

**EFFECT OF DROUGHT AND SALT STRESSES ON THE GENE EXPRESSION
LEVELS OF ANTIOXIDANT ENZYMES IN LENTIL (*Lens culinaris* M.)
SEEDLINGS**

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EMRE AKSOY

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Approval of the Thesis

**EFFECT OF DROUGHT AND SALT STRESSES ON THE GENE EXPRESSION
LEVELS OF ANTIOXIDANT ENZYMES IN LENTIL (*Lens culinaris M.*)
SEEDLINGS**

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ABSTRACT

EFFECT OF DROUGHT AND SALT STRESSES ON THE GENE EXPRESSION LEVELS OF ANTIOXIDANT ENZYMES IN LENTIL (*Lens* *culinaris* M.) SEEDLINGS

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This study was carried out for understanding of antioxidant mechanisms of lentil under abiotic stress conditions. For this aim, 14 days old lentil seedlings (*Lens culinaris* Medik cv. Sultan-1) were subjected to drought (20% PEG 6000), and salt (150 mM NaCl) stress for 6, 12 and 24 hours, for 3, 5 and 7 days. PCR conditions for Mn SOD, Cu/Zn SOD, chloroplastic/mitochondrial GR, CAT and chloroplast /stromal APX antioxidant enzymes were optimized. Then, total RNA was isolated from stressed and non-stressed plant roots and shoots. The gene expression levels of Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD were examined by semi-quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) technique. *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA was used as internal control in multiplex PCR technique.

Relative expression levels of Mn SOD were lower in shoots and roots under salt stress while no significant change was obtained under drought conditions in both tissues. Relative expression levels of Mn SOD were increased on 5th day of salt and drought applications in both shoots and roots. Relative expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD increased after 5th, and on 1st and 7th days of drough treatment in shoots and roots, respectively. On the other hand, expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD increased on 3rd and 5th days of salt treatment in shoot tissues.

Although it is nearly impossible to understand the whole antioxidant mechanism of plants under environmental stresses, this study was the first step to learn about molecular background of antioxidant defence mechanisms in lentil.

Key words: Lentil, *Lens culinaris*, drought stress, salt stress, antioxidant defence, RT-PCR, gene expression

ÖZ

KURAKLIK VE TUZ STRESLERİNİN MERCİMEK (*Lens culinaris* M.) FİDELERİNDE ANTİOKSİDANT ENZİMLERİN GEN İFADELERİ ÜZERİNE ETKİLERİ

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Bu çalışma, abiyotik stres altında mercimek antioksidan mekanizmalarının 14 günlük mercimek (*Lens culinaris* Medik cv. Sultan-1) fideleri 6, 12, 24 saat ve 3, 5, 7 gün boyunca kuraklık (20% PEG) ve tuzluluk (150mM NaCl) streslerine maruz bırakılmıştır. Mn SOD, Cu/Zn SOD, kloroplastik/mitokondrial GR, CAT ve kloroplast/stromal APX antioksidan enzimleri için uygun PZR koşulları optimize edilmiştir. Daha sonra strese maruz bırakılmış ve bırakılmamış bitki kök ve gövdelerinden toplam RNA izole edilmiştir. Strese maruz bırakılan ve bırakılmayan fidelerde kuraklık ve tuzluluk stres uygulamaların Mn SOD ve Cu/Zn SOD'un gen ifade düzeyleri üzerine etkileri yarı-kantatif ters transkripsiyon polimeraz zincir reaksiyon tekniği (RT-PZR) kullanılarak karşılaştırılmış bir biçimde incelenmiştir. Bu amaçla, çoklu PZR uygulamalarında internal kontrol olarak *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA kullanılmıştır.

Kuraklık uygulamasında gövde ve kökte nispi Mn SOD ifade seviyelerinde herhangi anlamlı bir fark gözlenmezken tuz stresi altında her iki dokudaki nispi ifade seviyeleri azalmıştır. Nispi Mn SOD ifade seviyeleri tuz ve kuraklık uygulamalarının 5. gününde hem kök, hem de gövdede artmıştır. Nispi Cu/Zn SOD ifade seviyeleri, kuraklık uygulamasının 5. gününden sonra, köklerde ise uygulamanın 1. ve 7. günlerinde artmıştır. Öte yandan Cu/Zn SOD ifade seviyeleri tuz uygulamasının 3. ve 5. günlerinde artmıştır.

Her ne kadar bitkilerin çevresel streslere karşı geliştirdikleri tüm antioksidan mekanizmayı anlayabilmek olanaksız olsa da, bu çalışma mercimek antioksidan defans mekanizmasının moleküller altyapısının anlaşılması yolunda ilk adım olacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Mercimek, *Lens culinaris*, kuraklık stresi, tuz stresi, antioksidan defans, RT-PCR, gen eksresyonu

To fathers of revolutionary ideas to change the world for a better place
to live in

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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| ABA | Abscisic acid |
| AOX | Alternative oxidase |
| APX | Ascorbate peroxidase |
| CAT | Catalase |
| ETC | Electron transport chain |
| GR | Glutathione reductase |
| GSH | Reduced glutathione |
| GSSH | Oxidized glutathione |
| H ₂ O ₂ | Hydrogen peroxide |
| HO ₂ [·] | Hydroperoxyl radical |
| KCN | Potassium cyanide |
| MDA | Malondialdehyde |
| MAPK | Mitogen-activated protein kinase |
| O ₂ | Molecular oxygen |
| NO | Nitric oxide |
| PEG | Polyethylene glycol |
| PUFA | Polyunsaturated fatty acid |
| ROS | Reactive oxygen species |
| RT-PCR | Reverse Transcription Polimerase Chain Reaction |
| SOS | Salt overly sensitive |

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| $^1\text{O}_2$ | Singlet oxygen |
| NaCl | Sodium chloride |
| O_2^- | Superoxide anion |
| SOD | Superoxide dismutase |
| Subsp. | Subspecies |

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Lentil

Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.) is a self pollinating, diploid ($2n=14$), annual grain legume suitable for cultivation in warm temperate, subtropical and high altitude tropical regions of the world (Muehlbauer *et. al.*, 1995). In 2007, it was propagated in more than 40 countries on around 4 million hectares land (Andrews and McKenzie, 2007).

1.1.1. History and Origin

One of the oldest grain legumes, oldest remains of lentil dated to 11,000 BC were obtained from Greece's Franchthi cave (Hassen J., Renfrew, 1978).

Lens culinaris is originated in Near East and Central Asia (Ladizinsky, 1979) and spread to other parts of the world. Furgeson *et al.* (1998) showed that two centers exist for *L. culinaris* subsp. *orientalis*, (a) south-eastern Turkey and north-western Syria, and (b) southern Syria and northern Jordan.

1.1.2. Biodiversity and Ecology

The genus *Lens* is a member of the legume tribe *Vicieae* which includes the major legume crops such as faba bean, pea and lentil. *Lens* appears to be most closely related to *Vicia* (Kupicha, 1981). Scientific classification of *Lens culinaris* is given below:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Kingdom | Plantae |
| Division | Magnoliophyta |
| Class | Magnoliopsida |
| Order | Fabales |
| Family | Fabaceae |
| Subfamily | Faboideae |
| Tribe | Vicieae |
| Genus | <i>Lens</i> |
| Species | <i>L. culinaris</i> |

After the publication of *Lens culinaris* by Medikus in 1787, the name of the species has been called as *Lens culinaris* Medik. Ferguson *et. al.* (2000) re-classified Lens into seven taxa:

L. culinaris Medikus

subsp. *culinaris*

subsp. *orientalis* (Boiss.) Ponert

subsp. *tomentosus* (Ladizinsky) Ferguson et al. (2000)

subsp. *odemensis* (Ladizinsky) Ferguson et al. (2000)

L. ervoides (Brign.) Grande

L. nigricans (M. Bieb.) Godr.

L. lamottei Czebr.

Lentil plants are slender, semi-erect annuals with compound leaves (4 to 7 pairs of leaflets) with a tendril at the tips. Height of plants normally ranges from 15 to 75 cm. Plants can have single stems or many branches depending upon the population in the field (Duke, 1981). *Lens culinaris* Medik. comes in two varieties: macrosperma (with large seeds and little pigmentation) and microsperma (with small seeds and some pigmentation). Depending on their variety and breed, however, lentil seeds can range in color from red-orange, to yellow, green, brown, or black (Sandhu and Singh, 2007).

Lentil is reported to require environments ranging from cool temperate steppe to wet through subtropical dry to moist forest life zones. It tolerates annual precipitation of 2.8-24.3 dm, annual mean temperature of 6.3-27.3°C and pH of 4.5-8.2 (Kay, 1973). In West Asia and North Africa, lentil is winter-sown at elevations below 850 meters and is usually spring-sown at higher elevations (Erskine *et.al.*, 1994).

1.1.3. Nutritional Value and Uses

Lentil is an important dietary source of energy, protein, carbohydrates, fiber, minerals, vitamins and antioxidant compounds as well as diverse non-nutritional components such as protease inhibitors, tannins, α - galactoside oligosaccharides and phytic acid (Urbano *et. al.*, 2007).

Protein concentration of lentils range from 22-34.6%, and 100 g of dried seeds contain 340-346 g calories, 12% moisture, 20.2 g protein, 0.6 g fat, 65.0 g total carbohydrate, about 4 g fiber, 2.1 g ash, 68 mg Ca, 325 mg P, 7.0 mg Fe, 29 mg Na, 780 mg K, 0.46 mg thiamine, 0.33 mg riboflavin, 1.3 mg niacin (Adsule *et al.*, 1989; Muehlbauer *et al.*, 1985). Lentil is an excellent supplement to cereal grain diets because of its good protein/carbohydrate content.

Among the cool season legume crops, lentil is the richest in the important amino acids such as lysine, arginine, leucine. However, nutritional value of lentil is low because lentil is deficient in methionine and cystine (Williams *et al.*, 1994).

1.1.4. Global Production

World lentil production has increased significantly in last decade from 2.65 million tons in 1991/1992 to 3.8 million tons in 2003/2004 (FAO, 2004). 4.1 million tons of lentils were produced in 2005 (IGEME, 2007). Top three lentil producing countries, India, Canada and Turkey, accounted for nearly 70 per cent of world production. Approximately 70 per cent of world lentil production is of the red variety with the remainder being primarily of the green variety (Lentil Market Report, 2004).

In Turkey, one of the major lentil producing countries, production was 570.000 and 662.000 tons in 2005 and 2006, respectively. Although an increase in total lentil production has been observed between 2000 and 2006, this rising trend was supported by the increase in production of red lentil. Green lentil production has declined from 200.000 tons (in 1986) to 42.000 tons (in 2006). The main reason for this decline is that poor yield of Turkish green lentil could not have compensated for the increased production of higher quality green lentil both in Canada and USA (IGEME, 2007).

1.1.5. Turkish Cultivars

Winter-sown red lentil cultivars are produced in South-Eastern Anatolia, whereas spring-sown green lentil cultivars are grown in Central Anatolia and in transition regions. Red lentil is produced mainly in Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Adiyaman, Diyarbakır and Mardin, whereas green lentil production is highest in Ankara,

Konya, Yozgat, Tokat, Nevsehir and Corum (IGEME, 2007). Molecular diversity of Turkish lentil cultivars was analyzed by two recent studies. Yuzbasioglu *et al.* analyzed different Turkish cultivars and breeding lines by RAPD markers (2006) and SDS-PAGE of seed proteins (2008).

1.2. Environmental Stresses

Biological stress is defined as any disadvantageous condition that reduces or inhibits the normal growth and/or survival of biological organisms such as plants (Jones *et. al.*, 1989). Being sessile, the plants are vulnerable to environmental stresses, which destroy the normal growth cycle and reduce the yield. Mahajan and Tuteja divides environmental stress into two main groups as biotic and abiotic (Mahajan and Tuteja, 2005). Biotic stresses are pathogens, insects, herbivores and rodents, whereas low and high temperatures, salinity, drought, excess water, radiation, heavy metals, pesticides, ozone, wind, nutrient deprivation in soil are some examples to abiotic stresses.

Drought stress has the highest percentage with 26%. It is followed by mineral stress with 20%, cold and freezing stress with 15%. All the other stresses get 29% whereas only 10% area is not exposed to any stress factors (Blum, 1986).

In the face of a global scarcity of water resources and the increased salinization of soil and water, abiotic stress is already a major limiting factor in plant growth and will soon become even more severe as desertification covers more and more of the world's terrestrial area. Drought and salinity are already widespread in many regions, and are expected to cause serious salinization of more than 50% of all arable lands by the year 2050 (Ashraf, 1994). In a world where population growth exceeds food supply, agricultural and plant biotechnologies aimed at overcoming severe environmental stresses need to be fully implemented (Vinocur and Altman, 2005).

Average lentil yields are low because of the limited yield potential of landraces, which are also vulnerable to an array of environmental stresses. Although Mediterranean climates are characterized by hot, dry summers and cold, wet winters, annual rainfall values have been notoriously variable in the last few years marking drought as a major problem. Major abiotic stress factors that limit lentil production are low moisture and high temperature stress in spring and, cold temperatures in winter at high elevations (Johansen *et. al.*, 1992). Moreover, extreme salinization by means of uncontrolled irrigation becomes a major trouble in some regions of Mediterranean countries. Mineral imbalances like boron, iron, and salinity and sodicity, though localized, do cause substantial yield losses. Among biotic stresses, the rust, vascular wilt and Ascochyta blight diseases caused by *Uromyces viciae-fabae* (Pers.) Schroet., *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *Lentis* Schlecht and *Ascochyta fabae* Speg. f. sp. *lentis*, respectively, are globally important fungal pathogens of lentil (Bayaa & Erskine 1998).

Detrimental effects of all environmental stress types on plants can be observed at the whole-plant level as the death of plants and/or decreases in productivity (Parida and Das, 2005). They cause production of reactive oxygen species (ROS), which are cytotoxic in high concentrations.

1.2.1. Reactive Oxygen Species

A free radical is any species capable of independent existence that contains one or more unpaired electrons (Halliwell and Gutteridge, 2006). An unpaired electron is one that occupies an atomic or molecular orbital itself. The simplest free radical is the atomic hydrogen. There are many types of free radicals such as oxygen and nitrogen radicals in living systems.

Oxygen levels in atmosphere elevated over 2.2 billion years ago by activities of cyanobacteria. They used energy of sun to split water into hydrogen and oxygen atoms by means of photosynthesis. Since then, hydrogen atoms have been used as reducing agents while oxygen has released into the atmosphere as a by-product (Lane, 2002). Ever since the introduction of molecular oxygen (O_2) into the atmosphere, reactive oxygen species (ROS) have been the unwelcome companions of aerobic life (Mittler *et al.*, 2004).

Although molecular oxygen (O_2) is relatively unreactive due to its electron configuration (Elstner, 1987), it is thermodynamically a potent oxidizing agent. When O_2 tries to oxidize a nonradical by accepting a pair of electrons from it, both these electrons must have the same spin to fit into the vacant spaces in the uppermost free orbitals. A pair of electrons in an atomic or molecular orbital cannot meet this criterion since they have opposite spins. This spin restriction makes O_2 prefer to accept its electrons once at a time (Halliwell, 2006).

Ground state oxygen may be converted to the much more reactive ROS forms either by energy transfer or by electron transfer reactions. The former leads to the formation of singlet oxygen, whereas the latter results in the sequential reduction to superoxide, hydrogen peroxide, and hydroxyl radical (Apel, Hirt, 2004).

Singlet Oxygen

Singlet oxygen (1O_2) is generated by an input of energy that rearranges the electrons in orbitals of O_2 . Two forms of 1O_2 can be generated according to the access of one electron into the free orbitals. In both forms of 1O_2 the spin restriction is removed and the oxidizing ability greatly increased. (Foote *et. al.*, 1985).

The chlorophyll pigments associated with the electron transport system are the primary source of singlet oxygen. In PSII, $^3\text{O}_2$ is excited to $^1\text{O}_2$ by the reaction center chlorophyll of triplet excited state (Asada, 2006). Singlet oxygen may also arise as a by-product of lipoxygenase activity (Arora *et. al.*, 2002).

1.2.2. Superoxide

If a single electron is supplied to O_2 , it enters one of the free antibonding orbitals, producing an anion called superoxide anion radical (O_2^-) (Fridovich, 1995).

Some enzyme systems reduce oxygen via tetravalent mechanisms (e.g. cytochrome c oxidase, alternative oxidases (AOX)], but some others reduce it in a stepwise manner, i.e. oxygen is accepting electrons one by one only. This leads to the formation of O_2^- . The major site of superoxide formation in mitochondria lies in the electron transport chain (ETC), especially at the level of Complex I and Complex III (Navrot *et. al.*, 2007). It was shown in animal mitochondria that the flavine mononucleotide (FMN) - containing subunit and an iron-sulfur cluster of the nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) dehydrogenase of Complex I are the sites of O_2^- generation (Chen *et. al.*, 2005). In Complex III, the overreduction state of the ubiquinone pool can lead to a direct electron transfer to molecular oxygen, and to the formation of superoxide anions (Navrot *et. al.*, 2007).

One of the primary processes involved in ROS production in chloroplasts is the direct photoreduction of O_2 to the superoxide radical by reduced electron transport components associated with PSI (Apel, 2004). The majority of O_2 reduction *in vivo* proceeds via reduced ferrodoxin, which reduces molecular oxygen to the superoxide radical (Arora *et.al.*, 2002).

1.2.3. Hydrogen Peroxide

Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) is a broad-range chemical catalyst with both reducing and oxidizing properties. It belongs to the non-radical group of the ROS (Bienert *et.al.*, 2006). The half-life of H_2O_2 in lymphocytes is 1 ms (Reth, 2002).

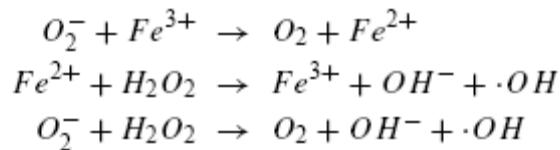
Both O_2^- and hydroperoxyl radical (HO_2) undergo spontaneous dismutation to produce H_2O_2 . H_2O_2 is generated in normal metabolism via the Mehler reaction in chloroplasts, electron transport chain in mitochondria and photorespiration in peroxisomes. Peroxisomes may also contain other systems that generate H_2O_2 . Abiotic and biotic stresses enhance H_2O_2 generation via enzymatic sources such as plasma membrane localized NADPH oxidases, cell wall peroxidases or xanthine oxidase (Neill *et.al.*, 2002). Hydrogen peroxide can also be generated by specific enzymes. Most of the superoxide ions produced is efficiently converted to H_2O_2 by manganese-containing superoxide dismutase (MnSOD) in mitochondria (Rhoads *et.al.*, 2006), and copper/zinc- containing (Cu/ZnSOD) and iron-containing (FeSOD) in chloroplasts (Asada, 2006).

H_2O_2 can be converted into other more reactive ROS by various means including enzymes. In the presence of reduced transition metals such as Fe^{2+} in a chelated form, the formation of OH^- can occur in the Fenton reaction (Blokhina *et.al.*, 2003).

Although hydrogen peroxide is a ROS, it also functions as a signaling molecule controlling different essential processes in plants. It functions in ABA-mediated stomatal closure (Zhang *et.al.*, 2001), gravitropism (Joo *et.al.*, 2001), blue light-induced photomorphogenesis (Chandrakuntal *et.al.*, 2004), and xylem differentiation and lignification (Barceló, 2005).

1.2.4. Hydroxyl Radical

Hydroxyl radicals are among the most highly reactive molecular species known. In the presence of suitable chelated transitional metals, particularly iron, hydroxyl radicals can also be formed from superoxide and hydrogen peroxide at ambient temperatures and neutral pH by the iron-catalyzed, superoxide-driven Fenton reaction (Babbs, 1989). The resulting Fe^{3+} can be reduced back to Fe^{2+} by the superoxide radical (O_2^-), regenerating Fe^{2+} and allowing the reaction to continue. The sum of these two reactions is known as the Haber–Weiss reaction:



1.2.5. Damage of ROS

The main components of membrane lipids, polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA), are susceptible to peroxidation. Hydroxyl radicals and singlet oxygen can react with the methylene groups of PUFA forming conjugated dienes, lipid peroxy radicals and hydroperoxides (Smirnoff, 1995).

Decomposition of lipid peroxides accelerated by iron and copper ions or by heating generates a complex mixture of toxic products including epoxides, aldehydes such as malondialdehyde, ketones and hydrocarbons. They bind avidly

to membrane proteins, inactivating enzymes and receptors. They can also attack DNA, forming mutagenic lesions (Esterbauer *et.al.*, 1991).

ROS damage on biological membranes can be modulated by regulation of membrane structures by adaptive mechanism such as alteration of composition and organization of lipids inside the bilayer in a way that prevents lipid peroxidation, modification of degree of PUFA unsaturation, mobility of lipids within the bilayer and preventive antioxidant systems (Blokhina, 2003).

ROS also attack to other macromolecules such as proteins and DNA, with the formation of nucleotide peroxides especially at the level of thymine (Cullis *et.al.*, 1987).

Oxidative attack on proteins results in site-specific amino-acid modifications, fragmentation of the peptide chain, aggregation of cross-linked reaction products, and altered electrical charge. After oxidative modification, proteins become sensitive to proteolysis and/or may be inactivated, or may show reduced activity. Other oxidative injuries include either random formation of intramolecular disulphide bridges, or uncontrolled oxidation of thiols to sulphonic acids (*Fança et.al.*, 2006).

ROS-induced DNA damage includes single- and double-strand breaks, abasic sites, and base damages. Furthermore, mitochondrial DNA is more sensitive to oxidative damage than nuclear DNA, in particular because of the absence of chromatin organization and lower mitochondrial DNA repair activities (Yakes and Van Houten, 1997). As major site of ROS production both in animal and plant cells is mitochondrial electron transport chain (ETC), the importance of ROS-dependent damage on mitochondrial proteins such as ETC proteins, and mitochondrial DNA becomes clearer.

1.3. Reactive Species Signaling Pathways

A moderate accumulation of ROS function as key inducers for secondary programmed metabolisms, defense signal, cell wall differentiation and activation of mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPKs) leading to the environmental stress tolerance (Kotchoni, Gachomo, 2006). The rapid increase in ROS production, referred to as “the oxidative burst”, was shown to be essential for many of these processes (Suzuki and Mittler, 2006).

Moderate accumulation of ROS significantly affects nuclear gene expression. Three principal modes of action indicate how ROS could affect gene expression. ROS sensors could be activated to induce signaling cascades that ultimately impinge on gene expression. Alternatively, components of signaling pathways could be directly oxidized by ROS. Finally, ROS might change gene expression by targeting and modifying the activity of transcription factors (Apel and Hirt, 2004).

Being small and containing no net charge, H_2O_2 is a susceptible candidate of ROS signaling in plant cells. H_2O_2 can oxidase or otherwise modulate signaling proteins, such as protein phosphatases, protein kinases including plasma membrane histidine kinase and MAPK cascades, transcription factors and calcium channels that are located in the plasma membrane or elsewhere. Elevated cytosolic calcium concentrations will initiate further downstream responses, via the action of calcium-binding proteins that include calmodulin (CaM), protein phosphatases and protein kinases. The oxidation of transcription factors may activate them and/or induce nuclear localization (Neill *et.al.*, 2002).

ROS modulate the expression of various genes, including those encoding antioxidant enzymes and modulators of ROS production, indicating the complex way in which intracellular ROS concentrations may be monitored and maintained at a constant level. The expression of different transcription factors is enhanced by ROS and includes members of WRKY, Zat, RAV, GRAS and Myb families (Vranova' *et.al.*, 2002).

Although the receptors for ROS are unknown at present, it has been suggested that plant cells sense ROS via at least three different mechanisms: (I) unidentified receptor proteins; (II) redox-sensitive transcription factors; (III) direct inhibition of phosphatases by ROS (Mittler *et.al.*, 2004).

As ROS, reactive nitrogen species may generate signaling cascades under environmental stresses. Exogenous nitric oxide (NO) induces stomatal closure, ABA triggers NOS generation, removal of NO by scavengers inhibits stomatal closure in response to ABA, and ABA-induced stomatal closure is reduced in mutants that are impaired in NO generation (Bright *et.al.*, 2006). Similar to ROS NO also stimulates MAPK activity and cGMP production (Desikan *et.al.*, 2004). Both these NO-stimulated events are required for ABA-induced stomatal closure. ABA also stimulates the generation of H₂O₂ in guard cells, and pharmacological and genetical data demonstrate that NO accumulation in these cells is dependent on such production (Neill *et.al.*, 2008).

1.4. Protection Mechanisms against ROS

Because ROS are toxic but also participate in signaling events, plant cells require at least two different mechanisms to regulate their intracellular ROS concentrations by scavenging of ROS: one that will enable the fine modulation of low levels of ROS for signaling purposes, and one that will enable the detoxification of excess ROS, especially during stress (Mittler, 2002). Plants have evolved both non-enzymatic and enzymatic mechanisms to cope with deleterious effects of ROS in the cells. These systems are called as antioxidant protection mechanisms.

1.4.1. Non-Enzymatic Mechanisms

Glutathione, ascorbate, tocopherol, flavonoids, alkaloids and carotenoids are non-enzymatic antioxidant protection mechanisms.

The tripeptide glutathione (GSH) is the major low molecular weight thiol present in plant species. It is involved in the storage and the transport of reduced sulphur (Kopriva and Rennenberg 2004), in the detoxification of xenobiotics via glutathione-S-transferase (Dixon *et al.*, 2002), in the protection against heavy metals as a precursor in the synthesis of phytochelatins (Cobbett 2000), in the scavenging of active oxygen species by the ascorbate-glutathione cycle and in the regulation of the redox homeostasis of the cell together with its oxidized form (GSSG) (Noctor and Foyer 1998). Because of a central nucleophilic cysteine residue GSH scavenges cytotoxic H₂O₂, and reacts non-enzymatically with other ROS (Blokhina *et.al.*, 2003). It has been found in all cell compartments, namely cytosol, endoplasmic reticulum, vacuole and mitochondria (Jimenez *et.al.*, 1998). It was shown that GSH synthesis is controlled by NO (Innocenti *et.al.*, 2007).

Ascorbate is the most abundant small molecule antioxidant in plants and its concentration is 5-10 times much higher than that of GSH in the leaves (Luwe and Heber, 1995). Ascorbate occurs in almost all tissues, with the exception of dry seeds. It occurs in all subcellular compartments including the cell wall, but it has a low concentration in vacuoles (Franceschi and Tarlyn, 2002). Ascorbate anion readily loses an electron from its ene-diol group to produce the monodehydroascorbate (MDHA) radical. Further oxidation results in dehydroascorbate (DHA), which is uncharged. The ability of ascorbate to donate an electron and the relatively low reactivity of the resulting MDHA radical is the basis of its biologically useful antioxidant and free radical scavenging activity (Venkataraman *et.al.*, 2004). Ascorbate reacts with hydroxyl radical, superoxide, and singlet oxygen (Noctor and Foyer, 1998). In addition to its importance in photoprotection and the regulation of photosynthesis, ascorbate plays an important role in preserving the activities of enzymes that contain prosthetic transition metal ions (Padh, 1990). Ascorbate is also a powerful secondary antioxidant, reducing the oxidized form of α -tocopherol (Thomas *et.al.*, 1992).

The tocopherols and tocotrienols, in particular α -tocopherol, are required in the diet and are collectively known as vitamin E (or tocols). They are produced in higher plant plastids and by cyanobacteria. (Kamal-Eldin and Appelqvist, 1996). Vitamin E functions in protection against photo-oxidative damage, repairment of oxidizing radicals, stabilize membrane structure by changing the fluidity. Moreover, it reacts with alkoxy radicals, lipid peroxy radicals and with alkyl radicals derived from PUFA oxidation (Blokhina *et.al.*, 2003).

Carotenoids are lipophylic isoprenoid compounds synthesized by all photosynthetic organisms and also by some non-photosynthetic bacteria and fungi (Bartley and Scolnik, 1997). Most carotenoids are located, together with chlorophylls, in functional pigment-binding protein structures embedded in thylakoidal membranes. Besides acting as membrane stabilizers, carotenoids play

two main roles in photosynthesis. First, carotenoids act as accessory light-harvesting pigments that absorb in the range of 450–570 nm and transfer the energy to chlorophyll. And second, they channel excess energy away from chlorophyll for protection against photooxidative damage (Botella-Pavia and Rodriguez-Concepcion, 2006).

Plant phenolic compounds such as flavonoids and lignin precursors are potent antioxidants. Phenolics are chemical compounds characterized by at least one aromatic ring (C6) bearing one or more hydroxyl groups (Sakihama *et.al.*, 2002). It has been proposed that polyphenols function as antioxidants to support the primary ascorbate-dependent detoxification system as a backup defense mechanism of vascular plants (Yamasaki *et.al.*, 1997).

1.4.2. Enzymatic Mechanisms

To control the level of ROS and to protect cells under stress conditions, plant tissues contain several enzymes scavenging ROS (superoxide dismutase [SOD; E.C. 1.15.1.1], ascorbate peroxidase [APX; E.C. 1.1.1.11], catalase (CAT; E.C. 1.11.1.6], glutathione reductase [GR; E.C. 1.6.4.2], monodehydroascorbate reductase [MDHAR; E.C. 1.6.5.4], glutathione peroxidase, alternative oxidase and dehydroascorbate reductase [DHAR; E.C. 1.8.5.1]) and detoxifying lipid peroxidation products (glutathione S-transferase, and phospholipid-hydroperoxide glutathione peroxidase) (Blokhina *et.al.*, 2003).

Superoxide dismutases (SODs), the family of metalo-enzymes, catalyze the disproportion of superoxide (O_2^-) to molecular oxygen and H_2O_2 (Scandalios, 1993). It has been shown that phospholipid membranes are impermeable to charged O_2^- molecules. Therefore, it is crucial that SODs are present for the removal of O_2^- in the compartments where O_2^- radicals are formed (Takahashi

and Asada, 1983). SODs decrease the risk of hydroxyl radical formation from superoxide via the metal-catalyzed Haber-Weiss type reaction.

Based on the metal co-factor used by the enzyme, SODs are classified into three groups as iron SOD (Fe-SOD), manganese SOD (Mn SOD), and copper-zinc SOD (Cu/Zn SOD). Although the enzyme is present in all aerobic organisms and in all sub-cellular compartments susceptible to oxidative stress (Bowler *et.al.*, 1992), SOD isozymes are located in different compartments (Alscher *et.al.*, 2002). Fe SODs are located in the chloroplast, Mn SODs in the mitochondrion and the peroxisome, and Cu/Zn SODs in the chloroplast, the cytosol, and possibly the extracellular space.

Comparison of deduced amino acid sequences from these three different types of SODs suggest that Mn and Fe SODs are more ancient types of SODs, and these enzymes most probably have originated from the same ancestral enzyme, whereas Cu/Zn SODs have no sequence similarity to Mn and Fe SODs and probably have evolved separately in eukaryotes (Kanematsu and Asada, 1990; Smith and Doolittle, 1992). The evolutionary reason for the separation of SODs with different metal requirements is probably related to the different availability of soluble transition metal compounds in the biosphere in relation to the O₂ content of the atmosphere in different geological eras (Bannister *et al.*, 1991).

The three SOD types can be identified by their different sensitivities to KCN and H₂O₂, and by sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) according to their molecular weights. Cu/Zn SOD is characterized as being sensitive to both KCN and H₂O₂ while Fe SOD is sensitive only to H₂O₂ and Mn SOD is resistant to both inhibitors (Alscher *et.al.*, 2002).

The intracellular level of H₂O₂ is regulated by a wide range of enzymes including catalases and peroxidases. Catalase, which is a heme-containing enzyme, functions through an intermediate catalase-H₂O₂ complex (Compound I) and produces water and dioxygen (catalase action) or can decay to the inactive Compound II. In the presence of an appropriate substrate Compound I drive the peroxidatic reaction. Compound I is a much more effective oxidant than H₂O₂ itself, thus the reaction of Compound I with another H₂O₂ molecule (catalase action) represents a one-electron transfer, which splits peroxide and produces another strong oxidant, the hydroxyl radical(OH⁻)(Elstner, 1987). Catalase is localized in mitochondria, glyoxisomes, and mostly in peroxisomes. There are three main isoforms in *Arabidopsis thaliana*: CAT1, CAT2, and CAT3. The expression of catalase genes is not only developmentally regulated but it is also sensitive to various environmental signals (Dat *et.al.*, 2000). Moreover, catalase is photoinactivated in moderate light under conditions to which plants are adapted (Streb and Feierabend, 1996). Because CAT does not require a supply of reducing equivalents for its function, it might be insensitive to the redox status of cells and its function might not be affected during stress, unlike other mechanisms (Mittler, 2002).

Another mechanism for reduction of H₂O₂ mainly in chloroplasts is ascorbate-glutathione (or Halliwell-Asada) cycle. Localization of ascorbate peroxidase (APX) and related enzymes indicates that chloroplasts reduce H₂O₂ with APX using the elements derived from water in PSII as seen in figure 1.3 (Arora *et.al.*, 2002).

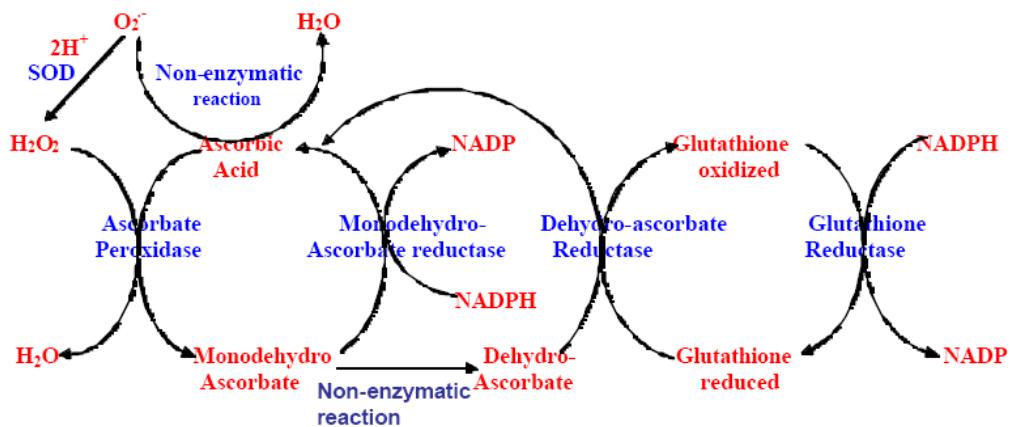


Figure 1.1. Halliwell-Asada cycle

APX is classified as class I peroxidase (Asada, 2006) and inhibited by thiol-modifying reagents (Raven, 2003). Chloroplastic APX is classified into thylakoid-bound (tAPX) and stroma-localized (sAPX) forms. tAPX binds in the vicinity of PSI so that it detoxifies even small quantities of H_2O_2 in its production site (Miyake *et.al.*, 1993). Hence, any H_2O_2 diffusion to other parts of the cell is inhibited by scavenging activity of tAPX enzyme. Except for *Arabidopsis thaliana*, a single gene codes tAPX and sAPX, and both isoforms are generated by alternative splicing (Yoshimura *et. al.*, 2002).

