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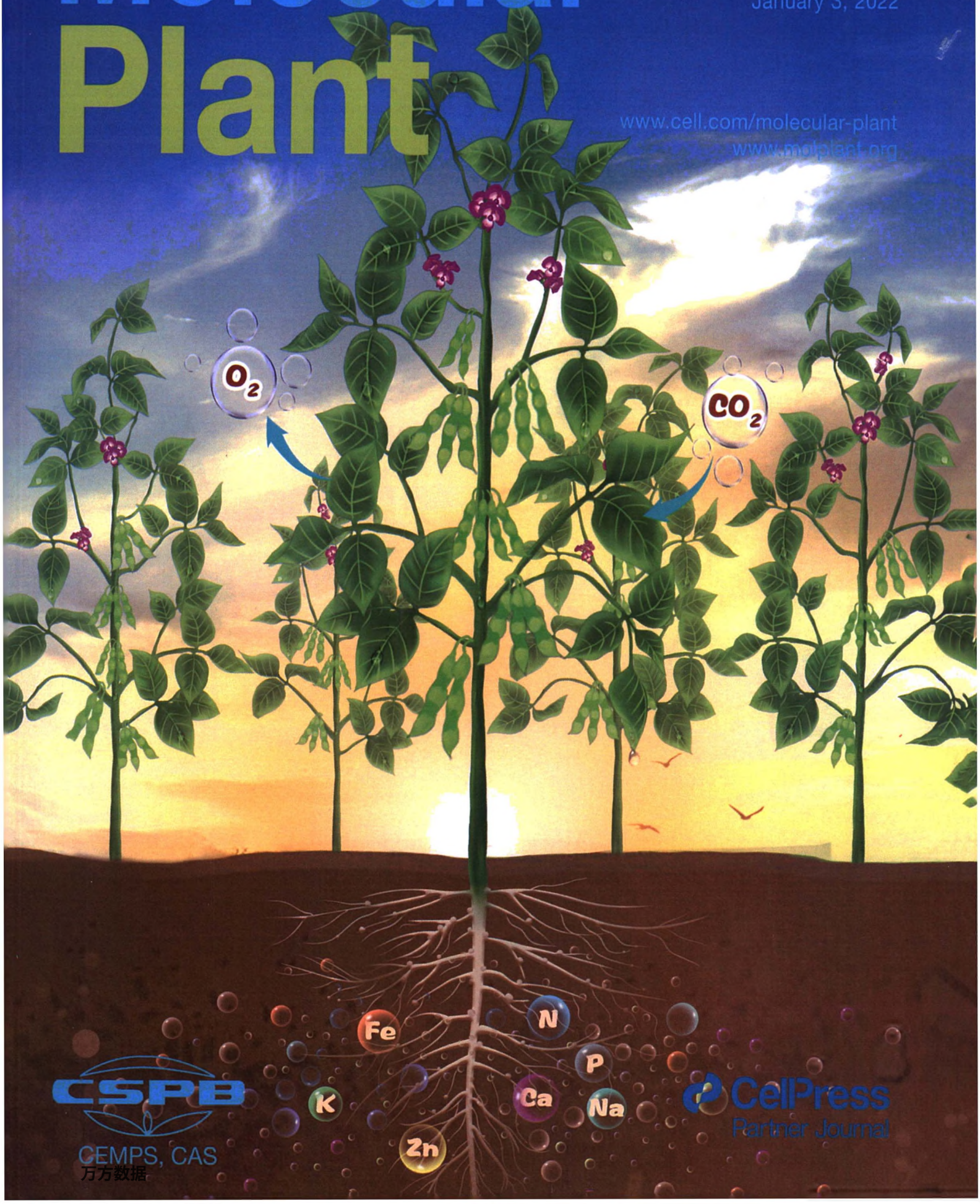

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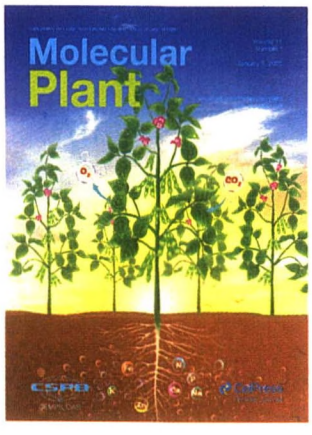

On The Cover

The healthy growth and stable productivity of higher plants require sufficient amount of at least 14 essential mineral elements, including nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), calcium (Ca), manganese (Mg), iron (Fe), zinc (Zn), etc. Naturally, these mineral elements are taken up by the roots from the soil, and then transported and distributed into other tissues and organs throughout the whole plant body for growth, flowering, reproduction, and seed setting. Nutritional status in plants is also important for food safety and human health, because low accumulation or bioavailability of some mineral elements such as Fe and Zn in editable parts of plants may cause the so-called hidden hunger of human but excess accumulation of some toxic elements such as cadmium (Cd) and arsenic (As) in crops and vegetables can directly threaten human health via food chain. The cover image illustrates nutrient-promoting plant growth processes and highlights the importance of nutrition-related research in plant sciences.