

On the induction of innate immunity by small-interfering (si)RNAs and their role in Ty-1-mediated epigenetic antiviral defense against geminiviruses.

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Richard Kormelink is Associate Professor at the Laboratory of Virology, Wageningen University. He obtained his PhD degree on the study of the structure and expression of plant-infecting bunyavirus genomes in 1994. Ever since, he is interested in diseases and the cytopathology of segmented, negative-strand RNA viruses of plants and vertebrates (Bunyaviruses, Influenzaviruses and Arenaviruses, Tenuiviruses) and in specific how structurally and genetically similar plant- and animal-infecting (bunya)viruses cope with defence responses in hosts belonging to different kingdoms and their insect vectors. His current research activities focus on antiviral RNAi and viral counter defence by RNA silencing suppressor proteins, dominant *R* (NLR) genes, viral effectors and epigenetic mechanisms controlling geminiviruses and other DNA elements.