

1 **ROP INTERACTIVE PARTNER b interacts with the ROP**  
2 **GTPase RACB and supports fungal penetration into barley**  
3 **epidermal cells**

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9

10 **Abstract**

11 RHO of Plants (ROP) G-proteins are key components of cell polarization  
12 processes in plant development. The barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) ROP protein  
13 RACB, is a susceptibility factor in the interaction of barley with the barley  
14 powdery mildew fungus *Blumeria graminis* f.sp. *hordei* (*Bgh*). RACB also  
15 drives polar cell development, and this function might be coopted during  
16 formation of fungal haustoria in epidermal cells of barley. In order to  
17 understand RACB signaling during the interaction of barley with *Bgh*, we  
18 searched for potential downstream interactors of RACB. Here, we show that  
19 ROP INTERACTIVE PARTNER b (RIPb) directly interacts with RACB in  
20 yeast and *in planta*. Over-expression of RIPb supports susceptibility of  
21 barley to *Bgh*. RIPb further interacts with itself at microtubules. However,  
22 the interaction with activated RACB takes place at the plasma membrane.  
23 Both, RIPb and RACB are recruited to the site of fungal attack around the  
24 neck of developing haustoria suggesting locally enhanced ROP activity. We  
25 further assigned different functions to different domains of the RIPb protein.  
26 The N-terminal coiled-coil CC1 domain is required for microtubule  
27 localization, while the C-terminal coiled-coil CC2 domain is sufficient to  
28 interact with RACB and to fulfill a function in susceptibility at the plasma  
29 membrane. Hence, RIPb appears to locate at microtubules and is then

30 recruited by activated RACB for a function at the plasma membrane during  
31 formation of the haustorial complex.

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33

## 34 **Introduction**

35 The interaction of plants with powdery mildew fungi is a model for the biology  
36 of cell-autonomous responses to fungal parasites (Dörmann et al. 2014).  
37 The powdery mildew fungus *Blumeria graminis* f.sp. *hordei* (*Bgh*) is a  
38 biotrophic ascomycete specifically adapted to barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and  
39 grows largely on the plant's surface. In the beginning of its life cycle it has  
40 to penetrate a single epidermal cell in order to establish a haustorium for  
41 nutrient uptake (Hahn et al. 1997, Voegelé et al. 2001) and to provide a  
42 surface for the translocation of virulence effector proteins into the host cell  
43 (Catanzariti et al. 2007). During all stages of fungal invasion, the host cell  
44 stays intact. Host cytosol and fungal haustorium are separated by the  
45 extrahaustorial matrix and the extrahaustorial membrane (EHM), which  
46 derive from the plant.

47 Plant host cells polarize in very early phases of the interaction with fungi. A  
48 reorganization of the cytoskeleton was shown in different pathosystems, as  
49 well as the accumulation of peroxisomes, mitochondria, Golgi bodies and  
50 ER at the site of pathogen attack (Kobayashi et al. 1997, Takemoto et al.  
51 2003, Koh et al. 2005, Takemoto et al. 2006, Fuchs et al. 2016). This is  
52 accompanied by relocation of the nucleus to the site of attack (Gross et al.  
53 1993, Scheler et al. 2016). Polarization is considered important for effective  
54 defense, in particular for the focal formation of papilla or cell wall  
55 appositions, which requires localized deposition of callose, other cell wall  
56 glucans and phenolic compounds at the attempted penetration site  
57 (McLusky et al. 1999, Hüchelhoven 2007, Chowdhury et al. 2014). However,  
58 it is reasonable to assume, that host cell polarization is also important for  
59 successful pathogen establishment, for instance for the generation of the  
60 EHM (Scheler et al. 2016, Kwaaitaal et al. 2017).

61 ROP GTPases (RHO of Plants, also called RAC for rat sarcoma–related C3  
62 botulinum toxin substrate) are small monomeric G-proteins that form a RHO  
63 subfamily, which is exclusively present in plants. ROPs can cycle between  
64 an actively signaling GTP-bound state and an inactive GDP-bound state and  
65 are crucial for polarity of diverse types of plant cells (Feiguelman et al.  
66 2018). ROPs seem to fulfill different functions depending on the interacting  
67 downstream factors called ROP-effectors. For instance *Arabidopsis thaliana*  
68 ROP2 suppresses light induced stomata opening by interacting with ROP  
69 Interactive CRIB Motif Containing Protein7 (RIC7), which in turn interacts  
70 and inhibits the exocyst vesicle tethering complex subunit Exo70B1 (Hong  
71 et al. 2015). ROP2 is additionally involved in pavement cell lobe  
72 interdigitation by interacting with RIC4 for actin assembly in lobes and at  
73 the same time inhibiting RIC1 which is known to organize microtubules  
74 together with the katanin KTN1 and ROP6 (Fu et al. 2005, Lin et al. 2013).  
75 In these pathways, RIC proteins are considered as scaffolds for connecting  
76 activated ROPs with downstream effector proteins in G-protein signaling.  
77 Another class of downstream interactors are ROP Interactive Partners  
78 (RIPs, alternatively called Interactor of Constitutive Active ROP, ICR). RIPs  
79 represent a second class of plant-specific proteins connecting ROP  
80 signaling to downstream effectors. So far, very little is known about these  
81 proteins. Arabidopsis knockout plants of RIP1/ICR1 have defects in  
82 pavement cell development, root hair development as well as root meristem  
83 maintenance showing an involvement of RIP1/ICR1 in different  
84 developmental processes. RIP1/ICR1 seems to be able to interact with  
85 different ROP proteins and was found to interact downstream with SEC3a of  
86 the exocyst complex and thereby possibly controlling the localization of the  
87 auxin transporter PIN1 (Lavy et al. 2007, Hazak et al. 2010, Hazak et al.  
88 2014). Additionally it was reported, that RIP1 acts in pollen tube formation  
89 where it interacts with ROP1 at the plasma membrane of the pollen tube tip  
90 (Li et al. 2008). RIP3 (also called ICR5 or MIDD1 for Microtubule Depletion  
91 Domain1) plays a key role in xylem cell development in Arabidopsis. During  
92 the formation of the secondary cell wall in progenitor cells, RIP3 interacts  
93 with ROP11 and the kinesin KIN13A, which leads to local microtubule

94 depletion and the formation of secondary wall pits (Mucha et al. 2010, Oda  
95 et al. 2010, Oda and Fukuda 2012, Oda and Fukuda 2013).

96 ROP GTPases also play a role as signaling components in plant defense  
97 (Ono et al. 2001, Chen et al. 2010). For instance, upon chitin perception,  
98 the receptor kinase CERK1 phosphorylates RacGEF1, a ROP guanosine  
99 nucleotide exchange factor that in turn activates RAC1, which supports  
100 immunity to *Magnaporthe oryzae* (Akamatsu et al. 2013).

101 The barley ROP protein RACB is involved in root hair outgrowth and controls  
102 asymmetric cell division of subsidiary cells in stomata development (Scheler  
103 et al. 2016). RACB and RACB-associated proteins influence arrays and  
104 stability of filamentous actin and the microtubule cytoskeleton (Opalski et  
105 al. 2005, Hoefle et al. 2011, Huesmann et al. 2012). Next to its function in  
106 polar cell development, RACB is also a susceptibility factor in the interaction  
107 with the powdery mildew fungus *Bgh*. Over-expression of constitutively  
108 activated RACB (CA RACB) enhances the penetration success of *Bgh* into  
109 barley epidermal cells, silencing of RACB leads to a decreased penetration  
110 rate (Schultheiss et al. 2002, Schultheiss et al. 2003, Hoefle et al. 2011).

111 RACB's function in susceptibility seems not to be dependent on defense  
112 suppression, but rather on the exploitation of developmental signaling  
113 mechanisms of the host (Scheler et al. 2016). A retrotransposon encoded  
114 *Bgh* effector candidate, ROP-Interactive Peptide1 (ROPIP1), binds directly  
115 to activated RACB. Expression of ROPIP1 in barley cells negatively  
116 influences microtubule stability and leads to an increased penetration rate  
117 of *Bgh* into barley epidermal cells (Nottensteiner et al. 2018). RACB further  
118 interacts with the class VI receptor-like cytoplasmic kinase ROP-Binding  
119 Kinase1 (RBK1). Activated RACB supports kinase activity of RBK1, but  
120 RBK1 acts in resistance rather than susceptibility. This seems to be  
121 explained by the interaction of RBK1 with S-Phase Kinase1-Associated  
122 (SKP1)-Like Protein (SKP1-like), which is part of an E3-ubiquitin ligase  
123 complex and both RBK1 and SKP1-like can limit the abundance of the RACB  
124 protein (Huesmann et al. 2012, Reiner et al. 2015). Another interactor of  
125 RACB is the Microtubule-Associated ROP GTase Activating Protein1  
126 (MAGAP1), a CRIB-motif containing ROP-GAP that may have the potential  
127 to switch off RACB. MAGAP1 and RACB recruit each other to the cell

128 periphery and to the microtubule cytoskeleton, and MAGAP1 apparently  
129 counters the susceptibility effect of RACB, while silencing of MAGAP1 leads  
130 to increased susceptibility to *Bgh* (Hoefle et al. 2011).

131 In this study, we identified barley RIPb as another downstream interactor of  
132 RACB. We investigated the effect of RIPb on susceptibility by transient over-  
133 expression and RNAi knockdown of RIPb in single epidermal cells, and the  
134 interaction between RIPb and RACB by Yeast-Two-Hybrid assays and  
135 ratiometric bimolecular fluorescence complementation (BiFC). RIPb and  
136 RACB co-localize and presumably interact at the plasma membrane, at the  
137 microtubule cytoskeleton, and at the site of fungal invasion. To further  
138 investigate the structure-function relationship of RIPb, we tested a series of  
139 RIPb truncations regarding their function in the interaction of barley with  
140 *Bgh* and their role for protein-protein interaction.

141

142

## 143 **Results**

### 144 **Identification of RIP proteins in barley**

145 Previous studies have shown that RIP proteins are a class of proteins with  
146 very little sequence similarity (Li et al. 2008). All RIP proteins identified so  
147 far in Arabidopsis contain an N-terminal QEEL motif and a C-terminal  
148 QWRKAA motif. These motifs are present in respective N- and C-terminal  
149 coiled-coil domains. Based on this, we performed bioinformatic analyses  
150 and identified three high confidence genes coding for RIP proteins in barley  
151 (Fig. 1). It appears that in several monocots the first glutamic acid in the  
152 QEEL motif is exchanged to aspartic acid (QDEL). We named these proteins  
153 RIPa (HORVU3Hr1G087430), RIPb (HORVU1Hr1G012460) and RIPc  
154 (HORVU3Hr1G072880), since we did not observe a clear orthology to  
155 individual Arabidopsis RIP proteins and phylogenetic analysis was  
156 ambiguous as well (Fig. 1B). We also identified three RIP proteins in rice  
157 containing the QDEL motif as well as the QWRKAA motif (Os01g61760,  
158 Os05g03120 and OsJ\_03509 (Yu et al. 2005)). Alignments of the barley  
159 RIPs with the RIP proteins from rice and the five RIP proteins previously  
160 identified in Arabidopsis (RIP1/ICR1 (At1g17140), RIP2/ICR2 (At2g37080),

161 RIP3/MIDD1 (At3g53350), RIP4 (At1g78430) and RIP5 (At5g60210)) show  
162 little overall amino acid sequence conservation between the grasses and  
163 Arabidopsis, except for the conserved QD/EEL motif at the N-terminus and  
164 the QWRKAA motif at the C-terminus. The latter was shown to be necessary  
165 for ROP interaction (Lavy et al. 2007). The alignment also shows  
166 conservation of lysine residues at the very C-termini, which were shown  
167 before to be important for membrane localization of other RIP proteins (Li  
168 et al. 2008) (Fig. 1A).

