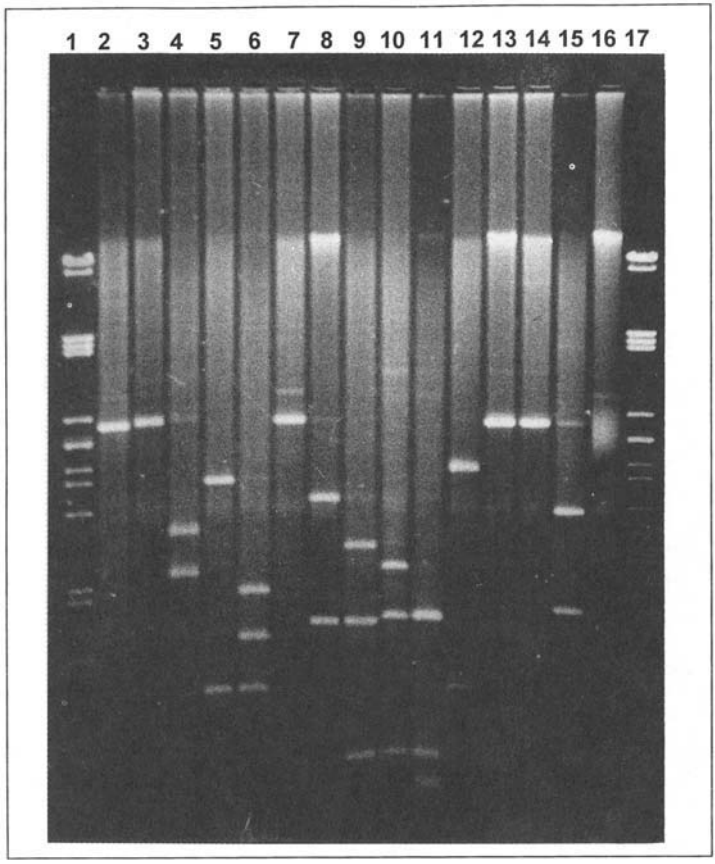

Fig. 2. Restriction endonuclease digestions of the RF-DNA of a severe isolate of MSV from Komatipoort in South Africa. The RF-DNA was purified by the alkaline denaturation–plasmid isolation column method. 300 ng of RF-DNA were used in each restriction digest and electrophoresed in a 0.8% agarose gel, stained with ethidium bromide. Lanes 2–15: lane 2, *Bam*HI; 3, *Bgl*I; 4, *Bam*HI and *Bgl*I; 5, *Hin*dIII; 6, *Hin*dIII and *Bam*HI; 7, *Kpn*I; 8, *Pvu*II; 9, *Pvu*II and *Bam*HI; 10, *Sac*I; 11, *Sac*I and *Bam*HI; 12, *Bgl*I; 13, *Sal*I; 14, *Xho*I; 15, *Xho*I and *Bam*HI; 16, undigested RF-DNA. Lanes 1 and 17, mol-wt marker (λ DNA digested with *Pst*I).

In cases in which only limited amounts, or poor quality, of infected tissue are available, or in which virus DNA accumulates to particularly low levels, we suggest that researchers consider using methods based on the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to generate large amounts of double stranded virus DNA that are suitable for cloning purposes. Degenerate PCR primers designed to amplify small genomic segments of virtually all Mastreviruses are described