



New Disease Management Reports Added to PDMR

Fifty new efficacy trials for chemical and nonchemical means of plant disease control have been added to *Plant Disease Management Reports (PDMR)*, Volume 1, for a total of 571 reports. Access to the reports, as well as to thousands of reports from past *B&C Tests* and *F&N Tests* volumes, is available to subscribers and partners of the Plant Management Network. Subscription information is available online. ■

Watch for Highlights of the APS/SON Joint Meeting



Courtesy of the San Diego CVB.

The October 2007 issue of *Phytopathology News* will include photos and updates on activities held during the APS/SON Joint Meeting in San Diego. ■

APS Award Nominations Due November 1

The APS awards nomination process is now underway. Submissions are due November 1, 2007. See article beginning on this page for complete details. ■

In this Issue

Public Policy Update	115
People	115
Classifieds	117
APS Journal Articles.....	119
Calendar of Events.....	120

APS Centennial Historical Timeline

Do you realize that physiological races of rust were first described 90 years ago? Do you remember when *hrp* genes were discovered? What were the key discoveries that made possible the research you are doing today? As our society approaches its 100th birthday, many members are taking time to remember the historical events that have helped to shape APS and the progress made in plant pathology. The Centennial Planning Committee has been hard at work to develop ideas and special features for display or presentation at the 2008 meeting. One project is the construction of a timeline to highlight major discoveries, pioneers, and events; chronicle epidemics in the United States over the past 100 years; and summarize major events in the evolution of APS.

Look for this display at the 2008 APS Centennial Meeting in Minneapolis, MN. It will provide a sense of pride and accomplishment for all society members and be especially informative for younger members and students, providing a unique perspective on the impact of APS and its members on plant pathology. This project is already underway, but we are welcoming new volunteers to help with the construction of the timeline. If you are interested in contributing to the content or reviewing the collection of information as it develops, please contact **Kurt Schroeder** (kschroeder@wsu.edu). Make sure that your research ancestors and discoveries are represented on the timeline. Visit the APS Centennial website (www.apsnet.org/centennial) for a preview of the timeline and give us your input. ■



APS Awards Call for Nominations

The call is now being made for APS and APS-sponsored award nominations for the 2008 APS Centennial Meeting. Nominators are referred to the following guidelines, which include a few revisions. Updated nominations should be modified to meet revised guidelines.

Nominations for the Award of Distinction, Fellow, Ruth Allen Award, Noel T. Keen Award for Research in Molecular Plant Pathology, Excellence in Extension Award, Excellence in Industry Award, Excellence in Teaching Award, International Service Award, Lee M. Hutchins Award, Syngenta Award, and William Boright Hewitt and Maybelle Ellen Ball Hewitt Award should be postmarked on or before **November 1, 2007**, according to the following procedures. Visit www.apsnet.org/members/awards/ for a description of each award and a list of previous winners.

Nominations should be made following the General Instructions below. All nominations for named awards are considered for 3 years, with the exception of the Lee M. Hutchins and Hewitt awards, which stand for only 1 year. Multiple letters of support should not be provided for a candidate's nomination. If a nomination is not successful in the first year, the nominator is encouraged to update the nomination. A gap of 3 years between the last year of consideration and renomination is recommended. The Awards and Honors Committee may decide not to make a named award in years without suitable nominations. Deceased members are not eligible for any APS award if they died before nomination.

Fellows are now eligible to be nominated for awards of excellence in an area of accomplishment different from that on which the Fellow was based, provided that the new accomplishment has occurred after recognition as a Fellow. A period of 5 years should elapse between recognition as a Fellow and nomination for an award of excellence. The nominator of a Fellow for an award of excellence should specify how the contributions in the current nomination differ from those on which the Fellow nomination was based originally.

Editor-in-Chief: Joyce Loper
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Submission Guidelines

Address all editorial correspondence to: Joyce E. Loper, USDA ARS, Horticultural Crops Research Laboratory, 3420 NW Orchard Ave., Corvallis, OR 97330-5014 U.S.A. Phone: +1.541.738.4057; Fax: +1.541.738.4025, E-mail: PhytoNewsEditor@scisoc.org. In order to ensure timely publication of your news items and announcements, please send in material 6 weeks prior to the date of publication. Material should be no more than 6 months old when submitted. Submission of materials as electronic files, via e-mail, will speed processing. For information on submitting electronic images contact Agnes Walker at awalker@scisoc.org. Deadline for submitting items for the November 2007 issue is September 15, 2007.

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General Instructions

Each member of the society may nominate one candidate a year for each of the above awards.

Nominations should address the activities most relevant to the award, with a clear statement of the impact the nominee has had in his/her specific area of expertise. The nomination should include the following supporting material.

- 1. A cover letter** with the candidate's name and the award for which the nomination is made. The letter (not to exceed one page) may provide additional insight into the significance of the contributions that is **not** given in the nomination statement.
- 2. A nomination statement not to exceed 1,000 words** that highlights the contributions of the candidate and includes the candidate's name, place of birth, and institutions, with degrees and years granted, as well as current position. The statement should be focused and succinct, and document the relevancy and impact of the candidate's contributions to the advancement of science and plant pathology. See examples of citations for previous award recipients available online at www.apsnet.org/members/awards/pastlist.asp.
- 3. A 250-word abstract of the nomination statement to be read at the Awards Ceremony.**
- 4. A curriculum vitae, not to exceed two pages.**
- 5. A complete list of publications.** The list should be separated into the following categories, with most recent publications first. Abstracts and manuscripts not yet accepted should NOT be included.
 - a. Refereed journal articles
 - b. Extension publications
 - c. Books, reviews, and book chapters
 - d. Technical publications (e.g., monographs, reports, symposium papers, proceedings, etc.)
 - e. Popular publications
 - f. Invited presentations

Submission of Nominations

Nominations should be submitted as **ONE (1)** portable document file (PDF file) saved as **last name, initial of first name (example: SmithT_nomination.pdf)**. Each page should have the name of the nominee included in the page header. The following sections should be included in order within the file.

