

Rice Yellow Mottle Virus

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Rice Yellow Mottle Virus Latest News

A recent genomic study revealed the outbreak of Rice Yellow Mottle Virus (RYMV) disease across African rice ecosystems.

About Rice Yellow Mottle Virus

- It emerged in the middle of the **1800s in the Eastern Arc Mountains**, a biodiversity hotspot, now part of Tanzania.
- It is a pathogen that **infects rice and a few related grass species**, and that poses a major threat to rice production in Africa.
- It is **endemic and largely restricted to the African continent**, where it has been found in most of the rice-growing countries.
- This virus is a **member of the genus Sobemovirus**.
- It has a **high genetic variability** and thus can evolve rapidly, which means that it can overcome resistance genes in the rice plant.

Transmission of Rice Yellow Mottle Virus

- The virus is transmitted by **several species of beetles**, most of which belong to the genus Chrysomelidae.
- It is also transmitted by **grasshoppers**, *Conocephalus merumontanus* and *Oxya* spp., cows, rats, and donkeys.
- The virus can also been **found on roots of infected plants** and can infect plants through injured roots. Although the **virus has been detected on seeds**, studies show that it is **not spread through seed transmission**.

Source: **DTE**

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/rice-yellow-mottle-virus/>

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