

# Developing a snRNA-Seq Atlas for Suberin Accumulation in Wheat Root Systems

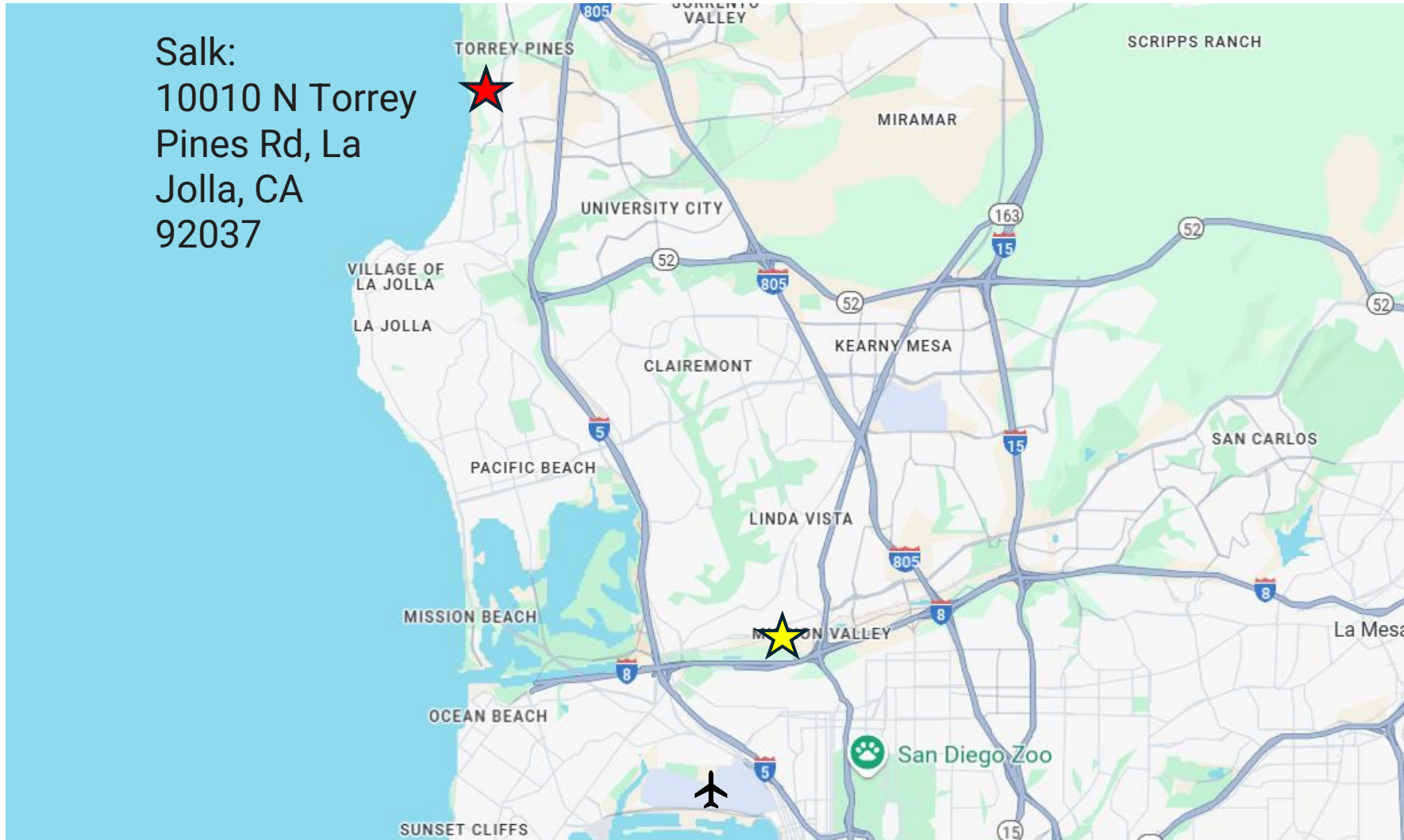
Sarah Raffan  
PAG 32



HARNESSING  
PLANTS  
INITIATIVE

# The Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Salk:  
10010 N Torrey  
Pines Rd, La  
Jolla, CA  
92037







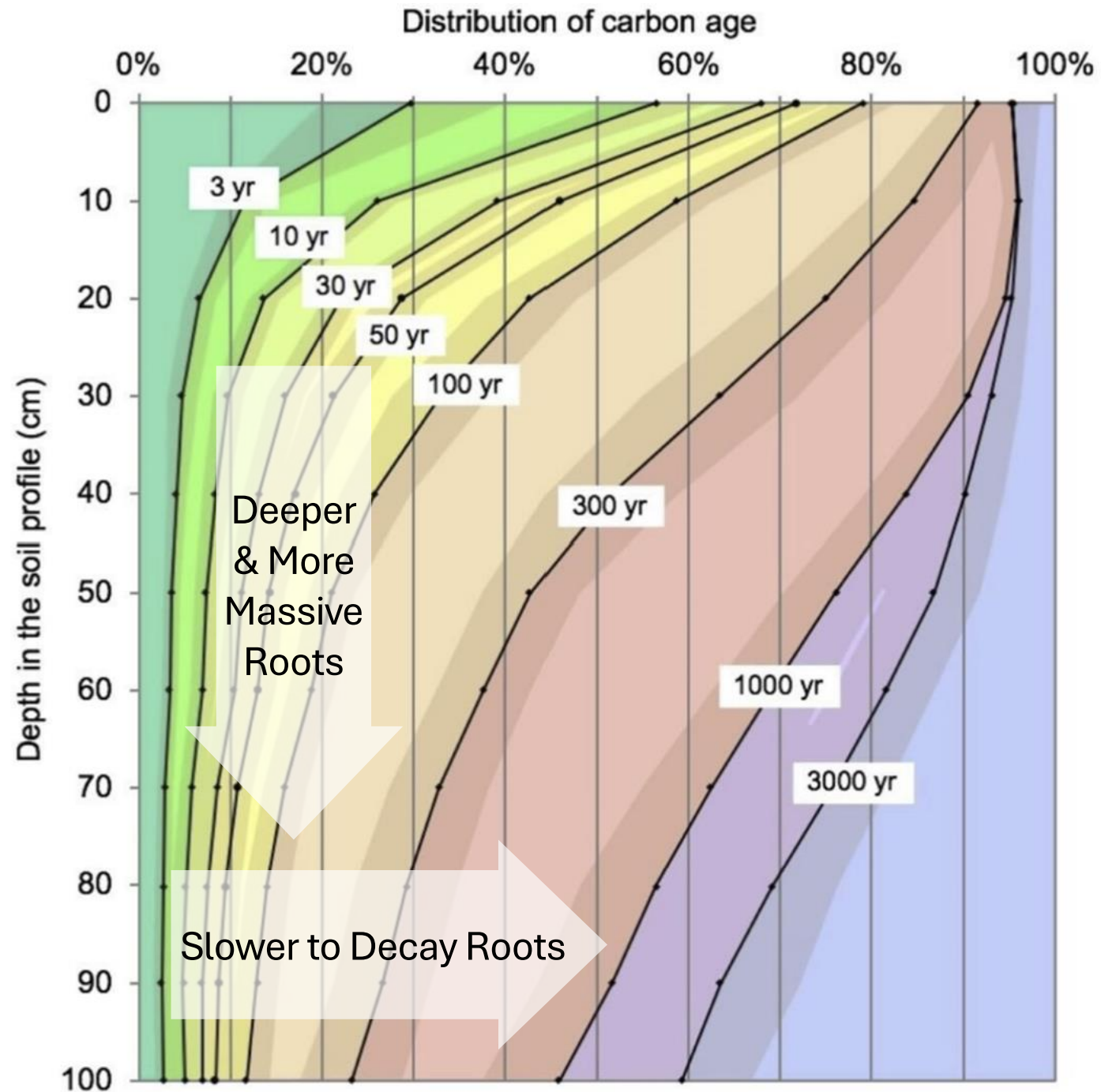
# The Salk Harnessing Plants Initiative

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**CRoPS:** Carbon Removal on a Planetary Scale Enhanced Carbon Sequestering Cultivars to Mitigate Climate Change

