

## President's Message

*Zamir Punja*

### **The time has indeed flown by!**

In my first Presidential message to CPS members that was printed in the September, 1999 issue of *CPS-SCP News*, I reminisced about how time had flown by since I was a graduate student (some 20 years ago and borne out by my gradual visible transition from a "radical-type" to a "conservative-type"!). I am amazed now at how the past 11 months have flown by since I assumed the Presidency at the Montreal meeting.

As my term as President draws to a close, my only regret is that there was insufficient time for me to see all my agenda items come to fruition. However, as I turn the gavel over to Roger Rimmer, I am confident that many of these issues will continue to be contemplated and resolved by the CPS Board in the upcoming year. At the present time, I am almost convinced that a 2-year term as CPS President should be an option that we should consider as a Society. Realize that the British Mycological Society has recently approved a 2-year term for their Presidency. Such an extended term would provide the opportunity to bring ideas into reality and maintain some continuity on the Board. For Board members in the Presidential stream, this would increase the term from



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4 years to 5 years but may be worthy of consideration. During my final one-year term as Past President of the CPS, I hope to continue to be involved with and provide input into matters that affect our Society.

### **Issues currently under discussion**

Perhaps the most pressing issue, and one which I am most pleased to be involved with, is the development of the CPS 5-year Strategic Plan being prepared by a steering committee chaired by Ron Howard (see copy attached and posted on CPS Web site). Once it is approved by CPS members at the upcoming AGM, it will put into motion the implementation of various strategies to achieve 6 clearly-identified goals that should promote and enhance our Society. The Strategic Plan has been designed to fully involve all of our current committees. This presents an excellent opportunity for you, as individual CPS members, to identify yourself with a specific goal that interests you and then volunteer to join a committee to help the Society move forward in the next 5 years. Never have the committee responsibilities been more transparent and more beckoning!

One of the recommendations within the Strategic Plan is to provide assistance to CPS volunteers currently involved in matters relating to membership (maintenance and recruitment), treasurer (bookkeeping and financial matters), secretary (responsible for all Board matters), webmaster (maintenance and upgrading) and newsletter editor (compiling and printing). I fully endorse this recommendation, realizing how time consuming and vital these individual responsibilities are. Unlike many of the other responsibilities within CPS which are undertaken by members of a committee, the above duties inadvertently tend to fall on the shoulders of individual members. The hiring of a professional as-

sistant who can aid the Society in all of the above matters and also coordinate interactions between the various committees will prove to be an invaluable asset to CPS.

The future health of our Society will ultimately come to rest on the vitality of its membership. We must continue to solicit new members and retain old members. We

must encourage industry representatives to get more involved in our Society. And we must advocate the importance of our profession to the public.

I wish to thank all of you for your support over the past year and look forward to seeing you at the joint CPS-APS Pacific Division meeting in Victoria in June.

## **Mot du président**

*Zamir Punja*

### **Le temps s'est inexorablement écoulé !**

Dans mon premier Mot du président aux membres de la SCP qui a paru dans le numéro de septembre 1999 du *CPS-SCP News*, je me rappelais à quel point le temps avait filé depuis l'époque de mes études supérieures (une vingtaine d'années marquées par la manifeste transition graduelle de ma personnalité de radicale à conservatrice !) Je suis maintenant étonné de constater à quelle vitesse les 11 derniers mois sont passés depuis ma nomination comme Président à la réunion de Montréal.

Alors que mon mandat de Président approche de son terme, mon seul regret est que je n'aurai pas assez de temps pour voir la résolution de tous les problèmes inscrits à mon programme. Par contre, alors que je passe le relais à Roger Rimmer, j'ai confiance que plusieurs de ces questions continueront à être examinées et résolues par le Conseil de la SCP dans



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l'année qui vient. Actuellement, je suis pratiquement convaincu qu'un mandat présidentiel de deux années est une possibilité sur laquelle la SCP devrait se pencher en tant que société. La *British Mycological Society* a récemment adopté le mandat de deux ans pour sa présidence. Un mandat ainsi prolongé procurerait l'occasion de transformer les idées en réalisations et de conserver une certaine continuité au sein du Conseil. Pour les membres du Conseil qui atteindront éventuellement la présidence, l'effet serait d'allonger le mandat de 4 à 5 années, un élément qui ne devrait pas empêcher d'accorder à cette possibilité l'attention qu'elle mérite. Durant mon ultime mandat d'un an en tant que Président sortant de la SCP, je compte continuer à m'impliquer et à contribuer à la résolution des problèmes de notre Société.

