

Southwestern Ontario Regional Group of the CPS (SORA-CPS) Meeting Report 2014

On November 7, 2014, Southwestern Ontario Regional Association of the CPS (SORA-CPS) held its annual meeting from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at Best Western Stone Ridge Inn & Conference Centre, 6675 Burtwistle Lane, London, Ontario. The meeting was attended by over 40 attendees including students, plant pathologists, researchers, extension specialists and industry representatives. The program for the meeting included three invited talks and 12 poster presentations on a wide range of phytopathological topics. The organizers thank BASF for their sponsorship to supplement student registration fees and thank Syngenta for sponsoring the student best poster cash prizes.

Registration with coffee and cookies started at 9:30 am.

Dr. Ken Conn, Regional Representative of SORA-CPS and CPS Treasurer (2012-) presented opening remarks and welcomed the participants to SORACPS annual meeting. Dr. Deena Errampalli (CPS President) brought greetings from the CPS Board of Directors and CPS membership to SORA-CPS. She provided an update on national topics. The CPS has successfully transitioned to the new Canada not for-profit Corporations Act in September 2014. She highlighted other initiatives that were introduced to encourage member participation. Beginning in 2015, technicians can now become members of the CPS at a cost of 50% of the regular member rate. Student members will pay registration fees at 50% of the regular member rate at the CPS annual meetings. Also highlighted were student travel awards available through the Society. Another major initiative includes fostering collaborations between CPS and international and national plant protection societies. Dr. Errampalli invited all the participants to attend the next CPS annual members meeting to be held from noon to 1:30 pm on July 28, 2015 in Edmonton, Alberta, and also to attend Botany 2015, a joint meeting of 13 plant societies from Canada and the US from July 25-29, 2015 in Edmonton.

There were three invited talks which provided updates on diseases of horticultural crops and ginseng and medicinal herbs during the 2014 growing season and possible solutions for control of some of the crop diseases.

Specialty Crop Diseases: Major Impact, Minimal Solutions by Dr. Sean Westerveld, Ginseng & Medicinal Herbs Specialist, OMAFRA, Simcoe, ON.

Solatenol™ Fungicide and oxathiapiprolin: two new active ingredients by Jennifer Foster, Syngenta, Guelph, ON.

Disease Issues of Horticulture Crops during the 2014 Season by Michael Celetti, Horticulture Crops Program Lead, OMAFRA, Guelph, ON.

This year there were seven student poster presentations:

Regulation of the *Verticillium* wilt (Ve) resistance genes in tomato plants. C. D. M.

CASTROVERDE, L.G.M. DE ÁVILA, V. AMAYA, R. N. NAZAR AND E. J. ROBB. Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1, Canada

Soil amendments for the management of Fusarium wilt in spinach. B. D. COLLINS, M. R. MCDONALD, L. J. DU TOIT, AND S. WESTERVELD. Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, 50 Stone Road East, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1, Canada; (L.J.) Department of Plant Pathology, Washington State University Mount Vernon, 16650 State Route 536, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, USA; and (S.W) Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), 1283 Blueline Road, Simcoe, ON N3Y 4N5, Canada

Environmental parameters influencing clubroot incidence and severity on canola. T. J. CRANMER, B. D. GOSSEN AND M. R. MCDONALD. Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, N1G 2W1, Canada; and (B.D.G.) Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon Research Centre, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X2, Canada

The effect of organic fungicides on apple scab (*Venturia inaequalis*) in McIntosh apples. A. HALDAR, A. ZWIEP, C. JACKSON, K. SCHNEIDER AND D. ERRAMPALLI. (D.E.) Southern Crop Protection and Food Research Centre (SCPFRC), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) 4902 Victoria Ave. N., Vineland Station, ON L0R 2E0, Canada

Identification of multiple fungicide resistance in *Botrytis cinerea* from strawberries. C. JACKSON, A. ZWIEP, A. HALDAR, and D. ERRAMPALLI. (DE). Southern Crop and Food Research Center, Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada, 4902 Victoria Ave N., Vineland Station, ON L0R 2E0, Canada

Controlling root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne hapla*) on carrots and tomatoes with non-fumigant nematicides in Ontario. D. VAN DYK, K. JORDAN, AND M. R. MCDONALD. Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, 50 Stone Road East, Guelph ON N1G 2W1, Canada

Investigating the age-related resistance response of *Arabidopsis thaliana* to *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato*. D.C. WILSON, P. CARELLA, AND R.K. CAMERON. Department of Biology, McMaster University, 1280 Main St. W., Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8, Canada

Student Awards Presentation

Albert Tenuta, Sean Westerveld, and Michael Celetti participated as judges for the student poster presentation competition. Dr. Ken Conn announced the three prizes to Student poster competition winners and Dr. Deena Errampalli had the honour of presenting the awards. The first prize for the best student poster presentation was awarded to Chelsea Jackson (supervisor: Dr. D. Errampalli), the second prize went to Brian Collins (supervisor: Dr. M.R. McDonald), and the third prize went to Danve Castroverde (supervisor: Dr. E.J. Robb). Also, Dr. Errampalli had the pleasure of awarding 2014 best student poster award, won at the 2014 CPS-APS meeting in Minneapolis in August, to Erin Morrison. Congratulations to all students that entered the competition and to the poster award winners.

Business meeting

Dr. Ken Conn conducted the business meeting following the formal talks and poster presentations. Regional funds are in good shape. Impact of travel restrictions was evident resulting in low participation by government research and extension personnel. This is a cause for concern. He thanked

the judges of the student poster competition, and the local arrangements committee for putting together a one day program. Thanks to SORA CPS Local Arrangements Committee (Dr. Ken Conn, Dr. Deena Errampalli, Chelsea Jackson and Aparna Haldar).

Dr. Errampalli recognized Dr. Ken Conn's contributions as the Chair of the SORA CPS for the past 7 years. The SORA-CPS regional meeting for 2015 is planned to be held in November. After holding the Regional meetings in London for the past 7 years, the group hopes to meet in Niagara Falls in 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Deena Errampalli

Chair, SORA-CPS Local Arrangements Committee and CPS President)

Ken Conn, SORA-CPS, Regional Representative



Above: Group Photo SORA-CPS 2014



Above: From left – Dr. Ken Conn, Chelsea Jackson (best poster – 1st prize), Danve Castroverde (3rd prize), and Brian Collins (2nd prize)