169 Phylogenetic analysis shows that HvRIPa and HvRIPb are more closely  
170 related to each other, than HvRIPc, which is located on an independent  
171 branch of the tree (Fig. 1B). Two RIPs from rice (*Oryza sativa* ssp. *japonica*)  
172 and two RIPs from *Brachypodium distachyon* (BRADI\_2g54177v3,  
173 BRADI2g37920v3) seem to be orthologous to HvRIPa and HvRIPb. Both rice  
174 and *B. distachyon* also encode a putative ortholog of HvRIPc  
175 (BRADI\_2g50317v3). HvRIPc, AtRIP1 and AtRIP4 share a similar C-  
176 terminus with a KKGN/QK motif and AtRIP1 and AtRIP4 also share one  
177 branch with HvRIPc on the phylogenetic tree.

178

### 179 **RIPb influences susceptibility of barley to *Bgh***

180 Semiquantitative reverse transcription PCR shows that all three barley RIPs  
181 are transcribed in the epidermis, with RIPb showing the highest RNA levels.  
182 Samples from inoculated leaves show no increase in transcription levels of  
183 any of the three barley *RIPs* (Supplemental Fig. S1).

184 To investigate, if one of the RIPs influences susceptibility of barley to *Bgh*,  
185 we tested the penetration efficiency of *Bgh* into transiently transformed  
186 epidermal cells. We introduced either an over-expressing construct under  
187 control of the CaMV35S promotor or a posttranscriptional gene-silencing  
188 construct into these cells. Over-expression of RIPa or RIPc had no  
189 significant effect on susceptibility (Supplemental Fig. 4A). Over-expression  
190 of RIPb however, significantly and consistently increased the penetration  
191 rate of *Bgh* into transformed cells by about 22%, compared to cells  
192 transformed with the empty vector control (Fig. 2A). RNA interference  
193 (RNAi)-mediated silencing of RIPb, did not significantly change the  
194 penetration rate of *Bgh* into the transformed cells (Fig. 2B).

195

## 196 **RIPb interacts with RACB**

197 In order to ascertain the subcellular localization of RIPb, we transiently  
198 expressed an YFP-tagged fusion protein of RIPb in single epidermal cells  
199 via biolistic transformation. Co-expression with the barley microtubule  
200 marker RFP-MAGAP1-Cter (Hoefle et al. 2011) showed partial co-  
201 localization of RIPb and MAGAP1-Cter at cortical microtubules (Fig. 3B, C).  
202 This was further supported by quantification of signal intensities at the  
203 periclinal cell periphery, which showed that YFP-RIPb signals peaked at the  
204 same sites as the microtubule marker but also showed background signals  
205 (Fig. 3C). This further suggested that YFP-RIPb is also present in the  
206 cytosol and in the cell periphery or plasma membrane. Co-expression with  
207 either constitutively activated RACB-G15V (CA RACB) or dominant negative  
208 RACB-T20N (DN RACB) resulted in reduced cytosolic localization of RIPb  
209 in presence of CA RACB, but not DN RACB (Fig. 4A). This change in RIPb  
210 localization might be best explained if RACB recruits RIPb to the cell  
211 periphery/plasma membrane. Co-expression experiments with YFP-  
212 RIPbCC1Va truncation lacking the predicted ROP interactive CC2 domain  
213 (see below, Fig. 5) and CA RACB shows that YFP-RIPbCC1Va could not be  
214 relocated to the cell periphery by CA RACB (Supplemental Fig. S3),  
215 suggesting that the CC2 domain is necessary for the recruitment by RACB.  
216 Ratiometric Bimolecular Fluorescence Complementation (BiFC)  
217 experiments further supported the interaction of RIPb with RACB. YFP  
218 fluorescence was reconstituted when nYFP-RIPb and cYFP-CA RACB were  
219 co-expressed in leaf epidermal cells (Fig. 4B, C). By contrast, co-expression  
220 of nYFP-RIPb and cYFP-DN RACB did not result in clear BiFC and the  
221 strength in signals were in average only about 10% of the signals recorded  
222 for the interaction with CA RACB (Fig. 4B, C). We observed the  
223 complemented CA RACB-RIPb YFP complex signals either exclusively at  
224 the plasma membrane or at cortical microtubules and the plasma membrane  
225 (Fig. 4B). We further confirmed a direct interaction between both wild type  
226 RACB (RACB WT) and CA RACB with RIPb (Fig 4D), respectively, in yeast.  
227 These experiments together suggest a direct interaction between RIPb and  
228 RACB *in planta*.

229

## 230 **RIPb truncations show distinct subcellular localization and function**

231 All predicted RIP proteins from *H. vulgare*, *O. sativa*, *A. thaliana* and *B.*  
232 *distachyon* contain an N-terminal coiled-coil-(CC) domain with the QD/EEL  
233 motif as well as a C-terminal CC-domain containing the QWRKAA motif (Fig.  
234 1A; Fig. 5A). Based on this and with regard to previous studies (Mucha et  
235 al. 2010), we created truncated constructs of RIPb to further assess the  
236 roles of the individual protein domains. We split the protein into three  
237 fragments either containing or not the first CC-domain (CC1), the central  
238 variable region (Va) and the second CC-domain (CC2). In yeast, only  
239 constructs containing the CC2 domain and hence the QWRKAA motif  
240 interacted with CA RACB as it was shown before for the interaction of  
241 Arabidopsis ROPs and RIPs (Fig. 5C) (Lavy et al. 2007, Mucha et al. 2010).  
242 BiFC experiments indicated that the interaction between RIPbCC2 and  
243 RACB takes place at the cell periphery. RIPbCC2 was able to interact with  
244 CA RACB, not with DN RACB (Supplemental Fig. S2). RIPb was also able  
245 to interact with itself in yeast. Amino acids important for this must be located  
246 in the Va-region, since only full length RIPb and truncations containing this  
247 region were able to interact in yeast (Fig. 5D). In order to look for specific  
248 subcellular localizations *in planta*, we created YFP-tagged fusion proteins  
249 of these truncations. YFP-RIPbCC2 and YFP-RIPbVaCC2 localize strongly  
250 to the cell periphery, presumably the plasma membrane (Fig. 5B). YFP-  
251 RIPbCC1Va was located in the cytosol and at the microtubules. However,  
252 YFP-RIPbCC1 and RIPbVa were detected in the cytosol only (Fig. 5B).  
253 Hence, both the CC1 domain and the Va domain appeared to be required  
254 but not sufficient for microtubule association. Double mutation of D85 and  
255 E86 of the QDEL motif did not lead to a loss of microtubule localization  
256 (Supplemental Fig. S3b). The QDEL motif itself might therefore not be  
257 necessary for microtubule localization. Since the Va domain is also required  
258 for dimerization, RIPb might localize to the microtubules rather as a dimer  
259 or oligomer than as a monomer. This was further supported because BiFC-  
260 signals recorded after co-expression of nYFP-RIPb with cYFP-RIPb occur  
261 exclusively at the microtubules and show less cytosolic background, when  
262 compared to YFP-RIPb alone, which may be detectable, both in its



263 monomeric and its dimeric/oligomeric form (Fig. 6A, C). Signal analysis  
264 showed high signal overlay between the complemented YFP signal and  
265 microtubule marker RFP-MAGAP1-Cter over a linear region of interest (Fig.  
266 6C, D). Quantification of complemented YFP signals showed significantly  
267 stronger signal between nYFP-RIPb and cYFP-RIPb compared to the co-  
268 expression of the microtubule-localized nYFP-MAGAP1 and cYFP-RIPb.  
269 nYFP-MAGAP1 on the other hand showed YFP complementation when co-  
270 expressed with cYFP-CA RACB (Fig. 6A, B).

271 Results from Lavy et al. (2007) and Mucha et al. (2010) suggest, that RIPs  
272 lacking a functional QWRKAA motif, lose the ability to interact with ROPs  
273 and that either CC1 or CC2 domains bind to further downstream signaling  
274 components. This indicates that RIPb might be able to fulfill a ROP signaling  
275 function through one of these domains. To test the functionality of RIPb  
276 truncations, we tested their effect on penetration success of *Bgh* on barley.  
277 Interestingly over-expression of RIPbCC2 (Fig. 2C) strongly increased  
278 susceptibility by about 75%. In contrast, over-expression of the CC2-domain  
279 of RIPa did not lead to a significant increase in susceptibility (Supplemental  
280 Fig. S4B). The effect of RIPbCC2 completely disappeared when we  
281 expressed the longer RIPbVaCC2 construct, containing additionally the Va-  
282 domain. The CC1-domain alone also increased susceptibility by about 35%  
283 and this effect was also reduced when we expressed the longer RIPbCC1Va  
284 truncation (Fig. 2C). This indicated a possible regulatory function of the Va  
285 domain of RIPb.

286

### 287 **RACB and RIPb co-localize at the site of fungal attack**

288 Since RIPb and RACB can interact *in planta* and both proteins can influence  
289 susceptibility, we wanted to know whether RIPb and RACB would co-localize  
290 at the sites of fungal penetration. Therefore, we transiently co-expressed  
291 YFP-RIPb and CFP-RACB in single epidermal cells and inoculated the  
292 leaves with conidia of *Bgh*. At 24 h after inoculation, we observed ring-like  
293 accumulations of both YFP-RIPb and CFP-RACB at the site of fungal  
294 penetration around the haustorial neck. Cytosolic mCherry appeared less  
295 spatially confined (Fig. 7A). We observed even more pronounced  
296 fluorescence at infection sites, when YFP-tagged RIPb was co-expressed

297 with CA RACB. In this context, we detected clear accumulation of RIPb and  
298 CA RACB at the site of fungal penetration, though independent of the  
299 outcome of the penetration attempt. If the penetration was successful, a  
300 clear ring-like localization pattern around the haustorial neck could be  
301 observed. However, if the fungal penetration was not successful we  
302 detected a more fringed accumulation of both proteins, possibly  
303 representing membrane domains around papilla protrusions (Fig. 7B). Since  
304 RIPbCC2 had a stronger influence on fungal penetration success than full  
305 length RIPb, we also imaged YFP-RIPbCC2 when co-expressed with CFP-  
306 CA RACB. Interestingly, there was a very strong co-localization of both  
307 proteins around the haustorial neck region in penetrated cells, but also in  
308 some instances at sites of repelled fungal attempts (Fig. 7C). The ring-like  
309 accumulation of RIPbCC2 around the haustorial neck was also visible at  
310 later stages of the interaction at 48 hours after the inoculation (Fig. 7D).  
311 There was also constantly local aggregation of cytoplasm at the sites of  
312 attack, but measurements of the ring-like YFP-RIPbCC2 fluorescence,  
313 showed signal intensities were clearly more confined to the cell periphery  
314 compared to cytosolic mCherry fluorescence (Fig. 7E).

