Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

Co-infection of Abutilon mosaic virus (AbMV) and Cucumber mosaic virus increased titers of AbMV in Nicotiana benthamiana, tobacco, and tomato, a synergistic symptom enhancement, report C. Wege and D. Siegmund at Universität Stuttgart, Germany. (Virology 357:10-28, 2007)

A new PCR-based molecular marker 197/909 for resistance of peanut to the root-knot nematode was developed by Y. Chu and associates at the University of Georgia, and USDA-ARS, Tifton. (Crop Sci. 47:841-845, 2007)

Stem puncture inoculation identified resistance to Verticillium wilt in 26 olive cultivars (11 susceptible, 11 moderately susceptible, 4 resistant) report F. J. López-Escudero and M. A. Blanco-López at Universidad de Córdoba, Spain. (HortScience 42:294-298, 2007)

A microfluidic flow chamber to measure adhesion forces of Types I and IV pili of Xylella fastidiosa on grape was devised by L. De La Fuente and associates at Cornell University, Geneva and Ithaca, NY. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 73:2690-2696, 2007)

The vector associated with garden beet witches'-broom phytoplasma in Iran is Orosius albicinctus, report A. Mirzaie and associates at the Agricultural Biotechnology Research Institute of Iran, Yazd Agricultural and Natural Resources Research Center, and Mazandaran University, Iran. (J. Phytopathol. 155:198-203, 2007)

Gene hssB3.0 suppresses virulence of Xanthomonas axonopodis on Citrus grandis and interrupts canker development elicited by pathogenicity gene pthA-KC21, report H. Shiotani and associates at the National Institute of Fruit Tree Science (Nagasaki), Shizuoka University, and Minami Kyushu University, Japan. (J. Bacteriol. 189:3271-3279, 2007)

Marssonina betulae causes sunken stem cankers and progressive dieback on Betula pendula but not B. pubescens, and does not require a wound for infection, report S. Green and G. A. MacAskill at the Northern Research Station, Scotland. (Plant Pathol. 56:242-250, 2007)

Soluble silicate reduces conidial germination, appressorium formation, and possibly penetration by Sphaerotheca aphanis on strawberry, report T. Kanto and associates at Hyogo Prefectural Technology Center for Agriculture, Japan. (J. Gen. Plant Pathol. 73:1-7, 2007)

Insect defoliation promotes colonization of Biscogniauxia mediterranea on Quercus cerris in situations of moderate water stress, report P. Capretti and A. Battisti, Università degli Studi, Florence and Padova, Italy. (For. Pathol. 37:129-135, 2007)

Elevated levels of nitrogen from 7.15 to 57.1 mM increased susceptibility of begonia to Botrytis cinerea by 10-80% in stems and 3-14% in leaves, report D. S. Pitchay and associates at the University of Toledo, Ohio; USDA-ARS, Wooster, Ohio; and University of Nevada, Reno. (Am. Soc. Hortic. Sci. 132:147-277, 2007)

Presence of the nec1 virulence gene, detected by PCR assay, enabled early diagnosis of common scab on potato tubers, report D. W. Cullen and A. K. Lees at the Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee. (J. Appl. Microbiol. 102:1082-1094, 2007)

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