

# Identification of Genomic Regions That Interact With a Viable Allele of the *Drosophila* Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase Corkscrew

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## ABSTRACT

Signaling by receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) is critical for a multitude of developmental decisions and processes. Among the molecules known to transduce the RTK-generated signal is the nonreceptor protein tyrosine phosphatase Corkscrew (Csw). Previously, Csw has been demonstrated to function throughout the *Drosophila* life cycle and, among the RTKs tested, Csw is essential in the Torso, Sevenless, EGF, and Breathless/FGF RTK pathways. While the biochemical function of Csw remains to be unambiguously elucidated, current evidence suggests that Csw plays more than one role during transduction of the RTK signal and, further, the molecular mechanism of Csw function differs depending upon the RTK in question. The isolation and characterization of a new, spontaneously arising, viable allele of *csw*, *csw<sup>v</sup>*, has allowed us to undertake a genetic approach to identify loci required for Csw function. The rough eye and wing vein gap phenotypes exhibited by adult flies homo- or hemizygous for *csw<sup>v</sup>* has provided a sensitized background from which we have screened a collection of second and third chromosome deficiencies to identify 33 intervals that enhance and 21 intervals that suppress these phenotypes. We have identified intervals encoding known positive mediators of RTK signaling, e.g., *drk*, *dos*, *Egfr*, *E(Egfr)B56*, *pnt*, *Ras1*, *rolled/MAPK*, *sina*, *spen*, *Src64B*, *Star*, *Su(Raf)3C*, and *vein*, as well as known negative mediators of RTK signaling, e.g., *aos*, *ed*, *net*, *Src42A*, *sty*, and *su(ve)*. Of particular interest are the 5 lethal enhancing intervals and 14 suppressing intervals for which no candidate genes have been identified.

RECEPTOR tyrosine kinases (RTKs) control a number of diverse cellular processes including growth, differentiation, migration, and viability (reviewed in VAN DER GEER *et al.* 1994). The primary function of a cell surface receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) is the conversion of extracellular information into a biological signal that is often transduced into the nucleus where it modulates the activity of transcription factors. Identification of the molecules involved in the transduction signal initiated from activated RTKs has led to the realization that all RTKs share common signaling components. This conserved signaling cassette permits the transmission of instructive data in a wide variety of developmental contexts leading to a range of different responses (PERRIMON and PERKINS 1997).

A combination of genetic and biochemical data has led to the following model of RTK signal transduction. Upon activation by a ligand, the RTK becomes autophosphorylated on specific tyrosyl residues. The adapter protein GRB-2 (Downstream of receptor kinase, Drk) then binds the activated receptor via its SH2 domain, leaving two SH3 domains to associate with Son

of Sevenless (Sos), a ubiquitously expressed Ras guanine nucleotide exchange factor (OLIVER *et al.* 1993; SIMON *et al.* 1993). The formation of the Drk:Sos complex results in the relocalization of Sos to the cell plasma membrane where it promotes the exchange of GDP to GTP on Ras, thereby inducing a conformational change that activates Ras. The GTPase activating protein (Gap1) stimulates the hydrolysis activity of Ras, causing it to hydrolyze GTP for GDP and switch off the signal (GAUL *et al.* 1992). The cycling between these two states is essential for signal relay to proceed in a regulated fashion. Activation of Ras1 serves as a molecular switch, which leads to the activation of a kinase cascade that includes Raf, a serine/threonine specific protein kinase, MAPKK (MEK) a dual specific tyrosine/threonine kinase, and the serine/threonine kinase MAPK (ERK). Once activated, MAPK homodimerizes and is imported into the nucleus (FUKUDA *et al.* 1997; KHOKHLATCHEV *et al.* 1998) where it phosphorylates target nuclear proteins that initiate transcription, the ultimate goal of the signaling pathway.

A further component of RTK signaling pathways in *Drosophila* is Corkscrew (Csw), a cytoplasmic, nonreceptor protein tyrosine phosphatase (PTP; PERKINS *et al.* 1992), which is the functional homologue of the vertebrate protein SHP-2 (PERKINS *et al.* 1996). Csw was first identified as a downstream positive mediator of the signal from the Torso (Tor) RTK as loss-of-function *csw*

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mutations were found to suppress the gain-of-function phenotypes of *tor* (PERKINS *et al.* 1992). The phenotypes of *csw* mutations are similar to mutations in other RTKs, suggesting that the Tor RTK is not alone in using Csw to positively transduce its signal. Loss-of-function phenotypes generated by a dominant negative mutation in the *Drosophila* epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) were enhanced by a decrease in the activity of *csw*, thus placing Csw within the EGFR signaling pathway (PERKINS *et al.* 1996). Csw activity has also been shown to be involved in the transduction of the signal from the *Drosophila* fibroblast growth factor (FGF) receptor, Breathless (Btl; PERKINS *et al.* 1996) as well as the Sevenless (Sev) RTK (ALLARD *et al.* 1996).

While a role for Csw in the RTK signaling cassette has been clearly demonstrated, the biochemical function of Csw remains to be unambiguously elucidated. Current evidence suggests that Csw plays more than one role during transduction of the RTK signal and, further, the molecular mechanism of Csw function differs depending upon the RTK in question (PERKINS *et al.* 1992, 1996; ALLARD *et al.* 1996, 1998; CLEGHON *et al.* 1996, 1998; HERBST *et al.* 1996). In the Tor signaling pathway, upon activation, most likely by the ligand Trunk (CASANOVA *et al.* 1995; FURRIOLS *et al.* 1998), the RTK is phosphorylated at two major sites, tyrosine 630, Y<sup>630</sup>, and tyrosine 918, Y<sup>918</sup>. Mutational analysis has revealed that Csw interacts with phosphorylated Y<sup>630</sup> through one of its SH2 domains. Upon this interaction Csw becomes tyrosine phosphorylated at Y<sup>666</sup>, the residue through which it interacts with the SH2 domain of the adapter protein Drk. Significantly, Drk does not interact with Tor, supporting the current model that Tor transmits its positive signal through Csw to Drk. Y<sup>918</sup> of Tor, when phosphorylated, binds RasGap. Following Tor activation and recruitment of Csw to pY<sup>630</sup>, Csw is able to dephosphorylate pY<sup>918</sup> and this presumably lowers the local concentration of RasGap and sustains the positive Tor signal by increasing the overall level of Ras activity (CLEGHON *et al.* 1996, 1998).

Csw, therefore, plays at least two functions in the Tor pathway, as an adaptor protein for Drk and as a phosphatase to dephosphorylate the negative regulatory RasGap binding site. However, while the Csw:Tor interaction is dependent on RTK activation and tyrosine phosphorylation of the RTK, interaction between Csw and the Sev RTK is constitutive; that is, the Csw:Sev interaction is not activation dependent and does not require tyrosine phosphorylation (ALLARD *et al.* 1996). These differing results support the idea that the molecular mechanism of Csw function differs depending upon the RTK under consideration.

For most RTKs the precise molecular mechanisms of function of *Drosophila* Csw and its homologues, nematode PTP-2 and vertebrate SHP-2, remain unclear; however, genetic experiments have shown that in nearly all cases these SH2-containing phosphatases serve positive

functions during signal transduction (reviewed by VAN VACTOR *et al.* 1998 and HERTOOG 1999). While molecular data are lacking for PTP-2, both Csw and SHP-2 are known to interact, through their SH2 domains, with various RTKs and/or members of a family of membrane-targeting, scaffolding proteins such as DOS in *Drosophila* and Gab1, IRS-1, and FRS-2 in vertebrates (reviewed by VAN VACTOR *et al.* 1998). Additionally, substrates for these SH2-containing phosphatases remain rather elusive. In *Drosophila*, two Csw substrates, Tor (CLEGHON *et al.* 1998) and Dos (HERBST *et al.* 1996), have been reported; however, it is likely many more substrates remain to be identified.

In this article we report the isolation and characterization of a new, spontaneously arising, viable allele of *csw*, which we designate *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. Adult homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* flies exhibit rough eyes and a wing vein gap phenotype. Both of these phenotypes are consistent with the requirement of Csw in the Sev and EGFR pathways during eye development (ALLARD *et al.* 1996) and the EGFR pathway during formation of wing veins (PERKINS *et al.* 1996). The phenotypes exhibited by the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation are not limited to imaginal development. Homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* females lay ventralized eggs and embryos generated from females bearing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones exhibit a number of mutant phenotypes. Together, these results suggest that the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant lesion is sufficient to compromise Csw function in a number of developmental processes that require RTK signaling. Finally, and reasoning that not all transducers and regulators of RTK signaling have been identified, we have identified, in a deficiency screen, autosomal regions that enhance or suppress the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant background. To date, among the genomic regions that we have determined encode at least one gene capable of modifying the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotype are several with no known components of RTK signaling.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

***Drosophila* strains:** All flies were raised on standard *Drosophila* media at 25°. Chromosomes and mutations that are not described in the text, or below, can be found in FlyBase (FLYBASE 1999).

To date, *csw<sup>fl</sup>* is the 10th *csw* allele to be characterized. Unlike the other 9 alleles where *csw* mutant animals (*csw<sup>-</sup>/Y*) derived from heterozygous females (*csw<sup>-</sup>/+*) die during early pupal stages, *csw<sup>fl</sup>* is not required for viability. However, all 10 alleles exhibit similar fully penetrant maternal effect phenotypes on embryonic development; that is, all embryos derived from females that lack maternal activity for any of the *csw* alleles fail to hatch; we refer to these as *csw* mutant embryos.

