

Utilizing Genomic Data For The Molecular Characterization Of Safflower

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Overview:

Introduction to safflower

Recent interest by biotechnology sector

- Introduction to SemBioSys Genetics Inc.
- Future safflower genomics plans



Safflower: Carthamus tinctorius L.

- Traditionally grown for dyes and medicinal properties
- Currently grown mainly for seed



- Birdseed
- Animal feed
- Industrial oil
- Edible oil





Safflower: Carthamus tinctorius L.

- High oil content seeds
- High oleic and linoleic acid varieties (mono/polyunsaturates)
- Very low sat. fatty acid levels
- High vitaminE content (400ug/mL)





showing seeds







Safflower: Renewed interest for molecular farming in N.A.

 Low risk production platform for recombinant proteins:

Technology:

- Easily transformable using Agro
- Recombinant protein levels in seeds are high
- Very amenable to large scale production and purification

Containment (regulatory):

- Low tendency to weediness
- High degree of self pollination (>90%)
- Low acreages grown in N. America
- No weedy relatives
- GRAS status





SemBioSys Genetics Inc.



State-of-the art lab facilities for molecular biology, biochemistry, and plant genetic transformation



Approx 26 R&D staff including 12 Ph.D level scientists



www.sembiosys.com

Integrated capacity from gene constructs to field level production



SemBioSys Oil Seed Systems

Proof-of-Concept

Arabidopsis thaliana

Commercial Production Species Safflower (Carthamus tinctorius)

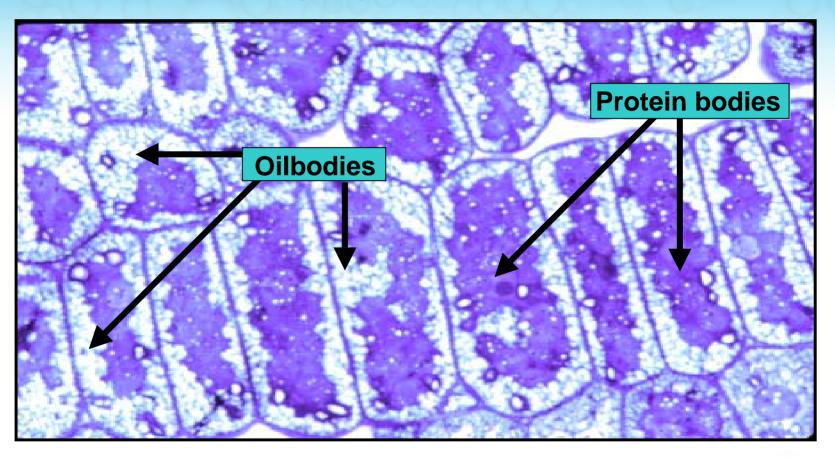






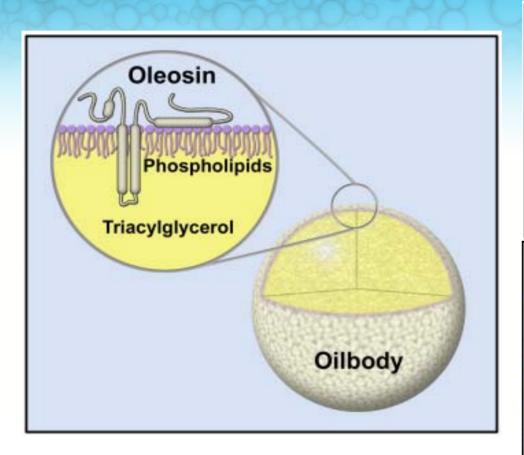
StratosomeTM Biologics System Seed Oilbodies

