

TABLE I. Highest chloroplast DNA levels for light-grown leaves

Plant	% of total DNA	Genomes per cell	Genomes per plastid	Reference
Pea	12	10,000	270	1
Soybean	17	13,000	—	33
Spinach	23	13,000	200	2
Beet	11	1,900	100	34
Potato	8	3,000	22	35
Wheat	17	50,000	900	36

During most of the increase in number of chloroplasts per cell that accompanies leaf development, the number of genomes per plastid decreases in pea, spinach, beet and wheat. Since only mature leaves were analyzed for potato, the number of genomes per plastid in younger leaves is probably much higher than 22.