

1 **ORIGIN, EVOLUTION AND MOLECULAR EPIDEMIOLOGY OF PAPAYA**

2 **RINGSPOT VIRUS**

3

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1 **ABSTRACT**

2 *Papaya ringspot virus* (PRSV) is the most important virus affecting papaya and cucurbit
3 plants in tropical and subtropical areas. PRSV is divided into two groups: the W type,
4 which infects papaya (*Carica papaya*) and plants belonging to the Cucurbitaceae
5 family, and the P type, which only infects papaya. The study of molecular variation of
6 this virus is of great relevance, especially to develop transgenic resistance. In order to
7 have a better understanding about the variation, origin, evolution and epidemiology of
8 this virus it is necessary to construct a robust phylogenetic inference. Moreover, it is
9 essential to include a comprehensive collection of sequences of poorly studied regions,
10 especially South America. For this purpose, the sequences of the Capsid Protein (CP)
11 have been used. For this gene, a phylogenetic approach using a molecular clock is
12 presented, including sequences reported previously from different parts of the world
13 and new ones obtained in Colombia. In order to calibrate the tree, the known dates of
14 collection from different isolates were used. The advantage of this method is that
15 divergence times can be accurately calculated. These dates can be used to further
16 define the origin and epidemiology of PRSV. Our analysis shows that apparently,
17 movement of the virus between regions contributes to the observed population
18 variation. The hypothesis of the origin of PRSV-P biotype from PRSV-W is revised,
19 because evidence for the opposite process is found in several instances.

20
21 **Keywords:** *Papaya ringspot virus*, Relaxed Molecular Clock, Bayesian Phylogeny

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1 INTRODUCTION

2 *Papaya ringspot virus* (PRSV; Family *Potyviridae*, genus *Potyvirus*) is an important
3 pathogen of papaya and cucurbits (Purcifull et al., 1984). PRSV particles are flexuous
4 filaments of 780 x 12nm with a single stranded RNA genome of positive polarity with
5 ca. 10.000 nucleotides that encode a polyprotein within a single ORF (De La Rosa and
6 Lastra, 1983). Plants infected with PRSV develop symptoms ranging from mosaic,
7 chlorosis and distortion of leaves, to ring spot and streaking on fruits and water-soaked
8 oily streaks on stem and petioles (Purcifull et al., 1984). The virus is transmitted non-
9 persistently by several species of aphids (Purcifull et al., 1984), a process requiring the
10 coat protein (CP) and the helper component (HC-Pro) (Maia, Haenni, and Bernardi,
11 1996; Pirone, 1991; Pirone and Blanc, 1996; Wang et al., 1998).

12 PRSV isolates are divided into two groups: the P and W biotypes (Purcifull et al., 1984).
13 PRSV-W and PRSV-P can infect plants in the *Cucurbitaceae* family, however only PRSV-
14 P naturally infects papaya (*Carica papaya*) (Gonsalves, 1998; Purcifull et al., 1984).
15 Both isolates are serologically indistinguishable (Purcifull et al., 1984) and
16 experimentally can infect *Chenopodium quinoa* and *C. amaranticolor*, producing local
17 lesions (Gonsalves, 1998).

18 PRSV-P has been isolated in papaya-producing areas including Africa, the Caribbean,
19 Australia, Tropical Asia, Latin America and the South Pacific (Tennant et al., 1994).
20 Due to its large distribution, this virus is known as the major limiting factor for papaya
21 production throughout the tropics and subtropics (Gonsalves, 1998). This includes
22 Colombia, where the disease produced by PRSV-P has been recorded in several
23 Departments, since 1952 (Sánchez de Luque and Martínez López, 1998) and it is
24 considered as the most important disease of papaya in this country (Páez, 2003).
25 Control of the disease in Colombia includes cultural practice methods such as isolation
26 of infected cultivars and removal of young infected trees (Páez, 2003). The use of the

1 attenuated isolate HA 5-1 developed in Hawaii (Yeh and Gonsalves, 1984) has also
2 been used, showing a low efficiency of protection (Páez, 2003). Furthermore, various
3 studies in different countries where the attenuated isolate or transgenic protection
4 were not useful, have shown that resistance depends on the level of RNA similarity
5 between the transgene or mild strain and the incoming virus (Gonsalves, 1998;
6 Tennant et al., 1994; Tripathi et al., 2008). Studies evaluating the viability of virus mild
7 strains for cross-protection have also been achieved for PRSV-W, showing similar
8 results (Rezende and Pacheco, 1998; Rezende et al., 1994). Therefore to obtain an
9 adequate protection, virus populations in each country must be investigated to either
10 find a local attenuated virus or to further understand the local virus variability
11 (Gonsalves, 1998; Silva-Rosales et al., 2000; Tripathi et al., 2008).

12 The molecular variability and phylogenetic relationships of PRSV were investigated by
13 Batenson et al. (2002), including sequences from Indochina, Japan, Australia, United
14 States, Brasil, Mexico and Puerto Rico. The general conclusion was that PRSV
15 populations show high variability, and that variability was related to the geographical
16 origin of the strains. More importantly, evidence of the origin of PRSV-P from PRSV-W,
17 previously proposed Batenson et al., 1994 either by mutation or recombination, could
18 not be clearly resolved. According to this, in order to increase the knowledge on the
19 origin, evolution and epidemiology of PRSV, it is necessary to obtain more sequences
20 from different countries, especially from regions that were missing in previous studies
21 such as Central and South America (Bateson et al., 2002).

22 To help resolve these issues, we examined the evolutionary dynamics of PRSV
23 including recently published sequences from different countries and new sequences
24 from PRSV-P obtained in Colombia. For this purpose, numerous sequences of the
25 Capsid Protein (CP) were employed and a phylogenetic approach using a relaxed
26 molecular clock is presented. In order to calibrate the tree, the known dates of

1 collection from different isolates were used. The advantage of this method is that
2 divergence times can be accurately calculated and hence the viral diversity across time
3 and space can be studied. This type of analysis has been performed with diverse kinds
4 of viruses, and has been proved to be helpful to solve epidemiological issues (Rambaut
5 et al., 2008).

6 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

7 **Virus isolates**

8 Virus isolates used in this study were collected from papaya fields in Colombia. The
9 isolates were collected between 2008 and 2009 in the following Departments:
10 Casanare, Santander, Valle del Cauca, Risaralda, Caldas and Cundinamarca (Figure 1).
11 Whenever possible, every location was georeferenced with the Magellan SporTrak™ or
12 12XL Garmin™ GPS. The names and origin of the isolates are listed in Supplementary
13 Table 1.

14 Young papaya leaves showing or not symptoms of PRSV infection were collected.
15 These samples were placed in plastic bags with an absorbent slightly moist paper towel
16 slightly moist. To preserve the samples until the day of its processing plastic bags were
17 kept open on ice. Once in the laboratory, samples were macerated in liquid nitrogen
18 with sterile mortars and pistils. Finally, all samples were stored at -80°C until RNA
19 extraction.