**CPR:** Coastal Plant Restoration – Restoring our Wetlands for Carbon Sequestration

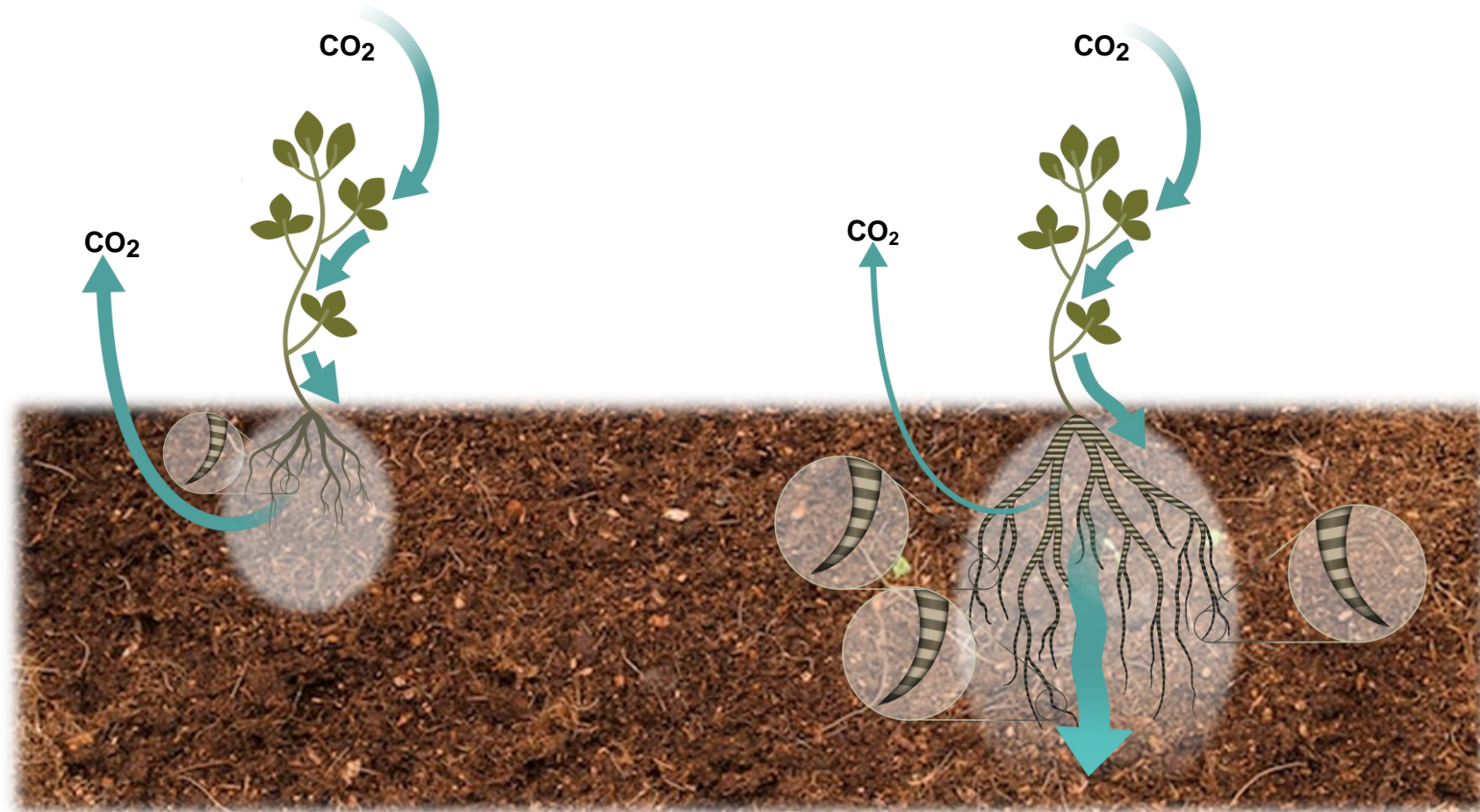
Focused on plant-based  
carbon sequestration



Balesdent et al. (2018)  
 Atmosphere–soil carbon  
 transfer as a function of  
 soil depth. Nature

