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(54) Title: PLANTS WITH REDUCED ACTIVITY OF A STARCH PHOSPHORYLATING ENZYME

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to plant cells and plants, which are genetically modified, wherein the genetic modification leads to the reduction of the activity of a starch phosphorylating OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants that have not been genetically modified. Furthermore, the present invention relates to means and methods for the manufacture of such plant cells and plants. Plant cells and plants of this type synthesise a modified starch. The present invention therefore also relates to the starch synthesised by the plant cells and plants according to the invention, methods for the manufacture of this starch, and the manufacture of starch derivatives of this modified starch, as well as flours containing starches according to the invention. Furthermore, the present invention relates to nucleic acid molecules, which are suitable for manufacturing plants according to the invention.



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Plants with reduced activity of a starch phosphorylating enzyme

5 Description

The present invention relates to plant cells and plants, which are genetically modified, wherein the genetic modification leads to the reduction of the activity of a starch phosphorylating OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants that have not been genetically modified. Furthermore, the present invention relates to means and methods for the manufacture of such plant cells and plants. Plant cells and plants of this type synthesise a modified starch. The present invention therefore also relates to the starch synthesised by the plant cells and plants according to the invention, methods for the manufacture of this starch, and the manufacture of starch derivatives of this modified starch, as well as flours containing starches according to the invention.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to nucleic acid molecules, which are suitable for manufacturing plants according to the invention.

With regard to the increasing importance currently attributed to plant constituents as renewable raw material sources, one of the tasks of biotechnological research is to endeavour to adapt these plant raw materials to suit the requirements of the processing industry. Furthermore, in order to enable regenerating raw materials to be used in as many areas of application as possible, it is necessary to achieve a large variety of materials.

25

Polysaccharide starch is made up of chemically uniform base components, the glucose molecules, but constitutes a complex mixture of different molecule forms, which exhibit differences with regard to the degree of polymerisation and branching, and therefore differ strongly from one another in their physical-chemical

characteristics. Discrimination is made between amylose starch, an essentially unbranched polymer made from alpha-1,4-glycosidically linked glucose units, and the amylopectin starch, a branched polymer, in which the branches come about by the occurrence of additional alpha-1,6-glycosidic links. A further essential difference
5 between amylose and amylopectin lies in the molecular weight. While amylose, depending on the origin of the starch, has a molecular weight of $5 \times 10^5 - 10^6$ Da, that of the amylopectin lies between 10^7 and 10^8 Da. The two macromolecules can be differentiated by their molecular weight and their different physical-chemical characteristics, which can most easily be made visible by their different iodine
10 bonding characteristics.

Amylose has long been looked upon as a linear polymer, consisting of alpha-1,4-glycosidically linked alpha-D-glucose monomers. In more recent studies, however, the presence of alpha-1,6-glycosidic branching points (ca. 0.1%) has been shown
15 (Hizukuri and Takagi, Carbohydr. Res. 134, (1984), 1-10; Takeda et al., Carbohydr. Res. 132, (1984), 83-92).

The functional characteristics of starches, such as for example the solubility, the retrogradation behaviour, the water binding capacity, the film-forming characteristics,
20 the viscosity, the gelatinisation characteristics, the freezing-thawing stability, the acid stability, the gel strength and the size of the starch granule, are affected amongst other things by the amylose/amylopectin ratio, the molecular weight, the pattern of the side chain distribution, the ion concentration, the lipid and protein content, the average granule size of the starch, the granule morphology of the starch etc. The
25 functional characteristics of starch are also affected by the phosphate content, a non-carbon component of starch. Here, differentiation is made between phosphate, which is bonded covalently in the form of monoesters to the glucose molecules of the starch (described in the following as starch phosphate), and phosphate in the form of phospholipids associated with the starch.

The starch phosphate content varies depending on the type of plant. Therefore, certain maize mutants, for example, synthesise a starch with increased starch phosphate content (waxy maize 0.002% and high-amylose maize 0.013%), while conventional types of maize only have traces of starch phosphate. Similarly small amounts of starch phosphate are found in wheat (0.001%), while no evidence of starch phosphate has been found in oats and sorghum. Likewise, less starch phosphate has been found in rice mutants (waxy rice 0.003%) than in conventional types of rice (0.013%). Significant amounts of starch phosphate have been shown in plants, which synthesise tubers or root storage starch, such as tapioca (0.008%), sweet potato (0.011%), arrowroot (0.021%) or potato (0.089%) for example. The percentage values for the starch phosphate content quoted above refer to the dry weight of starch in each case, and have been determined by Jane et al. (1996, Cereal Foods World 41 (11), 827-832).

Starch phosphate can be present in the form of monoesters at the C-2, C-3 or C-6 position of polymerised glucose monomers (Takeda and Hizukuri, 1971, Starch/Stärke 23, 267-272). The phosphate distribution of the phosphate in starch synthesised by plants is generally distinguished by the fact that about 30% to 40% of the phosphate residues are bonded covalently in the C-3 position and about 60% to 70% of the phosphate residues are bonded covalently in the C-6 position of the glucose molecules (Blennow et al., 2000, Int. J. of Biological Macromolecules 27, 211-218). Blennow et al. (2000, Carbohydrate Polymers 41, 163-174) have determined a starch phosphate content, which is bonded in the C-6 position of the glucose molecules, for different starches such as, for example, potato starch (between 7.8 and 33.5 nMol per mg of starch, depending on the type), starch from different *Curcuma* species (between 1.8 and 63 nMol per mg), tapioca starch (2.5 nMol per mg of starch), rice starch (1.0 nMol per mg of starch), mung bean starch (3.5 nMol per mg of starch) and sorghum starch (0.9 nMol per mg of starch). These authors have been unable to show any starch phosphate bonded at the C-6 position in barley starch and starches from different waxy mutants of maize. Up to now, it has not been possible to establish a connection between the genotype of a plant and the starch phosphate content (Jane et al., 1996, Cereal Foods World 41 (11), 827-832).

It is therefore currently only possible to affect the starch phosphate content in plants by means of breeding measures.

Previously, only one protein has been described, which facilitates the introduction of
5 covalent bonds of phosphate residues to the glucose molecules of starch. This protein has the enzymatic activity of an alpha-glucan-water dikinase (GWD, E.C.: 2.7.9.4) (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171), is frequently described in the literature as R1, and is bonded to the starch granules of the storage starch in potato tubers (Lorberth et al., 1998, Nature Biotechnology 16, 473-477). In the reaction
10 catalysed by R1, the educts alpha-1,4-glucan (starch), adenosintriphosphate (ATP) and water are converted to the products glucan-phosphate (starch phosphate), monophosphate and adenosine monophosphate. In doing so, the residual gamma phosphate of the ATP is transferred to water, and the residual beta phosphate of the ATP is transferred to the glucan (starch). R1 transfers the residual beta phosphate of
15 ATP to the C-6 and the C-3 position of the glucose molecules of alpha-1,4-glucans *in vitro*. The ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate, which is obtained in the *in vitro* reaction, is the same as the ratio, which is present in starch isolated from plants (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171). As about 70% of the starch phosphate present in potato starch is bonded to the glucose monomers of the starch in the C-6
20 position and about 30% in the C-3 position, this means that R1 preferably phosphorylates the C-6 position of the glucose molecules. Furthermore, it has been shown that by the use of amylopectin from maize, amongst other things, R1 can phosphorylate alpha-1,4-glucans, which do not yet contain covalently bonded phosphate (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171), i.e. R1 is able to introduce
25 phosphate *de novo* into alpha-1,4-glucans.

Nucleic acid sequences, and the amino acid sequences corresponding to them, coding an R1 protein, are described from different species, such as, for example, potato (WO 97 11188, GenBank Acc.: AY027522, Y09533), wheat (WO 00 77229,
30 US 6,462,256, GenBank Acc.: AAN93923, GenBank Acc.: AR236165), rice (GenBank Acc.: AAR61445, GenBank Acc.: AR400814), maize (GenBank Acc.: AAR61444, GenBank Acc.: AR400813), soya bean (GenBank Acc.: AAR61446,

GenBank Acc.: AR400815), citrus (GenBank Acc.: AY094062) and *Arabidopsis* (GenBank Acc.: AF312027).

Plants, which exhibit a reduced activity of an R1 protein, are described, for example,
5 by Lorberth et al. (1998, Nature Biotechnology 16, 473-477) and in WO 97 11188.
Starches, which have been isolated from these plants, which exhibit a reduced
activity of an R1 protein, have significantly reduced amounts of starch phosphate.

Further proteins, which catalyse a reaction, which introduce covalently bonded
10 phosphate groups into the starch, have not previously been described. Enzymes,
which preferably introduce phosphate groups in the C-3 position and/or the C-2
position of the glucose molecules of starch, are also unknown. Apart from the
reduction of the starch phosphate content in plants, there are therefore also no
available ways of specifically influencing the phosphorylation of starch in plants, of
15 modifying the phosphate distribution within the starch synthesised by plants and/or of
further reducing the starch phosphate content.

The object of the present invention is therefore based on providing modified starches
with reduced phosphate content and/or modified phosphate distribution, as well as
20 plant cells and/or plants, which synthesise such a modified starch, as well as means
and methods for producing said plants and/or plant cells.

The present invention therefore relates to genetically modified plant cells and
genetically modified plants, characterised in that they have a reduced activity of at
25 least one OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells or wild
type plants that have not been genetically modified.

At the same time, the genetic modification can be any genetic modification, which
leads to a reduction of the activity of at least one OK1 protein in comparison with

corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants that have not been genetically modified.

Plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein, have a high starch (starch
5 excess) phenotype. Furthermore, plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1
protein, exhibit normal growth in comparison with wild type plants, i.e. the plants are
not restricted in their growth by the reduced activity of an OK1 protein. Plants, which
have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein, are therefore suitable for cultivation in
agriculture, as they contain more starch and therefore more carbohydrate and, at the
10 same time, do not exhibit a restricted growth rate.

The present invention therefore also relates to plant cells and plants according to the
invention, which have a high starch phenotype. At the end of the dark phase, plant
cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention have at least
two times, preferably at least four times, particularly preferably at least six times and
15 especially preferably at least eight times more starch in their leaves than
corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively.

At the end of the light phase, plant cells according to the invention and plants
according to the invention have at least 1.2 times, preferably at least 1.5 times,
particularly preferably at least 1.8 times and especially preferably at least two times
20 more starch in their leaves than corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants
respectively.

Furthermore, plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein, have a
modified ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate, which is bonded to the starch.
25 Surprisingly, it has been found that plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1
protein, have approximately just as much C-3 phosphate in their leaf starch bonded
to the starch as corresponding wild type plants that have not been genetically
modified. However, starch isolated from plants, which have a reduced activity of an
OK1 protein, in absolute terms contains more phosphate bonded in the C-6 position
30 of the starch than starch isolated from wild type plants that have not been genetically
modified.

A further subject of the present invention therefore relates to plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention, which have a modified ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to the starch in comparison with starch
5 isolated from wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively that have not been genetically modified. Preferably, the ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to the starch is increased. The increase of the ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to starch is preferably at least 5%, more preferably at least 10%, particularly preferably at least 20% and especially preferably at least 30%.

10

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "wild type plant cell" means that the plant cells concerned were used as starting material for the manufacture of the plant cells according to the invention, i.e. their genetic information, apart from the introduced genetic modification, corresponds to that of a plant cell according to the
15 invention.

15

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "wild type plant" means that the plants concerned were used as starting material for the manufacture of the plants according to the invention, i.e. their genetic information, apart from the introduced
20 genetic modification, corresponds to that of a plant according to the invention.

20

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "corresponding" means that, in the comparison of several objects, the objects concerned that are compared with one another have been kept under the same conditions. In conjunction with the present
25 invention, the term "corresponding" in conjunction with wild type plant cell or wild type plant means that the plant cells or plants, which are compared with one another, have been raised under the same cultivation conditions and that they have the same (cultivation) age.

25

In an embodiment of the present invention, the genetic modification of the plant cells according to the invention or the plants according to the invention is brought about by mutagenesis of one or more genes. The type of mutation is not important, as long as it leads to a reduction in the activity of an OK1 protein.

5

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "mutagenesis" is to be understood to mean any type of introduced mutation, such as deletions, point mutations (nucleotide exchanges), insertions, inversions, gene conversions or chromosome translocations, for example.

10

Here, the mutation, which leads to the reduction of the activity of at least one endogenous OK1 protein, can be produced by the use of chemical substances or energy-rich radiation (e.g. x-rays, neutron radiation, gamma radiation or UV radiation).

- 15 Chemical substances, which can be used to produce chemically induced mutations, and the mutations resulting from the effect of the corresponding mutagens are, for example described in Ehrenberg and Husain, 1981, (Mutation Research 86, 1-113), Müller, 1972 (Biologisches Zentralblatt 91 (1), 31-48). The production of rice mutants using gamma radiation, ethyl methane sulphonate (EMS), N-methyl-N-nitrosurea or
- 20 sodium azide (NaN_3) is described, for example, in Jauhar and Siddiq (1999, Indian Journal of Genetics, 59 (1), 23-28), in Rao (1977, Cytologica 42, 443-450), Gupta and Sharma (1990, Oryza 27, 217-219) and Satoh and Omura (1981, Japanese Journal of Breeding 31 (3), 316-326). The production of wheat mutants using NaN_3 or maleic hydrazide is described in Arora et al. (1992, Annals of Biology 8 (1), 65-69).
- 25 An overview of the production of wheat mutants using different types of energy-rich radiation and chemical substances is presented in Scarascia-Mugnozza et al. (1993, Mutation Breeding Review 10, 1-28). Svec et al. (1998, Cereal Research Communications 26 (4), 391-396) describes the use of N-ethyl-N-nitrosurea for producing mutations in triticals. The use of MMS (methyl methane sulphonic acid)
- 30 and gamma radiation for the production of millet mutants is described in Shashidhara et al. (1990, Journal of Maharashtra Agricultural Universities 15 (1), 20-23).

The manufacture of mutants in plant species, which mainly propagate vegetatively, has been described, for example, for potatoes, which produce a modified starch (Hovenkamp-Hermelink et al. (1987, Theoretical and Applied Genetics 75, 217-221) and for mint with increased oil yield or modified oil quality (Dwivedi et al., 2000, Journal of Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Sciences 22, 460-463).

All these methods are basically suitable for manufacturing the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention.

10 Mutations in the appropriate genes, in particular in genes coding an OK1 protein, can be found with the help of methods known to the person skilled in the art. In particular, analyses based on hybridisations with probes (Southern Blot), amplification by means of polymerase chain reaction (PCR), sequencing of related genomic sequences and the search for individual nucleotide exchanges can be used for this purpose. A method of identifying mutations based on hybridisation patterns is, for example, the search for restriction fragment length differences (Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism, RFLP) (Nam et al., 1989, The Plant Cell 1, 699-705; Leister and Dean, 1993, The Plant Journal 4 (4), 745-750). A method based on PCR is, for example, the analysis of amplified fragment length differences (Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism, AFLP) (Castiglioni et al., 1998, Genetics 149, 2039-2056; Meksem et al., 2001, Molecular Genetics and Genomics 265, 207-214; Meyer et al., 1998, Molecular and General Genetics 259, 150-160). The use of amplified fragments excised with restriction endonucleases (Cleaved Amplified Polymorphic Sequences, CAPS) can also be used upon for the identification of mutations (Konieczny and Ausubel, 1993, The Plant Journal 4, 403-410; Jarvis et al., 1994, Plant Molecular Biology 24, 685-687; Bachem et al., 1996, The Plant Journal 9 (5), 745-753). Methods for the determination of SNPs have been described by Qi et al. (2001, Nucleic Acids Research 29 (22), e116) Drenkard et al. (2000, Plant Physiology 124, 1483-1492) and Cho et al. (1999, Nature Genetics 23, 203-207) amongst others. Methods, which allow several plants to be investigated for mutations in certain genes in a short time, are particularly suitable. Such a method, so-called

TILLING (Targetting Induced Local Lesions IN Genomes), has been described by McCallum et al. (2000, Plant Physiology 123, 439-442).

These methods are basically suitable for identifying plant cells according to the
5 invention and plants according to the invention.

Hoogkamp et al. (2000, Potato Research 43, 179-189) have manufactured stable
monoploid mutants starting from a potato mutant (*amf*), which was manufactured by
means of chemical mutagens. These plants do not synthesise any more active
10 enzyme for a starch synthesis connected to the starch granule (GBSS I) and
therefore produce an amylose-free starch. The monoploid potato plants obtained can
be used as starting material for further mutageneses in order to identify plants, which
synthesise a starch with modified characteristics. The plant cells according to the
invention and plants according to the invention, which produce a starch according to
15 the invention, can be identified and isolated by appropriate methods.

The plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention
have a reduction of the activity of at least one OK1 protein in comparison with
corresponding wild type plant cells and wild type plants respectively that have not
20 been genetically modified.

Here, within the framework of the present invention, the term "reduction of activity"
means a reduction in the expression of endogenous genes, which code OK1
proteins, and/or a reduction in the quantity of OK1 protein in the plant cells and/or a
25 reduction in the enzymatic activity of OK1 protein in the plant cells.

The reduction in the expression can, for example, be determined by measuring the
quantity of transcripts coding OK1 protein, e.g. using Northern blot analysis or RT-
PCR. Here, a reduction preferably means a reduction in the amount of transcripts in
30 comparison with corresponding plant cells that have not been genetically modified by

at least 50%, in particular by at least 70%, preferably by at least 85% and particularly preferably by at least 95%.

The reduction in the amount of OK1 protein, which results in a reduced activity of this protein in the plant cells concerned, can, for example, be determined by immunological methods such as Western blot analysis, ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay) or RIA (Radio Immune Assay). Here, a reduction preferably means a reduction in the amount of OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding plant cells that have not been genetically modified by at least 50%, in particular by at least 70%, preferably by at least 85% and particularly preferably by at least 95%.

Methods for manufacturing antibodies, which react specifically with a certain protein, i.e., which bond specifically to said protein, are known to the person skilled in the art (see, for example, Lottspeich and Zorbas (Eds.), 1998, Bioanalytik, Spektrum akad, Verlag, Heidelberg, Berlin, ISBN 3-8274-0041-4). The manufacture of such antibodies is offered by some companies (e.g. Eurogentec, Belgium) as a contract service. A possible way of manufacturing antibodies, which specifically react with an OK1 protein, is described below (see Example 10).

Within the framework of the present invention, the term "OK1 protein" is to be understood to mean a protein, which transfers a phosphate residue of ATP onto already phosphorylated starch (P-starch). Starches isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant have no detectable amounts of covalently bonded phosphate residues and are not phosphorylated by an OK1 protein, i.e. an OK1 protein according to the invention requires already phosphorylated starch as a substrate for transferring further phosphate residues.

Preferably, the residual beta phosphate of the ATP is transferred from an OK1 protein to the starch, and the residual gamma phosphate of the ATP is transferred to water. A further reaction product produced by a phosphorylating reaction of P-starch carried out using an OK1 protein is AMP (adenosine monophosphate). An OK1

protein is therefore described as [phosphorylated-alpha-1,4-glucan]-water-dikinase ([P-alpha-1,4-glucan]-water-dikinase) or as [phosphorylated-starch]-water-dikinase.

Preferably, an additional phosphate monoester bond is produced in the C-6 position and/or in the C-3 position of a glucose molecule of the P-starch, which is
5 phosphorylated by an OK1 protein. In the phosphorylation of P-starch catalysed by an OK1 protein, it is particularly preferred if more additional phosphate monoester bonds are produced in the C-3 position in comparison with phosphate monoester bonds in the C-6 position of the glucose molecules of the P-starch concerned.

Amino acid sequences, which code OK1 proteins, contain a phosphohistidine
10 domain. Phosphohistidine domains are described, for example, by Tien-Shin Yu et al. (2001, Plant Cell 13, 1907-1918). Preferably, phosphohistidine domains of amino acids coding OK1 proteins contain two histidines.

In the catalysis of a phosphorylating reaction of a P-starch by means of an OK1 protein, a phosphorylated OK1 protein is produced as an intermediate product, in
15 which a phosphate residue of ATP is covalently bonded to an amino acid of the OK1 protein. The intermediate product is produced by autophosphorylation of the OK1 protein, i.e. the OK1 protein itself catalyses the reaction, which leads to the intermediate product. Preferably, a histidine residue of the amino acid sequence coding an OK1 protein is phosphorylated as a result of the autophosphorylation
20 process, particularly preferably a histidine residue, which is part of a phosphohistidine domain.

Furthermore, OK1 proteins according to the invention have an increased bonding activity to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starches.

25 As no enzymes have previously been described, which require P-starch as a substrate in order to phosphorylate them further, and which preferably phosphorylate the C-3 position of the glucose molecules of starch, it has also previously not been possible to influence the distribution of starch phosphate in starch. The clarification of the function of an OK1 protein, and thus the provision of an OK1 protein, leads to the
30 fact that plants can now be genetically modified in such a way that they synthesise a starch with modified characteristics. The modification of the phosphate distribution in

starch synthesised by plants was previously not possible due to the lack of available means. Due to the provision by the present invention of proteins and nucleic acids according to the invention, it is now also possible to modify the phosphate ratio in native starch.

5

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "increased bonding activity" is to be understood to mean an increased affinity of a protein to a first substrate in comparison with a second substrate. That is to say, the amount of protein, which, under the same incubation conditions, bonds to a first substrate to a greater extent in
10 comparison with a second substrate, exhibits increased bonding activity to the first substrate.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "starch phosphate" is to be understood to mean phosphate groups covalently bonded to the glucose molecules
15 of starch.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "non-phosphorylated starch" is to be understood to mean a starch, which does not contain any detectable amounts of starch phosphate. Different methods of determining the amount of starch phosphate
20 are described. Preferably, the method of determining the amount of starch phosphate described by Ritte et al. (2000, Starch/Stärke 52, 179-185) can be used. Particularly preferably, the determination of the amount of starch phosphate by means of ³¹P-NMR is carried out according to the method described by Kasemusuwan and Jane (1996, Cereal Chemistry 73, 702-707).

25

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "phosphorylated starch" or "P-starch" is to be understood to mean a starch, which contains starch phosphate.

The activity of an OK1 protein can be demonstrated, for example, by *in vitro*
30 incubation of an OK1 protein using ATP, which contains a labelled phosphate residue

in the beta position (labeled ATP). ATP is to be preferred, in which the phosphate residue is specifically labeled in the beta position, i.e. in which only the phosphate residue in the beta position carries a label. Preferably radioactively labeled ATP, particularly preferably ATP, in which the phosphate residue is specifically
5 radioactively labeled in the beta position, and especially preferably ATP, in which the phosphate residue is specifically labeled with ^{33}P in the beta position, is used. If an OK1 protein is incubated with labeled ATP and starches, which are not phosphorylated, no phosphate is transferred to the starch due to OK1. Preferably, leaf starch of *Arabidopsis thaliana* mutant *sex1-3* (Tien-Shin Yu et al., 2001, Plant
10 Cell 13, 1907-1918) is used.

If, on the other hand, an OK1 protein with P-starch is incubated in the presence of labeled ATP, then labeled phosphate covalently bonded to the P-starch can subsequently be shown. Preferably, starch from leaves of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, particularly preferably starch from *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutants enzymatically
15 phosphorylated by means of an R1 protein (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171) is used.

Labeled phosphate residues, which have been incorporated in P-starch due to an OK1 protein, e.g. by separating the labeled P-starch (e.g. by precipitation with ethanol, filtration, chromatographic methods etc.) from the rest of the reaction mixture
20 and subsequently detecting the labeled phosphate residue in the P-starch fraction, can be shown. At the same time, the labeled phosphate residues bonded in the P-starch fraction can be demonstrated, for example, by determining the amount of radioactivity present in the P-starch fraction (e.g. by means of scintillation counters). Possible methods for demonstrating a protein, which requires P-starch as a substrate
25 for a phosphorylating reaction, are described below under General Methods, Item 11 and in Example 6.

Which positions of the carbon atoms (C-2, C-3 or C-6) of the glucose monomers in P-starch are preferably phosphorylated by an OK1 protein can be determined, for
30 example, by analysing the P-starches phosphorylated by a protein, as described by Ritte et al. (2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171). For this purpose, a P-starch phosphorylated

by a protein is hydrolysed using an acid, and subsequently analysed by means of anion exchange chromatography.

Preferably, the P-starch phosphorylated by an OK1 protein is analysed by means of NMR in order to establish which positions of the carbon atoms (C-2, C-3 or C-6) of the glucose monomers in the P-starch are phosphorylated. A particularly preferred method for identifying the C-atom positions of a glucose molecule of a starch, which are phosphorylated by a reaction catalysed by an OK1 protein, is described below under General Methods, Item 13.

- 10 A phosphorylated protein, which is produced as an intermediate product in the phosphorylation of P-starch facilitated by an OK1 protein, can be demonstrated as described, for example, by Ritte et al. (2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171) for an R1 protein.

To demonstrate the presence of an autophosphorylated intermediate product, an OK1 protein is first incubated in the absence of starch with labeled ATP, preferably with ATP specifically labeled in the beta phosphate position, particularly preferably with ATP specifically labeled with ^{33}P in the beta phosphate position. In parallel with this, a reaction preparation 2, which instead of labeled ATP contains corresponding amounts of non-labeled ATP however, is incubated under otherwise identical conditions. Subsequently, non-labeled ATP is added to the reaction mixture 1 in the supernatant, and a mixture of non-labeled ATP and labeled ATP (the same amount of labeled ATP as used previously in reaction mixture 1 and the same amount of non-labeled ATP as added to reaction mixture 1 in the supernatant) is added to reaction mixture 2 and further incubated before P-starch is added to a Part A of reaction mixture 1 (Part 1A) or to a part A of reaction mixture 2 (Part 2A) respectively. The reaction in the remaining Part 1B and Part 2B of the reaction mixture is stopped by denaturing the protein. Part B of the reaction mixture can be stopped by the methods known to the person skilled in the art, which lead to the denaturing of proteins, preferably by adding sodium lauryl sulphate (SDS). Part 1A & Part 2A of the reaction mixture are incubated for at least a further 10 minutes before these reactions are also stopped. The starch present in Part A and Part B of the respective reaction mixture is

separated from the remainder of the reaction mixture. If the respective starch is separated by centrifugation, for example, then, on completion of centrifugation, the starch of the respective Part A or Part B of the reaction mixture is to be found in the sedimented pellet, and the proteins in the respective reaction mixture are to be found in the supernatant of the respective centrifugation. The supernatant of Part 1A or 2A respectively and Part 1B or 2B respectively of the reaction mixture can subsequently be analysed by denaturing acrylamide gel electrophoresis, for example, followed by autoradiography of the acrylamide gel obtained. To quantify the amount of radioactively labeled proteins, which have been separated by means of acrylamide gel electrophoresis, the so-called "phospho-imaging" method, for example, known to the person skilled in the art, can be used. If the autoradiography or the analysis by means of the "phospho-imager" of proteins in the centrifugation supernatant of Part B of reaction mixture 1 shows a significantly increased signal compared with the centrifugation supernatant of Part A of reaction mixture 1, then this shows that a protein facilitating a phosphorylation of starch occurs as an autophosphorylated intermediate product. Parts A and B of reaction mixture 2 serve as a control and should therefore not exhibit a significantly increased signal in the centrifugation supernatant in the autoradiography or in the analysis by means of the "phospho-imager".

In addition, the starch of the respective Part A of reaction mixture 1 and 2 remaining in the respective sedimented pellet can be investigated, if necessary after subsequent washing of the respective starches, for the presence of starch phosphate, which has a label corresponding to the labeled ATP used. If the starches of Part A of reaction mixture 1 contain labeled phosphate residues, and if the autoradiography of the centrifugation supernatant of Part B of reaction mixture 1 shows a significantly increased signal in the autoradiography compared with the centrifugation supernatant of Part A of reaction mixture 1, then this shows that a phosphorylation of starch-facilitating protein is present as an autophosphorylated intermediate product. Parts A and B of reaction mixture 2 serve as a control and should therefore not exhibit a significantly increased signal for alpha-1,4-glucans labeled with ^{33}P in the sedimented pellet containing alpha-1,4-glucans. Possible

methods for demonstrating a phosphorylated OK1 protein intermediate product are described below under General Methods, Item 12 and in Example 7.

That an OK1 protein has an increased bonding activity to a P-starch compared with non-phosphorylated starch can be demonstrated by incubating the OK1 protein with P-starch and non-phosphorylated starch in separate preparations.

All non-phosphorylated starches are basically suitable for incubating OK1 proteins with non-phosphorylated starch. Preferably, a non-phosphorylated plant starch, particularly preferably wheat starch, and especially preferably granular leaf starch of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* mutant *sex1-3* is used.

Methods for isolating starch from plants, for example, are known to the person skilled in the art. All methods known to the person skilled in the art are basically suitable for isolating non-phosphorylated starch from appropriate plant species. Preferably, the methods for isolating non-phosphorylated alpha-1,4-glucans described below are used (see General Methods Item 2).

All starches, which contain starch phosphate, are basically suitable for incubating OK1 proteins with P-starch. Chemically phosphorylated starches can also be used for this purpose. Preferably, P-starches are used for the incubation with OK1 proteins, particularly preferably a retrospectively enzymatically phosphorylated plant starch, especially preferably a retrospectively enzymatically phosphorylated plant starch, which has been isolated from a *sex-1* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

To demonstrate an increased bonding activity of OK1 proteins to P-starch compared with non-phosphorylated starch, OK1 proteins are incubated in separate preparations with P-starch (Preparation A) and with non-phosphorylated starch (Preparation B). On completion of the incubation, the proteins, which are not bonded to the respective starches of Preparations A and B, are separated from the starches and from the proteins bonded to them. The bond between the proteins and the P-starch in Preparation A and the bond between the proteins and non-phosphorylated starch in

Preparation B are subsequently removed, i.e. the respective proteins are dissolved. The dissolved proteins of Preparation A and Preparation B can then be separated from the starches concerned, which are present in the respective preparations. Following this, the isolated P-starch bonding proteins of Preparation A and the
5 isolated non-phosphorylated starch bonding proteins of Preparation B can be separated with the help of methods known to the person skilled in the art such as, for example, gel filtration, chromatographic methods, electrophoresis, SDS acrylamide gel electrophoresis etc. By comparing the amounts of separated proteins of Preparation A with the amounts of corresponding separated proteins of Preparation
10 B, it can be determined whether a protein has an increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch compared with non-phosphorylated starch. Methods, which can be used to demonstrate a preferred bonding of proteins to P-starch compared with non-phosphorylated starch, are described below in Example 6.

15 The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2 codes an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 4 codes an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*.

In a further embodiment of the present invention, amino acid sequences coding an
20 OK1 protein have an identity of at least 60% with the sequence specified in SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4, in particular of at least 70%, preferably of at least 80% and particularly preferably of at least 90% and especially preferably of at least 95%.

In a further embodiment of the present invention, the OK1 protein has a
25 phosphohistidine domain (Tien-Shin Yu et al., 2001, Plant Cell 13, 1907-1918). Amino acid sequences coding OK1 proteins contain a phosphohistidine domain, which has an identity of at least 50% with the amino acid sequence of the phosphohistidine domain of the OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and *Oryza sativa* specified under SEQ ID NO 5, in particular of at least 60%, preferably of at
30 least 70% and particularly preferably of at least 80% and especially preferably of at least 90%.

In a further embodiment the present invention relates to an OK1 protein, which has a phosphohistidine domain. The phosphohistidine domain preferably contains two histidine residues.

5

A further embodiment of the present invention relates to a genetically modified plant cell according to the invention or a genetically modified plant according to the invention, wherein the genetic modification consists in the introduction of at least one foreign nucleic acid molecule into the genome of the plant.

10

In this context, the term "genetic modification" means the introduction of homologous and/or heterologous foreign nucleic acid molecules into the genome of a plant cell or into the genome of a plant, wherein said introduction of these molecules leads to a reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein.

15 The plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention are modified with regard to their genetic information by the introduction of a foreign nucleic acid molecule. The presence or the expression of the foreign nucleic acid molecule leads to a phenotypic change. Here, "phenotypic change" means preferably a measurable change of one or more functions of the cells. For example, the
20 genetically modified plant cells according to the invention and the genetically modified plants according to the invention exhibit a reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein due to the presence or on the expression of the introduced nucleic acid molecule.

