

B-75: Occurrence of a cucumovirus in some cultivated crops

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During surveys to determine the prevalence and importance of virus diseases of cultivated crops in Sri Lanka, a virus, which was subsequently identified by host range studies and serology as cucumber mosaic virus (CMV), was frequently isolated from a range of crops including brinjal (*Solanum melongena*), *Centella asiatica*, chilli (*Capsicum annum*), cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata*), mung bean (*Vigna radiata*), passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*), tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) and winged bean (*Psophocarpus tetragonolobus*). Serological tests confirmed that all isolates were closely

related to recognised strains of CMV. Host range studies indicated that the isolates were of the thermoresistant group C. CMV was found to be seed-borne in cowpea, mung bean and winged bean, but not in brinjal, chilli, passion fruit and tomato. CMV was transmitted by many aphid species in a non-persistent manner.

Seed-transmission of aphid transmitted viruses is of great epidemiological significance.