



US00RE38825E

(19) **United States**
 (12) **Reissued Patent**
Barry et al.

(10) **Patent Number: US RE38,825 E**
 (45) **Date of Reissued Patent: Oct. 11, 2005**

(54) **GLYPHOSATE TOLERANT PLANTS**

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(21) Appl. No.: **09/612,404**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 7, 2000**

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

(64) Patent No.: **5,776,760**
 Issued: **Jul. 7, 1998**
 Appl. No.: **08/484,274**
 Filed: **Jun. 7, 1995**

U.S. Applications:

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/391,339, filed on Feb. 21, 1995, now Pat. No. 5,463,175, which is a continuation of application No. 08/156,968, filed on Nov. 23, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 07/717,370, filed on Jun. 24, 1991, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 07/543,236, filed on Jun. 25, 1990, now abandoned.

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **C12P 21/06**; C12N 9/00;
 C12N 9/02; C12N 1/20; C07H 21/04

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **435/189**; 435/4; 435/6;
 435/69.1; 435/183; 435/252.3; 435/320.1;
 435/262.5; 536/23.2; 536/23.6; 536/23.7

(58) **Field of Search** 435/4, 6, 69.1,
 435/183, 189, 252.3, 262.5, 320.1; 536/23.2,
 23.6, 23.7

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Genes encoding a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme are disclosed. The genes are useful in producing transformed bacteria and plants which degrade glyphosate herbicide as well as crop plants which are tolerant to glyphosate herbicide.

5 Claims, 36 Drawing Sheets

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SspI
6358 TCATCAAAATATTTAGCAGCATTCAGATTGGGTTCAA
TCAACAAGGTACGAGCCATATCACTTTATTCAAATTGG
TATGCCAAAACCAAGAAGGAACCTCCATCCTCAAAGG
TTTGTAAGGAAGAATTCTCAGTCCAAGCCTCAACAAG
GTCAGGTACAGAGTCTCCAACCATTAGCCAAAGCT
ACAGGATCAATGAAGAACTTCAATCAAAGTAAACT
ACTGTTCCAGCACATGCATCATGGTCAGTAAGTTTCAG
AAAAAGACATCCACCGAAGACTTAAAGTTAGTGGGCAT
CTTGAAAGTAATCTTGTCAACATCGAGCAGCTGGCTT
GTGGGACCAGACAAAAGGAATGGTGCAGAATTGTT
AGGCGACCTACCAAAAGCATCTTTGCCTTTATTGCAA
AAGATAAGCAGATTCCCTCTAGTACAAGTGGGGAACAA

FIGURE 1A

AMENDED

AATAACGTGGAAAGAGCTGTCTGACAGCCCACTCAC
TAATGCCGTATGACGAACGCCAGTGACGCCACAAAAGAA
TTTTCCCTCTATATAAGAGGCATTTCCATTTCCATTG
AAGGATCATCAGATACTAACC AATATTTCTC 6954

SspI

FIGURE 1B

AMENDED

1 NCATGGACGTCTGATCGAAATCGTTCGTTACCGCAGCAAGGTAAGGCACGCCGAATTTTAT
61 CACCTACCGCGAAACGGTGGCTAGGCAGCCGAGAGACTGTGGCTCCGGGGAGCATCCTA
M ("MET120")

121 TGCTGAGAACCAAAAAGTAGGCATCGCTGGAGCCGGAATCGTCGGCGTATGCACGG
S E N H K K V G I A G A G I V G V C T A

181 CGCTGATGCTTCAGCGCCGGGATTCAAAGTCACCTTGATTGACCCGAACCCTCCTGGCG
L M L Q R R G F K V T L I D P N P P G E

241 AAGTGATCGTTTGGGAATGCCGGATGCTTCAACGGCTCATCCGTCGTCCTATGTCCA
G A S F G N A G C F N G S S V V P M S M

FIGURE 2A

AMENDED

301
TGCCGGAAACTTGACGAGCGTGCCGAAGTGGCTCCTTGACCCGATGGGGCCGTTGTCAA
P G N L T S V P K W L L D P M G P L S I

361
TCCGGTTCAGCTATTTCCAACCATCATGCCCTGGTTGATTGCTTCTGTAGCCGGAA
R F S Y F P T I M P W L I R F L L A G R

421
GACCAACAAGGTGAAGGAGCAGGCGAAAGCACTCCGCAATCTCATCAAGTCCACGGTGC
P N K V K E Q A K A L R N L I K S T V P

481
CTCTGATCAAGTCATTTGGCGGAGGAGGCTGATGCGAGCCATCTGATCCGCCATGAAGTGC
L I K S L A E E A D A S H L I R H E G H

541
ATCTGACCCGTATATCGTGGAGAAGCAGACTTCGCCAAGGACCGGAGGTTGGGAACTGC
L T V Y R G E A D F A K D R G G W E L R

FIGURE 2B

AMENDED

601
GGCGTCTCAACGGTGTTCGCACGCAGATCCTCAGCGCCGATGCCGTTGCCGGGATTTTCGATC
R L N G V R T Q I L S A D A L R D F D P

661
SphI
CGAACTTGTCGCATGCCGTTTACCAAGGCCATTCTTATAGAGAGAACGGTCACACGATTA
N L S H A F T K G I L I E E N G H T I N

721
EcoRI
ATCCGCAAGGCTCGTGACCCCTTGTTCGGCGTTTATCGGAACGGTGGCGAATTCG
P Q G L V T L L F R R F I A N G G E F V

781
TATCTGCCGCTGTCATCGGCTTTGAGACTGAAGGTAGGGCGCTTAAAGGCATTACAACCA
S A R V I G F E T E G R A L K G I T T T

FIGURE 2C
AMENDED

841
CGAACGGCGTTCTGGCCGTTGATGCAGCGGTTGTGCGAGCCGGCGCACACTCGAAATCAT
N G V L A V D A A V A A G A H S K S L

901
EcoRV
TTGCTAATTCGCTAGGCGATGACATCCCGCTCGATACCGAACGTCGGATATCATATCGTCA
A N S L G D D I P L D T E R G Y H I V I

961
TCGCGAATCCGGAAGCCGCTCCACGCAITCCGACGACCGATGCGTCAGGAAAATTCATCG
A N P E A A P R I P T T D A S G K F I A

1021
CGACACCTATGGAAATGGGGCTTCGCGTGGCGGGTACGGTTGAGTTCGCTGGGCTCACAG
T P M E M G L R V A G T V E F A G L T A

FIGURE 2D

AMENDED

1321
TCCTCGCAGGCGAAAAGACCTCAATCGACATTTGCGCCCTTGCACCAACCGCTTTGGTA
L A G E K T S I D I S P F A P N R F G I

1381
ScaI
TTGGCAAATCCAAGCAAACGGGTCCGGCAAGTTAAGTACTTACGGGTCGTGAGTACAGC
G K S K Q T G P A S *

1441
GCAGAGCCGGTGTCAAGATCAATCTGCACCTCGCAATCACCTCGGAGACGCGAAATGGCG
CAAATAGAACACATATTAACGAGTCACGCCCCCGAAGCCTTTGGGTCACTACAGTCAGGCG

1561
GCCCGAGCGGTGGATTCAATTCATGTTTCCGGTCAGCTTCCGATCAAACCAAGGCCAG

FIGURE 2F

AMENDED

1621
TCGGAGCAATCTGACGATCTCGTCGATAACCAGGCCAGTCTCGTTCTCCGGAATTGCTG

1681
XhoI
GCCGTACTCGAG

FIGURE 2G
AMENDED

1
 fMet

 AGATCTCCATGGCTGAGAACCAACAAAAGTAGGCATCGCTGGAGCCGGA
 T

 51
 ATCGTCGGCGTATGCACGGCGCTGATGCTTCAGCGCCGCGGATTCAAAGT
 T T T T T A T T
 101
 CACCTTGATTGACCCGAACCCCTCCTGGCGAAGGTGCATCGTTTGGGAATG
 151
 CCGGATGCTTCAACGGCTCATCCGTCGTCCCTATGTCCATGCCGGGAAC

FIGURE 3A
 AMENDED

201
TTGACGAGCGTGCCGAAGTGGCTCCTTGACCCGATGGGGCCGTTGTCAAT

251
CCGGTTCAGCTATTTTCCAACCATCATGCCCTGGTTGATTCCGCTTTCGT

301
TAGCCGGAAGACCAACAAGGTGAAGGAGCAGGCCGAAAGCACTCCGCAAT

351
CTCATCAAGTCCACGGTGCCCTCTGATCAAGTCATTTGGCGGAGGAGGCTGA

401
TGCGAGCCATCTGATCCGCCATGAAGGTCACTGACCCGTATATCGTGGAG

FIGURE 3B

AMENDED

451
AAGCAGACTTCGCCAAGGACCGCGGAGGTTGGGAAC TGGCGGCTCAAC

501
GGTGTTCGCACGAGATCCTCAGCGCCGATGCGTTGCGGATTTCCGATCC
TCT T T T

551
GAACTTGTCCGATGCGTTTACCAAGGCA TTTATAGAAAGAACGGTC
T

601
ACACGATTAATCCGCAAGGGCTCGTGACCCTCTTGTTCGGCGTTTATC

FIGURE 3C

AMENDED

651
GCGAACGGTGGCGAATTGTATCTGCCGCGTGCATCGGCTTTGAGACTGA
T

701
AGGTAGGGCGCTTAAAGGCATTACAACCACGAACGGGCTTCGGCCGTTG
C T T C T T T

751
ATGCAGCGGTTGTGCAGCCGGCGCACACTCGAAATCACTTGCTAATTCG
T T T T T

801
CTAGGCATGACATCCCGCTCGATACCGAACGTGGATATCATATCGTCAT

FIGURE 3D

AMENDED

851
CGCGAATCCGGAAGCCGCTCCACGCATTCGACGACCGATGCCGTCAGGAA
901
AATTCATCGCGACACCTATGGAAATGGGGCTTCGCGTGGCGGGTACGGTT
T T T T T
951
GAGTTCGGCTCACAGCCGCTCCTAAGGAAACGTGGCATGTGCT
T T T
1001
CTATACGCACGCTCGAAACTTCTTCCAGCCCTCGCGCCTGCGGAGTTCG

FIGURE 3E
AMENDED

1051
AAGAACGATATTCCAAATGGATGGGGTTCCGGCCGAGCATCCCGGATTCCG
T T T T T T T
1101
CTCCCCGTGATTGGCCGGCAACCCGGACACCCGACGTAATCTATGCTTT
T A T T T T
1151
CGGCCACGGTCACTCGGCATGACAGGGGCCCGATGACCCGCAACGCTCG
T T T T A T T
1201
TCTCAGAGCTCCTCGCAGGCCGAAAGACCCTCAATCGACATTTCGCCCTTC

FIGURE 3F

AMENDED

1251
GCACCAAACCGCTTTGGTATTGGCAAAATCCAAGCAAACGGGTCCGGCAAG
1301
TTAAGTGGGAATTC AAGCTTG

FIGURE 3G

AMENDED

1
AGATCTCCATGGCTGAGAACCAAAAAGTAGGCATCGCTGGAGCCGGA
G G T T T
51
ATCGTCGGCGTATGCACGGCGCTGATGCTTCAGCGCCGCGGATTCAAAAGT
T T T T T A T T G
101
CACCTTGATTGACCCGAACCCTCCTGGCGAAGGTGCATCGTTTGGGAATG
T T A A A T T T C T C
151
CCGGATGCTTCAACGGCTCATCCGTCGTCGCCCTATGTCCATGCCGGGAAAC
T T T C T T A A

FIGURE 4A

AMENDED

201

TTGACGAGCGTGCCGAAGTGGCTCCTTGACCCGATGGGGCCGTTGTCAAT
 T T A T A T A C

251

CCGGTTCAGCTATTTCCAACCATCATGCCCTGGTTGATTCCGCTTCTGT
 T C T T C T C

301

TAGCCGAAGACCAACAAGTGAAGGAGCAGGCCAAGCACTCCGCAAT
 T T A T G T C

351

CTCATCAAGTCCACGGTGCCTCTGATCAAGTCATTGGCGGAGGAGGCTGA
 T T C T

FIGURE 4B

AMENDED

401
TGCAGCCATCTGATCCGCCATGAAGGTCATCTGACCGTATATCGTGGAG
T C T T C C T G C
451
AAGCAGACTTCGCCAAGGACCGGGAGGTTGGGAACTGCGGCGTCTCAAC
T T T
501
GGTGTTCGCACGCAGATCCTCAGCGCCGATGCGTTGCGGGATTTCGATCC
T T A T A T
551
GAACTTGTCGATGCGTTTACCAAGGCATTCTTATAGAAGAGAACGGTC
T T C C A C C

FIGURE 4C

AMENDED

601
ACACGATTAATCCGCAAGGGCTCGTGACCCCTCTTGTTTCGGCGTTTATC
C C C A T T T C C
651
GCCAACGGTGGCGAATTGTATCTGCGCGTGTCAATCGGCTTGTGAGACTGA
T A G C G T T A C
701
AGGTAGGGCGCTTAAAGGCATTACAACCAACGACGGCTTCTGGCCGTTG
C T T C G T C C C T T T
751
ATGCAGCGGTTGTCCAGCCGGCGCACACTCGAAATCACTTGTCTAATTCCG
T T T T C G T C C

FIGURE 4D

AMENDED

801
 CTAGGCGATGACATCCCGCTCGATACCGAACGGATATCATAATCGTCAT
 T T AT G C C G

851
 CGCGAATCCGGAAGCCGCTCCACGCATTCCGACGCCGATGCCGTCAGGAA
 C C A T T A T T T

901
 AATTCATCGCGACACCTATGGAAATGGGGCTTCGCGTGGCGGTACGGTT
 G T T G T T T A C

951
 GAGTTCGCTGGGCTCACAGCCGCTCCTAACTGGAAACGGTGGCATGTGCT
 T T T G T C T

FIGURE 4E

AMENDED

1001
CTATACGCACGCTCGAAACTTCTTCCAGCCCTCGCGCCTGCGAGTTCCTG
C T T G T G T T C

1051
AAGAACGATATCCAAATGGATGGGGTTCGGGCCGAGCATCCCGGATTCCG
T C G T T A A C

1101
CTCCCCGTGATTGGCCGGCAACCCGGACACCCGACGTAATCTATGCTTT
T A T T T T A T C

1151
CGGCCACGGTCACTCGGCATGACAGGGGCCGATGACCCGCAACGCTCG
T C T T T A C

FIGURE 4F

AMENDED

1201
TCTCAGAGCTCCTCGCAGGCGAAAGACCTCAATCGACATTTGCCCCTTC
T T T G T C T A

1251
GCACCAACCGGTTTGGTATTGGCAATCCAAGCAACGGGTCCGGCAAG
T C T G T T TC

1301
TTAAGTGGGAATCAAGCTTG
C

FIGURE 4G
AMENDED

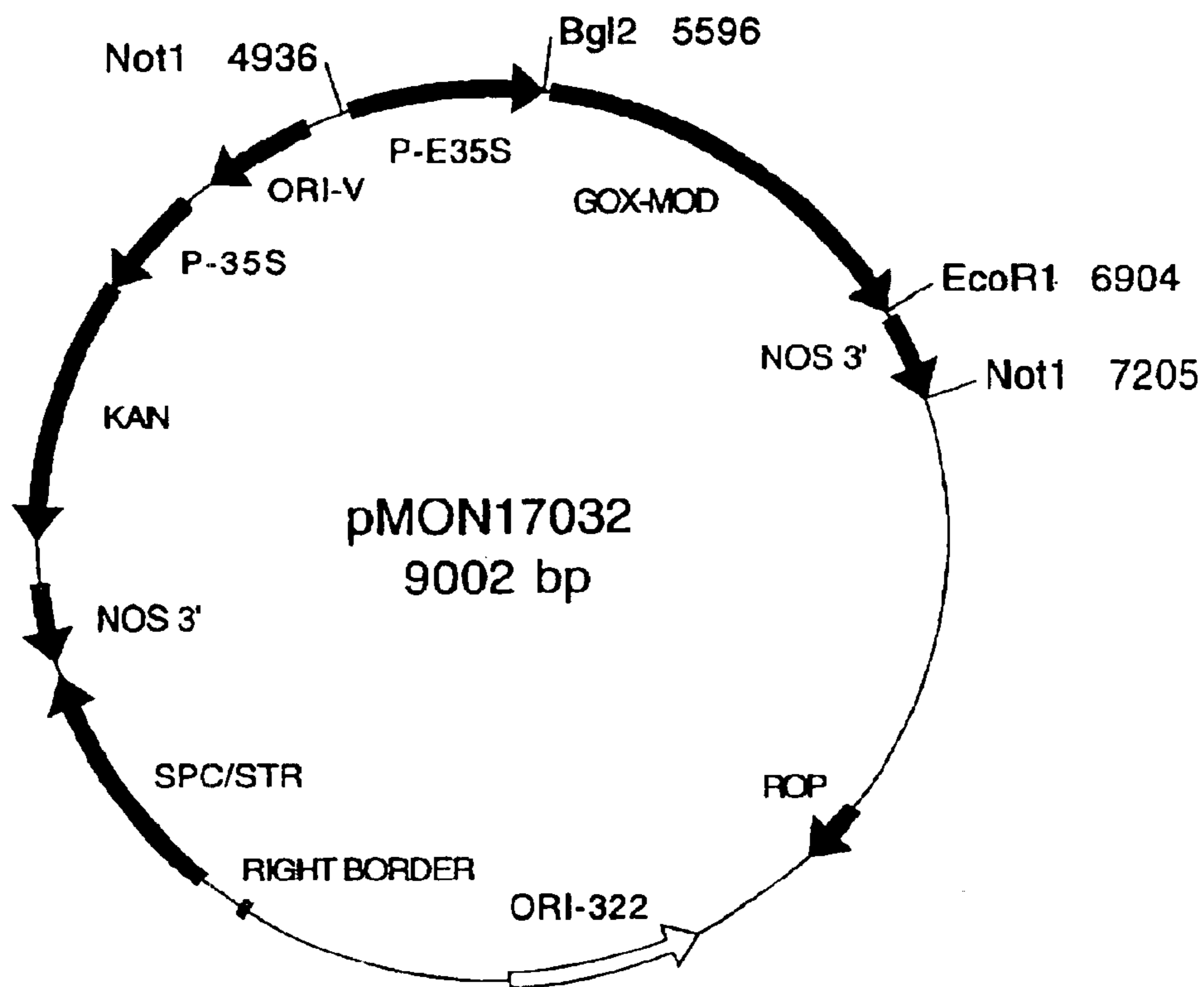


Figure 5

AMENDED

B
9
I
I
I
AGATCTCCACAATGGCTTCCTCTATGCTCTCTTCCGCTACTATGGTTGCCCTCTCCG
1 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 56
TCTAGAGGTGTTACCGAAGGAGATACGAGAGAGGCGATGATACCAACGGAGAGGC

MetAlaSerSerMetLeuSerSerAlaThrMetValAlaSerPro

GCTCAGGCCACTATGGTCGCTCCTTTCAACGGACTTAAGTCCTCCGCTGCCTTC
57 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 110
CGAGTCCGGTGATACCAGCGAGGAAAGTTGCCCTGAATTCAGGAGGCCGCGGAAG
AlaGlnAlaThrMetValAlaProPheAsnGlyLeuLysSerSerAlaAlaPhe

FIGURE 6A

AMENDED

111 CCAGCCACCCGCAAGGCTAACAAACGACATTACTTCCATCACAAAGCAACGGCGGA 164
 112 GGTCGGTGGGCGTCCGATTGTTGCTGTAAATGAAGGTAGTGTTCGTTGCCGCCCT

ProAlaThrArgLysAlaAsnAspIleThrSerIleThrSerAsnGlyGly

165 AGAGTTAACTGCATGCAGGTGGCCCTCCGATTGGAAGAAGAAGTTGAGACT 218
 166 TCTCAATTGACGTACGTCCACACCGGAGGCTAACCTTCTTCAAACTCTGA

ArgValAsnCysMetGlnValTrpProProIleGlyLysLysLysPheGluThr

219 CTCTCTTACCTTCCCTGACCTTACCGATTCCGGTGGTCCGTCGAACCTGCATGCAG 272
 220 GAGAGAA TGGAAGGACTGGAATGGCTAAGGCCACCAGCCGAGTTGACGTACGTC

