

HYPERSENSITIVE RESPONSE INDUCED RESISTANCE IN PLANTS

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to imparting
10 hypersensitive response induced resistance to plants.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Living organisms have evolved a complex array
15 of biochemical pathways that enable them to recognize and
respond to signals from the environment. These pathways
include receptor organs, hormones, second messengers, and
enzymatic modifications. At present, little is known
about the signal transduction pathways that are activated
20 during a plant's response to attack by a pathogen,
although this knowledge is central to an understanding of
disease susceptibility and resistance. A common form of
plant resistance is the restriction of pathogen
proliferation to a small zone surrounding the site of
25 infection. In many cases, this restriction is
accompanied by localized death (i.e., necrosis) of host
tissues. Together, pathogen restriction and local tissue
necrosis characterize the hypersensitive response. In
addition to local defense responses, many plants respond
30 to infection by activating defenses in uninfected parts
of the plant. As a result, the entire plant is more
resistant to a secondary infection. This systemic
acquired resistance can persist for several weeks or more
(R.E.F. Matthews, Plant Virology (Academic Press, New
35 York, ed. 2, 1981)) and often confers cross-resistance to
unrelated pathogens (J. Kuc, in Innovative Approaches to
Plant Disease Control, I. Chet, Ed. (Wiley, New York,
1987), pp. 255-274, which is hereby incorporated by
reference).

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Expression of systemic acquired resistance is associated with the failure of normally virulent pathogens to ingress the immunized tissue (Kuc, J., "Induced Immunity to Plant Disease," Bioscience, 32:854-856 (1982), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Establishment of systemic acquired resistance is correlated with systemic increases in cell wall hydroxyproline levels and peroxidase activity (Smith, J.A., et al., "Comparative Study of Acidic Peroxidases Associated with Induced Resistance in Cucumber, Muskmelon and Watermelon," Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 14:329-338 (1988), which is hereby incorporated by reference) and with the expression of a set of nine families of so-called systemic acquired resistance gene (Ward, E.R., et al., "Coordinate Gene Activity in Response to Agents that Induce Systemic Acquired Resistance," Plant Cell 3:49-59 (1991), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Five of these defense gene families encode pathogenesis-related proteins whose physiological functions have not been established. However, some of these proteins have antifungal activity in vitro (Bol, J.F., et al., "Plant Pathogenesis-Related Proteins Induced by Virus Infection," Ann. Rev. Phytopathol. 28:113-38 (1990), which is hereby incorporated by reference) and the constitutive expression of a bean chitinase gene in transgenic tobacco protects against infection by the fungus *Rhizoctonia solani* (Broglie, K., et al., "Transgenic Plants with Enhanced Resistance to the Fungal Pathogen *Rhizoctonia Solani*," Science 254:1194-1197 (1991), which is hereby incorporated by reference), suggesting that these systemic acquired resistance proteins may contribute to the immunized state (Uknes, S., et al., "Acquired Resistance in *Arabidopsis*," Plant Cell 4:645-656 (1992), which is hereby incorporated by reference).

Salicylic acid appears to play a signal function in the induction of systemic acquired resistance

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since endogenous levels increase after immunization (Malamy, J., et al., "Salicylic Acid: A Likely Endogenous Signal in the Resistance Response of Tobacco to Viral Infection," Science 250:1002-1004 (1990), which is hereby incorporated by reference) and exogenous salicylate induces systemic acquired resistance genes (Yalpani, N., et al., "Salicylic Acid is a Systemic Signal and an Inducer of Pathogenesis-Related Proteins in Virus-Infected Tobacco," Plant Cell 3:809-818 (1991), which is hereby incorporated by reference), and acquired resistance (Uknes, S., et al., "Acquired Resistance in *Arabidopsis*," Plant Cell 4:645-656 (1992), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Moreover, transgenic tobacco plants in which salicylate is destroyed by the action of a bacterial transgene encoding salicylate hydroxylase do not exhibit systemic acquired resistance (Gaffney, T., et al., "Requirement of Salicylic Acid for the Induction of Systemic Acquired Resistance," Science 261:754-296 (1993), which is hereby incorporated by reference). However, this effect may reflect inhibition of a local rather than a systemic signal function, and detailed kinetic analysis of signal transmission in cucumber suggests that salicylate may not be essential for long-distance signaling (Rasmussen, J.B., et al., "Systemic Induction of Salicylic Acid Accumulation in Cucumber after Inoculation with *Pseudomonas Syringae* pv. *Syringae*," Plant Physiol. 97:1342-1347) (1991), which is hereby incorporated by reference).

Immunization using biotic agents has been extensively studied. Green beans were systemically immunized against disease caused by cultivar-pathogenic races of *Colletotrichum lindemuthianum* by prior infection with either cultivar-nonpathogenic races (Rahe, J.E., "Induced Resistance in *Phaseolus Vulgaris* to Bean Anthracnose," Phytopathology 59:1641-5 (1969); Elliston, J., et al., "Induced Resistance to Anthracnose at a Distance from the Site of the Inducing Interaction,"

Phytopathology 61:1110-12 (1971); Skipp, R., et al., "Studies on Cross Protection in the Anthracnose Disease of Bean," Physiological Plant Pathology 3:299-313 (1973), which are hereby incorporated by reference),

5 cultivar-pathogenic races attenuated by heat in host tissue prior to symptom appearance (Rahe, J.E., et al., "Metabolic Nature of the Infection-Limiting Effect of Heat on Bean Anthracnose," Phytopathology 60:1005-9 (1970), which is hereby incorporated by reference) or

10 nonpathogens of bean. The anthracnose pathogen of cucumber, *Colletotrichum lagenarium*, was equally effective as non-pathogenic races as an inducer of systemic protection against all races of bean anthracnose. Protection was induced by *C. lagenarium* in

15 cultivars resistant to one or more races of *C. lindemuthianum* as well as in cultivars susceptible to all reported races of the fungus and which accordingly had been referred to as 'lacking genetic resistance' to the pathogen (Elliston, J., et al., "Protection of Bean

20 Against Anthracnose by *Colletotrichum* Species Nonpathogenic on Bean," Phytopathologische Zeitschrift 86:117-26 (1976); Elliston, J., et al., "A Comparative Study on the Development of Compatible, Incompatible and Induced Incompatible Interactions Between *Colletotrichum*

25 Species and *Phaseolus Vulgaris*," Phytopathologische Zeitschrift 87:289-303 (1976), which are hereby incorporated by reference). These results suggest that the same mechanisms may be induced in cultivars reported as 'possessing' or 'lacking' resistance genes (Elliston,

30 J., et al., "Relation of Phytoalexin Accumulation to Local and Systemic Protection of Bean Against Anthracnose," Phytopathologische Zeitschrift 88:114-30 (1977), which is hereby incorporated by reference). It also is apparent that cultivars susceptible to all races

35 of *C. lindemuthianum* do not lack genes for resistance mechanisms against the pathogen.

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Kuc, J., et al., "Protection of Cucumber Against *Collectotrichum Lagenarium* by *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Physiological Plant Pathology 7:195-9 (1975), which is hereby incorporated by reference),
5 showed that cucumber plants could be systemically protected against disease caused by *Colletotrichum lagenarium* by prior inoculation of the cotyledons or the first true leaf with the same fungus. Subsequently, cucumbers have been systemically protected against
10 fungal, bacterial, and viral diseases by prior localized infection with either fungi, bacteria, or viruses (Hammerschmidt, R., et al., "Protection of Cucumbers Against *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* and *Cladosporium Cucumerinum*," Phytopathology 66:790-3 (1976); Jenns, A.
15 E., et al., "Localized Infection with Tobacco Necrosis Virus Protects Cucumber Against *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Physiological Plant Pathology 11:207-12 (1977); Caruso, F.L., et al. "Induced Resistance of Cucumber to Anthracnose and Angular Leaf Spot by
20 *Pseudomonas Lachrymans* and *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Physiological Plant Pathology 14:191-201 (1979); Staub, T., et al., "Systemic Protection of Cucumber Plants Against Disease Caused by *Cladosporium Cucumerinum* and *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* by Prior Localized Infection
25 with Either Fungus," Physiological Plant Pathology, 17:389-93 (1980); Bergstrom, G.C., et al., "Effects of Local Infection of Cucumber by *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*, *Pseudomonas Lachrymans* or Tobacco Necrosis Virus on Systemic Resistance to Cucumber Mosaic Virus,"
30 Phytopathology 72:922-6 (1982); Gessler, C., et al., "Induction of Resistance to *Fusarium* Wilt in Cucumber by Root and Foliar Pathogens," Phytopathology 72:1439-41 (1982); Basham, B., et al., "Tobacco Necrosis Virus Induces Systemic Resistance in Cucumbers Against
35 *Sphaerotheca Fuliginea*," Physiological Plant Pathology 23:137-44 (1983), which are hereby incorporated by reference). Non-specific protection induced by infection

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with *C. lagenarium* or tobacco necrosis virus was effective against at least 13 pathogens, including obligatory and facultative parasitic fungi, local lesion and systemic viruses, wilt fungi, and bacteria.

- 5 Similarly, protection was induced by and was also effective against root pathogens. Other curcubits, including watermelon and muskmelon have been systemically protected against *C. lagenarium* (Caruso, F.L., et al., "Protection of Watermelon and Muskmelon Against
10 *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* by *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Phytopathology 67:1285-9 (1977), which is hereby incorporated by reference).

- Systemic protection in tobacco has also been induced against a wide variety of diseases (Kuc, J., et al., "Immunization for Disease Resistance in Tobacco,"
15 Recent Advances in Tobacco Science 9:179-213 (1983), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Necrotic lesions caused by tobacco mosaic virus enhanced resistance in the upper leaves to disease caused by the
20 virus (Ross, A.F., et al., "Systemic Acquired Resistance Induced by Localized Virus Infections in Plants," Virology 14:340-58 (1961); Ross, A.F., et al., "Systemic Effects of Local Lesion Formation," In: Viruses of Plants pp. 127-50 (1966), which are hereby incorporated by
25 reference). *Phytophthora parasitica* var. *nicotianae*, *P. tabacina* and *Pseudomonas tabaci* and reduced reproduction of the aphid *Myzus persicae* (McIntyre, J.L., et al., "Induction of Localized and Systemic Protection Against *Phytophthora Parasitica* var. *nicotianae* by Tobacco Mosaic
30 Virus Infection of Tobacco Hypersensitive to the Virus," Physiological Plant Pathology 15:321-30 (1979); McIntyre, J.L., et al., "Effects of Localized Infections of *Nicotiana Tabacum* by Tobacco Mosaic Virus on Systemic Resistance Against Diverse Pathogens and an Insect,"
35 Phytopathology 71:297-301 (1981), which are hereby incorporated by reference). Infiltration of heat-killed *P. tabaci* (Lovrekovich, L., et al., "Induced Reaction

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Against Wildfire Disease in Tobacco Leaves Treated with Heat-Killed Bacteria," Nature 205:823-4 (1965), which is hereby incorporated by reference), and *Pseudomonas solanacearum* (Sequeira, L, et al., "Interaction of Bacteria and Host Cell Walls: Its Relation to Mechanisms of Induced Resistance," Physiological Plant Pathology 10:43-50 (1977), which are hereby incorporated by reference), into tobacco leaves induced resistance against the same bacteria used for infiltration. Tobacco plants were also protected by the nematode *Pratylenchus penetrans* against *P. parasitica* var. *nicotiana* (McIntyre, J.L., et al. "Protection of Tobacco Against *Phytophthora Parasitica* Var. *Nicotianae* by Cultivar-Nonpathogenic Races, Cell-Free Sonicates and *Pratylenchus Penetrans*," Phytopathology 68:235-9 (1978), which is hereby incorporated by reference).

Cruikshank, I.A.M., et al., "The Effect of Stem Infestation of Tobacco with *Peronospora Tabacina* Adam on Foliage Reaction to Blue Mould," Journal of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science 26:369-72 (1960), which is hereby incorporated by reference, were the first to report immunization of tobacco foliage against blue mould (i.e., *P. tabacina*) by stem injection with the fungus, which also involved dwarfing and premature senescence. It was recently discovered that injection external to the xylem not only alleviated stunting but also promoted growth and development. Immunized tobacco plants, in both glasshouse and field experiments, were approximately 40% taller, had a 40% increase in dry weight, 30% increase in fresh weight, and 4-6 more leaves than control plants (Tuzun, S., et al., "The Effect of Stem Injections with *Peronospora Tabacina* and Metalaxyl Treatment on Growth of Tobacco and Protection Against Blue Mould in the Field," Phytopathology 74:804 (1984), which is hereby incorporated by reference). These plants flowered approximately 2-3 weeks earlier than control plants

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(Tuzun, S., et al., "Movement of a Factor in Tobacco Infected with *Peronospora Tabacina* Adam which Systemically Protects Against Blue Mould," Physiological Plant Pathology 26:321-30 (1985), which is hereby
5 incorporated by reference).

Systemic protection does not confer absolute immunity against infection, but reduces the severity of the disease and delays symptom development. Lesion number, lesion size, and extent of sporulation of fungal
10 pathogens are all decreased. The diseased area may be reduced by more than 90%.

When cucumbers were given a 'booster' inoculation 3-6 weeks after the initial inoculation, immunization induced by *C. lagenarium* lasted through
15 flowering and fruiting (Kuc, J., et al., "Aspects of the Protection of Cucumber Against *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* by *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Phytopathology 67:533-6 (1977), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Protection could not be induced once plants had set
20 fruit. Tobacco plants were immunized for the growing season by stem injection with sporangia of *P. tabacina*. However, to prevent systemic blue mould development, this technique was only effective when the plants were above
25 20 cm in height.

