

Plant L10 Ribosomal Proteins Have Different Roles during Development and Translation under Ultraviolet-B Stress^{1[C][W][OA]}

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Ribosomal protein L10 (RPL10) proteins are ubiquitous in the plant kingdom. Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) has three *RPL10* genes encoding RPL10A to RPL10C proteins, while two genes are present in the maize (*Zea mays*) genome (*rpl10-1* and *rpl10-2*). Maize and Arabidopsis *RPL10*s are tissue-specific and developmentally regulated, showing high levels of expression in tissues with active cell division. Coimmunoprecipitation experiments indicate that RPL10s in Arabidopsis associate with translation proteins, demonstrating that it is a component of the 80S ribosome. Previously, ultraviolet-B (UV-B) exposure was shown to increase the expression of a number of maize ribosomal protein genes, including *rpl10*. In this work, we demonstrate that maize *rpl10* genes are induced by UV-B while Arabidopsis *RPL10*s are differentially regulated by this radiation: *RPL10A* is not UV-B regulated, *RPL10B* is down-regulated, while *RPL10C* is up-regulated by UV-B in all organs studied. Characterization of Arabidopsis T-DNA insertional mutants indicates that *RPL10* genes are not functionally equivalent. *rpl10A* and *rpl10B* mutant plants show different phenotypes: knockout *rpl10A* mutants are lethal, *rpl10A* heterozygous plants are deficient in translation under UV-B conditions, and knockdown homozygous *rpl10B* mutants show abnormal growth. Based on the results described here, *RPL10* genes are not redundant and participate in development and translation under UV-B stress.

Ribosomal protein L10 (RPL10) is a key factor in joining the 40S and 60S ribosomal subunits into a functional 80S ribosome (Eisinger et al., 1997; Loftus et al., 1997). In yeast, a mutation in *Rpl10* demonstrated that it is essential for viability, as RPL10 organizes the union site to aminoacyl-tRNA; also, its incorporation into the 60S subunit is a prerequisite for the union of subunits and the initiation of translation (West et al., 2005; Hofer et al., 2007). Besides its role in translation, L10 has additional cellular roles. For example, human L10 was first identified as QM, a putative suppressor of Wilms' tumor (Dowdy et al., 1991). QM is highly homologous to the Jun-binding protein (Jif-1), a putative tumor suppressor; it has been reported that Jif-1 forms a complex with c-Jun and

represses its ability to transactivate gene expression via inhibition of binding of c-Jun to DNA (Montecarlo and Vogt, 1993). Most QM proteins are localized in the cytoplasm, and subcellular fractionation assays have shown that QM is peripherally localized to the endoplasmic reticulum (Nguyen et al., 1998). However, QM was described to be associated with presenilin 1, and it translocates from the cytoplasm to the nucleus, resulting in suppression of the complex formation of the c-Jun homodimer and acting as a transcription regulatory protein (Inada et al., 1997; Imafuku et al., 1999). In addition, it has been demonstrated that the yeast *Qm* homologous genes, *Grc5* and *Qsr1*, participate in translational control of gene expression in yeast and are required for cell growth and differentiation throughout mRNA translation; deletion of *Qsr1* is lethal (Tron et al., 1995; Koller et al., 1996). In animals, the expression of *Qm* is higher in rapidly dividing tissues than in adult and differentiated tissues, implying that QM may regulate development and differentiation (Green et al., 2000; Hwang et al., 2000). Similar expression patterns were described in the silkworm *Bombyx mandarina*, where *Qm* displays a tissue/stage-dependent expression (Hwang et al., 2000). In addition, in the plant species *Nicotiana tabacum*, a transcript homologous to *Qm* is highly expressed in young tissues and is almost undetectable in mature tissues, suggesting its contribution in cell growth beyond the role in ribosome structure (Marty et al., 1993). Furthermore, it has been recently demonstrated that QM confers protection against oxidative damage (Chen et al., 2006).

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Ribosomal protein genes exist as families of multiple expressed members that could be incorporated in the cytosolic ribosome under specific situations, such as certain developmental stages, tissues, and stress conditions (Schmid et al., 2005; Byrne, 2009). In the Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) genome, 249 genes have been identified that encode 80 families of cytosolic ribosomal proteins (Barakat et al., 2001). Identification of proteins from purified ribosomes by two-dimensional (2D) electrophoretic analyses followed by mass spectrometry (MS) demonstrated the presence of 79 families of ribosomal proteins in the 80S ribosome. Nearly half are represented by two or more protein spots on 2D gels, indicating that proteins are posttranslationally modified and/or present as different isoforms (Chang et al., 2005; Giavalisco et al., 2005; Carroll et al., 2008). It is hypothesized that this ribosomal heterogeneity fosters selective translation of specific mRNA under particular cell conditions (Barakat et al., 2001; Szick-Miranda and Bailey-Serres, 2001; Giavalisco et al., 2005; Carroll et al., 2008).

Previously, by transcriptome profiling, the expression of a number of ribosomal proteins was found to be up-regulated by UV-B light in maize (*Zea mays*) plants exposed under different light regimes (Casati and Walbot, 2003). In those experiments, *rpl10* was found to be up-regulated by UV-B light. The reduction of the ozone layer in the stratosphere has increased the terrestrial UV-B levels, with deleterious consequences for all organisms (Ballaré et al., 2001; Searles et al., 2001; Paul and Gwynn-Jones, 2003). The increase in transcription of translation-related genes is probably the consequence of ribosomal damage by UV-B, which occurs via the formation of cross-links between RNA and specific ribosomal proteins, resulting in a 50% reduction in protein synthesis (Casati and Walbot, 2004). Cellular recovery is accompanied by selective transcription and translation of ribosomal proteins and translation factors (Casati and Walbot, 2004). To further investigate the role of ribosomal proteins in UV-B responses, in particular the participation of RPL10 under conditions of UV-B stress, and to investigate if RPL10 proteins in plants have similar roles in development as described in other species, we studied the family of maize and Arabidopsis *RPL10* genes. First, tissue and developmental expression patterns were investigated in both species. Maize and Arabidopsis *RPL10s* are expressed with tissue and developmental stage specificity, showing high levels of expression in tissues with active cell division. Coimmunoprecipitation experiments indicate that RPL10s in Arabidopsis associate with translation proteins, demonstrating that it is a component of the 80S ribosome. In addition, Arabidopsis insertional mutants defective in particular *RPL10* genes were obtained; characterization of the mutants indicates that RPL10 proteins are not functionally equivalent and participate in development and translation under UV-B stress.

RESULTS

Expression of *RPL10* Transcripts in Arabidopsis and Maize

Three *RPL10* genes were identified in the Arabidopsis genome as orthologs to the *Homo sapiens* *Qm* gene (Dowdy et al., 1991) and named *RPL10A*, *RPL10B*, and *RPL10C*, while two genes encoding RPL10 were identified in the maize genome and named *rpl10-1* and *rpl10-2* (version 3b.50 at maizesequence.org; Schnable et al., 2009). Arabidopsis *RPL10s* share between 66% and 67% (A versus B and A versus C) and 75% (B versus C) similarity at the RNA level, with a higher similarity in the coding regions (86%–88%, Supplemental Fig. S1, A and B); the predicted amino acid sequences exhibit 94% to 97% similarity (Supplemental Fig. S1C). Likewise, comparison of maize *RPL10* sequences shows 95% identity at the nucleotide level for the corresponding open reading frames (ORFs) and 99% amino acid identity (Supplemental Fig. S1, A–C). In addition, the identity between *RPL10* genes from Arabidopsis and maize is 52% to 62% at the transcript level (73%–74% between open reading frames) and encode proteins with 85% to 86% amino acid similarity (Supplemental Fig. S1, A–C). The plant proteins also share a high degree of primary sequence conservation with other eukaryotic orthologs, with the presence of conserved putative sites of posttranslational modifications (Supplemental Fig. S1D).

To examine the expression of *RPL10*, quantitative reverse transcription (qRT)-PCR was carried out using maize and Arabidopsis tissues at different developmental stages. In maize, *RPL10s* are expressed in all tissues analyzed, showing higher levels of expression in rapidly dividing tissues such as hypocotyls and radicles in comparison with postmitotic adult and differentiated organs such as 4-week-old leaves (Fig. 1A). In Arabidopsis, *RPL10s* are ubiquitously expressed in all organs tested, with the highest levels of the three transcripts measured in roots and the lowest in stems (Fig. 1B). *RPL10* expression was also analyzed at different stages of leaf development; in maize, the highest level of both transcripts was in 1-week-old leaves, while lower levels of *RPL10* transcripts were detected in older developmental stages (Fig. 1C). In Arabidopsis plants, the three genes show high levels of expression in tissues with active division, with transcripts showing the highest levels in 3-week-old leaves and lowest levels in senescent leaves (7 weeks old; Fig. 1D). In maize plants, *rpl10-2* shows a higher level of expression (8-fold on average) than *rpl10-1* in all tissues analyzed, while in Arabidopsis, *RPL10A* and *RPL10C* transcripts represent nearly 90% of the total, with the *RPL10B* contribution at only 10%. It is worth mentioning that the expression levels described above are consistent with AtGenExpress data from the Genevestigator microarray database (Zimmermann et al., 2004; <http://www.genevestigator.ethz.ch>). Although *RPL10B* transcript levels were

