

Patrick M. Miller, 1924-1990

Sandra L. Anagnostakis

Patrick M. Miller, formerly at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, died February 8, 1990, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was a kind and cheerful colleague.

Pat was born March 13, 1924, in Springfield, Tennessee. He graduated from the University of Illinois in floriculture and stayed to finish an M.S., and a (Phi Beta Kappa) Ph.D. in plant pathology in 1954. In September of that year he moved to Connecticut and started working at the Experiment Station.

His research started with practical work on fungal and bacterial disease problems, and his first publication was a description of the V-8 juice agar medium now widely used to culture plant



pathogens. By 1957 Pat was publishing on nematode studies as well. Many of his short contributions to *Plant Disease Reporter* described useful methods for gathering data and controlling plant disease and nematode problems. He continued to work on a wide variety of projects, and observed interactions of plant diseases, air pollutants, and environmental factors with plant parasitic nematodes. Some of his last publications before retiring in 1980 were on ways of controlling nematodes without pesticides.

Pat was an active member of the North Branford Congregational Church, a volunteer fire fighter, and he sang in a barbershop quartet. He moved to Alexandria, Indiana, in 1985, making new friends there as easily as he had in Connecticut. His survivors include two sons, Richard A. Miller of North Branford, Connecticut, and Glenn A. Miller of Charleston, West Virginia.

He will be missed by many people who knew him in Connecticut, through his 69 publications, and through his participation in the meetings of regional projects, the Society of Nematologists, and the American Phytopathological Society.