Focus

Cyclomodulin is a term for bacterial toxins and effectors that interfere with the eukaryotic cell cycle and may affect pathogen virulence, report J.-P. Nougayréde and associates at Ecole National Vétérinaire, Toulouse, and INRA, Nouzilly, France. (Trends Microbiol. 13:103-110, 2005)

Gramicidin, nigericin, and valinomycin (potassium ionophores) reduced zoospore swimming speeds and changed swimming patterns in three Phytophthora spp., report A. A. Appiah and associates at University of Aberdeen, Scotland. (Fungal Genet. Biol. 42:213-223, 2005)

Three of 232 sunflower lines in Argentina were partially resistant to <u>Sunflower chlorotic mottle virus</u>, with a single dominant resistance gene <u>Remo</u>-1, report S. L. Lenardon and associates at IFFIVE-CICVA, INTA, Córdoba, and Advanta Semillas Saic, Buenos Aires, Argentina. (Crop Sci. 45:735-739, 2005)

Root-knot nematodes and bacterial Nod factors elicit common signal transduction in <u>Lotus japonicus</u>, report R. R. Weerasinghe and associates at North Carolina State University, Raleigh. (Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA 102:3147-3152, 2005)

<u>Plasmodiophora brassicae</u> infecting Chinese cabbage increases auxin and xyloglucan endo transglucosylase/hydrolase action to loosen walls and expand host cells, report S. Devos and associates at University of Antwerp, Belgium. (New Phytol. 166:241-250, 2005)

Root-derived antimicrobial metabolites by <u>Arabidopsis thaliana</u> confer tissue-specific resistance to many bacterial pathogens but not to <u>Pseudomonas syringae</u>, report H. P. Bais and associates at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, and Harvard Medical School (and Massachusetts General Hospital), Boston. (Nature 434:217-221, 2005)

The <u>Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus</u> nuclear shuttle protein is a pathogenicity determinant with hypersensitivity, report M. Hussain and associates at the National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Faisalabad, Pakistan. (J. Virol. 79:4434-4439, 2005)

As nitrogen (N) rate increased, black leg incidence, biomass and seed yields, protein content, and N uptake increased in canola, but emergence, 1000-seed weight, and seed oil content declined, report H. R. Kutcher and associates at Agric. Agri-Food Canada, Saskatchewan. (Agron. J. 97:533-541, 2005)

<u>Xanthomonas vesicatoria</u> pv. <u>vesicatoria</u> produces filamentous structures (Hrp pili) at the pepper cell surface under <u>hrp</u>-inducing conditions, report E. Weber and associates at Martin Luther University, Germany; University of Helsinki, Finland; and CNRS, France. (J. Bacteriol. 187:2458-2468, 2005)

Real-time quantitative PCR is a reliable technique to diagnose shoot tip dieback in <u>Pinus nigra</u>, report N. Luchi and associates at Universitá degli studi di Firenze, Italy. (J. Phytopathol. 153:37-42, 2005)

Genes of mating population D of <u>Fusarium proliferatum</u> and gibberellin share a sequence homology with corresponding genes of mating population C, report S. Malonek and associates at Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany; Universidad de Chile; and Rothamsted Research, UK. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 71:1462-1472, 2005)