

CPS • SCP News



CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY • SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE

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President's Message/Mot du Président

It is hard to believe that it is March already. It is also hard to believe that the weather has not changed much since I wrote my last President's message. In the December Newsletter, I mentioned that it was -35 in Winnipeg. When I awoke this morning, it was -34, with a -45 wind-chill. It is like time and Winnipeg have frozen, but the calendar says otherwise, even if the weatherman does not agree.



James Menzies
CPS-SCP President/Président

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I am about $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the way through my term as President, and I have to say that it has been a very enjoyable and informative period. I have been very impressed with the work loads carried by some of our members and committees on behalf of the society members. I am also impressed that these people are always in a cheerful mood and enjoy their society work.

Future and Past Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting is coming up in Charlottetown, PEI, at the Delta Prince Edward, June 15 to June 18. By the time you read this, information on our AGM should be posted on the website, so make sure you take a look at it. It should be a

great meeting in Prince Edward Island. Rick Peters and Richard Martin (co-chairs) and their local organizing committee are planning a fun and interesting meeting. There will be a plenary session on "Diagnostics in the Age of Genomics" and a workshop on biocontrol associated with the meeting. The venue is very nice, and we will be meeting in the downtown area of Charlottetown. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at this meeting, so book early and book often.

Currently, I am starting to plan the agenda for the AGM in Charlottetown. I would like to extend to everyone the opportunity to submit agenda items which you may wish to have considered for discussion. You may submit your items for consideration

to any of the board members, and they will pass them on to me.

The local organizing committee for Winnipeg is also working hard to plan our AGM in 2009. We have a very energetic and enthusiastic group willing to work on this committee, and progress is going well. This meeting will also be in June, and more details will follow as the dates get closer.

Since I am dealing with meetings of the CPS, I should also mention that the LAC of Plant Canada 2007 is just about ready to wrap up the books on this meeting. Karen Bailey and her committee did an excellent job of organizing and running Plant Canada 2007. They were also very financially efficient as they made a profit on the meeting. Thanks to Karen and her committee, the CPS will be receiving >\$11,000.00 from the profits of this meeting. Well done!

Nominations

Nominations for awards are being requested by Mike Celetti and the Awards

Committee. The society has a number of awards for which people can be nominated and they are a nice way of recognizing someone for a job well done. We also have Graduate Student Travel Awards for students who would like some help in attending the meeting in Charlottetown. I would encourage everyone to think about their colleagues or students and make the effort to nominate a deserving candidate. The deadline for submission is April 7th and we are hoping to get a number of good nominations.

The nominations committee is also busy coming up with a list of people to replace those who are coming off terms of service on the executive board and other

important standing committees. I believe this year the committee will be looking for a

new Vice President (this person would serve a four year term including President Elect, President and Past President) and a junior director (which would serve a two year term, becoming the senior director in the second year). I would encourage everyone to consider nominating colleagues for these positions, and if you would like to work on a particular committee, contact Bruce Gossen to see if you can join that committee. The list of committees can be found in the Directory of Members. I believe you will find the work rewarding.

Committee Reports

This is a reminder to all committee chairs that annual reports on the activities of your committees should be submitted to the Newsletter for publication prior to the AGM in Charlottetown. Please prepare your reports and have them submitted to

"I have been very impressed with the work loads carried by some of our members and committees on behalf of the society members."

Kelly by May 12th for publication in the June Newsletter.

Membership Renewals

I would like to thank all of our members who have been prompt with renewing their membership for 2008. This helps Khalid get his work done in an organized manner. For those of you, who have not yet renewed your membership for 2008, please submit your renewal form as soon as possible. This cuts down on the work for Khalid and the regional representatives. I would also like to mention that for 2008, all members will be receiving a tax receipt for the entire membership registration fee, including the cost of the journal.

Sustaining Associates

The executive board have decided that we should be pursuing Sustaining Associates more vigorously. The Sustaining Associates of the CPS are an important component of our society. They make a significant contribution by maintaining linkages between our members and their organizations and help to sustain the CPS through their financial contributions. We are always looking for new Sustaining Associates and if you have any suggestions or contacts that you feel may be supportive of the CPS, please forward their contact information to Jim Menzies.

The Glenn Anderson Award

The by-laws concerning this award were changed at the 2007 AGM, giving us the opportunity to offer this award at this year's 100th anniversary of the American Phytopathological Society. The executive board offered \$3,000.00 to the APS to support the Glenn Anderson Lectureship on World Food Security during their meeting. Dr. Ray Martyn, President, APS, has extended his gratitude to the CPS for our offer. The money will likely be applied to the travel cost of Dr. Florence Wambugu. Dr. Wambugu is the CEO of Harvest Biotech International in Kenya, and an authority on the use of

biotechnology for biofortification of food. She will be one of the speakers of the special centennial plenary session "Agriculture, Food Security and Public Health: Global Issues, Global Solutions". You can review her brief bio and talk on the APS website <http://meeting.apsnet.org/default.cfm>. While we appreciate Dr. Martyn's gratitude, I would be remiss if I failed to mention that the CPS holds the money for the Glenn Anderson Award in trust for both the CPS and APS.

Regional Meetings

I was fortunate to be able to attend some of the regional meetings. I was also fortunate enough to be able to have other members of the board attend some regional meetings on my behalf. I had hoped to attend more of the regional meetings than I have, but there are financial and time considerations that must be considered. I enjoyed the meetings that I attended, and heard from others that the meetings I was unable to attend were also informative and enjoyable. There are still some regions that do not hold regular meetings. I would strongly encourage these regions to get organized and hold regular meetings. These meetings are a strong part of our society, and the executive board would like to have every region active in this regard.

I hope that everyone has a good spring, and I will see you in Charlottetown.

On peut difficilement croire que mars est déjà de retour. On peut difficilement croire également que le temps n'a à peu près pas changé depuis mon dernier « Mot du président ». Dans le bulletin d'information de décembre, je disais qu'il faisait -35 °C à Winnipeg. Lorsque je me suis réveillé ce matin, il faisait -34 °C, -45° en tenant compte du facteur éolien! Malgré le fait que le calendrier affiche le contraire, c'est comme si le temps et Winnipeg s'étaient arrêtés, même si le météorologue n'est pas d'accord.

J'en suis environ aux trois quarts de mon mandat à titre de président et je dois avouer que cette période a été des plus agréables et instructives. J'ai été impressionné par la somme de travail accomplie par certains de nos membres et de nos comités pour les membres de la Société canadienne de phytopathologie (SCP). Je suis également impressionné par l'entrain et le dévouement dont ils font preuve en ce qui a trait au travail qu'ils effectuent au sein de la SCP.

Assemblées générales annuelles, futures et passées

L'assemblée générale annuelle se tiendra à Charlottetown (Î.-P.-É.) du 15 au 18 juin, à l'hôtel Delta Prince Edward. Quand vous lirez ceci, l'information concernant l'assemblée générale annuelle devrait

déjà être disponible sur notre site Web, alors assurez-vous de la consulter.

L'assemblée tenue à l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard devrait être marquante. Rick Peters et Richard Martin (coprésidents) ainsi que leur comité local d'organisation planifient une assemblée à la fois divertissante et intéressante. On y tiendra une assemblée plénière traitant des « Diagnostics à l'ère de la génomique » et organisera un atelier portant sur la lutte biologique. Situé au centre-ville de Charlottetown, le lieu choisi pour l'assemblée est très agréable. J'ai vraiment hâte de vous y voir, alors réservez le plus tôt possible et réservez en grand nombre.

