Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

Beet yellows virus (a Closterovirus) leader proteinase has a C-terminal proteinase domain and a nonproteolytic N-terminal domain, report C.-W. Peng and V. V. Dolja at Oregon State University, Corvallis. Deleting the N-terminal domain reduced RNA accumulation 1000-fold. (J. Virol. 74:9766-9770, 2000)

Leafy gall formation in plants caused by Rhodococcus fascians is controlled by an AraC-type regulatory gene (fasR), according to W. Temmerman and associates at the Universiteit Gent, Belgium. (J. Bacteriol. 182:5832-5840, 2000)

Pythium oligandrum hyphae penetrate cell walls and cellulose-enriched material of Phytophthora parasitica to control oomycete pathogens, report K. Picard and associates at the Université de Brest, Plouzané, France, and Université Laval, Quebec, Canada. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 66:4305-4314, 2000)

A calmodulin-related protein interacts with the helper component proteinase of plant potyviruses to suppress posttranscriptional gene silencing, report R. Anandalakshmi and associates at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, and the University of California, Davis. (Science 290:142-144, 2000)

Aphelenchoides fragariae causes shoot dwarf in Lagarosiphon cordofanus, report R. Herr and P. Knuth at Landesanstalt für Pflanzenschutz, Stuttgart, Germany. (Nachrichtenbl. Dtsch. Pflanzenschutzdienst 52:194-196, 2000)

Of 67 names of Alternaria spp. reported on solanaceous plants, 22 are kept for taxa in Alternaria and Nimbya by E. G. Simmons at Crawfordsville, Indiana; 13 of the 22 are new species or combinations. (Mycotaxon 75:1-115, 2000)

Soil solarization controls Fusarium wilt, Verticillium wilt, and corky root rot, but not nematodes, on greenhouse-grown tomato, reports N. Ioannou of the Agricultural Research Institute, Cyprus. (Phytoparasitica 28:248-256, 2000)

Ralstonia solanacearum was first reported to cause eucalyptus wilt in South Africa by T. A. Coutinho and associates at the University of Pretoria, the University of the Orange Free State, Blomfontein, and the Tobacco and Cotton Research Institute, Rustenburg, South Africa. (For. Pathol. 30: 205-210, 2000)

Azoxystrobin and kresoxim-methyl at 1 g/m^2 applied as soil drench controlled Phytophthora nicotianae on carnation, report G. Gilardi and associates at the Università di Torino, Italy. (Inf. Fitopatol. 50[4]:50-52, 2000)

Peniophora aurantiaca is by far the most abundant basidiomycete, fruiting on 40% of twigs and branches, causing white rot of green alder in Switzerland, according to N. Küffer and B. Senn-Irlet of the University of Berne, Switzerland. (Nova Hedwigia 71:131-143, 2000)

Each of 5 supercooled nematode species survived subzero temperatures if external ice nucleation was not induced, but 90% of juvenile nematodes died if induced, report W. P. Wergin and associates at the USDA ARS Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland. (J. Nematol. 32:198-204, 2000)

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