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(71) Applicant: CALGENE LLC [US/US]; 1920 Fifth Street CA 95616 (US).	et, Dav	vis, (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 6 July 2000 (06.07.00)
(71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: MCBRIDE, Ke [US/US]; 1309 Marina Circle, Davis, CA 956 STAUB, Jeffrey, M. [US/US]; 819 "J" Foxsprin Chesterfield, MO 63017 (US).	16 (US	
(74) Agent: SCHWEDLER, Carl, J.; Patent Dept. Centre santo/G.D. Searle, P.O. Box 5110, Chicago, IL 606 (US).	•	
(54) Title: ENHANCER ELEMENTS FOR INCREASED	TRAN	NSLATION IN PLANT PLASTIDS

### (57) Abstract

Provided are methods for increasing the production of protein in a plant cell by transforming plastids of plant cells with a construct comprising a promoter functional in a plant plastid, a ribosome binding site, DNA sequence of interest and a transcription termination region, and growing plant cells comprising the transformed plastids under conditions wherein the DNA encoding sequence is transcribed in the plastid. Also provided are methods for increasing protein production by fusing a coding sequence to a gene of interest to a secondary protein for cleavage or targetting of the protein of interest within the plastid, whereby high levels of expression of protein is achieved.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N15/15 C12N15/18 C12N15/62 C12N15/54 C12N15/82 A01H5/00 A01H5/10 C12N5/10 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) IPC 7 C12N C07K A01H 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category o Relevant to claim No. WO 95 16783 A (CALGENE INC ; MCBRIDE KEVIN Χ 1-5,19, E (US); STALKER DAVID M (US)) 20 22 June 1995 (1995-06-22) cited in the application see esp. example 2 ff.; figure 2 WO 98 11235 A (CIBA GEIGY AG ; HEIFETZ χ 1-5,19, PETER (US); LEBEL EDOUARD (US); UKNES SCOTT) 19 March 1998 (1998-03-19) 20,22 see example C -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Х Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents "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 "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 "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone 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) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other, such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 19. 04 2000 17 January 2000 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Kania, T

Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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·	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
ategory °	Citation of document, with indication where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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	see example 4	
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International application No.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 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:
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:
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 II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
see additional sheet
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
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.:
4. X 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.:  2-5,7,8(completely); 1,6,19,20-27,35-39(partially)
Remark on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: 2-5,7,8 completely; 1,6,19,20-27,35-39 partially

A method for increasing the production of a protein in a plant cell, comprising transforming plastids of said plant cell with a construct comprising: a promoter functional in a plant plastid, a ribosome binding site, a DNA of interest and a transcription termination region, and growing said plant cells under appropriate conditions for transcription. The construct further comrising a selectable marker and flanking DNA regions of homology to the plastid genome. Said markers being one out of a selection as claimed, said ribosome binding site being from a leader sequence as claimed, preferably being the gene 10 leader RBS or the rbcLRBS. Said gene of interest encoding a gene conferring tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate, especially being an EPSPS gene out of the selection as claimed, either native or synthetic. The method wherein selection for said herbicide tolerance is made on media containing glyphosate at a concentration from at least about 50- about 200 micromolar, more preferably 1 millimolar.

A plant cell produced according to said method comprising about 1% or about 7%, respectively, or more of total soluble protein as said expressed protein.

A plant comprising said plant cell being tolerant to glyphosate, applied at a rate of at least 16 ounces, preferably 32 ounces, more preferably 64 ounces or greater per acre.

Plant cells, plants, seeds produced according to the said method.

2. Claims: 9-16 completely; 1,19,20,26,27 partially

A method for increasing the production of a protein in a plant cell, comprising transforming plastids of said plant cell with a construct comprising: a promoter functional in a plant plastid, a ribosome binding site, a DNA of interest and a transcription termination region, and growing said plant cells under appropriate conditions for transcription. Said gene of interest encoding a peptide derived from a eukaryotic organism other than a peptide of a plant plastid, preferably a mammalian peptide, more preferably selected from the group of interferons, monoclonal antibodies, hematopoeitic agents, pituitary hormones, thyroid hormones, hypothalamic hormones, albumins, pancreatic hormones, and proteinase inhibitors, exemplified by bGH, hGH, pBL, and aprotinin. Said gene being a native or a synthetic gene. A plant cell produced according to said method comprising about 1% or about 7%, respectively, or more of total soluble protein as said expressed protein. Plant cells, plants, seeds produced according to the said

method.

3. Claims: 17,18 completely; 1,6,19,20-27,35-39 partially

#### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

A method for increasing the production of a protein in a plant cell, comprising transforming plastids of said plant cell with a construct comprising: a promoter functional in a plant plastid, a ribosome binding site, a DNA of interest and a transcription termination region, and growing said plant cells under appropriate conditions for transcription. Said gene of interest encoding a gene conferring tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate, especially encoding a glyphosate-modifying enzyme selected from the group of gox, hph, glpA, and glpB, said gene being a native or a synthetic gene. The method wherein selection for said herbicide tolerance is made on media containing glyphosate at a concentration from at least about 50- about 200 micromolar, more preferably 1 millimolar. A plant cell produced according to said method comprising about 1% or about 7%, respectively, or more of total soluble protein as said expressed protein. A plant comprising said plant cell being tolerant to glyphosate, applied at a rate of at least 16 ounces, preferably 32 ounces, more preferably 64 ounces or greater

per acre.
Plant cells, plants, seeds produced according to the said method.

#### 4. Claims: 28-34 completely

A method for increasing the production of a protein in a plant cell, comprising transforming plastids of said plant cell with a construct comprising: a promoter functional in a plant plastid, a ribosome binding site, a transcription termination region, a coding sequence to a secondary protein fused to said DNA sequence of interest, and growing said plant cells under appropriate conditions for transcription. Said secondary protein optionally being the thylakoid-targetting terminus of cytochrome f, or the cleavable N-terminal portion of ubiquitin. Said method further comprising claeving said ubiquitin N-terminus from said eukaryotic peptide by harvesting said plant cells and exposing the contents of said transformed plastid to the cytosol of said plant cell. The method whereby expression from said DNA sequence of interest is enhanced, said sequence preferably encoding bioactive hGH.

....ormation on patent family members

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