Innovative New Textbook for Introductory Plant Pathology Courses Will Be Ready for Fall Semester

Essential Plant Pathology, the highly anticipated textbook from educators Gail Schumann and Cleo D’Arcy, will be available for fall semester 2006 classes from APS PRESS. Written specifically at the introductory course level, this new textbook will offer students a refreshing change from what is currently available.

The book is reader-friendly, with important terms and concepts clearly identified. Special "Did you know?" boxes will spark student interest by providing cultural and historical facts about plant diseases, and every chapter will guide students to recommended resources, study questions, "Words to Know," Internet research exercises, and CD-Rom exercises.

The new Schumann/D’Arcy text will come packaged with a dynamic CD-Rom that will work hand-in-hand with the popular APS Education Center and provide students and their professors with an engaging way to learn and teach plant pathology. Instructors will appreciate the full-resolution color images that may be used in their handouts and presentations. Other cut-and-paste text resources will help tie customized lectures to the textbook.

Educators who requisition student copies now through their bookstores automatically qualify for a free instructor's copy of the book and CD-Rom, which will be sent to adopting instructors first in early August. To ensure earliest delivery, place your order for this book with your bookstore now for fall-semester classes. Contact APS PRESS Customer Care at 1.800.328.7560 or send an e-mail to aps@scisoc.org and request ordering information for the new Essential Plant Pathology textbook.

Gail Schumann and Cleo D’Arcy are authors of the new introductory plant pathology textbook coming soon from APS PRESS.
From the President’s Notebook

Species Extinction and the Generalist

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

David Raup, professor emeritus and renowned paleontologist at the University of Chicago, has been quoted as saying “all species that have ever lived are, to a first approximation, dead.” Many ecologists are concerned that the rate of species extinction actually appears to be increasing. One species on the verge of extinction is the Generalist.

We need not look far to see the signs of increasing specialization and reductionism in science (and in our daily lives). Specialist journals and professional societies are proliferating, not to mention specialist jargon and gadgets. Research formerly done by one or two people is now being done and published by teams of scientists. When was the last time you read a general biology text written by a single author? No one seems to have the expertise (or time) anymore. When did you last participate in a “comprehensive” Ph.D. preliminary oral exam that was truly comprehensive, i.e., one that tested for the scholarly ability to synthesize relevant information from diverse areas of biology and plant pathology? Formerly holistic biology is being supplanted by focused biology of model organisms, often under controlled conditions and centered largely at the molecular rather than the organismal level. Field trips are no longer fashionable, and even the laboratory component of many courses has been jettisoned in favor of more streamlined concentration on lectures or research discussion sections devoted to the most recent “topical” literature. Science appears increasingly to be driven by methods, technology, and data generation as ends in themselves, rather than by broad research questions resolved through strong inference. This ever-tightening spiral toward specialization is to a large extent inevitable and has been spawned mainly by the information explosion. Where does it go from here?

Though the causes of specialization may be fairly obvious, I fear that the consequences are not and that they will be pervasive and detrimental overall. This is because to do science well, we must have both generalists and specialists. Surely this is especially true in plant pathology, which by its nature is an amalgam of disciplines. Plant pathology exists as a discipline to apply basic science to the understanding and control of disease processes. We need general practitioners of the art and science of plant pathology, just as society needs general practitioners of medicine. Even in the realm of exclusively basic research, generalization is needed because the scientific “wheel of logic” turns through an inductive phase to a deductive phase and back again to induction. We need to understand first whether a puzzle is worth unraveling before we try to discern the shape of the pieces and then to rearrange them meaningfully. Complex issues like assessing the ecological impact of plant pathogens or the release of genetically engineered organisms need either very good generalists or endless panels of diverse specialists to be resolved. Reductionists, who have done much to discover important molecular mechanisms, occasionally would have us believe that organisms are no more than mechanical expressions of their DNA, that genotype leads in lockstep fashion inexorably to phenotype, that organisms are no more than a summation of their independently variable traits. This is a dangerously misleading simplification, especially when it becomes dogma. A more holistic (and correct!) view would be that organisms are the complex product of genes, developmental pathways, and a constantly changing environment. It takes good generalist biology to understand how organisms work. The point really is that to do biology properly it takes both good specialists and good generalists.

The looming specter of an all-specialist world would be unsettling enough were the implications confined to scientific inquiry, but they carry beyond how we communicate with each other to whether we can communicate at all with the general public. Key members of the public of course are legislators who weigh the budgetary needs of science against other needs and local school boards that determine what is taught to the next generation in the name of science. Mott Greene has written insightfully on this dilemma under the title What Cannot Be Said in Science (Nature 388:619–620, 1997). Because the art of synthesis as an ongoing activity, one that was practiced formerly by scientists and learned by students, has largely ceased, he says that within a generation what once could be taken for granted in scientific communication (“what goes without saying”) has passed into “what cannot be said.”
His conclusion is that this situation is not only detrimental to how we practice science but that it jeopardizes the entire scientific enterprise.

As scientists and as plant pathologists we need to maintain more than a vestige of generalist thinking if we are to advance. This can be done in many ways: by how we design our curricula; in what we demonstrate by example and expect of our students; and by what we choose to value as marks of scholarly achievement in academia and in our profession. A good start would be to turn off our cell phones, BlackBerrys, laptops, and iPods for five minutes and reflect on a couple of lines from T.S. Eliot’s The Rock (1934): “Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?”