20 **RNA extraction, cDNA synthesis and PCR**

21 In order to avoid RNases, all surfaces were cleaned with RNase away (Molecular
22 BioProducts, San Diego, California, USA). Total RNA was extracted from macerated
23 tissue using the Concert™ Plant RNA Reagent (Invitrogen, California, USA) according
24 to manufacturer's instructions. The resulting pellet was resuspended in 20µl of sterile
25 water treated with Diethylpirocarbonate (DEPC; 0,1%v/v). Four µl of each extracted
26 RNA was denatured by heating at 65°C for 10 minutes. Denatured RNA was subjected

1 to electrophoresis in a denaturing 1.2% agarose-formaldehyde gel, using a constant
2 voltage of 70V for 25 minutes.

3 cDNA was synthesized from total RNA using the complementary primer 04-04 (Chin et
4 al., 2007). For this purpose either the SuperScript™ III RT/Taq mix Platinum®
5 (Invitrogen) or the iScript™ Select cDNA Synthesis Kit (Biorad) were used. To avoid
6 RNA degradation, 2µl of RNasin® Plus RNase Inhibitor (Promega) were added to all of
7 the reaction mixtures mentioned above.

8 Subsequently, double-stranded DNA fragments of the CP and HC-Pro genes were
9 generated. For the CP gene, the following primers were used: 04-04 and 04-02 (Chin
10 et al, 2007) or MB11M (modified from Bateson et al, 1994; removing 15 nucleotides
11 not relevant for this study). PCR conditions included an initial denaturation cycle of 2
12 min at 94 °C followed by 39 cycles of denaturation for 30 s at 94 °C, annealing for 30 s
13 at 46.5°C and extension for 30 s at 72 °C, with a final extension of 6 min at 72 °C. For
14 the amplification of the HC-Pro gene, the primers FHCP-566 and RHCP-566 were used.
15 The PCR amplification scheme was the same as described formerly for the CP gene
16 except for the annealing temperature (56°C for the HC-Pro gene). All primer
17 information is shown in Figure 2.

18 Both genes were amplified using either GoTaq® Green Master Mix (Promega) or a mix
19 of *Pfu* DNA polymerase (Fermentas) and Fermentas *Taq* DNA polymerase. For the CP
20 gene 3µl of cDNA and 0.5µl of each primer (10µM) were used in a final volume of 25µl.
21 For HC-Pro gene, 3µl of cDNA were also used in a 20 µl reaction mixture containing 1X
22 Buffer, 2.5mM MgSO₄, 0.2mM dNTPs, 0.2µM Primers, 0,25U of *Taq*, 1U of *Pfu* and 5%
23 DMSO. Amplified products were analyzed in 1% agarose gel electrophoresis in TAE
24 buffer.

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1 **Cloning and Sequencing**

2 PCR fragments were purified from the agarose gel with the Wizard[®] SV Gel and PCR
3 Clean-Up System (Promega). The purified PCR products were polyadenylated in a 10µl
4 final volume reaction containing Fermentas *Taq* DNA polymerase (5U), *Taq* DNA Buffer
5 (10X), MgCl₂ (25mM) and dATP (0,2mM). The polyadenylated products were cloned into
6 pGEM[®]-T (Promega) according to manufacturer's instructions.
7 Competent cells of *Escherichia coli* DH5α were prepared by a series of washes as
8 previously described (Maniatis, Fritsch, and Sambrook, 1982). Forty µl aliquots of
9 these cells were maintained at -80°C, and 1.5µl of the vector ligation was
10 electroporated in these cells at 1.25V in a MicroPulser[™] (Biorad) electroporator.
11 Transformed cells were cultured in plates with LB medium supplemented with
12 ampicillin (100µg/ml) and X-gal (20µg/ml). White colonies were selected to perform
13 PCR with the Universal M-13 primers, using Go Taq Green Master Mix (Promega). After
14 visualization of the amplified products in a 1% agarose gel, the PCR fragments were
15 gel-purified with the Clean-Up System described above. The purified products were
16 sequenced at Macrogen (Korea). A total of three clones per virus isolate per gene were
17 sequenced in both directions (3' and 5').

18 **Sequence analysis**

19 Nucleotide sequences for the CP and HC-Pro genes for other PRSV isolates were
20 retrieved from Genbank (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/>). The information
21 regarding these PRSV isolates is listed in Supplementary Table 2.
22 The quality of the obtained sequences was assessed in BioEdit (Hall, 1999), with which
23 the DNA sequencing chromatograms were analyzed. A VecScreen filter was
24 performed in order to clean sequences of vector contamination (available at
25 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/VecScreen/VecScreen.html>). Subsequently, sequences
26 were assembled in Sequencher[™] (Gene Codes Corporation) and aligned using the

1 | MUSCLE algorithm (Edgar, 2004) in the EMBL-EBI web page
2 | (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/muscle/>). A recombination analysis between and within
3 | groups of sequences (*i.e.*, Countries) was performed in RecombiTEST (Piganeau,
4 | Gardner, and Eyre-Walker, 2004), using the Maximum Chi-square test (Smith, 1992).
5 | On the other hand, a total of 13 genomes of PRSV-P and PRSV-W had been completely
6 | sequenced (AY231130, S46722, DQ374153, DQ374152, DQ340771, DQ340769,
7 | DQ340770, AY027810, X97251, AY162218, AY010722, EF017707, X67673). These 13
8 | sequences were also aligned with MUSCLE as described previously with the CP and HC-
9 | Pro sequences obtained from Colombia. The nucleotide distance was calculated using
10 | MEGA (Tamura et al., 2007), and the nucleotide diversity (π), the Segregant Sites (S),
11 | the Watterson's θ (θ_w), Tajima's D (Tajima, 1989) and the proportion of non-
12 | synonymous to synonymous substitutions ($\omega = dN/dS$), were implemented using
13 | DNAsp (Rozas and Rozas, 1995).

14 | **Phylogenetic analyses**

15 | The Maximum Likelihood (ML) analysis was implemented using PAUP* 4.0b10
16 | (Swofford, 2002). The nucleotide substitution model was obtained with ModelTest3.7
17 | (Posada and Crandall, 1998), following the Akaike Information Criteria (AIC) (Akaike,
18 | 1974; Akaike, Petrov, and Csaki, 1973). The branch support was calculated with a
19 | 1000 replicates bootstrap. This analysis was performed for the sequences of CP and
20 | HC-Pro, and the obtained topologies were compared with a Shimodaira-Hasegawa
21 | statistical test (Shimodaira and Hasegawa, 1999). Potato virus Y (PVY, Accession
22 | number AY884985) was used as outgroup.

