



**Master 1**  
**BP04 - Introduction to Biotechnology**  
**December, 2013**

# **Plant Biotechnology: Principles and Techniques**



**Instructors:**  
Eric BONCOMPAGNI  
Nice-Sophia Antipolis University - France



# Plant Biotechnology - Schedule

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Lecture</b></p> <p>Eric Boncompagni</p> | <p><b>Monday 23 December</b> 9 – 12h <b>201, 1H Building, USTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First contact with the students and discussion related to course syllabus and particular topics.</li> <li>• Introduction in Plant Biotechnology, history and general information.</li> <li>• What is Plant Biotechnology/Molecular Biology?</li> <li>• Film: Plant health institute - Inra – France</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Lecture</b></p> <p>Eric Boncompagni</p> | <p><b>Tuesday 24 December</b> 9 – 12h <b>201, 1H Building, USTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Techniques of plant <i>in vitro</i> plant tissue/cell cultures</li> <li>• Sterile techniques, media preparation</li> <li>• Plant hormones and growth regulators.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>=&gt; See laboratory practical 1</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Lecture</b></p> <p>Eric Boncompagni</p> | <p><b>Tuesday 24 December</b> 13h30 – 16h30 <b>201, 1H Building, USTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity of organisms.</li> <li>• Traits (tolerance, metabolism, oil production, vaccines) and plants (important crops and model organisms) to improve.</li> <li>• <i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i></li> <li>• Contribution of biotechnology to improvement of quality and quantity of crop production.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thursday 25 December</b> 9-12 h <b>304, A18 Building, USTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methods of improvement: selection and transgenesis</li> <li>• Techniques enabling introduction of foreign genes into the plant genome.</li> <li>• <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i> mediated transformation</li> <li>• Floral dip <i>vs.</i> other target tissues</li> <li>• Selection and regeneration of transgenic plants.</li> </ul> |

## Plant Biotechnology – Schedule (continued)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Exercises</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Eric Boncompagni |   |
|  | <b>Thursday 26 December</b> 9-11 h <b>USTH</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercises</li> </ul> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Exercises</b><br><br>Eric Boncompagni | <b>Thursday 26 December</b> 13h30– 15h30 <b>USTH</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercises</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

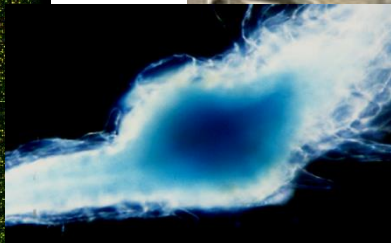
### Laboratory Practical => **Agricultural Genetics Institute**

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|---|--|---|
| <b>Laboratory Practical 1</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Eric Boncompagni | <b>Friday 27 December</b> 8-12h<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture <i>in vitro</i></li> <li>• <b>Group 1</b></li> </ul> | <b>Friday 27 December</b> 13-17h<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture <i>in vitro</i></li> <li>• <b>Group 2</b></li> </ul> |
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|   |  |   |
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| <b>Laboratory Practical 2</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Eric Boncompagni | <b>Monday 30 December</b> 8-12h<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protoplast's fusion</li> <li>• <b>Group 1</b></li> </ul> | <b>Tuesday 31 December</b> 8-12h<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protoplast's fusion</li> <li>• <b>Group 2</b></li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

# Institut Sophia Agrobiotech





*From genes to ecosystems*

## Research for Sustainable Agriculture and the Environment

- **Molecular bases of plant-pathogen interactions**

### Reduction of pesticide use:

- Plant Breeding for resistance
- Stimulate defence mechanisms
- Inhibit pathogen development

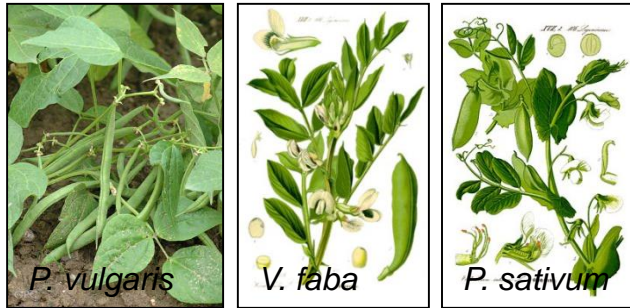
- **Molecular bases of plant- symbiotic bacteria interactions**

### Reduction of fertilizer use:

- Optimize the symbiosis
- Reduce the negative impact of stress

# *Rhizobium* – *Medicago truncatula* symbiosis (P. Frenedo & R. Brouquisse)

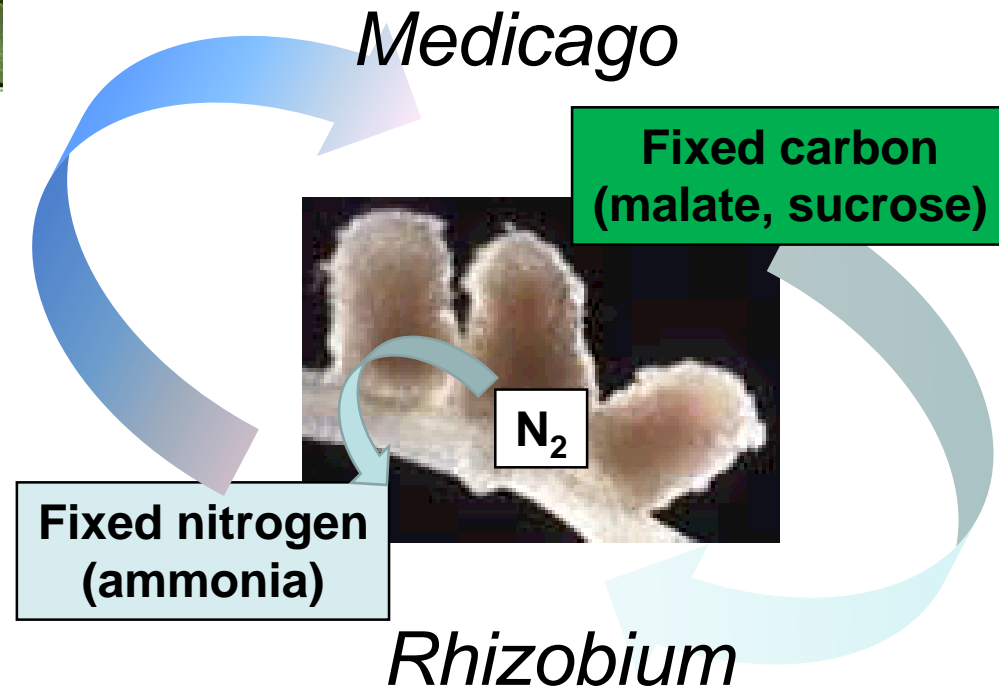
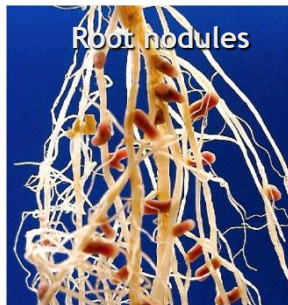
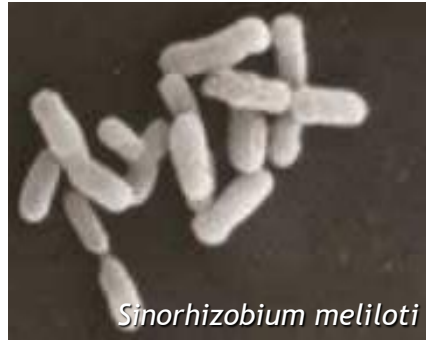
## Legumes



Legumes represent a crop with nutritional properties particularly **valuable for food and feed** (20 to 40% proteins in seeds, production of health-promoting secondary compounds, blood cholesterol-reducing effect ...).