# HPI ideotype plants

3 Characteristics to Enhance Plant Based Carbon Sequestration



Normal Plants

HPI Ideotype Plants

↑ Root depth

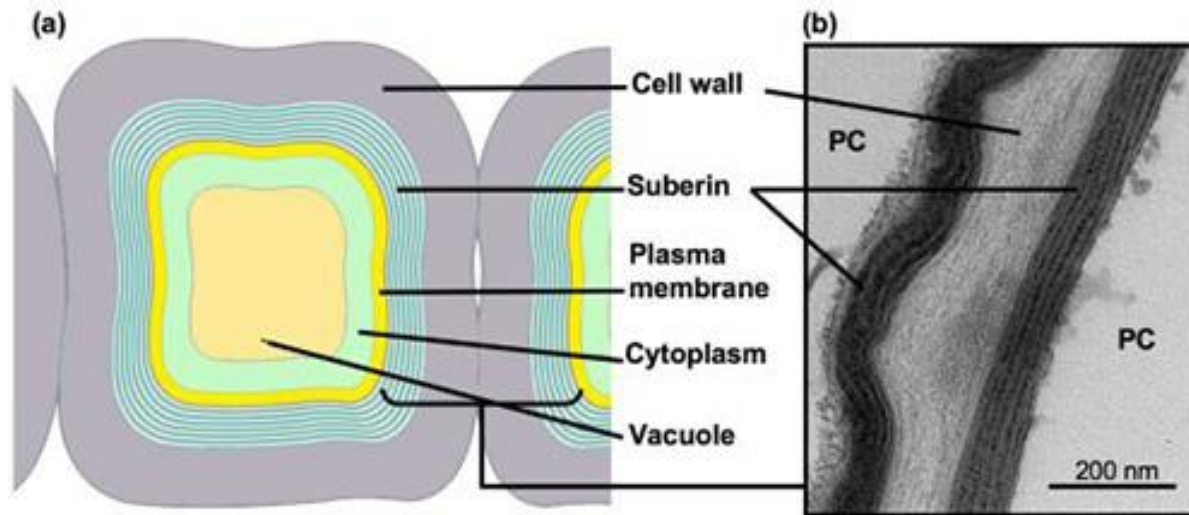
↑ Root biomass

↑ Suberin

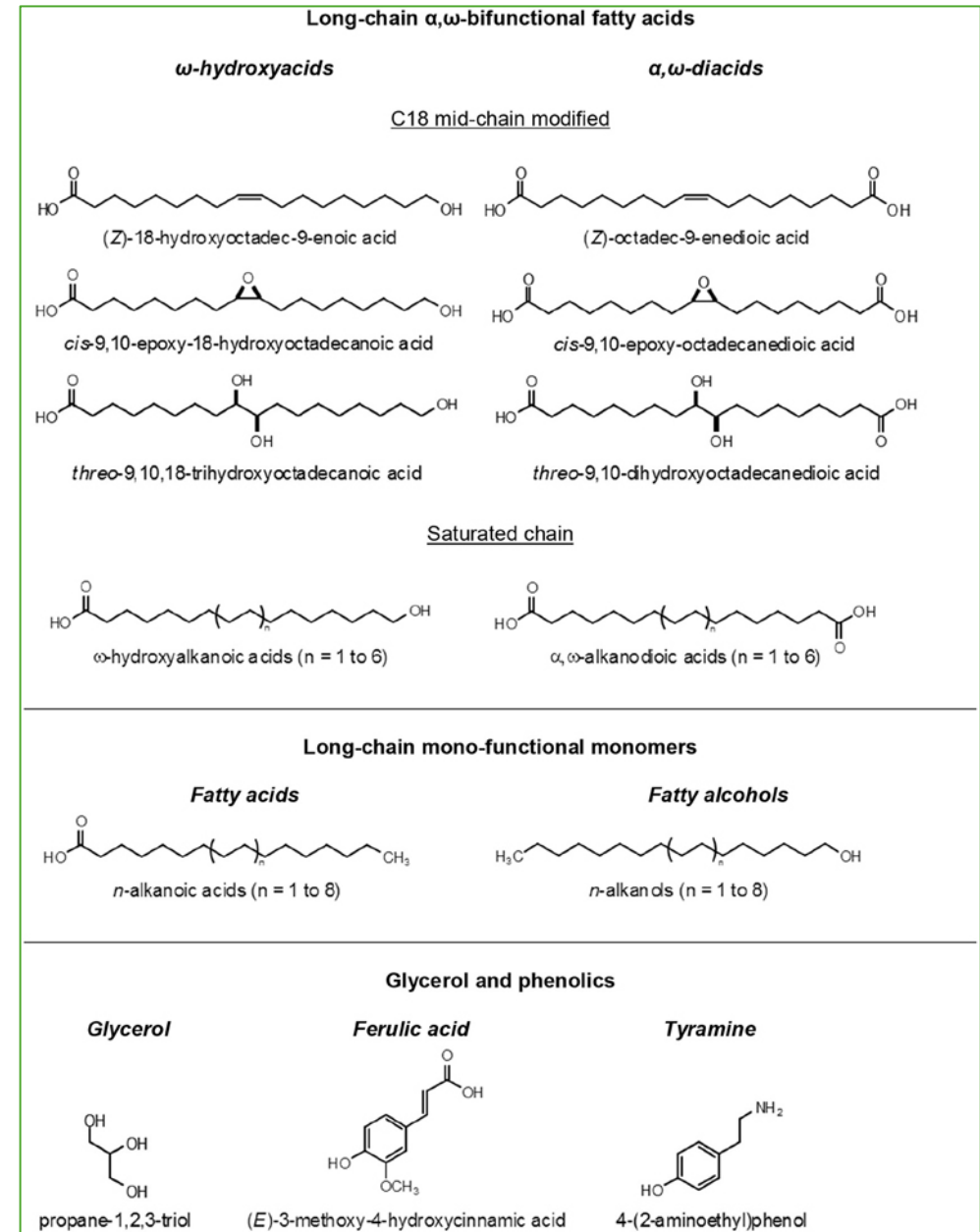


# What is suberin?

- Complex polyester biopolymer that is composed of long-chain fatty acids and polyaromatics.
- Exists naturally in plant roots and helps reduce water loss and limit the invasion of pathogens.

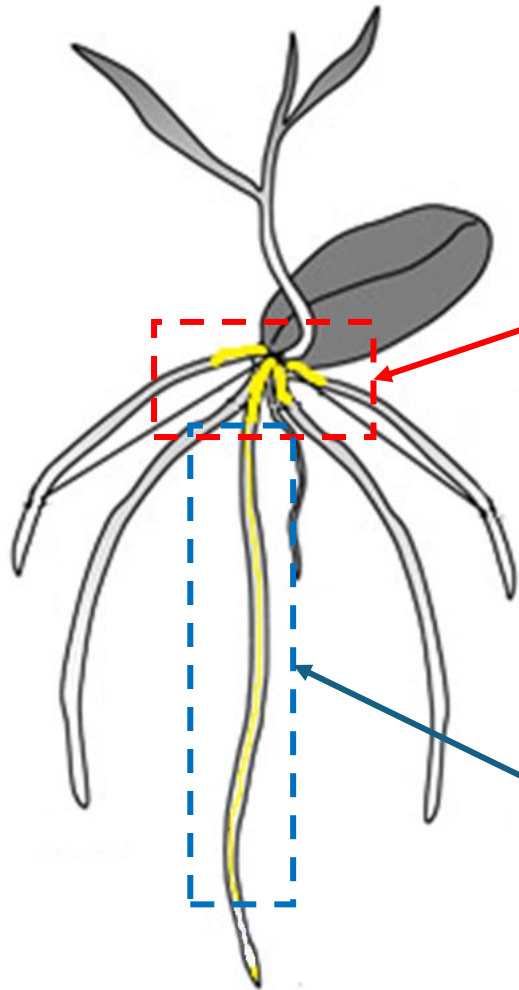


Graça, J. and Santos, S. *Macromolecular bioscience*, 7(2), pp.128-135. (2007)



Graça, J. *Frontiers in chemistry*, 3, p.62. (2015)

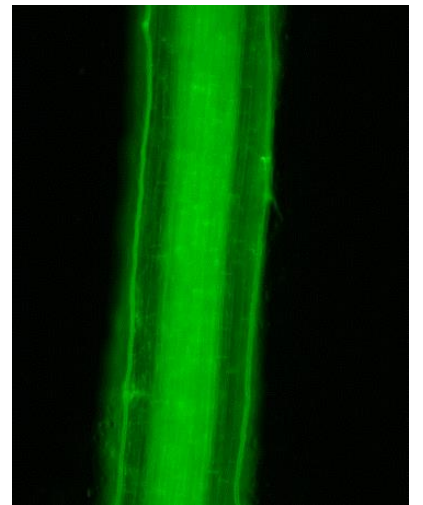
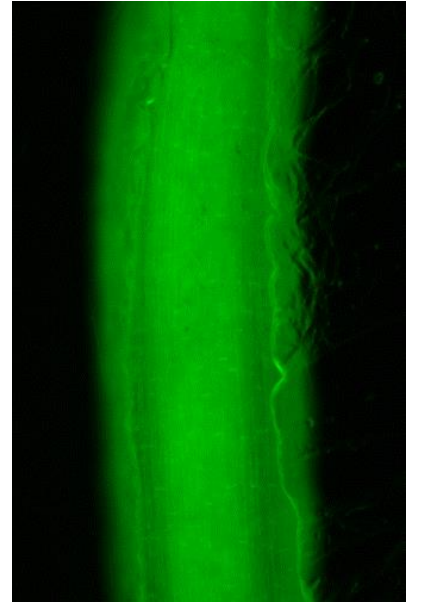
# Where is suberin in the roots in wheat?



