



Compatibility of interspecific *Manihot* crosses presaged by protein electrophoresis

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ABSTRACT. Cross incompatibility of wild *Manihot* species with cassava (*M. esculenta*) can impede their utilization for improving this cultigen. We tested whether compatibility could be determined based on electrophoresis results. *Manihot pilosa*, *M. glaziovii*, *M. reptans*, and *M. cearulescens* were tested. These species were allowed to hybridize with cassava to determine whether hybridization coincides with the similarity index based on electrophoresis analysis. Gene markers of leaf shape, stem surface, disk color, and fruit shape were used to confirm hybridization. *Manihot pilosa* and *M. glaziovii* successfully hybridized with cassava, while the others failed to do so under natural conditions. This result coincided with the similarity index from electrophoresis.

Key words: Interspecific crosses; Marker genes; *Manihot*;
Wild cassava species