

Title Introduction of ethylene insensitivity in *Campanula carpatica* flowers by genetic manipulation with Etr1-1

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Abstract

The construct containing the *etr1-1* gene from *Arabidopsis thaliana* under control of the flower specific *jbpl*-promoter from *Petunia* was used to obtain *Campanula carpatica* Jacq. potted plants with ethylene insensitive flowers. The flowers on the wild type *Campanula* plants wilted within three days when exposed to 2 $\mu\text{l l}^{-1}$ ethylene. The tested transgenic *etr1-1* lines had various levels of tolerance against ethylene and the best transgenic line continued to flower for up to 27 days in the presence of exogenous ethylene. The expression of *etr1-1* in flowers and buds was confirmed by PCR and RT-PCR. The transgenic plants were fertile without any reduction in rooting ability of cuttings, and they did not differ morphologically from the wild type. T1 progeny, a cross between a wild plant and a transgenic plant possessing ethylene insensitive flowers, showed 1:1 segregation in terms of ethylene insensitivity and the presence of the trans gene.