

ISSN 1420-3049 http://www.mdpi.org

Phytoalexin Accumulation in Colombian Bean Varieties and Aminosugars as Elicitors

Diego Durango, Winston Quiñones, Fernando Torres, Yoni Rosero, Jesús Gil and Fernando Echeverri*

Institute of Chemistry, Universidad de Antioquia, P.O. Box. 1226, Medellin, Colombia, Tel. (+57) 4-2105658; Fax: (+57) 4-2330120.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed; e-mail: echeveri@catios.udea.edu.co

Received: 1 September 2002; in revised form 15 November 2002 / Accepted 22 November 2002 / Published: 30 November 2002

Abstract: The accumulation of isoflavonoid phytoalexins was studied in several Colombian bean cultivars resistant and susceptible to *Colletotrichum lindemuthianum* fungus, the causal agent of anthrachnose disease. A time-course accumulation analysis on seedlings treated with $CuCl_2$ showed that phaseollin production was higher in resistant cultivars than in susceptible ones. Also, a defensive role of phytoalexins was demostrated when extracts containing this pterocarpan exhibited antifungal activity against *C. lindemuthianum*. In addition, the elicitor activity of some aminosugars was also established.

Keywords: Phaseolus vulgaris; cultivars; phytoalexins; resistance/susceptibility; elicitors.

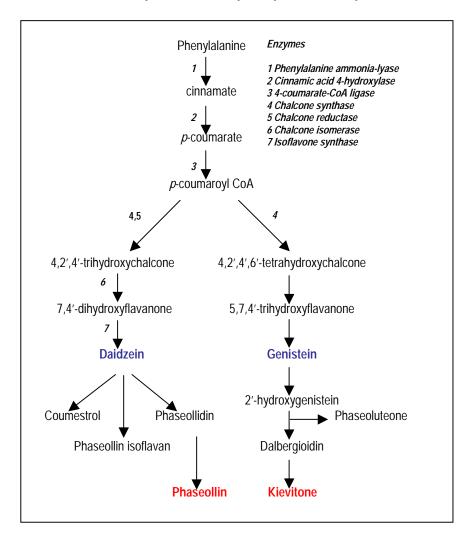
Introduction

Chemical defenses against herbivores and pathogenic microorganisms in leguminosae species include the production of alkaloids, coumarins and specially isoflavonoid derivatives [1,2]. Some of these compounds are phytoalexins, substances produced in plants as a consequence of microorganism attacks and considered one of the most important defensive mechanisms in plants [3]. Recently, a relationship between phytoalexin accumulation and defense against pathogenic microorganisms in

alfalfa, rice and banana has been found [4-6]. Also, a decreased resistance in *Arabidopsis* by genetic blockage in the biosynthesis of flavonoids was demonstrated [7]. On the other hand, bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) is an important food and primary source of proteins in Latin America and Africa; many varieties with different phytopathological profiles have been developed around the world. In the species of the genus *Phaseolus*, representative phytoalexins are isoflavones, isoflavans, pterocarpans (for example, phaseollin), coumestans and isoflavanones (for example, kievitone) [8]. In this paper, we describe the phytoalexin production in several Colombian bean varieties, to establish a correlation between the resistance and susceptibility to *Colletotrichum lindemuthianum*, the causal agent of anthrachnose disease in bean. In addition, several synthetic aminosugars were also evaluated as elicitors.

Results and Discussion

Leguminosae species biosynthesize two types of isoflavonoid phytoalexins (Scheme 1) [9]. The first ones are 5-hydroxy compounds such as genistein; through subsequent reactions this compound is transformed to kievitone.



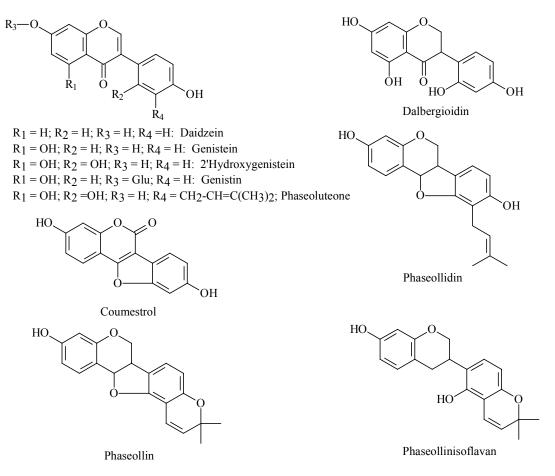
Scheme 1. Biosynthesis of 5-hydroxy and 5-deoxyisoflavonoids

A second type of phytoalexins are the 5-deoxy derivatives and their precursor is daidzein. Cyclization of this compound produces pterocarpans and coumestans. Prenylation of aromatic rings is an additional reaction in bean and soybean phytoalexins. Currently, modulation of the enzymatic and genetic aspects involved in the biosynthesis of phytoalexins is an attractive alternative to fungicide design [10], since increasing phytoalexin production could generate resistant plants against pathogenic microorganisms.

