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(54) **Title:** ACYLTRANSFERASES AND USES THEREOF IN FATTY ACID PRODUCTION

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to the recombinant manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids. Specifically, it relates to acyltransferase polypeptides, polynucleotides encoding said acyltransferases as well as vectors, host cells, non-human transgenic organisms containing said polynucleotides. Moreover, the present invention contemplates methods for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids as well as oils obtained by such methods.

Acyltransferases and uses thereof in fatty acid production

The present invention relates to the recombinant manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids. Specifically, it relates to acyltransferase polypeptides, polynucleotides encoding said  
5 acyltransferase polypeptides as well to vectors, host cells, non-human transgenic organisms containing said polynucleotides. Moreover, the present invention contemplates methods for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids as well as oils obtained by such methods.

Fatty acids and triacylglycerides have a various applications in the food industry, in animal  
10 feed, supplement nutrition, and in the cosmetic and pharmacological and pharmaceutical field. The individual applications may either require free fatty acids or triacylglycerides. In both cases, however, polyunsaturated fatty acids either free or esterified are of pivotal interest for many of the aforementioned applications. In particular, polyunsaturated omega-3-fatty acids and omega-6-fatty acids are important constituents in animal and human food.  
15 These fatty acids are supposed to have beneficial effects on the overall health and, in particular, on the central nervous system, the cardiovascular system, the immune system, and the general metabolism. Within traditional food, the polyunsaturated omega-3-fatty acids are mainly found in fish and plant oils. However, in comparison with the needs of the industry and the need for a beneficial diet, this source is rather limited.

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The various polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) and PUFA-containing triglycerides are also mainly obtained from microorganisms such as *Mortierella* and *Schizochytrium* or from oil-producing plants such as soybean or oilseed rape, algae such as *Cryptocodinium* or *Phaeodactylum* and others, where they are usually obtained in the form of their triacylglycerides.  
25 The free PUFA are usually prepared from the triacylglycerides by hydrolysis. However, long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (LCPUFA) having a C-18, C-20, C-22 or C-24 fatty acid body, such as docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), arachidonic acid (ARA), dihomo-gamma-linolenic acid or docosapentaenoic acid (DPA) can not be efficiently isolated from natural oil crop plants such as oilseed rape, soybean, sunflower  
30 or safflower. Conventional natural sources of these fatty acids are, thus, merely fish, such as herring, salmon, sardine, redfish, eel, carp, trout, halibut, mackerel, zander or tuna, or from algae.

Especially suitable microorganisms for the production of PUFA in industrial scale are micro-  
35 algae such as *Phaeodactylum tricornutum*, *Porphyridium* species, *Thraustochytrium* species, *Nannochloropsis* species, *Schizochytrium* species or *Cryptocodinium* species, ciliates such as *Stylonychia* or *Colpidium*, fungi such as *Mortierella*, *Entomophthora* or *Mucor* and/or mosses such as *Physcomitrella*, *Ceratodon* and *Marchantia* (Vazhappilly 1998, *Botanica Marina* 41: 553-558; Totani 1987, *Lipids* 22: 1060-1062; Akimoto 1998, *Appl. Biochemistry and Biotechnology* 73: 269-278). Strain selection has resulted in the development  
40 of a number of mutant strains of the microorganisms in question which produce a series of desirable compounds including PUFA. However, the mutation and selection of strains with an improved production of a particular molecule such as the polyunsaturated fatty acids is a

time-consuming and difficult process. This is why recombinant methods as described above are preferred whenever possible. However, only limited amounts of the desired PUFA or LCPUFA and, in particular, DHA or EPA, can be produced with the aid of the above mentioned microorganisms, and, depending on the microorganism used, these are generally  
5 obtained as fatty acid mixtures of, for example, EPA, DPA and DHA.

Many attempts in the past have been made to make available genes which are involved in the synthesis of fatty acids or triglycerides for the production of oils in various organisms. Various desaturases have been described in the art; see, e.g., documents WO 91/13972,  
10 WO 93/11245, WO 94/11516, EP-A-0 550 162, WO 94/18337, WO 97/30582, WO 97/21340, WO 95/18222, EP-A-0 794 250, Stukey 1990, J. Biol. Chem., 265: 20144-20149, Wada 1990, Nature 347: 200-203, Huang 1999, Lipids 34: 649-659, WO 93/06712, US 5,614,393, WO 96/21022, WO 00/21557, WO 99/27111, WO 98/46763, WO 98/46764, WO 98/46765, WO 99/64616 or WO 98/46776. These enzymes can be used for the production  
15 of unsaturated fatty acids. Thus, due to modern molecular biology, it has become possible to increase at least to some extent the content of the desired polyunsaturated fatty acids and, in particular, the PUFA or LCPUFA in a given organism. Elongases for the production of fatty acids are disclosed in the document WO2009/016202.

20 The biosynthesis of LCPUFA and the incorporation of LCPUFA into membrane lipids or triacylglycerides proceeds via various metabolic pathways (Abbadi 2001, European Journal of Lipid Science & Technology 103:106-113). In bacteria such as *Vibrio*, and microalgae, such as *Schizochytrium*, malonyl-CoA is converted into LCPUFA via an LCPUFA-producing polyketide synthase (Metz 2001, Science 293: 290-293; WO 00/42195; WO 98/27203; WO  
25 98/55625). In microalgae, such as *Phaeodactylum*, and mosses, such as *Physcomitrella*, unsaturated fatty acids such as linoleic acid or linolenic acid are converted in a plurality of desaturation and elongation steps to give LCPUFA (Zank 2000, Biochemical Society Transactions 28: 654-658). Desaturation takes place either on acyl groups bound to Coenzyme A (acyl-CoA) or on acyl groups of membrane lipids, whereas elongation is biochemically restricted to acyl chains bound to CoA. In mammals, the biosynthesis of DHA comprises a chain shortening via beta-oxidation, in addition to desaturation and elongation  
30 steps. In microorganisms and lower plants, LCPUFA are present either exclusively in the form of membrane lipids, as is the case in *Physcomitrella* and *Phaeodactylum*, or in membrane lipids and triacylglycerides, as is the case in *Schizochytrium* and *Mortierella*. Incorporation of LCPUFA into lipids and oils, as well as the transfer of the fatty acid moiety (acyl group) between lipids and other molecular species such as acyl-CoA, is catalyzed by various acyltransferases and transacylases. These enzymes are, known to carry out the incorporation or interexchange of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids (Slabas 2001, J. Plant  
35 Physiology 158: 505-513, Frentzen 1998, Fett/Lipid 100: 161-166, Cases 1998, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA 95: 13018-13023). One group of acyltransferases having three distinct enzymatic activities are enzymes of the "Kennedy pathway", which are located on the cytoplasmic side of the membrane system of the endoplasmic reticulum (ER). The ER-bound acyltransferases in the microsomal fraction use acyl-CoA as the activated form of fatty ac-  
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ids. Glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase (GPAT) catalyzes the incorporation of acyl groups at the *sn*-1 position of glycerol-3-phosphate. 1-Acylglycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase, also known as lysophosphatidic acid acyltransferase (LPAAT), catalyze the incorporation of acyl groups at the *sn*-2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA). After dephosphorylation of phosphatidic acid by phosphatidic acid phosphatase (PAP), diacylglycerol acyltransferase (DGAT) catalyzes the incorporation of acyl groups at the *sn*-3 position of diacylglycerols. Further enzymes directly involved in TAG biosynthesis – apart from the said Kennedy pathway enzymes – are the phospholipid diacylglycerol acyltransferase (PDAT), an enzyme that transfers acyl groups from the *sn*-2 position of membrane lipids to the *sn*-3 position of diacylglycerols, and diacylglyceroldiacylglycerol transacylase (DDAT), an enzyme that transfers acylgroups from the *sn*-2 position of one diacylglycerol-molecule to the *sn*-3 position of another diacylglycerol-molecule. Lysophospholipid acyltransferase (LPLAT) represents a class of acyltransferases that are capable of incorporating activated acyl groups from acyl-CoA to membrane lipids, and possibly catalyze also the reverse reaction. More specifically, LPLATs can have activity as lysophosphophatidylethanolamine acyltransferase (LPEAT) and lysophosphatidylcholine acyltransferase (LPCAT). Further enzymes, such as lecithin cholesterol acyltransferase (LCAT) can be involved in the transfer of acyl groups from membrane lipids into triacylglycerides, as well.

The documents WO 98/54302 and WO 98/54303 disclose a human LPAAT and its potential use for the therapy of diseases, as a diagnostic, and a method for identifying modulators of the human LPAAT. Moreover, a variety of acyltransferases with a wide range of enzymatic functions have been described in the documents WO 98/55632, WO 98/55631, WO 94/13814, WO 96/24674, WO 95/27791, WO 00/18889, WO 00/18889, WO 93/10241, Akermoun 2000, Biochemical Society Transactions 28: 713-715, Tumaney 1999, Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 1439: 47-56, Fraser 2000, Biochemical Society Transactions 28: 715-7718, Stymne 1984, Biochem. J. 223: 305-314, Yamashita 2001, Journal of Biological Chemistry 276: 26745-26752, and WO 00/18889.

Higher plants comprise PUFA, such as linoleic acid and linolenic acid. However, the LCPUFA ARA, EPA and DHA are not present in the seed oils of higher plants or only in traces (Ucciani: Nouveau Dictionnaire des Huiles Végétales. Technique & Documentation-Lavoisier, 1995. ISBN: 2-7430-0009-0). It is nevertheless highly desirable to produce LCPUFA in higher plants, preferably in oil seeds such as oilseed rape, linseed, sunflower and soybean, since large amounts of high-quality LCPUFA for the various aforementioned applications may be obtained thereby at low costs.

However, one drawback of using transgenic plants expressing various of the aforementioned desaturases and elongases involved in the synthesis of PUFA and LCPUFA is that the latter are not efficiently incorporated into triacylglycerides, but rather into membranes. Furthermore, efficient processing of a given acyl molecule-substrate, e.g. linoleic acid, by a plurality of desaturation and elongation steps towards the desired LCPUFA, e.g. ARA, EPA and/or DHA, is hindered by the requirement to transfer the acyl molecule and its derivatives

generated by the elongation and desaturation reactions back and forth between membrane lipids and acyl-CoA. For this reason, intermediates towards desired LCPUFA are incorporated into oil before the synthesis of the desired LCPUFA is complete. These two problems are undesired for the following reasons: First, the main lipid fraction in oil seeds are triacyl-  
5 glycerides. This is why, for economical reasons, it is necessary to concentrate LCPUFA in triacylglycerides. Second, LCPUFA which are incorporated into membranes can modify the physical characteristics of the membranes and thus have harmful effects on the integrity and transport characteristics of the membranes and on the stress tolerance of plants. Third, for efficient LCPUFA synthesis, it is desirable to increase the flux of intermediate-LCPUFA  
10 between the two sites of biosynthesis -that are membrane lipids and acyl-CoA - and/or decrease the flux of intermediate-PUFA/LCPUFA into oil. Transgenic plants which comprise and express genes coding for enzymes of LCPUFA biosynthesis and produce LCPUFA have been described, e.g., in DE 102 19 203 or WO2004/087902. However, these plants produce LCPUFA in amounts which require further optimization for processing the oils present in said plants. Moreover, it was proposed that delta 6 desaturated fatty acids may be  
15 shifted into the acyl-CoA pool for increasing efficiency of fatty acid elongation in plants (Singh 2005, *Curr. Opin. Plant Biol.*, 8: 197-203). Another publication demonstrated in Arabidopsis, that the additional expression of RcDGAT2 from *Ricinus communis* increase the storage of hydroxyfatty acids produced by a *Ricinus communis* fatty acid hydroxylase  
20 12 (FAH12) from 17% to 30% in the seed oil.

Accordingly, means for increasing the content of PUFA or LCPUFA, such as EPA and DHA, in triglycerides in, e.g., plant seed oils, are still highly desirable.

25 Thus, the present invention relates to a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence elected from the group consisting of:

- a) a nucleic acid sequence having a nucleotide sequence as shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55;
- b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as  
30 shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 53, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, and 56;
- c) a nucleic acid sequence being at least 40% identical to the nucleic acid sequence of a) or b), wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity;
- 35 d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity and having an amino acid sequence which is at least 45% identical to the amino acid sequence of b); and
- e) a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under one of the following sets of conditions to any one of a) to d), wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a  
40 polypeptide having acyltransferase activity:
- f) hybridization in 50 mM Tris, pH 7.6, 6xSSC, 5xDenhardt's, 1.0% sodium dodecyl sulfat (SDS) 100µg denaturated calf thymus DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, repeat twice with 0.2xSSC,

0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;

- 5 g) hybridization in 6xSSPE (Sodium chloride Sodium Phosphate-EDTA), 5xDenhardt's solution, 0.5% SDS 100µg denaturated calf thymus DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, repeat twice with 0.2xSSC, 0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;
- 10 h) hybridization in 20-30% formamide, 5xSSPE, 5xDenhardt's solution, 1% SDS 100µg denaturated salmon sperm DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 42°C for 15 min each, repeat twice with 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 55°C for 30 min each and repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;
- i) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C;
- 15 j) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C; or
- k) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 0,1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C

20 The term "polynucleotide" as used in accordance with the present invention relates to a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity. Preferably, the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of the present invention having acyltransferas activity upon expression in a plant shall be capable of increasing the amount of PUFA and, in particular, LCPUFA esterified to triglycerides in, e.g., seed oils or the entire plant or parts thereof. Such an increase is, preferably, statistically significant when compared to a LCPUFA producing transgenic control plant which expresses the minimal set of desaturases and elongases requiered for LCPUFA synthesis but does not express the polynucleotide of the present invention. Such a transgenic plant may, preferably, express desaturases and elongases comprised by the vector LJB765 listed in table 11 of example 5 in WO2009/016202 or a similar set of desaturases and elongases required for DHA synthesis. Whether an increase is significant can be determined by statistical tests well known in the art including, e.g., Student's t-test. More preferably, the increase is an increase of the amount of triglycerides containing LCPUFA of at least 5%, at least 10%, at least 15%, at least 20%, at least 25%, at least 30%, at least 35%, at least 40%, atleast 45% or at least 50% compared to the said control. Preferably, the LCPUFA referred to before is a polyunsaturated fatty acid having a C-20, C-22 or C24 fatty acid body, more preferably, EPA or DHA, most preferably, DHA. Suitable assays for measuring the activities mentioned before are described in the accompanying Examples.

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40 The term "acyltransferase activity" or "acyltransferase" as used herein encompasses all enzymatic activities and enzymes which are capable of transferring or are involved in the transfer of PUFA and, in particular; LCPUFA from the acly-CoA pool or the membrane phospholipis to the triglycerides, from the acyl-CoA pool to membrane lipids and from membrane lipids to the acyl-CoA pool by a transesterification process. It will be understood

that this acyltransferase activity will result in an increase of the LCPUFA esterified to triglycerides in, e.g., seed oils. In particular, it is envisaged that these acyltransferases are capable of producing triglycerides having esterified EPA or even DHA, or that these acyltransferases are capable of enhancing synthesis of desired PUFA by increasing the flux for  
5 specific intermediates of the desired PUFA between the acyl-CoA pool (the site of elongation) and membrane lipids (the predominant site of desaturation). Specifically, acyltransferase activity as used herein relates to lysophospholipid acyltransferase (LPLAT) activity, preferably, lysophosphatidylcholine acyltransferase (LPCAT) or Lysophosphatidylethanolamine acyltransferase (LPEAT) activity, lysophosphosphatidic acid acyltransferase  
10 (LPAAT) activity, glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase (GPAT) activity or diacylglycerol acyltransferase (DGAT), and, more preferably, to LPLAT, LPAAT, DGAT or GPAT activity.

More preferably, polynucleotides having a nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NOs: 1, 4, and 7, encoding polypeptides having amino acid sequences as shown in SEQ ID NOs:  
15 2, 5, and 8 or variants thereof, preferably, exhibit LPLAT activity. Polynucleotides having a nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NOs: 10, and 13, encoding polypeptides having amino acid sequences as shown in SEQ ID NOs: 11, and 14 or variants thereof, preferably, exhibit LPAAT activity. Polynucleotides having a nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NOs: 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, 52, and 55, encoding polypeptides hav-  
20 ing amino acid sequences as shown in SEQ ID NOs: 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, 53, and 56 or variants thereof, preferably, exhibit DGAT activity. A polynucleotide having a nucleic acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 55, encoding a polypeptide having amino acid sequences as shown in SEQ ID NO: 56 or variants thereof, preferably, exhibit GPAT activity.

25 A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having a acyltransferase activity as specified above has been obtained in accordance with the present invention, preferably, from *Nannochloropsis oculata* and/or *Thraustochytrium aureum*. However, orthologs, paralogs or other homologs may be identified from other species.

30 Thus, the term "polynucleotide" as used in accordance with the present invention further encompasses variants of the aforementioned specific polynucleotides representing orthologs, paralogs or other homologs of the polynucleotide of the present invention. Moreover, variants of the polynucleotide of the present invention also include artificially gener-  
35 ated muteins. Said muteins include, e.g., enzymes which are generated by mutagenesis techniques and which exhibit improved or altered substrate specificity, or codon optimized polynucleotides. The polynucleotide variants, preferably, comprise a nucleic acid sequence characterized in that the sequence can be derived from the aforementioned specific nucleic acid sequences shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28,  
40 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or by a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 53, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, and 56 by at least one nucleotide substitution, addition and/or deletion, whereby the variant nucleic acid sequence shall still encode a polypeptide

having a acyltransferase activity as specified above. Variants also encompass polynucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing to the aforementioned specific nucleic acid sequences, preferably, under stringent hybridization conditions. These stringent conditions are known to the skilled artisan and can be found in Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, N. Y. (1989), 6.3.1-6.3.6. A preferred example for stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization conditions in  $6 \times$  sodium chloride/sodium citrate (= SSC) at approximately  $45^{\circ}\text{C}$ , followed by one or more wash steps in  $0.2 \times$  SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50 to  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The skilled artisan knows that these hybridization conditions differ depending on the type of nucleic acid and, for example when organic solvents are present, with regard to the temperature and concentration of the buffer. For example, under "standard hybridization conditions" the temperature differs depending on the type of nucleic acid between  $42^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $58^{\circ}\text{C}$  in aqueous buffer with a concentration of 0.1 to  $6 \times$  SSC (pH 7.2). If organic solvent is present in the abovementioned buffer, for example 50% formamide, the temperature under standard conditions is approximately  $42^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The hybridization conditions for DNA: DNA hybrids are, preferably,  $0.1 \times$  SSC and  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $45^{\circ}\text{C}$ , preferably between  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $45^{\circ}\text{C}$  and more preferably between  $45^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The hybridization conditions for DNA:RNA hybrids are, more preferably,  $0.1 \times$  SSC and  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $55^{\circ}\text{C}$ , most preferably between  $45^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The abovementioned hybridization temperatures are determined for example for a nucleic acid with approximately 100 bp (= base pairs) in length and a G + C content of 50% in the absence of formamide. The skilled artisan knows how to determine the hybridization conditions required by referring to textbooks such as the textbook mentioned above, or the following textbooks: Sambrook et al., "Molecular Cloning", Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1989; Hames and Higgins (Ed.) 1985, "Nucleic Acids Hybridization: A Practical Approach", IRL Press at Oxford University Press, Oxford; Brown (Ed.) 1991, "Essential Molecular Biology: A Practical Approach", IRL Press at Oxford University Press, Oxford.

In detail variants of polynucleotides still encode a polypeptide having a acyltransferase activity as specified above comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing preferably under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 50 mM Tris, pH 7.6, 6xSSC, 5xDenhardt's, 1.0% sodium dodecyl sulfat (SDS) 100 $\mu\text{g}$  denaturated calf thymus DNA at  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  overnight, followed by washing twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, then wash twice with 0.2xSSC, 0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then wash twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 15 min each to a nucleic acid described by any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or the complement thereof.

More preferably, said variants of polynucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 6xSSPE (Sodium chloride Sodium Phosphate-EDTA), 5xDenhardt's solution, 0.5% sodium dodecyl sulfat (SDS) 100 $\mu\text{g}$  denaturated calf thymus DNA at  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  overnight, followed by washing twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, then wash twice with 0.2xSSC, 0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then wash twice with 0.2



SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min each to a nucleic acid described by any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or the complement thereof.

- 5 Most preferably, said variants of polynucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 20-30% formamide, 5xSSPE (Sodium chloride Sodium Phosphate-EDTA), 5xDenhardt's solution, 1% sodium dodecyl sulfat (SDS) 100µg denaturated salmon sperm DNA at 34°C overnight, followed by washing twice with 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 42°C for 15 min each, then wash twice with  
10 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 55°C for 30 min each and then wash twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min each to a nucleic acid described by any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or the complement thereof.

In another preferred embodiment aforementioned variants of polynucleotides still encode a  
15 polypeptide having a acyltransferase activity as specified above comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight with washing in 2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C, preferably 65°C to a nucleic acid described by any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and  
20 55 or the complement thereof. In still another preferred embodiment, said variants of polynucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight with washing in 1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C, preferably 65°C to a nucleotide sequence described by any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13,  
25 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or or the complement thereof, most preferably, said variants of polynucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under conditions equivalent to hybridization in 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight with washing in 0,1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C, preferably 65°C to a nucleic acid sequence described by any  
30 one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55 or the complement thereof.

The term "hybridization" as used herein includes "any process by which a strand of nucleic acid molecule joins with a complementary strand through base pairing." (J. Coombs (1994)  
35 Dictionary of Biotechnology, Stockton Press, New York). Hybridization and the strength of hybridization (i.e., the strength of the association between the nucleic acid molecules) is impacted by such factors as the degree of complementarity between the nucleic acid molecules, stringency of the conditions involved, the T<sub>m</sub> of the formed hybrid, and the G:C ratio within the nucleic acid molecules. As used herein, the term "T<sub>m</sub>" is used in reference to the  
40 "melting temperature." The melting temperature is the temperature at which a population of double-stranded nucleic acid molecules becomes half dissociated into single strands. The equation for calculating the T<sub>m</sub> of nucleic acid molecules is well known in the art. As indicated by standard references, a simple estimate of the T<sub>m</sub> value may be calculated by the

equation:  $T_m = 81.5 + 0.41(\% G+C)$ , when a nucleic acid molecule is in aqueous solution at 1 M NaCl [see e.g., Anderson and Young, Quantitative Filter Hybridization, in Nucleic Acid Hybridization (1985)]. Other references include more sophisticated computations, which take structural as well as sequence characteristics into account for the calculation of  $T_m$ .  
5 Stringent conditions, are known to those skilled in the art and can be found in Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. (1989), 6.3.1-6.3.6.

A "complement" of a nucleic acid sequence as used herein refers to a nucleotide sequence whose nucleic acid molecules show total complementarity to the nucleic acid molecules of  
10 the nucleic acid sequence.

The term "Complementary" or "complementarity" refers to two nucleotide sequences which comprise antiparallel nucleotide sequences capable of pairing with one another (by the base-pairing rules) upon formation of hydrogen bonds between the complementary base  
15 residues in the antiparallel nucleotide sequences. For example, the sequence 5'-AGT-3' is complementary to the sequence 5'-ACT-3'. Complementarity can be "partial" or "total." "Partial" complementarity is where one or more nucleic acid bases are not matched according to the base pairing rules. "Total" or "complete" complementarity between nucleic acid molecules is where each and every nucleic acid base is matched with another base under the  
20 base pairing rules. The degree of complementarity between nucleic acid molecule strands has significant effects on the efficiency and strength of hybridization between nucleic acid molecule strands.

Alternatively, polynucleotide variants are obtainable by PCR-based techniques such as  
25 mixed oligonucleotide primer- based amplification of DNA, i.e. using degenerated primers against conserved domains of the polypeptides of the present invention. Conserved domains of the polypeptide of the present invention may be identified by a sequence comparison of the nucleic acid sequences of the polynucleotides or the amino acid sequences of the polypeptides of the present invention. Oligonucleotides suitable as PCR primers as well  
30 as suitable PCR conditions are described in the accompanying Examples. As a template, DNA or cDNA from bacteria, fungi, plants or animals may be used.

Further, variants include polynucleotides comprising nucleic acid sequences which are at least up to 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at  
35 least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98% or at least 99% identical to the nucleic acid sequences shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55, preferably, encoding polypeptides retaining a acyltransferase activity as specified above.

40 Moreover, also encompassed are polynucleotides (derivatives) which comprise nucleic acid sequences encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequences which are at least up to 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%,

at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98% or at least 99% identical to the amino acid sequences shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 53, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, and 56, wherein the polypeptide, preferably, retains acyltransferase activity as specified above. The percent identity values are, preferably, calculated over the entire amino acid or nucleic acid sequence region. A series of programs based on a variety of algorithms is available to the skilled artisan for comparing different sequences. In a preferred embodiment, the percent identity between two amino acid sequences is determined using the Needleman and Wunsch algorithm (Needleman 1970, J. Mol. Biol. (48):444-453) which has been incorporated into the needle program in the EMBOSS software package (*EMBOSS: The European Molecular Biology Open Software Suite*, Rice,P., Longden,I., and Bleasby,A, Trends in Genetics 16(6), 276-277, 2000), using either a BLOSUM 45 or PAM250 scoring matrix for distantly related proteins, or either a BLOSUM 62 or PAM160 scoring matrix for closer related proteins, and a gap opening penalty of 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, or 4 and a gap extension penalty of 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. Guides for local installation of the EMBOSS package as well as links to WEB-Services can be found at <http://emboss.sourceforge.net>. A preferred, non-limiting example of parameters to be used for aligning two amino acid sequences using the needle program are the default parameters, including the EBLOSUM62 scoring matrix, a gap opening penalty of 10 and a gap extension penalty of 0.5. In yet another preferred embodiment, the percent identity between two nucleotide sequences is determined using the needle program in the EMBOSS software package (*EMBOSS: The European Molecular Biology Open Software Suite*, Rice,P., Longden,I., and Bleasby,A, Trends in Genetics 16(6), 276-277, 2000), using the EDNA-FULL scoring matrix and a gap opening penalty of 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, or 4 and a gap extension penalty of 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. A preferred, non-limiting example of parameters to be used in conjunction for aligning two amino acid sequences using the needle program are the default parameters, including the EDNAFULL scoring matrix, a gap opening penalty of 10 and a gap extension penalty of 0.5. The nucleic acid and protein sequences of the present invention can further be used as a "query sequence" to perform a search against public databases to, for example, identify other family members or related sequences. Such searches can be performed using the BLAST series of programs (version 2.2) of Altschul *et al.* (Altschul 1990, J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-10). BLAST using acyltransferase nucleic acid sequences of the invention as query sequence can be performed with the BLASTn, BLASTx or the tBLASTx program using default parameters to obtain either nucleotide sequences (BLASTn, tBLASTx) or amino acid sequences (BLASTx) homologous to acyltransferase sequences of the invention. BLAST using acyltransferase protein sequences of the invention as query sequence can be performed with the BLASTp or the tBLASTn program using default parameters to obtain either amino acid sequences (BLASTp) or nucleic acid sequences (tBLASTn) homologous to acyltransferase sequences of the invention. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST using default parameters can be utilized as described in Altschul *et al.* (Altschul 1997, Nucleic Acids Res. 25(17):3389-3402).

Table 1: Relation of sequence types of query and hit sequences for various BLAST pro-

grams

Input query sequence	Converted Query	Algorithm	Converted Hit	Actual Database
DNA		BLASTn		DNA
PRT		BLASTp		PRT
DNA	PRT	BLASTx		PRT
PRT		tBLASTn	PRT	DNA
DNA	PRT	tBLASTx	PRT	DNA

A polynucleotide comprising a fragment of any of the aforementioned nucleic acid sequences is also encompassed as a polynucleotide of the present invention. The fragment shall encode a polypeptide which still has acyltransferase activity as specified above. Accordingly, the polypeptide may comprise or consist of the domains of the polypeptide of the present invention conferring the said biological activity. A fragment as meant herein, preferably, comprises at least 50, at least 100, at least 250 or at least 500 consecutive nucleotides of any one of the aforementioned nucleic acid sequences or encodes an amino acid sequence comprising at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 80, at least 100 or at least 150 consecutive amino acids of any one of the aforementioned amino acid sequences.

The variant polynucleotides or fragments referred to above, preferably, encode polypeptides retaining acyltransferase activity to a significant extent, preferably, at least 10%, at least 20%, at least 30%, at least 40%, at least 50%, at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80% or at least 90% of the acyltransferase activity exhibited by any of the polypeptide shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, 53, and 56 or derivative of any of these polypeptides. The activity may be tested as described in the accompanying examples.

The polynucleotides of the present invention either essentially consist of the aforementioned nucleic acid sequences or comprise the aforementioned nucleic acid sequences. Thus, they may contain further nucleic acid sequences as well. Preferably, the polynucleotide of the present invention may comprise in addition to an open reading frame further untranslated sequence at the 3' and at the 5' terminus of the coding gene region: at least 500, preferably 200, more preferably 100 nucleotides of the sequence upstream of the 5' terminus of the coding region and at least 100, preferably 50, more preferably 20 nucleotides of the sequence downstream of the 3' terminus of the coding gene region. Furthermore, the polynucleotides of the present invention may encode fusion proteins wherein one partner of the fusion protein is a polypeptide being encoded by a nucleic acid sequence recited above. Such fusion proteins may comprise as additional part other enzymes of the fatty acid or PUFA biosynthesis pathways, polypeptides for monitoring expression (e.g., green, yellow, blue or red fluorescent proteins, alkaline phosphatase and the like) or so called "tags" which may serve as a detectable marker or as an auxiliary measure for purification purposes. Tags for the different purposes are well known in the art and comprise FLAG-tags, 6-histidine-tags, MYC-tags and the like.

