

APPS

AUSTRALASIAN PLANT PATHOLOGY SOCIETY



NEWS

Volume 16, No. 2

June 2003

Quarterly Comments

from the APPS President



Members of the South Island, New Zealand, branch of APPS are catching a collective breath (and heaving sighs of relief!!) after the efforts put into organisation of the 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology and the 14th Biennial Australasian Plant Pathology Conference (ICPP2003). The feedback received from people who attended the Congress/Conference has been universally very positive. On behalf of APPS, I congratulate the ICPP2003 Organising Committee, which has worked extremely hard for almost 6 years planning for the Congress. The resoundingly successful event has brought excellent kudos to our Society. APPS has a burgeoning reputation as the only Southern Hemisphere hosts of International Plant

Pathology Congresses, and the Christchurch event was a very worthy successor to the 4th Congress in Melbourne in 1983. Besides this, ICPP2003 was a very worthwhile gathering of the world's plant pathologists for exchange of information and knowledge on the current state of our discipline. APPS, through its most southern members, has done the world community of plant pathologists a very worthwhile service.

I draw all members attention to an important conference in the near future. Planning for the 3rd Australasian Soilborne Diseases Symposium (Rowland Flat, South Australia, 8-11 February 2003) is well advanced. Information on the Symposium can be obtained at www.plevin.com.au/asds2004.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

- 6th Australasian Mycological Society Conference, Victoria, 1-2 Oct 2003 (Page 10)
- 13th Int Symposium on the Biology of Actinomycetes, Victoria, Dec 2003 (Page 2)
- 3rd Australasian Soil Diseases Symposium, South Australia, 8-11 Feb 2004. (Page 8)

The two previous Soilborne Diseases Symposia have been highly successful conferences, and the 3rd Symposium is very highly recommended for all with plant pathology interests relating to plant roots and the soil in which they grow.

The new Executive of APPS has met regularly in the few months since the APPS Biennial General meeting in February. An important task is to carry on the initiative of the previous Executive to develop a Committee structure for the Society. Several activity Committees have been suggested, including International Relations/Linkages, APPS Awards, APPS Promotion, and Meetings Co-ordination/Planning. The new Executive will advance this initiative, but we also invite

contributions/suggestions from all APPS members on activities and composition of activity Committees for the Society.

We will soon be calling for nominations for the next President/Executive for the Society for the 2005/07 term, beginning at the 15th Biennial APP Conference in Geelong. Those interested in nominating for these important tasks should consult the Society home page for constitutional requirements relating to the Executive. The current Executive will issue a call for nominations, and will then carry out a postal/email ballot of all members to fill these positions.

Richard E Falloon

Thirteenth International Symposium on the Biology of Actinomycetes

Melbourne Dec 2003

Special interest sessions:

Plant pathogenic actinomycetes - contact Dr Ian Riley (ian.riley@adelaide.edu.au).

Potato scab - contact Calum Wilson (calum.wilson@dpiwe.tas.gov.au)

for further details visit the web site:

<http://www.conferencestrategy.com.au/isba/index.html>

Int. Congress of Plant Pathology 2003

This is to let you know that there were 253 delegates from Australia, and 153 from New Zealand. A special thank you to all APPS members who made a special effort to attend. I know that some of those from N.Z. are not members so it is important that the NZ councillors make an effort to encourage them to become members. Since the congress I have been busy writing cheques in payment of the numerous invoices. So much so that I was given the RSI (repetitive strain injury) award by local members. Fortunately there are likely to be only a few more invoices. The next task is to recover as much GST back from the tax department. Then it is on to preparing all the records for our accountant & finally the auditor. Needless to say that will be more expense but it should be worthwhile.

With best wishes to all APPS members and I thank the Society for granting me Honorary Member status.

Ron Close



REGIONAL NEWS

SOUTHAUSTRALIA

The SA branch has been relatively quiet as a group since the last newsletter primarily because as individuals many of our members have been rather preoccupied with the Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus and associated quarantine issues on the Waite campus.

