

Expression of a ribosome-inactivating protein gene in bitter melon is induced by *Sphaerotheca fuliginea* and abiotic stimuli

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In the original paper, we claimed to have cultivated *Sphaerotheca fuliginea* on laboratory medium. This was in error as this fungus cannot be grown on such media. The organism concerned for this aspect of the work was *Fusarium solani*. In all other aspects of the work, the fungus as named was used.

Accordingly, in the Abstract, the third sentence should read:

“The ribosome-inactivating protein was expressed in *E. coli* and, when purified, it inhibited the growth of *Fusarium solani*.”

In the Methods and materials section (p. 1607), ‘Antifungal assay’, this should now read:

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“*Fusarium solani* was inoculated on the center of ...”

In the Results section (p. 1607, left hand column, line 37), this should now read:

“The antifungal activity of the purified recombinant RIP was tested by determining its inhibitory effect on the hyphal extension of *Fusarium solani* (Fig. 2).”

Accordingly, the legend to Figure 2 should now read:

“Inhibition assay of hyphal extension of *Fusarium solani* growing on potato dextrose agar medium by purified recombinant RIP. *Fusarium solani* was inoculated on the center of a potato/dextrose/agar plate.”

In the Discussion, the third sentence (p. 1609, left hand column, lines 19–22) should read:

“The purified recombinant RIP was found inhibiting the growth of *Fusarium solani* in vitro. In the present investigation, a RIP gene was cloned from plant leaves and expressed in *E. coli* and its antifungal activity against *Fusarium solani* pathogen was determined.”

We apologise for giving potentially misleading information which was caused by a simple laboratory error in labelling respective fungal cultures.