

Testing of grapevines designed to block vector transmission of *Xylella fastidiosa*

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Reporting Period

The results reported here are from work conducted January to February 2019

Abstract

This project was only recently approved, as such there are no results to present or discuss. Funding was only made available two weeks ago (early February); we expect a more complete report when objectives originally proposed have been addressed. In the meantime, we have focused our efforts on maintaining transgenic plants in a greenhouse at UC Berkeley.

Lay Summary

The initial scientific work necessary to develop the concept of blocking *X. fastidiosa* vector transmission has been previously developed; candidate peptides work well when provided to insects in vitro, effectively blocking transmission to plants. Transgenic plants represented the next logical step to demonstrate that this novel technology continues to be promising. The generation of these plants took a long time, now we have them, they carry and express the constructs, and we have aggressively propagated this material and initiated experimental manipulations to test various lines. The goal of this project is to continue this work and experimentally test these plants in relation to vector transmission of *X. fastidiosa*.

Funding Agencies

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