- **Cover letter**
- **Nomination statement**
- **Abstract**
- **Curricula vitae**
- **Publication list**

The nomination PDF should be e-mailed to APS Staff Coordinator **Linda Schmitt** (lschmitt@scisoc.org) by November 1, 2007. Please include "APS award nomination" in the subject line of the e-mail. The nomination will be acknowledged by reply e-mail within 5–7 days. If acknowledgment is not received, please call Linda Schmitt at +1.651.994.3828.

Those who receive awards will be notified by the APS president by March 14, 2008.

Closing Date

Nominations are due by November 1, 2007.

Committee Members

(Do not e-mail nominations directly to committee members. Nominations must be received at APS Headquarters for forwarding to committee members.)

2007–2008 Awards and Honors Committee

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Pullman, WA ■

Public Policy Update

Authorization of Movement of Plant Pathogens by Regulation

Michael J. Firko, Ph.D., Director, Permits, Registrations, Imports and Manuals; United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Michael.J.Firko@usda.gov

The USDA's authority to issue permits for importation and interstate movement of plant pests—including plant pathogens—was granted originally in the Federal Plant Pest Act (FPPA) of 1957. When FPPA was superseded by the Plant Protection Act of 2000 (Title IV of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000), the United States Congress and the President recodified—using essentially the same language as in the 1957 FPPA—the USDA's authority to issue permits. But with the PPA, Congress introduced a new concept, the USDA's authority to list in the regulations plant pathogens (and other plant pests) that do not require a permit for movement. In Section 411 of Subtitle A, Congress describes the approach: "Authorization of Movement of Plant Pests by Regulation." To remove the permit requirement for specific plant pathogens, the USDA must list those pathogens in the regulations. The process would proceed according to the Administrative Procedures Act, whereby the USDA 1) publishes a "Proposed Rule" proposing to remove the permit

requirement for specific plant pathogens, 2) requests comments from interested stakeholders, 3) opens a comment period, 4) receives and reviews comments, and then 5) makes decisions based on comments received whether to proceed with the proposed regulatory changes. Should the USDA decide to proceed with removing the permit requirement for some or all of the proposed organisms, a "Final Rule" would be published, including responses to comments received and a description of any new regulatory requirements. As specified by Congress, the USDA either can take the initiative (i.e., without a specific request) by proposing to remove the permit requirement or can respond to petitions from "any person."

In order to remove the requirement for a permit, the USDA will need to document the scientific and regulatory justifications for why specific plant pathogens can be moved safely without a permit. Justification will be based on the

biology (including current distribution) and risks to plant health of unregulated movement. Petitioners requesting removing the permit requirement for specific plant pathogens can facilitate the process by providing scientific and risk information to the USDA. Should anyone want to propose removing the permit requirement for a specific plant pathogen, the listing of needed scientific and risk-based information can be obtained from the PPQ permit unit (see contact below).

I invite any interested person to consider how the USDA's statutory authority to remove permit requirements may facilitate their research or other activities and to submit petitions or supporting scientific information. Petitions and supporting information can be delivered directly to me or to other PPQ-PRIM officials at: USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Permits, Registrations, Imports and Manuals, 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737. ■

People



Kathy Munkvold

Kathy Munkvold received a Ph.D. degree in January 2007 from the Department of Plant Pathology at Cornell University under the direction of **Alan Collmer**. The title of her thesis was "Characterization of the conserved

Pseudomonas syringae

pv. *tomato* DC3000 effector protein, HopAA1-1." She discovered that HopAA1-1 acts in a domain-specific manner to kill both yeast and plant cells and that 25% of the effectors in the DC3000 effector repertoire appear to affect broadly conserved eukaryotic cellular processes as indicated by toxic effects when expressed in yeast. Munkvold is currently a post-doctoral scientist in the laboratory of **Gregory Martin** at The Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, where she is studying plant targets of the DC3000 effector AvrPtoB.

Grace O'Keefe was named the USDA, APHIS, PPQ domestic identifier for the eastern region in December 2006. Her laboratory is located in University Park, PA, where she has established a cooperative working relationship with the Penn



Grace O'Keefe

State Department of Plant Pathology. The plant pathologist domestic identifier positions provide diagnostic support to Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) programs within the USDA, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS),

Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) unit. The primary role of the domestic identifier is to help states diagnose their CAPS samples. In addition, this year her lab at Penn State has been designated to receive suspect potato cyst nematode (PCN) samples from the eastern region states participating in the PCN National Survey. O'Keefe began her career as a horticulturist with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in 1979 and has held positions with the Georgia and Maine departments of agriculture. Most recently, she was state plant pathologist for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Throughout her career, she has collaborated with the USDA, APHIS, PPQ, and other federal and state agencies on a variety of issues. O'Keefe is a graduate of Rutgers University.

The Penn State Department of Plant Pathology hosted a Plant Biosecurity Short Course and Tour for members of the urban forestry program at Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA, during May 2007. Southern University faculty members **Dan Collins**, **Zhu H. Ning**, **Kamron K. Abdollahi**, and **Andra D. Johnson** and graduate students **Thomas Nyatta Legiandenyi**, **Jason Preuett**, **Kathy Johnson**, **Vanessa Ferchaud**, and **Christopher Chappell** attended the short course, which included presentations and field trips at the University Park campus, a tour of the Penn State Fruit Research and Extension Center at Biglerville, and a tour of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in Harrisburg with **Seong-Hwan Kim** and **Ruth Welliver**. The group also spent a day at the USDA-ARS Foreign Disease and Weed Research Lab in Ft. Detrick, MD, hosted by **Doug Luster**. The program was sponsored through a USDA CSREES 1890 Capacity Building Grant awarded to Southern University that is designed to enhance M.S. and Ph.D. programs in urban forestry at that institution through plant biosecurity training. **Fred Gildow** organized the program at Penn State with assistance from faculty and staff in the Plant Pathology Department.

