

1 **Interplays between nitric oxide and reactive oxygen species in cryptogein signaling**

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20 Running Head: NO and ROS cross-talk in cryptogein signaling

21 **ABSTRACT**

22

23           The cellular messenger nitric oxide (NO) has many functions in plants. In this study, we  
24 investigated its interplays with Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) in the defense responses triggered by  
25 the elicitor cryptogein produced by the oomycete *Phytophthora cryptogea*. The production of NO  
26 induced by cryptogein in tobacco cell suspensions was partly regulated through a ROS-dependent  
27 pathway involving the NADPH oxidase NtRBOHD. In turn, NO down-regulated the level of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
28 derived from NtRBOHD activity. Both NO and ROS synthesis appeared to be under the control of two  
29 redundant isoforms of histone deacetylases of type 2 acting as negative regulators of cell death.  
30 Occurrence of an interplay between NO and ROS was further supported by the finding that  
31 cryptogein triggered a fast production of peroxynitrite (ONOO<sup>-</sup>) resulting from the coupling reaction  
32 of superoxide (O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>) with NO. We provided evidence that ROS, but not NO, negatively regulate the  
33 intensity of activity of the protein kinase NtOSAK, a member of the SnRK2 protein kinase family.  
34 Furthermore, using a micro-array approach, we next identified fifteen genes early induced by  
35 cryptogein *via* NO. Interestingly, only a part of these genes was also modulated by ROS derived from  
36 NtRBOHD activity and encoded proteins showing sequence identity to ubiquitin ligases. Expression of  
37 those genes appeared to be negatively regulated by ONOO<sup>-</sup>, suggesting that ONOO<sup>-</sup> mitigate the  
38 effects of NO and ROS in cell response to cryptogein. Finally, we provided evidence that NO required  
39 NtRBOHD activity for inducing cell death, thus confirming previous assumption that ROS channel NO  
40 through cell death pathways.

41

42 **Keywords:** cell death, cryptogein, defense responses, histone deacetylase, NADPH oxidase, nitric  
43 oxide, peroxynitrite, reactive oxygen species, signaling

## 44 INTRODUCTION

45

46 Nitric oxide (NO) is an endogenously produced ubiquitous free radical gas which plays key  
47 roles in various physiological processes in plants such as germination, root development, stomatal  
48 closure, flowering, hormone signaling or iron homeostasis (Besson-Bard et al. 2008a). Also, it has  
49 emerged as a molecule of interest in plant pathology (Bellin et al. 2013). Indeed, NO is rapidly  
50 produced in plant cells facing pathogen attack or elicited by MAMPs (Microbe-Associated Molecular  
51 Patterns) or DAMPs (Danger-Associated Molecular Patterns; Jeandroz et al. 2013). Its production  
52 involves nitrate reductase (Yamamoto-Katou et al. 2006; Perchepped et al. 2010; Rasul et al. 2012)  
53 and, according to several studies, a still unidentified enzyme displaying functional similarities with  
54 nitric oxide synthase (NOS), the main enzymatic source for NO in animals (Asai & Yoshioka, 2009;  
55 Corpas et al. 2009). Mounting evidences indicate that NO serves as a key messenger in plant defense.  
56 Supporting this statement, interplays between NO and major components of plant immune signaling  
57 pathways such as the second messengers  $Ca^{2+}$ , cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP, MAP (Mitogen Activated  
58 Protein) kinases, signaling lipids and the hormones salicylic acid, jasmonic acid or ethylene have been  
59 widely reported (Mur et al. 2008; Gaupels et al. 2011a; Yoshioka et al. 2011; Mandal et al. 2012; Yun  
60 et al. 2012). Through its signaling activity, NO seems to play a part in various stages of plant defense.  
61 It indeed contributes to early defense responses as well as to ultimate events including the  
62 hypersensitive response (HR) and systemic acquired resistance (SAR; Song & Goodman, 2001;  
63 Delledonne et al. 2003; Piterková et al. 2009). Although a role for NO in controlling disease resistance  
64 has been established in several pathosystems (Delledonne et al. 1998; Asai et al. 2009; Perchepped et  
65 al. 2010; Rasul et al. 2012), subtle processes underlying its functions remain poorly understood.  
66 Identification and functional analysis of NO-responsive genes provided significant progresses in  
67 understanding its role at a molecular level (Zago et al. 2006; Palmieri et al. 2008; Besson-Bard et al.  
68 2009). Notably, these studies confirm the first hints (Delledonne et al. 1998; Durner et al. 1998) that  
69 NO regulates the expression of defense genes such as those encoding proteins related to secondary  
70 metabolism or pathogenesis-related proteins. Recently, these analysis were completed by the  
71 characterization of proteins regulated through NO-dependent processes at the post-translational  
72 level by S-nitrosylation and tyrosine nitration (Romero-Puertas et al. 2007; Lindermay & Durner,  
73 2009; Vandelle & Delledonne, 2011; Astier et al. 2012a; Skelly & Loake, 2013). Of importance, several  
74 of them have important known implications in plant defense such as NPR1 (Nonexpresser of  
75 Pathogenesis-Related gene 1) and the NADPH oxidase AtRBOHD (Tada et al. 2008; Lindermayr et al.  
76 2010; Yun et al. 2011), thus providing a new view of how NO impacts plant defense responses.

77 Several lines of research highlighted the existence of cross-talks operating between NO and  
78 reactive oxygen species (ROS) including superoxide ( $O_2^{\bullet-}$ ) and hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ) which

79 production result mainly from the activity of NADPH oxidases and superoxide dismutases (SOD),  
80 respectively (Mittler et al. 2011). Basically, these species share several similarities,  
81 complementarities, but also show contrasting or independent effects. First, their productions occur  
82 simultaneously and constitute one of the earliest plant immune responses (Foissner et al. 2000;  
83 Delledonne et al. 2001). Second, both species display signaling functions and, for instance, were  
84 shown to regulate unique as well as common set of genes (Zago et al. 2006). Third, unregulated  
85 synthesis of these species has been implicated as causal or contributing to improper defense  
86 responses (see for instance Takahashi et al. 1997; Chamnongpol et al. 1998; Asai & Yoshioka, 2009;  
87 Rasul et al. 2012). Fourth, ROS and NO, as well as other reactive nitrogen species (RNS), have distinct  
88 reactivities and also abilities to freely cross membranes, depending on their chemical nature  
89 (Hughes, 2008; Ferrer-Sueta & Radi, 2009). Of particular importance here, NO is a relatively stable  
90 radical but reacts with dioxygen and other radicals (Hughes, 2008). Notably, NO reacts with  $O_2^{\bullet-}$  to  
91 form peroxynitrite ( $ONOO^-$ ), a highly reactive oxidant produced in plant cells undergoing immune  
92 responses (Vandelle & Delledonne, 2011). The importance of the interplays between NO and ROS in  
93 plant defense has been the subject of particular investigations. Clearly, there is still confusion in  
94 understanding their interconnection and reciprocal influences. Indeed, in terms of production NO has  
95 been shown to favor or to suppress NADPH oxidase activity (Yun et al. 2011; Rasul et al. 2012) and  
96 evidences that ROS also control NO synthesis have been reported (Srivastava et al. 2009).  
97 Furthermore, both NO and ROS derived from NADPH oxidase activity were shown to account for HR.  
98 However, two distinct processes were proposed. In the first  $H_2O_2$ , but not  $O_2^{\bullet-}$ , was the key ROS  
99 effector of HR and played a central role in channeling NO through the cell death pathway  
100 (Delledonne et al. 2001; Zago et al. 2006). According to the authors of these studies,  $ONOO^-$  was not  
101 a mediator of HR. In contrast and according to the situation encountered in animals, in the second  
102 process  $ONOO^-$  emerged as an essential intermediate of cell death not only during HR but also other  
103 physiological processes such as self-incompatible pollination (Alamillo & García-Olmedo, 2001;  
104 Serrano et al. 2012). Contrasting roles for NO and ROS in disease resistance have also been  
105 highlighted. In particular, Asai and Yoshioka (2009) demonstrated that NO and ROS had opposite  
106 effects in *Nicotiana benthamiana* plants infected by *Botrytis cinerea*, NO positively and ROS  
107 negatively regulating the basal resistance against the necrotrophic fungal pathogen.

108 Cryptogein is a 10 kDa elicitor produced by the oomycete *Phytophthora cryptogea*. Purified  
109 cryptogein causes defense responses in tobacco including HR and SAR against the black shank-  
110 causing agent *Phytophthora parasitica* var *nicotianae* as well as against other microbial pathogens  
111 (Bonnet et al. 1996). We and other research groups previously reported that cryptogein triggers NO  
112 production in leaf epidermal tobacco cells and/or in tobacco cell suspensions. The production of NO  
113 was assessed using different methods including 4,5 diamino-fluorescein (DAF)-based fluorescence

114 (Foissner et al. 2000; Lamotte et al. 2004; Besson-Bard et al. 2008b), electrochemistry (Besson-Bard  
115 et al. 2008b) and an oxidizer column NO detector relying on the ability of  $\text{CrO}_3$  to oxidize NO to  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  
116  $\text{NO}_2$  being subsequently captured by a Griess reagent trap (Vitecek et al. 2008). All these approaches  
117 gave consistent results: NO is produced at the intracellular level within few minutes and diffuses in  
118 the extracellular medium and in the gas phase of tobacco cell suspensions elicited by cryptogein. The  
119 enzymatic source for NO has not been identified but was shown to be sensitive to mammalian NOS  
120 inhibitors (Foissner et al. 2000; Lamotte et al. 2004; Besson-Bard et al. 2008b). Interestingly, the  
121 elicitor-induced NO production occurred simultaneously to those of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$  resulting from the  
122 activity of the plasma membrane NADPH oxidase NtRBOHD (Foissner et al. 2000; Simon-Plas et al.  
123 2002; Lherminier et al. 2009).

124 Overall, the function of NO in cryptogein signaling is poorly understood but several  
125 arguments seem to support a signaling role. Indeed, it has been reported that NO acts as a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -  
126 mobilizing compound contributing to the increase in cytosolic free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration mediated by  
127 the elicitor (Lamotte et al. 2004). Supporting an involvement of NO in  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  signaling, we recently  
128 showed that cryptogein induces the S-nitrosylation of a calmodulin (CaM) tobacco isoform (Astier et  
129 al. 2012b; Jeandroz et al. 2013). Besides CaM, other proteins undergoing a fast S-nitrosylation upon  
130 cryptogein treatment of tobacco cells were identified. These NO target proteins include NtCDC 48  
131 (cell division cycle), a member of the AAA+ ATPase (ATPase associated with various cellular activities)  
132 family displaying a chaperone-like activity (Astier et al. 2012b). In animals, CDC48 (named VCP/p97)  
133 governs important signaling pathways and, among other functions, helps to deliver protein  
134 substrates to the proteasome in quality control pathways (Meyer et al. 2012). A role for NO as an  
135 intermediate of cryptogein-triggered cell death has also been proposed as its scavenging reduced the  
136 rate of cell death conferred by the elicitor in tobacco cell suspensions (Lamotte et al. 2004). The  
137 function of NO in this process has not been elucidated. More generally, our understanding of the  
138 mechanisms underlying cryptogein-induced cell death is still faint. Recently, Bourque et al. (2011)  
139 demonstrated that NtHD2a and NtHD2b, two redundant isoforms of HDAC (histone deacetylase) of  
140 type II, negatively regulate cryptogein-triggered cell death. Impairment of their expression resulted in  
141 exacerbated cell death in cell suspension and in the formation of HR-like symptoms in distal leaves.  
142 The precise functions of NtHD2a/b in the regulation of cell death, as well as their functional link with  
143 NO, are still enigmatic.

144 The possibility that NO interacts with ROS in cryptogein signaling has been previously  
145 suggested (Foissner et al. 2000) but not investigated in details. More generally, the interactions  
146 between these species have rarely been assessed in a physiological context and, in most of the  
147 studies, rely on the use of NO and/or ROS exogenously applied. In the present study, we analyzed the  
148 interplays between NO and ROS derived from NtRBOHD in cryptogein signaling in tobacco cell

149 suspensions. Using a combination of pharmacological- and genetic-based approaches, we  
150 demonstrated that ROS partly control the production of NO while NO regulates H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> levels. Further  
151 supporting a functional link between NO and ROS, a fast ONOO<sup>-</sup> synthesis was detected in elicited-  
152 tobacco cells. Furthermore, a transcriptomic analysis led to the identification of cryptogein-induced  
153 early genes commonly up-regulated by both NO and ROS but down-regulated by ONOO<sup>-</sup>. Finally, we  
154 provided evidence that NtrBOHD impairment compromises NO involvement in cell death, thus  
155 further supporting initial statements that H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> might channel NO through the cell death pathway  
156 (Delledonne et al. 2001; Zago et al. 2006). Taken together, our results provided physiological  
157 evidences that NO and ROS derived from NtrBOHD act together in mediating cryptogein signaling.  
158

159 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

160

161 **Cell cultures and treatments**

162 *Nicotiana tabacum* L. cv *Xanthi* were cultivated as previously described (Bourque et al. 2011).  
163 Briefly, cells were grown at 25°C on a rotary shaker (150 rpm) and under continuous light (photon  
164 flux rate 30-40  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) in Chandler's medium (Chandler et al. 1972). Cells were sub-cultured  
165 every seven days. Same culture conditions were applied for the distinct cell lines.

166 For elicitor treatments, seven days-old cells were gently filtrated, washed and re-suspended in H10  
167 buffer (175 mM mannitol, 0.5 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , 0.5 mM  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ , 10 mM HEPES, pH 6.0) at a final  
168 concentration of 0.1 g/10 mL. Before treatments, cells were equilibrated at 25°C and 150 rpm in the  
169 same buffer for 2 or 3 h, depending on the experiments. With the exceptions of fluorescence  
170 measurement in which cells were kept in the dark, equilibration were performed under light  
171 condition.

