

Physiological and Molecular Defense Level in Potato Cultivars against Potato Virus X

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Abstract

Potato virus X (PVX) causes severe losses in worldwide crops of family Solanaceae. Dramatic biochemical changes in virus infected plants due to decrease in qualitative and quantitative of yield crops. The current study demonstrate the changes of biochemical responses as a defense level and resistance genes in infected plants against virus infection. PVX isolate was confirmed by double antibody sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (DAS-ELISA). This study was performed on five cultivars of imported seeds potato PVX tested, Diamond, Hermes, Lady Rosetta, Nicola, and Spunta. All potato cultivars were infected with PVX isolate. The five potato cultivars showed variations symptoms development, disease severity and virus concentration. The potato cultivars against PVX infection exhibited significantly increase in physiological alterations (electrolyte leakage, cell membrane stability and transpiration rate) and biochemical responses defense (total proline, stabilizing phenols, scavenging enzymes, catalase, peroxidase, polyphenol oxidase, superoxide dismutase, activities) and RX1, RX2, RX3 genes resistance compared to healthy ones. According to viral assessment, physiological parameters, biochemical responses and RX resistance genes, the five potato cultivars were divided to resistant cv., Diamond, tolerant cv., Hermes, Lady Rosetta, Nicola and susceptible cv., Spunta

Keywords: Potato cultivars, PVX, scavenging enzymes activities and physiological marker response.

Introduction

Potato virus X (PVX), family Alphaflexiviridae, genus Potexvirus) is one of over 30 viruses that infect potato crops (Nyalugwe *et al.*, 2012 and Fayziev & Vakhobov, 2019). Potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) is most important food crop worldwide as a fourth one. Egypt is also standing among the world top potato exporter (Crissman, *et al.*, 1991; Hegazy, 2009; El-DougDoug *et al.*, 2014 and Faostat, 2018). Resistance genes against *Potato virus X* (PVX) are known, but genes confer resistance to the migration of PVX from leaves to tubers of potato plants are remains unknown. Ohbayashi *et al.*, (2019) was detected SCAR marker in eleven potato cultivars and breeding potato lines exhibited resistance to PVX migration from leaves. The Rx gene was inherited as immune resistance by a single dominant gene. Within the SCAR marker, Rx had a higher sequence similarity with Rx1 than with Rx2 and suggested that Rx and Rx1 are the same gene derived from the *S. tuberosum* subsp. *andigena*. PVX isolates divided into several pathotypes according to are able to overcome the RX and / or RX resistance genes and the Nb and / or Nx resistance genes are already present in the EU (Fayziev *et al.*, 2020). These Rx breaking isolates could potentially have an additional impact over the current situation in the EU and therefore meet all the criteria to qualify as a potential Union quarantine pest. All other non-EU isolates, should they be introduced, are not expected to have additional

impact and therefore do not meet this criterion to qualify as a potential Union quarantine pest (Dehnen-Schmutz *et al.*, 2020). Phytopathogen viruses affect negatively the physiological properties of plants and reduce the efficiency productivity of photosynthesis in plant leaves, as a result, the productivity of plants decreases. Dramatic biochemical changes in virus infected plants result in a decrease in both quality and quantity of infected crops. Various reports suggest that virus multiplicity inside the plant cell modulate different biochemical constituents of plants and deactivate the physiological processes like photosynthesis, transpiration and respiration of the infected plants which affect the growth and yield (Tajul, *et al.*, 2011). It well known that stress on the plant causes generation of excessive reactive oxygen species (ROS), which leads to cell toxicity, membrane dysfunction and cell death (Chookhampaeng, 2011). Plants have developed an enzymatic and non enzymatic mechanism to scavenge ROS (Sofy *et al.*, 2017). Among the active oxygen species superoxide is converted by SOD enzyme to H₂O₂, which is further scavenged by CAT and APX. Over-expression of the PX gene in plants has shown improvement in protection against oxidative stress (Sevengor, *et al.*, 2011). The present study utilized five infected potato cultivars plants that have different infection response to PVX as a tool to estimate the sensitive immune response of each potato cultivars to virus infection. Some physiological and phytochemical parameters are

crucial for selecting at least one cultivar that could resist PVX.

Material and Methods

Source of PVX isolate: PVX isolate was kindly obtained from Virology Lab, Dept. of Agric. Microbiology, Fac. of Agric., Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. PVX isolate was confirmed based on DAS-ELISA (Clark & Adams, 1977).

