler C. et al. (1991) Manganese superoxide dismutase can reduce cellular damage mediated by oxygen radicals in transgenic plants. EMBO J., 10: 1723-1732.**

**McKersei B.D. Et al. (1993) Superoxide dismutase enhances tolerance of freezing stress in transgenic alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.). Plant Physiol., 103: 1155-1163.**

**Perl A. et al. (1993) Enhanced oxidative stress defense in transgenic potato expressing tomato Cu/Zn SOD. Theor. Appl. Genet., 85: 568-576.**

**Sen Gupta A. et al. (1993) Increase resistance to oxidative stress in transgenic plants that overexpress chloroplastic Cu/Zn SOD. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 90: 1629-1633.**

**Van Camp W. Et al. (1994) Elevated levels of superoxide dismutase protect transgenic plants against ozone damage. Biotechnology, 12: 165-168.**



**Van Camp W. et al. (1996) Enhancement of oxidative stress tolerance in transgenic tobacco plants overproducing Fe-SOD in chloroplast. Plant Physiol., 112: 1703-1714.**

**McKersie B.D. et al. (1996) Water deficient tolerance and field performance of transgenic alfalfa overexpressing superoxide dismutase. Plant. Physiol., 111:1171-1177.**

**McKersie B.D. et al. (1999) Winter survival of transgenic alfalfa overexpressing superoxide dismutase. Plant Physiol., 119: 839-847.**

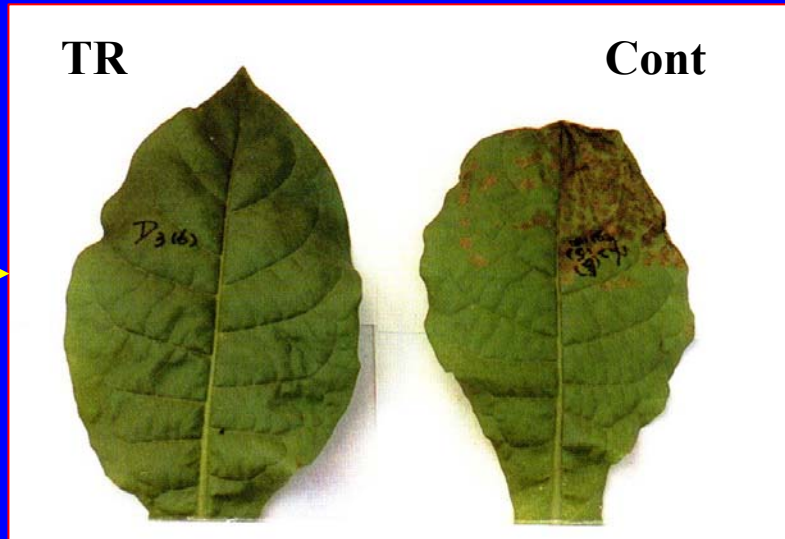
**Tanaka Y. et al. (1999) Salt tolerance of transgenic rice over expressing yeast mitochondrial Mn-SOD in chloroplast. Plant Sci., 148: 131-138.**

**Yu Q. et al. (1999) Increased tolerance to Mn Deficiency in transgenic tobacco overproducing SOD. Annals of Botany, 84: 543-547.**

**McKersie B.D. et al. (2000) Iron-superoxide dismutase expression in transgenic alfalfa increases winter survival without a detectable increase in photosynthetic oxidative stress tolerance. Plant Physiol., 122: 1427-1437**

**Roxas V.P. et al. (1997) Overexpression of glutathion-S-transferase/ glutathion peroxidase enhances the growth of transgenic tobacco seedlings during stress. Nature Biotechnol., 15:988-991.**

**Wang J. et al. (1999) Overexpression of an *Arabidopsis* peroxisomal peroxidase gene in tobacco increases protection against oxidative stress. Plant Cell Physiol., 40: 725-732.**



**Effect of aminotriazole (catalase inhibitor) treatment on AsPrx overexpressing TR and control plants.**



## **2. Osmoprotectant engineering via transferring osmolyte producing enzymes (1993-)**

# OSMOLYTES

Proposed functions: radical scavenging, protection of enzymes, enzyme complexes or membranes, a sink for photosynthetically assimilated carbon under stress.

*Proline:*

*Polyamines:* spermine

*Acyclic polyols:* Mannitol, sorbitol, galactitol.

*Cyclic polyols:* D-Pinitol and other methylated inositols.

*Tertiary sulfonium osmolyte:*  $\beta$ -Dimethylsulfoniopropionate, choline O-sulfate

*Quaternary ammonium osmolyte:* glycine betaine, proline betaine

# **PROLINE**

**A common osmoprotectant in most organisms**

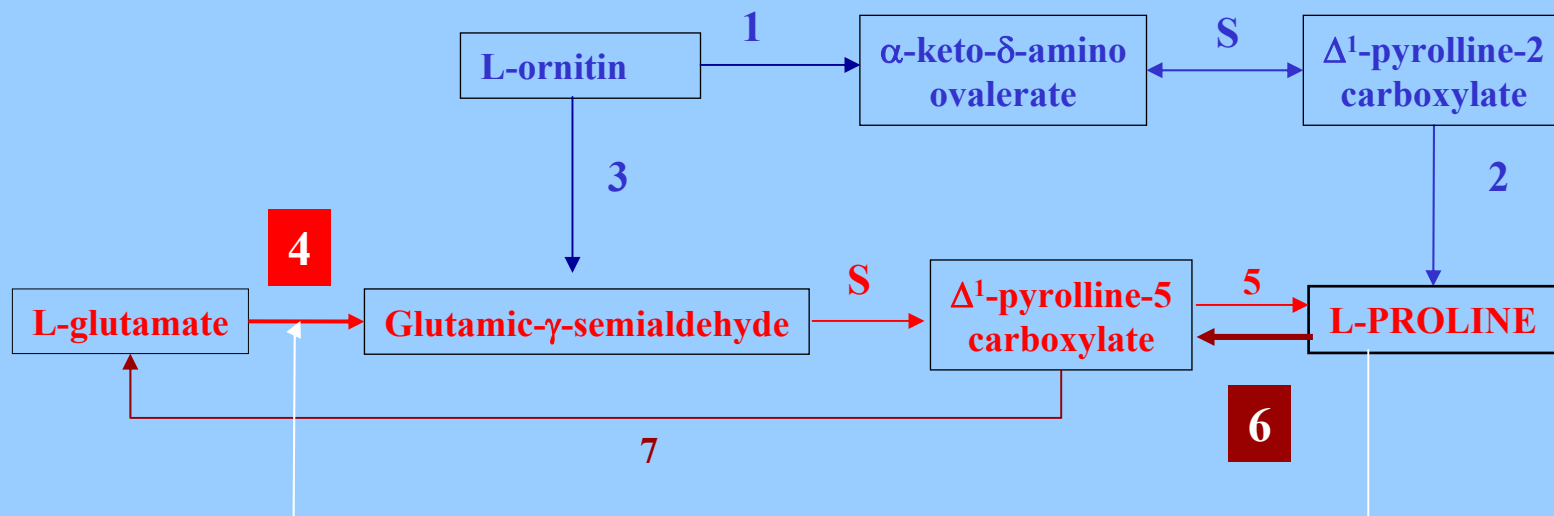
**A solute that protect macromolecules against dehydration**

**Sink for energy to regulate redox potentials**

**Free radical scavenger**

**Reduce acidity in the cell**

# Metabolic Pathways for Proline Biosynthesis

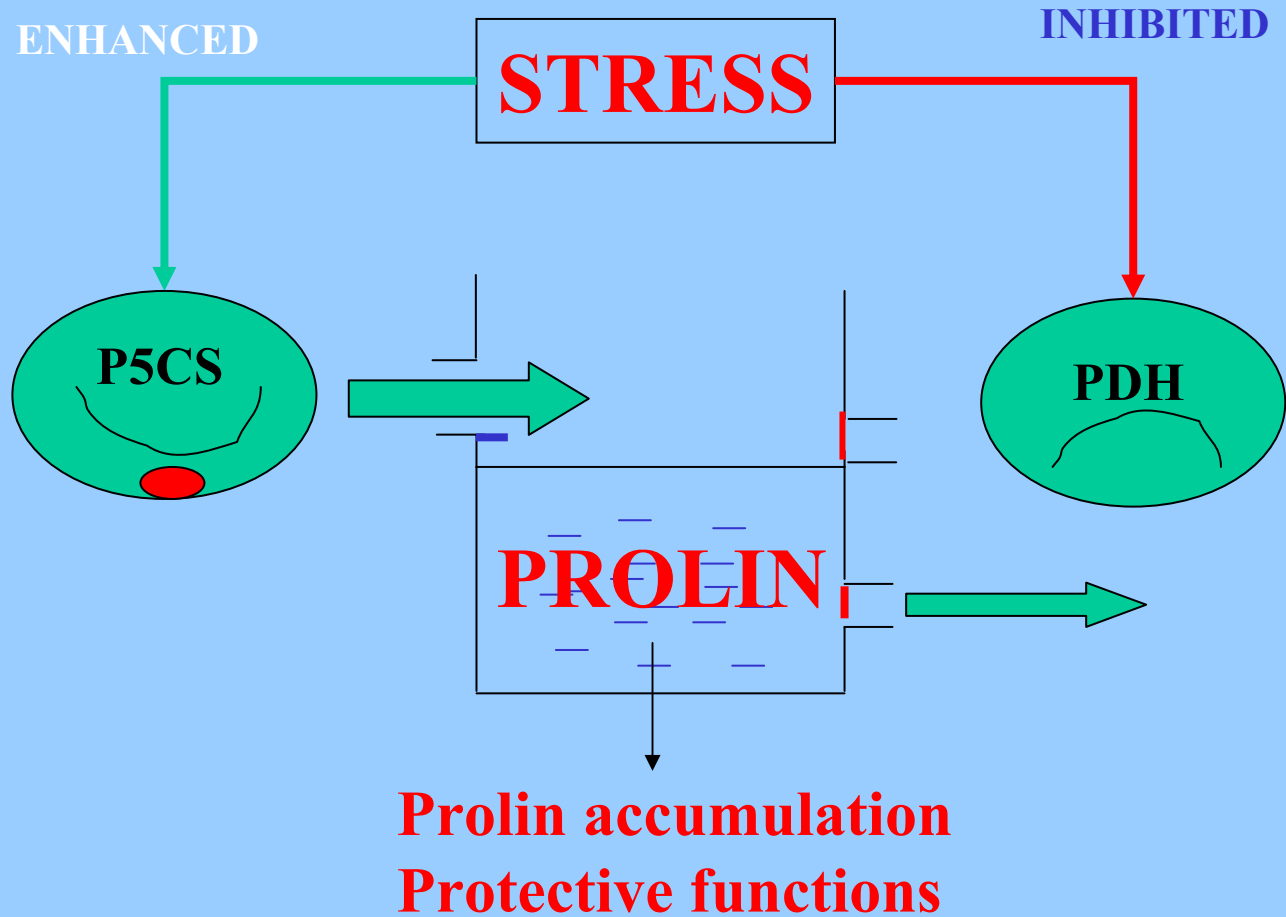


FEED BACK INHIBITION

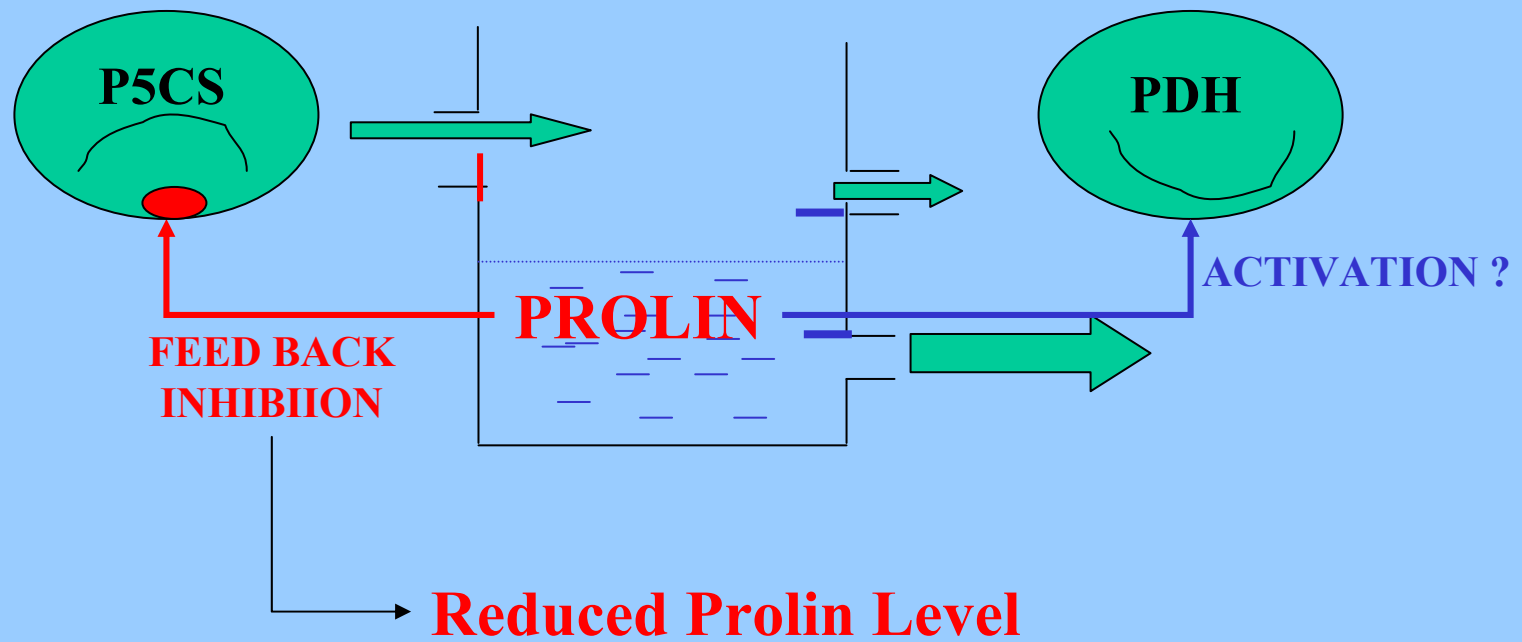
1: ornithin- $\alpha$ -aminotransferase; 2: P2C reductase; 3: ornithine- $\delta$ -amino transferase

4: P5C Synthase; 5: P5C reductase; S: spontaneous

6: Proline dehydrogenase; 7: P5C dehydrogenase



**PROLONGED  
STRESS**





## STRATEGIES TO DEVELOP STRESS RESISTANT TRANSGENIC PLANTS via PROLINE METABOLIC ENGINEERING

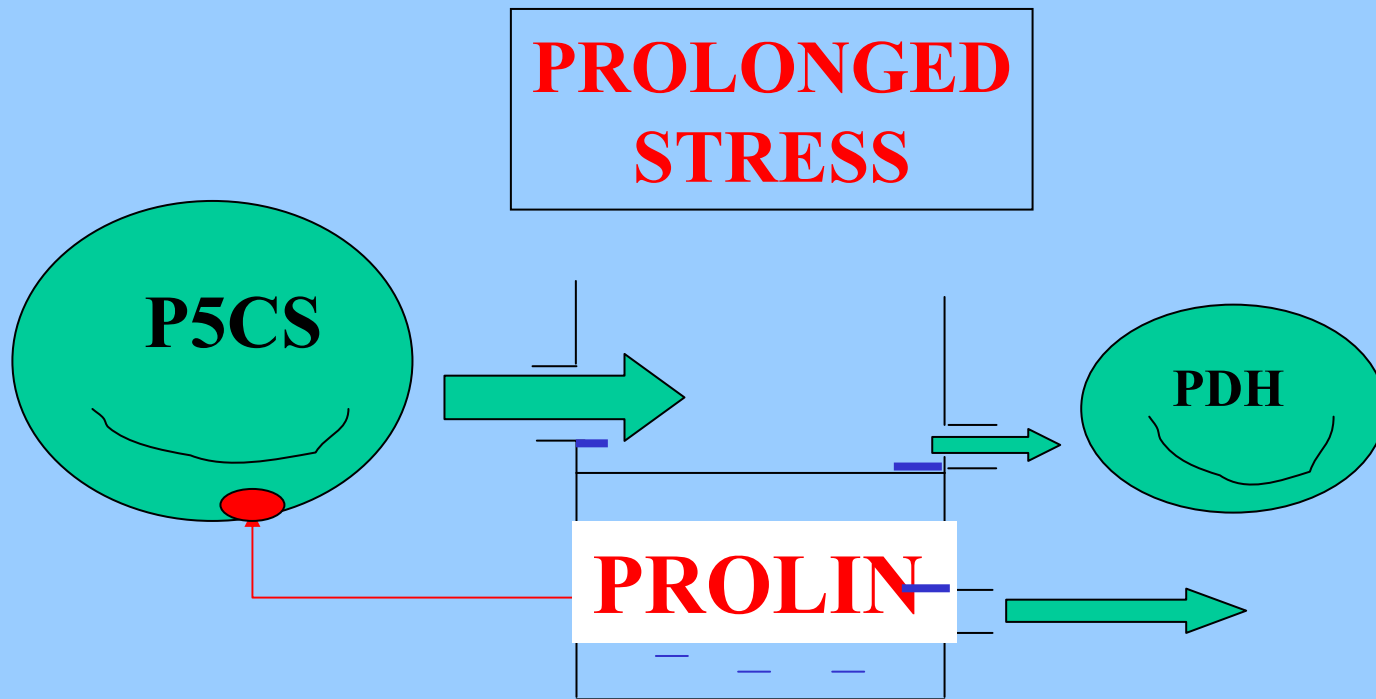
**1 : Overexpress P5CS genes**

**2: Remove feed back inhibition on P5CS gene**

**3: Reduce PDH level via antisense technology**

**4 : Combined: Use combination of above strategies**

# TR STRATEGY 1 : Overexpress P5CS



Kavi Kishor P.B. et al (1995) Overexpression of delta1-pyrroline-5-carboxylate synthase increases proline production and confers osmotolerance in transgenic plants. Plant Physiol. 108, 1387-1394.

