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# Plant Abiotic Stress-Induced ROS and Non-Enzymatic Antioxidant Production

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**Abstract:** One of the most important determinants of plant production is abiotic stress. A buildup of reactive oxygen species (ROS) formed by molecular oxygen may lead to the oxidation of cell components including as proteins, chlorophyll, lipids, nucleic acids, and carbohydrates in the leaves under these stress circumstances, It is possible that ROS reduces plant development as part of an adaptational process to cope with numerous abiotic and biotic stressors. The antioxidant metabolites, enzymes, and non-enzymes that plants have to detoxify ROS vary in quantity in different species. Non-enzymatic antioxidants have a critical role in plants' resistance to oxidative damage induced by abiotic stress, which is discussed in this study.

**Key words:** percent of abiotic stress Percentage of reactive oxygen species Antioxidants that are not enzymes

#### INTRODUCTION

Singet oxygen (O) is a natural byproduct of oxidation. Abiotic stressors on proteins, lipids, carbohydrates, and DNA induce cell death in plants [10, 11, 6, 8] because they are inescapable in the environment. deprive them of the opportunity to reach their full potential O and HO damage polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) in plants, morphological, physiological, biochemical alterations in plants. Complex combinations of lipid hydroperoxides account for around 22% of the total. There is a lot of salt in the world's agricultural land [1], and places that have been subject to extensive PUFA peroxidation, which reduces the fluidity of the drought, are already growing and increasing, as is predicted. Membrane proteins may be damaged by an abiotic stress environment [13]. When aldehydes develop in plants, they cause a broad range of reactions, including changes in cytoplasmic transport and metabolic activities. Male infertility in maize due to

growth suppression caused by a restorer gene [3-6]. mitochondrial aldehyde in this species Ion imbalance dehydrogenase is the principal impact of abiotic stress [14, 15]. as well as hyperosmotic pressures and strains. ROS may alter the DNA in a

variety of ways, and one of the key impacts is an increase in reactive ways. H2O is the most reactive, whereas O destroys ROS that are damaging to plants. High quantities of guanine, HO, and O had little effect on the cells [16]. When there is an increase in In every cell compartment, 8-Hydroxyguanine is the most often found significant imbalance between modifications. As a result of ROS damage to DNA, both mtDNA and nDNA produce ROS and antioxidant defense, resulting in mutation clusters in hot areas that are not entirely random [6-8]. There have been reports of reactive [9, 8]. So yet, no gene has been discovered as especially vulnerable to ROS damage by ROS, such as superoxide (O2). H2O2, hydroxyl radicals (HO), and ROS may alter DNA indirectly in addition to directly oxidizing it. MDA, a breakdown product of PUFAs, is often damaged by free radicals [17], which are vital in biological conjugation of MDA with guanine. Gene expression may be affected by both genetic mutations and DNA damage, which can lead to changes in methylation of the C-terminal regions of DNA. When sugars are oxidized with HO, the major breakdown product is frequently! formic acid [18]. Formaldehyde dehydrogenase's longsought substrate might finally be found here. When ROS or byproducts of oxidative stress cause covalent alteration of a protein, we say that protein oxidation has occurred. It's possible to reverse certain kinds of protein oxidation that include sulfurcontaining amino acids [20]. Oxidative stress may be diagnosed by the oxidation of proteins, which is common and widely used as a diagnostic sign. A number of antioxidant enzymes and non-enzymatic substances work together to prevent ROS' harmful effects, including: superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalactises, ascorbate peroxidase, glutathione reductase, ascorbic acid, and others [6, 21-23]. Enzymatic activities that detoxify a given ROS are often found in many locations in a cell. For example, the cytosol includes at least three enzymes that scavenge H O: APX, GPX, and PrxR [24]. By introducing or overexpressing certain genes into 2 2 genetically altered plants, abiotic stress tolerance may be achieved [25]. This study sheds information on how reactive oxygen species (ROS) damage plant cellular structures and how antioxidants counteract these oxidative effects.

