



## 2019 Manitoba CPS regional Meeting

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Dept. Plant Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

### Minutes

The 2019 Manitoba Regional Meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society was held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the University of Manitoba (Department of Plant Science, Faculty of Agricultural & Food Sciences). The meeting this year was attended by 16 people. Extremely cold temperatures may have prevented many from attending. Several other members sent regrets as they had other commitments. Registration with coffee and muffins started at 9:00am.

After welcoming the participants, Dr. Fouad Daayf, the Manitoba regional chair for CPS, passed the floor to Dr. D. Fernando, CPS past-President, who conveyed greetings from the CPS board.

Dr. Jim Menzies did not make it to the conference, but sent disease update notes on crown rust and smuts, which were read by Dr. Daayf. Dr. Ahmed Abdelmagid presented updates on soybean diseases as part of a survey project with MSPG. Later in the day, Dr. Vikram Bisht presented an update on potato diseases.

This year, there were three oral presentations by graduate students:

1. **Microbial community dynamics of the soybean rhizosphere treated with the *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* strain PA23.** J.C. Wan, K.T. Biggar, M.F. Belmonte, T.R. de Kievit, W.G.D Fernando.
2. **Molecular Management of Fungal Phytopathogens via RNAi.** N. Wytinck, A.G. McCloughlin, J.C. Wan, K.T. Biggar, M. F. Belmonte, and S. Whyard.
3. **Evaluation of cross- pathogenicity between *Fusarium graminearum* strains infecting soybean and those infecting wheat.** Garma N., Gharbi Y., Adam L.R., Hafez M., Abdelmagid A., and Daayf F.

Two more presentations were given by two regular members:

4. **First report of *Fusarium sporotrichioides* causing root rot of soybean in Canada and detection of the pathogen in host tissues.** A. Abdelmagid, M. Hafez, A. Soliman, L.R. Adam, and F. Daayf.
5. **Update on Potato Diseases in Manitoba.** V. Bisht

The awards for best student presentations were as follows: J. Wan (1<sup>st</sup> place), N. Wytinck (2<sup>nd</sup> place), and N. Garma (3<sup>rd</sup> place). The business meeting followed at 1:30pm. According to a motion passed last year, the student competition winners got \$150 for the 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$100 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> place and \$50 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

#### Business meeting

Dr. Daayf thanked the few members who stayed for the business meeting. The minutes for the 2018 meeting were approved (Fernando/Bisht). The Past-President, Dr. Fernando who was in the audience, conveyed greetings from the CPS board and shared information about the board activities, such as changes in the editorial board of the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology, and contract with Taylor and Francis.

Dr. Daayf presented a financial update of the Manitoba regional section of the CPS. A motion was passed (Bisht/Daayf) to fund the participation of up to 10 students to the Diagnosis School. To close, Dr. Daayf thanked Mrs. Bev Godard and Ms. Pawanpuneet Rehal for a great job helping with this year's local arrangements of the CPS-Manitoba section meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dr. Fouad Daayf*  
*CPS-MB Regional Representative*