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(54) Title: VIROID-DERIVED POLYNUCLEOTIDES FOR MODIFICATION OF PLANTS

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein are viroid-derived polynucleotides for the modification of plants and methods of using such polynucleotides in a variety of agricultural and commercial methods. Specifically, the disclosure provides a method of delivering to a plant a composition comprising a recombinant polynucleotide comprising: (i) a single-stranded RNA (ssRNA) viroid sequence and (ii) a heterologous RNA sequence comprising or encoding an effector, wherein the effector has a biological effect on the plant, and wherein the viroid is potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd) or eggplant latent viroid (ELVd).