Phytoalexin structures

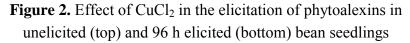
All substances were purified by chromatographic methods and identified by ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR and spectroscopic comparisons with authentic samples. The main compounds obtained were genistein, 2'-hydroxygenistein, daidzein, dalbergioidin, coumestrol, phaseollidin, phaseollinisoflavan and phaseollin (Figure 1); small amounts of genistin and phaseoluteone were isolated too. Phytoalexins were located in the HPLC chromatograms by means of the standard addition method.

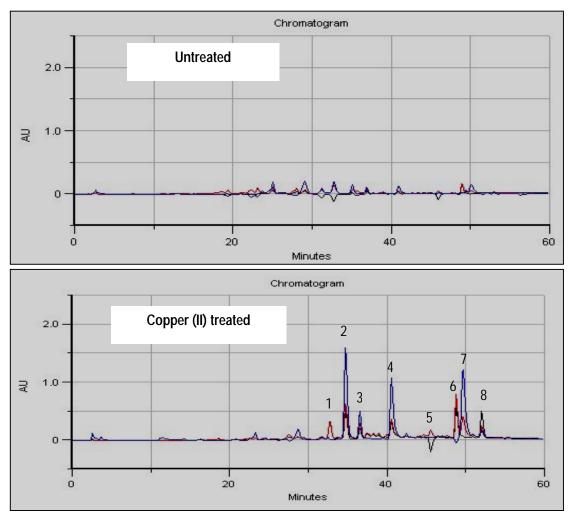
Figure 1. Phytoalexins isolated from Colombian bean cultivars.



Inductor selection

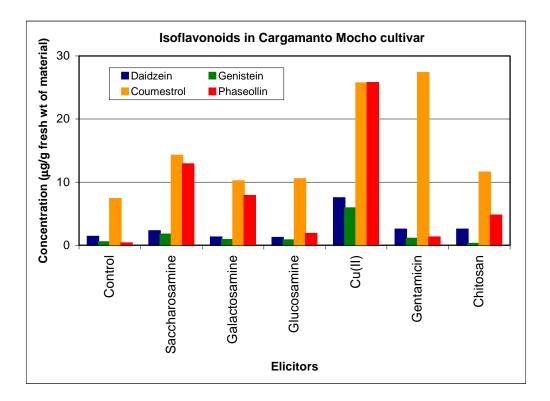
Seven-day-old bean seedlings were treated with different abiotic elicitors: CuCl₂, chitosan, gentamycin, 6,1',6'-triamino-6,1',6'-trideoxysucrose (saccharosamine), 2-amino-2-deoxy-D-galactopyranose (galactosamine) and 2-amino-2-deoxy-D-glucose (glucosamine) to determine the best response to the accumulation and production of phytoalexins. Preparation of carbohydrate derivatives was carried out according to literature procedures [11,12] and compounds were identified by ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR techniques. HPLC analysis showed an optimal response with copper (II) chloride (Figure 2), since it quickly induces high concentrations of phytoalexins; other substances, including chitosan, give nearly 50% of the response obtained with CuCl₂ (Figure 3).

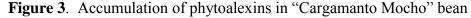




Dalbergioidin; 2: 2'-hydroxygenistein; 3: Daidzein; 4: Genistein; 5: Coumestrol;
6: Phaseollidin; 7: Phaseollinisoflavan; 8: Phaseollin.

Additionally, galactosamine and saccharosamine increased phaseollin and coumestrol concentration close to ten-fold with respect to unelicited seedlings, and as much as chitosan. Gentamycin selectively induced high levels of coumestrol and low levels of phaseollin.





Resistant and susceptible cultivars

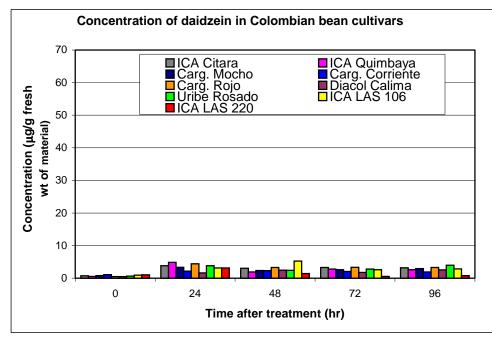
The ability to induce phytoalexin production with $CuCl_2$ was examined in each bean cultivar; isoflavonoid accumulations at 24, 48, 72 and 96 h after inductor application were analyzed in seedling extracts by HPLC; cultivars induced with $CuCl_2$ (1000 ppm) and not induced (0 h) were compared

