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Phytopathology News

APS Seeks Member Input for Officer Candidates

It is time to begin thinking about members to serve in the APS offices of vice president and councilor-at-large and to talk with those people about their willingness to run for office. Your contributions are essential to the success of this process. During the first week of January 2006, a survey soliciting nominations will be sent to APS members. The persons receiving the largest number of nominations for each office will automatically become candidates. The Nominating Committee selects a second candidate, usually with your nominations in mind. A link to the web-based nomination form will be sent by e-mail to members with an e-mail address in the APS database maintained at headquarters. A form will be mailed by U.S. postal service to members without an e-mail address in the database. Contact Barb Christ (chair Nominations Committee) at +1.814.863.2068 or by e-mail at ebf@psu.edu with any questions about the nominations process.

Plant Management Network Now Available to USDA Employees

The Plant Management Network’s suite of online journals and resources was added recently to the U.S. National Agricultural Library’s (NAL) electronic serials. All PMN journals, publications, and other resources are now accessible to all USDA employees through their computer IP address or NAL’s DigiTop Proxy Link at the bottom of the library’s homepage (www.nal.usda.gov). To receive monthly notification of new articles, USDA employees, as well as anyone else, may sign up for the monthly PMN Update newsletter at no charge on the PMN homepage (www.plantmanagementnetwork.org).

Although APS acts as publisher, PMN serves most disciplines in the plant and agricultural sciences—not just plant pathology. Consequently, PMN content will be of interest in many USDA programmatic areas outside plant health. APS members who are also USDA employees, therefore, are requested to help spread the word about PMN’s availability among their colleagues in other programs and agencies.

PMN publishes four applied science journals: Applied Turfgrass Science, Crop Management, Forage and Grazinglands, and Plant Health Progress. PMN also houses efficacy trial results, including Fungicide and Nematicide Tests, Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases, and Commodity Variety Trials. Arthropod Management Tests will be added soon. Other resources include PMN’s Image Collections, Plant Science Database, Education and Training Center, and Soybean Rust Information Center.

APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting Abstract Notice

Online submission of abstracts for the 2006 APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting in Québec City, QC, Canada, July 29 – August 2, 2006, will be available February 1, 2006, on the APS meeting website at http://meeting.apsnet.org/. The announcement will be included in the January APS News Capsule. The deadline for submission of both oral and poster presentations is March 30, 2006. Remember to fully edit and proof your abstract before submitting. You are encouraged to submit before the last day to avoid delays due to high system usage.
From the President’s Notebook

What’s in a Name?

John Andrews, APS President, jha@plantpath.wisc.edu

We are The American Phytopathological Society, and plant pathology is our profession. This is a factual statement, and it is also a political one. Suggestions have been made periodically that APS change its name for a couple of reasons. Admittedly, there is some grammatical messiness here concerning the use of an adjective (the society is not phytopathological; rather, it is a collection of phytopathologists). This technical flaw does not rise to the level of warranting a change, however. Moreover, in this minor blunder we can take some consolation from being in distinguished company because, for example, there is the American Physical Society and the American Chemical Society. The second criticism raised is that the public cannot understand what “phytopathological” means—perhaps true, but we should not obsess about this either. What is important is that the public understands what we do (more on that below), not what we choose to call ourselves as a scientific society.

The name The American Phytopathological Society remains a moniker useful to its members, and it is understandable to other scientists and scientific societies.

Considerably more ominous is the emerging trend of renaming plant pathology departments to something ostensibly more stylish, such as departments of “microbial biology” or “plant–microbe interactions.” Aspiring media stars change their names, evidently with at least some public relations success. Should plant pathology departments or programs do likewise? Does ‘plant pathology’ no longer have enough cachet? Names like ‘microbial biology’ may sound appealing, but unfortunately they are not very accurate descriptors of plant pathology. So, I am not persuaded. A predictable consequence of running a new flag up the pole is that plant pathology will actually lose its identity, then its coherence, and ultimately its raison d’être in academia. Indeed, there is already at least one precedent for this sequence of events.

There are likely various goals, possibly some administratively necessary, in this renaming fad. But, if the intent is to make plant pathology more understandable, more visible, or more attractive to the aspiring undergraduate student, there are more direct and effective ways to proceed than through a cosmetic rechristening. One of these is to engage ourselves in the name of plant pathology in undergraduate education. Here there are many opportunities (e.g., as classroom or lab teachers, faculty advisors to students in biology programs, and supervisors of hourly research workers in our labs). In the process, we can be advocates for our science. Plant pathologists in industry can collaborate with their counterparts in academia to arrange summer internships for enterprising undergraduate students. APS is implementing a mechanism to facilitate these exchanges. I became a convert to plant pathology as an undergraduate student when I encountered the remarkable fact that plants get sick, just like people do, and that there is a whole body of science dealing with the phenomenon. This has fueled my curiosity ever since. The power of this simple truth should not be lost in efforts to publicize plant pathology. We also must recognize and promote the attribute that plant pathology is an amalgam of disciplines. It draws its strength as a science from the extent to which it incorporates mathematics and basic sciences such as biophysics, biochemistry, and genetics. If we are to prosper, we must attract the best young minds to plant pathology; these individuals should come with diverse kinds of disciplinary expertise and scientific aspirations. We need to convey this message. And, at least as important, we need to tell the story of plant pathology effectively to the public. One goal for our public outreach efforts is that intelligent laypersons should one day be as familiar with diseases having strange names like sudden oak death or citrus greening as they are with avian flu.

If we do these things well, there will be no need to change our name.
One of the major activities for the APS Public Policy Board (PPB) is to help to secure increased funding for programs important to the discipline of plant pathology and to help increase funding for agricultural research in its broadest sense. We interact on a regular basis with key officials from various funding agencies (e.g., ARS, CSREES, DOE, NSF, etc.) and with congressional staff members and members of Congress. Regardless of the individuals with whom I meet, one question always comes up on every issue: “Is this a priority for APS members?” Or, if I am meeting with congressional staff or members of Congress, the question is: “Is this a priority or will it have an impact on APS members in my district or state?” Every time an individual APS member expresses support for increased funding to a legislator, congressional staffer, or agency official, it reinforces our efforts in Washington. The more individual APS members support PPB activities and the more personally engaged each individual member is in the process the stronger our voice is in Washington. This is especially the case for research funding issues. You can be most effective if you express your opinions when they will be the most useful. The following will help you gain a greater understanding of the timing of the budget and appropriations process, so you can help to influence funding for agricultural research.

Appropriations: The process by which Congress provides specific funding and budget authority, usually through the enactment of individual appropriations bills (e.g., agricultural appropriations bill) or an omnibus appropriations bill that may contain several or most of the individual appropriations bills.

Authorizations for Funding: Generally, before the appropriations committees can appropriate funding for a particular program, there must be specific authorization for program funding. For example, there is a broad authorization for funding USDA research programs that is enacted, usually as part of the Farm Bill. Sometimes, however, appropriations bills include specific authorization in cases where Congress has been unable to reauthorize an essential program. For agricultural research programs, the congressional agricultural committees have jurisdiction over authorization levels for USDA research programs and the congressional science committees have jurisdiction over the levels for the NSF.

Discretionary Program Funding: Funding for programs that Congress chooses each year to fund through the annual appropriations bills. About one-third of all federal spending is discretionary. For example, all of the science budgets are funded in this manner. Less than 20% of the annual agricultural appropriations bill is discretionary. Jurisdiction for appropriations bills and determining how to allocate discretionary spending rests with the two congressional appropriations committees and their subcommittees.

Mandatory Program Funding: Funding mostly concerns entitlement programs for which the eligibility and requirements for the expenditures are determined in advance and written into law. Two-thirds of the federal budget falls into this category, e.g., Social Security, Medicare, and food stamps. For most agriculturally related programs administered by the USDA, the congressional agricultural committees and their subcommittees have jurisdiction over mandatory programs and determine in advance how the funding will be allocated, with the majority of the funding allocated through multiyear authorizations for the Farm Bill and the Food Stamp Program. Appropriators have little control over the money in this category, except that they can impose limits or prohibit staff from implementing a program because the salaries and expenses of employees are provided through the appropriations bills.

