**S Appendix.** Levels of MDA in the embryos (3 days-old) and the cotyledons (9 days-old) of germinated bean seeds in the presence of H2O (CTR) or 200 µM Cu. Values are means ± SE (n=4). Asterisks indicate significant differences compared with the respective control sample (\*\*\* p < 0.001). Procedure: samples homogenization in 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4, 1:5, w/v), then homogenates were centrifuged at 3000 ×g for 20 min and derivatized in the reaction mixture containing 10.3 mM 1-metyl-2-phenylindole (dissolved in acetonitrile/methanol, 3/1, v/v), HCl 32%, water and an equal volume of sample or 0-6 mM 1,1,3,3 tetramethoxypropane in 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4). After 40 min of incubation at 45 °C, samples were cooled on ice, centrifuged at 15,000 ×g for 10 min and the absorbance of the supernatant was recorded at 586 nm. Levels of MDA were calibrated against a malondialdehyde standard curve and expressed as nmol mg-1 protein.

**In embryo : CTR: 0.08±0.02 *versus* Cu: 0.20±0.05 \*\*\***

**In cotyledon : CTR: 0.11±0.08  *versus* Cu: 0.53±0.01 \*\*\***