

Stem rust infection on wheat in the Northern Great Plains this year was the most extensive in 20 years, according to the Cereal Rust Laboratory in St. Paul, MN. Severity was 20-60% in winter wheat plots and up to 20% in spring wheat plots. Winter wheat fields and plots throughout Wisconsin, central Indiana, and northern Ohio to central New York were affected. (Cereal Rust Bull., Rep. 5, 17 July 1986)

A new species of Ceratocystiopsis was found to be widely associated with the southern pine beetle Dendroctonus frontalis by J. R. Bridges and T. J. Perry of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, Pineville, LA. (Mycological Society of America Meeting, August 1986)

A selective medium for isolating Fusarium species and dematiaceous hyphomycetes from cereals has been developed by S. Andrews of the South Australian Institute of Technology in Adelaide and J. I. Pitt of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in North Ryde, Australia. The medium contains dicloran (2 µg/ml), chloramphenicol (200 µg/ml), and bacteriologic peptone (1.5%). (Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 51:1235-1238, 1986)

The soybean pathogens Corynespora cassicola and Phialophora gregata were isolated from cysts of Heterodera glycines by L. M. Carris, D. A. Glawe, and L. E. Gray of the University of Illinois, Urbana. This is the first report of these pathogens on this nematode. (Mycologia 78:503-506, 1986)

Captan at concentrations of 500 ppm or greater injured roots, stems, and cotyledons of Pinus resinosa within 13 days, according to T. T. Kozlowski of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. (Eur. J. For. Pathol. 16:87-90, 1986)

The best control of powdery mildew of Cox apple and the highest yield of marketable fruit during a 6-year study were obtained with a 7-day spray regime with the nonsystemics binapacryl and nitrothal-isopropyl, report T. Locke of the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service, Worcestershire, and L. Andrews of the Luddington Experimental Horticulture Station in Warwickshire, England. (Plant Pathol. 35:241-248, 1986)

A greenhouse assay using field soil was developed for Phytophthora root rot of soybean by R. Lifshitz and associates at Allelix, Inc., Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. The inoculum consisted of oospores on millet seed, mixed with raw field soil. Of 125 rhizobacterial strains assayed, 13 showed promise as biocontrol agents. (Can. J. Plant Pathol. 8:102-106, 1986)

A mycoplasma-like organism was the cause of phyllody in marigold, report A. K. Sharma of INRA, Versailles, France; S. Misra of Rajasthan University, Jaipur, India; S. P. Raychaudhury of IUFRO, New Delhi; and N. Parameswaran of the Forest Botanische Institute, Hamburg, West Germany. On electron microscopy, the organism resembles that causing aster yellows. (Int. J. Trop. Plant Dis. 3:45-49, 1985)

Sorbic acid (Aflaban) suppressed populations of the confused flour beetle by 98% and of the rice weevil by 97% in binned, shelled corn exposed for 15 months and suppressed populations of the flat grain beetle by 95% in corn exposed for 9 months (based on comparisons with untreated controls), report F. V. Dunkel and N. R. Read of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Sorbic acid is also fungistatic. (J. Econ. Entomol. 79:805-812, 1986)

Cucumber responds to pathogen attack by increasing local and systemic chitinase activity, report J. P. Métraux of Ciba-Geigy and T. Boller of the University of Basel, Switzerland. (Physiol. Mol. Plant Pathol. 28:161-169, 1986)