Abscisic Acid Insensitive 4 transcription factor is an important player in the response of *Arabidopsis thaliana* to two-spotted spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae*) feeding

Anna Barczak-Brzyżek¹ · Małgorzata Kielkiewicz¹ · Magdalena Górecka¹ · Karol Kot¹ · Barbara Karpińska¹,² · Marcin Filipecki¹

Received: 12 July 2017 / Accepted: 24 November 2017 / Published online: 5 December 2017
© The Author(s) 2017. This article is an open access publication

**Abstract** Plants growing in constantly changeable environmental conditions are compelled to evolve regulatory mechanisms to cope with biotic and abiotic stresses. Effective defence to invaders is largely connected with phytohormone regulation, resulting in the production of numerous defensive proteins and specialized metabolites. In our work, we elucidated the role of the Abscisic Acid Insensitive 4 (ABI4) transcription factor in the plant response to the two-spotted spider mite (TSSM). This polyphagous mite is one of the most destructive herbivores, which sucks mesophyll cells of numerous crop and wild plants. Compared to the wild-type (Col-0) *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants, the abi4 mutant demonstrated increased susceptibility to TSSM, reflected as enhanced female fecundity and greater frequency of mite leaf damage after trypan blue staining. Because ABI4 is regarded as an important player in the plastid-to-nucleus retrograde signalling process, we investigated the plastid envelope membrane dynamics using stroma-associated fluorescent marker. Our results indicated a clear increase in the number of stroma-filled tubular structures deriving from the plastid membrane (stromules) in the close proximity of the site of mite leaf damage, highlighting the importance of chloroplast-derived signals in the response to TSSM feeding activity.

**Keywords** Mite-pest · abi4 · Stromules · Retrograde signalling

**Electronic supplementary material** The online version of this article (https://doi.org/10.1007/s10493-017-0203-1) contains supplementary material, which is available to authorized users.

Marcin Filipecki

marcin_filipecki@sggw.pl

¹ Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW, Warsaw, Poland

² Centre for Plant Sciences, School of Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
The two-spotted spider mite (TSSM), *Tetranychus urticae* Koch, represents one of the most destructive generalist mite herbivores. TSSM feeds on hundreds of plant species belonging to various botanical families (Migeon and Dorkeld 2006–2017). The ability of TSSM to flexibly adapt to multiple host plants resulted from innate tolerance to different plant xenobiotics (Dermauw et al. 2013; Grbić et al. 2011). As a cell-content-feeding pest, it preferably feeds from photosynthetically active mesophyll cells, sucks up the contents with its chelicerae, and simultaneously injects salivary secretions into the damaged tissues (Bensoussan et al. 2016). Gene expression and proteomic analyses of mite-infested plants revealed that TSSM triggers effective plant defence responses. These defence responses are connected with phytohormone control of metabolism including the biosynthesis of various defensive proteins and compounds (Agut et al. 2014; Díaz-Riquelme et al. 2016; Dworak et al. 2016; Martel et al. 2015; Zhurov et al. 2014).

Recent extensive studies by Martel et al. (2015) and Zhurov et al. (2014) had shown that jasmonic acid (JA) signalling is a key regulator of tomato and *Arabidopsis* defences against TSSM feeding. However, along with JA-dependent signalling, mite-herbivore responses are controlled by other hormonal networks such as salicylic acid (SA) and ethylene (ET) (Ament et al. 2004; Kant et al. 2004; Li et al. 2002, 2004; Martel et al. 2015). Abscisic acid (ABA), primarily defined as an abiotic stress, senescence, and development related hormone, appeared also as an important modulator of JA- and SA-regulated as well as ROS-mediated defences to pest infestation (Díaz-Riquelme et al. 2016; Erb et al. 2008; Vos et al. 2013) and pathogen infection (Ton et al. 2009). It is known that in tomato plants exposed to mite attack the ABA level changes both in mite-damaged and non-damaged (systemic) leaves (Gawrońska and Kiełkiewicz 1999). Although there is limited information about the molecular mechanism of ABA engagement in plant defence to mite infestation, based on the research on *Pieris rapae* caterpillars, Vos et al. (2013) postulated that ABA is a regulator of herbivore-induced resistance by activating primed JA-regulated defence responses upon secondary herbivore attack in *Arabidopsis*. This regulation especially targets the MYC2 dependent branch of JA signalling. Additionally, *Arabidopsis* ABA-deficient mutants such as *aba2* are not capable of accumulating JA and oxylipins after infection with the oomycete *Pythium irregulare* (Adie et al. 2007).