Reconciliation: The process of modifying tax laws and mandatory spending programs. The laws are "reconciled" to ensure that spending does not exceed and revenue meets the targets established in the congressional budget resolution that has been approved by both the House and Senate. Reconciliation and budget resolution are enforcement mechanisms. The congressional budget committees have jurisdiction over reconciliation, although each authorizing committee (i.e., the Agriculture Committee) can submit its recommended changes in law necessary to meet the budget resolution targets for programs under its jurisdiction.

Budget Resolution: Each year, Congress is required to develop an outline of the federal budget, providing maximum spending and minimum revenue levels. Budget resolution does not require concurrence by the president because it is a congressional device to enforce discipline in the budget process. If there is agreement by the House and Senate on a specific budget resolution, appropriations bills and changes in mandatory programs are supposed to stay within the spending limits. In addition, Congress then begins the process of reconciling spending with the budget targets. Because the resolution sets parameters, it takes two-thirds of the members in each chamber to agree to waive the budget resolution on spending or authorizing legislation.

President's Budget Request: Each year, usually the first Monday in February, the president submits a proposed budget. Congress may or may not use these recommendations for formulating the budget resolution, appropriations bills, or reconciliation. Although the president does not have a formal role in the adoption of a budget resolution, the president can veto or threaten to veto appropriations, authorizing, or reconciliation legislation to influence the contents of these bills.

Below is a rudimentary summary of the process as it relates to funding for USDA research programs:

• Congress enacts a general authorization for funding for a particular program, e.g., every five years or so legislation is passed that authorizes a discretionary program such as the National Research Initiative (NRI) or a mandatory program such as the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS).

• The following year, the president submits a budget request in February that asks for specific funding, e.g., $250 million for NRI and no funding for IFAFS.

• In late April or early May, the two budget committees formulate their respective budget resolutions, and they are considered by the full House and Senate.

• The two budget committees provide general budget allocations to the appropriations committee for discretionary spending programs by late April or early May, although the allocations are revised repeatedly throughout the course of a year to meet various spending targets.
• By June, if possible, a joint House-Senate conference meets and iron out the differences between the two versions of the budget resolution and reports on the budget resolution for floor votes in the House and Senate.

• Spending allocations and reconciliation instructions (optional) are sent to committees of jurisdiction (authorizing committees to report suggested changes in law to the budget committees) and appropriations committees to report to the full House and Senate appropriations measures in compliance with the resolution.

• Budget committees compile reconciliation suggestions from the authorizing committees and report for consideration by the full House or Senate.

• Each chamber votes on the various appropriations bills and reconciliation bill.

• Joint House-Senate conference committees meet on the various appropriations bills and reconciliation bill.

• Ideally, the House and Senate complete action on all of the various appropriations bills and reconciliation bill by September 30, and they are submitted to the president for concurrence.

If you would like additional information on the budget and appropriations process, please feel free to contact me at eversole@eversole.biz.

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Call for Applications for 2006 Storkan-Hanes-McCaslin Foundation Awards

The Storkan-Hanes-McCaslin Foundation Awards are named in honor of Richard C. Storkan, Gerald L. Hanes, and Robert L. McCaslin. Each had a long history of cooperation with the scientific community, and they were pioneers in developing effective soil fumigation through experimental research.

The foundation was established in 1987 to support research. To date, more than $301,000 has been awarded to 52 promising scientists. In addition to cash awards, new awardees receive round-trip fares to the APS Annual Meeting and are presented their awards at a luncheon attended by their research advisors, previous awardees, and members of the Foundation Committee. The research for which the award is given is expected to be performed by the applicant during the academic year 2006–2007.

A major aim of the foundation is to encourage research by offering financial assistance to graduate students who are working on soilborne diseases of plants. The research must be done in the United States. Foundation policy is to contribute to the education of the student. Grants are made on a yearly basis and may be renewed upon review by the committee.

Applications must be received before May 1, 2006, for funding to begin September 1, 2006. Please submit six copies each of a short, 2–3 page research proposal with a clear statement of the objectives of the research, a biography of the researcher (including telephone number and e-mail address for follow-up contact), and a letter (six copies) from the applicant’s major professor or research director. Send applications to A. Paulus, Chair Selection Committee, Storkan-Hanes-McCaslin Foundation, Department of Plant Pathology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0122. If further details are desired, Paulus can be reached by e-mail at albert.paulus@ucr.edu, phone +1.951.827.3431, or fax +1.951.827.4294.

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Ensuring the Future of Plant Pathology

The generous contributions of more than 1,475 donors has allowed APS Foundation to support students and researchers, as well as special programs and projects, in plant pathology. Visit the APS Foundation website at www.apsnet.org/foundation to learn more about the Foundation and its mission. You can also see a list of the awardees that contributions have supported, discover the many ways in which you can give, and offer your support through the new donation form, which can be filled out online. By working together, we can create a self-sustaining treasury of funds for advancing the study and practice of plant pathology.

Thank you for your support!

For a cumulative list of contributors to date, visit www.apsnet.org/foundation/donors.asp.

Remember donating to the APS Foundation prior to December 31 means you can deduct the amount in your 2005 taxes. If you have appreciated stocks that you’ve owned for at least one year, you can contribute them as a gift. See www.apsnet.org/foundation/stock.asp for details.
Outreach

Plant Pathology Storybook Now Available in Chinese

The illustrated storybook Plant Pathology: Past to Present has recently been translated into Chinese by Yuan-Min Shen, a student in the Plant Pathology & Microbiology Department, NTU, Taiwan. The storybook is available at www.apsnet.org/members/opae/storybook/top.asp in Chinese, as well as Spanish and English. The book may be downloaded and freely reproduced and distributed.

APS Educates High School Students at National FFA Career Show

APS was able to touch the lives of thousands of high school students at the National FFA Career Show, held October 26–28, 2005. This year the show was held in Louisville, KY, and the southern hospitality was evident as FFA students from across the nation rolled into town.

During the show, APS representatives Alieta Eyles and Lynn Kamal provided 400 resource packets to high school teachers. “It was encouraging to see the teachers’ reactions to the valuable resources provided by APS,” said Kamal. Many teachers mentioned they were just starting plant science courses or building greenhouses and were grateful for the online resources available through APSnet. Teachers were also excited to learn that the PMN subscription is now available to high schools.

Students stopping by the APS booth had questions ranging from how to pronounce “phytopathological” and what types of jobs are available, to asking about diseases that affect specific plants in their own backyard. When told that APS members study plant diseases, one student replied, “That makes you a plant doctor, right? That’s cool.”

The booth, sponsored by APS’s Office of Public Affairs and Education, provided an excellent opportunity to reach out to teachers and high school students and educate them about plant diseases. The commitment of APS to educating the public was evident when APS received a plaque acknowledging the society as an exhibitor at the FFA Career Show for the 10th consecutive year.

The illustrated storybook Plant Pathology: Past to Present has recently been translated into Chinese by Yuan-Min Shen, a student in the Plant Pathology & Microbiology Department, NTU, Taiwan. The storybook is available at www.apsnet.org/members/opae/storybook/top.asp in Chinese, as well as Spanish and English. The book may be downloaded and freely reproduced and distributed.

Plant Pathology in the News

The APS Office of Public Affairs and Education (OPAE) distributes news releases featuring plant pathology-related activities regularly to hundreds of media publications each year. Below is a list of the releases published in 2005. To review the releases, visit www.apsnet.org/media/press. If you have ideas for future releases, contact OPAE’s Communications Coordinator John Damicone, +1.405.744.9962 or jpd3898@okstate.edu.