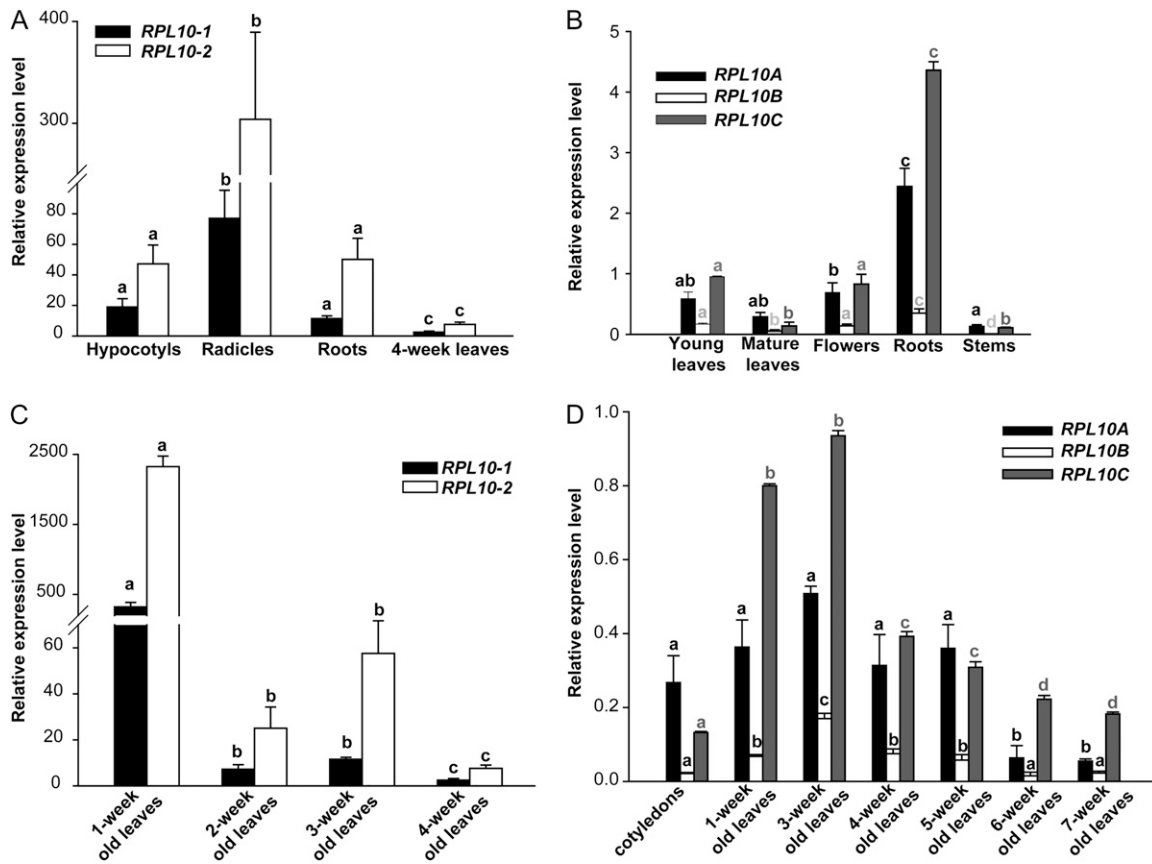


Figure 1. Tissue/stage-dependent expression of *RPL10*. A and B, qRT-PCR of *RPL10* in different tissues of maize (A) and Arabidopsis (B) plants. C and D, Relative *RPL10* transcript abundance in different stages of leaf development of maize (C) and Arabidopsis (D) plants analyzed by qRT-PCR. Each reaction was normalized using the C_t values corresponding to the *ACTIN1* and *POLYUBIQUITIN10* mRNAs for maize and Arabidopsis, respectively. The means of the results obtained using three independent RNAs as a template are shown; error bars indicate sd of the samples. For each *RPL10* transcript analyzed, different letters indicate significant differences ($P < 0.05$).

consistently lower than those of *RPL10A* and *RPL10C*, this gene is highly regulated during development: its expression profile is similar to other characterized Arabidopsis ribosomal proteins, such as *RPS5A* and *RPS5B* (Weijers et al., 2001), *RPS18A* to *RPS18C* (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Vanderhaeghen et al., 2006), *RPL23aA* and *RPL23aB* (Degenhardt and Bonham-Smith, 2008a, 2008b), and *RPL11A* and *RPL11B* (Williams and Sussex, 1995), where transcripts accumulate to the highest levels in mitogenic tissues and the lowest in nondividing tissues (Byrne, 2009).

Coimmunoprecipitation of *RPL10* Proteins in Arabidopsis

To investigate the presence of Arabidopsis *RPL10s* in the ribosome, and to identify proteins that may interact with L10 *in vivo*, we conducted coimmunoprecipitation assays using a polyclonal antibody raised against an N-terminal peptide of human QM. Arabidopsis and human *RPL10* proteins have 82% identity in this region (14 of 17 amino acids are

conserved; Supplemental Fig. S1D), and the three Arabidopsis *RPL10* proteins exhibit the same reactivity against this antibody as verified by western-blot analysis with the recombinant fusion *RPL10* proteins (Supplemental Fig. S2A). After immunoprecipitation, proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE (Supplemental Fig. S2B), and all associated proteins were identified by tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) analysis. A total of 445 proteins were identified; as expected, a high percentage of these associated factors correspond to proteins involved in protein metabolism (42%), including 60S and 40S ribosomal proteins (75% of this group), and initiation and elongation factors. Thus, these results indicate that *RPL10* is a constituent of the ribosome (Supplemental Fig. S2C). The identities of some proteins associated with *RPL10* were verified by coimmunoprecipitation followed by western blot (Supplemental Fig. S2D). In addition, we identified other groups of proteins that are involved in photosynthesis (14%), respiration (7%), amino acid metabolism (5%), cell division, cell organization, and cell cycle (6%), transport (5%), signaling (2%), and

stress response and detoxification (5%); these proteins may be contaminants or proteins that are being translated or associated with the translation machinery (Supplemental Fig. S2C). Interestingly, we also identified proteins involved in nucleic acid metabolism that regulate gene expression and proteins involved in cytoplasm-nuclear trafficking (Supplemental Table S1). Computational sorting prediction programs (sport, TargetP, iPSORT, and others) indicate that RPL10 proteins have a 50% probability of nuclear localization. Although Arabidopsis RPL10 proteins lack a nuclear localization signal, the possibility that these proteins can move to the nucleus associated with other proteins like the human QM protein cannot be ruled out.

Identification and Characterization of *rpl10* Arabidopsis Insertional Mutant Lines

Several T-DNA mutants defective in each of the *RPL10* genes were identified in the SALK and SAIL collections. For the *RPL10A* gene, two independent

T-DNA insertional lines, SALK 010170 and SALK 106656, designated *rpl10A-1* and *rpl10A-2*, with insertions in the second and third exons, respectively, were identified (Fig. 2A). In both lines, only heterozygous plants were viable, and they exhibited a decrease in the *RPL10A* expression of 5- and 3.5-fold, respectively (Fig. 2B). Both heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant lines showed no visible phenotype in comparison with wild-type plants under standard growth chamber conditions. No homozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants were found in the selfed progeny of both lines; the proportion of heterozygous to wild-type plants was 2:1, indicating that *RPL10A* is essential for plant viability (Supplemental Table S2).

For the *RPL10B* gene, we were able to identify heterozygous and homozygous plants with a T-DNA insertion in the 5' untranslated region (UTR) in the only mutant available from the European Arabidopsis Stock Center seed stock (SAIL S500_01_06; Fig. 2A). Homozygous plants were found in a very low proportion compared with heterozygous plants (about 1:10). The heterozygous *rpl10B* plants showed a de-

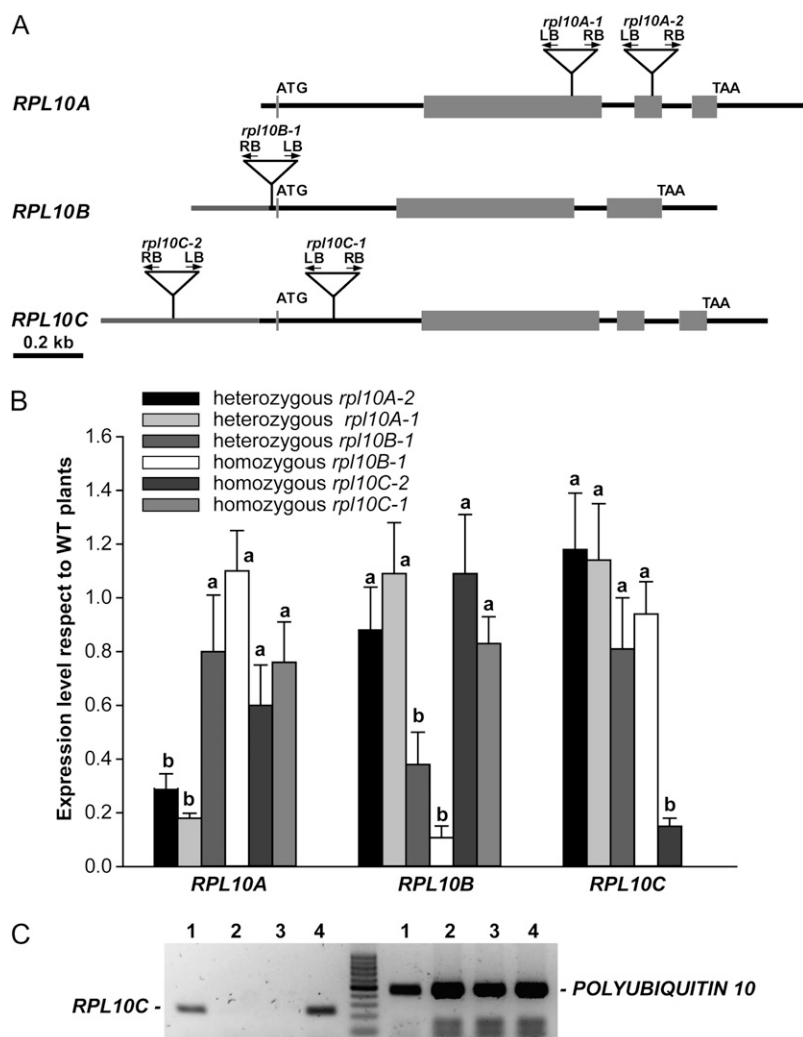


Figure 2. Characterization of *rpl10* mutant lines. **A**, Structure of Arabidopsis *RPL10* genes. Gray boxes indicate exons, and black and gray lines represent noncoding regions and promoter regions, respectively. The triangles show the T-DNA positions. **B**, *RPL10* transcript abundance in T-DNA lines with respect to wild-type (WT) plants analyzed by qRT-PCR. Wild-type levels were set at 1. The means of the results obtained using three independent RNAs as a template are shown; error bars indicate s_D of the samples. For each *RPL10* transcript analyzed, different letters over the bars indicate statistically significant differences between wild-type and *rpl10* mutant plants ($P < 0.05$). Each reaction was normalized using the C_t values corresponding to the *POLYUBIQUITIN10* mRNA. **C**, *RPL10C* expression in *rpl10C* knockout line (*rpl10C-1*, SALK_140517) and wild-type plants analyzed by RT-PCR. Lanes 1 and 4, cDNA from leaves of wild-type plants; lanes 2 and 3, cDNA from leaves of *rpl10C* mutant plants. *POLYUBIQUITIN10* was used as a control. The results from one of three independent experiments with similar results are shown.

crease of 2.6-fold in *RPL10B* expression compared with wild-type plants, while a decrease of 7.5-fold was observed in the homozygous mutants (Fig. 2B). The heterozygous plants were phenotypically identical to wild-type plants; however, homozygous mutants exhibited an abnormal phenotype with alterations in the vegetative and reproductive growth. The anomalous growth is according to the developmental stage-dependent expression pattern described above and suggests that *RPL10B* could be involved in plant development.

