

Addendum

A Cellular Networking Model Involving Interactions Among Glycosyl-phosphatidylinositol (GPI)-Anchored Plasma Membrane Arabinogalactan Proteins (AGPs), Microtubules and F-actin in Tobacco BY-2 Cells

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Original manuscript submitted: 11/14/06
Manuscript accepted: 11/14/06

This manuscript has been published online, prior to printing for *Plant Signaling & Behavior*, Volume 2, Issue 1. Definitive page numbers have not been assigned. The current citation is: *Plant Signaling & Behavior* 2007; 2(1): <http://www.landesbioscience.com/journals/psb/abstract.php?id=3599>
Once the issue is complete and page numbers have been assigned, the citation will change accordingly.

KEY WORDS

Glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI), Arabinogalactan proteins (AGP), β -Yariv reagent, amiprophosmethyl (APM), cytochalasin-D, GFP-MBD (microtubule binding domain), GFP-LeAGP-1 (*Lycopersicon esculentum*), rhodamine phalloidin, Hechtian strands, terminal cell bulging

Addendum to:

Molecular Interactions of Arabinogalactan-proteins (AGPs) with Cortical Microtubules and F-actin in Bright Yellow-2 (BY-2) Tobacco Cultured Cells

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Plant Physiol 2006; 142:1469-1479.

ABSTRACT

Arabinogalactan-proteins (AGPs) are perhaps the most abundantly expressed set of proteins at the plant cell surface and play probable roles in cellular architecture and signaling. Although considerable progress has been made to understand the role of AGPs in plant growth and development, their exact functional roles and the molecular mechanisms underlying their interactions with either intra- or extra-cellular molecules are unknown. These unknown interactions were addressed in a recent research article in *Plant Physiology*. This study reported molecular interactions between AGPs and the cytoskeleton [microtubules, (MTs) and F-actin] in tobacco BY-2 cells. Here in this addendum, a summary of this recent publication and additional perspectives are presented. As reported, perturbation studies were conducted in tobacco BY-2 cells to analyze the effects of an AGP inhibitor (β -Yariv reagent) on the organization of microtubules [labeled by GFP-MBD (green fluorescent protein-microtubule binding domain)] and F-actin [labeled by rhodamine-phalloidin] and conversely to analyze the effects of a microtubule inhibitor (amiprophosmethyl) and an F-actin inhibitor (cytochalasin-D) on the localization of GPI-anchored GFP-LeAGP-1. These studies implicate a role for GPI-anchored LeAGP-1 in mediating a cell wall-plasma membrane-cytoskeleton connection.

Despite the immense progress in understanding plant cell architecture, it remains unclear which molecules/structures/components connect the cell exterior to the interior.¹⁻⁶ A recent report in *Plant Physiology* is a step forward in understanding these connections at the molecular level and more specifically the role of a GPI-anchored tomato AGP (LeAGP-1) as a linker connecting the cell wall and the cytoskeleton (microtubules and F-actin).⁷ These interactions were investigated in tobacco BY-2 cells by employing fluorescent probes such as GFP-MBD, rhodamine phalloidin and GFP-LeAGP-1. Initially, the localization of GFP-LeAGP-1 was determined in untreated BY-2 cells and its localization was compared after treatment with microtubule and F-actin inhibitors amiprophosmethyl (APM) and cytochalasin-D, respectively.⁷ These inhibitors disrupt the uniform distribution of GFP-LeAGP-1 on the cell wall, plasma membrane and Hechtian strands.⁷ Conversely, β -Yariv reagent treatment effectively disrupts the distribution and organization of cortical microtubules and F-actin.⁷ β -Yariv treatment also results in defects in cell morphology such as terminal cell bulging,⁷ and this phenotype partially phenocopies a previously reported *Arabidopsis* reb-1 (root epidermal bulger) mutant that shows a reduction in the total amount of AGPs.⁸ Based on these results, a hypothetical cell surface networking model was presented involving direct or indirect interactions among GPI-anchored AGPs, cortical microtubules and F-actin.

