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(12) United States Patent

Bulla et al.

(54) *PECTINOPHORA GOSSYPIELLA* (PINK BOLLWORM) *BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS* TOXIN RECEPTOR BT-R,

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- (51) Int. Cl.

C07K 14/705	5 (2006.01)
G01N 33/53	(2006.01)

- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **435/7.1**; 530/350; 530/300; 536/23.5; 536/23.71
- (58) **Field of Classification Search** None See application file for complete search history.

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(45) Date of Patent: Aug. 22, 2006

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(57) ABSTRACT

A cDNA encoding a 200 kD receptor, BT-R₂, from the pink boll worm, *Pectinophora gossypiella*, that binds specifically to a *Bacillus thuringiensis* toxin has been cloned, sequenced and characterized. The minimum toxin binding fragment has been identified. The BT-R₂ cDNA permits the analysis of receptors in pink boll worm and other insects that affect crop growth and development, as well as, design assays for the cytotoxicity and binding affinity of potential pesticides. The clone and other methods described herein, permit the manipulation of natural and/or introduced homologous receptors and, thus, to specifically destroy organisms, tissues and/or cells of the target host.

6 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

ATCTGTGATTTCAAATATCGAATCAAAAGGACTGCATTAGTGTTGTGGGAGTTAAAGTGTTTGT GAGAATAGACCAACGACCATGCAAGATGGCGGGTGACGCCTGCATACTGGTGACGGTGCTTCTC CTGGCCTTTGATCCCGGCTGAGCCAAGAGACGACGTGTGCATAAACGGCTGGTACCCACAACTC ACCAGCACTTCTCTCGGCACCATCATCATCCACATGGAAGAGGAGATCGAGGGAGATGTTGCTA TCGCTAAACTTAACTATGATGGTTCTGGAACCCCAGAAATTGTCCAGCCGATGGTTATAGGATC TTCTAACCTGCTAAGTCCAGAGATCCGGAATGAAAACGGGGGCGTGGTACCTTTATATAACCAAT AGGCAAGATTATGAAACACCAACAATGCGTCGGTATACATTCGACGTCCGAGTGCCAGACGAGA CTCGTGCGGCACGAGTGAGTCTGTCCATCGAAAACATTGACGATAACGACCCTATCGTCAGGGT GCTAGACGCTTGCCAAGTGCCGGAATTGGGGGGGGCCTCGACTAACAGACTGCGTTTACCAAGTG TCAGACGAAGATGGGAGGCTTAGTATCGAGCCCATGACATTCCGCCTCACATCAGACCGTGAAG ACGTACAGATATTCTATGTGGAGCCAGCTCACATTACTGGTGATTGGTTCAACATGCAAATTAC TATCGGTATCCTATCAGCGCTTAACTTCGAAAGCAACCCGCTGCACATCTTTCAAATCACTGCT TTGGACTCCTGGCCCAACAACCATACGGTGACGGTGATGGTGCAAGTCCAGAATGTGGAACACC GACCGCCGCGATGGATGGAAATCTTCGCAGTCCAGCAGTTTGACGAGATGACGGAGCAGCAATT CCAGGTGCGCGCCATCGACGGAGACACTGGCATCGGGAAAGCTATACACTATACCCTCGAGACA GCACTGCCATGATTGATGTGGATAGGCTCCGGCGAGATGTCTTCAGACTGTCCCTGGTGGCATA CAAGTACGACAATGTGTCCTTCGCCACCCCGACACCCGTCGTGATCATAGTCAATGACATCAAC AACAAGAAACCCCCAACCGCTGCAAGATGAGTACACAATCTCCATAATGGAAGAAACTCCACTGT CGCTGAATTTTGCTGAACTTTTTGGTTTCTATGATGAAGATTTGATCTACGCACAATCCTTGGT GGAAATACAAGGCGAGAACCCTCCAGGCGTAGAGCAAGCGTTTTATATTGCGCCCACCGCAGGC TTCCAGAACCAGACATTCGCCATAGGGACTCAAGATCACCGAATGCTGGATTATGAGGATGTTC CTTTCCAAAACATCAAGGTCAAGGTAATAGCAACGGACCGTGACAATACCAATTTTACTGGAGT CGCGGAAGTCAACGTGAACCTGATTAATTGGAACGACGAGGAGCCGATCTTTGAGGAAGACCAG CTCGTTGTCAAGTTCAAGGAGACTGTACCCAAGGACTATCACGTCGGCAGACTGAGGGCTCACG ACCGGGACATAGGAGACAGCGTTGTGCATTCCATCTTGGGAAATGCGAATACATTTTTGAGAAT GAATTTAACATACAAGTTCGCGCTCAGGACACCATGTCGGAGCCAGAGTCCAGGCATACAGCGG CTGCTCAGCTGGTCATAGAACTCGAGGACGTCAACAACACACCTCCTACTCTGAGGCTGCCTCG CGTAAGTCCGTCTGTAGAAGAGAATGTGCCAGAGGGCTTTGAAATCAACCGGGAGATAACCGCC ACGGACCCTGACACCACGCATACCTGCAGTTTGAAATAGATTGGGACACATCCTTTGCCACTA AACAGGGGGGGTGATACCAATCCAATAGAGTTCCACGGATGCGTGGATATAGAAACCATCTTCCC ACCATCCATTTTGAAGAGTTTGAATTTCTCTACCTCACAGTGAGAGTTCGGGACTTGCACACAG ATGACGGACGAGATTATGATGAATCTACCTTCACGGTAATAATAATAGATATGAACGACAACTG GCCTATCTGGGCGTCTGGTTTCCTGAACCAGACCTTCAGTATTCGGGAGCGATCATCTACCGGC GTCGTCATCGGGTCCGTACTCGCTACAGACATTGATGGCCCACTTTACAACCAAGTCCGGTACA CCATTATCCCCCAGGAAGATACTCCTGAAGGTCTAGTCCAGATACATTTCGTTACGGGTCAAAT TACAGTTGATGAGAATGGTGCAATCGACGCTGATATTCCACCTCGTTGGCACCTCAACTACACG GTTATAGCCAGCGACAAATGTTCTGAAGAAAATGAAGAGAACTGTCCCCCGGATCCAGTGTTCT GGGATACTCTGCGCGACAATGTAATTAACATCGTGGACATAAACAACAAGGTCCCGGCAGCAGA CCTCAGTCGATTCAACGAAACGGTGTACATTTATGAAAATGCACCCGATTTCACGAACGTGGTC AAGATATACTCCATCGACGAAGACAGAGACGAAATATATCACACGGTGCGGTACCAGATCAATT ATGCTGTGAACCAACGGCTGCGAGACTTCTTCGCCATAGACCTGGATTCAGGCCAGGTGTACGT GGAGAACACCAACAATGAGCTCCTGGATCGGGACAGAGGCGAAGACCAACACAGGATATTCATT AACCTCATTGACAACTTTTATAGCGAAGGAGATGGAAATAGAAATGTAAACACTACAGAGGTGC TGGTGATACTATTAGATGAGAATGACAACGCTCCTGAATTGCCGACTCCAGAAGAGCTGAGTTG GAGCATTTCCGAGGATTTACAAGAGGGTATAACACTCGATGGCGAAAGCGATGTGATATACGCA 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GATCCACGGCCTGTGTTCGAGCAGCGTCTGTACACGGCTGGCATTTCCACTTCCGATAACATCA ACAGGGAACTACTCACCGTTCGTGCAACTCATTCCGAAAACGCACAATTGACATATACCATCGA AGACGGTTCTATGGCGGTGGACTCCACTCTGGAAGCCGTCAAGGACTCGGCGTTCCATCTGAAC GCGCAGACCGGCGTCCTCATACTGAGGATACAACCTACTGCCAGCATGCAGGGCATGTTTGAGT TCAACGTCATCGCTACTGACCCAGATGAGAAGACAGATACGGCAGAGGTGAAAGTCTACCTCAT TTCATCCCAAAATAGGGTGTCCTTCATATTCCTGAACGATGTGGAGACGGTTGAGAGTAACAGA GACTTTATCGCAGAAACGTTCAGCGTTGGCTTCAACATGACCTGCAATATAGATCAGGTGCTGC CGGGCACCAACGACGCCGGGGTGATTCAGGAGGCCATGGCGGAAGTCCATGCTCACTTCATACA GGATAACATCCCTGTGAGCGCCGACAGTATTGAAGAGCTTCGCAGTGACACTCAGCTGCGCGC TCCGTCCAAGGTGTGTGAACCAACGGCTGTTGGTCCTGAACGACCTGGTGACGGGGGTCAGCC CTGATCTCGGCACTGCCGGCGTGCAGATCACCATCTATGTGCTAGCCGGGTTGTCAGCCATCCT TGCCTTCCTGTGCCTTATTCTGCTCATCACATTCATCGTGAGGACCCCGAGCTCTGAACCGCCGT TTGGAAGCACTGTCGATGACGAAATACGGCTCGGTGGATTCGGGGCTGAACCGAGTGGGGATAG CGGCCCCAGGAACCAACAACACGCCATCGAAGGCTCCAACCCCATCTGGAACGAGCAGATCAA GGCCCCGGACTTCGATGCCATCAGTGACACATCTGACGACTCTGATCTAATCGGCATCGAGGAT 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SIG

1 MAGDACILVT VLLTFATSVF GQETTSSRCY YMTDAIPREP KPDDLPDLEW CR1 → 51 TGGWTDWPLI PAEPRDDVCI NGWYPQLTST SLGTIIIHME EEIEGDVAIA 101 KLNYDGSGTP EIVQPMVIGS SNLLSPEIRN ENGAWYLYIT NRQDYETPTM CR2 → 151 RRYTFDVRVP DETRAARVSL SIENIDDNDP IVRVLDACOV PELGEPRLTD 201 CVYOVSDEDG RLSIEPMTFR LTSDREDVQI FYVEPAHITG DWFNMQITIG CR3 \rightarrow 251 ILSALNFESN PLHIFOITAL DSWPNÑHTVT VMVOVONVEH RPPRWMEIFA 301 VQQFDEMTEQ QFQVRAIDGD TGIGKAIHYT LETDEEEDLF FIETLPGGHD 351 GAIFSTAMID VDRLRRDVFR LSLVAYKYDÑ VSFATPTPVV IIVNDINNKK CR4 → 401 PQPLQDEYTI SIMEETPLSL NFAELFGFYD EDLIYAQSLV EIQGENPPGV 451 EOAFYIAPTA GFOÑOTFAIG TODHRMLDYE DVPFONIKLK VIATDRDNTÑ CR5 🔿 501 FTGVAEVNVN LINWNDEEPI FEEDQLVVKF KETVPKDYHV GRLRAHDRDI 551 GDSVVHSILG NANTFLRIDE ETGDIYVAID DAFDYHRQNE FNIQVRAQDT CR6 -601 MSEPESRHTA AAQLVIELED VNNTPPTLRL PRVSPSVEEN VPEGFEINRE 651 ITATDPDTTA YLOFEIDWDT SFATKOGRDT NPIEFHGCVD IETIFPNPAD 701 TREAVGRVVA KGIRHÑVTIH FEEFEFLYLT VRVRDLHTDD GRDYDESTFT CR7 → 751 VIIIDMNDNW PIWASGFLÑQ TFSIRERSST GVVIGSVLAT DIDGPLYNQV 801 RYTIIPOEDT PEGLVQIHFV TGQITVDENG AIDADIPPRW HLÑYTVIASD CR8 → 851 KCSEENEENC PPDPVFWDTL RDNVINIVDI NNKVPAADLS RFÑETVYIYE 901 NAPDFTNVVK IYSIDEDRDE IYHTVRYQIN YAVNQRLRDF FAIDLDSGQV 951 YVENTNNELL DRDRGEDQHR IFINLIDNFY SEGDGNRNVÑ TTEVLVILLD CR9 → 1001 ENDNAPELPT PEELSWSISE DLQEGITLDG ESDVIYAPDI DKEDTPNSHV 1051 GYAILAMTVT NRDLDTVPRL LNMLSPNÑVT GFLQTAMPLR GYWGTYDISV 1101 LAFDHGIPQQ ISHEVYELEI RPYNYNPPQF VFPESGTILR LALERAVVNN

Figure 2A

Figure 2B

1151 VLSLVNGDPL DRIQAIDDDG LDAGVVTFDI VGDADASNYF RVNNDGDSFG 1201 TLLLTQALPE EGKEFEVTIR ATDGGTEPRS YSTDSTITVL FVPTLGDPIF CR11→ MBF 1251 QDNTYSVAFF EKEVGLTE<u>RF_SLPHAEDPKN_KLCTDDCHDI_YYRIFGGVDY</u> 1301 EPFDLDPVTN VIFLKSELDR ETTATHVVQV AASNSPTGGG IPLPGSLLTV CR12→ 1351 <u>TVTVREADPR PVFEORLY</u>TA GISTSDNINR ELLTVRATHS ENAQLTYTIE 1401 DGSMAVDSTL EAVKDSAFHL NAQTGVLILR IQPTASMQGM FEFNVIATDP MPD 1451 DEKTDTAEVK VYLISSQNRV SFIFLNDVET VESNRDFIAE TFSVGFÑMTC LZ1501 NIDQVLPGTN DAGVIQEAMA EVHAHFIQDN IPVSADSIEE LRSDTOLLRS 1551 VOGVLNORLL VLNDLVTGVS PDLGTAGVOI TIYVLAGLSA ILAFLCLILL CYT 1601 **ITFIV**RTRAL NRRLEALSMT KYGSVDSGLN RVGIAAPGTN KHAIEGSNPI 1651 WNEQIKAPDF DAISDTSDDS DLIGIEDSLQ GDLEEKRADK AVDALVKKLK 1701 KNDGAMGEYE FKASRASRTI VSRITYIQT.

