

# CPS • SCP News



CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY • SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE

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## President's Message



Barry Saville  
CPS-SCP President/président

Next month begins the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and I have been thinking about different ways to spread the message of the importance of plant health. As CPS members, each of us is involved in the investigation of plant health via our research in plant pathology but we have had different pathways to reach our current positions. My research began with cyanobacteria, then moved to *Neurospora* for my PhD followed by postdoctoral research on *Ustilago maydis*, *Rhizobium* and then *Armillaria*. When I set up my own laboratory, I focused on more molecular aspects of plant pathology using the tools available for *U. maydis*. The molecular focus

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of my research allows me to attract researchers with an interest in molecular biology, phytohormone metabolism and functional RNA research to advancing our knowledge of plant pathology and plant health. I am now considering how this may be used to reach more people and make them aware of the importance of plant health, advancing the agricultural economy and feeding the world. Key to this is making

students and colleagues aware of the vast breadth of research carried out by CPS members.

The applied research that many of you carry out can often be directly accessed by farmers to aid them in their crop production. This is critical to aid in our ongoing fight against plant pathogens. However, this clientele is already aware of the importance of plant health so it may be possible for some of you, who are already working in the

community, to reach beyond your immediate colleagues, collaborators and the farmers to spread the

word more widely. One way to do this may be through assisting our students to spread a broader message in their research talks. To do this we need to provide them with the venues in which to present their ideas. The IYPH provides a point of focus to facilitate this and perhaps we can use this as a basis

for symposia or other forums to spread a message of the importance of plant health. The CPS board also expressed the need to spread the word about plant health and plant pathology in the drafting of the last strategic plan. While the focus there was to help enhance the profile of CPS, I think the result is similar. But I cannot envision a single initiative being the answer to getting the word out. Perhaps, if each of us reached out a little more then we could make more

people aware of the importance of plant health, plant pathology and the CPS. I hope you can

each find some time to do this in the coming year. I also wish you the very best over the holidays.

Merry Christmas and Happy IYPH!  
Barry Saville  
CPS President

***“Perhaps, if each of us reached out a little more then we could make more people aware of the importance of plant health, plant pathology and the CPS.”***



## Message du président

Le mois prochain s’amorce l’Année internationale de la santé des végétaux (AISV), et j’ai pensé à différentes façons de sensibiliser les gens à l’importance de la santé des végétaux. En tant que membres de la SCP, chacun de nous sommes impliqués, par nos recherches en phytopathologie, dans l’étude de la santé des végétaux, mais nous avons emprunté divers chemins pour atteindre nos situations actuelles. Mes recherches ont débuté avec

les cyanobactéries, puis se sont poursuivies avec *Neurospora* dans le cadre de mon doctorat, suivi par ma recherche postdoctorale sur *Ustilago maydis*, *Rhizobium* et puis *Armillaria*. Quand j’ai installé mon propre laboratoire, je me suis concentré sur plusieurs autres aspects moléculaires de la phytopathologie, utilisant les outils disponibles pour étudier *U. maydis*. L’approche moléculaire de ma recherche me permet d’attirer des chercheurs qui

possèdent un intérêt pour la biologie moléculaire, le métabolisme des phytohormones et la recherche fonctionnelle sur l'ARN afin de faire progresser nos connaissances sur la phytopathologie et la santé des végétaux. Je me demande actuellement comment utiliser cela pour atteindre un plus vaste public afin de le convaincre de l'importance de la santé des végétaux, de l'essor de l'économie agricole et de nourrir la planète. La réponse à cette question réside dans la sensibilisation des étudiants et des collègues à l'incroyable ampleur des recherches effectuées par les membres de la SCP.

Les producteurs peuvent accéder directement à la recherche appliquée à laquelle plusieurs d'entre vous se

consacrent afin de les aider. Cette aide est essentielle à la lutte incessante que nous menons contre les agents pathogènes. Toutefois, cette clientèle est déjà aux faits de l'importance de la santé des végétaux. Alors, pour certains de vous qui travaillez déjà dans la communauté, il peut être possible d'aller au-delà de vos collègues immédiats et de vos collaborateurs ainsi que des producteurs afin de diffuser plus largement l'information. Une des façons de le faire peut être en aidant nos étudiants à

transmettre un message plus fort dans le cadre de leurs communications scientifiques. Pour ce faire, nous devons leur offrir les moyens de présenter leurs idées. L' AISV fournit un point d'ancrage qui facilite cette transmission, et peut-être pouvons-nous l'utiliser comme point de départ pour des symposiums ou d'autres tribunes visant à diffuser un message sur l'importance de la santé des végétaux.