En ce moment, j'en suis à planifier l'ordre du jour et je voudrais vous donner à tous l'occasion de soumettre des points que vous aimeriez débattre durant l'assemblée. Pour ce faire, soumettez les points qui vous intéressent à n'importe

quels membres du conseil et ils me les transmettront.

Le comité local d'organisation de Winnipeg travaille aussi activement à la planification de l'assemblée générale annuelle de 2009. Des personnes très énergiques et enthousiastes participent de bon gré à ce comité et le travail progresse à un rythme soutenu. Cette assemblée sera également tenue en juin et de plus amples renseignements suivront à mesure que nous nous rapprocherons des dates fixées.

Étant donné que je m'occupe des réunions de la Société canadienne de phytopathologie, je me dois de souligner que le comité organisateur de Plant Canada 2007 est à la veille de mener cet exercice à terme. Karen Bailey et son

comité ont accompli un excellent travail en ce qui a trait à l'organisation et la tenue

<<J'ai été impressionné par la somme de travail accomplie par certains de nos membres et de nos comités pour les membres de la Société canadienne de phytopathologie (SCP).>>

de Plant Canada 2007. Ils ont été de plus très efficaces sur le plan financier puisque l'assemblée a généré des profits. Grâce à Karen et à son comité, la SCP recevra plus de 11 000,00 \$. Bravo!

Nominations

Mike Celetti et le Comité des prix demandent que des candidatures soient soumises. La Société peut accorder un certain nombre de prix pour lesquels des personnes peuvent être sélectionnées, ce qui est une façon sympathique de souligner leur travail exceptionnel. Nous accordons également des bourses de voyage pour les étudiants diplômés qui désireraient assister à l'assemblée de Charlottetown. Je vous encouragerais tous à penser à vos collègues ou à vos étudiants et à proposer les noms de candidats méritants. La date limite pour

soumettre les candidatures est le 7 avril, et nous espérons recevoir plusieurs propositions intéressantes.

Le comité des nominations s'affaire également à établir une liste de personnes susceptibles de remplacer celles qui terminent leur mandat à titre de membres du conseil d'administration ou d'autres comités permanents importants. Je crois que, cette année, le comité cherchera un nouveau vice-président (cette personne servirait un terme de quatre années, incluant les fonctions de président désigné, président et ancien président) et un directeur adjoint (qui servirait un terme de deux années, devenant directeur principal la deuxième année). J'encouragerais quiconque à soumettre la candidature de collègues pour ces fonctions et, si vous désirez participer à un comité en particulier, contactez Bruce Gossen afin de vérifier si vous pouvez devenir membre. Vous trouverez la liste des comités dans le Répertoire des membres. Je suis convaincu que vous trouverez le travail valorisant.

Rapports des comités

Je tiens à rappeler à tous les présidents de comités que les rapports se rapportant aux activités de vos comités devraient être soumis au bulletin d'information pour publication avant la tenue de l'assemblée de Charlottetown. S'il vous plaît, rédigez vos rapports et soumettez-les à Kelly, au plus tard le 12 mai, pour publication dans le bulletin de juin.

Renouvellement des cotisations

Je voudrais remercier tous ceux de nos membres qui ont fait preuve de diligence en ce qui a trait au renouvellement de leur cotisation pour 2008. Ceci permet à Khalid d'effectuer son travail de façon méthodique. Je prierais ceux de vous qui tardez à renouveler votre cotisation de le faire dans les meilleurs délais afin de réduire la somme de travail de Khalid et des représentants régionaux. Je tiens

également à dire que, pour 2008, tous les membres se verront remettre un reçu aux fins d'impôt couvrant le montant total de la cotisation, incluant le coût de la revue.

Membres bienfaiteurs

Le conseil d'administration a décidé que nous devrions solliciter plus assidûment le soutien des membres bienfaiteurs. Ces derniers sont un élément essentiel de la SCP. Leur collaboration appréciable se distingue sur le plan du maintien des liens qui unissent nos membres à leurs organisations ainsi que sur celui de leurs contributions financières qui aident à soutenir notre Société. Nous sommes constamment à la recherche de nouveaux membres bienfaiteurs et si vous avez des suggestions à nous faire, ou si vous croyez que certains de vos contacts seraient susceptibles d'appuyer la SCP, ayez l'obligeance de transmettre leurs coordonnées à Jim Menzies.

Prix Glenn Anderson

Les règlements administratifs relatifs à ce prix ont été modifiés durant l'assemblée générale annuelle de 2007, ce qui nous donne l'occasion de le présenter, en 2008, dans le cadre des célébrations du 100^e anniversaire de la Société américaine de phytopathologie (SAP). Durant sa réunion, le conseil d'administration a offert 3 000 \$ à la SAP pour soutenir le Fonds de conférence Glenn Anderson sur la sécurité alimentaire dans le monde. M. Ray Martyn, président de la SAP, a témoigné sa reconnaissance à la Société pour sa contribution. De toute évidence, l'argent servira à couvrir les frais de déplacement de M^{me} Florence Wambugu. M^{me} Wambugu est présidente-directrice générale de la société Harvest Biotech International (Kenya) et une sommité dans le domaine de l'utilisation de la biotechnologie appliquée à la biofortification des aliments. Elle participera à titre de conférencière à la session plénière spéciale du centenaire de la SAP dont le thème sera « L'agriculture, la sécurité alimentaire et

la santé publique : problèmes mondiaux, solutions mondiales ». Vous pouvez consulter une courte biographie ainsi qu'une brève allocution de M^{me} Wambugu sur le site de la SAP (<http://meeting.aspnet.org/default.cfm>).

Bien que nous apprécions la reconnaissance de M. Martyn, il serait négligent de ma part de ne pas mentionner que la SCP garde l'argent du prix Glenn Anderson en fiducie pour la SCP et la SAP.

Assemblées régionales

J'ai eu l'occasion d'assister à quelques-unes des assemblées régionales. De plus, certains membres du conseil ont pu assister, à ma place, à d'autres de ces assemblées. J'aurais bien aimé assister à plus d'assemblées régionales, mais j'ai dû tenir compte des considérations financières et temporelles liées à ce genre d'exercice. J'ai apprécié celles auxquelles j'ai assisté et les autres membres m'ont confirmé que les assemblées auxquelles je n'ai pu assister étaient également instructives et agréables.

Il y a encore quelques régions qui ne tiennent pas d'assemblées sur une base régulière. J'encouragerais fortement ces régions à s'organiser et à en tenir. Celles-ci constituent un élément fondamental de notre Société et le conseil d'administration souhaiterait que chaque région joue un rôle actif sur ce plan.

D'ici à ce qu'on se voie à Charlottetown, je vous souhaite un excellent printemps.

