

Book Review

WALTER F. MAHAFFEE, SARAH J. PETHYBRIDGE and DAVID H. GENT (eds.)

Compendium of hop diseases and pests

American Phytopathological Society, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA, 2009, 112 p., 147 colour images, 6 black and white images. – ISBN 978-0-89054-376-4. Price 65 \$.

The Disease Compendium Series edited by APS Press continues with a new book dealing with hop diseases, pests and postharvest disorders. It represents the work of 45 variously specialised experts, who have contributed to the complexity of the book.

The introduction consists of detailed botanical features of the genus *Humulus*, history and methods of hop production and breeding, and a world list of hop cultivars. The main part of the compendium is divided into three chapters. The first one contains descriptions of biotic infectious diseases caused by fungi and oomycetes, viruses and viroids, nematodes, bacteria, and a phytoplasma. The second chapter deals with damages caused by arthropod pests. Descriptions of non-infectious disorders caused by nutrient imbalances or environmental factors and postharvest diseases are included in the third part.

The description of each disease includes world distribution, symptoms, causal organism, its life cycle, epidemiology and recommendations for management. Selected references provide an additional source of information.

The numerous colour images are very helpful to identify the symptoms of each disease and the pests and damage they cause. This excellent book is completed with a useful glossary and a complete index.

The compendium provides useful information not only for everyone interested in growing hop, but for those interested in plant pathology, entomology, horticultural science and teaching, as well.

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