CR10 →

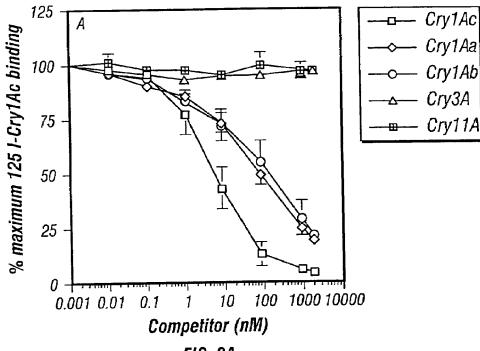
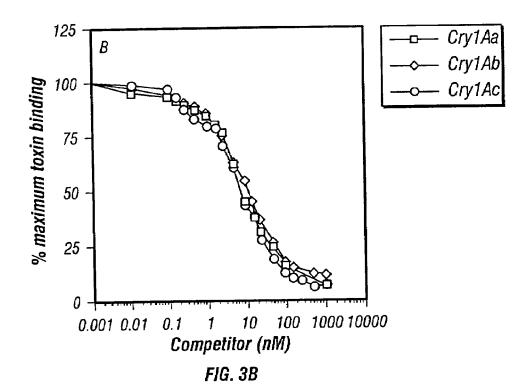


FIG. 3A



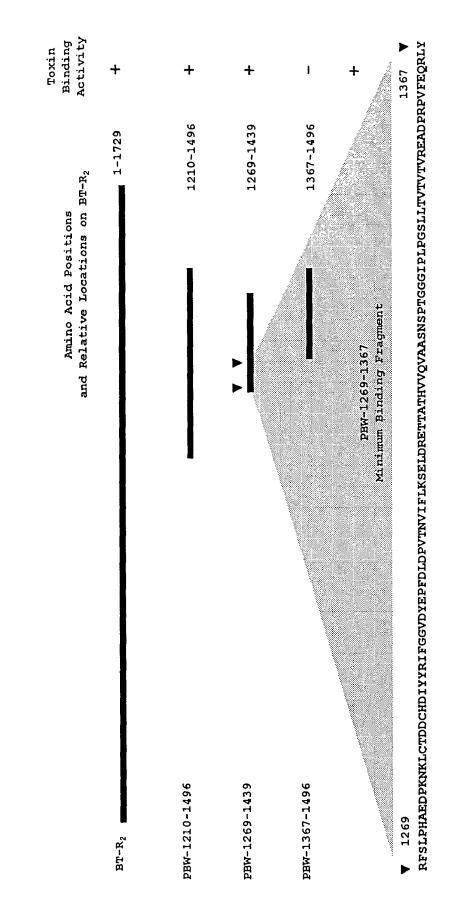


Figure 4

Figure 5A

1 1 1	M G V D V R I L A T L L L I Y - A E T V L A Q E R C G F M V - A I P R P B.mori BTR175 M A V D V R I - A A F L L V F I A P A V L A Q E R C G Y M T - A I P R L THW BTR1 M A G D A C I L V T V L L T F - A T S V F G Q E T T S S R C Y Y M T D A I P R E PBW BTR2	
35 35 40	PRPD-LPELDFEGQTWSQRPLIPAADREDVCMDG-YHAMT B.mori BTR175 PRPDNLPVLNFEGQTWSQRPLLPAPERDDLCMDA-YHVIT THW BTR1 PKPDDLPDLEWTG-GWTDWPLIPAEPRDDVCINGWYPQLT PBW BTR2	
73 74 79	P T - Y G T Q I I Y M E E E I E G E V P I A K L N Y R G P N V P Y I E P A F L S B.mori BTR175 A N - L G T Q V I Y M D E E I E D E I T I A I L N Y N G P S T P F I E L P F L S THW BTR1 S T S L G T I I I H M E E E I E G D V A I A K L N Y D G S G T P E I V Q P M V I PBW BTR2	
112 113 119	G S F N L L V P V I R R I P D S N G E W H L I I T Q R Q D Y E T P G M Q Q Y V F B.mori BTR175 G S Y N L L M P V I R R V D N G E W H L I I T Q R Q H Y E L P G M Q Q Y M F THW BTR1 G S S N L L S P E I R N E N G A W Y L Y I T N R Q D Y E T P T M R R Y T F PBW BTR2	
152 151 156	N I R I D G E T L V A G V S L L I V N I D D N A P I I Q A L E P C Q V D E L G E B.mori BTR175 N V R V D G Q S L V A G V S L A I V N I D D N A P I I Q N F E P C R V P E L G E THW BTR1 D V R V P D E T R A A R V S L S I E N I D D N D P I V R V L D A C Q V P E L G E PBW BTR2	
192 191 196	A R L T E C V Y V V T D A D G R I S T Q F M Q F R I D S D R G D D K I F Y I Q G B.mori BTR175 P G L T E C T Y Q V S D A D G R I S T E F M T F R I D S V R G D E E T F Y I E R THW BTR1 P R L T D C V Y Q V S D E D G R L S I E P M T F R L T S D R E D V Q I F Y V E P PBW BTR2	
232 231 236	A N I P G E W I R M T M T V G I N E PL N F E T N P L H I F S V T A L D S L P N B.mori BTR175 T N I P N Q W M W L N M T I G V N T S L N F V T S P L H I F S V T A L D S L P N THW BTR1 A H I T G D W F N M Q I T I G I L S A L N F E S N P L H I F Q I T A L D S W P N PBW BTR2	
272 271 276	THTVTLMVQVENVEHRPPRWVEIFAVQQFDEKTAQSFPVRB.mori BTR175 THTVTMMVQVANVNSRPPRWLEIFAVQQFEKSYQNFTVR THW BTR1 NHTVTVMVQVQNVEHRPPRWMEIFAVQQFDEMTEQQFQVR PBW BTR2	
312 311 316	A I D G D T G I N K P I H Y R L E T A E E D T F F H I R T I E G G R S G A I L Y B.mori BTR175 A I D G D T E I N M P I N Y R L I T N E E D T F F S I E A L P G G K S G A V F L THW BTR1 A I D G D T G I G K A I H Y T L E T D E E E D L F F I E T L P G G H D G A I F S PBW BTR2	
352 351 356	V D P I D R D T L Q R E V F Q L S I I A Y K Y D N E S S A T A A N V V I I V N D B.mori BTR175 V S P I D R D T L Q R E V F P L T I V A Y K Y D E E A F S T S T N V V I I V T D THW BTR1 T A M I D V D R L R R D V F R L S L V A Y K Y D N V S F A T P T P V V I I V N D PBW BTR2	
392 391 396	I N D Q R PEPLFKEYRLNIMEETALTLNFD Q EFGFHDRDLG Q B.mori BTR175 I N D Q R PEPIHKEYRLAIMEETPLTLNFDKEFGFHDKDLG Q THW BTR1 I N N K K P Q PL Q D EYT I SIMEETPLSLNFA ELFGFYDEDL - I PBW BTR2	
432 431 435	NAQYTVRLESDYPADAAKAFYIAPEVGYQRQTFIMGTANH B.mori BTR175 NAQYTVRLESVDPPGAAEAFYIAPEVGYQRQTFIMGTLNH THW BTR1 YAQSLVEIQGENPPGVEQAFYIAPTAGFQNQTFAIGTQDH PBW BTR2	
472 471 475		
511 510 514	WNDEEPIFEHSVQNVSFKETEGKGFFVANVRAHDRDIDDR B.mori BTR175 WNDEQPIFEHAVQTVTFDETEGEGFFVAKAVAHDRDIGDV THW BTR1 WNDEEPIFEEDQLVVKFKETVPKDYHVGRLRAHDRDIGDS PBW BTR2	
551 550 554	VEHTLMGNANNYLSIDKDTGDIHVTQDDFFDYHRQSELFV B.mori BTR175 VEHTLLGNAVNFLTIDKLTGDIRVSANDSFNYHRESELFV THW BTR1 VVHSILGNANTFLRIDEETGDIYVAIDDAFDYHRQNEFNI PBW BTR2	

Figure 5B

591 Q V R A D D T L G E P F H T A T S Q L L I H L E D I N N T P P T L R L P R G B.mori BTR175 590 Q V R A T D T L G E P F H T A T S Q L V I R L N D I N N T P P T L R L P R G THW BTR1 594 Q V R A Q D T M S E P E S R H T A A A Q L V I E L E D V N N T P P T L R L P R V PBW BTR2	
629S P N V E E N V P E G Y I I T S E I R A T D P D T T A E L R F E I D W T T S Y A B.mori BTR175628S P Q V E E N V P D G H V I T Q E L R A T D P D T T A D L R F E I N W D T S F A THW BTR1634S P S V E E N V P E G F E I N R E I T A T D P D T T A Y L Q F E I D W D T S F A PBW BTR2	
669 T K Q G R E A N P I E F H N C V E I E T I Y P A I N N R G S A I G R L V V K K I B.mori BTR175 668 T K Q G R Q A N P D E F R N C V E I E T I F P E I N N R G L A I G R V V A R E I THW BTR1 674 T K Q G R D T N P I E F H G C V D I E T I F P N P A D T R E A V G R V V A K G I PBW BTR2	
709 RENVTIDYEEFEMLYLTVRVRDLNTVIGDDYDESTFTITIB.mori BTR175 708 RHNVTIDYEEFEVLSLTVRVRDLNTVYGDDYDESMLTITI 714 RHNVTIHFEEFEFLYLTVRVRDLHTDDGRDYDESTFTVII PBW BTR2	
749 I D M N D N P P I W V P G T L E Q S L R V R E M S D A G V V I G T L T A T D I D B.mori BTR175 748 I D M N D N A P V W V E G T L E Q N F R V R E M S A G G L V V G S V R A D D I D THW BTR1 754 I D M N D N W P I W A S G F L N Q T F S I R E R S S T G V V I G S V L A T D I D PBW BTR2	
789 GPLYNQVRYTMKANEGTPENLLMIDFYTGQITVKTSGAID B.mori BTR175 788 GPLYNQVRYTIFPREDTDKDLIMIDFLTGQISVNTSGAID THW BTR1 794 GPLYNQVRYTIIPQEDTPEGLVQIHFVTGQITVDENGAID PBW BTR2	
829 A D V P R R Y N L Y Y T V V A T D R C Y A E D P D D C P D D T Y W E T P G Q V B.mori BTR175 828 A D T P P R F H L Y Y T V V A S D R C S T E D P A D C P P D P T Y W E T E G N I THW BTR1 834 A D I P P R W H L N Y T V I A S D K C S E E N E E N C P P D P V F W D T L R D N PBW BTR2	
869 VIQIIDTNNKIPQPETDQFKAVVYIYEDAVSGDEVVKVIG B.mori BTR175 868 TIHITDTNNKVPQAETTKFDTVVYIYENATHLDEVVTLIA THW BTR1 874 VINIVDINNKVPAADLSRFNETVYIYENAPDFTNVVKIYS PBW BTR2	
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949 YTTD EVLDRDGDEPQHRIFFNLIDNFFQQGDGNRNQN B.mori BTR175 948 YETQGSGEVLDRDGDEPTHRIFFNLIDNFMGEGEGNRNQN THW BTR1 953 ENTNNELLDRDRGEDQHRIFINLIDNFYSEGDGNRNVN PBW BTR2	
986 DAEVLVVLLDVNDNAPELPEPDELSWSVSESLTKGTRLQP B.mori BTR175 988 DTEVLVILLDVNDNAPELPPPSELSWTISENLKQGVRLEP THW BTR1 991 TTEVLVILLDENDNAPELPTPEELSWSISEDLQEGITLDG PBW BTR2	
1026 H I Y A P D R D E P D T D N S R V G Y A I I S L T I A N R E I E - V P E L B.mori BTR175 1028 H I F A P D R D E P D T D N S R V G Y E I L N L S - T E R D I E - V P E L THW BTR1 1031 E S D V I Y A P D I D K E D T P N S H V G Y A I L A M T V T N R D L D T V P R L PBW BTR2	
1062 F T M I Q I Q N V T G E L E T A M D L R G Y W G T Y A I H I K A Y D H G I P Q Q B.mori BTR175 1063 F V M I Q I A N V T G E L E T A M D L K G Y W G T Y A I H I R A F D H G I P Q - THW BTR1 1071 L N M L S P N N V T G F L Q T A M P L R G Y W G T Y D I S V L A F D H G I P Q Q PBW BTR2	
1102 MS - NETYELVIRPYNFHAPVFVFPKHGATLRLARERAVVN B.mori BTR175 1102 MSMNETYELIIHPFNYYAPEFVFPTNDAVIRLARERAVIN THW BTR1 1111 IS - HEVYELEIRPYNYN PPQFVFPESGTILRLALERAVVN PBW BTR2	
1141 G L L A T V D G E F L N R I V A T D E D G L H A G Q V A F E V V G D T E A V D Y B.mori BTR175 1142 G V L A T V N G E F L E R I S A T D P D G L H A G V V T F Q V V G D E E S Q R Y THW BTR1 1150 N V L S L V N G D P L D R I Q A I D D D G L D A G V V T F D I V G D A D A S N Y PBW BTR2	

Figure 5C

1181 FHIVNDGENSGTLMLKQLFPEDIREFEVTIRATDGGTEPR B.mori BTR175 1182 FQVVNDGENLGSLRLLQAVPEEIREFRITIRATDQGTDPG THW BTR1 1190 FRVNNDGDSFGTLLLTQALPEEGKEFEVTIRATDGGTEPR PBW BTR2
1221 PLSTDCTFSVVFVPIQGEPIFPTSTHTVAFIEKEAGLLER B.mori BTR175 1222 PLSTDMTFRVVFVPTQGEPRFASSEHAVAFIEKSAGMEES THW BTR1 1230 SYSTDSTITVLFVPTLGDPIFQDNTYSVAFFEKEVGLTER PBW BTR2
1261 H ELPRAEDRKNHLCSDDCHNIYYRIIDGNNDGHFGLDETT B.mori BTR175 1262 H Q L P L A Q D I K N H L C E D D C H S I YYR I I D G N S E G H F G L D P V R THW BTR1 1270 F S L P H A E D P K N K L C T D D C H D I YYR I F G G V D Y E P F D L D P V T PBW BTR2
1301 NVLFLVKELDRSVSETYTLTIAASNSPTGG-IALTSTI-T 1302 NRLFLKKELIREQSASHTLQVAASNSPDGG-IPLPASILT 1310 NVIFLKSELDRETTATHVVQVAASNSPTGGGIPLPGSLLT PBW BTR2
1339 I T V N V R E A D P Q P Y F V R D L Y T A G I S T S D S I N R E L L I L Q A T H B.mori BTR175 1341 V T V T V R E A D P R P V F V R E L Y T A G I S T A D S I G R E L L R L H A T Q THW BTR1 1350 V T V T V R E A D P R P V F E Q R L Y T A G I S T S D N I N R E L L T V R A T H PBW BTR2
1379 S E N A P I I Y T I D W S T M V T D P T L A SVR E T A F I L N P H T G V L T L B.mori BTR175 1381 S E G S A I T Y A I D Y D T M V V D P S L E A V R Q S A F V L N A Q T G V L T L THW BTR1 1390 S E N A Q L T Y T I E D G S M A V D S T L E A V K D S A F H L N A Q T G V L I L PBW BTR2
1419 N I Q P T A S M H G M F E F Q V V A T D P A G Y S D R A N V K I Y L I S T R N R B.mori BTR175 1421 N I Q P T A T M H G L F K F E V T A T D T A G A Q D R T D V T V Y V V S S Q N R THW BTR1 1430 R I Q P T A S M Q G M F E F N V I A T D P D E K T D T A E V K V Y L I S S Q N R PBW BTR2
1459 V F F L F V N T L E Q V E Q N T D F I A Q T F S A G F E M T C N I D Q V V P A T B.mori BTR175 1461 V Y F V F V N T L Q Q V E D N R D F I A D T F S A G F N M T C N I D Q V V P A N THW BTR1 1470 V S F I F L N D V E T V E S N R D F I A E T F S V G F N M T C N I D Q V L P G T PBW BTR2
1499 DA - SGVIMNGITEVRGHFIRDNVPVPADEIETLRGDMVLLB.mori BTR175 1501 DPVTGVALEHSTQMRGHFIRDNVPVLADEIEQIRSDLVLLTHW BTR1 1510 ND - AGVIQEAMAEVHAHFIQDNIPVSADSIEELRSDTQLL PBW BTR2
1538 T A I Q S T L A T R L L V L R D L F T D T S P A - P D A G S A A V L Y A L A V L B.mori BTR175 1541 S S I Q T T L A A R S L V L Q D L L T N S S P D - S A P D S S L T V Y V L A S L T HW BTR1 1549 R S V Q G V L N Q R L L V L N D L V T G V S P D L G T A G V Q I T I Y V L A G L PBW BTR2
1577 SALLAALCLLLVIFIIRTKKLNRRLEALTVKKYGSVDSG B.mori ETR175 1580 SAVLGFMCLVLLLTFIIRTRALNRRLEALSMTKYGSLDSG THW BTR1 1589 SAILAFLCLILLITFIVRTRALNRRLEALSMTKYGSVDSG PEW BTR2
1617 LNRVGIAAPGTNKHAVEGSNPIWNETIKAPDFDSMSDASN B.mori BTR175 1620 LNRAGIAAPGTNKHTVEGSNPIFNEAIKTPDLDAISEGSN THW BTR1 1629 LNRVGIAAPGTNKHAIEGSNPIWNEQIKAPDFDAISDTSD PBW BTR2
1657 D S D L I G I E D L P H F G E N N Y F P R D V D E F K T D K - P E D I V A T H N B.mori BTR175 1660 D S D L I G I E D L P H F G - N V F M D P E V N E - K A N G Y P E V A N H N THW BTR1 1669 D S D L I G I E D S L Q G D L E E K R A D K A V D A L V K K L K PBW BTR2
1696 N N F G F K S T P F S P E F A N Q F Q KB.mori BTR1751696 N N F A F N P T P F S P E F V N G - Q F R K ITHW BTR11701 K N D G A M G E Y E F K A S R A S R T I V S R I T Y I Q TPBW BTR2

PECTINOPHORA GOSSYPIELLA (PINK **BOLLWORM) BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS TOXIN RECEPTOR BT-R₂**

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. Ser. No. 09/696, 115 filed 24 Oct. 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,660,497, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 10 60/161,564, filed Oct. 26, 1999. The contents of this application are incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention generally relates to receptors for Bacillus thuringiensis (BT) toxin and thus to pesticides able to bind the receptor, and to ameliorating pesticide resistance. In particular, the invention relates to recombinant DNA and expression systems for a novel receptor and receptor ele- 20 ments from Pectinophora gossypiella, the pink bollworm.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Without limiting the scope of the invention, its back- 25 ground is described in connection with uses of Bacillus thuringiensis toxins as cotton insect biocidal agents, as an example. Cotton insect pests reduced yields by almost 10% across the US in 1998. Insect damage reduced the overall cotton yield by more than 1.7 million bales and produced a 30 financial loss of about \$1.224 billion. One group in particular, the bollworm/budworm complex was the most damaging causing a 2.7% loss. The pink bollworm, Pectinophora gossypiella Saunders ("PBW"), is a lepidopteran insect that causes severe damage to cotton and is the most destructive 35 pest of cotton worldwide.

