

2026 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) • Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, NS • June 14–18, 2026

Sunday, June 14, 2026

9:00 am to 5:00 pm	Field Tour – South Shore	The field tour requires separate registration. The cost is \$75 per person, which includes transportation from the Lord Nelson Hotel to the South Shore and lunch served on the bus. The bus will be parked across the street next to the Public Gardens for pick-up and will leave promptly at 9:00 AM.
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Registration opens at the GeorGIN Lounge	
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Welcome Reception at the Regency Ballroom (Sponsored by Bayer CropScience)	

Monday, June 15, 2026

8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Registration at the GeorGIN Lounge / Poster Set Up at the Regency Ballroom	4:00 - 4:15 PM	J. Chuan Pathotype to Genotype: Accurate Classification of the Potato Wart Pathogen via Genotypic Markers
8:15 am to 8:30 am	Welcome and Opening Addresses at the Regency and Imperial Ballroom	4:15 - 4:30 PM	T. Laengle An innovative approach to forecast potato late blight risk using high-resolution geospatial models
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Symposium 1: Emerging technology in plant disease management (Imperial Ballroom) Chairs: Shawkat Ali and Maria Antonia Henriquez	4:30 - 4:45 PM	
8:30 - 9:15 AM	H. Jin Cross-Kingdom RNA communication and RNA-Based Technologies for Crop Disease Control	2:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Concurrent Session 2: Chairs Ana Badea and Rick Peters, Admiral Room (Student Presentations)
9:15 - 10:00 AM	M.F. Belmonte Development and application of RNAi technology to protect crop plants from <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i>	2:00 - 2:15 PM	E. McNab Minimum Sample Sizes for Monitoring DMI Resistance in <i>Clavreedia jacksonii</i>
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by CropLife) – Imperial Ballroom	2:15 - 2:30 PM	V. Weerasinghe A greener shield: Leveraging native <i>Pantoea</i> species to mitigate bacterial leaf streak in wheat and barley
10:30 - 10:55 AM	D. Jiang Developing mycovirus-mediated plant vaccine to protect rapeseed health	2:30 - 2:45 PM	B. Acharya Screening methods to detect potential resistance to <i>Pseudomonas</i> floral blight and stem canker of highbush blueberry at different phenological stages
10:55 - 11:20 AM	T. Haang A 30-year study on the development of DMI fungicide resistance by <i>Clavreedia jacksonii</i> at multiple locations across southern Ontario, Canada	2:45 - 3:00 PM	U. Abhayarathne Presence and quantity of <i>Spongospora subterranea</i> f. sp. <i>subterranea</i> in rotational cropping systems of southern Alberta, Canada
11:20 - 11:45 AM	G. Peng Soil inoculum thresholds for root-mediated blackleg infection in canola and implications for disease management	3:00 - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by Corteva) – Imperial Ballroom
11:45 - 12:00 AM	S. Ali Biocontrol potential of root-associated <i>Trichoderma</i> spp. from healthy apple trees against Apple Replant Disease	3:30 - 3:45 PM	N.N. Patel Management of fire blight with a bacteriophage-carrier system
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch and Annual Meeting of Members (Sponsored by SeCan) – Imperial Ballroom	3:45 - 4:00 PM	J. Serna Pathotype shifts in <i>Plasmiodiophora brassicae</i> across successive infection cycles
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Concurrent Session 1: Chairs Tahera Sultana and Oscar Molina Imperial Ballroom	4:00 - 4:15 PM	C. Fust The "Iceberg" Region of the Grapevine leafroll-associated virus 3 Replicase Polyprotein Directs Mitochondrial Targeting to Promote Viral Replication
2:00 - 2:15 PM	J. Sciocani Monitoring <i>Stemphylium vesicarium</i> populations in the fall predicts SDHI resistance in the spring	4:15 - 4:30 PM	G.A. Robertson Evaluation of phosphorous acid: a control strategy for potato pink rot (<i>Phytophthora erythroseptica</i>)
2:15 - 2:30 PM	D. Chen Pathogens associated with field pea root rot and pathogenicity of <i>Fusarium</i> species on legume crops in Atlantic Canada	4:30 - 4:45 PM	S. Sabaghian Multi-Scale Investigation of Viral Diseases in Pulse, Cereal, and Oilseed Crops
2:30 - 2:45 PM	F. Shi Field assessment of latent infection of American ginseng (<i>Panax quinquefolius</i> L.) by <i>Ilyonectria mors-panacis</i> caused by physical wounding	5:00 - 6:00 PM	Poster Session (Sponsored by CropLife) – Regency Ballroom
2:45 - 3:00 PM	D.P. Yevushenko Engineering broad-spectrum disease resistance in potato	5:00-6:00 PM	Posters (odd numbers). The poster presenter will be present.
3:00 - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by Corteva) – Imperial Ballroom	6:30 - 9:30 pm	President's Reception at GeorGIN Lounge (by invitation only), 7:30 PM Evening Graduate Student Social (Sponsored by Alberta Grains) - Your Father's Moustache (Non-students – on their own) 8AM – 8PM Registration / Poster Set Up at the Regency Ballroom
3:30 - 3:45 PM	J. Cordero-Elvira Root-associated bacteria from canola as biocontrol agents against <i>Plasmiodiophora brassicae</i>		
3:45 - 4:00 PM	M. Hubbard Exploration of the potential of gypsum and biocontrol bacteria as tools to manage root rot in field pea with or without QTLs for partial resistance to <i>Aphanomyces euteiches</i>		