23 | A phylogeny under a relaxed-clock model was constructed for the CP gene using
24 | BEAST v 1.4.8 (Drummond et al., 2006). In this Bayesian phylogenetic inference, an
25 | Uncorrelated Lognormal molecular clock model was chosen and the tree prior was the
26 | model of Constant Size. The known dates of collection were used as calibration points.

1 An arbitrary date was set in cases where the collection dates were unknown. The
2 substitution model was GTR with gamma and invariant sites as a model for site
3 heterogeneity, with 4 gamma categories. The length of the MCMC was 20.000.000 with
4 a screen every 1.000th generation. The convergence of this analysis was studied with
5 Tracer v 1.4 (Available at <http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/tracer/>), in order to examine
6 the robustness of the obtained model.

7 **RESULTS**

8 **Sample collection**

9 Typical symptoms of PRSV were observed in Colombian papaya fields, including
10 reduction in foliar area, mosaic, distortion, and chlorosis, as well as fruit ring spot
11 (Figure 3).

12 For the amplification of the CP gene, the primer pair 04-02 and 04-04 did not produce
13 an amplicon in many cases. The best result was obtained with primers 04-02 and
14 MB11M. A total of nine new sequences of the CP gene were obtained. Nevertheless,
15 virus mechanical inoculation in indicator plants (i.e. in *Chenopodium*) needs to be
16 performed to discard the presence of the virus in the other collection samples.

17 **Sequence analysis**

18 Sequences from Colombian samples, and 118 additional sequences obtained in
19 GenBank of PRSV-P and PRSV-W from different parts of the world, were aligned using
20 MUSCLE. The recombination analysis showed two possible events of recombination
21 ($p < 0,05$), both involving as recombinant and donors Indian isolates (data not shown).

22 | The recombinant sequence India_UPLK has as a major parent the isolate India_UPV.
23 | The other case of recombination is the India_WBz having as a major parent the isolate
24 | India_HP.

25 The nucleotide diversity (π) ranged from $\pi = 0,01102$ (Jamaican isolates) to $\pi = 0,07977$
26 (Indian isolates) followed by $\pi = 0,07177$ (Mexican isolates). For the 15 sequences of

1 each CP and HC-Pro, HC-Pro was found to be more diverse ($\pi=0,15277$) than CP
2 ($\pi=0,10718$). For both genes, the observed value of Tajima's D within groups and in
3 the overall alignment was significantly negative, indicating that they are not under
4 neutral evolution. In order to identify which selection force is acting on each gene, the
5 proportion of non synonymous/synonymous substitutions (ω) was calculated, obtaining
6 for both genes a ω greater than 1, indicating positive selection (Supplementary Table
7 3).

8 **Phylogenetic analysis**

9 A phylogeny of the total CP sequences was constructed using an uncorrelated
10 LogNormal Molecular Clock and the resulting topology situated PRSV virus origin
11 approximately between 75 and 150 years ago (Figure 4). In concordance with previous
12 reports (Bateson et al., 2002), the origin of the virus is placed in South Asia, more
13 precisely in India. However, this basal clade is formed only by isolates of PRSV-P and
14 no isolates of PRSV-W are found there. Moreover, Asian isolates are grouped into two
15 clusters. One group is monophyletic and includes eastern isolates (China, Thailand,
16 Vietnam, Japan, Taiwan and Korea). The other is the paraphyletic and basal group of
17 South Asia, including isolates from India and Bangladesh. This group is the closest
18 ancestor of the Americas-Australia monophyletic group. In the Americas-Australia
19 group, Jamaica and Australia are monophyletic in contrast with the Mexican isolates
20 that appear to have several origins. Indeed, one of the Mexican isolates is basal to the
21 Australian clade (Figure 4, black arrow).

22 Regarding the Colombian isolates of PRSV, the ones from Valle del Cauca,
23 Cundinamarca and Santander (Figure 1) grouped together in a monophyletic clade
24 (Figure 4, pink arrow). However, isolates from Casanare were found within the
25 Venezuela clade (Figure 4, pink and orange), showing two different origins for the
26 Colombian isolates of PRSV-P.

1 For the comparison of the CP and HC-Pro genes, ML phylogenetic trees were
2 constructed. A heuristic search of the ML analysis for CP-gene generated an optimal
3 tree under the GTR+I+G model (Figure 5.A), and for HC-Pro-gene the generated tree
4 was under the TIM+I+G model (Figure 5.B). Both trees showed Brazil and Hawaii as
5 monophyletic groups. However, only the HC-Pro tree could resolve the relationships of
6 the Taiwan isolates, whereas the CP tree resolved those for Thailand. Although for
7 both cases, these branches were not highly supported. Neither tree could resolve the
8 relationships of Colombian and Mexican isolates, however these were grouped with
9 Brazilian and Hawaiian isolates. According to the SH test, for topology comparison,
10 these topologies differed significantly from each other ($p < 0.05$).

11 **DISCUSSION**

12 The phylogeny constructed under a relaxed molecular clock showed a supported
13 topology, with the exception of a few poorly supported clades (Figure 4, branches in
14 red). However, the range of dates appears to be calculated accurately. For example,
15 PRSV-W was first described in Australia 31 years ago (Greber, 1978), date that is
16 included in the range of 30 to 45 years ago calculated in this study to be the origin of
17 that clade. For the cases of Colombia and Hawaii, PRSV-P was first described around
18 50 years ago (Jensen, 1949; Sánchez de Luque and Martínez López, 1998) and in
19 Venezuela it was reported 60 years ago (Muller, 1941). In the constructed phylogeny,
20 the dates for these groups were placed between 5 to 45 years ago. The deviation of
21 these obtained dates and those reported, may be due to the use of relatively recent
22 sequences (the sequences included from Colombia are from the last two years), which
23 can lead to underestimation of divergence times. Moreover the collection dates of
24 Hawaii were unknown, which can also influence the estimation of divergence dates.
25 For the Mexican isolates, collected during a wider time range (from 1994 to 2000), the
26 estimated date of origin is between 65 to 45 years ago, a range that covers the first

1 report in this country in 1975 (Téliz-Ortiz et al., 1991). However, as there appears to
2 be multiple origins for the Mexican, Colombian and Venezuela isolates (non-
3 monophyletic groups), the calculus for the origin of this isolates can be deviated, as
4 probably no every isolate has been recorded. Nevertheless it is noted that the first
5 report of a disease might also be an underestimation of the date of origin of a virus in
6 a given place.

