

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CPS

Atlantic Canada 2025

The 2025 meeting of the Atlantic chapter of the Canadian Phytopathological Society took place on October 2 at the St. John's Research and Development Centre in St. John's, NL. The local hosts were Linda Jewell and Dawn Bignell and they did an outstanding job arranging the meeting! There were 12 oral and 3 poster presentations on various topics in phytopathology presented in the afternoon, with a nutrition break to stimulate active discussion among participants. Dinner after the meeting was held at the Fish Exchange in downtown St. John's.

We were pleased to welcome Dr. Adam Foster, AAFC, Charlottetown Research and Development Centre as our keynote speaker. Dr. Foster gave a presentation entitled: "Battling Fusarium head blight in the Maritimes: integrated disease management and molecular approaches".

There were multiple winners of the Best Student Paper Award. The Best Poster award went to Stacey Follett (Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland) for her poster entitled "Using comparative genomics to understand the regulation of plant pathogenicity in *Streptomyces*". Award winners for Best Oral Presentation went to Corrie Vincent (Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland) for presenting "Elucidating the role of the concanamycin phytotoxins in the virulence of the potato common scab pathogen *Streptomyces scabiei*", Wanyue Li (Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland) for presenting "Identification of novel regulators of *Streptomyces scabiei* plant pathogenicity using an untargeted approach", and Madeline Breton-Séguin (Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB) for presenting "Characterization of virulence factors in *Golovinomyces ambrosiae*, the causal agent of powdery mildew in cannabis".

Many thanks to all who attended the meeting. We trust we will be able to get together on a regular basis in future, and on that note, plans are developing for our next regional meeting in Charlottetown in 2027.



Some in-person attendees at the 2025 Atlantic region CPS meeting in St. John's, NL.

From the left: Linda Jewell (meeting co-host), Mathilde Levesque, Karen Compton, Jennifer Whittaker, Tobias Laengle, Dawn Bignell (meeting co-host), Rick Peters (CPS Atlantic representative), Artho Baroi, Amanda Turpin, Stacey Follett, Mohsin Zaidi, Wanyue Li, and Corrie Vincent.

Respectfully submitted by Rick Peters, CPS Regional Representative for Atlantic Canada

