**Yi Li**

**ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**RESEARCH INTERSTS**

**Horticultural Plant Improvement using:**

**a. Traditional Mutation Breeding Techniques**: A conventional approach that involves inducing mutations for development of new plant varieties. **b. Gene-Editing Technologies:** Modern CRISPR technologies that allow for precise modifications to genomes for development of new plant varieties. **c. Transgenic Technologies:** Methods that involve introducing foreign genes into plants for development of new plant varieties.

**Plant Breeding Technology Development including:**

**a. Transgene-Free Gene Editing:** Methods that modify genomes without inserting foreign genes. **b. Genetic Transformation and Versatile Trait Genes:** New or improved genetic transformation methods and trait gene development. **c. Nanoparticle-Mediated Delivery:** Method of introducing RNA and DNA into plants using nanoparticles.

**Sample Plant Species and Traits:**

**a. Turf Grasses**:Minimal mowing requirements**;** Minimal or no need for fertilization and irrigation**;** Rapid seed germination**;** Reduced greenhouse gas emissions associated with lawn care. **b. Burning Bush (Euonymous alatus):** Development of non-invasive varieties.

**EDUCATION**

--Ph.D. (1989): Plant Physiology & Biochemistry, Department of Biology, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, State University of New York, Syracuse, NY, USA.

--B.S. (1982): Forestry, Department of Forestry, Beijing Forestry College (now Beijing Forestry University), Beijing, China.

**WORKING EXPERIENCE**

--2007 - Present: Professor, Dept. of Plant Science, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

--2006 - 2013: PI/Director, New England Center for Invasive Plants

--2001 - 2007: Associate Professor, Dept. of Plant Science, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

--1998 - 2011: Head, Transgenic Plant Facility, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

--1998 - 2001: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Plant Science, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

--1993 - 1998: Assistant Professor, Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

--1993-1993: Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

**TEACHING ACTIVITIES (Current)**

 --SPSS 3245/PLSC 5245. Plant Breeding and Biotechnology

--SPSS 3255/OLSC 5255. Classical and Modern Plant Breeding Techniques

**RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**

123) Tang, D., Y. Li, L. Zhai, W. Li, R. Kumar, H. Yer, H. Duan, B. Cheng, Z. Deng, **Y. Li** (2023): Root Predominant Overexpression of iaaM and CKX Genes Promotes Root Initiation and Biomass Production and Initiation in Citrus. Subnmitred to Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture. 55, pages103–115.

122) Li, H. H. Sun, H. Dong, S. Wang, X. Fan, **Y. Li**, L. Cheng, Z. Zhang, Y. Wang, X. Zhang, X. Xu, Z. Han, W. Li (2023): Genome editing of apple SQUAMOSA PROMOTER BINDNG PROTEIN-LIKE 6 enhances adventitious shoot regeneration, Plant Physiology, 191: 840–843. https://doi.org/10.1093/plphys/kiac570

121) Duan, Z.; He, M.; Akbar, S.; Zhao, D.; Zhang, M.; **Li, Y.;** Yao, W (2023): Confirmation of ‘Pollen- and Seed-Specific Gene Deletor’ System Efficiency for Transgene Excision from Transgenic Nicotiana tabacum under Field Conditions. Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2023, 24, 1160. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms24021160

120) Liu, D., D. Tang, M. Xie, J. Zhang, L. Zhai, J. Mao, C. Luo, A. Lipzen, Y. Zhang, E. Savage, G.Yuan, H. Guo, D. Tadesse, R. Hu, S. Jawdy, H. Cheng, L. Li, H. Yer, M. M Clark, H. Sun, J. Shi, R. Budhathoki, R. Kumar, T. Kamuda, Y. Li, C. Pennacchio, K. Barry, J. Schmutz, R. Berry, W. Muchero, J. Chen, Y. Li, G. A Tuskan, X Yang (2023): Agave REVEILLE1 regulates the onset and release of seasonal dormancy in Populus, Plant Physiology, 191: 1492–1504, https://doi.org/10.1093/plphys/kiac588

119) Kumar R., Kamuda T., Budhathoki R,Tang D, Yer H, Zhao Y and Li Y (2022): Agrobacterium- and a single Cas9-sgRNA transcript system-mediated highefficiency gene editing in perennial ryegrass. Front. Genome Ed.4:960414.doi: 10.3389/fgeed.2022.960414

118) Wang Y, Fan J, Wu X, Guan L, Li C, Gu T, Li Y, Ding J. (2022): Genome-Wide Characterization and Expression Profiling of HD-Zip Genes in ABA-Mediated Processes in Fragaria vesca. Plants. 11(23):3367. https://doi.org/10.3390/plants11233367

117) Li, Z., Y. Pi, C. Zhai, D. Xu, W. Ma, H. Chen, Y. Li & H. Wu (2022): The strigolactone receptor SlDWARF14 plays a role in photosynthetic pigment accumulation and photosynthesis in tomato. Plant Cell Rep 41, 2089–2105 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00299-022-02908-4>

116) Li, Y.; Tang, D.; Liu, Z.; Chen, J.; Cheng, B.; Kumar, R.; Yer, H.; Li, Y. (2022) An Improved Procedure for Agrobacterium-Mediated Transformation of ‘Carrizo’ Citrange. Plants. 11, 1457. https://doi.org/10.3390/plants11111457

115) Liu, D. Q. Mu, X. Li, S. Xu, Y. Li and T. Gu (2022): The callus formation capacity of strawberry leaf explants is modulated by DNA methylation, Horticulture Research. 9, uhab073, https://doi.org/10.1093/hr/uhab073

114) Gan, L.J., M. Song, X. Wang, N. Yang, H. Li, X. Liu, Y. Li (2022): Cytokinins are involved in regulation of tomato pericarp thickness and fruit size, Horticulture Research. 9, uhab041, https://doi.org/10.1093/hr/uhab041

113) Mushtaq, N.; Wang, Y.; Fan, J.; Li, Y. and Ding, J. (2022): Down-Regulation of Cytokinin Receptor Gene SlHK2 Improves Plant Tolerance to Drought, Heat, and Combined Stresses in Tomato. Plants. 11, 154. https://doi.org/10.3390/plants11020154

112) Li, Z., Y. Pi, J. Fan, X. Yang, C. Zhai, H. Chen, F. Wang, J. Ding, T. Gu, Y. Li and H. Wu (2022): High mobility group A3 enhances transcription of the DNA demethylase gene SlDML2 to promote tomato fruit ripening, Plant Physiology. 189, 315–328, https://doi.org/10.1093/plphys/kiac063

