

News

CPS • SCP



CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY • SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE

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President's Message

Richard Martin



It seems like just yesterday that the last issue of CPS - SCP News was published, and while there has been a lot of activity there is little to report. Several issues are being worked on by many of our members, and others will be approached shortly to help the Society in several areas.

Sales of the new Diseases of Field Crops in Canada (DFCC) are progressing well. All those concerned with the publication of the book should be proud. The Society is now proceeding with a French translation of

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DFCC, and a number of chapters have already been translated. Our thanks to Robin Morrall for being a driving force in this project. Robin has been tracking down sponsorship and he and Luc Couture are also reviewing the translation as each chapter is completed. If everything goes well we may be able to launch the translation at the annual meeting in June.

Members are reminded that 2004 is the 75th anniversary of the Canadian Phytopathological Society. During the annual meeting at Ottawa in June there will be a number of special events in celebration of this milestone. Some of you will have already been approached to help out, or to contribute

material, and others will be hearing from the organizing committees shortly. There will be special invitations going out, which call for some of the "oral history" of the Society, symposia, posters, debates and historical presentations around the Society and the profession of plant pathology. This will all be in addition to what promises to be an excellent scientific program. Information will start to appear on the CPS - SCP web site (www.cps-scp.ca) in the new year. Mark the dates of June 13-16, 2004 on your calendar now and start planning your research talks or posters, so you're ready when the call comes out. For those members supervising students don't forget to do what you can to get them to the meeting and present their research.

André Lévesque and myself attended a meeting of some Canadian Agri-food related Societies in November at Ottawa. The focus of this meeting was to discuss some of the areas where Societies could interact and exchange information, even if only at the executive level. While the CPS - SCP is not considering a formal linkage to a bigger lobby type of group at this time, there was agreement to a periodic round table of the Agri-food related Societies to discuss issues of mutual interest. It was also agreed to share newsletters between Presidents so that ongoing contact can be maintained. There are no formal plans for joint meetings, but it was agreed to share our long term meeting plans so that joint meetings of interest among societies may develop. Stay tuned for more on this during the annual meeting in June.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone

the best over the coming holiday season, and may next year be rewarding on both the professional and personal level.

Mot du président

Richard Martin

C'est comme si le dernier numéro du *CPS - SCP News* avait été publié hier et, même s'il y a eu de nombreuses activités, il y a peu de choses à signaler. Plusieurs de nos membres travaillent à de nombreux dossiers et d'autres membres seront sollicités bientôt

pour aider la Société dans plusieurs domaines.

Les ventes du nouveau *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* (DFCC) progressent bien. Tous ceux qui sont impliqués dans la publication du

livre ont de quoi être fiers. La Société est maintenant engagée dans le processus de traduction du DFCC, un certain nombre de chapitres ayant déjà été traduits. Tous nos

remerciements à Robin Morrall pour avoir été le moteur de ce projet. Robin a cherché des commanditaires, et lui et Luc Couture procèdent à la révision de chaque chapitre traduit. Si tout va bien, nous serons en mesure de procéder au lancement à la réunion annuelle de juin.

On désire rappeler aux membres que 2004 est l'année du 75^e anniversaire de la Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie. Lors de la réunion annuelle à Ottawa en juin, il y aura un certain nombre d'événements spéciaux pour célébrer cet événement marquant de

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<< Il y aura des invitations spéciales liées à l'« histoire non écrite » de la Société, à des colloques, affiches, débats et présentations historiques traitant de Société et de la profession de phytopathologiste.>>

notre histoire. Certains parmi vous ont déjà été approchés pour aider ou fournir du matériel, et d'autres entendront bientôt parler des comités d'organisation. Il y aura des invitations spéciales liées à l'« histoire non écrite » de la Société, à des colloques, affiches, débats et présentations historiques traitant de Société et de la profession de phytopathologiste. Ce sera un complément à l'excellent et prometteur programme scientifique. L'information commencera à apparaître sur le site Web de la CPS - SCP (www.cps-scp.ca) au début de l'an prochain. Notez dès maintenant les dates du 13 au 16 juin 2004 sur votre calendrier et commencez à préparer vos communications ou affiches scientifiques de façon à être prêts lorsque la demande de présentations sera faite. Pour ceux qui dirigent des étudiants, n'oubliez pas de faire votre possible pour les envoyer présenter leur recherche au congrès.

André Lévesque et moi-même avons assisté à la réunion de quelques sociétés reliées à l'agroalimentaire canadien en novembre à Ottawa. L'objectif de la rencontre était de discuter des domaines où les sociétés pourraient interagir et échanger de l'information, même si ce n'est qu'au niveau exécutif. Même si la CPS - SCP n'envisage pas d'affiliation à un plus grand organisme de type « groupe de pression » en ce moment, une entente est intervenue pour que soit tenue une table ronde des sociétés reliées à l'agroalimentaire pour discuter de sujets d'intérêt commun. Il fut aussi entendu d'échanger les bulletins d'information entre présidents de façon à garder contact. Il n'y a pas de plan formel pour des congrès conjoints, mais nous nous sommes entendus pour partager nos calendriers de réunions à long terme de façon à permettre la tenue de réunions conjointes s'il y a lieu. Restez attentifs à l'information concernant ce sujet lors de la réunion annuelle de juin.