#### **Produced by Ross**

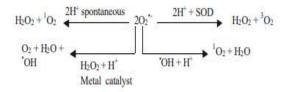
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ROS are mostly produced by photorespiration in plants' chloroplasts and peroxisomes during daylight hours [26] and by mitochondria at night [27]. Superoxide (O2) and hydrogen peroxide (H 2O 2) are abundantly produced by chloroplasts in plants (Davletova et al. 2005). ROS is mostly generated in chloroplast thylakoids in the PSI and PSII reaction centers [28]. Complexes I and!-III of the mitochondria create O2 as a byproduct. Approximately 1–5% of the oxygen used by isolated mitochondria leads in ROS generation. Oxygen and hydrogen peroxide are produced by peroxisomes in a variety of metabolic processes! (del Rio et al., 2006). Plasma membrane NADPH oxidase also generates O2, which is involved in a number of different physiological processes [29]. [17] The most essential free radicals in the biological conjugation of MDA with Guanine. Gene expression may be affected by both genetic mutations and DNA damage, which can lead to changes in methylation of the C-terminal regions of DNA. When sugars are oxidized with HO, the major breakdown product is frequently! formic acid [18]. Formaldehyde dehydrogenase's long-sought substrate might finally be found here. When ROS or byproducts of oxidative stress cause covalent alteration of a protein, we say that protein oxidation has occurred. It's possible to reverse certain kinds of protein oxidation that include sulfur-containing amino acids [20]. Oxidative stress may be diagnosed by the oxidation of proteins, which is common and widely used as a diagnostic sign. A number of antioxidant enzymes and non-enzymatic substances work together to prevent ROS' harmful effects, including: superoxide dismutase catalactises, ascorbate peroxidase, glutathione reductase, ascorbic acid, and others [6, 21-23]. Enzymatic activities that detoxify a given ROS are often found in many locations in a cell. For example, the cytosol includes at least three enzymes that scavenge H O: APX, GPX, and PrxR [24]. By introducing or overexpressing certain genes into 2 2 genetically altered plants, abiotic stress tolerance may be achieved [25]. Antioxidants play an important function in counteracting the harmful effects of ROS in the plant system. This review sheds light on this topic. Produced by Ross ROS are primarily produced in plants by photorespiration in the day [26] and by mitochondria in the dark [27] in chloroplasts and peroxisomes. Superoxide (O2) and hydrogen peroxide (H 2O 2) are abundantly produced by chloroplasts in plants (Davletova et al. 2005). The PSI and PSII reaction centers in chloroplast thylakoids are the primary sources of ROS [28]. Complexes I and!-III of the mitochondria create O2 as a byproduct. Approximately 1-5% of the oxygen used by isolated mitochondria leads in ROS generation. Oxygen and hydrogen peroxide are

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produced by peroxisomes in a variety of metabolic processes! (del Rio et al., 2006). Plasma membrane NADPH oxidase also generates O2, which is involved in a number of different physiological processes [29]. Oxygen derivatives are the basis of systems [30, 8]. Complete reduction of O2 via the univalent route produces superoxide anion and hydrogen peroxide along with additional products such as triplet O (O), singlet O (O), and hydroxyl radicals 2 2 2 2 2 3 1, as illustrated below:



Oxidizers such as hydrogen peroxide aren't very reactive. As a generator of hydroxyl radicals, its importance cannot be overestimated. Superoxide and hydrogen peroxide are easily eliminated and almost nontoxic in the absence of metal catalysts. Hydroxyl radicals are highly reactive and may react with a wide range of biomolecules at diffusion-controlled speeds. The Harber Weiss reaction is known to create hydroxyl radicals [31]

$$O_2$$
 +  $H_2O_2$  Cu and/or Fe  $O_2$  + OH + OH

High-energy radiation, such as X-rays or gamma rays, may also produce hydroxyl radicals. In the cell sap, which has a high water content, most of the energy is converted into kinetic energy. It's possible that one of water's covalent bonds will be broken as a consequence of this.

Among the most reactive free radicals in biological systems, hydroxyl radicals are at the top of the list. They are capable of causing harm to practically every molecule in a cell. Despite its tremendous reactivity, its lifespan is quite limited (microseconds). Free radicals are highly reactive and unstable in biological systems. Most of these radicals can only be found in low concentrations, and they don't go very far from where they were formed to where they are formed. The Fenton! reaction, which is mostly catalyzed by free transition metal ions, may produce HO from H2O2. As Cd concentrations increase in the roots and leaves of plants, the HO, O2, and O2 react swiftly with all sorts of cellular! components, whereas O is especially reactive with conjugated double bonds

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seen in polyunsaturated fatty acids under Cd stress (PUFAs). In other words, they leave distinct traces of Glycine max nodules. Ascorbate concentration in Cucumis sativus chloroplasts and other cell components is likewise decreased by cadmium (as distinct oxidatively modified ascorbate forms) [32].

