

President's Message

Karen Bailey

What can bring a smile to a plant pathologist's face in the middle of a long, dreary winter? Answer: The perverse pleasure of hearing about a disease epidemic! One day while driving along the snow-covered, country roads of Saskatchewan, I heard the local radio station talking about the demise of the banana due to the fungal disease called black Sigatoka. This crisis brought a smile to my face. No, it was not due to my daydreaming of becoming a plant pathologist curing diseases in tropical regions, despite the local -30C temperatures. I smiled because a plant disease was making global headlines. The front cover of the magazine *New Scientist* (January 18, 2003) displayed a drawing of a headstone engraved with the words "The Banana, R.I.P., Killed by plague 2013." It is rare that a plant disease actually makes headlines. Most science magazines are filled with stories on genetically modified plants (corn that clones itself, GM wheat, transgenic gene flow, foot and mouth disease as a tool for bioterrorism) nutraceuticals, and other biotech options. This story in *New Scientist* really promoted the importance of plant diseases and the impact they can have on people. It was written with enough drama and suspense to catch the eye and voice of my local radio journalist. Should we, as a plant pathology organization, be taking more time to actively promote our discipline with stories of "Great Canadian Disease Disasters"? What ap-

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proaches could we explore to garner the attention of the general public and make them more aware of plant disease impacts on their daily lives? If you would like to share an opinion or put forth a disease story suggestion, send it to myself or to the *CPS News*.

What's Been Happening in Winter 2003?

Sometimes it seems that the winter months go on and on, but several of our CPS committees have been burning the midnight oil working on projects for completion by spring. We will soon have the results of the membership survey (prepared by Jim Menzies) on the services provided by the Society and a new slate of candidates to consider for positions in the

Society from the Nominating Committee. The Education and Public Awareness Committee (chaired by Jeannie Gilbert) has prepared a proposal for the Board to consider on CPS sponsorship of prizes at regional and national science fairs. The Future Meetings Committee will be making a recommendation for a site of the 2007 annual general meeting. The Local Arrangements Committee from the 2002 AGM at Waterton has closed its books by forwarding a cheque for \$10,791.36 to the CPS Treasurer. Congratulations to Larry Kawchuk and all other members of the LAC for a job well done.

CPS Representation on ISPP Council. Many of our members were able to attend the International Congress of Plant Pathology in New Zealand this winter. I hope that they had an enjoyable time sipping on the sauvignon blanc and other local treats. Perhaps our two ISPP councillors will give a report on the meeting and other activities. Dr. Zamir Punja was appointed this year to represent CPS on the ISPP Council and I welcome him to this position. Dr. Rudra Singh is continuing on as a councillor for another four years. Dr. Bob Hall stepped down from the position of ISPP Councillor this year. He has represented our Society for several years and on behalf of the membership, I want to thank him.

CPS to Meet with CARC. The Canadian Agri-Food Research Council is organizing a meeting to bring together representatives of several professional scientific societies in Canada that support agriculture and food research to discuss the future of these societies and to promote networking among them. The meeting will explore umbrella organizations to create critical mass, form a co-ordinated voice for the agriculture and food science community, discuss issues of common concern, and introduce the groups for networking opportunities. We are sending two representatives to this meeting - Greg Boland and Richard Martin. From the list of participating organizations, this meeting should provide some good opportunities for us to link with others who have

similar goals and concerns, but with different approaches to their solutions.

Diseases of Field Crops in Canada, 3rd Edition. It is full steam ahead with the book and the presses will start running by mid-late April. We have been going back and forth with design and layout and have things nearly finalized. The indexer is hired for late March. The printing company has been selected. We are hiring U Learn, a company operated by the Extension Division at the University of Saskatchewan, to handle the storage, sales, and distribution of the new book; their services also include some limited marketing, such as catalogues and sales at various extension/scientific meetings.

The big question for many

will be "What is the new price?" Well, the earlier editions sold at \$25.00 retail. We are happy to let you know that the new edition will be priced for retail sale at \$35.00. We will be offering special discounts to members and sponsors, as well as a time limited Early Bird Special starting in June. Check out the article in this issue of *CPS News* for more details about the new book. Be sure to enter the trivia quiz!