25 In conjunction with the present invention, the term "foreign nucleic acid molecule" is understood to mean such a molecule that either does not occur naturally in the corresponding wild type plant cells, or that does not occur naturally in the concrete spatial arrangement in wild type plant cells, or that is localised at a place in the genome of the wild type plant cell at which it does not occur naturally. Preferably, the
30 foreign nucleic acid molecule is a recombinant molecule, which consists of different

elements, the combination or specific spatial arrangement of which does not occur naturally in plant cells.

In principle, the foreign nucleic acid molecule can be any nucleic acid molecule, which effects an increase in the activity of an OK1 protein in the plant cell or plant.

5

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "genome" is to be understood to mean the totality of the genetic material present in a plant cell. It is known to the person skilled in the art that, as well as the cell nucleus, other compartments (e.g. plastids, mitochondrions) also contain genetic material.

10

In a further embodiment, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention are characterised in that the foreign nucleic acid molecule codes an OK1 protein, preferably an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* or an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*.

15

In a further embodiment, the foreign nucleic acid molecule codes an OK1 protein with the amino acid sequence specified in SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4.

20

A large number of techniques are available for the introduction of DNA into a plant host cell. These techniques include the transformation of plant cells with T-DNA using *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* as the transformation medium, the fusion of protoplasts, injection, the electroporation of DNA, the introduction of DNA by means of the biolistic approach as well as other possibilities.

25

The use of agrobacteria-mediated transformation of plant cells has been intensively investigated and adequately described in EP 120516; Hoekema, IN: The Binary Plant Vector System Offsetdrukkerij Kanters B.V., Alblasterdam (1985), Chapter V; Fraley et al., Crit. Rev. Plant Sci. 4, 1-46 and by An et al. EMBO J. 4, (1985), 277-287. For the transformation of potato, see Rocha-Sosa et al., EMBO J. 8, (1989), 29-33, for example.

30

The transformation of monocotyledonous plants by means of vectors based on *Agrobacterium* transformation has also been described (Chan et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 22, (1993), 491-506; Hiei et al., Plant J. 6, (1994) 271-282; Deng et al, Science in China 33, (1990), 28-34; Wilmink et al., Plant Cell Reports 11, (1992), 76-80; May et al., Bio/Technology 13, (1995), 486-492; Conner and Domisse, Int. J. Plant Sci. 153 (1992), 550-555; Ritchie et al, Transgenic Res. 2, (1993), 252-265). An alternative system to the transformation of monocotyledonous plants is transformation by means of the biolistic approach (Wan and Lemaux, Plant Physiol. 104, (1994), 37-48; Vasil et al., Bio/Technology 11 (1993), 1553-1558; Ritala et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 24, (1994), 317-325; Spencer et al., Theor. Appl. Genet. 79, (1990), 625-631), protoplast transformation, electroporation of partially permeabilised cells and the introduction of DNA by means of glass fibres. In particular, the transformation of maize has been described in the literature many times (cf. e.g. WO95/06128, EP0513849, EP0465875, EP0292435; Fromm et al., Biotechnology 8, (1990), 833-844; Gordon-Kamm et al., Plant Cell 2, (1990), 603-618; Koziel et al., Biotechnology 11 (1993), 194-200; Moroc et al., Theor. Appl. Genet. 80, (1990), 721-726).

The successful transformation of other types of cereal has also already been described, for example for barley (Wan and Lemaux, see above; Ritala et al., see above; Krens et al., Nature 296, (1982), 72-74) and for wheat (Nehra et al., Plant J. 5, (1994), 285-297; Becker et al., 1994, Plant Journal 5, 299-307). All the above methods are suitable within the framework of the present invention.

Amongst other things, plant cells and plants, which have been genetically modified by the introduction of an OK1 protein, can be differentiated from wild type plant cells and wild type plants respectively in that they contain a foreign nucleic acid molecule, which does not occur naturally in wild type plant cells or wild type plants, or in that such a molecule is present integrated at a place in the genome of the plant cell according to the invention or in the genome of the plant according to the invention at which it does not occur in wild type plant cells or wild type plants, i.e. in a different genomic environment. Furthermore, plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention of this type differ from wild type plant cells and wild type plants respectively in that they contain at least one copy of the foreign nucleic acid

molecule stably integrated within their genome, possibly in addition to naturally occurring copies of such a molecule in the wild type plant cells or wild type plants. If the foreign nucleic acid molecule(s) introduced into the plant cells according to the invention or into the plants according to the invention is (are) additional copies of molecules already occurring naturally in the wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively, then the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention can be differentiated from wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively in particular in that this additional copy or these additional copies is (are) localised at places in the genome at which it does not occur (or they do not occur) in wild type plant cells or wild type plants. This can be verified, for example, with the help of a Southern blot analysis.

Furthermore, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention can preferably be differentiated from wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively by at least one of the following characteristics: If the foreign nucleic acid molecule that has been introduced is heterologous with respect to the plant cell or plant, then the plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention have transcripts of the introduced nucleic acid molecules. These can be verified, for example, by Northern blot analysis or by RT-PCR (Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction). Plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention, which express an antisense and/or an RNAi transcript, can be verified, for example, with the help of specific nucleic acid probes, which are complimentary to the RNA (occurring naturally in the plant cell), which is coding for the protein. Preferably, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention contain a protein, which is coded by an introduced nucleic acid molecule. This can be demonstrated by immunological methods, for example, in particular by a Western blot analysis.

If the foreign nucleic acid molecule that has been introduced is homologous with respect to the plant cell or plant, the plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention can be differentiated from wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively due to the additional expression of the introduced foreign nucleic acid molecule, for example. The plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention preferably contain transcripts of the foreign nucleic acid

molecules. This can be demonstrated by Northern blot analysis, for example, or with the help of so-called quantitative PCR.

In a further embodiment, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants
5 according to the invention are transgenic plant cells or transgenic plants respectively.

In a further embodiment, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants
according to the invention are characterised in that at least one foreign nucleic acid
molecule codes amino acid sequences, which are included in an amino acid
10 sequence, which codes an OK1 protein.

In a further embodiment, the present invention relates to plant cells according to the
invention and plants according to the invention wherein the foreign nucleic acid
molecule is chosen from the group consisting of

- 15 a) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein with the amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4;
- b) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein, which includes the amino acid sequence, which is coded by the insertion in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM or the insertion in plasmid pMI50;
- 20 c) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein, the sequence of which has an identity of at least 60% with the amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4;
- d) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein, the sequence of which has an identity of at least 60% with the amino acid sequence, which is coded by the
25 coding region of the insertion in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM or by the coding region of the insertion in plasmid pMI50;
- e) Nucleic acid molecules, which include the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 1 or SEQ ID NO 3 or a complimentary sequence;
- f) Nucleic acid molecules, which include the nucleotide sequence of the insertion
30 contained in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM or plasmid pMI50;

- g) Nucleic acid molecules, which have an identity of at least 70% with the nucleic acid sequences described under a), b), d) or e);
- h) Nucleic acid molecules, which hybridise with at least one strand of the nucleic acid molecules described under a), b), e) or f) under stringent conditions;
- 5 i) Nucleic acid molecules, the nucleotide sequence of which deviates from the sequence of the nucleic acid molecules identified under a), b), e) or f) due to the degeneration of the genetic code; and
- j) Nucleic acid molecules, which represent fragments, allelic variants and/or derivatives of the nucleic acid molecules identified under a), b), c), d), e), f), g),
10 h) or i).

The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2 codes an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 4 codes an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*.

15

The proteins coded from the different varieties of nucleic acid molecules according to the invention have certain common characteristics. These can include, for example, biological activity, molecular weight, immunological reactivity, conformation etc, as well as physical characteristics such as, for example, the running behaviour in gel
20 electrophoresis, chromatographic behaviour, sedimentation coefficients, solubility, spectroscopic characteristics, stability; optimum pH, optimum temperature etc.

The molecular weight of the OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* derived from the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 2 is ca. 131 kDa and the molecular weight of the OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa* derived from the amino acid sequence
25 shown under SEQ ID NO 4 is ca. 132 kDa. The derived molecular weight of a protein according to the invention therefore preferably lies in the range from 120 kDa to 145 kDa, preferably in the range from 120 kDa to 140 kDa, particularly preferably from 125 kDa to 140 kDa and especially preferably from 130 kDa to 135 kDa.

The amino acid sequences shown under SEQ ID NO 2 and SEQ ID NO 4 coding
30 OK1 proteins from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and *Oryza sativa* respectively each contain a

phosphohistidine domain. Preferably, an OK1 protein according to the invention therefore contains a phosphohistidine domain, which has an identity of at least 50%, preferably of at least 60%, particularly preferably of at least 80% and especially preferably of 90% with the phosphohistidine domain shown under SEQ ID NO 5.

5

The present invention relates to nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein with the enzymatic activity according to the invention of an OK1 protein, wherein the coded OK1 protein has an identity of at least 70%, preferably of at least 80%, particularly preferably of at least 90% and especially preferably of 95% with the amino acid
10 sequence specified under SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4.

The plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM containing a cDNA, which codes an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana*, was deposited with the Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH, Mascheroder Weg 1b, 38124
15 Braunschweig, Germany, on 08.03.2004 under the number DSM16264, and the plasmid pMI50, containing a cDNA, which codes an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*, was deposited on 24.03.2004 under the number DSM16302, in accordance with the Budapest Treaty. The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2 can be derived from the coding region of the cDNA sequence integrated in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM
20 and codes for an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 4 can be derived from the coding region of the cDNA sequence integrated in plasmid pMI50 and codes for an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*. The present invention therefore also relates to nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein with the enzymatic activity of an OK1 protein, which includes the amino acid
25 sequence, which is coded by the insertion in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM or by the insertion in plasmid pMI50, wherein the coded protein has an identity of at least 70%, preferably of at least 80%, particularly preferably of at least 90% and especially preferably of 95% with the amino acid sequence, which can be derived from the insertion in A.t.-OK1-pGEM or pMI50.

30

The nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 1 is a cDNA sequence, which includes the coding region for an OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and the nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 3 is a cDNA sequence, which includes the coding region for an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*.

- 5 The present invention therefore also relates to nucleic acid molecules, which code an OK1 protein and the coding region of the nucleotide sequences shown under SEQ ID NO 1 or SEQ ID NO 3 or sequences, which are complimentary thereto, nucleic acid molecules, which include the coding region of the nucleotide sequence of the insertion contained in plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM or in plasmid pMI50 and nucleic acid
- 10 molecules, which have an identity of at least 70%, preferably of at least 80%, particularly preferably of at least 90% and especially preferably of at least 95% with the said nucleic acid molecules.

With the help of the sequence information of nucleic acid molecules according to the invention or with the help of a nucleic acid molecule according to the invention, it is

15 possible for the person skilled in the art to isolate homologous sequences from other plant species, preferably from starch-storing plants, preferably from plant species of the genus *Oryza*, in particular *Oryza sativa* or from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. This can be carried out, for example, with the help of conventional methods such as the examination of cDNA or genomic banks with suitable hybridisation samples. The

20 person skilled in the art knows that homologous sequences can also be isolated with the help of (degenerated) oligonucleotides and the use of PCR-based methods.

The examination of databases, such as are made available, for example, by EMBL (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/index.htm>) or NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>), can also be used for identifying

25 homologous sequences, which code for OK1 protein. In this case, one or more sequences are specified as a so-called query. This query sequence is then compared by means of statistical computer programs with sequences, which are contained in the selected databases. Such database queries (e.g. blast or fasta searches) are known to the person skilled in the art and can be carried out by various

30 providers.

If such a database query is carried out, e.g. at the NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>), then the standard settings,

which are specified for the particular comparison inquiry, should be used. For protein sequence comparisons (blastp), these are the following settings: Limit entrez = not activated; Filter = low complexity activated; Expect value = 10; word size = 3; Matrix = BLOSUM62; Gap costs: Existence = 11, Extension = 1.

- 5 For nucleic acid sequence comparisons (blastn), the following parameters could be set: Limit entrez = not activated; Filter = low complexity activated; Expect value = 10; word size = 11.

With such a database search, the sequences described in the present invention can be used as a query sequence in order to identify further nucleic acid molecules
10 and/or proteins, which code an OK1 protein.

With the help of the described methods, it is also possible to identify and/or isolate nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, which hybridise with the sequence specified under SEQ ID NO 1 or under SEQ ID NO 3 and which code an OK1 protein.

- 15 Within the framework of the present invention, the term "hybridising" means hybridisation under conventional hybridisation conditions, preferably under stringent conditions such as, for example, are described in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, 3rd edition (2001) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY. ISBN: 0879695773, Ausubel et al., Short Protocols in Molecular
20 Biology, John Wiley & Sons; 5th edition (2002), ISBN: 0471250929). Particularly preferably, "hybridising" means hybridisation under the following conditions:

Hybridisation buffer:

2xSSC; 10xDenhardt solution (Ficoll 400+PEG+BSA; Ratio 1:1:1); 0.1% SDS; 5 mM EDTA; 50 mM Na₂HPO₄; 250 µg/ml herring sperm DNA; 50 µg/ml tRNA;

- 25 or

25 M sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.2; 1 mM EDTA; 7% SDS

Hybridisation temperature:

T=65 to 68°C

Wash buffer: 0.1xSSC; 0.1% SDS

Wash temperature: T=65 to 68°C.

In principle, nucleic acid molecules, which hybridise with the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, can originate from any plant species, which codes an appropriate protein, preferably they originate from starch-storing plants, preferably from species of the (systematic) family *Poaceae*, particularly preferably from *Oryza sativa*. Nucleic acid molecules, which hybridise with the molecules according to the invention, can, for example, be isolated from genomic or from cDNA libraries. The identification and isolation of nucleic acid molecules of this type can be carried out using the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention or parts of these molecules or the reverse complements of these molecules, e.g. by means of hybridisation according to standard methods (see, for example, Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, 3rd edition (2001) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY. ISBN: 0879695773, Ausubel et al., Short Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons; 5th edition (2002), ISBN: 0471250929) or by amplification using PCR.

Nucleic acid molecules, which exactly or essentially have the nucleotide sequence specified under SEQ ID NO 1 or SEQ ID NO 3 or parts of these sequences, can be used as hybridisation samples. The fragments used as hybridisation samples can also be synthetic fragments or oligonucleotides, which have been manufactured using established synthesising techniques and the sequence of which corresponds essentially with that of a nucleic acid molecule according to the invention. If genes have been identified and isolated, which hybridise with the nucleic acid sequences according to the invention, then a determination of this sequence and an analysis of the characteristics of the proteins coded by this sequence should be carried out in order to establish whether an OK1 protein is involved. Homology comparisons on the level of the nucleic acid or amino acid sequence and a determination of the enzymatic activity are particularly suitable for this purpose. The activity of an OK1 protein can take place, for example, as described above under General Methods item 11. A preferred bonding affinity to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch, and autophosphorylation of an OK1 protein can be demonstrated using the methods already described above and under General Methods Items 8 and 12.

The molecules hybridising with the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention particularly include fragments, derivatives and allelic variants of the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, which code an OK1 protein from plants, preferably from starch-storing plants, preferably from plant species of the genus

5 *Oryza*, particularly preferably from *Oryza sativa* or *Arabidopsis thaliana*. In conjunction with the present invention, the term "derivative" means that the sequences of these molecules differ at one or more positions from the sequences of the nucleic acid molecules described above and have a high degree of identity with these sequences. Here, the deviation from the nucleic acid molecules described

10 above can have come about, for example, due to deletion, addition, substitution, insertion or recombination.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "identity" means a sequence identity over the whole length of the coding region of at least 60%, in particular an

15 identity of at least 80%, preferably greater than 80%, particularly preferably greater than 90% and especially of at least 95%. In conjunction with the present invention, the term "identity" is to be understood to mean the number of amino acids/nucleotides (identity) corresponding with other proteins/nucleic acids, expressed as a percentage. Identity is preferably determined by comparing SEQ ID

20 NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4 for amino acids or SEQ. ID NO 1 or SEQ ID NO 3 for nucleic acids with other proteins/nucleic acids with the help of computer programs. If sequences that are compared with one another have different lengths, the identity is to be determined in such a way that the number of amino acids, which have the shorter sequence in common with the longer sequence, determines the percentage

25 quotient of the identity. Preferably, identity is determined by means of the computer program ClustalW, which is well known and available to the public (Thompson et al., Nucleic Acids Research 22 (1994), 4673-4680). ClustalW is made publicly available by Julie Thompson (Thompson@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE) and Toby Gibson (Gibson@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE), European Molecular Biology Laboratory,

30 Meyerhofstrasse 1, D 69117 Heidelberg, Germany. ClustalW can also be downloaded from different Internet sites, including the IGBMC (Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire, B.P.163, 67404 Illkirch Cedex, France;

ftp://ftp-igbmc.u-strasbg.fr/pub/) and the EBI (ftp://ftp.ebi.ac.uk/pub/software/) as well as from all mirrored Internet sites of the EBI (European Bioinformatics Institute, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1SD, UK).

Preferably, Version 1.8 of the ClustalW computer program is used to determine the
5 identity between proteins according to the invention and other proteins. In doing so, the following parameters must be set: KTUPLE=1, TOPDIAG=5, WINDOW=5, PAIRGAP=3, GAOPEN=10, GAPEXTEND=0.05, GAPDIST=8, MAXDIV=40, MATRIX=GONNET, ENDGAPS(OFF), NOPGAP, NOHGAP.

Preferably, Version 1.8 of the ClustalW computer program is used to determine the
10 identity between the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, for example, and the nucleotide sequence of other nucleic acid molecules. In doing so, the following parameters must be set:

KTUPLE=2, TOPDIAGS=4, PAIRGAP=5, DNAMATRIX:IUB, GAOPEN=10, GAPEXT=5, MAXDIV=40, TRANSITIONS: unweighted.

15

Furthermore, identity means that functional and/or structural equivalence exists between the nucleic acid molecules concerned or the proteins coded by them. The nucleic acid molecules, which are homologous to the molecules described above and constitute derivatives of these molecules, are generally variations of these molecules,
20 which constitute modifications, which execute the same biological function. At the same time, the variations can occur naturally, for example they can be sequences from other plant species, or they can be mutations, wherein these mutations may have occurred in a natural manner or have been introduced by objective mutagenesis. The variations can also be synthetically manufactured sequences. The
25 allelic variants can be both naturally occurring variants and also synthetically manufactured variants or variants produced by recombinant DNA techniques. Nucleic acid molecules, which deviate from nucleic acid molecules according to the invention due to degeneration of the genetic code, constitute a special form of derivatives.

30 The proteins coded from the different derivatives of nucleic acid molecules according to the invention have certain common characteristics. These can include, for

example, biological activity, substrate specificity, molecular weight, immunological reactivity, conformation etc, as well as physical characteristics such as, for example, the running behaviour in gel electrophoresis, chromatographic behaviour, sedimentation coefficients, solubility, spectroscopic characteristics, stability; optimum pH, optimum temperature etc. Preferred characteristics of an OK1 protein have
5 already been described in detail above and are to be applied here accordingly.

The nucleic acid molecules according to the invention can be any nucleic acid molecules, in particular DNA or RNA molecules, for example cDNA, genomic DNA,
10 mRNA etc. They can be naturally occurring molecules or molecules manufactured by genetic or chemical synthesis methods. They can be single-stranded molecules, which either contain the coding or the non-coding strand, or double-stranded molecules.

15 A further embodiment of the present invention relates to plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention wherein the foreign nucleic acid molecule is chosen from the group consisting of

- a) DNA molecules, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an
20 OK1 protein;
- b) DNA molecules, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- c) DNA molecules, which code at least one ribozyme, which splits specific
25 transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- d) DNA molecules, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein
30 (RNAi technology);

- 5 e) Nucleic acid molecules introduced by means of *in vivo* mutagenesis, which lead to a mutation or an insertion of a heterologous sequence in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, wherein the mutation or insertion effects a reduction in the expression of a gene coding an OK1 protein or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins;
- f) Nucleic acid molecules, which code an antibody, wherein the antibody results in a reduction in the activity of an OK1 protein due to the bonding to an OK1 protein,
- 10 g) DNA molecules, which contain transposons, wherein the integration of these transposons leads to a mutation or an insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins; and/or
- 15 h) T-DNA molecules, which, due to insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, effect a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or result in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein.

The plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention can be manufactured by different methods known to the person skilled in the art. These
20 include, for example, the expression of a corresponding antisense RNA or of a double-stranded RNA construct, the provision of molecules or vectors, which impart a cosuppression effect, the expression of a correspondingly constructed ribozyme that splits specific transcripts, which code an OK1 protein, or so-called "*in vivo* mutagenesis". Furthermore, the reduction of the OK1 protein activity in plant cells
25 and plants can also be brought about by the simultaneous expression of sense and antisense RNA molecules of the respective target gene to be repressed, preferably of the OK1 gene.

In addition to this, it is known that *in planta* the formation of double-stranded RNA molecules of promoter sequences can lead *in trans* to methylation and transcriptional
30 inactivation of homologous copies of this promoter (Mette et al., EMBO J. 19, (2000), 5194-5201).

A further possible way in which to reduce the enzymatic activity of proteins in plant cells or plants is the so-called immunomodulation method. It is known that an *in planta* expression of antibodies, which specifically recognise a plant protein, results in a reduction of the activity of the proteins concerned in appropriate plant cells due to the formation of a protein antibody complex (Conrad and Manteufel, Trends in Plant Science 6, (2001), 399-402; De Jaeger et al., Plant Molecular Biology 43, (2000), 419-428; Jobling et al., Nature Biotechnology 21, (2003), 77-80).

All these methods are based on the introduction of a foreign or of several foreign nucleic acid molecules into the genome of plant cells or plants and are therefore basically suitable for manufacturing plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention.

For inhibiting the expression of genes by means of antisense or cosuppression technology, a DNA molecule can be used, for example, which includes the whole coding sequence for an OK1 protein, including any existing flanking sequences, as well as DNA molecules, which include only parts of the coding sequence, whereby these parts must be long enough to produce an antisense effect or a cosuppression effect respectively in the cells. In general, sequences up to a minimum length of 21 bp, preferably a minimum length of at least 100 bp, particularly preferably of at least 500 bp are suitable. For example, the DNA molecules have a length of 21-100 bp, preferably of 100-500 bp, particularly preferably over 500 bp.

The use of DNA sequences, which have a high degree of identity with the endogenous sequences occurring in the plant cell and which code OK1 proteins, is also suitable for antisense or cosuppression preparations. The minimum identity should be greater than ca. 65%, preferably greater than 80%. The use of sequences with identities of at least 90%, in particular between 95% and 100%, is to be preferred. The meaning of the term "identity" is defined elsewhere.

Furthermore, the use of introns, i.e. of non-coding areas of genes, which code for OK1 proteins, is also conceivable for achieving an antisense or a cosuppression effect.

5 The use of intron sequences for inhibiting the gene expression of genes, which code for starch biosynthesis proteins, has been described in the international patent applications WO97/04112, WO97/04113, WO98/3721 3, WO98/37214.

10 The person skilled in the art knows how to achieve an antisense and a cosuppression effect. For example, the method of cosuppression inhibition has been described in Jorgensen (Trends Biotechnol. 8 (1990), 340-344), Niebel et al., (Curr. Top. Microbiol. Immunol. 197 (1995), 91-103), Flavell et al. (Curr. Top. Microbiol. Immunol. 197 (1995), 43-46), Palaqui and Vaucheret (Plant. Mol. Biol. 29 (1995), 149-159), Vaucheret et al., (Mol. Gen. Genet. 248 (1995), 311-317), de Borne et al. (Mol. Gen. Genet. 243 (1994), 613-621).

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The expression of ribozymes for reducing the activity of particular enzymes in cells is also known to the person skilled in the art, and is described, for example, in EP-B1 0321201. The expression of ribozymes in plant cells has been described, for example, in Feyter et al. (Mol. Gen. Genet. 250, (1996), 329-338).

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The reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention can also be brought about by the simultaneous expression of sense and antisense RNA molecules (RNAi technology) of the respective target gene to be repressed, preferably of the OK1 protein gene.

25 This can be achieved, for example, by the use of chimeric constructs, which contain "inverted repeats" of the respective target gene or parts of the target gene. In this case, the generic constructs code for sense and antisense RNA molecules of the respective target gene. Sense and antisense RNA are synthesised simultaneously *in planta* as an RNA molecule, wherein sense and antisense RNA are separated from
30 one another by a spacer, and are able to form a double-stranded RNA molecule.

It has been shown that the introduction of inverted repeat DNA constructs into the genome of plant cells or plants is a very effective method of repressing the genes corresponding to the inverted repeat DNA constructs (Waterhouse et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 95, (1998), 13959-13964; Wang and Waterhouse, Plant Mol. Biol. 43, (2000), 67-82; Singh et al., Biochemical Society Transactions Vol. 28 part 6 (2000), 925- 927; Liu et al., Biochemical Society Transactions Vol. 28 part 6 (2000), 927-929); Smith et al., (Nature 407, (2000), 319-320; international patent application WO99/53050 A1). Sense and antisense sequences of the target gene or of the target genes can also be expressed separately from one another by means of similar or different promoters (Nap, J-P et al, 6th International Congress of Plant Molecular Biology, Quebec, 18th-24th June, 2000; Poster S7-27, Presentation Session S7).

The reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention can therefore also be achieved by producing double-stranded RNA molecules. In this regard, "inverted repeats" of DNA molecules of OK1 genes or cDNAs are preferably introduced into the genome of plants, wherein the DNA molecules (OK1 gene or cDNA or fragments of these genes or cDNAs) to be transcribed are under the control of a promoter, which controls the expression of said DNA molecules.

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In addition to this, it is known that the formation of double-stranded RNA molecules from promoter DNA molecules in plants *in trans* can lead to methylation and transcriptional inactivation of homologous copies of these promoters, which are to be referred to in the following as target promoters (Mette et al., EMBO J. 19, (2000), 5194-5201).

It is therefore possible to reduce the gene expression of a particular target gene (e.g. OK1 gene), which is naturally under the control of this target promoter, by deactivating the target promoter.

This means that, in this case, the DNA molecules, which include the target promoters of the genes to be repressed (target genes), in contrast to the original function of

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promoters in plants, are not used as control elements for the expression of genes or cDNAs, but are themselves used as transcribable DNA molecules.

For the production of double-stranded target promoter RNA molecules *in planta*, which can occur there as RNA hairpin molecules, constructs are preferably used, which contain the "inverted repeats" of the target promoter DNA molecules, wherein the target promoter DNA molecules are under the control of a promoter, which controls the gene expression of said target promoter DNA molecules. These constructs are subsequently introduced into the genome of plants. The expression of the "inverted repeats" of said target promoter DNA molecules *in planta* leads to the formation of double-stranded target promoter RNA molecules (Mette et al., EMBO J. 19, (2000), 5194-5201). The target promoter can be inactivated by this means.

The reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention can therefore also be achieved by the production of double-stranded RNA molecules of promoter sequences of OK1 genes. In this regard, "inverted repeats" of promoter DNA molecules of OK1 genes are preferably introduced into the genome of plants, wherein the target promoter DNA molecules (promoter of an OK1 gene) to be transcribed are under the control of a promoter, which controls the expression of said target promoter DNA molecules.

For inhibiting the expression of genes by means of the simultaneous expression of sense and antisense RNA molecules (RNAi technology), a DNA molecule can be used, for example, which includes the whole coding sequence for an OK1 protein, including any existing flanking sequences, as well as DNA molecules, which include only parts of the coding sequence, whereby these parts must be long enough to produce a so-called RNAi effect in the cells. In general, sequences with a minimum length of 40 bp, preferably a minimum length of at least 100 bp, particularly preferably of at least 500 bp are suitable. For example, the DNA molecules have a length of 21-100 bp, preferably of 100-500 bp, particularly preferably greater than 500 bp.

The use of DNA sequences, which have a high degree of identity with the endogenous sequences occurring in the plant cells and which code an OK1 protein, is also suitable for the simultaneous expression of sense and antisense RNA molecules (RNAi technology). The minimum identity should be greater than ca. 65%,
5 preferably greater than 80%. The use of sequences with identities of at least 90%, in particular between 95% and 100%, is to be particularly preferred. Sequences, which contain nucleic acid sequences, which code the phosphohistidine domains specified under SEQ ID NO 5, are particularly suitable for inhibiting OK1 genes by means of RNAi technology.

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Furthermore, the reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention can also be achieved by so-called "in vivo mutagenesis", in which a hybrid RNA-DNA oligonucleotide ("Chimeroplast") is introduced into plant cells (Kipp, P.B. et al., Poster Session at the "5th International
15 Congress of Plant Molecular Biology, 21st-27th September 1997, Singapore; R. A. Dixon and C.J. Arntzen, meeting report on "Metabolic Engineering in Transgenic Plants", Keystone Symposia, Copper Mountain, CO, USA, TIBTECH 15, (1997), 441-447; international patent application WO 9515972; Kren et al., Hepatology 25, (1997), 1462-1468; Cole-Strauss et al., Science 273, (1996), 1386-1389; Beetham et
20 al., 1999, PNAS 96, 8774-8778).

A part of the DNA components of the RNA-DNA oligonucleotide is homologous to a nucleic acid sequence of an endogenous OK1 gene, but, in comparison with the nucleic acid sequence of an endogenous OK1 gene, it has a mutation or contains a heterologous region, which is surrounded by the homologous regions.

25 By base pairing of the homologous regions of the RNA-DNA oligonucleotide and the endogenous nucleic acid molecule followed by homologous recombination, the mutation or heterologous region contained in the DNA components of the RNA-DNA oligonucleotide can be transferred into the genome of a plant cell. This leads to a reduction of the activity of one or more OK1 proteins.

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The person skilled in the art knows that he can achieve a reduction of the activity of OK1 proteins by the expression of non-functional derivatives, in particular transdominant mutations, of such proteins, and/or by the expression of antagonists/inhibitors of such proteins.

- 5 Antagonist/inhibitors of such proteins include, for example, antibodies, antibody fragments or molecules with similar bonding characteristics. For example, a cytoplasmatic scFv antibody has been used to modulate the activity of the phytochrome A protein in genetically modified tobacco plants (Owen, Bio/Technology 10 (1992), 790-4; Review: Franken, E, Teuschel, U. and Hain, R., Current Opinion in
10 Biotechnology 8, (1997), 411-416; Whitelam, Trends Plant Sci. 1 (1996), 268-272; Conrad and Manteufel, Trends in Plant Science 6, (2001), 399-402; De Jaeger et al., Plant Molecular Biology 43, (2000), 419-428). The reduction of the activity of a branching enzyme in potato plants by expressing a specific antibody has been described by Jobling et al. (Nature Biotechnology 21, (2003), 77-80). Here, the
15 antibody was provided with a plastidiary target sequence so that the inhibition of proteins localised in plastids was guaranteed.

In conjunction with the present invention, plant cells and plants according to the invention can also be manufactured by the use of so-called insertion mutagenesis
20 (overview article: Thorneycroft et al., 2001, Journal of experimental Botany 52 (361), 1593-1601). Insertion mutagenesis is to be understood to mean particularly the insertion of transposons or so-called transfer DNA (T-DNA) into a gene coding for an OK1 protein, whereby, as a result of which, the activity of an OK1 protein in the cell concerned is reduced.

