

Focus

Strawbreaker has been found on wheat in 12 counties in Kansas, primarily in the central third of the state and severe in some fields, according to T. Sim IV of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Topeka. The disease is new to eight counties. (Kans. Plant Dis. Surv. Rep. Vol. 10, No. 10, 1984)

Two Phytophthora species---P. cinnamomi (A2 mating type) and P. drechsleri---have been associated with decline of Cedrus deodara in China, report H. H. Ho of the State University of New York at New Paltz and L. Jiayun and G. Longyin of Nanjing Agricultural College, Nanjing, People's Republic of China. (Mycopathologia 85:59-64, 1984)

Exserohilum turcicum, the cause of northern leaf blight of corn, is a low-sugar fungus, and lesion development in leaf tissue is negatively associated with photoperiod, light intensity, and leaf sugar content, according to Y. Levy and Y. Cohen of Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel. (Physiol. Plant Pathol. 24:247-252, 1984)

Ryegrass mottle virus is a new virus reported on Italian ryegrass in Japan by S. Toriyama, Y. Mikoshiba, and Y. Doi of the University of Tokyo. It is a member of the phleum mottle virus group. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 49:610-618, 1983)

The incidence of Thielaviopsis root rot of soybean was 0--100% in fields in southwestern Ontario, according to T. R. Anderson of Agriculture Canada, Harrow, Ontario. Population densities of the fungus in soil ranged from 0 to 248 propagules per gram of dry soil. Resistance varied among 34 cultivars tested. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 6:71-74, 1984)

Ice-nucleation-active strains of Pseudomonas syringae were isolated in Sicily by N. Butera, V. Alliata, L. Billitteri, and A. Catara of the University of Catania. These strains were widely prevalent on vegetables especially and may function in frost protection. (Inf. Fitopatol. 34[2]:51-54, 1984)

Fall application of metam-sodium through a center-pivot irrigation system effectively controlled Meloidogyne chitwoodi and M. hapla on potatoes, report G. S. Santo of Washington State University, Prosser, and M. Qualls of Stauffer Chemical Co., Ephrate, WA. (J. Nematol. 16:159-161, 1984)

Coniothyrium munitans parasitizes hyphae and sclerotia of Sclerotinia sclerotiorum, reports J. C. Tu of Agriculture Canada, Harrow, Ontario. Parasitism of sclerotia was more destructive than parasitism of hyphae, as observed by scanning electron microscopy. (Phytopathol. Z. 109:261-268, 1984)

Mycorrhizal fungi in the field had little or no effect on growth and disease control in winter wheat in Kansas, according to B. A. Daniels, W. W. Bockus, and J. Bloom of Kansas State University, Manhattan. Mycorrhizal fungi apparently do not colonize wheat in the fall and winter because of the declining soil temperature. (Can. J. Bot. 62:735-740, 1984)

The often eaten bolete Suillus luteus can be poisonous unless the cuticle is removed, report M. H. Prager and R. D. Goos of the University of Rhode Island, Kingston. (Mycopathologia 85:175-176, 1984)

Inoculation with nonpathogenic Fusarium oxysporum protected sweet potatoes against soilborne and tuberborne pathogenic F. oxysporum, report K. Ogawa of Ibaraki Prefecture Agricultural Experiment Station, Mito, and K. Komada of the National Agricultural Research Center, Yatabe. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 50:1-9, 1984)