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(54) Title: PLANT PROMOTERS, CODING SEQUENCES AND THEIR USES

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to materials and methods for the expression of a gene of interest in a particular tissue and for the modification of plant phenotype by preferential expression of a gene of interest in a particular tissue. In particular, the present invention relates to materials and methods for the expression of a gene of interest in endosperm and for modification of seed and/or fruit size in a plant and provides plant promoters active in endosperm and their uses.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2007/001051A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. C12N15/82

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, EMBASE, WPI Data, Sequence Search

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE EMBL Arabidopsis thaliana genomic DNA clone MQD22 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12), NAKAMURA Y.: XP002455199 retrieved from EBI Database accession no. AB013394; BA000015 abstract ----- -/--	1,2,4-6, 8,9, 12-17, 54-56



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2007/001051

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>STANGELAND B ET AL: "Isolation of GUS marker lines for genes expressed in Arabidopsis endosperm, embryo and maternal tissues"</p> <p>JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL BOTANY, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, GB, vol. 54, no. 381, January 2003 (2003-01), pages 279-290, XP002323831 ISSN: 0022-0957 abstract page 280, right-hand column, line 7 - line 11 page 281, left-hand column, line 15 - right-hand column, line 33 page 285, right-hand column, line 15 - page 287, right-hand column, line 48</p>	1,2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56
X	<p>BAUD SEBASTIEN ET AL: "The AtSUC5 sucrose transporter specifically expressed in the endosperm is involved in early seed development in Arabidopsis"</p> <p>PLANT JOURNAL, vol. 43, no. 6, September 2005 (2005-09), pages 824-836, XP002454931 ISSN: 0960-7412 abstract</p>	1,2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56
A	<p>FR 2 799 203 A1 (BIOGEMMA [FR]) 6 April 2001 (2001-04-06)</p> <p>the whole document</p>	1,2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56
A	<p>WO 98/08961 A (OLSEN ODD ARNE [NO]; DOAN DANNY N P [NO]; LINNESTAD CASPER [NO] OLSEN) 5 March 1998 (1998-03-05)</p> <p>the whole document</p>	1,2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56
X	<p>DATABASE EMBL Arabidopsis thaliana BAC clone T28J14 11 April 2000 (2000-04-11), BEVAN ET AL.: XP002464527 retrieved from EBI Database accession no. AL163652 abstract</p>	1,3-9, 11-17, 54-56

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2007/001051

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

1-56 (all partially)
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At546950 (SEQ ID NO: 1, 2 and 71). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

2. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At1g14520 (SEQ ID NO: 3 and 4). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

3. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At2g38900 (SEQ ID NO: 5 and 6). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

4. claims: 1, 3-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At5g07210 (SEQ ID NO: 7, 8 and 72). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

5. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At2g41000 (SEQ ID NO: 9 and 10). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

6. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At5g39260 (SEQ ID NO: 11 and 12). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

7. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene At1g62080 (SEQ ID NO: 13 and 14). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

8. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene CAE04313 (SEQ ID NO: 61). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

9. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD07668 (SEQ ID NO: 62). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

10. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD07661 (SEQ ID NO: 63). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

11. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD53821 (SEQ ID NO: 64). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

12. claims: 1-2, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene ABA98883 (SEQ ID NO: 65). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

13. claims: 1, 3-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD72541 (SEQ ID NO: 66). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

14. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD81150 (SEQ ID NO: 67). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

15. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene XP493787 (SEQ ID NO: 68). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

16. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene XP475418 (SEQ ID NO: 69). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

17. claims: 1, 4-10, 12-26, 28-56 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene BAD81125 (SEQ ID NO: 70). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

18. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 73 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

19. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 74 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

20. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 75 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

21. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 76 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

22. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 77 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

23. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 78 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

24. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 79 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

25. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 80 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

26. claims: 12-20, 23-25, 28-41, 43-45, 47-51, 54 (all partially)

An isolated nucleic acid comprising a promoter of the proliferative endosperm-expressed gene having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 81 (Brassica promoter sequence). An expression cassette for integration into a plant genome comprising such a nucleic acid, a host cell comprising such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. A method for promoting transcription of a heterologous gene in endosperm using such a nucleic acid or such an expression cassette. Use of said nucleic acid or said expression cassette for modifying seed size in a plant. Use of said nucleic acid for identifying a corresponding promoter sequence from plant.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No PCT/GB2007/001051

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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