



Quarterly Comments

from the APPS President



Three bits of news. First the good bits.

Professor John Randles, Fellow of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society

It is an honour and pleasure to announce that Prof John Randles has been awarded a Fellowship in the APPS. This is after his nomination and appointment, following the APPS constitutional requirements for the award.

John has received the Fellowship in recognition of his excellence in plant pathology, particularly relating to his achievements in research on plant viruses and viroids, and the diseases they cause. He has also made very valuable contributions to our science through his mentoring and supervision of numerous postgraduate students, providing a legacy that is difficult to measure, but very significant. Further, John served as President of APPS during 1997-99, so his contribution to our Society has been particularly important. I know that this award will carry the Society's unanimous approval, in recognition of John's excellent achievements in plant pathology.

New Editor-in-Chief of Australasian Plant Pathology

Following Dr Ric Cother's expression of desire to step aside as Editor-in-Chief of *APP*, and call for applications for this position, I am pleased to announce that Dr Keith Harrower will take up the role over the coming months. There will be a transition period as Ric withdraws from the job and Keith takes over the reins, but the APPS management Committee is very pleased that Keith has accepted appointment to this key position in our Society.

Formal recognition of Ric Cother's contributions to APPS can await an appropriate occasion. Nevertheless, I here commend and thank him for his contribution to plant pathology, as he has carried *APP* on a continuing evolutionary path as a highly respected international science journal.

A profile of Keith Harrower appears on the next page in *APPS News*. I thank Keith for taking on this task, and I know that he will continue the very proud tradition of former of former Editors-in-Chief of our Journal.

Now the not-so-good.

APPS finances

Another financial year has been completed for our Society, with the APPS Annual General Meeting in late March. Dr Ron Close's Treasurer's report is presented elsewhere in this issue of APPS News, but I emphasise a very important point that he makes. The finances of the Society are currently being supported from profits accruing from the fiscally positive outcomes (**two** lots of accountant's jargon!!) from ICPP2003. Membership subscriptions (at the current rate) are inadequate for continued financial viability of the Society. Ron has signalled the need (and aim) to raise the APPS membership

subscription to adequately support the Society's activities, which are dominated by publication of our excellent plant pathology journal. The APPS Management Committee fully supports this initiative. I hope it is automatic that all members will continue to support our Society through timely and regular (annual) payment of subscriptions, but also by encouraging non-member colleagues to join the APPS.



Richard Falloon



Dr Keith Harrower, Editor-in-Chief of Australasian Plant Pathology

Keith Harrower completed a Masters and Doctoral degrees in Plant Pathology at Exeter University (England) after completing a B.Sc.(Hons.) degree at St. Andrews University (Scotland) where he was a University Medallist. His postgraduate mentors were John Webster and John Tarr.

After a period of teaching and research at the Australian National University he moved to Central Queensland University in Rockhampton (Qld.). At CQU he teaches microbiology and is also a member of the Plant Sciences Group where he is the resident phytopathologist, as well as advising on other microbiological disciplines. His published research includes microfungus ecology and physiology, epidemiology of cereal pathogens, and pathology of horticultural crops and pasture grasses. He has also published in water quality management, vertebrate pathology and in virology. He has supervised numerous postgraduate students and has a strong belief in integrated, co-disciplinary research and consultancy activities.

Keith is also the author of numerous large consultancy reports for various significant national clients. He was awarded a Fellowship of the Australian Society for Microbiology in 1991 based on his published work with an emphasis on expertise in microfungus ecology and has previously acted as a Senior Editor of *Australasian Plant Pathology*.

REGIONAL NEWS

QUEENSLAND

Southern Queensland

DPI&F/APPS Seminar Day: The second DPI&F seminar day for the year was held on Wednesday 4th May 2005, at DPI&F Indooroopilly. The talks did not have a theme this time and varied from Banana diagnostics, to breeding Sunflower's for resistance to Citrus Genetic Improvement.

Leanne Forsyth:

Using Molecular Tools to Examine Fusarium Wilt of Banana. University of Queensland, St. Lucia.

