

New Zealand Plant Protection Society (Inc.)

# Newsletter

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May 2006

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## FROM THE SCIENTIFIC EDITOR

– May 2006

The paper numbers at this stage are slightly above average for the last 10 years so it will be an interesting and varied programme in Blenheim. We are planning to hold a couple of special sessions on the Thursday morning. The first will be on clover root weevil and is particularly relevant given the recent finding of an established population of this important pest in the Nelson area and some isolated trappings around Christchurch airport. The grand finale to the conference will be a session on pests and diseases in grapes and we hope to combine this with some product sampling!

Papers are coming back from referees now and I really appreciate prompt responses. A great example is a paper that was submitted and 11 hours later I had received the referee's comments – even more amazing is the fact that the referee was in China at the time. The power of technology! Please remember that the timeframe for return of your refereed/edited paper is five days. For those people with the 15 May deadline, you will have to do this even faster as there are more papers with this deadline than usual. I need to have all papers with the printer by 31 May to allow time for formatting, final proofing and preparation of the supplementary pages. Once I have all the papers in, I can then develop the programme for discussion at the Executive Committee meeting on 12 June. This allows the programme for the conference to be posted on the website about 15 June.

When preparing your talk for the conference, please read the instructions for presenters on the website. Trevor James is the co-ordinator for presentations so don't send anything to me. Remember that overheads and slides are not supported any longer – the only option for presenters is PowerPoint.

As you will see elsewhere in the newsletter we are going ahead with obtaining an impact factor for NZPP. Please remember that the impact factor will be improved if NZPP papers are cited in papers published in other journals. This means that when writing a paper, particularly for a high-impact international journal, you should try to include NZPP papers in your reference lists.

I will be attending the conference this year, and look forward to meeting new people as well as catching up with everyone else. Please come up and introduce yourself if we haven't met before. If you have any questions the easiest way to contact me is by email. I check emails every evening so you will get a reply the following morning.

Sue Zydenbos

# Are there really 22,000 species of fungi in New Zealand?

(Progress in New Zealand mycology)

Symposium — Auckland  
Tuesday 29 - Wednesday 30 August 2006  
[the week following the 8<sup>th</sup> International  
Mycological Congress (IMC8), Cairns]

The New Zealand mycota consists of many unique fungal species and ubiquitous, widespread species. The first fungus to be described from New Zealand was a 'vegetable caterpillar', in 1836. In the ensuing 170 years another 7,500 species of fungi have been recorded, although sustained taxonomic mycology in New Zealand did not start until the 1920s.



The  
years

*This symposium is aimed at people involved in conservation/biodiversity, biosecurity/plant protection, biotechnology, biocontrol, education.*

Vegetable caterpillar (*Cordyceps robertsii*) on puriri moth. Wood cut 1855.

Why 22,000?

- How long will it take to record the remaining species? Is it achievable? Should we try? Do we need outside (overseas) help?
- What do we know? Where are we at?
- What knowledge rests with Maori/iwi?
- What role can amateurs play?
- Is it worth continuing the hunt for new species?
- Will species become extinct before we find them?
- Should we bother to describe new morphological species?
- Should we go 100% molecular?
- Where have the New Zealand fungi come from?
- Should we try to keep exotic species out of the country?
- What should we do with the New Zealand fungi?
- Is the New Zealand mycota a valuable genetic resource?
- Can we discover any valuable bioactives? Is the task too large for New Zealand?
- Are fungi successful agents for biological control of weeds, insects?
- Where are we at with collections/databases?

For information and registration of interest contact Eric McKenzie [mckenzie@LandcareResearch.co.nz](mailto:mckenzie@LandcareResearch.co.nz)

## Missing committee profile:

### Toni Withers

Entomologist  
Forest Biosecurity and Protection  
Ensis - a joint venture with CSIRO  
Te Papa Tipu Innovation Park, 49  
Sala Street PB 3020  
Rotorua Phone 07 343 5361

[www.ensisjv.com](http://www.ensisjv.com)



# NZPPS & CAWS (<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~weedss/>)

Your society is on the verge of becoming a fully-fledged member of the Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS). The main advantage this gives our members is a reduced conference fee at Australian (soon to be Australasian) Weeds Conferences. CAWS is also contemplating putting all the papers presented at past conferences on its website, and also the contents of the journal *Plant Protection Quarterly* ([http://www.weedinfo.com.au/ppq\\_subs.html](http://www.weedinfo.com.au/ppq_subs.html)).

