New Phytologist **Supporting Information**

Article title: Towards take-all control: A C-21β oxidase required for acylation of triterpene defense compounds in oat

Authors: Aymeric Leveau, James Reed, Xue Qiao, Michael J. Stephenson, Sam Mugford, Rachel E. Melton, Jenni C. Rant, Robert Vickerstaff, Tim Langdon, and Anne Osbourn.

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Fig. S2 GC-MS total ion chromatograms (TIC) from analysis of extracts of *N.*

benthamiana leaves expressing AstHMGR and AsbAS1, or AstHMGR, AsbAS1 and AsCYP51H10 with candidate CYPs.

Fig. S3 Electron-impact mass spectra for 12,13β-epoxy-16β-hydroxy-β-amyrin (EpHβA) and putative 12,13β-epoxy-16,21β-hydroxy-β-amyrin (EpdiHβA).

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Table S2 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for sequencing of the genomic DNA region encoding for the *Sad6* gene.

Table S3 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for RT-PCR expression profiling of the candidate CYPs from *A. strigosa*.

Table S4 Oligonucleotide primer sequences Primers used for quantitative PCR expression profiling of *A. strigosa* CYPs.

Methods S1 Metabolite extraction, LC-MS-MS and LC-MS-Fluorescence analysis of oat roots.

Methods S2 Metabolite extraction and LC-MS-CAD analysis of extracts of *N.*

benthamiana leaves

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Fig. S1 Mass spectra for unacylated avenacins detected in roots of *A. strigosa* avenacin-deficient mutants shown in Fig. 1c. **a)** Des-acyl-avenacin A, as found in acyltransferase-deficient *sad7* mutants. **b)** Des-acyl-avenacin B, as found in *sad7* mutants. **c)** New compound detected in *sad6* mutants. Left, full mass spectra; right, ions within these spectra that likely represent in-chamber fragmentation of the aglycone. The aglycone shows characteristic losses of *m/z* 18 (loss of the hydroxyl groups as water, indicated in grey). The spectrum for the compound with the 8.3 min retention time in root extracts of *sad6* mutants is consistent with an avenacin-like molecule that lacks the acyl group and contains three hydroxyl groups. Together these data suggest that the C-21β hydroxyl group is most likely absent. Hence the compound at 8.3 mins was assigned as des-acyl, des-21-hydroxy avenacin A. Hydroxyl groups are indicated in red.

Fig. S2 GC-MS total ion chromatograms (TIC) from analysis of extracts of *N. benthamiana* leaves expressing **a)** AstHMGR and AsbAS1, or **b)** AstHMGR, AsbAS1 and AsCYP51H10 with candidate CYPs. Activity of candidate CYPs towards β-amyrin (βA) was not detected. However, conversion of the β-amyrin scaffold to 12,13β-epoxy, 16β-hydroxy-β-amyrin (EpHβA) by CYP51H10, resulted in a new product at 14.9 min in extracts from leaves expressing AsCYP72A475. The new compound was assigned an identity of 12,13β-epoxy, 16β,21β-dihydroxy-β-amyrin (EpdiHβA). Mass spectra for EpHβA and EpdiHβA are shown in Fig. S3. Chromatograms were normalised relative to the coprostanol internal standard peak area (IS).

C* Represents a partial C ring

Fig. S3 Electron-impact mass spectra for 12,13β-epoxy-16β-hydroxy-β-amyrin (EpHβA) and putative 12,13β-epoxy-16,21β-hydroxy-β-amyrin (EpdiHβA). **a), b)** Mass spectra for products shown in Fig. 3a and Fig. S2b. The putative molecular ions (M⁺) are labelled. **c)** Structure of the proposed trimethylsilylated (TMS) EpHβA and EpdiHβA. **d)** Characteristic ions found in these mass spectra and their expected corresponding fragments. The ring assignments are as shown in **c)**.