315

316

## 317 **Discussion**

318 RIP proteins are considered scaffold proteins in ROP signaling. Next to  
319 RICs, RIPs might be key factors in diversification of G-protein signaling in  
320 plants. It appears that so far most described downstream interactions of  
321 ROPs are mediated through either RIC or RIP proteins. All RIPs contain the  
322 characteristic QWRKAA motif in the CC2 domain, which was previously  
323 described as the motif responsible for ROP interaction (Lavy et al. 2007).  
324 Our results support this, since only full length RIPb and truncations  
325 containing this motif interacted with RACB and were subcellularly recruited  
326 by CA RACB. (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, Supplemental Fig. S2). The CC2 domain is part  
327 of all predicted RIPs from *A. thaliana*, *O. sativa*, *B. distachyon* and *H.*  
328 *vulgare*. All identified RIPs from these four species also contain a conserved  
329 QD/EEL motif located in an N-terminal CC1 domain (Fig. 1). The function of

330 this motif, however, remains more elusive. Although the CC1 domain is  
331 important for microtubule localization of RIPb (Fig. 5), amino acid  
332 exchanges in the QDEL motif did not result a loss of microtubule association  
333 (Supplemental Fig. S3).

334 Phylogenetic analyses show that both rice and *Brachypodium*, possess  
335 putative orthologs of each of the three barley RIPs, implying possible  
336 conserved function of the RIPs in grasses (Fig. 1). However, the five RIP  
337 proteins of *Arabidopsis* show no clear phylogenetic relation to the grass  
338 RIPs. It would be interesting to see, whether *Arabidopsis* and monocot RIPs  
339 have similar functions, or may have evolved in different directions as the  
340 little sequence conservation suggests.

341 For this study, we focused on a possible RACB signaling mechanism via RIP  
342 proteins during the interaction of barley and *Bgh*. Barley RIPb interacts with  
343 CA and wild type RACB in yeast, supporting that it is a potential downstream  
344 interactor of RACB. Over-expression of RIPb but not RIPa and RIPc  
345 increased penetration rate of *Bgh* into transformed epidermal barley cells  
346 (Fig. 2, Supplemental Fig. S4A). Together with the fact that the RIPb  
347 transcript was more abundant in the epidermis of barley than RIPa or RIPc  
348 transcripts, this might indicate that RIPb is the only barley RIP with a  
349 possible function in powdery mildew interaction, although RIPb silencing  
350 had no significant effect on the interaction between epidermal cells and *Bgh*  
351 (Fig. 2B). This might be due to branching of RACB downstream signaling  
352 which could compensate for the lack of RIPb during the interaction. For  
353 instance RIC171 might act as an alternative downstream interactor of RACB  
354 (Schultheiss et al. 2008), and it is possible that even more interactors of  
355 RACB are involved, because ROP proteins are considered signaling hubs  
356 (Nibau et al. 2006). Hence silencing of only one signaling branch might not  
357 have a significant effect on the interaction, whereas over-expression could  
358 support a certain RACB downstream branch and therefore has an effect.

359 RIPb shows diverse subcellular localizations. Next to cytosolic localization,  
360 we observed localization at the cell periphery and at the microtubule  
361 cytoskeleton (Fig. 3). The N-terminal CC1 domain seems to be necessary  
362 but not sufficient for microtubule localization, since the RIPbVaCC2  
363 truncation lacking the CC1-domain was not able to localize to microtubules,

364 but the CC1 domain alone also did not show microtubule localization. The  
365 central Va domain alone was also insufficient for microtubule association  
366 but it appeared to be required for both microtubule association and RIPb-  
367 RIPb interaction (Fig. 5D), because in contrast to RIPbCC1, RIPbCC1Va  
368 showed microtubule localization (Fig. 5B). BiFC experiments further  
369 suggested that the RIPb-RIPb interaction takes place at microtubules (Fig.  
370 6). Interestingly, truncated versions of RIPb, which contain the Va domain,  
371 did not induce susceptibility when over-expressed, whereas RIPbCC1 and  
372 particularly RIPbCC2 induced susceptibility, similar to or much stronger than  
373 the full length protein. We therefore hypothesize that dimerization or  
374 oligomerization of RIPb at microtubules might have a regulatory purpose,  
375 potentially by sequestration of inactive RIPb.

376 Over-expression of the RIPbCC2 domain resulted in a very strong increase  
377 in susceptibility of barley epidermal cells to *Bgh*. Lavy et al. (2007) showed  
378 that the QWRKAA motif in the CC2 domain of Arabidopsis AtRIP1 (ICR1) is  
379 not only necessary for ROP interaction, but also for the interaction with the  
380 downstream interactor AtSEC3, indicating that the CC2 domain might be  
381 able to fulfill the signaling function of AtRIP1. This might also be the case  
382 for RIPbCC2. By contrast, over-expression of the CC2 domain of HvRIPa  
383 did not result in a significant increase in susceptibility (Supplemental Fig.  
384 S4B), and therefore this effect appears specific for RIPb. RIPbCC2 was able  
385 to interact with RACB in yeast and *in planta* (Fig. 5, Supplemental Fig. S2).  
386 Furthermore, RIPb did not localize to the cell periphery anymore without the  
387 CC2 domain (RIPbCC1Va) even in presence of CA RACB (Supplemental  
388 Fig. S3). This together suggests, that the CC2 domain of RIPb is responsible  
389 both for ROP interaction and for a downstream function, which may take place  
390 at the plasma membrane.

391 The N-terminal CC1 domain of RIPb is required for microtubule association  
392 but might interact with signaling components as well. This would explain the  
393 susceptibility phenotype of the CC1 domain, although the CC1 domain itself  
394 does not interact with RACB (Fig. 2C, Fig. 5C). Interestingly, the CC1  
395 domain of Arabidopsis AtRIP3/MIDD1 is required for interaction with  
396 KINESIN13A (Mucha et al. 2010). It could hence be that RIPb fulfills a dual  
397 function via different domains of the protein.

398 BiFC experiments showed interaction between RACB and RIPb at the  
399 microtubules and at the plasma membrane. Since RACB alone does not  
400 localize to microtubules (Schultheiss et al. 2003) it seems that RIPb is able  
401 to recruit RACB to microtubules when over-expressed. The interaction  
402 between the susceptibility-inducing CC2 domain and RACB on the other  
403 hand takes place at the plasma membrane (Supplemental Fig. S2). These  
404 results suggest that RACB likewise recruits RIPb to the plasma membrane  
405 during susceptibility signaling and that recruitment of RACB to microtubules  
406 has rather limits this effect. We speculate that in this experimental setup,  
407 recruitment of RACB to microtubules brings RACB into proximity of  
408 microtubule-located MAGAP1, which presumably inactivates RACB (Hoefle  
409 et al. 2011). This might explain why full length RIPb has a less strong effect  
410 on susceptibility when compared to RIPbCC2, which cannot recruit RACB to  
411 the microtubules.

412 We observed co-localization of RIPb and RACB and of RIPbCC2 and RACB  
413 at the site of fungal attack. In interactions where the fungus was able to  
414 penetrate the host cell, a ring of RIPb and RACB or CA RACB around the  
415 haustorial neck at the plasma membrane, could be observed. However, we  
416 could also observe accumulation of signal in repelled penetration attempts  
417 around the formed papilla, indicating that accumulation of these two proteins  
418 alone is not sufficient to render all cells susceptible. RACB possesses a C-  
419 terminal CSIL motif, which is predicted to mediate protein prenylation at the  
420 cysteine residue, and is necessary for plasma membrane association and  
421 function in susceptibility (Schultheiss et al. 2003). Additionally, RACB has a  
422 polybasic stretch close to the C-terminus (Schultheiss et al. 2003) shown  
423 for other ROPs to be involved in lipid interaction (Platre et al. 2019) and a  
424 conserved cysteine at position C158, which is S-acylated in activated  
425 Arabidopsis AtROP6 (Sorek et al. 2017). Hence, lipid modification and  
426 interaction with negatively charged phospholipids together may bring  
427 activated RACB-GTP to specific membrane domains, to which it then  
428 recruits proteins that execute ROP signaling function. Phosphatidylserine  
429 and phosphoinositides are often involved in defining areas of cell polarization  
430 in membranes for example during root hair and pollen tube tip growth  
431 (Helling et al. 2006, Kusano et al. 2008, Platre et al. 2019) and ROPs are

432 known to moderate the phosphorylation pattern of phosphoinositides during  
433 polarization (Kost et al. 1999). We hence speculate that localization of ROP  
434 signaling components at the site of interaction reflects domains of enriched  
435 negatively charged phospholipids.

436 The exact effect of RACB-RIPb signaling on the interaction remains  
437 unknown so far. However, the finding that Arabidopsis RIPs interact with  
438 proteins of the exocyst complex and KINESIN13A opens the possibility that  
439 barley RIPs also modify the cytoskeleton or membrane trafficking, both  
440 being key to resistance and susceptibility in powdery mildew interactions  
441 (Hückelhoven and Panstruga 2011, Dörmann et al. 2014). Together, our  
442 data support a new hypothesis according to which RIPb is inactive at  
443 microtubules and recruited to RACB signaling hotspots at the cell periphery  
444 by activated RACB-GTP. There it might interact with further proteins of the  
445 RACB signaling pathway to facilitate fungal entry into barley epidermal cells.  
446 The fact that the putative fungal effector ROPIP1 destabilizes barley  
447 microtubules (Nottensteiner et al. 2018) adds another level of complexity,  
448 on which ROPIP1 may foster release of RIPb from microtubules for its  
449 function in susceptibility.

450

## 451 **Conclusions**

452 Over the last years, the impact of susceptibility factors for plant – pathogen  
453 interactions has become more and more obvious. Barley RACB might be a  
454 key player in cellular polarization during fungal invasion. Here we identified  
455 RIPb as a downstream interactor of RACB in susceptibility. RACB and RIPb  
456 together might be involved in fine-tuning of cell polarization in advantage of  
457 the fungus. It will be important to identify further interactors of RIPb and in  
458 particular of its susceptibility-supporting CC2 domain. This may establish a  
459 deep understanding of the components and mechanisms of subcellular  
460 reorganizations in the cell cortex, which support the biotrophic parasite *Bgh*  
461 in accommodation of its haustorium in an intact epidermal cell.

462

## 463 **Material and Methods**

## 464 Biological Material

465 Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) cultivar Golden Promise was used in all  
466 experiments. Plants were grown under long day conditions with 16h of light  
467 and 8h in the dark with a relative humidity of 65% and light intensity of 150  
468  $\mu\text{M s}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2}$  at a temperature of 18°C.