LeuSerTyrLeuProAspLeuThrAspSerGlyGlyArgValAsnCysMetGln

FIGURE 6B

AMENDED

N
C
O
I
GCCATGG
273 -----+ 279
CGGTACC
AlaMet

FIGURE 6C
AMENDED

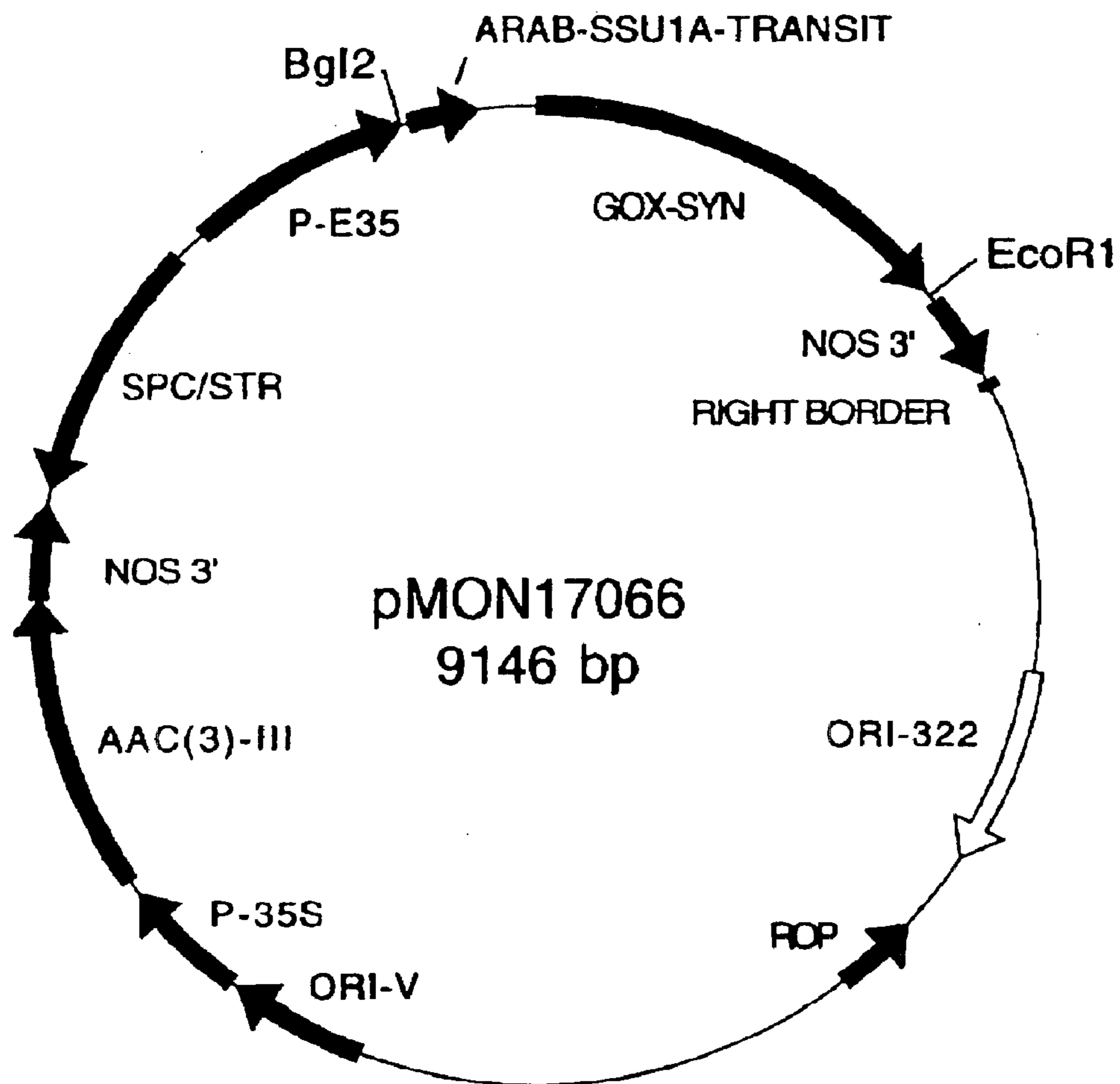


Figure 7

AMENDED

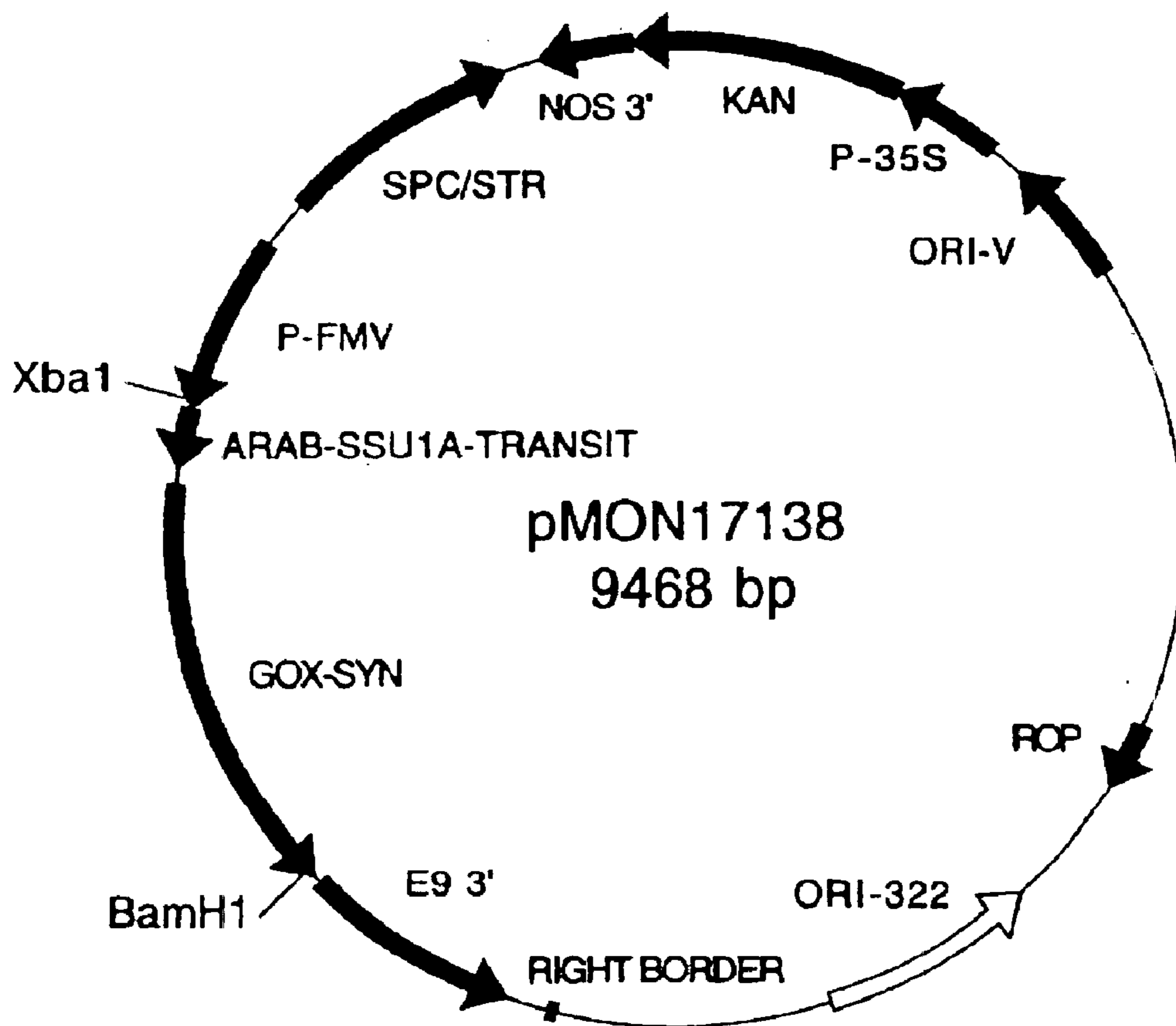


Figure 8

AMENDED

B
 9
 I
 I
 I
 1
 56
 AGATCTATCGATAAGCTTGATGTAAATTGGAGGAAGATCAAAAATTTTCAATCCCCAT
 TCTAGATAGCTATTCCGAACACTACATTAAACCTCCTTCTAGTTTTTAAAGTTAGGGGTA
 TCTTCGATTGCTTCAATTGAAGTTTCTCCGATGGCGCAAGTTAGCAGAATCTGC
 57
 110
 AGAAGCTAACGAAGTTAACTTCAAAGAGGCTACCCGGTTCAATCGTCTTAGACG
 MetAlaGlnValSerArgIleCys
 AATGGTGCAGAACCCATCTTTATCTCCAATCTCTCGAAATCCAGTCAACGC
 111
 164
 TTACCACACGTCTTGGGTAGAGAAATAGAGGTTAGAGAGCTTTAGGTCAGTTGCCG
 AsnGlyValGlnAsnProSerLeuIleSerAsnLeuSerLysSerSerGlnArg

FIGURE 9A

AMENDED

165 AAATCTCCCTTATCGGTTTCTCTGAAGACGCAGCAGCATCCACGAGCTTATCCCG 218
TTTAGAGGGAATAGCCAAGAGACTTCTGCGTCGTCGTAGGTGCTCGAATAGGC

LysSerProLeuSerValSerLeuLysThrGlnGlnHisProArgAlaTyrPro

219 ATTTTCGTCGTCGGGATTGAAGAAGAGTGGGATGACGTTAATTGGCTCTGAG 272
TAAAGCAGCAGCACCCCTAACTTCTCACCCTACTGCAATTAACCGAGACTC

IleSerSerSerTrpGlyLeuLysLysSerGlyMetThrLeuIleGlySerGlu

FIGURE 9B

AMENDED

S
 P
 h
 I

 273 CTTTCGTCCTTAAAGGTCATGTCCTTCTGTGTTCCACGGCGTGCAATGC
 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
 GAAGCAGGAGATTCCAGTACAGACACAAGGTGCCCGCACGTACCG

 LeuArgProLeuLysValMetSerSerValSerThrAlaCysMet

FIGURE 9C
 AMENDED

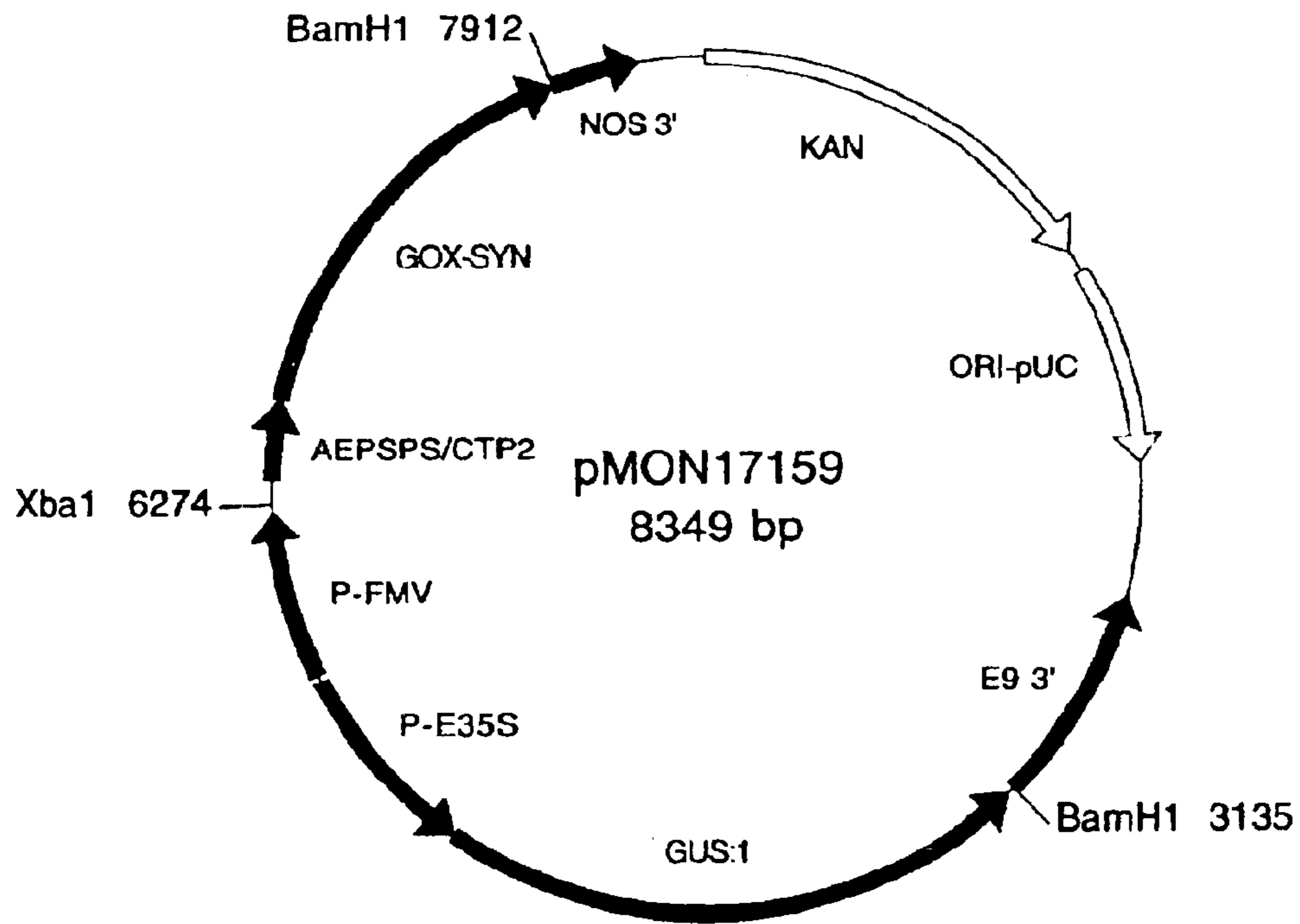


Figure 10

AMENDED

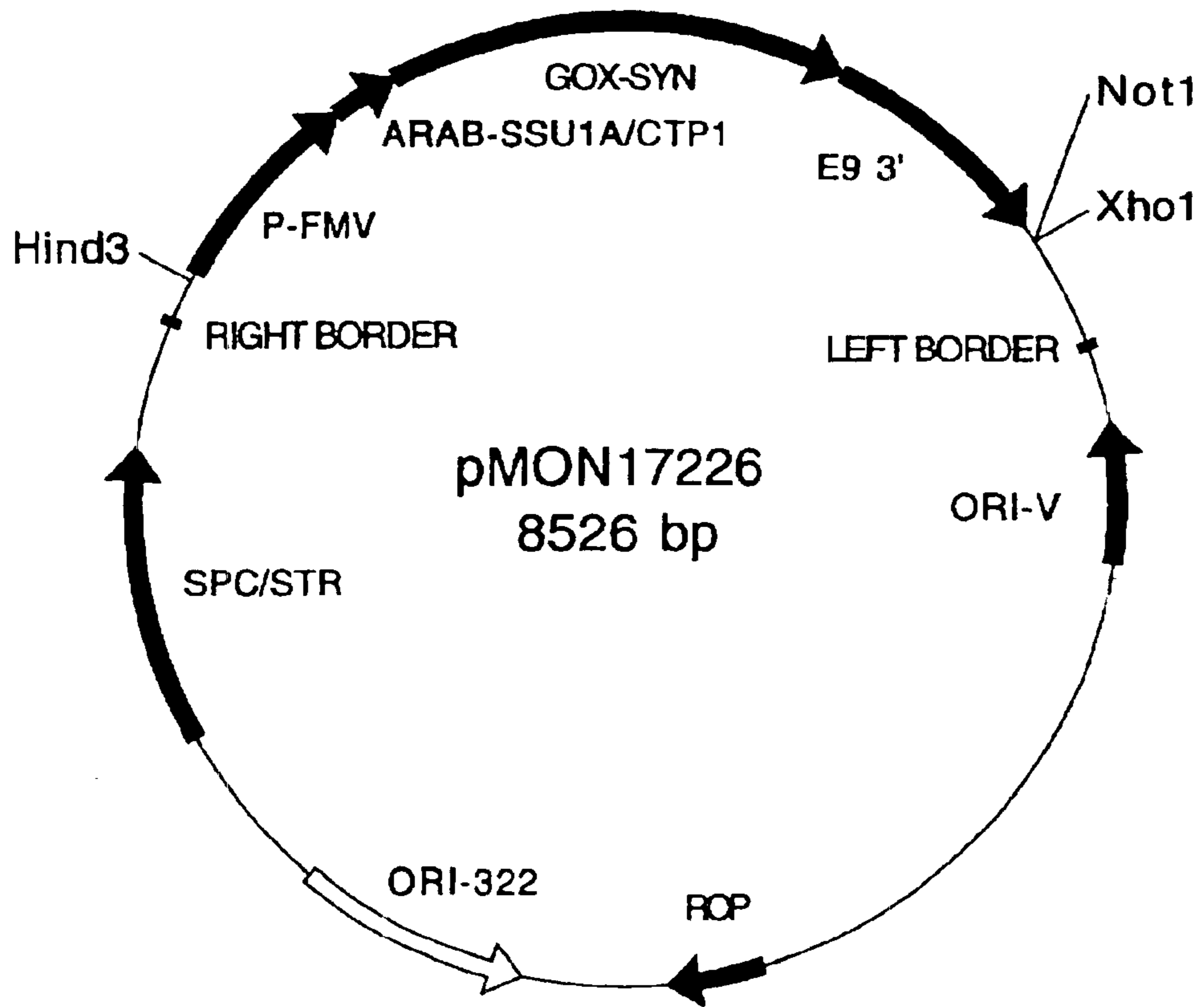


Figure 11

AMENDED

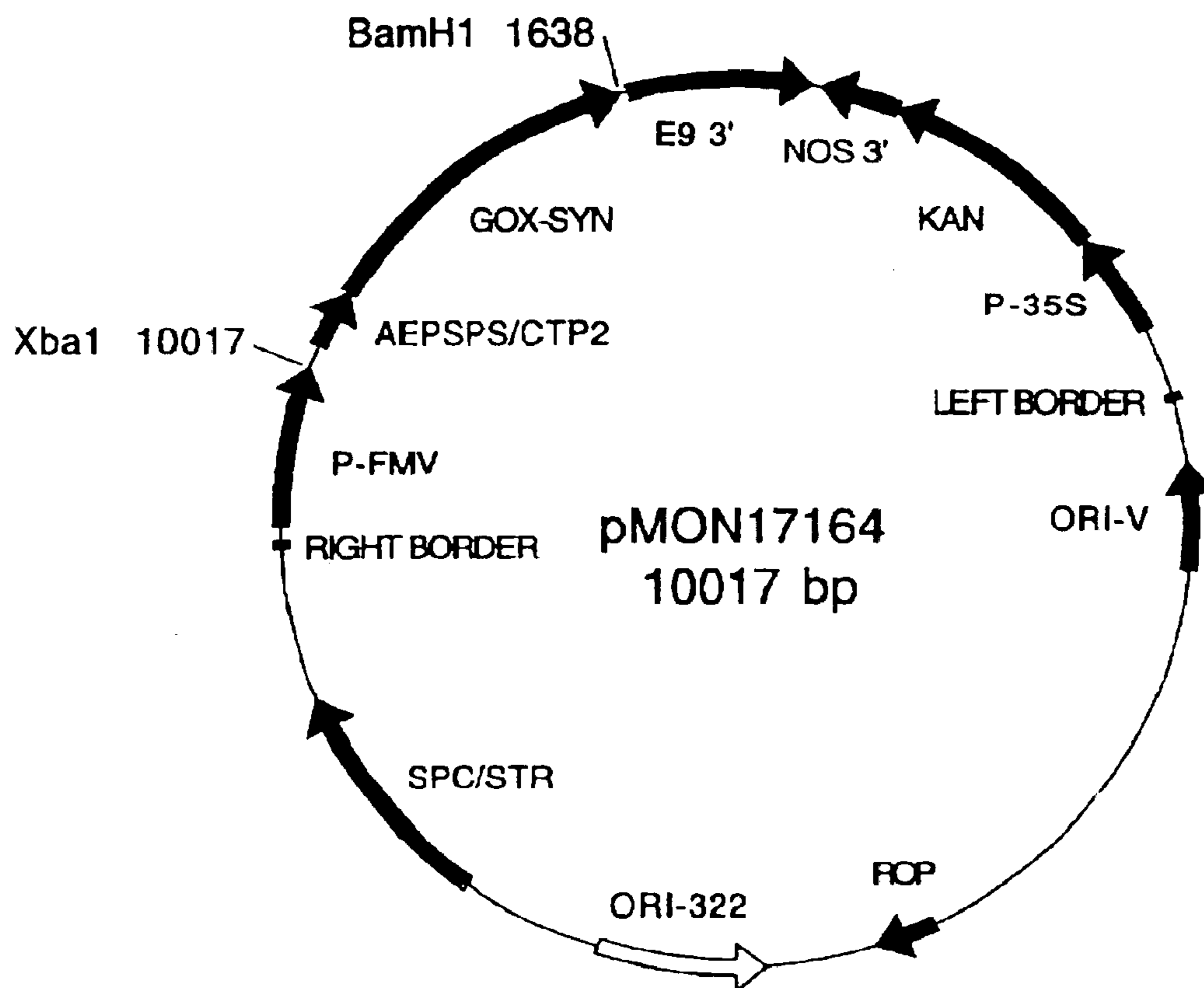


Figure 12

AMENDED

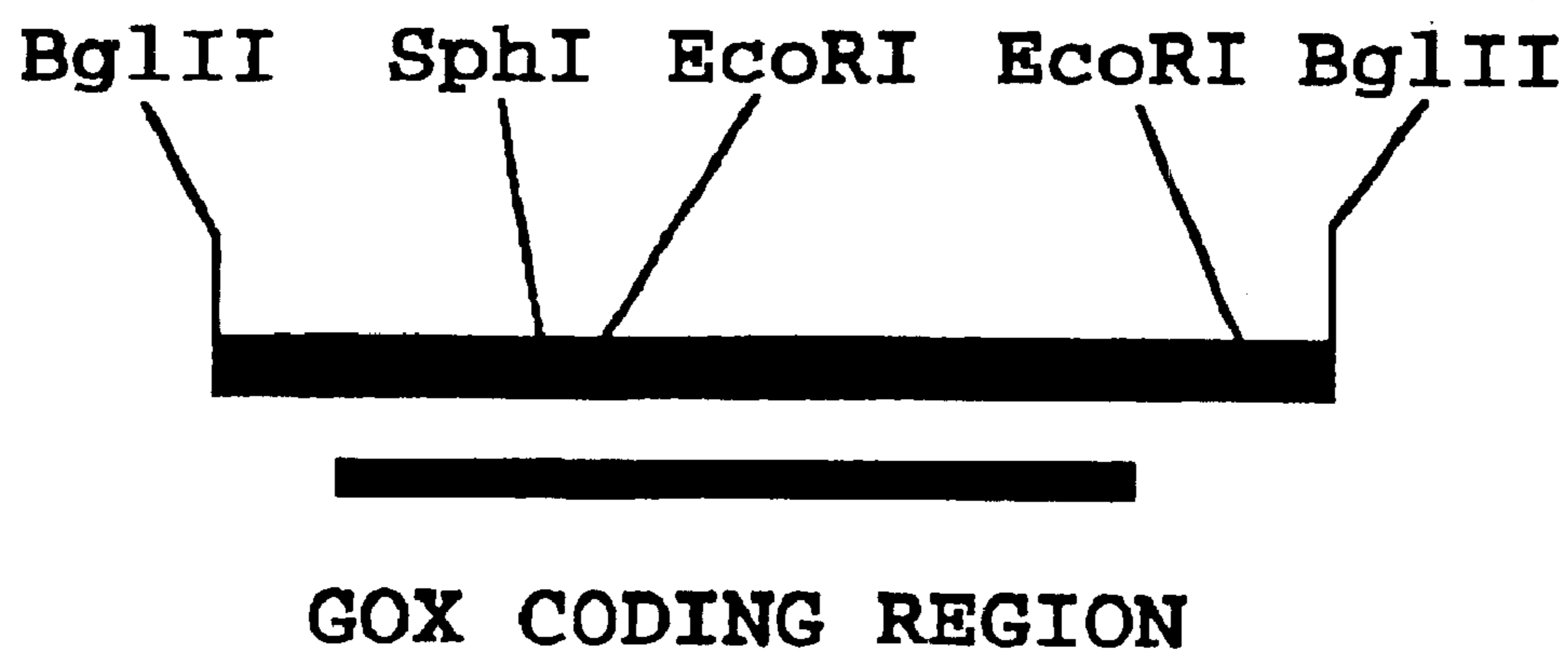


Figure 13

AMENDED

GLYPHOSATE TOLERANT PLANTS

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

This is a continuation of application Ser. No. 08/391,339, filed Feb. 21, 1995; which is a continuation of application Ser. No. 08/156,968, filed Nov. 23, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application Ser. No. 07/717,370, filed Jun. 24, 1991, now abandoned, which is a continuation in part of application Ser. No. 07/543,236, filed Jun. 25, 1990, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Recent advances in genetic engineering have provided the requisite tools to transform plants to contain foreign genes. It is now possible to produce plants which have unique characteristics of agronomic importance. Certainly, one such advantageous trait is more cost effective, environmentally compatible weed control via herbicide tolerance. Herbicide-tolerant plants may reduce the need for tillage to control weeds thereby effectively reducing soil erosion.

One herbicide which is the subject of much investigation in this regard is N-phosphonomethyl-glycine commonly referred to as glyphosate. Glyphosate inhibits the shikimic acid pathway which leads to the biosynthesis of aromatic compounds including amino acids and vitamins. Specifically, glyphosate inhibits the conversion of phosphoenolpyruvic acid and 3-phosphoshikimic acid to 5-enolpyruvyl-3-phosphoshikimic acid by inhibiting the enzyme 5-enolpyruvyl-3-phosphoshikimic acid synthase (EPSP synthase or EPSPS).

It has been shown that glyphosate tolerant plants can be produced by inserting into the genome of the plant the capacity to produce a higher level of EPSP synthase which enzyme is preferably glyphosate tolerant (Shah et al., 1986). The introduction into plants of glyphosate degradation gene (s) could provide a means of conferring glyphosate tolerance to plants and/or to augment the tolerance of transgenic plants already expressing a glyphosate tolerant EPSP synthase depending upon the physiological effects of the degradation products.

Glyphosate metabolism (degradation) has been examined in a wide variety of plants and little degradation has been reported in most of those studies. In those instances where degradation has been reported, the initial breakdown product is usually aminomethylphosphonate (AMPA) (Coupland, 1985; Marshall et al., 1987). In these instances, it is not clear if glyphosate is metabolized by the plant or the contaminating microbes on the leaf surface to which glyphosate was applied. AMPA has been reported to be much less phytotoxic than glyphosate for most plant species (Franz, 1985) but not for all plant species (Maier, 1983; Tanaka et al., 1988). Glyphosate degradation in soils is much more extensive and rapid (Torstensson, 1985). The principal breakdown product identified is AMPA (Rueppel et al., 1977; Nomura and Hilton, 1977); a phosphonate that can be metabolized by a wide variety of microorganisms (Zeleznick et al., 1963; Mastalerz et al., 1965; Cook et al., 1978; Daughton et al., 1979a; 1979b; 1979c; Wackett et al., 1987a). A number of pure cultures of bacteria have been identified that degrade glyphosate by one of the two known routes (Moore et al., 1983; Talbot et al., 1984; Shinabarger and Braymer, 1986; Balthazor and Hallas, 1986; Kishore and Jacob, 1987; Wackett et al., 1987a; Pipke et al., 1987a; Pipke et al.,

1987b; Hallas et al., 1988; Jacob et al., 1985 and 1988; Pipke and Amrhein, 1988; Quinn et al., 1988 and 1989; Lerbs et al., 1990; Schowanek and Verstraete, 1990; Weidhase et al., 1990; Liu et al., 1991). A route involving a "C-P lyase" that degrades glyphosate to sarcosine and inorganic orthophosphate (Pi) has been reported for a *Pseudomonas* sp. (Shinabarger and Braymer, 1986; Kishore and Jacob, 1987) and an *Arthrobacter* sp. (Pipke et al., 1987b). Pure cultures capable of degrading glyphosate to AMPA have been reported for a *Flavobacterium* sp. (Balthazor and Hallas, 1986), for a *Pseudomonas* sp. (Jacob et al., 1988) and for *Arthrobacter atrocyaneus* (Pipke and Amrhein, 1988). In addition, a large number of isolates that convert glyphosate to AMPA have been identified from industrial activated sludges that treat glyphosate wastes (Hallas et al., 1988). However, the number and nature of bacterial genes responsible for these degradations have not been heretofore determined nor have the gene(s) been isolated.

Hence, in one aspect, an object of the present invention is to provide novel genes which encode a glyphosate metabolizing enzyme which converts glyphosate to aminomethylphosphonate and glyoxylate.

Another object is to enhance the activity of the glyphosate metabolizing enzyme against glyphosate by replacement of specific amino acid residues.

Another object of the present invention is to provide genetically modified plants which express a gene which encodes a glyphosate metabolizing enzyme and which exhibit enhanced tolerance to glyphosate herbicide.

Another object is to demonstrate that a glyphosate metabolizing enzyme can be targeted to plastids using chloroplast transit peptides and the plastid targeted enzyme confers high level glyphosate tolerance.

A further object is to provide a method for selecting transformed plant tissue using the glyphosate metabolizing enzyme as the selectable marker in the presence of inhibitory concentrations of glyphosate.

These and other objects, aspects and features of the present invention will become evident to those skilled in the art from the following description and working examples.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides structural DNA constructs which encode a glyphosate oxido-reductase enzyme and which are useful in producing glyphosate degradation capability in heterologous microorganisms (e.g. bacteria and plants) and in producing glyphosate tolerant plants.

