

Sweet potato yields were reduced at least 50% in fields infected with both sweet potato feathery mottle virus (SPFMV) and sweet potato sunken vein virus (SPSVV), compared with virus-free fields, report M. Milgram and associates at The Volcani Center, Bet Dagan, Israel. Yields were not reduced from SPFMV alone and yields were reduced 30% in 1 of 2 years from SPSVV. (*Phytoparasitica* 24:189-193, 1996)

Vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae (Paris type) were found in American ginseng roots in three commercial farms and a managed maple-beech woodlot by F. Whitbread and associates at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada. (*Can. J. Bot.* 74: 1104-1112, 1996)

To preserve Meloidogyne spp. in liquid nitrogen a two-step pretreatment (2-h first step and 45-min second step of incubation with ethanediol as a cryoprotectant) is recommended by H. J. G. van der Beek and associates at the Research Institute for Plant Protection, Wageningen, Netherlands. (*Fund. Appl. Nematol.* 19:227-234, 1996)

Infected leaves and twigs are the major inoculum sources for olive anthracnose and fruit rot caused by Colletotrichum gloeosporioides in the fall, report S. O. Cacciola and associates at the Università di Catania and the Università di Reggio Calabria, Italy. (*Inf. Fitopatol.* 46 [6]:27-32, 1996)

Based on internal transcribed spacer sequences of ribosomal DNA, 13 Fusarium spp. from sections Elegans, Liseola, and Dlaminia were put into Group I (F. oxysporum, F. sacchari, F. subglutinans, F. verticillioides, F. napiforme, and F. polyphialidicum) and Group II (F. redolens, F. fujikuroi, F. proliferatum, F. beomiforme, F. dlaminii, and F. nygamai), according to C. Waalwijk and associates at the Research Institute for Plant Protection, Wageningen, and Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Baarn, Netherlands. (*Mycologia* 88:361-368, 1996)

A new yellows disease caused by a phytomonas was reported on Hesperis matronalis by K. F. Chang and associates at the Crop Diversification Centre-South, Brooks; Alberta Environmental Centre, Vegreville; and Alberta Agriculture, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. It causes stunting, chlorosis, and phyllody. (*J. Plant Dis. Prot.* 103:225-232, 1996)

Coriander umbel blight and seed decay, a devastating disease of coriander in Germany, is caused by Pseudomonas syringae pv. coriandricola, report H.-M. Toben and K. Rudolph of the University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany. (*J. Phytopathol.* 144: 169-178, 1996)

Fusarium nygamai was found for the first time in the United States, on cotton roots, but was not pathogenic to cotton, report J. Zhang and associates at Texas A & M University, and the USDA, College Station, Texas. (*Mycol. Res.* 100:747-752, 1996)

Pseudomonas cichorii invades lettuce through stomata, multiplies, and colonizes in intercellular spaces of epidermis and mesophyll, which results in browning of leaf lettuce, according to Y. Hikichi and associates at the Iwate Biotechnology Research Center, Kitakami, Japan. (*Ann. Phytopathol. Soc. Jpn.* 62:125-129, 141-146, 1996)

A 60% loss in species of epiphyllous lichens between 1900 and 1973 in agricultural areas, and about 50% loss of 105 species by 1988, was reported by H. F. van Dobben, IBN-DLO, Wageningen, Netherlands. These effects were attributed to SO<sub>2</sub> concentration increases up to 1973 and have persisted since then, but drought and NO<sub>2</sub> could also be factors. (*Nova Hedwigia* 62:477-485, 1996)