Quantification of phytoalexin production in Colombian beans is shown in Table 1. HPLC analyses showed similar increments in genistein and daidzein concentrations in susceptible and resistant plants. Besides, there are other important features regarding Table 1. In resistant cultivars, preformed coumestrol was close to 60% higher than in susceptible ones. Nevertheless, after 96 h of incubation, the concentration of coumestrol was 20% higher in susceptible cultivars (104.3 μ g/g of f.w.) than in resistant ones (87.3 μ g/g of f.w.). Production of genistein and daidzein increased 24 and 48 hours after incubation; later, there was a slight decrease in concentration. The amount of preformed and induced genistein and daidzein showed no change in both susceptible and resistant cultivars (Figure 4). Furthermore, although there are high levels of genistein, 2'-hydroxygenistein and dalbergioidin, kievitone was not detected by HPLC. This compound is very common in other European and American bean cultivars [8,13]. Phaseolutone was detected only in small amounts.

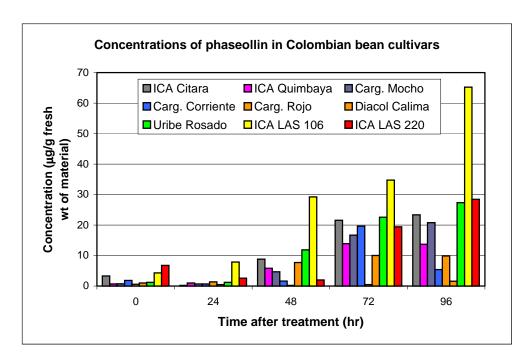
Table 1. Correlations be	etween phytopathology and	production of phytoalexins in						
Colombian bean cultivars, R: resistent, T: tolerant, S: susceptible to <i>C. lindemuthianum</i> .								

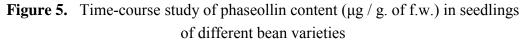
Cultivars	Phytopathology	Genistein		2'-hvdroxv-	genistein	Dalbergioidin		Total 24 Hours	Daidzein		Phaseollin		Coumestrol	
		Time after treatment (hours)												
		0	24	0	24	0	24		0	24	0	96	0	96
		Relative maximum concentration (µg/g of fresh weight)												
ICA Calima (CAL)	S	0.1	2.5	0.1	3.6	0.3	4.9	11.0	0.5	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.3	41.3
Cargamanto Rojo (CRO)	S	0.1	3.1	0.2	4.4	0.4	11.2	18.7	0.5	4.4	0.6	9.8	1.9	14.0
Cargamanto Mocho (CMO)	S	0.1	2.0	0.2	3.7	0.2	3.7	9.4	0.8	3.4	0.7	20.8	1.6	14.5
Cargamanto Corriente (CCO)	S	0.2	3.8	0.3	6.7	0.4	7.7	18.2	1.1	2.2	1.8	5.4	1.9	7.8
Uribe Rosado (URO)	S	0.1	2.2	0.2	5.8	0.1	5.1	13.1	0.6	3.8	1.2	27.4	2.1	26.7
TOTALS		0.6	13.6	1.0	24.2	1.2	32.6		3.5	15.4	5.3	65.0	8.8	104.3
ICA Citará (ICI)	Т	0.2	3.4	0.2	4.6	0.5	6.0	14.0	0.8	3.9	3.3	23.3	5.1	22.8
Quimbaya (IQU)	R	0.1	3.0	0.1	5.5	0.5	5.9	14.4	0.6	4.9	0.7	14.0	1.9	17.8
LAS 106	R	0.4	2.8	0.5	3.9	1.0	2.4	11.1	1.0	3.1	4.3	65.2	1.6	19.8
LAS 220	R	0.6	4.2	0.9	7.8	0.4	11.8	23.2	1.0	3.2	6.8	28.5	4.8	26.9
TOTALS		1.2	13.4	1.7	21.8	2.4	26.1		3.4	15.1	15.1	131.0	13.4	87.3

Figure 4. Time-course study of daidzein content in seedlings of different bean cultivars



Concerning preformed phaseollin (Figure 5) resistant/tolerant cultivars possess twice the phaseollin as susceptible ones (cf. LAS 220 vs. Cargamanto Rojo). However in the last type of cultivars, phaseollin mainly originated from Uribe Rosado cultivar.





In spite of that, if the contribution of the cultivar Uribe Rosado is excluded, these amounts are practically the same in all cultivars. In addition, the highest level of coumestrol was detected in Calima, a susceptible cultivar, although its level of phaseollin after 4 days was the lowest. Decreased coumestrol levels in resistant varieties could be explained as a consequence of precursor channeling to phaseollin. Treatment with CuCl₂ and 96 hours of incubation leads to greater accumulation of this compound in cultivars resistant to anthrachnose (Figures 5-7). However, in Uribe Rosado cultivar, levels of phaseollin were similar to those produced in the LAS 220 resistant cultivar.

