Focus

Compiled by Thor Kommedahl

A 2-year rotation, seed treatment, and control of cruciferous weeds effectively control cabbage black rot, according to F. S. Dzhalilov and R. D. Tiwari of the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy, Moscow, Russia. (Arch. Phytopathol. Plant Prot. 29:383-386, 1995)

Planting blends of soybean with 25% susceptible cultivars delays shifts from one race to another of the soybean cyst nematode and prolongs resistant cultivar effectiveness, report M. K. Wallace and associates at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. (Crop Sci. 35:703-707, 1995)

Peridermium pini is pathogenic to seedlings of Pinus sylvestris, P. nigra, and P. mugo without the need for wounds, report M. H. Pei of Long Ashton Research Station in Bristol, England, and J. Brodie of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 25:31-37, 1995)

Tetrazolium chloride staining is a rapid indicator of spore viability in vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae (Glomus spp.), report F. L. Walley and J. J. Germida of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada. (Mycologia 87:273-279, 1995)

Yield increases expected from growing crop plants under high CO_2 concentrations will not always occur because other factors become limiting and, as in the cereals, maintaining quality is likely to exact a yield penalty, reports D. R. Murray of the University of Sydney, Australia. (Am. J. Bot. 82:690-697, 1995)

Only strains of Enterobacter agglomerans that excrete chitinolytic enzymes are biocontrol agents for Rhizoctonia solani on cotton, report L. Chernin and associates at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and at the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 61:1720-1726, 1995)

Hibiscus latent ringspot virus was isolated from kenaf in Italy and infected plants contained cytoplasmic inclusion bodies characteristic of the nepoviruses, report C. Rubies-Autonell and M. Turina of the University of Bologna, Italy. (J. Phytopathol. 143:211-215, 1995)

Phellinus noxius produces extracellular sheaths and microhyphae involved in wood colonization and degradation in birch (the microhyphae also grow in xylem cells), report M. Nicole and associates at the Canadian Forest Services, Sainte-Foy, Quebec, Canada; the University of Minnesota, St. Paul; and the Laboratory of Plant Pathology in Montpellier, France. (Can. J. Microbiol. 41:253-265, 1995)

Mycoplasma-like organisms were found for the first time in pak-choi cabbage (Brassica chinensis) by K. F. Chang and associates at the Alberta Tree Nursery and Horticulture Center, Edmonton, and the Alberta Environmental Center, Vegreville, Canada. Symptoms included yellowing, stunting, and phyllody. (J. Plant Dis. Prot. 102:144-150, 1995)

A new bacterial needle blight of Chinese fir is caused by Pseudomonas syringae pv. cunninghamiae, according to Xue-You He and M. Goto of the Fujian Research Institute of Forestry, Fuzhou, China, and Shizuoka University, Shizuoka, Japan. (Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn. 61:38-40, 1995)