## Focus

Peridermium pini was grown in culture for the first time by M. H. Pei and R. G. Pawsey of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, from rust-infected cortex from Scots pine. Cultures produced hyphae and spores, and this inoculum infected host callus tissue but not whole plants. (Mycol. Res. 95:108-115, 1991)

The nematode Steinernema feltiae controls sciarid fly larvae that infest mushroom spawn, report W. R. Nickle and W. W. Cantello of the USDA in Beltsville, Maryland. (J. Nematol. 23:145-147, 1991)

Alfalfa mosaic virus was reported for the first time on bean in Italy by V. Lisa, A. M. Vaira, and G. Dellavalle of the Institute of Applied Plant Virology, Turin, Italy. Cucumber mosaic virus was common and bean vellow mosaic virus was rare. (Inf. Fitopatol. 60[11]:47-48, 1990)

The ability of Fusarium crookwellense to biosynthesize mycotoxin metabolites depends on substrate and geographic location (Australia, North America, or Europe), report R. F. Vesonder and associates at the USDA Northern Regional Research Center, Peoria, Illinois, and the Agricultural University of Poznan, Poland. (Mycopathologia 113:11-14, 1991)

Two phytoalexins (tsibulins) were isolated for the first time from onion bulb scales after inoculation with Botrvtis cinerea by A. P. Dmitriev and associates at the Institute of Cell Biology and Genetic Engineering, Kiev, USSR. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 37:235-244, 1990)

Trees in the field were protected against Dutch elm disease by inoculation with a nonaggressive strain of Ophiostoma ulmi or a nonpathogenic strain of Verticillium dahliae. reports R. J. Scheffer of the Willie Commelin Scholten Phytopathological Laboratory, Baarn, Netherlands. (J. Phytopathol. 130:265-276, 1990)

Fungi of similar cellulolytic abilities or growth rates do not necessarily have equal competitive potential, reports A. F. Moustafa of the Suez Canal University, Ismailia, Egypt, who studied 20 fast-growing and 24 slow-growing species. (Cryptogam. Mycol. 11:321-328, 1990)

Detached root cap cells are actively involved in establishing characteristic bacterial microflora of corn roots, report M. B. Gochnauer, L. J. Sealey, and M. E. McCully of Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. Death of detached root cap cells is gradual over time. (Plant Cell Environ. 13:793-801, 1990)

Citrus tatter leaf virus is detectable by ELISA, report A. Kawai and T. Nishio of the Yokohama Plant Protection Station, Japan. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 56:342-345, 1990)

Simulated acid rain applied to pine needle and birch leaf litter slightly retards decomposition rates, according to S. Neuvonen and J. Suomela of the University of Turku, Finland. The acid rain may affect populations of bacteria. (J. Appl. Ecol. 27:857-872, 1990)

Carbendazim used to provide protection against rice blast was detected in shoot tissues 21 days after treating seeds and in adult plants 35 days after spraying foliage, report T. Parida and associates at the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, India. (Pestic. Sci. 30:303-308, 1990)