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The paper was selected for the cover of Plant Cell & Environment issued in July, 2012.

The mangrove that grows in intertidal zone has high resistance to various kinds of external stresses such as a salt, stormy wind and strong sunlight. In this paper, we have demonstrated the mechanism of *Sonneratia alba*, a kind of the mangrove, to strengthen up their cuticular membranes to protect the plant bodies at their epidermis. In fact, rapid accumulation of wax and cutin in the cuticular membranes after bud burst followed by the mechanical supports of cutan and polysaccharide in an isolateral manner contributed to the remarkable environmental tolerance of *S. alba*. The paper has been published in Plant Cell & Environment 2012, Vol.35 (July), and also selected for the cover.

【Published Paper】

Yuki Takahashi, Shuntaro Tsubaki, Masahiro Sakamoto, Shin Watanabe and Jun-ichi Azuma. 2012. Growth-dependent chemical and mechanical properties of cuticular membranes from leaves of *Sonneratia alba*. Plant Cell & Environment, 35: 1201-1210.

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