

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	I
List of Figures	IV
List of Tables	V
Abbreviations	VI
Zusammenfassung	1
Summary	3
Chapter 1. Introduction	5
1.1. Taxonomy and Morphology of DEV	5
1.2. Replication of DEV	6
1.3. Pathology of Duck Plague	7
1.4. Epidemiology of Duck Plague	8
1.5. Transmission of DEV	11
1.6. Functions of DEV Proteins	12
1.7. Diagnosis of DEV	13
1.7.1. <i>Serological assays</i>	14
1.7.2. <i>Virus detection</i>	14
1.8. Vaccines against Duck Plague	15
1.9. Ducks and their role in Avian Influenza Epidemiology	17
References	18
Chapter 2. Generation of an Infectious Clone of Duck Enteritis Virus and Generation of a Vectored DEV Expressing Hemagglutinin of H5N1 Avian Influenza Virus	25
2.1. Summary	25
2.2. Introduction	25
2.3. Materials and Methods	27
2.3.1. <i>Plasmids</i>	27
2.3.2. <i>Viruses, cells and transfection</i>	28
2.3.3. <i>Multi-step growth kinetics and plaque sizes determinations</i>	29
2.3.4. <i>Bacterial manipulations</i>	29
2.3.5. <i>Generation of a DEV BAC clone</i>	30

2.3.6. Diagnostic PCR and sequencing.....	31
2.3.7. Indirect immunofluorescence (IIF) and western blotting	31
2.4. Results and Discussion.....	32
2.4.1. Generation of mutant DEV strain 2085 harboring mini-F plasmid sequences	32
2.4.2. Generation of infectious DEV BAC clone p2085.....	33
2.4.3. Generation of p2085_H5	35
2.4.4. Reconstitution of recombinant DEV from cloned DNA and generation of mutant viruses	35
2.4.5. Robust expression of AIV HA by recombinant DEV v2085_H5	37
2.4.6. Growth properties of recombinant DEV.....	37
2.5. Conclusions	40
References	41
Chapter 3. Complete Genome Sequence of Virulent Duck Enteritis Virus Strain 2085 and Comparison with Genome Sequences of Virulent and Attenuated DEV Strains.....	49
3.1. Summary	49
3.2. Introduction.....	49
3.3. Materials and Methods.....	51
3.3.1. Virus, cells and BAC	51
3.3.2. DNA isolation and genome sequencing.....	51
3.3.3 DNA sequence analysis	51
3.4. Results and Discussion.....	52
3.4.1. Genomic organization of DEV strain 2085.....	52
3.4.2. Comparison of ORFs between DEV strains 2085, VAC, Clone-03 and CHV.....	53
3.4.2.1. Variations in LORF11	54
3.4.2.2. Variations in UL2	55
3.4.2.3. Variations in UL9	56
3.4.2.4. Variations in LORF3	56
3.4.2.5. Variations in other ORFs present in the unique-long genome segment	56
3.4.2.6. Variations in other ORFs present in the unique-short genome segment	61

3.5. Concluding Remarks	64
References	64
Supplementary table 1	70
Supplementary table 2.....	73
Chapter 4. Discussion	75
4.1. Construction of a DEV BAC	75
4.2. Applications of the Engineered DEV BAC	76
4.3. Glycoproteins of DEV.....	78
4.4. A DEV-vectored H5 Vaccine Candidate	80
4.5. Comparison of DEV Genomes.....	81
References	83
Publications	93
Acknowledgements	94