

DISEASE NOTE

**VIRUSES INFECTING *ALLIUM* SPP.
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A survey for viruses infecting cultivated *Allium* species was carried out in southern Italy (Apulia, Calabria, and Sicily) by DAS- or TAS-ELISA (Barg *et al.*, 1997), using antisera to *Onion yellow dwarf virus* (OYDV), *Leek yellow stripe virus* (LYSV), *Garlic common latent virus* (GarCLV), *Shallot latent virus* (SLV), *Garlic virus C* (GVC), and *Garlic virus D* (GVD), supplied by Drs. H. Lot (INRA, Montfavet, France), S.I. Sumi (Wakunaga Pharmaceutical Co., Hiroshima, Japan), and E. Barg (BBA, Braunschweig, Germany). Only a minority of the 120 garlic and the 25 onion samples examined came from plants that showed symptoms, i.e. reduced growth, chlorotic stripes, yellowing and curling of the leaves. Infection rates by potyviruses (OYDV and LYSV) were the highest, for OYDV was identified in 98% and 92% of garlic and onion samples, respectively, and LYSV in 83% of garlic samples, regardless of the geographic origin. Allexiviruses (GVC and GVD) were detected in all regions, their incidence ranging from 10 to 20%, depending on the viral species and the area. As to carlaviruses, GrCLV was identified in garlic samples from Apulia, with infections rates ranging from 23 to 98% in the southern and northern part of the region, respectively, whereas SLV was detected only in a few garlic samples from Calabria and Sicily.

Barg E., Lesemann D.E., Vetten H.J., Green S.K., 1997. Viruses of *Allium* and their distribution in different *Allium* crops and geographical regions. *Acta Horticulturae* **433**: 607-616.

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**FIRST REPORT OF *BEAN YELLOW
MOSAIC VIRUS* IN *AEGOPODIUM
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Aegopodium podagraria L. (*Apiaceae*) is a perennial wild plant, also cultivated as a source of root extracts used worldwide for their purifying and anti-inflammatory properties. During Summer 2002, some plants of *A. podagraria* cultivated in the Botanical Garden of the University of Parma and in the park of the Facoltà di Agraria of Bologna (Emilia-Romagna region of Northern Italy), were found affected by a same disease with virus-like symptoms on the leaves consisting in yellow and/or necrotic rings. Electron microscopic observations of leaf sap (leaf-dip preparations, stained with uranyl acetate and phosphotungstic acid) showed the presence of filamentous virus particles *ca.* 760 nm in length. The virus was identified as an isolated of *Bean yellow mosaic virus* (BYMV) by serological tests including protein A sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (PAS-ELISA), immunosorbent electron microscopy (ISEM) and gold-labelling antibody decorations (GLAD). The two antisera to BYMV tested were supplied by V. Lisa, IVV-CNR, Turin and by ATCC, Manassas, VA, USA. Examination of ultrathin sections of small symptomatic leaf fragments by electron microscopy revealed the presence of cylindrical inclusions, such as pinwheels with more or less curved long arms and laminated aggregates, typical of subdivision II of *Potyvirus*s (Edwardson and Christie, 1996). To our knowledge, this is the first report of BYMV in *A. podagraria*.

Edwardson J.R., Christie R.G., 1966. Cylindrical Inclusions. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences University of Florida, Agricultural Experiment Station, USA.

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