In accomplishing the foregoing, there is provided, in accordance with one aspect of the present invention, a method of producing genetically transformed plants which are tolerant toward glyphosate herbicide, comprising the steps of:

- (a) inserting into the genome of a plant cell a recombinant, double-stranded DNA molecule comprising
 - (i) a promoter which functions in plant cells to cause the production of an RNA sequence,
 - (ii) a structural DNA sequence that causes the production of an RNA sequence which encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme,
 - (iii) a 3' non-translated DNA sequence which functions in plant cells to cause the addition of polyadenylated nucleotides to the 3' end of the RNA sequence;
 where the promoter is heterologous with respect to the coding sequence and adapted to cause sufficient expression

of said enzyme in plant tissue, including meristematic tissue, to enhance the glyphosate resistance of a plant cell transformed with said gene;

- (b) obtaining a transformed plant cell; and
- (c) regenerating from the transformed plant cell a genetically transformed plant which has increased tolerance to glyphosate herbicide.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a recombinant, double-stranded DNA molecule comprising in sequence:

- (a) a promoter which functions in plants to cause the production of an RNA sequence;
- (b) a structural DNA sequence that causes the production of an RNA sequence which encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme; and
- (c) a 3' non-translated region which functions in plants to cause the addition of polyadenylated nucleotides to the 3' end of the RNA sequence. There has also been provided, in accordance with another aspect of the present invention, bacterial and transformed plant cells that contain, respectively, DNA comprised of the above-mentioned elements (a), (b) and (c).

In accordance with yet another aspect of the present invention, differentiated plants have been provided that comprise transformed plant cells, as described above, which exhibit tolerance toward glyphosate herbicide.

In accordance with still another aspect of the present invention, there has been provided a method for selectively controlling weeds in a field containing a crop having planted crop seeds or plants comprising the steps of:

- (a) planting said crop seeds or plants which are glyphosate tolerant as a result of a recombinant double-stranded DNA molecule being inserted into said crop seed or plant, said DNA molecule having
 - (i) a promoter sequence which functions in plants to cause the production of an RNA sequence,
 - (ii) a structural DNA sequence which causes the production of RNA which encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme,
 - (iii) a 3' non-translated region which encodes a polyadenylation signal which functions in plants to cause the addition of polyadenylated nucleotides to the 3' end of the RNA sequence,

where the promoter is heterologous with respect to the coding sequence and adapted to cause sufficient expression of said enzyme in plant tissue, including meristematic tissue, to enhance the glyphosate tolerance of a plant cell transformed with said gene; and

- (b) applying to said crop and weeds in said field a sufficient amount of glyphosate herbicide to control said weeds without significantly affecting said crop.

In a particularly preferred embodiment the double-stranded DNA molecule comprising a gene for plant expression comprises a structural DNA sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide containing an amino-terminal chloroplast transit peptide which is capable of causing importation of the carboxy-terminal glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme into the chloroplast of the plant cell expressing said gene.

A further embodiment of the present invention is the use of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene as a selectable marker to select and identify transformed plant tissue.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1A–1B show the DNA sequence for the full-length promoter of figwort mosaic virus (FMV). (SEQ ID NO:1),

including an exemplary 5' non-translated leader sequence (SEQ ID NO:2).

FIGS. 2A–2G show the structural DNA sequence for a glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from bacterial isolate LBAA SEQ ID NO:3.

FIGS. 3A–3G show a comparison of the manipulated structural glyphosate oxidoreductase gene SEQ ID NO:6 versus a modified glyphosate oxidoreductase gene adapted for enhanced expression in plants SEQ ID NO:7. The manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is displayed as the upper DNA sequence.

Only the changes made in the modified gene are indicated in the lower strand of sequences.

FIGS. 4A–4G show a comparison of the manipulated structural glyphosate oxidoreductase gene SEQ ID NO:6 versus a synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene adapted for enhanced expression in plants SEQ ID NO:8. The manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is displayed as the upper DNA sequence.

FIG. 5 shows the structure of pMON17032, a pMON886 vector containing the modified glyphosate oxidoreductase gene inserted as an En-CaMV35S-modified glyphosate oxidoreductase-NOS 3' cassette into the NotI site of the vector. The pMON886 vector is described in the text.

FIGS. 6A–6C show the nucleotide sequence of the CTP1 chloroplast transit peptide SEQ ID NO:9 derived from the *A. thaliana* SSU1A gene.

FIG. 7 shows the genetic/structural map of plasmid pMON17066, a pMON979-type vector containing a gene encoding a CTP/synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion polypeptide. Related pMON979-type derivatives are pMON17065 and pMON17073.

FIG. 8 shows the genetic/structural map of plasmid pMON17138, an example of a pMON981-type vector containing a gene encoding a CTP/synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion polypeptide. In this example the CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has been cloned into pMON979 as a XbaI-BamHI fragment. FIGS. 9A–9C show the nucleotide sequence of the CTP2 chloroplast transit peptide SEQ ID NO:10 derived from the *A. thaliana* EPSPS gene.

FIG. 10 shows the structural map of plasmid pMON17159.

FIG. 11 shows the structural map of plasmid pMON17226.

FIG. 12 shows the structural map of plasmid pMON17164.

FIG. 13 illustrates restriction sites of the GOX coding region.

STATEMENT OF THE INVENTION

The expression of a plant gene which exists in double-stranded DNA form involves synthesis of messenger RNA (mRNA) from one strand of the DNA by RNA polymerase enzyme, and the subsequent processing of the mRNA primary transcript inside the nucleus. This processing involves a 3' signal region which facilitates addition of polyadenylated nucleotides to the 3' end of the RNA.

Transcription of DNA into mRNA is regulated by a region of DNA usually referred to as the "promoter." The promoter region contains a sequence of bases that signals RNA polymerase to associate with the DNA, and to initiate the transcription into mRNA using one of the DNA strands as a template to make a corresponding complementary strand of RNA.

A number of promoters which are active in plant cells have been described in the literature. These include the nopaline synthase (NOS) and octopine synthase (OCS) promoters (which are carried on tumor-inducing plasmids of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*), the caulimovirus promoters such as the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 19S and 35S promoters and the figwort mosaic virus (FMV) 35S promoter, the light-inducible promoter from the small subunit of ribulose bis-phosphate carboxylase (ssRUBISCO, a very abundant plant polypeptide). All of these promoters have been used to create various types of DNA constructs which have been expressed in plants; see, e.g., PCT publication WO 84/02913 (Rogers et al., Monsanto).

Promoters which are known or are found to cause transcription of DNA in plant cells can be used in the present invention. Such promoters may be obtained from a variety of sources such as plants and plant DNA viruses and include, but are not limited to, the CaMV35S and FMV35S promoters and promoters isolated from plant genes such as ssRUBISCO genes or the chlorophyll a/b binding proteins. As described below, it is preferred that the particular promoter selected should be capable of causing sufficient expression to result in the production of an efficient amount of glyphosate oxidoreductase to render the plant substantially tolerant to glyphosate herbicides. The amount of glyphosate oxidoreductase needed to induce the desired tolerance may vary with the plant species.

It is preferred that the promoters utilized have relatively high expression in all meristematic tissues in addition to other tissues inasmuch as it is now known that glyphosate is translocated and accumulated in this type of plant tissue. Alternatively, a combination of chimeric genes can be used to cumulatively result in the necessary overall expression level of glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme to result in the glyphosate tolerant phenotype.

The mRNA produced by a DNA construct of the present invention also contains a 5' non-translated leader sequence. This sequence can be derived from the promoter selected to express the gene, and can be specifically modified so as to increase translation of the mRNA. The 5' non-translated regions can also be obtained from viral RNAs, from suitable eukaryotic genes, or from a synthetic gene sequence. The present invention is not limited to constructs, as presented in the following examples, wherein the non-translated region is derived from both the 5' non-translated sequence that accompanies the promoter sequence and part of the 5' non-translated region of the virus coat protein gene. Rather, the non-translated leader sequence can be derived from an unrelated promoter or coding sequence as discussed above.

A preferred promoter for use in the present invention is the full-length transcript (35S) promoter from the figwort mosaic virus (FMV) which functions as a strong and uniform promoter for chimeric genes inserted into plants, particularly dicotyledons. In general, the resulting transgenic plants express the protein encoded by the inserted gene at a higher and more uniform level throughout the tissues and cells than the same gene driven by an enhanced CaMV35S promoter. Referring to FIG. 1, the DNA sequence of the promoter is located between nucleotides 6368 and 6930 (SEQ ID NO:1) of the FMV genome. A 5' non-translated leader sequence is preferably coupled with the promoter and an exemplary leader sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) is shown in FIG. 1. The leader sequence can be from the FMV genome itself or can be from a source other than FMV.

The 3' non-translated region of the chimeric plant gene contains a polyadenylation signal which functions in plants

to cause the addition of polyadenylate nucleotides to the 3' end of the RNA. Examples of suitable 3' regions are (1) the 3' transcribed, non-translated regions containing the polyadenylation signal of *Agrobacterium tumor-inducing* (Ti) plasmid genes, such as the nopaline synthase (NOS) gene, and (2) plant genes such as the soybean storage protein genes and the small subunit of the ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase (ssRUBISCO) gene. An example of a preferred 3' region is that from the ssRUBISCO gene from pea (E9), described in greater detail in the examples below.

The DNA constructs of the present invention also contain a structural coding sequence in double-stranded DNA form, which encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme which converts glyphosate to aminomethylphosphonate and glyoxylate.

Summary of the Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Reaction

The enzyme glyphosate oxidoreductase catalyzes the cleavage of the C-N bond of glyphosate yielding aminomethyl phosphonate (AMPA) and glyoxylate as the reaction products. Under aerobic conditions, oxygen is utilized as a cosubstrate for the reaction. Other electron carriers such as phenazine methosulfate and ubiquinone stimulate the reaction under aerobic conditions. In the absence of oxygen, these compounds act as electron acceptors.

The enzymatic reaction can be assayed by oxygen uptake using an oxygen electrode. The glyphosate oxidoreductase from LBAA does not produce hydrogen peroxide as a product of oxygen reduction. This enzyme has a stoichiometry of two moles of glyphosate oxidized per mole of oxygen consumed and produces two moles each of AMPA and glyoxylate as reaction products.

An alternate method for the assay of glyphosate oxidoreductase involves reaction of the sample with 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine and determination of the amount of the glyoxylate-2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone by HPLC analysis as described in detail in a later section.

A third method for the assay of glyphosate oxidoreductase consists of using [$3-^{14}\text{C}$]-glyphosate as a substrate; the radioactive AMPA produced by the enzyme is separated from the substrate by HPLC on anion exchange column as described later. The radioactivity associated with AMPA is a measure of the extent of the glyphosate oxidoreductase reaction.

Glyphosate oxidoreductase from LBAA is a flavoprotein using FAD as a cofactor. One of the mechanisms we have proposed for the reaction catalyzed by this enzyme involves the reduction of the FAD at the active site of the enzyme by glyphosate. This leads to the formation of reduced FAD and a Schiff base of aminomethylphosphonate with glyoxylate. The Schiff base is hydrated by water and hydrolyzed to its components, AMPA and glyoxylate. The reduced flavin is reoxidized by molecular oxygen. We suggest that during the process of reoxidation of reduced FAD, an oxygenated flavin is produced as an intermediate. This flavin intermediate may catalyze the oxygenation of glyphosate yielding AMPA and glyoxylate. This hypothesis is in accordance with the observed stoichiometry and our inability to detect hydrogen peroxide in the reaction mixture.

In addition to glyphosate, glyphosate oxidoreductase from LBAA oxidizes iminodiacetic acid (IDA) to glycine and glyoxylate. The rate of the reaction with IDA is significantly faster than with glyphosate.

Isolation of Efficient Glyphosate-to-AMPA Degrading Bacterium

Bacteria capable of degrading glyphosate are known. (Hallas et al., 1988; Malik et al., 1989). A number of these bacteria were screened for the rapid degradation of glypho-

sate in the following manner: twenty three bacterial isolates were transferred from TSA (Trypticase Soya Agar; BBL) plates into medium A consisting of Dworkin-Foster salts medium containing glucose, gluconate and citrate (each at 0.1%) as carbon source and containing glyphosate at 0.1 mM as the phosphorous source.

Dworkin-Foster minimal medium was made up by combining in 1 liter (with autoclaved H₂O) 1 ml each of A, B and C and 10 ml of D, thiamine HCl (5 mg), C-sources to final concentrations of 0.1% each and P-source (glyphosate or other phosphonates or Pi) to the required concentration:

A. D-F Salts (1000× stock; per 100 ml; autoclaved):

H₃BO₃ 1 mg
MnSO₄·7H₂O 1 mg
ZnSO₄·7H₂O 12.5 mg
CUSO₄·5H₂O 8 mg
NaMoO₃·3H₂O 1.7 mg

B. FeSO₄·7H₂O (1000× stock; per 100 ml; autoclaved)
0.1 g

C. MgSO₄·7H₂O (1000× stock; per 100 ml; autoclaved)
20 g

D. (NH₄)₂SO₄ (100× stock; per 100 ml; autoclaved)
20 g

Yeast Extract (YE; Difco) was added to a final concentration of

0.01 or 0.001%.

Each 1 ml of culture medium also contained approximately 200,000 cpm [3-¹⁴C]glyphosate (Amersham; CFA.745). The cultures were incubated with shaking at 30° C. Isolate LBAA showed significant growth at day one, while other test cultures showed little growth before day three. Determination of radioactivity (by scintillation counting) in the culture, cell pellet and culture supernatant (at day 4) revealed that total ¹⁴C radioactivity had decreased and that remaining was partitioned ~1:1 in the supernatant and pellet, indicating that significant uptake and metabolism of glyphosate had taken place.

TABLE I

Glyphosate Metabolism by LBAA Culture	
Sample	¹⁴ C cpm
control	18,631
LBAA culture	11,327
LBAA supernatant	6,007
LBAA cells	4,932

At day five, 75 μl of the culture supernatant of all test cultures was analyzed by HPLC as follows: a SYNCHROPAK™AX100 anion exchange column (P.J. Cobert) was used and the mobile phase consisted of 65 mM KH₂PO₄ (pH5.5 with NaOH; depending on the needs of the experiment the concentration of the phosphate buffer was varied from 50 to 75 mM in order to alter the retention times of the material), run isocratically and the eluted material monitored continuously using a radioactive detector. This analysis revealed, in one isolate in particular (LBAA), that the glyphosate peak (Retention Time [RT]=7.0 minutes in this analysis) was completely absent and a new peak of radioactivity had appeared, with the same RT as methylamine or N-acetylmethylamine (RT=3.5 minutes). The collection of bacteria, of which strain LBAA formed a part, had been characterized as degrading glyphosate to AMPA (Hallas et al., 1988); the detection of methylamine or N-Acetylmethylamine suggested that the AMPA or N-AcetylAMPA was being metabolized by the LBAA "C-P

lyase" activity to release the phosphate required for growth in this experiment. Strain LBAA was examined in greater detail.

Conversion of Glyphosate in AMPA in Microbial Isolates

For clarity and brevity of disclosure, the following description of the isolation of genes encoding glyphosate oxidoreductase enzymes is directed to the isolation of such a gene from a bacterial isolate (LBAA). Those skilled in the art will recognize that the same or a similar strategy can be utilized to isolate such genes from other microbial isolates.

The glyphosate degradation pathway was characterized in resting cells of glyphosate-grown strain LBAA as follows: the cells from a 100 ml culture of LBAA, grown in DF medium with glucose, gluconate and citrate as carbon sources and with thiamine and Yeast Extract (0.01%) to supply trace requirements (=medium DF3S) and with glyphosate at 0.2 mM as a phosphorous source, were harvested at Klett=200, washed twice with 20 ml of DF3S medium and the equivalent of 20 ml cells resuspended in 100 ul of the same medium containing [3-¹⁴C] glyphosate (2.5 ul of 52 mCi/mmol). The cell mix was incubated at 30° C. with shaking and samples (20 ul) were withdrawn at intervals. The samples were centrifuged and both the supernatant and cell pellets were analyzed by HPLC (the cell pellets were resuspended in 100 ul of acid-DF3S [=DF3S, 0.65N HCl], boiled for 5 minutes, centrifuged briefly and this supernatant was analyzed; an acidified glyphosate control was also examined). In two hours the amount of radioactivity in the glyphosate peak (RT=7.8 minutes) in the supernatant had decreased to ~33% of the starting level; about 3% of the glyphosate was found within the cell. Material co-eluting with the methylamine standard accounted for ~5% of the starting counts in the supernatant and for ~1.5% in the cell pellet. A new peak, accounting for ~1.5% of the starting radioactivity with a RT of 7.7 minutes (glyphosate RT=8.9 minutes upon acidification in this experiment) was identified in the cell contents. The large decrease in overall radioactivity also suggested that the glyphosate was extensively metabolized in this experiment. The pathway was elucidated further in a subsequent experiment where the metabolism of [¹⁴C] AMPA was compared to that of [3-¹⁴C] glyphosate (as above) in resting cells harvested at Klett 165 and resuspended at the equivalent to 15 ml cells per 100 ul DF3S medium. The samples were analyzed by HPLC and consisted of whole cultures acidified and treated as described above. Within the first two hours of the glyphosate experiment, 25% of the radioactivity was found in the methylamine/N-acetylmethylamine peak (RT=4.8 minutes), 12.5% as AMPA (RT=6.4 minutes), 30% as the peak alluded to above (RT=9.4 minutes) and 30% as glyphosate (RT=11.8 minutes). In the AMPA experiment 15% of the radioactivity was found as N-acetylmethylamine/methylamine, 59% as AMPA and 18% in the peak with RT=9.4 minutes. The modified form of AMPA was identified as N-acetylAMPA. A similar acetylation step has been inferred from the products identified in E. coli growing in aminomethylphosphonates as sole sources of P (Avila et al., 1987). These data indicated that the glyphosate degradation pathway in LBAA is glyphosate → AMPA (→ methylamine) → N-acetylAMPA → N-acetylmethylamine.

Cloning of the Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Gene(s) in E. coli

Having established the glyphosate-to-AMPA conversion in strain LBAA, a direct approach for the cloning of the gene(s) involved in this conversion into E. coli was investigated. Cloning and genetic techniques, unless otherwise indicated, were generally those described (Maniatis et al.,

1982). The cloning strategy was as follows: introduction of a cosmid bank of strain LBAA into *E. coli* and selection for the glyphosate-to-AMPA gene(s) by requiring growth on glyphosate as a phosphorous (P) source. This selection relied on the use of AMPA generated by the glyphosate metabolizing enzyme as a P source, following the release of the Pi from the AMPA by the *E. coli* "C-P lyase." Most *E. coli* strains are incapable of utilizing phosphonates as P sources upon initial challenge, however these strains usually adapt rapidly, independently of *RccA*, to utilize phosphonates (become Mpu+) (Wackett et al., 1987b). *E. coli* Mpu+ was isolated from *E. coli* SR200 (Leu-, Pro-.*recA*, *hsdr*, *supE*, *Smr. tonA*,) as follows: an aliquot of a fresh L-broth culture of *E. coli* SR200 was plated on MOPS (Neidhardt et al., 1974) complete agar (i.e., contains L-leucine and L-proline at 25 ug/ml and vitamin B1 [thiamine] at 10 ug/ml; agar=DIFCO "Purified") containing aminomethylphosphonate (AMPA; 0.2 mM; Sigma) as P source.

MOPS medium is:

10 ml 10x MOPS SALTS
2 ml 0.5 mg/ml Thiamine HCl
1 ml 20% glucose

10x MOPS Salts are:

for 100 ml
40 ml 1M MOPS pH7.4
4 ml 1M Thiamine pH7.4
1 ml 0.01 M FeSO₄·7H₂O
5 ml 1.9 M NH₄Cl
1 ml 0.276 M K₂SO₄
1 ml 0.5 mM CaCl₂
1 ml 0.528 M MgCl₂
10 ml 5M NaCl
1 ml 0.5% L-Methionine
1 ml Micronutrients

Micronutrients are:

3×10⁻⁹M (NH₄)₆Mn₇O₂₄
4×10⁻⁷M H₃BO₄
3×10⁻⁸M CoCl₂
1.6×10⁻⁸M CuSO₄
8×10⁻⁸M MnCl₂
1×10⁻⁸M ZnSO₄

Six individual colonies were picked from this plate after three days incubation at 37° C. and streaked on MOPS complete agar containing either AMPA or methylphosphonate (Alfa) as P source. One colony, designated *E. coli* SR200 Mpu+, was chosen from those that grew equally and uniformly on both phosphonate media.

Chromosomal DNA was prepared from strain LBAA as follows: The cell pellet from a 100 ml L-Broth (Miller, 1972) late log phase culture of LBAA was resuspended in 10 ml of Solution I (Birnboim and Doly, 1979). SDS was added to a final concentration of 1% and the suspension was subjected to three freeze-thaw cycles, each consisting of immersion in dry ice for 15 minutes and in water at 70° C. for 10 minutes. The lysate was then extracted four times with equal volumes of phenol:chloroform (1:1; phenol saturated with TE) (TE=10 mM Tris pH8.0; 1.0 mM EDTA) and the phases separated by centrifugation (15000 g; 10 minutes). The ethanol-precipitable material was pelleted from the supernatant by brief centrifugation (8000 g; 5 minutes) following addition of two volumes of ethanol. The pellet was resuspended in 5 ml TE and dialyzed for 16 hours at 4° C. against 2 liters TE. This preparation yielded a 6 ml DNA solution of 150 g/ml.

Partially-restricted DNA was prepared as follows: Three 100 jg aliquot samples of LBAA DNA were treated for 1 hour at 37° C. with restriction endonuclease HindIII at rates of 4, 2 and 1 enzyme unit/μg DNA, respectively. The DNA

samples were pooled, made 0.25 mM with EDTA and extracted with equal volume of phenol:chloroform. Following the addition of NaAcetate and ethanol, the DNA was precipitated with two volumes of ethanol and pelleted by centrifugation (12000 g; 10 minutes). The dried DNA pellet was resuspended in 500 μl TE and layered on a 10–40% Sucrose gradient (in 5% increments of 5.5 ml each) in 0.5M NaCl, 50 mM Tris pH8.0, 5 mM EDTA. Following centrifugation for 20 hours at 26,000 rpm in a SW28 rotor, the tubes were punctured and 1 ml fractions collected. Fifteen μl samples of each third fraction were run on 0.8% agarose gel and the size of the DNA determined by comparison with linearized lambda DNA and HindIII-digested lambda DNA standards. Fractions containing DNA of 25–35 kb fragments were pooled, desalted on AMICON10 columns (7000 rpm; 20° C.; 45 minutes) and concentrated by precipitation. This procedure yielded 50 μg of LBAA DNA of the required size.

Plasmid pHC79 (Hohn and Collins, 1980) DNA and a HindIII-phosphatase treated vector was prepared as described elsewhere (Maniatis et al., 1982). The ligation conditions were as follows:

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Vector DNA (HindIII- and calf alkaline phosphatase-treated)	1.6 μg
Size fractionized LBAA HindIII fragments	3.75 μg
10x ligation buffer	2.2 μg
250 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0;	
100 mM MgCl ₂ ;	
100 mM Dithiothreitol;	
2 mM Spermidine	
T4 DNA ligase	1.0 μl
(Boehringer-Mannheim)	
(400 units/td)	
H ₂ O to 22.0 μl	
18 hours at 16° C.	

The ligated DNA (4 μl) was packaged into lambda phage particles (Stratagene; Gigapack Gold) using the manufacturer's procedure.

E. coli SR200 Mpu+, grown overnight in L-Broth (with maltose at 0.2%), was infected with 50 μl of the packaged DNA. Transformants were selected on MOPS complete agar plus ampicillin and with glyphosate at 0.2 mM as P source.

Aliquot samples were also plated on MOPS (Neidhardt et al., 1974) complete agar plus ampicillin containing Pi at *irmM* to titer the packaged cosmids. Cosmid transformants were isolated on this latter medium at a rate of ~10⁵ per μg/LBAA HindIII DNA after 2 days at 37° C. Colonies arose on the glyphosate agar from day 3 until day 10 with a final rate of 1 per 200–300 cosmids. Plasmid DNA was prepared from twenty one cosmid transformants from the glyphosate plates. These cosmids fell into at least two classes based on the HindIII restriction pattern of the plasmid DNA. In Class I, all the cosmids had cloned 6.4 and 4.2 kb HindIII restriction fragments in common and in Class II, a ~23 kbp fragment in common. Ten cosmids, representative of the diversity of the cloned fragments, were re-transformed into *E. coli* SR200 Mpu+ and the glyphosate utilization trait verified by selection for growth on MOPS complete agar plus ampicillin plus glyphosate plates. The final cell density achieved by the cultures using glyphosate (0.2 mM in MOPS medium) as a P source was also determined and little difference could be discerned between the different transformants. Transformants were also inoculated into MOPS complete broth with AMPA at 0.1 mM as P source (to ensure the presence of "C-P lyase" activity) and after 24 hours at 37° C. were diluted 100-fold into MOPS complete medium with glyphosate at 0.1 mM and [3-¹⁴C] glyphosate (40,000 cpm/ml). All the cosmid-containing cells degraded glyphosate and generated N-acetylAMPA and

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N-acetylmethylamine, with no great difference in the rate. The N-acetylAMPA was found in the culture supernatant in these tests. One cosmid from Class I, identified as pMON7468, was chosen for further study. A second glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has been identified from a

Cell-free lysates *E. coli* SR200 Mpu+/pMON7468 were prepared from cells grown on MOPS complete medium with glyphosate at 1.0 mM (and supplemented with L-phenylalanine, L-tyrosine and L-tryptophan each at 100 μ g/ml and with para-hydroxybenzoic acid, 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid and para-aminobenzoic acid each at 5 μ g/ml to minimize the effects of inhibition of the *E. coli* EPSP synthase). The cell pellet (approx. 0.5 g wet weight) was resuspended in 1 ml of lysis buffer (40 mM MOPS, pH 7.4; 4 mM Tricine, pH 7.4; 10% glycerol; 1 mM DTT) and passed twice through a French Press. The cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 15000 rpm for 10 minutes. The supernatant was assayed, following addition of MgCl₂ to 10 mM, for degradation of radiolabeled glyphosate. The glyphosate substrate was supplied as [3-¹⁴C] glyphosate (final concentration = 17 μ M). The products observed were predominantly AMPA and some N-acetylAMPA; the production of AMPA is indicative of the cloned enzymatic activity from strain LBAA but the N-acetylAMPA could be due to endogenous *E. coli* activities (Avila et al., 1987). The specific activity for AMPA formation under these conditions was 13.3 pmoles AMPA/minute.mg protein.

