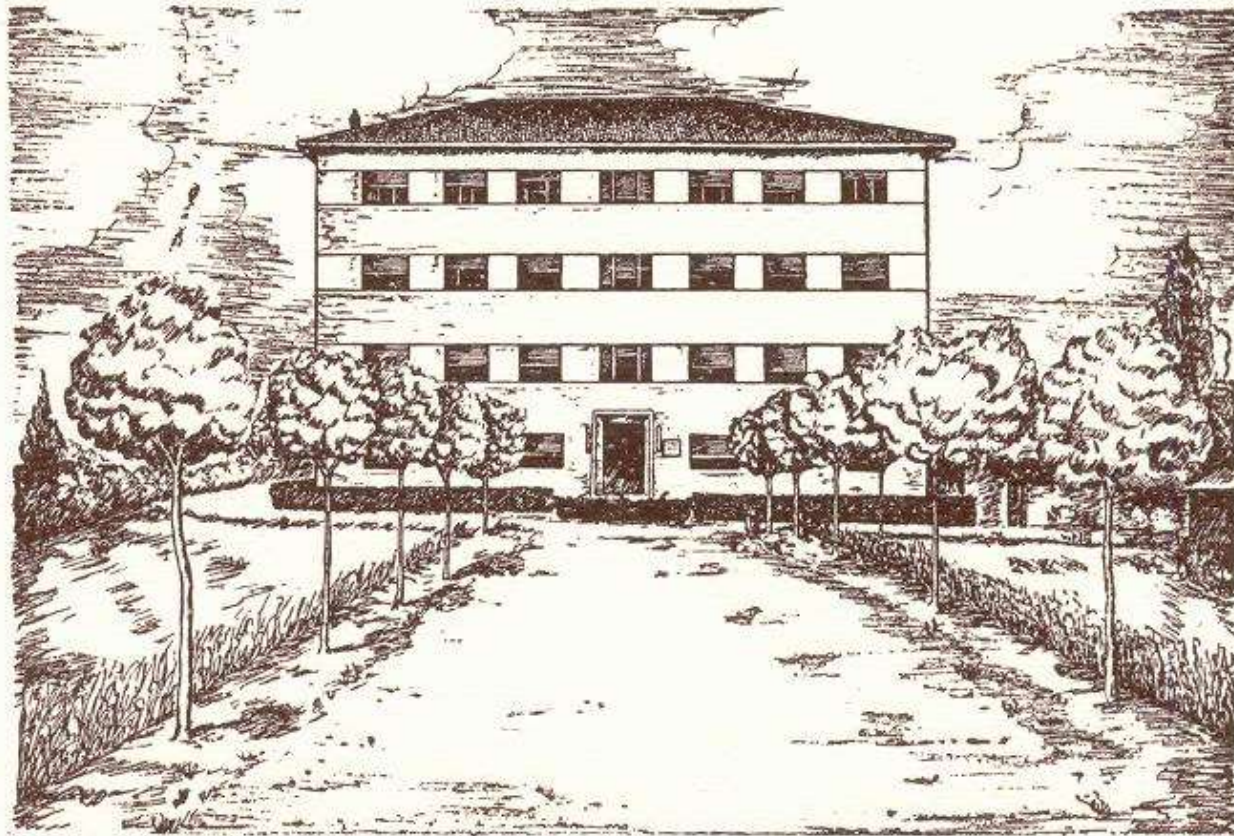
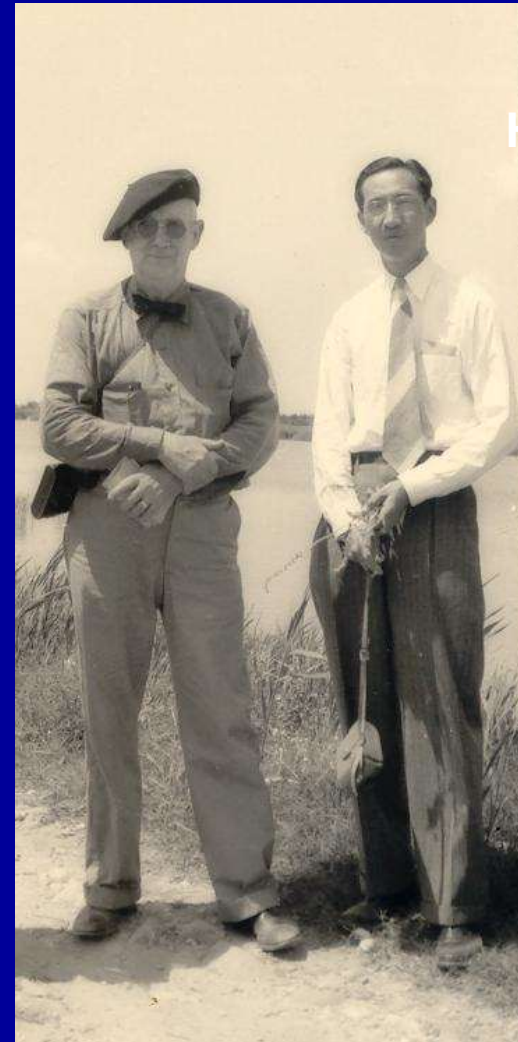


