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## Isolation and characterization of new bacteriophages infecting *Ralstonia solanacearum* in Egypt

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*Ralstonia solanacearum* is a Gram-negative bacterium and the causative agent of bacterial wilt in many important crops. The bacteria were isolated from infected potato tubers and Egyptian soil. The isolates were characterized by CPG medium. In this study three different bacteriophages infecting the phytopathogen *Ralstonia solanacearum* were isolated from Egyptian soil. The phages showed different host ranges when tested against different *R. solanacearum* strains. These phages were characterized as two myoviruses and one siphovirus with very non-contractile tail based on their morphology under electron microscope. These phages showed diverged genomic sequences revealed by restriction enzyme digestion analysis. The isolated phages in this study represent valuable resources with potential uses in biocontrol of bacterial wilt in Egypt.

### Biography

Kholood Mohamed Gharieb is a Demonstrator at the Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Egypt. She is also a Master's degree student conducting research on *Ralstonia solanacearum* bacterium and wilt diseases in Egypt.

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