Je profite de l'occasion pour souhaiter un joyeux temps des Fêtes à tous, et que l'année qui vient soit gratifiante au points de vue professionnel et personnel.

Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Special Event Committee, Archives subcommittee

2004 marks the 75th anniversary of the Canadian Phytopathological Society. It will be a year which we can look back at how far we have come and where we need to go in the future. To help celebrate the 75th anniversary, an Ad Hoc Special Event Committee has been established, with a number of subcommittees to organize specific activities to commemorate the occasion.

The Archives subcommittee has been established to try and collect information and other memorabilia about the last 75 years of plant pathology in Canada. One of its mandates is to try and collect significant historical papers and memorabilia that reflect the history of the society, the development of plant pathology in Canada and/or significant scientific accomplishments of individuals from CPS members, colleagues, family members or home institutions for preservation or use. To do so, however, we must rely on CPS members to inform us of what materials are out there. We would appreciate if members could inform us of any historical material relating to plant pathology that they know of. If this material has already been archived somewhere, we would appreciate a list of what has been archived for our own records. If you have any material that you feel would be of interest to the CPS, please inform **Jim Menzies at jmenzies@agr.gc.ca or Denis Gaudet at gaudetd@agr.gc.ca.**

A second mandate of the Archives subcommittee is to compile and publish articles on the history and development of plant pathology in Canada, the evolution of the CPS since its early beginnings and the accomplishments of high profile CPS members during their careers. What we are hoping to get is a series of articles detailing some of the significant people and events in plant

pathology over the last 75 years. These articles would be published in the CPS Newsletter so that everyone can learn a little more about the society and plant pathology in Canada. We are looking for volunteers to write these articles. The articles can deal with early history of the CPS and its regional groups, influential leaders ("builders") of the CPS, history of plant pathology at selected institutions, women in plant pathology, CPS/APS historical relationships, long-standing successful research programs, etc. The articles should not be long, most would run between 0.5 to 2 pages. Photos would be nice, if available. These could be scanned into an electronic form and the original returned to the owner. **If you are interested in writing such an article, please contact Jim Menzies at jmenzies@agr.gc.ca.**

Call for Nominations to the Executive and Standing Committees of CPS-SCP

The Nomination Committee of CPS-SCP is seeking nominations for the positions of Vice-President, Treasurer, and Junior Director on the Executive Board, and also positions as members of the following Standing Committees: Nomination, Awards, Future Meetings, Resolutions, and Science Policy. The Society is also seeking to fill the position of Website Editor and an Assistant Website Editor.

The current membership of the Executive and the Standing Committees is listed in the Directory of Members 2003 and on the CPS website (www.cps-scp.ca). The responsibilities for all positions are outlined in the Society By-Laws, which can be viewed at www.cps-scp.ca/bylaws.htm.

Nominations must be received by the CPS-

SCP Secretary (Deena Errampali) by February 16, 2004, which is 4 months before the Annual General Meeting in June, 2004. The nominations should be signed by 5 members of the Society and the nominee.

Submitted by the Nomination Committee:

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

Regional Reports

Atlantic Region

Hurricane Juan had and will no doubt continue to have a significant impact on native, nursery and cultivated plants in an area from Halifax to Charlottetown. The September storm which caused so much damage to power lines, boats, buildings and vehicles, also twisted and uprooted trees, ornamental plants and some crops. However, despite great cleanup efforts, the full effect of this event will continue to be realized during the winter and next year's growing season as weakened and stressed plants succumb to disease and other weather event stresses.

Dr. H.W. (Bud) Platt completed his term as President of The Potato Association of America during the annual meeting held in August in Spokane, Washington. He has one more year to serve (Past-President) as part of the four-year presidency system within PAA. During 2003 Dr. Platt also 'retired' as Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Potato Research for the past five years but will continue as a Senior Editor.

H.W. (Bud) Platt, PhD, PAG
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
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440 University Avenue, Charlottetown, PE, Canada, C1A 4N6
PlattH@agr.gc.ca

Annual Meeting, Saskatchewan division of the CPS/PPSA

A joint annual meeting of the Saskatchewan division of the CPS and the Plant Pathology Society of Alberta was held in Lloydminster October 22 – 24, 2003, at the Best Western Wayside Inn. The meeting was the second joint meeting between the two CPS divisions. A total of 64 attendees registered for the meeting, which consisted of 20 paper presentations divided into four sessions, and a poster session with 16 posters.