Leanne presented her PhD work on the use of molecular tools to investigate Fusarium wilt of Banana. Leanne discussed how Fusarium wilt control methods currently are limited to: chemicals, the use of resistant cultivars, biological control and managing soil health. And if we are to use these methods to control Fusarium wilt, we must first understand what is happening at the molecular level. Biocontrol mechanisms such as competition, antagonism/antibiosis, predation and induced resistance can be used. Leanne has chosen to look at induced plant resistance. This includes direct activation and indirect activation (potentiation) of host defence responses. Methods to assess plant resistance include examining antimicrobial extracts and expression of banana defence genes.

It has been proposed that in the Banana/ *Foc* pathosystem the cultivar Lady Finger is susceptible to both race 1 and subtropical race 4. It has also been proposed that the cultivar Cavendish is resistant to race 1 of *Foc* and susceptible to subtropical race 4. Leanne examined these interactions by transforming *Foc* with Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP). Leanne also examined the interaction between Cavendish pre-inoculated with a non-pathogenic *Fusarium oxysporum* (potential biocontrol agent) and Race 1. Leanne also looked at novel GFP constructs that identified expression of a class of toxin.

Other work Leanne did was to look at the differences between the interaction between Cavendish and race 1 versus subtropical race 4. From this work Leanne found it difficult to classify Cavendish reaction to race 1 as resistant.

Other work Leanne did was examine potential biocontrol agents including *Serratia marcescens* and non pathogenic *F. oxysporum*. Leanne also assessed the effects addition of soil amendments such as silicon would have potentiating defence genes.

To conclude Leanne found that race 1 acts as a non-pathogenic endophyte of Cavendish rather than an avirulent strain. It was also suggested that *Foc* sub-tropical race 4 switches to become 'toxic' on Cavendish rather than being totally necrotrophic or biotrophic. Results from the addition of various amendments revealed that silicon not only acts as a physical barrier to prevent disease development, but also is involved in potentiation of defense responses.

Susan Porchun:

Banana Disease Diagnostics Delivery.

Co-operative Research Centre for Tropical Plant Protection

Susan's work is part of subprogram 1 (Disease and Pest Protection), from the CRCTPP. The primary purpose of this research is to develop DNA based diagnostics for detection of plant pathogens. It is then hoped that the diagnostic will be used in the rapid diagnosis of an incursion, control strategies, and preventing disease spread.

Research being performed by CRCTPP scientists is to firstly investigate the molecular diversity of plant pathogens. Specifically, to identify unique sequences of DNA in banana pathogens and to use this information as a basis for a DNA diagnostic. In banana, the diseases/pathogens being examined are:

- Black and Yellow Sigatoka: *Mycosphaerella* spp.
- Fusarium Wilt: *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense*

- Moko and Bugtok diseases: *Ralstonia solanacearum*, race 2
- Blood diseases
- Banana bunchy top nanovirus: (BBTV)
- Banana bract mosaic potyvirus: (BBrMV)
- Eumusae leaf spot and freckle disease: *Mycosphaerella* and *Guignardia*

Development of DNA diagnostic tools for the above diseases are being conducted. It is proposed that these diagnostic tests could then be used in disease management strategies such as:

- Disease prevention
- Surveillance
- Early detection and identification of outbreaks
- Containment of outbreaks

The delivery of banana diagnostics is dependent of several things, these being: the official closure of the CRC TPP (July 2006), import issues, changes to banana industry protection act 1989, and banana industry (ABGC) proactive role in diagnostics. Method of delivery will include:

- Diagnostic manuals currently being written – Plant Health Australia
- Hands on training workshops for end users.

In conclusion, DNA diagnostic tests provide rapid and accurate identification about exotic disease. Diagnostic tests enable early detection and identification, which may be critical for containment of outbreaks and can be useful research tools to study disease epidemiology.

Wendy Walters:

Marker Characterisation and Validation in Breeding Programs for Rust Resistance in Sunflower, *Helianthus annuus. L.* or The dynamics of sunflower host rust resistance.
Department Of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Toowoomba.