**Deficiency screen:** Males carrying deficiencies on the second and third chromosomes were crossed to *csw<sup>fl</sup>/FM7*. All progeny from this cross were genotyped and counted. Male progeny carrying both the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation and the deficiency were scored for enhancement and suppression using three criteria: wing vein gaps, rough eye phenotype, and viability. The wing vein gaps of these flies were compared to that of males mutant for *csw<sup>fl</sup>* alone, and likewise for the rough eye phenotype. Viability was scored by comparing the number of males bear-

ing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and the deficiency to the number of males with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and the balancer for that particular deficiency. In cases where *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; Df/+* males were not obtained, we controlled for the possibility that the deficiency deleted a haplo-insufficient locus by determining whether the sibling *FM7/Y; Df/+* males were present in expected numbers.

**Phenotypic analysis of adult structures:** The eyes of live flies were examined in an Electroscan microscope under a wet vent chamber. Fixation and sectioning of the adult eyes were performed essentially as described in TOMLINSON and READY (1987). Wings were mounted in Gary's Magic Mountant (ASHBURNER 1989). All photomicrographs were acquired on a Zeiss Axioskop microscope using Improvisation Openlab data capture software. Images were assembled using Adobe PhotoShop (Adobe Systems Inc., San Jose, CA) and Microsoft PowerPoint (Microsoft Corp.).

**Production of *csw* germline mosaics:** *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones were generated using the "dominant female sterile or FLP-DFS technique" as previously described (CHOU and PERRIMON 1996). Both null (*csw<sup>-</sup>/Y*) and paternally rescued (*csw<sup>-</sup>/+*) animals, derived from females lacking maternal *csw* activity during oogenesis, die during embryogenesis. To distinguish between these two classes of embryos, mosaic females possessing *csw* germline clones were crossed with males carrying *FM7, ftz-lacZ/Y*, a balancer chromosome that contains a *lacZ* gene under the control of the *fushi-tarazu* (*ftz*) promoter. The genotypes of embryos were determined by following the expression pattern of the *lacZ* gene, which was detected by its  $\beta$ -galactosidase activity. Embryos without the *lacZ* marker are referred to as "null *csw* mutant embryos" since they lack both maternal and zygotic copies of the *csw* wild-type gene. Their siblings, which express the *lacZ* gene, are referred to as the "paternally rescued *csw* mutant embryos" since they lack only the maternal gene.

**In situ hybridization and immunohistochemistry:** *In situ* hybridization on whole-mount embryos using digoxigenin-labeled probes was performed according to TAUTZ and PFEIFLE (1989). Single-stranded sense and antisense digoxigenin-containing DNA probes were prepared by the PCR labeling technique (N. PATEL, personal communication) using appropriate primers. Probes were prepared from plasmids containing the *tailless* (*tl*; PIGNONI *et al.* 1990, 1992) and *huckebein* (*hkb*; WEIGEL *et al.* 1990; BRONNER and JÄCKLE 1991; BRONNER *et al.* 1994) cDNAs. For visualization, embryos were dehydrated through an ethanol series and mounted in Euparal (Carolina Biological Supply).

For immunohistochemistry, embryos were fixed with 4% formaldehyde and immunostained according to MICHELSON (1994) except that the blocking step was omitted. The primary antibodies were to evenskipped (*eve*; 1:50; provided by N. Patel), Kruppel (*Kr*; 1:300; provided by D. Kosman and J. Reinitz), pericardial cell antigen (*PC*; 1:3; provided by T. Volk), and 2A12 (1:10; provided by M. Krasnow and the Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank, Iowa City, IA). Biotin-conjugated secondary antibodies (BMB) were detected with the Vectastain Elite ABC kit (Vector Labs, Burlingame, CA) in combination with TSA-Indirect (New England Nuclear, Boston).

All embryos were analyzed and photographed with a Nikon FXA equipped with Nomarski optics. Larval cuticles were prepared in Hoyer's mountant as described by VAN DER MEER (1977). Cuticles were examined using dark-field or phase contrast illumination.

## RESULTS

**Isolation of the viable allele *csw<sup>fl</sup>*:** Previously all known alleles of the *Drosophila* gene *csw* have been found to

be lethal at the early pupal stage. We have recently isolated a recessive, viable spontaneous mutation that exhibits reproducible rough eye and wing vein gap phenotypes (Figure 1, compare A and E with B and F). The mutation displays a degree of temperature sensitivity with stronger phenotypes displayed at higher temperatures (data not shown). Linkage analysis and deficiency/duplication mapping determined that the mutation is located to the distal tip of the X chromosome in the vicinity of the previously described *corkscrew* (*csw*) locus. When placed *in trans* to any of the other *csw* alleles the resulting *csw<sup>-</sup>/csw<sup>fl</sup>* females were largely nonviable. However, when occasional females did emerge they exhibited eye and wing phenotypes more severe than those observed in *csw<sup>fl</sup>/csw<sup>fl</sup>* females (data not shown). The phenotypes of the new mutation were completely rescued by expression of the *csw<sup>wild type</sup>* minigene under the control of its endogenous promoter (J. A. LORENZEN, M. MELNICK and L. A. PERKINS, unpublished results). This rescue, together with the complementation analysis, allowed us to conclude that the new mutation represents a reduced activity, viable allele of *csw*, which we have designated *csw<sup>fl</sup>*.

Sections of the adult ommatidium reveal that the rough eye phenotype results from a loss of photoreceptors, commonly R7; however, there is also occasional loss of outer photoreceptors as well (Figure 1, I and J). These results further support a role for Csw in both the EGF (DER; TOP) and SEV RTK pathways (ALLARD *et al.* 1996; PERKINS *et al.* 1996).

**Ovary and embryonic phenotypes of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*:** Under favorable culture conditions 10 to 15% of females from a balanced stock are homozygous for *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. These homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* females are essentially sterile and only rarely produce fertilized eggs. The eggs from homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mothers have shells that are partially ventralized (Figure 2). This defect, previously demonstrated to be the result of Csw function in the Torpedo EGF RTK pathway during oogenesis (PERKINS *et al.* 1996), is likely responsible for the high percentage of unfertilized eggs produced by the homozygous females.

Fertilized eggs are rarely obtained from homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mothers, so we chose to analyze *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant phenotypes during embryogenesis by producing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones using the FLP-DFS technique (CHOU and PERRIMON 1996). All of these *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos derived from females bearing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones mated to *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y* males failed to hatch. While the cuticles of these embryos are largely like wild type (Figure 3A), mild defects, similar to those observed in stronger alleles of *csw* (partial fusion of denticle bands along the midline, mild twisting, incomplete germ band shortening), were frequently observed (Figure 3B).

Since the observed cuticular defects, alone, could not account for the lethality exhibited by *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos, specific tissues, whose specification and/or differentiation are dependent upon RTK signaling, were ex-

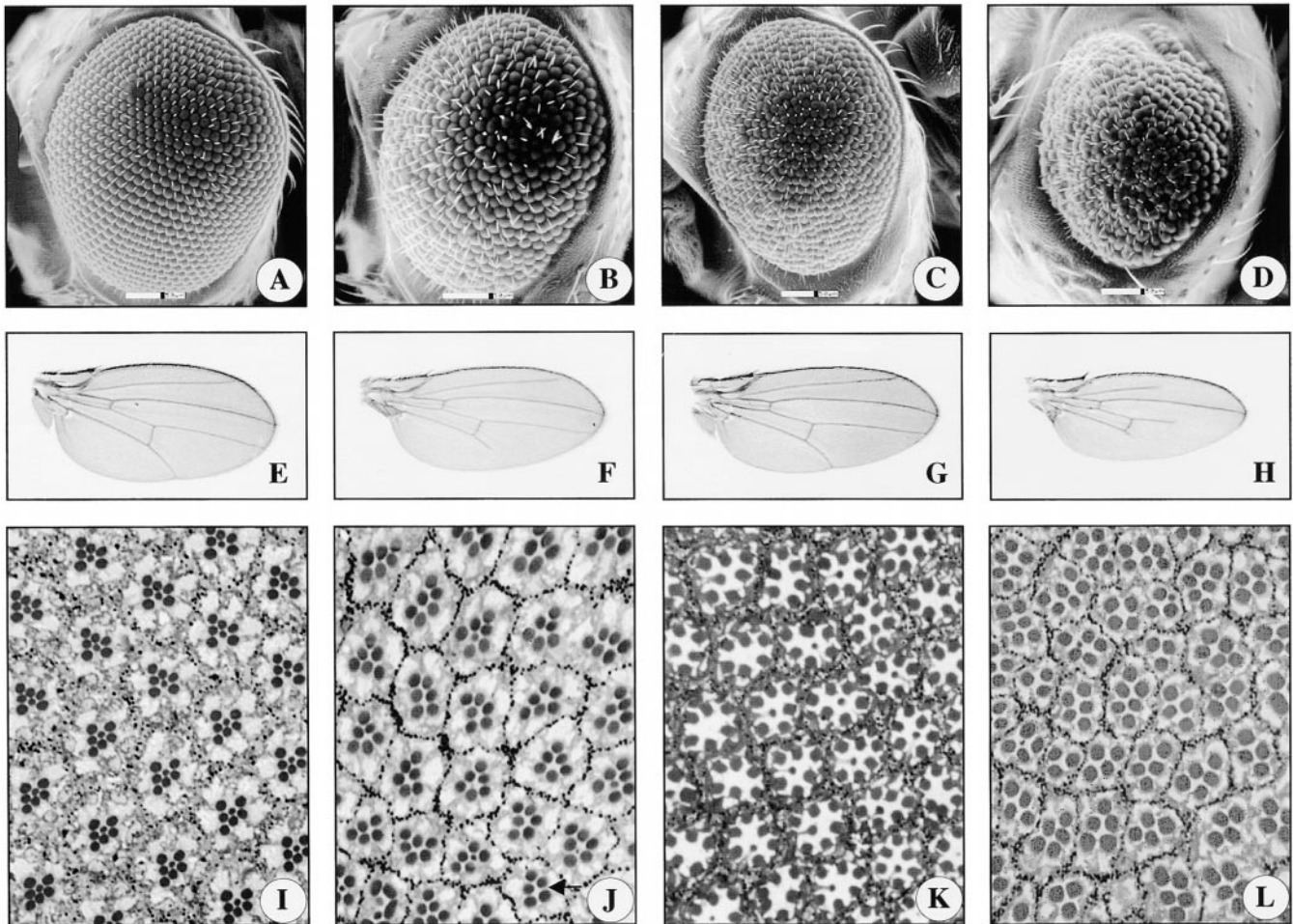


FIGURE 1.—The adult phenotypes of flies homo- or hemizygous for *csu<sup>fl</sup>* create a sensitized background from which suppressors and enhancers of the mutant phenotypes can be identified. Scanning electron micrographs, thin transverse sections of adult eyes, and adult wings are shown as follows: wild-type flies (A, E, and I) and homo- or hemizygous *csu<sup>fl</sup>* flies (B, F, and J) exhibit a rough eye phenotype (B) manifested by loss of photoreceptor R7 (J) and occasional loss of additional outer photoreceptors (see arrow J). Further, *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutant flies also exhibit wing vein gaps, most frequently manifested in the distal regions of L5 and L2 (F) and occasional gaps in L4 (not shown). A *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutant background was the starting point to identify genomic regions containing genes that either suppress (C, G, and K) or enhance (D, H, and L) the *csu<sup>fl</sup>* adult phenotypes.