A symposium on prediction and management of sclerotinia diseases was held in the afternoon of October 23. BASF Canada and CPS sponsored the symposium. Invited speakers Mary Ruth MacDonald (“Forecasting Sclerotinia diseases in eastern Canada: Fact or fiction?”) and Debbie McLaren (“Predicting sclerotinia disease in canola and bean - a western Canadian perspective”) shared perspectives on the disease from central and western Canada. Both presentations will be published as papers in the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology.

A banquet was held after on the evening of the 23rd. After dining on hip of beef and Greek style roast chicken, the participants grooved to the tunes of “Prairie Skye”, an Edmonton-based country-rock band. The winner of the PPSA student paper award was Sally Vail (University of Saskatchewan); the student poster award prize was shared between Krista Anderson (University of Saskatchewan) and Lane Gelhorn (University of Alberta). The technical presentation award went to Kelly Byer (AAFC Saskatoon Research Centre). Dee Ann Benard gave a history of the Terry Swanson Student award, and Robin Morrall gave a similar presentation on the T.C. Vanterpool prize. Robin also made his customary sales pitch for the new edition of “Diseases of Field Crops in Canada”.

The Awards Office at UBC will select this year’s recipient of the Terry Swanson scholarship, in accordance with the terms of the scholarship. The PPSA will continue to support the Calgary Youth Science Fair with an annual award of \$125.00.

The local arrangements committee would like to thank the corporate sponsors of the joint meeting. The platinum and gold level sponsors were BASF and Bayer Cropscience, respectively. Gustafon Partnership and 20/20 Seed Labs were silver sponsors, and the bronze-level sponsors were the Alberta Research Council and Fisher Scientific. The incoming president of the PPSA is Denise Orr (AAFC, Lacombe). The next annual PPSA meeting will be held in Lacombe, AB.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ralph Lange
Alberta Research Council
Vegreville, Alberta

CPS-BC Regional Meeting

The CPS-BC Regional Meeting was held at **Simon Fraser University’s** Halpern Centre on October 6-7, 2003. Among the 50 registrants were 14 students. A total of 14 oral presentations and 9 poster presentations on a diverse range of topics were made, including new diseases, forest pathology, biological control of weeds, molecular techniques for disease diagnosis, and biochemical response of trees to infection. A special symposium speaker, Dr. Dave Rizzo from the University of California, Davis, gave an excellent overview on the biology and epidemiology of the sudden oak death pathogen. There was plenty of discussion on this disease and its potential threat to B.C. vegetation if established. Two graduate student paper awards were presented – one for the best oral paper by Yunjung Park (co-authors D. James and Z.K. Punja) from Simon Fraser University,

Burnaby, entitled "Genetic diversity of double-stranded RNA elements in *Chalara elegans* (*Thielaviopsis basicola*)". The other award was for the best poster presentation by Sue Askew (co-authors S.F. Shamoun and B.J. van der Kamp) from the Pacific Forestry Centre, Victoria, and University of B.C., Vancouver, entitled "Assessment of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* as a biological control agent for management of western hemlock dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium tsugense*). Both students received a cash award and a one-year paid membership to CPS. A buffet dinner was held at SFU's Diamond University Club and a tribute made to Dr. Bob Copeman upon his retirement from UBC in August, 2003 after 30+ years of teaching and research in plant pathology. A lively discussion on the future of plant pathology support for BC agriculture was chaired by Leslie Macdonald, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food. It was evident that the waning support in provincial ministries and B.C. universities for plant pathology needs to be urgently addressed. A position paper is being prepared. The 2004 B.C. Regional meeting will be held at the Pacific Forestry Research Centre in Victoria, B.C.

Submitted by,
Zamir K. Punja
Chair, Organizing Committee

Awards

The CPS is inviting nominations for the 75th anniversary 2004 Awards. The Special Events Committee has proposed to have a maximum number of awards granted in 2004 in recognition of the 75th anniversary. The following awards are available: Honorary Member, Fellow, Award for Outstanding Research, Gordon J. Green Outstanding Young Scientist Award, and the Graduate Student Travel Award.

If you want to make a nomination for one of these awards, see the CPS web site for instructions at <http://www.cps-scp.ca/awards.htm>. A list of previous recipients of these awards is displayed on the web site and in the Membership Directory, and the names of previous CPS awardees and the year of their award, are available. Nomination material should be sent to the Chair of the Awards committee, Sue Boyetchko (boyetchkos@agr.gc.ca).

Richard C. Hamelin, Ph. D.
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Ms. Yilan Zhang, a graduate student in Dr. Dilantha Fernando's lab at the University of Manitoba was placed first in the oral competition at the Manitoba CPS annual conference recently. Yilan's presentation was titled "Use of bacterial antagonists in the biological control of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* infection of canola".



Yilan Zhang with her supervisor Dilantha Fernando, and co-advisor Fouad Daayf.