For *RPL10C*, we found two homozygous plant lines for this gene. The first line, designated *rpl10C-1* (SALK_140517), with the T-DNA insertion in the first intron (Fig. 2A), showed no detectable expression of the corresponding gene as analyzed by RT-PCR (Fig. 2C). The second line analyzed has the T-DNA insertion in the promoter region (*rpl10C-2* [SALK_135647]; Fig. 2A), and homozygous *rpl10C* mutant plants showed a 3.5-fold decrease in the transcript level compared with wild-type plants (Fig. 2B). Both homozygous *rpl10C* mutant lines did not exhibit any visible phenotype under standard growth chamber conditions.

For all homozygous and heterozygous *rpl10* mutant plants, the expression of the other *RPL10* active genes was not modified in comparison with wild-type plants, indicating that there is no compensation for the reduced or absent genes by the paralogous genes (Fig. 2B).

The *RPL10B* Gene Has a Role in the Development of Arabidopsis Plants

Mutations in ribosomal proteins have been reported as showing abnormalities in growth and development (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Ito et al., 2000; Weijers et al., 2001; Nishimura et al., 2005; Degenhardt and Bonham-Smith, 2008a; Imai et al., 2008; Pinon et al., 2008; Yao et al., 2008; Byrne, 2009; Fujikura et al., 2009; Rosado et al. 2010). As mentioned above, homozygous *rpl10B* plants were significantly underrepresented. Consequently, we investigated the phenotypes of homozygous *rpl10B* mutant plants in more detail using the selfed progeny. Although this mutant is not a knockout line, it showed a dramatically abnormal phenotype with an overall reduced size and narrow and pointed first leaves (Fig. 3, A and B). We also observed a 77% reduction in seedling leaf size (Fig. 3, C, D, and G). In addition, mutants displayed both a reduced leaf width (58%) and a reduced leaf length (45%), resulting in a decrease of the leaf index (the ratio of leaf length to leaf width) from 1.36 ± 0.11 in the wild type to 1.03 ± 0.02 in the *rpl10B* mutant ($P < 0.01$, Student's *t* test). Mutants appeared to have normal vascular patterning (Fig. 3, C and D). However, root growth was affected in the *rpl10B* mutant. From germination, *rpl10B* mutant primary roots were significantly shorter than those from wild-type plants, showing an important reduction in root growth rate. For example, in 14-d-old seedlings, roots were $1.66 \pm$

0.31 cm long in the wild type but 0.41 ± 0.12 cm long in *rpl10B* ($P < 0.01$, Student's *t* test; Fig. 3H).

Before flowering, *rpl10B* mutant plants produced a similar number of leaves as wild-type plants, but at flowering time, *rpl10B* continued producing leaves with substantially increased rosette branching. Mutant plants also showed a notably shorter inflorescence shoot, clearly indicating that the *RPL10B* mutation has an effect on stem elongation. Furthermore, the *rpl10B* mutants displayed a reduction in the silique length by 48% (from 1.51 ± 0.12 cm in the wild type to 0.78 ± 0.16 in *rpl10B*; $P < 0.01$, Student's *t* test). Moreover, the number of seeds per silique in the *rpl10B* mutant was also decreased (50 ± 12 seeds in the wild-type and 11 ± 4 in *rpl10B*; $P < 0.01$, Student's *t* test). Taking into account that the silique length in the mutants is reduced, mutant plants produce fewer seeds per centimeter than wild-type plants (from 33 seeds in the wild type to 14 seeds in *rpl10B* mutants). When the seeds contained in the siliques were observed, the *rpl10B* mutant showed both fertilized seeds and aborted embryos; this correlates with the failure observed in seed production (Fig. 3I).

Leaves are determinate organs whose characteristic final size and shape depend on the coordination of cell proliferation and cell expansion (Piazza et al., 2005; Tsukaya, 2006). In Arabidopsis, numerous mutants have been described with altered leaf size and/or shape (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Ito et al., 2000; Weijers et al., 2001; Nishimura et al., 2005; Degenhardt and Bonham-Smith, 2008a; Pinon et al., 2008; Yao et al., 2008; Fujikura et al., 2009; Rosado et al., 2010). *rpl10B* mutant plants displayed smaller palisade cells in the subepidermal layer (76% reduction) and also showed a moderate but significant decrease in cell number in the first leaves (32% reduction; Fig. 3, E–G). Consequently, the mutation in the *RPL10B* gene affects more severely postmitotic cell expansion than cell proliferation.

To validate that the abnormal phenotype in *rpl10B* homozygous mutant plants is due to the T-DNA insertion in the *RPL10B* gene, and to analyze if the *rpl10B* mutants could be rescued by constitutive overexpression of the wild-type *RPL10B* protein, we transformed the Arabidopsis *rpl10B* mutant plants with a plasmid expressing the Arabidopsis *RPL10B* wild-type ORF from the constitutive cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter. Kanamycin-resistant transformed plants were selected, and the presence of the transgene was examined by PCR analysis of the genomic DNA (Supplemental Fig. S3A). Expression of the transgene in the transformed seedlings was verified by qRT-PCR, and transgenic plants showed increased levels of *RPL10B* compared with the mutant plants (Supplemental Fig. S3B). Successful complementation of the Arabidopsis *rpl10B* homozygous mutant plants was demonstrated by phenotype observations of the complemented seedlings. Complemented plants showed normal development like wild-type plants, demonstrating that the wild-type

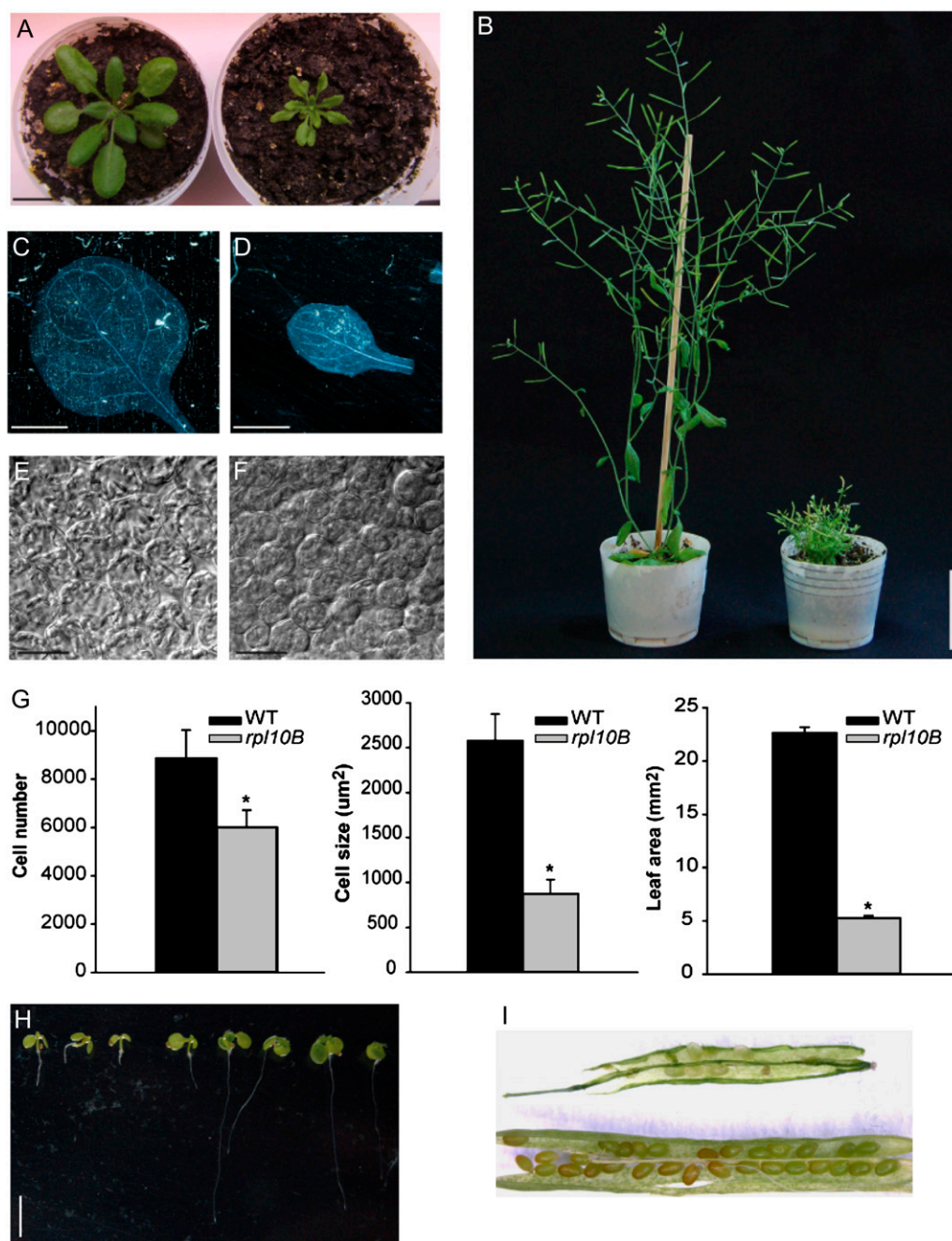


Figure 3. Characterization of homozygous *rpl10B* mutant plants. **A**, Twelve-day-old plants: the wild type (left) and *rpl10B* mutant (right). Bar = 1 cm. **B**, Forty-day-old plants: the wild type (left) and *rpl10B* mutant (right). Bar = 5 cm. **C** and **D**, Vascular systems of wild-type (**C**) and *rpl10B* (**D**) first leaves. Whole-mount preparations and dark-field optics were used. Bars = 2 mm. **E** and **F**, Adaxial subepidermal palisade cells in the first leaves of wild-type (**E**) and *rpl10B* (**F**) plants. Bars = 20 μm. **G**, Palisade cell number in the adaxial subepidermal layer (left), the projected area of palisade cells (middle), and the area of the leaf blade (right) of the wild type (WT) and the *rpl10B* mutant. The asterisks over the bars indicate statistically significant differences between wild-type and *rpl10B* mutant plants (Student's *t* test, $P < 0.05$). Data show averages and *sd* of four seedlings and are representative of at least two independent experiments. **H**, Ten-day-old seedlings of *rpl10B* (left) and the wild type (right) grown vertically on a Murashige and Skoog agar plate. **I**, Open siliques from *rpl10B* mutant (top) and wild-type (bottom) plants. [See online article for color version of this figure.]

phenotype was restored by overexpressing the *RPL10B* cDNA in the *rpl10B* mutant (Supplemental Fig. S3C).