The polynucleotide of the present invention shall be provided, preferably, either as an isolated polynucleotide (i.e. purified or at least isolated from its natural context such as its natural gene locus) or in genetically modified or exogenously (i.e. artificially) manipulated form. An isolated polynucleotide can, for example, comprise less than approximately 5 kb, 4 kb, 3 kb, 2 kb, 1 kb, 0.5 kb or 0.1 kb of nucleotide sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid molecule in the genomic DNA of the cell from which the nucleic acid is derived. The polynucleotide, preferably, is provided in the form of double or single stranded molecule. It will be understood that the present invention by referring to any of the aforementioned polynucleotides of the invention also refers to complementary or reverse complementary strands of the specific sequences or variants thereof referred to before. The polynucleotide encompasses DNA, including cDNA and genomic DNA, or RNA polynucleotides.

However, the present invention also pertains to polynucleotide variants which are derived from the polynucleotides of the present invention and are capable of interfering with the transcription or translation of the polynucleotides of the present invention. Such variant polynucleotides include anti-sense nucleic acids, ribozymes, siRNA molecules, morpholino nucleic acids (phosphorodiamidate morpholino oligos), triple-helix forming oligonucleotides, inhibitory oligonucleotides, or micro RNA molecules all of which shall specifically recognize the polynucleotide of the invention due to the presence of complementary or substantially complementary sequences. These techniques are well known to the skilled artisan. Suitable variant polynucleotides of the aforementioned kind can be readily designed based on the structure of the polynucleotides of this invention.

Moreover, comprised are also chemically modified polynucleotides including naturally occurring modified polynucleotides such as glycosylated or methylated polynucleotides or artificial modified ones such as biotinylated polynucleotides.

Advantageously, it has been found in accordance with the present invention that the polynucleotides encoding the above mentioned polypeptides having acyltransferase activity and, in particular, LPLAT, LPAAT, DGAT and/or GPAT activity, can be used for the manufacture of PUFA and, in particular, LCPUFA when expressed in a transgenic host organism or cell. Specifically, the aforementioned acyltransferase activities will allow for an increase of LCPUFA esterified to triglycerides in seed oils by shifting the said LCPUFA from the acyl-CoA pool (by polypeptides having LPAAT, DGAT or GPAT activity as specified above) and/or from the acyl-CoA pool/phospholipid pool to the phospholipid pool/acyl-CoA pool (by polypeptides having LPLAT as specified above) via transesterification. Surprisingly, it was found that the acyltransferases encoded by the polynucleotides of the present invention are also capable of efficiently shifting rather long and highly unsaturated LCPUFA towards the triglyceride pool or between the phospholipid pool and the acyl-CoA pool, in particular, even the long chain intermediates. More surprisingly even, DHA which is known to be incorporated in triglycerides only in very low amounts, if at all, can be efficiently transesterified to

triglycerides by the acyltransferases of the invention.

In particular the LPLAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 18:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 18:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 18:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), transesterification of 18:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 18:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 18:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 20:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 20:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 20:4n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophos-

phatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS), the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylcholine (PC) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE) and/or the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from the sn2 position of phosphatidylserine (PS) to CoA and/or from CoA to lysophosphatidylserine (LPS).

Preferably the LPAAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA), the transesterification of 18:3n-6 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA) and/or the transesterification of 18:4n-6 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA).

More preferably the LPAAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA), transesterification of 20:4n-3 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA) and/or the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA).

Most preferably the LPAAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA) and/or the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from CoA to the sn2 position of lysophosphatidic acid (LPA).

Preferably the GPAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P), the transesterification of 18:3n-6 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P) and/or the transesterification of 18:4n-6 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P).

More preferably the GPAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P), the transesterification of 20:4n-3 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P) and/or the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P).

Most preferably the GPAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate (G3P) and/or the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from CoA to the sn1 position of glycerole-3-phosphate

(G3P).

Preferably the DGAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 18:2n-6 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG), transesterification of 18:3n-6 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG), the transesterification of 18:3n-3 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG) and/or the transesterification of 18:4n-6 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG).

More preferably the DGAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:3n-6 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG), the transesterification of 20:4n-3 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG) and/or the transesterification of 22:5n-3 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG).

Most preferably the DGAT of the present invention can efficiently catalyse the transesterification of 20:4n-6 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG), the transesterification of 20:5n-3 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG) and/or the transesterification of 22:6n-3 from CoA to the *sn3* position of Diacylglycerol (DAG).

The activity of the LPLAT, LPAAT, GPAT or DGAT of the present invention is useful for the specificity of a fatty acid. This fatty acid specificity is useful to generate an artificially ARA-specificity preferably. More preferably the activity of the LPLAT, LPAAT, GPAT or DGAT of the present invention is useful to generate an artificially EPA-specificity. Most preferably the activity of the LPLAT, LPAAT, GPAT or DGAT of the present invention is useful to generate an artificially DHA-specificity.

In a preferred embodiment of the polynucleotide of the present invention, said polynucleotide further comprises an expression control sequence operatively linked to the said nucleic acid sequence.

The term "expression control sequence" as used herein refers to a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of governing, i.e. initiating and controlling, transcription of a nucleic acid sequence of interest, in the present case the nucleic sequences recited above. Such a sequence usually comprises or consists of a promoter or a combination of a promoter and enhancer sequences. Expression of a polynucleotide comprises transcription of the nucleic acid molecule, preferably, into a translatable mRNA. Additional regulatory elements may include transcriptional as well as translational enhancers. The following promoters and expression control sequences may be, preferably, used in an expression vector according to the present invention. The *cos*, *tac*, *trp*, *tet*, *trp-tet*, *lpp*, *lac*, *lpp-lac*, *lacIq*, T7, T5, T3, *gal*, *trc*, *ara*, SP6,  $\lambda$ -PR or  $\lambda$ -PL promoters are, preferably, used in Gram-negative bacteria. For Gram-positive bacteria, promoters *amy* and SPO2 may be used. From yeast or fungal promoters ADC1, AOX1r, GAL1, MF $\alpha$ , AC, P-60, CYC1, GAPDH, TEF, rp28, ADH are, preferably, used. For animal cell or organism expression, the promoters CMV-, SV40-, RSV-promoter (Rous sarcoma virus), CMV-enhancer, SV40-enhancer are preferably used. From



plants the promoters CaMV/35S (Franck 1980, Cell 21: 285-294], PRP1 (Ward 1993, Plant Mol. Biol. 22), SSU, OCS, lib4, usp, STLS1, B33, nos or the ubiquitin or phaseolin promoter. Also preferred in this context are inducible promoters, such as the promoters described in EP 0 388 186 A1 (i.e. a benzylsulfonamide-inducible promoter), Gatz 1992, Plant J. 2:397-404 (i.e. a tetracyclin-inducible promoter), EP 0 335 528 A1 ( i.e. a abscisic-acid-inducible promoter) or WO 93/21334 (i.e. a ethanol- or cyclohexenol-inducible promoter). Further suitable plant promoters are the promoter of cytosolic FBPase or the ST-LSI promoter from potato (Stockhaus 1989, EMBO J. 8, 2445), the phosphoribosyl-pyrophosphate amidotransferase promoter from Glycine max (Genbank accession No. U87999) or the node-specific promoter described in EP 0 249 676 A1. Particularly preferred are promoters which enable the expression in tissues which are involved in the biosynthesis of fatty acids. Also particularly preferred are seed-specific promoters such as the USP promoter in accordance with the practice, but also other promoters such as the LeB4, DC3, phaseolin or napin promoters. Further especially preferred promoters are seed-specific promoters which can be used for monocotyledonous or dicotyledonous plants and which are described in US 5,608,152 (napin promoter from oilseed rape), WO 98/45461 (oleosin promoter from Arabidopsis, US 5,504,200 (phaseolin promoter from Phaseolus vulgaris), WO 91/13980 (Bce4 promoter from Brassica), by Baeumlein et al., Plant J., 2, 2, 1992:233-239 (LeB4 promoter from a legume), these promoters being suitable for dicots. The following promoters are suitable for monocots: lpt-2 or lpt-1 promoter from barley (WO 95/15389 and WO 95/23230), hordein promoter from barley and other promoters which are suitable and which are described in WO 99/16890. In principle, it is possible to use all natural promoters together with their regulatory sequences, such as those mentioned above, for the novel process. Likewise, it is possible and advantageous to use synthetic promoters, either additionally or alone, especially when they mediate a seed-specific expression, such as, for example, as described in WO 99/16890. In a particular embodiment, seed-specific promoters are utilized to enhance the production of the desired PUFA or LCPUFA.

The term "operatively linked" as used herein means that the expression control sequence and the nucleic acid of interest are linked so that the expression of the said nucleic acid of interest can be governed by the said expression control sequence, i.e. the expression control sequence shall be functionally linked to the said nucleic acid sequence to be expressed. Accordingly, the expression control sequence and, the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed may be physically linked to each other, e.g., by inserting the expression control sequence at the 5' end of the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed. Alternatively, the expression control sequence and the nucleic acid to be expressed may be merely in physical proximity so that the expression control sequence is capable of governing the expression of at least one nucleic acid sequence of interest. The expression control sequence and the nucleic acid to be expressed are, preferably, separated by not more than 500 bp, 300 bp, 100 bp, 80 bp, 60 bp, 40 bp, 20 bp, 10 bp or 5 bp.

In a further preferred embodiment of the polynucleotide of the present invention, said polynucleotide further comprises a terminator sequence operatively linked to the nucleic

acid sequence.

The term “terminator” as used herein refers to a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of terminating transcription. These sequences will cause dissociation of the transcription machinery from the nucleic acid sequence to be transcribed. Preferably, the terminator shall be active in plants and, in particular, in plant seeds. Suitable terminators are known in the art and, preferably, include polyadenylation signals such as the SV40-poly-A site or the tk-poly-A site or one of the plant specific signals indicated in Loke et al. 2005, *Plant Physiol* 138, pp. 1457-1468, downstream of the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed.

The present invention also relates to a vector comprising the polynucleotide of the present invention.

The term “vector”, preferably, encompasses phage, plasmid, viral vectors as well as artificial chromosomes, such as bacterial or yeast artificial chromosomes. Moreover, the term also relates to targeting constructs which allow for random or site- directed integration of the targeting construct into genomic DNA. Such target constructs, preferably, comprise DNA of sufficient length for either homologous or heterologous recombination as described in detail below. The vector encompassing the polynucleotide of the present invention, preferably, further comprises selectable markers for propagation and/or selection in a host. The vector may be incorporated into a host cell by various techniques well known in the art. If introduced into a host cell, the vector may reside in the cytoplasm or may be incorporated into the genome. In the latter case, it is to be understood that the vector may further comprise nucleic acid sequences which allow for homologous recombination or heterologous insertion. Vectors can be introduced into prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells via conventional transformation or transfection techniques. The terms “transformation” and “transfection”, conjugation and transduction, as used in the present context, are intended to comprise a multiplicity of prior-art processes for introducing foreign nucleic acid (for example DNA) into a host cell, including calcium phosphate, rubidium chloride or calcium chloride coprecipitation, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection, lipofection, natural competence, carbon-based clusters, chemically mediated transfer, electroporation or particle bombardment. Suitable methods for the transformation or transfection of host cells, including plant cells, can be found in Sambrook et al. (*Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989) and other laboratory manuals, such as *Methods in Molecular Biology*, 1995, Vol. 44, *Agrobacterium protocols*, Ed.: Gartland and Davey, Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey. Alternatively, a plasmid vector may be introduced by heat shock or electroporation techniques. Should the vector be a virus, it may be packaged in vitro using an appropriate packaging cell line prior to application to host cells.

Preferably, the vector referred to herein is suitable as a cloning vector, i.e. replicable in microbial systems. Such vectors ensure efficient cloning in bacteria and, preferably, yeasts or fungi and make possible the stable transformation of plants. Those which must be men-

tioned are, in particular, various binary and co-integrated vector systems which are suitable for the T-DNA-mediated transformation. Such vector systems are, as a rule, characterized in that they contain at least the *vir* genes, which are required for the *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, and the sequences which delimit the T-DNA (T-DNA border).

5 These vector systems, preferably, also comprise further cis-regulatory regions such as promoters and terminators and/or selection markers with which suitable transformed host cells or organisms can be identified. While co-integrated vector systems have *vir* genes and T-DNA sequences arranged on the same vector, binary systems are based on at least two vectors, one of which bears *vir* genes, but no T-DNA, while a second one bears T-DNA, but  
10 no *vir* gene. As a consequence, the last-mentioned vectors are relatively small, easy to manipulate and can be replicated both in *E. coli* and in *Agrobacterium*. These binary vectors include vectors from the pBIB-HYG, pPZP, pBecks, pGreen series. Preferably used in accordance with the invention are Bin19, pBI101, pBinAR, pGPTV and pCAMBIA. An overview of binary vectors and their use can be found in Hellens et al, Trends in Plant Science  
15 (2000) 5, 446–451. Furthermore, by using appropriate cloning vectors, the polynucleotides can be introduced into host cells or organisms such as plants or animals and, thus, be used in the transformation of plants, such as those which are published, and cited, in: Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida), chapter 6/7, pp. 71-119 (1993); F.F. White, Vectors for Gene Transfer in Higher Plants; in: Transgenic Plants, vol. 1, Engineering and Utilization, Ed.: Kung and R. Wu, Academic Press, 1993, 15-38; B. Jenes et al., Techniques for Gene Transfer, in: Transgenic Plants, vol. 1, Engineering and Utilization, Ed.: Kung and R. Wu, Academic Press (1993), 128-143; Potrykus 1991, Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Molec. Biol. 42, 205-225.

25 More preferably, the vector of the present invention is an expression vector. In such an expression vector, i.e. a vector which comprises the polynucleotide of the invention having the nucleic acid sequence operatively linked to an expression control sequence (also called “expression cassette”) allowing expression in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells or isolated fractions thereof. Suitable expression vectors are known in the art such as Okayama-Berg  
30 cDNA expression vector pcDV1 (Pharmacia), pCDM8, pRc/CMV, pcDNA1, pcDNA3 (Invitrogen) or pSPORT1 (GIBCO BRL). Further examples of typical fusion expression vectors are pGEX (Pharmacia Biotech Inc; Smith 1988, Gene 67:31-40), pMAL (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA) and pRIT5 (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ), where glutathione S-transferase (GST), maltose E-binding protein and protein A, respectively, are fused with  
35 the recombinant target protein. Examples of suitable inducible nonfusion *E. coli* expression vectors are, inter alia, pTrc (Amann 1988, Gene 69:301-315) and pET 11d (Studier 1990, Methods in Enzymology 185, 60-89). The target gene expression of the pTrc vector is based on the transcription from a hybrid *trp-lac* fusion promoter by host RNA polymerase. The target gene expression from the pET 11d vector is based on the transcription of a T7  
40 gn10-lac fusion promoter, which is mediated by a coexpressed viral RNA polymerase (T7 gn1). This viral polymerase is provided by the host strains BL21 (DE3) or HMS174 (DE3) from a resident  $\lambda$ -prophage which harbors a T7 gn1 gene under the transcriptional control of the lacUV 5 promoter. The skilled artisan is familiar with other vectors which are suitable

in prokaryotic organisms; these vectors are, for example, in *E. coli*, pLG338, pACYC184, the pBR series such as pBR322, the pUC series such as pUC18 or pUC19, the M113mp series, pKC30, pRep4, pHS1, pHS2, pPLc236, pMBL24, pLG200, pUR290, pIN-III113-B1,  $\lambda$ gt11 or pBdCl, in *Streptomyces* pIJ101, pIJ364, pIJ702 or pIJ361, in *Bacillus* pUB110, 5 pC194 or pBD214, in *Corynebacterium* pSA77 or pAJ667. Examples of vectors for expression in the yeast *S. cerevisiae* comprise pYep Sec1 (Baldari 1987, *Embo J.* 6:229-234), pMFa (Kurjan 1982, *Cell* 30:933-943), pJRY88 (Schultz 1987, *Gene* 54:113-123) and pYES2 (Invitrogen Corporation, San Diego, CA). Vectors and processes for the construction of vectors which are suitable for use in other fungi, such as the filamentous fungi, comprise 10 those which are described in detail in: van den Hondel, C.A.M.J.J., & Punt, P.J. (1991) "Gene transfer systems and vector development for filamentous fungi, in: *Applied Molecular Genetics of fungi*, J.F. Peberdy et al., Ed., pp. 1-28, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, or in: *More Gene Manipulations in Fungi* (J.W. Bennett & L.L. Lasure, Ed., pp. 396-428: Academic Press: San Diego). Further suitable yeast vectors are, for example, pAG-1, 15 YEp6, YEp13 or pEMBLYe23. As an alternative, the polynucleotides of the present invention can be also expressed in insect cells using baculovirus expression vectors. Baculovirus vectors which are available for the expression of proteins in cultured insect cells (for example Sf9 cells) comprise the pAc series (Smith 1983, *Mol. Cell Biol.* 3:2156-2165) and the pVL series (Lucklow 1989, *Virology* 170:31-39).

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The polynucleotide of the present invention can be expressed in single-cell plant cells (such as algae), see Falciatore 1999, *Marine Biotechnology* 1 (3):239-251 and the references cited therein, and plant cells from higher plants (for example Spermatophytes, such as arable crops) by using plant expression vectors. Examples of plant expression vectors comprise 25 those which are described in detail in: Becker 1992, *Plant Mol. Biol.* 20:1195-1197; Bevan 1984, *Nucl. Acids Res.* 12:8711-8721; *Vectors for Gene Transfer in Higher Plants*; in: *Transgenic Plants, Vol. 1, Engineering and Utilization*, Ed.: Kung and R. Wu, Academic Press, 1993, p. 15-38. A plant expression cassette, preferably, comprises regulatory sequences which are capable of controlling the gene expression in plant cells and which are 30 functionally linked so that each sequence can fulfill its function, such as transcriptional termination, for example polyadenylation signals. Preferred polyadenylation signals are those which are derived from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* T-DNA, such as the gene 3 of the Ti plasmid pTiACH5, which is known as octopine synthase (Gielen 1984, *EMBO J.* 3, 835) or functional equivalents of these, but all other terminators which are functionally active in 35 plants are also suitable. Since plant gene expression is very often not limited to transcriptional levels, a plant expression cassette preferably comprises other functionally linked sequences such as translation enhancers, for example the overdrive sequence, which comprises the 5'-untranslated tobacco mosaic virus leader sequence, which increases the protein/RNA ratio (Gallie 1987, *Nucl. Acids Research* 15:8693-8711). As described above, 40 plant gene expression must be functionally linked to a suitable promoter which performs the expression of the gene in a timely, cell-specific or tissue-specific manner. Promoters which can be used are constitutive promoters (Benfey 1989, *EMBO J.* 8:2195-2202) such as those which are derived from plant viruses such as 35S CAMV (Franck 1980, *Cell* 21:285-

294), 19S CaMV (see US 5,352,605 and WO 84/02913) or plant promoters such as the promoter of the Rubisco small subunit, which is described in US 4,962,028. Other preferred sequences for the use in functional linkage in plant gene expression cassettes are targeting sequences which are required for targeting the gene product into its relevant cell compartment (for a review, see Kermode 1996, Crit. Rev. Plant Sci. 15, 4: 285-423 and references cited therein), for example into the vacuole, the nucleus, all types of plastids, such as amyloplasts, chloroplasts, chromoplasts, the extracellular space, the mitochondria, the endoplasmic reticulum, oil bodies, peroxisomes and other compartments of plant cells. As described above, plant gene expression can also be facilitated via a chemically inducible promoter (for a review, see Gatz 1997, Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol., 48:89-108). Chemically inducible promoters are particularly suitable if it is desired that genes are expressed in a time-specific manner. Examples of such promoters are a salicylic-acid-inducible promoter (WO 95/19443), a tetracyclin-inducible promoter (Gatz 1992, Plant J. 2, 397-404) and an ethanol-inducible promoter. Promoters which respond to biotic or abiotic stress conditions are also suitable promoters, for example the pathogen-induced PRP1-gene promoter (Ward 1993, Plant Mol. Biol. 22:361-366), the heat-inducible hsp80 promoter from tomato (US 5,187,267), the cold-inducible alpha-amylase promoter from potato (WO 96/12814) or the wound-inducible pinII promoter (EP 0 375 091 A). The promoters which are especially preferred are those which bring about the expression of genes in tissues and organs in which fatty acid, lipid and oil biosynthesis takes place, in seed cells such as the cells of endosperm and of the developing embryo. Suitable promoters are the napin gene promoter from oilseed rape (US 5,608,152), the USP promoter from *Vicia faba* (Baeumlein 1991, Mol. Gen. Genet. 225 (3):459-67), the oleosin promoter from *Arabidopsis* (WO 98/45461), the phaseolin promoter from *Phaseolus vulgaris* (US 5,504,200), the Bce4 promoter from *Brassica* (WO 91/13980) or the legumin B4 promoter (LeB4; Baeumlein 1992, Plant Journal, 2 (2):233-9), and promoters which bring about the seed-specific expression in monocotyledonous plants such as maize, barley, wheat, rye, rice and the like. Suitable promoters to be taken into consideration are the lpt2 or lpt1 gene promoter from barley (WO 95/15389 and WO 95/23230) or those which are described in WO 99/16890 (promoters from the barley hordein gene, the rice glutelin gene, the rice oryzin gene, the rice prolamin gene, the wheat gliadin gene, wheat glutelin gene, the maize zein gene, the oat glutelin gene, the sorghum kasirin gene, the rye secalin gene). Likewise, especially suitable are promoters which bring about the plastid-specific expression since plastids are the compartment in which the precursors and some end products of lipid biosynthesis are synthesized. Suitable promoters such as the viral RNA-polymerase promoter are described in WO 95/16783 and WO 97/06250, and the clpP promoter from *Arabidopsis*, described in WO 99/46394.

The abovementioned vectors are only a small overview of vectors to be used in accordance with the present invention. Further vectors are known to the skilled artisan and are described, for example, in: Cloning Vectors (Ed., Pouwels, P.H., et al., Elsevier, Amsterdam-New York-Oxford, 1985, ISBN 0 444 904018). For further suitable expression systems for prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see the chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook, loc cit.

It follows from the above that, preferably, said vector is an expression vector. More preferably, the said polynucleotide of the present invention is under the control of a seed-specific promoter in the vector of the present invention. A preferred seed-specific promoter as  
5 meant herein is selected from the group consisting of Conlinin 1, Conlinin 2, napin, LuFad3, USP, LeB4, Arc, Fae, ACP, LuPXR, and SBP. For details, see, e.g., US 2003-0159174.

Moreover, the present invention relates to a host cell comprising the polynucleotide or the  
10 vector of the present invention.

Preferably, said host cell is a plant cell and, more preferably, a plant cell obtained from an  
oilseed crop. More preferably, said oilseed crop is selected from the group consisting of flax  
(*Linum* sp.), rapeseed (*Brassica* sp.), soybean (*Glycine* and *Soja* sp.), sunflower (*Helian-*  
15 *thus* sp.), cotton (*Gossypium* sp.), corn (*Zea mays*), olive (*Olea* sp.), safflower (*Carthamus*  
sp.), cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*), peanut (*Arachis* sp.), hemp, camelina, crambe, oil palm,  
coconuts, groundnuts, sesame seed, castor bean, lesquerella, tallow tree, sheanuts, tung-  
nuts, kapok fruit, poppy seed, jojoba seeds and perilla.

Also preferably, said host cell is a microorganism. More preferably, said microorganism is a  
20 bacterium, a fungus or algae. More preferably, it is selected from the group consisting of  
*Candida*, *Cryptococcus*, *Lipomyces*, *Rhodospiridium*, *Yarrowia* and *Schizochytrium*.

Moreover, a host cell according to the present invention may also be an animal cell. Prefer-  
ably, said animal host cell is a host cell of a fish or a cell line obtained therefrom. More  
25 preferably, the fish host cell is from herring, salmon, sardine, redfish, eel, carp, trout, hali-  
but, mackerel, zander or tuna.

It will be understood that if the host cell of the invention shall be applied for LCPUFA pro-  
duction, it shall be capable of carrying out desaturation and elongation steps on fatty acids.  
30 To produce the LCPUFA according to the invention, the C16- or C18- fatty acids must first  
be desaturated by the enzymatic activity of a desaturase and subsequently be elongated by  
at least two carbon atoms via an elongase. After one elongation cycle, this enzyme activity  
gives C18- or C20-fatty acids and after two or three elongation cycles C22- or C24-fatty  
acids. The activity of the desaturases and elongases used in the process according to the  
35 invention preferably leads to C18-, C20-, C22- and/or C24-fatty acids, advantageously with  
at least two double bonds in the fatty acid molecule, preferably with three, four or five dou-  
ble bonds, especially preferably to give C20- and/or C22-fatty acids with at least two double  
bonds in the fatty acid molecule, preferably with three, four or five double bonds in the  
molecule. After a first desaturation and the elongation have taken place, further desatura-  
40 tion steps such as, for example, one in the delta-5 position may take place. Products of the  
process according to the invention which are especially preferred are DGLA, ARA, EPA  
DPA and/or DHA, most preferably EPA and/or DHA. Desaturases and elongases which are  
required for this process may not always be present naturally in the host cell. Accordingly,

the present invention, preferably, envisages a host cell which in addition to the polynucleotide of the present invention comprises polynucleotides encoding such desaturases and/or elongases as required depending on the selected organism. Preferred desaturases and/or elongases which shall be present in the host cell are at least one enzyme selected from the

5 group consisting of:  $\Delta$ -4-desaturase,  $\Delta$ -5-desaturase,  $\Delta$ -5-elongase,  $\Delta$ -6-desaturase,  $\Delta$ 12-desaturase,  $\Delta$ 15-desaturase,  $\omega$ 3-desaturase and  $\Delta$ -6-elongase. Especially preferred are the bifunctional d12d15-Desaturases d12d15Des(Ac) from *Acanthamoeba castellanii* (WO2007042510), d12d15Des(Cp) from *Claviceps purpurea* (WO2008006202) and d12d15Des(Lg)1 from *Lottia gigantea* (WO2009016202), the d12-Desaturases d12Des(Co)

10 from *Calendula officinalis* (WO200185968), d12Des(Lb) from *Laccaria bicolor* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Mb) from *Monosiga brevicollis* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Mg) from *Mycosphaerella graminicola* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Nh) from *Nectria haematococca* (WO2009016202), d12Des(OI) from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d12Des(Pb) from *Phycomyces blakesleeanus* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Ps) from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241) and d12Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d15-Desaturases d15Des(Hr) from *Helobdella robusta* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mc) from *Microcoleus chthonoplastes* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mf) from *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mg) from *Mycosphaerella graminicola* (WO2009016202) and d15Des(Nh)2 from *Nectria haematococca* (WO2009016202), the d4-Desaturases d4Des(Eg) from *Euglena gracilis* (WO2004090123), d4Des(Tc) from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2002026946) and d4Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d5-Desaturases d5Des(OI)2 from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d5Des(Pp) from *Physcomitrella patens* (WO2004057001), d5Des(Pt) from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* (WO2002057465), d5Des(Tc) from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2002026946), d5Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710) and the d6-Desaturases d6Des(Cp) from *Ceratodon purpureus* (WO2000075341), d6Des(OI) from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d6Des(Ot) from *Ostreococcus tauri* (WO2006069710), d6Des(Pf) from *Primula farinosa* (WO2003072784), d6Des(Pir)\_BO from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2002026946), d6Des(Pir)

25 from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2002026946), d6Des(Plu) from *Primula luteola* (WO2003072784), d6Des(Pp) from *Physcomitrella patens* (WO200102591), d6Des(Pt) from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* (WO2002057465), d6Des(Pv) from *Primula vialii* (WO2003072784) and d6Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d8-Desaturases d8Des(Ac) from *Acanthamoeba castellanii* (EP1790731), d8Des(Eg) from *Euglena gracilis* (WO200034439) and d8Des(Pm) from *Perkinsus marinus* (WO2007093776), the  $\omega$ 3-Desaturases  $\omega$ 3Des(Pi) from *Phytophthora infestans* (WO2005083053),  $\omega$ 3Des(Pir) from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2008022963),  $\omega$ 3Des(Pir)2 from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2008022963) and  $\omega$ 3Des(Ps) from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241), the bifunctional d5d6-elongases d5d6Elo(Om)2 from *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (WO2005012316), d5d6Elo(Ta) from *Thraustochytrium aureum* (WO2005012316) and d5d6Elo(Tc) from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2005012316), the d5-elongases d5Elo(At) from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (WO2005012316), d5Elo(At)2 from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (WO2005012316), d5Elo(Ci) from *Ciona intestinalis* (WO2005012316), d5Elo(OI) from

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Ostreococcus lucimarinus (WO2008040787), d5Elo(Ot) from *Ostreococcus tauri* (WO2005012316), d5Elo(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2005012316) and d5Elo(XI) from *Xenopus laevis* (WO2005012316), the d6-elongases d6Elo(OI) from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d6Elo(Ot) from *Ostreococcus tauri*  
5 (WO2005012316), d6Elo(Pi) from *Phytophthora infestans* (WO2003064638), d6Elo(Pir) from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2009016208), d6Elo(Pp) from *Physcomitrella patens* (WO2001059128), d6Elo(Ps) from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Ps)2 from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Ps)3 from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Pt) from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* (WO2005012316), d6Elo(Tc)  
10 from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2005012316) and d6Elo(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2005012316), the d9-elongases d9Elo(Ig) from *Isochrysis galbana* (WO2002077213), d9Elo(Pm) from *Perkinsus marinus* (WO2007093776) and d9Elo(Ro) from *Rhizopus oryzae* (WO2009016208).

15 The present invention also relates to a cell, preferably a host cell as specified above or a cell of a non-human organism specified elsewhere herein, said cell comprising a polynucleotide which is obtained from the polynucleotide of the present invention by a point mutation, a truncation, an inversion, a deletion, an addition, a substitution and homologous recombination. How to carry out such modifications to a polynucleotide is well known to the  
20 skilled artisan and has been described elsewhere in this specification in detail.