### **Les questions de l'heure**

Le dossier le plus urgent, et celui qui m'intéresse le plus, est l'élaboration d'un Plan stratégique de 5 ans pour la SCP, présentement préparé par un comité présidé par Ron Howard (voir la copie jointe et aussi disponible sur le site Web de la

SCP). Une fois approuvé par les membres de la SCP à la prochaine assemblée annuelle, le Plan permettra la mise en

place de diverses stratégies pour l'atteinte de six objectifs bien identifiés visant la promotion et l'amélioration de notre Société. Le Plan stratégique a été conçu de

façon à pleinement impliquer l'ensemble de nos comités actuels. Une excellente opportunité se présente ainsi à vous, comme membre de la SCP, d'identifier un objectif particulier qui vous intéresse et ensuite joindre un comité afin d'aider la Société à progresser au cours des 5 prochaines années. Jamais les responsabilités des comités n'auront été aussi claires et attirantes.

Une des recommandations contenues dans le Plan stratégique est de procurer de l'aide aux bénévoles de la SCP qui s'occupent actuellement de l'adhésion (maintien et recrutement), de la trésorerie (tenue de livres et aspects financiers), du secrétariat (responsabilité des affaires du Conseil), du site Web (maintenance et amélioration) et de l'édition du bulletin de liaison (composition et impression). J'endosse entièrement cette recommandation puisque je sais combien ces responsabilités

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*“Le dossier le plus urgent ... est l'élaboration d'un Plan stratégique de 5 ans pour la SCP ... une fois approuvé, ... le Plan permettra la mise en place de diverses stratégies pour l'atteinte de six objectifs bien identifiés visant la promotion et l'amélioration de notre Société”*

demandent du temps et à quel point elles sont vitales. Contrairement à plusieurs autres responsabilités à la SCP qui sont partagées entre les membres d'un comité, ces charges ont tendance à inévitablement retomber sur les épaules d'individus. L'embauche d'un assistant professionnel qui pourrait aider la Société dans toutes ces activités et aussi coordonner les interactions entre les divers comités, serait un atout inestimable pour la SCP.

En dernier ressort, la santé de notre Société repose sur la vitalité de ses membres. Nous devons continuer à rechercher de nouveaux membres et à retenir les anciens. Nous devons inciter les représentants de l'industrie à s'impliquer davantage dans notre Société. De plus, nous devons témoigner de l'importance de notre profession auprès du public.

Je veux aussi remercier chacun de vous pour son appui au cours de la dernière année et j'espère pouvoir vous rencontrer à la réunion conjointe de la SCP et de la Section du Pacifique de l'APS en juin à Victoria.

## *Ad Hoc* Strategic Planning Committee Report

A decision to prepare a strategic plan to guide the future operation of the CPS/SCP was taken at the 1999 annual meeting in Montreal. A 10-member steering committee was formed and charged with the responsibility of writing a plan in time for presentation at the 2000 annual meeting in Victoria. The committee began by familiarizing themselves with the strategic planning process with the assistance of Maureen Bolen, a Rural Development Specialist with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. The next step involved doing an environmental scan of members to assess their current and future expectations of the society, satisfaction with services offered, and any specific issues and concerns. Vision, mission, guiding principle, goal and strategy statements were written and presented to the CPS Board for interim approval in March, 2000. Afterwards, an action plan was developed for each strategy, and individuals or groups that might be able to carry out these actions were listed. A draft copy of the strategic plan was placed on the Society's website in early May for members to review. Suggested changes were considered by the committee and a final draft of the plan was prepared by mid-May. This version is included here in the June issue of *CPS-SCP News* and it is posted on the website. Members will be asked to discuss and approve the plan at the upcoming annual general meeting. If approved, it will be implemented over the coming five-year period.

Submitted by:

R. Howard (chair), B. Gossen, V. Higgins, A. Lévesque, D. McNally, J. Menzies, R. Rimmer, G. Turnbull, M. Bolen (facilitator), G. Boland (ex-officio)



***THE CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY***  
***LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE***

# **STRATEGIC PLAN**

## **MAY, 2000**

***Prepared by the***  
***Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee***

### ***Rationale for a Strategic Plan***

The Canadian Phytopathological Society/La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie has entered a new millennium and with it another challenging and eventful period in its history. Up to now, the society has functioned without a comprehensive long-range plan. The objectives, structure and operational procedures for the society are outlined in its constitution and bylaws, and a five-year plan was written in 1994 to guide its administration. In order to remain relevant to its members, stay financially viable and be able to deal with future challenges and opportunities, the society has decided to prepare a strategic plan that will serve to guide its operations for the next five years.

