

RESEARCH NOTES

EVIDENCE OF THE PRESENCE OF SUGARCANE-MOSAIC VIRUS IN THE ROOTS OF INFECTED SUGARCANE PLANTS

In the course of preliminary experiments designed for the purpose of culturing, *in vitro*, roots of sugarcane infected with sugarcane mosaic it was necessary to determine whether the virus was definitely present in the roots of infected canes. Interestingly enough we have not been able to find in the available literature any information or report as to the actual determination of the sugarcane virus in the root tissue. In order to clarify this point an experiment was carried on in which pieces of surface-sterilized sugarcane cuttings from mosaic-diseased plants were placed inside moist glass chambers to root. When the roots were about 2 to 3 inches long they were carefully cut with scissors and macerated in a mortar with a little sterile water. The extract was inoculated with the aid of carborundum on sorghum (*Holcus sorghum* L.)¹ seedlings. Of a total of 100 plants inoculated 6 became infected with mosaic, thus confirming the presence of the virus in the roots.

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¹ Adsuar, J., On the physical properties of sugarcane-mosaic virus, *Phytopath.* 40 (2) 214-6, 1950.