

Competition and Synergy Related Baculoviruses

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The application of baculoviruses has a large impact in biological pest control. By now vast numbers of viruses are known that infect numerous hosts in crop cultures. Larvae of the genus *Agrotis* (Lepidoptera) are widespread worldwide and harm a lot of crop cultures. The research-focus of the diploma-thesis "Development of Molecular-Biological Detection Methods for *Agrotis* Specific Baculoviruses" was the three baculoviruses, who are isolated from *Agrotis* genera: *Agrotis ipsilon nucleopolyhedrovirus* (AgipNPV), *Agrotis segetum* nucleo-

polyhedrovirus English strain (AgseNPV-B) and *Agrotis segetum* granulovirus (AgseGV). The applicability of these baculoviruses against *Agrotis* species is explored by analyzing the virulence parameters.

A sub goal was to prove synergic and competitive effects of a mix-infection with AgseNPV-B and AgseGV by qualitative and quantitative PCR and to draw conclusions from that for the evolution of these three viruses.