Focus

Transgenic tomato plants expressing the capsid protein of the tomato yellow leaf curl virus are resistant to the virus, report T. Kunik and associates at the Agricultural Research Organization in Bet Dagan and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Otto Warburg Center for Technology in Agriculture in Rehovot, Israel. (Bio/Technology 12:500-504, 1994)

Chlorogenic acid is the principal component of a phytotoxin in water extracts from <u>Chenopodium album</u> shoots that inhibits germination of radish seeds, according to M. A. B. Mallik and associates at Langston University at Langston, Oklahoma, and the University of Central Oklahoma at Edmond. (J. Chem. Ecol. 20:957-967, 1994)

Ramichloridium pini was established as the cause of shoot dieback of lodgepole pine in Scotland by M. A. Rahman, C. S. Millar, and J. N. Gibbs of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and the Forestry Commission Research Station, Farnham, England. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 24:40-47, 1994)

Six tomato breeding lines with superior resistance to bacterial canker in the field have been developed by V. Poysa of Agriculture Canada, Harrow, Ontario. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 15:301-304, 1994)

Soil drenches with extracts of <u>Ascophyllum nodosum</u> decreased infestation of tomato plants by <u>Meloidogyne javanica</u> by reducing the number of eggs, report C. A. Whapham and associates at the University of Portsmouth and Maxicrop International Ltd., Corby, England. (Fundam. Appl. Nematol. 17:181-183, 1994)

The incidence of lettuce drop caused by <u>Sclerotinia minor</u> was decreased by 50 to 67% by use of soil pasteurized in plastic tunnels, report F. Fiume of Istituto Sperimentale per l'Orticoltura di Pontecagnano, Salerno, Italy. The solarization method produced air temperatures over 60 C and soil temperatures of 45 to 55 C. (Inf. Fitopatol. 44[3]:52-57, 1994)

Four strains of rice tungro bacilliform virus were identified by restriction fragment length analysis of polymerase chain reaction-amplified products, report A. C. Dolorea-Talens and associates at the International Rice Research Institute, Manila, Philippines. (Int. Rice Res. Notes 19[1]:10-11, 1994)

The smut fungi <u>Sporisorium</u>, <u>Sorosporium</u>, <u>Sphacelotheca</u>, and <u>Ustilago</u> are poorly delimited heterogenous genera, and, based on teliospore germination, <u>Sporisorium</u> cannot be regarded as a "natural" genus, according to C. T. Ingold of Benson, England. (Mycol. Res. 98:467-473, 1994)

Peanut chlorotic ringspot virus is a new, mechanically transmitted virus described by E. E. Wagih and associates at the University of Alexandria, Egypt, and Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. The virus was found in an Erictoides hybrid in a germ plasm collection maintained at Oklahoma. (J. Phytopathol. 140:133-144, 1994)

Applying <u>Pseudomonas</u> <u>fluorescens</u> to seed, then spraying leaves with <u>P</u>. <u>syringae</u> pv. <u>pisi</u> race 2 induced systemic resistance in pea, reports K. Kjellquist of Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet, Uppsala, Sweden. (Växtskyddsnotiser 57[3]:72-74, 1993)

Spraying with <u>Aureobasidium pullulans</u>, <u>Epicoccum purpurascens</u>, <u>Sordaria fimicola</u>, or <u>Trichoderma polysporum</u> at an antagonist-to-pathogen ratio of 100:1 protected wounded apple fruit from three postharvest pathogens, according to C. J. Falconi and K. Mendgen of the Universität, Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany. (J. Plant Dis. Prot. 101:38-47, 1994)