

Glucose sensing and Signaling in the Cyanobacterium *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803

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The photosynthetic cyanobacterium *Synechocystis* sp. PCC6803 is chosen as a model organism for identifying general mechanisms and principles for glucose sensing and signaling. We have screened Transposon (Tn) 5 mutant strains provided from SMCC (*Synechocystis* Tn Mutant Culture Collection) with respect to dysfunction in glucose sensing/signaling by growth analysis, in vivo Chlorophyll fluorometry, in vivo far-red light spectroscopy and proteomics approaches. Among 1,935 Tn mutants screened, we selected 136 mutants with abnormal response to glucose and identified 37 genes/promoters by inverse-PCR. Currently, functional studies for 14 out of 37 genes identified are under the way using knock-outs/GFP-reporter mutants. In addition to the random approaches, we selected 56 genes by transcriptomics as well as bioinformatics.

Rice Histone Deacetylase: a Global Regulator in Gene Expression

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Histone deacetylases (HDACs) modulate chromatin structure and transcription. We isolated the rice *OsHDAC1*, 2, and 3 genes, which are related to the RPD3 family of histone deacetylases. Genomic structures and Southern blot analyses revealed that *OsHDAC1*, 2, and 3 contained 7, 6, and 7 exons, respectively, and constituted a class I-type family in the rice genome. *OsHDAC1* was expressed at similar levels in the leaves, roots, and callus cells, whereas *OsHDAC2* and 3 were expressed in the roots and callus cells, but not in the leaves, exhibiting distinct tissue specificity. To explore the role of histone deacetylases in transgenic plants, we inserted the *OsHDAC1* cDNA fragment into the expression vector *Ai::OsHDAC1* under the control of the ABA-inducible promoter *Ai*, and transformed the construct into rice. Levels of mRNA, protein, and HDAC activity were significantly increased in *Ai::OsHDAC1* callus cells. The amount of tetra-acetylated H4 in the transgenic cells was greatly reduced, and the reduction was abolished upon treatment with trichostatin A. These results demonstrate that *OsHDAC1* overexpression in transgenic cells both yields enzymatically active HDAC complexes and induces changes in histone acetylation in vivo. The overexpression leads to a range of novel phenotypes, involving increased growth rate and altered plant architecture, suggesting that *OsHDAC1* functions in the genome-wide programming of gene expression. Microarray results from 60K oligomer chip on *OsHDAC1* overexpressor will be discussed.