Plant Materials: Class E seed tubers used in this study were kindly provided by the Potato Brown Rot Project, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Dokki, Giza. The cultivars Diamond, Hermes, Lady Rosetta, Nicola, and Spunta were PVX tested by DAS-ELISA using specific polyclonal antibodies kits (LOEWE Biochemical GmbH Germany).

Experiment design: Twenty tubers from each potato cultivar PVX tested were planted in plastic bags containing sterilized clay soil (diameter 30 cm², one tuber per bag). Ten potato plants after 2 weeks from planted were mechanically inoculated with PVX isolate and another ten potato plants left without inoculation as a control and maintained under greenhouse at 16 h day light and 26°C condition. The practical agriculture recommended were applied. The development symptoms were recorded and confirmed by DAS-ELISA.

Virus infectivity and disease severity: The virus infectivity and degree of disease severity for each potato cultivar were determined according to (Loebenstein & Gaba, 2012).

Determination of electrolyte leakage: The total inorganic ions leaked out from the leaves were measured by the method described by (Sullivan and Ross, 1979). Twenty leaf discs were taken in a boiling tube containing 10 cm³ of deionized water. The tubes were heated at 45°C (EC_a) and 55°C (EC_b) for 30 min each in water bath and the respective EC were measured by conductivity meter. Later the contents were boiled at 100°C for 10 min and the EC was again recorded as (EC_c). The electrolyte leakage was calculated by using the formula:

$$\text{Electrolyte leakage (\%)} = (EC_b - EC_a / EC_c) \times 100$$

Determination of membrane stability Index (MSI): MSI estimated by taking 200 mg of leaves in 10cm³ of double distilled water in two sets. One set heated at 40°C for 30 min. in a water bath and the electrical conductivity (C1) was measured. Whereas, the second set was boiled at 100°C in water bath for 10 min. and its conductivity was also measured (C2). Both conductivities C1 and C2 were measured using conductivity meter. MSI calculated using the formula described by (Sairam, 1994)

$$\text{MSI} = [1 - (C1 / C2) \times 100]$$

Determination of transpiration rate: The method used for measuring the speed rate of transpiration described by (El Rahman and Batanouny, 1965). The cut surfaces of the detached parts were smeared with petroleum jelly and rapidly weighted. They were then exposed in the open air under natural conditions for 2 min. and weighted again. The decrease in weight corresponds to the water lost by transpiration during the period of exposure. The results calculated by new vegetative weight of plants.

Determination of phenolic compounds: Extraction of phenolic compounds was carried out according to the method of Dai & Mumper, (2010) and the colorimetric method of Folin-Denis as described by Reda *et al.*, (2014) was used for the chemical determination of phenolic compounds.

Determination of free proline: Determination of free proline was carried out according to the method of Bates *et al.*, (1973). The proline concentration was determined from a standard curve of free proline and toluene for blank.

Determination of enzyme activities:

Extraction of proteins: Two g of the plant materials were homogenized with 10 ml of phosphate buffer pH 6.8 (0.1 M), then centrifuged at 20000 rpm for 20 min under cooling (2°C). The clear supernatant (containing the enzymes) was taken as the enzymes source (MuKherjee and Choudhuri, 1983).

Superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity was determined by measuring the inhibition of the auto-oxidation of pyrogallol using the method described by (Marklund & Marklund, 1974).

Catalase (CAT) activity assayed according to the method of (Anshu Gupta, 2015). **Peroxidase (POX) activity** assayed according to the method of (Wahlefeld & Bergmeyer, 1974). **Polyphenol oxidase (PPO) activity** determined according to the method adopted by (Matta & Dimond, 1963).

Detection of gene resistance:

DNA extraction from potato leaves was performed by hexadecyl trimethyl ammonium bromide (CTAB) according to Wulff *et al.* (2002).

Amplification of Rx genes: Three primers of Rx gene Rx1, Rx2 and Rx3 (manufactured by Bioron) with the product sizes 215, 221 and 241 bp, respectively were designed by Mahfouze, 2008 (Table 1).

Table 1. Characteristics of designed primers specific to Ry and Rx genes resistant to PVX.

