Online Travel Award Application Process Now Open

The APS Foundation Student Travel Award application process is now open at www.apsnet.org/foundation/travel. Applications must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. CST on March 31, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Graduate Student Committee Chair Courtney A. Gallup at Courtney-gallup@ncsu.edu.

Submit Your Annual Meeting Abstract by March 17

Online submission of abstracts for the 2009 APS Annual Meeting is now available. Acceptance of oral submissions will be limited to the first 240. Poster submission is open to all. Final deadline for submissions for both oral and poster presentations is March 17, 2009. Remember to fully edit and proof your abstract before submitting. Early submissions are encouraged to avoid delays on the last day of submission due to high system usage. Visit http://meeting.apsnet.org for details on abstract submission.

A Special Invitation: Join Us in Portland as We Expand the Boundaries of Plant Pathology at the Annual Meeting

James W. Moyer, APS President, james_moyer@ncsu.edu

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 2009 APS Annual Meeting to be held August 1–5 in Portland, OR. This year’s theme, “Expanding the Boundaries,” encourages you to look to the future by exploring new technologies, forward-thinking research, and a fresh approach to plant pathology. On the heels of our incredible Centennial celebration in 2008, we are excited to kick start the next 100 years of APS with a commitment to push the boundaries of what our science can be through innovation, creativity, and ground-breaking research.

The Scientific Planning Board, chaired by Barb Christ, has put together an outstanding scientific program, including 33 special sessions on today’s most relevant topics and tomorrow’s critical issues. This year’s plenary session will feature decision-makers from academia, government, and industry as they discuss our changing world. They will address factors that now impinge on the way we, as individuals, as well as institutions, practice plant pathology. The meeting is also packed full of extras, including the exhibition, workshops, field trips, committee meetings, time with poster authors, socials, luncheons, alumni gatherings, and more.

In lean economic times, it is more important than ever that you become involved in activities that put you face to face with the best scientists in our field. As always, APS offers incredible opportunities to network with world-renowned speakers, industry experts, peers, suppliers, publishers, and more. There is no better way to ensure that you are doing all you can to remain active and relevant in the field than to attend the 2009 APS Annual Meeting.

The 2009 APS Annual Meeting Goes Green

Help APS in our efforts to make the 2009 APS Annual Meeting our most environmentally responsible meeting yet. We’ll be printing less, using more recycled materials, and cutting down on shipping wherever possible. The Oregon Convention Center, known as the nation’s “greenest” convention center, is built with sustainable products and systems and offers excellent recycling programs, support for wind power, and organic/local food options. Portland also offers easy access to a variety of public transportation, including “Fareless Square,” a 330-block area in downtown Portland, including the Oregon Convention Center, where transportation on all MAX light rail trains, buses, trolleys, and streetcars is free.

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Submission Guidelines
Address all editorial correspondence to: Joyce E. Loper, USDA ARS, The Plant Health Instructor, 3340 Pilot Knob Road, Corvallis, OR 97330-5014 U.S.A. Phone: +1.541.738.4025, E-mail: PhytoNewsEditor@scisoc.org. In order to ensure timely publication of your news items and announcements, please send in material 6 weeks prior to the date of publication. Material should be no more than 6 months old when submitted. Submission of materials as electronic files, via e-mail, will speed processing. For information on submitting electronic images contact Agnes Walker at awalker@scisoc.org. Deadline for submitting items for the April 2009 issue is February 15, 2009.

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• Broad-Based Education
• Can You Hear Me Now? Expanding Plant Pathology Coverage with Diverse Delivery Tools
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• Prepare for Your Future—Career Opportunities after Graduate School: Option 1—Industry
• Regulation of Pests and Pathogens: Where Are We?
• The APS Public Policy Board: Pulse on Policy Issues
• Working with Genetically Engineered Plant Pathogens in the Modern Regulatory Environment

Field Trips
• Forest Pathology Field Trip
• Ornamental Plant Disease Field Trip
• Tree Fruit Field Trip

Workshops
• A Statistical Workshop on Linear Regression
• Preparing for a Job Interview in the Private, Academic, and Government Sectors of Plant Pathology

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Highlights of the APS Annual Meeting Program

Special Sessions
Biology of Pathogens
• Coordinated Regulation of Fungal Development and Secondary Metabolism During Pathogenesis
• “New” Nuances in Virus-Vector Biology
• Quorum Sensing and Biofilm Formation in Plant-Associated Bacteria
• Schroth Faces of the Future Symposium in Bacteriology

Diseases of Plants
• APS-ISF Collaboration to Implement a System to Standardize Naming of Plant Pathogen Races and Strains
• Current Status of Citrus Huanglongbing Research and Control
• Perplexing Potato Problems

Epidemiology/Ecology/Environmental Biology
• Forensic Plant Pathology: Science in the Courtroom
• 9th I. E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium: Integrating Pre- and Post-Harvest Views of Yield and Quality Loss
• Globotrotting Plant Pathogens and Factors Making a Difference in Management Outcomes
• Meta-Analysis for Evidence Synthesis in Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management
• Phytophthoras in Forests: New Paradigms for an Old Genus

Molecular/Cellular/Plant-Microbe Interactions
• Application of Advanced Sequencing and Gene Expression Technologies for Characterization of Phytopathogens
• Evolutionary and Functional Genomics of Virus-Plant Interactions
• Mechanisms of Post-transcriptional Control of Gene Functions in Plant-Microbe Interactions (AS, PTGS, Sumoylation, and More…)
• Microbial Genomes Off the Beaten Path
• Molecular Mechanisms of Host Susceptibility
• The Balance Is Tilting: Finding Resistance to Vascular Wilting

Plant Disease Management
• Carboxylic Acid Amide Fungicides (CAA) FRAC Group 40
• Challenges for Managing Insect Vectored Diseases
• Cucurbit Downy Mildew: Re-Emergence of a Historical Disease
• Finding an Exotic Pest: What Do I Do Now?
• Methyl Bromide Alternatives Research: Plant Pathology Outcomes
• New Products and Services
• Perceptions of Risk, Risk Aversion, and Barriers to Adoption of Decision Support Systems and IPM
• Primum Non Nocere: Risk Assessment for Biological Control

Research Sessions
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**Hotel Reservations**

Hotel reservations for the 2009 APS Annual Meeting must be made through Travel Portland Housing. With the use of multiple hotels for this meeting, Travel Portland Housing offers an easy and convenient way to choose the hotel that best meets your needs. The Doubletree Hotel Portland will serve as the headquarters hotel for the 2009 APS Annual Meeting. Additional hotels, including the Crowne Plaza Hotel and the Red Lion Hotel, have been added to accommodate the anticipated attendance. All hotels are located close to the Oregon Convention Center and approximately 20–25 minutes from the airport.

Support the meeting by staying at an APS-designated hotel and take advantage of the discounted rates. Housing will open in early March. Visit [http://meeting.apsnet.org/reghotel/hotel.cfm](http://meeting.apsnet.org/reghotel/hotel.cfm) for links to Travel Portland and pricing information for all meeting hotels.

**Portland Is for Plant Lovers!**

Portland offers exciting opportunities for plant lovers, including miles of trails, walking paths, urban wildlife, wetland preserves, world-renowned botanical gardens, and outdoor recreation of all kinds. The surrounding area, including Mount Hood, the Oregon Coast, the Columbia River Gorge, and Oregon wine country—compose some of the nation’s most beautiful, unspoiled natural areas.

Portland is one of the country’s most unique and innovative meeting venues, with many fun and quirky things to do in the city and in the surrounding areas. The climate is ideal for growing roses and other flowers and the city has many popular gardens, including the International Rose Test Garden, the Portland Japanese Garden, the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, and the Portland Classical Chinese Garden. Portland is also home to the world’s smallest park (Mill Ends Park, at just 24 inches) and one of the nation’s largest urban parks (Forest Park, at 5,156 acres). Well known for its microbrewed beer, Portland has more microbreweries within its city limits than any city in the country. Powell’s City of Books, at 68,000 square feet, claims to be the largest new and used book store in the world. Plus, no matter what your interests, Portland makes it easy for you to get around with easily accessible public transportation, bike lanes, and walking paths.