Halliwell-Asada cycle contains other enzymes for the regeneration of ascorbate. Glutathione participates in the generation of ascorbate from dehydroascorbate via the enzyme dehydroascorbate reductase (E.C. 7.8.5.1). In such reactions glutathione (GSH) is oxidized to glutathione disulphide (GSSG). GSH is regenerated by glutathione reductase (GR) in a NADPH-dependent reaction. GR is localized in chloroplast, mitochondrial and cytosolic fractions (Hernandez *et.al.*, 2000).

Different affinities of APX (μ M range) and CAT (mM range) for H_2O_2 suggest that they belong to two different classes of H_2O_2 -scavenging enzymes: APX might be responsible for the fine modulation of ROS for signaling, whereas CAT might be responsible for or the removal of excess ROS during stress (Mittler, 2002). In the thylakoidal system, local concentrations of SOD and tAPX are around 1mM in the vicinity of PSI (Asada, 1999).

In last decade, functional analysis of different antioxidant enzymes were done by different methods including reverse and forward genetics, functional genomics (Seki *et.al.*, 2001, 2002; Kreps *et.al.*, 2002; Cheong *et.al.*, 2002; Buitink *et.al.*, 2006), proteomics (Rossignol *et.al.*, 2006; Jorfn *et.al.*, 2007; Sha Valli Khan *et.al.*, 2007; Vítámvás *et.al.*, 2007) and metabolomics (Cramer *et.al.*, 2007; Kim *et.al.*, 2007;.Shulaeva *et.al.*, 2008). Transgenic plants that overexpress genes of antioxidant enzymes have analyzed (McKersie, 1999, Kiyosue, 1993). Moreover, different knockout studies provided that more than one enzymatic activity per a particular ROS can be found in each of different compartments (Orvar and Ellis, 1997; Mittler *et.al.*, 1999; Pnueli *et.al.*, 2003). The advances in plant genomics and proteomics have revealed the reactive oxygen gene network (Mittler, 2004). Combination of extensive data obtained in different microarray analysis under different types of environmental stresses via different bioinformatics tools made the interaction of different environmental stresses easier to observe (Swindell, 2006). Moreover, a combination of different omic-methods will improve our understanding of stress tolerance pathways in plants (Thiellement *et.al.*, 2002). This will lead to a new era called as plant stress systems biology or plant stress interactomics (Weckwerth, 2008; Yuan *et.al.*, 2008; Morsy *et.al.*, 2008).

1.5. Drought and Salt Stresses

Plants experience drought stress when the water supply to roots becomes difficult or when the transpiration rate becomes very high. The two conditions often coincide under arid and semi-arid regions (Reddy *et.al.*, 2004). Effects of drought and salt stresses can be observed both in physiological and biochemical processes of plants.

1.5.1. Physiological and Biochemical Effects of Drought Stress on Plants

Under drought conditions the vegetative growth of the plants reduces. Reduced cyclin-dependent kinase activity results in slower cell division as well as inhibition of growth under drought conditions. Leaf growth is generally more sensitive than root growth. Reduced leaf expansion is beneficial to plants under water deficit condition as less leaf area is exposed resulting in reduced transpiration. In accordance, many plants such as cotton subjected to drought respond by accelerating senescence and abscission of the older leaves. This process is known as leaf area adjustment. Regarding root, the relative root growth may undergo enhancement, which facilitates the capacity of the root system to extract more water from deeper soil layers (Mahajan and Tuteja, 2005).

During drought, photosynthesis rate decreases due mainly to two reasons as stomatal closure occurring under moderate water deficit conditions and non-stomatal limitations occurring under extreme drought stress.

The first response of virtually all the plants to acute water deficit is the closure of their stomata to prevent the transpirational water loss (MansWeld and Atkinson, 1990). Closure of stomata may result from direct evaporation of water from the guard cells with no metabolic involvement. This process of stomatal closure is

referred to as hydropassive closure. Stomatal closure may also depend on metabolic activities and involve processes that result in reversal of the ion fluxes that cause stomatal opening. This process of stomatal closure, which requires ions and metabolites, is known as hydroactive closure. This process seems to be ABA regulated. Hormones, in particular ABA along with cytokinins and ethylene, have been implicated in the root–shoot signaling. This long distance signaling may be mediated particularly via ABA as well as ROS. Under the water deficit condition the pH of xylem sap increases therefore promoting the loading of ABA into the root xylem and its transport to the shoot (Hartung *et.al.*, 2002). Environmental conditions that increase the rate of transpiration also result in an increase in the pH of leaf sap, which can promote ABA accumulation and lead to reduction in stomatal conductance. ABA promotes the efflux of K⁺ ions from the guard cells, which results in the loss of turgor pressure leading to stomata closure (Mahajan and Tuteja, 2005).

Stomatal closure in response to a water deficit stress primarily results in decline in the rate of photosynthesis. Very severe drought conditions also result in limited photosynthesis due to decline in Rubisco activity. It has been shown that the decline in the rate of photosynthesis in drought stress is primarily due to CO₂ deficiency. Decline in intracellular CO₂ levels results in the over-reduction of components within the electron transport chain and the electrons get transferred to oxygen at photosystem I (PS I). This generates ROS (Reddy *et.al.*, 2004).

1.5.2. Physiological and Biochemical Effects of Salt Stress on Plants

Salt in soil water inhibits plant growth for two reasons. First, it reduces the plant's ability to take up water, and this leads to slower growth. This is the osmotic or water-deficit effect of salinity. Second, it may enter the transpiration stream and eventually injure cells in the transpiring leaves, further reducing growth. This is

the salt-specific or ion-excess effect of salinity. The two effects give rise to a two-phase growth response to salinity (Munns, 2005).

The basic physiology of high salt stress and drought stress overlaps with each other during the first phase of salt stress since the mechanisms controlling this phase of the growth response are not specific to salinity; they are caused by factors associated with water stress. This is supported by evidence that Na^+ and Cl^- are below toxic concentrations in the growing cells themselves, in leaves (Fricke, 2004) and roots (Jeschke *et al.*, 1986). Over the timescale of days, there is much evidence to suggest that hormonal signals, rather than water relations, are controlling growth in saline soils. The evidence for this is that leaf expansion in saline soil on the timescale of days does not respond to an increase in leaf water status (Munns, 2002). First phase of salt stress causes stomatal closure and a net decrease in photosynthesis as well as production of ROS as observed in drought stress.

Water potential and osmotic potential of plants become more negative with increase in salinity, whereas turgor pressure increases with increasing salinity (Parida and Das, 2005). Plasmolysis starts when the osmotic pressure of the solution is increased above that of the cells, causing protoplast to shrink, and the plasma membrane separates from the wall. Large gaps created between the plasma membrane and the wall may fill with solution and allow an artificial apoplastic pathway for salts to move across the root.

Moreover, salinity causes increases in epidermal thickness, mesophyll thickness, palisade cell length, palisade diameter, and spongy cell diameter in leaves of bean and cotton (Longstreth and Nobel, 1979). Salinity also reduces intercellular spaces in leaves and mitochondrial cristae and causes swelling of endoplasmic reticulum and mitochondria, and fragmentation of tonoplast and cytoplasm (Mitsuya *et.al.*, 2000).

The second phase of the growth response results from the toxic effect of salt inside the plant and is specific to salt stress. The salt taken up by the plant concentrates in old leaves. The cause of injury is probably the salt load exceeding the ability of cells to compartmentalize salts in the vacuole. Salts would then build up rapidly in the cytoplasm and inhibit enzyme activity. Alternatively, they might build up in the cell walls and dehydrate the cell (Munns, 2005). Increased treatments of NaCl induces increase in Na^+ and Cl^- and decrease in Ca^{2+} , K^+ and Mg^{2+} leaves in a number of plants (Khan *et. al.*, 1999; Khan *et. al.*, 2000). Physiological studies have indicated that during salt stress early effects (minutes to hours) on plant growth are due to water stress, whereas salt-specific effects only appear much later (days to weeks) (Denby and Gehring, 2005; Munns, 2002).

1.5.3. Drought and Salt Defense Mechanisms in Plants

Both drought and salt stresses cause osmotic and oxidative stress in plants. Plants have evolved different main defense mechanism activated under osmotic and oxidative stresses. These mechanisms are identical in both drought and salt stresses. One of the defense mechanisms is avoidance, which is the mechanism adopted by desert plants. Another defense mechanism is tolerance, which is crucial for survival under severe stress conditions (Kalefetoglu and Ekmekci, 2005). Plants have developed a plethora of biochemical and molecular mechanism to tolerate osmotic and oxidative stresses. Biochemical strategies include synthesis of compatible solutes; change in photosynthetic pathway; alteration in membrane structure; induction of antioxidant enzymes; and induction of plant hormones (Iyengar and Reddy, 1996; Ingram and Bartels, 1996; Parida and Das, 2005).

Plants adopted to live in saline environments have developed some additional biochemical and molecular strategies to cope with deleterious effects of ion accumulation in cytosol. Biochemical strategies include selective accumulation or exclusion of ions; control of ion uptake by roots and transport into leaves; and compartmentalization of ions (Munns, 2002).

1.5.4. Molecular Responses to Drought and Salt Stresses

Responses to drought stress may occur within a few seconds (such as a change in the phosphorylation status of a protein) or within minutes and hours (such as a change in gene expression) (Zhu, 2002). Stress responsive genes can be divided into two as ‘early-response genes’ and ‘delayed-response genes’. Early-response genes are induced very quickly and often transiently. Their induction does not require new protein synthesis because all signaling components are already in place. Delayed-response genes are activated by stress more slowly, and their expression is often sustained. They constitute the vast majority of the stress-responsive genes. The early-response genes typically encode transcription factors that activate downstream delayed-response genes, which take a role in stress tolerance (Kalefetoglu and Ekmekci, 2005; Sreenivasulu *et.al.*, 2007).

Early-Response Genes: Transcription Factors

The stress responses of plants are regulated by multiple signaling pathways, and there is a significant overlap between the patterns of gene expression that are induced in plants in response to different stresses (Glazebrook, 2001). This overlap is coordinately regulated by transcription factors (Singh *et.al.*, 2002). Transcriptome analysis using microarray technology, together with conventional approaches, has revealed that dozens of transcription factors are involved in the plant response to various stresses (Vinocur and Altman, 2005). Most of these

transcription factors fall into several large transcription factor families such as AP2/ERF, bZIP, NAC, MYB, MYC, CsY2Hs2 zinc-finger and WRKY (Umezawa et.al., 2006).

Gene expression under stress conditions is governed by ABA-dependent and ABA-independent regulatory pathways. (Yamaguchi-Shinozaki and Shinozaki, 2005). The promoter of a drought-, high salinity-, and cold inducible gene, RD29A/COR78/LTI78, contains two major cis-acting elements, ABRE (ABA-responsive element) and DRE (dehydration-responsive element)/CRT (C-Repeat), both of which are involved in stress-inducible gene expression (Yamaguchi-Shinozaki and Shinozaki, 1994). ABRE and DRE/CRT are cis-acting elements that function in ABA-dependent and ABA-independent gene expression, respectively, in response to abiotic stresses. The AREB/ABF proteins require an ABA-mediated signal for their activation. Transcription factors belonging to the ERF/AP2 family that bind to these DRE/CRT elements were isolated and termed CBF/DREB1 and DREB2 (Yamaguchi-Shinozaki and Shinozaki, 2005). The CBF/DREB1 genes are rapidly and transiently induced by cold stress (Jaglo-Ottosen *et al.*, 1998; Liu *et al.*, 1998), whereas DREB2 genes are induced by dehydration stress.

Recently, a drought-inducible RD26 gene encoding a NAC transcription factor was identified (Fujita *et al.*, 2004). Expression of this RD26 NAC transcription factor gene is induced by drought, high salinity, ABA, and JA treatments (Shinozaki and Yamaguchi-Shinozaki, 2007).

Delayed-Response Genes

Delayed-response genes can be divided into four groups such as osmolyte biosynthesis, protection of cell integrity, ion homeostasis, and antioxidant protection (Sangam *et.al.*, 2005; Valliyodan and Nguyen, 2006).

1) Genes responsible for osmolyte biosynthesis

Molecules having a protective function include small organic compounds that are called osmolytes, osmoprotectants or compatible solutes. These molecules are small, electrically neutral and non-toxic even at molar concentrations (Reddy *et.al.*, 2004). They would be important to adapt plants to drought, as they could enhance osmotic adjustment and allow turgor maintenance of cells that would otherwise dehydrate. Tissue dehydration is less likely in salinity than drought, as the uptake of NaCl promotes osmotic adjustment, but compatible solutes would be essential to balance the osmotic pressure of the cytoplasm where salts accumulated preferentially in the vacuole (Munns, 2005). There are four main classes of solute that could have an osmotic or protective role: N-containing solutes such as proline and glycine betaine; sugars such as sucrose and trehalose; straight-chain polyhydric alcohols (polyols) such as mannitol and sorbitol; and cyclic polyhydric alcohols (cyclic polyols).

Many plants accumulate proline under stress conditions. Singh *et al.* (1972) were the first to assign a correlation between proline accumulation and drought resistance in barley cultivars. They showed that drought resistant cultivars accumulated many fold higher free proline than the susceptible cultivars. Proline also accumulates in leaves, stems and roots of *Pringlea antiscorbutica* (Aubert *et.al.*, 1999). Moreover, the gene for its synthesis, *P5CS* (Δ -1-pyrroline-5-carboxylate synthetase), is induced rapidly by stress (Hong *et.al.*, 2000). Proline

also operates as a chemical chaperon protecting native conformation of macromolecules under stress conditions (Mokhamed *et.al.*, 2006).

Glycine-betaine accumulation is observed in some higher plants (Khan *et.al.*, 2000; Wang and Nil, 2000) Most of the Glycine-betaine is synthesized in chloroplasts by two enzymes, namely choline monooxygenase and betaine aldehyde dehydrogenase. Its synthesis can be induced by both drought and salt stresses (Nakamura *et.al.*, 2001). Glycine-betaine has been shown to protect enzymes and membranes and also to stabilize PSII protein pigment complexes under stresses (Papageorgious and Morata, 1995).

Carbohydrates such as sucrose and trehalose accumulate under various stresses in higher plants (Guy, 1990; Balibrea *et.al.*, 1997; Ramos *et.al.*, 1999; Wang *et.al.*, 2000; Kerepesi and Galiba, 2000; El-Bashiti *et.al.*, 2005) They confer protective effects at two levels, by the stabilization of membranes and lipid assemblies at very low hydration, and by the stabilization of biological macromolecules (e.g., proteins) in the folded state under stress conditions that would normally promote their denaturation (Lou *et.al.*, 2008).

Polyols such as sorbitol, mannitol or pinitol function in two ways that are difficult to separate mechanistically: osmotic adjustment and osmoprotection. These compounds have hydrogen-bonding characteristics that allow them to protect macromolecules from the adverse effects of increasing ionic strength in the surrounding media (Crowe *et.al.*, 1992). Transgenic approaches for improvement of drought and salt tolerance in different types of plants by using genes of polyol synthesis pathways have proved that polyols mainly function in turgor maintenance (Bohnert and Jensen, 1996; Sheveleva *et.al.*, 1997; Gao *et.al.*, 2001; Abebe *et.al.*, 2003).

Related to salt stress, compatible solutes would exert their effects in phase 1, but could also function in phase 2. The effect of osmoprotectants that accumulate to only low concentrations would be seen only in phase 2. These would protect metabolic function in cells in which salt concentrations are high. They are therefore most likely to function to affect growth in the long term (Munns, 2005).

2) *Genes responsible for ion homeostasis*

Because the stress, especially the salt stress, disrupts ion homeostasis in plant cells plants have adopted some strategies to attain ion homeostasis. There are two main mechanisms for maintenance of ion homeostasis: exclusion of ions, and compartmentalization of ions (Parida and Das, 2005). Ion concentrations in cytosol are maintained in a balance by help of various ion channels.

Removal of sodium from the cytoplasm or compartmentalization in the vacuoles is done by a salt-inducible enzyme, Na^+/H^+ antiporter (Apse et.al., 1999). Na^+ extrusion from plant cells is powered by the operation of the plasma membrane H^+ -ATPase generating an electrochemical H^+ gradient that allows plasma membrane Na^+/H^+ antiporters to couple the passive movement of H^+ inside the cells, along its electrochemical potential, to the active extrusion of Na^+ (Yamaguchi and Blumwald, 2005). Molecular genetic analysis of *Arabidopsis sos* mutants have led to the identification of a plasma membrane Na^+/H^+ antiporter, SOS1, which play a role in salt stress sensing. The SOS1 transcript level is up-regulated under salt stress (Shi et.al., 2002). Sodium efflux through SOS1 under salinity is regulated by SOS3-SOS2 kinase complex (Chinnusamy et.al., 2005).

Na^+ sequestration into the vacuole depends on expression and activity of not only Na^+/H^+ antiporters, but also on V-type H^+ -ATPase and H^+ -PPase. These phosphatases generate the necessary proton gradient required for activity of Na^+/H^+ antiporters. The tonoplast Na^+/H^+ antiporter *NHX1* gene is induced by both salinity and ABA in *Arabidopsis* (Shi and Zhu, 2002) and rice (Fukuda et al., 1999). The *AtNHX1* promoter contains putative ABA responsive elements (ABRE), hence *AtNHX1* expression under salt stress is partially dependens ABA biosynthesis (Horie and Schroeder, 2004).

Another ion carrier channel, AtHKT1, has been shown to function as a selective Na^+ transporter in *Arabidopsis* (Yamaguchi and Blumwald, 2005). AtHKT1 was identified as a putative regulator of Na^+ influx in plant roots. Based on various research results, AtHKT1 was proposed to play a role in long-distance Na^+ transport and Na^+ circulation in the plant, with AtHKT1 mediating Na^+ loading into the leaf phloem and Na^+ unloading from the root phloem sap (Berthomieu *et.al.*, 2003).

3) *Genes responsible for cellular integrity*

Late Embryogenesis Abundant (LEA) proteins are formed during the late period of seed development accompanied by dehydration. They are proteins with small molecular weight ranging mainly from 10 to 30 kDa and above 30 kDa (Zhang and Zhao, 2003). Researchers detected their existence in different higher plants. They exist mainly in higher plant seeds, but have also been found in seedlings, roots and other organs. LEA proteins are mainly localized in cytoplasm and nuclear regions. They mainly function in whole-plant stress resistance to drought, salt, and cold (Hong-Boa *et.al.*, 2003).

Heat shock proteins (HSPs) are a family of proteins found in plants. They are located both in cytoplasm and organelles such as nucleus, mitochondria, chloroplast and endoplasmic reticulum. They take a role as molecular chaperones in protein folding and post-translational modification processes. They also prevent the aggregation of denatured proteins caused by drought, heat and other stresses and ensure the renaturation of aggregated proteins (Boston *et.al.*, 1996; Iba, 2002).

There are some recent physiological and biochemical studies related to effects of environmental stresses on antioxidant enzyme systems in lentil (Katerji *et.al.*, 2001; Cicerali, 2004; Saker *et.al.*, 2005; Ercan, 2007; Sidari *et.al.*, 2008). However, there are not any molecular studies in the literature about those systems in lentil

1.6 Aim of the Study

In this study, the effects of drought and salt stress applications on gene expression profiles of antioxidant enzymes in a Turkish lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.) cultivar, Sultan-1, was comparatively analyzed. Seedlings were grown for 7 days on hydroponic culture and then stresses applied. The following criteria were assayed in the study:

- 1) Short term (6 hours, 12 hours, and 24 hours of stress applications) and long term (3 days, 5 days, and 7 days of stress applications) effects of both drought (20% PEG) and salt (150mM NaCl) stresses,
- 2) Effects of both drought and salt stresses in two different tissues as shoot and root,
- 3) Analysis of gene expression levels of Mn-SOD, Cu/Zn-SOD antioxidant enzymes were analyzed by semi-quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) technique.

CHAPTER 2

MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Materials

2.1.1. Chemical Materials and Kits

The chemicals and kits with their suppliers are listed in Appendix A.

2.1.2. Plant Materials

In this study, a Turkish lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.) cultivar, Sultan-1, was used. Sultan-1 is a spring-sown, green, macroisperma lentil cultivar and the weight of 1000 seeds is 59.1-62.3 grams. It is cultivated in Central Anatolia and in transition regions. The seeds were obtained from Eskisehir Anadolu Agricultural Research Institute (ATAEM).

2.2. Methods

2.2.1. Growth of Plants

Seeds were surface sterilized with 20% Ethanol for 30 seconds and then washed with distilled water for three times.

After sterilization, seeds were imbibed in distilled water for 14 hours at dark. Imbibed seeds were transferred to plastic pots covered with cheesecloth for support and were grown in hydroponic culture containing $\frac{1}{2}$ strength Hoagland's Solution (Hoagland and Arnon, 1950). Each pot contains eight seeds. Planted seeds were grown for 7 days in a plant growth chamber at $25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ with 16 hours light and 8 hours dark photoperiod at a light intensity of $40 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$.

2.2.2. Application of Drought and Salt Stress

Drought and salt stress treatments were initiated at 7th day of normal growth. $\frac{1}{2}$ strength Hoagland's Solution was replaced with 20% polyethylene glycol 6000 (PEG-6000) or 150mM of sodium chloride (NaCl) for drought or salt stresses, respectively. Both treated (stress) and non-treated (control) plants were kept in the growth chamber at same growth conditions. Plants were removed from the growth chamber for sample collection at 6th, 12th and 24th hours, and on 3rd, 5th and 7th days of stress application.

2.2.3. Total RNA Isolation

A modified procedure of total RNA isolation was done from pre-frozen control and stress samples according to Chomczynski (1993). 0.2 g of pre-frozen tissue from control and stress samples were disrupted in liquid nitrogen and disrupted tissue samples were transferred into DEPC-treated and pre-cooled 1.5 mL-eppendorf tubes. Later, 1 mL of Trizol Reagent (the preparation of which is given in Appendix B) was added into the eppendorf tubes. The tubes were vortexed for 20 minutes in a block shaker at room temperature (24°C). Then, the samples were centrifuged for 6 minutes and re-centrifuged for 3 minutes by converting the eppendorf tubes in reverse direction at room temperature at 21000 g (at max.speed). After 900 μL of supernatant was transferred into new eppendorf tube 200 μL chloroform was added and the tubes were shaken vigorously for 15

seconds, and later were incubated at room temperature for 6 minutes. Following the incubation, eppendorf tubes were centrifuged for 20 minutes at 4^oC at 21000 g. 450µL from upper phase was taken into new eppendorf tubes and 200µL chloroform was added onto them. Later the tubes were shaken vigorously for 15 seconds and were incubated at room temperature for 3 minutes, which is followed by centrifugation of eppendorf tubes for 5 minutes at room temperature at 21000 g. 350µL from upper phase was taken into new eppendorf tubes and 350µL of cold isopropanol was added onto them. The tubes were mixed by inverting several times and were incubated at room temperature for 10 minutes. After incubation, RNAs were collected as pellets at the bottom of the tubes by centrifugation for 10 minutes at room temperature at 21000 g. Later, the supernatant was taken off and 1.0mL 75% cold ethanol was added into tubes.

Following the ethanol addition the tubes were vortexed briefly to wash the pellet and then the tubes were left for 3 minutes at room temperature. Later, the tubes were centrifuged for 5 minutes at room temperature at 21000 g and the supernatant was taken off. The tubes were centrifuged for an additional 15 seconds at room temperature to collect the pellet at the bottom of the tubes. Finally, any visible liquid in the tubes were removed and the tubes were air dried in pre-sterilized hood for 10 minutes. 40µL of DEPC-treated water was added into the tubes and the tubes were incubated at 65^oC for 15 minutes by vortexing once in every 5 minutes to dissolve the pellet. The tubes were centrifuged for 5 seconds and kept at -80^oC for long term storage.

2.2.4. RNA Quality and Quantity Analysis

RNA quality and quantity was determined photometrically by using a double beam spectrophotometer (Carry 100 UV-Vis) at Molecular Biology and Biotechnology R&D Center Lab. Absorbance of sample in 10mM Tris/HCl (pH:8.0) at 260nm (A₂₆₀) and 280nm (A₂₈₀) was obtained [1 absorbance unit =

40 μ g/mL RNA]. The quality of RNAs was assayed by the ratio of A₂₆₀ to A₂₈₀. The quantity of RNAs was calculated by the following equation:

Concentration = A₂₆₀ X 0.04 X DF, where A₂₆₀ is the absorbance of sample at 260 nm and DF is dilution factor (DF = 200).

Later, the quality of RNA samples was verified also by gel electrophoresis. For that reason, RNase-free 1% agarose gels in 1X TAE solution was prepared. Pre-diluted (by DNase-treated water) RNA samples were loaded into the gels and run for 40 minutes at 100V. Observation of 25S rRNA and 18S rRNA bands in the gels clarified the integrity of RNA samples.

2.2.5. Removal of DNA

Any DNA contaminations were removed by using Fermentas DNase I according to the manufacturer's manual. 1 μ g of RNA sample, 1 μ L of 10X reaction buffer with MgCl₂, 1 μ L of Deoxyribonuclease I (1u/ μ L) was added into an RNase-free eppendorf tube and finally DEPC-treated water was added to make the final volume of the mixture 10 μ L. Then, the tube was incubated at 37°C for 30 minutes. After incubation, 1 μ L of 25mM EDTA was added into the tube and finally, the tube was incubated at 65 °C for 10 minutes.

2.2.6. Sodium Acetate Precipitation of RNA Samples

DNase treated RNA samples were precipitated by 3 M sodium acetate (NaOAc) solution (pH = 5.2). First, total volumes of DNase treated RNA samples in eppendorf tubes were calculated and required volume of 3 M sodium acetate solution was added into the tubes so as to make the final concentration of sodium acetate equal to 0.3 M. The tubes were vortexed. Required volume of previously cooled 100% ethanol (molecular biology grade) was added into the tubes so as to

make the final concentration of ethanol equal to 70%. The tubes were mixed by inverting several times and then incubated at -20°C overnight. Later, the tubes were centrifuged for 30 minutes at 4°C at 21000 g and ethanol was removed carefully. Then, 1 mL of 70% cold ethanol was added into the tubes and the tubes were incubated 3 minutes at room temperature. The tubes were centrifuged for 5 minutes at room temperature at 21000 g. After the removal of any visible liquid, the tubes were air dried in laminar flow for 10 minutes. Then, 15 μ L of DEPC-treated water was added to dissolve RNAs and the tubes were kept at 65 °C for 5 minutes. Finally, samples were mixed and centrifuged for 5 seconds and kept at -80 °C for long term storage.

RNA quality and quantity was determined by spectrophotometry and electrophoresis as previously described. Later, any DNA contamination was also assayed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of a known sequence (Cu/Zn-SOD [amplicon length is 224 bp]). For this PCR, 1 μ L of RNA was put into a PCR tube as template. Then, the followings were added as indicated order: 7.75 μ L of PCR water, 5 μ L of 10X complete reaction buffer, 5 μ L of 2.0mM dNTP mix, 3 μ L of both Cu/Zn-SOD right and left primers (concentration of each is 10 μ M), 0.25 μ L of Taq polymerase (5U/1 μ L). 25 μ L of PCR mixture of each samples were amplified by a PCR program, conditions of which was previously optimized (The PCR conditions were given in Appendix C). Then, PCR products were loaded into 2% agarose gels and run first for 20 minutes at 50V and then for 60 minutes at 100V. No band formation was expected at the end of gel electrophoresis since RNA samples were used as template in PCR amplification.

2.2.7. cDNA synthesis from RNA samples

cDNAs were synthesized from DNase-treated RNA samples according to the manual of Fermentas RevertAid™ 1st strand cDNA Synthesis Kit. 2.5 μ g of total RNA samples and 1 μ L of oligo(dT)₁₈ primers (0.5 μ g/ μ L) were added into

DEPC-treated PCR tubes, and total volume was rolled up to 12 µL by addition of DEPC-treated water. Then, the compounds were mixed gently and spin down for 3-5 seconds in a microcentrifuge. PCR tubes were incubated at 70°C for 5 minutes, chilled on ice and briefly centrifuged to collect drops. The tube was placed on ice and the following components were added in indicated order: 4 µL of 5X reaction buffer, 1 µL RiboLock™ Ribonuclease Inhibitor (20U/ µL) and 2 µL of 10mM dNTP mix. Later, they were mixed gently, centrifuged for 3-4 seconds and the tubes were incubated at 37 °C for 5 minutes. After the incubation, 1 µL of RevertAid™ M-MuLV Reverse Transcriptase (200U/ µL) was added and the tubes were incubated at 42 °C for 60 minutes. Finally, the tubes were incubated at 70 °C for 10 minutes to stop the reaction and chilled on ice.

2.2.8. Degenerate PCRs

To date, there are no available data entry in GenBank database (Benson *et.al.*, 2008) related to genes that code for antioxidant enzymes in lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.). Degenerate PCR is a technique applied for identification of new genes or gene families (Telenius *et.al.*, 1992). It resembles standard PCR with an exception in primers, that is degenerate primers are used instead of specific primers. Degenerate primers are different from specific primers in that they contain wobbles so that there is more than one possibility for primer-template binding for PCR.

A protein search for antioxidant enzymes, namely SOD*, APX, CAT and GR, were done in NCBI (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>). At one time, the word “Arabidopsis” and name of a different enzyme were searched together to obtain the protein sequence of that enzyme in *Arabidopsis*. Then, protein blast by “tblast” was done for each sequence obtained in previous search. At the end of tblast, protein sequences found in relatives of *Lens culinaris* were obtained in FASTA format. mRNA complete sequences (cds) for those protein sequences

were also obtained in FASTA format from NCBI. Later, both protein and mRNA sequences were aligned by CLUSTALW program (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/clustalw2/index.html>). Protein and mRNA sequences are given in Appendix J. Then, degenerate primers were designed by an algorithm called as Consensus Degenerate Hybrid Oligonucleotide Primer (CODEHOP) (<http://bioinformatics.weizmann.ac.il/blocks/codehop.html>) (Rose *et.al.*, 1998). Both forward and reverse primers were tested whether they form homo- and/or hetero-dimers, and for their melting temperature (Tm), GC content and lengths by OligoAnalyzer 3.1, a publicly available program (<http://eu.idtdna.com/analyizer/Applications/OligoAnalyzer/Default.aspx>). Unless the primers were verified to be appropriate for degenerate PCR degenerate primers were designed by comparison from the most conserved regions of aligned sequences. Wobbles were added at 3' end of the primers. Then, primers were tested out again by OligoAnalyzer 3.1 (The parameters and sequences of degenerate primers are given in Appendix D). Primers were obtained from Integrated DNA Technologies (Belgium).

Degenerate PCR conditions for all genes were optimized in a stepwise manner. First, initial denaturation time and temperature, denaturation time and temperature, primer annealing time and temperature, elongation time, and final extension time were optimized. Later, final concentrations of components of reaction mixture, namely PCR buffer, dNTP mix, Taq DNA polymerase, template, MgCl₂, forward and reverse primers, were also optimized. Finally, the best number of cycles was optimized. Critical steps of PCR optimization were given in the results whereas the resultant optimized PCR conditions were given in Appendix C.

* Specific primers of Barley Cu/Zn SOD were used to amplify the Lentil Cu/Zn SOD gene. Specific primers of Barley Cu/Zn SOD were designed after degenerate PCR amplification of related sequence in a previous study (Kayihan, 2007).

2.2.9. Gel Elution of PCR Products & Sequencing

PCR products were extracted from agarose gels by GeneMark Gel Elution Kit (Cat. No.:DP03-300). Desired bands were cut out with a scalpel after electrophoresis of PCR products in % 0.8 agarose gels for 40 minutes at 75V. Then, the gel slices were transferred into a sterile 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube and equal volume of Binding solution was added into the tube, the tube was incubated at 60 °C for 15 minutes. Then, according to the manual spin column was inserted into a collection tube and solution was transferred into the spin column. The tube was centrifuged at 13.000g for 1 minute and filtrate in the collection tube was discarded. Then, 500µL of binding solution was added into the spin column and the tube was centrifuged at 13.000g for 1 minute, filtrate was discarded. Later, 700 µL of washing solution was added into the spin column and the tube was centrifuged at 13.000g for 1 minute (This step was repeated one more time). The filtrate was discarded and the tube was centrifuged for 5 minutes at 13.000g. Finally, spin column was transferred into a new microcentrifuge tube and 15 µL of elution solution was added into the column, the tube was incubated at room temperature for 2 minutes. Later, the tube was centrifuged at 13.000g for 1 minute to elute DNA and the tube was stored at -20 °C for further use.

Extracted PCR products were sent to RefGen Gen Araştırmaları ve Biyoteknoloji Ltd. Şti. for sequencing, which was done by ABI 310 Capillary DNA Sequencer in two directions as forward and reverse. Then, reverse sequence was inverted and the two sequences were aligned in CLUSTALW to check the sequencing. The sequences for all extracted PCR products were given in Appendix E.

A database analysis was done for each sequence in NCBI by tblastx and blastn search to test out the homology of the sequences. Results of each search were given in Appendix F and Appendix G, respectively.

2.2.10. PCR Optimizations

Specific primers for all genes were designed by PRIMER 3 program (<http://fokker.wi.mit.edu/primer3/input.htm>) and primers were checked by OligoAnalyzer 3.1. Primers were supplied by Integrated DNA Technologies (Belgium).

Initial denaturation time and temperature, denaturation time and temperature, primer annealing time and temperature, elongation time, final extension time, and number of cycles were optimized for the best PCR conditions. In addition, final concentrations of components of reaction mixture were also optimized. The optimized PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

2.2.11. Multiplex PCR optimizations

Multiplex polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a variant of PCR in which two or more loci are simultaneously amplified in the same reaction (Henegariu *et.al.*, 1997). One of the usage areas of Multiplex PCR is reverse transcription PCR (RT-PCR) (Crisan, 1994), in which expression levels of genes can be quantified. *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA gene was used as an internal control because it was found to be a house-keeping gene, the expression level of which is stable developmentally, under different environmental conditions and in different tissues (Brunner *et.al.*, 2004). This was also proven by this work and the results were presented in next chapter. *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA and one of the antioxidant enzyme genes were simultaneously amplified in the same PCR tube and run in agarose gel.

Arabidopsis 18S rRNA was first amplified by optimized PCR conditions and run in 2% agarose gel. One band at 250bp was observed and then, this band was extracted from the gel and sequenced. Sequence results were given in Appendix E.

Parameters of multiplex PCR were first optimized according to Henegariu *et.al.* (1997). Optimized PCR conditions are given in Appendix H while the optimization results are presented in the next chapter.

2.2.12. Semi-Quantitative RT-PCR

Previously optimized PCR conditions for each gene, which are given in Appendix H, were used in semi-quantitative analysis of mRNA levels by RT-PCR (Weiss and Albermann, 2003). 25 μ L of PCR mix was prepared for each multiplex PCR. After PCR amplification, PCR products were run in 2% agarose gel electrophoresis in 1X TAE and photographs of ethidium-stained gels were taken by Vilber Gel Imager. A 50-1000bp DNA marker (Fermentas SMO371) was loaded into each gel to observe the precise band formation after electrophoresis. A negative control (which contains PCR product without template) was also loaded into the same gel to observe any type of contamination in PCR amplification. At least 3 separate multiplex PCR amplifications and agarose gel electrophoresis were done. The bands were quantified by Scion Image Analyzer (Scion Corporation, USA). Optical density of bands that represent *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA and genes were obtained and ratio of gene band intensity to 18S rRNA band intensity was calculated for normalization of data.

