Phytopathogenic Bacteria and Plant Diseases by B.S. Thind

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The book “Phytopathogenic Bacteria and Plant Diseases” published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group (ISBN:978-0-367-19715-5) of total 372 pages has been authored by Dr. BS Thind, Former Professor-cum-Head, Department of Plant Pathology, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana, India. The book has made a good coverage on phyto bacteriology as a whole through seven chapters. It is really an admirable effort by the author to bring out a comprehensive picture on Phyto bacteriology encompassing all aspects of the subject. The general bacteriology part including cells, cell wall, morphology has been covered with updated reviewing. The chapters like molecular mechanism of virulence and pathogenesis, plasmids, secretion system could have been presented with more insights along with suitable models and diagrams for better visibility. The strength of this book lies on its span and coverage of 70 bacterial diseases of important crops. Each disease has been discussed thoroughly based on recent works with appropriate illustration on the host range, symptoms, causal organism, disease cycle, management supplemented with good photographs. From students’ perspective I felt that the

disease cycles could have been illustrated pictographically to make it more user friendly rather than describing with information on source of survival and perpetuation and secondary spread. The abbreviation used for bacterial genera like *Ag.* for *Agrobacterium*, *Cor.* for *Corynebacterium*, *Xa.* for *Xanthomonas*, *Psm.* for *Pseudomonas*, *Xyl.* for *Xylella* may be specific to this book as in most other cases the first letter of genus is used. Another novel addition in this book is a chapter which dealt on “Plants as carrier of Human Enteric Bacterial Pathogens”. This is very important aspect in phyto bacteriology wherein the sources of contamination, multiple serovar, growth and multiplication of bacterial pathogens are discussed. Altogether, this book is an excellent compilation and would serve as reference book for students, teachers dealing with the subject phyto bacteriology and plant pathology.

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