Bacillus thuringiensis is a gram positive, sporeforming bacterium that forms a parasporal crystal which contains insecticidal toxins (Bulla et al., Crit. Rev. Microbiol. (1980) 8: 147–204; Höfte and Whiteley, Microbiol. Rev. (1989) 53: 40 encoding a 200 kD receptor for the Cry1A toxins of the pink 242. The effect of the toxin is mediated through binding to specific receptors on the apical brush border of the midgut microvillae (BBMV) of susceptible insects.

Biological control of cotton pests using B. thuringiensis formulations and transgenic plants has been in use for a 45 number of years and is growing rapidly. Recently, transgenic cotton plants carrying the toxin genes of BT have been developed and sold commercially. Such transgenic plants have a high degree of resistance to the pink bollworm (Schnepf et al., Microbiol. Mol. Biol. Rev. (1998) 62: 775). 50 However, the introduction of any new insecticide into a pest management program immediately initiates a selection process for individuals that are resistant to the pesticide. As the use of transgenic crops expressing BT toxin increases, insect resistance is expected to become more widespread. 55 Increased tolerance for BT toxins in several species of insects has been reported by several investigators while laboratory selection experiments have shown that the use of BT toxin formulations and transgenic plants can provoke the development of resistance in the pink bollworm (Bartlett, et 60 ing the BT-R₂ protein from *P. gossypiella* (SEQ ID NO:1); al., Beltwide Cotton Conference (1995) 2: 766).

Concerns that BT toxin formulations or transgenic plants expressing the toxin genes may evoke emergence of either resistant or tolerant strains of insects has made the search for a better understanding of the interaction between the BT 65 toxin proteins and their respective insect receptors a matter of considerable economic importance.

In U.S. Pat. No. 5,693,491, the present inventors disclosed the purification and cDNA cloning of a B. thuringiensis toxin receptor BT-R₁ from larvae of the tobacco hornworm Manduca sexta (M. Sexta). Recently, two BT toxin receptors have been identified, purified and cloned from the silkworm, Bombyx mori (Nagamatsu et al., Biosci. Biotechnol. Biochem. (1998) 62: 727).

Heretofore in this field, there has been no structural information concerning the structure and function of BT toxin receptor of the major cotton insect pest, P. gossypiella. Furthermore, to the inventors' knowledge, the minimum binding fragment encoding a consensus binding domain for BT toxin on the BT receptor has not yet been identified. Isolation of the minimum binding fragment could permit 15 cloning and structural characterization of important yet uncharacterized BT toxin receptors from other insects of worldwide economic importance such as P. gossypiella.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides information and materials for isolation and expression of novel BT crystal toxin receptors, herein referred to as Cry toxin receptors. Generally, the invention provides structural and functional characterization of a novel lepidopteran BT toxin receptor, herein referred to as BT-R₂.

A cDNA that encodes an alternative glycoprotein receptor from the pink bollworm that binds specifically to a B. thuringiensis toxin has been cloned, sequenced and characterized. The BT-R₂ cDNA permits the analysis of receptors in pink bollworm and other insects and organisms that affect crop growth and development, as well as the design of assays for the cytotoxicity and binding affinity of potential pesticides. The clone and other methods described herein, permit the manipulation of natural and/or introduced homologous receptors and, thus, to specifically destroy organisms, tissues and/or cells of the target host, including insects resistant to toxins of B. thuringiensis.

The invention further provides purified and cloned cDNA bollworm, P. gossypiella. An advantage of this invention is the identification of the minimum binding fragment encoding the toxin binding domain on the BT toxin receptor. Another advantage of this invention is the provision of methodologies for cloning and structural characterization of presently unknown BT receptors. Furthermore, this invention provides methods and materials for identification and design of effective toxin binding receptors for use in combating emergence of toxin resistance. Also, this invention may be used to generate transgenic organisms expressing toxin receptors.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A more complete understanding of the method and apparatus of the present invention may be obtained by reference to the following Detailed Description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying Drawings wherein:

FIGS, 1A-B show the nucleotide sequence cDNA encod-

FIGS. 2A and 2B show the amino acid sequence of BT-R2 protein from P. gossypiella (SEQ ID NO: 2). Arrows indicate the start site of the putative cadherin domains CR1-CR12, SIG=signal sequence (double underline); MPD=membrane proximal domain; CYT=cytoplasmic region. The transmembrane region is underlined and bold. The leucine zipper motif LZ is underlined. Ñ residues denote putative N-gly-

2

cosylation sites. The minimum binding fragment MBF (aa 1269-1367) is also double underlined;

FIG. 3A is a graph showing the binding results of Cry1A toxins on P. gossypiella larvae brush border membrane vesicles prepared from midgut epithelial cells;

FIG. 3B is a graph showing the toxicity results of Cry1A toxins on P. gossypiella larvae and BBMV;

FIG. 4 is a map of the structure of the pink bollworm (PBW) BT-R, cDNAs, including truncations PBW-1210-1496, PBW-1269-1439, PBW-1367-1496, and PBW- 10 1269-1367 of SEQ ID NO:2 (the minimum binding fragment). The binding of proteins expressed from each clone to Cry1A toxin was identified by (+) for binding and (-) for non-binding; and

FIGS. 5A–C illustrate an alignment of the silk worm (top 1 SEQ ID NO:17), the tobacco hornworm (middle SEQ ID NO:18), and the pink bollworm (bottom SEQ ID NO:2) Cry toxin receptors. Perfectly conserved residues are boxed.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EXEMPLARY **EMBODIMENTS**

The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in 2 which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, 3 and will fully convey the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art.

Abbreviations and Definitions

The following abbreviations are used throughout this application: bp-base pairs; BT-Bacillus thuringiensis or 3 B. thuringiensis; BT-R, BT toxin receptor of type x; BBMV-brush border of the membrane vesicles; cDNAcomplementary DNA; Cry toxin-parasporal crystalline toxin of BT; IEF-immunoelectrophoresis; kb-kilobase or kilo base pairs; kD—kilodaltons; K_d —dissociation constant; 4 LC_{50} —lethal concentration resulting in a 50% mortality; PBW-pink bollworm, Pectinophora gossypiella or P. gossypiella; PCR-polymerase chain reaction; RACE-Rapid Amplification of cDNA Ends; RT-reverse transcriptase; SW-silkworm (Bombyx mori or B. mori); THW-tobacco 4 hornworm (Manduca sexta or M. sexta); and UTR-untranslated region.

The term "x % homology" refers to the extent to which two nucleic acid or protein sequences are identical as determined by BLAST homology alignment as described by 50 T. A. Tatusova & T. L. Madden (1999), "Blast 2 sequences—a new tool for comparing protein and nucleotide sequences", FEMS MICROBIOL LETT. 174:247-250 and using the following parameters: Program (blastn) or (blastp) as appropriate; matrix (OBLOSUM62), reward for match (1); 55 penalty for mismatch (-2); open gap (5) and extension gap (2) penalties; gap x-drop off (50); Expect (10); word size (11); filter (off). An example of a web based two sequence alignment program using these parameters is found at http:// www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gorf/bl2. html.

The invention thus includes nucleic acid or protein sequences that are highly similar to the sequences of the present invention, and include sequences of 80, 85, 90, 95 and 98% similarity to the sequences described herein.

The invention also includes nucleic acid sequences that 65 can be isolated from genomic or cDNA libraries or prepared synthetically, and that hybridize under high stringency to the

entire length of a 400 nucleotide probe derived from the nucleic acid sequences described herein under. High stringency is defined as including a final wash of 0.2×SSC at a temperature of 60° C. Under the calculation:

Eff Tm=81.5+16.6(log M [Na+])+0.41(% G+C)-0.72(% formamide)

the percentage allowable mismatch of a gene with 50% GC under these conditions is estimated to be about 12%.

The nucleic acid and protein sequences described herein are listed for convenience as follows:

15	~	ID : DNA and Protein Sequences	5	
20	NO:	ID BT-R2 protein sequence fo		
	SEQ Nos	ID : Primer Sequences	Primer N	ame
		ID 5' CAN ATH CGN GCN CAN GA	AY GGN BTR 1209	U
25		3 GG 3' ID 5' TTG TAC ACS GCW GGS AT 4 AC 3'	TW TCC BTR 1355	U
		ID 5' NAC YTG RTC RAT RTT RC	CANGT BTR 1486	D
		5 CAT 3' ID 5' NCC DAT NAG RTC NGA RT 6 NGA 3'	TC RTT BTR 1657	D
30		ID 5' TAG GTT GTA TCC TCA GT 7 GGA 3'	TA TGA PBW-BTR GSP-1	
	SEQ NO:	ID '5' CCA GAG TGG AGT CCA C 8 TA 3'	CCG CCA PBW-BTR GSP-2	
		ID 5' CTG AGT AAG TGT TAT CT		
35	~	ID 5' CAN ATH CGN GCN CAN GA 10 GG 3'	AY GGN BTR 1209	U
		ID 5' GAT AGC GGC CCC AGG AA 11 CAA ACA GG 3'	AC CAA PBW-BTR GSP-4	
		ID 5' AGT GCG AGT GCT TTG AA 12 TGA 3'	AT CTG PBW-B'I P2U	R
40	SEQ	ID 5' GTC TCT TCT CAC CGT CA 13 CAC T 3'		
		ID 5' GCA TGC TGG CAG TAG GT 14 TC 3'		
	SEQ	ID 5' GGC CAC GCG TCG ACT AC		
45		ID 5' GGC CAC GCG TCG ACT AC	CT ACT (AP)	

N = A, C, T, or G;

H = A, T, or C;B = T, C, or G;D = A, T, or G; V = A, C, or G;

- R = A or G:
- Y = C or T;M = A or C;
- K = T or G;

S = C or G;

W = A or T

60

More particularly, the studies described herein were targeted toward the identification, cloning and characterization of novel Cry toxin receptors. One embodiment was directed to characterization and isolation of the heretofore unidentified Cry toxin receptor of the pink bollworm, P. gossypiella, hereinafter referred to as "PBW".

In order to identify and isolate the Cry toxin receptor of the PBW, toxicity was determined for five different Cry proteins (Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab, Cry1Ac, Cry3A and Cry11A) against neonate PBW larvae. It was determined that the lepidopteran-specific toxins (Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac)

showed high toxicity toward PBW larvae with a LC₅₀ ranging from 25-45 ng/cm³ of insect diet, while the coleopteran specific (Cry3A) or the dipteran specific (Cry11A) toxins did not exhibit any detectable toxicity up to 2000 ng/cm³ (FIG. 3).

The binding of the three lepidopteran-specific Cry1A toxins (Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac) to the BBMV of P. gossypiella was characterized in detail. Ligand blot experiments showed that proteins of 120 kD bind only the Cry1Ac toxin whereas a 200 kD protein binds to Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab 10 and Cry1Ac toxins. It is now known that the 120 kD protein is a heat shock protein, although its relation to the Cry toxin effect is not understood.

In the case of the 175 kD cadherin-like Cry1Aa binding protein from Bombyx mori, ¹²⁵I-labeled Cry1Aa binding was eliminated by the presence of unlabeled Cry1Aa, but additional band(s) of approximately 110 kD, identified by ¹²⁵I-Cry1Aa ligand blots, failed to demonstrate a detectable degree of competition. Thus, it was determined that P. gossvpiella, like M. sexta and B. mori, contains both high- 20 affinity and low-affinity binding proteins for at least one Cry1A toxin and that the 200 kDa protein from PBW is a common binding protein for the lepidopteran-specific Cry1A toxins.

The detailed mechanism of the Cry1A toxin interaction 25 with the midgut BBMV of the pink bollworm was determined. The equilibrium dissociation constants (K_d) calculated from the homologous competition assays (FIGS. 3A and 3B) are 16.5, 12.4 and 12.8 nM and the concentrations of binding sites are 3.7, 3.6 and 8.6 pmol/mg, for Cry1Aa, 30 Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac, respectively. The Hill Coefficients for the three Cry1A toxins are between 0.6 and 0.8 for BBMV binding proteins (FIG. 3A), indicating that there is negative cooperativity in the binding of these toxins to the binding site(s) in the BBMV. Binding of the Cry1A toxins to BBMV 35 methods well known in the art. proteins was specific and saturable. The toxin amount required for saturation of 460 µg of BBMV proteins was in the following order: Cry1Ac>Cry1Aa>Cry1Ab.

Immunoprecipitation of BBMV proteins with anti-Cry1Ab antiserum and subsequent ligand blotting with 40 ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ab toxin also showed binding of the toxin to an approximately 200 kD protein. The 200 kD protein is a single protein as shown by 2D-gel analysis (data not shown). A comparison between the 210 kD binding protein from M. sexta with a pI ~4.3 and the 200 kD binding protein from P. 45 gossypiella (pI ~4.1) revealed that both proteins have almost the same pI. It was determined that the 200 kD PBW protein had some cross-reactivity with polyclonal antisera against the *M. sexta* BT- R_1 210 kD protein.

In order to clone the PBW $BT-R_2$ gene, fully degenerate 50 primers were designed based on the conserved amino acid sequences between that of the two receptors, tobacco hornworm ("THW") BT-R₁ and silkworm ("SW") BT-R175. The primer locations were designed to include or exclude a sequence thought by the present inventors to encode a region 55 fected with a receptor for BT toxins as a model system for in the extracellular domain critical to toxin binding, herein after "READ" signature sequence. Hereinafter this binding fragment of the DNA sequence will be referred to as the "signature" region.

Three clones were obtained, PBW-421 (aa 1367-1496), 60 PBW-866 (aa 1210-1496) and PBW-1373 (aa 1210-1675), which have about 50% nucleotide and about 60% amino acid sequence similarity to both THW BT-R₁ and SW BT-R175. The 421 bp and 866 bp clones encode proteins of about 21 and 32 kD, respectively. Although both expressed proteins cross-reacted with THW BT-R₁ polyclonal antisera, the 32 kD protein, but not the 21 kD protein, was shown to

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bind Cry1Ab toxin specifically with high affinity. The estimated K_{d} value is about 17 nM, which is similar to the K_{d} value obtained for BBMV. Similarly, an internal fragment from the PBW-866 clone did not bind toxin, but did crossreact with BT-R1 antibodies. This data demonstrates that recognition by anti-BT-R1 antibodies is insufficient to define a functional toxin receptor.

