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Front cover illustration: Picture 1 (left) The recombinant aspartic proteinase A1 from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Mazorra-Manzano, M. A., Yada R. Y., 2008. Expression and characterization of the recombinant aspartic proteinase A1 from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Phytochemistry 69, 2439–2448. Picture 2 (centre left) AOC promoter activity in flowers of tobacco plants carrying a tomato AOC (3600 bp)::uidA construct. Cross-section of an ovary of an open flower. Stenzel, I., Hause, B., Proels, R., Miersch, O., Oka, M., Roitsch, T., Wasternack, C., 2008. The AOC promoter of tomato is regulated by developmental and environmental stimuli. Phytochemistry 69, 1859–1869. Picture 3 (centre right) Investigation of phytoalexin production using abiotic elicitation. Pedras, M. S. C., Adio, A. M., 2008. Phytoalexins and hytoanticipins from the wild crucifers *Thellungiella halophila* and *Arabidopsis thaliana*: rapalexin A, wasalexins and camalexin. Phytochemistry 69, 889–893. Picture 4 (right) *Morus indica* plant with medicinal implications. Singh, V. K., Patel, A. K., Moir, A. J., Jagannadham, M. V., 2008. Indicain, a dimeric serine protease from *Morus indica* cv. K2. Phytochemistry 69, 2110–2119.