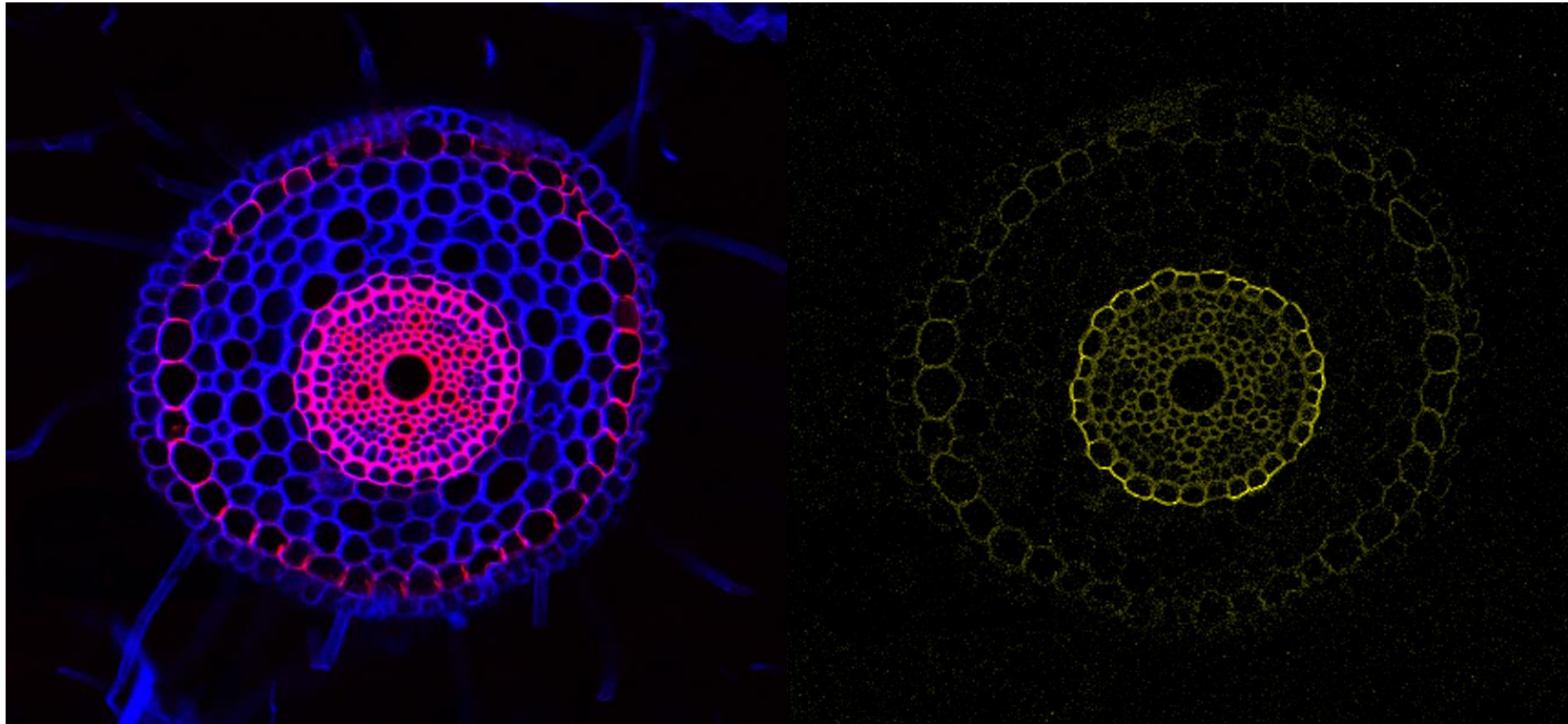
A suberized exodermis forms in the top 10-15% of the root