Four of our students were given travel grants to participate in ICPP2003 and as a condition of that grant they were asked to write a report on the Congress from their perspective. The four students chosen are doing their PhDs in the fields of virology, nematology, bacteriology and plant-pathogen interactions. I found their reports quite illuminating particularly with regards to symposiums and workshops I did not attend. I hope you also find some value in them.

Lastly, I would ask that if any of our members are visiting South Australia to please be sure to contact me as I would be more than happy to organise a chance to meet with your APPS colleagues through a seminar or similar.

Amanda Able



SA student perspectives

LUKE SELTH (CSIRO PI – HORTICULTURE)

The 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology was held from 2-7 February 2003, in the beautiful city of Christchurch, New Zealand. Over 1500 of the world's plant pathologists gathered for what proved to be an interesting and insightful look into various theoretical and applied aspects of plant disease.

I arrived early to attend the Plant Virus Interactions Symposium held at the University

of Canterbury. The plenary speaker for this workshop was Professor Roger Hull, possibly the world's pre-eminent plant virologist and author of the latest edition of Matthews' "Plant Virology". Roger talked about Dick Matthews' contributions to the field and how this has influenced much of the research going on today. The remainder of the day was organised into three sessions, one discussing well-characterized RNA viruses, another focussing on virus transport and plant defence including post-transcriptional gene silencing, and another looking at virus-induced plant gene expression. The highlight of the day for me was the chance to hear a talk by Linda Hanley-Bowdoin, a leader in the field of geminivirus research, who discussed her lab's work on the ability of geminiviruses to induce host replicative processes, which involves transcriptional activation and possibly chromatin remodelling.

The remainder of the week involved listening to some great talks and checking out the nightlife of Christchurch, which was very nice indeed! Some of the more interesting sessions were; plant virus epidemiology, host-pathogen interactions, molecular aspects of host-pathogen interactions, resistance genes in the genomics era, unusual plant pathogens, and induced resistance. The set-up of the conference was impressive: the talks generally took place in rooms in the convention centre or town hall, both of which had plenty of seating and good audiovisual facilities.

The meeting ended with the Friday night "Pacifica" Congress Dinner and Extravaganza, which entailed much wine drinking and revelry. The entertainment, including a number of traditional Maori dances, was fantastic, as was the food. It was very amusing to see many of the older scientists try to cut up the dance floor; some of them were even successful! The success of the night was highlighted by the eagerness of large numbers of people to keep on partying in Christchurch long after the dinner was over.

All in all, ICPP 2003 was a very well organised and successful meeting. The choice

of venue was particularly good, showcasing the beauty of New Zealand's south island to many new visitors. It will be interesting to see how the organisers of the 9th ICPP top this one.

**SUZANNE COLMAGRO
(UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE)**

The *Colletotrichum* workshop was held on the Sunday before the Congress. It was great to be able to meet with others who have extensive experience in working with 'my fungus', *Colletotrichum*, and also with those who are relative novices, like myself. It was refreshing and comforting to hear that others also encounter some of the problems that I have had. It was also interesting to get a sense of the differing opinions among researchers in regards to methods for investigating genetic variation. Several researchers presented their work investigating genetic variability, which made me rethink my approach to this aspect of my project, albeit within the limits of the project aims, budget and timeframe.

Two things, really important to my project, happened as a result of my attendance at the Congress and *Colletotrichum* workshop. Firstly, meeting with my project collaborator from the Volcani Institute in Israel, and secondly, meeting with researchers from California who work on anthracnose of almonds. Subsequently, a collaborative study with the Californians will also be possible. This will be very important for my project as the epidemiology and control of anthracnose appears to be different between Australia and California. For me, the *Colletotrichum* workshop was extremely worthwhile.

Having decided not to go to every session of the Congress and thus get 'conferenced out', I chose to attend those sessions that were more specific to my immediate needs and interests, in particular taxonomy, epidemiology, molecular identification and a few of personal interest.