172 Cryptogein was purified according to Bourque et al. (2011) and dissolved in water. The NO scavenger  
173 cPTIO ((4-carboxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethylimidazoline-1-oxyl-3-oxide) was prepared in water and  
174 diphenyl iodonium (DPI) in DMSO. DPI and cPTIO were added to the cell suspensions 5 and 10 min  
175 before cryptogein, respectively. Control cells were treated with an equal volume of DMSO or water,  
176 respectively.

177 The NO donor diethylamine NONOate (DEA/NO) was prepared as previously described (Besson-Bard  
178 et al. 2008b). Briefly, a 0.01 M stock solution was prepared daily in NaOH and stored on ice. To  
179 initiate the release of NO, an aliquot of the stock solution was dissolved in 100 mM phosphate buffer,  
180 pH 7.2, at a final concentration of 2 mM. Few second after its dilution in the phosphate buffer,  
181 DEA/NO was applied to the cell suspensions to give a 200  $\mu\text{M}$  final concentration. As a control, cells  
182 were treated with an equivalent concentration of diethylamine (DEA) prepared as described for  
183 DEA/NO.

184

185 **Chemicals**

186 All basic salts and chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Saint-Louis, USA) unless stated. The  
187 CuFL probe was from Strem Chemicals, Inc. (Bischheim, France). cPTIO and DEA/NO were from Alexis  
188 Biochemicals (San Diego, USA). Murashige & Skoog medium incl. Nitsch vitamins were from Duchefa  
189 Biochemie (Haarlem, The Netherlands). Complete Protease Inhibitors Cocktail was from Roche.  $\gamma$ -  
190 [ $^{32}\text{P}$ ] ATP was from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech AB.

191

192 **NO production measurements**

193 The detection of NO using 4,5-diaminofluorescein diacetate (DAF-2DA) was performed  
194 according to Lamotte et al. (2004). Filtrated and re-suspended cells were incubated for 1 h with 20  
195  $\mu\text{M}$  DAF-2DA. To remove excess of the probe, cells were washed three times with fresh H10 buffer  
196 and transferred into 24-well plates (1 mL/well, Costar, Corning Incorporated, Corning, NY, USA). After  
197 30 min of incubation, cells were treated with cryptogein, cPTIO, DEA/NO, DPI or DMSO as detailed  
198 above. NO production was measured with a spectrofluorometer (Mithras, Berthold Technologies,  
199 Germany) using 485 nm excitation and 510 nm emission filters. Fluorescence was expressed as  
200 relative fluorescence units.

201 For NO detection with the CuFL probe, filtrated and equilibrated cells were transferred into 24-well  
202 plates (1 mL/well). Then, cells were pre-treated or not with cPTIO and exposed 40 min to cryptogein.  
203 Five minutes before ending cryptogein treatment, CuFL dissolved in DMSO was added to the cell  
204 suspensions with a final concentration of 5  $\mu\text{M}$ . The fluorescence was measured by  
205 spectrofluorometry as described for DAF-based fluorescence.

206

#### 207 **H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production**

208 ROS production was determined by chemiluminescence as previously described (Pugin et al.  
209 1997; Simon-Plas et al. 1997). After application of the treatments, triple aliquots of 250  $\mu\text{L}$  cell  
210 suspensions were collected and transferred into vials. Then, cells were automatically supplemented  
211 with 300  $\mu\text{L}$  of H50 buffer pH 6.5 (175 mM mannitol, 0.5 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , 0.5 mM  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ , HEPES 50 mM)  
212 containing luminol at a final concentration of 13  $\mu\text{M}$ . Chemiluminescence was measured using a  
213 luminometer (Lumat LB9507, Berthold, Bad Wildbad, Germany). The concentration of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  was  
214 calculated as previously described (Pugin et al. 1997; Simon-Plas et al. 1997) and expressed in  
215 nanomoles of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  per gram of cells fresh weight.

216

#### 217 **Peroxynitrite production and cellular localization**

218 The production of  $\text{ONOO}^-$  was measured as followed: equilibrated tobacco cell suspensions  
219 kept in the dark were loaded with 5  $\mu\text{M}$  aminophenyl fluorescein (APF) for one hour. After removing  
220 excess of the probe, cells were transferred into 24-well plates (1 mL per well) and incubated for 30  
221 min before applying cryptogein or the  $\text{ONOO}^-$  donor SIN-1 (3-morpholinosydnonimine  
222 hydrochloride) prepared in a 0.1 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.2.

223 Urate was used as a peroxynitrite scavenger. Urate was dissolved in 1 M NaOH and applied to cells at  
224 a final concentration of 1 mM. As controls, cells were supplemented with NaOH at a final  
225 concentration of 3.3 mM. A H50 buffer was used to stabilize the pH at 6.0. Fluorescence was  
226 measured as described previously for NO detection.

227 In order to determine the cellular localization of ONOO<sup>-</sup>, seven days-old cells were  
228 equilibrated for 2 h in 25°C in the dark under continuous shaking at 150 rpm. Then, cells were treated  
229 with 100 nM cryptogein for 0, 20 or 40 min and stained with 15 µM APF for last 5 min of treatment.  
230 After three washes with H10 buffer, cells were immediately observed using a confocal laser scanning  
231 microscope (Leica TCS 4D; SP2; Leica Microsystems, Heidelberg, Germany) under the 40x NA1 oil  
232 immersion objective (HC PL APO CS 40x 0.75-1.25). The light source was a Ar-ArKr (488nm) beam  
233 laser and emission of APF fluorescence was pass-filtered between 510-545 nm. Chloroplast  
234 autofluorescence was pass-filtered between 665-705 nm. The unspecific background was removed  
235 with the median filter of Volocity® 6.1.1 software (PerkinElmer, USA).

236

### 237 **Analysis of protein kinase activities**

238 Tobacco cells were grounded in liquid nitrogen and 2 mL powder samples were supplemented with  
239 250 µL of protein extraction buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5; 2 mM EDTA; 2 mM EGTA; 50 mM -  
240 glycerophosphate; 250 mM sucrose; 10 mM Na<sub>3</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>; 10 mM DTT, 1 mM PMSF; 1x Complete Protease  
241 Inhibitors Cocktail) or immunoprecipitation buffer (protein extraction buffer supplemented with 1%  
242 Triton X-100 and 150 mM NaCl). The extracts were centrifuged at 14 000 rpm for 30 min at 4°C and  
243 supernatants were used for further analysis. The protein concentration was measured using the  
244 Protein Assay System described by Bradford (1976) using BSA as the reference for protein  
245 concentration.

246 NtOSAK Immunoprecipitation assays: Immunoprecipitation was performed as described previously  
247 (Kulik et al., 2012) with some minor modifications. Briefly, protein A-agarose beads (15 µL per  
248 sample) were washed three times with immunoprecipitation buffer and incubated for 4 hours with  
249 antibodies against the C-terminal domain of NtOSAK (24 µg) at 4°C with gentle shaking. After  
250 incubation, agarose beads were pelleted by brief centrifugation and washed three times with 1 mL of  
251 immunoprecipitation buffer. Protein A-agarose portions with bounded antibodies were added to the  
252 protein extracts (200 µg per sample) and incubated for 4 hours at 4°C with gentle shaking. Then,  
253 agarose beads-protein complexes were pelleted by brief centrifugation, washed three times with 1  
254 mL of immunoprecipitation buffer, two times with 1 mL of 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5 buffer and  
255 resuspended in 15 µL of the last buffer. Samples were supplemented with 3x concentrated Laemmli  
256 sample buffer (Laemmli, 1970), heated at 95°C for 3 min with vigorous shaking and pelleted by brief  
257 centrifugation. The supernatant was analyzed by means of in-gel kinase activity assay  
258 (immunocomplex kinase activity assay) using MBP as a substrate.

259 In-gel kinase and Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent and Ca<sup>2+</sup>-independent kinase activity assays were performed  
260 according to Zhang and Klessig (1997) and Szczegieliak et al. (2012). MAPK kinases phosphorylation

261 state was analyzed by the use of commercial Phospho-p44/42 MAPK (Erk1/2) (Thr202/Tyr204)  
262 Antibody (Cell Signalling Technology) according to procedure recommended by the manufacturer.

263

### 264 **Cell death**

265 Cell death was analyzed as previously described (Gauthier et al. 2007) with some  
266 modifications. Briefly, seven days-old cells were sub-cultured and incubated for 24 h in Chandler's  
267 medium (Chandler et al. 1972). Then, cell suspensions pre-treated or not with cPTIO were exposed to  
268 100 nM cryptogein. A 0.01% final concentration of neutral red was used as a vital dye accumulating  
269 in the acidic vacuole. Cells were observed under the light microscope and considered as dead if not  
270 accumulating neutral red. The experiment was repeated three times with five hundred cells counted  
271 for each assay.

272

### 273 **Microarray analysis**

274 The transcriptomic analysis was performed on wild type tobacco cells. For this purpose, cells  
275 pre-incubated or not with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO were treated with 100 nM cryptogein for 30 min. Samples  
276 were collected from three independent batches and three independent experiments were  
277 performed. Filtrated cells were immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen, then RNA were extracted with  
278 RNeasy Plant Mini Kit (Qiagen, Courtabeuf, France) and purity and concentrations estimated using  
279 Nanodrop1000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, USA) and Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent  
280 Technologies, Santa Clara, USA). RNA samples were hybridized on a 4x44K slides Tobacco Gene  
281 Expression Microarray, manufactured by Agilent Technologies (Santa Clara, USA), content sourced  
282 from TIGR Release 3, Unigene Build 11, TIGR PlantTA Release 5. The microarray slides contained  
283 43 804 different tobacco test sequences and 1417 control sequences. Samples single color labeling  
284 (Low Input Quick Amp Labelling Kit, one color), hybridization (Microarray hybridization oven, Agilent)  
285 scanning (High resolution Microarray scanner G2505C, Agilent) and data extraction (Feature  
286 Extraction V10 software) were done by the Biopuce GenoToul Plateform  
287 (<https://genomique.genotoul.fr/>). The quintile normalization was done with GeneSpring. Ink 12.0  
288 software (Agilent). To investigate the homogeneity between biological replicates, hierarchical  
289 clustering and principal component analysis were performed using the R Gui open-source software  
290 (R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing. R Core Team. R Foundation for Statistical  
291 Computing. Vienna, Austria. 2013. <http://www.R-project.org>). Differential expression between  
292 groups was assessed thanks to moderated paired t-test implemented in Limma package of  
293 Bioconductor (Smyth, 2004): genes were selected by Fold Change > 4 and False Discovery Rate (FDR)  
294 adjusted p-values < 0.01 taking into account multiple testing using Benjamini and Hochberg (1995)  
295 correction. Annotation implementation was performed for the best matched *Nicotiana tabacum* SGN

296 mRNA ESTs homologous to microarray sequences after translation to protein sequences. Functional  
297 analysis of genes with annotations to *Arabidopsis thaliana* was done with MapMan 3.5.1R2 free  
298 software (Max Planck Institute, Munich, Germany).

299

### 300 **qRT-PCR analyses**

301 RNAs were extracted from liquid nitrogen-preserved cells using Trizol reagent according to  
302 the manufacturer's instructions (Invitrogen, Paisley, UK). Genomic DNA contamination was removed  
303 by treatment with DNase 1. The reverse transcription was performed on 500 ng of pure RNA samples  
304 using the ImpromlITM Reverse Transcriptase kit (Promega) with anchored oligo (dT15) (Promega)  
305 and 0.4 mM deoxynucleotide triphosphates. The resulting cDNAs were diluted ten times with water  
306 and 1 µl of each cDNA sample was assayed by qPCR in a Abi Prism 7900HT Sequence Detection  
307 System (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, USA) using cGoTaq® qPCR Master Mix (Promega).  
308 Expression levels were calculated relatively to the housekeeping genes *Ntubc2*, *L25* and *EF-1α*  
309 (Schmidt & Delaney, 2010) using the relative standard curve method. For each sample, target  
310 quantity of the gene of interest was determined by interpolating the value from the standard curve  
311 made from a cDNA pool which enables to take into consideration the efficiency of amplification. The  
312 value was then divided by the target quantity of the housekeeping gene.

313 To design primers for verifying the expression of the sequences used on microarray chips, the  
314 homolog ESTs were found on the <http://solgenomics.net/> webpage by the search for *Nicotiana*  
315 *tabacum* SGN mRNA. All obtained sequences were aligned and contigs of sequences were prepared  
316 with Vector NTI Advance 11 (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, USA). Primers were designed as suitable to  
317 detect every sequence.

318 Primer sequences were as follows: *Ntubc2*-fw: 5'-CTGGACAGCAGACTGACATC -3'; *Ntubc2*-rev: 5'-  
319 CAGGATAATTTGCTGTAACAGATTA-3'; *L25*-fw: 5'-CCCCTACCCACAGAGTCTGC-3'; *L25*-rev: 5'-  
320 AAGGGTGTGTTGTCTCAATCTT-3'; *EF-1α*-fw: 5'-TGAGATGCACCACGAAGCTC-3'; *EF-1α*-rev: 5'-  
321 CCAACATTGTCACCAGGAAGTG-3';  
322 *A\_95\_P128872*-fw: 5'-CTCAGTGC GTTAACGGAACAAGTTCAACAAG-3'; *A\_95\_P128872*-rev: 5'-  
323 CCAGATTCAATACAAACAAGATGATCCACATGTC-3'; *A\_95\_P138477*-fw: 5'-  
324 CGGATTCCGACGCCGAAACAAC-3'; *A\_95\_P138477*-rev: 5'- CATTGTTCCGCCGAAATTACGGATCGATTC-3';  
325 *A\_95\_P121687*-fw: 5'- CAGAAATGGACGGCGGGTTTAAACAATG-3'; *A\_95\_P121687*-rev: 5'-  
326 CGAATGTATTTGAGCGCTCTCCGC-3'; *A\_95\_P139122*-fw: 5'-  
327 GTATACAGAAATGGACGGCGGGTTTAAACAATG-3'; *A\_95\_P139122*-rev: 5'-  
328 CGCCGTTGAGAAGAAGGCGATAATCTTC-3'; *A\_95\_P082790*-fw: 5'- AACTGGGTCTGAGTATTGATTG-3';  
329 *A\_95\_P082790*-rev: 5'- CCCTGTACATAATACCACCCTAA-3'; *NtrbohD*-fw: 5'-

330 CCAAAGATTGGTACAAGAGAACGACATGG-3'; NtrbohD-rev: 5'-  
331 CAGTTTTAAGTTGTCTGGTCCAATCACCAAG-3'.

332

333 **Statistical analysis**

334 Significant differences between treatments were analyzed with Sigma Plot for Windows  
335 Version 11.0 (Systat Software Inc., Chicago, USA) by ANOVA test followed by stepwise multiple  
336 comparison procedure the Student-Neuman-Keuls (SNK) method ( $P < 0.05$ ).