111) Mu Q., X. Li, J. Luo, Q. Pan, Y. Li, and T. Gu (2021): Characterization of expansin genes and their transcriptional regulation by histone modifications in strawberry. Planta, 254: 21

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109) Zhai, L., Wang, X., Tang, D. Qi Q., Yer, Y., Jiang, X., Han, Z., McAvoy, R., Li W., & Y. Li (2021): Molecular and physiological characterization of the effects of auxin-enriched rootstock on grafting. Hortic Res 8, 74. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41438-021-00509-y

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107) Yang, X. J. Medford, K. Markel, P.M. Shih, H.C. De Paoli, Cong T. Trinh, A.J. McCormick, R. Ployet, S.G. Hussey, A.A. Myburg, P.E. Jensen, M.M. Hassan, J. Zhang, W. Muchero, U.C. Kalluri, H. Yin, R. Zhuo, P.E. Abraham, J.G. Chen, D.J. Weston, Y. Yang, D. Liu, Y. Li, J. Labbe, B. Yang, J.H. Lee, R.W. Cottingham, S. Martin, M. Lu, T.J. Tschaplinski, G. Yuan, H. Lu, P. Ranjan, J.C. Mitchell, S.D. Wullschleger, G.A. Tuskan (2020): "Plant Biosystems Design Research Roadmap 1.0", BioDesign Research, vol. 2020 Article ID 8051764, 38 pages. https://doi.org/10.34133/2020/8051764

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105) Hu, C-H., Yang, Q-S., Shao, X-H., Dong, T., Bi, F-C., Li, C-Y., Deng, G., Li, Y., Yi, G-J., & Dou, T-X. (2020): Application of the ‘Gene-deletor’ technology in banana. Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture (PCTOC). 140. 10.1007/s11240-019-01714-3.

104) Ding, Q., Wang, F., Xue, J., Yang, X., Fan, J., Chen, H., Li, Y., & Wu, H. (2020). Identification and Expression Analysis of Hormone Biosynthetic and Metabolism Genes in the 2OGD Family for Identifying Genes That May Be Involved in Tomato Fruit Ripening. International journal of molecular sciences, 21(15), 5344. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms21155344

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98) Li N., Wu H., Ding Q., Li H., Li Z., Ding J., Li Y. (2018) The heterologous expression of Arabidopsis PAP2 induces anthocyanin accumulation and inhibits plant growth in tomato. Functional & Integrative Genomics. 18(3): 341-353. doi: 10.1007/s10142-018-0590-3.

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93) Li, W., Katin-Grazzini, L., Gu, X.\*, Wang, X., El-tanbouly, R., Yer, H., Thammina, C., Inguagiato, J., Guillard, K., McAvoy, R. J., Wegrzyn, J., Gu, T., Li, Y. (2017): Transcriptome analysis reveals differential gene expression and a possible role of gibberellins in a shade-tolerant mutant of perennial ryegrass. Frontiers in Plant Science. doi: 10.3389/fpls.2017.00868.

92) Li R., Wu H., Ding J., Fu W., Gan L. and Li Y. (2017): Mercury pollution in vegetables, grains and soils from areas surrounding coal-fired power plants. Scientific Reports. DOI: 10.1038/srep46545

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36) Khodakovskaya M, Y. Li, J. Li, R. Vankova, J. Malbeck and R. McAvoy (2005): Effects of cor15a-IPT gene expression on leaf senescence in transgenic Petunia x hybrida and Dendranthema x grandiflorum. Journal of Experimental Botany. 56: 1165-75.

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27) Li Y. , H. Duan, Y. H. Wu, R. J. McAvoy , Y. Pei, D. Zhao, J. Wurst, Q. Li and K. Luo (2003): Transgenics of Plant Hormones and Their Potential Application in Horticultural Crops. In: Genetically Modified Crops, their Development, Uses, and Risks. Ed. GH Liang and DZ Skinner. Haworth Press, New York. 101-112

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24) Li Y., Y. Wu, H. R. McAvoy, and H. Duan (2001): Transgenics in Crops, Biotechnology Annual Review 2000, Ed. by M. R. EL-Gewely, Elsevier, 435-456.

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22) Liu, Q., S. Wang, Y. Li, and X. Jiang (2000): Purification of tonoplasts from Populus euphratica and its H+-pumping activity, J. Biochem. Mol. Biol., 16: 372-376.

21) Li, Y., Y. Wu, G. Hagen, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1999): Expression of the GH3/GUS gene as a molecular marker for auxin physiology. Plant and Cell Physiology, 40:675-682.

20) Li, Y. (1998): Molecular mechanisms of auxin and cytokinin action. In Molecular Mechanisms of Plant Growth and Development. Eds Z. Xu and C. Liu. Scientific Publishing House, Beijing, pp

19) Zhang, J-S., Y. Wu, Q. Li, and Y. Li (1998): Molecular cloning and expression pattern of a cDNA from tobacco, Nfbp6, a homologue of the petunia FBP6 floral identity gene. Plant Sexual Reproduction, 11:113-117.

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16) Li, Y. (1995): Auxin-regulated gene expression and localized overproduction of phytohormones in transgenic plants. In Proceedings of International Forestry Research Organization: Biotechnology in Forestry. Eds S. Wang and X. Jiang. China Forestry Publishing House, Beijing, pp 29-40.

15) Guilfoyle, T.J., G. Hagen, Y. Li, Y., Z. Liu, Z., Ulmasov, T. and Strabala, T. (1994): Auxin-regulated gene expression. NATO ASI series. Cell Biology, 81:173-181.

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13) Li, Y., X. Shi, T. J. Strabala, G. Hagen, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1994): Transgenic tobacco plants that overproduce cytokinin show increased tolerance to exogenous auxin and auxin transport inhibitors. Plant Science, 100: 9-14.

12) Li, Y., T. J. Strabala, G. Hagen, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1994): The soybean SAUR open reading frame contains a cis-element responsible for cycloheximide-induced mRNA accumulation. Plant Molecular Biology, 24:715-723.

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10) Li, Y., G. Hagen, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1992): Altered morphology in transgenic tobacco plants that overproduce cytokinins in specific tissues and organs. Developmental Biology, 153: 386-395.

9) Guilfoyle, T.J., G. Hagen, Y. Li, M.A. Gee, G. Martin, and T. N. Ulmasov (1992): 11) Guilfoyle T.J., G. Hagen, Y. Li, T. Ulmasov, Z. Liu, T. Strabala, M.A. Gee, and G. Martin (1993): Auxin-regulation transcription. Austral J. Plant Physiology, 20: 489-506.