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The transposons can be both those that occur naturally in the cell (endogenous transposons) and also those that do not occur naturally in said cell but are introduced into the cell (heterologous transposons) by means of genetic engineering methods, such as transformation of the cell, for example. Changing the expression of genes by
30 means of transposons is known to the person skilled in the art. An overview of the use of endogenous and heterologous transposons as tools in plant biotechnology is

presented in Ramachandran and Sundaresan (2001, Plant Physiology and Biochemistry 39, 234-252). The possibility of identifying mutations in which specific genes have been inactivated by transposon insertion mutagenesis is presented in an overview by Maes et al. (1999, Trends in Plant Science 4 (3), 90-96). The production of rice mutants with the help of endogenous transposons is described by Hirochika (2001, Current Opinion in Plant Biology 4, 118-122). The identification of maize genes with the help of endogenous retrotransposons is presented, for example, by Hanley et al. (2000, The Plant Journal 22 (4), 557-566). The possibility of manufacturing mutants with the help of retrotransposons and methods of identifying mutants are described by Kumar and Hirochika (2001, Trends in Plant Science 6 (3), 127-134). The activity of technological transposons in different species has been described both for dicotyledonous and for monocotyledonous plants: e.g. for rice (Greco et al., 2001, Plant Physiology 125, 1175-1177; Liu et al., 1999, Molecular and General Genetics 262, 413-420; Hiroyuki et al., 1999, The Plant Journal 19 (5), 605-613; Jeon und Gynheung, 2001, Plant Science 161, 211-219), barley (2000, Koprek et al., The Plant Journal 24 (2), 253-263) *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Aarts et al., 1993, Nature 363, 715-717, Schmidt und Willmitzer, 1989, Molecular and General Genetics 220, 17-24; Altmann et al., 1992, Theoretical and Applied Genetics 84, 371-383; Tissier et al., 1999, The Plant Cell 11, 1841-1852), tomato (Belzile und Yoder, 1992, The Plant Journal 2 (2), 173-179) and potato (Frey et al., 1989, Molecular and General Genetics 217, 172-177; Knapp et al., 1988, Molecular and General Genetics 213, 285-290).

Basically, the plant cells according to the invention and the plants according to the invention can be manufactured both with the help of homologous and heterologous transposons, whereby the use of homologous transposons is also to be understood to mean those, which are naturally present in the corresponding wild type plant genome.

T-DNA insertion mutagenesis is based on the fact that certain sections (T-DNA) of Ti plasmids from *Agrobacterium* can integrate into the genome of plant cells. The place of integration in the plant chromosome is not defined, but can take place at any point.

If the T-DNA integrates into a part of the chromosome, which constitutes a gene function, then this can lead to a change in the gene expression and thus also to a change in the activity of a protein coded by the gene concerned. In particular, the integration of a T-DNA into the coded area of a protein often leads to the corresponding protein no longer being able to be synthesised at all, or no longer synthesised in active form, by the cell concerned. The use of T-DNA insertions for producing mutants is described, for example, for *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Krysan et al., 1999, The Plant Cell 11, 2283-2290; Atipiroz-Leehan and Feldmann, 1997, Trends in genetics 13 (4), 152-156; Parinov and Sundaresan, 2000, Current Opinion in Biotechnology 11, 157-161) and rice (Jeon and An, 2001, Plant Science 161, 211-219; Jeon et al., 2000, The Plant Journal 22 (6), 561-570). Methods for identifying mutants, which have been produced with the help of T-DNA insertion mutagenesis, are described, amongst others, by Young et al., (2001, Plant Physiology 125, 513-518), Parinov et al. (1999, The Plant cell 11, 2263-2270), Thorneycroft et al. (2001, Journal of Experimental Botany 52, 1593-1601), and McKinney et al. (1995, The Plant Journal 8 (4), 613-622).

T-DNA mutagenesis is basically suitable for the production of the plant cells and plants according to the invention, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein.

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T-DNA insertion mutants have been produced in great numbers for *Arabidopsis thaliana*, for example, and are made available by different culture collections ("Stock centre", e.g. Salk Institute Genomic Analysis Laboratory, 10010 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037, <http://signal.salk.edu/>). The *Arabidopsis* mutant with the Acc. No.: SALK_110814 (alias N610814) contains a T-DNA insertion, which leads to a reduced activity of an OK1 protein in the mutant. With regard to growth and the speed of growth, these mutants behave like wild type plants but, in contrast to wild type plants, have a high starch phenotype.

Genetically modified *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants, transformed with an RNAi construct containing "inverted repeats" of the coding region of the OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (SEQ ID NO 1), showed a significantly reduced amount of OK1

protein in the Western blot analysis. These plants also showed a high starch phenotype and a normal growth in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells.

- 5 The present invention therefore also relates to plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention, which have a high starch (starch excess) phenotype.

10 It was possible to demonstrate plant cells or plants, which have a high starch phenotype, by determining the amount of starch in individual plant parts (e.g. leaves) with the help of the methods known to the person skilled in the art. Thus, the starch content, for example, can be found with the help of enzymatically coupled photometric determination.

15 A further simple method of demonstrating a high starch phenotype is based on the colouring of plant parts with Lugol's solution. To do this, plant parts, preferably leaves, of mutants or genetically modified plants are incubated with Lugol's solution. In comparison with these, identical plant parts of wild type plants, which had grown up under the same conditions as the mutants or genetically modified plants concerned, were also incubated with Lugol's solution. Starch turns brownish to black
20 with Lugol's solution. The stronger the coloration with Lugol's solution, the more starch is contained by the plant parts concerned. In order to be able to detect a clear difference between the wild type plants and the mutants or genetically modified plants, the plants concerned are first subjected to a dark phase before individual plant parts are stained with Lugol's solution, i.e. they are not exposed to light.

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In conjunction with the present invention, the term "high starch phenotype" is to be understood to mean a mutant or a genetically modified plant, which has more starch in individual plant parts (e.g. leaves) than corresponding wild type plants. Preferably, mutants or genetically modified plants contain more starch in individual plant parts at
30 the end of a dark phase than corresponding wild type plants. The dark phase can be

2 to 20 hours, preferably 4 to 16 hours, particularly preferably 6 to 14 and especially preferably 10 to 12 hours.

Surprisingly, it has been found that plant cells according to the invention and plants
5 according to the invention synthesise a modified starch in comparison with starch of
corresponding wild type plant cells or wild type plants that have not been genetically
modified.

As no enzymes have previously been described, which exclusively phosphorylate P-
starch, it has also previously not been possible to modify the distribution of starch
10 phosphate in starch synthesised by plants. Due to the provision by the present
invention of plants according to the invention, it is now also possible to modify the
phosphate ratio in native starches.

The plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention
synthesise a modified starch, which in its physical-chemical characteristics, in
15 particular the amylose content or the amylose/amylopectin ratio, the phosphate ratio,
the phosphate content, the viscosity behaviour, the gelling strength, the starch
granule size and/or the starch granule morphology, is changed in comparison with
the synthesised starch in wild type plant cells or plants, so that this is better suited for
special applications.

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The present invention therefore also includes plant cells according to the invention
and plants according to the invention, which synthesise a modified starch.

Furthermore, genetically modified plants, which contain the plant cells according to
25 the invention, are also the subject matter of the invention. Plants of this type can be
produced from plant cells according to the invention by regeneration.

In principle, the plants according to the invention can be plants of any plant species,
i.e. both monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants. Preferably they are useful
plants, i.e. plants, which are cultivated by people for the purposes of food or for
30 technical, in particular industrial purposes.

In a further embodiment, the plant according to the invention is a starch-storing plant.

In a further preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to a starch-storing
5 plant according to the invention, which is a maize or wheat plant.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "starch-storing plants" means all plants with plant parts, which contain a storage starch, such as, for example, maize, rice, wheat, rye, oats, barley, cassava, potato, sago, mung bean, pea or sorghum.

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In conjunction with the present invention, the term "wheat plant" means plant species of the genus *Triticum* or plants resulting from crosses with plants of the genus *Triticum*, particularly plant species of the genus *Triticum* or plants resulting from crosses with plants of the genus *Triticum*, which are used in agriculture for
15 commercial purposes, particularly preferably *Triticum aestivum*.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "maize plant" means plant species of the genus *Zea*, particularly plant species of the genus *Zea*, which are used in agriculture for commercial purposes, particularly preferably *Zea mays*.

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The present invention also relates to propagation material of plants according to the invention containing a plant cell according to the invention.

Here, the term "propagation material" includes those constituents of the plant that are
25 suitable for producing offspring by vegetative or sexual means. Cuttings, callus cultures, rhizomes or tubers, for example, are suitable for vegetative propagation. Other propagation material includes, for example, fruits, seeds, seedlings, protoplasts, cell cultures, etc. Preferably, the propagation material is tubers and particularly preferably granules, which contain endosperms.

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In a further embodiment, the present invention relates to harvestable plant parts of plants according to the invention such as fruits, storage roots, roots, blooms, buds, shoots or stems, preferably seeds, grains or tubers, wherein these harvestable parts contain plant cells according to the invention.

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Furthermore, the present invention also relates to a method for the manufacture of a genetically modified plant according to the invention, wherein

- a) a plant cell is genetically modified, whereby the genetic modification leads to the reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding
10 wild type plant cells that have not been genetically modified;
 - b) a plant is regenerated from plant cells from Step a); and
 - c) if necessary, further plants are produced with the help of the plants according to Step b).
- 15 The genetic modification introduced into the plant cell according to Step a) can basically be any type of genetic modification, which leads to the reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein.

The regeneration of the plants according to Step (b) can be carried out using
20 methods known to the person skilled in the art (e.g. described in "Plant Cell Culture Protocols", 1999, ed. by R.D. Hall, Humana Press, ISBN 0-89603-549-2).

The production of further plants according to Step (c) of the method according to the invention can be carried out, for example, by vegetative propagation (for example
25 using cuttings, tubers or by means of callus culture and regeneration of whole plants) or by sexual propagation. Here, sexual propagation preferably takes place under controlled conditions, i.e. selected plants with particular characteristics are crossed and propagated with one another. In this case, the selection is preferably carried out in such a way that further plants, which are obtained in accordance with Step c),
30 exhibit the genetic modification, which was introduced in Step a).

In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the genetic modification consists in the introduction of a foreign nucleic acid molecule into the genome of the plant cell, wherein the presence or the expression of said foreign
5 nucleic acid molecule leads to a reduced activity of an OK1 protein in the cell.

In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the genetic modification consists in the introduction of a foreign nucleic acid molecule, wherein the foreign nucleic acid molecule codes amino acid sequences, which are included in
10 an amino acid sequence, which code an OK1 protein.

In a further embodiment, the method according to the invention is used for manufacturing a genetically modified plant according to the invention for producing starch-storing plants.

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In a further embodiment, the method according to the invention is used for producing maize or wheat plants according to the invention.

In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the genetic
20 modification consists in the introduction of a foreign nucleic acid molecule, wherein the foreign nucleic acid molecule is chosen from the group consisting of

- a) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein with the amino acid sequence specified under SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4;
- b) Nucleic acid molecules, which code a protein, the amino acid sequence of
25 which has an identity of at least 60% with the amino acid sequence specified under SEQ ID NO 2 or SEQ ID NO 4;
- c) Nucleic acid molecules, which include the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 1 or SEQ ID NO 3 or a complimentary sequence;
- d) Nucleic acid molecules, the nucleic acid sequence of which has an identity of at
30 least 60% with the nucleic acid sequences described under a) or c);

- e) Nucleic acid molecules, which hybridise with at least one strand of the nucleic acid molecules described under a) or c) under stringent conditions;
- f) Nucleic acid molecules, the nucleotide sequence of which deviates from the sequence of the nucleic acid molecules identified under a), b), c), d), e) or f) due to the degeneration of the genetic code; and
- g) Nucleic acid molecules, which represent fragments, allelic variants and/or derivatives of the nucleic acid molecules identified under a), b), c), d), e) or f).

In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the genetic modification consists in the introduction of a foreign nucleic acid molecule, wherein the foreign nucleic acid molecule is chosen from the group consisting of

- a) DNA molecules, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- b) DNA molecules, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- c) DNA molecules, which code at least one ribozyme, which splits specific transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- d) DNA molecules, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein (RNAi technology);
- e) Nucleic acid molecules introduced by means of *in vivo* mutagenesis, which lead to a mutation or an insertion of a heterologous sequence in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, wherein the mutation or insertion effects a reduction in the expression of a gene coding an OK1 protein or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein;

- f) Nucleic acid molecules, which code an antibody, wherein the antibody results in a reduction in the activity of an OK1 protein due to the bonding to an OK1 protein,
- 5 g) DNA molecules, which contain transposons, wherein the integration of these transposons leads to a mutation or an insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins; and/or
- 10 h) T-DNA molecules, which, due to insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, effect a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or result in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein.

In a further embodiment, the present invention relates to a method according to the invention, wherein the genetically modified plant synthesises a modified starch in comparison with starch from wild type plants that have not been genetically modified.

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In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the plants according to the invention synthesise a modified starch, which has a lower starch phosphate content and/or a modified phosphate distribution in comparison with starch isolated from corresponding wild type plants.

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In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, the plants according to the invention synthesise a modified starch, which has a modified ratio of C-3 phosphate to C-6 phosphate in comparison with starch from wild type plants that have not been genetically modified. Particularly preferred here are starches, which

25 have a reduced proportion of starch phosphate bonded in the C-3 position compared with starch phosphate bonded in the C-6 position in comparison with starches from wild type plants that have not been genetically modified.

The present invention also relates to the plants obtainable by the method according

30 to the invention.

It is also an object of the present invention to provide means such as DNA molecules, for example, for the production of plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention, which synthesise a modified starch in comparison with modified wild type plant cells or wild type plants that have not been
5 genetically modified.

The present invention therefore also relates to recombinant nucleic acid molecules containing a promoter, which initiates transcription in plant cells, and at least one nucleic acid sequence chosen from the group consisting of

- 10 a) Nucleic acid sequences, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- b) Nucleic acid sequences, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
- 15 c) Nucleic acid sequences, which code at least one ribozyme, which splits specific transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein, and
- d) Nucleic acid sequences, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in
20 the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein (RNAi technology).

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "recombinant nucleic acid molecule" is to be understood to mean a nucleic acid molecule, which as well as
25 nucleic acid molecules according to the invention contains additional sequences, which do not occur naturally in a combination such as occurs in recombinant nucleic acids according to the invention. At the same time, the said additional sequences can be any sequences, preferably regulatory sequences (promoters, termination signals, enhancers), particularly preferably regulatory sequences, which are active in plant
30 tissue, particularly preferably regulatory sequences, which are active in plant tissue in

which storage starch is synthesised. Methods for producing recombinant nucleic acid molecules according to the invention are known to the person skilled in the art and include genetic engineering methods such as, for example, the linking of nucleic acid molecules by ligation, genetic recombination or the resynthesis of nucleic acid molecules (see, for example, Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, 3rd edition (2001) Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbour, NY. ISBN: 0879695773, Ausubel et al., Short Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons; 5th edition (2002), ISBN: 0471250929).

- 10 Regulatory sequences for expression in prokaryotic organisms (promoters), e.g. *E. coli*, and in eukaryotic organisms are adequately described in the literature, in particular those for expression in yeast such as *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, for example. An overview of different expression systems for proteins in different host organisms can be found, for example, in Methods in Enzymology 153 (1987), 383-
15 516 and in Bitter et al. (Methods in Enzymology 153 (1987), 516-544).

For expressing nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, these are preferably linked with regulatory DNA sequences, which initiate transcription in plant cells (promoters). At the same time, the promoter can be chosen so that expression
20 takes place constitutively or only in a certain tissue, at a certain stage of the plant development or at a time determined by external influences. The promoter can be homologous or heterologous both with respect to the plant and with respect to the nucleic acid molecule.

Suitable promoters are, for example, the promoter of the 35S RNA of the cauliflower mosaic virus and the ubiquitin promoter from maize for constitutive expression, the patatin promoter B33 (Rocha-Sosa et al., EMBO J. 8 (1989), 23-29) for tuber-specific expression in potatoes or a promoter, which only ensures expression in photosynthetically active tissues, e.g. the ST-LS1 promoter (Stockhaus et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84 (1987), 7943-7947; Stockhaus et al., EMBO J. 8 (1989),
25 2445-2451) or, for endosperm-specific expression of the HMG promoter from wheat, the USP promoter, the phaseolin promoter, promoters of zein genes from maize
30

(Pedersen et al., Cell 29 (1982), 1015-1026; Quatroccio et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 15 (1990), 81-93), glutelin promoter (Leisy et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 14 (1990), 41-50; Zheng et al., Plant J. 4 (1993), 357-366; Yoshihara et al., FEBS Lett. 383 (1996), 213-218) or shrunken-1 promoter (Werr et al., EMBO J. 4 (1985), 1373-1380).

5 However, promoters can also be used, which are only activated at a time determined by external influences (see for example WO 9307279). Promoters of heat-shock proteins, which allow simple induction, can be of particular interest here. Furthermore, seed-specific promoters can be used, such as the USP promoter from Vicia faba, which guarantees seed-specific expression in Vicia faba and other plants
10 (Fiedler et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 22 (1993), 669-679; Bäumlein et al., Mol. Gen. Genet. 225 (1991), 459-467).

The recombinant nucleic acid molecule can also contain a termination sequence (polyadenylation signal), which is used for adding a poly-A tail to the transcript. A
15 function in the stabilisation of the transcripts is ascribed to the poly-A tail. Elements of this type are described in the literature (cf. Gieken et al., EMBO J. 8 (1989), 23-29) and can be exchanged at will.

Intron sequences can also be present between the promoter and the coding region.
20 Such intron sequences can lead to stability of expression and to increased expression in plants (Callis et al., 1987, Genes Devel. 1, 1183-1200; Luehrsen, and Walbot, 1991, Mol. Gen. Genet. 225, 81-93; Reithmeier, et al., 1997; Plant Journal. 12(4): 895-899; Rose and Beliakoff, 2000, Plant Physiol. 122 (2), 535-542; Vasil et al., 1989, Plant Physiol. 91, 1575-1579; XU et al., 2003, Science in China Series C
25 Vol.46 No.6, 561-569). Suitable intron sequences are, for example, the first intron of the sh1 gene from maize, the first intron of the polyubiquitin gene 1 from maize, the first intron of the EPSPS gene from rice or one of the two first introns of the PAT1 gene from Arabidopsis.

30 A further embodiment of the present invention of recombinant nucleic acid molecules according to the invention comprises vectors, in particular plasmids, cosmids,

viruses, bacteriophages and other common vectors in genetic engineering, which contain the nucleic acid molecules according to the invention described above.

A further subject of the present invention is a host cell, in particular a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell, which is genetically modified with a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention and/or with a vector according to the invention, as well as cells, which originate from host cells of this type and which contain the genetic modification according to the invention.

10 In a further embodiment, the invention relates to host cells, in particular prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells, which have been transformed using a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention or a vector according to the invention, as well as host cells, which originate from host cells of this type and which contain the described nucleic acid molecules or vectors according to the invention.

15

It is preferred if the host cells according to the invention are plant cells. In principle, these can be plant cells from any plant species, i.e. both monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants. Preferably, these will be plant cells from useful agricultural plants, i.e. from plants, which are cultivated by people for the purposes of food or for technical, in particular industrial purposes. The invention relates preferably to plant cells and plants from starch-storing plants, preferably plant cells from the (systematic) family *Poacea*, especially particularly preferred are plant cells from maize or wheat plants.

25 Compositions containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention or a vector according to the invention are also the subject matter of the present invention. Compositions containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention and a host cell are preferred. It is particularly preferred if the host cell is a plant cell, and especially preferred if it is a cell of a maize or wheat plant.

30

A further aspect of compositions according to the invention relates to compositions, which can be used for producing host cells according to the invention, preferably for producing plant cells according to the invention. Preferably this concerns a compositions containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention or a vector according to the invention and a biolistic carrier, which is suitable for introducing a nucleic acid molecule according to the invention into a host cell. Preferred biolistic carriers are particles of tungsten, gold or synthetic materials.

A further embodiment of compositions according to the invention relates to compositions containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to the invention or a vector according to the invention and a plant cell and a synthetic cultivation medium. Preferably, as well as nucleic acid molecules according to the invention, such compositions contain plant cells and synthetic cultivation medium comprising polyethylene glycol (PEG). With these compositions, the recombinant nucleic acid molecule exists outside the plant cell, i.e. it is situated outside the cell interior of the plant cell, which is enclosed by a cytoplasmic membrane.

Synthetic cultivation media, which are suitable for the cultivation and/or transformation of plant cells, are known to the person skilled in the art and are adequately described in the literature, for example. Many different synthetic cultivation media are also available for purchase in the specialised trade (e.g. DUCHEFA Biochemie B.V., Belgium).

Surprisingly, it has been found that starch isolated from plant cells according to the invention and plants according to the invention, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein, synthesise a modified starch.

In particular, the modified phosphate distribution accords the starches modified functional characteristics, which are of great interest in the paper industry, the cosmetics industry, the foodstuffs industry and the pharmaceutical industry.

The present invention also relates to modified starches obtainable from plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention, from propagation

material according to the invention or from harvestable plant parts according to the invention.

In a further embodiment, the present invention relates to modified starch according to the invention from starch-storing plants, preferably from starch-storing plants of the (systematic) family Poaceae, particularly preferably from maize or wheat plants.

A further subject of the present invention relates to modified starch according to the invention, which has a modified ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to the starch in comparison with starch isolated from wild type plant cells or wild type plants respectively that have not been genetically modified. Preferably, the ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to the modified starch is increased. The increase of the ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate bonded to starch is preferably at least 5%, preferably at least 10%, particularly preferably at least 20% and especially preferably at least 30%.

Furthermore the present invention relates to a method for the manufacture of a modified starch including the step of extracting the starch from a plant cell according to the invention or from a plant according to the invention, from propagation material according to the invention of such a plant and/or from harvestable plant parts according to the invention of such a plant, preferably from starch-storing parts according to the invention of such a plant. Preferably, such a method also includes the step of harvesting the cultivated plants or plant parts and/or the propagation material of these plants before the extraction of the starch and, further, particularly preferably the step of cultivating plants according to the invention before harvesting.

Methods according to the invention for manufacturing modified starch for manufacturing a modified starch according to the invention are likewise subject matter of the present invention.

Methods for extracting starches from plants or from starch-storing parts of plants are known to the person skilled in the art. Furthermore, methods for extracting starch from different starch-storing plants are described, e.g. in Starch: Chemistry and Technology (Publisher: Whistler, BeMiller and Paschall (1994), 2nd Edition, Academic Press Inc. London Ltd; ISBN 0-12-746270-8; see e.g. Chapter XII, Page 412-468: Maize and Sorghum Starches: Manufacture; by Watson; Chapter XIII, Page 469-479: Tapioca, Arrowroot and Sago Starches: Manufacture; by Corbishley and Miller; Chapter XIV, Page 479-490: Potato starch: Manufacture and Uses; by Mitch; Chapter XV, Page 491 to 506: Wheat starch: Manufacture, Modification and Uses; by Knight and Oson; and Chapter XVI, Page 507 to 528: Rice starch: Manufacture and Uses; by Rohmer and Klem; Maize starch: Eckhoff et al., Cereal Chem. 73 (1996), 54-57, the extraction of maize starch on an industrial scale is generally achieved by so-called "wet milling"). Devices, which are in common use in methods for extracting starch from plant material, are separators, decanters, hydrocyclones, spray dryers and fluid bed dryers.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "starch-storing parts" is to be understood to mean such parts of a plant in which, in contrast to transitory leaf starch, starch is stored as a deposit for surviving for longer periods. Preferred starch-storing plant parts are, for example, tubers, storage roots and grains, particularly preferred are grains containing an endosperm, especially particularly preferred are grains containing an endosperm of maize or wheat plants.

Modified starch obtainable by a method according to the invention for manufacturing modified starch is also the subject matter of the present invention.

In a further embodiment of the present invention, the modified starch according to the invention is native starch.

In conjunction with the present invention, the term "native starch" means that the starch is isolated from plants according to the invention, harvestable plant plants

according to the invention, starch-storing parts according to the invention or propagation material of plants according to the invention by methods known to the person skilled in the art.

- 5 Furthermore, the use of plant cells according to the invention or plants according to the invention for manufacturing a modified starch are the subject matter of the present invention.

10 The person skilled in the art knows that the characteristics of starch can be changed by thermal, chemical, enzymatic or mechanical derivation, for example. Derived starches are particularly suitable for different applications in the foodstuffs and/or non-foodstuffs sector. The starches according to the invention are better suited as a starting substance for the manufacture of derived starches than conventional starches, as they have a higher proportion of reactive functional groups due to the
15 higher starch phosphate content.

The present invention therefore also relates to the manufacture of a derived starch, wherein modified starch according to the invention is derived retrospectively.

- 20 In conjunction with the present invention, the term "derived starch" is to be understood to mean a modified starch according to the invention, the characteristics of which have been changed after isolation from plant cells with the help of chemical, enzymatic, thermal or mechanical methods.

- 25 In a further embodiment of the present invention, the derived starch according to the invention is starch that has been treated with heat and/or acid.

In a further embodiment, the derived starches are starch ethers, in particular starch alkyl ethers, O-allyl ethers, hydroxylalkyl ethers, O-carboxymethyl ethers, nitrogen-

containing starch ethers, phosphate-containing starch ethers or sulphur-containing starch ethers.

In a further embodiment, the derived starches are cross-linked starches.

5

In a further embodiment, the derived starches are starch graft polymers.

In a further embodiment, the derived starches are oxidised starches.

10 In a further embodiment, the derived starches are starch esters, in particular starch esters, which have been introduced into the starch using organic acids. Particularly preferably these are phosphate, nitrate, sulphate, xanthate, acetate or citrate starches.

15 The derived starches according to the invention are suitable for different applications in the pharmaceutical industry and in the foodstuffs and/or non-foodstuffs sector. Methods for manufacturing derived starches according to the invention are known to the person skilled in the art and are adequately described in the general literature. An overview on the manufacture of derived starches can be found, for example, in
20 Orthoefer (in Corn, Chemistry and Technology, 1987, eds. Watson und Ramstad, Chapter 16, 479-499).

Derived starch obtainable by the method according to the invention for manufacturing a derived starch is also the subject matter of the present invention.

25

Furthermore, the use of modified starches according to the invention for manufacturing derived starch is the subject matter of the present invention.

Description of sequences

SEQ ID NO 1: Nucleic acid sequence containing the coding region of the A.t.-OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. This sequence is inserted in the vectors OK1-pGEM and OK1-pDEST™17.

- 5 SEQ ID NO 2: Amino acid sequence coding the A.t.-OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. This sequence can be derived from the nucleic acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 1.

SEQ ID NO 3: Nucleic acid sequence containing the coding region of the O.s.-OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*. This sequence is inserted in vector pMI50.

- 10 SEQ ID NO 4: Amino acid sequence coding the O.s.-OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*. This sequence can be derived from the nucleic acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 3.

SEQ ID NO 5: Peptide sequence coding the phosphohistidine domain of the OK1 proteins from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and *Oryza sativa*.

- 15 SEQ ID NO 6: Peptide sequence containing the amino acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato.

SEQ ID NO 7: Peptide sequence containing the amino acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato.

- 20 SEQ ID NO 8: Peptide sequence containing the amino acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato.

SEQ ID NO 9: Peptide sequence containing the amino acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato.

- 25 SEQ ID NO 10: Partial nucleic acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato. This nucleic acid sequence has been identified by means of the peptide sequences shown under SEQ ID NO 11, SEQ ID NO 12, SEQ ID NO 13 and SEQ ID NO 14 using the "Blast Search" facility in the TIGR database.

SEQ ID NO 11: Partial amino acid sequence coding an S.t.-OK1 protein from potato. The amino acid sequence shown can be derived from the nucleic acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 15.

Description of Figures

Fig. 1: Denaturing acrylamide gel for identifying proteins from
5 *Arabidopsis thaliana*, which preferably bond to non-phosphorylated starch in
comparison with phosphorylated starch. A standard protein molecular weight marker
is shown in trace "M". Proteins obtained after incubation of control preparation C from
Example 1 d) are shown in trace "-". Protein extracts of *Arabidopsis thaliana*,
obtained after incubation with non-phosphorylated starch, isolated from leaves of an
10 *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant (Preparation B, Example 1 d)), are shown in
trace "K". Protein extracts of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, obtained after incubation with
starch, isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant, which was
phosphorylated retrospectively *in vitro* with an R1 protein (Preparation A, Example 1
d)), are shown in trace "P". On completion of electrophoresis, the acrylamide gel was
15 stained with Coomassie Blue.

Fig. 2: Demonstration of the autophosphorylation of the OK1 protein.
Fig. 2 A) shows a denaturing (SDS) acrylamide gel on completion of electrophoresis
stained with Coomassie Blue. Fig. 2 B) shows the autoradiography of a denaturing
20 (SDS) acrylamide gel. The same amounts of the same samples were applied to each
of the two gels. M: Standard protein molecular weight marker; R1: Sample from
reaction vessel 1 according to Example 7 (after incubating an OK1 protein with ATP);
R2: Sample from reaction vessel 2 according to Example 7 (after incubating an OK1
protein with ATP the protein was heated to 95°C); R3: Sample from reaction vessel 3
25 according to Example 7 (after incubating an OK1 protein with ATP the protein was
incubated in 0.5 M HCl); R4: Sample from reaction vessel 4 according to Example 7
(after incubating an OK1 protein with ATP the protein was incubated in 0.5 M NaOH).

Fig. 3: Demonstration of the starch-phosphorylating activity of an OK1
30 protein (see Example 6). OK1 protein was incubated with non-phosphorylated starch

isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant (Preparation A) and starch isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant, which was phosphorylated retrospectively *in vitro* with an R1 protein (Preparation B). Preparation C is the same as Preparation B, except that this Preparation C was
5 incubated without OK1 protein. Two independent tests were carried out for each preparation (A, B, C) (Test 1 and Test 2). The respective amounts are shown, measured in cpm (counts per minute), on ^{33}P labeled phosphate, which was introduced into non-phosphorylated starch (Preparation A) and phosphorylated starch (Preparation B).

10

Fig. 4: Comparison of the C-atom positions of glucose molecules of the starch, which was phosphorylated from an R1 protein and an OK1 protein respectively (see Example 9). OK1 protein (Preparation A) was incubated in the presence of ATP labeled with ^{33}P with starch isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis*
15 *thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant, which was phosphorylated retrospectively *in vitro* with an R1 protein. R1 protein (Preparation B) was incubated in the presence of ATP labeled with ^{33}P with starch isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant. On completion of incubation, a total hydrolysis of the starch was carried out and the hydrolysis products were separated by means of HPAE chromatography. As
20 standard, glucose-6-phosphate and glucose-3-phosphate were added to the hydrolysis products before separation. The hydrolysis products separated by means of HPAE chromatography were collected in individual fractions. The added glucose-6-phosphate eluted with fraction 15 and the added glucose-3-phosphate with fraction 17. The fractions obtained were subsequently investigated for the presence of
25 radioactively labeled phosphate. The amount of ^{33}P labeled phosphate which was introduced into the hydrolysis products of the phosphorylated starch by the OK1 protein or the R1 protein measured in the individual fractions, measured in cpm (counts per minute), is shown graphically.

30 Fig. 5: Demonstration of the autophosphorylation of the OK1 protein. Fig. 5 A) shows a Western blot. Fig. 5 B) shows the autoradiography of a denaturing (SDS) acrylamide gel. The same amounts of the same samples were applied to each of the

two gels. The OK1 protein was incubated either with randomised radioactively labelled ATP or with ATP specifically radioactively labeled in the gamma position. On completion of incubation, the proteins were either heated to 30°C or 95°C, or incubated in 0.5 M NaOH or 0.5 M HCl respectively.

5

Fig. 6: Demonstration of the transfer of the beta-phosphate residue of ATP to starch in a reaction catalysed by an OK1 protein. Either ATP specifically labeled with ^{33}P in the gamma position or randomised ^{33}P ATP was used to phosphorylate starch, which had been isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant and phosphorylated *in vitro* by means of an R1 protein and, by means of an OK1 protein. No OK1 protein was added in any of the experiments designated as "control". Each preparation was tested twice, independently from one another. The results of both tests are shown.

15 Fig. 7: Leaf, stained with Lugol's solution, of a mutant, which has a reduced activity of an OK1 protein in comparison with a leaf of a wild type plant.

Fig. 8: Western blot analysis of plants, which have a reduced amount of OK1 protein. The plant lines A.t.-alpha-OK1-1, A.t.-alpha-OK1-2, A.t.-alpha-OK1-3, A.t.-alpha-OK1-4 and A.t.-alpha-OK1-5 were genetically modified with the help of RNAi technology. WT indicates wild type plants.