Removal of the inducer leaf from immunized cucumber plants did not reduce the level of immunization of pre-existing expanded leaves. However, leaves which subsequently emerged from the apical bud were progressively less protected than their predecessors
30 (Dean, R.A., et al., "Induced Systemic Protection in Cucumber: Time of Production and Movement of the 'Signal'," Phytopathology 76:966-70 (1986), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Similar results were reported by Ross, A.F., "Systemic Effects of Local Lesion
35 Formation," In: Viruses of Plants pp. 127-50 (1966), which is hereby incorporated by reference, with tobacco (local lesion host) immunized against tobacco mosaic

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virus by prior infection with tobacco mosaic virus. In contrast, new leaves which emerged from scions excised from tobacco plants immunized by stem-injection with *P. tabacina* were highly protected (Tuzun, S., et al.,
5 "Transfer of Induced Resistance in Tobacco to Blue Mould (Peronospora Tabacina Adam.) Via Callus," Phytopathology 75:1304 (1985), which is hereby incorporated by reference). Plants regenerated via tissue culture from leaves of immunized plants showed a significant reduction
10 in blue mould compared to plants regenerated from leaves of non-immunized parents. Young regenerants only showed reduced sporulation. As plants aged, both lesion development and sporulation were reduced. Other investigators, however, did not reach the same
15 conclusion, although a significant reduction in sporulation in one experiment was reported (Lucas, J.A., et al., "Nontransmissibility to Regenerants from Protected Tobacco Explants of Induced Resistance to *Peronospora Hyoscyami*," Phytopathology 75:1222-5 (1985),
20 which is hereby incorporated by reference).

Protection of cucumber and watermelon is effective in the glasshouse and in the field (Caruso, F.L., et al., "Field Protection of Cucumber Against *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* by *C. Lagenarium*,"
25 Phytopathology 67:1290-2 (1977), which is hereby incorporated by reference). In one trial, the total lesion area of *C. lagenarium* on protected cucumber was less than 2% of the lesion areas on unprotected control plants. Similarly, only 1 of 66 protected, challenged
30 plants died, whereas 47 of 69 unprotected, challenged watermelons died. In extensive field trials in Kentucky and Puerto Rico, stem injection of tobacco with sporangia of *P. tabacina* was at least as effective in controlling blue mould as the best fungicide, metalaxyl. Plants were
35 protected 95-99%, based on the necrotic area and degree of sporulation, leading to a yield increase of 10-25% in cured tobacco.

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Induced resistance against bacteria and viruses appears to be expressed as suppression of disease symptoms or pathogen multiplication or both (Caruso, F.L., et al., "Induced Resistance of Cucumber to Anthracnose and Angular Leaf Spot by *Pseudomonas Lachrymans* and *Colletotrichum Lagenarium*," Physiological Plant Pathology 14:191-201 (1979); Doss, M., et al., "Systemic Acquired Resistance of Cucumber to *Pseudomonas Lachrymans* as Expressed in Suppression of Symptoms, but not in Multiplication of Bacteria," Acta Phytopathologia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae 16:(3-4), 269-72 (1981); Jenns, A.E., et al., "Non-Specific Resistance to Pathogens Induced Systemically by Local Infection of Cucumber with Tobacco Necrosis Virus, *Colletotrichum Lagenarium* or *Pseudomonas Lachrymans*," Phytopathologia Mediterranea 18:129-34 (1979), which are hereby incorporated by reference).

As described above, research concerning systemic acquired resistance involves infecting plants with infectious pathogens. Although studies in this area are useful in understanding how systemic acquired resistance works, eliciting such resistance with infectious agents is not commercially useful, because such plant-pathogen contact can weaken or kill plants. The present invention is directed to overcoming this deficiency.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants. This method involves applying a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a non-infectious form to a plant under conditions where the polypeptide or protein contacts cells of the plant.

Another aspect of the present invention relates to a pathogen-resistant plant with cells in contact with

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non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

Yet another aspect of the present invention relates to a composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants. The composition includes a non-infectious, hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein and a carrier.

The present invention has the potential to: treat plant diseases which were previously untreatable; treat diseases systemically that one would not want to treat separately due to cost; and avoid the use of infectious agents to treat diseases. The present invention can impart resistance without using agents pathogenic to the plants being treated or to plants situated nearby those treated. Since the present invention involves use of a natural product that is fully biodegradable, the environment would not be contaminated.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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Figure 1 shows the genetic organization of the gene cluster encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein for *Erwinia amylovora* (i.e. *hrpN*). The top line shows the restriction enzyme map of plasmid vector pCPP430, where E=Eco RI, B=Bam HI, and H=Hind III. The rectangles represent transcriptional units, and the arrows under the rectangles indicate the directions of transcription. The bigger arrow indicates the region necessary for ultimate translation of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein. pCPP430 *hrpN* is the derivative of pCPP430 in which *hrpN* is mutated by the insertion of transposon TnStac.

Figure 2 is a map of plasmid vector pCPP9. Significant features are the mobilization (mob) site for conjugation; the cohesive site of λ (cos); and the partition region (par) for stable inheritance of the plasmid. B, BamHI; E, EcoRI; H, HindIII; P, PstI; S,

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SaII; Sm, SmaI; oriV, origin of replication; Sp^r, spectinomycin resistance; Sm^r, streptomycin resistance.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to a method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants. This method involves applying a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a non-infectious form to all or
10 part of a plant under conditions where the polypeptide or protein contacts all or part of the cells of the plant.

Another aspect of the present invention relates to a pathogen-resistant plant with cells in contact with a non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor
15 polypeptide or protein.

Yet another aspect of the present invention relates to a composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants. The composition includes a non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
20 or protein and a carrier.

The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein utilized in the present invention can correspond to hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptides or proteins derived from a wide variety of
25 pathogens. Such polypeptides or proteins are able to elicit local necrosis in plant tissue contacted by the elicitor. Preferred pathogens include *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, or mixtures thereof.

30 For purposes of the present invention, non-infectious forms of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein can induce a hypersensitive response without causing disease in the plant with which the polypeptide or protein is contacted. This can be
35 achieved in a number of ways, including: 1) application of an isolated elicitor polypeptide or protein; 2) application of bacteria which do not cause disease and

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are transformed with genes encoding a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein; and 3) application of bacteria which cause disease in some plant species (but not in those to which they are applied) and
5 naturally contain a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptides or proteins can be isolated from their corresponding
10 organisms and applied to plants. Such isolation procedures are well known, as described in Arlat, M., F. Van Gijsegem, J. C. Huet, J. C. Pemollet, and C. A. Boucher, "PopA1, a Protein which Induces a Hypersensitive-like Response in Specific Petunia
15 Genotypes is Secreted via the Hrp Pathway of *Pseudomonas solanacearum*," EMBO J. 13:543 - 553 (1994); He, S. Y., H. C. Huang, and A. Collmer, "*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae* Harpin_{pas}: a Protein that is Secreted via the Hrp Pathway and Elicits the Hypersensitive Response in
20 Plants," Cell 73:1255-1266 (1993); and Wei, Z.-M., R. J. Laby, C. H. Zumoff, D. W. Bauer, S.-Y. He, A. Collmer, and S. V. Beer, "Harpin Elicitor of the Hypersensitive Response Produced by the Plant Pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*," Science 257:85-88 (1992), which are hereby
25 incorporated by reference. See also pending U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 08/200,024 and 08/062,024, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Preferably, however, the isolated hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptides or proteins of the present invention are
30 produced recombinantly and purified as described below.

In other embodiments of the present invention, the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein of the present invention can be applied to plants by applying bacteria containing genes encoding the
35 hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein. Such bacteria must be capable of secreting or exporting the polypeptide or protein so that the elicitor can

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contact plant cells. In these embodiments, the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is produced by the bacteria in planta or just prior to introduction of the bacteria to the plants.

5 In one embodiment of the bacterial application mode of the present invention, the bacteria do not cause the disease and have been transformed (e.g., recombinantly) with genes encoding a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein. For example,
 10 *E. coli*, which do not elicit a hypersensitive response in plants, can be transformed with genes encoding a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein and then applied to plants. Bacterial species (other than *E. coli*) can also be used in this embodiment of the
 15 present invention.

In another embodiment of the bacterial application mode of the present invention, the bacteria do cause disease and naturally contain a gene encoding a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.
 20 Examples of such bacteria are noted above. However, in this embodiment these bacteria are applied to plants which are not susceptible to the disease carried by the bacteria. For example, *Erwinia amylovora* causes disease in apple or pear but not in tomato. However, such
 25 bacteria will elicit a hypersensitive response in tomato. Accordingly, in accordance with this embodiment of the present invention, *Erwinia amylovora* can be applied to tomato to impart pathogen resistance without causing disease in that species.

30 The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein from *Erwinia chrysanthemi* has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 1 as follows:

35 Met Gln Ile Thr Ile Lys Ala His Ile Gly Gly Asp Leu Gly Val Ser
 1 5 10 15
 Gly Leu Gly Ala Gln Gly Leu Lys Gly Leu Asn Ser Ala Ala Ser Ser
 20 25 30

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	Leu Gly Ser Ser Val Asp Lys Leu Ser Ser Thr Ile Asp Lys Leu Thr	35	40	45
5	Ser Ala Leu Thr Ser Met Met Phe Gly Gly Ala Leu Ala Gln Gly Leu	50	55	60
	Gly Ala Ser Ser Lys Gly Leu Gly Met Ser Asn Gln Leu Gly Gln Ser	65	70	75
10	Phe Gly Asn Gly Ala Gln Gly Ala Ser Asn Leu Leu Ser Val Pro Lys	85	90	95
	Ser Gly Gly Asp Ala Leu Ser Lys Met Phe Asp Lys Ala Leu Asp Asp	100	105	110
15	Leu Leu Gly His Asp Thr Val Thr Lys Leu Thr Asn Gln Ser Asn Gln	115	120	125
	Leu Ala Asn Ser Met Leu Asn Ala Ser Gln Met Thr Gln Gly Asn Met	130	135	140
20	Asn Ala Phe Gly Ser Gly Val Asn Asn Ala Leu Ser Ser Ile Leu Gly	145	150	155
	Asn Gly Leu Gly Gln Ser Met Ser Gly Phe Ser Gln Pro Ser Leu Gly	165	170	175
	Ala Gly Gly Leu Gln Gly Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Ala Phe Asn Gln Leu	180	185	190
30	Gly Asn Ala Ile Gly Met Gly Val Gly Gln Asn Ala Ala Leu Ser Ala	195	200	205
	Leu Ser Asn Val Ser Thr His Val Asp Gly Asn Asn Arg His Phe Val	210	215	220
35	Asp Lys Glu Asp Arg Gly Met Ala Lys Glu Ile Gly Gln Phe Met Asp	225	230	235
	Gln Tyr Pro Glu Ile Phe Gly Lys Pro Glu Tyr Gln Lys Asp Gly Trp	245	250	255
	Ser Ser Pro Lys Thr Asp Asp Lys Ser Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu Ser Lys	260	265	270
45	Pro Asp Asp Asp Gly Met Thr Gly Ala Ser Met Asp Lys Phe Arg Gln	275	280	285
	Ala Met Gly Met Ile Lys Ser Ala Val Ala Gly Asp Thr Gly Asn Thr	290	295	300
50	Asn Leu Asn Leu Arg Gly Ala Gly Gly Ala Ser Leu Gly Ile Asp Ala	305	310	315
	Ala Val Val Gly Asp Lys Ile Ala Asn Met Ser Leu Gly Lys Leu Ala	325	330	335
	Asn Ala			

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This hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 34 kDa, is heat stable, has a glycine content of greater than 16%, and contains substantially no cysteine. The *Erwinia chrysanthemi*

hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is encoded by a DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 2 as follows:

5	CGATTTTACC CGGGTGAACG TGCTATGACC GACAGCATCA CGGTATTCTGA CACCGTTACG	60
	GCGTTTATGG CCGCGATGAA CCGGCATCAG GCGGCGCGCT GGTCCGCCGA ATCCGGCGTC	120
	GATCTGGTAT TTCAGTTTGG GGACACCGGG CGTGAAGTCA TGATGCAGAT TCAGCCGGGG	180
10	CAGCAATATC CCGGCATGTT GCGCACGCTG CTCGCTCGTC GTTATCAGCA GCGGCAGAG	240
	TGCGATGGCT GCCATCTGTG CCTGAACGGC AGCGATGTAT TGATCCTCTG GTGGCCGCTG	300
15	CCGTCGGATC CCGGCAGTTA TCCGCAGGTG ATCGAACGTT TGTTTGAACT GCGGGGAATG	360
	ACGTTGCCGT CGCTATCCAT AGCACCGACG GCGCGTCCGC AGACAGGGAA CGGACGCGCC	420
	CGATCATTA GATAAAGGCG GCTTTTTTTA TTGCAAAACG GTAACGGTGA GGAACCGTTT	480
20	CACCGTCGGC GTCACCTAGT AACAAATATC CATCATGATG CCTACATCGG GATCGGCGTG	540
	GGCATCCGTT GCAGATACTT TTGCGAACAC CTGACATGAA TGAGGAAACG AAATTATGCA	600
25	AATTACGATC AAAGCGCACA TCGGCGGTGA TTTGGGCGTC TCCGGTCTGG GGCTGGGTGC	660
	TCAGGGACTG AAAGGACTGA ATTCCGCGGC TTCATCGCTG GGTTCAGCG TGGATAAACT	720
	GAGCAGCACC ATCGATAAGT TGACCTCCGC GCTGACTTCG ATGATGTTTG GCGGCGCGCT	780
30	GGCGCAGGGG CTGGGCGCCA GCTCGAAGGG GCTGGGGATG AGCAATCAAC TGGGCCAGTC	840
	TTTCGGCAAT GCGCGCAGG GTGCGAGCAA CCTGCTATCC GTACCGAAT CCGGCGGCGA	900
35	TGCGTTGTCA AAAATGTTTG ATAAAGCGCT GGACGATCTG CTGGGTCATG ACACCGTGAC	960
	CAAGCTGACT AACCAGAGCA ACCAACTGGC TAATTCAATG CTGAACGCCA GCCAGATGAC	1020
	CCAGGGTAAT ATGAATGCGT TCGGCAGCGG TGTGAACAAC GCACTGTCGT CCATTCTCGG	1080
40	CAACGGTCTC GGCCAGTCGA TGAGTGGCTT CTCTCAGCCT TCTCTGGGGG CAGGCGGCTT	1140
	GCAGGGCCTG AGCGGCGCGG GTGCATTCAA CCAGTTGGGT AATGCCATCG GCATGGGCGT	1200