- forms after ~14 days
- more in the nodal roots

Wheat has a suberized endodermis that spans most of the root



# Visualizing suberin in wheat roots

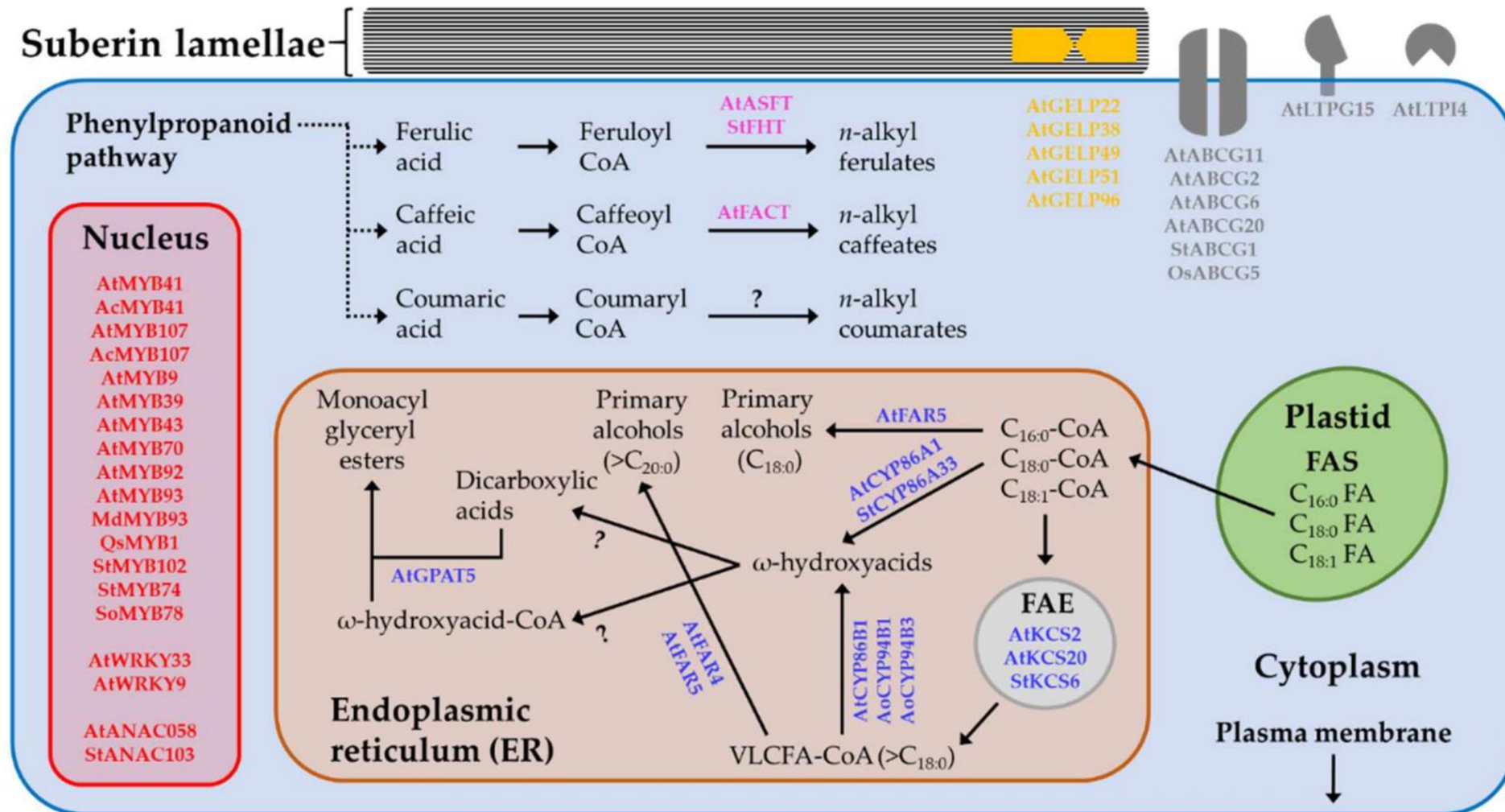


BF + CW

FY



# Biosynthesis of suberin

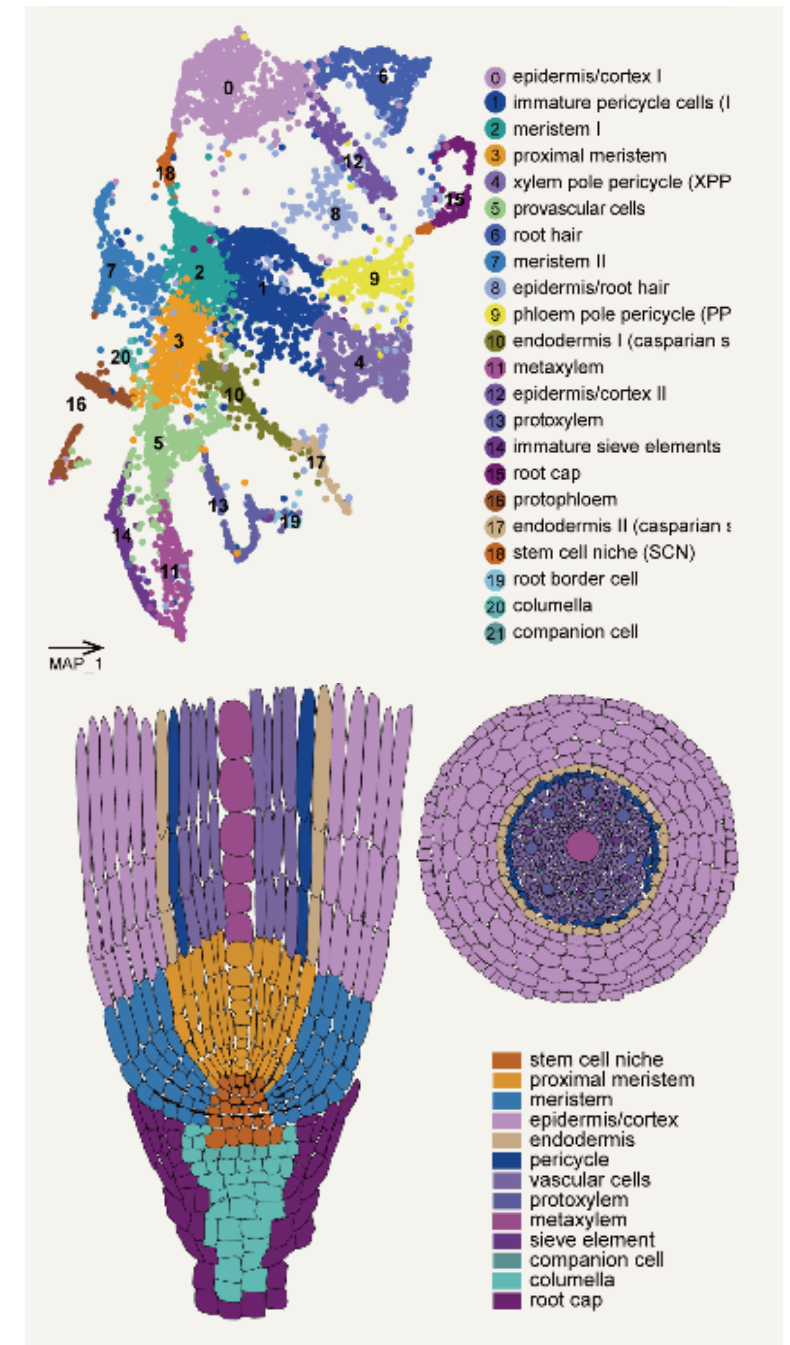


# Wheat single nuclei atlas

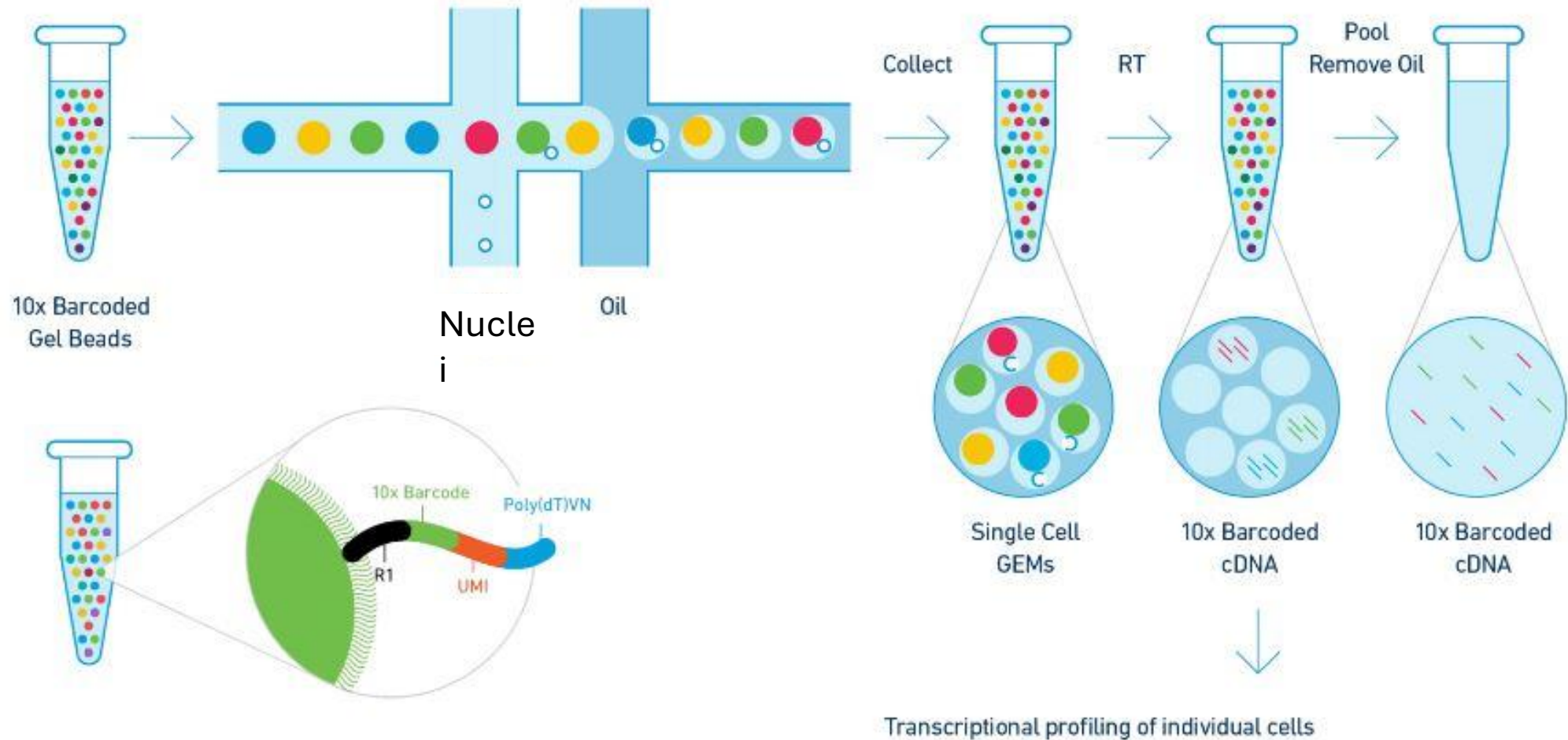
- Asymmetric gene expression and cell-type-specific regulatory networks in the root of bread wheat revealed by single-cell multiomics analysis.

Zhang, L., *et al.* *Genome Biol* **24**, 65 (2023).