CPS Annual Meeting 2003, June 22-25, Montreal. If you have not been to the CPS website (www.cps-scp.ca) recently, go now to check on the upcoming deadlines for our annual meeting. **Abstracts are due March 31 and early registration to guarantee the special rate for accommodations is due April 15.** Montreal is a popular and active city in the summer; our meeting is slotted between the finale of the Formula One car races and the start of the Jazz Festival. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Call for Annual Reports. This is a reminder to the **Chairs of all committees** that the annual reports will be published in the June issue of *CPS News*. Please make sure you prepare them and forward to David Kaminski by the third week of May.

Mot de la présidente

Karen Bailey

Qu'est-ce qui peut faire sourire une phytopathologiste en plein milieu d'un long et triste hiver ? Réponse : le plaisir inavoué qu'elle éprouve en entendant parler d'une épidémie! Or, donc, un jour alors que je conduisais sur une de ces routes rurales couvertes de neige de la Saskatchewan, j'entendis la radio locale parler de la disparition de la banane à cause d'une maladie à champignon appelée la Sigatoka noire. Cette crise a fait apparaître un sourire sur mon visage. Ça n'avait rien à voir avec mon rêve de devenir une phytopathologiste des régions tropicales quand la température en dehors de mon auto est à -30°C . J'ai souri parce qu'une maladie des plantes faisait les grands titres. La page couverture du magazine *New Scientist* (18 janvier 2003) montrait le dessin d'une pierre tombale avec l'épithaphe « La Banane, R.I.P., Tuée par la maladie en 2013. » C'est plutôt rare qu'une maladie des plantes fasse la manchette. La plupart des magazines scientifiques sont remplis d'histoires à propos des plantes génétiquement modifiées (le maïs qui se clone de lui-même, le blé GM, la dispersion des transgènes, la fièvre aphteuse comme arme de bioterrorisme), des nutraceutiques et autres sujets biotechs. Cette histoire dans le *New Scientist* a vraiment démontré l'importance des maladies des plantes et de l'impact qu'elles peuvent avoir sur la population. Elle était écrite avec suffisamment de suspense et d'éléments dramatiques pour que l'effet puisse se sentir dans la voix du journaliste de la radio locale. Pouvons-nous, en tant qu'organisation dédiée à la phytopathologie, prendre plus de temps pour activement faire la promotion de notre discipline avec des histoires comme « Les maladies qui ont ravagé le Canada » ? Quelles avenues devons-nous explorer pour attirer l'attention du grand public et le sensibiliser à l'impact des maladies des plantes sur sa vie de tous

<< Quelles avenues devons-nous explorer pour attirer l'attention du grand public et le sensibiliser à l'impact des maladies des plantes sur sa vie de tous les jours? >>

les jours ? Si vous désirez faire connaître votre opinion ou proposer un sujet pour une histoire sur une maladie, envoyez le tout au *CPS-SCP News* ou à moi-même.

Qu'est-ce qui s'est passé durant l'hiver 2003?

Parfois, on a l'impression que les mois d'hiver n'en finissent plus; mais, plusieurs membres de nos comités de la SCP ont dû se coucher

tard pour que des projets puissent être terminés pour le printemps. Nous aurons prochainement les résultats de l'enquête faite auprès des membres (préparée par Jim Menzies) sur les services offerts par la Société, de même qu'une nouvelle liste de

candidats pour les postes libres dans la Société préparée par le Comité de mise en candidature. Le Comité d'éducation et de sensibilisation du public (présidé par Jeannie Gilbert) a présenté une proposition au Conseil pour qu'il examine la commandite, par la SCP, de prix lors de foires scientifiques régionales et nationales. Le Comité des futures réunions fera une recommandation pour le lieu de la réunion générale annuelle de 2007. Le Comité local d'organisation de la réunion 2002 à Waterton a fermé ses livres en expédiant un chèque de 10 791,36 \$ au trésorier de la SCP. Félicitations à Larry Kawchuk et aux autres membres du Comité local d'organisation pour un travail bien fait.