Regional Meetings

2007 Maritime Region CPS Meeting held in Charlottetown

Members of the CPS from the Maritime Region came together in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island with other colleagues to share in discussions of current research and fellowship. The meeting was held on November 29, 2007 at the AAFC Crops and Livestock Research Centre. Registered participants from government, university, and industry heard 11 oral presentations (two poster presentations) on various topics in phytopathology during the afternoon. We were pleased and honoured to welcome Dr. Tony Sturz, (Strategic Planning Specialist, Executive Council Office, Government of Prince Edward Island) as our keynote speaker. Dr. Sturz is renowned for his work on bacterial endophytes and their involvement in disease suppression. His presentation was entitled: "**Bacterial root zone communities, endophytes, beneficial allelopathies and plant disease control.**"

The Best Student Paper Award winner was Stephanie Veenhuis-MacNeill for her



Rick Peters, CPS-SCP Maritime Region representative presenting the Best Student Paper Award to Stephanie Veenhuis-MacNeill

presentation on the “Effect of different foliar fungicides on the development of lesions caused by *Alternaria solani* (early blight) and *Alternaria alternata* (brown spot) on potato foliage” (authors S. Veenhuis-MacNeill, R. Coffin, R.D. Peters, G. Wang-Pruski, H.W. Platt, R. Pitblato, T. Hamill, and M. Maynard).

We were also pleased to welcome Dr. Jim Menzies, current president of CPS, and would like to thank him for taking the time to attend our regional meeting. Maintaining this connection with our



Rick Peters, CPS-SCP Maritime Region representative presenting CPS-SCP President Jim Menzies with a small token of appreciation for attending the Maritime regional meeting

national society is an important aspect of our own development as a regional group.

Following the meeting, attendees had dinner at Outriders Pub in Charlottetown and awards were presented to the keynote speaker, CPS president and student award winner (in absentium).

Special thanks to the CPS for financial contributions. We look forward to the

Maritime Region meetings of 2008 to be held in Fredericton, NB. Dr. Xianzhou Nie of the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Potato Research Centre has graciously agreed to host the meeting in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Peters, CPS Maritime Region Rep

Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Ontario Region of the Canadian Phytopathological Society

The Southwestern Ontario Region of the Canadian Phytopathological Society (SORA-CPS) met on Friday, May 11, 2007 at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, in Guelph, ON. The conference theme was “Plant defences to disease” which highlighted research by several plant pathologists in Ontario.

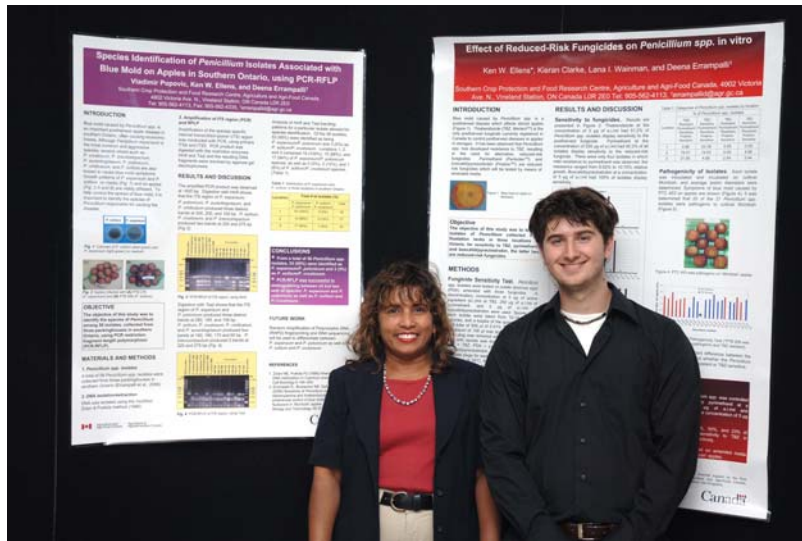
The opening presentation was “Systemic acquired resistance and age-related resistance, two distinct induced resistance pathways that both require salicylic acid” presented by **Robin Cameron**, McMaster University. This was followed by a presentation titled “The chimeric cyclic nucleotide gated ion channel ATCNGC11/12 induces multiple pathogen resistance responses” by **Kiko Yoshioka**, University of Toronto. Plant viruses and disease was represented by the presentation “Plants, viruses and low temperatures, a sickening combination” by **Annette Nassuth**, University of Guelph and the invited presentations were rounded out by **Jane Robb**, University of Guelph, who discussed “Verticillium Defence Genes and Tolerance”.

The program also continued the tradition of featuring short updates on new and re-emerging diseases, including Beechnut canker presented by Richard Wilson, Turfgrass diseases, presented by Catarina S. Jordan, cucumber downy mildew, presented by Mike Celtti and an update on

Actigard, by Harold Wright.

There were 19 posters including nine student posters. The student poster competition is always an important part of the meeting. Poster judges were Sean Westerveld from the University of Guelph and CPS President, Bruce Gossen. The winner of the best student poster competition was Vladimir Popovic . His poster title was, “ Identification of *Penicillium* Isolates Associated with Blue Mold on Apples in Southern Ontario, using PCR-RFLP” by V. Popovic, K. Ellens, and D. Errampalli. Vladimir is a co-op student in Dr. Deena Errampalli’s laboratory at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Research Station in Vineland, Ontario. The second prize in the student poster competition went to J.L Carviel for the poster “ Characterization of the age-

related resistance pathway using *Arabidopsis thaliana* loss of function mutants” by J.L Carviel and R.K. Cameron from McMaster University.



The winner of the best student poster competition Vladimir Popovic and his supervisor Deena Errampalli



Mary Ruth McDonald presented the second prize in the student poster competition to Jessie Carviel (center) accompanied by her supervisor Robin Cameron (right)

A short business meeting finished the formal portion of the program. Mary Ruth McDonald stepped down after four years as Chair of this group. Dr. Ken Conn, AAFC in London, ON, was acclaimed as the new Chair of SORA-CPS. The rest of the meeting consisted of a buffet dinner and time for socializing and meeting new colleagues.

Submitted by Mary Ruth McDonald, past Chair, Southwestern Ontario Region – CPS

Canadian Phytopathological Society-Saskatchewan Regional Group annual meeting

The Canadian Phytopathological Society-Saskatchewan Regional Group annual meeting was held on December 3, 2007 from 9:30 am - 12:15 pm. In all, approximately 45 people attended the meeting. There were 6 oral and 7 poster presentations. Mary Leggett (the President-elect) gave a 10 min presentation about issues related to the Society in general. Ms. Regan Kennedy a MSc. student under Dr. Yangdou Wei in the Department of Biology, University of Saskatchewan received the best student oral presentation award valued at \$100.00 on the following topic **“Autophagy is a susceptibility factor for *Erysiphe cichoracearum* infection in *Arabidopsis thaliana*.”** R. M. Kennedy and Y. Wei.” Mr Zafer Dallal Bashi a Ph.D. student under Drs. R. Rimmer and G. Khachatourians at the University of Saskatchewan received the best student poster award also valued at \$100.00 on the topic **“Regulation of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* polygalacturonase.”** Z. Dallal Bashi, D. Hegedus, R. Rimmer, L. Buchwaldt, and G. Khachatourians.”

Robin Morrall presented the “T.C. Vanterpool Memorial Prize” to Ms Michelle Hubbard who is a student in the Department of Biology under the supervision of Dr. Susan Kaminskyj at the University of Saskatchewan. “The T.C. Vanterpool Memorial Prize is normally presented annually by the Department of Biology in October. It is awarded to a student who attended the University of Saskatchewan in the previous academic year for meritorious performance in the areas of plant pathology or mycology. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for the prize. The prize will consist of a framed certificate and a cheque drawn from accrued interest on the memorial fund.”