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GGGGCAGAAT GCTGCGCTGA GTGCGTTGAG TAACGTCAGC ACCCAGCTAG ACGGTAACAA 1260
 CCGCCACTTT GTAGATAAAG AAGATCGCGG CATGGCGAAA GAGATCGGCC AGTTTATGGA 1320
 5 TCAGTATCCG GAAATATTCG GTAAACCGGA ATACCAGAAA GATGGCTGGA GTTCGCCGAA 1380
 GACGGACGAC AAATCCTGGG CTAAAGCGCT GAGTAAACCG GATGATGACG GTATGACCGG 1440
 CGCCAGCATG GACAAATTCC GTCAGGCGAT GGGTATGATC AAAAGCGCGG TGGCGGGTGA 1500
 10 TACCGGCAAT ACCAACCTGA ACCTGCGTGG CGCGGGCGGT GCATCGCTGG GTATCGATGC 1560
 GGCTGTCTGC GCGGATAAAA TAGCCAACAT GTCGCTGGGT AAGCTGGCCA ACGCCTGATA 1620
 15 ATCTGTGCTG GCCTGATAAA GCGGAAACGA AAAAAGAGAC GGGGAAGCCT GTCTCTTTTC 1680
 TTATTATGCG GTTTATGCGG TTACCTGGAC CGGTTAATCA TCGTCATCGA TCTGGTACAA 1740
 ACGCACATTT TCCCGTTCAT TCGCGTCGTT ACGCGCCACA ATCGCGATGG CATCTTCCTC 1800
 20 GTCGCTCAGA TTGCGCGGCT GATGGGGAAC GCCGGGTGGA ATATAGAGAA ACTCGCCGGC 1860
 CAGATGGAGA CACGCTGCG ATAAATCTGT GCCGTAACGT GTTCTATCC GCCCCTTTAG 1920
 25 CAGATAGATT GCGGTTTCGT AATCAACATG GTAATGCGGT TCCGCTGTG CGCCGGCCGG 1980
 GATCACCACA ATATTCATAG AAAGCTGTCT TGCACCTACC GTATCGCGGG AGATACCGAC 2040
 AAAATAGGGC AGTTTTTGCG TGGTATCCGT GGGGTGTTCC GGCCTGACAA TCTTGAGTTG 2100
 30 GTTCGTCATC ATCTTCTCC ATCTGGGCGA CCTGATCGGT T 2141

The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or
 protein derived from *Erwinia amylovora* has an amino acid
 35 sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 3 as follows:

Met Ser Leu Asn Thr Ser Gly Leu Gly Ala Ser Thr Met Gln Ile Ser
 1 5 10 15
 40 Ile Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Asn Asn Gly Leu Leu Gly Thr Ser Arg Gln
 20 25 30
 Asn Ala Gly Leu Gly Gly Asn Ser Ala Leu Gly Leu Gly Gly Gly Asn
 35 40 45
 45 Gln Asn Asp Thr Val Asn Gln Leu Ala Gly Leu Leu Thr Gly Met Met
 50 55 60

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	Met	Met	Met	Ser	Met	Met	Gly	Gly	Gly	Gly	Leu	Met	Gly	Gly	Gly	Leu	
	65					70					75					80	
5	Gly	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly	Asn	Gly	Leu	Gly	Gly	Ser	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly	Glu	
					85					90					95		
	Gly	Leu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asp	Met	Leu	Gly	Gly	Ser	Leu	Asn	Thr	
				100					105					110			
10	Leu	Gly	Ser	Lys	Gly	Gly	Asn	Asn	Thr	Thr	Ser	Thr	Thr	Asn	Ser	Pro	
			115					120					125				
	Leu	Asp	Gln	Ala	Leu	Gly	Ile	Asn	Ser	Thr	Ser	Gln	Asn	Asp	Asp	Ser	
15		130					135					140					
	Thr	Ser	Gly	Thr	Asp	Ser	Thr	Ser	Asp	Ser	Ser	Asp	Pro	Met	Gln	Gln	
	145				150						155					160	
20	Leu	Leu	Lys	Met	Phe	Ser	Glu	Ile	Met	Gln	Ser	Leu	Phe	Gly	Asp	Gly	
					165					170					175		
	Gln	Asp	Gly	Thr	Gln	Gly	Ser	Ser	Ser	Gly	Gly	Lys	Gln	Pro	Thr	Glu	
				180					185					190			
25	Gly	Glu	Gln	Asn	Ala	Tyr	Lys	Lys	Gly	Val	Thr	Asp	Ala	Leu	Ser	Gly	
			195					200					205				
	Leu	Met	Gly	Asn	Gly	Leu	Ser	Gln	Leu	Leu	Gly	Asn	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly	
30		210					215					220					
	Gly	Gly	Gln	Gly	Gly	Asn	Ala	Gly	Thr	Gly	Leu	Asp	Gly	Ser	Ser	Leu	
	225					230					235					240	
35	Gly	Gly	Lys	Gly	Leu	Gln	Asn	Leu	Ser	Gly	Pro	Val	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Gln	
				245						250					255		
	Leu	Gly	Asn	Ala	Val	Gly	Thr	Gly	Ile	Gly	Met	Lys	Ala	Gly	Ile	Gln	
				260					265					270			
40	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asp	Ile	Gly	Thr	His	Arg	His	Ser	Ser	Thr	Arg	Ser	Phe	
			275					280					285				
	Val	Asn	Lys	Gly	Asp	Arg	Ala	Met	Ala	Lys	Glu	Ile	Gly	Gln	Phe	Met	
45		290					295					300					
	Asp	Gln	Tyr	Pro	Glu	Val	Phe	Gly	Lys	Pro	Gln	Tyr	Gln	Lys	Gly	Pro	
	305					310					315					320	
50	Gly	Gln	Glu	Val	Lys	Thr	Asp	Asp	Lys	Ser	Trp	Ala	Lys	Ala	Leu	Ser	
					325					330					335		
	Lys	Pro	Asp	Asp	Asp	Gly	Met	Thr	Pro	Ala	Ser	Met	Glu	Gln	Phe	Asn	
				340					345					350			
55	Lys	Ala	Lys	Gly	Met	Ile	Lys	Arg	Pro	Met	Ala	Gly	Asp	Thr	Gly	Asn	
		355						360					365				
	Gly	Asn	Leu	Gln	His	Ala	Val	Pro	Val	Val	Leu	Arg	Trp	Val	Leu	Met	
60		370					375					380					
	Pro																
	385																

This hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein
 65 has a molecular weight of about 37 kDa, it has a pI of

approximately 4.3, and is heat stable at 100°C for at least 10 minutes. This hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has substantially no cysteine. The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein derived from *Erwinia amylovora* is more fully described in Wei, Z.-M., R. J. Laby, C. H. Zumoff, D. W. Bauer, S.-Y. He, A. Collmer, and S. V. Beer, "Harpin, Elicitor of the Hypersensitive Response Produced by the Plant Pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*," Science 257:85-88 (1992), which is hereby incorporated by reference. The DNA molecule encoding this polypeptide or protein has a nucleotide sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 4 as follows:

15	ATGAGTCTGA ATACAAGTGG GCTGGGAGCG TCAACGATGC AAATTTCTAT CGGCGGTGCG	60
	GGCGGAAATA ACGGGTTGCT GGGTACCAGT CGCCAGAATG CTGGGTTGGG TGGCAATTCT	120
	GCACTGGGGC TGGGCGGCGG TAATCAAAAT GATACCGTCA ATCAGCTGGC TGGCTTACTC	180
20	ACCGGCATGA TGATGATGAT GAGCATGATG GGCGGTGGTG GCTGATGGG CCGTGGCTTA	240
	GGCGGTGGCT TAGGTAATGG CTTGGGTGGC TCAGGTGGCC TGGGCGAAGG ACTGTGGAAC	300
	GCGCTGAACG ATATGTTAGG CGGTTGCTG AACACGCTGG GCTCGAAAGG CGGCAACAAT	360
25	ACCACTTCAA CAACAAATC CCCGCTGGAC CAGGCGCTGG GTATTAACTC AACGTCCCAA	420
	AACGACGATT CCACCTCCGG CACAGATTCC ACCTCAGACT CCAGCGACCC GATGCAGCAG	480
30	CTGCTGAAGA TGTTCAGCGA GATAATGCAA AGCCTGTTTG GTGATGGGCA AGATGGCACC	540
	CAGGGCAGTT CCTCTGGGGG CAAGCAGCCG ACCGAAGGCG AGCAGAACGC CTATAAAAAA	600
	GGAGTCACTG ATGCGCTGTC GGGCCTGATG GGTAAATGGT TCAGCCAGCT CCTTGGCAAC	660
35	GGGGGACTGG GAGGTGGTCA GGGCGTAAT GCTGGCACGG GTCTTGACGG TTCGTGCTG	720
	GGCGGCAAAG GGCTGCAAAA CCTGAGCGGG CCGGTGGACT ACCAGCAGTT AGGTAACGCC	780
40	GTGGGTACCG GTATCGGTAT GAAAGCGGGC ATTCAGGCGC TGAATGATAT CCGTACGCAC	840
	AGGCACAGTT CAACCCGTTT TTTCGTCAAT AAAGGCGATC GGGCGATGGC GAAGGAAATC	900
	GGTCAGTTCA TGGACCAGTA TCCTGAGGTG TTTGGCAAGC CGCAGTACCA GAAAGGCCCG	960
45	GGTCAGGAGG TGAAAACCGA TGACAAATCA TGGGCAAAAG CACTGAGCAA GCCAGATGAC	1020
	GACGGAATGA CACCAGCCAG TATGGAGCAG TTCAACAAAG CCAAGGGCAT GATCAAAAGG	1080
50	CCCATGGCGG GTGATACCGG CAACGGCAAC CTGCAGCAGC CCGTGCCGGT GGTTCCTCGC	1140
	TGGGTATTGA TGCCATGA	1158

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The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein derived from *Pseudomonas syringae* has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 5 as follows:

5

Met Gln Ser Leu Ser Leu Asn Ser Ser Ser Leu Gln Thr Pro Ala Met
1 5 10 15

10

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

Ser Lys Ala Leu Gln Glu Val Val Val Lys Leu Ala Glu Glu Leu Met
35 40 45

15

Arg Asn Gly Gln Leu Asp Asp Ser Ser Pro Leu Gly Lys Leu Leu Ala
50 55 60

Lys Ser Met Ala Ala Asp Gly Lys Ala Gly Gly Gly Ile Glu Asp Val
65 70 75 80

20

Ile Ala Ala Leu Asp Lys Leu Ile His Glu Lys Leu Gly Asp Asn Phe
85 90 95

Gly Ala Ser Ala Asp Ser Ala Ser Gly Thr Gly Gln Gln Asp Leu Met
100 105 110

25

Thr Gln Val Leu Asn Gly Leu Ala Lys Ser Met Leu Asp Asp Leu Leu
115 120 125

30

Thr Lys Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ser Phe Ser Glu Asp Asp Met Pro Met
130 135 140

Leu Asn Lys Ile Ala Gln Phe Met Asp Asp Asn Pro Ala Gln Phe Pro
145 150 155 160

35

Lys Pro Asp Ser Gly Ser Trp Val Asn Glu Leu Lys Glu Asp Asn Phe
165 170 175

Leu Asp Gly Asp Glu Thr Ala Ala Phe Arg Ser Ala Leu Asp Ile Ile
180 185 190

40

Gly Gln Gln Leu Gly Asn Gln Gln Ser Asp Ala Gly Ser Leu Ala Gly
195 200 205

45

Thr Gly Gly Gly Leu Gly Thr Pro Ser Ser Phe Ser Asn Asn Ser Ser
210 215 220

Val Met Gly Asp Pro Leu Ile Asp Ala Asn Thr Gly Pro Gly Asp Ser
225 230 235 240

50

Gly Asn Thr Arg Gly Glu Ala Gly Gln Leu Ile Gly Glu Leu Ile Asp
245 250 255

Arg Gly Leu Gln Ser Val Leu Ala Gly Gly Gly Leu Gly Thr Pro Val
260 265 270

55

Asn Thr Pro Gln Thr Gly Thr Ser Ala Asn Gly Gly Gln Ser Ala Gln
275 280 285

60

Asp Leu Asp Gln Leu Leu Gly Gly Leu Leu Leu Lys Gly Leu Glu Ala
290 295 300

Thr Leu Lys Asp Ala Gly Gln Thr Gly Thr Asp Val Gln Ser Ser Ala

5

10

	ATGCAGAGTC	TCAGTCTTAA	CAGCAGCTCG	CTGCAAAACC	CGGCAATGGC	CCTTGTCCTG	60
25	GTACGTCTCTG	AAGCCGAGAC	GACTGGCAGT	ACGTCGAGCA	AGGCGCTTCA	GGAAGTTGTC	120
	GTGAAGCTGG	CCGAGGAACT	GATGCGCAAT	GGTCAACTCG	ACGACAGCTC	GCCATTGGGA	180
30	AAACTGTTGG	CCAAGTCGAT	GGCCGCAGAT	GGCAAGGCGG	GCGGCGGTAT	TGAGGATGTC	240
	ATCGCTGCGC	TGGACAAGCT	GATCCATGAA	AAGCTCGGTG	ACAACTTCGG	CGCGTCTGCG	300
	GACAGCGCCT	CGGGTACCGG	ACAGCAGGAC	CTGATGACTC	AGGTGCTCAA	TGGCCTGGCC	360
35	AAGTCGATGC	TCGATGATCT	TCTGACCAAG	CAGGATGGCG	GGACAAGCTT	CTCCGAAGAC	420
	GATATGCCGA	TGCTGAACAA	GATCGCGCAG	TTCATGGATG	ACAATCCCGC	ACAGTTTCCC	480
40	AAGCCGGACT	CGGGCTCCTG	GGTGAACGAA	CTCAAGGAAG	ACAACTTCCT	TGATGGCGAC	540
	GAAACGGCTG	CGTTCCGTTT	GGCACTCGAC	ATCATTGGCC	AGCAACTGGG	TAATCAGCAG	600
	AGTGACGCTG	GCAGTCTGGC	AGGGACGGGT	GGAGGTCTGG	GCACCTCCGAG	CAGTTTTTCC	660
45	AACAACTCGT	CCGTGATGGG	TGATCCGCTG	ATCGACGCCA	ATACCGGTCC	CGGTGACAGC	720
	GGCAATACCC	GTGGTGAAGC	GGGGCAACTG	ATCGGCGAGC	TTATCGACCG	TGGCCTGCAA	780
50	TCGGTATTGG	CCGGTGGTGG	ACTGGGCACA	CCCGTAAACA	CCCCGCAGAC	CGGTACGTCG	840
	GCGAATGGCG	GACAGTCCGC	TCAGGATCTT	GATCAGTTGC	TGGGCGGCTT	GCTGCTCAAG	900
	GGCCTGGAGG	CAACGCTCAA	GGATGCCGGG	CAAAACAGGCA	CCGACGTGCA	GTCGAGCGCT	960
55	GCGCAAATCG	CCACCTTGCT	GGTCAGTACG	CTGCTGCAAG	GCACCCGCAA	TCAGGCTGCA	1020

