



This form should be used for all taxonomic proposals. Please complete all those modules that are applicable (and then delete the unwanted sections).

Code(s) assigned: **2008.086B** (to be completed by ICTV officers)

Short title: Create new species named Enterobacteria phage SP6 in the genus "SP6-like viruses", subfamily Autographivirinae, family Podoviridae

(e.g. 6 new species in the genus *Zetavirus*; re-classification of the family *Zetaviridae* etc.)

Modules attached | 1 2 3 4 5
(please check all that apply): | 6 7

Author(s) with e-mail address(es) of the proposer:

Ian J. Molineux molineux@mail.utexas.edu

ICTV-EC or Study Group comments and response of the proposer:

MODULE 5: **NEW SPECIES**

Code	2008.086B	(assigned by ICTV officers)
To create new species assigned as follows:		
Genus:	“SP6-like viruses”	Fill in all that apply. Ideally, species should be placed within a genus, but it is acceptable to propose a species that is within a Subfamily or Family but not assigned to an existing genus (in which case put “unassigned” in the genus box)
Subfamily:	<i>Autographivirinae</i>	
Family:	<i>Podoviridae</i>	
Order:	<i>Caudovirales</i>	

Name(s) of proposed new species:

Enterobacteria phage SP6

Argument to justify the creation of the new species:

If the species are to be assigned to an existing genus, list the criteria for species demarcation and explain how the proposed members meet these criteria.

SP6 was first described in 1961 as a female-specific phage. Morphologically it belongs to the family *Podoviridae*. The phage codes for its own RNA polymerase and thus should be assigned to the subfamily *Autographivirinae*. Its genome, containing 43769 bp ([NC_004831](#)), is ~>10% larger than T7; the SP6 gene content is similar, but not completely syntenous with T7 and its hostrange is non-overlapping. SP6 is proposed to be the type species of the genus “SP6-like viruses” as it is the best characterized member of the genus

References:

Zinder, N. D. 1961. A bacteriophage specific for F⁻ Salmonella strains. *Science* **133**:2069-2070.
Scholl, D., J. Kieleczawa, P. Kemp, J. Rush, C. C. Richardson, C. Merrill, S. Adhya, and I. J. Molineux. 2004. Genomic analysis of bacteriophages SP6 and K1-5, an estranged subgroup of the T7 supergroup. *J. Mol. Biol.* **335**:1151-1171.

Annexes:

Include as much information as necessary to support the proposal. The use of Figures and Tables is strongly recommended.