8) Guilfoyle, T.J., G. Hagen, Y. Li, M.A. Gee, G. Martin, and T. N. Ulmasov (1992): Transcriptional regulation of auxin-responsive genes. Current Plant Science and Biotechnology in Agriculture. Progress in Plant Growth Regulation (CM Karssen, LC Van Loon, and D Vreugdenhil, eds) Kluwer Academic Publisher, Dordrect. pp. 128-135.

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6) Li, Y., G. Hagen, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1991): An auxin-responsive promoter is differentially induced by auxin gradients during tropisms. Plant Cell, 3:1167-1175.

5) Hagen, G., G. Martin, Y. Li, and T. J. Guilfoyle (1991): Auxin-induced expression of soybean GH3 promoter in transgenic tobacco plants. Plant Molecular Biology, 17, 567-579.

4) Li Y. and D. C. Walton (1990): Effects of cycloheximide on abscisic acid biosynthesis and stomatal aperture in bean leaves. Plant Physiology, 93:128-130.

3) Li Y. and D. C. Walton (1990): Violaxanthin is an abscisic acid precursor in dark-grown bean leaves. Plant Physiology, 92: 551-559.

2) Li Y. and D. C. Walton (1987): Xanthophylls and abscisic acid biosynthesis in water-stressed bean leaves. Plant Physiology, 85:910-915.

1) Walton D. C., Y. Li, J. Neil, and R. Hogan (1985): Biosynthesis of abscisic acid: a progress report. In Current Topic in Plant Biochemistry and Physiology (D.D. Randall, D.G. Blevins and R.L. Larson eds) Columbia, MO, pp 111-117.

**BOOKS**

--Y. Li and Y. Pei (2006): Plant Biotechnology in Ornamental Horticulture. Haworth Press, New York, USA.

--M. Oliver and Y. Li (2012): Transgene Containment. Wiley-Blackwell. Boston, USA.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

 --Y. Li (MAY 22, 2018): “These CRISPR-modified crops don't count as GMOs” The Conversation.

 https://theconversation.com/these-crispr-modified-crops-dont-count-as-gmos-96002. 94 Twitters and 252 Facebooks.

**PATENTS**

--Li Y.: Transgenic seedless fruit and methods (US-6,268,552).

--McAvoy R., M. Khodakovskaya, and Y. Li: Method and composition for increasing branching and flowering response in plants through controlled, endogenous cytokinin regulation (US-7,741,548).

--Li Y. and L. Hollister: Genetically Modified Plants that are Herbivore-Resistant (US-10,316,327B2).

--Li Y.: Improved Rootstocks for Successful Grafting (US-11,008,581-B2).

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

--Recipient for “Excellence in Research Award” from the UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources, 2008.

--Fellow (elected) of American Society of Horticultural Sciences (2017).

**Research Funding**

Received $12 million from USDA, NASA, DOE, NSF, CT Innovation, Florida Citrus Research and Development Foundation, and private companies since 1994.

**KEYNOTE/PLENARY AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

1) Invited seminar: Biosynthesis of abscisic acid in water-stressed leaves, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, January 9, 1990.

2) Invited seminar: Localized overproduction of cytokinin in transgenic tobacco plants, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, February 11, 1992.

3) Invited seminar: Manipulation of phytohormone contents in transgenic plants. Department of Forestry, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, March 16, 1993.

4) Invited seminar: Manipulation of auxin and cytokinin contents in transgenic plants. Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, April 22, 1993.

5) Invited symposium lecture: Abscisic acid biosynthesis and metabolism in higher plants. In XV International Botanical Congress, Yokohama, Japan; August 30, 1994.

6) Invited plenary lecture: Auxin-regulated genes and manipulation of phytohormones in transgenic plants. In International Union of Forestry Research Organization Workshop: Advances in Biotechnology of Woody Plants, Beijing, China, September 5, 1994.

7) Invited seminar: "Expression of auxin-regulated genes and auxin mediated physiological responses", Institute of Microbiology, Chinese National Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, September 7, 1994;

8) Invited seminar: Auxin-regulated gene expression and plant gravitropism, Department of Biology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, May 20, 1994.

9) Invited seminar: Manipulation of plant hormone contents in transgenic plants and their potential application in agriculture. Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China, June 15, 1995.

10) Invited seminar: Genetic and molecular dissection of auxin signal transduction pathways in higher plants. Institute of Microbiology, Chinese National Academy, Beijing, China, June 16, 1995.

11) Invited seminar: Manipulation of auxin and cytokinin contents in transgenic plants. College of Life Science, --8) Wuhan University, China, June 26, 1995.

12) Invited symposium lecture: The effects of gravity on the expression of auxin-regulated gene in transgenic plants. 15th International Conference on Plant Growth Substances. Minneapolis, July 16, 1995.

13) Invited seminar: Molecular genetic approaches to auxin and cytokinin action, Department of Biochemistry, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, November 6, 1996

14) Invited participant and presentation: NASA’s International Workshop: "Planning Workshop for Aquatic Research in Space”, Woods Hole, MA, May 2, 1996.

15) Invited Symposium presentation: Xylem specific manipulation of auxin contents in transgenic plant. Plant Biotechnology Symposium, Washington DC, March, 1997;

16) Invited symposium lecture: Transgenic approaches to auxin and cytokinin action, Agricultural Biotechnology Symposium, Storrs, CT, June 18,1998.

17) Invited symposium lecture: Improvement of growth rate and wood productivity of aspen, Plant Biotechnology Symposium, Washington DC, March 12, 1999

18) Invited seminar: Molecular and genetic approaches to the effects of auxin and gravity on higher plants, University of Rhode Island, February 18, 1999.

19) Invited seminar: Temporal and spatial control of plant hormone concentration in transgenic plants, Department of Animal Science, University of Connecticut, April 8, 1999;

20) Invited Workshop Lecture: “Molecular action of auxin: from earth to space”. In the section of “New Frontier in Plant and Animal Genetic Research” University of Connecticut College of Agriculture Excellence Committee Workshop, May 21, 1999.

21) Invited Presentation: “Plant Biotechnology and Agriculture” 1999 Advisory Broad Meeting of The Department of Connecticut State Department of Agriculture, Hartford, CT, June 21, 1999.

