Texage is an A3 cluster phage isolated from the grounds surrounding Mendel Pond on the campus of Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts. Texage was isolated and characterized by Student Biology majors taking Principles of Biology I in Fall 2014 and was found to have a large and turbid plaque morphology, and spherothecae phage particle morphology. An intriguing image of another phage, Swarley, showed a capsule with no detectable tail. We are following up on this uniphasic result. Students taking Genetics in Spring 2015 carried out annotation of the Texage genome. Texage displays over 99% identity to several A3 cluster phages that represents a wide phylogenetic group. Names: Texage, Popuckle, Panacea, Lamberti, QuinnKim, Vomacan, and Todocure. Texage’s genome is 50810 bp and is organized into a typical left most coil and right half/reverse orientation of the genes. It possesses 88 putative protein encoding genes. It also carries the same two RNA genes found in QuintonKim, Aom (gtp) and Tcpp (c).  

**ABSTRACT**

Texage is an A3 cluster phage isolated from the grounds surrounding Mendel Pond on the campus of Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts. Texage was isolated and characterized by Student Biology majors taking Principles of Biology I in Fall 2014 and was found to have a large and turbid plaque morphology, and spherothecae phage particle morphology. An intriguing image of another phage, Swarley, showed a capsule with no detectable tail. We are following up on this uniphasic result. Students taking Genetics in Spring 2015 carried out annotation of the Texage genome. Texage displays over 99% identity to several A3 cluster phages that represents a wide phylogenetic group. Names: Texage, Popuckle, Panacea, Lamberti, QuinnKim, Vomacan, and Todocure. Texage’s genome is 50810 bp and is organized into a typical left most coil and right half/reverse orientation of the genes. It possesses 88 putative protein encoding genes. It also carries the same two RNA genes found in QuintonKim, Aom (gtp) and Tcpp (c).