The evening concurrent session of diseases of Proteaceae, was extremely interesting, stimulating, well organised and presented. There is a small but enthusiastic bunch of people from Australia and South Africa working in this area, and their work is invaluable for the preservation of native Proteaceae in both countries.

The poster sessions were a bit overwhelming as there were so many posters. However, I made some good contacts and got useful ideas from other people. I was also pleased to have the opportunity to present my first poster to such a wide audience.

All in all, I am really pleased I was able to attend this Congress as I got a lot more out of it that I expected, and have returned to Uni with enthusiasm! With thanks to the APPS (SA Branch) for providing a travel grant to cover congress and workshop costs, and thanks to the Almond Board of Australia for providing all other funding.

DALE GODFREY (CSIRO-PI)

The 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP2003) was held in Christchurch New Zealand from the 2nd- 7th February 2003. The meeting incorporated the 14th Biennial Conference for the Australasian Society Plant Pathology and attracted some 1300 scientists from over 70 countries around the world. There were 150 invited speakers at the keynote and concurrent sessions and over 1200 offered poster papers, some of which were presented at the 29 poster discussion sessions. Also associated with the congress were 13 satellite workshops.

While the theme of the congress was "Solving problems in the real world", the congress covered all disciplines of plant pathology. Keynote sessions focussed on new disease control strategies, plant pathology in the Asia/Pacific region and host/pathogen interactions, providing an exciting environment which encouraged many stimulating discussions. Some of the scientific

presentations will be briefly reviewed in this report, with emphasis on those relating to host/pathogen interactions.

Dr David Guest and Dr Barbara Howlett organised a fantastic line-up of host/pathogen interaction addresses. During the keynote session, "Host/pathogen interactions and molecular plant pathology", chaired by Professor Richard Oliver, we heard from Professor Bruce McDonald on the role of pathogen genetic diversity on the durability of resistance genes. Dr Daniel Klessig spoke about salicylic acid and nitric oxide mediated signal transduction during plant defence response, while Dr Eric Lam discussed the role of reactive oxygen species in cell death during the hypersensitive response.

During the "Host/pathogen interactions" concurrent session, Dr Wolfgang Knogge discussed pathogen recognition and defence induction during the interaction between barley and *Rhynchosporium secalis*, focusing on the role of the *NIP1 Avr* gene. Professor John Turner addressed the broad spectrum resistance to powdery mildew in *Arabidopsis* controlled by the resistance (R) genes *RPW8.1* and *RPW8.2*. He discussed the evolutionary origin of the *RPW8* locus, including evidence for diversifying selection for susceptibility alleles, implying selection against resistance. *RPW8.1* and *RPW8.2* were shown to activate cell death pathways independently of the pathogen, confirming a fitness penalty associated with these functional resistance alleles. Dr Paul Schulze-Lefert provided an address on the non-host interaction between the barley powdery mildew, *Blumeria graminis*, and *Arabidopsis thaliana*, and in particular focused on two mutants that had been identified with unusual infection phenotypes. Two loci, *PEN1* and *PEN2*, were found to control the efficient non-host defence and the predicted functions of the encoded proteins suggest that induced cell polarity plays a role in non-host resistance. Interestingly, *pen2* mutants were shown to exhibit increased susceptibility to *Phytophthora infestans*, suggesting a role of

PEN2 in non-host resistance to multiple fungal pathogens.

The poster viewing sessions were incredibly lively and well attended. With over 1200 posters displayed, there was an abundance of new and exciting research to stimulate and motivate. These sessions also provided the opportunity for many students to present their research at an international meeting and interact with leaders in the field. The oral poster presentations of selected papers offered delegates an opportunity to further discuss their research.