**Meeting Registration**

APS online registration will be available in early March. Register by May 1, 2009, to receive the best rates. NOTE: In support of our efforts to go green, the APS registration brochure is available online only in printable PDF form at [http://meeting.apsnet.org](http://meeting.apsnet.org). Printed copies of the registration brochure will not be mailed as in the past.

**Workshop on Real-Time PCR Held at the University of Kentucky**

A 3-day introductory workshop on real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for applied plant pathologists was offered January 20–22, 2009, at the University of Kentucky by Paul Vincelli and Bernadette Amsden. Introductory presentations on the theory and practice of real-time PCR were presented; these were followed by intensive hands-on activities, including designing and executing four real-time PCR experiments, extracting DNA from infected root tissue, and pouring and running a gel.

Topics covered during the workshop included basics of real-time PCR, advantages and limitations of the principal DNA detection technologies in real-time PCR, experimental controls, recognizing and dealing with PCR inhibition, use of PCR kits, multiplexing, PCR licensing, minimizing risks of sample contamination, fundamentals of using gels for diagnostic purposes, quantitation, and interpreting and troubleshooting real-time PCR experiments.

It is expected that the workshop will be held again in the winter of 2010.

**Track the Impact of Your Research**

You can track the number of times your research is cited in APS journal articles. Just open an abstract and click “Alert me when new articles cite this article” in the quick links box to the right. Then sign in or register for your free profile to receive an e-mail notification each time your article is cited. Sign up today on APSNet! For help setting up your citation alerts, contact Kayla Heurung at kheurung@scisoc.org.

**APS Journals Online are Looking Like a Million**

In 2008, visits to APS Journals Online exceeded 1,000,000! Publish in the journals and make your research visible to these scientists and more. Or, contact Kayla Heurung at kheurung@scisoc.org to sign up for the APS Journals Research Update and see what your colleagues are finding each month. Thanks a million to everyone who uses and contributes to APS Journals Online.
OIP News & Views

OIP Silent Auction Celebrating Its 5th Year!

The Office of International Programs (OIP) is proud to announce the 5th Annual Silent Auction. In four years, this popular addition to the annual meeting has raised nearly $15,000 for “Connecting Knowledge with a Growing World.” In 2008, OIP announced that the proceeds would benefit the new Global Experience Program, aimed at helping APS plant pathologists work with scientists and extension personnel in developing countries with training and outreach efforts.

Your support is once again requested to help OIP gather fun and unique items from around the world. Do you have earrings you bought in Indonesia or beautiful linens from northern Africa? How about fine crystal from eastern Europe? Popular items in the past have been jewelry, fabrics, fun crafts, wine, chocolate, regional food specialties, or other treats from around the world. Donations may be in the form of crafts, artwork, tools, books, services, or other items that reflect your culture or cultures you have visited.

Information on how to donate items for the APS Silent Auction is available at www.apsnet.org/members/oip/silentauction.asp. Send in your donations today! Contact OIP Silent Auction Chair Annemiek Schilder (schilder@msu.edu) or APS staff member Karen Deuschle (kdeuschle@scisoc.org) with questions.

Plant Health Progress Announces New Senior Editor

Plant Health Progress (PHP) is pleased to announce the appointment of Don Ferrin as a new senior editor. PHP, the applied, electronic-only journal, is in its ninth year of publication. Ferrin is an extension plant pathologist in the Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology with the Louisiana State University (LSU) Agricultural Center in Baton Rouge, LA. He received his B.S. (1974) and M.S. (1976) degrees in botany and plant pathology from Michigan State University and his Ph.D. degree (1985) in plant pathology from the University of Florida. He was a member of the faculty at the University of California at Riverside (1986–1994), where he was responsible for research in the areas of diseases of ornamental crops and plant disease epidemiology. He also held positions in industry as a research plant pathologist, plant disease diagnostian, and laboratory manager with Yoder Bros., Inc. (1976–1980) and Pacific Plant Health Services (1997–2001). Prior to moving to Louisiana, he was a research associate in the laboratory of M. E. Stanghellini at the University of California at Riverside (2001–2005), where he was involved with research on soilborne diseases of vegetables in desert agricultural systems. In 2005, he joined the LSU AgCenter, where he has statewide responsibility for all horticultural crops (i.e., sweet potatoes, vegetables, fruits, nuts, turf, ornamentals, etc.). Additionally, he oversees the plant disease diagnostic clinic, conducts pesticide safety and other educational programs, and is involved in training master gardeners. His current applied research program is focused on downy mildew of watermelon and other cucurbits, bacterial leaf scorch in shade trees and fruit crops, and fungicide efficacy testing for diseases of ornamentals. He served as an associate editor for Plant Health Progress (2007–2008), is a member of the APS Extension Committee, and is the incoming secretary/treasurer for the Southern Division of APS.

The American Forage and Grassland Council Becomes Latest PMN Partner

The American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC), a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the use of forage as a prime feed resource, has joined more than 65 other organizations in becoming a Plant Management Network (PMN) partner.

Alongside many of the world’s top universities, agribusiness and related companies, and nonprofit societies, AFGC partners with PMN in support of its nonprofit mission: to enhance the health, management, and production of agricultural and horticultural crops.

As an organization, AFGC is composed of 20 affiliate councils in the United States, with a total individual membership of about 2,500. Their membership represents the academic community, producers, private industry, institutes, and foundations. Their primary objective is to promote the profitable production and sustainable utilization of quality forage and grasslands.

As a nonprofit partner, AFGC will enjoy benefits such as discounted individual subscriptions for members, inclusion of their web-based information in the network’s online database, and worldwide exposure of their organization.

To learn more about PMN’s partners program or to become a partner, contact partners@plantmanagementnetwork.org.

36 Phytopathology News
**APS Executive Vice President Steve Nelson Celebrates 35 Years of Purpose and Dedication**

Recently, Amanda Aranowski, Phytopathology News editor, talked to Steve Nelson about where he came from, what he sees as the future of APS, and notably, his recent 35-year anniversary with the organization.

**Q:** Tell me about your background. Where did you grow up? Where did you go to school?

**A:** I grew up in St. Paul, MN, in a neighborhood near Hamline University and also near the prior headquarters for the APS offices. As a grade school neighborhood kid I hung out around campus and was a bat boy for the university baseball team. I like to say that I “went away” to high school, St. Paul Central High, and then came back home to get my B.A. from Hamline.

**Q:** I understand that you hold a master’s of fine arts degree from Northern Illinois University. I am curious—What is your favorite art and why? Favorite artist?

**A:** I enjoy many different styles of art, but especially enjoy abstract expressionism. Jackson Pollock, Robert Motherwell, and Mark Rothko are favorites. When I had time to paint it was primarily landscapes, but more on the abstract side. Some day when time permits, I’ll get back in the studio and see if I can paint again.

**Q:** How do you feel your educational background in art influences the work you do now?

**A:** Learning to be creative has served me well. One’s approach to problem solving and innovation works equally well in the real world as it does in the studio. Of course, returning to school for business management, as well as more specific nonprofit organizational training, helped as well.

**Q:** I read that you were one of the students who helped clean manuscripts and other files after the fire to the AACC/APS headquarters in 1968. Was this how you first got involved with the societies? How did your involvement evolve from that point?

**A:** A number of undergraduate students from Hamline University were hired to help clean up after the fire. Raymond Tarleton, the executive vice president at that time, found part-time work for me following the clean up project. Leaving for graduate school in DeKalb, IL, in the fall of 1970 I did not expect to return to headquarters. Three years later, I returned to St. Paul and by chance met Raymond Tarleton at a Guthrie Theatre performance and returned for just a couple short-term projects. The societies had built a new office building in Eagan while I was away. The temporary projects turned into full-time employment as the organizations began to add new journals and book publishing operations. The annual meetings increased in size and complexity and the staff grew from about a dozen employees to over 60.

**Q:** Congratulations on your recent anniversary. When you started, did you ever imagine working for Scientific Societies for 35 years?

**A:** The time has gone by incredibly fast! The interaction with members and staff has been wonderful and the successful services and products we have been able to create are very rewarding.