- 0.5cm of the root tips of 3-day old roots were analyzed
- 6875 cells

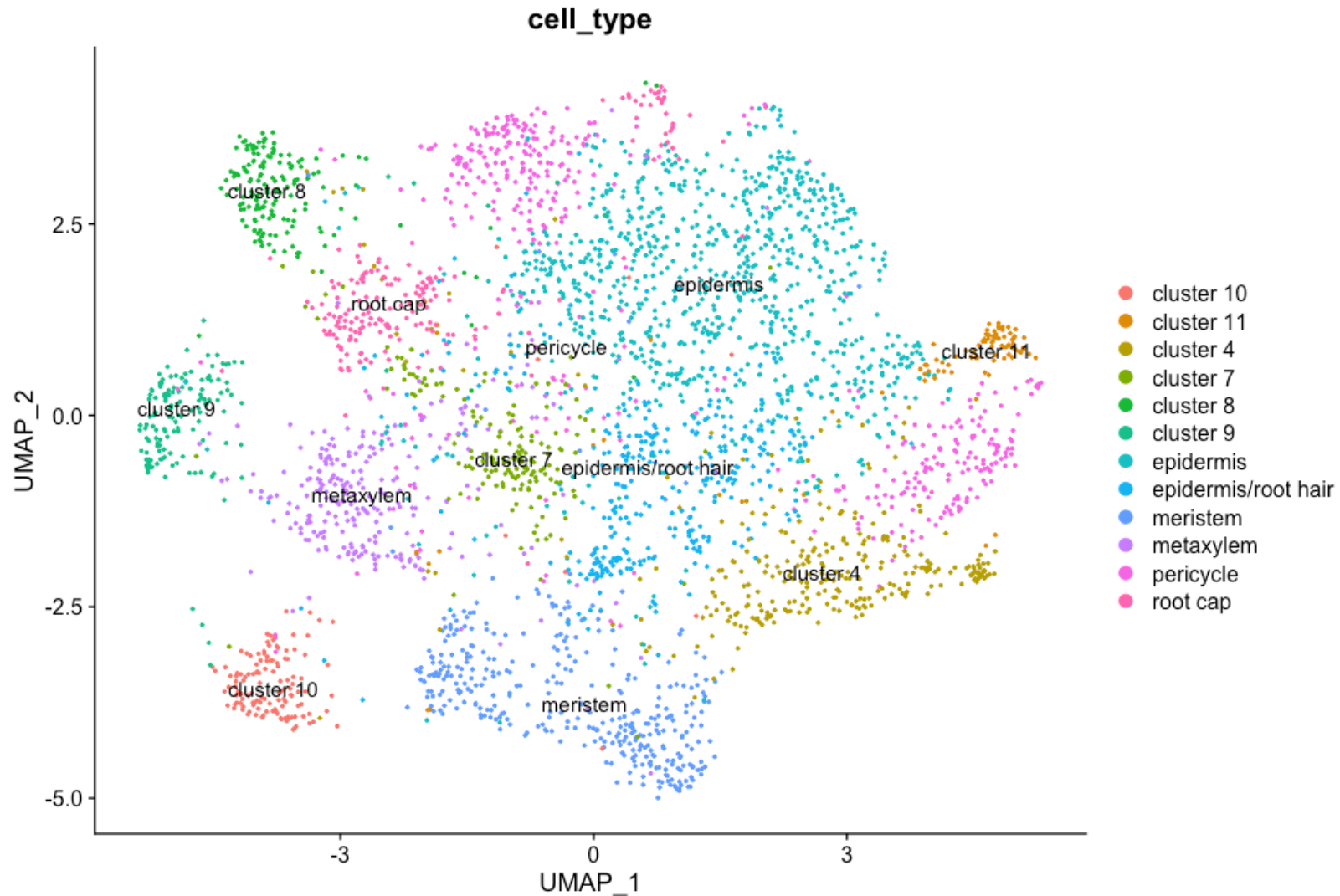


# Single nuclei sequencing of wheat roots





# Wheat single nuclei atlas

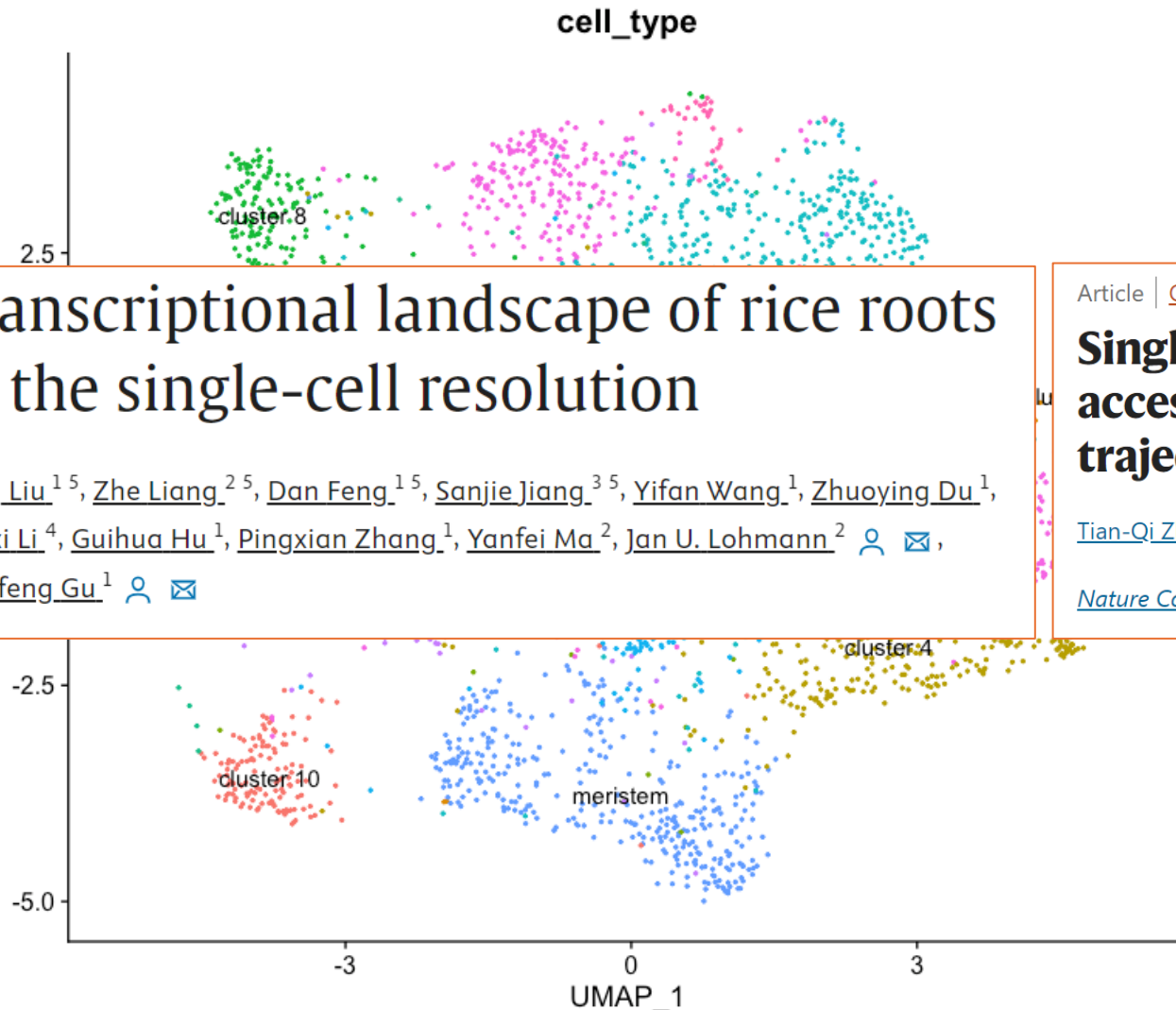


10-day old  
whole root  
samples





3465 nuclei

Cluster annotation from  
Zhang, L., et al. *Genome  
Biol* 24, 65 (2023).