Carbon numbering scheme and selected COSY and HMBC correlations

 $s = singlet$ d = doublet

dd = doublet of doublets $t = triplet$

 $m = multiplet$

Fig. S4 NMR assignment for 12,13β-epoxy,16β,21β-dihydroxy-β-amyrin-3β-O-Larabinose. The purified product from N. benthamiana leaves co-expressing AstHMGR, AsbAS1, AsCYP51H10, AsCYP72A475 and AsAAT1 was subjected to NMR analysis. ¹H and ¹³C spectra were fully assigned using a combination of DEPT-edited-HSQC, HMBC, COSY, and DEPT-135 experiments. The C-21 OH was assigned by a 2D-NOESY experiment as β due to NOE cross-peaks observed between the C-21 H and the C-16 H, and between the C-21 H and the C-29 H₃. Spectra were recorded in MeOHd4 and the chemical shifts referenced to an internal tetramethylsilane (TMS) standard.

Fig. S5 Electron-impact mass spectra for the unknown product coeluting with 21 hydroxy-β-amyrin. Left, GC-MS total ion chromatograms (TIC). An unknown product (*) coeluted with the putative 21-hydroxy-β-amyrin. The mass spectrum for this product is shown on the right.

Fig. S6 Identification of additional *AsCYP72A475* (*sad6*) mutants by LC-MS metabolic profiling. **a)** LC-fluorescence (Ex:353 nm, Em:441 nm) analysis of root extracts of the *sad6* mutants. Avenacins were not detectable in the two original *sad6* mutants (*sad6*), the new *sad6* mutants harbouring premature stop codons (#215, #686, #708, #1243 *and* #1808), the #1088 splice site mutant, the #815 mutant (likely indel), or the two mutants carrying a G493R amino acid substitution mutation (#121 and #405). Conversely, small amounts of avenacin A-1 could still be detected in the five remaining *sad6* mutants (#438, #492, #513, #758 and #1785), suggesting that these mutations do not completely disrupt the function of AsCYP72A475. A list of the mutant lines and the identified *AsCYP72A475* mutations are provided in Fig. S7a. *N*-methyl anthraniloyl-*O*-Glucose (NMA-glc) is detectable in the wild type and all *sad6* mutants. **b)** LC-MS analysis of root extracts of *sad6* mutants. Extracted ion chromatograms (EICs) show that all these mutants are impaired in avenacin production and accumulate des-acyl, des-21-hydroxy avenacin A-1 and des-acyl, des-21-hydroxy avenacin B-1 instead. Peaks 1, 2 and 3 are likely degradation products of avenacin A-1, des-acyl, des-21 hydroxy avenacin A-1, and des-acyl, des-21-hydroxy avenacin B-1 respectively. Degradation likely results from the high reactivity of the 12,13β-epoxy group present on the β-amyrin scaffold of these compounds. **c)** Summary of the parameters used for the LC-MS EIC analysis for each of the compounds monitored in **b)**.

 (a)

 (b)

 ${\tt MALIVE LEFTGVTVACGFFLEHYVLVGLGLLFWLAGRILEKLWWKPRRLERALRSQGLRGTSYRFLVGD$

Fig. S7 AsCYP72A475 and mutation sites in *sad6* mutants.

a) Mutant lines and the corresponding mutations identified in the *AsCYP72A475* gene. In some cases, the same mutation was found to occur in different lines (denoted with *, ** and †). However, these represent independent mutation events as the lines are derived from different M2 families. **b)** AsCYP72A475 primary structure with predicted αhelices (red), β-sheets (green) and substrate recognition sites (SRS) 1-6 shown (Werck-Reichhart & Feyereisen, 2000) (see Methods S4). Triangles below the sequence indicate the sites of *sad6* predicted amino acid mutations: red, nonsense mutations; black, substitutions.

Table S1 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for Gateway cloning of coding sequences of candidate CYP genes

Table S2 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for sequencing of the genomic DNA region encoding for the *AsCYP72A475* gene

Table S3 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for RT-PCR expression profiling of candidate CYPs from *A. strigosa*.

Table S4 Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for qPCR expression profiling.

