

1 "UV-SI" UV-B component of sunlight stimulates photosynthesis and flavonoid
2 accumulation in variegated *Plectranthus coleoides* leaves depending on background
3 light

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13 **Running title:** UV-B radiation response in variegated *P. coleoides*

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This article has been accepted for publication and undergone full peer review but has not been through the copyediting, typesetting, pagination and proofreading process, which may lead to differences between this version and the Version of Record. Please cite this article as doi: 10.1111/pce.12471

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17 **Abstract**

18 We used variegated *Plectranthus coleoides* as a model plant with the aim of clarifying
19 whether the effects of realistic UV-B doses on phenolic metabolism in leaves are mediated by
20 photosynthesis. Plants were exposed to UV-B radiation (0.90 W m^{-2}) combined with two
21 PAR intensities (395 and $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$, LL and HL) for nine days in sun simulators. Our
22 study indicates that UV-B component of sunlight stimulates CO_2 assimilation and stomatal
23 conductance, depending on background light. UV-B-specific induction of apigenin and
24 cyanidin glycosides was observed in both green and white tissues. However, all the other
25 phenolic subclasses were up to four times more abundant in green leaf tissue. Caffeic and
26 rosmarinic acids, catechin and epicatechin, which are endogenous peroxidase substrates, were
27 depleted at HL in green tissue. This was correlated with increased peroxidase and ascorbate
28 peroxidase activities and increased ascorbate content. The UV-B supplement to HL
29 attenuated antioxidative metabolism and partly recovered the phenolic pool indicating
30 stimulation of the phenylpropanoid pathway. In summary, we propose that *ortho*-dihydroxy
31 phenolics are involved in antioxidative defence in chlorophyllous tissue upon light excess,
32 while apigenin and cyanidin in white tissue have preferentially UV-screening function.

33
34 **Keywords**

35 Ascorbate, chloroplast ultrastructure, cyanidin, flavonoids, high light, photosynthesis, UV-B
36 radiation, variegated plants.

37

38 Introduction

39 Plants are inevitably exposed to fluctuating light intensities of photosynthetically active
40 radiation (PAR, 400 - 700 nm) and ultraviolet radiation (UV, 280 - 400 nm) in their natural
41 environment. In addition to light quantity, plants monitor the quality, periodicity and
42 direction of light and use the information as an environmental signal to regulate growth and
43 development (reviewed in Caldwell *et al.* 2007; Jiao, Lau & Deng 2007). Persistently high
44 PAR, however, can overcome the capacity of the photosynthetic assimilation and energy
45 dissipation processes and provoke generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) (Asada 2006;
46 Foyer & Shigeoka 2011; Fischer, Hideg & Krieger-Liszky 2013). In addition, high fluence
47 rates of UV-B radiation (280-315 nm) are also detrimental for plants, inducing DNA damage,
48 oxidative stress and photosynthetic inhibition (Hideg & Vass 1996; Jansen, Gaba &
49 Greenberg 1998; Brosché & Strid 2003). Although numerous studies have shown that
50 photosynthesis is susceptible to UV-B radiation (Teramura & Sullivan 1994; Jansen *et al.*,
51 2010; Lidon *et al.* 2012), plants rarely show signs of damage even though they are
52 continuously exposed to natural UV-B radiation (Hideg, Jansen & Strid 2013). Reports of the
53 effects of UV-B radiation on photosynthetic gas exchange parameters are inconsistent, which
54 may be explained by various experimental conditions, different UV-B/PAR ratios, time of
55 exposure, and species/cultivar-specific sensitivity to UV-B radiation and previous
56 acclimation periods (reviewed in Kakani *et al.* 2003; Lidon *et al.* 2012; Hideg, Jansen & Strid
57 2013). Moreover, the results related to stomatal response to UV-B radiation are still
58 controversial, e.g., depending on the metabolic state of the plant or acclimation (Jansen & van
59 den Noort 2000; Kakani *et al.* 2003; Lidon *et al.* 2012). Only recent studies exploiting
60 realistic light conditions noted that low, ecologically relevant UV-B doses provide a
61 regulatory signal via rapid activation of UVR8, a specific UV-B receptor (Jenkins 2009;
62 Heijde & Ulm 2012). Accordingly, it was reported that relevant ambient UV-B doses (under

63 field conditions) have minimal effects on photosynthesis and plant biomass (Ballaré *et al.*
64 2011; Hideg, Jansen & Strid 2013).

65 The main components of the acclimation response to natural UV-B doses are UV-B
66 absorbing flavonoids and other phenolics. It has been shown that the induction of flavonoid
67 biosynthesis is regulated through UVR8 activation of chalcone synthase (Jenkins 2009;
68 Heijde & Ulm 2012). Depending on their location in the leaf and their structure, they can act
69 as UV-B screeners (epidermis) and antioxidants (e.g., mesophyll) (Rice-Evans, Miller &
70 Papanga 1996; Neill *et al.* 2002; Agati *et al.* 2009; Agati & Tattini 2010). Moreover,
71 hydroxycinnamic acids, such as caffeic, *p*-coumaric and their derivatives (e.g., rosmarinic
72 and chlorogenic acids), and flavonoids (catechin, quercetin) are endogenous substrates for
73 class III peroxidases (PODs) (Chan, Galati & O'Brien 1999; Takahama 2004).

74 The ascorbate/phenolics/peroxidase system has an important H₂O₂ scavenging
75 function in the vacuoles and apoplast (Takahama & Oniki 1997). In addition, ascorbate (Asc)
76 can scavenge H₂O₂ in reactions catalysed by ascorbate peroxidase (APX) (Asada 2006). It
77 has been shown that UV-B radiation provokes the up-regulation of antioxidative metabolism
78 (Brosché *et al.*, 2002; Brown *et al.*, 2005; Xu, Natarajan & Sullivan, 2008; Jansen, Hideg &
79 Lidon 2012; Hideg, Jansen & Strid 2013). Furthermore, high light intensity enhances the
80 levels of antioxidants, particularly Asc and APX (Fryer *et al.* 2003; Bartoli *et al.* 2006,
81 Szechyńska-Hebda & Karpiński 2013).

82 Considering that under field conditions both high PAR and UV-B radiation affect
83 plants, the aim of our study was to distinguish between the UV-B- and PAR-specific
84 responses of photosynthesis, phenolics and antioxidants. We exploited green-white
85 variegated *Plectranthus coleoides* (Swedish ivy) leaves as a suitable plant system to clarify
86 whether the specific effects of UV-B radiation are mediated by photosynthesis. Furthermore,

87 we investigated whether UV-B radiation supplemented to high light has beneficial effects in
88 both “source” (photosynthetically active) and “sink” (non-photosynthetically active) tissues.

89

90 Materials and methods

91 *Plant material and experimental conditions*

92 Green-white variegated *Plectranthus coleoides* plants (Swedish ivy) were obtained from a
93 nursery in Belgrade and placed in the greenhouse of the Helmholtz Zentrum München
94 (Neuherberg, Germany). The greenhouse had an UV-transparent glass cover where
95 approximately 50% was in the visible and UV-A part of the solar downwelling radiation, and
96 approximately 20% of the UV-B radiation was reached at the plant level compared to outside
97 conditions.