Le conseil de la SCP a également exprimé le besoin de promouvoir la santé des végétaux et la phytopathologie dans l'ébauche du dernier plan stratégique. Bien que l'objectif ait été l'amélioration du profil

de la SCP, je pense que le résultat est semblable. Mais je ne peux pas concevoir qu'une seule initiative puisse être l'unique solution. Peut-

être si chacun de nous consentait un petit effort supplémentaire pourrions-nous convaincre plus de gens de l'importance de la santé des végétaux, de la phytopathologie et de la SCP? J'espère que vous trouverez un peu de temps durant la nouvelle année pour vous y consacrer. Je vous souhaite également mes meilleurs vœux pour la période des Fêtes.

Joyeux Noël et bonne AISV!  
Barry Saville, président de la SCP

***“Peut-être si chacun de nous consentait un petit effort supplémentaire pourrions-nous convaincre plus de gens de l'importance de la santé des végétaux, de la phytopathologie et de la SCP?”***



## Call for Nominations

### CPS Board and Committees 2020-2021

It is time for you to nominate or have your name stand for positions within the CPS!

Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS), the premier Canadian plant pathology organization is where members volunteer with their talents to serve on various committees and the CPS Board. The diversity we have in our organization makes it a dynamic society serving members' scientific interests. Each year we recruit new (or returning) volunteers to keep our society lively and vibrant. As Chair of the Nominations Committee, I earnestly solicit your interest in volunteering for one of the positions below, or talk to colleagues who may be interested in serving our society. This is a great way to meet colleagues, establish your network, and contribute to the development of science.

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations to the CPS Board of Directors, Standing, and Subject Matter Committees for 2020-2021 from the CPS membership:

#### **CPS Board of Directors**

- Vice President (1 position. A 4-year term; first as Vice President becomes President-Elect, then President and the following year Past President).
- Junior Director-at-Large (1 position. A 2-year term, becomes Senior Director in Year 2).

#### **For Standing and Subject Matter Committees, vacancies are available for the following:**

- CPS Resolutions Committee
- CPS Website
- CPS Nominations Committee
- CPS Awards Committee
- CPS Public Relations Committee
- CPS International Cooperation Committee

More information on the Board of Directors and the CPS committees can be found in the CPS Operations Manual at:

<http://phytopath.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CPS-operations-manual-2016.pdf>

The committee membership for this year may be found in your membership directory. If you would like to serve, or nominate a colleague, please make sure you have permission of the candidate that you are nominating. Please send the name of the nominee, contact information and position on the Board or a CPS committee to serve **by Friday February 14, 2020** to the following email.

Dilantha.fernando@umanitoba.ca

Sincerely,

Dilantha Fernando, Chair of the CPS Nominating Committee



## CPS Awards

CPS Members: Nominate a deserving colleague for a CPS Award!

Students: Apply for travel to the CPS Annual Meeting, CPS Scholarship, or video award!

The Canadian Phytopathological Society is proud to recognize achievements of its members. Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the CPS Awards listed below:

- Honorary Member
- Fellow of CPS
- Outstanding Research
- Outstanding Young Scientist (must be under 45 years old)
- CPS Education Award
- Achievements in Plant Disease Management.

Full descriptions of each category are posted on the CPS web site at <https://phytopath.ca/about-cps/cps-awards/>. All materials should be combined in a single file for each application.

We also encourage graduate students to apply for CPS scholarships, travel to the 2020 conference, and video awards (see URL link above). There are three awards for each category as follows:

### **Graduate Student Travel Awards (\$1,000 each).**

The application must include:

- The abstract of the oral presentation/poster (published in Can J. Plant Pathology);
- A one page statement written by the student explaining the significance of the research and its scientific, economic, and/or societal implications;
- A letter of support from the senior supervisor outlining the student's research, academic abilities, and other evidence of scholarship;
- A brief (2 page maximum) resume of the student's background and experience; and
- Academic transcripts of undergraduate and graduate training (original copy if available).