Zhu B. et al. (1998) Overexpression of delta1-pyrroline-5-carboxylate synthase gene and analysis of tolerance to water and salt stress in transgenic rice. Plant science 139: 41-48.

Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001) Genetic manipulation of tobacco against osmotic stress via transfer of AtP5CS gene. Manuscript in preperation.

# Salt-Drought Resistant TR Tobacco Plants Overexpressing *Vigna* P5CS



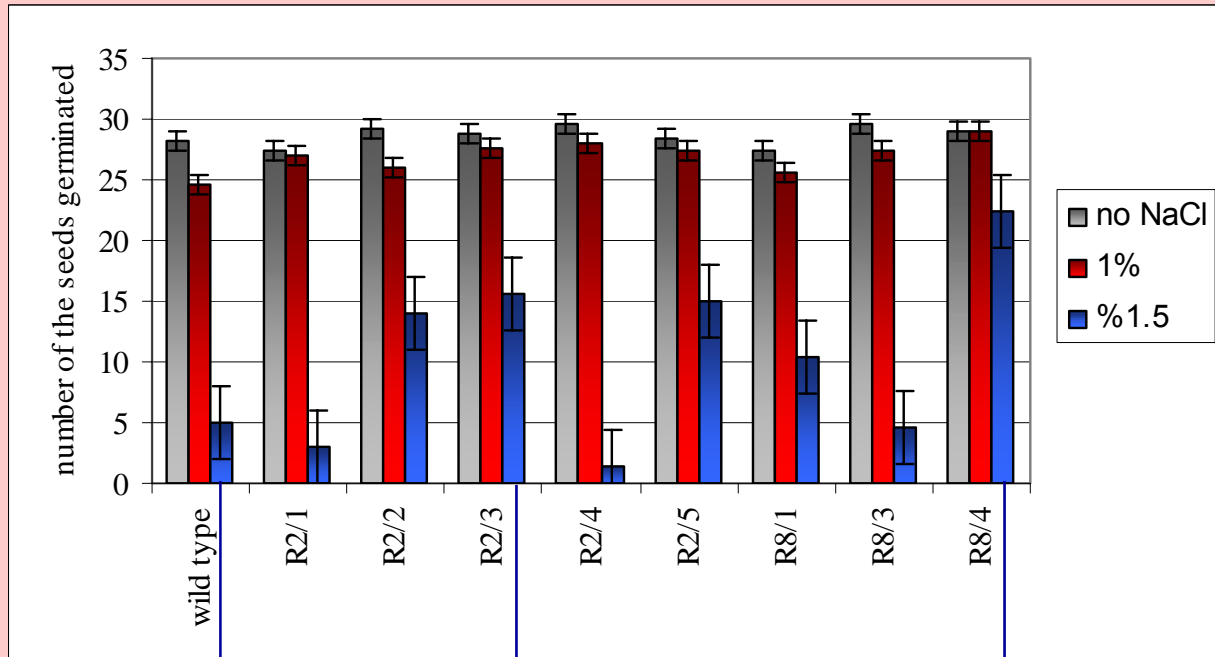
At four leaf stage plants were kept in trays  
Containing 400 mM NaCl and grown for 3 weeks.



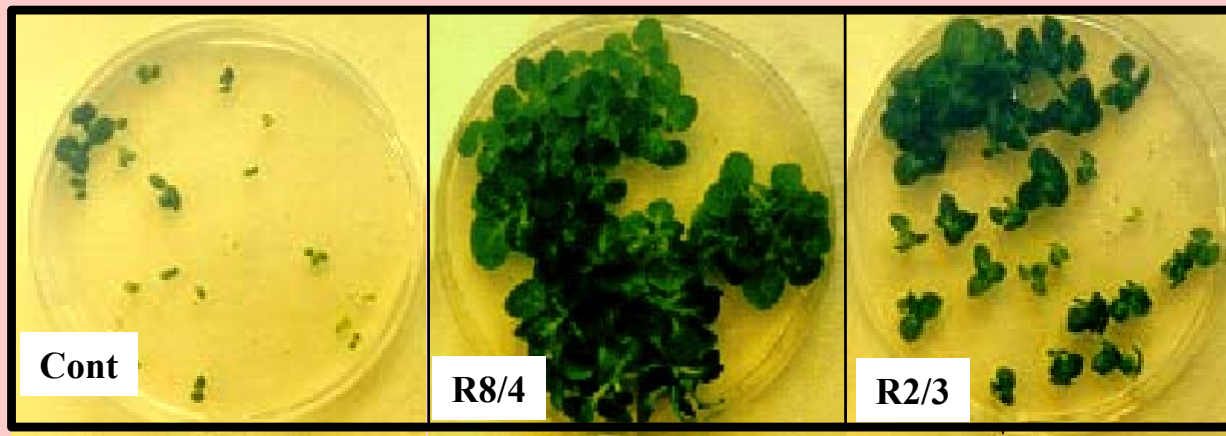
Roots of plants subjected to drought  
conditions. Photographed at time of  
flowering.

Kavi Kishor P.B. et al (1995) Plant Physiol. 108, 1387-1394.





**Germination of  
F<sub>1</sub> seeds in  
the presence of  
NaCl.**



**Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001)  
Unpublished**



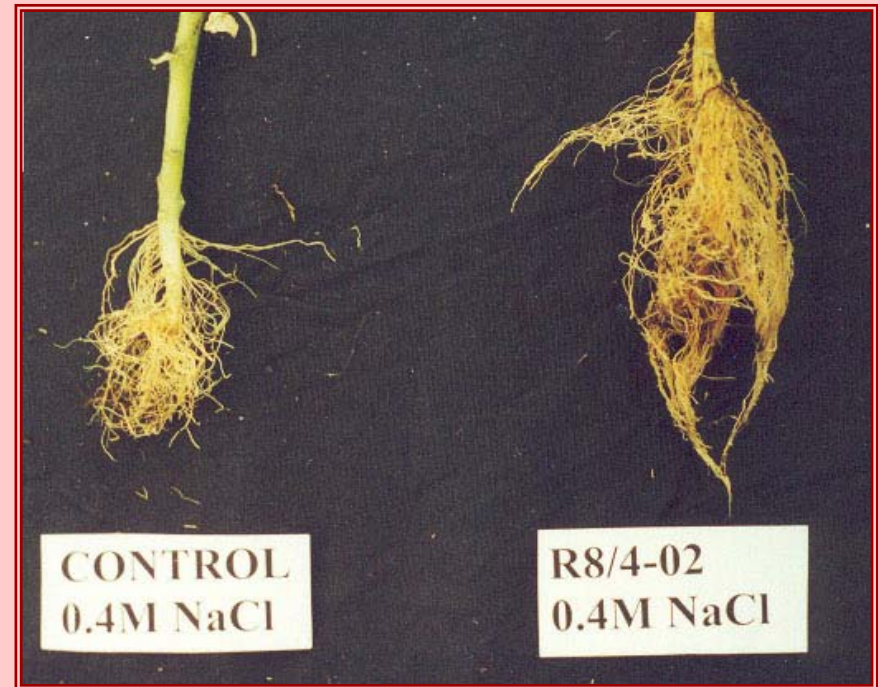
**Effect of 2% NaCl  
treatment on  
growth of TR  
and control plants**

**Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001)  
Unpublished**



# Effect of 0.4M NaCl Stress on Morphology and Growth of Transgenic and Control Plants

(Plants are subjected to salt stress for 3 months)



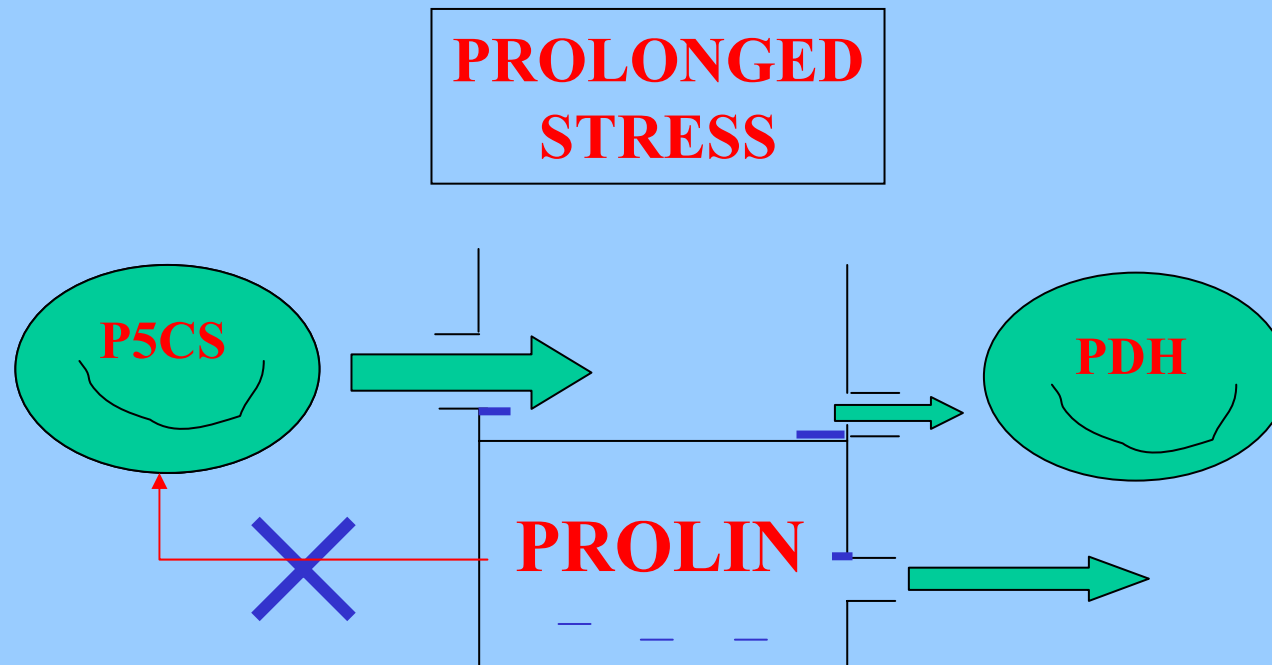
**Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001)**  
**Unpublished**

# POTATO TRANSFORMATION WITH AtP5CS



Simin Tans<sub>1</sub>, MSc. Thesis, 2002 METU, Biology

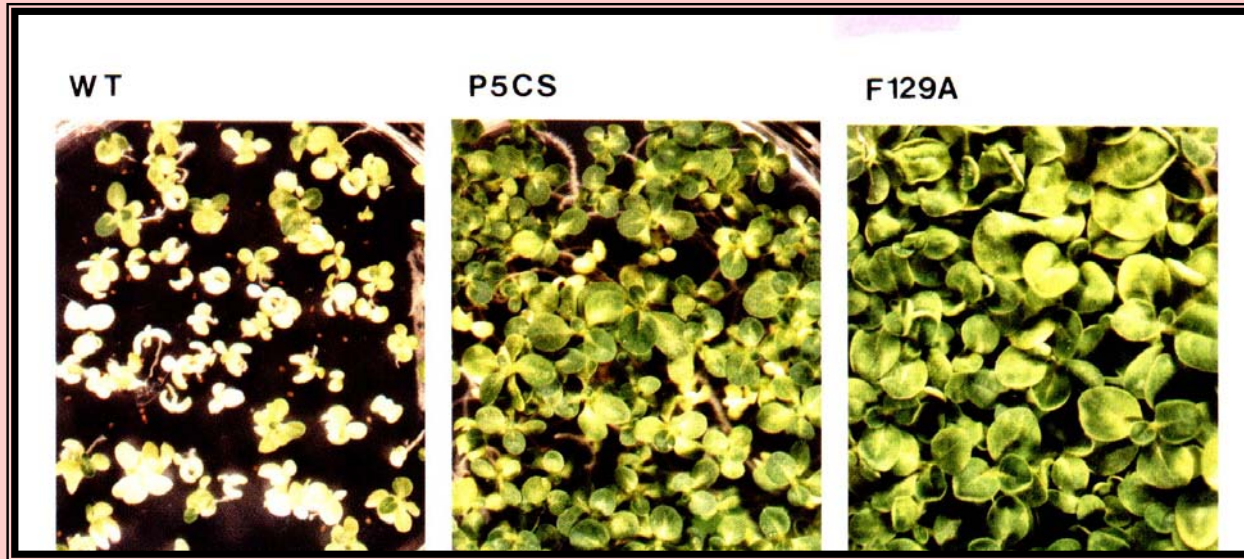
## TR STRATEGY 2: Remove feed back inhibition on P5CS



Hong, Z. et al. (2000) Removal of feedback inhibition of P5CS results in increased proline accumulation and protection of plants from osmotic stress. *Plant Physiol.* 122:1129-1136.

Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001) Increasing proline synthesis in tobacco by expressing the *Arabidopsis* feedback-insensitive P5CS gene. Manuscript in preparation.