- Plant Pathologists Keep Strawberries Sweet to Eat (January 18, 2005)
- American Phytopathological Society Accepting Technical Submissions for 2005 Annual Meeting (February 1, 2005)
- APS, PMN Launch Online Soybean Rust Center (February 14, 2005)
- APS Celebrates the Life of a Pioneer Woman Plant Pathologist (March 7, 2005)
- F&N Tests to Begin Accepting Soybean Rust Trials May 1, 2005 (March 11, 2005)
- Spring Cleaning for Your Garden (March 30, 2005)
- The American Phytopathological Society Opens Access to Several Years of Research in Online Journals (April 4, 2005)
- Media Advisory: National Soybean Rust Symposium (April 14, 2005)
- Remote Imagery Aids in Detecting and Managing Plant Disease (April 25, 2005)
- F&N Tests Publishes Soybean Rust Fungicide Trial Results (May 5, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists to Present the Latest Plant Disease Research in Austin, Texas (May 12, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists Explore Using Fungi to Control Plant Diseases (June 8, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists Evaluate Eco-Friendly Alternatives to Methyl Bromide (June 13, 2005)
- Invitation to Tour Texas Ornamental Nurseries (June 15, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists Address Next Steps in Combating Soybean Rust (June 22, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists Offer New Perspectives on Oak Wilt in Austin, Texas (June 29, 2005)
- Aquatic Plants May Hold Key to Advancing Plant Disease Management (July 6, 2005)
- Texas Gardeners Invited to ‘Ask the Plant Doctor’ at Local Event (July 13, 2005)
- Media Advisory: News Conference on Emerging Plant Disease (July 17, 2005)
- Plant Pathologists: Quick Identification Needed to Save Florida’s Citrus Industry from Devasting Disease (September 14, 2005)
- The American Phytopathological Society Installs New Officers (September 16, 2005)
- Vineyard Weeds Found to Host Pierce’s Disease of Grapes (September 21, 2005)
- The American Phytopathological Society Endorses Teaching of Evolution in Science Curricula (September 27, 2005)
- The American Phytopathological Society Announces 2005 Awards (September 29, 2005)
- APS Foundation Names Student Travel Award Recipients (October 4, 2005)
- Tips to Pick the Perfect Pumpkin (October 6, 2005)
- National Soybean Rust Symposium To Be Held in Nashville (October 17, 2005)
- Fungus Creates a Sweet Bottle of Wine (November 10, 2005)
- Shade Trees Getting Scorched by Plant Disease (November 28, 2005)
The Committee for Epidemiology and Crop Loss of the International Society of Plant Pathology (ISPP) sponsored the Ninth International Epidemiology Workshop held in Landerneau, France, April 10–15, 2005. Ninety-four scientists from twenty-one countries attended the event. The local organizing committee consisted of Serge Savary, Didier Andrivon, Philippe Lucas, Alexandra Schoeny, Frederic Suffert, and Laetitia Willocquet.

The workshop was introduced by a keynote address from ISPP Epidemiology Committee Chair Larry Madden on “Botanical Epidemiology: Some Key Advances, and its Continuing Role in Disease Management,” followed by eight sessions consisting of keynote addresses and poster presentations:

- Emerging Plant Diseases and Risk Analysis was chaired by T. R. Gottwald, with a keynote address by X. B. Yang (“Risk Assessment for Emerging Plant Diseases”).
- Genetics of Host–Pathogen Populations was chaired by D. Andrivon, with a keynote address by K. A. Garrett (“Landscape Ecological Genomics: A Null Models Approach”).
- Spatial and Temporal Scales in Plant Disease Epidemiology was chaired by R. S. Seem, with a keynote address by W. W. Turechek (“The Practical Consideration of Scale in Plant Pathology”).
- Theoretical Epidemiology was chaired by M. J. Jeger, with a keynote address by H. Scherm (“Trends in Theoretical Plant Epidemiology”).
- Concepts and Thoughts for Plant Disease Epidemiology in the 21st Century was chaired by P. S. Teng, with keynote addresses by R. W. Herdt (“Developing World Food Security and Priorities for Plant Disease Epidemiology”), D. Mollison (“Small Worlds and Giant Epidemics: Challenges in Modelling Epidemics”), and P. S. Teng and R. Rabbidge (“Innovation or Irrelevance? Moving Plant Pathology and Epidemiology into a New Millennium”).
- Crop Loss Assessment and Modelling was chaired by A. Bergamin Filho, with a keynote address by F. W. Nutter, Jr. (“Disease Assessment Concepts and the Role of Psychophysics in Phytopathometry”).
- Soil Health and Soil-borne Disease Management was chaired by C. A. Gilligan, with a keynote address by A. Van Bruggen (“Relation Between Soil Health, Wave-Like Fluctuations in Microbial Populations, and Soil-borne Plant Disease Management”).
- Integrated Disease Management and Multiple Pathosystems was chaired by N. McRoberts, with a keynote address by S. Savary (“Patterns and Management of Crop Multiple Pathosystems”).

The keynote addresses for each session are to be published soon in a Special Issue of the European Journal of Plant Pathology.

Evening sessions dealt with additional topics:

- Epidemiology To Deliver: From Theory to Disease Management
- Epidemiology in Natural and Forest Ecosystems
- Comparative Epidemiology
- New Tools and Methods for Botanical Epidemiology
- From Epidemiological Models to Data, and Back

The Ninth International Epidemiology Workshop was a venue for fruitful discussions among participants, each of whom contributed a poster and a poster presentation attached to a session theme. The workshop provided the opportunity to review and discuss recent advances, current interests, and prospects for research in botanical epidemiology. Specific topics for future thought, research, and progress were identified, including multiple scales for analyzing and understanding epidemics, diversity in host–pathogen populations and their evolution, functioning of multiple pathosystems, real-time prediction of epidemics for control, complexity in data acquisition and analysis, and the central role of theoretical models to guide epidemiological research facing old and new challenges.
The Plant Management Network Welcomes Two New University Partners!

The University of Arizona and Michigan State University join the growing network of Plant Management Network (PMN) partner universities. Both universities now have complete access to all PMN resources for all faculty, students, and staff—both on and off campus. Look for resources pages from these universities to be included in the PMN Plant Science Database in the near future.

The mission of the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is “to develop, integrate, extend, and apply knowledge.” Plant-related information is developed through several campus departments and the agricultural centers located throughout the state. The resulting information is integrated in ways that are helpful to a variety of users and made available through the cooperative extension offices in each county and on the web. Find more information on UA at PMN or visit http://cals.arizona.edu/.

Michigan State University Libraries and the Department of Plant Pathology support the PMN Partnership. The mission of the Department of Plant Pathology at Michigan State University is to generate new scientific knowledge about plant pathogens and the diseases they cause through strategic research programs and to disseminate and use this knowledge through education, extension and outreach programs. Learn more about MSU at PMN or visit MSU’s Department of Plant Pathology webpage (www.plantpathology.msu.edu/).

For information on how to become a PMN partner, visit www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/partners or e-mail partners@plantmanagementnetwork.org.
The Soilborne Plant Diseases Unit of the Agricultural Research Council Plant Protection Research Institute hosted the 15th Interdisciplinary Symposium on Soilborne Plant Diseases September 21–22, 2005, at the Vredenburg Research Centre of the ARC-PPRI in Stellenbosch, South Africa. The topic for this year’s symposium was “Ecology and Soilborne Plant Diseases” and was attended by 65 representatives of research councils, national and provincial departments of agriculture, private companies, and universities. Participants represented a wide range of disciplines, such as agronomy, botany, entomology, horticulture, microbiology, nematology, plant pathology, plant physiology, and soil science.

Alex Valentine of the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and Mark Mazzola of the USDA-ARS delivered keynote addresses.

Conclusions reached by delegates to this symposium can be summarized as follows:

1. The study and understanding of the ecology of roots, i.e., the interaction between biological, physical, and environmental factors and how they influence the productivity of plants, should be viewed as of crucial importance.

2. Plants live in a dual medium, i.e., both aerial and subterranean, and there are interactions between these two environments. A change in the aerial environment can have significant effects on roots and visa versa.

3. Plant pathologists often refer to stress without taking into account the mechanisms or understanding the processes involved in stress, and thus, many potential disease control strategies could be overlooked.

4. Glucosinolate hydrolysis products can be important in the suppression of specific plant pests through the application of brassicaceous plant residues. However, it is apparent that other functional mechanisms operate in certain systems and that in several instances pest control is achieved irrespective of plant glucosinolate content. Understanding these underlying mechanisms is essential for the effective management of soilborne plant diseases.

5. Soil microorganisms play an important role in the maintenance of soil structure, soil fertility, and soil health. Soil quality indicators (physical, chemical, and biological) reflect how agricultural management practices influence the health of a particular soil. Applying this information could provide more cost-effective and environmentally acceptable management decisions that support sustainable agriculture.

6. Scaling down chemical control of nematodes will cause significant increases in nematode-related crop damage. More information is needed to understand the intricate relationships between nematodes, host plants, other coinhabitants of soils and the environment.

7. The need for biodiversity of nematodes in the control of plant-parasitic nematodes was emphasized. It was suggested that pathogenicity is inversely proportional to nematode diversity, and while the actual number of nematodes is not reduced, diversity does limit damage.