Abscisic Acid Insensitive 4 (ABI4) is an APETALA 2/ethylene-response element binding protein (AP2/EREBP)-type transcription factor involved in the regulation of metabolic and environmental signals. It is also integrated with the hormone regulatory network and participates in retrograde signalling pathways (Foyer et al. 2012). The retrograde signalling pathways control gene expression in the nucleus upon the stimuli originating from organelles. Chloroplast retrograde signals may be divided into those which are connected with plastid development or those which take part in the plant complex response to environmental stresses (León et al. 2012; Pogson et al. 2008). It was described that ABI4 is an important component of the plastid gene expression and tetrapyrrrole retrograde signalling pathways, which may be executed by the regulation of many nuclear encoded chloroplast proteins (Koussevitzky et al. 2007). Furthermore, the role of ABI4 in plastid functioning was demonstrated by partially overlapping the transcriptome response of *abi4* and *gun1* (genomes uncoupled 1) mutants to the plastid translation inhibitor lincomycin treatment (Kerchev et al. 2011). Therefore, it was postulated that ABI4 takes part in transmission signals from the chloroplast to the nucleus in which GUN1 mediated retrograde signals participate. Moreover, the major roles of ABI4 and OXI1 (oxidative signal-inducible 1) in plant defence to the insect sucking pest *Myzus persicae*.
was proved by altered fecundity on the respective Arabidopsis thaliana mutants (Kerchev et al. 2013).

The involvement of ABI4 in retrograde communication evokes questions on the role and mechanism of plastid to nucleus retrograde signalling in this type of biotic stress. The exact mechanisms of chloroplast to nucleus signalling in the context of biotic stresses are still unclear. However, it was described that plants infected with pathogens as well as challenged with abiotic stresses induce the formation of stroma-filled tubular structures deriving from the plastid membrane, called stromules, which make contact with the nucleus (Brunkard et al. 2015; Caplan et al. 2015; Gray et al. 2012; Holzinger et al. 2007; Kwok and Hanson 2004; Schattat and Klösgen 2011). The same effect was also observed after the exogenous application of pro-defence signals such as hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and SA (Caplan et al. 2015). This in turn emphasizes the role of chloroplast redox signalling pathways and ROS metabolism in local and systemic responses to light stress and pathogen infection which was shown by Kangasjärvi et al. (2014). In light of the cited evidence, stromules may act as inter-organellar paths to enable transfer of chloroplast-derived immune signals, including SA and ROS, to the nucleus (Caplan et al. 2015; Gu and Dong 2015; Hanson and Sattarzadeh 2011; VanHook 2015).

In our study, using an A. thaliana abi4 mutant, the role of the ABI4 transcription factor in the plant response to the TSSM was examined. As evidenced by our results, TSSM feeds more intensively on the abi4 mutant and benefits by the oviposition rate increase. TSSM activity also induced stromule formation and extension. Thus, our results for the first time indicate the engagement of retrograde signalling in plant response to TSSM attack.

Materials and methods

Plant materials and growth conditions

We used wild-type A. thaliana accession Columbia-0 (Col-0) and A. thaliana abi4 mutants which were kindly provided by Prof. Christine Foyer (University of Leeds, UK). For stromule imaging we used transgenic A. thaliana Col-0 plants (having a wild-type allele of ABI4), constitutively expressing the chimeric protein FNR/EGFP, which consists of the chloroplast targeting transit peptide of ferredoxin-NADPH-oxidoreductase (FNR) fused to an enhanced derivative of the green fluorescent protein (EGFP) (Schattat and Klösgen 2011), kindly provided by Prof. Jaideep Mathur (University of Guelph, Canada). Plants were grown under cool-white fluorescent light (100 µmol m^{-2} s^{-1}) and a long-day photoperiod (16 h/8 h) at 24 °C in controlled growth chambers. Experiments were carried out using 3.5-week-old plants.