# Wheat single nuclei atlas





## Transcriptional landscape of rice roots at the single-cell resolution

[Qing Liu](#)<sup>1,5</sup>, [Zhe Liang](#)<sup>2,5</sup>, [Dan Feng](#)<sup>1,5</sup>, [Sanjie Jiang](#)<sup>3,5</sup>, [Yifan Wang](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Zhuoying Du](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Ruoxi Li](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Guihua Hu](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Pingxian Zhang](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Yanfei Ma](#)<sup>2</sup>, [Jan U. Lohmann](#)<sup>2</sup>  , [Xiaofeng Gu](#)<sup>1</sup>  

Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 06 April 2021

## Single-cell transcriptome atlas and chromatin accessibility landscape reveal differentiation trajectories in the rice root

[Tian-Qi Zhang](#) , [Yu Chen](#), [Ye Liu](#), [Wen-Hui Lin](#) & [Jia-Wei Wang](#) 

*Nature Communications* **12**, Article number: 2053 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

# Cluster annotation from rice orthologues

- Two datasets have 2 genes in common
  - OsCESA7 = Os10g0467800 or LOC\_Os10g32980 ([AT5G44030](#))
  - OsCESA9 = Os09g0422500 or LOC\_Os09g25490 ([AT5G17420](#))
- Xylem vs epidermis
- Both root tips 5-day vs 3-day
- Different cultivars used – ZH11 vs Nipponbare and 93-11
- [Neither helped with the cluster annotation for wheat](#)



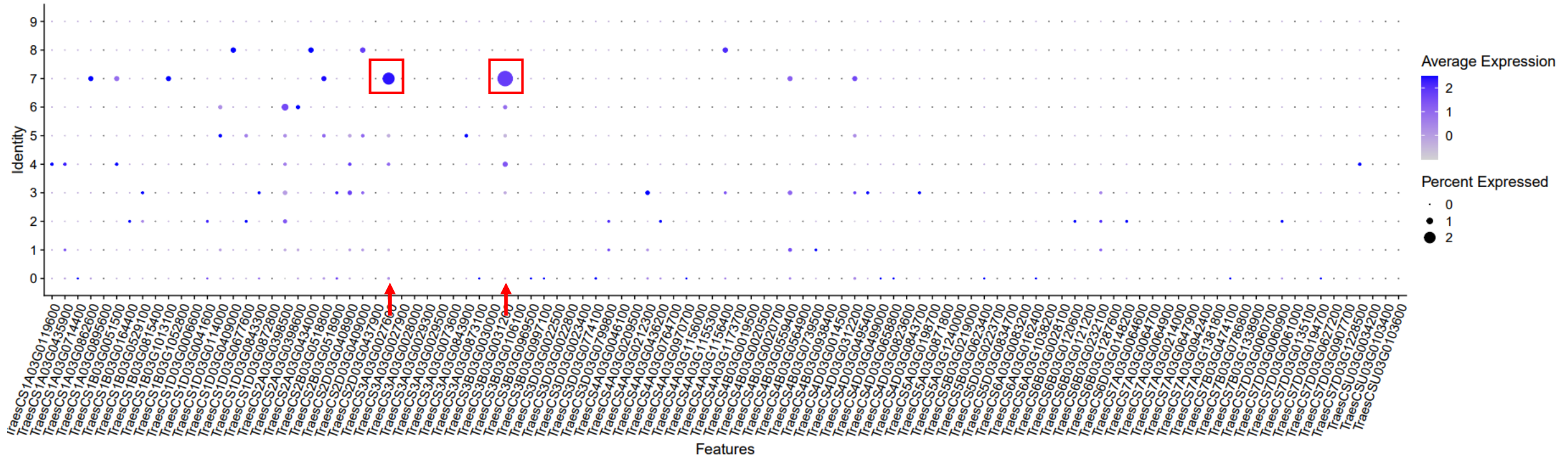
# 'Suberin biosynthesis' genes in wheat

- Orthologs from list of Arabidopsis genes from literature – 109 wheat genes
- Knetminer – 79 genes
  - Using ConceptID:2745187 (suberin biosynthetic process), ConceptID:2849625 (suberin network) and ConceptID:1379979 (suberin biosynthesis)

gene id	Knetminer	Ensembl	Root exp	Leaf exp	Reprod exp	Are they in the ortho?	Arabidopsis id
TRAESCS7A02G566100	CER4	Fatty acyl-CoA reductase	x		x	FAR1 / FAR4 / FAR5	AT5G22500 / AT3G44
TRAESCS7B02G490600	CER4	Fatty acyl-CoA reductase	x			FAR1 / FAR4 / FAR5	AT5G22500 / AT3G44
TRAESCS1A02G161400	CYP86B1	Cytochrome P450	x		x	CYP86B1 (ralph)	AT5G23190
TRAESCS1B02G177900	CYP86B1	Cytochrome P450	x		x	CYP86B1 (ralph)	AT5G23190
TRAESCS1D02G158400	CYP86B1	Cytochrome P450	x		x	CYP86B1 (ralph)	AT5G23190
TRAESCS7D02G520200	CYP86B1	Cytochrome P450	x			CYP86B1 (ralph)	AT5G23190

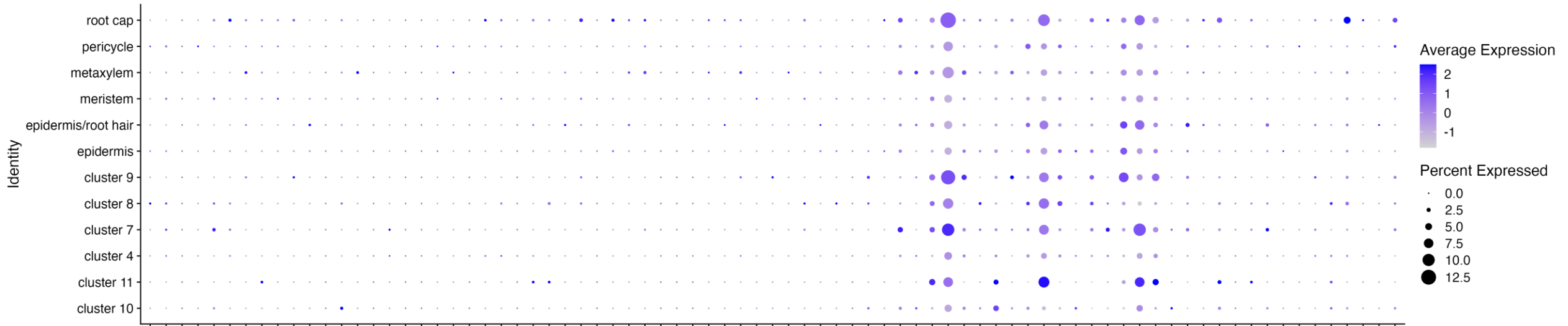


# Suberin biosynthesis genes

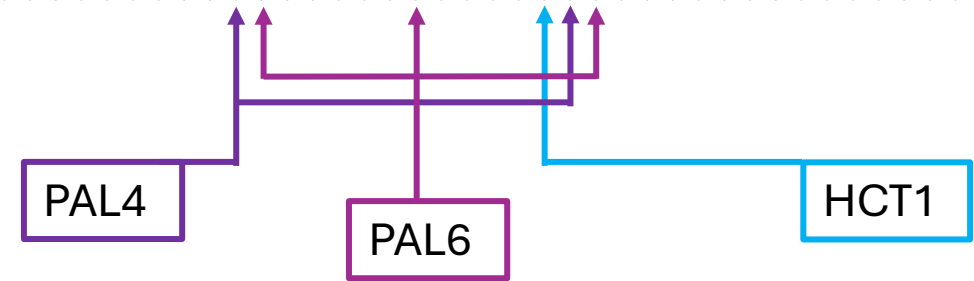


FAR1 / FAR4 / FAR5 genes  
 Fatty Acyl-Coa reductase  
 AT5G22500 / AT3G44540 / AT3G44550 genes  
 TraesCS3A02G013800  
 TraesCS3B02G016500