25 General methods

In the following, methods are described, which can be used for carrying out the the invention. These methods constitute specific embodiments of the present invention but do not restrict the present invention to these methods. The person skilled in the

art knows that he can implement the invention in the same way by modifying the methods described and/or by replacing individual parts of the methods by alternative parts of the methods.

5 1. **Manufacture of protein extracts from plant tissue**

a) Manufacture of protein extracts from plant tissues

Leaf material is frozen in liquid nitrogen immediately after harvesting and subsequently homogenised in the mortar under liquid nitrogen. The reduced leaf material is mixed with ca. 3.5-times the volume (referred to the weight of the leaf
10 material used) of cold (4°C) binding buffer and broken down for 2 x 10 s with an Ultraturrax (maximum speed). After the first treatment with an Ultraturrax, the reduced leaf material is cooled on ice before the second treatment is carried out. The treated leaf material is then passed through a 100 µm nylon mesh and centrifuged for 20 min (50 ml centrifuge vessel, 20.000xg, 4°C).

15

b) Precipitation of the proteins contained in the protein extracts

The supernatant obtained following centrifugation according to Step a) is removed and its volume determined. To precipitated proteins, ammonium sulphate is added continuously to the supernatant over a period of 30 minutes while stirring on ice down
20 to a final concentration of 75% (weight/volume). The supernatant is subsequently incubated for a further hour on ice while stirring. The proteins precipitated from the supernatant are pelleted at 20.000xg and 4°C for 10 min and the pellet subsequently absorbed in 5 ml of binding buffer, i.e. the proteins present in the pellet are dissolved.

25

c) Desalting of the precipitated proteins

The dissolved proteins are desalted by means of a PD10 column filled with Sephadex G25 (Amersham Bioscience, Freiburg, Prod. No. columns: 17-0851-01, Prod. No. Sephadex G25-M: 17-0033-01) at a temperature of 4°C, i.e. the

ammonium sulphate used under Step b) for precipitation is also separated from the dissolved protein. The PD10 column is equilibrated with binding buffer before the proteins dissolved in accordance with Step b) are applied. For this purpose, 5 ml of binding buffer are spread over the column in each case. Subsequently, 2.5 ml of the
 5 protein solution obtained in accordance with Step b) are added to each column before proteins are eluted from the column with 3.5 ml binding buffer.

d) Determination of the protein concentration

The protein concentration is determined with a Bradford assay (Biorad, Munich, Prod.
 10 No. 500-0006 (Bradford, 1976, Anal. Biochem. 72, 248-254).

e) Composition of the binding buffer [

Binding buffer:	50 mM	HEPES/NaOH (or KOH), pH 7.2
	1 mM	EDTA
15	2 mM	Dithioerythritol (DTE)
	2 mM	Benzamidine
	2 mM	ϵ -aminocaproic acid
	0.5 mM	PMSF
	0.02 %	Triton X-100

20 **2. Isolation of leaf starch**

a) Isolation of starch granules from plant tissues

Leaf material is frozen immediately after harvesting in liquid nitrogen. The leaf material is homogenised in portions in the mortar under liquid nitrogen and absorbed into a total of ca. 2.5-times the volume (weight/volume) of starch buffer. In addition,
 25 this suspension is again homogenised in the Waring blender for 20 s at maximum speed. The homogenate is passed through a nylon mesh (100 μ m mesh width) and centrifuged for 5 minutes at 1.000xg. The supernatant with the soluble proteins is discarded.

b) Purification of the starch isolated from the plant tissues

After removing the green material lying on top of the starch by rinsing off the green material with starch buffer, the pellet containing the starch obtained from Step a) is absorbed in starch buffer and successively passed through nylon meshes with different mesh widths (in the order 60 μm , 30 μm , 20 μm). The filtrate is centrifuged using a 10 ml Percoll cushion (95% (v/v) Percoll (Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden), 5% (v/v) 0.5M HEPES-KOH pH7.2) (Correx tube, 15 min, 2.000xg). The sediment obtained after this centrifugation is resuspended once in starch buffer and centrifuged again (5 min, 1.000xg.).

c) Removal of the proteins bonded to the starch

Following Step b), starch granules are obtained, which contain proteins bonded to the starch. The proteins bonded to the surface of the starch granules are removed by incubating four times with 0.5 % SDS (sodium lauryl sulphate) for 10-15 minutes in each case at room temperature under agitation. Each washing step is followed by a centrifugation (5 min, 5.000xg), in order to separate the starch granules from the respective wash buffer.

d) Purification of the starch that has been freed of proteins

The starch obtained from Step c), which has been freed from the proteins bonded to its surface, is subsequently removed by incubating four times with wash buffer for 10-15 minutes in each case at room temperature under agitation. Each washing step is followed by a centrifugation (5 min, 1.000xg), in order to separate the starch granules from the respective wash buffer. These purification steps serve mainly to remove the SDS used in the incubations in Step c).

e) Determination of the concentration of isolated starch

The amount of starch isolated in Step d) is determined photometrically. After suitable dilution, the optical density of the starch suspension is measured against a calibration

curve at a wavelength of 600 nm. The linear range of the calibration curve is located between 0 and 0.3 extinction units.

To produce the calibration curves, starch, for example isolated from leaves of an *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutant, is dried under vacuum, weighed and suspended
5 in a defined volume of water. The suspension so obtained is diluted with water in several steps in a ratio of 1 to 1 in each case until a suspension of ca. 5 µg starch per ml of water is obtained. The suspensions obtained by the individual dilution steps are measured in the photometer at a wavelength of 600 nm. The absorption values obtained for each suspension are plotted against the concentration of starch in the
10 respective suspension. The calibration curve obtained should follow a linear mathematical function in the range from 0 µg starch per ml of water to 0.3 µg starch per ml of water.

f) Storage of isolated starch

15 The starch can either be used directly without further storage for further tests, or stored in aliquots in 1.5 mL Eppendorf vessels at -20°C. Both the frozen starch and the non-stored, freshly isolated starch can be used, if required, for the methods described in the present invention relating to *in vitro* phosphorylation and/or bonding test, for example.

20

g) Composition of buffers used

1x starch buffer: 20 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 8.0
0.2 mM EDTA
0.5 % Triton X-100

25

Wash buffer: 50 mM HEPES/KOH, pH 7.2

3. Recombinant expression of an identified starch-phosphorylating protein

a) Manufacture of a bacterial expression vector containing a cDNA, which codes a starch-phosphorylating protein

The cDNA coding a starch-phosphorylating protein can be amplified, for example, using mRNA or poly-A-plus-mRNA from plant tissues as a "template", by means of a polymerase chain reaction (PCR). For this purpose, a reverse transcriptase is first used for the manufacture of a cDNA strand, which is complementary to an mRNA, which codes a starch-phosphorylating protein, before the cDNA strand concerned is amplified by means of DNA polymerase. So-called "kits" containing substances, enzymes and instructions for carrying out PCR reactions are available for purchase (e.g. SuperScript™ One-Step RT-PCR System, Invitrogen, Prod. No.: 10928-034). The amplified cDNA coding a starch-phosphorylating protein can subsequently be cloned in a bacterial expression vector, e.g. pDEST™17 (Invitrogen). pDEST™17 contains the T7 promoter, which is used to initiate the transcription of the T7-RNA-polymerase. Furthermore, the expression vector pDEST™17 contains a Shine Dalgarno sequence in the 5'-direction of the T7 promoter followed by a start codon (ATG) and by a so-called His tag. This His tag consists of six codons directly following one another, which each code the amino acid histidine and are located in the reading frame of the said start codon. The cloning of a cDNA coding a starch-phosphorylating protein in pDEST™17 is carried out in such a way that a translational fusion occurs between the codons for the start codon, the His tag and the cDNA coding a starch-phosphorylating protein. As a result of this, following transcription initiated on the T7 promoter, and subsequent translation, a starch-phosphorylating protein is obtained, which contains additional amino acids containing the His tag on its N-terminus.

However, other vectors, which are suitable for expression in micro-organisms, can also be used for the expression of a starch-phosphorylating protein. Expression vectors and associated expression strains are known to the person skilled in the art and are also available for purchase from the appropriate dealer in suitable combinations.

b) Manufacture of expression clones in *Escherichia coli*

First of all, an appropriate transformation-competent *E. coli* strain, which chromosomally codes a T7-RNA polymerase, is transformed with the expression plasmid manufactured under Step a), and subsequently incubated overnight at 30°C on culture medium solidified with agar. Suitable expression strains are, for example, BL21 strains (Invitrogen Prod. No.: C6010-03, which chromosomally code a T7-RNA polymerase under the control of an IPTG-inducible promoter (lacZ).

Bacteria colonies resulting from the transformation can be investigated using methods known to the person skilled in the art to see whether they contain the required expression plasmid containing a cDNA coding the starch-phosphorylating protein. At the same time, expression clones are obtained.

c) Expression of a starch-phosphorylating protein in *Escherichia coli*

First of all, a preliminary culture is produced. To do this, an expression clone obtained in accordance with Step b) is seeded in 30 ml Terrific Broth (TB medium) containing an antibiotic for selection on the presence of the expression plasmid, and incubated overnight at 30°C under agitation (250 rpm).

A main culture for the expression of a starch-phosphorylating protein is then produced. To do this, in each case, 1 litre Erlenmeyer flasks, each containing 300 ml of TB medium, pre-heated to 30°C, and an antibiotic for selection on the presence of the expression plasmid are each seeded with 10 ml of an appropriate pre-culture and incubated at 30°C under agitation (250 rpm) until an optical density (measured at a wavelength of 600 nm; OD₆₀₀) of ca. 0.8 is achieved.

If, for the expression of a starch-phosphorylating protein, an expression plasmid is used, in which the expression of the starch-phosphorylating protein is initiated by means of an inducible system (e.g. the expression vector pDEST™17 in BL21 *E. coli* strains, inducible by means of IPTG), then on reaching an OD₆₀₀ of ca. 0.8, the inductor concerned (e.g. IPTG) is added to the main culture. After adding the inductor, the main culture is incubated at 30°C under agitation (250 rpm) until an OD₆₀₀ of ca. 1.8 is achieved. The main culture is then cooled for 30 minutes on ice

before the cells of the main culture are separated from the culture medium by centrifugation (10 minutes at 4.000xg and 4°C).

4. Purification of a starch-phosphorylating protein

5 a) Breaking down of cells expressing a starch-phosphorylating protein

The cells obtained in Step c), Item 3 General Methods are resuspended in lysis buffer. In doing so, ca. 4 ml lysis buffer are added to about 1 g of cells. The resuspended cells are then incubated for 30 minutes on ice before they are broken down with the help of an ultrasonic probe (Baudelin Sonoplus UW 2070, Baudelin electronic, Berlin, settings: Cycle 6, 70%, 1 minute) under continuous cooling by means of the ice. Care must be taken here to ensure that the cell suspension is not heated too much during the ultrasonic treatment. The suspension obtained after the ultrasonic treatment is centrifuged (12 minutes at 20.000xg, 4°C) and the supernatant obtained after centrifugation is filtered using a filter with a pore size of 45 µm.

15

b) Purification of the starch-phosphorylating protein

If the starch-phosphorylating protein expressed in *E. coli* cells is a fusion protein with a His tag, then purification can take place with the help of nickel ions, to which the His tag bonds with greater affinity. To do this, 25 ml of the filtrate obtained in Step d) is mixed with 1 ml Ni-agarose slurry (Qiagen, Prod. No.: 30210) and incubated for 1 hour on ice. The mixture of Ni-agarose slurry and filtrate is subsequently spread over a polystyrene column (Pierce, Prod. No.: 29920). The product, which runs through the column, is discarded. The column is next washed by adding 8 ml of lysis buffer, the liquid, which runs through the column, again being discarded. Elution of the starch-phosphorylating protein then takes place by fractionated addition to the column of 1 ml E1 buffer twice, followed by 1 ml E2 buffer once and subsequently 1 ml E3 buffer five times. The product, which runs through the column, which is produced by adding the individual fraction of the appropriate elution buffer (E1, E2, E3 buffer) to the column, is collected in separate fractions. Aliquots of these fractions are subsequently analysed by means of denaturing SDS acrylamide gel

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electrophoresis followed by Coomassie Blue colouring. The fractions, which contain the starch-phosphorylating protein in sufficient quantity and satisfactory purity, are purified and concentrated with the help of pressurised filtration at 4°C. Pressurised filtration can be carried out, for example, with the help of an Amicon cell (Amicon
5 Ultrafiltration Cell, Model 8010, Prod. No.: 5121) using a Diaflo PM30 membrane (Millipore, Prod. No.: 13212) at 4°C. Other methods known to the person skilled in the art can also be used for concentration however.

c) Composition of buffers used

10 Lysis buffer: 50 mM HEPES

300 mM NaCl

10 mM Imidazol

pH 8.0 (adjust with NaOH)

1 mg/ml Lysozyme (add immediately before using the buffer)

15 ¼ tablet per 10 ml protease inhibitors completely EDTA free, (Roche product No.: 1873580) (add immediately before using the buffer)

Elution buffer E1: 50 mM HEPES

300 mM NaCl

20 50 mM Imidazol

pH 8.0 (adjust with NaOH)

Elution buffer E2: 50 mM HEPES

300 mM NaCl

25 75 mM Imidazol

pH 8.0 (adjust with NaOH)

Elution buffer E3: 50 mM HEPES
300 mM NaCl
250 mM Imidazol
pH 8.0 (adjust with NaOH)

5

5. Recombinant expression of an R1 protein

The recombinant expression of an R1 protein is described in the literature (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171; Mikkelsen et al., 2004, Biochemical Journal 377, 525-532), but can also be carried out in accordance with the methods relating to the recombinant expression of a starch-phosphorylating protein described above under Item 3. General Methods.

6. Purification of an R1 protein

The purification of an R1 protein is described in the literature (Ritte et al., 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171; Mikkelsen et al., Mikkelsen et al., 2004, Biochemical Journal 377, 525-532), but can also be carried out in accordance with the methods relating to the purification of a starch-phosphorylating protein described above under Item 4. General Methods if an R1 fusion protein, which contains a His tag, is produced by expression of R1 in *E. coli* cells.

20

7. In vitro manufacture of phosphorylated starch starting from non-phosphorylated starch

a) *In vitro* phosphorylation of non-phosphorylated starch

Starch, which does not contain starch phosphate (e.g. isolated from leaves of *Arabidopsis thaliana* *sex1-3* mutants with the help of the methods described above under Item 2, General Methods), is mixed with R1 buffer and with purified R1 protein (ca. 0.25 µg R1 protein per mg starch) in order to produce a starch content of 25 mg

25

per ml. This reaction preparation is incubated overnight (ca. 15 h) at room temperature under agitation. R1 bonded to the starch present in the reaction preparation is removed on completion of the reaction by washing four times with ca. 800 µl 0.5 % SDS in each case. Subsequently, the SDS still present in the *in vitro* phosphorylated starch is removed by washing five times with 1 ml wash buffer in each case. All washing steps are carried out at room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes under agitation. Each washing step is followed by a centrifugation (2 min, 10.000xg), in order to separate the starch granules from the respective SDS buffer or wash buffer.

10

b) Composition of buffers used

R1 buffer:	50 mM	HEPES/KOH, pH 7.5
	1 mM	EDTA
	6 mM	MgCl ₂
	0.5 mM	ATP

15

Wash buffer: 50 mM HEPES/KOH, pH 7.2

8. Bonding of proteins to phosphorylated starch or non-phosphorylated starch

20

a) Isolation of P-starch protein complexes or non-phosphorylated starch protein complexes

Ca. 50 mg P-starch or ca. 50 mg non-phosphorylated starch respectively are resuspended in separate preparations in ca. 800 µl protein extract in each case. The protein concentration of the protein extracts should be ca. 4 mg to 5 mg per ml in each case. The incubation of the P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch with protein extracts is carried out at room temperature for 15 minutes at 4°C under agitation. On completion of the incubation, the reaction preparations are centrifuged using a Percoll cushion (4 ml) (15 minutes, 3500 rpm, 4°C). After centrifugation, proteins that

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are not bonded to phosphorylated starch or P-starch will be found in the supernatant and can be removed with a Pasteur pipette. The supernatant is discarded. The sedimented pellet containing P-starch and non-phosphorylated starch, including the proteins bonded to the respective starches (P-starch protein complexes or non-phosphorylated starch protein complexes respectively), obtained after centrifugation is washed twice with 1 ml of wash buffer in each case (see above, General Methods under item 7.b) by incubating for 3 minutes at 4°C in each case under agitation. The washing step is followed by a centrifugation (5 minutes, 8000 rpm, 4°C in a table centrifuge, Hettich EBA 12R) in order to separate the P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch respectively from the wash buffer.

b) Dissolving the proteins bonded in the P-starch protein complexes or non-phosphorylated starch protein complexes respectively

The P-starch protein complexes or non-phosphorylated starch protein complexes respectively obtained in Step a) are resuspended in ca. 150 µl SDS test buffer and incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes under agitation. The P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch respectively is subsequently removed from the dissolved proteins by centrifugation (1 minute, 13,000 rpm, room temperature, Eppendorf table centrifuge). The supernatant obtained after centrifugation is centrifuged again in order to remove any residues of P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch respectively (1 minute, 13,000 rpm, room temperature, Eppendorf table centrifuge) and removed. As a result, dissolved proteins, which bond to the P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch respectively, are obtained.

c) Composition of buffers used

SDS test buffer:	187.5 mM	Tris/HCl pH 6.8
	6 %	SDS
	30 %	Glycerine
	~ 0.015 %	Bromophenol blue
	60 mM	Dithioerythritol (DTE, add fresh!)

Percoll: Percoll is dialysed overnight against a solution consisting of 25 mM HEPES / KOH, pH 7.0

5 **9. Separation of proteins, which bond to P-starch and/or non-phosphorylated starch**

The dissolved proteins obtained in Step c) under Item 8. General Methods relating to the bonding of proteins to P-starch or non-phosphorylated starch respectively are incubated for 5 minutes at 95°C in each case and subsequently separated with the
10 help of denaturing polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. In doing so, an equal volume is applied to the acrylamide gel in each case for the dissolved proteins obtained by bonding to P-starch and for those obtained by bonding to non-phosphorylated starch. The gel obtained on completion of electrophoresis is stained at least overnight with colloidal Comassie (Roth, Karlsruhe, Roti-Blue Rod. No.: A152.1) and subsequently
15 de-stained in 30 % methanol, 5 % acetic acid, or in 25% methanol.

10. Identification and isolation of proteins, which bond to P-starch and/or non-phosphorylated starch

a) Identification of proteins with increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch
20 in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch

Proteins, which, after separation by means of acrylamide gel electrophoresis and subsequent visualisation by staining (see above, Item 9. General Methods), exhibit an increased signal after bonding to P-starch in comparison with a corresponding signal after bonding to non-phosphorylated starch, have increased bonding activity
25 with respect to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch. By this means, it is possible to identify proteins, which have increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch. Proteins, which have increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch, are excised from the acrylamide gel.

b) Identification of proteins, which have increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch

Proteins identified in accordance with Step a) are digested with trypsin and the peptides obtained are analysed by means of MALDI-TOF to determine the masses of the peptides obtained. Trypsin is a sequence-specific protease, i.e. trypsin only splits proteins at a specified position when the proteins concerned contain certain amino acid sequences. Trypsin always splits peptide bonds when the amino acids arginine and lysine follow one another starting from the N-terminus. In this way, it is possible to theoretically determine all peptides that would be produced following the trypsin digestion of an amino acid sequence. From the knowledge of the amino acids coding the theoretically determined peptides, the masses of the peptides, which are obtained after theoretical trypsin digestion, can also be determined. Databases (e.g. NCBI Inr <http://prospector.ucsf.edu/ucsfhtml4.0/msfit.htm>; Swissprot <http://cbrg.inf.ethz.ch/Server/MassSearch.html>), which contain information concerning the masses of peptides after theoretical trypsin digestion, can therefore be compared with the real masses of peptides of unknown proteins obtained with MALDI-TOF-MS. Amino acid sequences, which have the same peptide masses after theoretical and/or real trypsin digestion, are to be looked upon as being identical. The databases concerned contain both peptide masses of proteins, the function of which has already been shown, and also peptide masses of proteins, which up to now only exist hypothetically by derivation from amino acid sequences starting from nucleic acid sequences obtained in sequencing projects. The actual existence and the function of such hypothetical proteins has therefore seldom been shown and, if there is a function at all, then this is usually based only on predictions and not on an actual demonstration of the function.

Bands containing proteins obtained in accordance with Step a) are excised from the acrylamide gel; the excised acrylamide piece is reduced and destained by incubating for approximately half an hour at 37°C in ca. 1 ml 60% 50mM NH_4HCO_3 , 40% acetonitrile. The decolourising solution is subsequently removed and the remaining gel dried under vacuum (e.g. Speedvac). After drying, trypsin solution is added to digest the proteins contained in the gel piece concerned. Digestion takes place

overnight at 37°C. After digestion, a little acetonitrile is added (until the acrylamide gel is stained white) and the preparation dried under vacuum (e.g. Speedvac). When drying is complete, just enough 5% formic acid is added to cover the dried constituents and incubated for a few minutes at 37°C. The acetonitrile treatment
5 followed by drying is repeated once more. The dried constituents are subsequently absorbed in 0.1% TFA (trifluoroacetic acid, 5 µl to 10 µl) and dripped onto a carrier in ca. 0.5 µl portions. Equal amounts of matrix (ε-cyano-4-hydroxy-cinnamic acid) are also applied to the carrier. After crystallising out the matrix, the masses of peptides are determined by means of MALDI-TOF-MS-MS (e.g. Burker ReflexTM II, Bruker
10 Daltonic, Bremen). With the masses obtained, databases are searched for amino acid sequences, which give the same masses after theoretical trypsin digestion. In this way, amino acid sequences can be identified, which code proteins, which preferably bond to phosphorylated alpha-1,4-glucans and/or which need P-alpha-1,4-glucans as a substrate.

15

11. Method for demonstrating starch-phosphorylating activity of a protein

a) Incubation of proteins with P-starch and/or non-phosphorylated starch

In order to demonstrate whether a protein has starch-phosphorylating activity, proteins to be investigated can be incubated with starch and radioactively labeled
20 ATP. To do this, ca. 5 mg of P-starch or ca. 5 mg of non-phosphorylated starch are incubated with the protein to be investigated (0.01 µg to 5.0 µg per mg of starch used) in 500 µl phosphorylation buffer for 10 minutes to 30 minutes at room temperature under agitation. The reaction is subsequently stopped by the addition of SDS up to a concentration of 2% (weight/volume). The starch granules in the
25 respective reaction mixture are centrifuged (1 minute, 13.000xg), and washed once with 900 µl of a 2 % SDS solution and four times each with 900 µl of a 2 mM ATP solution. Each washing step is carried out for 15 minutes at room temperature under agitation. After each washing step, the starch granules are separated from the respective wash buffer by centrifugation (1 min, 13.000xg).

30 In addition, when carrying out an experiment to demonstrate starch-phosphorylating activity of a protein, further reaction preparations, which do not contain protein or

contain inactivated protein, but which are otherwise treated in the same way as the reaction preparations described, should be processed as so-called controls.

- b) Determination of the amount of phosphate residues incorporated in the P-starch
5 and/or non-phosphorylated starch due to enzymatic activity

The starch granules obtained in accordance with Step a) can be investigated for the presence of radioactively labeled phosphate residues. To do this, the respective starch is resuspended in 100 µl of water and mixed with 3 ml of scintillation cocktail in each case (e.g. Ready Safe™, BECKMANN Coulter) and subsequently analysed with
10 the help of a scintillation counter (e.g. LS 6500 Multi-Purpose Scintillation Counter, BECKMANN COULTER™).

- c) Identification of proteins, which preferably use P-starch as a substrate

If a protein is incubated in separate preparations, once with P-starch and once with
15 non-phosphorylated starch, in accordance with the method described under a), then, by comparing the values for the presence of starch phosphate obtained according to Step b), it can be determined whether the protein concerned has incorporated more phosphate in P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch. In this way, proteins can also be identified, which can introduce phosphate into P-starch but not
20 into non-phosphorylated starch. That is to say, proteins can be identified, which require already phosphorylated starch as a substrate for a further phosphorylating reaction.

- d) Composition of buffers used

25	Phosphorylation buffer:	50 mM	HEPES/KOH, pH 7.5
		1 mM	EDTA
		6 mM	MgCl ₂
		0.01 to 0.5 mM	ATP

0.2 to 2 μCi per ml randomised ^{33}P -ATP (alternatively, ATP, which contains a phosphate residue, which is specifically labeled in the beta position, can also be used)

5 In conjunction with the present invention, the term "randomised ATP" is to be understood to mean ATP, which contains labeled phosphate residues both in the gamma position and in the beta position (Ritte et al. 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171). Randomised ATP is also described in the scientific literature as beta/gamma ATP. A method for manufacturing randomised ATP is described in the following.

10 i) Manufacture of randomised ATP

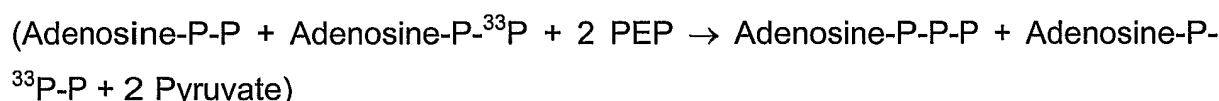
The method described here for manufacturing randomised ATP with the help of enzyme catalysed reactions is based on the following reaction mechanisms:

1st reaction step:



15 (Adenosine-P-P- ^{33}P + Adenosine-P $\rightarrow$ Adenosine-P-P + Adenosine-P- ^{33}P)

2nd reaction step



20 The reaction equilibria lie on the product side but, in spite of this, this reaction produces a mixture consisting mainly of $\beta^{33}\text{P-ATP}$ and some $\gamma^{33}\text{P-ATP}$.

ii) Carrying out the 1st reaction step

ATP (100 μCi , 3000 Ci per mmol), which contains a phosphate residue labeled with ^{33}P in the gamma position (Hartmann Analytic, 10 $\mu\text{Ci}/\mu\text{l}$), is incubated with 2 μl myokinase (AMP-phosphotransferase, from rabbit muscle; SIGMA, Prod. No.: M3003 3.8 mg/ml, 1,626 units/mg) in 90 μl randomising buffer for 1 hour at 37°C. The reaction is subsequently stopped by incubating for 12 minutes at 95°C before the

reaction preparation is purified up by means of centrifugal filtration using a Microcon YM 10 filter (Amicon, Millipore Prod. No. 42407) at 14.000xg for at least 10 minutes.

iii) Carrying out the 2nd reaction step

- 5 2 µl pyruvate kinase (see below for how to manufacture an appropriate solution) and
3 µl 50 mM PEP (phosphoenolpyruvate) are added to the filtrate obtained in Step ii).
This reaction mixture is incubated for 45 minutes at 30°C before the reaction is
stopped by incubating at 95°C for 12 minutes. The reaction mixture is subsequently
centrifuged (2 minutes, 12,000 rpm in an Eppendorf table centrifuge). The
10 supernatant containing randomised ATP obtained after centrifugation is removed,
aliquoted and can be stored at -20°C.

Manufacture of the pyruvate kinase solution

- 15 15 µl pyruvate kinase (from rabbit muscle, Roche, Prod. No. 12815), 10 mg/ml, 200
units/mg at 25 °C) are centrifuged, the supernatant discarded and the pellet
absorbed in 27 µl pyruvate kinase buffer.

iv) Buffers used

Pyruvate kinase buffer: 50 mM HEPES/KOH pH 7.5
1 mM EDTA

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Randomising buffer: 100 mM HEPES/KOH pH 7.5
1 mM EDTA
10 % Glycerol
5 mM MgCl₂
25 5 mM KCl
0.1 mM ATP
0.3 mM AMP

12. Demonstration of the autophosphorylation of a protein

In order to demonstrate whether a protein has auto-phosphorylating activity, proteins to be investigated can be incubated with radioactively labeled ATP. To do this, proteins to be investigated (50 µg to 100 µg) are incubated in 220 µl phosphorylation
5 buffer (see above, Item 12 d), General Methods) for 30 minutes to 90 minutes at room temperature under agitation. The reaction is subsequently stopped by the addition of EDTA up to a final concentration of 0.11 M. Ca. 2 µg to 4 µg of protein are separated with the help of denaturing polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (7.5% acrylamide gel). The gel obtained after polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis is
10 subjected to autoradiography. Proteins, which exhibit a signal in the autoradiography, carry a radioactive phosphate residue.

13. Identification of the C-atom positions of the glucose molecules of an alpha-1,4-glucan, into which phosphate residues are introduced by a starch-phosphorylating protein

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Which C-atom positions of the glucose molecules of an alpha-1,4-glucan are phosphorylated by a protein can be demonstrated in a controlled manner by hydrolysis of the phosphorylated glucans obtained by means of an appropriate protein *in vitro*, subsequent separation of the glucose monomers obtained after
20 hydrolysis, followed by measurement of the phosphate incorporated by an appropriate protein in certain fractions of the glucose molecules.

a) Total hydrolysis of the alpha-1,4-glucans

Water suspensions containing alpha-1,4-glucan are centrifuged, the sedimented
25 pellet subsequently resuspended in 0.7 M HCl (Baker, for analysis) and incubated for 2 hours at 95°C under agitation. On completion of incubation, the samples are briefly cooled and centrifuged (e.g. 2 minutes 10.000xg). The supernatant obtained is transferred to a new reaction vessel and neutralised by the addition of 2 M NaOH (Baker, for analysis). If a pellet remains, it is resuspended in 100 µl of water and the
30 quantity of labeled phosphate present therein is determined as a control.

The neutralised supernatant is subsequently centrifuged over a 10 kDa filter. By measuring an aliquot of the filtrate obtained, the quantity of labeled phosphate in the filtrate is determined with the help of a scintillation counter, for example.

- 5 b) Fractionation of the hydrolysis products and determination of the phosphorylated C-atom positions

The neutralised filtrates of the hydrolysis products obtained by means of Step a) can be separated (when using radioactively labeled ATP about 3000 cpm) with the help of high-pressure anion exchange chromatography (HPAE), for example. The neutralised filtrate can be diluted with H₂O to obtain the volume required for HPAE. In addition, glucose-6-phosphate (ca. 0.15 mM) and glucose-3-phosphate (ca. 0.3 mM) are added to the appropriate filtrates in each case as an internal control. Separation by means of HPAE can be carried out, for example, with the help of a Dionex DX 600 Bio Lc system using a CarboPac PA 100 column (with appropriate pre-column) and a pulsed amperometric detector (ED 50). In doing so, before injecting the sample, the column is first rinsed for 10 minutes with 99% eluent C and 1% eluent D. A sample volume of 60 µl is then injected. The elution of the sample takes place under the following conditions:

Flow rate: 1 ml per minute

20 Gradient: linearly increasing from 0 minutes to 30 minutes

	Eluent C	Eluent D
0 minutes	99%	1%
30 minutes	0%	100%
35 minutes	0%	100%

25 Run terminated

The hydrolysis products eluted from the column are collected in individual fractions of 1 ml each. As, in each case, non-labeled glucose-3-phosphate (Ritte et al. 2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171) and non-labeled glucose-6-phosphate (Sigma, Prod. No.:

G7879) have been added to the injected samples of hydrolysis products as internal standards, the fractions, which contain either glucose-3-phosphate or glucose-6-phosphate, can be determined by means of pulsed amperometric detection. By measuring the amount of labeled phosphates in the individual fractions and subsequently comparing with the fractions, which contain glucose-3-phosphate or glucose-6-phosphate, this can be used to determine those fractions, in which labeled glucose-6-phosphate or labeled glucose-3-phosphate is contained. The amount of labeled phosphate in the fraction concerned is determined. From the ratios of the amounts of glucose-3-phosphate to glucose-6-phosphate measured for labeled phosphate in the individual hydrolysis products, it can now be determined which C-atom position is preferably phosphorylated by an alpha-1,4-glucan phosphorylating enzyme.

c) Buffers used

Eluent C: 100 mM NaOH
Eluent D: 100 mM NaOH
500 mM sodium acetate

14. Transformation of rice plants

Rice plants were transformed in accordance with the methods described by Hiei et al. (1994, Plant Journal 6(2), 271-282).