amined for defects resulting from the *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutation. Consistent with the mild cuticular phenotypes observed, residual *csu<sup>fl</sup>* activity is sufficient for normal function of the Tor RTK pathway, the first RTK pathway known to be active during embryogenesis. In this pathway, which initiates patterning of the acron (anterior-most head) and telson (posterior-most tail), we used the expression patterns of *tll* and *hkb* as indicators of a loss of anterior and posterior patterning information (WEIGEL *et al.* 1990; GHIGLIONE *et al.* 1999). We observed no significant differences in the expression patterns of either *tll* or *hkb* in *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos (Figure 3, C and D).

At later stages of embryogenesis, tissues whose specification and/or differentiation requires signaling by the EGFR or either of the *Drosophila* FGF RTKs [Breathless (Btl) and Heartless (Htl)] were assayed in *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos. For specification and proper positioning of the segmentally reiterated precursor cells that give rise

to both the DA1/#1 larval muscles and a subset of pericardial cells, input from both the EGF and Htl pathways is essential (CARMENA *et al.* 1998). That is, both the DA1 and pericardial cells are deleted from embryos mutant for either the EGF or Htl receptors. Similarly, in *csu<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos, at germ band elongation these precursors, visualized with antibodies to the pair rule protein Even-skipped (Eve), are variably missing from one to four hemisegments per embryo (Figure 3, E and F). Since loss of these Eve positive precursor cells could be due to Csw function in either EGFR and/or Htl signaling, we utilized two additional molecular markers to determine if the *csu<sup>fl</sup>* lesion is sufficient to compromise the signal from each of these RTKs. Specifically, the gap gene *Kruppel* (*Kr*) is expressed in the larval muscle precursor VA2/#27 in response to EGFR signaling alone (BUFF *et al.* 1998). As is the case for the Eve positive precursor, the VA2/#27 muscle precursor is variably



FIGURE 2.—The eggshells from females homozygous for *csw<sup>f</sup>* are partially ventralized. In wild type (A) paired dorsal appendages extend from the anterodorsal surface of the egg shell (or chorion). The dorsal appendages of eggshells homozygous for *csw<sup>f</sup>* are partially fused (arrow in B); this ventralized phenotype is due to loss of dorsal eggshell fates and a concomitant expansion of ventral cell fates. This fusion, which partially or completely deletes the site of sperm entry into the oocyte, is the likely cause of the almost total sterility of females homozygous for *csw<sup>f</sup>*. Both eggs are dorsal views and anterior is at the top.

deleted from random segments (Figure 3, G and H). Similarly, antibodies to a pericardial cell antigen (YARNITZKY and VOLK 1995), whose expression requires signaling by the Htl RTK (MICHELSON *et al.* 1998), reveals that in *csw<sup>f</sup>* mutant embryos these heart precursor cells are disrupted and/or deleted (Figure 3, I and J).

Finally, to assay the effect of the *csw<sup>f</sup>* lesion on signaling by the Btl RTK, we utilized a molecular marker that highlights the tracheal lumen (SAMAKOVLIS *et al.* 1996). Approximately 40 to 50% of the *csw<sup>f</sup>* mutant embryos examined exhibited only a very mild tracheal phenotype, most frequently manifested as gaps in the dorsal tracheal trunk (Figure 3K). However, the remaining mutant embryos exhibited a severe tracheal phenotype where not only was the dorsal tracheal trunk disrupted, but also all the major dorsoventral tracheal branches are misrouted (Figure 3L).

Taken together, our results suggest that the *csw<sup>f</sup>* lesion is sufficient to compromise four RTK signaling pathways that are utilized throughout development. EGFR signaling is disrupted during oogenesis, embryogenesis, and imaginal stages. SEV signaling is disrupted during specification of the R7 photoreceptor, and both FGF RTKs, Btl and Htl, are disrupted during embryogenesis. Surprisingly, specification of the larval head and tail by the Torso RTK is unaffected by *csw<sup>f</sup>*.

**Genetics interactions of *csw<sup>f</sup>* with altered forms of Ras and Raf:** Previously, KARIM *et al.* (1996) used genetic interactions with engineered Ras and Raf proteins to position additional components of Ras signaling within the pathway. *sev-Ras<sup>V12</sup>* is a gain-of-function mutation that transforms nonneuronal cone cells into supernumerary

R7 cells (KARIM *et al.* 1996). The differentiation of these extra photoreceptors disrupts the normal eye morphology, causing it to look rough. Expression of the dominant negative Ras1 allele, *Ras<sup>N17</sup>* (SIGAL *et al.* 1986), expressed as a *sev-Ras<sup>N17</sup>* transgene, also results in a rough eye; however, this phenotype is due to missing R7 photoreceptors and occasionally outer photoreceptor cells (KARIM *et al.* 1996). Finally, immediately downstream to Ras in RTK signaling is Raf. The transgene *sev-Raf<sup>torso</sup>* is an activated form of Raf that uses the Torso membrane spanning region to target the chimeric protein to the cell surface (DICKSON *et al.* 1992). Presence of this transgene results in the constitutive activation of signaling downstream of Raf and in the eye results in the formation of ectopic photoreceptors.

We investigated the interactions of the above transgenes in males hemizygous for *csw<sup>f</sup>* (Figure 4). Further supporting a role for Csw during Ras signaling, *csw<sup>f</sup>* partially suppressed the rough eye phenotypes of the activated forms of Ras and Raf, *sev-Ras<sup>V12</sup>* and *sev-Raf<sup>torso</sup>*, while it enhanced the rough eye phenotype of dominant negative Ras, *sev-Ras<sup>N17</sup>* (Figure 4, compare A with G, B with H, and C with I). We characterized the interactions at the cellular level by examining transverse sections through ommatidia. Consistent with the interactions observed by SEM, above, in combination with activated forms of both Ras and Raf, *csw<sup>f</sup>* partially suppressed the transformation of the nonneuronal cone cells into R7 photoreceptors (Figure 4, compare D with J and F with L). Conversely, the photoreceptor loss resulting from *sev-Ras<sup>N17</sup>* was enhanced in combination with *csw<sup>f</sup>* (Figure 4, compare E with K).

Taken together these data suggest that in the developing eye the *csw<sup>f</sup>* lesion is sufficient to alter the activities of both activated and dominant negative forms of Ras and an activated form of Raf. These phenotypes, developing within the context of signaling by both the EGFR and Sev pathways, firmly support a role for Csw as a modifier of the strengths of the inductive signals elicited by both the EGF and SEV RTKs.

**Genetic interactions of *csw<sup>f</sup>* with downstream transcription factors in the eye:** We have tested for genetic interactions between *csw<sup>f</sup>* and two downstream effectors of Ras signaling, *yan* and *pointed*, in the developing eye. Within the context of R7 formation during signaling by the Sev RTK, Yan and Pnt antagonize each other; that is, while *pnt* promotes the formation of the R7 photoreceptor, *yan* opposes or negatively regulates R7 formation (LAI and RUBIN 1992). Flies heterozygous for a gain-of-function mutation in *yan*, *yan<sup>XS-2382</sup>*, have a very mild rough eye due to the absence of only a few of the R7 photoreceptors (KARIM *et al.* 1996). Flies doubly mutant for *csw* and *yan* (genotype: *csw<sup>f</sup> / Y; yan<sup>XS-2382</sup> / +*) are poorly viable; however, flies that do eclose possess extremely small, rough eyes (data not shown). An amorphic *pnt* mutation, *pnt<sup>Δ88</sup>*, and a recessive lethal mutation, *pnt<sup>07825</sup>*, both dominantly enhanced the rough eye

