Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

Lumichrome, a rhizosphere metabolite, elicits growth in cowpea, soybean, millet, and corn but not in common bean, report V. N. Matiru at University of Capetown and F. D. Dakora at Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa. (New Phytol. 166:439-444, 2005)

Unsaturated fatty acids from zoospores of Sclerospora graminicola can induce resistance to downy mildew on pearl millet when applied to seeds, report K. N. Amruthesh and associates at University of Mysore, India, and The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University,Copenhagen, Denmark. (Eur. J. Plant Pathol. 111:125-137, 2005)

The genome sequence of Magnaporthe grisea on rice has been determined by R. A. Dean at North Carolina State University and associates at institutions in North Carolina, Texas, Kentucky, Arizona, Indiana, Delaware, Massachusetts (USA), and in Korea, France, UK. (Nature 434:980-986, 2005)

A specific viral determinant is associated with transmission of Tomato spotted wilt virus by thrips, and glycoproteins are required for thrips transmissibility, report S.-H. Sin and associates at North Carolina State University and Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Missouri. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 102:5168-5173, 2005)

Autoinduction and a role for an acyl-homoserine lactone-type signal in Erwinia amylovora causing fire blight was shown by L. Molina and associates at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and the Swiss Federal Research Institute for Fruit Production, Switzerland. (J. Bacteriol. 187:3206-3213, 2005)

Exposure of Japanese black pine seedlings to simulated acid rain accelerated pinewood nematode reproduction and increased seedling mortality, report E. Asai of Tottori University, and K. Futai of Kyoto University, Japan. (For. Pathol. 35:135-144, 2005)

The genome of Maize fine streak virus consists of 13,782 nucleotides of non-segmented, negative-sense, single-stranded RNA, report C.-W. Tsai and associates at Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and the USDA, Wooster, and University of Kentucky. (J. Virol. 79:5304-5314, 2005)

Alternaria cosmosa was described as a new species pathogenic to cosmos in Taiwan, report W.-S. Wu and Y.-L. Li at the Chinese Culture University, Taipei, Taiwan. (Mycotaxon 91:15-20, 2005)

Sclerotinia pseudotuberosa is present asymptomatically in all chestnut tissue and represents an adaptive strategy for host infection under favorable conditions, report A. M. Vettraino and associates at University of Tuscia, Italy. (Mycol. Res. 109:96-102, 2005)

Widespread presence of chorismate mutase genes from sedentary Meloidogyne incognita suggests this enzyme to be key in modulating plant parasitism, report G. Huang and associates at the University of Georgia, Iowa State University, and North Carolina State University. (Mol. Plant Pathol. 6:23-30, 2005)

Resistance of Arabidopsis to Pseudomonas syringae with the effector AvrRpt2 (activated by cyclophilin) requires plant resistance protein RPS2, report G. Coaker and associates, University of California, Berkeley. (Science 308:548-550, 2005)

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