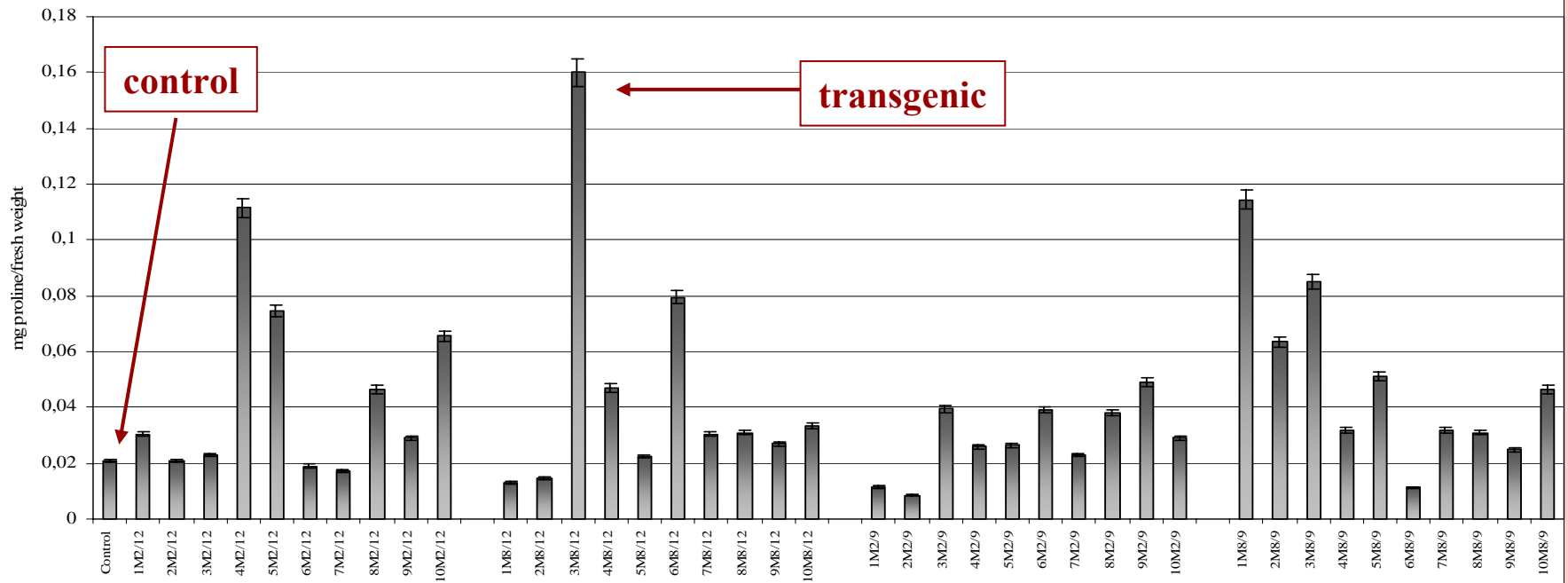




**Phenotype of 6 week old wild type (WT), P5CS overexpressing (P5CS) and feed back inhibition insensitive form of P5CS (F129A) transgenic seedlings as affected by salinity (200 mM NaCl). Seeds were germinated on MS medium containing 200 mM NaCl. The plates were kept in a controlled environment at 24 °C under constant light.**

**Hong, Z. et al. (2000) Plant Physiol. 122:1129-1136.**

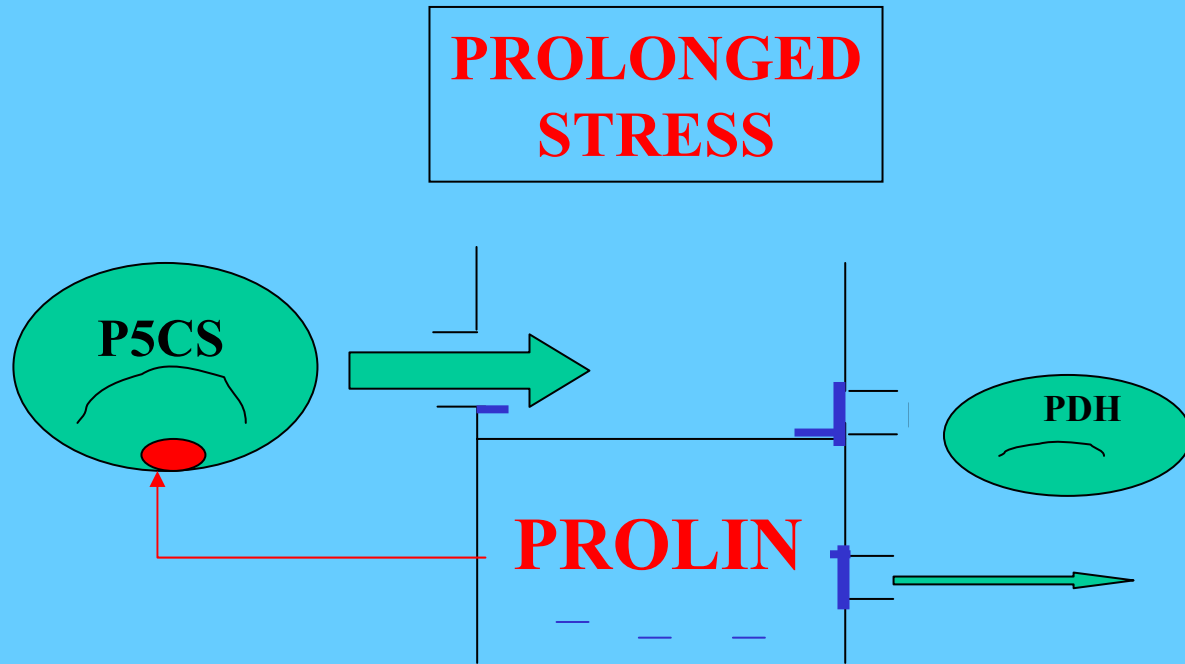




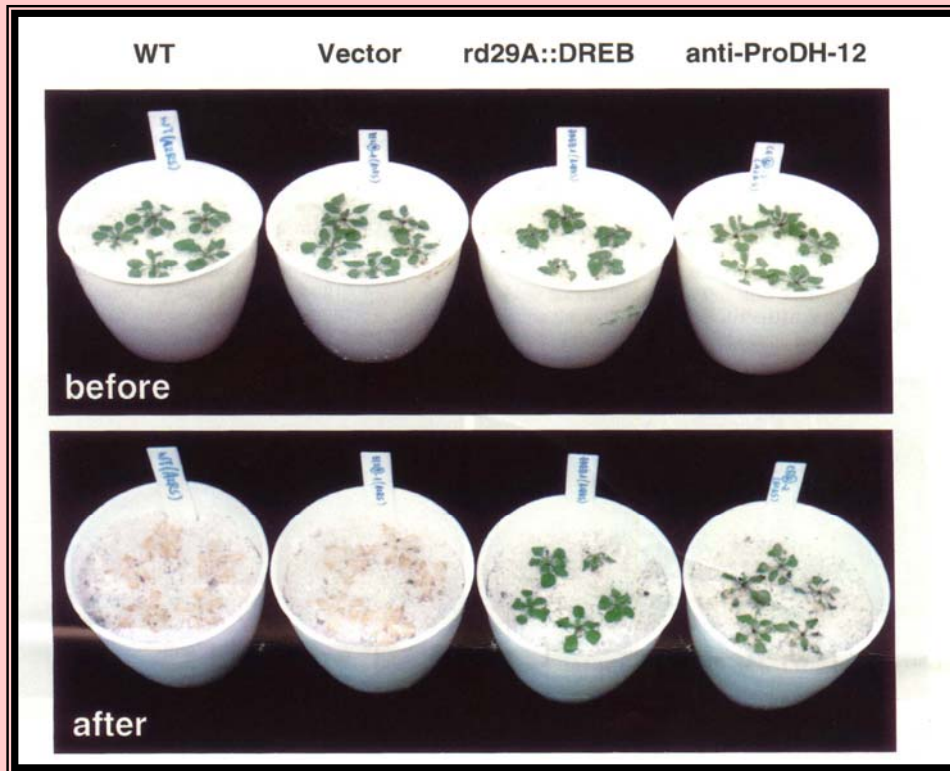
**Proline contents of putative transgenic tobacco plants transformed with feedback-insensitive AtP5CS gene.**

**Eyidoğan F. et al. (2001) Unpublished**

## STRATEGY 3: Reduce PDH level via antisense technology

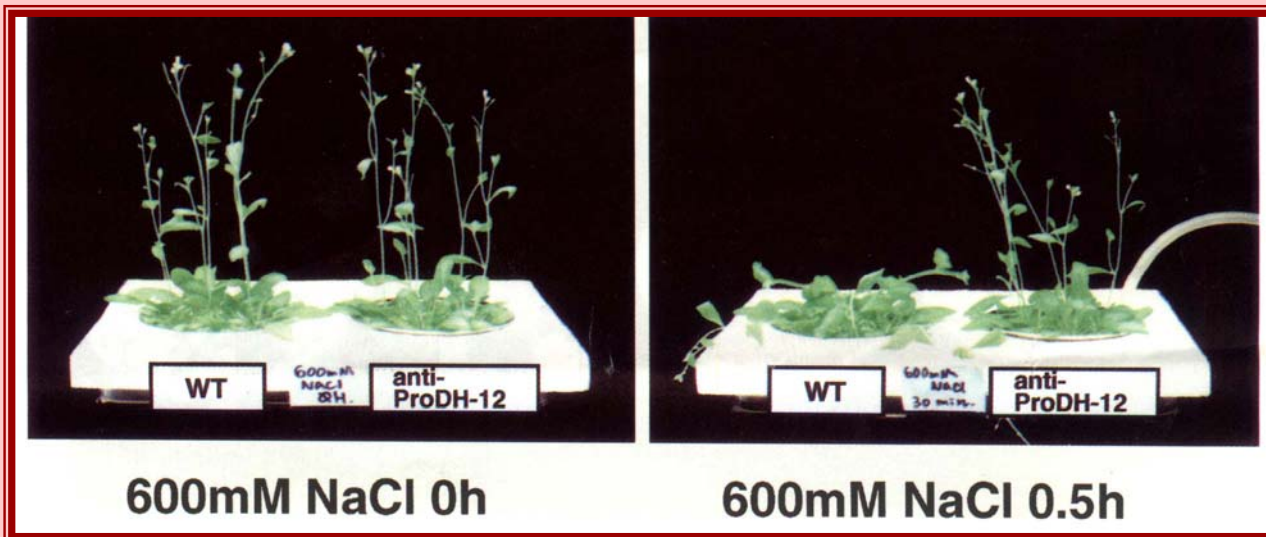


Nanjo, T. et al. (1999) Antisense suppression of prolin degradation improves tolerance to freezing and salinity in *Arabidopsis thaliana*.  
FEBS Letters 461:205-21.



Freezing tolerance of PDH antisense TR plants. Phenotypes of plants exposed to freezing stress ( $-7^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 days). After stress treatment the plants were taken to  $22^{\circ}\text{C}$  and grown for 5 days before photographed.

Nanjo, T. et al. (1999) FEBS Letters 461:205-21.

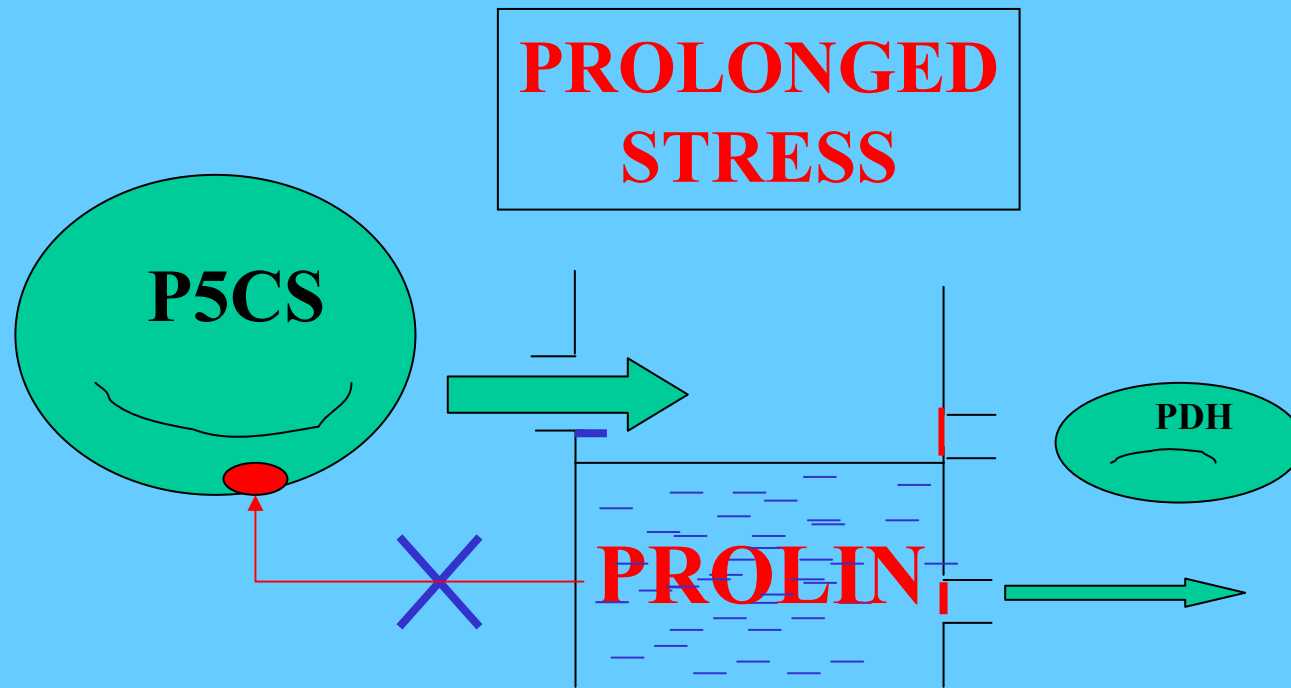


SALT tolerance of PDH antisense TR plants.



# STRATEGY 4 : COMBINED

- Overexpress P5CS,
- Remove feed back inhibition on P5CS
- Reduce PDH levels via antisense technology



No available literature data yet

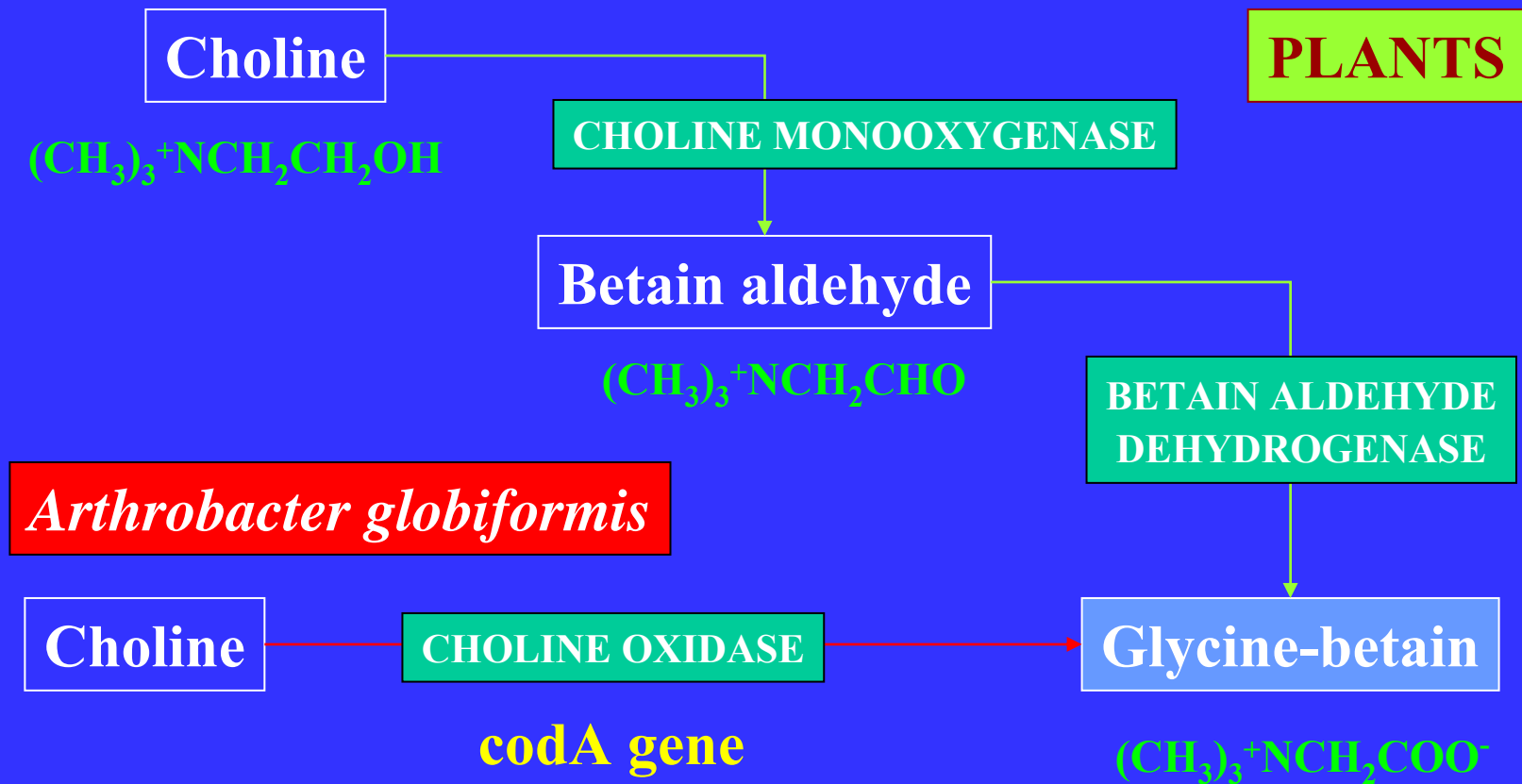


# OSMOLYTE ENGINEERING FOR DEVELOPMENT OF STRESS RESISTANT TRANSGENIC PLANTS

GENE	GENE PRODUCT & FUNCTION
<i>betA</i>	Choline dehydrogenase - glycine betaine synthesis
<i>codA</i>	Choline oxidase - glycine betaine synthesis
<i>IMT1</i>	Myo-inositol O-methyl transferase – D-ononitol synthesis
<i>mtlD</i>	Mannitol-1-Phosphate dehydrogenase – mannitol synthesis
<i>otsA</i>	Trehalose-6-phosphate synthase – treahalose synthesis
<i>otsB</i>	Trehalose-6-phosphate phosphatase – treahalose synthesis
<i>TPS1</i>	Trehalose-6-phosphate synthase – treahalose synthesis
<i>Odc</i>	Ornithine decarboxylase – putrescine synthesis
<i>SacB</i>	Fructosyl transferase – fructan synthesis

