Identification of tomato spotted wilt virus on Salvia in Tehran province.

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Leaf samples of Zinnia, Rose, Marigold, Nasturtium and Salvia generally showing necrotic spots, suspected to be of viral infection, were collected from a greenhouse in Tehran and tested by DAS-ELISA using polyclonal antisera of tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV). Saps were extracted using 0.1M phosphate buffer pH 7 containing 0.2% sodium sulphite and mechanically inoculated to Cowpea, Petunia, and Nasturtium. Salvia extract induced brown, necrotic local lesions and chlorotic systemic spots on the test plants, respectively. On the basis of ELISA test results and the reaction of the test plants, the virus isolated from Salvia was identified as TSWV. This is the first report of occurrence of the virus in an ornamental plant in Tehran province.