GCCTGA

1026

The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum* has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 7 as follows:

10	Met	Ser	Val	Gly	Asn	Ile	Gln	Ser	Pro	Ser	Asn	Leu	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gln	1	5	10	15
	Asn	Leu	Asn	Leu	Asn	Thr	Asn	Thr	Asn	Ser	Gln	Gln	Ser	Gly	Gln	Ser	20	25	30	
15	Val	Gln	Asp	Leu	Ile	Lys	Gln	Val	Glu	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Asn	Ile	Ile	35	40	45	
	Ala	Ala	Leu	Val	Gln	Lys	Ala	Ala	Gln	Ser	Ala	Gly	Gly	Asn	Thr	Gly	50	55	60	
20	Asn	Thr	Gly	Asn	Ala	Pro	Ala	Lys	Asp	Gly	Asn	Ala	Asn	Ala	Gly	Ala	65	70	75	80
	Asn	Asp	Pro	Ser	Lys	Asn	Asp	Pro	Ser	Lys	Ser	Gln	Ala	Pro	Gln	Ser	85	90	95	
25	Ala	Asn	Lys	Thr	Gly	Asn	Val	Asp	Asp	Ala	Asn	Asn	Gln	Asp	Pro	Met	100	105	110	
30	Gln	Ala	Leu	Met	Gln	Leu	Leu	Glu	Asp	Leu	Val	Lys	Leu	Leu	Lys	Ala	115	120	125	
	Ala	Leu	His	Met	Gln	Gln	Pro	Gly	Gly	Asn	Asp	Lys	Gly	Asn	Gly	Val	130	135	140	
35	Gly	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ala	Lys	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Gln	Gly	Gly	Leu	Ala	145	150	155	160
	Glu	Ala	Leu	Gln	Glu	Ile	Glu	Gln	Ile	Leu	Ala	Gln	Leu	Gly	Gly	Gly	165	170	175	
40	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Gly	Val	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	180	185	190	
45	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly	Ser	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ala	195	200	205	
	Asp	Gly	Gly	Asn	Gly	Val	Asn	Gly	Asn	Gln	Ala	Asn	Gly	Pro	Gln	Asn	210	215	220	
50	Ala	Gly	Asp	Val	Asn	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ala	Asp	Asp	Gly	Ser	Glu	Asp	225	230	235	240
	Gln	Gly	Gly	Leu	Thr	Gly	Val	Leu	Gln	Lys	Leu	Met	Lys	Ile	Leu	Asn	245	250	255	
55	Ala	Leu	Val	Gln	Met	Met	Gln	Gln	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly	Gly	Gly	Asn	Gln	260	265	270	
60	Ala	Gln	Gly	Gly	Ser	Lys	Gly	Ala	Gly	Asn	Ala	Ser	Pro	Ala	Ser	Gly	275	280	285	
	Ala	Asn	Pro	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gln	Pro	Gly	Ser	Ala	Asp	Asp	Gln	Ser	Ser	290	295	300	

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Gly Gln Asn Asn Leu Gln Ser Gln Ile Met Asp Val Val Lys Glu Val
 305 310 315 320
 Val Gln Ile Leu Gln Gln Met Leu Ala Ala Gln Asn Gly Gly Ser Gln
 5 325 330 335
 Gln Ser Thr Ser Thr Gln Pro Met
 340

10 It is encoded by a DNA molecule having a nucleotide
 sequence corresponding SEQ. ID. No. 8 as follows:

15	ATGTCAGTCG GAAACATCCA GAGCCCGTCG AACCTCCCGG GTCTGCAGAA CCTGAACCTC	60
	AACACCAACA CCAACAGCCA GCAATCGGGC CAGTCCGTGC AAGACCTGAT CAAGCAGGTC	120
	GAGAAGGACA TCCTCAACAT CATCGCAGCC CTCGTGCAGA AGGCCGCACA GTCGGCGGGC	180
20	GGCAACACCG GTAACACCGG CAACGCGCCG GCGAAGGACG GCAATGCCAA CGCGGGCGCC	240
	AACGACCCGA GCAAGAACGA CCCGAGCAAG AGCCAGGCTC CGCAGTCGGC CAACAAGACC	300
	GGCAACGTCG ACGACGCCAA CAACCAGGAT CCGATGCAAG CGCTGATGCA GCTGCTGGAA	360
25	GACCTGGTGA AGCTGCTGAA GCGGGCCCTG CACATGCAGC AGCCCGGCGG CAATGACAAG	420
	GGCAACGGCG TGGCGGTGC CAACGGCGCC AAGGGTGCCG GCGGCCAGGG CGGCCTGGCC	480
30	GAAGCGCTGC AGGAGATCGA GCAGATCCTC GCCCAGCTCG GCGGCGGCGG TGCTGGCGCC	540
	GGCGGCGCGG GTGCGGTGT CCGCGGTGCT GGTGCGCGCG ATGGCGGCTC CGGTGCGGGT	600
	GGCGCAGGCG GTGCGAACGG CGCCGACGGC GGCAATGGCG TGAACGGCAA CCAGGCGAAC	660
35	GGCCCGCAGA ACGCAGGCGA TGTCAACGGT GCCAACGGCG CGGATGACGG CAGCGAAGAC	720
	CAGGGCGGCC TCACCGCGT GCTGCAAAAG CTGATGAAGA TCCTGAACGC GCTGGTGCAG	780
40	ATGATGCAGC AAGGCGGCCT CGGCGGCGGC AACCAGGCGC AGGGCGGCTC GAAGGGTGCC	840
	GGCAACGCCT CGCCGGCTTC CGGCGCGAAC CCGGGCGCGA ACCAGCCCGG TTCGGCGGAT	900
	GATCAATCGT CCGGCCAGAA CAATCTGCAA TCCCAGATCA TGGATGTGGT GAAGGAGGTC	960
45	GTCCAGATCC TGCAGCAGAT GCTGGCGGCG CAGAACGGCG GCAGCCAGCA GTCCACCTCG	1020
	ACGCAGCCGA TGTA	1035

50 Further information regarding the hypersensitive response
 elicitor polypeptide or protein derived from *Pseudomonas*
solanacearum is set forth in Arlat, M., F. Van Gijsegem,
 J. C. Huet, J. C. Pemollet, and C. A. Boucher, "PopA1, a
 55 Protein which Induces a Hypersensitive-like Response in
 Specific Petunia Genotypes, is Secreted via the Hrp
 Pathway of *Pseudomonas solanacearum*," EMBO J. 13:543-533
 (1994), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

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The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein from *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. glycines has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 9 as follows:

5
 Thr Leu Ile Glu Leu Met Ile Val Val Ala Ile Ile Ala Ile Leu Ala
 1 5 10 15
 10 Ala Ile Ala Leu Pro Ala Tyr Gln Asp Tyr
 20 25

This sequence is an amino terminal sequence having 26 residues only from the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein of *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. glycines. It matches with fimbrial subunit proteins determined in other *xanthomonas campestris* pathovars.

The above elicitors are exemplary. Other elicitors can be identified by growing bacteria that
 20 elicit a hypersensitive response under which genes encoding an elicitor are expressed. Cell-free preparations from culture supernatants can be tested for elicitor activity (i.e. local necrosis) by using them to infiltrate appropriate plant tissues.

25 It is also possible to use fragments of the above hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptides or proteins as well as fragments of full length elicitors from other pathogens, in the method of the present invention.

30 Suitable fragments can be produced by several means. In the first, subclones of the gene encoding a known elicitor protein are produced by conventional molecular genetic manipulation by subcloning gene fragments. The subclones then are expressed *in vitro* or
 35 *in vivo* in bacterial cells to yield a smaller protein or a peptide that can be tested for elicitor activity according to the procedure described below.

As an alternative, fragments of an elicitor protein can be produced by digestion of a full-length
 40 elicitor protein with proteolytic enzymes like

chymotrypsin or Staphylococcus proteinase A, or trypsin. Different proteolytic enzymes are likely to cleave elicitor proteins at different sites based on the amino acid sequence of the elicitor protein. Some of the
5 fragments that result from proteolysis may be active elicitors of resistance.

In another approach, based on knowledge of the primary structure of the protein, fragments of the elicitor protein gene may be synthesized by using the PCR
10 technique together with specific sets of primers chosen to represent particular portions of the protein. These then would be cloned into an appropriate vector for increase and expression of a truncated peptide or protein.

15 Variants may also (or alternatively) be modified by, for example, the deletion or addition of amino acids that have minimal influence on the properties, secondary structure and hydropathic nature of the polypeptide. For example, a polypeptide may be
20 conjugated to a signal (or leader) sequence at the N-terminal end of the protein which co-translationally or post-translationally directs transfer of the protein. The polypeptide may also be conjugated to a linker or other sequence for ease of synthesis, purification or
25 identification of the polypeptide.

The protein or polypeptide of the present invention is preferably produced in purified form (preferably at least about 80%, more preferably 90%, pure) by conventional techniques. Typically, the protein
30 or polypeptide of the present invention is secreted into the growth medium of recombinant *E. coli*. To isolate the protein, the *E. coli* host cell carrying a recombinant plasmid is propagated, homogenized, and the homogenate is centrifuged to remove bacterial debris. The supernatant
35 is then subjected to sequential ammonium sulfate precipitation. The fraction containing the polypeptide or protein of the present invention is subjected to gel

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filtration in an appropriately sized dextran or polyacrylamide column to separate the proteins. If necessary, the protein fraction may be further purified by HPLC.

5 The DNA molecule encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein can be incorporated in cells using conventional recombinant DNA technology. Generally, this involves inserting the DNA molecule into an expression system to which the DNA
10 molecule is heterologous (i.e. not normally present). The heterologous DNA molecule is inserted into the expression system or vector in proper sense orientation and correct reading frame. The vector contains the necessary elements for the transcription and translation
15 of the inserted protein-coding sequences.

 U.S. Patent No. 4,237,224 to Cohen and Boyer, which is hereby incorporated by reference, describes the production of expression systems in the form of recombinant plasmids using restriction enzyme cleavage
20 and ligation with DNA ligase. These recombinant plasmids are then introduced by means of transformation and replicated in unicellular cultures including procaryotic organisms and eucaryotic cells grown in tissue culture.

 Recombinant genes may also be introduced into
25 viruses, such as vaccina virus. Recombinant viruses can be generated by transection of plasmids into cells infected with virus.

 Suitable vectors include, but are not limited to, the following viral vectors such as lambda vector
30 system gt11, gt WES.tB, Charon 4, and plasmid vectors such as pBR322, pBR325, pACYC177, pACYC184, pUC8, pUC9, pUC18, pUC19, pLG339, pR290, pKC37, pKC101, SV 40, pBluescript II SK +/- or KS +/- (see "Stratagene Cloning Systems" Catalog (1993) from Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif,
35 which is hereby incorporated by reference), pQE, pIH821, pGEX, pET series (see F.W. Studier et. al., "Use of T7 RNA Polymerase to Direct Expression of Cloned Genes,"

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Gene Expression Technology vol. 185 (1990), which is hereby incorporated by reference), and any derivatives thereof. Recombinant molecules can be introduced into cells via transformation, particularly transduction, conjugation, mobilization, or electroporation. The DNA sequences are cloned into the vector using standard cloning procedures in the art, as described by Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Springs Laboratory, Cold Springs Harbor, New York (1982), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

A variety of host-vector systems may be utilized to express the protein-encoding sequence(s). Primarily, the vector system must be compatible with the host cell used. Host-vector systems include but are not limited to the following: bacteria transformed with bacteriophage DNA, plasmid DNA, or cosmid DNA; microorganisms such as yeast containing yeast vectors; mammalian cell systems infected with virus (e.g., vaccinia virus, adenovirus, etc.); insect cell systems infected with virus (e.g., baculovirus); and plant cells infected by bacteria. The expression elements of these vectors vary in their strength and specificities. Depending upon the host-vector system utilized, any one of a number of suitable transcription and translation elements can be used.

Different genetic signals and processing events control many levels of gene expression (e.g., DNA transcription and messenger RNA (mRNA) translation).