In addition, the Plant Disease Sub-Council meeting was held on Dec 4, 2007. A lot of the people who attended the CPS-Saskatchewan Regional Group annual meeting were also present at this meeting. Discussions during the Plant Disease Sub-Council meeting included disease and research updates on cereals, pulses, oilseeds, forages, veggies, fruit and spices. There were also updates from the seed testing labs, the provincial Ag Knowledge Centre, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Pest Management Regulatory Agency, industry and commodity groups.

The next meeting of the CPS-Saskatchewan Regional Group will be held this year in conjunction with the Alberta Plant Pathology Society at the Tropical Inn in Lloydminster, October 20-22, 2008. This meeting will be followed by the Western Forum on Pest Management from October 22-24, 2008.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2008 meeting!

Submitted by

Godfrey Chongo
CPS-Saskatchewan Regional
Representative

Committee and Other Reports

Report of the Nominations Committee

The following nominations for positions within CPS that will be coming vacant at the annual general meeting have been received and are supported by the Nominations Committee.

Executive Board

Vice-President	Jeannie Gilbert
Junior Director	Sheau-Fang Hwang

Standing Committees

Future meetings	Allen Xue
Resolutions	Pervaiz Abbasi
Financial Advisory	Randy Kutcher
Awards	Mary Ruth McDonald
Nominations	Kelly Turkington, Gayle Jespersen

Other nominations for these positions are possible (even encouraged). However, if there is someone that you would like to nominate, the nomination needs to be completed and sent to the Secretary right away to be considered.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Nominations Committee by

Bruce Gossen (Chair)

Awards

CPS Awards Nominations due by April 7, 2008

Please take time to consider and discuss with your CPS colleagues worthy candidates for the awards listed below. Awards will be presented at the CPS Annual Meeting in Prince Edward Island. Nominations must be received by the CPS Awards Committee Chairperson by April 7, 2008. Nominations can be sent to Michael Celetti, CPS Awards Committee Chair at michael.celetti@ontario.ca.

There are several types of awards sponsored by CPS. These Awards represent an important means of acknowledging the contributions of our members to our society, to the science of plant pathology and to the community in which we live.

1. Honorary Member

The nominee can be any person who has rendered eminent service to plant pathology and shall normally not be a member of the Society.

2. Fellow

Nominees shall be regular members of the Society who have rendered outstanding service to the Society and to the profession of plant pathology.

3. Award for Outstanding Research

This award is intended to recognize outstanding research in plant pathology in Canada. As the Society's most prestigious award, consideration is given to research involving new concepts, the discovery of new phenomena, or principles in plant pathology or novel application of existing principles.

4. Outstanding Young Scientist Award

The award is intended to recognize the contribution of a junior scientist, judged to have had a major impact on plant pathology in Canada.

5. Graduate Student Travel Award

The purpose of this award is to provide reimbursement to selected graduate students to attend the Annual Meeting of the CPS. Two travel awards are presented annually by the CPS, each for a value of \$300 per student.

6. Achievements in Plant Disease Management

The award is intended to recognize the contributions by industry, or not-for-profit agencies, for innovative research, development of products and technologies, and/or transfer of information for the benefit of disease management in Canada.

A full description of each award, criteria and guidelines on nominating a colleague for a CPS Award or for students to apply for the Graduate Student Travel Award can be found on the CPS Website at <http://www.cps-scp.ca/awards.htm>.

Announcements



CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING - 2008

The Delta Prince Edward Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

June 15-18, 2008

**Come to Charlottetown to meet your colleagues and to hear the latest in
plant disease research and technical developments**

Date: June 15-18, 2008

Location: Delta Prince Edward Hotel, in downtown Charlottetown

Schedule: (Note: times are approximate and will be finalized closer to the meeting date)

June 14	Financial Advisory Committee meeting	7-9 pm
June 15	Board meeting	9 am – 3 pm
	Registration	6-8 pm
	Reception-Cheese and Hor's d'Oeuvres (cash bar)	7 pm
June 16	Registration	8 am – 4 pm
	Plenary Session	8 am – noon
	Concurrent Sessions	1-3 pm
	Poster Session 1	3-5 pm
June 17	Registration	8 am – 4 pm
	Concurrent Sessions	8 am – noon
	BioControl Symposium	8 am – noon
	Concurrent Sessions	1-3 pm
	Poster Session 2	3-5 pm
	Banquet	6 pm
June 18	Annual General Meeting	8-10 am
	Concurrent Sessions	10:30 am-12:30 pm
	Agricultural Tour	1-4 pm

Registration: Please follow the links on the CPS website for the Registration Form. Registration fees are \$400.00 prior to April 25, 2008 (\$300.00 for students) and \$450.00 after this date. Payment may be made by credit card or cheque. Registration fees will cover the Reception on June 15, lunches on June 16 and 17, the Banquet on June 17 and

breakfast on June 18. Please indicate whether additional Reception and/or Banquet tickets are needed for accompanying persons and note this on the form. Also please account for abstract publication fees on the form. Also, please indicate whether you will be making a presentation (oral and/or poster) and provide the title for program planning.

Deadline for receipt of Registration Forms and Presentation titles is APRIL 25, 2008.

Please send completed forms electronically to Richard Martin at martinra@agr.gc.ca

Accommodation: Each participant is responsible for their own accommodations. A block of 50 rooms has been reserved until April 25, 2008 at the Delta Prince Edward at a preferred rate. Book early as Charlottetown is a busy tourist destination. As you know we need to fill these rooms to make our budget.

Please identify yourself as a participant with the Canadian Phytopathological Society meeting.

Phone: 1.800.268.1133 or 902.566.2222

<http://www.deltaprinceedward.pe.ca/>

Other Hotel Options for CPS Annual Meeting 2008 in Charlottetown

Downtown Charlottetown

Delta Prince Edward, 18 Queen St. (902-566-2222) **(Meeting Location)**

Best Western, 238 Grafton St. (902-892-2461)

Inns on the Great George, 58 Great George (902-892-0606)

Rodd Charlottetown, 75 Kent St. (902-894-7371)

Dundee Arms Inn, 200 Pownal St. (902-892-2496)

Quality Inn on the Hill, 150 Euston St. (902-894-8572)

Heritage Harbour House, 9 Grafton St. (902-892-6633)

Outskirts of Charlottetown

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites, 200 Trans Canada Hwy. (902-892-1201)

Rodd Royalty Inn and Suites, Trans Canada Hwy. (902-894-8566)

Super 8 Charlottetown, 15 York Point Rd. (902-892-7900)

Abstract Format and Submission Guidelines

Please Note: Abstracts will be compiled into a conference proceedings book which will be made available at the meeting. As well, all abstracts will be published in a future volume of the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology. To ensure that the abstracts have a uniform format for rapid publication, please adhere to the following guidelines for submitting abstracts:

http://www.cps-scp.ca/Abstracts_CPS2006.htm

Submission Procedure: Please E-mail your completed abstract as an attachment by May 9, 2008 to Richard Martin (martinra@agr.gc.ca).