337

338 **RESULTS**

339

340 **Nitric Oxide and ROS production: analysis of mutual regulation**

341

342 NO production in tobacco cells exposed to cryptogein was monitored using the NO-sensitive  
343 fluorophore DAF-2DA as well as with the CuFL fluorescent probe. The DAF-2DA method is indirect  
344 and based on the measurement of RNS derived from NO autoxidation that nitrosate DAF-2 to yield to  
345 the fluorescent DAF-2 triazole (DAF-2T; Jourdeuil, 2002). The CuFL dye consists in a fluorescein-  
346 based ligand (FL) complexed with Cu(II). NO induces the reduction of Cu(II) to Cu(I), forming NO<sup>+</sup>,  
347 which in turn nitrosates the ligand, thus giving the fluorescent FL-NO compound. CuFL allows the  
348 direct detection of NO with nanomolar sensitivity (Lim et al. 2006) and has been successfully used for  
349 NO detection in plants (Horchani et al. 2011; Rasul et al. 2012).

350 As we previously reported (Lamotte et al. 2004; Besson-Bard et al. 2008b), cryptogein triggered an  
351 increase in DAF-2T fluorescence which occurred within 10 min of treatment and was maintained for  
352 at least 80 min (Fig. 1A). The cryptogein-induced rise in fluorescence was almost completely  
353 suppressed by the membrane-permeable NO scavenger cPTIO. Although we cannot exclude the  
354 possibility that cPTIO might exert unspecific effects, its ability to act as a powerful NO scavenger has  
355 been widely reported (Foissner et al., 2000). Similarly, cryptogein treatment led to a significant  
356 increase of CuFL fluorescence (Supporting Information Fig. S1A). Here too, this process was deeply  
357 reduced by cPTIO. The effect of cPTIO, as well as the consistent results provided by the DAF-2DA and  
358 CuFL methods, further confirmed the ability of cryptogein to induce NO synthesis in tobacco cells.

359 To investigate the potential interplays between NO and ROS, in a first series of experiments  
360 NO synthesis was examined in gp15 cell suspensions. The gp15 cells are transformed with antisense  
361 constructs of the NADPH oxidase NtrBOHD, the major enzymatic source for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in cryptogein  
362 signaling (Simon-Plas et al. 2002). As shown in Fig. 1B, cryptogein mediated a fast and transient H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
363 production in wild-type (wt) tobacco cells which, as expected, was not observed in gp15 cells. Of  
364 interest, both H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and NO production occurred within few minutes (Fig. 1A and 1B). When NO  
365 production was assessed in gp15 cell suspensions, compared to wt cells a reduction of nearly 40%  
366 was observed, whatever the dye used for NO detection (Fig. 1C and Supporting Information S1B).  
367 This reduction was not due to a lower permeability of gp15 cells to the probe (Fig. S2A). This data  
368 suggested that ROS derived from NtrBOHD activity could partly control NO production. To further  
369 support this assumption, the effect of the commonly used NADPH oxidase inhibitor  
370 diphenyliodonium (DPI) was also tested. DPI is a general inhibitor of flavine oxidoreductases  
371 previously shown to inhibit plant NADPH oxidases (Pugin *et al.*, 1997). DPI, which severely blocked  
372 the cryptogein-induced H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> synthesis (Supporting Information Fig. S3), suppressed NO synthesis by

373 40%. Although DPI might affect flavine oxidoreductases distinct than NtrBOHD, both the genetic and  
374 pharmacological impairment of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production partly and similarly impacted the elicitor-triggered  
375 NO production.

376 To better assess the cross-talk operating between NO and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the incidence of NO on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
377 synthesis was also analyzed. For this purpose, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production was measured in tobacco cells  
378 exposed to cryptogein in the presence of the NO scavenger cPTIO. Scavenging of NO significantly  
379 increased the level of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> by a 1.5 fold (Fig. 2), suggesting that NO influenced the rate of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in  
380 tobacco cells facing cryptogein treatment. Besides reinforcing the assumption that NO and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> are  
381 closely linked, this result also indicated that cPTIO did not scavenge H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> as previously reported  
382 (Foissner et al. 2000).

383 To complete this work, the interplay between NO and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was also studied in CL5 cell  
384 suspensions. This stable silenced cell line is impaired in the expression of NtHD2a and NtHD2b, two  
385 redundant isoforms of HDAC acting as negative regulators of cryptogein-induced cell death (Bourque  
386 et al. 2011). Interestingly, compared to control cells, following cryptogein treatment the CL5 cells  
387 displayed a low production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> picking at 20 min (Fig. 3A). The cryptogein-induced NO synthesis  
388 was also significantly affected in the CL5 cell line, 50% to 60% of inhibition being observed depending  
389 on the method used to assess NO production (Supporting Information Fig. S1C and Fig. 3B,  
390 respectively). Here too, we checked that this reduction was not caused by a lower permeability of  
391 CL5 cells to the probe (Supporting Information Fig. S2B). Because ROS derived from NtrBOHD  
392 appeared to partly control NO production (Fig. 1), the lower NO synthesis measured in CL5 cells was  
393 expected. To further explore the functional relationship between NO and ROS, we also examined the  
394 level of NtrBOHD transcript in CL5 cells. We found that the accumulation of the corresponding mRNA  
395 was not statistically different between control and CL5 lines (data not shown), ruling out the  
396 hypothesis that the low H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production observed in the CL5 line could be related to an impaired  
397 expression of *NtrBOHD*.

398 Collectively, data from these experiments highlight the occurrence of a functional link  
399 between NO and NtrBOHD-derived ROS in tobacco cells elicited by cryptogein. NO production  
400 appears to be partly dependent on ROS and NO impacts the level of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

401

#### 402 **Cryptogein induces a production of peroxynitrite**

403

404 We next investigated whether cryptogein could induce a production of ONOO<sup>-</sup>. The  
405 generation of ONOO<sup>-</sup> results from the coupling reaction of O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> with NO in its radical form (NO<sup>•</sup>;  
406 Ferrer-Sueta & Radi, 2009). Supporting this initiative, as showed above the productions of NO and  
407 ROS derived from NtrBOHD activity occur simultaneously. For this purpose, we used the fluorescent

408 probe aminophenyl fluorescein (APF). APF reacts preferentially with  $\text{ONOO}^-$  and was successfully  
409 used to detect this reactive species in plants (Saito et al. 2006; Gaupels et al. 2011b; Begara-Morales  
410 et al. 2013). However, it also shows reactions with hypochlorite ( $\text{OCl}^-$ ) and hydroxyl radical ( $\text{OH}^\bullet$ ;  
411 Setsukinai et al. 2003). To check the efficiency of this probe as an  $\text{ONOO}^-$  indicator, APF-loaded  
412 tobacco cells were first treated with the  $\text{ONOO}^-$  donor SIN-1 (Fig. 4A). A significant increase of APF  
413 fluorescence reaching a plateau after 2 hours was detected in SIN-1-treated cells. To further confirm  
414 that the observed increase in APF fluorescence was caused by  $\text{ONOO}^-$ , a similar experiment was  
415 performed in presence of the  $\text{ONOO}^-$  scavenger urate as previously reported (Gaupels et al. 2011b).  
416 Urate strongly suppressed SIN-1-induced rise of fluorescence, providing evidence that APF is a  
417 reliable tool to investigate  $\text{ONOO}^-$  generation in tobacco cell suspensions. It should be noticed that  
418 because urate was dissolved in NaOH, in all the assays cells were supplemented with an equivalent  
419 volume of NaOH at a final concentration of 3.3 mM, the pH of the culture media being stabilized at 6.  
420 In this condition, the control cells showed a rise of fluorescence during the experiment (Fig. 4A and  
421 4C).

422 Next, we applied a similar approach in cryptogein-treated cells. As shown Fig. 4B and 4E, the  
423 elicitor triggered a fast and pronounced rise in APF fluorescence which mainly occurred in  
424 chloroplasts and, to a lower extend, in the nucleus and along the plasma membrane. This increase  
425 was partially sensitive to urate (Fig. 4C), supporting the assumption that cryptogein triggered a  
426 production of  $\text{ONOO}^-$ . The fact that  $\text{ONOO}^-$  generation results from the reaction between  $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$  and  
427 NO also pushed us to check its production in gp15 and CL5 cells. As expected, depletion of NtRBOHD  
428 expression and, therefore, of  $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$  production abrogated the elicitor-mediated increase of APF  
429 fluorescence (Fig. 4B and 4E). Similarly, only a slight rise in APF fluorescence was measured in  
430 cryptogein-treated CL5 cells producing reduced levels of ROS and NO (Fig. 4D). Taken together, these  
431 data strongly suggest that a production of  $\text{ONOO}^-$  occurs in tobacco cells exposed to cryptogein.

432

### 433 **NtRBOHD-derived ROS regulate the activity of NtOSAK, a member of the SnRK2 protein kinase** 434 **family**

435

436 Previous studies highlighted the ability of cryptogein to induce activation of distinct protein  
437 kinases including  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent protein kinases and mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPK)  
438 including WIPK (wound-induced protein kinase) and SIPK (salicylic acid-induced protein kinase)  
439 (Klessig et al., 2000; Dahan et al., 2009). In order to provide a better view of the signaling functions of  
440 NO and ROS, their incidence on the regulation of cryptogein-induced protein kinases (PK) was  
441 examined. Therefore, protein extracts from wild type tobacco cells treated with cryptogein in the  
442 presence or not of cPTIO or from gp15 cells exposed to the elicitor were analyzed for PK activities by

443 in-gel kinase assays with MPB (myelin basic protein) as a substrate or by the use of commercial  
444 antibodies raised against phosphorylated residues of MAPKs.

445         Compared to wild type cells exposed to cryptogein, activities of the elicitor-induced MAPKs,  
446  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent and -independent kinases were not significantly changed in cells pre-treated with  
447 the NO scavenger cPTIO or in gp15 cells (data not shown). These data indicate that neither NO or  
448 ROS derived from NtRBOHD contribute to the activities of these PK in cryptogein signaling. To  
449 complete this work, we next analyzed the putative involvement of NtOSAK (*Nicotiana tabacum*  
450 Osmotic Stress-Activated protein Kinase), a tobacco serine/threonine protein kinase belonging to the  
451 SNF1 (Sucrose Non-Fermenting 1)-Related Kinases type 2 (SnRK2) family (Burza et al., 2006). Previous  
452 studies have shown that NtOSAK is rapidly and transiently activated in response to salt and osmotic  
453 stresses as well as in response to the toxic metal cadmium (Cd, Burza et al., 2006; Kulik et al., 2012).  
454 Further supporting our interest for this PK, NO donors,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as well as NO and/or ROS endogenously  
455 produced in response to salt and Cd were shown to contribute to NtOSAK activation (Wawer et al.,  
456 2010; Kulik et al., 2012). Based on these findings, we first investigated whether cryprogein could  
457 trigger the activation of NtOSAK. To check this possibility, proteins extracts from cryptogein-treated  
458 wild type tobacco cells were analyzed by immunocomplex-kinase activity assays using antibodies  
459 raised against NtOSAK. As shown in Fig. 5, the elicitor triggered a transient activation of NtOSAK, the  
460 maximum of activity being observed after 3 and 6 hours of elicitation. Next, NtOSAK activity was  
461 assessed in cryptogein-treated wild type cells in presence of cPTIO as well as in gp15 cells. The NO  
462 scavenger cPTIO did not affect the activation of this PK (data not shown). In gp15 cells, a slight  
463 activity of NtOSAK was already detected before cryptogein addition to the cell suspensions.  
464 Importantly, the intensity of its activity was exacerbated during the course of cryptogein treatment  
465 while its kinetic of activation was similar to those observed in wild type cells (Fig. 5). This observation  
466 suggested that the ROS derived from NtRBOHD might negatively regulate the intensity of NtOSAK  
467 activity.

468

#### 469 **Identification of NO-regulated genes during cryptogein treatment**

470

471         To further study the interplays between NO and ROS, we checked whether NO and ROS could  
472 regulate the expression of common genes. First we looked for genes modulated by cryptogein  
473 through a NO-dependent process. An expression profiling of tobacco cell suspensions was performed  
474 using a tobacco gene expression microarray (Agilent Technologies) consisting of about 44,000 probes  
475 with an average length of 60 nucleotides. For this purpose, wt tobacco cell suspensions pre-treated  
476 or not for 10 min with the NO scavenger cPTIO were elicited with cryptogein for 30 min. Genes which

477 corresponding transcripts showed a fold change higher than 4 in response to cryptogein treatment,  
478 but lower than 4 in cells co-treated with the elicitor and cPTIO, were selected as NO target genes.