The present invention furthermore relates to a method for the manufacture of a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide of any the present invention comprising

- a) cultivating the host cell of the invention under conditions which allow for the production  
25 of said polypeptide; and
- b) obtaining the polypeptide from the host cell of step a).

Suitable conditions which allow for expression of the polynucleotide of the invention comprised by the host cell depend on the host cell as well as the expression control sequence  
30 used for governing expression of the said polynucleotide. These conditions and how to select them are very well known to those skilled in the art. The expressed polypeptide may be obtained, for example, by all conventional purification techniques including affinity chromatography, size exclusion chromatography, high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) and precipitation techniques including antibody precipitation. It is to be understood that the  
35 method may – although preferred – not necessarily yield an essentially pure preparation of the polypeptide. It is to be understood that depending on the host cell which is used for the aforementioned method, the polypeptides produced thereby may become posttranslationally modified or processed otherwise.

40 The present invention encompasses a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of the present invention or which is obtainable by the aforementioned method.

The term “polypeptide” as used herein encompasses essentially purified polypeptides or



polypeptide preparations comprising other proteins in addition. Further, the term also relates to the fusion proteins or polypeptide fragments being at least partially encoded by the polynucleotide of the present invention referred to above. Moreover, it includes chemically modified polypeptides. Such modifications may be artificial modifications or naturally occurring modifications such as phosphorylation, glycosylation, myristylation and the like (Review in Mann 2003, Nat. Biotechnol. 21, 255–261, review with focus on plants in Huber 2004, Curr. Opin. Plant Biol. 7, 318-322). Currently, more than 300 posttranslational modifications are known (see full ABFRC Delta mass list at <http://www.abrf.org/index.cfm/dm.home>). The polypeptide of the present invention shall exhibit the acyltransferase activities referred to above.

The present invention furthermore relates to an antibody or a fragment derived thereof as an antigen which specifically recognizes a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequences of the invention.

Antibodies against the polypeptides of the invention can be prepared by well known methods using a purified polypeptide according to the invention or a suitable fragment derived therefrom as an antigen. A fragment which is suitable as an antigen may be identified by antigenicity determining algorithms well known in the art. Such fragments may be obtained either from the polypeptide of the invention by proteolytic digestion or may be a synthetic peptide. Preferably, the antibody of the present invention is a monoclonal antibody, a polyclonal antibody, a single chain antibody, a chimerized antibody or a fragment of any of these antibodies, such as Fab, Fv or scFv fragments etc.. Also comprised as antibodies by the present invention are bispecific antibodies, synthetic antibodies or chemically modified derivatives of any of the aforementioned antibodies. The antibody of the present invention shall specifically bind (i.e. does significantly not cross react with other polypeptides or peptides) to the polypeptide of the invention. Specific binding can be tested by various well known techniques. Antibodies or fragments thereof can be obtained by using methods which are described, e.g., in Harlow and Lane "Antibodies, A Laboratory Manual", CSH Press, Cold Spring Harbor, 1988. Monoclonal antibodies can be prepared by the techniques originally described in Köhler 1975, Nature 256, 495, and Galfré 1981, Meth. Enzymol. 73, 3, which comprise the fusion of mouse myeloma cells to spleen cells derived from immunized mammals. The antibodies can be used, for example, for the immunoprecipitation, immunolocalization or purification (e.g., by affinity chromatography) of the polypeptides of the invention as well as for the monitoring of the presence of said variant polypeptides, for example, in recombinant organisms, and for the identification of proteins or compounds interacting with the proteins according to the invention.

Moreover, the present invention contemplates a non-human transgenic organism comprising the polynucleotide or the vector of the present invention.

Preferably, the non-human transgenic organism is a microorganism, more preferably the non-human transgenic organism is a fungus and most preferably the non-human transgenic

organism is a plant, plant part, or plant seed. Preferred plants to be used for introducing the polynucleotide or the vector of the invention are plants which are capable of synthesizing fatty acids, such as all dicotyledonous or monocotyledonous plants, algae or mosses. It is to be understood that host cells derived from a plant may also be used for producing a plant

5 according to the present invention. Preferred plants are selected from the group of the plant families Adelotheceaceae, Anacardiaceae, Asteraceae, Apiaceae, Betulaceae, Boraginaceae, Brassicaceae, Bromeliaceae, Caricaceae, Cannabaceae, Convolvulaceae, Chenopodiaceae, Crypthecodiniaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Ditrichaceae, Elaeagnaceae, Ericaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fabaceae, Geraniaceae, Gramineae, Juglandaceae, Lauraceae, Leguminosae, Linaceae, Prasinophyceae or vegetable plants or ornamentals such as Tagetes. Ex-

10 amples which may be mentioned are the following plants selected from the group consisting of: Adelotheceaceae such as the genera *Physcomitrella*, such as the genus and species *Physcomitrella patens*, Anacardiaceae such as the genera *Pistacia*, *Mangifera*, *Anacardium*, for example the genus and species *Pistacia vera* [pistachio], *Mangifera indica* [mango]

15 or *Anacardium occidentale* [cashew], Asteraceae, such as the genera *Calendula*, *Carthamus*, *Centaurea*, *Cichorium*, *Cynara*, *Helianthus*, *Lactuca*, *Locusta*, *Tagetes*, *Valeriana*, for example the genus and species *Calendula officinalis* [common marigold], *Carthamus tinctorius* [safflower], *Centaurea cyanus* [cornflower], *Cichorium intybus* [chicory], *Cynara scolymus* [artichoke], *Helianthus annuus* [sunflower], *Lactuca sativa*, *Lactuca crispa*, *Lactuca esculenta*, *Lactuca scariola* L. ssp. *sativa*, *Lactuca scariola* L. var. *integrata*, *Lactuca scariola* L. var. *integrifolia*, *Lactuca sativa* subsp. *romana*, *Locusta communis*, *Valeriana locusta* [salad vegetables], *Tagetes lucida*, *Tagetes erecta* or *Tagetes tenuifolia* [african or french marigold], Apiaceae, such as the genus *Daucus*, for example the genus and species *Daucus carota* [carrot], Betulaceae, such as the genus *Corylus*, for example the genera and

25 species *Corylus avellana* or *Corylus colurna* [hazelnut], Boraginaceae, such as the genus *Borago*, for example the genus and species *Borago officinalis* [borage], Brassicaceae, such as the genera *Brassica*, *Melanosinapis*, *Sinapis*, *Arabidopsis*, for example the genera and species *Brassica napus*, *Brassica rapa* ssp. [oilseed rape], *Sinapis arvensis*, *Brassica juncea*, *Brassica juncea* var. *juncea*, *Brassica juncea* var. *crispifolia*, *Brassica juncea* var. *foliosa*, *Brassica nigra*, *Brassica sinapioides*, *Melanosinapis communis* [mustard], *Brassica oleracea* [fodder beet] or *Arabidopsis thaliana*, Bromeliaceae, such as the genera *Anana*, *Bromelia* (pineapple), for example the genera and species *Anana comosus*, *Ananas ananas* or *Bromelia comosa* [pineapple], Caricaceae, such as the genus *Carica*, such as the genus and species *Carica papaya* [pawpaw], Cannabaceae, such as the genus *Cannabis*, such as

35 the genus and species *Cannabis sativa* [hemp], Convolvulaceae, such as the genera *Ipomea*, *Convolvulus*, for example the genera and species *Ipomea batatas*, *Ipomea pandurata*, *Convolvulus batatas*, *Convolvulus tiliaceus*, *Ipomea fastigiata*, *Ipomea tiliacea*, *Ipomea triloba* or *Convolvulus panduratus* [sweet potato, batate], Chenopodiaceae, such as the genus *Beta*, such as the genera and species *Beta vulgaris*, *Beta vulgaris* var. *altissima*, *Beta vulgaris* var. *Vulgaris*, *Beta maritima*, *Beta vulgaris* var. *perennis*, *Beta vulgaris* var. *conditiva* or *Beta vulgaris* var. *esculenta* [sugarbeet], Crypthecodiniaceae, such as the genus *Crypthecodinium*, for example the genus and species *Crypthecodinium cohnii*, Cucurbitaceae, such as the genus *Cucurbita*, for example the genera and species *Cucurbita*

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maxima, Cucurbita mixta, Cucurbita pepo or Cucurbita moschata [pumpkin/squash], Cymbellaceae such as the genera Amphora, Cymbella, Okedenia, Phaeodactylum, Reimeria, for example the genus and species Phaeodactylum tricorutum, Ditrichaceae such as the genera Ditrichaceae, Astomiopsis, Ceratodon, Chrysoblastella, Ditrichum, Distichium, Ec-  
5 cremidium, Lophidion, Philibertiella, Pleuridium, Saelania, Trichodon, Skottsbergia, for example the genera and species Ceratodon antarcticus, Ceratodon columbiae, Ceratodon heterophyllus, Ceratodon purpureus, Ceratodon purpureus, Ceratodon purpureus ssp. convolutus, Ceratodon purpureus spp. stenocarpus, Ceratodon purpureus var. rotundifolius, Ceratodon ratodon, Ceratodon stenocarpus, Chrysoblastella chilensis, Ditrichum  
10 ambiguum, Ditrichum brevisetum, Ditrichum crispatisimum, Ditrichum difficile, Ditrichum falcifolium, Ditrichum flexicaule, Ditrichum giganteum, Ditrichum heteromallum, Ditrichum lineare, Ditrichum lineare, Ditrichum montanum, Ditrichum montanum, Ditrichum pallidum, Ditrichum punctulatum, Ditrichum pusillum, Ditrichum pusillum var. tortile, Ditrichum rhynchostegium, Ditrichum schimperii, Ditrichum tortile, Distichium capillaceum, Distichium  
15 hagenii, Distichium inclinatum, Distichium macounii, Eccremidium floridanum, Eccremidium whiteleggei, Lophidion strictus, Pleuridium acuminatum, Pleuridium alternifolium, Pleuridium holdridgei, Pleuridium mexicanum, Pleuridium ravenelii, Pleuridium subulatum, Saelania glaucescens, Trichodon borealis, Trichodon cylindricus or Trichodon cylindricus var. oblongus, Elaeagnaceae such as the genus Elaeagnus, for example the genus and species  
20 Olea europaea [olive], Ericaceae such as the genus Kalmia, for example the genera and species Kalmia latifolia, Kalmia angustifolia, Kalmia microphylla, Kalmia polifolia, Kalmia occidentalis, Cistus chamaerhodendros or Kalmia lucida [mountain laurel], Euphorbiaceae such as the genera Manihot, Janipha, Jatropha, Ricinus, for example the genera and species Manihot utilissima, Janipha manihot, Jatropha manihot, Manihot aipil, Manihot dulcis,  
25 Manihot manihot, Manihot melanobasis, Manihot esculenta [manihot] or Ricinus communis [castor-oil plant], Fabaceae such as the genera Pisum, Albizia, Cathormion, Feuillea, Inga, Pithecolobium, Acacia, Mimosa, Medicago, Glycine, Dolichos, Phaseolus, Soja, for example the genera and species Pisum sativum, Pisum arvense, Pisum humile [pea], Albizia berteriana, Albizia julibrissin, Albizia lebbeck, Acacia berteriana, Acacia littoralis, Albizia berteriana,  
30 Albizzia berteriana, Cathormion berteriana, Feuillea berteriana, Inga fragrans, Pithecellobium berterianum, Pithecellobium fragrans, Pithecolobium berterianum, Pseudalbizia berteriana, Acacia julibrissin, Acacia nemu, Albizia nemu, Feuillea julibrissin, Mimosa julibrissin, Mimosa speciosa, Sericanrda julibrissin, Acacia lebbeck, Acacia macrophylla, Albizia lebbeck, Feuillea lebbeck, Mimosa lebbeck, Mimosa speciosa [silk tree], Medicago  
35 sativa, Medicago falcata, Medicago varia [alfalfa], Glycine max Dolichos soja, Glycine gracilis, Glycine hispida, Phaseolus max, Soja hispida or Soja max [soybean], Funariaceae such as the genera Aphanorrhagma, Entosthodon, Funaria, Physcomitrella, Physcomitrium, for example the genera and species Aphanorrhagma serratum, Entosthodon attenuatus, Entosthodon bolanderi, Entosthodon bonplandii, Entosthodon californicus, Entosthodon  
40 drummondii, Entosthodon jamesonii, Entosthodon leibergii, Entosthodon neoscoticus, Entosthodon rubrisetus, Entosthodon spathulifolius, Entosthodon tucsoni, Funaria americana, Funaria bolanderi, Funaria calcarea, Funaria californica, Funaria calvescens, Funaria convoluta, Funaria flavicans, Funaria groutiana, Funaria hygrometrica, Funaria hygrometrica

var. arctica, *Funaria hygrometrica* var. calvescens, *Funaria hygrometrica* var. convoluta, *Funaria hygrometrica* var. muralis, *Funaria hygrometrica* var. utahensis, *Funaria microstoma*, *Funaria microstoma* var. obtusifolia, *Funaria muhlenbergii*, *Funaria orcuttii*, *Funaria plano-convexa*, *Funaria polaris*, *Funaria ravenelii*, *Funaria rubriseta*, *Funaria serrata*,  
5 *Funaria sonorae*, *Funaria sublimbatus*, *Funaria tucsoni*, *Physcomitrella californica*, *Physcomitrella patens*, *Physcomitrella readeri*, *Physcomitrium australe*, *Physcomitrium californicum*, *Physcomitrium collenchymatum*, *Physcomitrium coloradense*, *Physcomitrium cupuliferum*, *Physcomitrium drummondii*, *Physcomitrium eurystomum*, *Physcomitrium flexifolium*, *Physcomitrium hookeri*, *Physcomitrium hookeri* var. serratum, *Physcomitrium immersum*,  
10 *Physcomitrium kellermanii*, *Physcomitrium megalocarpum*, *Physcomitrium pyriforme*, *Physcomitrium pyriforme* var. serratum, *Physcomitrium rufipes*, *Physcomitrium sandbergii*, *Physcomitrium subsphaericum*, *Physcomitrium washingtoniense*, Geraniaceae, such as the genera *Pelargonium*, *Cocos*, *Oleum*, for example the genera and species *Cocos nucifera*, *Pelargonium grossularioides* or *Oleum cocois* [coconut], Gramineae, such as  
15 the genus *Saccharum*, for example the genus and species *Saccharum officinarum*, Juglandaceae, such as the genera *Juglans*, *Wallia*, for example the genera and species *Juglans regia*, *Juglans ailanthifolia*, *Juglans sieboldiana*, *Juglans cinerea*, *Wallia cinerea*, *Juglans bixbyi*, *Juglans californica*, *Juglans hindsii*, *Juglans intermedia*, *Juglans jamaicensis*, *Juglans major*, *Juglans microcarpa*, *Juglans nigra* or *Wallia nigra* [walnut], Lauraceae, such as  
20 the genera *Persea*, *Laurus*, for example the genera and species *Laurus nobilis* [bay], *Persea americana*, *Persea gratissima* or *Persea persea* [avocado], Leguminosae, such as the genus *Arachis*, for example the genus and species *Arachis hypogaea* [peanut], Linaceae, such as the genera *Linum*, *Adenolinum*, for example the genera and species *Linum usitatissimum*, *Linum humile*, *Linum austriacum*, *Linum bienne*, *Linum angustifolium*, *Linum catharticum*, *Linum flavum*, *Linum grandiflorum*, *Adenolinum grandiflorum*, *Linum lewisii*,  
25 *Linum narbonense*, *Linum perenne*, *Linum perenne* var. *lewisii*, *Linum pratense* or *Linum trigynum* [linseed], Lythraeae, such as the genus *Punica*, for example the genus and species *Punica granatum* [pomegranate], Malvaceae, such as the genus *Gossypium*, for example the genera and species *Gossypium hirsutum*, *Gossypium arboreum*, *Gossypium barbadense*, *Gossypium herbaceum* or *Gossypium thurberi* [cotton], Marchantiaceae, such as the genus *Marchantia*, for example the genera and species *Marchantia berteriana*, *Marchantia foliacea*, *Marchantia macropora*, Musaceae, such as the genus *Musa*, for example the genera and species *Musa nana*, *Musa acuminata*, *Musa paradisiaca*, *Musa* spp. [banana], Onagraceae, such as the genera *Camissonia*, *Oenothera*, for example the genera  
35 and species *Oenothera biennis* or *Camissonia brevipes* [evening primrose], Palmae, such as the genus *Elaeis*, for example the genus and species *Elaeis guineensis* [oil palm], Papaveraceae, such as the genus *Papaver*, for example the genera and species *Papaver orientale*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Papaver dubium* [poppy], Pedaliaceae, such as the genus *Sesamum*, for example the genus and species *Sesamum indicum* [sesame], Piperaceae,  
40 such as the genera *Piper*, *Artanthe*, *Peperomia*, *Steffensia*, for example the genera and species *Piper aduncum*, *Piper amalago*, *Piper angustifolium*, *Piper auritum*, *Piper betel*, *Piper cubeba*, *Piper longum*, *Piper nigrum*, *Piper retrofractum*, *Artanthe adunca*, *Artanthe elongata*, *Peperomia elongata*, *Piper elongatum*, *Steffensia elongata* [cayenne pepper],

Poaceae, such as the genera *Hordeum*, *Secale*, *Avena*, *Sorghum*, *Andropogon*, *Holcus*, *Panicum*, *Oryza*, *Zea* (maize), *Triticum*, for example the genera and species *Hordeum vulgare*, *Hordeum jubatum*, *Hordeum murinum*, *Hordeum secalinum*, *Hordeum distichon*, *Hordeum aegiceras*, *Hordeum hexastichon*, *Hordeum hexastichum*, *Hordeum irregulare*, *Hordeum sativum*, *Hordeum secalinum* [barley], *Secale cereale* [rye], *Avena sativa*, *Avena fatua*, *Avena byzantina*, *Avena fatua* var. *sativa*, *Avena hybrida* [oats], *Sorghum bicolor*, *Sorghum halepense*, *Sorghum saccharatum*, *Sorghum vulgare*, *Andropogon drummondii*, *Holcus bicolor*, *Holcus sorghum*, *Sorghum aethiopicum*, *Sorghum arundinaceum*, *Sorghum caffrorum*, *Sorghum cernuum*, *Sorghum dochna*, *Sorghum drummondii*, *Sorghum durra*, *Sorghum guineense*, *Sorghum lanceolatum*, *Sorghum nervosum*, *Sorghum saccharatum*, *Sorghum subglabrescens*, *Sorghum verticilliflorum*, *Sorghum vulgare*, *Holcus halepensis*, *Sorghum miliaceum*, *Panicum militaceum* [millet], *Oryza sativa*, *Oryza latifolia* [rice], *Zea mays* [maize], *Triticum aestivum*, *Triticum durum*, *Triticum turgidum*, *Triticum hybernum*, *Triticum macha*, *Triticum sativum* or *Triticum vulgare* [wheat], *Porphyridiaceae*, such as the genera *Chroothece*, *Flintiella*, *Petrovanella*, *Porphyridium*, *Rhodella*, *Rhodosorus*, *Vanhoeffenia*, for example the genus and species *Porphyridium cruentum*, *Proteaceae*, such as the genus *Macadamia*, for example the genus and species *Macadamia intergrifolia* [macadamia], *Prasinophyceae* such as the genera *Nephroselmis*, *Prasinococcus*, *Scherffelia*, *Tetraselmis*, *Mantoniella*, *Ostreococcus*, for example the genera and species *Nephroselmis olivacea*, *Prasinococcus capsulatus*, *Scherffelia dubia*, *Tetraselmis chui*, *Tetraselmis suecica*, *Mantoniella squamata*, *Ostreococcus tauri*, *Rubiaceae* such as the genus *Cofea*, for example the genera and species *Cofea* spp., *Cofea arabica*, *Cofea canephora* or *Cofea liberica* [coffee], *Scrophulariaceae* such as the genus *Verbascum*, for example the genera and species *Verbascum blattaria*, *Verbascum chaixii*, *Verbascum densiflorum*, *Verbascum lagurus*, *Verbascum longifolium*, *Verbascum lychnitis*, *Verbascum nigrum*, *Verbascum olympicum*, *Verbascum phlomoides*, *Verbascum phoenicum*, *Verbascum pulverulentum* or *Verbascum thapsus* [mullein], *Solanaceae* such as the genera *Capsicum*, *Nicotiana*, *Solanum*, *Lycopersicon*, for example the genera and species *Capsicum annuum*, *Capsicum annuum* var. *glabriusculum*, *Capsicum frutescens* [pepper], *Capsicum annuum* [paprika], *Nicotiana tabacum*, *Nicotiana alata*, *Nicotiana attenuata*, *Nicotiana glauca*, *Nicotiana langsdorffii*, *Nicotiana obtusifolia*, *Nicotiana quadrivalvis*, *Nicotiana repanda*, *Nicotiana rustica*, *Nicotiana sylvestris* [tobacco], *Solanum tuberosum* [potato], *Solanum melongena* [eggplant], *Lycopersicon esculentum*, *Lycopersicon lycopersicum*, *Lycopersicon pyriforme*, *Solanum integrifolium* or *Solanum lycopersicum* [tomato], *Sterculiaceae*, such as the genus *Theobroma*, for example the genus and species *Theobroma cacao* [cacao] or *Theaceae*, such as the genus *Camellia*, for example the genus and species *Camellia sinensis* [tea]. In particular preferred plants to be used as transgenic plants in accordance with the present invention are oil fruit crops which comprise large amounts of lipid compounds, such as peanut, oilseed rape, canola, sunflower, safflower, poppy, mustard, hemp, castor-oil plant, olive, sesame, *Calendula*, *Punica*, evening primrose, mullein, thistle, wild roses, hazelnut, almond, macadamia, avocado, bay, pumpkin/squash, linseed, soybean, pistachios, borage, trees (oil palm, coconut, walnut) or crops such as maize, wheat, rye, oats, triticale, rice, barley, cotton, cassava, pepper, *Tagetes*, *Solanaceae* plants such as potato, tobacco, eggplant

and tomato, *Vicia* species, pea, alfalfa or bushy plants (coffee, cacao, tea), *Salix* species, and perennial grasses and fodder crops. Preferred plants according to the invention are oil crop plants such as peanut, oilseed rape, canola, sunflower, safflower, poppy, mustard, hemp, castor-oil plant, olive, *Calendula*, *Punica*, evening primrose, pumpkin/squash, linseed, soybean, borage, trees (oil palm, coconut). Especially preferred plants are plants such as sunflower, safflower, tobacco, mullein, sesame, cotton, pumpkin/squash, poppy, evening primrose, walnut, linseed, hemp, thistle or safflower. Very especially preferred plants are plants such as safflower, sunflower, poppy, evening primrose, walnut, linseed, or hemp.

Preferred mosses are *Physcomitrella* or *Ceratodon*. Preferred algae are *Isochrysis*, *Mantoniella*, *Ostreococcus* or *Cryptocodium*, and algae/diatoms such as *Phaeodactylum* or *Thraustochytrium*. More preferably, said algae or mosses are selected from the group consisting of: *Shewanella*, *Physcomitrella*, *Thraustochytrium*, *Nannochloropsis*, *Fusarium*, *Phytophthora*, *Ceratodon*, *Isochrysis*, *Aleurita*, *Muscarioides*, *Mortierella*, *Phaeodactylum*, *Cryptocodium*, specifically from the genera and species *Thalassiosira pseudonana*, *Euglena gracilis*, *Physcomitrella patens*, *Phytophthora infestans*, *Fusarium gramineum*, *Cryptocodium cohnii*, *Ceratodon purpureus*, *Isochrysis galbana*, *Aleurita farinosa*, *Thraustochytrium* sp., *Nannochloropsis oculata*, *Muscarioides viallii*, *Mortierella alpina*, *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* or *Caenorhabditis elegans* or especially advantageously *Phytophthora infestans* and *Cryptocodium cohnii*.

Transgenic plants may be obtained by transformation techniques as elsewhere in this specification. Preferably, transgenic plants can be obtained by T-DNA-mediated transformation. Such vector systems are, as a rule, characterized in that they contain at least the vir genes, which are required for the *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, and the sequences which delimit the T-DNA (T-DNA border). Suitable vectors are described elsewhere in the specification in detail.

Also encompassed are transgenic non-human animals comprising the vector or polynucleotide of the present invention. Preferred non-human transgenic animals envisaged by the present invention are fish, such as herring, salmon, sardine, redfish, eel, carp, trout, halibut, mackerel, zander or tuna.

It will be understood that in order to produce the LCPUFA according to the invention, the C16- or C18- fatty acids must first be desaturated by the enzymatic activity of a desaturase and subsequently be elongated by at least two carbon atoms via an elongase in the non-human transgenic organism. After one elongation cycle, this enzyme activity gives C18- or C20-fatty acids and after two or three elongation cycles C22- or C24-fatty acids. The activity of the desaturases and elongases used in the process according to the invention preferably leads to C18-, C20-, C22- and/or C24-fatty acids, advantageously with at least two double bonds in the fatty acid molecule, preferably with three, four or five double bonds, especially preferably to give C20- and/or C22-fatty acids with at least two double bonds in the fatty

acid molecule, preferably with three, four or five double bonds in the molecule. After a first desaturation and the elongation have taken place, further desaturation steps such as, for example, one in the delta-5 position may take place. Products of the process according to the invention which are especially preferred are DGLA, ARA, EPA DPA and/or DHA, most preferably EPA and/or DHA. Desaturases and elongases which are required for this process may not always be present naturally in the organism. Accordingly, the present invention, preferably, envisages a transgenic non-human organism which in addition to the polynucleotide of the present invention comprises polynucleotides encoding such desaturases and/or elongases as required depending on the selected organism. Preferred desaturases and/or elongases which shall be present in the organism are at least one enzyme selected from the group consisting of:  $\Delta$ -4-desaturase,  $\Delta$ -5-desaturase,  $\Delta$ -5-elongase,  $\Delta$ -6-desaturase,  $\Delta$ 12-desaturase,  $\Delta$ 15-desaturase,  $\omega$ 3-desaturase and  $\Delta$ -6-elongase. Especially preferred are the bifunctional d12d15-Desaturases d12d15Des(Ac) from *Acanthamoeba castellanii* (WO2007042510), d12d15Des(Cp) from *Claviceps purpurea* (WO2008006202) and d12d15Des(Lg)1 from *Lottia gigantea* (WO2009016202), the d12-Desaturases d12Des(Co) from *Calendula officinalis* (WO200185968), d12Des(Lb) from *Laccaria bicolor* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Mb) from *Monosiga brevicollis* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Mg) from *Mycosphaerella graminicola* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Nh) from *Nectria haematococca* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Ol) from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d12Des(Pb) from *Phycomyces blakesleeanus* (WO2009016202), d12Des(Ps) from *Phytophthora sojae* (WO2006100241) and d12Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d15-Desaturases d15Des(Hr) from *Helobdella robusta* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mc) from *Microcoleus chthonoplastes* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mf) from *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* (WO2009016202), d15Des(Mg) from *Mycosphaerella graminicola* (WO2009016202) and d15Des(Nh)2 from *Nectria haematococca* (WO2009016202), the d4-Desaturases d4Des(Eg) from *Euglena gracilis* (WO2004090123), d4Des(Tc) from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2002026946) and d4Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d5-Desaturases d5Des(Ol)2 from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d5Des(Pp) from *Physcomitrella patens* (WO2004057001), d5Des(Pt) from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* (WO2002057465), d5Des(Tc) from *Thraustochytrium* sp. (WO2002026946), d5Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710) and the d6-Desaturases d6Des(Cp) from *Ceratodon purpureus* (WO2000075341), d6Des(Ol) from *Ostreococcus lucimarinus* (WO2008040787), d6Des(Ot) from *Ostreococcus tauri* (WO2006069710), d6Des(Pf) from *Primula farinosa* (WO2003072784), d6Des(Pir)\_BO from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2002026946), d6Des(Pir) from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2002026946), d6Des(Plu) from *Primula luteola* (WO2003072784), d6Des(Pp) from *Physcomitrella patens* (WO200102591), d6Des(Pt) from *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* (WO2002057465), d6Des(Pv) from *Primula vialii* (WO2003072784) and d6Des(Tp) from *Thalassiosira pseudonana* (WO2006069710), the d8-Desaturases d8Des(Ac) from *Acanthamoeba castellanii* (EP1790731), d8Des(Eg) from *Euglena gracilis* (WO200034439) and d8Des(Pm) from *Perkinsus marinus* (WO2007093776), the  $\omega$ 3-Desaturases  $\omega$ 3Des(Pi) from *Phytophthora infestans* (WO2005083053),  $\omega$ 3Des(Pir) from *Pythium irregulare* (WO2008022963),  $\omega$ 3Des(Pir)2 from

Pythium irregulare (WO2008022963) and o3Des(Ps) from Phytophthora sojae (WO2006100241), the bifunctional d5d6-elongases d5d6Elo(Om)2 from Oncorhynchus mykiss (WO2005012316), d5d6Elo(Ta) from Thraustochytrium aureum (WO2005012316) and d5d6Elo(Tc) from Thraustochytrium sp. (WO2005012316), the d5-elongases d5Elo(At) 5 from Arabidopsis thaliana (WO2005012316), d5Elo(At)2 from Arabidopsis thaliana (WO2005012316), d5Elo(Ci) from Ciona intestinalis (WO2005012316), d5Elo(OI) from Ostreococcus lucimarinus (WO2008040787), d5Elo(Ot) from Ostreococcus tauri (WO2005012316), d5Elo(Tp) from Thalassiosira pseudonana (WO2005012316) and d5Elo(XI) from Xenopus laevis (WO2005012316), the d6-elongases d6Elo(OI) from Ostreococcus lucimarinus (WO2008040787), d6Elo(Ot) from Ostreococcus tauri (WO2005012316), d6Elo(Pi) from Phytophthora infestans (WO2003064638), d6Elo(Pir) from Pythium irregulare (WO2009016208), d6Elo(Pp) from Physcomitrella patens (WO2001059128), d6Elo(Ps) from Phytophthora sojae (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Ps)2 from Phytophthora sojae (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Ps)3 from Phytophthora sojae 15 (WO2006100241), d6Elo(Pt) from Phaeodactylum tricornutum (WO2005012316), d6Elo(Tc) from Thraustochytrium sp. (WO2005012316) and d6Elo(Tp) from Thalassiosira pseudonana (WO2005012316), the d9-elongases d9Elo(Ig) from Isochrysis galbana (WO2002077213), d9Elo(Pm) from Perkinsus marinus (WO2007093776) and d9Elo(Ro) from Rhizopus oryzae (WO2009016208).