8. More research is warranted on the interaction of plant-parasitic nematodes and other soilborne plant-pathogenic organisms.

9. Future in-depth research to investigate the ecological function of mycorrhizal symbiosis under ecologically realistic multifunctional conditions of the kind that prevail in nature is expedient.

10. The size and composition of earthworm communities in soils is greatly influenced by environmental and management factors, including soil temperature, water content, soil texture, pH, tillage practice, and addition of fertilizers and pesticides. Earthworm activity can significantly influence the physical, chemical, and microbial properties of soils, as well as the distribution of microorganisms within the soil. There is, unfortunately, a lack of information on the effects of earthworms on soilborne plant diseases.

11. Several methods are available to detect changes in the biological status of soils, and these may provide an early warning of negative impacts on soil health and allow timely interventions.

12. Reporter genes are particularly effective in studying the mode of infection of host tissues by pathogenic organisms and have been used to quantify the activity and efficacy of biocontrol agents.

13. The importance of a multidisciplinary approach to soilborne plant diseases was again emphasized. Not only scientists, but also decision-makers and particularly funders must be cognizant.

14. Understanding biological communities, the dynamics of their physical and chemical environments, the underlying interactions between these systems, and the mechanisms of the interactions is critical to develop sustainable disease management strategies against soilborne plant diseases.
Notices

Online Biology and Systematics of the Saprolegniaceae Monograph Updated

T. W. Johnson, Jr., R. L. Seymour, and D. E. Padgett wish to announce that their monograph titled *Biology and Systematics of the Saprolegniaceae* (an electronic publication available online at http://aa.uncw.edu/digilib/biology/fungi/taxonomy%20and%20systematics/padgett%20book/) has been updated to include a bibliography of all papers published in English on the group between 1985 and 2004 (about 560 citations). Bibliographic citations are listed under subject headings that best reflect contents of included papers. To facilitate greater accessibility of included contents hyperlinks have been created from the table of contents.

Deadlines for *F&N* Tests, Volume 61, and *B&C* Tests, Volume 21

December 12, 2005, is the deadline for submission of reports for review and approval to section editors for *F&N Tests*, Volume 61, and *B&C Tests*, Volume 21.

February 27, 2006, is the deadline for final submission to both publications. Final submission involves completion of the online submission form and mailing of materials and payment to APS headquarters. The second submission period for *F&N Tests* will be late-spring or early-summer 2006. An exact date will be announced in the instructions and in *Phytopathology News* when determined.

Report charges remain at $25 per report for both publications. Please refer to the instructions for preparation and submission of reports at:

Centennial Countdown...

APS Centennial Sponsorship Challenge

Allison Tally, APS Centennial Fundraising Chair

APS will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2008. The Centennial Committee met during the Austin meeting, and plans are really coming together. We hope to provide members not only a retrospective look back during 2008, but also a look at the future. Although the APS Council has authorized funds toward the centennial we are asking for additional contributions for a truly memorable event. Our goal is to raise $100,000.

We are excited to announce we have received a very positive initial response, with the following five sponsors now confirmed:

Gold Sponsors

Silver Sponsor

Bronze Sponsors

We’d like to encourage your organizations to consider joining your colleagues and become a sponsor of this once in a lifetime event. A sponsorship form is available at www.apsnet.org/members/centennial/pdfs/centennialSponsorshipForm.pdf.

All sponsors will be recognized throughout centennial materials and events (initial recognition is included on the centennial website at www.apsnet.org/members/centennial/). You also will have the opportunity to help direct your funds by sponsoring particular events or projects. Please contact Centennial Planning Committee Chair Cleo D’Arcy (cdarcy@uiuc.edu or +1.217.333.1526) if you have questions or ideas about your donation. If you cannot donate in 2006, but feel you will be in a position to donate at a later date, please fill out the form regarding your intentions, and you will be contacted later. Should you need a letter directed to a specific person in your company, department, or institution, please contact Michelle Bjerkness (mbjerkness@scisoc.org or +1.651.994.3853), and we will be glad to accommodate your request.

Many thanks for helping us make the 2008 APS Centennial Meeting an event to remember!

www.apsnet.org/members/centennial

Here’s to 2008!

www.apsnet.org/members/centennial
Yasser M. Shabana, professor, Department of Plant Pathology, Faculty of Agriculture, Mansoura University, Egypt, was recently awarded the Arab Fund Distinguished Scholar Award for the academic year 2005–2006 and is currently visiting Steve Hallett’s lab in the Botany & Plant Pathology Department, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, for one year, working on the formulation of Microsphaeropsis amaranthi as a mycoherbicide for the common waterhemp weed, Amaranthus tuberculatus. Shabana also was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) Research Fellowship and spent a year and a half in the laboratory of J. Sauerborn at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany, working on formulation of a mycoherbicide for sunflower broomrape, Orobanche cumanica. He was awarded the 1998 Shoman Prize in Agricultural Sciences for the Young Arab Scientists in recognition of his research work on biological control of weeds with plant pathogens and microbial pesticides. Only one award in agricultural sciences is bestowed every year to an Arab scientist under the age of 40 who performs unique and superior applied research with excellent scientific value to the Arab community in the field of agricultural sciences. Additionally, Shabana received the 1998 National Prize of Egypt for Distinction for Young Scientists, the 1997 Award of Merit by the University of Mansoura, Egypt, and the 1993 IFS/King Baudouin Award by the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Sweden. Shabana received his Ph.D. degree in 1992 under a joint supervision system between the University of Mansoura and the University of Florida. He has done his post-doctoral work for two and half years in the laboratory of R. Charudattan at the University of Florida, Gainesville. Shabana is a coauthor of two U.S. patents on a broad-spectrum bioherbicide for controlling pigweed species and currently is serving as a regional editor for the Plant Pathology Journal. He has been an elected scientific adviser for IFS since 1989.

Plant pathologist and epidemiologist Jan C. Zadoks of the Netherlands was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Faculty of Natural Resources and Agriculture at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences during the annual graduation ceremony on October 8, 2005, in Uppsala, Sweden. This honorary doctorate was awarded to Zadoks based on the depth and scope of the contributions he has made to the international scientific community. Zadoks is one of the leading figures in plant disease epidemiology and was one of the first to use quantitative methods in studying plant disease dynamics.

Dilantha Fernando, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, Canada, was conferred the title of honored professor during his recent visit to Inner Mongolia Agriculture University and Inner Mongolia Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Huhehot, Inner Mongolia, Peoples Republic of China. During his visit to Inner Mongolia, August 7–21, 2005, Dilantha conducted a workshop on Sclerotinia disease management in sunflower in Linhe City and gave lectures at the university and agriculture academy. Dilantha’s trip was sponsored and paid for by the Chinese government under the International Research Partnership Program.

Bruce Clarke, director of Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, has been confirmed as the first Geiger Endowed Chair by the Rutgers University Board of Governors. “This distinction is a great compliment not only to Bruce, who has worked tirelessly to make the turfgrass program here at Rutgers’ Cook College one of the best in the world, but also to the program itself, which has a sterling reputation for innovation in research and education,” said Bob Goodman, dean of Cook College.

The endowed chair was funded by Ralph Geiger, an avid golfer and philanthropist who has donated generously to the Center for Turfgrass Science over the past decade. Income from the $2 million endowment, estimated at $90,000 in the first year, will be used to promote turfgrass teaching, extension, and research. At least $20,000 per year will be used to fund undergraduate, graduate, and two-year certificate-program student scholarships, with additional monies to be used to support turfgrass programs. Clarke has plans to convert one of the classrooms at the Geiger Education Complex into a “smart” classroom, upgrading the existing facility with state-of-the-art technology to enhance distance learning and webcasting capabilities. As director of the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, Clarke is responsible for providing leadership to foster internationally recognized research, undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education, and service programs in support of the turfgrass industry, which produces $3.2 billion in revenue each year for New Jersey alone. He is an authority on root-infecting fungi associated with patch diseases of turf and is recognized for his work on the development of integrated disease control strategies to reduce pesticide usage. Clarke has published three books on turfgrass pathology and has authored numerous articles for professional journals and trade magazines. He has recently been named a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy and has received the John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award from the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association, the Distinguished Service Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Jonathan Edelson was named professor and head of the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at Oklahoma State University effective October 1, 2005. Edelson joined the department as associate professor and director in 1989 and served as director of the Wes Watkins Agricultural Research and Extension Center until 1996. Since 1997 he has served as professor of entomology, charged with developing IPM research and extension education programs for vegetable crops in Oklahoma. The Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at Oklahoma State University currently has 21 tenured or tenure-track faculty and 45 graduate students. The department is currently in a growth phase, with three faculty positions currently advertised and two additional faculty positions anticipated to be funded next year.

