

*Poster*

## **IDENTIFICATION OF COWPEA VIRUS DISEASES IN SOUTHERN DRY ZONE IN SRI LANKA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Field samples were obtained from 5-6 week old cowpea plants from southern Dry zone. Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was used to test the 64 virus symptomatic leaf samples. The common viruses identified were Cowpea Mottle Virus, Cowpea Sever Mosaic Virus, Cowpea Aphid Borne Mosaic Virus and Southern Bean Mosaic Virus. The cowpea Mottle Virus was the most common followed by Cowpea Sever Mosaic Virus. However, Cowpea Mild Mottle Virus and Cowpea Mosaic Virus were not detected in the leaf samples in the cowpea growing the southern Dry zone. Serological test also revealed that among the virus types detected, single and multiple virus types occurred in the plant samples. Therefore, this information can be effectively used cowpea breeding programs to develop cowpea varieties with multiple resistance genes to control several virus types infecting cowpea crop.

**Key words:** Cowpea Mottle Virus, Cowpea Sever Mosaic Virus, Cowpea Aphid Borne Mosaic Virus, Southern Bean Mosaic Virus