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Furthermore, the present invention encompasses a method for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids comprising:

- a) cultivating the host cell of the invention under conditions which allow for the production of polyunsaturated fatty acids in said host cell; and
- 25 b) obtaining said polyunsaturated fatty acids from the said host cell.

The term "polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA)" as used herein refers to fatty acids comprising at least two, preferably, three, four, five or six, double bonds. Moreover, it is to be understood that such fatty acids comprise, preferably from 18 to 24 carbon atoms in the fatty acid chain. More preferably, the term polyunsaturated fatty acids relates to long chain PUFA (LCPUFA) having from 20 to 24 carbon atoms in the fatty acid chain. Preferred unsaturated fatty acids in the sense of the present invention are selected from the group consisting of arachidonic acid (ARA) 20:4 (5,8,11,14), eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) 20:5 (5,8,11,14,17), and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) 22:6 (4,7,10,13,16,19) and, more preferably, from EPA 35 and DHA. Thus, it will be understood that most preferably, the methods provided by the present invention relating to the manufacture of EPA or DHA. Moreover, also encompassed are the intermediates of LCPUFA which occur during synthesis starting from oleic acid 18:1 (9), preferably, linoleic acid 18:2 (9,12), alpha-linolenic acid 18:3 (9,12,15), gamma-linolenic acid 18:3 (6,9,12), stearidonic acid 18:4 (6,9,12,15), dihomo-gamma-linoleic acid 20:3 40 (8,11,14), eicosadienoic acid 20:2 (11,14), eicosatrienoic acid 20:3 (11,14,17), eicosatetraenoic acid 20:4 (8,11,14,17) and docosapentaenoic acid (DPA) 22:5 (4,7,10,13,16).

The term "cultivating" as used herein refers maintaining and growing the host cells under



culture conditions which allow the cells to produce the said polyunsaturated fatty acid, i.e. the PUFA and/or LCPUFA referred to above, preferably, as triglyceride esters. This implies that the polynucleotide of the present invention is expressed in the host cell so that the acyl-transferase activity is present. Suitable culture conditions for cultivating the host cell are  
5 described in more detail below.

The term "obtaining" as used herein encompasses the provision of the cell culture including the host cells and the culture medium as well as the provision of purified or partially purified preparations thereof comprising the polyunsaturated fatty acids, preferably, as triglyceride  
10 esters. More preferably, the PUFA and LCPUFA are to be obtained as triglyceride esters, e.g., in form of an oil. More details on purification techniques can be found elsewhere herein below.

The host cells to be used in the method of the invention are grown or cultured in the manner  
15 with which the skilled artisan is familiar, depending on the host organism. Usually, host cells are grown in a liquid medium comprising a carbon source, usually in the form of sugars, a nitrogen source, usually in the form of organic nitrogen sources such as yeast extract or salts such as ammonium sulfate, trace elements such as salts of iron, manganese and magnesium and, if appropriate, vitamins, at temperatures of between 0°C and 100°C, preferably between 10°C and 60°C under oxygen or anaerobic atmosphere dependent on the  
20 type of organism. The pH of the liquid medium can either be kept constant, that is to say regulated during the culturing period, or not. The cultures can be grown batchwise, semi-batchwise or continuously. Nutrients can be provided at the beginning of the fermentation or administered semicontinuously or continuously: The produced PUFA or LCPUFA can be iso-  
25 lated from the host cells as described above by processes known to the skilled artisan, e.g., by extraction, distillation, crystallization, if appropriate precipitation with salt, and/or chromatography. It might be required to disrupt the host cells prior to purification. To this end, the host cells can be disrupted beforehand. The culture medium to be used must suitably meet the requirements of the host cells in question. Descriptions of culture media for various mi-  
30 croorganisms which can be used as host cells according to the present invention can be found in the textbook "Manual of Methods for General Bacteriology" of the American Society for Bacteriology (Washington D.C., USA, 1981). Culture media can also be obtained from various commercial suppliers. All media components are sterilized, either by heat or by filter sterilization. All media components may be present at the start of the cultivation or  
35 added continuously or batchwise, as desired. If the polynucleotide or vector of the invention which has been introduced in the host cell further comprises an expressible selection marker, such as an antibiotic resistance gene, it might be necessary to add a selection agent to the culture, such as an antibiotic in order to maintain the stability of the introduced polynucleotide. The culture is continued until formation of the desired product is at a maxi-  
40 mum. This is normally achieved within 10 to 160 hours. The fermentation broths can be used directly or can be processed further. The biomass may, according to requirement, be removed completely or partially from the fermentation broth by separation methods such as, for example, centrifugation, filtration, decanting or a combination of these methods or be left

completely in said broth. The fatty acid preparations obtained by the method of the invention, e.g., oils, comprising the desired PUFA or LCPUFA as triglyceride esters are also suitable as starting material for the chemical synthesis of further products of interest. For example, they can be used in combination with one another or alone for the preparation of pharmaceutical or cosmetic compositions, foodstuffs, or animal feeds. Chemically pure triglycerides comprising the desired PUFA or LCPUFA can also be manufactured by the methods described above. To this end, the fatty acid preparations are further purified by extraction, distillation, crystallization, chromatography or combinations of these methods. In order to release the fatty acid moieties from the triglycerides, hydrolysis may be also required. The said chemically pure triglycerides or free fatty acids are, in particular, suitable for applications in the food industry or for cosmetic and pharmacological compositions.

Moreover, the present invention relates to a method for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids comprising:

- 15 a) cultivating the non-human transgenic organism of the invention under conditions which allow for the production of polyunsaturated fatty acids in said host cell; and
- b) obtaining said polyunsaturated fatty acids from the said non-human transgenic organism.

20 Further, it follows from the above that a method for the manufacture of an oil, lipid or fatty acid composition is also envisaged by the present invention comprising the steps of any one of the aforementioned methods and the further step of formulating PUFA or LCPUFA as oil, lipid or fatty acid composition. Preferably, said oil, lipid or fatty acid composition is to be used for feed, foodstuffs, cosmetics or pharmaceuticals. Accordingly, the formulation of the PUFA or LCPUFA shall be carried out according to the GMP standards for the individual envisaged products. For example, oil may be obtained from plant seeds by an oil mill. However, for product safety reasons, sterilization may be required under the applicable GMP standard. Similar standards will apply for lipid or fatty acid compositions to be applied in cosmetic or pharmaceutical compositions. All these measures for formulating oil, lipid or fatty acid compositions as products are comprised by the aforementioned manufacture.

The present invention also relates to oil comprising a polyunsaturated fatty acid or a polyunsaturated fatty acid composition obtainable by the aforementioned methods.

35 The term "oil" refers to a fatty acid mixture comprising unsaturated and/or saturated fatty acids which are esterified to triglycerides. Preferably, the triglycerides in the oil of the invention comprise PUFA or LCPUFA as referred to above. The amount of esterified PUFA and/or LCPUFA is, preferably, approximately 30%, a content of 50% is more preferred, a content of 60%, 70%, 80% or more is even more preferred. The oil may further comprise free fatty acids, preferably, the PUFA and LCPUFA referred to above. For the analysis, the fatty acid content can be, e.g., determined by GC analysis after converting the fatty acids into the methyl esters by transesterification. The content of the various fatty acids in the oil or fat can vary, in particular depending on the source. The oil, however, shall have a non-

naturally occurring composition with respect to the PUFA and/or LCPUFA composition and content. It will be understood that such a unique oil composition and the unique esterification pattern of PUFA and LCPUFA in the triglycerides of the oil shall only be obtainable by applying the methods of the present invention specified above. Moreover, the oil of the invention may comprise other molecular species as well. Specifically, it may comprise minor impurities of the polynucleotide or vector of the invention. Such impurities, however, can be detected only by highly sensitive techniques such as PCR.

The contents of all references cited throughout this application are herewith incorporated by reference in general and with respect to their specific disclosure content referred to above.

This invention is further illustrated by the following figures and examples which should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention.

## 15 FIGURES

**Figure 1:** Cloning strategy employed for stepwise buildup of plant expression plasmids of the invention.

20 **Figure 2:** Vector map of the *bbc* construct used for Arabidopsis transformation.

**Figure 3:** GC chromatogram of fatty acids methyl esters of total fatty acids of Col-0, *fae1* mutant and *fae1* transformed with *bbc*. Total fatty acids were measured as described by Wu et al., 2005. The content of the different fatty is indicated in table 5.

25 **Figure 4:** Total ion count of 26 acyl CoA ESI-MS/MS MRM pairs for Arabidopsis (A) Col-0 and (B) *fae1* harbouring EPA biosynthesis pathway. Maturing Arabidopsis seeds were harvested 18 days after flowering. Acyl-CoA was extracted according to Larson et al (2001) and LC conditions after Han et al. (2010).

30 **Figure 5:** Identification of Eicosapentaenoic and Arachidonic-CoA's in the acyl CoA pool of Arabidopsis Col-0 and EPA producing plants. MRM chromatograms of co-eluting acyl-CoA of interest in (A) wild type and (C) *fae1* harbouring EPA biosynthetic pathway with recorded reactions shown for each transition, isotopic peaks (IP) of homologous long chain acyl CoA are shown. (B) Characteristic fragmentation of the protonated acyl-CoA by neutral loss of 507 to give the protonated acyl pantetheine group.

**Figure 6:** LPCAT activity assay.

40 A yeast mutant lacking LPEAT and LPCAT activity (due to knockout of the gene YOR175c) was transformed with the empty vector pYES2.1 (lane marked "-") and with pYES2.1 harboring the cDNA of pLPAAT\_c6316(No) (lane 1 and 2, SEQ-ID: 13). Microsomal isolations of these transformants and the wildtype yeast strain BY4742 (lane marked "+") containing 5µg protein where incubated with alpha-linolenic acid-CoA and [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-

lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC). Thin layer chromatography was performed to separate lipid classes. Like for wildtype yeast (lane marked "+"), phosphatidylcholine (PC) is observed for both yeast clones shown in lane 1 and 2, indicating the gene pLPAAT\_c6316(No) has LPCAT activity and complements the missing LPCAT activity of the knockout strain.

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**Figure 7:** LPAAT activity assay.

A yeast mutant lacking LPAAT activity (due to knockout of the gene YDL052c) was transformed with the empty vector pYES2.1 (lane marked "-") and with pYES2.1 harboring the cDNA of pLPAAT\_c6316(No) (lane 1 and 2, SEQ-ID: 13). Microsomal isolations of these transformants and the wildtype yeast strain BY4742 (lane marked "+") containing 5µg protein were incubated with alpha-linolenic acid-CoA and [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-lysophosphatidic acid (LPA). Thin layer chromatography was performed to separate lipid classes. Like for wildtype yeast (lane marked "+"), phosphatidic acid (PA) is observed for both yeast clones shown in lane 1 and 2, indicating the gene pLPAAT\_c6316(No) has LPAAT activity and complements the missing LPAAT activity of the knockout strain.

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**Figure 8:** DGAT activity assay.

A yeast mutant lacking the capability to synthesis TAG (due to knockout of the four genes YCR048W, YNR019W, YOR245C and YNR008W) was transformed with the empty vector pYES2.1 (lane marked "-") and with pYES2.1 harboring the cDNA of pDGAT2-c19425mod(Ta) (SEQ-ID 52, lane 1 and 2), pDGAT2\_c4648(No) (SEQ-ID 34, lane 5 and 6), pDGAT2\_c48271(No) (SEQ-ID 102, lane 7 and 8), BnDGAT1 (SEQ-ID 107, lane 9 and 10), AtDGAT1 (SEQ-ID 105, lane 11 and 12), pDGAT2\_c699(No) (SEQ-ID 19, lane 13 and 14) and pDGAT2\_c2959(No) (SEQ-ID 25, lane 15). Microsomal isolations of these transformants and the wildtype yeast strain G175 (lane marked "+") were incubated with <sup>14</sup>C-labeled oleic acid and diacylglycerole (DAG). Thin layer chromatography was performed to separate lipid classes. Like for wildtype yeast (lane marked "+"), triacylglycerole (TAG) is observed in lane 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, indicating pDGAT2-c19425mod(Ta), pDGAT2\_c4648(No), pDGAT2\_c48271(No), BnDGAT1, AtDGAT1, pDGAT2\_c699(No) and pDGAT2\_c2959(No) encode polypeptides having DGAT activity and complement the missing TAG-synthesis capability of the knockout.

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**Figure 9:** Substrate specificity of AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1. The specific activity of the enzymes AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 using the substrates indicated at the x-axis is given as the amount (in nmol) of substrate consumed in one minute per mg total protein and was determined as described in example 10.

35

**Figure 10:** Substrate specificity of pDGAT2-c19425(Ta) compared to AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1. The specific activity of the enzymes pDGAT2-c19425(Ta), AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 using the substrates indicated at the x-axis is given as the amount (in nmol) of substrate consumed in one minute per mg total protein and was determined as described in example 10.

40

**Figure 11:** Substrate specificity of pDGAT2\_c699(No) and pDGAT2\_c4648(No) compared to AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1. The specific activity of the enzymes pDGAT2\_c699(No) and pDGAT2\_c4648(No), AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 using the substrates indicated at the x-axis is given as the amount (in nmol) of substrate consumed in one minute per mg total protein and was determined as described in example 10.

## EXAMPLES

### Example 1: General cloning methods

Cloning methods as e.g. use of restriction endonucleases to cut double stranded DNA at specific sites, agarose gel electrophoreses, purification of DNA fragments, transfer of nucleic acids onto nitrocellulose and nylon membranes, joining of DNA-fragments, transformation of E.coli cells and culture of bacteria where performed as described in Sambrook et al. (1989) (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press: ISBN 0-87965-309-6).

### Example 2: Sequence Analysis of recombinant DNA

Sequencing of recombinant DNA-molecules was performed using a laser-fluorescence DNA sequencer (Applied Biosystems Inc, USA) employing the sanger method (Sanger et al. (1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 74, 5463-5467). Expression constructs harboring fragments obtained by polymerase chain reactions were subjected to sequencing to confirm the correctness of expression cassettes consisting of promoter, nucleic acid molecule to be expressed and terminator to avoid mutations that might result from handling of the DNA during cloning, e.g. due to incorrect primers, mutations from exposure to UV-light or errors of polymerases.

### Example 3: Cloning of yeast expression construct via homologous recombination

The open reading frame listed in SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, 55, 102, 105 and 107 encoding polypeptides with the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NOs: 53, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, 56, 103, 106 and 108 that have acyltransferase activity can be amplified using the primer listed in table 2 in a polymerase chain reaction. By doing so, the open reading frame is 5' fused to about 60 nucleotides of the 3' end of the GAL1 promoter sequence with simultaneous introduction of an *Asc* I and/or *Nco* I restriction site between the fusion site and 3' fused to about 60 nucleotides of the 5' end of the CYC1 terminator sequence with simultaneous introduction of an *Pac* I restriction site. To integrate these fragments into pYES2.1 TOPO downstream of the galactose inducible GAL1 Promotor via homologous recombination, the vector pYES2.1 (Invitrogen) can be digested using the restriction endonucleases *Pvu* II and *Xba* I, and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* can be transformed with 5 to 20ng of linearized pYES2.1 TOPO vector and 20 to 100ng PCR product per 50  $\mu$ l competent cells using the transformation method described by Schiestl et al. (Schiestl et al. (1989) Curr. Genet. 16(5-

6), pp. 339-346), to obtain pYES-pLPLAT\_c1216(No), pYES-pLPLAT\_c3052(No), pYES-pLPEAT-c7109(Ta), pYES-pLPAAT\_c2283(No), pYES-pLPAAT\_c6316(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_lrc24907(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c699(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c1910(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c2959(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c4857(No), pYES-pDGAT1\_c21701(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c4648(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c1660(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c29432(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c1052(No), pYES-pDGAT2-c18182(Ta), pYES-pDGAT2-c5568(Ta), pYES-pDGAT2-c19425(Ta), pYES-pDGAT2\_c48271(No), AtDGAT1, BnDGAT1 and pYES-pGPAT\_c813(No) in various wildtype yeasts and yeast mutants. Positive transformants can be selected based on the complementation of the URA auxotrophy of the chosen *S.cerevisia* strain. To validate the correctness of the expression construct harbored by a particular yeast clone, plasmids can be isolated as described in Current Protocols in Molecular Biology (Hoffmann, Curr. Protoc. Mol. Biol. 2001 May; Chapter 13:Unit13.11), transformed into *E.coli* for amplification and subjected to sequencing of the expression cassette as described in example 2. For later cloning into plant expression plasmids, the introduced restrictions site for *Asc I* and/or *Nco I* in combination with *Pac I* can be used.

Table 2: Primer sequences for cloning acyltransferase-polynucleotides of the invention for yeast expression

Gene-Name	Primer	SEQ-ID
pLPLAT_c1216(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatgga- caaggcactggcaccgtt	46
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaacta- aacttctcctccctcta	47
pLPLAT_c3052(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatgaccac- gactgtcatctctag	48
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaatcaaagcctcccgca- caacgagc	49
pLPEAT-c7109(Ta)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatg- gagggcatcgagtcgatagt	50
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaacta- taaggcttctccggcgcg	51

Gene-Name	Primer	SEQ-ID
pLPAAT_c2283(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatgaa- gacgcccacgagcctggc	52
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaataagctctc- gaatcgtcctct	53
pLPAAT_c6316(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatggtcag- gaggaagatggacgt	54
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaatcac- gacgcccggcgcttgacgt	55
pD- GAT2_Irc24907(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatgg- cacctccccaccggcccc	56
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaattaatcattgaccac- taaggtggcct	57
pDGAT2_c699(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatgggtc- tattggcagcgggat	58
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaactaaaagaaatt- caacgtccgat	59
pDGAT2_c1910(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaccccggatcggcgcgccaccatggtgag- tatccccgagtcgctc	60
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggttagagcggatttaactaaaagaaatc- cagctccctgt	61

Gene-Name	Primer	SEQ-ID
pDGAT2_c2959(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccat- gacgccgaagccgatcac	62
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaattaactcaatgga- caacgggcgcg	63
pDGAT2_c4857(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccatggct- tacctctccgctcgtcg	64
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaattaataggcgatcgcaat- gaactcct	65
pDGAT1_c21701(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccacc- catgcctttggacgggctgcatc	66
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaataatcacccgaaa- tatcctcctct	67
pDGAT2_c4648(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccatggc- caaggctaactcccgcc	68
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaataatcaccttataag- cagctctgt	69
pDGAT2_c1660(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccatgtgtg- cagggattaagctg	70
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaataatcacacaggac- caatttatgat	71



Gene-Name	Primer	SEQ-ID
pDGAT2_c29432(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccatggt- gatggcgccgctcgcggcg	72
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaattaatcagacgatgc- gaagcgtctgt	73
pDGAT2_c1052(No)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccaccatgggcg- taccactgcgacca	74
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaattaatcacgacttcgga- cagtccaaa	75
pDGAT2-c18182(Ta)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccacc- catgctcgttcgtagacacagcgc	76
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaactacacaaatcg- catcgtctgt	77
pDGAT2-c5568(Ta)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccacc- catggtctcctctgccttccta	78
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaactacgagtcagc- cactgatgc	79
pDGAT2-c19425(Ta)	Forward: ataaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaataatacctctataactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccccgatcggcgccacc- catgtttctcgcacgaacggga	80
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttcctttcggtagagcggatttaactaaccctcgggtga- cagcgccg	81

Gene-Name	Primer	SEQ-ID
pGPAT_c813(No)	Forward: ataaaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccggatcggcgcgccaccatgc- catcccgagcaccattga	82
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttccttttcggttagagcggatttaattaatcaga- caagctcctctccccct	83
pDGAT2_c48271(No)	Forward: ataaaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccggatcggcgcgccaccatggcgc- catctcaccgcgcaa	109
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttccttttcggttagagcggatttaactaccacacctc- caactcgccc	110
AtDGAT1	Forward: ataaaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccggatcggcgcgccaccatggc- gatttggattctgctgg	111
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttccttttcggttagagcggatttaattaatcatgacatc- gatccttttcggt	112
BnDGAT1	Forward: ataaaaagtatcaacaaaaaattgtaatactctatactttaacgt caaggagaaaaaaccggatcggcgcgccaccatgga- gatttggattctggagg	113
	Reverse: aactataaaaaataaataggacctagacttcaggtgtctaact ccttccttttcggttagagcggatttaactatga- catcttcttttcggt	114

Table 3: Coding polynucleotide sequences, amino acid sequences encoded thereby and expressed sequences (mRNA) of the acyltransferases of the invention

Gene name	Organism	ORF in bp	SEQ- ID No.	Ami- no acids	SEQ- ID No.	mRNA in bp	SEQ- ID No.
pLPLAT_c1216(No)	Nannochlo- ropsis oculata	1485	1	494	2	1908	3
pLPLAT_c3052(No)	Nannochlo- ropsis oculata	1776	4	591	5	2247	6

pLPEAT-c7109(Ta)	Thraustochytrium aureum	1134	7	377	8	1288	9
pLPAAT_c2283(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1284	10	427	11	1826	12
pLPAAT_c6316(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1395	13	464	14	1771	15
pD-GAT2_lrc24907(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1026	16	341	17	1100	18
pDGAT2_c699(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1206	19	401	20	1772	21
pDGAT2_c1910(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1173	22	390	23	1239	24
pDGAT2_c2959(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1089	25	362	26	1609	27
pDGAT2_c4857(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1464	28	487	29	1682	30
pD-GAT1_c21701(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1539	31	512	32	1904	33
pDGAT2_c4648(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1083	34	360	35	1362	36
pDGAT2_c1660(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1695	37	564	38	2074	39
pD-GAT2_c29432(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1029	40	342	41	1585	42
pDGAT2_c1052(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1251	43	416	44	1923	45
pDGAT2-c18182(Ta)	Thraustochytrium aureum	930	46	309	47	1134	48
pDGAT2-c5568(Ta)	Thraustochytrium aureum	1179	49	392	50	1303	51
pDGAT2-c19425(Ta)	Thraustochytrium aureum	1389	52	462	53	1547	54
pGPAT_c813(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	1977	55	658	56	2460	57
pDGAT2_c48271(No)	Nannochloropsis oculata	960	102	319	103	1265	104

Example 4: Assembly of genes required for PUFA synthesis within a T-plasmid

For synthesis of EPA in Arabidopsis seeds, the set of genes encoding the proteins of the metabolic EPA pathway (table 4) was combined with expression elements (promoter, terminators) and transferred into binary t-plasmids that were used for agrobacteria mediated transformation of plants as described in example 5. To this end, the general cloning strategy depicted in figure 1 was employed: Genes listed in table 4 were PCR-amplified using Phusion™ High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (NEB, Frankfurt, Germany) according to the manufactures instructions from cDNA using primer introducing a *Nco* I and/or *Asc* I restriction site at the 5' terminus, and a *Pac* I restriction site at the 3' terminus (figure 1B). To obtain the final expression modules, PCR-amplified genes were cloned between promoter and terminator via *Nco* I and/or *Pac* I restriction sites (figure 1C). Up to three of those expression modules were combined as desired to expression cassettes harbored by either one of pENTR/A, pENTR/B or pENTR/C (figure 1D).. Finally, the Multisite Gateway™ System (Invitrogen) was used to combine three expression cassette harbored by pENTR/A, pENTR/B and pENTR/C (figure 1E) to obtain the final binary T-plasmids bbc (SEQ-ID 101, figure 2).

Table 4: Genes of the bbc construct for synthesis of EPA (20:5n-3) in Arabidopsis seeds. The elements controlling the expression of the respective genes are as well indicated.

Name	Source Organism	Activity	SEQ-ID	Promoter	Terminator
d12Des(Ps)	<i>Phytophthora sojae</i>	d-12 Desaturase	96	p-BnNapin	t-E9
d6Des(Ot)	<i>Ostreococcus tauri</i>	d-6 Desaturase	97	p-SBP	t-CatpA
d5Des(Tc)	<i>Traustochytrium ssp.</i>	d-5 Desaturase	98	p-LuCnl	t-AgroOCS
d6Elo(Pp)	<i>Physcomitrella patens</i>	d-6 Elongase	99	p-VfUSP	t-CaMV35S
o-3Des(Pi)	Phytophthora infestans	o-3 Desaturase	100	p-Napin	t-E9

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### Example 5: Plant Transformation

The resulting binary vector bbc harboring the genes reconstituting EPA biosynthesis pathway were transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (Hofgen and Willmitzer (1988) Nucl. Acids Res. 16: 9877). The transformation of *A. thaliana* was accomplished by means of the floral-dip method (Clough and Bent (1998) Plant Journal 16: 735-743), this method is known to the skilled person. Wild-type Arabidopsis seeds contain considerable amounts of eicosenoic acid (20:1) (Table 5). Biosynthesis of 20:1 competes for the substrates of the PUFA biosynthesis pathway. This competition was circumvented by transforming bbc into the Arabidopsis *fae1* mutant (James et al., (1995) The Plant Cell 7:309-319).

30

### Example 6: Quantification of metabolic fatty Acyl-CoAs in wild-type and EPA producing Arabidopsis seeds

The selected transgenic Arabidopsis plants from example 3 were analyzed in respect to PUFA content in seeds. Seeds from wild-type, *fae1* mutant and transgenics harboring the

35

bbc construct were harvested 18 days after flowering. Total fatty acid, representing the fatty acids esterified to CoA, on lipids and as triacyl-glycerides were extracted and analyzed by gas chromatography as described in Wu et al., (2005) Nature Biotechnology 23(8): 1013-1017.

- 5 In seeds of *fae1* transformed with *bbc* the EPA accumulation was 12.2 %, the seeds contained small amounts of intermediate or side products: ARA (3.2 %), SDA (0.8 %), GLA (2.6 %) which were not present in wild-type or *fae1* (Fig 3, Table 5).

10 Table 5: Content of fatty acids in seeds of wild-type (Col-0), *fae1* mutant and *fae1* transformed with *bbc* construct

Fatty acid	Common name of FA	Col-0	<i>fae1</i>	<i>bbc fae1</i>
16:0	Palmitic acid	6,2	8,8	6,8
18:0	Stearic acid	3,1	4,1	5,3
18:1	Oleic acid	16,3	27,5	18,9
18:2	Linoleic acid	28,2	39,0	30,8
18:3n6	Gamma-Linolenic acid	0,0	0,0	2,6
18:3n3	Alpha-Linoleic acid	15,6	18,4	11,9
18:4n3	Stearidonic acid	0,0	0,0	0,8
20:1	Eicosenoic acid	22,8	0,4	0,3
20:4n6	Arachidonic acid	0,0	0,0	3,2
20:5n3	Eicosapentaenoic acid	0,0	0,0	12,2
Others		7,8	1,8	7,2

For PUFA biosynthesis the acyl-moiety has to be shuffled between different metabolic pools. For example, the elongation of the acyl chain by two carbon atoms occurs specifically on acyl-CoA (Zank et al., (2002) The Plant Journal 318(3):255-268. The efficiency of the transfer of the acyl-residue between the metabolic pools may represent a bottleneck for PUFA production in plants. Therefore the accumulation of EPA or intermediates of EPA biosynthesis as CoA species was analyzed by LC/MS<sup>2</sup>. As a control CoA pool of wild-type seeds were as well analyzed. The Acyl-CoA metabolites were extracted from the seed tissue according to Larson and Graham, 2001. LC/MS<sup>2</sup> was applied as described by Magnes et al., 2005. Briefly, CoA were separated with high resolution by reversed-phase high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with a ammonium hydroxide and acetonitrile gradient. The acyl-CoA species were identified and quantified by multireaction monitoring using triple quadrupole mass spectrometry. Only a few methods using mass spectrometry for characterization of long chain acyl-CoA have been published, the majority of which employ negative ionisation mode showing abundant ions. In contrast, positive ionisation has only one abundant ion [M - H]<sup>+</sup>, furthermore the predominant ion in MS<sup>2</sup> spectra is the fatty acyl-pantetheine fragment (m/z 507 - Fig 5 B), characteristic of CoA-activated substances. In choosing the acyl-pantetheine of interest in multireaction monitoring mode (MRM) a very sensitive, selective and reproducible method was established. CoA-activated substances can be monitored by scanning for the neutral loss of phosphoadenosine diphosphate. Generally for reliable analysis, all interfering peaks must

be chromatographically separated; in the case of EPA and ARA this is not possible (Fig 4 B). However through the use of MRM, incorporating very short dwell times (15 ms), it is possible to follow the individual chromatograms of acyl-CoA of interest and demonstrate the presence of EPA and ARA in the acyl CoA pool (Fig 5 C). According to internal standards  
5 the eicosapentaenoyl-CoA was in the range of ...% of the total Co-A pool.

In conclusion these results show that PUFA accumulate in the metabolic CoA pool and are not transferred to DAG to be released as TAG into the seed oil. Such a bottleneck may be overcome by the co-expression of an acyltransferase from table 3, having the appropriate substrate specificity. The application of suitable acyltransferase may increase the flux of  
10 fatty acid between the metabolic pools and increase the PUFA biosynthesis rate.