98 The nine-day experiment was conducted in the sun simulators of the Helmholtz
99 Zentrum München (Neuherberg, Germany). The sun simulators provided an irradiance
100 spectrum close to natural solar radiation (Supporting Information, Fig. S1) by the use of a
101 combination of metal halide lamps (HQI/D, 400 W, Osram, Munich, Germany), quartz
102 halogen lamps (Halostar, 300 W and 500 W, Osram, Munich, Germany), blue fluorescent
103 (TLD 18, 36 W, Philips, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) and UV-B fluorescent (TL12, 40 W,
104 Philips, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) tubes. Excess infrared radiation was reduced by a
105 layer of water, and wavelengths below 280 nm were efficiently blocked using selected
106 borosilicate and lime glass filters. A suitable combination of these glasses allowed us to
107 simulate the different UV-B scenarios (Thiel *et al.* 1996, Döhring *et al.* 1996). The
108 photoperiod was 12 h with day and night temperatures of 25 and 18 °C and relative
109 humidities of 55% and 80%, respectively; the plants were watered daily. The natural diurnal
110 variations of the solar irradiance were obtained by using specific groups of lamps and by
111 changing the climate parameters gradually during two hours at the beginning and at the end

112 of the day. For the acclimatisation period of six days, PAR intensity was maintained at 395
113 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ (corresponding to the greenhouse conditions) without UV-B radiation. At the
114 start of the experiment, the PAR intensity was $395 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ in the LL experiment in the
115 first sun simulator (resulting in 14.2 mol m^{-2} PAR per day) and was raised to $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2}$
116 s^{-1} PAR in the HL experiment in the second simulator (resulting 48.8 mol m^{-2} PAR per day).
117 Additionally, UV-B radiation (0.90 W m^{-2}) was applied one hour after the onset of PAR in
118 one separated compartment of each sun simulator (LL and HL), which resulted in a 29.3 kJ
119 m^{-2} daily UV-B dose or a 7.0 kJ m^{-2} daily biologically effective UV-B dose (calculated using
120 Green et al. (1974) according to the measurements of Caldwell (1971) normalised at 300 nm).
121 UV-B treatments started one day after the treatments without UV-B radiation to ensure that
122 ecophysiological measurements were performed at the same time of the day as the treatment.
123 In summary, four different radiation regimes were applied: (1) LL; (2) LL+ UV-B; (3) HL
124 and (4) HL+UV-B (for detailed radiation conditions see Table 1). During exposure, the PAR,
125 UV-A and UV-B irradiances were continuously monitored. Spectroradiometric
126 measurements were performed using a double monochromator system TDM300 (Bentham,
127 Reading, England). The horizontal variation of radiance values was less than 10% during and
128 between the experiments. The irradiation regime, HL+UV-B, can be compared to sunny
129 spring conditions in mid-northern latitudes where the sun is at approximately 40 degrees
130 elevation and the total ozone column is approximately 300 DU (Dobson units), corresponding
131 to an ozone column thickness of 3 mm.

132

133 Table 1.

134

135 Leaves were harvested on the last day of the experiment beginning at 14:00 hours. For
136 the biochemical analysis, up to six mature leaves from each plant per group were pooled,

137 immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. In total, four groups of plants
138 (four to five plants per group) were used in the HL treatments and two groups (five plants per
139 group) in the LL treatments.

140

141 ***Chlorophyll fluorescence and gas exchange measurements***

142 All chlorophyll fluorescence measurements were done daily on green leaf part. Chlorophyll
143 fluorescence was measured by miniPAM chlorophyll fluorometer equipped with light and
144 temperature-sensing leaf clip 2030-B (Heinz Walz GmbH, Effeltrich, Germany). The minimal
145 fluorescence (F_0) and maximal fluorescence (F_m) were measured in dark-adapted leaves in
146 the early morning and the photochemical yield of open PS II (variable fluorescence F_v) was
147 calculated as F_v / F_m ($F_v = F_m - F_0$), reflecting the maximal photosynthetic efficiency of PS
148 II. F_m was determined by applying a 1 s saturating flash of white light ($4500\text{ }\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$).
149 The maximal fluorescence (F_m') and fluorescence (F) in light-adapted leaves were measured
150 at noon and the PS II efficiency: $(F_m' - F) / F_m'$ was estimated as according to Baker (2008).
151 Non-photochemical quenching (NPQ) was calculated according to Stern-Volmer equation
152 $\text{NPQ} = (F_m - F_m') / F_m'$ (Bilger & Björkman 1990). Fluorescence parameters of individual
153 plant are mean values of three leaves.

154 CO_2 assimilation rate (A), stomatal conductance (g_s), internal CO_2 concentration (c_i),
155 and chlorophyll fluorescence were recorded on the first and on the ninth day of the
156 experiment using the portable gas exchange and fluorescence system GFS-3000 equipped
157 with the LED-Array/PAM-Fluorometer 3055-FL (Heinz Walz GmbH, Effeltrich, Germany).
158 Gas exchange was measured at the respective PAR levels (395 and $1350\text{ }\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$). The
159 leaf chamber environment was adjusted to experimental conditions (CO_2 concentration: 385
160 ppm, cuvette temperature: $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, relative humidity: 55%). The air flow rate was $700\text{ }\mu\text{mol s}^{-1}$

161 ¹. All measurements were performed between 11:00 – 14:00 CET on the first and the last day
162 of the experiment.

163

164 ***Photosynthetic pigment determination***

165 The same green areas of leaves as were used in gas exchange measurements were cut under
166 the experimental light conditions, immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen and extracted with
167 N, N, dimethylformamide (DMF). The pigments (carotenoids and chlorophyll *a* and *b*) were
168 separated and quantified by diode-array HPLC (Waters Corp., Milford, Massachusetts, USA)
169 as described by Wildi & Lütz (1996). The de-epoxidation index (Di) was expressed as a
170 percent value of $(0.5 \times A + Z)$ of $(V + A + Z)$, where A is antheraxanthin, Z is zeaxanthin,
171 and V is violaxanthin.

172

173 ***Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)***

174 Chloroplast ultrastructure in HL experiment was investigated using Philips CM 10 TEM.
175 Small pieces from white and green leaf areas from at least three different plants per group
176 (HL and HL+UV-B) were cut and specimen were treated according to Heyneke *et al.* (2013).
177 Ultrathin sections (80 nm) were cut with a Reichert Ultracut S ultramicrotome (Leica
178 Microsystems, Vienna, Austria) and stained with lead citrate and uranyl acetate. Micrographs
179 of randomly photographed sections of the mesophyll (altogether 20 chloroplasts in HL and in
180 HL+UV-B) were digitized, and chloroplast fine structures (thylakoids, starch, and
181 plastoglobuli) were analyzed using the software package Optimas 6.5.1 (BioScan Corp.).

182

183 ***Phenolic analysis***

184 Green and white leaf portions of *P. coleoides* were rapidly ground with a mortar and pestle to
185 a fine powder, extracted in methanol containing 0.1% HCl, incubated for 50 min on ice in the
186 dark and centrifuged for 10 min at 16 000 g at 4 °C. Supernatants (600 µl) were mixed with

187 ddH₂O (400 µl) and chloroform (600 µl) (to remove hydrophobic, interfering compounds)
188 and shaken for 45 min at 4 °C in the dark. Afterwards, the samples were centrifuged for 5 min
189 at 16 000 g and 4 °C, and the upper water layer was split in two halves: the first half was used
190 for glycoside determination, and the second half was hydrolysed in 2 M HCl during
191 incubation at 85 °C for 40 min, according to the modified procedure of Hertog, Hollman &
192 Venem (1992) for the determination of aglycones. Finally, all extracts were flushed with
193 nitrogen and maintained at -80 °C until further analysis.