Wendy presented her PhD work, on the dynamics of sunflower host rust resistance. Wendy presented background information on sunflower rust. Sunflower rust is caused by the pathogen *Puccinia helianthi*. It is

macrocytic, autoecious, obligate biotroph of which the uredinial state is the most conspicuous state. Currently there are 90 putative rust races that have been identified. The pathogen is dikaryotic for majority of lifecycle which makes it virulence recessive. Therefore for new races to evolve, mutation or change at both alleles must occur. It has been found that genetic resistance is the most effective strategy for managing the disease. Gene pyramiding is hypothesised as a method for increasing the durability of disease resistance. The aim of Wendy's work was to identify molecular markers that can be used for selection of individuals with the specific rust R-genes. Wendy's work also aimed to characterise the genetics of host rust resistance, evaluate the markers obtained for accuracy, and assess specific R-genes in a gene pyramiding situation.

Wendy used several different types of markers to map potential R-genes. Techniques used include: Sequence Characterised Amplified Regions (SCARs), Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphisms (RFLPs) and Rapidly Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPDs). One important discovery that Wendy made is that the rust resistant genes cluster. Implications of the specific resistance gene combinations means that recombination between genes within the cluster, and recombination of genes from other loci is likely to occur. However genes at the same locus may not easily recombine due to close linkage or even allelism. When Wendy was evaluating molecular markers for marker assisted selection, she had to be able to identify and select specific individuals based on the premise that the presence of the marker = the presence of the gene. Wendy also found that by pyramiding genes, the life of undefeated genes can be prolonged by exposing them in combinations rather than having a single gene conferring resistance. Wendy also discussed the advantage of marker selection is that it can quickly identify individuals to move through to the next generation and in some instances, replace pathogen phenotyping at some

generations. The outcomes of Wendy's work are that a library of molecular markers and the generation of knowledge of genetic relationships were established, that could be used as tools to help facilitate the selection of individuals for development of sunflower rust resistant germplasm.

**APPS Guest Speaker: Malcolm Smith:
*Citrus Genetic Improvement and the
Critical Importance of Pathology*
Department of Primary Industries and
Fisheries.**

Malcolm presented work on the current scion and rootstock improvement program for citrus performed by Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.

The history of Queensland scion and rootstock varieties is an interesting one. During the early 1990s, the citrus industry and DPI took a proactive approach to examine scion varieties and develop improved mandarins for the subtropics. Also in the 1990s, there was a concerted effort to increase QLD rootstock work, which had previously stagnated on rootstocks from 1960's research.

The recent scion breeding effort has looked at three different aspects, these being: conventional hybridisation, mutation breeding and triploid breeding. Conventional hybridisation has currently produced over 45 000 field grown hybrids. The earliest hybrid blocks have been assessed and culled. The last hybrid blocks are to finish in 2013. To date, 270 hybrids have been selected, propagated and field planted. 1/3 of these are fruiting and ready for the next round of culling. Mutation breeding in QLD has resulted in two low-seeded Murcott selections being released for commercial evaluation. This has generated a lot of interest but still should be treated cautiously until commercial success has been demonstrated. Triploid breeding has produced 5000 hybrids that are field planted and a small number of hybrids are now producing fruit.

Research of early season mandarin rootstock has given ten rootstocks that have

detailed fruit quality and yield data for the past five seasons. The rootstock Benton looks promising. Results from Tetraploid dwarfing haven't produced anything outstanding. However the story of Eureka lemon rootstocks appears more promising. 28 rootstocks have been produced, these being a mixture of commercial and experimental material. The focus of this work is to examine fruit quality, productivity and vigour and the potential for new germplasm for citriculture.

Malcolm then went on to explain the citrus pathology situation and how that 'no other crop tree is affected by as wide of range of pathogens that have significant consequences for commercial production'. Pathogens of citrus include: Citrus tristeza virus, citrus sudden death associated virus, exocortis, *Phytophthora*, *Alternaria*, *Guignardia*, and the infamous *Xanthomonas*. Malcolm stressed that no current effort on disease resistance breeding in citrus is occurring in QLD. He also suggested that we need to firstly locate sources of resistance and by combining breeding programs and pathology we may be able to solve the problems facing modern citriculture.

