

Fact Sheet:

Pelargonium Zonate Spot Virus

Genus *Anulavirus*

Pelargonium Zonate Spot Virus (PZSV) is one of two viruses known to induce severe symptoms in kiwifruit - Cherry Leaf Roll Virus (CLRV) being the other. This virus is widely distributed in many species but has only been reported in kiwifruit in Italy. It has not been reported in New Zealand.

Identification

Molecular tests are required to confirm the presence or absence of PZSV in symptomatic and asymptomatic material.

Distribution and climate range

PZSV has been reported in Europe, Israel, the USA and Australia in other host species such as pelargoniums, chrysanthemums and tomatoes. It has only been reported in kiwifruit in Italy, in the Hort16A variety.

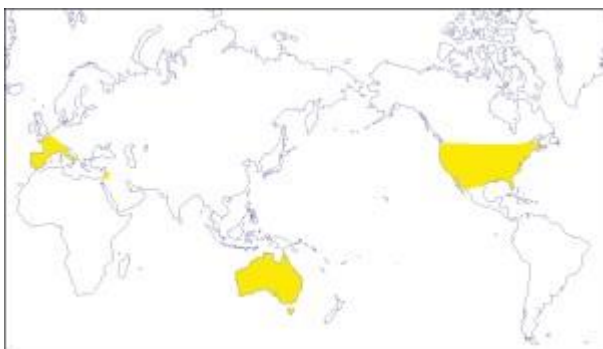


Figure 1. Known distribution of PZSV in all host species

Signs and symptoms

Infected plants show chlorotic and necrotic rings on leaves and depressed areas on the fruit. PZSV infection decreases vigour year by year and then productivity of the plants. Cuttings taken from symptomatic plants developed infected but asymptomatic leaves.



Figure 2. Chlorotic and necrotic rings on Hort 16A leaves, Italy (Source: Plant and Food Research).

Control

Mitigation measures for this virus should be focused on the control of spread.

Transmission in kiwifruit is unknown.

However, it is likely to be through seed, pollen and mechanically, during orchard activities, emphasising the need for best practice orchard hygiene and high health nursery standards.

To report vines displaying these symptoms

Phone MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.