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ROLE OF GIBBERELLIN AND *PICKLE* IN DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENTAL IDENTITY

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The ability of gibberellin (GA) to promote developmental transitions such as germination or flowering is well known. Similarly, it is also well appreciated that acquisition of a new developmental state is accompanied by expression of a new suite of genes that typify that state. Much remains to be learned regarding the regulatory mechanisms by which this change in gene expression is achieved, particularly with respect to repression. We study an ATP-dependent chromatin remodeling factor, *PICKLE* (*PKL*) that acts during germination to repress genes that promote embryonic identity and thus facilitate the developmental transition from seed to seedling. In addition, *PKL* appears to mediate a branch of the GA response pathway. Our studies suggest that GA promotes developmental transitions in part by acting through a *PKL*-dependent and a *PKL*-independent pathway to repress gene expression.