479 The microarray analysis revealed that compared to non-elicited control cells, 135 microarray  
480 probes displayed significant increased labeling with a fold change > 4 after 30 min of cryptogein  
481 treatment. In contrast, cryptogein did not trigger the down-regulation of genes. Using annotation  
482 tools, 71 of the 135 probes were linked to *Arabidopsis thaliana* genes (data not shown). Interestingly,  
483 in tobacco cells co-treated with cPTIO and cryptogein, among these 135 probes, 35 showed an  
484 altered expression, that is a fold change < 4. Fifteen of them matched to *A. thaliana* genes and,  
485 according to our selective criterion, were defined as NO target genes. The list of these genes, as well  
486 as their functional classes, are provided in Table 1. About 40 % of these genes encode proteins  
487 involved in signaling, notably protein kinases including CIPK 11, a member of the CIPK (Calcineurin B-  
488 like (CBL) Interacting Protein Kinase) family. CIPKs are related to yeast sucrose-non-fermenting  
489 protein kinases and animal AMP-activated protein kinases. Upon their activation by the Ca<sup>2+</sup> sensors  
490 CBLs, CIPKs phosphorylate downstream targets and, consequently, mediate Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling (DeFalco et  
491 al. 2010). In *A. thaliana*, CIPK11 was shown to inhibit the activity of the plasma membrane proton  
492 pump H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase AHA2 by abolishing the binding of 14-3-3 protein through a phosphorylation-  
493 dependent process (Fuglsang et al. 2007). According to the authors, CIPK11 is a key actor of the Ca<sup>2+</sup>-  
494 dependent regulation of plasma membrane H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity and extracellular acidification. Further  
495 supporting a link between NO and Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling, we identified two genes encoding CaM-binding  
496 protein including the tobacco orthologue of the *A. thaliana* transcription factor EDA39 (Embryo sac  
497 Development Arrested 39) previously shown to be induced by chitin and by the oomycete  
498 *Peronospora parasitica* (Eulgem et al. 2004; Libault et al. 2007). More generally, the identification of  
499 genes related to Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling fits well with our previous findings showing that Ca<sup>2+</sup> and NO work  
500 together in mediating responses to pathogenic microorganisms and elicitors including cryptogein  
501 (Courtois et al. 2008; Rasul et al. 2012; Jeandroz et al. 2013). ZAT6 is another signaling-related gene  
502 of interest. In *A. thaliana*, it encodes a C2H2 zinc finger transcription factor previously shown to be  
503 inducible by chitin (Libault et al. 2007) and involved in the regulation of salt and osmotic stress  
504 responses (Liu et al. 2013), two stresses promoting NO synthesis (Gould et al. 2003). Besides  
505 signaling, three genes encoding proteins putatively involved in protein degradation were also found  
506 as NO-responsive genes. The *A. thaliana* orthologues correspond to PUB26, RHC2A and DUF1  
507 displaying ubiquitin-ligase activities. This latter was shown to be involved in ABA and, once again, in  
508 chitin signaling (Libault et al. 2007; Kim et al. 2012). The other NO-dependent genes encode proteins  
509 related to hormone metabolism, vesicle transport and development. Intriguingly, only one NO-  
510 dependent gene, the tobacco orthologue of NUDX2, encodes a protein related to oxidative stress.

511 NUDX2 was indeed reported as being an ADP-ribose pyrophosphatase involved in tolerance to  
512 oxidative stress in *A. thaliana* (Ogawa et al. 2009).

513 Next, we checked whether the NO-dependent cryptogein-induced genes could be also  
514 regulated through ROS derived from NtRBOHD. For this purpose, we measured their level of  
515 expression by quantitative real-time PCR in wt and gp15 cells exposed to cryptogein for 30 min.  
516 Among the 15 NO-dependent genes, 4 were found as being both NO- and ROS-dependent including  
517 the tobacco orthologues of *CIPK11*, *RHC2A*, *PUB26* and *DUF1* (Table 2). Indeed, the cryptogein-  
518 induced accumulations of the corresponding transcripts were all found to be significantly reduced in  
519 cPTIO-treated cells as well as in gp15 cells. In contrast and as an example, expression of the tobacco  
520 orthologue of *ZAT6* encoding a transcription factor appeared to be NO-dependent but ROS  
521 independent as the accumulation of the corresponding transcript was impaired in cPTIO-treated cells  
522 and unmodified in gp15 cells. Taken together, these results confirm the data described above  
523 indicating that part of the cryptogein-triggered NO production (around 40%) is under the control of  
524 NtRBOHD-derived species. Therefore, the NO target genes might be regulated through a ROS-  
525 dependent but also a ROS-independent pathway.

526 Since the expression of the tobacco orthologues of *CIPK11*, *RHC2A*, *PUB26* and *DUF1*  
527 appeared to be under the control of both NO and ROS in response to cryptogein treatment, we  
528 investigated whether the accumulation of the corresponding transcripts could be also regulated  
529 through ONOO<sup>-</sup> (Fig. 6). When tobacco cell suspensions were pretreated with the ONOO<sup>-</sup> scavenger  
530 urate, the cryptogein-induced accumulation of the transcripts of interest was significantly increased.  
531 This data suggested that ONOO<sup>-</sup> mitigates the level of expression of these genes.

532

### 533 **Analysis of NO and ROS involvement in cryptogein-triggered cell death**

534

535 Nitric oxide and ROS are commonly designed as cell death mediators (Yoshioka et al. 2011).  
536 In the present study, we analyzed their respective involvement in the cell death triggered by  
537 cryptogein. As previously reported (Bourque et al. 2011), in wt tobacco cell suspensions cryptogein  
538 induced a significant cell death reaching 60% after 24 hours (Fig. 7). This percent was reduced to 13%  
539 in cells co-treated with the NO scavenger cPTIO, highlighting the involvement of NO, or NO-derived  
540 species, in the mechanisms leading to cell death. In gp15 cells, the percent of cell death mediated by  
541 the elicitor was reduced as compared to wt cells and reached only 36%, suggesting that ROS also play  
542 a role in this process. To better evaluate the contribution of NO in the cell death occurring in gp15  
543 cells in response cryptogein treatment, we checked the effects of NO scavenging. Remarkably, cPTIO  
544 did not impact the level of cell death triggered by the elicitor in gp15 cells.

545           To complete this study, a similar analysis was performed in the CL5 cell line. As stated above,  
546 this line does not express NtHD2a and NtHD2b, two HDACs isoforms acting as repressors of  
547 cryptogein-induced cell death (Bourque et al. 2011). Furthermore, as described in Fig. 3 and S1, this  
548 line displayed a reduced production of NO and a low level of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> when challenged by cryptogein. As  
549 shown in Fig. 7B, compared to control cells, the CL5 cells displayed a higher rate of cell death in  
550 response to cryptogein, confirming a role for NtHD2a and NtHD2b as negative regulators of cell  
551 death. This data also indicates that in contrary to gp15 cells, the reduced production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
552 observed in CL5 cells was not correlated to a lower occurrence of cell death. Regarding the incidence  
553 of NO on cryptogein-induced cell death in the CL5 line, its scavenging reduced by about 35% the rate  
554 of cell death.  
555

## 556 DISCUSSION

557

558 In this work we investigated the interplays operating between NO and ROS derived from  
559 NtRBOHD activity in tobacco cells elicited by cryptogein. Our results indicated that these species  
560 modulate their respective production/levels, interact by forming peroxynitrite and influence the rate  
561 of cell death. Furthermore, NO appeared to function independently or in cooperation with ROS to  
562 regulate the expression of genes related to signaling and protein degradation amongst other  
563 functions.

564 Deficiency of ROS, through the impairment of NtRBOHD expression in gp15 cells or using DPI,  
565 resulted in decreasing NO production by about 40%. Accordingly, the cryptogein-mediated NO  
566 synthesis was partly suppressed in CL5 cells producing a low level of ROS. These data highlighted a  
567 key role for ROS in modulating NO production. Several studies also provided evidence that ROS act  
568 upstream of NO production. For instance, Srivastava et al. (2009) reported that NO synthesis occurs  
569 downstream of ROS production in *Pisum sativum* guard cells treated with chitosan. Similarly, using  
570 the NADPH oxidase-deficient double mutant *AtrbohD/F*, Bright et al. (2006) demonstrated that  
571 endogenous H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production is required for ABA-induced NO synthesis in *A. thaliana* guard cells. In  
572 contrast, mechanisms in which NO promotes ROS production were also described. For example, in *A.*  
573 *thaliana* leaves exposed to oligogalacturonides, NO was shown to positively regulate AtrBOHD-  
574 mediated ROS synthesis (Rasul et al. 2012). In our study, the situation is rather complex as NO also  
575 controls ROS levels. Indeed, we observed that the scavenging of NO enhanced by a 1.5 fold the  
576 concentration of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in tobacco-elicited cells. Therefore, a bidirectional cross-talk occurs between  
577 both species: ROS appear as a step in the signaling cascade leading to NO production which further  
578 modulates the rate of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

579 The conclusion stated above raises the question of the mechanisms underlying this cross-  
580 regulation. Regarding the ROS-dependence of NO production, it has been previously shown that the  
581 synthesis of NO mediated by cryptogein requires Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx from the extracellular space (Lamotte et  
582 al. 2004). As H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> produced by NtRBOHD was assumed to contribute to this influx by promoting the  
583 activation of putative plasma membrane Ca<sup>2+</sup>-permeable channels (Lecourieux et al. 2002), the  
584 resulting rise of cytosolic Ca<sup>2+</sup> could constitute a relay connecting H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> to NO. Concerning the  
585 regulation of ROS by NO, at least two scenarios might be envisaged. First, the enhancement of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
586 concentration observed in cPTIO-treated cells following cryptogein exposure could reflect a negative  
587 regulation of NtRBOHD by NO. Supporting this hypothesis, Yun et al. (2011) found that NO abolishes  
588 AtrBHOD activity through S-nitrosylation of a critical Cys residue. This process destabilizes FAD or  
589 precludes its binding to the enzyme. According to the authors, S-nitrosylation of NtRBOHD serves to  
590 control ROS generation in cells facing pathogen attack and curbs their deleterious effects leading

591 notably to excessive cell death. In a recent proteome-wide analysis aimed at identifying S-  
592 nitrosylated proteins in cryptogein signaling (Astier et al. 2012b), we were not able to identify NADPH  
593 oxidases as NO protein targets, thus questioning the possibility that NO could mitigate ROS  
594 production through NtRBOHD S-nitrosylation. However, a note of caution is required as the method  
595 used to selectively identify S-nitrosylated proteins is poorly efficient at targeting transmembrane  
596 proteins. Furthermore, NtRBOHD is a low abundant protein, reinforcing the difficulty in identifying  
597 this protein. Second, the enhanced H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> level observed in cPTIO-treated cells could be explained by  
598 a coupling reaction of NO and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> leading to ONOO<sup>-</sup> formation. Indeed, if such mechanism occurs,  
599 the scavenging of NO by cPTIO might enhance O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> availability and, consequently, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
600 concentration. Supporting this hypothesis, we demonstrated that cryptogein triggered a fast increase  
601 of APF fluorescence. This increase was markedly reduced in presence of the ONOO<sup>-</sup> scavenger urate  
602 and severely suppressed in gp15 cells impaired in NtRBOHD expression, confirming the assumption  
603 that APF fluorescence is indicative of ONOO<sup>-</sup> synthesis. More generally, the formation of ONOO<sup>-</sup> is  
604 very fast and the corresponding reaction between NO and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> competes with other routes that  
605 consume O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>, notably the route involving SOD, its ultimate scavengers (Ferrer-Sueta & Radi, 2009).  
606 At least two factors promote its formation: the temporal occurrence of NO and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> and the location  
607 of NO and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>. Both criteria are fulfilled in the case of cryptogein signaling. Indeed, NO and ROS are  
608 produced simultaneously. Furthermore, similarly to NO (Foissner *et al.*, 2000; Fig. S4), ONOO<sup>-</sup> was  
609 localized in the plastids, slightly in the nucleus and probably in the cytosol along the plasma  
610 membrane. Besides this work, several studies provided mounting evidence that ONOO<sup>-</sup> is generated  
611 in plant cells undergoing immune responses (reviewed by Vandelle & Delledonne, 2011). For  
612 instance, in their pioneer work, Saito et al. (2006) measured a fast ONOO<sup>-</sup> production in tobacco BY-  
613 2 cells exposed to INF1, the main elicitor secreted by the late blight pathogen *Phytophthora infestans*.  
614 Here too, ONOO<sup>-</sup> synthesis was detected using APF and the resulting increase of fluorescence was  
615 suppressed by urate. More recently, a urate-sensitive ONOO<sup>-</sup> accumulation was measured in *A.*  
616 *thaliana* leaves challenged with the avirulent pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* pv tomato carrying  
617 the *AvrB* gene (Gaupels et al. 2011b). The involvement of ONOO<sup>-</sup> in the plant immune response was  
618 further supported by the characterization/identification of proteins regulated by tyrosine nitration, a  
619 post-translation protein modification mediated by ONOO<sup>-</sup> (Saito et al. 2006; Romero-Puertas et al.  
620 2007; Cecconi et al. 2009). According to Gaupels et al. (2011b), tyrosine nitration might represent a  
621 major mean by which cells facing pathogen attack mediate the NO/ROS signal.

622

623 To investigate the incidence of NO and/or ROS on cryptogein signaling, we analyzed their  
624 respective involvement in cryptogein-induced PK activities and genes expression. The possibility that  
625 NO or ROS produced in the context of defense responses regulate the activity of PK has been

626 previously reported. These PKs include MAPK and CDPK (see for instance Grant et al., 2000; Yoshioka  
627 et al., 2011) but not SnRK2s. Through in gel kinase activity assays and western-blotting based  
628 approaches, we found that neither NO nor ROS controlled the activity of MAPK and Ca<sup>2+</sup>-  
629 dependent/independent PK (data not shown). In contrast, ROS derived from NtRBOHD negatively  
630 regulated the intensity of the SnRK2 PK NtOSAK. Supporting this assumption, NtOSAK activity was  
631 remarkably increased in gp15 cells elicited by cryptogein as compared to wild type cells. In contrast,  
632 its kinetic of activation was similar in both genotypes. Interestingly, the NO scavenger cPTIO did not  
633 impact its kinetic as well as its intensity of activity in cryptogein-treated wild type cells. Collectively,  
634 these data highlight a specific action of ROS and not NO on cryptogein-induced NtOSAK activity.  
635 Importantly, they differ from previous findings indicating that the activity of this PK is up-regulated  
636 by NO and/or ROS in tobacco cells challenged by Cd or salt stresses (Wawer et al., 2010; Kulik et al.,  
637 2012). Therefore, although our study confirms the regulation of NtOSAK by ROS, it points out a  
638 distinct regulation of this PK by NO and/or ROS according the cellular conditions. More generally,  
639 although a role for SnRK2.4, the closest homolog of NtOSAK in *A. thaliana*, in the regulation of plant  
640 tolerance to cadmium has been reported (Kulik et al., 2012), its function in plant defense remains to  
641 be determined.

