

The invention relates to a novel nucleic acid molecule, which encodes a polypeptide that can give a plant, in particular a plant of the genus Beta, in which the polypeptide is expressed, resistance to a pathogen, in particular to "Beet Necrotic Yellow Vein Virus", and a preferred nucleic acid molecule that encodes the RZ-3 gene of Beta maritima, derivatives and homologues thereof. The invention further relates to vectors, to transgenic plant cells, to transgenic plants, to methods for the production thereof and to methods for identifying a nucleic acid molecule that provides resistance.