

# Pacific Division News

Winter 2011



## President's Message

Our Division is, on one hand, very healthy with strong membership (more than the other divisions), stable finances for such things as student travel grants and great awards. On the other hand, participation in regional meetings is low and there is often a lack of applications or nominations for our awards.

Don't get me wrong. All 21 of us had a great time in Vancouver, Canada last June as we met with CPS. However, that is only 3% of our membership. Typically, we have low turnout for a divisional meeting that is not held in conjunction with the APS national meeting. Although we expect strong turn out when we meet in Hawaii this year, we would also appreciate any suggestions for improving divisional meeting attendance.

One way we can increase membership meeting attendance is to encourage our students to attend. Your Pacific Division can help. The Pacific Division Student

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Alberta  
British Columbia  
Saskatchewan  
Alaska  
Arizona  
California  
Colorado  
Hawaii  
Idaho  
Montana  
Nevada  
New Mexico  
Oregon  
Utah  
Washington  
Wyoming



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## 2011 Pacific Division Meeting

Mark your calendar for August 6-10, 2011. We will meet in conjunction with the APS-IPPC joint meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. The American Phytopathological Society will join the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences for the 2011 American Phytopathological Society (APS)-International Plant Protection Congress (IPPC) Joint Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. Hawaii is the central location in the Pacific Rim will attract attendees and speakers from around the world, making this truly unique experience for the plant pathologist and plant health scientists. The APS Pacific Division will be meeting for a luncheon, short business session, and awards ceremony during the annual meeting.



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## Pacific Division Business Meeting

The Pacific Division met jointly with the Canadian Phytopathological Society from June 21-23, 2010 in Vancouver British Columbia. There were more than 180 in attendance at the joint meeting with symposia covering climate change, genomics, and biological control.

During the evening of June 22, 2010, while enjoying a cruise on the Vancouver Harbor, **Ebrahiem M. Babiker** (Washington State University [WSU]), **Jeremiah K. Dung** (WSU), **Emily W. Gatch** (WSU) and **Jessica A. Gigot** (WSU) each received a \$500 travel award to attend the meeting (Fig. 1). Additionally, the following members were recipients of Student Paper Competition Awards: **Jeremiah K. Dung** (First place, WSU), **Jessica A. Gigot** (WSU) **Alejandro Ortega-Beltran** (Third place, University of Arizona) and received cash awards of \$500, \$300, and \$200 respectively.

During the Business meeting several items were voted on and passed. A distinguished service award will be created to recognize individuals that have made an outstanding commitment to the division and are mid career. Also, since the division continues to increase reserves, the student travel awards will undergo some changes; the number and amount will be dependent on the meeting location and the yearly membership dues. Up to 8 travels awards will be made for each division meeting with the amount dependent on the costs to travel to the meeting. There was some discussion to make the awards a percentage of the cost to attend the meeting thus encouraging students from across the full range of the division to attend the meeting.

During the meeting Barb Christ (APS President) and division Councilor (Jim Adaskaveg, University California, Riverside) reported on the changes in the Council Structure and what it will mean for the division. Basically, APS Council is reduced from 21 to 12 members. Division councilors will be members of the Divisional forum of which only one member will be a member of the National Council. This reorganization will require some constitutional changes that will be presented in future newsletters and voted on at a future meeting.

At the end of the meeting, Pacific Division President **Walter Mahaffee** handed the gavel to **Jay Pscheidt**. **Debra Inglis** (Washington State University) became the new president-elect.



Figure 1. The pacific division travel awardees with Division President Jay Pscheidt. From Left to right **Emily W. Gatch, Jeremiah K. Dung, Jay Pscheidt, Ebrahiem M. Babiker**



Figure 2. The winners of the Pacific Division Student Presentation competition. From Left to right **(Alejandro Ortega-Beltran (Third Place), Jeremiah K. Dung (First place) and Jay Pscheidt.**

## New APS Governance Structure Calls for Divisional Constitutional Changes

**Governance** changes to the American Phytopathological Society were approved by a general vote of membership in May 2010 to streamline council and to increase the society's role in professional and scientific development of members with the formation of additional support offices, boards, forums, and committees of the our society. A summary of these changes to APS are at:

<http://www.apsnet.org/members/apsleadership/Pages/default.aspx>). Thus, changes to all divisional constitutions including the Pacific Division are in order. According to our Pacific Division Constitution, notice of proposed changes to the constitution has to be made at least 30 days prior to the next Annual Business meeting. Furthermore, a three-fourths majority of the participants at the business meeting is needed for the proposed changes to be approved. Changes to the constitution mainly concern the Councilor's new title and role in the overall society. The link between divisions and APS Council was maintained by creating the '**Divisional Forum**' (DF) for all elected divisional councilors and **one Divisional Forum Councilor** (DFC) appointed from this forum to sit on APS Council. The Divisional Forum will consist of **Divisional Forum Representatives** (one from each APS Division, currently six members) that will be elected an annual chair and the **Divisional Forum Councilor** from among the eligible Divisional Forum Representatives. The forum will also elect one of its members to the Membership Committee and to the Nominations Committee of the society. The forum will address professional and scientific divisional issues such as future membership, education and training on plant diseases, and membership participation in meetings, as well as the formation of new divisions. Thus, the executive committee of the APS Pacific Division offers the following motions to Pacific Division members for consideration. Members will vote on these motions during the Business meeting at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Division which will take place at the APS Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, Aug. 6-10, 2011. The motions are:

The office of '*Councilor*' will be changed to '*Divisional Forum Representative*' in the Constitution and Standing Rules of the Pacific Division.

The Constitution and Standing Rules of the Pacific Division will be modified to include the following language addressing the new terms of the office of Divisional Forum Representative: *The Divisional Forum Representative will serve a term of three years on the Divisional Forum.*

The Constitution and Standing Rules of the Pacific Division will be modified to include the following language addressing the election of the Divisional Councilor form members of the Divisional Forum: *The Divisional Forum Councilor will be elected from among the eligible Divisional Forum Representatives.* The Constitution and Standing Rules of the Pacific Division will be modified to allow all members of the division to have access to '*an electronic copy*' of the newly amended Constitution '*on the Divisions website*'.

**J. E. Adaskaveg,**  
**Pacific Division Councilor**

## Awards:

**Joanna Woods**, graduate student with **David Gent**, Oregon State University, won 1st Place in the Student Paper Competition for the President's Prize in the area of Plant-Insect Ecosystems and Insecticides Entomological Society of American Meeting, San Diego, CA, December 12-15, 2010. Her research project is focused on development of IPM strategies for powdery mildew that are compatible with conservation biological control of arthropod pests, specifically related to use of sulfur fungicides.



## USDA-NIFA honors the NPDN

The National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) has received one of four 2010 USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Partnership Awards, which recognize exemplary work and outstanding contribution in support of the USDA mission and positive impact on agriculture. There are four categories of Partnership Awards: mission integration, multistate efforts, innovative program models and effective and efficient use of resources. The NPDN received the award for innovative program models for its development of "... preparedness programs and interagency partnerships that have enhanced the security of crop agriculture in the United States.



From left, Jim Stack, Jeff Jones, Eileen Luke, Roger Beachy, Rick Bostock, George Hudler, and Marty Draper.

Dr. Roger Beachy, NIFA Director, presented the award to NPDN Executive Director Rick Bostock (WPDN), who was joined by George Hudler (NEPDN), Jeff Jones (SPDN), Jim Stack (GPDN), Eileen Luke (CERIS), and Marty Draper (NIFA) at a ceremony held at historic Fort McNair in Washington, DC on October 6, 2010. Unable to attend but acknowledged during the ceremony were other members of the executive team – Ray Hammerschmidt (NCPDN), Kitty Cardwell (NIFA), and William Hoffman (NIFA). Although thirty-five individuals are specifically acknowledged for their exceptional efforts in the team award, the intent and spirit of the award is to recognize the hundreds of people across the nation for their contribution to the success of the NPDN.

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*Awards-continued*

[Dr. Gary Chastagner](#), Professor of Plant Pathology in the Department of Plant Pathology located at the WSU Puyallup R and E Center, was awarded the [National Christmas Tree Association](#) (NCTA)'s Outstanding Service Award at the NCTA Conference in Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. Chastagner is a world-renowned expert on diseases of Christmas trees and ornamental bulb crops. His research and extension activities are in the areas of epidemiology and management of *Phytophthora ramorum* in nurseries, Christmas trees and forests; the etiology, epidemiology and management of ornamental bulb crop and Christmas tree diseases; and factors that affect the postharvest quality of Christmas trees.