### Example 7: Activity assays using yeast extracts

To characterize the functions of the acyltransferase polypeptides of the invention, yeast  
15 mutants can be employed that are defective in certain acyltransferase activities. For example, the yeast mutant Y13749 (Genotype: BY4742; Mat alpha; his3 $\Delta$ 1; leu2 $\Delta$ 0; lys2 $\Delta$ 0; ura3 $\Delta$ 0; YDL052c::kanMX4) lacking LPAAT activity can be transformed with expression constructs harboring candidate polypeptides to check for restoration (complementation) of LPAAT activity, the yeast mutant Y12431 (genotype BY4742; Mat alpha; his3 $\Delta$ 1; leu2 $\Delta$ 0;  
20 lys2 $\Delta$ 0; ura3 $\Delta$ 0; YOR175c::kanMX4) lacking LPLAT activity can be transformed with expression constructs harboring candidate polypeptides to check for restoration (complementation) of LPLAT activity, the yeast mutant H1246 (genotype MATa leu2-3,112 trp1-1 can1-100 ura3-1 ade2-1 his3-11,15 YOR245::KanMX4 YNR008W::TRP1 YCR048W::HIS3 YNR019W::LEU2) lacking the ability to synthesize triacylglycerole can be transformed with  
25 expression constructs harboring candidate polypeptides to check for restoration (complementation) of the ability to synthesis triacylglycerole. The yeast mutants can for example harbor the expression constructs listed in example 3 employing the transformation method described in example 3.

30 For LPAAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant Y13749 harboring pYES-pLPAAT\_c6316(No) can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptide can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of  
35 OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml resuspention buffer (25 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium bead (200 $\mu$ m average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant is transferred to a fresh tube and centrifuged at 3000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is the crude extract.  
40 Protein content is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures contain 1 to 50  $\mu$ g of protein, 10  $\mu$ l of 100 nM [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-LPA (giving about 2000 dpm/nmol), 10  $\mu$ l of 50 nM 18:1-CoA or 50nM 18:3n-3-CoA in assay buffer (25mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 0.5 mg/ml

BSA) to give a total volume of 100  $\mu$ l. Samples are incubated for 10 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). It can be seen by the formation of phosphatidic acid (PA) in figure 7, that pLPAAT\_c6316(No) (SEQ-ID 13, lane 1 and 2) encodes a polypeptide having LPAAT activity.

For LPCAT and LPEAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant Y12431 harboring pYES-pLPAAT\_c6316(No) can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptide can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml resuspension buffer (25 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium bead (200 $\mu$ m average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant is transferred to a fresh tube and centrifuged at 3000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is the crude extract. Protein content is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures contain either 10 $\mu$ l 100nM [<sup>14</sup>C]-LPC (LPCAT activity assay) or 10 $\mu$ l 100nM [<sup>14</sup>C]-LPE (LPEAT activity assay), 1 to 50  $\mu$ g of protein, 10  $\mu$ l of 50nM 18:1-CoA or 50nM 18:3n-3-CoA in assay buffer (25mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 0.5 mg/ml BSA) to give a total volume of 100  $\mu$ l. Samples are incubated for 10 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). It can be seen by the formation of phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) in figure 6, that pLPAAT\_c6316(No) (SEQ-ID 13, lane 1 and 2) encodes a polypeptide having LPCAT activity.

For DGAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant H1246 harboring either one of pYES-pDGAT2\_c699(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c2959(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c4648(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c48271(No), pYES-pDGAT2-c19425(Ta), pYES-AtDGAT1, or pYES-BnDGAT1 can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Activity as indicated by the formation of TAG (as indicated, the mutant H1246 is unable to synthesize TAG) can be measured either by relying on yeast-endogenous substrate-DAG, or by providing substrate in an *in vitro* assay.

For the former type of assay, cells are harvested after reaching stationary phase during in-

cubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 2 ml resuspension buffer (phosphate buffered saline (PBS) pH 7.4, see Sambrook et al., "Molecular Cloning", Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1989). The equivalent of 200 mg cell pellet is taken, the volume adjusted to 210µl using PBS and 790 µl of methanol:chloroform (2:1) are added.

- 5 Cells are disrupted using acid washed zirconium bead (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm and lipids are extracted according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917).

- The *in vitro* assay is the preferred way of testing for DGAT activity, when activity is known or expected to be weak when relying on endogenous substrate. Instead, both the type and concentration of the DAG acceptor molecule, as well as the type and concentration of the fatty acid-CoA can be controlled. To do so, cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml resuspension buffer (25 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium bead (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant is transferred to a fresh tube and centrifuged at 3000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is the crude extract. Protein content is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures contain 10 µl 50 nM [<sup>14</sup>C]-6:0-DAG (giving about 3000 dpm/nmol), 50 µg of microsomal protein (the amount can be adjusted to stay within linear conditions without substrate limitation), 10 µl of 50 nM 18:3n-3-CoA or 50 nM 22:6n-3-CoA in assay buffer (50 mM Hepes buffer pH 7.2, 1 mg/ml BSA) to give a total volume of 100 µl. Samples are incubated for 10 min at 30°C.

- In either case – *in vivo* or *in vitro* assay – lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using hexane:diethylether:acetic acid (70:30:1), and stained in iodine vapor. It can be seen by the formation of triacylglycerole (TAG) using the *in vitro* assay-conditions in figure 8, that pDGAT2-c19425mod(Ta) (SEQ-ID 52, lane 1 and 2), pDGAT2\_c4648(No) (SEQ-ID 34, lane 5 and 6), pDGAT2\_c48271(No) (SEQ-ID 102, lane 7 and 8), BnDGAT1 (SEQ-ID 107, lane 9 and 10), AtDGAT1 (SEQ-ID 105, lane 11 and 12), pDGAT2\_c699(No) (SEQ-ID 19, lane 13 and 14) and pDGAT2\_c2959(No) (SEQ-ID 25, lane 15) encode polypeptides having DGAT activity.

Table 6 summarizes the results of the LPCAT, LPAAT and DGAT activity tests.

- 35 Table 6: Measured with microsomal protein and [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-LPA, [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-LPC or [<sup>14</sup>C]-6:0-1,2-DAG. Of the *in vitro* DGAT assay, 1 mg/ml of BSA was added to reduce activity for staying in the linear range.

Enzyme Class	Candidate	SEQ-IDs (ORF / protein / mRNA)	Activity <i>in vitro</i> using 18:3-CoA nmol/(mg*min)	Activity <i>in vitro</i> using 22:6-CoA nmol/(mg*min)	Activity <i>in vivo</i>
LPAAT	pLPAAT_c6316(No)	13/14/15	81	64	



LPCAT	pLPAAT_c6316(No)	13/14/15	38	9	
DGAT	pDGAT2_c699(No)	19/20/21	0,22	0,17	Yes
DGAT	pDGAT2_c2959(No)	25/26/27	0,95	0,67	Yes
DGAT	pDGAT2_c4648(No)	34/35/36	1,4	0,17	Yes
DGAT	pDGAT2_c48271(No)	102/103/104	1,6	0	Yes
DGAT	pDGAT2-c19425(Ta)	52/53/54	4,0	5,6	Yes
DGAT	AtDGAT1	105/106/ --	1,6	1,2	Yes
DGAT	BnDGAT1	107/108/--	2,4	1,5	Yes

### Example 8: Determination of substrate specificity for LPAAT

For determination of substrate specificities of the LPAAT enzymes, clones of the yeast mutant Y13749 (described in example 7) harboring LPAAT genes in the pYES plasmid can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disruption buffer is added up to 20 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal fraction) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures contain 1-5 µg of microsomal protein (the amount is adjusted to achieve linear conditions without substrate limitation), 10 µl of 1 mM [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-LPA (5000 dpm/nmol), 10 µl of 1 mM acyl-CoA in assay buffer (0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2., 10 mg/ml Bovine Serum Albumine (BSA)) to give a total volume of 100 µl. Like to amount of microsomal protein added to the assay, also the amount of BSA has influence on observed enzyme activities, where higher amounts of BSA result on lower activities and lower amounts of BSA result in higher activities. The enzyme specificity can be tested for different acyl-CoA:s, e.g. 14:0-CoA, 16:0-CoA, 18:1-CoA, 18:2-CoA, 18:3-CoA, γ18:3-CoA, 18:4-CoA, 20:3-CoA, 20:4-CoA, 20:4(n-3)-CoA, 20:5-CoA, 22:5-CoA, 22:6-CoA. Samples are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). The amount of phosphatidic acid (PA) produced in the reaction (and hence the enzyme activity) can be determined from the picture.

**Example 9: Determination of substrate specificity for LPLAT**

For LPCAT and LPEAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant Y12431 harboring LPLAT  
5 genes in the pYES plasmid can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with  
2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase  
polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galac-  
tose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at  
600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1 Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at  
10 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10  
mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and disrupted using acid washed  
zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes  
agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disrup-  
15 tion buffer is added up to 20 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The ob-  
tained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal frac-  
tion) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in  
the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal.  
Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures  
20 contain either 10µl 1 mM [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-Lysophosphatidylcholine (-LPC), 5000 dpm/nmol  
(LPCAT assay) or 10µl 1 mM [<sup>14</sup>C]-18:1-Lysophosphatidylethanolamine (-LPE), 5000  
dpm/nmol (LPEAT assay), 1-10 µg of microsomal protein (the amount is adjusted to  
achieve linear conditions without substrate limitation), 10 µl of 1 mM acyl-CoA in assay  
buffer (0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2., 10 mg/ml BSA) to give a total volume of 100 µl. Like  
25 to amount of microsomal protein added to the assay, also the amount of BSA has influence  
on observed anzyme activities, where higher amounts of BSA result on lower activities and  
lower amounts of BSA result in higher activities. The enzyme specificity can be tested for  
different acyl-CoA:s, e.g. 14:0-CoA, 16:0-CoA, 18:1-CoA, 18:2-CoA, 18:3-CoA, γ18:3-CoA,  
18:4-CoA, 20:3-CoA, 20:4-CoA, 20:4(n-3)-CoA, 20:5-CoA, 22:5-CoA, 22:6-CoA.. Samples  
30 are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into  
chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Bio-  
chem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911-917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC)  
silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and  
autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). The amount of  
35 phosphatidyl choline (PC) or phosphatidyl ethanol amine (PE) produced in the reaction (and  
hence the enzyme activity) can be determined from the picture.

**Example 10: Determination of substrate specificity for DGAT**

For DGAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant H1246 harboring either one of pYES-  
40 pDGAT2\_c699(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c2959(No), pYES-pDGAT2\_c4648(No), pYES-  
pDGAT2\_c48271(No), pYES-pDGAT2-c19425(Ta), pYES-AtDGAT1, or pYES-BnDGAT1  
can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon  
source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be in-

duced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of  $OD_{600}=0.1$ . Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M  $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ ) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disruption buffer is added up to 20 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal fraction) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. Assay mixtures contain 5 µl 1 mM [ $^{14}C$ ]-6:0-DAG, 3000 dpm/nmol, 1-100 µg of microsomal protein (the amount is adjusted to achieve linear conditions without substrate limitation), 5 µl of 1 mM acyl-CoA in assay buffer (50 mM Hepes buffer pH 7.2, 1 mg/ml BSA) to give a total volume of 100 µl. The enzyme specificity can be tested for different acyl-CoA:s, e.g. 14:0-CoA, 16:0-CoA, 18:1-CoA, 18:2-CoA, 18:3-CoA,  $\gamma$ 18:3-CoA, 18:4-CoA, 20:3-CoA, 20:4-CoA, 20:4(n-3)-CoA, 20:5-CoA, 22:5-CoA, 22:6-CoA.. Samples are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using hexane:diethylether:acetic acid (70:30:1), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). The amount of triacylglycerol (TAG) produced in the reaction (and hence the enzyme activity) can be determined from the picture. In Brassica napus and Arabidopsis, the DGAT involved in TAG-formation in seeds are of the DGAT1 type. The enzyme activity AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 for the different substrates can be seen in figure 9. The enzyme activity of pDGAT2-c19425(Ta) for the different substrates, compared to AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 is shown in figure 10. The enzyme activity of pDGAT2\_c699(No) and pDGAT2\_c4648(No) for the different substrates, compared to AtDGAT1 and BnDGAT1 is shown in figure 11. The data in figure 10 and 11 show clearly, that all DGAT2 enzymes shown in these figures vary strongly towards their activities for the various substrates, whereas the DGAT1 involved in TAG formation in Arabidopsis and Brassica napus exhibit less variability towards these different substrates.

#### 35 **Example 11: Determination of substrate selectivity for LPAAT**

For determination of substrate selectivities of the LPAAT enzymes, clones of the yeast mutant Y13749 (described in example 7) harboring LPAAT genes can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of  $OD_{600}=0.1$ . Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption

buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disruption buffer is added up to 20 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal fraction) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. The substrate selectivity can be determined by mixing equimolar amounts of different acyl-CoA:s in the same reaction and measure the preference for using the different acyl groups as substrates. The assay is run as in the specificity studies (Example 5) but scaled up 18 times to get sufficient amount of PA for detection. Up to 4 different acyl-CoA:s can be used in the assay in equimolar amount instead of one single acyl-CoA. Samples are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using an instant imager (Packard). The phosphatidic acid (PA) is recovered from the plate and the fatty acids methylated in situ on the gel with sulphuric acid (2%) in methanol. Fatty acid methyl esters are extracted with hexane and separated by gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) using a WCOT fused silica 50 m×0.32 mm ID capillary column coated with CP-Wax 58-CB DF = 0.3 (Chrompack inc., The Netherlands) and quantified relative to methyl-heptadecanoate added as an internal standard. The selectivity can be determined by calculating the amount of each acyl group that has been acylated to LPA.

#### Example 12: Determination of substrate selectivity for LPLAT

For LPCAT and LPEAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant Y12431 harboring LPLAT genes can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disruption buffer is added up to 20 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal fraction) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. The substrate selectivity can be determined

by mixing equimolar amounts of different acyl-CoA:s in the same reaction and measure the preference for using the different acyl groups as substrates. The assay is run as in the specificity studies (Example 6) but scaled up 18 times to get sufficient amount of PC or PE for detection. Up to 4 different acyl-CoA:s can be used in the assay in equimolar amount  
5 instead of one single acyl-CoA. Samples are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using  
10 an instant imager (Packard). The PC or PE is recovered from the plate and the fatty acids methylated in situ on the gel with sulphuric acid (2%) in methanol. Fatty acid methyl esters are extracted with hexane and separated by gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) using a WCOT fused silica 50 m×0.32 mm ID capillary column coated with CP-Wax 58-CB DF = 0.3 (Chrompack inc., The Netherlands) and quantified relative to methyl-heptadecanoate added  
15 as an internal standard. The selectivity can be determined by calculating the amount of each acyl group that has been acylated to LPC or LPE.

#### Example 13: Determination of substrate selectivity for DGAT

20 For DGAT activity assay, clones of the yeast mutant H1246 harboring DGAT genes can be grown at 28°C in 10ml selective media (SC-URA) with 2% raffinose as carbon source over night. The next day, expression of the acyltransferase polypeptides can be induced by transferring the cells to fresh media containing 2% galactose, for example by inoculating  
25 100 ml of fresh culture to an optical density (measure at 600nm) of OD<sub>600</sub>=0.1. Cells are harvested after 24h incubation at 28°C by centrifugation at 3000 x g for 5 min and resuspended in 1 ml disruption buffer (20 mM Tris/HCL pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.3 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and disrupted using acid washed zirconium beads (200µm average diameter) in a mill (Retsch, Germany) by three minutes agitation at 300rpm. The supernatant and the beads are transferred to a fresh tube. Disruption buffer is added up to 20  
30 ml and the tube is centrifuged at 8000 x g for 5 min. The obtained supernatant is centrifuged for 2 hrs at 42000 rpm at 4°C. The pellet (microsomal fraction) is resuspended in a small volume of 0.1 M phosphate buffer pH 7.2. Protein content in the microsomal fraction is measured according to Bradford (Bradford, M.M. (1976), Anal. Biochem. Bd. 72, pp. 248-254) with bovine serum albumin as standard. The substrate selectivity can be determined  
35 by mixing equimolar amounts of different acyl-CoA:s in the same reaction and measure the preference for using the different acyl groups as substrates. The assay is run as in the specificity studies (Example 7) but scaled up 18 times to get sufficient amount of TAG for detection. Up to 4 different acyl-CoA:s can be used in the assay in equimolar amount instead of one single acyl-CoA. Samples are incubated for 4 min at 30°C. The assays are  
40 terminated by extraction of the lipids into chloroform according to Bligh and Dyer (Bligh, E.G. and Dyer, W.J. (1959), Can. J. Biochem. Physiol. 37, pp. 911–917). Lipids are separated on thin layer chromatography (TLC) silica 60 plates (Merck) using chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (90:15:10:3), and autoradiographic pictures are taken using

an instant imager (Packard). The TAG is recovered from the plate and the fatty acids methylated in situ on the gel with sulphuric acid (2%) in methanol. Fatty acid methyl esters are extracted with hexane and separated by gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) using a WCOT fused silica 50 m×0.32 mm ID capillary column coated with CP-Wax 58-CB DF = 0.3 (Chrompack inc., The Netherlands) and quantified relative to methyl-heptadecanoate added as an internal standard. The selectivity can be determined by calculating the amount of each acyl group that has been acylated to TAG.

Claims

1. A polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence elected from the group consisting of:
  - a) a nucleic acid sequence having a nucleotide sequence as shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 52, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46, 49, and 55;
  - b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as shown in any one SEQ ID NOs: 53, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, and 56;
  - c) a nucleic acid sequence being at least 40% identical to the nucleic acid sequence of a) or b), wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity;
  - d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity and having an amino acid sequence which is at least 45% identical to the amino acid sequence of b); and
  - e) a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of hybridizing under one of the following sets of conditions to any one of a) to d), wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide having acyltransferase activity:
    - f) hybridization in 50 mM Tris, pH 7.6, 6xSSC, 5xDenhardt's, 1.0% sodium dodecyl sulfat (SDS) 100µg denaturated calf thymus DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, repeat twice with 0.2xSSC, 0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;
    - g) hybridization in 6xSSPE (Sodium chloride Sodium Phosphate-EDTA), 5xDenhardt's solution, 0.5% SDS 100µg denaturated calf thymus DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSC, 0.5%SDS at room temperature for 15 min each, repeat twice with 0.2xSSC, 0,5% SDS at room temperature for 15 min each and then repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;
    - h) hybridization in 20-30% formamide, 5xSSPE, 5xDenhardt's solution, 1% SDS 100µg denaturated salmon sperm DNA at 34°C overnight and wash twice with 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 42°C for 15 min each, repeat twice with 2xSSPE, 0.2%SDS at 55°C for 30 min each and repeat twice with 0.2 SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 15 min;
    - i) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C;
    - j) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C; or
    - k) hybridization in 7% SDS, 0.5 M NaPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM EDTA at 50°C overnight and wash in 0,1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C or 65°C
2. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide further comprises an expression control sequence operatively linked to the said nucleic acid sequence.

3. The polynucleotide of claim 1 or 2, wherein said polynucleotide further comprises a terminator sequence operatively linked to the nucleic acid sequence.
4. A vector comprising the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3.
5. A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 or the vector of claim 4.
6. A method for the manufacture of a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 comprising
  - a) cultivating the host cell of claim 5 under conditions which allow for the production of the said polypeptide; and
  - b) obtaining the polypeptide from the host cell of step a).
7. A polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 or which is obtainable by the method of claim 6.
8. A non-human transgenic organism comprising the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 or the vector of claim 4
9. The non-human transgenic organism of claim 8, which is a microorganism, a plant, plant part, or plant seed.
10. A method for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids comprising:
  - a) cultivating the host cell of claim 5 under conditions which allow for the production of polyunsaturated fatty acids in said host cell; and
  - b) obtaining said polyunsaturated fatty acids from the said host cell.
11. A method for the manufacture of polyunsaturated fatty acids comprising:
  - a) cultivating the non-human transgenic organism of claim 8 or 9 under conditions which allow for the production of polyunsaturated fatty acids in said host cell; and
  - b) obtaining said polyunsaturated fatty acids from the said non-human transgenic organism.
12. The method of claim 10 or 11, wherein said polyunsaturated fatty acid is arachidonic acid (ARA), eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) or docosahexaenoic acid (DHA).
13. A method for the manufacture of an oil, lipid or fatty acid composition comprising the steps of the method of any one of claims 10 to 12 and the further step of formulating the polyunsaturated fatty acid as oil, lipid or fatty acid composition.



14. The method of claim 13, wherein said oil, lipid or fatty acid composition is to be used for feed, foodstuffs, cosmetics or pharmaceuticals.
15. Oil, lipids or fatty acids or a fraction thereof produced by the method of any one of claims 10 to 12.
16. An oil, lipid or fatty acid composition comprising a polyunsaturated fatty acid obtainable by the method of any one of claims 10 to 12.
17. An antibody or a fragment derived thereof as an antigen which specifically recognizes a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequences of any one of the claims 1 to 3.

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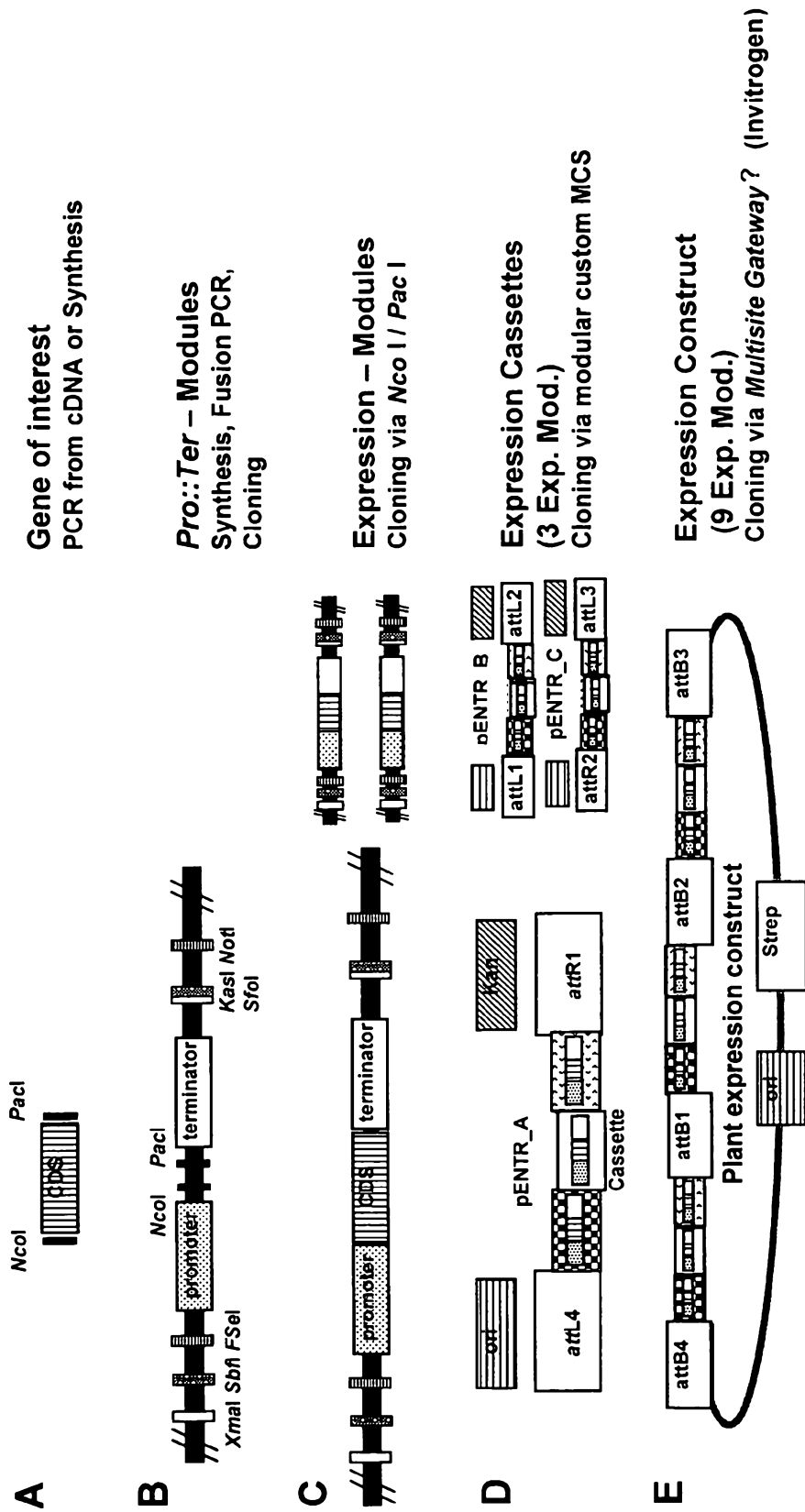


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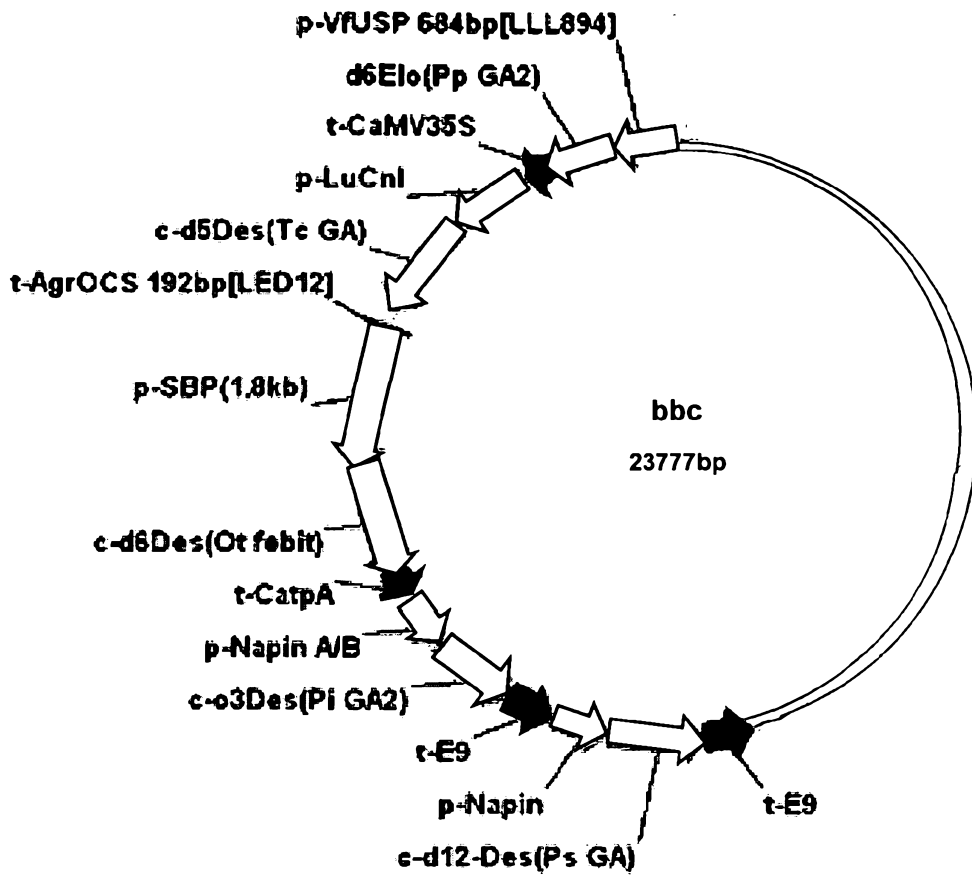
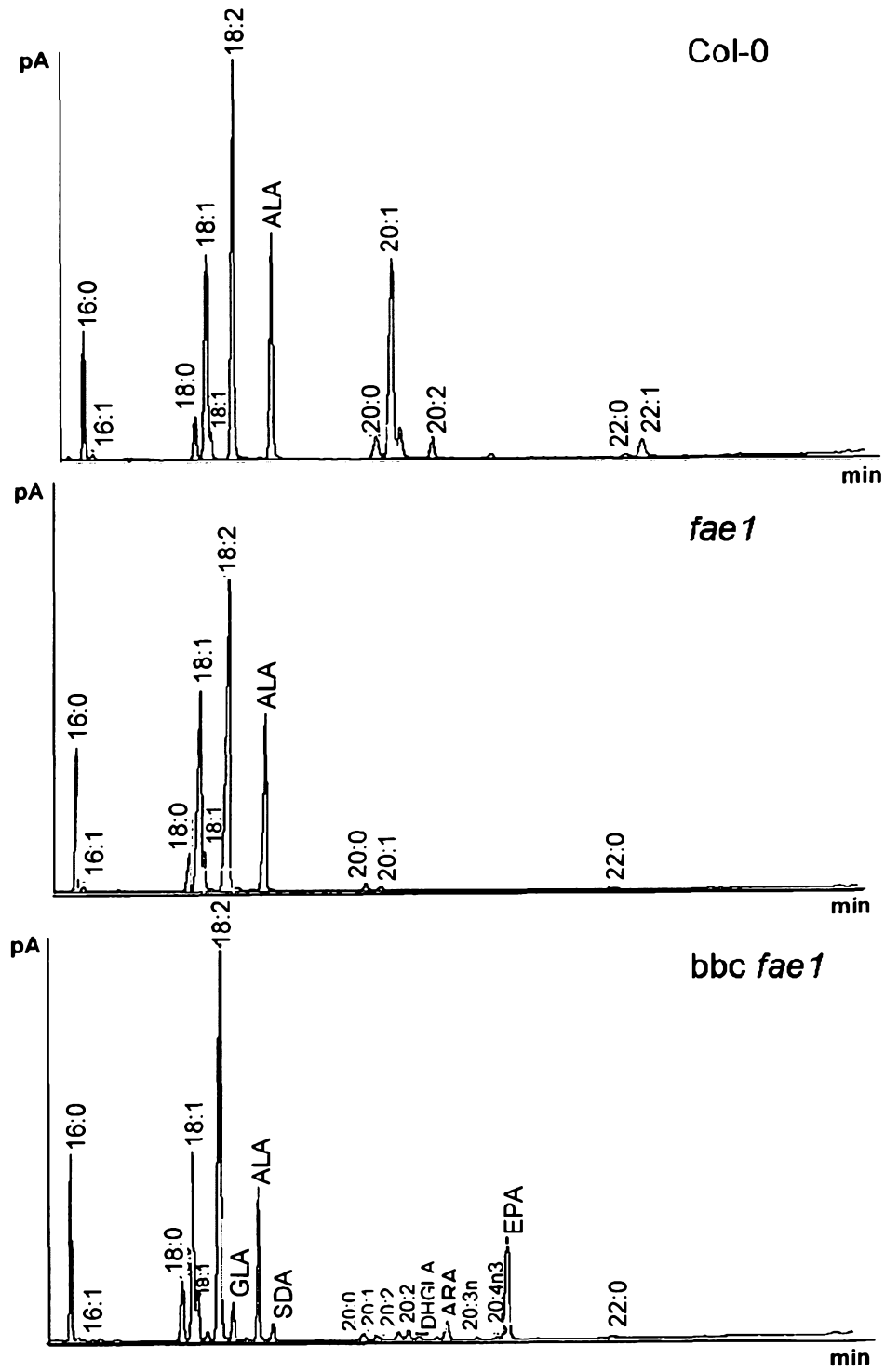