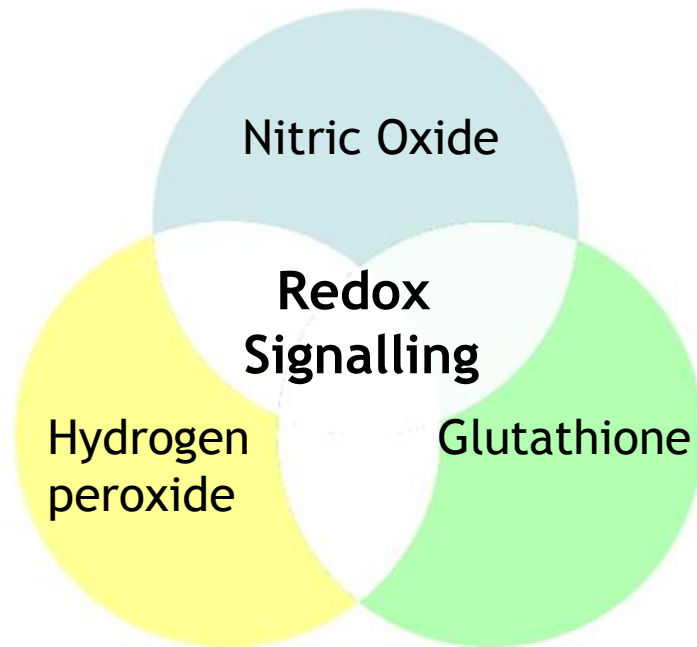
# *Rhizobium – Medicago truncatula* symbiosis

## *Sinorhizobium meliloti* / *Medicago* sp. Interactions



# *Rhizobium – Medicago truncatula* symbiosis

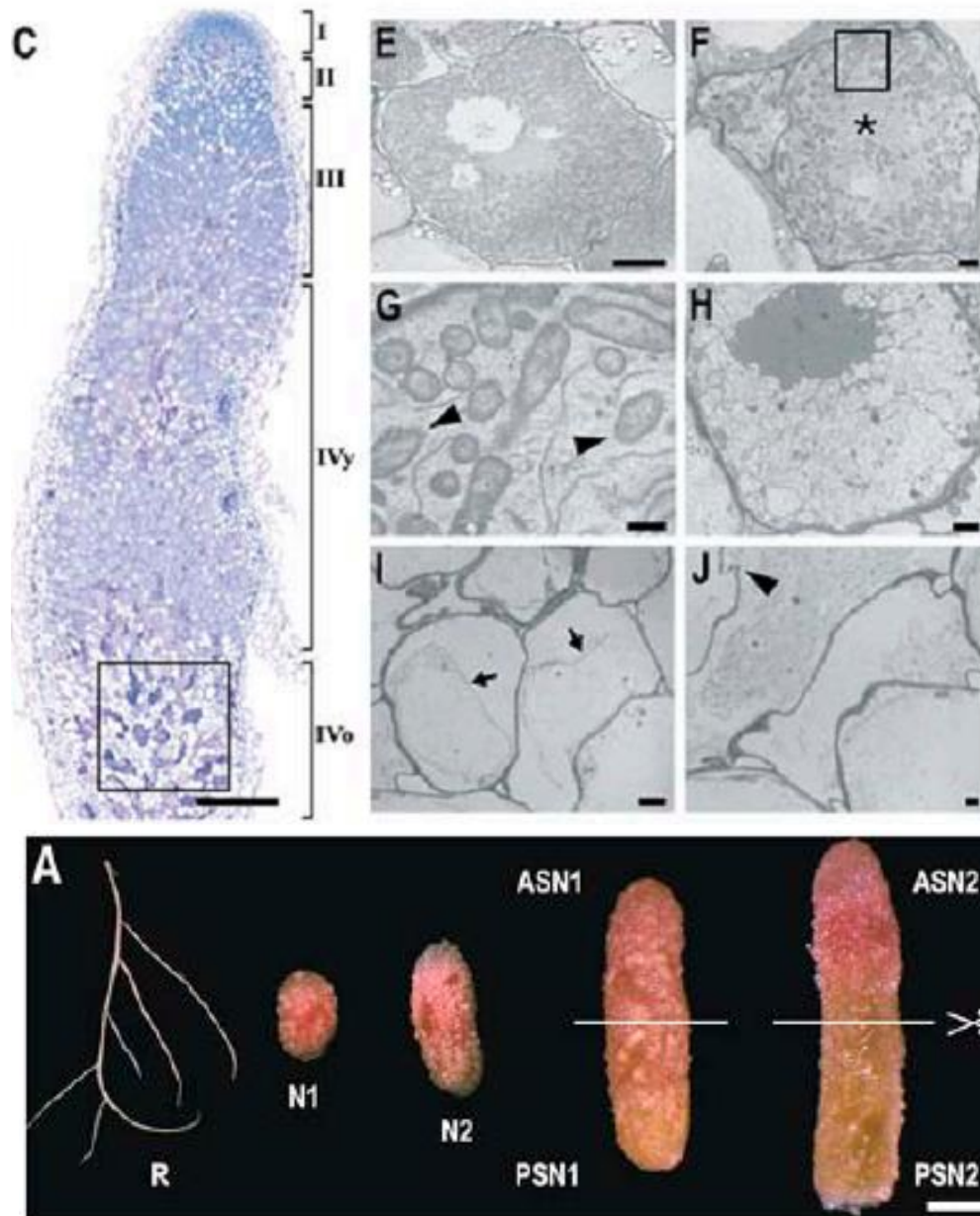
## 1. Redox signalling: From symbiose establishment to nodule functioning



- Spatiotemporal dynamics
- Cross-talks
- Production systems
- molecular targets

## 2. Understanding senescence mechanism in the root nodule

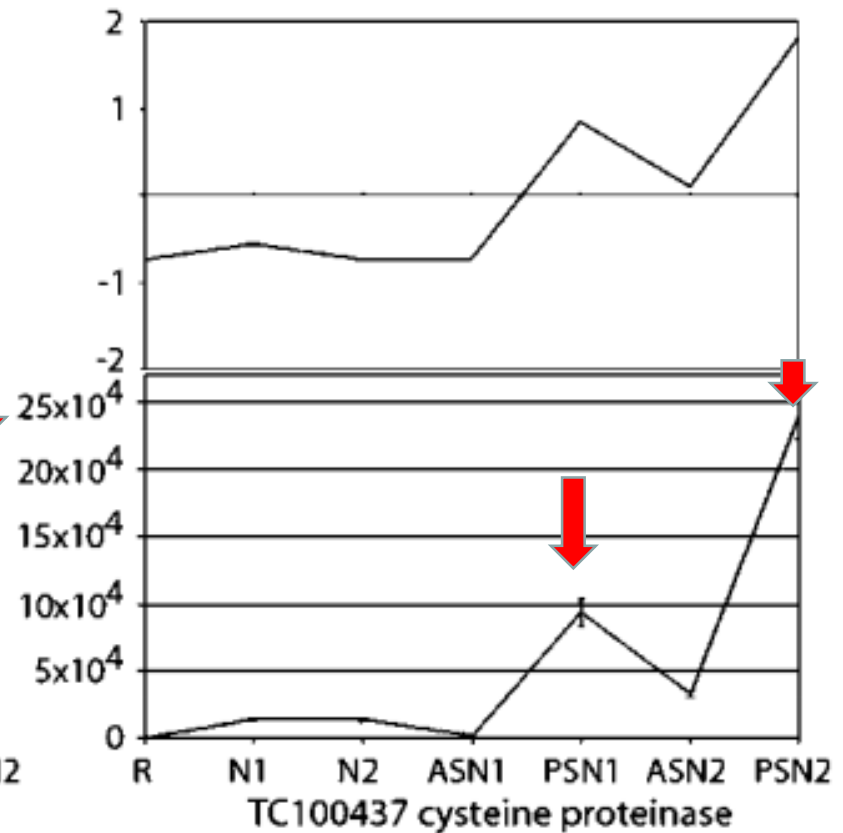
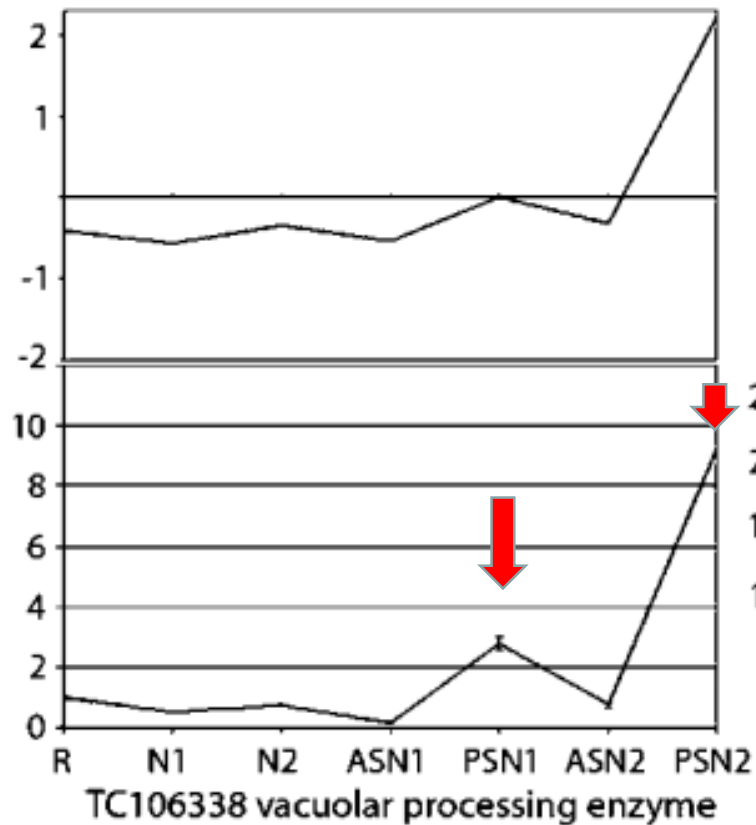
# Nodule senescence



