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### **Investigation of mRNA expression of photosystem II D1 protein (*psbA*) and usnic acid production in manganese tolerance in lichen *Xanthoria parietina***

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In this study, the effects of short-term manganese tolerance on the lichen *Xanthoria parietina* were investigated at the physiological and transcriptional levels. Usnic acid production was increased with manganese application depending on concentration and application period. The expression of the photosystem II D1 protein (*psbA*) gene and non-reducing polyketide synthases (*PKS*) gene was quantified using semi-quantitative RT-PCR. Increased non-reducing *PKS* and *psbA* mRNA transcript levels were observed in the *X. parietina* thalli that were treated with different concentrations of manganese. The results showed that there was positive correlation between usnic acid production and non-reducing *PKS* transcript levels. In the present study, the data also demonstrated that non-reducing *PKS* and *psbA* mRNA transcript levels could be play important roles in manganese tolerance.

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