People continued on page 116



Vihanga Pahalawatta

Vihanga Pahalawatta recently received her Ph.D. degree from the Plant Pathology Department at Washington State University. Her thesis research was on biological and molecular studies on *Dahlia mosaic virus* and was conducted under the guidance of

H. R. Pappu. Pahalawatta will be returning to Sri Lanka to resume her position as a lecturer in the Department of Botany at the University of Kelaniya.

Leigh Ann Harrison, Ph.D. student in the Department of Plant Pathology at Washington State University (WSU), has been awarded a \$5,000 fellowship from the Storkan-Hanes-McCaslin Foundation in support of her thesis research on *Fusarium* wilt in spinach seed production. The award also covered the cost of airfare for Harrison to attend the 2007 APS/SON Joint Meeting in San Diego, CA. A major aim of the Storkan-Hanes-McCaslin Foundation is to encourage research by offering assistance to graduate students who are working on soilborne diseases of plants. Harrison is completing her research in **Lindsey du Toit's** vegetable seed pathology program at the WSU's Northwest Washington Research and Extension Center.



Leigh Ann Harrison

Retirement



Pete Timmer

Pete Timmer retired on May 31, 2007, after 29 years of service at the University of Florida, CREC, in Lake Alfred. Timmer grew up on a farm in western Michigan and received his B.S. degree in botany and plant pathology from Michigan State University in

1963. He did his doctoral dissertation at the University of California, Riverside, but took 2 years during that time to work on a Ford Foundation Fellowship in Argentina. He completed his degree in 1969 and assumed a position with the Texas A&I Citrus Center in Weslaco, where he spent 9 years working on citrus diseases prior to moving to Florida.

Timmer spent his entire career working on citrus diseases and investigated many different pathosystems. In Texas, he first described *Citrus necrotic ringspot virus* and demonstrated that it was actually *Citrus psorosis virus*, which was eventually found to belong to a new family, the ophioviruses. He was instrumental in developing diagnostic techniques for citrus blight and demonstrating its transmissibility through root grafts. He developed assay procedures for *Phytophthora* populations in groves and evaluated cultural and chemical control methods.

In the late 1980s, he began a successful career on foliar diseases of citrus. He described the life cycle of postbloom fruit drop (PFD), caused by *Colletotrichum acutatum*, defined and reclassified the causal organism, and determined its relationship to lime anthracnose with **Juan Agostin.** Timmer developed a model for forecasting PFD and scheduling fungicide applications in Florida and, with **Natália Peres,** developed and evaluated a computer-assisted decision system, PFD-FAD, that allowed growers to better time sprays for PFD. Timmer and his lab group defined the environmental conditions required for infection by *Alternaria* spp. on citrus and developed a model, the Alter-Rater, for *Alternaria* brown spot. With **Tobin Peever,** he has used molecular and pathological methods to improve understanding of the taxonomy and the genetic basis for toxin production by pathotypes of *A. alternata.* With **S. N. Mondal,** he has described the mating types and the conditions for reproduction of *Mycosphaerella citri*, the causal agent of greasy spot. With **Pat Barkley** in Australia and **J. W. Hyun** in Korea, he has clearly defined the species, pathotypes, and host ranges of *Elsinoe* species on citrus and developed specific PCR methods to differentiate the species. For melanose, caused by *Diaporthe citri*, he determined the activity of copper fungicides for disease control, the appropriate rates, and the best programs for control and, with Mondal, described the conditions required for production and survival of the pathogen on dead twigs. Long before canker was known to be present in Florida, Timmer conducted research projects on citrus canker in Argentina. Information generated from these projects has been useful in the eradication campaign in Florida and in dealing with the disease currently.

Timmer has been very active internationally and conducted considerable work on diseases exotic to the United States. He has had cooperative projects in Japan, Spain, Ghana, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Korea and has had numerous visiting scientists come from around the world. He receives frequent invitations to speak at international congresses, to consult, and to review projects.

Timmer has been active in APS as an associate and senior editor of *Phytopathology* and *Plant Disease* and edited the *Compendium of Citrus*

Diseases and Citrus Health Management. He received the Lee Hutchins Award from APS for excellence in research on tropical fruits for his work on PFD and is a fellow of APS.

In Memory



Myron Kendall Brakke

Myron Kendall Brakke died on June 15, 2007, at the age of 87. He was born in Fillmore County in Minnesota on October 23, 1921. He received his B.S. degree at the University of Minnesota in 1943 and his Ph.D. degree in chemistry in 1947. In that year,

he married **Betty Jean Einbecker** and was hired as a research associate at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden by **Lindsay M. Black** to work on plant viruses. In 1952, he moved with Black to the University of Illinois in Urbana, IL, and in 1955, became research chemist for the USDA at the Plant Pathology Department in Lincoln, NE, remaining there, also as professor of plant pathology, until his retirement in 1986. His seminal invention of sugar gradient centrifugation was made while working with *Potato yellow dwarf virus* and *Wound tumor virus* at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in 1948. Its worldwide application for the purification of viruses has led to, among others, the development of the polio vaccine and several other viral vaccines, saving millions of lives around the world. Brakke was extremely modest and he never bragged about his inventions and his profound influence on the whole field of virology. Ironically, just before the polio vaccine became available, one of Brakke's sons contracted severe polio and required an iron lung to survive the disease. At the University of Nebraska, Brakke trained many students who have gone on to successful careers at universities, government agencies, and industry. Brakke became an editor of *Virology* in 1960. He contributed a large number of scientific articles, including fundamental studies of soilborne viruses, to professional journals. The University of Nebraska honored him with the honorary D.Sc. degree, and APS honored him with election to fellow and the Award of Distinction in 1988. He was a member of the U.S. National Academy, the Chemical Society, APS, Sigma Xi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Alpha Zeta. He is survived by his wife Betty, sons Kenneth Allen and Thomas Warren, and two daughters, Joan Patricia and Karen Elizabeth. Those who knew Myron personally, who were influenced by him and stimulated, and who became devoted to basic research as a result, will always remember his warm personality and unselfishness. He will be greatly missed by his friends, former students, and associates. ■

Classifieds

Classified Policy

You can process your job listing at www.apsnet.org/careers/jobpost.asp. Your posting will be live within 3–5 business days and will remain on the website for up to 3 months or until a listed closing date, at which point it will drop off the listing. Fees for posting online are \$25 member/\$50 nonmember for graduate or post-doc positions and \$200 member/\$250 nonmember for all other positions. To have your job listing also included in *Phytopathology News*, simply select the option on the online form (there is an additional \$30 fee). If you have any questions contact the APS Placement Coordinator (apsplacement@scisoc.org).

