Focus

Hop plants infected with the hop stunt viroid have an increased requirement for indoleacetic acid, indicated by decreased rooting and demonstrated in tissue culture by T. Takahashi and associates at Iwate University, Morioka, Japan. (J. Plant Dis. Prot. 99:62-70, 1992)

Mating populations of Gibberella fujikuroi (three Fusarium species) differed in pathogenicity to asparagus, report W. H. Elmer and F. J. Ferrandino, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven. (Mycologia 84:253-257, 1992)

Polymyxa betae infects late-sown sugar beet plants sooner than early-sown plants, according to S. J. Blunt and associates at Broom's Burn Experimental Station, Bury St. Edmunds, and the University of Cambridge, England. Temperatures at early sowing favor plant growth over fungus growth, and the numerous fibrous roots in older plants favor late infection. (Plant Pathol. 41:148-153, 1992)

Susceptibility of Japanese pear to pear scab is enhanced by overfertilization with nitrogen, which increases total nitrogen and manganese and decreases calcium content of leaves, reports S. Umemoto of the Chiba Prefectural Agricultural Experiment Station, Japan. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 57:623-628, 1991)

The endophyte Trematosphaeria clarkii was isolated from the roots of more than 25% of the rice plants examined by P. J. Fisher and J. Webster of the University of Exeter, England. (Nova Hedwigia 54:77-81, 1992)

Oat mosaic virus is inherited quantitatively and represents durable resistance, according to D. V. Uhr and J. P. Murphy of North Carolina State University, Raleigh. (Crop Sci. 32:328-331, 1992)

Six of seven strains of rhizobacteria (Pseudomonas and Serratia spp.) that promote plant growth grew on agar amended with high concentrations of carboxin (Vitavax RS) or captan, or both, report R. M. Zablotowicz and associates at Esso Chemical Ag Biologicals, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada. Ability of a strain to grow on agar did not always correlate with ability to survive on canola and corn seeds treated with the pesticides. (Can. J. Microbiol. 38:45-50, 1992)

The parasexual cycle in <u>Ustilago</u> <u>scabiosae</u> has been demonstrated by E. D. Garber and M. Ruddat of the University of Chicago. Because other species of Ustilago infect monocotyledons and U. scabiosae infects dicotyledons, the taxonomic status of this species is being questioned. (Int. J. Plant Sci. 153:98-101, 1992)

A 28-day stem assay can be used to screen cultivars, plant introductions, and advanced breeding lines of dry bean for partial physiologic resistance to white mold, according to P. N. Miklas, K. F. Grafton, and B. D. Nelson of North Dakota State University, Fargo, but is destructive and cannot be used to select individual plants. (J. Am. Soc. Hortic. Sci. 117:321-327, 1992)

Inoculation with Glomus mosseae increases dry matter and yield of corn, but inoculum does not carry over to mung bean planted immediately after corn, report B. R. Khadge, L. L. Ilag, and T. W. Mew of the International Rice Research Institute, Manila, Philippines. (Plant Soil 140:303-309, 1992)

Temperature and moisture conditions in stored grain can be predicted by a series of equations developed by G. R. Thorpe of Victoria University of Technology, Footscray, Australia, and S. Whitaker of the University of California, Davis. (J. Stored Prod. Res. 28:15-27, 1992)