Focus

The incidence of wheat streak mosaic and wheat curl mites on winter wheat in Kansas is greater this fall than last fall, according to J. A. Appel, survey pathologist in Topeka, who attributes the increase to warm, dry conditions during October and November. (Kans. Plant Dis. Surv. Rep. 29, 30 November 1990)

Tissues of corn seedlings damaged by feeding beet armyworms release volatile terpenoids that attract parasitic wasps, which then feed on the worms, according to T. C. J. Turlings and associates of the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Gainesville, Florida, and Tifton, Georgia. (Science 250:1251-1253, 1990)

Regardless of aphid population in a given year, the number of aphids on wheat was statistically greater near a factory producing sulfur pollutants than in control plots, reports Z. Przybylski of the Institute of Plant Protection in Poznan, Poland. (Arch. Phytopathol. Plant Prot. 26:473-479, 1990)

Flax used as a trap crop for <u>Orobanche</u> <u>aegyptiaca</u> and <u>O. ramosa</u> pinpoints areas of infestation in the field, report D. M. Joel and associates at Haifa and Merom Golan, Israel. <u>Orobanche</u> damages the flax but does not produce flowering stalks. (Phytoparasitica 18:244, 1990)

Because pathogenicity of <u>Sclerotinia</u> <u>sclerotiorum</u> is specifically associated with production of oxalic acid, not pectolytic or cellulolytic enzymes, the acid is a pathogenicity determinant, according to G. Godoy and associates at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 37:179-191, 1990)

Pythium vexans is a mycoparasite of <u>Ustilago bullata</u> from bromegrass, report R. W. Robertson of Arizona State University, Tempe, and E. S. Luttrell and M. S. Fuller of the University of Georgia, Athens. (Can. J. Bot. 68:2415-2421, 1990)

Beet cryptic virus 1 is distributed mainly in leaf mesophyll of sugar beet and chard, whereas BCV 2 occurs in phloem only, according to T. Kühne and A. Stanarius of the Institut für Phytopathologie, Aschersleben, Germany. (Arch. Phytopathol. Plant Prot. 26:487-489, 1990)

Eyespot of wheat was reported for the first time in the prairie provinces of Canada by S. W. Slopek and associates at Agriculture Canada in Olds, at Victoria Trail Farms in Smoky Lake, and at Ciba-Geigv in Calgary. Incidence of lodging was as high as 25%. (Can. Plant Dis. Surv. 70:119-121, 1990)

Salicylic acid appears to be the signal that induces pathogenesis-related or resistance genes in tobacco to tobacco mosaic virus, according to J. Malamy and associates at Rutgers in Piscataway and New Brunswick, New Jersey. (Science 250:1002-1004, 1990)

Robine bulb mites are attracted more to decaying rakkyo bulbs than to healthy ones and prefer the alcohols produced in bulbs by <u>Fusarium oxysporum</u>, report K. Okabe of the Forestry and Forest Products Research Center, Kumamoto, and H. Amano of Chiba University, Japan. (Appl. Entomol. Zool. 25:397-404, 1990)

Incorporation of endophytes into ryegrass may lead to significant reduction in infestations of hairy chinch bug, according to J. K. Mathias and associates of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, and the University of Maryland, College Park. (J. Econ. Entomol. 83:1640-1646, 1990)