Représentation de la SCP au Conseil de l'ISPP. Cet hiver, plusieurs de nos membres ont pu participer à l'International Congress of Plant Pathology en Nouvelle-Zélande. J'espère qu'ils ont eu la joie de goûter au Sauvignon blanc et aux autres spécialités locales. Peut-être que nos deux délégués à l'ISPP nous donneront un compte rendu de leur réunion et de leurs autres activités. Le Dr Zamir Punja a été nommé cette année pour représenter la SCP au Conseil de l'ISPP et je le félicite pour cette nomination. Le Dr Rudra Singh continuera d'y siéger pour un autre quatre ans. Cette année, le Dr Bob Hall a laissé son poste

de membre du Conseil de l'ISPP. Il a représenté notre Société durant de nombreuses années et je veux le remercier au nom de nos membres.

Rencontre prévue entre la SCP et le CRAC.

Le Conseil de recherches agro-alimentaires du Canada prépare une réunion conviant les représentants de plusieurs sociétés professionnelles du domaine des sciences au Canada impliquées dans la recherche agroalimentaire à discuter de leur avenir et à promouvoir leur réseautage. La réunion vise à examiner la possibilité de créer des organismes regroupant plusieurs sociétés dans l'optique de créer une masse critique, trouver une voix commune et coordonnée pour la communauté scientifique en agroalimentaire, discuter de questions d'intérêt commun, et expliquer aux groupes les possibilités offertes par le réseautage. Nous délèguerons deux membres à cette réunion – Greg Boland et Richard Martin. D'après la liste des organisations participantes, cette réunion devrait nous donner de bonnes occasions de se lier à d'autres qui ont des objectifs et des préoccupations similaires aux nôtres, mais qui ont des façons différentes de les aborder.

Diseases of Field Crops in Canada, 3^e édition. La finalisation de ce livre se fait en quatrième vitesse et il sera mis sous presse vers la mi- ou la fin d'avril. Nous avons tergiversé avec le design et la présentation, mais nous en avons pratiquement fini avec ces aspects. L'indexeur a été embauché pour la fin de mars. L'imprimeur a été choisi. Nous avons retenu les services de U Learn, une compagnie exploitée pour le compte du bureau de l'extension de l'Université de la Saskatchewan, pour s'occuper de l'entreposage, des ventes et de la distribution du nouveau bouquin; leurs services s'étendent aussi mais de façon limitée à la mise en marché telle que catalogues et ventes à diverses réunions scientifiques et de transfert technologique. La grande question est : « Quel est le nouveau prix ? » Les précédentes éditions se vendaient 25,00 \$ au détail. Nous sommes heureux de vous annoncer que le prix de détail de la nouvelle édition sera de 35,00 \$. Nous offrirons des réductions spéciales aux membres et aux commanditaires, ainsi qu'aux acheteurs précoces pour une période de temps

commençant en juin. Jetez un coup d'œil dans le présent numéro du *CPS-SCP News* à l'article donnant des détails sur le nouveau livre. Ne manquez pas le jeu-questionnaire !

La réunion annuelle de la Société canadienne de phytopathologie (SCP) pour 2003, du 22 au 25 juin, à Montréal. Si vous n'avez pas visité le site Web de la SCP (www.cps-scp.ca) récemment, c'est le temps de le faire pour connaître les échéances en vue de la réunion annuelle. **Les résumés sont doivent être fournis au plus tard le 31 mars et l'inscription hâtive au plus tard le 15 avril pour profiter du tarif spécial.** Montréal est une ville populaire et très vivante durant l'été; notre réunion s'insère entre la course de Formule 1 et le début du Festival de jazz. Faites vos réservations sans tarder pour éviter des désagréments.

Rappel pour les rapports annuels. Je rappelle à tous les **Présidents des comités** que les rapports annuels seront publiés dans le numéro de juin du *CPS-SCP News*. Assurez-vous de les préparer et de les acheminer à David Kaminski pour la troisième semaine de mai.

