



# PBL NEWS



PBL News - Issue 24 - Jul 2012

## PBL and Alnylam Enter Licence Agreement on RNAi Patents

In May, PBL and Alnylam announced that they had entered a licence agreement in respect of PBL's patents on RNAi from the pioneering work of Dr Andrew Hamilton and Prof Sir David Baulcombe, when working at The Sainsbury Laboratory. Please click [here](#) for the press release.

PBL's recently issued patent, US 8,097,710, covering methods of silencing genes in organisms, adds to our growing suite of issued patents on this topic. PBL is delighted to partner Alnylam, a leader in the field of biotherapeutics, and is offering licences in the fields of human therapeutics, animal health, crop biotechnology, industrial biotech, research, reagents and diagnostics.

In July, Alnylam announced spectacular results of a Phase I study of their RNAi drug ALN-TTR02 for TTR-mediated amyloidosis. Please click [here](#) for the press release.

For more information, please contact Dr Jan Chojecki ([ajsc@pbltechnology.com](mailto:ajsc@pbltechnology.com))

PBL Tech ID: 99.190



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## Model Gut visits Japan

The Model Gut recently went on tour to the Land of the Rising Sun. One of our Dynamic Gastric Model units, along with Model Gut personnel Eva Thuenemann and Hiep Huatan, was hosted for a week in Osaka by **Higuchi Inc**, an importer and distributor of high-end pharmaceutical testing equipment. During its stay in Osaka, the DGM was demonstrated to research teams from five major pharmaceutical companies, all of whom reported a significant level of interest in accessing the technology. The DGM then transferred to Tokyo, where it was displayed on the Higuchi stand at the InterPhEx Exhibition, attracting significant interest from the Japanese pharmaceutical industry, throughout the week-long event.



For more information, please contact Dr Martin Stocks ([martin@pbltechnology.com](mailto:martin@pbltechnology.com)).

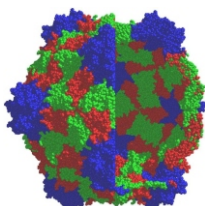
PBL Tech ID: 02.301

[www.modelgut.com](http://www.modelgut.com)



## Two PBL inventors make BBSRC Inventor of the Year Finals

Prof George Lomonosoff (plant molecular production technology) and Prof Richard Mithen (Beneforté broccoli) were two of just nine candidates shortlisted from across the UK for the **BBSRC 2012 Innovator of the Year**, a tribute to the quality and impact of NRP science.



CPMV Virus

Prof Lomonosoff, whose technology is used to manufacture vaccines currently in clinical trials (**CPMV** and **CPMV-HT** Protein Expression), was the outright winner.

For more information, please contact Dr Lars von Borcke ([lars@pbltechnology.com](mailto:lars@pbltechnology.com))

PBL Tech ID: 05.386 & 07.439



## Crop Nitrogen Fixation: Major Award to John Innes Centre

John Innes Centre announced a major award for JIC and its partners to explore the possibility of engineering nitrogen-fixation capability into cereals, starting with maize. Please click [here](#) for announcement.

PBL holds a portfolio of patents in this field, from Jens Stougaard at Aarhus University. See Patent News section in this issue.

For more information, please contact Dr Jan Chojecki ([ajsc@pbltechnology.com](mailto:ajsc@pbltechnology.com))

## Innovation in life sciences

PBL, Norwich Research Park, Colney Lane, Norwich, Norfolk NR4 7UH, UK

Tel: +44(0)1603 456500 Fax: +44(0)1603 456552 [www.pbltechnology.com](http://www.pbltechnology.com)





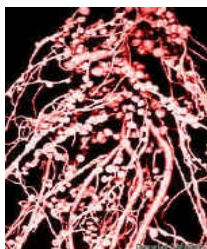
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## PBL Patent News

Technologies developed by Prof Jens Stougaard and colleagues from Aarhus University:



**Snf2 genes, a histidine kinase, for spontaneous nodulation in plants** PBL Tech ID: 06.407  
Patent no 2,044,201 was granted on 23 May 2012 by the European Patent Office.

**Snf1 gene, a calcium calmodulin kinase, for spontaneous nodulation in plants** PBL Tech ID: 05.372

US application no 11/995,422 received notice of allowance on 1 June 2012 from the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Contact: Dr Jan Chojecki (ajsc@pbltechnology.com)



**Flavodoxin gene for enhanced crop stress tolerance** PBL Tech ID: 01.266

Patent no CA 2360107 was granted on 20 March 2012 by the Canadian Patent Office.

Developed by Prof Nestor Carillo and colleagues at the Conicet Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of the University of Rosario, Argentina. This technology, described in various scientific publications (eg *Trends in Biotechnology*, Volume 26, Issue 10, 531-53), is already licensed for crop improvement (see *PBL News Issue 13, May 2008*).

Contact: Dr Jan Chojecki (ajsc@pbltechnology.com)



**Peptide aptamer strategy for plant virus resistance** PBL Tech ID: 05.395

Patent no US 8,168,748 was issued on 5 January 2012 by the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Developed by Dr Linda Hanley-Bowdoin and colleagues at North Carolina State University.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)

**Cis-Jasmone semiochemical strategies for plant protection from insect pests** PBL Tech ID: 03.329

Patent no US 8,221,736 was issued on 17 July 2012 by the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Developed by Prof John Pickett and colleagues at Rothamsted Research.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)

**Modified suppressor of gene silencing for use in transgenic plants** PBL Tech ID: 05.399

Patent no US 8,222,488 was issued on 17 July 2012 by the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Developed by Prof Herman Scholthof at Texas A & M University System.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)



**Jasmonic acid seed treatment for protecting plants against insects** PBL Tech ID: 07.430

Patent no US 8,115,053 was issued on 14 February 2012 by the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Dr Nigel Paul and colleagues at Lancaster University.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)

**Improved Agrobacterium Transformation** PBL Tech ID: 05.397

US application no 12/097,256 received notice of allowance on 9 April 2012 from the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.

Developed by Professor Jonathan Jones and Dr Cyril Zipfel at the Sainsbury Laboratory.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)

**CPMV-HT Protein Expression System** PBL Tech ID: 07.439

South African patent no 2010/05245 was granted on 25 January 2012.

New Zealand patent application no 586939 was accepted by the New Zealand Intellectual Property Office on 16 July 2012.

Developed by Professor George Lomonosoff and Dr Frank Sainsbury at the John Innes Centre.

Contact: Dr Lars von Borcke (lars@pbltechnology.com)

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