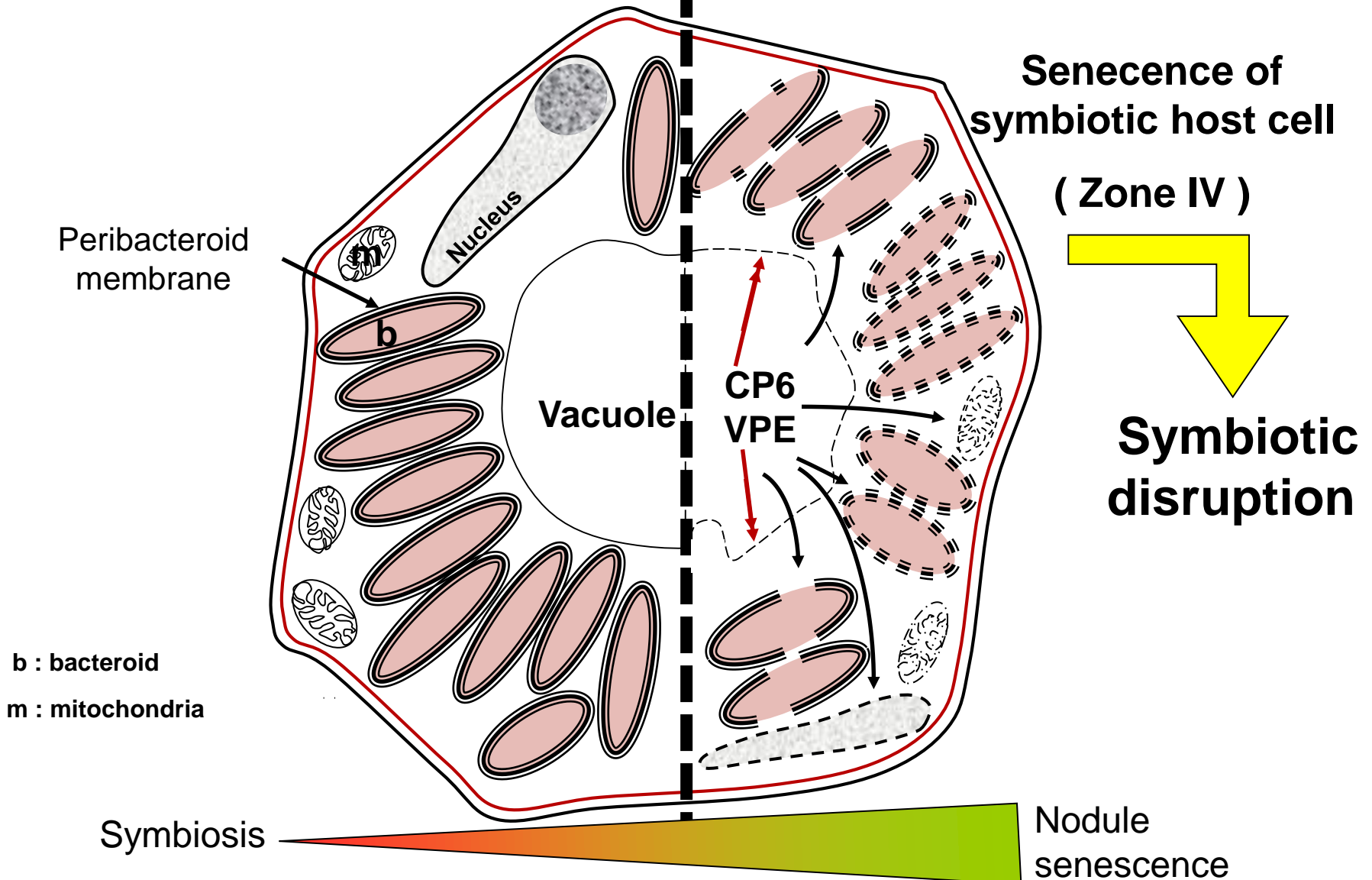
Van de Velde *et al.* (2006)  
Plant Physiol.

# Confirmation by qRT-PCR of cDNA-AFLP profiles

Van de Velde *et al.* (2006)  
Plant Physiol.



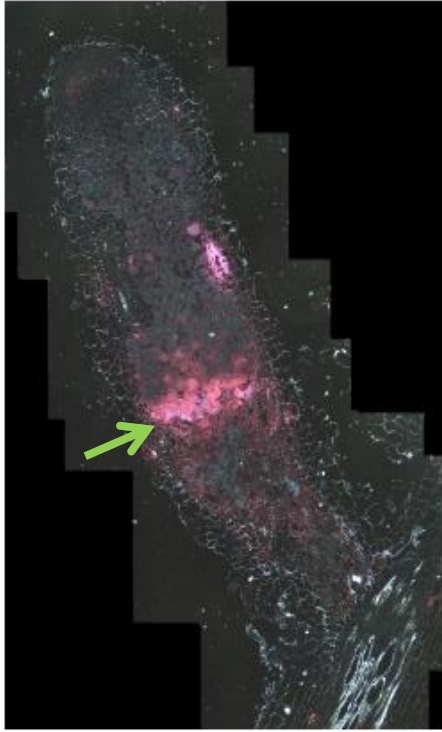
# Contribution of cysteine proteases in the symbiotic disruption ?