Presentation Guidelines: Each registrant can contribute one oral paper only. Additional papers by a registrant are welcome, but should be in poster format to allow maximum diversity in the schedule of speakers. The organizing committee may request a change in paper format (from oral to poster or vice versa) to facilitate conference scheduling.

Time allotment: A maximum of 15 minutes will be allotted for oral presentations. The session chair will manage the presenter's use of the time allotted to provide an opportunity for questions and discussion where warranted.

AV Resources: Electronic slideset presentations should be prepared using **Microsoft Powerpoint** (please use versions prior to those released in 2007) and should be preloaded onto a **CD or memory stick**. Each presenter should submit their presentation to the audio-visual co-ordinator at least one hour before the start of the session, but an even earlier submission would be preferred.

Posters: Posters should be a maximum of 3 feet in height and 3.5 feet in width. Backboards and Velcro fasteners for mounting posters will be provided.

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: MAY 9, 2008

Accompanying Persons:

Information packages, resources and guidance will be available to tailor-make your Island holiday. Whether it's shopping in downtown Charlottetown, seeing a performance at Confederation Centre of the Arts, taking a double-decker bus tour or harbour boat cruise, following the trail of Anne of Green Gables, or visiting one of our many Island beaches, there are activities sure to appeal to the entire family. For the more adventurous, sea kayaking, deep sea fishing and cycling excursions are options.

Meeting Highlights

Cheese and Hor's d'Oeuvres Reception with Cash Bar

- come mingle with friends and colleagues and enjoy some Maritime hospitality

Plenary Session "Diagnostics in the Age of Genomics"

- an excellent line-up of speakers has been confirmed to provide the latest in research on pathogen detection and molecular characterization

BioControl Symposium

- organized by the Canadian Forum for Biological Control, this symposium is sure to attract a lot of interest. The session theme is "Development of microbial pesticides – from research to application."

Concurrent and Poster Sessions

- the sharing of scientific research among colleagues is the highlight of any meeting. Given that 2008 is the International Year of the Potato, and the meeting takes place in Prince Edward Island, a session around potato diseases will be sure to attract attention!

Banquet

- the annual awards banquet is always a treat. This year, sample Maritime cuisine and be entertained by the Cheveries, Celtic ladies with strong ties to agricultural research and extension!

Agricultural Tour

- if there is interest, a tour of agricultural research facilities and fields is being planned for the afternoon of the final meeting day

We look forward to seeing you in Charlottetown!

Local Arrangements Committee

Richard Martin, Rick Peters, Solke De Boer, Huimin Xu, Sean Li, Larry Hale, Marleen Clark, David Thompson



Canadian Phytopathological Society Membership Renewal for 2008

Thank you for all those who renewed their membership, and welcome to the new members in the CPS for 2008. For those who have not renewed their memberships yet, and for potential new members, please send your membership application as soon as possible. Prompt renewal will avoid interruption in services and insure that your name and information is included in the 2008 CPS Directory. Please go to the CPS website cps-scp.ca and find the application under membership. Call me at 204-822-7220 or email at krashid@agr.gc.ca

Respectfully

Khalid Rashid, Membership Secretary

Submission Deadline for the June 2008 issue of CPS - SCP News

PLEASE NOTE: The submission deadline for the **June issue** of CPS - SCP News is **May 12, 2008**. **If you send photographs for publication in the CPS-SCP News please ensure that you indicate that all individuals appearing in the photographs have given permission for their photographs to appear in the newsletter. Photographs will not be published if permission has not been obtained from the individuals involved.**

Canadian Phytopathological Society

Registration - 2008 Annual Meeting

The Delta Prince Edward Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI
June 15-18

First Name: _____ Last Name _____
Title: _____ Company/Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Registration (before April 25, 2008)	\$ 400	_____
Late Registration (after April 25, 2008)	\$ 450	_____
Student (before April 25, 2008)	\$ 300	_____
Student Late Registration	\$ 450	_____

One day registration \$ 225 (specify day(s)) _____

This will include coffee breaks and lunch but not reception or banquet

Additional Banquet ticket	\$ 75	x _____	\$ _____
Additional Reception Ticket	\$ 35	x _____	\$ _____

Abstract fee for publication in CJPP \$ 35.00 each \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Payment information: _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ AmericanExpress _____ Check

Card No. _____ Expiry Date: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

I will be submitting an abstract for _____ poster and or _____ oral presentation

Proposed title and presenting author:

I am a student [] and wish []/ do not wish [] to be part of the poster and/or oral presentation competition.

For further information please contact the LAC, Richard Martin at martinra@agr.gc.ca or Rick Peters at petersr@agr.gc.ca

La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie

Enregistrement - 2008 Réunion Annuelle

L'hôtel Delta Prince Edward, Charlottetown, IPE

Le 15-18 juin 2008

Prénom: _____ Nom de famille _____

Titre: _____ Organization: _____

Adresse: _____

Ville: _____

Province: _____

Code Postale: _____

Téléphone: _____ Télécopieur: _____

Adresse électronique: _____

Enregistrement (avant le 25 avril, 2008)	400 \$	_____	\$
Enregistrement en retard (après le 25 avril 2008)	450 \$	_____	\$
Étudiant (avant le 25 avril, 2008)	300 \$	_____	\$
Enregistrement en retard pour les Étudiants	450 \$	_____	\$

Enregistrement par journée 225 \$ (spécifier la journée) _____ \$
Le frais inclus café et déjeuner mais ça exclus la réception et le banquet.

Billet supplémentaire pour le banquet	75 \$	x _____	_____	\$
Billet supplémentaire pour le Réception	35 \$	x _____	_____	\$

Frais abstraits pour publication dans le CJPP 35.00 \$ _____ \$
TOTAL: _____ \$

Paiement: ____ Visa ____ Mastercard ____ AmericanExpress ____ Chèque

Numéro de carte de crédit. _____ Date

d'expiration: _____

Nom de titulaire de la carte: _____

Signature de titulaire de la carte: _____

Je soumettrai une abstrait pour _____ affiche et/ou _____ présentation orale

Le titre proposé et l'auteur qui présent:

Je suis un étudiant est je [] besoin [] n'ont pas besoin de participer dans la compétition des affiches et les présentations orale.

Pour les autres renseignements contacter le LAC : Richard Martin à martinra@agr.gc.ca ou Rick Peters à petersr@agr.gc.ca

Science Intelligence Reports

Plant Health Risk Assessment Unit (PHRA) -, Science Advice Division, Science Strategies Directorate, Science Branch, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, 3851 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2H 8P9

The Plant Health Risk Assessment Unit (PHRA) biologists, Canadian Food Inspection Agency routinely scan the recently published scientific (and other) literature for any new plant pest (pathogen, insect, weed, etc.) information that might be of possible regulatory significance or interest to Canada's national Plant Health staff (i.e., Plant Health Division, laboratory staff, regional program officers, etc.). The "Science Intelligence Report" was developed as a mechanism to share this type of information.

The main emphasis of this report is to highlight and share significant new pest-related information/publications relative to current or potential quarantine pests for Canada. For example, items could include: new and emerging pest situations in Canada and abroad; new geographic records or pest outbreaks in previously uninfested areas; new host records; new treatment or diagnostic methods; new pest introduction pathways; border interceptions, etc. Further information can be obtained from Ian MacLachy at macLachyi@inspection.gc.ca.

