

Vidhyasekaran, P.: **Encyclopedia of Plant Pathology**. - Food Products Press, An Imprint of the Haworth Press, New York - London - Oxford 2004, 619 pp. ISBN 1-56022-943-8.

This book represents a tremendous compilation of most topics in plant pathology covering all themes from the history of the field to current control possibilities. Characteristics of all causal organisms are given including their structure, life cycle, disease symptoms and nomenclature. Part of the encyclopedia is devoted to terminology concerning common disease symptoms, which will be particularly useful to students and plant biologist not specialized in this discipline. The major part of the book deals with disease epidemiology and management. Besides the conventional chemical control methods and breeding for resistance, the author provides exhaustive information on different types of environ-

mental friendly approaches as microbial pesticides, mycorrhiza, and plant resistance activators. Quick orientation in diseases of major cultivated crops enables an alphabetical list of diseases followed by names of causal pathogens sorted according to individual crops. The last part of the book is focused on defense responses of plants to pathogens comprising up-to-date knowledge of both cellular and biochemical mechanisms.

In my opinion, the book provides a very practical tool for everybody with an interest in plant pathology as well as for specialists searching for quick information in related topics.

L. BURKETOVÁ (*Praha*)