**“Partnership” Promotion Pays Off for Professor and Ph.D. Candidate**

Joining APS together under the current Great Partnerships program was an easy decision for Massimo Turina and Ph.D. student Paolo Margaria, who have been working together since 2003. Turina began advising Margaria in his undergraduate thesis at the University of Turin, and currently they are partnering on Margaria’s Ph.D. program. Under APS’s partnership promotion, a nonmember can join APS with another nonmember for half price.

Turina and Margaria know of the many benefits of membership in APS. Turina joined APS to widen his contacts in the plant pathology world and to ease the flow of information about what is going on in the various plant pathology organizations. He joined also to take advantage of member discounts for publishing and annual meetings. Says Ph.D. student Margaria, “I think this partnership could be a great way to receive news on what is going on in plant sciences and to introduce myself to APS and to the plant pathology world.”

Turina received his Ph.D. in plant pathology at the University of Bologna, Italy. His Ph.D. program also took him to UC-Berkley and Texas A&M. His dissertation was entitled “Organization and Expression Strategy of the Panicum Mosaic Virus Genome.” Currently he is a permanent researcher at the Plant Virology Institute—National Research Council in Turin, Italy. Since 2002 he has been the head of the virus identification and characterization group and is now working on the characterization of resistance-breaking strains of *Tomato spotted wilt virus* (TSWV) on resistant pepper and tomato. Turina is also leading a project aimed at improving detection methods for the phytoplasma causing *flavescence dorée*.

Paolo Margaria obtained his degree in biotechnology at the University of Turin. He conducted his final experimental thesis, “Molecular Characterization of Resistance-Breaking Strains of *Tomato spotted wilt virus* Infecting Resistant Pepper Carrying the Tsw Gene,” at the Plant Virology Institute—National Research Council. Currently he is working at the Plant Virology Institute as a Ph.D. candidate with Turina on a project aimed to develop rapid diagnostic methods for the detection of the phytoplasma causing *flavescence dorée*. Margaria is also continuing his work on the characterization of new resistance-breaking strains of TSWV on resistant pepper.

Know any great partners who could benefit from the Great Partnerships program? Please help spread the word that nonmembers can join with other nonmembers for half off. Send them to www.apsnet.org/visitors/partnerpromo.asp, use the enclosed application on page 40, or have them contact Denise Kessler at aps@scisoc.org or +1.651.994.3806.

**APS North Central Division To Meet**

Mark your calendar now for the 2006 APS North Central Division Annual Meeting in Fargo, ND, June 13–15. An optional premeeting field tour focusing on urban forest pathology is planned for the afternoon of June 13. Meeting registration and a reception will take place during the evening of June 13. The scientific program will begin in the morning on June 14 with a mini-symposium, “Merging Old and New Technologies: Screening for Disease-Resistance.” Tours and a banquet will follow the scientific program. A business meeting is scheduled for the morning of June 15. Arrangements are being coordinated by members of the Plant Pathology Department at North Dakota State University. Additional information can be found at the North Central Division website (www.apsnet.org/members/div/northcentral/).

**Nominations for APS Outstanding Volunteer Award Requested**

The APS Councilors’ Forum is requesting nominations for the 2006 APS Outstanding Volunteer Award. This new award recognizes individuals for excellent service in furthering the mission of APS through their volunteer efforts. The intention of this award, given for the first time in 2005, is to recognize those volunteers in the general membership whose contributions are deemed invaluable.

APS members are encouraged to nominate individuals for this honor. Nominations may come from any entity within APS or any APS member. Simply submit your nomination to the attention of the APS Intermediate Councilor-at-large, Barb Christ (cbf@psu.edu), via e-mail as a PDF file by June 16, 2006. The nomination should be no more than one page. Include a description of recent volunteer activities (within the last three to five years; can be ongoing) and how the nominee excelled in the quality, timeliness, and/or scope of these activities. (Note: Current officers of APS are not eligible for this award. Senior editors and committee chairs are not eligible in their area of responsibility. The awardee must be a member of APS.)

The Councilors’ Forum will review the nominations and select the awardee. At the discretion of the Councilors’ Forum, more than one recognition may be given annually. The recipient(s) receive an APS plaque and will be recognized during the APS Annual Meeting by the APS president. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Christ.
Encourage your colleagues to join APS together for HALF the price of a regular, post-doc, or student membership!

This offer is available to new members and returning members whose last membership ended prior to 2005.

Membership Application

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Questions? Contact Member Services at 1.800.481.2698 or go to APSnet at www.apsnet.org.
III Silicon in Agriculture Conference

Silicon, the second-most-abundant element in the earth’s crust, is a beneficial element for plant growth and development. Silicon helps plants to overcome various abiotic and biotic stresses. Unfortunately, the role of silicon in plant growth and development was overlooked for a long period of time, until the beginning of 20th century. Because of the element’s abundance in nature and since visible symptoms of either Si deficiency or toxicity are not apparent, plant physiologists have largely disregarded this element and have not subjected it to any meaningful plant experiments. However, in the field, where plants are constantly exposed to different stresses, especially in soils deemed to be low or limiting in plant-available silicon, silicon deficiency in soil has become recognized as a limiting factor for crop production. Nowadays, silicon still is not recognized as an essential element for plant growth, but the beneficial effects of this element on growth, development, yield, and disease resistance have been observed in a wide variety of plant species.

To bring together scientists from a broad range of disciplines related to silicon in agriculture and to provide a forum for researchers to exchange new knowledge, ideas, and techniques, Silicon in Agriculture Conferences have been held every three years. The first conference was held in Florida in 1999, the second in Tsuruoka, Japan, in 2002, and the III Silicon in Agriculture Conference in October 2005 in Uberlândia, MG, Brazil. The event was organized by the Federal University of Uberlândia and the University of Florida, with organizational support, in part, from the Brazilian Phytopathology Society and the Brazilian Soil Society.

