

ALTERNANTHERA MOSAIC VIRUS

Causal Agent

Alternanthera mosaic virus (AltMV) is a *Potexvirus*

Hosts

Alternanthera spp., Moss rose (*Portulaca* spp.), *Celosia* spp., Creeping phlox (*Phlox stolonifera*), Skullcap (*Scutellaria* spp.), Firecracker plant (*Crossandra infundibuliformis*), *Angelonia* spp., *Torenia* sp., *Helichrysum* spp., *Salvia splendens* and others.

Symptoms & Signs

Yellow mottling or wavy-line patterns in leaves, plants may be stunted and or have irregular leaf margins.

Requirements for Disease

- 1) Susceptible host plants (see above).
- 2) Infected cuttings or mechanical transmission of sap from an infected plant to another (i.e. pinching, pruning and shearing).

Disease Management

Have a disease diagnostic lab conduct tests to confirm this pathogen or use an Agdia ImmunoStrip®

- Given the broad host range of this crop and ease of transmissibility, it is best to rogue out infected plants and those that may have been in contact with symptomatic plant material.
- Dispose of symptomatic plant material by bagging pots directly at the bench to minimize transmission.
- Sterilize cutting tools and pots between use with one of the following methods:
 - Disinfect with 10% bleach solution or a virucide such as Virkon.
 - Heat to 300°F (149°C).

*Sap containing the virus can be infectious for up to six months.
- Wear disposal gloves when possible and replace frequently.
- Washing gloved and non-gloved hands with warm soapy water followed by sterilizing with 70% ethanol between and after handling symptomatic plants will further reduce transmission potential.

Additional Resources

[Alternanthera in Portulaca Species](#)

[e-Gro Alternanthera Mosaic Virus](#)

[BALL TECH ON DEMAND Sanitation](#)



Symptoms of Alternanthera Mosaic Virus (AltMV) on Portulaca liners. Scout for mottling, wavy-lines, and irregular leaf margins.