469 Powdery mildew fungus *Blumeria graminis* f.sp. *hordei* race A6 was  
470 cultivated on wild type Golden Promise plants under the conditions  
471 described above and inoculated by blowing spores into a plastic tent that  
472 was positioned over healthy plants or transformed leaf segments.

473

## 474 Cloning procedures

475 *HvRIPb* (HORVU1Hr1G012460) was amplified from cDNA using primers  
476 Ripb-EcoRI\_fwd and Ripb-BamHI\_rev (Supplemental Tab. 1) introducing  
477 EcoRI and BamHI restriction sites, respectively. *HvRIPa*  
478 (HORVU3Hr1G087430) was amplified from cDNA using primers  
479 RipaXbal\_fwd and RipaXbal\_rev introducing Xbal restriction sites at 5' and  
480 3' ends. *HvRIPc* (HORVU3Hr1G072880) was amplified from cDNA using  
481 primers RipcXbal\_fwd and RipcPstI\_rev introducing restriction sites for Xbal  
482 at the 5' end and for Sall at the 3' end. The amplified products were ligated  
483 into the pGEM-T easy vector (Promega, Madison, WI, USA) by blunt end  
484 cloning according to the manufacturer's instructions and sequenced.  
485 *HvRIPb* truncations spanning the following amino acids. *HvRIPbCC1* from  
486 amino acid 1 to 132, *HvRIPbVa* from amino acid 133 to 420 and *HvRIPbCC2*  
487 from amino acid 420 to 612. *HvRIPb* truncations for Yeast-Two-Hybrid were  
488 amplified from pGEM-T easy containing full length *RIPb* using primers with  
489 EcoRI and BamHI restriction sites. *RIPbCC1* was amplified using primers  
490 Ripb-EcoRI\_fwd and RipbCC1BamHI\_rev, *RIPbCC1Va* with primers Ripb-  
491 EcoRI\_fwd and RipbVaBamHI\_rev, *RIPbVa* with primers RipbVaEcoRI\_fwd  
492 and RipbVaBamHI\_rev, *RIPbVaCC2* with primers RipbVaEcoRI\_fwd and  
493 Ripb-BamHI\_rev and *RIPbCC2* with primers RipbC2EcoRI\_fwd. Each  
494 reverse primer introduced a stop codon. For Yeast-Two-Hybrid assays  
495 *HvRIPb* and *HvRIPb* truncations were subcloned from the pGEM-T easy  
496 vector into pGADT7 and pGBKT7 plasmids (Clontech Laboratories) using  
497 the EcoRI and BamHI restriction sites. For over-expression constructs and

498 constructs for protein localization the pUC18-based vector pGY1, containing  
499 a CaMV35S promotor was used. (Schweizer et al. 1999). From the pGEM-T  
500 easy vector, *HvRIPb* was further amplified with primers Ripb-XbaI\_fwd and  
501 Ripb-SalI\_rev, containing XbaI and SalI restriction site, respectively. Using  
502 those restriction sites *HvRIPb* was then ligated into the pGY1 plasmid and  
503 pGY1-YFP plasmid for N-terminal YFP fusion. *HvRIPa* and *HvRIPc* were  
504 subcloned from pGEM-T easy into pGY1 using the XbaI restriction site for  
505 *HvRIPa* and the XbaI and PstI restriction sites for *HvRIPc*. Over-expression  
506 construct for *HvRIPaCC2* was produced by introducing attB-attachment sites  
507 for Gateway cloning. For this, a first PCR was performed with primers GW1-  
508 RipaCC2\_fwd and GW1-Ripa\_rev using pGEM-T easy construct as  
509 template. A subsequent second PCR was performed using primers Gate2\_F  
510 and Gate2\_R to introduce attB attachment sites for Gateway cloning. The  
511 construct was then cloned by BP-clonase reaction using the Gateway BP  
512 Clonase™ II (Invitrogen) into the pDONR223 entry vector (Invitrogen). From  
513 there *HvRIPaCC2* was cloned by LR-clonase reaction with Gateway LR  
514 Clonase™ II (Invitrogen) into pGY1-GW, a modified pGY1 vector containing  
515 the gateway cassette. The pGY1-GW plasmid was constructed using the  
516 Gateway™ Vector Conversion System (Invitrogen) according to the  
517 manufacturer's instructions.

518 For BiFC, *HvRIPb* was amplified from the pGEM-T easy vector using the  
519 primer Ripb-SpeI\_fwd and Ripb-SalI\_rev with restriction sites for SpeI and  
520 SalI, respectively. The construct was then digested with SpeI and SalI and  
521 ligated into pUC-SPYNE(R)173 and pUC-SPYCE(MR) plasmid (Waadt et al.  
522 2008) using these restriction sites.

523 A 538bp long RNAi sequence for *HvRIPb* was amplified, using primers  
524 RipbRNAi\_fwd and RipbRNAi\_rev, and introduced into the pIPKTA38 vector  
525 by blunt-end cloning using the SmaI restriction site (Douchkov et al. 2005).  
526 This plasmid was used as entry vector to clone the RNAi Sequence into the  
527 pIPKTA30N vector for double-strand RNA formation via Gateway LR  
528 Clonase™ II (Invitrogen) reaction according to the manufacturer's  
529 instruction.

530 All *HvRIPb* truncations were introduced into the pGY1-YFP plasmid for N-  
531 terminal YFP fusion using the following primer. For *HvRIPbCC1* primer Ripb-



532 XbaI\_fwd and RipbC1-Sall\_rev, for *HvRIPbCC1Va* primer Ripb-XbaI\_fwd  
533 and RipbVa-Sall\_rev, for *HvRIPbVa* primer RipbVa-XbaI\_fwd and RipbVa-  
534 Sall\_rev, for *HvRIPbVaCC2* primer RipbVa-XbaI\_fwd and Ripb-Sall\_rev and  
535 for *HvRIPbCC2* primer RipbC2-XbaI\_fwd and Ripb-Sall\_rev. All forward  
536 primers introduce a XbaI restriction site and all reverse primer contain a Sall  
537 restriction site, which were used for the ligation into pGY1-YFP. The same  
538 products and restriction sites were used for ligation into the pGY1 vector  
539 except for *HvRIPbCC1Va*. For *HvRIPbCC1Va* primer GW-Ripb\_fwd and  
540 GW1-RipbC1Va\_rev was used for amplification followed by a second PCR  
541 with primers Gate2\_F and Gate2\_R to introduce attB attachment sites for  
542 Gateway cloning. The construct was then cloned by BP-clonase reaction  
543 using the Gateway BP Clonase™ II (Invitrogen) into the pDONR223 entry  
544 vector (Invitrogen). From there *HvRIPbCC1Va* was cloned by LR-clonase  
545 reaction with Gateway LR Clonase™ II (Invitrogen) into pGY1-GW.

546

#### 547 Transient transformation of barley cells

548 Barley epidermal cells were transiently transformed by biolistic particle  
549 bombardment using the PDS-1000/HE (Biorad, Hercules, CA; USA). For this  
550 7d old primary leaves of barley were cut and placed on 0.8% water-agar.  
551 Per shot 302.5µg of 1µm gold particles (Biorad, Hercules, CA, USA) were  
552 coated with 1µg plasmid per shot. 0.5µg plasmid per shot was used for  
553 cytosolic transformation markers. After addition of plasmids to the gold  
554 particles, CaCl<sub>2</sub> was added to a final concentration of 0.5M. Finally, 3µl of  
555 2mg/ml Protamine (Sigma) were added to the mixture per shot. After  
556 incubation for half an hour at room temperature, gold particles were washed  
557 twice with 500µl ethanol. In the first step with 70% ethanol and in the second  
558 step with 100% ethanol. After washing, the gold particles were re-suspended  
559 in 6µl of 100% ethanol per shot and placed on the macro carrier for  
560 bombardment.

561

#### 562 Alignments and Phylogenetic Analysis

563 Sequences of Arabidopsis RIP proteins were used to identify barley RIPs  
564 using the IPK Barley BLAST Server ([https://webblast.ipk-  
565 gatersleben.de/barley\\_ibsc/viroblast.php](https://webblast.ipk-gatersleben.de/barley_ibsc/viroblast.php)). RIPs from *Oryza sativa* spp.

566 *Japonica* were identified using the BLAST tool on the Rice Genome  
567 Annotation Project ([http://rice.plantbiology.msu.edu/home\\_faq.shtml](http://rice.plantbiology.msu.edu/home_faq.shtml)  
568 (Kawahara et al. 2013)). RIPs from *Brachypodium distachyon* were identified  
569 by BLAST search on EnsemblPLANTS  
570 (<https://plants.ensembl.org/index.html>). The Alignment of RIP protein  
571 sequences was done with ClustalO  
572 (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>) and displayed with Jalview  
573 (jalview 2.10.5). A phylogenetic maximum likelihood tree was generated,  
574 using the PhyML tool in the program seaview (v4.7).

575

## 576 Determination of Susceptibility

577 Transiently transformed barley leaves were inoculated with *Bgh* 24 h after  
578 bombardment for over-expression constructs and 48 h after bombardment  
579 for gene silencing constructs. 24 h after inoculation penetration rate into the  
580 transformed cells was determined by fluorescence microscopy as described  
581 before (Hückelhoven et al. 2003).

582

## 583 Protein localization and Protein – Protein Interaction *in planta*

584 Localization of HvRIPb and co-localization of HvRIPb and HvRACB were  
585 determined by transiently transforming barley epidermal cells with plasmids  
586 encoding fluorophore fusion proteins. Imaging was done with a Leica TCS  
587 SP5 microscope equipped with hybrid HyD detectors. CFP was excited at  
588 458nm and detected between 465nm and 500nm. YFP was excited at  
589 514nm and detected between 525nm and 500nm. Excitation of mCherry and  
590 RFP was done at 561nm and detection between 570nm and 610nm.

591 For ratiometric quantification of BiFC experiments Mean Fluorescence  
592 Intensity (MFI) was measured over a region of interest at the cell periphery.  
593 Background signal was subtracted and ratio between YFP and mCherry  
594 signal was calculated. At least 25 cells were analyzed per construct for each  
595 experiment. Images were taken 24 hours to 48 hours after transformation by  
596 particle bombardment.

597

## 598 Yeast Two-Hybrid assays

599 For targeted yeast two-hybrid assays, *HvRIPb* and its truncations were  
600 introduced into pGADT7. Introduction of *HvRACB* into pGBKT7 was  
601 described in Schultheiss et al. (2008). Constructs were transformed into  
602 yeast strain AH109 following the small-scale LiAc yeast transformation  
603 procedure from the Yeast Protocol Handbook (Clontech, Mountain View, CA,  
604 USA).