Characterization of the Glyphosate-to-AMPA Gene

The cloned region responsible for this glyphosate oxidoreductase enzymatic activity was then localized in the cosmid. Deletions of pMON7468 were isolated, primarily within the cloned region, by using restriction enzymes that cut infrequently within the insert, as follows: plasmid DNA samples of 0.5–2 μ g were digested to completion with restriction endonucleases NotI, SacI, BglII or BamHI, extracted with phenol:chloroform, ethanol precipitated, resuspended in TE buffer and ligated for 2–4 hours at room temperature (or for 18 hours at 16° C.) in a final volume of 50 μ l with ligation buffer and T4 DNA ligase. Transformants were selected in *E. coli* SR200 Mpu+ and these deletions were examined for loss or retention of the glyphosate utilization phenotype. These data, in conjunction with restriction mapping of the clones, were used to localize the active region to near the central portion of the insert in pMON7468 that included the two common HindIII fragments (6.4 and 4.2 kb). The HindIII restriction fragments from this region were then subcloned into pBlueScript (Stratagene) and their glyphosate phenotype determined in *E. coli* JM101 Mpu+(the Mpu+ derivative of JM101 was isolated as described for SR200 Mpu+). Clones containing the 6.4 kb HindIII fragment, in either orientation, resulted in glyphosate utilization. Following restriction mapping of this HindIII fragment, a series of deletion clones were isolated from the two 6.4 kb HindIII clones using enzymes that cut infrequently in the insert and also in the polylinker region. A number of restriction fragments internal to the HindIII fragment were also subcloned. The 3.5 kb PstI and 2.5 kb BglII fragments, in either orientation, were positive for glyphosate utilization. These data, combined with those from the deletions, were used to localize the active region to an approximately 1.8 kb BglII-XhoI fragment. In addition, deletions isolated from the 6.4 kb HindIII fragment indicated a minimum coding region size of around 0.7 kb, with the EcoRI and SacI sites probably located within the coding sequences.

The direction of transcription/expression of the locus responsible for the glyphosate-to-AMPA enzymatic activity was determined as follows: *E. coli* JM101 Mpu+ transformants of pMON7469 #1 and #4 (Clones of the 2.5 kb BglII fragment in the BamHI site of pUC118; opposite

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orientations) were grown in M9-glucose-thiamine-ampicillin broth, with and without the Plac inducer IPTG, harvested in late log phase (Klett 190–220), cell-free lysates of the four cultures were prepared as described above and were assayed for glyphosate-to-AMPA activity with glyphosate at 17 μ M. The highest enzymatic activity was obtained for pMON7469 #1 plus IPTG, where the XhoI site is distal to the Plac, suggesting that the gene(s) were expressed in the BglII-to-XhoI direction.

TABLE II

Glyphosate to AMPA Activity in
Cell-Free Lysates of *E. coli* Transformants

Clone	EPTO added	Specific Activity pmoles AMPA/min.mg
pMON746901	no	<3.0
pMON746901	yes	32.0
pMON746904	no	<3.0
pMON746904	yes	<3.0

The only product observed was AMPA, suggesting that the AMPA acetylating activity that was described earlier had been induced in *E. coli* transformants growing on glyphosate as the P source.

In a later experiment, cell lysates of pMON7469 #1 and pMON7470 (BglII-XhoI 1.8 kb in pUC118; formed from pMON7469 #1 by deletion of the ~700 bp XhoI-Sall fragment) were assayed for glyphosate-to-AMPA activity with glyphosate at 2 mM (Sp. Act. [3-¹⁴C] glyphosate=3.7 mCi/mmol; 0.2 μ Ci/reaction; cultures grown with IPTG in medium) and much higher enzymatic activities were recorded, reflecting the improved assay conditions.

TABLE III

Glyphosate to AMPA Activity in
Cell-Free Lysates of *E. coli* Transformants

Clone	Specific Activity nmoles AMPA/min.mg
pMON746901	15.04
pMON7470	7.15

The proteins encoded by the BglII fragment were determined in vivo using a T7 expression system (Tabor and Richardson, 1985) following cloning of this fragment into the BamHI site in the vector pBlueScript (+) (pMON7471#1, #2; opposite orientations). Test and control plasmids were transformed into *E. coli* K38 containing pGP1-2 (Tabor and Richardson, 1985) and grown at 30° C. in L-broth (2 ml) with ampicillin and kanamycin (100 and 50 μ g/ml, respectively) to a KMett reading of ~50. An aliquot was removed and the cells collected by centrifugation, washed with M9 salts (Miller, 1972) and resuspended in 1 ml M9 medium containing glucose at 0.2%, thiamine at 20 μ g/ml and containing the 18 amino acids at 0.01% (minus cysteine and methionine). Following incubation at 30° C. for 90 minutes, the cultures were transferred to a 42° C. water bath and held there for 15 minutes. Rifampicin (Sigma) was added to 200 μ g/ml and the cultures held at 42° C. for 10 additional minutes and then transferred to 30° C. for 20 minutes. Samples were pulsed with 10 μ Ci of ³⁵S-methionine for 5 minutes at 30° C., the cells collected by centrifugation and suspended in 60–120 μ l cracking buffer (60 mM Tris-HCl 6.8/1% SDS/1% 2-mercaptoethanol/10% glycerol/0.01% bromophenol blue). Aliquot samples were electrophoresed on 12.5% SDS-PAGE and following soaking for 60 minutes in 10 volumes of Acetic Acid-Methanol-water (10:30:60), the gel was soaked in ENLIGHTNING™

(DUPONT) following manufacturer's directions, dried, and exposed at -70° C. to X-Ray Film. Proteins labeled using ^{35}S -methionine were detected only for the BglII-to-XhoI direction, the largest about 45 kd in size. When the BglII-XhoI fragment was examined following cloning into the BamHI-XhoI sites of pBlueScript (to form pMON7472), this ~45 kd protein was still expressed.

The effect of expression of the glyphosate-to-AMPA activity on glyphosate tolerance of *E. coli* was determined initially by examining the growth of recombinants in media containing inhibitory concentrations of glyphosate. The test compared the growth of *E. coli* JM101 containing a control vector (pUC118; Viera and Messing, 1987) or the pUC118 clones of the 2.5 kb BglII fragment (pMON7469#1, #4). There was a very clear correlation between the glyphosate-utilization ability and glyphosate tolerance. This tolerance phenotype (resistance to 15 mM glyphosate) was then employed as a screen to quickly monitor for the phenotype of deletion clones such as pMON7470 (BglII-XhoI 1.8 kb in pUC118; formed from pMON7469 #1 by deletion of the ~700 bp XhoI-SalI fragment) and later clones.

Nucleotide Sequence of the Structural Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Gene

The nucleotide sequence of the BglII-XhoI fragment (SEQ ID NO:3) was determined using single-stranded DNA templates (generated using the phagemid clones and the "helper" M13 phage R408) and the commercially available SEQUENASE™ (International Biotechnologies, Inc.) kit. Computer analysis of the sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) revealed a single large open reading frame (ORF) in the BglII to XhoI direction and is presented in FIG. 2 which includes the location of some of the relevant restriction sites. The putative stop codon (UAA) was located 2 bp 5' of the SacI restriction cut site. Data to confirm that this UAA codon was the termination codon of the ~45 kd ORF were derived as follows: previously the 3' limits had been determined, based on the glyphosate utilization phenotype, to be between the SacI site (95 bp upstream of the SacI site) and the XhoI site. When the BglII-SacI fragment was cloned into the BamHI-SmaI sites of pBlueScript and the proteins expressed in vivo, the ~45 kd protein was still produced. The BglII-SacI fragment was then recloned from this pBlueScript clone as XbaI-HindIII into pUC118 XbaI-HindIII and was found to confer resistance to 15 mM glyphosate to *E. coli* JM101 transformants. These data located the C-terminus of the ~45 kd protein between the SacI and SacI sites. The only stop codon, in any reading frame, between these sites is that immediately upstream of the SacI site.

There were two methionine codons (AUG; located at positions 120 and 186) that if used as the fMet would give rise to proteins of 46.140 and 44.002 kd, respectively, but neither was preceded by a clearly recognizable Shine-Dalgarno sequence.

The start of the protein was delineated more precisely as follows: BglII restriction site recognition sequences were introduced at positions upstream of the two potential start codons by site-directed mutagenesis of pMON7470, substituting AGATCT for the sequences AGACTG ("Bg120") and GTATGC ("Bg186"), 21 and 9 bp upstream of the AUG₁₂₀ and AUG₁₈₆, respectively. Except where noted, oligonucleotide primers for mutagenesis comprised the sequences to be altered flanked by 8–10 homologous bases on each side. The glyphosate tolerance was determined for the mutated clones. Introduction of the BglII site upstream of AUG₁₂₀ had no effect on glyphosate tolerance while it was abolished by the mutagenesis that introduced the BglII site upstream of AUG₁₈₆. The effects of these mutageneses on the ~45 kd protein were examined by subcloning the mutated sequences into T7 expression vectors using a site in the polylinker of pMON7470 (Kpn I), just upstream of the original BglII site, and the downstream HindIII site. This

complete fragment was recloned into p18UT3T7 (PHARMACIA) KpnI-HindIII and tested in vivo as described above. The ~45 kd protein was still expressed and at comparable levels from both of the "BglII" mutagenized sequences. When the new BglII sites were used as 5' ends (and the downstream HindIII site) for cloning into the pBlueScript BamHI-HindIII sites, the ~45 kd protein was still expressed when the new BglII site upstream of AUG₁₂₀ served as 5' end, but not when that located upstream of AUG₁₈₆ was the 5' end. These data suggest strongly that the AUG₁₂₀ (or some codon located very close to it) is the N-terminus of the glyphosate oxido-reductase protein. The BglII site introduced upstream of the AUG₁₈₆ did not result in a prematurely terminated or highly unstable protein and suggests that the predicted coding sequence changes resulting from this mutagenesis (Val₁₈—Cys₁₉→Arg₁₈—Ala₁₉) had severe effects on the activity of the enzyme.

Further data to confirm the location of the N-terminus were obtained by introducing separately (by mutageneses of pMON7470), an NcoI restriction site recognition sequence (CCATGG for CTATGT; changes the second codon from Serine to Alanine) or an NdeI sequence (CATATG for CCTATG) at AUG₁₂₀ and expressing this ORF using efficient *E. coli* expression vectors. The expression of the NdeI version is outlined here: the NdeI-HindIII fragment, beginning at the putative AUG, was cloned into pMON2123 (NdeI-HindIII) replacing the ompF-IGF-1 fusion fragment (Wong et al., 1988). The resultant clone was introduced into *E. coli* JM101 and the cells induced with nalidixic acid as described (Wong et al., 1988) for 2 hours. The resultant protein was indistinguishable in size from the ~45 kd protein on SDS PAGE and a cell lysate from an induced culture had a glyphosate oxidoreductase specific activity of 12.8 nmoles AMPA/min.mg. When compared in a separate experiment, no differences were observed for the glyphosate oxidoreductase activity when the second codon was Alanine instead of Serine. The structural DNA sequence for the glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme (SEQ ID NO:4) begins at nucleotide 120 and ends at nucleotide 1415 of the BglII-XhoI fragment of FIG. 2 and the glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme consists of 431 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:5).

Construction of Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Plant Gene Transformation Vectors

To facilitate the manipulation of the structural glyphosate oxidoreductase gene, the internal EcoRI and NcoI restriction site recognition sequences were removed by sitedirected mutagenesis to substitute the sequence GAATTT for GAATTC and CCACGG for CCATGG, respectively. A glyphosate oxidoreductase coding sequence suitable for introduction into and expression in plant transformation vectors was assembled in the following way: the NcoI ("Met-Ala-") N-terminus was combined with the NcoI- and EcoRI-deleted coding sequences, and the C-terminus deleted to the SacI site, in a number of cloning steps using the internal SphI and EcoRV restriction sites. In these steps a BglII site was located immediately upstream of the NcoI site and EcoRI and HindIII sites were located immediately downstream from the stop codon. The sequence of this manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:6) is shown in FIG. 3. The manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene still codes for the wild-type glyphosate oxidoreductase protein. The manipulations do not alter the amino acid sequence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase. This glyphosate oxidoreductase structural sequence (SEQ ID NO:6), as a BglII/NcoI—EcoRI/HindIII fragment of 1321 bp, is readily cloned into an appropriate plant expression cassette. This glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:6) was cloned as a BglII-EcoRI fragment into the plant transformation and expression vector pMON979 to form pMON17073.

Modification and Resynthesis of the Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Gene Sequence

The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from LBAA contains sequences that could be inimical to high expression of the gene in plants. These sequences include potential polyadenylation sites that are often A+T-rich, a higher G+C% than that frequently found in plant genes (56% versus ~50%), concentrated stretches of G and C residues, and codons that are not used frequently in plant genes. The high G+C% in the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has a number of potential consequences including the following: a higher usage of G or C than that found in plant genes in the third position in codons, and the potential to form strong hair-pin structures that may affect expression or stability of the RNA. The reduction in the G+C content of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene, the disruption of stretches of G's and C's, the elimination of potential polyadenylation sequences, and improvements in the codon usage to that used more frequently in plant genes, could result in higher expression of glyphosate oxidoreductase in plants.

In the first phase of this experiment, selected regions of the gene were modified by site-directed mutagenesis. These modifications were directed primarily (but not exclusively) at reducing the G+C% and at breaking up some of the G+C clusters. The manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene was first recloned into the phagemid vector pMON7258 as a NcoI-IIndIII fragment to form pMON17014. Single stranded DNA was prepared from a dut ung E. coli strain. Seven regions of the gene were modified by site-directed mutagenesis using the primers listed in Table IV and the Bio Rad mutagenesis kit (Catalog #170-3576) and following the protocols provided with this kit.

For the sake of clarity, the reverse complement of the actual primers is presented. The base positions, in the sequences presented in FIG. 2 and in FIG. 3, corresponding to the primers are indicated by the first and second set of numbers, respectively.

TABLE IV

Primers to Modify the Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Gene Coding Sequence

PRIMER 1 (149-210, 38-99)

CGCTGGAGCT GGATCGTTG GTGTATGCAC TGCTTTGATG CTTCAACGTC
GTGGATTCAA AG (SEQ ID NO: 27)

PRIMER 2 (623-687; 512-576)

GCAGATCCTC TCTGCTGATG CTTTGCCTGA TTTTCGATCCT AACTTGTCGC
ATGCTTTTAC CAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 28)

PRIMER 3 (792-832; 681-721)

GTCATCGGTT TTGAGACTGA AGCTCGTGCT CTCAAAGCCAT (SEQ ID NO: 29)

PRIMER 4 (833-901; 722-790)

TACAACCACT AACGGTGTTG TGGCTGTTGA TCCAGCTGTT GTTGCAGCTG
GTCCACACTC TAAATCACT (SEQ ID NO: 30)

PRIMER 5 (1031-1091; 920-980)

GGAAATGGGT CTTCTGTGTTG CTGGTACTGT TGAGTTTGCT GGTCTCACAG
CTGCTCCTAAC (SEQ ID NO: 31)

PRIMER 6 (1179-1246; 1068-1135)

TGGATGGGTT TTCGTCCTAG CATTCTGAT TCTCTTCCAG TGATTGGTTCG
TGCAACTGGT ACACCGGA (SEQ ID NO: 32)

PRIMER 7 (1247-1315; 1136-1204)

CGTAATCTAT GCTTTTGGTC ACGGTCATCT CGGTATGACA GGTGCTCCAA
TGACTGCCAC TCTGGTCTC (SEQ ID NO: 33)

The resultant gene (SEQ ID NO:7) was confirmed by sequencing and by the ability to provide comparable glyphosate tolerance levels as the manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene control. This modified gene (SEQ ID NO:7) is referred to as "modified glyphosate oxidoreductase." The G+C% of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:6) was reduced from ~56% in the manipulated version to 52% in the modified version (SEQ ID NO:7). A comparison of the manipulated and modified glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is shown in FIG. 3, with the manipulated version on top and the changes introduced to make the modified version on the bottom. This modified glyphosate oxidoreductase gene was cloned as a BglII-EcoRI fragment into a plant expression cassette comprising the En-CaMV35S promoter and the NOS 3' sequences. This cassette was then cloned as a NotI fragment into the pMON886 vector to form pMON17032 (FIG. 5).

A synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:8) was designed to change as completely as possible those inimical sequences discussed above. In summary, the gene sequence was redesigned to eliminate as much as possible the following sequences or sequence features (while avoiding the introduction of unnecessary restriction sites): stretches of G's and C's of 5 or greater; A+T rich regions (predominantly) that could function as polyadenylation sites or potential RNA destabilization region, and codons not frequently found in plant genes. A comparison of the manipulated (SEQ ID NO:6) and synthetic (SEQ ID NO:8) glyphosate oxidoreductase genes is presented in FIG. 4, with the manipulated gene (SEQ ID NO:6) on top and the differences introduced into the synthetic gene (SEQ ID NO:8) on the bottom. The G+C% for the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is ~51% and the potential to form short, high energy, hair-pin structures is reduced. This synthetic gene was cloned as a BglII-EcoRI fragment into pMON979 to form pMON17065 for introduction into plants.

Expression of Chloroplast Directed Glyphosate Oxidoreductase

The glyphosate target in plants, the [5-enolpyruvyl-shikimate-3-phosphate] 5-enolpyruvyl-shikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) enzyme, is located in the chloroplast. Although glyphosate oxidoreductase activity located in the cytoplasm reduces/prevents glyphosate from reaching the chloroplast in the transgenic plant, directing the glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme to the chloroplast has been found to further minimize the effects of glyphosate on EPSP synthase. Many chloroplast-localized proteins are expressed from nuclear genes as precursors and are targeted to the chloroplast by a chloroplast transit peptide (CTP) that is removed during the import steps. Examples of such chloroplast proteins include the small subunit (SSU) of Ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase (RUBISCO), 5-enol-pyruvyl-shikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS), Ferredoxin, Ferredoxin oxidoreductase, the Light-harvesting-complex protein I and protein II, and Thioredoxin F. It has been demonstrated in vivo and in vitro that non-chloroplast proteins may be targeted to the chloroplast by use of protein fusions with a CTP and that a CTP sequence is sufficient to target a protein to the chloroplast (della-Cioppa et al., 1987).

The glyphosate oxidoreductase protein was targeted to the chloroplast by construction of a fusion between the C-terminus of a CTP and the N-terminus of glyphosate oxidoreductase. In the first example, a specialized CTP, derived from the SSU 1A gene from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Timko et al., 1988) was used. This CTP (designated CTP1) was constructed by a combination of site-directed mutageneses. The CTP1 structure (SEQ ID NO:9) (FIG. 6) is made up of the SSU 1A CTP (amino acids 1–55), the first 23 amino acids of the mature SSU 1A protein (amino acids 56–78), a serine residue (amino acid 79), a new segment that repeats amino acids 50 to 56 from the SSU 1A CTP and the first two amino acids from the mature protein (amino acids 80–87), and an alanine and methionine residue (amino acids 88 and 89). An NcoI restriction site is located at the 3' end (spans the Met codon) to facilitate the construction of precise fusions to the 5' of glyphosate oxidoreductase or other genes. At a later stage, a BglI site was introduced upstream of the N terminus of the SSU 1A sequences to facilitate the introduction of the fusions into plant transformation vectors. A fusion was assembled between the CTP1 (SEQ ID NO:9) and the manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase (SEQ ID NO:6) (through the NcoI site) in the pGEM3zf(+) vector to form pMON17034. This vector may be transcribed in vitro using the SP6 polymerase and the RNA translated with ³⁵S-Methionine to provide material that may be evaluated for import into chloroplasts isolated from *Lactuca sativa* using the methods described hereinafter (della-Cioppa et al., 1986, 1987). This CTP1-glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was indeed found to be imported into chloroplasts at about 9% efficiency of that of the control, ³⁵S labeled PreEPSPS (pMON6140; della-Cioppa et al., 1986). A CTP1-glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was then assembled with the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:8) and this was introduced as a BglIII-EcoRI fragment into plant vector pMON979 to form pMON17066 (FIG. 7). Following an intermediate cloning step to acquire more cloning sites, this CTP1-glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was also cloned as a XbaI-BamHI site into pMON981 to form pMON17138 (FIG. 8).

In the second example, a CTP-glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was constructed between the *Arabidopsis thaliana* EPSPS (Klee et al., 1987) CTP and the synthetic glyphosate

oxidoreductase coding sequences. The *Arabidopsis* CTP was first engineered by site-directed mutagenesis to place a SphI restriction site at the CTP processing site. This mutagenesis replaced the Glu-Lys at this location with Cys-Met. The sequence of this CTP, designated CTP2, (SEQ ID NO:10) is shown in FIG. 9. The NcoI site of the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:8) was replaced with a SphI site that spans the Met codon. The second codon was converted to one for leucine in this step also. This change had no apparent effect on the in vivo activity of glyphosate oxidoreductase in *E. coli*. The CTP2-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was cloned into pBlueScript KS(+) and this template was transcribed in vitro using T7 polymerase and the ³⁵S-methionine-labeled material was shown to import into chloroplasts with an efficiency comparable to that for the CTP1-glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion. This CTP2-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion was then cloned as a XbaI-BamHI fragment into a plant expression vector to form pMON17164. A structural map of this plasmid is presented in FIG. 12.

The plant vector portion of pMON17164 (FIG. 12) is composed of the following segments. A chimeric kanamycin resistance gene engineered for plant expression to allow selection of the transformed tissue. The chimeric gene consists of the 0.35 Kb cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter (P-35S) (Odell et al., 1985), the 0.83 Kb neomycin phosphotransferase typeII gene (KAN), and the 0.26Kb 3'-non-translated region of the nopaline synthase gene (NOS 3') (Fraley et al., 1983). A 0.45 Kb ClaI to DraI fragment from the pTi15955 octopine Ti plasmid, which contains the T-DNA left border region (Barker et al., 1983) A 0.75 Kb segment containing the origin of replication from the RK2 plasmid (ori-V) (Stalker et al., 1981) A 3.0 Kb SalI to PstI segment of pBR322 which provides the origin of replication for maintenance in *E. coli* (ori-322) and the born site for the conjugational transfer into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* cells. A 0.93 Kb fragment isolated from transposon Tn7 which encodes bacterial spectinomycin/streptomycin resistance (Spc/Str) (Fling et al., 1985), and is a determinant for selection in *E. coli* and *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. A 0.36 Kb PvuI to BclI fragment from the pTiT37 plasmid, which contains the nopaline-type T-DNA right border region (Fraley et al., 1985). An expression cassette consisting of the 0.6 Kb 35S promoter from the figwort mosaic virus (P-FMV) (Gowda et al., 1989), several unique cloning sites, and the 0.7 Kb 3' nontranslated region of the pea rbcS-E9 gene (E9 3') (Coruzzi et al., 1984, and Morelli et al., 1985). The CTP2-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion fragment was cloned into this expression cassette. The introduction of this plasmid into *Agrobacterium* and subsequent plant transformation is described in the Examples to follow.

Those skilled in the art will recognize that various chimeric constructs can be made which utilize the functionality of a particular CTP to import the contiguous glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme into the plant cell chloroplast. The chloroplast import of the glyphosate oxidoreductase can be determined using the following assay.

Chloroplast Uptake Assay

Intact chloroplasts are isolated from lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*, var. *longifolia*) by centrifugation in Percoll/ficoll gradients as modified from Bartlett et al. (1982). The final pellet of intact chloroplasts is suspended in 0.5 ml of sterile 330 mM sorbitol in 50 mM Hepes-KOH, pH 7.7, assayed for chlorophyll (Arnon, 1949), and adjusted to the final chlorophyll concentration of 4 mg/ml (using sorbitol/Hepes). The yield of intact chloroplasts from a single head of lettuce is 3–6mg chlorophyll.