194 For HPLC analysis, samples were loaded onto 5.0 µm, 250 x 4.6 mm Luna C18 (2)
195 reversed-phase column (Phenomenex Ltd. Torrance, CA, USA) using a Shimadzu LC-20AB
196 Prominence liquid chromatograph (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). Phenolic compounds were
197 separated at a flow rate of 1 ml min⁻¹ with a mixture of solvent A (acetonitrile) and solvent B
198 (acetic acid/acetonitrile/phosphoric acid/water: 10.0/5.0/0.1/84.9, v/v/v/v) at 25 °C. The
199 following elution procedure was used to achieve separation of a wide range of phenolics: 0-5
200 min, 100% solution B (isocratic step); 5-25 min, 100-80% solution B (linear gradient); 25-35
201 min, 80-60% solution B (linear gradient); 35-40 min, 60-100% solution B (linear gradient).
202 The phenolics were analysed by SPD-M20A diode array Prominence and RF-10-AXL
203 fluorescence detector (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). Chromatograms were recorded at different
204 wavelengths depending on the characteristic maximum absorbance of the selected phenolics:
205 520 nm for anthocyanins, 340 nm for flavones, 320 nm for hydroxycinnamic acids and their
206 derivatives, and 280 nm for catechins, hydroxybenzoic acids and their derivatives. Individual
207 phenolics were identified by comparing the absorption spectra to authentic standards and by
208 spiking with standards; the phenolics were quantified by peak area using Shimadzu LC
209 Solution software (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan).

210

211 ***Measurements of peroxidases activities and protein carbonylation level***

212 For extraction of peroxidase (POD, EC 1.11.1.7) frozen leaf tissues (white and green) were
213 homogenized in liquid nitrogen and extracted with 100 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH
214 7.2) with 1mM EDTA, 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 5% of insoluble polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP)
215 and 5% protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma). The same extraction buffer was used for
216 ascorbate peroxidase (APX, E.C, 1.11.1.11) extraction with addition of 10 mM Asc.
217 Following centrifugation at 10 000 g for 10 min at 4 °C, supernatants were used for
218 measuring enzymatic activities and determination of carbonylated protein level.

219 POD activity was measured as absorbance increase at 470 nm using 20 mM guaiacol
220 ($\epsilon = 26.6 \text{ mM}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) as hydrogen donor in 100 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 6.5)
221 with 1.3 mM H_2O_2 and aliquot of the extract diluted 30 times. The activity of APX was
222 measured as an initial absorbance decrease at 290 nm ($\epsilon = 2.8 \text{ mM}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) in a reaction
223 mixture consisting of 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.2) with 1 mM EDTA, 0.3
224 mM ascorbate (Asc), 0.2 mM H_2O_2 and extract diluted 20 times (modified from Nakano &
225 Asada 1981). Control rates obtained in the absence of extracts were subtracted. The level of
226 protein carbonylation was determined spectrophotometrically as described by Morina *et al.*
227 (2010). The protein contents in the samples were determined according to Bradford (1976).
228 All spectrophotometric measurements were performed in triplicates at 25 °C using a
229 temperature-controlled spectrophotometer (Shimadzu, UV-160, Kyoto, Japan).

230

231 ***Ascorbate determination***

232 Frozen green and white leaf tissues were extracted in 1.5% of *meta*-phosphoric acid
233 containing 1mM EDTA and centrifuged at 16 000 g for 8 min at 4 °C (Tausz, Kranner &
234 Grill 1996). For reduced Asc determination the obtained supernatants were immediately
235 loaded onto a reversed phase column (CC 250/4.6 Nucleosil 100-5 C18, Macherey-Nagel,
236 Germany). A gradient elution was established with 80 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH

237 6.5 (solvent A) and methanol (solvent B): 0-15 min, 2.5-5.0 % solution B (linear gradient) at
238 a flow rate of 0.8 ml min⁻¹, at 25 °C. Peak of reduced Asc was detected at 265 nm.

239 All measurements were performed using the same HPLC apparatus as for determination
240 of phenolics.

241

242 *Statistical analysis*

243 Two-way repeated-measures ANOVA (REPEATED/PROFILE option in the SAS GLM
244 procedure; SAS Institute, 2004) was employed to test the differences in the photosynthetic
245 parameters measured on the first and the last (ninth) day of experiment (within-subject factor)
246 in plants exposed to different PAR and UV-B regimes (between-subject factors). The profile
247 analysis tested three hypotheses: the ‘parallelism’ (similarity in shape of the response curves),
248 ‘levels’ (significance of UV-B and PAR effects) and ‘flatness’ (significance of a trait change
249 during time). To identify specific time intervals in which significant treatment effects
250 occurred we performed individual ANOVAs on each of the contrasts of the within-subject
251 factor (duration of exposure to different treatments).

252 Two-way ANOVA was used to reveal the effects of UV-B radiation, PAR and their
253 interactions on the pigment contents and ratios in the green leaf portions of *P. coleoides*
254 plants.

255 The significance of the effects of tissue type (green and white tissues), UV-B
256 radiation and different PAR regimes as well as their interaction on phenolics content, reduced
257 ascorbate content and activities of APX and POD were tested for each functional group by
258 the three-way nested ANOVA without replication. Since green and white segments were
259 pooled from the leaves of the same plant, the plant was nested in “tissue type × UV-B ×
260 PAR” interaction and obtained mean squares (MS) were used as MS_{error} for calculation of F

261 values, i.e., mean squares of main and interaction effects were divided with this MSerror
262 (SAS GLM procedure; SAS Institute, 2004).

263 To distinguish only the UV-B effects on photosynthesis, pigment contents and
264 chloroplast ultrastructure Mann-Whitney U test was used on group of plants with and without
265 UV-B addition under the same PAR. Tukey's post hoc test was used to test for significant
266 differences in phenolics and antioxidants among different treatment groups. Mann-Whitney
267 U test and Tukey's post hoc test were conducted with IBM SPSS statistics software (Version
268 20.0, SPSS Inc., Chicago, USA). Significance threshold value was set at 0.05.

269

Accepted Article

270 **Results**

271 ***Effect of UV-B radiation on chlorophyll fluorescence and gas exchange parameters under***

272 ***LL and HL***

273 UV-B radiation significantly increased the CO₂ assimilation rate (*A*) of *P. coleoides* plants at
274 LL after 4 h of exposure to 0.90 W m⁻² UV-B radiation (Table 2). Furthermore, the enhanced
275 CO₂ assimilation was accompanied by a three-fold increase in stomatal conductance (*g_s*) and
276 an increased internal CO₂ concentration (*c_i*) compared to plants grown under LL without UV-
277 B radiation. On the ninth day under LL+UV-B, *g_s* remained four-fold higher than in LL
278 plants, whereas stimulation of *A* and *c_i* was less pronounced compared to the first day of the
279 experiment (Table 2). At HL, the UV-B supplementation on the first day resulted in
280 significantly increased *g_s* and slightly increased *A*, without changes in *c_i* compared with the
281 HL regime (Table 2). The simultaneously determined PS II efficiency was significantly
282 increased by UV-B radiation only under LL on the first day (Table 2; for significance values
283 of “UV-B”, “PAR” and “days” effects and interactions see Supporting Information, Table
284 S1).