# GLYCINE-BETAINE

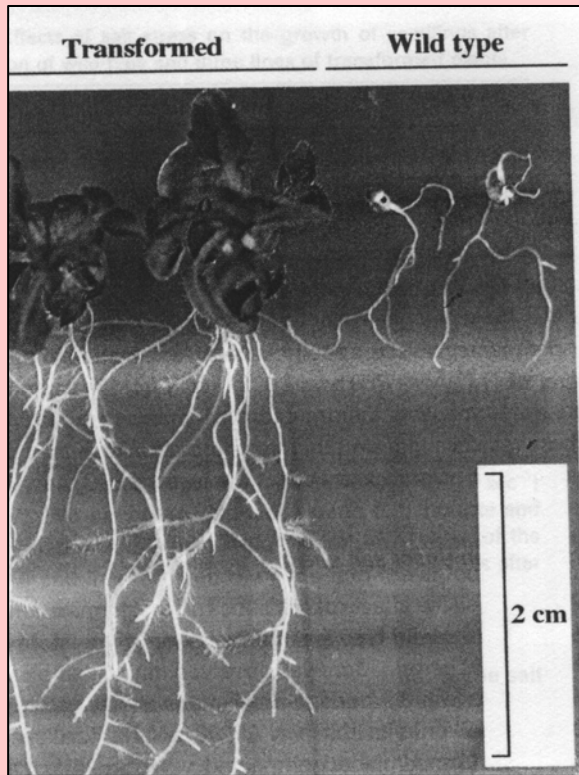
- Protect cells by maintaining an osmotic balance with environment
- Stabilising the quaternary structure of complex proteins





# ***Arabidopsis* Plants Transformed with *coda* Gene Coding for Choline Oxidase**

Hayashi et al. Plant J., 12:133-142, 1997



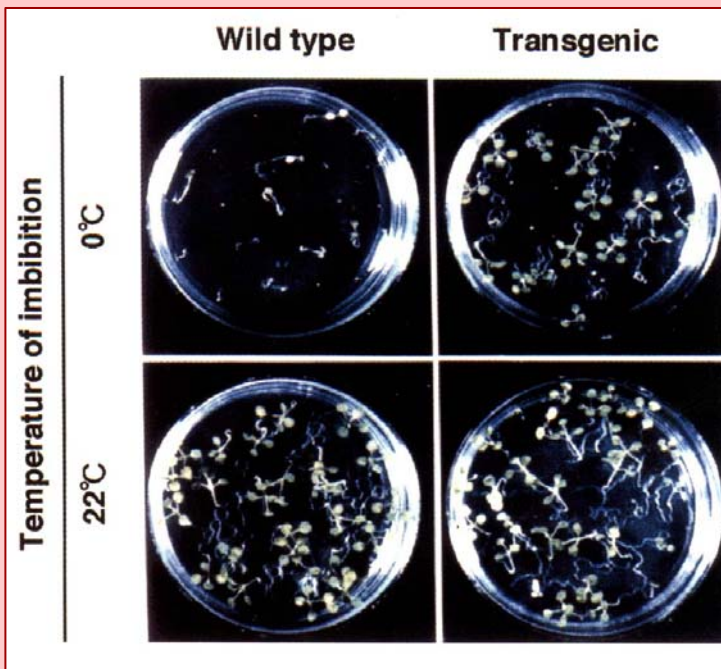
**Effect of salt stress on the germination and growth of TR and WT *Arabidopsis* plants.**

**Seeds were germinated on MS+100mM NaCl. After 2 days of stress, plants were grown under normal conditions for 9 days.**

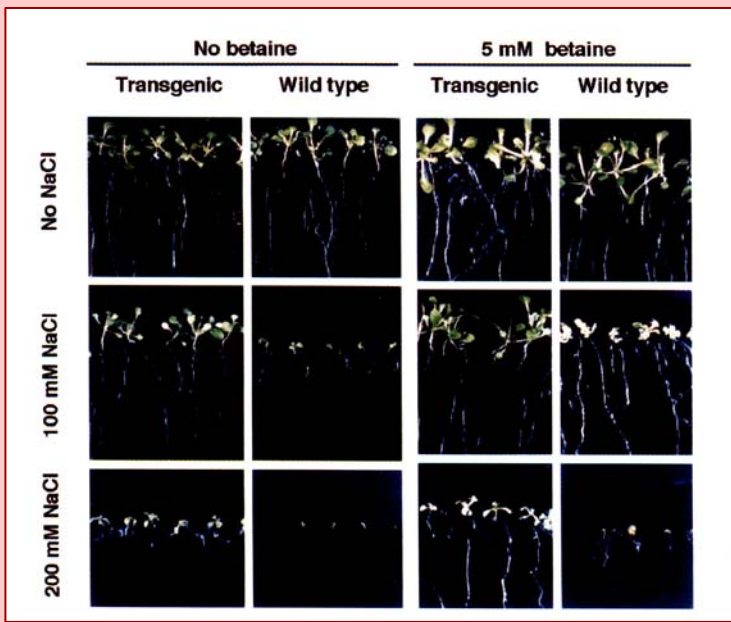
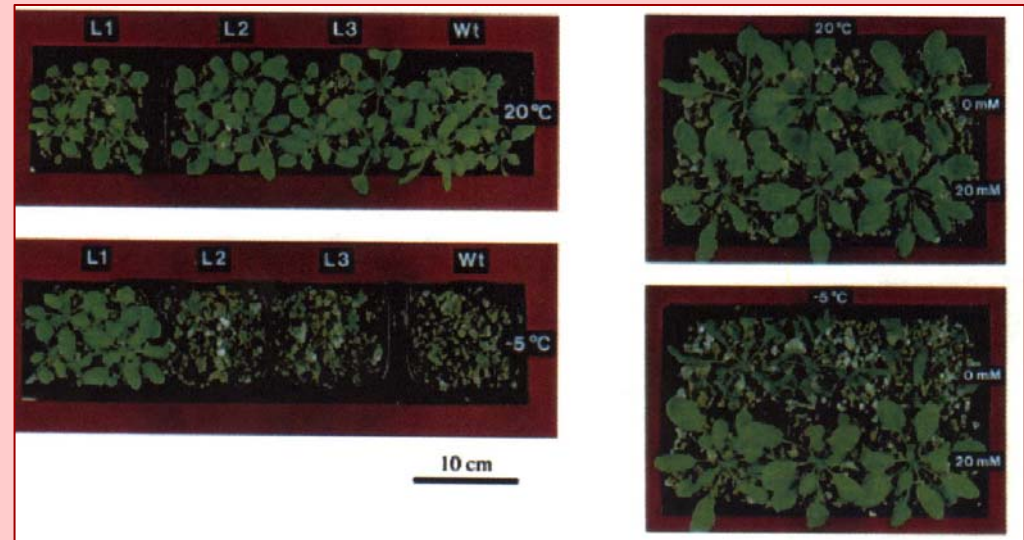


**Low temperature induced visible damage (arrows) to the leaves of TR and WT plants. Treatment: 5°C for 7 days.**





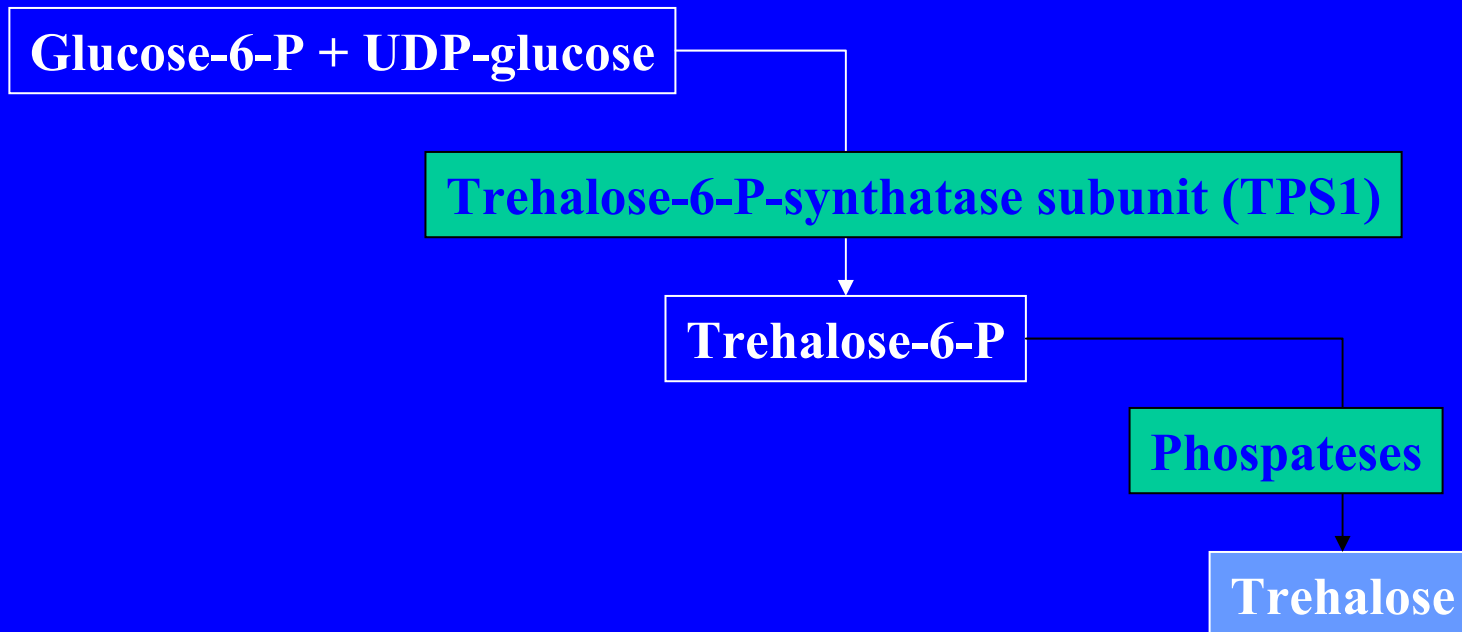
**Survival of wild-type and transgenic plants after freezing**  
 Sakamoto A. et al. (2000) Plant J., 22: 449-453.

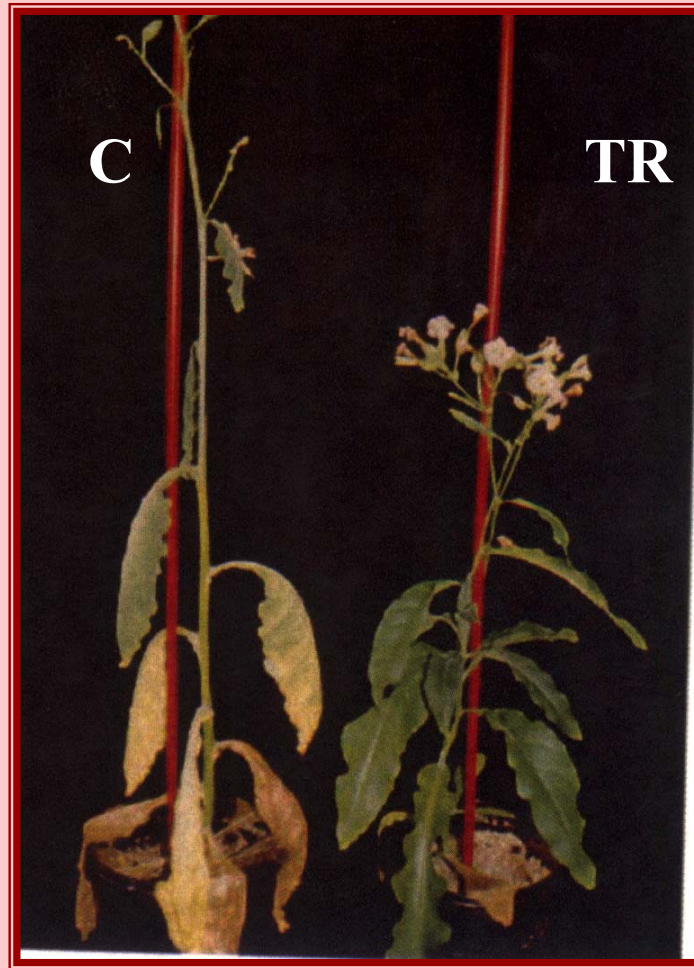


→ **Effect of cold and salt stress on *Arabidopsis* plants transformed with *CodA* gene.**  
 Sakamoto A. & Murata N. (2000)  
 J. Exp. Bot., 51:81-88.

# TREHALOSE

- **Non-reducing disacharide**
- **Occur in many organisms that survive complete dehydration**
- **Stabilizes dehydrated enzymes and lipid membranes**
- **In yeast trehalose synthase is responsible from synthesis**
- **Rare in higher plants**

