

Focus

Observations made 28 March to 11 April 1980 disclosed soilborne wheat mosaic virus in 23 counties in Kansas, reports T. Sim IV. Amounts ranged from trace to 100%, and infection was moderate to severe in 20 counties. (Coop. Plant Pest Rep. Vol. 5, No. 13, 1980)

Pitch canker on slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*) was reported for the first time in Louisiana by C. E. Affeltranger of the USDA Forest Service and J. L. Dardeau, parish extension agent. The causal organism, isolated in July 1979, was identified as *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* by P. E. Nelson of Pennsylvania State University. Slash pine is not native to Louisiana, and pitch canker was found only on shade and fence row trees in three parishes, not in forested areas.

Carbofuran and phoxim controlled the stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*) in narcissus and tulip bulbs as effectively as the commonly used thionazin, report M. Damadzadeh and N. G. M. Hague. In greenhouse tests at the University of Reading, England, the chemicals prevented nematodes from laying eggs in treated bulbs. (Plant Pathol. Vol. 28, No. 2, 1979)

Biotypes of *Trichoderma harzianum* tolerant to captan, captafol, chlorothalonil, iprodione, BAS 352, and DPX 4424 were used experimentally by G. C. Papavizas, USDA Soilborne Disease Laboratory, Beltsville, MD, for biological control of certain soilborne diseases. Some biotypes had increased ability to control white rot of onion caused by *Sclerotium cepivorum*. (APS Potomac Division Meeting, March 1980)

Brown rust (*Puccinia recondita*) of wheat was controlled in the field in India by one soil application of granules of 4-n-butyl-1,2,4-triazole at rates as low as 200 g a.i./ha, report P. D. Tyagi, M. Singh, and V. Parkash, Haryana Agricultural University, India. The chemical was applied 60 days before the expected appearance of rust. (Z. Pflanzenkr. Vol. 12, No. 86, 1979)

Artificially induced mutants of *Fusarium lycopersici* and *Botrytis cinerea* resistant to the systemic fungicide MBC are as pathogenic as MBC-sensitive strains, report D. Sozzi and C. Gessler, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zurich. Moreover, MBC-resistant strains grow, sporulate, and are as competitive in mixed populations as sensitive strains. These findings support field observations that resistance to MBC is persistent even without the use of benzimidazole fungicides. (Phytopathol. Z. Vol. 97, No. 1, 1980)

Southern blight is a new disease of annual bluegrass found in golf courses in 1978 and 1979 and is caused by *Sclerotium rolfii*, according to N. R. O'Neill, USDA Field Crops Laboratory, Beltsville, MD. Perennial ryegrass, bentgrass, and annual bluegrass are the most susceptible of the cool season grasses, whereas red fescue and tall fescue are nearly immune. (APS Potomac Division Meeting, March 1980)

Cylindrocladium isolates from black walnut seedlings and nursery soil in Virginia and West Virginia were identified as *C. parvum* by B. B. Hunter, California State College, PA, and D. A. Roth, University of Wyoming. Vesicle morphology and conidia size were considered invalid criteria for species delineation. (APS Potomac Division Meeting, March 1980)

Research and Development in the world is a \$150 billion enterprise, of which 24% is assigned to military, 15% to basic research, and 3% to agriculture, according to C. Norman, Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC. The remainder goes to space (8%), energy (8%), health (7%), information processing (5%), transportation (5%), pollution control (5%), and miscellaneous (20%). (Interiencia Vol. 5, No. 2, 1980)