Senior Researcher

The incumbent will independently execute research in consultation with the program director, conduct statistical analyses and prepare photographic and graphical presentations of the data, and prepare final reports and publications in peer-reviewed scientific literature. The incumbent is expected to supervise technical staff; assist with the training of graduate students, undergraduate students, and post-doctoral scientists; and provide expertise with regard to laboratory protocols, procedures, and troubleshooting. The incumbent will act as de facto manager of the program director's research projects, laboratory, and staff. In close collaboration with the research director, the incumbent will develop research projects and write grants and contracts as well as prepare written reports to sponsoring agencies. The incumbent will ensure that the laboratory has the requisite permits and safety materials to perform the planned research. In addition to the essential duties, it is desirable that the incumbent be able to perform the following: give occasional facility tours, lectures, or talks on research results at campus, state, regional, national, and international scientific meetings; effectively communicate research objectives and accomplishments to the general public, funding agencies, and industry stakeholders; act as liaison with domestic and international scientific colleagues and research communities; edit written materials from staff, students, and program director; and provide oversight of expenditures and project budgets. Also desired are an established record of publication in relevant peer-reviewed scientific literature; working knowledge of research methods used to study fungal pathogens of plants; working knowledge of techniques used in molecular biology, genomics, bioinformatics, and fungal biology; ability to develop and manage new research projects conducted at multiple locations; and possession of excellent oral and written communication skills. **Salary:** \$50,000. **Closing Date:** September 20, 2007 (This

closing date is open until the position is filled.) Only applications submitted electronically will be considered. **Contact:** Marci Walker, North Carolina State University, Department of Plant Pathology, Campus Box 7616, Raleigh, NC 27695 U.S.A. **Fax:** +1.919.513.7716; **E-mail:** marci_walker@ncsu.edu; **Phone:** +1.919.513.6498; **Web:** www7.acs.ncsu.edu/hr/employment.

Faculty Positions in Plant-Related Microbiology

The Institute of Plant and Microbial Biology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, is enthusiastically inviting applications for faculty positions in the research areas of microbiology with preference for plant-microbe interactions and plant-related microbiology. These positions are at the levels of assistant research fellow, associate research fellow, and full research fellow (equivalent to assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor). Excellent facilities and starter grants will be provided for these positions. Applicants are expected to have a Ph.D. degree plus post-doctoral training. Chinese language skills are NOT required and international scientists are encouraged to apply. The review of applications will start on September 20, 2007, until the positions are filled. **Closing Date:** October 23, 2007 (This closing date is open until the positions are filled.) The application folder should include curriculum vitae, a statement of research accomplishments, and future research plans. The application folder and at least three letters of recommendation should be sent.

Contact: Dr. Na-Sheng Lin, Chair of Search Committee, Institute of Plant and Microbial Biology, Academia Sinica, Academia Road, Nankang, Taipei, Taiwan 11529. **E-mail:** nslin2@sinica.edu.tw; **Fax:** +886-2-2782-1605; **Phone:** +886-2-2789-9590; **Web:** <http://ipmb.sinica.edu.tw/>.

Graduate Research Assistant

A graduate assistantship is available in the Plant Science Department at South Dakota State University (SDSU). The primary focus of the research will be on the epidemiology of *Puccinia graminis* (stem rust of wheat) but may also include disease management and/or the genetics of resistance. Both M.S. and Ph.D. candidates are invited to apply, and this assistantship is available for fall 2007. The individual will become part of an active, developing research program and will have opportunities for publication, interdisciplinary collaborations, grantsmanship, and professional development outside of SDSU. An earned B.S. degree in plant pathology, plant science, agronomy, botany, horticulture, microbiology, or similarly related field is required. Candidates must meet the academic requirements of the Graduate School and Plant Science Department. Effective oral and written communication skills are essential; experience with data processing and statistical analysis is preferred. Some travel and physical labor may be expected. **Salary:** Depends on level (M.S. or Ph.D.). **Closing**

Date: October 23, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send CV or resume. **Contact:** Jeff Stein, 107 PSB, Box 2108, 1205 Jackrabbit Dr., Brookings, SD 57006 U.S.A. **E-mail:** jeff.stein@sdsstate.edu; **Phone:** +1.605.688.5540; **Web:** <http://plantsci.sdsstate.edu/smallgrainspath/>.

