

# Focus

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A large-scale closed-chamber fumigation system with cooling facilities developed by P. W. Lucas, D. A. Cottam, and T. A. Mansfield of the University of Lancaster, England, enables study of the effects of low concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub> and low temperature on plants. (Environ. Pollut. 43:15-28, 1987)

Phoma medicaginis var. pinodella, the cause of black stem in red clover and foot rot in pea, is the name chosen by J. F. White of the University of Texas in Austin and G. Morgan-Jones of Auburn University in Alabama. Characteristics of chlamyospore chains, pycnidial wall anatomy, and conidia distinguish the species, which is considered a synonym for Ascochyta pinodella and Phoma trifolii. (Mycotaxon 28:241-248, 1987)

Pearl millet smut was confirmed as Moesziomyces penicillariae by S. S. Chahal, K. Kumar, and G. S. Gill of Punjab Agricultural University in Ludhiana, India. Host genotypes varied in resistance to the smut. (Plant Dis. Res. 1:59-64, 1986)

Fire blight was reported for the first time in Israel by S. V. Beer of Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and E. Shabi and Z. Zutra of the Volcani Center in Bet Dagan, Israel. Pear, apple, and cotoneaster were affected, but damage was limited on apple and cotoneaster. (EPPO Bull. 16:639-646, 1986)

A plastic Luer syringe was modified by J. M. S. Forest of the Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee, for processing second-stage juveniles of the nematode Globodera pallida for electron microscopy. (Nematologica 32:123-124, 1986)

The potato "bouquet" virus is not closely related to tobacco and tomato ringspot viruses, on the basis of results of agar gel double-diffusion tests, according to P. R. Mallozzi and A. P. C. Alba of the Biological Institute in São Paulo, Brazil. (Summa Phytopathol. 12:221-223, 1986)

A Rhizoctonia species that has uninucleate, dark hyphae and forms microsclerotia on roots of wheat seedlings has been described by G. Hall of the University of Cambridge, England. The isolate, named D2, cannot be R. solani or R. cerealis. (Trans. Br. Mycol. Soc. 87:466-471, 1986)

Typhula phacorrhiza, previously thought to be not pathogenic, is a late-winter pathogen of winter wheat in eastern Ontario, report E. F. Schneider and W. L. Seaman of Agriculture Canada in Ottawa. Of the other snow mold fungi, T. incarnata is an early-winter and T. ishikariensis a late-winter pathogen. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 8:269-276, 1986)

A novel endogenous lipoprotein was identified in Phytophthora cinnamomi and other oomycetes by S. A. Warner and associates of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. (Exp. Mycol. 10:315-322, 1986)

The black line that develops between different biological species of the Armillaria mellea complex consists of melanized hyphal cells from both species, according to K. I. Mallett and Y. Hiratsuka of the University of Alberta and the Canadian Forestry Service in Edmonton. Bladderlike cells of a pseudosclerotial plate of each species border either side of the line, a character that is useful in species identification. (Can. J. Bot. 64:2588-2590, 1986)

Of 101 aphid species tested, 22 were found for the first time to transmit potato virus Y<sup>N</sup>, reports P. G. M. Piron of the Research Institute for Plant Protection, Wageningen, Netherlands. (Neth. J. Plant Pathol. 92:223-229, 1986)