CAWS has rewritten its constitution to accommodate our Society, and the final merger awaits approval from the Council's lawyers. Many other New Zealand Societies have comparable arrangements with Australian groups, and this brings weeds into line with them.

We've also taken the bold step of suggesting that New Zealand host the 17<sup>th</sup> Australasian Weeds Conference (technically probably only the second: Brisbane will be host city for the 1<sup>st</sup> – or 16<sup>th</sup> - in 2008). We've asked the Biosecurity Institute for help with organising that event, since we don't have enough weed scientists left to do it all by ourselves. We're thinking Queenstown and will need lots of help as the time draws closer.

Ian Popay

## Invitation

Dear Colleagues,  
On behalf of the Organising Committee, you are cordially invited to attend and contribute to the

**Eighth International Symposium on Adjuvants for Agrochemicals (ISAA 2007) at the Greater Columbus Convention Centre, Columbus, Ohio, USA, during August 6-2007.**



9,

This symposium on Adjuvants for Agrochemicals is the eighth in a series of international symposia that began in 1986, in Brandon, Manitoba (Canada). Symposia have since been held in Blacksburg, Virginia (USA), Cambridge (UK), Melbourne, (Australia), Memphis, Tennessee (USA), Amsterdam (Netherlands), and most recently in Cape Town (South Africa). ISAA 2007 is intended to provide the most recent knowledge on adjuvant research, development, and application. We also offer you a trade exhibition and excellent facilities for business meetings. A number of social events and tours will complement the scientific program. You can find ISAA 2007 information and all forms on our website [www.isaa-online.org](http://www.isaa-online.org)

**Local contact: J A Zabkiewicz [jaz@ppcnz.co.nz](mailto:jaz@ppcnz.co.nz)**

# International Society of Plant Pathology Online Teaching Symposium: May 15<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

This is a free, online symposium sponsored by the International Society for Plant Pathology Teaching Committee. Each week, papers will be presented accompanied by moderated online discussions.

For the papers, the themes include:

- Learning Theory
- Tools and Technology
- Distance Education/Curricular Issues

There will also be forums exploring the following questions:

- What are the current challenges in teaching plant pathology, and how do we meet them?
- What should every plant pathologist be taught?
- Practical work: How much can "virtual" replace "actual"? Pros and cons?

Registration is free. For more information, visit the website at: <http://www.ispp-teaching-symposium.org>

Terry Stewart

Senior Lecturer in Plant Protection and Chairman, ISPP Committee of Teaching  
Institute of Natural Resources  
Massey University

Telephone +64-6-356-9099 ext 8552 or 7941

## **UPDATE ON THE BIOSECURITY SCIENCE STRATEGY**

**Work on the Biosecurity Science Strategy continues with the planned completion date now extended to allow further consultation with key stakeholders and to ensure alignment with other science initiatives that are underway in New Zealand.**

**The strategy will build on material derived from stakeholder workshops held over the past 12 months as well as previously published material. Opportunity will be provided for stakeholder and public input before the strategy is finalised.**

**Biosecurity New Zealand, in partnership with MoRST, plans to launch the strategy for public consultation at the Biosecurity summit in November this year.**

**For more information please contact the strategic science team at Biosecurity New Zealand, <[melissa.hume@maf.govt.nz](mailto:melissa.hume@maf.govt.nz)>**

***Dr Naomi Parker, Biosecurity NZ***

# Society Matters

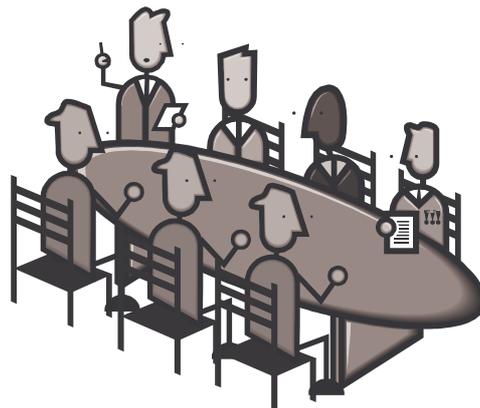
## - What has the committee been doing the last 6 months?

### **PESTICIDE RESISTANCE: Prevention and Management Strategies 2005**

The latest book published by The New Zealand Plant Protection Society is now available from The Secretary, New Zealand Plant Protection Society, c/- Pipfruit NZ, PO Box 11094, Hastings, New Zealand (email: secretary@nzpps.org) at a price of \$35 plus GST and postage.