I also attended the post-conference workshop "Molecular basis of fungal-plant interactions". The one-day workshop, organised by Dr Kim Plummer, Dr Barbara Howlett and Dr Richard Oliver, permitted researchers to present their latest research in an informal and interactive setting. Particularly interesting was Dr David Collinge's talk on epidermal defences of barley against powdery mildew.

Not to be overlooked, the congress dinner was a grand night of eating, drinking and non-stop entertainment. The congress was an incredible success and thanks must go to all involved in its preparation and presentation.

IMELDA SORIANO (UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE)

The 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology was held in Christchurch, New Zealand from 2-7 February 2003 incorporating the 14th biennial Australasian Plant Pathology Conference. The theme of the congress was "Solving the problems in the real world". Through the multidisciplinary approach, the congress provided an opportunity for researchers all over the world to present and discuss their latest findings in different specialisation in plant pathology and issues related to the role of plant pathology in food security.

Three thought-provoking topics were discussed in the plenary sessions. The first

lecture was the presidential address on biosanitation, trade and plant pathology, which was informative although the overall message was not really novel. It detailed the importance of a sound phytosanitary measure based on scientific principles, risk analysis and pro-plant health in conjunction with trade. The lecture was a good reminder to plant pathologists to emphasize the significance of logical exclusion of plant pathogens during trade and the importance of which must be calculated more in tropical Asian countries where diverse pathogens and diseases occur all year round and where politics intervene with procedures.

The second plenary lecture was the Daniel McAlpine address, which discussed the exotic plantation forest in the southern Hemisphere as threatened by diseases. The topic was very interesting and informative because forest pathology (especially exotic trees) is not a well-researched area in plant pathology in spite of its importance. The talk presented a good example of how quickly pathogens could evolve through time to adapt to their environment for the preservation of species. Plant pathologists including plant breeders should not be complacent about this fact, and that we should always have systematic precautions to avoid devastation of economically important crops or the exotic forest for that matter. The visual aides of the presenter on disease-stricken trees were effective in conveying the extent and seriousness of the damage caused by pathogens on the exotic trees.

The conference had five keynote sessions. The first session was on Plant pathology in Asia/Pacific region, which emphasized the importance of communication (information transfer), reformed education system, and partnership to meet the present and future needs and challenges in Asia and the Pacific. Again, this has been a long-standing concept but is a worthy take-home message to plant pathologists in Asia and the Pacific. Actually, the salient points in this keynote session had already been presented in rice symposia and

conferences I have attended before, thus, I was expecting reports on success stories.

The keynote session on integrated control of soil borne diseases was one of the most interesting keynote topics not only because I am working on soil pests (nematodes) but also the studies presented were innovative and informative. It covered three aspects in soil borne disease studies. These are the use of mycoparasitic genes for improving plant resistance against soil borne pathogens, epidemiology of soil borne pathogens and integrated host disease management in organic farming.

The first paper reported on the use of genes from genomes of biocontrol microbes (*Trichoderma*) to increase disease resistance in plants. The results they obtained were interesting in that the observed mechanism for resistance in certain crops is an elicitor mediated release of plant defence response to invasion of pathogen which is related to my research work, which I will be discussing further on in this report. Their studies made use of the genome of *Trichoderma* to establish in plants both antimicrobial compounds and inducers of disease response and resistance. This is a relatively new tool in exploiting biological control agents (although Bt genes have already been used/incorporated in some crops), which if successful will solve the issue on the efficacy of biocontrol agents at field level.

The second paper on take-all decline due to increase in DAPG-producing bacteria, hence, making the soil suppressive to the growth of take-all pathogen, has been well studied through the years. However, the presenter pointed out the possibility of using the system as a model for other soil borne pathogens that are major contributing factors to yield loss.

The third topic on integrated approach to root disease in organic farming system was also very interesting. Although the advantage of organic farming over conventional farming is obvious when it comes to proliferation of pests and diseases (organic farming allows diversity of soil microorganism that

contributes to the “health” of soil), the information that I particularly considered new is the hectareage devoted to organic farming. It was reported that organic farming does not only exist in smaller land areas or in a backyard scale but in big farms as well which seemed to be a new information for others too.