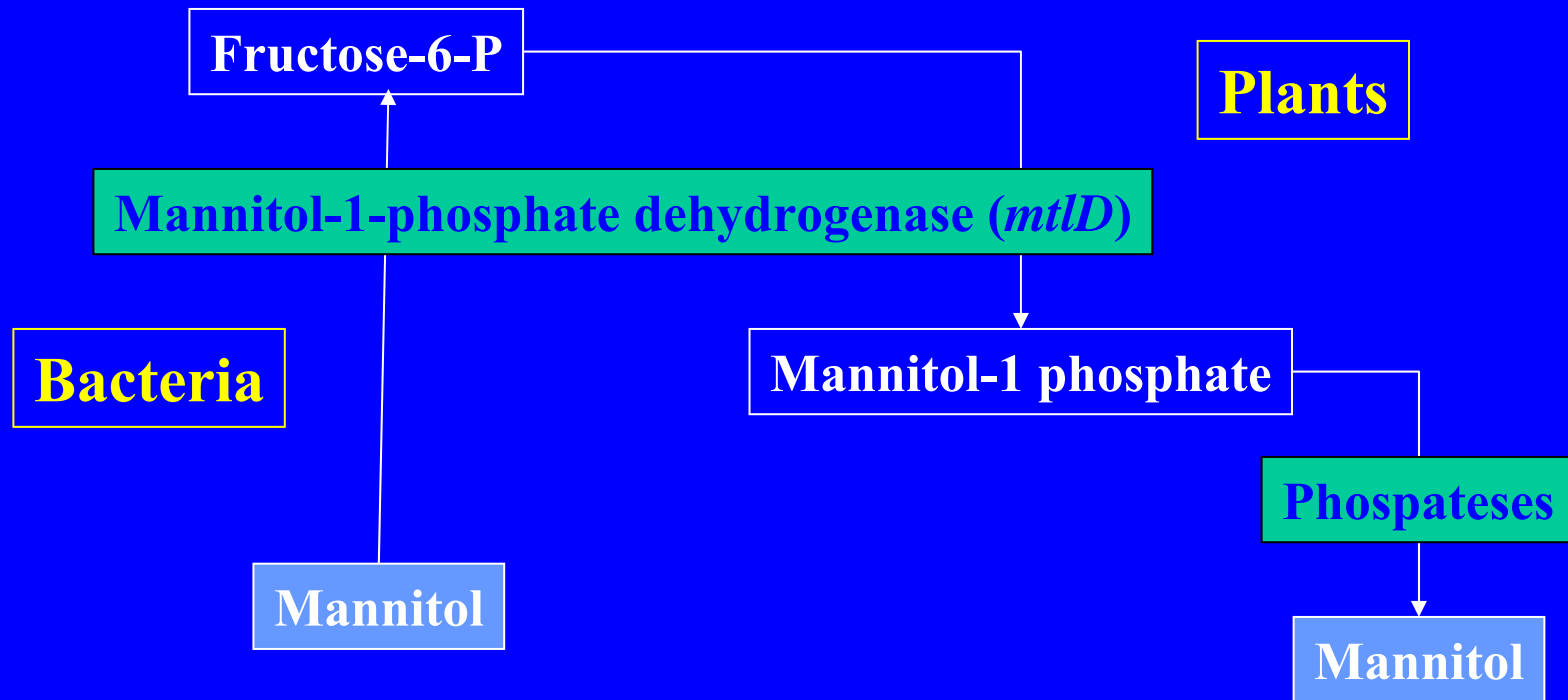


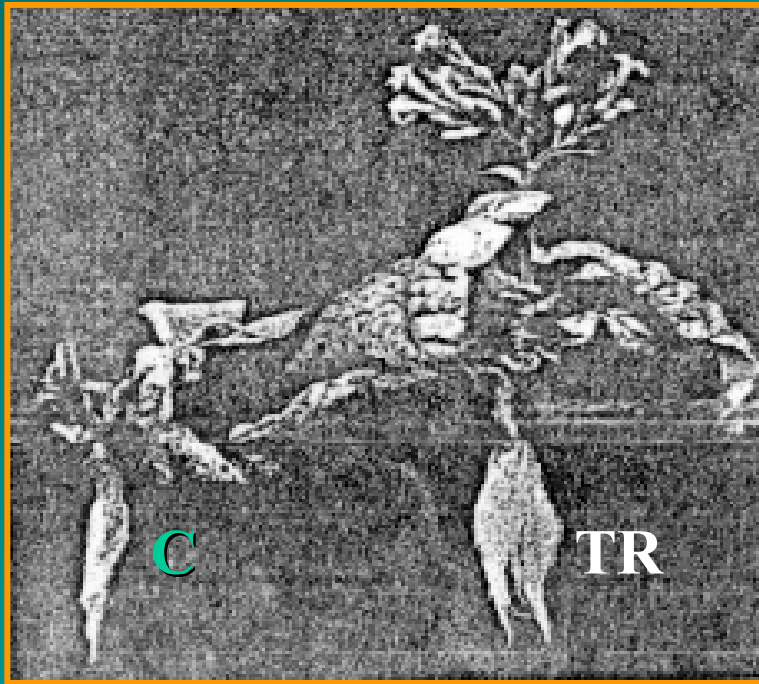
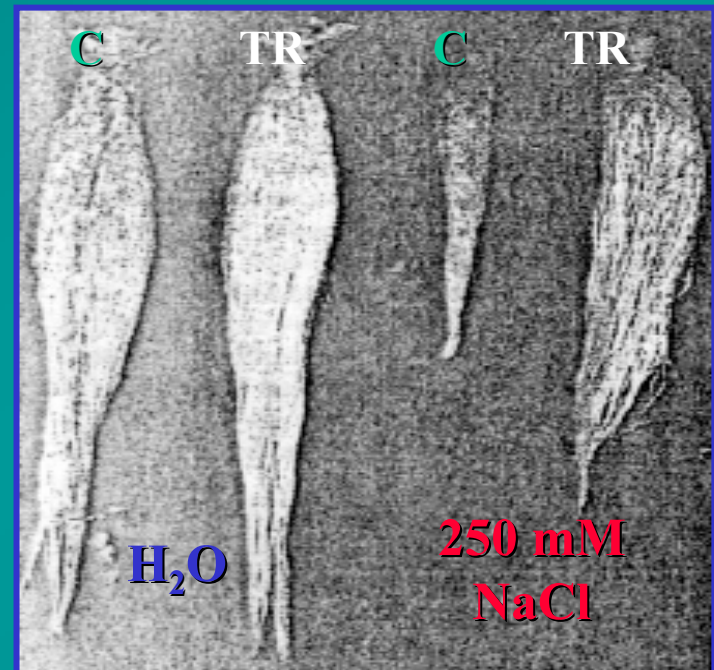


**Drought response of TPS1 expressing transgenic (TR) and wild type (C) tobacco plants after 15 days of water stress.  
Romero C. et al. (1997) Planta, 201: 293-297.**

# MANNITOL

- Sugar alcohol,
- Naturally found in higher plants
- Act as an osmolyte



**A****B**

**A: Response of Transgenic and control tobacco plants to 250 mM NaCl stress. B: Root morphology of the same plants after stress treatment.**

**Bohnert, H.J., Science, 259, 508-510, 1993**



# mtlD Transformed Eggplant



- Medium with 10 % PEG (Drought)



- Medium with 10% NaCl (Salt)

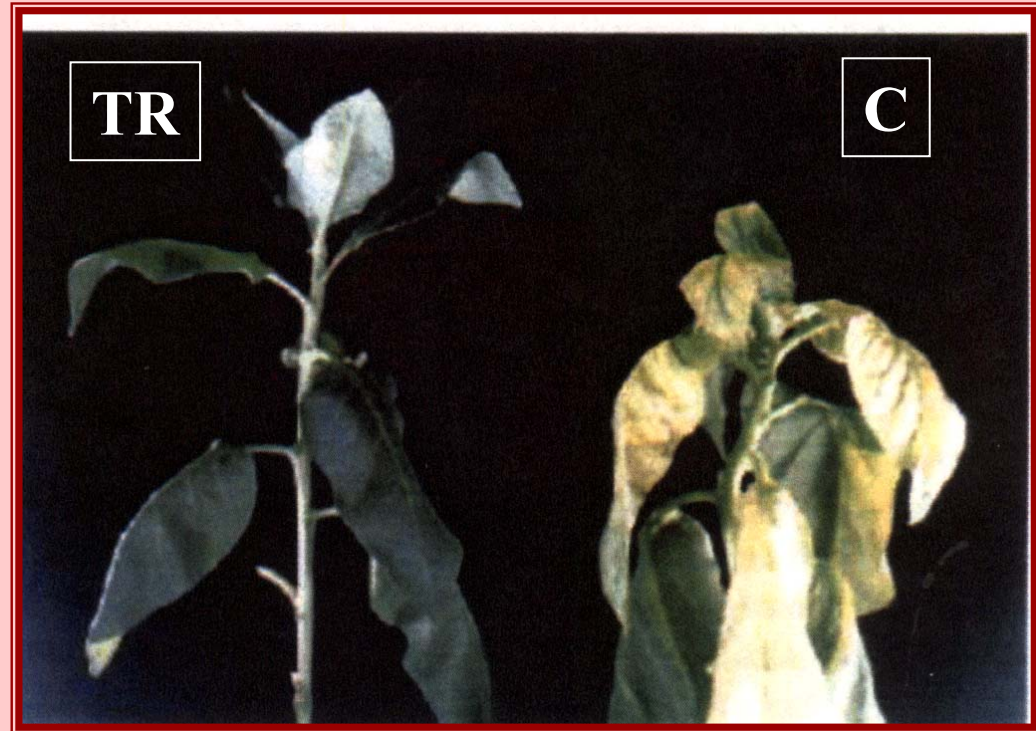
**Yeast Invertase**



**Accumulation of more  
sucrose and hexoses**



**Improved salt tolerance**



**The plants treated with 300 mM NaCl for 122 hours**

**Fukishima et al. (2001) Plant Cell Physiol, 42: 245-249**

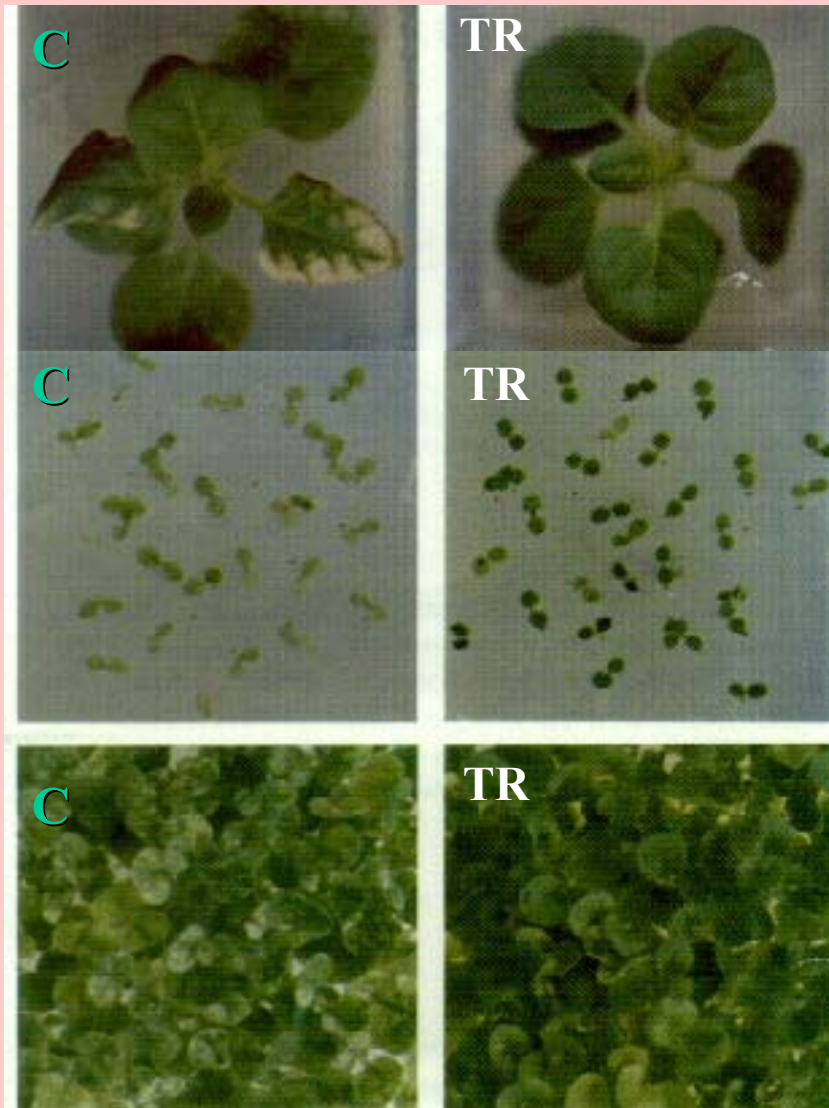
### **3) Alternation in lipid membrane composition (1996-)**



Membranes exist in two states:

- **Paracrystalline state:** At low temperature  
Lipids are tightly packed, little or no motion of acyl chains
- **Fluid state:** At a certain temperature (characteristic for a given membrane-TRANSITION TEMPERATURE) acyl chains start rapid motion and membrane enters into a fluid state.
- Very low fluidity at paracrystalline state. High fluidity at fluid state.
- Membrane proteins are functional at given fluidity of membs.
- So keeping membranes at certain fluid level is important for proper functioning of membrane proteins thus the cellular activity and viability.
- Increase unsaturation level of fatty acids increase fluidity of membranes at paracrystalline (low temperature) state. Therefore, maintaining high unsaturation level at low temperatures would enhance viability of plant cells.

# FROST RESISTANCE



**Performance of control and transgenic plants transformed with desaturase gene from *Cyanobacteria* .**  
**After germination, seedlings were kept at 1°C for 11 days.**

**Ishizaki-N. *et al.*, Nature Biotech, 14,1003-1006, 1996**

**4) Enhanced stress related gene expression  
via transfer of transcriptional factors (1998-)  
and regulatory proteins (2000-)**

**WATER STRESS**

**SIGNAL PERCEPTION**

**SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION**

**GENE EXPRESSION**

**GENE PRODUCTS**

Group 1  
**FUNCTIONAL  
PROTEINS \***

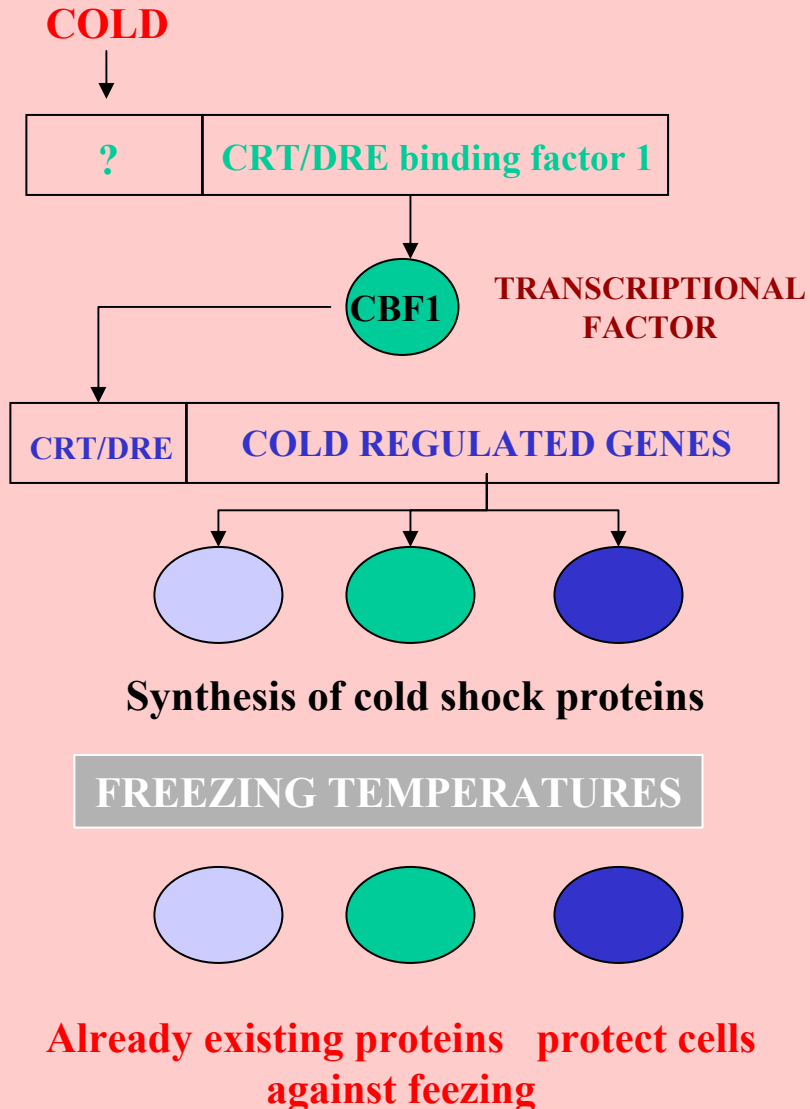
Group 2  
**REGULATORY  
PROTEINS \*\***

**STRESS  
TOLERANCE**

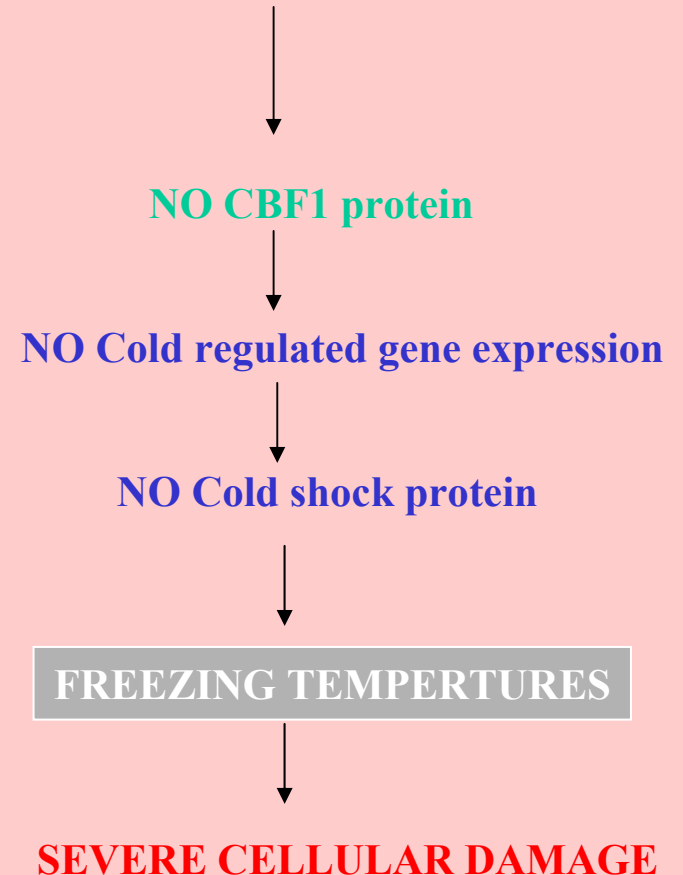
**STRESS  
RESPONSE**



**Cold Acclimation: Plants increase their tolerance to freezing in response to low non-freezing temperatures.**

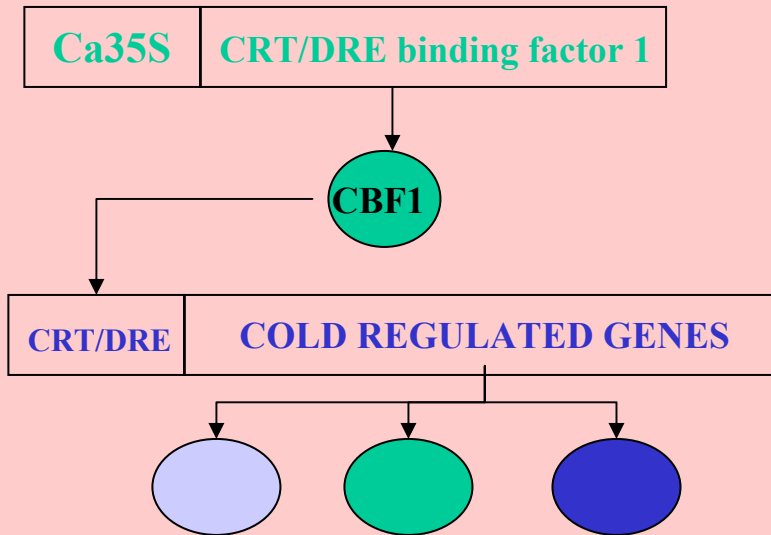


**NORMAL GROWTH TEMPERATURE**



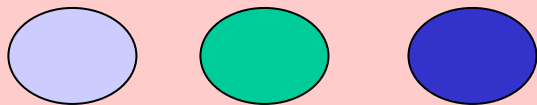
# *Arabidopsis* CBF1 Overexpression Induces *COR* Genes & Enhances Freezing Tolerance

