Sphingolipid metabolism and programmed cell death in tomato

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Propositions belonging to the thesis

'Sphingolipid metabolism and programmed cell death in tomato'

1. *Asc-1* is a necessary component of ceramide synthase (*this thesis*).
2. Sphingolipid metabolites are involved in plant cell signalling (*this thesis*; Ng *et al.* (2001) *Nature* **410**, 596-599).
3. The structures of the lipid anchors of GPI-anchored proteins are more similar in plants and yeast compared with animals (*this thesis*).
4. *Arabidopsis thaliana* is an example of how a weed can be transformed into a profitable plant species.
5. Genetic modification of plants can help to improve the quality of human life.
6. The suffix '-omics' is trendy and useful if you want to write a grant proposal.
7. A good indication that the processes of internationalisation and emancipation in The Netherlands are in their final phase, would be the appointment of a non-Dutch woman as the Rector Magnificus of a classical Dutch university.
8. The biggest threats to world peace are the greed and the unsatisfied ego of someone in power.
9. The Netherlands is closer to a socialistic society than Bulgaria has ever been.
10. It is one thing to want something, another to be able to do it, but to make yourself to get it done is a completely different story (after N. Haitov *'Wild tales'*).

Stefka Spassieva, 13th of June 2003