605

## 606 RNA extraction and semiquantitative PCR (qRT-PCR)

607 RNA was extracted from barley tissue using the TRIzol™-Reagent by  
608 Invitrogen according to the manufacturer's instructions. 1µg of RNA was  
609 reverse transcribed with the QuantiTect Reverse Transcription Kit (Qiagen,  
610 Hilden, Germany) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

611 For semiquantitative PCR, 2µl of cDNA transcribed from RNA of peeled  
612 epidermis from barley leaves, were used. Samples were taken from leaves  
613 24h after inoculation with *Bgh*, or from uninoculated leaves of the same age.  
614 A 209bp fragment of *RIPa* was amplified with an annealing temperature ( $T_a$ )  
615 of 58°C with primers *Ripa\_sqPCR4\_fwd* and *Ripa\_sqPCR5\_rev*  
616 (Supplemental Tab1). For *RIPb* a 181bp fragment was amplified with a  $T_a$  of  
617 56°C using primers *Ripb\_sqPCR9\_fwd* and *RIPb\_sqPCR10\_rev*. For *RIPc* a  
618 168bp fragment was amplified at  $T_a$  58°C using primers *Ripc\_sqPCR4\_fwd*  
619 and *Ripc\_sqPCR5\_rev*. As control *HvUbc* was amplified at  $T_a$  61°C using  
620 primers *HvUBC2\_fwd* and *HvUBC2\_rev* (Ovesna et al. 2012).

621

## 622 Acknowledgments

623 The project was funded in frame of research grants from the German Research Foundation to  
624 RH (DFG HU886-8 and SFB924).

625

626

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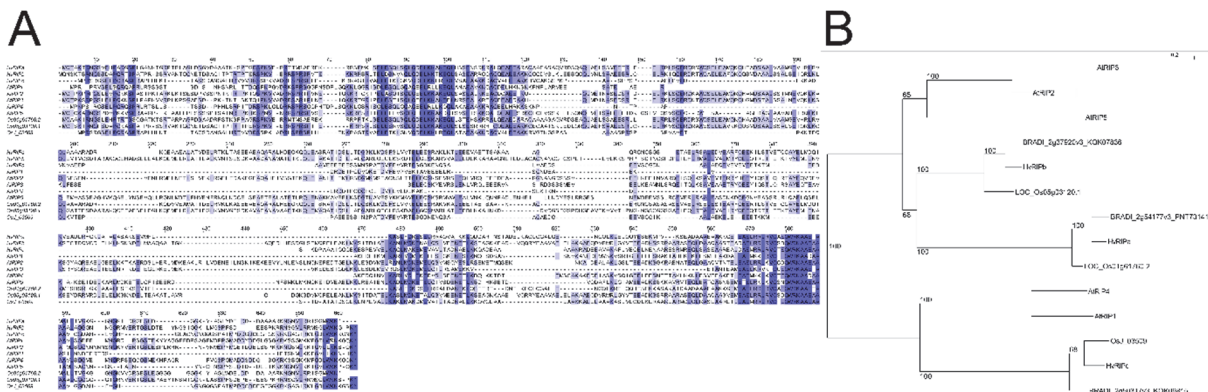
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849 **FIGURES**

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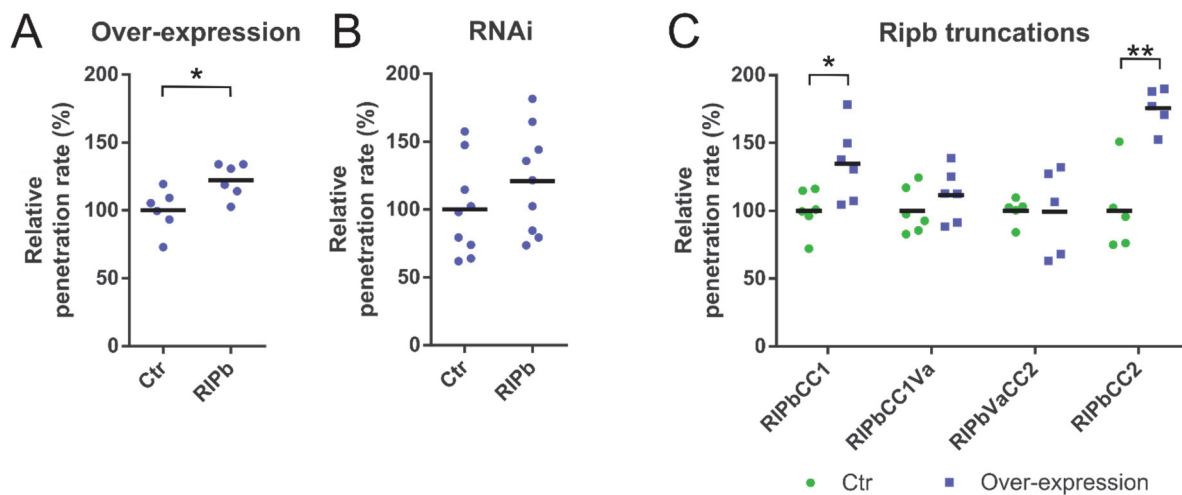


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852 **Figure 1.** Alignment of amino acid sequences of barley RIP proteins with  
 853 RIP proteins from Arabidopsis and rice. (A) Alignment was carried out with  
 854 ClustalO and displayed with jalview (jalview 2.10.5). Color intensity relates  
 855 to sequence identity. (B) A phylogenetic maximum likelihood tree was  
 856 generated, including three additional RIP proteins from *Brachypodium*  
 857 *distachyon* using the PhyML tool in the program seaview (v4.7).

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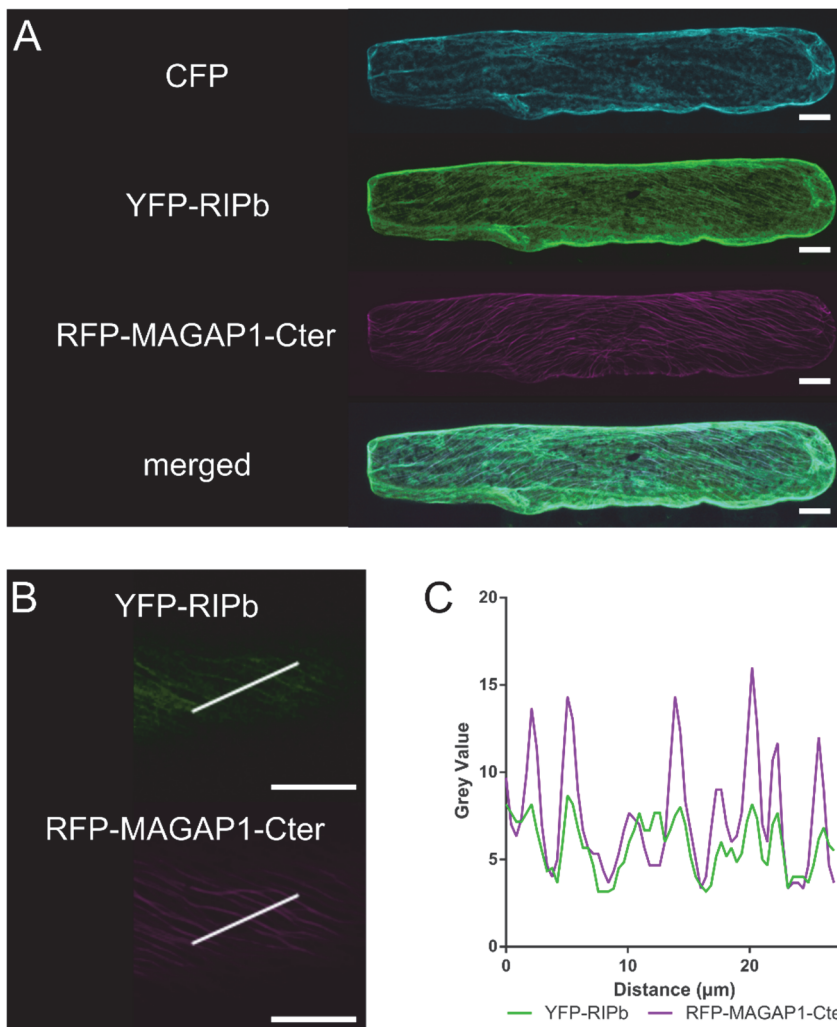
861 **Figure 2.** Effect of *RIPb* on the interaction of barley and *Bgh* was tested by  
 862 biolistic transformation of epidermal cells of 7 days old barley leaves and  
 863 determining the penetration rate of *Bgh* into the transformed cells 24 h after  
 864 inoculation. Over-expression constructs for *RIPb* (A) as well as an RNAi  
 865 silencing construct for *RIPb* (B) and over-expression constructs for *RIPb*  
 866 truncations were introduced (C). As control, the respective empty vectors  
 867 were used. Values represent the mean values of results of individual

868 experiments ( $n \geq 5$ ) relative to the mean of the respective control set as 100  
869 %. One asterisk indicates significance  $P < 0.05$ ; two asterisk indicate  
870 significance  $P < 0.01$ , Students t-test.

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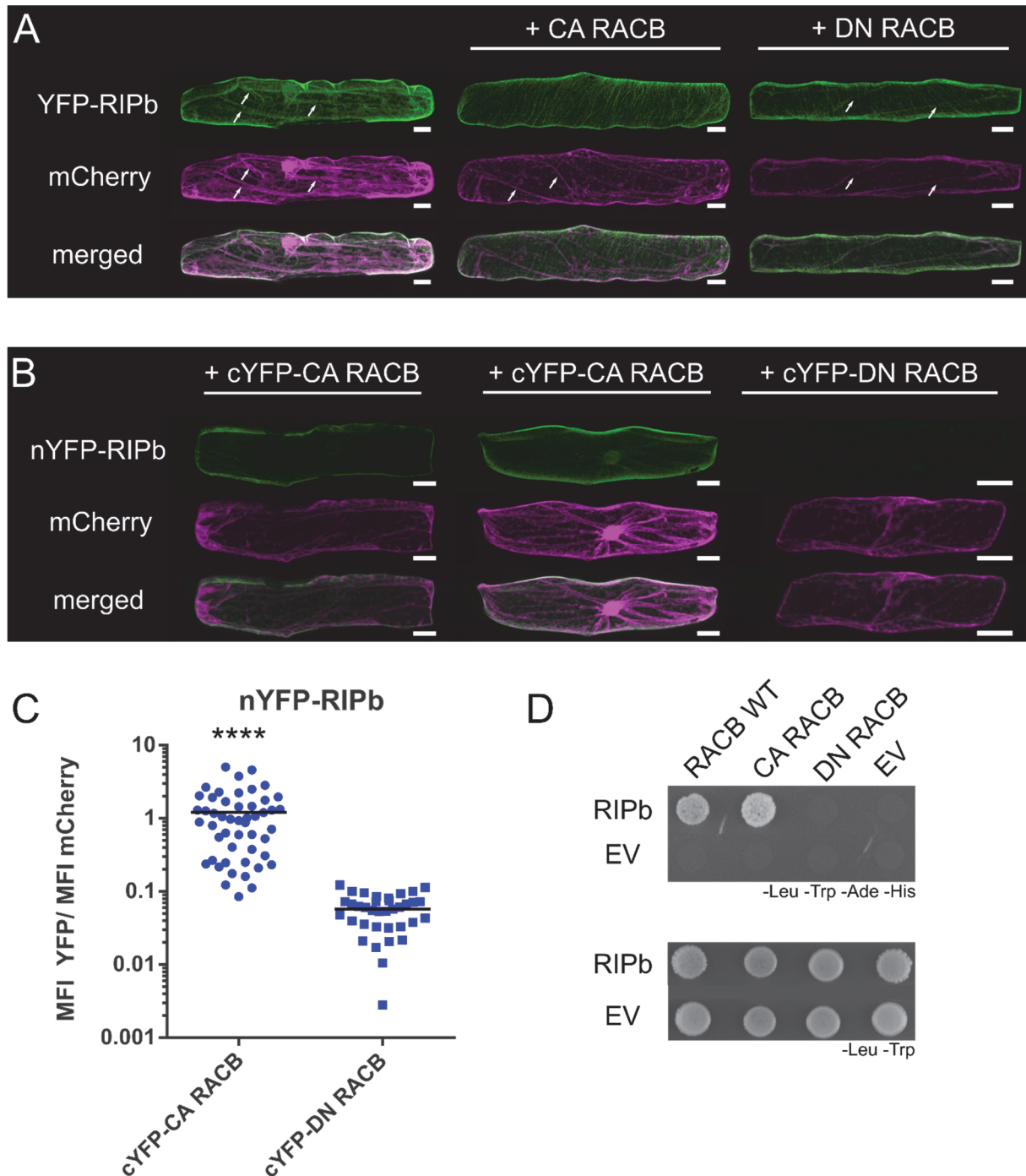
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875 **Figure 3.** Subcellular localization of RIPb and *in planta*. (A) Barley  
876 epidermal cells were transiently co-transformed with CFP as a cytosolic  
877 marker, YFP-tagged RIPb (YFP-RIPb) and RFP-MAGAP1-Cter as a  
878 microtubule marker. Image shows z-stacks of XY optical sections of upper  
879 half of the cell. Bars represent 20μm. (B) An upper periclinal section of the  
880 image in (A) was used to measure signal intensities over a linear region of  
881 interest. Brightness of the images was equally increased for displaying  
882 purposes, but (C) Signal intensities of YFP-RIPb and RFP-MAGAP1-Cter  
883 over the region of interest highlighted in (B) were measured with the original  
884 data.