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[Dr. Lori Carris](#), associate professor in the Department of Plant Pathology, WSU, was presented with the Wade Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at the 51st annual banquet of the CAHNRS held in Ensminger Pavilion on Pullman campus on April 10, 2010. Dr. Dan Bernardo, Dean, College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences, presented the award to Dr. Carris. The presentation of the R.M. Wade Award for Excellence in Teaching began in 1964 with the support of the R.M. Wade Foundation. It was established to give special recognition to outstanding teachers in College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences.

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[Dr. Gary Grove](#), Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology, WSU, located at IAREC, Prosser, WA was awarded the Meritorious Service Award by Dr. Dan Bernardo, Dean, College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences. This award was given to Dr. Grove in recognition of his service to and leadership of the Director of the AgWeatherNet (AWN) from 2006 to 2010. In his four years as the director of AWN, Grove converted the hardware to commercially available equipment and expanded the network from 60 to 133 weather stations throughout Washington State. The stations provide real-time weather and forecast data and various pest models and disease forecasts. The AWN website receives 400,000 visits per month and uses "push" technologies to deliver weather and pest alerts to smart phones.

## Nominations for Pacific Division Awards.

Nominees must be active members of the Pacific Division such as attending division meetings and/or holding division office. Nominations must be accompanied by a statement of no more than 2 typewritten pages, double-spaced, giving name, years and names of institutions granting degrees. A comprehensive vita that describes their accomplishments and supportive citations or other material that qualify the nominee for the award should be also included. Deadline for the nominations is on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Click on the link for award descriptions and a listing of current and past awardees.

<http://www.apsnet.org/members/divisions/pac/Pages/Awards.aspx>

**EARLY CAREER AWARD:** This award will honor a selected plant pathologist or nematologist belonging to the Pacific Division with 10 or fewer years of postgraduate experience and/or service. The award can be for a single outstanding contribution or for sustained significant and notable contributions to plant pathology in extension, research, teaching, or industry.

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** This award is given to senior members of the Pacific Division who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to plant pathology and service to the Pacific Division. The contributions may be in research, teaching, extension, or any other aspect of plant pathology in either an academic or nonacademic environment.

### **NEW!**

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:** This award will be given to members of the Pacific Division who have shown exemplary commitment, leadership and service to plant pathology and the Pacific Division. The contributions may be in research, teaching, extension, or any other aspect of plant pathology in either an academic or nonacademic environment.

## New Hires.Travel/Misc.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture Plant Health Laboratory has recently hired a new Plant Pathologist. **Dr. Brooke Edmunds** will begin with the Department on January 18, 2011. She comes to us from the Colorado State University Extension Service, where she worked primarily with greenhouse growers. Dr. Edmunds will be responsible for the Virus Ornamental and Fruit Tree Certification and Export Seed Testing programs.

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**The Pacific Northwest Vegetable Extension Group (PNW-VEG)** includes members from the University of Idaho, Oregon State University, Washington State University and USDA-ARS. Specialists contribute their expertise in plant pathology, horticulture, entomology and weed science. Team members assist with diagnoses of vegetable diseases, pests and other problems; help coordinate vegetable disease, pest, and production research and extension activities; provide growers and gardeners with resources to manage vegetable diseases, pests and abiotic problems in environmentally-sound ways; publish new information about vegetable pathogens, pests and other problems including biology and management; and, serve the region's fresh vegetable, processing vegetable, and vegetable seed crop industries. For more information or to join, see: [http://mtvernon.wsu.edu/path\\_team/vegpath\\_team.htm](http://mtvernon.wsu.edu/path_team/vegpath_team.htm)

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**Michael Yoshimura** retired after 35 years of teaching at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He hopes to continue teaching his plant pathology course on a part-time basis for a couple of years and ease into full retirement. Michael and his wife Joyce continue to reside in San Luis Obispo, CA.