# Stazione Sperimentale di Bieticoltura



*Stazione Sperimentale di Bieticoltura - Rovigo - A.D. - MCMLIII*

# Resistance to CLS and to rhizomania (Alba, Rizzor) was derived from Porto Levante sea beets



**Herbert G. Coons  
(USDA) and  
Lee Ling (FAO)  
at Porto Levante  
July 20, 1951**

**Coons visited the  
same locality in  
1925, 1935 and  
1960**



## Cercospora leaf spot

Abb. 12 Ganze kranke Pflanze (Stufe 5). Außenblätter sind abgestorben, Innenblätter mit schweren Schäden, stark einsetzender Blattneuaustrieb.

Fig. 12 Intera pianta malata (5° Stadio). Le foglie esterne sono morte; le foglie interne hanno subito gravi danni. Vi è un forte inizio di fogliazione.

Cr. 12 Plante entière, malade, (Stade 5). Les feuilles extérieures sont mortes, feuilles intérieures fortement endommagées, forte repousse de feuilles.

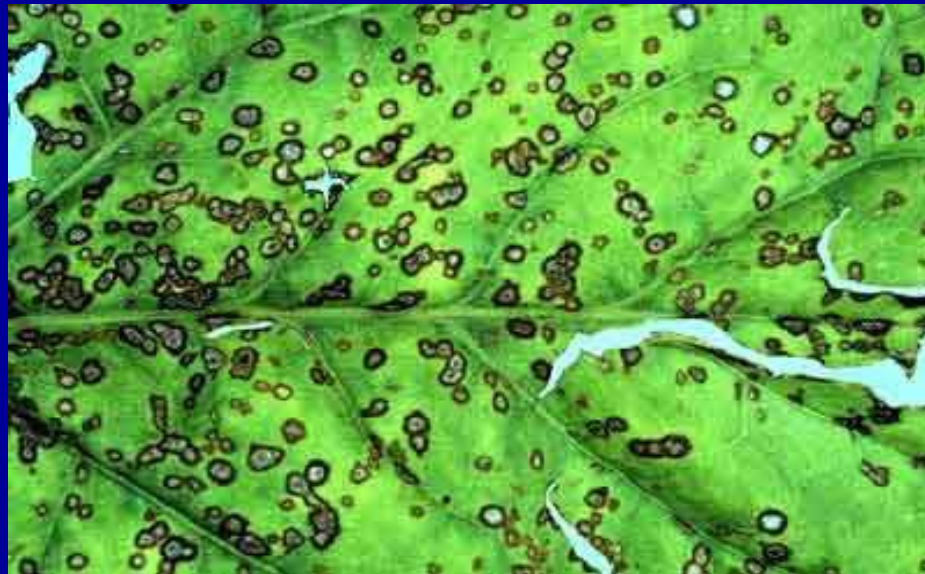
Picture 12 Whole plant diseased (step 5). Outer leaves are dead, inner leaves severely damaged, fresh foliage begins to grow.