# Antioxidants that are not enzymes Tocopherol acetate (Vitamin C)

Enzymes are found in the vast majority of prokaryotic organisms. Ascorbic acid (AsA or vitamin C), a potent substance in Cicer arietinum roots, decreased significantly under salt stress, according to Kukreja et al. [48]. To counteract or at least mitigate the harmful effects of ROS, a watersoluble antioxidant should be utilized [33]. ROS consider GSH to be the most significant antioxidant. It is found in all plant tissues, and is typically the most effective protection against ROS damage. Meristems and photosynthetic cells (and some fruits). the GSH tripeptide glutathione ((-GluCysGly) Ascorbate is found in around 30% to 40% of the plant's essential metabolites. Plant tissues contain as much as 50 mM reduced form in chloroplasts and stroma, which is distributed cell. Leaf cytoplasm throughout the endocytoplasmic reticulum have the largest concentration of chloroplasts and peroxisomal proteins, since chlorophyll levels in mature leaves are the greatest. Physiologically as well as apoplastically normal [49]. Several physiological functions, including as the control of sulfate in leaves and chloroplasts, rely on AsA, which is generally present in reduced form. Due to its capacity to donate electrons in a number of stressresponsive genes [51], AsA is regarded the transport, signal transduction, conjugation, most popular and strong ROS detoxifying chemical detoxification of xenobiotics [50]. Enzymatic and non-enzymatic processes have both contributed to the evolution of GSH. When AsA scavenges oxygen radicals, it regenerates tocopherol, which is essential for plant growth and development, including cell differentiation and cell death caused by the tocopheroxyl radical 1!-! 2 2. This provides membrane and senescence protection as well as pathogen resistance and enzyme protection [34]. AA is a cofactor in chloroplast control [52]. Reduction of glutathione to its usual reduced state ensures that excess excitation energy does not build up in cells, which may lead to cell damage [33]. In the event of oxidative stress, Vitamin C and Vitamin E work together to counteract the harmful effects of stress and replenish "-tocopherol radicals. Heterogeneous O and H O membranes may be salvaged by this method. Other

ROS, such as OH [54], and AsA [53, 38], play an important role. In addition, GSH plays an important function in the body's antioxidative defense mechanism in limiting damage produced by oxidative processes [36, 37]. By recreating another potentially water-soluble Ascorbate-Glutathione cycle, ascorbate also plays an antioxidant function in ascorbic acid's preservation of the enzyme activities included in cycle, ascorbic acid's ascorbate plays an important role [39, 55]. The glutathione-S prosthetic transition metal ions' substrate is GSH [38]. Lascorbic acid, MDHA, and DHAR DHA make up the ascorbate transferase (GST), which plays a crucial function in the redox system. Although ascorbate is relatively and xenobiotics, both oxidized forms of ascorbate are. GSH maintains redox equilibrium chemically reducing GSH to ascorbate whereas DHA may be oxidized form (GSSG) in conjunction with its unstable in aqueous conditions (GSSG) There is evidence of this in the cellular structures. GR overexpression in transgenic plants has been shown to maintain the normal cellular redox system under normal and stressed conditions, supporting the real involvement of DHAR, GSH, and GR in maintaining the foliar ascorbate pool. Conditions for nicotiana. To protect tabacum and Populus Canescens plants, it maintains "tocopherol and zeaxanthin foliar ascorbate concentration and improves resistance to in the decreased condition. 'Oxidative stress has been linked to a variety of health problems [40]. Glutathione concentrations in Piceaasperata Mast. Seedlings were shown to rise dramatically in the presence of stressors like as light conditions and dryness, resulting in an increase in the oxidation state of the system. At the same time as GSH is an important precursor to PCs (Phytochelatins), Agarwal [42] found that the amount and ratio of GSH/GSSG had a significant impact on cellular heavy metal concentrations. Auriculata seedlings' GSH and GSSG levels are both dramatically raised by UV-B exposure. There is a decline in the cellular ascorbate content equilibrium. As a result of this, Enzymes are found in the vast majority of prokaryotic organisms. Ascorbic acid (AsA or vitamin C), a potent substance in Cicer arietinum roots, decreased significantly under salt stress, according to Kukreja et al. [48]. To counteract or at least mitigate the harmful effects of ROS, a watersoluble antioxidant should be utilized [33]. ROS consider GSH to be the most significant antioxidant. It is found in all plant tissues, and is typically the most effective protection against ROS damage. Meristems and photosynthetic cells (and some fruits). Tripeptide glutathione (GluCvsGlv). Genes that produce GSH are among the many. Ascorbate is found in around 30% to 40% of the plant's essential metabolites. Plant tissues contain as much as 50 mM