# Lignin biosynthesis genes

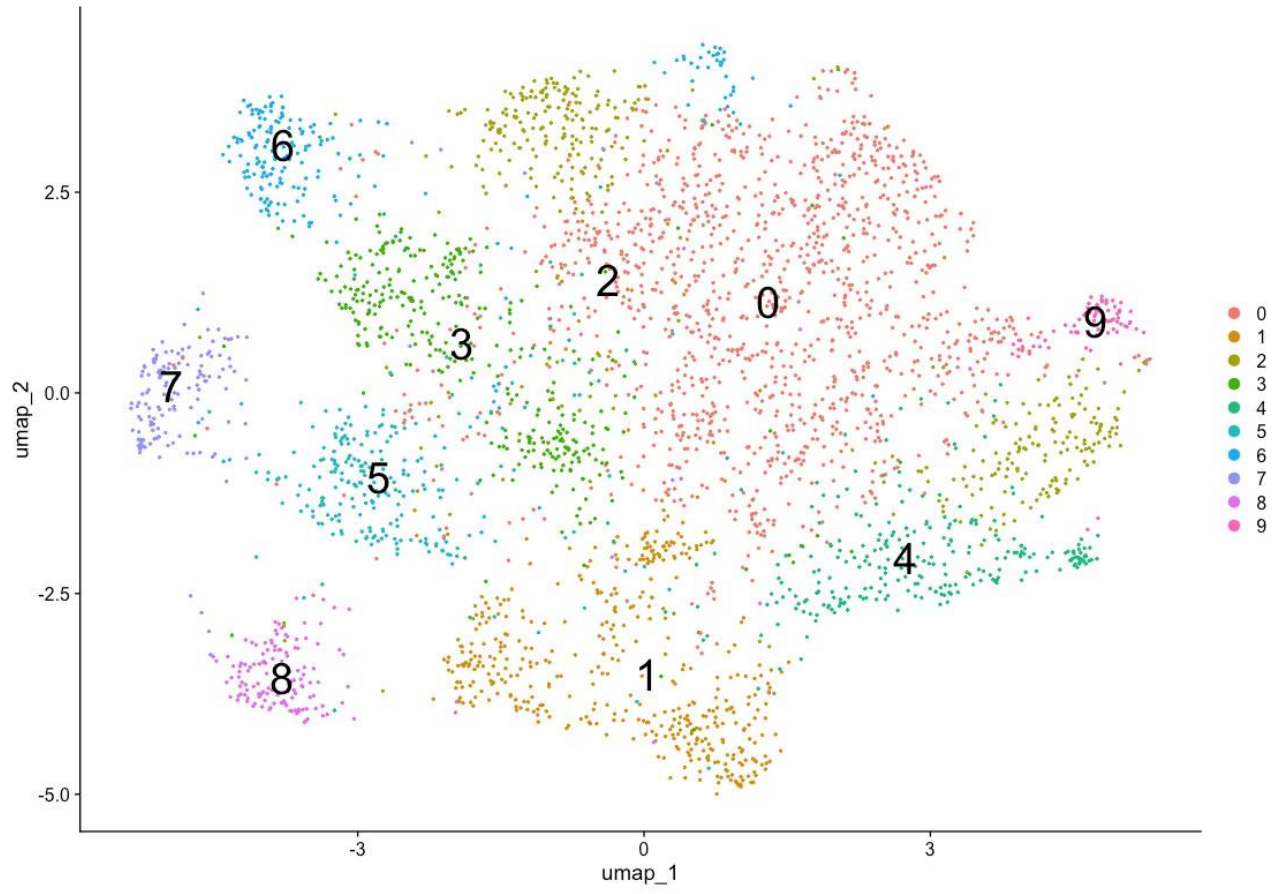


30 wheat genes identified as being involved in lignin biosynthesis (79 genes with homoeologs)  
Nguyen, T.N. et al. *BMC plant biology*, 16, pp.1-16 (2016)





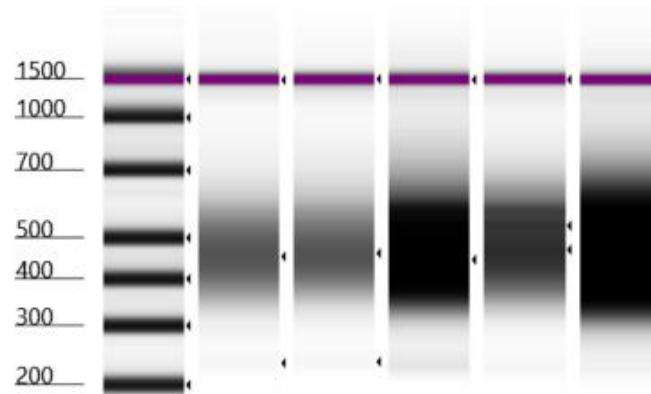
# Wheat single nuclei atlas



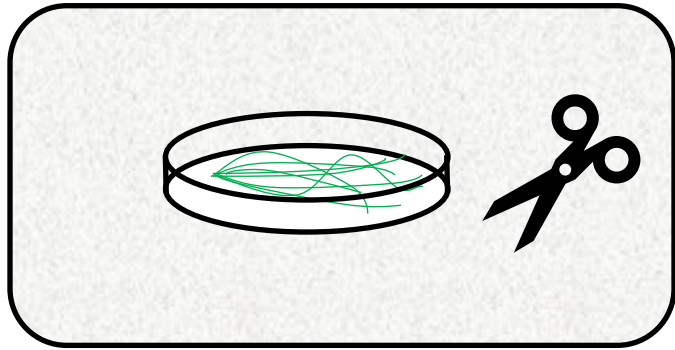
Thanks to Ling Zhang

# Optimized nuclei extraction

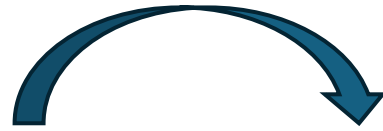
- Modified protocol from Zhang, L., et al. *Genome Biol* 24, 65 (2023).
- 18-day fresh wheat plants
- Estimated number of nuclei extracted between 20,000 – 60,000



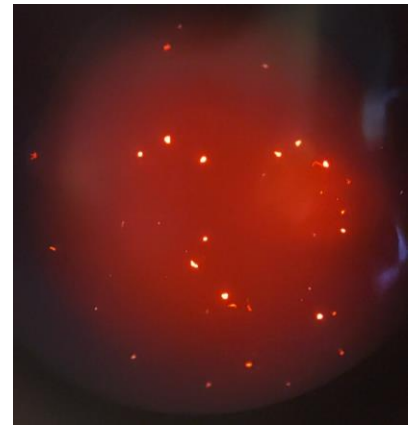
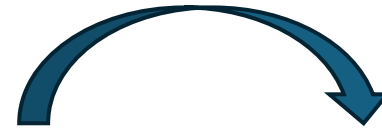
# Optimized nuclei extraction



Cut samples on ice



Filter samples



FACS

# Optimized nuclei extraction

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	<b>Previous</b>	<b>Current</b>
Sample preparation	Frozen at -80°C	Fresh
Number of plants	10-20 whole root systems	1 root system per sample
Time to extract	3 hours	1 hour
Extracted nuclei	< 10,000	20,000 – 60,000 *

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\* Also optimized FACs protocol





# Acknowledgements

## Busch Lab

Wolfgang Busch

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Sean Jarrell-Hurtado

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## Flow Cytometry Core

Mikayla Marrin

Michelle Liem

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