Focus

Concentrations of 5-substituted resorcinols in the peel of unripe mango fruits may explain the latency of <u>Alternaria</u> infections, according to S. Droby and associates at the Volcani Center in Bet Dagan and Hebrew University in Rehovot, Israel. The resorcinols may also be involved in renewal of fungus development. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 29:173-183, 1986)

Pinewood nematodes surviving in wood chips should be eliminated by treating the chips with dry heat, hot water, or immersion for 15 seconds in a 0.15% solution of N-methyldithiocarbamate, proposes D. N. Kinn of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, Pineville, LA. (EPPO Bull. 16:461-464, 1986)

Addition of 1 g of urea or NH4Cl per kilogram of dry soil (0.1%) reduced the population of <u>Fusarium oxysporum</u> f. sp. <u>dianthi</u> in one of two soils tested by H. J. M. Löffler and associates of the Willie Commelin Scholten Phytopathological Laboratory, Baarn, Netherlands. Nitrite, not ammonia, accounted for the reduction. (Neth. J. Plant Pathol. 92:153-162, 1986)

Rhizoctonia solani is the primary cause of crater disease of wheat, report E. M. Smith and F. C. Wehner of the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Strains of the fungus differ in ability to cause the disease. (Phytophylactica 18:127-130, 1986)

The effect of simultaneous attack by the northern corn rootworm and the European corn borer did not differ significantly from the effect of attack by either insect alone, reports G. S. Thurston of Macdonald College of McGill University, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, Canada. The effect could be cumulative under certain conditions, however. (Phytoprotection 67:150, 1986)

More superior private lines of corn have been developed over the past 5 years than during the previous 20, report L. L. Darrah and M. S. Zuber of the University of Missouri, Columbia. Some companies employ more breeders than the total number in the public sector. Most public breeders are concentrating on germ plasm sources instead of inbred line development. (Crop Sci. 26:1109-1113, 1986)

Planting a weedy arable field to grass for 20 years does not eradicate the seeds of even the most rapidly declining species, according to R. J. Chancellor of the Long Ashton Research Station in Oxford, England. Twenty-one weed species were monitored. (J. Appl. Ecol. 23:631-637, 1986)

Moisture loss is a prerequisite for seedling growth in developing soybean seed, report L. A. Rosenberg and R. W. Rinne, USDA and University of Illinois, Urbana. Moisture loss initiates synthesis of new proteins necessary for germination. (J. Exp. Bot. 37:1663-1674, 1986)

Inoculating <u>Vigna</u> radiata seeds with both <u>Rhizobium</u> and <u>Azotobacter</u> chroococcum resulted in higher grain and stalk yields than inoculating seeds with <u>Rhizobium</u> only, report S. K. Kothari and C. S. Saraf of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. (J. Agric. Sci. 107:463-466, 1986)

The minimum concentration of diallyl disulfide to adequately control Sclerotium cepivorum in the field is probably 0.1 to 0.2 g/L when applied as a water suspension at the rate of 25 L/m², according to J. R. Coley-Smith and D. Parfitt of the University of Hull, England. This treatment favors >90% germination of sclerotia to a 10-cm depth. Control of white rot of onion depends on initial concentration of sclerotia in soil. (Pestic. Sci. 37:587-594, 1986)