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#### reduced form in chloroplasts and stroma, which is distributed throughout the cell. Leaf cytoplasm and endocytoplasmic reticulum have the largest concentration of chloroplasts and peroxisomal proteins, since chlorophyll levels in mature leaves are the greatest. Physiologically as well as apoplastically normal [49]. Several physiological functions, including as the control of sulfate in leaves and chloroplasts, rely on AsA, which is generally present in reduced form. Due to its capacity to donate electrons in a number of stressresponsive genes [51], AsA is regarded the signal transport, transduction, metabolite conjugation, most popular and strong ROS detoxifying chemical detoxification of xenobiotics [50]. Enzymatic and non-enzymatic processes have both contributed to the evolution of GSH. When AsA scavenges oxygen radicals, it regenerates tocopherol, which is essential for plant growth and development, including cell differentiation and cell death caused by the tocopheroxyl radical 1!-! 2 2. This provides membrane and senescence protection as well as pathogen resistance and enzyme protection [34]. AA is a cofactor in chloroplast control [52]. Reduction of glutathione to its usual reduced state ensures that excess excitation energy does not build up in cells, which may lead to cell damage [33]. In the event of oxidative stress, Vitamin C and Vitamin E work together to counteract the harmful effects of stress and replenish "-tocopherol radicals. Heterogeneous O and H O membranes may be salvaged by this method. Other ROS, such as OH [54], and AsA [53, 38], play an important role. In addition, GSH plays an important function in the body's antioxidative defense mechanism in limiting damage produced by oxidative processes [36, 37]. By recreating another potentially water-soluble Ascorbate-Glutathione cycle, ascorbate also plays an antioxidant function in ascorbic acid's preservation of the enzyme activities included in cycle, ascorbic acid's ascorbate plays an important role [39, 55]. The glutathione-S prosthetic transition metal ions' substrate is GSH [38]. Lascorbic acid, MDHA, and DHAR DHA make up the ascorbate transferase (GST), which plays a crucial function in the redox system. Although ascorbate is relatively and xenobiotics, both oxidized forms of ascorbate are. GSH maintains redox equilibrium chemically reducing GSH to ascorbate whereas DHA may be oxidized form (GSSG) in conjunction with its unstable in aqueous conditions (GSSG) There is evidence of this in the cellular structures. GR overexpression in transgenic plants has been shown to maintain the normal cellular redox system under normal and stressed conditions, supporting the real involvement of DHAR, GSH, and GR in maintaining the foliar ascorbate pool. Conditions for nicotiana. To protect

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tabacum and Populus Canescens plants, it maintains "tocopherol and zeaxanthin foliar ascorbate concentration and improves resistance to in the decreased condition. 'Oxidative stress has been linked to a variety of health problems [40]. Glutathione concentrations in Piceaasperata Mast. Seedlings were shown to rise dramatically in the presence of stressors like as light conditions and dryness, resulting in an increase in the oxidation state of the system. At the same time as GSH is an important precursor to PCs (Phytochelatins), Agarwal [42] found that the amount and ratio of GSH/GSSG had a significant impact on cellular heavy metal concentrations. Auriculata seedlings' GSH and GSSG levels are both dramatically raised by UV-B exposure. There is a decline in the cellular ascorbate content equilibrium. As reported for Cucumis sativus chloroplast [229], Populus Canescens roots [67] and Oryza sativa leaves [68], this GSH property has significant biological significance because it allows the cellular redox environment to be fine-tuned under normal conditions as well as when stress occurs, and provides the under Cd stress. GSH stress signals have their origins in a depletion of GSH caused by cadmium exposure. In phytochelatin synthesis, a core nucleophilic Cys has been identified [69]. increased reductive potential is owing to residue. GSH has been linked to PC-heavy metal complexes. In the vacuole of tobacco leaves, H2O2 is scavenged and combines with other ROS (O2, OH, and O2) in an enzymatic manner [70]. Avena sativa is the scientific name for this plant. It has been shown that these complexes are! In the antioxidative defense, GSH plays a critical function in trafficking through the tonoplast An enhanced soluble antioxidant, ascorbate, in ascorbate-glutathione consumption for ascorbate production or a direct cycle may also be responsible for the system's reduction in GSH levels [39, 38]. The antioxidant defense interaction between Cd and GSH [63]. The wide range of responses to the system makes it an excellent stress management tool. There is likely more than one sign for the oxidative stress brought on by Cd exposure. Nonetheless, the quantity of cellular GSH, as well as the plant species and length of treatment, have a considerable impact on the antioxidant action of GSH. When exposed to high levels of Cd, this value may change dramatically. It has been shown that plants' capacity to increase under NaCl stress is connected with an augmented GSH activity and pool under copper stress and substantial concentrations, according to Srivastava et al. [72]. Metal-induced oxidative stress may be tolerated by Sumithra et al. [73] as well [60]. Plants with low glutathione and GSH concentrations were shown to be more vulnerable to even low levels of Cd owing to the leaves of Pusa Bold than in CO 4 cvs. of Vigna