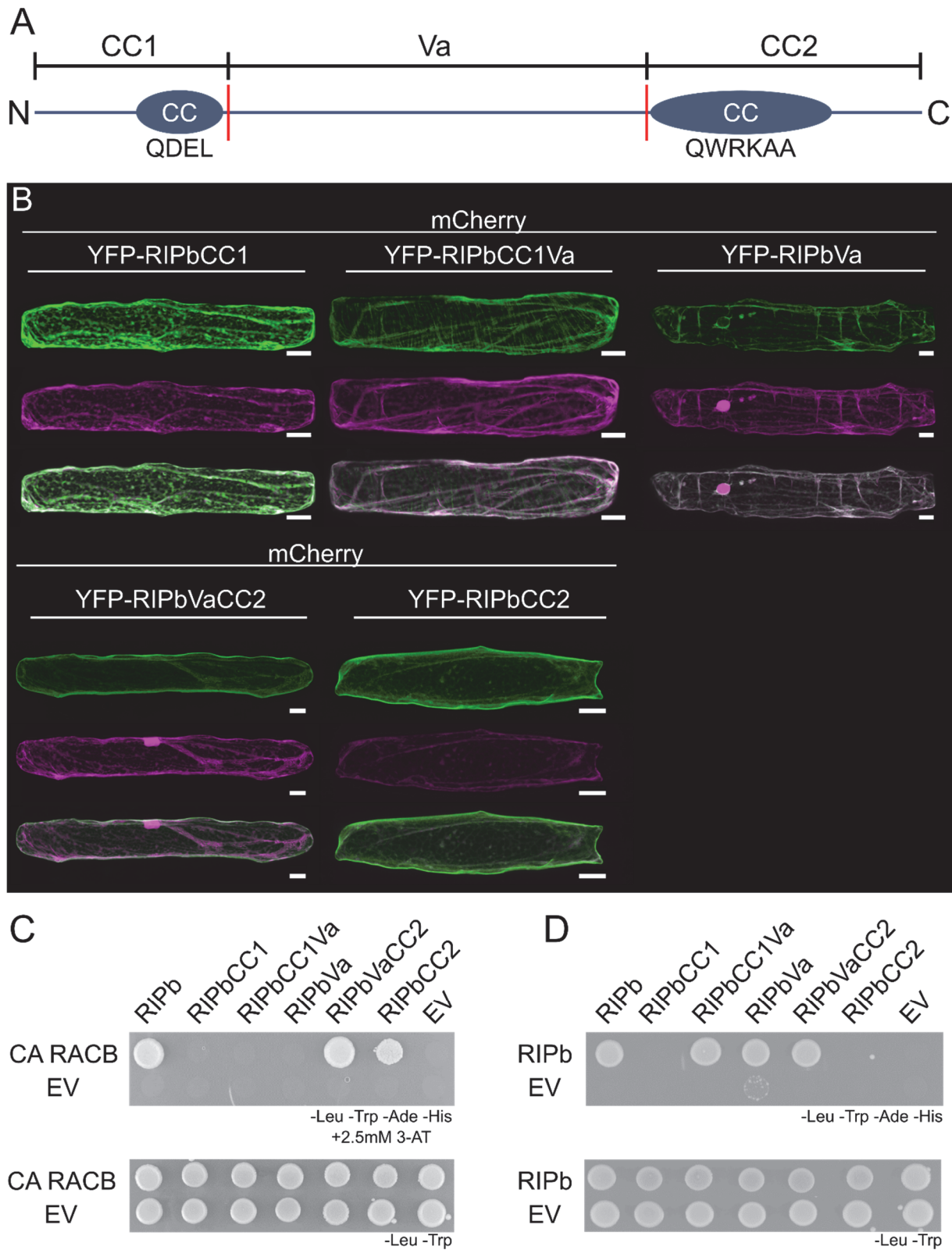
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887 **Figure 4.** RACB and RIPb interact in yeast and in planta. (A) Single  
 888 epidermal cells were transiently transformed by particle bombardment. YFP-  
 889 RIPb and cytosolic transformation marker mCherry were expressed alone or  
 890 co-expressed with constitutively activated RACB (CA RACB) or dominant  
 891 negative RACB (DN RACB), respectively. Images were taken 24 hours after  
 892 bombardment (hab) and show representative z-stacks of XY optical sections  
 893 of the upper half of the cells. White arrows show cytosolic strands. White  
 894 bars correspond to 20 $\mu$ m. (B) For BiFC experiments fusion-proteins of RIPb,  
 895 CA RACB and DN RACB with split-YFP tags were coexpressed (B) images

896 were taken 24 hab. Images show z-stacks of XY optical sections of the upper  
897 half of the cells. White bars correspond to 20 $\mu$ m. (C) For quantification of  
898 BiFC experiments images were taken with constant settings and signal  
899 intensity (Mean Fluorescence Intensity, MFI) was measured over a region  
900 of interest at the cell periphery. The ratio between YFP and mCherry signal  
901 was calculated. The figure shows one out of two replicates with similar  
902 results. For each replicate >30 cells were measured. (D) RIPb was tested in  
903 a Yeast-Two-Hybrid assay for its interaction with barley wild type RACB  
904 (RACB WT), CA RACB and DN RACB. As control the interaction with the  
905 respective empty vectors (EV) was tested. For identification of interactions  
906 SD medium lacking leucine (-Leu), tryptophan (-Trp), adenine (-Ade) and  
907 histidine (-His) was used. For identification of transformed cells SD medium  
908 lacking leucine and tryptophan was used.  
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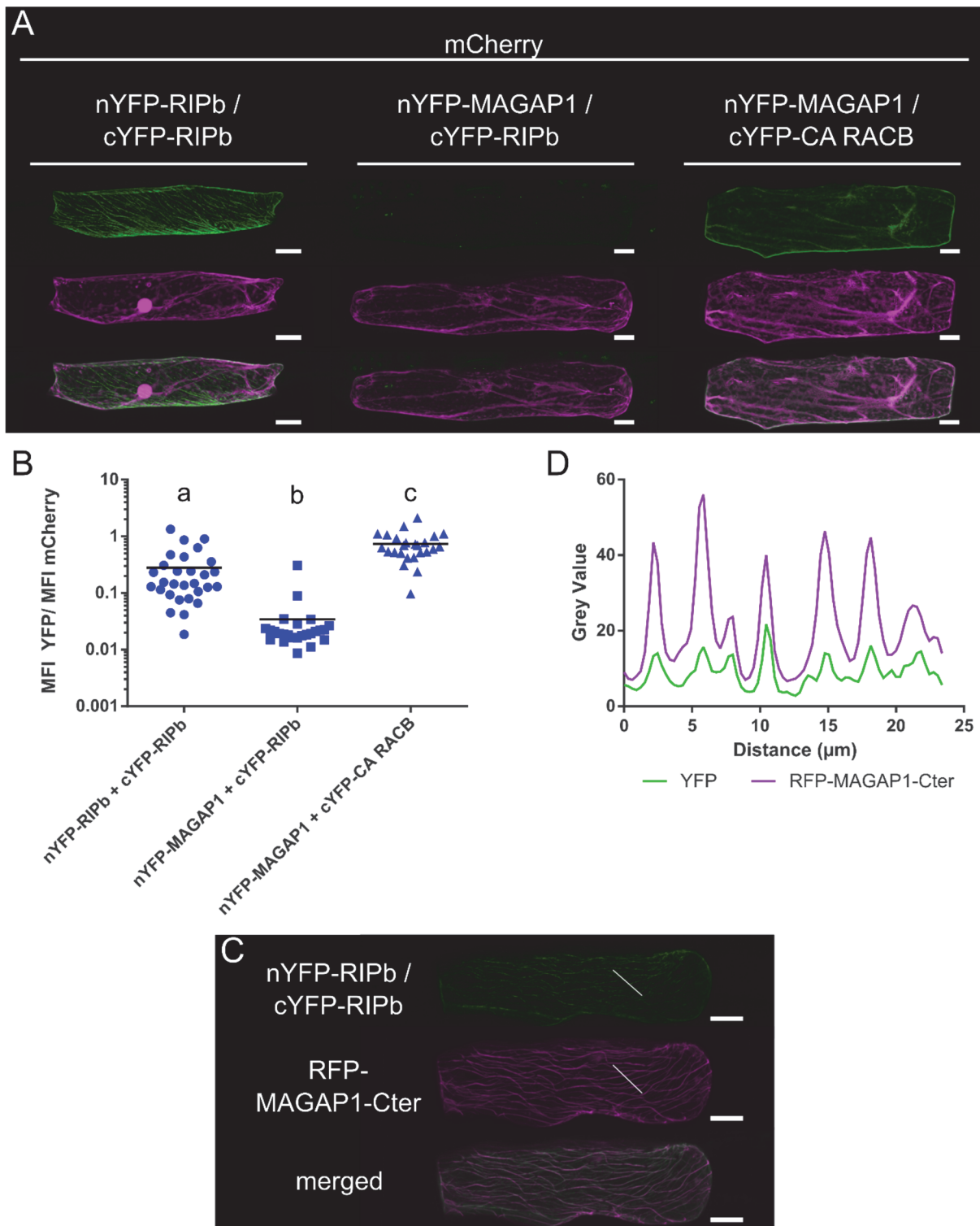


