

A Strategy to Construct Genomic Library of *Cotesia plutellae* Bracovirus

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The viral symbiont of the parasitoid *Cotesia plutellae* (Hymenoptera : Braconidae) has genes that are expressed in and subsequently alter the physiology of its lepidopteran host in favor of the development of its parasitoid host. This bracovirus (CpBV) has a potential for practical applications like insect pest control. To construct the CpBV genomic library, the Tn5 transposon was randomly inserted into the viral segments. The resulting circular double stranded DNAs were then propagated in bacteria. Bi-directional DNA sequencing of chosen clones using forward and reverse transposon specific primers is currently ongoing. A partial sequence (1129 bp) of clone A17 (~12 kbp insert size) contains an open reading frame sharing 40% amino acid homology with Toll-like receptor of *Caenorhabditis elegans*.