

ABSTRACT

Author: Stephanie Preising
Title: GRAPEVINE VIRUS DISEASES IN CONNECTICUT AND FIG MOSAIC DISEASE AND THE ASSOCIATED CULPRITS
Thesis Advisor: Rebecca Silady
Department: Department of Biology
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Plant viruses are the second most devastating plant pathogens in agriculture. Globally, plant viruses reduce crop yield, plant fitness, and are economically devastating. There is no cure nor are there mass-produced antiviral treatments available to farmers. Thus, prevention and management have been limited exclusively to the identification, surveillance, and elimination of infected plants. At the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) using High Throughput Sequencing data (HTS) we have identified and extracted viruses from fig plants displaying symptoms of Fig Mosaic Disease (FMD). Furthermore, we turned our attention to identifying grapevine viruses in New England vineyards. We report a full review of FMD and its putative associates and present the first study on the presence of grapevine viruses in New England.