In this model, a few possible modes of interactions between the cell surface AGPs and the cytoskeleton were suggested including: (1) direct interactions via a transmembrane protein, (2) indirect interactions via the lipid rafts/detergent resistant membranes, and (3) a mass action involving β -Yariv-induced disruption of the distribution of cell surface AGPs and various other wall/membrane components.⁷ As reported earlier, a number of potential candidates such as wall associated kinases (WAKs), formins, cellulose synthases, endo-1-4- β -D-glucanases, proline-rich extensin-like receptor kinases (PERKs), phospholipase-D, and lectin receptor kinases (LecRKs)^{2,5,6,9,10} may directly interact with AGPs. Formins include an extracellular extensin-like domain and actin binding domains making them one of the most suitable candidates for association with cell surface AGPs.¹¹⁻¹³ Apart from transmembrane proteins discussed in the recent manuscript, other proteins such

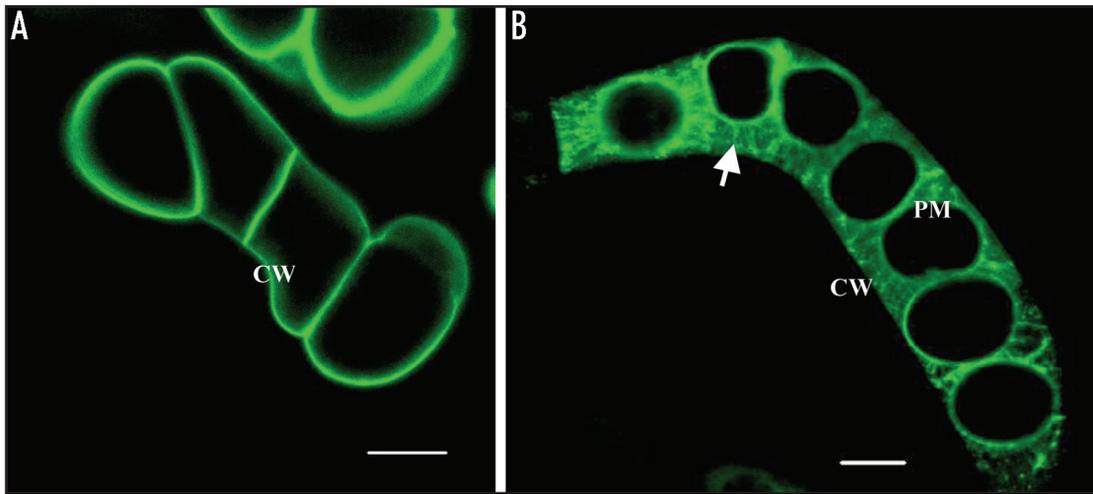


Figure 1. Confocal laser scanning microscope (CLSM) images showing transgenic tobacco BY-2 cells with uniform distribution of GFP-LeAGP-1 on the cell surface, plasma membrane and Hechtian strands. (A) Transgenic BY-2 cells expressing GFP-LeAGP-1 on cell wall (CW). (B) Transgenic BY-2 cells were salt plasmolysed (4% NaCl) for 15 min to demonstrate the relocalization of cell surface GPI-anchored LeAGP-1 on plasma membrane (PM) and Hechtian strands (arrow). (Scale bars = 20 μ m).

as callose synthases and class VIII myosin can also potentiate these direct interactions.⁵ GPI-anchored AGPs may structurally interact with transmembrane callose synthases that are found at sites of active callose deposition. Previous studies suggest that myosin VIII linked to F-actin at the plasma membrane interface is enriched at sites of callose deposition.^{5,14,15} Thus any changes in the distribution or structure of AGPs can produce downstream effects in the F-actin organization via the callose synthase-myosin VIII connections. Another emerging link between the extracellular AGPs and the cytoskeleton is via the lipid rafts/detergent resistant membranes. The link is interesting because it relates to the fact that lipid rafts can act as centers of signaling cascades. In animals, various studies have implicated roles of lipid rafts in signaling processes.¹⁶⁻¹⁹ In both animals and plants, GPI-anchored proteins have emerged as efficient markers for lipid rafts because of their high affinity for the lipid microdomains.²⁰⁻²³ These lipid microdomains/detergent resistant membranes in plants are enriched with sterols such as stigmasterol, campesterol, and β -sitosterol and also include a GPI-anchored AGP, namely AtAGP4.²³ It remains to be demonstrated whether all GPI-anchored AGPs are localized to these lipid microdomains and play significant roles in signaling. Nevertheless, these rafts can potentially transduce signals via the GPI-anchored AGPs to the cytoskeleton, thereby controlling its organization. Recently, an animal lipid raft associated protein, CLIPR-59, was shown to affect microtubule dynamics by reducing the elongation of microtubules.²⁴ Also, other proteins such as RhoA and endostatin have been shown to associate with lipid rafts and play a role in the regulation of the actin cytoskeleton.²⁵⁻²⁷ These studies indicate that in plants, lipid rafts may potentially perceive signals via some cell surface receptors (GPI-anchored AGPs) and transduce them downstream to the cytoskeleton via various signaling molecules.

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