## NORMAL GROWTH TEMPERATURES



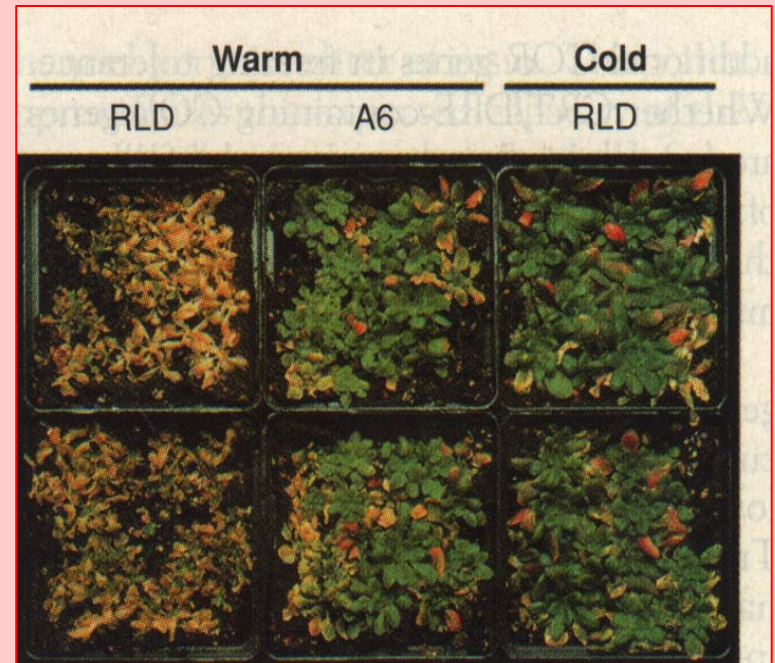
Synthesis of cold shock proteins without  
**COLD ACCLIMATION**

## FREEZING TEMPERATURES



**Already existing proteins protect cells  
against freezing**

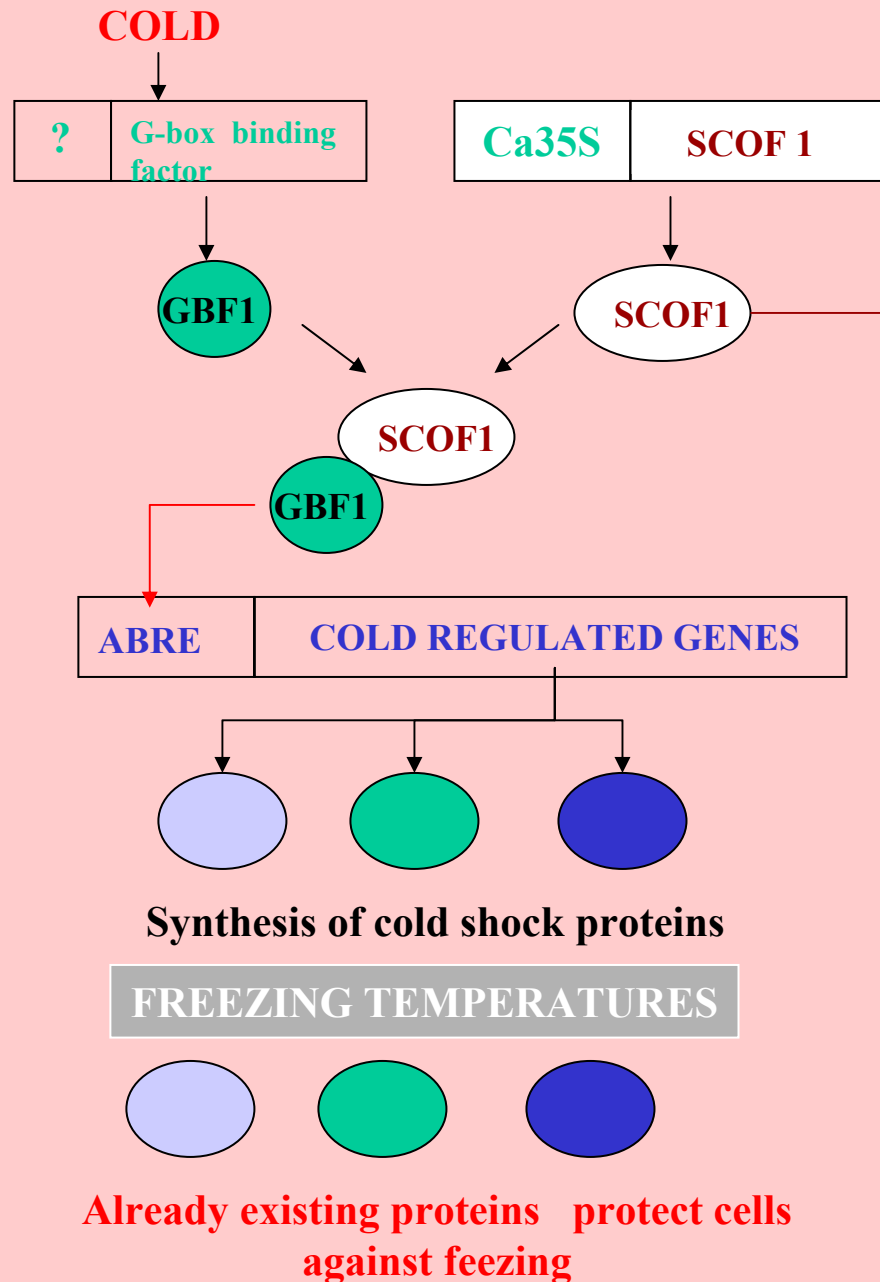
## NON ACCLIMIZED ACCLIMIZED



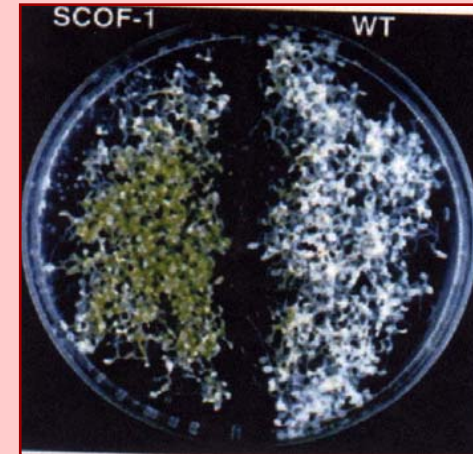
**Treatment:** Before treatment plants were kept at normal growth conditions (warm) or cold-acclimated for 5 days. Plants were frozen at  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 days and then returned to a growth chamber at  $22^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

RLD: wild type plants

A6 : Transgenic plants



The cold and ABA inducible transcription factor **SCOF1** increases **COR** gene expression by enhancing the DNA binding activity of GBFs (G-box binding factors).



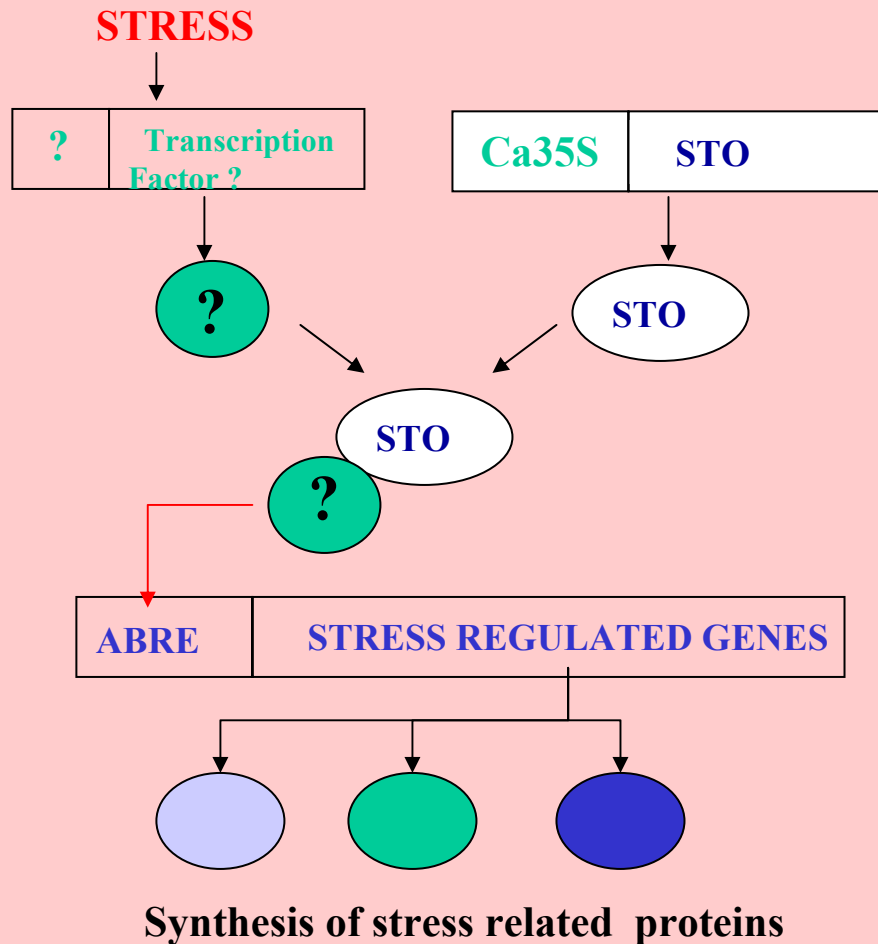
**Non-acclimated SCOF-1 TR plants and wild type plants were frozen at  $-7^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Photo was taken 2 days after the return to normal growth conditions.**



**Control and TR plants subjected to 15 day long cold stress at  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$  and returned to normal growth temperature ( $25^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and photographed after 20 days.**

**Kim J. et al. (2001) Plant J., 25: 247-259.**





**Protection of cells  
against stress condions**

## STO Transformed Tobacco



**Control 200 mM NaCl Stress**

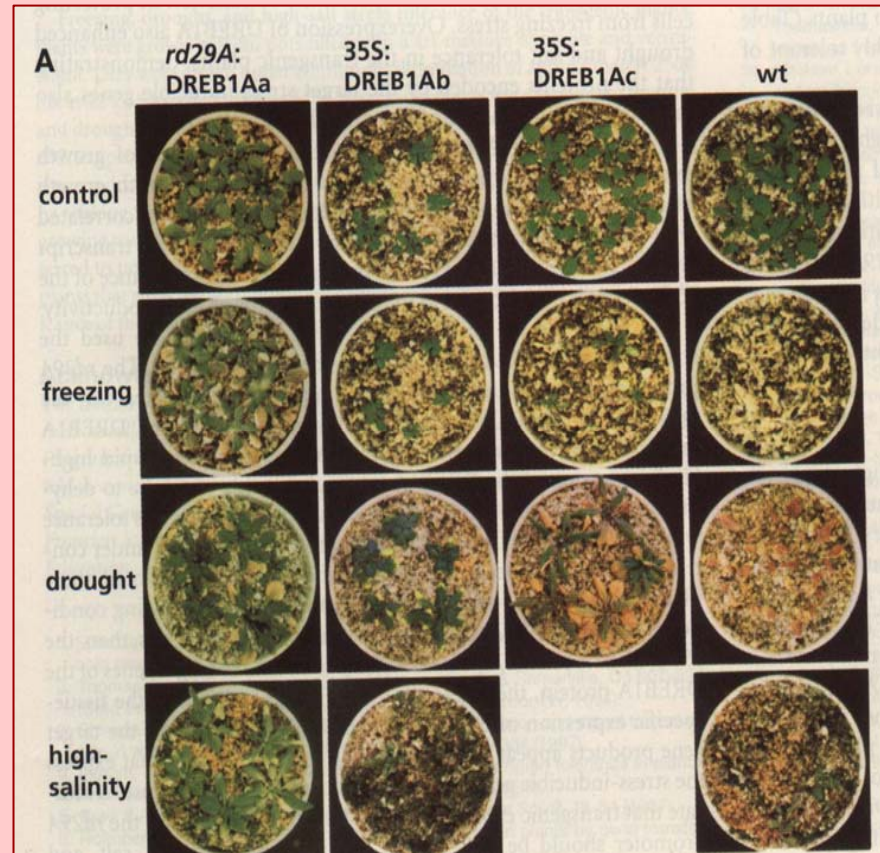
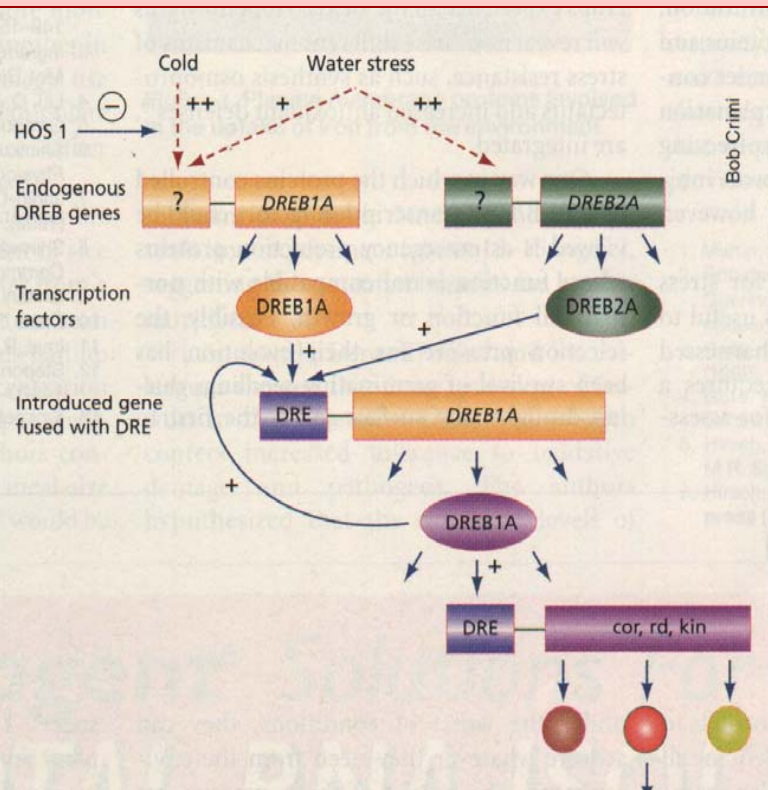


**Transgenic 200 mM NaCl Stress**



# Improving Plant Drought, Salt & Freezing Tolerance by Gene Transfer of a Single Stress Inducible Transcription Factor

## STRATEGY



Kasuga et al., Nature Biotechnology,  
17:287-291, March 1999.

**FREEZING:** -6°C for 2 days, 22°C for 5 days.

**DROUGHT:** Water withheld for 2 weeks.

**SALINITY:** Soaked in 600mM NaCl for 2 hours, normal growth under control conditions for 3 weeks.

**CONTROL:** 3 weeks old plants grown under control conditions.

# ABRC1-CBF1 Transformed Tomato

Chilling Stress



WT

AC1

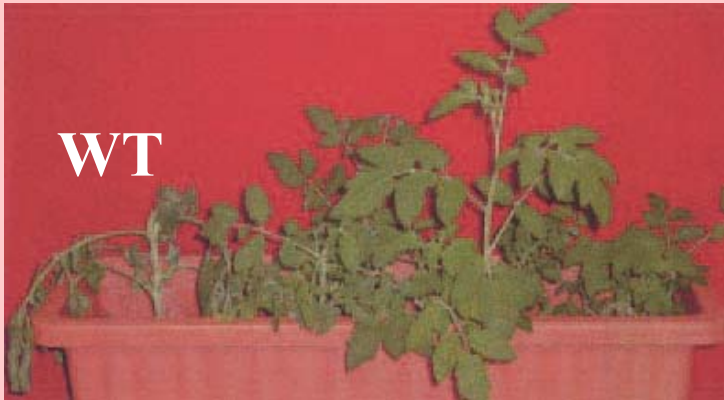
C5

C5+GA3



Improved agronomic performance of ABRC1-*CBF1* tomato plants. The yield of the transgenic tomato line (AC1) was equivalent to that of the untransformed plants. This condition in C5 plants (CaMV35S-*CBF1*) could be restored only after spraying the plants with GA3.