A total of 168 participants attended, representing researchers, teachers, producers, and students from 17 countries. Leading scientists from around the world were invited as key lecturers to update attendees on the status of silicon research in their area of expertise. Lecturers included Erika M. André (Brazil); Richard R. Bélanger, Ph.D. (Canada); Suzanne Berthelsen, Ph.D. (Australia); Liovando M. Costa, Ph.D. (Brazil); Lawrence E. Datnoff, Ph.D. (United States); Emanuel Epstein, Ph.D.. (United States); Stephen D. Kinrade, Ph.D. (Canada); Gaspar H. Konrdöfér, Ph.D. (Brazil); Mark Laing, Ph.D. (South Africa); Igo F. Lepsch, Ph.D. (Brazil); Yongchao Liang, Ph.D. (China); Jian Feng Ma, Ph.D. (Japan); James G. Menzies, Ph.D. (Canada); Jan Meyer, Ph.D. (South Africa); Hamilton S. Pereira, Ph.D. (Brazil); Fabricio de A. Rodrigues, Ph.D. (Brazil); Sui Mui Tsai, Ph.D. (Brazil); and Milton Wainwright, Ph.D. (Great Britain).

The proceedings, entitled III Silicon in Agriculture Conference, were published and included 13 scientific papers that were presented orally. In addition, 86 other scientific summaries were presented, 9 orally and 77 by poster. A “round table discussion” on methods for silicon analysis in soils, plants, and fertilizers also took place. During the conference, the attendees participated in a “field day” at Guaíra Sugar Mill, SP to view the use and application of silicon in sugarcane and how variable rates are applied through GPS.

As this being the III Silicon in Agriculture Conference, the attendees showed once again the numerous roles this element plays in plant biology especially under conditions of stress. Many plant scientists from the fields of agronomy, plant pathology, plant physiology, plant biochemistry, and soil science demonstrated new findings about silicon that included transporter genes involved in moving this element across root membranes; phytoalexins, peroxidases and PR-1 proteins are involved in plant disease defense and that the element binds with plant cell walls making them smaller and denser, suggesting a signaling to the organic matrix complex of plant cells. In addition, other interesting topics were presented which included a) general aspects of silicon in agriculture; b) importance of silicon in microbiology; c) silicon in plant nutrition and protection against pest and diseases; d) legislation for the production, trade and control of products containing silicon for use in agriculture; e) agronomic efficiency of silicon sources for use in agriculture; f) chemistry of silicon in the soil and plants; and g) methods for silicon analysis in soil, plants and fertilizers.

Silicon in the life and performance of plants in the real world is important, especially in regard to enhancing host plant resistance. As a consequence, the time has come for this element to be considered, along with all the other macro- and micro- nutrients, as critical to plant function and development. The next meeting will be held in South Africa in 2008.

Meetings

The XIII International Congress on Molecular Plant–Microbe Interaction

Plan to attend the XIII International Congress on Molecular Plant–Microbe Interaction to be held in Italy July 21–27, 2007, at the Hilton Sorrento Palace in Sorrento in the Gulf of Naples. Special room rates will be offered to congress delegates in this first class hotel. For more information, visit www.mpmi2007.org or contact Matteo Lorito at lorito@mpmi2007.org, committee@mpmi2007.org, or info@mpmi2007.org.

Scientific topics will include plant-pathogen recognition, signaling, plant responses, plant interactions with pathogenic fungi and bacteria, plant–virus interactions, symbiotic plant–microbe interactions, plant nematode and insect interactions, plant-endophyte interactions, mechanism of resistance to microbes, biocontrol interactions, and microbe-microbe interactions. The early registration deadline is February 15, 2007. An announcement will be distributed by e-mail as a PDF file in October 2006. To be sure to receive future announcements, please preregister at the congress website: www.mpmi2007.org.

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2006 APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting

Special Sessions Announced

Programming for the APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting, July 29–August 2, 2006, in Québec City, Canada, including special sessions, field trips, and workshops has been announced and includes:

Biology of Plant Pathogens
- Biology and Epidemiology of Seed Transmission
- Culture Collections in the Genomics Age, cosponsored by CPS
- Evolution in the Current Taxonomy of the Straminipiles: Phytophthora, Pythium, and Beyond
- Evolution of Virulence in Gram-Positive and Fastidious Bacteria
- Functional Genomics Meets Bacterial Diseases, Part III: Xanthomonas and Xylella Genomes
- Fungal Endophytes: Diversity and Function in Forest Ecosystems
- Gene Clustering as a Mechanism for Microbial Innovation

Diseases of Plants
- Cacao Diseases: Important Threats to Chocolate Production Worldwide
- The Effects of Climate Change on Tree Diseases, sponsored by CPS
- First International Symposium on Cercospora Leaf Spot of Sugar Beet
- The Role of Fungi in Science and Human Affairs

Epidemiology/Ecology/Environmental Biology
- Detection of Invasive Pathogens in Forest and Ornamental Landscapes
- Long-Term Patterns of Spread and Intensification for Forest Pathogens
- Periodic Table of Plant Pathogens Roundtable Discussion
- Phytophthora ramorum: An Environmental Threat; A Regulatory Quandary
- Population Biology of Oomycetes
- Water and Disease Management in Nursery and Greenhouse Production