A listing of Plant Pathology Reports from recent issues of the Science Intelligence Report:

PHRA - Science Intelligence Report #42, 10 Jan. 2008

- (1) Another (the 8th) PCN-Infested Potato Field Found in Idaho (Dec., 2007)
- (2) First Finding of a *Phytophthora alni* Variant Within North America.

- (3) Improving Detection of *Phytophthora ramorum* at the Field Level.
- (4) First record of *Phytophthora ramorum* in Lithuania.
- (5) More on *Phytophthora ramorum* Detection and Identification.
- (6) Finding of Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid on Ornamental Solanaceae in Italy - New Host Record.
- (7) Overview on Plum Pox Virus Situation in Norway.
- (8) Host Range Studies on *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Race 3, Biovar 2).
- (9) Update on "Bleeding Canker" of Chestnut Trees in Europe.
- (10) New Real-Time PCR Test to Detect 'Candidatus Phytoplasma mali'.

PHRA - Science Intelligence Report #43, 13 Feb. 2008

- (1) *Phytophthora kernoviae* Found on *Vaccinium* (UK).
- (2) First Report of *Phytophthora kernoviae* in Scotland.
- (3) Eradicating *Phytophthora ramorum* in Potting Media or Soil.
- (4) First Report of *Phytophthora ramorum* Foliar Infection of Coast Live Oaks in Nature.
- (5) *Viburnum* - Susceptibility to *Phytophthora ramorum*.
- (6) Shift in Virulence of Soybean Cyst Nematode is Associated with Use of Resistance from PI 88788.
- (7) 'Candidatus Phytoplasma pini' in *Pinus sylvestris* Trees in Poland.
- (8) New Host Plant Records for Pospiviroids.

Science Scan, a new publication produced by Science Strategies Directorate.

For the past several years, the Plant Health Risk Assessment Unit (PHRA) biologists have been routinely scanning the recently published scientific (and other) literature for any new plant pest (pathogen, insect, weed, etc.) information that might be of possible regulatory significance or interest to Canada's national Plant Health staff. The "Science Intelligence Report" (SIR) was developed in 2004 as a mechanism to highlight and share within CFIA any significant new pest-related information/publications relative to current or potential quarantine pests for Canada.

As a result of the positive feedback the report received over the years, a decision was made to broaden the scope of that report. The "Science Scan" will now replace the Scientific Intelligence Report, building and expanding upon the Plant health focus and elements of the SIR to now also include issues related to other areas of the CFIA mandate, in particular animal health.

Thank you

Ci-joint, vous trouverez la première édition du Compte rendu scientifique, une nouvelle publication produite par la Direction des stratégies scientifiques.

Au cours des dernières années, les biologistes du Service de l'évaluation des risques phytosanitaires (SERP) analysent régulièrement les ouvrages scientifiques récemment publiés (entre autres) afin d'y relever tout renseignement sur les nouveaux phytoravageurs (pathogènes, insectes, mauvaises herbes, etc.) qui pourrait être utile sur le plan de la réglementation ou intéresser le personnel

chargé de la protection des végétaux à l'échelle nationale. Le rapport sur les renseignements scientifiques (RRS) est un mécanisme qui avait été créé en 2004 pour signaler et diffuser au sein de l'ACIA toute nouvelle information ou publication pertinente sur des ravageurs actuellement ou potentiellement justiciables de quarantaine au Canada.

Étant donné les commentaires positifs qu'a suscités le rapport au fil des ans, on a décidé d'élargir la portée de ce dernier. Le Compte rendu scientifique remplacera dorénavant le rapport sur les renseignements scientifiques, qui donnera encore plus de renseignements sur la Protection des végétaux que le RRS, mais aussi des renseignements sur d'autres domaines relevant du mandat de l'ACIA, plus particulièrement la santé des animaux.

Merci

Jennifer Hyatt
Animal Health Analyst and Advice Officer
Animal Health Risk Assessment Unit,
Science Branch,
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
Phone: (613) 228-6698 ext. 4922

**Science Scan 01-2008, March 17, 2007
Published by the Science Strategies
Directorate, Canadian Food Inspection
Agency**

PLANT HEALTH ARTICLES:

- 1) Survival of *Tilletia indica* (Karnal bunt) Teliospores Under European Soil Conditions
- 2) Recovery of *Phytophthora ramorum* following Exposure to Temperature Extremes

- 3) Evaluation of Chemical Agents for the Control of *Phytophthora ramorum* on Nursery Crops
- 4) New Probe for Specific and Sensitive Detection of 'Candidatus phytoplasma mali' (Apple proliferation phytoplasma)
- 5) Update on Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid (PSTVd) on Ornamental Solanaceae in Europe
- 6) New Survey Tool for Emerald Ash Borer Detection (USA)
- 7) Nematode Shows Promise as a Biological Control Agent for the Leek Moth
- 8) New Distribution Records for the Smaller Japanese Cedar Longhorned Beetle in the US
- 9) First Report of Tobacco Rattle Virus on Potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*) in Michigan
- 10) Virulent Stem Rust of Wheat Race TTKS ('Ug99') Spreads to Iran
- 4) Nouvelle sonde permettant une détection spécifique et sensible du 'Candidatus phytoplasma mali' (phytoplasme de la prolifération du pommier)
- 5) Mise à jour sur la présence du viroïde de la filiosité des tubercules de la pomme de terre (PSTVd) chez des solanacées ornementales en Europe
- 6) Un nouvel outil de détection de l'agrile du frêne aux États-Unis
- 7) Un nématode semble prometteur comme agent de lutte biologique contre la teigne du poireau
- 8) Nouvelles aires de distribution du longicorne japonais du cèdre aux États-Unis
- 9) Première mention du virus du bruissement du tabac (TRV) chez la pomme de terre (*Solanum tuberosum*) au Michigan
- 10) Propagation en Iran de la souche virulente TTKS (« Ug99 ») de la rouille de la tige du blé

Compte rendu scientifique 01-2008, 17 mars 2008
Publié par la Direction des stratégies scientifiques, Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

ARTICLES SUR LA PROTECTION DES VÉGÉTAUX :

- 1) Survie des téliospores du *Tilletia indica* (carie de Karnal) dans les conditions de sol d'Europe
- 2) Rétablissement du *Phytophthora ramorum* après exposition à des températures extrêmes
- 3) Évaluation d'agents chimiques pour la lutte contre le *Phytophthora ramorum* dans les cultures de pépinière

The China-Japan Pan Asia Pacific Mycology Forum, Changchun, 2008

The Mycology Society of China and the Mycological Society of Japan are jointly sponsoring a meeting to be held in northeastern China. The organizing committee warmly invites you to attend the China-Japan Pan Asia Pacific Mycology Forum, Changchun, China in 2008, July 28 to August 5. The forum will provide an opportunity for sharing information on all aspects of mycology and foster constructive interaction between participants from all over the world. The working language of this conference will be English.

The conference will host six symposia: (1) Mycotoxins, (2) Edible and medicinal mushrooms, (3) Phylogeny and taxonomy of fungi, (4) Ecology of fungi, (5) Molecular biology and genetics, and (6) Medical mycology. There will also be five workshops: (1) Identification of clinically important micro-fungi (*Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, yeasts etc.), (2) Identification of powdery mildew and rusts and other plant pathogens, (3) Identification of slime molds, (4) Biology of entomogenous fungi, and (5) Methods for molecular phylogeny.

