

The COS-OGA oligosaccharidic elicitor - from basic research to plant protection.

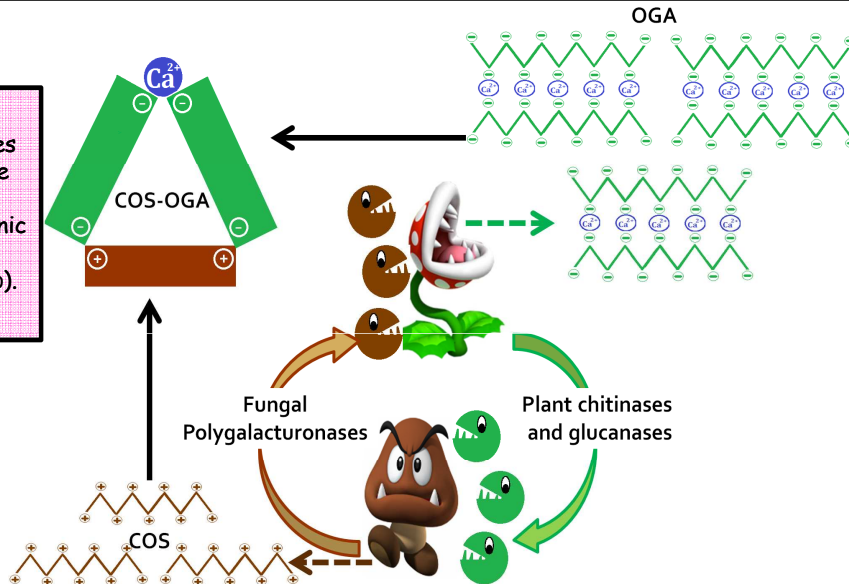
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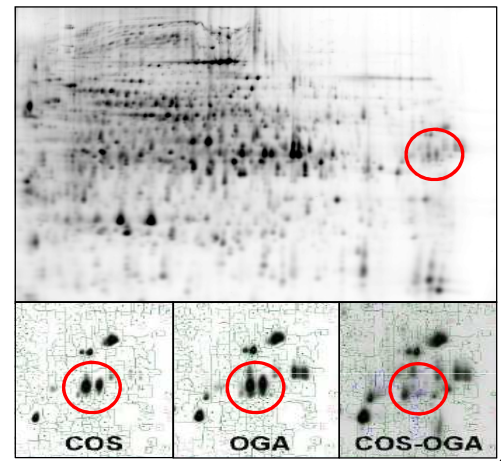
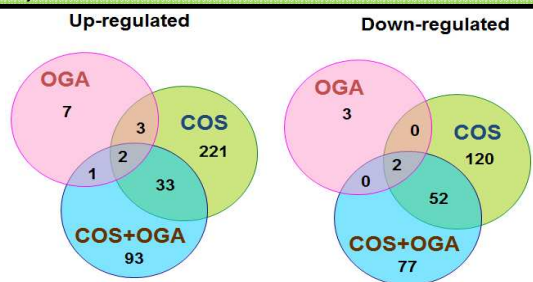
Level 1: COS-OGA elicitor composition was inspired by natural plant-fungus interactions

Chitosan oligosaccharides (COS) bind and stabilize the so-called egg box conformation of polyanionic oligogalacturonates (OGA) (Cabrera et al., *Glycobiology*, 2010).



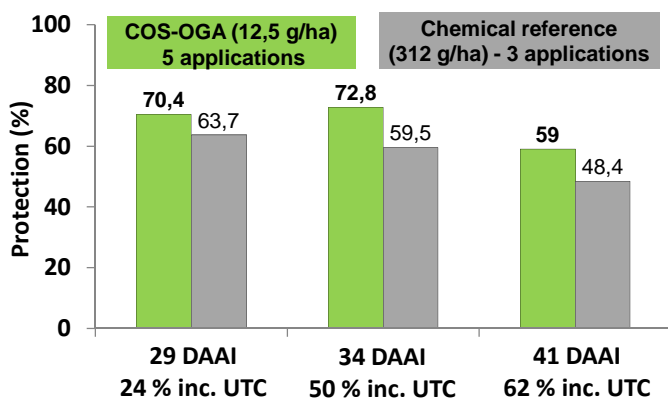
Indeed, upon plant penetration, fungi deacetylate their wall chitin into positively charged chitosan to escape plant chitin receptors. Chitosan fragmentation by plant enzymes yields COS, a polycationic molecule. Plant cell walls degradation by fungal enzymes gives oligogalacturonates (OGA) able to form egg boxes in presence of calcium.

Level 2: COS, OGA and COS-OGA effects were assayed on Arabidopsis



Arabidopsis cell suspensions were treated with COS, OGA or COS-OGA. Microarray and proteomic studies showed that proteins and genes involved in defence processes were differently regulated, indicating a synergistic mechanism of response to COS-OGA.

Level 3: COS-OGA protection was demonstrated in greenhouse trial



Efficacy trial on cucumber challenged by powdery mildew (*Sphaerotheca fuliginea*). COS-OGA protection was even slightly higher than the chemical reference.

DAA1 = Days after application n°1, % inc. UTC = disease incidence in the untreated control