PHYTOCHEMISTRY

Chemistry Biochemistry Molecular Biology

This journal has been designated an official organ of 'The Phytochemical Society of Europe' and 'The Phytochemical Society of North America' and Society announcements will appear at regular intervals. Reduced subscription rates are available to members of both Societies (details available from Society offices).

Submission information: All manuscripts and contributions should be submitted to either G. P. Bolwell at Surrey, N. G. Lewis at Pullman or D. Strack at Halle. Authors are requested to consult the 'Instructions to Authors' and the 'Aims and Scope' of the journal (see inside back cover). The latest Instructions are published in Vol. 67, No. 1. Copies of these Instructions are also available from the internet at http://www.elsevier.com/locate/phytochem under 'Author Gateway', or from the Regional Editorial offices. Review articles are welcome, but intending Authors should send an outline to the Regional Editor before preparing their manuscripts. Books for review should be sent to G. P. Bolwell.

Publication information: *Phytochemistry* (ISSN 0031-9422). For 2008, volume 69 is scheduled for publication. Subscription prices are available upon request from the Publisher or from the Regional Sales Office nearest you or from this journal's website (http://www.elsevier.com/locate/phytochem). Further information is available on this journal and other Elsevier products through Elsevier's website (http://www.elsevier.com). Subscriptions are accepted on a prepaid basis only and are entered on a calendar year basis. Issues are sent by standard mail (surface within Europe, air delivery outside Europe). Priority rates are available upon request. Claims for missing issues should be made within six months of the date of dispatch.

Author enquiries: For enquiries relating to the submission of articles (including electronic submission) please visit this journal's homepage at http://www.elsevier.com/locate/phytochem. You can track accepted articles at http://www.elsevier.com/trackarticle and set up e-mail alerts to inform you of when an article's status has changed. Also accessible from here is information on copyright, frequently asked questions and more. Contact details for questions arising after acceptance of an article, especially those relating to proofs, will be provided by the publisher.

USA mailing notice: *Phytochemistry* (ISSN 0031-9422) is published 18 times a year, January–December, by Elsevier Ltd (The Boulevard, Langford Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB, UK). Periodical postage paid at Rahway NJ and additional mailing offices.

USA POSTMASTER: Send change of address to *Phytochemistry*, Elsevier, 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32887-4800.

AIRFREIGHT AND MAILING in USA by Mercury International Limited, 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ 07001.

Front cover illustration: Picture 1 (left): Homology model of α-amylase from *V. radiata*. (a) Overall view showing the conserved active site residues, (b) comparison with the structure of AMY 1 at the starch granule binding site (AMY 1, Trp^{278} and Trp^{279}; VrAmy, Val^{277} and Lys^{278}) and (c) sugar tongs binding site (AMY 1, Tyr^{380}; VrAmy, Met^{379}). Tripathi, P., Lo Leggio, L., Mansfeld, J., Ulbrich-Hofmann, R., Kayastha, A.M., 2007. α-Amylase from mung beans (*Vigna radiata*)—Correlation of biochemical properties and tertiary structure by homology modelling. Phytochemistry 68, 1623–1631. Picture 2 (middle): Hypersensensitive resistance reaction of a wheat cell penetrated by a haustorium of the wheat stem rust fungus, *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici*. Stem rust is one of the most dangerous and potentially devastating pathogens of wheat, and a renewed threat to global wheat production since the appearance of the new race UG99 in Uganda that has broken the widely used Sr31-based resistance of wheat to this pathogen. Menden, B., Kohlhoff, M., Moerschbacher, B.M., 2007. Wheat cells accumulate a syringyl-rich lignin during the hypersensitive resistance response. Phytochemistry 68, 513–520. Picture 3 (right): The photograph shows the flower of the so-called Japanese roof iris, *Iris tectorum* Maxim (Iridaceae), first observed growing on roofs in Asia by Carl Maximovic (1827–1891). Its Chinese name is ***Lan hu die*** (blue butterfly) and the root is used in Chinese Traditional Medicine for the treatment of certain cancers. It contains iridal-type triterpenes—two biologically active iritectols (A and B) were reported in 2007. Fang, R., Houghton, P.J., Luo, C., Hylands, P.J., 2008. Isolation and structure determination of triterpenes from *Iris tectorum*.