**Q:** What has changed most since you first started working for APS? What have been the significant milestones?

**A:** The biggest changes of course have been as a result of the computer and the digital age. When I first started, the member and subscriber database was a set of metal plates. Each member had a metal plate with their name and address embossed on it. Tabs on the plates indicated which journals they should receive and we actually used the plates to stamp addresses on the mailing envelopes. We used very basic photo typesetting technology to create the type for the journals and books and kid out each page with a t-square and lots of pieces of type. Obviously, today everything is electronic and we disseminate huge amounts of content rapidly around the world. Also, while we have always had international members, APS is much more global. Today we can efficiently provide services to members nearly anywhere in the world.

**Q:** What makes APS unique? Though I am new to the society, people often say that the members are exceptionally committed to the science and to the growth of the society, and those qualities, in part, contribute to its success. What do you think?

**A:** Members really care about APS and they are willing to contribute their time and expertise to making it work. Staff can provide great support and be very innovative in creating products and services, but members provide all the scientific content which creates the value.

**Q:** What goals do you have for APS in the new year?

**A:** A year is very short, but APS has a number of exciting projects in the works. Just to name a few—a workshop this March in DC, focused on plant pathology education; more cooperative activities with other plant pathology societies around the world; exciting new content management software that will bring the APS website to an entirely new paradigm; and the Governance Task Force will be proposing new ideas for coordinating the growing activities of APS.

**Q:** Who has been an inspiration to you (personally or professionally)?

**A:** Raymond Tarleton served in my position for over 40 years and provided a wonderful, on-the-job learning experience for me. He retired nearly 20 years ago, but we still stay in touch via e-mail and he is still a mentor to me. APS has had many great leaders as officers of the organization. Each of them has brought their unique skills and styles, which has provided a tremendous opportunity for me to learn from.

**Q:** What are your favorite parts of the job? What qualities do you feel make you a successful executive vice president?

**A:** I enjoy working with so many energetic, bright people. It is wonderful that the job is never boring, my efforts are directed at something new every year, and it stretches me outside my comfort zone to new experiences. I think what has worked for me is a healthy dose of perseverance, optimism, flexibility, and hopefully, creativity.

**Q:** What is the next “big thing” in store for APS?

**A:** In addition to the next major step forward in the APS website development, I am excited about the new Visioning Forum. This group will be a “think tank” that identifies potential future scientific issues that will affect plant pathology and/or APS. This will allow APS to be much more proactive and timely in addressing issues.
Improvement Evident from the Results of the 2008 Survey on Satisfaction with the APHIS Permitting Process

Jim Steadman, APS Public Policy Board member, jsteadma@unlnotes.unl.edu

Thus, the progress in improving the permitting experience by APHIS is reflected in this survey. The most cited frustration with the system was the delay in receiving permits after submission of the request. Nearly half of the respondents received their permit within 1–3 months and two-thirds had theirs within 6 months. However, there were 20% that reported from 7 months up to a year or more or had not received their permit at the time of the survey. The ePermit process was reported to be a major improvement over the paper process, and some respondents had received their permits within a few days. Consequences of the delays in receiving permits were predominantly on research not conducted, grant proposals unable to be submitted, and graduate programs, as well as research, delayed for months.

A common concern among the respondents in both surveys is the perceived “over-regulation” of movement of indigenous pathogens. The concern is that the permitting process has the same requirements for shipment of indigenous pathogens between states as it has for importation of nonindigenous pathogens. The lack of regulation of pathogens associated with agricultural products (e.g., sunflower seeds for feeding birds or seed for planting), contrasts with the need for regulation of pests and pathogens for study. A holistic approach is needed. The work being carried out by APS committees on widely prevalent viral, bacterial, fungal, and now nematode pathogens will hopefully help address this issue.

In the previous survey, “a lack of rapid and informed communication between APHIS personnel and the applicants” was another commonly stated frustration among the respondents. While most respondents were sympathetic with the increasingly heavy workload and the evolving processes facing the APHIS personnel, many commented that responses to queries for clarification of the permit application, the process, or the shipping requirements were slow (more than 1 week) or nonresponsive. In the recent survey, the mention of problems with APHIS communication was less (only 19% compared with 33% previously), and there was praise of helpful, knowledgeable APHIS personnel contacts. The increase in the number of staff that APHIS has hired in the permitting unit is one reason for the better communication. There were still some problems for some respondents with calls or e-mails not being returned.

In the process of finalizing permits, nearly 75% of respondents indicated that stipulations were reasonable, although some permit requirements are thought to be too restrictive and are not based on risk/benefit as is the case of the use of chemicals used for plant disease management or antibiotics/pheromones used for human disease intervention. Hand-carry allowances were cited as an important improvement for keeping pests and pathogens viable during importation.

The response to the question, “Has the new APHIS ePermitting system improved the process of permit application and renewal?” was 72% indicating yes or somewhat, and only 11% indicating no. The no answers were sometimes accompanied by the comment that the system was confusing.

Recommendations

We are pleased to work with APHIS on obtaining input from our society (APS, SON, MSA, ESA) membership on the 526 permitting process and receiving the response from APHIS on concerns gleaned from the survey. The following suggestions taken from the survey are proposed to APHIS to address the needs of members in the scientific community concerned about balancing plant health and biosecurity in the United States.

• Consider the European system where permission is given to receive “commonly occurring” plant pathogens with no permitting requirements when “for research purposes.”
• Consider the Canadian system for considering distribution based on ecozones rather than political boundaries.
• Improve interactions with DHS to facilitate importation of permitted live pathogens/pests.
• Have a flow chart on the APHIS website for steps in the permit application process with the person(s) responsible at each step.
• The most frequent suggestions concerned over-regulation of indigenous pathogens, especially those that are widely prevalent. ■
## Summary of the Survey on Satisfaction with APHIS Permitting Process Questions and Responses

In the last 2 years, how would you rate your experiences with APHIS permitting? (please select one rating)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+2 (very positive)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>17.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>+1</td>
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<tr>
<td>–1</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>–2 (very negative)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No experience</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Was the permit for (please select one):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Movement of a state-to-state plant pathogen</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>48.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import of a plant pathogen from another country</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both state-to-state movement and import from another country</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What amount of time did it take from application to receipt of your permit? (please select one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
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<th>Percent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1–3 months</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>47.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–6 months</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7–9 months</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10–12 months</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 12 months</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have not yet received</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit denied</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
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### How would you rate the stipulations on your permit? (please select one rating)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+2 (very reasonable)</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>25.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>105</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>–1</td>
<td>47</td>
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<td>–2 (very unreasonable)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No stipulations</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Has ePermitting improved the process of obtaining and renewing permits?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>121</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No experience/not used</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### If you’ve contacted APHIS staff in the last 2 years, how would you rate your satisfaction with your most recent contact? (please select one rating)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+2 (very satisfied)</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>–1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>–2 (very dissatisfied)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have not contacted</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### PPQ Response to APS Survey About the PPQ Permitting Process


PPQ appreciates the outstanding effort by The American Phytopathological Society (APS) to evaluate stakeholder perception of the PPQ permitting process. The data clearly demonstrate that changes in permit processing instituted by PPQ have resulted in positive outcomes. We attribute this shift to our new electronic permitting system, increased staffing, and a new customer support center. These enhancements have enabled the PPQ permit unit to process permit requests more efficiently, improve turnaround time, and interact with the regulated community in a more personal and timely manner. While we appreciate that our customers have seen significant improvements, we recognize that further improvements can be made and are committed to doing so.

PPQ appreciates the substantial efforts by the APS committees on widely prevalent pathogens to identify low-risk organisms subject to an expedited permitting process. We have exercised an expedited permitting process for widely prevalent viral and bacterial pathogens since 2000 and expect to deliver a similar program this year for widely prevalent fungi. We will make an announcement about the status of the widely prevalent pathogen program in the special session of the 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR. Meanwhile, be sure to browse our website for updates to the PPQ permitting program for regulated organism and soil at www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/permits/organism/index.shtml.