### **RSNZ opportunity to join at reduced rates**

NZPPS were contacted by the Royal Society of New Zealand to offer members of all Constituent Organisations the opportunity to join the national level of RSNZ as full ordinary members for a reduced rate. This optional extra is to be added onto the NZPPS membership invoices for 2006. The rate will be half of the RSNZ ordinary rate, rounded up to the nearest dollar (i.e. \$38 this year). Reduced options (e.g. for professional or student membership) will not be offered.



### **Alternative or 'Special' paper format**

A draft policy has been written by Sue Zydenbos to deal with non-published presentations at the conference. 'Special papers' relate mainly to presentations by regulatory authorities that summarise their activities but do not contain rigorous scientific data. The policy will be finalised at the next committee meeting and then circulated to members.

### **Abstracts and Posters statistics for 2006 conference**

- 79 abstracts were received which is similar to the last few years. Generally 73% of submitted abstracts are published – the remainder being withdrawn or not accepted.
- Most of the papers came from Crown Research Institutes with 22 from AgResearch, 22 from HortResearch, 13 from Crop & Food, 7 from Lincoln University, 3 from Massey University, 2 from Ensis, and the remainder from other organisations.
- The percentage of papers representing various disciplines include: Insects 52%, Pathogens 25%, Weeds 19% etc

### **NZPPS Website**

NZPPS Website Editor, John Kean is currently on a mission to digitise the back catalogue (volumes 1 to 48) of NZPP.

### **CAWS**

NZPPS is nearly a member of Council of Australasian Weed Societies. The modified constitution is awaiting checking by lawyers and if they say it's OK, then we're in! Ian Popay has suggested that NZPPS host the Australasian Weeds Conference in 2010.

### **Replacement for Secretary**

Sonja Reid will resign as Secretary of the Society in August 2006 due to other work commitments. See the advertisement for Secretary in this publication.

### **NZPPS 60th 'Birthday' in 2007**

The committee is considering ways of celebrate the Society's 60th anniversary in 2007. Let a committee member know if you have any good ideas.

### **First Presenter Competition (to be called "inexperienced speakers presenting for the first time at NZPPS")**

*Toni Withers has put a draft plan in place for the 'Inexperienced Speaker' competition and this will be finalised at the June committee meeting. Presenters considered for this competition can have spoken at other conferences, but not an NZPPS conference. Judges will fill out an assessment sheet as feedback for the speaker. Points will be allocated based on competition criteria.*

*Corresponding authors will be made aware of this competition and will be invited to enter if they meet the criteria*

### **Evaluation of Journal for Scientific Impact**

*The committee considered the effects that a rating could have on the NZPP journal and decided that it would be worth going ahead with the rating process. A motion was passed and the journal has been sent to Thompson Scientific for its first rating of scientific impact.*

### **Pesticide Resistance Committee**

NZPPS have moved forward on the development of a Pesticide Resistance Committee to deal with issues in this area as they arise. They have been given initial support from Agcarm and MAF SFF and a meeting of interested parties will be held in Auckland in the next month

## **Situations Vacant**

### **Secretary for NZ Plant Protection Society**

***Are you passionate about Plant Protection in New Zealand? Are you organised and enjoy dealing with people??***

Due to other work commitments Sonja has decided to resign as Secretary of the Society effective from August this year so we are looking for a member of the Society to take over this role and are now welcoming enquiries.

The role comprises a range of secretarial functions which are varied in type and time involvement throughout the year.

Activities include attending to the day-to-day administrative activities of the Society by attending to:

- Membership enquiries
- Attending to membership activities
- Executive Committee administration
- Conference administration
- Book sales

To register your interest please contact: Philippa Stevens, NZPPS President ([pstevens@hortresearch.co.nz](mailto:pstevens@hortresearch.co.nz)) or for more information on the role of Secretary please contact Sonja Reid ([secretary@nzpps.org](mailto:secretary@nzpps.org)).

## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

An extremely rare but toxic weed found growing in two paddocks near Tauranga has sparked a region-wide search and a call for help by Environment Bay of Plenty. Until now, Noogoora bur (*Xanthium strumarium*) was thought practically eradicated in New Zealand. The plant, with its clingy hooked burs, has only had two officially recorded infestations over the past few decades, in Matamata and north of Wellington. It has never been found in the Bay of Plenty before.

