PROTECTIVE EFFECT FROM TOBACCO AND TOMATO PATHOGENS OF TWO STEROIDAL PHYTOHORMONES

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ABSTRACT

In nature, plants are continuously threatened by a wide range of harmful pathogens and pests, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, oomycetes, nematodes and insect herbivores. Each of these attackers exploits highly specialized features to establish a parasitic relationship with its host plant. To defend themselves against all these different types of pathogens, plants have an array of structural barriers and produce antimicrobial metabolites to prevent or attenuate invasion by potential attackers.

The regulation of the defense network that translates the pathogen induced early signaling events into activation of effective defense responses depends profoundly on the action of phytohormones.

In this work, studies aimed to provide clues about the protective response of plants mediated by phytohormones are described. Inhibition of disease progress for a fungal (*Phytophtora infestans*) and a bacterial (*Streptomyces turgidiscabies*) pathogen upon treatment of plants with these compounds in inoculated tobacco and tomato plants was demonstrated.

Key words: phytohormones, tobacco, tomato, phytopathogen