Zamir K. Punja, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. received two prestigious awards in October, 2003. The first of these, the Nora and Ted Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy, was presented to Zamir on October 15 by SFU President Dr. Michael Stevenson at a special ceremony held at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in downtown Vancouver. The Sterling Prize consisted of a \$5,000 cash prize and a certificate. The prize was awarded for Zamir's pioneering work on genetically modified (GM) crop plants with enhanced disease resistance and for his long-standing involvement in public debate on the topic of GM foods. The inscription on the certificate states "In recognition of his research in the field of genetically modified organisms, his strong advocacy of sometimes unpopular positions and his intellectual rigour and commitment to the public good". Following the ceremony, Zamir presented a lecture entitled "Genetically modified foods: the myths, realities and controversies" to an audience of approximately 200 people and fielded questions and concerns over GM foods.

The second award presented to Zamir on October 27 by NSERC President Dr. Tom Brzustowski was an NSERC Synergy Award for Innovation, the Leo Derikx Award. At a special ceremony held at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver in downtown Vancouver, a cheque for \$25,000 and a certificate were presented for Zamir's long-standing collaboration with the B.C. Greenhouse Growers' Association. The certificate is inscribed "For the development of crop protection and environmental management technologies which have enhanced the competitiveness of the greenhouse vegetable industry". The industry partner received a certificate and a bronze sculpture of flying geese for their collaborative efforts with SFU. Among the 160 dignitaries present at the ceremony were SFU President Dr. Michael Stevenson, University of BC President Dr. Martha Piper, and the M.L.A. for Burnaby

North, Mr. Richard T. Lee (see accompanying photo).



Zamir Punja award - L-R: University of BC President Dr. Martha Piper; M.L.A. for Burnaby North, Mr. Richard T. Lee; Dr. Zamir Punja; and SFU President Dr. Michael Stevenson.

Announcements

Make sure to set aside these dates in your calendar for our next CPS annual meeting!

June 2004, 13-16th

Annual Meeting the Canadian Phytopathological Society - 75th Anniversary

Crowne Plaza, Ottawa, ON, Canada.

Contact: André Lévesque

Levesqueca@agr.gc.ca

Submission Deadlines for Future Issues of CPS - SCP News and Call for Annual Reports 2004

The submission deadline for the **March issue** of CPS - SCP News is **February 20, 2004**. As indicated above the next annual CPS - SCP meeting is June 13 -16, 2004,

and as a consequence annual reports from various Standing Committees, and Subject Matter and Ad Hoc committees will need to be submitted in time for the annual meeting. The deadline for the **June issue** of CPS - SCP News will be **April 23, 2004**, which will permit enough time for preparation and distribution of the June issue of CPS - SCP News prior to the 2004 annual meeting in Ottawa.

Annual reports from the following committees will be needed for the June issue. In addition, reports from regional meetings should also be submitted for the June issue, although some of these reports will have already been published in previous editions of the CPS - SCP News.

Standing Committees

Awards

Financial Advisory

Future Meeting

Journal Editorial

Membership

Science Policy

Subject Matter

Education and Public Awareness

Historical Resources

Industry Relations

Information Products Marketing

International Cooperation

Local Arrangements

Workshop and Symposium

Ad Hoc Committees

Microbial Genetics Resources & Culture Collections

Special events for 2004

CPS 75th Anniversary

Other reports

CPDS

CPS News, Editor

CPS Website

ISPP representative

Plant Canada

17th International Lettuce and Leafy Vegetable Conference

28-31 August 2004 - 17th International Lettuce and Leafy Vegetable Conference (<http://www.cshs.ca/ILLVC2004>). Hotel Sandman (Longueuil), Quebec Canada. Sponsored by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Canadian Society for Horticultural Science (CSHS), the Plant Productivity Research Network and McGill University.

Sylvie Jenni, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Horticulture Research and Development Centre,
430 Gouin Blvd., St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Qc,
CANADA, J3B 3E6
tel 450.346.4494, ext. 213; fax
450.346.7740
jennis@agr.gc.ca

International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) working groups

16-22 August 2004

Root and Butt Rots of Forest Trees. 11th International Conference on Root and Butt Rots. IUFRO WP 7.02.01. Poznan - Bialowieza, Poland. More information can be found at <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/>, division 7, WP 7.02.01.

Contact:

plakomy@owl.au.poznan.pl or
mmanka@owl.au.poznan.pl or
Z.Sierota@las.ibles.waw.pl.

13-20 June 2004

Foliage, shoot and stem diseases of trees.
IUFRO WG 7.02.02 meetings, Corvallis Or-
egon, USA. More information can be found
at <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/>, division 7, WP
7.02.02.

Contact: Glen R. Stanosz
(Grs@plantpath.wisc.edu) or Greg Filip
(Greg.Filip@orst.edu).

ISPP Newsletter

The editors of the ISPP Newsletter (Bulletin
of the International Society for Plant Pathol-
ogy) Joseph-Alexander Verreet and Elaine
Davison announce again that single issues
are published online on the ISPP web
(www.isppweb.org). We would like to inform
you that the newsletter can be read or down-
loaded from the ISPP web.