TSSM mass population rearing and oviposition rate assessment

The Warsaw mite strain which originated from Sambucus nigra plants was kept in the laboratory for at least 150 generations on bean plants (Phasoleous vulgaris cv. Ferrari; PNOS, Ożarów Mazowiecki, Poland) as was described in Barczak-Brzyżek et al. (2017). Bean plants were grown in a growth chamber at 16 h/8 h (day/night) photoperiod, temperature 23 ± 1 °C, and 60% relative humidity. To synchronize experimental female age, males were added at the time when female deutonymphs appeared in the stock colony, and shortly after mating young females were transferred to detached fresh bean leaves until the
first eggs were laid. Five-day-old females were used for the comparison of mite fecundity on Col-0 plants and abi4 mutants. Each experimental plant was infested with 10 adult females. Females were located in the middle of the rosette and had free choice to feed. After 24 h, eggs laid on all leaves were counted. As the initial number of females on Col-0 and abi4 plants decreased similarly due to dispersal, the TSSM oviposition rate was expressed as the average number of eggs per female per plant per day, considering the remaining females. Results were presented for two experiments and six biological replicates.

**Leaf damage assessment caused by TSSM**

Leaf damage was evaluated using the same *Arabidopsis* plants. Trypan Blue (TB) staining was performed based on Keogh et al. (1980) as was described in Barczak-Brzyżek et al. (2017). Mite-infested leaves were submerged in TB solution (0.016% TB, 8% phenol, 8% glycerol, 8% lactic acid, 65% ethanol) in a 15-mL conical polypropylene tube, placed in a boiling water bath at 95 ºC for 2 min, and then left in staining solution overnight at room temperature. Later, leaves were cleared with 6 M chloral hydrate solution diluted in water (Avantor, Poland). Stained leaves were observed and digital images of the leaves were captured by a Leica M165-FC stereomicroscope (Leica Microsystems, Wetzlar, Germany). Quantification of mite-induced leaf damage was performed using ImageJ software (Schneider et al. 2012): leaf area was outlined, image was binarized and damage area was calculated.

**Stromule visualization**

In the stromule visualization experiment we used freshly cut, mite-infested (10 females/24 h) and non-infested (control) *Arabidopsis* FNR/EGFP leaves. The changes in chloroplast membrane dynamics were observed in the cells in the close vicinity of the mite feeding sites under a Zeiss LSM710 confocal microscope (Carl Zeiss, Jena, Germany). GFP was excited with a 488-nm laser and emissions were detected from 500 to 530 nm. Stromule frequency was calculated on an area of 143 × 143 µm in both mite-infested and control leaves. Calculation was performed for 10 biological replicates. Stromule measurement was made using ImageJ software (Schneider et al. 2012) for 33 (control) and 93 (TSSM) observations. In the experiment, stromules longer than 4 µm were classified as ‘long’ and below 4 µm as ‘short’.

**Results and discussion**

To investigate the role of ABI4 in the plant response to TSSM, we assessed mite female reproduction performance using the abi4 mutants. The rate of female oviposition was significantly greater on the abi4 mutants than on *Arabidopsis* Col-0 plants (Fig. 1), suggesting that the abi4 mutants were more susceptible to mite attack. Furthermore, TB vital staining, which differentiates intact leaf cells and those with disrupted cell membranes (because only damaged cells accumulate the dye and appear blue), allowed identification of the mite-induced leaf damage area (Fig. 2). In our study, the damage caused by mite feeding activity was more visible in the abi4 mutant leaves than in the wild-type (Col-0) leaves, which was also reflected in the quantification of the damage area (Fig. 2e). These
observations proved that ABI4 is an important player in plant defence against this mite-pest, and confirmed that mite-associated plant defence is controlled by ABA.

Additionally, TSSM feeding on plants constitutively expressing the chloroplast targeted GFP for 24 h accelerated the formation of stromules in the chloroplasts of cells in the proximity of mite-induced damage (Fig. 3, Fig. S1). We observed not only an increase in the number of ‘stroma filled tubules’ in mite-infested leaves (Fig. 3c, Fig. S1), but they were also much longer (Fig. 3d, e; Fig. S1). Such observations point out the role of stromules in plant response to mite-pest stress. Furthermore, the mite-induced abundance of stromules corresponds with the results of a previous transmission electron microscopic study, which reported that mite feeding provokes the mesophyll cell chloroplasts to form elongated cudgel-shaped protrusions and induce catechol phenolic deposition (Kielkiewicz 1999). Taking into consideration that stromules probably function in intracellular communication by exchanging signalling molecules, metabolites, or proteins (Hanson 2015; Hanson and Sattarzadeh 2013; Mathur et al. 2013; Schattat and Klösgen 2011), we may assume that this is an important retrograde or bidirectional stress information channel.

