Focus

Acibenzolar-S-methyl induced resistance of pepper leaves and fruits to bacterial spot caused by <u>Xanthomonas campestris</u> in the growth chambers and fields, reports R. Buonaurio at the Università degli Studi di Perugia, Italy. (Eur. J. Plant Pathol. 108:41-49, 2002)

Six phytoplasmas were found in papaya populations in 3 years: 5 were associated with crinkle disease and 1 with dieback, no mixed infections, and 2 strains were detected in the vector Orosius spp., report A. C. Padovan and K. S. Gibb at Northern Territory University, Darwin, Australia. (J. Phytopathol. 149:649-658, 2001)

To screen barley for resistance to rust, plants should be incubated at natural night lengths and not at 17 to 24 h according to R. E. Niks, Department of Plant Breeding, Wageningen, The Netherlands. (Cereal Rusts Powdery Mildew Bull. [www.crpmb.org]2002/0128niks)

Four <u>Fusarium verticillioides</u> genes ($\underline{FUM6,7,8}$, and $\underline{9}$) were identified as part of a fumonisin biosynthesis gene cluster by J.-A. Seo and associates at USDA-ARS, Peoria, Illinois. (Fung. Genet. Biol. 34:155-165, 2001)

Olive latent virus 1 was isolated from diseased tulip and was different from Tobacco necrosis virus causing tulip necrosis disease, report S. Kanematsu and associates at National Agricultural Research Center for Tohoku Region, Morioka, and Toyama Agricultural Research Center, Tonami, Japan. (J. Gen. Plant. Pathol. 67:333-334, 2001)

<u>Ditylenchus angustus</u> was recovered live from dried grain 3 months after harvest of irrigated rice in the Godavari Delta, report J. S. Prasad and K. S. Varaprasad at the Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad, India. (Crop Prot. 21:75-76, 2002)

Double-stranded RNA was isolated from <u>Heterobasidion annosum</u> in decayed wood to indicate that a mycovirus (partitivirus) has potential for biocontrol according to K. Ihrmark and associates at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala. (For. Pathol. 31:387-394, 2001)

A new monophyletic phylum, the <u>Glomeromycota</u>, was established to comprise the arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi, and removed from the polyphyletic <u>Zygomycota</u> by A. Schüßler and associates at Technische Universität, Darmstadt, Germany, and Biological Research and Imaging Laboratory, Hampshire, UK. (Mycol. Res. 105:1413-1421, 2001)

Early planting of potato tubers coupled with timely harvesting after kill-down of tops is a compromise to maximize yield while avoiding grade-out due to common scab, reports D. Waterer of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada. (Can. J. Plant Sci. 82:185-189, 2002)

Mycorrhizal colonization of transgenic aspen in the field was demonstrated by M. Kaldorf and associates at the University of Jena and the Institute of Forest Genetics and Forest Tree Breeding, Grosshansdorf, Germany. The aspen carried the rolC gene from Agrobacterium rhizogenes. (Planta 214:653-660, 2002)

Simultaneous mutation in 2 homologous genes ($\underline{\text{TOM1}}$ and $\underline{\text{TOM3}}$) in Arabidopsis thaliana inhibited multiplication of tobamoviruses according to T. Yamanaka and associates at Hokkaido University, Sapporo, and Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan. (J. Virol. 76:2491-2497, 2002)