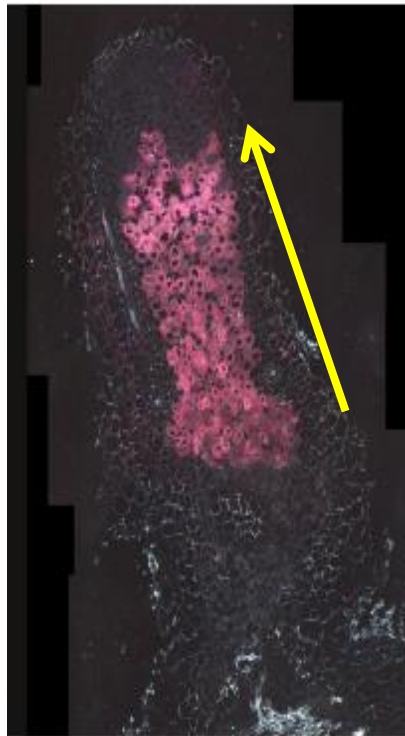
# Tissue localization of cysteine proteases

PCP6::GUS 6WPI

Ctrl

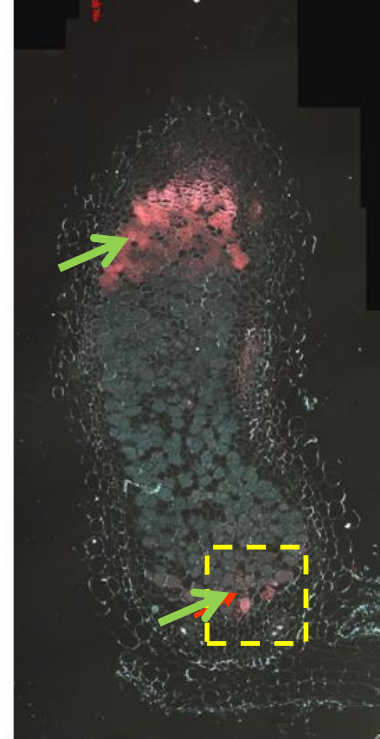


3DS

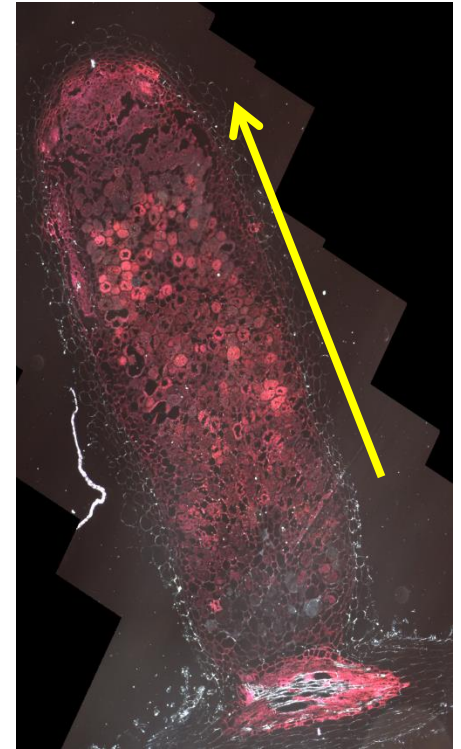


PVPE::GUS 6WPI

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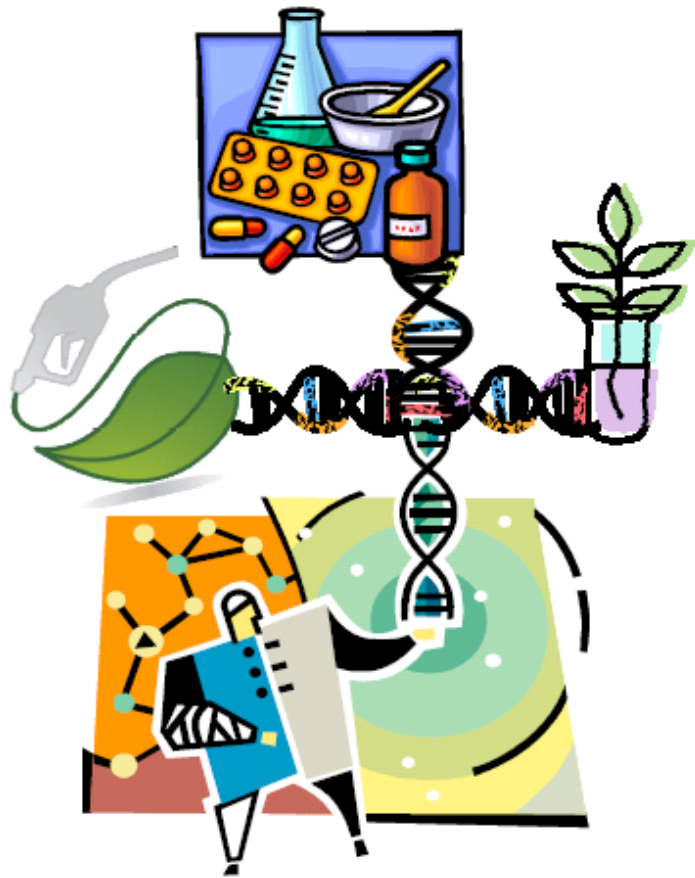
3DSJ



→ Extension of expression zones of both cysteine proteases under dark stress?

# **Introduction in Plant Biotechnology, history and general information**

# Introduction in Plant Biotechnology, history and general information



Biotechnology is the **use or manipulation of an organism** or the components of an organism.

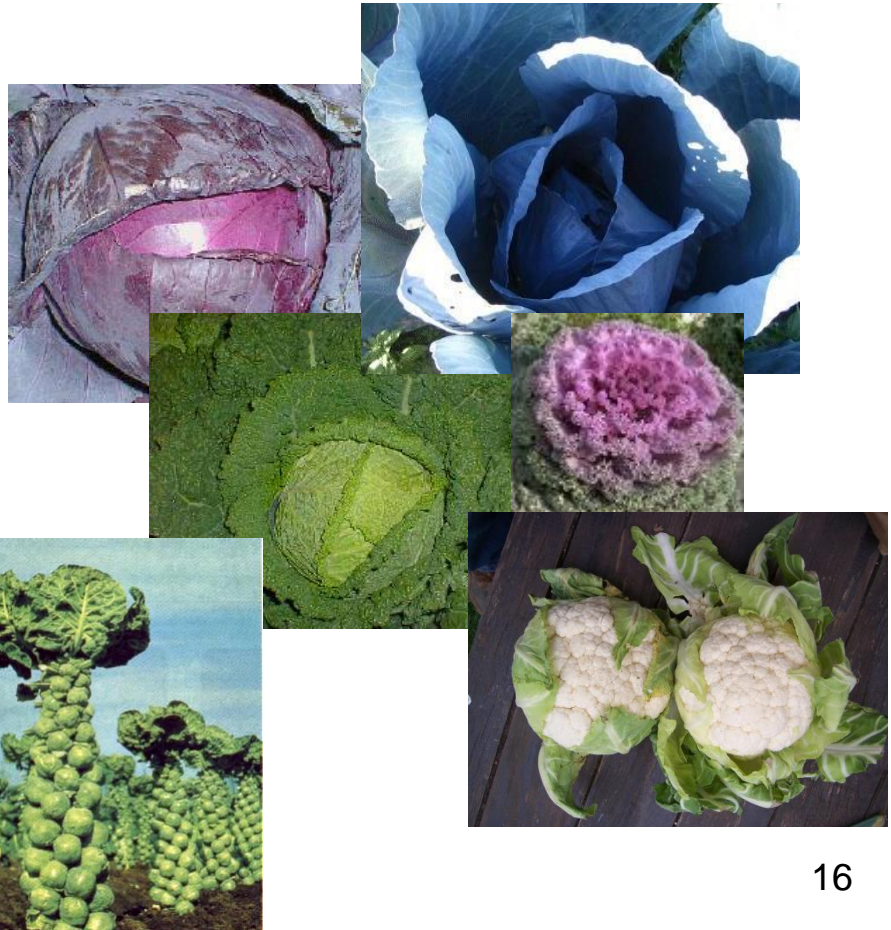
By this definition, the origins of biotechnology date back to when people first begin to domesticate cultivate food crops. While those early applications are certainly still employed today, modern biotechnology is primarily associated with **molecular biology, cloning and genetic engineering**.

Within the last 50 years, the biological sciences were revolutionized by several key discoveries that enabled the rapid evolution of the biosciences. These discoveries enabled scientists to **isolate and manipulate genes**, which has facilitated the growth of the biotechnology industry.