Director of Research

The Morton Arboretum invites nominations and applications for a director of research to lead and manage the program's applied research on planting, care, and conservation of woody plants. The director will administer the program's personnel, budgets, grants and contracts, safety, and facilities; promote collaborative external relationships; lead fundraising for the program; write and speak to diverse audiences on behalf of research and of the arboretum as a whole; participate in overall leadership of the arboretum; and foster the research's integration with other program areas. The arboretum's research and allied programs focus on tree health, emphasizing roots and the below-ground environment; tree improvement, including introducing new plants for landscape use; and woodland conservation, concerning the restoration and management of diverse biotic communities. The director will be one of seven scientists in the program and will be expected to devote significant time to conducting her/his own research in a relevant field, publishing in scientific journals, obtaining extramural funding, contributing to the scientific and green-professional communities, and participating in arboretum education and collections programs. Special consideration will be given to researchers in plant pathology, urban horticultural stress physiology, or applied forest ecology. Qualifications: Ph.D. degree in horticulture, botany, forest science, ecology, or related field; at least 7 years of experience conducting top-level research relating to woody plants; record of effective written and oral communication with academic, professional, and public audiences; knowledge and interest encompassing the arboretum's disciplinary breadth; significant experience in administrative leadership in a public garden, government agency, academic institution, or similar organization; record of securing grant and/or philanthropic support for science; and effective interpersonal skills. **Closing Date:** October 23, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Review of applications will begin October 8 and will continue until the position is filled. For further information or to nominate candidates, please contact Vice President of Arboretum Programs, Dr. Clem Hamilton, at +1.630.719.2423 or chamilton@mortonarb.org. Applicants should send a letter of application and curriculum vitae. **Contact:** The Morton Arboretum, Human Resources, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle, IL 60532 U.S.A. **E-mail:** jobs@mortonarb.org; **Fax:** +1.630.725.2040; **Phone:** +1.630.968.0074; **Web:** www.mortonarb.org.

Classifieds continued on page 118

Post-Doctoral Research Scientist

A post-doctoral research scientist position is available immediately for a molecular plant virologist at the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, to conduct research on the interaction of *Soybean mosaic virus* (SMV) with *Rsv1* resistance gene from soybean. A solid foundation for this project has already been established (see *J. Virol.* 2005, 70:1215-1222; *Virology* 2006, 345:156-166). The main emphasis would be on P3 cistron of SMV; however, the possible role of other virus cistrons in evading *Rsv1*-mediated recognition will be also examined. The project involves site-directed mutagenesis, synthesis of virus chimeras, transient gene expression, bacterial expression of viral genes, and immunocytochemistry. Candidates with a Ph.D. degree and expertise in molecular plant virology, genetics, or biochemistry are encouraged to apply. **Closing Date:** October 12, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send a cover letter that includes timing of availability and describes interest and expertise, a CV, and contact information for three referees. **Contact:** Reza Hajimorad, Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, 2431 Joe Johnson Drive, 205 Ellington Plant Science Bldg., Knoxville, TN 37996-4560 U.S.A. **Fax:** +1.865.974.4744; **E-mail:** mrh@utk.edu; **Phone:** +1.865.974.1620.

Research Bioinformaticist/Computational Biologist/Molecular Geneticist/Plant Pathologist

The USDA-ARS, Crops Pathology and Genetics Research Unit located in Davis, CA, is seeking a permanent, full-time scientist to conduct genomics-based research on *Phytophthora ramorum*, the causal agent of sudden oak death. The successful candidate will develop an independent, innovative research program that focuses on understanding the genetic, biochemical, and molecular mechanisms of *P. ramorum* pathogenesis with the goal of developing effective disease control strategies. Research areas include, but are not limited to, computational analyses of the sequenced genomes of *Phytophthora* spp. and characterization of plant host infection and colonization by *P. ramorum* through global gene expression studies and/or proteomics approaches. The incumbent will participate in collaborative efforts with ARS and university researchers involved in the sudden oak death research program. Requirements include degree in plant pathology, biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to position; knowledge of research theories and methods of molecular genetics/genomics (structural and functional, comparative genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, and/or molecular genetics plant-fungal interactions); knowledge of oomycete/fungal/eukaryotic

genome organization, gene structure and gene regulation; ability to conceive, plan, and conduct research using a bioinformatics/computational biology approach as evidenced by recent publication in peer-reviewed journals; and skill in presenting information to scientists, producers, and government agencies using conventional, electronic, or multimedia technologies. U.S. citizenship is required. The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. **Salary:** GS-12/13/14: \$66,993.00–\$122,379.00. **Closing Date:** September 7, 2007 (This closing date is not adjustable.) For details and application directions, see www.usajobs.com announcement number ARS-X7W-0251. **Contact:** Daniel Kluepfel, USDA-ARS, CPGRU, 259 Hutchison Hall, Plant Pathology Department, UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616 U.S.A. **Fax:** +1.530.754.7195; **E-mail:** dakluepfel@ucdavis.edu; **Phone:** +1.530.752.1137; **Web:** www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=53-06-15-00.

Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship—Molecular Plant Root-Microbe Interaction

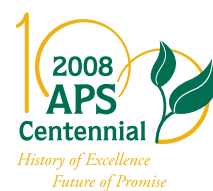
A Ph.D. research assistantship is available to study the molecular basis of root-microbe interactions. A plant's survival and fitness in nature largely depends on its ability to interact with microbes. While the genetic and molecular basis of aboveground plant-microbe interactions draws considerable attention, the below-ground root-microbe interactions have not been well studied. Using *Arabidopsis thaliana* root-bacteria interaction model systems (*Plant J.* 42:417-432; *Nature* 434:217-221; *Infection Immunity* 73:5319-5328), the successful candidate will investigate the molecular events that lead up to the establishment of pathogenic and beneficial interaction; identify genes and gene products of the plant and the bacteria that facilitate or impede such interactions and develop physiological and molecular markers of such interactions in *Arabidopsis*. Ph.D. students at Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) are officially registered at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, but are located on the NSAC campus. Qualifications: The successful candidate must have a first-class thesis master's degree in molecular biology, biochemistry, plant biology, or microbiology with demonstrated experience in biochemical analyses, standard molecular biology techniques and plant transformation, and demonstrated ability to perform research at an advanced level. Superior communication skills are essential. Experience in *Arabidopsis* system is desirable but not required. **Salary:** \$21,000. **Closing Date:** Open until a suitable candidate is found. Please send a resume, statement of career goals, and the contact information (address, e-mail, and phone number) of at least three references. **Contact:** Dr. B. Prithiviraj, Department of Plant and Animal Sciences, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, PO Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E3, Canada. **E-mail:** bprithiviraj@nsac.ca; **Phone:** 902.893.6643, **Fax:** 902.895.6734; **Web:** <http://nsac.ca/pas/staff/bpr/lab/>.