### **Graduate Student Scholarships (\$1500 each).**

This application must include:

- Two letters of support from an academic/work supervisor;
- A personal statement (1 page) of your motivation to pursue graduate work in plant pathology, future goals, and activities relating to leadership and research;
- An essay (3 pages maximum) on a topic in plant pathology or an original research proposal that demonstrates your ability to communicate and organize;
- Copies of academic transcripts of undergraduate and graduate (if available) education
- Evidence of registration in a graduate program (letter from supervisor, tuition receipt).

**Student video awards (1st, 2nd, and 3rd places).**

Each video must be on a plant pathogen and include the signs, symptoms, pathogen name, and host range. The disease cycle, economic impact, and management and control are other key factors to include. The maximum time of each video is 5 minutes, and will be judged on clarity, pace, graphics, flow, and organization.

**The deadline for submission of all awards is March 1, 2020.**

Send nominations and applications to CPS Awards Committee Chair Syama Chatterton at [Syama.Chatterton@canada.ca](mailto:Syama.Chatterton@canada.ca)



## Announcements

### 6th International Symposium on Fusarium Head Blight



Join us for the 6th International Symposium of Fusarium Head Blight being held March 23 - 26, 2020 at the Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Early Bird Registration rate ends February 1, 2020 - [click here to register](#).

The preliminary program has been posted to the website - [click here to view](#).

Deadline date for abstract submission is January 31, 2020 - [click here for guidelines](#).

Visit the conference website ([www.isfhb.com](http://www.isfhb.com)) for more information.



## Meetings

### International Union of Forest Research Organization 2019

Canadian Forest Pathologists Mike Cruickshank (Natural Resources Canada; NRCAN), Michelle Cleary (formerly with the BC Ministry of Forests, now at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), and Tod Ramsfield (NRCAN) enjoyed a reunion during the International Union of Forest Research Organization 2019 world forestry congress in Curitiba, Brazil. All three share a link through graduate studies with the Canadian Forest Service at the Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria, BC. The meeting covered all topics in forest research. There were more talks about forest pathology than I can ever remember even to the point of dominating many of the sessions. The effects of abiotic stress on trees being the driver for fire, water, insects and disease disturbances is becoming increasingly apparent worldwide. For climate change, planting and maintaining forest cover has become a major topic, along with product substitution using wood biomass from forest and agriculture industries. Replacing plastic packaging with paper products is an example of substitution. The meeting also highlighted the effect of forest cover on regulating water flow and supply and its apparent tradeoff with carbon sequestration. The meeting abstracts can be viewed at: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/events/691/program-app/program> and then clicking on the session and the presenter.

Submitted by Mike Cruickshank



Canadian Forest Pathologists at a Eucalypt plantation in Curitiba, Brazil.  
Left to right: Mike Cruickshank with Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN); Michelle Cleary, formerly with the BC Ministry of Forests, now at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences; Tod Ramsfield, NRCAN.

## Young Scientists' Corner

### FEATURED STUDENT:

**Amy Shi**

University of Guelph



Amy studies ginseng replant disease and works with Ginseng Ontario.

As a kid, I was always fascinated by plants, especially how it differs from animals. I grew up in a big city, Beijing, China, where one can spot buildings and skyscrapers easier than plants. As a kid, seeing a rare plant side of the road, or even in-between bricks on the streets only added to my interests for plants. This interest led me to study landscape design for my undergrad.

After immigrating to Canada, I met people working in the area of plant pathology, and naturally, it became clear that I wanted to study the area, focusing on plant diseases.

In 2011, I completed a Master's degree in plant pathology at the University of Guelph and had been working since. I am the full-time research associate at the Ontario Ginseng Growers Association and also a part-time Ph.D. student at the University of Guelph. The focus of my research for both work and school is to advance the understanding of ginseng replant disease and to seek management strategy.

American ginseng is a plant native to Canada and has replant issue, which prevents it from being cultivated on the same land twice. This issue puts lots of pressure on farmers to find new areas for ginseng production since the suitable land is very limited. As the research associate of the association, I am in charge of conducting research, managing research funding, and collaboration with companies, government, and university researchers. Together we have built a working group on studying ginseng replant disease. For my dissertation of Ph.D., I will be focusing on fumigant alternatives, such as solarization, anaerobic soil infestation, and biofumigation, for managing the replant disease.

As a researcher, I will always embrace any opportunities that could improve my skills and knowledge as a pathologist. I hope my research will contribute to improving plant production and help growers in their production of ginseng.