285 The non-photochemical quenching (NPQ) was not affected by UV-B radiation at LL.
286 However, at HL, NPQ doubled compared to LL. Significantly increased NPQ was observed
287 only after nine days at HL+UV-B compared to HL (Table 2; for significance values of “PAR
288 × UV-B” interactions see Supporting Information, Table S1).

289

290 Table 2.

291

292 ***Effect of UV-B radiation on photosynthetic pigments under LL and HL***

293 UV-B supplementation did not significantly affect the photosynthetic pigment contents,
294 although a decreasing trend was observed; however, slightly increased levels of zeaxanthin

295 and antheraxanthin in the HL+UV-B treatment compared to the HL treatment were observed
296 (Table 3). By contrast, PAR had a significant effect on the chlorophyll *a*, chlorophyll *b*,
297 neoxanthin and lutein contents (significance values of “PAR” effects and post hoc analysis
298 see Supporting Information, Table S2). The levels of antheraxanthin and zeaxanthin were
299 below the detection limit under the LL treatment (Table 3).

300

301 Table 3.

302

303 ***Effect of UV-B radiation on chloroplast ultrastructure under HL***

304 The green and white leaf tissues of *P. coleoides* plants showed markedly different subplastid
305 organisation. Within the green leaf tissue, the ultrastructural examination showed that the
306 sectioned chloroplasts contained a well-developed thylakoid system with distinct grana
307 stacks, well-defined plastoglobuli and starch grains. By contrast, the plastids in the white leaf
308 tissue lacked thylakoid membranes and starch grains (Fig. 1). These plastids accumulated
309 numerous membrane vesicles of varying sizes and plastoglobuli in the interior soluble region.

310 Therefore, only the green leaf sections were further analysed, and comparisons
311 between plants exposed to HL and HL+UV-B radiation regime were performed (Table 4).

312 The UV-B radiation increased the surface area of the stroma (1.4 times; $P \leq 0.001$) and
313 doubled the number of plastoglobuli ($P \leq 0.001$). On the other hand, the UV-B irradiance had
314 no effect on the thylakoids and starch abundance.

315

316 Fig. 1.

317

318 Table 4.

319

320 ***Induction of flavonoid pathway upon UV-B radiation under LL and HL***

321 The profiles of the methanol soluble phenolic compounds in the white and green leaf portions
322 of *P. coleoides* plants exposed to UV-B radiation and different PAR analysed by HPLC
323 illustrated that the major soluble phenylpropanoids in *P. coleoides* plants were derivatives of
324 rosmarinic (RA) and caffeic acid (CA) (Fig. 2). In addition, four flavonoids, catechin (Cat),
325 epicatechin (ECat), apigenin (Ap) and cyanidin (Cy), were identified in the form of
326 glycosides. Our analysis revealed about five times higher contents of hydroxybenzoic acids
327 (HBAs), hydroxycinnamic acids (HCAs), ECat and Cat in the green tissue compared to white
328 tissue at both PAR levels (Fig. 2, significant “tissue” effects in Supporting Information, Table
329 S3).

330

331 Fig. 2.

332

333 The most striking effect of the UV-B radiation on the phenolic content in the whole
334 leaves was the increased accumulation of apigenin and cyanidin glycosides, especially in the
335 white tissue (Fig. 2; significant UV-B-effects and “tissue × UV-B” in Supporting Information
336 Table S3). The first visible signs of anthocyanin accumulation were observed in the leaves of
337 *P. coleoides* plants after four days of exposure to UV-B radiation and were more noticeable
338 under HL compared to LL. After nine days, the white leaf portions expressed intense pink
339 coloration (Supporting Information Fig. S2). The UV-B radiation induced a three-fold
340 increase in the Ap concentration in both green and white leaf tissues, and the highest amount
341 was determined in the white tissue under the LL+UV-B treatment (Fig. 2).

342 The HBA and CA concentrations were significantly increased by UV-B radiation only
343 under the HL treatment by 60% and 80% in the green leaf portions, respectively (Fig. 2 and
344 significant “UV-B × PAR” interaction, Supporting Information, Table S3). The

345 concentrations of RA, CA, Cat and ECat were decreased under HL compared to LL in the
346 green leaf portions (Fig. 2, Table S3).

347

348 ***Protein carbonylation***

349 To determine whether UV-B radiation imposed oxidative stress, we compared the levels of
350 carbonylated proteins in the plants exposed to HL and HL+UV-B. The content of protein
351 carbonyls (determined spectrophotometrically using 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine) was higher
352 in green tissue compared to white tissue at high PAR (Table 5). The addition of UV-B
353 radiation did not increase the level of protein carbonyls in the whole leaf.

354

355 Table 5.

356

357 ***Effect of UV-B radiation on antioxidants under LL and HL***

358 The concentration of reduced ascorbate was three times higher in the green leaf portion at HL
359 compared to LL (Fig. 3) and was accompanied by increased APX activity. Furthermore, 2.5-
360 fold higher POD activity was measured in the whole leaf at HL compared to LL. However,
361 UV-B radiation significantly reduced the Asc concentration at HL in the green leaf tissue. In
362 addition, under the HL+UV-B regime, POD activity decreased in both tissues compared to
363 HL, whereas APX activity did not change significantly (Fig. 3). At LL, UV-B radiation
364 induced a significant decrease in APX activity only in the white leaf tissue, whereas POD
365 activity decreased in the green leaf tissue. In addition to guaiacol, peroxidase substrate
366 affinity was tested over a range of phenolics that are naturally present in the leaves.
367 Peroxidases extracted from green and white leaf tissues of *P. coleoides* could efficiently
368 scavenge H₂O₂ using the main phenolics present in the leaves (CA, Cat, ECat) as electron
369 donors (data not shown).

370 The statistical analysis results confirming the effects of PAR on Asc, APX and POD
371 and the different effects of UV-B radiation under different background light in the case of
372 Asc and POD are shown in Supporting Information, Table S4.

373
374 Fig. 3.

375 376 Discussion

377 UV-B effects on photosynthesis

378 In this study, we exploited the variegation in *P. coleoides* to identify the photosynthetically
379 mediated effects of UV-B radiation on leaves. White leaf tissue in variegated plants acts as an
380 additional sink of assimilates from the photosynthetically active part of the leaf. Aluru and
381 colleagues (2009) used variegated *Arabidopsis immutans* mutants to study the nature of “sink
382 metabolism” in white leaf tissues.

383 Under our experimental conditions, supplemental realistic UV-B radiation was
384 beneficial for sustaining the maximal photosynthetic rates in variegated *P. coleoides* plants,
385 especially at LL (Table 2). To our knowledge, the stimulation of photosynthesis under
386 realistic UV-B radiation has not been observed thus far. Most studies report the deleterious
387 effects of above-ambient UV-B levels on photosynthesis, either by using supplemental UV-B
388 radiation in greenhouses or growth chambers (Nogués *et al.* 1998, 1999; Kakani 2003;
389 Ranjbarfordoei, Samson & Van Damme 2011) or by conducting experiments under natural
390 conditions with relatively high solar UV-B radiation (i.e., high altitudes, polar regions)
391 (Albert *et al.* 2008, 2011; Ruhland *et al.* 2008; Berli *et al.* 2013). On the other hand, the
392 impact of lower doses of UV-B radiation on photosynthesis under realistic, field conditions is
393 assumed to be minimal (Ballaré *et al.* 2011; Hideg, Jansen & Strid 2013; Müller *et al.* 2013),

394 although the stimulated growth of several species was reported (Kumagai *et al.*
395 2001, Müller *et al.* 2013; Yu *et al.* 2013).