Post-Doctoral Positions

A post-doctoral researcher position is available to study the function and regulatory mechanism of pathogen-induced small RNAs in plant immunity. Endogenous small RNAs have emerged as important players in gene expression reprogramming during disease responses. The candidate will focus on the identification of pathogen-regulated small RNAs at the genome level. The functions of selected small RNAs and small RNA targets will be characterized by molecular, genetic, and biochemical approaches. Applicants should have a Ph.D. degree and a strong background in molecular genetics, biochemistry, and bioinformatics. Experience in microarray and deep parallel sequencing analysis is highly desirable. **Salary:** Start from \$33,000. **Closing Date:** August 9, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Please send a letter of interest, CV, and names and addresses of three references. **Contact:** Hailing Jin, University of California, 900 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92521 U.S.A. **E-mail:** hailingj@ucr.edu; **Phone:** +1.951.827.7995; **Web:** www.ucr.edu. ■

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www.apsnet.org/centennial

Phytopathology

September 2007, Volume 97, Number 9

- Challenges in Adaptation of Plant Disease Warning Systems to New Locations: Re-Appraisal of Billing's Integrated System for Predicting Fire Blight in a Warm Dry Environment.
- A Crop Loss-Related Forecasting Model for Sclerotinia Stem Rot in Winter Oilseed Rape.
- Host Range and Molecular Phylogenies of the Soft Rot Enterobacterial Genera *Pectobacterium* and *Dickeya*.
- Edaphic Soil Levels of Mineral Nutrients, pH, Organic Matter, and Cationic Exchange Capacity in the Geocaulosphere Associated with Potato Common Scab.
- Temporal Dynamics of Brown Rot in Different Apple Management Systems and Importance of Dropped Fruit for Disease Development.
- A Statistical Comparison of the Blossom Blight Forecasts of *MARYBLT* and *Cougarblight* with Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve Analysis.
- Characterization of Resistance Mechanisms to *Erysiphe pisi* in *Medicago truncatula*.
- Effect of Infection Timing on Fusarium Head Blight and Mycotoxin Accumulation in Open- and Closed-Flowering Barley.
- Characterization and Mapping of Oat Crown Rust Resistance Genes Using Three Assessment Methods.
- Gene Expression Patterns in Near Isogenic Lines for Wheat Rust Resistance Gene *Lr34/Yr18*.
- Identification of Maize Kernel Endosperm Proteins Associated with Resistance to Aflatoxin Contamination by *Aspergillus flavus*.
- Genetic Diversity and the Presence of Two Distinct Groups in *Ophiostoma clavigerum* Associated with *Dendroctonus ponderosae* in British Columbia and the Northern Rocky Mountains.
- Identifying Pigmentation-Related Genes in *Ophiostoma piceae* Using *Agrobacterium*-Mediated Integration.
- Selection for Pathogenicity to Strawberry in Populations of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* from Native Plants.
- Genetic Differentiation of *Puccinia triticina* Populations in Central Asia and the Caucasus.
- Molecular Diagnostics for the Sigatoka Disease Complex of Banana.
- Diagnostic Values and Utility of Immunological, Morphological, and Molecular Methods for In Planta Detection of *Phytophthora ramorum*.

Plant Disease

September 2007, Volume 91, Number 9

- Rhodococcus fascians* in Herbaceous Perennials.
- Characterization of a Darkly Pigmented Mycelial Isolate of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on Valencia Peanut in New Mexico.
- Development of a Real-Time RT-PCR SYBR Green Assay for *Tomato ring spot virus* in Grape.
- Improved Efficiency for Quantitative and Qualitative Indexing for *Citrus tristeza virus* and *Citrus psorosis virus*.
- Characterization of Seedling Infection Types and Adult Plant Infection Responses of Monogenic *Sr* Gene Lines to Race TTKS of *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici*.
- Susceptibility of Grapevine Pruning Wounds and Symptom Development in Response to Infection by *Phaeoacremonium aleophilum* and *Phaeoemiella chlamydospora*.
- Improving the Cercospora Leaf Spot Management Model for Sugar Beet in Minnesota and North Dakota.
- Seed Transmission of *Fusarium verticillioides* in Maize Plants Grown Under Three Different Temperature Regimes.
- Quantifying Loss Caused by Ray Blight Disease in Tasmanian Pyrethrum Fields.
- Phytotoxicity of Copper-Based Bactericides to Peach and Nectarine.
- Inoculum Density-Disease Development Relationship in Verticillium Wilt of Artichoke Caused by *Verticillium dahliae*.

