**Update section** 

Sequence

## Isolation and nucleotide sequence of a cDNA clone encoding the bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) CM17 protein

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A group of proteins from cereal seeds, characterized by their solubility in mixtures of chloroform and methanol (CM), have been found to be members of the trypsin/ $\alpha$ -amylase inhibitor family [3].

In *Triticum aestivum* L. five CM proteins (CM1, CM2, CM3, CM16, CM17) were isolated [3]. They are known to be subunits of a tetrameric heterologous  $\alpha$ -amylase inhibitor [6].

Recently, cDNA clones encoding *T. aestivum* CM1, CM3 and CM16 [2, 7] and cDNA clones encoding *T. durum* CM2 and CM16 [5, 4] were isolated. We present here the sequence of a cDNA clone encoding the bread wheat CM17 protein which only the N-terminal amino acid sequence was already known [1].

We used a durum wheat CM16 cDNA clone (pTd 78) as a probe to screen a  $\lambda$ gt10 *T. aestivum* (cv. Timgalen) cDNA library. From the screening a number of positive clones were detected and subcloned at the *Eco* RI site of the pbluescript II SK vector (Genofit). Sequencing of these clones allowed us to characterize a full-length cDNA clone (pTa 32.1) encoding the bread wheat CM17 protein (Fig. 1). This cDNA contains an open reading frame of 429 nucleotides flanked by a 53

nucleotide 5' untranslated sequence and a 3' non-coding sequence of 172 nucleotides. Two putative polyadenylation signals (AATAAA) are located 26 and 137 bp upstream from the polyadenylation site. The open reading frame encodes a preprotein of 143 residues of which residues 27-53 are identical to the N-terminal amino acid sequence already determined [1] suggesting that the signal peptide cleavage site of the preprotein occurs after the glycine residue in position 26. However, alignment between the CM17 preprotein sequence and the other CM preproteins shows another possible signal peptide cleavage site after the alanine residue in position 24. Although the two putative signal peptide cleavage sites follow the (-3, -1) rule of Von Heijne [8] the last one is most likely to occur due to homologies with other CM proteins. Depending on the site of cleavage taken into consideration the Triticum aestivum mature CM17 protein has a molecular mass of 13275 or 13432 Da.

The amino acid sequence of *T. aestivum* CM17 preprotein is 44.6, 45.3 and 87.4% identical to those of *T. aestivum* CM1, CM3 and CM16 respectively and 47% identical to *T. durum* CM2. The present results not only confirm the predicted

The nucleotide sequence data reported will appear in the EMBL, GenBank and DDBJ Nucleotide Sequence Databases under the accession number X59791.

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Fig. 1. Nucleotide sequence of Triticum aestivum L. cDNA clone pTa32.1 and deduced amino acid sequence of CM17 protein. Numbers flanking the sequence refer to nucleotides, the start of translation is defined as +1. The underlined sequence indicates sequence identical to the N-terminal amino acid sequence determined by Barber *et al.* [1]. Putative polyadenylation signals are

marked with dots.

homology for the protein pair CM17–CM16 but also the fact that greater homology is found between proteins encoded by homeologous chromosomes in two different genomes rather than between CM proteins encoded by the same genome [1].

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