



US00RE41943E

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

(10) **Patent Number:** **US RE41,943 E**
(45) **Date of Reissued Patent:** **Nov. 16, 2010**

(54) **GLYPHOSATE-RESISTANT PLANTS**

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(21) Appl. No.: **12/633,520**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 8, 2009**

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

(64) Patent No.: **7,045,684**
Issued: **May 16, 2006**
Appl. No.: **10/223,241**
Filed: **Aug. 19, 2002**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)
C12N 15/82 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **800/300; 435/419; 435/468**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** None
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to glyphosate-resistant transgenic plants and methods of making the same. In a preferred embodiment, a DNA fragment which comprises an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence and a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence is introduced into regenerable plant cells. The encoded EPSPS has a chloroplast transit peptide. The DNA fragment does not contain a non-EPSPS enhancer. Cells are selected for stable transformation, and the selected cells can be used to regenerate glyphosate-resistant transgenic plants. The DNA fragment used for transformation preferably comprises a modified plant genomic sequence, such as SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO: 6. In one embodiment, two DNA fragments of this invention are stably transformed into a plant to confer glyphosate-resistance.

13 Claims, No Drawings

GLYPHOSATE-RESISTANT 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.

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates to glyphosate-resistant transgenic plants and methods of making the same.

BACKGROUND

Glyphosate is a widely used component in herbicides. Glyphosate inhibits 5-enolpyruvyl-3-phosphoshikimic acid synthase (EPSP synthase, or EPSPS), which is involved in the synthesis of aromatic amino acids in plant cells. Inhibition of EPSPS effectively disrupts protein synthesis and thereby kills the affected plant cells. Because glyphosate is non-selective, it kills both weeds and crop plants. Accordingly, there is a need to produce transgenic crop plants that are resistant to glyphosate.

Recombinant DNA technology has been used to create mutant EPSP synthases that are glyphosate-resistant. These mutant EPSP synthases can be transformed into plants and confer glyphosate-resistance upon the transformed plants. Examples of mutant EPSP synthases and glyphosate-resistant transgenic plants are illustrated in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,040,497 and 5,554,798, 5,310,667 and WO 00/66748.

Current plant transformation technology employs chimeric expression vectors. These vectors include regulatory sequences, such as enhancers or promoters, that are heterologous to the EPSPS genes. For instance, WO 00/66748 fuses enhancers from CaMV 35S, FMV 35S, rice actin 1, rice GOS2, maize polyubiquitin, or barley plastocyanin genes to a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence in order to enhance the expression of the glyphosate-resistant EPSPS in transformed plant cells.

No one has used a complete expression cassette of the EPSP synthase gene isolated from the genome of a donor plant and mutated to give glyphosate resistance. In one embodiment of the present invention, the expression cassette of the EPSP synthase gene consists of a native EPSPS 5' regulator sequence, a coding sequence (with or without introns) encoding a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS which includes a native transit peptide, and a native EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence (such as an EPSPS transcriptional terminator). The fact that such an expression cassette is sufficient to provide glyphosate resistance is surprising. Moreover, the use of the native EPSPS 5' and/or 3' regulatory sequences simplifies the process of constructing expression vectors suitable for plant transformation.

Suitable sources of EPSP synthase genes include dicotyledonous plants, such as *Arabidopsis thaliana*, and monocotyledonous plants, such as *Zea mays*, *Arabidopsis thaliana* has two EPSP synthase genes (*epm1* and *epm2*). The present invention includes use of one or both of mutated *epm1* and *epm2* to confer resistance to glyphosate. Mutated EPSP synthase genes from *Zea mays* or other plants can also be used for transforming plant cells to make glyphosate-resistant plants.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, a DNA fragment which comprises an EPSPS 5' regulatory

sequence and a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence (including a chloroplast transit peptide coding sequence) is introduced into regenerable plant cells. The DNA fragment does not contain a non-EPSPS enhancer. Cells are selected for stable transformation. The selected cells are then used to regenerate glyphosate-resistant, transgenic plants.

In one embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation comprises a modified plant genomic sequence. The unmodified plant genomic sequence comprises at least part of an EPSPS gene, and includes an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence and a glyphosate-sensitive EPSPS coding sequence (including a chloroplast transit peptide coding sequence). The glyphosate-sensitive EPSPS coding sequence is modified to make the encoded EPSPS glyphosate-resistant. The DNA fragment comprising the modified plant genomic sequence is stably transformed into plant cells, from which glyphosate-resistant plants are regenerated.

In a preferred embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation comprises SEQ ID NO: 2. In another preferred embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation comprises SEQ ID NO: 4. In yet another preferred embodiment, the DNA fragment comprises SEQ ID NO: 6. In a further preferred embodiment, any two sequences selected from SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, and SEQ ID NO: 6 are used to transform plant cells. In one embodiment, the transgenic plant comprises transformed SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4.

Other features, objects, and advantages of the present invention are apparent in the detailed description that follows. It should be understood, however, that the detailed description, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, not limitation. Various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the detailed description.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

This invention relates to methods of making glyphosate-resistant plants. In accordance with one aspect of the invention, a DNA fragment is introduced into regenerable, glyphosate-sensitive recipient plant cells. The DNA fragment comprises an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence, and a coding sequence encoding a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS. The EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence is operably linked to the EPSPS coding sequence. The glyphosate-resistant EPSPS includes a chloroplast transit peptide. The DNA fragment does not contain a non-EPSPS enhancer. The recipient plant cells are selected for glyphosate-resistance and stable transformation. The cells thus selected can be used to regenerate glyphosate-resistant plants. As used herein, a "DNA fragment" may be either linear or circular. Preferably, the DNA fragment used for transformation is a linear DNA fragment. A "coding sequence" encoding an EPSPS refers to a nucleic acid sequence transcription and translation of which produce a functional EPSPS. The boundaries of the coding sequence are generally determined by a translation start codon at its 5' end and a translation stop codon at its 3' end. A coding sequence of EPSPS may be a cDNA, or a plant genomic sequence which consists of all of the exons and introns of an EPSPS gene. An EPSPS gene refers to the plant genomic

sequence which includes the EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence, the EPSPS coding sequence (including the sequence encoding the chloroplast transit peptide), and the EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence (such as an EPSPS transcriptional terminator). A "plant genomic sequence" refers to a nucleotide sequence found in the genome of the plant.

A chloroplast transit peptide functions post-translationally to direct a polypeptide to chloroplast. Either endogenous or heterologous chloroplast peptides can be used in the present invention. As used herein, "heterologous" means derived from a different source, and "endogenous" means derived from the same source. In a preferred embodiment, the endogenous transit peptide encoded by a native EPSPS gene is used.

As used herein, an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence refers to a nucleotide sequence located upstream (5') to the start codon of the EPSPS coding sequence in an EPSPS gene in a plant or plant cell which has not been subject to genetic engineering. The 5' regulatory sequence generally includes an EPSPS promoter which directs the transcription of the EPSPS gene. Preferably, the EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence comprises one or more EPSPS enhancers operably linked to the promoter. In one embodiment, the 5' regulatory sequence comprises at least 200 bp. Preferably, the 5' regulatory sequence comprises at least 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1,200 or 1,800 bp.

An EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence refers to a nucleotide sequence located downstream (3') to the stop codon of the EPSPS coding sequence in an EPSPS gene in a plant or plant cell which has not been subject to genetic engineering. The 3' regulatory sequence generally includes a transcription terminator which controls the termination of the transcription of the EPSPS gene.

"Operably linked" refers to a juxtaposition of genetic elements, wherein the elements are in a relationship permitting them to operate in the expected manner. For instance, a 5' regulatory sequence is operably linked to a coding sequence if the 5' regulatory sequence functions to initiate transcription of the coding sequence.

Preferably, the DNA fragment used for transformation does not include a non-EPSPS enhancer. As used in the present invention, a "non-EPSPS enhancer" refers to an enhancer which is not used by an EPSPS gene in a plant or plant cell which has not been subject to genetic engineering. Non-EPSPS enhancers include, but are not limited to, enhancers that are associated with CaMV 35S, FMV 35S, rice actin 1, rice GOS2, maize polyubiquitin, or barley plastocyanin genes.

As used herein, a "glyphosate-resistant" cell or plant refers to a cell or plant that can survive or continue to grow in the presence of certain concentrations of glyphosate that typically kill or inhibit the growth of other cells or plants. Growth includes, for instance, photosynthesis, increased rooting, increased height, increased mass, or development of new leaves. In one embodiment, a glyphosate-resistant cell can grow and divide on a culture medium containing 50 mg/l or more glyphosate. Preferably, a glyphosate-resistant cell can grow and divide on a culture medium containing 100 mg/l or more glyphosate, such as 200 mg/l, 300 mg/l or 400 mg/l glyphosate. More preferably, a glyphosate-resistant cell

can grow and divide on a culture medium containing 500 mg/l or more glyphosate, such as 600 mg/l. For purposes of the present invention, the term "glyphosate" includes any herbicidally effective form of N-phosphonomethylglycine (including any salt thereof) and other forms which result in the production of the glyphosate anion in plants.

Regenerable glyphosate-resistant plant cells may be used to regenerate glyphosate-resistant plants. In one embodiment, the glyphosate-resistant plant thus regenerated can survive or continue to grow after being sprayed with glyphosate at a rate of 25 g/ha (grams per hectare) or more. Preferably, the glyphosate-resistant plant thus regenerated can survive or continue to grow after being sprayed with glyphosate at a rate of 50 g/ha or more, such as 100 g/ha, 200 g/ha, 400 g/ha, or 800 g/ha. More preferably, the glyphosate-resistant plant thus regenerated can survive or continue to grow after being sprayed with glyphosate at a rate of 1000 g/ha or more, such as 2000 g/ha and 3000 g/ha. The spray may preferably be carried out at or after the growth stage of v2, such as v3, v4, v5 or later stages. In another embodiment, the regenerated glyphosate-resistant plant can tolerate the spray of glyphosate at between 0.1 M and 0.4 M.

As used herein, a "glyphosate-resistant" EPSPS refers to an EPSPS the expression of which in a plant cell confers glyphosate resistance upon the plant cell. An EPSPS is "glyphosate-sensitive" if it does not confer glyphosate-resistance when being expressed in plant cells.

A variety of EPSPS mutations have been known to be glyphosate-resistant and capable of conferring glyphosate resistance upon transformed plants. For instance, EPSPS of *Zea mays* (GenBank Accession No. X63374) can be mutated at amino acid residues 102 (substitution of He for Thr) and 106 (substitution of Ser for Pro). EPSPS encoded by *epm1* gene of *Arabidopsis thaliana* can be mutated at amino acid residues 179 (substitution of He for Thr) and 183 (substitution of Ser for Pro). EPSPS encoded by *epm2* gene of *Arabidopsis thaliana* can be mutated at amino acid residues 177 (substitution of He for Thr) and 182 (substitution of Ser for Pro). These mutated EPSPSs are glyphosate-resistant and capable of conferring glyphosate resistance upon transformed plants. Other mutated or modified EPSPSs, such as those described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,310,667, 5,866,775, 6,225,114, and 6,248,876, or natural EPSPS variants showing glyphosate-resistance, can be used in the present invention. In addition, bacteria-derived, glyphosate-resistant EPSPSs, after fusion with a chloroplast transit peptide, can also be used.

The DNA fragment comprising the EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence and the glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence can be stably transformed into a regenerable plant cell. As used herein, stable transformation refers to integration of the DNA fragment into the genome of the transformed plant cell.

In one embodiment, the EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence in the DNA fragment used for transformation comprises an EPSPS enhancer and an EPSPS promoter. In another embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation further comprises an EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence, such as an EPSPS transcriptional terminator, which is operably linked to the coding sequence encoding the glyphosate-resistant EPSPS.

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In yet another embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation comprises a modified plant genomic sequence that encodes a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS. Without modification, the plant genomic sequence encodes a glyphosate-sensitive EPSPS. Modifications that are capable of converting a glyphosate-sensitive EPSPS to a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS are known in the art.

In a preferred embodiment, the DNA fragment used for transformation is modified from a plant genomic sequence. Before modification, the plant genomic sequence comprises an EPSPS regulatory sequence, a coding sequence encoding a glyphosate-sensitive EPSPS which includes a chloroplast transit peptide, and preferably an EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence, such as an EPSPS transcriptional terminator. The genomic sequence may be obtained by fragmenting the genome of a plant of interest, or isolated from bacterial artificial chromosome clones. Other methods for obtaining genomic sequences can also be used, such as PCR or DNA synthesis.

The EPSPS-coding sequence in this plant genomic sequence is then subject to nucleotide modification(s) to render the encoded EPSPS glyphosate resistant. Suitable modifications for this purpose, such as nucleotide substitutions, are well known in the art. The DNA fragment comprising the genomic sequence thus modified can be stably transformed into glyphosate-sensitive recipient plant cells. These transformed plant cells are selected for glyphosate resistance and then used to regenerate glyphosate-resistant plants.

The recipient plant cells are regenerable. They can be derived from immature embryos or meristematic tissues which contain cells that have not yet terminally differentiated. Juvenile leaf basal regions, immature tassels and gametic cells can be used to provide regenerable recipient cells for *Zea mays*. The preferred source of recipient cells for soybean includes the immature cotyledon.

In another preferred embodiment, two or more DNA fragments can be stably transformed into a recipient plant cell. Each of these DNA fragments includes an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence, a coding sequence encoding a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS which contains a chloroplast transit peptide, and preferably an EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence (such as an EPSPS transcriptional terminator). These DNA fragments can be modified plant genomic sequences. They can be derived from the same or different plant species. They can be derived from the same EPSPS gene, or from different EPSPS genes of the same plant species, such as *emp1* and *emp2* of *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

Transformation of plant cells can be carried out using various methods. These methods include, but are not limited to, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* mediated DNA transfer, PEG or liposome mediated DNA transfer, electroporation, microinjection, microprojectile or particle bombardment, receptor-mediated DNA transfer, and viral or other vector mediated DNA transfer. Preferably, transformation is carried out using aerosol beam injection as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/450,226, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Selection for stably transformed plant cells can be performed using methods as appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art. For instance, the transformed cells can be

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grown and selected on media containing glyphosate. Preferably, the introduced DNA fragment is stably transformed and integrated into a chromosome of the transformed plant cell. A variety of assays can be used to confirm stable transformation. Suitable assays include molecular biological assays, such as Southern and Northern Blotting and PCR, or biochemical assays, such as ELISA and Western Blot. In addition, plant part assays, such as leaf and root assays, or analysis of the phenotype of the whole regenerated plant, can be used to confirm stable transformation.

Plants can be regenerated from the selected, stably transformed cells. Progeny can be recovered from the regenerated plants and tested for glyphosate resistance. Seeds or other parts of the regenerated transgenic plants can also be obtained. In one embodiment, glyphosate-resistant plants are made by crossing.

Both monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants can be transformed using the methods of the present invention. The glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence can be derived from either monocotyledonous or dicotyledonous plants. The representative monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants used in the present invention include, but are not limited to, *Oryza sativa*, *Zea mays*, *Hordeum vulgare*, *Triticum aestivum*, *Avena sativa*, turf grasses including species of the genera *Poa*, *Festuca*, *Lolium*, *Zoysia*, and *Cynodon* among others, *Glycine max*, *Gossypium hirsutum*, *Lycopersicon esculentum*, *Solanum tuberosum*, *Phaseolus* species, *Beta vulgaris*, and *Brassica* species.

Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention belongs. Generally, the nomenclature used herein and the laboratory procedures in cell culture and molecular genetics described herein are those well known and commonly employed in the art. Standard techniques can be used for recombinant nucleic acid methods, polynucleotide synthesis, plant cell culture, cell culture, tissue culture, and plant transformation and regeneration. Generally, enzymatic reactions and purification and/or isolation steps are performed according to the manufacturers' specifications. The techniques and procedures are generally performed according to conventional methodology disclosed, for example, in *Molecular Cloning A Laboratory Manual*, 2d ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989), and *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (John Wiley & Sons, Baltimore, Md., 1989).

It should be understood that the above-described embodiments and the following examples are given by way of illustration, not limitation. Various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the present invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the present description.

EXAMPLE 1

Preparation and Mutation of *Arabidopsis* Genomic Fragments Containing EPSPS Genes

Two bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC) clones, F27K7 and F4L23, were obtained from the *Arabidopsis* Biological Resource Center, DNA Stock Center, at the Ohio State University. F27K7 and F4L23 contain the EPSPS

genes found on chromosome 1 and 2 of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, respectively. The F27K7 clone was digested using Sac II and Bam HI restriction enzymes to produce a 4.7 kb fragment, the sequence of which is shown as SEQ ID NO: 1. The 4.7 kb fragment comprises the complete EPSPS gene (epm1) found on chromosome which includes an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence (the sequence before nucleotide residue 1290), an EPSPS coding sequence (from nucleotide residue 1290 to nucleotide residue 3729), and an EPSPS 3', regulatory sequence (the sequence after nucleotide residue 3729). The EPSPS coding sequence also encodes a chloroplast transit peptide (from nucleotide residue 1290 to nucleotide residue 1612). The sequence encoding this chloroplast transit peptide can be predicted using the computer program PSORT maintained on the public accessible GenomeNet at Kyoto University, Japan.

The 4.7 kb fragment was cloned into a pbluescript II vector (Stratagene), and two nucleotide substitutions were introduced into the EPSPS coding sequence using QuikChange® Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Stratagene) according to the instructions of the manufacturer. The two nucleotide substitutions are a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2007 and a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2018. The mutated sequence is shown as SEQ ID NO: 2. The mutated sequence encodes a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS which has, as compared to the EPSPS encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1, a Thr to Ile mutation at amino acid 179 and a Pro to Ser mutation at amino acid 183. The amino acid sequence of the glyphosate-resistant EPSPS is shown as SEQ ID NO: 7. The pbluescript II vector containing SEQ ID NO: 2 is referred to as epm1 vector.

The BAC F4L23 clone was digested using Eco RI restriction enzyme to produce a 5.2 kb fragment, the sequence of which is shown as SEQ ID NO: 3. The 5.2 kb fragment comprises the complete EPSPS gene (epm2) from chromosome 2, which includes an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence (the sequence before nucleotide 1515), and EPSPS coding sequence (from nucleotide 1515 to nucleotide 3872), and an EPSPS 3' regulatory sequence (the sequence after nucleotide 3872). The EPSPS coding sequence also encodes a chloroplast transit peptide (from nucleotide 1515 to nucleotide 1665). The sequence encoding this chloroplast transit peptide can be predicted using the computer program PSORT maintained on the public accessible GenomeNet at Kyoto University, Japan.

The 5.2 kb fragment was cloned into a pbluescript II vector, and then subject to site-directed mutagenesis using QuikChange® Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Stratagene). SEQ ID NO: 4 shows the mutated sequence which has two nucleotide substitutions in the EPSPS coding sequence as compared to SEQ ID NO: 3. The two substitutions are a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2134 and a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2145. The mutated sequence encodes a glyphosate-resistant EPSPS which has, as compared to the EPSPS encoded by SEQ ID NO: 3, a Thr to Ile mutation at amino acid 178 and a Pro to Ser mutation at amino acid 182. The amino acid sequence of the (*putative*) glyphosate-resistant EPSPS is shown as SEQ ID NO: 8. The pbluescript II vector containing SEQ ID NO: 4 is referred to as epm2 vector.

EXAMPLE 2

Transformation of Soybean

The Bam HI/Sac II fragment (SEQ ID NO: 2) of epm1 vector and the Eco RI fragment (SEQ ID NO: 4) of epm2

vector were used to transform soybean embryogenic callus using an aerosol beam injector as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/450,226, which is incorporated herein by reference. These fragments comprised mutant epm1 and mutant epm2 which encode (*putative*) glyphosate-resistant EPSPSs. These fragments were used either alone or, preferably, together.

The transformed tissue [was] *is* selected for glyphosate resistance using the method described below. First, the beamed embryogenic callus [was] *is* maintained for one month on B1-30 3Co5My0.01PA medium. Table 1 shows the composition of B1-30 3Co5My0.01PA medium.

TABLE 1

Ingredients in 1 liter B1-30 3Co5My0.10PA Medium (pH 5.8)	
MS Salts*	4.43 g
NaEDTA	37.3 mg
2,4 dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	30 mg
Phytagar	8 g
Coconut water	30 ml
Myo-inositol	5 g
Phytic acid	10 mg

*Sigma Plant Culture catalogue, reference M5519

The tissue [was] *is* then transferred to the same medium but now containing 300 mg/l glyphosate. After a number of passages (up to 5 passages, each passage may last for about a month) on this latter medium, resistant clonal material may be identified. After an optional further few passages on B1-30 3Co5My0.01PA medium but containing 500 mg/l glyphosate, the growing tissue [was] *is* transferred to a regeneration media as described in U.S. patent Ser. No. 09/450,226. Regenerated plants [were] *are* transferred to pots in a greenhouse. These plants and their progenies [were] *are* sprayed with glyphosate at commercial rates, and complete resistance to glyphosate [was] *is expected to be* observed. Progenies [segregated] *are expected to segregate* 3:1 for glyphosate resistance as would be expected for Mendelian inheritance of a transgene.

Preferably, both mutant epm1 (such as SEQ ID NO: 2) and mutant epm2 (such as SEQ ID NO: 4) are stably transformed into a plant cell, from which glyphosate-resistant plants can be regenerated.

EXAMPLE 3

Preparation and Mutation of Corn Genomic Fragments Containing EPSPS Gene

A corn (B 73) BAC library was screened with a probe containing a sequence of a corn EPSPS gene published in Genbank accession number X63374 by Incyte Genomics Inc. Four BAC clones were identified. Southern blot analysis indicated that all four clones contained the same EPSPS gene. One BAC clone was further characterized by nucleotide sequencing which resulted in identification of a 6.0 kb genomic fragment flanked by unique Cla I and Eco RV sites. The sequence of the 6.0 kb fragment was shown as SEQ ID NO: 5. The 6.0 kb fragment includes an EPSPS 5' regulatory sequence (the sequence before nucleotide 1868), an EPSPS coding sequence (from nucleotide 1868 to nucleotide 5146), and an EPSPS 3', regulatory sequence (the sequence after nucleotide 5146). The EPSPS coding sequence also encodes a chloroplast transit peptide (from nucleotide 1868 to nucleotide 2041). The sequence encoding this chloroplast transit peptide can be predicted using the computer program PSORT maintained on the public accessible GenomeNet at Kyoto University, Japan.

The 6.0 kb fragment was cloned into the Cla I and Eco RV sites of a pbluescript vector, and then subject to site directed mutagenesis using QuikChange Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Stratagene). Two mutations were introduced into the EPSPS coding sequence: the first mutation being a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2886 and the second mutation being a cytosine to thymine substitution at nucleotide 2897. The mutated sequence is shown as SEQ ID NO: 6. The mutations changed the encoded amino acid residue Thr to Ile at position 164 and Pro to Ser at position 168. This mutated EPSPS amino acid sequence is shown as SEQ ID NO: 9. The mutated EPSPS is glyphosate-resistant. The pBluescript vector comprising SEQ ID NO: 6 is referred to as HCEM.

The beamed embryos were then transferred to DN62A100RR a medium containing 100 mg/l glyphosate. Table 3 lists the composition of DN62A100RR and other media. After two 14-day passages on DN62A100RR, actively growing tissue [was] is transferred to DN62A300RR medium which contains 300 mg/l (Table 3). After two 14-day passages on this medium, tissue was finally transferred to DN62540RR medium which contains 540 mg/l glyphosate (Table 3). Stable transformation allowed continued growth on 540 mg/l glyphosate. Regeneration [was] is carried out as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/450,226.

TABLE 3

	Ingredients in 1 liter Culture Medium (pH 5.8)			
	DN62A100R R	DN62ALC180R R	DN62A300R R	DN62540RR
N6 Salts*	3.98 g	3.98 g	3.98 g	3.98 g
N6 Vitamins	1 ml	1 ml	1 ml	1 ml
Asparagine	800 mg	800 mg	800 mg	800 mg
Myoinositol	100 mg	100 mg	100 mg	100 mg
Proline	1400 mg	1400 mg	1400 mg	1400 mg
Casamino acids	100 mg	100 mg	100 mg	100 mg
2,4 dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	1 mg	1 mg	1 mg	1 mg
Sucrose	20 g	20 g	20 g	20 g
Silver nitrate	10 mg	10 mg	10 mg	
Glyphosate	100 mg	180 mg	300 mg	540 mg
Cefotaxime	0 mg	50 mg	0 mg	0 mg

*Sigma Plant Culture catalogue, reference C1416

EXAMPLE 4

Transformation of Corn

The Cla I and Eco RV fragment (SEQ ID NO: 6) of HCEM was introduced into cultured immature corn embryos using an aerosol beam injector according to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/450,226. The Cla I-Eco RV fragment comprised the glyphosate-resistant EPSPS coding sequence.

Selection was carried out as follows: the beamed embryos were allowed to remain on DN62A0S20G medium for 5 days. Table 2 shows the composition of DN62A0S20G medium.

TABLE 2

	Ingredients in 1 liter Culture Medium (pH 5.8)	
	DN62A0S20G	DN62A0S20GLC
N6 Salts*	3.98 g	3.98 g
N6 Vitamins	1 ml	1 ml
Asparagine	800 mg	800 mg
Myoinositol	100 mg	100 mg
Proline	1400 mg	1400 mg
Casamino acids	100 mg	100 mg
2,4 dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	1 mg	1 mg
Glucose	20 g	20 g
Silver nitrate	10 mg	10 mg
Cefotaxime	0 mg	50 mg

*Sigma Plant Culture catalogue, reference C1416

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Transformation can also be accomplished using Agrobacterium-mediated DNA delivery. In this case, the transformation and regeneration [were] are performed according to the methods as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/203,679, which is herein incorporated by reference. Briefly, after culturing on DN62A0S20GLC (Table 2) for five days, co-cultivated embryos [were] are transferred to DN62ALC180RR medium which contains 180 mg/l glyphosate (Table 3). After two 14-day passages on this medium, actively growing tissue [was] is transferred to DN62540RR medium containing 540 mg/l glyphosate (Table 3). Stable transformation [allowed] will allow continued growth on 540 mg/l glyphosate. Regeneration [was] is carried out as described in U.S. Ser. No. 09/203,679.

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Resistance to glyphosate in regenerants [was] is confirmed by spraying them with glyphosate at commercial rates. Seed from the regenerants [segregated] is expected to segregate 3:1 for resistance as would be expected with Mendelian inheritance of a transgene. Seeds from backcrossed individuals [segregated] are expected to segregate 1:1. Corn transformation may also be accomplished by other means including, for example, particle bombardment or electroporation of competent cells.

65

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<210> SEQ ID NO 6
<211> LENGTH: 6010
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Zea mays
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (2886)..(2886)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: substituting thymine for cytosine at position
2886 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 5
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (2897)..(2897)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: substituting thymine for cytosine at position
2897 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 5

<400> SEQUENCE: 6

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<210> SEQ ID NO 7

<211> LENGTH: 521

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 7

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Ala Ser Ser Ser Phe Leu Pro Ser Glu Leu Arg Arg Leu Ser Ser Pro
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Ala Val Gln Ile Ser Leu His Ser Gln Thr Arg Lys Asn Phe Arg Gln
          35           40           45

Ser Trp Gly Leu Lys Lys Ser Asp Leu Met Leu Asn Gly Ser Glu Ile
          50           55           60

Arg Pro Val Lys Val Arg Ala Ser Val Ser Thr Ala Glu Lys Ala Ser
65           70           75           80

Glu Ile Val Leu Gln Pro Ile Arg Glu Ile Ser Gly Leu Ile Lys Leu
          85           90           95

Pro Gly Ser Lys Ser Leu Ser Asn Arg Ile Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Leu
          100          105          110

Ser Glu Gly Thr Thr Val Val Asp Asn Leu Leu Asn Ser Asp Asp Ile
          115          120          125

Asn Tyr Met Leu Asp Ala Leu Lys Ile Leu Gly Leu Asn Val Glu Thr
          130          135          140

His Ser Glu Asn Asn Arg Ala Val Val Glu Gly Cys Gly Gly Val Phe
145           150           155           160

Pro Ala Ser Ile Asp Ser Lys Ser Asp Ile Glu Leu Tyr Leu Gly Asn
          165          170          175

Ala Gly Ile Ala Met Arg Ser Leu Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ala Ala Gly
          180          185          190

Gly Asn Ala Ser Tyr Val Leu Asp Gly Val Pro Arg Met Arg Glu Arg
          195          200          205

Pro Ile Gly Asp Leu Val Val Gly Leu Lys Gln Leu Gly Ala Asp Val
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 Gly Gly Leu Pro Gly Gly Lys Val Lys Leu Ser Gly Ser Ile Ser Ser
 245 250 255
 Gln Tyr Leu Thr Ala Leu Leu Met Ala Ala Pro Leu Ala Leu Gly Asp
 260 265 270
 Val Glu Ile Glu Ile Val Asp Lys Leu Ile Ser Val Pro Tyr Val Glu
 275 280 285
 Met Thr Leu Lys Leu Met Glu Arg Phe Gly Val Ser Ala Glu His Ser
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 Glu Ser Trp Asp Arg Phe Phe Val Lys Gly Gly Gln Lys Tyr Lys Ser
 305 310 315 320
 Pro Gly Asn Ala Tyr Val Glu Gly Asp Ala Ser Ser Ala Ser Tyr Phe
 325 330 335
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 340 345 350
 Gly Thr Thr Ser Leu Gln Gly Asp Val Lys Phe Ala Glu Val Leu Glu
 355 360 365
 Lys Met Gly Cys Lys Val Ser Trp Thr Glu Asn Ser Val Thr Val Thr
 370 375 380
 Gly Pro Ser Arg Asp Ala Phe Gly Met Arg His Leu Arg Ala Ile Asp
 385 390 395 400
 Val Asn Met Asn Lys Met Pro Asp Val Ala Met Thr Leu Ala Val Val
 405 410 415
 Ala Leu Phe Ala Asp Gly Pro Thr Thr Ile Arg Asp Val Ala Ser Trp
 420 425 430
 Arg Val Lys Glu Thr Glu Arg Met Ile Ala Ile Cys Thr Glu Leu Arg
 435 440 445
 Lys Leu Gly Ala Thr Val Glu Glu Gly Ser Asp Tyr Cys Val Ile Thr
 450 455 460
 Pro Pro Lys Lys Val Lys Pro Ala Glu Ile Asp Thr Tyr Asp Asp His
 465 470 475 480
 Arg Met Ala Met Ala Phe Ser Leu Ala Ala Cys Ala Asp Val Pro Ile
 485 490 495
 Thr Ile Asn Asp Pro Gly Cys Thr Arg Lys Thr Phe Pro Asp Tyr Phe
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 Gln Val Leu Glu Arg Ile Thr Lys His
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<210> SEQ ID NO 8

<211> LENGTH: 520

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 8

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 Ser Leu Lys Thr Gln Gln His Pro Arg Ala Tyr Pro Ile Ser Ser Ser
 35 40 45
 Trp Gly Leu Lys Lys Ser Gly Met Thr Leu Ile Gly Ser Glu Leu Arg
 50 55 60
 Pro Leu Lys Val Met Ser Ser Val Ser Thr Ala Glu Lys Ala Ser Glu
 65 70 75 80

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Gly	Ser	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ser	Asn	Arg	Ile	Leu	Leu	Leu	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ser
			100					105					110		
Glu	Gly	Thr	Thr	Val	Val	Asp	Asn	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ser	Asp	Asp	Ile	Asn
		115					120					125			
Tyr	Met	Leu	Asp	Ala	Leu	Lys	Arg	Leu	Gly	Leu	Asn	Val	Glu	Thr	Asp
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Ser	Glu	Asn	Asn	Arg	Ala	Val	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys	Gly	Gly	Ile	Phe	Pro
145					150					155					160
Ala	Ser	Ile	Asp	Ser	Lys	Ser	Asp	Ile	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Gly	Asn	Ala
				165					170					175	
Gly	Ile	Ala	Met	Arg	Ser	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ala	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gly
			180					185					190		
Asn	Ala	Ser	Tyr	Val	Leu	Asp	Gly	Val	Pro	Arg	Met	Arg	Glu	Arg	Pro
		195					200					205			
Ile	Gly	Asp	Leu	Val	Val	Gly	Leu	Lys	Gln	Leu	Gly	Ala	Asp	Val	Glu
	210					215					220				
Cys	Thr	Leu	Gly	Thr	Asn	Cys	Pro	Pro	Val	Arg	Val	Asn	Ala	Asn	Gly
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Gly	Leu	Pro	Gly	Gly	Lys	Val	Lys	Leu	Ser	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser	Ser	Gln
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Tyr	Leu	Thr	Ala	Leu	Leu	Met	Ser	Ala	Pro	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gly	Asp	Val
			260					265					270		
Glu	Ile	Glu	Ile	Val	Asp	Lys	Leu	Ile	Ser	Val	Pro	Tyr	Val	Glu	Met
		275					280					285			
Thr	Leu	Lys	Leu	Met	Glu	Arg	Phe	Gly	Val	Ser	Val	Glu	His	Ser	Asp
	290					295					300				
Ser	Trp	Asp	Arg	Phe	Phe	Val	Lys	Gly	Gly	Gln	Lys	Tyr	Lys	Ser	Pro
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Gly	Asn	Ala	Tyr	Val	Glu	Gly	Asp	Ala	Ser	Ser	Ala	Ser	Tyr	Phe	Leu
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Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Ile	Thr	Gly	Glu	Thr	Val	Thr	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys	Gly
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Thr	Thr	Ser	Leu	Gln	Gly	Asp	Val	Lys	Phe	Ala	Glu	Val	Leu	Glu	Lys
		355					360					365			
Met	Gly	Cys	Lys	Val	Ser	Trp	Thr	Glu	Asn	Ser	Val	Thr	Val	Thr	Gly
	370					375					380				
Pro	Pro	Arg	Asp	Ala	Phe	Gly	Met	Arg	His	Leu	Arg	Ala	Ile	Asp	Val
385					390					395					400
Asn	Met	Asn	Lys	Met	Pro	Asp	Val	Ala	Met	Thr	Leu	Ala	Val	Val	Ala
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Leu	Phe	Ala	Asp	Gly	Pro	Thr	Thr	Ile	Arg	Asp	Val	Ala	Ser	Trp	Arg
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Val	Lys	Glu	Thr	Glu	Arg	Met	Ile	Ala	Ile	Cys	Thr	Glu	Leu	Arg	Lys
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Leu	Gly	Ala	Thr	Val	Glu	Glu	Gly	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Cys	Val	Ile	Thr	Pro
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465					470					475					480
Met	Ala	Met	Ala	Phe	Ser	Leu	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Asp	Val	Pro	Ile	Thr
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Ile Asn Asp Pro Gly Cys Thr Arg Lys Thr Phe Pro Asp Tyr Phe Gln
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Val Leu Glu Arg Ile Thr Lys His
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<210> SEQ ID NO 9
 <211> LENGTH: 506
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Zea mays

<400> SEQUENCE: 9

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

-continued

Glu	Met	Met	Gly	Ala	Lys	Val	Thr	Trp	Thr	Glu	Thr	Ser	Val	Thr	Val
		355					360					365			
Thr	Gly	Pro	Pro	Arg	Glu	Pro	Phe	Gly	Arg	Lys	His	Leu	Lys	Ala	Ile
	370					375					380				
Asp	Val	Asn	Met	Asn	Lys	Met	Pro	Asp	Val	Ala	Met	Thr	Leu	Ala	Val
385					390					395					400
Val	Ala	Leu	Phe	Ala	Asp	Gly	Pro	Thr	Ala	Ile	Arg	Asp	Val	Ala	Ser
				405					410					415	
Trp	Arg	Val	Lys	Glu	Thr	Glu	Arg	Met	Val	Ala	Ile	Arg	Thr	Glu	Leu
			420					425					430		
Thr	Lys	Leu	Gly	Ala	Ser	Val	Glu	Glu	Gly	Pro	Asp	Tyr	Cys	Ile	Ile
		435					440					445			
Thr	Pro	Pro	Glu	Lys	Leu	Asn	Val	Thr	Ala	Ile	Asp	Thr	Tyr	Asp	Asp
	450					455					460				
His	Arg	Met	Ala	Met	Ala	Phe	Ser	Leu	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Glu	Val	Pro
465					470					475					480
Val	Thr	Ile	Arg	Asp	Pro	Gly	Cys	Thr	Arg	Lys	Thr	Phe	Pro	Asp	Tyr
				485					490					495	
Phe	Asp	Val	Leu	Ser	Thr	Phe	Val	Lys	Asn						
			500					505							

What is claimed is:

1. A method of making a glyphosate-resistant plant cell, comprising:

(a) introducing a first DNA fragment into a plurality of regenerable plant cells, the first DNA fragment comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 6; and

(b) selecting from said regenerable plant cells a glyphosate-resistant plant cell which is stably transformed with the first DNA fragment.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising introducing a second DNA fragment with the first DNA fragment into said regenerable plant cells, wherein the second DNA fragment comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 6, and the sequence of the first DNA fragment is different from the sequence of the second DNA fragment.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the first DNA fragment comprises SEQ ID NO: 2, and the second DNA fragment comprises SEQ ID NO: 4.

4. A glyphosate-resistant plant cell made according to the method of claim 3, which is stably transformed with said first DNA fragment and said second DNA fragment.

5. A plant regenerated from the glyphosate-resistant plant cell of claim 4.

6. A regenerable, glyphosate-resistant plant cell comprising an introduced, chromosomally integrated DNA sequence which comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 6.

7. The glyphosate-resistant plant cell according to claim 6, comprising another introduced, chromosomally integrated DNA sequence, wherein said another introduced, integrated DNA sequence comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 6.

8. The glyphosate-resistant plant cell according to claim 6, wherein the introduced, chromosomally integrated DNA sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein the plant cell comprises another introduced, chromosomally integrated DNA sequence which comprises SEQ ID NO: 4.

9. A plant regenerated from the glyphosate-resistant plant cell of claim 6.

10. A plant regenerated from the glyphosate-resistant plant cell of claim 8.

11. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2.

12. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 4.

13. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 6.

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