2.2.13. Statistical Analysis

Data obtained in the study were analyzed with one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) by using MINITAB 15 program (MINITAB Inc., USA). Differences were considered significant where P value was less than 0.05 ($p<0.05$) or 0.01 ($p<0.01$), where necessary, in Tukey's Test.

CHAPTER 3

RESULTS

A Turkish lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.) cultivar, Sultan-1, seedlings were exposed to 150mM of NaCl and 20% of polyethylene glycol (PEG) treatments after 7 days of normal growth in $\frac{1}{2}$ strength Hogland's Solution (Hoagland and Arnon, 1950). The exposure time of plantlets varied within short term (6 hours, 12 hours, and 24 hours of stress applications) and long term (3 days, 5 days, and 7 days of stress applications) intervals. Both shoot and root tissues were used to isolate total RNA samples after indicated stress durations. Alteration in transcript expression levels of two superoxide dismutase isozymes, namely Mangane superoxide dismutase (Mn-SOD) and Copper/Zinc superoxide dismutase (Cu/Zn-SOD), were analyzed by semi-quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) technique and the results were provided below.

3.1 Total RNA Isolation and Removal of DNA

Both the quality and the quantity of total RNA samples were determined photometrically by Varian Carry 100 UV Vis Spectrophotometer at Central Laboratory (METU). The quality of RNA samples was also verified by %1 agarose gel electrophoresis, the results of which are presented below.

Observation of 25S rRNA and 18S rRNA bands in the gels clarified the integrity of RNA samples. Any kind of DNA contamination might be observed as bands in the wells or any smear formation above the rRNA bands. The higher molecular weight species (hnRNA) might be visible above the 28S rRNA in some total RNA samples (Farrell, 2005).

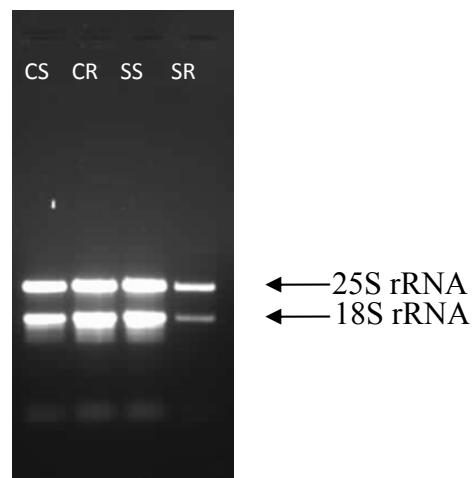


Figure 3.1. Gel electrophoresis results of total RNA samples taken from 150mM NaCl-treated plant tissues for 3 days after 7 days of normal growth. RNase-free 1% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 40 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 2 μ L of following total RNA samples, **CS:** Control shoot; **CR:** Control root; **SS:** Stressed shoot; **SR:** Stressed root.

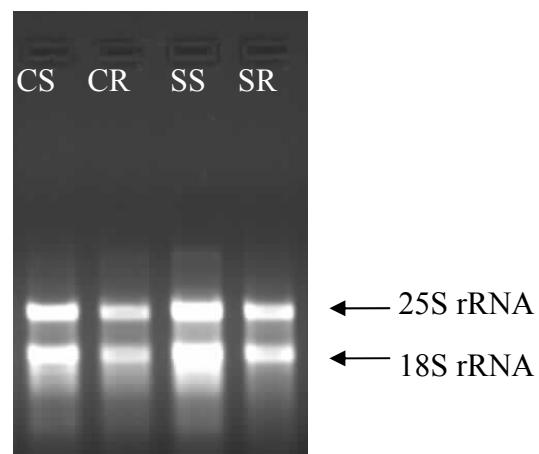


Figure 3.2. Gel electrophoresis results of DNase-treated total RNA samples taken from 150mM NaCl-treated plant tissues for 3 days after 7 days of normal growth. RNase-free 1% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 40 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 2 μ L of following total RNA samples, **CS:** Control shoot; **CR:** Control root; **SS:** Stressed shoot; **SR:** Stressed root.

As observed in Figure 3.2, visible DNA contamination was eliminated by DNase I treatment. The results of agarose gel electrophoresis were consistent with the spectrophotometric results as a decrease in the A₂₆₀/A₂₈₀ ratios of samples was observed after DNase I treatment.

A previously known sequence of Barley Cu/Zn-SOD gene (amplicon length is 224 bp) was amplified by PCR conditions that were given in Appendix C to check any further DNA contaminations. For this reason, 1 μ L of RNA (final amount in PCR mixture was approximately 50ng) was used as template. 10 μ L of PCR products were run on 2% agarose gels. No band formation was observed at the end of gel electrophoresis since RNA samples were used as templates in PCR amplification. This check-point demonstrated a negative control for DNA contamination as given in Figure 3.3.

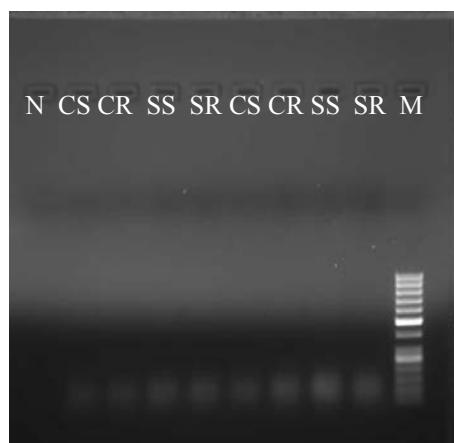


Figure 3.3. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of total RNA samples taken from 150mM NaCl-treated plant tissues for 3 days after 7 days of normal growth. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **CS:** Control shoot; **CR:** Control root; **SS:** Stressed shoot; **SR:** Stressed root; **N:** Negative control (no template); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.2 cDNA Synthesis from DNase Treated RNA Samples

To check if the cDNAs were properly synthesized, a previously known sequence of Barley Cu/Zn-SOD gene (amplicon length is 224 bp) was amplified by PCR conditions (Appendix C). These results were used as positive controls of cDNAs. Moreover, control primers and control template, which were supplied with Fermentas RevertAid™ 1st strand cDNA Synthesis Kit, were used as positive controls to check any further synthesis defects. The results of PCR amplification of 224 bp Cu/Zn-SOD amplicon are given in Figure 3.4.

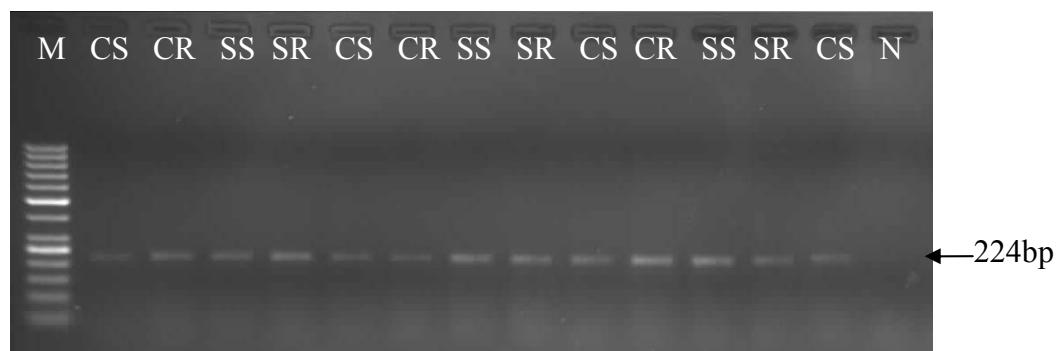


Figure 3.4. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of total RNA samples taken from 150mM NaCl-treated plant tissues for 3 days after 7 days of normal growth. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **CS:** Control shoot; **CR:** Control root; **SS:** Stressed shoot; **SR:** Stressed root; **N:** Negative control (no template); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.3 Degenerate PCR Optimizations

As there were no available data entry in GenBank database (Benson *et.al.*, 2008) related to genes that code for antioxidant enzymes in lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.), degenerate PCR was used to identify the genes encoding those enzymes. After “tblast” analysis done in NCBI database (the results of tblast analysis are provided in Appendix I) and multiple alignments of protein sequences found in those database searches, degenerate primers were obtained from Integrated DNA Technologies.

The main advantage of using degenerate primers is that they are expected to bind to many different regions including the desired target sequence and amplify those in normal PCR conditions. In common with normal PCR, degenerate PCR conditions have to be optimized to obtain the highest product yields. For this

reason, the final concentrations of some PCR ingredients were altered in a way that the yield of PCR products was observed to be gradually increased in each successive step.

3.3.1 Degenerate PCR Optimization of Mn SOD Transcript

Both forward and reverse degenerate primers for Mangane Superoxide Dismutase (Mn SOD) gene were tested if they form homo- and/or hetero-dimers, and for their melting temperature (T_m), GC content and lengths. All these verifications were done by OligoAnalyzer3.1 and the results were presented in Appendix D. According to those results, annealing temperature (T_A) of degenerate Mn SOD primers was expected to be within the range of 56.2-56.4°C. Hence, the first conditional parameters to be checked were given in Table 3.1.a and Table 3.1.b. The results of PCR amplifications were demonstrated in Figure 3.5.

Table 3.1.a. Degenerate Mn SOD PCR Ingredients (Two different template concentrations were used)

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|----------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Mn SOD Right Degenerate Primer (10 μ M) | 1.2 μ M |
| Mn SOD Left Degenerate Primer (10 μ M) | 1.2 μ M |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1 μ L) | 0.75U |
| Template | 50ng or 100ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.1.b. Degenerate MnSOD PCR Conditions (Two different PCR conditions were applied)

Condition A

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 2 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 56°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Contidion B

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 2 min. |
| Cycle number = 5 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 46°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 35 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 56°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

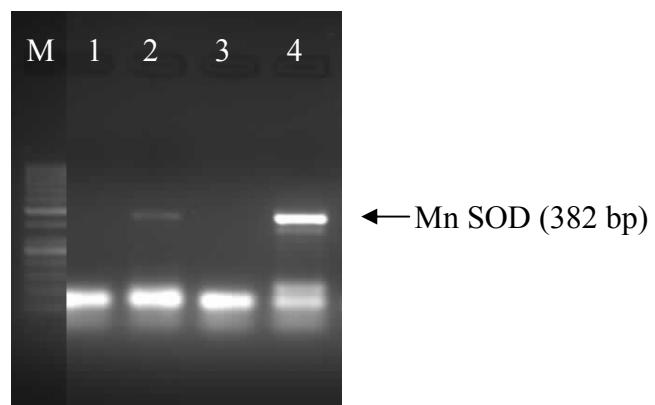


Figure 3.5. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of MnSOD transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 382 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products. **1:** Condition A with final template concentration of 50ng; **2:** Condition B with final template concentration of 50ng; **3:** Condition A with final template concentration of 100ng; **4:** Condition B with final template concentration of 100ng; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Figure 3.5 clearly demonstrates that the doubled concentration of template is critical in addition to condition B, which includes a PCR step of 5 cycles during which primer annealing temperature is 10°C lower than the expected T_A . By this way, degenerates primers were able to bind more easily both to specific and non-specific sequences. It is important to note that primer-dimers were observed in all lanes because of the degenerate nature of the primer pairs. As the degeneracy increases, the probability of primer-dimers and non-specific bindings increases.

When the condition of degenerate Mn SOD PCR were kept constant, but final primer concentrations were decreased to 0.8 μ M while increasing final Taq

concentration to 0.1U, band intensity of PCR products was observed to be decreased (Figure 3.6).

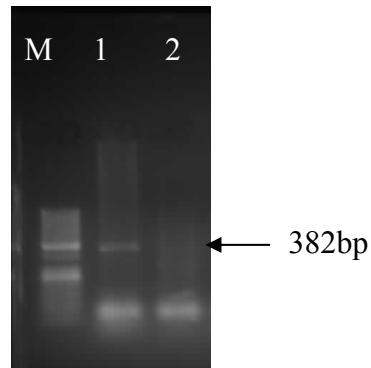


Figure 3.6. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of MnSOD transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 382 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** Mn SOD; **2:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.3.2. Degenerate PCR Optimization of CAT Transcript

The same verifications for catalase (CAT) gene were done by OligoAnalyzer 3.1 and the results were presented in Appendix D. According to those results, annealing temperature (T_A) of degenerate CAT primers was expected to be within the range of 53.4-57.4°C. Firstly, best primer annealing temperature was tested by Graded PCR (T_A changed in the range of 45.0-57.0 °C). Hence, the first conditional parameters to be checked were given in Table 3.2.a and Table 3.2.b. The results of PCR amplifications were demonstrated in Figure 3.7.

Table 3.2.a. Degenerate CAT PCR Ingredients

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| CAT Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| CAT Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 0.05U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.2.b. Degenerate CAT PCR Conditions

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 45-57°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

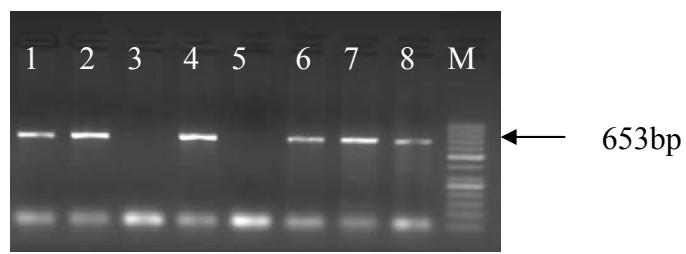


Figure 3.7. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of CAT transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 653 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1**: 45.0 °C; **2**: 45.8 °C; **3**: 47.3 °C; **4**: 49.4 °C; **5**: 52.3 °C; **6**: 54.5 °C; **7**: 56.0 °C; **8**: 57.0 °C; **M**: 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Best working T_A was found to be 49.4 °C as can be observed in Figure 3.7. Moreover, it was observed that both temperatures of 47.3 °C and 52.3 °C did not give any PCR product as they were out of T_A range, which was found by OligoAnalyzer3.1. Graded PCR for degenerate CAT primers has proved that OligoAnalyzer3.1 results were acceptable. Hence, it was decided to use T_A of CAT as 50 °C as given by OligoAnalyzer3.1.

When final concentrations of both Taq and template were doubled while conditions were kept constant, the yield of PCR product has increased as shown in Figure 3.8.

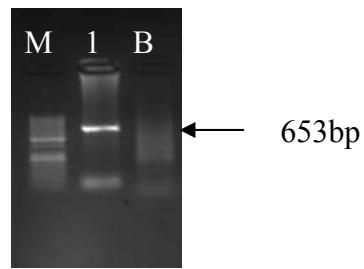


Figure 3.8. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of CAT transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 653 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** CAT; **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.3.3. Degenerate PCR Optimization of chloroplast/mitochondrial GR Transcript

After the same verifications for chloroplast/mitochondrial glutathione reductase (GR) gene were done the results were presented in Appendix D. According to those results, annealing temperature (T_A) of degenerate chloroplast/mitochondrial GR primers was expected to be within the range of 60.5-65.0°C. First conditional parameters to be checked were given in Table 3.3.a and Table 3.3.b. The results of PCR amplifications were demonstrated in Figure 3.9.

Table 3.3.a. Degenerate chloroplast/mitochondrial GR PCR Ingredients

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| chloroplast/mitochondrial GR Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| chloroplast/mitochondrial GR Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 0.1U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.3.b. Degenerate chloroplast/mitochondrial GR PCR Conditions

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 57°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

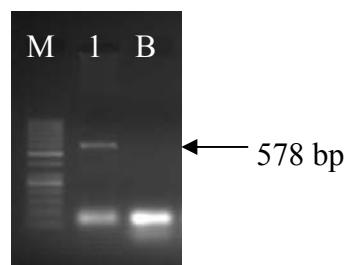


Figure 3.9. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of chloroplast/mitochondrial GR transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 578 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** chloroplast/mitochondrial GR; **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

To enhance the band intensity template concentration was tripled (150ng) and the resultant PCR product was run on 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution (Figure 3.10).

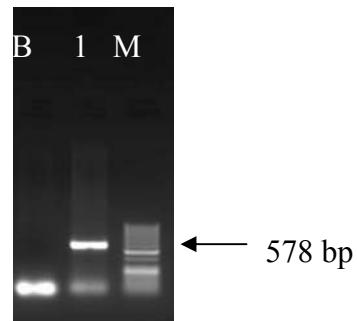


Figure 3.10. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of chloroplast/mitochondrial GR transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 578 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** chloroplast/mitochondrial GR; **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.3.4. Degenerate PCR Optimization of Chloroplast/Stromal APX Transcript

After the same verifications for Chloroplast/Stromal ascorbate peroxidase (APX) gene were done the results were presented in Appendix D. According to those results, annealing temperature (T_A) of degenerate Chloroplast/Stromal APX primers was expected to be within the range of 58.8–55.6°C. First conditional parameters to be checked were given in Table 3.4.a and Table 3.4.b. The results of PCR amplifications were demonstrated in Figure 3.11.

Table 3.4.a. Degenerate Chloroplast/Stromal APX PCR Ingredients

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast/Stromal APX Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Chloroplast/Stromal APX Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 0.1U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.4.b. Degenerate Chloroplast/Stromal APX PCR Conditions (A_T range of 55-58°C was analyzed in two different initial denaturation durations)

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 2 min or 3 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 55-58°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

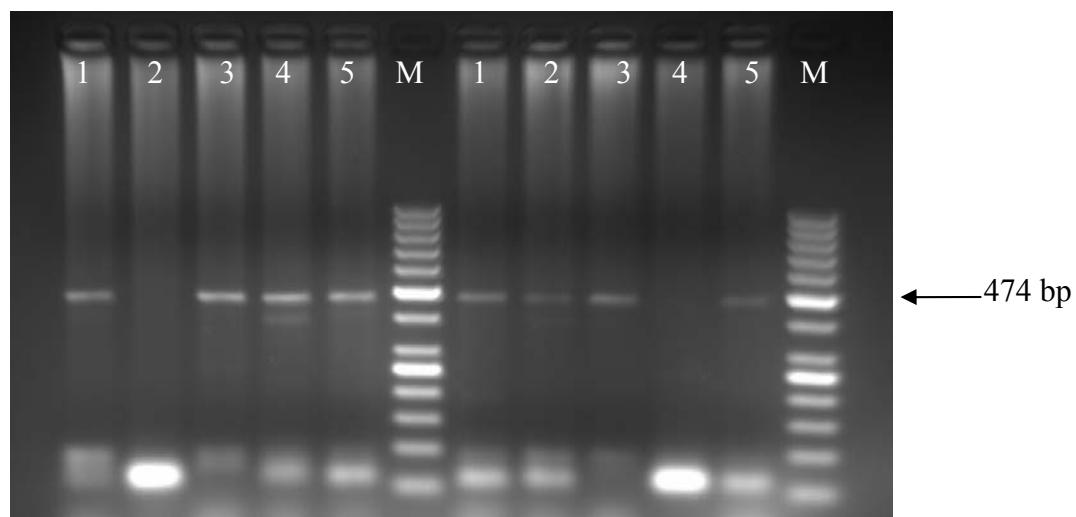


Figure 3.11. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of chloroplast/stromal APX transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 474 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** 55°C; **2:** 56.1 °C; **3:** 56.8 °C; **4:** 57.4 °C; **5:** 58.0 °C; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371). First five lanes were PCR products with initial denaturation duration of 3 minutes while the last 5 lanes were PCR products with initial denaturation duration of 2 minutes.

As given in Figure 3.11., the best PCR condition was found to be the combination of initial denaturation duration of 3 minutes with T_A of 57.4 °C. Later, duration of primer annealing step was doubled while final concentration of template was increased five times. Result of this PCR conditions was given in Figure 3.12.

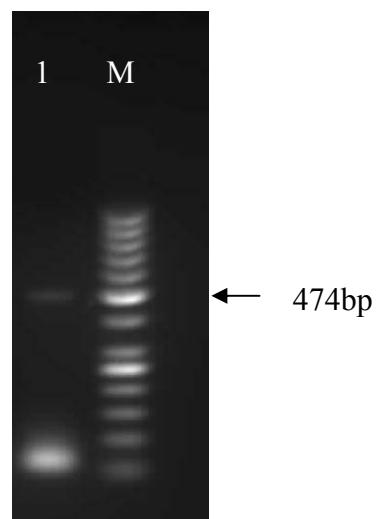


Figure 3.12. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of chloroplast/stromal APX transcript by degenerate primers. Amplicon length is 474 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of following PCR products, **1:** chl/str. APX; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

After testing different combinations of PCR parameters, the highest yield providing conditions were found and were given in Appendix C. 0.5 μ L of cDNA was used as template to amplify PCR products in a 50 μ L of PCR tube. Then, those PCR products were run on 0.8% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution for 40 minutes at 75V and the band which occurred at 382bp for Mn SOD, 653bp for CAT, 478 for chloroplast/mitochondrial GR, and 474 for chloroplast-stromal APX were eluted from the gel according to the GeneMark Gel Elution Kit. Finally, eluted PCR products were sequenced by ABI 310 Capillary DNA Sequencer in RefGen Gen Araştırmaları ve Biyoteknoloji Ltd. Şti. Forward and reverse sequences of all genes were given in Appendix E.

3.4. PCR Optimizations

According to Henegariu *et.al.* (1997), specific PCR conditions for individual genes have to be optimized before multiplex PCR optimizations were carried out. For that reason, PCR conditions of Mn SOD, Cu/Zn SOD, CAT, chloroplast/mitochondrial GR, chloroplast-stromal APX and 18S rRNA genes were optimized in a stepwise manner, some important steps of which were presented in this section.

3.4.1. PCR Optimization Results of MnSOD

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of Mn SOD PCR (Table 3.5) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.13.

Table 3.5.a. Mn SOD PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| MnSOD Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| MnSOD Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.5.b. Mn SOD PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 33 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

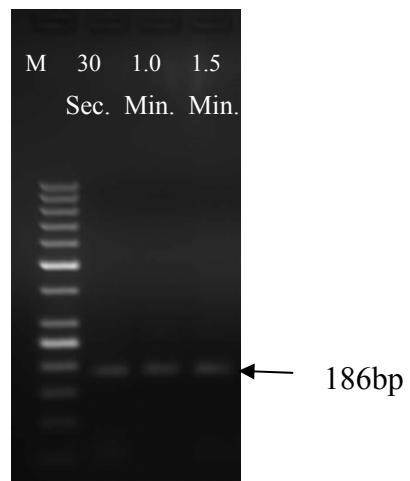


Figure 3.13. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10µL of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

The most critical step in PCR optimization for any product is to find the optimum cycle number. This step is important to find the optimum cycle number, which gives a value in the exponential phase of PCR cycle number vs. observed density (O.D.) graph. Both the gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. O.D. graph for cycle optimization of Mn SOD transcript are given in Figure 3.14. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.15) 32 cycle will be the most optimum number of cycle for Mn SOD PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

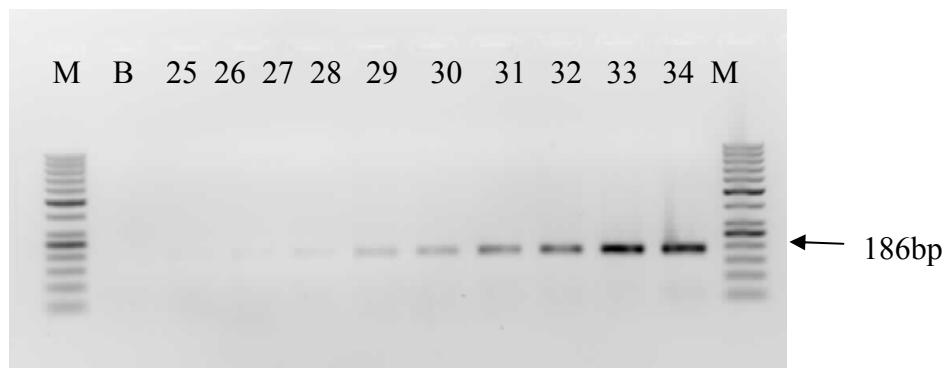


Figure 3.14. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

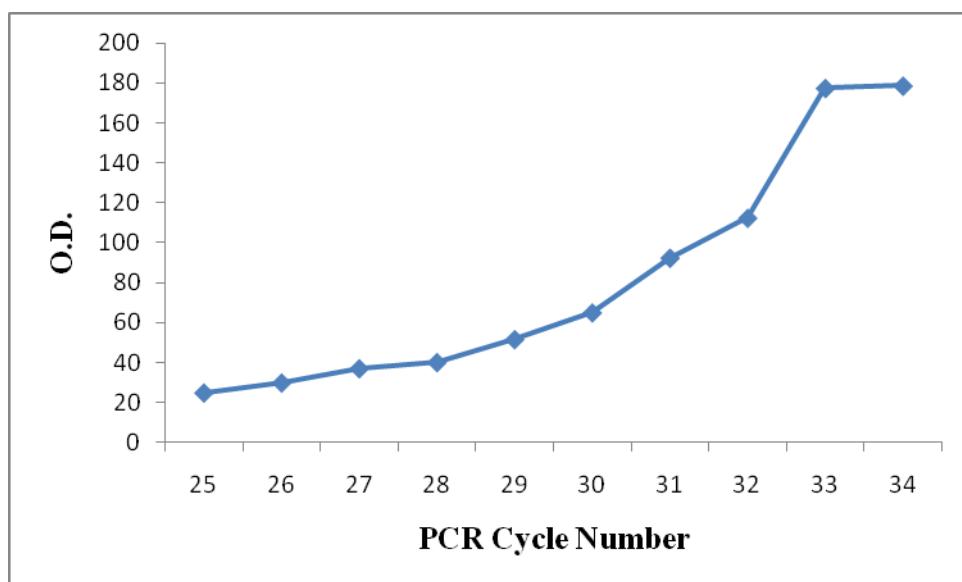


Figure 3.15. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of Mn SOD transcript.

3.4.2. PCR Optimization Results of Cu/Zn SOD

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of Cu/Zn SOD PCR (Table 3.6) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.16.

Table 3.6.a. Cu/Zn SOD PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Cu/Zn SOD Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Cu/Zn SOD Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.6.b. Cu/Zn SOD PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 30 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

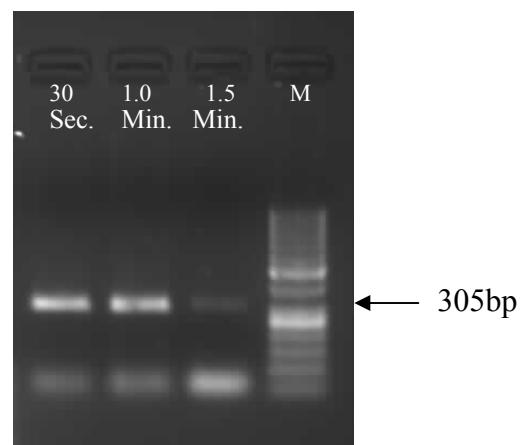


Figure 3.16. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Both the gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. OD graph for cycle optimization of Cu/Zn SOD transcript were given in Figure 3.17. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.18.) 30 cycle was the most optimum number of cycle for Cu/Zn SOD PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

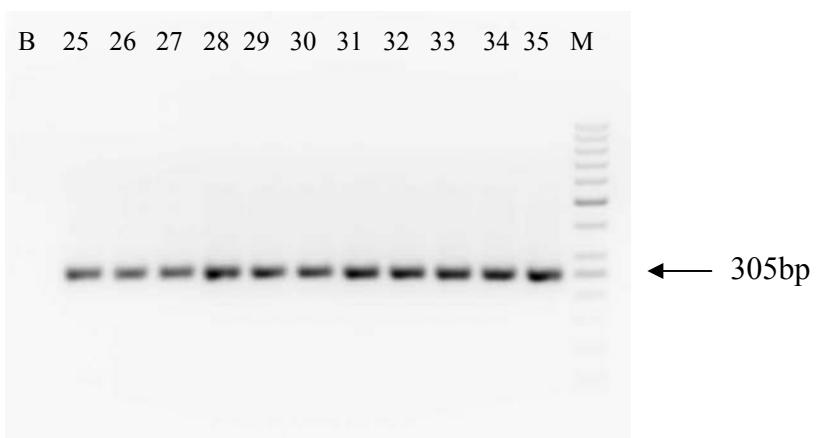


Figure 3.17. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR cycle optimization of Cu/Zn SOD transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

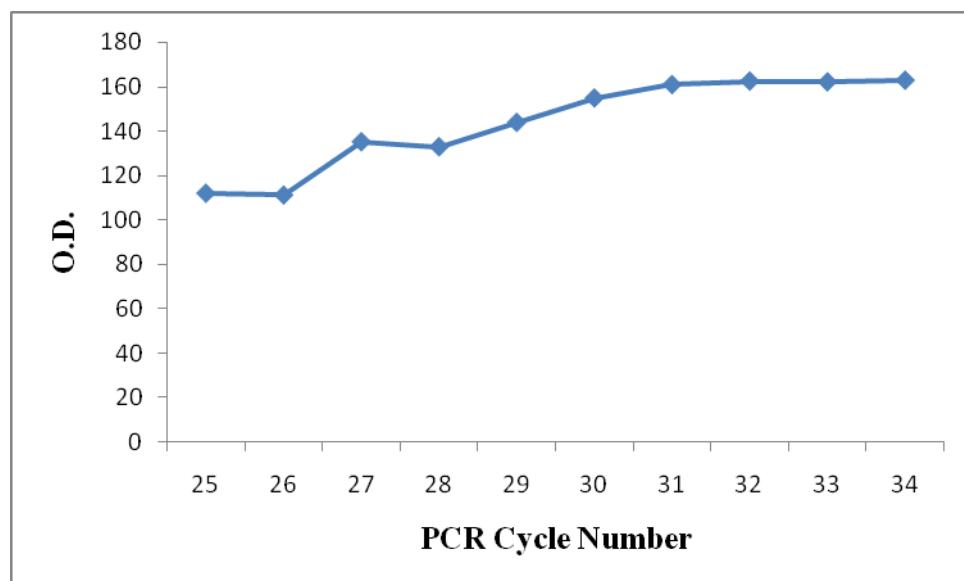


Figure 3.18. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of Cu/Zn SOD transcript.

3.4.3. PCR Optimization Results of CAT

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of CAT PCR (Table 3.7) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.19.

Table 3.7.a. CAT PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| CAT Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| CAT Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.7.b. CAT PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 33 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

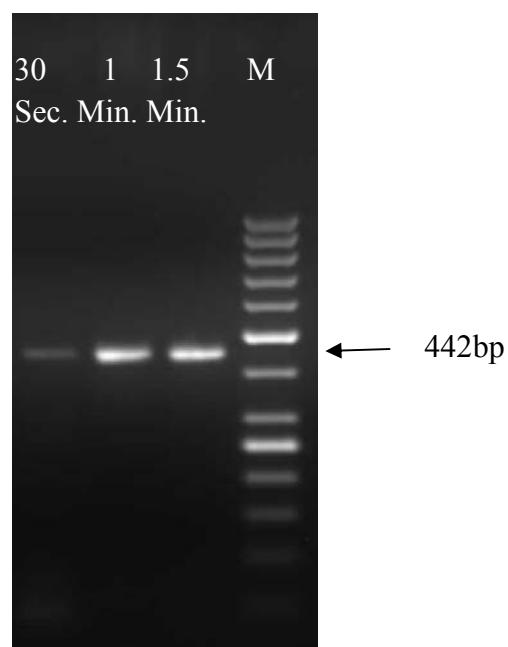


Figure 3.19. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of CAT transcript. Amplicon length is 442 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. OD graph for cycle optimization of CAT transcript were given in Figure 3.20. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.21) 34 cycle was the most optimum number of cycle for CAT PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

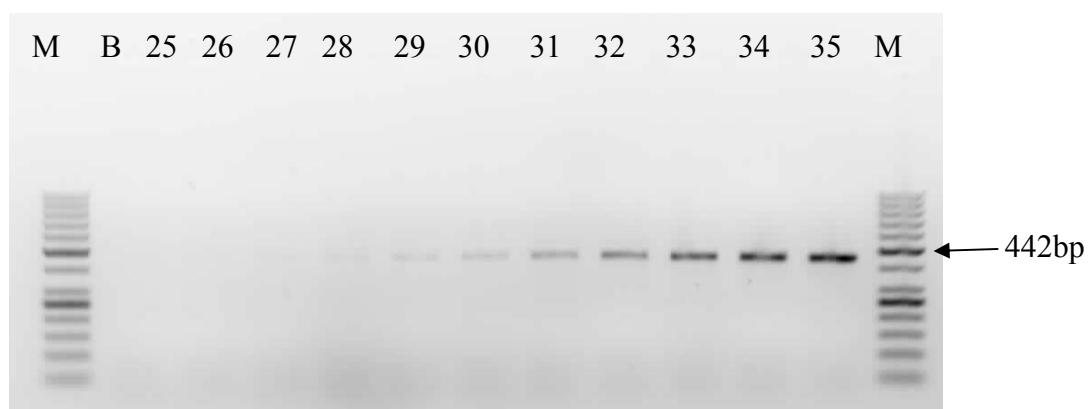


Figure 3.20. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR cycle optimization of CAT transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 442 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

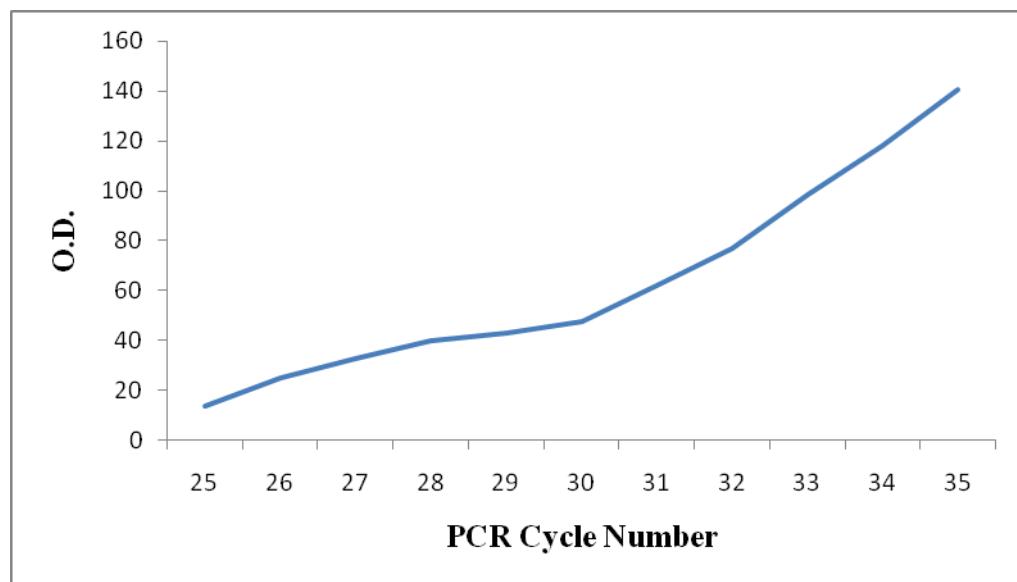


Figure 3.21. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of CAT transcript.

3.4.4. PCR Optimization Results of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR (Table 3.8) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.22.

