Serbian Plant Physiology Society

Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", University of Belgrade

2nd International Conference on Plant Biology

21th Symposium of the Serbian Plant Physiology Society

COST ACTION FA1106 QUALITYFRUIT Workshop



Petnica Science Center, June 17-20, 2015

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The effect of long-term salt stress on different genotypes of the moss *Atrichum undulatum*

PP8-33

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The ancestor of bryophytes belongs to the first terrestrial plants. Thus, many of them exhibit a high degree of abiotic stress tolerance, which enables them to survive in the harsh environment. Different genotypes of the moss Atrichum undulatum were chosen and axenically grown in controlled in vitro conditions. The five genotypes were chosen from ecologically various sites across Europe. Clear genetic incongruence and dissimilarities were confirmed among accessions. The shoots were exposed to long-term (28 d) salt stress by addition of NaCl (0-500 mM) to the basal medium. Survival, indices of multiplication, secondary protonemal diameters, and biochemical parameters such as chlorophyll and carotenoid contents or chlorophyll a/b ratio clearly showed the differences among genotypes exposed to long term salt stress. These parameters proved Italian (highmountain) genotype to be the most resistant to long-term salt stress. Although the multiplication and emergence of new shoots decreased strongly with the increase of salt concentration in all genotypes, Hungarian and Italian genotypes at lower concentration of added salt developed the best (according to the numbers of new shoots appearing). Lower concentrations of salt in the media were also long-standing conditions for German and Italian genotypes. Biochemical parameters were not congruent with developmental ones. German genotype did not express significant variation in total, a, b and ratio of chlorophylls and carotenoid contents. The results obtained clearly showed that stress caused reaction is not equal and the same in all the representatives of species, and thus can be highlighted as genotype specific.

Keywords: bryophyte, abiotic stress, tolerance

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The effect of salt stress on yellow wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*) seed germination

PP8-34

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Blackstonia perfoliata (L.) Huds. belongs to the family Gentianaceae. Due to a high content of biologically active secondary metabolites (gentiopicrin, swertiamarin and sweroside) this species has been described as a possible substitute for *Centaurii Herba* – a bitter remedy for treatment of digestive system disorders. Yellow wort is widespread in European and African regions of the Mediterranean and in Western Europe, mainly on calcareous grasslands habitats and fixed sand dunes. Therefore, the environmental conditions such as salinity and osmotic stress are very important for the growth and development of this species. The germination re-

covery from salt stress conditions of three populations of *B. perfoliata* collected from different natural habitats was examined. Germination rate, germination velocity and rate of germination recovery were tested. Results showed that germination characteristics depended on NaCl pre-treatment and were population-specific. Increase in salt concentration inhibited seed germination and germination recovery rate. Additionally, seeds of *B. perfoliata* population collected from sandy locality of Vojvodina showed different germination pattern in comparison with seeds collected from saline habitat; salt treatment improved their germination rate, but also attenuated germination velocity response.

Keywords: salinity, stress, Blackstonia perfoliata, germination

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Volatile compounds of three *Nepeta* species inhibit seed germination, reduce seedling growth and induce oxidative stress in garden cress (*Lepidium sativum* L.)

PP8-35

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Phytotoxic effects of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from *Nepeta* species on agricultural and weed species have been previously demonstrated, and are usually attributed to iridoid monoterpenes nepetalactones. Here we studied the effect of VOCs of three endemic *Nepeta* species, differing in their qualitative nepetalactone content, on seed germination and seedling growth of garden cress (*Lepidium sativum* L.). Garden cress was exposed to the atmosphere enriched with VOCs released from the leaf surface of three *Nepeta* species. Identification of VOCs was performed by headspace GC-MS, while the concentrations of nepetalactone in the atmosphere of culture vessels were detected by PTR-MS. Volatiles released from *N. rtanjensis* and *N. sibirica* shoots reduced seed germination and inhibited seedling growth of garden cress. Phytotoxic effect of *N. rtanjensis* and *N. sibirica* originates from the dominant bioactive compound of these species – nepetalactone. Stereochemistry of nepetalactone considerably determines its phytotoxic potential, *trans,cis*- isomer is more active than the *cis,trans* nepetalactone. Phytotoxic effect of nepetalactone is reflected through its effect on biochemical processes that are the consequence of plants disturbed antioxidative system: the inhibition of activities and changed profiles of peroxidases, catalase, Fe- and Cu/Zn-superoxide dismutase isoforms were observed.

Keywords: phytotoxicity, peroxidase, catalase, Fe-superoxide dismutase, CuZn-superoxide dismutase

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