Primers for Rx genes	Primer sequences of forward (d) and reverse (r) (5'...3')	Site on genome	Product size (bp)
Rx2	F CAAGTTGGGGAATGGCTAAA R TTGAGGATTCGTCAAGGTAG	7859 - 8079	221
Rx 1	F TTTTGCCCTTTTCGGTAGTTG R ACAGACCCGTTTCGACATTC	1039 -1249	215
Rx 3	F GCATAGGTGGCAAGGATGAT R CAACTGTGTTCCCGTGAATG	15103-15343	241

The reaction mixture consisted of 2.5 µl of 10x PCR buffer, 1.5 µl, of 50 mM MgCl₂ 2, 2.5 µl of mM dNTP, 0.5 µl of each 10 mM primer forward and 10 mM primer reverse, 2 µl of 50 ng DNA, 1 µl 5 units Taq DNA polymerase, and 14.5 µl Millipore H₂O. Reactions were carried out in a DNA thermocycler (Biometra, biomedizinische Analytik GmbH). The PCR was performed with the cycling program of denaturation (one cycle) 94° C for 4 min., 35 cycles for {1min.at 94°C, 1 min. at 55 °C and 1 min. at 72 ° C} followed by a final extension period of 5 min. at 72 ° C. PCR amplified products were analyzed using 1.2% agarose gel electrophoresis in (1X) TBE buffer staining with ethidium bromide. The amplified DNA bands were visualized under UV light and the sizes of the fragments were estimated based on a DNA ladder of 100 to 1000 bp (manufactured by Bioron).

Statistical analysis:

All plant chemical analysis data were statistically analyzed using Two-way ANOVA and Holm-Sidak test SigmaPlot 12.0 at 0.05 level of probability (Milliken & Johnson, 2009). The values recorded in the values of the biochemical analysis are means of three replicates.

Results

The interaction of potato cultivars with PVX isolate

The five potato cultivars PVX tested were differed in sensitivity to PVX in terms of symptoms, disease severity and virus concentration based on obvious results in Table (2). The five potato cultivars were showed different type of systemic symptoms for example, Diamond cv. showed mild mosaic and vein necrosis, Hermes and Nicola cv showed vein clearing, severe mosaic and leaf deformation, Lady Rosetta cv revealed mild mosaic and vein necrosis. While Spunta cv showed vein clearing, severe mosaic, crinkling and vein necrosis. The percentage of disease severity was 22.3, 27.5, 45.6, 36.3, % and 56.5% for five potato cultivars respectively. The virus concentration was determined by DAS-ELISA as, 0.121, 0.139, 0.163, 0.152, and 0.275 Optical density at 405 nm for five potato cultivars respectively whereas the negative control was 0.042 O.D. According to the reaction of potato cultivars with PVX isolate, five potato cultivars can be divided into: Diamond is resistant (R), Hermes, Nikola, and Lady Rosetta are tolerant (T) while Spunta is susceptible (S).

Table 2. Susceptibility of five potato cultivars to infection with PVX

Potato cultivars and Susceptibility	Symptom Development	Disease Severity (%)	ELISA reading
Diamond	Resistant (R)	MM; VN	22.3
Hermes	Tolerant (T)	VC; SM; LD.	27.5
Lady Rosetta	Tolerant (T)	MM; N	36.3
Nicola	Tolerant (T)	VC; SM; LD.	45.6
Spunta	Susceptible(S)	VC; SM; C; VN.	56.5

VC = vein clearing, MM = mild mosaic, SM = severe mosaic, M= mosaic, LD = leaf deformation, C= crinkling, VN = vein necrosis
Optical density at 405 nm, Negative control= 0.042, Positive control= 0.27

Physiological responses

Electrolyte leakage (EL) and membrane stability index (MSI): Stability enables for assessing the injury of the cell membrane. Data recorded in Table (3) revealed that potato cultivars showed significant differences in (EL) & (MSI). The potato cultivars under the virus stress influence showed different responses in the rate of EL & MSI stability comparing with healthy ones. The results in Table (3)

showed significantly increased rates of (EL) in the four infected cultivars except Hermes (T) that had non-significant decrease in the ratio of EL, while Diamond (R) elevated up to 50% significant increasing. On the other hand, infected plants of Diamond (R) and Hermes (T) showed significant increasing while, Nicola (T), Lady Rosetta (T) and Spunta (S) showed significant decreasing values of (MSI).