7 Previous reports sustained that PRSV appears to be originated in Asia (Batenson et al.,
8 2002), and the present study also supports this hypothesis. This is also in accordance
9 with the high nucleotide diversity found in Asia, more specifically in India, the basal
10 clade. However, neither Indian nor Asian clades are monophyletic. More interesting, it
11 has been proposed that PRSV-P evolved from PRSV-W, but in this study there is
12 evidence that the opposite process is also possible and that it actually has occurred
13 many times. The first evidence that PRSV-P evolved from PRSV-W came from
14 Australian populations of the virus (Bateson et al., 1994). As for this case, PRSV-W was
15 first described in Australia in 1978 (Greber, 1978) at least 20 years before PRSV-P
16 appeared (Thomas and Dodman, 1993). When that study was carried out, only few
17 sequences of PRSV (all of them from Asia and USA), were available. The final result
18 revealed that PRSV-P from Australia arose from an isolate of an Australian PRSV-W.
19 However, the inclusion of more sequences from Central and South America showed
20 that an isolate of PRSV-P from Mexico is the closest ancestor to the PRSV-W (Figure 4,
21 black arrow). Moreover, when more sequences of PRSV-W from Australia were
22 included, some of them appeared to have arisen from PRSV-P isolates (Figure 4). Later
23 studies that confirmed the hypothesis of the origin of PRSV-P from PRSV-W (Bateson
24 et al., 2002; Inoue-Nagata et al., 2007), did not include the sequences of PRSV-P from
25 India used in this study (Jain et al., 2004). When included in this and in Jain et al.

1 (2004) studies, these sequences are situated in the most basal part of the tree,
2 showing PRSV-P from India as the basal ancestor either for PRSV-P than for PRSV-W.
3 For the Colombian case, the isolates obtained from Casanare did not group together
4 with the isolates of the rest of Colombia but with isolates from Venezuela (Figure 4,
5 pink arrow). Of all the departments where the collections were made, Casanare is the
6 closest to Venezuela (Figure 1), implying a probable migration of infected plants
7 between these two countries. This shows that the virus movement is important in
8 shaping the molecular population evolution of PRSV, as this is also observed in the
9 overall phylogeny with many non-monophyletic groups. Unfortunately, migration
10 analyses cannot be performed with the CP gene because it is under positive selection,
11 which can bias this type of analysis. Because of this, a highly supported phylogeny as
12 the one constructed here, shows to be a good approach to infer the migration patterns
13 for PRSV. Nonetheless, a better approach that can be done with a calibrated phylogeny
14 is the fact that with this one one can take in account evolutionary history not only in
15 space but also in time. For this, the study of population dynamics of genetic diversity in
16 time (Drummond et al., 2005), has been proposed for all genes of the virus genome.
17 However only 14 complete genome sequences have been reported and only 4 on them
18 are from the W biotype. Another good approach could be phylogeographic
19 The tree obtained with the HC-Pro gene was better at resolving the relationships
20 between the isolates than the one using CP. Even if the overall tree topology was very
21 similar, they were significantly different. In a previous study of PRSV-P isolates,
22 neighbor joining trees of the CI, 6K and HC-Pro proteins showed a different topology
23 from the other five proteins of PRSV (Noa-Carrazana, González-de-León, and Silva-
24 Rosales, 2007). Interestingly, these genes are expected to have a similar evolutionary
25 history because they are involved in aphid transmission (Urcuqui-Inchima, Haenni, and
26 Bernardi, 2001). However, HC-Pro is a multifunctional protein involved not only on

1 aphid propagation but also in long distance and cell to cell movement, silencing
2 suppression, virus synergism in co-infection and development of symptoms (Ballut et
3 al., 2005; Urcuqui-Inchima, Haenni, and Bernardi, 2001). To study the coevolution
4 between these two genes, the conserved parts involved in aphid transmission should
5 be used. In this case the regions around the DAG motif in CP (close to the N-
6 terminus), which are implicated in aphid transmission (Shukla, Ward, and Brunt, 1994),
7 have shown considerable conservation (Bateson et al., 1994; Bateson et al., 2002). For
8 HC-Pro the regions around the KITC (N-terminus) and PTK (C-terminus) seemed to be
9 involved in aphid transmission (Revers et al., 1999) and so they also should be used
10 for the study of coevolution between these two genes. As the HC-Pro gene gave a
11 more resolved phylogeny, this gene could be used to resolve the relationships among
12 PRSV isolates.

13 Finally, the PRSV evolutionary history is very complex, including several changes in
14 biotype, which include the change of host range. Molecular studies should be done to
15 understand why PRSV-P appears to have lost its natural ability to infect cucurbits
16 despite all this host changes. For this reason, this virus could be used as a biological
17 model to study this process. Moreover it could be the model to study different selective
18 pressures on virus, including how a virus population is influenced by the presence of
19 resistant cultivars.

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25 helping me in the adventurous collection in Santander.

26

1 **Figure 1** . Collection places of papaya samples used in this study. **A.** Colombian map
2 showing the departments where the isolates were collected. Green: Casanare, red:
3 Cundinamarca, pink: Santander, violet: Caldas, yellow: Risaralda and orange: Valle del
4 Cauca. The number inside or near each department indicates the number of collected
5 samples. **B.** Close up of the map showing in green the specific collection sites at each
6 department.

7 **Figure 2.** Annealing sites of primers used in this study, over the genome sequence of
8 the PRSV isolate from Hawaii (PRSV-HA). The primer sequences and melting
9 temperature is also shown. Primers that amplify the HC-Pro gene are shown in green.
10 Primers that amplify the CP gene are shown in purple (Image modified from Tripathi,
11 *et al.*, 2008).

12 **Figure 3.** Symptoms observed in papaya fields in Colombia. **A.** Papaya tree showing
13 foliar area reduction. **B.** Fruit ringspot. **C.** Leaf Mosaic. **D.** Distortion of young leaves.
14 **E.** Chlorosis.

15 **Figure 4** . Phylogenetic tree of the CP gene using an Uncorrelated LogNormal relaxed
16 molecular clock model. Black dots represent PRSV-W isolates, gray dots represent
17 unknown isolates suspected to belong to the PRSV-W group. Black arrow indicate the
18 Mexican isolate that gave origin to the Australian clade. In pink, Colombian isolates. In
19 orange, the isolates from Venezuela. Blue horizontal bars represent the 95% HPD
20 interval for the divergence time estimates. Branches colored in red are not well
21 supported (posterior probabilities lower than 0,65).

22 **Figure 5** . **A.** ML tree under the GTR+I+G for the CP gene. **B.** ML tree under the
23 TIM+I+G for the HC-Pro gene. Above the branches, the bootstrap values for a 1000
24 replicates is shown. External group: Potato Virus Y (PVY).

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Figure 1.

