BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

3rd International C o n f e r e n c e on Plant Biology (22nd SPPS Meeting)



9-12 JUNE 2018 BELGRADE Serbian Plant Physiology Society

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

3rd International Conference on Plant Biology (22nd SPPS Meeting)



9-12 June 2018, Belgrade

СІР - Каталогизација у публикацији - Народна библиотека Србије, Београд 581(048)(0.034.2)

INTERNATIONAL Conference on Plant Biology (3 ; 2018 ; Belgrade)

[Book of Abstracts] [Електронски извор] / 3rd International Conference on Plant Biology [and] 22nd SPPS Meeting, 9-12 June 2018, Belgrade ; [organized by] Serbian Plant Physiology Society [and] Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", University of Belgrade [and] Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade ; [editor Branka Uzelac]. - Belgrade : Serbian Plant Physiology Society : University, Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković": University, Faculty of Biology, 2018 (Beograd : Društvo za fiziologiju biljaka Srbije). - 1 USB fleš memorija ; 1 x 3 x 8 cm

Tiraž 230. - Registar. ISBN 978-86-912591-4-3 (SPPS)

1. Društvo za fiziologiju biljaka Srbije. Sastanak (22 ; 2018 ; Beograd) 2. Institut za biološka istraživanja "Siniša Stanković" (Beograd) а) Ботаника - Апстракти

COBISS.SR-ID 264421900

3rd International Conference on Plant Biology (22nd SPPS Meeting) 9-12 June, Belgrade

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<u>Publishers</u>	Serbian Plant Physiology Society
	Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", University of Belgrade
	Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade
<u>Editor</u>	Branka Uzelac
<u>Graphic design</u>	Dejan Matekalo
<u>Prepress</u>	Marija G. Gray
Electronic edition	230 pcs

Suported by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia

Agrobacterium-mediated genetic transformation of Viola cornuta L. "Lutea Splendens" with capsanthin-capsorubin synthase gene

PP5-20

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Viola cornuta L. 'Lutea Splendens' is a perennial ornamental plant with small yellow flowers that naturally grows in the Pyrenees in Spain and France. To develop novel cultivars with orange and red flower colors, we performed *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (LBA4404)-mediated transformation with the binary vector pWBVec10a/P35S::Llccs::TNos that harbored capsanthin-capsorubin synthase (*Llccs*) gene from *Lilium lancifolium* under the control of CaMV35S constitutive promoter and the nopaline synthase (Nos) terminator. Capsanthin-capsorubin synthase catalyzes the conversion of anteraxanthin and violaxanthin, two yellow ubiquitous 5-6-epoxy-xanthophylls, into capsanthin and capsorubin, two red xanthophylls, respectively. Starting with hypocotyl explants, we developed a transformation protocol with 0.3% shoot regeneration efficiency. Histochemical assay for β -glucuronidase (GUS) activity showed *uidA* reporter gene expression in all putative *Llccs*-transgenic shoots. The presence of *Llccs* transgene, hygromycin phosphotransferase (*hpt*) selectable marker gene and *uidA* (GUS) reporter gene in all putative *Llccs*-transgenic lines were confirmed by PCR analysis. This is the first report on *Agrobacterium*-mediated genetic transformation of *V. cornuta* L. with the aim to introduce desirable traits into this species.

Keywords: horned pansy, flower color, capsanthin, capsorubin, carotenoid biosynthesis

This study was supported by the Grant No. TR31019 from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.

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A wild plant as rich source of biologically active components and potential supplements to food products

PP5-21

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Sambucus nigra L., commonly known as elderberry, is wild growing plant from Capriofoliaceae botanical family. This plant is widely recognized for its extraordinary biologically active components and beneficial effect on human health. Therefore, elderberry is one of the medicinal plants of particular interest, suitable for pharmaceutical and food purposes [1]. The investigation includ-