Committee Reports

Committee on International Cooperation

The goal of this newly-formed committee on international cooperation is to continue and expand the work done by the previous committee which was active a few years ago. Our first step was to discuss initiatives that we would like to see implemented throughout the next few years. Here are the first projects that we have decided to work on:

√ **Membership support for research institutions in developing countries.** In order to select the recipient institutions we need nominations from CPS members. Among the criteria we would like to use is financial need, and whether there is work being done at that institution on crops/diseases that are common to Canada. In addition to ongoing membership support, one of the recipient institutions will also receive a collection of back issues of the journal. Please submit your nominations as soon as possible. *We are also happy to see the Manitoba region of CPS supporting individual memberships in developing countries, and challenging other regions to do the same. We believe that these different initiatives could make a difference!!!*

√ **CJPP reprint costs.** As a contribution to the cost of publication, we will pay for reprints for a paper submitted by a scientist(s) from a developing country, and accepted for publication in CJPP. There will be at least one award a year.

√ **“International corner” in CPS newsletter.** Starting with the next issue of the newsletter, we would like to publish articles on pathology issues in other countries. These articles could be on general pathology topics, a ‘trip report’ from members involved in projects overseas, a discussion on the need for specific pathology research in another country, or any other topic of an international nature. If you would like to contribute an article along these lines, please contact us.

Other initiatives we are presently discussing include sponsorship of a scientist from a developing country to attend an annual CPS meeting, and promotion of collaborative

projects in foreign countries.

If you have any suggestions that might help with the implementation of the projects mentioned, any ideas on other project(s) we might be able to undertake, and/or would like to contribute to this work through your active participation in this committee, please let us know.

Watch for updates on the committee’s work in future issues of this newsletter!

Myriam R. Fernandez, Chair

Email: fernandezm@agr.gc.ca

Phone: (306) 778-7255

Etienne Duveiller

Ron Howard

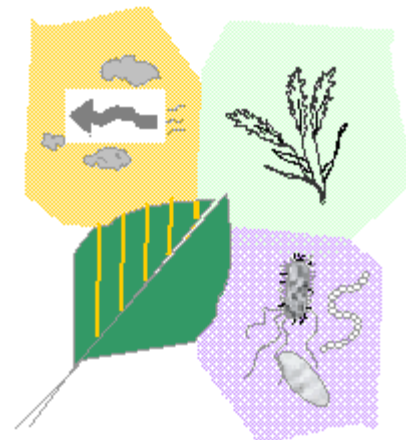
Khalid Rashid

John Webster

Canadian Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting

June 22-25, 2003

Crowne Plaza, Montreal, Quebec



SCP 2003 CPS

**Congrès Annuel de la Société
Canadienne de Phytopathologie**

22 au 25 juin 2003

Crowne Plaza, Montréal, Québec

The Canadian Phytopathological Society, Inc. / La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie Inc.

Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws

Notice of Motion

“The governing Board of the Canadian Phytopathological Society wishes to bring forward a motion at the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held in Montreal, Quebec on June 25, 2003, to approve the attached amendments of the CPS By-Laws, in accordance with By-Law XVII, Section 1. Members are notified that they may vote in favor of or against adopting each of the proposed amendments at the AGM.”

The proposed change to the CPS By-Laws is as follows:

1) Propose to change the responsibility of archiving a complete set of issues of CPS-NEWS from the Secretary to the CPS Editor. This proposal requires two by-law changes.

Part A) Proposed change to existing by-law.

Current by-law reads as follows:

I. Duties of the Governing Board

Secretary

5. Maintains a current file of all Society correspondence, Board records, updated Constitution, By-laws, current lists of officers of the Society and a complete file of CPS-NEWS.

Proposed by-law change (in bold) as follows:

I. Duties of the Governing Board

Secretary

5. Maintains a current file of all Society correspondence, Board records, updated Constitution, By-laws, and current lists of officers of the Society.

Part B) Proposed change to existing by-law.

Current by-law reads as follows:

VI. EDITOR, CPS NEWS

4. The Editor is responsible for assembling and distributing CPS-NEWS on a quarterly basis. Issues shall normally appear in September, December, March, and June.

Proposed by-law change (in bold) as follows:

VI. EDITOR, CPS NEWS

4. The Editor is responsible for the following:

(A) assembling and distributing CPS-NEWS on a quarterly basis with the issues normally appearing in September, December, March, and June.

(B) ensuring that a complete file of CPS-NEWS is maintained in a safe location and is accessible to the Society for referral purposes as requested.