Table 3. Effect of PVX on electrical leakage % and membrane stability % of potato cultivars by two way analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Potato cultivars	Electrolyte Leakage %		Membrane stability index %	
	Healthy	Infected	Healthy	Infected
Diamond (R)	13.90 ± 0.34	29.80 ± 0.60 S	70.80 ± 0.50	72.50 ± 0.50 S
Nicola (T)	18.80 ± 0.25	20.50 ± 0.30 S	77.00 ± 0.40	73.60 ± 0.30 S
Hermes (T)	36.50 ± 0.50	35.40 ± 0.40 NS	66.03 ± 0.40	68.60 ± 0.35 S
Lady Rosetta (T)	9.80 ± 0.50	21.10 ± 0.70 S	84.10 ± 0.41	75.60 ± 0.40 S
Spunta (S)	30.80 ± 0.45	33.00 ± 0.50 S	66.80 ± 0.40	59.80 ± 0.85 S

Each value is mean of 4 replicates ± standard error of means

NS = Non significant

S = Significant at P<0.05

Transpiration rate : PVX infected were increased transpiration rate (gm/ 100 cm² / hour) at 24 hours during (20-21/1/2019) of five potato cultivars during night day (Table, 4). The infected Diamond (R) showed the highest-level with the mean 18.63 / 100 cm²/ hour compared healthy one 11.14 / 100 cm²/ 24 hour , Nicola (T) indicated the highest-level 17.14 compared healthy one 10.28/ 100 cm²/ 24 hour . Followed by Hermes (T) with the mean 14.7/

100 cm²/ 24 hour compared healthy one 8.08/ 100 cm²/ 24 hour and Spunta (S) indicated the highest-level 14.26 compared healthy one 11.14 mean in transpiration rate g/ 100 cm² / hour. While, infected Lady Rosetta (T) plants indicated the lowest level 11.66 compared healthy one 10.28 mean in transpiration rate g /100 cm² / hour during the study period.

Table 4. Effect of PVX on relative humidity (%), and transpiration rate (gm/ 100 cm²/ hour) of potato cultivars.

Time	RH%	Tem ^o C	Transpiration rate g/ 100 cm ² / hour									
			Diamond (R)		Hermes (T)		Lady Rosetta (T)		Nicola (T)		Spunta (S)	
			H	I	H	I	H	I	H	I	H	I
3 pm	45	16	15.8*	17.4	17.7	21.5	19.8	13.3	12.5	23.3	6.8	8.6
6 pm	54	15	8.8	14.2	6.6	9.9	17.6	18.3	19.9	25.5	13.1	15.5
9 pm	71	10	5.5	9.5	2.2	5.1	7.9	8.5	8.2	17.1	12.3	14.4
12am	71	9	9.2	10.1	2.4	5.8	1.5	3.9	2.3	7.7	9.8	5.2
3 am	71	9	17.5	38.6	2.1	9.7	13.1	19.7	10.5	14.9	12.9	28.2
6 am	78	10	12.5	15.5	12.0	13.7	9.3	9.9	13.2	13.6	7.3	14.9
9 am	63	14	6.2	27.7	10.1	32.2	10.6	15.7	17.9	28.9	19.4	20.2
12 pm	55	18	15.3	24.5	7.1	12.6	9.1	9.5	3.9	9.8	9.9	11.6
3 pm	55	16	9.5	10.2	12.5	21.8	3.6	5.6	4.1	13.5	8.8	9.7
Total	563	117	100.3	167.7	72.7	132.3	92.5	104.9	92.5	154.3	100.3	128.3
Mean	62.5	13	11.14	18.63	8.08	14.7	10.28	11.66	10.28	17.14	11.14	14.26

*Each value is mean of 4 replicates.

Biochemical defense

Phenols and proline contents: Data in Table (5) revealed a differences in total phenol and proline contents of five potato cultivars. PVX infected Diamond, Lady Rosetta and Spunta potato varieties showed significant increase in total phenol and

proline contents. Hermes, potato cv. showed significant decrease in total phenol and non-significant increase in proline contents. Nicola potato variety showed non-significant increase in total phenol and proline contents compared to healthy plants ones of the shoots.

Table 5. Effect of PVX on phenols and proline (mg/g. dry weight) of potato varieties shoots by two way analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Potato cultivars	Phenol shoot (mg/g dw)		Proline shoot (mg/g dw)	
	Healthy	Infected	Healthy	Infected
Diamond (R)	0.078 ± 0.002	0.085 ± 0.004 S	0.42 ± 0.004	0.75 ± 0.003 S
Hermes (T)	0.018 ± 0.003	0.015 ± 0.005 S	1.38 ± 0.01	1.5 ± 0.005 NS
Lady Rosetta (T)	0.056 ± 0.003	0.075 ± 0.009 S	0.35 ± 0.03	0.52 ± 0.004 S
Nicola (T)	0.010 ± 0.001	0.024 ± 0.003 NS	0.51 ± 0.006	0.63 ± 0.008 NS
Spunta (S)	0.015 ± 0.001	0.019 ± 0.004 S	1.4 ± 0.02	0.6 ± 0.002 S