Scientific sessions will take place from 28-31 July, followed by an optional Changchun city visit, and a foray to the Changbai Mountain nature preserve (2-5 August). Abstracts are due by 15 April. For more details, please see <http://www.junwusuo.com>, or email yuli996@126.com or puliu1982@yahoo.com.

5th International Congress of Nematology - Brisbane 2008

5th International Congress of Nematology
Where: Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Dates: 13 – 18 July 2008
Website: <http://www.5icn.org/>

Registration and Call for Oral and Poster Presentation Abstracts are available on the website.

Dates to remember:

Abstracts for Oral Presentations and Poster Presentations due by Monday 31 March 2008

Notification of acceptance of abstracts for Oral Presentations and Poster Presentations Wednesday 30 April 2008

Early registration by 31 March 2008

Standard registration before 1 June 2008

Full registration fee after 1 June 2008.

Convenor: Dr Mike Hodda, President
Australasian Association of Nematologists
Mike.Hodda@csiro.au.

Contact: Sally Brown
sally.brown@uq.net.au.

The International Symposium “FROM SEED TO PASTA: THE DURUM WHEAT CHAIN. Multidisciplinary approaches for a more sustainable and high-quality durum production”

I am pleased to inform you of the International Symposium on durum wheat from June 30-July 3, 2008 in Bologna, Italy.

There is a session on Biotic stresses on July 1 and more information can be found at the symposium website (<http://www.fromseedtopasta2008.it/>).

Thank you very much and best regards,

Etienne Duveiller

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CIMMYT Global Wheat Program
Head Wheat Pathology
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Mexico
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Book Review

GLOBAL BIOCONTROL ADVENTURES

Eschewing a dry, purely academic format, editors Vincent, Goettel, and Lazarovits have deftly distilled 44 science-based contributions into 44 concise, informative “adventures” (their term) in *BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE*. The hardbound work, subtitled “Case Studies from Around the World,” presents a realistic picture of scientific perseverance and tenacity yielding, in some cases, notable achievement, or conversely encountering disheartening impediments. The selected studies, contributed by a global contingent of scientists, have been edited into absorbing chapters devoid of jargon, stripped to the essentials, and often touching on the human, economic, and entrenched mindset realities of discovering, refining, and attempting to commercialize biocontrol systems. The 456-page, 2007 work includes a tipped in color multi-photo section as well as numerous black/white illustrations throughout. There are many publications on the biocontrol bookshelf, but for readers with an interest in biocontrol, a chunk of its history, and a taste for human and scientific adventure, this

2007 title stands out as a highly palatable and fascinating “read.”

From IPMnet.
IPMnet@science.oregonstate.edu Issue
#160 January/February 2008.

International Corner

Phytopathology and Phytopathologists in Egypt

By

Nehal S. El-Mougy Ph.D.
National Research Centre, Egypt
Email: nehal_nrc@yahoo.com

Dr Nehal S. El-Mougy is a professor at the National Research Centre, Cairo Egypt, and is a 1 year invited member sponsored by the Manitoba Branch of the CPS-SCP. Dr El-Mougy graciously accepted the invitation to write an article for the CPS-SCP Newsletter on Egyptian Agriculture and Phytopathology in Egypt.

The area of agricultural land in Egypt is confined to the Nile Valley and the delta, with a few oases and some arable land in Sinai. The total cultivated land is 3.1million ha, representing only 3 percent of the total land area. The entire crop area is irrigated, except for some rain-fed areas along the Mediterranean coast. Over the past four decades, an area of 0.4 million ha of reclaimed land has been added to agricultural area. The landholdings are fragmented, with the average size of 1 ha per farm. The total area cropped annually is about 4.8 million ha. Egypt has an arid climate with an annual average rainfall ranging from 60 to 190 mm along the Mediterranean coast, 25 to 60 mm in the Nile delta, and less than 25 mm in upper Egypt and adjacent areas. The climate is generally very uniform with long and sunny days. The

Nile river is an exceptional source of water, and the soil along the Nile is generally of high fertility.

Egypt's total agricultural crop production has increased by more than 20 percent in the past decade. During the same period, the rate of population growth has increased at a slightly higher rate than the increase in crop production. The most important crops grown in Egypt are discussed briefly below.

Cereal crops. Rice is grown on nearly 210,000 ha, and is considered the second most important export crop after cotton. Wheat is the major winter cereal crop and the third major crop in terms of area planted (~252,000 ha). Maize is the second most important crop (315,000 ha) with ~50 percent of its production is used for livestock and poultry feed.

Fiber crops. Cotton has traditionally been the most important fiber crop in Egypt and the leading agricultural export crop.

Oilseed crops. In addition to Cotton and Corn, groundnuts at 45,000 ha, sunflower at 32,000 ha, sesame at 30,000 ha, and soybean at 26,000 ha are the major oilseed crops.

Sugar crops. Sugar cane is the main sugar crop in upper Egypt. About 90 percent of the yield is used for sugar extraction. Sugar beet also grows in large areas in the Nile delta, and contributes to the sugar industry in Egypt.

Food legumes. These include a number of bean crops that are used for human consumption, such as broad beans and soybeans.

Forage crops. Egyptian clover, berseem, is the major winter forage crop cultivated in the Nile Valley and delta. It is the most widely grown field crop and occupies an area which totals 0.5 million ha.

Fruits. Citrus, primarily oranges that represent 85 percent of total citrus production, makes up 50 percent of total fruit production. The fruit-planted area has expanded over the last three decades to reach about 84,000 ha. Other subtropical fruits are also grown in Egypt, including grapes, stone fruits and pome fruits.

Vegetables. Tomatoes are grown in three seasons - winter, summer and autumn - on about 3 percent of Egypt's total planted area. Losses in tomato crops have been large as a result of tomato leaf curl virus, early and late blight, and nematodes. Potatoes are the second most important vegetable crop after tomatoes, both in terms of cash value and total tonnage produced.

Historical background

The first school of agriculture in Egypt was established in 1869 and the first directorate of agriculture in 1875. During the 19th century, agricultural research (AR) was carried out by the Egyptian Royal Society, and as early as 1897, a number of experimental farms were established at various locations. A royal decree established the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) in 1913. The Cotton Research Council was created in 1919 and included plant, chemistry and pest experts in cotton. A presidential decree issued in 1957 established the bases for scientific research and stated that research departments were to be formed within the different ministries and government agencies. The major departments in MOA were Agriculture, Horticulture, Plant Protection, Soil, Animal Production, Veterinary Laboratories and Seed Production. These research departments were reorganized in 1971 into the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR) which was later (1983) renamed the Agricultural Research Center (ARC), and evolved as the major institution for agricultural research and extension in Egypt. In 1939 the Desert Institute was

established to explore the desert, evaluate and develop its rich natural resources, and in 1990 this became the Desert Research Center (DRC), and with new structures, laws and bylaws

Phytopathology in Egypt

One of the major obstacles facing the production of more food for Egypt's fast-growing population is the damage caused by pests. The wide distribution, extensive host range and involvement with other micro-organisms in disease complexes put plant diseases on top of the list of plant pests affecting agricultural production in the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) encourages farmers to control nematodes in vegetable crops, citrus, grapes, cotton and soybeans and to follow the recommendations of the Ministerial Higher Committee for Pest Management. Pesticide field trials are conducted every year under the supervision of MOA and in cooperation with many faculties of agriculture and research institutions for the assessment of crop losses and to provide new recommendations for plant pathogens control. Fungicide and Nematicide alternatives are also taken into consideration.