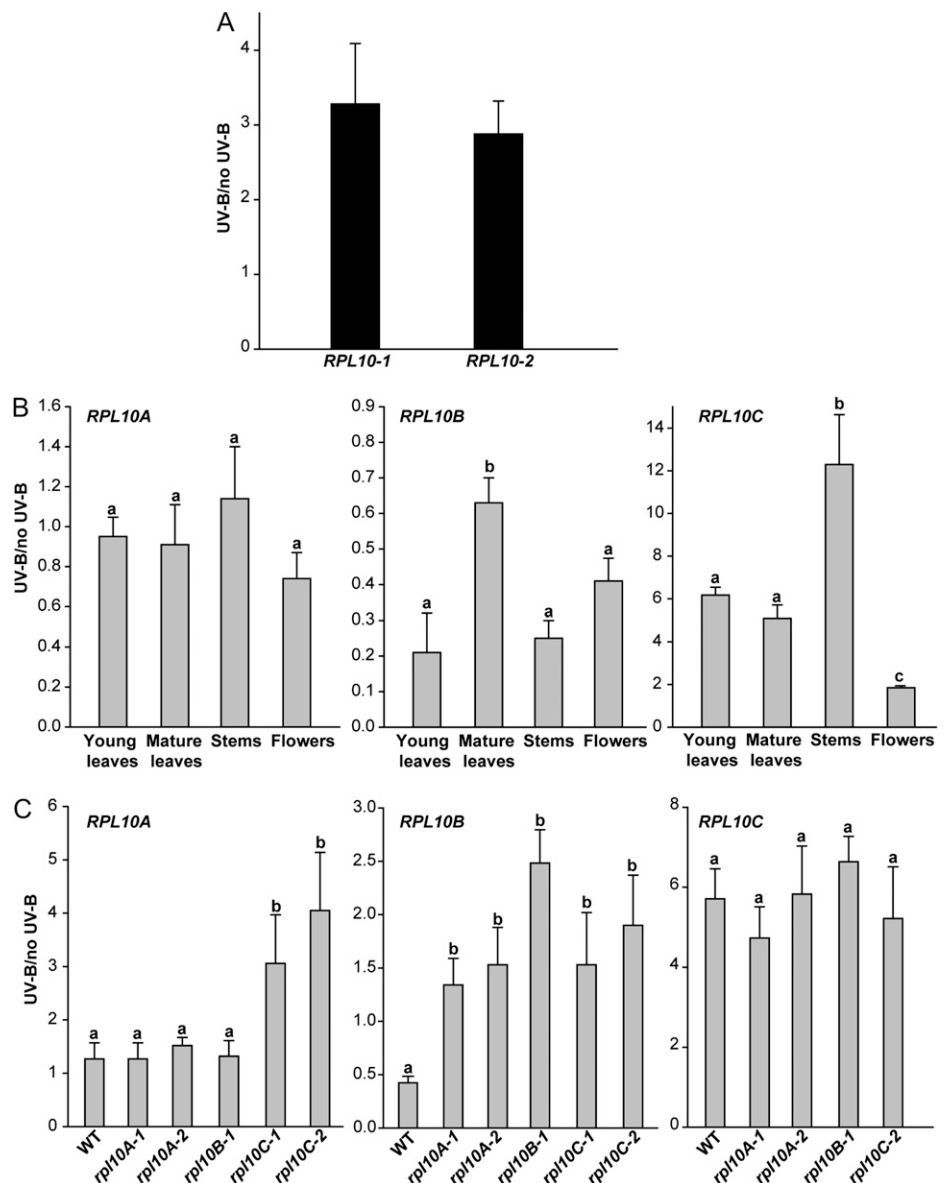
Taken together, these results indicate that the *RPL10B* gene has an important role in plant development, both at the vegetative and reproductive stages.

Regulation of *RPL10* Expression by UV-B Light

In previous experiments, by microarray analysis, we showed that a maize *rpl10* gene is induced by UV-B radiation (Casati and Walbot, 2003). To validate this result, we analyzed the effect of UV-B radiation on the expression of *RPL10* genes in maize and Arabidopsis plants by qRT-PCR. In maize, UV-B light increases *RPL10* expression 3-fold, in agreement with our previous microarray results (Fig. 4A). In Arabidopsis, the *RPL10* genes show a differential response to UV-B in all organs tested (Fig. 4B). *RPL10C* transcript increases after UV-B light in young and mature leaves, flowers, and stems, with the highest increase observed in stems (12-fold; Fig. 4B). *RPL10A* expression is not UV-B light regulated, while *RPL10B* shows a decrease in its expression by UV-B light in all organs.

The regulation of *RPL10* expression by UV-B light was also studied in mature leaves of Arabidopsis T-DNA insertional mutant lines. When *rpl10A* and *rpl10B* heterozygous plants were irradiated with UV-B light, *RPL10A* and *RPL10C* expression was similar to wild-type plants. On the contrary, *RPL10B* expression did not change by UV light exposure (*rpl10A* mutants); rather, a 2-fold increase was observed (*rpl10B* mutants), unlike in wild-type plants, where its expression was decreased (Fig. 4C). In *rpl10C* knockout mutants (*rpl10C-1* line) exposed to UV-B treatment, the absence of *RPL10C* transcript affects *RPL10A* expression; this transcript shows an increase of 4-fold, whereas *RPL10B* shows an increase of 2-fold in its expression (Fig. 4C). However, it is important to emphasize that despite the increase in *RPL10A* expression by UV-B light, the transcript levels after the UV-B treatment are

Figure 4. Regulation of *RPL10* expression by UV-B light. A, Induction of *RPL10* expression by UV-B light in leaves of maize plants analyzed by qRT-PCR. B, *RPL10* expression after UV-B treatment in Arabidopsis plants analyzed by qRT-PCR. Each reaction was normalized using the C_t values corresponding to the *THIOREDOXINE-LIKE* and *CALCIUM PROTEIN KINASE3* mRNAs for maize and Arabidopsis, respectively. The means of the results obtained using three independent RNAs as a template are shown; error bars indicate SD of the samples. C, Regulation of *RPL10* expression by UV-B light in leaves of Arabidopsis insertional mutant lines. Each reaction was normalized using the C_t values corresponding to the *CALCIUM PROTEIN KINASE3* mRNA. The means of the results obtained using three independent RNAs as a template are shown; error bars indicate SD of the samples. For each *RPL10* transcript analyzed, different letters over the bars indicate significant differences at $P < 0.05$. WT, Wild type.



not high enough to compensate for the absence of *RPL10C* in the mutants. Likewise, in the *rpl10C-2* line, *RPL10A* and *RPL10B* expression was similar to the *rpl10C-1* line, while *RPL10C* transcript levels increased by UV-B light as in wild-type plants (Fig. 4C).

Participation of RPL10s in Translation under UV-B Light

In a previous work, we found that UV-B radiation induces ribosomal damage, which occurs via formation of cross-links between RNA and specific ribosomal proteins, resulting in a 50% reduction in protein synthesis (Casati and Walbot, 2004). To study the role of RPL10 isoforms in translation, and their participation in translation under UV-B stress, we performed in vivo labeling of leaf proteins with [³⁵S]Met in control plants (no UV-B) and after exposure under UV-B radiation for 4 h (4 h UV-B). For this experiment, we used wild-type plants to analyze the impact of UV-B radiation on translation and single *rpl10A*, *rpl10B*, and *rpl10C* mutants to investigate if translation under control and UV-B conditions is affected when one of the RPL10 proteins is decreased or absent. There is a significant decrease (38%) in the amount of newly synthesized protein after UV-B exposure in wild-type plants (Fig. 5A; Supplemental Fig. S4), in agreement with results obtained in experiments with maize plants exposed under UV-B radiation (Casati and Walbot, 2004). *rpl10C* and *rpl10B* mutant plants did not show significant differences in protein synthesis under control and UV-B exposure conditions compared with wild-type plants (Fig. 5A); in the heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants, while no significant difference in translation was measured under control conditions, the reduction measured in protein synthesis after the UV-B treatment was more pronounced than in the wild type and the other mutants studied (64%; Fig. 5A). After a period of 16 h of recovery in the absence of UV-B light, wild-type, *rpl10C*, and *rpl10B* plants showed restored amino acid incorporation, similar to untreated control plants (Fig. 5B). In contrast, heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants recovered protein synthesis capacity more slowly, showing only 73% of the wild-type incorporation levels 16 h after the end of the UV-B treatment (Fig. 5B; Supplemental Fig. S4). Because homozygous *rpl10B* mutant plants did not show any difference with respect to heterozygous *rpl10B* mutants in protein synthesis under control and UV-B treatment conditions, and also due to the low availability of leaf tissue from the *rpl10B* homozygous plants, we only used *rpl10B* heterozygous plants for recovery studies of protein synthesis. Similar results were obtained when precipitated counts were measured after desalting all samples, validating the data obtained by densitometric analysis.

To rule out that the decrease in translation observed after UV-B irradiation results from cell death, physiological properties were assessed immediately after and 16 h after the 4 h of UV-B treatment. Different stress parameters (chlorophyll and flavonoid contents and

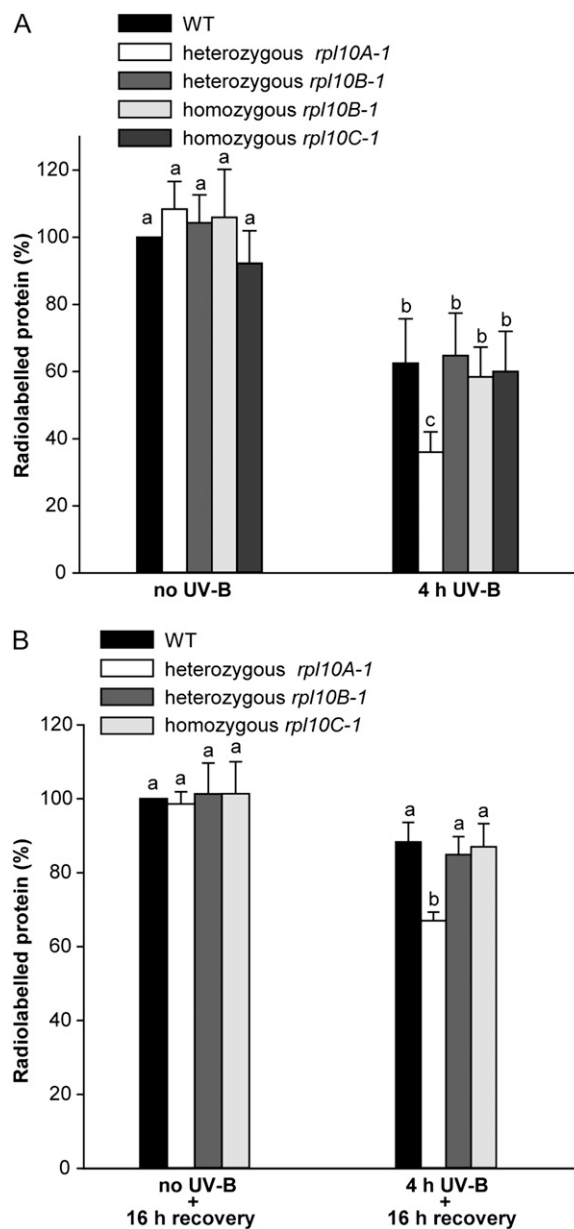


Figure 5. Effects of UV-B in protein synthesis in Arabidopsis wild-type (WT) plants and *rpl10* mutants. In vivo labeling is shown for leaf proteins with [³⁵S]Met in control plants (no UV-B) and after exposure under UV-B radiation for 4 h (4 h UV-B; A) and after a period of 16 h of recovery in the absence of UV-B (no UV-B + 16 h recovery) and 4 h of UV-B radiation (4 h UV-B + 16 h recovery; B). Data show averages and SD of the quantification of radioactive bands by densitometry of the autoradiographs. The percentage of labeling was corrected for loading differences per lane in SDS-PAGE. The experiments were repeated three times using four plants in each experiment. For each mutant plant and condition analyzed, different letters over the bars indicate significant differences at $P < 0.05$.

maximum efficiency of PSII) were evaluated in wild-type and mutant plants under control conditions in the absence of UV-B and after the UV-B treatment. Maximum efficiency of PSII and chlorophyll *a* showed small but significant declines immediately after UV-B

irradiation, but these parameters did not decline further and recovery was complete by the next day (Supplemental Fig. S5). No changes in the levels of chlorophyll *b*, flavonoids, or total proteins (Supplemental Fig. S5) were detected. Therefore, there is no evidence of UV-B-induced cell death at the wavelengths and fluence rate used in our experiments. However, we cannot rule out that differences in overall transcription and protein stability contribute to the decrease observed in newly synthesized protein after UV-B light exposure.