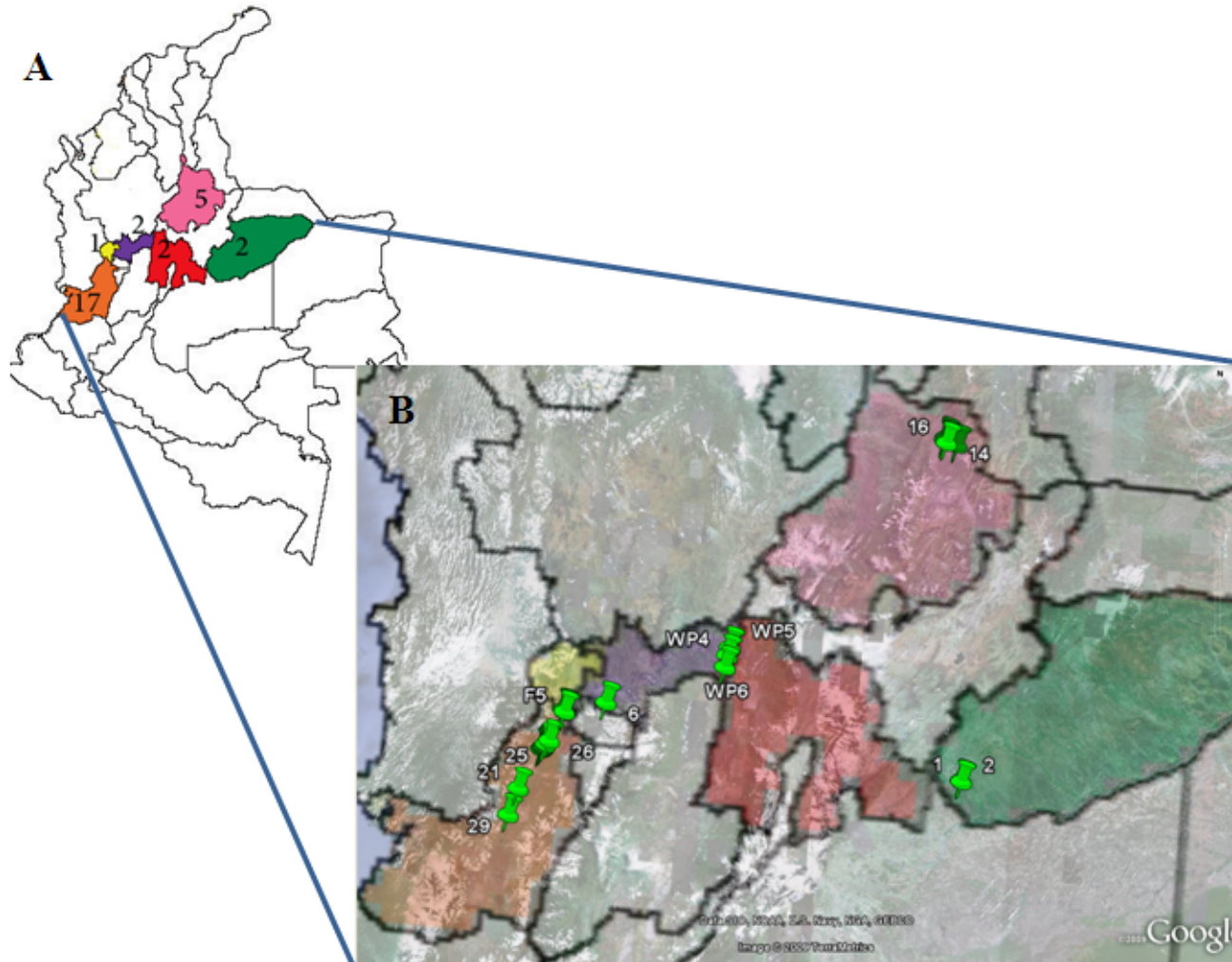


Figure 2.

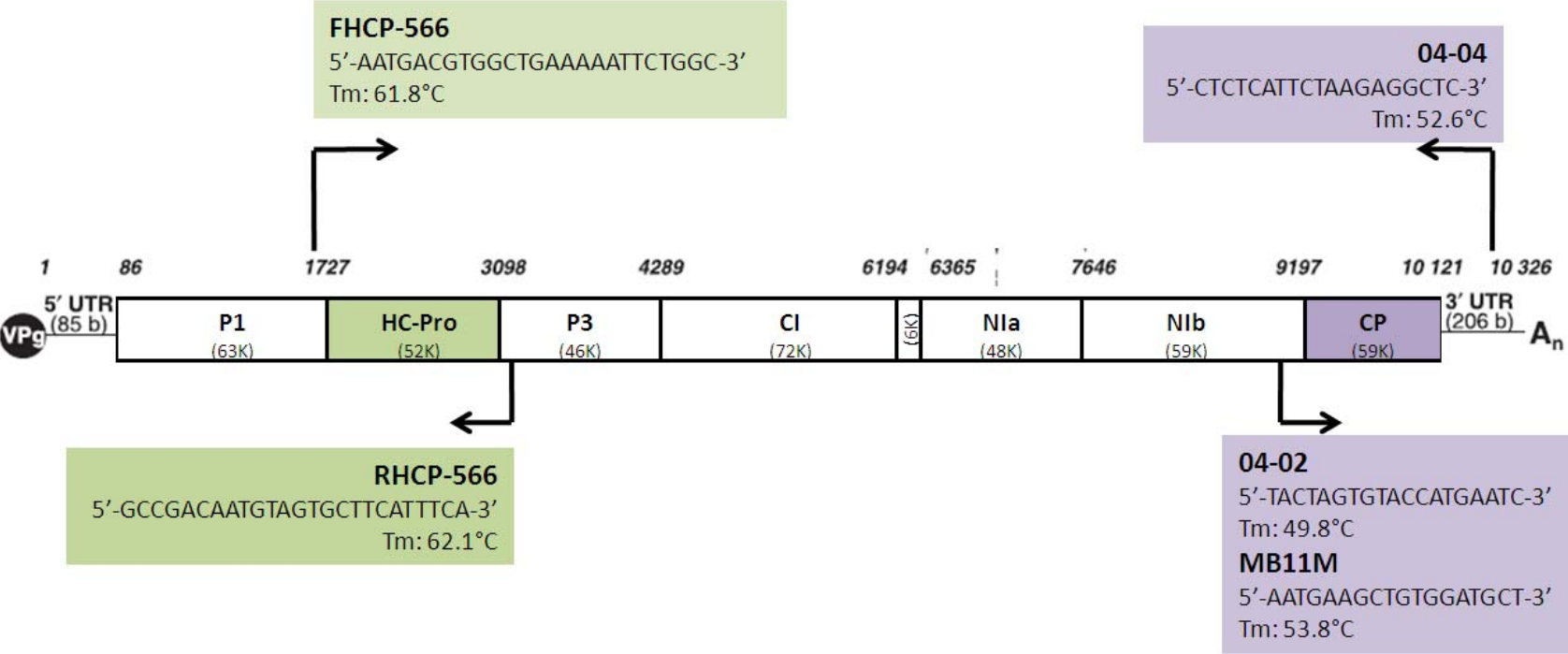


Figure 3.