Conversion from daidzein to phaseollin seems to be more efficient in the resistant cultivars; this could mean an isoflavonoid enzymatic blockage in cultivars susceptible to *C. lindemuthianum*. Levels of phaseollinisoflavan and phaseollidin were not evaluated because of the presence of interferences with other compounds in HPLC.

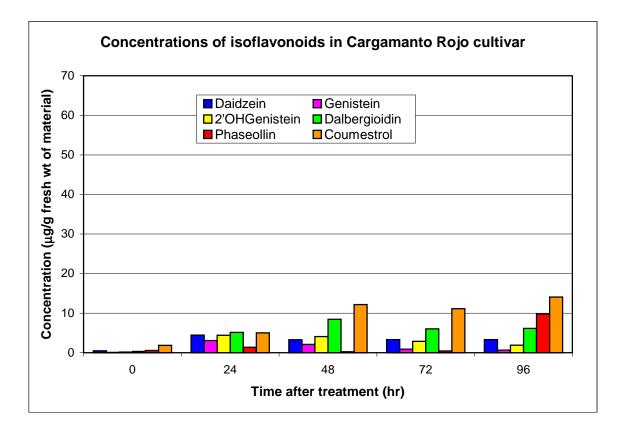
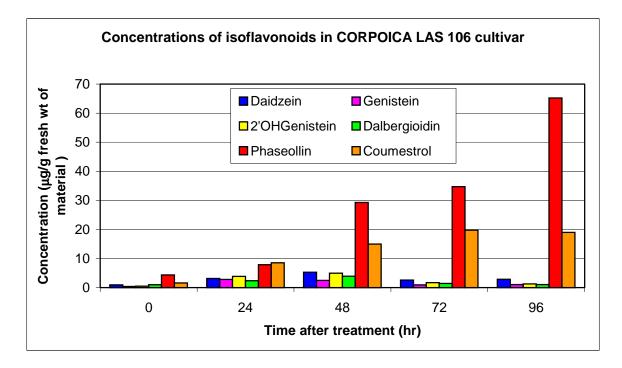


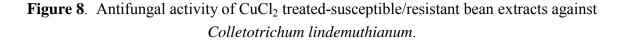
Figure 6. Isoflavonoid contents (μ g/g. of f. w) in seedlings of Cargamanto Rojo bean

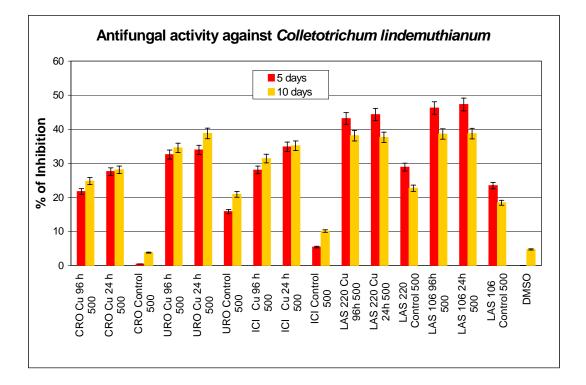
Figure 7. Isoflavonoid contents (μ g/g. of f. w.) in seedlings of Corpoica LAS 106 bean



Antibiotic activity

The definition of phytoalexins implies *de novo* synthesis and antibiotic activity; to determine their action against *C. lindemuthianum* fungus, seedling extracts of some cultivars either treated or not with $CuCl_2$ were studied. Extracts were obtained at 0, 24 h and 96 h after $CuCl_2$ induction and unelicited seedlings were used as controls (Figure 8). Inhibition of mycelial growth was measured periodically





The high antifungal activity of resistant cultivars could be attributed to preformed phaseollin. This compound acts as the first defense until plants biosynthesize more phytoalexins under inductor action. Additionally, extracts of LAS 106 and LAS 220 after 96 h of induction showed high levels of micelar growth inhibition. On the other hand, Cargamanto Rojo (a suceptible cultivar) without CuCl₂ treatment displayed weak antibiotic activity, due to the presence of only small amounts of phaseollin. Moreover, a high concentration of coumestrol in susceptible varieties did not appear to contribute to antibiotic activity.

The antifungal patterns of Uribe Rosado cultivar and analysis of phytoalexin levels disagree with its consideration as a susceptible variety; first, it produces more phaseollin and cournestrol than susceptible varieties. Second, it showed antifungal activity higher than Cargamanto Rojo, which is a susceptible variety with low levels of phaseollin production.

Conclusions

The results of this research demonstrate a link between phytoalexin accumulation and resistance/susceptibility to pathogenic microorganisms. Thus, ICA Quimbaya cultivar was classified some years ago as resistant but apparently it has lost its phytopathological properties as a consequence of low amounts of phaseollin. Additionally, phytoalexin production in Uribe Rosado cultivar and the antifungal effect of extracts showed a resistant behavior toward *C. lindemuthianum*. There are other examples in the literature [14]: wild varieties of *P. coccineus* displayed high levels of isoflavonoid diversity and resistance to pathogens, while in cultivated species small amounts of phytoalexins were produced. Besides, some varieties of *P. lunatus* have the same resistance and additional cyanogenic compounds, but they did not have isoflavonoid diversity.

