

**Strategien zur Einführung eines Zertifizierungsprogramms für  
virusgetestetes Pflanzenmaterial in Kolumbien:**

***Strategies for the implementation of a certification program for virus-tested  
plant material in Colombia***

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***Kurzbeschreibung (6 Sätze 1397 Zeichen inkl. Leerzeichen)***

Countries in the global south are major exporters of agricultural products, and in certain places no tools for controlling pathogens exist. Plant viruses severely affect Colombian crops, and studies indicate that economic losses caused by phytosanitary problems could be avoided with a standard procedure for preventive management. Three important exports from Colombia have been chosen as model plants for experimentation: ornamental rose (*Rosa sp.*), cape gooseberry (*Physalis peruviana*), and purple passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis* Sims). A test system for routine diagnosis is being developed for these cultivars based on an inventory of known and novel viruses detected in large and small representative farms in 2016-17 by serological and Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) methods. This diagnostic tool will contribute to the national agricultural certification program that is being established in a common project between German and Colombian universities, the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA), the Colombian Corporation of Agricultural Investigation (CORPOICA), and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). The competitiveness of Colombian agriculture in international markets depends on the use of healthy domestic plant material and therefore, virus-free certification can improve quantity and quality of yields and contribute to better trade policy decision-making.

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