RESEARCH NEWS

cal properties. Recent efforts to transfer genes encoding the proteins responsible for unusual fatty acid biosynthesis to higher-yielding plants have generally produced limited success\(^2\). The yields of oil from these transgenic plants are considerably low. The main reason for such low yields is the poor understanding of the triacylglycerol biosynthetic pathway in castor plant, i.e. not all the regulatory and metabolic networks involved in the pathway are characterized. The castor genome sequence and its annotation provide us an insight for the identification of all the genes involved in castor oil biosynthesis and thus paves the way for production of ricin-free crops with high yields of castor oil. Thus, the availability of the whole genome draft sequence has formed the foundation for extensive study on this plant to derive maximum benefits.


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Smile with Science

By - Sumanta Baruah

“Hello captain, Mr. Selkirk refuses to be rescued. He just wants to get his internet connection repaired.”