Construction of An Improved Baculovirus Producing Recombinant Polyhedra That Contain Bacillus thuringiensis Insect Toxins

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Baculovirus polyhedra have been recently engineered to incorporate foreign protein such as Bacillus thuringiensis Cry1Ac protein for improvement of insecticidal activity. In this study, we generated a novel baculovirus insecticide producing recombinant polyhedra that contain Cry1Ac, Cry1Ca and EGFP fusion protein. The crylAc, crylCa and egfp genes were amplified by PCR from pProAc, pBacPHcry1C and pEGFP as the templates, respectively. The amplified genes were fused in pGEM5Zf(-) vector in order as crv1A-egfp-crv1Ca. This full fusion gene was transferred at the back of polyhedrin gene of pOB I to construct transfer vector, pBacPAC-F. The recombinant Autographa californica nucleopolyhedrovirus (AcNPV), ApPAC-F, was generated by cotransfection with pBacPAC-F and bApGOZA in Sf9 cells and was confirmed by PCR, SDS-PAGE analysis and observation with fluorescent microscopy. Cry1Ac, EGFP and Cry1Ca fusion protein was successfully incorporated into polyhedra. ApPAC-F showed dual toxicity against Plutella xylostella and Spodoptera exigua larvae and also had increased pathogenicity in comparison with the wild type AcNPV.