Molecular/Cellular Plant–Microbe Interactions
- 6th I. E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium: Student Research at the Forefront of Genetics and Genomics of Pathogenicity and Host Resistance
- Illuminating the Unique Nature of Parasitic and Free-Living Nematode Genomes
- Molecular Signaling in Phylosphere Interactions
- Signals, Pools, and Pathways to Host Resistance; SAR, cosponsored by CPS
- The Role of Type III Effectors in Bacterial Virulence
- Viruses as Minimalist Pathogens: Multiplicity of Protein Functions in Pathogenesis

Plant Disease Management
- Contributions of the Chemical Industry to Crop Production
- Diverse Strategies for Managing Mycotoxins, cosponsored by CPS
- Exploiting Microbial Diversity to Biologically Control Plant Diseases: Myxobacteria and Lysobacter SPP.
- New Products and Services
- New Regulatory Challenges: Rapid Changes in Taxonomy of Plant Pathogens
- Research, Development, and Adoption of Biostimulants in the 21st Century, cosponsored by CPS
- Urban Forest Health Management

Professionalism/Service/Outreach
- Bioinformatic Tools for the Beginner/Intermediate Researcher
- Career Counseling for the Budding Plant Pathologist
- Teaching Non-Traditional Mycology/Plant Pathology Courses for Undergraduates
- Navigating Funding Agencies and Updates from the Public Policy Board

MSA Special Sessions
- Karling Annual Lecture
- Fungal Movement: Contemporary Experimental Analysis
- Bacterial Symbionts of Fungi
- Diversity of Zoosporic Fungi
- Population and Species Divergence in Fungi

Saturday Field Trips
- Forest Pathology Field Trip, sponsored by CPS
- Grosse Ile Tour
- Rich Mycological History and Collecting, sponsored by MSA
- Turfgrass Field Trip

Workshops
- Bayesian Data Analysis for Plant Pathology
- Real-time PCR Diagnostic: A Hands-on Workshop
- Spatial Statistics
- Syllabi: What They Need and How Can I Improve Mine

Registration for the 2006 APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting can be made online at http://meeting.apsnet.org/. Those registering online receive a $25 discount on registration fees. An additional $50 early registration discount is also available to those registering by June 2, 2006. A registration brochure, with complete program information, is being mailed and is also available online at the meeting website.
The Irish Potato Famine Revisited

While attending the annual meeting in Québec City, do not miss the unforgettable experience of reliving one of the most important and tragic events in plant pathology history: a tour of Grosse-Île, the site of quarantine stop-over for Irish immigrants fleeing Ireland during the great potato famine of 1845–1849. Grosse-Île was designated as a quarantine stop-over for European immigrants to the New World as early as 1832. But in 1847, an unprecedented number of immigrants, the large majority being Irish, left for Québec. The resulting situation was tragic. The immigrants, weakened by malnutrition and famine, arrived in a deplorable state, many stricken with typhus. This illness quickly took on epidemic proportions.

Explore the island, experience the history, and get a glimpse into life in the 1800s during the tour of Grosse-Île, sponsored by the APS Centennial Committee. The tour will take place Saturday, July 29, 2006. Cost: $65 per person, which includes transportation via a beautiful 2-hour cruise on the Saint Lawrence River, access to the island, guided tours in English, and lunch.

Book Your Hotel Now and SAVE

APS has secured a limited number of reduced-rate rooms for the 2006 APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting in Québec City, Canada. Reduce your cost to attend by booking your hotel rooms early. You might also consider paying for your room in full in advance to save on potentially unfavorable currency exchange rates. Visit http://meeting.apsnet.org for a list of hotel options.
Barbara Christ has been named head of the Plant Pathology Department at The Pennsylvania State University. She had been serving as interim department head since July. Christ joined the Penn State faculty as assistant professor in 1984 and attained the rank of full professor in 2000. Christ’s research has focused on potato breeding and disease management. She has coreleased 11 potato varieties developed for such traits as disease resistance, adaptation to Pennsylvania growing conditions, and suitability for processing into such products as chips and French fries. She also has helped develop disease-forecasting systems that have enabled growers to reduce fungicide use. Christ has published widely in scientific journals and has prepared numerous extension publications. She received the Award for Excellence from the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and the Award of Merit in Plant Pathology from the Northeastern Division of APS. Christ is an active member of both APS and the Potato Association of America and currently serves as councilor-at-large for APS. Christ received her B.S. degree in plant science from Penn State, a M.S. degree in plant pathology from the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. degree in botany from the University of British Columbia. As head of the Penn State Plant Pathology Department she will oversee a department with more than 50 faculty and staff and more than 40 graduate students and post-doctoral associates.

Paul David Esker recently completed the requirements for a Ph.D. degree, with a comajor in plant pathology and statistics from Iowa State University. His thesis, “Epidemiology and Disease Management of Stewart’s Disease of Corn in Iowa” was conducted under the direction of Forrest W. Nutter, Jr. (plant pathology) and Philip Dixon (statistics). Esker was the recipient of an Iowa State University research excellence award; this award honors students whose research accomplishments are among the top 10% at ISU in overall quality. Esker is currently employed as a post-doc, working with X. B. Yang at ISU and Karen Garrett at Kansas State University on the ecology of plant pathogens.