Fig. 1 a Phenotype of Arabidopsis thaliana wild type (Col-0) and abi4 mutant plants. b Mean (± SD; n = 6) TSSM oviposition rate. Asterisks represent a significant difference (two tailed Student’s t-test: $p < 0.001$)
activated by mite infestation. Further study should establish the biological significance of mite-induced stromule formation.

It is worth noting that an increasing amount of data emphasizes that chloroplasts, which are the main source for production of immune signals in plants (e.g., SA and ROS), may directly and indirectly modulate plant defence against invaders. So far, strong evidence revealed the function of stromules during effector-triggered immunity (ETI) and programmed cell death (PCD), but the biological significance of stromule-nucleus communication in plant immunity needs to be explained (Caplan et al. 2015; Gu and Dong 2015). Additionally, non-photochemical quenching (NPQ), which is a process controlled by the trans-thylakoid proton gradient, plays an important role in the plant response to insect herbivore specialists (Plutella xylostella) and generalists (Spodoptera littoralis), which was documented in dual-choice feeding experiments with a npq4-1 mutant and PsbS over-expressing plants (Johansson Jänkänpää et al. 2013).

Another example of retrograde regulation of plant defence is the plastidial signalling metabolite, 2-C-methyl-d-erythritol cyclopentylphosphate (MEcPP), which was able to induce JA responsive genes even in the presence of elevated SA in the ceh1 mutant (Lemos

Fig. 2  Mite-induced leaf damage symptoms visualized by TB staining 24 h post-infestation of Arabidopsis thaliana a, b Col-0 and c, d abi4 mutant plants. Scale bars 2 mm. e Mean (± SD; n = 5) area of leaf damaged (%). Asterisks represent a significant difference (two tailed Student’s t-test: p < 0.001)
et al. 2016). Such evidence and our results highlight an important role for chloroplasts as well as intracellular plastid-derived signals in the defence response to insect and mite pests. Moreover, they indicate that ABI4 is a crucial component of chloroplast retrograde signalling which modulates the plant response to TSSM infestation. These findings put special attention on the importance of information transfer between the plastids and nucleus, which seems to be an ancient and universal module of adaptive responses to environmental stresses.

**Acknowledgements** This study was supported by funding from REGPOT-2011-1-286093-WULS-Plant Health and the POKL.04.03.00-00-042/12-00 programme co-financed by the European Social Fund [to A.B.B]. We would like to express sincere thanks to Prof. Christine Foyer and Prof. Jaideep Mathur for providing seeds used in our experiments.
Author contributions AB-B carried out the experiments and wrote the manuscript. BK and MK designed the experiments and equally contributed to this work. KK performed TB staining documentation. MG participated in the stromule visualization experiment. MF analysed data and prepared the final version of the manuscript.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Open Access This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license, and indicate if changes were made.

