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Wang, K. (ed.): *Agrobacterium Protocols*. 2nd Ed. Volume 1. - Humana Press, Totowa 2006. 484 pp. USD 135.00. ISBN 1-58829-536-2.

343rd volume of scientific and medical publishers Humana Press series Methods in Molecular Biology opens after more than 10 years a field concerning *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of plants. When published in 1995 the first edition of *Agrobacterium* Protocols could bring information about a modest amount of plant species successfully transformed using *A. tumefaciens*. Over against today, *Agrobacterium* is routinely used for transgenesis of plenty plant species, even monocotyledon species that seemed to be recalcitrant for transformation by this bacteria in the beginning of transgenesis era.

Volume 1 consists of 39 chapters divided into 6 parts. First part (named *Agrobacterium* Handling) deals in 6 chapters with basic *Agrobacterium* manipulation techniques as well as with strategies for construction of transformation vectors. Seven chapters of second part (Model Plants) bring description of transgenesis of three model plant species, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Medicago truncatula* and *Nicotiana tabacum*. Of course, plenty laboratories all over the world are able to transform these species but protocols from leading experts may enhance their skills. Remaining parts of the volume report

protocols for transgenesis of 25 plant species: the readers may find members of cereal crops (barley, maize, rice, rye, sorghum, wheat), industrial plants (canola, cotton, mustard, sunflower), legume plants (alfalfa, chickpea, clover, peas, peanut, pigeonpea, soybean, tepary bean), and vegetable plants (*Brassica oleracea*, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, tomato).

Each chapter is written by the leader in the field in the same format characteristic for the Methods in Molecular Biology series and offers a detailed manual of the transformation protocol. The heart of each chapter is the method section with step-by-step procedure description starting from the preparation of initial material and ending with the harvest of transgenic plants. All users of this book will certainly appreciate the notes sections that bring additional information on potential difficulties in the protocols and alternative materials or methods.

The book is the fountainhead of recent practical knowledge concerning *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation and therefore, we may suppose it will become the core manual in all plant genetic and breeding laboratories dealing with transgenesis.

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