NEWSFLASH: Past APPS/DPI&F plant pathology seminars will now be available to all DPI&F staff QLD online!!

Powerpoint files of past presentations, along with .WAV files (some presentations) are now accessible to all DPI&F staff, QLD. You can access these files by going to OurNet and clicking on the library page, then accessing the training and development section. Alternatively, if you can't access these files or you aren't QDPI&F staff, and would like a copy of a specific seminar, you can email Jay.Anderson@dpi.qld.gov.au or Lisa-Maree.Gulino@dpi.qld.gov.au and either get a paper copy or electronic copy sent to you.

Lisa Gulino

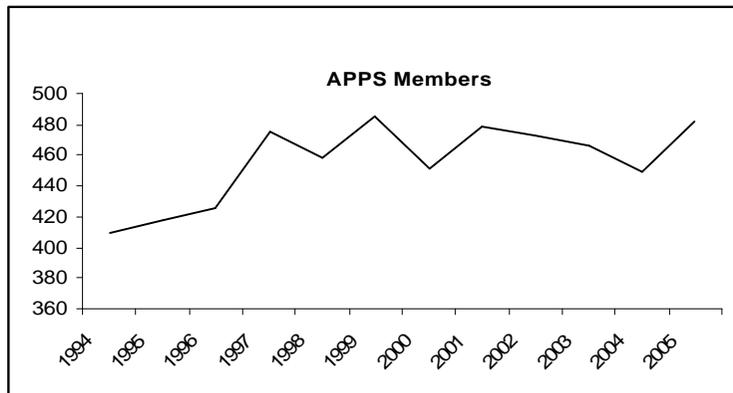


News from the Business Manager

Now that most members have paid their subscription for 2005 it is possible to compare the current membership with past years. Because it is a conference year we would expect numbers to be up on the previous year, which is certainly the case (see figure below). Our total for 2005 (482) is a record and shows that the society is growing slowly after a few years of decline. I was recently contacted by a group of Russian plant pathologists who wish to become members of APPS. Hopefully this will encourage more members from that part of the world and possible collaboration with plant pathologists from our region.

I recently encouraged members to update their records for uploading to the world directory. I would like to take this opportunity to thank members for their quick response. The changes have been passed on to ISPP and should be available soon.

Peter Williamson



WANTED: VISITING SCIENTIST INFORMATION

There is a site on the APPS web page which lists information about scientists visting Australia and their contact details. The intention is to make available this information for anyone who may wish to contact these scientists (via the person they will be visting), perhaps to arrange a visit or a seminar.

This will only work if the information is available, so could anyone with visiting scientists please input the information via the Visiting Scientists link in the left hand menu on the web at <http://www.australasianplantpathologysociety.org.au>.

New Members

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

1245	Dr	Rosie	Bradshaw	NEW ZEALAND
1246	Ms	Virginia	Marroni	NEW ZEALAND
1265	Mr	Gareth	Hill	NEW ZEALAND
1267	Miss	Alison	Stringer	NEW ZEALAND
1248	Mr	Yu	Qiu	NSW AUSTRALIA
1250	Ms	Ameera Lee	Yousiph	NSW AUSTRALIA
1256	Ms	Norma	Cother	NSW AUSTRALIA
1243	Miss	Chelsea	Hennessy	NT AUSTRALIA
1244	Ms	Lucy	Tran-Nguyen	NT AUSTRALIA
1251	Dr	Alan	Little	SA AUSTRALIA
1252	Mr	Jamus	Stonor	SA AUSTRALIA
1253	Miss	Annette	Boettcher	SA AUSTRALIA
1240	Ms	Rachel	Powney	VIC AUSTRALIA
1242	Ms	Mai Hlaing	Loh	VIC AUSTRALIA
1247	Dr	Xue Yu	Bian	VIC AUSTRALIA
1249	Mrs	Gabrielle	Smetham	VIC AUSTRALIA
1254	Miss	Kate	Dawson	VIC AUSTRALIA
1255	Dr	Caroline	Donald	VIC AUSTRALIA
1258	Ms	Linda	Zheng	VIC AUSTRALIA
1259	Mrs	Kathy	Clarke	VIC AUSTRALIA
1260	Miss	Katie	McKenzie	VIC AUSTRALIA
1261	Ms	Tiffany	Gunning	VIC AUSTRALIA
1262	Ms	Melissa	Kowalski	VIC AUSTRALIA
1263	Ms	Paige	Dando	VIC AUSTRALIA
1264	Miss	Jane	Cullum	VIC AUSTRALIA
1266	Mrs	Virginia	McQueen	VIC AUSTRALIA
1229	Ms	Nichole	Burges	WA AUSTRALIA
1241	Dr	Ming Pei	You	WA AUSTRALIA
1257	Miss	Susanna	Driessen	WA AUSTRALIA