Bruce Clarke
(From left to right) Mrs. Coos Zadoks-van Heuven, Professor Jan C. Zadoks, University Lecturer Annika Djurle, Professor Jonathan Yuan

Jonathan Edelson

Dilantha Fernando
In Memory

Leonard J. Francl (1949–2005), professor and head of the Plant Pathology Department at The Pennsylvania State University, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the spring of 2005 and courageously battled his illness until he passed away at his home on July 26. With the support of local hospice service, Len was able to stay home with his family during his final weeks. He is survived by his wife Camille; children Luke, Ember, and Alyssa; and siblings Fred, Tom, Mary, and Anne. His death has left a tremendous void in the lives of his family, friends, and colleagues.

Len’s passion was helping people, and he believed that agricultural research could lead to a better life for people all over the world. In pursuit of this passion, Len attended the University of Arizona in Tucson where he earned his B.S. degree with high distinction (1974) and M.S. degree (1975) in agriculture. Len then served as an instructor of agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO, from 1976 to 1981. In 1982 he accepted a position with the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Missouri, where he worked as a research associate while pursuing his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology. During this time in Missouri, Len worked with Victor Dropkin to develop his interests in nematology and investigated the ecology of soybean cyst nematode for his dissertation.

After receiving his Ph.D. degree in 1985, Len worked as a post-doctoral researcher at The Ohio State University, Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) in Wooster. At the OARDC he worked with Randy Rowe and Larry Madden researching potato early dying. The two years spent at Ohio State University afforded Len many opportunities to refine his skills as a nematologist and epidemiologist. Len worked for the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, MD, as a nematologist from 1987 until 1990, when he accepted a position at North Dakota State University (NDSU) as assistant professor in the Department of Plant Pathology. While at NDSU Len developed a research program investigating the epidemiology of wheat diseases, including tan spot, Stagonospora leaf blotch, and Fusarium head blight. By 2001 Len had been promoted to professor and had developed the NDSU Small Grains Disease Forecasting System. The NDSU system integrated disease forecasts for many of the major diseases affecting wheat in the upper Great Plains and continues to provide timely management recommendations for small grain producers in the region.

Len also took great pleasure in the success of those around him, and he sought ways to provide opportunities for their achievement. Len was a dedicated teacher, and during his time at NDSU, he taught courses in plant disease epidemiology, nematology, and introductory plant pathology, advised six graduate students, and was actively involved in the graduate programs of 20 additional students. Len was a patient mentor, spending countless hours working with students helping them to fulfill their potential. He was always quick with a joke and had a famously dry wit. Len continued to apply these same characteristics to his position as department head at Penn State and found great satisfaction in the success of his colleagues and their students. To this end, it was Len’s desire to establish an endowment for the Department of Plant Pathology at Penn State.

The Leonard J. Francl Memorial Endowment will be used in support of activities promoting the study of plant disease epidemiology, including graduate student recruitment and assistance, professional development, colloquium invitations, and sponsorship of meetings with relation to the study of plant disease epidemiology. Tax-deductible contributions may be made to: The Leonard J. Francl Memorial Endowment, C/O The Department of Plant Pathology, Buckhout Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. Although the endowment will never fill the gap left in our lives by the passing of our dear friend and colleague, we hope that you will join us in honoring his memory.

Leonard J. Francl

Evangeline (Van) Alderman Yarwood, researcher for the Kaiser Foundation Research Institute and formerly the University of California, died peacefully in her Berkeley home of 64 years on June 26, 2005, at age 96. Van was born and grew up in rural Ohio, attended Oberlin and Wellesley Colleges, and received her Ph.D. degree in zoology from U.C. Berkeley in 1936. In 1936 she married Cecil E. Yarwood, of the plant pathology faculty at Berkeley. Cecil died in 1981. Although she worked in the fields of zoology and entomology, she left a lasting legacy for the field of plant pathology and the American Phytopathological Society by providing funding for the Ruth Allen Award in cooperation with three other of Ruth Allen’s heirs. Additionally, several of her heirs, including one granddaughter and a son-in-law, are currently active members of APS and are working plant pathologists.

Herbert Spencer (Bert) Pepin (1928–2005) was born in Birtle, MB, Canada. Later, the family moved to Rossland, BC. This move brought Bert close to the Cominco smelter in Trail, BC, where he spent summer holidays during high school working in the assay office, with the expectation that he would obtain an engineering degree and return to the smelter.

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Phytopathology News 187
Brian Williamson
Invergowrie, Nr. Dundee, Scotland, with
He worked mainly on cherry decline
Peter Posnett
director and head of plant pathology
Station, Kent, England, working with
spent one year at the East Malling Research
Two year-long transfers of work
was spent traveling to research plots and
diseases of small fruits and some vegetables.
Research Station, BC, where a serious
Chloramphenicol Producers.”

In 1956, armed with an M.A. degree in
plant pathology (minor in biochemistry) he
went to the University of Illinois, Urbana,
to work with David Gottlieb, a mycologist
well-known for his research into the
chemical life cycles of organisms during the
first wave of research into antibiotics. This
Cycle of Streptomyces venezuelae Leading
to the Production of Chloromycin/
Chloramphenicol Producers.”

In 1959 Bert started his career at Saanichton
Research Station, BC, where a serious
disease was affecting local holly farms. Bert
identified and treated the causal organism,
which resulted in such heavy crops of glossy
leaves and scarlet berries that the bottom fell
out of the Christmas holly market!

In 1961 he joined the Agriculture Canada
Research Station on the campus of the
University of BC, Vancouver. He remained
there for the rest of his career, working on
diseases of small fruits and some vegetables.
One aspect was the diagnosis and control
of the disease, but another was the need to
breed resistance into plant varieties. For
the latter, he worked in conjunction with
geneticist Hugh Daubeney. Much time
was spent traveling to research plots and
collaborating with provincial stations. As
an honorary professor he also instructed
students in the classroom and his laboratory.

Two year-long transfers of work
(sabbaticals) greatly enriched his work
experience. In 1971 he, with his family,
spent one year at the East Malling Research
Station, Kent, England, working with
director and head of plant pathology
Peter Posnett and with Geoffrey Sewell.
He worked mainly on cherry decline
(Thielaviopsis basicola). In 1982 Bert,
with his family, spent a year working at
the Scottish Crops Research Station at
Invergowrie, Nr. Dundee, Scotland, with
Brian Williamson, working on spur blight of
raspberries (Didymella applanata).

Bert retired officially in 1991 but remained
largely in his office and lab to continue his
work on the development of DNA probes.
Different probes were developed for each
species, providing rapid identification of fungi
rather than having to grow them through
lengthy life cycles. During this time he was
able to instruct technicians, post-graduate and
post-doctoral students in the technique. The
technique was subsequently utilized by medical
researchers to identify human host organisms.
He was also a guest lecturer to the horticultural
students of David Ballantyne, Victoria, BC.

Another facet of his career required that he
act as an expert witness in a number of court
cases. These involved shipping companies,
produce cargoes (usually citrus), and off-shore
growers. His last case took place in Hong-
Kong between a Canadian shipping company
and Guang Xi (mainland) mandarin orange
growers. Bert’s report and expert witness
statements were accepted, and he was then sent
off to explore Hong Kong for eight days until
the case was settled in favor of the shipper.

World travel was an aspect of his career that
he found enriching—not only conferences
and work travel, but meeting with associates
on private travel. He, often with his family,
traveled across Canada, the United States, the
United Kingdom, the Canary Isles, France,
Belgium, Holland, Norway, Denmark,
Sweden, and Finland and as far as Leningrad
(Verticillium Conference), Warsaw, Budapest,
Prague, and Vienna in the politically critical
year of 1990. His last trips were to Australia
and New Zealand in 1996 and Italy and
France in 1998.

Bert received a number of awards during his
career, many from the soft fruits industries
who valued his dedication to solving their
disease problems. One example was his
discovery in 1975 of a fungicide (Triforin)
to combat the devastating mummy berry
disease (Monilinia vaccinii-corymbosi), which
seriously threatened blueberry production.
Judicious use of the spray, together with
better cultivation techniques, led to a vastly
increased fruit yield from healthy, well-
maintained plants. This regime is still used
by the thriving British Columbia blueberry
industry, now numbering well over 400
producers. Canada reportedly brings in the
second largest blueberry crop worldwide.