Transcription of DNA is dependent upon the presence of a promoter which is a DNA sequence that directs the binding of RNA polymerase and thereby promotes mRNA synthesis. The DNA sequences of eucaryotic promoters differ from those of procaryotic promoters. Furthermore, eucaryotic promoters and accompanying genetic signals may not be recognized in or may not function in a procaryotic system, and, further,

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procaryotic promoters are not recognized and do not function in eucaryotic cells.

Similarly, translation of mRNA in procaryotes depends upon the presence of the proper procaryotic signals which differ from those of eucaryotes. Efficient translation of mRNA in procaryotes requires a ribosome binding site called the Shine-Dalgarno ("SD") sequence on the mRNA. This sequence is a short nucleotide sequence of mRNA that is located before the start codon, usually AUG, which encodes the amino-terminal methionine of the protein. The SD sequences are complementary to the 3'-end of the 16S rRNA (ribosomal RNA) and probably promote binding of mRNA to ribosomes by duplexing with the rRNA to allow correct positioning of the ribosome. For a review on maximizing gene expression, see Roberts and Lauer, Methods in Enzymology, 68:473 (1979), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Promoters vary in their "strength" (i.e. their ability to promote transcription). For the purposes of expressing a cloned gene, it is desirable to use strong promoters in order to obtain a high level of transcription and, hence, expression of the gene. Depending upon the host cell system utilized, any one of a number of suitable promoters may be used. For instance, when cloning in *E. coli*, its bacteriophages, or plasmids, promoters such as the T7 phage promoter, *lac* promoter, *trp* promoter, *recA* promoter, ribosomal RNA promoter, the P_R and P_L promoters of coliphage lambda and others, including but not limited, to *lacUV5*, *ompF*, *bla*, *lpp*, and the like, may be used to direct high levels of transcription of adjacent DNA segments. Additionally, a hybrid *trp-lacUV5* (*tac*) promoter or other *E. coli* promoters produced by recombinant DNA or other synthetic DNA techniques may be used to provide for transcription of the inserted gene.

Bacterial host cell strains and expression vectors may be chosen which inhibit the action of the

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promotor unless specifically induced. In certain operations, the addition of specific inducers is necessary for efficient transcription of the inserted DNA. For example, the *lac* operon is induced by the
5 addition of lactose or IPTG (isopropylthio-beta-D-galactoside). A variety of other operons, such as *trp*, *pro*, etc., are under different controls.

Specific initiation signals are also required for efficient gene transcription and translation in
10 procaryotic cells. These transcription and translation initiation signals may vary in "strength" as measured by the quantity of gene specific messenger RNA and protein synthesized, respectively. The DNA expression vector, which contains a promotor, may also contain any
15 combination of various "strong" transcription and/or translation initiation signals. For instance, efficient translation in *E. coli* requires a Shine-Dalgarno (SD) sequence about 7-9 bases 5' to the initiation codon (ATG) to provide a ribosome binding site. Thus, any SD-ATG
20 combination that can be utilized by host cell ribosomes may be employed. Such combinations include but are not limited to the SD-ATG combination from the *cro* gene or the *N* gene of coliphage lambda, or from the *E. coli* tryptophan E, D, C, B or A genes. Additionally, any SD-
25 ATG combination produced by recombinant DNA or other techniques involving incorporation of synthetic nucleotides may be used.

Once the isolated DNA molecule encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein
30 has been cloned into an expression system, it is ready to be incorporated into a host cell. Such incorporation can be carried out by the various forms of transformation noted above, depending upon the vector/host cell system. Suitable host cells include, but are not limited to,
35 bacteria, virus, yeast, mammalian cells, insect, plant, and the like.

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The method of the present invention can be utilized to treat a wide variety of plants to impart pathogen resistance. Suitable plants include dicots and monocots. More particularly, useful crop plants can
5 include: rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear,
10 melon, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane. Examples of suitable ornamental plants are: *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

15 The method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants in accordance with the present invention is useful in imparting resistance to a wide variety of pathogens including viruses, bacteria, and fungi.

Resistance, *inter alia*, to the following
20 viruses can be achieved by the method of the present invention: *Tobacco mosaic virus* and *tomato mosaic virus*.

Resistance, *inter alia*, to the following bacteria can also be imparted to plants in accordance with the present invention: *Pseudomonas solanacearum*,
25 *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci*, and *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pelargonii*.

Plants can be made resistant, *inter alia*, to the following fungi by use of the method of the present invention: *Fusarium oxysporum* and *Phytophthora*
30 *infestans*.

The method of the present invention can be carried out through a variety of procedures for applying the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein to all or part of the plant being treated. This
35 may (but need not) involve infiltration of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein into the plant. Suitable application methods include

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high or low pressure spraying, injection, and leaf abrasion proximate to when elicitor application takes place. Other suitable application procedures can be envisioned by those skilled in the art provided they are able to effect contact of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein with cells of the plant.

The hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein can be applied to plants in accordance with the present invention alone or in a mixture with other materials.

One aspect of the present invention involves a composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants containing a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a carrier. Suitable carriers include water or aqueous solutions. In this embodiment, the composition contains greater than 500 nM hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

Although not required, this composition may contain additional additives including fertilizer, insecticide, fungicide, and mixtures thereof. Suitable fertilizers include $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{NO}_3$. An example of a suitable insecticide is Malathion. Useful fungicides include Captan.

Other suitable additives include buffering agents, wetting agents, and abrading agents. These materials can be used to facilitate the process of the present invention.

EXAMPLES

Example 1 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Tomato Against the Southern Bacterial Wilt Disease (*Pseudomonas solanacearum*)

Two-week-old tomato seedlings, grown in 8 x 15 cm flats in the greenhouse were treated as follows: 20 plants were used for each of the six treatments, which

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were designated A through F, and are described as follows:

- (A) About 100 μ l of a 200 μ g/ml crude harpin (i.e. hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein) preparation (Z-M. Wei, "Harpin, Elicitor of the Hypersensitive Response Produced by the Plant Pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*," Science 257:85-88 (1992), which is hereby incorporated by reference). was infiltrated into the lowest true leaf of each of the seedlings.
- (B) The same harpin preparation as used in (A) was sprayed with 400-mesh carborundum onto the leaf surface of the seedlings and then gently rubbed in with the thumb.
- (C) *E. coli* DH5(pCPP430) (See Figure 1 for map of plasmid vector pCPP430) was grown in LB medium to $OD_{620}=0.7$. The culture was centrifuged and then resuspended in 5 mM of potassium phosphate buffer pH 6.5. About 100 μ l of cell suspension was infiltrated into each leaf of the seedlings.
- (D) *E. coli* DH5(pCPP430::hrpN) (See Figure 1 for map of plasmid vector pCPP430::hrpN) was used as in (C). The cells were grown, and the suspension and the amount of inoculum used were the same as described in (C).
- (E) For *E. coli* DH5(pCPP9) (See Figure 2), the cells were grown and the suspension and the amount of inoculum used were the same as described in (C).
- (F) Infiltration of leaves with 5mM potassium phosphate buffer was as described in (C).
- The challenge pathogenic bacterium, *Pseudomonas solanacearum* strain K60, was grown in King's medium B to $OD_{620}=0.7$ (about 10^8 cfu/ml). The culture was centrifuged and resuspended in 100 volume of 5 mM potassium phosphate buffer to a final concentration of about 1×10^6 cfu/ml.
- Three days after the tomato seedlings were treated with harpin or bacteria, they were pulled up and about one cm of roots were cut off with scissors. The

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seedlings were then dipped into the suspension of *P. solanacearum* K60 for 3 min. The inoculated plants were replanted into the same pots. The plants were left in a greenhouse, and the disease incidence was recorded 7 days
5 after inoculation.

A. Effect of treatment with harpin

After 24 hours, only those leaf portions that
10 had been infiltrated with harpin or *E. coli* DH5(pCPP430) had collapsed. Leaves sprayed with harpin and carborundum showed only spotty necrosis.

15 B. Effect of treatment with harpin on the development of Southern Bacterial Wilt.

None of the 20 harpin-infiltrated plants showed any symptoms one week after inoculation with *P. solanacearum* K60 (Table 1). One out of the 20 plants
20 showed stunting symptoms. However, 7 of the 20 buffer-infiltrated plants showed stunting symptoms. Treatment with *E. coli* DH5(pCPP430) (a transposon-induced mutant unable to elicit the hypersensitive collapse) or *E. coli*
25 DH5(pCPP9) did not show significant difference compared to the plants treated with buffer. These results suggest that harpin or *E. coli* DH5(pCPP430), which produces harpin, induced resistance in the tomato plants to southern bacterial wilt caused by *P. solanacearum* K60.

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Table 1. Disease incidence of tomato seedlings 7 and 14 days after inoculation with *P. solanacearum* K60.

		Number of Plants			
		Day 7		Day 14	
	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Stunted</u>	<u>Healthy</u>	<u>Stunted</u>	<u>Healthy</u>
	A. Harpin infiltration	0	20	2	18
10	B. Harpin spray	1	19	3	17
	C. <i>E. coli</i> DH5 (pCPP430)	2	18	3	17
	D. <i>E. coli</i> DH5 (pCPP430)	4	16	7	13
	E. <i>E. coli</i> DH5 (pCPP9)	5	15	6+1 wilted	13
	F. Buffer	7	13	8+1 wilted	11
15	No pathogen	0	20	0	20

Four weeks after inoculation, plants treated with the harpin or *E. coli* DH5 (pCPP430) were taller and broader as compared to those treated with buffer. The average heights of 10 plants that had been infiltrated with harpin or buffer are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Heights (cm) of tomato plants four weeks after inoculation with *Pseudomonas solanacearum* K60, following treatment with harpin or buffer.

	<u>Infiltrated with Buffer Not inoculated</u>	<u>Infiltrated with Harpin Inoculated with K60</u>	<u>Infiltrated with Buffer Inoculated with K60</u>
30	36	32	11
	41	29	21
	35	38	33
	34	35	12
35	39	37	15
	35	33	32
	36	22	25
	35	35	15
	41	40	37
40	37	29	38
	Average 36.9	33	23.9

Example 2 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Tomato against Southern Bacterial Wilt Disease *Pseudomonas solanacearum*

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All the methods used for infiltration and inoculation were the same as described in Example 1, except that the concentration of *P. solanacearum* K60 was about 5×10^4 cfu/ml.

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The buffer-infiltrated plants showed symptoms 15 days after inoculation with *P. solanacearum* K60. Six out of 20 plants showed stunting symptoms after 15 days; 2 plants were wilted after 21 days. The wilted plants eventually died. However, none of the 20 harpin-treated plants showed stunting symptoms. Three weeks after inoculation, 3 of the 20 harpin-treated plants showed stunting symptoms. It is possible that after three weeks, the plants may have lost their induced resistance. As in the first experiment, the overall girth and heights of the harpin-treated plants were greater than those treated with buffer.

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Example 3 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Tomato against Southern Bacterial Wilt Disease *Pseudomonas solanacearum*

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This experiment was similar to Example 1, except that additional inoculum of *Pseudomonas solanacearum* K60 was added to the pots containing the treated tomato plants.

30

Harpin was infiltrated into two-week-old tomato seedlings. Two panels of each plant were infiltrated with about 200 μ l harpin suspended in 5 mM of potassium phosphate buffer at the concentration about 200 μ g/ml. A total of 20 tomato seedlings were infiltrated. The same number of tomato seedlings were infiltrated with buffer. After two days, the plants were inoculated with *Pseudomonas solanacearum* K60 by root-dipping. The harpin- or buffer-infiltrated plants were pulled from the soil mix and small amounts of roots were cut off with scissors and then the remaining roots were dipped into a

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suspension of *P. solanacearum* K60 for three minutes. The concentration of the bacterial cell suspension was about 5×10^8 cfu/ml. The seedlings were replanted into the same pot. An additional 3 ml of bacterial suspension was
 5 added to the soil of each individual 4-inch diameter pot. Disease incidence was scored after one week. All the experiments were done in the greenhouse with limited temperature control.

After three weeks, 11 of the 20 buffer-
 10 infiltrated tomato plants had died and 2 plants that had wilted recovered, but remained severely stunted. Only 4 plants grew normally compared with non-inoculated tomatoes. However, 15 of the harpited plants appeared healthy; three plants were stunted and two plants were
 15 wilted 3 weeks after inoculation. These results are summarized below in Table 3.

Table 3. Harpin-induced resistance of tomato against bacterial wilt disease caused by *P. solanacearum*

20

		<u>Weeks After Inoculation</u>		
<u>Treatment</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
25	Harpin			
	Healthy	20	17	15
	Wilted	0	1	2
	Stunted	0	2	3
30	Buffer			
	Healthy	8	5	4
	Wilted	8	12	13
	Stunted	4	3	3

35 **Example 4 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Tobacco to Tobacco Mosaic Virus**

One panel of a lower leaf of four-week old
 40 tobacco seedlings (cultivar, Xanthi, with N gene) were infiltrated with *E. amylovora* harpin at the concentration

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of 200 $\mu\text{g/ml}$. After three days, the plants were challenged with tobacco mosaic virus ("TMV"). Two concentrations of the virus (5 μg and 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) were used. About 50 μl of the virus suspension was deposited on one upper tobacco leaf. The leaf was dusted with 400-mesh carborundum and the leaves gently rubbed. Each concentration was tested on three plants. Necrotic lesions were counted 4 days after inoculation and on two subsequent days and the mean number on three leaves is reported (Table 4). It was difficult to distinguish the individual lesions by Day 10 because some of the necrotic lesions had merged together. Therefore, the number of lesions recorded seemed less than those recorded on Day 7. The size of the necrotic lesions in buffer-treated leaves was much larger than the harpin-treated leaves.