The keynote session on host-pathogen interactions and molecular plant pathology was also very interesting and thought-provoking. The first presentation was on knowledge of pathogen genetic diversity as a tool for disease management. They evaluated their model on the interaction of evolutionary forces affecting evolution of pathogen populations to overcome resistance in plants. Although, the study recommended to have this tested against a large number of plant pathosystems, I still believe that more environmental parameters should be incorporated into the framework before it could be used to design breeding strategies to attain durable resistance in crops. Previous issues on failures in disease control through gene deployment have been attributed to the non-inclusion of a wider range of environmental variables. The need for more data on pathogen population genetics was acknowledged.

The two other keynote talks were on plant defense responses to pathogen attacks where the involvement of proteins in the mechanism of salicylic acid action and in hypersensitive response was discussed. Both papers tackled more specific studies that were not as broad as previous keynote presentations.

The fourth keynote session was about integrated control of airborne diseases. The importance of site-specific weather data for disease-warning systems was discussed and also the significance of ecological (including climatic data) variables in the evolution of pathogens. The last paper in this session suggested the inclusion of the socio-economic aspects in the ecological view of crop disease management. The concept presented is not entirely new but the approach towards developing robust IPM strategies is innovative even if it generates several debatable issues.

The concurrent sessions covered a wide range of topics relevant to modern plant pathology and the problems caused by plant diseases. World authorities on the topic presented the sessions. Among the concurrent sessions, the presentation on induced resistance was the most related topic to my research work. Dr. Belanger has summarized the many complex means by which a plant is able to defend itself from pathogen attack. The role of secondary metabolites such as phytoalexins in plant defense was also mentioned. The involvement of three flavonoids in the defence of cucurbits against powdery mildew was presented including the partial identification of these flavonoids. Although the hosts we worked on are different, I have also implicated in my study the involvement of three flavonoids (different from the cucurbit flavonoid) in oats as defense against parasitic nematodes. The flavonoid compounds in both of our studies were induced using chemical elicitors. However, unlike nematodes in oats, the fungus itself in Dr. Belanger’s study did not induce the flavonoid in cucurbit. This may be due to the biotrophic nature of the powdery mildew fungus, which does not randomly kill plant cells for it to survive. It could have been worthwhile testing necrotrophic fungi if it can induce elevated levels of these flavonoids in their study. I also noticed that we used more or less the same methods in the quantitative analysis of the flavonoid and in the identification. However, since I am working on soil nematodes, assessment of my assay experiments is more difficult than his leaf assay. The presentation gave further evidence that flavonoids, as in my study, are involved in plant defense and can be chemically induced by elicitors. I also had the chance to discuss with Dr. Belanger my research work on flavonoids as defense of oats against parasitic nematodes, where he suggested comparison of our flavonoids after we have characterized them fully, to determine if the flavonoids involved in plant defense belong to the same family under flavonoids or are of closely related structure.

Offered papers, like mine, were presented

as posters, with selected posters presented orally in poster discussion sessions. Topics on induced resistance were interesting but the majority of these did not present the mechanisms involved, but only that the pathogen was inhibited upon induction using wound elicitors. Hence, I felt optimistic with the present status of my own work.

I am grateful to the Australian Plant Pathology Society for partially supporting my attendance at the conference, which gave me the opportunity to present my findings, create awareness and receive useful peer review, which is important to the direction of my further research. The conference also enabled me to familiarize myself with the current work of my former colleagues at the International Rice Research Institute.



3rd Australasian Soilborne Diseases Symposium

Final announcement and call for papers:

8-11 February 2004

The Barossa Novotel, Rowland Flat, South Australia

Please register now and submit your paper titles.

