

Genetic Determinism and Evolutionary Reconstruction of a Host Jump in a Plant Virus

Nikon Vassilakos,¹ Vincent Simon,² Alik Tzima,¹ Elisabeth Johansen,³ and Benoît Moury²

¹ *Laboratory of Virology, Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Kifissia, Greece*

² *Inra, UR407 Pathologie Végétale, Montfavet, France*

³ *Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Thorvaldsensvej, Frederiksberg C, Denmark*

In spite of their widespread occurrence, only few host jumps by plant viruses have been evidenced and the molecular bases of even fewer have been determined. A combination of three independent approaches, 1) experimental evolution followed by reverse genetics analysis, 2) positive selection analysis, and 3) locus-by-locus analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) allowed reconstructing the *Potato virus Y* (PVY; genus Potyvirus, family Potyviridae) jump to pepper (*Capsicum annuum*), probably from other solanaceous plants. Synthetic chimeras between infectious cDNA clones of two PVY isolates with contrasted levels of adaptation to *C. annuum* showed that the P3 and, to a lower extent, the CI cistron played important roles in infectivity toward *C. annuum*. The three analytical approaches pinpointed a single nonsynonymous substitution in the P3 and P3N-PIPO cistrons that evolved several times independently and conferred adaptation to *C. annuum*. In addition to increasing our knowledge of host jumps in plant viruses, this study illustrates also the efficiency of locus-by-locus AMOVA and combined approaches to identify adaptive mutations in the genome of RNA viruses.



16^{èmes} Rencontres de
Virologie Végétale

15 - 19 JANVIER 2017 • AUSSOIS - FRANCE



Aussois
du 15 au 19 janvier 2017