Each value is mean of 4 replicates ± standard error of means

NS = Non significant

S = Significant at P<0.050

Scavenging enzyme activities: PVX infected five potato varieties revealed differences in the scavenging (Catalase, Peroxidase, Polyphenol oxidase and Superoxide) enzyme activities. Results in the Table (6) showed that Diamond cv showed a significant increase in the scavenging enzyme activities. Hermes cv showed that non-significant increase in Superoxide Dismutase and significantly increased in Catalase and Polyphenol oxidase. Lady

Rosetta cv showed that significant increase in Catalase, Peroxidase and non-significantly increased in Polyphenol oxidase and Superoxide Dismutase . Nicola cv showed that significantly increased in Peroxidase and non-significantly increased in Catalase, Polyphenol oxidase and Superoxide Dismutase . Spunta cv showed significant increase in all enzymes activities except Superoxide Dismutase compared to healthy plants ones .

Table 6. Effect of PVX on Scavenging enzyme activities (unit/g. Fresh wt. /hour) of Potato cultivars by two way analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Cultivars	Treatments	Catalase	Peroxidase	Polyphenol oxidase	Superoxide Dismutase
Diamond (R)	H	6.25±1.25	2 ± 0.25	0.37 ± 0.03	5.5 ± 0.5
	I	7.75±1.25S	2.5±0.25S	0.87± 0.03 S	6.7±0.5 S
Hermes (T)	H	8.75 ± 0.5	1.25 ± 0.25	0.37 ± 0.09	5.0 ± 0.5
	I	16.2 5 ±1.25	0.75 ± 0.00 S	0.57 ± 0.02 S	6 ± 0.00 NS
Lady (T)	H	12.5 ± 1.25	1.5 ± 0.00	0.63 ± 0.03	3.5 ± 0.5
	I	16.25 ±1.25 S	2.25 ± 0.00 S	0.67 ± 0.07 NS	3.9 ± 0.5 NS
Rosetta	H	10 ± 1.25	1 ± 0.25	0.4 ± 0.03	5.5 ± 0.5
	I	10.5 ± 1.25 NS	2.75 ± 0.25 S	0.7 ± 0.06 NS	5.9 ± 0.5 NS
Nicola (T)	H	10 ± 1.25	1 ± 0.25	0.4 ± 0.03	5.5 ± 0.5
	I	10.5 ± 1.25 NS	2.75 ± 0.25 S	0.7 ± 0.06 NS	5.9 ± 0.5 NS
Spunta (S)	H	3.75 ± 0.00	1 ± 0.25	0.67± 0.03	7 ± 0.5
	I	10 ± 1.25 S	2.5 ± 0.25 S	1 ± 0.06 S	7.5 ± 0.9 NS

Each value is mean of 4 replicates ± standard error of means

NS = Non significant

S = Significant at P<0.050

Rx-resistant genes in potato cultivars:

Three specific primers of Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes were used to detect the Rx-resistant genes in the five potato cultivars. PCR analysis revealed that, the amplified fragments for the specific Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes with expected sizes 250 bp (Figure, 1). Potato cv. Diamond have high density of Rx3,

Rx4, and Rx5 genes. Potato cv. Hermes have moderate density of Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes. Lady Rosetta have high density of Rx5 gene. Potato cv. Nicola have moderate density of PCR amplification for Rx3and Rx4 genes. Potato cv. Spunta have moderate density of Rx 4 and Rx5 genes (Table, 7).

Table 7. Detection of Rx-resistant genes in potato cultivars by PCR amplification analysis

