

The *Xanthomonas* type III effector XopD targets the *Arabidopsis* transcription factor AtMYB30 to suppress plant defence

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Plant and animal pathogens inject type III effectors (T3Es) into host cells to suppress host immunity and promote successful infection. XopD, a T3E from *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *vesicatoria* has been proposed to promote bacterial growth by targeting plant transcription factors and/or regulators. We have showed that XopD from the B100 strain of *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris* is able to target AtMYB30, which is a transcription factor that positively regulates *Arabidopsis* defence and associated cell death responses to bacteria. XopDXccB100 specifically interacts with AtMYB30, resulting in inhibition of the transcriptional activation of AtMYB30 target genes and suppression of *Arabidopsis* defence. The helix-loop-helix (HLH) domain of XopDXccB100 is necessary and sufficient to mediate these effects. In contrast, XopD from the 8004 strain of *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris* does not contain an HLH domain and is therefore unable to interact with AtMYB30 and repress AtMYB30-mediated defence responses. High jacking of AtMYB30 by XopDXccB100 illustrates an original bacterial strategy to subvert plant defence and promote development of disease.

