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**Characterization of the White spot syndrome Baculovirus (WSBV) infection in the fresh shrimp, *Penaeus chinensis*, cultured in Korea**

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Outbreak of an epidemic disease has resulted in mass mortalities in cultured Fresh shrimp, *Penaeus chinensis*, in Korea since 1993. Infections were typically accompanied by the presence of white spots syndrome on the cuticle. The virions of causative virus were rod-shaped, double envelope. An average size of the virion was 70 nm in diameter and 250-300 nm in length. Histopathological test of affected stomach, heart, and lymphoid organ revealed nuclear hypertrophy. Infectivity trials carried out by injection and feeding with purified virus revealed high cumulative mortality to healthy shrimp. The analysis of virion protein of shrimp virus were 21 protein band. Nucleic acid from the purified virus particles were detected as a single band, double-stranded DNA molecule of approximately 114 kb.