Focus

Sawdust, with or without Trichoderma or fungicides, applied when pine seeds are sown in the greenhouse was as effective in protecting seedlings from damping-off by Fusarium or Rhizoctonia as soil disinfection, soil fumigation, or chemical seed treatments, report B. Duda and Z. H. Sierota of the Forest Research Institute in Warsaw, Poland. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 17:110-117, 1987)

Venturia liriodendri is a newly described species associated with a leaf spot of tulip poplar and is the first report of this genus on a member of the magnolia family, according to R. T. Hanlin of the University of Georgia at Athens. (Mycologia 79:464-467, 1987)

Downy mildew caused by Sclerophthora macrospora was reported for the first time on barley, rye, and wheat in Austria by B. Zwatz of the Federal Institute for Plant Protection in Vienna. (Pflanzenschutzberichte 48:61-62, 1987)

Roots from leaves in citrus species were functionally similar to natural roots in reaction to parasitism by Tylenchulus semipenetrans and can be used to evaluate resistance to the nematode, according to Y. Gottlieb, E. Cohn, and P. Spiegel-Roy of the Volcani Center in Bet Dagan, Israel. Leaves with petioles from 10-year-old citrus trees were disinfected with chlorothalonil and embedded in a medium containing peat and polystyrene flakes. (Rev. Nematol. 10:119-121, 1987)

Artemisinin produced by annual wormwood is a selective phytotoxin that reduces growth by a mechanism other than mitotic disruption or inhibition of protein synthesis, report S. O. Duke and associates at the Southern Weed Science Laboratory, Stoneville, and University of Mississsppi. (Weed Sci. 35:499-505, 1987)

Wheat was inoculated with bunt by wounding intercalary meristem above nodes to produce infected adventitious shoots. This method by L. M. Kawchuk and J. Nielsen of Agriculture Canada in Winnipeg shortened time between teliospore germination and sorus production, gave high infection rates, and induced several infected spikes on one stem. (Can. J. Bot. 65:1284-1285, 1987)

Propiconazole significantly increased yields in four of five wheat cultivars by controlling rust, powdery mildew, and leaf spots, report J. C. Sutton and G. Roke of the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Fungicide applications are determined by cultivar and time of anthesis. (Can. Plant Dis. Surv. 66:37-41, 1986)

Four levels of resistance to benomyl of Venturia inaequalis and V. pirina were reported by E. Shabi of the Volcani Center in Bet Dagan, Israel, and H. Koenraadt and J. Dekker of the Agricultural University, Wageningen, Netherlands. The negatively correlated cross-resistance is inheritable and controlled by a single Mendelian gene. (Neth. J. Plant Pathol. 93:33-41, 1987)

Tomato root-knot was controlled in microplots by application of the lectins concanavalin A (con A) and Limax flavus agglutinin, report N. Marban-Mendoza and associates at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Con A was more effective; 12 ug over 4 weeks gave 75% control. (J. Nematol. 19:331-335, 1987)

Microbodies were induced to proliferate in the yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae by adding oleic acid to a medium, report M. Veenhuis and associates of the University of Groningen, Kerklaan, Netherlands. This makes possible introduction of newly synthesized enzymes for new metabolic functions into these organelles. (Yeast 3:77-84, 1987)