In order to obtain a cDNA sequence encoding the fulllength receptor, the 5' and 3' ends of the PBW BT-R, receptor were first obtained using 5' and 3' RACE reactions followed by cloning of the full-length receptor cDNA using gene specific primers from the 5' and 3' UTR. The full-length cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO: 1) has an open reading frame of 1729 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:2), with a deduced molecular weight of 194 kD and a calculated pI value of 4.1, which is similar to the value determined by 2-D gel analysis.

The protein consists of three domains: extracellular, transmembrane and cytoplasmic. The protein sequence contains two hydrophobic regions, one at the amino terminus, characteristic of a signal peptide and one near the COOHterminus (amino acids 1575-1600) that probably forms a transmembrane domain. The extracellular domain contains 12 cadherin-like motifs, in addition to, a membrane proximal region that contains two leucine zipper motifs. Eleven consensus sites for N-linked glycosylation are present in the extracellular region, which may account for the difference in apparent molecular mass between the native protein and the calculated mass.

Based on the results discussed above, it would be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that variances in receptor sequences or in toxin binding affinities or in receptor expression may render different levels of toxin susceptibility or resistance. Furthermore, the receptor of the present invention may be used to generate transgenic organisms by

To investigate the mode of action of BT toxin, a mammalian heterologous cell culture system was chosen for several reasons. First, BT Cry1A toxins have shown no toxic effect on any mammalian cell lines studied to date. This characteristic is in contrast to most available insect cell lines, which exhibit variable degrees of sensitivity to toxin (Kwa et al., 1998). Second, the use of a mammalian cell would allow the determination of whether the receptor, independent of any associated protein in an insect cell line, would mediate toxicity.

When introduced into mammalian COS-7 cells, the cloned cDNA expressed BT-R₂ that was detected by western blot analysis using BT-R1 antisera. The expressed receptor was displayed on the cell surface and detected with polyclonal antibodies raised against M. sexta BT-R₁. These results suggest that the protein expressed by the PBW BT-R₂ cDNA is similar to the natural protein found in the insect midgut.

The possibility of using COS-7 mammalian cells transassessing the cytotoxicity of the Cry1A toxin was determined. The surface receptor clearly was able to bind to the Cry1Ab toxin, which was detected by immunofluorescent labeling using Cry1Ab antibodies (data not shown). These results indicate that the binding site of the receptor must assume its native conformation. Significantly, intensively labeled vesicles in the methanol fixed transfected COS-7 cells were observed when the cells were incubated with BT-R₁ antiserum (data not shown). This observation indicates that vesicles, which form normally in the cell endocytosis/exocytosis pathway, contain the BT-R₂ proteins. In addition, this result shows that the receptor is not only

expressed on the cell surface, like its native counter part in the insect midgut, but also is recycled normally by the cell.

Microscopy of the transfected COS-7 cells treated with Cry1Ab toxins for various times demonstrated significant cytopathological patterns. The cytopathological changes ⁵ observed under the fluorescent microscope included disruption of the plasma membrane, cell swelling, disintegration and death of the cells. The symptoms were obtained in the presence of 0.6 μ g/ml Cry1Ab for 2 hr. In contrast, no cytopathological effects were revealed for cells transfected ¹⁰ with vector alone and subsequently treated with toxin. Clearly, there is a distinct correlation between toxin binding to the surface receptor and toxicity to the cells.

The cytological appearance and ultrastructure of the midgut cells of *M. sexta* and other lepidopteran larvae, after ¹⁵ intoxication with preparations of BT, have been reported extensively by several authors (Bravo et al., 1992). Histopathological studies on *M. sexta* midgut demonstrated pathological behavior for Cry1A on midgut epithelial cells (columnar cells) (Midhoe et al., 1999). These investigators ²⁰ demonstrated that the epithelial cells of the midgut swell shortly after ingestion of the BT toxin. Eventually, the epithelial cells burst and released their cytoplasmic contents into the midgut lumen.

The present observations on the intoxicated transfected ²⁵ COS-7 cells are in complete agreement with these reports, which demonstrates that the toxin acts similarly in both systems. Furthermore, it should be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that cells expressing transfected molecules of the BT toxin receptor as well as cells expressing a natural form of the receptor may be used to asses the level of cytotoxicity and mode of action of toxins.

Lepidopteran insects generally express high molecular weight binding proteins for the Cry1A toxins that range in size from 160 to 220 kD (Martinez-Ramirez 1994; Vadlamudi et al.; 1993, Oddouet al., 1993; Nagamatsu et al., 1998a; Ihara et al., 1998). Two of these proteins, in addition to the 200 kD pink bollworm receptor, have been cloned and sequenced: the BT-R₁ 210 kD cadherin-related receptor from *M. sexta* (Vadlamudi et al., 1995) and the 175 kD cadherin-related from *B. mori* (Nagamatsu et al., 1998a). Interestingly, these two proteins have 60–70% identity and 80% similarity between themselves.

P. gossypiella expresses a high-affinity and a low-affinity 45 binding protein for at least one Cry1A toxin, Cry1Ac. The high-affinity receptor is a cadherin-related protein with a large molecular mass. One of the most important conserved regions may be the signature sequence. The signature sequence contains the sequence (READ), which is believed $_{50}$ to be responsible for toxin binding due to the presence of two negatively charged amino acids that bind to two arginines in the toxin binding site. Supporting evidence comes from the immunoblot analysis for clones PBW-866, which contains the proposed signature sequence, and PBW-421, 55 which does not include the signature sequence. To further define the minimum binding fragment, truncation peptides were tested for their ability to bind toxin (FIG. 4). The minimum binding fragment contains the "READ" signature sequence and consists of amino acids 1269 to 1367.

The information provided herein is necessary for understanding the molecular biology of the toxin receptor in the pink bollworm and to engineer more effective toxins in terms of longer persistence in the field, higher toxicity, and preclusion of resistance development. This information will 65 facilitate understanding of Cry toxin receptor interactions in other economically important insect crop pests.

EXAMPLE 1

Specificity of Purified Toxins

Recombinant protoxins Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab, and Cry1Ac (Bacillus Genetic Stock Center, Ohio State University) were prepared from E. coli JM-103 and trypsinized essentially as described by Lee et al. J. Biol. Chem. (1992) 267: 3115. In addition, the soluble trypsinized 60 kD toxins were subjected to FPLC NaCl salt gradient purification over an HR-5/5 Mono-Q anion exchange column (PHARMA-CIATM) prior to quantitation, radio-iodination, and use in bioassays. Cry3A crystal protein from B. thuringiensis subsp. tenebrionis was solubilized in 3.3 M NaBr and treated with papain, and the resulting 67 kD toxin was purified by the method of Li et al. Nature (1991) 353: 815. The 65 kD Cry11A toxin was isolated from *B. thuringiensis* subsp. israelensis via solubilization as described by Chilcott et al. J. Gen. Micro (1988) 134: 1551 and further purified by anion-exchange FPLC. All toxin protein quantitations were performed using the bicinchoninic acid method (PIERCE CHEMICALTM) with Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA, Fraction V) as a standard.

Pink bollworms were obtained from the USDA PINK BOLLWORM REARING FACILITYTM (PBWRF, Phoenix, Ariz.). An artificial diet was obtained from SOUTHLAND PRODUCTS INC.™, Lake Village, Ariz. The diet was reconstituted in boiling water and cooled to 55° C. Each Cry toxin was thoroughly mixed in the warm liquid diet and bioassay cups were filled with 20 ml of diet. After cooling and drying, 10 neonate larvae were placed in each cup and the cups were immediately capped. The method of Watson, et al., Beltwide Cotton Conference, Memphis, Tenn. (1995) was used to determine the toxicity of trypsin-activated toxins against first-instar larvae of P. gossypiella. Generally, four replicates of six cups were prepared for each dose. Cups were incubated at 30° C. for 21 days, the length of time necessary for more than 95% of normal P. gossypiella to reach pupation. At the end of 21 days, the diet cups were examined and the numbers of larvae and numbers of pupae or adults in each cup were recorded.

The specific toxicities of purified Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab, Cry1Ac, Cry3A and Cry 2A tested using neonate *P. gossypiella* larvae are shown in FIG. **3**B. It was determined that all three Cry1A toxins are highly toxic, with LC_{50} values ranging from 25–45 ng/cm³ of artificial diet. Cry3A (considered toxic to coleopteran or beetle insects) and Cry IIA (considered toxic to dipteran insects, especially mosquitoes) were not toxic to *P. gossypiella* larvae at the highest concentrations tested (2000 ng/cm³)

EXAMPLE 2

Characterization of the BT-R2 Receptor

Early fourth-instar larvae were kept on ice for 1 hr and midguts were surgically removed from the larvae. BBMW were prepared from midgut tissues by the differential magnesium precipitation method of Wolfersberger, et al., *Comp. Biochem. Physiol.* (1987) 86A: 30, in the presence of protease inhibitors (5 mg/ml pepstatin, antipain, aprotonin, leupeptin, 1 mM PMSF, and 5 mM benzamidine). The final pellet was resuspended in buffer A (300 mM mannitol, 5 mM
EGTA, and 17 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5) containing the protease inhibitors, flash frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -85° C.

Cry toxins were radioiodinated using the chloramine T method (Hunter and Greenwood, Nature (1962) 194: 495, with ¹²⁵I-Na (NEN DUPONTTM). Ten µg of toxin were mixed with 5 μ l of ¹²⁵I—Na (0.5 mCi) in 100 μ l of NaHPO₄ buffer (0.5 M, pH 7.4) with 25 µl of Chloramine T (4 5 mg/ml). The reaction mixture was agitated for 20-25 seconds at 23° C. and the reaction was stopped by adding 50 µl of Na₂S₂O₅ (4.4 mg/ml). Free iodine was removed by gel filtration on an EXCELLULOSE™ desalting column (PIERCETM) equilibrated with PBS containing 10 mg/ml 10 BSA.

Toxin Binding Assays.

Both homologous and heterologous competition inhibition binding assays were performed as described by Keeton and Bulla (1997). A total of 25 µg of BBMV were incubated with 1.2 nM ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac toxin in the presence of increasing concentrations (0-1000 nM) of the appropriate unlabeled homologous toxin (Cry1Ac) or heterologous toxins (Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab, Cry3A, and Cry11A). Incubations were 20 in 100 µl of binding buffer (PBS/0.2% BSA) at 25° C. for 30 min. Radiolabeled and unlabeled toxins were mixed together before adding them to the BBMV. Unbound toxins were separated from BBMV-bound toxin by centrifugation at 14,000×g for 10 min. The pellet containing bound toxin was 25 washed three times in ice cold binding buffer by gentle vortexing and radioactivity in the final pellet was measured using a BECKMAN GAMMA 5500[™] counter. Binding data were analyzed by the PRISM[™] program (GRAPHPAD SOFTWARE INC.™, San Diego).

Competition inhibition binding of 125 I-Cry1Ac toxin to P. gossvpiella was carried out in the presence of increasing concentrations of unlabeled Cry1Ac, Cry1Ab, Cry1Aa, Cry3A and Cry11A toxins. Homologous competition binding assays were performed with iodinated Cry1A toxins and ³⁵ Southern Blot Analysis. various concentrations of the corresponding unlabeled toxin. The binding site concentration (B_{max}) , and dissociation constant (K_d) of labeled toxins were calculated from three separate experiments. The equilibrium binding parameters were estimated by analyzing the data with the PRISMTM $_{40}$ computer program.

Radioligand Blotting.

The two hundred µg of BBMW proteins were solubilized, separated by 7.5% SDS-PAGE and transferred to polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membrane as described by 45 Francis and Bulla (1997). Blots were blocked with TBS (10 mM Tris-HCI and 0.9% NaCl) containing 5% non-fat dry milk powder, 5% glycerol 0.5% Tween-20, and 0.025% sodium azide for 2 hr at 25° C. Blocking buffer was removed and membranes were incubated for 2 hr at 25° C. in an equal volume of fresh blocking buffer containing 2×10⁵ cpm/ml (1–1.25 nM) of ¹²⁵I-Cry1A toxins either in the presence or absence of unlabeled toxins. Finally, membranes were washed three times with fresh blocking buffer for 10 min each, rinsed once with TBS, dried, and exposed to Kodak 55 X-ray film at -80° C.

To determine the specificity of binding to the 200 and 120 kD proteins, blots of PBW BBMV proteins was incubated with ¹²⁵1-Cry1Ac toxin in the presence of increasing concentrations of unlabeled Cry1Ac toxin.

Immunoprecipitation of Cry1Ab Binding Protein.

Immunoprecipitation was carried out according to Vadlamudi, et al. (1993). Twenty five µl of Cry 1Ab antiserum were added to 1 ml of protein A-Sepharose CL-4B equili- 65 brated in washing buffer (1% Nonidet P-40, 6 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris-HCl and 250 mM NaCl) and mixed for 1 hr at

4° C. After washing the blot three times with washing buffer, 700 µg of Cry 1Ab toxin were added and the mixture were incubated for an additional 1 hr at 4° C. and washed again three times with washing buffer. Pink bollworm BBMV proteins (6 mg) were solubilized in washing buffer containing 1% NP-40 and protease inhibitors (10 µg/ml pepstatin, antipain, aprotonin and leupeptin; 5 mM iodoacetamide; and 1 mM PMSF). Unsolubilized proteins were removed by centrifugation. Solubilized proteins were filtered through a 0.45 µm filter, added to 1 ml of Sepharose-protein A beads linked to Cry1Ab toxins, and the sample was stirred gently for 1 hr at 4° C. Sepharose beads were centrifuged and washed four times with washing buffer containing 0.25%NP-40 and 0.02% SDS. The toxin-binding protein complex was dissociated by heating in Laemmli (1970) sample buffer and the binding proteins were Coomassie stained and detected by ligand blotting with 125I-Cry1Ab and Western blot using Cry1Ab antiserum.

Immunodetection of Pink Bollworm Cry1A Receptor.

Immunoprecipitated proteins were transferred to a PVDF membrane, blocked with 5% nonfat dry milk in PBS buffer and incubated at 4° C. overnight in the same blocking buffer containing 10 µg/ml of Cry1Ab. Unbound toxin was washed with PBS. Antibodies raised in rabbits against the 60 kD Cry1Ab toxin were diluted 1:1000 and hybridized to the membrane for 2 hr at 25° C. and the blot then was washed with PBS. Peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG was diluted 1:3000 in TBS blocking buffer and hybridized to the membrane for 2 hr. The membrane then was washed extensively with PBS. Visualization of the bound toxin was accomplished using the Enhanced Chemiluminescence (ECL) Western blotting detection method (AMER-SHAMTM).

Forty µg of PvuH digested genomic DNA from P. gossypiella or M. sexta were separated on a 0.8% 1× TBEagarose gel and blotted onto a nylon membrane (BIO-RADTM, ZETA-PROBE GTTM). The analysis was carried out according to Sambrook, et al. Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, N.Y. (1989). The filter was hybridized with ³²P-labeled, random primed, C-terminal of BT-R1 cDNA (HincH fragment, 0.5 kb). Filter hybridization was carried out at 42° C. for 21 hr in 50% formamide, 5× Denhardt's reagent, 1M NaCl, 2% SDS, 50 mM Tris-HCl and 100 µg/ml of salmon sperm DNA. The filter was washed with 2×SSC, 0.5% SDS, then with 1×SSC, 0.5% SDS, then with 0.5×SSC, 0.5% SDS, followed by a fourth wash with 0.25×SSC, 0.5% SDS. Each wash was for 30 min at 42° C. Finally, the filter was rinsed in 2×SSC and exposed to Kodak X-ray film at -85°

Electrophoretic Elution of Proteins.