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911 **Figure 5.** Structure function relationship of RIPb. (A) Domain structure and  
 912 truncations of RIPb. The CC1-domain stretches from amino acid (aa) 1 to  
 913 132 and contains the N-terminal coiled-coil domain with the QDEL motif (CC,  
 914 circles). The variable region (Va) starts at aa 133 at ends at aa 420. The  
 915 CC2-domain stretches from aa 421 to the end at aa 612. The CC2-domain



916 also represents a coiled-coil structure and contains the QWRKAA motif. (B)  
917 Single epidermal cells were transiently transformed with different RIPb  
918 truncations tagged to YFP. Images show z-stacks of XY optical sections of  
919 upper half of cells. White bars correspond to 20 $\mu$ m. (C) RIPb truncations  
920 were tested in Yeast-Two-Hybrid assays for their interaction with  
921 constitutively activated RACB (CA RACB) or RIPb (shown in D),  
922 respectively. As controls, the interaction with the respective empty vector  
923 (EV) was tested. For identification of interactions SD medium without  
924 leucine (-Leu), tryptophan (-Trp), adenine (-Ade) and histidine (-His) was  
925 used, together with 2,5mM 3-amino triazol to reduce background growth in  
926 the combinations containing the RIPbVa truncation. For identification of  
927 transformed cells SD medium without leucine and tryptophan was used.  
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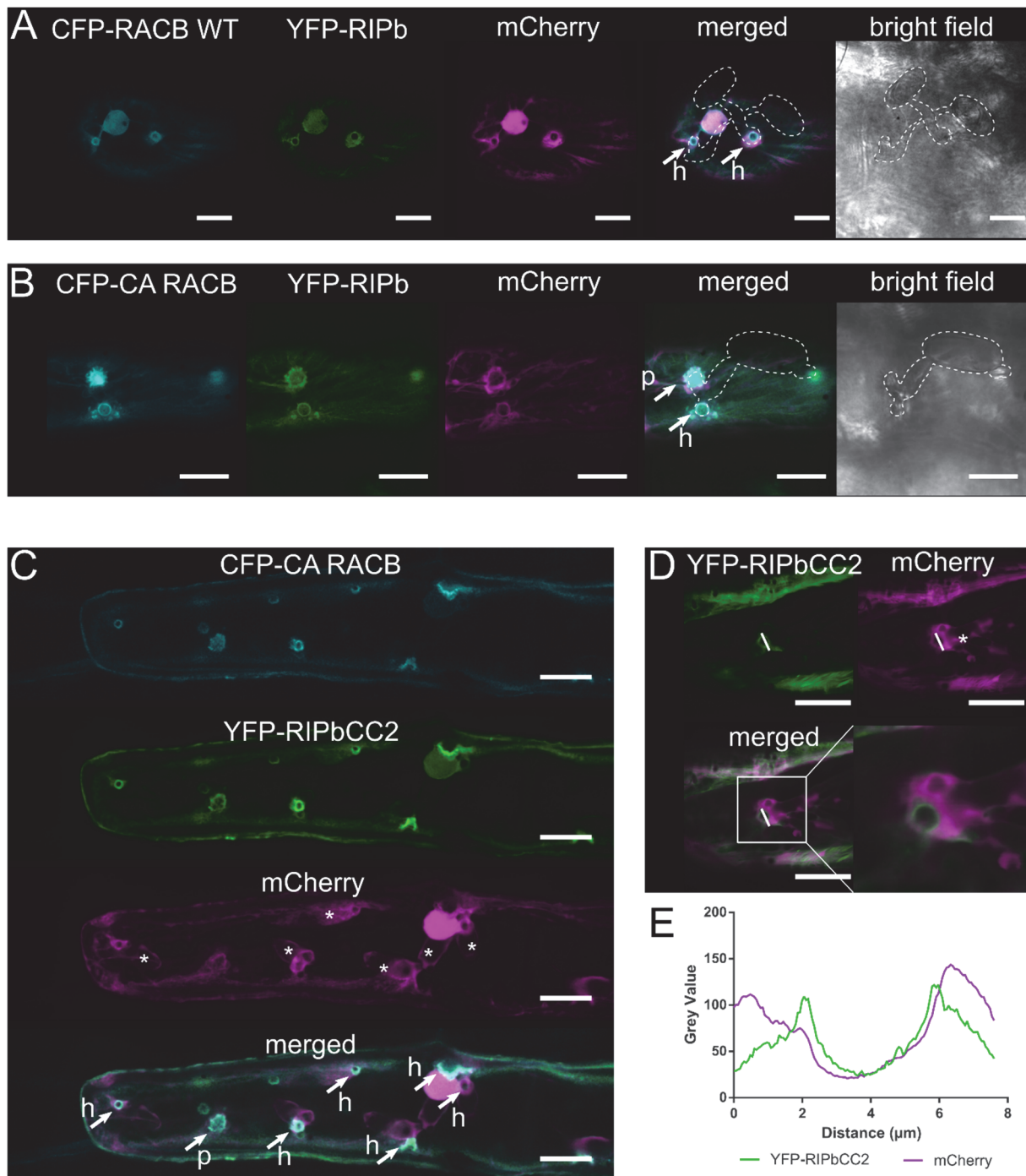
930 **Figure 6.** RIPb can interact with itself at microtubules. (A) Single epidermal  
 931 cells were transiently transformed by particle bombardment with split-YFP  
 932 constructs in the combination nYFP-RIPb and cYFP-RIPb, nYFP-MAGAP1  
 933 and cYFP-RIPb as well as nYFP-MAGAP1 and cYFP-RIPb. (C) For  
 934 quantification of BiFC experiments images were taken with constant settings  
 935 and signal intensity (Mean Fluorescence Intensity, MFI) was measured over  
 936 a region of interest at the cell periphery. The ratio between YFP and

937 mCherry signal was calculated. (D) Co-expression of nYFP-RIPb and cYFP-  
938 RIPb with RFP-MAGAP1-Cter. Image brightness was equally increased for  
939 displaying purposes, but signal intensities (D) over a region of interest  
940 (white line) were measured using original data. White bars correspond to  
941 20 $\mu$ m.

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946 **Figure 7.** RIPb and RACB co-localize at sites of fungal attack. (A)  
947 Transiently transformed epidermis cells were inoculated with *Bgh*. YFP-RIPb  
948 co-localizes with CFP-RACB WT as well CFP-CA RACB (shown in B) at the  
949 site of fungal attack at 24 hours after inoculation. mCherry was used as a  
950 cytosolic marker. Fluorescence images on the left hand side show z-stacks  
951 of the upper part the cells. Transmission channel images show a single  
952 optical section. (C) YFP-RIPbCC2 co-localizes with CFP-CA RACB 24 hours  
953 after inoculation at the site of fungal attack. mCherry was used as a cytosolic

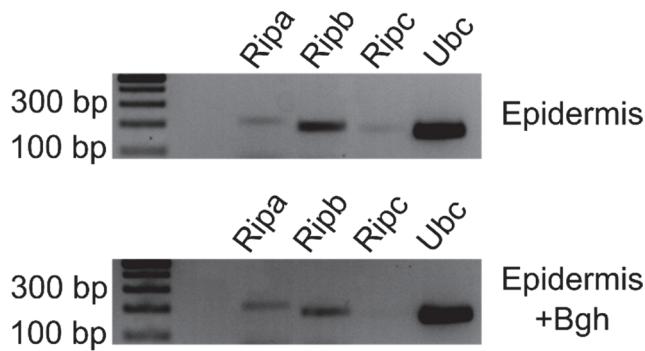
954 marker. Arrows mark sites of fungal penetration attempts that either  
955 succeeded with formation of a haustorium (h) or failed in a non-penetrated  
956 papilla (p). Asterisks indicate haustorial bodies. (D) Single epidermal cells  
957 were transiently transformed with YFP-RIPbCC2 and mCherry. Images were  
958 taken 48 hours after inoculation with *Bgh*. Signal intensities at the haustorial  
959 neck over the region of interest (white line) are shown in (E). Asterisks  
960 indicate haustorial bodies. White bars correspond to 20 $\mu$ m.

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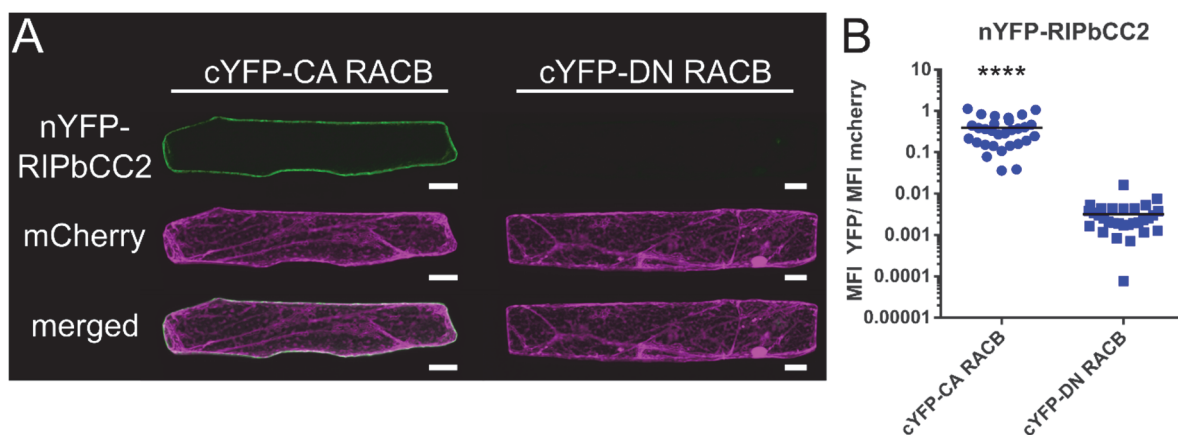
963 **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL**

964



966 **Supplemental Fig. S1.** Semiquantitative PCR shows transcription levels of  
967 *HvRIPa*, *HvRIPb* and *HvRIPc*. Samples were taken from epidermal layers of  
968 barley leaves, either inoculated with *Bgh* or not. Equal amount of cDNA was  
969 used to perform sqPCR. For each *RIP* primers were designed amplifying  
970 around 200 bp from parts of the 5' sequence of each *RIP*.