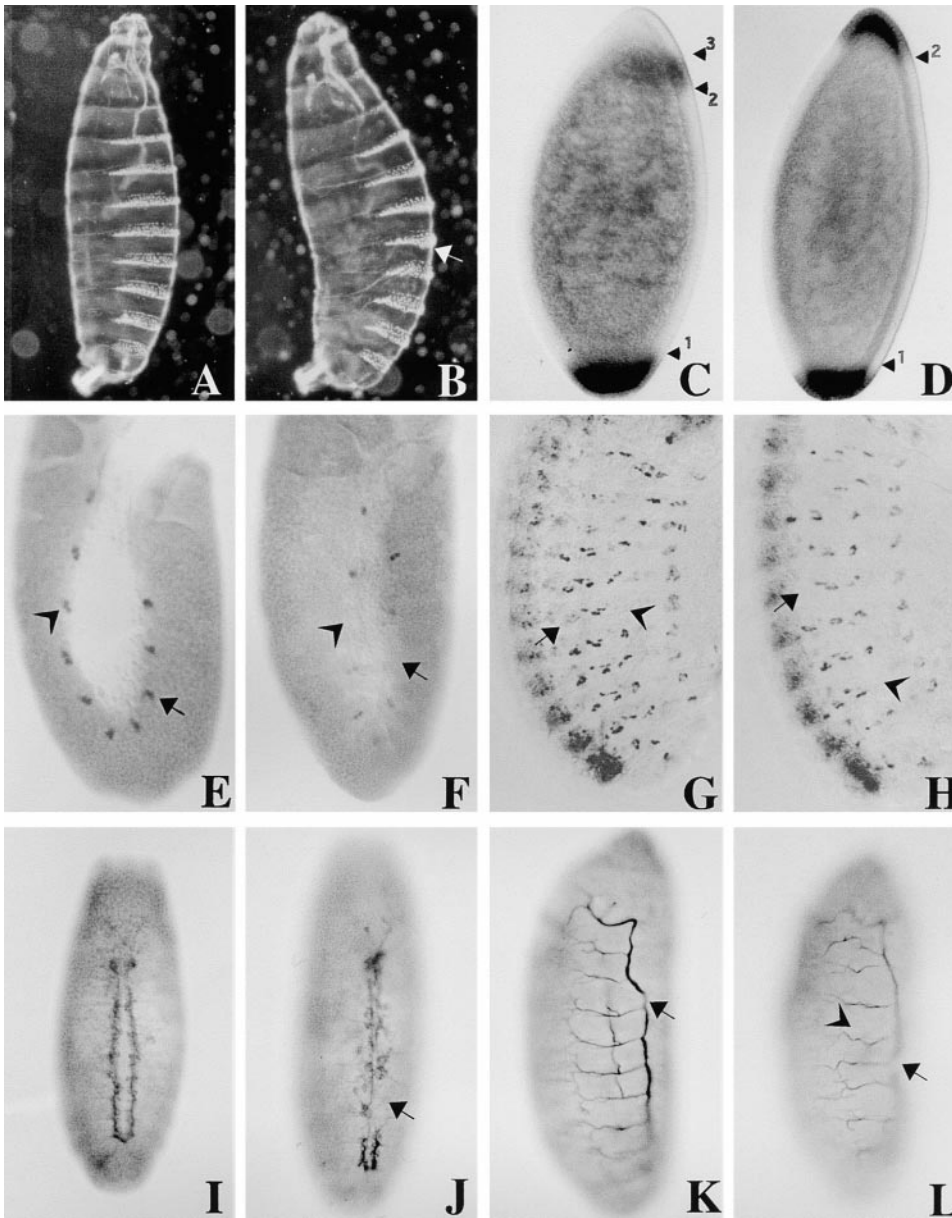


FIGURE 3.—Embryos homozygous for *csw<sup>fl</sup>* exhibit phenotypes reminiscent of mutations in genes that function during RTK signaling. Homo- and hemizygous embryos derived from females bearing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones fail to hatch; however, the cuticles from these embryos resemble wild type (A) or exhibit mild curvature and occasional loss or mispositioned/extra denticles (arrow in B). Molecular probes were used to examine embryonic tissues whose development is dependent on signaling by RTKs. The *csw<sup>fl</sup>* lesion does not appear to affect signaling by the Torso RTK (C and D); however, tissues requiring the EGFR (E–H) and both the Btl and Htl FGFRs (I–L) are affected. Using the RNA expression patterns of *tll* (C) and *hkb* (D) to assay the effects of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* on Torso signaling, relative to the wild-type expression patterns, no discernible differences were observed [percentage egg length (EL) of *tll* in *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos: 1, 13.3% (SD = 1.1; *n* = 23; wild type = 12.8% EL); 2, 78.0% EL (SD = 2.2; *n* = 23; wild type = 78.0% EL); 3, 88.6% EL (SD = 2.2; *n* = 23; wild type = 86.3% EL)] [percentage EL of *hkb* in *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos: 1, 9.1% EL (SD = 0.43; *n* = 13; wild type = 9.4% EL); 2, 90.0% EL (SD = 1.0; *n* = 13; wild type = 89.3% EL)]. Using the protein expression patterns of Eve (E and F) and Kr (G and H) to assay the effects of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* on EGFR signaling in the developing mesoderm, defects were observed with both probes. At germ band elongation, in response to the EGFR pathway Eve is expressed, segmentally, in the precursors of

both the DA1 larval muscle and pericardial cells (E). However, in *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos (F), Eve expression is variably lost from these cells. As the germ band shortens, Kr, also in response to the EGFR, is expressed in the precursors of the abdominal VA2/#27 larval muscle. As is the case for the Eve positive precursor, the VA2/#27 muscle precursor is variably deleted from random segments (arrows in G and H). Kr is also a marker for other developing muscles that are variably deleted *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos (arrowheads in G and H); however, RTK input has not been definitively established for these muscle precursors. Using the protein expression pattern of a pericardial cell antigen (YARNITZKY and VOLK 1995; I and J) to assay the effects of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* on Htl signaling in the developing embryonic heart, relative to wild type (I) significant disruption and deletions of heart precursor cells were observed in *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos. Finally, the protein expression pattern of the tracheal lumen antigen 2A12 (K and L) was used to assay the effects of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* on Btl signaling in the developing trachea. *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant embryos exhibited either relatively little tracheal disruption (*e.g.*, interruption of the dorsal trunk, arrow in K) or significant disruption where the dorsal trunk was interrupted one or more times along the anteroposterior axis (arrowhead in L) and the dorsoventral tracheal branch patterns were misrouted (compare with K).

phenotype of males carrying *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. An enhancement of the wing vein gap phenotype of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* males was observed with *pnt<sup>07825</sup>*, but not *pnt<sup>Δ88</sup>*.

Together these results suggest that the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* lesion is sufficient to alter the signal received by the transcription factors whose activities are essential for proper formation of the R7 photoreceptor.

**Screening for modifiers of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adult phenotypes:** We have utilized the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation as a starting point to conduct a sensitized genetic screen (see MATERIALS AND METHODS) to identify chromosomal regions that are able to dominantly enhance or suppress the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotype when their dosage is reduced by one-half. Enhancing deficiencies (Table 1) were defined as those defi-

