

# Bioecological characteristics of the model plant *Thellungiella parvula*

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**Abstract:** In this article, the biological characteristics of the model plant *Thellungiella parvula*, salinity and drought tolerance functions are presented. The article also talks about the author's scientific research and feedback on the topic. In the study of the topic, methods of observation, comparison and analysis were used.

**Keyword:** *thellungiella parvula*, model plant, salinity, drought

It is known that the process of desertification is accelerating due to global climate change. For this purpose, the attention of research scientists is focused on the study of drought-adapted and salt-resistant plants. In the present conditions, the drought caused by the improper use of water from agriculture, now requires plants adapted to this environment. Studying plants suitable for such needs, applying their bioecological properties to agricultural crops is currently a priority task for breeders. *Thellungiella parvula* model plant belongs to such plants. The short vegetation period of this plant also gives researchers a number of opportunities.



Figure 1. *Th. Parvula*

*Thellungiella parvula* belongs to the Cabbage family and is an annual plant. It completes the vegetation period in 60-70 days. This plant, which reaches 20-30 cm in height, is distinguished by its slender stem. The stem is an erect stem. There are 2 types of leaves, the ones located at the bottom of the stem are large, the edges are trimmed,

they are not banded. The leaves on the upper parts of the stem are whole, small in shape. The flowers are white, located in the inflorescence at the end of the stem. The fruit is a pod. *Thellungiella parvula* plants are studied for a variety of genetic studies, including as model plants with high-quality genome assemblies. According to the results of physiological and molecular studies, the differences in salt tolerance between halophytes and salt-sensitive plants are evident in their main physiological, biochemical and molecular processes.

Characterization of the physiological mechanisms of salt tolerance in halophytes has progressed over decades, but much remains unknown. However, the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms and adaptive evolutionary signatures of halophytism has lagged behind physiological characterization because there is no model halophyte that can be distinguished by all molecular and genetic tools. Thus, in 2001, the interest of the community in dealing with plant stress is mainly. In addition, data on *Th parvula* showed that it has many characteristics of salt-sensitive *Arabidopsis*-related plants: small size, short life, self-pollination, seed propagation, a relatively small genome (twice that of *Arabidopsis*), and technical feasibility of transformation. The plant is called *Thellungiella halophila* in some literature. *S. parvula* can be grown synchronously with *Arabidopsis* for comparative analysis in the culture medium. On the one hand, *Parvula* resembles *Arabidopsis* in that it has a rosette leaf ontology during vegetative growth and is reinforced during reproductive growth. However, the morphology of *S. parvula* can vary greatly in its natural habitat, with a complete absence of rosette leaves and only cauline leaves appearing in a few lesions. *E. salsugineum* also has a different developmental program than *Arabidopsis*; for example, the main ecotype under study requires vernalization to accelerate flowering, although the plant flowers without vernalization after about 10–12 months. It also exhibits long germination. According to Inan(2016), *S. parvula* shows similar growth rates to *Arabidopsis*, but has elongated leaves and shows undefined growth during vegetative and reproductive periods.

*S. parvula* has higher stomatal density as well as epicuticular wax content compared to *Arabidopsis*. Like other halophytes, *E. salsugineum* roots form a second layer of endodermis and an additional cortex layer, which may limit ion flow from roots to shoots [25, *E. parvula* is less sensitive to a number of abiotic stresses, including salt stress, than *Arabidopsis* resistant to nitrogen stress, phosphate deficiency, high boron levels and heat stress. *E. salsugineum* also exhibits cold and frost tolerance. However, compared to *Arabidopsis*, the relative tolerance of *E. parvula* depends on the compounds used, whether the plants are preacclimated, and whether the treatment is short or long term. However, *E. parvula* leaves have a structurally lower water content than *Arabidopsis* and are able to lose more water in response to osmotic stress, suggesting that *E. parvula* may be more drought tolerant than *Arabidopsis*.

Accordingly, *E. salsugineum* also exhibits greater tolerance to polyethylene glycol-induced osmotic stress than *Arabidopsis*. In addition to high Na<sup>+</sup> stress, *S. parvula* tolerates most ionic stresses, including K<sup>+</sup>, Li<sup>+</sup>, and Mg<sup>2+</sup> at levels toxic to many plants such as *E. parvula* and *Arabidopsis*.

Most studies have focused on the responses of *E. parvula* to salt stress. Unlike *Arabidopsis*, this plant is able to survive extreme salt concentrations up to 500 mM NaCl and complete its life cycle. These reports compared fresh and dry weight reduction as a marker of stress tolerance and showed that growth reduction by salt stress agent in *E. salsugineum* occurs at higher salt concentrations than in *Arabidopsis*. However, the study of more comparative phenomena shows that the total concentration of the rosette of *E. salsugineum* is reduced to 50 mM NaCl. This is an adaptive response consistent with data showing that plants actively reduce growth in response to stress independent of photosynthesis. A recently presented halophytic model suggests that *S. parvula* is able to tolerate higher levels of NaCl than *E. salsugineum* without reduced growth. In conclusion, *Thelungiella parvula* is a model plant for various genetic studies, including high-quality genome assemblies.

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