15. Transformation of potato plants

Potato plants were transformed with the help of agrobacterium as described by Rocha-Sosa et al. (EMBO J. 8, (1989), 23-29).

16. Determination of the starch content of leaf material

a) Sample preparation:

Removal of soluble sugar by ethanolic extraction:

Ca. 1 g of fresh leaf material from plants is freeze-dried, weighed and subsequently
5 homogenised to a fine powder with a ball mill. Ca. 50 mg of pulverised leaf material
(double determination) are weighed, mixed with 1 ml 80% ethanol, strongly agitated
and the homogenous dispersion incubated for 1 hour at 80°C in the water bath. After
cooling to ca. 40°C, the dispersion is centrifuged for 5 minutes at 3000 rpm (Minifuge
RF, Heraeus). The supernatant is discarded. The leaf material is mixed two more
10 times with 1 ml 80% ethanol in each case and in each case incubated for 20 minutes
at 80°C in the water bath. After cooling and centrifugation (see above) the
supernatants are discarded in each case.

(b) Determination of the starch in the microtiter plate/Spectramax at 340 nm

Determination is carried out with the help of the UV tester for analysing the amount of
15 starch in foodstuffs, Boehringer Mannheim, Order No.: 207748 (amyloglucosidase,
starch measuring buffer, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase).

The sugar-free leaf material is mixed with 400 µl 0.2 N KOH and homogenised by
strong agitation. The homogenate is incubated in the water bath for 1 hour at 95°C.
After cooling, 75 µl 1M acetic acid are added and thoroughly mixed. Centrifugation is
20 then carried out for 10 minutes at 4000 rpm. 25 or 50 µl of supernatant are added to
50 µl amyloglucosidase (Boehringer Mannheim) and 25 or 50 µl respectively of
Millipore water, in a microtiter plate, and digested for 1 hour at 56°C. 196 µl starch
measuring buffer (Boehringer Mannheim) is prepared in a further microtiter plate. 4
(to 20) µl of the cooled starch digest is added to this from a pipette. Depending on the
25 glucose concentration, the ratio can be increased to 40 µl digest + 160 µl starch
measuring buffer.

Measurement: Agitate, pre-read

+ 2 µl glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (Boehringer Mannheim)

Incubation: 30 minutes at 37°C, measure

30 (c) The starch content is calculated as specified below:

Measured volume (200 μ l) x Extraction volume (4750 μ l) x amyloglucosidase digest volume (200 μ l) $\times \tilde{\Delta OD}/\epsilon \times 1000 \times$ Sample measured volume (4 μ l...40 μ l) x Sample digest volume (50 μ l) x Initial weight (g) x d(1) = Concentration (μ mol/g dry weight)

$\epsilon = 6.3 \text{ l} \times \text{mmol}^{-1} \times \text{cm}^{-1}$ (molar extinction coefficient of NADH at 340 nm)

- 5 From the weights determined before and after freeze-drying and the molar masses of glucose (162.1 g/mol – anhydride), the concentration is calculated in mg glucose / g of fresh weight.

17. Staining of plant parts with Lugol's solution

- 10 Plant parts to be investigated are removed from the plants and incubated in 80% ethanol at 50°C until the plant parts contain no more green colouring. The plant parts are then incubated in Lugol's solution before excess Lugol's solution is rinsed from the plant parts with water. Plant parts, which contain starch, have a brownish to black coloration. The stronger the coloration, the more starch is contained by the plant
- 15 parts concerned.

Examples

1. Isolation of a protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana*, which has increased bonding activity with respect to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch

a) Manufacture of protein extracts from *Arabidopsis thaliana*

Protein extracts were manufactured from approximately 7 g of leaves (fresh weight) of *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Ecotype Columbia, Col-O) in accordance with the method described under Item 1, General Methods.

b) Isolation of starch granules from leaves of *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana*

Starch granules were isolated from approximately 20g (fresh weight) of leaves of a *sex1-3* mutants of *Arabidopsis thaliana* in accordance with the method described under Item 2, General Methods.

- 5 c) *In vitro* phosphorylation of starch isolated from a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* with purified R1 protein.

About 30 mg of non-phosphorylated starch isolated from a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* was phosphorylated in accordance with the method described under Item 7, General Methods, by means of an R1 protein recombinantly expressed
10 in *E. coli* and purified. The method described by Ritte et al. (2002, PNAS 99, 7166-7171) was used for expressing the R1 protein in *E. coli* and for subsequent purification.

- d) Isolation of proteins, which bond to P-starch and/or non-phosphorylated starch

- 15 Protein extracts of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, obtained in accordance with Step a), were incubated and washed in a Preparation A with 50 mg of the *in vitro* phosphorylated starch manufactured in accordance with Step c) using the method described under Item 8 a), General Methods.

In a second Preparation B, protein extracts of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, obtained in
20 accordance with Step a), were incubated and washed with 50 mg of the non-phosphorylated starch manufactured in accordance with Step b) using the method described under Item 8 a), General Methods.

Subsequently, proteins bound to the P-starch of Preparation A and to the non-phosphorylated starch of Preparation B were dissolved in accordance with the
25 method described under Item 8 b), General Methods.

In a third Preparation C, 50 mg of the *in vitro* phosphorylated starch manufactured in accordance with Step c) were incubated and washed using the method described under Item 8 a), General Methods. Preparation C contained no protein extracts however.

e) Separation of the proteins obtained in accordance with Step d) by means of acrylamide gel electrophoresis

The proteins of Preparations A, B and C obtained in Step d) were separated by means of a 9% acrylamide gel under denaturing conditions (SDS) using the method described under Item 9, General Methods, and subsequently stained with Coomassie Blue. The stained gel is shown in Fig. 1. It can be clearly seen that a protein, which has a molecular weight of ca. 130 kDa in denaturing acrylamide gel referred to a protein standard marker (Trace M), preferably bonds to phosphorylated starch (Trace P) in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch (K).

10

f) Identification of the protein, which preferably bonds to P-starch in comparison with non-phosphorylated starch

The band of the protein with a molecular weight of ca. 130 kDa identified in Step e) was excised from the gel. The protein was subsequently released from the acrylamide as described under General Methods 10 b), digested with trypsin and the peptide masses obtained determined by means of MALD-TOF-MS. The so-called "fingerprint" obtained by MALDI-TOF-MS was compared with fingerprints of theoretically digested amino acid molecules in databases (Mascot: http://www.matrixscience.com/search_form_select.html; ProFound: http://129.85.19.192/profound_bin/WebProFound.exe; PepSea: <http://195.41.108.38/PepSeaIntro.html>). As such a fingerprint is very specific to a protein, it was possible to identify an amino acid molecule. With the help of the sequence of this amino acid molecule, it was possible to isolate a nucleic acid sequence from *Arabidopsis thaliana* coding an OK1 protein. The protein identified with this method was designated A.t.-OK1. Analysis of the amino acid sequence of the OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* showed that this deviated from the sequence that was present in the database (NP 198009, NCBI). The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No 2 codes the A.t.-OK1 protein. SEQ ID No 2 contains deviations when compared with the sequence in the database (Acc.: NP 198009.1, NCBI). The amino acids 519 to 523 (WRLCE) and 762 to 766 (VRARQ) contained in SEQ ID No 2 are not in the sequence, which is present in the database (ACC.: NP 198009.1). Compared with Version 2 of the database sequence (Acc.: NP 198009.2),

30

the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2 also contains the additional amino acids 519 to 523 (WRLCE).

2. Cloning of a cDNA, which codes the identified OK1 protein

The A.t.-OK1 cDNA was isolated with the help of reverse PCR using mRNA isolated from leaves of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. To do this, a cDNA Strand was synthesised by means of reverse transcriptase (SuperScriptTM First-Strand Synthesis System for RT PCR, Invitrogen Prod. No.: 11904-018), which was then amplified using DNA polymerase (Expand High Fidelity PCR Systems, Roche Prod. No.: 1732641). The amplified product obtained from this PCR reaction was cloned in the vector pGEM[®]-T (Invitrogen Prod. No.: A3600). The plasmid obtained is designated A.t.-OK1-pGEM, the cDNA sequence coding the A.t.-OK1 protein was determined and is shown under SEQ ID NO. 1.

The sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 1 is not the same as the sequence, which is contained in the database. This has already been discussed for the amino acid sequence coding an A.t.-OK1 protein.

Conditions used for the amplification of the cDNA coding the A.t.-OK1 protein

First strand synthesis:

The conditions and buffer specified by the manufacturer were used. In addition, the reaction preparation for the first strand synthesis contained the following substances:

20	3 µg	total RNA
	5 µM	3'-Primer (OK1rev1: 5'-GACTCAACCACATAACACACAAAGATC)
	0.83 µM	dNTP mix

The reaction preparation was incubated for 5 minutes at 75°C and subsequently cooled to room temperature.

25 The 1st strand buffer, RNase inhibitor and DTT were then added and incubated for 2 minutes at 42°C before 1 µL Superscript RT DNA polymerase was added and the reaction preparation incubated for 50 minutes at 42°C.

Conditions for the amplification of the first strand by means of PCR:

1 μ L of the reaction preparation of the first strand synthesis

0.25 μ M 3'Primer (OK1rev2: 5'- TGGTAACGAGGCAAATGCAGA)

0.25 μ M 5'Primer (OK1fwd2: 5'- ATCTCTTATCACACCA CCTCCAATG)

Reaction conditions:

5	Step 1	95°C 2 min
	Step 2	94°C 20 sec
	Step 3	62°C 30 sec
	Step 4	68°C 4 minutes
	Step 5	94°C 20 sec
10	Step 6	56°C 30 sec
	Step 7	68°C 4 minutes
	Step 8	68°C 10 minutes

The reaction was first carried out in accordance with Steps 1 to 4. 10 repeats (cycles) were carried out between Step 4 and Step 2, the temperature of Step 3 being reduced by 0.67°C after each cycle. This was subsequently followed by the reaction in accordance with the conditions specified in Steps 5 to 8. 25 repeats (cycles) were carried out between Step 7 and Step 5, the time of Step 7 being increased by 5 sec on each cycle. On completion of the reaction, the reaction was cooled to 4°C.

3. Manufacture of a vector for the recombinant expression of cDNA of the OK1 protein

Following amplification by means of PCR by using the plasmid A.t.-OK1-pGEM as a template using Gateway Technology (Invitrogen), the sequence coding the OK1 protein from *Arabidopsis thaliana* was next cloned in the vector pDONOR™ 201 (Invitrogen Prod. No.: 11798-014). Subsequently, the coding region of the OK1 protein from the vector obtained was cloned by sequence-specific recombination in the expression vector pDEST17™ (Invitrogen Prod. No.: 11803-014). The expression vector obtained was designated as A.t.-OK1-pDEST™17. The cloning resulted in a translational fusion of the cDNA coding the A.t-OK1 protein with the nucleotides

present in the expression vector pDEST™17. The nucleotides originating from the vector pDEST™17, which are translationally fused with the cDNA coding the A.t.-OK1 protein, code 21 amino acids. These 21 amino acids include, amongst others, the start codon (ATG) and a so-called His tag (6 histidine residues directly after one another). After translation of these translationally fused sequences, this results in an A.t.-OK1 protein, which has the additional 21 amino acids coded by nucleotides originating from the vector at its N-terminus. The recombinant A.t.-OK1 protein resulting from this vector therefore contains 21 additional amino acids originating from the vector pDEST™17 at its N-terminus.

10

4. Heterological expression of the OK1 protein in *E. coli*

The expression vector A.t.-OK1-pDEST™17 obtained in accordance with Example 3 was transformed in the *E. coli* strain BL21 Star™ (DE3) (Invitrogen, Prod. No. C6010-03). A description of this expression system has already been given above (see Item 3, General Methods). Bacteria clones, containing the vector A.t.-OK1-pDEST™17, resulting from the transformation were next used to manufacture a preliminary culture, which was subsequently used for inoculating a main culture (see Item 3.c, General methods). The preliminary culture and the main culture were each incubated at 30°C under agitation (250 rpm). When the main culture had reached an OD₆₀₀ of ca. 0.8, the expression of the recombinant A.t.-OK1 protein was induced by the addition of IPTG (isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside) until a final concentration of 1 mM was achieved. After the addition of IPTG, the main culture was incubated at 30°C under agitation (250 rpm) until an OD₆₀₀ of ca. 1.8 was achieved. The main culture was then cooled for 30 minutes on ice before the cells of the main culture were separated from the culture medium by centrifugation (10 minutes at 4.000xg and 4°C).

25

5. Purification of the recombinantly expressed OK1 protein

The purification and concentration of the A.t.-OK1 protein from cells obtained in accordance with Example 4 was carried out using the method described under Item 4, General Methods.

5

6. Demonstration of starch-phosphorylating activity of the OK1 protein

The starch-phosphorylating activity of the A.t.-OK1 protein was demonstrated in accordance with the method described under Item 11, General Methods. In doing so, 5 µg of purified A.t.-OK1 Protein manufactured in accordance with Example 5 was in each case incubated in a Preparation A with 5 mg of starch isolated from a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* in accordance with Example 1 b) and in a Preparation B with 5 mg of starch obtained by enzymatic phosphorylation of starch isolated from a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* in accordance with Example 1 c), in each case in 500 µl of phosphorylation buffer containing 0.05 mM radioactively (^{33}P) labeled, randomised ATP (in total 1,130,00 cpm, ca. 0.55 µCi) for 30 minutes at room temperature under agitation. A Preparation C was used as a control, which was the same as Preparation B, except that it contained no OK1 protein, but was otherwise treated in the same way as Preparations A and B. Two tests, which were independent from one another, were carried out for all preparations (A, B, C).

Using a scintillation counter, the starches from Preparations A, B, and C were investigated for the presence of radioactively labeled phosphate (see Item 11 b), General Methods). The results are shown in Table 1 and in Fig. 3.

	Measured radioactivity [cpm]	
	Test 1	Test 2
Preparation A (non-phosphorylated starch + OK1)	42	47
Preparation B (phosphorylated starch + OK1)	7921	8226
Preparation C (phosphorylated starch without	56	53

protein)		
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Table 1: Demonstration of starch-phosphorylating activity of the OK1 protein

From the results obtained, it can be seen that the OK1 protein does not transfer phosphate groups from ATP to starch when non-phosphorylated starch is provided as a substrate, as the quota of phosphate groups transferred to non-phosphorylated starch by means of an OK1 protein, measured in cpm, does not exceed the quota of radioactively labeled phosphate groups in Preparation C (control). If, on the other hand, P-starch is provided as a substrate, the quota of radioactive phosphate groups, measured in cpm, which are transferred from ATP to P-starch, is significantly higher.

From this, it can be seen that the OK1 protein requires P-starch as a substrate and that non-phosphorylated starch is not accepted as a substrate by the OK1 protein.

If the test described above is carried out with ATP specifically labeled in the gamma position with ^{33}P , then it is not possible to establish an incorporation of radioactively labeled phosphate in the starch. From this, it can be seen that the beta phosphate residue of ATP is transferred from an OK1 protein to starch. The results of such a test are shown in Fig. 6.

7. Demonstration of autophosphorylation

Autophosphorylation of the A.t.-OK1 protein was demonstrated by means of the methods described above (see Item 12, General Methods). Here, 50 μg of purified A.t.-OK1 protein were incubated with radioactively labeled, randomised ATP in 220 μl of phosphorylation buffer (see above, Item 12 d), General Methods) at room temperature for 60 minutes under agitation. Subsequently, 100 μl in each case were removed from the incubation preparations and transferred to four fresh reaction vessels. In reaction vessel 1, the reaction was stopped by the addition of 40 μl 0.11M EDTA. Reaction vessel 2 was incubated at 95°C for 5 minutes. HCl was added to reaction vessel 3 up to a final concentration of 0.5 M, and NaOH was added to reaction vessel 4 up to a final concentration of 0.5 M. Reaction vessels 3 and 4 were

each incubated for 25 minutes at 30°C. Subsequently, 50 µl in each case were removed from reaction vessels 1, 2, 3 and 4, mixed with SDS test buffer and separated by means of SDS acrylamide gel electrophoresis (7.5% acrylamide gel). For this purpose, samples from the reaction vessels were applied to each of two
5 identical acrylamide gels. One of the gels obtained on completion of electrophoresis was subjected to autoradiography, while the second gel was stained with Coomassie Blue.

In the gel stained with Coomassie Blue (see Fig. 2A)), it can be clearly seen that treatment with 0.5 M NaOH leads to a degradation of OK1 protein. The OK1 protein
10 must therefore be described as unstable compared with NaOH. Incubations at 30°C, 95°C and with 0.5 M HCl show that the OK1 protein is relatively stable under the stated incubation conditions. This can be concluded from the fact that, under these incubation conditions, in each case approximately the same amounts of OK1 protein can be demonstrated in the gel after staining with Coomassie Blue.

15 In the autoradiography (see Fig. 2B)), it can be seen by comparison with the phosphorylated OK1 protein incubated at 30°C that an incubation of the phosphorylated OK1 protein at 95°C leads to a significant reduction in the phosphate, which has bonded to the OK1 protein. The bond between the phosphate residue and an amino acid of the OK1 protein must therefore be described as heat-unstable.
20 Furthermore, a slight reduction of the phosphate bonded to the OK1 protein can also be seen for the incubation with 0.5 M HCl and 0.5 M NaOH in comparison with phosphorylated OK1 protein incubated at 30°C. If the fact is taken into account that the quantity of OK1 protein in the autoradiography after treatment with 0.5 M NaOH is significantly less than in the samples treated with heat and acid on account of the
25 instability of the OK1 protein compared with NaOH, then it can be concluded that the bond between the phosphate residue and an amino acid of the OK1 protein will be relatively stable with respect to bases. As the sample treated with acid contains approximately the same amounts of protein as the sample incubated at 30°C and at 95°C, and yet has a significantly lower signal in the autoradiography than the sample
30 treated at 30°C, it must be assumed that acid incubation conditions also split the bond between a phosphate residue and an amino acid of the OK1 protein to a certain extent. An instability in the bond between a phosphate residue and an amino acid of

the OK1 protein could therefore also be established in the tests carried out. At the same time, the instability with respect to acids is significantly less marked than the instability with respect to heat.

Bonds between the amino acids histidine and phosphate are heat-unstable, acid-unstable but base-stable (Rosenberg, 1996, Protein Analysis and Purification, Birkhäuser, Boston, 242-244). The results described above are therefore an indication that a phosphohistidine is produced by the autophosphorylation of an OK1 protein.

If recombinantly expressed OK1 protein, as described above, is incubated with ATP specifically labeled with ^{33}P in the gamma position, then no autophosphorylation can be detected. Fig. 5 A) shows the amount of protein in the respective reaction preparation that can still be demonstrated by means of Western blot analysis after the appropriate incubation steps. Fig. 5 B) shows an autoradiography of protein from the individual reaction preparations. It can be seen that, when ATP specifically labeled in the gamma position is used, no autophosphorylation of the OK1 protein takes place, whereas, when randomised ATP is used, autophosphorylation can be demonstrated. This means that when an OK1 protein is autophosphorylated, the phosphate residue of the beta position of the ATP is covalently bonded to an amino acid of the OK1 protein.

8. Demonstration of the C-atom positions, which are phosphorylated by an OK1 protein, of the glucose molecules of starch

a) Manufacture of phosphorylated starch

Phosphorylated starch was manufactured in accordance with Item 7, General Methods. To do this, 5 mg of non-phosphorylated starch, isolated from leaves of a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* were used in a Preparation A with 25 µg of purified A.t.-OK1 protein and, in a second Preparation B, 5 mg of *in vitro* phosphorylated starch originally isolated from leaves of a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* were used with 5 µg of purified R1 protein. The reaction was carried out in 500 µl of phosphorylation buffer in each case, which, in each case

contained ^{33}P labeled ATP (ca. 2.5×10^6 cpm), by incubating at room temperature for 1 hour under agitation. In addition, a control preparation was used, which contained 5 mg of starch isolated from leaves of a *sex1-3* mutant of *Arabidopsis thaliana* and the said phosphorylation buffer, but no protein. The control preparation was treated in exactly the same way as Preparations A and B. The individual reactions were stopped by adding 125 μL 10% SDS in each case and washed with 900 μL in each case, once with 2% SDS, five times with 2 mM ATP and twice with H_2O . A centrifugation was carried out after each washing step (2 minutes in an Eppendorf table centrifuge at 13,000 rpm in each case). The starch pellets obtained were resuspended in 1 ml H_2O in each case and 100 μL of each preparation were mixed after the addition of 3 ml of scintillation cocktail (Ready SafeTM, BECKMANN) and subsequently measured with the help of a scintillation counter (LS 6500 Multi-Purpose Scintillation Counter, BECKMANN COULTERTM).

The measurement gave the following results:

15	Control:	63 cpm/100 μL	630 cpm/1000 μL
	Preparation A (OK1):	1351 cpm/100 μL	13512 cpm/1000 μL
	Preparation B (R1):	3853 cpm/100 μL	38526 cpm/1000 μL

b) Total hydrolysis of the P-starch

20 The suspensions of Preparations A, B and C obtained in accordance with Step a) were centrifuged again (5 minutes in an Eppendorf table centrifuge at 13,000 rpm), the pellets obtained resuspended in 90 μL 0.7 M HCl (Baker, for analysis) and subsequently incubated for 2 hours at 95°C. Preparations A, B and C were then centrifuged again (5 minutes in an Eppendorf table centrifuge at 13,000 rpm), and the supernatant transferred to a new reaction vessel. Sedimented residues of the preparations were resuspended in 100 ml H_2O in each case and after the addition of 3 ml of scintillation cocktail (Ready SafeTM, BECKMANN) were measured with the help of a scintillation counter (LS 6500 Multi-Purpose Scintillation Counter, BECKMANN COULTERTM). Significant amounts of radioactivity could not be demonstrated in any of the residues, which means that all the hydrolysis products labeled with radioactive phosphate were located in the supernatant.

This was followed by neutralisation of the individual supernatants containing the hydrolysis products by the addition in each case of 30 μ l 2 M NaOH (the amount of NaOH required for neutralisation was tested out in advance on blind samples). The neutralised hydrolysis products were placed on a 10 kDa Microcon filter, which had previously been rinsed twice with 200 μ l H₂O in each case, and centrifuged for ca. 25 minutes at 12,000 rpm in an Eppendorf table centrifuge. 10 μ l were taken from the filtrate obtained (ca. 120 μ l in each case) and, after the addition of 3 ml of scintillation cocktail (Ready SafeTM, BECKMANN), were measured with the help of a scintillation counter (LS 6500 Multi-Purpose Scintillation Counter, BECKMANN COULTERTM). The determination of the activity present in the individual preparations gave the following results:

Preparation A (OK1):	934 cpm/10 μ L	11,208 cpm/120 μ L	93 cpm/ μ l
Preparation B (R1):	2518 cpm/10 μ L	30,216 cpm/120 μ L	252 cpm/ μ l

15 c) Separation of the hydrolysis products

The hydrolysis products obtained in accordance with Step b) were separated by means of HPAE using a Dionex system under the conditions stated above (see General Methods, Item 13 c)). The samples for separating the filtered supernatants of Preparations A and B obtained in accordance with Step b) were composed as follows:

Preparation A (OK1): 43 μ l of the supernatant of Preparation A obtained in accordance with Step b) (equivalent to ca. 4,000 cpm), 32 μ l H₂O, 2.5 μ l 2.5 mM glucose-6-phosphate and 2.5 μ l 5 mM glucose-3-phosphate (Σ Volume = 80 μ l).

Preparation B (R1): 16 μ l of the supernatant of Preparation B obtained in accordance with Step b) (equivalent to ca. 4,000 cpm), 59 μ l H₂O, 2.5 μ l 2.5 mM glucose-6-phosphate and 2.5 μ l 5 mM glucose-3-phosphate (Σ Volume = 80 μ l).

In each case, 60 μ l, containing ca. 3,000 cpm, of the appropriate samples were injected for separation by means of HPAE. The HPAE was carried out in accordance with the conditions specified under Item 23 c). After passing through the HPAE column, the elution buffer was collected in fractions, each of 1 ml. Collection of the

fractions was begun 10 minutes after injecting the sample. Based on the signal received from the PAD detector used, the elution of glucose-6-phosphate was assigned to fraction 15 and the elution of glucose-3-phosphate to fraction 17. In each case, 500 μ l of the individual fractions were mixed with 3 ml of scintillation cocktail (Ready SafeTM, BECKMANN) and subsequently measured with the help of a scintillation counter (LS 6500 Multi-Purpose Scintillation Counter, BECKMANN COULTERTM). The following measurements were obtained for the individual fractions:

	Total cpm per fraction	
	Preparation A (OK1)	Preparation B (R1)
Fr 13	8.7	3.3
Fr 14	13.1	32.2
Fr 15 (G6P)	207.3	1952.8
Fr 16	399.8	112.3
Fr 17 (G3P)	1749.2	801.6
Fr 18	196.7	17.3
Fr 19	6.7	18.9
Total	2581.5	2938.3
Deposit	3000.0	3000.0
Recovery	86.0%	97.9%

Table 4: Measured amounts of radioactivity [cpm] in individual fractions of hydrolysis products obtained by hydrolysis of starch phosphorylated by means of an OK1 protein or R1 protein.

The results are also shown graphically in Fig. 5.

After phosphorylation of starch catalysed by R1 protein, ca. 66% of the radioactively labeled phosphate, referred to the total measured radioactive phosphate in the analysed fractions, eluted after hydrolysing the starch with the fraction, which contained glucose-6-phosphate as standard, and ca. 27% with the fraction, which contained glucose-3-phosphate as standard. After phosphorylation of starch catalysed by OK1 protein, ca. 67% of the radioactively labeled phosphate, referred to the total measured radioactive phosphate in the analysed fractions, eluted after hydrolysing the starch with the fraction, which contained glucose-3-phosphate as standard, and ca. 8% with the fraction, which contained glucose-6-phosphate as standard. From this, it can be concluded that glucose molecules of the starch of R1 proteins are preferably phosphorylated in the C-6 position, whereas, from OK1 proteins, glucose molecules of the starch are preferably phosphorylated in the C-3 position.

9. Identification of an OK1 protein in rice

Using the methods described under Items 1 to 13, General Methods, it was also possible to identify a protein from *Oryza sativa* (variety M202), which transfers a phosphate residue from ATP to P-starch. The protein was designated as O.s.-OK1. Non-phosphorylated starch is not used by the O.s.-OK1 protein as a substrate, i.e. the O.s.-OK1 protein also does not need P-starch as a substrate. The nucleic acid sequence defining the identified O.s.-OK1 protein is shown under SEQ ID NO 3 and the amino acid sequence coding the O.s.-OK1 protein is shown under SEQ ID NO 4. The amino acid sequence coding the O.s.-OK1 protein shown under SEQ ID NO 4 has an identity of 57% with the amino acid sequence coding the A.t.-OK1 protein shown under SEQ ID NO 2. The nucleic acid sequence coding the O.s.-OK1 protein shown under SEQ ID NO 3 has an identity of 61% with the nucleic acid sequence coding the A.t.-OK1 protein shown under SEQ ID NO 1.

Manufacture of the plasmid pMI50 containing the nucleic acid sequence coding an OK1 protein from *Oryza sativa*

The vector pMI50 contains a DNA fragment, which codes the complete OK1 protein from rice of the variety M202.

The amplification of the DNA from rice was carried out in five sub-steps.

The part of the open reading frame from position 11 to position 288 of the sequence specified under SEQ DIE NO 3 was amplified with the help of reverse transcriptase and polymerase chain reaction using the synthetic oligonucleotides Os_ok1-R9 (GGAACCGATAATGCCTACATGCTC) and Os_ok1-F6 (AAAACTCGAGGAGGATCAATGACGTCGCTGCGGCCCTC) as a primer on RNA of immature rice seeds. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was designated as pML123.

The part of the open reading frame from position 250 to position 949 of the sequence specified under SEQ DIE NO 3 was amplified with the help of reverse transcriptase and polymerase chain reaction using the synthetic oligonucleotides Os_ok1-F4 (CCAGGTTAAGTTTGGTGAGCA) and Os_ok1-R6 (CAAAGCACGATATCTGACCTGT) as a primer on RNA of immature rice seeds. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was designated as pML120.

The part of the open reading frame from position 839 to position 1761 of the sequence specified under SEQ DIE NO 3 was amplified with the help of reverse transcriptase and polymerase chain reaction using the synthetic oligonucleotides Os_ok1-F7 (TTGTTCGCGGGATATTGTCAGA) and Os_ok1-R7 (GACAAGGGCATCAAGAGTAGTATC) as a primer on RNA of immature rice seeds. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was designated as pML121.

The part of the open reading frame from position 1571 to position 3241 of the sequence specified under SEQ DIE NO 3 was amplified with the help of reverse transcriptase and polymerase chain reaction using the synthetic oligonucleotides Os_ok1-F8 (ATGATGCGCCTGATAATGCT) and Os_ok1-R4 (GGCAAACAGTATGAAGCACGA) as a primer on RNA of immature rice seeds. The

amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was designated as pML119.

The part of the open reading frame from position 2777 to position 3621 was amplified with the help of polymerase chain reaction using the synthetic oligonucleotides

5 Os_ok1-F3 (CATTGGATCAATGGAGGATG) and Os_ok1-R2 (CTATGGCTGTGGCCTGCTTTGCA) as a primer on genomic DNA of rice. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was designated as pML122.

10 The cloning together of the sub-parts of the open reading frame of OK1 was carried out as follows.

A 700 base pair along *Apal* fragment of pML120, containing part of the open reading frame of OK1, was cloned in the *Apal* site of pML121. The plasmid obtained was designated as pMI47.

15 A 960 base pair long fragment containing the areas of vectors from pML120 and pML123 coding for OK1 was amplified by means of polymerase chain reaction. In doing so, the primers Os_ok1-F4 (see above) and Os_ok1-R9 (see above), each in a concentration of 50 nm, and the primers Os_ok1-F6 and Os_ok1-R6, each in a concentration of 500 nm, were used. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was
20 designated as pMI44.

An 845 base pair long fragment of pML122 was reamplified for introducing a *Xho*I site after the stop codon with the primers Os_ok1-F3 (see above) and Os_ok1-R2Xho (AAAACTCGAGCTATGGCTGTGGCCTGCTTTGCA) and cloned in the vector pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20). The plasmid obtained was
25 designated as t pMI45.

A 1671 base pair long fragment containing part of the open reading frame of OK1 was obtained from pML119 by digesting with the restriction enzymes *Spe*I and *Pst*I. The fragment was cloned in pBluescript II SK+ (Genbank Acc.: X52328). The plasmid obtained was designated as pMI46.

30 A 1706 base pair long fragment containing part of the open reading frame of OK1 was excised with the restriction enzymes *Spe*I and *Xho*I from pMI46 and cloned in

the vector pMI45, which had been excised with the same restriction enzymes. The plasmid obtained was designated as pMI47.

A 146 base pair long fragment containing part of the open reading frame of OK1 was excised with the restriction enzymes *Afl*II/*Not*I from pMI43 and cloned in the vector pMI44, which had been excised with the same restriction enzymes. The plasmid obtained was designated as pMI49.

A 1657 base pair long fragment containing part of the open reading frame of OK1 was excised with the restriction enzymes *Not*I and *Nar*I from the vector pMI49 and cloned in the vector pMI47, which had been excised with the same restriction enzymes. The plasmid obtained was designated as pMI50 and contains the whole coding region of the OK1 protein identified in rice.

10. Manufacture of an antibody, which specifically detects an OK1 protein

As an antigen, ca. 100 µg of purified A.t.-OK1 protein was separated by means of SDS gel electrophoresis, the protein bands containing the A.t.-OK1 protein excised and sent to the company EUROGENTEC S.A. (Belgium), which carried out the manufacture of the antibody under contract. Next, the preimmune serums of rabbits were investigated to see whether they would already detect a protein from an A. t. total extract before immunisation with recombinant OK1. The preimmune serums of two rabbits detected no proteins in the range 100-150 kDa and were thus chosen for immunisation. 4 injections of 100 µg of protein (Tag 0, 14, 28, 56) were given to each rabbit. 4 blood samples were taken from each rabbit: (Tag 38, Tag 66, Tag 87 and the final bleeding). Serum, obtained after the first bleeding, already showed a specific reaction with OK1 antigen in Western blot. However, in all further tests, the last bleeding of a rabbit was used

11. Manufacture of transgenic rice plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein

a) Manufacture of a construct for inhibiting the OK1 protein in rice by means of RNAi technology

The plasmid pML125, which was used for the transformation of rice plants, was obtained by specific recombination of the plasmids pML124 and pIR115 using the Gateway™ cloning system (Invitrogen).