The Great *Diseases Of Field Crops In Canada* Trivia Quiz

The 3rd edition of *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* (DFCC) moves inexorably towards publication! Believe us, folks, we do expect it to be printed in April. The book designer has been working on layout for a month and the editorial committee met a few days ago to establish a provisional price. It is now evident that the book will be about 60% longer than the previous edition as it is packed with lots of new information. There are 22 chapters; 1-3 deal with economic losses, causes of disease, and management strategies. Chapter 4 describes seed abnormalities and discolorations and Chapter 18 is an account of overwintering diseases. Chapters 5-17 and 19-22 deal with specific diseases of the following crops: barley, corn, oat, rye and triticale, wheat, canola and mustard, flax, soybean, sunflower, bean, chickpea, lentil, pea, alfalfa, clover and birdsfoot trefoil, grasses, other crops (borage, buckwheat, caraway and coriander, canaryseed, echinacea, faba bean, safflower, sugar beet).

Below is a **pre-publication** trivia quiz about the new edition. Answers (i.e. best guesses) to the 10 questions below must be sent to Robin Morrall by mail, fax or email before the book is published. The person or persons with the highest number of correct answers will be announced at the CPS annual meeting in June and will receive a prize chosen by the editorial committee.

Editorial Committee: Karen Bailey, Bruce Gossen, Richard Gugel, Robin Morrall.

Questions:

1. Which one of the “crop” chapters (5-22) contains no mention of *Fusarium*?
2. Which of the “crop” chapters has the shortest text?
3. Which of the chapters has the most color figures?
4. How many of the “crop” chapters deal with at least one nematode-incited disease?
5. How many terms are defined in the glossary? Is it (a) 228 (b) 279 (c) 255 or (d) 313?
6. How many of the “crop” chapters describe rust diseases?
7. How many times in the book (including in headings) is the term “aster yellows phytoplasma” mentioned? Is it (a) 11 (b) 21 (c) 26 or (d) 35?
8. What is the total age of the editorial committee? Is it (a) 197 (b) 211 (c) 205 or (d) 199?
9. The color figures for Chapter 4 depict seeds of crop plants. How many species of plants are depicted in these figures? Is it (a) 31 (b) 21 (c) 17 or (d) 19?
10. What is the longest complete Latin name of a pathogen in the book?

Regional Report

2002 Saskatchewan CPS Annual meeting

The Saskatchewan Regional group of the Canadian Phytopathological Society met in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Crop Protection (SACCP) - Disease Sub-council on December 4, 2002, at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in Saskatoon. Once again, the meetings were very well attended, with approximately 60 Saskatchewan scientists, technicians, extension personnel, undergraduate and graduate students, and industry representatives present.

Following the format of previous years, the SACCP session was held in the morning where Saskatchewan disease situations, surveys and research updates as well research priorities were discussed. In the afternoon, the regional CPS session provided participants with a wide range of interesting scientific presentations by researchers from the University of Saskatchewan and AAFC. CPS president Dr. Karen Bailey gave a warm welcome and introduction to the Society. Seven paper presentations and nine poster presentations covered a variety of subjects including biocontrol potential of plant pathogens, effects of herbicides on plant pathogenic fungi, molecular marker development and mapping of R genes, biochemical and molecular analyses of host-pathogen interactions, and disease management practices. The presentations encompassed research on plant pathogens such as *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis*, *Fusarium* spp., *Blumeria graminis* f.sp. *tritici* on wheat, *Aureobasidium* sp. and *Ascochyta* sp. on coriander and caraway, *Ustilago hordei* and *U. avenae* on barley and oat, and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Leptosphaeria maculans* on canola. Many of the presenters submitted abstracts for publication in the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology*.

Each year, the T.C. Vanterpool Prize in Plant Pathology (a University of Saskatchewan cash prize) is awarded to a U of S student who has made an outstanding effort in the field of plant pathology by his/her exceptional research, presentations at meetings or conferences, and/or involvement in plant pathology projects. The

winner of the 2002 T.C. Vanterpool Prize is David L. Greenshields, an undergraduate (soon to be graduate) student in the Department of Biology under the supervision of Dr. Yangdou Wei. David gave a presentation at the meeting titled "Histochemical and molecular genetic analyses of sucrose hydrolysis in mildewed wheat leaves".