Proteome Analysis in the Heterozygous *rpl10A* Line after UV-B Irradiation

Because translation is impaired in *rpl10A* heterozygous plants after a 4-h UV-B treatment, we compared changes in the leaf proteome of *rpl10A* heterozygous plants in control conditions in the absence of UV-B and after UV-B irradiation with those in wild-type plants by 2D gel electrophoresis. The differential proteome was analyzed in two sets of comparisons: (1) proteomes from mutant plant leaves were compared with those from wild-type plants under the same radiation conditions (no UV-B and UV-B), and (2) for each plant type (wild type and mutant), we compared their proteomes under control conditions (no UV-B) and after UV-B irradiation; only proteins that were differentially UV-B regulated in the wild-type and the mutant plants were selected. From the analysis, a total of 43 protein spots showed differential levels (increased or decreased 1.5-fold or more) in at least one of the comparisons. Representative gels in Supplemental Figure S6 show the leaf proteome of *rpl10A* heterozygous mutant and wild-type plants after a 4-h UV-B treatment.

The 43 spots were excised from a preparative gel and subjected to protein identification by MS analysis. Interpretable MS/MS spectra were obtained for 38 of the 43 spots, and identified proteins are listed in Supplemental Table S3. For some spots, peptide sequences for more than one protein were obtained. In these cases, spot identities were assigned based on the fit of the theoretical pI and M_r of each protein to that experimentally derived from the 2D gels.

To identify coordinately regulated proteins in the *rpl10A* heterozygous mutants, a hierarchical clustering method was applied (Fig. 6; Supplemental Fig. S7). In control conditions in the absence of UV-B light (no UV-B), 17 protein spots were changed in *rpl10A* mutants compared with wild-type plants (nine increased and eight decreased); however, after a 4-h UV-B treatment, the number of proteins that changed in *rpl10A* mutants was increased to 36 (11 increased and 25 decreased), indicating that the *rpl10A* mutation more severely disrupts the protein expression pattern after a UV-B treatment than under control conditions (Fig. 6A). Similarly, when we compared the proteomes of both plants after UV-B exposure, *rpl10A* mutant plants exhibited a higher number of proteins that were de-

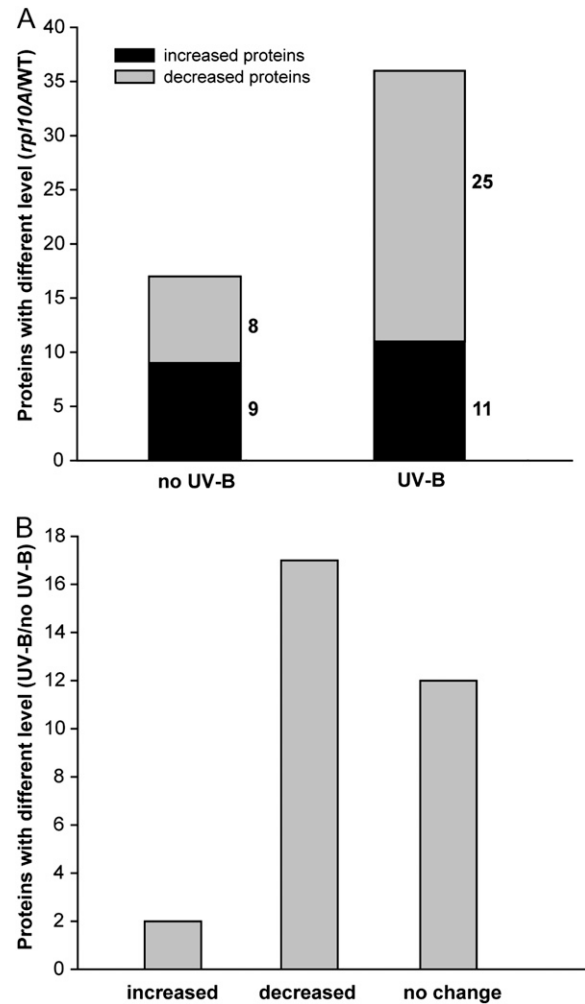


Figure 6. Proteome analysis of heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants in comparison with wild-type plants under control conditions and after a 4-h UV-B treatment by 2D gel electrophoresis. A, Protein numbers with different levels in heterozygous *rpl10A* mutants (at least 1.5-fold) in comparison with wild-type plants under control or UV-B conditions. B, Protein numbers with differential abundance (at least 1.5-fold) after a UV-B treatment; these proteins changed differentially in heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant from the levels in wild-type plants.

creased by UV-B (17 protein spots) than those increased (two protein spots; Fig. 6B). Also, some proteins that were changed by UV-B in wild-type plants did not show any difference in the mutant after the same treatment (12 protein spots; Fig. 6B). Thus, it is evident that RPL10A has an important role in translation after UV-B treatment.

Finally, identified proteins were classified according to their functions (Supplemental Fig. S8). The functional groups with the largest number of proteins differentially changed in the *rpl10A* mutant in comparison with the wild-type plants after the UV-B treatment are involved in photosynthesis and stress response-detoxification. Other groups include proteins implicated in nucleotide metabolism, protein

biosynthesis and posttranslational mechanisms, DNA metabolism (duplication and chromatin structure), RNA metabolism (transcription and regulation), and cell division and cycle. We also found proteins participating in carbohydrate, amino acid, and secondary metabolism and involved in signal transduction. Consequently, general processes for plant metabolism and growth are affected in the *rpl10A* mutant after a 4-h UV-B exposure, probably reflecting the deficiency in translation that this mutant shows under UV-B conditions.

DISCUSSION

RPL10 is a ubiquitous protein that participates in joining the 40S and 60S ribosomal subunits into a functional 80S ribosome; it organizes the union site to aminoacyl-tRNA; also, its incorporation into the 60S subunit is a prerequisite for the union of subunits and the initiation of translation (Eisinger et al., 1997; Loftus et al., 1997; West et al., 2005; Hofer et al., 2007). In addition, increasing evidence indicates that RPL10 protein from various organisms has multiple extraribosomal functions, besides being a constituent of the ribosome and participating in protein synthesis (Chan et al., 1996; Wool, 1996; Nika et al., 1997; Mills et al., 1999; Chávez-Ríos et al., 2003; Wen et al., 2005). Previously, by transcriptome profiling using different UV-B regimes and maize lines, we found that the functional group with the largest number of genes up-regulated by UV-B light corresponds to proteins involved in protein synthesis, including cytoplasmic ribosomal proteins, initiation and elongation factors, and poly(A)-binding proteins (Casati and Walbot, 2003). Among them, *rpl10*, a homolog of a human transcript encoding the QM protein, showed increased levels after the UV-B treatments (Casati and Walbot, 2003). In this work, we identified two *rpl10* genes in maize, while Arabidopsis has a gene family with three members (*RPL10A* to *RPL10C*). Arabidopsis and maize *RPL10s* share high similarity at the transcript and protein levels (Supplemental Fig. S1). In addition, the identity and similarity between Arabidopsis and maize *rpl10* genes and proteins are also high (Supplemental Fig. S1). Furthermore, the high level of similarity that maize and Arabidopsis RPL10 proteins exhibit with other eukaryotic orthologs suggests that RPL10 has been conserved during eukaryotic evolution.

The *RPL10* genes studied in this work, like their homologs in other species, are regulated in a tissue- and development-dependent manner (Fig. 1), showing high levels of expression in tissues with active division, in accordance with the expression patterns of other Arabidopsis ribosomal proteins (Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Williams and Sussex, 1995; Weijers et al., 2001; Vanderhaeghen et al., 2006; Degenhardt and Bonham-Smith, 2008a, 2008b; Byrne, 2009). Homozygous *rpl10B* mutant plants exhibit an abnormal phe-

notype with alterations in vegetative and reproductive growth (Fig. 3). Despite the fact that, in the *RPL10* family, *RPL10B* transcript only represents approximately 10% of the *RPL10* transcript pool, we only observed an abnormal development phenotype in *rpl10B* mutants, which can be reverted if plants are complemented. Moreover, the Arabidopsis *RPL10B* gene is highly developmentally regulated. Similar results were observed for other Arabidopsis ribosomal protein mutants showing developmental defects, in which the knockout or knockdown genes represent only a small contribution to the total family transcripts (e.g. *RPS18A*, *RPS13B* [Van Lijsebettens et al., 1994; Ito et al., 2000]). Recently, it has been reported that *rpl4A* and *rpl4D* mutant plants show not only auxin-related development defects but also partial secretion of vacuole-targeted proteins. Thus, based on r-protein mutant plants that exhibit similar phenotypes, it has been proposed that aberrant phenotypes are consequences of a common regulatory mechanism for all ribosomal proteins, the auxin-regulated ribosomal biogenesis (Rosado et al., 2010). Ribosomal protein expression may be important in development because, during cell growth and proliferation, a large proportion of total cell energy is used for the synthesis of new ribosomes (Warner, 1999). Consequently, synthesis of both RNA and protein components of the ribosome is highly regulated. In vertebrates, a characteristic motif of mRNAs encoding for the 80S ribosomal proteins and some translational factors is a 5' terminal oligopyrimidine (5' TOP) sequence that is necessary for growth-associated translational regulation (Levy et al., 1991; Avni et al., 1997; Iadevaia et al., 2008). Only the *RPL10B* transcript in the *RPL10* family has a 5' TOP sequence (Supplemental Table S4); however, the role of the 5' TOP motif in the regulation of translation has not been demonstrated in plants. The analysis of the features in mRNA sequences responsible for translational regulation in Arabidopsis showed important determinants in the 5' UTR, although probably other unknown mRNA sequence motifs also contribute to differential mRNA translation in plants (Kawaguchi and Bailey-Serres, 2005). Furthermore, it is well known that the amount of mRNA does not necessarily correlate with the abundance of the protein present in plant cells (Kawaguchi et al., 2004; Branco-Price et al., 2008; Mustroph et al., 2009). The translation process is primarily regulated at the initiation step involving the recruitment of the 43S preinitiation complex to the mRNA (Proud, 2007). Thus, the association of an mRNA with polysomes provides information of its translation status. It has been reported that in Arabidopsis seedlings, hypoxia causes a nearly 50% decrease in polysomes, indicating an inhibition of translational initiation that is rapidly reversed upon reoxygenation (Branco-Price et al., 2008). The comparison of total and polysomal mRNA populations showed a significant decrease in polysomal abundance without a concomitant decrease in transcript levels. Transcripts for *RPL10A* to *RPL10C*, along with