Material for the Newsletter is invited from
individual members of ISPP, Associated
Societies, Council members, Chairs of all
Committees and representatives of Affiliated
Societies and Supporting Organisations.
Visit the newsletter online at:
www.isppweb.org/newsletter.asp

As the Secretary General of the ISPP I would
like to invite you personally to support the
work of the editors and to take the chance to
submit material for the issues. Every issue
features coming events and this is for you
the best opportunity to keep yourself in-
formed.

From the latest issue (October 2003)

- * University of the Punjab, Department of
Mycology & Plant Pathology & First Fungal
Culture Bank of Pakistan
- * ISHS Education and Training symposium
- * New publications of interest to plant
pathologists
- * Obituary: Fred Jones, Nematologist
- * Coming Events

I would also like to thank the former editor
of the ISPP newsletter Brian Deverall for his
work through all these years.

Greetings from
Thorsten Kraska
Secretary General of ISPP

CPS-SCP Membership Renewals

Membership renewal applications have
recently been mailed to all CPS members,
and are due January 1, 2004. Forms are
also posted on the CPS website at: [http://
www.cps-scp.ca/application.htm](http://www.cps-scp.ca/application.htm). Please
return your application as quickly as pos-
sible to avoid delays in receiving your jour-
nals and newsletters. **Please remember
there is a late renewal fee of \$15 for mem-
bers who renew after January 31, 2004.**

Gayle Jespersion
Membership secretary
Phone: 250-861-7228
Fax: 250-861-7490
E-mail: gayle.jespersion@gems1.gov.bc.ca

HOW MANY CUPS OF COFFEE IS DISEASES OF FIELD CROPS IN CANADA WORTH?

Robin Morrall, Co-editor

3rd edition, *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada*

Younger members of CPS may not realize that *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* (DFCC) was preceded by a book called *Diseases of Field Crops in the Prairie Provinces* (DFCPP). This book was first published in 1957 by the Canada Department of Agriculture and was available by mail from the "Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery" in Ottawa, as well as at bookstores. Why the Queen had to have someone to control stationery in Canada in 1957 is an interesting question. Perhaps it was due to early fears of Quebec separation? In the days before email, fax and cell phones paper may have held the only key to winning the hearts and minds of people. However, 1957 was even before the days of the Quiet Revolution in Quebec. But, I digress.

The retail price of DFCPP in 1957 was \$0.50, roughly the price of five cups of coffee in those days! Recently my fellow co-editor, Richard Gugel, found a copy of the original edition in a second hand bookstore and paid \$6.00 for it. Before you all say "Sucker!", remember that this is still roughly the price of five cups of coffee. But, it does raise a significant question! Is it reasonable that the latest edition of DFCC retails at \$35.00 (= about 30 cups of coffee)? The overall consumer price index (CPI) in Canada has increased about 7-fold since 1957. Shouldn't DFCC be selling for $7 \times \$0.50 = \3.50 (= about 3 cups of coffee)? And, if \$3.50 now buys only 3 cups of coffee, hasn't the price of coffee increased by more than the CPI over the last 46 years, too? Yes but, fortunately for readers, this second issue is beyond the scope of my article.

It is amusing, and possibly instructive, to look at the inflation of DFCC and its predecessor over the years. The original DFCPP was 105 pages long, weighed 250 g, and contained 36 figures, including 8 in color. The glossary contained definitions of 19 terms. A revised (compact?) edition of DFCPP was published in 1967 by the Canada Department of Agriculture. It was only 100 pages long, weighed 220 g, but included 50 figures, including 20 in color. The glossary contained definitions of 22 terms. This book was still sold by the Queen's Printer in Ottawa, although by then the Queen's interest in controlling Canadian stationery had apparently waned. The price of the revised edition? \$2.00, a 300% increase. That is what I paid for my copy in February 1969.

The revised edition of DFCPP was reprinted without change in content in 1977, 78 and 80. By the time Richard Gugel was a student and bought it, the book had a heavier cover and weighed 230 g. But the price had jumped to \$6.00, another massive 200% increase. It must seem as though Richard is always getting shafted! But more ominous signs were also afoot in 1980! The Queen had now divested herself of responsibility for printing, too, and the book was distributed by the Canadian Government Publishing Centre in Hull. Without regal control (although cynical westerners may observe that Pierre Trudeau had been prime minister for most of the previous 12 years) the second page imperiously announced "Price subject to change without notice". Who knows what Richard might have had to pay, if he had waited to buy it?

