## New acquisition about the epidemiology of grapevine leaf mottling and deformation

D. Valenzano<sup>1</sup>, L. Simonetti<sup>2</sup>, V. Malagnini<sup>2</sup>, E. De Lillo<sup>1</sup>, P. Saldarelli<sup>3</sup>, R. A. Kubaa<sup>3</sup>, P. L. Bianchedi<sup>2</sup>, G. Angeli<sup>1</sup>, V. Gualandri<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dipartimento di Scienze del Suolo, della Pianta e degli Alimenti (DiSSPA), Università di Bari Aldo Moro, via Amendola, 165/a, 70126 Bari, Italy; <sup>2</sup> Fondazione Edmund Mach, Center for Technology Transfer, Via E. Mach 1, 38010 S. Michele all'Adige, Trento, Italy; <sup>3</sup>Istituto Protezione Sostenibile delle Piante, CNR Via Amendola 122/D, 70126 Bari, Italy. E-mail: valeria.gualandri@fmach.it

Grapevine Pinot gris virus (GPGV) was discovered in Italy in 2012 and successively in several grape-growing regions worldwide infecting different varieties. Studies associating GPGV with symptoms of leaf mottling and deformation (GLMD) showed that different strains of the virus responsible for eliciting or not the symptoms exist and that *Colomerus vitis* (Pagenstecher) collected from infected grapes were able to transmit GPGV to healthy grapevines. GPGV represents a potential threat for grapevine production in Europe and elsewhere. Acquisition and transmission by an arthropod vector is central to the infection cycle of the majority of plant pathogenic viruses. Filling the gap of information of epidemiological aspects of GPGV strains/*C. vitis* interactions would help in implementing efficient strategies of control of the associated GLMD disease. The current study was aimed at identifying the main drivers of GPGV spread and define the epidemiology of GLMD disease in North-eastern Italy vineyards.

This research has been funded by the Fondazione Edmund Mach in the framework of the project "GPGV know and free".