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Errata

Molecular stability of the ribosomal RNA genes in *Solanum tuberosum* plants recovered from slow growth and cryopreservation

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Euphytica **55**: 141–146, 1991.

Owing to an error in the reproduction process, figure 5 was printed two times instead of figure 4 and 5. Page 144 as it should have appeared, is presented overleaf.

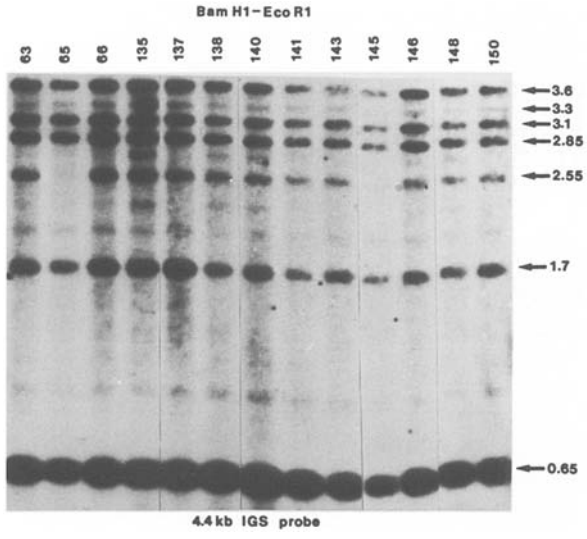

Fig. 3. Autoradiograph of Bam HI – Eco RI ribosomal gene fragments detected by hybridisation to the 4.4 kb IGS fragment in individual DNA samples of *S. tuberosum* cv. Desiree derived from slow growth.

tracks, hence the reduced hybridisation signals of the 2.55 kb fragments). DNA from 30 individual cryopreserved Golden Wonder plants was analysed by the same procedures described for the untreated controls. Figure 5 shows a sample representative of the 30 DNA samples hybridised to the 4.4 kb probe, there were no qualitative differences in the fragment profiles between the control and cryopreserved groups.

Discussion

Previous studies have shown that the cryopreservation of *S. tuberosum* cv. Desiree is refractory and its recovery variable, whereas shoot-tips of cv. Golden Wonder are readily cryopreserved (Benson et al., 1989). In this paper, an alternative to cryopreservation was used for the *in vitro* storage of Desiree. Figure 3 shows the fragments detected in DNA samples derived from slow grown Desiree plants. Fragment profiles were identical in all samples except the 2.55 kb fragment was missing in samples 65 and 145. The 2.55 kb fragment detected by the probe corresponds to the rDNA coding region (Harding, 1991). Cytosine methylation occurs

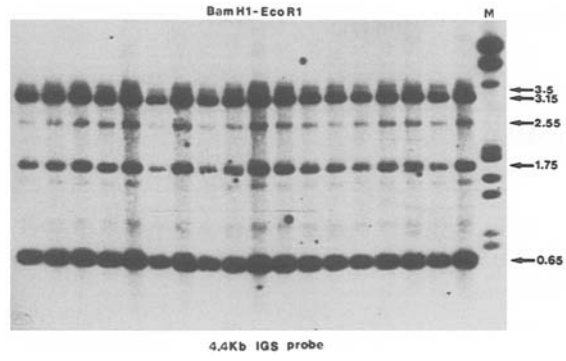

Fig. 4. Autoradiograph of Southern blots of DNA samples extracted from control Golden Wonder plants. Samples were digested with Bam HI and Eco RI, and hybridised to the 4.4 kb IGS probe. (M is a lambda Eco RI/Hind III marker).

in the rDNA of wheat (Flavell et al., 1983), methylated DNA sequences that contain the target sites for certain restriction enzymes prevent digestion (McClelland, 1983), and may account for the RFLPs in the rDNA of the slow grown plants. Preferential methylation of DNA sequences may be a mechanism, that is used to control gene ex-

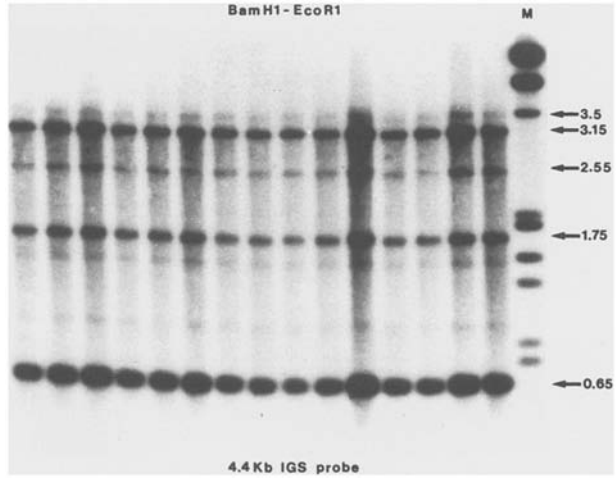

Fig. 5. Autoradiograph of Southern blots of DNA samples extracted from individual Golden Wonder plants derived from cryopreservation. The DNA samples were digested with Bam HI and Eco RI, and hybridised to the 4.4 kb IGS probe. (M is a lambda Eco RI/Hind III marker).

On the cover of issue 55 no. 2 June I 1991 the title of the article by Van der Valk et al. is not complete. It should read:

Van der Valk, P., C. Kik, F. Verstappen, J.T. Everink and J.N. de Vries: Independent segregation of two isozyme markers and inter-plant differences in nuclear DNA content in the interspecific backcross (*Allium fistulosum* L. × *A. cepa* L.) × *A. cepa* L.

The publishers extend their apologies for any inconvenience to the authors and readers of both articles.