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Lindsey du Toit, Associate Professor at the Washington State University Mount Vernon NWREC, is spending a 6 month sabbatical at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, working on a project on Iris yellow spot virus in onion bulb and seed crops. The project is in collaboration with Adele McLeod in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Stellenbosch. Lindsey is working in Stellenbosch from November 2010 through April 2011.

## From the Editor-in-Chief of Plant Disease

### Reviewers (Always) Needed for Plant Disease

If it seems that you are asked to review *Plant Disease* manuscripts with greater frequency, there is a good reason. Submissions to the journal continue to increase at a fast pace. As examples, in 2007 we received 364 full manuscripts; in 2010 it was over 400. In 2007 we received 388 Notes, which have mushroomed to over 500 in 2010. All of these submissions require two reviews, a challenging task for Editors responsible for finding willing volunteers.

We all agree that one of the key elements of our science is peer-review evaluations of manuscripts to uphold our standards and sustain the high quality of *Plant Disease*. Participating in the process is an essential part of our society and our profession. If we publish in APS journals, we expect quality reviews. Therefore, we all must reciprocate because the need for qualified reviewers is greater than ever. Please make a commitment to our Society and agree to review manuscripts as often as possible. If you cannot review a manuscript, suggest other potential reviewers. Members of the society who have not been asked to review papers can contact me or other members of the Editorial Board ( [http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/page/pd\\_edboard](http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/page/pd_edboard)) to express your interest and willingness to participate in this very important service to APS. For those who review manuscripts, the entire Society appreciates your time and dedication.

Mike Davis  
Editor-in-Chief, *Plant Disease*

## Students:

**Patricia K. Wallace** successfully graduated with a M.S. in Plant Pathology from Oregon State University June 11, 2010 under the supervision of **Walter Mahaffee**. Her thesis title was "Evaluation of the colonization and biofilm formation by *Burkholderia pyroccinnia* FP62 on geranium leaves". She is now a research associate with Plant Sciences, Inc. in Watsonville, CA.



**Naoyuki Ochiai**, Oregon State University, completed requirements for his Ph.D. degree in Soil Science under the supervision of **Jennifer Parke and Maria Dragila**. The title of his thesis was Movement of Zoospores of *Phytophthora citricola* in Saturated Porous Media.



**Mohammad Yaghmour** has finished his PhD degree in November 2010. The title of his dissertation was "Biology, Sources of Inoculum, and Characterization of *Geotrichum candidum* Causing Sour Rot of Peaches and Nectarines in California" under the supervision of **Themis Michailides**. He is currently a postdoctoral scholar working under the supervision of **Dr. Richard Bostock** and will be performing research on fungal diseases of orchard crops with an emphasis on brown rot disease of stone fruit and thousand cankers disease of walnut.



**Marianne Powell** has joined The Vegetable Pathology Program at WSU Mount Vernon NWREC as a graduate student. She recently graduated with a B.S. in Plant Biology from the University of Washington. Her research interests focus on plant-pathogen interactions. While in **Dr. Inglis'** lab, she will be part of the SCRI-SREP project on "Biodegradable Mulches for Specialty Crops Produced Under Protective Covers."

## Meetings

57th Conference on Soilborne Plant Pathogens and 43rd California Nematology Workshop  
March 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, Storer and Hutchison Halls  
<http://soilfungus.ars.usda.gov>

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DISEASE & INSECT RESISTANCE IN FOREST TREES. Fourth International Workshop on the Genetics of Host-Parasite Interactions in Forestry. July 31 - August 5, 2011, Valley River Inn Eugene, Oregon, USA. [http://ucanr.org/sites/tree\\_resistance\\_2011conference/](http://ucanr.org/sites/tree_resistance_2011conference/)

The purpose of this workshop is to advance progress in genetic resistance programs by fostering collaboration between scientific and management communities from throughout the world. Updates on current status, issues and future plans for applied resistance programs, as well as research information and tools to fast-track the development and use of resistance in trees will be presented and discussed.

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Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines Conference, Tomsk, Russia (Aug 8-18, 2011)  
IUFRO 2.02.15 Working Party. <http://fiveneedle.narod.ru/>

The Working Party on Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines is concerned with research cooperation and exchange of information on all aspects of genetic research on the five-needle pines. This includes provenance testing and genetic resources, breeding, species hybridization, clonal propagation and testing, tissue or cell culture, cell and molecular genetics, and the genetics of host-pathogen interactions. Increasingly though we are using this knowledge to address issues related to climate change, land pressure and conservation.