22) Invited Symposium Lecture: Manipulation of Endogenous Plant Hormones and Its Applications in Agriculture and Horticulture, US-Sino Symposium on Biotechnology, Xian, China, July 13, 1999.

23) Invited Seminar: Plant Gene Transfer and Crop Improvement. Northwest University of Agriculture, Chongqing, China, July 14, 1999.

24) Invited Seminar: Manipulation of Plant Hormone Contents and Its Applications in Crop Improvement, Beijing Forestry University, September 24, 1999.

25) Invited Seminar: Effects of Gravity and Micro-Gravity on Gene Expression in Higher Plants, Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China, September 24, 1999.

26) Invited Seminar: Temporal and Spatial Control of Hormone Gene Expression and Its Applications in Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry, Guanxi University, Naning, China, September 27, 1999.

27) Invited Seminar: Plant Biotechnology and Agriculture, Guanxi Providential Academy of Agricultural Science, Naning, China, September 27, 1999.

28) Invited Seminar: Plant Gene Transfer and Crop Improvement, Institute of Botany, Chinese National Academy of Sciences, Kunming, China, September 29, 1999.

29) Invited Seminar: Regulations of Plant Hormone Contents and Its Application in Crop Improvement,” Department of Pathobiology, University of Connecticut, Oct 13, 1999.

30) Invited Plenary Symposium Lecture: Plant Biotechnology and Its Impact on 21 Century, Second International High-Tech Trade Fair, Shenzhen, China, October 14, 2000.

31) Invited Symposium Lecture: Gene-Transfer-Mediated Regulation of Plant Hormone Contents in Transgenic Plants, Nanjing Sino-America Agricultural Biotechnology Symposium 2000, Nanjing, October 11, 2000.

32) Invited Seminar: Transgenic Approach to understand plant hormone action, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, October 16, 2000.

33) Invited Symposium Lecture: Manipulation of endogenous plant hormone contents and its applications in crop improvement, American Society of Agronomy Annual Meeting’s Sorghum symposium, Minneapolis, November 9, 2000.

34) Invited Symposium Lecture: Plant biotechnology and its applications in agricultural and biomedical industries. The 3rd International conference on High Tech, Guanzhou, December 28, 2000.

35) Invited Seminar: Gene Transfer Mediated Regulation of Plant Hormone Contents in Transgenic Plants, Zhongshan University, Guanzhou, December 29, 2000.

36) Invited seminar: Gene-Transfer-Mediated Regulation of Plant Hormone Contents in Transgenic Plants, Sichuan University, Chendu, January 9, 2001.

37) Invited Seminar: Transgenic approach to auxin action: from earth to space. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, March 2, 2001.

38) Invited Seminar: Transgenic plants as bioreactors to produce pharmaceuticals. Biotech Symposium and Business, New York, NY, April 14, 2001.

39) Invited Seminar: Manipulation of endogenous plant hormone contents and its applications in crop improvement, Beijing Forestry University, July, 2001

40) Invited Workshop Lecture: Genetic manipulation of phytohormones in transgenic plants, Biotech Plant Workshop, Kunming, January 21, 2002.

41) Invited symposium Lecture: Gene transfer-mediated manipulation of plant hormones in transgenic plants, International Symposium on Advances in Tree Development & Biotechniques, Beijing, August 16, 2001.

42) Invited seminar: Transgenic Approach to understand plant hormone action, China Agricultural University, Beijing, August 18, 2001.

43) Invited seminar: Gene transfer-mediated regulation of plant hormone contents in and improvement of horticultural crops. UConn CANR Graduate Research Forum, April, 2002.

44) Invited seminar: Gene transfer techniques-mediated improvement of agricultural and horticultural crops, College of Life Sciences, Northwest Agricultural University, Yangling, P. R. China, July 22, 2002.

45) Invited seminar: Gene transfer techniques-mediated improvement of horticultural crops, Biotechnology Center, Southwest Agricultural University, Chongqing, P. R. China, July 26, 2002.

46) Invited seminar: 1) Plant biotechnology and agriculture; 2) Gene transfer techniques-mediated improvement of agricultural and horticultural crops, College of Life Sciences, Guizhou University, Guiyang, P. R. China, July 31, 2002.

47) Invited seminar: College of Science and Technology for Food and Nutrition, China Agricultural University, Beijing, P. R. China, August 7, 2002.

48) Invited seminar: Transgenic approaches to auxin action and genetic improvement of horticultural crops. Department of Plant Sciences, University of Tennessee. Knoxville, Tennessee, November 21, 2002

49) Invited seminar: Transgenic approaches to improvement of horticultural crops. Department of Horticulture, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, March 14, 2003.

50) Invited seminar: “Biotech approach to neutralize invasive plants” New England Invasive Plant Submit Meeting on Sept. 19, 2003

51) Invited seminar: Plant Biotechnology Workshop (2003), Chongqing, P. R. China Nov 3-5, 2003

52) Invited seminar: China Agriculture University, Beijing, P. R. China Nov 7, 2003

53) Invited lecture: Science Day, Connecticut Gardener and the Environment, Falls Village CT, Mar 13, 2004

54) Invited seminar: “Controlled removal of transgenes from pollen and seeds of dicot plants.” Southwest Agriculture University, Chongqing, P. R. China June 8, 2004

55) Invited workshop lecture: “Biotech approach to neutralize invasiveness of exotic ornamental plants.” 2004 Biotech Workshop, Annual Meeting of American Society of Horticulture Science, Austin, Texas, July 17-21.

56) Invited workshop lecture: “Controlled removal of GM genes from pollen and seeds.” 2004 Biotech Workshop, Annual Meeting of American Society of Horticulture Science, Austin, Texas, July 17 -21

57) Invited seminar: “Biotech approaches to control undesirable spread of GM genes and invasive plants.” USDA Appalachian Fruit Research Station in Kearneysville, West Virginia. September 21, 2004.

58) Invited seminar: “Biotech approaches to improve biomass production of poplar and to produce transgene free pollen and seed from transgenic plants: Department of Plant Science, University of Tennessee, April 21, 2006

59) Invited seminar: “Biotech approaches to improve biomass production of poplar and to produce transgene free pollen and seed from transgenic plants: The Department of Plant Science, DOE Oak Ridge national Laboratory, Knoxville, Tennessee, April 24, 2006.

60) Invited keynote symposium lecture: “GM gene deletor system for production of GM gene free pollen and seed from GM plants.” Symposium 10: Plant Biotechnology: From Bench to Commercialization. 27th International Horticultural Congress & International Horticultural Exhibition, Seoul Korea. August 13-19, 2006.

