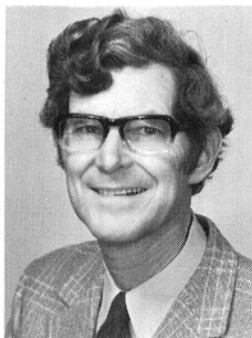


Ruth Allen Award

In 1965, the Ruth Allen Memorial Fund was established by means of gifts from the estate of Dr. Ruth Allen through the generosity of her heirs: Sam Emsweller, Mable Nebel, Hally Sax, and Evangeline Yarwood. The award, consisting of a certificate and the income from the invested fund, is to be given for outstanding contributions to the science of plant pathology. The 1975 recipient is I. A. M. Cruickshank; announced at the 1975 Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas.



I. A. M. CRUICKSHANK.

During the past decade, a major part of research in plant disease physiology has centered on the role of antibiotic substances produced either in plant-pathogen interactions or as a response to injury or other physiological stimuli. A number of such substances, termed phytoalexins, have been identified, and the role that these may play in disease resistance is under investigation in laboratories in many countries. Although the phytoalexin concept was formalized by Müller and Börger in 1940 and work in this area dates back at least to Noel Bernard, the primary stimulus for current interest was a comprehensive series

of studies by Cruickshank and his colleagues beginning about 1960.

Important results from Cruickshank's laboratory included the isolation and identification of pisatin and phaseollin as phytoalexins produced by peas and beans. They also found that a peptide, monilicolin A, produced by *Monilinia fructicola*, stimulated phaseollin accumulation. Their extensive work with many plant cultivars and large numbers of pathogens and nonpathogens served as a model for the formulation of hypotheses and for further experimental work with other systems. Although changes have been made in the original phytoalexin concept and the precise role of these substances in disease resistance remains undefined, it is clear that work in Cruickshank's laboratory provided the impetus for a major change in the direction of research in an important area of plant pathology.

Ian Alfred Murray Cruickshank was born August 5, 1924, in Rangiora, New Zealand. He received the M.Sc. with honours from the University of New Zealand in 1948, and the D.Sc. from Canterbury University in 1964. He served as field mycologist for the plant disease division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Lincoln, New Zealand, from 1948 to 1956. In 1953, he was a Nuffield Travelling Fellow. In 1956, he joined the division of plant industry of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Canberra, Australia, where he now holds the position of Senior Principal Research Scientist.