Blueberry Virus A

a. Virus/pathogen name, including accepted acronyms and synonyms

Blueberry virus A (BVA), Family: *Closteroviridae*, Genus: *Bluvavirus*

b. Host range, including resistance or tolerance within the crop hosts, alternate hosts

BVA is only known to infect Vaccinium (Isogai et al., 2013; Tzanetakis and Martin, 2017).

c. Symptoms

BVA was identified in plants exhibiting a yellow leaf symptom in Japan (Isogai et al., 2013) and bronze leaf symptoms in Michigan (Tzanetakis and Martin, 2017) In both locations, detection primers were developed and it has since been shown that many infected plants remain symptomless. It is likely that this virus interacts with other viruses to induce the pathology observed.

d. Geographic distribution:

BVA has been detected in Japan (Isogai et al., 2013) and in the upper Midwest and Northeastern U.S. (Martin and Tzanetakis, 2018).

e. Means of spread:

The vector for this virus is unknown, but other viruses in the genus *Closterovirus* are transmitted by aphids. The virus is systemic in plants and would also be spread via vegetative propagation, but this has not been documented.

f. Recognized diagnostic tests with cited references:

BVA can be detected by RT-PCR (Isogai et al., 2013; Martin and Tzanetakis, 2018; Martin et al., 2012).

g. Sampling recommendations for each pathogen including timing and tissue to be sampled

The youngest but fully expanded leaves should be used for testing.

h. Management strategies for the pathogen and the vector(s) of the pathogen

The use of virus-indexed planting stock is the most critical step in virus management.

References

Isogai, M., Muramatu, S., Watanabe, M. and Yoshikawa, N. 2013. Complete nucleotide sequence and latency of a novel blueberry-infecting closterovirus. Journal General Plant Pathology 79:123-127.

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Tzanetakis, I. E. and Martin, R. R. 2017. Blueberry virus A. Pages 60-61, In Compendium of Blueberry, Cranberry, and Lingonberry Diseases and Pests, 2nd ed.; Polashock, J.J., Caruso, F.L., Averill, A.L., Schilder, A.C., Eds.; APS Press: St. Paul, MN, USA, 2017; p. 60.

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