Table 3.8.a. Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.8.b. Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 33 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 49°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

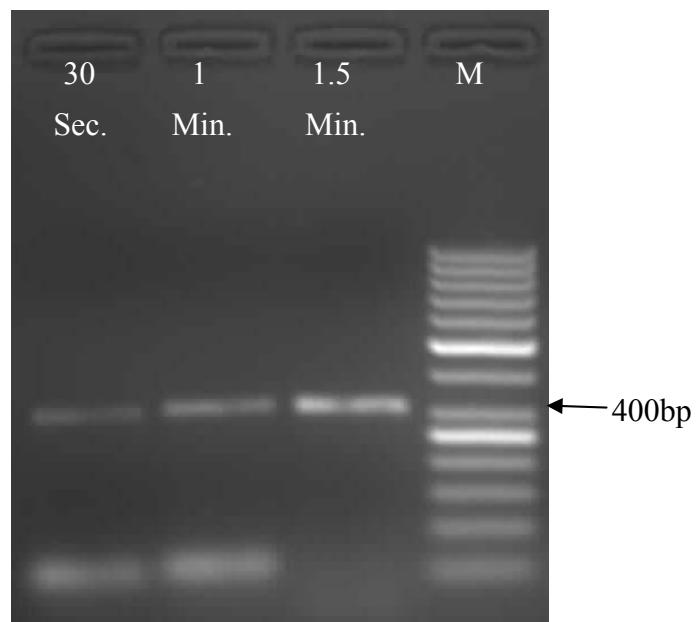


Figure 3.22. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 400 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10µL of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. OD graph for cycle optimization of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR transcript were given in Figure 3.23. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.24) 32 cycle was the most optimum number of cycle for Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

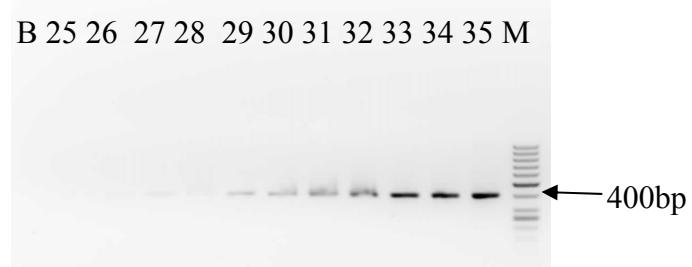


Figure 3.23. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR cycle optimization of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 400 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

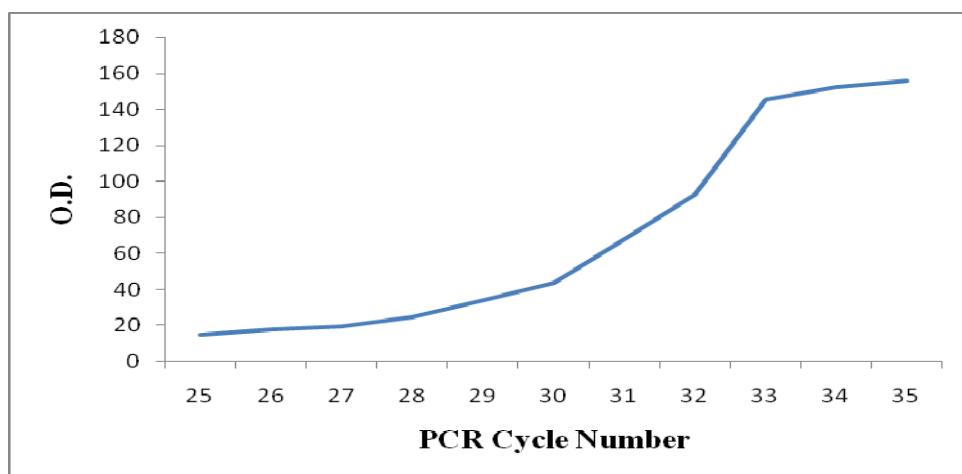


Figure 3.24. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR transcript.

3.4.5. PCR Optimization Results of Chloroplast Stromal APX

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of Chloroplast Stromal APX PCR (Table 3.9) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.25.

Table 3.9.a. Chloroplast Stromal APX PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast Stromal APX Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Chloroplast Stromal APX Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.9.b. Chloroplast Stromal APX PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 34 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

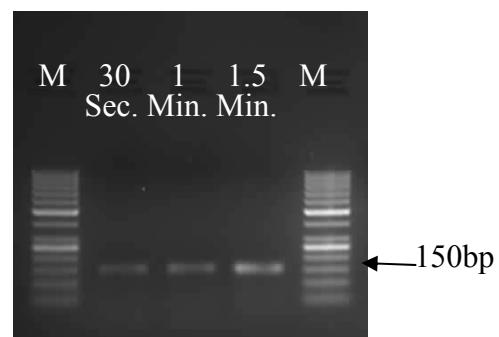


Figure 3.25. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of Chloroplast Stromal APX transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 150 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. OD graph for cycle optimization of Chloroplast Stromal APX transcript were given in Figure 3.26. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.27) 32 cycle was the most optimum number of cycle for Chloroplast Stromal APX PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

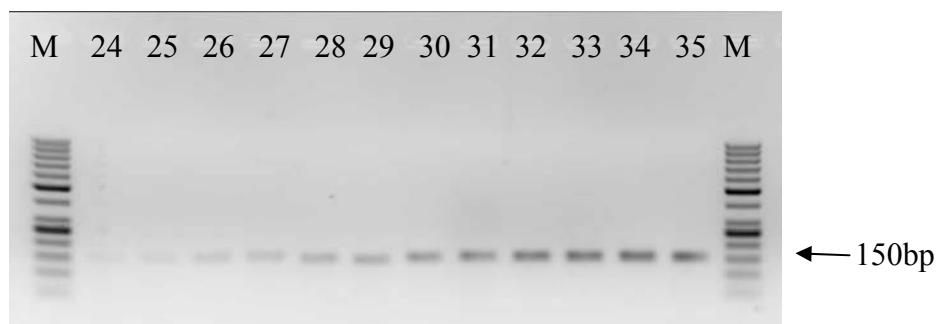


Figure 3.26. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR cycle optimization of Chloroplast Stromal APX transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 150 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

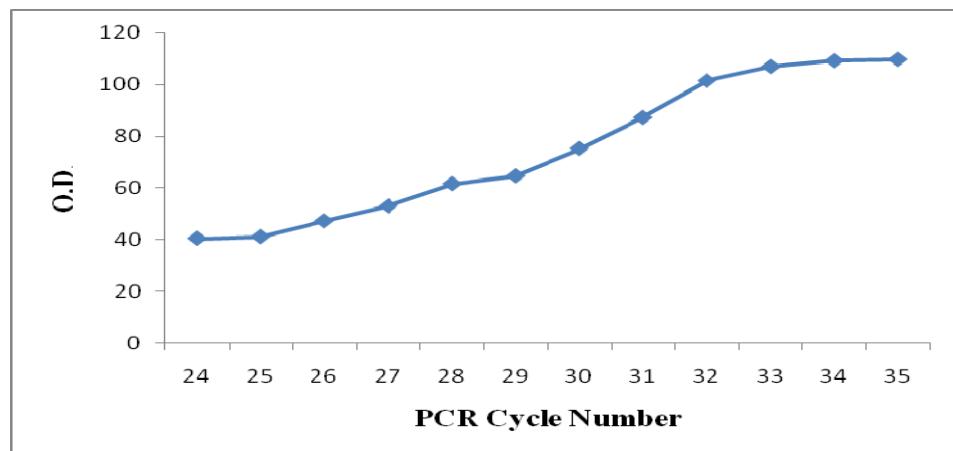


Figure 3.27. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of Chloroplast Stromal APX transcript.

3.4.6. PCR Optimization Results of 18S rRNA

Standard PCR ingredients were used during optimization of primer annealing step duration of 18S rRNA PCR (Table 3.10) and the results of this optimization step were given in Figure 3.28

Table 3.10.a. 18S rRNA PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| 18S rRNA Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.10.b. 18S rRNA PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 30 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 30 sec. or 1 min. or 1.5 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

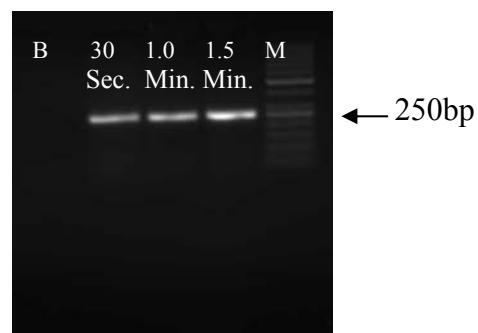


Figure 3.28. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR amplification of 18S rRNA transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 250 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Gel electrophoresis results and PCR cycle number vs. OD graph for cycle optimization of 18S rRNA transcript were given in Figure 3.29. Each lane shows a different and gradually increasing number of cycle from left to right. According to the graph (Figure 3.30.) 30 cycle will be the most optimum number of cycle for 18S rRNA PCR conditions. Resultant PCR conditions are given in Appendix C.

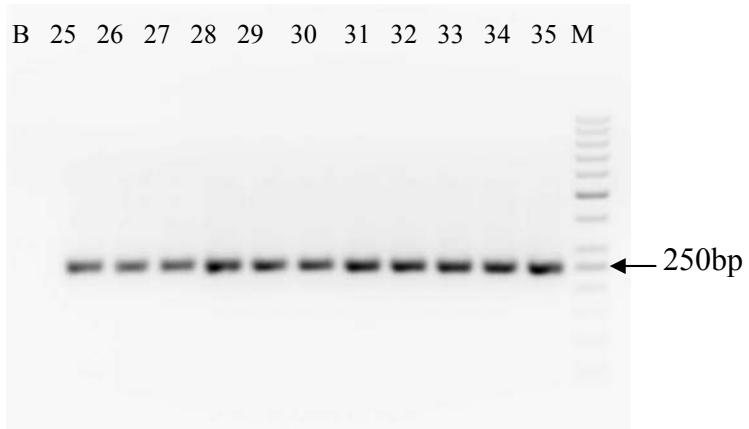


Figure 3.29. Gel electrophoresis results of PCR cycle optimization of 18S rRNA transcript by specific primers. Amplicon length is 250 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

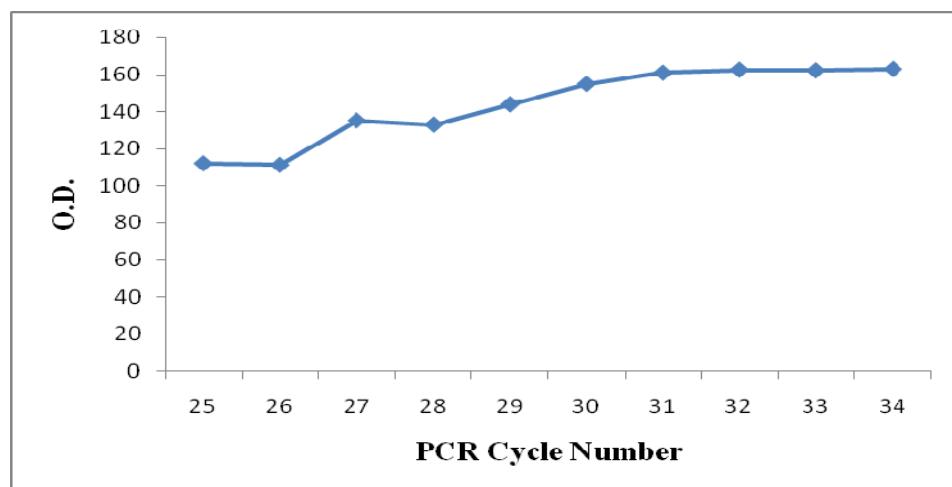


Figure 3.30. PCR cycle number vs. O.D. (mean intensity/defined area) graph for cycle optimization of 18S rRNA transcript.

3.5. Multiplex PCR Optimizations

Parameters of multiplex PCR were first optimized according to Henegariu *et.al.* (1997). Firstly, a standard PCR was carried out according to the conditions that were optimized for each individual gene. In this PCR, primers for both genes were added in equal amounts. Secondly, final concentration of reaction buffer was optimized. Then, different dilutions of primers were used to optimize primer conditions. Finally, optimum cycle number of multiplex PCR was found. Optimized PCR conditions were given in Appendix H.

3.5.1. Duplex PCR Optimization of Mn SOD and 18S rRNA

Equal amounts of right and left primers of Mn SOD and 18S rRNA transcripts were added into the same PCR mixture as given in Table 3.11. The results of PCR amplification were provided in Figure 3.31.

Table 3.11.a. Mn SOD Duplex PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Mn SOD Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2 µM |
| Mn SOD Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2 µM |
| 18S rRNA Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table 3.11.b. Mn SOD Duplex PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 34 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 1 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

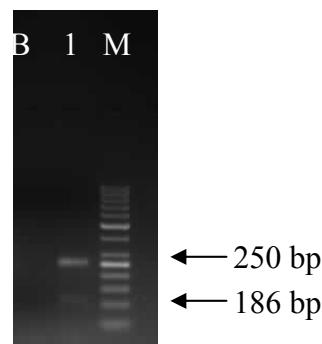


Figure 3.31. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. **B:** Blank; **1:** PCR Product; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Because of low yield of Mn SOD, a serial dilution of both right and left primers of 18S rRNA was done. Hence, five different primer concentrations for 18S rRNA primers were used in next optimization step. For this reason, 0.2 μ M, 0.5 μ M , 1.0 μ M, 2.0 μ M and 10 μ M of primer stocks were prepared and 0.5 μ L of each new

primer stock was added into PCR tube. Hence, the effect of diluted primers was obviously observed in Figure 3.32.

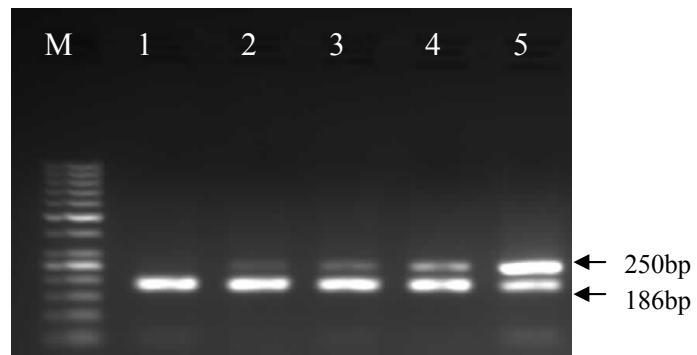


Figure 3.32. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript by different 18S rRNA primer dilutions. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. **1:** PCR Product with 0.2 μ M stock primers (50X dilution); **2:** Product with 0.5 μ M stock primers (20X dilution); **3:** Product with 1.0 μ M stock primers (10X dilution); **4:** Product with 2.0 μ M stock primers (5X dilution); **5:** Product with 10.0 μ M stock primers (without dilution); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

As can be observed, band intensity decreases with increasing dilution rate of 18S rRNA primers. It was expected to find the best dilution condition where the band intensities of Mn SOD and 18S rRNA were nearly similar. Hence, 2.0 μ M 18S rRNA stock primers with 5X dilution constant were decided to be used in further PCR amplifications.

Finally, cycle number for duplex PCR was optimized and the results were given in Figure 3.33. As can be observed from the figure, the best cycle conditions nearly coincide with those of PCR conditions of each single gene. Hence, 32 cycle was chosen for further PCR amplifications.

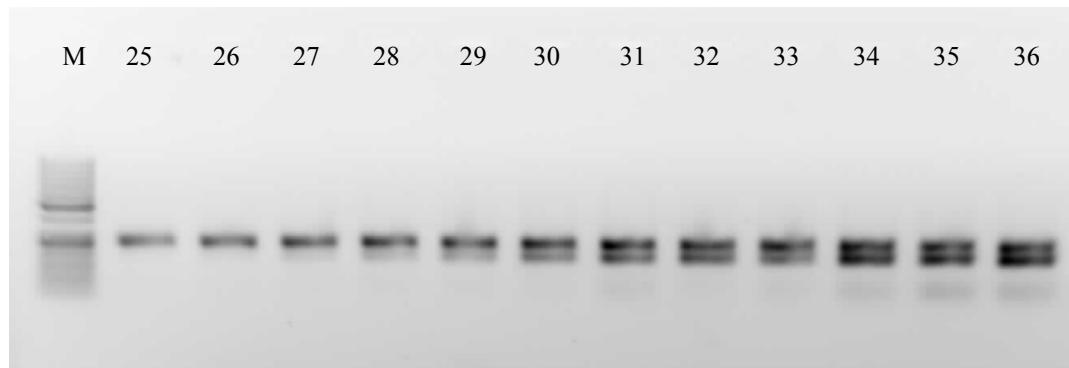


Figure 3.33. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript for cycle optimization. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.5.2. Duplex PCR Optimization of Cu/Zn SOD and 18S rRNA

Equal amounts of right and left primers of Cu/Zn SOD and 18S rRNA genes were added into the same PCR mixture as given in Table 3.12. The results of PCR amplification were provided in Figure 3.34.

Table 3.12.a. Cu/Zn SOD Duplex PCR ingredients.

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 0.8X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Cu/Zn SOD Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2 µM |
| Cu/Zn SOD Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2 µM |
| 18S rRNA Right Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Specific Primer (10 µM) | 0.2µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table 3.12.b. Cu/Zn SOD Duplex PCR conditions.

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 33 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 1 min.. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

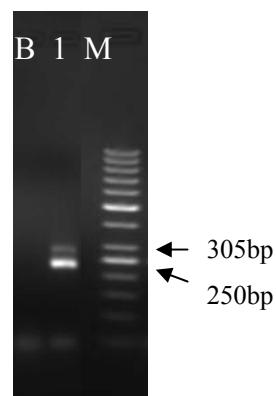


Figure 3.34. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. **B:** Blank; **1:** PCR Product; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

Because of low yield of Cu/Zn SOD, a serial dilution of both right and left primers of 18S rRNA was done. Hence, five different primer concentrations for 18S rRNA primers were used in next optimization step. For this reason, 0.2 μ M, 0.5 μ M , 1.0 μ M, 2.0 μ M and 10 μ M of primer stocks were prepared and 0.5 μ L of each new primer stock was added into PCR tube. Hence, the effect of diluted primers was obviously observed in Figure 3.35.

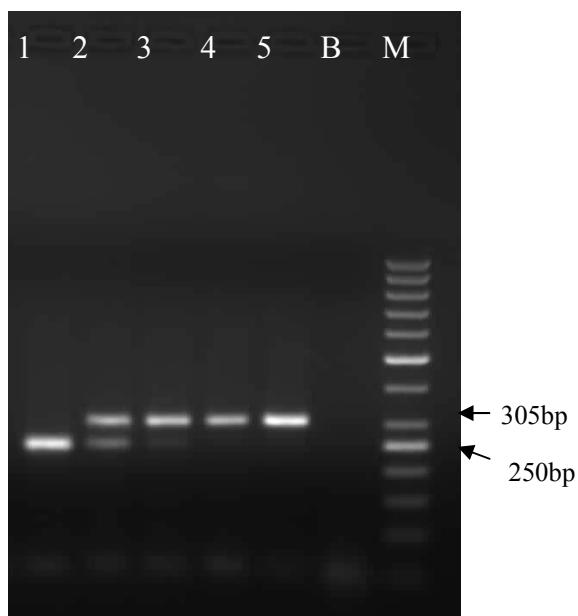


Figure 3.35. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript by different 18S rRNA primer dilutions. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. **1:** Product with 10.0 μ M stock primers (without dilution); **2:** Product with 2.0 μ M stock primers (5X dilution); **3:** Product with 1.0 μ M stock primers (10X dilution); **4:** Product with 0.5 μ M stock primers (20X dilution); **5:** PCR Product with 0.2 μ M stock primers (50X dilution); **B:** Blank; **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

As can be observed, band intensity decreases with increasing dilution rate of 18S rRNA primers. It was expected to find the best dilution condition where the band intensities of Mn SOD and 18S rRNA were nearly similar. Hence, 2.0 μ M 18S rRNA stock primers with 5X dilution constant were decided to be used in further PCR amplifications.

Finally, cycle number for duplex PCR was optimized and the results were given in Figure 3.36. As can be observed from the figure, the best cycle conditions nearly coincide with those of PCR conditions of each single gene. Hence, 32 cycle was chosen for further PCR amplifications.

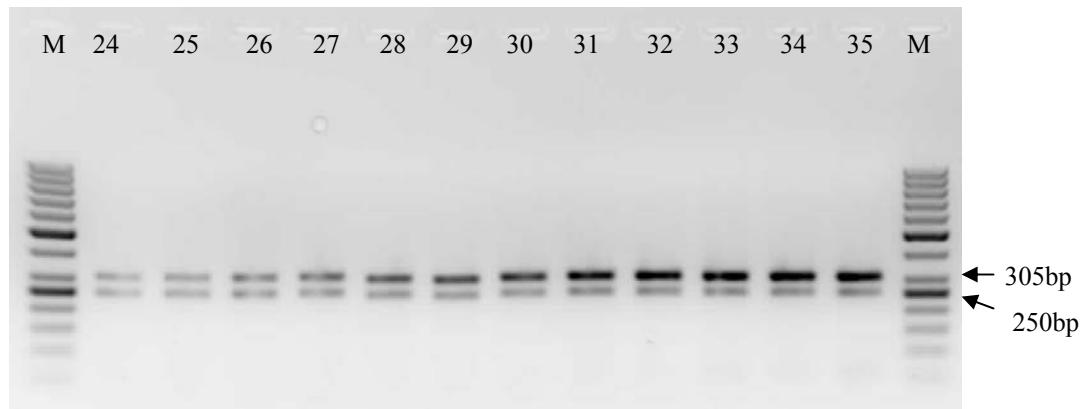


Figure 3.36. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript for cycle optimization. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.6. Results of Duplex RT-PCR

10 μ L of duplex RT-PCR products for control shoot, control root, stress shoot and stress root samples which were taken at 6th, 12th hours and 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th days of salt and drought stress applications were run in 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution for 60 minutes at 75V. 12 μ L of 50-1000bp DNA marker (Fermentas SMO371) was loaded into each gel to observe the precise band formation after

electrophoresis. A negative control (which contains PCR product without template) was also loaded into the same gel to observe any type of contamination in PCR amplification. 10 μ L of RT-PCR product of Barley Cu/Zn SOD cDNA was loaded into each gel as a positive control. Then, photographs of ethidium bromide-stained gels were taken by Vilber Gel Imager.

3.6.1. Results of Duplex RT-PCR for Salt Stress Treatments

The results of duplex RT-PCR for salt stress treatments were provided in this section.

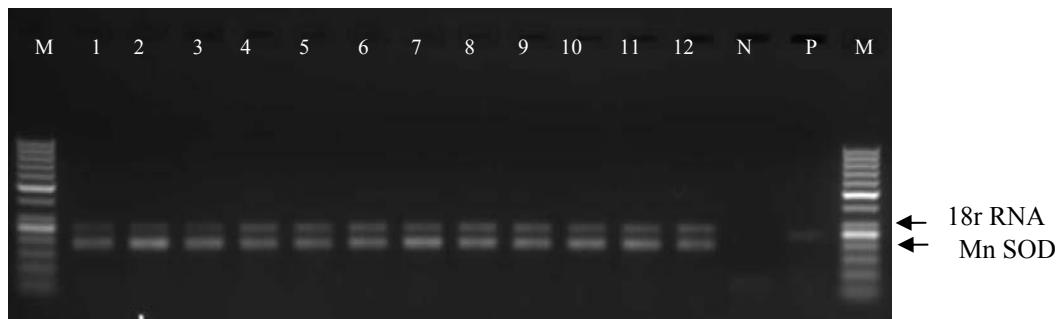


Figure 3.37. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript in shoot samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).



Figure 3.38. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript in root samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

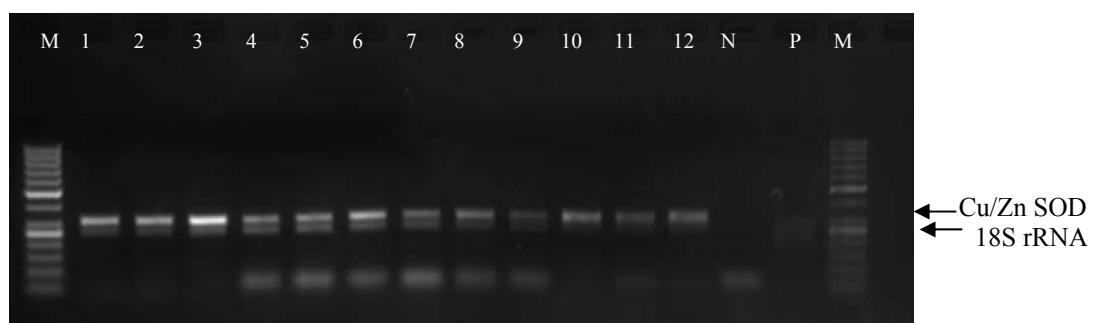


Figure 3.39. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript in shoot samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

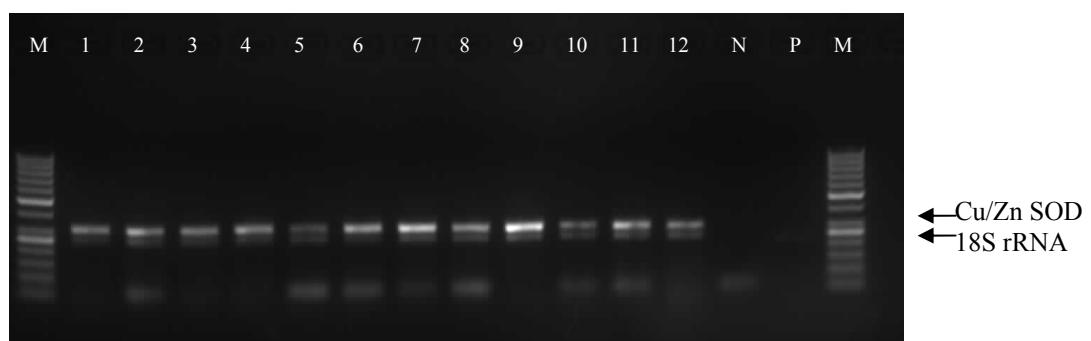


Figure 3.40. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript in root samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.6.2. Results of Duplex RT-PCR for Drought Stress Treatments

The results of duplex RT-PCR for drought stress treatments were provided in this section.

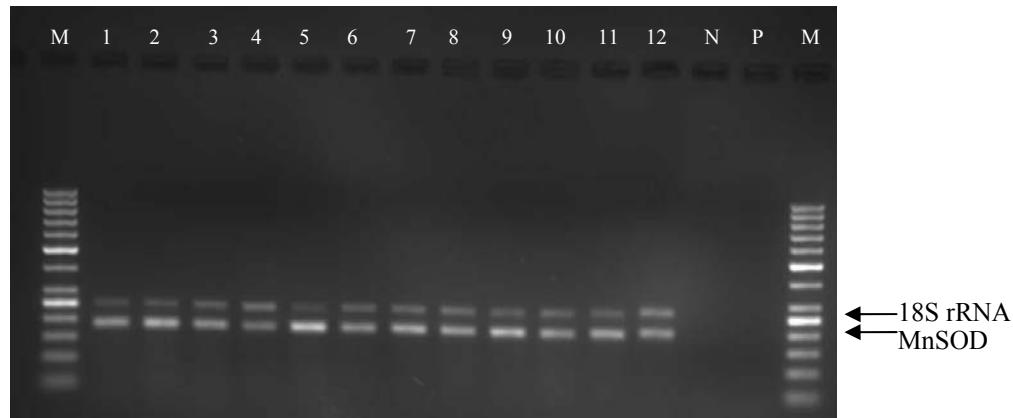


Figure 3.41. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript in shoot samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

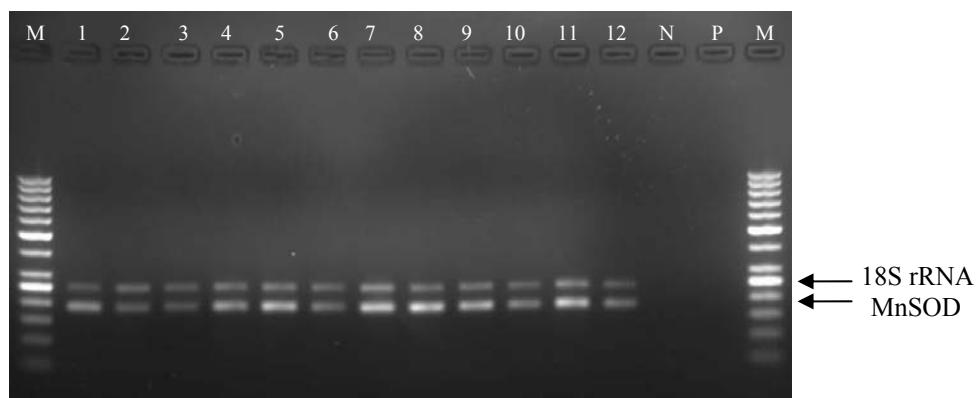


Figure 3.42. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Mn SOD transcript in root samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Mn SOD is 186 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

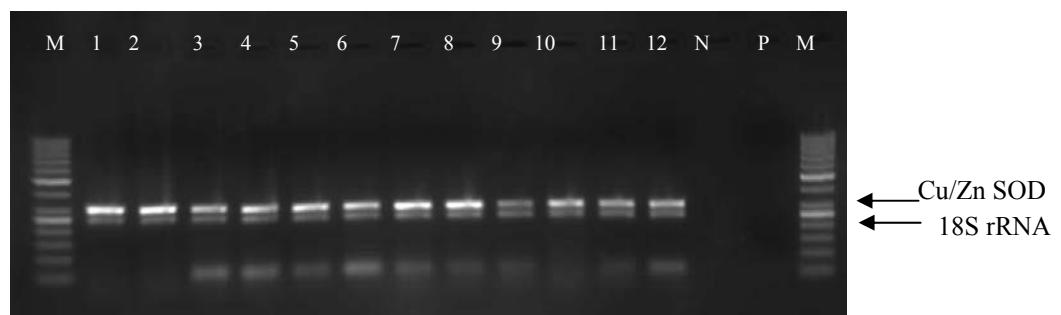


Figure 3.43. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript in shoot samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

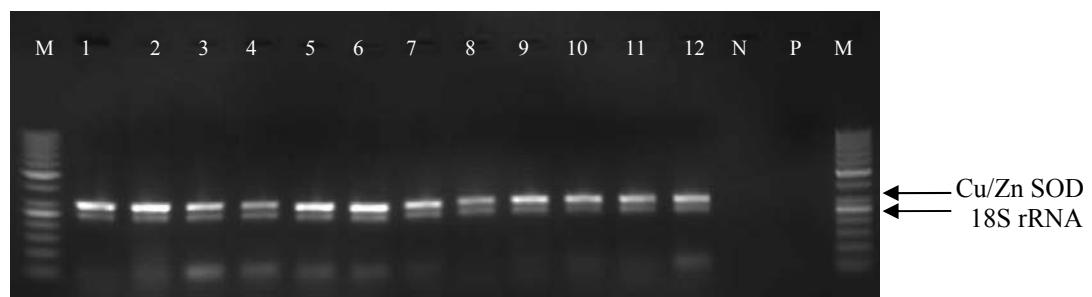


Figure 3.44. Gel electrophoresis results of Duplex PCR amplification of Cu/Zn SOD transcript in root samples. Amplicon length of 18S rRNA is 250 bp; Amplicon length of Cu/Zn SOD is 305 bp. 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE solution was run for 60 minutes at 100V. Each lane was loaded with 10 μ L of PCR products. **1:** 6 hours-control; **2:** 6 hours-stress; **3:** 12 hours-control; **4:** 12 hours-stress; **5:** 1 day-control; **6:** 1 day-stress; **7:** 3 days-control; **8:** 3 days-stress; **9:** 5 days-control; **10:** 5 days-stress; **11:** 7 days-control; **12:** 7 days-stress; **N:** Negative control; **P:** Positive control (Barley Cu/Zn SOD); **M:** 50bp DNA Marker (Fermentas SM0371).

3.7. Densitometric Analysis of Semi-quantitative RT-PCR Results

Densitometric analysis of RT-PCR results were carried out by Scion Image Analyzer (Scion Corporation, USA). Optical density of bands that represent *Arabidopsis* 18S rRNA and genes of SOD isozymes were obtained. Ratio of gene band intensity to 18S rRNA band intensity was calculated. Later, standard error of means (SEM) of each ratio were calculated by MINITAB 15 and were given by bars in the following graphs of “Relative Expression” vs. “Stress Duration”. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA with Tukey’s pairwise comparisons, where the family error rate was 5. Significant differences between samples were given in figures by an asterisk (*) when $p < 0.05$, and by a double asterisk (**) when $p < 0.01$.

3.7.1. Densitometric Analysis of Semi-quantitative RT-PCR Results for Mn SOD Transcript Expression

According to Figure 3.45 and Figure 3.46, for 6 hours of stress application, relative Mn SOD expression levels were significantly lower in drought applied shoot and root tissues with respect to control plants, while an increase in relative Mn SOD expression levels was observed both in shoot and root tissues after treatment with 150mM NaCl. This increase was significant in root tissues with respect to control samples. For 12 hours of stress application, the only significant change with respect to control plants was observed in root tissues after treatment with 20% PEG. The change was a 28%-decrease. Stress application did not affect the relative Mn SOD expression levels in shoot tissues significantly with respect to control plants. However, there was a significant (33%) decrease in drought-applied root tissues (with respect to control plants) while there was a significant increase (47%) in drought-applied root tissues with respect to salt-applied root tissues.

For 3 days of stress application, the decreases in relative Mn SOD expression levels both in shoot and root tissues were significant with respect to control plants. Relative Mn SOD expression levels decreased 16% and 33% in shoots and roots, respectively (compared to control plants). Differences in relative Mn SOD expression levels between salt-treated and non-treated plant shoot and roots were not statistically significant.

For 5 days of stress application, there were no significant changes in relative Mn SOD expression levels both in shoot and root tissues of drought-treated plants with respect to controls, while 150mM NaCl treatment increased relative Mn SOD expression levels both in shoot and root tissues. Those increases were obvious in shoots as 106% with respect to control and 113% with respect to drought, while in

roots 105% increase with respect to control and 100% increase with respect to drought were observed.

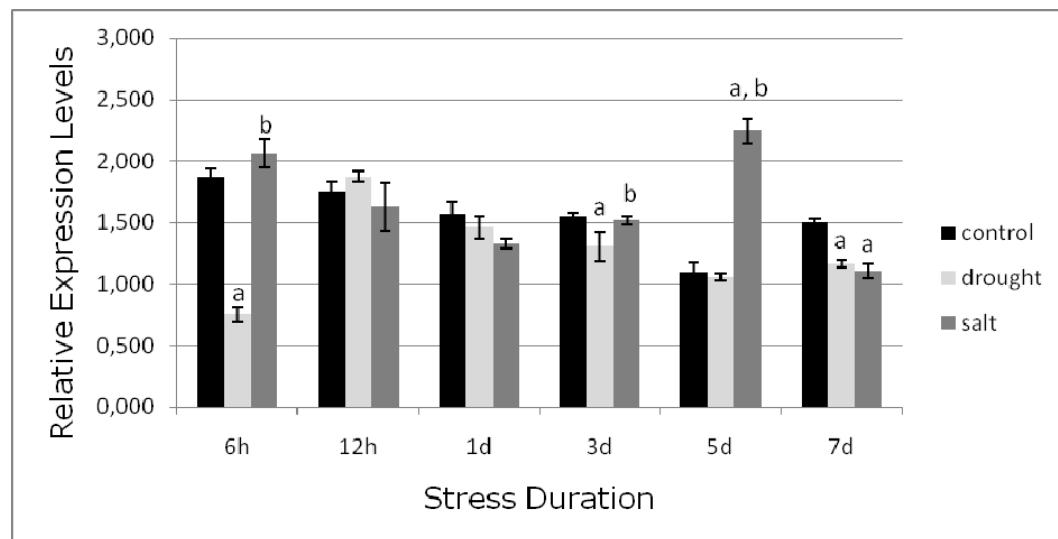


Figure 3.45. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under salt (150mM NaCl) and drought (20% PEG) stresses. Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. ^a shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to control. ^b shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to drought. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM ($n=4$).

