

Taxomyces andreanae, newly described as a fungal endophyte in phloem of the Pacific yew, produces the antitumor agent taxol in culture, report A. Stierle, G. Strobel, and D. Stierle of Montana State University, Bozeman. Taxol was previously reported only in yew bark. (Science 260:214-216, 1993)

Within the nine phenological growth macrostages of beets (Beta vulgaris) are microstages, and each step in development has an assigned two-digit decimal code suitable for data processing, report V. U. Meier of the Biologische Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Brunswick, and associates at other institutions in Germany. (Nachrichtenbl. Dtsch. Pflanzenschutzdienstes 45:37-41, 1993)

A root dip of Bacillus subtilis strain AB8 reduced the number of Antonova apple trees with crown gall, according to R. S. Utkhede and E. M. Smith of Agriculture Canada Research Station, Summerland, BC. Agrobacterium radiobacter strain K84 was ineffective. (J. Phytopathol. 137:265-271, 1993)

Five major species of Meloidogyne can be identified by means of the polymerase chain reaction by amplification of DNA, according to T. O. Powers and T. S. Harris of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. The method also can be applied to less frequently encountered species. (J. Nematol. 25:1-6, 1993)

Green foxtail and barnyard grass are new hosts for the viruslike agent causing flame chlorosis of cereals, report S. Haber and D. E. Harder of Agriculture Canada Research Station, Winnipeg. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 14:278-280, 1992)

Analysis of restriction fragment length polymorphisms in Fusarium rDNA helps to identify species, especially with toxin-producing strains of F. moniliforme, F. napiforme, and F. nygamai, report E. J. Lodolo and associates at CSIR, Pretoria, South Africa. (Mycol. Res. 97:345-346, 1993)

Zucchini yellow mosaic virus was controlled in courgette (squash) seedlings by prior inoculation with a mild strain of the virus, reports D. G. A. Walkey of Horticulture Research International, Warwick, England. The virus was in the testa but not in cotyledons or embryos. (Phytoparasitica 20[suppl.]:99S-103S, 1992)

Dodder was used to transmit the mycoplasma-like organisms causing flavescence dorée from naturally diseased grapevines to healthy periwinkle plants, report R. Credi and A. Santucci of the Università degli Studi, Bologna, Italy. Back-transmission to grapevine was not attempted. (Phytopathol. Mediterr. 31:154-162, 1992)

Sudden death syndrome of soybeans is caused by Fusarium solani, according to P. A. Stephens and associates at the University of Illinois, Urbana, and soybean cultivars differ in resistance to it. (Crop Sci. 33:63-66, 1993)

The initial stage of adherence of growth-promoting pseudomonads to roots of canola is rapid and reaches equilibrium in about an hour, according to J. Boelens of the University of Ghent, Belgium, and associates at other institutions. Bioluminescence was used to quantify short-term adherence. (Can. J. Microbiol. 39:329-334, 1993)

Most members of the Mucorales are only weakly toxigenic to plants, and of 15 members tested, the only genera with toxigenic species were Rhizopus, Mucor, and Mortierella, according to J. Reiss of Grahamhaus Studt in Kreuznach, Germany. (Mycopathologia 121:123-127, 1993)