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Electrophoresis was performed in 1.5-mm-thick polyacrylamide slab gels using 7.5% acrylamide (pH 8.0). After SDS-PAGE, proteins were revealed as transparent bands with 4 M sodium acetate solution. The proteins were excised using a razor blade. Proteins in the gel strips were fixed in 50% (v/v) methanol solution for 15 min and equilibrated twice in 0.125 M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 6.8) and 2% 2-mercaptoethanol for an additional 15 min. Equilibration of the gel strips in the above buffer with 1% (w/v) SDS was performed as described above. The equilibrated gel strips were inserted into a dialysis tube with a minimum amount of the buffer containing SDS (25 mM Tris, 190 mM glycine and 0.1% SDS). Electroelution was carried out essentially as

described by Findlay (1990). A horizontal flat-bed mini-gel electrophoresis apparatus (BIO-RADTM) was used for electroelution at 50 V for 12 hr at 4° C. The buffer consisted of 25 mm Tris, 190 mM glycine and 0.1% SDS (pH 8.3). At the end of electrophoresis, the polarity of electrodes was changed for 30 sec to avoid adsorption of proteins onto the dialysis tubes. The buffer inside the dialysis tubes was collected and the tubes were washed three times with a minimum volume of buffer. SDS was dialyzed out and protein was concentrated by using a CENTRICON-30 10 micro-concentrator (AMICON).

Two-Dimensional Gel Electrophoresis.

Two-dimensional gel electrophoresis was performed according to the method of O'Farrell (1975). Isoelectric focusing was carried out in 2.0 mm (I.D.) glass tubes using 2.0% ampholines (pH 3.5-10; LKB/PHARMACIATM) for 9600 volt-hr. After equilibration for 10 min in buffer 'O', tube gels were applied to the stacking gels on top of 8% acrylamide (pH 8.0) slab gels (14×14 cm). SDS slab gel 20 electrophoresis was carried out for 4 hr at 12.5 mA. After electrophoresis, one gel was stained with Coomassie blue and the others were transblotted onto PVDF paper overnight at 200 mA (Vadlamudi et al., 1993). The PVDF paper was blocked with powdered milk solution, incubated with ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac or ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ab and exposed to X-ray film at -85° ²⁵ С.

Identification and Recovery of cDNA Encoding BT-R2.

Total RNA was prepared from the midgut tissue of fourth instar larvae of the PBW by the guanidinium thiocyanate 30 method (Chomczynki et al. Analyt. Biochem. (1987) 162: 156). Poly (A+) RNA was isolated with the POLYATRACT MRNA ISOLATION SYSTEMTM (PROMEGATM). First strand cDNA was synthesized using oligo-(dT) and random hexamer primers and reverse transcriptase according to 35 standard methodologies and used as the template for amplification by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of desired mRNAs. Degenerate oligonucleotide primers were designed based on the conserved amnio acids between M. sexta BT-R₁ and B. mori BT-R175. Such primers were used to clone 40 partial fragments of PBW BT-R₂.

For cloning of the PBW BT-R2, RT-PCR was employed using fully degenerate oligonucleotide primers derived from a sequence in the membrane proximal domain conserved sequence between M sexta BT-R1 and B. mori BT-R175. 45 Primers BT-R-1355U and BT-R-1209U against BT-R-1486D were applied to PBW cDNA to amplify 421-bp and 866-bp fragments. The PCR products were resolved on 1.5% agarose, gel purified, cloned into a TA cloning vector (INVITROGENTM) and transformed into E. coli INV \propto F. 50 The presence and identity of the correct insert was confirmed with EcoR1 digestion and DNA sequencing. The PBW-886 clone was found to contain the nucleotide sequence found in clone PBW-421. In addition, primer 1209U against 1657D was used to clone a 1373-bp fragment 55 (PBW-1373), which represents most of the membrane proximal domain and the cytoplasmic domain. Clone PBW-287 (aa 1346–1438) is a 287 bp internal fragment from 866-bp clone and was cloned using gene specific primers P5 and P6.

Based on the sequence obtained from the partial clones, 60 Immunodetection of the Expressed BT-R2 Proteins. sense and antisense primers were used to clone the 3' and 5' ends of the PBW BT-R₂ clone by the 5' and 3' RACE system according to the manufacturer's instructions (GIBCO BRLTM). The 5' end was amplified using gene-specific antisense primers GSP1, GSP2 and GSP3 against 65 ABRIDGED UNIVERSAL AMPLIFICATION PRIMER™ (AUAPTM) provided in the kit. The 3' end was amplified

using gene primer GSP4 against AUAP™. The PCR product of the predicted size was isolated and subcloned into TA cloning vector pCR2.1 (INVITROGEN™) and transferred into E. coli INV xF. For recombinant protein expression in E. coli, or COS7 cells, the coding sequences for the RT-PCR clones or the full length $PBW-BT-R_2$ clone were recloned into the pET30 or pcDNA3.1 expression vectors and transformed into BL21 (DE3) LysS (NOVAGEN™) or COS7 mammalian cells. The E. coli cultures were induced using a 1 mM final concentration of IPTG for 3 hr.

The full length PBW BT-R₂ (~5.5 kb; see sequence in FIG. 1 SEQ ID NO:1) was ligated into the mammalian expression vector pcDNA3.1 (INVITROGEN™) and confirmed by DNA sequencing. The molecular mass of the deduced polypeptide is 194 kD with a pI of 4.1. The receptor has an open reading frame of 1729 amino acids (FIG. 2) (SEQ ID NO: 2). The amino acid sequence contains a putative signal peptide of 23 amino acid residues, a transmembrane domain of 27 residues (aa 1578-1605) and a 124-residue cytoplasmic domain. In addition, the amino acid sequence contains 12 putative cadherin motifs, 11 putative N-glycosylation sites and two leucin zipper motifs at amino acid 1541-1562 and 1578-1600. The minimum toxin binding fragment is amino acids 1269 to 1367 (FIG. 4).

When the protein homology is analyzed by BLASTP, as described under definitions above, the closest paralog in the GenBank nonredundant (nr) database is the Bombyx mori receptor at Acc. No. JE0128 with Identities=1034/1708 (60%), Positives=1266/1708 (73%), Gaps=35/1708 (2%). The next closest species was Manduca sexta at Acc. No. AAB33758.1 with Identities=871/1540 (56%), Positives=1101/1540 (70%), Gaps=22/1540 (1%). The nucleotide sequence showed no significant homologies.

The peptide homologies amongst these three species are shown in FIGS. 5A-C where perfectly conserved residues are boxed. Peptide fragments of the SBW sequence may be used to generate specific or nonspecific antibodies. Usually, it is recommended that at least 17 amino acid peptide fragments are used to generate antibodies, however, smaller peptides may also be antigenic and sufficiently complex to be unique. In particular, the carboxyl tail (aa 1677-end) of the PBW sequence is unique to this species and can be used to generate PBW unique antibodies. Exemplary peptides that may be useful as antigens (numbered with respect to FIG. 5, SEQ ID NO: 2) are shown as follows:

PBW Unique Peptides	Common Peptides
aa 534–544	aa 291–304
aa 697–705	aa 622–632
aa 886–895	aa 791–803
aa 1055–1066	aa 1621–1642
aa 1321–1331	
aa 1451–1461	
aa 1516–1525	
aa 1572–1582	
aa 1677–1729	

Cell lysates from the induced BL21 (DE3) LysS bacterial cultures were electrophoresed and transferred to PVDF membranes. Filters were blocked at 4° C. in 50 ml of blocking buffer containing 10 ug/ml of Cry1Ab toxin. Unbound toxin was removed by PBS. Rabbit primary antibodies for the THW was removed by PBS. Rabbit primary antibodies for the THW BT-R, extracellular domain or for

the FPLC-purified Cry1Ab were diluted 1:1000 in 50 ml TBS blocking buffer. The filters were incubated for 2 hr with the antiserum and washed three times with the blocking buffer. Peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG was diluted to 1:2000 and incubated with filters for 2 hr at 27° C. 5 and was developed with the enhanced chemoluminescence (ECL) detection system (AMERSHAMTM).

Mammalian Expression of BT-R₂.

The PBW BT-R₂ cDNA cloned into pcDNA3.1, a mammalian expression vector (INVITROGENTM), was expressed in mammalian cells (COS-7 SV40 transformed African green monkey cells; ATCC CRL-1651) according to methods described by Keeton and Bulla, Appl. Environ. *Microbiol.* (1997) 63: 3419. COS-7 cells (4×10⁴/well) were grown in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (FBS) on 12 mm cover slips placed in a 24-well plate.

COS-7 cells were transfected with the construct using the LIPOFECTAMIN PLUS REAGENTTM (GIBCO BRLTM). 20 The cells were incubated for two days at 37° C. in DMEM medium containing 10% FBS in a humidified atmosphere of 10% CO2. BT-R2 was monitored by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting with anti-BT-R1 or antiCry1Ab antiserum. Surface expression was detected by immunofluorescence 25 microscopy with the anti-BT-R₁ antibodies. The effects of BT toxin on the transfected cells were demonstrated by incubating the cells in the presence or absence of Cry1Ab toxin for 2 or 4 hr and monitoring the morphological changes by immunofluorescence microscopy using either anti-BT-R₁ or anti-Cry1Ab antibodies. Cell death is clearly demonstrated (not shown).

Immunoflourescene Microscopy.

COS-7 cells were grown on 12-mm glass coverslips in a 24-well plate. The cells were fixed and permeabilized either 35 in cold methanol (-20° C.) or 4% paraformaldhyde for 15 minutes at 27° C. Coverslips were rinsed three times with PBS and then blocked for 15 minutes with 1% BSA in PBS. Cells were incubated with primary antibody for 30 minutes at 27° C. followed by rinsing and blocking as just described. 40 The same incubation and washing procedures were applied to secondary antibody. Antibodies were detected with TRITC goat anti-rabbit IgG. Coverslips were mounted in FLUROMOUNT GTM and viewed with an OLYMPUSTM microscope equipped with epi-fluorescence illumination and 45 Results: Specificity of ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac Toxin Binding in Ligand a 40× Apochromat lens. Photography was done with an OLYMPUS SPOT™ camera.

Western Blot Analysis.

Transfected COS-7 cells were washed with cold PBS, 50 lysed in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris/HCL, 1 mM EDTA, 10 µM leupeptin) and resuspended on ice for 10 minutes. Then, 4× sample buffer was added to the cells and heated at 95° C. for 5 minutes. Lysates were subjected to electrophoresis through 7.5% SDS-PAGE, and proteins were electrophoretically 55 transferred to a PVDF filter, blocked and incubated with either anti-BT-R₁, or anti-Cry1Ab antibodies.

Results: Identification of ¹²⁵I-Cry1A Binding Proteins.

BBMV proteins of P. gossypiella ranged in molecular size from greater than 205 kD to less than 25 kD (data not shown) 60 as determined by SDS-PAGE. ¹²⁵I-labeled Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac were used in ligand blots to identify which P. gossypiella BBMV proteins bind the respective toxins. Proteins that had been separated by SDS-PAGE were transferred to PVDF membranes and incubated with each radio- 65 labeled-toxin separately. 125I-Cry1Aa, 125I-Cry1Ab and ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac bound to a protein of about 200 kD (data not

shown). ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac bound also to a protein band at about 120 kD. Neither Cry1Aa nor Cry1Ab bound to the 120 kD protein. The binding patterns for all three toxins were the same under both reducing and nonreducing conditions (data not shown).

Results: Competition Inhibition Binding Assays.

¹²⁵I-labeled Cry1Aa, Cry1 Ab and Cry1Ac were used in binding assays with P. gossypiella BBMV. Competition binding of ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac toxin to P. gossypiella was carried out in the presence of increasing concentrations of unlabeled Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab, Cry1Ac, Cry3A and Cry11A toxins. Fiftypercent inhibition of Cry1Ac binding was observed at 10 nM of unlabeled Cry1Ac, 100 nM unlabeled Cry1Aa and 100 nM of unlabeled Cry1Ab. At a concentration of 1000 nm, unlabeled Cry1Ac, Cry1Ab and Cry1Aa reduced binding of iodinated Cry1Ac by 95, 82 and 80%, respectively (data not shown). Neither Cry3A nor Cry11A toxin competed for the Cry1Ac toxin binding site.

Homologous competition binding assays were performed with iodinated Cry1A toxins and various concentrations of the corresponding unlabeled toxin Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac showed high binding affinity to BBW proteins (data not shown). Fifty-percent inhibition of binding of Cry1A toxins was observed at concentrations of approximately 10 nM of the corresponding unlabeled toxin. These data indicate that each of the three toxins binds specifically with high affinity. The binding site concentration, B_{max} , and the dissociation constant, K_d , of each toxin was calculated from the three separate homologous competition inhibition experiments by analyzing the data with the GRAPHAD computer program (Table 1). The K_d values all were similar and in the low nM range whereas the B_{max} for Cry1Ac was higher than Cry1Aa or Cry1Ab. The Hill coefficients for Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac were 0.65, 0.65, and 0.77, respectively, indicating a negative binding cooperativity for the toxins against the BBMV proteins. A single binding site model was indicated based on the nonlinear regression analysis for both Cry1Aa and Cry1Ab. Significantly, Cry1Ac, the data was best accommodated by a two binding site model with highand low-affinity binding sites.

Blots.

In view of the putative "two-binding site" model predicted for the Cry1Ac toxin, radioligand blots of P. gossypiella BBMV proteins were carried out with ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ac toxin in the presence of increasing concentrations of unlabeled Cry1Ac toxin. Autoradiography of these blots revealed significant reduction in the intensity of the 200 kD band (data not shown). Indeed, it was undetectable at a Cry1Ac toxin concentration of 10 nM. In the case of the 120 kD band, however, there was virtually no reduction in the band intensity (data not shown) even at a Cry1Ac concentration of 1000 nM. In saturation binding assays, incubation of a fixed amount of each of the three ¹²⁵I-labeled Cry1A toxins with increasing concentrations of BBMV showed that binding reached a saturation level in each case but that the level of Cry1Ac binding was substantially higher than those of Cry1Aa and Cry1Ab. Maximum saturable binding at 400 µg/ml of BBMV was approximately 0.35, 0.05 and 1.5 ng for Cry1Aa, Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac, respectively, which represents an approximately 30-fold difference in Cry1Ac binding compared to Cry1Ab, and, it is 4 fold higher for Cry1Ac compared to Cry1Aa (data not shown).

Results: Immunoprecipitation of the Cry1Ab Binding Protein.

Immunoprecipitation experiments were performed using Cry1Ab, which has the highest binding affinity of the three toxins, to further examine the specificity of binding of the 5 toxin to the 200 kD protein. BBMV proteins were solubilized in 1% NONIDET P-40[™] and immunoprecipitated with anti-toxin-protein A-Sepharose beads. The mixture of bound material was solubilized in SDS sample buffer containing 2-mercaptoethanol. Electrophoresis and staining of the gel with Coomassie blue revealed a protein of about 200 kDa, demonstrating selective precipitation of the 200 kD toxin-binding protein. Radioligand blotting with ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ab showed a band of about 200 kDa (data not shown), indicating precipitation of the same binding protein as that 15 identified in previous ligand blot experiments. Additionally, a Western blot (data not shown) of the immunoprecipitated protein using Cry1Ab and anti-Cry1Ab polyclonal antiserum confirmed the results of the radio-ligand blot (data not shown). The low-molecular weight bands at 60 and 52 kDa 20 correspond to the Cry1Ab toxin and the heavy chain of IgG, respectively.

Results: Purification of the Binding Proteins.