Daren Mueller began a new position on January 1 working with Greg Tylka as part of the Iowa State University Corn and Soybean Initiative in the Department of Plant Pathology at Iowa State University. Mueller’s primary job responsibilities include gathering and interpreting ongoing research results on Asian soybean rust and compiling and presenting this information to growers and agribusiness personnel. His other responsibilities include pursuing grant opportunities and, as time permits, assisting with field research experiments and demonstrations on the biology and management of Asian soybean rust and other foliar soybean diseases. Mueller is also a member of the ISU Pest Management and the Environment Program and will be developing training curricula on corn and soybean diseases for private and commercial pesticide applicator training in Iowa. Prior to joining the ISU Corn and Soybean Initiative, Mueller was an assistant scientist with Mark Gleason, working on applied research involving several apple, muskmelon, and strawberry projects, as well as ornamentals and turf.

Paul David Esker

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to announce the following students of Geunhwa Jung have received their Ph.D. degrees: T. Joseph Curley for “Mapping and Confirmation of QTL for Resistance to Gray Leaf Spot in Perennial Ryegrass” and Nanda Chakraborty for “Mapping QTL for Dollar Spot Resistance in Creeping Bentgrass.”

Karol C. Steddom joined Texas A&M University, Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology as assistant professor-extension specialist, located at the TAMU Research and Extension Center at Overton, in July 2005. He will focus on plant pathology of horticultural, ornamental, and field crops in East Texas, including greenhouse and nursery, tree fruits and nuts, small grains, and vegetables. Steddom worked under Charlie Rush at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.
Dickman has been appointed TAMU’s director of research in the life sciences. Additionally, Agriculture, an endowed chair supporting December 1, 2005. He College Station on Microbiology at Texas Plant Pathology and director of the Institute of Plant Genomics and Biotechnology. He has also joined the faculty of the Program for the Biology of Filamentous Fungi (PBOFF) at TAMU and will continue his research program in genomics of fungal–plant interactions. Dickman received his degrees from the University of Hawaii: B.S. in horticulture (1979), M.S. in plant pathology (1982), and Ph.D. in plant pathology (1986). He served as a faculty member at the University of Nebraska for 17 years, earning the rank of distinguished professor. He is a Fellow of The American Phytopathological Society and has served on numerous panels and committees. Dickman is the founding scientist of an embryonic genetic engineering company, iDiverse.

Paul de Figueiredo
was named assistant professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at Texas A&M University in College Station effective August 2005. He holds a B.A. degree in mathematics and political science from Rice University, an M.A. degree in religious studies from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. degree in biochemistry, molecular and cell biology from Cornell University. He received post-doctoral training at MIT in Nancy Hopkins’ laboratory and at the University of Washington in the laboratory of Eugene Nester. His research is directed toward elucidating horizontal gene transfer and host–pathogen interactions in plant and animal systems.

Martin B. Dickman
 joined the faculty as professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at Texas A&M University in College Station on December 1, 2005. He has also been named as the holder of the Christine Richardson Professorship in Agriculture, an endowed chair supporting research in the life sciences. Additionally, Dickman has been appointed TAMU’s director of the Institute of Plant Genomics and Biotechnology. He has also joined the faculty of the Program for the Biology of Filamentous Fungi (PBOFF) at TAMU and will continue his research program in genomics of fungal–plant interactions. Dickman received his degrees from the University of Hawaii: B.S. in horticulture (1979), M.S. in plant pathology (1982), and Ph.D. in plant pathology (1986). He served as a faculty member at the University of Nebraska for 17 years, earning the rank of distinguished professor. He is a Fellow of The American Phytopathological Society and has served on numerous panels and committees. Dickman is the founding scientist of an embryonic genetic engineering company, iDiverse.

The Department of Plant Pathology at North Carolina State University is pleased to announce that Asimina L. Mila joined the faculty October 31, 2005. Mila earned her Ph.D. degree in plant pathology (with minors in statistics and resource economics) from Iowa State University in 2002 under the guidance of X. B. Yang. Her doctoral research was on “Ecological and Quantitative Studies of Occurrence of Soybean Sclerotinia Stem Rot, Caused by Sclerotinia sclerotiorum, in the North-Central Region of the United States.” At NCSU, Mila will lead the tobacco research and extension program and contribute to enhancement of the departmental focus on the modeling and forecasting of plant diseases.

The Department of Plant Pathology at North Carolina State University is also pleased to announce that Jim Kerns, a Ph.D. student whose research is guided by Lane Tredway, earned first place on November 9, 2005, in the student paper competition at the Crop Science Society of America meetings in Salt Lake City, Utah. Kerns’ presentation was titled, “Effects of Pyraclostrobin on Creeping Bentgrass Physiology and Pythium volutum Mycelial Growth” by J. P. Kerns, T. Rufty, and L. P. Tredway.

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Department Head – Department of Plant Science
The South Dakota State University Plant Science Department seeks department head to provide leadership, develop and maintain research, teaching, and extension programs; evaluate and recruit faculty, staff, and students; develop budgets; manage properties; foster and build strong working relations with other disciplines and numerous commodity and constituency groups. Earned Ph.D. degree in agronomy, entomology, plant pathology, or a closely related field; five years full-time relevant experience; and demonstrated excellence and national recognition in research, teaching, or outreach programming required. AA/EEO employer. Closing Date: April 21, 2006, or until position is filled. To apply, submit CV, transcripts, names and telephone numbers of three professional references, and a statement regarding interest, ability to meet responsibilities, and philosophy of administering a successful and progressive program. Contact: Dr. Richard Shane, Search Committee Chair, Department of Economics, Box 504, SDSU, Brookings, SD 57007 USA. E-mail: richard.shane@sdstate.edu; Phone: +1.605.688.4141. Web: http://jobs.sdstate.edu