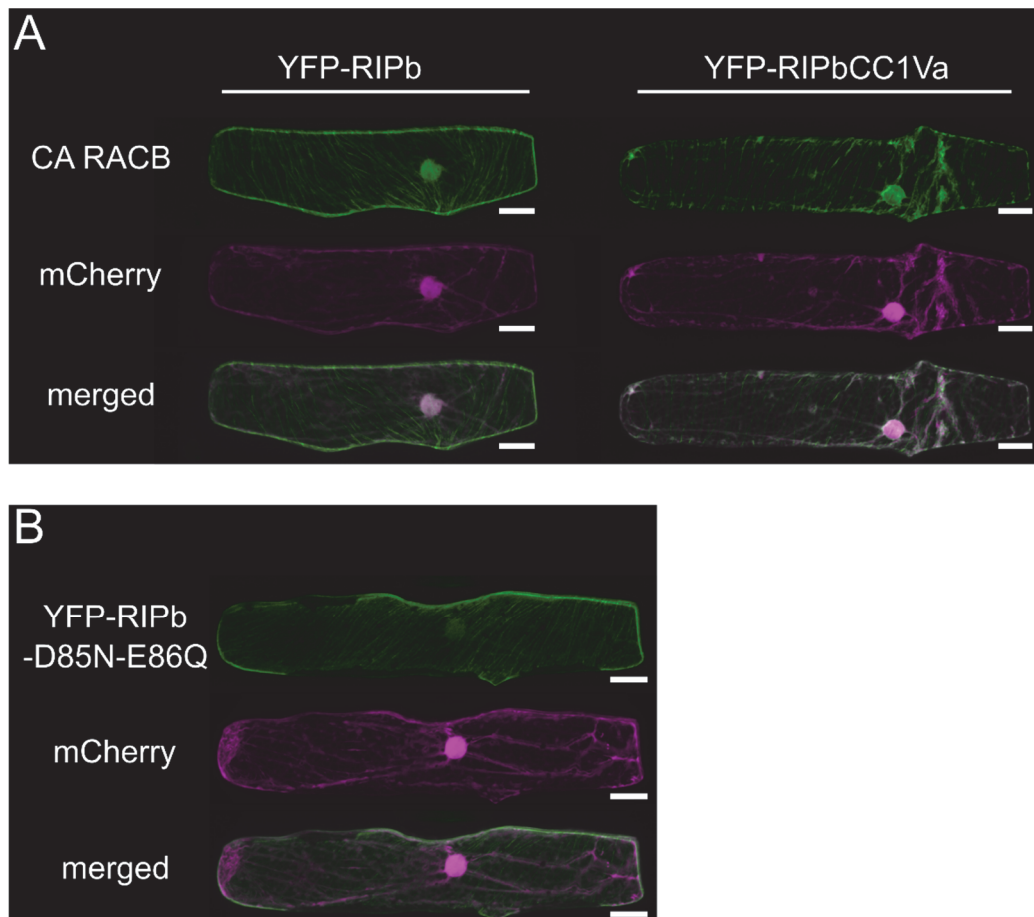
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973 **Supplemental Fig. S2.** The CC2 domain of RIPb interacts with RACB *in*  
974 *planta*. Single epidermal cells of barley leaves were transiently transformed  
975 by particle bombardment with fusion proteins expressing split-YFP  
976 constructs for BiFC. (A) nYFP-RIPbCC2 was either co-expressed with cYFP-  
977 CA RACB or cYFP-DN RACB. mCherry served as transformation control.  
978 White bars correspond to 20 $\mu$ m. (B) For quantification of YFP  
979 complementation images were taken with constant settings and signal  
980 intensity (Mean Fluorescence Intensity, MFI) was measured over a region  
981 of interest at the cell periphery. The ratio between YFP and mCherry signal  
982 was calculated (n=30).

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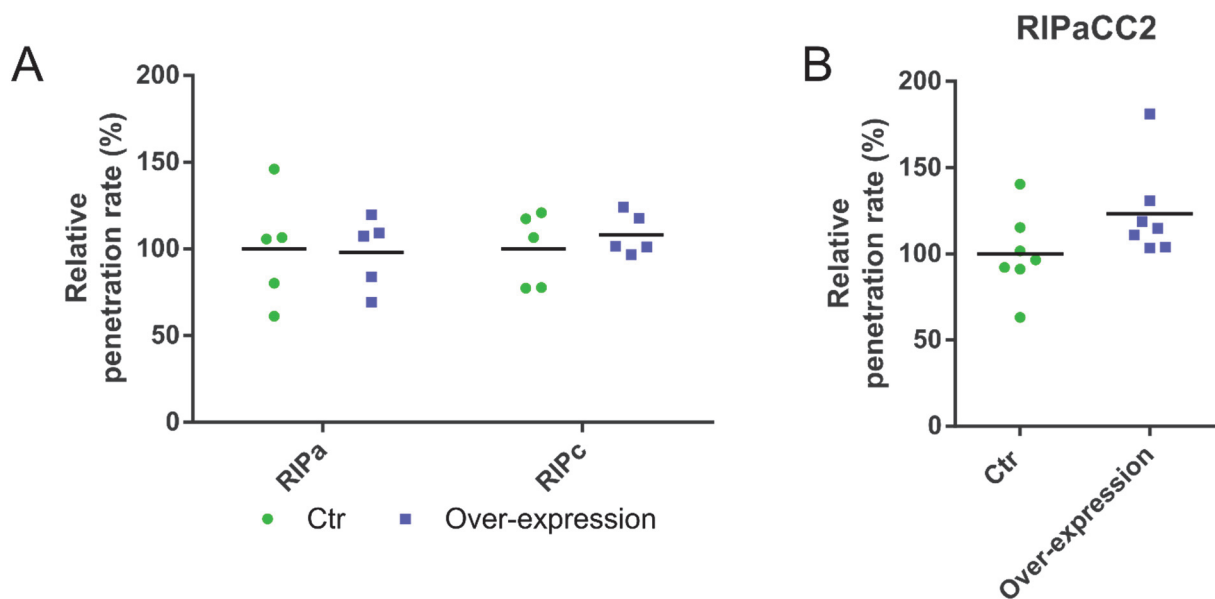


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986 **Supplemental Fig. S3.** RIPbCC1Va cannot be recruited to the cell periphery  
987 by RACB. (A) Single epidermal cells were transiently transformed by particle  
988 bombardment with CA RACB, mCherry and either YFP-RIPb or YFP-  
989 RIPbC1Va. (B) Mutation D85N and E86Q were introduced into RIPb and a  
990 YFP-fusion protein was transiently expressed in single epidermal cells.  
991 White bars correspond to 20µm.

992

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994

995 **Supplemental Fig. S4.** Effect of RIPa and RIPc on the interaction of barley  
996 and *Bgh* was tested by biolistic transformation of epidermal cells of 7 days  
997 old barley plants and determining the penetration rate of *Bgh* into the  
998 transformed cells 24 h after inoculation. Over-expression constructs for  
999 *RIPa* and *RIPc* (A) as well as an over-expression construct of *RIPaCC2* (B)  
1000 were introduced (C). As control, the respective expression empty vectors  
1001 were used. Values represent the mean values of results of individual  
1002 experiments ( $n \geq 5$ ) relative to the mean of the respective control set as 100  
1003 %.

1004



1005

1006 *Supplemental Table 1* Primer list

Name	Sequence (5'-3')	Restriction sites /attachment sites	Product
Ripb-EcoRI_fwd	<u>AGAATTC</u> ATGCAGAACTCAAAAACCAGTAG	EcoRI	RIPb RIPbCC1
Ripb-BamHI_rev	TGGATCCGGTCTCATGAGCTTCTTCAC	BamHI	RIPb RIPbCC2
Ripb-XbaI_fwd	TCTAGATATGCCGAGATCCAG	XbaI	RIPb RIPbCC1
Ripb-SalI_rev	<u>AGTCGAC</u> CGGTCTCATGAGCT	SalI	RIPb RIPbCC2
Ripb-SpeI_fwd	<u>TACTAGT</u> TTTCATGCAGAACTCAAAAACCAGTAG	SpeI	RIPb
RipbRNAi_fwd	<u>ATCTAGAC</u> CAGAGGCACGAAGGTGCCAAGCAC	XbaI	RIPb-RNAi
RipbRNAi_rev	TGTCGACCTTCAGGCATTCTTGAACCGGGC	SalI	RIPb-RNAi
RipbC1-SalI_rev	TGTCGACTCAGAGATTGACAAGCTGGCA	SalI	RIPbCC1
RipbVa-XbaI_fwd	<u>ATCTAGAT</u> ATGTCAGCAGCAGAGGAGTCC	XbaI	RIPbVa RIPbVaCC2
RipbVa-SalI_rev	<u>TGTCGACT</u> CATTTCGCTCAGCCCGTCTG	SalI	RIPbVa RIPbCC1Va
RipbC2-XbaI_fwd	<u>ATCTAGAC</u> GAAATGCAGCCGGAGC	XbaI	RIPbCC2
GW-Ripb_fwd	GCAGGCTCAGGAATGCAGAACTCAAAAACCAGTAG		RIPbCC1Va
GW1-RipbC1Va-st_rev	GAAAGCTGGGTCTCATTTCGCTCAGCCCGTCTG		RIPbCC1Va
Gate2_F	GGGACAAGTTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTCA	attB1	
Gate2_R	GGGGACCACTTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTC	attB2	
RipaXbaI_fwd	TCTAGATATGCAGACAGCCAAGACAAG	XbaI	RIPa
RipaXbaI_rev	TCTAGATCATTCTTCCACATTCCACTG	XbaI	RIPa
RipcXbaI_fwd	TCTAGATATGCAGAACTCAAAAACC	XbaI	RIPc
RipcPstI_rev	TCTGCAGTCACCTTCACTTGTTGCC	PstI	RIPc
RipbC1BamHI_rev	TGGATCCTCAGAGATTGACAAGCTGGCAC	BamHI	RIPbCC1
RipbVaEcoRI_fwd	AGAATTCTCAGCAGCAGAGGAGTCC	EcoRI	RIPbVa RIPbVaCC2
RipbVaBamHI_rev	TGGATCCTCATTTCGCTCAGCCCGTCTG	BamHI	RIPbCC1Va RIPbVa
RipbC2EcoRI_fwd	AGAATTCGAAATGCAGCCGGAGC	EcoRI	RIPbCC2
GW1-RipaCC2_fwd	GCAGGCTCAATGCAGGACGACGCGAGAACG		RIPaCC2
GW-Ripa_rev	GAAAGCTGGGTCTCATCATTCTTCCACATTCCACTG		RIPaCC2
Ripa_sqPCR4_fwd	GCCAAGACAAGGAATGGCTC		RIPa
Ripa_sqPCR5_rev	GAGAGCTTCATGGGTGACCT		RIPa

<b>Ripb_sqPCR9_fwd</b>	CCCAGTACTGAGAAGAAGCG		<i>RIPb</i>
<b>Ripb_sqPCR10_rev</b>	CAGCTTCAACGACACATCCTG		<i>RIPb</i>
<b>Ripc_sqPCR4_fwd</b>	GCTGCCAGAGAAGAGGCG		<i>RIPc</i>
<b>Ripc_sqPCR5_rev</b>	TTGGCGCCGACATGCTTC		<i>RIPc</i>
<b>HvUBC2_fwd</b>	TCTCGTCCCTGAGATTGCCACAT		<i>UBC</i>
<b>HvUBC2_rev</b>	TTTCTCGGGACAGCAACAATCTTCT		<i>UBC</i>

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