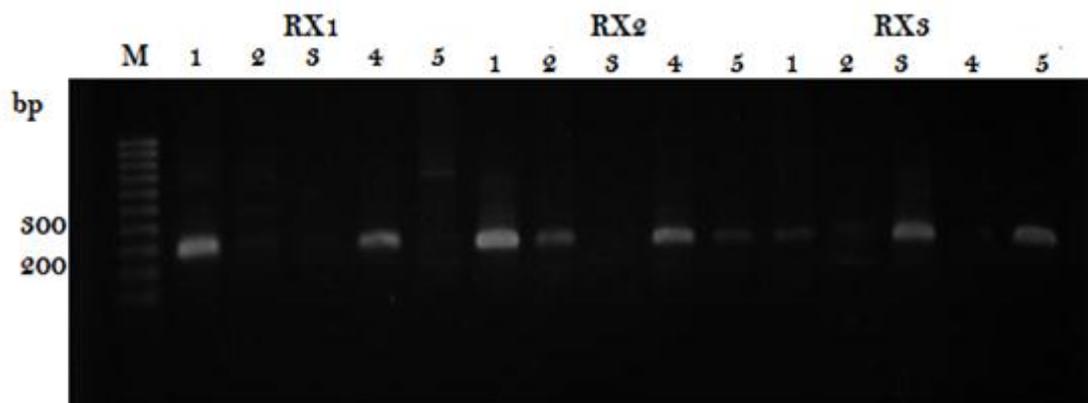
Potato cultivars	Rx-resistant genes		
	Rx 1	Rx 2	Rx 3
Diamond(R)	+++	+++	++
Hermes(T)	+	++	+
Lady Rosetta(T)	--	--	+++
Nicola(T)	++	++	--
Spunta(S)	--	++	+++

-- = no expressed

++ = moderate expressed

+ = low expressed

+++ = high expressed



Figure, (1) : Agarose electrophoresis 1.5% showing PCR amplification of Rx resistance gene using the extended Rx3 , Rx4 and Rx5 primers with expected sizes 250 bp of five potato cultivars; 1-Diamond(R) , 2-Hermes(T) 3-LadyRosetta(T) , 4-Nicola(T) and 5-Spunta(S).

Discussion

Potato virus X is spread in Egypt and all over the world and infects potato cultivar plants (Hegazy, 2009; Mahfouze *et al.*, 2014 and Ohbayashi, 2019). The reaction of potato cultivars with PVX isolate showed differed type of systemic symptoms, disease severity, and virus concentration. Diamond and Hermes showed low disease severity virus concentration. Lady Rosetta and Nicola revealed moderate disease severity and virus concentration. Nicola cv. showed moderate disease severity and virus concentration. While Spunta showed high disease severity and virus concentration. DAS-ELISA was investigated the virus concentration and impacted to the physiological defense level in potato cultivars against PVX. According to the DAS-ELISA results, the rate of the virus concentration decreased inversely in potato cultivars to the response degree of virus infection and disease severity. However, the rates of the virus concentration in potato cultivars have been increased susceptible to the infected virus. Fayziev, *et al.*, 2020 reported the virus concentration was similar between *D. stramonium* leaf samples infected with PVXO-Uz 214 isolate and PVXN-Uz 915 isolate.

According to the interaction of potato cultivars with PVX isolate five potato cultivars were Diamond is resistant (R), Hermes, Nikola, and Lady Rosetta were tolerant (T) while, Spunta is susceptible (S). The potato cultivars inoculated with potato viruses showed different susceptibility based on symptoms and ELISA test. (Crissman *et al.*, 1991, Isenegger *et al.*, 2001 and El-DougDoug *et al.*, 2014).

In general, the responses of plants to pathogen infections are characterized by metabolic changes associated to the development of the symptoms or to defense reactions. Various physiological changes associated to viral infection have been studied such as: decrease in photosynthetic activity, increase in respiration rate, accumulation of nitrogen compounds, increase in polyphenol oxidase activity

and alterations in hormonal and secondary metabolisms (Khusanov *et al.*, 2014, Jabeen *et al.*, 2017 and Ananthu and Umamaheswaran., 2019).

Electrolyte leakage (EL) and membrane stability index (MSI) revealed significant differences in potato cultivars under PVX stress influence comparing with healthy ones. It was found significantly increased rates of EL in the four infected cultivars except Hermes(T) that had non-significant decrease in the ratio of EL while Diamond (R) elevated up to 50%. Significant increasing. On the other hand, infected plants of Diamond (R) showed Significant increasing while, Nicola (T), Hermes (T), Lady Rosetta and Spunta (S) showed significant decreasing values of (MSI). The potato viruses increased meant of 50% in (EL) and elevated up to 72% with MSI comparing with a healthy one according to El Rahman & Batanouny, 1965 and El-DougDoug *et al.*, 2014.

