

FT2003.036P.01. ~~To designate *Pear latent virus* as a new species member of the *Tombusvirus* genus in the *Tombusviridae* family.~~

FT2003.043P.01. To designate *Cucumber Bulgarian virus* as a new species member of the *Tombusvirus* genus in the *Tombusviridae* family.

The criteria for species demarcation in the *Tombusvirus* genus are:

1. extent of serological relationship (SDI below 3)
2. extent of sequence identity
 - less than 87% aa sequence identity of the CP
 - less than 96% aa sequence identity in the polymerase
3. Size of the CP
4. Differential cytopathological features
5. Natural host range
6. Artificial host range reactions

Differences between *Pear latent virus* and other tombusviruses reside in: 1,2,and 5. The close serological relationship with Grapevine Algerian latent virus (SDI 1-2) is possibly due to the presence of a common epitope on the protruding domain of the CP. However, the CP aa sequence identity between PeLV and GALV is only 51%, the second lowest among sequenced species in the genus.

Differences between *Cucumber Bulgarian virus* are more clear-cut residing in: 1, 2,4, 5, and 6.