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Functional Plant Biology

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Cover illustration: To pair or not to pair? *Triticum aestivum* ASYnapsis 1 (*Ta*ASY1) localisation in wild-type wheat cv. Chinese Spring during the early meiotic sub-stage known as zygotene. On the left, the *Ta*ASY1 signal (white) is continuous and structurally defined as the condensing chromosomes begin to synapse and pair with one another. On the right, the same *Ta*ASY1 signal (red) can be seen as being confined to the regions of the nucleoplasm containing chromatin, as shown by staining with 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) (blue) (see Able *et al.* pp. 575–588).