

Focus

Soil amoebae can perforate and destroy pigmented hyphae and barrel-shaped cells in sclerotia of Rhizoctonia solani, report Y. Homma and M. Ishii of Shikoku National Agricultural Experiment Station, Kagawa, Japan. These amoebae may reduce survival or longevity of R. solani in field soils. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 50:229-240, 1984)

The insecticide Lorsban improves peanut yields by suppressing or inhibiting growth and development of white mold, according to R. J. Sprenkel and D. B. Dale of Dow Chemical Co., Atlanta, GA. The application of Lorsban with PCNB gave the best disease control. (Down Earth 40[2]:1-7, 1984)

An annotated list of 305 named models published in environmental sciences and their potential risks has been compiled by R. N. Kickert of Micro-Computer Software & Consulting Service, Corvallis, OR. Forty commercially available environmental computer programs are also listed. (Simulation 43[1]:22-39, 1984)

A new species of Pythium (P. nunn) was isolated from Colorado soil by R. Lifshitz and R. Baker of Colorado State University, Fort Collins, and M. E. Stanghellini of the University of Arizona, Tucson. This species was associated with suppressive soils in Colorado. (Mycotaxon 20:373-379, 1984)

Acid rain by itself is unlikely to significantly affect most forest types, according to J. D. Aber of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Only forests near areas of extreme urbanization and industrialization or at high elevations appear threatened. (Acid Deposition Heavy Metal Effects For. Ecosyst. May 1984)

The phytotoxin dothistromin has been identified as a metabolite of the peanut pathogen Cercospora arachidicola by A. Stoessl of Agriculture Canada, London, Ontario. (Mycopathologia 86:165-168, 1984)

Phytotoxins from pines infested with the pine wilt nematode stimulated toxin formation in pine, but extracts from infested pine did not inhibit the nematode or the blue-stain fungus, according to R. Bolla, F. Shaheen, and R. E. K. Winter of the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Thus, only one criterion for formation of a phytoalexin was satisfied. (J. Nematol. 16:297-303, 1984)

Glomus fasciculatus may act as a biocontrol agent against poinsettia root rot caused by Pythium ultimum, report J. W. Kaye, F. L. Pflieger, and E. L. Stewart of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Rhizospheres of mycorrhizal plants had lower populations of P. ultimum than those of nonmycorrhizal plants. (Can. J. Bot. 65:1575-1579, 1984)

A key to the Microsphaera species in North America has been developed by U. Braun of the Pädagogische Hochschule "Wolfgang Ratke," Köthen, East Germany. Keys to species are supplemented with keys based on host families. (Nova Hedwigia 39:211-243, 1984)

Raspberry bush dwarf, black raspberry necrosis, and tomato ringspot viruses were found for the first time on raspberries in Italy by C. P. Pollini and L. Giunchedi of the University of Bologna, Italy. (Inf. Fitopatol. 34[5]:59-63, 1984)

Thirteen of 18 isolates of Fusarium moniliforme from cereals produced red pigments and proved to be bactericidal to gram-positive bacteria, according to A. Visconti and associates of the University of Bari, Italy. (Phytopathol. Mediterr. 22:152-156, 1983)