Methods S1. Metabolite analysis of wild type and mutant oat lines

Metabolite extractions

Root tips from 5-day-old *A. strigosa* seedlings were harvested and ground with tungsten beads in 1 ml of 80% methanol, using a homogenizer with a 24 Hz frequency (2010 Geno/Grinder, SPEX SamplePrep, Stanmore, UK). Ground samples were incubated at room temperature for 30 min with shaking at 1400 rpm (Thermomixer Comfort, Eppendorf). Samples were centrifuged for 10 min at 12,000 g and 0.8 ml of the supernatant was partitioned twice with 0.4 ml of hexane. The aqueous phase was dried in vacuo (EZ-2 Series Evaporator, Genevac, Ipswich, UK), and the dried material resuspended in 170 µL of 50% MeOH and subsequently filtered (0.2 μm, Spin-X, Costar, Sigma-Aldrich, Gillingham, UK). Filtered samples were transferred to glass vials before analysis.

LC-MS-MS analysis

For LC-MS-MS analysis, metabolites were extracted and analysed as described by Mugford et al. (2009).

LC-MS-Fluorescence analysis

Analyses were performed using a Prominence HPLC system, RF-20Axs fluorescence detector, single quadrupole mass spectrometer LC-MS-2020 (Shimadzu, Milton Keynes, UK). The method was designed with a flow rate of 0.3 ml per min and root extracts were separated on a Kinetex column 2.6 μm XB-C18 100 Å, 50 x 2.1 mm (Phenomenex, Macclesfield, UK) column, using the following solvent system: Solvent A: $[H₂O + 0.1\%]$ formic acid (FA)], Solvent B: [acetonitrile (CH₃CN) + 0.1% FA]. The mobile phase was set to 20% solvent B for the first 3 min, followed by a gradient from 20% to 60% across 25 min. The gradient was raised from 60% to 100% for 2 min and held at 100% for the final 3 min. The fluorescence detector was set to excitation at 353 nm and emission at 441 nm. The mass spectrometer utilised dual ESI/APCI ionization, DL temp 250 °C, nebulizer gas flow rate 15 L per min, heat block temperature 400 °C, spray voltage positive (4.5 kV), Negative (-3.5 kV).

Methods S2. Analysis of *N. benthamiana* **leaf extracts**

Leaves were harvested 6 days post-infiltration and freeze-dried. Freeze-dried material was ground using tungsten beads, in a homogenizer with a 24 Hz frequency (2010 Geno/Grinder, SPEX SamplePrep) before adding 1 ml of 80% methanol. Extractions were performed at 42°C for 30 min with shaking at 1400 rpm (Thermomixer Comfort, Eppendorf). Samples were then centrifuged for 10 min at 12,000 g and 0.8 ml of supernatant was partitioned twice with 0.4 ml of hexane to remove lipids. The aqueous phase was dried in vacuo (EZ-2 Series Evaporator, Genevac). Dried material was resuspended in 170 µL of 50% MeOH and subsequently filtered (0.2 μm, Spin-X, Costar). Filtered samples were then transferred to glass vials for LC-MS-CAD analysis.

LC-MS-CAD analysis was performed using a Prominence HPLC system, with single quadrupole mass spectrometer LC-MS-2020 (Shimadzu) and Corona Veo RS Charged Aerosol Detector (Thermo Scientific, UK). The column, solvent systems and flow rate were as described for the LC-MS-Fluorescence of oat root extracts (above). The mobile phase was set to 25% solvent B for the first 1.5 min, followed by a gradient from 25% to 60% for 19.5 min. The gradient was raised from 60% to 100% across 0.5 min and held at 100% for 2 min. CAD parameters included collection rate (10 Hz), filter constant (3.6 s), evaporator temperature (35 °C), ion trap voltage (20.5 V). MS parameters were as described for LC-MS-Fluorescence of oat root extracts (above).

