

# Test performance studies of detection tests of Pospiviroids on *Solanaceae* (PospiTest)



## Funding

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## Research consortium

JKI (DE), CRA-W (BE), ILVO (BE), CFIA (CA), ANSES (FR), GEVES (FR), HM-Clause (FR), SASA (GB), BPI (GR), BEJO (NL), ENZA-Zaden (NL), CIP (PE), NIB (SI), BCRI (TR), APHIS (US),

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## Goals

Viroids have a huge host range and in particular plants from the family *Solanaceae* are widely affected. In crops such as potato or tomato, viroid infection can lead to severe yield losses. However, infections can be unnoticed as viroid infections of ornamental hosts are often symptomless. As viroids are easily transmitted mechanically, there is a great risk of cross-contamination and spread of viroids. Therefore, detection methods for reliable and sensitive detection of viroids are necessary. Advances in viroid research have led also to the discovery of new viroid species that also need to be correctly identified by these tests. The goal of this project is to evaluate and validate different existing viroid detection methods to standardise detection guidelines.

## Objectives

The objective of this project is to compare different molecular viroid detection methods (RT-PCR, real-time RT-PCR) and evaluate them in test performance studies. Furthermore, the specificity of these tests will be compared using a broad range of different viroids that can potentially be found in solanaceous plants

## Key outputs and results

Knowledge produced in the project will be used for revising EPPO Diagnostic Protocols.