642 The microarray analysis allowed the identification of 15 early-modulated genes, which  
643 induction by cryptogein was suppressed by cPTIO. Because cPTIO reduced the elicitor-induced NO  
644 synthesis by almost 70% (Fig. 1), these genes were defined as NO target genes. Accordingly, several  
645 *A. thaliana* orthologues of these genes were also found as being induced by NO (*At1G21380*,  
646 *At2G41380*, *At3G46620*, *At5g04340* and *At5G47070*; Parani et al. 2004; Ahlfors et al. 2009; Besson-  
647 Bard et al. 2009). Furthermore, the tobacco genes orthologues of *At3G46620* and *At5G47070*  
648 encoding a C3HC4-type RING finger protein and a putative protein kinase, respectively, were shown  
649 to be modulated in tobacco leaves infiltrated with the NO donor sodium nitroprusside (Zago et al.  
650 2006). Interestingly, a significant part of these genes encode proteins related to signaling. This  
651 observation confirms our previous conclusion, as well as those of other teams, that NO displays a  
652 signaling function in plant immunity (see for instance Besson-Bard et al. 2008a; Gaupels et al. 2011b;  
653 Bellin et al. 2013; Skelly & Loake, 2013). The identification of the tobacco orthologue of *CIPK11*, a  
654 gene encoding CBL-interacting protein kinase in *A. thaliana*, is of particular interest. Indeed, as  
655 described in the results section, CIPK11 is a critical negative regulator of the plasma membrane H<sup>+</sup>-  
656 ATPase that controls extracellular acidification (Fuglsang et al. 2007). According to these authors, a  
657 negative regulation of the plasma membrane H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase by CIPK11 might be an advantage under  
658 conditions where H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity has to be rapidly down-regulated, notably in response to fungal  
659 elicitors inducing plasma membrane depolarization and cytoplasmic acidification such as cryptogein  
660 (Pugin et al. 1997; Gauthier et al. 2007). Whether the NO-dependent induction of the tobacco

661 orthologue of CIPK11 is related to the regulation of plasma membrane H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase in cryptogei-  
662 induced effects remains to be investigated but warrants attention. Another NO-dependent gene of  
663 interest is the tobacco orthologue of *AtNUDX2*. The corresponding protein displays ADP-ribose  
664 pyrophosphatase activity (Ogawa et al. 2005). In animal cells, free ADP-ribose is a highly reactive  
665 compound molecule that causes the nonenzymatic mono-ADP-ribosylation of proteins and  
666 contributes to the activation of apoptosis during oxidative stress (Perraud et al. 2005). Ogawa et al.  
667 (2009) reported that the overexpression of *AtNUDX2* in *A. thaliana* increased tolerance to oxidative  
668 stress caused by salinity or paraquat. This tolerance was correlated to the ability of the enzyme to  
669 metabolize potentially toxic ADP-ribose to AMP and ribose 5-phosphate. Here too, understanding the  
670 physiological significance of *NUDX2* expression in tobacco, as well as its regulation by NO, will require  
671 further investigation.

672         Amongst the NO-dependent genes modulated in response to cryptogei-  
673 n, 4 (the tobacco  
674 orthologues of *CIPK11*, *RHC2A*, *PUB26* and *DUF1*) were also found as being down-regulated in gp15  
675 cells treated with the elicitor. This finding indicates that NO drives specific but also mutual signaling  
676 pathway(s) shared with ROS derived from NtrBOHD activity. A similar conclusion has been raised by  
677 Zago et al. (2006) who demonstrated that in tobacco NO and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> act either individually or in  
678 partnership in regulating gene expression. Further supporting the involvement of both NO and ROS  
679 in regulating the expression of *CIPK11*, *RHC2A*, *PUB26* and *DUF1*, we observed that the scavenging of  
680 ONOO<sup>-</sup> significantly increased the cryptogei-  
681 triggered accumulation of the corresponding  
682 transcripts. This data further support the hypothesis that ONOO<sup>-</sup> formation mitigates the effects of  
683 ROS and NO. It is noteworthy that 3 of the commonly-regulated genes, e.g. the tobacco orthologues  
684 of *PUB26*, *RHC2A* and *DUF1*, encode proteins displaying ubiquitin ligase activity. Notably, *RHC2A* and  
685 *DUF1* have been characterized as RING domain-containing E3 ubiquitin ligases (Kim et al. 2012).  
686 Through their contribution in protein ubiquitination, ubiquitin ligases are main participants in protein  
687 degradation pathways (Guerra & Callis, 2012). The observation that NO and ROS commonly regulates  
688 genes predominantly related to protein ubiquitination is intriguing and, at this stage, we do not know  
689 the physiological meaning of this finding. More generally, this data complete a recent study showing  
690 that NO produced in response to cryptogei-  
691 n promotes the S-nitrosylation of the chaperone-like AAA+  
692 ATPase CDC48 (Astier et al. 2012b). In animals and plants, CDC48 is involved in the targeting of  
693 ubiquitylated proteins for degradation by the proteasome (Meyer et al. 2012). Importantly, CDC48  
694 has been shown to be similarly regulated by NO and ROS, both compounds promoting the S-  
nitrosylation or oxidation on the same cysteine residue, respectively (Noguchi et al. 2005). Therefore,  
taken together these data suggest that NO and ROS might be part of the regulation processes of the  
ubiquitin system at the transcriptional and post-translational levels.

695 We previously provided first evidence that NO is one of the components involved in the  
696 mechanisms underlying cryptogein-triggered cell death (Lamotte et al., 2004). In the present study,  
697 we took advantage of the gp15 and CL5 cell suspensions to further investigate the role of both NO  
698 and ROS in that process. Compared to wild type cells, the reduction of cell death observed in  
699 cryptogein-treated gp15 cells indicates that ROS-derived from NtRBOHD activity might contribute to  
700 cell death. Concerning NO, in wt cells its scavenging by cPTIO correlated with a 70% reduction in  
701 cryptogein-triggered cell death. Scavenging of NO was also efficient in reducing cryptogein-induced  
702 cell death in CL5 cells; however, to a lower extent (35% of reduction). This data was expected as  
703 those cells generated 50% to 60% less NO as compared to control cells. Thus, the results obtained in  
704 wt and CL5 cells favors a role for NO in cell death. In gp15 cells, the finding that cPTIO was inefficient  
705 in suppressing the cell death mediated by the elicitor while these cells still generate NO suggests that  
706 NO requires NtRBOHD activity for inducing cell death. If so, the lower production of ROS detected in  
707 CL5 cells appears to be sufficient to forward NO into the cell death machinery. This hypothesis fits  
708 well with previous studies highlighting that NO alone is not able to kill cells but needs to cooperate  
709 with ROS (Delledonne et al. 2001; de Pinto et al. 2002). More precisely, it has been proposed that NO  
710 requires well balanced H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> levels to be channeled into the cell death pathway (Delledonne et al.  
711 2001; Zago et al. 2006). Accordingly, compared to wt cells, the involvement of NO in mediating cell  
712 death was minimized but still occurred in CL5 cells producing a low level of ROS.

713 Inevitably, our data raise the question of how NO and ROS derived from NADPH oxidase  
714 promote cell death. In animals, ONOO<sup>-</sup> is known to act as a cytotoxic effector and mediator of  
715 cellular injuries (Ferrer-Sueta et al. 2009). However, such role in cryptogein signaling is doubtful as  
716 urate was previously reported to be ineffective in reducing the elicitor-mediated cell death (Lamotte  
717 et al. 2004). More generally, it is commonly recognized that ONOO<sup>-</sup> is not an essential intermediate  
718 in the processes underlying plant cell death (Delledonne et al. 2001; Zago et al. 2006). Similarly, the  
719 list of genes regulated by both NO and ROS pointed out for a concerted action of both species in the  
720 control of genes encoding proteins displaying ubiquitin ligase activities, but did not allow the  
721 identification of genes previously reported as being involved in cell death such as Vacuolar  
722 Processing Enzymes (Hara-Nishimura et al. 2005). Functional analysis of these genes should provide a  
723 first view of the incidence of the synergism between NO and ROS derived from NtRBOHD. Finally,  
724 another issue of this study is that NO and ROS are not the sole intermediates of cryptogein-induced  
725 cell death. Indeed, the NO scavenger did not completely suppressed cell death in wt cells exposed to  
726 cryptogein. Furthermore, scavenging of NO in elicitor-treated gp15 and CL5 cells did not severely  
727 abolish the rate of cell death. Similarly, CL5 cells displayed a high rate of cells death while producing  
728 a low amount of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Identification of the NO- and ROS-independent intermediates will require  
729 further investigation.

730 To conclude, our study provide a detailed analysis of the interplays occurring between NO  
731 and ROS in a physiological context. Based on our data, we proposed the working model

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742

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1082 **TABLE 1. List of cryptogein-early induced genes regulated through a NO-depend process**

1083 Tobacco cell suspensions were pre-incubated with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO and then treated with 100 nM  
 1084 cryptogein for 30 min. Genes are sorted according to functional classes and fold changes. Tobacco  
 1085 genes sequences used for microarray analysis were annotated to *A. thaliana* on a base of the best  
 1086 matched SGN EST. FC: Fold change.

1087

| Probe number | Accesion number | Gene name  | Functional class      | FC   | pval. adj |
|--------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------|------|-----------|
| A_95_P128872 | At2g30360       | CIPK11, PKS5, SNRK3.22, SIP4 (SOS3-interacting protein 4)        | Signaling             | 4.10 | 0.0087    |
| A_95_P201617 | At2g15760       | calmodulin-binding protein                                       | Signaling             | 4.55 | 0.0078    |
| A_95_P159542 | At1g66920       | serine/threonine protein kinase, putative                        | Signaling             | 4.69 | 0.0082    |
| A_95_P297148 | At4g33050       | calmodulin-binding protein, EDA39                                | Signaling             | 4.82 | 0.0099    |
| A_95_P254219 | At5g47070       | protein kinase, putative   | Signaling             | 5.82 | 0.0079    |
| A_95_P082790 | At5g04340       | C2H2, CZF2, ZAT6 (zinc finger of <i>A. thaliana</i> 6)           | Signaling             | 4.42 | 0.0088    |
| A_95_P138477 | At1g49780       | PUB26 (plant U-BOX 26)   | Protein degradation   | 5.78 | 0.0088    |
| A_95_P121687 | At2g39720       | RHC2A (RING-H2 finger C2A)                                       | Protein degradation   | 4.25 | 0.0089    |
| A_95_P139122 | At3g46620       | zinc finger (C3HC4-type RING finger), DUF1                       | Protein degradation   | 4.30 | 0.0079    |
| A_95_P082445 | At5g42650       | CYP74A, DDE2, AOS (allene oxide synthase)                        | Hormones              | 5.68 | 0.0082    |
| A_95_P162217 | At2g41380       | embryo-abundant protein-related                                  | Development           | 6.57 | 0.0079    |
| A_95_P060295 | At5g47650       | ATNUDX2, ATNUDT2 ( <i>A. thaliana</i> nudix hydolase homolog 2)  | Nucleotide metabolism | 4.26 | 0.0094    |
| A_95_P236459 | At2g02520       | unknown protein  | Unclassified/unknown  | 4.05 | 0.0082    |
| A_95_P136782 | At5g11650       | hydrolase, alpha/beta fold family protein                        | Unclassified/unknown  | 5.66 | 0.0079    |
| A_95_P280708 | At1g21380       | VHS domain-containing protein /<br>GAT domain-containing protein | Vesicle transport     | 7.70 | 0.0079    |

1088

1089

1090 **TABLE 2. List of cryptogein-early induced genes commonly regulated by both NO and ROS**

1091 Wild-type and gp15 cell suspensions were pre-incubated or not with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO and then treated  
 1092 with 100 nM cryptogein for 30 min. Levels of transcript accumulation was measured by qRT-PCR  
 1093 analysis. The data are presented as ratio of expression between cryptogein-treated and non-treated  
 1094 wt cells (wt), between cryptogein- and cryptogein + cPTIO-treated cells (cPTIO) and between  
 1095 cryptogein-treated and non-treated gp15 cells (gp15). The table presents results from three  
 1096 independent experiments. “- “ means values with FC < 4. Statistical analysis (a,b) was done according  
 1097 to ANOVA followed by SNK test (P<0.05).

1098

| Probe number<br>/ Gene name   | qRT-PCR (FC>4) |          |          |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|
|                               | wt             | cPTIO    | gp15     |
| A_95_P128872<br><i>CIPK11</i> | 7.62 (a)       | 4.15 (b) | - (b)    |
| A_95_P138477<br><i>PUB26</i>  | 20.76 (a)      | 5.08 (b) | 9.79 (b) |
| A_95_P121687<br><i>RHC2A</i>  | 4.40 (a)       | - (b)    | -(b)     |
| A_95_P139122<br><i>DUF1</i>   | 5.54 (a)       | - (b)    | - (b)    |
| A_95_P082790<br><i>ZAT6</i>   | 6.50 (a)       | -(b)     | 8.00 (a) |

1099

1100

1101

1102 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

1103

1104 **Figure 1. Cryptogein-induced NO production is partly regulated through a NtRBOHD-dependent**  
1105 **process**

1106 A. NO production in cryptogein-treated cells. Tobacco cell suspensions were first pre-incubated with  
1107 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO and then treated with 100 nM cryptogein. Graph present the time course of NO  
1108 production measured using the intracellular NO-sensitive fluorophore DAF-2DA.

1109 B. Time course of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production in cryptogein-treated cells. Wild type and gp15 cells were treated  
1110 with 100 nM cryptogein. The concentration of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> of was measured by luminescence.

