Biotecnología Aplicada

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CORRIGENDUM

Partial Retraction of: Phenotypic and genetic stability of tobacco plants derived from cryopreserved seeds [Biotecnol Apl. 2021;38(2):2211-5]

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Corrigendum

Partial Retraction of: Phenotypic and genetic stability of tobacco plants derived from cryopreserved seeds. Biotecnología Aplicada. 2021;38(2):2211-2215, by Juan Luis Pérez-Rodríguez, Gustavo Y Lorente, Marcos E Martínez-Montero, Justo L González, Daymara Rodríguez-Alfonso.

The retraction has been agreed between the Editorial Board of Biotecnología Aplicada and the Corresponding author on behalf of all the authors.

Editorial statement

The journal Editorial Board contacted the corresponding author in November 2022 about potential image modifications in the Figure of the manuscript, based on allegations raised by a third party. Upon technical analysis of published images, these concerns were put to the corresponding author, who confirmed that, unfortunately, there were inconsistencies in several images elements and the images provided were mistakenly not the original images.

The corresponding author resupplied images but just for some of the analyzed samples. In the absence of complete source data, the authors are retracting all the information on RAPD experiments, including the figure, the RAPD analysis section in Materials and methods, the Results paragraph "RAPD profiles were determined for seedlings regenerated from cryopreserved seeds…preserved at 5 °C", the paragraph relying on these data in the Discussion section "However, the absence of polymorphic bands…and not cryopreservation *per se* [22]", and the respective statements in the Abstract "The genetic stability of the seedlings was evaluated by means of RAPD markers. No polymorphism was detected between the DNA from the plants derived from each treatment."

The Editorial Board of Biotecnología Aplicada apologizes to readers that this was not detected during the submission process. Furthermore, the Editorial Board is grateful to the third party who alerted on this matter, and, upon his suggestions, the standard editorial process has been already improved, by including standard image forensics analysis for all the manuscripts' images during peer review. It was also strenghthened the recommendations to authors on submitting only original and digitally unmodified experimental images as reseach evidence.

Author statement

Upon request from the Editorial Board of Biotecnología Aplicada, the authors could not provide all the original images as to replace the published images. The original source data are no longer available since images were taken on 2016. The authors declare that the main conclusions of the paper are not affected by the retraction of the figure and RAPD analysis data, since they are supported by the morphological analyses presented. RAPD analysis could further complement morphological observations but only partially. It covers relevant and specific genomic stretches but not all the plant genome regions responsible for the morphologic phenotypic descriptors analyzed. Nevertheless, the authors deeply regret the mistake and apologize for these errors, and agree with this corrigendum.