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The ***Plant Management Network*** (PMN) is a joint partnership of the American Phytopathological Society, the American Society of Agronomy, and the Crop Science Society of America. PMN also has a large number of secondary partners, primarily corporate entities in agrochemical, seed, or publishing enterprises, a group of related nonprofits such as the American Seed Trade Association, and three dozen major land grant universities. Its stated mission is to "enhance the health, management, and production of agricultural and horticultural crops."

The most compelling aspect of this resource is the sheer amount of content to which it provides access. In addition to its four peer-reviewed journals (*Crop Management*, *Plant Health Progress*, *Forage and Grazinglands*, and *Applied Turfgrass Science*), the database provides access to many useful resources. These include 5,000 reports on best practices in pest control; insect management reports, including data on insecticides; a growing number of symposia proceedings; indexing for another nine related peer-reviewed journals; a collection of more than 4,000 plant images; extension publications from participating land grant sites; specifically focused resources (soybeans, agricultural practitioners, and potatoes); and an education center that employs Webcasts to deal with specialized topics.

Though PMN's content is superb and of unquestionable authority, it is more browsable than searchable, and various segments use different search methodologies. For example, the image database employs a keyword function with options for "any" or "all" terms and types of format (photograph, graphics, or both). The PMN Cross-Journal Search section searches its 13 publications using a single word or phrase; although it expressly supports author, title, and subject searching, there is no indication of what sort of authority control might be employed. The PMN Partner Extension Publications section uses a simple *Google* Custom Search, though one can limit the search to either a single institution or simultaneously to all institutions.

PMN's organization is a bit unwieldy, but as users familiarize themselves with its terrain, patterns of standard searching and viewing should easily emerge. Of the seven basic guide tabs, four are devoted to content and the other three to organization, structure, and broad navigation. Over its ten-year-plus lifespan, new features and techniques have been applied, including RSS feeds in some content areas. The quality of the material in this resource greatly outweighs its still evolving organization and searchability. It will be especially valuable for applied botany and agricultural library collections.

Summing Up: Recommend.

Upper-division undergraduates through professionals/practitioners and two-year technical program students.

-- L. S. Cline Missouri State University

Visited December 2010

URL: <http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org>

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