

VIRUS INFECTION IN RESEARCH PLOTS AT THE
INTERNATIONAL WINGED BEAN (DAMBALA) INSTITUTE

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The presence of virus infecting winged bean (dambala) (Psophocarpus tetragonalobus) in research plots at the International Winged Bean (Dambala) Institute at Pallekelle, Kundasale, has been confirmed. Sap transmissible virus was isolated from leaf samples on the herbaceous hosts Chenopodium quinoa, Nicotiana tabacum cv. White Burley and Vigna unguiculata cv. MI 35.

The virus isolated infected several leguminous hosts including cultivated species such as cowpea (Vigna unguiculata) cvs Arlington, MI 35, Polon Mae, Hawari Mae, Black Eye and Nigeria, green gram (Vigna radiata) cvs T 51, MI 4 and T 77, and black gram (Vigna mungo) T 9 and MI 1. Other leguminous plants infected were Clitoria ternatea, Phaseolus lunatus, Vanduru Mae (Mucuna prurita) and the village variety Veda Mung. Solanaceous hosts infected experimentally included Nicotiana tabacum cvs Turkish and Samsun, Nicotiana chinensis, Nicotiana bebneyi and Nicotiana occidentalis.

The virus resembles the Psophocarpus ringspot mosaic virus which is prevalent in West Africa and which is transmitted in seed and by an aphid vector, Aphis crassivora. It is probable that the virus has been introduced with imported seed.

09th Dec. 1987 (Wednesday) 10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m.