Bert had many interests and supported
a number of causes. He relaxed with dinghy
sailing, lawn bowling, and walking. He read
widely and enjoyed music, opera, and theater.
He took up oil painting in retirement. Bert
bore his difficult illness with courage, hope,
and a wonderful sense of humor. His clarity
of mind and wit was retained to the end. He
greatly appreciated the kindness and support
of colleagues and friends.

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Classifieds

Classified Policy

Job Listings
You can process your job listing directly
through the APS online job placement service
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
two 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 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
(applacement@scisoc.org). To post in the
newsletter only, see column-inch pricing
below.

Other Classifieds
You can also publish for sale items, materials
available, or other non-job related classified
items in Phytopathology News. The fee is based
on one-column inch pricing. The charge
for a standard format classified listing is $70
per column-inch. The charge for a display
classified ad (with logo, border, or other
artwork) is $100 per column-inch. Materials
must be received on the first day of the month
prior to the requested month of publication.
Send your listing to the Phytopathology News
Editor (PhytoNewsEditor@scisoc.org).

Research Leader (Interdisciplinary)
Supervisory Research Plant Physiologist,
Geneticist (Plants), Plant Pathologist, or
Entomologist. The U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service,
Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis,
OR, invites applications for the permanent,
time-full position of research leader. The
research leader will direct a dynamic group of
16 scientists and 50 support staff, providing
vision and leadership in research focused
on enhanced production and quality of
horticultural and nursery crops in the Pacific
Northwest. The research leader will also
conduct research to evaluate aspects of the
physiology, genetics, pathology, or arthropod
pests of small fruit or nursery crops. A Ph.D.
degree in a closely related field is desired.
U.S. citizenship is required. For information
on the research program and/or more details
on the position, contact Andy Hammond.
For specific application procedures and
requirements, please contact Pam Dean at
+1.541.738.4002 (e-mail deanpa@onid.orst.
edu). USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity
employer and provider. Salary: GS-14/15,
$85,123.00 to $130,173.00 per annum,
commensurate with experience. Closing
Date: December 30, 2005 (This closing date
is not adjustable.) Contact: Andy Hammond,
USDA-ARS, 800 Buchanan St., Albany, CA 94710 USA. E-mail:ahammont@pw.ars.usda.gov; Phone: +1.510.559.6071. For more information on this position visit: www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/vacancy/resjobs/x6w-0014.pdf.

Assistant Scientist II
The incumbent coordinates and helps design research and extension projects relating to development and implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) and reduced-risk disease-management strategies for fruit, vegetable, and ornamental growers. Crops of current interest include apples, strawberries, and hosta. Our research spans the range from applied field studies in disease ecology and management to basic research in genetic diversity of pathogens. Expectations include coordination of multidisciplinary and multistate project teams and cooperating commercial growers; supervision of undergraduate research assistants and interns; comenting of graduate students; collaboration with visiting scientists; leadership in planning experiments, analyzing data, and interpreting findings; and coauthoring of research and extension proposals. The incumbent takes the lead in preparing manuscripts for research journals, extension publications, and web pages and delivers presentations to research and extension audiences. The position requires strong organizational skills, good writing and speaking ability, and considerable energy. Effective interpersonal communication skills are needed due to frequent interaction with students, researchers, extension professionals, and growers, as well as training and/or experience in statistics and software packages (e.g., PowerPoint, SigmaPlot, Excel). The position also offers strong potential for developing skills and credentials to promote career advancement. M.S. degree in plant pathology or a closely related field (e.g., microbiology, agronomy) and two years of relevant lab or field research experience, including senior authorship of at least one refereed research paper and presentations at scientific meetings. Ph.D. degree preferred, but having the other skills and credentials matters more than the degree.

Salary: $39,125 minimum. Closing Date: December 15, 2005 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send cover letter, CV, including list of publications, and names and contact information of three professional references. Contact: Mark Gleason, Department of Plant Pathology, 351 Bessey Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011 USA. Fax: +1.515.294.9420; E-mail: mgleason@iastate.edu; Phone: +1.515.294.0579. For more information on this position visit: www.iastate.edu.

Assistant Professor – Mycology
The Department of Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences is seeking a motivated and creative individual to fill a 75% research and 25% teaching, 9-month, tenure-track position at the assistant professor level. Exceptional candidates of higher rank will be considered. The successful candidate must be broadly trained in the field of mycology—particularly in the area of taxonomy and systematics, including both traditional morphological and state-of-the-art molecular approaches. He or she will be expected to develop an innovative, extramurally funded research program on economically important plant-pathogenic fungi. Teaching duties will include responsibility for an undergraduate course in introductory mycology, a graduate course in plant-pathogenic fungi, and one additional undergraduate or graduate course based on the needs of the department and the interests of the successful candidate. Active participation in graduate education is expected and essential. The person hired will be encouraged to collaborate with the faculty in this and other departments on projects and issues pertaining to mycology. The mild climate and diverse geography (e.g., mountains, piedmont, and coast) of South Carolina make it an excellent place to study fungi. A Ph.D. degree in mycology, plant pathology, botany, biology, or related discipline is required; extensive research experience with fungi is essential. Post-doctoral experience is desirable. Excellent verbal and written communications skills are mandatory. Salary: Competitive. Closing Date: February 1, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Interested applicants should submit a detailed CV (including a complete list of publications, presentations, and grant awards), statement of research and teaching interests and career goals, reprints of selected refereed publications, and copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts. Applicants also should request that letters of reference be submitted independently by three individuals. Contact: Steve Jeffers, Clemson University, Department of Entomology, Soils, & Plant Sciences, 120 Long Hall, Box 340315, Clemson, SC 29634-0315 USA. Fax: +1.864.656.0274; E-mail: sjffrs@clemson.edu; Phone: +1.864.656.7157. For more information on this position visit: www.clemson.edu.

Post-doctoral – Research Associate
The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Cereal Disease Laboratory in St. Paul, MN, is seeking a post-doctoral research associate (research plant pathologist) for a two-year appointment. The incumbent will determine genetic variation in worldwide populations of the wheat leaf rust fungus, Puccinia triticina, to determine the intercontinental migration patterns of this important wheat pathogen. Methods will include testing P. triticina isolates with previously developed microsatellite (SSR) primers to determine multilocus SSR genotypes and virulence testing on near isogenic wheat lines that differ for single leaf rust resistance genes. Experiments to develop segregating populations of P. triticina to map SSR loci, AFLP markers, and avirulence loci may also be undertaken. A recent Ph.D. degree in plant pathology, or a closely related biological sciences field, is required. Knowledge of statistical methods in population genetics and bioinformatics analysis is desirable. Refer to www.ars.usda.gov/careers for further information on post-doctoral research associate jobs, for complete application instructions, and the full text announcement (RA-06-006). Citizenship restrictions apply. USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Salary: $52,473 – $68,215 plus benefits. Closing Date: January 27, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send recent CV, personal statement of career and research interests, and names and addresses of three references. Contact: James Kolmer, USDA/ARS Cereal Disease Laboratory, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108 USA E-mail: jkolmer@umn.edu; Phone: +1.612.626.1226. For more information on this position visit: www.ars.usda.gov/careers.

Post-doctoral Fellow
The post-doctoral fellow will investigate gene expression in the Phymatotrichum root rot fungus Phymatotrichopsis omnivora during infection of Medicago species and in the presence of various stimuli. Research will focus on 1) fungal mRNA isolation and construction of cDNA libraries; 2) analysis of ESTs and identification of interesting transcripts for further research; and 3) assisting general efforts to genetically characterize and transform the causal fungus. A Ph.D. degree in plant pathology, mycology, microbiology, molecular biology, or related fields and experience in molecular cloning, genomic and cDNA library construction and analysis, fungal transformation, and bioinformatics analysis is required. Direct experience with plant-pathogenic fungi is preferred. Salary: $30,000 –$32,000, commensurate with experience and qualifications. Closing Date: January 26, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Review of applications will begin on November 15, 2005, and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Application materials should include a letter of application, CV, and the names, addresses, and contact numbers (phone, fax, e-mail addresses) of three references. Contact: Stephen Marek, Oklahoma State University, Entomology and Plant Pathology, 127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK 74078-3033 USA. Fax: +1.405.744.6039; E-mail: stephen.marek@okstate.edu; Phone: +1.405.744.3090. For more information on this position visit: www.entnplp.okstate.edu.

