The immunolocalization of *Drosophila* IRBP-like protein in compound eyes and ocelli

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We found retinal binding protein(RALBP)-like protein in *Drosophila* visual system. The localization of the protein was analyzed by immunoelectronmicroscopy. Using anti-squid RALBP, *Drosophila* RALBP-like protein was immunolocalized to the central cavities of compound eyes and to interphotoreceptor spaces of ocelli. From these, the function of the *Drosophila* RALBP-like protein may be similar to the vertebrate interphotoreceptor retinoid binding protein(IRBP).

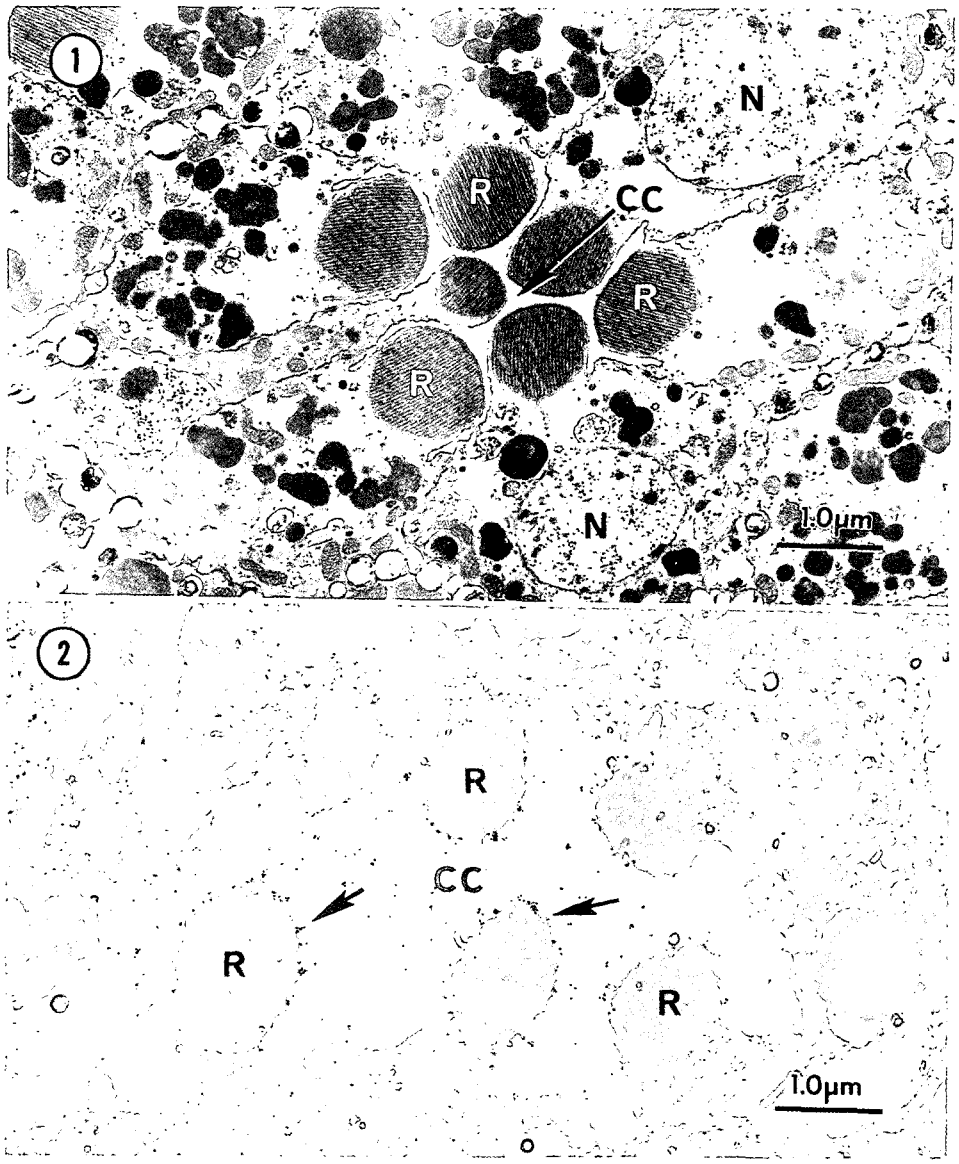
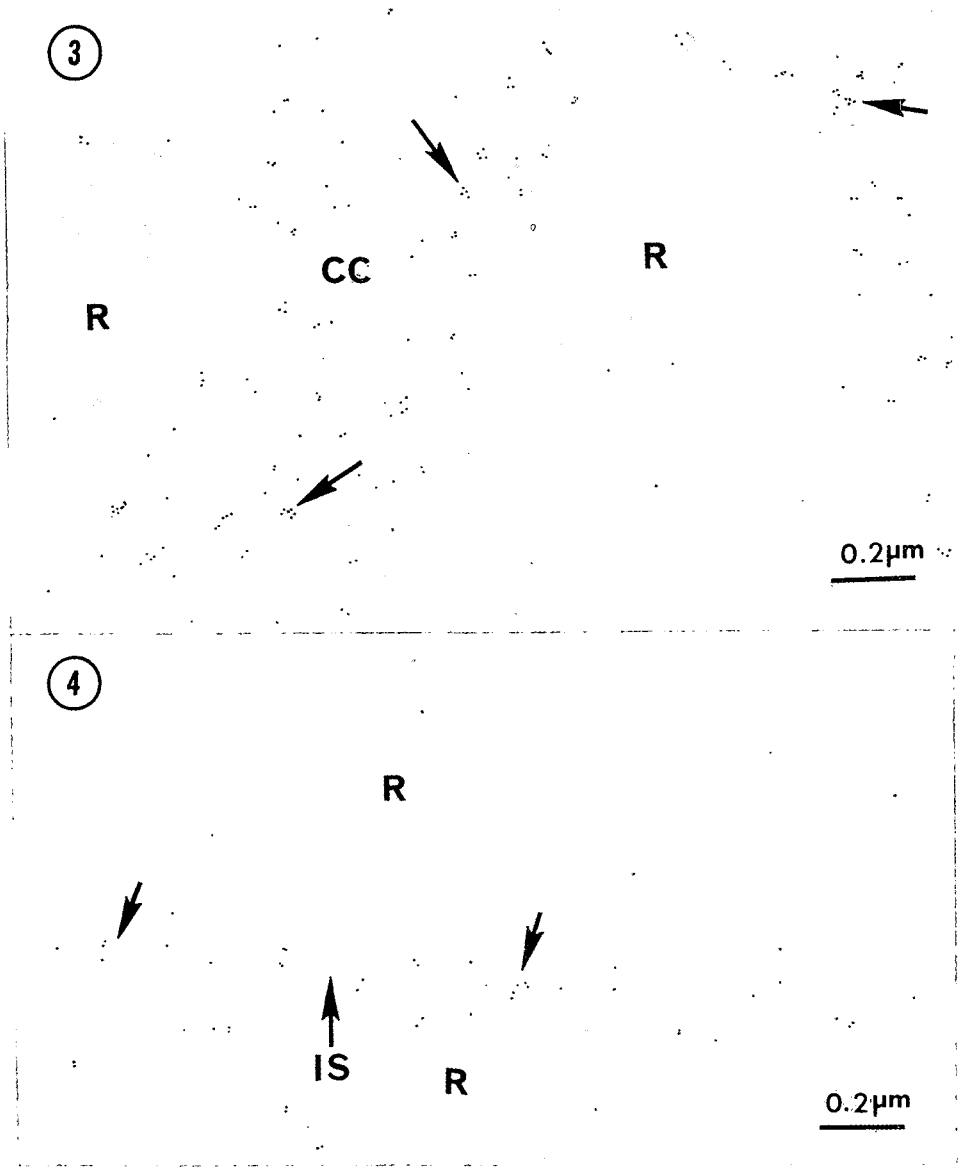


Fig.1 Conventional electron-micrograph of compound eye. Cross-sectioned ommatidia of normal *Drosophila* at level of nuclei of R1-R6 retinular cells. R(rhabdomeres), N(nuclei), CC(central cavity).

Fig.2 Pre-embedding NANOGOLD labeling. Silver-enhanced gold particles(Arrows) are accumulated in the central cavity(CC) of compound eye. R(rhabdomeres),



Figs.3 and 4 Post-embedding colloidal gold(10nm) labeling on LR White section.
Fig.3 In compound eye, note the accumulation of gold particles (Arrows) in the central cavity(CC),R(rhabdomeres). Fig.4 In ocellus, note the accumulation of gold particles(Arrows) in the interphotoreceptor space(IS), R(rhabdomeres).