396 The observed enhancement of CO₂ assimilation in variegated *P. coleoides* plants
397 under LL+UV-B conditions on the first day may be explained by the rapid UV-B response of
398 stomata overcoming the stomatal limitation of photosynthesis, whereas a significant effect
399 was not observed at HL. Reports on UV-B impacts on stomatal conductance are inconsistent,
400 which could be explained by various PAR/UV-B ratios, the time of exposure (Jansen & van
401 der Noort 2000) and species- or cultivar-specific UV-B responses (Klem *et al.* 2012; Gitz,
402 Britz & Sullivan 2013).

403 Photosynthetic pigments and chloroplast ultrastructure

404 Our results, which showed no significant influence of UV-B radiation on chlorophyll
405 content, are consistent with previous studies that have observed either no effect
406 (Ranjbarfordoei, Samson & Van Damme 2011; Yi *et al.* 2013) or a reduction of
407 photosynthetic pigments (Surabhi, Reddy & Singh 2009; Hu *et al.* 2013). However, under the
408 HL treatment, UV-B radiation slightly increased the levels of antheraxanthin and zeaxanthin,
409 which implicated a higher level of de-epoxidation. Similar results were obtained in beech
410 leaves following exposure to ambient and to enhanced UV-B doses (Laposi, Veres &
411 Meszaros 2008).

412 The comparison of chloroplast ultrastructure from plants exposed to HL and HL+UV-
413 B for nine days showed doubled plastoglobuli size without a decrease in starch content (Table
414 4). It has been considered that under high light, lipid membrane components as well as the
415 degradation products of electron transport chain components and pigments are partially
416 conserved in plastoglobuli (Ladygin 2004; Lichtenthaler 2007). Although the thylakoid
417 membrane structure was not altered by UV-B exposure under HL, the response of
418 photosynthetic pigments might be related to plastoglobuli formations (Table 3 and 4). Similar

419 results regarding plastoglobuli accumulation triggered by a comparable intensity of UV-B
420 radiation were reported for super-high-yield hybrid rice, which was associated with the
421 decreased activities of photophosphorylation and key enzymes in carbon fixation (Yu *et al.*
422 2013).

423 UV-B induction of flavonoids

424 A hallmark of UV-B induced changes in plant metabolism is the induction of
425 phenylpropanoid and flavonoid pathways (Brown *et al.* 2005, Götz *et al.* 2010, Agati *et al.*
426 2009, Agati & Tattini 2010). In our experiments, this was demonstrated by the accumulation
427 of apigenin and cyanidin glycosides, which increased in both leaf tissues of *P. coleoides* (Fig.
428 2). Apigenin and cyanidin glycosides and caffeic acid derivatives can serve as effective UV-
429 B-shielding compounds due to their strong absorbance in this spectral range. The efficiency
430 of flavonoids and hydroxycinnamic derivatives as UV-B-screening pigments has been shown
431 in a number of species (Rueber, Bornman & Weissenböck. 1996; Ibdah *et al.* 2002; Götz *et al.*
432 2010). UV absorbing compounds are mainly localized in the epidermal layer (Cerovic *et al.*
433 2002) although flavonoids were detected in the mesophyll layer as well (Agati *et al.* 2009).

434 One can assume different UV-B radiation penetration in green and non-
435 chlorophyllous tissue due to absence of chlorophyll, thus implying a different effect on
436 phenylpropanoid metabolism in these two types of tissues. Chlorophyll absorbs in UV
437 spectral range to a certain level (Bilger *et al.* 1997; Cerovic *et al.* 2002) and may
438 consequently partly attenuate UV-B radiation in green tissue. However, specifically UV-B-
439 induced flavonoids, apigenin and cyanidin, were increased to the similar level in both tissues
440 under all conditions except cyanidin at HL+UV-B which was more accumulated in white
441 tissue (Fig 2). The accumulation of anthocyanins was observed in the abaxial and adaxial leaf
442 epidermis. Also, we obtained the specific UV-B induced increase of hydroxybenzoic acids
443 and caffeic acid derivatives in green tissue under HL. No UV-B-induced changes of other

444 phenolics (except apigenin and cyanidin) were observed in white sectors irrespective to
445 background light. Taken together, our results imply that the presence of chlorophyll and
446 higher basal level of phenolics (UV absorbers) in green tissue did not reduce the UV-B effect.
447 The accumulation of UV-B-provoked flavonoids in white leaf tissue supports the
448 hypothesis that UV-B radiation is a specific signal for flavonoid pathway not related to
449 photosynthetic activity. However, approximately five-fold higher content of almost all
450 phenolic subclasses in the green leaf tissue indicates their relationship with photosynthetic
451 activity. Up to 20% photoassimilates flow to phenylpropanoid pathway (Jensen, 1986), yet
452 the interaction between photosynthesis and phenolic metabolism is not clear (Fritz et al. 2006).
453 More extensive research is needed to elucidate a possible link between increased
454 photosynthesis and stimulation of flavonoid metabolism.

455 *Antioxidative role of induced phenolics: relationship with H₂O₂ scavenging systems*

456 There is strong evidence from previous studies favouring the antioxidative function of
457 flavonoids in photoprotection rather than just sun protection in leaf epidermal cells (Neill *et*
458 *al.* 2002; Agati *et al.* 2009; Agati & Tattini 2010; Hernández *et al.* 2009). Although the
459 concentrations of caffeic acid, rosmarinic acid, catechin and epicatechin (all with ortho-
460 dihydroxy B-ring substitution pattern) showed little differences with respect to UV-B
461 radiation, they likely acted as a constitutive antioxidative “pool”, as supported by the
462 preferential distribution in the green tissue. In addition, the total concentration of
463 phenylpropanoids and catechins in *P. coleoides* leaves was 20 to 40 times higher than the
464 ascorbate concentration.

465 The increased ascorbate concentration and up-regulation of both APX and POD in the
466 photosynthetically active tissue indicated a provoked antioxidative response to accumulating
467 oxidative loads under high light intensity (Fig. 4), as has been previously shown (Gechev *et*
468 *al.* 2003; Fryer *et al.* 2003; Heyneke *et al.* 2013; Szechyńska-Hebda & Karpiński 2013).

469 Accordingly, the higher level of carbonylated proteins in green compared to white tissue
470 (Table 5) confirmed that photosynthesis was the main source of ROS. The increase in PODs
471 under HL, as well as their preferential induction in the green leaf tissue, was correlated with
472 decreased concentrations of CA, RA, Cat and ECat, which are natural POD substrates
473 (Takahama 2004). The PODs isolated from green and white tissue showed a high affinity for
474 standard CA, RA, Cat and ECat solutions (data not shown). Although the concentrations of
475 ascorbate in *P. coleoides* leaves were significantly lower compared to other plant species,
476 e.g., *Arabidopsis* (Bartoli *et al.* 2006), it can efficiently scavenge H₂O₂ in both the reaction
477 with APX and through the Asc/phenolics/peroxidase system (Takahama 2004).