References

Adie BAT, Pérez-Pérez J, Pérez-Pérez MM, Godoy M, Sánchez-Serrano J-J, Schmelz EA, Solano R (2007) ABA is an essential signal for plant resistance to pathogens affecting JA biosynthesis and the activation of defenses in Arabidopsis. Plant Cell 19:1665–1681
Agut B, Gamir J, Jacas JA, Hurtado M, Flors V (2014) Different metabolic and genetic responses in citrus may explain relative susceptibility to Tetranychus urticae. Pest Manag Sci 70:1728–1741
Ament K, Kant MR, Sabelis MW, Haring MA, Schuurink RC (2004) Jasmonic acid is a key regulator of spider mite-induced volatile terpenoid and methyl salicylate emission in tomato. Plant Physiol 135:2025–2037
Barczak-Brzyżak AK, Kiełkiewicz M, Gawroński P, Kot K, Filipiecki M, Karpíńska B (2017) Cross-talk between high light stress and plant defence to the two-spotted spider mite in Arabidopsis thaliana. Exp Appl Acarol 73(2):177–189
Bensoussan N, Santamaria ME, Zhurov V, Diaz I, Grbić M, Grbić V (2016) Plant-Herbivore interaction: Dissection of the cellular pattern of Tetranychus urticae Feeding on the Host Plant. Front Plant Sci 7:1105. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2016.01105
Brunkard JO, Runkel AM, Zambryski PC (2015) Chloroplasts extend stromules independently and in response to internal redox signals. Proc Natl Acad Sci 112:10044–10049
Caplan JL, Kumar AS, Park E, Padmanabhan MS, Hoban K, Modla S, Czymmek K, Dinesh-Kumar SP (2015) Chloroplast stromules function during innate immunity. Dev Cell 34:45–57
Dermauw W, Wybouw N, Rombauts S, Menten B, Vontas J, Grbić M, Clark RM, Feyereisen R, Leeuwen TV (2013) A link between host plant adaptation and pesticide resistance in the polyphagous spider mite Tetranychus urticae. Proc Natl Acad Sci 110:E113–E122
Diaz-Riquelme J, Zhurov V, Rioja C, Pérez-Moreno I, Torres-Pérez R, Grimplet J, Carbonell-Bejerano P, Bajda S, Van Leeuwen T, Martinez-Zapater JM et al (2016) Comparative genome-wide transcriptome analysis of Vitis vinifera responses to adapted and non-adapted strains of two-spotted spider mite Tetranychus urticae. BMC Genom 17:74
Dworak A, Nykiel M, Walczak B, Miazek A, Szworst-Lupina D, Zagdańska B, Kiełkiewicz M (2016) Maize proteomic responses to separate or overlapping soil drought and two-spotted spider mite stresses. Planta 244:939–960
Erb M, Ton J, Degenhardt J, Turlings TJC (2008) Interactions between arthropod-induced aboveground and belowground defences in plants. Plant Physiol 146:867–874
Foyer CH, Kerchev PI, Hancock RD (2012) The ABA-INSENSITIVE-4 (ABI4) transcription factor links redox, hormone and sugar signaling pathways. Plant Signal Behav 7:276–281
Gawrońska H, Kiełkiewicz M (1999) Effect of the carmine spider mite (Acarida: Tetranychidae) infestation and mechanical injury on the level of ABA in tomato plants. Acta Physiol Plant 21:297–303
Gray JC, Hansen MR, Shaw DJ, Graham K, Dale R, Smallman P, Natesan SKA, Newell CA (2012) Plastid stromules are induced by stress treatments acting through ascorbic acid. Plant J Cell Mol Biol 69:387–398
Grbić M, Van Leeuwen T, Clark RM, Rombauts S, Rouzé P, Grbić V, Osborne EJ, Dermauw W, Thi Ngoc PC, Ortego F et al (2011) The genome of Tetranychus urticae reveals herbivorous pest adaptations. Nature 479:487–492
Gu Y, Dong X (2015) Stromules: signal conduits for plant immunity. Dev Cell 34:3–4
Hanson MR (2015) Reactive oxygen species signal chloroplasts to extend themselves. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 112:9799–9800

Hanson MR, Sattarzadeh A (2011) Stromules: recent insights into a long neglected feature of plastid morphology and function. Plant Physiol 155:1486–1492

Hanson MR, Sattarzadeh A (2013) Trafficking of proteins through plastid stromules. Plant Cell Online 25:2774–2782

Holzinger A, Buchner O, Lütz C, Hanson MR (2007) Temperature-sensitive formation of chloroplast protrusions and stromules in mesophyll cells of Arabidopsis thaliana. Protoplasma 230:23–30

Johansson Jänkänpää H, Frenkel M, Zulfugarov I, Reichelt M, Krieger-Liszkay A, Mishra Y, Gershenzon J, Moen J, Lee C-H, Jansson S (2013) Non-photochemical quenching capacity in Arabidopsis thaliana affects herbivore behaviour. PLoS ONE 8:e53232

Kangasjärvi S, Tikkanen M, Durian G, Aro E-M (2014) Photosynthetic light reactions—an adjustable hub in basic production and plant immunity signaling. Plant Physiol Biochem 181:128–134

Kant MR, Ament K, Sabelis MW, Haring MA, Schuurink RC (2004) Differential timing of spider mite-induced direct and indirect defenses in tomato plants. Plant Physiol 135:483–495

Keogh RC, Deverall BJ, Mcleod S (1980) Comparison of histological and physiological responses to Phakopsora pachyrhizi in resistant and susceptible soybean. Trans Br Mycol Soc 74(2):329–333