A typical 300 μ l uptake experiment contained 5 mM ATP, 8.3 mM unlabeled methionine, 322 mM sorbitol, 58.3 mM Hepes-KOH (pH 8.0), 50 μ l reticulocyte lysate translation products, and intact chloroplasts from *L. sativa* (200 μ g chlorophyll). The uptake mixture is gently rocked at room temperature (in 10 \times 75 mm glass tubes) directly in front of a fiber optic illuminator set at maximum light intensity (150 Watt bulb). Aliquot samples of the uptake mix (about 50 μ l) are removed at various times and fractionated over 100 μ l silicone-oil gradients (in 150 μ l polyethylene tubes) by centrifugation at 11,000 \times g for 30 seconds. Under these conditions, the intact chloroplasts form a pellet under the silicone-oil layer and the incubation medium (containing the reticulocyte lysate) floats on the surface. After centrifugation, the silicone-oil gradients are immediately frozen in dry ice. The chloroplast pellet is then resuspended in 50–100 μ l of lysis buffer (10 mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 1 mM PMSF, 1 mM benzamidine, 5 mM ϵ -amino-n-caproic acid, and 30 μ g/ml aprotinin) and centrifuged at 15,000 \times g for 20 minutes to pellet the thylakoid membranes. The clear supernatant (stromal proteins) from this spin, and an aliquot of the reticulocyte lysate incubation medium from each uptake experiment, are mixed with an equal volume of 2 \times SDS-PAGE sample buffer for electrophoresis (see below).

SDS-PAGE is carried out according to Laemmli (1970) in 3–17% (w/v) acrylamide slab gels (60 mm \times 1.5 mm) with 3% (w/v) acrylamide stacking gels (5 mm \times 1.5 mm). The gel is fixed for 20–30 minutes in a solution with 40% methanol and 10% acetic acid. Then, the gel is soaked in EN³HANCE™ (DuPont) for 20–30 minutes, followed by drying the gel on a gel dryer. The gel is imaged by autoradiography, using an intensifying screen and an overnight exposure to determine whether the glyphosate oxidoreductase is imported into the isolated chloroplasts.

Alternative Isolation Protocol for Other Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Structural Genes

A number of other glyphosate oxidoreductase genes have been identified and cloned, including the second LBAA glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from the Class II cosmid pMON7477. The gene was located, by Southern hybridization, on the ~23 kb HindIII fragment, discussed in the cloning section above, using the first glyphosate oxidoreductase gene as a probe. Southern analysis also showed PstI and BglII hybridizing bands of ~3.5 and ~2.5 kb, respectively. The BglII fragment from pMON7477 was subcloned into the BamHI site of pBlueScript vector. A clone in *E. coli* JM101 (pMON7482), in which the cloned fragment was oriented relative to the lac promoter as in pMON7469#1, was induced with IPTG and assayed for glyphosate oxidoreductase activity. In this experiment a Sp. Act. of ~93 nmol/min.mg was obtained. In a later experiment, Class I and Class II cosmids were also isolated following infection of *E. coli* JM101 with the same packaged cosmid preparation and selection directly for glyphosate tolerance at 3–5 mM glyphosate on M9 media.

A glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has also been subcloned from another microbial isolate, identified originally by its ability to utilize glyphosate as a phosphorous source and later shown to contain a putative glyphosate oxidoreductase gene by hybridization with the LBAA glyphosate oxidoreductase gene probe. This gene was cloned initially in a T7 promoter cosmid by screening for glyphosate tolerance in *E. coli* HB101/pGP1-2 (Boyer and Rolland-Dussoix, 1969; Tabor and Richardson, 1985) on M9 medium containing glyphosate at 3 mM. The presence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene was first indicated by a positive hybridization signal with the LBAA gene and by its location on a

2.5 kb BglII fragment. This BglII fragment was cloned into the BamHI site in pBlueScript (pMON17183) and expressed from the lac promoter by addition of IPTG. In this experiment a glyphosate oxidoreductase with a specific activity of 53 nmol/min.mg was obtained, confirming the isolation of the gene by this strategy. The following features have usually been found for these glyphosate oxidoreductase genes: the genes are found (by Southern hybridization using full-length glyphosate oxidoreductase gene probes) on ~2.5 kb BglII fragments, on ~3.5 PstI fragments, contain one EcoRI site within the gene and the genes do not contain a HindIII site. FIG. 13 illustrates some common features of these genes.

The high degree of similarity of glyphosate oxidoreductase genes also suggests another way by which new glyphosate oxidoreductase genes may be cloned. The apparent conservation of regions flanking the genes and the absence of certain restriction sites suggests the use of single-stranded oligonucleotide probes to the flanking regions, containing restriction sites for BglII, HindIII, PstI, BamHI, NdeI, or other suitable cloning sites, and PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction; see Erlich, 1989, for complete details on PCR and its applications) to amplify a glyphosate oxidoreductase gene fragment suitable for cloning. The flanking sequences for 119 bp upstream (SEQ ID NO:11) of the wild-type (LBAA) isolate) glyphosate oxidoreductase gene and for ~290 bp (SEQ ID NO:12) downstream of the gene are provided in FIG. 2.

Using this PCR approach, glyphosate oxidoreductase genes from a number of sources have been isolated. The presence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase activity was confirmed by cloning the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from chromosomal DNA prepared from *Pseudomonas* sp. strain LBr (Jacob et al., 1988) and using primers homologous to the N- and C-termini of the LBAA glyphosate oxidoreductase gene and containing the following suitable restriction cloning sites: 5'-GAGAGACTGT CGACTC-CGCG GGAGCATCAT ATG-3' (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5'-GAACGAATCC AAGCTTCTCA CGACCGCGTA AGTAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:14). Cyclotherm parameters used for these PCR reactions is as follows:

Denature at 94° C. for 1 minute;

Anneal at 60° C. for 2 minutes;

Polymerize at 72° C. for 3 minutes,

30 cycles, no autoextension, linked to 4° C. incubation.

The expected ~1.3 kb PCR product was generated and following digestion with NdeI and HindIII, this fragment was cloned into pMON2123 for expression of the encoded enzyme. The glyphosate oxidoreductase activity was measured as described above and the K_m for glyphosate was similar to that for enzymes from LBAA which is presented supra.

source of glyphosate oxidoreductase gene	K_m (glyphosate: mM)
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain LBr	25

Bacteria isolated from glyphosate process waste stream treatment facilities may also be capable of converting glyphosate to AMPA. *Pseudomonas* strains LBAA and LBr are two such examples. Such bacteria may also be isolated de novo from these waste treatment facilities.

A population of bacteria was isolated from a fixed-bed immobilized cell column, which employed Mannville R-635

diatomaceous earth beads, by plating on Tryptone Soy Agar (Difco), containing cycloheximide at 100 µg/ml, and incubating at 28° C. The column had been run for three months on a waste-water feed from the Monsanto Company's Luling, MS, glyphosate production plant. The column contained 50 mg/ml glyphosate and NH₃ as NH₄Cl. Total organic carbon was 300 mg/ml and BOD's (Biological Oxygen Demand—a measure of "soft" carbon availability) was less than 30 mg/ml. This treatment column has been described (Heitkamp et al., 1990). One of the predominant members of this population, identified as *Agrobacterium* sp. strain T10, was found to also grow in minimal broth in which the sole carbon source provided was glyphosate at 10 mM (this broth was made up as for DF medium but with glyphosate substituting for the glucose, gluconate and citrate). Chromosomal DNA was prepared from this isolate and subjected to the same PCR procedure and with the same primers as described above for the strain LBr. A fragment of the correct size was generated and cloned into the *E. coli* expression vector. The glyphosate oxidoreductase activity was assayed and the K_m for glyphosate also determined:

source of gene	K _m (glyphosate: mM)
<i>Agrobacterium</i> sp. strain T10	28

Glyphosate-to-AMPA conversion has been reported for many different soils (see Malik et al., 1989 for a review) and a number of procedures are available for the extraction of total DNA from mixed environment samples such as soil (Holben et al., 1988; Steffan and Atlas, 1988; Tsai and Olson, 1991), indicating the possibility of cloning glyphosate oxidoreductase genes without having to first isolate such a degrading microorganism. Of course, the procedure described for the cloning of the glyphosate oxidoreductase genes, based on the conferring of a glyphosate utilization ability or glyphosate tolerance on *E. coli*, provides a scheme by which other glyphosate oxidoreductase genes and other glyphosate metabolizing genes may be cloned, without relying on the homology determined for the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene described here. It is possible also to enrich for glyphosate degrading bacteria, for example, by the repeated application of glyphosate to a patch of soil (Quinn et al., 1988, Talbot et al., 1984). This enrichment step might be used to increase the ease with which glyphosate oxidoreductase genes are recovered from soil or other environments.

Evidence for the presence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene in soil bacteria and a procedure for the isolation of such genes is outlined in the following: A population of suitable bacteria was enriched for selection of bacteria capable of growing in liquid media with glyphosate (at 10 mM) as a source of carbon (This medium is made up as described for the Dworkin-Foster medium but with the omission of the carbon sources and with Pi as a source of P). The inoculum was provided by extracting soil (from a recently harvested soybean field in Jerseyville, Ill.) and the population selected by successive culturing in the medium described above at 28° C. (cycloheximide was included at 100 µg/ml to prevent growth of fungi). Upon plating on L-agar medium, 5 colony types were identified. Chromosomal DNA was prepared from 2 ml L-broth cultures of these isolates and the presence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene was probed using PCR screening. Using the primers GCCGAGATGACCGTGGCCGAAAGC (SEQ ID NO:15) and GGGAATGCCGGATGCTTCAACGGC

(SEQ ID NO:16), a DNA fragment of the predicted size was obtained with the chromosomal DNA from one of the isolates (designated S3). The PCR conditions used were as follows: 1 minute at 94° C.; 2 minutes at 40° C.; 3 minutes at 72° C.; 35 cycles. The DNA fragment generated in this way is used as a probe (following radiolabeling) to isolate the S3 glyphosate oxidoreductase gene candidate from a cosmid bank constructed as described for LBAA DNA and greatly facilitates the isolation of other glyphosate oxidoreductase genes. The primers used are homologous to internal sequences in the LBAA glyphosate oxidoreductase gene. The PCR conditions employed allow a fair degree of mismatch in the primers and the result suggests that the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from S3 may not be as closely related to the other glyphosate oxidoreductase genes that were successfully isolated using the primers to the N- and C-termini of the LBAA gene.

A variety of procedures are available for the isolation of genes. Some of these procedures are based on the knowledge of gene function that allow the design of phenotypic screens to aid in the isolation. Others are based on at least partial DNA sequence information that allow the use of probes or primers with partial or complete homology, or are based on the use of antibodies that detect the gene product. All of these options may be applied to the cloning of glyphosate oxidoreductase genes.

Improvement of the Kinetic Properties of Glyphosate Oxidoreductase

Prior examples of engineered herbicide resistance by enzymatic inactivation of the herbicide have utilized enzymes with an ability to bind and metabolize the herbicides much more efficiently than glyphosate oxidoreductase metabolizes glyphosate. The glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme has a K for glyphosate of 20–30 mM and, as a result, the reaction rate for the degradation of glyphosate may be enhanced for optimal efficiency in transgenic plants by either lowering the K_m or by raising the V.

Random mutagenesis techniques coupled with appropriate selections and/or screens are powerful tools which have been used successfully to generate large numbers of mutagenized gene sequences and potential variants. The same approaches may be used to isolate and to identify glyphosate oxidoreductase variants with improved glyphosate degradation efficiency. The mutagenesis techniques that may be employed include chemical mutagenesis of bacterial cultures containing the gene of interest or of purified DNA containing this gene and PCR methods used to generate copies of the gene (or portions of it) under conditions that favor misincorporation of nucleotides (errors) into the new strand. An example of such a condition would be carrying out the PCR reaction in the presence of Mn⁺⁺.

Appropriate in vivo screens for improved variants following the mutagenesis could include those for improved glyphosate tolerance in *E. coli* or increased growth on glyphosate in Mpu+ strains. For the screen, the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is cloned into a vector containing a weak bacterial promoter and/or in a replicon with a low copy number. The glyphosate tolerance phenotypes of different glyphosate oxidoreductase constructs have been shown to vary over a range of glyphosate concentrations and to correlate with the level of glyphosate oxidoreductase expression. For example, under uninduced conditions, Placglyphosate oxidoreductase vectors express less glyphosate oxidoreductase than PrecA-glyphosate oxidoreductase vectors and also display lower glyphosate tolerance. The mutagenized gene fragment is cloned into the most suitable vector and the resultant library screened. Variants are

selected for their ability to grow at glyphosate levels which inhibit growth of the control strain containing the parent glyphosate oxidoreductase clone. Glyphosate oxidoreductase activity confers on *E. coli* the ability to convert glyphosate to AMPA and, in suitable *E. coli* strains, this AMPA can provide a source of phosphate following cleavage of the C-P bond by C-P lyase. Suitable *E. coli* strains are B strains or Mpu+ derivatives of K strains. The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene confers minimal growth on glyphosate as the sole phosphorus source in strain *E. coli* JM101 Mpu+ (=GB003). The growth rate on glyphosate has been shown to also correlate with the glyphosate oxidoreductase expression level. The mutagenized glyphosate oxidoreductase gene is cloned into the appropriate vector and the variant library screened by differential growth rates on plates or by culturing in media containing glyphosate as sole phosphorous source. Clones which demonstrate faster growth on plates relative to the control strain are subsequently re-screened by growth curve analysis.

So Glyphosate oxidoreductase variants which have been identified in each selection/screen are cloned into a vector for high-level expression and subjected to enzyme analysis to determine K_m and V_{max} values for glyphosate. The best glyphosate oxidoreductase variants are purified for complete kinetic characterization. Glyphosate oxidoreductase variants which have been identified with lower K_m values and similar or higher V_{max} values than wild-type enzyme values are analyzed by nucleic acid sequencing to determine the mutation(s). The goal in isolating variants would be to increase the k_{cat}/K_m ratio for glyphosate oxidoreductase-catalyzed glyphosate degradation.

A variant with such improvements was isolated.

The mutagenesis procedure used was that of Mn⁺⁺-poisoned PCR and the template was a linearized glyphosate oxidoreductase gene plasmid containing the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:8). The oligonucleotide primers used were homologous to regions in the vector and flanking the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene. The PCR conditions employed were as follows: 1 minute at 94° C., 2 minutes at 55° C., and 3 minutes at 72° C. and with 35 cycles. A 5:1 ratio of dCTP+dGTP+TTP to dATP was used. The reactions contained MnCl₂ at 125, 250, 375, or 500 μM. After the reaction, the amplified product was re-cloned into a vector containing a weak *E. coli* promoter. This vector was a pBR327 derivative containing the araBAD promoter and suitable cloning sites. One hundred colonies from this cloning step were then screened in *E. coli* GB993 for improved glyphosate tolerance and utilization phenotypes in media composed of MOPS minimal medium with glyphosate and Pi or with glyphosate alone, respectively. Growth rates were determined by measuring A₅₅₀ over a 96 hour period. Three clones were identified that exhibited faster growth rates in these screens. These transformants had a 1.5–2.0-fold faster utilization phenotype. The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene was re-cloned into the expression vector portion and this phenotype verified. All kinetic analysis was performed on crude *E. coli* lysates. Putative glyphosate oxidoreductase variant proteins were overexpressed after subcloning the NcoI/HindIII variant glyphosate oxidoreductase gene into PrecA-gene10L expression vector. For overexpression in PrecA-gene10L constructs, GB993 cells containing the vector were induced at a Klett=110–120 in M9 minimal medium with 50 μg/ml nalidixic acid and allowed to grow for 2.5 hours at 37° C. with vigorous shaking. Cells were harvested by centrifugation at 4000 g, 5 minutes at 4° C., and resuspend in 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.1, 1 mM EDTA, 35 mM KCl, 20% glycerol, and 1 mM benzamidine at 3 ml/g cell

pellet. Lysates were prepared by breaking the cells in a French press, twice, at 1000 psi. Insoluble debris was removed by centrifugation at 12000 g, 15 minutes at 4° C., and the supernatant was de-salted by passing over a PD-10 column (Sephadex G-25, Pharmacia). The void volume fraction was used as the source of enzyme for kinetic analysis. Protein concentrations were determined using the Bio-Rad protein dye-binding assay. Time and enzyme concentration courses were performed to determine linear ranges. The enzyme assay was performed as follows: lysate and glyphosate oxidoreductase mix (final concentration=0.1M MOPS, 0.01M Tricine, pH 7.4, 0.01 mM FAD, 10 mM MgCl₂) in a 100 μl reaction were pre-incubated at 30° C. for 2 minutes prior to the addition of glyphosate (analytical grade stock prepared in water adjusted to pH 7.0 with NaOH). Ten minutes was determined to be the optimal time for the enzyme assay using 10 μg lysate. After 10 minutes at 30° C. with shaking, 0.25 ml dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNPH) reagent (0.5 mg/ml in 0.5M HCl) was added and the reaction was allowed to proceed for an additional 5 minutes at 30° C. with shaking. A 1.5M NaOH solution (400 μl) was then added to the assay mix, and the reaction was continued for 5 minutes at 30° C. with shaking. Enzyme activity was determined from the amount of glyoxylate-DNPH adduct formed by measuring A₅₂₀ against a standard of glyoxylate. Enzyme assays are performed in duplicate on at least two different single colony isolates of a putative glyphosate oxidoreductase variant. To determine K_m and V_{max} , enzyme assays were performed over a (0.2–2.0)× K_m range of glyphosate concentrations. The K_m and V_{max} were determined from Lineweaver Burk, Eadie-Hofstee and hyperbolic kinetic plots. V_{max} was estimated after determining the amount of immunoreactive glyphosate oxidoreductase protein in lysates by immunoblot analysis as described below. Immunoblot analysis was performed following SDS-PAGE and transfer of protein from the gel to nitrocellulose at 500 mA in a Hoeffer transfer apparatus in 25 mM Tris-HCl, 192 mM glycine containing 0.1% SDS and 25% methanol for 1–2 hours. After transfer, the nitrocellulose was incubated with 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH7.5, 0.9% NaCl, 0.01% Tween 20, 0.02% NaN₃ containing 2% bovine serum albumin at room temperature with shaking for at least 30 minutes. After blocking, the same buffer containing a 1:25,000 dilution of goat anti-glyphosate oxidoreductase antiserum was added and the filter was allowed to shake at room temperature for 45 minutes. After incubation with primary glyphosate oxidoreductase antibody, the filter was washed for 45 minutes in buffer without antibody; buffer containing a 1:5000 dilution of rabbit anti-goat alkaline phosphatase-conjugated second antibody (from Pierce) was added and the filter was incubated for 45 minutes at room temperature with shaking. The filter was then washed in buffer without antibody for 30 minutes prior to addition of NBT and BCIP (Promega) to allow color development. Immunoreactive glyphosate oxidoreductase protein was also quantitated by dot blotting the lysate onto nitrocellulose and then processing the filter as described above, except that ¹²⁵I-Protein G was used for detection. The amount of glyphosate oxidoreductase protein in lysates was determined by counting the dot and comparing the amount of radioactivity against a glyphosate oxidoreductase protein standard. One variant, v.247, showed a 3–4 fold higher specific activity for glyphosate oxidoreductase at 25 mM glyphosate and the immunoblot analysis indicated that this was not due to an elevated glyphosate oxidoreductase protein level. Subsequent assays indicated that this variant had a 10-fold lower K_m for glyphosate than the wild type glyphosate oxidoreductase. In

a similar manner the K_m for IDA was also determined and these data are presented below.

Kinetic analysis of glyphosate oxidoreductase variants:						
Variant	spp K_m (mM)		app V_m (U/mg)		$V_m K_m$	
	Glyp	IDA	Glyp	IDA	Glyp	IDA
wild type	27.0	2.8	0.8	0.5	.03	.18
v.247	2.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	.23	1.0

The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from v.247 was sequenced (SEQ ID NO:17) and five nucleotide changes were found. These changes are described in the following as they relate to the codons: GCT to GCC (codon 43), no amino acid change; AGC to GGC (codon 84). Ser to Gly: AAG to AGG (codon 153). Lys to Arg; CAC to CGC (codon 334). His to Arg, and CCA to CCG (codon 362), no amino acid change. The amino acid sequence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene from v.247 is presented as SEQ ID NO:18. The importance of these different amino acid changes was determined initially by recloning the altered regions into wild type glyphosate oxidoreductase and determining the effect on glyphosate oxidoreductase activity and kinetics. This was accomplished by recloning the NcoI-NheI fragment (contains codon 84), the NheI-ApaLI fragment (contains codon 153), and the ApaLI-HindIII fragment (contains codon 334), separately into the wild type gene. These glyphosate oxidoreductase genes were then expressed and the kinetic analyses performed. The data are presented below and indicate that the change that occurred in the ApaLI-HindIII fragment (contains codon 334) was responsible solely for the alternative in the enzyme.

Kinetic analysis of domain switches			
Clone	app K_m (mM)	app V_m (U/mg)	$V_m K_m$
wt (w1w2w3*)	28.4	0.65	0.022
v.247 (v1v2v3**)	2.1	0.72	0.34
w1v2w3	23.5	0.62	0.026
w1v2v3	2.1	0.6	0.28
w1w2v3	2.0	0.75	0.375
v1w2v3	2.6	0.55	0.21
v1w2w3	28.0	0.75	0.027
v1v2w3	26.7	0.55	0.021

*w1 = SER84, w2 = LYS153, w3 = HIS334

**v1 = GLY84; v2 = ARG153; v3 = ARG334

This result was confirmed and extended by repeating the His to Arg change at codon 334 and introducing other specific changes at this residue by site-directed mutageneses. The primers used are listed in the following: Arg-CGTTCTCTAC ACTCGTGCTC GTAAGTTGC (SEQ ID NO:19); Lys-CGTTCTCTAC ACTAAGGCTC GTAAGTTGC (SEQ ID NO:20); Gin-CGTTCTCTAC ACTCAAGCTC GTAAGTTGC (SEQ ID NO:21); and Ala-CGTTCTCTAC ACTGCTGCTC GTAAGTTGC (SEQ ID NO:22) (These sequences are the antisense to those actually used). The presence of these changes was confirmed by sequencing the mutagenized glyphosate oxidoreductase genes and a kinetic analysis of the expressed glyphosate oxidoreductase enzymes was performed. The data are presented in the following and show that a number of substi-

tutions are possible at this position and which result in an enzyme with altered kinetic properties.

Kinetic analysis of glyphosate oxidoreductase variants:						
Variant	spp K_m (mM)		app V_m (U/mg)		$V_m K_m$	
	Glyp	IDA	Glyp	IDA	Glyp	IDA
wild type	27.0	2.8	0.8	0.5	.03	.18
v.247	2.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	.23	1.0
ARG 334	2.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	.23	1.2
LYS 334	9.9	1.3	0.7	0.8	.07	.62
GLN 334	19.6	3.5	0.6	0.7	.03	.20
ALA 334	26.7	3.5	0.2	0.2	.007	.057

Additional mutageneses were performed to change the His334 residue to other amino acids. The primers to accomplish this and the new codon are listed in the following: Trp - CTCTACACTTGGGCTCGTAAGCTTCTTCCAGC (SEQ ID NO:23); le - CTCTACACTATCGCTCGTAAGCTTCTTCCAGC (SEQ ID NO:24); Lau - CTCTACACTCTGCTCGTAAGCTTCTTCCAGC (SEQ ID NO:25); and Glu - CTCTACACTGAAGCTCGTAAGCTTCTTCCAGC (SEQ ID NO:26) (These sequences are the antisense of those actually used; these primers also add a "silent" HindIII that facilitates the identification of the mutagenized progeny from the population). The GLU334 variant retains substantial glyphosate oxidoreductase activity, while the TRP334, ILE334, and LEU334 variants retain much less activity.

From the first generation variants, those with the highest k_{cat}/K_m ratio are preferably subjected to a second round of mutagenesis followed by subsequent screening and analysis. An alternative approach would be to construct second generation glyphosate oxidoreductase variants by combining single point mutations identified in the first generation variants.

PLANT TRANSFORMATION

Plants which can be made glyphosate tolerant by practice of the present invention include, but are not limited to, soybean, cotton, corn, canola, oil seed rape, flax, sugarbeet, sunflower, potato, tobacco, tomato, wheat, rice, alfalfa, lettuce, apple, poplar and pine.

A double-stranded DNA molecule of the present invention ("chimeric gene") can be inserted into the genome of a plant by any suitable method. Suitable plant transformation vectors include those derived from a Ti plasmid of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, as well as those disclosed, e.g., by Herrera-Estrella (1983), Bevan (1984), Klee (1985) and EPO publication 120.516 (Schilperoort et al.). In addition to plant transformation vectors derived from the Ti or root-inducing (Ri) plasmids of *Agrobacterium*, alternative methods can be used to insert the DNA constructs of this invention into plant cells. Such methods may involve, for example, the use of liposomes, electroporation, chemicals that increase free DNA uptake, free DNA delivery via microprojectile bombardment, and transformation using viruses or pollen.

The pMON979 plant transformation/expression vector was derived from pMON886 (described below) by replacing the neomycin phosphotransferase typeII (KAN) gene in pMON886 with the 0.89 kb fragment containing the bacterial gentamicin-3-N-acetyltransferase type III (AAC(3)-III) gene (Hayford et al., 1988). The chimeric P-35A/AA(3)-III/NOS 3' gene encodes gentamicin resistance which permits selection of transformed plant cells. pMON979 also contains

a 0.95 kb expression cassette consisting of the enhanced CaMV 35A promoter (Kay et al., 1987), several unique restriction sites, and the NOS 3' end (P-En-CaMV35S/NOS 3'). The rest of the pMON979 DNA segments are exactly the same as in pMON886.