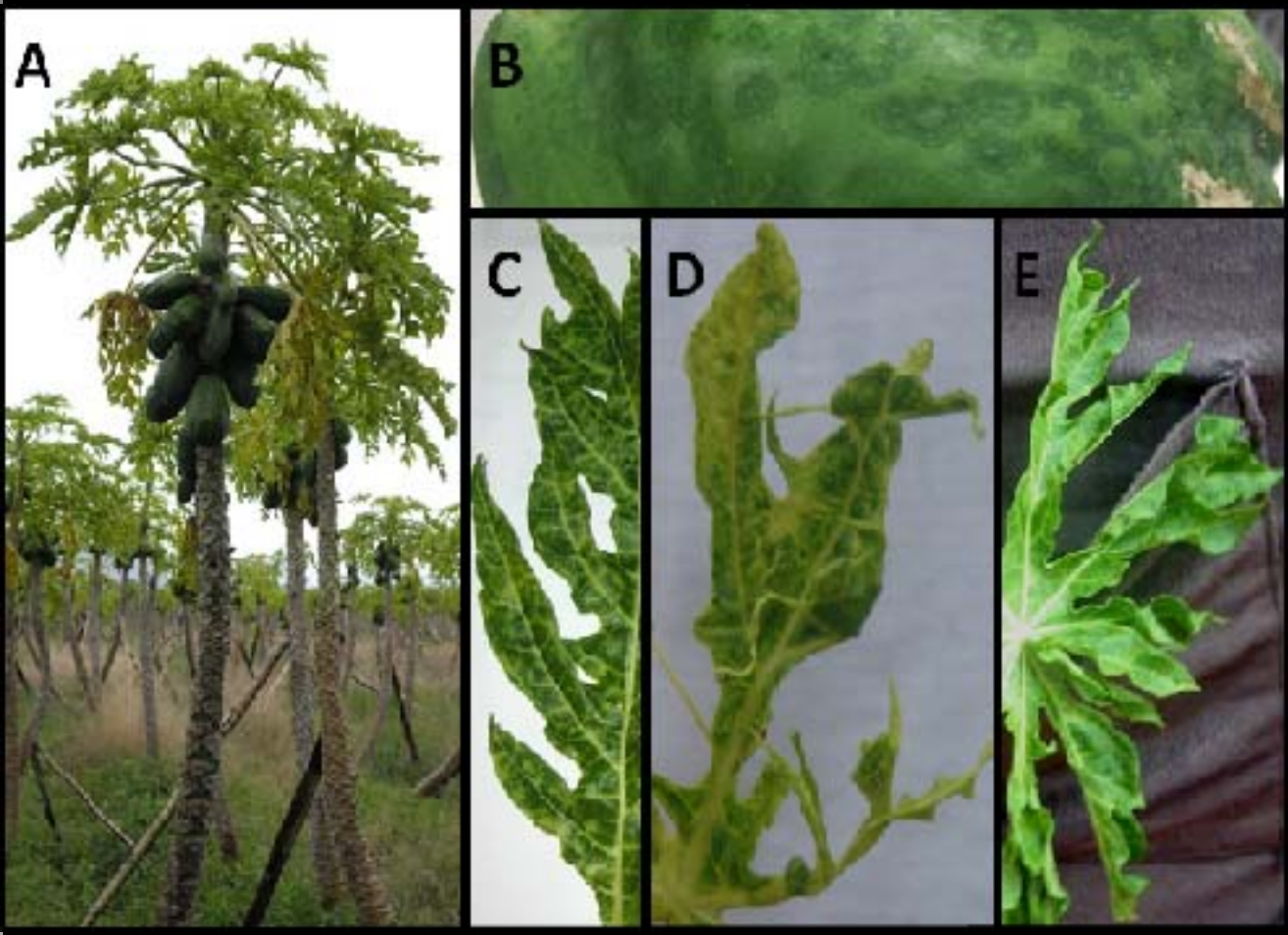


Figure 4.