International Cereal Rust Control Symposium

Tuesday 20th - Friday 22nd September 2005
Sydney

Dr Robert Park, University of Sydney (robertp@camden.usyd.edu.au)
National Cereal Rust Control Program, Plant Breeding Institute, University of Sydney

APPS Treasurer's report for 2004

Analysis of income and expenditure for 2004 was completed for the APPS AGM on 24 March 2005. The audited accounts show that there was an excess of expenditure over normal (subscription) income of \$16,416. This continues the trend that was obvious in 2003, that Society subscriptions are not covering the costs incurred by Society activities.

Income (total = \$83461) Items of income for 2004 were;

- Members subscriptions, \$48,350
- Second instalment of profits from ICPP2003 to APPS, \$35,111

Expenditure (total = \$68,267) The main payments in 2004 were;

- Publication of the Society journal *APP*, \$52,024
- Business Manager, \$8,583
- Subscriptions for ISPP, PHA, and AAN, \$2,808
- Publication of *APP News* (the Society newsletter), \$2,075
- Auditing of the 2003 accounts, \$550
- Bank adjustments and fees (Commonwealth Bank), \$2,227.

Society bank balance at 31 Dec 2004, \$41,428

On the 29 April the Management Committee recommended that the APPS membership subscription for 2006 be \$140. This was developed from an analysis by the APPS Business Manager of projected income and expenditure based on a total of 437 members. Clearly, this increase will help to close the gap between income and expenditure. The analysis showed that a subscription of \$180 would be needed to approach the point where the gap was eliminated, indicating that further subscription increases are likely to be necessary in the future. Careful control of expenditure will always be needed. It is vital that individual members promptly pay subscriptions, and that expanding Society membership will greatly assist the continued financial viability of our Society.

The recommendation that the Society membership fee for 2006 be \$140 will be tabled at the Biennial General Meeting in Geelong in September.

Ron Close

APPS Treasurer

A note from the APPS newsletter editor.

Thanks to Lisa Guilino for her state report. While I understand that we all have far too many calls on our time, APPS needs more happening in each state! We are hardly likely to get increased membership without having a higher profile within the scientific community. So get behind your organisation, have a few seminars, introduce the students to the association in a positive way and then PLEASE write a report for the newsletter! It doesn't have to be long, but it would be nice to have at least one from each state each year.

Barbara Hall

15th Biennial Australasian Plant Pathology Society Conference
'Innovations for sustainable plant health'

Deakin University Waterfront Campus
Geelong Victoria
26 - 29 September 2005

The organising committee extends a warm invitation to you to attend the 15th Biennial Australasian Plant Pathology Society Conference in Geelong, Victoria in September 2005.

The theme of the conference is 'Innovations for sustainable plant health'. This theme will allow us to focus on the key issues, review past lessons and explore the application of new technologies to ensure we can maintain and improve plant health, now and in the future. In addition to invited plenary and keynote speakers who will give presentations addressing this theme, we invite you to give oral and poster presentations of recent scientific work in the field of plant pathology.