# Resistance to cercospora leaf spot (CLS)

**1909**

**First hybridation between  
sea beet and sugar beet**



**1925**

**First materials resistant to cercospora leaf spot**



# 1935

**First varieties resistant to CLS ( R 581 line )**



**This material derived from crossings with the sea beet that Munerati selected at Rovigo (1925)**

**1937 - release of cercospora leaf spot resistant varieties (SB) in Italy and USA**





**G.H. Coons in  
the Po Delta**

**Brought the  
CLS resistance  
in USA**



**Rhizomania** - spread to the main sugar beet cultivated areas

- dramatically lowers sugar yield
- damage can be reduced only with the use of resistant varieties
- diseased areas are expanding



**Rhizomania**

## **Chronology of rhizomania**

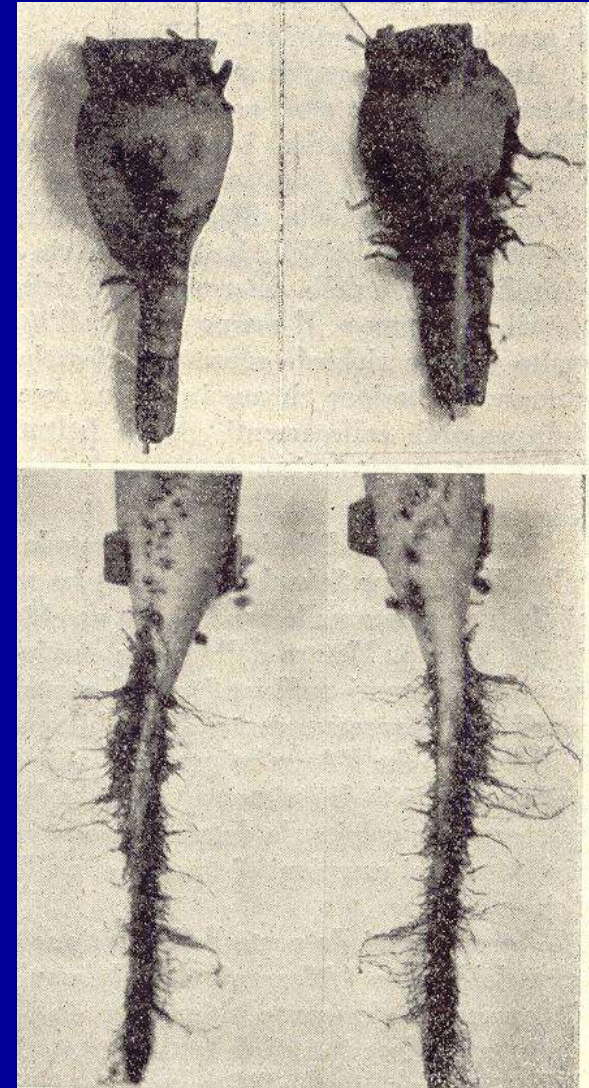
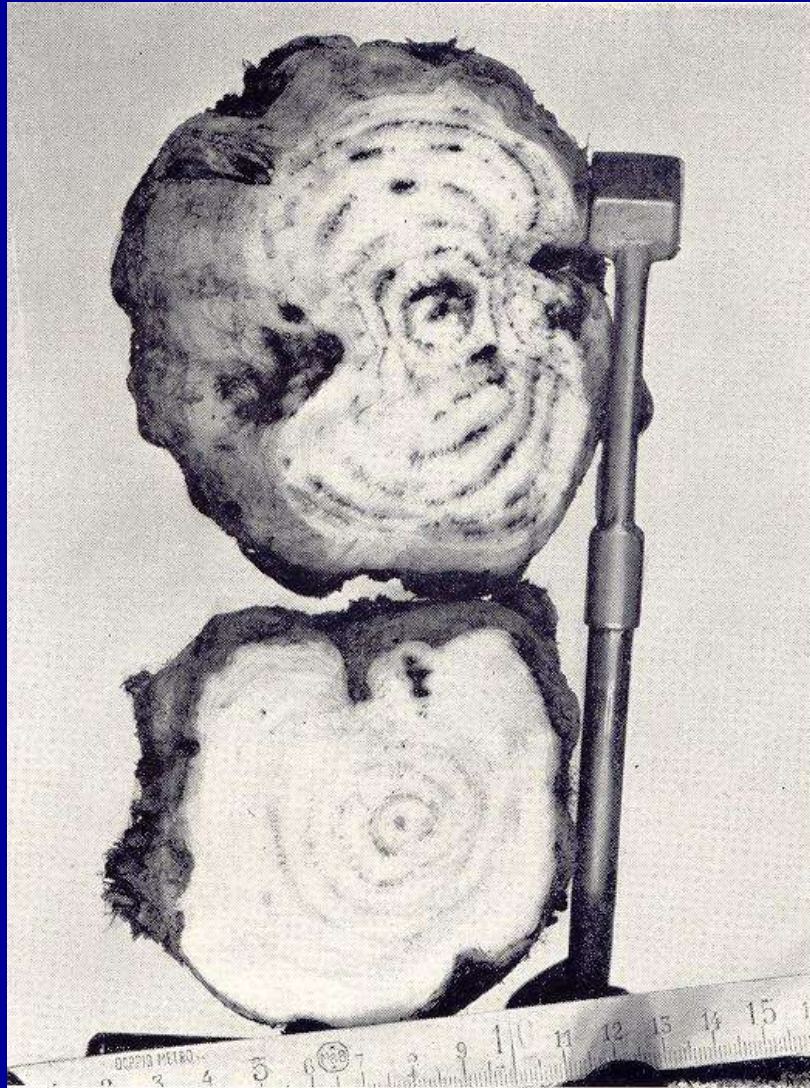
- 1946** - Abnormal expansion of “soil sickness“ in Italy
- 1953** - First written reference
- 1954** - Beginning of systematic observations
- 1957** - The unknown syndrome was called “rizomania”
  - Resistance in Italian varieties ( Alba P )
- 1963** - Demonstration of the biotic origin of the disease
- 1966** - Discovery of the fungal-viral symbiosis
  - Breeding activity on diseased fields
- 1984** - Release of Rizor ( De Biaggi )
- 1986** - Release of Holly CMS lines ( Erichsen )
- 1993** - New sources of resistance ( Lewellen )