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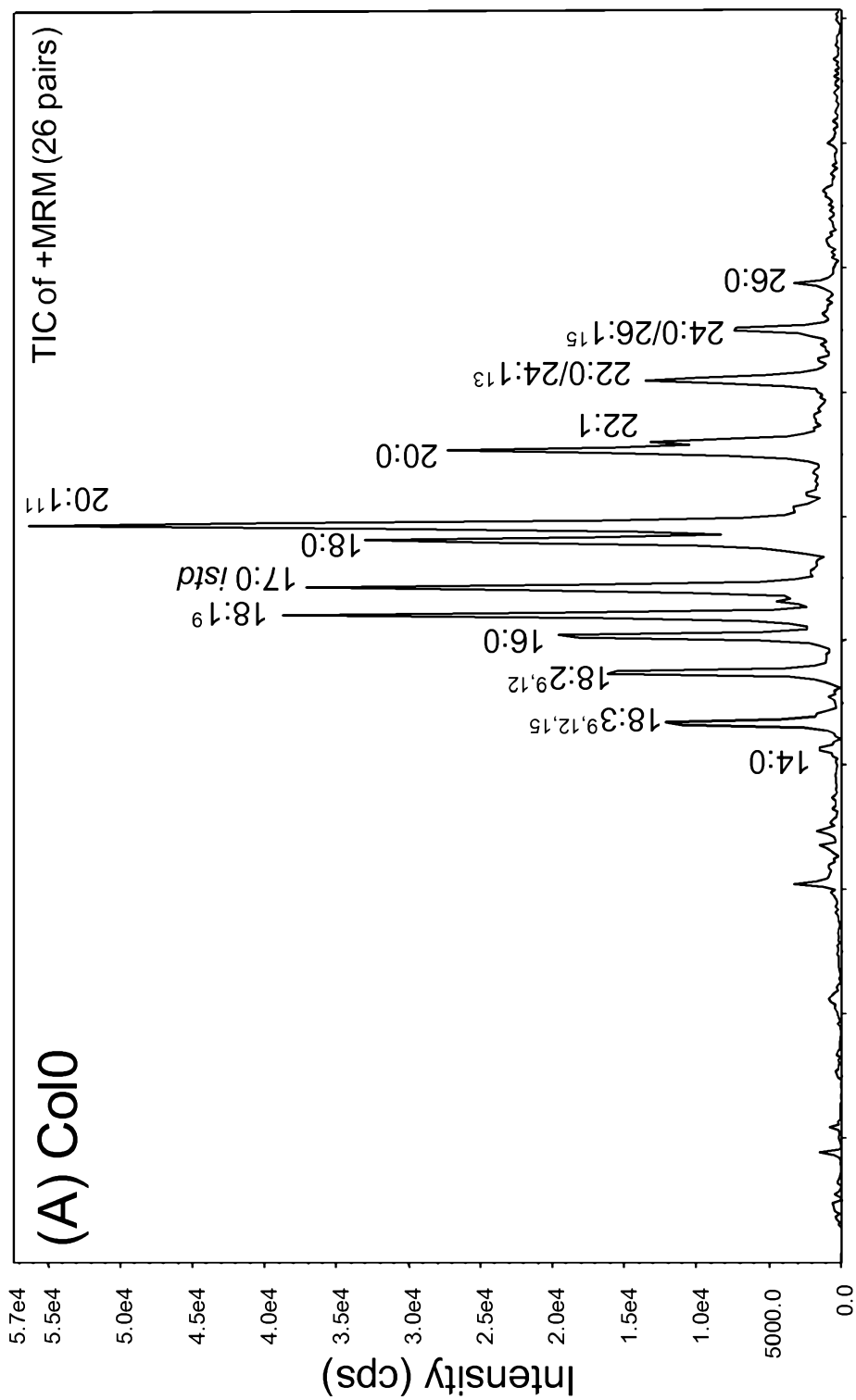


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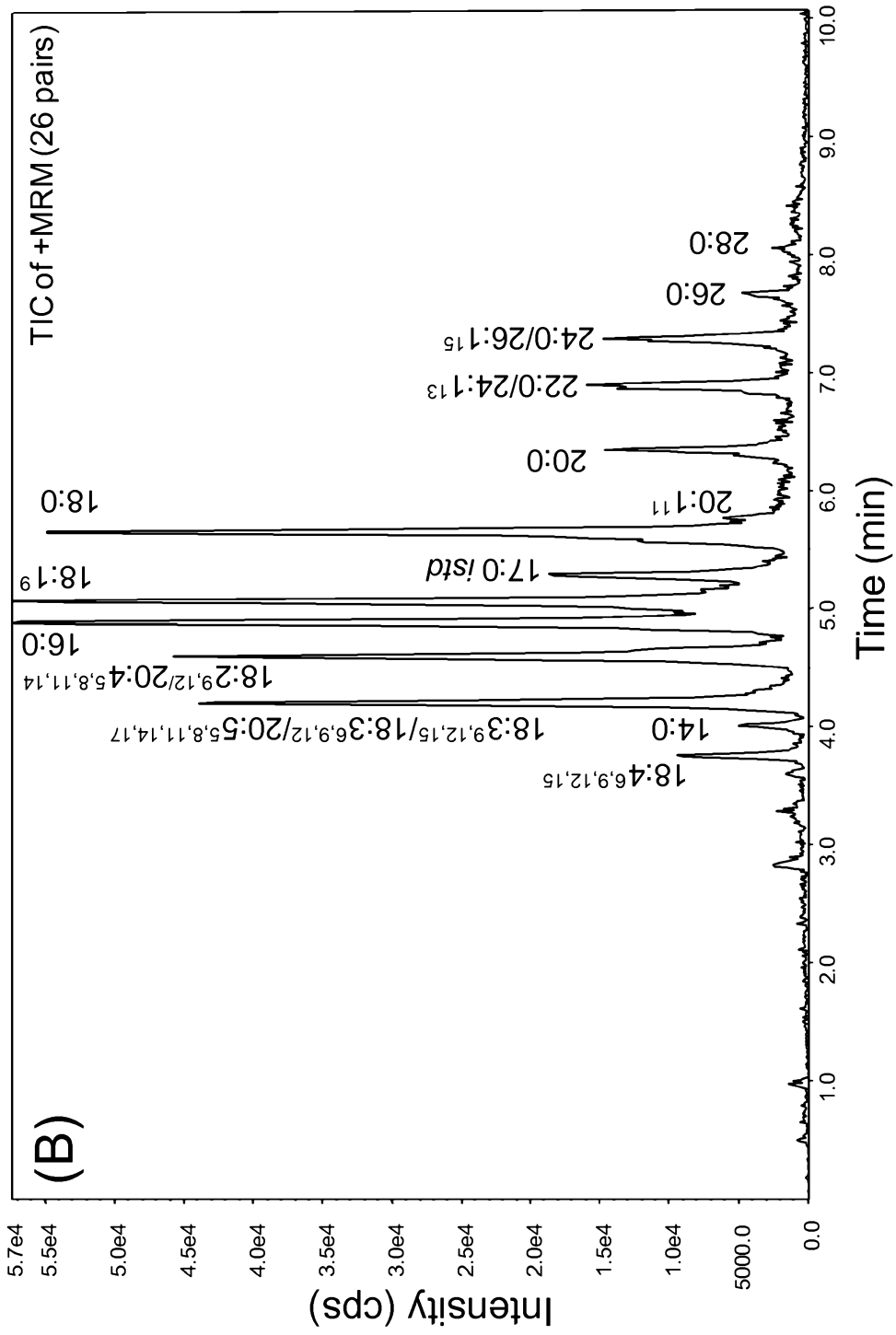


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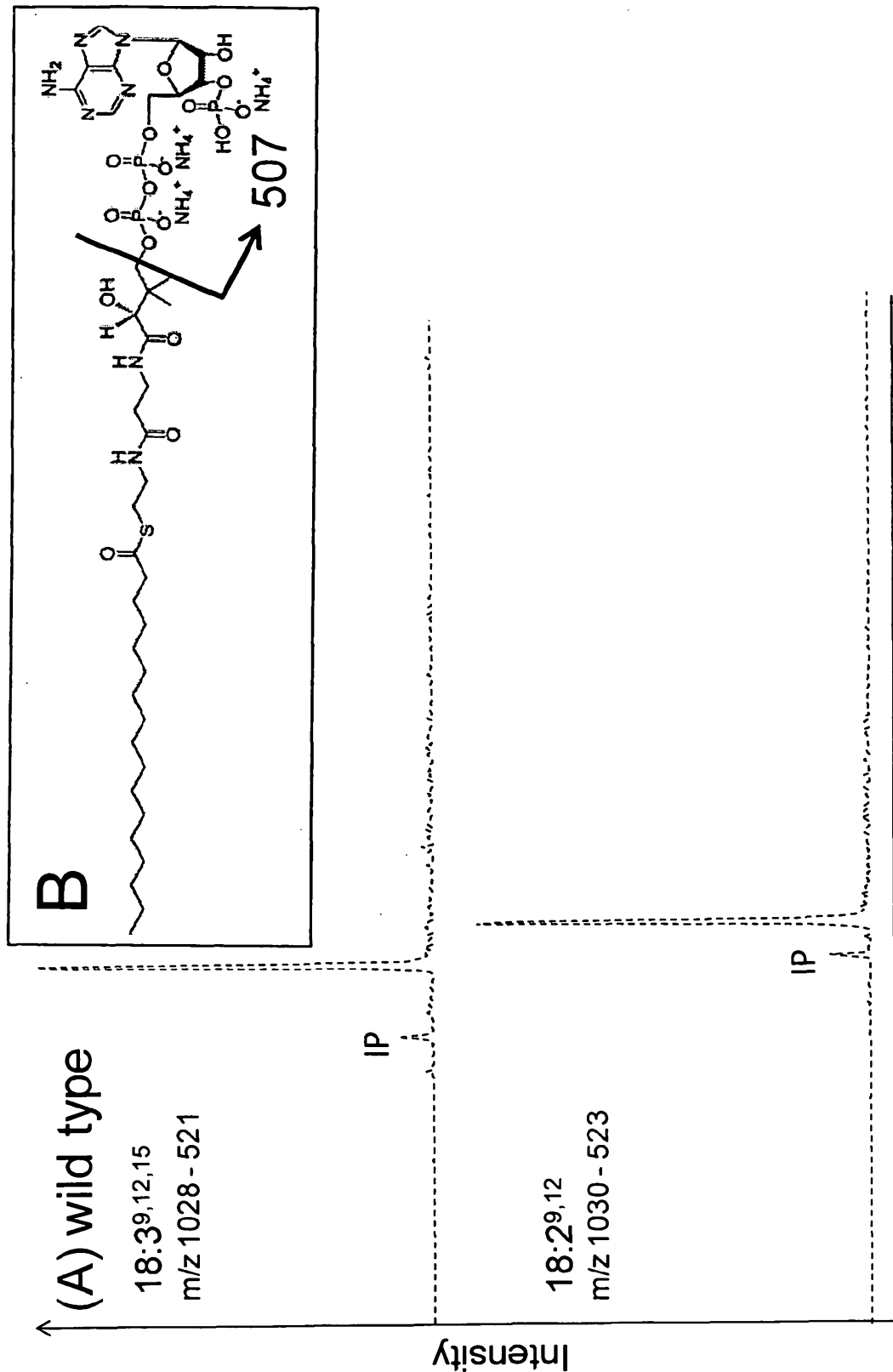


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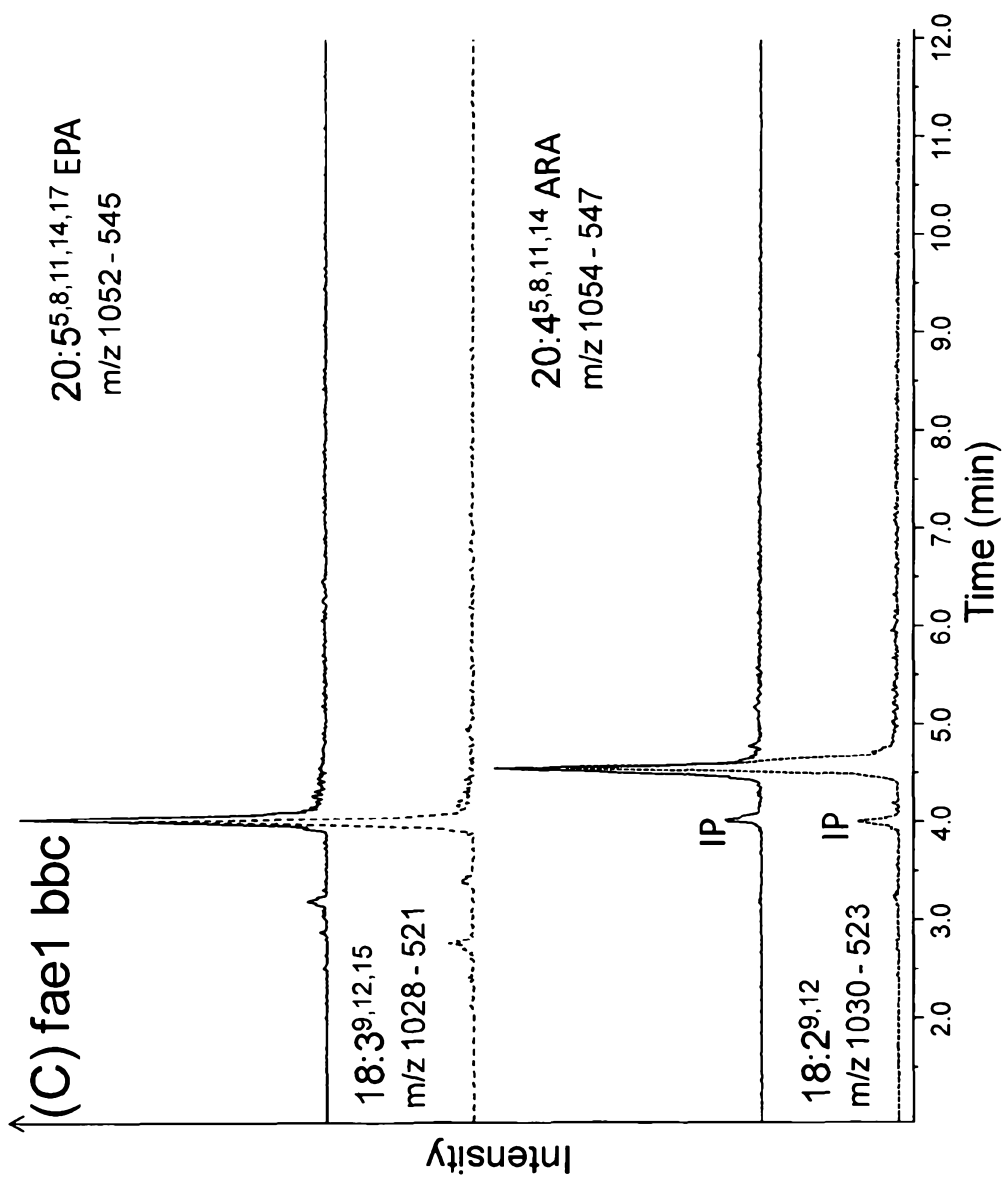




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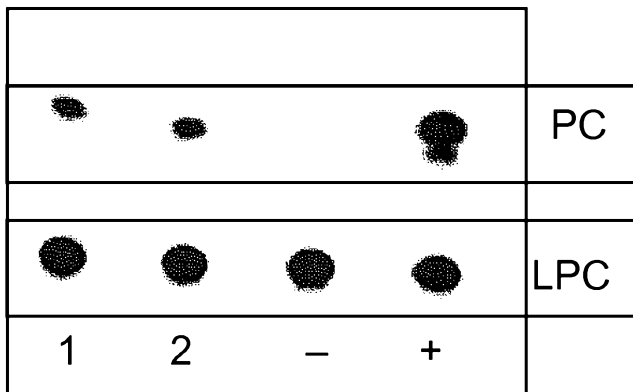


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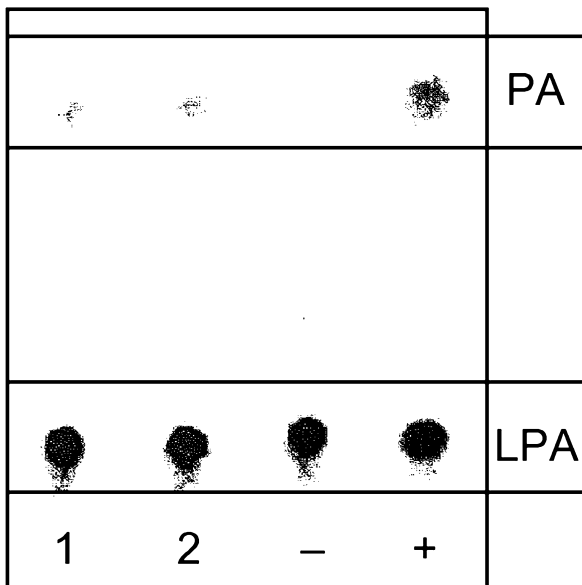
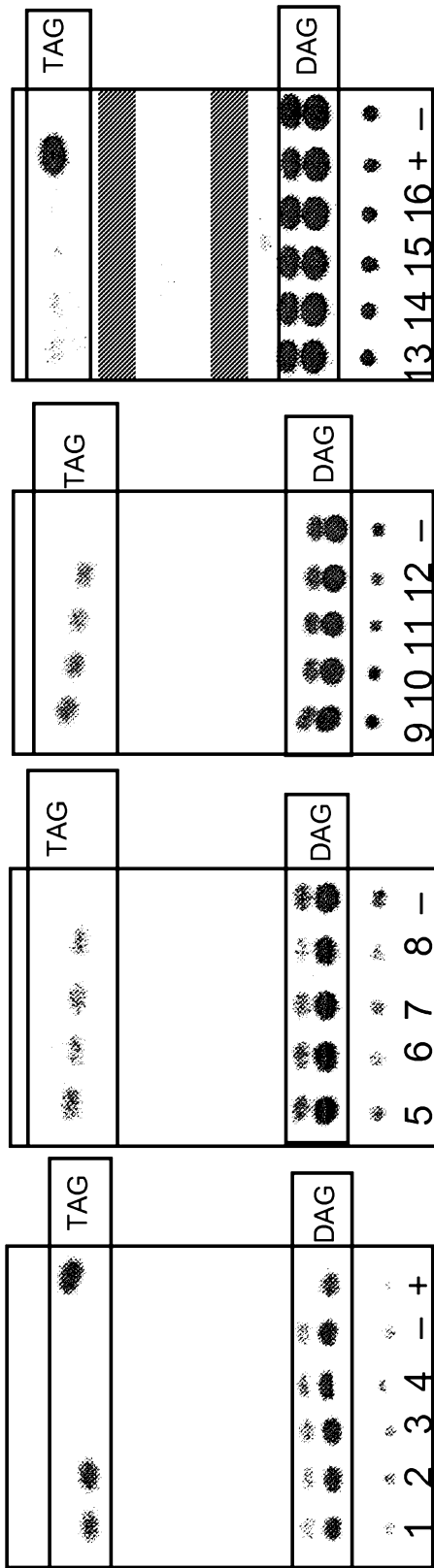


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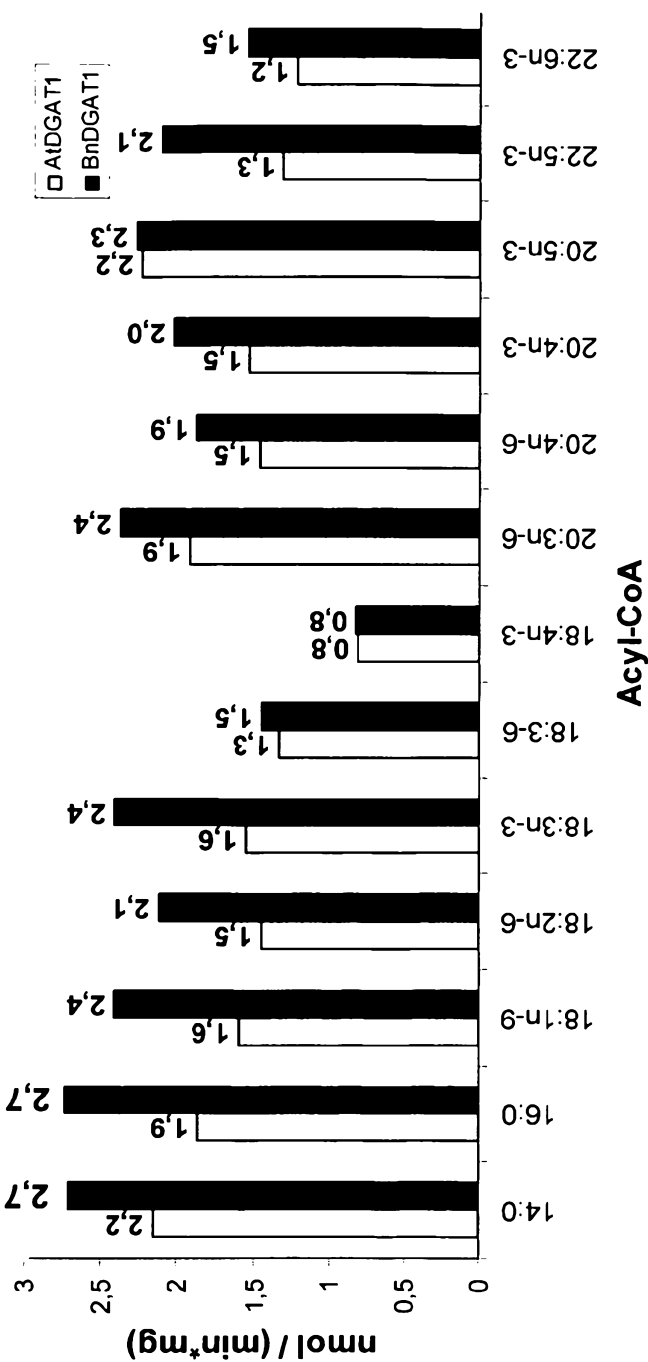


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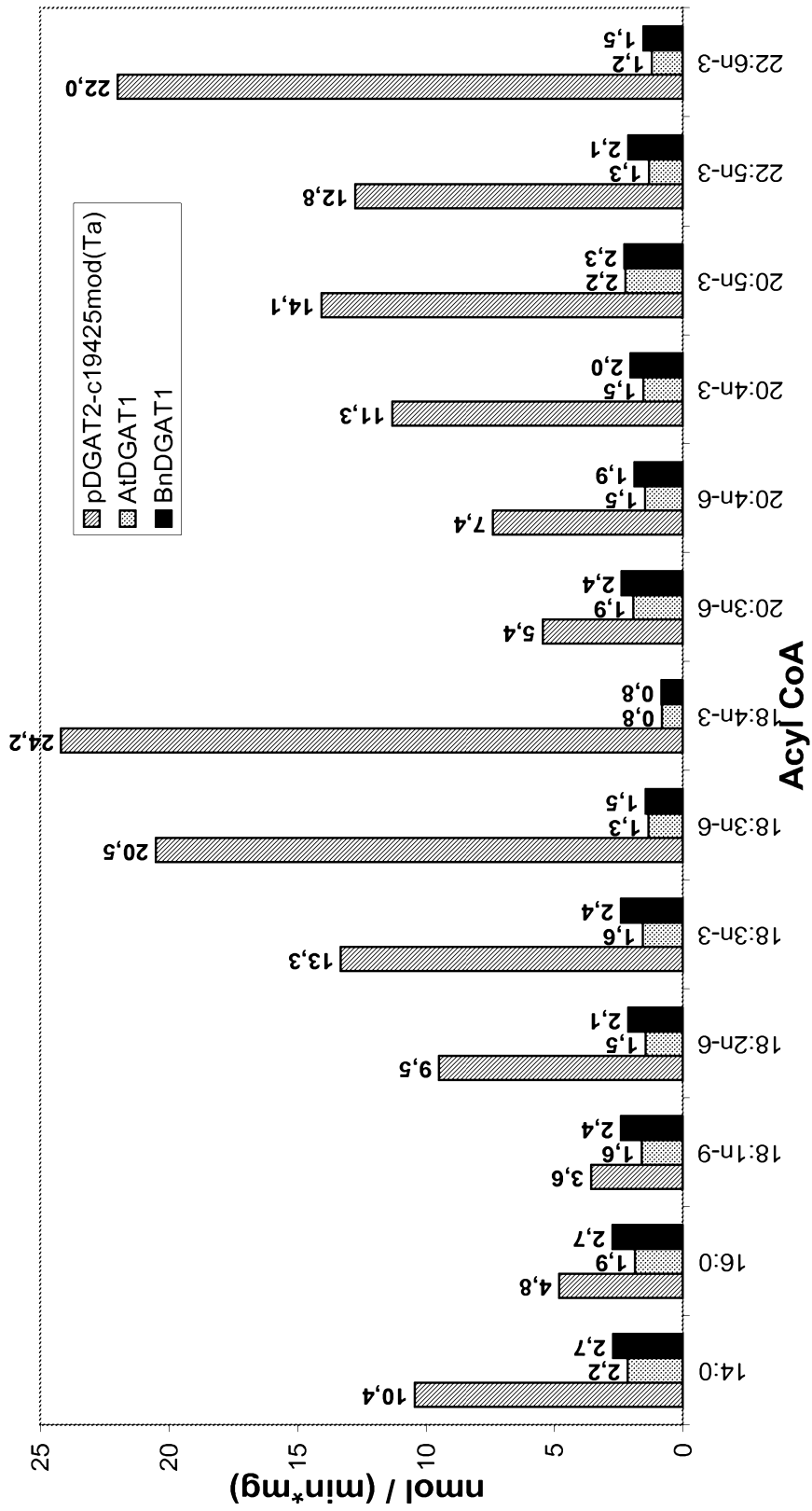


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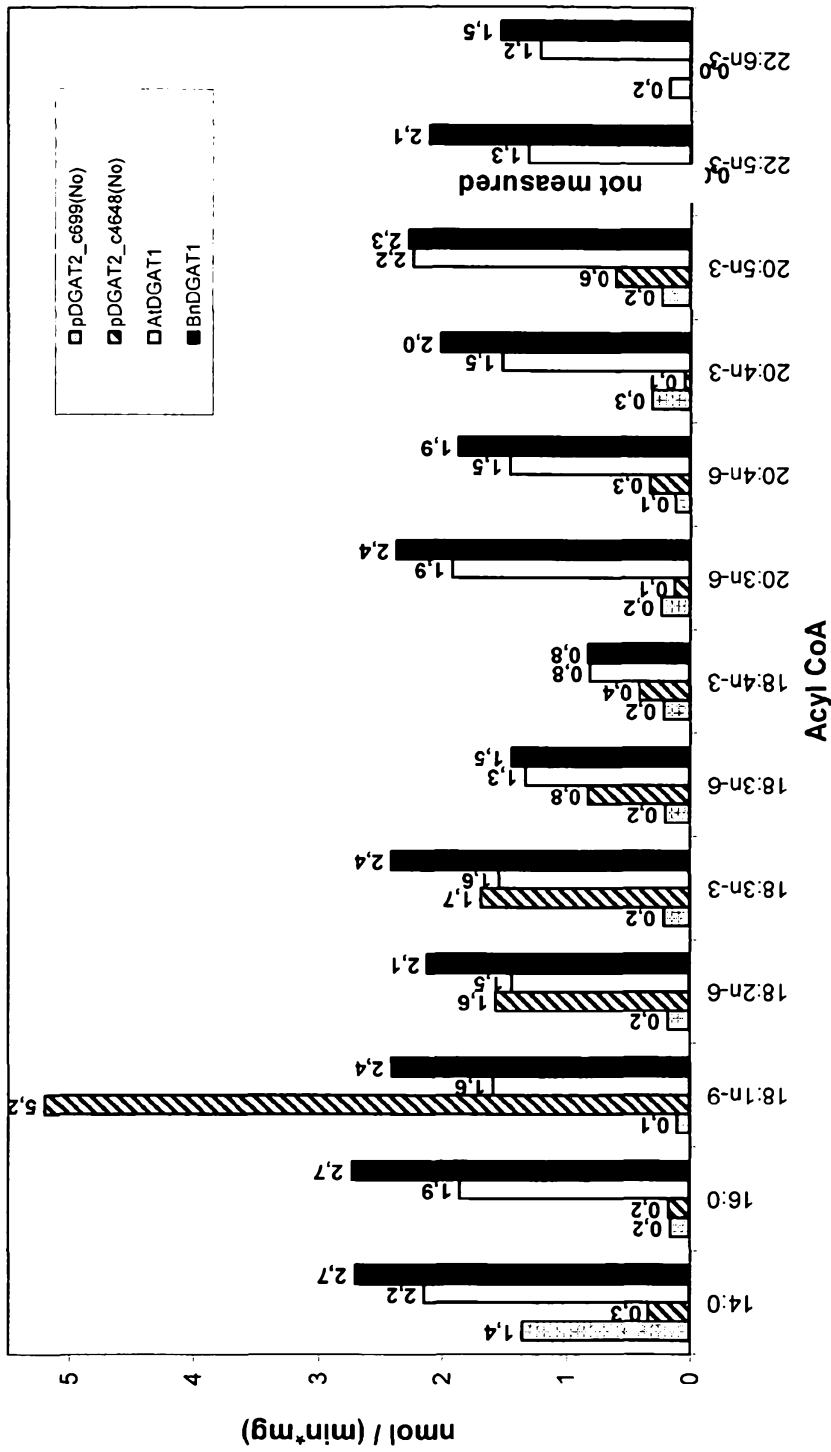