- Colonization Dynamics and Spatial Progression of *Verticillium dahliae* in Individual Stems of Two Potato Cultivars with Differing Responses to Potato Early Dying.
- Investigation of an Outbreak of Fusarium Foot and Fruit Rot of Pumpkin Within the United States.
- Plant-Parasitic Nematodes Infecting Grapevine in Southern Spain and Susceptible Reaction to Root-Knot Nematodes of Rootstocks Reported as Moderately Resistant.
- Evaluation of *Fusarium graminearum* Associated with Corn and Soybean Seed and Seedling Disease in Ohio.
- Comparison of Field, Greenhouse, and Detached-Leaf Evaluations of Soybean Germplasm for Resistance to *Phakopsora pachyrhizi*.
- Quantifying the Effects of Lance Nematode Parasitism in Creeping Bentgrass.
- Characterization and Inheritance of a New Source of Resistance to *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *melonis* Race 1.2 in *Cucumis melo*.
- Characterization of *Cylindrocarpum* Species Associated with Black Foot Disease of Grapevine in Spain.
- Incidence and Relative Prevalence of Distinct Caulimoviruses (Genus *Caulimovirus*, Family *Caulimoviridae*) Associated with Dahlia Mosaic in *Dahlia variabilis*.
- First Report of Southern Blight of Silvery Messerschmidia Seedlings in Taiwan.
- First Report of Pepper yellow leaf curl Indonesia virus in *Ageratum conyzoides* in Indonesia.
- Diaporthe eres* (*Phomopsis oblonga*) as a Pathogen of Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) in Connecticut.
- First Report of Gray Mold Disease of Sponge Gourd (*Luffa cylindrica*) Caused by *Botrytis cinerea* in Taiwan.
- First Report of Southern Blight on Firewheel Tree, Bay Laurel, Bird of Paradise, Mediterranean Fan Palm, and Liverwort Caused by *Sclerotium rolfsii* in Italy.
- A First Report of *Paulownia elongata* as a Host of *Meloidogyne* spp. in Florida.
- First Report of the Anamorph of *Glomerella acutata* Causing Anthracnose on Avocado Fruits in Mexico.
- First Report of *Ralstonia solanacearum* Race 3 Biovar 2A Infecting Potato and Weeds in Mauritius.
- First Report of *Ophiostoma koraie* Causing Spring Dead Spot of Bermudagrass in Italy.
- First Report of Durang Dwarf Mistletoe, *Arceuthobium vaginatum* subsp. *durangense*, on *Pinus cooperi* and *P. engelmannii* in Mexico.
- First Report of Sudden Death Syndrome of Soybean in Wisconsin.
- First Report of *Capsicum chlorosis virus* Causing Yellow Stripes on Calla Lilies in Taiwan.
- Potato aucuba mosaic virus in Potato in New York State.
- Gladiolus Rust Caused by *Uromyces transversalis* Makes First Nearctic Appearance in Florida.
- First Report of *Uromyces transversalis*, Causal Agent of Gladiolus Rust, in San Diego County, California.
- Iris yellow spot virus* in Onion Seed Crops in South Africa.
- First Report of Sclerotial Rot of Saffron Caused by *Sclerotium rolfsii* in India.
- First Report of Powdery Mildew Caused by *Podosphaera fusca* on *Coreopsis lanceolata* in Italy.
- Tropical soda apple mosaic virus Identified in *Solanum capsicoides* in Florida.
- Stalk Rot of Sugar Beet Caused by *Fusarium solani* on the Pacific Coast.
- First Report of Rust Caused by *Phakopsora pachyrhizi* on Soybean in Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Detection of Multiple Infections of *Citrus exocortis viroid*, *Citrus viroid III*, and *Hop stunt viroid* Variants in Human Province, China.
- First Report of Race 8 of Downy Mildew, Caused by *Peronospora farinosa* f. sp. *spinaciae*, of Spinach in the United States.
- Occurrence of *Tomato spotted wilt virus* in *Stevia rebaudiana* and *Solanum tuberosum* in Northern Greece.

- First Report of *Phaeoacremonium mortoniae* Causing Petri Disease of Grapevine in Spain.
- First Report of Leaf Blight on Coral Bells (*Heuchera sanguinea*) Caused by *Rhizoctonia solani* AG 1A in Italy.

MPMI

September 2007, Volume 20, Number 9

- Check-In Procedures for Plant Cell Entry by Biotrophic Microbes.
- Pattern Recognition Receptors: From the Cell Surface to Intracellular Dynamics.
- Nodulation Studies in the Model Legume *Medicago truncatula*: Advantages of Using the Constitutive *EF1 α* Promoter and Limitations in Detecting Fluorescent Reporter Proteins in Nodule Tissues.
- Inhibition of *Agrobacterium*-Induced Cell Death by Antiapoptotic Gene Expression Leads to Very High Transformation Efficiency of Banana.
- Laser Microdissection Reveals That Transcripts for Five Plant and One Fungal Phosphate Transporter Genes Are Contemporaneously Present in Arbusculated Cells.
- Characterization of the Nonconserved *hpaB-hrpF* Region in the *hrp* Pathogenicity Island from *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *vesicatoria*.
- The Same Allele of Translation Initiation Factor 4E Mediates Resistance Against Two *Potyvirus* spp. in *Pisum sativum*.
- The Role of Cellulose and O-Antigen Capsule in the Colonization of Plants by *Salmonella enterica*.
- The Chitin-Binding *Cladosporium fulvum* Effector Protein Avr4 Is a Virulence Factor.
- GcSTUA, an APSES Transcription Factor, Is Required for Generation of Appressorial Turgor Pressure and Full Pathogenicity of *Glomerella cingulata*.
- Induction of a Grapevine Germin-Like Protein (*VvGLP3*) Gene Is Closely Linked to the Site of *Erysiphe necator* infection: A Possible Role in Defense?
- Elevated Genetic Variation Within Virulence-Associated *Botrytis cinerea* Polygalacturonase Loci.
- Genomic Organization and Evolutionary Insights on *GRP* and *NCR* Genes, Two Large Nodule-Specific Gene Families in *Medicago truncatula*.
- The *Colletotrichum acutatum* Gene Encoding a Putative pH-Responsive Transcription Regulator Is a Key Virulence Determinant During Fungal Pathogenesis on Citrus.
- Biochemical and Molecular Mechanisms Involved in Monogenic Resistance Responses to Tomato Powdery Mildew.