Table 4. Harpin-induced resistance of tobacco against TMV from inoculation with 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of virus

Treatment	<u>Mean Number of Lesions/Leaf</u>		
	<u>Day 4</u>	<u>Day 7</u>	<u>Day 10</u>
Harpin	21	32	35
Buffer	67	102	76

There was no significant difference in the number of local lesions that developed on the harpin-treated and buffer-treated tobacco when the tobacco mosaic virus inoculum concentration was 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

Example 5 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Tomato to Fusarium Wilt Disease

Six-week-old tomato plants were treated with harpin as described for Example 3. The fungal pathogen, *Fusarium oxysporum*, was grown on Lima Bean Agar medium for 5 days at 27°C. Two entire agar plates with mycelia were blended for 2 minutes in 20 ml of 5 mM potassium phosphate buffer. The roots of harpin- or buffer-treated tomato plants were wounded by plunging a wooden stake

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into the soil of the pots. Then, 3 ml of the fungal suspension was poured into the soil of each 4-inch pot. The inoculated plants remained in a controlled environment chamber at 24°C with 16 hours of light per day. Disease incidence was recorded 7 days after inoculation. Each treatment was applied to 10 plants. The results are shown below in Table 5.

Table 5. Effect of harpin or buffer treatment on Fusarium wilt disease of tomato

Number of plants (of 10) showing wilt symptoms at the indicated time post-inoculation

<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Day 7</u>	<u>Day 10</u>	<u>Day 15</u>	<u>Day 20</u>
Harpin	1	2	4	4 (1 dead)
Buffer	3	6	7	7 (4 dead)

Example 6 - Harpin-Induced Resistance of Tobacco Against Wildfire Disease (*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci*).

Harpin was infiltrated into single panels of the lower leaves of 4-week-old tobacco plants (20 cm high). After three days, suspensions of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci* were infiltrated into single panels of upper leaves. Four days later, disease incidence was recorded, as set forth in Table 6.

Table 6. Symptoms of infection by Wildfire disease in tobacco leaves inoculated with *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci* following treatment of lower leaves with harpin.

<u>Concentration of <i>P.s. tabaci</i></u>	<u>Treated with Harpin</u>	<u>Not treated with Harpin</u>
10 ⁴ cfu/ml	no symptoms	necrosis and water-soaking
10 ⁵ cfu/ml	no symptoms	necrosis and water-soaking
10 ⁶ cfu/ml	no symptoms	necrosis and water-soaking
10 ⁷ cfu/ml	no symptoms	necrosis and water-soaking
10 ⁸ cfu/ml	necrosis	necrosis and water-soaking

Example 7 - Harpin-induced Resistance of Geranium (Pelargonium hortorum) Against Bacterial Leaf Spot (Xanthomonas campestris pv. pelargonii)

5 This experiment was done with rooted cuttings of geranium growing in individual 4" or 6" pots in an artificial soil mix in a greenhouse. Two lower leaves on each plant were infiltrated with either 0.05 M potassium phosphate buffer, pH 6.5 (control), or harpin or a suspension of *Escherichia coli* DH5 (pCPP430) (the entire cloned hrp gene cluster of *E. amylovora*). Two to seven days following infiltration, all the plants were inoculated with a pure culture of the bacterial leaf spot pathogen, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pelargonii*. A suspension of the bacteria (5×10^6 cfu/ml) was atomized over both upper and lower leaf surfaces of the plants at low pressure. Each treatment was applied to two plants (designated "A" and "B" in Table 7). The plants were maintained in a closed chamber for 48 hours with supplemental misting supplied by cool-mist foggers. Then, the plants were maintained on the greenhouse bench subject to ambient humidity and temperature of 23°C to 32°C for 10 days before disease development was assessed.

25 Table 7. Effect of harpin and the hrp gene cluster of *Erwinia amylovora* on the development of bacterial leaf spot of geranium.

30 Time between treatment and inoculation with *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pelargonii*

35	Treatment	7 Days		5 Days		4 Days		3 Days		2 days	
		<u>Plant</u>		<u>Plant</u>		<u>Plant</u>		<u>Plant</u>		<u>Plant</u>	
40		A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
	Buffer	3*	5	5	4	3	2	4	3	4	5
	Harpin	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45	DH5 (pCPP430)	0	0	NT	NT	0	0	0	1	1	0

- 5 * Numbers in table are the number of leaves showing disease symptoms (pronounced necrosis, chlorosis, or wilting) 10 days following inoculation.

10 **Example 8 - Activity of several harpins in inducing resistance to Wildfire Disease caused by *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci***

15 Tobacco plants (*Nicotiana tabacum* var. *Xanthi*) were grown in the greenhouse. At 4 weeks of age, harpin preparations were infiltrated into a single panel of two lower leaves of each plant. Twelve plants were treated with each harpin preparation, and three were treated with the same potassium phosphate buffer that was used to
20 prepare the harpins. The hypersensitive necrosis developed within 24 hours in the panels of the leaves infiltrated with the harpin preparations, but not with buffer.

25 At 7, 10, 11, and 12 days after harpin treatment, all plants were inoculated with suspensions of 10^4 to 10^6 cells/ml of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tabaci* by infiltrating panels on upper leaves. Plants were incubated in the greenhouse for 7 days before disease development was evaluated. The results are tabulated as
30 follows in Table 8:

Table 8

Harpin source	Days between treatment and inoculation											
	12			11			10			7		
log [Inoc.]	4	5	6	4	5	6	4	5	6	4	5	6
35 None (buffer)	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	++
<i>P. syringae</i>	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
<i>E. chrysanthemi</i>	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
<i>E. amylovora</i>	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+

40

- = No symptoms,
+ = Necrosis with yellow halo, typical of wildfire disease
++ = Severe necrosis with yellow halo, typical of wildfire disease

45

The results indicate that the harpin preparations from the three bacteria are effective in

- 41 -

inducing resistance to the wildfire pathogen. Plants treated with either harpin exhibited no symptoms with the two lower inoculum concentrations used. At the higher concentration, symptoms were more severe on buffer-treated plants than harpin-treated plants.

Example 9 - Harpin induced resistance against the Late Blight disease caused by *Phytophthora infestans*.

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The late blight pathogen affects potatoes and tomatoes primarily. It was responsible for the infamous Irish potato famine. The activity of harpin in inducing resistance to this pathogen was tested on tomato seedlings grown in the greenhouse. Three-week old seedlings (cultivar 'Mama Mia', about 6 to 8 inches high) were treated with harpin and subsequently inoculated with *Phytophthora infestans*. Two panels of a lower leaf of each plant were infiltrated with a solution of harpin, a suspension of *Escherichia coli* DH5 (pCPP430), which produces and secretes harpin, or potassium phosphate buffer.

Two, three, or four days following infiltration, the plants were inoculated with a mycelial suspension of *Phytophthora infestans*. The strain U.S. 7 was used, which is highly virulent to tomato. The mycelial suspension was made by blending gently the contents of two barley-meal agar plates on and in which the fungus had grown for 2 weeks at 21°C. The suspension was brushed onto the top and undersides of one leaf per treated plant with an artist's broad paint brush.

The treated and inoculated plants were incubated in a specially constructed mist chamber designed to maintain a temperature of 20-23°C in the greenhouse, while maintaining high relative humidity. The moisture was provided by several cool-mist foggers operating at maximum rate on purified water. Disease incidence was evaluated 13 days following inoculation with *Phytophthora infestans*, and the results are

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tabulated in Table 9. Each treatment was applied to four individual plants.

Table 9. Numbers of lesion of late blight that were present on tomato leaves 13 days after inoculation.

Treatment	<u>Days between treatment and inoculation</u>											
	<u>4</u>				<u>3</u>				<u>2</u>			
Plant	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
Buffer	3	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	4	1
Harpin	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0
DH5 (pCPP430)	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	0

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Treatment with harpin reduced the number of lesions that developed on plants at all intervals between treatment and inoculation. The number of late blight lesions that developed also was reduced by prior

20

treatment with DH5 (pCPP430), which produces and secretes harpin.

25

Although the invention has been described in detail for the purpose of illustration, it is understood that such detail is solely for that purpose, and variations can be made therein by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention which is defined by the following claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: Cornell Research Foundation, Inc.
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: HYPERSENSITIVE RESPONSE
INDUCED RESISTANCE IN PLANTS
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 9
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Nixon, Hargrave, Devans & Doyle LLP
 - (B) STREET: Clinton Square, P.O. Box 1051
 - (C) CITY: Rochester
 - (D) STATE: New York
 - (E) COUNTRY: U.S.A.
 - (F) ZIP: 14603
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
 - (B) FILING DATE:
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/475,775
 - (B) FILING DATE: 07-JUN-1995
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: Goldman, Michael L.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 30,727
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 19603/10051
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: (716) 263-1304
 - (B) TELEFAX: (716) 263-1600

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 338 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS:
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

- 44 -

Met Gln Ile Thr Ile Lys Ala His Ile Gly Gly Asp Leu Gly Val Ser
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 20 25 30
 Leu Gly Ser Ser Val Asp Lys Leu Ser Ser Thr Ile Asp Lys Leu Thr
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 Ser Ala Leu Thr Ser Met Met Phe Gly Gly Ala Leu Ala Gln Gly Leu
 50 55 60
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 65 70 75 80
 Phe Gly Asn Gly Ala Gln Gly Ala Ser Asn Leu Leu Ser Val Pro Lys
 85 90 95
 Ser Gly Gly Asp Ala Leu Ser Lys Met Phe Asp Lys Ala Leu Asp Asp
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 Leu Leu Gly His Asp Thr Val Thr Lys Leu Thr Asn Gln Ser Asn Gln
 115 120 125
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 195 200 205
 Leu Ser Asn Val Ser Thr His Val Asp Gly Asn Asn Arg His Phe Val
 210 215 220
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 245 250 255
 Ser Ser Pro Lys Thr Asp Asp Lys Ser Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu Ser Lys
 260 265 270
 Pro Asp Asp Asp Gly Met Thr Gly Ala Ser Met Asp Lys Phe Arg Gln
 275 280 285
 Ala Met Gly Met Ile Lys Ser Ala Val Ala Gly Asp Thr Gly Asn Thr
 290 295 300
 Asn Leu Asn Leu Arg Gly Ala Gly Gly Ala Ser Leu Gly Ile Asp Ala
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 Ala Val Val Gly Asp Lys Ile Ala Asn Met Ser Leu Gly Lys Leu Ala
 325 330 335
 Asn Ala

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- 45 -

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 2141 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

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TTTCGGCAAT GCGCGCAGG GTGCGAGCAA CCTGCTATCC GTACCGAAAT CCGGCGGCGA	900
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CAACGGTCTC GGCCAGTCGA TGAGTGGCTT CTCTCAGCCT TCTCTGGGGG CAGGCGGCTT	1140
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GGCTGTCTGTC GCGGATAAAA TAGCCAACAT GTCGCTGGGT AAGCTGGCCA ACGCCTGATA	1620

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ATCTGTGCTG GCCTGATAAA GCGGAAACGA AAAAAGAGAC GGGGAAGCCT GTCTCTTTTC      1680
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CAGATGGAGA CACGTCTGCG ATAAATCTGT GCCGTAACGT GTTTCTATCC GCCCCTTTAG      1920
CAGATAGATT GCGGTTTCGT AATCAACATG GTAATGCGGT TCCGCCTGTG CGCCGCGCCG      1980
GATCACCACA ATATTCATAG AAAGCTGTCT TGCACCTACC GTATCGCGGG AGATACCGAC      2040
AAAATAGGGC AGTTTTGCG TGGTATCCGT GGGGTGTTCC GGCCTGACAA TCTTGAGTTG      2100
GTTTCGTCATC ATCTTCTCC ATCTGGGCGA CCGATCGGT T                                2141