# Improve plant species

First step toward selection: **domesticate** cultivate food crops

For instance: Cauliflower



**First step toward selection: domesticate** crops for their flowers... with high money value!!!!

## Example of roses



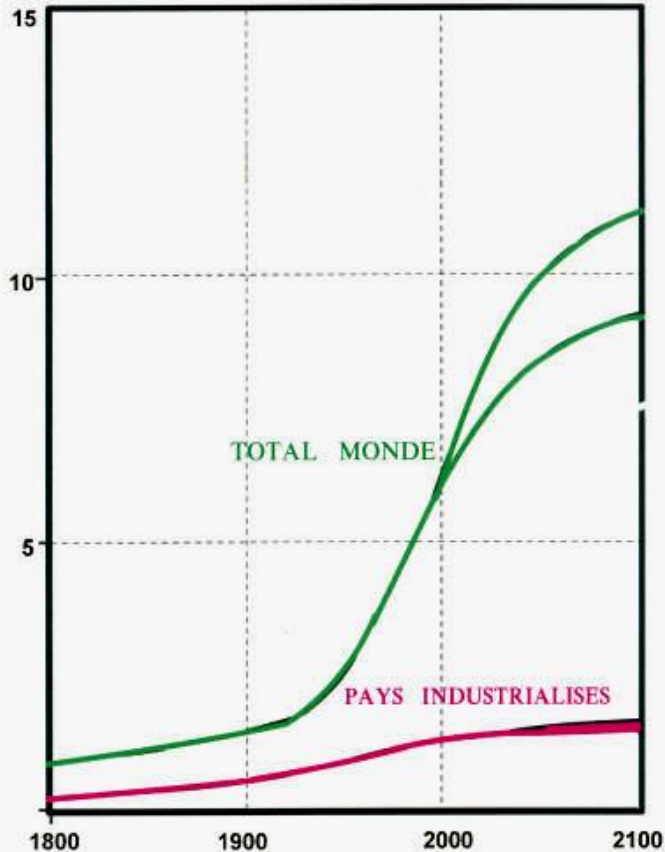
**Églantier**



# Biggest problem: Feed all the people

FIG 3. POPULATION MONDIALE

MILLIARDS D'HABITANTS



- Population on earth is increasing...

1950: 2.5 billions

2008: 6.7 billions

Projection 2050 : **9** Billions

- Evolution of field productivity in the world:

1960 : 1 hectare feed 2.4 persons

2005: 1 hectare feed 4.5 persons

En 2050: 1 hectare will need to feed **6.1**  
**à 6.4** persons... need new solution!!!!!!!!!!!!

# Plants provide us with more than food!!!

- Plants are sources of novel therapeutic drugs
- Plants provide better fibers for paper or fabric
- Plants are sources of biorenewable products
- Plants provide renewable energy sources



Plants produce hundreds of compounds we use as medicines or drugs, for instance:

- **Willow** (*Salix*) bark as a source of aspirin => acetylsalicylic acid;
- **Foxglove** (*Digitalis purpurea*) as a source of digitalis => treatment for cardiac problems;
- **Pacific yew** (*Taxus brevifolia*) as a source of taxol => treatment for cancer;
- **Coffee** (*Coffea arabica*) and **Tea** (*Camellia sinensis*) as sources of caffeine => stimulant

# BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY FACTS

- The biotechnology industry emerged in the 1970s, based largely on new **recombinant DNA** technology.
- Biotechnology has created more than 200 new therapies and vaccines, including products to treat cancer, diabetes, HIV/ AIDS and autoimmune disorders.
- Agricultural biotechnology benefits farmers, consumers and the environment—by **increasing yields** and farm income, **decreasing pesticide** applications and **improving soil and water quality**, and providing **healthful foods** for consumers.
- Environmental biotech products make it possible to clean up hazardous waste more efficiently by harnessing pollution => **Bioremediation**
- In the USA, the biotech industry is regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA).

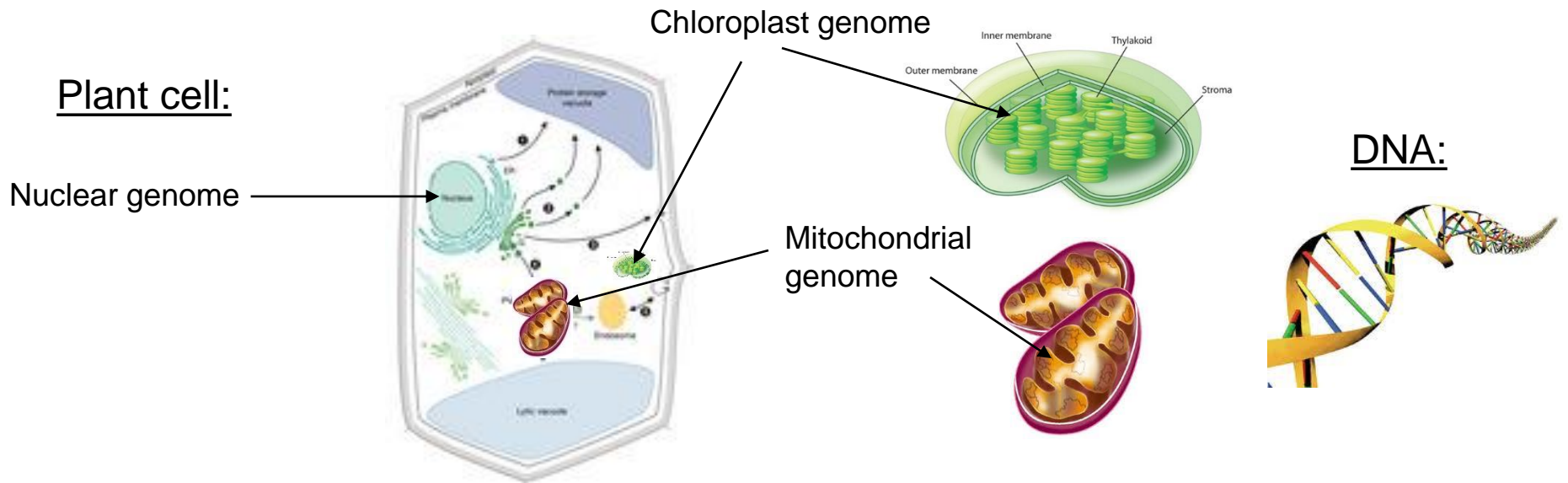
=> **Biotechnology is the use of organisms, cells and biological molecules to solve problems or make useful products.**

# Implications of genomics on biotechnology

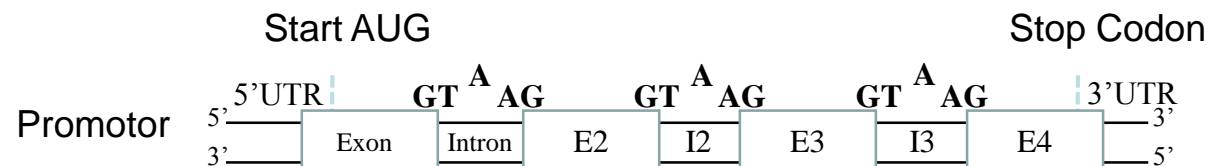
Genomics is the scientific study of the **genome** and the role **genes** play in determining cell structure, directing growth, and controlling biological functions.

Knowing the complete or partial **DNA sequences** of individual genes or markers provides useful information, even if the precise details of gene function remain unknown.

## Plant cell:



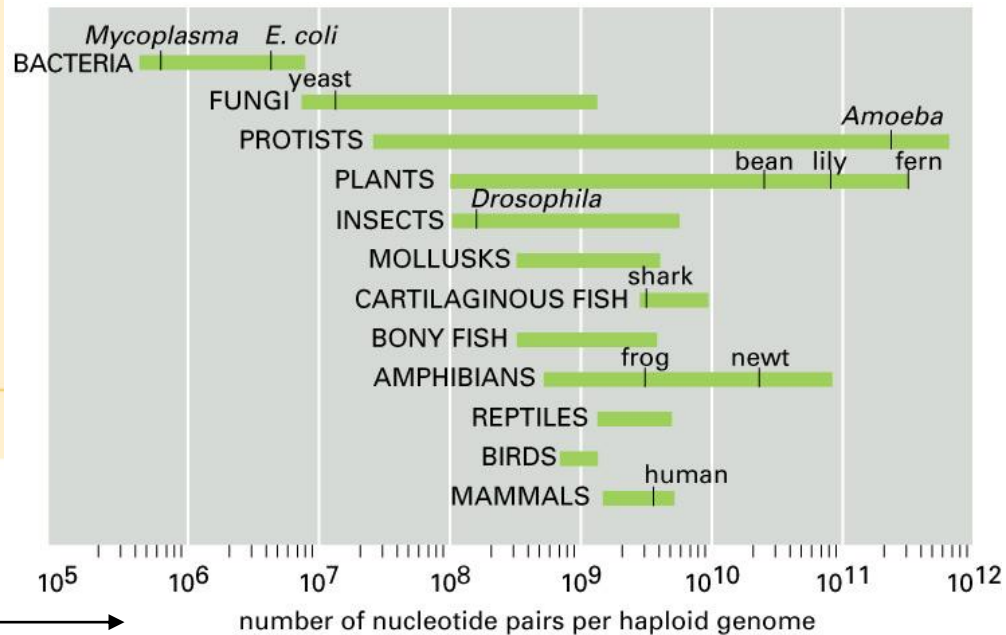
## Eukaryotic gene:



# Nuclear genome sizes...

| Organism                                   | Haploid Genome Size (Mb) | Number of Genes | Genes per Mb |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Bacteria</b>                            |                          |                 |              |
| <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>              | 1.8                      | 1,700           | 940          |
| <i>Escherichia coli</i>                    | 4.6                      | 4,400           | 950          |
| <b>Archaea</b>                             |                          |                 |              |
| <i>Archaeoglobus fulgidus</i>              | 2.2                      | 2,500           | 1,130        |
| <i>Methanosarcina barkeri</i>              | 4.8                      | 3,600           | 750          |
| <b>Eukaryotes</b>                          |                          |                 |              |
| <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (yeast)    | 13                       | 6,200           | 480          |
| <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> (nematode)   | 100                      | 20,000          | 200          |
| <i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (plant)        | 118                      | 25,500          | 215          |
| <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (fruit fly) | 180                      | 13,700          | 76           |
| <i>Oryza sativa</i> (rice)                 | 390                      | 40,000          | 140          |
| <i>Danio rerio</i> (zebrafish)             | 1,700                    | 23,000          | 13           |
| <i>Mus musculus</i> (house mouse)          | 2,600                    | 22,000          | 11           |
| <i>Homo sapiens</i> (human)                | 3,200                    | 20,500          | 7            |
| <i>Fritillaria assyriaca</i> (plant)       | 120,000                  | ND              | ND           |

\*Some values given here are likely to be revised as genome analysis continues. Mb = million base pairs. ND = not determined.

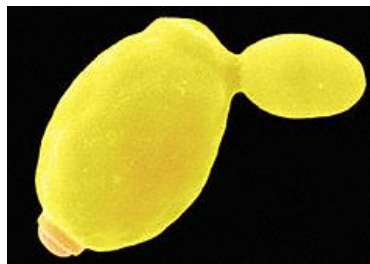


**C-value**

Figure 1-38. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

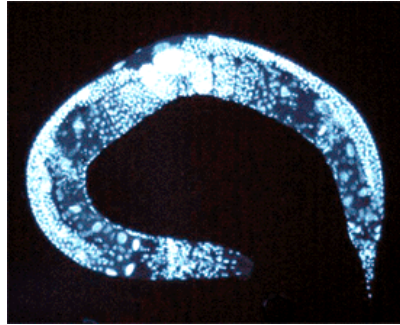
# ... and organism complexity!!!

Yeast



1 cell  
~5,000 genes

Worm (*C. elegans*)



♀♂: 959 cells  
♂ : 1031 cells

19,000 genes

Fly (*D. melanogaster*)



~10<sup>8</sup> cells

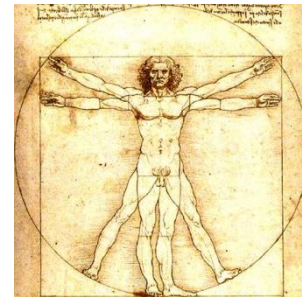
13,600 genes

Rice



30-50,000  
genes

Human

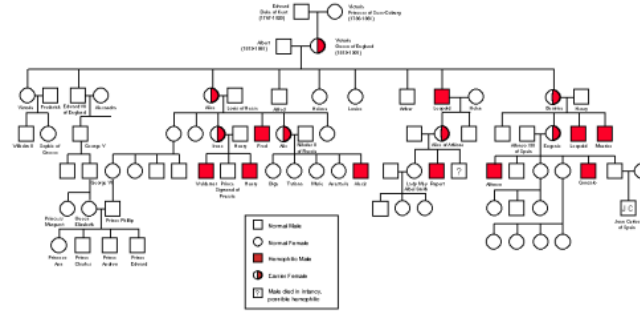


~10<sup>14</sup> cells  
25,000 genes

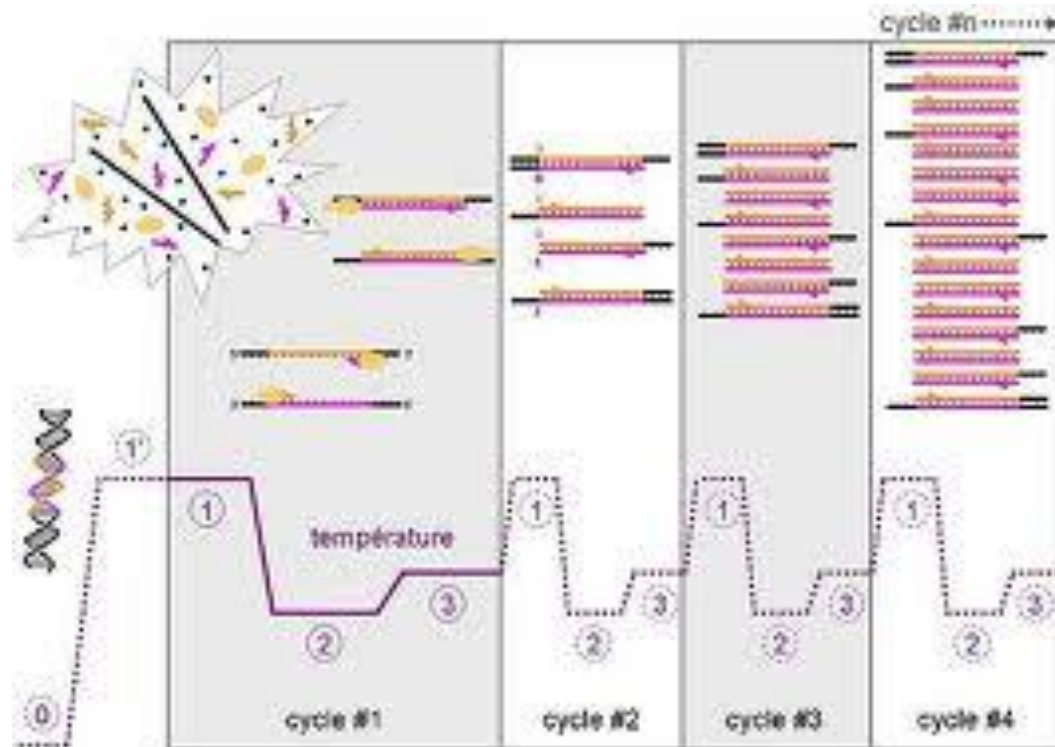
## C-value paradox!!!

ADN quantity is not related to organism complexity (or evolution) nor its cell number  
neither its gene number.

In 1865, Gregor **Mendel** studies garden peas and discovers that genetic traits are passed from parents to offspring in a predictable way—the **laws of heredity**.



In 1983, Kary Mullis invents the **polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique**. PCR, which uses heat and enzymes to make unlimited copies of genes.



For example, genomics data can:

- Use genetic information to develop individual drugs and therapies
- Understanding how genes affect one another in different species
- Identify the genes involved in disease processes
- Improve crop yield and pest resistance...