Training of agricultural engineers involved in the field of plant protection and pest control has become the concern of MOA. A two-week training course in the different plant protection disciplines (insects, nematodes, mites, diseases, weeds) is held annually at different universities and research institutions. Agricultural engineers as well as teachers at agricultural technical high schools attend this training course.

Special units belong to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of high education and scientific research, through its experiment stations and Plant Pathology laboratories, provide the service of plant diseases diagnosis, issues the

necessary recommendations for control measures, and follows up on their applications.

Phytopathological research

There are three sectors in which phytopathological research, teaching and extension fall: Egyptian universities, the Agricultural Research Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture (ARC/MOA), and the National Research Centre of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (NRC/Ministry of high education and scientific research). The 13 universities in Egypt include 14 faculties of agriculture in which phytopathology is taught to undergraduate and postgraduate students. There are several trained phytopathologists in Egypt distributed among the universities, ARC and NRC as follows: Cairo University (Giza); Fayoum University; Ain Shams University; Assiut University; South Valley ; Tanta University (Kafr El-Sheikh); Mansoura University; Zagazig University; Zagazig University (Banha branch), Menia University; Menofia University; Suez Canal University; Al-Azhar University; Alexandria University ; Agricultural Research Centre; Desert Institute and National Research Centre. Most plant pathologists have master's and doctoral degrees and are employed by colleges and universities, state and federal government institutes.

Egyptian Phytopathological Society

The Egyptian phytopathologists have developed a keen interest in forming the Egyptian Phytopathological Society (EPS). A Temporary Council was formed in 1996 to establish the society, and the EPS was formed thereafter. Acknowledgement should be given to the first head of the society Professor A. El-Helaly (Fac. Agric. Alexandria Univ.) who devoted time and effort to initiate the establishment of the society, and start a school of phytopathology in Egypt at that time, and to Professor M. Fahim, present president (Fac. Agric. Cairo Univ.). The ESP

publishes the Egyptian Journal of Phytopathology (EJP), promotes research in plant pathology, facilitates communication between members and with other scientific societies of mutual interests, organizes scientific conferences and symposia, and provides services to all the North African and Mediterranean countries as a member of Mediterranean Phytopathological Union. The EPS also offers advanced training for professional, graduate and postdoctoral research fellows. Such technical training programmes increases the capabilities of national research systems, and could produce new strategies for plant diseases management.

One of the main objectives of the EPS is development of new and innovative ways to control plant diseases which is a constant challenge for plant pathologists. Plant diseases may be managed by altering the host plant, the pathogen, and/or the environment. Examples include growing resistant plant varieties, planting pathogen-free seed or stock, applying a biological control agent, modifying environmental conditions to decrease disease, and using plant medicines that inhibit or kill the pathogen without harming the plant or the environment. The society also organizes annual meetings, workshops and a biennial conference in addition to publishing two issues of "Egyptian Journal of Phytopathology" per year (website: <http://www.ejp.eg.net>), through which phytopathologists from different countries can exchange information that contributes to strengthening their national systems and encourages work towards the objective of plant pathology management.

The present EPS Council is as follows:

President: Prof. Mostafa M. Fahim
Fac. Agric. Cairo Univ., Giza, Egypt.
Vice president: Prof. Abdel-Rahman
A. Aly, Agric. Res. Centre, Giza,
Egypt.

Treasure: Prof. Farouk M. Barakat
Fac. Agric. Cairo Univ., Giza, Egypt.
Secretary General: Shaban M.
Khalid.

At present the ESP membership covered more than thousand phytopathologists throughout Egypt and internationally. EPS welcomes phytopathologists from all over the world to its membership. For subscription process (application form, membership fees, payment way, journal issues etc.) to the society you can contact the administration group:

- Prof. Farouk M. Barakat (P.O. Box 198, Orman, Giza 12612, Egypt).
- Prof. Mokhtar M. Abdel-Kader (email: mokh_nrc@yahoo.com)
- Prof. Ahmed M.A. Ashour (email: ashour57@yahoo.com)

Or

You can contact the society through the following email addresses:
ashour57@yahoo.com and
mokh_nrc@yahoo.com

The society's Website is undergoing development at the present time.

Biotechnology in Egypt

Egypt leads the Middle East and the North Africa regions in the development of agricultural biotechnology. The Ministry of Agriculture is a strong supporter of biotechnology. Egypt is a large consumer of agricultural products (such as corn, soybeans, and soy meal) derived through modern biotechnology and imported from the United States and Argentina. The government continues to maintain a general import policy that allows imports so long as the product imported is also consumed in the countries of origin.

Egypt has not produced any commercial biotechnology crops; however, the Agricultural Genetic Engineering Research Institute (AGERI) is developing a

number of genetically modified (GM) products for commercialization by working with leading biotechnology companies and universities in the United States. These crops are tuber moth-resistant potatoes, virus-resistant squash and tomatoes, corn borer-resistant maize and drought-tolerant wheat. Through collaboration with Monsanto, AGERI has developed an insect-resistant long-staple GM cotton strain.

Despite the relatively advanced research and development in biotechnology in Egypt, public awareness about biotechnology is very limited and often either misconceived or misunderstood. Egyptian government leaders recognize the importance of biotechnology as a tool for national and global development and have set excellence in biotechnology and genetic engineering as a national goal.

People and Travel

Dilantha Fernando, Professor, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba was invited by the United Nations Development Programme and the University Grants Commission of the Ministry of Higher Education in Sri Lanka to work at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, the country's premier university as a UN expert for one month. Dilantha was involved in training, teaching and research on pesticide-free methods of disease and pest management to reduce environmental impacts caused by use of pesticides in agriculture under the poverty alleviation program in Sri Lanka.

Dilantha Fernando, Professor, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba was an invited speaker at the Second Asian Congress of Mycology and Plant Pathology held in Hyderabad, India

in December 2007. The title of his presentation was "Bacterial secondary metabolites in disease suppression and their mechanisms in plant health promotion". The presentation was co-authored with Dr. Teri de Kievit, Department of Microbiology, University of Manitoba.

Employment wanted

Available for a position in plant protection

Mr. Habibullah Shinwari holds an M.Sc. in Plant Pathology and is looking for a full time or part time job in the area of Plant protection. The following outlines Mr. Shinwari's qualifications & experience:

- Masters Degree, Science, Agriculture & Plant pathology
- 15 years experience organizing & leading extensive research projects.
- Experience in dealing with government officials internationally.
- Trained and supervised staff/workers in research & technical issues.
- Experience in handling and applying insecticides, fungicides, herbicides & biologicals.
- Extensive experience in plant pathology, entomology, floriculture and landscape.
- Excellent interpersonal, management and organizational skills.
- Comprehensive knowledge of current industry safety standards.

I would be pleased to provide a detailed Resume and to discuss these qualifications with you in greater detail. Please Contact me at the following address if you have an opening for a dedicated and active employee.

Habibullah Shinwari
#E-8,6961 Hall Avenue, Burnaby BC. V5E 3A8
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