You may also contact our Customer Support Center toll free at 1.866.524.5421 (pest permits) or 1.877.770.5990 (automated system) or by e-mail at permits@aphis.usda.gov or pest.permits@aphis.usda.gov.
**Participants of the Third International Phytophthora, Pythium, and Related Genera Workshop, Turin, Italy.**

The Third International *Phytophthora, Pythium*, and Related Genera Workshop: Integration of Traditional and Modern Approaches for Investigating the Taxonomy and Evolution of the Oomycetes was presented in association with the Ninth International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) in Turin, Italy, August 23–24, 2008. The workshop took place at the Jolly Hotel Ambasciatori. Ninety-four scientists from 28 countries participated in this event, including keynote speakers and participants from Argentina (3), Australia (9), Austria (1), Belgium (6), Brazil (2), Bulgaria (1), Canada (3), Colombia (1), Chile (1), China (3), France (5), Germany (4), Hungary (1), India (1), Italy (8), Japan (4), Mexico (1), the Netherlands (3), New Zealand (2), Norway (5), Puerto Rico (1), South Africa (2), Spain (7), Switzerland (2), Taiwan (1), Tunisia (1), the U.K. (5), and the U.S.A. (11).

This very successful event was organized by *Gloria Abad*, USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), Plant Health Programs (PHP), Plant Safeguarding and Pest Identification (PSPI), Molecular Diagnostics Lab (MDL), Beltsville, MD, U.S.A; coorganizer *Jennifer Phillips*, Zarb Consulting, Raleigh, NC, U.S.A.; and the Ninth ICPP local organizers *Chiara Demaria* and *Valentina Parenti* (Valentina Communications). Collaborators for the workshop were *Tammy Kolt; Eileen Joseph*, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, PHP, PSPI; *Rajya Shukla; John Rascoe; Selena Rice; and Robin Wilcox*, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, PHP, PSPI, MDL.

*Gloria Abad* chaired the workshop, and *Frank Martin*, USDA, ARS, Salinas, CA, U.S.A., and *David Cooke*, Scottish Crop Research Institute, Dundee, U.K., cochaired the workshop. The program for the workshop featured the contributions of the keynote speakers—world-renowned authorities in the area of Oomycetes—as well as the notable contributions of the Scientific Committee members and participants. Keynote speakers included *Gloria Abad; Clive Brasier*, Forest Research Agency, U.K.; *Alice Holt Lodge*, Farnham, Surrey, U.K.; *Arthur de Cock*, Centraalbureau voor Schimmecultures, Utrecht, the Netherlands; *Michael Coffey*, World Phytophthora Collection, University of California, Riverside, CA, U.S.A.; *Cooke; Seogchan Kang*, Department of Plant Pathology, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, U.S.A.; *Andre Levesque*, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, Canada; *Martin; Paul Tooley*, USDA, ARS, Ft. Detrick, MD, U.S.A.; and *Hermann Voglmayr*, University of Vienna, Rennweg, Wien, Austria. The Scientific Committee was composed of *Jorge A. Abad*, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program, Beltsville, MD, U.S.A.; *Mike Benson*, North Carolina State University, Department of Plant Pathology, Raleigh, NC, U.S.A.; *Tom Creswell*, Plant Disease and Insect Clinic, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, U.S.A.; *Gaetano Magnano di San Lio*, Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria Feo di Vito, Italy; *Angelo Garibaldi*, AGROINNOVA, Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy; *Ronald French-Monar*, Department of Plant Pathology, AgriLife Extension-Texas A&M, Amarillo, TX, U.S.A.; *Kelly Ivors*, North Carolina State University, Department of Plant Pathology, Raleigh, NC, U.S.A.; *Mary Palm*, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, PHP, PSPI, MDL, Beltsville, MD, U.S.A.; *Andrea Tantardini*, Lab. Fitopatologico, SFR Minoprio, Vertemate con Minoprio, Italy; and *Motoaki Tojo*, Osaka Prefecture University, Sakai, Japan.

The workshop program, abstracts, photos, and some of the featured presentations and speeches can be viewed at www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/identification/phytophthora/index.shtml and www.phytophthoradb.org/slides.php.

The next workshop is being planned for 2010 in the United States and 2013 in Beijing, China, in association with the 10th International Congress of Plant Pathology. ■
Nematology Workshop at Washington State University Addresses Potato Cyst Nematodes

In October 2008, approximately 70 participants attended a Nematology Workshop in the Department of Plant Pathology, Washington State University (WSU), at the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center at Prosser. Organized by Ekaterini Riga (WSU-Prosser), the workshop consisted of two sessions. Morning session speakers Dennis Johnson (WSU-Pullman), Phil Hamm (Oregon State University), and Hassan Mojtahedi (USDA-ARS, Prosser) addressed biology and control methods of plant-parasitic nematodes of main economic importance of Pacific Northwest potatoes. The afternoon session was dedicated to general biology and updates of the quarantine nematodes, potato cyst nematodes. The afternoon session was lead by Riga, who presented information on the biology of the potato cyst nematode, followed by presentations from Eoin Davis (APHIS, ID), Tom Wessels (Washington State Department of Agriculture), Bob Zemetra (University of Idaho), Roy Navarre (USDA-ARS, Prosser), and Greg Parra (USDA-APHIS-PPQ, NC). The meeting was sponsored in part by the Washington State Potato Commission.

Argentina Hosts the VI Latin American Mycological Congress

The VI Latin American Mycological Congress took place in Mar del Plata, Argentina, November 10–13, 2008. The meeting was a great success with more than 700 participants (from more than 21 countries), including a number of Mycological Society of America members and many students—the future of mycology! José Carmine Dianese, an APS member from the Universidade de Brasilia and past president of the Latin American Mycological Association (ALM), was elected an ALM honorary member. The ALM congress is held every 3 years at which time a new president is elected who organizes the subsequent meeting. Daniel Cabral was the president of ALM and main organizer until his untimely death a few months prior to this congress. With the efforts of a number of Cabral’s colleagues, including Vice President Sofia Chulze and Guest President Andrea Romero, the successful congress included 15 conferences, 29 symposia, 740 posters, and more than 60 oral communications. Julieta Carranza was elected the next ALM president, so the VII Latin American Mycological Congress will be held in Costa Rica in 2011.

OSU Now Offering Online Forum for Animal and Plant Disease Diagnostics

The Ohio State University’s (OSU) Center for Diagnostics Assays (CDA) has launched an Internet forum aimed at bringing together animal and plant disease diagnostics professionals in one single, convenient place to share the latest information on diagnostic issues and technologies.

Worldwide in scope, DiagnosticSpeak seeks to connect the scientific community of infectious disease investigators with each other and with the end users of diagnostic tools.

Among other goals, the forum seeks to facilitate the exchange of ideas about how to more efficiently conduct diagnostic assays; discuss and better understand the meaning and value of diagnostic assay results; explore new diagnostic technologies; keep up to date on new and emerging diseases; search for hard-to-find reagents, assays, kits, and samples; and promote collaborations between academia, industry, and government laboratories. Website forums address a wide variety of areas, including bacteriology, parasitology, entomology and vectors, food safety, assay technology, and many others. The forum also provides technical information on various diagnostic tools and specific diseases. In addition, each forum at DiagnosticSpeak has assigned moderators contributing to and monitoring thread content.

For more information about DiagnosticSpeak, contact CDA Director Daral Jackwood at +1.330.263.3964 or jackwood.2@osu.edu.
Do you sometimes struggle when asked to explain your work as a plant pathologist to new acquaintances? Have you noticed that their eyes glaze over and they begin to fidget before you reach the end of your explanation? Even my own father thought I was a viticulturist for years, because of a brief project I had on Pierce’s disease early in my career. Then, after sitting him down for an in-depth explanation of my research on bacterial plant diseases, I was horrified to hear him tell someone that I was the person who discovered sitting him down for an in-depth explanation of my research on bacterial plant diseases, I know I am not alone with this problem because, in 2007, Jim Cook entitled his prefatory chapter in the Annual Reviews of Phytopathology “Tell Me Again What It Is That You Do.” Cook explains: “My own mother, while proud that her son had a PhD, finally stopped asking me to tell her again what it is that I do.”

We asked 100 APS members, selected at random, to tell us how they explain “what it is that they do.” Thanks to the seven members who responded! You can read their answers in MemberSpeak in the March and April issues of Phytopathology News.