- 5 pML124 was obtained, by cloning a 359 base pair long DNA fragment of pML119 (see above, Example 9), containing part of the open reading frame, which codes for the OK1 protein from rice, in the vector pENTR-1A (Invitrogen, product number 11813-011) excised with *EcoRI*.

- 10 The plasmid pIR115 is based on the plasmids pGSV71, pIR94, containing the promoter of the globulin gene from rice, pIR87 containing the intron 1 of the gene coding for alcohol dehydrogenase from maize and the "Gateway reading frame cassette A" (RfA) from the "vector conversion system" (Invitrogen product number 11828-019).

- 15 pGSV71 is a derivative of the plasmid pGSV7, which derives from the intermediate vector pGSV1. pGSV1 constitutes a derivative of pGSC1700, the construction of which has been described by Cornelissen and Vanderwiele (Nucleic Acid Research 17, (1989), 19-25). pGSV1 was obtained from pGSC1700 by deletion of the carbenicillin resistance gene and deletion of the T-DNA sequences of the TL-DNA region of the plasmid pTiB6S3.

- 20 pGSV7 contains the replication origin of the plasmid pBR322 (Bolivar et al., Gene 2, (1977), 95-113) as well as the replication origin of the *Pseudomonas* plasmid pVS1 (Itoh et al., Plasmid 11, (1984), 206). pGSV7 also contains the selectable marker gene *aadA*, from the transposon Tn1331 from *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, which gives resistance against the antibiotics spectinomycin and streptomycin (Tolmasky, 25 Plasmid 24 (3), (1990), 218-226; Tolmasky and Crosa, Plasmid 29(1), (1993), 31-40).

- The plasmid pGSV71 was obtained by cloning a chimeric *bar* gene between the border regions of pGSV7. The chimeric *bar* gene contains the promoter sequence of the cauliflower mosaic virus for initiating the transcription (Odell et al., Nature 313, (1985), 180), the *bar* gene from *Streptomyces hygroscopicus* (Thompson et al., 30 Embo J. 6, (1987), 2519-2523) and the 3'-untranslated area of the nopaline synthase

gene of the T-DNA of pTiT37 for terminating the transcription and polyadenylation. The *bar* gene provides tolerance against the herbicide glufosinate ammonium.

The plasmid pIR94 was obtained by amplifying the promoter of the globulin gene from rice by means of a polymerase chain reaction (30 x 20 sec 94 °C, 20 sec 62 °C, 1 min 68 °C, 4 mM Mg₂SO₄) with the primers glb1-F2 (AAAACAATTGGCGCCTGGAGGGAGGAGA) and glb1-R1 (AAAACAATTGATGATCAATCAGACAATCACTAGAA) on the genomic DNA of rice of the variety M202 with High Fidelity Taq Polymerase (Invitrogen, catalogue number 11304-011) and cloned in pCR2.1 (Invitrogen catalogue number K2020-20).

The plasmid pIR87 was obtained by amplifying the intron 1 of the gene coding for alcohol hydrogenase from maize with the primers Adh(i)-1 (TTTTCTCGAGGTCCGCCTTGTTTCTCCT) and Adh(i)-2 (TTTTCTCGAGCTGCACGGGTCCAGGA) on the genomic DNA of maize. The product of the polymerase chain reaction (30 x 30 sec 94 °C, 30 sec 59 °C, 1 min 72 °C, 2.5 mM MgCl₂) was digested with the restriction enzyme *Xho*I and cloned in the vector pBluescript II SK+ (Genbank # X52328), which had been excised with the same enzyme.

The plasmid pIR115 was obtained by cloning a synthetic piece of DNA consisting of the two oligonucleotides X1 (TGCAGGCTGCAGAGCTCCTAGGCTCGAGTTAACACTAGTAAGCTTAATTAAGATATCATTAC) and X2 (AATTGTAAATGATATCTTAATTAAGCTTACTAGTGTTAACTCGAGCCTAGGAGCTCTGCAGCCTGCA) in the vector pGSV71 excised with *Sda*I and *Mun*I.

The plasmid pIR115 obtained was excised with *Sda*I, the protruding 3'-ends smoothed with T4 DNA polymerase and a *Hind*III / *Sph*I fragment from pBinAR (Höfgen and Willmitzer, 1990, Plant Science 66, 221-230) with a size of 197 base pairs, smoothed by means of T4 DNA polymerase and containing the termination signal of the octopine synthase gene from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, was inserted. The plasmid obtained was designated as pIR96. A 986 base pair long DNA fragment

from pIR94, containing the promoter of the globulin gene from rice, was cloned in the vector pIR96. The plasmid obtained was designated as pIR103.

The plasmid pIR107 was obtained by cloning the "RfA cassette" (see above) in the plasmid pIR103 excised with the restriction enzyme *EcoRV*.

- 5 A 540 base pair long fragment containing the intron 1 of the gene coding for alcohol hydrogenase from maize was excised from the plasmid pIR87 with the restriction enzyme *XhoI* and cloned in the plasmid pIR107, likewise excised with *XhoI*. The plasmid obtained was designated as pIR114. The plasmid pIR115 was obtained by cloning the "RfA cassette" (see above) in the plasmid pIR114 excised with *Ecl* 36II.
- 10 The plasmid obtained was designated as pML125.

b) Transformation of rice plants

- Rice plants (variety M202) were transformed by means of *Agrobacterium* (containing the plasmid pML125) using the method described by Hiei et al. (1994, Plant Journal
- 15 6(2), 271-282).

c) Analysis of the transgenic rice plants

With the help of quantitative RT PCR analysis, it was possible to identify rice plants, which had a reduced amount of mRNA coding OK1 protein.

20

12. Manufacture of transgenic potato plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein

a) Manufacture of the plasmid pBinB33-Hyg

- Starting from the plasmid pBinB33, the *EcoRI*-*HindIII* fragment including the B33
- 25 promoter, a part of the polylinker, and the ocs terminator were excised and spliced into the correspondingly excised vector pBIB-Hyg (Becker, 1990, Nucl. Acids Res. 18, 203).

The plasmid pBinB33 was obtained by splicing the promoter of the patatin gene B33 from *Solanum tuberosum* (Rocha-Sosa et al., 1989) as a *DraI* fragment (nucleotide – 1512 - +14) into the vector pUC19 excised with *SstI*, the ends of which had been smoothed with the help of the T4 DNA polymerase. This resulted in the plasmid pUC19-B33. The B33 promoter was excised from this plasmid with *EcoRI* and *SmaI* and cloned into the correspondingly excised vector pBinAR (Höfgen and Willmitzer, 1990, Plant Science 66, 221-230). This resulted in the plant expression vector pBinB33.

10 b) Manufacture of the vector A.t.-OK1-pBinB33-Hyg

The coding sequence of the A.t.-OK1 protein was excised with the restriction endonucleases *Bsp120I* and *Sall* from the plasmid OK1-pGEM and cloned into the vector pBinB33-Hyg excised with *SmaI* and *Sall*. The plasmid obtained was designated as A.t.-OK1-pBinB33-Hyg.

15

c) Transformation of potato plants

Agrobacterium tumefaciens (strain GV2260) was transformed with the plasmid A.t.-OK1-pBinB33-Hyg. Subsequently, potato plants of the variety Désirée were transformed with the help of the agrobacteria containing the plasma A.t.-OK1-pBinB33-Hyg in accordance with the method described by Rocha-Sosa et al. (EMBO J. 8, (1989), 23-29), and plants regenerated.

20

d) Analysis of the transgenic potato plants and the starch synthesised from these

By means of quantitative RT PCR analysis, it was possible to identify plants, which had a reduced activity of the endogenous OK1 protein in the tubers.

25

A Western blot analysis, which was carried out with the antibodies described under Example 10, confirmed that plants, which had a reduced amount of mRNA of the endogenous OK1 proteins, also had a reduced amount of OK1 protein compared with wild type plants that had not been transformed.

Plants, which had a reduced amount of OK1 protein and a reduced amount of mRNA coding OK1 protein compared with corresponding wild type plants, were again raised in the greenhouse. Starch, which was isolated from the tubers of these plants, showed a reduced content of phosphate covalently bonded to the starch concerned.

5

13. Analysis of *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein

T-DNA insertion mutants of *Arabidopsis thaliana* (obtainable from Salk Institute Genomic Analysis Laboratory, 10010 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037, <http://signal.salk.edu/> under the ACC. No.: Salk_110814, alias N610814), which were

10 homozygotic with regard to the insertion in the OK1 gene, were raised under the following conditions:

Light phase: 16 hours, 20°C

Dark phase: 8 hours, 16°C

- 15 Shortly before the onset of bloom formation, the plants were cultivated with a light phase of 12 hours at 20°C and a dark phase of 12 hours at 17°C.

From the seeds obtained from the mutant line (Salk_110814), plants were cultivated for analysis from 3 different seeds of the original seed crop (Salk_110814-1, Salk_110814-2, Salk_110814-3).

- 20 At the end of the dark phase, 10 leaves were removed from each of 6 wild type plants and bleached in 70% ethanol at 50°C. In addition, 6 leaves were removed from each of 4 different plants of the mutant lines Salk_110814-1, Salk_110814-2 and Salk_110814-3 in each case, which in each case were homozygotic with regard to the T-DNA insertion in an OK1 gene, and bleached in 70% ethanol at 50°C. The
- 25 leaves were then incubated for 10 minutes in Lugol's solution before excess Lugol's solution was rinsed from the leaves with tap water. None of the leaves of wild type plants showed any colouring with Lugol's solution. On the other hand, all leaves of the mutant lines Salk_110814-1, Salk_110814-2 and Salk_110814-3 exhibited a dark-brown or a black colouration. The mutant lines therefore show a high starch
- 30 phenotype in comparison with the wild type plants. During cultivation, no difference

with regard to the growth could be established between the mutant lines and the wild type plants.

Genetically modified *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants, which were transformed with an RNAi construct containing "inverted repeats" of the coding region of an OK1 gene under the control of the 35S promoter, were analysed with the help of Western blot analysis using the antibodies described in Example 10. It was possible to identify several independent lines, which had a reduced amount of OK1 protein in comparison with wild type plants. These lines were cultivated under the cultivation conditions specified in Example 13. At the end of the dark phase (12 hours at 17°C), 5 leaves were removed from each of the individual lines, bleached in ethanol and stained with Lugol's solution. All plants showed a high starch phenotype compared with corresponding wild type plants. During cultivation, no difference with regard to the growth could be established between the genetically modified plants and the wild type plants. The plants genetically modified by means of RNAi technology therefore exhibited the same characteristics as the mutant lines Salk_110814-1, Salk_110814-2 and Salk_110814-3.

Four *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants in each case of the lines A.t.-alpha-OK1-1, A.t.-alpha-OK1-2, A.t.-alpha-OK1-3, A.t.-alpha-OK1-4 and A.t.-alpha-OK1-5 resulting from independent transformation events, in which the amount of OK1 protein is reduced by means of RNAi technology, were examined at different times for their leaf starch content. The reduction in the amount of OK1 protein in the respective lines was demonstrated by means of Western blot analysis (see Fig. 8). The leaf starch content of the individual lines was determined with the help of the Boehringer Mannheim starch kit (Product No.: 0207748). To do this, all the leaves of four plants of the individual lines in each case were harvested and the leaves homogenised by crushing in a mortar. 40 mg to 60 mg of the homogenised leaf material was washed twice with 80% ethanol in each case and the supernatant discarded. After again washing in 1 ml of water, the remaining material that was not soluble in ethanol was freeze-dried, subsequently dissolved in 0.5 ml 0.2M KOH at 95°C for 1 h, and the solution obtained adjusted to a pH value of 7 with 88 µL 1 M acetic acid. 25 µl of the solution obtained in each case were mixed with 50 µl amyloglucosidase solution (Boehringer Mannheim starch kit, Product No.: 0207748), to which 1 unit of alpha-

- amylase (from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, Boehringer, Prod-No. 161764) was added, and incubated for 1 h at 55 °C. 20 µl of the solution treated with amyloglucosidase and alpha-amylase were subsequently used for determining the glucose by means of an enzymatically coupled photometric test (see Boehringer Ingelheim product information sheet for the determination of native starch, Product No.: 0207748). In parallel with the transgenic lines, the starch content in leaves of *Arabidopsis thaliana* wild type plants (ecotype Columbia) was also determined. The wild type plants and the transgenic plants were cultivated under identical conditions: 12 hours light phase followed by 12 hours dark phase.
- 10 In each case, leaves of the respective transgenic plant lines and wild type plants were harvested ca. 4.5 weeks after seed germination at the end of a dark phase, at the end of a light phase and at the end of a second dark phase, which directly followed the light phase. Two independent extracts were produced for each of the transgenic plant lines, from which two measurements of the starch content were
- 15 carried out in each case. Four independent extracts were produced for each of the wild type plants, from which two measurements of the starch content were carried out in each case. The determination of the leaf starch content gave the following results:

	Line	Starch content	
		(mg/g FW)	Standard deviation*
End of dark phase 1			
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-1	4.09	0.55
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-2	4.93	0.94
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-3	5.59	0.52
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-4	6.36	0.87
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-5	1.49	0.99
	Wild type	0.78	0.14

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		Starch content	
	Line	(mg/g FW)	Standard deviation*
End of light phase	A.t.-alpha-OK1-1	9.30	0.96
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-2	9.86	1.45
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-3	11.68	1.60
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-4	9.53	1.25
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-5	6.61	0.71
	Wild type	5.61	0.72
End of dark phase 2	A.t.-alpha-OK1-1	3.92	0.83
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-2	4.35	1.07
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-3	6.00	0.63
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-4	5.34	1.35
	A.t.-alpha-OK1-5	1.46	0.56
	Wild type	0.62	0.18

Table 4: Amount of leaf starch in *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants, in which the amount of OK1 protein is reduced with the help of RNAi technology.

* Standard deviation with the general formula: $\text{Root} [(n\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2) / n(n-1)]$

14. Analysis of starch isolated from plants, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein

Starch was isolated from leaves of the plants described in Example 13 and hydrolysed in accordance with the method described under General Methods, Item 5 13, and subsequently separated by means of HPAE analysis. The areas of the separated signals obtained for C-3 phosphate and C-6 phosphate by means of HPAE analysis were calculated (software: Chromelion 6.20 from Dionex, USA) and the values obtained were compared with one another. The ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate in wild type plants was 2.1. On the other hand, in the plants described in 10 Example 13, in which the activity of an OK1 protein was reduced by means of RNAi technology, the C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate ratio, which was determined with the help of the analysis of starch isolated from the lines A.t.-alpha-OK1-1, A.t.-alpha-OK1-2, A.t.-alpha-OK1-3, A.t.-alpha-OK1-4 and A.t.-alpha-OK1-5, was on average 2.5. The analysis of starch of the line A.t.-alpha-OK1-5 gave the lowest value for the 15 ratio of C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate (ratio of 2.2), and starch of the line A.t.-alpha-OK1-1 gave the highest value (ratio 2.7).

Starch isolated from leaves of the mutants described in Example 13, which have a reduced activity of an OK1 protein, also exhibited an increase in the C-6 phosphate to C-3 phosphate ratio in the starches concerned.

20 The absolute amounts of C-6 phosphate and C-3 phosphate bonded to the starch in wild type plants that had not been genetically modified compared with C-6 phosphate and C-3 phosphate bonded to the starch in the genetically modified plants described in Example 13, in which the activity of an OK1 protein was reduced by means of RNAi technology, showed that the absolute content of C-3 phosphate bonded to the 25 starch had similar values for wild type plants and genetically modified plants. However, the absolute value that was obtained for C-6 phosphate bonded to the starch was significantly increased in the plants genetically modified by means of RNAi technology compared with that in starch isolated from wild type plants.

Patent claims

1. Genetically modified plant cell, characterised in that it has a reduced activity of at least one OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells that have not been genetically modified.
2. Genetically modified plant cell according to Claim 1, wherein the genetic modification consists in the introduction of at least one foreign nucleic acid molecule into the genome of the plant cell.
3. Genetically modified plant cell according to Claim 2, wherein the foreign nucleic acid molecule codes amino acid sequences, comprising amino acid sequences coding an OK1 protein.
4. Genetically modified plant cell according to one of Claims 2 or 3, wherein the said foreign nucleic acid molecule is chosen from the group consisting of
 - a) DNA molecules, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - b) DNA molecules, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - c) DNA molecules, which code at least one ribozyme, which splits specific transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - d) DNA molecules, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein (RNAi technology);
 - e) Nucleic acid molecules introduced by means of *in vivo* mutagenesis, which lead to a mutation or an insertion of a heterologous sequence in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, wherein the mutation or

insertion effects a reduction in the expression of a gene coding an OK1 protein or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins;

- f) Nucleic acid molecules, which code an antibody, wherein the antibody results in a reduction in the activity of an OK1 protein due to the bonding to an OK1 protein,
 - g) DNA molecules, which contain transposons, wherein the integration of these transposons leads to a mutation or an insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins; or
 - h) T-DNA molecules, which, due to insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, effect a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or result in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein.
- 5. Plant cell according to one of Claims 1 to 4, which synthesises a modified starch in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells that have not been genetically modified.
 - 6. Plant containing plant cells according to one of Claims 1 to 5.
 - 7. Plant according to Claim 6, which is a starch-storing plant.
 - 8. Plant according to Claim 7, which is a wheat or maize plant.
 - 9. Plant according to one of Claims 6, 7 or 8, which has a high starch (starch excess) phenotype.
 - 10. Propagation material of plants according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9, containing plant cells according to one of Claims 1 to 5.
 - 11. Harvestable plant parts of plants according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9, containing plant cells according to one of Claims 1 to 5.

12. Method for the manufacture of a genetically modified plant according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9, wherein
 - a) a plant cell is genetically modified, whereby the genetic modification leads to the reduction of the activity of an OK1 protein in comparison with corresponding wild type plant cells that have not been genetically modified;
 - b) a plant is regenerated from plant cells from Step a); and
 - c) if necessary, further plants are produced with the help of the plants according to Step b).
13. Method according to Claim 12, wherein the genetic modification in step a) consists in the introduction of at least one foreign nucleic acid molecule into the genome of the plant cell.
14. Method according to Claim 13, wherein the said foreign nucleic acid molecule is chosen from the group consisting of
 - a) DNA molecules, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - b) DNA molecules, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - c) DNA molecules, which code at least one ribozyme, which specifically splits transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - d) DNA molecules, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein (RNAi technology);
 - e) Nucleic acid molecules introduced by means of in vivo mutagenesis, which lead to a mutation or an insertion of a heterologous sequence in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, wherein the mutation or

insertion effects a reduction in the expression of a gene coding an OK1 protein or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein;

- f) Nucleic acid molecules, which code an antibody, wherein the antibody results in a reduction in the activity of an OK1 protein due to the bonding to an OK1 protein,
 - g) DNA molecules, which contain transposons, wherein the integration of these transposons leads to a mutation or an insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or results in the synthesis of inactive OK1 proteins; and/or
 - h) T-DNA molecules, which, due to insertion in at least one endogenous gene coding an OK1 protein, effect a reduction in the expression of at least one gene coding an OK1 protein, or result in the synthesis of inactive OK1 protein.
15. Method according to one of Claims 12, 13 or 14, wherein the genetically modified plant synthesises a modified starch in comparison with corresponding wild type plants that have not been genetically modified.
16. Recombinant nucleic acid molecule containing a promoter, which initiates transcription in plant cells, and at least one nucleic acid sequence chosen from the group consisting of
- a) Nucleic acid sequences, which code at least one antisense RNA, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - b) Nucleic acid sequences, which by means of a co-suppression effect lead to the reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein;
 - c) Nucleic acid sequences, which code at least one ribozyme, which splits specific transcripts of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein, and

- d) Nucleic acid sequences, which simultaneously code at least one antisense RNA and at least one sense RNA, wherein the said antisense RNA and the said sense RNA form a double-stranded RNA molecule, which effects a reduction in the expression of at least one endogenous gene, which codes an OK1 protein (RNAi technology).
17. Vector containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule as defined in Claim 16 under a) to d).
18. Host cell, which is genetically modified with a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 16 or with a vector according to Claim 17.
19. Composition containing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule as defined in Claim 16 under a) to d) or a vector according to Claim 17.
20. Modified starch obtainable from a genetically modified plant according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9, from propagation material according to Claim 10, or from harvestable plant parts according to Claim 11.
21. Method for the manufacture of a modified starch including the step of extracting the starch from a plant cell according to one of Claims 1 to 5.
22. Method for the manufacture of a modified starch including the step of extracting the starch from a plant according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9, and/or from starch-storing parts of such a plant.
23. Method for the manufacture of a modified starch including the step of extracting the starch from harvestable plant parts according to Claim 11.
24. Use of plants according to one of Claims 6, 7, 8 or 9 for the manufacture of a modified starch.
25. Modified starch obtainable by means of a method according to one of Claims 21, 22 or 23.
26. Method for the manufacture of a derived starch, wherein modified starch according to Claim 20 or 25 or obtainable by means of a method according to one of Claims 21, 22 or 23 is derived.

27. Derived starch obtainable by means of a method according to Claim 26.
28. Use of modified starch according to one of Claims 20 or 25 for the manufacture of derived starch.

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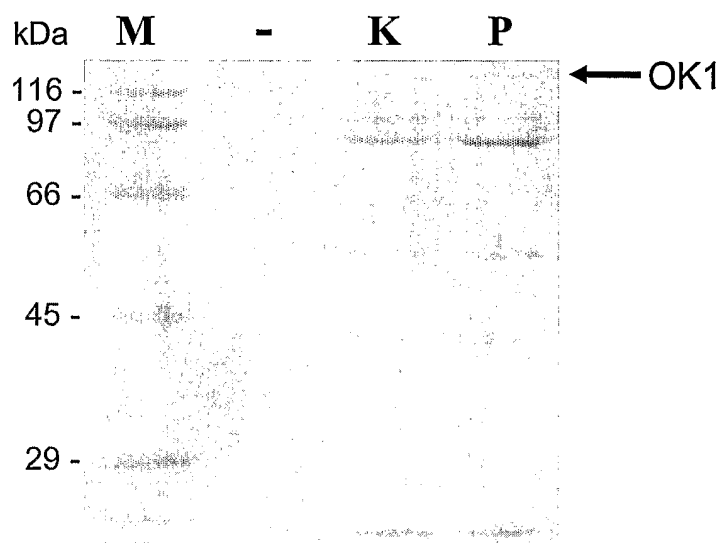


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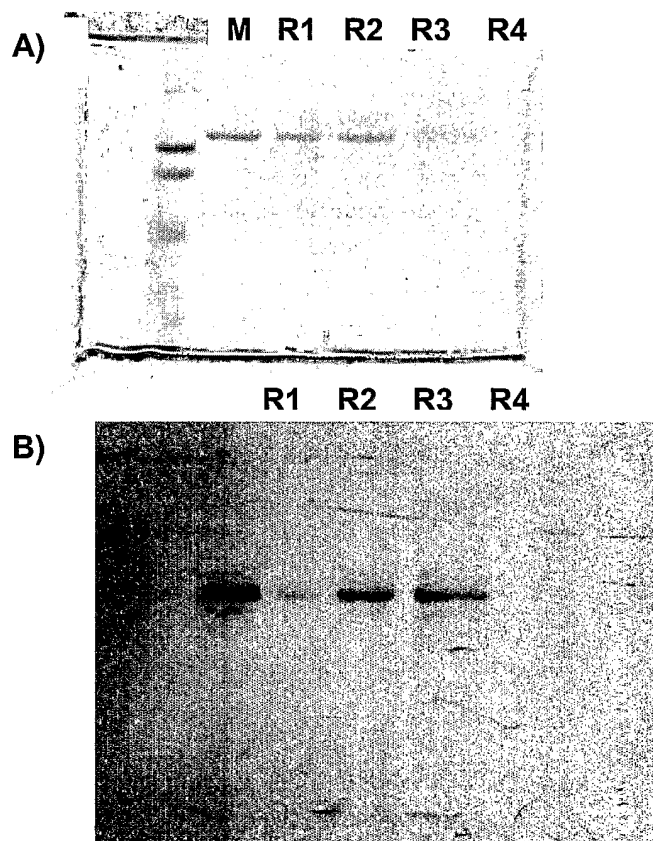


Fig. 2

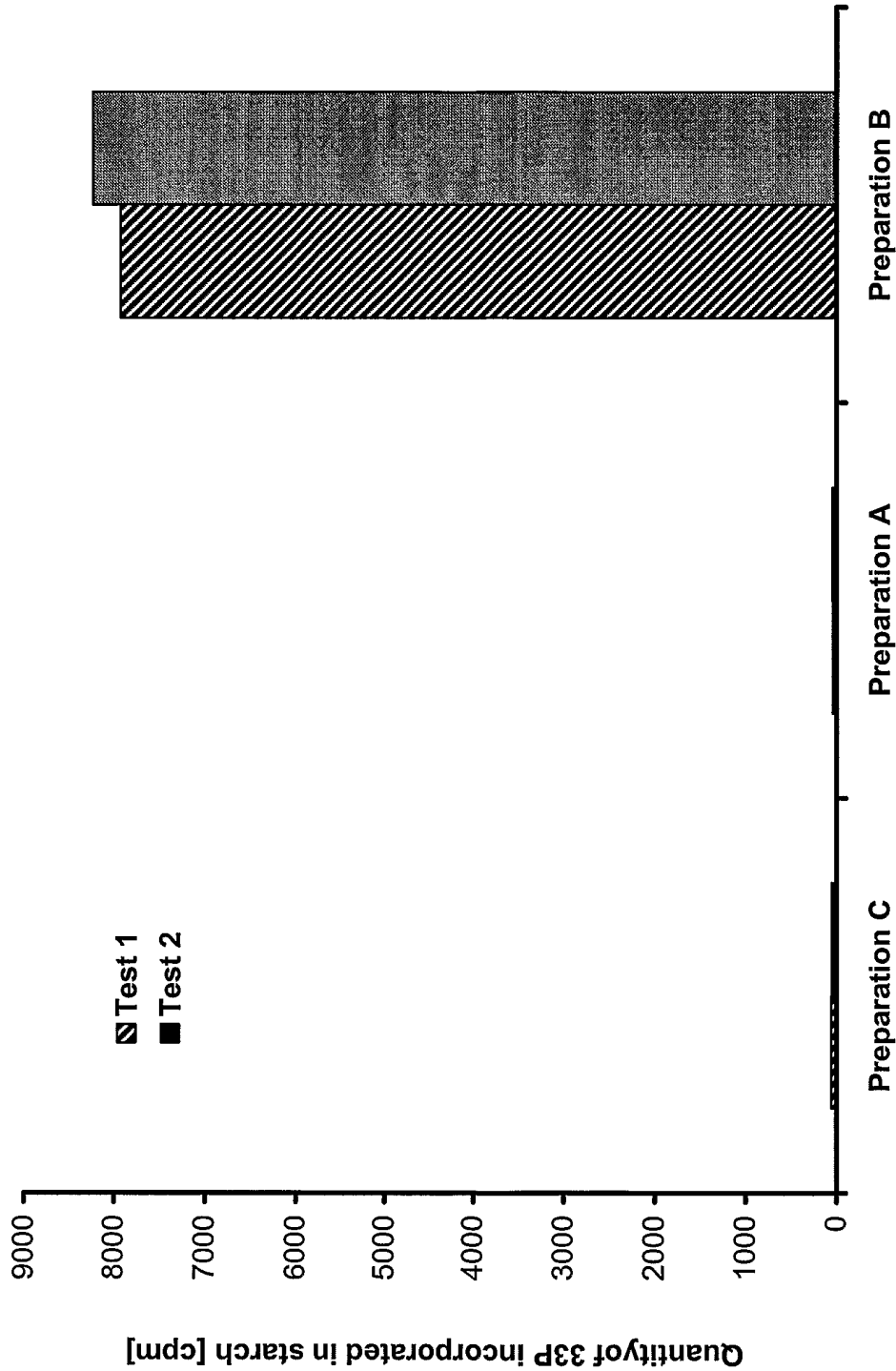
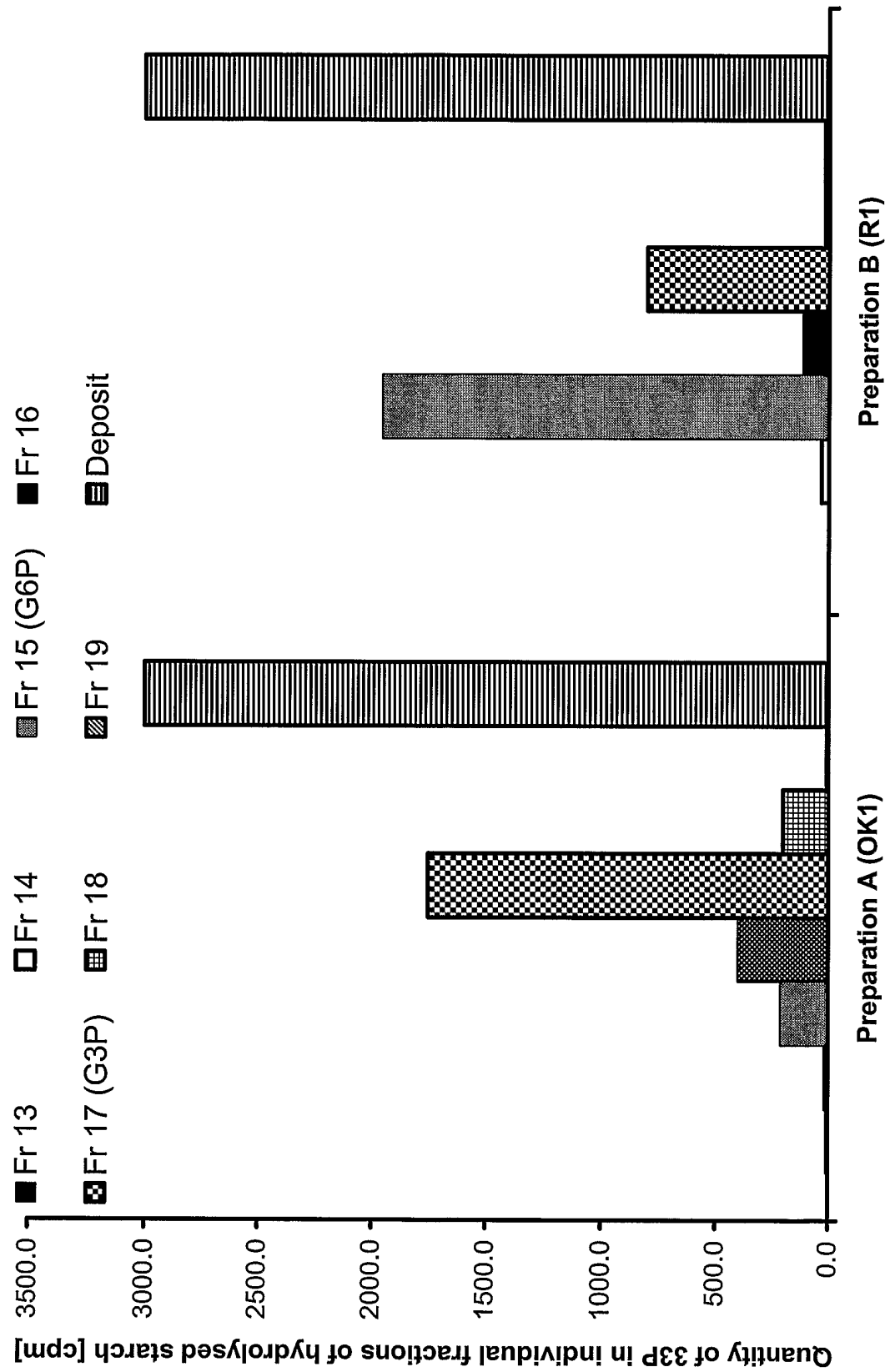