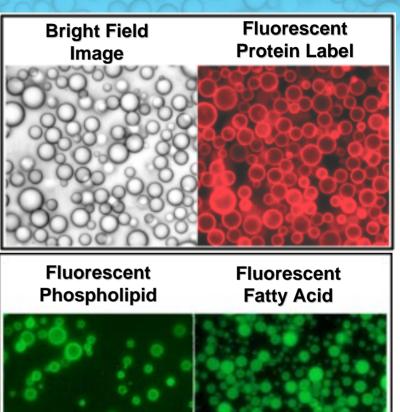
Cross-section of Oil Seed





Oilbody Structure & Components

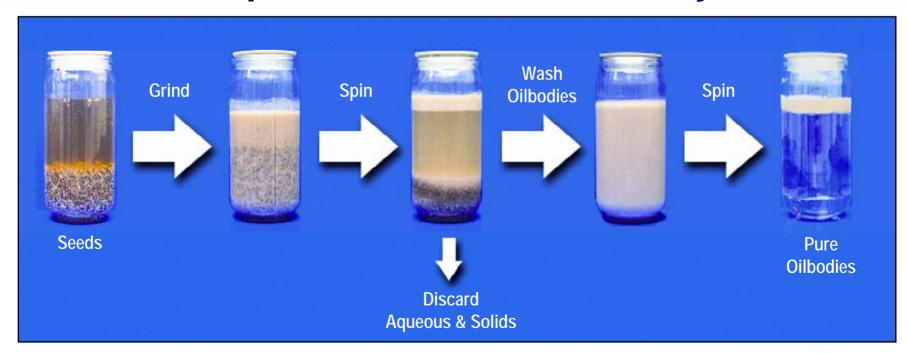






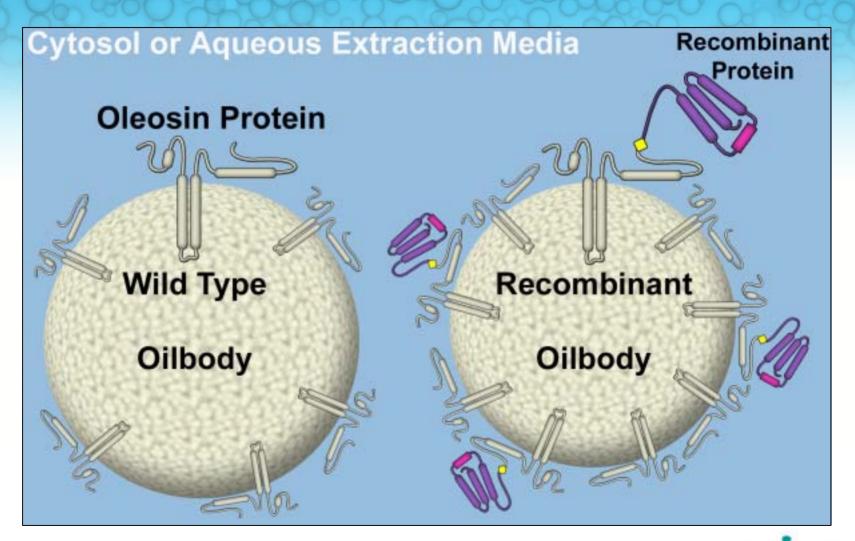
Purification of Oilbodies

The process of flotation-centrifugation results in substantial purification of the oil body fraction.