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Symposium 2: Omics in plant pathology, Chairs Stephen Strelkov And Sean Li, Imperial Ballroom	3:15 - 3:30 PM	S. Wong Sensitivity of <i>Pyrenophora tritici-repentis</i> isolates from Canada to propiconazole and pyraclostrobin fungicides
8:30 - 9:15 AM	W. Chen Expanding the Triangle: Pathobiome Theory and AI-Driven Precision Phytopathology	3:30 - 3:45 PM	K. Venkatesan Implications of Climate Change-Induced Temperature Variation on <i>Phytophthora infestans</i>
9:15 - 10:00 AM	A. Khan Genetic improvement of disease resistance in apples through genomic and breeding innovations	3:45 - 4:00 PM	B. Karki Characterization of four fungal pathogens associated with foliar diseases of black huckleberry and evaluation of the pathogenic potential of these fungal species on highbush blueberry
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by DL Seeds) – Imperial Ballroom	1:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Concurrent Session 4: Chairs Gurcharn Brar and Muhammed Riaz, Admiral Room (Student Presentations)
10:30 - 10:55 AM	H.R. Kutcher Bacterial leaf streak: impact of seed infection of wheat and barley	1:15 - 1:30 PM	A.S. Thilakarathne Integrated transcriptomic, biochemical, and phenotypic responses of <i>Brassica napus</i> to <i>Verticillium longisporum</i> early infection
10:55 - 11:20 AM	Y. Shi Nationwide aeromicrobiota surveillance revealed multikingdom plant pathogen biogeography and environmental drivers across Canada's major agricultural landscapes	1:30 - 1:45 PM	V. Maddame Synergistic interplay between <i>Verticillium longisporum</i> and <i>Leptosphaeria maculans</i> in <i>Brassica napus</i>
11:20 - 11:45 AM	C.V. Vincent Multiple phytotoxins contribute to plant host colonization by the common scab pathogen <i>Streptomyces scabiei</i>	1:45 - 2:00 PM	L. Wu Pathogenic diversity of <i>Verticillium longisporum</i> isolates from Manitoba canola
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	A. Badea Breaking the Cycle: Innovative Collaborative Approaches to Fusarium Head Blight in Barley Breeding	2:00 - 2:15 PM	R.K. Barnrah Evaluating Reduced Nitrogen Inputs on Yield and Root Rot Severity in Dry Bean Cultivars
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Lunch (Sponsored by Corteva) – Imperial Ballroom	2:15 - 2:30 PM	M. Breton-Séguin Characterization of virulence factors in <i>Golovinomyces ambrosiae</i> , the causal agent of powdery mildew in cannabis
1:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Concurrent Session 3: Chairs Yunfei Jiang and Rhea Lumacted, Imperial Ballroom, (Student Presentations)	2:30 - 3:00 PM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by SaskWheat) – Imperial Ballroom
1:15 - 1:30 PM	I. Akbar Unraveling the microbiome associated with potato wart: first insights into biocontrol and ongoing characterization of pathobiomes associated with Netherland and Canadian samples	3:00 - 3:15 PM	P.V. Burns Arabidopsis thaliana as a Model Fungal-Pathosystem for <i>Elsinoë brasiliensis</i>
1:30 - 1:45 PM	A.E. Lang Deciphering the role of <i>Plasmiodiophora brassicae</i> effectors in modulating the canola (<i>Brassica napus</i>) microbiome during infection	3:15 - 3:30 PM	Y. Moutahir Identification of novel powdery mildew resistance genes in cannabis
1:45 - 2:00 PM	P. Thapa Beyond insect biocontrol: Entomopathogenic fungi suppress <i>Fusarium</i> root rot of field pea	3:30 - 3:45 PM	H. Selvarajan Investigating the relationship between polyamines produced by barley and <i>Fusarium graminearum</i> pathogenesis and DON production
2:00 - 2:15 PM	R. Vairavan The role of ubiquitin ligases in drought recovery induced resistance	3:45 - 4:00 PM	S.O. Reis <i>Verticillium</i> stripe disease in Canola: pathogenicity variations, co-existence with <i>Leptosphaeria maculans</i> , and transcriptome profile at adult plant stage
2:15 - 2:30 PM	M. Campbell Microbiome responses to clubroot (<i>Plasmiodiophora brassicae</i>) in canola fields of northern Ontario	4:00 - 6:00 PM	Poster Session (Sponsored by CropLife) – Regency Ballroom
2:30 - 3:00 PM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by SaskWheat) – Imperial Ballroom	4:00-5:00 PM	Posters (even numbers). The poster presenter will be present.
3:00 - 3:15 PM	A.C. Landry Evaluation of remediation strategies for <i>Phytophthora</i> abietivora in infested Christmas tree plantations	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	CPS Banquet and Award Ceremony – Imperial Ballroom