other mRNAs encoding for components of the machinery for the synthesis of cytosolic proteins, show minor changes in transcript accumulation but are decreased in polysomes after hypoxia; this indicates that ribosome biogenesis is restricted under the energy crisis caused by hypoxia and also other stresses such as mild dehydration and Suc starvation (Kawaguchi et al., 2004; Kawaguchi and Bailey-Serres, 2005; Branco-Price et al., 2008). In conclusion, these observations indicate that *RPL10* translation is highly regulated (Branco-Price et al., 2008). Moreover, the analysis of immunopurified mRNAs in ribosome complexes (translatome; Mustroph et al., 2009) in specific cell populations of roots and shoots shows that *RPL10s* are differentially expressed at cell-, region-, and organ-specific levels, with high levels of all three transcripts in leaf guard cells, the root cortex meristematic zone, the endodermis, and vasculature, while *RPL10A* mRNA is also specifically enriched in cotyledons, leaf epidermis, and the atrichoblast epidermis of roots. Overall, the fact that cells of different identities have distinct translomes that are reconfigured by stress suggests that *RPL10s* could be involved in protein synthesis as well as other unknown processes in specific cells under different conditions.

Based on the evidence described above and our findings that *RPL10B* transcript expression is regulated in a tissue- and development-dependent manner, added to the abnormal phenotype observed only in *rpl10B* homozygous mutant plants, it is possible that the *RPL10B* gene could be regulated at both transcriptional and translational levels; because of this, the growth-associated translational regulation could be completely lost by the T-DNA insertion in both copies of the gene in the 5' UTR. We conclude that the *RPL10B* protein has a specific and essential participation during plant growth, which cannot be replaced by the other *RPL10* proteins. Moreover, the presence of the *RPL10B* isoform has not yet been confirmed in the Arabidopsis 80S ribosome, as no specific tryptic peptide from this protein has been identified by MS/MS in survey experiments (Chang et al., 2005; Giavalisco et al., 2005; Carroll et al., 2008). Alternatively, it cannot be ruled out that *RPL10B* has extraribosomal functions during development.

The absence of homozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants indicates that *RPL10A* is essential for plant viability, in agreement with Imai et al. (2008), who previously reported that this ribosomal protein is essential for female gametophyte development. In addition, a point mutation in *RPL10A* (named *sac52-d* for *suppressor of acaulis*) restores stem elongation in *acl5* mutants (Imai et al., 2008). A possible model of action proposes that the mutation in *RPL10A* destabilizes the ribosome stalled on the upstream ORF of the *SAC51* gene, allowing that the small ribosomal subunit efficiently reaches the start codon of the main ORF.

We also demonstrated that most of the *RPL10* genes studied in this work are regulated by UV-B light. UV-B photons generate photoproducts in DNA and can

also directly damage proteins, lipids, and RNA (Britt, 1996; Gerhardt et al., 1999; Casati and Walbot, 2004). Thus, plants have evolved mechanisms of protection (Stapleton and Walbot, 1994), repair (Waterworth et al., 2002; Bergo et al., 2003), and avoidance (Mazza et al., 2000; Bieza and Lois, 2001). Although UV-B photon perception and signal transduction are largely unknown (Brosche and Strid, 2003; Frohnmeyer and Staiger, 2003; Ulm and Nagy, 2005), it was recently shown that the basic domain/Leu zipper transcription factor long hypocotyl 5 (HY5), first identified as a factor for normal growth in visible light, is also an important participant in the long-wavelength (300–315 nm) UV-B light-induced signal transduction cascade in Arabidopsis (Ulm et al., 2004). Up-regulation of HY5 is mediated by UVR8, a UV-B light-specific factor with sequence similarity to the eukaryotic guanine nucleotide exchange factor RCC1 (Brown et al., 2005), in cooperation with COP1 (Oravecz et al., 2006). UVR8 and COP1 interact directly and rapidly in the nucleus in planta after UV-B light exposure. It is proposed that this very early step in UV-B light signaling coordinates responses, ensuring UV-B acclimation and protection (Favory et al., 2009). In maize plants, UV-B light exposure induced *RPL10* expression, in agreement with our previous microarray results (Fig. 4A). In Arabidopsis, *RPL10C* shows increased levels after UV-B, while *RPL10B* shows a decrease in its expression in all organs studied (Fig. 4B). Regulation of the expression of some *RPL10* transcripts was affected when T-DNA insertion mutants in each of the Arabidopsis *RPL10* genes were irradiated with UV-B light (Fig. 4C). One possibility is that under UV-B conditions, high levels of *RPL10* may be necessary for translation or for other unknown roles of this protein. If a deficiency in the expression of one isoform exists, increased levels of other isoforms may be required. However, it is important to note that a compensation effect does not occur under control conditions in the absence of UV-B light (Fig. 2B); therefore, this regulation is possibly UV-B light specific. To further investigate why *RPL10* genes are differentially regulated by UV-B light and during development, we did a database survey for putative transcription factor-binding sites that could explain differences observed in the regulation of each *L10* gene. Thus, we compared the *RPL10* promoters (1 kb) and the 5' UTRs; the analysis showed the presence of several common putative transcription factor-binding sites (such as a CCAAT box, a GATA box, ACE, a UV box, a GT1 motif, an I box, and MRE), whereas some putative binding sites are only found in one of the *RPL10* promoters. For example, a W box is present in the *RPL10A* promoter, while an abscisic acid response element site is found in the *RPL10B* promoter (Supplemental Fig S9); the presence of these sites could explain the differential expression of *RPL10* genes. However, additional studies are needed to define specific sequences involved in the regulation of the expression of *RPL10* genes.

UV-B regulation of the expression of some *RPL10s* may be a consequence of ribosomal damage. We previously reported that UV-B radiation damages maize ribosomes by cross-linking specific ribosomal proteins to RNA; this ribosomal damage correlated with a progressive decrease in new protein production; cellular recovery was accompanied by selective transcription and translation of ribosomal proteins and translation factors (Casati and Walbot, 2004). In Arabidopsis wild-type plants, there is also a significant decrease in protein synthesis after UV-B exposure, and *rpl10C* and *rpl10B* mutant plants do not show significant differences in comparison with wild-type plants (Fig. 5). However, for the heterozygous *rpl10A* mutant plants, there was a significant reduction in protein synthesis only after the UV-B treatment. After a period of 16 h of recovery in the absence of UV-B, the wild type, *rpl10C*, and *rpl10B* showed restored amino acid incorporation, but heterozygous *rpl10A* mutants showed a much slower recovery of protein synthesis (Fig. 5). These results demonstrate that RPL10A has an important role in protein synthesis under UV-B exposure. It is striking that *RPL10A* is the only gene in this family that is not UV-B light regulated in Arabidopsis wild-type plants. It is possible that constitutive expression of this gene is necessary to rapidly respond to the dramatic UV-B effects on translation. Although a participation of the other two RPL10 proteins, B and C, in translation under UV-B light was not demonstrated here, it is still possible that these proteins may have a role under different UV-B light conditions or under a different developmental stage. Some evidence indicates that RPL10/QM act as coactivators/repressors of transcription in human, *Entamoeba histolytica*, and chicken (Monteclaro and Vogt, 1993; Stanbridge et al., 1994; Chávez-Ríos et al., 2003). QM protein has also been shown to interact with the proto-oncogene c-Yes, a Src family kinase, and it can thus participate in signal transduction pathways in different intracellular processes, including cell stability, division, proliferation, migration, and differentiation (Oh et al., 2002). Thus, *RPL10B* and *RPL10C* genes are UV-B light regulated, so if they do not participate in translation under UV-B light, it is possible that extraribosomal activities of one or both proteins may be important under UV-B conditions. A high similarity exists between the response to UV-B light and senescence at both biochemical and molecular levels (John et al., 2001). Several genes were identified that are up-regulated during leaf senescence, which are called senescence-associated genes (SAGs). In Arabidopsis, one of the SAGs is *SAG24*, encoding RPL10C (Ay et al., 2009). Consequently, we cannot rule out that the increase of *RPL10C* expression by UV-B light could be due to the similarity of both processes.

The comparison of the changes in the proteome of *rpl10A* heterozygous Arabidopsis mutants with that of wild-type plants in normal conditions and after a 4-h UV-B treatment showed that after the UV-B treatment, the number of proteins that changed in *rpl10A* mutants

compared with the wild type is higher than under control conditions, suggesting that the *rpl10A* mutation severely affects protein synthesis after the UV-B treatment. In addition, *rpl10A* mutant plants exhibited a higher number of proteins decreased than those increased by UV-B, demonstrating again that RPL10A has an important role in translation after a UV-B treatment. The classification of the proteins according to their functions clearly shows that general processes for plant metabolism, growth, and development are affected in the *rpl10A* mutant after UV-B light exposure, probably due to the deficiency in translation that this mutant shows under UV-B conditions. Specific roles for a ribosomal protein under stress situations have previously been observed in Arabidopsis. Arabidopsis *rps27* mutant plants are normal under standard conditions but show elevated sensitivity to genotoxic stress and UV irradiation by their inability for the elimination of damaged transcripts (Revenkova et al., 1999).

