Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

That greater contact between ectomycorrhizae and soil improves efficiency of nutrient uptake was challenged in Nothofagus obliqua by M. Alvarez and associates at the University of Bremen, Germany; Universidad Austral de Chile; and Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina. (Soil Biol. Biochem. 37:125-132, 2005)

 $G_{N}\text{-}S$ protein binds to larval thrip guts and decreases Tomato spotted wilt virus acquisition (G_N serves as viral ligand) report A. E. Whitfield and associates at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and the University of California, Davis. (J. Virol. 78:13197-13206, 2004)

Crosses between Red Chief and Chinese Spring monosomic and ditelosomic wheat lines show that the gene for Stagonospora nodorum blotch is located on the long arm of chromosome 3A, report J. Feng and associates at University of Saskatchewan, Canada, and Pacific Northwest Research Institute, Seattle. (Crop Sci. 44:2043-2048, 2004)

Epichloë glyceriae infection affects carbon translocation in Glyceria striata but does not lead to corresponding differences in stolon growth, report J. J. Pan and K. Clay at Indiana University, Bloomington. (New Phytol. 164:467, 2004)

With Sugarcane mosaic virus on maize, Pst-AFLP markers are more closely linked to the Scmvla gene than any of the Eco-AFLP markers, report L. Yuan and associates at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing; University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany; and Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Slagelse. (Plant Breed. 123:434-437, 2004)

Potato early blight and healthy leaf area duration or absorption were not altered by nitrogen or the cyst nematode, report S. F. A. Shah and associates at Lincoln University, Canterbury; the University of Otego and New Zealand Institute for Crop & Food Research Ltd., Christchurch, New Zealand. (N.Z. J. Crop Hortic. Sci. 32:85-102, 2004)

Biomass of arbuscular mycelia was stimulated by earthworms, but fungal dispersal over 20 cm was not influenced, report D. Gormsen and associates at Lund University, Sweden. (Appl. Soil Ecol. 27:211-220, 2004)

Root necrosis from nematodes in banana under heavy mulching and from dead roots under finger millet intercropping account for reduced bunch weight, report F. Ssango and associates at IITA and ESARCU, Kampala, Uganda; IITA at Croyden, UK; and Catholic University Leuven, Belgium. (Field Crops Res. 90:177-187, 2004)

Endothia and Cryphonectria are in two distinct phylogenetic clades, report H. Myburg and associates at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg. (Mycologia 96:990-1001, 2004)

The global virulence regulator PhcA controls Ralstonia solanacearum iron scavenging by the siderophore staphyloferrin B, report G. Bhatt and T. P. Penny of the University of Georgia, Athens. (J. Bacteriol. 186:7896-7904, 2004)

A male sterile cultivar Revolucion provides a genetically modified nematoderesistant potato to evaluate benefits until stable introgression to wild relatives is determined, report C. Celis and associates at Wageningen University, Netherlands; SENASA, Lima, Peru; University of Leeds, UK; and Fundación PROINPA, Bolivia. (Nature 432:222-225, 2004)