— Joyce Loper, Editor-in-Chief

Diego Maeso, Instituto Nacional de Investigacion Agropecuaria de Uruguay (INIA), Uruguay

My work as a plant pathologist in INIA of Uruguay deals with some basic but mainly applied plant pathology due to the commitment of INIA to improve Uruguay agriculture. My research is focused on the integrated disease management of vegetable and temperate fruit tree crops, the principal crops near Las Brujas Experiment Station where I work (40 km from Montevideo, the capital of the country). We keep up on the identification of problems, monitoring, and devising and validating integrated management measures for the Uruguayan growers.

Elizabeth Bernhardt, Phytosphere Research, Vacaville, CA, U.S.A.

I’m the “mom” half of a “mom and pop” business. My husband Ted Swiecki and I have been self-employed for the last 20 years. We do contract research and consulting for agencies, businesses, and individuals. Much of our work consists of field research to answer questions about management of plants in natural systems. Currently, we have projects studying the spread and control of sudden oak death in oak and tanoak forests. We take on all sorts of projects in the plant science field. For example, we’ve had projects dealing with urban forestry, riparian plants, ecology of oak woodlands, and the effects of grazing on native plants.

Don Hopkins, University of Florida, U.S.A.

First, I tell them directly that I conduct research for UF on diseases of grapes and watermelons. To help them understand, I use human health and sickness as an analogy to plant health and disease. As their doctor treats them for illness, it is my job to find a prevention or control for diseases of grape and watermelon plants. For example, I am working on the injection of a harmless bacterium into the grape plant to protect it against a bacterial disease, which works somewhat like immunizations that you may get against human diseases such as smallpox, polio, etc.

Iowa State University (ISU) summer intern Brita Kilburg received national recognition in the U.S. Department of Energy Science and Energy Challenge (DOE-SCERCh) by receiving a third place award in the Environmental Sciences Division of the competition held at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, TN. Kilburg, a student at Loras College in Dubuque, IA, was a participant in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (SULI) program this past summer. Kilburg was mentored by ISU plant disease epidemiologist Forrest W. Nutter Jr. Kilburg was one of 11 SULI participants at ISU, and her summer research project involved quantifying components of the Bean pod mottle virus-soybean-bean leaf beetle pathosystem. The SULI program at ISU was administered by Steve Karsjen, the Ames Laboratory’s Education Programs coordinator. Ames Laboratory is a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science laboratory housed on the ISU campus. As part of her national third place award, Kilburg received a $1,000 scholarship and an engraved crystal cup.
**New Positions**

**Sharon Parker** rejoined the Department of Plant Pathology at Iowa State University (ISU) and is working with **Forrest Nutter Jr.** on integrating the GPS, GIS, and remote sensing technologies to detect, quantify, and identify the cause(s) of plant stress in crops. Parker’s previous research assignments were with **Gary Cline**, Kentucky State University; **Regis Voss**, Department of Agronomy, ISU; and **Mark Gleason**, Department of Plant Pathology, ISU.

**Carla Garzon** has joined the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, as assistant professor, plant pathology, effective May 2008. Her major responsibilities are to develop a strong, externally supported, nationally recognized research program focused on the biology, ecology, and/or epidemiology of soilborne plant pathogens in order to develop effective management systems for diseases of major importance to Oklahoma commodities and/or natural ecosystems. Garzon received his M.S. degree from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, with **Anupam Varma**; and his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, with **Chuji Hiruki**. WSU plant pathology faculty are located on the main campus in Pullman, at research and extension centers in Prosser, Puyallup, Mount Vernon, and Wenatchee, and on the University of Washington campus in Seattle.

**Renuka Attanayake** required completions for an M.S. degree in plant pathology at Washington State University under the direction of **Weidong Chen**, USDA ARS scientist and adjunct professor of plant pathology. Attanayake’s thesis research was entitled “Species and population diversity of powdery mildews on grain legumes in the US Pacific Northwest.” The project was funded by the USDA CSREES Cool Season Food Legume Research Program. Attanayake is continuing her Ph.D. study in the same laboratory.

**Hanu R. Pappu**, President Sam Smith Endowed Chair in Plant Virology, became the chair of the Department of Plant Pathology at Washington State University (WSU) in December 2008. Pappu succeeded **Timothy D. Murray** who served as chair of the department for 8 years. Pappu received his B.S. degree in agriculture from A.P. Agricultural University, Bapatla, India; his M.S. degree from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, with **Anupam Varma**; and his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, with **Chuji Hiruki**. WSU plant pathology faculty are located on the main campus in Pullman, at research and extension centers in Prosser, Puyallup, Mount Vernon, and Wenatchee, and on the University of Washington campus in Seattle.

**Martin Chilvers** recently moved from the Department of Plant Pathology at Washington State University (WSU) to Michigan State University as a visiting assistant professor. During his time at WSU, Chilvers worked with **Lindsey du Toit** and **Tobin Peever** on a number of projects, including detection of Botrytis neck rot pathogens in onion seed and development of an identification guide for them, as well as cloning and characterization of mating type genes of *Ascochyta* and *Phoma* spp. and description of the *Ascochyta pisi* teleomorph. Chilvers is currently employing next-generation sequencing technologies to examine the genetics of interaction between *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Pisum sativum*. He will continue along these and related lines of research while concentrating on Michigan field crops.

**Collaborations**

**Rosalee Coelho Netto** recently completed a 1-year appointment at Iowa State University as a visiting scientist working with **Mark Gleason** on epidemiology aspects of biological control on *Sclerotium rolfsii* survival and with **Forrest Nutter Jr.** and **Alison Robertson** on data analyses and GIS disease mapping for the Iowa Soybean Disease Survey Project funded by the Iowa Soybean Association. Coelho Netto is the lead plant pathologist at the Institute for Research in the Amazon (INPA) located in Manaus, Brazil.

**George Abawi** of Cornell’s Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology at the Geneva Experiment Station was part of a three-member team, including Cornell professors **Harold van Es** and **David Wolfe**, that received the 2008 Award for Excellence in Extension and Outreach from the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture. The award was presented in recognition of the team’s pioneering work and advocacy in soil health, which describes the capacity of a soil to be used productively without adversely affecting its future productivity, the ecosystem, or the environment. More about Abawi’s work can be seen at www.nysaes.cornell.edu/pp/faculty/abawi/index.html.

**Deon Stuthman**, a professor in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics at the University of Minnesota, has been named a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for distinguished contributions to the fields of plant breeding and genetics.

**People continued on page 44**
People continued from page 43

emphasizing grain quality and disease resistance, with an emphasis on both American continents.

Retirement

After a 42-year career, Sung M. Lim retired as professor and department head of the University of Arkansas Department of Plant Pathology on August 22, 2008. At a retirement event held October 16, 2008, he was honored by colleagues, family, and friends and was named emeritus professor of plant pathology by the University Board of Trustees.

Lim graduated from Seoul National University with a B.S. degree in agronomy in 1957 and an M.S. degree in 1959. In his first position as a crop protection agronomist with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in South Korea, he helped develop new plant quarantine regulations and worked with the U.S. 8th Army to develop a system for farmers in Korea to supply vegetables to American troops.

Lim came to the United States in 1961 to continue his graduate studies as the first Korean student at Mississippi State University. He later transferred to Michigan State University, where he received a Ph.D. degree in plant genetics in 1966.

After receiving his doctorate, Lim joined the plant pathology faculty at the University of Illinois and was appointed assistant professor in 1971. His research on the causal agent of corn leaf blight was instrumental in ending the southern corn leaf blight epidemics of the early 1970s. His work also contributed to recognition of the problems associated with genetic uniformity in major crops, which makes them more vulnerable to epidemics.

Lim was the first to extensively use the multiple regression computer programs to determine the relative importance of disease components of corn hybrids in evaluating the relationship of disease to yield reduction. His genetic study of the heterotic effects of plant disease resistance in 1975 was recognized by the famous plant epidemiologist Van der Plank as one of the most important papers in the area of disease resistance.

In 1977, Lim was recruited by the USDA Agricultural Research Service to develop a soybean pathology program similar to his comprehensive corn pathology program. He developed a soybean disease monitoring system in Illinois and identified new soybean disease races and sources of genetic resistance.