Graduate Student Fellowships
Graduate student fellowships are available in the barley Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP) for highly motivated individuals to develop and utilize genomics tools for barley improvement. These are three and one-half year USDA-NRI funded positions. The barley CAP is a community effort of 31 scientists with expertise ranging from genetics/genomics to breeding, pathology, databases, computer science, food science, malt quality, and statistics. The graduate student fellows will work with a community of barley scientists and focus on these objectives: 1) Develop a 3,000 marker single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) map of the barley genome. We will use high-throughput technologies to quickly map the barley genome with

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3,000 SNP markers. 2) Develop a web portal containing a database for housing genotype and phenotype data that the barley CAP generates. 3) Characterize breeding lines from 10 barley breeding programs. We will genotype these lines with 3,000 mapped SNP markers and phenotype these lines for a variety of agronomic, quality, and disease-resistance traits. These data will be used to understand the haplotype block structure and linkage disequilibrium in the U.S. barley breeding germplasm and to identify haplopyte-trait associations. 4) Utilize genomics tools to develop superior barley germplasm. We will use haplopyte-trait associations to select for superior barley germplasm. Participating institutions with fellowship opportunities are the University of Minnesota, University of California-Riverside, North Dakota State University, Utah State University, and Montana State University. To apply please send a letter of interest, CV, and three letters of reference to the scientist and institution(s) of your choice. Contact: Kevin Smith, Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108 USA. Phone: +1.612.624.1211, E-mail: smith376@umn.edu. Brian Steffenson, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108 USA. Phone: +1.612.625.4735, E-mail: bsteffen@umn.edu. Timothy Close, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, or Stefano Lonardi, Department of Computer Sciences, University of California-Riverside, Riverside, CA 92521 USA. Phone: +1.951.827.3318, E-mail: timothy.close@ucr.edu (note: we are seeking a student in computational biology/bioinformatics). Tom Blake, Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, 109 Ag Biosciences Bldg., Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717 USA. Phone: +1.406.994.5055, E-mail: blake@montana.edu. Richard Horsley, Department of Plant Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58105-5051 USA. Phone: +1.701.231.8142, E-mail: richard.horsley@ndsu.edu. Dominique Roche, Plants, Soils & Biometeorology, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84321-4820 USA. E-mail: roche@memdel.usu.edu. Phone: +1.435.797.7214 or +1.435.770.0197.

Senior Research Scientist
Incumbent will be responsible for maintenance of the global seed health program and minimize the risk of seedborne diseases in all vegetable seed crops worldwide. This includes making policy decisions based on sound plant pathology principles, managing seed health laboratories throughout the world, developing and overseeing an active research program worldwide, and maintaining budgets. Incumbent will manage four to five seed health laboratories worldwide, which will require close communication with lab managers and routine travel to the various laboratories. Incumbent will serve as the laboratory manager for the main seed health facility located in Woodward, CA. Incumbent is responsible for maintaining adherence to SMS product specification and harmonization of seed testing worldwide. Incumbent is responsible for maintaining Woodward laboratory accreditation within the National Seed Health System, a USDA APHIS administered program and facilitate laboratory accreditation worldwide. Incumbent will be responsible for maintenance of all USDA permits associated with seed health samples. Incumbent will carry out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the organization’s policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities include supervising and managing lab leaders in bacteriology, mycology, virology, and molecular methods for both routine testing and research. Individual will work closely with technical services and quality assurance in troubleshooting, problem solving, and complaint handling. Other responsibilities include administration of the laboratory budget; tracking outsourced tests; interviewing, hiring, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work. Incumbent must have a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or closely related field with 3–5 years of experience in lab management or an M.S. degree with at least 10 years of laboratory management. Incumbent should have excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills, be proficient in systems using Microsoft Office, LIMS, SAP, and be well organized and detail oriented. Candidate will be required to travel internationally as part of a fast-paced multicultural environment. Closing Date: June 20, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Please send resume/ CV and cover letter. Contact: Rick Roggenbuck, Seminis, 37437 State Highway 16, Woodward, CA 95695 USA. Fax: +1.530.666.3198; E-mail: jobplacement@seminis.com; Phone: +1.530.669.6171. Web: www.seminis.com.

Nematologist
Experienced, hands-on scientist will lead a team developing transgenic plants resistant to plant-parasitic nematodes. Scientist will work in the lab and direct other scientists who perform bioassays on economically important plant nematodes, including soybean cyst nematode, with the goal of discovering and characterizing genes that encode nematocidal activity. Ph.D. degree in plant nematology with a focus on plant-parasitic nematodes and at least 5 years experience required. Extensive experience with laboratory bioassays is required. Experience with molecular biology techniques is considered a plus. Supervisory experience and excellent organizational, recordkeeping, and computer skills are required. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: May 19, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) To apply, please e-mail resume with job reference code NE2 in subject line to careers@athenixcorp.com. Applicants must have valid identity and employment authorization documents to be considered. Contact: Markus Andres, Athenix Corp., 2202 Ellis Rd., Durham, NC 27703 USA. E-mail: careers@athenixcorp.com; Phone: +1.919.281.0938. Web: www.athenixcorp.com.

