

Pseudomonas syringae pv. *syringae* (*Pss.*) strains infect many food crops worldwide. The extracellular signaling molecule leudiazene, isolated from *Pss.* UMAF0158, regulates the virulence of this strain by controlling production of mangotoxin, a toxin causing necrosis of mango leaves. The biosynthesis of leudiazene is coordinated by *Pseudomonas virulence factor* (*pvf*), composed of the genes *pvfABCD*. While leudiazene has been identified as a chemical signal, the relationship between its stereochemistry and bioactivity was unknown. Furthermore, the biosynthetic route to leudiazene remains to be elucidated, specifically regarding the functions of the enzymes PvfA and PvfD. Here, we synthesized and tested (*R*)- and (*S*)-leudiazene enantiomers in a β -galactosidase reporter assay, comparing the relative abilities of these enantiomers to induce the expression of mangotoxin biosynthesis. We determined that (*S*)-leudiazene is 100-fold more potent than (*R*)-leudiazene in activating mangotoxin expression. We also purified the uncharacterized enzyme PvfA for biochemical study. We found that PvfA performs a six-electron oxidation of *p*-aminobenzoic acid to *p*-nitrobenzoic acid in an iron(II)-dependent manner. While the role of PvfA in leudiazene biosynthesis remains to be determined, these results demonstrate PvfA is an iron-dependent oxidase, which may be used to produce similar diazeniumdiolate molecules to leudiazene for industrial or medical purposes. Additionally, understanding the regulation of *Pss.* UMAF0158 virulence by leudiazene could guide strategies to mitigate the effects of *Pss.* infection on crops.