Focus

Galls on grape in Israel are caused by Agrobacterium tumefaciens biovar 3, which corresponds with the proposed new species A. vitis, report J. H. Haas and associates at The Volcani Center, Bet Dagan. (Phytoparasitica 19:311-318, 1991)

Discula destructiva, described as a new species by S. C. Redlin of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland, is reported to be the cause of dogwood anthracnose. (Mycologia 83:633-642, 1991)

Only two of 121 bait plants exposed to the nematode vector Paratrichodorus tunisiensis became infected with the broad bean yellow band strain of the pea early browning virus, report L. Catalano and V. Savino of the Institute of Agricultural Nematology and the University of Bari, Italy. (Inf. Fitopatol. 41[9]:56-58, 1991)

Alginate beads can be used to entrap hyphae and vesicles of Glomus species as root inoculum in establishing vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae on Allium porrum in the field, report D. G. Strullu of the University of Angers and C. Plenchette of INRA, Dijon, France. (Mycol. Res. 95:1194-1196, 1991)

Bursaphelenchus mucronatus isolates from Japan and from France are not the same species, and pathogenic and nonpathogenic forms of B. xylophilus cannot be distinguished by the shape of the tail, according to E. Riga and associates at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, and Forestry Canada, Victoria, British Columbia. (Nematologica 37:285-292, 1991)

Hypoxylon mammatum secretes toxins selective for poplars and willows that can be used in early testing for disease-resistant genotypes, according to J. Pinon of INRA-CRF, Champenoux, France, and P. D. Manion of the State University of New York. Syracuse. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 21:202-209, 1991)

On the basis of work done on winter crops in Brazil, and depending on several factors, rotation of 10 nongraminaceous crops with wheat under conservation tillage should reduce incidence of, but not necessarily eradicate, wheat pathogens in surface crop residues, according to M. R. Fernandez of Agriculture Canada, Swift Current, Saskatchewan. (Can. J. Bot. 69:1900-1906, 1991)

Water stress can control the concentration of tomato spotted wilt virus and the symptoms of systemic infection in tomato plants, report A. R. Córdoba and associates at the INTA Institute of Plant Virology, Córdoba, Argentina. (J. Phytopathol. 133:255-263, 1991)

Although virulence of Pseudomonas amygdali is not correlated with any specific plasmid in the bacterium, some or all genes needed for hormone production may be plasmid-encoded, according to N. S. Iacobellis and associates at the Università degli Studi, Bari, Italy. (Phytopathol. Mediterr. 30:112-115, 1991)

A highly sensitive assay for detecting turnip mosaic virus in infected plants, developed by P. Horsewood and associates at McMaster University, Hamilton, and Agriculture Canada, Vineland Station, Ontario, makes use of an extraction buffer system containing multiple detergents. (Phytoprotection 72:61-68, 1991)

Crude catechins (polyphenols) from tea are as effective as a wettable copper compound in controlling bacterial leaf spot of tomato and canker of Citrus natsudaidai, according to K. Kodama and associates at Ito-en Ltd. and Shizuoka University, Shizuoka, Japan. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 57:306-311, 1991)