478 The down-regulation of APX and POD and the unchanged level of carbonylated
479 proteins at low UV-B doses under HL confirmed that UV-B radiation did not provoke
480 oxidative stress. Accordingly, recent studies have questioned the concept of UV-B stress in
481 environmental conditions and favoured an overall opinion that UV-B-mediated stress in
482 plants is relatively rare (Ballaré *et al.* 2011; Hideg, Jansen & Strid, 2013).

483 In summary, our study implicates that the UV-B portion of sunlight is important for
484 the photoprotection of photosynthesis, as shown by the stimulation of CO₂ assimilation and
485 stomatal conductance. We propose that UV-B-induced photoprotection under excess light is
486 based on the stimulation of flavonoid biosynthesis that leads to the accumulation of UV
487 screeners in both tissues. However, high PAR specifically provoked the H₂O₂ scavenging
488 system (Asc, APX, PODs) that is targeted to photosynthetically active tissue. In addition, the
489 phenolic compounds already present at LL in green leaf tissue are sufficient to maintain
490 photosynthesis under excess light and UV-B radiation, whereas in white leaf tissue the UV-
491 B-inducible phenolics are more important. Thus, we showed different responses to high PAR
492 and UV-B radiation in both “source” and “sink” tissues.

493

494 Acknowledgements

495 This work was supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological
496 Development of the Republic of Serbia (Project No. III 43010). M.V. wishes to acknowledge
497 the support of COST Action FA0906 for approving STSM in Munich during 2011 and 2012.
498 The authors would like to thank Dr. Jelica Lazarevic and Uros Savkovic (Belgrade
499 University) for help with statistical analysis. M.V. wishes to thank Jacqueline Müller
500 (Helmholtz Zentrum München) for her help with preparing the samples for TEM analysis.
501 The authors would like to thank Prof. Umeo Takahama (Kyushu Dental College) for
502 extensive discussion on the whole manuscript.

503

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Tables:

Table 1. Irradiance and exposure values of the different radiation regimes. Biologically effective UV-B data, indicated by index BE, are weighted after Green, Sawada & Shettle (1974) according to measurements of Caldwell (1971), normalised at 300 nm. The PAR irradiance used in the low PAR treatment (LL: $395 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) corresponded to the greenhouse conditions. The irradiation regime of the high PAR treatment (HL: $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR) and 0.90 W m^{-2} UV-B radiation values can be compared to sunny spring conditions in mid-northern latitudes. The day/night cycle was 12 h/12 h. The light intensity switched on gradually during the first two hours at the beginning and switched off during the last two hours at the end of the day. UV-B radiation started 1 h after onset of PAR and lasted for ten hours.

Parameters	Low PAR treatment (LL)		High PAR treatment (HL)	
	LL	LL+UV-B	HL	HL+UV-B
PAR ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	395	395	1350	1350
UV-A irradiance, (W m^{-2})	7.0	10.0	20.0	28.0
UV-B irradiance, (W m^{-2})	0	0.90	0	0.90
Biologically effective UV-B irradiance, (mW m^{-2}) _{BE}	0	215.0	0	215.0
Daily PAR radiant exposure ($\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)	14.2	14.2	14.2	48.8
Daily UV-A radiant exposure ($\text{kJ m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)	252	360	711	1008
Daily UV-B radiant exposure ($\text{kJ m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)	0	29.3	0	29.3
Daily UV-B radiant exposure ($\text{kJ m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$) _{BE}	0	7.0	0	7.0
Duration (days)	9	9	9	9

Table 2. UV-B effects on photosynthetic parameters in *P. coleoides* plants exposed to four radiation regimes (1) 395 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR (LL); (2) LL+UV-B (UV-B: 0.90 W m^{-2}); (3) 1350 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR (HL) and (4) HL+UV-B for nine days. Values represent means \pm SE (n = 4). Significant differences between the UV-B treated plants and LL and HL, according to the Mann-Whitney U test, are indicated (* $P < 0.05$). A: CO_2 assimilation rate; g_s : stomatal conductance; ETR: electron transfer rate; F_q'/F_m' : operating efficiency of PSII, NPQ: non-photochemical quenching, $\text{NPQ} = (F_m - F_m') / F_m'$; c_i : CO_2 concentration inside the leaf.

Days of exposure	Photosynthetic parameters	Radiation regime			
		LL	LL+UV-B	HL	HL+UV-B
1 st day	A ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	4.3 \pm 0.4	8.6 \pm 0.3*	8.6 \pm 0.2	10.5 \pm 1.0
	g_s ($\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	41.6 \pm 6.0	128.9 \pm 12.3*	133.7 \pm 10.0	184.8 \pm 10.1*
	operating efficiency of PSII, F_q'/F_m'	0.58 \pm 0.01	0.63 \pm 0.01*	0.19 \pm 0.02	0.17 \pm 0.01
	ETR ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	61.2 \pm 1.4	66.2 \pm 1.0	104.1 \pm 12.0	92.7 \pm 4.7
	NPQ	0.9 \pm 0.1	1.0 \pm 0.1	2.1 \pm 0.2	2.4 \pm 0.1
	c_i , ppm	194.0 \pm 27.1	265.9 \pm 15.8*	268.4 \pm 8.0	282.3 \pm 11.5
9 th day	A ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	5.4 \pm 0.7	8.1 \pm 0.8	11.8 \pm 0.7	13.6 \pm 1.5
	g_s ($\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	48.2 \pm 6.0	198.1 \pm 36.7*	169.2 \pm 7.1	243.5 \pm 26.8
	operating efficiency of PSII, F_q'/F_m'	0.60 \pm 0.02	0.61 \pm 0.01	0.21 \pm 0.01	0.21 \pm 0.02
	ETR ($\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	62.8 \pm 2.0	63.7 \pm 1.5	115.1 \pm 3.6	115.4 \pm 8.2
	NPQ	0.9 \pm 0.1	0.8 \pm 0.1	1.8 \pm 0.1	2.4 \pm 0.2*
	c_i , ppm	201.4 \pm 4.3	248.9 \pm 36.8	263.0 \pm 3.6	283.3 \pm 2.1*

Table 3. Contents of chlorophylls and carotenoids ($\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ FW), pigment ratios (weight ratios) and de-epoxidation index of green leaf portions of *P. coleoides* plants exposed to four radiation regimes (1) 395 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR (LL); (2) LL+UV-B (UV-B: 0.90 W m^{-2}); (3) 1350 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR (HL) and (4) HL+UV-B for nine days. Values represent means \pm SE (n = 4). No significant differences between the UV-B treated plants and LL and HL according to the Mann-Whitney U test were obtained.