Lim’s teaching accomplishments include developing the first plant epidemiology course at Illinois in 1973.

Lim has provided leadership for a number of advances in plant pathology as department head since 1991 in the University of Arkansas System’s Division of Agriculture. The 2004 merger of extension and research faculty has led to beneficial interactions, including the Arkansas Working Group on Introduced Plant Diseases to deal with Asian soybean rust and other diseases. The department has also restructured curriculum for undergraduate and graduate programs. The department has strengthened its molecular biology programs and overall efforts in support of producers of agronomic and horticultural crops.

Lim’s participation in The American Phytopathological Society (APS) has been strong. He has served on numerous committees and the Phytopathology Editorial Board. He was named fellow of APS in 1988 and was awarded the Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award from the Southern Division of APS in 2000. He received the Spitrze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence from the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Science, University of Arkansas, in 2006. In 2008, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Southern Soybean Disease Workers.

A fund has been established in the Agricultural Development Council, a part of the University of Arkansas Foundation, to support a travel scholarship for graduate students in plant pathology at the University of Arkansas for professional travel assistance in the name of Sung Man and Ah Ok Lim. Corporate and individual donations will be accepted to strengthen this fund. Those interested in donating should contact Debby Monfort, professional assistant with the department, at +1.501.438.2044 or dmonfort@uark.edu for gift instructions.

Lim remains in Fayetteville, AR, with his wife, Oghie. He doesn’t have any definite plans to begin a second career but has been thinking about a couple of special projects. He offers this advice to young scientists “Be yourself, be honest, work hard, do your best every day and above all, keep an open mind.”

In Memory

Curt C. Leben, professor emeritus in the Department of Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University, passed away November 21, 2008, in Wooster, OH, at the age of 91. Leben was elected an APS fellow in 1981 and made noted contributions to plant pathology in research, administration, and graduate student training. He was a former associate editor of Phytopathology, served on the Chemical Control and Bacteriology Committees, and helped raise funds from industry for the APS headquarters building in St. Paul, MN.

Leben’s areas of research included epiphytic bacteria, antibiotics for disease control, survival of plant-pathogenic bacteria, and wood decay of forest trees. He is best known for pioneering research on the epiphytic microflora of the phyllosphere. Among other things, he showed that plant buds carried rich populations of nonpathogenic bacteria, and the subsequent isolation of pathogenic bacteria from buds and other apparently healthy plant parts led to the hypothesis that some pathogens had a resident phase in the disease cycle. The resident phase was demonstrated to be significant in inoculum increase and incidence of some plant diseases. Of particular interest was the antagonism of some bacterial residents to fungal pathogens. He demonstrated biological control of fungal diseases by particular bacterial isolates. His groundbreaking research in the 1960s and 1970s not only established the importance of a plant-surface resident phase for many saprophytic and pathogenic bacterial species, but laid the foundation for numerous studies in microbial ecology, biocontrol, and molecular biology that continue to this day.

Leben also conducted research on the bacterial blight disease of soybean, including studies on the resident phase of the pathogen, survival on seed, dissemination by storms, and potential control by seed treatment. Similar work was done with Pseudomonas lachrymans, causal agent of cucumber angular leaf spot. He also published work on the survival of plant-pathogenic bacteria and on the adherence of various types of bacteria to leaf surfaces.

Leben graduated from Ohio University in Athens and received his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1946 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. As a graduate student, he was involved in the Venturia program led by his major professor, G. W. Keitt, and pursued research in antibiotics for plant disease control.

In 1949, Leben joined the agricultural division of Eli Lilly and Company and later became head of the Lilly Agricultural Research Center in Greenfield, IN. He began a program on
bactericides and fungicides for plant disease control that later expanded to include herbicides and insecticides.

Leben was named professor and associate chair, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and The Ohio State University in 1959. He served as acting chair of the new Department of Plant Pathology for a period in 1967 and then returned to research until his retirement in 1988.

Leben was an ardent supporter of nature conservancy, forests, and national parks and enjoyed sailing, camping, and painting. Some of his paintings hang on the walls of plant pathology facilities in Columbus and Wooster today. He is survived by his widow, Margaret Leben of Wooster, two children, two grandchildren, and a sister.

Post-Doctoral Research Associate
The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Unit (FDWSRU) in Frederick, MD, is seeking a post-doctoral research associate (research molecular biologist/plant pathologist) for a 2-year appointment. The incumbent will study soybean rust caused by the obligate fungal pathogen Phakopsora pachyrhizi using virus-induced gene silencing (VIGS) and other molecular-based methodologies to identify and characterize genes associated with defense-signaling networks required for resistance. A recent Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or a closely related field is required. Knowledge of plant pathology and experience with nucleotide and protein database analysis, recombinant DNA techniques, PCR, cDNA library construction, DNA sequencing, and protein expression is desirable. Portions of the research project are performed in a biocontainment facility (BSL-3). This position requires the selectee to undergo a pre-employment check and a full background investigation. Any offer made is considered a tentative job offer pending the outcome of the pre-employment check. Retention in the position is based upon a favorable adjudication of the background investigation. Citizenship restrictions apply. For information on citizenship requirements go to www.afm.ars.usda.gov/hrd/jobs/VISA/countries.htm. Send application materials and references to Kerry Pedley. Salary: Salary is commensurate with experience ($60,989 to $95,026 per annum, plus benefits). Closing Date: April 23, 2009 (This closing date is not adjustable.) Interested students should contact Ioannis Tzanetakis at itzaneta@uark.edu for any questions regarding the position. Admissions information for graduate studies in the Cell and Molecular Biology Program can be found at www.uark.edu/depts/cemb/cembapplicantinfo.html. Applicants should complete the online application at www2.uark.edu/web-apps/emgt/applying/LeadingPage.jsp. Contact: Ioannis E. Tzanetakis, University of Arkansas, Department of Plant Pathology, PTSC-217, 495 North Campus Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72701 U.S.A. Fax: +1.479.575.7601; E-mail: itzaneta@uark.edu; Phone: +1.479.575.3180; Web: www.uark.edu/depts/cemb.

Plant Breeder/Plant Pathologist
A privately funded vegetable variety development firm is looking for a plant breeder with strength in plant pathology for its research program in South America. Responsibilities include developing tomato varieties, conducting host resistance work, evaluating grower field performance trials, and assisting with an established tomato breeding program in Florida. Candidate must have a plant breeding Ph.D. degree or an M.S. degree with experience and a minor in plant pathology or vice versa. Breeder will be headquartered in Florida and travel to South America. Computer knowledgeable, detail oriented, and the ability to speak Spanish are preferable. Compensation package will be commensurate with experience and competitive. Salary: Commensurate with experience. Closing Date: April 22, 2009 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Resume, college transcripts, and three letters of reference required. Contact: Jim Augustine, BHN Research, P.O. Box 3267, Immokalee, FL 34143 U.S.A. Fax: +1.239.352.1565; E-mail: jaugustine@bhnseed.com; Phone: +1.239.352.1100; Web: www.bhnseed.com.

