**MAJ-2021-387**

**Recommendations:** The authors have appropriately revised the MS as per technical suggestions given without omission of any. The Revised Manuscript is **RECOMMENDED TO PUBLISH**

**Specific Comments:**

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| **Sl No.** | **Comment by Reviewer** | **Reply** | **Reviewer Comments addressed by Author** |
| **1** | In addition to Fig.2a, a schematic illustration of the eIF4G locus and regions of focus for RTSV reaction and gRNA target may be depicted for better understanding by the readers. | A new figure 1 is added showing the locus highlighting protospacer (sgRNA) and protospacer adjacent motif (PAM). | **🗹** |
| **2** | In Table 3, selective T0 events with detected mutations and corresponding changes at the protein levels could have been elaborated with visible gRNA targets along with the Protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) sequences. | The PAM sequence is underlined in the wild type sequence. The predicted amino acid sequence is given in parenthesis and the modified residue is in red font. Similarly, substituted nucleotide is also given in red font. | **🗹** |
| **3** | Since the “NL” sequence in the upstream of YVV in the 14 aa stretch “SVLFPNLAGKSYVV” is reported to be significant especially for conferring resistance to RTSV…has the authors observed any such region of the deduced amino acids in the study? | In the present study, in the stretch of 14 amino acid residues ‘SVLFPNLYGKSYVV’ (Macovei *et al*., 2018), the sgRNA targets part of this 14 amino acid residues *i.e*., ‘GKSYVVD’. We have observed modifications of S > F, V > A (2nd V residue) and D > H. Besides, there was deletion of the first V residue in two of the mutants. | **🗹** |
| **4** | Instead of Figure 2a, 2b…….It can be presented as Fig.2 with a common title of PCR analysis of the To mutants with legends indicating for separate gel images. | PCR results for *hpt, cas9* and *eIF4G* genes are clubbed together in a single figure, Figure 3. | **🗹** |
| **5** | What about the amplification results of eIF4G by PCR as represented in Table 1? | **🗹** |
| **6** | The title of Fig. 3 may be corrected and precisely presented (Figure 3. Nucleotide frequencies at each position in the target sequence…………of???) also specify tools used in analysis in the title/legend. | Title of the figure is modified. | **🗹** |
| **7** | The following references are not in the running text of MS…but in References list  Bae et al., 2014  Koressaar, T. and M. Remm. 2007  Untergasser et al.,2012 | The references have been removed from the Reference list. | **🗹** |