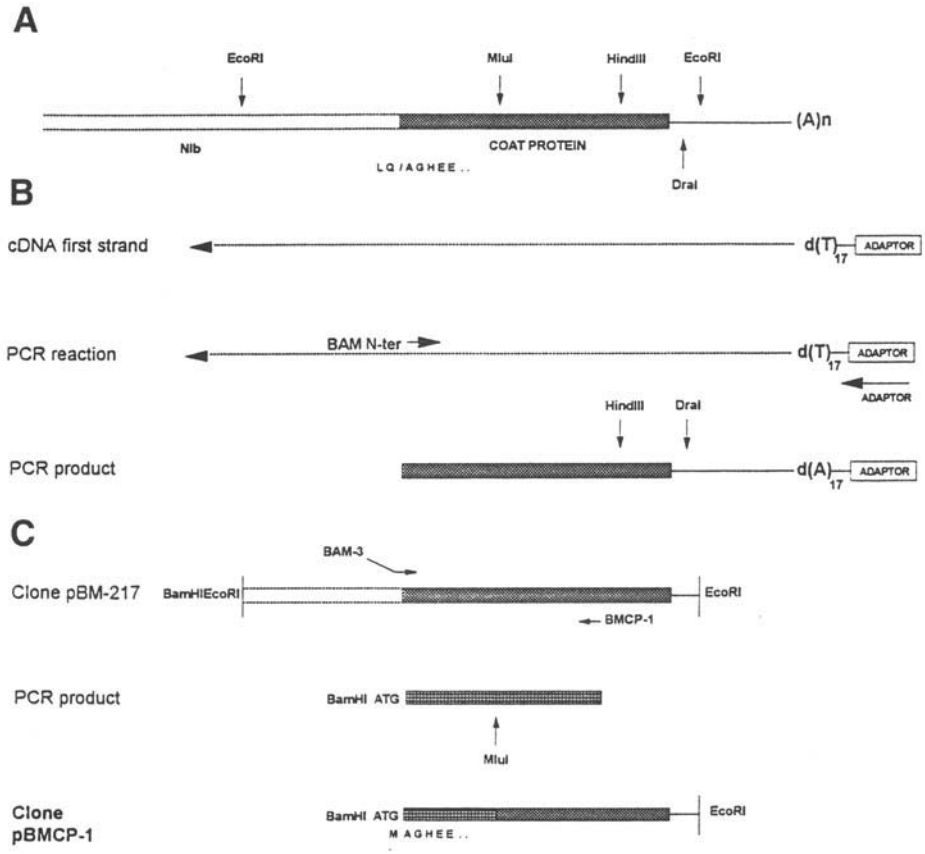

Fig. 1. Diagram of **(A)** 3' end of BaMMV RNA-1 showing the location of the CP gene and the putative polyprotein cleavage site; **(B)** use of RACE-PCR technique to amplify the CP gene using a degenerate primer (BAM N-ter), corresponding to the N-terminal amino acids; **(C)** addition of an ATG start codon to the CP gene present within clone pBM-217.

plant virus coat protein (CP) genes on the basis of N-terminal amino acid sequence data alone.

PCR can also be used to add extra nucleotides to or to change the sequence of a particular gene simply by incorporating the required sequence into the synthetic primer. Nucleotides that are not complementary to the target sequence may be added to the 5' end of a PCR primer without deleterious effect, since the specificity of the reaction is largely determined by annealing of the 3' end to the template DNA. This adaptation has a large variety of appli-