Assistant Director—Campus Farm Operations
Responsible for managing AES land resources near the New Mexico State University (NMSU) main campus, which includes the Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center (LPFC), the

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**Classifieds**

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

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Richard C. McCrum, 86, died peacefully in his sleep on Christmas Eve, 2008, in Portland, ME. A solid “Maine Yankee” to the core, Dick was born in Maine and spent most of his life there. Following his primary and secondary education in Portland, he entered the U.S. Navy in 1940 and was aboard the destroyer Conyngham when Pearl Harbor was attacked; he later served as state chair of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. Dick fell in love with the late Arlene Bentz while they both were in the Navy: They were happily married for 55 years. Returning to academia after the war, he obtained his B.S. degree at the University of Arizona, his M.S. degree at the University of Maine, and his Ph.D. degree at the University of New Hampshire. He joined the faculty of the Botany and Plant Pathology Department at the University of Maine, Orono, and became well known in New England, especially with the apple and potato industries, for his work on virus diseases and production of virus-free stock. He was a noted authority on apple viruses and authored the first illustrated review of them in 1960. For three terms, he was the chair and secretary of a USDA interregional research project on apple viruses. In 1971, he served as president of the Northeastern Division of APS. Unlike many of us, Dick led a balanced life, one in which family, friendship, and community service were as important as his profession. He was very active in the Orono and Old Town Kiwanis Club, serving as its president from 1976 to 1977, and served as assistant scoutmaster, scoutmaster, and then chair of Orono Troop 47 BSA—one of the oldest scout troops in America. He was a talented artist and many of his paintings are displayed at the University of Maine and elsewhere. Dick will be remembered affectionately by his students and colleagues for his integrity, modesty, generosity, and humanity, not to mention his engaging smile.
Fabian Garcia Science Center (FGSC), and other land resources including those grazed by NMSU livestock. Responsibilities include the following: Encourage and support research conducted by faculty in several departments. Work with the Executive Advisory Committee to manage and assign available land. Coordinate efforts of farm managers, farm crews, and physical plant personnel, EPA compliance, and budgets on these AES lands. Maintain accurate and orderly cropping system and land use records. Serve as the field safety officer. Assist with commodity field days. Organize and host general agriculture field days; prepare annual reports; participate in related outreach efforts of AES. Provide long-term vision for AES land resources on or near campus; serve as an advocate for this process, including the securing of new funding and resources and upgrading of facilities. M.S. degree (in hand by hire date) in plant sciences, agricultural engineering, or related field and 3 years of related experience. Ph.D. degree preferred. Familiar with general farming practices and research methods; irrigation scheduling; equipment maintenance and use; management of water resources, including its uses for agronomic, forage, and horticultural crop production and livestock development. Proficient in budget management and safety compliance. Actively recruit and encourage faculty to initiate and maintain projects on the farm. Possess excellent management and communication skills. Ability to work collaboratively with other faculty, staff, students, administration, and visitors. Salary: Commensurate with education and experience. Review of letter of interest, resume, vita, unofficial transcripts, and three letters of reference addressing qualifications and experience will begin February 27, 2009 and remain open until filled. Closing Date: February 27, 2009 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Steven Loring, c/o Ms. Teresa Diaz, Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico State University, P.O. Box 30003, MSC 3BF, Las Cruces, NM 88003 U.S.A. Fax: +1.575.646.2816; E-mail: sloring@nmsu.edu; Phone: +1.575.646.3125; Web: www.nmsu.edu.

Specialty Crops Breeding and Genetics

Purdue University announces an academic-year, tenure-track assistant professor research/teaching position that is part of a cluster-hire in the College of Agriculture focused on the breeding and genetics of specialty crops of state and regional importance as outlined in the USDA 2008 Farm Bill. Related faculty positions to be filled are in the areas of specialty crop production systems and entomology. Indiana and the North Central region rank highly in the production of important specialty crops. The successful candidate will establish a competitive, externally funded research program utilizing modern genetics research tools to improve specialty crops. Focus areas of research might include but are not limited to improving postharvest quality and storage, disease resistance, abiotic stress tolerance, flavor, nutritional quality, and/or other traits of importance to specialty crops. The incumbent will be expected to develop an internationally recognized scholarly program, to provide genetic expertise and resources to the specialty crops initiative, and forge multidisciplinary, multi-institutional collaborations. Although the primary scholarly focus of this appointment is research, the incumbent is expected to participate fully in both the undergraduate and graduate programs, including teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level and mentoring graduate students and post-doctoral research associates. This position is advertised jointly between the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology and the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. The departmental home for the successful candidate will depend on their specific research and teaching interests. Further information about the position may be obtained from the co-chairs of the search committee: Ray Martyn, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology (e-mail: Rmartyn@purdue.edu) and Cary Mitchell, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (e-mail: Cmitchell@purdue.edu). Qualifications: A Ph.D. degree in plant genetics, plant breeding, or related plant science discipline is required. Excellent oral and written communication skills are essential. Post-doctoral or equivalent professional experience is highly desirable, as is field experience in breeding and selection for crop improvement and a demonstrated ability to collaborate and develop multidisciplinary team approaches to solve research problems. Salary: Salary will be competitive and commensurate with professional experience. It is an academic year appointment with excellent fringe benefits that include employer contributions to the individual’s retirement program; medical, life, and disability insurance; and sabbatical-leave opportunities. Closing Date: March 15, 2009 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Screening of applicants will begin March 15, 2009, and will continue until the position is filled. Expected appointment will be July 1, 2009. Applications should include a cover letter that includes a statement of professional goals for research and teaching, the candidate’s curriculum vitae with a full list of publications, and the names and contact information, including e-mail address, for four references. All application material should be sent electronically as pdf files to Colleen Martin. Contact: Colleen Martin, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University, 625 Agriculture Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010 U.S.A. Fax: +1.765.494.0391; E-mail: martinck@purdue.edu; Phone: +1.765.494.1306; Web: www.hort.purdue.edu or www.btny.purdue.edu.

Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Two post-doctoral positions are available. The post-docs in these positions are expected to conduct research to characterize the virulence mechanisms of either Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus (citrus greening) or Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. citri (citrus canker). A Ph.D. degree in molecular biology, microbiology, bacteriology, plant pathology, or a related field is preferred. A significant record of productivity as demonstrated through refereed publications is also preferred. Candidates with experience in bioinformatics, microarray analysis, and molecular plant-microbe interactions are especially encouraged to apply. The candidate should demonstrate a commitment to work cooperatively, must be able to work independently as well as part of a team, have a willingness to learn, and possess strong written and verbal communication skills.

Closing Date: April 28, 2009 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Enclose application letter, resumes, names, and addresses (electronic and mail) of three references (whom we will contact for recommendation letters). Contact: Nian Wang, 700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, FL 33850 U.S.A. E-mail: nianwang@crec.ifas.ufl.edu; Phone: +1.863.956.1151; Web: www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu.
Phytopathology
March 2009, Volume 99, Number 3
Parameterization and Evaluation of a Spatiotemporal Model of the Potato Late Blight Pathosystem.
A Phytoplasma Related to 'Candidatus Phytoplasma asteri' Detected in Citrus Showing Huanglongbing (Yellow Shoot Disease) Symptoms in Guangdong, P. R. China.
Graft Transmission Efficiencies and Multiplication of 'Candidatus Liberibacter americanus' and 'Ca. Liberibacter asiaticus' in Citrus Plants.
Transgenic Suppression of Cell Death Limits Penetration Success of the Soybean Rust Fungus Phakopora pachyrhizi into Epidermal Cells of Barley.
Indole-3-Acetic Acid Improves Postharvest Biological Control of Blue Mold Rot of Apple by Cryptococcus laurentii.
Detection of High Concentrations of Organic Acids in Fish Emulsion and Their Role in Pathogen or Disease Suppression.

Efficient Transmission of 'Candidatus Phytoplasma prunorum' Is Delayed by Eight Months Due to a Long Latency in Its Host-Alternating Vector.
The Pr40 Gene for Durable Resistance to Rice Blast and Molecular Analysis of Pr40-Advanced Backcross Breeding Lines.
Development and Characterization of Expressed Sequence Tag-Derived Microsatellite Markers for the Wheat Stem Rust Fungus Puccinia graminis f. sp. tritici.
Small Subunit rRNA-Based Phylogeny of the Tylendenchus Sheds Light on Relationships Among Some High-Impact Plant-Parasitic Nematodes and the Evolution of Plant Feeding.