	Radiation regime			
	LL	LL+UV-B	HL	HL+UV-B
<i>Pigment levels</i>				
Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	503.8 \pm 51.1	439.3 \pm 20.5	335.4 \pm 11.5	277.6 \pm 20.3
Chlorophyll <i>b</i>	139.7 \pm 12.8	116.4 \pm 4.8	90.4 \pm 2.5	74.5 \pm 5.8
Chlorophyll (<i>a+b</i>)	643.5 \pm 63.8	555.7 \pm 25.0	425.8 \pm 14.0	352.0 \pm 26.0
β -Carotene (C)	27.0 \pm 5.9	23.2 \pm 3.3	20.8 \pm 1.1	16.0 \pm 1.3
Lutein (L)	47.7 \pm 3.7	40.5 \pm 1.8	37.8 \pm 0.2	31.5 \pm 2.5
Neoxanthin (N)	24.0 \pm 2.1	20.5 \pm 0.9	17.4 \pm 0.2	14.8 \pm 1.1
Violaxanthin (V)	29.8 \pm 3.3	26.0 \pm 2.8	24.3 \pm 3.5	16.5 \pm 1.1
Antheraxanthin (A)	n.d.	n.d.	5.7 \pm 1.2	7.6 \pm 0.7
Zeaxanthin (Z)	n.d.	n.d.	6.3 \pm 2.2	9.0 \pm 0.6
V + A + Z	29.8 \pm 3.3	26.0 \pm 2.8	36.4 \pm 2.0	33.1 \pm 2.1
<i>Pigment ratios</i>				
Chlorophyll <i>a/b</i>	3.6 \pm 0.1	3.8 \pm 0.1	3.7 \pm 0.03	3.7 \pm 0.1
Chlorophyll (<i>a+b</i>)/ ΣCar ¹	5.0 \pm 0.1	5.1 \pm 0.2	3.8 \pm 0.1	3.7 \pm 0.03
De-epoxidation index (Di, %) ²	-	-	25.2 \pm 7.2	38.6 \pm 1.3

¹ ΣCar : total carotenoids: (N+L+V+A+Z+ β -Carotene); ²Di= 100% x (0.5xA+Z)/(V+A+Z). n. d.: not detected

Table 4. Areas of fine structures as the mean percentages with standard errors of the total chloroplasts area in *P. coleoides* plants exposed to $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ PAR (HL) and HL+ UV-B (UV-B irradiance: 0.90 W m^{-2}). Significant differences between HL+UV-B and HL according to the Mann-Whitney U test are indicated (** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$).

Percentages of total chloroplast area	Radiation regime	
	HL	HL+ UV-B
Starch (%)	53.2 ± 3.7	49.5 ± 4.3
Plastoglobules (%)	0.8 ± 0.1	2.0 ± 0.3 ***
Stroma (%)	15.9 ± 1.6	19.3 ± 2.0 **
Thylakoids (%)	30.1 ± 2.8	29.2 ± 3.0

Table 5. Level of carbonylated proteins in the *P. coleoides* leaves exposed to HL (PAR: $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) and HL+UV-B (UV-B: 0.90 W m^{-2}) for nine days. Values are shown in nmol of carbonylated proteins per mg of total soluble proteins and represent means \pm SE, n = 4.

Leaf tissue	Radiation regime	
	HL	HL+UV-B
Green	159.2 ± 26.1	173.1 ± 19.9
White	51.5 ± 18.3	66.7 ± 11.8

699 **Figure legends:**

700 **Fig. 1.** TEM micrographs showing the ultrastructure of cells from plants grown under HL (A, B)
701 and HL+UV-B radiation (C, D) from green (A, C) and white (B, D) leaf tissues. Micrographs
702 from green leaf tissues show chloroplasts (C) with large starch grains (St) and numerous
703 plastoglobuli (arrows). The leucoplasts from white leaf tissues contain numerous plastoglobuli
704 (arrows) and vesicles (arrowheads) but no starch grains. CW: cell walls; IS: intercellular spaces;
705 M: mitochondria; N: nuclei; V: vacuoles. Bars = 1 μm . Experimental conditions are described in
706 Table 3.

707
708 **Fig. 2.** Changes in the content of phenolic compounds in the green (grey bars) and white (white
709 bars) leaf tissues of *P. coleoides* plants. Values represent the means of the leaves from four
710 different plants per group. Error bars indicate \pm SE, and different letters denote statistically
711 significant differences between the different radiation regimes and different leaf tissues ($P <$
712 0.05). SyA: syringic acid; HBAs: total hydroxybenzoic acids, CA: caffeic acid, RA: rosmarinic
713 acid; Cat: catechin; ECat: epicatechin; Ap: apigenin; Cy: cyanidin.

714
715 **Fig. 3.** H_2O_2 scavenging system in green (grey bars) and white (white bars) leaf tissues of *P.*
716 *coleoides* plants under four light regimes. The contents of reduced ascorbate (Asc) in $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$
717 FW ; specific activities of ascorbate peroxidase (APX) and guaiacol peroxidase (POD) are
718 shown in $\text{U g}^{-1}\text{FW}$. Different letters denote statistically significant differences between radiation
719 regimes and leaf tissues ($P < 0.05$). Values represent the means \pm SE ($n \geq 4$).

720

721 **Fig. S1.** Simulated irradiance spectra of the four radiation regimes on a linear scale from 300 to
722 850 nm. The logarithmic scale showing the UV range from 280 to 400 nm is in the right corner.

723

724 **Fig. S2.** The effect of UV-B radiation on *P. coleoides* plants after nine days of treatment.

725 Representative plants are shown.

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Supporting information:

Table S1

Table S1. Repeated-measures analysis of variance (profile analysis) on photosynthetic parameters determined on the first and ninth day of the experiment in the leaves of *P. coleoides* plants. Experimental conditions were as described in Table 1. *Dfs* are shown in the brackets (first number represents *Df* of main effects and their interactions and the second number is *Df* of error). Other abbreviations are explained in Table 2.

<i>Source</i>	<i>A (Df: 1; 12)</i>		<i>g_s (Df: 1; 12)</i>		<i>Fq'/Fm' (Df: 1; 12)</i>		<i>ETR (Df: 1; 12)</i>		<i>NPQ (Df: 1; 12)</i>		<i>c_i (Df: 1; 12)</i>	
	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P > F</i>
<i>Between-subjects</i>												
PAR	51.37	< 0.0001	28.47	0.0002	1383.65	< 0.0001	166.40	< 0.0001	228.67	< 0.0001	10.02	0.0081
UV-B	17.68	0.0012	36.55	< 0.0001	0.70	0.4185	0.14	0.7100	8.40	0.0134	6.77	0.0231
PAR × UV-B	1.60	0.2302	3.36	0.0917	3.09	0.1040	1.64	0.2239	7.98	0.0153	2.08	0.1746
<i>Within-subjects</i>												
Day	17.58	0.0012	5.87	0.0321	2.93	0.1124	3.41	0.0898	1.76	0.2094	0.12	0.7330
Day × PAR	12.52	0.0041	0.06	0.8175	2.84	0.1180	3.38	0.0907	0.05	0.8192	0.02	0.8982
Day × UV-B	0.90	0.3620	1.49	0.2460	0.24	0.6350	0.17	0.6867	0.36	0.5621	0.19	0.6698
Day × PAR × UV-B	1.01	0.3340	0.32	0.5819	2.76	0.1224	0.74	0.4058	1.86	0.1974	0.57	0.4655

Table S2

Table S2. Two-way ANOVA results for the effects of UV-B radiation exposure (0.9 W m^{-2}) and two PAR intensities (LL: $395 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and HL: $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) and their interactions on the pigment contents and ratios in the leaves of *P. coleoides* plants. Experimental conditions were the same as in Table 1. *Dfs* are shown in the brackets (first number represents *Df* of main effects and their interactions and the second number is *Df* of error). Other abbreviations are explained in Table 3.

Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>	Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>
Chl a (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	2.96	0.1108	β-Carotene (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	1.77	0.2086
	PAR	20.84	0.0006		PAR	2.46	0.1427
	UV-B × PAR	0.03	0.8731		UV-B × PAR	0.04	0.8485
Chl b (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	4.58	0.0536	Neoxanthin (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	4.49	0.0557
	PAR	26.95	0.0002		PAR	17.91	0.0012
	UV-B × PAR	0.16	0.6918		UV-B × PAR	0.14	0.7160
Chl (a+b) (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	2.73	0.1244	Lutein (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	6.84	0.0226
	PAR	1.81	0.2035		PAR	13.69	0.0030
	UV-B × PAR	0.02	0.8989		UV-B × PAR	0.12	0.7306
Chl (a/b) (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	3.12	0.1025	Violaxanthin (<i>Df</i> =1;16)	UV-B	3.81	0.0745
	PAR	0.21	0.6572		PAR	4.28	0.0608
	UV-B × PAR	1.92	0.1901		UV-B × PAR	0.20	0.6609
Chl (a+b)/Σcar	UV-B	0.31	0.5872				
	PAR	123.12	< 0.0001				
	UV-B × PAR	1.83	0.2014				

Table S3

Table S3. Three-way nested ANOVA results for the effects of tissue type (chlorophyllous and non-chlorophyllous tissues), UV-B radiation exposure and two PAR intensities as well as their interaction on the content of phenolic compounds found in the leaves of *P. coleoides* plants. Experimental conditions were as described in Table 1. *Dfs* are shown in the brackets (first number represents *Df* of main effects and their interactions and the second number is *Df* of error). HBA: total hydroxybenzoic acid; SyA: syringic acid; CA: caffeic acid, RA: rosmarinic acid; Cat: catechin; ECat: epicatechin; Ap: apigenin; Cy: cyanidin.

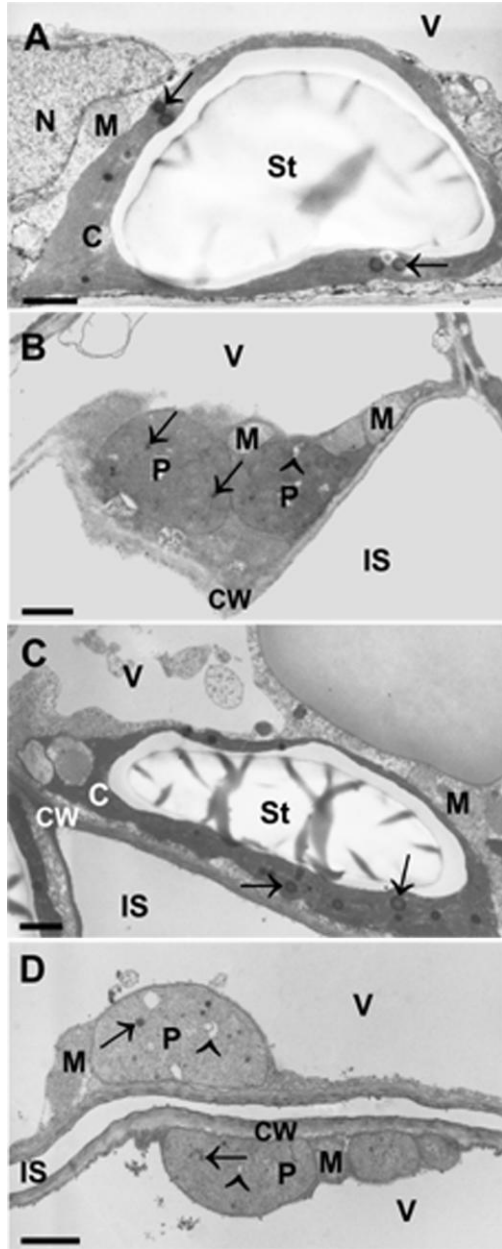
Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>	Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>
SyA (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	240.61	< 0.0001	Cat (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	78.36	< 0.0001
	UV-B	0.02	0.8947		UV-B	1.59	0.2124
	PAR	5.86	0.0188		PAR	0.57	0.4535
	tissue × UV-B	1.01	0.3192		tissue × UV-B	0.07	0.7969
	tissue × PAR	0.39	0.5367		tissue × PAR	10.05	0.0025
	UV-B × PAR	1.50	0.2252		UV-B × PAR	0.08	0.7777
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.33	0.5693		tissue × UV-B × PAR	4.80	0.0327
HBA (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	120.17	< 0.0001	ECat (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	497.66	< 0.0001
	UV-B	3.19	0.0796		UV-B	5.26	0.0255
	PAR	44.48	< 0.0001		PAR	40.67	< 0.0001
	tissue × UV-B	0.64	0.4281		tissue × UV-B	11.70	0.0012
	tissue × PAR	2.92	0.0929		tissue × PAR	1.87	0.1774
	UV-B × PAR	12.10	0.0010		UV-B × PAR	3.28	0.0756
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.76	0.3857		tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.15	0.6991
CA (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	329.13	< 0.0001	Ap (<i>Df</i> : 1; 56)	tissue	7.64	0.0108
	UV-B	0.34	0.5616		UV-B	93.52	< 0.0001
	PAR	10.61	0.0019		PAR	101.85	< 0.0001
	tissue × UV-B	1.19	0.2793		tissue × UV-B	0.03	0.8549

	tissue × PAR	5.84	0.0190		tissue × PAR	7.00	0.0142
	UV-B × PAR	11.01	0.0016		UV-B × PAR	15.46	0.0006
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	8.04	0.0064		tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.07	0.7976
RA	tissue	493.41	< 0.0001	Cy	tissue	21.98	< 0.0001
(Df: 1; 56)	UV-B	15.62	0.0002	(Df: 1; 56)	UV-B	36.63	< 0.0001
	PAR	55.17	< 0.0001		PAR	116.13	< 0.0001
	tissue × UV-B	1.88	0.1761		tissue × UV-B	13.80	0.0011
	tissue × PAR	7.50	0.0083		tissue × PAR	14.08	0.0010
	UV-B × PAR	10.08	0.0024		UV-B × PAR	16.38	0.0005
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.85	0.3597		tissue × UV-B × PAR	8.15	0.0087

Table S4

Table S4. Three-way nested ANOVA results for the effects of tissue type (chlorophyllous and non-chlorophyllous), UV-B radiation exposure (0.90 W m^{-2}) and two PAR intensities (LL: $395 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and HL: $1350 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) and their interactions on Asc content, APX and POD activities in the leaves of *P. coleoides* plants. Experimental conditions were as described in Table 1. *Dfs* are shown in the brackets (first number represents *Df* of main effects and their interactions and the second number is *Df* of error). Other abbreviations are explained in Fig. 4.

Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>	Trait	Source of variation	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i> > <i>F</i>
Asc (<i>Df</i> = 1; 40)	tissue	60.36	< 0.0001	POD (<i>Df</i> = 1; 52)	tissue	33.75	< 0.0001
	UV-B	2.83	0.1004		UV-B	33.49	< 0.0001
	PAR	16.02	0.0003		PAR	23.13	< 0.0001
	tissue × UV-B	1.05	0.3122		tissue × UV-B	4.99	0.0326
	tissue × PAR	24.43	< 0.0001		tissue × PAR	10.10	0.0033
	UV-B × PAR	11.54	0.0016		UV-B × PAR	6.48	0.0159
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.62	0.4369		tissue × UV-B × PAR	0.01	0.9469
APX (<i>Df</i> = 1; 40)	tissue	0.01	0.9875				
	UV-B	19.37	0.0001				
	PAR	4.87	0.0357				
	tissue × UV-B	1.39	0.2483				
	tissue × PAR	2.02	0.1659				
	UV-B × PAR	1.54	0.2248				
	tissue × UV-B × PAR	11.68	0.0020				



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