

Fact sheet: Cherry Leaf Roll Virus



Cherry Leaf Roll Virus (CLRV), or Genus *Nepovirus*, is one of two viruses known to induce severe symptoms in kiwifruit. CLRV was first identified in New Zealand on raspberries in 1978 and infects Hort16A kiwifruit.

Identification

CLRV has symptoms similar to Psa and molecular (PCR) or serology (ELISA) testing is required to confirm its presence.



Image to the left: Absence of beak on CLRV-infected Hort16A fruit on the right. Image below: Severe stem cracking of a CLRV-infected vine. (Source: Plant and Food Research).



Signs and symptoms

Symptoms reported on Hort16A include leaf mottle and pale green spots that become necrotic. These necrotic lesions are larger and less angular than lesions induced by Psa. Cane dieback and severe stem cracking may also be seen. The characteristic “beak” of Hort16A fruit may be reduced or missing on CLRV-infected vines.

Distribution and climate range

CLRV has a worldwide distribution and a wide natural and experimental host range infecting members of more than 36 plant families.

Hort16A is the only reported kiwifruit host of CLRV to date.



Control

CLRV is documented to be transmitted by seed, pollen, grafting and mechanical transmission. In kiwifruit, the virus has been observed to spread along rows as a result of pruning or girdling. Good orchard hygiene practices are required to control spread within an orchard, and nursery high health standards to prevent transmission through seed or nursery stock.

What should you do if you have seen vines displaying these symptoms?

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