## **Focus**

Little stem rust is expected on wheat in the Great Plains in 1989, with only light infection in Louisiana. Losses from leaf rust will be significant in much of the Southeast, however, if favorable conditions continue and inoculum spreads to the soft red winter wheat area. (USDA Cereal Rust Bull. Rep. 2, 3 May 1989)

<u>Pseudomonas corrugata</u>, which causes tomato pith necrosis, can survive in soil and seed, according to M. Scortichini of the Istituto Sperimentale per la Patologia Vegetale, Rome, Italy. Seedbed disinfection is recommended for control; fumigation of transplant beds is of little value. (J. Phytopathol. 125:33-40, 1989)

Vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae are not important in the absorption of zinc from soil by corn, conclude S. Lu and M. H. Miller of the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. (Can. J. Soil Sci. 69:97-109, 1989)

Alternaria helianthi is pathogenic to cocklebur and has potential as a biocontrol agent for this weed in crops other than sunflower and safflower, according to P. C. Quimby, Jr., of the USDA Southern Weed Science Laboratory, Stoneville, Mississippi. (Weed Technol. 3:177-181, 1989)

Mnemonic three-letter acronyms for 629 families of fungi have been developed by J. E. Laferriere of the University of Arizona, Tucson. (Mycotaxon 34:461-473, 1989)

Matching procedures and modified Gower's coefficient are both useful in nematode identification aided by a desktop microcomputer, report B. Boag and associates of the Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee, and the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute, Reduit. (Nematologica 34:164-172, 1988)

A coating secretion in the xylem of tomato prevents colonization of lateral tissue by Verticillium albo-atrum, report J. Robb and associates of the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Resistant plants have more coating than susceptible plants. (Can. J. Bot. 67:600-607, 1989)

Four thiocarbamate herbicides at field rates prevented hatch of cyst nematodes Globodera rostochiensis and Heterodera schachtii, but three without thiocarbamate had little or no effect on hatch, report R. N. Perry and J. Beane of Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, England. (Rev. Nematol. 12:191-196, 1989)

Callose deposition in xylem parenchyma of tomato appeared to be more effective than hypersensitivity in accounting for resistance of plants to Fusarium wilt, according to C. H. Beckman, P. A. Verdier, and W. C. Mueller of the University of Rhode Island in Kingston. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 34:227-239, 1989)

The first evidence that the mealybug <u>Planococcus</u> ficus can transmit corky-bark disease of grapevine has been obtained by E. Tanne, Y. Ben-Dov, and B. Raccah of the Volcani Research Center, Bet Dagan, Israel. (Phytoparasitica 17:55, 1989)

Mantlelike structures produced by <u>Pisolithus tinctorius</u> on root hairs of <u>Pinus</u> mariana in the establishment of ectomycorrhizae have been reported for the first time by J. Thomson and associates of the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. (Am. J. Bot. 76:632-636, 1989)

Resistance of <u>Venturia</u> <u>inaequalis</u> to a demethylation-inhibiting fungicide has been reported for the first time by P. D. Hildebrand and associates of the Agriculture Canada Research Station, Kentville, Nova Scotia, to result in failure to control apple scab. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 10:311-316, 1988)