

# Focus

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A new race of Bipolaris maydis on corn, designated race C, was discovered in six of 166 isolates of B. maydis collected from 12 provinces of the People's Republic of China by J.-K. Wei and associates of the Hebei Academy of Agriculture and Forest Sciences. Plants with cms-C cytoplasm are susceptible to race C and its host-specific toxin, but plants with cms-T, cms-S, or N cytoplasm are resistant. (K. Leonard, North Carolina State University, Raleigh; personal communication, 28 January 1987)

A triordeum (a cross of wheat and barley) that produces fertile allopolyploids has been developed by J. I. Cubero and associates at the University of Córdoba, Spain. Protein content of the triordeum is greater than that of the wheat parent and approaches that of legumes. (Crop Sci. 26:1186-1190, 1986)

A 120-second treatment in a microwave oven eradicated seedborne pathogens on cassava seeds, report J. C. Lozano, R. Laberry, and A. Bermudez of CIAT, Cali, Colombia. For the treatment to be effective, the temperature had to be 77 C. (J. Phytopathol. 117:1-8, 1986)

Microdochium bolleyi, previously reported to be a pathogen on cereal seedlings, causes root rot of flax, according to D. L. R. Black and A. E. Brown of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland in Belfast. Flax straw infected with M. bolleyi was an inoculum source for seedling disease on cereals, cabbage, pea, rape, and ryegrass. (Plant Pathol. 35:592-594, 1986)

Phytophthora melonis and P. sinensis should be considered synonyms of P. drechsleri, which has nomenclatural priority, according to H. H. Ho of the State University of New York at New Paltz. (Mycologia 78:907-912, 1986)

Compared with Leptographium terebrantis, L. procerum was a weak wound pathogen and unable to kill seedlings of Pinus strobus, reports M. J. Wingfield of the Plant Protection Research Institute in Stellenbosch, South Africa. The methods of inoculation used may account for differences reported by others. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 16:299-308, 1986)

Twenty-nine of 36 isolates of Fusarium species derived from barley, wheat, and rye grains in Korea contained the mycotoxins nivalenol, deoxynivalenol (DON), fusarenon-X, 3-acetyl-DON, and zearalenone, according to U. Lee and associates at the University of Tokyo and other institutions in Japan. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 52:1258-1260, 1986)

Corn grown in no-till fields yielded 10-15% less than corn grown in conventionally tilled fields, report D. A. J. Barry and M. H. Miller of the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Although reduced nodal growth was thought to be responsible, experiments with soil compaction failed to show that restriction of nodal growth lowered yield. (Can. J. Soil Sci. 66:689-699, 1986)

The number of zoospores attracted to roots of blueberry can be used to evaluate cultivars for resistance to root rot caused by Phytophthora cinnamomi, according to W. A. Erb, J. N. Moore, and R. E. Sterne of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (HortScience 21:1361-1363, 1986)

Difluoromethylornithine, applied before inoculation, controls rust infection of broad bean by protective systemic action, according to D. R. Walters of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, Auchincruive. The compound is a specific inhibitor of the ornithine decarboxylase pathway for putrescine biosynthesis. (New Phytol. 104:613-619, 1986)