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 385 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

```

Met Ser Leu Asn Thr Ser Gly Leu Gly Ala Ser Thr Met Gln Ile Ser
1           5           10           15
Ile Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Asn Asn Gly Leu Leu Gly Thr Ser Arg Gln
20           25           30
Asn Ala Gly Leu Gly Gly Asn Ser Ala Leu Gly Leu Gly Gly Gly Asn
35           40           45
Gln Asn Asp Thr Val Asn Gln Leu Ala Gly Leu Leu Thr Gly Met Met
50           55           60
Met Met Met Ser Met Met Gly Gly Gly Gly Leu Met Gly Gly Gly Leu
65           70           75           80
Gly Gly Gly Leu Gly Asn Gly Leu Gly Gly Ser Gly Gly Leu Gly Glu
85           90           95
Gly Leu Ser Asn Ala Leu Asn Asp Met Leu Gly Gly Ser Leu Asn Thr
100          105          110
Leu Gly Ser Lys Gly Gly Asn Asn Thr Thr Ser Thr Thr Asn Ser Pro
115          120          125
Leu Asp Gln Ala Leu Gly Ile Asn Ser Thr Ser Gln Asn Asp Asp Ser
130          135          140
Thr Ser Gly Thr Asp Ser Thr Ser Asp Ser Ser Asp Pro Met Gln Gln
145          150          155          160
Leu Leu Lys Met Phe Ser Glu Ile Met Gln Ser Leu Phe Gly Asp Gly
165          170          175

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Gln Asp Gly Thr Gln Gly Ser Ser Ser Gly Gly Lys Gln Pro Thr Glu
 180 185 190
 Gly Glu Gln Asn Ala Tyr Lys Lys Gly Val Thr Asp Ala Leu Ser Gly
 195 200 205
 Leu Met Gly Asn Gly Leu Ser Gln Leu Leu Gly Asn Gly Gly Leu Gly
 210 215 220
 Gly Gly Gln Gly Gly Asn Ala Gly Thr Gly Leu Asp Gly Ser Ser Leu
 225 230 235 240
 Gly Gly Lys Gly Leu Gln Asn Leu Ser Gly Pro Val Asp Tyr Gln Gln
 245 250 255
 Leu Gly Asn Ala Val Gly Thr Gly Ile Gly Met Lys Ala Gly Ile Gln
 260 265 270
 Ala Leu Asn Asp Ile Gly Thr His Arg His Ser Ser Thr Arg Ser Phe
 275 280 285
 Val Asn Lys Gly Asp Arg Ala Met Ala Lys Glu Ile Gly Gln Phe Met
 290 295 300
 Asp Gln Tyr Pro Glu Val Phe Gly Lys Pro Gln Tyr Gln Lys Gly Pro
 305 310 315 320
 Gly Gln Glu Val Lys Thr Asp Asp Lys Ser Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu Ser
 325 330 335
 Lys Pro Asp Asp Asp Gly Met Thr Pro Ala Ser Met Glu Gln Phe Asn
 340 345 350
 Lys Ala Lys Gly Met Ile Lys Arg Pro Met Ala Gly Asp Thr Gly Asn
 355 360 365
 Gly Asn Leu Gln His Ala Val Pro Val Val Leu Arg Trp Val Leu Met
 370 375 380
 Pro
 385

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1158 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

ATGAGTCTGA ATACAAGTGG GCTGGGAGCG TCAACGATGC AAATTTCTAT CGGCGGTGCG	60
GGCGGAAATA ACGGGTTGCT GGGTACCACT CGCCAGAATG CTGGGTTGGG TGGCAATTCT	120
GCACTGGGGC TGGGCGGCGG TAATCAAAT GATACCGTCA ATCAGCTGGC TGGCTTACTC	180
ACCGGCATGA TGATGATGAT GAGCATGATG GGCGGTGGTG GGCTGATGGG CGGTGGCTTA	240
GGCGGTGGCT TAGGTAATGG CTTGGGTGGC TCAGGTGGCC TGGGCGAAGG ACTGTGGAAC	300

GCGCTGAACG ATATGTTAGG CGGTTGCTG AACACGCTGG GCTCGAAAGG CGGCAACAAT 360
 ACCACTTCAA CAACAAATTC CCCGCTGGAC CAGGCGCTGG GTATTAATC AACGTCCCAA 420
 AACGACGATT CCACCTCCGG CACAGATTCC ACCTCAGACT CCAGCGACCC GATGCAGCAG 480
 CTGCTGAAGA TGTTACGCGA GATAATGCAA AGCCTGTTTG GTGATGGGCA AGATGGCACC 540
 CAGGGCAGTT CCTCTGGGGG CAAGCAGCCG ACCGAAGGCG AGCAGAACGC CTATAAAAAA 600
 GGAGTCACTG ATGCGCTGTC GGGCCTGATG GGTAAATGGTC TGAGCCAGCT CCTTGGCAAC 660
 GGGGGACTGG GAGGTGGTCA GGGCGGTAAT GCTGGCACGG GTCTTGACGG TTCGTCGCTG 720
 GGGCGCAAAG GGCTGCAAAA CCTGAGCGGG CCGGTGGACT ACCAGCAGTT AGGTAACGCC 780
 GTGGGTACCG GTATCGGTAT GAAAGCGGGC ATTCAGGCGC TGAATGATAT CGGTACGCAC 840
 AGGCACAGTT CAACCCGTTT TTTCGTCAAT AAAGGCGATC GGGCGATGGC GAAGGAAATC 900
 GGTCAAGTTCA TGGACCAGTA TCCTGAGGTG TTTGGCAAGC CGCAGTACCA GAAAGGCCCG 960
 GGTCAAGGAG TGAAAACCGA TGACAAATCA TGGGCAAAAG CACTGAGCAA GCCAGATGAC 1020
 GACGGAATGA CACCAGCCAG TATGGAGCAG TTCAACAAAG CCAAGGGCAT GATCAAAAGG 1080
 CCCATGGCGG GTGATACCGG CAACGGCAAC CTGCAGCAGC CGGTGCCGGT GGTTCCTTCGC 1140
 TGGGTATTGA TGCCATGA 1158

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 341 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Met Gln Ser Leu Ser Leu Asn Ser Ser Ser Leu Gln Thr Pro Ala Met
 1 5 10 15
 Ala Leu Val Leu Val Arg Pro Glu Ala Glu Thr Thr Gly Ser Thr Ser
 20 25 30
 Ser Lys Ala Leu Gln Glu Val Val Val Lys Leu Ala Glu Glu Leu Met
 35 40 45
 Arg Asn Gly Gln Leu Asp Asp Ser Ser Pro Leu Gly Lys Leu Leu Ala
 50 55 60
 Lys Ser Met Ala Ala Asp Gly Lys Ala Gly Gly Gly Ile Glu Asp Val
 65 70 75 80
 Ile Ala Ala Leu Asp Lys Leu Ile His Glu Lys Leu Gly Asp Asn Phe
 85 90 95
 Gly Ala Ser Ala Asp Ser Ala Ser Gly Thr Gly Gln Gln Asp Leu Met
 100 105 110

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Thr Gln Val Leu Asn Gly Leu Ala Lys Ser Met Leu Asp Asp Leu Leu
 115 120 125
 Thr Lys Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ser Phe Ser Glu Asp Asp Met Pro Met
 130 135 140
 Leu Asn Lys Ile Ala Gln Phe Met Asp Asp Asn Pro Ala Gln Phe Pro
 145 150 155 160
 Lys Pro Asp Ser Gly Ser Trp Val Asn Glu Leu Lys Glu Asp Asn Phe
 165 170 175
 Leu Asp Gly Asp Glu Thr Ala Ala Phe Arg Ser Ala Leu Asp Ile Ile
 180 185 190
 Gly Gln Gln Leu Gly Asn Gln Gln Ser Asp Ala Gly Ser Leu Ala Gly
 195 200 205
 Thr Gly Gly Gly Leu Gly Thr Pro Ser Ser Phe Ser Asn Asn Ser Ser
 210 215 220
 Val Met Gly Asp Pro Leu Ile Asp Ala Asn Thr Gly Pro Gly Asp Ser
 225 230 235 240
 Gly Asn Thr Arg Gly Glu Ala Gly Gln Leu Ile Gly Glu Leu Ile Asp
 245 250 255
 Arg Gly Leu Gln Ser Val Leu Ala Gly Gly Gly Leu Gly Thr Pro Val
 260 265 270
 Asn Thr Pro Gln Thr Gly Thr Ser Ala Asn Gly Gly Gln Ser Ala Gln
 275 280 285
 Asp Leu Asp Gln Leu Leu Gly Gly Leu Leu Leu Lys Gly Leu Glu Ala
 290 295 300
 Thr Leu Lys Asp Ala Gly Gln Thr Gly Thr Asp Val Gln Ser Ser Ala
 305 310 315 320
 Ala Gln Ile Ala Thr Leu Leu Val Ser Thr Leu Leu Gln Gly Thr Arg
 325 330 335
 Asn Gln Ala Ala Ala
 340

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1026 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

ATGCAGAGTC TCAGTCTTAA CAGCAGCTCG CTGCAAACCC CGGCAATGGC CCTTGTCTCTG	60
GTACGTCCTG AAGCCGAGAC GACTGGCACT ACGTCGAGCA AGGCGCTTCA GGAAGTTGTC	120
GTGAAGCTGG CCGAGGAACT GATGCGCAAT GGTCAACTCG ACGACAGCTC GCCATTGGGA	180

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AAACTGTTGG CCAAGTCGAT GGCCGCAGAT GGCAAGGCGG GCGGCGGTAT TGAGGATGTC      240
ATCGCTGCGC TGGACAAGCT GATCCATGAA AAGCTCGGTG ACAACTTCGG CGCGTCTGCG      300
GACAGCGCCT CGGGTACCGG ACAGCAGGAC CTGATGACTC AGGTGCTCAA TGGCCTGGCC      360
AAGTCGATGC TCGATGATCT TCTGACCAAG CAGGATGGCG GGACAAGCTT CTCCGAAGAC      420
GATATGCCGA TGCTGAACAA GATCGCGCAG TTCATGGATG ACAATCCCGC ACAGTTTCCC      480
AAGCCCGACT CGGGCTCCTG GGTGAACGAA CTCAAGGAAG ACAACTTCCT TGATGGCGAC      540
GAAACGGCTG CGTTCCGTTT GGCACCTCGAC ATCATTGGCC AGCAACTGGG TAATCAGCAG      600
AGTGACGCTG GCAGTCTGGC AGGGACGGGT GGAGGTCTGG GCACTCCGAG CAGTTTTTCC      660
AACAACTCGT CCGTGATGGG TGATCCGCTG ATCGACGCCA ATACCGGTCC CGGTGACAGC      720
GGCAATACCC GTGGTGAAGC GGGGCAACTG ATCGGCGAGC TTATCGACCG TGGCCTGCAA      780
TCGGTATTGG CCGGTGGTGG ACTGGGCACA CCCGTAAACA CCCCAGAGAC CGGTACGTCG      840
GCGAATGGCG GACAGTCCGC TCAGGATCTT GATCAGTTGC TGGGCGGCTT GCTGCTCAAG      900
GGCCTGGAGG CAACGCTCAA GGATCCCGG CAAACAGGCA CCGACGTGCA GTCGAGCGCT      960
GCGCAAATCG CCACCTTGCT GGTCACTACG CTGCTGCAAG GCACCCGCAA TCAGGCTGCA     1020
GCCTGA                                           1026

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 344 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

```

Met Ser Val Gly Asn Ile Gln Ser Pro Ser Asn Leu Pro Gly Leu Gln
 1           5           10           15
Asn Leu Asn Leu Asn Thr Asn Thr Asn Ser Gln Gln Ser Gly Gln Ser
 20           25           30
Val Gln Asp Leu Ile Lys Gln Val Glu Lys Asp Ile Leu Asn Ile Ile
 35           40           45
Ala Ala Leu Val Gln Lys Ala Ala Gln Ser Ala Gly Gly Asn Thr Gly
 50           55           60
Asn Thr Gly Asn Ala Pro Ala Lys Asp Gly Asn Ala Asn Ala Gly Ala
 65           70           75           80
Asn Asp Pro Ser Lys Asn Asp Pro Ser Lys Ser Gln Ala Pro Gln Ser
 85           90           95
Ala Asn Lys Thr Gly Asn Val Asp Asp Ala Asn Asn Gln Asp Pro Met
100           105           110

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Gln Ala Leu Met Gln Leu Leu Glu Asp Leu Val Lys Leu Leu Lys Ala
 115 120 125
 Ala Leu His Met Gln Gln Pro Gly Gly Asn Asp Lys Gly Asn Gly Val
 130 135 140
 Gly Gly Ala Asn Gly Ala Lys Gly Ala Gly Gly Gln Gly Gly Leu Ala
 145 150 155 160
 Glu Ala Leu Gln Glu Ile Glu Gln Ile Leu Ala Gln Leu Gly Gly Gly
 165 170 175
 Gly Ala Gly Ala Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Gly Val Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly
 180 185 190
 Ala Asp Gly Gly Ser Gly Ala Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Ala Asn Gly Ala
 195 200 205
 Asp Gly Gly Asn Gly Val Asn Gly Asn Gln Ala Asn Gly Pro Gln Asn
 210 215 220
 Ala Gly Asp Val Asn Gly Ala Asn Gly Ala Asp Asp Gly Ser Glu Asp
 225 230 235 240
 Gln Gly Gly Leu Thr Gly Val Leu Gln Lys Leu Met Lys Ile Leu Asn
 245 250 255
 Ala Leu Val Gln Met Met Gln Gln Gly Gly Leu Gly Gly Gly Asn Gln
 260 265 270
 Ala Gln Gly Gly Ser Lys Gly Ala Gly Asn Ala Ser Pro Ala Ser Gly
 275 280 285
 Ala Asn Pro Gly Ala Asn Gln Pro Gly Ser Ala Asp Asp Gln Ser Ser
 290 295 300
 Gly Gln Asn Asn Leu Gln Ser Gln Ile Met Asp Val Val Lys Glu Val
 305 310 315 320
 Val Gln Ile Leu Gln Gln Met Leu Ala Ala Gln Asn Gly Gly Ser Gln
 325 330 335
 Gln Ser Thr Ser Thr Gln Pro Met
 340

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1035 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

ATGTCAGTCG GAAACATCCA GAGCCCGTCG AACCTCCCGG GTCTGCAGAA CCTGAACCTC	60
AACACCAACA CCAACAGCCA GCAATCGGGC CAGTCCGTGC AAGACCTGAT CAAGCAGGTC	120
GAGAAGGACA TCCTCAACAT CATCGCAGCC CTCGTGCAGA AGGCCGCACA GTCGGCGGGC	180

GGCAACACCG	GTAACACCGG	CAACGCGCCG	GCGRAGGACG	GCAATGCCAA	CGCGGGCGCC	240
AACGACCCGA	GCAAGAACGA	CCCAGCAAG	AGCCAGGCTC	CGCAGTCGGC	CAACAAGACC	300
GGCAACGTCG	ACGACGCCAA	CAACCAGGAT	CCGATGCAAG	CGCTGATGCA	GCTGCTGGAA	360
GACCTGGTGA	AGCTGCTGAA	GGCGGCCCTG	CACATGCAGC	AGCCCCGGCG	CAATGACAAG	420
GGCAACGGCG	TGGGCGGTGC	CAACGGCGCC	AAGGGTGCCG	GCGGCCAGGG	CGGCCTGGCC	480
GAAGCGCTGC	AGGAGATCGA	GCAGATCCTC	GCCCAGCTCG	GCGGCGGCGG	TGCTGGCGCC	540
GGCGGCGCGG	GTGGCGGTGT	CGGCGGTGCT	GGTGGCGCGG	ATGGCGGCTC	CGGTGCGGGT	600
GGCGCAGGCG	GTGCGAACGG	CGCCGACGGC	GGCAATGGCG	TGAACGGCAA	CCAGGGCAAC	660
GGCCCGCAGA	ACGCAGGCGA	TGTCAACGGT	GCCAACGGCG	CGGATGACGG	CAGCGAAGAC	720
CAGGGCGGCC	TCACCGGCGT	GCTGCAAAAG	CTGATGAAGA	TCCTGAACGC	GCTGGTGCAg	780
ATGATGCAGC	AAGGCGGCCCT	CGGCGGCGGC	AACCAGGCGC	AGGGCGGCTC	GAAGGGTGCC	840
GGCAACGCCT	CGCCGGCTTC	CGGCGCGAAC	CCGGGCGCGA	ACCAGCCCGG	TTCGGCGGAT	900
GATCAATCGT	CCGGCCAGAA	CAATCTGCAA	TCCCAGATCA	TGGATGTGGT	GAAGGAGGTC	960
GTCCAGATCC	TGCAGCAGAT	GCTGGCGGGC	CAGAACGGCG	GCAGCCAGCA	GTCCACCTCG	1020
ACGCAGCCGA	TGTAA					1035

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 26 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

Thr Leu Ile Glu Leu Met Ile Val Val Ala Ile Ile Ala Ile Leu Ala
1 5 10 15
Ala Ile Ala Leu Pro Ala Tyr Gln Asp Tyr
20 25

**WHAT IS CLAIMED:**

1. A method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants comprising:
 - 5 applying a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a non-infectious form to a plant under conditions where the polypeptide or protein contacts cells of the plant.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas*
15 *campestris*, and mixtures thereof.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.
20
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 1.
- 25 5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 34 kDa.
6. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein
30 corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.
7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has
35 an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 3.





