Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

Xylella fastidosa strains pathogenic to citrus and coffee are biologically distinct but have diverged and are genetically homogenized by frequent recombination report R. P. P. Almeida and associates at the University of California, Berkeley, and ESALQ/USP, Sao Paulo, Brazil. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 74:3690-3701, 2008)

Some onion cultivars had high yield, large bulb size, and low incidence of Iris yellow spot virus report C. C. Shock and associates at Oregon State University, and Southwest Idaho Research and Extension Center, Parma. (HortTechnology 18:539-544, 2008)

Removal of shoots excised by pruning red pine reduces inoculum of Diplodia pinea and incidence of shoot blight in tree nurseries report I. A. Munck and G. R. Stanosz at the University of Wisconsin. (For. Pathol. 38:196-202, 2008)

The mechanism of the strong resistance of potato clone G8107 to Potato leafroll virus is resistance to virus movement within leaves or from leaves to petioles, to thereby prevent spread within plants, report R. M. Solomon-Blackburn and associates at the Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee, UK. (Ann. Appl. Biol. 152:339-347, 2008)

Culture filtrates from Phoma sp. GS8-1 induce systemic resistance in arabidopsis to Pseudomonas syringae pv. tomato due to a partial requirement for salicyclic acid, but defense signaling may involve jasmonic acid and ethylene, report M. M. Hossain and associates at Gifu University, Japan. (J. Gen. Plant Pathol. 74:213-221, 2008)

The Tobacco rattle virus-encoded 16-kDa protein serves as a suppressor to block local RNA silencing induced by single- and double-stranded RNA and interfere with silencing downstream of dsRNA formation report L. Martinez-Priego and associates at Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas, Madrid, Spain. (Virology 376:346-356, 2008)

The protein HrpN is important in translocating the pathogenicity factor DspA/E of Erwinia amylovora, and HrpJ affects translocation of DspA/E by affecting secretion or stability of HrpN in fire blight development report A. M. Bocsanczy and associates at Cornell University, NY. (Mol. Plant Pathol. 9:425-434, 2008)

Major and minor coat genes of resistance-breaking isolates of Citrus tristeza virus on orange were paraphyletic report S. J. Harper and associates at the University of Auckland and the Horticulture and Food Research Institute, NZ, and the South Australian Research and Development Institute, Adelaide. (Australas. Plant Pathol. 37:379-386, 2008)

To initiate, but not maintain, virus RNA propagation in Cryphonectria parasitica on chestnut requires hypovirus papain-like protease p48 report F. Deng and D. L. Nuss at the University of Maryand, Rockville. (J. Virol. 82:6369-6378, 2008)

Fusaric acid inhibits root and leaf cell functions of watermelon to account for Fusarium wilt by decreasing the cell membrane potential 70-82% over controls report H.-S. Wu and associates at Nanjing Agricultural University and Jiangsu Key Laboratory for State Organic Waste Utilization, China. (Plant Soil 308:255-266, 2008)

To measure peach tree resistance to Meloidogyne mayaguensis, it was better to count egg masses, eggs per plant, and eggs per gram of dry root, than to count root galls report A. P. Nyczepir and associates at USDA-ARS, Byron, Georgia; and Florida Division of Plant Industry and University of Florida, Gainesville. (HortScience 43:804-806, 2008)

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