Focus

RNA recombination between mRNA from the host chromosome and replicating viral RNA of cowpea chlorotic mottle bromovirus was demonstrated in transformed plants of both cowpea and <u>Nicotiana benthamiana</u> by A. E. Greene and R. F. Allison of Michigan State University, East Lansing. (Science 263:1423-1425, 1994)

Wind-gust release of bacteria and fluorescent microspheres was evaluated in an environmental bioaerosol research chamber built by B. Lighthart and associates of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Man Tech Environmental Technology, Inc., Corvallis, Oregon, for plants of various sizes. The release rate of <u>Bacillus</u> spores decreased as the number of gusts increased. (Aerobiologia 9:189-196, 1993)

<u>Rhizoctonia</u>-like fungi were recovered from potting mix in 11 of 30 nurseries in South Australia, and only 10% of recovered isolates were multinucleate, report D. A. Schisler and associates at the CSIRO Division of Soils, Glen Osmond. Some isolates were pathogenic to bell pepper and wheat. (Mycol. Res. 98:77-82, 1994)

Longidorus arthensis sp. n. was identified as the vector of cherry rosette disease nepovirus in cherry trees in Switzerland by D. J. F. Brown and associates at the Scottish Crop Research Institute in Dundee, the Swiss Federal Research Station in Wädenswil, and the Rothamsted Experimental Station in Harpenden, England. (Nematologica 40:133-149, 1994)

Guttation and dewfall supply about the same amount of water (0.1 mm) to leaves of <u>Holcus lanatus</u>, but guttation amount is correlated with soil temperature and moisture, according to R. N. Hughes and P. Brimblecombe of the University of East Anglia, Norwich, England. The half-life of sulfur dioxide in mixtures of dew and guttation is a few hours. (Agric. For. Meteorol. 67:173-190, 1994)

Tobacco plants resist infection by cucumber mosaic virus to a large extent by partially suppressing virus replication and to a lesser extent by inhibiting systemic movement of the virus, according to J. P. Carr and associates at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. (Virology 199:439-447, 1994)

Decay of apples caused by <u>Botrytis cinerea</u> is reduced by about 30% by prestorage treatment with heat (38 C for 4 days) and by about 60% by combining heat with a 2-4% calcium chloride solution, report W. S. Conway and associates of the USDA-ARS, Beltsville, Maryland, and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (J. Am. Soc. Hortic. Sci. 119:49-53, 1994)

Bean yellow mosiac virus is the first reported virus of lupine in Canada, according to C. Piché and associates at McGill University, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec. The virus represents a significant limitation to lupine culture because of aphid and seed transmission. (Phytoprotection 74:153-155, 1993)

A strategy for tagging <u>Pseudomonas fluorescens</u> with the manityl opine catabolic region from the <u>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</u> Ti plasmid was developed by I. Hwang and S. K. Farrand of the University of Illinois, Urbana, to identify microorganisms released into the environment. The marked bacterium can be detected and enumerated by a PCR method. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 60:913-920, 1994)

Eight of 30 wheat genotypes that were tested during eight different seasons equaled or exceeded Thatcher wheat in resistance to common root rot caused by <u>Cochliobolus sativus</u>, reports R. W. Stack of North Dakota State University, Fargo. (Crop Sci. 34:276-278, 1994)

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