### ***Development of a Draft Plan***

The CPS/SCP Governing Board endorsed, in principle, the idea of developing a strategic plan during a conference call on June 29, 1999. Previously, the notion of preparing a business plan had been considered, but, upon reflection, a strategic plan was deemed more appropriate. A strategic planning proposal was presented at the 1999 CPS/SCP annual general meeting and was endorsed by the majority of members in attendance. The Governing Board appointed an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee with the mandate of developing a draft plan for presentation at the 2000 annual meeting in Victoria. The committee consisted of Ron Howard (Chair), Bruce Gossen, Verna Higgins, André Lévesque, Dave McNally, Jim Menzies, Roger Rimmer, Gary Turnbull, Maureen Bolen (facilitator) and Greg Boland (Vice-President, ex-officio).

The committee met regularly via conference calls over a 10-month period in 1999-2000. They began by familiarizing themselves with the strategic planning process and establishing a timetable for the project. Their next task involved doing an environmental scan of members to assess their current and future expectations of the society, satisfaction with services offered, and any specific issues and concerns. Vision, mission, guiding principle, goal and strategy statements were subsequently written and presented to the CPS Board for interim approval in March, 2000. Afterwards, an action plan was developed for each strategy, and individuals or groups that might be able to carry out these actions were listed. A draft copy of the strategic plan was placed on the Society's website in early May for members to review. Suggested changes were considered by the committee and a final draft of the plan was prepared by mid-May.

### ***Opportunities for Member Feedback***

A copy of the draft plan was included with the June issue of CPS News and also posted on the website. Members are invited to provide feedback to the planning committee leading up to the 2000 annual meeting in Victoria. Names and addresses of the planning committee members are given on the following page. There will be an opportunity to further discuss and vote on acceptance of the plan at the business meeting on June 20, and, if approved, it will be implemented over the coming five-year period.

## *Strategic Planning Committee*

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## **Vision**

We are a diverse and proactive professional scientific organization dedicated to creating and sharing knowledge of plant pathology in Canada and internationally.

## **Mission**

We promote research and education in plant pathology, public awareness of the importance of plant diseases, and discussion of all aspects of plant pathology in Canada.

## **Guiding Principles**

The following principles will guide the operation and development of the society:

We provide innovative leadership in plant pathology research, extension and teaching.

We advocate proactive, action-oriented approaches to current issues and trends.

We use diverse technologies to create information that is timely, reliable and scientifically sound.

We use modern, cost-effective methods to deliver information and/or services to our members, the scientific community and the public.

We promote teamwork and volunteerism amongst members to foster the growth, development and profile of our society.

## **Goals, Strategies and Actions**

Goals, strategies and actions have been formulated based on five general themes:

Member Services (Goal 1)

Communications (Goal 2)

Organizational effectiveness (Goal 3)

Membership (Goal 4)

Advocacy (Goals 5 and 6)

Individuals or groups that the planning committee felt might be in the best position to implement the action steps are listed at the end of each action statement. No specific timetable has been suggested for implementation of the various action steps; this will be decided once the plan has been approved by the membership.

### **Goal #1: To foster professional development for society members.**

#### **Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Enhance CPS/SCP website capabilities and access to modern communication technology.  
Establish a database of full- and part-time employment, post doctoral and graduate student placement opportunities. [Webmaster]  
Develop a roster of retired members who would be willing to serve as mentors, advisors or consultants. [Membership Secretary]  
Develop a list of continuing education courses, workshops, seminars, etc. [Education and Public Awareness Committee]  
Investigate ways of using tools such as video conferencing and virtual learning to improve communications for and between members. [Education and Public Awareness Committee]

- 2) Enhance professional development opportunities at the annual meeting.  
Evaluate the effectiveness of the annual meeting as a means of providing learning and networking opportunities for members. [Governing Board]  
Arrange activities that will facilitate networking, professional growth and continuing education of members. [Local Arrangements Committees, Education and Public Awareness Committee, and Symposium and Workshop Committee]
- 3) Promote special regional meetings and activities.  
Fund and promote special regional events, e.g. speakers, seminars, workshops, tours, with reduced costs for society members. [Financial Advisory Committee, Regional Representatives, and Symposium and Workshop Committee]

**Goal #2: To provide a forum for the collection, discussion and dissemination of scientific information on plant diseases.**

**Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Provide additional support for regional, national and international scientific meetings.  
Allocate more budget money to support regional meetings. [Financial Advisory Committee]  
Investigate alternative means of fund raising to support regional meetings. [Financial Advisory Committee and Regional Representatives]
- 2) Ensure timely publication of the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology/Revue Canadienne de Phytopathologie*.  
Investigate the feasibility of electronic publication of *CJPP*. [Journal Improvement Committee]
- 3) Facilitate annual publication of the *Canadian Plant Disease Survey*.  
Encourage members to submit current and historical information for publication. [CPDS Coordinator and Editor-in-Chief, *CJPP*]  
Create an electronic database of article titles, subjects/keywords and authors from 1920 to present. [CPDS Coordinator and Editor-in-Chief, *CJPP*]
- 4) Advocate use of the internet and the CPS/SCP website for efficient communications.  
Add new information and databases to the website, e.g. indexes for *CJPP* and *CPDS*. [Webmaster, *CJPP* Editor-in-Chief, and CPDS Coordinator]
- 5) Support the production of specialized plant disease publications as appropriate.  
Revise and publish *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada*. [Information Products Marketing Committee]  
Investigate the feasibility of publishing society books in a CD ROM format. [Information Products Marketing Committee]
- 6) Encourage increased contributions from members for the *CPS/SCP News*.  
- Solicit articles in new topic areas, such as the future of plant pathology in Canada, career counseling and ethics in science. [Newsletter Editors]

**Goal #3: To ensure the long-term viability of the society.**

**Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Maintain an effective non-profit society.  
Review the structure of the society, governing board and committees at least every five years. [Governing Board]  
Revise the society's constitution and by-laws, as required, within one year of an

- organizational review. [Governing Board]
- 2) Develop a five-year financial plan that will reflect the growing and changing needs of the organization.  
Extend budget forecasts from a one- to a five-year interval. [Treasurer]  
Identify alternative ways of generating financial resources. [Financial Advisory Committee]
  - 3) Establish a process of ongoing strategic planning to insure that the society remains flexible and responsive to current and future needs.  
Assess the effectiveness of the current strategic planning process. [Governing Board]  
Evaluate the success of the implementation plan on an annual basis. [Governing Board]  
Develop a process for preparing a new strategic plan within a five-year time frame. [Governing Board]
  - 4) Identify means to alleviate the heavy work load of some board members.  
Investigate the feasibility of hiring a part-time assistant for the Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. [Governing Board]
  - 5) Improve the ability of standing, subject matter and *ad hoc* committees to fulfill their mandates.  
Inform new committee members about the mandate and goals of their committee. [Committee Chairs]  
Draft/revise terms of reference for committees and establish priorities and/or develop schedules for high priority tasks. [Governing Board and Committee Chairs]  
Promote regular meetings or conference calls for all committees. [Committee Chairs]
  - 6) Maintain or increase key member services and identify potential new services .  
Request increased financial support for regional meetings and workshops when appropriate. [Financial Advisory Committee and Governing Board]  
Facilitate development of the website as a focus for the society's activities. [Webmaster]  
Survey members to assess the value of current services and the need for new ones. [Governing Board]

#### **Goal #4: To increase the number and diversity of members in the society.**

##### **Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Encourage more graduate students to become active members of the society.  
Increase profile and availability of travel grants and awards for graduate students to attend regional and national meetings. [Financial Advisory Committee and Awards Committee]  
Provide special events, e.g. a grad student mixer, at national meetings. [Local Arrangements Committees]  
Provide prospective student members with an information package on services offered by the society for students. [Membership Secretary]
- 2) Encourage more industry/extension specialists to become active members of the society.  
Prepare regular features in the newsletter targeted to industry, extension and emeritus members. [Newsletter Editors]  
Promote regional meeting to a larger audience, e.g. obtain email lists from industry. [Membership Committee, Regional Representatives, and Industry Relations Committee]

- Schedule national annual meeting outside of the summer field season on a regular basis. [Future Meetings Committee]  
Develop a new membership category (lower cost) that does not include the journal. [Membership Committee]
- 3) Encourage more Canadian and foreign plant pathologists and scientists from related disciplines to join the society.  
Prepare an information brochure highlighting current CPS/SCP activities. [Governing Board]  
Provide prospective members with an information package on society services, publications and activities. [Membership Secretary and International Cooperation Committee]  
Arrange joint meetings (regional, national and international) with other scientific societies. [Future Meetings Committee and Symposium and Workshop Committee]

### **Goal #5: To promote public awareness of plant pathology in Canada.**

#### **Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Emphasize the importance of plant pathology to the public by taking every opportunity to arrange or volunteer for guest presentations.  
Arrange, publicize and provide financial support for speakers for public presentations. [Education and Public Awareness Committee and Financial Advisory Committee]  
Compile and publicize speakers' rosters for the different schools, colleges and universities in each region and encourage members to get on the roster.  
Initiate a CPS/SCP prize at the National Science Fair. [Awards Committee]  
Serve as mentors at the Connaught Biotech (Science Fair) Competition. [Education and Public Awareness Committee]
- 2) Use the CPS/SCP website to answer plant health questions from the general public.  
Provide a "need help" link on the website by researching the best links within Canada and elsewhere. [Webmaster]  
Recruit volunteers with specific expertise to answer questions via email. [Education and Public Awareness Committee]  
Form an *ad hoc* committee to document the current "state of the art" of plant pathology teaching in Canada and investigate whether co-operative approaches between universities would offer any solutions. [New *Ad Hoc* Committee on Education in Plant Pathology]