In conclusion, in this article we demonstrate that maize and Arabidopsis *RPL10* genes are regulated during development and by UV-B radiation. RPL10 in Arabidopsis associates with proteins involved in protein biosynthesis, demonstrating that it is a component of the 80S ribosome. However, it also coimmunoprecipitates with other groups of proteins, including nuclear proteins, so at least one of the isoforms may have an extraribosomal function, such as associating with transcriptional activators or repressors, as was previously described in human and yeast. Mutants deficient in *RPL10A* or *RPL10B* have important developmental phenotypes; knockout *rpl10A* mutants are lethal, while knockdown *rpl10B* mutants show abnormal growth and plant development. Mutants in *rpl10C*, which is the only gene of this family that is up-regulated by UV-B light, do not have any developmental phenotype under normal growth conditions; however, they may show a particular phenotype under specific stress conditions, such as under an extreme UV-B irradiation. These were not used in the experiments described in this article. Finally, *rpl10A* mutants are particularly deficient in translation under UV-B light, and this is reflected by altered protein biosynthesis. Based on the results described here, *RPL10* genes are not functionally equivalent, and they have important functions in development and UV-B responses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant Materials, Growth Conditions, and UV-B Treatment

Following cold treatment (72 h at 4°C in the dark), Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) ecotype Columbia and the T-DNA insertion lines were grown in a growth chamber under light (100 $\mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) with a 16-h-light/8-h-dark photoperiod at 22°C. The *rpl10A* and *rpl10C* mutants are from the SALK T-DNA insertion mutant collection (Alonso et al., 2003) and were obtained from the Arabidopsis Biological Resource Center. The *rpl10B* mutant originated in the SAIL T-DNA insertion mutant collection and was obtained from the European Arabidopsis Stock Center. The maize (*Zea mays*) B73 line was

grown in a greenhouse with supplemental visible light ($1,000 \mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) under a 15-h-light/9-h-dark regime without UV-B light for 28 d during the summer. Arabidopsis plants (wild-type Columbia ecotype and *rpl10B* mutants) were also germinated and grown in Murashige and Skoog salt-agar medium containing 3% (w/v) Suc. Arabidopsis seeds were sterilized and germinated on Murashige and Skoog medium, and growth was measured after vernalization for 3 d at 4°C.

For Arabidopsis plants, UV-B treatments were done in a growth chamber, while for maize, UV-B experiments were done in a greenhouse. Arabidopsis plants were illuminated using UV-B lamps mounted 30 cm above the plants (Bio-Rad) for 4 h, and maize plants were irradiated for 8 h using UV-B lamps mounted 30 cm above the plants (F40UVB 40 W and TL 20 W/12; Phillips) at a UV-B light intensity of 2 W m^{-2} and a UV-A light intensity of 0.65 W m^{-2} in both cases. The bulbs were covered with cellulose acetate filters (100-mm extracellular cellulose acetate plastic; Tap Plastics); the cellulose acetate sheeting does not remove any UV-B radiation from the spectrum but excludes wavelengths lower than 280 nm. Control plants without UV-B light were exposed for the same period of time under the same lamps covered with polyester filters (100- μm clear polyester plastic; Tap Plastics; 0.04 W m^{-2} UV-A light and 0.4 W m^{-2} UV-B light). This polyester filter absorbs both UV-B and wavelengths lower than 280 nm. The lamp output was recorded using a UV-B/UV-A radiometer (UV203 AB radiometer; Macam Photometrics) to ensure that both the bulbs and filters provided the designated UV light dosage in all treatments. Samples were collected immediately after irradiation and stored at -80°C . The experiments were repeated at least three times.

qRT-PCR

Tissues from three independent biological replicates were frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C . Total RNA was isolated from 100 mg of tissue using the TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen). RNA was converted into first-strand cDNA using SuperScript II reverse transcriptase (Invitrogen) with oligo(dT) as a primer previous to treatment with DNase (Promega). The resultant cDNA was used as a template for quantitative PCR amplification in a MiniOPTICON2 apparatus (Bio-Rad) using the intercalation dye SYBR Green I (Invitrogen) as a fluorescent reporter and Platinum Taq Polymerase (Invitrogen). Primers were designed to generate unique 150- to 250-bp fragments using the PRIMER3 software (Rozen and Skaletsky, 2000). Three replicates were performed for each sample plus a negative control (reaction without reverse transcriptase). To normalize the data of UV treatments, primers for *THIOREDOXIN-LIKE* transcript were used for maize cDNAs and primers for *CALCIUM-DEPENDENT PROTEIN KINASE3* were used for Arabidopsis cDNAs. For tissue/stage-dependent expression studies, primers for *ACTIN1* and *POLYUBIQUITIN10* were used for maize and Arabidopsis, respectively. All primer sequences are listed in Supplemental Table S5. Amplification conditions were as follows: 2 min of denaturation at 94°C ; 40 to 45 cycles at 94°C for 15 s, 57°C for 20 s, and 72°C for 20 s; followed by 10 min at 72°C . Melting curves for each PCR were determined by measuring the decrease of fluorescence with increasing temperature (from 65°C to 98°C). To confirm the size of the PCR products and to check that they corresponded to a unique and expected product, the final products were separated on a 2% (w/v) agarose gel. The PCR products were purified from the gel and sequenced to verify their identities.

RT-PCR for *RPL10C* expression analyses in the knockout T-DNA line (SALK_140517) was performed under the following conditions: $1\times$ buffer GoTaq, 3 mM MgCl_2 , 0.2 mM deoxyribonucleotide triphosphate, 0.25 μM of each primer, 0.625 units of GoTaq (Promega), and sterile water added to obtain a volume of 25 μL . Cycling conditions were as follows: 2 min of denaturation at 95°C ; followed by 35 cycles of 15 s of denaturation at 95°C , 20 s of annealing at 57°C , and 30 s of amplification at 72°C ; and finally, 7 min of amplification at 72°C . PCR products were separated on a 2% (w/v) agarose gel and stained with SYBR Green (Invitrogen).

Identification of Insertional T-DNA Mutants

The genotype of the insertion lines was determined using a PCR-based approach. Basically, genomic DNA was isolated from leaves using a modified cetyl-trimethyl-ammonium bromide method (Sambrook et al., 1989). The genotype was determined by PCR on genomic DNA using specific primers for each gene and one primer that hybridizes with the left border of the T-DNA. Three combinations of primers were used to identify homozygous, heterozygous, and wild-type plants for *RPL10*. Primer sequences are listed in Supplemental Table S5.

Complementation of *rpl10B* Mutant Plants

A full-length ORF encoding RPL10B was amplified from cDNA from leaves of Arabidopsis Columbia using the primers At RPL10B-for-3 and At RPL10B-rev-2, with *KpnI* and *SalI* restriction sites, respectively (for sequences, see Supplemental Table S5). PCR was performed with GoTaq (Promega) and *Pfu* Polymerase (Invitrogen; 10:1) under the following conditions: $1\times$ GoTaq buffer, 1.5 mM MgCl_2 , 0.5 μM of each primer, and 0.5 mM of each deoxyribonucleotide triphosphate in a 25- μL final volume. Cycling conditions were as follows: 2 min of denaturation at 95°C ; followed by 35 cycles of 30 s of denaturation at 95°C , 30 s of annealing at 58°C , and 60 s of amplification at 72°C ; and finally, 7 min of amplification at 72°C . The amplified product was purified, cloned into pGEMT-Easy vector (Promega), and sequenced. The *KpnI-SalI* fragment was subcloned into pCHF3 binary vector, generating the construct p35S:*AtRPL10B*.

The p35S:*AtRPL10B* construct was transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain GV3101 by electroporation, and the transformation of Arabidopsis *rpl10B* homozygous mutant plants by the resulting bacteria was performed by the floral dip method (Clough and Bent, 1998). Transformed seedlings (T1) were identified by selection on solid Murashige and Skoog medium containing kanamycin (50 mg L^{-1}), and then the plants were transferred to soil. The presence of the wild-type *AtRPL10B* in transformed plants was analyzed by PCR on the genomic DNA using the primers prom35-for and At RPL10B-rev-1 (product size of 500 bp). The expression of the wild-type *AtRPL10B* in transformed plants was analyzed by qRT-PCR, and each reaction was normalized using the cycle threshold (C_t) values corresponding to the *UBQ10* transcript (for sequences, see Supplemental Table S5).

Immunoprecipitation Studies and MS

For immunoprecipitation analyses, Arabidopsis leaves were homogenized in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 10% glycerol, 2 mM EDTA, 5 mM MgCl_2 , 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), and $1\times$ Complete protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma). After centrifugation, 1 mL of crude extract (0.75 mg of total protein) was incubated with 15 μL (3 μg) of affinity-purified rabbit polyclonal antibody raised against an N-terminal peptide of human QM (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) for 3 h at 4°C with gentle agitation. After this, 20 μL of protein A agarose was added, and the samples were incubated at 4°C with gentle agitation for 1 h. The agarose beads were pelleted by centrifugation and washed three times with 1 mL of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 150 mM NaCl, and 1% Triton X-100) for 5 min at 4°C and once with LNDET buffer (250 mM LiCl, 1% Nonidet P-40, 1% [w/v] deoxycholic acid, 1 mM EDTA, and 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0) for 5 min at 4°C . Proteins were eluted by incubation at 95°C for 5 min in 50 μL of SDS sample buffer. Samples were loaded on 10% SDS-PAGE gels. Gels were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue stain, and the immunoprecipitated protein-loaded lane was cut in eight strips of 0.5 mm. The strips were subjected to in-gel digestion (donatello.ucsf.edu/ingel.html) with trypsin (porcine, side chain protected; Promega). Briefly, specific excised samples were washed twice with 50% acetonitrile in 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate (NH_4HCO_3) and vacuum dried. The gel samples were next reduced with dithiothreitol (DTT; 10 mM in 25 mM NH_4HCO_3 , 56°C for 1 h) and alkylated with iodoacetamide (55 mM in 25 mM NH_4HCO_3 , room temperature for 45 min). Then, the gel pieces were vacuum dried, rehydrated in 8 μL of digestion buffer (10 ng μL^{-1} trypsin in 25 mM NH_4HCO_3), and covered with 20 μL of NH_4HCO_3 . After overnight digestion at 37°C , peptides were extracted twice with a solution containing 50% acetonitrile and 5% formic acid. The supernatants were concentrated to 5 μL by centrifugation under vacuum. The digests were analyzed by capillary HPLC-MS/MS as described by Casati et al. (2006).

Immunoblot Analysis

For immunodetection, eluted samples were subjected to 12% SDS-PAGE, and proteins were electroblotted onto a nitrocellulose membrane for immunoblotting according to Burnette (1981). Affinity-purified rabbit polyclonal antibody raised against an N-terminal peptide of human QM was used for the detection of RPL10. Antibodies against *Triticum aestivum* eIF2 α and eIF2 β were a gift by B.A. Larkins (School of Plant Sciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ). Bound antibody was visualized by linking to alkaline phosphatase-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG according to the manufacturer's instructions (Bio-Rad). The molecular masses of the polypeptides were estimated from a

plot of the log of the molecular masses of marker standards (Bio-Rad) versus migration distance.

