

581

pe 07



OCCURRENCE OF GEMINIVIRUS IN TOMATO-PRODUCING AREAS IN SUBMEDIO SAO FRANCISCO. BEZERRA, I.C.¹, LIMA, M.F.²; RIBEIRO, S.G.³; GIORDANO, L.B.¹; ZERBINI, F.M.⁴ & DE ÁVILA, A.C.¹ (¹EMBRAPA-Hortaliças, C.P. 218, 70359-970, Brasília-DF; ²EMBRAPA-Semi-árido, C.P.23, 56300-000, Petrolina-PE; ³EMBRAPA-Recursos Genéticos e Biotecnologia, C.P. 2372, 70770-900, Brasília-DF; ⁴UFV Dep. de Fitopatologia 36571-000, Viçosa-MG)

Submedio Sao Francisco (PE/BA) is the main production area for processing tomato in Brazil. In 1997, an epidemic of geminivirus occurred in the area. In order to confirm the etiological agent, leaves of 130 infected plants were collected from 3 Nuclei of Nilo Coelho Project. All areas showed infection of 100% and tomato plants showed different symptomatology in distinct areas. Dot blot analysis of leaf sap was carried out. A heterologous probe consisting of full-length DNA-A components of BGMV-BR and BGMV-GA (Bean Golden Mosaic Virus from Brazil and Guatemala) was used in the hybridization at 50°C. A positive signal was observed in 90-100% of the samples tested. Molecular analyses are being carried out. This is the first report of geminivirus in Submedio Sao Francisco and reveals a wide dispersal of this virus that was previously described in the Federal District (1994) and states of Sao Paulo (1997), Minas Gerais (1996) and Bahia (1996). Geminivirus is now a very important threat in this area.

Tomate; Geminivirus; Ocorrência; Bahia
Submedio São Francisco; Tomatoes;