### **Goal #6: To maximize input into relevant public policy issues affecting plant pathology and the agricultural and forestry industries in Canada.**

#### **Strategies and Actions:**

- 1) Increase liaison with other Canadian plant biology organizations, ag-forestry groups and university departments to facilitate discussion of policy issues.  
Revise terms of reference of the Science Policy Committee to better define when action is needed on relevant issues and who should be involved in implementation. [Science Policy Committee]  
Form an electronic action network to coordinate lobbying efforts on issues such as education in plant biology, environmental quality, bioengineering, food safety, etc. [Science Policy Committee]

## CPS-SCP Website - Annual Report

The CPS-SCP website was revised in 1999-2000 to reflect the evolving activities and interests of CPS and its members. The revised site is temporarily located on a separate internet server to allow Members of CPS-SCP the opportunity to visit and provide comments and suggestions for improvements prior to the final draft. Comments, suggestions and corrections can be sent directly to Greg J. Boland as the Coordinator of the revised website through the "Comments" and "Submission" buttons on the homepage navigation bars. Please send your comments, suggestions and corrections by 15 June 2000.

The revised CPS-SCP website can be temporarily viewed at:

<http://www.thetechnozone.com/cityflavour/cps/>

A CD-ROM version of the website will also be available for viewing at the Annual Meeting of CPS in Victoria, BC, where a computer and feedback forms will be available in the poster area for viewing and feedback. The revised website for CPS-SCP will be completed by 28 July 2000 when it will replace the existing CPS-SCP site at

<http://res2.agr.ca/london/pmrc/cps/>

Many people have helped with this revision of our site. I would like to sincerely thank all of these individuals for their assistance; particularly Rick Reeleder and others who started the CPS site, and Judy Prange, Vancouver, BC, for the site design & graphics.

Submitted by Greg J. Boland

## Canadian Plant Disease Survey: Report Of National Coordinator

Volume 80 of the *Canadian Plant Disease Survey* (CPDS), the report on disease highlights in 1999, was published in April 2000. This was despite the initial negligence of the national coordinator and thanks to the excellent work of the section editors (Marilyn Dykstra, Bruce Gossen, Paul Hildebrand, Tom Hsiang, John Muir, and Andy Tekauz), the compiler Stephanie Hilton of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), London, Ontario and Bruce Bowman the AAFC, London webmaster. The efforts of the collators in soliciting submissions resulted in 57 reports, an increase of 50% over the previous year. Distribution among sections was as follows: Diagnostic Labs 3; Cereals 20; Forages 3; Oilseeds and Special Crops 19; Forest Trees 5; Fruits, Nuts and Berries, Ornamentals and Turfgrass 4; Vegetables 3. There was additional consolidation of two sections this year.

Volume 80 marks the fourth year in which CPDS was published electronically. In addition to being available on the AAFC, London website, it was distributed to section editors and authors as an e-file and to most subscribers on a diskette. A small quantity of hard copies will be printed to distribute to libraries that prefer hard copy for archival purposes. As a result of responses to a questionnaire distributed to all subscribers with Volume 79, the list of subscribers was reduced this year to about 30% of the previous number. Volume 80 was distributed approximately as follows: Canadian libraries 50; Individuals in Canada 50; Subscribers in USA 40; International subscribers 50.

Comments about the format, editing or publication of CPDS are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Morrall, CPDS National Coordinator,  
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## Committee Reports

### Local Organizing Committee for the 2001 Meeting in London, ON

The Local Organizing Committee invite all CPS members, and non-members, to attend the AGM, June 10-13, 2001 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in London, Ontario. The theme of the meeting will be Plant Protection and the Environment. Plant Protection has undergone radical changes in the last few decades. Novel pesticides and biotechnology will continue changing our approaches to controlling plant diseases. This meeting will strive to examine how these new technologies will impact the environment. Through a number of Symposia we hope to bring scientific substance from Academia and Government to discussions about potential changes that may occur with the introduction of novel pest control procedures. We also ask all our industry partners to get involved and work with us to make this meeting a success. We hope that they will be well represented in bringing their visions on this topic to the forum. The organizers invite all to make suggestion on Symposia speakers and topics. These will be passed to the Symposium and Workshop Committees for organizational aspects.

