

CONTENTS

Contributors

ix

1. Neuropeptides, Trophic Factors, and Other Substances Providing Morphofunctional and Metabolic Protection in Experimental Models of Diabetic Retinopathy	1
Krisztina Szabadfi, Erika Pinter, Dora Reglodi, and Robert Gabriel	
1. Prevalence and Causes of Diabetic Retinopathy	4
2. Diabetic Retinopathy: Early Signs and Late-Developing Symptoms	7
3. Experimental Models of Diabetic Retinopathy	30
4. Experimental Approaches to the Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy	46
5. Concluding Remarks	95
Acknowledgments	97
References	97
2. Stereological and Allometric Studies on Neurons and Axo-Dendritic Synapses in Superior Cervical Ganglia	123
Fernando V. Lobo Ladd, Aliny A. B. Lobo Ladd, Andrea A. P. da Silva, and A. Augusto Coppi	
1. Introduction	124
2. Structural Organization of SCG	125
3. Stereological Assessment of the SCG During Postnatal Development: Effects of Aging and Allometry	139
4. Concluding Remarks and Future Research Directions	150
Acknowledgment	150
References	150
3. New Insight into the Regulation of Floral Morphogenesis	157
Wen-Chieh Tsai, Zhao-Jun Pan, Yong-Yu Su, and Zhong-Jian Liu	
1. Introduction	158
2. Evolution and Versatility of Angiosperm Flowers	159
3. ABC Model of Floral Organ Identity Genes	160
4. Downstream Targets of Floral Organ Identity Genes	164
5. Novel Genes Involved in Floral Morphogenesis	168
6. Applicability of ABC Model for Other Angiosperms	170

7. Conclusion and Perspectives	175
References	176
4. New Insight into Role of Myosin Motors for Activation of RNA Polymerases	183
Aishe A. Sarshad and Piergiorgio Percipalle	
1. Introduction	184
2. Myosin Superfamily	186
3. Myosin Types in Eukaryotic Cell Nucleus	194
4. Nuclear Myosin 1 in Gene Regulation	201
5. Synergy Between Actin and Myosin in RNA Polymerase I Transcription	210
6. Concluding Remarks and Perspectives	219
Acknowledgments	223
References	223
5. New Insights into the Metabolic and Molecular Mechanism of Plant Response to Anaerobiosis	231
Laura Arru, Silvia Fornaciari, and Stefano Mancuso	
1. Introduction	232
2. Cellular Oxygen Status Perception	233
3. Molecular Mechanisms in Anaerobic Response	239
4. Metabolic Adaptations	248
5. Concluding Remarks	254
References	255
6. Beyond Expectations: Novel Insights into Epidermal Keratin Function and Regulation	265
Melanie Homberg and Thomas M. Magin	
1. Introduction	266
2. Cell Type-Specific Expression of Keratins	271
3. Interaction of Keratins with Associated Proteins	273
4. Posttranslational Modifications of Keratins	279
5. Transgenic Mice Underscore Structural and Regulatory Keratin Functions	283
6. Mechanisms of Keratin-Associated Disorders	287
7. Novel Architectural and Regulatory Functions of Keratins	292
8. Concluding Remarks, Open Questions, and Future Research Strategies	294
Acknowledgments	295
References	295

7. Characean Internodal Cells as a Model System for the Study of Cell Organization	307
Ilse Foissner and Geoffrey O. Wasteneys	
1. Introduction	308
2. Cytoarchitecture and Development of Internodal Cells	312
3. Changes in Cytoplasmic Organization Due to Environmental Conditions and Impacts	337
4. Experimental Manipulations	347
5. Methodological Limitations of Internodal Cells	351
6. Concluding Remarks	352
Acknowledgments	353
References	353
Index	365