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radiata, 2+ restricted PC production, as reported by Xiang et al. [50]. As a result of the increased demand for GSH, the activation of sulfur assimilation and cysteine production pathways in CO 4 leaves was shown to be greater than in Pusa Bold leaves. It's a matter of focus. Sulfur availability appears to be necessary for improved protection in Pusa Bold's complicated homeostatic process, which suggests it has effective antioxidative properties [56]. to protect plants from oxidative damage in salt-exposed environments GSH biosynthesis may manipulated to improve resistance conditions. Excess GSH/GSSG levels have been linked to oxidative stress [61]. One of the primary reactions of Cassia auriculata seedlings to Cd treatment was a considerable rise in the and ratio. Vitamin E "-Tocopherols": Tocopherols, the lipid-soluble roots of Arabidopsis [62] were shown to induce genes involved in sulfur assimilation-reduction and glutathione metabolism. (-glutamylcysteine synthase synthase scavengers of ROS and lipid radical scavengers present in all plant sections) GSH production by tocopherols (a membrane-bound focal site for GSH synthesis) has been regarded as a fundamental. Tobacco and parsley cells were used in in vitro investigations to demonstrate that GSH blocked the membranes where they perform antioxidant and plant (-ECS roles. GSH's nonantioxidant actions are oxidized. Tocopherols (-, \$-, (-, \*-) present in plants and (-ECS activity in stress situations) may be enhanced by GSSG, one of the four isomers of GSSG. Antioxidant action is higher in -tocopherol Because ROS levels in plants include three methyl groups, the glutathione response to environmental stress may be molecular in structure. Tocopherols obstruct a chain reaction essential for a person's ability to adapt. This makes the chloroplast and leaves of Phragmites australis Trin. an excellent free-radical trap because of their antioxidant activity [77]. Tocopherols (cav.) ex Steudel were shown to have a high concentration of glutathione (GSH) and serve as scavengers of oxygen radicals, particularly O making sure that several photosynthetic enzymes can continue to function It has been estimated that one molecule of "-tocopherol may shield up to 120 O molecules by resonance against Cd's thiophilic bursting when present [63]. Transfer of energy [79]. GSH concentrations have been shown to rise in association with Oxidative stress triggers Brassica juncea's rising Cd content [64], the activation of genes important for Pisum sativum and Sedum alfredii synthesis [65] and is well known [66]. Tocopherols, on the other hand, are found in higher plants. "-tocopherol and AsA have been shown to rise in tomato after triazole treatment and may have content that is superior to the wild type of antioxidant in Pinus sylvestris roots [47],"tocopherol and AsA have been shown to increase in

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tomato after triazole treatment. As a result, they concluded that VTE1 may be utilized to raise vitamin E levels in tomato plants, which helps them withstand cold temperatures and also increases their resistance to other environmental stressors like [81]. Many workers have also complained about exposure to plants.