Stability was on the way, however, as CPS took over the book. (By the way, the takeover by CPS had nothing to do with antimonarchist sentiment.) The first edition of DFCC appeared in 1984 and was 160 pages long, but, having much larger pages than DFCPP, it weighed 540 g. DFCC contained 432 figures, all but 10 of which were in color, and the glossary included 144 definitions. Both of these represented massive

increases over the old DFCCP. A slightly revised second edition of DFCC was published by CPS in 1988. It was still 160 pages long and weighed 540 g, but contained 443 figures and a glossary with 150 definitions. Throughout the life of the first two editions, DFCC sold for a retail price of \$25.00. While this represented a 4,900% increase over the original \$0.50 for DFCCP, if changes in the CPI between 1957 and, say 1984 and 2001, are taken into account, the percentage increases were only 1,080% (for 1984) and 630% (for 2001).

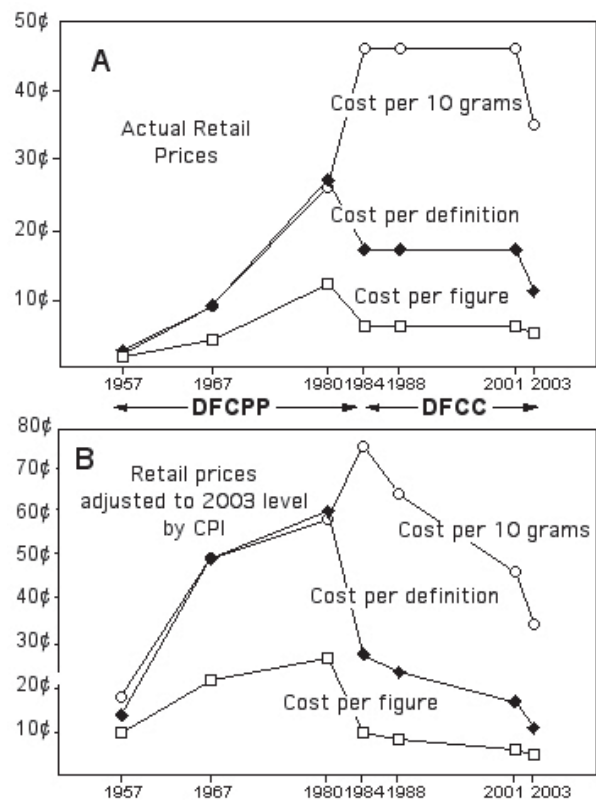
Enter the third edition of DFCC in 2003. It is 290 pages long, weighs 1010 g, contains 669 figures or diagrams (mostly in color) and has a glossary with 314 definitions. As implied above, at a retail price of \$35.00 it is 6,900% more costly than the original DFCCP, or if you take the CPI into account, 900% more costly! If Richard Gugel were to buy a copy, would he be shafted again? Or might he surprise himself and get value for his money? Perhaps Richard could get better value by using his \$6.00 copy of the original DFCCP?

The only way to resolve these crucial questions is by studying important publishing parameters such as the ratios of price: weight, price: figures, and price: glossary definitions. Readers may be pleased to learn that these ratios have already been calculated over the lives of DFCCP and DFCC, and are presented for their benefit in graphical form below. The more useful figures are in Graph B, where everything is adjusted by changes in the CPI to 2003 dollars. And, members of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation please note, no grant money was spent in developing these data.

What conclusions may be drawn from these analyses? First the cost of these books per unit weight rose steadily from 1957 to 1984. However, since then it has declined, initially because the price of DFCC remained constant, despite changes in the CPI, but even

after the recent publication of the much larger 3rd edition. The costs per figure and costs per definition, probably better measures of the cost per unit of information in the book, also rose, then declined. These two ratios have now fallen below the level of the 1957 DFCCP! These levels, plus the recent decline in cost per unit weight undoubtedly reflect one thing: financial support, probably in the form of a government-subsidized price in 1957, and definitely in the shape of the 23 sponsors of the recent 3rd edition of DFCC.

Many questions remain unanswered by this analysis. For example, how many cups of coffee is DFCC worth? Is Richard Gugel usually shafted when he buys things? Why did the Queen give up printing and controlling stationery? If you know the answers to these questions, don't bother to send them in! Just go for coffee.



People and Travel

Après leur participation au congrès sur les mycorhizes tenu à Montréal en août dernier, le **Pr. Julio Diez Casero** et un étudiant gradué, **Jaime Olaizola**, tous deux de l'Université de Valladolid, Palencia, Espagne, sont venus rencontrer **Gaston Laflamme** du Centre de Foresterie des Laurentides à Québec. Il a été question d'échanges d'information sur la maladie du chancre scléroderrrien des pins récemment trouvée en Espagne et sur lequel travail **M. Oscar Santamaria Becerril**, étudiant au doctorat. Des isolats de la collection de *Gremmeniella* de **G. Laflamme** du CFL a permis à **M. Becerril** de poursuivre ses travaux de thèse. MM Casero et Olaizola ont profité de leur passage pour rencontrer d'autres chercheurs du Centre et aussi pour discuter de possibilités de stages dans le futur.

