Characterisation of novel components involved in transgene silencing and a(biotic) stress defence

Work in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, a model for Brassicaceae crop species like cabbage and rapeseed, revealed important facets about the defence function of the host small RNA silencing pathways. However, less is known about the factors that are essential for pathogen silencing, but are dispensable for endogenous RNA silencing. We believe that RBP45D and other factors that we identified in a genetic screen belong to such factors, and our major goal in this project is to find out whether and how these proteins help plants to fight pathogens under diverse environmental conditions.

More information on RBP45D can be found in this publication:

<u>The RNA-binding protein RBP45D of Arabidopsis promotes transgene silencing and flowering time - Wang - - The Plant Journal - Wiley Online Library</u>