Methods S3. Purification and structural elucidation of 12,13-epoxy,16,21 dihydroxy-β-amyrin-3-*O***-L-arabinose**

A total of 300 *N. benthamiana* plants were vacuum-infiltrated with *Agrobacterium* strains as described by Reed et al. (2017). Infiltrated leaves were collected 7 days post infiltration and lyophilized. A total of 98.4 g of dried leaves was then reduced to a coarse powder by adding 1:5 vol:vol of quartz sand (0.3-0.9 mm) in a 2 L screw cap plastic container and shaking it for a couple of minutes. The powder mixture was loaded into 120 ml extraction cells, as described previously (Reed *et al.*, 2017) and extracted using a SpeedExtractor E-914 (Büchi, Oldham, UK) with one cycle at 90°C and 130 bar pressure and hexane as solvent (to the majority of apolar compounds and chlorophyll), followed by four cycles at 90°C and 130 bar pressure with ethyl acetate. Cycle 1 had zero hold time, and cycles 2 to 5 had 5 min hold times. The run finished with a 2 min

solvent flush and a 6 min N_2 flush. The extraction procedure was repeated until all the powdered leaf material was processed. All ethyl acetate fractions were combined and concentrated to dryness by rotary evaporation under vacuum prior to resuspending in 800 ml of 80% MeOH and successive partitioning three times with 500 ml of hexane to remove unwanted chlorophyll and apolar compounds. Diatomaceous earth (Celite, Sigma-Aldrich) (1-2 g) was then added to the methanol fraction and concentrated to dryness by rotary evaporation under vacuum. The crude solid was reduced to powder and subjected to normal phase flash chromatography using a silica column (SNAP KP-SIL 100 g, Biotage®, Hengoed, UK) coupled to a DCM/MeOH mobile phase gradient (4% to 40% MeOH over 15 column volumes). Collected fractions were analysed using thin layer chromatography (TLC) (with a 9:1 DCM:MeOH mobile phase) and those containing the compound of interest were pooled, mixed with a gram of Celite and concentrated to dryness by rotary evaporation under vacuum. The solid was then reduced to powder and subjected to reverse phase flash chromatography using a 12 gram C18 silica column (SNAP Ultra C18, Biotage®) and a H2O: MeOH mobile phase gradient (70%-95% MeOH on 40 CV). The purest fractions were selected based on TLC analysis and combined prior to concentrating by rotary evaporation under vacuum. After complete evaporation of the MeOH, the compound of interest appeared insoluble in water and formed a white flake-like precipitate that was collected by centrifugation (5 min at 3200g). The solid was then lyophilized to obtain 81.4 mg of powder. After calculation, the yield of product recovered was 0.82 mg/g leaf dry weight.

NMR spectra were recorded in Fourier transform mode at a nominal frequency of 400 MHz for ¹H NMR, and 100 MHz for ¹³C NMR, using deuterated methanol (MeOH-d4). Chemical shifts were recorded in ppm and referenced to an internal TMS standard. Multiplicities are described as: $s =$ singlet, $d =$ doublet, $dd =$ doublet of doublets; coupling constants are reported in Hertz as observed and not corrected for second order effects. Where signals overlap ¹H δ is reported as the centre of the respective HSQC crosspeak (see Fig. S4).

Methods S4. Structural analysis of AsCYP72A475

The primary sequence of AsCYP72A475 was submitted to the I-TASSER (Zhang, 2008) server for homology modelling. The secondary structure of the top-scoring I-TASSER model was visualised using Jalview (Waterhouse *et al.*, 2009). Annotation of the secondary structure was based on comparison to the crystal structure of the rabbit CYP4B1 (PDB 5T6Q) (Hsu *et al.*, 2017), the protein with the highest similarity to the I-TASSER model. The putative AsCYP72A475 substrate recognition sites (SRS) were annotated based on CYP72A SRS as defined in a previous study (Prall *et al.*, 2016). The multiple sequence alignment Muscle (Edgar, 2004), was used to align the oat AsCYP72A475 protein sequence with those of *Catharanthus roseus* CYP72A1 and *Arabidopsis thaliana* CYP72A13 and the residues which aligned to those previously annotated were assigned as SRS 1-6.

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