Professor (Associate)
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Background

2010	Ph.D. in Life Science, The Department of Life Science, Hokkaido University
2008-2010	JSPS Research fellow (DC2)
2010-2013	Postdoctoral fellow, The Department of Agriculture and Life Science, Seoul National University (Republic of Korea)
2013-2016	Research Professor, The Department of Agriculture and Life Science, Seoul National University (Republic of Korea)
2015-2016	Guest Scientist, Max-Planck Institute (Germany)
2016-2021	Assistant Professor, The Department of Agriculture and Life Science, The University of. Tokyo
2021-	Associate Professor, The Department of Agriculture and Life Science, The University. of Tokyo
2025	Japanese Society of Plant Biologists Young Investigator Award 2025

Research Interest

Molecular mechanism of leaf senescence／Nitrogen deficiency responses／Light signaling-mediated regulation of nutrient acquisition and use/Molecular mechanism of small RNA dynamics

Major publications

1. **Sakuraba Y**, Yang M, Yanagisawa S. (2024) HASTY-mediated miRNA dynamics modulate nitrogen starvation-induced leaf senescence in Arabidopsis. **Nature Communications** 15: 7913.
2. **Sakuraba Y** (2022) Molecular basis of nitrogen starvation-induced leaf senescence. **Frontiers in Plant Science** 13: 1013304
3. **Sakuraba Y**, Chaganzhana, Mabuchi A, Iba K, Yanagisawa S. (2021) Enhanced NRT1.1/NPF6.3 expression in shoots improves growth under nitrogen deficiency stress in Arabidopsis. **Communications Biology** 4: 256
4. **Sakuraba Y**, Kim D, Has SH, Kim SH, Piao W, Yanagisawa S, An G, Paek NC. (2020) Multilayered regulation of membrane-bound ONAC054 is essential for abscisic acid-induced leaf senescence in rice. **The Plant Cell** 32: 630-649
5. **Sakuraba Y**, Kanno S, Mabuchi A, Monda K, Iba K, Yanagisawa S. (2018) A phytochrome-B-mediated regulatory mechanism of phosphorus acquisition. **Nature Plants** 4: 1089-1101
6. **Sakuraba Y**, BulBul S, Piao W, Choi G, Paek NC (2017) EARLY FLOWERING3 increases salt tolerance by suppressing salt stress response pathways. **The Plant Journal** 92:1106-1120
7. **Sakuraba Y**, Kim EY, Han SH, Piao W, An G, Todaka D, Yamaguchi-Shinozaki K, Paek NC (2017) Rice Phytochrome-Interacting Factor-LIKE 1 (OsPIL1) is involved in the promotion of chlorophyll biosynthesis through feed-forward regulatory loop. **Journal of Experimental Botany** 68: 4103-4114.
8. **Sakuraba Y**, Kim YS, Han SH, Lee BD, and Paek NC (2015) The Arabidopsis transcription factor NAC016 promotes drought stress responses by repression AREB1 transcription through a trifurcate feed-forward regulatory loop involving NAP. **The Plant Cell** 27:1771-1787
9. **Sakuraba Y**, Jeong J, Kang MY, Kim J, Paek NC, and Choi G. (2014) Phytochrome-interacting transcription factors PIF4 and PIF5 induce leaf senescence in Arabidopsis. **Nature Communications** 5:4636
10. **Sakuraba Y**, Park SY, Kim YS, Wang SH, Yoo SC, Hortensteiner S, Paek NC. (2014) Arabidopsis STAY-GREEN2 is a negative regulator of chlorophyll degradation during leaf senescence. **Molecular Plant** 7:1288-1302
11. **Sakuraba Y**, Rahman ML, Cho SH, Kim YS, Koh HJ, Yoo SC, and Paek NC (2013) The rice fade green leaf locus encodes protochlorophyllide oxidoreductase B and is essential for chlorophyll synthesis under high light conditions. **The Plant Journal** 74: 122-133
12. **Sakuraba Y**, Schelbert S, Park SY, Han SH, Lee BD, Andres CB, Kessler F, Hortensteiner S, Paek NC (2012) STAY-GREEN and chlorophyll catabolic enzymes interact at light-harvesting complex II for chlorophyll detoxification during leaf senescence in Arabidopsis. **The Plant Cell** 24:507-518