## Publications

### ISPP - International Newsletter on Plant Pathology



The International Society for Plant Pathology promotes the world-wide development of plant pathology and the dissemination of knowledge about plant diseases and plant health management. News and announcements from all on any aspect of Plant Pathology are invited for the Newsletter.

**Editor: Daniel Huberli**

e-mail: [ispp.nl.editor@isspweb.org](mailto:ispp.nl.editor@isspweb.org)

Members of Associated Societies of ISPP can receive e-mail notification of Newsletter updates by joining the ISPP mail list.

<http://www.isppweb.org/newsletter.asp>

- Ready-to-eat salad crops: A plant pathogen's heaven
- Animated film about African food security launched
- Harnessing tomato jumping genes could help speed-breed droughtresistant crops
- New insight about bacteria within grapevine-killing crown gall tumors
- Bananageddon - can we save our beloved bananas?
- Current Vacancies
- Acknowledgements
- Coming Events
- 

#### ISPP Newsletter 49 (10) October 2019

In this issue:

- ISPP endorses Microbiologists' Climate Change Warning
- Obituary of Anthony Johnston, Director CMI 1968-1983
- Obituary of Professor Antonio Graniti, 1926-2019
- Special issue on Grapevine Trunk Diseases
- Call for Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Plant Pathology
- Are we pathologists embracing open and reproducible research practices?

#### ISPP Newsletter 49 (11) November 2019

In this issue:

- Meet Dr. Lindsey du Toit, President of the American Phytopathological Society
- Women in Ag Science
- IDphy: molecular and morphological identification of *Phytophthora* based on the types officially released
- Tomatoes sent to space to study plant defense
- Cotton disease research from Texas to Narrabri
- Global study of seedborne pathogens

- Ants suppressing plant pathogens
  - ISPP Executive Committee will meet in Melbourne
  - Science that makes a difference
  - Fungi could reduce reliance on fertilisers
  - Current Vacancies
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- ISPP Newsletter 49 (12) December 2019**
- In this issue:
- Seasons Greetings
  - New *Phytophthora* isolated from diseased Christmas trees
  - ISPP offers life memberships
  - Official launch of the International Year of Plant Health 2020 (IYPH2020)
  - BIOCONTROL2019, 9-11 July, Viterbo, Italy
  - Potential climate change effects on plant pathogens and crop disease
  - risks
  - First hiker charged in New Zealand with entering quarantined kauri forest
  - Eliminating bacterial blight from rice
  - Illustrated Generic Names of Fungi – new book
  - Origins of the world's deadliest strain of cereal rust, Ug99
  - Vector-borne plant virus training
  - Beyond single genes: Receptor networks underpin plant Immunity
  - Healthy and unhealthy plants photo competition
  - Current Vacancies
  - Acknowledgements
  - Coming Events



## Entomological Society of Canada



The *Bulletin* has been published quarterly by the Entomological Society of Canada since 1969. It provides information on the activities of the Society and its members, research and employment opportunities, matters of wider scientific importance and book reviews.

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## Errors and Omissions



In the Sept 2019 issue of CPS-SCP News, the photographs from the Plant Canada meeting were taken and supplied by Vikram Bisht. Thank you Vikram! I apologize for not acknowledging you alongside the photos.

Left: Vikram Bisht, CPS Membership Secretary and photographer extraordinaire!

## Contact the Editors

### Linda Elizabeth Jewell, Editor

St. John's Research and Development Centre  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
204 Brookfield Rd.  
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador  
A1E 0B2

Telephone: 709-793-3173; Fax 709-793-3341  
Email: [linda.jewell@canada.ca](mailto:linda.jewell@canada.ca)

### Coreen Franke, Associate Editor

Nutrien Ag Solutions  
201 - 407 Downey Road  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7N 4L8

Telephone: 306-668-6633/306-229-4180 (cell)  
Fax: 306-668-5564  
Email: [coreen.franke@nutrien.com](mailto:coreen.franke@nutrien.com)

## Submission Deadline for the March 2020 Issue of CPS-SCP News

**PLEASE NOTE:** The submission deadline for the March 2020 issue of CPS - SCP News is February 28, 2020. If you send photographs for publication in the CPS-SCP News, please ensure that you indicate that all individuals appearing in the photographs have given permission for their photographs to appear in the newsletter. Photographs will not be published if permission has not been obtained from the individuals involved. In addition, photographs must be accompanied by a caption, and must be of suitable quality for printing. Photos that do not meet these guidelines will not be printed.