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Ser Pro Asn Pro Arg Leu Arg Trp Leu Lys Leu Lys Asp Leu Glu Asn  
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Ile Glu Thr Ala Asn Pro Ala Ala His Pro Ser Glu Ser Asp Ser Met  
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Pro Leu Asn Ser Gly Asn Leu Ser Ser Ser Lys Pro Ile Ala Ala Ala  
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Glu Met Leu Gln Thr Pro Ser Ala Ser Ser Ser Pro Ser Ala Ser  
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Pro Glu Arg Lys Ala Pro Met Met Arg Lys Leu Ser Phe Leu Ala Thr  
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Arg Leu Glu Arg Val Lys Cys Ala Ile Phe Gly Pro Met Leu Ile Pro  
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Gly Lys Leu Ser Thr Ile Gly Ala Glu Leu Glu Arg Pro Leu Pro Arg  
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Trp Arg Ile Asp Leu Gln His Pro Met Lys Phe Phe Ala Arg Gly Ile  
180 185 190

Met Phe Ala Leu Gly Tyr His Trp Ile Ser Ile Lys Gly Lys Gln Ala  
195 200 205

Ser Pro Gln His Ala Pro Ile Val Val Ser Asn His Cys Ser Phe Cys  
210 215 220

Glu Ala Ile Tyr Leu Pro Gly Arg Leu Leu Ser Met Ala Val Ser Arg  
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eolf-seq1.txt

Gln Cys Ile Phe Val Ser Arg Thr Asp Lys Asp Ser Arg Thr Thr Val  
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 325 330 335

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 340 345 350

Gln Pro Trp Asn Ser Met Asn Val Thr Phe Leu Pro Val Tyr Asn Pro  
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Glu Ile Asp Leu Ala Lys Ala Lys Glu Tyr Leu His Glu Phe Ser Gln  
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Leu Asp Thr Asn Arg Lys Gly Leu Leu Ser Tyr Pro Gln Phe Ile Lys  
 450 455 460

Ala Phe Gly Ser Gln Asp Ser Asp Ala Leu Arg Ser Leu Phe Cys Val  
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Leu Asp Val Gln Asp Arg Gly Val Ile Asn Leu Val Glu Tyr Thr Thr  
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Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Asn Glu Gln Gly Thr Asp Gly Phe Asp Gly Ala  
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Met Arg Leu Ile Phe Lys Val Gln Asp Ser Ser Gly Glu Gly Arg Leu  
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Thr Thr Glu Leu Phe Asp Ser Thr Phe Ala Ala Ala Asp Thr Asp Asn  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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Arg Leu Ala Ile Phe Ala Met Gly Trp Ile Leu Phe Gly Ile Gly Met  
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Leu Val Thr Gln Thr Cys Phe Pro His Gly Pro Arg Arg Thr Ser Leu  
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Glu His Gly Leu Ile Ser Met Met Cys Gly Val Phe Cys Ile Thr Trp  
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Gly Ala Val Ile Arg Tyr His Gly Ser Pro Val Lys Pro Arg Glu Gly  
 100 105 110

Glu Cys Gln Pro Val Tyr Val Ala Asn His Thr Ser Met Ile Asp Val  
 115 120 125

Ile Ile Leu Gln Gln Met Arg Cys Phe Ser Leu Val Gly Gln Arg His  
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Lys Gly Ile Val Arg Phe Leu Gln Glu Val Val Leu Gly Cys Leu Gln  
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Cys Val Trp Phe Asp Arg Gly Glu Ile Lys Asp Arg Ala Ala Val Ala  
 165 170 175

Arg Lys Leu Asn Glu His Ala Asn Asp Pro Thr Arg Asn Pro Leu Leu  
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 195 200 205

eolf-seq1.txt

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 245 250 255

Cys Glu Val Trp Tyr Leu Lys Pro Leu Glu Arg Met Glu Arg Glu Ser  
 260 265 270

Ser Thr Asp Phe Ala Ala Arg Val Lys Lys Ala Ile Ala Asp Gln Ala  
 275 280 285

Gly Leu Lys Asn Val Asn Trp Asp Gly Tyr Met Lys Tyr Trp Lys Pro  
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Ser Glu Arg Tyr Leu Arg Ala Arg Gln Ala Ile Phe Ala Lys Thr Leu  
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Arg Lys Ile His Ser Arg Ser Leu Glu Gln Asp Lys Ala Asp Arg Gln  
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Ala Ile Leu His Asp Leu Asp Gly Ala Phe Pro Asp Ser Gly Thr His  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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Ser Ile Gly Arg Ser Ser Ala Thr Thr Arg Arg Ile Ser Arg Gly Gly  
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Ile Glu Asp Leu Gly Thr His His Thr Trp Gly Gly Arg Met Ser Gln  
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Gln His Gln Gln His Gln Gln His Gln Gln His Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg  
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Thr Pro Thr Met Leu Val Glu Thr Asp Val Lys Val Lys Glu Glu Ala  
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Pro Val Pro Val Asp Thr Phe Arg His Lys Ser Leu Ala Glu Val Pro  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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Trp Met Asp Val Pro Tyr Thr Ala Gln Leu Pro Ile Arg Ala Lys Tyr  
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Ser Met Ala Gln His Val Leu Leu Asp Arg Asp Asp Lys Arg Ser Gln  
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Thr Phe Lys Met Gly Ala Phe Lys Val Ala Thr Lys Ala Gly Val Pro  
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Ile Val Pro Val Ser Ile Ala Gly Thr His Val Met Met Pro Lys Glu  
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Val Ile Met Pro Gln Cys Ala Gly Arg Gly Ile Thr Ala Ile His Val  
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His Pro Pro Ile Ser Ile Lys Gly Arg Thr Asp Gln Glu Leu Ser Asp  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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Thr Ala Ser Ala Ser Ser Ser Lys Gly Thr Leu Pro Ala Arg Val  
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Gln Ala Leu Gln Thr Lys Ala Ala Thr Leu Pro Gln Pro Leu Ser Asn  
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eolf-seq1.txt

Val Ala Lys Arg Ala Leu Tyr Tyr Glu Ala Glu Met Leu Trp Gln Ser  
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 Ala Ala Ile Asp Gln Phe Glu Thr Asn Leu Leu Arg Ile Ser Pro Ala  
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 Ile Thr Phe Leu Pro Met Ile Thr Leu Val Pro Ile Leu Asp Arg Leu  
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 165 170 175  
 Lys Lys Ala Ser Ala Arg Gly Phe Leu Tyr Leu Ala Gly Val Phe Tyr  
 180 185 190  
 Thr Glu Glu Gly Lys Gln Ala Asn Gly Tyr Glu Thr Pro Leu Val Leu  
 195 200 205  
 Leu Phe Gln His Gly Ser Asn Leu Asp Gly Phe Leu Ile Leu Asp Ser  
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 Phe Pro Gln Phe Phe Lys Ser Ile Gly Lys Asp Asp Ile Phe Leu Met  
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 Arg Lys His Arg Asn Glu Ala Ile Lys Gln Leu Gly Arg Ala Thr Arg  
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 Ser Lys Thr Gly Gln Leu Met Arg Phe Lys Lys Gly Pro Phe Tyr Leu  
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 Gln Ala Glu Thr Ser Ala Thr Val Thr Pro Leu Val Ile Val Gly Asn  
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eolf-seq1.txt

Val Met Arg Tyr Leu Pro Pro Ile Asp His Ser Ser Leu Pro Pro Ser  
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Val Gly Arg Asn Lys Asp Glu Phe Ser Arg Tyr Val Arg Lys Gln Met  
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Phe Glu Ala Ile Asp Asp Ile Met Ala Gly Ser Glu Glu Gly Gly Lys  
 370 375 380

Glu Val Gly Glu Lys Arg Lys Lys Tyr Ala Pro Gly Gly Lys Leu Thr  
 385 390 395 400

Trp Trp Leu Arg Gly Val Asn Leu Ala Cys Met Cys Leu Phe Trp Leu  
 405 410 415

Met Val Lys Ala Ala Trp Met Val Val Thr Gly Val Ser Asp Ala Tyr  
 420 425 430

Gly Phe Ser Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Gly Gly Phe Val Ala Tyr Thr Val  
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- <210> 15
- <211> 1771
- <212> DNA
- <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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<212> DNA  
<213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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gcgtactgga cgacctacct ggacacaagc tataaggacg gctcacgggc ctggccctgg 240  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> PRT  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 17

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 35 40 45

Ser Trp Ala Thr Thr Leu Arg Arg Ala Cys Trp Ala Ala Tyr Trp Thr  
 50 55 60

Thr Tyr Leu Asp Thr Ser Tyr Lys Asp Gly Ser Arg Ala Trp Pro Trp  
 65 70 75 80

Phe Gln Arg Leu Arg Ile Trp Arg Met Tyr Cys Gly Tyr Leu Gln Gly  
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Lys Val Ile Cys Thr Val Pro Leu Asp Pro Ala Gln Gln Phe Ile Phe  
 100 105 110

Ala Ala His Pro His Gly Ile Gly Thr Trp Asn His Phe Leu Thr Met  
 115 120 125

Thr Asp Gly Cys Arg Phe Leu Ser Ser Ser Tyr Pro Arg Pro Arg Leu  
 130 135 140

Asp Leu Gly Ala Thr Val Leu Phe Phe Ile Pro Phe Leu Lys Glu Ile  
 145 150 155 160

Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Cys Val Asp Ala Gly Ala Ala Thr Ala His Ala  
 165 170 175

Val Leu Ala Arg Gly Tyr Ser Ser Leu Ile Tyr Ile Gly Gly Glu Lys  
 180 185 190

Glu Gln Ile Trp Thr Arg Arg Gly Lys Asp Ile Val Val Val Arg Pro  
 195 200 205

Arg Lys Gly Phe Cys Lys Leu Ala Leu Gln His Asn Cys Pro Ile Val  
 210 215 220

eolf-seq1.txt

Pro Val Tyr Ala Phe Gly Glu Asn Asp Leu Tyr Arg Thr Phe Asn His  
 225 230 235 240

Leu Lys Asp Phe Gln Leu Trp Val Ala Ser Ala Phe Lys Leu Ala Phe  
 245 250 255

Pro Pro Cys Trp Gly Val Leu Phe Leu Pro Phe Leu Pro Leu Pro Val  
 260 265 270

Ser Ile Thr Val Val Met Gly Glu Pro Leu Leu Pro Arg Ala Gln Lys  
 275 280 285

Gly Ser Ala Arg Arg Ser Gly Gly Gly Lys Gly Val Glu Pro Thr Arg  
 290 295 300

Glu Glu Val Glu Glu Leu His Phe Arg Tyr Val Glu Ala Leu Gln Lys  
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Leu Phe Asp Ala His Lys Val Arg Gln Gly Gly Arg Ser Glu Glu Ala  
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Thr Leu Val Val Lys  
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- <210> 18
- <211> 1100
- <212> DNA
- <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> DNA  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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<210> 20  
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 <212> PRT  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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35 40 45

Pro Ser Ser Asn Leu Arg Pro Ala Arg Ser Pro Thr Glu Val Asp Trp  
50 55 60

Ser Ser Phe Pro Glu Gly Ser Tyr Thr Arg Phe Gly His Gly Gly Asp  
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Trp Trp Thr Leu Ile Lys Gly Thr Ile Ala Ile Leu Phe Thr Trp Gly  
85 90 95

Thr Trp Leu Ala Gly Gly Leu Ser Pro Phe Trp Met Thr Trp Leu Tyr  
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Thr His Gly Tyr Lys Arg Thr Phe Tyr Ser Ile Ile Gly Pro Leu Leu  
115 120 125

Tyr Pro Leu Phe Leu Pro Val Pro Ala Trp Pro Gly Phe Val Arg Phe  
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Ile Leu Asn Met Ala Gly Tyr Phe Glu Gly Gly Ala Ala Met Tyr Val  
145 150 155 160

Glu Asn Ser Phe Lys Gly Arg Asn Val Asn Gly Pro Ile Met Leu Ala  
165 170 175

Met His Pro His Gly Ile Met Pro His Ser Phe Leu Leu Asn Gly Ala  
180 185 190

Gly Arg Ile His Ala Gln Lys Pro Glu Val Phe Leu Pro Pro His Tyr  
195 200 205

Gln Asp Met Ser Leu Lys Ser Thr Gly Val Ala Glu Pro Leu Leu Phe  
210 215 220

Arg Ile Pro Phe Ile Ser Ala Phe Leu Tyr Phe Phe Gly Cys Ala Glu  
225 230 235 240

Pro Ala Ser Lys Glu Met Met His Asp Ile Leu Gly Arg Gln Val Pro  
245 250 255

Phe Gly Ile Leu Val Gly Gly Ser Glu Glu Ile Leu Leu Met Glu Tyr  
260 265 270

Gln Lys Glu Asn Ile Tyr Ile Leu Glu Arg Lys Gly Phe Ile Lys Tyr  
275 280 285

eolf-seq1.txt

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 325 330 335

Phe Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro Glu Arg Ala Ala Pro Leu Asn Ala Val Val  
 340 345 350

Gly Asn Pro Ile Asp Leu Pro Arg Ile Ala Asn Pro Ser Gln Ala Asp  
 355 360 365

Ile Asp Lys Tyr His Ala Met Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Thr Asp Leu Phe  
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- <210> 21
- <211> 1772
- <212> DNA
- <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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## eolf-seq1.txt

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&lt;211&gt; 1173

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 23

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 35 40 45

Lys Ser Tyr Thr Leu Glu Val Asp Pro Lys Phe Tyr Lys Arg Val Cys  
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Asp Ala Asp Asp Val Trp Thr Arg Thr Gln Gly Ala Phe Ala Leu Leu  
 65 70 75 80

Met Leu Trp Gly Val Trp Leu Ala Gly Ser Phe Ser Val Phe Trp Trp  
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Pro Tyr Leu Val Val Lys Gly Tyr Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ala Met Ala  
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Val Ile Met Ala Tyr Pro Tyr Val Val Lys Val Lys Gln Ser Pro Ala  
 115 120 125

Phe Ile Arg Phe Ile Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Trp Phe Lys Gly Gly Thr  
 130 135 140

Cys Leu Tyr Leu Glu Glu Ser Met Lys Gln Ile Asp Thr Ser Glu Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Val Leu Leu Cys Gln His Pro His Gly Leu Phe Thr Tyr Gly Phe Ile  
 165 170 175

Gln Asn Gly Ser Ala Ala Arg Ile Asp Ala Arg Lys Pro Glu Val Tyr  
 180 185 190

Val Pro Ala Ala Phe Arg His Met Lys Pro Asn Ala Lys Ala Phe Val

195

200

205

Glu Pro Leu Leu Phe Lys Ile Pro Leu Ile Arg His Phe Ile Thr Ala  
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Phe Gly Asn Ala Ala Pro Ala Thr Lys Lys Glu Met His Arg Leu Met  
 225 230 235 240

Ser Thr Lys Ile Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Pro Gly Gly Ser Glu Glu Ile  
 245 250 255

Ile Leu Ser His His Gly His Glu Arg Val Tyr Ile Leu Lys Arg Lys  
 260 265 270

Gly Phe Leu Lys Tyr Ala Leu Gln His Gly Tyr Thr Ile Cys Ile Gly  
 275 280 285

Tyr Thr Phe Gly Glu Ser Asp Ser Tyr Arg Thr Leu Asp Trp Gly Val  
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Lys Phe Arg Thr Trp Tyr Leu Lys Thr Phe Arg Val Pro Leu Phe Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Cys Trp Gly Thr Trp Trp Cys Pro Leu Leu Pro Arg Gly Lys Val Ala  
 325 330 335

Leu Glu Thr Val Val Gly Asn Pro Phe Arg Leu Pro Lys Ile Val Asp  
 340 345 350

Pro Ser Gln Glu Asp Ile Asp Lys Trp His Ala Val Tyr Val Gln Lys  
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<213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 35 40 45

Asp Gly Asn Met Gly Ile Phe Arg Glu Cys Cys Ala Met Val Thr Met  
 50 55 60

Gly Ile Ile Met Ser Trp Tyr Tyr Ile Val Val Val Leu Ser Leu Leu  
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Cys Leu Val Gly Ile Ser Phe Phe Pro Ala Trp Arg Ala Val Ala Ala  
 85 90 95

Thr Val Phe Val Leu Met Trp Ser Ala Ala Leu Leu Pro Leu Asp Tyr  
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Gln Gly Trp Asp Ala Phe Cys Asn Ser Cys Ile Phe Arg Leu Trp Arg  
 115 120 125

Asp Tyr Phe His Tyr Glu Tyr Val Leu Glu Glu Met Ile Asp Pro Asn  
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Lys Arg Tyr Leu Phe Ala Glu Met Pro His Gly Ile Phe Pro Trp Gly  
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Glu Val Ile Ser Ile Ser Ile Thr Lys Gln Leu Phe Pro Gly Ser Arg  
 165 170 175

Val Gly Ser Ile Gly Ala Ser Val Ile Phe Leu Leu Pro Gly Leu Arg  
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His Phe Phe Ala Trp Ile Gly Cys Arg Pro Ala Ser Pro Glu Asn Ile  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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Leu Val Pro Val Phe Cys Phe Gly Asn Ser Lys Leu Phe Asn Val Val  
 260 265 270

Gly Glu Ser Ser Arg Val Ser Met Gly Leu Met Lys Arg Leu Ser Arg  
 275 280 285

Arg Leu Lys Ala Ser Val Leu Ile Phe Tyr Gly Arg Leu Phe Leu Pro  
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Ile Pro Ile Arg His Pro Leu Leu Phe Val Val Gly Lys Pro Leu Pro  
 305 310 315 320

Val Val Gln Asn Ala Glu Pro Thr Lys Glu Glu Ile Ala Ala Thr His  
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Ala Leu Phe Cys Glu Lys Val Glu Glu Leu Tyr Tyr Lys Phe Arg Pro  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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His Leu Ser Pro Pro Ser Ile Ser Lys Ala Asp Arg Asn Phe Ala Ile  
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Ala Ala Val Ala Ala Gly Ala Leu Glu Gly Ala Ala Ala Gly Ala Val  
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Gly Thr Gly Glu Arg Gly Lys Glu Ala Glu Gly Gly Arg Glu Arg Ser  
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Gly Ser Val Gly Asn Leu Leu Leu Ser Ser Ile Asn Ser Phe Ser Ser  
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Cys Thr Ser Leu Ser Phe Leu Ala Gly Glu Asp Glu Thr Pro Ser Pro  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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Ile Gln Val Phe Tyr Ser Leu Val Leu Leu Phe Ile Tyr Leu Val Lys  
195 200 205

His Gly His Arg Trp Pro Tyr Leu Leu Ala Ala Ile Tyr Ala Pro Ser  
210 215 220

Tyr Phe Ile Pro Leu Gln Arg Leu Gly Gly Trp Pro Phe Lys Gly Phe  
225 230 235 240

Met Arg Arg Pro Phe Trp Arg Cys Val Gln Arg Thr Leu Ala Leu Gln  
245 250 255

Val Glu Arg Glu Val Glu Leu Arg Pro Asp Glu Gln Tyr Ile Phe Gly  
260 265 270

Trp His Pro His Gly Ile Leu Leu Leu Ser Arg Phe Ala Ile Tyr Gly  
275 280 285

Gly Leu Trp Glu Lys Leu Phe Pro Gly Ile His Phe Lys Thr Leu Ala  
290 295 300

Ala Ser Pro Leu Phe Trp Ile Pro Pro Ile Arg Glu Val Ser Ile Leu  
305 310 315 320

Leu Gly Gly Val Asp Ala Gly Arg Ala Ser Ala Ala Arg Ala Leu Thr  
325 330 335

Asp Gly Tyr Ser Val Ser Leu Tyr Pro Gly Gly Ser Lys Glu Ile Tyr  
340 345 350

Thr Thr Asp Pro Tyr Thr Pro Glu Thr Thr Leu Val Leu Lys Ile Arg  
355 360 365

Lys Gly Phe Ile Arg Met Ala Leu Arg Tyr Gly Cys Pro Leu Val Pro  
370 375 380

Val Tyr Thr Phe Gly Glu Lys Tyr Ala Tyr His Arg Leu Gly Pro Ala  
385 390 395 400

Thr Gly Phe Ala Arg Trp Leu Leu Ala Val Leu Lys Val Pro Phe Leu  
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Ile Phe Trp Gly Arg Trp Gly Thr Phe Met Pro Leu Lys Glu Thr Gln  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <211> 512  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 32

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Gly Leu Val Val Met Tyr Tyr Ile Val Ser Gly Gln Arg Cys Ala Arg  
 35 40 45

Ala Leu Arg Pro Ser Pro Gly Val Ile Arg Arg Lys Met Ser Phe Cys  
 50 55 60

Ser Ala Ala Cys Ala Asp Gly Pro Met Pro Glu His Ala Lys Met Asn  
 65 70 75 80

Pro Val Asp Pro Ile Ile Asn Ala Val Val Leu Phe Glu Gly Glu Ala  
 85 90 95

Pro Thr Arg Ala Ala Val Glu Ser Ala Ile Leu Pro Leu Phe Glu Phe  
 100 105 110

Glu Arg Phe Arg Ser Arg Lys Val Lys Ile Gly Asp Asp Trp Tyr Trp  
 115 120 125

Glu Val Leu Pro Ser Phe Asp Ala Arg Thr His Val Ile Glu Asp Ser  
 130 135 140

Phe Lys Gly Ala Ser Ile Asp Asp Leu Phe Leu Arg Leu Glu Val Trp  
 145 150 155 160

Ser Gln Lys Pro Leu His Val Pro Val Asp Gly Pro Ala Phe Glu Phe  
 165 170 175

Ala Leu Leu Arg Asn Gln Asp Lys Lys Gly Pro Ser Ala Val Ile Cys  
 180 185 190

Arg Ile Asn His Ala Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Ser Leu Ala Lys Leu Ile  
 195 200 205

Pro His Val Phe Lys Asp Ile Asp Gly Gln Ser Leu Pro Ile Gly Glu  
 210 215 220

## eolf-seq1.txt

Lys Phe Arg Arg Arg Glu Ala Gly Phe Lys Pro Thr Phe Arg Thr Pro  
 225 230 235 240

Phe Thr Leu Leu Ala Ser Leu Phe Lys Val Leu Gly Thr Pro Thr Thr  
 245 250 255

Ala Phe Asp Thr Asp Val Gly Leu Thr Ile Pro Asp Lys Lys Asn Ile  
 260 265 270

Thr Phe Thr Gly Arg Arg Cys Ile Val Arg Ile Pro Thr Val Lys Leu  
 275 280 285

Ser Phe Ile Lys Ser Ile Lys Asn Ala Ala Asn Val Thr Val Asn Asp  
 290 295 300

Val Val Met Ser Ala Val Ala Gly Ala Val His Arg Phe Arg Cys Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Gln Lys Asp Pro Ala Met Leu Asp Pro Leu Ser His Cys Lys Val Arg  
 325 330 335

Thr Arg Ala Leu Met Pro Val Ala Leu Pro Arg Glu Glu Gly Asp Pro  
 340 345 350

Val Lys Ala Leu Arg Asn Lys Trp Ser Phe Ala Ser Val Ala Met Pro  
 355 360 365

Val Gly Val Lys Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Leu His Ala Ala Asn Ala Thr  
 370 375 380

Met Thr Ala Leu Lys Asn Ser Pro Ile Val Ile Val Gln Asn Met Val  
 385 390 395 400

Glu Ala Asn Leu Gly Ala Arg Leu Pro Trp Thr Val Ala Lys Gln Thr  
 405 410 415

Ala Phe Asp Ser Phe Val Arg His Thr Phe Val Phe Ser Asn Val Pro  
 420 425 430

Gly Pro Asn Met Pro Ile Thr Phe Ala Gly Arg Glu Val Ser Gly Leu  
 435 440 445

Tyr Met Ala Phe Ala Asn Leu Ile Pro Gln Val Gly Ala Leu Ser Leu  
 450 455 460

Asn Gly Lys Ile Phe Thr Cys Leu Val Leu Asp Asp Glu Val Thr Pro  
 465 470 475 480

Gly Ala Arg Glu Leu Gly Glu His Phe Ile Asp Glu Leu Met Asp Leu  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 attggtgagg cgatcggtag ggtaaataga atgaactcat aagagaatga agagtgagaa 1860  
 agaagagcat ccgtaagcgg gaaacaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaa 1904

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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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 cccgtgacgg aggccaaggc aggtgatttg gggtttgggg atgttgagtc catgacggcc 180  
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<210> 35  
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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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35

40

45

Asp Leu Gly Phe Gly Asp Val Glu Ser Met Thr Ala Trp Glu Glu Phe  
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 Val Ala Ala Met Phe Leu Leu Ile Ile Val Gly Ser Met Leu Trp Ile  
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 Pro Ile Ala Val Val Gly Phe Val Leu Cys Val Arg Ser Ala Val Ala  
 85 90 95  
 Trp Val Val Met Leu Ile Val Phe Phe Ala Leu Ser Leu His Pro Val  
 100 105 110  
 Pro Arg Ile His Asp Met Val His Ser Pro Leu Asn His Phe Ile Phe  
 115 120 125  
 Lys Tyr Phe Ser Leu Lys Met Ala Ser Asp Ala Pro Leu Asp Ser Ala  
 130 135 140  
 Gly Arg Tyr Ile Phe Val Ala Pro Pro His Gly Val Leu Pro Met Gly  
 145 150 155 160  
 Asn Leu Met Thr Val His Ala Met Lys Ala Cys Gly Gly Leu Glu Phe  
 165 170 175  
 Arg Gly Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Leu Arg Leu Pro Leu Phe Arg His  
 180 185 190  
 Tyr Leu Gly Ala Ile Gly Thr Ile Ala Ala Thr Gly His Val Ala Lys  
 195 200 205  
 Gln Tyr Leu Asp Glu Gly Trp Ser Ile Gly Ile Ser Ser Gly Gly Val  
 210 215 220  
 Ala Glu Ile Phe Glu Val Asn Asn Lys Asp Glu Val Val Leu Met Lys  
 225 230 235 240  
 Glu Arg Lys Gly Phe Val Lys Leu Ala Leu Arg Thr Gly Thr Pro Leu  
 245 250 255  
 Val Ala Cys Tyr Ile Phe Gly Asn Thr Lys Leu Leu Ser Ala Trp Tyr  
 260 265 270  
 Asp Asp Gly Gly Val Leu Gln Gly Leu Ser Arg Tyr Leu Lys Cys Gly  
 275 280 285  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> PRT

&lt;213&gt; Nannochloropsis oculata

&lt;400&gt; 38

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 35 40 45  
 Val Leu Met Ile Val Ser Leu His Phe Tyr Met Pro Thr Thr Thr Thr  
 50 55 60  
 Thr Val Thr Thr Thr Gly Leu Ala Val Met Glu Glu Lys Val Glu Glu  
 65 70 75 80  
 Val Glu Glu Met Met Val Gly Lys Glu Gly Val Gly Glu Glu Asp Glu  
 85 90 95  
 Glu Met Val Glu Glu Lys Val Asp Val Thr Thr Ala Ala Thr Thr Asn  
 100 105 110  
 Ala Leu Leu Arg Thr Glu Lys Gln Arg Leu Leu Leu Ala Lys Glu Ser  
 115 120 125  
 Ala Thr Thr Thr Thr Thr Thr Ala Thr Val Thr Thr Gly Gln Thr Ser  
 130 135 140  
 Lys Thr Ser Thr Ser Phe Met Pro Val Arg Val Asp Glu Ala Ser Leu  
 145 150 155 160  
 Glu Gln Phe Arg Arg Leu Thr Val Ile Thr Val Leu Ser Asn Met Gln  
 165 170 175  
 Tyr Leu Pro Phe Leu Leu Pro Ile Leu Pro Phe Val Leu Ser Gly Leu  
 180 185 190  
 Pro Leu Pro Val Ala Ser Phe His Trp Phe Gly Ala Phe Cys Cys Leu  
 195 200 205  
 Thr Ser Ala Val Val Leu Asn Ala Tyr Val Lys Thr Thr Leu Ala Lys  
 210 215 220  
 Ala Gly Asn Arg Ile Ser Ser Phe Gln Arg Ser Leu Leu Asn Val Leu  
 225 230 235 240  
 Pro Thr Leu Ile Tyr Ala Ala Pro Gly Leu Ile Cys Phe Phe Ala Trp  
 245 250 255