Before or after the meetings guests will be given opportunities to tour the intensive agriculture of Southwestern Ontario.

The region surrounding the Harrow research Station has the largest greenhouse complex in all of North America. Did you know we export tomatoes to Florida? If there is interest in seeing this incredible industry send us an e-mail and we will look after it.

The Northern Shore of Lake Erie is still the site for Ginseng, Tobacco, Tomato, and Vegetable Production. Anybody interested? Let me know.

Stratford is 30 minutes from London. We

will let you know what's playing and we can book tickets and a bus for those interested.

For Nature Lovers we are located between two Great Lakes with quite different ecologies and beautiful sandy beaches (Huron is 80Km North and Erie is 60 Km to the South). If you have not seen them and wish to, let us know.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more.

Sincerely,

George Lazarovits, Chair

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### Future Meetings Committee

Everything is in place for the **Victoria** meeting June 18 - 21, 2000 - see the web page [http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/conf/cps\\_aps](http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/conf/cps_aps). The meeting for 2001 is scheduled for **London**, Ontario - contact person George Lazarovits. Work is proceeding smoothly for the 2002 meeting in **Lethbridge** - contact Larry Kawchuk. The meeting for 2003 is scheduled for **Ottawa** and at this time there is no contact person. It has been recommended to the CPS executive that a bidding system be considered for selecting future meeting sites rather than having a future meeting committee. Members of this committee are: L. Kawchuk, A. Kushalappa and R. Hunt.

Submitted by Rich Hunt

## Industry Relations Committee

Membership in the CPS-SCP Industry Relations Committee was revised and expanded during 1999-2000. Members now include: Tony Sturz (Chair); Peter Burgoyne, Zeneca Agro; Mike Celetti, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs; Serge Gagnon, Premier Tech Biotechnologies; Leigh Jenkins, Novartis Crop Protection Canada; Mary Leggett, Philom Bios; Ken Ng, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture; and Gary Turnbull, Dow AgroSciences Canada.

Emphasis during 2000 was placed on discussion of the committee mandate and generating suggestions for methods to improve communications and interaction between CPS-SCP and industry. These suggestions will be developed into a series of recommendations for submission to the CPS Executive Board and to other CPS committees, such as the Workshop and Symposium Committee.

Submitted by: Tony Sturz and Greg J. Boland

## Workshop and Symposium Committee

The Workshop and Symposium Committee is currently preparing a list of potential symposia and workshop topics for the Annual Meeting of CPS in London, Ontario, in 2001. The theme of this meeting will be "Plant Protection and the Environment" and CPS members are encouraged to submit their suggestions for symposia and workshop topics, speakers, and organizers before the Annual Meeting to Greg J. Boland. For more information on the Annual Meeting in London, see the "Report from the Local Organizing Committee for the 2001 Meeting in London, Ontario." A meeting of the Workshop and Symposium Committee will be held during the Annual Meeting in Victoria, BC, when the final symposia and workshops will be selected.

Submitted by Greg J. Boland

## CPS Regional Meetings

### Maritime Region

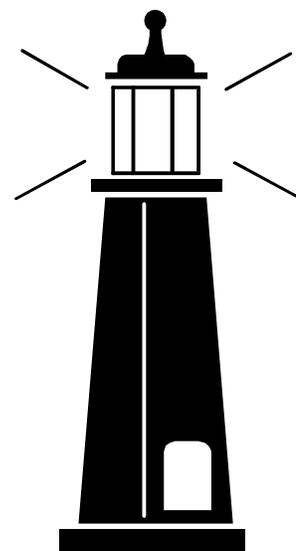
The annual meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) Maritime division was held on March 16, 2000 in Bangor, Maine. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Northeast Potato Technology (NEPT) Forum 2000. Scientists from provincial and federal research centres, students from Universities, and industry representatives from Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Maine were in attendance. A short business meeting and lunch were held, from 11 AM to 1:00 PM, immediately before the NEPT Forum. Some of the CPS members presented papers on pathogen detection and pest management at the forum and the abstracts will be published in the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology*.

I thank all the participants for their attendance at the CPS regional meeting. Also, my sincere thanks to Wayne Honeycutt, USDA/ARS and Shirlyn Coleman, NBARD, the organizers of the NEPT forum, for their help with the arrangements of the meeting.

Submitted by :

Deena Errampalli, Maritime Representative 1999/2000

E-mail: [errampallid@em.agr.ca](mailto:errampallid@em.agr.ca)



## People & Travel

In May, **Michele Heath** (University of Toronto) met with the Molecular Pathology group at the Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre in Ottawa, and presented a seminar entitled "The Cell Biology of Plant Interactions with Biotrophic Fungal Pathogens."

