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Characterization of the polyhedrin gene of the *Spodoptera litura* nucleopolyhedrovirus

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A local strain of *Spodoptera litura* nucleopolyhedrovirus (SlNPV) was isolated from infected *S. litura* larvae. The partial polyhedrin gene of SlNPV was successfully amplified by previous reported degenerate PCR primer set for the polyhedrin gene. The amplified PCR product was cloned into a pGemT PCR cloning vector and sequenced. The sequencing results showed that the PCR product was a fragment of corresponding polyhedrin gene. Using this partial predicted polyhedrin to probe the Southern blots, we identified the location of the polyherin gene within the 3.5Kb *Hind* III fragment. The fragment was cloned and the nucleotide sequences of the polyhedrin coding region and its flaking regions were determined. Nucleotide and amino acids sequences were compared with those of other nucleopolyhedroviruses.