Transpiration rate ($\text{gm}/100\text{ cm}^2/\text{hour}$) was increased with PVX infection related to temperature and relative humidity during 24 hours at (20-21/1/2019) of five potato cultivars compared healthy ones during night day. The infected Diamond (R) Hermes (T) . Nicola (T) and Spunta(S) indicated the highest-level transpiration rate. While, infected Lady Rosetta (T) plants indicated the lowest level compared healthy one in transpiration rate $\text{g}/100\text{ cm}^2/\text{hour}$ during the study period. In this point, El Rahman & Batanouny, 1965 and El-DougDoug *et al.*, 2014 reported that, at 10 PM- 10°C- 71% RH, infected plants of Diamond (R), Nicola (T), and Hermes (T) increased in transpiration rate compared to healthy plants of the same cultivars. Contrary, Lady Rosetta (T) and Spunta(S) cultivars showed decreased in transpiration rate of infected plants compared to healthy ones of the same cultivars (Sullivan & Ross, 1979).

The five potato cultivars under PVX stress revealed differences in total phenol and proline contents. Diamond and Lady Rosetta cvs. showed significant increase in total phenol and proline

contents. Contrarily, susceptible cultivar Spunta(S) revealed significant decrease response in the level of proline . Hermes, potato cv. showed significant decrease in total phenol and non-significant increase in proline contents. However, Nicola potato cv. showed non-significant increase of both total phenol and proline contents compared to healthy plants ones of the shoots. The response of Potato cultivars against infected potato viruses exhibited variable physiological alteration defense level parameters. In the green shoot, total proline and Phenols significantly increase. Several types of environmental stress led to proline accumulation such as to response virus infection. The protection of the cell by balancing the osmotic strength of the cytosol. Proline accumulation could be a protective response, not only because of the osmoprotectant role of proline and prevents water-deficit stress under high salinity but also because of the radical scavenger and protein stabilization properties of proline. Also, proline accumulation was reported to serve as a nitrogen storage compound and protect cellular structure (**Ben Ahmed et al., 2010**).

PVX infected five potato cultivars revealed significant differences increased in the scavenging (Catalase, CAT , Peroxidase, POD, Polyphenol oxidase ,PPO and Superoxide Dismutase, SOD) enzyme activities. Diamond cv showed a significant increase in the scavenging enzyme activities. Hermes cv showed non-significant increase in Superoxide Dismutase and significantly increased in Catalase and Polyphenol oxidase . Lady Rosetta cv showed that significant increase in Catalase, Peroxidase and non-significantly increased in Polyphenol oxidase and superoxide dismutase . Nicola variety showed significantly increased in Peroxidase and non-significantly increased in catalase, polyphenol oxidase, Superoxide Dismutase . Spunta cv showed significant increase in all enzymes activities except Superoxide Dismutase compared to healthy plants ones.

Contrarily, susceptible cultivar Spunta (S) indicated a significant increase between healthy and infected plant . While the tolerant cultivars, the enzymes level were differed among CAT, POD, and PPO . This result agreement with **Vidya Vardhini and Seeta Ram Rao, (2003)** reported that the decrease in POD activity was consistent with the results in plant response under stress and might be an indicator of removal of stressful conditions.

Three specific primers of Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes were used to detect the Rx-resistant genes in the five potato cultivars. PCR analysis revealed the specific Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes with expected sizes 250 bp. Diamond have high density of Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes. Hermes have moderate density of Rx3, Rx4, and Rx5 genes. Lady Rosetta have high density of Rx5 gene. Nicola have moderate density of PCR amplification for Rx3and Rx4 genes. Spunta have moderate density of Rx 4 and Rx5 gene.