**Prem Kharbanda** attended the 30th annual national conference on composting organised by the publishers of *Bio-Cycle* magazine in Orlando, Florida, from May 8-10, 2000. The Conference was well attended with over 225 participants; there were several participants from Europe as well as several others from Canada. Prem had good discussions with Dr. Harry Hoitink, who has done extensive work on suppression of soil-borne diseases in container media. Several papers were presented on compost use in sustainable agriculture including disease suppression using composts. A field trip was organised to visit very impressive facilities for recycling and composting waste in the Sumter County, which handles about 100 tons of waste/day.

Prem also took this opportunity to visit the Plant Pathology Department, University of Florida, Gainesville. The department has strong program on bio-control of weeds using plant pathogens.

The Conference was co-sponsored by Florida Department of Environmental Protection and University of Florida Centre for Natural Resources.

Drs. **Lorne Stobbs** and **Deena Errampalli** of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Southern Crop Protection and Food Research Centre, Vineland, Ontario, and Neil Miles, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), hosted the first **National Plum Pox Virus Training Workshop** (27-28 March, 2000) at Vineland, Ontario, organized by Karen Prange of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa. Plum Pox virus disease of stone fruits, considered as a

serious disease in Europe and Asia, was found in Pennsylvania in 1999. The presence of the plum pox virus in north America has raised concerns within the tree fruit industry in Canada. A Canadian task force was formed in late 1999, to determine the best course of action for Canada in light of reports of the virus in US. Close to 40 participants, from the CFIA, AAFC, OMAFRA, the University of Guelph, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, and tree fruit grower groups were in attendance. Presentations on the symptomatology of the disease, virus detection methods, and identification of different *Prunus* trees using dormant wood were included in the workshop. The survey procedures and testing of *Prunus* trees in orchards were also discussed. During the workshop, Dr. Deena Errampalli presented a talk, "RT-PCR detection of plum pox virus," by Deena Errampalli and Lorne Stobbs.

## Publications

Proceedings of the Canadian Workshop on Fusarium Head Blight/Colloque Canadien sur la Fusariose are available for purchase from Randy Clear, GRL-CGC, 1404-303 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba. The cost of the 147 page booklet is \$10.00. Please make your cheque payable to the CWFHB/CCF.

Randy Clear  
Mycologist, Canadian Grain Commission



### **Plant Disease Epidemiologist**

Required to study quantitative aspects of plant disease epidemics. Work will involve analysis of existing arable crop disease data and controlled environment and field experiments to obtain new epidemiological data for cereal diseases. A PhD in Plant Pathology, with refereed publications, a driving licence, and experience in data handling, statistics and writing grant proposals, are needed for this 5-year post. Salary range will normally be between £17,800 - £22,800.

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## **Employment**

### **Postdoctoral Position**

A postdoctoral position is available starting June 1 2000 in the Department of Plant Science at Laval University (Québec, Canada) for a project on biological control of potato silver scurf. Applicants should have received a Ph.D. within the last two (2) years in plant pathology or related fields with a strong background in soil microbiology and/or biological control. Excellent skills in oral and written English are required. Salary is \$30 000 CDN a year. The appointment is available for a 24-month period. The position will be open until a suitable candidate is found. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, reprints of pertinent papers and a list of 2-3 references (names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses) to:

Dr. Russell Tweddell,  
Centre de Recherche en Horticulture,  
Pavillon de l'Environnement, Université Laval,  
Québec, Canada, G1K 7P4

Phone (418) 656-2131 ext.4553

Fax (418) 656-7871

E-mail: [russell.tweddell@crh.ulaval.ca](mailto:russell.tweddell@crh.ulaval.ca).

## Book Review

### The Formative Years of Plant Pathology in the United States

C. Lee Campbell, P.D. Peterson and C.S. Griffith. APS Press, The American Phytopathological Society, St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. 1999. 448 pp. 63 black and white photographs. \$49.00 U.S.

When David K. told me that the APS Press had requested a review of this book, I eagerly agreed. I enjoy reading history and wish to know more about the history of my discipline. It also seems to me that to understand the study and practice of plant pathology in Canada, we cannot ignore the positive impact that pathologists and the related institutions in the U.S. have had upon us.

The authors of this book describe the development of plant pathology within the United States from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century to the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They document how the science and practice of plant pathology followed the development of agriculture and how certain diseases played leading roles in 'forcing' agriculturalists, scientists and governments to deal with plant disease problems. We see how plant pathology developed from an interesting or necessary sideline of someone trained in another field, to a science of its own with dedicated practitioners possessing professional training.