# First illustrations of rhizomania symptoms

( from : Donà dalle Rose, 1957, 1958 )





# Diffusion of the unknown disease in soil

( from : Bongiovanni, 1964 )

**Inoculation of the plot**

**Bologna Oct. 11, 1962**



**Diseased beets on the plot**

**Bologna July 8, 1963**



# 1957 variety trials in Italy on fields severely diseased the previous year

( from : Bongiovanni and Lanzoni, 1964 )

Locality	Variety	Root yield (t / ha)	Sugar content (%)	Sugar yield (t / ha)
Cona (Venice)	Alba P	20.8	9.24	1.9
	Buszczyński CLR	16.8	9.98	1.7
Cavarzere (Venice)	Alba P	16.6	6.60	1.1
	Saros H 9 N ( susc. )	7.4	5.06	0.4
Vighizzolo (Padua)	Alba P	17.0	8.12	1.4
	Mezzano NP	14.8	10.30	1.5

# 1983 yield evaluations in diseased fields

Locality	Rhizomania	Variety	Root yield (t / ha)	Sugar content (%)	Sugar yield (t / ha)
Erstein, France	severe	Rizor	45.1 a	17.80 a	8.0 a
		Monodoro	20.2 b	16.90 a	3.4 b
		Mono 1167	19.5 b	16.83 ab	3.3 b
		Mono 4086	22.7 b	17.42 a	4.0 b
		Ritmo	21.4 b	17.35 a	3.7 b
		Dora	14.7 d	15.52 bc	2.3 cd
		Monosvoløf ( susc. )	6.0 e	12.35 d	0.7 e
S. Martino, Italy	severe	Rizor	49.7 a	15.93 a	7.9 a
		Ritmo	37.7 b	14.94 a	5.6 b
		Monodoro	41.1 b	13.46 b	5.5 b
		Monofort ( susc. )	22.9 c	13.43 b	3.1 c
		Monova ( susc. )	14.2 d	10.10 c	1.4 d



# 1985 yield evaluations in diseased fields at Salinas, CA

Rhizomania	Variety	Root yield (t / ha)	Sugar content (%)	Sugar yield (t / ha)
Moderate / severe	84C39 - 031	60.8	12.90	7.8
	Rizor	40.1	13.80	5.5
	Ritmo	31.5	12.80	4.5
	Monodoro	37.5	11.90	4.5
	Monohikari	25.5	12.20	3.2
	HH37 ( susc. )	24.1	9.90	2.4
	USH 11 ( susc. )	20.1	9.00	1.8
	LSD (P<0.05)	8.3	1.10	1.1

# Performance of hybrids grown under moderate diseased pressure at Salinas, CA, in 2002 ( Mean of two tests )

Variety	Rhizomania resistance	Root yield (t / ha)	Sugar content (%)	Sugar yield (t / ha)
Angelina	<i>Rz</i> , WB42	78.4	19.00	14.9
C 927 - 4H5	<i>Rz</i> , R22 *	80.2	18.10	14.5
Phoenix	<i>Rz</i>	81.1	17.60	14.4
Beta 4776 R	<i>Rz</i>	78.0	18.30	14.3
Rizor	<i>Rz</i>	70.8	18.70	13.3
USH 11 ( susc. )	<i>rz rz</i>	53.3	15.60	8.4
LSD (P<0.05)		7.8	0.60	1.5

\* R22 resistance from *B. vulgaris* subsp. *maritima* through population C50.  
(Lewellen, 1995)

# 1986 field trial at Salinas, CA



**Susceptible check**

**WB42**



# 1989 field trial at Salinas, CA

R22



**Susceptible check**



# 1995 field trials at Imperial Valley, CA

C67 and C72 ( R22 )



**US H11**

**Rhizosen**

**Rizor**

# Origin of resistances to rhizomania

**Alba** → Munerati's CLS resistant germplasm →  
Sea beet

**Rizor** → Derived from CLS resistant germplasm →  
Sea beet

**Holly** → Unknown origin. Probably derived from sea beet

**WB42** etc. → Sea beet

YEARS  
(Approx.)

1910

STAZIONE SPERIMENTALE  
DI BIETICOLTURA

USDA EXPERIMENTAL  
STATIONS (1)

USA SUGAR  
COMPANY STATIONS (2)

### B. da zucchero x B. marittima

1920

CESENA

MEZZANO (4)

1930

ALBA (4)

**R 581 (c r)**

1940

US 201 (c r)

GW 304 (c r)  
GW 359 (c r)

1950

**Alba P (c r)**

1960

(3)

Mezzano 79 (c r)

GW 671 (c r)

1970

Alba P  
(c r - r r)

ISCI

SES ITALIA

1980

HILLESHØG

MARIBO

2281 (r r)

**Rizor (r r)**

**Holly Monogerm (r r)**

Monodoro  
(c r - r r)

Ritmo  
(c r - r r)

RO 401  
(c r - r r)

Rizor 3 (r r)