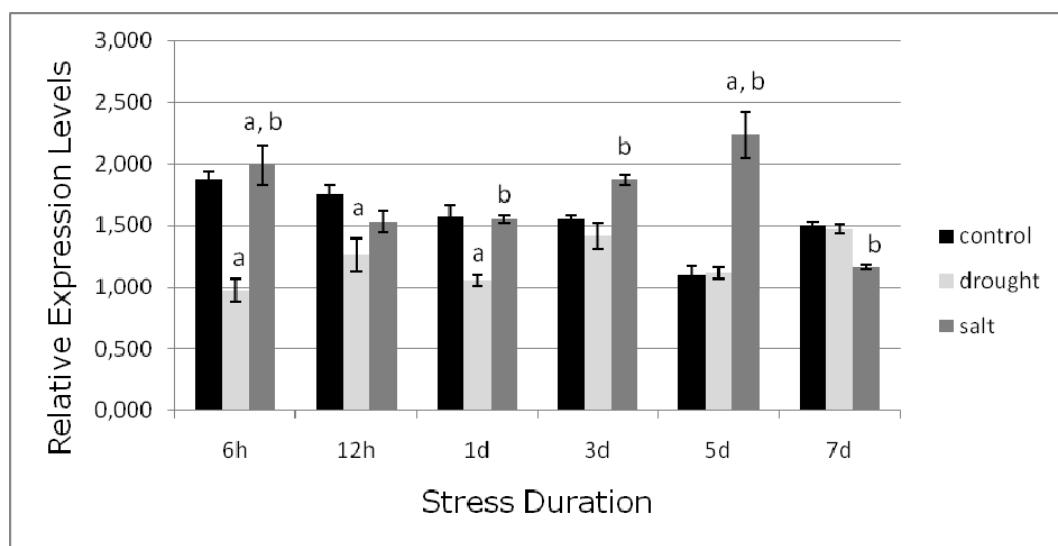


Figure 3.46. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of root tissues under salt (150mM NaCl) and drought (20% PEG) stresses. Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. ^a shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to control. ^b shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to drought. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM ($n=4$).

For 7 days of stress application, decreased relative Mn SOD expression levels both in drought- and salt-treated shoots were significant with respect to controls.

Figure 3.47 and Figure 3.48 give change of Mn SOD expression levels in the course of drought application by comparing relative gene expression levels of stressed and non-stressed plants. Relative gene expression levels of stressed plants were lower in shoots than that of control plants except 5 days of drought treatment, in which a significant (13%) increase in relative Mn SOD expression level was observed in 20% PEG-applied plant shoots. Moreover, relative Mn SOD expression levels were decreased 63% and 25% in drought stress applied lentil

shoots for a period of 6 hours and 7 days, respectively (Figure 3.47). Although a significant decrease in relative gene expression levels were observed in root tissues, to which drought stress was applied for 6, 12 and 24 hours, a significant (26%) increase was observed in 7 days-stressed plant roots.

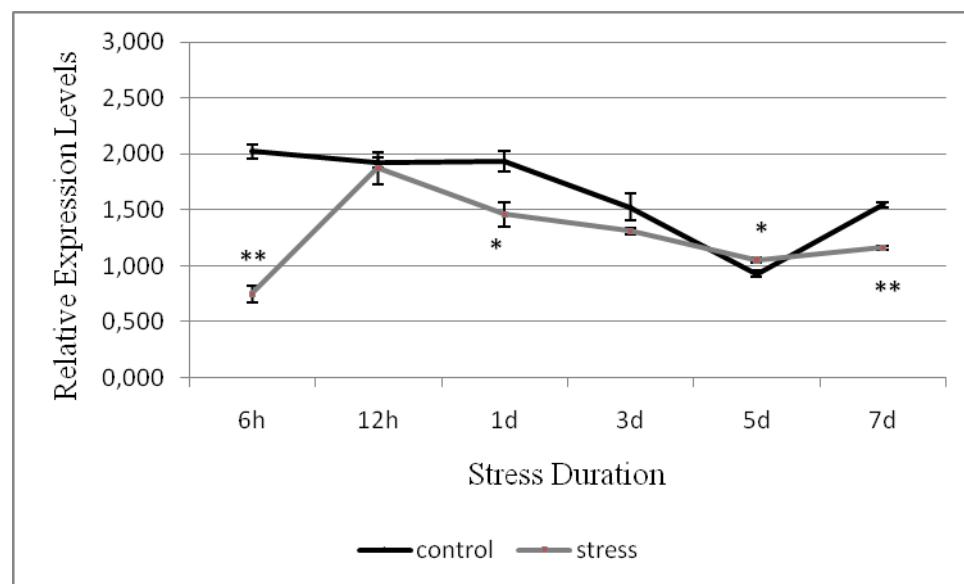


Figure 3.47. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under drought stress (20% PEG). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values ± SEM (n=4).

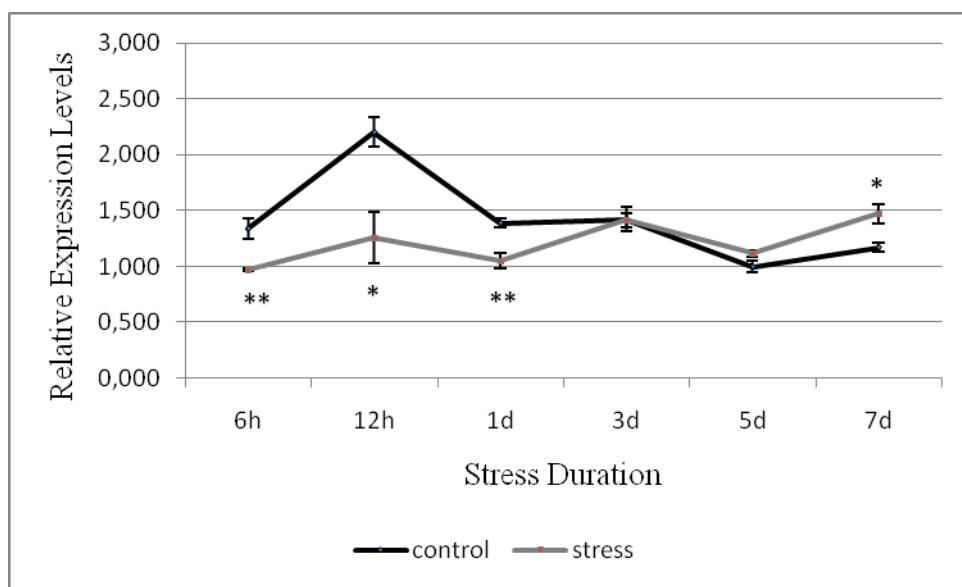


Figure 3.48. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of root tissues under drought stress (20% PEG). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values ± SEM (n=4).

Figure 3.49 and Figure 3.50 show the change in Mn SOD expression levels in the course of salt application by comparing relative expression levels of stressed and non-stressed plants. Relative Mn SOD expression levels of stressed plants decreased in the course of 6 hours to 24 hours of salt application. Later, relative Mn SOD expression levels increased in stressed plants, but could barely reach to levels of control plants. Relative Mn SOD expression levels peaked on 5th day of salt stress application. Significant increases were observed both in shoot (58%) and root (42.8%) tissues on 5th day of salt (150mM NaCl) stress application. Then, relative Mn SOD gene expression levels of stressed plants decreased on 7th day of stress application both in shoot and root tissues.

The decrease was significant in shoot tissues on 7th day of salt stress application (Figure 3.50).

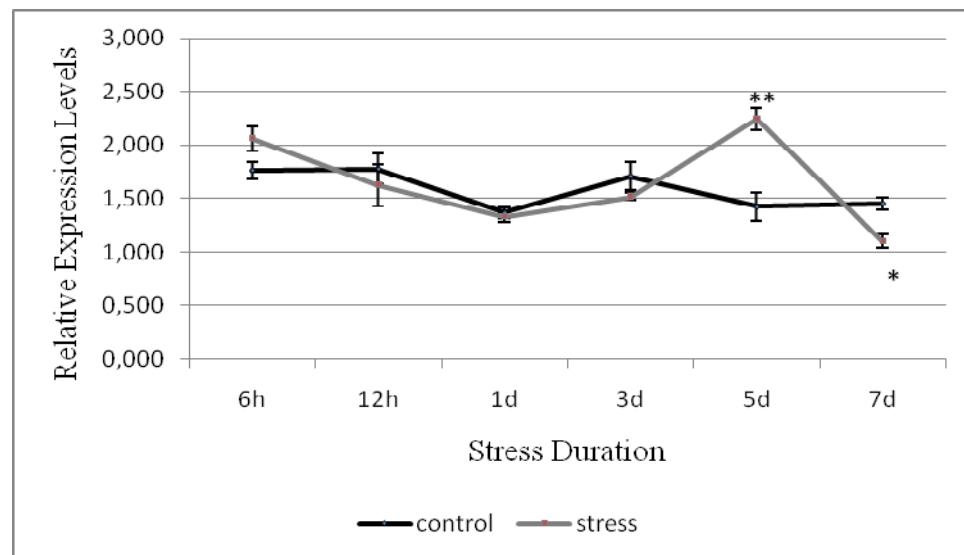


Figure 3.49. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under salt stress (150mM NaCl). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM (n=4).

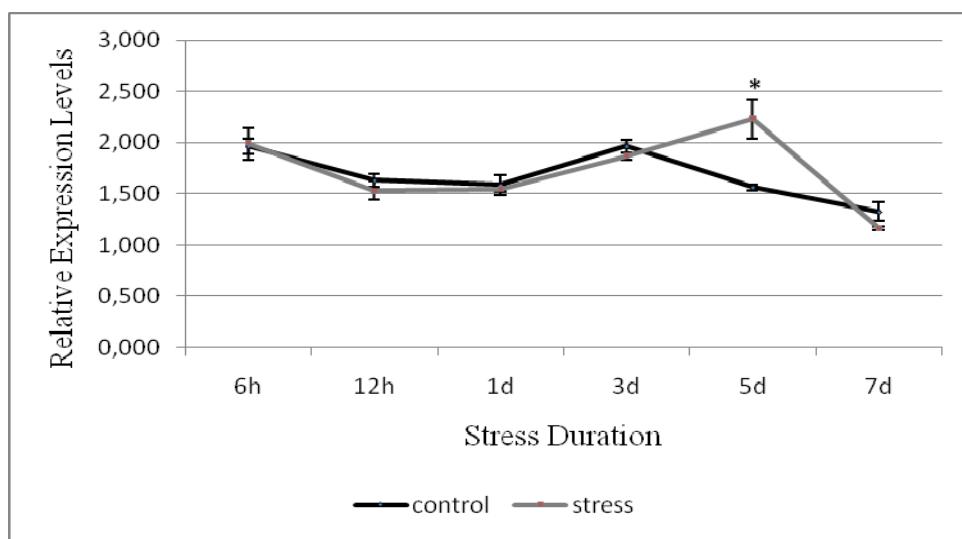


Figure 3.50. Relative gene expression levels of Mn SOD transcript of root tissues under salt stress (150mM NaCl). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM (n=4).

3.7.2. Densitometric Analysis of Semi-quantitative RT-PCR Results for Cu/Zn SOD Gene Expression

Relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels for control (non-treated), salt- and drought-treated plant shoots and roots were given in Figure 3.51 and Figure 3.52, respectively. Relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels increased in 6th, 12th and 24th hours of salt stress applications in root tissues where the increase was significant both in 6th and 24th hours of salt-treated roots with respect to controls and drought-treated roots. However, a significant decrease was observed in 7 days salt treated plant roots with respect to control and drought-treated root tissues.

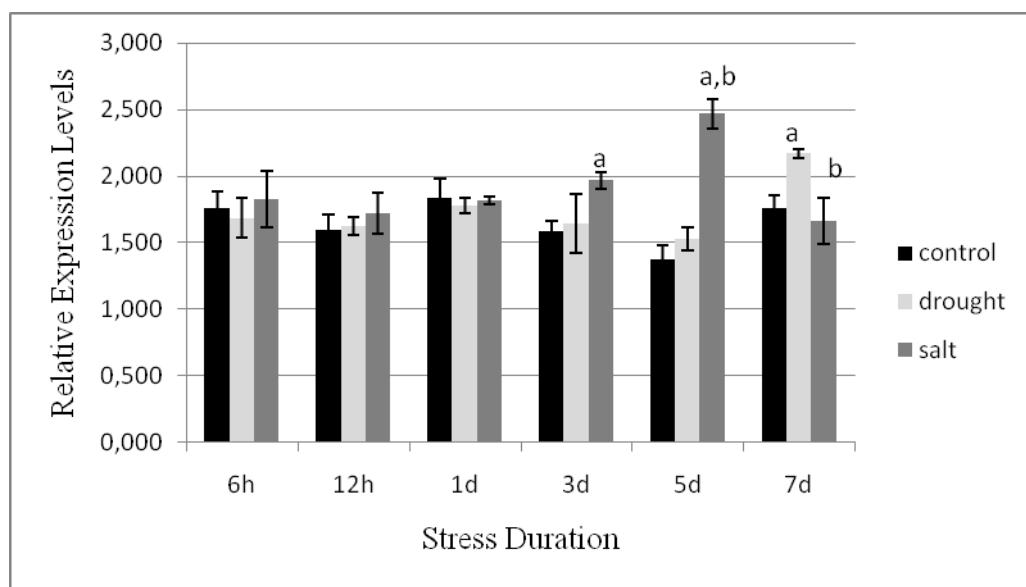


Figure 3.51. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under salt (150mM NaCl) and drought (20% PEG) stresses. Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. ^a shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to control. ^b shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to drought. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM ($n=4$).

Relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels significantly increased in shoot tissues both in 3 and 5 days of salt stress application with respect to controls. Moreover, this increase was also significant with respect to drought-stressed plant shoots in 5 days of salt stress application. However, relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression level was lower under salt stress than the level under drought stress for 7 days of stress-treated shoot tissues.

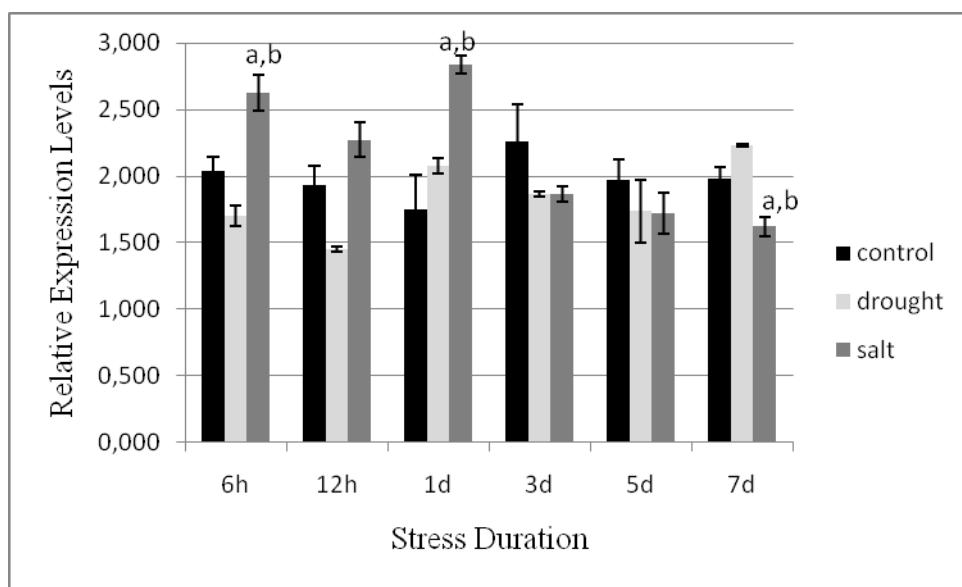


Figure 3.52. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of root tissues under salt (150mM NaCl) and drought (20% PEG) stresses. Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. ^a shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to control. ^b shows significant difference ($p<0.05$) with respect to drought. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM ($n=4$).

Figure 3.53 and Figure 3.54 give change of Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in the course of drought application by comparing relative gene expression levels of stressed and non-stressed plants. There was not a pattern for Cu/Zn SOD gene expression under drought stress both in shoots and in roots. For instance, there is a significant increase (28%) in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in 5 days-drought-applied shoots with respect to control plants, while the change is not significant in roots. However, there is a significant increase in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels both in 7 days-drought-applied shoots and roots with respect to controls.

Moreover, relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels were increased (79%) significantly in 1 day-drought-applied root tissues.

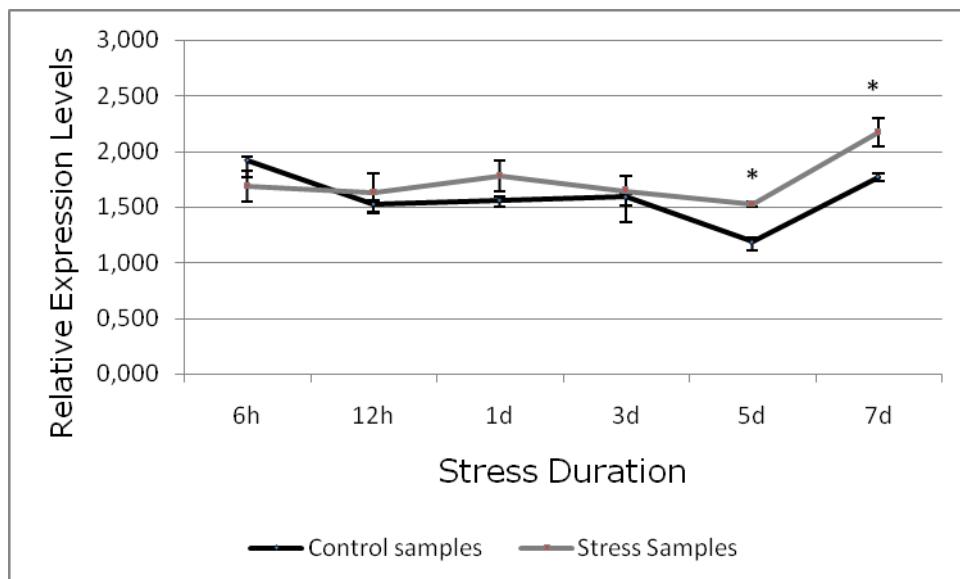


Figure 3.53. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under drought stress (20% PEG). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values ± SEM (n=4).

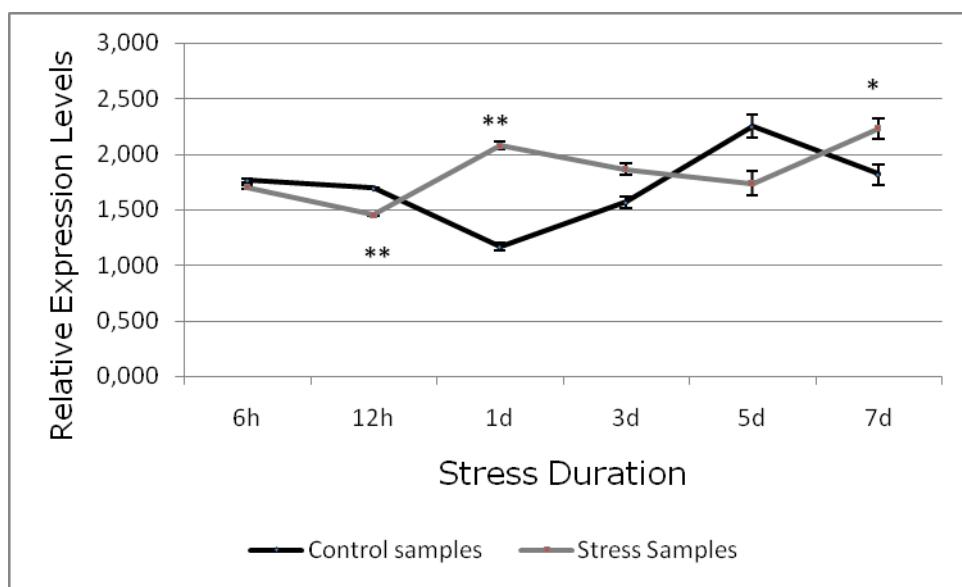


Figure 3.54. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of root tissues under drought stress (20% PEG). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values ± SEM (n=4).

Figure 3.55 and Figure 3.56 give alteration of Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels in the course of salt application by comparing relative gene expression levels of stressed and non-stressed plants. There was a pattern of increase in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in salt-treated shoots between 6 hours and 5 days of salt stress application. This pattern gives a peak at 5 days-salt-applied shoot samples. The increase of relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in salt-treated lentil shoots was 52%, which was significant with respect to controls. In contrast to ascending pattern observed in shoot tissues, there was a pattern of decrease in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in salt-treated roots after 1 days of salt stress application. At 1st day of salt stress application, there was a significant increase (32%) in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression

levels in salt-treated plant roots with respect to controls. However, there occurred a significant decrease (33%) in relative Cu/Zn SOD gene expression levels in 3 days-salt-treated plant roots with respect to controls. A significant decreased was also observed in 7 days-salt-treated plant roots with respect to controls.

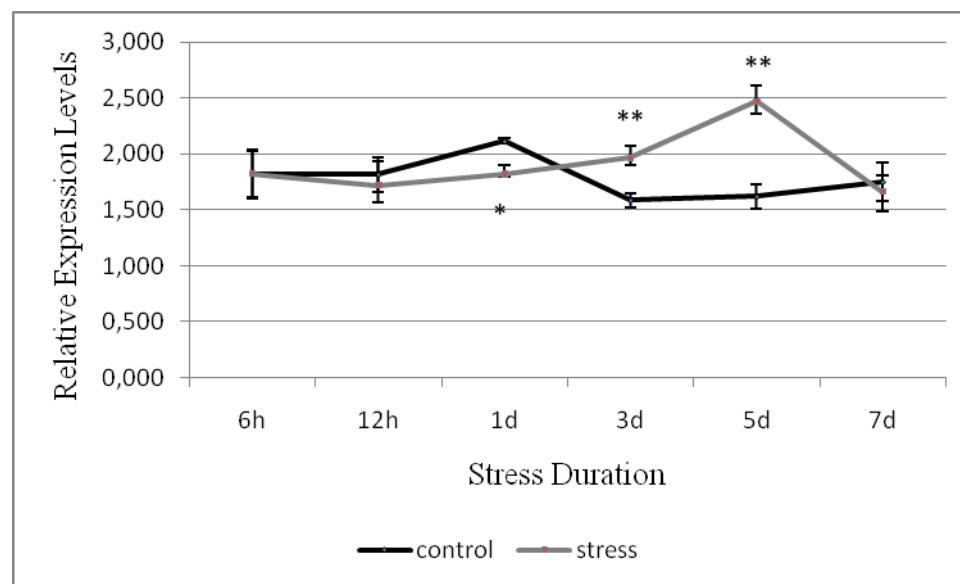


Figure 3.55. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of shoot tissues under salt stress (150mM NaCl). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values \pm SEM (n=4).

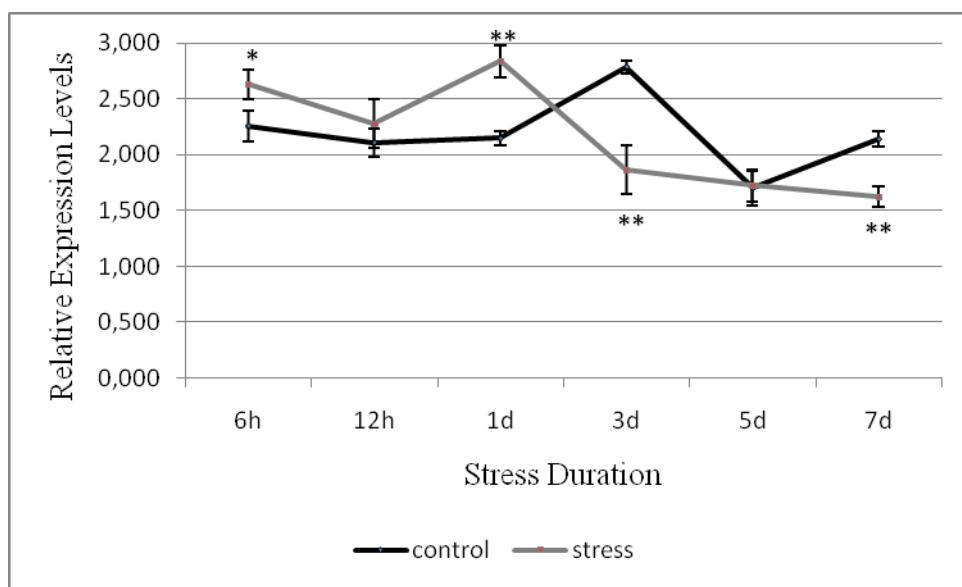


Figure 3.56. Relative gene expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD transcript of root tissues under salt stress (150mM NaCl). Samples were collected at 6th, 12th hours, and 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th days of stress applications. Asterisk (*) or double asterisk (**) shows significant difference with respect to control with p values <0.05 and <0.01, respectively. Bars indicate the mean values ± SEM (n=4).

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION

Drought and salt stresses are two widespread environmental stresses in many regions, and are expected to cause serious salinization of more than 50% of all arable lands by the year 2050 (Ashraf, 1994).

Physiological and biochemical effects of both stresses coincide because both of them cause oxidative stress. One of the best known results of oxidative stress is the production of ROS in plants.

Plants have evolved various enzymatic and non-enzymatic protection mechanisms against toxic effects of ROS (Mittler, 2002). Enzymatic protection mechanisms consist of different antioxidative enzymes such as superoxide dismutase [SOD; E.C. 1.15.1.1], ascorbate peroxidase [APX; E.C. 1.1.1.11], catalase (CAT; E.C. 1.11.1.6], and glutathione reductase [GR; E.C. 1.6.4.2] (Blokhina *et.al.*, 2003).

Several environmental stresses induce the expression levels of antioxidative enzymes and their mRNAs (Edwards *et.al.*, 1994; Mittler and Zilinskas, 1994; Stevens, Creissen and Mullineaux 1997).

In this study, the effects of drought and salt stress applications on gene expression profiles of some antioxidant enzymes in a Turkish lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.) cultivar, Sultan-1, was comparatively analyzed. The experiment was designed to identify both short and long term effects of stress treatments on the gene expression levels of Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD genes in two different tissues as root and shoot.

4.1. Stress Application and Experimental Design

Both drought and salinity are serious environmental factors that affect crop yield in many areas of the world (Ashraf, 1994). The severity of yield loses will increase in following fifty years (Vinocur and Altman, 2005). Although there were some physiological and biochemical studies that distinguish the antioxidant behavior between drought and salt stresses (Reviewed by Bartel and Sunkar, 2005; Wang *et.al.*, 2003), there were no study reporting the relationship of antioxidant enzymes under the two stresses at molecular levels (Except a high body of experiment that was conducted in transcriptomics and proteomics fields) (Salekdeh *et.al.*, 2002; Seki *et.al.*, 2002; Rossignol *et.al.*, 2006; Shulaeva *et.al.*, 2008).

Plants were grown in normal conditions (without any stress applications) for 7 days in growth chambers and 20% PEG or 150mM of NaCl were given to plants. Although there are different methods for drought application, polyethylene glycol 6000 was used in this experiment because a cytorrhytic rather than plasmolytic low water potential treatment can be imposed using solutions containing a high-molecular-weight solute such as PEG of molecular weight 6000 or above (Verslues *et.al.*, 2006). PEG 6000 or above cannot enter the pores of plant cells (Oertli, 1985) and thus causes cytorrhysis rather than plasmolysis. Polyethylene glycol is also a better choice for imposing low water potential than the often used solute mannitol because mannitol has been shown to be taken up by plant cells and can cause specific toxic effects on growth (Hohl and Schopfer, 1991). In a previous study done on same lentil cultivar, the seedlings were treated with 10 %, 20% and 30 % PEG and 100 mM, 150 mM, 200 mM NaCl to induce drought and salinity stresses, respectively. Then, malondialdehyde (MDA) levels of stress-treated plant shoot and roots were analyzed. Hence, the highest MDA levels were found in 20% PEG and 150 mM NaCl treated plants (Ercan, 2008). Moreover, this data are in parallel to previous experiments since water potential of 20% PEG is nearly equal to water potential of 150mM of NaCl (van der Weele *et.al.*, 2000).

4.2. Effect of Drought Stress on Gene Expression Levels of Cu/Zn SOD and MnSOD Genes

Gene expression profile of Mn SOD enzyme (Figure 3.47) suggests that relative mRNA levels were very low in shoots at 6th hours of drought treatment. This is observed in shock treatments (Munns, 2002). Relative Mn SOD transcript expression levels increased at 12th hours of 20% PEG treatment by reaching to the levels obtained in control plants. Later, Mn SOD transcript expression decreased in drought-treated plants. As relative Mn SOD transcript expression levels in shoots of drought treated plants were always (except for 5 days) below the expression levels of same gene in control plants, it might be an indication of non-activated nature of Mn SOD gene under drought stress. These data are also proved by finding of Ercan (2008). No differences were previously indicated in H₂O₂ levels and Mn SOD activities in shoots of same cultivar under 20% PEG treatment for 7 days (Ercan, 2008). Similar results were obtained for root tissues (Figure 3.48) under same conditions with an exceptional increase in relative Mn SOD transcript expression levels reaching only to expression levels of control plants on 3rd days of drought application. This indicates that Mn SOD transcript expression is whether down-regulated or not affected by 20% PEG treatment for a course of 3 days. Finally, an increase in relative Mn SOD transcript expression levels over the levels of control plants were observed on 7th days of drought application. This result is in a good coherence with increased levels of H₂O₂ and Mn SOD activities in roots of 20% PEG treated Sultan cultivars for 7 days (Ercan, 2008).

Transcript expression profile of Cu/Zn SOD enzyme (Figure 3.53 and Figure 3.54) suggests that relative Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels increased at 7th days of 20% PEG application both in shoot and root tissues. Ercan (2008) found an increase in Cu/Zn SOD activities only in root tissues under drought stress. This may indicate a post-translational modification of Cu/Zn SOD protein

in Endoplasmic reticulum or in Golgi. The relationship between post-translational modifications of some enzymes and stress responsiveness of antioxidant enzymes were studied previously in *Arabidopsis* (Kang *et.al.*, 2008).

Moreover, there was a significant increase in relative Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels in root tissues of 1-day drought applied plants. Although transcript expression levels for stressed plants on 1st day was similar to the expression levels observed in stressed plants in other stress application days, there occurred a sharp decrease in Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels in control plants resulting in a significant difference between control and drought treated plants for 1 day. Hence, this indicates that relative gene expression levels of both enzymes change from time to time even in control plants. This shows that the expression levels are not stable developmentally, under different environmental conditions and in different tissues. Similar results were found in tobacco during development. Comparatively higher transcript expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD were found in young leaves and a gradual decrease was observed with leaf age (Kurepa *et.al.*, 1997). There is a parallel increase in transcript expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD both in control and stressed plants, and increase in stressed plants was much higher than the control ones. Hence, it is obvious that relative Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels increased in shoot tissues of 7 days drought treated plants because of application of 20% PEG.

In contrast to results presented here, Wu *et.al.* (1999) found that Mn SOD transcript expression had increased after 7 days of drought application while no change was observed in transcript expression of Cu/Zn SOD in wheat. These distinctive results indicate the importance of plant type used in experiments. Although there is a general antioxidative defence mechanism in all plants, there are some differences and conflicts between antioxidant defence mechanisms in different species.

4.3. Effect of Salt Stress on Gene Expression Levels of Cu/Zn SOD and MnSOD Genes

Transcript expression profile of Mn SOD enzyme (Figure 3.49 and Figure 3.50) suggests that relative gene expression levels decreased during first 24 hours of 150 mM of NaCl treatment both in shoot and root tissues. Then, relative transcript expression levels of Mn SOD increased between 1 day and 5 days of stress application and gave a peak value on 5th day of salt treatment. Later, it again decreased below control levels on 7th day of stress treatment.

Transcript expression profile of Cu/Zn SOD enzyme (Figure 3.55 and Figure 3.56) suggests that relative expression levels decreased in first 12 hours both in shoot and root tissues of 150mM NaCl-treated plants. Then, relative Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels increased starting at 12th hour of salt treatment, and gave a peak value on 1st and 5th days of stress application in roots and shoots, respectively. Later, expression levels decreased.

According to a previous biochemical study done on same cultivar, Mn SOD activity increased in shoots while significantly decreased in roots of 150mM NaCl-treated plants for 7 days. Cu/Zn SOD activities were higher both in shoots and roots of salt-treated plants. Again in that study, H₂O₂ concentrations increased significantly in shoots because total SOD activity increased in salt-treated plant shoots (Ercan, 2008). Being the scavengers of excess H₂O₂, activities of SOD enzymes are expected to be high in compartments susceptible to oxidative stress (Bowler *et.al.*, 1992). It is expected to observe high levels of Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression and enzyme activity in shoots and roots of stressed plants. The main emphasis of the correlation between this study and Ercan's study would be better understood if the duration between levels of gene expression and

enzyme activity were compared. It was observed that transcript expression levels of Mn SOD gene peaked on 5th day of salt stress application while a high Mn SOD enzyme activity was observed in 7th day of salt application. There is a time gap between gene expression and protein functioning in all organisms. A decrease in Mn SOD transcript expression levels after peaked on 5th day of salt treatment may indicate that Mn SOD transcript expressions were produced during the first 5 days and then were degraded by cellular RNases. Hence, a decrease was observed after 5th day of stress application. The same time-gap in the induction of transcription and translation was also observed for Cu/Zn SOD. However, the correlation between the induction times of transcription and translation might be wrong since many gene products are regulated post-transcriptionally. Recently, it was found that Cu/Zn SOD genes were regulated post-transcriptionally by microRNAs in *Arabidopsis*. MicroRNA expression is downregulated transcriptionally by oxidative stresses, and this downregulation is important for post-transcriptional Cu/Zn SOD gene expression accumulation and oxidative stress tolerance (Sunkar *et.al.*, 2006).

Moreover, relative Cu/Zn SOD transcript expression levels were observed to increase in first 24 hours in roots of salt treated plants. This higher expression of Cu/Zn SOD may indicate that it was the major SOD enzyme which acted first in lentil to convert superoxide (O_2^-) to molecular oxygen and H_2O_2 Meanwhile, high expression of Cu/Zn SOD gene in first 24 hours of salt treatment may indicate that this gene was activated by transcription factors more earlier than Mn SOD gene or the two genes were activated by discrete signaling pathways. When plants are exposed to environmental stresses, some genes are activated by signal transduction. Hence, some genes are up-regulated and some are down-regulated while some others are not activated (Rabbani *et.al.*, 2003). Major stress responsive genes are the ones that function in detoxification, protein transport, protein turnover, protein folding, osmoprotection, photosynthesis, and water-ion movements (Sahi *et.al.*, 2006). Up-regulation of detoxification genes were observed under different environmental stresses including drought and salinity

(Seki *et.al.*, 2001, 2002; Kreps *et.al.*, 2002; Cheong *et.al.*, 2002; Rabbani *et.al.*, 2003; Buitink *et.al.*, 2006).

