

First report of cabbage soft rot caused by *Pectobacterium carotovorum* subsp *carotovorum* in Malaysia.

ABSTRACT

Cabbage plants with symptoms of soft rot were sampled from commercial fields in Malaysia during the winter of 2010. Disease symptoms were a grey to pale brown discoloration and expanding water-soaked lesions on leaves. Several cabbage fields producing white cultivars were investigated and 27 samples were collected. The bacteria reisolated from rotted cabbage slices resembled *P. carotovorum* cultural characteristics and could cause soft rot in subsequent tests. PCR amplification with Y1 and Y2 primers, which are specific for *P. carotovorum*, produced a 434-bp band with 15 strains. Analysis by ITS-PCR and ITS-restriction fragment length polymorphism identified all the isolates as *P. carotovorum* subsp. *carotovorum*. This is thought to be the first report of *P. carotovorum* subsp. *carotovorum* in cabbage from Malaysia.

Keyword: Cabbage; *Pectobacterium carotovorum*; Soft rot; Plant disease.