## Stages in Product Development

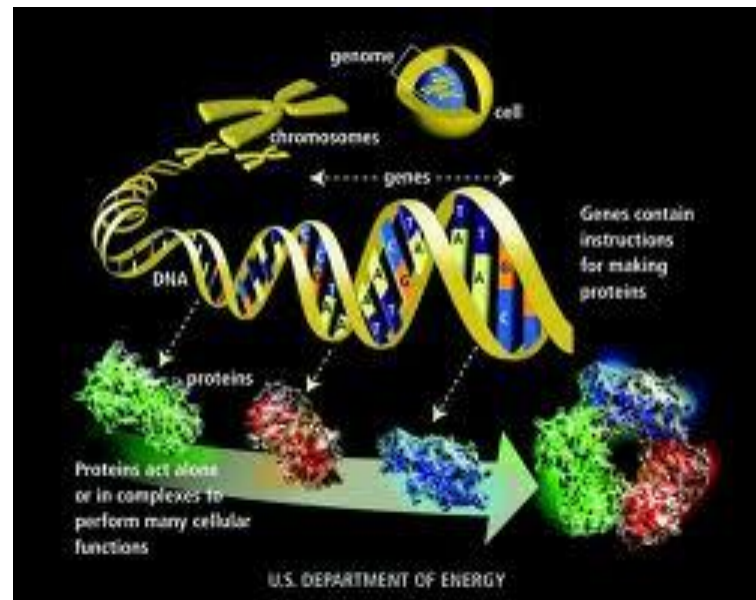
Product Identification => **Research & Development** => Small-scale  
Manufacturing => Testing for Safety and Efficacy => Manufacturing => Sales  
and Marketing

# Implications of proteomics on biotechnology

Genes exert their effects through **proteins**, so gene expression results in protein production.

The collection of proteins in a cell is known as its **proteome**, and proteomics is the study of the structure, function, location and interaction of proteins within and between cells. The collection of proteins in an entire organism is also referred to as its proteome (e.g., the Rice proteome).

The sequence of **amino acids** and modification after translation affects the shape and, therefore, the **function of a protein**. Any changes to a protein affect a protein's form and function, which might explain how the ~50,000 rice genes in the genome can make the hundreds of thousands of proteins that comprise the plant proteome.



Proteomics research tools may be used to address many questions such as:

- which proteins are produced by certain cells
- how do age, environmental conditions and diseases affects the protein production
- how can biotechnology alter protein production in plant organisms
- discovering the functions of all proteins.
- understanding how proteins changes occur in disease development
- discerning how a protein interacts with other proteins.

Studying plants **increases our knowledge** about life in general and helps us to work with them to keep us fed, healthy, sheltered, clothed... => Understand plant biology to modify the plant and to solve problems and make useful products => **Biotechnology**



## Film: Plant health institute - Inra - France

The aim of this institute is to mobilize multidisciplinary know-how in order to propose new solutions for **controlling plant pests** based on an understanding of their interactions with crops, changes in their populations, their relationships to the rest of the cultivated ecosystem and on the knowledge of how these crop systems function.

The challenges facing all sectors of French and European agriculture are particularly significant for specialized agriculture and especially the fruit, vegetable and greenhouse horticulture sectors. This results in close partnerships at the regional level between plant health poles and integrated horticultural production.

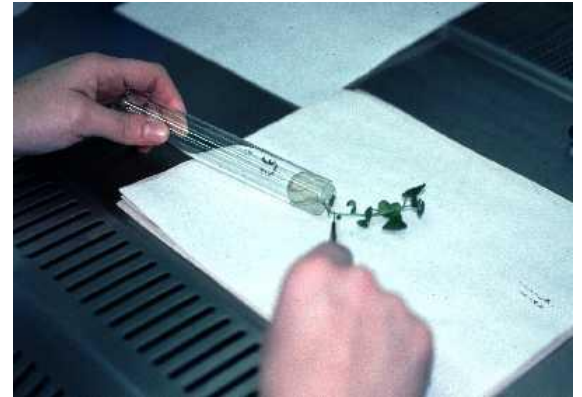


<http://www.international.inra.fr/>



# PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

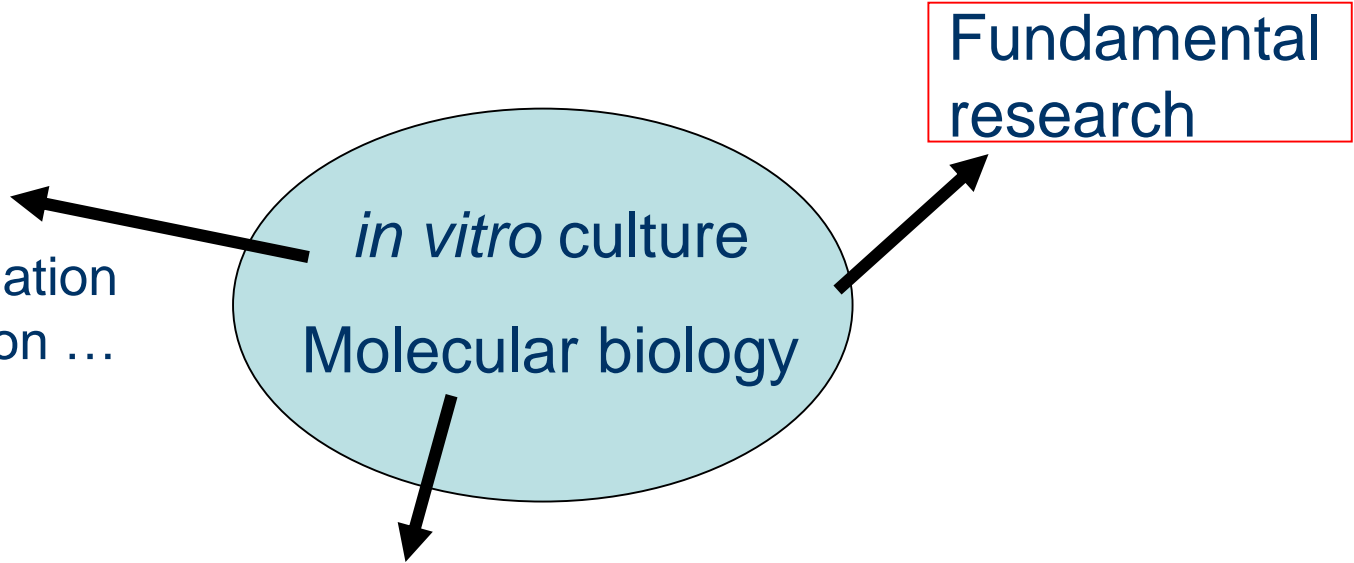
- Haplodiploïdisation
- Culture of meristems
- Micropropagation
- Save of embryo
- Protoplast fusion
- Induction of variability
- ...



- Plant biotechnologies:

Agronomy :

- New Cultivars
- Clonal micropapagation
- Cultivar identification ...



Fundamental research

Industry:

Synthesis of natural products or proteins

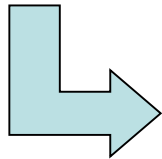
# Plant totipotency

## Overview

- Definition
- Birth and development of *in vitro* culture
- Application et limitation of totipotency
- Mecanisms underlying totipotency
- Biological significance of plant cell totipotency

# Some definitions

- In plants, the totipotency can be defined as the property of some cells that may regenerate a plant when they are placed under appropriate conditions (possibly via a stage of dedifferentiation)