61) Invited keynote symposium lecture: “Biotech approach to neutralize invasiveness of exotic plants.” Symposium 2: Asian Plants with Unique Horticultural Potential. 27th International Horticultural Congress & International Horticultural Exhibition, Seoul Korea. August 13-19, 2006.

62) Invited symposium lecture: Genetic Improvement of Bioenergy crops. Biofuel Symposium: Storrs, CT, USA on January 8, 2007.

63) Invited symposium lecture: “GM gene deletor” to delete GM genes from pollen and seed. International Conference on “Plant Transformation Technologies” Vienna, Austria, February 4-7, 2007.

64) Invited seminar: “The gene deletor technology and genetic Improvement of Bioenergy Crops”. Monsanto Company, Mystic, CT. May 4, 2007

65) Invited seminar: “The gene deletor technology and genetic Improvement of Bioenergy Crops.” Department of Plant, Soil and Insect Sciences. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. May 8, 2007

66) Invited symposium: “Biotech approach to neutralize invasiveness of exotic ornamentals”. Symposium: Invasion Biology and Management Under Changing Climates, EcoSummit-2007, Beijing, China. May 23, 2007.

67) Invited seminar: The ‘gene-deletor’ technology and genetic improvement of poplar plants.” College of Life Sciences, Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, P. R. China. May 24, 2007.

68) Invited seminar: The ‘gene-deletor’ technology.” National Laboratory of Agricultural Biotechnology, China Agricultural University, Beijing, P. R. China. May 25, 2007.

69) Invited seminar: “The gene deletor technology.” The Ministry of Agriculture of P. R. China. May 28, 2007.

70) Invited conference: “Genetic improvement of biomass production and development of the gene deletor technology for energy crops." Annual Meeting of Northeast Section of American Society of Plant Biologists, Syracuse, NY. June 1, 2007.

71) Invited seminar: The gene deletor technology and its potential applications.” College of Life Sciences, Sanxia University, Nichang, Hubei, P. R. China. July 26, 2007.

72) Invited seminar: The ‘gene-deletor’ technology and its potential applications.” College of Life Sciences, Hubei University, Wuhan, Hubei, P. R. China. July 27, 2007.

73) Invited seminar: The gene deletor technology and its potential applications.” College of Horticultural Sciences, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, Hubei, P. R. China. July 27, 2007.

74) Invited seminar: The gene deletor technology and its potential applications.” National Academy of Agricultural Science, Beijing, China. July 31, 2007.

75) Invited symposium lecture: “Two new tools for genetic improvement of cellulosic energy crops: the gene-deletor and “growth promoting’ technologies." The Northeast Sun Grant Regional Feedstock Summit. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. November 11-13, 2007.

76) Invited seminar: “The gene deletor technology and its potential applications." Cornell University’s Geneva Experiment Station and USDA Agricultural Research Station, Geneva, NY. November 13, 2007.

77) Invited workshop lecture: "The gene deletor: a new tool to address potential invasive and gene flow problems of transgenic bioenergy crops" Plant and Animal Genome XVI Conference. San Diego, California. January 12-16, 2008.

78) Invited Mini-Symposium Presentation: “Gene deletor: a tool to eliminate all transgenes in pollen and seed when their functions are no longer needed or their presence can cause concerns. Mini-Symposium for Plant Biotechnology, Annual Meeting of American Society of Plant Biologists. Merida, Mexico. June 26-July 1, 2008.

79) Invited Workshop Lecture: "The newly developed gene deletor technology and its potential applications in transgenic agriculture.” Biotechnology Workshop of Annual Conference of American Society of Horticultural Science: Orlando, FL. July 21-24, 2008.

80) Invited Colloquium Lecture: "The gene deletor technology and mutational breeding techniques in development of non-invasive forms of exotic horticultural crops." Annual Conference of American Society of Horticultural Science. Orlando, FL. July 21-24, 2008

81) Invited Keynote Lecture: “The gene deletor technology: a new tool to address concerns over transgenic plants” at the 3rd National Conference on Biosafety: Harbin, China. December 16, 2008.

82) Invited Symposium Presentation: “Gene deletor: a tool to eliminate all transgenes in pollen and seed when their functions are no longer needed or their presence can cause concerns” at the Plant Biotechnology Minisymposium of the Joint Annual Meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists and the Sociedad Mexicana De Bioquimica Rama: Bioquimica y Biologia Molecular de Plantas: Plant Biology. Merida, Mexico. June 26-July 1, 2008.

83) Invited Workshop Lecture : “The gene deletor technology.” Invited presentation” at the Connecticut Environment Action Day Workshop. Storrs, CT. October 3, 2008.

84) Invited Colloquium Lecture: “Using the gene deletor technology and breeding techniques to reduce the invasiveness of exotic ornamental crops” at the Colloquium entitled: Impacts of Invasive Plants on the Horticulture Industry in the Biosecurity Age." The American Society of Horticultural Science Annual Conference. Orlando, FL, July 21-24, 2008.

85) Invited Workshop Lecture: “The gene deletor technology and its potential applications in horticultural and bioenergy crops” at the Workshop titled “Emerging Technologies for Biotechnology and Crop Improvement,” the 2008 American Society of Horticultural Science Annual Conference. Orlando, FL, July 21-24, 2008.

86) Invited Seminar: “The gene deletor technology.” The University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI. August 8, 2008.

87) Invited Seminar: “The gene deletor technology: a new tool to address concerns over transgenic plants.” National Key Laboratory of plant Physiology and Biochemistry, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China. December 22, 2008.

88) Invited Seminar: “The gene deletor technology and its greenhouse and filed performance.” Invited seminar presentation. Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, China. December 24, 2008.

89) Invited Seminar: “The gene deletor technology and seedless fruit technology: their potential application in fruit crops.” Fruit Research Institute, Chongqing Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Chongqing, China. December 30, 2008.

90) Invited Seminar: “Research in plant science: Some thoughts and suggestions to share with young plant biologists.” College of Life Sciences, Guizhou University, Guiyang, China. January 5, 2009.

91) Invited Seminar: “The gene deletor technology and seedless fruit technology.” Invited seminar presentation. Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China. January 6, Beijing.

92) Invited Symposium Lecture: “The Gene Deletor Technology: A New Tool to Address Food Safety and Gene Flow Concerns Over Transgenic Crops.” Invited Keynote Presentation for “Plant Transgene Genetics. “ Plant and Animal Genome XVII Conference. San Diego, Ca, USA. Juanary 10-14, 2009.