1111 C. Impact of NtRBOHD activity on cryptogein-mediated NO synthesis. Wild type and gp15 cells were  
1112 pre-incubated or not with 5  $\mu$ M DPI before cryptogein treatment (100 nM). Control cells were pre-  
1113 treated with an equal volume of DMSO. The production of NO was measured after 40 min of  
1114 cryptogein treatment using the intracellular NO-sensitive fluorophore DAF-2DA. The production of  
1115 NO induced by cryptogein in wt cells in the absence of DMSO has been fixed at 100%.

1116 For each figures, each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE of nine measurements (three replicates per  
1117 experiment performed three times). Statistical analysis was performed by ANOVA followed by SNK  
1118 test (P<0.05).

1119

1120 **Figure 2. Incidence of NO on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> level in cryptogein-treated cells**

1121 Tobacco cell suspensions were first pre-incubated with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO and then treated with 100 nM  
1122 cryptogein. The production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was measured by luminescence. The production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> induced  
1123 by cryptogein in the absence of cPTIO has been fixed at 100%.

1124 Each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE of fifteen measurements (three replicates per experiment  
1125 performed five times). Statistical analysis was performed by ANOVA followed by SNK test (P<0.05).

1126

1127 **Figure 3. Production of NO and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in CL5 cells elicited by cryptogein**

1128 A. Time course of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production in CL5 cells. Wild type and CL5 cells were treated with 100 nM  
1129 cryptogein. The concentration of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was measured by luminescence.

1130 B. Intracellular NO production in CL5 measured with the DAF-2DA probe. Cells were treated with 100  
1131 nM cryptogein for 40 min. The production of NO induced by cryptogein in wt cells has been fixed at  
1132 100%.

1133 For each figure, each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE of nine measurements (three replicates per  
1134 experiment performed three times). Statistical analysis was performed by ANOVA followed by SNK  
1135 test (P<0.05).

1136

1137 **Figure 4. Cryptogein triggers a peroxynitrite production in tobacco cell suspensions**

1138 A. Analysis of APF responsiveness to ONOO<sup>-</sup>. Wild type cells loaded with 5 μM APF were pre-  
1139 incubated or not 5 min with 1 mM of the ONOO<sup>-</sup> scavenger urate (UA) and then with 2.5 mM SIN-1.  
1140 Changes of APF fluorescence levels were monitored using a spectrofluorometer.

1141 B. Time course of ONOO<sup>-</sup> production in response to cryptogein-elicited cells. Wild type and gp15  
1142 cells loaded with 5 μM APF were treated with 100 nM of cryptogein. Changes of APF level of  
1143 fluorescence were monitored as indicated in Fig. 4A.

1144 C. Influence of urate on cryptogein-induced increase in APF fluorescence. Wild-type cells loaded with  
1145 5 μM APF were pre-incubated or not 5 min with 1 mM of the ONOO<sup>-</sup> scavenger urate and then with  
1146 100 nM of cryptogein. Changes of APF level of fluorescence were monitored as indicated in Fig. 4A.

1147 D. Cryptogein-induced ONOO<sup>-</sup> production in CL5 cells. Wild type and CL5 cells loaded with 5 μM APF  
1148 were treated 40 min with 100 nM of cryptogein. Changes of APF level of fluorescence were  
1149 monitored as indicated in Fig. 4A. The production of ONOO<sup>-</sup> induced by cryptogein in wt cells has  
1150 been fixed at 100%.

1151 E. Cellular localization of ONOO<sup>-</sup>. Wild type and gp15 cells were treated with cryptogein for 0, 20 and  
1152 40 min and stained for 5 min with 15 μM APF. Peroxynitrite localization (green fluorescence) was  
1153 observed with a confocal laser scanning microscope under magnification 40x. Chloroplast auto-  
1154 fluorescence appears in red. The Figure is representative of pictures from six independent replicates  
1155 with a minimum of 8 cells observed per conditions in each experiment. Scale bar mean 50 μM.  
1156 Arrows indicate the position of the nucleus.

1157 For figures A-D, each value represents the mean ± SE of nine measurements (three replicates per  
1158 experiment performed three times). For Fig. D, statistical analysis was performed by ANOVA followed  
1159 by SNK test (P<0.05).

1160

1161 **Figure 5. ROS negatively regulate NtOSAK activity**

1162 Seven days-old wild type and gp15 cells were treated with 100 nM cryptogein for up to 9h. After  
1163 proteins extraction, NtOSAK activity was monitored by immunocomplex-kinase activity assay using  
1164 specific anti-C-terminal NtOSAK antibodies. Representative results from three independent  
1165 experiments are presented.

1166

1167 **Figure 6. Peroxynitrite mitigated the expression of NO- and ROS-induced genes**

1168 Wild-type cell suspensions were pre-incubated or not with 1mM uric acid (UA) or 3.33 mM NaOH for  
1169 10 min and then treated with 100 nM cryptogein for next 30 min. Levels of transcript accumulation  
1170 was measured by qRT-PCR. The data are presented as ratio of expression between cryptogein-  
1171 treated and not-treated cells; between cryptogein- and cryptogein + UA-treated cells; between

1172 cryptogein- and cryptogein + NaOH treated cells. Graphs present the results from three independent  
1173 experiments. FC: fold change. Statistical analysis was done according to ANOVA followed by SNK test  
1174 ( $P < 0.05$ ).

1175

1176 **Figure 7. Nitric oxide and ROS involvement in cryptogein-induced cell death**

1177 A. Involvement of NO and ROS in cryptogein-induced cell death in wt and gp15 cells. Cell suspensions  
1178 were pre-treated for 10 min with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO before the addition of 100 nM cryptogein. The  
1179 percentage of dead cells was estimated at the indicated time by staining with neutral red.

1180 B. Involvement of NO and ROS in cryptogein-induced cell death in CL5 cells. Cells were treated as  
1181 detailed for Fig. 7A.

1182 For both figures, each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE of 6 measurements (2 replicates per  
1183 experiment performed 3 times). Statistical analysis was done by ANOVA followed by SNK test  
1184 ( $P < 0.05$ ).

1185

1186 **Figure 8. Interplay between NO and ROS derived from NtrBOHD activity in cryptogein signaling**

1187 The production of NO involves both NtrBOHD-dependent and -independent pathways. In the first  
1188 one, both NO and ROS derived from NtrBOHD activity regulate a common set of genes including  
1189 genes encoding proteins displaying putative ubiquitin ligase activities. Furthermore, NO involvement  
1190 in cell death requires NtrBOHD activity. In turn, NO negatively regulates the level of  $H_2O_2$ , probably  
1191 by forming peroxynitrite ( $ONOO^-$ ) through its coupling with superoxide ( $O_2^{\bullet-}$ ). In the NtrBOHD-  
1192 independent pathway, NO regulates the expression of genes which products are related to signaling,  
1193 hormone metabolism, vesicle transport and development. The regulation of NtOSAK activity in  
1194 response to cryptogein specifically involves ROS but not NO. The role of NtOSAK is currently  
1195 unknown.

1196 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

1197

1198 **Figure S1. NO production in cryptogein-treated cells tested by CuFL probe**

1199 NO production was measured after 40 min of cells treatment with 100 nM cryptogein. The  
1200 production of NO induced by cryptogein has been fixed at 100%.

1201 A. Nitric oxide production in tobacco cells first pre-incubated with 500  $\mu$ M cPTIO and then treated  
1202 with elicitor.

1203 B. Incidence of NtrBOHD activity on cryptogein-mediated NO synthesis. The production of NO was  
1204 measured in wt and gp15 cells after.

1205 C. Incidence of NtHDAC2a/b on cryptogein-mediated NO synthesis. The production of NO was  
1206 measured in wt and CL5 cells after.

1207 Each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE of nine measurements (three replicates per experiment  
1208 performed three times). Statistical analysis was performed by ANOVA followed by SNK test ( $P < 0.05$ ).

1209

1210 **Figure S2. DEA/NO induced DAF-2T fluorescence in the distinct cell lines**

1211 A. Time course of DAF-2T fluorescence in wt and gp15 cell suspensions exposed to the NO donor  
1212 DEA/NO. Cells loaded with DAF-2DA were treated with 200  $\mu$ M of DEA/NO or 200  $\mu$ M DEA as control.

1213 B. Time course of DAF-2T fluorescence in wt and CL5 cell suspensions exposed to the NO donor  
1214 DEA/NO. Cells loaded with DAF-2DA were treated with 200  $\mu$ M of DEA/NO or 200  $\mu$ M DEA as control.

1215 Graphs present one representative experiment of three. Bars mean  $\pm$  SE ( $n = 3$ ).

1216

1217 **Figure S3. Effect of DPI on cryptogein-induced H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> production**

1218 Cells were pre-incubated with 5  $\mu$ M DPI (or equal volume of DMSO) for 5 min before cryptogein  
1219 supply (100 nM). H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> levels were measured by luminescence. Each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SE  
1220 of 9 measurements (3 replicates per experiment performed 3 times).

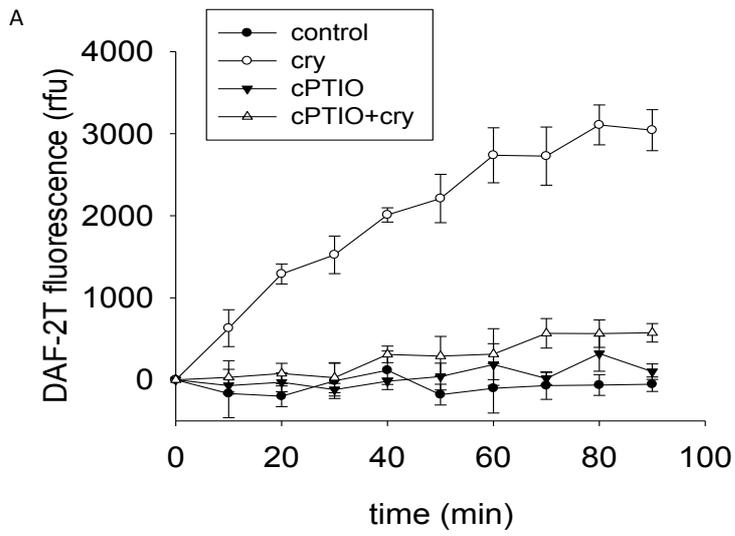
1221

1222 **Figure S4. Cellular localization of NO**

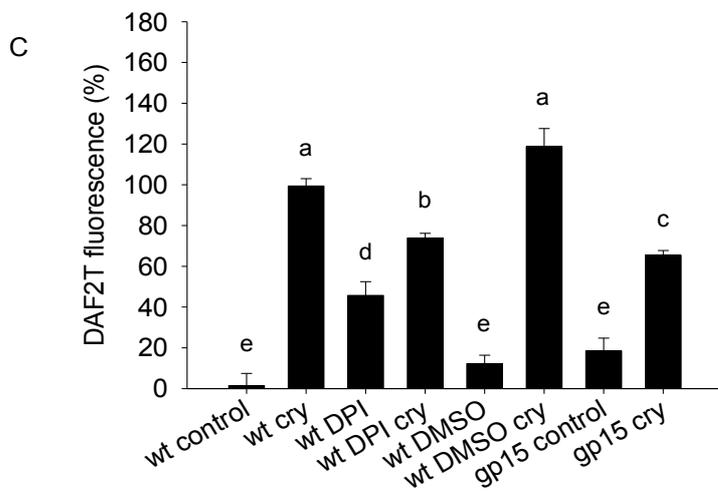
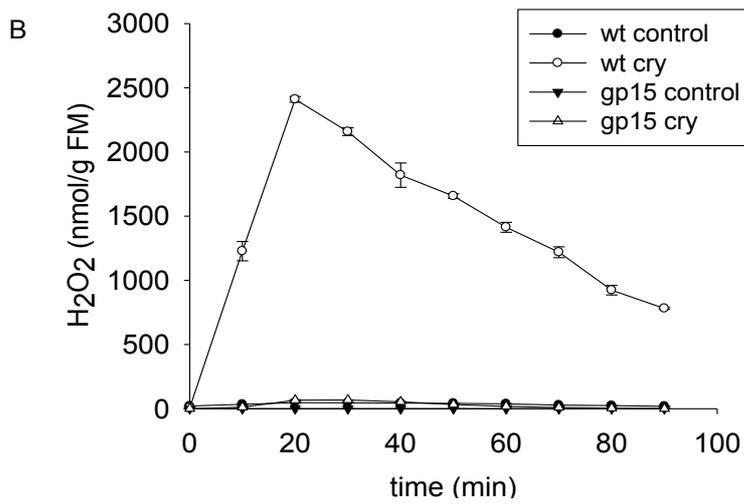
1223 After filtration, seven days-old cells were equilibrated in H10 buffer for 1 h in 25°C in the dark and  
1224 then stained for 1 h with 5  $\mu$ M DAF-2DA. After three washes with fresh buffer, cells were equilibrated  
1225 for next 30 min in new buffer and treated with 100 nM cryptogein for 0, 20 or 40 min. Cells were  
1226 observed with a confocal laser scanning with settings and analysis of images as described for APF in  
1227 Fig. 4E. The Figure is representative of pictures from four independent replicates with a minimum of  
1228 8 cells observed per conditions in each experiment Scale bar mean 50  $\mu$ M. Arrows indicate the  
1229 position of the nucleus.