Post-Doctoral Associate
Twelve-month, non-tenure-track position in plant molecular genetics. The major objective of this project is to identify novel QTL for rice sheath blight disease in rice wild relatives (Oryza species) and develop at least one mapping population with a resistant Oryza spp. accession. Planning, conducting, and publishing this study is part of RiceCAP, a national Coordinated Agricultural Project for rice (www.uark.edu/ua/ricecap/). Major duties will be to evaluate Oryza spp. accessions for sheath blight resistance, develop mapping population(s) from sheath blight resistant Oryza spp. accession(s), and genotype selected accessions/populations with DNA markers to identify novel sheath blight QTL and marker-trait associations. Position is funded through the USDA-NRI RiceCAP initiative. Candidates must have a Ph.D. degree in molecular genetics, plant breeding, plant pathology, or related field, with experience in mapping with molecular markers. Experience in mapping population development and characterization, DNA marker development and utilization, rice genetics, and pathogenicity assays is desirable. A team approach to problem solving is essential. Must be able to speak English fluently. Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience with full university benefits package. Closing Date: April 8, 2006 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Send resume, official college transcript, and three letters of recommendation from knowledgeable associates. Contact: Dr. Georgia Eizenga, University of Arkansas, Rice Research & Extension Center, 2900 Hwy. 130 E., Stuttgart, AR 72160 USA. Fax: +1.870.673.4315; E-mail: geizenga@spa.ars.usda.gov; Phone: +1.870.673.2661. Web: http://hr.uark.edu/employment/listingsjob.asp?ListingID=3706.
APS Journal Articles

Phytopathology
April 2006, Volume 96, Number 4
Quantitative and Qualitative Influence of Inoculation Methods on In Planta Growth of Rice Blast Fungus.
Biological Control of Fusarium Seedling Blight Disease of Wheat and Barley.
Evaluation of Bacterial Antagonists for Biological Control of Broccoli Head Rot Caused by Pseudomonas fluorescens.
Extracts of Inula viscosa Control Downy Mildew of Grapes Caused by Plasmopara viticola.
Relating Epidemic Progress from a General Disease Model to Seasonal Appearance Time of Rusts in the United States: Implications for Soybean Rust.
Effects of Elevated Atmospheric CO₂ Concentration on the Infection of Rice Blast and Sheath Blight.
Identification and Characterization of Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA Markers Linked to a Major Gene (G2r) for Resistance to Cronartium ribicolae in Pinus monticola.
A Reassessment of the Species Concept in Eutypa latissima, the Causal Agent of Eutypa Dieback of Grapevine.
Real-Time Fluorescent Polymerase Chain Reaction Detection of Phytophthora ramorum and Phytophthora pseudagrophylla Using Mitochondrial Gene Regions.
Interactions Between Citrus Viroids Affect Symptom Expression and Field Performance of Clementine Trees Grafted on Trifoliate Orange.
Interference of Long-Distance Movement of Grapevine berry inner necrosis virus in Transgenic Plants Expressing a Defective Movement Protein of Apple chlorotic leaf spot virus.

Phytotoxicology
April 2006, Volume 96, Number 4
Development and Evaluation of PCR-Based Diagnostic Assays for the Bacterial Speck and Bacterial Spot Pathogens of Tomato.
Seed Treatment with Phosphonate (AG3) Suppresses Pythium Damping-off of Cucumber Seedlings.
Bacterial Leaf Spot of Lettuce: Relationship of Temperature to Infection and Potential Host Range of Xanthomonas campesiris pv. vitians.
Use of Entomopathogenic Nematodes and Thyme Oil to Suppress Plant-Parasitic Nematodes on English Boxwood.
Induction of Cankers on Pear Tree Branches by Neofabraea alba and N. perennana, and Fungicide Effects on Conidal Production on Cankers.
Integrated Disease Management of Leaf Spot and Spotted Wilt of Peanut.
Fungicide Sensitivity and Phylogenetetic Relationship of Anthracnose Fungi Isolated from Various Fruit Crops in Japan.
Green Stem Disorder of Soybean.
Effects of Nocturnal Soil Temperatures and Meloidogyne incognita Densities on Cotton Seedling Growth and the Interaction with Thielaviopsis basicola.
Lavender Cotton Root Rot: A New Host of Phytophthora tentaculata Found in Spain.
First Report in Argentina of Pletum psidii virus Causing Sharla Disease in Prunus.
Occurrence of Charcoal Rot Caused by Macrophomina phaseolina on Canola in Argentina.
First Report of Tomato spotted wilt virus in Soybean (Glycine max) in Georgia.
First Report of a Rust Disease on Ohio Caused by Puccinia psidii in Hawaii.
First Report of Tomato spotted wilt virus in Leek (Allium porrum) in the United States.
First Report of Rust Disease Caused by Uromyces galleae on Galega officinalis in Turkey.
Phytophthora tropica Isolated from Diseased Leaves of Pieris japonica and Rhododendron catawbiense and Found in Irrigation Water and Soil in Virginia.
First Report of Cucurbist Aphid-borne yellow virus in Iran Causing Yellows on Four Cucurbit Crops.
First Report of a 16SrIV Group Phytoplasma Associated with Declining Coyal Palms in Honduras.
Pathogenic Isolates of Rhodococcus fascians from New Hosts in the United States.
First Report of Globodera tabacum Infecting Tobacco Plants in Quebec, Canada.
First Report of Tomato apical stunt viroid in Tomato in Tunisia.
Johnsongrass, Yellow Foxtail, and Broadleaf Sida as New Hosts for Six Species of Bipolaris, Curvularia, and Exserohilum Pathogenic to Bermuda-grass.
First Report of Lolium latent virus in Ryegrass in the United States.