93) Invited Keynote Lecture: “Plant Biotechnology: Successes, Challenges and Promises” for “Distinguished Lecture Series on Science and Technology” sponsored by the Commission of Science and Technology of Guizhou Province, Guiyang, China. March 12, 2009.

94) Invited Panel Member for International Symposium on Market-Based Forest Maturity. Purdue University, IN, USA. April 17, 2009.

95) Invited Keynote Lecture: "The gene deletor technology and a seedless fruit technology: their applications in fruits crops” at The 2009 National Conference on Genetic Improvement of Fruit Crops. Nanjing, China, May 22-23, 2009

96) Invited Symposium: “Two new molecular tools to improvement cellulosic bioenergy crops at URI-UConn Biofuels Symposium, Storrs, CT, USA. May 29-30, 2009.

97) Invited Seminar: The gene deletor technology and its evaluation under field conditions. Institute of Crop Sciences, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, China. July 3, 2009

98) Invited Seminar: The gene deletor technology. College of Life Sciences, China Agricultural University. Beijing, China. July 8, 2009

99) Invited Seminar: The gene deletor and other biotechnologies developed in Li lab. College of Food and Nutrition Sciences, China Agricultural University. Beijing, China. July 9, 2009:

100) Invited Seminar: Technologies developed in Yi Li Lab and their potential applications in horticulture and forestry. College of Plant Biotechnology, Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China. July 10, 2009.

101) Invited Seminar: Transgenic technologies and Agriculture. China Agricultural University, Beijing, China. Dec 10, 2009.

102) Invited Seminar: Invasive ornamental plants and their strategies to control their spread, Kunming Institute of Forestry, Chinese Academy of Forestry Sciences. Kuming, China. Dec 15, 2009

103) Invited Seminar: The gene deletor and other transgenic technologies developed in Li lab. Southwest Forestry University, Kuming, China. Dec 15, 2009.

104) Invited Colloquium Lecture: Making Beautiful Plants Non-Invasive. State University of new York-New Paltz - Colloquium Series. New Paltz, NY. February 18, 2010.

105) Invited Seminar: Modern breeding technologies for horticultural and bioenergy crop improvement. Graduate School, Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University, Yangling. May 11, 2010

106) Invited Keynote lecture: The gene deletor and other technologies developed in Li Lab and their potential applications in bioenergy crops. National Doctoral. Students Forum on Bioenergy, Chengdu, China. May 15, 2010.

107) Invited seminar: Tools developed in Li Lab for fruit crop improvement. College of Horticulture, Hunan University, Changsha, Hunan, China. May 22, 2010.

108) Invited Symposium Lecture: The gene deletor technology. The First International Symposium on Molecular Strategies for Crop Improvement. Beijing. China. May 29-30, 2010.

109) Invited seminar: Gene Guided Plant Mutation Breeding and Its Applications in Fruit Crop Improvement, Chongqing Academy of Agriculture, China. July 3, 2011

110) Invited seminar: Genomics Guided Plant Mutation Breeding and Its Applications in Turfgrass Improvement, Guizhou University, China. July 6, 2011.

111) Invited seminar: Gene Guided Plant Mutation Breeding and Its Applications in Crop Improvement. College of Horticulture, Hunan University, Changsha, China. July 13, 2011.

112) Invited seminar: Gene deletor and other biotechnologies developed in Li Lab for horticultural crop improvement Tools developed in Li Lab for fruit crop improvement. College of Horticulture, Nanjing Agricultural University, China. July 15, 2011.

113) Invited Keynote: Genomics Guided Precision Mutation Breeding and Its Application in Horticultural Crop Plants. The Third National Conference of Molecular Biology and Breeding of Fruit Crops. Haikou, China. November 7, 2011.

114) Invited seminar: Genomics Guided Precision Mutation Breeding and Its Applications. Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China. November 8, 2011

115) Invited seminar: Genomics Guided Mutational Molecular Breeding and Its Application in Horticultural Crops. Central South University of Forestry & Technology, Changsha, China. November 10, 2011.

116) Invited presentation to the City Commission of Agriculture, Nanjing: Some plant biotechnologies developed in Li Lab and their potential applications in Nanjing agriculture. Nanjing, China. March 12, 2012.

117) Invited seminar: Molecular Mutational Plant Breeding. Hunan Agricultural University, China. March 12, 2012.

118) Invited seminar: Genetic Improvement of Crop Plants: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics. Fruit Laboratory, China Agricultural University, China. March 13, 2012.

119) Invited seminar: Genetic Improvement of Crop Plants: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics. The Fruit and Forestry Research Institute, Beijing Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, China. March 13, 2012.

120) Invited keynote speaker: Genomics-Guided Third Generation Plant Breeding Technologies. The 3rd International Conference on Omics and Biotechnology of Fruit crops, Nanjing, P. R. China Oct 27-29, 2012

121) Invited seminar speaker: Crop Improvement: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics? Guandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Guangzhou, P. R. China. Dec 12, 2012.

122) Invited speaker: The gene deletor technology and its potentioal applications in the third generation of plant breeding. The First EITA Conference on Agricultural Science and Technology, Biosystems Engineering: Precision Agriculture: Challenges and Future Directions. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A. June 27-28, 2013

123) Invited seminar speaker: Plant Improvement: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics? Chinese Academy of Sciences-Jiangsu Institute of Botany, Nanjing, July 8, 2013.

124) Invited seminar speaker: Plant Improvement: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics? Chinese National Academy of Forestry, Beijing, July 12, 2013.

126) Invited speaker: The gene deletor technology and its field performance. International Symposium on Molecular Biology of Fruit Trees, Wuhan, China, Oct 18-20, 2013.

126) Invited Keynote Speaker: Third generation plant breeding technologies and their potential applications in horticultural Crops. The 12th Chinese National Congress for Horticulturists. Chengdu, China, Oct 21, 2013.

127) Invited seminar speaker: Plant Improvement: Transgenics or Non-Transgenics? Zhejiang University of Agriculture and Forestry. Oct 30, 2013

128) Invited keynote speaker: Third Generation Breeding Technologies? Horticulture Institute, Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Shanghai, China. Oct 31, 2013.

129) Invited seminar speaker: Basic and safe-guarded gene deletor technology and its performance under field conditions. University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Feb 26, 2014

 130) Invited seminar speaker: Basic and safe-guarded gene deletor technology and its performance under field conditions. UF Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred, FL. Feb 26, 2014.