High detected levels of coursestrol and its apparent antibiotic inactivity seems contrary to the role of phytoalexins as a defense mechanism against pathogens. Nevertheless, phytoalexins are not only antimicrobial, but rather they can modulate other events related to plant and other plant-organism relationships [15]. These substances can be then chemoattractants, promoters of the competitive growth of other microorganisms, inducing genes involved in bacterial nodulation or regulating the primary metabolism. This could explain the selective response according to the inductor and also the lack of antimicrobial activity of other phytoalexins

The biosynthesis of isoflavonoid phytoalexins has been intensively studied before [16,17]; their metabolic regulation is known to be different according to the inductor agent, plant or cell type. Sometimes PAL activity and phytoalexin production were increased. Nevertheless, it has also been reported that catalytic activity of PAL was not affected, and decreases have been detected too [18]. In this research, we found the same content of genistein and daidzein isoflavones in resistant, tolerant and susceptible cultivars. However, daidzein was transformed effectively to phaseollin in the resistant cultivars while genistein and dalbergioidin were accumulated in all cultivars but kievitone, the last biogenetic product, was not detected by HPLC. The production of phaseollin and kievitone from isoflavonoids involved prenylation reactions. Our results show an active prenylation pathway in resistant cultivars, while in susceptible ones this enzymatic reaction seems to be repressed. Therefore, enzymatic control in phytoalexins production is located in prenyltransferase reaction instead of phenylalanylammonnia lyase, chalcone synthase or chalcone isomerase.

Finally, protection of bean crops against pathogenic fungi can be achieved through phytoalexin production by means of the following three routes:

- By obtaining clones showing spontaneous phytoalexin production and transfering genes involved in their production from these clones to other cultivars lacking or deficient in phytoalexins. Some genes involved in the biosynthesis of isoflavonoid phytoalexins have already been patented [19-20].
- By development of HPLC methodologies to select clones of resistant beans according to the plant's behavior of toward elicitors and phytoalexin levels.

• By control of the enzymes and genes involved in the phytoalexin production with abiotic elicitors to induce production of antibiotic phytoalexin at a specific time.

Additionally, this research showed the importance of evaluation changes in secondary metabolites in new cultivars or clones, since modifications in their levels of them could have implications in agronomy and public health.

Ackowledgments

The authors thank COLCIENCIAS and the Universidad de Antioquia for financial support and a grant to D. D. under the Young Researchers program. We are also grateful to Dr. M. Lobo (Corpoica) for a generous gift of bean seeds and Miss Adriana Gallego for microbiological analysis.

Experimental

General

¹H-, ¹³C-NMR, ¹H-¹H COSY, HMBC and HMQC were recorded on a Bruker AMX 300 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm, units and coupling constants (J) are in Hz. The determination of the carbon atoms in the molecule was made through DEPT 135 and JMOD experiments. HPLC analysis was performed on a Gilson chromatograph equipped with a Gilson model 170 diode array detector, using a Waters Spherisorb S5 ODS2 column (4.6 mm i.d. x 150 mm). Elution was carried out at a flow rate of 0.7 mL/min with the solvents A = methanol and B = 0.5% acetic acid in water as follows: from 10% A to 70 % A in 40 min, then 70% A to 90% A in 20 min, followed by 10% A in 3 min and holding for 15 min to equilibrate for the next injection. The wavelength ranged from 200 to 500 nm throughout the chromatogram and each peak is scanned using the wavelength that provides a maximum response. Preparative HPLC was performed on a column of Lichrosphere® 100 RP-18 using a 0.1 % TFA-MeCN, 80:20 mobile phase at a flow rate of 5.0 mL/min, and detected at 254 and 310 nm.

Plant material

Seeds of bean cultivars showing resistance to anthrachnose disease (LAS 106, LAS 220 and Ica Quimbaya, IQU), tolerance (Ica Citara, ICI) and susceptibility (Cargamanto Corriente, CCO; Cargamanto Rojo, CRO; Cargamanto Mocho, CMO; Diacol Calima, CAL; Uribe Rosado, URO) were provided by CORPOICA La Selva (Corporacion Colombiana de Investigacion Agropecuaria, Colombia). The seeds were surface-sterilized for 10 min in 1% NaOCl followed by a deionized H₂O rinse and then presoaked in sterile deionized H₂O for 30 min.; finally the seeds were germinated on sterile sand and grown at 25 °C, ambient humidity and in complete darkness. After 7 days, etiolated seedlings were collected and washed with distilled water and separated into several batches.