Le **Dr. Alejandro Solla Hach**, de l'université Extremadura, Plasencia, Espagne, a effectué un stage de d'un mois en août, au Centre de Foresterie des Laurentides. Le but de son séjour était la préparation de manuscrits, en compagnie du **Dr. G.B. Ouellette**, sur des aspects de la maladie hollandaise de l'orme, dont plusieurs sont basés sur des communications présentées au « 2nd International Elm Conference » tenue à Segovia, Espagne, en mai dernier. Le **Dr. G.B. Ouellette**, chercheur émérite, a également participé à cette réunion. Il a été invité à agir à titre de rédacteur associé du volume contenant les articles de ces communications

M. Leonardo Marianelli, étudiant au doctorat de l'Université de Florence, Italie, a passé un stage de 3 mois au laboratoire de **Gaston Laflamme** du Centre de Foresterie des Laurentides (CFL). Leonardo a travaillé entre autres sous la supervision de **Chantal Côté**, biologiste au CFL et d'autres chercheurs et étudiants ont participé au succès de son stage. Son sujet de thèse concerne les champignons endophytes du genre *Discula* associés au dépérissement des

chênes en Europe. Son directeur de thèse est le **Dr. Alessandro Ragazzi**.

Le **Dr. Danny Rioux**, chercheur en pathologie forestière du Centre de foresterie des Laurentides de Québec, a été élu président la Société de Protection des plantes du Québec (SPPQ) lors de la réunion annuelle de la Société tenue à Sainte-Hyacinthe en novembre 2003.

At the NED-APS meeting held October 22-24 at the Wayfarer Inn, Bedford, New Hampshire, **Dr. Russell Tweddell** from Laval University received the "2003 Early Career Achievement Award" for this division of the Society. Congratulations!

Looking for a good speaker?

Mathieu Allaire, étudiant à l'université Laval en microbiologie sous la direction de **Richard Hamelin** et **Louis Bernier** a remporté le prix de la meilleure communication étudiante à la réunion annuelle du réseau Biocontrôle à Halifax. Sa présentation était intitulée: "Functional diversity of antibiotic-producing bacteria in the rhizosphere of conifers". Mathieu a aussi remporté le deuxième prix pour la meilleure communication au congrès de la Société pour la Protection des Plantes du Québec (SPPQ) tenue à St-Hyacinthe. Dans les deux cas, Mathieu, qui est une personne très généreuse, a partagé son prix avec les autres au pub local.

Dr. Arthur De Cock visited **André Lévesque** in Ottawa and **Richard C. Hamelin** at Laurentian Forestry Center. Dr. De Cock, a specialist in the taxonomy of Oomycetes, gave back to back talks in Quebec City and Ottawa about speciation and hybridation. He also visited Drs. Lévesque and Hamelin to discuss their collaborative research on *Phytophthora ramorum*, the causal agent of

Sudden Oak Death.

Dr. Jean Bérubé, a forest pathologist at Laurentian Forestry Center, will launch the 3rd edition of his book on Italian wines. Dr. Bérubé, a connoisseur, is the president of the Quebec Chapter of the Canadian Italian wine club and he has to “deguster” several hundred wines every year for his book. He also has to attend an annual wine fest in Italy every year. Some hobbies just sound better than others!

The world Forestry Congress held its 12th meeting in Quebec City in September 2003. Thousands of participants from around the world gathered to discuss the fate of the world forest resources. **Gaston Laflamme**, Laurentian Forestry Center, was among the selected few to present a paper at one of the oral sessions. His talk was entitled: “Integrating protection against disease into silviculture practices”.

Richard Hamelin

Mike Hampson was recently asked to re-write the entry in the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau multi-media Crop Protection Compendium for *Synchytrium endobioticum*. The pertinent data sheet was last prepared in 1996. I was able, therefore, to incorporate into the data sheet findings from my researches into the fungus and its symptomatic wart disease of potato. This was an opportunity to bibliographically extol, as it were, the interests of the CPS in publishing much of the new information produced during my researches.

Mike Hampson, CPS Representative for Newfoundland and Labrador
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Dr. Dilantha Fernando, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba attended the 6th International Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria and Biocontrol Conference held in Calicut, Kerela, India from Oct 5-10th and presented three posters on biological control research. Dilantha was also an invited guest of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, India (Oct. 11-14), where he gave a lecture on ‘Biological Control Research in Canada’ and had discussions on strengthening ties between the two universities on common interests in agricultural research, especially disease management in a sustainable context.

HOW I CHOSE TO STUDY SICK PLANTS

The following events have been instrumental in my becoming a plant pathologist. My interest in agriculture did not arise because anyone in my immediate family was an agronomist. However, my father’s grandfather, in Romania, owned a small piece of land and was an orchardist. In fact I’ve been told that my great grandfather even made liquor from his fruit and he thus entertained his neighbors! My dad also had an uncle who migrated to Israel pre-1948, to live and work in clearing of swampland in the northern Galilee area, work that must have been extremely difficult-dealing with the heat and insects!