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration at the GeorGIN Lounge / Poster Set Up at the Regency Ballroom	11:45 - 12:00 AM	J.R Tucker Quantitative trait locus mapping of <i>Fusarium</i> head blight resistance in two-row breeding line GB132013 using a 50k SNP Infinium iSelect assay
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Symposium 3: Plant Immunity and the Molecular Battle Between Plants and Pathogens, Chairs David Joly and Shawkat Ali, Imperial Ballroom	10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Session 6, Chairs, Oscar Molina and Xavier Godin, Admiral Room
8:30 - 9:15 AM	P. Moffett Plant defense under water: apoplast hydration in plant-microbe interactions	10:30 - 10:45 AM	Z. Zou Exploring functional genes for improving canola resistance to fungal pathogens
9:15 - 10:00 AM	J.P. Rathjen Genomics of the wheat stripe rust pathogen <i>Puccinia striiformis</i> f. sp. <i>tritici</i> , a major global pathogen	10:45 - 11:00 AM	A.T. Alleyne Elsinochrome phytoalexins function as immune effectors in cassava superelongation disease
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break (Sponsored by Syngenta) – Imperial Ballroom	11:00 - 11:15 AM	L. Buchwaldt Defense genes at a single QTL on chromosome A10 in canola confer resistance to <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i>
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Session 5, Chairs David Joly and Shawkat Ali, Imperial Ballroom	11:15 - 11:30 AM	W. Schweigkofler Stop them before they are out of control! Managing invasive pathogens of forest and ornamental plants in a quarantine nursery
10:30 - 10:45 AM	Y. M. Kim Pathogenicity and Virulence Variation of <i>Diaporthe sojae</i> Causing Soybean Root Rot in Manitoba, Canada	11:30 - 11:45 AM	M.C. Dararathne Diversity of potato pathogens in Manitoba: a multigene approach to characterize fungal communities
10:45 - 11:00 AM	X. Wang Unraveling <i>Fusarium</i> Head Blight of barley: Pathogen Diversity and Mycotoxin Risk Across the Canadian Prairies	11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	C.L. Armstrong-Choi An emerging root rot pathogen of legume crops: <i>Clavreedia canadiana</i>
11:00 - 11:15 AM	R. Stefanova Isolation and characterization of root exudate metabolites in pea (<i>Pisum sativum</i>): Inducing effects on oospore germination of <i>Aphanomyces euteiches</i>	12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch (Sponsored by Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture and Genome Atlantic) – Imperial Ballroom
11:15 - 11:30	A. Sedaghatkish Whole-genome retention in <i>Plasmiodiophora brassicae</i> represents a new mechanism contributing to the maintenance of genetic diversity: Beta retention	1:30 - 5:00 PM	Workshop 1, Admiral Room Statistical Analyses & Presentation of Data Generated from Field Experiments – organized by Dr. Gurcharn Singh Brar
11:30 - 11:45	K. Goldenhar Survey of <i>Alternaria</i> species and evaluation of fungicide efficacy in Ontario brassica vegetables	3:00 to 3:30	Coffee Break (Sponsored by SaskWheat) – Imperial Ballroom

