

Nucleotide sequence of one member of soybean chalcone synthase multi-gene family

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Flavonoids constitute a class of secondary plant metabolites (1) and chalcone synthase (CHS) by catalysing the formation of a key intermediate, naringenin-chalcone, plays a central role in their biosynthesis (2). In soybean, *Glycine max* (L) Merr., CHS genes comprise a multigene family (3). The family is composed of a minimum of six members as estimated by Southern hybridization of soybean genomic DNA digested with HindIII, which cuts outside the coding region (Fig. 1). The probe for hybridization was parsley cDNA (4).

We have determined the nucleotide sequence (Fig. 2) of one family member contained within a 2,317 bp HindIII fragment marked by an arrow in Fig. 1. Several features in the sequence are noteworthy. 1) The gene contains 2 exons; the first having 178 nt and the second 989 nt. 2) The splice sites of the intron determined by GT/AG rule (5) are between nt 1047 and 1048 and between nt 1168 and 1169, giving an intron of 121 nt. 3) The putative TATA box is 115 nt upstream from the first exon. 4) The putative light responsive element (6) is 351 nt upstream from the first exon. 5) The nucleotide sequence of the protein

coding region has 72% homology with the nt sequence of parsley CHS while the derived amino acid sequence has 85% homology with that of parsley CHS (4).

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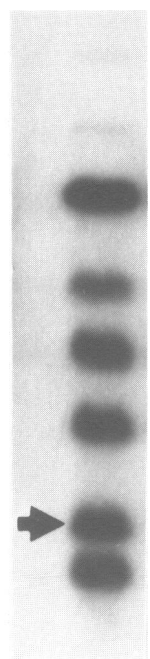


Figure 1.

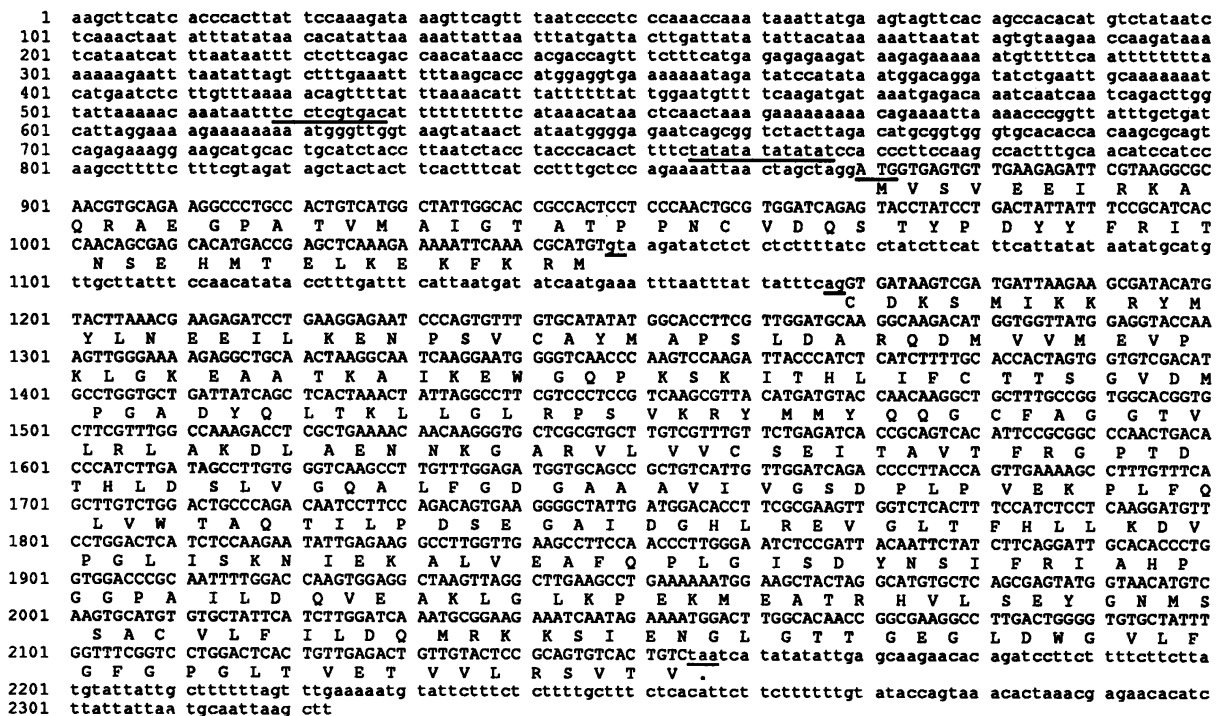


Figure 2.

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