Induction of phytoalexins and elicitor selection

Approximately 150 g of the seedlings were immersed for 1 hour in solutions of $CuCl_2$ (1000 ppm), chitosan (Sigma, 1000 ppm), gentamycin (400 ppm) and aminosugars [6,1',6'-triamino-6,1',6'-trideoxysucrose (saccharosamine); 2-amino-2-deoxygalactopyranose (galactosamine); 2-amino-2-deoxyglucose (glucosamine)]. Chitosan was solubilized in 1% aq. HOAc, adjusted to pH 6.0 with NaOAc and diluted with distilled water to 1000 ppm approximately. Gentamycin solutions were prepared from material supplied by MK Laboratories.

After that, the seedlings were placed in plastic containers and incubated at 25 °C in the dark during 96 h. Maximum concentration of phaseollin was previously found to be detected between 72-96 h, using $CuCl_2$ as elicitor. Control experiments were carried out using distilled water and the same incubation conditions; experiments were done by triplicate and data were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA)

Isolation and identification of phytoalexins

For large-scale isolation of phytoalexins, seedlings of each one of the varieties induced with Cu (II) were combined, cut and milled with 70% ethanol. Then, the EtOH solution was centrifuged for 6 min (3400 rpm) and filtered through Whatman No. 1 filter paper. The filtrate was concentrated at 40°C under vacuum and re-extracted with EtOAc (3 x 100 mL). Following evaporation of the EtOAc, the remaining residue was redissolved in hexane-CH₂Cl₂-MeOH (2:1:1, v/v), filtered and then applied to a Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia) column which was eluted initially with the same mixture to remove pigments and finally methanol. The methanolic extract was subjected to chromatography on a silica gel column using hexane containing increasing amounts of EtOAc. Eluates containing phytoalexins were further purified by preparative TLC (CHCl₃: acetone, 4:1; Et₂O:hexane, 3:1) and HPLC.

Time course study of phytoalexin production

Extracts of different cultivars were obtained 24, 48, 72 and 96 h after induction with Cu (II) as above. The supernatant was concentrated in vacuo and re-extracted (x 3) with an eq. vol. of EtOAc. The samples were kept in a vial and stored at 4°C until HPLC analysis was carried out. The Rt values were as follows: genistein, 41.0 min; daidzein, 37.5 min; 2'-hydroxygenistein, 34.2 min; dalbergioidin, 32.0 min; coumestrol, 43.5 min; phaseollin, 52.5 min; phaseollidin, 47.5 min; phaseollinisoflavan, 48.0 min. Calibration curves (peak area vs concentration) for these isoflavonoids were obtained using series of diluted authentic samples. The concentrations of compounds were calculated from the peak areas on the chromatograms and the calibration curves.

Antimicrobial assays

Colletotrichum lindemuthianum was originally obtained from anthracnose diseased bean pods (*P. vulgaris*) through Corpoica-La Selva. EtOAc extracts of bean seedlings of some resistent and susceptible cultivars, both treated and untreated with Cu (II), and incubated during 24 and 96 h were tested in bioassays for fungitoxicity. The extracts were dissolved in DMSO and added to PDA in a concentration of 500 ppm. PDA plates containing only DMSO were used as control plates. The radial mycelar growth was measured, and the percentage of inhibition was calculated on the basis of growth in control plates, after 5 and 10 days of incubation at room temperature. The antifungal activity of each extract was replicated five times.

Phytoalexin characterization

Genistein: HPLC $R_t = 41.0 \text{ min.}$; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 261, 328sh; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 6.29 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, H6), 6.42 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, H8), 6.90 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, H3', 5'), 7.46 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, H2', 6'), 8.17 (s, H2), 13.03 (s, 5-OH). ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, MeOD): δ 94.1 (C8), 98.5 (C6), 104.5 (C4a), 115.2 (C5', 3'), 121.5 (C1'), 122.2 (C3), 130.0 (C2', 6'), 153.5 (C2), 157.8 (C8a), 158.0 (C4'), 162.0 (C5), 164.0 (C7), 180.0 (C4).

Daidzein: HPLC R_t = 37.5 min.; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 238sh, 249, 260sh, 303sh. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 6.69 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, H8), 6.7-6.8 (m, H6, 3′, 5′), 7.24 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, H2', 6′), 7.88 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, H5), 8.00 (s, H2). ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, MeOD): δ 102.2 (C8), 115.1 (C3', 5'), 115.2 (C6), 116.5 (C4a), 122.7 (C3), 123.9 (C1'), 130.0 (C2', 6'), 152.2 (C2), 157.3 (C7, 4'), 157.6 (C8a), 162.6 (C5), 178.6 (C4).