Kerchev P, Pellny TK, Vivancos PD, Kiddle G, Hedden P, Driscoll S, Vanacker H, Verrier P, Hancock RD, Foyer CH (2017) The transcription factor ABI4 Is required for the ascorbic acid-dependent regulation of growth and regulation of jasmonate-dependent defense signaling pathways in Arabidopsis. Plant Cell 23:3319–3334

Kerchev P, Karpinski B, Morris JA, Hussain A, Verrall SR, Foyer CH, Hancock RD (2013) Vitamin C and the abscisic acid-insensitive 4 transcription factor are important determinants of aphid resistance in Arabidopsis. Antioxid Redox Signal 18:2091–2105

Kielkiewicz M (1999) Ultrastructural cell modification in tomato (Lycopersicon esculentum) leaf tissue in response to the carmine spider mite (Tetranychus cinnabarinus) feeding. In: Bruin J, van der Geest LPS, Sabelis MW (eds) Ecology and evolution of the Acari. Kluver Academic Publishers, London, pp. 603–615

Koussevitzky S, Nott A, Mockler TC, Hong F, Sachetto-Martins G, Surpin M, Lim J, Mittler R, Chory J (2007) Signals from plastids converge to regulate nuclear gene expression. Science 316:715–719

Kwok EY, Hanson MR (2004) Plastids and stromules interact with the nucleus and cell membrane in vascular cells. Plant Cell Rep 23:188–195

Lemos M, Xiao Y, Bjornson M, Wang J-Z, Hicks D, de Souza A, Wang C-Q, Yang P, Ma S, Dinesh-Kumar S et al (2016) The plastidal retrograde signal methyl erythritol cyclopyrophosphate is a regulator of salicylic acid and jasmonic acid crosstalk. J Exp Bot 67:1557–1566

León P, Gregorio J, Cordoba E (2012) ABI4 and its role in chloroplast retrograde communication. Front Plant Sci 3:304

Li L, Li C, Lee GI, Howe GA (2002) Distinct roles for jasmonate synthesis and action in the systemic wound response of tomato. Proc Natl Acad Sci 99:6416–6421

Li L, Zhao Y, McCaig BC, Wingerd BA, Wang J, Whalon ME, Pichersky E, Howe GA (2004) The tomato homolog of CORONATINE-INSENSITIVE1 is required for the maternal control of seed maturation, jasmonate-signaled defense responses, and glandular trichome development. Plant Cell 16:126–143

Martel C, Zhurov V, Navarro M, Martinez M, Cazaux M, Auger P, Migeon A, Santamaria ME, Weybouw N, Diaz I et al (2015) Tomato whole genome transcriptional response to Tetranychus urticae identifies divergence of spider mite-induced responses between tomato and Arabidopsis. Mol Plant-Microbe Interact 28:343–361

Mathur J, Barton KA, Schattat MH (2013) Fluorescent protein flow within stromules. Plant Cell Online 25:2771–2772

Migeon A, Dorkeld F (2006–2017) Spider mites web: a comprehensive database for the Tetranychidae. http://www.montpellier.inra.fr/CBGP/spmweb

Pogson BJ, Woo NS, Förster B, Small ID (2008) Plastid signalling to the nucleus and beyond. Trends Plant Sci 13:602–609

Schattat MH, Klösgen RB (2011) Induction of stromule formation by extracellular sucrose and glucose in epidermal leaf tissue of Arabidopsis thaliana. BMC Plant Biol 11:115

Schneider CA, Rasband WS, Eliceiri KW (2012) NIH image to ImageJ: 25 years of image analysis. Nat Methods 9:671–675

Tonn J, Flors V, Mauch-Mani B (2009) The multifaceted role of ABA in disease resistance. Trends Plant Sci 14:310–317

VanHook AM (2015) Immunity pipelines. Sci Signal 8:ec191
Vos IA, Verhage A, Schuurink RC, Watt LG, Pieterse CMI, Van Wees SCM (2013) Onset of herbivore-induced resistance in systemic tissue primed for jasmonate-dependent defenses is activated by abscisic acid. Front Plant Sci 4:539. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2013.00539

Zhurov V, Navarro M, Bruinsma KA, Arbona V, Santamaria ME, Cazaux M, Wybouw N, Osborne EJ, Ens C, Rioja C et al (2014) Reciprocal responses in the interaction between arabidopsis and the cell-content-feeding chelicerate herbivore spider mite. Plant Physiol 164:384–399