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

1:00 - 5:30	Workshop 2, Imperial Ballroom, with the free option of joining virtually by clicking the link or scanning the QR code below.	2:30 - 2:45	Dr. Ahmed Abdelmagid, AAFC Morden "Verticillium Stripe of Canola: Pathogenic Diversity, Severity Escalation, and the Establishment of a Field-Based Screening Platform"
1:00 - 1:10	Opening Remarks. Dr. Shuanglong (Simon) Huang and Sonia Wilson, Manitoba Agriculture.	2:45 - 3:00	Dr. Harmeet Singh Chawla, University of Manitoba "Genetic Resistance to Verticillium longisporum in Brassica napus: Toward Durable Management of Verticillium Stripe in Canola"
1:10 - 1:45	Keynote Speaker. Dr. Georgios Tzelepis, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Modulator: Ahmed Abdelmagid, AAFC Morden) "Verticillium stem stripe disease in oilseed rape: from molecular mechanisms to field challenges"	3:00 to 3:30	Coffee Break- Imperial Ballroom
1:45 - 2:00	Prairie Provincial Context. (Modulator: Ahmed Abdelmagid, AAFC Morden)	3:30 - 3:45	Dr. Zhongwei Zou, Wilfrid Laurier University "First Steps Toward Understanding Verticillium Stripe in Canola: Population, Pathogenicity, and Interactions with Blackleg" 3:45 – 4: 0. Dr. Xuehua Zhang, Bayer "From Phenotyping to Impact: Advancing Verticillium Stripe Resistance Breeding"
1:45 - 1:50	Dr. Shuanglong (Simon) Huang and Sonia Wilson, Government of Manitoba "An Overview of Verticillium Stripe in Manitoba"	4:00 - 4:15	Dr. Hossein Borhan, AAFC Saskatoon "Co-infection Dynamics of <i>Leptosphaeria maculans</i> and <i>Verticillium longisporum</i> in Canola"
1:50 - 1:55	Dr. Alireza Akhavan, Government of Saskatchewan "Verticillium Stripe Distribution in Saskatchewan"	4:15 - 4:30	Dr. Fouad Daayf and Monika Dayarathne, University of Manitoba From Verticillium dahliae to Verticillium longisporum : Applying Decades of Research Knowledge to Emerging Challenges in Canola
1:55 - 2:00	Dr. Michael Harding, Government of Alberta "Verticillium stripe results from Alberta's provincial survey"	4:45 - 5:20	Strategic Think Tank. (Modulators: Chris Manchur, Canola Council of Canada and Sonia Wilson, Manitoba Agriculture)
2:00 - 4:30	Canadian Research Snapshots. (Modulator: Ian Epp, SaskOilseeds)	5:20 - 5:30	Closing Remarks. Ian Epp (SaskOilseeds). The Organizers of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society acknowledge the generous support of the following sponsors! Platinum
2:00 - 2:15	Dr. Sheau-Fang Hwang, University of Alberta "Current Research Progress in Verticillium Stripe of Canola at The University of Alberta"	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	CPS Incoming Board Meeting – Belleisle I & II Boardroom
2:15 - 2:30	Dr. Dilantha Fernando, University of Manitoba "Hijacking the Hijackers: Disabling Susceptibility Genes to Master Pathogen Co-infection in Canola"		