

CONTENTS

Chapter 1 : General introduction **11**

- General introduction..... 13
- The plant immune system against microbial pathogens..... 15
- The network of hormones regulating inducible plant defenses..... 17
- *Arabidopsis/Pseudomonas syringae* interaction..... 21
- Induced disease resistance..... 23
- Priming..... 25
- BABA-induced resistance..... 27
- Cost of induced resistance and benefit of priming..... 30
- Thesis outline..... 31
- References..... 34

Chapter 2: Adaptation and improvement of real-time PCR methods to monitor microbial pathogen growth and accumulation of plant defense transcripts in plants **41**

- Abstract..... 43
- Background..... 44
- Results..... 47
- Discussion..... 63
- Conclusions..... 69
- Methods..... 71
- References..... 77
- Supplementary materials..... 81

Chapter 3: Effector-triggered activation of the interconnected Arabidopsis JA and ABA pathways promotes disease susceptibility to *Pseudomonas syringae* and MeSA emission **89**

- Abstract..... 91
- Introduction..... 93
- Results..... 95
- Discussion..... 104
- Materials and Methods..... 110
- References..... 115
- Supplementary materials..... 118

Chapter 4: General discussion and outlooks **127**