SOD isozymes are located in different sub-cellular compartments. Fe SODs are located in the chloroplast, Mn SODs in the mitochondrion and the peroxisome, and Cu/Zn SODs in the chloroplast, the cytosol, and possibly the extracellular space (Alscher *et.al.*, 2002). ROS production takes place in different organelles in a variety of activities. For that reason, expression levels of different SOD isozymes may vary under different environmental stresses. This is supported from a study of enzyme activity in yeast. The mutants showed the same SOD activity as the control strain, indicating that the deficiency in either cytosolic or mitochondrial enzyme had been overcome by an increase in activity of the remaining SOD. Hence, it was indicated that both Cu/Zn SOD and Mn SOD were important for improving survival, since the absence of only one isoform did not impair tolerance against dehydration (Pereira *et.al.*, 2003). Significance of both enzymes were given by over-expression studies in *Arabidopsis* (McKersie *et.al.*, 1999), tobacco (Gupta *et.al.*, 1993; Badawi *et.al.*, 2004), rice (Tanaka *et.al.*, 1999) and yeast (Pereira *et.al.*, 2003).

The basic physiology of high salt stress and drought stress overlaps with each other during the first phase of salt stress since the mechanisms controlling this phase of the growth response are not specific to salinity; they are caused by factors associated with water stress (Munns, 2002). Gene expression levels of Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD genes do also overlap with each other in 7 days of drought or salt treatments. One explanation for this overlap is that only the first phase of salt stress (associated with water stress) might be observed during the course of 7 days. Most probably 7 days is not sufficient to observe salt specific effects. Hence, plants need to be grown for a longer period of time to observe the effects of long term salt stress treatment on gene expression levels of antioxidant genes (Fidalgo *et.al.*, 2004; Gomez *et.al.*, 2004; Attia *et.al.*, 2008). Similar effects were obtained during the initial phase of salt stress in rice (Kawasaki *et.al.*, 2001).

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

In this study, relative gene expression of Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD antioxidant enzymes in lentil (*Lens culinaris* M. cv. Sultan-1) were analyzed in a comparative manner both in shoot and root tissues under drought and salt stresses at different durations of stress applications.

Relative transcript expression levels of Mn SOD were lower in shoot and root tissues under salt stress while no significant change was obtained under drought conditions in both tissues. After 150mM NaCl application Mn SOD transcript expression levels increased between 1 and 5 days, by reaching to a peak on 5th day of stress application both in shoot and root tissues. Then expression levels decreased at 7th day of salt application. Mn SOD transcript expression levels were lower than control plants both in shoot and root tissues under drought conditions while expression of Mn SOD increased in drought-stressed plant shoots on 7 days.

Relative transcript expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD increased after 5th, and on 1st and 7th days of drought treatment in shoots and roots, respectively. On the other hand, transcript expression levels of Cu/Zn SOD increased on the 3rd and the 5th days of salt treatment in shoot tissues.

These results were in a good correlation with the results obtained in a previous study of the same antioxidant systems in the same cultivar (Ercan, 2008). This study supports Ercan's study in a way that antioxidant enzyme activities in lentil (*Lens culinaris* M. cv. Sultan-1) differed in salt and drought stresses and activities

were affected after gene expression of same antioxidant enzymes had been activated.

This study indicated that Mn SOD and Cu/Zn SOD are two important antioxidant enzymes in lentil and their genes were expressed under salt and drought stresses at different durations of stress applications.

Moreover, the results of both expression levels and activities of antioxidant enzyme systems in Sultan-1 cultivar of *Lens culinaris* signified that this cultivar might be more tolerant to drought than to salt stress.

Although it is nearly impossible to understand the whole antioxidant mechanism of plants under environmental stresses, this study was a step to learn about molecular background of some antioxidant enzymes. Gene expression profiles of CAT, chloroplast/mitochondrial GR and chloroplast/stromal APX will be the next step of this study. By this way, the comparison of gene expression profiles of different antioxidant enzymes with each other and also with enzyme activities will improve our knowledge of molecular protection mechanisms in lentil against salt and drought stresses.

CHAPTER 6

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APPENDIX A

LIST of CHEMICAL MATERIALS and KITS

| Chemicals / Kits | Suppliers |
|--|------------------|
| Molecular grade alcohol | Applichem |
| Chloroform | Applichem |
| Guanidine thiocyanate | Applichem |
| Isopropanol | Merck |
| β-Mercaptoethanol | Merck |
| Water-saturated Phenol | Applichem |
| Polyethylene glycol | Applichem |
| Potassium acetate | Applichem |
| Sarcosyl | Sigma |
| Sodium chloride | Applichem |
| Sodium citrate | Sigma |
| DEPC | Applichem |
| Deoxyribonuclease I | Fermentas |
| GeneRuler™ DNA Ladder | Fermentas |
| RevertAid™ First Strand cDNA Synthesis Kit | Fermentas |
| Taq DNA Polymerase | Applichem |

APPENDIX B

The PREPARATION of TRIZOL REAGENT

1. Prepare 100mM Sodium citrate at pH 7.0.
2. Prepare 2M Potassium acetate at pH 4.8.
3. Prepare the following solution in a DEPC-treated flask:
 - Weigh out 23.7 grams of guanidine thiocyanate,
 - Add 12.5 mL of 100mM sodium citrate (pH: 7.0),
 - Add 715 µL of 35% sarcosyl,
 - Add 340 µL of β-mercaptoethanol,
 - Bring the volume to 50 mL with DEPC-treated distilled water.

Autoclave the solution after mixing and dissolving all solid materials. After autoclaving, add 50 mL of water-saturated phenol and 10 mL of 2M potassium acetate (pH: 4.8) onto the solution.

APPENDIX C

PCR CONDITIONS

1) PCR CONDITIONS for DEGENERATE PRIMERS

Mn SOD (Amplicon Length is 382 bp)

Table C. 1. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Degenerate Mn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| MnSOD Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| MnSOD Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 0.05U |
| Template | 100ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table C. 2. PCR Conditions of Mn SOD amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 2 min. |
| Cycle number = 5 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 46°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 35 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 56°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

CAT (Amplicon Length is 653 bp)**Table C. 3.** Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Degenerate CAT PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| CAT Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| CAT Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1U |
| Template | 200ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table C. 4. PCR Conditions of CAT amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR (Amplicon Length is 578 bp)

Table C. 5. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Degenerate Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.5µM |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.5µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1U |
| Template | 200ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table C. 6. PCR Conditions of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 57°C | 45 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Chloroplast/stromal APX (Amplicon Length is 474 bp)

Table C. 7. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Degenerate chloroplast/stromal APX PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| chloroplast/stromal APX Right Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| chloroplast/stromal APX Left Degenerate Primer (10 µM) | 1.2µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 0.5U |
| Template | 100ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table C. 8. PCR Conditions of chloroplast/stromal APX amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 40 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 57°C | 1 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

2) PCR CONDITIONS for SPECIFIC PRIMERS

Cu/Zn SOD Barley (To check any DNA contamination) (Amplicon length is 224 bp) *

Table C. 9. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Cu/Zn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Cu/Zn SOD 1 Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Cu/Zn SOD 1 Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 10. PCR Conditions of Cu/Zn SOD 1 amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initian denaturation | 94°C | 3 min. |
| Cycle number = 33 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 54°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

* Forward and reverse primers specific for barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.) Cu/Zn SOD were used to amplify Cu/Zn SOD amplicon in lentil (*Lens culinaris* M.). Later, the amplicon was sequenced (result of which is given in Appendix E) and analyzed in databases for homology purposes (results are given in Appendices E and F).

Mn SOD (Amplicon Length is 186 bp)

Table C. 11. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Mn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Mn SOD Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Mn SOD Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.5U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 12. PCR Conditions of Mn SOD amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Initian denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 32 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 1 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

18S rRNA (Amplicon Length is 250 bp)

Table C. 13. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific 18S rRNA PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| 18S rRNA Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 14. PCR Conditions of 18S rRNA amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 30 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 45 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Cu/Zn SOD Lentil (Amplicon Length is 305 bp)

Table C. 15. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Cu/Zn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Cu/Zn SOD Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Cu/Zn SOD Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 16. PCR Conditions of Cu/Zn SOD amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 30 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 45 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

CAT Lentil (Amplicon Length is 442 bp)

Table C. 17. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific CAT PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| CAT Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| CAT Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.30U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 18. PCR Conditions of CAT amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 34 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 1 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Lentil (Amplicon Length is 400 bp)

Table C. 19. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|---|----------------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 20. PCR Conditions of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 32 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 49°C | 1 min. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Chloroplast Stromal APX Lentil (Amplicon Length is 150 bp)

Table C. 21. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Chloroplast Stromal APX PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Chloroplast Stromal APX Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Chloroplast Stromal APX Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.30U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table C. 22. PCR Conditions of Chloroplast Stromal APX amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 31 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

APPENDIX D

PRIMER CONDITIONS

| Amplicon Name | Product Size (bp) | Tm (°C) | T_A (°C) | GC content (%) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mn SOD Degenerate | 382 | 61.2 – 61.4 | 56 | 48.1 – 44.8 |
| CAT Degenerate | 653 | 53.4 – 57.4 | 48 – 52 | 34.8 – 48 |
| Chl./Mitoch. GR Degenerate | 578 | 60.5 – 65.0 | 55.5 – 60.0 | 44.4 – 51.8 |
| Chl./Stromal APX Degenerate | 474 | 63.8 – 59.7 | 58.8 – 54.7 | 51.8 – 46.4 |
| <i>Arabidopsis</i> 18S rRNA | 250 | 54.3 – 55.3 | 50 – 51 | 50 – 50 |
| Mn SOD Specific | 186 | 59.8 – 60.9 | 54 – 55 | 50 – 57.8 |
| CAT Specific | 442 | 54.2 – 56.5 | 49.2 – 51.5 | 50 – 55 |
| Chl./Mitoc. GR Specific | 400 | 52.8 – 55.3 | 48.8 – 50.3 | 40.9 – 45 |
| Chl./Stromal APX Specific | 150 | 60 - 61 | 55 – 56 | 50 – 55 |
| Cu/Zn SOD Barley Specific | 224 | 59.5 – 59.9 | 54 | 45 – 50 |
| Cu/Zn SOD Lentil Specific | 305 | 60 | 55 | 50 – 55 |

PRIMER SEQUENCES

Mn SOD Degenerate Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – CTGCCTGATCTGGCTTATGATTAYGGWGC – 3'

Mn SOD Degenerate Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – GCACCCTTAGTAACCAGAGGATCYTGRRTT – 3'

CAT Degenerate Forward Primer Sequences:

5' – GGTTTCTTGAAAGTCACNCAYGAYG – 3'

CAT Degenerate Reverse Primer Sequences:

5' - GTTACATCRAGAGGGTCAAARTC – 3'

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Degenerate Forward Sequence:

5' – GGTGCTTCTGCTGCTGTTGYGARYTNCC – 3'

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Degenerate Reverse Sequence:

5' – TCTTCATCAAATCCCCCARACCCTTC -3'

Chloroplast/stromal APX Degenerate Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – AATGGCCACAAAGAGGTggwgcwaaaygg – 3'

Chloroplast/stromal APX Degenerate Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – cwgtyagraccGACAAGTTACCGACTT – 5'

Arabidopsis 18S rRNA Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – AAACGGCTACCACATCCAAG – 3'

Arabidopsis 18S rRNA Rewerse Primer Sequence:

5' – CCCATCCCAAGGTTCAACTA – 3'

Mn SOD Specific Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – GGC GGAGGT CATATTAACCA – 3'

Mn SOD Specific Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – AAGCCACACCCATCCAGAC – 3'

Cu/Zn SOD Barley Specific Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – TTGCATTCAACTGGACCAC – 3'

Cu/Zn SOD Barley Specific Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – GACCACCTTCCCAAGATCA – 3'

Cu/Zn SOD Lentil Specific Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – GCTTCCATATCCATGCCTTG – 3'

Cu/Zn SOD Lentil Specific Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – AGCTACTCTGCCACCAGCAT – 5'

CAT Specific Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – CCTGTCATTGTGCGTTCTC – 3'

CAT Specific Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – CTCCCACCTTAATGGCCTCT – 3'

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Specific Forward Primer:

5' – GAAATTGCTAGTCTATGCGTCA – 3'

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Specific Reverse Primer:

5' – AGCAAACCTCCAAGGCAATGT – 3'

Chloroplast/Stromal APX Specific Forward Primer Sequence:

5' – CTTCTCCAGCCGATCAAAGA – 3'

Chloroplast/Stromal APX Specific Reverse Primer Sequence:

5' – AGGACATTGGTCAGGTCCAG – 3'

APPENDIX E

EXTRACTED PCR PRODUCT SEQUENCES

Cu/Zn SOD Forward Sequence *

TGNTTNCACTGGACCCATTCATCCTATNNNTAGACAAGNAGNTCTGAGGNTCCACTAGACATGCTGGTGA
TTTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTGTGATGGAACGTAACTGCTCACCAATTACTGACAACCAGATCCCTCTCACT
GGAACAAACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTCCATGCTGATCCTGATGATCTGGAAAGGTGGTCAT
NAGCTTANCAAANCTCTGGNACGCCNGCTGCCAACNTANNTNNANANNAANNNNNNNNANATNNNTTT
ATTTCTTANNNNNNNATCGNNNNNNNNNNNNNN

Cu/Zn SOD Reverse Sequence *

ATTTNTTAACNNATGNCCCCTTTCCAAGGATCNNTGNATCAGCATGGAACAACAACAGCCCTCCTA
TGATGGAGTTGTTCCAGTGAGAGGGATCTGGTGTCACTGAAAGCTTACAGTTCCATCATCACCAAC
ATTGATATTCCTAAATCACCAGCATGTCTAGTCTCATCCTCAGGAGCACCATGTTCTCGCATTAGGATTG
AAATGTGGTCCAGTTGAAATGCAACCGTTCGTGTCCCCCAGGGCGANANA

* Sequencing of Cu/Zn SOD PCR product was done by ABI 310 DNA sequencer at METU Molecular Biology and Biotechnology R&D Center Laboratory.

CLUSTALW Analysis of Cu/Zn SOD Forward and inverse of Cu/Zn SOD Reverse sequences

CLUSTAL 2.0.8 multiple sequence alignment

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | -----ANANAG-CGGGACCCCCCTGTG 21 |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | TGNTTNCACTGGACCCATTCATCCTATNNNTAGACAAGNAGNCTCTGAG 50 |
| | * * * * **** * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | CTGCTTGCCAACGTAAAGTTGACCTGGTG----TAAAGTTAG-GATTAC 65 |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | GNTCCACTAGACATGCTGGTATTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTGTGATGAT |
| 100 | * * * * *** * * * * *** * * * * * * * * * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | GCTTCCTTGTAC--CACGAGGACTCCTACTCTGATCTGTACGACC---AC |
| 110 | |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | GGAACGTAAAGCTTCACCATTACTGACAACCAGATCCCTCTCACTGGAAC |
| 150 | * * * * * *** * *** * * * * * * * * * * * * * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | TAAATCCTTATAGTTACAACCCTACT-----ACCTTGACATTG |
| 150 | |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | AAACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTCCATGCTGATCCTGATGATC |
| 200 | * * * * * *** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | GAAGTGGTAATGACTGTTGGCTAGGGAGAGT---GACCTTGTTGAGG |
| 196 | |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | TTGGGAAAGGTGGTCATNAGCTTANCAAANCTCTGGNACGCCNGCTGCCG |
| 250 | * * * * * *** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | TAGTATCCTTCCCGACAACAACAAGGTACGACTANGNNCTNCTAGGAAC |
| 246 | |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | AAACNTANNTNNANANNAANNNNNNNNNANATNNNTTTATTTCTTANN |
| 300 | * |
| CuZnSOD_Reverse_Inverse | CCTTTCCCCNGTANNCAATTNTTA 273 |
| CuZnSOD_Forward | NNGNNNATCGNNNNNNNNNNNNNANN-- 325 |
| | * * * * |

Mn SOD Forward Sequence

TTGCCCTGAGCTGCCTTATGCGTCGAGAGAGATCGCACATCACTCATCAGAAACACCAGACTTATATTACC
AACTATAACAAAGCTCTCGAGCAGCTTCAGATGCCGTTGGTAAAGCTGATACTACATCTACACTGTTAAGCTC
CAGAATGCCATCAAGTTCAACGGCGGAGGTATTAACCATTCCATTCTGGAAAATCTGGCTCCTGTT
GGGAAGGAGGTGGTGAACCACCAAAGGAATCCCTAGGCTGGGCCATTGACACAAAACTTGGATCTTGAA
GCATTGATTCAAAAGATTAATGCCGAAGGTGCAGCTTCAGGGTCTGGATGGGTGCTGGCTTGTAC
AAAGATTGAAGAGGCTTGTGGTGAACCAACTGCAAATCAAGATCCTCTGGTAACTAAGGGTGCTAAAAC
TTATTTATTTTTGTGCACCCCCCCCACAAATTAAACAAAACACGACGAACCCCC

Mn SOD Reverse Sequence

AAATAGGTGGTGAACACCACTGCCTCTCGATCTTGTAGACCCAAGCCACACCCCTCCAGACCCCTGAAGA
GCTGCACCTTCGGCATTAAATCTTGAATCAATGCTCCAAGATCCAAGTTGTGTCATGGCCAGCCTA
GGGATTCCCTTGGTGGTCAACCACCTCCCTCCGAACAGGAGCCAGATTTCCAGAAAATGGAATGGTTAAT
ATGACCTCCGCCGTTGAACCTGATGGCATTCTGGAGCTTAACAGTGGTAGATGTATCAGCTTACCAACGGCA
TCGTGAAGCTGCTCGAGAGCTTGTATAGTGGTAATATAAGTCTAGTGGTGTGATGATGGATTGCA
TGATTTGCCGCTAATGACAGGCTCAAAGCTCGTAATCATAAGCCAGATCAGGCAGACACATCCATCATC
AGAAACACCAAGGGGAGTTATTACCAAAAAAAACCTGCGAGCCGTTGCCATGGTAAAGTGAAAATACT
GTTAACCCCAATAC

CLUSTALW Analysis of Mn SOD Forward and inverse of Mn SOD Reverse sequences

CLUSTAL 2.0.5 multiple sequence alignment

```
MnSOD1.ab1      AAAAAAACACGACGAACCCCC 497
MnSOD          -----
```

PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

Chl/Stromal APX Forward:

```
TTAAACAATTCATGCTGAGGTTGAAAATGGGAGGCAGTGGACTGCTGGACTTGAAATGTATTGAAACTCTC
CAGCCGATCAAAGACAAATATTCAAGCGTGACATATGCAGACTTATTCAGTTAGCTGGTGCACAGCTGTG
GAGGAAGCTGGAGGCCAAAAATTCCATGAAATATGGAAGAGTAGATACTCTGGACCTGACCAATGCTCT
GAAGAAGGACGACTTCCTGATGCAGGGGCCGTTCAGCTGCTGATCATTTGCGTGAAGTTTTTACCGTATGG
GATTGGACGACAAGGAAATTGTTGCATTATCTGGAGCACACACAGTGGGGCGGTCTAGACCAGACCGTAGTG
GCTGGGAAACCTGAGACTAAATAACACCAAAGACGGGCCAGGAGCACCTGGAGGACCATCCTGGACTGTC
CAATGGCTGAAAAAAACCTTTCAAGTTTGTGGGTTGATTGTTGTTCTGGATGGTTTTTTTC
TGCCTTTCGGGGGGGGGGTGGTTGTTAGTTAGTAAAGAGTGGGTCATTATCTTCCTTCCG
GGGGGGGGCGCGAGGCGGGGGGGGGCCTTAAAAAAAAAAAAACACACCCGGGG
GGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG
```

Chl/Stromal APX Reverse:

```
CCCCCGCCTCTTCTAGTGGTGATTTAGAGCTACGGTGTTCACGCCACTACGGGGCTGG
GGTAGACCGCCCCAGGTGTGTGCTCCAGATAATGGAACAATTCTGTCGCCCACCCATACCGTAA
AAAACCTCAGCAAATGATCAGAGGGTGGAGGGGGCTGCATCAGGGAGTCGTCTTCTCAGGACATTGG
TCAGGTCCAGAGGTATCTACTCTCCATAGTGCAGGGGAATTGGGGCTCCAGCTCCTCACAGCTGTAG
CACCAAGCTAACTGAAATAAGTCTGCATATGTCACGCCTGAATATTGTCTTGATCGGCTGGAGAAGTTCAA
TGCATTACAAGTCCAGCATTGGCTCCATGTTCAACTCAGCCTAACTTAAGCTACCGTTGCTCCACCT
CTTGTGCCATTA
```

CLUSTALW Analysis of Chl/Stromal APX Forward and inverse of Chl/Stromal APX Reverse sequences

PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

CAT Forward:

TTTCGCCCCCTCCATTGTGGCAGATTCCTTCAGGCCCTGGTGTTCAGACACCTGTCATTGTGCGTTCTCAAC
TGTCAATTGAACTGTGGCAGCCCTGAAACCTGAGGGACCCCTGAGGTTTGCTGTAAAATTACACCAGA
GAGGGTAACTATGACCTTGTGGAAACAACCTTCCTGTCTCTCGTTCATGACGGGATGAATTTCAGATA
TGGTCCACGCTTAAACCCAATCCCAGACCCACATCCAGGAGAATTGGAGAATTCTGACTTCTCTCCA
CTTCCAGAAAGCCTCACATGTTCTCCTTCTATTGATGATGTTGGGTGTCCTCAAGATTAGGCATATG
GATGGTTTGGAGTCAACACATACCCGTATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTGGTGTGAAATTCACTGG
AAGCCCACCTGTGGTGTGAAGTGTCTATTGAGAAGAGGCCATTAGGTGGAGGATCCAACACAGTCAT
GCTACTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCTGGTAACATCCTGAGTGGAAACCTTATTCAAACAATAG
ATCCCTGCTCATGAAGACAGATTGACTTGCCTCCGATGTAACA

CAT Reverse:

AATGGGCTTCCTGAGCAGGATCTATTGTTGAATATAAAGTTCCACTCAGGATAGTTACTCGCAGCAATTGA
 GTCATAAAGGTCTTAGCATGACTGTGGTGGATCCTCCACCTTAATGGCCTCTTCCAATAGACAC
 TTCACACCACAGGTGGCTTCAGTGAATTACAAACACTGATTCCCAGCCTGTTGATCAGGGTATATG
 TGTTGACTCCAAAACCATCCATATGCCATAATCTGAGGGACACCCACATCATCAAATAGGAAGGAGAAC
 TGTGAAGGCTTCTGAAAGTGGAGAAGAAGTCAAGAATTCTCAAATTCTCGGATGTGGTCTGGGAT
 TGGGTTAAGAGCGTGGACCATATCTGAAATTCTCGCATGAACGAAGAACAGGAAAGTTGTT
 CAACAAGGTCAAGTACAGTACAGTACAGCAGGAGGGCCCTCAAGGTTCAAGGTTCAAGGAAACCA
 GGCTGCCACGTTCATGAATGACAGTTGAGAACAGCACAATGACAGGTGTGAACACCAGGGCTGAAGG
 AAATCTGCACATGTGAGGTGCAAACATCATGCGTGACTTCAAGGAAACCA

CLUSTALW Analysis of CAT Forward and inverse of CAT Reverse sequences

| | | |
|------|--|-----|
| CAT1 | -----TTTCGCCCTCCATTGTGGCAGATTTCTTCGAG | 34 |
| CAT2 | TGGTTCTGAAAGTCACCGCATGATGTTCGCACCTCACATGTG-CAGATTTCTTCGAG | 59 |
| | ***** * *** * *** ***** | |
| CAT1 | CCCCTGGTGGTCAGACACCTGTCATTGTCGTTCTCAACTGTCATTGATGAACGTGGCA | 94 |
| CAT2 | CCCCTGGTGGTCAGACACCTGTCATTGTCGTTCTCAACTGTCATTGATGAACGTGGCA | 119 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | GCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTCGAGGTTTGCTGAAAATTTCACACCAGAGGGTA | 154 |
| CAT2 | GCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTCGAGGTTTGCTGAAAATTTCACACCAGAGGGTA | 179 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | ACTATGACCTTGGAAACAACCTTCTGCTTCTCGTTGATGACGGGATGAATTTC | 214 |
| CAT2 | ACTATGACCTTGGAAACAACCTTCTGCTTCTCGTTGATGACGGGATGAATTTC | 239 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | CAGATATGGCCACGCTCTTAAACCCAAATCCCGAGACCCACATCCAGGAGAATTGGAGAA | 274 |
| CAT2 | CAGATATGGCCACGCTCTTAAACCCAAATCCCGAGACCCACATCCAGGAGAATTGGAGAA | 299 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | TTCTTGACTTCTTCTCCCACTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCACATGTTCTCCTTCTATTGATG | 334 |
| CAT2 | TTCTTGACTTCTTCTCCCACTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCACATGTTCTCCTTCTATTGATG | 359 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | ATGTGGGTGCCCTCAAGATTAGGCATATGGATGGTTTGGAGTCACACATATACCC | 394 |
| CAT2 | ATGTGGGTGCCCTCAAGATTAGGCATATGGATGGTTTGGAGTCACACATATACCC | 419 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | TGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTGGTGAATTCACTGGAAGCCCACCTGTGGTG | 454 |
| CAT2 | TGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTGGTGAATTCACTGGAAGCCCACCTGTGGTG | 479 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | TGAAGTGTCTATTGGAAGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGATCCAACACAGTCATGCTA | 514 |
| CAT2 | TGAAGTGTCTATTGGAAGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGATCCAACACAGTCATGCTA | 539 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | CTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCTGCTGGTAACTATCCTGAGTGGAAACTTATATTC | 574 |
| CAT2 | CTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCTGCGAGTAACTATCCTGAGTGGAAACTTATATTC | 599 |
| | ***** | |
| CAT1 | AAACAATAGATCCTGCTCATGAAGACAGATTGACTTGACCTCCTCGATGTAACA | 631 |
| CAT2 | AAACAATAGATCCTGCTCAGGAAGCCCATT----- | 629 |
| | ***** * * * * | |

PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Forward:

TTTCTCACACTCTCCCGATAACCGCGAGGTGTCGCGGGCACCTCGTGAATACGTGGATGTGTCCC
TAAGAAATTGCTAGTCTATGCGTCAAAATTCTCATGAATTGAAGAAAGCAATGGTTGGATGGAGATAT
GACAGTGAACCTAACGATGACTGGAGTAGTTGATTGCTAATAAAAATGCCGAGTTGCAGCGGCTTACTGGT
ATCTATAAGAATATTGAAAAATGCCGGTGTCAAGTTGATTGAAGGCCGTGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCAC
ACGGTTGATGTTGATGGAGTTATTCAGCAAAACACATTAGTTCAAGTTGAGGTGACCCTCATTC
CTGATATTCCCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGCCTGCCCCTGATTACCATCAAAGCCTCAGAAGA
TAGCCATTGTTGGTGGGGTTACATTGCCTTGGAGTTGCTGGTATCTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTTCA
TGTATTTACGACAAAAGAAGGGTCTGCGGGGATTTGATGAAGAA

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Reverse:

TTTGTCGATAATACATGAGCTCACTTTCAACCATTAAAGATACCAGCAAACCCAAGGCAATGTAACC
CCCACCAACAATGGCTATCTCTGAGGCTTGATGGTAAATCAAGGGCAGCGCTGTAATCTATTGCATATTCC
TTCCAGGAATATCAGGAATGAAGGGTCGACCTCCAACGTAAACTAAATGTGTTTGTGAATATAACTTC
CCATCAACATCAACCGTGTGAGGATCTACAATCTTCCACGGCCTCAATCAACTGACACCGCATTTC
AAATATTCTTATAGATACCAGTAAGCCGTCGAACCTGGCATTATTAGCAATCAAACACTCCAGTCATG
CTTAGGTTCACTGTCATATCTCCATCCAAAACCATTGCTTCTCAAATTCTGAGAAAATTGACGCATAG
ACTAGCAATTCTTAGGGACACATCCACGTATTACACAGGTGCCGCCACACCTCCGGTGGTACGGAGGAG
ATGGTGGAGAAAGGCAGCTCACAAACAGAACCCAGAAGCACAACACTCTCCTCGATACCCGGAGGGTGT
CGCGCGTGTATCGTGGAGTGTCTCACCAATGGATTAGCAACATTGAAATAGAAAAACAGGGGTTGGGA
TGGAAATATGACATGCACCTAACAGCTAGTGGATATTGATTGCTAATAAAATGCAGGTCTGTAATCTAA
AATATTGAAAAGCGACCTGATGGAAGCGAAAGATATAATCGATGGAATTGGACTTCCCTACGCCTCTC
AACAC

CLUSTALW Analysis of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Forward and inverse of Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR Reverse sequences

```

GR1.ab1      -----
GR2_Tersini  GTGTTGAGAGCGTAGGAAAGTCCAAAAAATTCCATCGATTATCTTCGCTTCCATCA 60

GR1.ab1      -----
GR2_Tersini  GGTGCGTTTCAAATATTTAGATTACAGACCTGCATTTTATTAGCAATCAAATATCCC 120

GR1.ab1      -----
GR2_Tersini  ACTAGCTGTTAGGTGCATGTCATATTCCATCCAAACCCCTGTTTTCTATTCGAAT 180

GR1.ab1      -----
GR2_Tersini  GTTGCTAACCATTTGGTGAGACACTCCACGATAACCGCGACACCCCTCCGGGGTATCG 240

GR1.ab1      -----TTTCTCACACTCTCCTCC 19
GR2_Tersini  GAGGAGAGTTGTGCTCTGGGTTCTGTTGTGAGCTGCCCTTCTCCACCCTCTCCTCC 300
                                         ***   ***   ****
GR1.ab1      CGATACAACCGCGAGGTGCGCGGCCACCTCGTGAATACGTGGATGTGTCCTAAGAA 79
GR2_Tersini  -GATACCACCG-GAGGTGTCG-GCGCACCT-GTGTAAATACGTGGATGTGTCCTAAGAA 356
                                         ****   ****   ****
GR1.ab1      ATTGCTAGTCTATGCGTCAAATTTCTCATGAATTGAGAAAGCAATGGTTTGGATG 139
GR2_Tersini  ATTGCTAGTCTATGCGTCAAATTTCTCATGAATTGAGAAAGCAATGGTTTGGATG 416
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      GAGATATGACAGTGAACCTAACGATGACTGGAGTAGTTGATTGCTAATAAAATGCCGA 199
GR2_Tersini  GAGATATGACAGTGAACCTAACGATGACTGGAGTAGTTGATTGCTAATAAAATGCCGA 476
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      GTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATATTGAAAATGCCGTGTCAAGTTGAT 259
GR2_Tersini  GTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATATTGAAAATGCCGTGTCAAGTTGAT 536
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      TGAAGGCCGTGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCACACGGTTGATGGGAAAGTTATTC 319
GR2_Tersini  TGAAGGCCGTGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCACACGGTTGATGGGAAAGTTATTC 596
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      AGCAAAACACATTTAGTTCAAGTGGAGGTGACCCCTCATTCTGATATTCCCTGGAAA 379
GR2_Tersini  AGCAAAACACATTTAGTTCAAGTGGAGGTGACCCCTCATTCTGATATTCCCTGGAAA 656
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      GGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGACGCTGCCCTGATTACCATCAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGC 439
GR2_Tersini  GGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGACGCTGCCCTGATTACCATCAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGC 716
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      CATTGTTGGTGGGGGTTACATTGCTTGGAGTTGCTGGTATCTTAATGGTTGAAAAG 499
GR2_Tersini  CATTGTTGGTGGGGGTTACATTGCTTGGAGTTGCTGGTATCTTAATGGTT-GAAAAG 775
                                         ****
GR1.ab1      TGAAGTTCATGTATTACGACAAAAGAAGGGTCTGCCGGGATTTGATGAAGAA 555
GR2_Tersini  TGAAGCTCATGTATT-ATACGACCAAAA----- 802
                                         ****   ****

```

PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

18S rRNA Forward:

```

CCCAATTACTGGCACAACTAAATACGCTATTGGAGCTGGAATTACGCCGCTGCTGCCACAGACTTG
CCCTCCAATGGATCCTCGTTAAGGGATTAGATTGACTCTATTCAATTACCAACTCAATGAGCCCGGTATT
GTATTATTGTCACACCTCCCCGTGTTAGGATTGGGTAAATTGCGCGCCAGCTGCCCTCCTAGAGTTGGGT
AACCCTCAGAAACCGGCAAAACGCACGTAAGAGGGATAGTTAATGATGACATTGGAGGTCTAATTGGGT
CTGGTAATTGGAATGAGTCCATAGAAATAACGAGGGATAATTGAAGGGCAAGTCTGGTAAAGCAGC
CGCGGAAATTCCAGCTCATTAGCGTATTAAAGTTAATGAGTAACAAGCCGTAGTTAACCATGGGGATGG
GAAATTGGATTAA

```

18S rRNA Reverse:

CCGACTTTACTGCACACTTAATATACGCTATGGAGCTTGAATTACCGCGGCTGCTGGCACCAAGACTTGCCT
CCAATGGATCCTCGTTAAGGGATTAGATTGACTCATTCATTACCGACTCAATGAGCCCGTATTGTTA
TTTATTGTCACCTACCCCCGTGTTAGGATTGGGAATTITGCGCGCTGCTGCCTTCCTGGTGGTGAACCG
TTAACACCTAACACGGGGAGGTAGTACAATAAAACATAACCGGGCATCATTGAGTCTGGAATTGGA
ATGAGTACAATCTAAATCCCCTAACAGGATCCTTTGGAGGGCGTTCTAGTGCCAATCCCATATAATTAT
TTAAATTGTTGATTAAAAATTGTTACGGGGGGTGGAG

CLUSTALW Analysis of 18S rRNA Forward and inverse of 18S rRNA Reverse sequences

CLUSTAL 2.0.8 multiple sequence alignment

PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

APPENDIX F

tblastx RESULTS

For Cu/Zn SOD:*

| | | Score | E |
|---|---|---------------------|--------|
| Sequences producing significant alignments: | | (Bits) | Value |
| N | | | |
| dbj AB189165.1 | Pisum sativum mRNA for copper zinc superoxide... | 386 | 0.0 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj AB087845.1 | Pisum sativum SOD mRNA for superoxide dismuta... | 384 | 0.0 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb M63003.1 PEACUZNSD | Pea Cu-Zn superoxide dismutase mRNA, co... | 451 | 1e-160 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb AJ012691.1 CAR012691 | Cicer arietinum mRNA for superoxide ... | 361 | 2e-113 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb AJ012739.1 CAR012739 | Cicer arietinum mRNA for superoxide ... | 361 | 8e-107 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb EF530044.1 | Caragana jubata copper/zinc superoxide dismuta... | 358 | 3e-98 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb EF147959.1 | Populus trichocarpa clone WS0126_E03 unknown mRNA | 347 | 9e-93 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb AJ278669.1 PTR278669 | Populus tremula x Populus tremuloide... | 345 | 4e-92 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj AB190501.1 | Populus alba x Populus tremula var. glandulos... | 343 | 2e-91 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj AB190500.1 | Populus alba x Populus tremula var. glandulos... | 343 | 2e-91 |
| 1 | | | |