Cross-Protection Against Bean yellow mosaic virus (BYMV) and Clover yellow vein virus in Soybean. Detection of Wheat Stem Rust (Puccinia graminis f. sp. tritici) Race TTKSK (Ug90) in Iran.
First Report of Gray Mold Caused by Botrytis cinerea on Stevia rebaudiana in Italy.
First Report of Downy Mildew Caused by a Peronospora Species on Sweet Basil (Ocimum basilicum) in Massachusetts.
First Report of Leaf Blight on Foxglove (Digitalis purpurea) Caused by Rhizoctonia solani AG-1-IA in Italy.
First Report of Bean yellow mosaic virus from Diseased Lupinus latifolius in Eastern Washington.
First Report of Diplodia Cane Dieback of Grapevine in Bolivia.
Cucurbit leaf crumple virus Identified in Common Bean in Florida.
First Report of Powdery Mildew Caused by Erysiphe palulenta on Cornus florida in Italy.
First Report of Mountain Hemlock Dwarf Mistletoe (Arceuthobium tuegense subsp. montanum) on Sugar Pine (Pinus lambertiana) from Oregon.
First Report of Elm Yellows Phytoplasma Infecting Clover in China.
Identification of a New Bemovirus Associated with Blackberry Curl Diseases of Tomato and Pepper in Sulawesi, Indonesia.
First Report of Smut on Imperata cylindrica Caused by Sphaeropsis suensfinthrians in South Africa.
First Observations of Mycophaerella pisi on Scots Pine in Finland.
First Report of Syringa oblatu and S. reticulata Leafroll Disease in China.
First Report of Fusarium Wilt Caused by Fusarium oxysporum on Strawberry in Spain.

Temporal and Spatial Development of Sorghum Anthracnose in Arkansas.
Dieback and Mortality of Alnus in the Southern Rocky Mountains, USA.
Heat Treatment Effects on Strawberry Plant Survival and Angular Leaf Spot, Caused by Xanthomonas fragariae, in Nursery Production.
Effect of a Chromosome Segment Marked by the Ph, Gene for Resistance to Phytophthora nicotianae on Reproduction of Tobacco Cyst Nematodes.
First Report of Potato spindle tuber viroid in Cape Gooseberry (Physalis peruviana) from Turkey and Germany.
First Report of Powdery Mildew (Oidium sp.) on Pincushion Flower (Scabiosa columbaria) in New York.
First Report of Columbia Root-Knot Nematode (Meloidogyne chitwoodi) in Potato in Turkey.
First Report of the Mistletoe Arceuthobium tsugense in Oregon. (Peronospora fragariae) in Italy.
First Report of Brussels sprout blight on Brussels sprout (Brassica oleracea var. botrytis) in Italy.
First Report of Smut on Imperata cylindrica Caused by Sphaeropsis suensfinthrians in South Africa.
First Report of Diplodia Cane Dieback of Grapevine in Bolivia.
Cucurbit leaf crumple virus Identified in Common Bean in Florida.
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First Report of Fusarium Wilt Caused by Fusarium oxysporum on Strawberry in Spain.

Phytopathology News

Plant Disease
March 2009, Volume 93, Number 3
A New 'Candidatus Liberibacter' Species Associated with Diseases of Solanaceous Crops.
Re-evaluation of Phytophthora Species Isolated During 30 Years of Vegetation Health Surveys in Western Australia Using Molecular Techniques.
Differential Responses of Resistant Soybean Entries to Isolates of Phakopora pachyrhizi.
Site-Specific Risk Factors for Ray Blight in Tasmanian Pyrethrum Fields.
Differential of Mating Type and Sexual Status in Chinese Rice Blast Populations.
Effect of Fungicide and Timing of Application on Soybean Rust Severity and Yield.
Susceptibility to Phytophthora capsici and Incolum Production Potential of Some Common Eastern Forest Understory Plant Species.
Pratylenchus neglectus Reduces Yield of Winter Wheat in Dryland Cropping Systems.
Association of Solar Irradiance and Days of Precipitation with Incidence of Potato Late Blight in the Semiarid Environment of the Columbia Basin.
Effect of Temperature on Sporulation and Infectivity of Phytophthora macularis on Humulus lupulus.

MPMI
March 2009, Volume 22, Number 3
Overexpression of Brassica napus MK4 Enhances Resistance to Sclerotinia sclerotiorum in Oilseed Rape.

Tomato Transcriptional Responses to a Foliar and a Vascular Fungal Pathogen Are Distinct.
TOO MUCH LOVE, a Root Resistant Associated with the Long-Distance Control of Nodulation in Lotus japonicus.
Distinct Amino Acids of the Phytophthora infestans Effector AVR3a Condition Activation of R3a Hypersensitivity and Suppression of Cell Death.
Soluble Plant Cell Signals Induce the Expression of the Type III Secretion System of Pseudomonas syringae and Upregulate the Production of Pilus Protein HpA.
The f2f2 Gene of the Endocellular Bacterium 'Candidatus Glomeribacter gigasporum' Is Preferentially Expressed During the Symbiotic Phases of its Host Mycorrhizal Fungus.
The Zuc of Xanthomonas campestris Is Involved in Hypersensitive Response and Positively Regulates the Expression of the hrp Cluster Via hrpX But Not hrpG.
A Secreted SPRY Domain-Containing Protein (SPRYSEC) from the Plant-Parasitic Nematode Globodera rostochiensis Interacts with a CC-NB-LLR Protein from a Susceptible Tomato.
Symbiosis-Related Plant Genes Modulate Molecular Responses in an Arbucular Mycorrhizal Fungus During Early Root Interactions.
Genome-Wide Analysis of Differentially Expressed Genes During the Early Stages of Tomato Infection by a Potyvirus.
Changes in Disease Resistance Phenotypes Associated With Plant Physiological Age Are Not Caused by Variation in R Gene Transcript Abundance.

Plant Management Network
www.plantmanagementnetwork.org

Plant Health Progress
Hop Stunt Decline: A Disease or Disorder of Unknown Aetiology in Australian Hop Yards.
CAPS Analysis: A Possible Tool to Detect and Group Geminiviruses Infecting Some Fibre Crops and Weeds.
Evaluation of Resistance to Chinch Bug in Pearl Millet in Temperate and Subtropical Environments.
Management of Transplant House Spread of Acidovoraxavenue subsp. citrulli on Cucurbits with Bacterial Chemicals in the Irrigation Water.
Evaluation of Alternative Decay Control Products for Control of Postharvest Rhizopus Soft Rot of Sweetpotatoes.
Development of a Rapid Method Using Occal Acid to Assess Resistance Among Hosta Cultivars to Petiole Rot Caused by Sclerotinia rolfsii var. delphini.
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug Pheromone Licensed.
Purdue Study Suggests Warmer Temperatures Could Lead to a Boom in Corn Pests.
Advan Becomes Distributor for AgroSource FireWall and FireLine Products.
Grazing Animals Help Spread Plant Disease.
Dow AgroSciences Introduces Low-odor LORSBAN Advanced Insecticide.
Calendar of Events

**APS Sponsored Events**

**May 2009**
- 11-16 — IUFRO WP 7.02.02 Foliage, Shoot and Stem Diseases of Forest Trees Meeting. Egirdir, Isparta, Turkey. http://iufro.sdu.edu.tr

**June 2009**
- 1-5 — Protein and Peptide Conference (PepCon 2009). COEX, Seoul, South Korea. www.bit-pepeon.com/

**August 2009**
- 17-22 — The 8th International Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) Workshop. Portland, OR. http://capps.wsu.edu/pgpr/

**October 2009**
- 31-June 4 — 14th International Sclerotinia Workshop. Wilmington, NC. www.cals.ncsu.edu/sclerotinia_conference/index.html

**December 2009**
- 6-10 — National Soybean Rust Symposium. New Orleans, LA.

**Upcoming APS Annual Meetings**
- August 7-11, 2010 — Nashville, TN.
- August 6-10, 2011 — APS/IAPPS Joint Meeting. Honolulu, HI.

**Other Upcoming Events**

**April 2009**

**May 2009**
- 11-16 — IUFRO WP 7.02.02 Foliage, Shoot and Stem Diseases of Forest Trees Meeting. Egirdir, Isparta, Turkey. http://iufro.sdu.edu.tr

**June 2009**
- 1-5 — Protein and Peptide Conference (PepCon 2009). COEX, Seoul, South Korea. www.bit-pepeon.com/

**July 2009**
- 5-10 — XXI International Conference on Virus and Other Graft Transmissible Diseases of Fruit Crops. Neustadt an der Weinstrasse, Germany. www.icvf.phytomedizin.org/

**August 2009**
- 19-23 — 14th Congress on Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions. Québec City, Canada. www.ismpminet.org/meetings

**September 2009**

**October 2009**

**November 2009**
- 10-13 — Indian Phytopathological Society’s 5th International Conference. New Delhi, India. www.ipis.org

**December 2009**

**February 2010**

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