

Dr. Yiping Qi is an assistant professor in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture at University of Maryland, College Park. He earned a B.S. degree at Nankai University, a M.S. degree at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and a PhD degree at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Dr. Qi is an expert in plant genome editing. His current research focus is developing and applying plant genome editing tools for plant biology and crop improvement. In the past decade, Qi has been working on engineering sequence-specific nucleases (SSNs) such as Zinc Finger Nuclease (ZFN), Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nuclease (TALEN), CRISPR-Cas9 and CRISPR-Cas12a systems. These SSNs function as molecular scissors to cut DNA in a sequence-specific matter, enabling genome editing. With these tools, Qi has edited many crop genomes, including Arabidopsis, tobacco, Rice, Maize and Carrot.