Molecule role for sugar responsible genes that give a different physiological response to defensive response and cellular expansion (**Nyalugwe et al., 2012; Simaei et al., 2012 and Farahat et al., 2019**). The identification of virus resistance genes with similarly conserved structural using the strategy 2conserved sequences corresponding to two coding regions from the disease resistance genes has sparked tremendous interest in developing techniques that could identify other resistance genes that share similar structure but confer resistance to other pathogens. By using a homology based technique, one might be able to decrease both the time and resources required to clone resistance gene. Similar homology-based studies have been reported in different species, such as in potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) to detect the presence of Ryadg gene for resistance to PVY (**Leister et al., 1996 . Baebler, et al., 2020 and Osmani et al., 2021**) and in tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) to identify the resistance gene-like (RGL) sequences (**Ohmori et al., 1998**). The results obtained in this study revealed that Rx1, Rx2 and Rx3 resistance genes were detected in the PVX resistant plants of Diamond(R) and Hermes(T) . Rx1, Rx2 in Nicola (T) Rx2 and Rx3 in Spunta (S) and Rx 3 gene in Lady Rosetta(T) . This was agreed with many reports, for example **Cockerham (1970)** reported that Rx1 and Rx2 genes confer ER to potato virus X (PVX) in *S. tuberosum* ssp. *andigena* and *S. acaule*, respectively. In the F1 progeny of crosses between the PVX-susceptible cultivar Huinkel and the cultivar Cara (Rx genotype) there was a 1: 1 segregation of PVX resistance, indicating that Rx in Cara is present in the simplex condition (**Bendahmane et al., 1997**). The traditional model of a single dominant gene conferring resistance to a specific pathogen species or subspecies has been described in numerous plant/ pathogen systems (**Ellis et al., 2000**). On the other hand, Ryadg gene was detected in the results in the PVY resistant plants of *S. tuberosum* subsp. *andigena* and also in the PVX resistant plants. (**Muñoz et al., 1975 and Zheng et al., (2003)** . It is interesting to note that Ryadg and Rx genes in uninfected and resistant plants of wild type species *S. andigena*. These results were confirmed by **Nie and Singh (2001)**. Multiplex-PCR was used for detection on Rx genes using primers specific for each gene. Products of the expected 158 bp for Rx gene) were observed only in some potato cultivars resistant for PVY and PVX such as *S. andigena*, *S. stoloniferum*, *S. acaule* and *S. demissum* wild type and Spunta cultivar from cultivated potato. While, *S. hougassii* and Cara contain on Rx gene only thus showed one band with molecular weight 158 bp. The technique was 100-fold greater for detection of PVX than that of commercial DAS-ELISA, and also could detect viruses in some samples that DAS-ELISA failed to detect. Mutations of Glu⁴⁶, Asn⁸⁶³, Asn⁹⁶⁸ or Glu¹⁰⁰¹ to Ala in PVX RdRp significantly reduced the viral symptoms. Mutants E1001A and

E46A could provide effective protection against wild type PVX in both *Nicotiana benthamiana* and tomato. These results provide theoretical and practical bases for the control of PVX via cross protection (Cong *et al.*, 2019).

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مستوى الدفاع الفسيولوجي والجزئي في أصناف البطاطس ضد فيروس البطاطس X

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يسبب فيروس X البطاطس (PVX) خسائر فادحة في المحاصيل في جميع أنحاء العالم من عائلة الباذنجية Solanaceae . حيث يؤدي تغيرات كيميائية حيوية في النباتات المصابة بالفيروس ينتج عنها انخفاض في إنتاجية المحاصيل المصابة كماً ونوعاً. تهدف الدراسة الحالية التغيرات في الاستجابات البيوكيميائية و الجينات المقاومة كمستوى دفاع في النباتات المصابة ضد عدوى بالفيروس PVX . تم تأكيد عزلة PVX بطريقة الاليزا المباشرة باستخدام اجسام مضادة المرتبطة بالإنزيم (DAS-ELISA) . أجريت هذه الدراسة على خمسة أصناف من البطاطس المستوردة وهي Diamond ، و Hermes ، و Lady Rosetta ، و Nicola ، و Spunta. اجريت عدوى لأصناف البطاطس بعزلة PVX. أظهرت أصناف البطاطس الخمسة اختلافات في تطور الأعراض وشدة المرض وتركيز الفيروس . كما أظهرت أصناف البطاطس المقاومة ضد عدوى PVX زيادة معنوية في التغيرات الفسيولوجية منها تسرب المنحل بالكهرباء ، استقرار غشاء الخلية ومعدل النتج . كما أظهرت زيادة معنوية في الاستجابات الكيميائية الحيوية (البرولين الكلي ، الفينولات ، إنزيمات الكسح منها الكاتلاز ، البيروكسيداز ، بوليفينول أوكسيديز ، سوپروكسيد ديسموتاز ، أنشطة الأميليز) . وبناء على التقديرات الفيروسية والمعايير الفسيولوجية والاستجابات البيوكيميائية وجينات مقاومة RX ، تم تقسيم أصناف البطاطس الخمسة إلى الصنف المقاوم ، الماسي ، الصنف المتسامح ، هيرميس ، ليدي روزيتا ، نيكولا والسيرة الحساسة ، سيونتا. ومقاومة جينات RX مقارنة بالجينات السليمة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: أصناف البطاطس ، PVX ، أنشطة إنزيمات الكسح وإنزيمات amylolytic واستجابة الواسمات الفسيولوجية.