Plant Management Network

www.plantmanagementnetwork.org

Plant Health Progress

- Symposium: Increasing Concerns about *Helicoverpa zea* Susceptibility to Pyrethroids in the Midwestern USA.
- The 5th I. E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium: Today's Students Preparing to Meet Tomorrow's Challenges in Epidemiology and Plant Disease Management.
- Syngenta and John Deere Team Up to Create Fully Integrated Insecticide Delivery System.
- New Invasive Wood Wasp Found in Michigan.
- Researchers Find a Shortcut for Screening Resistant Soybean Crops.
- USDA Announces Colony Collapse Disorder Research Action Plan.
- What's Causing Big Yellow Patches in Soybean Fields? Quilt Fungicide Receives Section 3 Registration for Soybeans.
- US EPA Grants Actara and Platinum Expanded Labels on Vegetables and Grapes. ■

Calendar of Events

APS Sponsored Events

October 2007

10-12 — **APS Northeastern Division Meeting.** Cape May, NJ. www.apsnet.org/members/div/northeastern/

December 2007

12-14 — **National Soybean Rust Symposium.** Louisville, KY. www.apsnet.org/online/SBR/

February 2008

2-5 — **APS Southern Division Meeting in conjunction with SAAS.** Dallas, TX. www.cals.ncsu.edu/plantpath/activities/societies/aps/SouthernAPS.html

September 2008

22-26 — **APS Caribbean Division and 6th International Scientific Seminar on Plant Health.** Havana, Cuba. www.apsnet.org/members/div/caribbean/

Upcoming APS Annual Meetings



July 26-30, 2008 — Minneapolis, MN. (Centennial Meeting)
<http://meeting.apsnet.org/centennial>

August 1-5, 2009 — Portland, OR.

August 7-11, 2010 — Nashville, TN.

Other Upcoming Events

October 2007

1-3 — **2nd International Conference on Bacterial Blight of Rice (ICBB).** Nanjing, China. <http://icbb2007.njau.edu.cn>

8-12 — **ISHS Second International Symposium on Tomato Diseases.** Kusadasi, Turkey. www.2istd.ege.edu.tr/

8-12 — **International Scientific Conference: S.P. Kostychev and Contemporary Agricultural Microbiology.** Yalta, Crimea, Ukraine. www.microbiology-conf.org.ua

9-14 — **4th International Rice Blast Conference.** Changsha, China. www.4thirbc.org

10-12 — **2nd Conference on Precision Crop Protection.** Bonn, Germany. www.precision-crop-protection.uni-bonn.de

15-19 — **10th International Plant Virus Epidemiology Symposium.** Hyderabad, AP, India. www.ipve2007.net

21-26 — **XIVth International Botrytis Symposium.** Cape Town, South Africa. <http://academic.sun.ac.za/botrytis2007>

22-26 — **17th Conference of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists.** Adana, Turkey. <http://iocv2007.cu.edu.tr>

27-31 — **8th African Crop Science Society Conference.** El-Minia, Egypt. www.acss2007.org/

28-31 — **2007 MBAO Conference.** San Diego, CA. <http://mbao.org/>

November 2007

4-8 — **ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Annual Meeting (Centennial Meeting).** New Orleans, LA. www.acsmeetings.org/2007/

12-15 — **First Meeting of the International Phytoplasmologist Working Group.** Bologna, Italy. www.phytoplasma-vector.com/index.htm

12-16 — **FVI World Avocado Congress 2007.** Viña del Mar, Chile. www.worldavocadocongress.com/index.html

13-16 — **20th Venezuelan Congress of Phytopathology.** Yaracuy State, Venezuela. www.ovefit.org

19-21 — **Third International Conference on Plant Pathology.** Lahore, Pakistan. (ticpp@yahoo.com)

27-29 — **1st International Phytophthora Capsici Conference.** Islamorada, FL. <http://conferences.dce.ufl.edu/pcap>

27-30 — **5th Canadian Workshop on Fusarium Head Blight.** Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. (atekauz@agr.cg.ca)

January 2008

8-10 — **Western Disease Conference.** Portland, OR. (tamla.blunt@colostate.edu)

10-12 — **International Symposium on "A Journey of Plant Physiology to Plant Biology."** Calcutta, India. www.plantphysiologyforum.org

14-17 — **43rd Tobacco Workers' Conference.** Savannah, GA. www.TWConference.com

February 2008

10-15 — **Plant Innate Immunity (X2).** Keystone, CO. www.keystonesymposia.org/Meetings/viewMeetings.cfm?MeetingID=932

April 2008

3-6 — **Third International Late Blight Conference 2008.** Beijing, China. <http://research.cip.cgiar.org/typo3/web/index.php?id=1053>

14-18 — **6th International Seed Testing Association Seed Health Symposium.** Kruger National Park, South Africa. www.up.ac.za/conferences/ielc

20-24 — **12th International Symposium on Virus Diseases of Ornamental Plants (ISHS).** Van der Valk Hotel, Haarlem, The Netherlands. www.plant-virology.nl/ISVDOP12

23-25 — **VIII Symposium on Plant Biotechnology.** Santa Clara, Villa Clara, Cuba. <http://simposio.ibp.co.cu>

June 2008

28-July 2 — **8th International Oat Conference.** Minneapolis, MN. (stuth001@umn.edu)

July 2008

13-18 — **5th International Congress of Nematology.** Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. www.5icn.org/

August 2008

17-22 — **16th Congress of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Biology (FESPB).** Tampere, Finland. www.fespb2008.org

23-24 — **3rd International Phytophthora/Pythium Workshop in association with the 9th ICPP-2008.** Torino, Italy. www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/identification/phytophthora/

24-29 — **9th International Congress of Plant Pathology.** Torino, Italy. www.icpp2008.org

30-September 2 — **10th International Fusarium Workshop.** Alghero, Sardinia, Italy. www.cdil.umn.edu/scab/10th_fhb_wkshp.htm

30-September 3 — **8th European Nitrogen Fixation Conference.** Gent, Belgium. <http://NFix2008.psb.ugent.be>

September 2008

22-26 — **16th Ornamental Workshop on Diseases and Pests.** Hendersonville, NC. www.cals.ncsu.edu/plantpath/activities/societies/ornamental/

October 2008

26-31 — **IV International Silicon in Agriculture Conference.** Wild Coast Sun, Port Edward, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. www.siliconconference.org.za

November 2008

4-7 — **2nd International Symposium on Biological Control of Bacterial Plant Diseases.** Orlando, FL. <http://grove.ufl.edu/~biocon/> ■

For the most current listing go to
www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp.

Phytopathology News

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