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## **GENETICS AND PLANT BREEDING**

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# **Czech J. Genet. Plant Breed.**

**D., Zhu W., Gao C.,  
Zhang J., Fu T.:**

**Characterization of S  
haplotype in a new  
self-compatible  
*Brassica rapa* cultivar  
Dahuangyoucai**

Czech J. Genet. Plant Breed., 49 (2013):  
157-163

The most important *Brassica* species, *B. rapa*, is naturally self-incompatible. Self-compatible mutants would be useful for dissecting the molecular mechanism of self-incompatibility (SI), a process that promotes outcrossing by recognizing and refusing self-pollens. The S haplotype in a new self-compatible *B. rapa* cultivar, Dahuangyoucai, was characterized for the first time in this study. Sequence analysis of the S-locus genes, *SLG* (S-locus glycoprotein), *SRK* (S-locus receptor kinase) and *SCR* (S-locus cysteine-rich protein) revealed that

Dahuangyoucai contained S haplotype highly similar to *S-f2*, a non-functional class I S haplotype identified in another self-compatible *B. rapa* cultivar, Yellow Sarson. Mutations of *MLPK* (*M*-locus protein kinase) and non-transcription of the male determinant, *SCR*, were observed in this cultivar, which is similar to the situation reported in Yellow Sarson. With respect to the female determinant, *SRK*, no transcript was detected in Yellow Sarson but two fragments were detected in Dahuangyoucai. One fragment was highly similar to *SRK-f2*, but the other fragment was different from the signal factors previously identified in the SI reaction. The results suggest that Dahuangyoucai and Yellow Sarson have the same origin and a similar mechanism of self-compatibility, but diverge after mutations in *SRK*, *SCR* and *MLPK*. Further studying the self-compatibility of Dahuangyoucai might identify novel factors involved in the SI signalling cascade and provide new insights into the mechanisms of SI in Brassicaceae.

**Keywords:**

*Brassica rapa* L.; gene expression; *M*-locus protein kinase (*MLPK*); *S*-locus

genes; self-incompatibility

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