## eolf-seq1.txt

Ser Gln His Gln Gly Gly Arg Glu Asp Gly Lys Glu Arg Ala Val Thr  
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 275 280 285  
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 290 295 300  
 Gly Glu Lys Leu Glu Leu Trp Lys Gly Gly Trp Ser Leu Tyr Tyr Phe  
 305 310 315 320  
 Leu Glu Gly Ile Asp Gln Tyr Phe Gln Ala Lys Leu Val Phe Met Asp  
 325 330 335  
 Pro Lys Leu Asp Leu Lys Gly Lys Pro His Val Phe Ala Phe His Pro  
 340 345 350  
 His Gly Val Gln Pro Phe Thr Thr Phe Trp Ile Gln Leu Ser Arg Ala  
 355 360 365  
 Trp Arg Glu Gly Val Gly Lys Gly Gln Arg Phe Cys Val Met Thr Ala  
 370 375 380  
 Ser Val Met His Tyr Val Pro Leu Met Arg Asp Ile Leu Gln Trp Leu  
 385 390 395 400  
 Gly Gly Arg Glu Val Ser Arg Glu Ala Ile Ser Tyr Ala Leu Asp Arg  
 405 410 415  
 Lys Gln Ser Val Leu Leu Val Pro Gly Gly Gln Gln Glu Met Met Glu  
 420 425 430  
 Ser Gln Ser Gln Met Gly Glu Ile Arg Ile Ile Thr Lys His Val Gly  
 435 440 445  
 Phe Ile Arg Leu Ala Leu Gln Thr Gly Ala Pro Leu Val Pro Val Leu  
 450 455 460  
 Ser Phe Gly Glu Val Glu Val Met Asp Phe Val Arg Tyr Pro Arg Leu  
 465 470 475 480  
 Gln Arg Phe Phe Ile Ser Arg Ile Gly Ile Pro Val Pro Phe Phe Pro  
 485 490 495  
 Tyr Gly Leu Phe Gly Phe Pro Ile Pro Arg Pro Val Pro Val Thr Val  
 500 505 510  
 Val Phe Gly Arg Pro Ile Ala Val Glu Lys Val Glu Gln Pro Thr Gln  
 515 520 525

eolf-seq1.txt

Glu Glu Val Arg Lys Leu Ser Lys Lys Tyr Phe Glu Ser Ile Gln Glu  
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Val Phe Asp Lys Asn Lys Ala Lys Ala Leu Gly His Gly Asn His Lys  
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Leu Val Leu Leu

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 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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 cccaatctca gatgggcgag attcggatca ttacgaagca cgtcggcttc attagattag 1440  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 tgTTTggccg tccgattgca gtggagaaag tggagcaacc gacgcaggaa gaggtgcgta 1680  
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 <212> PRT  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

eolf-seq1.txt

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 35 40 45

Leu Leu Val Val Gly Ser Phe Val Trp Val Pro Leu Val Ile Trp Leu  
 50 55 60

Gly Trp Lys Lys Cys Arg Thr Arg Asn Arg Arg Ile Val Tyr Val Leu  
 65 70 75 80

Val Leu Cys Val Ile Leu Thr Leu Pro Thr Arg Arg Trp Asp Ala Val  
 85 90 95

Val Leu Asn Gly Leu Trp Ser Arg Phe Val Glu Tyr Phe Ser Val Gln  
 100 105 110

Val Val Gly Asp Asp Pro Leu Pro Lys Asp Arg Ser Ala Val Tyr Ala  
 115 120 125

Val Ile Pro His Gly Thr Phe Pro Phe Gly Leu Gly Val Val Ser Leu  
 130 135 140

Gly Pro Leu Asn Lys Ile Phe Asn Lys Val Arg Pro Val Val Ala Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Ala Val Leu Arg Phe Pro Gly Phe Gly Gln Leu Ile Gly Phe Ala Gly  
 165 170 175

Gly Val Asp Ala Gly Pro Lys Glu Val Ser Lys Ala Ile Lys Lys Gly  
 180 185 190

Cys Ser Val Ser Ile Cys Pro Gly Gly Ile Ala Glu Met Phe Trp Gly  
 195 200 205

Phe Pro Lys Glu Gly Cys Leu Pro Arg Glu Glu Tyr Ala Phe Leu Gln  
 210 215 220

Ser Arg Lys Gly Phe Ile Arg Met Ala Met Lys His Asn Val Pro Val  
 225 230 235 240

Val Pro Val Tyr Cys Phe Gly Asn Thr His Ala Met His Lys Ala Lys  
 245 250 255

Thr Pro Trp Val Leu Glu Ala Leu Ser Arg Leu Leu Lys Thr Ser Leu

Ile Leu Thr Trp Gly Arg Trp Gly Leu Pro Ile Pro Tyr Arg Val Pro  
 275 280 285

Leu Leu Tyr Ala Val Gly Lys Pro Leu Arg Leu Leu His Ala Glu Asn  
 290 300

Pro Thr Pro Ala Gln Ile Glu Ala Ala His Ala Glu Phe Cys Arg Ala  
 305 310 315 320

Leu Ser Asp Leu Phe Asp Arg Tyr Lys Phe Tyr Tyr Gly Trp Gly His  
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Lys Thr Leu Arg Ile Val  
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 <211> 1585  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 42  
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 gcctgcttca tggcgtacca ctccatggg cgtgggcggc tccttgctgg tggggtggatc 240  
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 ttgagtggga gacggcggg gaaaatatat cttgattttt attgtaccgc atctgcgagg 960  
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 ctgccgatcc cctaccgtgt gcctctctc tacgccgtcg gtaagcccct ccgcctcctg 1140  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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aaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaa 1585

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<211> 1251  
<212> DNA  
<213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 43  
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gctggtggcc tttctcgctc aacaccaaca gcggctccgg aggcctccac ttcgctttca 180  
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aagatctttt gtttgataca tagcggcatc tttcacctgc ccacgtccg ttttttcatg 720  
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gtgcccattg ttcactttgg ggccacgcgc atgtatcatt ttggtggccc tgtttcattt 960  
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<210> 44  
<211> 416  
<212> PRT

&lt;213&gt; Nannochloropsis oculata

&lt;400&gt; 44

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 Asp Gly Ala Ala Gly Asp Ala Thr Ala Gly Gly Leu Ser Arg Ser Thr  
 35 40 45  
 Pro Thr Ala Ala Pro Glu Ala Ser Thr Ser Leu Ser Ser Arg Leu Val  
 50 55 60  
 Pro Ser Pro Ala Gln Val Ser Ser Met Pro Pro Ala Gln Ala Ser Ala  
 65 70 75 80  
 Thr Pro Ile Val Val Arg Pro Glu Ala Arg Pro Ala Gly Pro Gln Gly  
 85 90 95  
 Arg Leu Gln Ala Leu Gly Ala Val Leu Phe Leu Gly Leu Met Gly Ser  
 100 105 110  
 Ser Leu Tyr Leu Val Ile Ala Ser Ala Leu Tyr Ile Val Ile Gly Phe  
 115 120 125  
 Gly Val Leu Gly His Arg Ile Cys Pro Ser Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Trp  
 130 135 140  
 Val Gly Gln Ala Leu Ile Ser Val Lys Val Leu His Gln Asp Pro Glu  
 145 150 155 160  
 Gly Ile Lys Arg Ser Trp Leu Phe Arg Glu Met Val Asn Phe Phe Asp  
 165 170 175  
 Val Thr Leu Val Met Glu Gln Lys Leu Asp Thr Ser Lys Lys Tyr Leu  
 180 185 190  
 Phe Ala Gln His Pro His Gly Ile Leu Pro Leu Ala Pro Val Leu Ser  
 195 200 205  
 Ala Tyr Phe Val Ser Asp Val Val Pro Gly Gly Gly Lys Ile Phe Cys  
 210 215 220  
 Leu Ile His Ser Gly Ile Phe His Leu Pro Ile Val Arg Phe Phe Met  
 225 230 235 240  
 Gly Glu Trp Gly Ala Leu Ser Ala Asn Lys Glu Ser Val Ala Glu Ala  
 245 250 255

eolf-seq1.txt

Lys Gln Gln Gly Gln His Cys Ser Ile Val Val Gly Gly Val Ala Glu  
260 265 270

Ile Phe Leu Gln Asn Gly Glu Thr Glu Gln Leu Gln Leu Arg Lys Gly  
275 280 285

Phe Ile Arg Glu Ala Leu Arg Asn Gly Tyr Asp Leu Val Pro Met Phe  
290 295 300

His Phe Gly Ala Thr Arg Met Tyr His Phe Val Gly Pro Val Ser Phe  
305 310 315 320

Trp Arg Ser Leu Ser Asn Tyr Leu Pro Phe Pro Phe Phe Leu Ile Gly  
325 330

Gly Trp Gly Lys Gly Leu Thr Leu Leu Pro Lys Pro Val Arg Ile Val  
340 345 350

Ile Ala Val Gly Ser Pro Ile Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Tyr Gly Val Pro  
355 360 365

Glu Gly Gln Ser Val Pro Asp Pro Asp Leu Ala Lys Val Asp Leu Ile  
370 375 380

Tyr Glu Glu Trp Lys Lys His Leu Ala Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Gln Arg  
385 390 395 400

Pro Glu Trp Glu Thr Arg Glu Leu Glu Ile Leu Asp Cys Pro Lys Ser  
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<211> 1923  
<212> DNA  
<213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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gacggagaag gacatcaaac aaggacacaa gcatgggagc taccactgag acccagacta 180  
aaaagacggt ggtcatgagg acagtcgag tgcgtaacga ggatatagtg ccggaagcag 240  
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cagcggctcc ggaggcctcc acttcgcttt catcgcgact ggtaccatcc ccagcacaag 360  
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## eolf-seq1.txt

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ctgtcatcaa	cataagtaag	atacгааага	cacagaagga	taagtgggag	gatgggggtg	1860
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ccc						1923

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 <211> 930  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> *Thraustochytrium aureum*

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	acttatgtgg	tgctgacggc	tgtgctggcc	ctgcacccga	tcccggacat	ctcggatgcc	180
	gtgtacagct	cgtaggatcg	gcagcaattg	tacaagtact	ttacctaccg	ctttgtgtac	240
	tcggggaacg	cgcgctact	agcgcagacg	caggcgcctg	tcatcggcgc	aggcgtcccg	300
	cacggcgcga	tgccgttctc	caacctgctc	tcagtccctg	ctgtcaactc	gttttctccg	360
	agccagaccg	ggggcgaatt	tgtcggggcg	ccggcgagca	ttgtgttccg	cacgcctttc	420
	ctgcgctact	ttacatggtt	caagtcggtc	acggtgtcac	gcgagagcct	caccaaacag	480
	ctggagctcg	ggaacacggt	tggcctgggt	ggcgtgggca	tcgctgggat	cttccaatgc	540

eolf-seq1.txt

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 <211> 309  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Thraustochytrium aureum  
 <400> 47

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 Trp Gly Ser Trp Ser Gln Val Ala Thr Tyr Val Val Leu Thr Ala Val  
 35 40 45  
 Leu Ala Leu His Pro Ile Pro Asp Ile Ser Asp Ala Val Tyr Ser Ser  
 50 55 60  
 Trp Ile Val Gln Gln Leu Tyr Lys Tyr Phe Thr Tyr Arg Phe Val Tyr  
 65 70 75 80  
 Ser Gly Asn Ala Arg Val Leu Ala Gln Thr Gln Ala Pro Phe Ile Gly  
 85 90 95  
 Ala Gly Val Pro His Gly Ala Met Pro Phe Ser Asn Leu Leu Ser Val  
 100 105 110  
 Pro Ala Val Asn Ser Phe Ser Pro Ser Gln Thr Gly Gly Glu Phe Val  
 115 120 125  
 Gly Ala Pro Ala Ser Ile Val Phe Arg Thr Pro Phe Leu Arg Tyr Phe  
 130 135 140  
 Thr Met Phe Lys Ser Val Thr Val Ser Arg Glu Ser Leu Thr Lys Gln  
 145 150 155 160  
 Leu Glu Leu Gly Asn Thr Val Gly Leu Val Gly Asp Gly Ile Ala Gly  
 165 170 175  
 Ile Phe Gln Cys Asp His Asn Asp Glu Val Val Ala Leu Arg Thr Arg

Lys Gly Leu Ala Lys Leu Ala Leu Arg Thr Gly Arg Pro Val Leu Pro  
195 200 205

Cys Tyr Ser Leu Gly Asn Thr Glu Ala Phe Ser Val Trp Phe Asp Arg  
210 215 220

Trp Gly Val Met Glu Arg Leu Ser Arg Lys Leu Gln Ala Ser Val Phe  
225 230 235 240

Phe Tyr Trp Gly Arg Tyr Gly Leu Pro Val Pro Tyr Arg Val Asn Ile  
245 250 255

Thr Met Ile Leu Gly Asp Met Val Leu Val Asp Gln Val Glu Asn Pro  
260 265 270

Thr Pro Ala Gln Val Asp Ala Val His Glu Arg Ile Leu Ala Ser Ile  
275 280 285

Glu Asn Ala Phe Asn Arg His Lys Ala Ala Leu Gly Trp Gly His Lys  
290 295 300

Thr Met Arg Phe Val  
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- <210> 48
- <211> 1134
- <212> DNA
- <213> Thraustochytrium aureum

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eolf-seq1.txt

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gccataaaga gtcgaacgaa aatagcaaaa tgtgcaattc accaaaaaaaa aaaa 1134

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<211> 1179  
<212> DNA  
<213> *Thraustochytrium aureum*

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<211> 392  
<212> PRT  
<213> *Thraustochytrium aureum*

<400> 50

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 Ala Ile Ala Phe Trp Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Ala Leu Lys Asn Trp Gly  
 50 55 60  
 Val Arg Gly Trp Arg Leu Ser Leu Ala Leu Ala Val Phe Ala Val Cys  
 65 70 75 80  
 Ser Phe Gly Gly Thr Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Glu Ser Pro His Tyr Pro  
 85 90 95  
 Met Ala Val Leu Ile Cys Ser Leu Asn Phe Val Tyr Ile Ser Thr Thr  
 100 105 110  
 Phe Thr Lys Lys Pro Glu Ser Asn Ala Cys Arg Glu Trp Pro Glu Leu  
 115 120 125  
 Arg Glu Leu Arg Ile Leu Pro Asp Met Phe Glu Arg Phe Phe Gly Leu  
 130 135 140  
 Gln Val Leu Leu Thr Asp Gly Ala Lys Arg Val Ala His Met Leu Gly  
 145 150 155 160  
 Asp Glu Ser Ser Ala Asp Pro Arg Met Arg Gln Val Met Leu Leu Phe  
 165 170 175  
 His Pro His Ser Ile Phe Pro Val Ser His Ala Ala Leu Gly Leu Thr  
 180 185 190  
 Ser Leu Trp Arg Ser His Phe Pro His Leu Ser Val Asn Pro Leu Thr  
 195 200 205  
 Ala Ser Ile Ile His Phe Val Pro Val Met Arg Asp Val Leu Gln Trp  
 210 215 220  
 Leu Gly Ile Cys Asp Val Ser Lys Ala Ser Val Val Asn Leu Ile Gly  
 225 230 235 240  
 Met Gly Arg Asn Val Gln Ile Val Cys Gly Gly Gln Thr Glu Met Phe  
 245 250 255  
 Glu Ser Arg Ser Trp Asp Lys Glu Ile Ser Val Val Arg Ala Arg Arg  
 260 265 270  
 Leu Gly Val Phe Lys Ile Ala Ile Gln Gln Gly Leu Gly Ile Val Pro  
 275 280 285

eolf-seq1.txt

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 290 295 300

Arg Leu Gln Asn Phe Cys Lys Arg Val Leu Gly Phe Pro Cys Pro Phe  
 305 310 320

Val Met Leu Gly Gln Tyr Gly Leu Pro Ile Pro Arg Arg Val Pro Ile  
 325 330 335

Ser Val Ala Val Gly Glu Pro Val Phe Pro Ala Arg Gln Thr Ala Asp  
 340 345 350

Pro Ser Leu Glu Glu Val Lys Glu Phe His Arg Arg Tyr Phe Glu Ala  
 355 360 365

Ile Gln Ala Leu Phe Asp Gln Phe Lys Asp Gln Ala Gly His Gly Gln  
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Cys Ser Ile Lys Trp Leu Asp Ser  
 385 390

<210> 51  
 <211> 1303  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Thraustochytrium aureum

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 aagccagagt ccaacgcgtg ccgggagtgg cccgagctgc gcgagctgcg catcttgccc 420  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> DNA  
 <213> *Thraustochytrium aureum*

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eolf-seq1.txt

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<400> 53

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Ile Gly Leu Arg Cys Phe Asn Ile Trp Leu Ser Val Val Thr Trp Pro  
 35 40 45

Leu Ser Phe Leu Ala Arg Val Val Phe Gly Met Glu Met Lys Lys Ala  
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Ser Phe Trp Asp Val Pro Leu Glu Arg Arg Lys Gln Thr Val Ala Val  
 65 70 75 80

Ala Gly Phe Val Met Leu Leu Pro Cys Val Leu Leu Ala Tyr Val Trp  
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Ser Leu Val Leu Leu Val Phe Pro Leu Thr Thr Leu Pro Met Leu Gly  
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Tyr Tyr Ile Trp Ile Phe Lys Ile Asp Lys Ser Pro Glu Asn Gly Gln  
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Arg Thr Pro Phe Leu Arg Tyr Trp Ser Ala Trp Arg His Phe Ala Ser  
 130 135 140

Tyr Phe Pro Leu Arg Leu Ile Lys Thr His Asn Leu Asp Pro Ser Arg  
 145 150 155 160

Lys Tyr Val Phe Ala Tyr His Pro His Gly Ile Ile Ser Ile Gly Ala  
 165 170 175

Phe Gly Asn Phe Ala Thr Asn Ala Thr Gly Phe Ser Arg Lys Phe Pro  
 180 185 190

Gly Ile Asp Leu Arg Leu Leu Thr Leu Glu Met Asn Phe Trp Cys Pro  
 195 200 205

Trp Ile Arg Glu Phe Leu Leu Ser Met Gly Val Cys Ser Ala Ala Lys  
 210 215 220

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Leu Val Val Gly Gly Ala Ala Glu Ser Leu Asp Thr Glu Pro Gly Thr



eolf-seq1.txt  
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245

255

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275 280 285

Phe Asp Thr Ile Tyr Tyr Glu Ser Gly Thr Val Met Arg Lys Ile Gln  
290 295 300

Glu Val Val Arg Lys Arg Leu Gly Phe Ala Thr Pro Val Phe Ser Gly  
305 310 315 320

Arg Gly Phe Phe Asn Tyr Ser Phe Gly Phe Leu Pro His Arg Arg Pro  
325 330 335

Val Ile Val Val Cys Gly Arg Pro Ile Lys Val Pro Lys Leu Pro Glu  
340 345 350

His Leu Arg Gly Ser Ala Leu Ser Thr Thr Pro Glu Gly Val Ala Leu  
355 360 365

Val Asp Gln Tyr His Gln Lys Tyr Val Ala Glu Leu Arg Arg Val Trp  
370 375 380

Asp Leu Tyr Lys Ser Lys Trp Ala Val Ser Arg Ala Glu Ser Leu Met  
385 390 395 400

Ile Lys Gly Val Gln Asn Pro Ala Leu Pro Arg Ser Pro Ser Arg Arg  
405 410 415

Ile Pro Pro Ala Gln Arg Val Pro Ala Ser Ala Ala Ser Leu Ser Phe  
420 425 430

Arg Glu Val Asp Glu Ala Glu Phe Glu Ala Lys Glu Asp Gly Ala Thr  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> DNA  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <212> PRT  
 <213> Nannochloropsis oculata

<400> 56

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Pro Asn Pro Val Lys Val Ile Ala Ala Ser Leu Gly Ile Pro Ser Arg  
 35 40 45

eolf-seq1.txt

Trp Phe Ala Tyr Pro Cys Leu Val Met Leu Gly His Leu Phe Leu Thr  
50 55 60

His Ser Gln Glu Phe Leu Tyr Asp Gly Val Arg Val Phe Phe Arg Ser  
65 70 75 80

Ile Leu Ser Ile Phe Phe Arg Gln Val Asp Ile Val Gly Ile Asp Asn  
85 90 95

Ile Pro Lys His Gly Pro Val Ile Phe Ser Gly Asn His Ser Asn Gln  
100 105 110

Phe Val Asp Gly Ile Met Val Leu Thr Thr Ala Gln His Arg Val Gly  
115 120 125

Phe Leu Ile Ala Glu Lys Ser Tyr Asn His Pro Val Val Gly Thr Phe  
130 135 140

Ala Lys Leu Ala Gly Ala Val Pro Val Thr Arg Pro Gln Asp Ser Ala  
145 150 155 160

Lys Leu Met Gln Gly Thr Ile Ile Met Ser Gly Arg Ser Val Lys Gly  
165 170 175

Gln Gly Thr Ala Phe Ser His Glu Leu Val Pro Gly Asp Lys Leu Arg  
180 185 190

Leu Lys Gly Gly Ala Asp Gln Phe Lys Val Glu Ser Ile Thr Ser Asp  
195 200 205

Thr Glu Leu Met Leu Ser Glu Asn Gly Pro Leu Pro Pro Pro Ser Ser  
210 215 220

Thr Ser Ala Ser Pro Phe Glu Lys Leu Gly Lys Val Asp Gln Thr Arg  
225 230 235 240

Val Tyr Asn Ala Val Phe Glu His Leu Lys His Gly Lys Cys Ile Gly  
245 250 255

Ile Phe Pro Glu Gly Gly Ser His Asp Arg Thr Asp Leu Leu Pro Leu  
260 265 270

Lys Val Gly Ile Ala Leu Ile Ala Cys Gly Met Val Asp Lys Tyr Asn  
275 280 285

Ile Thr Val Pro Ile Val Pro Val Gly Leu Asn Tyr Phe Arg Gly His  
290 295 300

Arg Phe Arg Gly Arg Val Val Val Glu Phe Gly Pro Ala Ile Arg Val  
305 310 315 320

eolf-seq1.txt

Pro Glu Glu Leu Ala Glu Leu Tyr Lys Thr Asn Arg Arg Glu Ala Tyr  
325 330 335

His Gln Phe Leu Thr Asn Val Glu Glu Gly Met Arg Ala Thr Leu Val  
340 345 350

Thr Ala Pro Asp Tyr His Ala Leu His Leu Val Tyr Thr Ala Arg Arg  
355 360 365

Leu Phe Gln Lys Asp Asn Trp Ile Pro Ser Pro Arg Glu Lys Met Asp  
370 375 380

Leu Asn Arg Arg Phe Ala Glu Gly Tyr Lys Ile Leu Met Asn Lys Tyr  
385 390 395 400

Gly Glu Gln Arg Pro Ala Ala Leu Val Glu Leu Glu Arg Arg Leu Asn  
405 410 415

Asp Tyr Gln Lys Thr Leu His Thr Leu Gly Leu Arg Asp Tyr Gln Val  
420 425 430

Pro Thr Leu Glu Glu Asp Asp Asn Leu Lys Leu Cys Tyr Thr Ile Ala  
435 440 445

His Leu Phe Leu Val Leu Thr Leu Ala Met Met Pro Ser Leu Val Leu  
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Asn Ala Pro Val Gly Leu Ile Ala Arg Ile Val Ser Ser Arg Glu Gln  
465 470 475 480

Lys Lys Ala Leu Ala Ala Ser Arg Val Lys Ile Glu Ala Arg Asp Val  
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Val Met Ser Lys Lys Ile Thr Leu Ser Ile Val Leu Val Pro Thr Leu  
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Trp Ile Val Tyr Ala Ile Leu Leu Leu Arg Tyr Thr Ser Leu Gln Pro  
515 520 525

Ser Thr Val Ala Val Leu Phe Phe Ser Cys Pro Leu Phe Ser Tyr Leu  
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Gly Val Met Ala Thr Glu Ala Gly Met Val Asp Ala Lys Asp Leu Lys  
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Pro Val Val Met Arg Leu Leu Pro Gly Ala Arg Lys Lys Met Ala Thr  
565 570 575

Leu Pro Ala Glu Arg Ala Gln Leu Gln Arg Glu Ile Arg Ala Tyr Ile  
580 585 590

eolf-seq1.txt

His Gln Ile Gly Pro Glu Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Thr Asp Lys Thr Val  
 595 600 605

Lys Trp Glu Glu Tyr Val Arg Lys Ser Ser Ser Ala Ala Asp Leu Gln  
 610 615 620

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Leu Val

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 <212> DNA  
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## eolf-seq1.txt

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<220>  
 <223> Primer

eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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<213> Artificial

<220>

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<211> 101

<212> DNA

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<223> Primer

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eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 <213> *Thraustochytrium* sp.



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## eolf-seq1.txt

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## eolf-seq1.txt

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## eolf-seq1.txt

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## eolf-seq1.txt

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 aagaaagaga gggggggagg ctgccacacc gcgacgctgc gtgagtgcgt ggtgtgtgtg 1200  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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 Pro Ser Asp Asp Val Gly Ala Pro Ala Asp Val Arg Asp Arg Ile Asp  
 50 55 60  
 Ser Val Val Asn Asp Asp Ala Gln Gly Thr Ala Asn Leu Ala Gly Asp  
 65 70 75 80  
 Asn Asn Gly Gly Gly Asp Asn Asn Gly Gly Gly Arg Gly Gly Gly Glu  
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 Gly Arg Gly Asn Ala Asp Ala Thr Phe Thr Tyr Arg Pro Ser Val Pro  
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 Ala His Arg Arg Ala Arg Glu Ser Pro Leu Ser Ser Asp Ala Ile Phe  
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 Lys Gln Ser His Ala Gly Leu Phe Asn Leu Cys Val Val Val Leu Ile  
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 Ala Val Asn Ser Arg Leu Ile Ile Glu Asn Leu Met Lys Tyr Gly Trp  
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 Pro Leu Phe Met Cys Cys Ile Ser Leu Ser Ile Phe Pro Leu Ala Ala  
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eolf-seq1.txt

Phe Thr Val Glu Lys Leu Val Leu Gln Lys Tyr Ile Ser Glu Pro Val  
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Val Tyr Val Thr Leu Arg Cys Asp Ser Ala Phe Leu Ser Gly Val Thr  
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Leu Met Leu Leu Thr Cys Ile Val Trp Leu Lys Leu Val Ser Tyr Ala  
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His Thr Ser Tyr Asp Ile Arg Ser Leu Ala Asn Ala Ala Asp Lys Ala  
 260 265 270

Asn Pro Glu Val Ser Tyr Tyr Val Ser Leu Lys Ser Leu Ala Tyr Phe  
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Met Val Ala Pro Thr Leu Cys Tyr Gln Pro Ser Tyr Pro Arg Ser Ala  
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Cys Ile Arg Lys Gly Trp Val Ala Arg Gln Phe Ala Lys Leu Val Ile  
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Phe Thr Gly Phe Met Gly Phe Ile Ile Glu Gln Tyr Ile Asn Pro Ile  
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Val Arg Asn Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Gly Asp Leu Leu Tyr Ala Ile  
 340 345 350

Glu Arg Val Leu Lys Leu Ser Val Pro Asn Leu Tyr Val Trp Leu Cys  
 355 360 365

Met Phe Tyr Cys Phe Phe His Leu Trp Leu Asn Ile Leu Ala Glu Leu  
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Leu Cys Phe Gly Asp Arg Glu Phe Tyr Lys Asp Trp Trp Asn Ala Lys  
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Ser Val Gly Asp Tyr Trp Arg Met Trp Asn Met Pro Val His Lys Trp  
 405 410 415

Met Val Arg His Ile Tyr Phe Pro Cys Leu Arg Ser Lys Ile Pro Lys  
 420 425 430

Thr Leu Ala Ile Ile Ile Ala Phe Leu Val Ser Ala Val Phe His Glu  
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Leu Cys Ile Ala Val Pro Cys Arg Leu Phe Lys Leu Trp Ala Phe Leu  
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eolf-seq1.txt

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Glu Arg Phe Gly Ser Thr Val Gly Asn Met Ile Phe Trp Phe Ile Phe  
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Met Asn Arg Lys Gly Ser Met Ser  
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- <213> Brassica napus

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eolf-seq1.txt

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 35 40 45  
 Arg Asp Arg Val Asp Ser Ala Val Glu Asp Thr Gln Gly Lys Ala Asn  
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 Leu Ala Gly Glu Asn Glu Ile Arg Glu Ser Gly Gly Glu Ala Gly Gly  
 65 70 75 80  
 Asn Val Asp Val Arg Tyr Thr Tyr Arg Pro Ser Val Pro Ala His Arg  
 85 90 95  
 Arg Val Arg Glu Ser Pro Leu Ser Ser Asp Ala Ile Phe Lys Gln Ser  
 100 105 110  
 His Ala Gly Leu Phe Asn Leu Cys Val Val Val Leu Val Ala Val Asn  
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 Glu Lys Leu Val Leu Gln Lys Cys Ile Ser Glu Pro Val Val Ile Ile  
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 195 200 205  
 Thr Leu Arg Cys Asp Ser Ala Phe Leu Ser Gly Val Thr Leu Met Leu

210

215

Leu Thr Cys Ile Val Trp Leu Lys Leu Val Ser Tyr Ala His Thr Asn  
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Val Ser Tyr Tyr Val Ser Leu Lys Ser Leu Ala Tyr Phe Met Leu Ala  
260 265 270

Pro Thr Leu Cys Tyr Gln Pro Ser Tyr Pro Arg Ser Pro Cys Ile Arg  
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Cys Phe Phe His Leu Trp Leu Asn Ile Leu Ala Glu Leu Leu Cys Phe  
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Asp Tyr Trp Arg Met Trp Asn Met Pro Val His Lys Trp Met Val Arg  
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Ile Ile Leu Ala Phe Leu Val Ser Ala Val Phe His Glu Leu Cys Ile  
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Ala Val Pro Cys Arg Leu Phe Lys Leu Trp Ala Phe Leu Gly Ile Met  
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eolf-seq1.txt  
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495

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