MPMI
April 2006, Volume 19, Number 4
Sinorhizobium meliloti Differentiation During Symbiosis with Alalfa: A Transcriptomic Dissection.
Heterologous Expression of the Mi-1.2 Gene from Tomato Confers Resistance Against Nematodes but Not Aphids in Eggplant.
MgsL2, a Cellular Integrity MAP Kinase Gene of the Fungal Wheat Pathogen Mycosphaerella graminicola Is Dispensable for Penetration but Essential for Invasive Growth.
EL2 Transcription Factor and Glutathione Synthetase Are Required for Defense of Tobacco Against Tobacco Blue Mold.
Transcriptome Analysis of the barley–Fusarium graminearum Interaction.
Biocontrol of Avocado Dematophora Root Rot by Antagonistic Pseudomonas fluorescens PCL1606 Correlates with the Production of 2-Hexyl 5-Propyl Resorcinol.
Integrated Signaling Network Involving Calcium, Nitric Oxide, and Active Oxygen Species but Not Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinases in BcPG1-Elicited Grapevine Defenses.
A Class 1 Hemoglobin Gene from Alnus firma Functions in Symbiotic and Nonsymbiotic Tissues to Detoxify Nitric Oxide.
Population Behavior Analysis of dspE and pelD Regulation in Erwinia chrysanthemi 3937.

Plant Disease
April 2006, Volume 90, Number 4
Characterization and Recent Advances in Detection of Strawberry Viruses.
Distribution and Fungicide Sensitivity of Fungal Pathogens Causing Anthracnose-like Lesions on Tomatoes Grown in Ohio.
Investigating the Presence of Biotic Agents Associated with Mundulla Yellows.
Association of Plant Color and Pericarp Color with Colonization of Grain by Members of Fusarium and Alternaria in Near-Isogenic Sorghum Lines.
Control of Benzimidazole- and DMI-Resistant Strains of Cercospora beticola with Strobilurin Fungicides.
Factors Affecting Infection of Yellow Starthistle (Centauraea solstitialis) by Synchytrium solstitiale, Causal Agent of False Rust Disease.
Cropreservant of Synchytrium solstitiale In Plants.
Discovery of the Canker Pathogen Chrysosporium astrosacricana on Native Syzygium spp. in South Africa.
A Soil Inoculant Inhibits Armillaria meliora In Vitro and Improves Productivity of Grapevines with Root Disease.
Preharvest Chitosan and Postharvest UV Irradiation Treatments Suppress Gray Mold of Table Grapes.
First Report of Tomato apical stunt viroid in Tomato in Tunisia.
Johnsongrass, Yellow Foxtail, and Broadleaf Sida as New Hosts for Six Species of Bipolaris, Curvularia, and Exserohilum Pathogenic to Bermuda-grass.
First Report of Lolium latent virus in Ryegrass in the United States.
### APS Sponsored Events

**June 2006**

**July 2006**
- July 29-August 2 — APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting. Québec City, Québec, Canada. [http://meeting.apsnet.org](http://meeting.apsnet.org)

**September 2006**
- 12-16 — Caribbean Division Meeting. Cartagena, Colombia. [www.apsnet.org/members/div/caribbean/](http://www.apsnet.org/members/div/caribbean/)

**November 2006**
- 7-9 — Northeastern Division Meeting. Burlington, VT. [www.apsnet.org/members/div/northeastern](http://www.apsnet.org/members/div/northeastern)

**Upcoming APS Annual Meetings**

- **July 28-August 1, 2007** — San Diego, CA (Joint with SON)
- **July 26-30, 2008** — Minneapolis, MN (Centennial Meeting)
- **August 1-5, 2009** — Portland, OR
- **August 7-11, 2010** — Nashville, TN

### Other Upcoming Events

**May 2006**

**June 2006**

**July 2006**
- 11-14 — American Peanut Research and Education Society. Savannah, GA. [www.apres.okstate.edu/](http://www.apres.okstate.edu/)
- 13-14 — 2006 International Spinach Conference. LaConner, WA. [http://capps.wsu.edu/calendar](http://capps.wsu.edu/calendar)
- 17-21 — XVth Congress of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Biology. Lyon, France. [www.esfhp2006.org](http://www.esfhp2006.org)
- 23-27 — 3rd International Workshop on Barley Leaf Blights. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. [www.roidd@age.gc.ca](http://www.roidd@age.gc.ca)

**August 2006**
- 13-18 — International Congress of Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology. Beijing, China. [www.genetics.ac.cn/IAP/TCB.htm](http://www.genetics.ac.cn/IAP/TCB.htm)
- 28-September 5 — International Powdery Mildew Conference. Monterey, CA. [wdgubler@ucdavis.edu](mailto:wdgubler@ucdavis.edu)

**September 2006**
- 8-19 — NATO Advanced Study Institute – Novel biotechnologies for biocontrol agent enhancement and management. Gualdo Tadino (Perugia), Italy. [www.ispa.cnr.it/NATO-ASI](http://www.ispa.cnr.it/NATO-ASI)
- 11-15 — International Grapevine Trunk Disease Conference. Davis, CA. [wdgubler@ucdavis.edu](mailto:wdgubler@ucdavis.edu)

**October 2006**
- 10-14 — The Biology of Transpiration. Snowbird, UT. [www.apsb.org/meetings/transpiration06](http://www.apsb.org/meetings/transpiration06)

**November 2006**
- 8-10 — Third Brazilian Meeting on Induced Resistance in Plants to Pathogens. Viosia, Brazil. [www.ufv.br/dfp/ir](http://www.ufv.br/dfp/ir)
- 9-12 — 7th Australasian Plant Virology Workshop. Rottnest Island, Perth, Western Australia. [M.Jones@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:M.Jones@murdoch.edu.au)

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

**May 2007**

**July 2007**

**October 2007**

**August 2008**

For the most current listing, check out the APSNet event calendar at [www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp](http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp).

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**Phytopathology News**

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