To determine whether the 200 kD band contains more than one protein, the band was excised from a 7.5% SDS polyacrylamide gel, electroeluted, dialyzed and concentrated. The concentrated protein was analyzed by two-dimensional gel electrophoresis over a pH range of 3.5–10. The protein migrated as one spot with an estimated p1 of 4.5±0.2 and apparent molecular mass of 200 kDa. The purified 200 kD protein stained with Schiff's reagent (data not shown) indicating that the binding protein is glycosylated. The 200 kD IEF spot bound ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ab (data not shown) corroborates the results from other immunoprecipitation studies.

Results: Southern Blot Analysis.

To detect the presence of the Cry1A receptor in *P. gossypiella*, genomic DNA from both insects were hybridized against the cloned THW BT-R₁ cDNA and its 507-bp ⁴⁰ minimum binding fragment. The two probes bound intensively to the PvuH fragment of *M. sexta* genomic DNA (data not shown). There was weak hybridization to the *P. gossypiella* DNA, however, using the minimum binding probe and none with the full-length BT-R₁ probe (data not shown). ⁴⁵ These results suggest that the minimum binding fragment from *M. sexta* shares a significant level of nucleotide similarity to the Cry1A binding receptor in *P. gossypiella*, more so than to the full-length BT-R₁ receptor.

Results: Immunodetection of Native and Cloned PBW BT- R_2 Using BT- R_1 Antibodies.

To confirm the relatedness of the cloned PBW fragment to the THW BT-R₁ and its ability to bind toxin, it was subcloned into a pET30 expression vector. The native PBW 55 BBMV proteins and the expressed proteins from clones PBW-287, -421 and -866 were resolved by SDS-PAGE, transferred to a PVDF membrane and incubated with either anti-BT-R₁ serum or Cry1Ab toxin followed by antiserum to the toxin. The results reveal that BBMV contain a 200 kD 60 protein that interacts with THW BT-R₁ antiserum (data not shown). In addition, clones PBW-287, -421 and -866 which express proteins of about 15, 21 and 32 kD, respectively, also cross-reacted with BT-R₁ antiserum. The 32 kD clone, however, was the only protein to bind toxin, whereas no 65 detectable binding was observed with the 21 kD protein (data not shown). These results confirm the sequence relat-

edness of PBW BT- R_2 to THW BT- R_1 and demonstrate that the 32 kD protein contains the toxin-binding site of the receptor.

Results: Specificity of Toxin Binding to the Cloned Receptor.

The specificity and affinity of toxin binding to the receptor fragment (PBW-866) was determined using competition ligand blot analysis. The expressed 32 kD protein was transferred to PVDF membranes and incubated with ¹²⁵I-Cry1Ab in the absence or presence of increasing concentrations of unlabeled Cry1Ab toxin. Autoradiography revealed significant reduction in the intensity of the 32 kD band to an undetectable level in the presence of 500 nM unlabeled Cry1Ab toxin (data not shown). Bound ¹²⁵I toxin was quantitated with a gamma counter and the BIO-RAD IMAGER™ analysis system was used to calculate the binding affinity of toxin to the expressed fragment. The binding affinity (~17 nM) of the toxin was similar to the calculated value (Table 1) for BBMV. These results demonstrate that Cry1Ab binds specifically with high affinity to PBW BT-R₂ 866. Other truncation fragments were also tested, and it was determined that the minimum binding fragment consists of amino acids 1269 to 1367.

Results: Expression of PBW BT-R2 in COS-7 Cells.

PBW BT-R₂ cDNA was subcloned into the mammalian expression vector pcDNA3.1 (INVITROGENTM) and transfected into COS-7 cells. Protein encoded by the PBW BT-R₂ cDNA was expressed as a membrane protein capable of binding Cry1Ab toxin. Membranes isolated from transiently transfected COS-7 cells were solubilized, electrophoresed, and immunoblotted either with Cry1Ab toxin and its antiserum or with BT-R₁ antiserum directly. The expressed 220 kD receptor bound Cry1Ab toxin and cross-reacted with BT-R₁ antiserum. No interaction to vector transfected cells was observed.

Expression of BT-R₂ receptor on the cell surface was shown by fixing the cells in methanol or paraformaldehyde and incubating first with anti-BT-R₁ serum, and then with TRITC IgG secondary antibodies. Transfected cells portrayed bright surfaces due to the binding of BT-R₁ antibodies to the cell surface clearly showing that the PBW BT-R₂ receptor is expressed on the cell surface.

The surface-expressed PBW receptor binds toxin and kills the cells. Transfected cells were incubated with Cry1Ab toxin for 2 or 4 hr, washed, fixed and incubated first with anti-Cry1Ab antiserum, and then with TRITC IgG secondary antibodies. As shown by immunofluorescence microscopy, BT-R₂ expressing COS-7 cells bound the toxin, whereas cells transfected with vector alone did not show any surface binding of toxin. Incubation of cells expressing PBW BT-R₂ with toxin for 2 or 4 hr showed significant morphological changes which include loss of cell integrity, loss of cell cytoplasm and complete disintegration of the plasma membrane and cell death.

The prior cited and following references are incorporated by reference herein and are used to support the invention disclosure:

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While this invention has been described with reference to illustrative embodiments, this description is not intended to

be construed in a limiting sense. Various modifications and combinations of illustrative embodiments, as well as other embodiments of the invention, will be apparent to persons 22

skilled in the art upon reference to the description. It is therefore intended that the appended claims encompass such modifications and enhancements.

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Thr Asp Ala Ile Pro 2 35	Arg Glu Pro Lys Pro Asp 40	Asp Leu Pro Asp Leu 45	
Glu Trp Thr Gly Gly 5 50	Irp Thr Asp Trp Pro Leu 55	Ile Pro Ala Glu Pro 60	
Arg Asp Asp Val Cys 3 65	lle Asn Gly Trp Tyr Pro 70 75	Gln Leu Thr Ser Thr 80	
Ser Leu Gly Thr Ile 3 85	Ile Ile His Met Glu Glu 90	Glu Ile Glu Gl y A sp 95	
Val Ala Ile Ala Lys 1 100	Leu Asn Tyr Asp Gly Ser 105	Gly Thr Pro Glu Ile 110	
Val Gln Pro Met Val : 115	lle Gly Ser Ser Asn Leu 120	Leu Ser Pro Glu Ile 125	
Arg Asn Glu Asn Gly A	Ala Trp Tyr Leu Tyr Ile 135	Thr Asn Arg Gln Asp 140	

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Asn	Ala	Asn	Thr	Phe 565	Leu	Arg	Ile	Asp	Glu 570	Glu	Thr	Gly	Asp	Ile 575	Tyr
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Ile	Gln	Val 595	Arg	Ala	Gln	Asp	Thr 600	Met	Ser	Glu	Pro	Glu 605	Ser	Arg	His
Thr	Ala 610	Ala	Ala	Gln	Leu	Val 615	Ile	Glu	Leu	Glu	Asp 620	Val	Asn	Asn	Thr
Pro 625	Pro	Thr	Leu	Arg	Leu 630	Pro	Arg	Val	Ser	Pro 635	Ser	Val	Glu	Glu	Asn 640
Val	Pro	Glu	Gly	Phe 645	Glu	Ile	Asn	Arg	Glu 650	Ile	Thr	Ala	Thr	Asp 655	Pro
Asp	Thr	Thr	Ala 660	Tyr	Leu	Gln	Phe	Glu 665	Ile	Asp	Trp	Asp	Thr 670	Ser	Phe
Ala	Thr	Lys 675	Gln	Gly	Arg	Asp	Thr 680	Asn	Pro	Ile	Glu	Phe 685	His	Gly	Cys
Val	Asp 690	Ile	Glu	Thr	Ile	Phe 695	Pro	Asn	Pro	Ala	Asp 700	Thr	Arg	Glu	Ala
Val 705	Gly	Arg	Val	Val	Ala 710	Lys	Gly	Ile	Arg	His 715	Asn	Val	Thr	Ile	His 720
Phe	Glu	Glu	Phe	Glu 725	Phe	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Thr 730	Val	Arg	Val	Arg	Asp 735	Leu
His	Thr	Asp	Asp 740	Gly	Arg	Asp	Tyr	Asp 745	Glu	Ser	Thr	Phe	Thr 750	Val	Ile
Ile	Ile	Asp 755	Met	Asn	Asp	Asn	Trp 760	Pro	Ile	Trp	Ala	Ser 765	Gly	Phe	Leu
Asn	Gln 770	Thr	Phe	Ser	Ile	Arg 775	Glu	Arg	Ser	Ser	Thr 780	Gly	Val	Val	Ile
785	Ser				790	_		_	_	795		-			800
_	Tyr			805				_	810					815	
	His		820					825					830		
	Ala	835					840					845			
	Asp 850	-	-			855					860			-	
865	Phe	-	-		870	-	-			875				-	880
	Asn	-		885			-		890	-				895	
-	Ile	-	900				-	905					910		-
	Ile	915		-	2	-	920		-			925	2	-	
	Asn 930	-				935	-		-	-	940				-
945	Asp		_		950	-				955					960
_	Arg	_	-	965					970					975	
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995		1000	1005
Pro Thr Pro (Glu Glu Leu Ser		r Glu Asp Leu Gln Glu
1010	1015		1020
Gl y Ile Thr I	Leu Asp Gl y Glu		e Ty r Ala Pro Asp Ile
1025	1030		35 1040
Asp Lys Glu A	Asp Thr Pro Asn	Ser His Val Gl	y Ty r Ala Ile Leu Ala
	1045	1050	1055
	Thr Asn Arg Asp	Leu Asp Thr Va	l Pro Arg Leu Leu Asn
	1060	1065	1070
Met Leu Ser H		Thr Gly Phe Le	u Gln Thr Ala Met Pro
1075		1080	1085
Leu Arg Gly 7	Tyr Trp Gly Thr		r Val Leu Ala Phe Asp
1090	109		1100
His Gly Ile H	Pro Gln Gln Ile		l Ty r Glu Leu Glu Ile
1105	1110		15 1120
Arg Pro Tyr A	Asn Tyr Asn Pro	Pro Gln Phe Va	l Phe Pro Glu Ser Gly
	1125	1130	1135
	Arg Leu Ala Leu	Glu Arg Ala Va	l Val Asn Asn Val Leu
	1140	1145	1150
Ser Leu Val A		Leu Asp Arg Il	e Gln Ala Ile Asp Asp
1155		1160	1165
Asp Gly Leu A	Asp Ala Gly Val		p Ile Val Gly Asp Ala
1170	1175		1180
Asp Ala Ser A	Asn Tyr Phe Arg		p Gly Asp Ser Phe Gly
1185	1190		95
Thr Leu Leu I	Leu Thr Gln Ala	Leu Pro Glu Gl	u Gly Lys Glu Phe Glu
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	Arg Ala Thr Asp	Gly Gly Thr Gl	u Pro Arg Ser Tyr Ser
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Thr Asp Ser 1		Leu Phe Val Pr	o Thr Leu Gly Asp Pro
1235		1240	1245
Ile Phe Gln A	Asp Asn Thr Tyr		e Phe Glu Lys Glu Val
1250	125!		1260
			a Glu Asp Pro Lys Asn 75 1280
Lys Leu Cys 1	Thr Asp Asp Cys	His Asp Ile Ty	r Tyr Arg Ile Phe Gly
	1285	1290	1295
	Ty r Glu Pro Phe	Asp Leu Asp Pr	o Val Thr Asn Val Ile
	1300	1305	1310
Phe Leu Lys S	Ser Glu Leu Asp	Arg Glu Thr Th	r Ala Thr His Val Val
1315		1320	1325
Gln Val Ala A	Ala Ser Asn Ser		y Gly Ile Pro Leu Pro
1330	133		1340
Gly Ser Leu I	Leu Thr Val Thr	Val Thr Val Ar	g Glu Ala Asp Pro Arg
1345	1350	13	55 1360
Pro Val Phe (Glu Gln Arg Leu	Tyr Thr Ala Gl	y Ile Ser Thr Ser Asp
	1365	1370	1375
	Arg Glu Leu Leu	Thr Val Arg Al	a Thr His Ser Glu Asn
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Ala Gln Leu 7	Thr Tyr Thr Ile	Glu Asp Gly Se	r Met Ala Val Asp Ser
1395		1400	1405

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Thr Leu 1410		Ala	Val	Lys	Asp 1415		Ala	Phe	His	Leu 1420		Ala	Gln	Thr
Gl y Val 1425	Leu	Ile	Leu	Arg 1430		Gln	Pro	Thr	Ala 1435		Met	Gln		Met 1440
Phe Glu	Phe	Asn	Val 1445		Ala	Thr	Asp	Pro 1450		Glu	Lys	Thr	Asp 1455	
Ala Glu	Val	Lys 1460		Tyr	Leu	Ile	Ser 1465		Gln	Asn	Arg	Val 1470		Phe
Ile Phe	Leu 1475		Asp	Val	Glu	Thr 1480		Glu	Ser	Asn	Arg 1485		Phe	Ile
Ala Glu 1490		Phe	Ser	Val	Gly 1495		Asn	Met	Thr	С у в 1500		Ile	Asp	Gln
Val Leu 1505	Pro	Gly	Thr	Asn 1510		Ala	Gly	Val	Ile 1515		Glu	Ala		Ala 1520
Glu Val	His	Ala	His 1525		Ile	Gln	Asp	Asn 1530		Pro	Val	Ser	Ala 1535	
Ser Ile	Glu	Glu 1540		Arg	Ser	Asp	Thr 1545		Leu	Leu	Arg	Ser 1550		Gln
Gly Val	Leu 1555		Gln	Arg	Leu	Leu 1560		Leu	Asn	Asp	Leu 1565		Thr	Gly
Val Ser 1570		Asp	Leu	Gly	Thr 1575		Gly	Val	Gln	Ile 1580		Ile	Tyr	Val
Leu Ala 1585	Gly	Leu	Ser	Ala 1590		Leu	Ala	Phe	Leu 1595		Leu	Ile		Leu 1600
Ile Thr	Phe	Ile	Val 1605		Thr	Arg	Ala	Leu 1610		Arg	Arg	Leu	Glu 1615	
Leu Ser	Met	Thr 1620		Tyr	Gly	Ser	Val 1625		Ser	Gly	Leu	Asn 1630		Val
Gly Ile	Ala 1635		Pro	Gly	Thr	Asn 164(His	Ala	Ile	Glu 1645		Ser	Asn
Pro Ile 1650		Asn	Glu	Gln	Ile 1655		Ala	Pro	Asp	Phe 1660		Ala	Ile	Ser
Asp Thr 1665	Ser	Asp	Asp	Ser 1670	_	Leu	Ile	Gly	Ile 1675		Asp	Ser		Gln L680
Gly Asp	Leu	Glu	Glu 1685		Arg	Ala	Asp	L y s 1690		Val	Asp	Ala	Leu 1695	
Lys Lys	Leu	L y s 1700		Asn	Asp	Gly	Ala 1705		Gly	Glu	Tyr	Glu 1710		Lys
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Arg Pro Pro Arg Pro Asp Leu Pro Glu Leu Asp Phe Glu Gly Gln Thr	
35 40 45 Trp Ser Gln Arg Pro Leu Ile Pro Ala Ala Asp Arg Glu Asp Val Cys	
50 55 60	
Met Asp Gly Tyr His Ala Met Thr Pro Thr Tyr Gly Thr Gln Ile Ile	