The meetings concluded with an evening social at *Genesis*, a local Chinese restaurant. A bevy of savoury delectables were served, and after hours of nibbling and terrific conversation, all participants went home sated (actually, stuffed) and smiling.

Coreen Franke

Saskatchewan Regional Representative

People and Travel

Rich Hunt attended a National Park's workshop on whitebark and limber pines in Calgary, Feb. 18-19. Blister rust is a huge problem, because it decreases the inventory of these species, which in turn decreasing the food of grizzly bears, squirrels and nutcrackers. However, the west Nile virus could be the synergist that helps eliminate whitebark pine. The whitebark pine has a wingless seed and is obligatory disseminated and planted by nutcrackers. Nutcrackers are members of a bird group that are expected to be particularly affected by the west Nile virus. The west Nile virus is expected to make significant inroads into western Canada in 2003.

Simon Shamoun attended as an invited speaker the 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology, in New Zealand during the period, February 02-08, 2003. He presented a paper in the Management of Forest Diseases Plenary Session: "Biological Control Approach for Management of Dwarf Mistletoes." His co-authors were Drs. Tod Ramsfield - Forest Research Institute, Rotorua, New Zealand and Bart van der Kamp - UBC/ Forest Sciences.

Simon also attended a pre-conference workshop of the ICPP-2003 on Biocontrol of Weeds with Pathogens at the Canterbury Agriculture & Science Centre of Lincoln University, New Zealand on February 01, 2003. Simon presented a paper: "Development and registration of *Chondrostereum purpureum* for management of weedy species," and a brief overview of other mycoherbicide projects currently in progress at the CFS-PFC, Victoria, BC, Canada.

Simon was invited by the Faculty of the Applied Ecology of the University of Sydney at Orange and the NSW - Orange Agricultural Institute to discuss the latest research advances in the area of biocontrol of diseases and weeds. He presented a seminar: "Biological Control of Forest Diseases and Weeds: Results, Potential and Challenges."

Lea Rietman and **Sue Askew** (M.Sc. Candidates - UBC, currently working under the supervision of Drs. van der Kamp and Shamoun)

were the winners of the first and third places, respectively, during the annual UBC Research Poster Presentations. Lea presented a poster entitled "Assessment of *Neonectria neomacrospora* as an inundative biological control agent of hemlock dwarf mistletoe." Sue presented her poster: "Evaluation of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* as an inundative biological control agent for hemlock dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium tsugense*)."

Danny Rioux, CFS-Quebec, is hosting a graduate student from Germany. **Uwe Simon** is a Doctoral student with Dr. Robert Bauer at the University of Tuebingen. He is working on *Trifolium repens* infected by *Cymadothea trifolii*, an Ascomycete having an extraordinary complex interaction apparatus. He is in Dr. Danny Rioux's lab for the period March 3 to April 10 to use different cytochemical tests aiming at characterizing this interaction apparatus.

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Employment Opportunity

Senior Research Associate – Soybean Pathology

Reports To: Dr. Jean Liu, Research Scientist

Department: Soybean Research – Pathology

Location: Johnston, IA

Job Purpose: The Senior Research Associate will manage a soybean production screening program for SCN and fungal trait characterization. The position helps timely execute pathology projects and deliver quality data needed to successfully develop and market elite soybean with enhanced levels of resistance to diseases of economic importance.

Duties/Responsibilities: The Senior Research Associate will be responsible for managing high-throughput disease screens to support a dynamic soybean breeding program. This will include, but not be limited to, planning and conducting disease evaluation in the field and greenhouse, collecting and analyzing data, and communicating experimental results to Soybean Research Centers. The successful candidate will also be implementing innovative tools and strategies to improve bioassay processes. Duties would include supervising, recruiting, and training temporary employees, team-building, identifying process improvement opportunities, and addressing quality issues through scientific approaches. This position will require extended or irregular hours during peak periods. This position comes with strong technological support and infrastructure, as well as a stimulating, interactive research environment at the headquarters of the world's leading seed research company.

Educational Qualifications Desired: Ph.D. or M.Sc. with 3-5 years of work experience in plant pathology or related field.

Competencies and Experience Desired: The candidate must have demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and meet deadlines. Excellent communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills to function effectively in a team environment. A good understanding of plant disease epidemiology, genetics of host resistance, and basic breeding methods is required. Experience or course work in experimental design and statistical analysis is highly desirable.