1230

1231

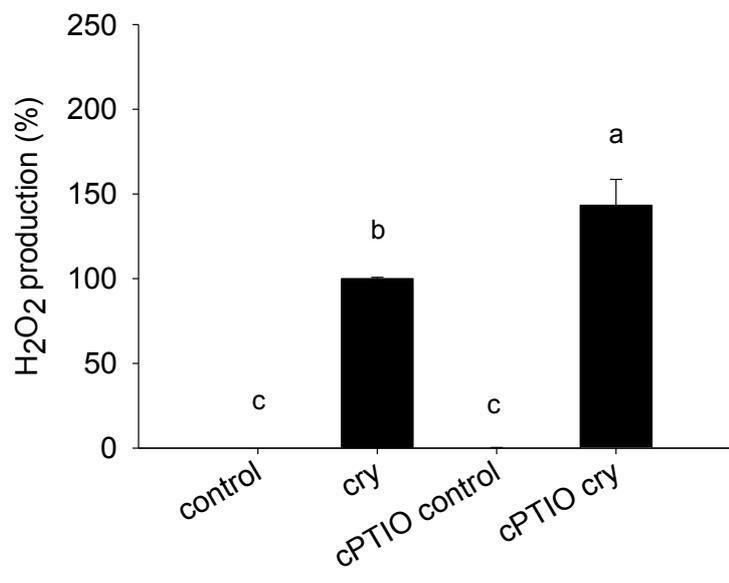


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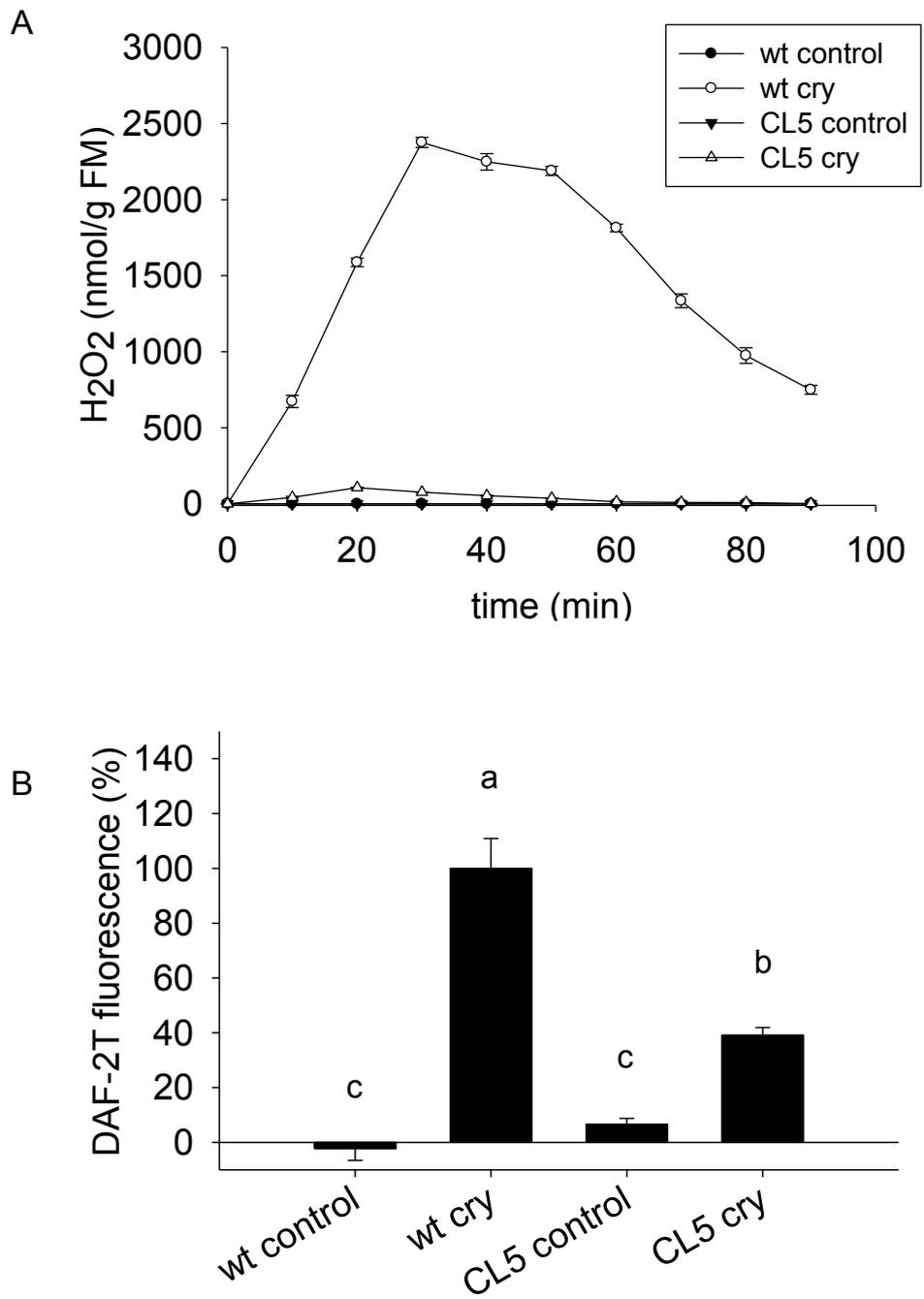
1234 **Figure 1**



1235

1236 **Figure 2**

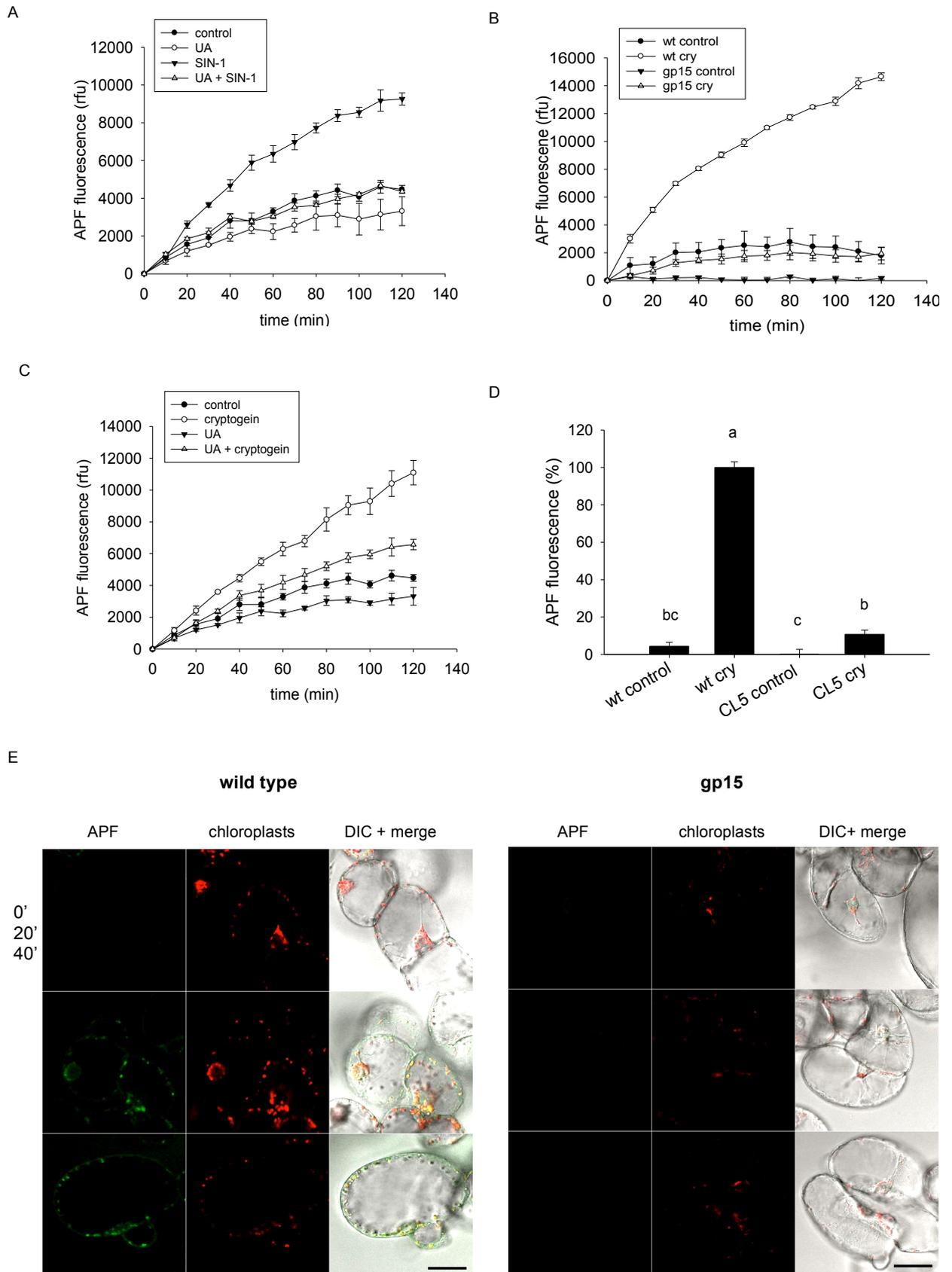
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1238

1239 **Figure 3**

1240

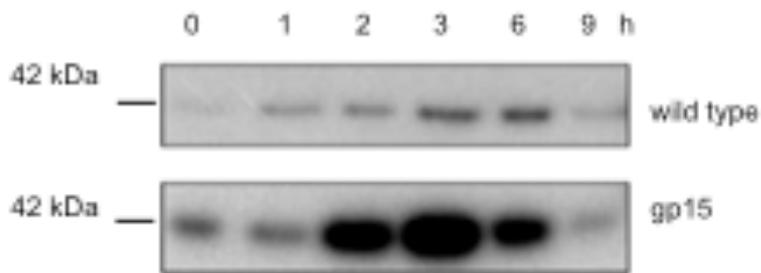


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1244 **Figure 4**



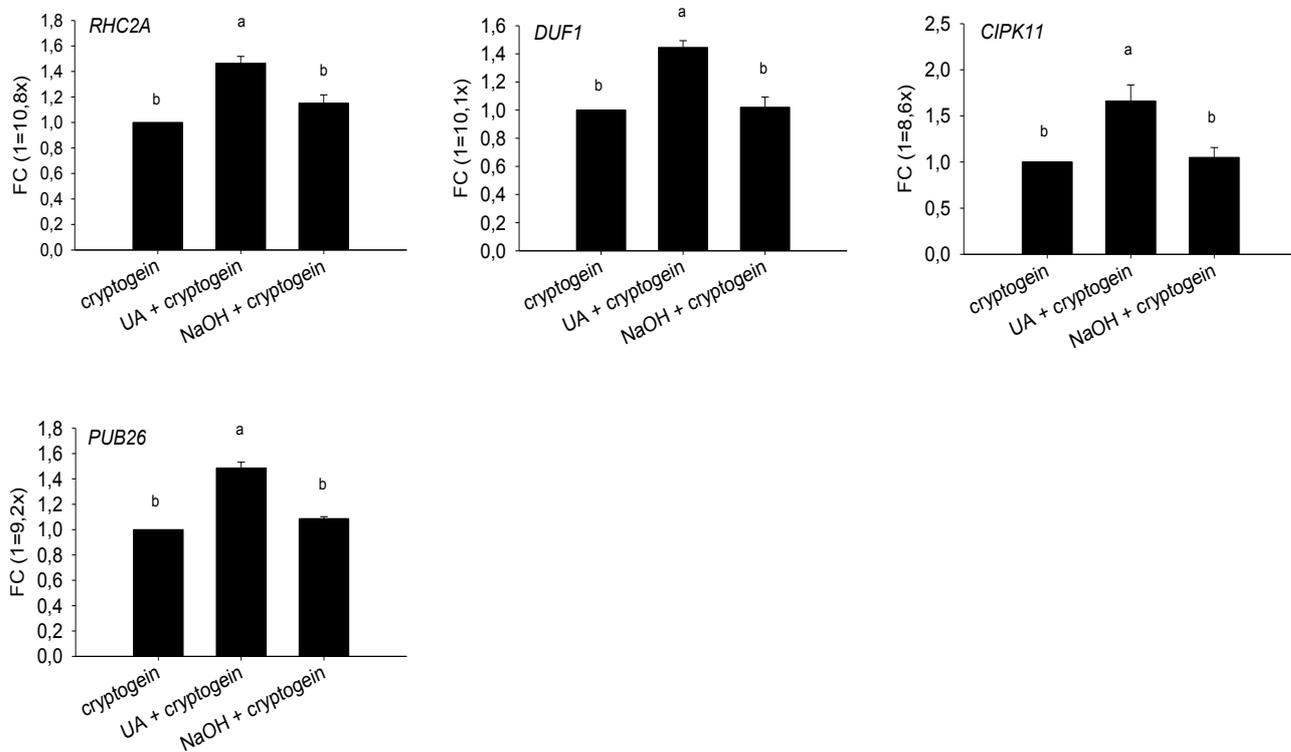
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1247 **Figure 5**