The authors have researched and presented the material well. The book is divided into four parts: Plant Diseases and Agriculture in Early America, The Origins of U.S. Plant Pathology, The Rise of Plant Disease Research, and The Maturation and Professionalization of Plant Pathology. The organization of this book into these four sections helps the reader organize their thoughts. As the reader moves through the different sections, they get a good briefing on how and why plant pathology developed the way it did in the U.S.A. The role of different events and personalities in moulding the different insti-

tutions (USDA, state experimental farms, university departments, etc.) and methods of practice (i.e. extension, research, teaching and administration) of the young science are discussed. It appears to me to be a good synopsis of the development of plant pathology in the U.S.A. during that time period.

The highlight of the book for me was getting to know a bit more about the many people who influenced the early years of plant pathology in the U.S.A. I recognized the names of many of these people, but I admit that I did not know their accomplishments as well as I should have. The authors give us insight into their personalities, the problems they faced, the way they approached these problems and their ultimate successes and occasional failures.

I enjoyed reading this book and found it easy to read. I would recommend that our American colleagues consider buying a copy of this book. As a Canadian, I believe that this book would make a good two book set with Dr. Ralph Estey's book entitled 'Essays on the Early History of Plant Pathology and Mycology in Canada.' The development of plant pathology in Canada has been strongly influenced by events and our colleagues in the U.S.A. and both books provide insight into how and why plant pathology has developed in Canada. *The Formative Years of Plant Pathology in the United States* would be an good resource to pathologists interested in the history of plant pathology in the U.S. as well as Canada, and would also be a useful acquisition for libraries.

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## Editor's Report: *CPS-SCP News*

I regret that I'll be unable to join my friends and colleagues at the AGM in Victoria but it doesn't work out every year. Perhaps my able assistant Jim Menzies will be able to deliver this brief report on my behalf.

Last August in Montreal, the Board asked

## New Members for 2000

### Individual Members

<b>BANNIZA</b> , Sabine	Regular	Saskatchewan
<b>BEDFORD</b> , Karen K.	Regular	British Columbia
<b>COMEAU</b> , André	Regular	Québec
<b>DANSEREAU</b> , Bernie	Regular	Alberta
<b>ENGLISH</b> , Craig	Regular	Manitoba
<b>EWERT</b> , Scott	Regular	Manitoba
<b>GINNS</b> , James H.	Regular	British Columbia
<b>INCH</b> , Sharon	Student	Manitoba
<b>MYSLIK</b> , Jen	Student	Ontario
<b>RABIEIFAR</b> , Ali Reza	Student	Ontario
<b>SINGH</b> , Pawan Kumar	Student	Saskatchewan
<b>STEWART</b> , Sandra M.	Regular	Ontario
<b>SU</b> , Hai	Regular	Alberta
<b>SIVASITHAMPARAM</b> , K.	Regular	Australia
<b>ELSHERBINY</b> , Elsherbiny A.	Student	Egypt
<b>ASHRAF</b> , Javed L.	Student	London, UK
<b>HARTMAN</b> , Glen	Regular	Illinois, U.S.A.
<b>PEDERSEN</b> , Wayne L.	Regular	Illinois, U.S.A.

### Sustaining Associate Members

**AQUATROLS CORPORATION** - Attn: **Dr. Stanley J. KOSTKA**, New Jersey, U.S.A.

**BUSCH AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES INC.** - Attn: **Dr. Linnea G. SKOGLUND**,  
Colorado, U.S.A.

**LIMAGRAIN CANADA SEEDS INC.** - Attn: **Dr. Chunren WU**, Ontario

**SEMINIS VEGETABLE SEEDS** - Attn: **Dr. Phyllis T. HIMMEL**, California, U.S.A.

**WESTCO** - Attn: **David KAMINSKI**, Western Canada

if I could produce the newsletter with a smaller budget. I agreed to try but have not been able to do so. Is it time to go the way of most other organizations, dispense with the mailed-out hard copy and rely completely on posting on the website?

There were no radical changes made to the newsletter in 1999-2000. The cost of production for the last 4 issue (June 1999 to March 2000) was \$5152.60. The individual contributions were mailing - \$2413.94, printing - \$1986.91, dedicated e-mail - \$545.05 and envelopes - \$206.70. The pre-printed cover page stocks are nearly exhausted again and will have to be replenished before the December issue.

Suggestions for editorial content and for improvements to the *CPS-SCP News* are always welcome.

David Kaminski, Editor

*CPS-SCP News*

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THE CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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