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Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology – Tree Fruit and Berry Crop Pathology
This tenure-track, full-time academic position addresses two functional areas, extension (50%) and research (50%), and includes responsibility for leading the statewide extension program on tree fruit and berry crop pathology in cooperation with other Cornell extension faculty and personnel. The extension component must involve an education program using traditional and innovative communication technologies. The program must address the cause and control of tree fruit and berry crop diseases in New York State and should be directed toward extension educators, growers, private consultants, and agribusiness personnel. A nationally recognized research program that is supportive of the extension responsibility is required. It should include both collaborative work and an independent focus of interest to the candidate that complements existing departmental programs. The research objective should further the development of integrated pest management programs that address tree fruit and berry crop diseases of importance in New York State. Besides traditional plant pathology, use of modern technologies, including quantitative epidemiology, molecular genetics, and genomics would be appropriate. The individual is expected to obtain external funding to support the research and extension programs. Mentoring of graduate students is expected. A Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or related discipline is required, with broad knowledge and interest in innovative approaches to the study of disease biology, epidemiology, and disease management. Applicant must be committed to developing and communicating practical disease management programs within the framework of modern integrated pest management concepts. To the extent possible, participation in the Cornell University New Life Sciences Initiative (www.lifesciences.cornell.edu) is encouraged. Practical experience or knowledge of fruit crops and disease control practices is desirable but not required. The ability to write and speak effectively for diverse audiences and to work well with people is essential. Salary: Competitive, commensurate with background and experience. Closing Date: January 15, 2006. Applicants are to submit a letter of application, resume, academic transcripts, and the names and addresses of three references. Contact: Robert Seem, Cornell University, NYSAES, 630 W. North St., Department of Plant Pathology, Geneva, NY 14456 USA. Fax: +1.315.787.2389; E-mail: rcs4@cornell.edu; Phone: +1.315.787.2388. For more information on this position visit: www.nysaes.cornell.edu/pp/. Research Associate I
Incumbent will be responsible for conducting routine bacterial disease resistance screens, including inoculating and evaluating reactions on seedlings, establishing and evaluating field trials, and communicating results to breeders. Incumbent will also be responsible for developing new disease screens, for working with and maintaining an obligate fungal pathogen, and for independently conducting research to solve problems or answer questions as they arise. Additional responsibilities include processing and diagnosing disease samples for pathogen identification, including building a digital photo archive of samples and building and maintaining a bacterial pathogen culture collection. Incumbent will engage in researching, writing, and organizing disease descriptions and short reports and presenting general information about pathology’s role in the company to station visitors. Incumbent will directly supervise two to three employees and will carry out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the organization’s policies. The primary focus will include training, planning, assigning, and directing work, appraising performance, and addressing complaints and resolving problems. Incumbent should have a B.S. degree in a related field (plus seven years of related experience); M.S. degree (plus at least one year of related experience) preferred. Must have proven knowledge of plant pathology and plant pathogens, must have excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills, and should be well organized and detail oriented. Ability to read, write, and speak English and Spanish is desired. Computer skills related to analyzing and presenting data are essential; knowledge and ease using pathology literature is a plus. Sensitivity to and acceptance of cultural differences is required. Closing Date: January 19, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Rick Roggenbuck, Seminis, 37437 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA 95616 USA. Fax: +1.530.666.3198; E-mail: rick.roggenbuck@seminis.com; Phone: +1.530.669.6171. For more information on this position visit: www.seminis.com. Molecular Plant Pathologist
The seed health department at STA Laboratories, Inc., in Longmont, CO, is seeking a permanent, full-time scientist to lead the molecular plant pathology program and ensure adequate and efficient process control of seed samples for pathogen detection. This position will ensure that client samples received for seed health testing are processed in an accurate and timely manner, while upholding our standards for superior customer service. The position will also require the applicant to perform background literature searches and market potential analysis for the design of experimental methods and assist with the development of molecular-based detection methods for seedborne pathogens of vegetables, agronomic, and horticultural species. Applicants should possess a B.S. degree with two to three years of laboratory experience or a M.S. degree in molecular plant pathology or other related biological science. Experience with PCR, real time PCR, RT-PCR, PAGE, rep-PCR, and other molecular-based techniques is required. Experience with ELISA, pathogen culture and storage, and plant diagnostics is beneficial. The applicant should have a demonstrated ability to direct sample processing, reach goals in a timely fashion, and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: December 30, 2005 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Kimberly Webb, STA Laboratories, Inc., 1821 Vista View Dr., Longmont, CO 80501 USA. Fax: +1.303.772.4003; E-mail: kimberly.webb@stalabs.com; Phone: +1.303.651.6417. For more information on this position visit: www.stalabs.com. Assistant Research Professor
Successful candidate will develop and implement a strong, externally funded research program aimed at generating sustainable and environmentally sound pest and disease control strategies for fruit crops; direct the thesis research of graduate students who work toward higher degrees, as well as undergraduate interns; develop and teach one or more courses in integrated pest management; undertake outreach activities, especially advisory and diagnostic work related to pest and disease problems encountered by growers; work in collaboration with colleagues within and outside the Department of Fruit Science; and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the department head. Position is available in March 2006. The review of applications begins November 15, 2005. Missouri State University is an AA/EO employer. Ph.D. degree in entomology, plant pathology, horticulture, plant biology, or related fields is required; demonstrated expertise in modern biological techniques and competitive grant writing; good interpersonal communication abilities and collegiality. The candidate must demonstrate the ability to work in collaboration with others, and show a potential to conduct research in the area of plant–insect or plant–microbe interactions at a level that will result in peer-reviewed publications and attract funding from outside granting agencies. Post-doctoral research experience and a strong background in both entomology and plant pathology are preferred qualifications. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: January 1, 2006. Send a letter of application, CV, copies of transcripts, three letters of reference, and supporting materials (e.g., samples of scholarship, evidence of teaching excellence). Contact: Laszlo Kovacs, Fruit Science Department, Missouri State University, 9740 Red Spring Rd., Mountain Grove, MO 65711 USA. Fax: +1.417.547.7540; E-mail:
Senior Scientist – Plant Pathogen Diagnostics

Primary responsibility: Plant pathogen test development using immunochemical methods. 1) Identify primary viral, bacterial, fungal, and MLO pathogens for major commodity markets with special emphasis on value-added crops; 2) prepare and advise senior management on a research and development plan for plant pathogen diagnostics; and 3) develop immunochromatographic tests (ICT’s) for such pathogens. Secondary responsibilities: Will be expected to perform or contribute to rigorous method validations and data analysis, write-up, and submissions on various crop and environmental matrices. A M.S. degree in plant pathology is a must. A self starter with a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology with either relevant thesis work or post-doctoral experience will be considered. Additional expertise desired or required: 1) Experience with immunoassays and immunoassay development that includes ELISA and immunochromatographic devices (lateral flow test strips); 2) familiarity with DNA-based diagnostics for plant pathogens; 3) basic knowledge of antibody development and purification methods; 4) knowledge of GLPs and ability to work with minimum supervision; and 5) ability to multitask. The ideal applicant will possess at least four years of general solid-phase immunoassay experience, with three in development. Experience in human, veterinary or agricultural diagnostics all relevant. Requires a self-starter with strong organizational and communication skills and the ability to plan and work to a schedule on multiple simultaneous projects. Contribution of new ideas to speed product development a major plus. Proficiency with PC-based applications, technical writing skills, and antibody purification experience are required assets. Familiarity with ion-exchange, affinity and size-exclusion chromatography, and coating of polystyrene solid-phase supports with antibodies or other proteins is advantageous, though not a requirement. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: January 1, 2006. Send current resume, list of publications, and references. Contact: Peter Johnson, EnviroLogix, 500 Riverside Industrial Parkway, Portland, ME 04103-1486 USA. Fax: +1.207.797.7533; E-mail: api@envirologix.com; Phone: +1.207.797.0300. For more information on this position visit: www.envirologix.com.