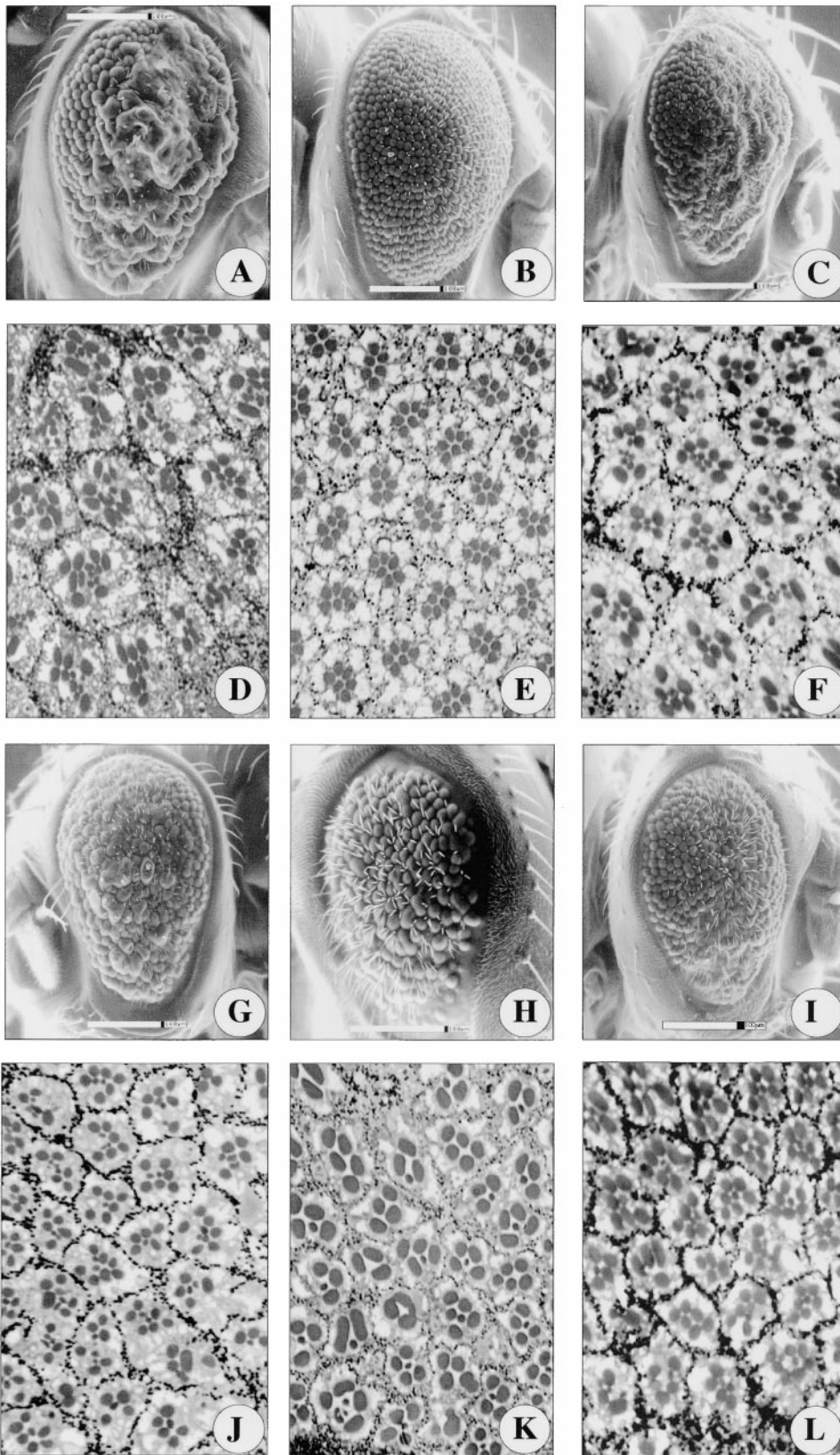


FIGURE 4.—In the developing eye, *csw<sup>fl</sup>* interacts genetically with transgenes encoding modified forms of both Ras and Raf. Scanning electron micrographs and thin transverse sections through the adult eye are shown as follows: (A and D) *T2B/+ (TM3, Sb, P[sev-Ras<sup>I<sup>V12</sup>]</sup>/+)*; (B and E) *P(sev-Ras<sup>I<sup>N17</sup>]</sup>/+)*; (C and F) *P(sev-Raf<sup>florso</sup>)/+; csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; T2B/+*; (G and J) *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; T2B/+*; (H and K) *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; P(sev-Ras<sup>I<sup>N17</sup>]</sup>/+)*; (I and L) *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; P(sev-Raf<sup>florso</sup>)/+)*. The supernumerary R7 cells (D) and the rough eye (A) produced by the activated *Ras1* allele (*sev-Ras<sup>I<sup>V12</sup></sup>*) is suppressed by *csw<sup>fl</sup>* (G and J). The dominant negative *Ras1* allele, *P(sev-Ras<sup>I<sup>N17</sup>]</sup>*, produces a mild rough eye (B) resulting from the loss of R7 cells (E). *In trans* with hemizygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* the signaling efficiency is reduced. Both the loss of photoreceptor cells and the external eye roughness are enhanced. An activated *Raf* allele (*sev-Raf<sup>florso</sup>*) also produces a rough eye (C) due to the production of ectopic R7 cells (F); this, too, is suppressed by hemizygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>*.

ciencies that result in absence, *i.e.*, lethality, of *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; Df/+* males or those deficiencies in which the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant phenotype was more severe but not lethal (examples shown in Figure 1, D, H, and L). Suppressing defi-

ciencies (Table 2) were defined as those deficiencies that in conjunction with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* (genotype: *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; Df/+*) result in marked improvement of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adult phenotypes (examples shown in Figure 1, C, G, and K). The

**TABLE 1**  
**Summary of the enhancers of *csu*<sup>ff</sup>**

Deficiency (BL stock nos.)	Location	Class of interaction	Candidate modifiers	Reference
	Second chromosome			
<i>Df(2L)net-PMF</i> (3638) <sup>a</sup>	21A; 21B7-8	Eye only	Spn (21A1-B6)	1
<i>Df(2L)net18</i> (3633) <sup>b</sup>	21A4; 21B3-4	S		
<i>Df(2L)al</i> (3548)	21B8-C1; 21C8-D1	N		
<i>Df(2L)ast2</i> (3084)	21D1-2; 22B2-3	Lethal	Star (21E2)	2
<i>Df(2L)S3</i> (3446) <sup>b</sup>	21D2-3; 21F2-22A1	Lethal	Star (21E2)	2
<i>Df(2L)dp-79b</i> (3133)	22A2-3; 22D5-E1	N		
<i>Df(2L)sc19-8</i> (693)	24C2-8; 25C8-9	N		
<i>Df(2L)sc19-5</i> (627)	25A4-5; 25D5-7	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)cl-h3</i> (781)	25D2-4; 26B2-5	N		
<i>Df(2L)E110</i> (490)	25F3-26; 26D2-11	N		
<i>Df(2L)Dwee</i> (3571)	27A; 28A	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(2L)spd[j2]</i> (2414)	27C1; 28A	N		
<i>Df(2L)Trf-C6R31</i> (140)	28D; 28E	N		
<i>Df(2L)TE29</i> (179)	28E4-7; 29B2-C1	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(2L)N22-14</i> (2892)	29C1-2; 30C8-9	N		
<i>Df(2L)J2</i> (3366)	31B; 32A	N		
<i>Df(2L)J39</i> (1469)	31C-D; 32D-E	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(2L)PrI</i> (3079)	32F1-3; 33F1-2	N		
<i>Df(2L)H20</i> (3180)	36A8-9; 36E1-2	S		
<i>Df(2L)TW137</i> (420)	36C2-4; 37B9-C1	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(2L)M36F</i> (3186) <sup>b</sup>	36D1-E1; 36F1-37A1	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(2L)TW50</i> (3189)	36E4-F1; 38A6-7	S		
<i>Df(2R)M41A4</i> (739)	41A	S		
<i>Df(2R)bw</i> (749)	41A-B; 42A2-3	Lethal	Rolled/MAPK (h41)	3
<i>Df(2R)nap1</i> (1006)	41D2-E1; 42B1-3	N		
<i>Df(2R)cn9</i> (3368)	42E; 44C	N		
<i>Df(2R)H3C1</i> (198)	43F; 44D3-8	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)cn83c</i> (3136) <sup>b</sup>	43C5-D1; 44B6-C1	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)44CE</i> (3643) <sup>b</sup>	44C4-5; 44E2-4	N		
<i>Df(2R)vg135</i> (1642)	49A3; 49D-E	N		
<i>Df(2R)vg-C</i> (754)	49A4-13; 49E7-F1	Vein gaps only	E(Egfr)B56 (49D1-4)	4
<i>Df(2R)vg-D</i> (434) <sup>b</sup>	49C1-2; 49E2-6	Vein gaps only	E(Egfr)B56 (49D1-4)	4
<i>Df(2R)vg-B</i> (752) <sup>b</sup>	49D3-4; 49F15-50A3	N		
<i>Df(2R)CX1</i> (442)	49C1-4; 50C23-D02	Eye and vein gaps	Drk (50A12-14)	5
<i>Df(2R)trix</i> (1896)	51A1-2; 51B6	S		
<i>Df(2R)Pd7B</i> (3064)	54E8-F1; 55B9-C1	N		
<i>Df(2R)Pd11B</i> (3120)	54F6-55A1; 55C1-3	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)PC4</i> (1547)	55A; 55F	N		
<i>Df(2R)Pl13</i> (1916) <sup>b</sup>	57B13-14; 57D8-9	N		
<i>Df(2R)Pu-D17</i> (2606)	57B4; 58B	Lethal	Egfr (57F1)	6
<i>Df(2R)PK1</i> (3469) <sup>b</sup>	57C5; 57F5-6	Lethal	Egfr (57F1)	6
<i>Df(2R)X58-7</i> (283)	58A1-2; 58E4-10	N		
<i>Df(2R)59AB</i> (590)	59A1-3; 59B1-2	N		
<i>Df(2R)BR6</i> (1682)	59D5-10; 60B3-8	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(2R)Px[4]</i> (1473)	60B; 60D1-2	S		

(continued)



TABLE 1  
(Continued)

Deficiency (BL stock nos.)	Location	Class of interaction	Candidate modifiers	Reference
Third chromosome				
<i>Df(3L)R-G7</i> (2400)	62B8-9; 62F2-5	S		
<i>Df(3L)M21</i> (3650)	62F; 63D	Eye and vein gaps	Dos (62F)	7
<i>Df(3L)HR232</i> (3648)	63C1; 6303	S		
<i>Df(3L)HR119</i> (3649)	63C6; 63E	S		
<i>Df(3L)GN50</i> (3687)	63E1-2; 64B17	Eye and vein gaps	Src64B (64B12-17)	8
<i>Df(3L)GN24</i> (3686)	63F4-7; 64C13-15	Eye and vein gaps	Src64B (64B12-17)	8
<i>Df(3L)10H<sup>b</sup></i>	64B10-12; 64C5-9	Eye and vein gaps	Src64B (64B12-17)	8
<i>Df(3L)ZN47</i> (3096)	64C; 65C	Eye and vein gaps	Vn (64F1-2)	9
<i>Df(3L)h-i22</i> (3024)	66D10-11; 66E1-2	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)lxd6</i> (89)	67E1-2; 68C1-2	N		
<i>Df(3L)vin2</i> (2547)	67F2-3; 68D6	N		
<i>Df(3L)vin5</i> (2611)	68A2-3; 69A1-3	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)vin7</i> (2612)	68C8-11; 69B4-5	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)BK10</i> (2992)	71C; 71F	S		
<i>Df(3L)brm11</i> (3640)	71F1-4; 72D1-10	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)th102</i> (3641) <sup>b</sup>	71F3-5; 72D12	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)st-f13</i> (2993)	71C1-D1; 73A3-4	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(3L)st-e4</i> (1317) <sup>b</sup>	72D5-10; 73A5-8	S		
<i>Df(3L)st-e4</i> (1317) <sup>b</sup>	72D5-10; 73A5-8	S		
<i>Df(3L)st7P</i> (2997) <sup>b</sup>	73A1; 73A7	S		
<i>Df(3L)st-b11</i> (197) <sup>b</sup>	72D10-11; 73D1-2	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)81K19</i> (2998)	73A3; 74F	Eye and vein gaps	Sina (73D3)	10
<i>Df(3L)rdgC</i> (2052)	77A1; 77D1	N		
<i>Df(3L)ri79C</i> (3127)	77B-C; 77F-78A	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3L)Pc-MK</i> (3068)	78A3; 79E1-2	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(3L)Pc-101</i> (4876) <sup>b</sup>	78C3-4; 78C8-9	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)Pc2q</i> (4430) <sup>b</sup>	78C5-6; 78E3-79A1	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)ME15</i> (1518)	81F3-6; 82F5-7	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)p712</i> (1968)	84D4-6; 85B6	N		
<i>Df(3R)pXT103</i> (1962)	84F14; 85C-D	Eye and vein gaps		
<i>Df(3R)p819</i> (1964)	85A3; 85B6	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)by10</i> (1931)	85D8-12; 85E7-F1	Lethal	Ras1 (85D18-19)	11
<i>Df(3R)by62</i> (1893) <sup>b</sup>	85D11-14; 85F16	Lethal	Ras1 (85D18-19)	11
<i>Df(3R)M-Kx1</i> (3128)	86C1; 87B1-5	N		
<i>Df(3R)T-32</i> (3003)	86E2-4; 87C6-7	Lethal	Svp (87B4)	12
<i>Df(3R)ry615</i> (3007)	87B11-13; 87E8-11	N		
<i>Df(3R)Cham7</i> (3011)	91A; 91F5	N		
<i>Df(3R)DlBX12</i> (3012)	91F1-2; 92D3-6	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)e-N19</i> (2425)	93B; 94	Vein gaps only	Pnt (94F1-2)	13
<i>Df(3R)e-R1</i> (3340)	93B3-5; 93D2-4	N		
<i>Df(3R)crbS87-4</i> (2362)	95E8-F1; 95F15	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)crbS87-5</i> (2363)	95F7; 96A17-18	N		
<i>Df(3R)Tl-P</i> (1910)	97A; 98A1-2	Eye and vein gaps	Su(Raf)3C (98A-F)	1

1, DICKSON *et al.* (1996); 2, KOLODKIN *et al.* (1994); 3, BIGGS and ZIPURSKY (1992); 4, PRICE *et al.* (1997); 5, SIMON *et al.* (1993); 6, CLIFFORD and SCHÜPBACH (1989); BAKER and RUBIN (1989); 7, HERBST *et al.* (1996); RAABE *et al.* (1996); 8, COOPER *et al.* (1996); 9, SIMCOX *et al.* (1996); 10, CARTHEW and RUBIN (1990); 11, SIMON *et al.* (1991); 12, BEGEMANN *et al.* (1995); and 13, BRUNNER *et al.* (1994). N, no interaction; S, suppressor.

<sup>a</sup> *Df(2L)net-PMF* (3638) suppressed the wing vein gaps of *csu<sup>fl</sup>* and enhanced the rough eye.

<sup>b</sup> Additional Bloomington deficiencies (*i.e.*, not from the kit).

**TABLE 2**  
**Summary of the suppressors of *csw<sup>fl</sup>***

Deficiency (BL stock nos.)	Location	Class of interaction	Candidate modifiers	Reference
Second chromosome				
<i>Df(2L)net-PMF</i> (3638) <sup>a</sup>	21A; 21B7-8	Vein gaps only	Net (21B3)	1
<i>Df(2L)net-18</i> (3633)	21A4; 21B3-4	Vein gaps only	Net (21B3)	1
<i>Df(2L)al</i> (3548)	21B8-C1; 21C8-D1	N		
<i>Df(2L)C144</i> (90)	23A1-2; 23C3-5	Eye only	—	
<i>In(2LR)DTD16</i> (3573)	23C; 23E3-6	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2L)ed1</i> (712)	24A3-4; 24D3-4	Eye only	Ed (24D4)	2
<i>Df(2L)ed-dp</i> (702) <sup>b</sup>	24C3-5; 25A2-3	Eye and vein gaps	Ed (24D4)	2
<i>Df(2L)sc19-8</i> (693)	24C2-8; 25C8-9	N		
<i>DF(2L)cact</i> (2583)	35F-36 A; 36D	N		
<i>Df(2L)H20</i> (3180)	36A8-9; 36E1-2	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)TW137</i> (420)	36C2-4; 37b9-c1	Lethal	—	
<i>Df(2L)TW50</i> (3189)	36E4-F1; 38A6-7	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)M36F</i> (343) <sup>b</sup>	36E6-F1; 36F7-9	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)TW3</i> (3781) <sup>b</sup>	36F7-9; 37B2-7	N		
<i>Df(2L)TW158</i> (3784) <sup>b</sup>	37B2-8; 37E2-F1	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)pr-A16</i> (567) <sup>b</sup>	37B2-12; 38D2-5	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)TW130</i> (1961) <sup>b</sup>	37B9-C1; 37D1-2	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)VA16</i> (3172) <sup>b</sup>	37B9; 38A1	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)VA17</i> (3785) <sup>b</sup>	37C1; 37F5	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2L)E55</i> (3076) <sup>b</sup>	37D2-F1; 37F5-38A1	N		
<i>Df(2L)TW161</i> (167)	38A6-B1; 40A4-B1	N		
<i>Df(2R)M41A4</i> (739)	41A	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2R)bw</i> (749)	41A-B; 42A2-3	E		
<i>Df(2R)nap1</i> (1006)	41D2-E1; 42B1-3	N		
<i>Df(2R)nap9</i> (1007)	42A1-2; 42E6-F1	Eye only	Src42A (42A1-2)	3
<i>Df(2R)pk78s</i> (1930)	42C1-7; 43F5-8	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2R)cn88b</i> (3134) <sup>b</sup>	42C; 42E	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2R)Drl[rv3]</i> (3920) <sup>b</sup>	42E1-4; 43C3	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2R)pk78k</i> (1594) <sup>b</sup>	42E3; 43C3	Eye only	—	
<i>Df(2R)cn9</i> (3368)	42E; 44C	N		
<i>Df(2R)CX1</i> (442)	49C1-4; 50C23-D02	E		
<i>Df(2R)trix</i> (1896)	51A1-2; 51B6	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)knSA3</i> (1150) <sup>b</sup>	51B5-11; 51F5-13	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)Jp1</i> (3518)	51C3; 52F5-9	N		
<i>Df(2R)PC4</i> (1547)	55A; 55F	N		
<i>Df(2R)P34</i> (757)	55E2-4; 56C1-11	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(2R)017</i> (543)	56F5; 56F15	N		
<i>Df(2R)BR6</i> (1682)	59d5-10; 60B3-8	E		
<i>Df(2R)Px[4]</i> (1473)	60B; 60D1-2	Eye and vein gaps	Bs (60C1; D1)	4
<i>Df(2R)Px2</i> (2604)	60C5-6; 60D9-10	Eye and vein gaps	Bs (60C1; D1)	4

(continued)

eye and wing phenotypes of outcrossed *csw<sup>fl</sup>* males (genotype: *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y*; +/+) were used as controls. From this screen we have identified regions on both the second and third chromosomes that encompass loci that modify the expressivity of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. Frequently, the intervals containing loci that modify the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes could be

refined by deficiencies that do not interact with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. These are included in Tables 1 and 2 as deficiencies showing no (N) interaction with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*.

**Enhancers of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*:** Our deficiency screen identified 14 genomic regions on the second chromosome and 19 genomic regions on the third chromosome that dom-

TABLE 2  
(Continued)

Deficiency (BL stock nos.)	Location	Class of interaction	Candidate modifiers	Reference
Third chromosome				
<i>Df(3L)emc5</i> (439)	61C3-4; 62A8	Eye and vein gaps	Su(ve) (~61F8)	5
<i>Df(3L)R-G5</i> (2399)	62A10-B1; 62C4-D1	N		
<i>Df(3L)R-G7</i> (2400)	62B8-9; 62F2-5	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3L)HR232</i> (3648)	63C1; 63D3	Eye and vein gaps	Sty (63D1-2)	6
<i>Df(3L)HR119</i> (3649)	63C6; 63E	Eye and vein gaps	Sty (63D1-2)	6
<i>Df(3L)GN50</i> (3687)	63E1-2; 64B17	N		
<i>Df(3L)fzGF3b</i> (3124)	70C1-2; 70D4-5	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3L)fzM21</i> (3126)	70D2-3; 70E4-5	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3L)BK10</i> (2992)	71C; 71F	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3L)brm11</i> (3640)	71F1-4; 72D1-10E	E		
<i>Df(3L)st-f13</i> (2993)	72C1-D1; 73A3-4	E		
<i>Df(3L)st-e4</i> (1317) <sup>b</sup>	72D5-10; 73A5-8	Eye and vein gaps	Aos (73A3)	7
<i>Df(3L)st7P</i> (2997) <sup>b</sup>	73A1; 73A7	Eye and vein gaps	Aos (73A3)	7
<i>Df(3L)81K19</i> (2998)	73A3; 74F	E		
<i>Df(3L)W10</i> (2608)	75B3-6; 75C	N		
<i>Df(3L)W4</i> (2607)	75B10; 75C1-2	Vein gaps only	Term (75C1)	8
<i>Df(3R)red1</i> (3341)	88B1; 88D3-4	Eye and vein gaps	—	
<i>Df(3R)sbd45</i> (3678)	89B4; 89B10	N		
<i>Df(3R)P115</i> (1467) <sup>b</sup>	89B7-8; 89E7-8	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3R)sbd26</i> (1705)	89B9-10; 89C7-D1	Vein gaps only	—	
<i>Df(3R)C4</i> (3071)	89E3-4; 90A1-7	N		
<i>Df(3R)awd-KRB</i> (3369)	100C-D	Eye and vein gaps	—	

1, GARCIA-BELLIDO and DE CELIS (1992); 2, HSU *et al.* (1998); 3, LU and LI (1999); 4, FRISTROM *et al.* (1994); 5, FLYBASE (1999); 6, CASCI *et al.* (1999); KRAMER *et al.* (1999); 7, FREEMAN *et al.* (1992); SAWAMOTO *et al.* (1994); 8, BALDARELLI *et al.* (1988). N, no interaction; E, enhancer.

<sup>a</sup> *Df(2L)net-PMF* (3638) suppressed the wing vein gaps of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and enhanced the rough eye.

<sup>b</sup> Additional Bloomington deficiencies (*i.e.*, not from the kit).

inantly enhanced the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* eye and/or wing vein phenotypes (Table 1). Consistent with a role for Csw in RTK signaling, as well as validating the screen, a significant number of the genomic regions identified encompass loci that function positively during RTK signaling or genetically interact with known components of RTK signaling. Briefly, deficiencies were identified that encode the *Egfr* receptor, the RTK transducers *drk*, *dos*, *Ras1*, *rolled/MAPK*, *Src64B*, the *Egfr* ligand *vein*, the *Egfr* ligand processing protein *Star*, and the transcription factors *pnt*, *seven-in-absentia (sina)*, and *seven-up (svp)*. We also identified enhancer interactions with deficiencies encoding candidate loci that have been previously identified as modifiers of RTK phenotypes and whose molecular identities are unknown, *e.g.*, *E(Egfr)B56* and *Su(Raf)3C*, or known molecules whose connection to RTK signaling is undescribed, *e.g.*, the RNP motif containing protein *split-ends (spen)*.

When possible, we tested for genetic interactions between *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and mutations in the candidate loci. As out-

lined above, we observed strong genetic interactions with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and known positive components of RTK signaling, Ras, Raf, and Pnt. In addition, and supporting their designated “candidate genes” status, loss-of-function mutations in several loci, *dos<sup>R31</sup>*, *drk<sup>TZ160</sup>*, *Egfr<sup>IF26</sup>*, *ras<sup>ΔC40b</sup>*, and *Star<sup>l</sup>*, were observed to strongly enhance the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant phenotypes, while the gain-of-function mutation *rolled<sup>SEM</sup>* strongly suppressed the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes. We were satisfied to learn that, in combination with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*, the deficiency that contains the *E(Egfr)B56* candidate, like the mutation, enhanced only the vein gap phenotype (PRICE *et al.* 1997). The adult viable, hypomorphic allele of *Src64B*, *Src64B<sup>Δ17</sup>*, also enhanced the wing phenotype of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* but, like *E(Egfr)B56*, no obvious enhancement of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* rough eye phenotype was observed in combination with *Src64B<sup>Δ17</sup>*.

Of particular interest are the enhancing deficiencies for which no candidate genes have been identified. Five genomic regions, three on the second chromosome and two on third chromosome, are lethal in combination

with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* (Table 1). It is possible, however, that the lethal interactions with *Df(3L)st-f13* (72C1-D1; 73A3-4) and *Df(3L)Pc-MK* (78A3; 79E1-2) result from the combined effects of nonlethal enhancer loci that also map to these regions.

Of the remaining nonlethal enhancing loci, most are enhancers of both the wing vein and eye *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes, five are enhancers of the vein gap phenotype only, and two are enhancers of the eye phenotype only. One of the latter, covered by the deficiency *Df(2L)net-PMF*, is an enhancer of the rough eye phenotype while also completely suppressing the wing vein phenotype, suggesting that two interacting loci are in this region. Interestingly, a candidate gene, *net*, maps to this region and displays ectopic veins and may thus be responsible for the suppression of the wing vein gap phenotype (see below).

Finally, there are several genomic intervals for which we expected interactions with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*; however, no interactions were observed. Three notable examples include the genomic intervals encoding the exchange factor *Sos* (34D4), the kinase *Ksr* (83A5), and the transcription factor *Phyllopod* (51A2). There are several reasons why interactions may not have been detected in these genetic intervals, the most likely being that the dosage of an interacting gene removed by the deficiency is not critical and, thus, removal of one copy would be insufficient to modify the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes. Another likely possibility is that the regions deleted remove not only these positive components of RTK signaling but also nearby negative components. This latter hypothesis is thought to be the case for *ksr* and *sos* since, as expected, mutant alleles for two of these expected interacting loci, *ksr<sup>S638</sup>* and *sos<sup>34G</sup>*, exhibit strong dominant enhancing interactions with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*.

**Suppressors of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*:** Our deficiency screen identified 13 genomic regions on the second chromosome and 10 genomic regions on the third chromosome that dominantly suppressed the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* eye and/or wing vein phenotypes (Table 2). Among the suppressing loci 8 suppress both the wing vein and eye *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes, 8 are suppressors of the vein gap phenotype only, and 7 are suppressors of the eye phenotype only.

Also validating the screen, several of the genomic regions identified encompass loci that function to negatively regulate RTK signaling; that is, deficiencies were identified that encode the known negative regulators of RTK signaling *argos* (*aos*) and *sprouty* (*sty*). We also identified suppressing interactions with deficiencies encoding candidate loci that have been previously identified as modifiers of RTK phenotypes and whose molecular identities are both known, *e.g.*, the serum response factor gene *blistered* (*bs*) and the tyrosine kinase gene *Src42A*, and unknown, *e.g.*, *echinoid* (*ed*), *net*, and *suppressor of veinlet* [*su(ve)*], as well as a gene whose expression pattern suggests involvement in RTK signaling, *e.g.*, the zinc finger encoding gene *terminus* (*term*).

When possible, we tested for genetic interactions between *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and mutations in the candidate loci. Supporting their designated candidate genes status, loss-of-function mutations in several loci, *aos<sup>delta7</sup>*, *net<sup>1</sup>*, *Src42A<sup>k10108</sup>*, and *sty<sup>Δ5</sup>*, were found to suppress *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant phenotypes. Fourteen additional suppressor loci, 8 on the second chromosome and 6 on the third chromosome, contain no obvious candidate genes (Table 2).

Interestingly, two deficiencies that delete the candidate locus *bs* (*Df(2R)Px4* and *Df(2R)Px2*) and are strong suppressors of both the eye and vein gap phenotypes of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*, on their own, exhibit a dominant blistered wing and ectopic vein phenotype, which is, in turn, suppressed by interaction with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* (Figure 5). The dominant phenotypes of the deficiencies are due to the loss of the *bs* gene; however, a role for *bs* in eye development has not previously been reported (FRISTROM *et al.* 1994; MONTAGNE *et al.* 1996; ROCH *et al.* 1998). We tested several *bs* alleles for their dominant effects on *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutant phenotypes. Briefly, two recessive lethal *bs* alleles, *bs<sup>K07909</sup>* and *bs<sup>03267</sup>*, which display dominant blistered wing and ectopic vein phenotypes alone, are strong suppressors of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* eye and wing vein phenotypes (Figure 5). Of the three recessive viable alleles tested, *bs<sup>1</sup>* exhibited a strong suppression with *csw<sup>fl</sup>* while *bs<sup>2</sup>* and *bs<sup>3</sup>* showed only partial suppression of the vein gap phenotype and weak or no suppression of the eye phenotype, respectively. We observed a reciprocal suppression of the dominant *bs* phenotypes by *csw<sup>fl</sup>* similar to the interactions obtained with both deficiencies of *bs*.

Finally, there are several genomic intervals for which we expected interactions with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*; however, no interactions were observed. Two notable examples include the genomic intervals encoding the GTPase-activating protein *Gap1* (67D2-3) and the Ets-domain transcription factor *Yan* (22D1-2). As expected, however, the loss-of-function allele *Gap1<sup>B2</sup>* exhibits a strong suppressing interaction with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*, and the gain-of-function allele *yan<sup>XS-2382</sup>* (see above) exhibits a strong enhancing interaction with *csw<sup>fl</sup>*.

## DISCUSSION

***csw<sup>fl</sup>* is a hypomorphic allele that affects several RTK pathways:** We have isolated and characterized a novel allele of the *Drosophila csw* gene, *csw<sup>fl</sup>*, that bypasses the pupal lethality associated with all other known *csw* alleles and, when homozygous, results in rough eye and wing vein loss adult phenotypes (Figure 1). Complementation analysis with different alleles of *csw*, as well as deficiencies that remove the *csw* gene, always result in lethality or weakly viable adults with eye and wing phenotypes much more severe than homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* flies. Further, the phenotypes of homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adults can be rescued by addition of one copy of a *csw* minigene. Together, these results suggest that the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* allele is a hypomorphic or residual activity mutation in the *csw*

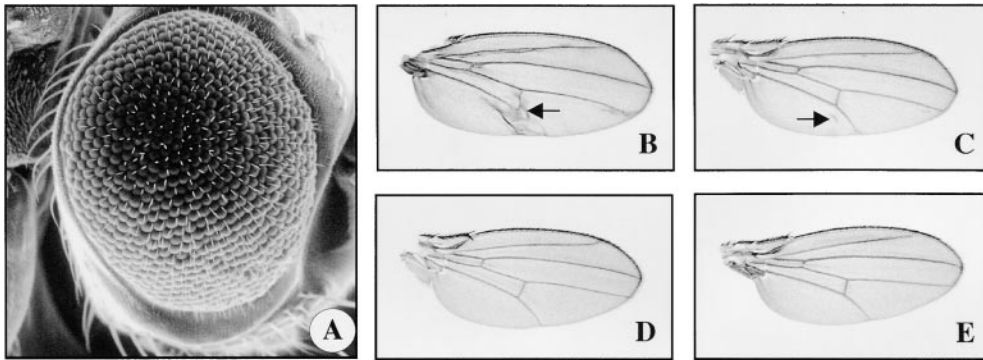


FIGURE 5.—The ectopic wing vein phenotype of *bs*, a suppressor of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adult phenotypes, is in turn, suppressed by *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. Scanning electron micrograph from *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; Df(2R)Px2/+* (compare A to Figure 1B). Wings from adult flies: (B) a deficiency containing the *bs* gene *Df(2R)Px2/+*; (C) a strong allele of *bs*, *bs<sup>K07909</sup>/+*; (D) *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; Df(2R)Px2/+*; and (E) *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y; bs<sup>K07909</sup>/+*. The deficiency *Df(2R)Px2* dominantly

suppresses the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* rough eye (A) and wing vein gaps (D). In turn, the ectopic wing veins of *Df(2R)Px2* (see arrow in B) are suppressed by hemizygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* (D). The mutual suppression was confirmed to be due to the *bs* gene, using the *bs<sup>K07909</sup>* allele, which also exhibits an ectopic wing vein phenotype (see arrow in C). Again the wing vein gaps of *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y* and the ectopic veins of *bs<sup>K07909</sup>* were suppressed (E).

gene. This viable *csw<sup>fl</sup>* allele has provided a highly useful tool for both genetic and phenotypic analysis of *csw* function, as well as the identification of genomic regions and loci that genetically interact with *csw*.