Plasmid pMON886 is made up of the following segments of DNA. The first is a 0.93 kb *Ava*I to engineered-*Eco*RV fragment isolated from transposon Tn7 that encodes bacterial spectinomycin/streptomycin resistance (Spc/Str), which is a determinant for selection in *E. coli* and *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. This is joined to the 1.61 kb segment of DNA encoding a chimeric kanamycin resistance which permits selection of transformed plant cells. The chimeric gene (P-35S/KAN/NOS 3') consists of the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S promoter, the neomycin phosphotransferase typeII (KAN) gene, and the 3'-nontranslated region of the nopaline synthase gene (NOS 3') (Fraley et al., 1983). The next segment is the 0.75 kb *ori*V containing the origin of replication from the RK2 plasmid. It is joined to the 3.1 kb *Sa*II to *Pvu*I segment of pBR322 (*ori*322) which provides the origin of replication for maintenance in *E. coli* and the born site for the conjugational transfer into the *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* cells. The next segment is the 0.36 kb *Pvu*I to *Bcl*I from pTiT37 that carries the nopaline-type T-DNA right border (Fraley et al., 1985).

The pMON981 plasmid contains the following DNA segments: the 0.93 kb fragment isolated from transposon Tn7 encoding bacterial spectinomycin/streptomycin resistance [Spc/Str; a determinant for selection in *E. coli* and *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (Fling et al., 1985)]; the chimeric kanamycin resistance gene engineered for plant expression to allow selection of the transformed tissue, consisting of the 0.35 kb cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter (P-35S) (Odell et al., 1985), the 0.83 kb neomycin phosphotransferase typeII gene (KAN), and the 0.26 kb 3'-nontranslated region of the nopaline synthase gene (NOS 3') (Fraley et al., 1983); the 0.75 kb origin of replication from the RK2 plasmid (*ori*V) (Stalker et al., 1981); the 3.1 kb *Sa*II to *Pvu*I segment of pBR322 which provides the origin of replication for maintenance in *E. coli* (*ori*-322) and the born site for the conjugational transfer into the *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* cells, and the 0.36 kb *Pvu*I to *Bcl*I fragment from the pTiT37 plasmid containing the nonpaline-type T-DNA right border region (Fraley et al., 1985). The expression cassette consists of the 0.6 kb 35S promoter from the figwort mosaic virus (P-FMV) (Gowda et al., 1989) and the 0.7 kb 3' non-translated region of the pea *rbcS-E9* gene (E9 3') (Coruzzi et al., 1984, and Morelli et al., 1985). The 0.6 kb *Ssp*I fragment containing the FMV35S promoter (FIG. 1) was engineered to place suitable cloning sites downstream of the transcriptional start site.

The plant vector was mobilized into the ABI *Agrobacterium* strain. The ABI strain is the A208 *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* carrying the disarmed Ti plasmid pTiC58 (pMP90RK) (Koncz and Schell, 1986). The Ti plasmid does not carry the T-DNA phytohormone genes and the strain is therefore unable to cause the crown gall disease. Mating of the plant vector into ABI was done by the triparental conjugation system using the helper plasmid pRK2013 (Ditta et al., 1980). When the plant tissue is incubated with the ABI:plant vector conjugate, the vector is transferred to the plant cells by the *vir* functions encoded by the disarmed pTiC58 plasmid. The vector opens at the T-DNA right border region, and the entire plant vector sequence may be inserted into the host plant chromosome. The pTiC58 Ti plasmid does not transfer to the plant cells but remains in the *Agrobacterium*.

PLANT REGENERATION

When adequate production of the glyphosphate oxidoreductase activity is achieved in transformed cells (or protoplasts), the cells (or protoplasts) are regenerated into whole plants. Choice of methodology for the regeneration step is not critical, with suitable protocols being available for hosts from Leguminosae (alfalfa, soybean, clover, etc.). Umbelliferae (carrot, celery, parsnip). Cruciferae (cabbage, radish, rapeseed, etc.), Cucurbitaceae (melons and cucumber), Gramineae (wheat, rice, corn, etc.). Solanaceae (potato, tobacco, tomato, peppers) and various floral crops. See, e.g., Ammirato, 1984; Shimamoto, 1989; Fromm, 1990; Vasil, 1990.

The following examples are provided to better elucidate the practice of the present invention and should not be interpreted in any way to limit the scope of the present invention. Those skilled in the art will recognize that various modifications, truncations, etc. can be made to the methods and genes described herein while not departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

EXAMPLES

Expression, Activity and Phenotype of Glyphosate Oxidoreductase in Transformed Plants

The transformation, expression and activity of glyphosate oxidoreductase, and the glyphosate tolerance phenotype imparted to the plants by the glyphosate oxidoreductase genes, introduced into *Nicotiana tabacum* cv. "Sarnsun" and/or *Brassica napus* cv. Westar using the vectors pMON17073, pMON17032, pMON17065, pMON17066, pMON17138, and pMON17164, is described in the following exemplary embodiments. Initial data in tobacco on the expression of the manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:6) under the control of the En-CaMV35S promoter (see data on pMON17073 in Tables VIII and IX, for example) indicated only low levels of expression of glyphosate oxidoreductase. The transcription of the gene was confirmed in the case of 3-4 plants by Northern and S1 analysis but no glyphosate oxidoreductase protein could be detected (limit of detection in that assay was ~0.01% expression level). Analysis of R_0 plants following spray with 0.4 lb/acre (approximately 0.448 kg/ha) glyphosate also showed only low levels of tolerance. Modification of the gene sequence (as described herein) resulted in improved expression in tobacco, as did the use of the FMV promoter and the use of a CTP fusion to the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene. For these reasons the majority of the data presented comes from transgenic plants derived using vectors containing these improved glyphosate oxidoreductase constructs. One set of experiments with the modified glyphosate oxidoreductase vector pMON17032 are presented in example 1 and a study of manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase, synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase, and CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase is presented in example 2. The transformation and expression of glyphosate oxidoreductase in canola is described in example 3.

Example 1

The tobacco leaf disc transformation protocol employs healthy leaf tissue about 1 month old. After a 15-20 minute surface sterilization with 10% Clorox plus a surfactant, the leaves were rinsed 3 times in sterile water. Using a sterile paper punch, leaf discs are punched and placed upside down on MS104 media (MS salts 4.3 g/l, sucrose 30 g/l, B5 vitamins 50x2 ml/l. NAA 0.1 mg/l, and BA 1.0 mg/l) for a 1 day preculture.

The discs were then inoculated with an overnight culture of disarmed *Agrobacterium* ABI containing the subject vector that had been diluted 1/5 (ie: about 0.6 OD). The inoculation was done by placing the discs in centrifuge tubes with the culture. After 30 to 60 seconds, the liquid was drained off and the discs were blotted between sterile filter paper. The discs were then placed upside down on MS104 feeder plates with a filter disc to co-culture.

After 2–3 days of co-culture, the discs were transferred, still upside down, to selection plates with MS104 media. After 2–3 weeks, callus formed, and individual clumps were separated from the leaf discs. Shoots were cleanly cut from the callus when they were large enough to distinguish from stems. The shoots were placed on hormone-free rooting media (MSO: MS salts 4.3 g/l, sucrose 30 g/l, and B5 vitamins 50×2 ml/l) with selection. Roots formed in 1–2 weeks. Any leaf callus assays are preferably done on rooted shoots while still sterile. Rooted shoots were placed in soil and were kept in a high humidity environment (ie: plastic containers or bags). The shoots were hardened off by gradually exposing them to ambient humidity conditions.

A total of 45 Kanamycin resistant pMON17032 tobacco lines were examined (Table V).

TABLE V

Expression of Modified Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Gene in Tobacco (R1 Transgenics of pMON17032)					
# Plants	Glyphosate Recalling (0.5 mM glyphosate)			Western Analysis of Plants*	
	+	+/-	-	+	-
45	0	11	34	24	21

*+ means 0.5–2 ng/50 μ g protein
 – means <0.5 ng/50 μ g protein

Leaf recalling on plant tissue culture media indicated a low level of glyphosate tolerance (rated as a +/--phenotype) for at least 11 of these lines. At least 24 of these lines expressed a detectable level of glyphosate oxidoreductase in the range of 0.5 to 2 ng per 50 μ g of extractable protein. The glyphosate tolerance displayed in the leaf recalling assay and the higher glyphosate oxidoreductase expression level indicate that the changes made to the glyphosate oxidoreductase coding sequences to make the modified glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:7) had a marked effect on the ability of this gene to be expressed in plants. This same effect could also then be achieved by expressing the manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase gene (SEQ ID NO:6) using stronger plant promoters, using better 3' polyadenylation signal sequences, optimizing the sequences around the initiation codon for ribosome loading and translation initiation, or by combinations of these or other expression or regulatory sequences or factors. The R1 progeny of a number of these lines, including those with the highest glyphosate oxidoreductase expression level (#'s 18854 and 18848) were sprayed with glyphosate at rates of 0.4 and 1.0 lb/acre (0.448 and 1.12 kb/ha, respectively) and vegetative performance rated over a period of four weeks (Table VI).

TABLE VI

Tobacco Spray Data for pMON17032 R1 Plants				
Line	Rate kg/ha	Vegetative Score ^a		
		7 Days	14 Days	28 Days
18860	0.448	3	3	3
	1.12	1	1	2
18842	0.448	4	6	8
	1.12	2	3	6
18848	0.448	3	4	8
	1.12	2	2	6
18854	0.448	4	7	9
	1.12	2	5	8
18858	0.448	3	4	6
	1.12	1	2	4
18885	0.448	4	5	8
	1.12	2	1	2
18890	0.448	3	6	7
	1.12	1	2	3
Samsun	0.448	1	1	2
	1.12	1	1	0

*Vegetative Score
 0 = Dead
 10 = No detectable effect

Following an initial lag, and especially for those plants expressing the highest levels of glyphosate oxidoreductase, these lines showed vegetative glyphosate tolerance at both spray rates (that improved with time). Glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme activity was determined for two of the pMON17032 lines (#'s 18858 and 18881). Leaf tissue (1 g) was harvested, frozen in liquid N₂, and stored at –80° C. prior to extraction. For extraction, leaf tissue was pulverized in a mortar and pestle with liquid N₂. To the powdered leaf tissue was then added 1 ml extraction buffer (100 mM TrisCl, pH 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 20% glycerol, 35 mM KCl, 1 mM benzamidine HCl, 5 mM Na ascorbate, 5 mM dithiothreitol, and 1 mg/ml bovine serum albumin, 4° C.), and the sample was further ground for 1 minute. The resulting mixture was centrifuged for 5 minutes (high speed, Eppendorf) and the supernatant was treated with a saturated ammonium sulfate solution to give 70% final saturation (2.33 ml saturated solution/ml extract). The precipitated protein was collected by centrifugation as above, and the pellet was resuspended in 0.4 ml of extraction buffer. After centrifuging again to remove particulate matter, the sample was desalted using Sephadex G50 contained in a 1 ml syringe, equilibrated with extraction buffer, according to the method of Penefsky (1979). The desalted plant extracts were stored on ice, and protein concentrations were determined by the method of Bradford (1976). Glyphosate oxidoreductase reactions were carried out in duplicate for 60 minutes at 30° C. in an assay mixture of 0.1 MOPS/0.01 tricine buffer, pH 7.4, containing 10 mM MgCl₂, 0.01 mM flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD, Sigma), and 1 mM ubiquinone Qo, (Sigma). Plant extracts (75 μ l) were preincubated in the assay mixture for 2 minutes, and reactions were then initiated by adding iminodiacetic acid (IDA, 20 μ l) substrate to a final concentration of 50 mM (total assay volume was 0.2 ml). Reactions were quenched and derivatized as described below. Control reactions omitting IDA and omitting plant extract were also performed. Glyoxylate detection was carried out using 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine (2,4-DNPH) derivatization and reverse phase high performance liquid

chromatography (HPLC), using a modification of the method of Qureshi et al. (1982). Glyphosate oxidoreductase reactions (0.2 ml) were quenched with 0.25 ml of DNPH reagent (0.5 mg/ml DNPH [Aldrich] in 0.5M HCl) and allowed to derivatize for 5 minutes at 25° C. The samples were then extracted with ethyl acetate (2–0.3 ml) and the combined ethyl acetate extracts were extracted with 10% Na₂CO₃ (0.3 ml). The Na₂CO₃ phase was then washed once with ethyl acetate (0.2 ml) and the Na₂CO₃ phase injected (100 μ l) on a Beckman Ultrasphere C18 IP HPLC column (5 μ A, 4.6 mm \times 25 cm) using an LKB GTi binary HPLC system with a Waters 900 photodiode array UVNIS HPLC detector, via a Waters WISP HPLC autoinjector. The isocratic mobile phase was methanol-water-acetic acid (60:38.5:1.5) with 5 mM tetrabutylammonium phosphate (Pierce). The DNPH-glyoxylate peak (retention time=6.7 minutes) was detected at 365 nm and compared to a glyoxylate standard (Sigma, 20 μ M in 0.2 ml) derivatized in exactly the same manner.

TABLE VII

Glyphosate oxidoreductase Activity of Transgenic Tobacco Plants	
Plant	Specific Activity nmol/min mg
Samsun	0 (not detectable)
18881	0.039
18858	0.018

Example 2

A series of transformed tobacco lines were derived using the "isogenic" glyphosate oxidoreductase vectors pMON17073 (manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase) (SEQ ID NO:6), pMON17065 (synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase) (SEQ ID NO:8), and pMON17066 (CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase). By Western analysis (see Table VII below) of a number of these lines, the manipulated glyphosate oxidoreductase plants were found to express up to ~0.5 ng glyphosate oxidoreductase per 50 μ g plant protein, the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase at levels from ~0.5–2 ng per 50 μ g, and at levels from ~2–20 ng per 50 μ g for the CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase plants.

TABLE VIII

Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Expression in Tobacco		
Construct	Plant #	Western Rating
pMON17073 (manipulated)	21270	0
	21281	0
	21286	1
	21929	1
pMON17066 (CTP1-synthetic)	21237	1
	21830	0
	21845	3
	21872	3
	21889	1
	21891	0

TABLE VIII-continued

Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Expression in Tobacco		
Construct	Plant #	Western Rating
pMON17065 (synthetic)	21199	0
	21208	2
	21211	2
	21217	0
	21218	2
	21792	1
	21795	0
21811	2	

Western rating scale per 50 μ g of protein
 0 - no detectable glyphosate oxidoreductase
 1 - <5 ng
 2 - 5 ng-2 ng
 3 - >2 ng

A number of primary transformants R₀ lines, expressing manipulated or synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase or CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase, were sprayed with glyphosate at 0.4 lb/acre (0.448 kg/ha) and rated as before.

TABLE IX

Glyphosate Spray Data pMON17066 (CTP1-Glyphosate Oxidoreductase) Tobacco (R ₁ plants)					
Line	Western Rating	Vegetative Score #			
		7	14	28 (days after spray)	
Control A	0	3	0	0	no detectable
Control B	0	3	1	0	glyphosate
Control C	0	3	1	1	oxidoreductase
22933	1	3	1	0	(pMON17073)
22741	2	2	1	9	(pMON17065)
22810	3	3	4	6	(pMON17066)
22825	1	2	1	1	(pMON17066)
22822	3	10	10	10	(pMON17066)
22844	3	10	10	10	(pMON17066)
22854	3	9	10	10	(pMON17066)
22860	3	8	10	10	(pMON17066)
22880	1	3	2	9	(pMON17066)
22881	2	2	0	0	(pMON17066)
22886	3	9	10	10	(pMON17066)
22887	3	9	10	10	(pMON17066)

Western rating scale (per 50 μ g protein)
 0 = no detectable glyphosate oxidoreductase
 1 = <0.5 ng
 2 = 0.5–2 ng
 3 = >2 ng
 #Vegetative score:
 0 = dead;
 10 = no detectable effect

The synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase line displayed a response similar to that noted for the modified glyphosate oxidoreductase R₁ plants, in that there was some immediate glyphosate effects that were overcome with time, through the metabolism of the herbicide by glyphosate oxidoreductase to the derivatives AMPA and glyoxylate. Since the target of glyphosate (EPSP synthase) is located in the chloroplast, the activity of glyphosate oxidoreductase must be reducing the level of glyphosate within this organelle by removing the herbicide before it reaches the chloroplast. The CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase plants displayed a superior glyphosate tolerance in that these plants did not show much, if any, immediate glyphosate effects at the treated rate. In general, the treated tolerant plants also showed normal development, flowering and fertility.

The CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase plants showed a markedly higher level of glyphosate oxidoreductase expression than that shown for the other glyphosate oxidoreductase constructs. This increased glyphosate oxidoreductase level could be due to enhancement of translation of the fusion or to sequestering of glyphosate oxidoreductase within the chloroplast and leading to a longer protein half-life. The higher level of glyphosate oxidoreductase and/or its location in the chloroplast can result in higher levels of glyphosate tolerance through rapid detoxification of glyphosate in the chloroplast. The presence of glyphosate oxidoreductase within the chloroplast has been confirmed. Five leaves from each of four plants (#22844, 22854, 22886, 22887), shown to be Western positive for glyphosate oxidoreductase, were homogenized in Waring blender in 0.9 L GR+ buffer (Barlett, et al., 1982) for 3×3 seconds at high speed. The homogenate was filtered through 4 layers of Miracloth and centrifuged at 6,000 rpm in a GS-3 rotor. The pellet was resuspended in 4 ml total of GR+ buffer and placed on top of a 40/80% Percoll step gradient and spun at 9,500 rpm for 10 minutes. The intact chloroplasts (lower band) were washed once with GR-buffer (Bartlett, et al., 1982) and centrifuged (up to 6,000 rpm with brake off). They were then resuspended in 300 μ l 50 mM Hepes pH 7.7, 300 mM Sorbitol and lysed on ice using by sonication (small probe, 30%—3 microtip setting×10 seconds). The debris was pelleted and the supernatant passed through a Sephadex G50 column into 50 mM Hepes, pH 7.5. The soluble protein concentration was 2.4 mg/ml. The enzyme assays were done as above using both 50 mM IDA and 50 mM glyphosate as substrates (30 minute assays), but without the addition of 1 mM ubiquinone.

TABLE IX

Glyphosate Oxidoreductase Activity in Isolated Chloroplast from Transgenic Tobacco	
Substrate	Specific Activity (nmoles/min.mg)
Iminodiacetic acid	179
Glyphosate	92

Example 3

A number of transformed lines of canola have been derived with vectors pMON17138 (CTP1-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase) and pMON17164 (CTP2-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase) as follows.

Plant Material

Seedlings of *Brassica napus* cv Westar were established in 2 inch (~5 cm) pots containing Metro Mix 350. They were grown in a growth chamber at 24° C., 16/8 hour photoperiod, light intensity of 400 μ Em⁻²sec⁻¹ (HID lamps). They were fertilized with Peters 20-10-20 General Purpose Special. After 2½ weeks they were transplanted to 6 inch (~15 cm) pots and grown in a growth chamber at 15/10° C. day/night temperature, 16/8 hour photoperiod, light intensity of 800 μ Em⁻²sec⁻¹ (HID lamps). They were fertilized with Peters 15-30-15 Hi-Phos Special.

Transformation/Selection/Reigenation

Four terminal internodes from plants just prior to bolting or in the process of bolting but before flowering were removed and surfaced sterilized in 70% v/v ethanol for 1 minute, 2% w/v sodium hypochlorite for 20 minutes and rinsed 3 times with sterile deionized water. Stems with leaves attached could be refrigerated in moist plastic bags

for up to 72 hours prior to sterilization. Six to seven stem segments were cut into 5 mm discs with a Redco Vegetable Slicer 200 maintaining orientation of basal end.

The Agrobacterium was grown overnight on a rotator at 24° C. in 2 mls of Luria Broth containing 50 mg/l kanamycin, 24 mg/l chloramphenicol and 100 mg/l spectinomycin. A 1:10 dilution was made in MS (Murashige and Skoog) media giving approximately 9×10^8 cells per ml. This was confirmed with optical density readings at 660 mu. The stem discs (explants) were inoculated with 1.0 ml of Agrobacterium and the excess was aspirated from the explants.

The explants were placed basal side down in petri plates containing 1/10× standard MS salts, B5 vitamins, 3% sucrose, 0.8% agar, pH 5.7, 1.0 mg/l 6-benzyladenine (BA). The plates were layered with 1.5 ml of media containing MS salts, B5 vitamins, 3% sucrose, pH 5.7, 4.0 mg/l p-chlorophenoxyacetic acid, 0.005 mg/i kinetin and covered with sterile filter paper.

Following a 2 to 3 day co-culture, the explants were transferred to deep dish petri plates containing MS salts, B5 vitamins, 3% sucrose, 0.8% agar, pH 5.7, 1 mg/l BA, 500 mg/l carbenicillin, 50 mg/l cefotaxime, 200 mg/l kanamycin or 175 mg/l gentamicin for selection. Seven explants were placed on each plate. After 3 weeks they were transferred to fresh media, 5 explants per plate. The explants were cultured in a growth room at 25° C., continuous light (Cool White).

Expression Assay

After 3 weeks shoots were excised from the explants. Leaf recalling assays were initiated to confirm modification of R₀ shoots. Three tiny pieces of leaf tissue were placed on recalling media containing MS salts, B5 vitamins, 3% sucrose, 0.8% agar, pH 5.7, 5.0 mg/i BA, 0.5 mg/l naphthalene acetic acid (NAA), 500 mg/l carbenicillin, 50 mg/l cefotaxime and 200 mg/l kanamycin or gentamicin or 0.5 mM glyphosate. The leaf assays were incubated in a growth room under the same conditions as explant culture. After 3 weeks the leaf recalling assays were scored for herbicide tolerance (callus or green leaf tissue) or sensitivity (bleaching).

Transplantation

At the time of excision, the shoot stems were dipped in Rootone® and placed in 2 inch (~5 cm) pots containing Metro-Mix 350 and placed in a closed humid environment. They were placed in a growth chamber at 24° C., 16/8 hour photoperiod, 400 μ Em⁻¹sec⁻² (HID lamps) for a hardening-off period of approximately 3 weeks.

The seed harvested from R₀ plants is R₁ seed which gives rise to R₁ plants. To evaluate the glyphosate tolerance of an R₀ plant, its progeny are evaluated. Because an R₀ plant is assumed to be hemizygous at each insert location, selfing results in maximum genotypic segregation in the R₁. Because each insert acts as a dominant allele, in the absence of linkage and assuming only one hemizygous insert is required for tolerance expression, one insert would segregate 3:1, two inserts, 15:1, three inserts 63:1, etc. Therefore, relatively few R₁ plants need be grown to find at least one resistant phenotype.

Seed from an R₀ plant is harvested, threshed, and dried before planting in a glyphosate spray test. Various techniques have been used to grow the plants for R₁ spray evaluations. Tests are conducted in both greenhouses and growth chambers. Two planting systems are used; ~10 cm pots or plant trays containing 32 or 36 cells. Soil used for planting is either Metro 350 plus three types of slow release fertilizer or plant Metro 350. Irrigation is either overhead in greenhouses or subirrigation in growth chambers. Fertilizer is applied as required in irrigation water. Temperature

regimes appropriate for canola were maintained. A sixteen hour photoperiod was maintained. At the onset of flowering, plants are transplanted to ~15 cm pots for seed production.

An spray "batch" consists of several sets of R_1 progenies all sprayed on the same date. Some batches may also include evaluations of other than R_1 plants. Each batch also includes sprayed and unsprayed non-transgenic genotypes representing the genotypes in the particular batch which were putatively transformed. Also included in a batch is one or more non-segregating transformed genotypes previously identified as having some resistance.

Two-six plants from each individual R_0 progeny are not sprayed and serve as controls to compare and measure the glyphosate tolerance, as well as to assess any variability not induced by the glyphosate. When the other plants reach the 2-4 leaf stage, usually 10 to 20 days after planting, glyphosate is applied at rates varying from 0.28 to 1.12 kg/ha, depending on objectives of the study. Low rate technology using low volumes has been adopted. A laboratory track sprayer has been calibrated to deliver a rate equivalent to field conditions.

A scale of 0 to 10 is used to rate the sprayed plants for vegetative resistance. The scale is relative to the unsprayed plants from the same R_0 plant. A 0 is death, while a 10 represents no visible difference from the unsprayed plant. A higher number between 0 and 10 represents progressively less damage as compared to the unsprayed plant. Plants are scored at 7, 14, and 28 days after treatment (DAT), or until bolting, and a line is given the average score of the sprayed plants within an R_0 plant family.

Six integers are used to qualitatively describe the degree of reproductive damage from glyphosate:

- 0: No floral bud development
- 2: Floral buds present, but aborted prior to opening
- 4: Flowers open, but no anthers, or anthers fail to extrude past petals
- 6: Sterile anthers
- 8: Partially sterile anthers
- 10: Fully fertile flowers

Plants are scored using this scale at or shortly after initiation of flowering, depending on the rate of floral structure development.

Tables X and XI below tabulate the vegetative and reproductive scores for canola plants transformed with pMON17138 (sprayed at a rate of 0.56 kg/ha and pMON17164 (sprayed at a rate of 0.84 kg/ha), respectively. The results presented below illustrate the glyphosate tolerance conferred to canola plants as a result of expression of a glyphosate oxidoreductase gene in the plants.

TABLE X

Glyphosate Spray Evaluation of Canola Plants containing pMON17138			
Line name	Batch	0.56 kg/ha score	
		14 DAT Vegetative	28 DAT Reproductive
17138-22	79	9	10
17138-30	79	9	10
17138-145	79	10	10
17138-158	79	8	10
17138-164	80	8	10
Untransformed	77	3	0
Untransformed	79	1	0

TABLE XI

Glyphosate Spray Evaluation of Canola Plants containing pMON17164			
Construct	Batch	0.84 kg/ha score	
		14 DAT vegetative	28 DAT reproductive
17164-6	82	7	10
17164-9	83	8	10
17164-20	82	7	10
17164-25	83	8	10
17164-35	84	7	10
17164-45	83	9	10
17164-61	83	7	10
17164-75	84	7	10
17164-85	84	7	10
17164-97	84	6	10
17164-98	83	9	10
17164-105	83	7	10
17164-110	83	9	10
17164-115	83	7	10
17164-129	83	8	10
17164-139	84	7	10
17164-140	83	8	10
17164-164	83	7	10
17164-166	83	8	10
17164-174	83	8	10
17164-186	83	3	10
17164-202	83	8	10
17164-218	84	6	10
17164-219	83	9	10
17164-222	84	7	10
17164-225	83	7	10
17164-227	84	7	10
17164-230	83	8	10
17164-243	83	7	10
17164-247	84	7	10
17164-287	84	7	10
17164-289	83	8	10
17164-300	83	9	10
17164-337	83	8	10

Example 4

The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has also been introduced into and expressed in soybean and imparts glyphosate tolerance to such plants. The CTP2-synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase fusion gene (as described above) was introduced into soybean under the control of the FMV promoter and with the NOS 3' sequences in vector pMON17159, a map of which is presented in FIG. 10. This vector consists of the following elements in addition to the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene sequences; the pUC origin of replication, an NPTII bacterial selectable marker gene (kanamycin) and the beta-glucuronidase gene (GUS; Jefferson et al. 1986) under the control of the E35S promoter and with the E9 3' sequences. The latter gene provides a scorable marker to facilitate the identification of transformed plant material.

Soybean plants are transformed with pMON17159 by the method of microprojectile injection using particle gun technology as described in Christou et al. (1988). The seed harvested from R_0 plants is R_1 seed which gives rise to R_1 plants. To evaluate the glyphosate tolerance of an R_0 plant, its progeny are evaluated. Because an R_0 plant is assumed to be hemizygous at each insert location, selfing results in maximum genotypic segregation in the R_1 . Because each insert acts as a dominant allele, in the absence of linkage and assuming only one hemizygous insert is required for tolerance expression, one insert would segregate 3:1, two inserts, 15:1, three inserts 63:1, etc. Therefore, relatively few R_1 plants need be grown to find at least one resistant phenotype.

Seed from an R₀ soybean plant is harvested, and dried before planting in a glyphosate spray test. Seeds are planted into 4 inch (~5 cm) square pots containing Metro 350. Twenty seedlings from each R₀ plant is considered adequate for testing. Plants are maintained and grown in a greenhouse environment. A 12.5–14 hour photoperiod and temperatures of 30° C. day and 24° C. night is regulated. Water soluble Peters Pete Lite fertilizer is applied as needed.

A spray “batch” consists of several sets of R₁ progenies all sprayed on the same date. Some batches may also include evaluations of other than R₁ plants. Each batch also includes sprayed and unsprayed non-transgenic genotypes representing the genotypes in the particular batch which were putatively transformed. Also included in a batch is one or more non-segregating transformed genotypes previously identified as having some resistance.

One to two plants from each individual R₀ progeny are not sprayed and serve as controls to compare and measure the glyphosate tolerance, as well as to assess any variability not induced by the glyphosate. When the other plants reach the first trifoliolate leaf stage, usually 2–3 weeks after planting, glyphosate is applied at a rate equivalent of 128 oz./acre (8.895 kg/ha) of Roundup®. A laboratory track sprayer has been calibrated to deliver a rate equivalent to those conditions.

A vegetative score of 0 to 10 is used. The score is relative to the unsprayed progenies from the same R₀ plant. A 0 is death, while a 10 represents no visible difference from the unsprayed plant. A higher number between 0 and 10 represents progressively less damage as compared to the unsprayed plant. Plants are scored at 7, 14, and 28 days after treatment (DAT).

TABLE XII

Glyphosate Spray Evaluation of Soybean Plants containing pMON17159		
Line	Batch	Score @ 8.895 kg/ha. 28 DAT
17159-24	14	9
17159-25	14	9
17159-28	14	6
17159-40	14	4
17159-43	14	4
17159-71	14	10
17159-77	14	9
17159-81	15	4
Untransformed	14	0

Example 5

The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has also been introduced into Black Mexican Sweet (BMS) corn cells with expression of the protein detected in callus.

Plasmid pMON19632 was used to introduce the glyphosate oxidoreductase gene into corn cells. The backbone for this plasmid was constructed by inserting the 0.6 kb cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S RNA promoter (E35S) containing a duplication of the –90 to –300 region (Kay et al., 1987), a 0.58 kb fragment containing the first intron from the maize alcohol dehydrogenase gene (Callis et al., 1987), and the 3' termination sequences from the nopaline synthase (NOS) gene (Fraley et al., 1983) into pUC119 (Yanisch-Perron et al., 1985). pMON19632 was formed by inserting the 1.7 kb BglIII/EcoRI fragment from pMON17064 which contains the Arabidopsis SSU CTP fused to the synthetic glyphosate oxidoreductase coding sequence (SEQ IN NO:8).

Plasmid pMON19632 was introduced into BMS corn cells by co-bombardment with EC9, a plasmid containing a sulfonyleurea-resistant form of the maize acetolactate synthase gene. 2.5 ~g of each plasmid was coated onto tungsten particles and introduced into log-phase BMS cells using a PDS-1000 particle gun essentially as described in Klein et al., 1989. Transformants were selected on MS medium containing 20 ppb chlorsulfuron. After initial selection on chlorsulfuron, the calli was assayed by glyphosate oxidoreductase Western blot.

BMS callus (3 g wet weight) was dried on filter paper (Whatman#1) under vacuum, reweighted, and extraction buffer (500 lg dry weight; 100 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol) was added. The tissue was homogenized with a Wheaton overhead stirrer for 30 seconds at 2.8 power setting. After centrifugation (3 minutes, Eppendorf microfuge), the supernatant was removed and the protein was quantitated (BioRad Protein Assay). Samples (50 g/well) were loaded on an SDS PAGE gel (Jule, 3–17%) along with glyphosate oxidoreductase standard (10 ng), electrophoresed, and transferred to nitrocellulose similarly to a previously described method (Padgett, 1987). The nitrocellulose blot was probed with goat anti-glyphosate oxidoreductase IgG, and developed with I-125 Protein G. The radioactive blot was visualized by autoradiography. Results were quantitated by densitometry on an LKB UltraScan XL laser densitometer and are tabulated below in Table XIII.

TABLE XIII

Expression of glyphosate oxidoreductase in BMS Corn Callus using pMON19632	
Line	GOX expression (% extracted protein)
EC9 (no GOX)	0
T13-17	0.016
T13-16	0.0065
T13-15	0.016
T13-14	0.003
T13-12	0.0079
T13-7	0.01
T13-5	0.004
T13-18	0.026
T13-8	0.019
T13-9	0.01
T13-4	0.027

Table XIII illustrates that glyphosate oxidoreductase can be expressed and detected in a monocotyledonous plant, such as corn.

Example 6

The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene may be used as a selectable marker for plant transformation directly on media containing glyphosate. The ability to select and to identify transformed plant material depends, in most cases, on the use of a dominant selectable marker gene to enable the preferential and continued growth of the transformed tissues in the presence of a normally inhibitory substance. Antibiotic resistance and herbicide tolerance genes have been used almost exclusively as such dominant selectable marker genes in the presence of the corresponding antibiotic or herbicide. The nptII/kanamycin selection scheme is probably the most frequently used. It has been demonstrated that glyphosate oxidoreductase is also a useful and perhaps superior selectable marker/selection scheme for producing and identifying transformed plants.

A plant transformation vector that may be used in this scheme is pMON17226 (FIG. 11). This plasmid resembles many of the other plasmids described infra and is essentially composed of the previously described bacterial replicon system that enables this plasmid to replicate in *E. coli* and to be introduced into and to replicate in *Agrobacterium*, the bacterial selectable marker gene (Spc/Str), and located between the T-DNA right border and left border is the CTP1-glyphosate oxidoreductase synthetic gene in the FMV promoter-E9 3' cassette. This plasmid also has single sites for a number of restriction enzymes, located within the borders and outside of the expression cassette. This makes it possible to easily add other genes and genetic elements to the vector for introduction into plants.

The protocol for direct selection of transformed plants on glyphosate is outlined for tobacco. Explants are prepared for pre-culture as in the standard procedure as described in Example 1: surface sterilization of leaves from 1 month old tobacco plants (15 minutes in 10% clorox+surfactant; 3×dH₂O washer); explants are cut in 0.5×0.5 cm squares, removing leaf edges, mid-rib, tip, and petiole end for uniform tissue type; explants are placed in single layer, upside down, on MS104 plates+2 ml 4COO5K media to moisten surface; pre-culture 1–2 days. Explants are inoculated using overnight culture of *Agrobacterium* containing the plant transformation plasmid that is adjusted to a titer of 1.2×10⁹ bacteria/ml with 4COO5K media. Explants are placed into a centrifuge tube, the *Agrobacterium* suspension is added and the mixture of bacteria and explants is "Vortexed" on maximum setting for 25 seconds to ensure even penetration of bacteria. The bacteria are poured off and the explants are blotted between the layers of dry sterile filter paper to remove excess bacteria. The blotted explants are placed upside down on MS104 plates+2 ml 4COO5K media+filter disc. Co-culture is 2–3 days. The explants are transferred to MS104+Carbenicillin 1000 mg/l+cefotaxime 100 mg/l for 3 days (delayed phase). The explants are then transferred to MS104+glyphosate 0.05 mM+Carbenicillin 1000 mg/l+cefotaxime 100 mg/l for selection phase. At 4–6 weeks shoots are cut from callus and placed on MSO+Carbenicillin 500 mg/l rooting media. Roots form in 3–5 days, at which time leaf pieces can be taken from rooted plates to confirm glyphosate tolerance and that the material is transformed.

The presence of the glyphosate oxidoreductase protein in these transformed tissues has been confirmed by immunoblot analysis of leaf discs. The data from one experiment with pMON17226 is presented in the following: 25 shoots formed on glyphosate from 100 explants inoculated with *Agrobacterium* ABI/pMON17226; 15 of these were positive on reculturing on glyphosate, and 19 of these were positive for glyphosate oxidoreductase protein as detected by immunoblot.

These data indicate a transformation rate of 15–19 per 100 explants, which makes this a highly efficient and time saving transformation procedure for plant. Similar transformation frequencies have been obtained with a pMON17226 derivative (pMON17241) containing the gene for the glyphosate oxidoreductase v.247 (SEQ ID NO:17). The glyphosate oxidoreductase gene has also been shown to enable direct selection of transformants in other plant species, including *Arabidopsis*, potato, and sugarbeet.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that this invention is one well adapted to attain all the ends and objects hereinabove set forth together with advantages which are obvious and which are inherent to the invention.

It will be understood that certain features and subcombinations are of utility and may be employed without reference

to other features and subcombinations. This is contemplated by and is within the scope of the claims.

Since many possible embodiments may be made of the invention without departing from the scope thereof, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

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SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 33

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- (A) LENGTH: 564 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

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- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 27 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

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

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 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

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

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GCCCGAGCGG GTGGATTTCAT TCATGTTTCC GGTGAGCTTC CGATCAAACC AGAAGGCCAG	1620
TCGGAGCAAT CTGACGATCT CGTCGATAAC CAGGCCAGTC TCGTTCTCCG GAATTTGCTG	1680
GCCGTACTCG AG	1692

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1293 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) LOCATION: 1..1293

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Gly Val Cys Thr Ala Leu Met Leu Gln Arg Arg Gly Phe Lys Val Thr	
20 25 30	
TTG ATT GAC CCG AAC CCT CCT GGC GAA GGT GCA TCG TTT GGG AAT GCC	144
Leu Ile Asp Pro Asn Pro Pro Gly Glu Gly Ala Ser Phe Gly Asn Ala	
35 40 45	
GGA TGC TTC AAC GGC TCA TCC GTC GTC CCT ATG TCC ATG CCG GGA AAC	192
Gly Cys Phe Asn Gly Ser Ser Val Val Pro Met Ser Met Pro Gly Asn	
50 55 60	
TTG ACG AGC GTG CCG AAG TGG CTC CTT GAC CCG ATG GGC CGT TGT CAA	240
Leu Thr Ser Val Pro Lys Trp Leu Leu Asp Pro Met Gly Arg Cys Gln	
65 70 75 80	
TCC GGT TCA GCT ATT TCC AAC CAT CAT GCC TGG TTG ATT CGC TTT CTG	288
Ser Gly Ser Ala Ile Ser Asn His His Ala Trp Leu Ile Arg Phe Leu	
85 90 95	
TTA GCC GGA AGA CCA AAC AAG GTG AAG GAG CAG GCG AAA GCA CTC CGC	336
Leu Ala Gly Arg Pro Asn Lys Val Lys Glu Gln Ala Lys Ala Leu Arg	
100 105 110	
AAT CTC ATC AAG TCC ACG GTG CCT CTG ATC AAG TCA TTG GCG GAG GAG	384
Asn Leu Ile Lys Ser Thr Val Pro Leu Ile Lys Ser Leu Ala Glu Glu	
115 120 125	
GCT GAT GCG AGC CAT CTG ATC CGC CAT GAA GGT CAT CTG ACC GTA TAT	432
Ala Asp Ala Ser His Leu Ile Arg His Glu Gly His Leu Thr Val Tyr	
130 135 140	
CGT GGA GAA GCA GAC TTC GCC AAG GAC CGC GGA GGT TGG GAA CTG CGG	480
Arg Gly Glu Ala Asp Phe Ala Lys Asp Arg Gly Gly Trp Glu Leu Arg	
145 150 155 160	

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CGT CTC AAC GGT GTT CGC ACG CAG ATC CTC AGC GCC GAT GCG TTG CGG Arg Leu Asn Gly Val Arg Thr Gln Ile Leu Ser Ala Asp Ala Leu Arg 165 170 175	528
GAT TTC GAT CCG AAC TTG TCG CAT GCG TTT ACC AAG GGC ATT CTT ATA Asp Phe Asp Pro Asn Leu Ser His Ala Phe Thr Lys Gly Ile Leu Ile 180 185 190	576
GAA GAG AAC GGT CAC ACG ATT AAT CCG CAA GGG CTC GTG ACC CTC TTG Glu Glu Asn Gly His Thr Ile Asn Pro Gln Gly Leu Val Thr Leu Leu 195 200 205	624
TTT CGG CGT TTT ATC GCG AAC GGT GGC GAA TTC GTA TCT GCG CGT GTC Phe Arg Arg Phe Ile Ala Asn Gly Gly Glu Phe Val Ser Ala Arg Val 210 215 220	672
ATC GGC TTT GAG ACT GAA GGT AGG GCG CTT AAA GGC ATT ACA ACC ACG Ile Gly Phe Glu Thr Glu Gly Arg Ala Leu Lys Gly Ile Thr Thr Thr 225 230 235 240	720
AAC GGC GTT CTG GCC GTT GAT GCA GCG GTT GTC GCA GCC GGC GCA CAC Asn Gly Val Leu Ala Val Asp Ala Ala Val Val Ala Ala Gly Ala His 245 250 255	768
TCG AAA TCA CTT GCT AAT TCG CTA GGC GAT GAC ATC CCG CTC GAT ACC Ser Lys Ser Leu Ala Asn Ser Leu Gly Asp Asp Ile Pro Leu Asp Thr 260 265 270	816
GAA CGT GGA TAT CAT ATC GTC ATC GCG AAT CCG GAA GCC GCT CCA CGC Glu Arg Gly Tyr His Ile Val Ile Ala Asn Pro Glu Ala Ala Pro Arg 275 280 285	864
ATT CCG ACG ACC GAT GCG TCA GGA AAA TTC ATC GCG ACA CCT ATG GAA Ile Pro Thr Thr Asp Ala Ser Gly Lys Phe Ile Ala Thr Pro Met Glu 290 295 300	912
ATG GGG CTT CGC GTG GCG GGT ACG GTT GAG TTC GCT GGG CTC ACA GCC Met Gly Leu Arg Val Ala Gly Thr Val Glu Phe Ala Gly Leu Thr Ala 305 310 315 320	960
GCT CCT AAC TGG AAA CGT GCG CAT GTG CTC TAT ACG CAC GCT CGA AAA Ala Pro Asn Trp Lys Arg Ala His Val Leu Tyr Thr His Ala Arg Lys 325 330 335	1008
CTT CTT CCA GCC CTC GCG CCT GCG AGT TCT GAA GAA CGA TAT TCC AAA Leu Leu Pro Ala Leu Ala Pro Ala Ser Ser Glu Glu Arg Tyr Ser Lys 340 345 350	1056
TGG ATG GGG TTC CGG CCG AGC ATC CCG GAT TCG CTC CCC GTG ATT GGC Trp Met Gly Phe Arg Pro Ser Ile Pro Asp Ser Leu Pro Val Ile Gly 355 360 365	1104
CGG GCA ACC CGG ACA CCC GAC GTA ATC TAT GCT TTC GGC CAT GGT CAT Arg Ala Thr Arg Thr Pro Asp Val Ile Tyr Ala Phe Gly His Gly His 370 375 380	1152
CTC GGC ATG ACA GGG GCG CCG ATG ACC GCA ACG CTC GTC TCA GAG CTC Leu Gly Met Thr Gly Ala Pro Met Thr Ala Thr Leu Val Ser Glu Leu 385 390 395 400	1200
CTC GCA GGC GAA AAG ACC TCA ATC GAC ATT TCG CCC TTC GCA CCA AAC Leu Ala Gly Glu Lys Thr Ser Ile Asp Ile Ser Pro Phe Ala Pro Asn 405 410 415	1248
CGC TTT GGT ATT GGC AAA TCC AAG CAA ACG GGT CCG GCA AGT TAA Arg Phe Gly Ile Gly Lys Ser Lys Gln Thr Gly Pro Ala Ser 420 425 430	1293

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 430 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

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

Met	Ser	Glu	Asn	His	Lys	Lys	Val	Gly	Ile	Ala	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ile	Val
1				5					10					15	
Gly	Val	Cys	Thr	Ala	Leu	Met	Leu	Gln	Arg	Arg	Gly	Phe	Lys	Val	Thr
			20					25					30		
Leu	Ile	Asp	Pro	Asn	Pro	Pro	Gly	Glu	Gly	Ala	Ser	Phe	Gly	Asn	Ala
		35					40					45			
Gly	Cys	Phe	Asn	Gly	Ser	Ser	Val	Val	Pro	Met	Ser	Met	Pro	Gly	Asn
	50					55				60					
Leu	Thr	Ser	Val	Pro	Lys	Trp	Leu	Leu	Asp	Pro	Met	Gly	Arg	Cys	Gln
65					70					75					80
Ser	Gly	Ser	Ala	Ile	Ser	Asn	His	His	Ala	Trp	Leu	Ile	Arg	Phe	Leu
				85					90						95
Leu	Ala	Gly	Arg	Pro	Asn	Lys	Val	Lys	Glu	Gln	Ala	Lys	Ala	Leu	Arg
			100					105					110		
Asn	Leu	Ile	Lys	Ser	Thr	Val	Pro	Leu	Ile	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ala	Glu	Glu
		115					120					125			
Ala	Asp	Ala	Ser	His	Leu	Ile	Arg	His	Glu	Gly	His	Leu	Thr	Val	Tyr
	130					135					140				
Arg	Gly	Glu	Ala	Asp	Phe	Ala	Lys	Asp	Arg	Gly	Gly	Trp	Glu	Leu	Arg
145					150					155					160
Arg	Leu	Asn	Gly	Val	Arg	Thr	Gln	Ile	Leu	Ser	Ala	Asp	Ala	Leu	Arg
				165					170					175	
Asp	Phe	Asp	Pro	Asn	Leu	Ser	His	Ala	Phe	Thr	Lys	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ile
			180					185					190		
Glu	Glu	Asn	Gly	His	Thr	Ile	Asn	Pro	Gln	Gly	Leu	Val	Thr	Leu	Leu
		195					200					205			
Phe	Arg	Arg	Phe	Ile	Ala	Asn	Gly	Gly	Glu	Phe	Val	Ser	Ala	Arg	Val
	210					215					220				
Ile	Gly	Phe	Glu	Thr	Glu	Gly	Arg	Ala	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ile	Thr	Thr	Thr
225					230					235					240
Asn	Gly	Val	Leu	Ala	Val	Asp	Ala	Ala	Val	Val	Ala	Ala	Gly	Ala	His
				245					250					255	
Ser	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ala	Asn	Ser	Leu	Gly	Asp	Asp	Ile	Pro	Leu	Asp	Thr
			260					265					270		
Glu	Arg	Gly	Tyr	His	Ile	Val	Ile	Ala	Asn	Pro	Glu	Ala	Ala	Pro	Arg
		275					280					285			
Ile	Pro	Thr	Thr	Asp	Ala	Ser	Gly	Lys	Phe	Ile	Ala	Thr	Pro	Met	Glu
	290					295					300				
Met	Gly	Leu	Arg	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Val	Glu	Phe	Ala	Gly	Leu	Thr	Ala
305					310					315					320
Ala	Pro	Asn	Trp	Lys	Arg	Ala	His	Val	Leu	Tyr	Thr	His	Ala	Arg	Lys
				325					330					335	
Leu	Leu	Pro	Ala	Leu	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ser	Ser	Glu	Glu	Arg	Tyr	Ser	Lys
			340					345						350	
Trp	Met	Gly	Phe	Arg	Pro	Ser	Ile	Pro	Asp	Ser	Leu	Pro	Val	Ile	Gly
		355					360						365		
Arg	Ala	Thr	Arg	Thr	Pro	Asp	Val	Ile	Tyr	Ala	Phe	Gly	His	Gly	His
	370					375					380				
Leu	Gly	Met	Thr	Gly	Ala	Pro	Met	Thr	Ala	Thr	Leu	Val	Ser	Glu	Leu
385					390					395					400

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Leu Ala Gly Glu Lys Thr Ser Ile Asp Ile Ser Pro Phe Ala Pro Asn
 405 410 415

Arg Phe Gly Ile Gly Lys Ser Lys Gln Thr Gly Pro Ala Ser
 420 425 430

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1296 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (recombinant)

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

ATGGCTGAGA ACCACAAAA AGTAGGCATC GCTGGAGCCG GAATCGTCGG CGTATGCACG 60
 GCGCTGATGC TTCAGCGCCG CGGATTCAAA GTCACCTTGA TTGACCCGAA CCCTCCTGGC 120
 GAAGGTGCAT CGTTTGGGAA TGCCGGATGC TTCAACGGCT CATCCGTCGT CCCTATGTCC 180
 ATGCCGGGAA ACTTGACGAG CGTGCCGAAG TGGCTCCTTG ACCCGATGGG GCCGTTGTCA 240
 ATCCGGTTCA GCTATTTTCC AACCATCATG CCCTGGTTGA TTCGCTTCTT GTTAGCCGGA 300
 AGACCAAACA AGGTGAAGGA GCAGGCGAAA GCACTCCGCA ATCTCATCAA GTCCACGGTG 360
 CCTCTGATCA AGTCATTGGC GGAGGAGGCT GATGCGAGCC ATCTGATCCG CCATGAAGGT 420
 CATCTGACCG TATATCGTGG AGAAGCAGAC TTCGCCAAGG ACCGCGGAGG TTGGGAACTG 480
 CGGCGTCTCA ACGGTGTTCG CACGCAGATC CTCAGCGCCG ATGCGTTGCG GGATTTTCGAT 540
 CCGAACTTGT CGCATGCGTT TACCAAGGGC ATTCTTATAG AAGAGAACGG TCACACGATT 600
 AATCCGCAAG GGCTCGTGAC CCTCTTGTTT CGGCGTTTTC TCGCGAACGG TGGCGAATTT 660
 GTATCTGCGC GTGTCATCGG CTTTGAGACT GAAGGTAGGG CGCTTAAAGG CATTACAACC 720
 ACGAACGGCG TTCTGGCCGT TGATGCAGCG GTTGTGCGAG CCGGCGCACA CTCGAAATCA 780
 CTTGCTAATT CGCTAGGCCG TGACATCCCG CTCGATACCG AACGTGGATA TCATATCGTC 840
 ATCGCGAATC CGGAAGCCGC TCCACGCATT CCGACGACCG ATGCGTCAGG AAAATTCATC 900
 GCGACACCTA TGGAAATGGG GCTTCGCGTG GCGGGTACGG TTGAGTTCGC TGGGCTCACA 960
 GCCGCTCCTA ACTGGAAACG TGCGCATGTG CTCTATACGC ACGCTCGAAA ACTTCTTCCA 1020
 GCCCTCGCGC CTGCGAGTTC TGAAGAACGA TATTCCAAAT GGATGGGGTT CCGGCCGAGC 1080
 ATCCCGGATT CGCTCCCCGT GATTGGCCGG GCAACCCGGA CACCCGACGT AATCTATGCT 1140
 TTCGGCCACG GTCATCTCGG CATGACAGGG GCGCCGATGA CCGCAACGCT CGTCTCAGAG 1200
 CTCCTCGCAG GCGAAAAGAC CTCAATCGAC ATTTGCCCCT TCGCACCAA CCGCTTTGGT 1260
 ATTGGCAAAT CCAAGCAAAC GGGTCCGGCA AGTTAA 1296

