Focus

Leaf curl syndrome of pigeon pea is a systemic response to nodulation by <u>Rhizobium</u> strain IC3342, report N. M. Upadhyaya and associates at the Australian National University, Canberra, and ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 39:357-373, 1991)

Systemin, a polypeptide, initiates the synthesis of two wound-inducible proteinase-inhibitor proteins in tomato leaves, report G. Pearce and associates at Washington State University, Pullman, and Harvard Medical School, Boston. (Science 253:895-898, 1991)

The green leafhopper can transmit the rice tungro bacilliform virus directly to xylem cells, where the virus multiplies, report F. C. Sta. Cruz and H. Koganezawa of the International Rice Research Institute, Manila, Philippines. (Int. Rice Res. Newsl. 16[4]:14, 1991)

Tubers served as the primary source of inoculum of late blight of potatoes, spreading the disease only short distances from infected plants, according to B. P. Singh and S. K. Bhattacharyya of the Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla, India. (Indian Phytopathol. 43:393-400, 1990)

Endophytes on perennial ryegrass appear to be of more than one species of <u>Acremonium</u>, suggesting the genus be reappraised, report M. J. Christensen and associates at the DSIR Plant Protection, Palmerston North, New Zealand. (Mycol. Res. 95:918-923, 1991)

Epidemics of rust and smut in species of <u>Valeriana</u>, <u>Trientalis</u>, and <u>Silene</u> were confined to early-intermediate phases of population development, according to U. Carlsson and associates at the University of Umeå, Sweden, and were attributed to density effects, founder effects, and changes in environment during primary succession. (J. Ecol. 78:1094-1105, 1990)

Water-soluble metabolites other than fumonisin B_1 , produced by <u>Fusarium</u> moniliforme, were toxic to liver cells, according to W. P. Norred and associates at the R. B. Russell Agricultural Research Center, Athens, Georgia, and Northern Regional Research Center, Peoria, Illinois. (Mycopathologia 115:37-43, 1991)

Effects of <u>Brassica</u> species on other plants, attributed to allyl isothiocyanate as an example of allelopathy, is considered by D. N. Choesin and R. E. J. Boerner of Ohio State University, Columbus, to be due instead to the strong competitive ability of brassicas. (Am. J. Bot. 78:1083-1090, 1991)

Tomato roots appear to compensate for moderate degrees of Phytophthora root rot at shallow soil depths by extracting more water from deeper in the soil profile, report J. B. Ristaino and J. M. Duniway of the University of California, Davis. (J. Am. Soc. Hortic. Sci. 116:603-608, 1991)

Mutants of <u>Puccinia graminis</u> f. sp. <u>tritici</u> that can simultaneously overcome host stem rust resistance genes and wild-type cultures may indicate a more complex rust system than suggested by the gene-for-gene concept, report J. E. Gates of Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, and W. Q. Loegering of the University of Missouri, Columbia. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 57:2332-2336, 1991)

Continuous planting of potato genotypes with different degrees of resistance changes the equilibrium densities of the potato cyst nematode population, report M. S. Phillips and associates at the Scottish Crop Research Institute and the Scottish Agricultural Statistics Service, Dundee. (J. Appl. Ecol. 28:109-119, 1991)