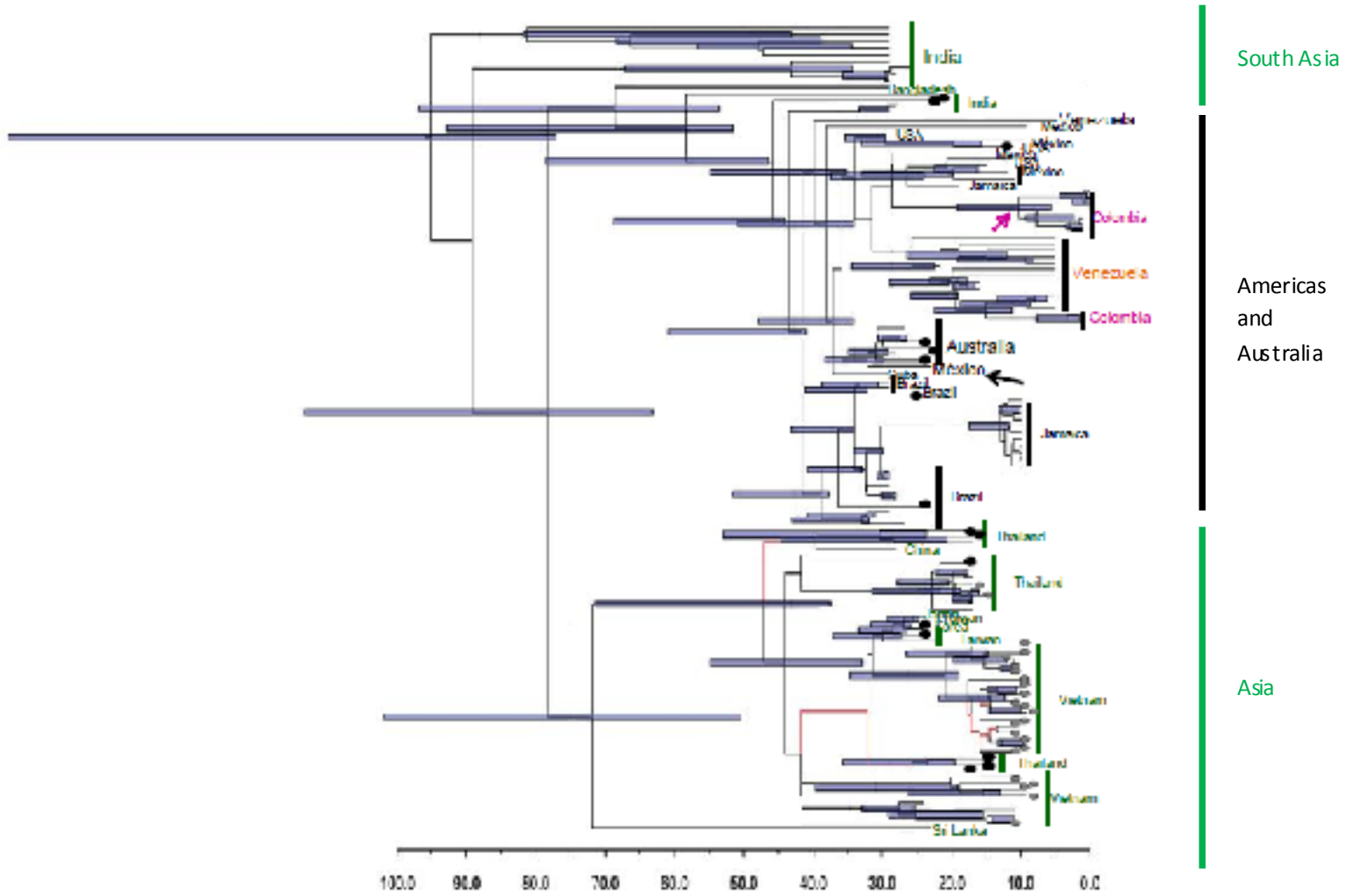
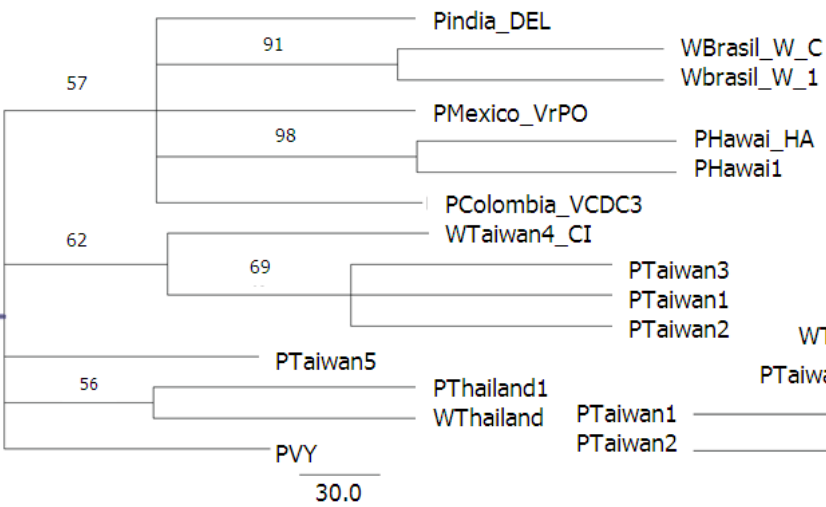
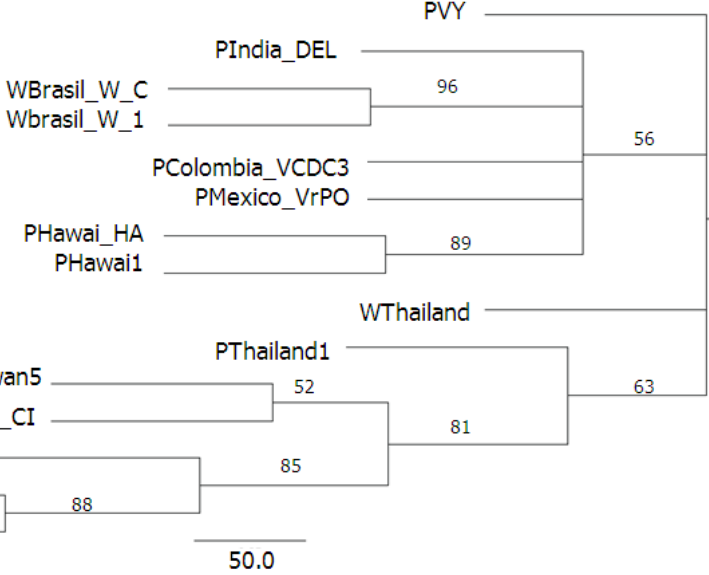


Figure 5.

A.



B.



SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Table 1 . Description and characteristics of collections places.

Location		Georeference	Collection date
Casanare Between Barranca de Upia (Meta) and Villa Nueva, (Casanare)	Finca 1 Finca El Estepo	4°28'29"N, 72°52'35"W, 262 MASL	February 2008
	Finca 2 Finca Villa Arizona	4°28'09"N, 72°52'27"W, 262 MASL	
Norte de Santander	Finca 3	-----	
Risaralda	Finca 6 Finca La Carmelita. After Santa Rosa de Cabal.	4°51'31"N, 75°39'06"W, 1466 MASL	April 2008
Caldas	WP004 Over the road between Honda-La Dorada	05° 17'33.5" N 74°44'46.4" W, 227 MASL	July 2008
	WP005	05° 21'15.6" N 74° 43'46.3" W, 214 MASL	
Cundinamarca	WP006 Outside Honda, going to Mariquita, near the Gualí river.	05°12'09.0" N 74° 45'21.3" W, 270 MASL	March 2009
	17 Near the Tolomaida military base	-----	
Santander	13 Finca Girón On the road between Lebrija and Girón	07°05'15.15" N 73° 11'13.62" W, 940 MASL	April 2009
	14 Outside Girón	07°04'19.75" N 73° 10'38.53" W, 751 MASL	
	15 Finca de Cecilia Outside Floridablanca	07°03'24.14" N 73° 05'22.45" W, 751 MASL	
	16 Entering Girón	07°04'06.13" N 73° 10'21.05" W, 897 MASL	
	18 On the road to Bucaramanga's Airport (Palonegro)	07°06'22.85" N 73° 11'03.92" W, 1105 MASL	
	Finca 4 Finca Santa Rosa	4°46'42"N, 75°58'45"W, 938 MASL	
Valle del Cauca (Municipio de Roldanillo, Corregimiento de Santa Rita)	Finca 5	4°,45'44"N, 75°58'3"W, 939 MASL	April 2008
	21 Before Roldanillo	4°,08'51"N, 76°16'47"W, 935 MASL	
	22 Before Roldanillo	-----	
	23 After Roldanillo	4°,27'40"N, 76°7'34"W, 914 MASL	
	24 After Roldanillo	-----	
	25 After Roldanillo	4°,30'14"N, 76°5'29"W, 925 MASL	
	27 After Roldanillo, arriving to La Unión	4°,29'08"N, 76°6'19"W, 909 MASL	
	28 After Roldanillo	4°,28'26"N, 76°6'48"W, 912 MASL	
	26 After La Unión	4°,31'56"N, 76°4'3"W, 907 MASL	
	29 Between Roldanillo – Buga on the road to Buenaventura	3°56'17"N, 76°20'29"W, 960 MASL	
	Muestra de Adriana Bernal	-----	
	ICV	-----	
Cachipay distributor	-----	February 2009	

Table 2. PRSV sequences used in this study. When known, the year of collection is shown in parenthesis under each acronym or geographic origin.