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology

The department seeks an individual who will 1) develop an outstanding extension education program covering disease management strategies for primarily cereal crops but also forage, pulse, and oilseed crops, as well as turfgrass and ornamental horticultural plants. The extension education program should be supportive of county agents and address needs of growers, certified crop advisors, agribusiness, trade associations, and the various commodity groups associated with crop responsibilities. 2) Develop an applied research program related to extension responsibilities. 3) Supervise Montana State University’s Schutter Plant Diagnostic Facility and lead Montana’s participation in the National Pest Diagnostic Network. Requirements include a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or closely related field; demonstrated expertise in plant disease management; and a record of publication of refereed and reviewed publications. The successful candidate will be a dynamic extension educator and scientist who will 1) help MSU continue to provide outstanding extension, research, teaching, and service; 2) have strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to collaborate successfully with extension and research scientists and educators from MSU’s extension and MAES faculty, and effectively interface with students, growers, and other stakeholders; 3) have excellent written and oral communications skills, and 4) work cooperatively with people of diverse backgrounds. Salary: Nationally competitive. Closing Date: January 20, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send 1) a letter of application describing how their training, expertise, talents, and experiences qualify them to fulfill the qualifications for the position; 2) a resume or CV; 3) transcripts (official) of all university academic work; and 4) contact information for three to five professional references (names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses). Contact: Irene Decker, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist Position Search Committee, Montana State University, Boxeman 119 AgBioScience Facility, Bozeman, MT 59717-3150 USA. Fax: +1.406.994.7600; E-mail: decker@montana.edu; Phone: +1.406.994.5171. For more information on this position visit: http://plantsciences.montana.edu/.

Research/Teaching Nematologist

Clemson University is seeking a highly motivated plant nematologist to develop a strong research and teaching program in biology and pathology of plant nematodes. The initial appointment will be 80% research and 20% teaching. The successful candidate is expected to conduct basic and applied research using combinations of molecular- and field-scale approaches to advance the science of nematology and to address specific needs of South Carolina agriculture. The development of an extramurally funded, nationally and internationally recognized research program is expected. Undergraduate and graduate teaching responsibilities will include teaching plant nematology, a portion of introductory plant pathology, and the development and instruction of a new graduate course related to plant–pathogen interactions. The candidate should have the desire and ability to collaborate with diverse groups and individuals involved in integrated pest management and research on campus and elsewhere, as well as scientists of other disciplines in the department and college. The individual must have a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or a related discipline and excellent oral and written communication skills. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: March 1, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Submit a letter describing your teaching philosophy, statement regarding anticipated research and short- and long-term goals, CV, official academic transcripts, reprints of refereed publications, and have three letters of reference sent to Chair of Search and Screen Committee. Contact: Guido Schnabel, Clemson University, 120 Long Hall, Department of Entomology, Soils and Plant Sciences, Clemson, SC 29634 USA. E-mail: schnabe@clemson.edu; Phone: +1.864.656.6705. For more information on this position visit: www.clemson.edu.

Crop Health Operations Manager

Yoder Brothers, Inc. of Barberton, OH, is seeking candidates for the position of crop health manager for the Technical Service Group located in Fort Myers, FL. The Technical Service Group is responsible for providing entomology, pathology, nematology, plant certification, and diagnostics support to all of Yoder’s facilities worldwide and to Yoder’s customers. The successful candidate will have an advanced degree in either entomology or plant pathology and either research or extension experience. The position is responsible for directing the entomology and pathology research programs for the company and the development of pest management strategies for Yoder’s production facilities both here in the United States and abroad. The candidate must be detail oriented and have the ability to manage multiple tasks and projects simultaneously. Ornamental crop experience a must. Excellent written and oral communication skills required. Position requires both U.S. and international travel. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Qualified applicants can send letter of application, CV or resume, copy of transcripts, and three letters of professional recommendation. Closing Date: January 1, 2006. Contact: Nathan Morales, Human Resources Manager, Yoder Brothers, Inc., 2201 Owanita Rd., Alva, FL 33920 USA. E-mail: moralen@yoder.com.
Assistant Professor – Extension Plant Pathology

This is a 12-month, tenure-accruing assistant professor position that will be 35% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 65% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) available in the Department of Plant Pathology, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. This faculty member will be responsible for establishing a long-term, integrated, extension and research program dedicated to the control of diseases of agronomic and vegetable crops in Florida. The position's responsibility for agronomic crops includes, but is not limited to peanuts, pasture and forage crops, corn, sorghum, small grains, tobacco, and soybeans. Vegetable crop responsibilities include involvement in statewide recommendations for disease control and all aspects of cucurbit disease control. Initially, the research component of this position is expected to involve seed pathology in an interaction with the peanut breeding program. Long-term, the research program should create and evaluate innovative disease control programs for assigned crops. A Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or a closely related field is required. Post-doctoral or other post-graduate experience is desirable, but not required. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication and ability to establish and maintain good interpersonal relationships and to procure extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the land-grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS’ core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability. Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Closing Date: January 2, 2006 (This closing date is not adjustable.) Interested persons are requested to submit electronically the following items: 1) A statement of your intention to apply, including a short paragraph about your personal goals if you were selected for this position; 2) resume; 3) copy of a transcript from all colleges attended; and 4) names of three individuals with first-hand knowledge of your academic accomplishments and post-graduate work experience. Contact: Jerry Bartz, Department of Plant Pathology/IFAS/University of Florida, 2559 Fifield Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-0680 USA. Fax: +1.352.392.6532; E-mail: jabartz@ifas.ufl.edu; Phone: +1.352.392.3631 x347. For more information on this position visit: http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/StatePositionDescriptions/0001-3548.htm.
Celebrating Great Partnerships in Plant Pathology.

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Pass along the application on the next page, or send a colleague to www.apsnet.org/members/pdf/2006partnerapp.pdf to download an application. Or, contact Denise Kessler: phone 1.800.481.2698 (in the U.S.) +1.651.994.3806 (elsewhere), e-mail dkessler@scisoc.org. APS is on the web at: www.apsnet.org.

This offer is available to new members and returning members whose last membership ended prior to 2005.
Join APS with a colleague for HALF the price of a regular, post-doc, or student membership!

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### Membership Application

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**APS Member Dues** (Must choose one.)

- ☑ Regular $70 ($35)
- ☑ Post-Doc* $48 ($24)
- ☑ Student* $26 ($13)

*Faculty Endorsement

(Students and Post Docs must be in a degree-seeking accredited institution verified with a faculty signature.)

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- ☑ Pacific $5
- ☑ Southern ST/PD† $3

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- Interactions (MPMI) ☑ $93 ☑ $69 ☑ $127
- Phytopathology ☑ $85 ☑ $61 ☑ $111
- Plant Disease ☑ $85 ☑ $61 ☑ $111
- Plant Management Network (available online only) ☑ $38

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**Total Membership Fees $**

**Questions?** Contact Member Services at 1.800.481.2698 or go to APSnet at www.apsnet.org.

### Other Upcoming Events

#### December 2005
- **8-10** — Asian Conference on Emerging Trends in Plant–Microbe Interactions. Chennai, India. (gmanick@vsnl.com or anandalgae@hotmail.com)
- **10-17** — Nematode Identification Short Course. Clemson University, Clemson, SC. http://pppweb.clemson.edu/nematode.htm

#### February 2006

#### April 2006

#### May 2006
- **22-25** — 2nd International Workshop for the Morphological and Molecular Identification of the Straminipiles: Phytophthora and Pythium. Raleigh, NC. (gloria_abad@ncsu.edu)

#### June 2006
- **11-14** — XVth Biennial Workshop on Smut Fungi. Prague, Czech Republic. www.lolo.usd.cas.cz/workshop

#### July 2006
- **13-14** — 2006 International Spinach Conference. LaConner, WA. http://capps.wsu.edu/calendar
- **17-21** — XVth Congress of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Biology. Lyon, France. www.fespb2006.org
- **23-27** — 3rd International Workshop on Barley Leaf Blights. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. (orrdd@agr.gc.ca)

#### August 2006
- **28-September 5** — International Powdery Mildew Conference. Monterey, CA. (wdgubler@ucdavis.edu)

#### September 2006
- **11-15** — International Grapevine Trunk Disease Conference. Davis, CA. (wdgubler@ucdavis.edu)

#### December 2006
- **7-8** — National Allium Research Conference. College Station, TX. (k-yoo@tamu.edu)

#### August 2008

For the most current listing, check out the APSnet event calendar at www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp.