

Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

Seven of 15 cereal products from German retail markets contained zearalenone (4.9-45 µg/kg) produced by Fusarium spp., report B. Cramer and associates at Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany. (J. Agric. Food Chem. 55:8353-8358, 2007)

Plastic mulches favor high root zone temperature, reduce plant growth and yield, and predispose tomato plants to early symptoms of Tomato spotted wilt virus, report J. C. Diaz-Pérez and associates at the University of Georgia, Tifton. (Sci. Hortic. 114:90-95, 2007)

Using molecular markers linked to $R_{Mc1(blb)}$, aid in selecting for resistance in potato to the root-knot nematode, report L.-H. Zhang and associates at IAREC, Washington State University, USDA-ARS at Prosser; and University of California, Berkeley. (Crop Sci. 47:2021-2026, 2007)

Changes of 334 genes in Mexican lime plants were detected from infection by a severe strain of Citrus tristeza virus, whereas no gene changes resulted from a mild strain, report M. Gandia and associates at Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias and Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain. (Virology 367:298-306, 2007)

Defense signaling components in arabidopsis activated by nonadaptive strains of Pseudomonas syringae resemble those initiated by pathogenic strains, such as enhanced disease susceptibility, report T. E. Mishina and J. Zeier at the University of Würzburg, Germany. (Physiol. Plant. 131:448-461, 2007)

Twice as much ear smut occurred in a sweet corn hybrid where silk abscised rapidly as in a hybrid where silk abscised slowly, report J. K. Pataky at the University of Illinois, and P. M. Richter at General Mills Agriculture Research, Minnesota. (HortScience 42:1409-1412, 2007)

Glutathione S-transferases, secreted during parasitism of Meloidogyne incognita, are needed to complete its life cycle in a host, report G. Dubreuil and associates at INRA-UNSA-CNRS, UMR 1064, Sophia-Antipolis, France. (New Phytol. 176:426-436, 2007)

A probe using real-time PCR detected 'Candidatus Phytoplasma mali' in apple in 3 months compared to 4 or 7 months with other methods, report M. Aldaghi and associates at Gembloux Agricultural University, Belgium, and Plant Pests & Diseases Research Institute, Iran. (Ann. Appl. Biol. 151:251-258, 2007)

Phenolics and pisatin accumulate in response to some strains of rhizobacteria to induce resistance of pea to Orobanche crenata, report Y. Mabrouk and associates at Technobiologie Faculté des Sciences de Tunis, Faculté des Sciences in Gafsa, INRAT, in Tunisia; and UFR and Université de Nantes, France. (Weed Res. 47:452-460, 2007)

In vitro heat treatment combined with shoot tip culture was more effective than conventional heat treatment in eliminating Plum pox virus in apricot, report G. C. Koubouris and associates at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. (J. Gen. Plant Pathol. 73:370-373, 2007)

Ultrashort lipopeptides act as native-like antibiotics for Botrytis cinerea on cucumber, Cochliobolus heterostrophus on corn, and Pseudomonas syringae on arabidopsis, report A. Makovitzki and associates at Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 73:6629-6636, 2007)