Specific to plants

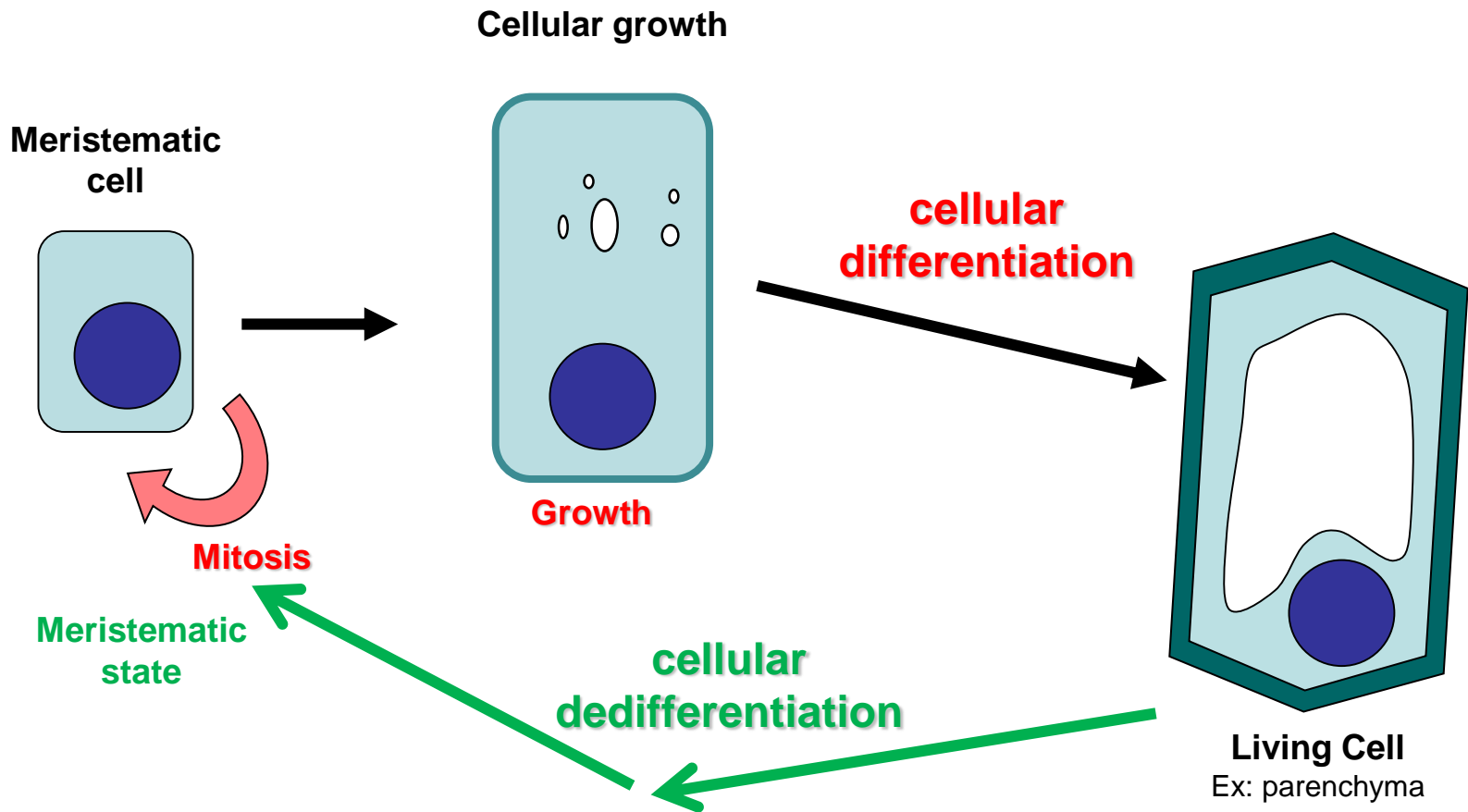
Exemple : micropropagation of *Saint paulia*



2 months  
later



# Plant totipotency : Cellular dedifferentiation

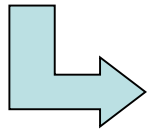


# Historical aspects

Totipotency as the theme of  
plant biotechnology birth

# Historical of tissue culture and plant organs

- Scientific context in the beginning of XXth century
  - Cellular theory (Schleiden et Schwann, 1838)



How to study the behavior of single cells?

- Microbiology and biochemistry



Growth in axenic cultures



Characterisation of growth substances

## G. Haberlandt : the concept of totipotency of the plant cell (1902)

### Two main important ideas:

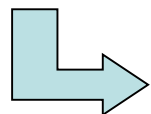
- culture of isolated cells constitute a potential research model
- keep alive isolated cells
  - No cellular multiplication



- **We** can potentially regenerate a whole plant from a single cell ... → totipotency
  - **Failure** (bad choice of explants, ignorance of growth substances)

## Emergence of culture techniques

- Haberlandt (1902) : concept of totipotency
- White (1934) : *in vitro* culture of tomato root
- Gautheret (1935) : use of auxin to grow willow cambium
- 1939 : First callus culture of carrot



Tissue culture is possible using growth substances and / or meristematic tissues

## Emergence of culture techniques

- Braun (1941) : work on crown gall



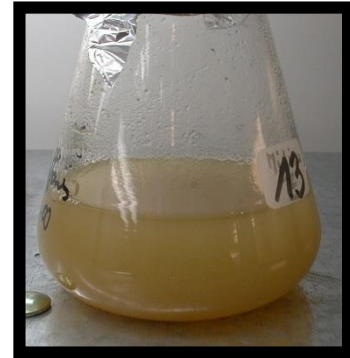
*In vitro* tumor growth without hormone supply!!



- Miller (1955) : cytokinins
- Murashige and Skoog (1962): development of effective culture media containing cytokinins and auxins

# Validation of Haberlandt hypothesis

- 1956 (Muir) cell suspension cultures

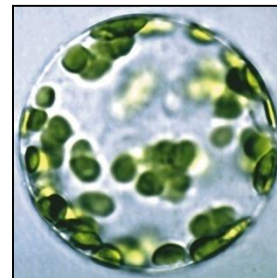


- 1958 (Reinart et Stewart)  
Carrot somatic embryogenesis



# Validation of Haberlandt hypothesis

- 1965 (Vasil et Hilderbrandt) Regeneration of a tobacco plant from a single cell
- 1971 (Nagata et Takabe) Regenerating a whole plant from a protoplast



# Development: agronomic tools

- 1965 (Morel) *in vitro* propagation of orchids
- 1972 (Sharp) : tomato plants from haploid pollen
- 1973 : hybrid from a protoplast fusion



# Development: production of secondary metabolites

- 1977 : culture of tobacco cells in a reactor of 20,000 liters
- 1983 (Mitsui Petrochemical) : industrial production of secondary metabolites

# Development : GMO

- Van Montagu (1983) : kanamycin resistant tobacco plants
- 1994 : Flavr Savr (Calgene)
- 1996 : GM maize in the United States



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1990  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Maize transformation (Gordon-Kamm et al., 1990)  |  |
| 1980  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gene gun transformation ( Klein et al., 1987; Sanford, 2000)</li> <li>• Chimeric genes (Herrera-Estrella et al., 1983b; Fraley et al., 1983; Bevan et al., 1983)</li> <li>• Binary vectors (Hoekema et al. 1983)</li> <li>• Disarmed plasmids (Willmitzer et al., 1983; Joos et al., 1983)</li> <li>• <i>tms</i>, <i>tmr</i>, <i>tml</i> identified (Klee et al., 1984; Barry et al., 1984; Akiyoshi et al., 1984)</li> </ul> |
| 1970  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single cells to somatic embryos (Bucks-Hüsemann and Reinert, 1970)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T-DNA nuclear location (Chilton et al., 1980; Willmitzer et al., 1980)</li> <li>• T-DNA in plasmid (Chilton et al., 1977)</li> <li>• Plasmids in <i>Agrobacterium</i> (Zaenen et al., 1974)</li> </ul>  |
| 1960  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single cells to plantlets (Vasil and Hildebrandt, 1965a, b)</li> </ul>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacterial virulence transferred ( Kerr, 1969)</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlled Organogenesis (Skoog and Miller, 1957)</li> </ul><br>1940 |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TIP named ((Braun and Mandle, 1948)</li> <li>• Autonomous crown gall growth (Braun, 1943)</li> <li>• 1° vs. 2° tumors (White and Braun, 1941, 1942)</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First true plant tissue culture (White, 1939a).</li> </ul><br>1920   |  |  |
| 1900  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempted single cell culture (Haberlandt, 1902)</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacterial cause of crown gall ( Smith and Townsend, 1907)</li> </ul>  |
| PLANT TISSUE CULTURE  | REGENERATION OF WHOLE PLANTS FROM SINGLE SOMATIC CELLS   | CROWN GALL DISEASE   |

Figure 1. Chronology of Research Leading to Modern Plant Biotechnology.

# Conclusions

- Initial problem :
  - Search for a isolated cell model
  - Validation of plant cell totipotency

