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About the Cover

Variations in floral pigmentation patterns of the flowering plant *Petunia hybrida*. These variations are due to three distinct genetic mechanisms. The pattern on the top right is due to the combination of a recessive allele for petal coloration and a dominant allele for venation coloration. The white sectors in the star pattern of the flower on the lower right result from the targeted degradation of the mRNA product of a gene encoding chalcone synthase, one of the enzymes active earliest in the pigment pathway. Finally, the pigmented sectors in the flower on the left result from the excision of a transposable element from a gene whose product is required for floral pigmentation.

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