Drought Stress



Salt Stress



Lee J.-T. et al., Plant Cell Environment,  
26:1181-1190, 2003

**WATER STRESS**

**SIGNAL PERCEPTION**

**SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION**

**GENE EXPRESSION**

**GENE PRODUCTS**

Group 1  
**FUNCTIONAL  
PROTEINS \***

Group 2  
**REGULATORY  
PROTEINS \*\***

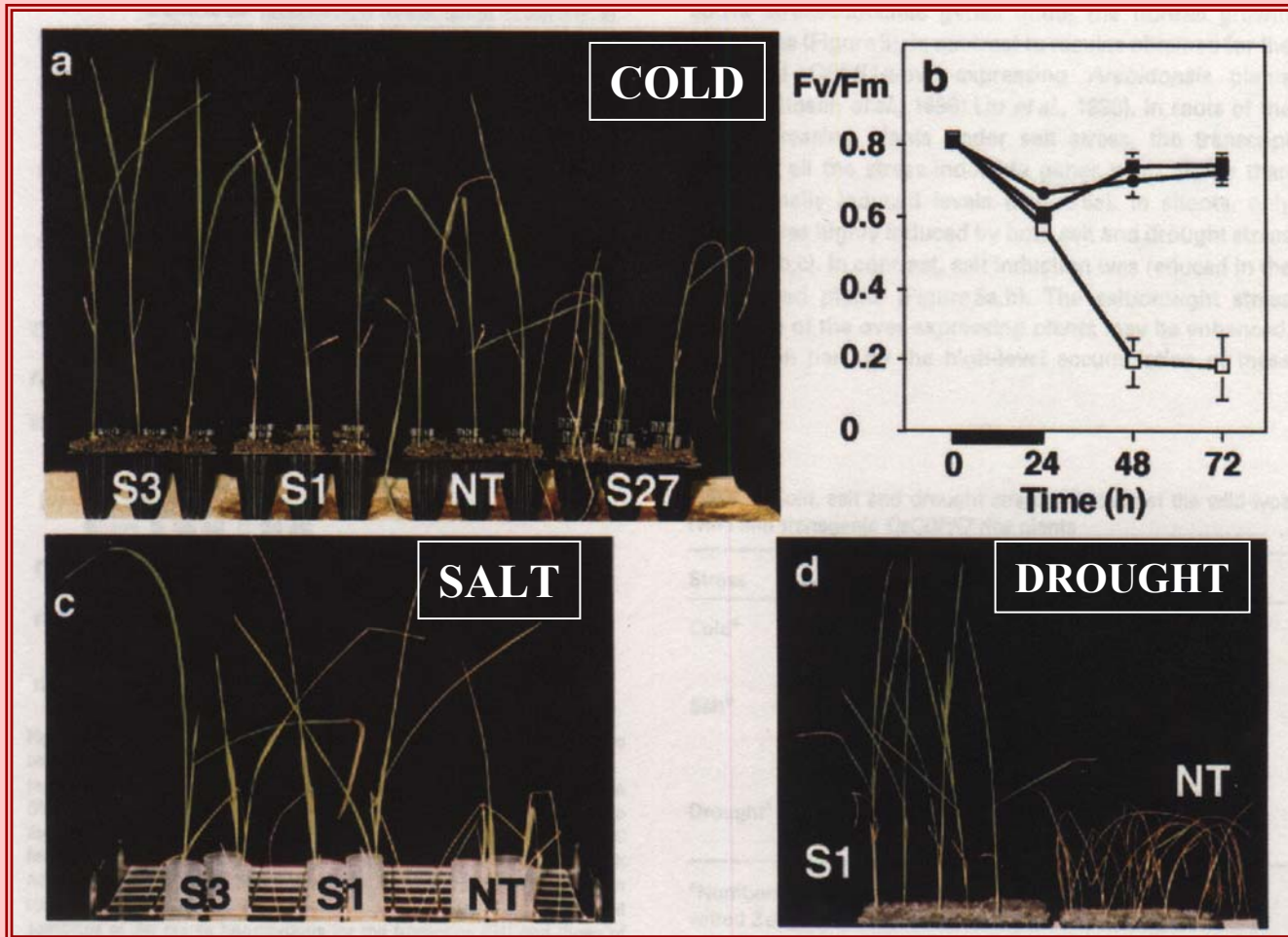
**STRESS  
TOLERANCE**

**STRESS  
RESPONSE**

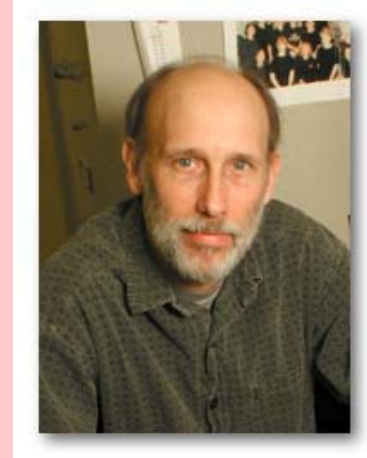




# Cold-Salt/Drought Tolerant Transgenic Rice via Overexpression of a Single $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ Dependent Protein Kinase



Stress tolerance of 35S:OsCDPK7 transgenic rice plants. (a) Plants 3 days after cold stress (4°C for 24 hr). (b) Chlorophyll fluorescence of young extended leaves under cold stress. Note damage to photosynthesis in control (open rectangle) plants. (c) Plants 3 days after salt stress (200 mM NaCl for 24 hr). (d) Plants 5 days after drought stress (no water for 3 d). NT: non transgenic. Saijo Y. *et al.* The Plant Journal, 23, 319-327, 2000.



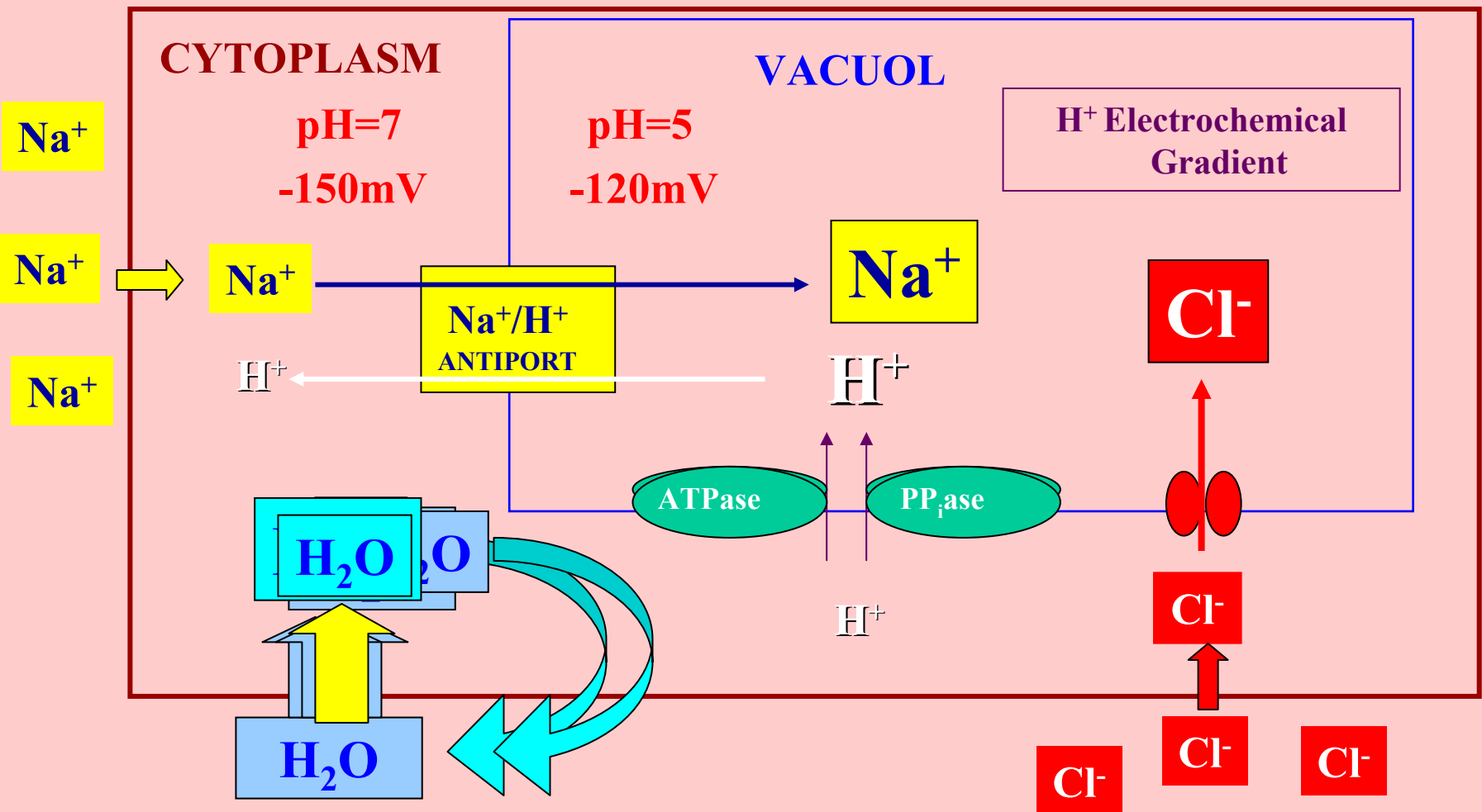
## **5) Enhanced ion compartmentalisation via $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$ antiport overexpression (1999-)**



# COMPARTMENTATION OF $\text{Na}^+$ INTO VACUOL

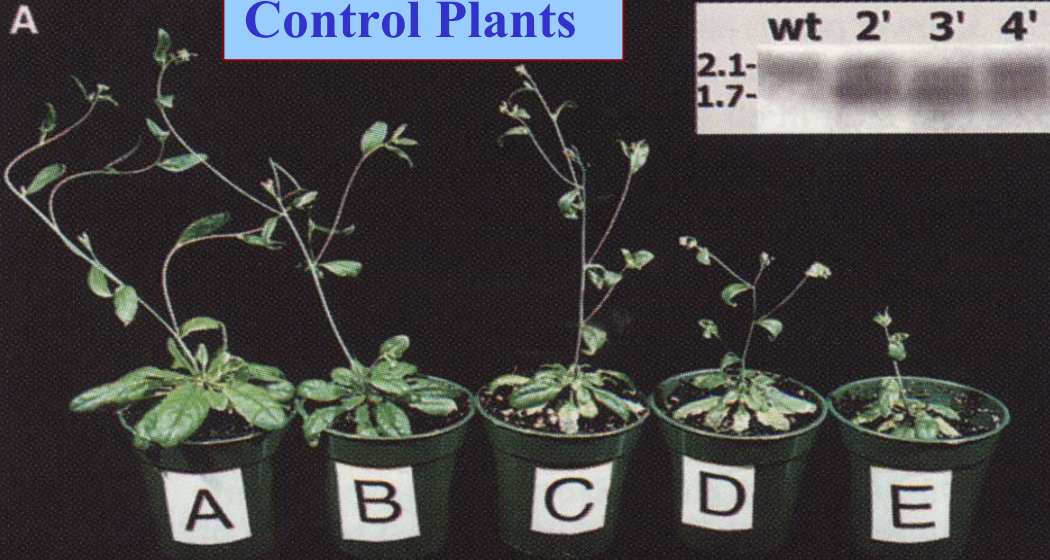
The detrimental effects of salt on plants are a consequence of both a water deficit resulting in osmotic stress and the effects of excess sodium ions on critical biochemical processes.

In salt tolerant plants the compartmentation of  $\text{Na}^+$  into vacuoles through the operation of a vacuolar  $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$  antiport, provides an efficient mechanism to avert the deleterious effects of sodium in the cytosol and maintains osmotic balance by using  $\text{Na}^+$  (and chloride) accumulated in the vacuole to drive water into the cells.

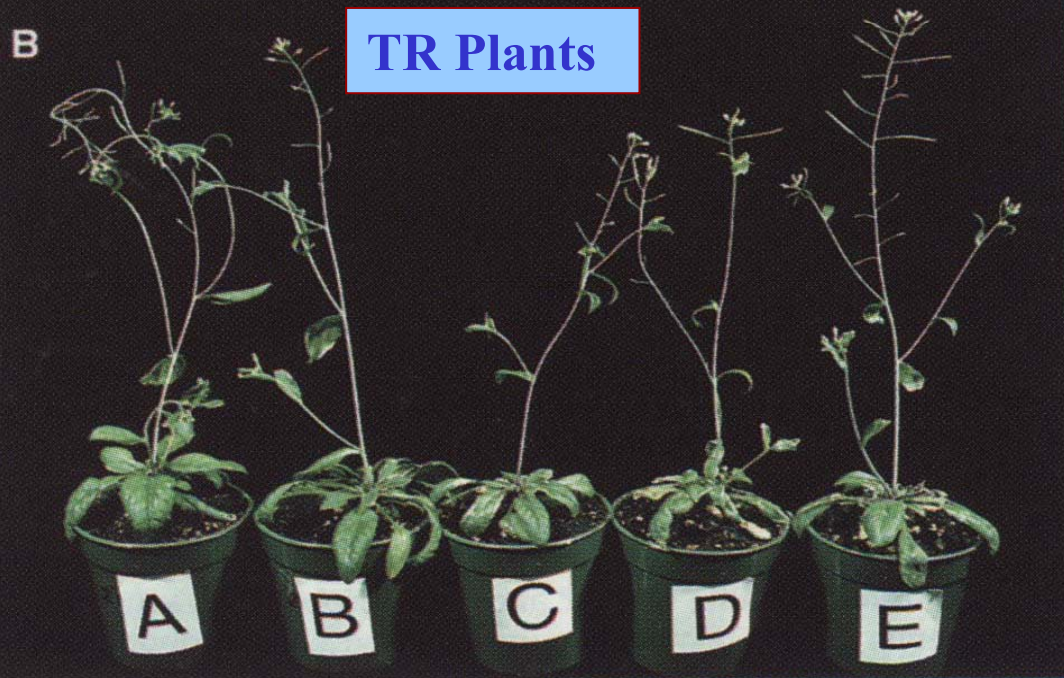




## Control Plants



## TR Plants



16 days old plants

### Treatments

A-Control (No NaCl)

