

Biotype Q of *Bemisia tabaci* Identified in Israel

A.R. Horowitz,¹ I. Denholm,² K. Gorman,² J.L. Cenis,³
S. Kontsedalov⁴ and I. Ishaaya⁴

The biotype status of samples of the whitefly *Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius) (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae) collected from several field and greenhouse sites in Israel during 1999–2000 was determined by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) for general esterases, and by RAPD-PCR using primers of arbitrary sequence. Results of this survey provide the first published evidence for the occurrence of the *B. tabaci* Q biotype, alongside the more widely distributed B biotype. Based on the collected samples, it appears that both the B and Q biotypes are present in Israel, and that field populations consist of a mixture of the two biotypes. A possible link between *B. tabaci* biotypes and insecticide resistance is discussed. KEY WORDS: *Bemisia tabaci*; whitefly; biotypes; pyriproxyfen; insecticide resistance.

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¹Dept. of Entomology, ARO, Gilat Research Center, M.P. Negev 85280, Israel [Fax: +972-8-9926485; e-mail, hrami@volcani.agri.gov.il].

²Plant and Invertebrate Ecology Division, IACR-Rothamsted, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 2JQ, UK.

³CIDA, 30150 La Alberca (Murcia), Spain

⁴Dept. of Entomology, ARO, The Volcani Center, Bet Dagan 50250, Israel