

(Vargas cont'd)

infect and become a severe problem in a short time? What are the environmental conditions under which it occurs? In short, there are many questions to be answered. The best way to do this is to develop a mathematical prediction model for the occurrence of the disease. The air temperature, humidity and rainfall will be monitored along with the soil temperature and soil moisture in developing the model. The positive identification of the organism or organisms involved in this disease will be determined as part of this study.

Cultural: Sulfur - While the addition of sulfur has been implicated in reducing the severity of the disease, no research has been done to determine if the effect is directly on the fungus or the soil pH or both. This will be determined both in the laboratory and in the greenhouse experiments.

Phosphorus — High phosphorus has been associated with disease reduction. The exact effect of phosphorus on disease development will be determined in the laboratory and in the field.

Chemical: The systemic fungicides may offer the best hope of chemical management because of their internal mode of action. The newer systemic fungicides will be screened in the laboratory, greenhouse and in the field in an attempt to identify those fungicides with the greatest efficacy. Fungicides may be economical to apply once the occurrences of "take-all patch" can be accurately predicted.

Credit — "Our Collaborator", 6/84

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