B-50 mM NaCl

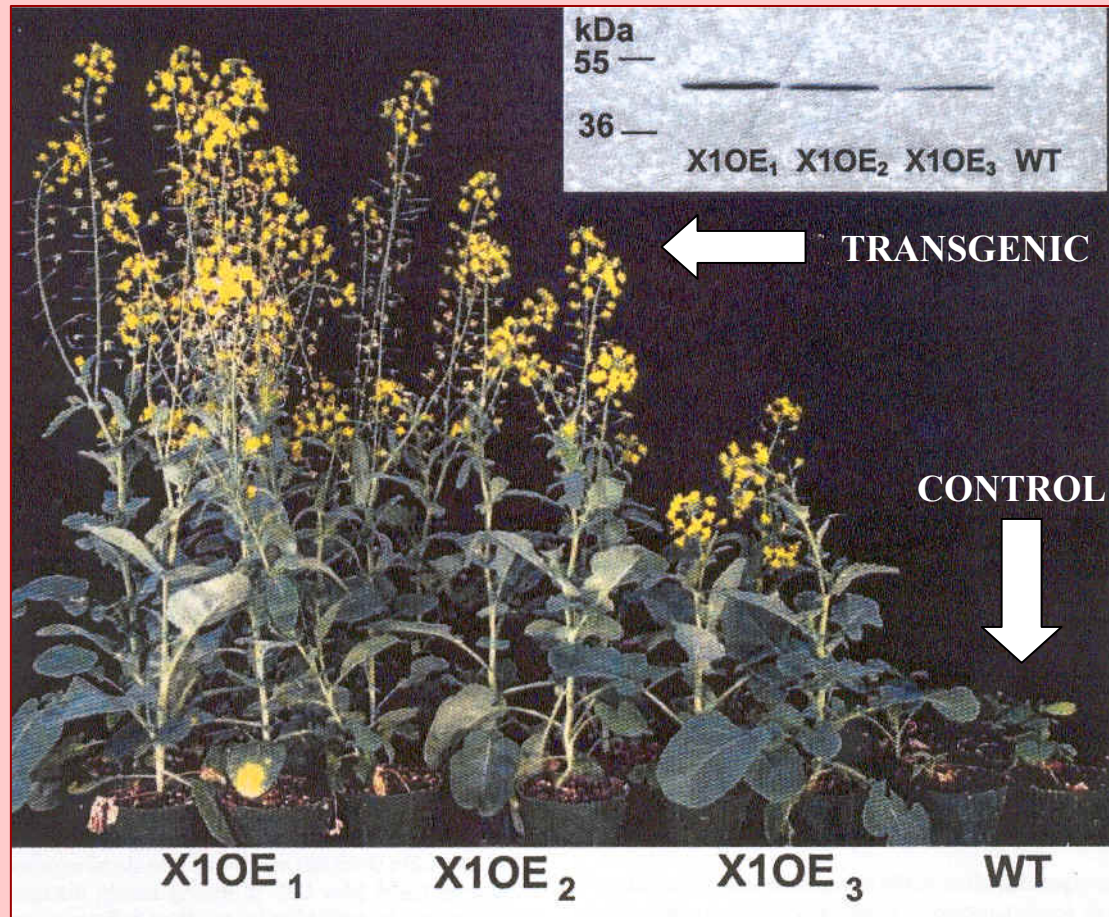
C-100 mM NaCl

D- 150 mM NaCl

E- 200 mM NaCl

**Salt tolerance Conferred by  
Overexpression of a Vacuolar  
 $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$  Antiporter in *Arabidopsis*.**

**Apse et al, Science, 285:1256-1258, 1999**



**Salt tolerance of wild type (WT) and transgenic *Brassica* plants grown for 10 weeks under 200 mM NaCl stress.**

**Zhang H-X et al. (October 2001) PNAS, 98: 12832-12836**



**6) Protection against toxic by-products via  
expressing detoxification enzymes  
(2000-)**

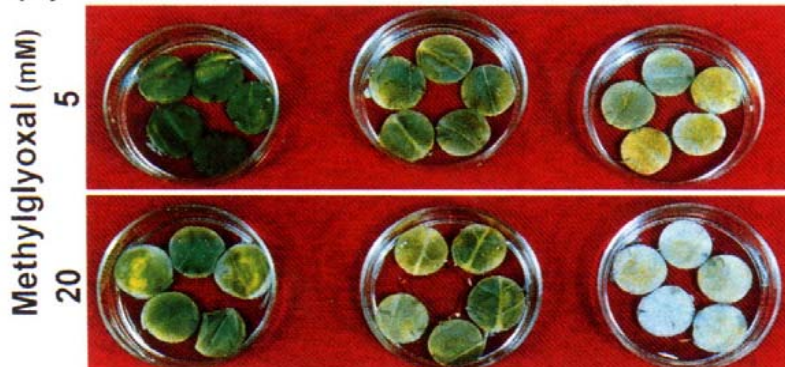
# DETOXIFICATION OF METHYLGLYOXAL



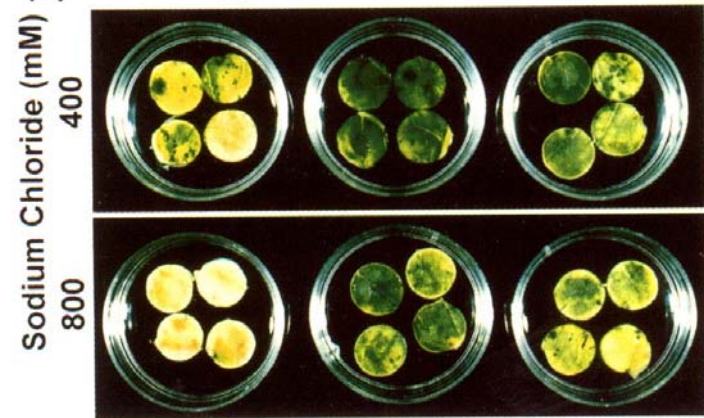
## Potent cytotoxic compound.

- Arrest cell growth
- React with DNA and proteins.
- ↑ Sister chromatid exchange

(a) NtBIS1-11 Wild Type NtBIA-14



(a) Wild Type NtBIS1-11 NtBIS1-15



Retardation of salt stress prompted senescence in TR tobacco plants by over-expressing *Gly 1* in sense.

Methylglyoxal-prompted senescence in TR tobacco plants by over-expression (NtBIS1-11) or downregulated (NtBIA-14) expression of *Gly 1*.

Venna & Sopory (1999), Plant J., 17:385-395)

**STRESS**

**ENHANCED FREE RADICAL GENERATION**

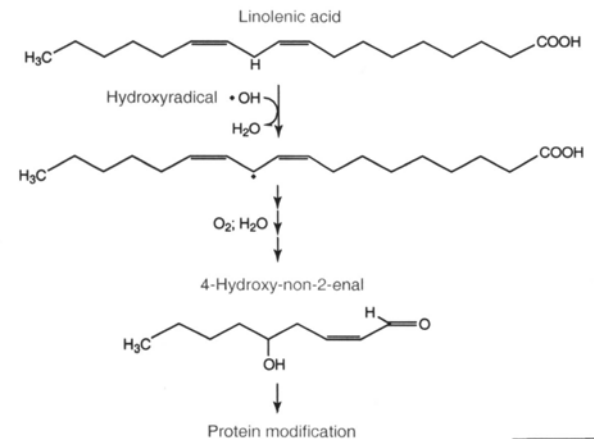
**INTERACTION WITH MEMBRANE LIPIDS**

**GENERATION OF  
PEROXIDES & HYDROXYPEROXIDES**

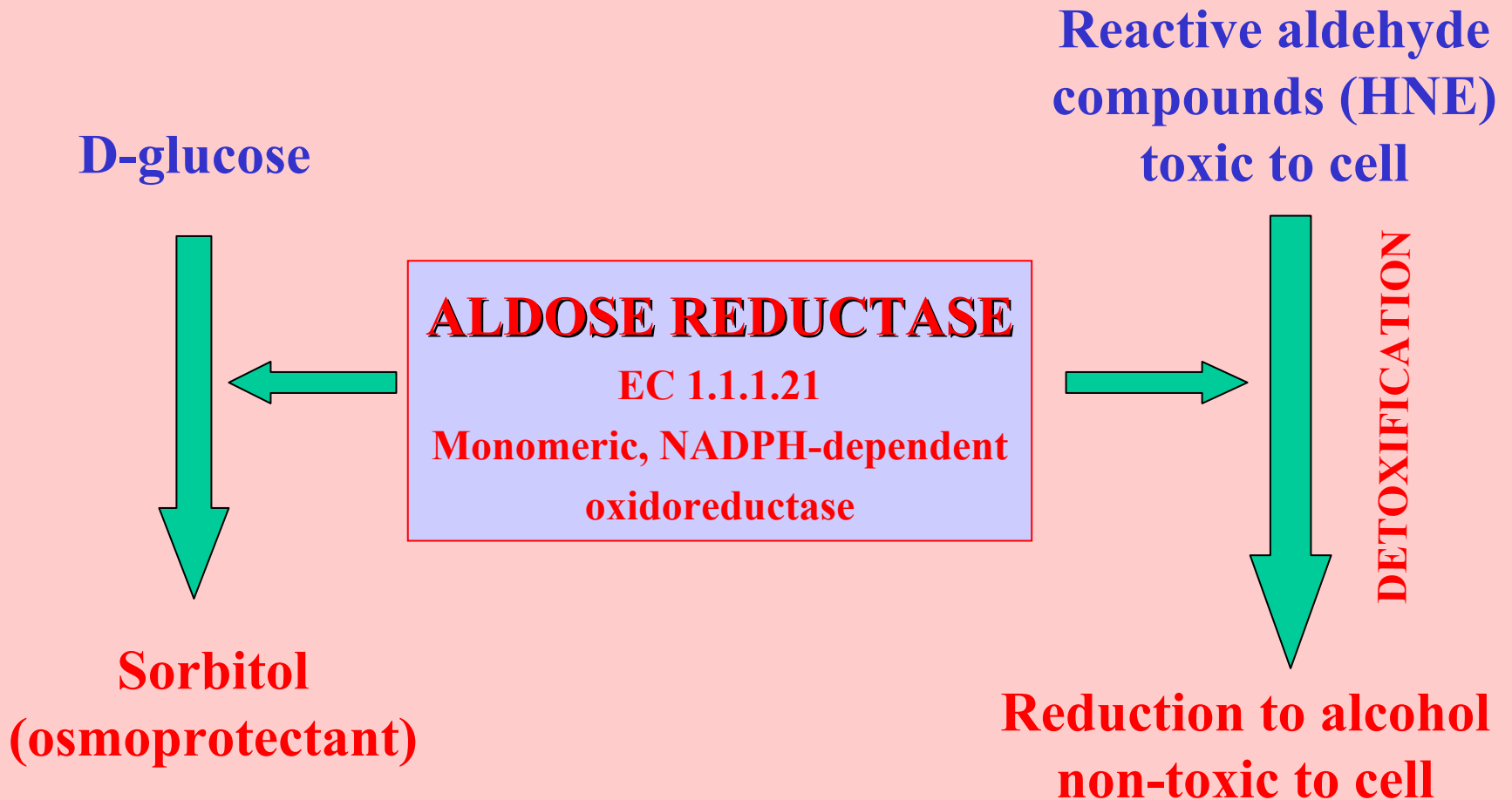
**DEGREDAATION AND FORMATION OF  
REACTIVE ALDEHYDE COMPOUNDS**

### **4-HYDROXY-NONENAL (HNE)**

- more stable than free radicals
- migrate away from site of generation
- alter functional and structural properties of proteins
- DNA damage at nM concentration
- Cytotoxic at mM concentration



*TRENDS in Plant Science*

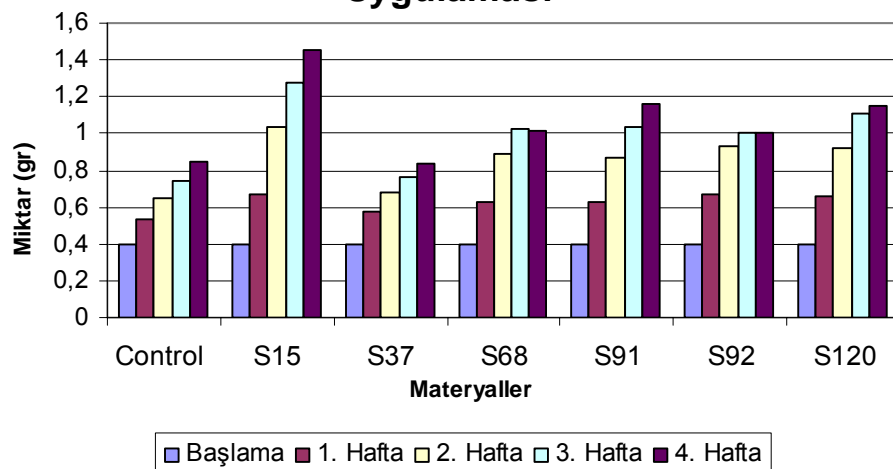


# TRANSGENIC WHEAT CALLUS TRANSFORMED WITH ALDOSE REDUCTASE

**Polyethylene Glycol  
Treatment  
(imitation of drought stress)  
4 weeks post treatment**



**200 mM PEG 6000 ile Osmotik Stres  
Uygulaması**

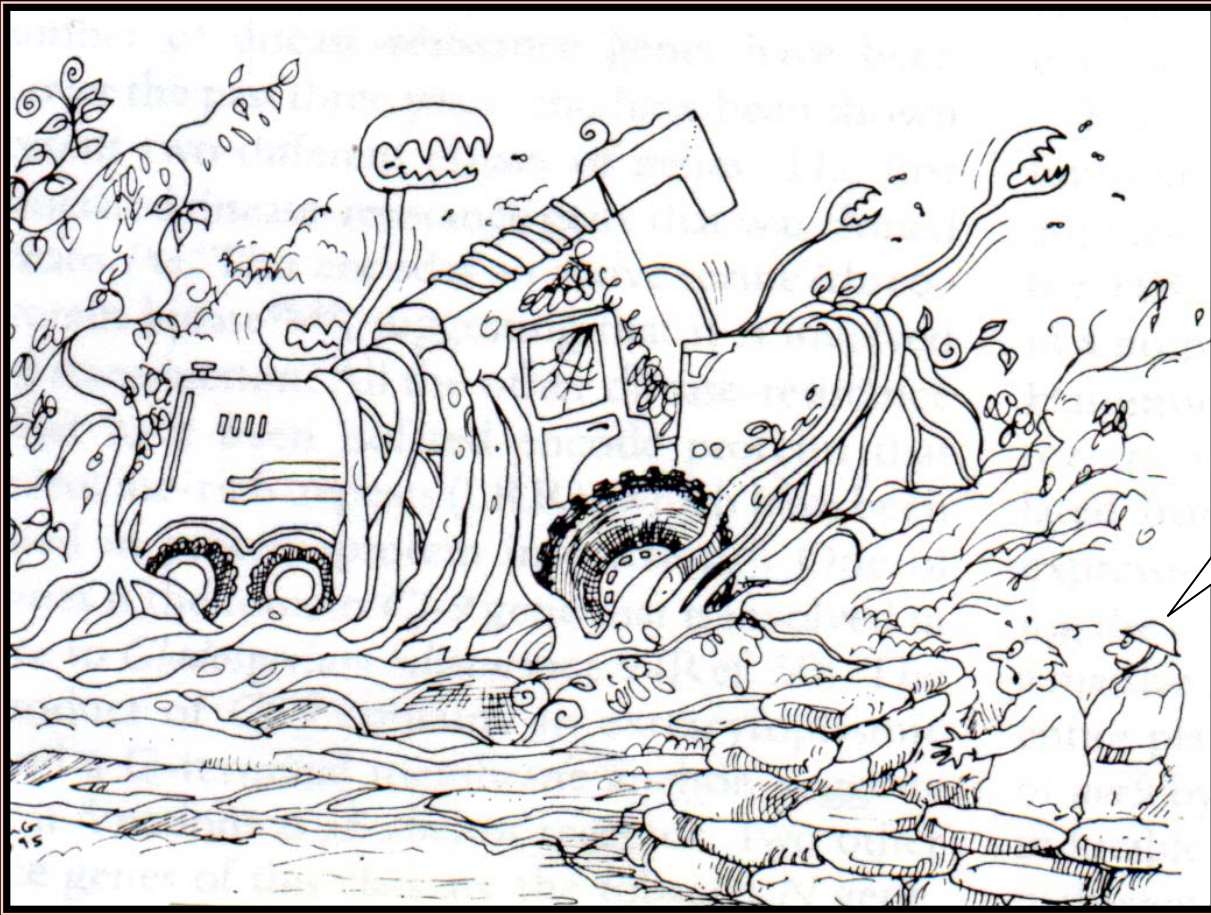


**Setenci F. et al. (2001) Unpublished**

# REGENERATED TRANSGENIC PLANTS







Introducing the  
**RAMBO** gene  
for total resistance  
may have been a  
mistake....

**Prof. Dr. Meral YÜCEL**  
**Prof. Dr. Hüseyin Avni ÖKTEM**  
**Dr. Füsün İNCİ EYİDOĞAN**  
**Dr. Fahriye ERTUĞRUL**  
**Mikail AKBULUT**  
**Serpil APAYDIN**  
**İrem KARAMOLLAOĞLU**  
**Feyza SELÇUK**  
**Çağla ALTUN**  
**Ufuk ÇELİKKOL**  
**İpek DURUSU**  
**Ebru BANDEOĞLU**  
**Simin TANSI**  
**Ebru KARABAL**  
**Hamdi KAMÇI**  
**Özgür ÇAKICI**  
**Beray GENÇSOY**  
**Elif BOYACI GENÇ**  
**Tarek EL-BASHITI**  
**Betül DEÇENİ**  
**Didem DEMİRBAŞ**  
**Tufan Öz**  
**Gözde Varana**



## **METU, Department of Biology, Plant Biotechnology Research Group**

