## Focus

Thick root of cucumber is a disorder of unknown cause in plants grown in artificial solutions; however, nutrient solutions of pH 4.0 to 6.5 reduced the risk of disease, report D. J. van der Gaag and associates at Applied Plant Research, Naaldwijk, Netherlands. (Plant Pathol. 51:666-670, 2002)

Seed production was 53% less than in controls and seed viability was reduced in Solanum nigrum plants infected with Tobacco mosaic virus, report G. Kazinczi and associates at the University of Veszprém, Keszthely, Hungary. (Acta Phytopathol. Entomol. Hung. 37:329-333, 2002)

Pseudomonas syringae multiplies epiphytically on tomato leaves, report T. Boureau and associates at University of Helsinki, Finland. The hrpA gene is induced in leaf cells after bacterial infiltration. (Mol. Plant Pathol. 3:451-460, 2002)

Pinewood nematodes aggregated around pupal chambers of the beetle Monochamus alternatus but not around other beetle species, making them less likely vectors, report N. Maehara of the Forest and Forest Products Institute, Ibaraki, and K. Futai of Kyoto University, Japan. (Nematology 4:653-658, 2002)

The ToxA gene in Pyrenophora tritici-repentis encodes a host-selective toxin and confers pathogenicity in tranformed non-pathogenic isolates, report A. Lichter and associates at Oregon State University, Corvallis. (Fung. Genet. Biol. 37:180-189, 2002)

Eggs of the citrus, but not root-knot, nematode inhibit mycelial growth of Phytophthora nicotianae and Fusarium solani, report F. E. El-Boral and associates at the University of Florida, Lake Alfred. (J. Nematol. 34:267-272, 2002)

Of 65 isolates of Erwinia amylovora from rosaceous species in Ireland, 44 were homogeneous and 21 were genetically diverse according to J. M. Brennan and associates at University College Dublin, State Laboratory and Department of Agriculture, Dublin, Ireland. (J. Phytopathol. 150:414-422, 2002)

Pisolithus tinctorius promotes germination of somatic embryos of Scots pine without direct contact of symbionts, report K. Niemi of the University of Kuopio, Finland, and H. Häggman, University of Oulu, Finland. (Mycorrhizae 12:263-267, 2002)

Race 1 elicited more medicarpin (phytoalexin) in alfalfa leaf tissues than did race 2 of Colletotrichum trifolii as a defense reaction, report I. I. Salles and associates at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, and the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, Oklahoma. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 61:89-101, 2002)

Eumusae (formerly Septoria) leaf spot of banana is caused by Mycosphaerella eumusae, according to P. W. Crous of the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, and X. Mourichon at CIRAD, Montpellier, France. (Sydowia 54:35-41, 2002)

A new strain of the Tomato apical stunt viroid causes severe losses in greenhousegrown tomato in Israel, report Y. Antignus and associates at The Volcani Center, Bet Dagan, Israel. (Phytoparasitica 30:502-510, 2002)