The conference will provide a forum for the sharing of information on plant disease issues, and foster constructive interaction between participants not only from the Australasian region but from further afield. Attendance at this conference also provides you with an opportunity to view new products in the trade exhibition in the pleasant surrounds of the Deakin University Waterfront Campus in Geelong, Victoria, Australia.

For regular updates visit the Conference website:
www.deakin.edu.au/event/apps2005/

For information concerning this conference contact:
Deakin Event Management Services
Deakin University
Geelong Waterfront campus
1 Gheringhap Street
Geelong Vic 3217, Australia
Telephone: +61 3 5227 8121
Facsimile: +61 3 5227 8188
Email: lynne.lucas@deakin.edu.au

Special interest group coordinator, Brendan Rodoni
(brendan.rodoni@dpi.vic.gov.au)
Workshop co-ordinator - Grant Hollaway - (grant.hollaway@dpi.vic.gov.au)

BOOK REVIEWS

Diversity and Management of *Phytophthora* in Southeast Asia

Edited by André Drenth and David I. Guest
Published by Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research
ACIAR Monograph No. 114, 238p.

This book is an excellent overview of *Phytophthora* diseases in the tropics. It pulls together information on key tropical *Phytophthora* diseases, their impact and their control in a number of Southeast Asian countries.

The book stems from two ACIAR projects on *Phytophthora* in SE Asia, culminating in a conference workshop in Thailand in November 2002. It presents work and opinions of a number of researchers currently active in the area.

It is well set out with a logical structure. The book is comprehensive and thorough, providing information on *Phytophthora* species, biology, geographic distribution, economic impact and integrated management practices.

The book begins by outlining reasons why *Phytophthora* diseases are so important in the tropics, followed by sections on the economic impact of *Phytophthora* in Southeast Asia and the general biology of *Phytophthora* in the tropics.

This is followed by chapters on the incidence, importance and management of key *Phytophthora* diseases in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines, with sections written by leading researchers in their respective countries.

There is a useful and straight-forward guide to isolation and principles of classical identification of *Phytophthora* which is an excellent summary for anyone faced with this sometimes difficult task.

Also included is a section looking in detail at *Phytophthora* on specific tropical crops, including but not limited to cocoa, coconut,

black pepper, rubber and durian. There is some emphasis on durian in the book, and although it is occasionally repetitive, it is certainly exhaustive in its coverage. It gives good examples of how the continuum from good research to implementation of integrated systems can make a real difference.

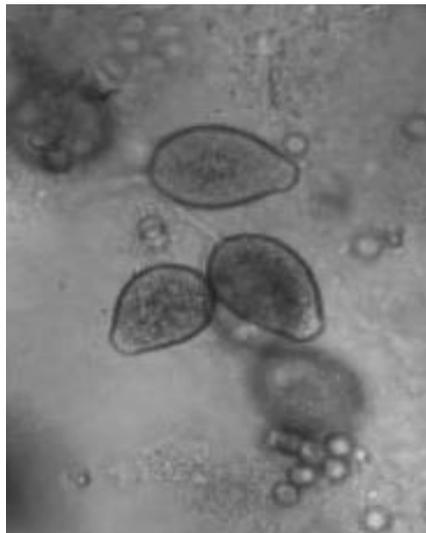
The general section on management of *Phytophthora* diseases will be of interest to anyone facing *Phytophthora* problems, not just in tropical environments.

A concluding chapter giving the editors views on the problems and challenges in development and implementation of disease control strategies is insightful and thought provoking. It should be essential reading for researchers, extension workers, administrators and potential funding agencies faced with tackling *Phytophthora* issues in the tropics.

This book will be a useful reference and guide, and I highly recommend it to anyone directly dealing with *Phytophthora* diseases, particularly, but not exclusively those in tropical environments.