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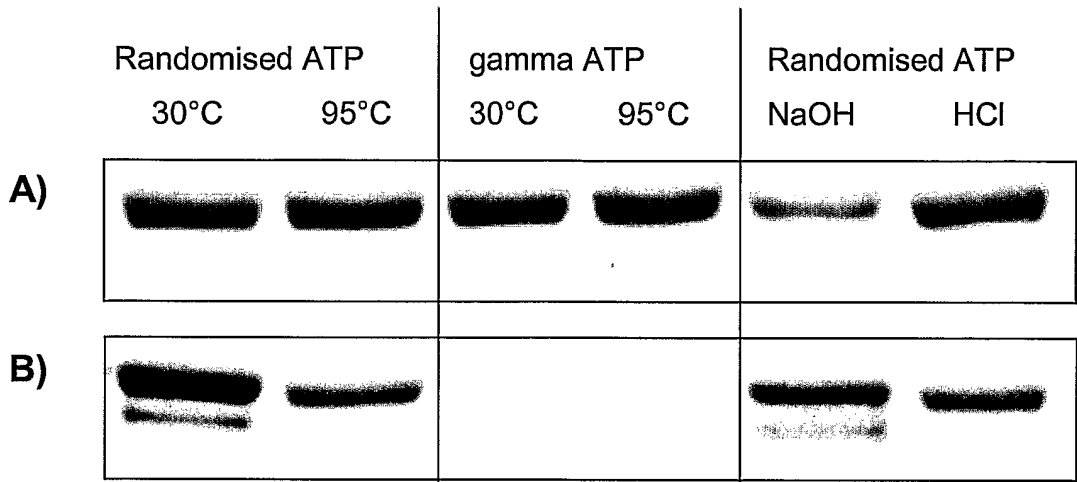


Fig. 5

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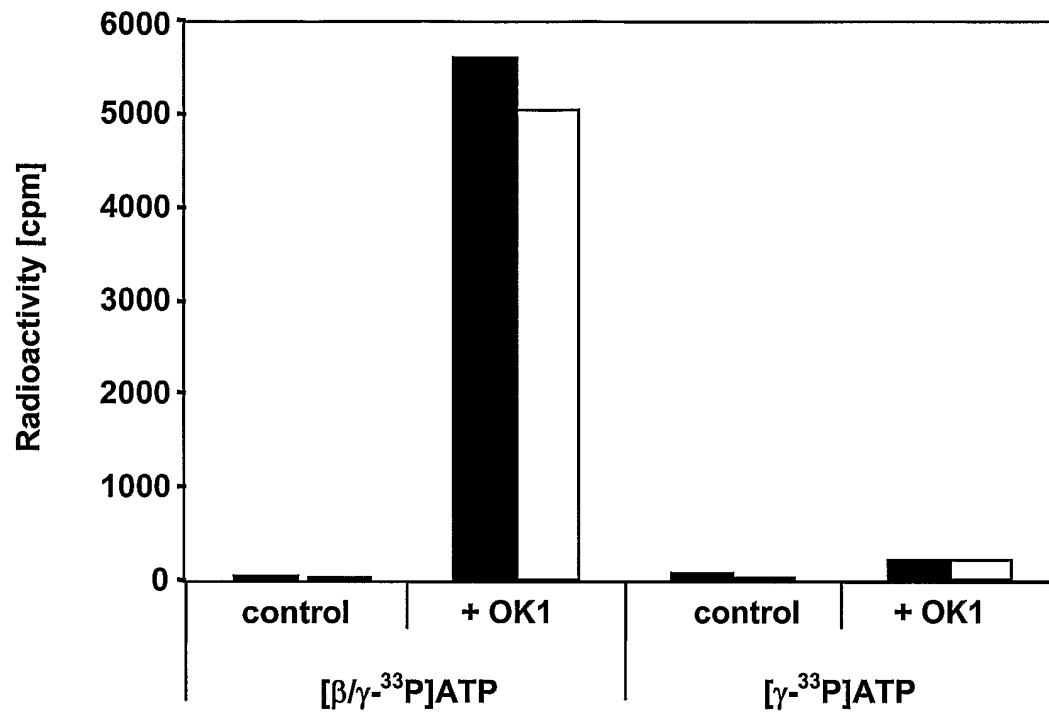


Fig. 6

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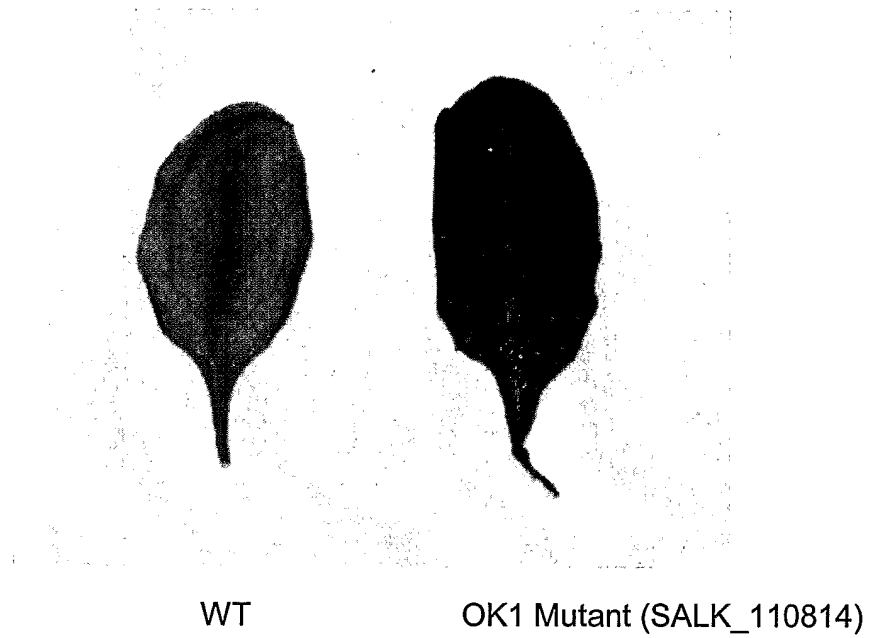


Fig. 7

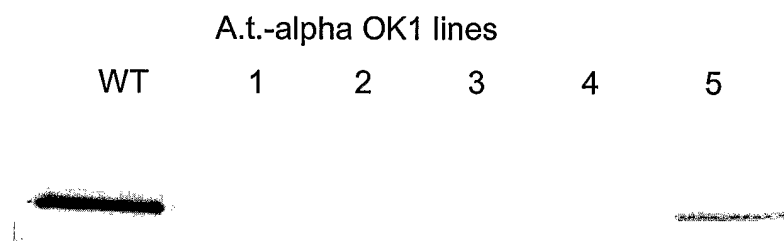


Fig. 8

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<130> BCS 04-5004-PCT

<150> EP04090088.8

<151> 2004-03-05

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BCS 04-5004-PCT_OK1 Verringerte Aktivität_SEQUENZPROTOKOLL.ST25																	
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Lys	Asp	Phe	Phe	Asn	Ala	Gly	Ser	Leu	Thr	Glu	Gln	Leu	Asp	Ser	Met		
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Lys	Ile	Ser	Met	Asp	Asp	Arg	Gly	Leu	Ser	Ala	Leu	Asn	Leu	Phe	Phe		
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gaa	tgt	aaa	aag	cgc	ctt	gac	aca	tca	gga	gaa	tca	agc	aat	gtt	ttg	1440	
Glu	Cys	Lys	Lys	Arg	Leu	Asp	Thr	Ser	Gly	Glu	Ser	Ser	Asn	Val	Leu		
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Glu	Leu	Ile	Lys	Thr	Met	His	Ser	Leu	Ala	Ser	Leu	Arg	Glu	Thr	Ile		
				485					490					495			
ata	aag	gaa	ctt	aat	agc	ggc	ttg	cga	aat	gat	gct	cct	gat	act	gcc	1536	
Ile	Lys	Glu	Leu	Asn	Ser	Gly	Leu	Arg	Asn	Asp	Ala	Pro	Asp	Thr	Ala		
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att	gca	atg	cgc	cag	aag	tgg	cgc	ctt	tgt	gag	atc	ggc	ctc	gag	gac	1584	

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Ile	Ala	Met	Arg	Gln	Lys	Trp	Arg	Leu	Cys	Glu	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Asp				
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Tyr	Phe	Phe	Val	Leu	Leu	Ser	Arg	Phe	Leu	Asn	Ala	Leu	Glu	Thr	Met				
	530					535					540								
gga	gga	gct	gat	caa	ctg	gca	aaa	gat	gtg	gga	tca	aga	aac	gtt	gcc	1680			
Gly	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gln	Leu	Ala	Lys	Asp	Val	Gly	Ser	Arg	Asn	Val	Ala				
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Ser	Trp	Asn	Asp	Pro	Leu	Asp	Ala	Leu	Val	Leu	Gly	Val	His	Gln	Val				
				565					570					575					
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Gly	Leu	Ser	Gly	Trp	Lys	Gln	Glu	Glu	Cys	Leu	Ala	Ile	Gly	Asn	Glu				
			580					585					590						
ctc	ctt	gct	tgg	cga	gaa	agg	gac	cta	ctt	gaa	aaa	gaa	ggg	gaa	gag	1824			
Leu	Leu	Ala	Trp	Arg	Glu	Arg	Asp	Leu	Leu	Glu	Lys	Glu	Gly	Glu	Glu				
		595					600					605							
gat	gga	aaa	aca	att	tgg	gcc	atg	agg	ctg	aaa	gca	act	ctt	gat	cga	1872			
Asp	Gly	Lys	Thr	Ile	Trp	Ala	Met	Arg	Leu	Lys	Ala	Thr	Leu	Asp	Arg				
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	625				630					635					640				
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Ser	Gly	Gly	Pro	Ile	Ile	Leu	Leu	Val	Asn	Lys	Ala	Asp	Gly	Asp	Glu				
				725					730					735					
gag	gta	agt	gct	gct	aat	ggg	aac	ata	gct	gga	gtc	atg	ctt	ctg	cag	2256			
Glu	Val	Ser	Ala	Ala	Asn	Gly	Asn	Ile	Ala	Gly	Val	Met	Leu	Leu	Gln				
			740					745					750						
gag	ctg	cct	cac	ttg	tct	cac	ctt	ggc	gtt	aga	gcg	cgg	cag	gag	aaa	2304			
Glu	Leu	Pro	His	Leu	Ser	His	Leu	Gly	Val	Arg	Ala	Arg	Gln	Glu	Lys				
		755					760					765							
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Ile	Val	Phe	Val	Thr	Cys	Asp	Asp	Asp	Asp	Lys	Val	Ala	Asp	Ile	Arg				
	770					775					780								
cga	ctt	gtg	gga	aaa	ttt	gtg	agg	ttg	gaa	gca	tct	cca	agt	cat	gtg	2400			

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Arg 785	Leu	Val	Gly	Lys	Phe 790	Val	Arg	Leu	Glu	Ala 795	Ser	Pro	Ser	His	Val 800		
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gcg Ala	acc Thr	aaa Lys	aaa Lys 820	acg Thr	gat Asp	aag Lys	aac Asn	agc Ser 825	tta Leu	tct Ser	aag Lys	aaa Lys	aaa Lys 830	aca Thr	gat Asp		2496
aag Lys	aag Lys	agc Ser 835	tta Leu	tct Ser	atc Ile	gat Asp	gat Asp 840	gaa Glu	gaa Glu	tca Ser	aag Lys	cct Pro 845	ggg Gly	tcc Ser	tca Ser		2544
tct Ser 850	tcc Ser	aat Asn	agc Ser	ctc Leu	ctt Leu	tac Tyr 855	tct Ser	tcc Ser	aag Lys	gat Asp	atc Ile 860	cct Pro	agt Ser	gga Gly	gga Gly		2592
atc Ile 865	ata Ile	gca Ala	ctt Leu	gct Ala	gat Asp 870	gca Ala	gat Asp	gta Val	cca Pro	act Thr 875	tct Ser	ggg Gly	tca Ser	aaa Lys	tct Ser 880		2640
gct Ala	gca Ala	tgt Cys	ggg Gly 885	ctt Leu	ctt Leu	gca Ala	tct Ser	tta Leu	gca Ala 890	gaa Glu	gcc Ala	tct Ser	agt Ser	aaa Lys 895	gtg Val		2688
cac His	agc Ser	gaa Glu	cac His 900	gga Gly	gtt Val	ccg Pro	gca Ala	tca Ser 905	ttt Phe	aag Lys	gtt Val	cca Pro	act Thr 910	gga Gly	gtt Val		2736
gtc Val	ata Ile	cct Pro 915	ttt Phe	gga Gly	tcg Ser	atg Met	gaa Glu 920	tta Leu	gct Ala	tta Leu	aag Lys	caa Gln 925	aat Asn	aat Asn	tcg Ser		2784
gaa Glu 930	gaa Glu	aag Lys	ttt Phe	gcg Ala	tct Ser	ttg Leu 935	cta Leu	gaa Glu	aaa Lys	cta Leu	gaa Glu 940	acc Thr	gcc Ala	aga Arg	cct Pro		2832
gag Glu 945	ggg Gly	ggg Gly	gag Glu	cta Leu	gac Asp 950	gac Asp	ata Ile	tgt Cys	gac Asp	cag Gln 955	atc Ile	cat His	gaa Glu	gtg Val	atg Met 960		2880
aaa Lys	acg Thr	ttg Leu	caa Gln 965	gtg Val	cct Pro	aaa Lys	gaa Glu	aca Thr	atc Ile 970	aac Asn	agc Ser	ata Ile	agc Ser	aaa Lys 975	gcg Ala		2928
ttt Phe	ctc Leu	aaa Lys	gat Asp 980	gct Ala	cgt Arg	ctc Leu	att Ile	gtt Val 985	cgt Arg	tca Ser	agt Ser	gct Ala	aac Asn 990	gtc Val	gag Glu		2976
gac Asp	tta Leu	gcc Ala 995	gga Gly	atg Met	tca Ser	gct Ala	gca Ala 1000	gga Gly	ctc Leu	tat Tyr	gaa Glu	tca Ser	atc Ile 1005	cct Pro	aac Asn		3024
gtg Val 1010	agt Ser	ccc Pro	tcg Ser	gat Asp	cct Pro	ttg Leu 1015	gtg Val	ttt Phe	tca Ser	gat Asp	tcg Ser 1020	gtt Val	tgc Cys	caa Gln			3069
gtt Val 1025	tgg Trp	gct Ala	tct Ser	ctc Leu	tac Tyr	aca Thr 1030	aga Arg	aga Arg	gct Ala	gtt Val	cta Leu 1035	agc Ser	cgt Arg	aga Arg			3114
gct Ala 1040	gct Ala	ggg Gly	gtc Val	tct Ser	caa Gln	aga Arg 1045	gaa Glu	gct Ala	tca Ser	atg Met	gct Ala 1050	gtt Val	ctc Leu	gtt Val			3159
caa 1050	gaa	atg	ctt	tcg	ccg	gac	tta	tca	ttc	gtt	ctg	cac	aca	gtg			3204

Arg Leu Thr Cys Thr Ala Thr Ser Ser Ser Thr Ile Glu Glu Gln Arg
50 55 60

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 Lys Lys Lys Asp Gly Ser Gly Thr Lys Val Arg Leu Asn Val Arg Leu
 65 70 75 80

Asp His Gln Val Asn Phe Gly Asp His Val Ala Met Phe Gly Ser Ala
 85 90 95

Lys Glu Ile Gly Ser Trp Lys Lys Lys Ser Pro Leu Asn Trp Ser Glu
 100 105 110

Asn Gly Trp Val Cys Glu Leu Glu Leu Asp Gly Gly Gln Val Leu Glu
 115 120 125

Tyr Lys Phe Val Ile Val Lys Asn Asp Gly Ser Leu Ser Trp Glu Ser
 130 135 140

Gly Asp Asn Arg Val Leu Lys Val Pro Asn Ser Gly Asn Phe Ser Val
 145 150 155 160

Val Cys His Trp Asp Ala Thr Arg Glu Thr Leu Asp Leu Pro Gln Glu
 165 170 175

Val Gly Asn Asp Asp Asp Val Gly Asp Gly Gly His Glu Arg Asp Asn
 180 185 190

His Asp Val Gly Asp Asp Arg Val Val Gly Ser Glu Asn Gly Ala Gln
 195 200 205

Leu Gln Lys Ser Thr Leu Gly Gly Gln Trp Gln Gly Lys Asp Ala Ser
 210 215 220

Phe Met Arg Ser Asn Asp His Gly Asn Arg Glu Val Gly Arg Asn Trp
 225 230 235 240

Asp Thr Ser Gly Leu Glu Gly Thr Ala Leu Lys Met Val Glu Gly Asp
 245 250 255

Arg Asn Ser Lys Asn Trp Trp Arg Lys Leu Glu Met Val Arg Glu Val
 260 265 270

Ile Val Gly Ser Val Glu Arg Glu Glu Arg Leu Lys Ala Leu Ile Tyr
 275 280 285

Ser Ala Ile Tyr Leu Lys Trp Ile Asn Thr Gly Gln Ile Pro Cys Phe
 290 295 300

Glu Asp Gly Gly His His Arg Pro Asn Arg His Ala Glu Ile Ser Arg
 305 310 315 320

Leu Ile Phe Arg Glu Leu Glu His Ile Cys Ser Lys Lys Asp Ala Thr
 325 330 335

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 Pro Glu Glu Val Leu Val Ala Arg Lys Ile His Pro Cys Leu Pro Ser
 340 345 350

Phe Lys Ala Glu Phe Thr Ala Ala Val Pro Leu Thr Arg Ile Arg Asp
 355 360 365

Ile Ala His Arg Asn Asp Ile Pro His Asp Leu Lys Gln Glu Ile Lys
 370 375 380

His Thr Ile Gln Asn Lys Leu His Arg Asn Ala Gly Pro Glu Asp Leu
 385 390 395 400

Ile Ala Thr Glu Ala Met Leu Gln Arg Ile Thr Glu Thr Pro Gly Lys
 405 410 415

Tyr Ser Gly Asp Phe Val Glu Gln Phe Lys Ile Phe His Asn Glu Leu
 420 425 430

Lys Asp Phe Phe Asn Ala Gly Ser Leu Thr Glu Gln Leu Asp Ser Met
 435 440 445

Lys Ile Ser Met Asp Asp Arg Gly Leu Ser Ala Leu Asn Leu Phe Phe
 450 455 460

Glu Cys Lys Lys Arg Leu Asp Thr Ser Gly Glu Ser Ser Asn Val Leu
 465 470 475 480

Glu Leu Ile Lys Thr Met His Ser Leu Ala Ser Leu Arg Glu Thr Ile
 485 490 495

Ile Lys Glu Leu Asn Ser Gly Leu Arg Asn Asp Ala Pro Asp Thr Ala
 500 505 510

Ile Ala Met Arg Gln Lys Trp Arg Leu Cys Glu Ile Gly Leu Glu Asp
 515 520 525

Tyr Phe Phe Val Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe Leu Asn Ala Leu Glu Thr Met
 530 535 540

Gly Gly Ala Asp Gln Leu Ala Lys Asp Val Gly Ser Arg Asn Val Ala
 545 550 555 560

Ser Trp Asn Asp Pro Leu Asp Ala Leu Val Leu Gly Val His Gln Val
 565 570 575

Gly Leu Ser Gly Trp Lys Gln Glu Glu Cys Leu Ala Ile Gly Asn Glu
 580 585 590

Leu Leu Ala Trp Arg Glu Arg Asp Leu Leu Glu Lys Glu Gly Glu Glu
 595 600 605

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 Asp Gly Lys Thr Ile Trp Ala Met Arg Leu Lys Ala Thr Leu Asp Arg
 610 615 620

Ala Arg Arg Leu Thr Ala Glu Tyr Ser Asp Leu Leu Leu Gln Ile Phe
 625 630 635 640

Pro Pro Asn Val Glu Ile Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Gly Ile Pro Glu Asn
 645 650 655

Ser Val Lys Thr Tyr Thr Glu Ala Glu Ile Arg Ala Gly Ile Ile Phe
 660 665 670

Gln Ile Ser Lys Leu Cys Thr Val Leu Leu Lys Ala Val Arg Asn Ser
 675 680 685

Leu Gly Ser Glu Gly Trp Asp Val Val Val Pro Gly Ser Thr Ser Gly
 690 695 700

Thr Leu Val Gln Val Glu Ser Ile Val Pro Gly Ser Leu Pro Ala Thr
 705 710 715 720

Ser Gly Gly Pro Ile Ile Leu Leu Val Asn Lys Ala Asp Gly Asp Glu
 725 730 735

Glu Val Ser Ala Ala Asn Gly Asn Ile Ala Gly Val Met Leu Leu Gln
 740 745 750

Glu Leu Pro His Leu Ser His Leu Gly Val Arg Ala Arg Gln Glu Lys
 755 760 765

Ile Val Phe Val Thr Cys Asp Asp Asp Asp Lys Val Ala Asp Ile Arg
 770 775 780

Arg Leu Val Gly Lys Phe Val Arg Leu Glu Ala Ser Pro Ser His Val
 785 790 795 800

Asn Leu Ile Leu Ser Thr Glu Gly Arg Ser Arg Thr Ser Lys Ser Ser
 805 810 815

Ala Thr Lys Lys Thr Asp Lys Asn Ser Leu Ser Lys Lys Lys Thr Asp
 820 825 830

Lys Lys Ser Leu Ser Ile Asp Asp Glu Glu Ser Lys Pro Gly Ser Ser
 835 840 845

Ser Ser Asn Ser Leu Leu Tyr Ser Ser Lys Asp Ile Pro Ser Gly Gly
 850 855 860

Ile Ile Ala Leu Ala Asp Ala Asp Val Pro Thr Ser Gly Ser Lys Ser
 865 870 875 880

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 Ala Ala Cys Gly Leu Leu Ala Ser Leu Ala Glu Ala Ser Ser Lys Val
 885 890 895

His Ser Glu His Gly Val Pro Ala Ser Phe Lys Val Pro Thr Gly Val
 900 905 910

Val Ile Pro Phe Gly Ser Met Glu Leu Ala Leu Lys Gln Asn Asn Ser
 915 920 925

Glu Glu Lys Phe Ala Ser Leu Leu Glu Lys Leu Glu Thr Ala Arg Pro
 930 935 940

Glu Gly Gly Glu Leu Asp Asp Ile Cys Asp Gln Ile His Glu Val Met
 945 950 955 960

Lys Thr Leu Gln Val Pro Lys Glu Thr Ile Asn Ser Ile Ser Lys Ala
 965 970 975

Phe Leu Lys Asp Ala Arg Leu Ile Val Arg Ser Ser Ala Asn Val Glu
 980 985 990

Asp Leu Ala Gly Met Ser Ala Ala Gly Leu Tyr Glu Ser Ile Pro Asn
 995 1000 1005

Val Ser Pro Ser Asp Pro Leu Val Phe Ser Asp Ser Val Cys Gln
 1010 1015 1020

Val Trp Ala Ser Leu Tyr Thr Arg Arg Ala Val Leu Ser Arg Arg
 1025 1030 1035

Ala Ala Gly Val Ser Gln Arg Glu Ala Ser Met Ala Val Leu Val
 1040 1045 1050

Gln Glu Met Leu Ser Pro Asp Leu Ser Phe Val Leu His Thr Val
 1055 1060 1065

Ser Pro Ala Asp Pro Asp Ser Asn Leu Val Glu Ala Glu Ile Ala
 1070 1075 1080

Pro Gly Leu Gly Glu Thr Leu Ala Ser Gly Thr Arg Gly Thr Pro
 1085 1090 1095

Trp Arg Leu Ala Ser Gly Lys Leu Asp Gly Ile Val Gln Thr Leu
 1100 1105 1110

Ala Phe Ala Asn Phe Ser Glu Glu Leu Leu Val Ser Gly Thr Gly
 1115 1120 1125

Pro Ala Asp Gly Lys Tyr Val Arg Leu Thr Val Asp Tyr Ser Lys
 1130 1135 1140

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 Lys Arg Leu Thr Val Asp Ser Val Phe Arg Gln Gln Leu Gly Gln
 1145 1150 1155

Arg Leu Gly Ser Val Gly Phe Phe Leu Glu Arg Asn Phe Gly Cys
 1160 1165 1170

Ala Gln Asp Val Glu Gly Cys Leu Val Gly Glu Asp Val Tyr Ile
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Val Gln Ser Arg Pro Gln Pro Leu
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		1				5					10					
ggc	ggc	agg	ccg	cgc	cgt	ggt	ctc	gtc	ctc	ccg	ccg	ccc	gga	gtc	ggt	99
Gly	Gly	Arg	Pro	Arg	Arg	Gly	Leu	Val	Leu	Pro	Pro	Pro	Gly	Val	Gly	
	15					20				25						
gcg	ggt	gtg	ctg	ctc	cgc	cgg	gga	gcg	atg	gcg	ctc	cct	ggg	cgg	cgc	147
Ala	Gly	Val	Leu	Leu	Arg	Arg	Gly	Ala	Met	Ala	Leu	Pro	Gly	Arg	Arg	
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ggc	ttc	gcg	tgc	cgc	ggg	aga	tcc	gcg	gcc	tcg	gcg	gca	gag	aga	aca	195
Gly	Phe	Ala	Cys	Arg	Gly	Arg	Ser	Ala	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ala	Glu	Arg	Thr	
				50					55					60		
aag	gag	aaa	aag	aga	aga	gat	tct	tca	aag	cag	cca	ttg	gtg	cat	ctc	243
Lys	Glu	Lys	Lys	Arg	Arg	Asp	Ser	Ser	Lys	Gln	Pro	Leu	Val	His	Leu	
			65					70					75			
cag	gtt	tgt	cta	gag	cac	cag	gtt	aag	ttt	ggt	gag	cat	gta	ggc	att	291
Gln	Val	Cys	Leu	Glu	His	Gln	Val	Lys	Phe	Gly	Glu	His	Val	Gly	Ile	
		80					85					90				
atc	ggt	tcc	aca	aag	gag	ctt	ggt	tca	tgg	gag	gag	cag	gtt	gaa	ctg	339
Ile	Gly	Ser	Thr	Lys	Glu	Leu	Gly	Ser	Trp	Glu	Glu	Gln	Val	Glu	Leu	
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gaa	tgg	act	aca	aat	ggt	tgg	gtc	tgc	cag	ctt	aag	ctc	cct	gga	gaa	387
Glu	Trp	Thr	Thr	Asn	Gly	Trp	Val	Cys	Gln	Leu	Lys	Leu	Pro	Gly	Glu	
110					115					120					125	

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Thr	Leu	Val	Glu	Phe	Lys	Phe	Val	Ile	Phe	Leu	Val	Gly	Gly	Lys	Asp	
				130					135					140		
aaa	ata	tgg	gaa	gat	ggt	aat	aac	cgt	gtt	gtt	gag	ctg	ccg	aag	gat	483
Lys	Ile	Trp	Glu	Asp	Gly	Asn	Asn	Arg	Val	Val	Glu	Leu	Pro	Lys	Asp	
			145					150					155			
ggt	aag	ttt	gat	ata	gta	tgc	cac	tgg	aat	aga	aca	gaa	gag	cca	tta	531
Gly	Lys	Phe	Asp	Ile	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Asn	Arg	Thr	Glu	Glu	Pro	Leu	
		160					165					170				
gaa	ctt	tta	gga	aca	cca	aag	ttt	gag	ttg	gtc	gga	gaa	gct	gaa	aag	579
Glu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Thr	Pro	Lys	Phe	Glu	Leu	Val	Gly	Glu	Ala	Glu	Lys	
	175					180					185					
aat	act	ggc	gag	gat	gct	tca	gca	tct	gta	act	ttt	gca	cct	gaa	aaa	627
Asn	Thr	Gly	Glu	Asp	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ser	Val	Thr	Phe	Ala	Pro	Glu	Lys	
190					195					200					205	
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Val	Gln	Asp	Ile	Ser	Val	Val	Glu	Asn	Gly	Asp	Pro	Ala	Pro	Glu	Ala	
				210					215					220		
gag	tca	agc	aaa	ttt	ggt	ggg	caa	tgg	caa	gga	agt	aaa	act	gtt	ttc	723
Glu	Ser	Ser	Lys	Phe	Gly	Gly	Gln	Trp	Gln	Gly	Ser	Lys	Thr	Val	Phe	
			225					230					235			
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Met	Arg	Ser	Asn	Glu	His	Leu	Asn	Lys	Glu	Ala	Asp	Arg	Met	Trp	Asp	
		240					245					250				
aca	act	ggg	ctt	gat	gga	ata	gca	ctg	aaa	ctg	gtg	gag	ggc	gat	aaa	819
Thr	Thr	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Ile	Ala	Leu	Lys	Leu	Val	Glu	Gly	Asp	Lys	
	255					260					265					
gca	tcc	agg	aac	tgg	tgg	cgg	aag	tta	gag	gtt	gtt	cgc	ggg	ata	ttg	867
Ala	Ser	Arg	Asn	Trp	Trp	Arg	Lys	Leu	Glu	Val	Val	Arg	Gly	Ile	Leu	
270				275						280					285	
tca	gaa	tct	ttt	gat	gac	cag	agt	cgt	ctg	ggg	gcc	ctt	gta	tac	tca	915
Ser	Glu	Ser	Phe	Asp	Asp	Gln	Ser	Arg	Leu	Gly	Ala	Leu	Val	Tyr	Ser	
				290					295					300		
gct	att	tat	ctg	aag	tgg	att	tat	aca	ggt	cag	ata	tcg	tgc	ttt	gaa	963
Ala	Ile	Tyr	Leu	Lys	Trp	Ile	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Gln	Ile	Ser	Cys	Phe	Glu	
			305					310					315			
gat	ggt	ggc	cac	cat	cgg	cct	aac	aaa	cat	gct	gag	ata	tcg	agg	caa	1011
Asp	Gly	Gly	His	His	Arg	Pro	Asn	Lys	His	Ala	Glu	Ile	Ser	Arg	Gln	
		320					325					330				
ata	ttc	cgt	gaa	ctt	gaa	atg	atg	tat	tat	ggg	aaa	acc	aca	tca	gcc	1059
Ile	Phe	Arg	Glu	Leu	Glu	Met	Met	Tyr	Tyr	Gly	Lys	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ala	
	335					340				345						
aag	gat	gtt	ctc	gtg	att	cgc	aaa	att	cat	ccc	ttt	tta	cct	tca	ttt	1107
Lys	Asp	Val	Leu	Val	Ile	Arg	Lys	Ile	His	Pro	Phe	Leu	Pro	Ser	Phe	
350				355						360					365	
aag	tca	gag	ttt	aca	gcc	tct	gtc	cct	cta	aca	cga	att	cgt	gat	att	1155
Lys	Ser	Glu	Phe	Thr	Ala	Ser	Val	Pro	Leu	Thr	Arg	Ile	Arg	Asp	Ile	
				370				375						380		
gct	cac	cgg	aat	gac	atc	cca	cat	gat	ctc	aag	caa	gaa	atc	aag	cat	1203
Ala	His	Arg	Asn	Asp	Ile	Pro	His	Asp	Leu	Lys	Gln	Glu	Ile	Lys	His	
			385					390					395			

