

Opines exuded by tobacco plants into the rhizosphere influence rhizobacterial populations; these associations can be manipulated in a directed manner, report M. A. Savka and S. K. Farrand of the University of West Florida, Pensacola; and the University of Illinois, Urbana. (Nature Biotechnol. 15:363-372, 1997)

A virus hitherto unknown in *Crocus vernus* was detected by F. Ehrig and associates at the Federal Centre for Breeding Research on Cultivated Plants, Aschersleben; and Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle, Germany. (Arch. Phytopathol. Plant Prot. 30:453-455, 1997)

Hyphae of 41 of 157 fungus species penetrated and consumed contents of pollen grains from *Pinus nigra*, suggesting that pollen serves as a nutrient source for litter- and wood-decaying members of the Basidiomycota, report L. J. Hutchison and G. L. Barron of the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada. (Mycol. Res. 101:191-194, 1997)

One pseudomonad isolate strongly and reliably suppressed *Drechslera teres* on barley and *Tilletia caries* on wheat when applied to seeds and planted in the field, report M. Hökeberg and associates at the Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Uppsala, Sweden. (Eur. J. Plant Pathol. 103:25-33, 1997)

Spores of 17 species of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi were isolated from root zones of velvet bentgrass, spores of 15 species from creeping bentgrass, and spores of 14 species from annual bluegrass, report R. E. Koske and associates at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston. (Can. J. Bot. 75:20-332, 1997)

*Haploporus odorus* sporophores had been misidentified as carved cottonwood roots in museum collections of sacred items of Northern Plains Native American tribes, reports R. A. Blanchette of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. The anise-like scent apparently adds to its power as a spiritual symbol. (Mycologia 89:233-240, 1997)

Growth and yield of root-knot nematode-infected tomato plants increased as the fly ash content of amended soils increased because fly ash promoted plant growth and inhibited root penetration by the nematode, report M. R. Khan and associates at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India. (Plant Pathol. 46:33-43, 1997)

By RFLP analysis with *TaqI* endonuclease the phytoplasmas that cause alder yellows, eucalyptus little leaf, and spartium witches'-broom were distinguished from the elm yellows agent, report C. Marcone and associates at the Università di Napoli 'Federico II', Napoli, Italy; and Biologische Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Dossenheim, Germany. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 27:45-54, 1997)

PCR primers to detect and differentiate *Phytophthora infestans*, *P. erythroseptica*, and *P. nicotianae* that infect potato were developed by P. W. Tooley and associates at the USDA Agricultural Research Service at Fort Detrick, Frederick, Maryland. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 63:1467-1475, 1997)

Resistance mechanisms in red clover hindered root-knot development by slowing nematode maturation and causing fewer late-stage juvenile nematodes to become adults, report N. M. Call and associates at North Carolina State University at Raleigh, and the University of Florida at Gainesville. (Crop Sci. 37:265-269, 1997)

In a tomato mosaic virus/pepper pathosystem, disease symptoms developed slower and were less severe in plants grown under light sources that lacked blue and UV-A wavelengths than in controls, report A. C. Schuerger of Epcot, Lake Buena Vista, Florida, and C. S. Brown of Dynamac Corporation. Results differed for powdery mildew on cucumber and bacterial blight of tomato. (HortScience 32:96-100, 1997)