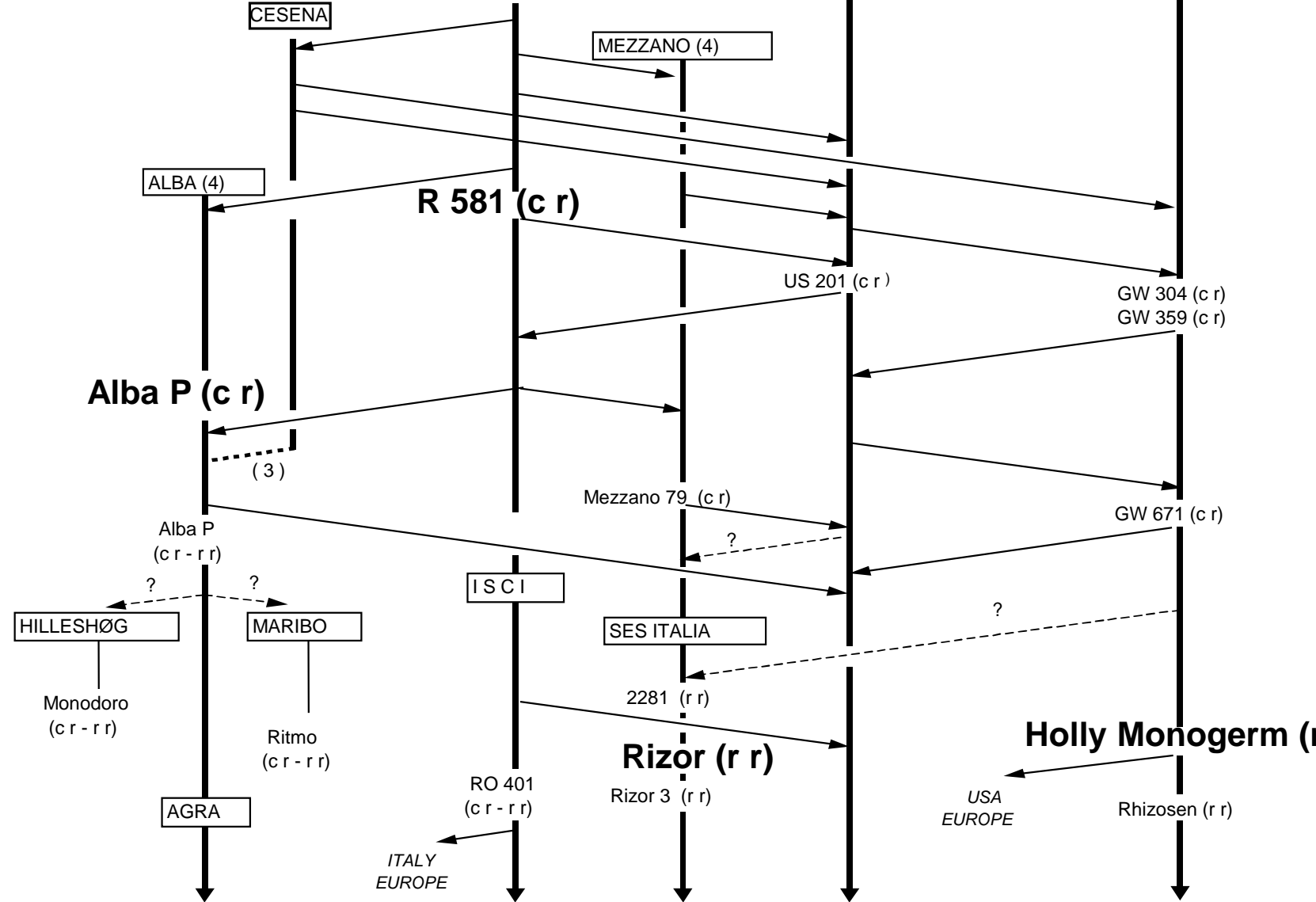
USA  
EUROPE

Rhizosen (r r)

1990

AGRA

ITALY  
EUROPE





# Conclusions

Resistance to CLS and to rhizomania (Alba, Rizor) was derived from Porto Levante sea beets

The origin of rhizomania resistances appear to have a close relationship with sea beet

- This hypothesis is confirmed by molecular analysis