

Production of Polyclonal Antibodies Against a Yam Isolate of Cucumber Mosaic Virus (Cmv).

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- **Abstract:** Cucumber mosaic virus (CMV) genus Cucumovirus was recently detected in yam in Ghana, Togo and Benin bringing to six the total number of countries reporting CMV infection in yam worldwide. Two serotypes of CMV are distinguished and a specific antibody against the yam isolate of CMV is currently not available. Rabbit polyclonal antibodies were produced against purified preparations of a yam isolate of CMV from Nigeria. The antibody titre was determined by Protein-A sandwich (PAS) enzymelinked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and antigen-coated plate (ACP) ELISA. Antigen detection limit of the antibody was determined by PAS-ELISA using serial dilutions of infected sap. The CMV antiserum produced had a titre of 1:25,600 and 1:64,000 by PAS- and ACP-ELISA, respectively and a sap dilution end point of 1:160. The antibody detected homologous antigen in infected yam leaves from Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria. The CMV polyclonal antibody produced in this study will enhance CMV monitoring and contribute to prevention of the spread of CMV infection which is spreading in yam.
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