

CONTENT

LIST OF FIGURES.....	iv
SUMMARY	vii
ZUSAMMENFASSUNG.....	ix
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Regulation of proteolytic activity	1
1.2 Competitive inhibitors	3
1.3 Competitive inhibitors with exosite binding	4
1.4 Suicide inhibitors.....	6
1.5 Physiological roles of proteinase inhibitors in plants.....	7
1.6 Proteinase inhibitors in development and regulation of programmed cell death	8
1.7 Inter-species regulation of protease activity during defense	11
1.8 Subtilases	13
1.9 Plant peptide signaling and the involvement of SBTs in peptide processing.....	14
1.10 Aims of the present work	18
2. RESULTS.....	21
2.1 Precursor processing for plant peptide hormone maturation by subtilisin-like serine proteinases	21
2.1.1 <i>ABSTRACT</i>	22
2.1.2 <i>INTRODUCTION</i>	23
2.1.3 <i>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION</i>	24
2.1.4 <i>SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES</i>	30
2.1.5 <i>EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES</i>	44
2.1.5.1 Generation of transgenic <i>Arabidopsis</i> expressing EP1a and EPI10 in abscission zone.....	44
2.1.5.2 Growth of experimental plants	45
2.1.5.3 Bioassay for abscission-inducing activity.....	45
2.1.5.4 Bioassay for PGAZAT-inducing activity	45
2.1.5.5 Cloning of SBTs and expression in <i>N. benthamiana</i>	46
2.1.5.6 Cleavage of IDA-GFP by co-expression with SBTs in <i>N. benthamiana</i>	49
2.1.5.7 Zymography of SBT activity and inhibition by EPI10.....	49
2.1.5.8 Expression and purification of EP1a and EPI10	50

2.1.5.9	Purification of SBT4.12, SBT4.13 and SBT5.2.....	51
2.1.5.10	Expression and purification of GST-IDA	52
2.1.5.11	Processing of GST-IDA by SBT4.12, SBT4.13 and SBT5.2	53
2.1.5.12	Substrate specificity of SBT4.13 (PICS assay).....	53
2.1.5.13	Confirmation of substrate selectivity using Ala-substituted synthetic peptides	55
2.1.5.14	SBT4.12, SBT4.13 and SBT5.2 enzyme kinetics.....	56
2.1.5.15	Dissociation constants for EPI1a and EPI10 interaction with SBT4.13	57
2.1.5.16	Genetic complementation of <i>ida</i> with site-directed <i>IDA</i> and <i>ePIPP</i> mutants.....	57
2.1.5.17	Primers used for semi-quantitative RT-PCR	59
2.2	A novel subtilase inhibitor in plants shows structural and functional similarities to protease propeptides	61
2.2.1	<i>ABSTRACT</i>	62
2.2.2	<i>INTRODUCTION</i>	63
2.2.3	<i>RESULTS</i>	66
2.2.3.1	Phylogeny of I9 inhibitors and primary structure of SPI-1.....	66
2.2.3.2	Proteinase inhibitor activity and specificity of SPI-1	68
2.2.3.3	Kinetic analysis of SPI-1 binding and inhibition of SBT4.13	71
2.2.3.4	Characterization of the SPI-1/SBT4.13 complex.....	72
2.2.3.5	pH stability of the proteinase/inhibitor complex	75
2.2.3.6	Thermal stability of the proteinase/inhibitor complex.....	76
2.2.3.7	Assessment of SPI-1 as folding assistant.....	77
2.2.4	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	79
2.2.5	<i>EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES</i>	82
2.2.5.1	Cloning of SBTs	82
2.2.5.2	Cloning of the SBT4.13 propeptide deletion mutant, the PP of SBT4.13, and SPI-1 for expression in <i>N. benthamiana</i>	82
2.2.5.3	Transient protein expression in <i>N. benthamiana</i>	83
2.2.5.4	Purification of SBT4.13	83
2.2.5.5	Expression and purification of N-terminally His ₆ -tagged SPI-1	83
2.2.5.6	Protease activity against FITC-casein and inhibition by SPI-1	84
2.2.5.7	Inhibition of α-chymotrypsin and subtilisin A activity by recombinant SPI-1.....	84
2.2.5.8	SBT4.13 enzyme kinetics	85
2.2.5.9	Dissociation constants for the SPI-1/SBT4.13 complex.....	85
2.2.5.10	Determination of pH stability of the SBT4.13/SPI-1 complex.....	86



2.2.5.11	Analysis of the melting temperature of SBT4.13 and SBT4.13/SPI-1 inhibitor complex.....	87
2.2.5.12	Identification of the C-terminal cleavage site of SPI-1	87
3.	DISCUSSION.....	91
4.	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	103
5.	APPENDIX	119
5.1	Primers for cloning of Prom::EPI constructs:	119
5.2	Modelling Methods	119
5.3	Model Building Report SBT4.13 (4yn3).....	121
5.4	Model Building Report SPI-1 (4yn3)	124
5.5	Model Building Report EPI1 (4gi3).....	126
6.	DANKSAGUNG	129
7.	ERKLÄRUNG	131
8.	LEBENSLAUF	133