65					70					75					80
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Tyr	Arg	Gly	Pro 100	Asn	Val	Pro	Tyr	Ile 105	Glu	Pro	Ala	Phe	Leu 110	Ser	Gly
Ser	Phe	Asn 115	Leu	Leu	Val	Pro	Val 120	Ile	Arg	Arg	Ile	Pro 125	Asp	Ser	Asn
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Gly 145	Met	Gln	Gln	Tyr	Val 150	Phe	Asn	Ile	Arg	Ile 155	Asp	Gly	Glu	Thr	Leu 160
Val	Ala	Gly	Val	Ser 165	Leu	Leu	Ile	Val	Asn 170	Ile	Asp	Asp	Asn	Ala 175	Pro
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Arg	Leu	Thr 195	Glu	Сув	Val	Tyr	Val 200	Val	Thr	Asp	Ala	Asp 205	Gly	Arg	Ile
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Val 385	Val	Ile	Ile	Val	Asn 390	Asp	Ile	Asn	Asp	Gln 395	Arg	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu 400
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Phe	Gln	Arg	Ile	Arg 485	Leu	Arg	Val	Ile	Ala 490	Thr	Asp	Met	Asp	Asn 495	Glu

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Asp	Glu	Glu 515	Pro	Ile	Phe	Glu	His 520	Ser	Val	Gln	Asn	Val 525	Ser	Phe	Lys
Glu	Thr 530	Glu	Gly	Lys	Gly	Phe 535	Phe	Val	Ala	Asn	Val 540	Arg	Ala	His	Asp
Arg 545	Asp	Ile	Asp	Asp	Arg 550	Val	Glu	His	Thr	Leu 555	Met	Gly	Asn	Ala	Asn 560
Asn	Tyr	Leu	Ser	Ile 565	Asp	Lys	Asp	Thr	Gly 570	Asp	Ile	His	Val	Thr 575	Gln
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Arg	Ala	Asp 595	Asp	Thr	Leu	Gly	Glu 600	Pro	Phe	His	Thr	Ala 605	Thr	Ser	Gln
Leu	Leu 610	Ile	His	Glu	Glu	Asp 615	Ile	Asn	Asn	Thr	Pro 620	Pro	Thr	Leu	Arg
Leu 625	Pro	Arg	Gly	Ser	Pro 630	Asn	Val	Glu	Glu	Asn 635	Val	Pro	Glu	Gly	Ty r 640
Ile	Ile	Thr	Ser	Glu 645	Ile	Arg	Ala	Thr	Asp 650	Pro	Asp	Thr	Thr	Ala 655	Glu
Leu	Arg	Phe	Glu 660	Ile	Asp	Trp	Thr	Thr 665	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Thr	Lys 670	Gln	Gly
Arg	Glu	Ala 675	Asn	Pro	Ile	Glu	Phe 680	His	Asn	Cys	Val	Glu 685	Ile	Glu	Thr
Ile	Ty r 690	Pro	Ala	Ile	Asn	Asn 695	Arg	Gly	Ser	Ala	Ile 700	Gly	Arg	Leu	Val
Val 705	Lys	Lys	Ile	Arg	Glu 710	Asn	Val	Thr	Ile	Asp 715	Tyr	Glu	Glu	Phe	Glu 720
Met	Leu	Tyr	Leu		Val	Arg	Val	Arg	Asp 730	Leu	Asn	Thr	Val	Ile 735	Gly
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_	-	-	740	Glu				745	Ile				750		
Asp	Asn	Pro 755	740 Pro	Glu Ile	Trp	Val	Pro 760	745 Gly	Ile Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 765	750 Ser	Met	Arg
Asp Val	Asn Arg 770	Pro 755 Glu	740 Pro Met	Glu Ile Ser Gly	Trp Asp	Val Ala 775 Leu	Pro 760 Gly	745 Gly Val	Ile Thr Val Gln	Leu Ile	Glu Gly 780 Arg	Gln 765 Thr	750 Ser Leu	Met Leu Thr Met	Arg Ala
Asp Val Thr 785	Asn Arg 770 Asp	Pro 755 Glu Ile	740 Pro Met Asp	Glu Ile Ser Gly	Trp Asp Pro 790	Val Ala 775 Leu	Pro 760 Gly Tyr	745 Gly Val Asn	Ile Thr Val Gln	Leu Ile Val 795	Glu Gly 780 Arg	Gln 765 Thr Tyr	750 Ser Leu Thr	Met Leu Thr Met	Arg Ala Lys 800
Asp Val Thr 785 Ala	Asn Arg 770 Asp Asn	Pro 755 Glu Ile Glu	740 Pro Met Asp Gly	Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr 805	Trp Asp Pro 790 Pro	Val Ala 775 Leu Glu	Pro 760 Gly Tyr Asn	745 Gly Val Asn Leu	Ile Thr Val Gln Leu 810	Leu Ile Val 795 Met	Glu Gly 780 Arg Glx	Gln 765 Thr Tyr Asp	750 Ser Leu Thr Phe	Met Leu Thr Met Tyr	Arg Ala Lys 800 Thr
Asp Val Thr 785 Ala Gly	Asn Arg 770 Asp Asn Gln	Pro 755 Glu Ile Glu Ile	740 Pro Met Asp Gly Thr 820	Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr 805 Val	Trp Asp Pro 790 Pro Lys	Val Ala 775 Leu Glu Thr	Pro 760 Gly Tyr Asn Ser	745 Gly Val Asn Leu Gly 825	Ile Thr Val Gln Leu 810 Ala	Leu Ile Val 795 Met Ile	Glu Gly 780 Arg Glx Asp	Gln 765 Thr Tyr Asp Ala	750 Ser Leu Thr Phe Asp 830	Met Leu Thr Met Tyr 815	Arg Ala Lys 800 Thr Pro
Asp Val Thr 785 Ala Gly Arg	Asn Arg 770 Asp Asn Gln Arg	Pro 755 Glu Ile Glu Ile Tyr 835	740 Pro Met Asp Gly Thr 820 Asn	Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr 805 Val Leu	Trp Asp Pro 790 Pro Lys Tyr	Val Ala 775 Leu Glu Thr Tyr	Pro 760 Gly Tyr Asn Ser Thr 840	745 Gly Val Asn Leu Gly 825 Val	Ile Thr Val Gln Leu 810 Ala Val	Leu Ile Val 795 Met Ile Ala	Glu Gly 780 Arg Glx Asp Thr	Gln 765 Thr Tyr Asp Ala Asp 845	750 Ser Leu Thr Phe 830 Arg	Met Leu Thr Met Tyr 815 Val	Arg Ala Lys 800 Thr Pro Tyr
Asp Val Thr 785 Ala Gly Arg Ala	Asn Arg 770 Asp Asn Gln Arg Glu 850	Pro 755 Glu Ile Glu Ile Tyr 835 Asp	740 Pro Met Asp Gly Thr 820 Asn Pro	Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr 805 Val Leu Asp	Trp Asp Pro 790 Pro Lys Tyr Asp	Val Ala 775 Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys 855	Pro 760 Gly Tyr Asn Ser Thr 840 Pro	745 Gly Val Asn Leu Gly 825 Val Asp	Ile Thr Val Gln Leu 810 Ala Val Asp	Leu Ile Val 795 Met Ile Ala Pro	Glu Gly 780 Arg Glx Asp Thr Thr 860	Gln 765 Thr Tyr Asp Ala Asp 845 Tyr	750 Ser Leu Thr Phe Asp 830 Arg Trp	Met Leu Thr Met Xyr 815 Val Cys	Arg Ala Lys 800 Thr Pro Tyr Thr
Asp Val Thr 785 Ala Gly Arg Ala Pro 865	Asn Arg 770 Asp Asn Gln Arg Glu 850 Gly	Pro 755 Glu Ile Glu Ile Tyr 835 Asp Gln	740 Pro Met Asp Gly Thr 820 Asn Pro Val	Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr 805 Val Leu Asp Val	Trp Asp Pro Pro Lys Tyr Asp Ile 870	Val Ala 775 Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys 855 Gln	Pro 760 Gly Tyr Asn Ser Thr 840 Pro Ile	745 Gly Val Asn Leu Gly 825 Val Asp Ile	Ile Thr Val Gln Leu 810 Ala Val Asp	Leu Ile Val 795 Met Ile Ala Pro Thr 875	Glu Gly 780 Arg Glx Asp Thr 860 Asn	Gln 765 Thr Tyr Asp Ala Asp 845 Tyr Asn	750 Ser Leu Thr Phe Asp 830 Arg Trp Lys	Met Leu Thr Met Tyr 815 Val Cys Glu	Arg Ala Lys 800 Thr Pro Tyr Thr Pro 880

Arg Asp Asp Ile 915	Tyr His Thr	Ile Arg Tyr 920	Gln Ile Asn 925	Tyr Ala Val
Asn Pro Arg Leu 930	Arg Asp Phe 935	Phe Ala Val	Asp Pro Asp 940	Thr Gly Arg
Val Tyr Val Tyr 945	Tyr Thr Thr 950	Asp Glu Val	Leu Asp Arg 955	Asp Gly Asp 960
Glu Pro Gln His	Arg Ile Phe 965	Phe Asn Leu 970		Phe Phe Gln 975
Gln Gly Asp Gly 980	Asn Arg Asn	Gln Asn Asp 985	Ala Glu Val	Leu Val Val 990
Leu Leu Asp Val 995	Asn Asp Asn	Ala Pro Glu 1000	Leu Pro Glu 100	-
Leu Ser Trp Ser 1010	Val Ser Glu 101		Lys Gly Thr 1020	Arg Leu Gln
Pro His Ile Tyr 1025	Ala Pro Asp 1030	Arg Asp Glu	Pro Asp Thr 1035	Asp Asn Ser 1040
Arg Val Gly Tyr	Ala Ile Ile 1045	Ser Leu Thr 105		Arg Glu Ile 1055
Glu Val Pro Glu 1060		Met Ile Gln 1065	Ile Gln Asn	Val Thr Gly 1070
Glu Leu Glu Thr 1075	Ala Met Asp	Leu Arg Gly 1080	Tyr Trp Gly 108	
Ile His Ile Lys 1090	Ala Tyr Asp 109		Pro Gln Gln 1100	Met Ser Asn
Glu Thr Tyr Glu 1105	Leu Val Ile 1110	Arg Pro Tyr	Asn Phe His 1115	Ala Pro Val 1120
Phe Val Phe Pro	Lys His Gly 1125	Ala Thr Leu 113		Arg Glu Arg 1135
Ala Val Val Asn 114(Ala Thr Val 1145	Asp Gly Glu	Phe Leu Asn 1150
Arg Ile Val Ala 1155	Thr Asp Glu	Asp Gly Leu 1160	His Ala Gly 116	
Phe Glu Val Val 1170	Gly Asp Thr 117		Asp Tyr Phe 1180	His Ile Val
Asn Asp Gly Glu 1185	Asn Ser Gly 1190	Thr Leu Met	Leu Lys Gln 1195	Leu Phe Pro 1200
Glu Asp Ile Arg	Glu Phe Glu 1205	Val Thr Ile 121	-	Asp Gly Gly 1215
Thr Glu Pro Arg 1220		Thr Asp Cys 1225	Thr Phe Ser	Val Val Phe 1230
Val Pro Ile Gln 1235	Gly Glu Pro	Ile Phe Pro 1240	Thr Ser Thr 124	
Ala Phe Ile Glu 1250	Lys Glu Ala 125		Glu Arg His 1260	Glu Leu Pro
Arg Ala Glu Asp 1265	Arg Lys Asn 1270	His Leu Cys	Ser Asp Asp 1275	Cys His Asn 1280
Ile Tyr Tyr Arg	Ile Ile Asp 1285	Gly Asn Asn 129		Phe Gly Leu 1295
Asp Glu Thr Thr 1300		Phe Leu Val 1305	L y s Glu Leu	Asp Arg Ser 1310
Val Ser Glu Thr 1315	Tyr Thr Leu	Thr Ile Ala 1320	Ala Ser Asn 132	
Gly Gly Ile Ala	Leu Thr Ser	Thr Ile Thr	Ile Thr Val	Asn Val Arg

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1330	1335	1340)
Glu Ala Asp Pro	Gln Pro Ty r Phe	Val Arg Asp Leu	Ty r Thr Ala Gly
1345	1350	1355	1360
Ile Ser Thr Ser	Asp Ser Ile Asn	Arg Glu Leu Leu	Ile Leu Gln Ala
	1365	1370	1375
Thr His Ser Glu		Ile Tyr Thr Ile	Asp Trp Ser Thr
138		1385	1390
Met Val Thr Asp	Pro Thr Leu Ala	Ser Val Arg Glu	Thr Ala Phe Ile
1395	1400)	1405
Leu Asn Pro His	Thr Gl y Val Leu	Thr Leu Asn Ile	
1410	1415	1420	
Ser Met His Gly	Met Phe Glu Phe	Gln Val Val Ala	Thr Asp Pro Ala
1425	1430	1435	1440
Gly Tyr Ser Asp	Arg Ala Asn Val	Lys Ile Tyr Leu	Ile Ser Thr Arg
	1445	1450	1455
Asn Arg Val Phe		Asn Thr Leu Glu	Gln Val Glu Gln
146		1465	1470
Asn Thr Asp Phe	Ile Ala Gln Thr	Phe Ser Ala Gly	Phe Glu Met Thr
1475	1480		1485
Cys Asn Ile Asp	Gln Val Val Pro	Ala Thr Asp Ala	
1490	1495	1500	
Met Asn Gly Ile	Thr Glu Val Arg	Gly His Phe Ile	Arg Asp Asn Val
1505	1510	1515	1520
Pro Val Pro Ala	Asp Glu Ile Glu	Thr Leu Arg Gly	Asp Met Val Leu
	1525	1530	1535
Leu Thr Ala Ile		Ala Thr Arg Leu	Leu Val Leu Arg
154		1545	1550
Asp Leu Phe Thr	Asp Thr Ser Pro	Ala Pro Asp Ala	Gly Ser Ala Ala
1555	1560)	1565
Val Leu Tyr Ala	Leu Ala Val Leu	Ser Ala Leu Leu	-
1570	1575	1580	
Leu Leu Leu Leu	Val Ile Phe Ile	Ile Arg Thr Lys	Lys Leu Asn Arg
1585	1590	1595	1600
Arg Leu Glu Ala	Leu Thr Val Lys	Lys Tyr Gly Ser	Val Asp Ser Gly
	1605	1610	1615
Leu Asn Arg Val		Pro Gl y Thr Asn	Lys His Ala Val
162		1625	1630
Glu Gly Ser Asn	Pro Ile Trp Asn	Glu Thr Ile Lys	Ala Pro Asp Phe
1635	1640)	1645
Asp Ser Met Ser	Asp Ala Ser Asn	Asp Ser Asp Leu	
1650	1655	1660	
Asp Leu Pro His	Phe Gly Glu Asn	Asn Tyr Phe Pro	Arg Asp Val Asp
1665	1670	1675	1680
Glu Phe Lys Thr	Asp Lys Pro Glu	Asp Ile Val Ala	Thr His Asn Asn
	1685	1690	1695
Asn Phe Gly Phe		Phe Ser Pro Glu	Phe Ala Asn Gln
170		1705	1710
Phe Gln Lys 1715			
<210> SEQ ID NO			

- <211> LENGTH: 1717
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Tobacco hornworm

