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Two for the price of one

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The nuclear-encoded RNA polymerase RpoT;2 from *Arabidopsis thaliana* differs from the polymerases that transcribe the plant's nuclear genes and resembles RNA polymerases from bacteriophages. In the 15 November EMBO Reports, Hedtke et al. describe the use of GFP (green fluorescent protein) fusion proteins to examine the subcellular localization of RpoT;2 (*EMBO Reports* 2000, **1:**435-440). The RpoT;2 transit peptide targeted GFP fusion proteins to both mitochondrial and chloroplast compartments in tobacco protoplasts and transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants. RpoT;2 may therefore be able to transcribe genes from two different genomes. This is in contrast to two other phage-type RNA polymerases from *Arabidopsis*, which are exclusively targeted to either mitochondria (RpoT;1) or chloroplasts (RpoT;3).

References

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2. GFP applications page, [http://pantheon.cis.yale.edu/~wfm5/gfp_gateway.html]