



# 48th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SBBq)

Águas de Lindóia, SP, Brazil  
May 14th to 17th, 2019

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Ilustração da Capa: Alexandre Takashi

## ***Welcome Letter***

Welcome!

The 48a. Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - SBBq will be held at the hotel **MAJESTIC**, in Águas de Lindóia, SP, from **May 14th to 17th, 2019**.

The Congress aims to provide a broad view of research frontiers and recent developments in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and their applications. The always strong presence of international researchers offers to the participants a special opportunity to follow closely advances and challenges, in both methodologies and in applied topics.

The Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SBBq) is currently one of the most traditional events in the Brazilian scientific community. For more than four decades, these meetings have served as the setting and forum for debates on the advancement of fundamental knowledge of biochemical phenomena and their integration with other segments of the biological, physico-chemical and health sciences, to the benefit of society.

Also noteworthy is the strong presence of commercial exhibitors, who bring to the participants the latest worldwide technologies in terms of equipment, methodologies, materials, protocols and services in the field. A further highlight is the remarkable presence of young researchers and students, from undergraduate research students to postdoctoral fellows, making the poster sessions particularly vibrant and productive when compared to other congresses of a similar nature.

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### SP.22- Argentina-Brazil Symposium: Signal transduction and defense in plants

**Chair: Marcio V. Ramos (UFC)**

#### SP.22.01 - Plant Natriuretic Peptides in Plant-Pathogen Interactions

F Masotti<sup>1</sup>, B S Garavaglia<sup>1</sup>, N Gottig<sup>1</sup>, **Jorgelina Ottado**<sup>1</sup>

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Plant natriuretic peptides (PNPs) participate in the regulation of ions and water homeostasis, and a role for them in plant immune responses has also been proposed. *Xanthomonas citri* subsp. *citri* contains a gene encoding a PNP-like protein (XacPNP) that mimics its *Arabidopsis thaliana* homologue AtPNP-A. First, *A. thaliana* leaves were infiltrated with pure recombinant PNPs, and showed enhanced expression of genes related to the defense response and a higher resistance to pathogen infections. Moreover, AtPNP-A expression increased in *A. thaliana* leaves after *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. tomato infection. Next, *A. thaliana* lines over-expressing XacPNP, lines over-expressing AtPNP-A and AtPNP-A-deficient plants were generated. Plants over-expressing XacPNP or AtPNP-A were more resistant to bacterial infection than control plants, whereas PNP-deficient plants were more susceptible. Also, in abiotic stress, plants over-expressing XacPNP or AtPNP-A were more resistant to saline or oxidative stress than PNP-deficient lines. A receptor for AtPNP-A, named AtPNP-R, that possesses a leucine-rich repeat (LRR) domain and guanylyl cyclase activity has been found. It was proposed that this receptor is responsible for cGMP-dependent signaling once AtPNP-A is bound to the amino terminal LRR domain. Accordingly, AtPNP-R expression was induced in PNP-treated *A. thaliana* leaves and in plants with enhanced expression of XacPNP and AtPNP-A. Also, plant responses that depend on AtPNP-A, such as stomatal opening, required the presence of AtPNP-R. AtPNP-R localization in the plant cell membrane was observed and both plant and bacterial peptides co-localized *in vivo* with this receptor at the plant cell membrane. The response to pathogen challenge in *atpnp-r* mutant plants showed that this receptor is involved in the defense response activated by PNPs. In conclusion, PNPs are able to trigger different responses to regulate internal homeostasis by the interaction with AtPNP-R and also, they have a role in the plant defense response.

**Keywords:** Plant Natriuretic, Plant-Pathogen, AtPNP-R

#### SP.22.02 - Regulation of auxin signaling: A key node of plant development and acclimation to stress.

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Auxin has been implicated in developmental switches as well as in transient and dynamic cellular responses during acclimation to abiotic stress. The core components of the auxin signaling machinery mainly involves the F-box TRANSPORT INHIBITOR RESPONSE 1/AUXIN SIGNALING F-BOX PROTEIN (TIR1/AFB) auxin co-receptors, the Auxin/INDOLE-3-ACETIC ACID (Aux/IAA) transcriptional repressors, and the AUXIN RESPONSE FACTOR (ARF) transcription factors. In particular, TIR1 and AFBs as part of SCFTIR1/AFB E3 UB-ligase complexes are regulated by multiple post-transcriptional and post-translational mechanisms, resulting in different regulatory layers to auxin perception. We investigated how nitric oxide (NO), through S-nitrosylation of the cysteine (C) residue (C140) of TIR1 and C37 of the scaffold protein ASK1 is involved in SCFTIR1/AFBs assembly impacting on *Arabidopsis* development. Overexpression of the *tir1C140A* protein in the *tir1-1* background resulted in enhanced tolerance to NaCl-mediated salt stress, while overexpression of TIR1 restores salt sensitivity. In addition, to post-transcriptional regulation, we demonstrated that NaCl-mediated salt stress induces miR393 expression leading to a concomitant reduction in the levels of the TIR1 and AFB2 receptors and a modulation of antioxidant metabolism. Thus, TIR1/AFBs could be critical node between auxin signaling and specific redox-associated components in order to coordinate time-specific growth responses during acclimation to salt stress. Taking together our findings provide a functional link to a better understanding of how auxin, NO and miR393 interactions can be integrated and regulated by environmental signals in *Arabidopsis* plants. From a biotechnological perspective, some challenges through the modulation of auxins are being explored.

**Keywords:** Auxin, nitric oxide, miR393, *Arabidopsis*

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