2'-Hydroxygenistein: HPLC R_t = 34.5 min.; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 223.9sh, 263.3; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 6.29 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, H6), 6.41 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, H8), 6.41-6.47 (m, H3', 5'), 7.10 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, H6'), 8.14 (s, H2), 12.77 (s, 5-OH); ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, MeOD): δ 94.3 (C8), 99.7 (C6), 105.4 (C3'), 107.5 (C4a), 109.1 (C5'), 111.5 (C1'), 123.1 (C3), 132.3 (C6'), 157.4 (C2), 158.2 (C2'), 159.6 (C8a), 161.1 (C4'), 163.5 (C5), 165.9 (C7), 183.1 (C4).

Phaseoluteone: ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.76 and 1.85 (s, CH3), 3.55 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, -CH₂-), 5.33 (t, CH=C(CH₃)₂), 6.33 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, H6), 6.41 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, H8), 6.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, H5'), 6.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, H6'), 7.94 (s, H2); ¹³C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 18.1 (CH₃), 23.4 (CH2), 26.1 (CH₃), 94.8 (C8), 100.8 (C6), 106.8 (C4a), 109.8 (C5'), 112.9 (C₃), 117.6 (C3'), 122.2 (C10), 124.1 (C1'), 128.4 (C6'), 135.3 (C11), 154.8 (C2'), 155.9 (C2), 157.4 (C4'), 158.4 (C8a), 163.1 (C5), 163.3 (C7), 181.0 (C4).

Genistin: ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 8.14 (s, H2), 7.37 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, H2',6'), 6.84 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, H3',5'), 6.70 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, H8), 6.51 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, H6), 5.05 (2, J = 3.6 Hz, H1-Glu), 3.0-4.1 (m, H2-H6-Glu).

Dabergioidin: HPLC $R_t = 32.0 \text{ min.}$; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 199, 227, 287; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 4.27 (m, H3), 4.60 y 4.44 (m, H2), 5.97 (m, H6, 8), 6.35 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.4 Hz, H5'), 6.45 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, H3'), 6.95 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, H6'); ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, MeOD): δ 47.7 (C3), 71.5 (C2), 96.1 (C8), 97.3 (C6), 104.1 (C4a), 104.2 (C3'), 108.3 (C5'), 114.2 (C1'), 132.2 (C6'), 157.5 (C2'), 159.4 (C4'), 165.0 (C8a), 166.1 (C5), 167.5 (C7), 198.9 (C4).

Coumestrol: HPLC $R_t = 43.5 \text{ min.}$; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 244, 342; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): δ 6.95 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, H4), 7.0-7.1 (m, H2, 8), 7.20 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, H10), 7.78 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, H7), 7.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, H1). ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, MeOD): δ 99.6 (C4), 103.7 (C6a), 104.2 (C10), 106.2 (C11b), 114.9 (C8), 115.0 (C2), 116.5 (C6b), 122.1 (C7), 123.8 (C5), 156.5 (C4a), 157.9 (C11a), 158.6 (C6), 161.9 (C9), 162.5 (C10a), 162.9 (C3).

Phaseollin: HPLC $R_t = 52.0 \text{ min.; UV } \lambda_{max}$ (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 279, 287sh, 310; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.49 (2 x Me), 3.46 (m, H6a), 4.19 y 3.59 (m, H6), 5.44 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, H11a), 5.53 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, H13), 6.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H8), 6.36 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, H4), 6.46 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, H12), 6.51 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, H2), 6.91 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H7), 7.37 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, H1); ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 28.2 (Me), 29.3 (Me), 40.2 (C6a), 67.1 (C6), 76.6 (C14), 79.2 (C11a), 105.0 (C4), 109.1 (C10), 110.2 (C8), 113.2 (C2), 117.0 (C11b), 119.5 (C12), 124.2 (C6b), 130.1 (C7), 132.8 (C13), 154.2 (C1), 155.9 (C3), 156.5 (C4a), 157.2 (C9),157.5 (C10a).

Phaseollidin: HPLC $R_t = 46.5 \text{ min.;} {}^{1}$ H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta 1.85 \text{ y} 1.80$ (2 x Me), 3.42 (m, H12), 3.59 (m, H6ax), 4.27 y 3.69 (H6), 5.32 (m, H13), 5.51 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, H11a), 6.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H8), 6.47 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, H4), 6.59 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, H2), 7.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H7), 7.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, H1); {}^{13}C-NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta 23.6$ (Me), 26.2 (C12), 40.5 (C6a), 67.1 (C6), 78.6 (C11a), 104.1 (C4), 108.6 (C8), 110.1 (C11b), 110.8 (C2), 113.4 (C10), 119.1 (C13), 121.8 (C6b), 122.7 (C7), 132.8 (C1), 135.4 (C14), 156.3 (C9), 157.0 (C4a), 157.1 (C10a), 157.4 (C3).