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8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 37 kDa.

5 9. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

10 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 5.

15 11. A method according to claim 9, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 34-35 kDa.

20 12. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 7.

25 14. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

30 15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 9.

35 16. A method according to claim 1, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of dicots and monocots.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of rice, wheat,



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barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, 5 zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

18. A method according to claim 16, wherein the 10 plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

19. A method according to claim 1, wherein the 15 pathogen to which the plant is resistant is selected from the group consisting of a viruses, bacteria, fungi, and combinations thereof.

20. A method according to claim 1, wherein said 20 applying is carried out by spraying, injection, or leaf abrasion at a time proximate to when said applying takes place.

21. A method according to claim 1, wherein the 25 hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied to plants as a composition further comprising a carrier.

22. A method according to claim 21, wherein the 30 carrier is selected from the group consisting of water and aqueous solutions.

23. A method according to claim 21, wherein the 35 composition contains greater than 500 nM of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

24. A method according to claim 21, wherein the composition further contains additives selected from the



group consisting of fertilizer, insecticide, fungicide, and mixtures thereof.

25. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

26. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied as bacteria which do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

27. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied as bacteria which cause disease in some plant species, but not in those subjected to said applying, and contain a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

28. A method according to claim 1, wherein said applying causes infiltration of the polypeptide or protein into the plant.

29. A pathogen-resistant plant with cells in contact with non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

30. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, and mixtures thereof.

31. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide





or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

32. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
5 31, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ.
ID. No. 1.

33. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
10 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.

34. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
15 33, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ.
ID. No. 3.

35. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
20 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

36. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
25 35, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ.
ID. No. 5.

37. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
30 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

38. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim
35 37, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide
or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ.
ID. No. 7.





39. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

5

40. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 39, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 9.

10

41. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of dicots and monocots.

15

42. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 41, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

20

43. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 41, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

25

44. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the pathogen to which the plant is resistant is selected from the group consisting of a virus, bacterium, fungus, and combinations thereof.

30

45. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

35





46. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant cells are in contact with bacteria which do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

47. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant cells are in contact with bacteria which do not cause disease in the plant, but do cause disease in other plant species, and contain a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

48. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant is infiltrated with the polypeptide or protein.

49. A composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants comprising:
a non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein and
a carrier.

50. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, and mixtures thereof.

51. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

52. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.





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53. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

5 54. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

10 55. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

15 56. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of water and aqueous solutions.

20 57. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the composition contains greater than 500 nM of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

25 58. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the composition further contains additives selected from the group consisting of fertilizer, insecticide, fungicide, and mixtures thereof.

59. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

30 60. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide and protein is produced or capable of being produced by bacteria in the composition, said bacteria do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response
35 elicitor polypeptide or protein.

61. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response polypeptide or protein is



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produced or capable of being produced by bacteria capable of causing disease in plants and containing a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



1/2

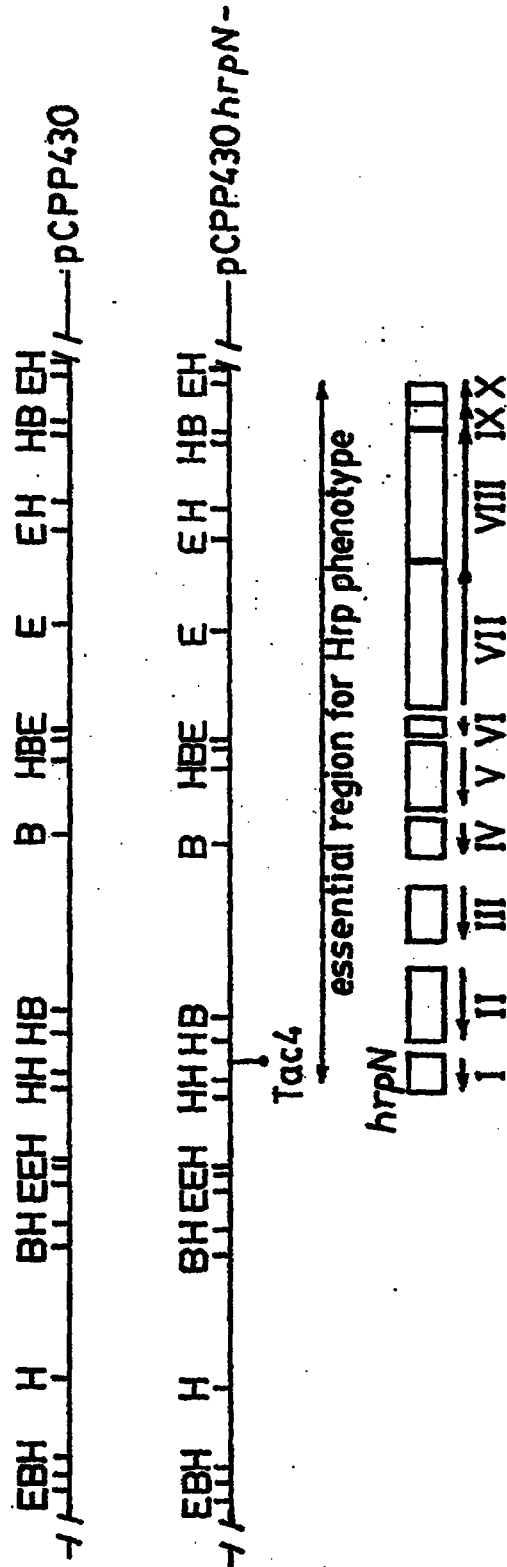


FIG. 1

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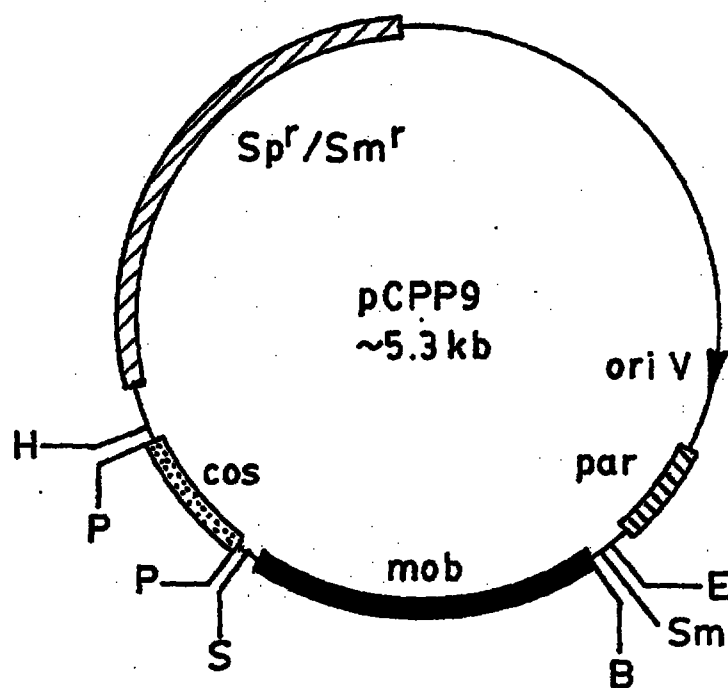


FIG. 2



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CLAIMS

REPLACEMENT SHEETS SG

- ☐ Description : paged ... to paged ...
☒ Claim(s) : paged 53 to paged 61
☐ Drawing(s) : paged ... to paged ...
☐ Abstract : paged ... to paged ...

DATE OF RECEIPT ... 18 DEC 1998

1. A method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants comprising:

applying a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a non-infectious form to a plant under conditions where the polypeptide or protein contacts cells of the plant.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 1.

5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 34 kDa.

6. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 3.

8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 37 kDa.

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9. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 5.

11. A method according to claim 9, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has a molecular weight of 34-35 kDa.

12. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

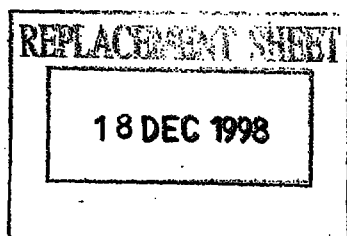
13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 7.

14. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 9.

16. A method according to claim 2, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of dicots and monocots.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of rice, wheat,





barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

18. A method according to claim 16, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

19. A method according to claim 2, wherein the pathogen to which the plant is resistant is selected from the group consisting of a viruses, bacteria, fungi, and combinations thereof.

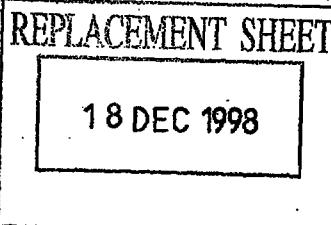
20. A method according to claim 2, wherein said applying is carried out by spraying.

21. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied to plants as a composition further comprising a carrier.

22. A method according to claim 21, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of water and aqueous solutions.

23. A method according to claim 21, wherein the composition contains greater than 500 nM of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

24. A method according to claim 21, wherein the composition further contains additives selected from the





group consisting of fertilizer, insecticide, fungicide, and mixtures thereof.

25. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, and mixtures thereof.

26. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied as bacteria which do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

27. A method according to claim 1, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is applied as bacteria which cause disease in some plant species, but not in those subjected to said applying, and contain a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

28. A method according to claim 1, wherein said applying causes infiltration of the polypeptide or protein into the plant.

29. A pathogen-resistant plant with cells in contact with non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

30. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

31. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide

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or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

32. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 31, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 1.

33. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.

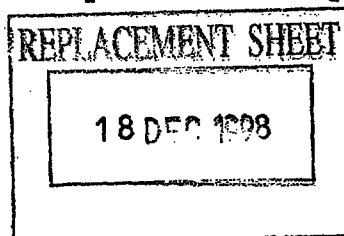
34. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 33, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 3.

35. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

36. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 35, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 5.

37. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

38. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 37, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 7.



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39. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

40. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 39, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein has an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ. ID. No. 9.

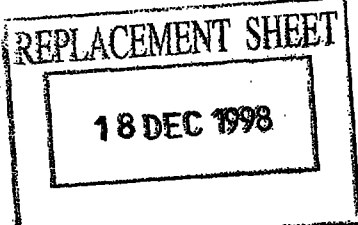
41. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of dicots and monocots.

42. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 41, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

43. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 41, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

44. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 30, wherein the pathogen to which the plant is resistant is selected from the group consisting of a virus, bacterium, fungus, and combinations thereof.

45. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, and mixtures thereof.



46. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant cells are in contact with bacteria which do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

47. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant cells are in contact with bacteria which do not cause disease in the plant, but do cause disease in other plant species, and contain a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

48. A pathogen-resistant plant according to claim 29, wherein the plant is infiltrated with the polypeptide or protein.

49. A composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants comprising:

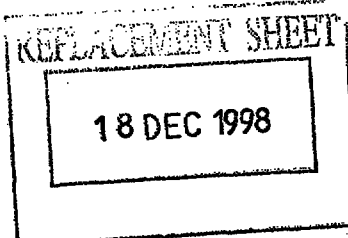
a non-infectious hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein and
a carrier.

50. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from a pathogen selected from the group consisting of *Erwinia amylovora*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas solanacearum*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, and mixtures thereof.

51. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

52. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Erwinia amylovora*.





53. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas syringae*.

54. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Pseudomonas solanacearum*.

55. A composition according to claim 50, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein corresponds to that derived from *Xanthomonas campestris*.

56. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of water and aqueous solutions.

57. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the composition contains greater than 500 nM of the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

58. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the composition further contains additives selected from the group consisting of fertilizer, insecticide, fungicide, and mixtures thereof.

59. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein is in isolated form.

60. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide and protein is produced or capable of being produced by bacteria in the composition, said bacteria do not cause disease and are transformed with a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.

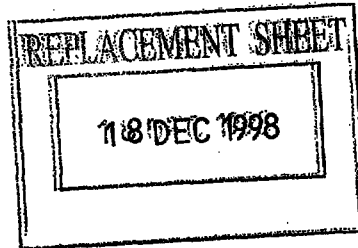
61. A composition according to claim 49, wherein the hypersensitive response polypeptide or protein is





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produced or capable of being produced by bacteria capable of causing disease in plants and containing a gene encoding the hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein.





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(57) Abstract			
The present invention relates to a method of imparting pathogen resistance to plants. This involves applying a hypersensitive response elicitor polypeptide or protein in a non-infectious form to a plant under conditions where the polypeptide or protein contacts cells of the plant. The present invention is also directed to a pathogen resistant plant and a composition for imparting pathogen resistance to plants.			