In Vivo Labeling and Protein Extraction

After UV-B treatments, *in vivo* protein labeling was done on 0.3 g of leaf segments cut into 1-mm strips perpendicular to the veins for wild-type, *rpl10A* heterozygous, *rpl10B* heterozygous, and *rpl10C* homozygous plants, while for *rpl10B* homozygous plants, 0.015 g was used. Leaf pieces were incubated with 20 $\mu\text{Ci mL}^{-1}$ [^{35}S]Met (330 $\mu\text{Ci g}^{-1}$ fresh weight) in 0.02% Tween 40 for 1 h at 25°C. After the labeling period, the leaf pieces were rinsed extensively with water, powdered with liquid N_2 , and extracted with buffer containing 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 10 mM MgCl_2 , 15 mM 2-mercaptoethanol, 20% (v/v) glycerol, 1 mM PMSF, and Complete protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma). Thirty micrograms of total protein determined using Bradford reagent (Bio-Rad) was loaded on a 12% (w/v) SDS-PAGE gel. Gels were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue stain, and radioactive proteins were visualized using a Typhoon 9200 phosphorimager screen (STORM840; GE Healthcare). Quantification was achieved by densitometry of the radioactive proteins and Coomassie Brilliant Blue-stained gels using ImageQuant software version 5.2. The amount of radiolabeled protein was normalized to equal amounts of protein on the gels after quantification; the percentage of labeling was calculated for the same amount of protein loaded on the gel. The experiment was repeated three times. Supplemental Figure S4 shows the results of one experiment; the same bands were detected in all experiments. In addition, the samples were desalted by the method of Penefsky (1977) using 3-mL columns of Sephadex G-25, and the eluates were taken for quantifying radioactive counts using a liquid scintillation counter (Wallac 1214 Rackbeta).

Protein Extraction under Denaturing Conditions, and Labeling with Alexa 610 and Alexa 532 Dyes

Approximately 0.5 g of leaves was ground in liquid nitrogen using a mortar and pestle, transferred to a tube containing 2.5 mL of extraction buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.8, 2% [w/v] SDS, 0.4% [v/v] 2-mercaptoethanol, 10 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSF, and 0.9 M Suc) and 2.5 mL of phenol saturated with ice-cold Tris-HCl, pH 8.8, and then agitated at 4°C for 30 min. The aqueous phases were back extracted with extraction medium and phenol by vortexing. Tubes were centrifuged at 5,000g for 15 min at 4°C, and the phenolic phase was transferred to a new tube, leaving the interface intact. Proteins were precipitated with 5 volumes of 0.1 M cold ammonium acetate in methanol at -20°C overnight. Samples were collected by centrifugation at 20,000g at 4°C for 20 min. Next, the pellet was washed with 1.5 mL of 70% (v/v) cold ethanol. Finally, the pellet was resuspended in a buffer containing 30 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5, 7 M urea, 2 M thiourea, and 4% CHAPS. After pelleting the debris by centrifugation at 20,000g, proteins were labeled with succinimidyl ester derivatives of Alexa 610 or Alexa 532 after adjusting the pH to 8.5 (Invitrogen). Proteins were labeled at the ratio 75 μg of protein:60 nmol of Alexa labeling dye in dimethyl sulfoxide. After vortexing, samples were incubated for at least 2 h on ice. The reaction was quenched by 1 μL of 1 mM Lys and 20 mM DTT, then 4% (v/v) ampholyte buffers 3 to 10 were added (Bio-Rad).

2D Gel Electrophoresis

Seventy-five micrograms of an Alexa 610-labeled sample was mixed with 75 μg of Alexa 532-labeled protein. A Protean IEF Cell apparatus (Bio-Rad) was used for isoelectric focusing with precast immobilized pH gradient strips (pH 3–10; linear gradient, 17 cm [Bio-Rad]). Samples (300 μL final volume) were loaded by in-gel rehydration. The strips were subjected to isoelectric focusing for 60,000 V h^{-1} . Focused gel strips were equilibrated in SDS equilibration buffer (50 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.8, 30% glycerol, 2% SDS, and 6 M urea), first with buffer containing 1% (w/v) DTT for 15 min and afterward with buffer containing 4% iodoacetamide for 15 min. The strips were washed briefly with SDS-PAGE running buffer, loaded on top of a prepared SDS-PAGE Laemmli gel cast with 12.5% acrylamide, and covered with 0.5% agarose. Proteins were separated at 1 W per gel for 12 to 15 h at 15°C using a Hoefer TMSE 600 system (GE Healthcare), and the fluorescent images corresponding to Alexa 610 (excitation, 612 nm; emission peak, 628 nm) and Alexa 532 (excitation, 532 nm; emission peak, 554 nm) were acquired using an EpiChem3 fluorescent scanner (UVP BioImaging Systems). Data were saved in TIF format. Triplicate gels of biological replicates were run; the dye label

was swapped for one gel. To excise samples for MS, a preparative gel loaded with 0.6 mg of total protein was run.

Gel Image Analysis

Images were analyzed using Image Master 2D-Platinum (GE Healthcare) using the protocol described by Casati et al. (2008). Difference thresholds were applied to identify the protein spots with a statistically significant 1.5-fold difference in normalized spot volume ($P < 0.05$).

In-Gel Digestion, MS, and Database Searching

Before the spots were removed, the gel was stained using Coomassie Brilliant Blue stain. Gel spots of interest were manually excised from the gels and sent to CEBIQUIEM facilities (Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires) for further analyses. Spots were subjected to in-gel digestion (donatello.ucsf.edu/ingel.html) with trypsin according to Casati et al. (2006). The mass spectrometric data were obtained using a matrix-assisted laser-desorption ionization time of flight spectrometer (Ultraflex II; Bruker). The spectra obtained were submitted for National Center for Biotechnology Information database searching using MASCOT (www.matrixscience.com; Perkins et al., 1999) and analyzed as described previously (Casati et al., 2006). Protein functional classification was carried out according to literature data (Usadel et al., 2006).

Microscopic Observations

To obtain paradermal views of palisade cells, leaves were fixed with formaldehyde-acetic acid and cleared with chloral hydrate solution (200 g of chloral hydrate, 20 g of glycerol, and 50 mL of deionized water) as described (Horiguchi et al., 2005). Palisade leaf cells were observed using differential interference contrast microscopy. The density of palisade cells per unit area of this region was determined, and the area of the leaf blade was divided by this value to calculate the total number of palisade cells in the subepidermal layer. To determine the cell area, 20 palisade cells were measured in each leaf. Experiments were carried out in duplicate with four seedlings, giving similar results.

Chlorophyll and Flavonoid Extraction, and Maximum Efficiency of PSII Measurement

Total chlorophylls were determined by standard procedures (Wintermans and De Motts, 1965). Flavonoid extraction was performed as described previously (Casati and Walbot, 2003). Chlorophyll fluorescence parameters were measured using a fluorometer (Qubit Systems). The minimum chlorophyll fluorescence at an open PSII center (F_0) was determined using light (655 nm) at an intensity of 0.05 to 0.1 $\text{mE m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$. A saturation pulse of white light (2,500 $\text{mE m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ for 0.8 s) was applied to determine the maximum chlorophyll fluorescence at closed PSII centers in the dark (F_m). Maximum efficiency of PSII (F_v/F_m) was calculated as $(F_m - F_0)/F_m$ (Ifuku et al., 2005). The measurements were made four times in at least three different plants.

Statistical Analysis

Data presented were analyzed using one-way ANOVA. Minimum significant differences were calculated by the Bonferroni, Holm-Sidak, Dunnett, and Duncan tests ($\alpha = 0.05$) using the SigmaStat Package. In some cases, data were compared using Student's *t* test ($n = 4$ –10 biological replicates in a single experiment; $P < 0.05$), and significant differences are indicated in the figures with asterisks.

Sequence data from this article can be found in the Arabidopsis Genome Initiative, the maize genome sequence (version 3b.50 at maizesequence.org), and GenBank databases under the following accession numbers: *RPL10A*, At1g14320; *RPL10B*, At1g26910; *RPL10C*, At1g66580; *POLYUBIQUITIN10* (*UBQ10*), At4g05320; *CALCIUM-DEPENDENT PROTEIN KINASE3* (*CDPK3*), At4g23650; maize *RPL10-1*, GRMZM2G087233; maize *RPL10-2*, GRMZM2G027451; maize *THIOREDOXIN-LIKE*, AW927774; maize *ACTIN1*, J01238. Protein sequences used in this work for alignments are as follows. *Gallus gallus*, Q08200; *Mus musculus*, NP_443067; *Caenorhabditis elegans*, Q09533; *Homo sapiens*, M64241; *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, AAA81534; *Solanum*

melongena, AB001891; *Solanum lycopersicum*, AAY97865; *Pinus taeda*, AAB66347; *Trypanosoma brucei*, AAK53755; and *Entamoeba histolytica*, AAL68397.

Supplemental Data

The following materials are available in the online version of this article.

Supplemental Figure S1. RPL10 sequences are highly conserved between different organisms at nucleotide and amino acid levels.

Supplemental Figure S2. Coimmunoprecipitation of RPL10 proteins in *Arabidopsis*.

Supplemental Figure S3. Complementation of *Arabidopsis* homozygous *rpl10B* mutants with wild-type *Arabidopsis RPL10B*.

Supplemental Figure S4. Inhibition of protein synthesis by UV-B light in *Arabidopsis* wild-type and *rpl10* mutant plants.

Supplemental Figure S5. UV-B treatment is not lethal to *Arabidopsis* plants.

Supplemental Figure S6. Examples of 2D gels of leaf proteins from heterozygous *rpl10A-1* mutant and wild-type plants after a 4-h UV-B treatment.

Supplemental Figure S7. Hierarchical cluster analysis of proteins showing different levels in *rpl10A* mutant plants in comparison with wild-type plants under control conditions and after a 4-h UV-B treatment identified by MS.

Supplemental Figure S8. Classification of proteins showing different levels in the *rpl10A* mutant in comparison with wild-type plants based on their cell functions.

Supplemental Figure S9. *RPL10* promoter sequences with predicted cis-elements.

Supplemental Table S1. Immunoprecipitation and identification of RPL10-associated proteins by MS/MS.

Supplemental Table S2. Segregation of *RPL10A* alleles.

Supplemental Table S3. Proteins showing different levels in *rpl10A* mutant plants in comparison with wild-type plants under control conditions and after a 4-h UV-B treatment identified by MS.

Supplemental Table S4. 5' UTR sequences in *Arabidopsis RPL10* transcripts.

Supplemental Table S5. Primer sequences used for PCR.

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