Acronym	Geographic origin	Accession number	Reference		
USA_Haw	USA	X67673	Wang <i>et al.</i> , (1994)		
USA_Florida (1997)		AF196839	Davis, M. J. & Ying, Z. (1999)		
WUS_FL**		D00594	Quemada <i>et al.</i> (1990)		
Aust1	Australia	U14736	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (1994)		
Aust2		U14737			
Aust3		U14738			
WAust_NI**		U14744			
WAust_DB1**		S89893			
WAust_GAT**		U14739			
Thail1		AB044340		Unpublished	
Thail2	U14743	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (1994)			
Thail3	Thailand (1992)	AF506898	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (2002)		
Thail4		AF506899			
Thail5		AF506900			
Thail6		AF506901			
Thail7		AF506902			
WThail3**		AF506895			
WThail4**		AF506894			
WThail6**		AF506892			
WThail5**		AF506893			
WThail7**		AF506891			
WThail8**		AF506890			
UThail10*		AF506896			
UThail9*		AF506897			
Taiwan1		Taiwan		AB044341	Unpublished
Taiwan2				X78557	Wang <i>et al.</i> , (1994)
WTaiwCI**	AY027810				
Jap1	Japan	AB044339	Unpublished		
China	China	AF243496			
Cuba	Cuba	S46722			
Bangla	Bangladesh	AY423557	Jain <i>et al.</i> (2004)		
WSKorea	South Korea	AB369277			
Sri1	Sri Lanka	U14741	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (1994)		
Vietnam1	Vietnam	U14742	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (1994)		
Vietnam2	Vietnam (1998)	AF506862	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (2002)		
Vietnam3		AF506889			
UVietnam50*		AF506841			
UVietnam48*		AF506843			
UVietnam46*		AF506903			
UVietnam45*		AF506846			
UVietnam43*		AF506848			
UVietnam41*	AF506850				
UVietnam40*	Vietnam (1998)	AF506851	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (2002)		
UVietnam39*		AF506852			
UVietnam3*		AF506853			
UVietnam37*		AF506854			
UVietnam36*		AF506855			
UVietnam35*		AF506856			
UVietnam32*		AF506859			
UVietnam31*		AF506860			
UVietnam30*		AF506861			
UVietnam42*		AF506849			
UVietnam47*		AF506844			
UVietnam44*		AF506847			
UVietnam33*		AF506858			

Table 2. (Continued)

Acronym	Geographic origin	Accession number	Reference		
India	India	AF063220	Jain <i>et al.</i> (1998)		
WIndia**		AF063221			
India_AP		AY238880	Jain <i>et al.</i> (2004)		
India_CG		AY491011			
India_DL		AY238883			
India_HP		AY458617			
India_JK		AY458619			
India_KA1		AY238884			
India_KA3		AY458618			
India_UPLK		AY458620			
India_UPV		AY238882			
India_WB		AY238885			
WIndia1**		AF506845	Bateson <i>et al.</i> (2002)		
WIndia2**		EU475877			
Mexico1 (1997)	Mexico	AJ012649	Silva-Rosales <i>et al.</i> (2000)		
Mexico2 (1994)		AJ012099			
Mexico3 (1995)		AJ012650			
Mexico4 (1998)		AF309968	Unpublished		
Mexico5 (2000)		AF319493			
Mexico6		AF319499			
Mexico7 (2000)		AF319502			
Jama1 (1990)	Jamaica	DQ104823	Tennant, (1996)		
Jama2 (1999)		DQ104822	Chin <i>et al.</i> (2007)		
Jama3 (1999)		DQ104821			
Jama4 (1999)		DQ104820			
Jama5 (1999)		DQ104819			
Jama6 (1999)		DQ104818			
Jama7 (1999)		DQ104817			
JamWoodburne (1999)		DQ104816			
JamSpring_Field (1999)		DQ104815			
JamPondside (1999)		DQ104814			
JamPamphlet (1999)		DQ104813			
JamBelvedere (1999)		DQ104812			
Brasil1		Brasil		AF344640	Lima <i>et al.</i> (2002)
Brasil2				AF344647	
Brasil_BP	AF344645				
Brasil_PE	AF344646				
Brasil_BA_CA	AF344641				
Brasil_BA_I11	AF344639				
Brasil_DF	AF344650				
Brasil_SP	AF344642	Lima <i>et al.</i> (2002)			
Brasil_ES	AF344644				
Brasil_PR	AF344643				
WBras1**	DQ374153				
WBrasC**	DQ374152				
Ve_MerVigia (1993)	Venezuela	DQ339576	Chin <i>et al.</i> (2007)		
Ve_MerLagunillas (1993)		DQ339577			
Ve_Lara (2004)		DQ339580			
Ve_Merida4 (2004)		EF189730			
Ve_Mer5 (2004)		EF189731			
Ve_Mer6 (2004)		EF189736			
Ve_Mer8 (2004)		EF189733			
Ve_Tachira (2004)		DQ339579			
Ve_Trujillo (2004)		EF189734			
Ve_Tru2 (2004)		DQ339578			
Ve_Trujillo5 (2004)		EF189735			
Ve_Zulia (2004)		DQ339581			
Ve_Zul7 (2004)		EF189732			

* = Virus biotype not confirmed, but PRSV-W is suspected.

** = PRSV-W

Table 3. Nucleotide diversity (π), Segregant Sites (S), Watterson's θ (θ_w) and Tajima's D (Tajima, 1989). NC = No Calculated, due to the need of a minimum of 4 sequences to do that analysis. The number of haplotypes is included in parenthesis.

Population		Number of sequences*	S	π	θ_w	D
India	All	13 (12)	101	0,07977	0,06823	-0,06992
	P	11 (10)	92	0,07681	0,06585	-0,11355
	W	2 (2)	46	0,07199	0,07199	NC
Brazil	All	12 (12)	76	0,03052	0,03920	-0,09384
	P	10 (10)	68	0,03202	0,03744	-0,05404
	W	2 (2)	16	0,02492	0,02492	NC
Venezuela		13 (13)	107	0,04565	0,05371	-0,07820
Jamaica		12 (5)	40	0,01102	0,02063	-0,10956
Mexico		7 (7)	129	0,07177	0,07587	-0,12496
Thailand	All	15 (15)	137	0,05331	0,06594	-0,06165
	P	7 (7)	64	0,03301	0,04088	-0,05563
	W	8 (8)	108	0,06455	0,06518	-0,05412
Colombia		9 (9)	61	0,03915	0,03507	-0,09172
USA		3 (3)	31	0,03219	0,03219	NC
Australia	All	6 (6)	29	0,011508	0,01981	-0,05823
	P	3 (3)	12	0,01248	0,01248	NC
	W	3 (3)	17	0,01765	0,01765	NC
Vietnam	All	25 (23)	138	0,03974	0,05693	-0,10078
	P	3 (3)	27	0,02804	0,02804	NC
	W	22 (20)	132	0,03670	0,05640	-0,12481
Taiwan		3 (3)	21	0,02191	0,2191	NC
Asia	All	61 (57)	186	0,06983	0,08332	-0,14325
	P	27 (26)	174	0,08401	0,07560	-0,02547
	W	35 (33)	204	0,05319	0,07752	-0,10005
Americas and Australia		63 (56)	234	0,05322	0,07771	-0,09784
All sequences		124 (112)	243	0,07533	0,09134	-0,11985