More information can be found by visiting the web site.

www.plevin.com.au/ASDS2004

This is the final announcement. All further information is available electronically only. If you do not have access to the web, please send the enclosed postcard to the conference secretariat and you will be posted a ~~hard copy of the registration and all other information~~

Conference Secretariat, Plevin and Associates Pty Ltd
PO Box 54, Burnside, South Australia 5066

QUEENSLAND

At the recent 7th International Conference for Plant Pathology (ICPP) in Christchurch, New Zealand, Dr Helen Ogle (UQ) and Dr Graham Stirling (Biological Crop Protection, Queensland) were presented with awards from the APPS. As neither Helen nor Graham were able to attend the congress, the awards were accepted on their behalf by Prof John Irwin (CRCTPP) and Mr Denis Persley (DPIQ), respectively. An informal ceremony was subsequently held on 26 March, where John and Denis presented Helen and Graham with their awards. Over 60 people attended the ceremony, held as part of the APPS/DPIQ Seminar Series, and all enjoyed a special celebration cake.

Dr Helen Ogle was made an Honorary Member of the APPS. An Honorary Member is a person who, in the opinion of the Society, has made an outstanding contribution to the Society. Helen received this award in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the APPS since its foundation. She has held various positions, most notably she steered the Society through the process of incorporation, and has been Secretary to the Society since its incorporation. Amongst other contributions, Helen has also been Regional Councillor for Queensland, was Scientific Program Co-ordinator for the 13th Biennial Conference, and was on the organising committee for the 2nd Biennial Conference. She is an outstanding teacher, co-author of a standard teaching text in plant pathology, and has been active in research.

Dr Graeme Stirling was made a Fellow of the APPS. A fellow of the Society is a member

of the Society who has rendered distinguished service to the science of plant pathology. Graham has made an exceptional contribution to theoretical and applied research in plant nematology, both nationally and internationally. His textbook on biological control of plant parasitic nematodes has been acclaimed internationally. He has also had a key role in training through workshops, mentoring of young scientists, and in extension work. Graham has also contributed to the Society in many ways, and is truly deserving of this award.

Christine Horlock



Dr Helen Ogle (Honorary Member of APPS) and Dr Graham Stirling (Fellow of APPS) cut their celebration cake after the awards ceremony.

REMINDER

Australasian Plant Pathology is now accepting electronic submission of manuscripts. Papers can be sent as PDF or Word.doc files to the Editor-in-Chief.
ric.cother@agric.nsw.gov.au



6th AUSTRALASIAN MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

University of Melbourne, Victoria
1-2 October 2003



The 6th Australasian Mycological Society Conference will be held in Melbourne as part of a joint conference with the Australian Systematic Botany Society, the 7th Australasian Bryophyte Workshop and the Orchid Conservation Forum II. The conferences celebrate the 150th anniversary of the National Herbarium of Victoria. A variety of registration options are available, including Two Day Registration to cover the Mycological Society Conference.

150th Anniversary Conferences Program

Thurs 25th to Sat 27th Sept: Orchid Conservation Forum II

Sun 28th Sept: General registration and welcome reception

Mon 29th Sept - Thurs 2nd Oct: Australian Systematic Botany Society Conference

**Wed 1st Oct - Thurs 2nd Oct: 6th Australasian Mycological Society
Conference**

Fri 3rd Oct: 7th Australasian Bryophyte Group Conference

Sat 4th Oct-Thurs 9th Oct: 7th Australasian Bryophyte Workshop

Sat 4th Oct–Tues 7th Oct: Post conference fungi field trip

The Australasian Mycological Society Conference encourages presentations on all aspects of mycology, including ecology, taxonomy and systematics, conservation, edible fungi, mycorrhizae, medical mycology, yeasts, food sciences, forestry, agriculture, pathology and education.

For more information, including registration, see:

www.conferences.unimelb.edu.au/150years

OR contact: teresa.lebel@rbg.vic.gov.au

News from the Business Manager

I have just returned from chasing a wheat virus around Queensland and am writing this in haste at the last minute.

