

# REGULATION OF TUBERIZATION IN POTATO

## Summary

Tuberization is a biological process essential for production of potatoes, the third most important food crop in the world. Tuberization is a complex, developmental process of potato which involves interactions between genetic, environmental and biochemical factors. Day length is critical for tuber formation. Under inductive condition of short day, a systemic signal is synthesized and transported to underground stolons to induce tuberization. There is evidence in-

dicating the existence of a common genetic regulatory pathway of flowering and tuberization, the two most important processes in potato plant. These processes are similar in the response to photoperiod and involvement of phloem-mobile signals. One of FT-like genes identified in potato plays similar role as that FT in flowering control. Understanding of tuber formation is essential to create breeding strategies to improve tuber yield and quality.