#### **Carotenoids:**

There are two types of carotenoids: those that can be found in plants and microbes, and those that can only be found in plants. There are more than four thousand VTE4). More than 600 naturally occurring carotenoids may be found in the leaves of various plant species. "-tocopherol" is found in high amounts in Arabidopsis, but it also serves a variety of roles in plants deficient in (-tocopherol). Tocopherol's metabolism has been affected by nitration of (-tocopherol). In the control and detoxification of reactive nitrogen oxide chloroplasts, lipophilic organic molecules may play a vital role. In animal tissues, there are three main roles that cars play. To find out whether they are indeed plants. Firstly, they capture light at a wavelength between 400 and 550 nm and transmit it to the Chl (an accessory tocopherol (5-N(T) was found in leaves of the light-harvesting function) [86]. In addition, they protect the Arabidopsis mutant line (vte4), which lacks (-tocopherol methyltransferase and sensitizer (Chl), singlet oxygen and other damaging free radicals due to insertion in the photosynthetic system, by quenching a triplet of the gene encoding these enzymes. Estimation of NOx levels in (antioxidant-related) processes It's worth noting, too, that leaf analysis found that the vte4 mutant had a lower NOx content than the wild-type and vte1, which lacks both the light harvesting complex proteins and thylakoid tocopherol. Stabilization of the membranes (a structural function) [86,89]. Both Rai et al. [90] and Ekmekci [91] observed the presence of 5-N(T) in the developing seeds of the Brassica napus, Nicotiana tabacum, and Arabidopsis studied. Tocopherol and Zea mays cultivars with an increase in 5-N(T) have been shown to extend the early concentration of Cd. Collin et al. [92] similarly found that lowering the quantity of NOx in Arabidopsis plants reduced development [82]. a rise in Srivastava et al. [72] found an overall increase in Car content in Anabaena doliolum after Cd stress, as reported by Foyer and Harbison [93]. NaCl and Cu have been thought to exert stress on the body. Bergmuller et al. [83] also reported some isoprenoids (including several carotenoids and 2+ that during oxidative stress (high light, high temperature, tocopherols) play an effective role in photoprotection cold treatment) the amounts of "-tocopherol and (- [94]. Tocopherol,

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which is a monoterpene, increased in wild type and (-tocopherol enhanced thermotolerance increasing temperatures [95] vte4-1. Wild type and vte4-1, oxidative stress exhibited comparable chlorophyll content, photosynthetic activity, and monoterpenes' ability to protect against quantum yield [96]. replacing "-tocopherol" with (-tocopherol in vte4-1 to preserve the p has been suggested. Antioxidant properties of flavonoids have also been shown to protect against oxidative stress. A number of oxidizable chemicals were tested by Giacomelli et al. [84] These chemical substances, which include a-tocopherol as well as ascorbate and glutathione were discovered to have an enormous impact on cell concentrations. High light (1,000 photons m s) causes flavonoids to be discovered in all plant tissues, including leaves, flowers, as well as the pollen of eight Arabidopsis genotypes and four ascorbate pollens. Vtc2 genotypes collect more glutathione vacuole glycosides, but they also produce exudates under control light (120 mmol photons per second) than on the surface of leaves and other aerial plant components, which are more exposed to light. Two of the others. VTE1 encodes for tocopherol cyclase The final stage of tocopherol 1 mM is catalyzed by flavonoid concentration in plant cells, which is often higher than gene) [98]. Potential synthesizers include many flavonoids (flavonoids 85). In one experiment, transgenic tobacco plants were subjected to polyunsaturated fatty acids and oxygen-containing drought circumstances during which transgenic lines contained derivatives of the enzyme lipoxygenase, which transforms overexpressing VTE1 from Arabidopsis [99]. Flavonoids' ability to reduce lipid peroxidation, electrolyte leakage, and hydrogen peroxide production is one of the most extensively researched flavonoid features.

# CLOSING MESSAGE AND INTERESTING OPINIONS

As their environment changes frequently, higher plants have evolved a set of routes at various levels to battle stress, which in turn creates more ROS. Damages to metabolites like as proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids are caused by an increase in ROS. Reactive oxygen species (ROS) may be neutralized by plants via the activation of antioxidant enzymes. Tolerance to a wide range of abiotic stressors has been improved by genetic engineering in the past several decades through increased antioxidant enzymatic and nonenzymatic activity. Plants that are more resistant to biotic and abiotic stress may be bred using techniques that increase the expression of antioxidant genes. We still have a long way to go before we can achieve this level of tolerance in delicate species. Even though many genes are

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activated by abiotic stress and signal transduction pathways, more work has to be done to identify each specific product.

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