For Mn SOD:*

| | | | Score | E |
|---|---|---------------------|--------|---|
| | Sequences producing significant alignments: | (Bits) | Value | |
| N | | | | |
| 1 | emb X60170.1 PSSODR Pisum sativum mRNA for manganese superoxide dismutase | 721 | 0.0 | |
| 1 | gb U30841.1 PSU30841 Pisum sativum manganese superoxide dismutase | 263 | 4e-161 | |
| 1 | gb EF587264.1 Glycine max MnSOD mRNA, complete cds | 444 | 7e-129 | |
| 1 | emb X14482.1 NPMNSOD Tobacco mRNA for manganese superoxide dismutase | 431 | 6e-118 | |
| 1 | gb BT013288.1 Lycopersicon esculentum clone 134898R, mRNA sequence | 429 | 2e-117 | |
| 1 | emb AJ238316.2 PPE238316 Prunus persica mitochondrial mRNA for catalase | 427 | 8e-117 | |
| 1 | gb AF094832.1 AF094832 Zantedeschia aethiopica manganese superoxide dismutase | 427 | 1e-116 | |
| 1 | gb AY137205.1 Avicennia marina manganese superoxide dismutase | 425 | 4e-116 | |
| 1 | gb DQ088820.1 Gossypium hirsutum MnSOD mRNA, complete cds | 424 | 7e-116 | |
| 1 | gb EF470980.1 Pistacia vera manganese superoxide dismutase-1 | 423 | 2e-115 | |

For CAT:*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|--------|--|
| 1 | emb X60169.1 PSCATAL Pisum sativum mRNA for catalase | 495 | 2e-137 | |
| 1 | gb AY424952.1 Lotus japonicus catalase 1b (cat1) mRNA, complete cds | 478 | 2e-132 | |
| 1 | emb AJ496418.1 PPE496418 Prunus persica mRNA for catalase (cat1) | 467 | 3e-129 | |
| 1 | dbj D13557.1 VIRCAT Vigna radiata var. radiata mRNA for catalase | 467 | 4e-129 | |
| 1 | emb Z36977.1 NPCAT3MR N.plumbaginifolia mRNA for catalase (cat1) | 466 | 8e-129 | |
| 1 | emb X52135.1 GHCAT1 Cotton mRNA for cottonseed catalase subunit 1 | 465 | 2e-128 | |
| 1 | dbj AB333792.1 Glycine max mRNA for peroxisomal catalase, complete cds | 465 | 2e-128 | |
| 1 | gb AF035255.1 AF035255 Glycine max catalase (cat4) mRNA, complete cds | 465 | 2e-128 | |
| 1 | gb AY128695.1 Capsicum annuum catalase 3 (CAT3) mRNA, complete cds | 463 | 7e-128 | |
| 1 | gb AY173073.1 Hypericum perforatum catalase (cat1) mRNA, complete cds | 463 | 7e-128 | |

For Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR:*

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|--------|
| emb X60373.1 PSGLRED | P.sativum mRNA for glutathione reductase | 385 | 2e-104 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb x90996.1 PSDNAGRGE | P.sativum GR gene | 218 | 1e-102 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb L11632.1 SOYGLUTR | Soybean glutathione reductase (GR) mRNA,... | 371 | 3e-100 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb DQ459505.1 | Phaseolus vulgaris dual-targeted glutathione r... | 364 | 4e-98 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb DQ267474.1 | Vigna unguiculata glutathione reductase mRNA, ... | 362 | 1e-97 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF105199.1 AF105199 | Glycine max glutathione reductase (GR-...) | 202 | 4e-97 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb X76293.1 NCGMGRE | N.tabacum gor mRNA for glutathione reduc... | 360 | 7e-97 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF109694.1 AF109694 | Brassica juncea glutathione reductase ... | 356 | 9e-96 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF019907.1 AF019907 | Vitis vinifera glutathione reductase (...) | 354 | 3e-95 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF349449.1 AF349449 | Brassica juncea glutathione reductase ... | 353 | 8e-95 |
| 1 | | | |

For Chloroplast/stromal APX:*

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|-------|
| gb AY484493.1 | Vigna unguiculata chloroplast stromal ascorbat... | 288 | 4e-75 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AY484492.1 | Vigna unguiculata chloroplast thylakoid-bound ... | 288 | 4e-75 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AY148471.1 | Retama raetam stromal ascorbate peroxidase mRN... | 284 | 5e-74 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj D77997.1 SPICPAP | Spinacia oleracea mRNA for thylakoid-bou... | 276 | 2e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj D83669.1 SPICPSAP | Spinacia oleracea mRNA for stromal asco... | 276 | 2e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| dbj AB090956.1 | Nicotiana tabacum sapx mRNA for stromal ascor... | 275 | 2e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF069316.1 AF069316 | Mesembryanthemum crystallinum stromal ... | 275 | 2e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| gb AF069315.1 AF069315 | Mesembryanthemum crystallinum thylakoi... | 275 | 2e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| emb CT828487.1 | Oryza sativa (indica cultivar-group) cDNA clo... | 274 | 5e-71 |
| 1 | | | |
| ref NM_001053646.1 | Oryza sativa (japonica cultivar-group) Os... | 274 | 5e-71 |
| 1 | | | |

* Only the first 10 results were given.

APPENDIX G

blastn RESULTS

For Cu/Zn SOD:*

```
>dbj|AB189165.1|    Pisum sativum mRNA for copper zinc superoxide dismutase,
complete
cds
Length=857

Score = 1546 bits (1714),  Expect = 0.0
Identities = 857/857 (100%),  Gaps = 0/857 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query   1      GACTATTCCATTTCTCTTATCTGTACTCGCTGTTGGGTGTCCTGAGATCACATT  60
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   1      GACTATTCCATTTCTCTTATCTGTACTCGCTGTTGGGTGTCCTGAGATCACATT  60

Query   61     GAACAATGGTGAAGGCAGTGGCAGTTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGGTACTATTA 120
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   61     GAACAATGGTGAAGGCAGTGGCAGTTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGGTACTATTA 120

Query   121    ACTTCAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACCACGTAACTGGAACCTTGCTGGTCTTAAGC 180
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   121    ACTTCAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACCACGTAACTGGAACCTTGCTGGTCTTAAGC 180

Query   181     CTGGCCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCTTGGGAGACACCAACAGGTTGCATTCAA 240
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   181     CTGGCCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCTTGGGAGACACCAACAGGTTGCATTCAA 240

Query   241     CTGGACCACATTCATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTCCCCTGAGGATGAGACTAGAC 300
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   241     CTGGACCACATTCATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTCCCCTGAGGATGAGACTAGAC 300

Query   301     ATGCTGGTGATTTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTGATGATGGAACGTAAAGCTTCACCATTA 360
```

| | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-----|
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 301 | ATGCTGGTATTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTATGGAACGTGTAAGCTTCACCATTA | 360 |
| Query | 361 | CTGACAACCATACTCCCTCACTGGAACAAACTCCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTTGCC | 420 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 361 | CTGACAACCATACTCCCTCACTGGAACAAACTCCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTTGCC | 420 |
| Query | 421 | ATGCCGATCCTGATGATCTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAACACTGGAAATG | 480 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 421 | ATGCCGATCCTGATGATCTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAACACTGGAAATG | 480 |
| Query | 481 | CTGGTGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTAGGGTTGCAAGGATAGATCACTACTCTCCACT | 540 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 481 | CTGGTGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTAGGGTTGCAAGGATAGATCACTACTCTCCACT | 540 |
| Query | 541 | GTGCGTGCTGTTGAAGTTTAGAAGAATAATTGCACTCATCCCTCTCTGCTTGTTAG | 600 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 541 | GTGCGTGCTGTTGAAGTTTAGAAGAATAATTGCACTCATCCCTCTCTGCTTGTTAG | 600 |
| Query | 601 | GTCTGATCTGACTGCCGGATAATGTGTTTGTGTTGTATTGAAATCTCAATGGCTATAT | 660 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 601 | GTCTGATCTGACTGCCGGATAATGTGTTTGTGTTGTATTGAAATCTCAATGGCTATAT | 660 |
| Query | 661 | GACTGCACTTGGTGTAAATCAGTTACTTCAGATGAAGTCTGGTTGTCATGCTTG | 720 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 661 | GACTGCACTTGGTGTAAATCAGTTACTTCAGATGAAGTCTGGTTGTCATGCTTG | 720 |
| Query | 721 | TTTCAGTTGCAGTATGATCTTAATTCTTAAGGAGTTGGTTTTAATAAAAGACTTGT | 780 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 721 | TTTCAGTTGCAGTATGATCTTAATTCTTAAGGAGTTGGTTTTAATAAAAGACTTGT | 780 |
| Query | 781 | TTTAATAAAAGACTTCATATTAGACTACAATATGGTATGAAAGTGTATCTTGGaaaaaa | 840 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 781 | TTTAATAAAAGACTTCATATTAGACTACAATATGGTATGAAAGTGTATCTTGGAAAAAA | 840 |
| Query | 841 | aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa 857 | |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 841 | AAAAAAAAAAAAAAA 857 | |

>dbj|AB087845.1| Pisum sativum SOD mRNA for superoxide dismutase, complete cds

Length=850

Score = 1525 bits (1690), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 849/850 (99%), Gaps = 1/850 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| Query 5 | ATTCCATTCATTTCTCTTATCTGTACTCGCTGTTGGGTGCCTGAGATCACATTGAAC | 64 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 1 | ATTCCATTCATTTCTCTTATCTGTACTCGCTGTTGGGTGCCTGAGATCACATTGAAC | 60 |
| | | |
| Query 65 | AATGGTGAAGGCTGTGGCAGTTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGGGTACTATTAAC TT | 124 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 61 | AATGGTGAAGGCTGTGGCAGTTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGGGTACTATTAAC TT | 120 |
| | | |
| Query 125 | CAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACC ACTGTAACTGGAACTCTTGCTGGTCTTAAGCCTGG | 184 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 121 | CAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACC ACTGTAACTGGAACTCTTGCTGGTCTTAAGCCTGG | 180 |
| | | |
| Query 185 | CCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCCTGGGAGACACCACAAACGGTTGCATTTCAACTGG | 244 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 181 | CCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCCTGGGAGACACCACAAACGGTTGCATTTCAACTGG | 240 |
| | | |
| Query 245 | ACCACATTTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTGCCCTGAGGATGAGACTAGACATGC | 304 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 241 | ACCACATTTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTGCCCTGAGGATGAGACTAGACATGC | 300 |
| | | |
| Query 305 | TGGTGATTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTATGATGGAACGTAAAGCTTACCAATTACTGA | 364 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 301 | TGGTGATTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTATGATGGAACGTAAAGCTTACCAATTACTGA | 360 |
| | | |
| Query 365 | CAACCATATCCCTCTCACTGGAACAAA ACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTCCATGC | 424 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 361 | CAACCATATCCCTCTCACTGGAACAAA ACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCTGTTGTCCATGC | 420 |
| | | |
| Query 425 | CGATCCTGATGATCTTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAACTACTGGAAATGCTGG | 484 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 421 | CGATCCTGATGATCTTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAACTACTGGAAATGCTGG | 480 |
| | | |
| Query 485 | TGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTATTGGGTTGCAAGGATAGATCACTACTCTCCACTGTGC | 544 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 481 | TGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTATTGGGTTGCAAGGATAGATCACTACTCTCCACTGTGC | 540 |
| | | |
| Query 545 | GTGCTGTTGAAGTTTAGAAGAATAAATTGCACTCATCCCTCTCTTGCTTGTAGGTCT | 604 |
| | | |
| Sbjct 541 | GTGCTGTTGAAGTTTAGAAGAATAAATTGCACTCATCCCTCTCTTGCTTGTAGGTCT | 600 |
| | | |
| Query 605 | GATCTGTA GTGCCGATAATGTGTTTGTATTGAAATCTCAATGGCTATATGACT | 664 |

```

Sbjct 601 GATCTGTACTGCCGATAATGTGTTTGTTGAAATCTCAATGGCTATATGACT 660
Query 665 GCACTTGGTGTAAATCAGTTACTTCAGATGAAGTCTGTTGTTGCATGCTTGT 724
Sbjct 661 GCACTTGGTGTAAATCAGTTACTTCAGATGAAGTCTGTTGTTGCATGCTTGT 720
Query 725 CAGTTGCAGTATGATCTTAATTCTTAAGGAGTTGGTTAATAAAGACTTGT 784
Sbjct 721 CAGTTGCAGTATGATCTTAATTCTTAAGGAGTTGGTTAATAAAGACTTGT 780
Query 785 ATAAAGACTTCATATTAGACTACAATATGGTATA-GAAAGTGTATCTTGGAAAAA 843
Sbjct 781 ATAAAGACTTCATATTAGACTACAATATGGTATA-GAAAGTGTATCTTGGAAAAA 840
Query 844 AAAAAAAA 853
Sbjct 841 AAAAAAAA 850

>gb|M63003.1|PEACUZNSD Pea Cu-Zn superoxide dismutase mRNA, complete cds
Length=738

Score = 1285 bits (1424), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 719/722 (99%), Gaps = 1/722 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query 52 GATCACATTGAACAATGGTGAAGGCTGTGGCAGTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGG 111
Sbjct 2 GATCACATTGAACAATGGTGAAGGCTGTGGCAGTCTTAGTAACAGTAACGAAGTCTCGG 61
Query 112 GTACTATTAACTTCAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACCCTGTAACTGGAACCTTGCTG 171
Sbjct 62 GTACTATTAACTTCAGTCAGGAGGGAAATGGTCCAACCCTGTAACTGGAACCTTGCTG 121
Query 172 GTCTTAAGCCTGGCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCTTGGAGACACCACAAACGGTT 231
Sbjct 122 GTCTTAAGCCTGGCTCCACGGCTTCCATATCCATGCCTTGGAGACACCACAAACGGTT 181
Query 232 GCATTCAACTGGACCACATTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTCCCCCTGAGGATG 291
Sbjct 182 GCATTCAACTGGACCACATTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTCCCCCTGAGGATG 241
Query 292 AGACTAGACATGCTGGTATTTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTATGATGGAACGTAAAGCT 351
Sbjct 242 AGACTAGACATGCTGGTATTTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTATGATGGAACGTAAAGCT 301
Query 352 TCACCATTAATGACAACCATATCCCTCTCACTGGAACAAACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCTG 411

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 150 | GGTCTTAAGCCTGGCTCCATGGCTCCATATTGATGCCTTAGGGACACCACAAATGGC | | | | | | | | | | | | 209 |
| Query | 231 | TGCATTTCAACTGGACCACATTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGGAACATGGTGCCCCTGAGGAT | | | | | | | | | | | | 290 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 210 | TGCATATCAACCGGACCACATTCAATCCTAATGGGAAGAACATGGTCCCCTGAGGAC | | | | | | | | | | | | 269 |
| Query | 291 | GAGACTAGACATGCTGGTATTAGGAAATATCAATGTTGGTGTGATGGAACGTGTAAGC | | | | | | | | | | | | 350 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 270 | CCGATTGACATGCTGGCGATTAGGAAATATCAATGTCGGTGTGATGGAACGTGTAAGC | | | | | | | | | | | | 329 |
| Query | 351 | TTCACCAATTACTGACAACCATACTCCCTCTCACTGGAACAAACTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCT | | | | | | | | | | | | 410 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 330 | TTCTCTATTACTGACAATCAGATCCCTCTCACTGGACCAAACCTCCATCATAGGAAGGGCT | | | | | | | | | | | | 389 |
| Query | 411 | GTTGTTGTCCATGCCGATCCTGATGATCTTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAAAC | | | | | | | | | | | | 470 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 390 | GTTGTTGTTCATGCTGATCCTGATGATCTTGGAAAGGTGGTCACGAGCTTAGCAAAAAC | | | | | | | | | | | | 449 |
| Query | 471 | ACTGGAAATGCTGGTGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTATTGGTTGCAAGGATAGATCACT | | | | | | | | | | | | 530 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 450 | ACTGGAAATGCTGGCGGCAGAGTAGCTTGTGGTATTATTGGTTGCAAGGATAAACCAACC | | | | | | | | | | | | 509 |
| Query | 531 | ACTCTCCACT-----GTGCGTG-----CTGTTGAAGTTTAG | | | | | | | | | | | | 562 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 510 | ACTCTCAACTCCGGGATACTTGAAGTTGGAAATGTCATGATGATATGTTGAAGCTTAG | | | | | | | | | | | | 569 |
| Query | 563 | AAGAATAAAATTGCACTCATC-CCTCTCTTGCTTAGGTCTGATCTGACTGCCGGAT | | | | | | | | | | | | 621 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 570 | AAGAATAAAATGCATGCATCTCATCACTTGCTTAGGTCTGATCTGACTGTTGAAT | | | | | | | | | | | | 629 |
| Query | 622 | AATGTGTTTTGTTGTATTGAAATCTCAATGGCTATATGACTGCACTGGTGTAAATC | | | | | | | | | | | | 681 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 630 | TGTGTGTTTCCTGTAGCGAAAT-----TTGCAATTGGTTCTTAATT | | | | | | | | | | | | 673 |
| Query | 682 | AGTTACTTCAGATGAAGTCTGTTGTTGTCATGCTTGGTCAGTTGCAGTATGATC | | | | | | | | | | | | 741 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 674 | TAGTACTTACCTGAAGTTCGTGGTTATTGTCATGCCTGTTCACTTGCATTGTGATC | | | | | | | | | | | | 733 |
| Query | 742 | TTAA | 745 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sbjct | 734 | TTAA | 737 | | | | | | | | | | | |

For Mn SOD: *

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>emb|X60170.1|PSSODR  Pisum sativum mRNA for manganese superoxide dismutase
Length=984

Score = 592 bits (656),  Expect = 4e-166
Identities = 361/383 (94%), Gaps = 0/383 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query   44    CATCAGAACACCACCACTTATATTACCAACTATAACAAAGCTCTCGAGCAGCTTCAC  100
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   247    CATCAGAACACCACCACTTATATTACCAACTACAACAAAGCTCTCGAACAGCTTCAC  300
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   104    GATGCCGTTGGTAAAGCTGATACATCTACCACGTAAAGCTCCAGAATGCCATCAAGTTC  160
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   307    GATGCCGTTGCTAAAGCTGATACATCTACCACCGTTAACGCTCCAGAATGCCATCAAATT  360
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   164    AACGGCGGAGGTCATATTAACCATTCCATTCTGGAAAAATCTGGCTCCTGTTGGAA      220
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   367    AACGGCGGAGGTCATATCAACCATTCCATTCTGGAAAAATCTGGCTCCTGTTAGTGAA     420
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   224    GGAGGTGGTGAACCACCAAGGAATCCCTAGGCTGGCCATTGACACAAACTTGGATCT  280
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   427    GGAGGTGGTGAACCACCAAGGAATCCCTGGCTGGCCATTGACACCAATTGGATCT     480
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   284    TTGGAAGCATTGATTCAAAAGATTAATGCCGAAGGTGCAGCTTCTCAGGGGTCTGGATGG  340
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   487    TTGGAAGCATTGATACAAAGATTAATGCCGAAGGTGCAGCTTCTCAGGCGTCTGGATGG  540
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   344    GTGTGGCTTGGTCTGACAAAGATTGAAGAGGGTTGTGGTTGAAACCACTGCAAATCAA  400
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Sbjct   547    GTGTGGCTTGGTCTGACAAAGACTTGAAGAGGGTTGTGGTTGAAACCACTGCAAACCAAG  600
          ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| ||||||| |||||
Query   404    GATCCTCTGGTAACTAAGGGTGC  426
          ||| ||| ||||| ||||| ||| |
Sbjct   607    GACCCACTGGTGACTAAAGGAGC  629

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>gb|EF587264.1| Glycine max MnSOD mRNA, complete cds
Length=1001

GENE ID: 100101896 LOC100101896 | MnSOD [Glycine max]

Score = 407 bits (450), Expect = 3e-110
Identities = 318/380 (83%), Gaps = 0/380 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query   44  CATCAGAAACACCACCACTTATATTACCAACTATAACAAAGCTCTCGAGCAGCTTCAC  103
          || ||||| ||||||||||||| || ||||| ||| ||||| ||| ||||| ||| ||| |
Sbjct   196  CACCAAGCACCACCACTTACATCACCAACTACAACAAGGCCCTCGAGCAGCTCAA  255

Query   104  GATGCCGTTGGTAAAGCTGATACATCTACCACTGTTAAGCTCCAGAATGCCATCAAGTTC  163
          || ||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   256  GACGCCATGCCAACGAAAGATTCCCTCCGCCGTCGTTAAGCTCCAGGGGCCATCAAGTTC  315

Query   164  AACGGCGGAGGTATTAACCATTCCATTCTGGAAAAATCTGGCTCCTGTTGGGAA  223
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   316  AACGGCGGAGGTATGTCAACCATTCTATTCTGGAAAAATCTAGCTCCTGTTGAA  375

Query   224  GGAGGTGGTGAACCACCAAAGGAATCCCTAGGCTGGCCATTGACACAAACTTGGATCT  283
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   376  GGAGGTGGTGAACCACCCAAGGGTTCACTGGGATGGCTATTGACACACACATTGGTTCT  435

Query   284  TTGGAAGCATTGATTCAAAAGATTAATGCCGAAGGTGCAGCTCTCAGGGCTGGATGG  343
          || | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   436  TTTGAAGCATTAAACAAAAGTTAACGCAGAAGGTGCTGCACTACAGGGCTGGATGG  495

Query   344  GTGTGGCTTGGTCTTGACAAAGATTTGAAGAGGCTTGTGGTGAAACCAC TGCAAATCAA  403
          ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   496  GTGTGGCTTGGTCTGGACAAAGAGTTGAAGAGGCTTGTAGTTGAAACCAC TGCCAAC  555

Query   404  GATCCTCTGGTAACTAAGGG  423
          || | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   556  GACCCACTGGTTACTAAGGG  575

```

>emb|AJ440726.1|GMA440726 Glycine max partial Mn-sod gene for manganese-superoxide dismutase
 Length=431
 Score = 394 bits (436), Expect = 2e-106
 Identities = 313/375 (83%), Gaps = 1/375 (0%)
 Strand=Plus/Plus

| Query | Subject | Score |
|-------|---|-------|
| 49 | 5 | 108 |
| | GAAGCACCAACCA - ACTTACATCACCAACTTCAACAAGGCCCTCGAGCAGCTCCAAGACGC | 63 |
| 109 | 64 | 168 |
| | CGTCGCCAAGAAAGATTCCCTCCGCCGTGTTAAGCTCCAGGGCGCCATCAAGTTAACCGG | 123 |
| 169 | 124 | 228 |
| | CGGAGGTCACGTCAACCATTCTATTCTGGAAAAATCTAGCTCCTGTTGGAAAGGAGG | 183 |
| 229 | 184 | 288 |
| | TGGTGAACCACCAAAGGAATCCCTAGGCTGGGCCATTGACACAACTTGGATTTGGA | 243 |
| 289 | 244 | 348 |
| | AGCATTGATTCAAAAGATTAATGCCGAAGGTGCGACTCTTCAGGGCTGGATGGGTGTG | 303 |
| 349 | 304 | 408 |
| | GCTTGGTCTTGACAAAGATTGAAGAGGCTTGTGGTGAAACCACTGCAAATCAAGATCC | 363 |
| 409 | 364 | 423 |
| | TCTGGTAACTAAGGG | 378 |

For Chloroplast/stromal APX:*

>gb|AY484493.1| Vigna unguiculata chloroplast stromal ascorbate peroxidase mRNA, complete cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product
Length=1505

Score = 497 bits (550), Expect = 3e-137
Identities = 357/410 (87%), Gaps = 1/410 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|
| Query | 36 | AGGCACTGCTCGGACTTGTAAATGTATTGAAACTTCTCCAGCCGATCAAAGACAAATATT | 95 |
| Sbjct | 465 | | 523 |
| Query | 96 | CAGGGCGTGACATATGCAGACTTATTCAGTTAGCTGGTGTACAGCTGTGGAGGAAGCTG | 155 |
| Sbjct | 524 | CTGGTGTGACATATGCGGACTTATTCAGTTGGCTGGTGCCTGCTGTGAGGAAGCTG | 583 |
| Query | 156 | GAGGCCCAAAATCCCAGAAATATGGAAGAGTAGATAACCTCTGGACCTGACCAATGTC | 215 |
| Sbjct | 584 | | 643 |
| Query | 216 | CTGAAGAAGGACGACTTCCCTGATGCAGGGGCCGTTCAGCTGCTGATCATTTGCGTGAAG | 275 |
| Sbjct | 644 | CCGAAGAAGGGAGACTCCCGATGCTGGTCCCCCTCACCTGCTGATCATTTGCGTCAAG | 703 |
| Query | 276 | TTTTTACCGTATGGATTGGACGACAAGGAAATTGTTGCATTATCTGGAGCACACACAG | 335 |
| Sbjct | 704 | | 763 |
| Query | 336 | TGGGGCGGTCTAGACCAGACCGTAGTGGCTGGGAAACCTGAGACTAAATACACCAAAG | 395 |
| Sbjct | 764 | | 823 |
| Query | 396 | ACGGGCCAGGAGCACCTGGAGGACATCTGGACTGTCCAATGGCTGAAA | 445 |
| Sbjct | 824 | | 873 |

>gb|AY484492.1| Vigna unguiculata chloroplast thylakoid-bound ascorbate peroxidase mRNA, complete cds; nuclear gene for chloroplast product
Length=1354

Score = 497 bits (550), Expect = 3e-137
Identities = 357/410 (87%), Gaps = 1/410 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|
| Query | 36 | AGGCACTGCTCGGACTTGTAAATGTATTGAAACTTCTCCAGCCGATCAAAGACAAATATT | 95 |
| Sbjct | 465 | | 523 |
| Query | 96 | CAGGGCGTGACATATGCAGACTTATTCAGTTAGCTGGTGTACAGCTGTGGAGGAAGCTG | 155 |
| Sbjct | 524 | CTGGTGTGACATATGCGGACTTATTCAGTTGGCTGGTGCCTGCTGTGAGGAAGCTG | 583 |
| Query | 156 | GAGGCCCAAAATCCCAGAAATATGGAAGAGTAGATAACCTCTGGACCTGACCAATGTC | 215 |
| Sbjct | 584 | | 643 |
| Query | 216 | CTGAAGAAGGACGACTTCCCTGATGCAGGGGCCGTTCAGCTGCTGATCATTTGCGTGAAG | 275 |
| Sbjct | 644 | CCGAAGAAGGGAGACTCCCGATGCTGGTCCCCCTCACCTGCTGATCATTTGCGTCAAG | 703 |
| Query | 276 | TTTTTACCGTATGGATTGGACGACAAGGAAATTGTTGCATTATCTGGAGCACACACAG | 335 |
| Sbjct | 704 | | 763 |

```

Query  336  TGGGGCGGTCTAGACCAGACCGTAGTGGCTGGGAAAACCTGAGACTAAATACACCAAAG  395
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  764  TGGGGAGGGCTAGACCAGATCGTAGTGGTTGGGAAAGCCTGAAACTAAATATACGAAAG  823
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  396  ACGGGCCAGGAGCACCTGGAGGACCACCTGGACTGTCCAATGGCTGAAA  445
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  824  ATGGGCCAGGAGCACCTGGAGGACAATCATGGACAGTGCAATGGTTGAAA  873
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

>gb|AY148471.1| Retama raetam stromal ascorbate peroxidase mRNA, complete cds;
nuclear gene for chloroplast product
Length=1103

Score = 466 bits (516), Expect = 6e-128
Identities = 350/410 (85%), Gaps = 1/410 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query  36   AGGCACTGCTCGGACTTGTAAATGTATTGAAACTTCTCCAGCCGATCAAAGACAAATATT  95
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  413  AGCCAATGCT-GGACTTGTAAATGCATTGAAGCTTCTCAACCAATCAAAGACAAATACT  471
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  96   CAGGGTGTACATATGCAGACTTATTCAGTTAGCTGGTGTACAGCTGTGGAGGAAGCTG  155
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  472  CTGGTGTACATATGCAGACTTATTCAGTTGGCCGGTGTACTGCTGTGGAGGAAGCTG  531
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  156  GAGGCCAAAAATTCCCATGAAATATGGAAGAGTAGATAACCTCTGGACCTGACCAATGTC  215
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  532  GAGGCCAAAAATCCCTATGAAGTATGGAAGAGTAGTGTCACTAGTCCTGAACAATGTC  591
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  216  CTGAAGAAGGACGACTTCCTGATGCAGGGGCCGTTCAGCTGCTGATCATTGCGTGAAG  275
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  592  CTGAAGAAGGGAGGCTTCCTGATGCTGGCCCCCCTCACCTGCTGATCATTGCGTCAAG  651
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  276  TTTTTTACCGTATGGGATTGGACGACAAGGAAATTGTTGCATTATCTGGAGCACACACAG  335
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  652  TTTTCTACCGGATGGTTGAATGACAAGGAAATCGTTGCACTATCTGGAGCACACACAC  711
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  336  TGGGGCGGTCTAGACCAGACCGTAGTGGCTGGGAAAACCTGAGACTAAATACACCAAAG  395
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  712  TGGGGAGGTCTAGACCAGATCGCAGCGCCTGGGCAAGCCTGAGACAAATATACGAAAG  771
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  396  ACGGGCCAGGAGCACCTGGAGGACCACCTGGACTGTCCAATGGCTGAAA  445
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  772  ATGGGCCGGAGCACCTGGAGGACAATCCTGGACAGCACAGTGTTGAAA  821
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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For CAT:*

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>emb|X60169.1|PSCATAL  Pisum sativum mRNA for catalase
Length=1738

Score = 989 bits (1096), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 599/630 (95%), Gaps = 2/630 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

Query  1    TTTCGCCCCCTCCATTGTGGCAGATTCTTCAGGCCCTGGTGTTCAGACACCTGTCATT  60
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  298  TTTCGCACCTGACATGTG-CAGATTCTTCAGGCCCTGGTGTTCAGACACCTGTCATT  356
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  61   GTGCGTTCTCAACTGTCATTGATGAAACGTGGCAGCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTCGA  120
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  357  GTGCGTTCTCAACTGTCATTGATGAAACGTGGCAGCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGATCCCGA  416
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  121  GGTTTGCTGTAAATTTACACCAAGAGAGGGTAACATGACCTTGTGGAAACAACTTT  180
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  417  GGTTTGCTGTGAAATTTACACCAAGAGAGGGTAACATGACCTTGTGGAAACAACTTT  476
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  181  CCTGTCTTCTCGTTCATGACGGGTGAATTTCAGATATGGTCCACGCTCTAAACCC  240
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct  477  CCCGTCTTCTCGTTCATGACGGGTGAATTTCAGATATGGTCCATGCTCTAAACCC  536
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

```

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|
| Query | 241 | AATCCCAGACCCACATCCAGGAGAATTGGAGAATTCTGACTTCTTCTCCACTTCCA | 300 |
| Sbjct | 537 | AATCCCAGACCCACATCCAGGAGAATTGGAGAATTCTGACTTCTTCTACAACCTTCCA | 596 |
| Query | 301 | GAAAGCCTTCACATGTTCTCCTCCTATTGATGATGTGGTGTCCCTCAAGATTATAGG | 360 |
| Sbjct | 597 | GAAAGCCTTCACATGTTCTCCTCCTATTGATGATGTGGTGTCCCAAGATTATAGG | 656 |
| Query | 361 | CATATGGATGGTTTGGAGTCAACACATATAACCCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTG | 420 |
| Sbjct | 657 | CATATGGATGGTTTGGAGTTAACACATACACCCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCGGTG | 716 |
| Query | 421 | TTTGTGAAATTTCACTGGAAGCCCACCTGTGGTGTGAAGTGTCTATTGAGAAGAGGCC | 480 |
| Sbjct | 717 | TATGTCAAATTTCACTGGAAGCCCACCTGTGGTGTGAAGTGTCTATTGAGAAGAGGCC | 776 |
| Query | 481 | ATTAAGGTGGGAGGATCCAACCAACAGTCATGCTACTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCT | 540 |
| Sbjct | 777 | ATTCAGGTGGGAGGATCCAACCAACAGCCATGCTACTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCT | 836 |
| Query | 541 | GCTGGTAACTATCCTGAGTGGAAACTTATATTCAAACAAATAGATCCTGCTCATGAAGAC | 600 |
| Sbjct | 837 | GCTGGTAACTATCCTGAGTGGAAACTTACATTCAAACAAATAGATCCTGCTCATGAAGAC | 896 |
| Query | 601 | AGATTGACTTTGACCTCCTCCGATGTAAC 630 | |
| Sbjct | 897 | AGATTGAGTTGACCCACT-TGATGTAAC 925 | |

>gb|AY424952.1| Lotus japonicus catalase 1b (cat1) mRNA, complete cds, alternatively spliced Length=1756

Score = 852 bits (944), Expect = 0.0
 Identities = 557/612 (91%), Gaps = 1/612 (0%)
 Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-----|
| Query | 19 | GCAGATTCTTCAGCCCCCTGGTGTTCAGACACCTGTCATTGCGTTCTCAACTGTC | 78 |
| Sbjct | 375 | GCAGATTCTTCAGCCCCCTGGAGTTTCAGACACCTATCATTCTCGTTCTGACTGTC | 434 |
| Query | 79 | ATTCATGAACGTGGCGACCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTGAGGTTTGCTGTAAAATT | 138 |
| Sbjct | 435 | ATTCATGAGCGTGGTAGCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGATCCTCGTGGTTTGCTGTGAAGTT | 494 |
| Query | 139 | TACACCAGAGAGGTAACATGACCTTGTGGAAACAACATTCCCTGTCTTCTCGTTCAT | 198 |
| Sbjct | 495 | TACACCAGAGAGGTAACTTGACCTTGTGGAAACAACATTCCCTGTCTTCTCGTACGT | 554 |
| Query | 199 | GACGGGATGAATTTCAGATATGGTCACGCTCTAAACCAATCCCCAGACCCACATC | 258 |
| Sbjct | 555 | GATGGCATGAAATTCCAGATATGGCCATGCTCTGAAGCCAATCCCAAGTCTCACATC | 614 |
| Query | 259 | CAGGAGAATTGGAGAATTCTTGACTIONTCTTCTCCACTTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCACATGTT | 318 |
| Sbjct | 615 | CAGGAGAATTGGAGAATCCTTGACTIONTCTTCTCCACTTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCATATGTT | 674 |
| Query | 319 | TCCTTCCTATTGATGATGTGGTGTCCCTCAAGATTATAGGCATATGGATGGTTTGG | 378 |
| Sbjct | 675 | ACCTTCTATTGATGATGTGGTGTCCACAAGATTATAGGCACATGGATGGTTTGG | 734 |
| Query | 379 | GTCAACACATATACCCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTGTGGTGAATTTCACTGG | 438 |
| Sbjct | 735 | GTAAATACATATACCCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAAGTAGTGTACGTGAATTTCACTGG | 794 |
| Query | 439 | AAGCCCACCTGTGGTGTGAAGTGTCTATTGAGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGATCC | 498 |
| Sbjct | 795 | AAGCCCACATGTGGTGTAAAGTGTCTATTGAGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGATCC | 854 |