My father is a retired furrier - he had a retail store in Lethbridge, a city in southern Alberta. During my youth, I was exposed to the agricultural community. This arose due to my dad’s friends and customers and from my being employed in several agricultural jobs. As a boy I always loved nature - bicycling, walking in the hills and fishing with my father (I especially loved the cottage cheese muffins my mother baked for us “fishermen”)! After I graduated public school, I lived on a kibbutz (an agricultural collective) in Israel for six months, learning Hebrew and doing farm-work: picking oranges, tending chickens and irrigating field crops.

This was a very wonderful, happy experience. But I had never heard of the science called plant pathology!

I began my university career undecided on my final goal. While enrolled in a B.Sc. specialization program in botany at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, I completed an introductory course in mycology. The teacher, Dr. Lorene Kennedy and the course content made so much sense to me - it was as if I was on the "same wavelength" as Dr. Kennedy! This was one of the first times that I really felt excited and thoroughly understood everything being taught. I completed two more courses about fungi, from Dr. Kennedy. Many mycological topics fascinated me, including cellular events occurring during hyphal tip extension, and production and release mechanisms associated with basidiomycete sporulation. These spore release mechanisms had been very fascinatingly studied by a Dr. Buller, a Canadian mycological pioneer! I was so excited by the subject that I loved looking through a microscope at various fungi - I especially loved observing slime molds and their cytoplasmic streaming! Next, I enrolled in several plant science courses, one of which was an introduction to Plant Pathology, taught by Dr. Nick Colotelo. Here again, I found subject matter that really excited me and seemed to be fairly easy to understand. I enjoyed talking to Dr. Colotelo about plant diseases. About this time, I took a thoroughly enjoyable course in soil microbiology, taught by Dr. Ted Cook. He was a very entertaining, humorous and knowledgeable teacher. A relatively simple, yet very elegant experiment undertaken by myself in this course, examined the effects of various pesticides on growth of soil bacteria. All these teachers had great impacts on my future education and direction!

About this time I decided to pursue a graduate degree in Plant Pathology. I wanted to specialize in this field. My route to Plant Pathology was guided by these very stimulating teachers and their courses.

And finally, I received great supervision, wisdom and had many fine talks with my M.Sc. supervisor, Dr. Jalpa Tewari at the University of Alberta.

Since completing my degree, I have worked at several different plant disease positions and gained knowledge about many different crops and plant pathogens. I have found plant pathology to be a very challenging and varied field; and would highly recommend this subject to anyone with an interest in agriculture and/or plants.

Albert Calman
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Employment

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

I am seeking employment in Plant Pathology and/or Agriculture; as a Biologist, extension person, laboratory technician/researcher or any other position.

I have a M.Sc. in Plant Pathology, under the excellent supervision of Dr. J.P. Tewari, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

My experiences with plant diseases includes: 1) bacteria, fungi and viruses on potatoes, as a Biologist in a seed potato lab for Agriculture Canada, Winnipeg, MB and as a lab technician at Alberta Agriculture, Edmonton, AB; 2) bacteria, fungi and viruses on tree fruits, horticulture crops, grapes and forages, as an extension Plant Pathologist with the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food, Kelowna, BC; 3) fungi on canola, as a graduate student at the Plant Science Dept. in University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB; and 4) viruses and fungi on legumes and cereals, as a lab technician/researcher at the University of Alberta and at

the Agriculture Canada Cereal Research Centre, Winnipeg.

I am highly adaptable - having worked and being familiar with different diseases, pathogens and crops. My desire is for any type of agriculture/pathology work in the above or any other areas. I am willing to relocate.

Please contact me at aicalman@yahoo.ca; or 204-489-3638.

Thank-you.
Albert Calman
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

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By the time the December issue arrives on your desk it will be January 2004. The plan was to send this issue out prior to the holidays, but I was busy with a number of trips and meetings in late November and December. Are those violins that I hear playing?

Excuses, excuses, excuses! Fortunately, these meetings and trips provided me with the opportunity to share some valuable comradery (and a couple of beers I might add) with plant pathology colleagues. I hope you had a relaxing holiday season and I wish you all the best for 2004. In the spirit of the winter season I thought I would add the photograph below. It depicts a devoted Robin Morrall (the tallest one) on one of his many recent trips flogging the new edition of Diseases of Field Crops in Canada (DFCC). As you can see even a severe prairie snow storm cannot prevent Robin from achieving his mission of a copy of DFCC on every farmer's kitchen table. Actually the photo is a picture of a snowplow for streetcar lines, on Central Avenue in Sutherland, Saskatchewan, c1915. I grew up in Sutherland, which is now part of Saskatoon. Unfortunately, there are too many areas of the prairies with little snow cover; hopefully we get a few of these good old-fashioned prairie snowstorms before next spring! Finally, I would like to sincerely acknowledge the assistance of Roberta Galenzoski and Shaunna Kossatz. Roberta and Shaunna work with me at Lacombe and they have done a wonderful job preparing the Newsletter for distribution to you.

Kelly