131) Invited lecture: Progress report on the development of plant transformation enhancing technologies and n the genome editing using anthocyanin as the target gene. Hunan Agricultural University, May 19, 2014.

132) Invited speaker: New Non-Transgenic Technologies for Horticultural Crop Improvement. National Research Forum for Doctoral Students in Horticulture, Hunan Agricultural University, Changsha, October 10, 2014.

133) Invited speaker: Horticultural Crop Improvement: Transgenic or Non-transgenic? The Fifth National Congress of the Chinese Association for Subtropical Fruit Crops. Changsha, October 10-12, 2014.

134) Invited speaker: Crop Improvement: Transgenic or Non-transgenic? The 2014 International “Horticulture Research” Conference October 14-18, 2014.

135) Invited seminar speaker: Horticultural Crop Improvement: Transgenic vs Modern Non-Transgenic Techniques. Guangxi Institute for Specialty Crop Plants, Guilin, Guangxi, P. R. China, May 13, 2015.

136) Invited seminar speaker: Horticultural Crop Improvement: Transgenic vs Modern Non-Transgenic Techniques. Institute of Vegetable Research, Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Nanjing, P. R. China, May 29, 2015.

137) Invited presentation: Genetic Improvement of Horticultural Plants: Transgenic or Non-Transgenic? In the Workshop for “Trends in Plant Biotechnology”. Annual meeting of American Society of Horticultural Science, New Orleans, LA, USA, August 4, 2015.

138) Invited seminar speaker: Floral bud-specific toxin expression leads to flowerless phenotype with no effect on vegetative growth. The 2014 International “Horticulture Research” Conference, UC-Davis, Ca, October 29-Novemeber 2, 2015.

139) Invited lecture: Plant breeding technologies and their evolution. In Food Security and Safety Workshop for scientists and governmental staff of developing countries. Nanjing. P. R. China. May 18, 2015,

140) Invited presentation: Insights from phylogenetic characterization and manipulation of genes responsible for cytokinin accumulation in higher plants. The 17th Annual Plant Biology Mini-Symposium. University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA. May 26, 2016.

141) Keynote lecture: Genome editing technologies: Progresses, challenges, and possible solutions for their application in perennial crops. The First International Apple Symposium, Yangling, China, October 13-15, 2016.

142) Invited seminar: Genetic improvement of perennial horticultural crops: Promises and challenges of classic and modern approaches. Northwest University of Agriculture and Forestry, Yangling, China, October 15, 2016.

143) Invited presentation: Agrobacterium mediated transient expression of CRISPR genes. International Citrus HLB Symposium, Florida, USA. March 14, 2017.

144) Invited speaker: Improvement of citrus transformation and application of genome editing technology in citrus. Forum on Citrus Breeding and Transformation for HLB Resistance. The US National Academy of Sciences. Irvin, California, May 22-23, 2017.

145) Invited keynote presentation: Production and highly efficient screening of non-transgenic mutant plants derived from Agrobacterium-mediated transient CRISPR expression. The Fourth International Horticulture Research Conference, East Malling, UK, July 17, 2017.

146) Invited speaker: The Resilient Agriculture in the 21st Century Convening Event. “Issues that prohibit using various breeding technologies on different types of crops”. Memphis, TN. November 27-29, 2017.

147) Invited seminar speaker: Crop plant improvement: traditional mutation breeding, transgenic or genome editing? Beijing Forestry University, China, December 20, 2017

148) Invited seminar speaker: Crop plant improvement: traditional mutation breeding, transgenic or genome editing? China Agricultural University, China, December 26, 2017

149) Invited seminar speaker: New insights into the role of gibberellins in tomato ripening. China Agricultural University, China, December 26, 2017.

150) Invited seminar speaker: Crop plant improvement: traditional mutation breeding, transgenic or genome editing? Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, January 3, 2018

151) Invited seminar speaker: Crop plant improvement: traditional mutation breeding, transgenic or genome editing? Texas AM University, USA. April 4, 2018.

152) Invited seminar speaker: New insights into the role of gibberellins in tomato ripening. Beijing Forestry University, China. April 27, 2018.

153) Keynote speaker: Genome editing technologies and horticultural crop plant improvement: progresses, challenges and possible solutions. 2018 Annual National Conference on Cucumber, Nanjing, China, October 14, 2018.

154) Invited seminar speaker: Application of genome editing technologies in perennial crop plants, progresses, challenges and possible solutions. College of Horticulture, Hunan Agricultural University, Changsha, China. October 15, 2018.

155) Invited seminar speaker: Agrobacterium-mediated transient expression of Cas9 and sgRNA and its application in editing of perennial crop plants. Institute of Pomology and Forestry, Beijing Agricultural and Forestry Sciences. Beijing, China. October 25, 2018.

156) Invited seminar speaker: Application of genome editing technologies in woody crop plants, progresses, challenges and possible solutions. College of Horticulture, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China. October 26, 2018.

157) Invited seminar speaker: Agrobacterium-mediated transient expression of Cas9 and sgRNA and its application in editing of perennial crop plants. University of Florida, Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, USA. November 12, 2018.

158) Invited seminar speaker: Genome editing technologies and horticultural plant Improvement: progresses, challenges and possible solutions. University of Florida, Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, USA. November 13, 2018.

159) Invited seminar speaker: Application of genome editing technologies in perennial crop plants: Progresses, challenges and possible solutions, Guizhou Agrobiotechnology Key Laboratory, Guizhou University, Guiyang, China. December 25, 2018.

160) Invited seminar speaker: Application of genome editing technologies in woody plants: Progresses, challenges and possible solutions, Southwest Forestry University, Kunming, China. December 28, 2018.

161) Invited seminar speaker: Application of Genome Editing Technologies in Horticultural Crops: Progresses, Challenges and Possible Solutions, Hunan Agricultural University, Changsha, Hunan, China. January 2, 2019.

162) Invited speaker: Auxin Content and Reduced Cytokinin Level in Rootstock Improve Grafting Success. The Graft Genetics and Genomics Workshop. Plant and Animal Genome Confeence XXVII Interntional), San Diego, Ca. January 11-15, 2019

163) Invited speaker: Production of Transgene-Free Mutant Plants Using Agrobacterium-Mediated Transient Gene Expression System. Plant Transgene Genetics Workshop. Plant and Animal Genome Conference XXVII (International), San Diego, Ca. January 11-15, 2019

164) Invited speaker and panel member: GMO Plant Technology. GMO 2.0: Science, Society and the Future. UConn, Storrs, CT April 24, 2019.