Contact Person: Resume Processing Center – Job Code Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. 400 Locust Street, Suite 700 PO Box 14454 Des Moines, IA 50306-3454

E-mail: apply@pioneerjobs.com

PLEASE SUBMIT A SCANNABLE RESUME AND REFERENCE THE AD CODE IN YOUR RESPONSE.

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. Before applying for this position, please consult your local immigration office if the position is outside your country.

Committee Reports

Report of the Nominating Committee

Proposed slate for 2003-2004

CPS / SCP Board; 2003-04

President: Richard Martin
President Elect: Richard Hamelin
Vice President: Andre Lévesque
Past President: Karen Bailey
Secretary: Deena Errampalli
Treasurer: Dilantho Fernando
Membership Secretary: Gayle Jespersion
Senior Director: Jim Menzies
Junior Director: Anthony Hopkin

Standing Committees of CPS-SCP; 2003-04.

Awards (5 members)

Sue Boyetchko (Chair), Brent McCallum, Suha Jabaji-Hare, Antonet Svircev, **Mike Celetti**

Financial Advisory (10 members)

Karen Bailey (Chair), Richard Martin, Richard Hamelin, Andre Lévesque, Dilantha Fernando, Zamir Punja, Ron Howard, Jim Menzies, Patrice Audy, **Anthony Hopkin**

Future Meetings (3 members)

Randy Kutcher (Chair), Kelly Turkington, **Tony Sturz**

Nominating (5 members)

Karen Bailey (Chair), Greg Boland, Debbie McLaren, Tom Hsiang, **Gary Peng**

Resolutions (3 members)

Ken Conn (Chair), Allen Xue, **Tom Fetch**

Science Policy (5 members)

Richard Hamelin (Chair), Carole Beaulieu, Randy Clear, Gordon Braun, **Javier Gracia-Garza**

The names of proposed new members of the Board and Standing Committees are highlighted in bold. The remaining members are continuing or completing their terms as specified by the Society By-Laws.

Additional nominations can be made by CPS/SCP members at large for any of the following positions: Vice-President, Junior Director, Nominating Committee, Awards Committee, Future Meetings Committee, Resolutions Committee, and Science Policy Committee. These nominations shall be signed by five members of the Society and by the nominee. They must have been received by the CPS/SCP Secretary, Ken Mallett, by 6 May 2003, which is six weeks before the Annual Business Meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg J. Boland (Chair), Roger Rimmer, Rick Peters, Debbie McLaren, Tom Hsiang.

Workshop & Symposium Committee

This is a call for those interested in organizing a symposium or workshop at future CPS meetings. There are plenty of slots open for the Edmonton meeting (2005) and the Quebec city meeting (2006). Please send your suggestions or ideas for topics and potential speakers.

Richard C. Hamelin, Ph.D.

Chair, Workshop & Symposium Committee
Chercheur scientifique / Research Scientist
Service canadien des forêts / Canadian Forest Service
Ressources naturelles Canada / Natural Resources Canada
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Did You Know . . . ?

The first written account of the cereal smuts comes from Theophrastus (384-332 B.C.). Smut was well known to the Romans, who named it *Ustilago*, which comes from the Latin word for burn. This term was later used in many languages as the common name for smut (e.g. carbon, charbon, sot, etc.).

The accurate illustrations and descriptions of symptoms of loose smut contrast with early views on the possible causes. Among them were: a superabundance of sap that fermented and dried up and was thought to be favored by certain soils and weather; the wrath of the gods or acts of the devil; a curse from malevolent neighbours; ill-boding solar, lunar or stellar positions and spontaneous generation, perhaps through previously disarranged plant tissue. These causes were held to be valid until about 1800, when the true causes of the smut diseases of cereals began to be uncovered. By 1890, three distinct fungal species had been shown to cause the loose smuts of barley, oats and wheat.

Nielsen, J., and Thomas, P.L. 1996. page 33. **In** Wilcoson, R.D., and Saari, E.E., eds. *Bunt and Smut Diseases of Wheat: Concepts and Methods of Disease Management*. Mexico, D.F.: CIMMYT.

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