## Focus

<u>Fusarium</u> <u>solani</u> (blue form) causes, and <u>Heterodera</u> <u>glycines</u> enhances, sudden death syndrome in soybean, according to K. S. McLean and G. W. Lawrence of Mississippi State University, Mississippi State. Environmental conditions greatly influence symptoms, however. (J. Nematol. 25:434-439, 1993)

The murine 2-5A synthetase gene or the potato virus X (PVX) coat protein protected transgenic potato plants from PVX in the field, according to E. Truve and associates at the Estonia Academy of Sciences in Tallinn and other institutions in Estonia.

Agrobacterium—mediated transformation was used to generate potato clones.

(Bio/Technology 11:1048-1052, 1993)

The newly described species Mycosphaerella suberosa causes corky leaf spot of Eucalyptus in Brazil, report P. W. Crous and associates at the University of Stellenbosch and the University of the Orange Free State, South Africa, and the National University of Viçosa, Brazil. (Mycologia 85:705-710, 1993)

Erysimum latent virus (ELV) was found for the first time on <u>Sisymbrium altissimum</u> by J. Spak and associates of the Institute of Plant Molecular Biology in Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic. ELV was not found in cultivated brassicas, however. (Arch. Phytopathol. Plant Prot. 28:189-195, 1993)

Scrap from blue crab processing plants suppressed root galling by the root-knot nematode, reduced number of egg masses per plant, and increased foliar growth of tomato, report J. R. Rich and C. H. Hodge of the University of Florida, Quincy. Raw scrap was more effective than scrap in compost. (Nematropica 23:1-5, 1993)

Phytophthora infestans in Japan comprises two noninterbreeding subpopulations of opposite mating types, report C. D. Therrien and associates at Pennsylvania State University, University Park; USDA-ARS Foreign Disease-Weed Research, Fort Detrick, Maryland; Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; and the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. Only the A2 mating type is resistant to metalaxyl. (Mycol. Res. 97:945-950, 1993)

Cryofixation and cryosubstitution can be used instead of chemical fixation for examination of intact eggs of Meloidogyne javanica with the electron microscope, report N. Fegan and associates at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Indooroopilly, Australia. (Fundam. Appl. Nematol. 16:309—313, 1993)

Ergosterol is produced in ectomycorrhizal fungi and can be used to estimate fungal biomass, just as sitosterol is used to estimate root mass, conclude R. K. Antibus and R. L. Sinsabaugh of Clarkson University, Potsdam, New York, from their work on field-collected roots of ectomycorrhizal and vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizal plants. (Mycorrhiza 3:137-144, 1993)

Increased incidence of beet necrotic yellow vein virus depends on infection from inoculum as resting spores of the vector <u>Polymyxa betae</u> in the soil rather than from plant-to-plant spread by secondary zoospores, reports G. Tuitert of the Sugar Beet Institute, Bergen op Zoom, Netherlands. (Neth. J. Plant Pathol. 99:85-96, 1993)

Amending the soil with clove leaves suppresses stem rot of vanilla caused by <u>Fusarium oxysporum</u>, according to M. Tombe and associates at RISMC in Indonesia and Hokkaido University in Japan, who found that eugenol in the leaves inhibits the pathogen. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. [Abstr.] 59:282, 1993)