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The 2nd Asian PGPR Conference in Beijing, China to be held from the Sunday 21- Wednesday 24 of August, 2011. <http://www.ag.auburn.edu/auxiliary/asianpgpr/meetings/2011/>

This conference provide a multidisciplinary forum for exchanging innovative ideas and methods for studying the PGPR, understanding its benefits and further up-scaling its functioning to better evaluate its ultimate role in ecosystem processes. It will provide a stage for young and established researchers to present their work in front of a welcoming international audience from across the Asian Countries, Europe and North & South America to discuss the future of PGPR based technologies and the move towards bio-based pest management strategies in the beautiful city of Beijing in China.

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6th IOBC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON MULTITROPHIC INTERACTIONS SOIL that will be held in the in Córdoba, Spain, during April 4 to 7, 2011. For further information, please visit the meeting web page on [www.cordobamultitrophic2011.com](http://www.cordobamultitrophic2011.com), where you can consult the definitive programme and the deadlines for abstract submission, registration and hotel reservation. **IMPORTANT DATES:** Deadline for abstracts submission: January 31, 2011; Deadline for early registration: January 31, 2011; Deadline for registration: March 15, 2011; Deadline for hotel reservation: March 25, 2011



*From the president-continued*

Travel Award, established in 2000, is intended to increase opportunities for students to give oral presentations at professional meetings. For the 2011 meeting in Hawaii we will offer 8 student travel awards. We expect stiff competition for these awards this year so I encourage you to apply, I know my student will!

Future meeting locations will be in exciting locations and foster great collaborations. As you know, we will meet in conjunction with National APS in Honolulu Hawaii in 2011. For 2012 we are working on a northern California location which, for those of us not geographically challenged, will be about in the middle of the state. The meeting in 2013 has been set in for Tucson, Arizona as we plan to meet with the Caribbean Division of APS.

There was some frustration that there were no nominations for our Early Career Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award (despite all of Walt's effort). Some of the lack in nominees for the early career award is due to lack of participation by early career members in division meetings. In partial response to that, we have created a new award called the Distinguished Service Award. This award will be given to members of the Pacific Division who have shown exemplary commitment, leadership and service to plant pathology and the Pacific Division. The contributions may be in research, teaching, extension, or any other aspect of plant pathology in either an academic or nonacademic environment. Please consider nominating someone you know for any of these awards.

Another important issue this next year will be some changes to the Pacific Division constitution to augment and reflect the changes in governance at national. For example, what used to be known as the Division Counselor will now be the Divisional Forum Representative. These changes will need to be voted on by the Pacific Division membership at the business meeting in Hawaii.

Have you seen the new APS web site? Slick, but maybe you caught some errors on our Division portion of the web site. Have a look and send your edits and suggestions to me. This is a great way to communicate so let's make this the best on the site.

I hope you have a productive and safe year ahead. See you in Honolulu if not sooner.

Jay W. Pscheidt

Winning photographers and photos - 2010 Joint Annual Meeting of the CPS with the Pacific Division of APS, Vancouver BC, 20-23 June 2010

**Category 1. A plant disease/symptoms of a plant disease**



1. '*Monilinia fructicola* on peach', Gayle Jespersen, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Kelowna BC



3. '*Ascochyta rabiei* on chickpea', Cheryl Armstrong-Cho, Crop Development Centre, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK

**Category 2. A plant pathogen/signs of a plant pathogen**



2. 'Aster Yellows on columbine', Jay W. Pscheidt, Dept. of Botany & Plant Pathology, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR



1. '*Typhula incarnata* sclerotia', Vincent Huang, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph, Guelph ON

Category 3. Plant pathologists at 'work' in the field or office



2. '*Fusarium avenaceum* causing Fusarium dry rot of potato', Rick Peters, Environmental Health-Integrated Pest Management, AAFC, Charlottetown PE



