Special Issue

Function and Evolution of Ser/Arg-rich Proteins in Plants

Message from the Guest Editor

In alternative splicing, two or more mature mRNAs are generated from a single gene. In alternative splicing, this is achieved from the activation of different combinations of splice sites in the pre-mRNA. Alternative splicing of pre-mRNA is a major contributor to proteome diversity in eukaryotes. In plants, several abiotic stresses influence alternative splicing patterns, suggesting a functional role of alternative splicing in stress tolerance. The serine/arginine-rich proteins (SR proteins) are a conserved family of splicing regulators in eukaryotes. These RNA binding proteins are essential for alternative splicing. Further, the SR proteins themselves are subjects to extensive alternative splicing, indicating that alternative splicing is one of the mechanisms involved in regulating the levels of SR proteins in mosses as well as in flowering. SR proteins are also involved in several other aspects of the gene expression program, such as mRNA export and translational regulation in the cytoplasm. This Special Issue of *Plants* will highlight the evolution and the diverse functions of S/R proteins in the regulation of gene expression in plants.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Plants is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to plant function, its physiology, biology, taxonomy, stresses, and its interactions with other organisms. It publishes original research articles, reviews, reports, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. In original research papers, it is important that full experimental details are provided. We also encourage timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the plant research community.

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