Phaseollinisoflavan: HPLC $R_t = 48.0 \text{ min.}$; UV λ_{max} (MeOH-AcOH 0.5%, nm): 279, 287sh, 310; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.35 (s, 2 x Me), 2.7-2.9 (m, H4eq and ax), 3.3 (m, H3), 3.91 (dd, J = 10.0, 10.0 Hz, H2ax), 4.23 (dd, J = 10.0, 4.0 Hz, H2eq), 5.59 (d, J = 10 Hz, H11), 6.3-6.4 (m, H5', 6, 8), 6.51 (d, J = 10 Hz, H10), 6.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H6'), 6.91 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H5); ¹³C-NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 28.1 (2xMe), 31.1 (C3), 32.4 (C4), 70.5 (C2), 76.1 (C12), 103.7 (C8), 108.6 (C5'), 109.9 (C3', 6), 115.0 (C11), 116.2 (C1'), 120.0 (C4a), 127.3 (C11), 130.9 (C6', 5), 149.4 (C2'), 152.9 (C4'), 155.4 (C7, 8a).

References

- 1. Hammerschmidt, R.; Schultz, J. Multiple defenses and signals in plant defense against pathogens and herbivores. *Recent Adv. Phytochem.*, **1996**, *30*, 121-154.
- 2. Grayer, R. J.; Kokubun, T. Plant-fungal interactions: the search for phytoalexins and other antifungal compounds from higher plants. *Phytochemistry*, **2001**, *56*, 253-263.
- 3. Harborne, J.B. The comparative biochemistry of phytoalexin induction in plants. *Biochem. Syst. Ecol.*, **1999**, *27*, 335-367.
- He, X.Z.; Dixon, R. Genetic manipulation of isoflavone 7-O-methyltransferase enhances biosynthesis of 4'-O-methylated isoflavonoid phytoalexins and disease resistance in alfalfa. *Plant Cell*, 2000, 12, 1689-1702.
- 5. Dillon, V.M.; Overton, J.; Grayer, R.J.; Harborne, J.B. Difference in phytoalexin responce among rice cultivars of different resistance to blast. *Phytochemistry*, **1997**, *44*, 599-603.
- 6. Otalvaro, F.; Echeverri, F.; Quiñones, W.; Torres, F.; Schneider, B. Correlation between phenylphenalenone phytoalexins and phytopathological properties in *Musa* and role of a dihydrophenylphenalene triol. *Molecules*, **2002**, *7*, 331-340.
- 7. Glazebrook, J.; Rogers, E.E.; Ausubel, F.M. Isolation of *Arabidopsis* mutants with enhanced disease susceptibility by direct screening. *Genetics*, **1996**, *143*, 973-982.
- 8. Woodward, M. Phaseollin formation and metabolism in *Phaseolus vulgaris*. *Phytochemistry*, **1980**, *19*, 921-927.
- 9. Brooks, C., Watson, D. Phytoalexins. Nat. Prod. Rep., 1985, 2, 427-459.
- 10. Essenberg, M. Prospects for strengthening plant defenses through phytoalexin engineering. *Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol.*, **2001**, *59*, 71-81.
- 11. Khan, R.; Mufti, S.; Jenner, M. R. Synthesis of 1',6,6'-triamino-1',6,6'-trideoxy derivatives of sucrose. *Carbohydr. Research*, **1973**, *30*, 183-186.
- Jarosz, S.; Mach, M. Synthesis of sucrose derivatives modified at the terminal carbon atoms. *Pol. J. Chem.*, **1999**, *73*, 981-988.
- 13. Woodward, M. Phaseoluteone and other 5-hydroxyisoflavonoids from *Phaseolus vulgaris* L. *Life Sci.*, **1979**, *2*, 680-682.
- 14. Linding, C.; Benrey, B.; Espinosa F. Phytoalexins, resistance traits, and domestication status in *Phaseolus coccineus* and *Phaseolus lunatus*. J. Chem. Ecol., **1997**, 23, 1997-2011.
- 15. Dakora, F.; Phillips, D. Diverse functions of isoflavonoids in legume transcend anti-microbial definitions of phytoalexins. *Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol.*, **1996**, *49*, 1-20.
- 16. Smith, D.A.; Banks, S.W. Biosynthesis, elicitation and biological activity of isoflavonoid phytoalexins. *Phytochemistry*, **1986**, *25*, 979-995.
- 17. Paiva, N. An introduction to the biosynthesis of chemicals used in plant-microbe communication. *J. Plant Growth Regul.*, **2000**, *19*, 131-143.
- Afzal, M.; Al-Oriquat, G. Biosynthesis of isoflavonoids and related phytoalexins. *Heterocycles*, 1982, 19, 1295-1318.

- 19. Fader, M. Isoflavone biosynthetic enzymes. U.S. Patent 6,054,636, 2000.
- 20. Dixon, R.A.; Paiva, N.L.; Oommen, A. Isoflavone reductase promoter, U.S. Patent 5,750,399, 1998.

Sample Availability: Samples are available from the authors.

© 2002 by MDPI (http://www.mdpi.org). Reproduction is permitted for noncommercial purposes.