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 7:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1296 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (recombinant)

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

ATGGCTGAGA ACCACAAAA AGTAGGCATC GCTGGAGCTG GAATCGTTGG TGTATGCACT 60
 GCTTTGATGC TTCAACGTCG TGGATTCAAA GTCACCTTGA TTGACCCGAA CCCTCCTGGC 120

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GAAGGTGCAT	CGTTTGGGAA	TGCCGGATGC	TTCAACGGCT	CATCCGTCGT	CCCTATGTCC	180
ATGCCGGGAA	ACTTGACGAG	CGTGCCGAAG	TGGCTCCTTG	ACCCGATGGG	GCCGTTGTCA	240
ATCCGGTTCA	GCTATTTTCC	AACCATCATG	CCCTGGTTGA	TTCGCTTTCT	GTTAGCCGGA	300
AGACCAAACA	AGGTGAAGGA	GCAGGCGAAA	GCACTCCGCA	ATCTCATCAA	GTCCACGGTG	360
CCTCTGATCA	AGTCATTGGC	GGAGGAGGCT	GATGCGAGCC	ATCTGATCCG	CCATGAAGGT	420
CATCTGACCG	TATATCGTGG	AGAAGCAGAC	TTCGCCAAGG	ACCGCGGAGG	TTGGGAACTG	480
CGCGTCTCA	ACGGTGTTTCG	CACGCAGATC	CTCTCTGCTG	ATGCTTTGCG	TGATTTTCGAT	540
CCTAACTTGT	CGCATGCTTT	TACCAAGGGC	ATTCTTATAG	AAGAGAACGG	TCACACGATT	600
AATCCGCAAG	GGCTCGTGAC	CCTCTTGTTC	CGGCGTTTTC	TCGCGAACGG	TGGCGAATTT	660
GTATCTGCGC	GTGTATCGG	TTTTGAGACT	GAAGGTCGTG	CTCTCAAAGG	CATTACAACC	720
ACTAACGGTG	TTCTGGCTGT	TGATGCAGCT	GTTGTTGCAG	CTGGTGCACA	CTCTAAATCA	780
CTTGCTAATT	CGCTAGGCCA	TGACATCCCG	CTCGATACCG	AACGTGGATA	TCATATCGTC	840
ATCGCGAATC	CGGAAGCCGC	TCCACGCATT	CCGACGACCG	ATGCGTCAGG	AAAATTCATC	900
GCGACACCTA	TGGAAATGGG	TCTTCGTGTT	GCTGGTACTG	TTGAGTTTGC	TGGTCTCACA	960
GCTGCTCCTA	ACTGGAAACG	TGCGCATGTG	CTCTATACGC	ACGCTCGAAA	ACTTCTTCCA	1020
GCCCTCGCGC	CTGCGAGTTC	TGAAGAACGA	TATTCCAAAT	GGATGGGTTT	TCGTCCTAGC	1080
ATTCCTGATT	CTCTCCAGT	GATTGGTCGT	GCAACTCGTA	CACCCGACGT	AATCTATGCT	1140
TTTGGTCACG	GTCATCTCGG	TATGACAGGT	GCTCCAATGA	CTGCAACTCT	CGTCTCAGAG	1200
CTCCTCGCAG	GCGAAAAGAC	CTCAATCGAC	ATTTCCGCCCT	TCGCACCAAA	CCGCTTTGGT	1260
ATTGGCAAAT	CCAAGCAAAC	GGGTCCGGCA	AGTTAA			1296

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 8:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1296 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

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

ATGGCTGAGA	ACCACAAGAA	GGTTGGTATC	GCTGGAGCTG	GAATCGTTGG	TGTTTGCACT	60
GCTTTGATGC	TTCAACGTCG	TGGATTCAAG	GTTACCTTGA	TTGATCCAAA	CCCACCAGGT	120
GAAGGTGCTT	CTTTCGGTAA	CGCTGGTTGC	TTCAACGGTT	CCTCCGTTGT	TCCAATGTCC	180
ATGCCAGGAA	ACTTGACTAG	CGTTCCAAAG	TGGCTTCTTG	ACCCAATGGG	TCCATTGTCC	240
ATCCGTTTCA	GCTACTTTCC	AACCATCATG	CCTTGGTTGA	TTCGTTTCTT	GCTTGCTGGA	300
AGACCAAACA	AGGTGAAGGA	GCAAGCTAAG	GCACTCCGTA	ACCTCATCAA	GTCCACTGTG	360
CCTTTGATCA	AGTCCTTGGC	TGAGGAGGCT	GATGCTAGCC	ACCTTATCCG	TCACGAAGGT	420
CACCTTACCG	TGTACCGTGG	AGAAGCAGAC	TTCGCCAAGG	ACCGTGGAGG	TTGGGAACTT	480
CGTCGTCTCA	ACGGTGTTTCG	TACTCAAATC	CTCAGCGCTG	ATGCATTGCG	TGATTTTCGAT	540
CCTAACTTGT	CTCAGCCCTT	TACCAAGGGA	ATCCTTATCG	AAGAGAACGG	TCACACCATC	600
AACCCACAAG	GTCTCGTGAC	TCTCTTGTTC	CGTCGTTTCA	TCGCTAACGG	TGGAGAGTTC	660
GTGTCTGCTC	GTGTTATCGG	ATTCGAGACT	GAAGGTCGTG	CTCTCAAGGG	TATCACCACC	720
ACCAACGGTG	TTCTTGCTGT	TGATGCAGCT	GTTGTTGCAG	CTGGTGCACA	CTCCAAGTCT	780

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CTTGCTAACT CCCTTGGTGA TGACATCCCA TTGGATACCG AACGTGGATA CCACATCGTG	840
ATCGCCAACC CAGAAGCTGC TCCACGTATT CCAACTACCG ATGCTTCTGG AAAGTTCATC	900
GCTACTCCTA TGGAGATGGG TCTTCGTGTT GCTGGAACCG TTGAGTTCGC TGGTCTCACT	960
GCTGCTCCTA ACTGGAAGCG TGCTCACGTT CTCTACACTC ACGCTCGTAA GTTGCTTCCA	1020
GCTCTCGCTC CTGCCAGTTC TGAAGAACGT TACTCCAAGT GGATGGGTTT CCGTCCAAGC	1080
ATCCCAGATT CCCTTCCAGT GATTGGTCGT GCTACCCGTA CTCCAGACGT TATCTACGCT	1140
TTCGGTCACG GTCACCTCGG TATGACTGGT GCTCCAATGA CCGCAACCCT CGTTTCTGAG	1200
CTCCTCGCAG GTGAGAAGAC CTCTATCGAC ATCTCTCCAT TCGCACAAA CCGTTTCGGT	1260
ATTGGTAAGT CCAAGCAAAC TGGTCCTGCA TCCTAA	1296

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 9:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 279 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (recombinant)

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

AGATCTCCAC AATGGCTTCC TCTATGCTCT CTTCCGCTAC TATGGTTGCC TCTCCGGCTC	60
AGGCCACTAT GGTCGCTCCT TTCAACGGAC TTAAGTCCTC CGCTGCCTTC CCAGCCACCC	120
GCAAGGCTAA CAACGACATT ACTTCCATCA CAAGCAACGG CGGAAGAGTT AACTGCATGC	180
AGGTGTGGCC TCCGATTGGA AAGAAGAAGT TTGAGACTCT CTCTTACCTT CCTGACCTTA	240
CCGATTCCGG TGGTCGCGTC AACTGCATGC AGGCCATGG	279

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 10:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 318 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (recombinant)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 10:

AGATCTATCG ATAAGCTTGA TGTAATTGGA GGAAGATCAA AATTTTCAAT CCCATTCTT	60
CGATTGCTTC AATTGAAGTT TCTCCGATGG CGCAAGTTAG CAGAATCTGC AATGGTGTGC	120
AGAACCCATC TCTTATCTCC AATCTCTCGA AATCCAGTCA ACGCAAATCT CCCTTATCGG	180
TTTCTCTGAA GACGCAGCAG CATCCACGAG CTTATCCGAT TTCGTCGTCG TGGGGATTGA	240
AGAAGAGTGG GATGACGTTA ATTGGCTCTG AGCTTCGTCC TCTTAAGGTC ATGTCTTCTG	300
TTTCCACGGC GTGCATGC	318

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 11:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 119 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

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(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 11:

NCATGGACGT CTGATCGAAA TCGTCGTTAC CGCAGCAAGG TAAGGCACGC CGAATTTTAT 60

CACCTACCGC GAAACGGTGG CTAGGCAGCG AGAGACTGTC GGCTCCGCGG GAGCATCCT 119

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 277 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: double

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 12:

GTACTIONACGC GGTTCGTGAGT ACAGCGCAGA GCCGGTGTCA AGATCAATCT GCACCTCGCA 60

ATCACCTCGG AGACGCGAAA TGGCGCAAAT AGAACACATA TTAACGAGTC ACGCCCCGAA 120

GCCTTTGGGT CACTACAGTC AGGCGGCCCG AGCGGGTGA TTCATTTCATG TTTCCGGTCA 180

GCTTCCGATC AAACCAGAAG GCCAGTCGGA GCAATCTGAC GATCTCGTCG ATAACCAGGC 240

CAGTCTCGTT CTCCGGAATT TGCTGGCCGT ACTCGAG 277

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 13:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: double

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 13:

GAGAGACTGT CGACTCCGCG GGAGCATCAT ATG 33

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 14:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 14:

GAACGAATCC AAGCTTCTCA CGACCGCGTA AGTAC 35

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 15:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 15:

GCCGAGATGA CCGTGGCCGA AAGC 24

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 16:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 16:

GGGAATGCCG GATGCTTCAA CGGC

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1296 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (recombinant)

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: 1..1296

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 17:

ATG GCT GAG AAC CAC AAG AAG GTT GGT ATC GCT GGA GCT GGA ATC GTT	48
Met Ala Glu Asn His Lys Lys Val Gly Ile Ala Gly Ala Gly Ile Val	
1 5 10 15	
GGT GTT TGC ACT GCT TTG ATG CTT CAA CGT CGT GGA TTC AAG GTT ACC	96
Gly Val Cys Thr Ala Leu Met Leu Gln Arg Arg Gly Phe Lys Val Thr	
20 25 30	
TTG ATT GAT CCA AAC CCA CCA GGT GAA GGT GCC TCT TTC GGT AAC GCT	144
Leu Ile Asp Pro Asn Pro Pro Gly Glu Gly Ala Ser Phe Gly Asn Ala	
35 40 45	
GGT TGC TTC AAC GGT TCC TCC GTT GTT CCA ATG TCC ATG CCA GGA AAC	192
Gly Cys Phe Asn Gly Ser Ser Val Val Pro Met Ser Met Pro Gly Asn	
50 55 60	
TTG ACT AGC GTT CCA AAG TGG CTT CTT GAC CCA ATG GGT CCA TTG TCC	240
Leu Thr Ser Val Pro Lys Trp Leu Leu Asp Pro Met Gly Pro Leu Ser	
65 70 75 80	
ATC CGT TTC GGC TAC TTT CCA ACC ATC ATG CCT TGG TTG ATT CGT TTC	288
Ile Arg Phe Gly Tyr Phe Pro Thr Ile Met Pro Trp Leu Ile Arg Phe	
85 90 95	
TTG CTT GCT GGA AGA CCA AAC AAG GTG AAG GAG CAA GCT AAG GCA CTC	336
Leu Leu Ala Gly Arg Pro Asn Lys Val Lys Glu Gln Ala Lys Ala Leu	
100 105 110	
CGT AAC CTC ATC AAG TCC ACT GTG CCT TTG ATC AAG TCC TTG GCT GAG	384
Arg Asn Leu Ile Lys Ser Thr Val Pro Leu Ile Lys Ser Leu Ala Glu	
115 120 125	
GAG GCT GAT GCT AGC CAC CTT ATC CGT CAC GAA GGT CAC CTT ACC GTG	432
Glu Ala Asp Ala Ser His Leu Ile Arg His Glu Gly His Leu Thr Val	
130 135 140	
TAC CGT GGA GAA GCA GAC TTC GCC AGG GAC CGT GGA GGT TGG GAA CTT	480
Tyr Arg Gly Glu Ala Asp Phe Ala Arg Asp Arg Gly Gly Trp Glu Leu	
145 150 155 160	
CGT CGT CTC AAC GGT GTT CGT ACT CAA ATC CTC AGC GCT GAT GCA TTG	528
Arg Arg Leu Asn Gly Val Arg Thr Gln Ile Leu Ser Ala Asp Ala Leu	
165 170 175	
CGT GAT TTC GAT CCT AAC TTG TCT CAC GCC TTT ACC AAG GGA ATC CTT	576
Arg Asp Phe Asp Pro Asn Leu Ser His Ala Phe Thr Lys Gly Ile Leu	
180 185 190	

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ATC Ile	GAA Glu	GAG Glu	AAC Asn	GGT Gly	CAC His	ACC Thr	ATC Ile	AAC Asn	CCA Pro	CAA Gln	GGT Gly	CTC Leu	GTG Val	ACT Thr	CTC Leu	624
	195						200					205				
TTG Leu	TTT Phe	CGT Arg	CGT Arg	TTC Phe	ATC Ile	GCT Ala	AAC Asn	GGT Gly	GGA Gly	GAG Glu	TTC Phe	GTG Val	TCT Ser	GCT Ala	CGT Arg	672
	210					215				220						
GTT Val	ATC Ile	GGA Gly	TTC Phe	GAG Glu	ACT Thr	GAA Glu	GGT Gly	CGT Arg	GCT Ala	CTC Leu	AAG Lys	GGT Gly	ATC Ile	ACC Thr	ACC Thr	720
	225				230					235					240	
ACC Thr	AAC Asn	GGT Gly	GTT Val	CTT Leu	GCT Ala	GTT Val	GAT Asp	GCA Ala	GCT Ala	GTT Val	GTT Val	GCA Ala	GCT Ala	GGT Gly	GCA Ala	768
				245				250						255		
CAC His	TCC Ser	AAG Lys	TCT Ser	CTT Leu	GCT Ala	AAC Asn	TCC Ser	CTT Leu	GGT Gly	GAT Asp	GAC Asp	ATC Ile	CCA Pro	TTG Leu	GAT Asp	816
			260					265					270			
ACC Thr	GAA Glu	CGT Arg	GGA Gly	TAC Tyr	CAC His	ATC Ile	GTG Val	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	AAC Asn	CCA Pro	GAA Glu	GCT Ala	GCT Ala	CCA Pro	864
	275						280					285				
CGT Arg	ATT Ile	CCA Pro	ACT Thr	ACC Thr	GAT Asp	GCT Ala	TCT Ser	GGA Gly	AAG Lys	TTC Phe	ATC Ile	GCT Ala	ACT Thr	CCT Pro	ATG Met	912
	290					295					300					
GAG Glu	ATG Met	GGT Gly	CTT Leu	CGT Arg	GTT Val	GCT Ala	GGA Gly	ACC Thr	GTT Val	GAG Glu	TTC Phe	GCT Ala	GGT Gly	CTC Leu	ACT Thr	960
	305				310					315				320		
GCT Ala	GCT Ala	CCT Pro	AAC Asn	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	CGT Arg	GCT Ala	CAC His	GTT Val	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	ACT Thr	CGC Arg	GCT Ala	CGT Arg	1008
				325					330					335		
AAG Lys	TTG Leu	CTT Leu	CCA Pro	GCT Ala	CTC Leu	GCT Ala	CCT Pro	GCC Ala	AGT Ser	TCT Ser	GAA Glu	GAA Glu	CGT Arg	TAC Tyr	TCC Ser	1056
			340					345					350			
AAG Lys	TGG Trp	ATG Met	GGT Gly	TTC Phe	CGT Arg	CCA Pro	AGC Ser	ATC Ile	CCG Pro	GAT Asp	TCC Ser	CTT Leu	CCA Pro	GTG Val	ATT Ile	1104
	355						360					365				
GGT Gly	CGT Arg	GCT Ala	ACC Thr	CGT Arg	ACT Thr	CCA Pro	GAC Asp	GTT Val	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr	GCT Ala	TTC Phe	GGT Gly	CAC His	GGT Gly	1152
	370					375				380						
CAC His	CTC Leu	GGT Gly	ATG Met	ACT Thr	GGT Gly	GCT Ala	CCA Pro	ATG Met	ACC Thr	GCA Ala	ACC Thr	CTC Leu	GTT Val	TCT Ser	GAG Glu	1200
	385				390					395					400	
CTC Leu	CTC Leu	GCA Ala	GGT Gly	GAG Glu	AAG Lys	ACC Thr	TCT Ser	ATC Ile	GAC Asp	ATC Ile	TCT Ser	CCA Pro	TTC Phe	GCA Ala	CCA Pro	1248
				405					410					415		
AAC Asn	CGT Arg	TTC Phe	GGT Gly	ATT Ile	GGT Gly	AAG Lys	TCC Ser	AAG Lys	CAA Gln	ACT Thr	GGT Gly	CCT Pro	GCA Ala	TCC Ala	TAA Ser	1296
		420						425					430			

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 431 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 18:

Met Ala Glu Asn His Lys Lys Val Gly Ile Ala Gly Ala Gly Ile Val
 1 5 10 15

Gly Val Cys Thr Ala Leu Met Leu Gln Arg Arg Gly Phe Lys Val Thr
 20 25 30

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Leu Ile Asp Pro Asn Pro Pro Gly Glu Gly Ala Ser Phe Gly Asn Ala
 35 40 45

Gly Cys Phe Asn Gly Ser Ser Val Val Pro Met Ser Met Pro Gly Asn
 50 55 60

Leu Thr Ser Val Pro Lys Trp Leu Leu Asp Pro Met Gly Pro Leu Ser
 65 70 75 80

Ile Arg Phe Gly Tyr Phe Pro Thr Ile Met Pro Trp Leu Ile Arg Phe
 85 90 95

Leu Leu Ala Gly Arg Pro Asn Lys Val Lys Glu Gln Ala Lys Ala Leu
 100 105 110

Arg Asn Leu Ile Lys Ser Thr Val Pro Leu Ile Lys Ser Leu Ala Glu
 115 120 125

Glu Ala Asp Ala Ser His Leu Ile Arg His Glu Gly His Leu Thr Val
 130 135 140

Tyr Arg Gly Glu Ala Asp Phe Ala Arg Asp Arg Gly Gly Trp Glu Leu
 145 150 155 160

Arg Arg Leu Asn Gly Val Arg Thr Gln Ile Leu Ser Ala Asp Ala Leu
 165 170 175

Arg Asp Phe Asp Pro Asn Leu Ser His Ala Phe Thr Lys Gly Ile Leu
 180 185 190

Ile Glu Glu Asn Gly His Thr Ile Asn Pro Gln Gly Leu Val Thr Leu
 195 200 205

Leu Phe Arg Arg Phe Ile Ala Asn Gly Gly Glu Phe Val Ser Ala Arg
 210 215 220

Val Ile Gly Phe Glu Thr Glu Gly Arg Ala Leu Lys Gly Ile Thr Thr
 225 230 235 240

Thr Asn Gly Val Leu Ala Val Asp Ala Ala Val Val Ala Ala Gly Ala
 245 250 255

His Ser Lys Ser Leu Ala Asn Ser Leu Gly Asp Asp Ile Pro Leu Asp
 260 265 270

Thr Glu Arg Gly Tyr His Ile Val Ile Ala Asn Pro Glu Ala Ala Pro
 275 280 285

Arg Ile Pro Thr Thr Asp Ala Ser Gly Lys Phe Ile Ala Thr Pro Met
 290 295 300

Glu Met Gly Leu Arg Val Ala Gly Thr Val Glu Phe Ala Gly Leu Thr
 305 310 315 320

Ala Ala Pro Asn Trp Lys Arg Ala His Val Leu Tyr Thr Arg Ala Arg
 325 330 335

Lys Leu Leu Pro Ala Leu Ala Pro Ala Ser Ser Glu Glu Arg Tyr Ser
 340 345 350

Lys Trp Met Gly Phe Arg Pro Ser Ile Pro Asp Ser Leu Pro Val Ile
 355 360 365

Gly Arg Ala Thr Arg Thr Pro Asp Val Ile Tyr Ala Phe Gly His Gly
 370 375 380

His Leu Gly Met Thr Gly Ala Pro Met Thr Ala Thr Leu Val Ser Glu
 385 390 395 400

Leu Leu Ala Gly Glu Lys Thr Ser Ile Asp Ile Ser Pro Phe Ala Pro
 405 410 415

Asn Arg Phe Gly Ile Gly Lys Ser Lys Gln Thr Gly Pro Ala Ser
 420 425 430

-continued

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 19:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 19:

CGTTCTCTAC ACTCGTGCTC GTAAGTTGC 29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 20:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 20:

CGTTCTCTAC ACTAAGGCTC GTAAGTTGC 29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 21:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 21:

CGTTCTCTAC ACTCAAGCTC GTAAGTTGC 29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 22:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 22:

CGTTCTCTAC ACTGCTGCTC GTAAGTTGC 29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 23:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 32 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 23:

CTCTACACTT GGGCTCGTAA GCTTCTTCCA GC 32

-continued

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 24:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 32 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 24:

CTCTACACTA TCGCTCGTAA GCTTCTTCCA GC 32

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 25:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 32 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 25:

CTCTACTC TGGCTCGTAA GCTTCTTCCA GC 32

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 26:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 32 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 26:

CTCTACTG AAGCTCGTAA GCTTCTTCCA GC 32

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 27:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 62 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 27:

CGCTGGAGCT GGAATCGTTG GTGTATGCAC TGCTTTGATG CTTCAACGTC GTGGATTCAA 60

AG 62

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 28:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 65 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 28:

GCAGATCCTC TCTGCTGATG CTTTGCCTGA TTTCGATCCT AACTTGTCTC ATGCTTTTAC 60

CAAGG 65

-continued

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 29:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 29:

GTCATCGGTT TTGAGACTGA AGGTCGTGCT CTCAAAGGCA T 41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 30:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 69 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 30:

TACAACCACT AACGGTGTTT TGGCTGTTGA TGCAGCTGTT GTTGCAGCTG GTGCACACTC 60

TAAATCACT 69

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 31:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 61 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 31:

GGAAATGGGT CTCGTGTTG CTGGTACTGT TGAGTTTGCT GGTCTCACAG CTGCTCCTAA 60

C 61

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 32:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 68 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 32:

TGGATGGGTT TTCGTCCTAG CATTCTGAT TCTCTCCAG TGATTGGTCG TGCAACTCGT 60

ACACCCGA 68

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 33:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 69 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (synthetic)

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(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 33:

CGTAATCTAT GCTTTTGGTC ACGGTCATCT CGGTATGACA GGTGCTCCAA TGACTGCAAC 60
TCTCGTCTC 69

We claim:

[1. An isolated double-stranded DNA molecule which hybridizes to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

[2. A recombinant bacterium containing the double-stranded DNA molecule of claim 1.]

[3. The DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule comprises SEQ ID NO:17.]

4. [A] *An isolated* DNA molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:4.

[5. An isolated DNA molecule that is capable of hybridizing to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

[6. A bacterium containing the DNA molecule of claim 5.]

7. [A] *An isolated* DNA molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:6.

[8. An isolated DNA molecule that is capable of hybridizing to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

[9. A bacterium containing the DNA molecule of claim 8.]

10. [A] *An isolated* DNA molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:7.

[11. An isolated DNA molecule that is capable of hybridizing to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:7, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

[12. A bacterium containing the DNA molecule of claim 11.]

13. [A] *An isolated* DNA molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:8.

[14. An isolated DNA molecule that is capable of hybridizing to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

10 [15. A bacterium containing the DNA molecule of claim 14.]

16. [A] *An isolated* DNA molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:17.

15 [17. An isolated DNA molecule that is capable of hybridizing to the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:17, wherein said DNA molecule encodes a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme.]

20 [18. A bacterium containing the DNA molecule of claim 17.]

[19. A method for selecting transformed plant cells comprising:

(a) introducing a chimeric gene comprising SEQ ID NO:3, 4, 6, 7, 8 or 17 into plant cells;

(b) placing said plant cells on a plant growth media containing glyphosate; and

(c) selecting plant cells that exhibit growth on said glyphosate containing media.]

[20. A method for selecting transformed plant cells comprising:

(a) introducing a chimeric gene comprising a DNA molecule encoding a glyphosate oxidoreductase enzyme into plant cells, wherein the DNA molecule is capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:3, 4, 6, 7, 8 or 17;

(b) placing said plant cells on a plant growth media containing glyphosate; and

(c) selecting plant cells that exhibit growth on said glyphosate containing media.]

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