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act Thr	ata Ile	caa Gln 400	aac Asn	aaa Lys	ctt Leu	cat His	cgt Arg 405	aat Asn	gct Ala	gga Gly	cct Pro	gag Glu 410	gat Asp	ctt Leu	att Ile	1251
gct Ala 415	aca Thr	gaa Glu	gtc Val	atg Met	ctt Leu	gct Ala 420	agg Arg	att Ile	act Thr	aag Lys	acc Thr 425	cct Pro	gga Gly	gaa Glu	tac Tyr	1299
agt Ser 430	gaa Glu	aca Thr	ttt Phe	gtt Val	gaa Glu 435	caa Gln	ttc Phe	acg Thr	ata Ile	ttt Phe 440	tat Tyr	agc Ser	gaa Glu	cta Leu	aaa Lys 445	1347
gat Asp	ttc Phe	ttc Phe	aat Asn	gct Ala 450	ggc Gly	agc Ser	cta Leu	ttt Phe	gag Glu 455	caa Gln	ctg Leu	gag Glu	tcc Ser	atc Ile 460	aag Lys	1395
gaa Glu	tct Ser	ctg Leu	aac Asn 465	gag Glu	tca Ser	ggc Gly	tta Leu 470	gaa Glu	gtt Val	ctc Leu	tca Ser	tcc Ser	ttt Phe 475	gtg Val	gaa Glu	1443
acc Thr	aaa Lys	agg Arg 480	agt Ser	ttg Leu	gac Asp	caa Gln	gtg Val 485	gat Asp	cat His	gca Ala	gaa Glu	gat Asp 490	ttg Leu	gat Asp	aaa Lys	1491
aat Asn 495	gat Asp	acc Thr	att Ile	caa Gln	att Ile	ttg Leu 500	atg Met	act Thr	acc Thr	ttg Leu	caa Gln 505	tca Ser	tta Leu	tct Ser	tct Ser	1539
cta Leu 510	aga Arg	tcg Ser	gtt Val	cta Leu	atg Met 515	aag Lys	ggc Gly	ctt Leu	gaa Glu	agt Ser 520	ggc Gly	ctt Leu	aga Arg	aat Asn	gat Asp 525	1587
gcg Ala	cct Pro	gat Asp	aat Asn	gct Ala 530	ata Ile	gca Ala	atg Met	cga Arg	caa Gln 535	aag Lys	tgg Trp	cgc Arg	ctt Leu	tgt Cys 540	gaa Glu	1635
att Ile	agt Ser	ctt Leu	gag Glu 545	gat Asp	tat Tyr	tca Ser	ttt Phe	gtt Val 550	ctg Leu	tta Leu	agc Ser	aga Arg	ttc Phe 555	atc Ile	aat Asn	1683
act Thr	ctt Leu	gaa Glu 560	gcc Ala	tta Leu	ggc Gly	gga Gly	tca Ser 565	gct Ala	tca Ser	ctt Leu	gca Ala 570	aag Lys	gat Asp	gta Val	gct Ala	1731
aga Arg	aat Asn 575	act Thr	act Thr	cta Leu	tgg Trp	gat Asp 580	act Thr	act Thr	ctt Leu	gat Asp	gcc Ala 585	ctt Leu	gtc Val	att Ile	ggc Gly	1779
atc Ile 590	aat Asn	caa Gln	gtt Val	agc Ser	ttt Phe 595	tca Ser	ggc Gly	tgg Trp	aaa Lys	aca Thr 600	gat Asp	gaa Glu	tgt Cys	att Ile	gcc Ala 605	1827
ata Ile	ggg Gly	aat Asn	gag Glu	att Ile 610	ctt Leu	tcc Ser	tgg Trp	aag Lys	caa Gln 615	aaa Lys	ggc Gly	cta Leu	tct Ser	gaa Glu 620	agt Ser	1875
gaa Glu	ggc Gly	tgt Cys	gaa Glu 625	gat Asp	ggc Gly	aaa Lys	tat Tyr	att Ile 630	tgg Trp	tca Ser	cta Leu	aga Arg	ctt Leu 635	aaa Lys	gct Ala	1923
aca Thr	ctg Leu	gac Asp 640	aga Arg	gca Ala	cgg Arg	aga Arg	tta Leu 645	acg Thr	gaa Glu	gag Glu	tac Tyr	tct Ser 650	gaa Glu	gca Ala	ctt Leu	1971
ctt Leu	tct Ser 655	ata Ile	ttc Phe	cct Pro	gaa Glu	aaa Lys 660	gta Val	atg Met	gtt Val	att Ile	ggg Gly 665	aaa Lys	gcc Ala	ctt Leu	gga Gly	2019

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ata Ile 670	cca Pro	gat Asp	aac Asn	agt Ser	gtg Val 675	aga Arg	act Thr	tac Tyr	aca Thr	gag Glu 680	gca Ala	gaa Glu	att Ile	cgt Arg	gct Ala 685	2067
ggc Gly	att Ile	gtt Val	ttt Phe	cag Gln 690	gta Val	tct Ser	aaa Lys	cta Leu	tgc Cys 695	aca Thr	gta Val	ctt Leu	cag Gln	aaa Lys 700	gca Ala	2115
att Ile	cga Arg	gaa Glu	gta Val 705	ctt Leu	gga Gly	tca Ser	act Thr	ggc Gly 710	tgg Trp	gat Asp	gtt Val	ctt Leu	gtt Val 715	cct Pro	gga Gly	2163
gtg Val	gcc Ala	cat His 720	gga Gly	act Thr	ctg Leu	atg Met	cgg Arg 725	gtg Val	gaa Glu	aga Arg	att Ile	ctt Leu 730	cct Pro	gga Gly	tca Ser	2211
tta Leu	cct Pro 735	tca Ser	tct Ser	gtc Val	aaa Lys	gaa Glu 740	cct Pro	gtg Val	gtt Val	cta Leu	att Ile 745	gta Val	gat Asp	aag Lys	gct Ala	2259
gat Asp 750	gga Gly	gat Asp	gaa Glu	gag Glu	gtc Val 755	aaa Lys	gct Ala	gct Ala	ggg Gly	gat Asp 760	aat Asn	ata Ile	gtt Val	ggg Gly	gtt Val 765	2307
att Ile	ctt Leu	ctt Leu	cag Gln	gaa Glu 770	cta Leu	cct Pro	cac His	ctt Leu	tca Ser 775	cat His	ctt Leu	ggg Gly	gtt Val	aga Arg 780	gct Ala	2355
cgt Arg	caa Gln	gag Glu	aat Asn 785	gtt Val	gta Val	ttt Phe	gta Val	act Thr 790	tgt Cys	gaa Glu	tat Tyr	gat Asp	gac Asp 795	aca Thr	gtt Val	2403
aca Thr	gat Asp	gtg Val 800	tat Tyr	ttg Leu	ctt Leu	gag Glu	gga Gly 805	aaa Lys	tat Tyr	atc Ile	aga Arg	tta Leu 810	gaa Glu	gca Ala	tca Ser	2451
tcc Ser	atc Ile 815	aat Asn	gtc Val	aat Asn	ctc Leu	tca Ser 820	ata Ile	gtt Val	tca Ser	gaa Glu	aaa Lys 825	aat Asn	gac Asp	aat Asn	gct Ala	2499
gtc Val 830	tct Ser	aca Thr	gaa Glu	cca Pro	aat Asn 835	agt Ser	aca Thr	ggg Gly	aat Asn	cca Pro 840	ttt Phe	caa Gln	cag Gln	aaa Lys	ctc Leu 845	2547
caa Gln	aat Asn	gaa Glu	ttc Phe	tct Ser 850	cta Leu	cca Pro	tcg Ser	gat Asp	atc Ile 855	gag Glu	atg Met	cca Pro	ctg Leu	caa Gln 860	atg Met	2595
tct Ser	aag Lys	caa Gln	aaa Lys 865	agc Ser	aaa Lys	tca Ser	gga Gly	gtg Val 870	aat Asn	ggg Gly	agt Ser	ttt Phe	gct Ala 875	gct Ala	ctt Leu	2643
gag Glu	ctt Leu	tca Ser 880	gaa Glu	gct Ala	tca Ser	gtg Val 885	gaa Glu	tca Ser	gct Ala	ggg Gly	gca Ala	aaa Lys 890	gct Ala	gct Ala	gca Ala	2691
tgc Cys	aga Arg 895	act Thr	ctt Leu	tct Ser	gtt Val	ctt Leu 900	gct Ala	tca Ser	ttg Leu	tct Ser	aat Asn 905	aaa Lys	gtc Val	tat Tyr	agt Ser	2739
gat Asp 910	caa Gln	gga Gly	gtt Val	cca Pro	gca Ala 915	gcc Ala	ttt Phe	aga Arg	gtc Val	cct Pro 920	tct Ser	ggg Gly	gct Ala	gtg Val	ata Ile 925	2787
cca Pro	ttt Phe	gga Gly	tca Ser	atg Met 930	gag Glu	gat Asp	gcg Ala	ctc Leu	aag Lys 935	aaa Lys	agt Ser	gga Gly	tca Ser	ctg Leu 940	gaa Glu	2835

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tcc	ttt	aca	agc	ctt	cta	gaa	aag	att	gaa	aca	gcc	aaa	gtc	gaa	aat	2883
Ser	Phe	Thr	Ser	Leu	Leu	Glu	Lys	Ile	Glu	Thr	Ala	Lys	Val	Glu	Asn	
			945					950					955			
ggt	gaa	gtt	gat	agc	ctg	gcg	ttg	gag	cta	caa	gca	ata	att	tca	cat	2931
Gly	Glu	Val	Asp	Ser	Leu	Ala	Leu	Glu	Leu	Gln	Ala	Ile	Ile	Ser	His	
		960					965					970				
ctt	tcc	cca	ccg	gag	gag	act	att	ata	ttt	ctc	aaa	aga	atc	ttc	cca	2979
Leu	Ser	Pro	Pro	Glu	Glu	Thr	Ile	Ile	Phe	Leu	Lys	Arg	Ile	Phe	Pro	
	975					980					985					
cag	gat	gtc	cgg	ttg	att	gtt	aga	tct	agt	gct	aat	gtg	gag	gat	ttg	3027
Gln	Asp	Val	Arg	Leu	Ile	Val	Arg	Ser	Ser	Ala	Asn	Val	Glu	Asp	Leu	
990					995					1000					1005	
gct	ggt	atg	tca	gct	gct	ggt	ctc	tat	gat	tca	att	ccc	aat	gtc		3072
Ala	Gly	Met	Ser	Ala	Ala	Gly	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Ile	Pro	Asn	Val		
				1010					1015					1020		
agt	ctc	atg	gac	cca	tgt	gcc	ttt	gga	gct	gcg	gtt	ggg	aag	gtt		3117
Ser	Leu	Met	Asp	Pro	Cys	Ala	Phe	Gly	Ala	Ala	Val	Gly	Lys	Val		
				1025					1030					1035		
tgg	gct	tct	tta	tac	aca	agg	aga	gcc	atc	cta	agc	cgt	cga	gcc		3162
Trp	Ala	Ser	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Arg	Arg	Ala	Ile	Leu	Ser	Arg	Arg	Ala		
				1040					1045					1050		
gct	ggt	gtt	tat	cag	aga	gac	gcg	aca	atg	gct	gtt	ctt	gtc	caa		3207
Ala	Gly	Val	Tyr	Gln	Arg	Asp	Ala	Thr	Met	Ala	Val	Leu	Val	Gln		
				1055					1060					1065		
gaa	ata	ctg	cag	cca	gat	ctc	tcc	ttc	gtg	ctt	cat	act	gtt	tgc		3252
Glu	Ile	Leu	Gln	Pro	Asp	Leu	Ser	Phe	Val	Leu	His	Thr	Val	Cys		
				1070					1075					1080		
ccc	gct	gac	cat	gac	ccc	aag	gtt	gtc	cag	gct	gag	gtc	gcc	cct		3297
Pro	Ala	Asp	His	Asp	Pro	Lys	Val	Val	Gln	Ala	Glu	Val	Ala	Pro		
				1085					1090					1095		
ggg	ctg	ggt	gaa	acg	ctt	gct	tca	gga	acc	cgt	ggc	acc	ccg	tgg		3342
Gly	Leu	Gly	Glu	Thr	Leu	Ala	Ser	Gly	Thr	Arg	Gly	Thr	Pro	Trp		
				1100					1105					1110		
agg	ctg	tca	tgt	aac	aaa	ttc	gat	gga	aaa	gtt	gcc	act	ctt	gcc		3387
Arg	Leu	Ser	Cys	Asn	Lys	Phe	Asp	Gly	Lys	Val	Ala	Thr	Leu	Ala		
				1115					1120					1125		
ttt	tca	aat	ttc	agt	gag	gag	atg	gtg	gtg	cac	aac	tct	ggt	cct		3432
Phe	Ser	Asn	Phe	Ser	Glu	Glu	Met	Val	Val	His	Asn	Ser	Gly	Pro		
				1130					1135					1140		
gcc	aat	gga	gaa	gta	att	cgt	ctt	act	gtt	gat	tac	agc	aag	aag		3477
Ala	Asn	Gly	Glu	Val	Ile	Arg	Leu	Thr	Val	Asp	Tyr	Ser	Lys	Lys		
				1145					1150					1155		
cca	ttg	tcg	gtt	gat	aca	acc	ttt	agg	aag	cag	ttt	ggt	cag	cga		3522
Pro	Leu	Ser	Val	Asp	Thr	Thr	Phe	Arg	Lys	Gln	Phe	Gly	Gln	Arg		
				1160					1165					1170		
ctg	gct	gcg	att	ggc	cag	tat	ctg	gag	cag	aag	ttc	ggg	agt	gca		3567
Leu	Ala	Ala	Ile	Gly	Gln	Tyr	Leu	Glu	Gln	Lys	Phe	Gly	Ser	Ala		
				1175					1180					1185		
cag	gat	gtg	gaa	ggt	tgc	ctg	gtt	ggg	aaa	gat	att	ttt	ata	gtg		3612
Gln	Asp	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys	Leu	Val	Gly	Lys	Asp	Ile	Phe	Ile	Val		
				1190					1195					1200		

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caa agc agg cca cag cca tag aagccgaatt c 3644
 Gln Ser Arg Pro Gln Pro
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<210> 4

<211> 1206

<212> PRT

<213> Oryza sativa

<400> 4

Met Thr Ser Leu Arg Pro Leu Glu Thr Ser Leu Ser Ile Gly Gly Arg
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Pro Arg Arg Gly Leu Val Leu Pro Pro Gly Val Gly Ala Gly Val
 20 25 30

Leu Leu Arg Arg Gly Ala Met Ala Leu Pro Gly Arg Arg Gly Phe Ala
 35 40 45

Cys Arg Gly Arg Ser Ala Ala Ser Ala Ala Glu Arg Thr Lys Glu Lys
 50 55 60

Lys Arg Arg Asp Ser Ser Lys Gln Pro Leu Val His Leu Gln Val Cys
 65 70 75 80

Leu Glu His Gln Val Lys Phe Gly Glu His Val Gly Ile Ile Gly Ser
 85 90 95

Thr Lys Glu Leu Gly Ser Trp Glu Glu Gln Val Glu Leu Glu Trp Thr
 100 105 110

Thr Asn Gly Trp Val Cys Gln Leu Lys Leu Pro Gly Glu Thr Leu Val
 115 120 125

Glu Phe Lys Phe Val Ile Phe Leu Val Gly Gly Lys Asp Lys Ile Trp
 130 135 140

Glu Asp Gly Asn Asn Arg Val Val Glu Leu Pro Lys Asp Gly Lys Phe
 145 150 155 160

Asp Ile Val Cys His Trp Asn Arg Thr Glu Glu Pro Leu Glu Leu Leu
 165 170 175

Gly Thr Pro Lys Phe Glu Leu Val Gly Glu Ala Glu Lys Asn Thr Gly
 180 185 190

Glu Asp Ala Ser Ala Ser Val Thr Phe Ala Pro Glu Lys Val Gln Asp
 195 200 205

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Ile Ser Val Val Glu Asn Gly Asp Pro Ala Pro Glu Ala Glu Ser Ser
 210 215 220
 Lys Phe Gly Gly Gln Trp Gln Gly Ser Lys Thr Val Phe Met Arg Ser
 225 230 235 240
 Asn Glu His Leu Asn Lys Glu Ala Asp Arg Met Trp Asp Thr Thr Gly
 245 250 255
 Leu Asp Gly Ile Ala Leu Lys Leu Val Glu Gly Asp Lys Ala Ser Arg
 260 265 270
 Asn Trp Trp Arg Lys Leu Glu Val Val Arg Gly Ile Leu Ser Glu Ser
 275 280 285
 Phe Asp Asp Gln Ser Arg Leu Gly Ala Leu Val Tyr Ser Ala Ile Tyr
 290 295 300
 Leu Lys Trp Ile Tyr Thr Gly Gln Ile Ser Cys Phe Glu Asp Gly Gly
 305 310 315 320
 His His Arg Pro Asn Lys His Ala Glu Ile Ser Arg Gln Ile Phe Arg
 325 330 335
 Glu Leu Glu Met Met Tyr Tyr Gly Lys Thr Thr Ser Ala Lys Asp Val
 340 345 350
 Leu Val Ile Arg Lys Ile His Pro Phe Leu Pro Ser Phe Lys Ser Glu
 355 360 365
 Phe Thr Ala Ser Val Pro Leu Thr Arg Ile Arg Asp Ile Ala His Arg
 370 375 380
 Asn Asp Ile Pro His Asp Leu Lys Gln Glu Ile Lys His Thr Ile Gln
 385 390 395 400
 Asn Lys Leu His Arg Asn Ala Gly Pro Glu Asp Leu Ile Ala Thr Glu
 405 410 415
 Val Met Leu Ala Arg Ile Thr Lys Thr Pro Gly Glu Tyr Ser Glu Thr
 420 425 430
 Phe Val Glu Gln Phe Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ser Glu Leu Lys Asp Phe Phe
 435 440 445
 Asn Ala Gly Ser Leu Phe Glu Gln Leu Glu Ser Ile Lys Glu Ser Leu
 450 455 460
 Asn Glu Ser Gly Leu Glu Val Leu Ser Ser Phe Val Glu Thr Lys Arg
 465 470 475 480

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Ser Leu Asp Glⁿ Val⁴⁸⁵ Asp His Ala Gl^u Asp⁴⁹⁰ Leu Asp Lys Asn Asp⁴⁹⁵ Thr
 Ile Glⁿ Ile Leu⁵⁰⁰ Met Thr Thr Leu Glⁿ⁵⁰⁵ Ser Leu Ser Ser Leu⁵¹⁰ Arg Ser
 Val Leu Met⁵¹⁵ Lys Gly Leu Gl^u Ser⁵²⁰ Gly Leu Arg Asn Asp⁵²⁵ Ala Pro Asp
 Asn Ala⁵³⁰ Ile Ala Met Arg Glⁿ⁵³⁵ Lys Trp Arg Leu Cys⁵⁴⁰ Gl^u Ile Ser Leu
 Gl^u⁵⁴⁵ Asp Tyr Ser Phe Val⁵⁵⁰ Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe⁵⁵⁵ Ile Asn Thr Leu Gl^u⁵⁶⁰
 Ala Leu Gly Gly Ser⁵⁶⁵ Ala Ser Leu Ala Lys⁵⁷⁰ Asp Val Ala Arg Asn⁵⁷⁵ Thr
 Thr Leu Trp Asp⁵⁸⁰ Thr Thr Leu Asp Ala⁵⁸⁵ Leu Val Ile Gly Ile⁵⁹⁰ Asn Glⁿ
 Val Ser Phe⁵⁹⁵ Ser Gly Trp Lys Thr⁶⁰⁰ Asp Gl^u Cys Ile Ala⁶⁰⁵ Ile Gly Asn
 Gl^u Ile⁶¹⁰ Leu Ser Trp Lys Glⁿ⁶¹⁵ Lys Gly Leu Ser Gl^u⁶²⁰ Ser Gl^u Gly Cys
 Gl^u⁶²⁵ Asp Gly Lys Tyr Ile⁶³⁰ Trp Ser Leu Arg Leu⁶³⁵ Lys Ala Thr Leu Asp⁶⁴⁰
 Arg Ala Arg Arg Leu⁶⁴⁵ Thr Gl^u Gl^u Tyr Ser⁶⁵⁰ Gl^u Ala Leu Leu Ser⁶⁵⁵ Ile
 Phe Pro Gl^u Lys⁶⁶⁰ Val Met Val Ile Gly⁶⁶⁵ Lys Ala Leu Gly Ile⁶⁷⁰ Pro Asp
 Asn Ser Val⁶⁷⁵ Arg Thr Tyr Thr Gl^u⁶⁸⁰ Ala Gl^u Ile Arg Ala⁶⁸⁵ Gly Ile Val
 Phe Glⁿ⁶⁹⁰ Val Ser Lys Leu Cys⁶⁹⁵ Thr Val Leu Glⁿ Lys⁷⁰⁰ Ala Ile Arg Gl^u
 Val⁷⁰⁵ Leu Gly Ser Thr Gly⁷¹⁰ Trp Asp Val Leu Val⁷¹⁵ Pro Gly Val Ala His⁷²⁰
 Gly Thr Leu Met Arg⁷²⁵ Val Gl^u Arg Ile Leu⁷³⁰ Pro Gly Ser Leu Pro⁷³⁵ Ser
 Ser Val Lys Gl^u⁷⁴⁰ Pro Val Val Leu Ile⁷⁴⁵ Val Asp Lys Ala Asp⁷⁵⁰ Gly Asp

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Glu Glu Val Lys Ala Ala Gly Asp Asn Ile Val Gly Val Ile Leu Leu
 755 760 765
 Gln Glu Leu Pro His Leu Ser His Leu Gly Val Arg Ala Arg Gln Glu
 770 775 780
 Asn Val Val Phe Val Thr Cys Glu Tyr Asp Asp Thr Val Thr Asp Val
 785 790 795 800
 Tyr Leu Leu Glu Gly Lys Tyr Ile Arg Leu Glu Ala Ser Ser Ile Asn
 805 810 815
 Val Asn Leu Ser Ile Val Ser Glu Lys Asn Asp Asn Ala Val Ser Thr
 820 825 830
 Glu Pro Asn Ser Thr Gly Asn Pro Phe Gln Gln Lys Leu Gln Asn Glu
 835 840 845
 Phe Ser Leu Pro Ser Asp Ile Glu Met Pro Leu Gln Met Ser Lys Gln
 850 855 860
 Lys Ser Lys Ser Gly Val Asn Gly Ser Phe Ala Ala Leu Glu Leu Ser
 865 870 875 880
 Glu Ala Ser Val Glu Ser Ala Gly Ala Lys Ala Ala Ala Cys Arg Thr
 885 890 895
 Leu Ser Val Leu Ala Ser Leu Ser Asn Lys Val Tyr Ser Asp Gln Gly
 900 905 910
 Val Pro Ala Ala Phe Arg Val Pro Ser Gly Ala Val Ile Pro Phe Gly
 915 920 925
 Ser Met Glu Asp Ala Leu Lys Lys Ser Gly Ser Leu Glu Ser Phe Thr
 930 935 940
 Ser Leu Leu Glu Lys Ile Glu Thr Ala Lys Val Glu Asn Gly Glu Val
 945 950 955 960
 Asp Ser Leu Ala Leu Glu Leu Gln Ala Ile Ile Ser His Leu Ser Pro
 965 970 975
 Pro Glu Glu Thr Ile Ile Phe Leu Lys Arg Ile Phe Pro Gln Asp Val
 980 985 990
 Arg Leu Ile Val Arg Ser Ser Ala Asn Val Glu Asp Leu Ala Gly Met
 995 1000 1005
 Ser Ala Ala Gly Leu Tyr Asp Ser Ile Pro Asn Val Ser Leu Met
 1010 1015 1020

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Asp Pro Cys Ala Phe Gly Ala Ala Val Gly Lys Val Trp Ala Ser
 1025 1030 1035

Leu Tyr Thr Arg Arg Ala Ile Leu Ser Arg Arg Ala Ala Gly Val
 1040 1045 1050

Tyr Gln Arg Asp Ala Thr Met Ala Val Leu Val Gln Glu Ile Leu
 1055 1060 1065

Gln Pro Asp Leu Ser Phe Val Leu His Thr Val Cys Pro Ala Asp
 1070 1075 1080

His Asp Pro Lys Val Val Gln Ala Glu Val Ala Pro Gly Leu Gly
 1085 1090 1095

Glu Thr Leu Ala Ser Gly Thr Arg Gly Thr Pro Trp Arg Leu Ser
 1100 1105 1110

Cys Asn Lys Phe Asp Gly Lys Val Ala Thr Leu Ala Phe Ser Asn
 1115 1120 1125

Phe Ser Glu Glu Met Val Val His Asn Ser Gly Pro Ala Asn Gly
 1130 1135 1140

Glu Val Ile Arg Leu Thr Val Asp Tyr Ser Lys Lys Pro Leu Ser
 1145 1150 1155

Val Asp Thr Thr Phe Arg Lys Gln Phe Gly Gln Arg Leu Ala Ala
 1160 1165 1170

Ile Gly Gln Tyr Leu Glu Gln Lys Phe Gly Ser Ala Gln Asp Val
 1175 1180 1185

Glu Gly Cys Leu Val Gly Lys Asp Ile Phe Ile Val Gln Ser Arg
 1190 1195 1200

Pro Gln Pro
 1205

<210> 5

<211> 12

<212> PRT

<213> Oryza sativa, Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> 5

Leu Pro His Leu Ser His Leu Gly Val Arg Ala Arg
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<210> 6

<211> 9

<212> PRT

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<400> 6

Pro Glu Glu Cys Lys Ala Val Gly Asn
1 5

<210> 7

<211> 7

<212> PRT

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<400> 7

Thr Glu Glu Tyr Ser Glu Thr
1 5

<210> 8

<211> 7

<212> PRT

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<400> 8

Arg Phe Val Asn Ala Val Glu
1 5

<210> 9

<211> 7

<212> PRT

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<400> 9

Glu Gly Ser Glu Asp Gly Lys
1 5

<210> 10

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 <211> 403

<212> DNA

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (1)..(402)

<223>

<400> 10

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ggg ctt gaa gac tat gca ttt gtt ctt ttg agc agg ttt gtg aat gca 96
 Gly Leu Glu Asp Tyr Ala Phe Val Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe Val Asn Ala
 20 25 30

gtt gaa gct cta ggc gga gct gat tgg ctt gca gag aat gta aca gtg 144
 Val Glu Ala Leu Gly Gly Ala Asp Trp Leu Ala Glu Asn Val Thr Val
 35 40 45

aaa aac att agt tct tgg aat gat cca att gga gca ctt aca gtt gga 192
 Lys Asn Ile Ser Ser Trp Asn Asp Pro Ile Gly Ala Leu Thr Val Gly
 50 55 60

atc caa cag cta ggt ata tct ggt tgg aag ccc gag gaa tgc aaa gct 240
 Ile Gln Gln Leu Gly Ile Ser Gly Trp Lys Pro Glu Glu Cys Lys Ala
 65 70 75 80

gtt gga aat gaa ctt ttg tca tgg aaa gaa agg ggt att tca gaa att 288
 Val Gly Asn Glu Leu Leu Ser Trp Lys Glu Arg Gly Ile Ser Glu Ile
 85 90 95

gaa ggc agc gaa gat ggt aag act ata tgg gca tta aga cta aaa gcg 336
 Glu Gly Ser Glu Asp Gly Lys Thr Ile Trp Ala Leu Arg Leu Lys Ala
 100 105 110

act ctt gat aga agt cga agg tta act gag gag tat tcc gag aca ctt 384
 Thr Leu Asp Arg Ser Arg Arg Leu Thr Glu Glu Tyr Ser Glu Thr Leu
 115 120 125

ctc caa ata ttc cct gaa a 403
 Leu Gln Ile Phe Pro Glu
 130

<210> 11

<211> 134

<212> PRT

<213> Solanum tuberosum

<400> 11

BCS 04-5004-PCT_OK1 Verringerte Aktivität_SEQUENZPROTOKOLL.ST25
 Ala Asp Ala Ser Ile Ala Met Arg Gln Lys Trp Arg Leu Cys Glu Ile
 1 5 10 15

Gly Leu Glu Asp Tyr Ala Phe Val Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe Val Asn Ala
 20 25 30

Val Glu Ala Leu Gly Gly Ala Asp Trp Leu Ala Glu Asn Val Thr Val
 35 40 45

Lys Asn Ile Ser Ser Trp Asn Asp Pro Ile Gly Ala Leu Thr Val Gly
 50 55 60

Ile Gln Gln Leu Gly Ile Ser Gly Trp Lys Pro Glu Glu Cys Lys Ala
 65 70 75 80

Val Gly Asn Glu Leu Leu Ser Trp Lys Glu Arg Gly Ile Ser Glu Ile
 85 90 95

Glu Gly Ser Glu Asp Gly Lys Thr Ile Trp Ala Leu Arg Leu Lys Ala
 100 105 110

Thr Leu Asp Arg Ser Arg Arg Leu Thr Glu Glu Tyr Ser Glu Thr Leu
 115 120 125

Leu Gln Ile Phe Pro Glu
 130

INTERNATIONAL FORM

Bayer Cropscience GmbH
Brüningstr. 50

65929 Frankfurt/Main

VIABILITY STATEMENT
issued pursuant to Rule 10.2 by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY
identified at the bottom of this page

I. DEPOSITOR		II. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM	
Name: Bayer Cropscience GmbH Brüningstr. 50 Address: 65929 Frankfurt/Main		Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY: DSM 16302 Date of the deposit or the transfer ¹ : 2004-03-19	
III. VIABILITY STATEMENT			
The viability of the microorganism identified under II above was tested on 2004-03-23 On that date, the said microorganism was (X) ³ viable () ³ no longer viable			
IV. CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE VIABILITY TEST HAS BEEN PERFORMED⁴			
V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY			
Name: DSMZ-DEUTSCHE SAMMLUNG VON MIKROORGANISMEN UND ZELLKULTUREN GmbH Address: Mascheroder Weg 1b D-38124 Braunschweig		Signature(s) of person(s) having the power to represent the International Depositary Authority or of authorized official(s):  Date: 2004-03-24	

¹ Indicate the date of original deposit or, where a new deposit or a transfer has been made, the most recent relevant date (date of the new deposit or date of the transfer).

² In the cases referred to in Rule 10.2(a) (ii) and (iii), refer to the most recent viability test.

³ Mark with a cross the applicable box.

⁴ Fill in if the information has been requested and if the results of the test were negative.

INTERNATIONAL FORM

BAYER Cropscience GmbH

Brüningstr. 50

65929 Frankfurt/Main

RECEIPT IN THE CASE OF AN ORIGINAL DEPOSIT
issued pursuant to Rule 7.1 by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY
identified at the bottom of this page

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM	
Identification reference given by the DEPOSITOR: A.t.-ok1 pGEM	Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY: DSM 16264
II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION	
The microorganism identified under I. above was accompanied by: ☒ a scientific description ☐ a proposed taxonomic designation (Mark with a cross where applicable).	
III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE	
This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I. above, which was received by it on 2004-03-03 (Date of the original deposit) ¹ .	
IV. RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR CONVERSION	
The microorganism identified under I above was received by this International Depositary Authority on _____ (date of original deposit) and a request to convert the original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest Treaty was received by it on _____ (date of receipt of request for conversion).	
V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY	
Name: DSMZ-DEUTSCHE SAMMLUNG VON MIKROORGANISMEN UND ZELLKULTUREN GmbH Address: Mascheroder Weg 1b D-38124 Braunschweig	Signature(s) of person(s) having the power to represent the International Depositary Authority or of authorized official(s):  Date: 2004-03-08

¹ Where Rule 6.4 (d) applies, such date is the date on which the status of international depositary authority was acquired.

INTERNATIONAL FORM

BAYER Cropscience GmbH
Brüningstr. 50

65929 Frankfurt/Main

VIABILITY STATEMENT
issued pursuant to Rule 10.2 by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY
identified at the bottom of this page

I. DEPOSITOR		II. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM	
Name: BAYER Cropscience GmbH Brüningstr. 50 Address: 65929 Frankfurt/Main		Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY: DSM 16264 Date of the deposit or the transfer ¹ : 2004-03-03	
III. VIABILITY STATEMENT			
The viability of the microorganism identified under II above was tested on 2004-03-04 On that date, the said microorganism was (X) ² viable () ² no longer viable			
IV. CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE VIABILITY TEST HAS BEEN PERFORMED ⁴			
V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY			
Name: DSMZ-DEUTSCHE SAMMLUNG VON MIKROORGANISMEN UND ZELLKULTUREN GmbH Address: Mascheroder Weg 1b D-38124 Braunschweig		Signature(s) of person(s) having the power to represent the International Depositary Authority or of authorized official(s):  Date: 2004-03-08	

¹ Indicate the date of original deposit or, where a new deposit or a transfer has been made, the most recent relevant date (date of the new deposit or date of the transfer).

² In the cases referred to in Rule 10.2(a) (ii) and (iii), refer to the most recent viability test.

³ Mark with a cross the applicable box.

⁴ Fill in if the information has been requested and if the results of the test were negative.