Csw function had previously been shown to be essential for many developmental processes throughout the life cycle, including both the Sev and Egfr signaling pathways during imaginal development (PERKINS *et al.* 1992, 1996; ALLARD *et al.* 1996). In the course of analyzing the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adult phenotypes we observed a preferential loss of the R7 photoreceptor, along with the occasional loss of outer photoreceptors, again supporting a role for Csw in Sev and Egfr signaling in the eye. Likewise, the ability of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* to suppress wing vein differentiation, a developmental process requiring the Egfr (reviewed by DE CELIS 1998), further supports a role for Csw in this process. However, we also wanted to determine whether the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation affected only RTK pathways during imaginal development or whether RTK signaling at other stages could also be disrupted by the mutation. Although homozygous adult male and female *csw<sup>fl</sup>* flies can be obtained, a homozygous stock cannot be maintained due to almost complete sterility of the homozygous females; however, adult males appear to be fully fertile. Further examination of homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* females revealed that the eggs they lay are ventralized; *i.e.*, the dorsal appendages are fused (Figure 2). This is a phenotype exhibited by mutations in the Egf RTK pathway in the determination of the dorsal eggshell during oogenesis (reviewed by VAN BUSKIRK and SCHÜPBACH 1999).

To investigate the effect of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* lesion during embryonic RTK signaling, we mated females bearing *csw<sup>fl</sup>* germline clones to hemizygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* males and examined the resulting *csw<sup>fl</sup>/csw<sup>fl</sup>* female and *csw<sup>fl</sup>/Y* male progeny. That *csw<sup>fl</sup>* is the weakest of the series of *csw* alleles is supported by the analysis of the expression patterns of *tll* and *hkb*, transcription factors whose expression directs the formation of larval terminal structures and is dependent on the activity of the Torso RTK

(reviewed by PERRIMON *et al.* 1995). All of the previously identified *csw* alleles reduced, to varying degrees, the posterior expression of both *tll* and *hkb* (PERKINS *et al.* 1992, 1996; GHIGLIONE *et al.* 1999); however, the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation did not affect the expression of either *tll* or *hkb* (Figure 3).

While the reduction in Csw function by the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* lesion does not show any obvious effects on Torso signaling, this mutation mildly affects signaling by other essential embryonic RTKs (Figure 3). As is the case for signaling by the Egfr during oogenesis and imaginal development, the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation reduces the Egfr pathway signal, as evidenced by a partial fusion of denticle bands along the midline, mild twisting, and incomplete germ band shortening, all phenotypes exhibited by mutations affecting Egfr signaling (reviewed by PERRIMON and PERKINS 1997; SCHWEITZER and SHILO 1997). Other RTK pathways whose activities are presumed to be reduced by the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation include both of the *Drosophila* FGF receptors, Btl required for larval tracheal development (reviewed by METZGER and KRASNOW 1999) and Htl required for larval muscle and heart development (BEIMAN *et al.* 1996; GISSELBRECHT *et al.* 1996). In the case of Btl signaling, homozygous *csw<sup>fl</sup>* embryos exhibit a disconnected system of tracheal branches that are often misrouted and, in the case of Htl signaling, specific mesodermally derived larval muscles and heart precursor cells appear to be missing (Figure 3).

Collectively, our phenotypic analysis of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* lesion suggests that, with the exception of the RTK Torso, this mutation affects an aspect of Csw function that is utilized within each of the RTK signaling pathways examined. This point is important in the context of our deficiency screen where this lesion was used to identify genomic regions that either enhance or suppress the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* adult mutant phenotypes. In this regard, we can reasonably assume that among the interacting genomic intervals that modify both the Sev and Egfr pathways required for proper eye and wing formation are candidate loci

that function to modify additional RTK pathways, *e.g.*, the Btl and Htl signaling pathways.

**Role of Csw in the RTK signaling cassette:** We tested for interactions between components of the pathway and *csw<sup>fl</sup>*. Uniformly, we observed that loss-of-function or dominant negative mutations in positive transducers of the RTK signal enhanced the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes, while gain-of-function or activated forms of positive transducers suppressed the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes. Similarly, loss-of-function mutations in negative transducers of the RTK signal suppressed the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes and a gain-of-function mutation in a negative transducer, *yan*, enhanced the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes. These results firmly support previous work demonstrating a role for Csw as a positive mediator of RTK pathway signaling, and our results are consistent with previous reports that have suggested that Csw appears to function either upstream or downstream of Ras1 and/or D-Raf depending upon the RTK under investigation (LU *et al.* 1993; ALLARD *et al.* 1996). We found that the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* mutation was capable of suppressing the phenotypes resulting from the expression in the eye of activated forms of both Ras1 and Raf. In a large-scale screen for suppressors of the activated Ras phenotype, KARIM *et al.* (1996) isolated multiple alleles of several genes known to act downstream of Ras, but did not detect mutations in genes upstream of Ras, *e.g.*, *sos*, *drk*, or *Egfr*. It is unlikely therefore that the activated Ras phenotype is sensitive to downregulation of the endogenous RTK pathway upstream of Ras, which leads us to conclude that Csw has an additional role(s) downstream of Ras and Raf.

**Use of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* in a sensitive genetic screen:** *csw<sup>fl</sup>* is a viable mutation with easily scored adult phenotypes, thus making it an ideal sensitized genetic background with which to perform an F<sub>1</sub> screen for modifier loci. The efficacy of the screen is indicated by the detection of several loci containing known components of the Ras pathway, *e.g.*, *Aos*, *Dos*, *Drk*, *Egfr*, *Pnt*, *Ras1*, *Rl/MAPK*, *Star*, and *Sty*. The screen detected both modifiers of the adult phenotypes and also lethal interactions. This was to be expected, as our phenotypic analysis shows that *csw<sup>fl</sup>* reduces the efficiency of various RTK signals throughout development, not just in the eyes and wing veins. Some of the modifier loci included the map positions of mutations previously detected in genetic screens for modifiers of the Ras pathway; *e.g.*, *E(Egfr)B56* and *Spn/E(raf)3A* were detected in screens for modifiers of *Egfr* and *Raf* phenotypes (DICKSON *et al.* 1996; PRICE *et al.* 1997).

Interestingly, we also observed enhancing and suppressing genetic interactions with genomic intervals containing the nonreceptor tyrosine kinases *Src64B* and *Src42A*, respectively. With regard to *Src64B*, we tested a small deletion that encompasses the *Src64B* gene, *Df(3L)10H* as well as the adult viable hypomorphic mutation *Src64B<sup>Δ17</sup>*, both of which enhance the wing phenotype of *csw<sup>fl</sup>*; however, unlike the deficiency *Df(3L)10H*,

we observed no obvious enhancement of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* rough eye phenotype in combination with *Src64B<sup>Δ17</sup>*. While in *Drosophila* the role of *Src64B* in RTK signaling has not been broadly explored, ectopic expression studies have suggested that *Src64B* plays a positive role during photoreceptor differentiation (COOPER *et al.* 1996). Here we extend these observations to include a putative role for this gene in *Egfr*-mediated specification of wing veins. With regard to *Src42A*, there are conflicting reports with respect to Ras pathway regulation. TAKAHASHI *et al.* (1996) has reported that this tyrosine kinase maps to 41A (*Src41A*) and plays a positive role in Ras signaling. More recently, however, LU and LI (1999) have mapped the same gene to 42A and demonstrated a negative role for this kinase in *Egfr* signaling. When we tested for a genetic interaction between *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and a *P*-element insertion allelic to *Src42A*, we observed a suppression of the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* phenotypes, consistent with a negative regulatory role for this gene.

Other enhancer loci did not appear to have any obvious candidate interacting genes, including four of the lethal interactions on the second chromosome and two lethal interactions on the third chromosome. For some of these loci we were able to confirm the interaction with overlapping deficiencies (see Table 1), demonstrating that the modifiers most likely reside in the deficiency location and not elsewhere on the chromosome. Similarly, a number of the nonlethal modifier loci were also located in overlapping deficiencies.

Among the suppressor loci we identified are *net*, a mutation with a vein promoting phenotype; *ed*, which has previously been shown to be a suppressor of reduced *Egfr* signaling; and *sty*, a known negative regulator of multiple RTK pathways throughout development. In addition, two strong suppressors were contained within overlapping deficiencies that removed the *bs* gene. The latter deficiencies result in dominant wing blistering and ectopic vein phenotypes, which in turn are suppressed by *csw<sup>fl</sup>*, suggesting that the interacting allele is indeed *bs*, a finding we have confirmed by testing interactions with a number of *bs* alleles. *Bs* has previously been shown to act autonomously in the intervein cells of the pupal wing in order to limit the width of the wing veins and is a *Drosophila* homologue of the mammalian serum response factor, a MADS-box containing transcriptional regulator (MONTAGNE *et al.* 1996). Mutual suppression between the *csw<sup>fl</sup>* and *bs* alleles may indicate that the balance of vein differentiation observed reflects antagonistic activity between *Bs* and the *Egfr* pathway. This is supported by the observation that in the pupal wing the activities of *bs* and *veinlet* mutually repress the expression of the other (ROCH *et al.* 1998). Our finding that strong alleles of *bs* suppress the eye phenotypes of *csw<sup>fl</sup>* is interesting as this is the first report of a role for *Bs* in the developing eye.

**Perspective:** The fortuitous isolation of a novel, viable allele of *csw*, a known positive transducer of multiple

RTK initiated signals, has provided a powerful tool to identify autosomal genomic intervals that genetically enhance or suppress the adult *csw* mutant phenotypes. It is anticipated that several of the autosomal intervals identified will yield hitherto unknown transducers and/or regulators of RTK signaling, each of which may provide clues toward the identification of new or novel ways to regulate the activities of these universally conserved, essential signaling pathways.

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