Forever young: how AHL15 delays developmental phase transitions to prevent ageing in plants

Luden, T.

Curriculum Vitae

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Thalia Luden was born on July 8th 1993 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She attended gymnasium at het Amsterdams Lyceum and graduated in 2011, after which she started studying Biomedical Sciences at the University of Amsterdam. In 2012, she transferred to the Liberal Arts and Sciences program of Amsterdam University College, where she attended courses in in a variety of subjects including mathematics, geology, economics, and literature. In 2014, she returned to the University of Amsterdam to study Biology and obtained her BSc in Biology in 2016. During her BSc program, she spent one semester abroad at the university of Auckland in New Zealand, where she studied local plant diversity and evolution and biogeography of the Pacific. She finished her BSc with an internship in plant epigenetics under supervision of Dr. Maike Stam and PhD student Blaise Weber, during which she assisted in the validation of regulatory activity of predicted enhancer sequences in maize.

After obtaining her BSc degree, she worked as a teacher for the first-year BSc laboratory courses "van Molecuul tot Cel" and "Genetica en Evolutie" at the University of Amsterdam, where she helped introduce BSc students to the scientific method and molecular biology techniques. Later, she also worked as a teaching assistant in the course "Ecogenomics" taught by prof. Harro Bouwmeester, during which 3rd-year BSc students perform a GWAS on *Arabidopsis thaliana*, which was her first introduction to this species.

In 2017, she continued studying plant biology in the MSc program Biological Sciences at the University of Amsterdam in the track Green Life Sciences, which included two research internships and a literature review. For the first internship, she joined the plant development and genetics group of prof. Ronald Koes and Dr. Francesca Quatrocchio. Under supervision of PhD student Kai Ding she studied the effect of vacuolar pH on flower color by expressing a fluorescent protein-based pH reporter in Petunia petal protoplasts. Her second research internship was at the phytopathology department of the plant breeding company Enza Zaden under supervision of Dr. Manos Domazakis. Here, she studied chemically induced priming of disease resistance in several crop species. She concluded her MSc program by writing a review about the role of transposable elements in plant evolution and diversity under supervision of Dr. Maike Stam. During her MSc program, Thalia participated in the graduate program organized by the graduate school of experimental plant sciences (EPS), which invites talented MSc students to write and submit a proposal for a PhD research project. During this program she met prof. Remko Offringa, with whom she wrote a research proposal that she submitted and successfully

defended to the Dutch Research Council (NWO) in the autumn of 2019. In 2020, she started this proposed PhD research at the Plant Developmental Genetics group under supervision of prof. Remko Offringa.