



Fig 1. Genetic organization of characterized members of the furovirus group. RNA1 of PMTV has not yet been sequenced, but presumably encodes the viral replicase. ORFs are represented as hollow rectangles. Asterisks indicate suppressible termination codons. TGB, tripe gene block; Cys-rich, cysteine rich protein; CP, coat protein; mvt, putative movement protein of SBWMV; AA, poly(A) tail; black rectangle, consensus core polymerase motif (12).

course of evolution. It should also be mentioned that the replicase sequence encoded by RNA1 of BNYVV is taxonomically distant from the putative replicases of the other furoviruses (6,12). In spite of the aforesaid differences, however, it is important to note several elements that are common to all four