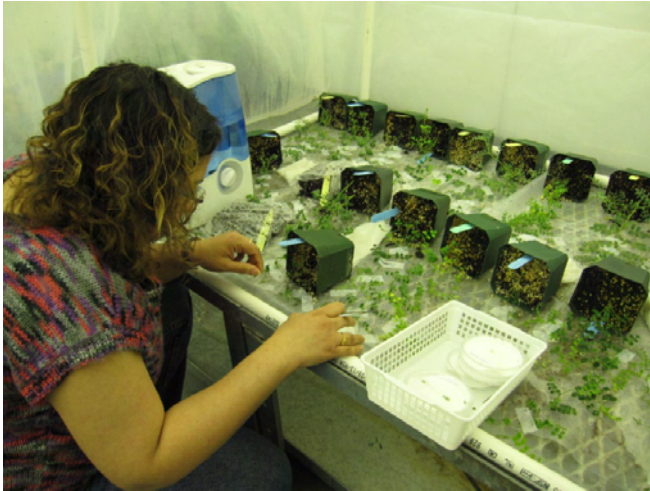
1. 'Phytopathology: a common misconception', Vincent Huang, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph, Guelph ON



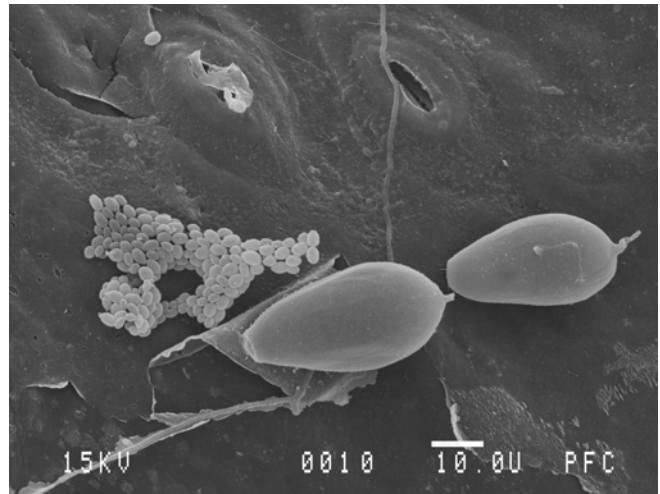
3. '*Typhula ishkariensis* sclerotia', Vincent Huang, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph, Guelph ON



2. 'Simon pointing the way', Simon Shamoun, NRCAN, CFS, Pacific Forestry Centre, Victoria BC



3. Leaflet sampling', Cheryl Armstrong-Cho, Crop Development Centre, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK

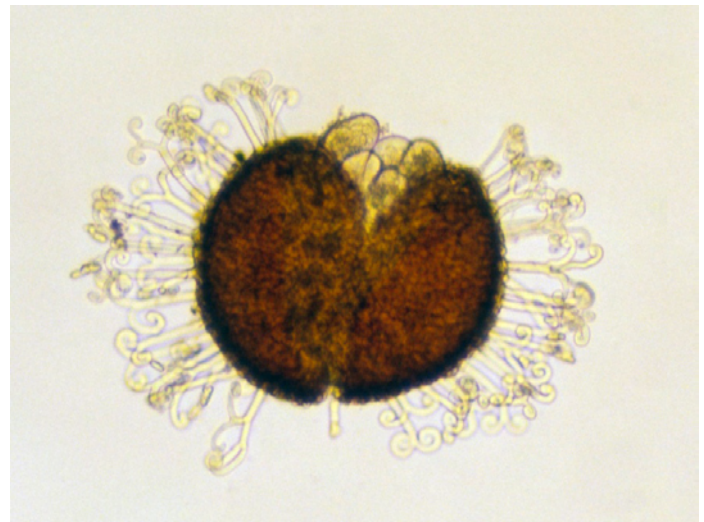


2. Micrograph (SEM) of sporangia and zoospores of *Phytophthora ramorum* on salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)', Simon Shamoun, NRCAN, CFS, Pacific Forestry Centre, Victoria BC

**Category 4. A micrograph of a plant pathogen or some aspect of a plant pathogen-host interaction**



1. Unknown fungus from boxwood Fang (Amy) Shi, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph, Guelph ON



3. 'Chasmothecium with asci of the powdery mildew pathogen *Sawadaea bicornis*', Glen Stanosz, Department of Plant Pathology, Department of Forest Ecology and Management, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison WI