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1249



1250

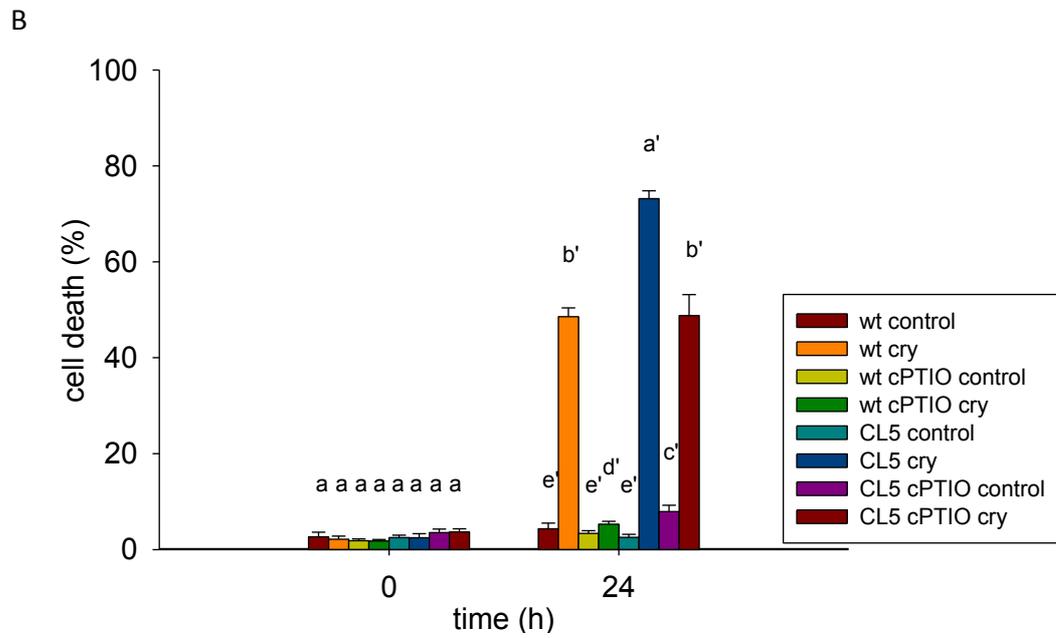
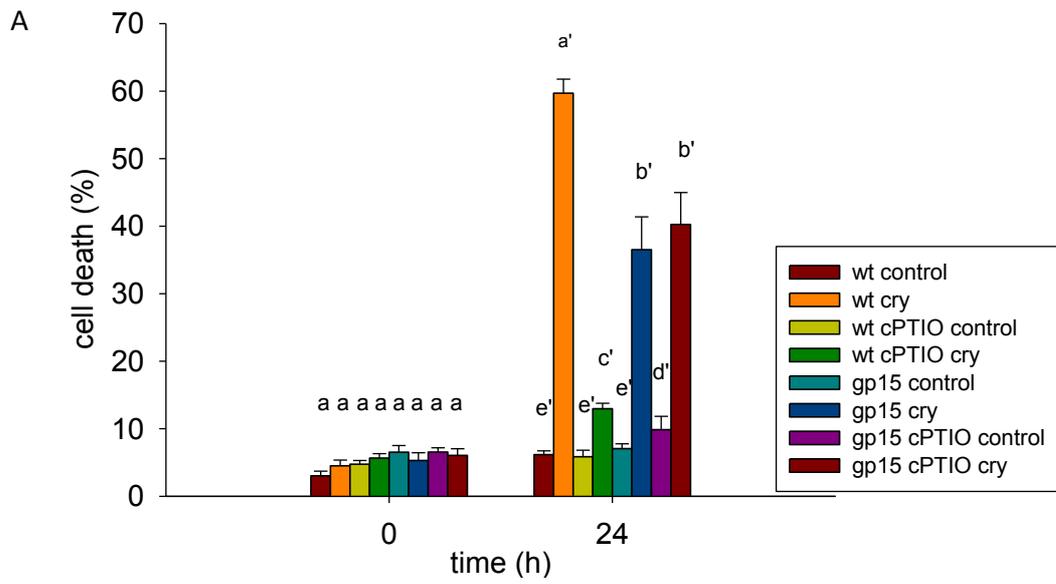
1251 **Figure 6**

1252

1253

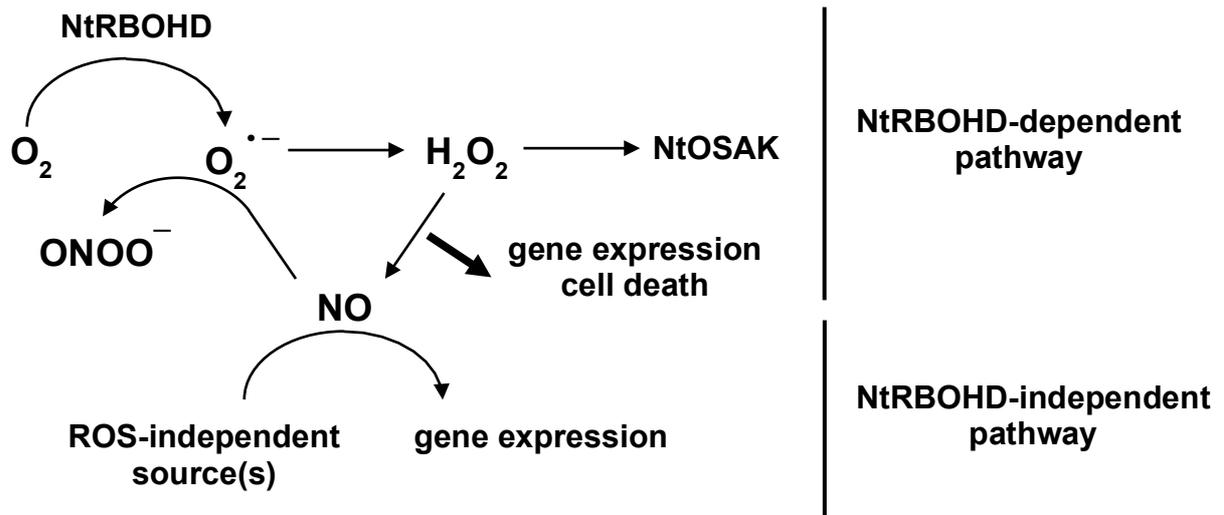
1254

1255



1277 **Figure 7**

1278

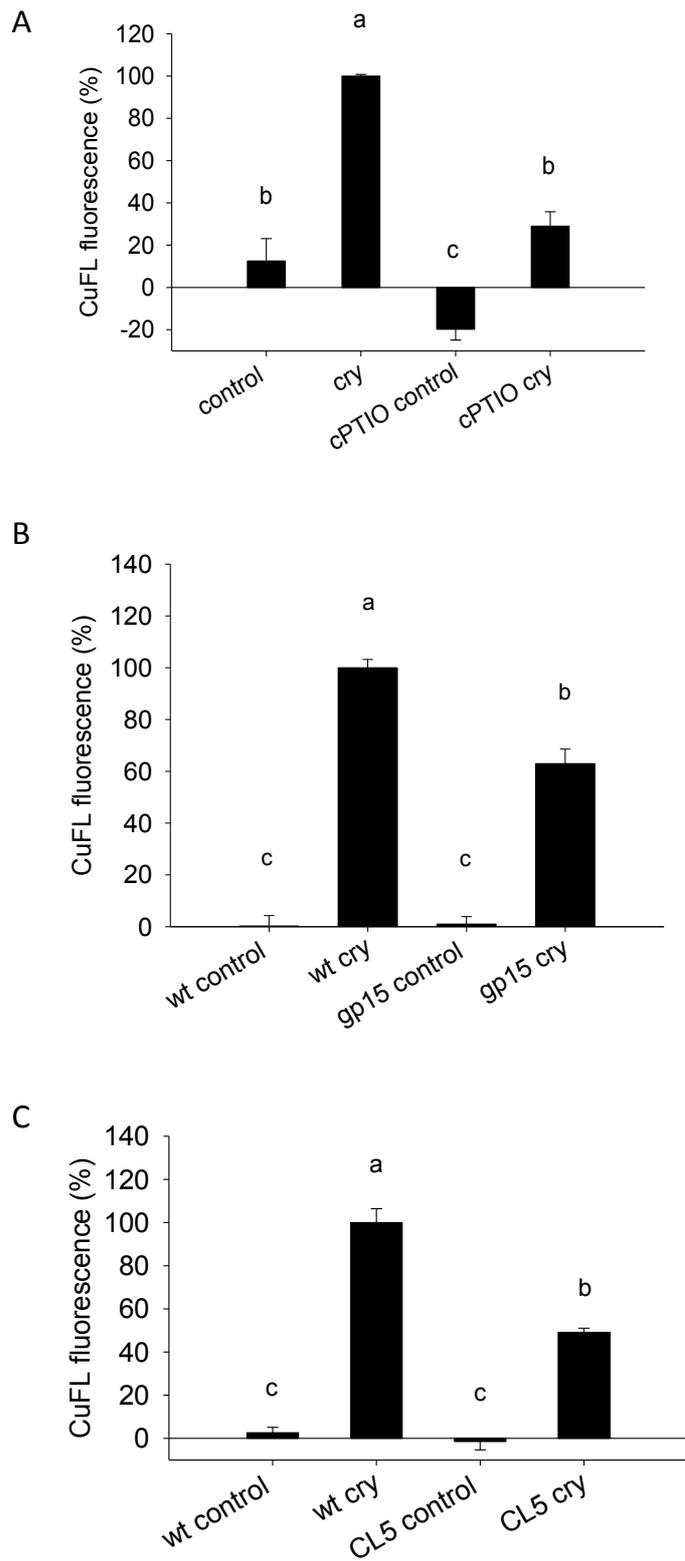


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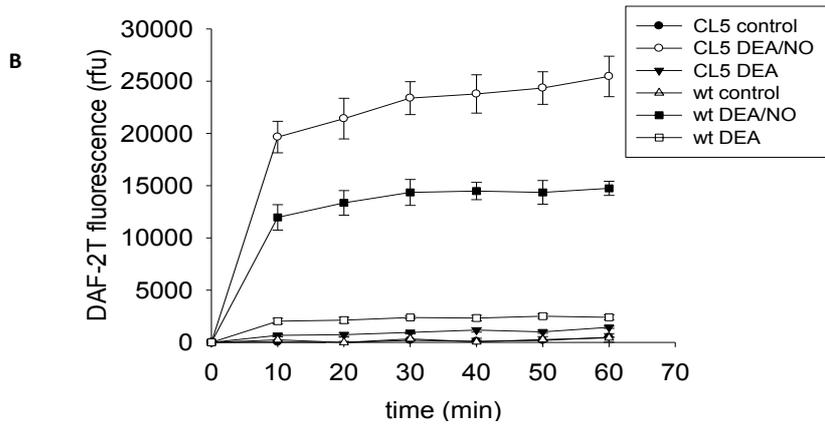
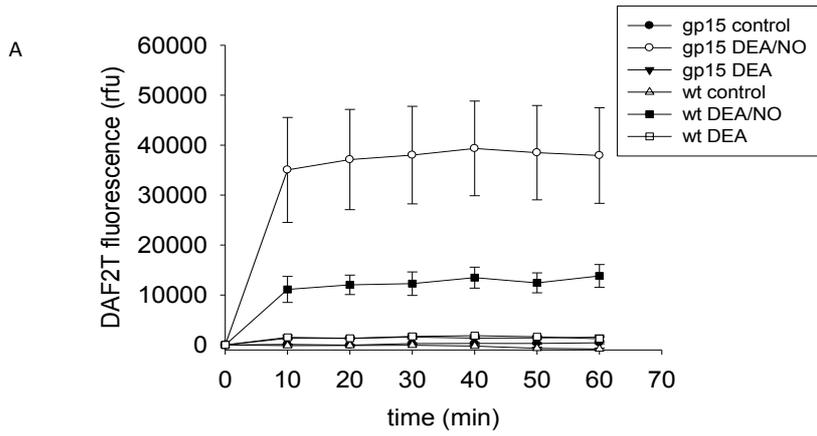
1281 **Figure 8**

1282



1308 **Figure S1**

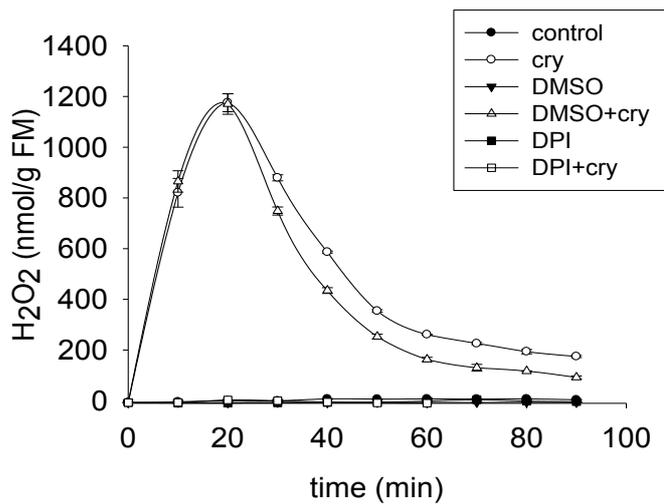
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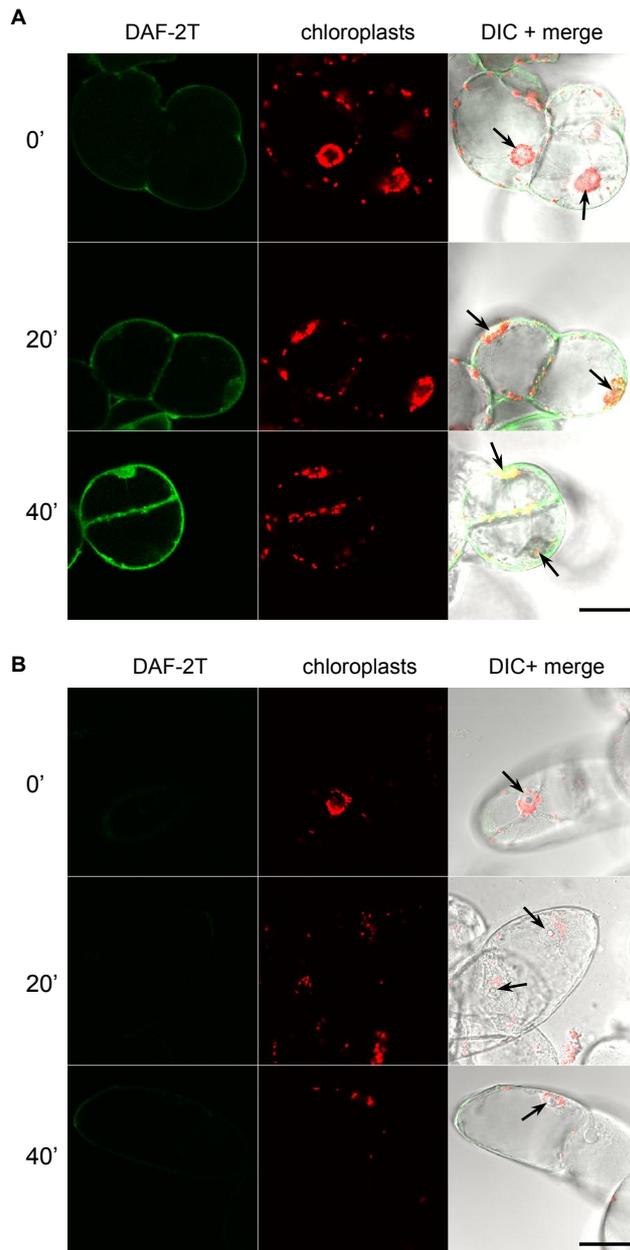
1324 **Figure S2**

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1336 **Figure S3**



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1339 **Figure S4**

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