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Dear editorial team

We are pleased to submit the attached manuscript entitled „A Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) Assay for the Rapid Identification of *Bemisia tabaci*" for consideration for publication in the Biology section of JoVE.

Controls of plant imports at points of entry are the first line of defense against pest invasions. In order to prevent pest introduction events, plant shipments infested with quarantine pest species have to be destroyed. To justify such measures requires rapid identification of the intercepted specimens.

Because the identification of pest species can be extremely difficult for plant health inspectors with limited taxonomic knowledge, this identification step is often performed in central laboratories and generally takes two or more days. Hence, many plant commodities are spoiled even before the diagnosis results are available. A solution for this problem could be to enable on-site identification.

Here, we present an on-site identification assay for the rapid identification of *Bemisia tabaci*, an insect plant pest causing important economic damages to many different crops around the world. The novel assay enables non-specialist plant health inspectors to perform a rapid identification directly at the point of entry within one hour and will be of particular interest for scientists involved in knowledge transfer, plant health inspection services, as well as policy makers.

The final manuscript has been approved by the co-authors, and all co-authors made contributions deserving of their authorship. They confirm that the manuscript has not been previously published and is not currently under consideration by any other journal.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Blaser