165) Invited seminar speaker: Epigenetics and Plant Breeding. Guizhou Agro-Biotechnology Key Lab, Guizhou University, Guiyang, China. July 14, 2019.

166) Invited Keynote speaker: Opportunities and challenges to use genome-editing technologies in ornamental horticultural plants. Chinese National Symposium of Ornamental Horticultural Plants-2019. Beijing, China. August 6-9, 2019.

(167) Y. Li: Method of producing novel rootstock plants having improved grafting traits. Pat. No. US 11,008,581, issued on May 18, 2021.

168) Li, Y. (Invited plenary presentation). Agrobacterium-mediated transient Cas9 and gRNA expression and gene expression to produce non-transgenic gene-edited plants. The 6th International Horticulture Research Conference. Venice, Italy. Sept 30-Oct05, 2019.

169) Li, Y. (Invited presentation). Using Agrobacterium-mediated transient gene expression to produce non-transgenic gene-edited plants. The 7th Plant Genomics & Gene Editing Congress. Raleigh, NC. Nov 3, 2019.

170) Li, Y. (Invited lecture). Epigenetic influences and potential applications in plant breeding. Hunan Ag. Univ., Changsha, China. Nov 27, 2019.

171) Li, Y. (Invited seminar). A critically dissection of a horticulture-related scientific manuscript. China Agricultural University, Beijing, China. Dec 1, 2019.

172) Li Y. (Invited seminar). In planta Transformation and Transgene-free Gene Editing. Inari Company, Boston. February 3, 2020.

173) Li, Y. (Invited). Preliminary dissection of auxin action in promoting grafting (July 9). The 7th International Horticulture Research Conference. July 1-30, 2020. An online conference with about 9,000 registered.

174) Li, Y. (Invited). Molecular dissection of auxin action in promoting grafting. The International symposium for Horticultural Plant Biology and biotechnology (online). November 17-18, 2021.

175) Li, Y. (Invited). Single Cas9-Sgrna Transcript-Mediated High-Efficiency Gene Editing and Production of “No Mowing” Turf Grasses. For the Workshop of Enabling Tool Development for Horticultural Crop Improvement Chicago. July 30-Agust 3, 2022.

176) Li, Y. (Invited). Development of climate smart and care-free lawn grasses to tackle climate change. 2022 Horticultural Biology Conference (online). Hosted by Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University, Xian, China. December 6, 2022.

177): Li, Y. (Invited). Development and evaluation of sterile, noninvasive burning bush. Annual Plant Production Conference of the IPPS Eastern Region. Hamilton, Canada. September 26-29, 2023.

**Associate or reviewing/guest editor for scientific journals**

--Associate Editor for “Plant, Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture” (2008-present).

--Associate Editor for “Horticulture Research” (2013 to present).

--Associated Editor for “International Journal of Molecular Sciences” (2020-Pressnt).

--Reviewing Editor for “Frontier in Plant Science” (2014-2020).

--Associate Editor for “Journal of Agricultural Biotechnology” (2008-2018).

--Associate Editor for “Propagation of Ornamental Plants” (2014)

--Member of Editorial Broad of Forest Studies in China (2004-2006).

--Guest editor for “Journal of Crop Improvement” (2005/2006).

--Associate editor for “Acta Horticulturae: Plant Biotechnology” 2006/2007.

**Manuscript Reviewer**

--More than 45 different journals since 2001 including Nature and Nature Biotechnology

**External Assessor for Tenure and Promotion**

--15 institutions including Cornell University, Texas AM University and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

**Grant Panelist for National and International Granting Agencies**

-- USDA, DOE, Sungrant, NIH, NASA, Chinese NSF….

**Ad Hoc Reviewer for funding agencies**

--NIH, NSF, USDA, DOE, NASA, Hong Kong Research Foundation; Hong Kong University Grants Committee, High Tech Program, Ministry of Science and Technology of P. R. China, Rothamsted Research Foundation, UK, Israeli Ministry of Agriculture ….

**Organizer and Co-Organizer of Scientific Conferences and Research Collaborations**

--Founder of the New England Invasive Plant Center (2005).

--Chair for Biotech Working Group, American Society of Horticulture Science (2005 and 2007).

--Chair for the Mini-Symposium “Plant Biotechnology” at the Joint Annual Meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists and the Sociedad Mexicana De Bioquimica Rama: Bioquimica y Biologia Molecular de Plantas: Plant Biology. Merida, Mexico. June 26-July 1, 2008.

--Co-organized UConn Bioenergy Symposium, UConn, Storrs. CT. March 29, 2008

--Conference Chair and Co-Organizer of the International Symposium: “Invasive Plants in the Northeast of Asia and America: Trading Problems, Trading Solutions.” Storrs, CT, USA. August 10-12, 2009

--Co-Organizer/Co-Chair of the First International Symposium on Molecular Strategies for Crop Improvement. Beijing, China. July, 2009.

--Co-Organizer of URI-UConn Joint Bioenergy Symposium, URI, Kingston. RI. May 29, 2009

--Chair of Bioenergy Working Group of American Society of Horticultural Sciences. 2010/2011

--Co-Organizer of International Symposium: “Invasive Plants of the Northeast of Asia and America: Trading Problems, Trading Solutions,” August 10-12, 2009, Storrs, CT,

--Co-Organizer of the First International Symposium in Molecular Strategies to Crop Improvement, Beijing, China, May 29-30, 2010

--Member of International Award Committee of American Society of Horticulture Sciences.

--Co-organizer and Chair of the scientific committee for the First International Horticulture Research Conferences, Nanjing, China, October 14-18, 2014

--Co-organizer and Chair of the scientific committee for the Second International Horticulture Research Conferences, UC-Davis, USA, October 30-November 2, 2015

--Co-Chair of the scientific committee for the Third International Horticulture Research Conferences, Nanjing, October 16-20, 2016.

--Co-chair of International Scientific Committee for the F International Horticulture Research Conferences, East Malling, UK, July 16 - 20, 2017

--Chair of the Scientific Committee for the 9th International Rosaceae Genomics Conference, Nanjing, China, June 26-30, 2018

--Co-chair for the Scientific Committee for the 5th international Horticulture Research Conference. July 20-25, 2018. Beijing China.

--Member, Outstanding Research Award Committee of American Society of Horticulture Science (2015-2017).

--Chair, Outstanding Research Award Committee of American Society of Horticulture Science (2017-2018).

--Member of Fellow Selection Committee American Society of Horticulture Sciences’ (2020-2022).