

BOOK REVIEW

Horst R.K., Cloyd R.A. 2007. Compendium of Rose Diseases and Pests. Second Edition. APS Press – The American Phytopathological Society, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. 83 pp. ISBN 978-0-89054-355-9.

The Compendium of Rose Diseases and Pests is a second edition of the very valuable and the most current information on infectious and non-infectious diseases and pests of roses. It is dedicated to Dr. Cynthia Westcott (1898–1983) who established first “plant clinic” and published several popular and technical books such as “Anyone Can Grow Roses” and the “Plant Disease Handbook” which appeared in many editions.

In the “Introduction” (p. 1–4) the authors emphasize that the rose (*Rosa* spp.) is the most popular garden plant in the world. It is worthy to mention that in the United States cut flower roses exceed all other flowers in wholesale value.

Through ages – due to breeding – this genus has differentiated into over 200 botanical species and over 25,000 rose cultivars, grown in all regions of the world. In the narrative and graphic way a rose genealogy and origin of the modern cultivated roses are characterized and presented.

The book contains the following main parts: Part I – “Infectious Diseases” (p. 5–42). Part II – “Noninfectious Diseases” (p. 43–50). Part III – “Insect and Mite Pests” (p. 51–66). “Appendix” (p. 67–69). “Glossary” (p. 71–77). “Index” (p. 79–80).

Part I “Infectious Diseases” (p. 71–77) contains descriptions of 18 diseases caused by fungi, 2 diseases caused by bacteria, 11 caused by viruses, mycoplasmas and several species of nematodes.

In section “Diseases Caused by Fungi” (p. 8–27) the following diseases and their causative agents were described: 1. Powdery mildew (*Podosphaera pannosa*), 2. Black spot (*Marsonina rosae* – *Diplocarpon roseae*). 3. Rusts (*Phragmidium* spp. – nine species). 4. Verticillium wilt (*Verticillium* spp.). 5. Downy mildew (*Peronospora sparsa*); 6. Brand canker (*Coniothyrium wernsdorffiae*) 7. Common canker (*Coniothyrium fuckelii*). 8. Brown canker (*Cryptosporella umbrina* vel *Diaporthe umbrina*). 9. Black mold (*Thielaviopsis thielavioides*). 10. Botrytis blight (*Botrytis cinerea*). 11. Canker dieback (*Nectria cinnabarina*) and others.

In section “Diseases Caused by Bacteria” (p. 28–31), crown galls caused by *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* and *A. rhizogenes* are described pointing out that both bacteria have a very broad host range.

In section “Diseases Caused by Viruses or Graft Transmittable Organisms” (p.32–42) the following diseases are described: 1. Rose mosaic (p. 32–33). 2. Strawberry Latent Ringspot (p. 34–35). 3. Rose Rosette (p. 35–36). 4. Rose Ring Pattern (p. 36–37). 5. Rose Wilt (p. 37). 6. Rose Spring Dwarf (p. 38–39). 7. Rose Flower Break (p. 39). 8. Rose Flower Proliferation (p. 39). 10. Tobacco Streak Virus (p. 39).

In section “Diseases Caused by Nematodes” (p. 40–42) symptoms associated with infestation of nematodes belonging to genera *Xiphinema*, *Meloidogyne*, *Pratylenchus*, *Mesocriconema*, *Rotylenchus* and *Tylenchorhynchus* are described.

Part II. “Noninfectious Diseases” (p. 43–50) refers to disorders and growing problems connected with physiological disturbances (p. 43–44), environmental imbalances (p. 44–45), air pollution (p. 45–46), pesticide toxicity (p. 46–47), nutritional deficiencies (p. 47–49) and toxicities (p. 49–50).

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Part III. “Insect and Mite Pests” (p. 51–66) provides information on life cycle, plant damage and prevention or control of the following pests: Aphididae – *Macrosiphum euphorbiae* and *Aphis gossypii*; Coleoptera – *Macrodactylus subspinosus*, *Merhynchites bicolor*, *Pantomorus cervinus*, *Popillia japonica*; Acarina – *Tetranychus urticae*; Thysanoptera – *Frankliniella occidentalis* and *F. tritici*; Diptera – *Dasineura rhodophaga*; Hymenoptera – *Ailantus cinctus*, *Cladius difformis* and *Endolomyia aethiops*; Cicadellidae – *Edwardsiana rosae*; Lepidoptera – *Archips* spp. and *Pandemis limitata*; Coleoptera – *Aulacaspis rosae*, *Agrilus aurichalceus*, and *Strigoderma arboricola*.

The use of this book is greatly facilitated by: (1) “Appendix of common names of diseases and pests and scientific names and authorities of fungi, bacteria, viruses, nematodes, and animal pests that affect roses” (p. 67–69); (2) “Glossary of scientific and technical terms” (p. 71–77); and (3) “Index of contents” (p. 79–83).

I strongly recommend this book to all agricultural libraries and to attention of plant protection and extension service specialists as well as to persons growing roses in their home gardens.

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