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|
| Query | 499 | AACCACAGTCATGCTACTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCTGCTGGTAACATCCTGAG | 558 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 855 | AACCACAGCCATGCCACTCAAGACCTTATGAGTCATTGCTGCTGGTAACATCCTGAG | 914 |
| | | | |
| Query | 559 | TGGAAACTTTATTCAAACAATAGATCCTGCTCATGAAGACAGATTTGACTTGACCTC | 618 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 915 | TGGAAACTGTTCAAAACCATAGATCCTGATCATGAAGACAGATTTGACCCA | 974 |
| | | | |
| Query | 619 | CTCCGATGTAAC | 630 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 975 | CT-TGATGTAAC | 985 |

>dbj|AB333792.1| Glycine max mRNA for peroxisomal catalase, complete cds
Length=1479

Score = 821 bits (910), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 541/598 (90%), Gaps = 0/598 (0%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|
| Query | 19 | GCAGATTCTCGAGCCCTGGTGTTCAGACACCTGTCATTGCGTTCTCAACTGTC | 78 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 259 | GCAGATTCTCGAGCCCTGGAGTTAGACGCCTGTAATTGTTCTCAACTGTC | 318 |
| | | | |
| Query | 79 | ATTCATGAACGTCAGCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTGAGGTTTGCTGTAAAATT | 138 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 319 | ATTCATGAGCGTGGTAGCCCTGAAACCTTGAGGGACCCCTGAGGTTTGCCGTGAAGTTT | 378 |
| | | | |
| Query | 139 | TACACCAGAGAGGTAACATGACCTTGTGGAAACAACTTCCCTGTCTTCGTTCAT | 198 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 379 | TACACCAGAGAGGTAACTTGACCTTGTGGAAACAAACCTTCCCGTCTTGTACGT | 438 |
| | | | |
| Query | 199 | GACGGGATGAATTTCAGATATGGTCACGCTCTAACCCAATCCCCAGACCCACATC | 258 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 439 | GACGGCATGAAATTTCAGATATGGTCATGCTCTAACCCAATCCAAAGAACACATC | 498 |
| | | | |
| Query | 259 | CAGGAGAATTGGAGAATTCTTGACTTCTTCTCCACTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCACATGTT | 318 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 499 | CAAGAGAATTGGAGGATCCTGACTTCTCACTTCCAGAAAGCCTTCACATGTT | 558 |
| | | | |
| Query | 319 | TCCTTCCTATTGATGATGTGGGTGTCCTCAAGATTAGGCATATGGATGGTTTGG | 378 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 559 | ACCTTTTATTGATGATTGGGTGTTCCACAAGATTACAGGCATATGGATGGTTTGG | 618 |
| | | | |
| Query | 379 | GTCAACACATATAACCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAATCAGTGTGGTGAATTCACTGG | 438 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 619 | GTTAACACATATAACGCTGATCAACAAGGCTGGAAAGCAGTGTATGTGAATTCACTGG | 678 |
| | | | |
| Query | 439 | AAGCCCACCTGTGGTGTGAAGTGTCTATTGGAAGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGATCC | 498 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 679 | AAGACCACTAGTGGTATAAAAGTGTCTATTGGAGGAAGAGGCCATTAAGGTGGAGGAGCC | 738 |
| | | | |
| Query | 499 | AACCACAGTCATGCTACTAAAGACCTTATGACTCAATTGCTGCTGGTAACATCCTGAG | 558 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 739 | AACCACAGCCATGCCACTCAAGACCTCCATGATTCAATTGCTGCTGGTAACATCCTGAG | 798 |
| | | | |
| Query | 559 | TGGAAACTTTATTCAAACAATAGATCCTGCTCATGAAGACAGATTTGACTTGACC | 616 |
| | | | |
| Sbjct | 799 | TGGAAACTGTTGTTCAAGACAATAGATCCTGAGCACGAAGACAAATTGACTTGACC | 856 |

For Chloroplast/mitochondrial APX:*

>emb|X60373.1|PSGLRED P.sativum mRNA for glutathione reductase
Length=2063

Score = 870 bits (964), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 530/554 (95%), Gaps = 6/554 (1%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|--|-----|-----|
| Query | 2 | TTTCTC-ACACTCTCCCTCCGATACAACCGCGAGGTGTCGCCGGCACCTCGTGTAA | TAC | 60 |
| Sbjct | 396 | TTTCTCTACTATCTCCCTC-GATACCACCG-GTGGTGTGG-CGCGCACCT-GTGTAA | TAC | 451 |
| Query | 61 | GTGGATGTGTCCTAAGAAATTGCTAGTCTATGCCTCAAAATTCTCATGAATTGAA | G | 120 |
| Sbjct | 452 | GGGGATGTGTCCTAAGAAATTGCTAGTCTATGCCTCAAAATTCTCATGAATTGAA | G | 511 |
| Query | 121 | AAAGCAATGGTTTGGATGGAGATATGACAGTGAACTTAAGCATGACTGGAGTAGTTG | A | 180 |
| Sbjct | 512 | AAAGCAATGGTTTGGATGGAGATATGACAGTGAACTTAAGCATGACTGGAGTAGTTG | A | 571 |
| Query | 181 | TTGCTAATAAAATGCCGAGTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATATTTGAA | AA | 240 |
| Sbjct | 572 | TTGCTAATAAAACGCCGAGTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATACTTTGAA | AA | 631 |
| Query | 241 | ATGCCGGTGTCAAGTTGATTGAAAGGCCGTGGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCACACGGTGAT | G | 300 |
| Sbjct | 632 | ATGCCGGTGTCAAGTTGATTGAAAGGCCGTGGAAAGATTGTAGATGCTCACACAGTTGAT | G | 691 |
| Query | 301 | TTGATGGGAAGTTATTCAGCAAAACACATTTCAGTTGAGGTGCGACCCCTCA | C | 360 |
| Sbjct | 692 | TTGATGGGAAGTTATTCAGCAAAACACATTTCAGTTGAGGTGCGACCCCTCA | C | 751 |
| Query | 361 | TTCCGTATATTCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGACGCTGCCCTTGATTTACCAT | C | 420 |
| Sbjct | 752 | TTCCGTATATTCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGACGCTGCCCTTGATTTACCAT | C | 811 |
| Query | 421 | CAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGCCATTGTTGGTGGGGTTACATTGCCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA | C | 480 |
| Sbjct | 812 | CAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGCTATTGTTGGTGGGGTTACATTGCCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA | C | 871 |
| Query | 481 | TCTTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTTCATGTATTATACGCCAAAGAAGGGTCTGCCGG | G | 540 |
| Sbjct | 872 | TCTTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTTCATGTATTATACGCCAAAGAAGGGTCTGCCGG | G | 931 |
| Query | 541 | GATTTGATGAAGA | 554 | |
| Sbjct | 932 | GA-TTTGATGAAGA | 944 | |

>gb|L11632.1|SOYGLUTR Soybean glutathione reductase (GR) mRNA, complete cds
Length=2081

GENE ID: 547793 GR | glutathione reductase [Glycine max]
(10 or fewer PubMed links)

Score = 706 bits (782), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 493/554 (88%), Gaps = 9/554 (1%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-----|
| Query | 121 | AAAGCAATGGTTTGGATGGAGATATGACAGTGAACCTAACCATGACTGGAGTAGTTGA | 180 |
| Sbjct | 465 | AAAGTAATGGTTCCGGATGGAGATATGACAGTGAAGCCAAAGCATGATTGGAGTAGTTCA | 524 |
| Query | 181 | TTGCTAATAAAAATGCCGAGTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATATTTGAAAA | 240 |
| Sbjct | 525 | TAGCTAATAAAAATGCTGAGTTGCAGCGTCTACTGGCATCTACAAGAATATTTGAACA | 584 |
| Query | 241 | ATGCCGGTGTCAAGTTGATTGAAGGCCGTGGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCACACGGTTGATG | 300 |
| Sbjct | 585 | ATGCTGGGGTCAAGCTGATTGAAGGCCATGGAAAGATGATAGATCCTCACACGGTTGATG | 644 |
| Query | 301 | TTGATGGGAAGTTATTCAGCAAACACATTTAGTTTAGTTGAGGTGCGACCCCTCA | 360 |
| Sbjct | 645 | TTAATGGGAAGCTATATTCAAGCCAAACACATTTAGTTGAGGTGCGACCCCTCA | 704 |
| Query | 361 | TTCCTGATATTCCCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGCCTGCCCCTTGATTACCAT | 420 |
| Sbjct | 705 | TTCCTGATATCCCTGGAAAGGAATTAGCAATAGATTCAAGTGCCTGCCCCTTGATTACCAA | 764 |
| Query | 421 | CAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGCATTGTTGGTGGGGTTACATTGCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA | 480 |
| Sbjct | 765 | CAAACACTGTGAAAATAGCATTGTTGGTGGTTACATTGCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA | 824 |
| Query | 481 | TCTTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTTCATGTATTATACGACAAAAGAAGGGCTGCGGG | 540 |
| Sbjct | 825 | TCTTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTTCATGTATTATACGGCAAAAGAAGGTTTGCGGG | 884 |
| Query | 541 | GATTTGATGAAGA 554 | |
| Sbjct | 885 | GA-TTTGATGAAGA 897 | |

>gb|DQ459505.1| Phaseolus vulgaris dual-targeted glutathione reductase (dtGR)
mRNA, complete cds
Length=2055

Score = 663 bits (734), Expect = 0.0
Identities = 484/554 (87%), Gaps = 6/554 (1%)
Strand=Plus/Plus

| | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-----|
| Query | 2 | TTTCTCACAC-TCTCCTCCGATAACACCGCGAGGTGTGCGCGCGCACCTCGTGTAAATAC | 60 |
| Sbjct | 318 | TTTCTCAACCGTCTCTTCC-GAAACCACCG-GAGGAGTCG-GCGAACGT-GTGTAAATAC | 373 |
| Query | 61 | GTGGATGTGTCCTAAGAAAATTGCTAGTCTATGCGTCAAAATTTCATGAATTGAAAG | 120 |
| Sbjct | 374 | GAGGATGCGTGCCAAAAGAAGTTGCTGGTTATGCATCAAAATTGCTCATGAATTGAAAG | 433 |
| Query | 121 | AAAGCAATGGTTTGGATGGAGATATGACAGTGAACCTAACCATGACTGGAGTAGTTGA | 180 |
| Sbjct | 434 | AAAGTAATGGTTTGGCTGGAGATATGGCAGTGAGGCCAACATGATTGGAGTAGTTGA | 493 |
| Query | 181 | TTGCTAATAAAAATGCCGAGTTGCAGCGCTTACTGGTATCTATAAGAATATTTGAAAA | 240 |
| Sbjct | 494 | TAGCTAATAAAAATGCTGAGTTGCAGCGTCTACTGGCATCTACAAAATATCTTGAACA | 553 |
| Query | 241 | ATGCCGGTGTCAAGTTGATTGAAGGCCGTGGAAAGATTGTAGATCCTCACACGGTTGATG | 300 |
| Sbjct | 554 | ATGCTGGAGTCAGCTGATCGAAGGCCATGGAAAGATTATAGATTCTCACACGGTTGATG | 613 |
| Query | 301 | TTGATGGGAAGTTATTCAGCAAACACATTTAGTTTAGTTGAGGTGCGACCCCTCA | 360 |
| Sbjct | 614 | TTAATGGGAAGCAATATTCAAGCCAAACACATTTAGTTGCGCTGGAGGTGCGCCCTCA | 673 |
| Query | 361 | TTCCTGATATTCCCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGCCTGCCCCTTGATTACCAT | 420 |
| Sbjct | 674 | TTCCTGATATTCCCTGGAAAGGAATATGCAATAGATTCAAGATATTGCCCTTGATTACCAT | 733 |
| Query | 421 | CAAAGCCTCAGAAGATAGCATTGTTGGTGGGGTTACATTGCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA | 480 |
| Sbjct | 734 | CAAACACTGGAAAATAGCTATTGTTGGTGGTTACATTGCCTGGAGTTGCTGGTA 793 | |

```
Query  481  TCTTTAATGGTTGAAAAGTGAAGTCATGTATTATACGACAAAGAAGGGCTGCCGG  540
       ||||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   794  TCTTTAATGGTTGCAAAGCGAGGTCATGTCTTATACGGCAAAAGAAGGTTCTGAGGG  853
       || | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Query  541  GATTTTGATGAAGA  554
       || | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Sbjct   854  GA-TTTGACGAAGA  866
```

* Only the first three homologous sequences were taken.

APPENDIX H

OPTIMIZED MULTIPLEX PCR CONDITIONS

Mn SOD (Amplicon Length is 186 bp)

Table H. 5. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Multiplex Mn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Mn SOD Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Mn SOD Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| 18S rRNA Right Primer (2 µM) | 0.12µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Primer (2 µM) | 0.12µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.5U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.25mM |

Table H. 6. PCR Conditions of Mn SOD amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 32 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 30 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 50°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 1 min. 30 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

Cu/Zn SOD Lentil (Amplicon Length is 305 bp)

Table H. 7. Final concentrations of PCR ingredients for Specific Cu/Zn SOD PCR

| Ingredient | Final Concentration |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10X Taq Buffer | 1X |
| 2mM dNTP Mix | 0.2mM of each |
| Cu/Zn SOD Right Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| Cu/Zn SOD Left Primer (10 µM) | 0.6µM |
| 18S rRNA Right Primer (2 µM) | 0.12µM |
| 18S rRNA Left Primer (2 µM) | 0.12µM |
| Taq DNA Polymerase (5U/1µL) | 1.25U |
| Template | 50ng |
| 25mM MgCl ₂ | 1.5mM |

Table H. 8. PCR Conditions of Cu/Zn SOD amplicon

| PCR Step | Step Temperature | Step Duration |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95°C | 1 min. |
| Cycle number = 30 | | |
| Denaturation | 94°C | 45 sec. |
| Primer annealing | 51°C | 30 sec. |
| Elongation | 72°C | 45 sec. |
| Final Extension | 72°C | 10 min. |

APPENDIX I

PROTEIN and mRNA SEQUENCES with CLUSTALW ALIGNMENT of SEQUENCES

Mn SOD pBLAST Results (240 amino acids)

```
>gi|20902|emb|CAA42737.1| MnSOD [Pisum sativum]
MAARTLLCRKTLSSVLRNDAKPIGAAIAAASTQSRLHVFTLPDLAYDYGALEPVISGEIMQIHHQKHHQTYITNYNKALEQ
LHDAVAKADTSTTVKLQNAIKFNGGGHINHSIFWKNLAPVSEGGGEPPKESLGWAIDTNFGSLEALIQKINAEGAALQASGW
VWLGLDKDLKRLVVETTANQDPLVTKGASLVPLLWIDVWEHAYYLQYKNVRPDYLKNIWKVINWKHASEVYEKESS
>gi|147945633|gb|ABQ52658.1| MnSOD [Glycine max]
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QLQDAIAKKDSSAVVKLQGAIKFNGGGHVNHISIFWKNLAPVREGGGEPPKGSLGWAIDTHFGSFEALIQKVNAEGAALQGSG
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>gi|3273751|gb|AAC24832.1| MnSOD [Arabidopsis thaliana]
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ASTVVKLQSAIKFNGGGHVNHISIFWKNLAPSSEGGEPPKGSLGSAIDAHFGSLEGLVKKMSAEGAAVQGSGWVWLGLDKEL
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CLUSTALW Alignment of Protein Sequences

CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

| | |
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| gi 20902 emb CA | MAARTLLCRKTLSSVLRNDAKP-IGAAIAAASTQSRGLHVFTLPDLAYDY 49 |
| gi 147945633 gb | MAARALLTRKTLATVLRNDAKPIIYGVGITAATHSRGLHVYTLPDLYDY 50 |
| gi 3273751 gb A | MAIRCVASRKTLAGLKETSSRL-----LRIRGIQTFLPDLPYDY 40 |
| | *** * : ****: : . .::: : * *::: .:***** *** |
| gi 20902 emb CA | GALEPVISGEIMQIHHQKHHQTYITNYNKALEQLHDAVAKADTSTTVKLQ 99 |
| gi 147945633 gb | GALEPAISGDIMQLHHQKHHQTYITNYNKALEQLQDAIAKKDSSAVVKLQ 100 |
| gi 3273751 gb A | GALEPAISGEIMQIHHQKHHQAYVTNYNNALEQLDQAVNKGDASTVVKLQ 90 |
| | *****.***:***:*****:***:*****.::: * *::: .**** |
| gi 20902 emb CA | NAIKFNGGGHINHSIFWKNLAPVSEGGGEPPKESLGWAIDTNFGSLEALI 149 |
| gi 147945633 gb | GAIKFNGGGHVNHHSIFWKNLAPVREGGEPPKGSLGWAIDTHFGSFEALI 150 |
| gi 3273751 gb A | SAIKFNGGGHVNHHSIFWKNLAPSSEGGGEPPKGSLGSAIDAHFGSLEGLV 140 |
| | .*****:*****:*****:*****:*****:*****:*****:*****:* |
| gi 20902 emb CA | QKINAEGAALQASGWVWLGLDKDLKRLVVEATTANQDPLVTKGASLVPLLW 199 |
| gi 147945633 gb | QKVNAEGAALQGSGWVWLGLDKELKRLVVEATTANQDPLVTKGPVLVPLIG 200 |
| gi 3273751 gb A | KKMSAEGAAVQGSGWVWLGLDKELKKLVFDTTANQDPLVTKGGSLVPLVG 190 |
| | :*: .*****:*.*****:*****:***. :*****:***** .*****: |
| gi 20902 emb CA | IDVWEHAYYLQYKNVRPDYLKNIWKVINWKHASEVYEKESS 240 |
| gi 147945633 gb | IDVWEHAYYLQYKNVRPDYLKNIWKVINWKYASEVYEKESS 241 |
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Mn SOD mRNA Sequences

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CATTAGCGCGAAATCATGCAAATCCACCATCAGAAACACCACAGACTTATATTACCAACTACAACAAAGCTCTCGAACAG
CTTCACGATGCCGTTGCTAAAGCTGATACATCTACCACCGTTAACGCTCCAGAATGCCATCAAATTCAACGGCGGAGGTCTA
TCAACCATTCCATTTCGGAAAAATCTGGCTCTGTTAGTGAAGGAGGTGGTAACCACCAAGGAATCCCTGGCTGGC
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CAAGTTGGTCCATTGCTTGGATAGATGTTGGAACATGCCACTACTTACAGTACAAAAATGTTAGACCAGACTATT
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CAGCTCCAAGACGCCATGCCAAGAAAGATTCCCGCCGTCGTTAAGCTCCAGGGGCCATCAAGTTAACGGCGAGGTC
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TGGGTGTGGCTTGGTGTGGACAAAGAGTTGAAGAGGTTGTAGTTGAAACCACTGCCAACAGGACCCACTGGTTACTAAGG
GACCAAATTGGTTCCATTGATTGGTATTGATGTTGGAGCATGCGTACTACTTACAGTACAAGAATGTTAGACCAGACTA
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>gi|3273750:17-712          Arabidopsis          thaliana          MnSOD
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CLUSTALW Alignment of mRNA Sequences

CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

| | |
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| gi 147945632_1- | ATGGCCGCGAGCTCTGGTGTGACCAGAAAAACCTAGCCACCGTGCTCCGCAACGACGCG |
| 60 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | ----- |
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| gi 20901_55-777 | AAACC---AATCGGAGCAGCCATAGCAGCCGATCAACTCAATCCCGGGTTGCATGTC |
| 117 | |
| gi 147945632_1- | AAGCCCATATCGGAGTTGGATACAGCAGCGGCTACTCATTACCGGGTTGCACGTG |
| 120 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | -----GGATCAGAGGGATT-CAGACT |
| 20 | |
| | ** * * * * |
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| gi 20901_55-777 | TTCACGCTCCGGATCTCGCTTACGACTACGGAGCTTGGAGCCTGTCATTAGCGCGAA |
| 177 | |
| gi 147945632_1- | TACACGCTACCGATCTGGATTACGACTATGGCGCACTGGAGCCAGCCATCAGCGCGAC |
| 180 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| gi 147945632_1- | CAGGGGTCTGGATGGGTGTGGCTTGGCTGGACAAAGAGTTGAAGAGGCTTAGTTGAA |
| 540 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | CAAGGCTCAGGATGGGTGTGGCTCGGACTAGACAAAGAACTGAAGAAGCTAGTTTGAC |
| 440 | |
| * * * * * ***** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * | |
| gi 20901_55-777 | ACCACTGCCAACCCAGGACCCACTGGTGACTAAAGGAGCAAGTTGGTCCATTGCTTG |
| 597 | |
| gi 147945632_1- | ACCACTGCCAACCCAGGACCCACTGGTTACTAAGGGACCAAATTGGTCCATTGATTGGT |
| 600 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | ACAAC TGCCAATCAGGATCCATTAGTGACAAAAGGAGGAAGCTTGGTACCTCTGGTGGGT |
| 500 | |
| * | |
| gi 20901_55-777 | ATAGATGTTGGAACATGCCTACTACTTACAGTACAAAAATGTTAGACCAGACTATTG |
| 657 | |
| gi 147945632_1- | ATTGATGTTGGGAGCATGCGTACTACTTACAGTACAAGAATGTTAGACCAGACTATCTG |
| 660 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | ATAGATGTTGGGAGCACGCCACTACTTGCACTACAAAAATGTGAGGCCTGAGTATCTG |
| 560 | |
| * | |
| gi 20901_55-777 | AAGAACATTTGGAAAGTTATTAAC TGGAAACATGCCAGTGAAGTATATGAGAAAGAGAGC |
| 717 | |
| gi 147945632_1- | AAGAACATTTGGAAAGTTATTAATTGGAAATATGCCAGTGAAGTGTATGAGAAAGAGAGC |
| 720 | |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | AAGAACATTTGGAAAGTGATCAACTGGAAATATGCAAGCGAGGTTATGAGAAGGAAAC |
| 620 | |
| ***** | |
| gi 20901_55-777 | TCTTAA 723 |
| gi 147945632_1- | TCTTAG 726 |
| gi 3273750_17-7 | AACTGA 626 |
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Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR pBLAST Results (541 amino acids)

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GWRYDSEPKHDWSSFIANKNAELQRLTGIVKNTLNAGVKLIEGHKMDPHTVDVNGLYSAKHILVAV
GGRPFIPDIPGKELAIDSAAALDLPKPVKIAIVGGGYIALEFAGIFNGNLKSEVHVFIRQKKVLRGFDEE
IRDVFEEQMSVRCIHFTEESPQAITSADGFSLTKNTKGTVDFGSFHMATGRRPNTQNLGLESVGVKL
AKDGAIEVDEYSQTSVSIWAEGDVTRNIRNLTPVALMEGGALVKTLFQDNPTKDYRAVPSSAVFSQPPIG
QVGLTEEQAVQQYGDIDIFTANFRPLKATLSGLPDRVMFKLVVCAKTNNEVGLLHMCGEDAPEIVQGFAVA
LKARLTKADFADATVGIHPSSAEEFVTMRTPTTRKIRKSESSEGKSGSQAKAAAGV

>gi|1345568|emb|CAA42921.1| GR [Pisum sativum]
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ESQNGADPARQYDFDLFTIGAGSGGVVRASRFASNFVGASSAVCELPFSTISSDTGGVGGTCVIRGCVPKL
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KPDYRAIPSASFQSOPPIGGVGLTEEQAAEQYGDIDVFTANFRPMKATLSGLPDRVMFKLIVSAETNVVLG
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GS
>gi|451198|dbj|BAA03137.1| GR [Arabidopsis thaliana]
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VPKKLLVYASKFSHEFEDSHGFWKYETEPSSHDTTLIANKNAELQRLTGIVKNTLISKANVKKLIEGRGKV
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GLNCEVHVFIRQKKVLRGFDEDVRDFVGEQMSLRLGIEFHTEESPAAIKAGDGSFLKTSKGTVBEGFSHV
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TAAGV

CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

Chloroplast/Mitochondrial GR mRNA Sequences

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TCTCGAGCTTCTCTCCACTATCTCCCGAACACC CGGAGTCCGGAACCTGTGTAATACGAG
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CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

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180 TACCACTCTCGCCGGTTTCTGTTGTGCCAGTACCGATAATGGAGCTGAATCAG--ACC
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297 GCC-AGTATGACTTCGACCTTTCACCATCGGCGCTGGAAGCGGAGGCCTCCGTGCTTCC
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359 TCTTCCGATACTGCTGGAGGCCTTGGAGGAACGTGTATTGAGAGGATGTGACCAAAG
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419 AAGTTACTTGTATGCATCCAAATACACTCATGAGTTGAAGACAGTCATGGATTGGT
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gi|451197_19-17
659 ACTACGAGGAATATTCTGATTGAGTTGGGACGTCCTTCATTCCTGACATTCCAGGA
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gi|169964_59-16
723 AAGGAATTAGCAATAGATTCAAGATGCTGCCCTGATTACCAACAAACCTGTGAAAATA

CAT pBLAST Results (492 amino acids)

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>gi|2661019|gb|AAB88171.1|[2661019] catalase (cat3) [Glycine max]
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NHSHATKDLYDSIAAGNYPEWKLYIQTLDPENEDRLLDFPDLDVTKTWPEDVLPLQPVGRMLVKNIDNFAENEQLAFCPAI
IVPGVYSSDDKLQLTQFISYADTQRHRLGPNYLQLPANSPKCAHHNNHHGFMNFMRDEEVNYFPSRYDPVRHAERVPVPP
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>gi|218322|dbj|BA02755.1|[218322] catalase [Vigna radiata]
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AVFSGRREKIAIEKENNFKQAGERFRSWAPDRQDRFIRRWDALSDPRTVTHEIRSVWVSYWSQADRSLGQKIA SHLNMRPNI
>gi|20677|emb|CAA42736.1|[20677] catalase [Pisum sativum]
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SI
>gi|1246399|emb|CAA64220.1| catalase [Arabidopsis thaliana]

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CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

| | | |
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| gi 2661019 gb A | LANFDRERI PERV VHARGASAKGFFEVTHDISHLTCADF RLAPGVQTPLI | 100 |
| gi 1246399 emb | LANFDRERI PERV VHARGASAKGFFEVTHDISNLTCADF RLAPGVQTPLVI | 100 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | LANFDRERI PERV VHARGASAKGFFEVTHDVSHLTCADF RLAPGVQTPLVI | 100 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | LAQFDRERI PERV VHARGASAKGFFEVTHDISHLTCADF RLAPGVQTPLVI | 100 |

| | | |
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| gi 2661019 gb A | VRFSTVIHERGSPETLRDPRGFAVKFYTREGNFDLVGNNPVFFVRDGLK | 150 |
| gi 1246399 emb | VRFSTVIHERGSPETLRDPRGFAVKFYTREGNFDLVGNNPVFFIRDGMK | 150 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | VRFSTVIHERGSPETLRDPRGFAVKFYTREGNFDLVGNNPVFFVRDGMK | 150 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | VRFSTVIHERGSPETLRDPRGFAVKFYTREGNYDLVGNNPVFFVHDGMN | 150 |

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| gi 2661019 gb A | FPDMVHALKPNPKSHIQENWRILDFFSHHPESLHMFSFLFDDVGIPQDYR | 200 |
| gi 1246399 emb | FPDMVHALKPNPKSHIQENWRILDFFSHHPESLNMFTEFLFDDIGIPQDYR | 200 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | FPDMVHALKPNPKNHIQENWRILDFFSHFPESLHMFSFLFDDLGVPQDYR | 200 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | FPDMVHALKPNPQTIIQENWRILDFFYNFPESLHMFSFLFDDVGVPQDYR | 200 |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-----|
| gi 2661019 gb A | HMDGFGVNTYTLINKAGKAVVVFHWKTTCGEKCLLDEAIRVGGSNHSH | 250 |
| gi 1246399 emb | HMDGSGVNTYMLINKAGKAHVVFHWPCTCGVKSLLEEDAIRVGGTNHSH | 250 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | HMDGFGVNTYTLINKAGKAVVVFHWKTTSGVKCLLEEEAIKVGGANHSH | 250 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | HMDGFGVNTYTLINKAGKS VYVFHWPCTCGVKCLLEEEAIQVGGSNHSH | 250 |

| | |
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| gi 2661019 gb A | ATQDLYDSIAAGNYPEWKLYIQTLDPENEDRLDFDPLDVTKTWPEDVPL 300 |
| gi 1246399 emb | ATQDLYDSIAAGNYPEWKLFIQIIDPADEDKFDFDPLDVTKTWPEDILPL 300 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | ATQDLHDSIAAGNYPEWKLFIQTIDPEHEDKFDPLDVTKTWPEDIPL 300 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | ATKDLYDSIAAGNYPEWKLYIQTIDPAHEDRFEDPLDVTKTWPEDIPL 300 |
| | ***:***:*****:*****:*** :*** .***:*****:*****:*** |
| gi 2661019 gb A | QPVGRMVLNKNIDNFFAENEQLAFCPAIIVPGVYSSDDKLLQTRFSYAD 350 |
| gi 1246399 emb | QPVGRMVLNKNIDNFFAENEQLAFCPAIIVPGIHYSSDDKLLQTRFSYAD 350 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | QPVGRMVLNKNIDNFFAENEQLAFCPAIIVPGVYSSDDKMLQTRFSYAD 350 |
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| gi 1246399 emb | TQRHRLGPNYLQLPVNAPKCAHHNNHHGFMNFMRDEEVNYFPSRYDQV 400 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | SQRHRLGPNYLQLLPNAPKSAHHNNHHGFMNFIRHDEEVNYFPSRYDPV 400 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | SQRHRLGPNYLQLPVNAPKWSHNNHHGFMNAIHRDEEVNYFPSRHTV 400 |
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| gi 218322 dbj B | RHAEKFPPIPAVFSGRREKIAIEKENNFQAGERFRSWAPDRQDRFIRRW 450 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | RHAERVPVPPRTLHSARKECNIPKQNHFKQAGERYRTWAPDRQERFLRRW 450 |
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| gi 2661019 gb A | VDALSD--PRVTHEIRSIWISYWSQADRSLSLGQKIASHLNLKPSI 492 |
| gi 1246399 emb | IDALSD--PRITHEIRSIWISYWSQADSKLSLGQKLASRLNVRPSI 492 |
| gi 218322 dbj B | VDALSD--PRVTHEIRSVWISYWSQADRSLSLGQKIASHLNMRPNI 492 |
| gi 20677 emb CA | VEALSDTDPRITHEIRSIWISYWSQADRSLSLGQKLASHLNMRPSI 494 |
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CAT mRNA Sequences:

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>(gi|1246398:1389-1403 *A.thaliana* CAT
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 AACGATTCATCCAGAGATGGATTGATGCCCTATCCGACCCACGCATCACGATGAAATCCGAGTATCTG
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 AGCATCTAA

CLUSTAL 2.0.1 multiple sequence alignment

| | | |
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| gi 218321_54-15 | TCCACAGGGATGAGGAGGTCAATTACTTCCCCTCAAGGTATGATCCTGTT | 1130 |
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| gi 2661018_6-14 | TGCACAGGGATGAAGAGGTCAATTACTTCCCCTCAAGGTATGATCCTGTC | 1200 |
| _gi 1246398_138 | TGCACAGGGACGAGGAGGTCAATTACTTCCCCTCGAGGTATGACCAGGTT | 1200 |
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| gi 218321_54-15 | CGTCATGCAGAAAAGTTCCCCATACCTCCTGCTGTTCTCTGGAAAGGCG | 1180 |
| gi 20676_57-154 | CGTCATGCAGAAAGGGTCCCCATTCTACTACTCATTTATCTCAAGGCG | 1250 |
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| _gi 1246398_138 | CGTCATGCTGAGAAGTATCCAACCTCACCTGCTGCTGCTGGAAAACG | 1250 |
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| gi 20676_57-154 | GATACCGAACTTGGGACCTGACAGGCAGGAAGATTCTCCGCAGGTGG | 1350 |
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| gi 20676_57-154 | GTAGAAGCTTATCCGACACCGATCCACGCATCACCCATGAAATCCGCAG | 1400 |
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| gi 20676_57-154 | TAGCATCTCATCTGAACATGAGGCCTAGCATTTAA | 1485 |
| gi 2661018_6-14 | TAGCATCTCACTTGAACTTGAAAGCCAAGTATCTAA | 1479 |
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Chl/Str. APX pBLAST Results (364 amino acids)

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>gi|4996604|dbj|BAA78553.1| stromal APX [Nicotiana tabacum]
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 APEECPEEGRLPDAGPPSPASHLRDVFYRMLNDKEIVALSGAHTLGRSRPERSGWKPETKTYKDGP
 PGGQSWTQVQWLKDPSFKDNSYFKDIKERREDLLVLPDTAALFEDSSFKEYAKEYAVNQDVFFKDYAEAHAKL
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 HLRDVFYRMLDDKDVALSGAHTLGRSRPERSGWKPETKTYKDGPAGPGQSWTAELKFDSNSYFKDI
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>gi | 2392025 | dbj | BAA22196.1 | stromal APX [Cucurbita cv. Kurokawa Amakuri] MAATALGSVAASSASSTRFLSTATRATLPFSSRSSLSSFKFLRSAPLISHLFLNQGRSPSCVSIRRNF AASHPKCLASDPEQLKSAREDIEKLKTTFCHPILVRLGWHDA GTYKNKIEEWQPRGGANGSLRFDVELG HGANAGLVLNAKLIEPIKKKYSNVTYADLFQLASATAIEEAGGP KIPMKYGRVDVVGPEQCPEEGRLPDA GPPSPAAHLTPTYRMLNDREIVALSGAHTLGRSPERSGWGPKPTKYTKDGPAGPGQSQSTVQWLKFNSYFKDIKERDEELLVLPDTAALFEDPSFKVYAEKYVEDQEAFFKDYEAAHAKLSNLGAKFDPPEGIVI DDASSKPAGEKFDAAKYSYGKD

>gi|1419388|emb|CAA67425.1| stromal APX [Arabidopsis thaliana]
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AVAHAKLNSNLGAEGFPPEGIII

CLUSTAL W (1.83) multiple sequence alignment

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gi|45268439|gb|AAS55853.1| AEAHAKLSNLGAKFDPPEGIVIDESPNAG-AEKFVAKYSTGKE 364
gi|4996604|dbj|BAA78553.1| AEAHAKLSNLGAKFDPPEGFSIDNPTQGQPEKFVAAKYSTGKD 386
gi|2392025|dbj|BAA22196.1| AEAHAKLSNLGAKFDPPEGIVIDDASSKPAGEKFDAKYSYGKD 372
gi|1369920|dbj|BAA12039.1| AEAHAKLSNQGAKFDPAEGITLNTPAGAAPEKFVAAKYSSNKD 365
gi|1419388|emb|CAA67425.1| AVAHAKLSNLGAEFNPPEGIII----- 372
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PLEASE NOTE: Showing colors on large alignments is slow.

Arabidopsis 18S rRNA Sequence:

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GTCGATACCTGT

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