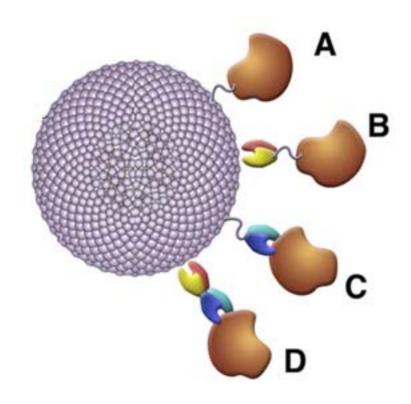


Production of Oleosin Fusions



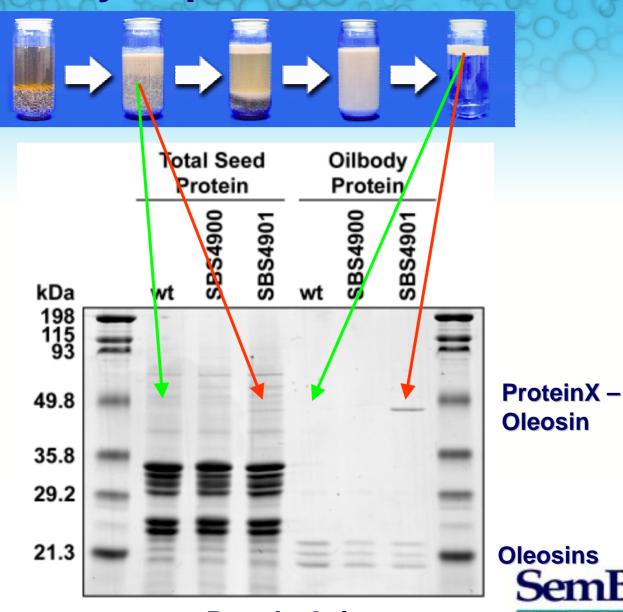


Attachment to Oilbodies





Recovery of proteinX on Oilbodies

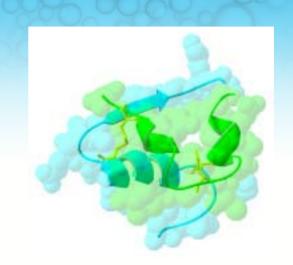


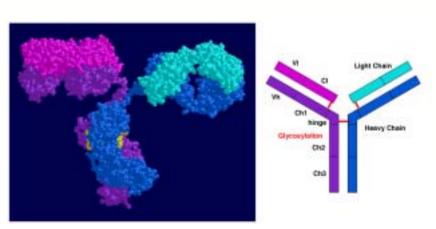
Protein Gel

SemBioSys

Products of interest

- Insulin
- Apolipoprotein A1
- Growth hormones
- Healthy fatty acids
- Antibody production and capture
- Safflower oilbodies for use in cosmetic ingredients







Safflower Genomics platform

NSERC CRD Grant submitted

Modest budget

Short term goals:

- •Generate safflower BAC genomic library and seed EST library
- •Use MAGPIE (www.visualgenomics.ca/) to annotate genes expressed in lettuce and sunflower
- •Isolate and characterize oleosin genes (RNAi), other seed storage protein genes
- Identify high expressing seed specific promoters
- •Isolate genes involved in lipid metabolism (nutraceutical fatty acids)



Safflower Genomics platform

Long term goals:

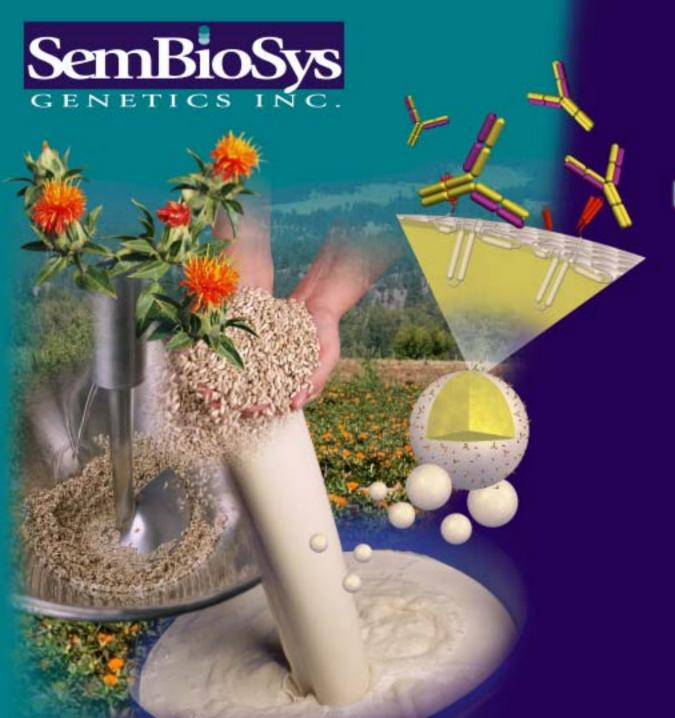
- •Expand EST library to include other tissues -microarrays
- mapping effort and BAC fingerprinting effort
- •Larger scale genomic sequencing effort (i.e. Orion Genomics™) -using reduced representation techniques



Collaborations

- SemBioSys Genetics Inc.
- Randy Weselake (Univ. of Alberta)
- Christoph Sensen (Sun Center of Excellence for Visual Genomics)
- Allen Good (Univ. of Alberta)
- Steven Knapp (Univ. of Georgia)
- Richard Michelmore (UofC Davis)





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Symbol SBS on TSX