

Focus

Clavibacter was proposed as a new genus for some plant-pathogenic coryneform bacteria by M. J. Davis of the University of Florida, Fort Lauderdale; A. G. Gillaspie, Jr., USDA, Beltsville, MD; A. K. Vidaver of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln; and R. W. Harris, USDA, Beltsville. Bacteria causing ratoon stunting disease of sugarcane and the Bermuda stunting disease will be different subspecies of C. xyli. Corynebacterium michiganense will become Clavibacter michiganense, and Corynebacterium will no longer contain plant pathogens. (Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol. 34:107-117, 1984)

Corn can be evaluated for Diplodia ear and stalk rot resistance by introducing inoculum into leaf whorls before anthesis, a method approximating natural infection, according to H. L. Warren and S. K. von Qualen of Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. (APS-NCD Meeting, Columbus, OH, 25 June 1984)

Beet western yellows virus occurs on a wide range of crop and weed hosts in Illinois, report E. L. Timmerman, C. J. D'Arcy, and W. E. Splittstoesser of the University of Illinois, Urbana. Results were based on ELISA tests. (APS-NCD Meeting, Columbus, OH, 25 June 1984)

Wind as well as insects plays a significant role in pollination of dwarf mistletoe (Arceuthobium americanum), report J. Gilbert and D. Punter of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada. Airborne pollen was recovered 400 m from a source. (Botanical Society Annual Meeting, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, 5 August 1984)

Tolerance of soybean to Phytophthora root rot is an alternative to race-specific resistance, according to A. K. Walker and A. F. Schmitthenner of Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster. Major-gene resistance and tolerance, however, are not completely independent. (Crop Sci. 24:487-491, 495-497, 1984)

Oat hulls protect grains from fungal infection mechanically and chemically, according to A. K. Picman and associates at Agriculture Canada and the University of Ottawa, Ontario. Phenolic compounds in hulls inhibit fungi. (Phytoprotection 65:9-15, 1984)

Nematode capture by Arthrobotrys oligospora is mediated by interaction of lectin on the hyphal surface and a specific sugar in the nematode cuticle, according to D. Premachandran and D. Pramer of the State University of New Jersey, Piscataway. (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 47:1358-1359, 1984)

Tobacco rattle virus is released into soil from roots of infected tobacco and potato plants and seems to occur outside living organisms in soil, report G. Barchend, H. Leistner, and H. Kegler of Institut für Phytopathologie Aschersleben, East Germany. The eluted virus from soil was examined biologically and by electron microscopy. (Arch. Phytopathol. Pflanzenschutz 20:97-100, 1984)

The first report of an albino strain of Ustilago nuda on barley in North America was made by P. L. Thomas of Agriculture Canada, Winnipeg. The gene responsible for the spore color was the same as that found in the albino strain from Bulgaria. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 6:98-100, 1984)

Aspergillus flavus forms many sclerotia in wound-inoculated preharvest corn kernels, according to D. T. Wicklow and B. W. Horn, USDA, Peoria, IL. Sclerotia may represent an important inoculum source in continuously cropped corn. (Mycologia 76:503-505, 1984)