Most of the 2003 subscriptions have been processed giving us a total of 449 members, slightly less than last year. Please encourage any non-members in your area to join. The more members we can encourage to join the less likelihood of subscription increases in the future. Forms are available from the APPS website or your regional councillor.

The number of late subscriptions was unacceptably high this year. Our contract with CSIRO PUBLISHING includes packaging and postage if payment is made before the 15th of March. The journals for the 44 late subscribers incurred the extra cost of freight from Canberra ACT to Toowoomba QLD as well as the repackaging and postage from Toowoomba to their destination. It is very time consuming, expensive and unnecessary. We may have to reconsider the cut off date or introduce full cost recovery.

One way to ensure your payment is made on time is to allow us to debit your credit card using the same details as supplied the previous

year. This method proved popular with around 150 members this year but would be more successful if all 360 credit card users took this option. It is by far the most efficient and cost effective way of renewing your membership and has the added bonus of being very secure, and kind to trees. I will email all credit card users later in the year with more details. Those members who have previously paid by cheque can switch to this method by sending me a hard copy of their card details.

The APPS Job Net is proving to be very successful for APPS, our members and employer organizations. I regularly receive emails from satisfied customers and members thanking the society for the service. APPS Job Net is unmatched when it comes to linking suitable candidates with plant pathology vacancies in the Australasian region.

EMAIL ADDRESSES!

It is very important to keep your email address up to date. It is not only your contact address but also your user name for accessing the electronic version of APP. Your current email address and other details can be checked in the Member Directory on the web site.



WANTED: unwanted journals and books.

John Konan our PNG APPS representative has recently been given the (almost) complete set of APPS journals for his institute, kindly donated by Helen Ogle. Any journals or books would be appreciated, as CCRI are in the process of setting up their small library. The institute is willing to assist with freight requirements.

If anyone has any books or journals they wish to donate, please contact John at ccripath@datec.net.pg

New Members

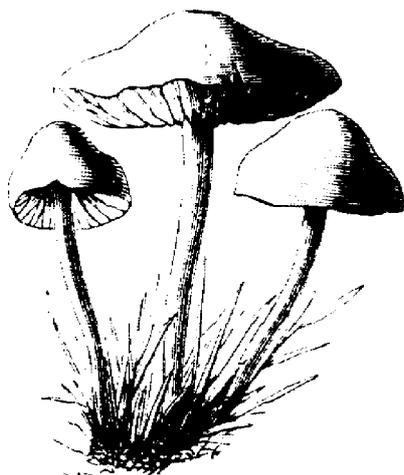
On behalf of the Society, the Management Committee would like to welcome the following new members:

QLD: Mr Mattley Davis

New Zealand:

Dr Tod Ramsfield
Ms Soonie Chng

Japan: Asst. Prof Henry Nelson



Don't forget to have your say!

This is your newsletter so be sure to let us know what is going on about:

- * Open days and field days
- * Scholarships and employment opportunities
- * Regional news
- * Special interest groups
- * Requests for information etc.
- * Upcoming events
- * Awards to members
- * Issues of concern
- * Humorous events

and any other interesting information!

WANTED: VISITING SCIENTIST INFORMA- TION

The visiting scientist site on the APPS web page needs your input!

Could anyone who has a scientist visiting them please input the information via the member services web page.

APPS NEWS is the official newsletter of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society, published quarterly. Items for inclusion should be sent to Mrs B. Hall, Plant Research Centre, SARDI, GPO Box 397, Adelaide, SA. 5001. Ph. 08 8303 9562, Fax 08 8303 9393, Email: hall.barbara@saugov.sa.gov.au. **Next deadline: 8th August 2003.** Editor-in-Chief APP: Dr Eric Cother, NSW Agriculture, Orange Agricultural Institute, Forest Road, Orange, 2800. Ph. 02 6391 3886, Fax 02 6391 3899, E-mail: ric.cother@agric.nsw.gov.au

Web Site: (<http://www.australasianplantpathologysociety.org.au/>)