Focus

Bactericides such as copper hydroxide (Kocide 101) and its ammonium salt can significantly depress frost damage to corn inoculated in the field with icenucleating Pseudomonas fluorescens, reports H. Mittelstädt of the University of Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany. (Arch. Phytopathol. Prot. 30:191-199, 1996)

Natural infection of the terminal bud of sunflower by Sclerotinia sclerotiorum can be used to evaluate genotype resistance and hybrid behavior (spores do not germinate on terminal buds of resistant genotypes), report El Hassan Achbani and associates at INRA, Clermont-Ferrand Cedex, France. (Eur. J. Plant Pathol. 102:421-429, 1996)

Four phytoalexins present in inoculated stems of cocoa genotypes resistant to Verticillium dahliae were reported by M. L. V. Resende and associates at the University of Bath, and the University of Bristol, England: the first report of phytoalexins in Theobroma cacao. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 48:347-359, 1996)

White plastic mulch and the use of yellow sticky traps around plots reduced significantly the incidence of potato virus Y in pepper compared with untreated controls, according to K. Budnik and associates at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. (Phytoparasitica 24:119-124, 1996)

Of 7,002 plants of wheat, barley, corn, and 12 grass species, 704 were infected with at least one of four barley yellow dwarf virus strains; of these, 290 plants (41%) were infected with BYDV-RMV strain, report C. Heimke and W. Huth of the Biologische Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtshaft, Braunschweig, Germany. (J. Plant Dis. Prot. 103:113-119, 1996)

A new root-knot nematode, Meloidogyne paranaensis, on coffee in Brazil was described by R. M. D. G. Carneiro and associates at EMBRAPA-CPACT, Pelotas, Brazil; IAPAR, Londrina, Brazil; and Universidade de Coimbra, Coimbra Codex, Portugal. It attacks tobacco, watermelon, and tomato but not cotton, pepper, and peanut, and does not produce typical galls on coffee. (J. Nematol. 28:177-189, 1996)

The gene $\underline{{\tt ENOD40}}$ in legumes encodes peptides that act as plant growth regulators and alter plant hormone responses in legumes and nonlegumes, report K. van de Sande and associates at the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Cologne, Germany, and Agricultural University, Wageningen, Netherlands. (Science 273:370-373, 1996)

Arbuscular mycorrhizal hyphae developed better on corn by inoculating plants with Pseudomonas putida, or its dialyzed call extracts, report M. Gryndler and M. Vosátka of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, in Praha and Videnská, Czech Republic. (Mycorrhiza 6:207-211, 1996)

The antiviral activity of 1-morpholinomethyl-tetrahyro-2(1H)-pyrimidinone to tomato mosaic and cucumber mosaic viruses was shown by A. Yordanova and associates at the National Bank for Industrial Microorganisms and Cell Cultures, the University Hospital Queen Giovanna, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and the University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria. (Plant Pathol. 45:547-551, 1996)

The cause of poplar gray spot in northeast China, damaging in nurseries, is Mycosphaerella mandshurica, according to M. Morelet and P. Sigaud of INRA, Champenoux, and ONF at Velaine en Haye, France. (Cryptogam. Mycol. 17:11-20, 1996)

Canker of Italian cypress in an Israel nursery was caused by Fusarium compactum, according to M. Madar and associates at the Volcani Center, Bet Dagan, Israel. Five other coniferous genera were susceptible. (Eur. J. Forest Pathol. 26:107-112,1996)

Most of 142 field soil samples limited disease to some degree but 10% were strongly suppressive to disease caused by Plasmodiophora brassicae, Aphanomyces euteiches, or Fusarium oxysporum, report Y. Worku and B. Gerhardson at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden. (J. Phytopathol. 144:143-146, 1996)