Ian Horner

HortResearch, Havelock North, NZ



Biopesticides of Plant Origin

ISBN 1-898298-97-1 336p. Published by Lavoisier

Edited by Catherine Regnault-Roger, Bernard JF Philogène and Charles Vincent (2005)

The beauty of this book is its wide-ranging subject matter and in-depth discussions of issues and ideas surrounding the use of novel compounds derived from plant products. In an age of increased environmental consciousness, there is a societal push for 'green' pest control techniques due to their perceived minimal impact on the environment. However, it is entirely possible that pests could develop resistance to natural products just as they have developed resistance to certain synthetic products. Using foresight, this book begins with this concept, stressing that the exhaustive biological and chemical tests which are required for synthetic pesticides need to be applied to natural pesticides. Generally, authors featured in this book present balanced views of the benefits of natural products and their potential commercial use.

This book highlights natural compounds with insecticidal, fungicidal, nematocidal, herbicidal activity and their potential use in crop protection as part of an integrated pest management program. However, the subject matter is highly biased towards entomological research, with almost two thirds of the chapters focussing on insecticides. Whilst limited to only a select couple of chapters, there is some useful material on allelopathy ie natural herbicides and on potential nematocides, all of which will be appealing to anyone who is passionate about natural product development. The dove-tailed approach to biopesticide research is outlined, involving both bioassay-guided isolation and total synthesis of the pesticidal compounds. The potential pesticidal and ecological roles of novel plant products such as insecticidal chemicals in idioblast oil cells from avocado, insecticidal triterpenoids from neem, phenolic compounds from plants as defence against plant pathogens, herbicidal properties of hydroxamic acids from certain

crops and deriving nematocidal compounds from plants to control parasitic nematodes are discussed. One chapter in particular focuses on using plant product derivatives in the formulation of crop protection compounds, such as monoterpenic alcohols, to increase herbicide efficacy instead of using products from mineral oils. These all highlight the spectrum of novel approaches in crop protection techniques that biopesticides offer and the contribution they can make to an integrated pest control program.

An outline of the criteria for the development and commercialisation of such botanical insecticides is included in this book. Additionally, problems associated with botanical insecticides are outlined, as are the very real opportunities for botanical insecticides to fit into a changing world. A niche exists for those products deemed to be more environmental conscious, especially in organic farming. As only a small proportion of natural products have been analysed for their commercial use, the scope is large for discovering novel natural pesticide chemistries for agriculture. Such natural control mechanisms could play a valuable role in an integrated pest management system, potentially reducing the amount of synthetic pesticides required for pest control.

This book gives the reader insight into the novel classes of compounds being studied for use as potential pesticides and their potential to reduce our reliance on synthetic pesticides. The basic and applied research presented here has multi-disciplinary relevance and is sure to interest anyone dedicated to making informed choices about pest control alternatives and, of course, the forever curious.

Dr Alexa Seal

CSU, Wagga Wagga



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!

NEWS :

Respected Plant Pathologist Named As New Director General of IRRI

Los Baños, Philippines - A citizen of the United States, Robert (Bob) Zeigler, 54, has been named as the next director general of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). Dr. Zeigler worked at IRRI in the Philippines from 1992 to 1998 as a plant pathologist and leader of the Institute's Irrigated Rice Research Program. From 1992 to 1996, he also led IRRI's Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Program. Dr. Zeigler earned his Ph.D. in plant pathology from Cornell University in 1982, his Masters in botany (forest ecology) from Oregon State University in 1978, and his B.Sc. in biological sciences from the University of Illinois in 1972.

For more information please see the link:
<http://www.irri.org/media/press/press.asp?id=103>.



From the Web: FRUIT DISEASE INFORMATION

An extensive website, FRUIT DISEASE RESOURCES AT THE OHIO STATE UNIV., <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/fruitpathology/> offers entry to three sub-programs aimed at providing useful plant disease information for: organically grown small fruit; organically grown apples; and, for home fruit growing. The easily navigated trio of files have a straightforward contents list or index on the left and a larger text-and- illustration section at the right. Ample full color photos and line drawings provide useful visual supplement to the written descriptions. The information, while prepared for the U.S. state of Ohio, has broader application in many instances. (M.A. Ellis, OARDC, OHIO, <mailto:Ellis.7@osu.edu>)

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: 26 August 2005.**

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/>)