

THE RESISTANCE OF SUGAR BEET AND ITS WILD RELATIVES FROM THE GENUS BETA TO BNYVV – SOURCES AND MECHANISMS

Summary

Rhizomania is a disease of sugar beet induced by *Beet necrotic yellow vein virus* (BNYVV) that has been responsible for both quantitative and qualitative significant yield losses of this economically important crop worldwide. The most effective method of protection that enables production under infestation conditions is believed to be resistance breeding. However, none of the genes identified thus far seems to be able to condition a fully resistant geno-

type. Additionally, due to the appearance of resistance-breaking strains of the virus, screening of wild relatives is crucial for further identification of new resistance sources and, consequently, for continuous production of competitive sugar beet cultivars. This review presents an overview of currently known resistance sources as well as highlights some basic mechanisms involved in resistance expression.