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<400> SEOUENCE: 18 Met Ala Val Asp Val Arg Ile Ala Ala Phe Leu Leu Val Phe Ile Ala Pro Ala Val Leu Ala Gln Glu Arg Cys Gly Tyr Met Thr Ala Ile Pro 20 25 30 Arg Leu Pro Arg Pro Asp Asn Leu Pro Val Leu Asn Phe Glu Gly Gln Thr Trp Ser Gln Arg Pro Leu Leu Pro Ala Pro Glu Arg Asp Asp Leu Cys Met Asp Ala Tyr His Val Ile Thr Ala Asn Leu Gly Thr Gln Val Ile Tyr Met Asp Glu Glu Ile Glu Asp Glu Ile Thr Ile Ala Ile Leu Asn Tyr Asn Gly Pro Ser Thr Pro Phe Ile Glu Leu Pro Phe Leu Ser Gly Ser Tyr Asn Leu Leu Met Pro Val Ile Arg Arg Val Asp Asn Gly Glu Trp His Leu Ile Ile Thr Gln Arg Gln His Tyr Glu Leu Pro Gly 130 135 140 Met Gln Gln Tyr Met Phe Asn Val Arg Val Asp Gly Gln Ser Leu Val Ala Gly Val Ser Leu Ala Ile Val Asn Ile Asp Asp Asn Ala Pro Ile Ile Gln Asn Phe Glu Pro Cys Arg Val Pro Glu Leu Gly Glu Pro Gly Leu Thr Glu Cys Thr Tyr Gln Val Ser Asp Ala Asp Gly Arg Ile Ser 195 200 205 Thr Glu Phe Met Thr Phe Arg Ile Asp Ser Val Arg Gly Asp Glu Glu Thr Phe Tyr Ile Glu Arg Thr Asn Ile Pro Asn Gln Trp Met Trp Leu Asn Met Thr Ile Gly Val Asn Thr Ser Leu Asn Phe Val Thr Ser Pro Leu His Ile Phe Ser Val Thr Ala Leu Asp Ser Leu Pro Asn Thr His Thr Val Thr Met Met Val Gln Val Ala Asn Val Asn Ser Arg Pro Pro Arg Trp Leu Glu Ile Phe Ala Val Gln Gln Phe Glu Glu Lys Ser Tyr Gln Asn Phe Thr Val Arg Ala Ile Asp Gly Asp Thr Glu Ile Asn Met Pro Ile Asn Tyr Arg Leu Ile Thr Asn Glu Glu Asp Thr Phe Phe Ser Ile Glu Ala Leu Pro Gly Gly Lys Ser Gly Ala Val Phe Leu Val Ser Pro Ile Asp Arg Asp Thr Leu Gln Arg Glu Val Phe Pro Leu Thr Ile Val Ala Tyr Lys Tyr Asp Glu Glu Ala Phe Ser Thr Ser Thr Asn Val 370 375 380 Val Ile Ile Val Thr Asp Ile Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Glu Pro Ile His Lys Glu Tyr Arg Leu Ala Ile Met Glu Glu Thr Pro Leu Thr Leu Asn -continued

											-	con	cın	uea	
				405					410					415	
Phe	Asp	Lys	Glu 420	Phe	Gly	Phe	His	Asp 425	Lys	Asp	Leu	Gly	Gln 430	Asn	Ala
Gln	Tyr	Thr 435	Val	Arg	Leu	Glu	Ser 440	Val	Asp	Pro	Pro	Gl y 445	Ala	Ala	Glu
Ala	Phe 450	Tyr	Ile	Ala	Pro	Glu 455	Val	Gly	Tyr	Gln	Arg 460	Gln	Thr	Phe	Ile
Met 465	Gly	Thr	Leu	Asn	His 470	Ser	Met	Leu	Asp	Ty r 475	Glu	Val	Pro	Glu	Phe 480
Gln	Ser	Ile	Thr	Ile 485	Arg	Val	Val	Ala	Thr 490	Asp	Asn	Asn	Asp	Thr 495	Arg
His	Val	Gly	Val 500	Ala	Leu	Val	His	Ile 505	Asp	Leu	Ile	Asn	Trp 510	Asn	Asp
Glu	Gln	Pro 515	Ile	Phe	Glu	His	Ala 520	Val	Gln	Thr	Val	Thr 525	Phe	Asp	Glu
Thr	Glu 530	Gly	Glu	Gly	Phe	Phe 535	Val	Ala	Lys	Ala	Val 540	Ala	His	Asp	Arg
Asp 545	Ile	Gly	Asp	Val	Val 550	Glu	His	Thr	Leu	Leu 555	Gly	Asn	Ala	Val	Asn 560
Phe	Leu	Thr	Ile	Asp 565	Lys	Leu	Thr	Gly	Asp 570	Ile	Arg	Val	Ser	Ala 575	Asn
Asp	Ser	Phe	Asn 580	Tyr	His	Arg	Glu	Ser 585	Glu	Leu	Phe	Val	Gln 590	Val	Arg
Ala	Thr	Asp 595	Thr	Leu	Gly	Glu	Pro 600	Phe	His	Thr	Ala	Thr 605	Ser	Gln	Leu
Val	Ile 610	Arg	Leu	Asn	Asp	Ile 615	Asn	Asn	Thr	Pro	Pro 620	Thr	Leu	Arg	Leu
Pro 625	Arg	Gly	Ser	Pro	Gln 630	Val	Glu	Glu	Asn	Val 635	Pro	Asp	Gly	His	Val 640
Ile	Thr	Gln	Glu	Leu 645	Arg	Ala	Thr	Asp	Pro 650	Asp	Thr	Thr	Ala	A sp 655	Leu
Arg	Phe	Glu	Ile 660	Asn	Trp	Asp	Thr	Ser 665	Phe	Ala	Thr	Lys	Gln 670	Gly	Arg
Gln	Ala	Asn 675	Pro	Asp	Glu	Phe	Arg 680	Asn	Сув	Val	Glu	Ile 685	Glu	Thr	Ile
Phe	Pro 690	Glu	Ile	Asn	Asn	Arg 695	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ile	Gl y 700	Arg	Val	Val	Ala
Arg 705	Glu	Ile	Arg	His	Asn 710	Val	Thr	Ile	Asp	Ty r 715	Glu	Glu	Phe	Glu	Val 720
Leu	Ser	Leu	Thr	Val 725	Arg	Val	Arg	Asp	Leu 730	Asn	Thr	Val	Tyr	Gly 735	Asp
Asp	Tyr	Asp	Glu 740	Ser	Met	Leu	Thr	Ile 745	Thr	Ile	Ile	Asp	Met 750	Asn	Asp
Asn	Ala	Pro 755	Val	Trp	Val	Glu	Gly 760	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln	Asn 765	Phe	Arg	Val
Arg	Glu 770	Met	Ser	Ala	Gly	Gly 775	Leu	Val	Val	Gly	Ser 780	Val	Arg	Ala	Asp
As p 785	Ile	Asp	Gly	Pro	Leu 790	Tyr	Asn	Gln	Val	Arg 795	Tyr	Thr	Ile	Phe	Pro 800
Arg	Glu	Asp	Thr	Asp 805	Lys	Asp	Leu	Ile	Met 810	Ile	Asp	Phe	Leu	Thr 815	Gly
Gln	Ile	Ser	Val 820	Asn	Thr	Ser	Gly	Ala 825	Ile	Asp	Ala	Asp	Thr 830	Pro	Pro

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Arg	Phe	His 835	Leu	Tyr	Tyr	Thr	Val 840	Val	Ala	Ser	Asp	Arg 845	Cys	Ser	Thr
Glu	Asp 850	Pro	Ala	Asp	Cys	Pro 855	Pro	Asp	Pro	Thr	Ty r 860	Trp	Glu	Thr	Glu
Gly 865	Asn	Ile	Thr	Ile	His 870	Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	Asn 875	Asn	Lys	Val	Pro	Gln 880
Ala	Glu	Thr	Thr	L y s 885	Phe	Asp	Thr	Val	Val 890	Tyr	Ile	Tyr	Glu	Asn 895	Ala
Thr	His	Leu	Asp 900	Glu	Val	Val	Thr	Leu 905	Ile	Ala	Ser	Asp	Leu 910	Asp	Arg
Asp	Glu	Ile 915	Tyr	His	Thr	Val	Ser 920	Tyr	Val	Ile	Ile	Asn 925	Tyr	Ala	Val
Asn	Pro 930	Arg	Leu	Met	Asn	Phe 935	Phe	Ser	Val	Asn	Arg 940	Glu	Thr	Gly	Leu
Val 945	Tyr	Val	Asp	Tyr	Glu 950	Thr	Gln	Gly	Ser	Gly 955	Glu	Val	Leu	Asp	Arg 960
Asp	Gly	Asp	Glu	Pro 965	Thr	His	Arg	Ile	Phe 970	Phe	Asn	Leu	Ile	Asp 975	Asn
Phe	Met	Gly	Glu 980	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asn	Arg 985	Asn	Gln	Asn	Asp	Thr 990	Glu	Val
Leu	Val	Ile 995	Leu	Leu	Asp	Val	Asn 1000	-	Asn	Ala	Pro	Glu 1005		Pro	Pro
Pro	Ser 1010		Leu	Ser	Trp	Thr 1015		Ser	Glu	Asn	Leu 1020		Gln	Gly	Val
Arg 1025		Glu	Pro	His	Ile 1030	Phe)	Ala	Pro	Asp	Arg 1035	_	Glu	Pro	_	Thr 1040
Asp	Asn	Ser	Arg	Val 1045		Tyr	Glu	Ile	Leu 105(Leu	Ser	Thr	Glu 1055	
Asp	Ile	Glu	Val 1060		Glu	Leu	Phe	Val 1065		Ile	Gln	Ile	Ala 1070		Val
Thr	Gly	Glu 1075		Glu	Thr	Ala	Met 1080		Leu	Lys	Gly	Ty r 1085		Gly	Thr
Tyr	Ala 1090		His	Ile	Arg	Ala 1095		Asp	His	Gly	Ile 1100		Gln	Met	Ser
Met 1105		Glu	Thr	Tyr	Glu 111(Leu)	Ile	Ile	His	Pro 1115		Asn	Tyr	-	Ala 120
Pro	Glu	Phe	Val	Phe 1125		Thr	Asn	Asp	Ala 1130		Ile	Arg	Leu	Ala 1135	
Glu	Arg	Ala	Val 114(Asn	Gly	Val	Leu 1145		Thr	Val	Asn	Gly 1150		Phe
Leu	Glu	Arg 1155		Ser	Ala	Thr	Asp 116(Asp	Gly	Leu	His 1165		Gly	Val
Val	Thr 1170		Gln	Val	Val	Gly 1175		Glu	Glu	Ser	Gln 1180	-	Tyr	Phe	Gln
Val 1185		Asn	Asp	Gly	Glu 119(Asn)	Leu	Gly	Ser	Leu 1195		Leu	Leu		Ala 1200
Val	Pro	Glu	Glu	Ile 1205		Glu	Phe		Ile 121(Ile	Arg	Ala	Thr 1215	
Gln	Gly	Thr	Asp 122(Gly	Pro	Leu	Ser 1225		Asp	Met	Thr	Phe 1230		Val
Val	Phe	Val 1235		Thr	Gln	Gly	Glu 1240		Arg	Phe	Ala	Ser 1245		Glu	His

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Δla	Val	Δla	Dhe	TIA	Glu	Lys	Ser	Δla	Glv	Me+	Glu	Glu	Ser	ніс	Gln
nia	1250		Inc	110	OIU	1255		mu	ULY	nee	1260		DCL	mrb	0111
Leu 1265		Leu	Ala	Gln	Asp 127(Ile)	Lys	Asn	His	Leu 1275		Glu	Asp		С у в 1280
His	Ser	Ile	Tyr	Ty r 1289		Ile	Ile	Asp	Gly 1290		Ser	Glu	Gly	His 1295	
Gly	Leu	Asp	Pro 1300		Arg	Asn	Arg	Leu 1305		Leu	Lys	Lys	Glu 1310		Ile
Arg	Glu	Gln 1315		Ala	Ser	His	Thr 1320		Gln	Val	Ala	Ala 1325		Asn	Ser
Pro	Asp 1330		Gly	Ile	Pro	Leu 1335		Ala	Ser	Ile	Leu 1340		Val	Thr	Val
Thr 1349		Arg	Glu	Ala	Asp 1350	Pro)	Arg	Pro	Val	Phe 1355		Arg	Glu		Ty r 1360
Thr	Ala	Gly	Ile	Ser 136		Ala	Asp	Ser	Ile 1370		Arg	Glu	Leu	Leu 1375	
Leu	His	Ala	Thr 1380		Ser	Glu	Gly	Ser 1385		Ile	Thr	Tyr	Ala 1390		Asp
Tyr	Asp	Thr 1395		Val	Val	Asp	Pro 1400		Leu	Glu	Ala	Val 1409		Gln	Ser
Ala	Phe 141(Leu	Asn	Ala	Gln 1415		Gly	Val	Leu	Thr 1420		Asn	Ile	Gln
Pro 1429		Ala	Thr	Met	His 1430	Gly	Leu	Phe	Lys	Phe 1435		Val	Thr		Thr 1440
Asp	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ala 144		Asp	Arg	Thr	Asp 1450		Thr	Val	Tyr	Val 1455	
Ser	Ser	Gln	Asn 1460		Val	Tyr	Phe	Val 1465		Val	Asn	Thr	Leu 1470		Gln
Val	Glu	Asp 1475		Arg	Asp	Phe	Ile 1480		Asp	Thr	Phe	Ser 1485		Gly	Phe
Asn	Met 1490		Cys	Asn	Ile	Asp 1495		Val	Val	Pro	Ala 1500		Asp	Pro	Val
Thr 1509		Val	Ala	Leu	Glu 1510	His)	Ser	Thr	Gln	Met 1515		Gly	His		Ile 1520
Arg	Asp	Asn	Val	Pro 152		Leu	Ala	Asp	Glu 1530		Glu	Gln	Ile	Arg 1535	
Asp	Leu					Ser				Thr	Leu		Ala 1550		Ser
Leu	Val	Leu 1555		Leu	Leu	Thr	Asn 1560		Ser	Pro	Asp	Ser 1565		Pro	Asp
Ser	Ser 1570		Thr	Val	Tyr	Val 1575		Ala	Ser	Leu	Ser 1580		Val	Leu	Gly
Phe 1585		Cys	Leu	Val	Leu 1590	Leu)	Leu	Thr	Phe	Ile 1595		Arg	Thr		Ala 1600
Leu	Asn	Arg	Arg	Leu 1605		Ala	Leu	Ser	Met 1610		Lys	Tyr	Gly	Ser 1615	
Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu 1620		Arg	Ala	Gly	Ile 1625		Ala	Pro	Gly	Thr 1630		Lys
His	Thr	Val 1635		Gly	Ser	Asn	Pro 164(Phe	Asn	Glu	Ala 1645		Lys	Thr
Pro	Asp 1650		Asp	Ala	Ile	Ser 1655		Gly	Ser	Asn	Asp 1660		Asp	Leu	Ile
_										-					_

Gly Ile Glu Asp Leu Pro His Phe Gly Asn Val Phe Met Asp Pro Glu

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1665	1670	1675	1680
Val Asn	Glu Lys Ala Asn Gly 1685	Ty r Pro Glu Val Ala Asn 1690	His Asn Asn 1695
Asn Phe	Ala Phe Asn Pro Thr 1700	Pro Phe Ser Pro Glu Phe 1705	Val Asn Gly 1710
Gln Phe	Arg Lys Ile 1715		

What is claimed is:

protein comprises

- a) the amino acid sequence at positions 1269-1367 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2; or
- b) the amino acid sequence at positions 24–1729 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.; or
- c) an amino acid sequence at least 95% homologous to positions 1-1729 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.

2. The isolated protein of claim 1, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence at positions 1269-1367 25 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.

3. The isolated protein of claim 1, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence at positions 24-1729 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.

4. The isolated protein of claim 1, wherein the protein 1. An isolated protein which binds cry1 A(c), wherein said 15 comprises an amino acid sequence at least 95% homologous to positions 1-1729 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.

> 5. The isolated protein of claim 4, which comprises the amino acid sequence of positions 1-1729 of SEQ. ID. No.: 2.

> 6. A method to identify a candidate pesticide against P. gossypiella, which method comprises contacting a test compound with the protein of claim 1 and assessing the ability of said test compound to bind to said protein

wherein a test protein that binds to said protein is identified as a candidate pesticide against P. gossypiella.

> * * *