Environment Bay of Plenty staff are now investigating two independent infestations discovered in the same week but located several kilometres apart.

Pest plant coordinator John Mather says the weed must not be allowed to take hold in the Bay of Plenty. "We are asking people to look out for it and call us if they think they've seen this plant," he says.

Noogoora bur is an erect, summer growing annual that usually grows to about one and a half metres high, though it can grow to three metres high. It can grow as a plant with an erect single stem or as a much-branched spreading plant. It has a different leaf shape and grows far higher than the relatively common Bathurst bur. At seedling stage, its leaves are toxic to most livestock. It can cause contact allergy and dermatitis to both humans and animals.

A Papamoa maize grower reported the first incident early in April. He wanted advice on a difficult to control weed scattered through his 4ha maize field, Mr Mather says. The grower initially thought it was the closely related Bathurst bur. That same week, regional council staff discovered a smaller infestation of 12 plants alongside another maize field in Bethlehem.

Environment Bay of Plenty staff immediately implemented a management plan, inspecting adjacent properties and nearby drains at both locations. They hand-removed and incinerated the Bethlehem plants and are now doing the same for those growing at the larger site. Mr Mather has also tracked the maize harvested from both fields to ensure the weed does not spread further. This work has involved Environment Waikato, which will inspect a maize company depot near Hamilton as well as their local landfill. "It is vital that we do not allow this weed to get away from us," Mr Mather says.

Mr Mather says the infestations involve different maize growers and appear to be unrelated. "It has been a very unusual coincidence. We will also investigate the source of the maize seed, especially that imported from overseas." He asks people who may have seen Noogoora bur to call him on 0800 ENV BOP (368 267).



*Old pathologists never die .....*



Photo – R. Lamberts, C&F Research

Seen outside the new “Harvey Smith” Plant Protection Building at Lincoln, opened by the Hon. Helen Clarke on 23 March 2006. From left to right – Richard Falloon, Ron Close, Ian Harvey, Harvey Smith and Pim Sanderson. All are still active in the plant protection profession in one way or other.

***THE NEW ZEALAND BIOSECURITY INSTITUTE INC*** invites  
you to the National Education and training Seminar (NETS) for 2006  
at the Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Bay of Islands – July 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> 2006.

### **“B Specific”**

Biosecurity at the heart of the South Pacific

*This is an opportunity to join us for three days of exciting discussion, workshops, presentations, field trips and a fantastic forum for interacting with national and international biosecurity representatives.*

For further information, contact –

Shikhinah Event Management

Ph. 021 392 599 Fax 09 459 5250

[melmiller@xtra.co.nz](mailto:melmiller@xtra.co.nz) or [katebell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:katebell@xtra.co.nz)

OR

Ken Massey (NETS 2006 Committee Chair)

Ph. 09 438 4639; Email – [kenm@nrc.govt.nz](mailto:kenm@nrc.govt.nz)

## ***THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALASIAN SOILBORNE DISEASE SYMPOSIUM***

Millennium Hotel, Queenstown, NZ, 3 – 6 September 2006

Visit – [www.asds.org.nz](http://www.asds.org.nz)

Or contact – [info@asds2006.org.nz](mailto:info@asds2006.org.nz)



# Website news

Since December 2005 I have been working hard on getting all of the back-issues of NZ Plant Protection and its predecessor journals scanned, pdf'ed and mounted on the website. The good news is that now it is completed! Visitors to the NZPPS website (<http://www.nzpps.org>) can now view and download any paper from any conference, right back to volume 1 in 1948! All papers are now available as pdfs for your viewing pleasure. Making this entire back catalogue available has been a huge undertaking, and would not have been possible without the generous assistance of Steve Pawson (Ensis) and helpers, who undertook the scanning of around 12000 pages of text and graphics. Thanks Steve!



**John Kean, Website editor**

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## 59<sup>th</sup> New Zealand Plant Protection Conference Tuesday, 8 - Thursday, 10 August 2006

Relax in sunny Marlborough and enjoy the chance to interact with your colleagues in Blenheim. Just a few minutes drive from the airport and 25 minutes from Picton, Blenheim township contains quality accommodation, restaurants and bars with world renown wineries only minutes away.

### Venues

The 2006 conference will be held in Marlborough making use of the Marlborough Centre



<http://www.marlboroughcentre.com/Default.asp?page=13>) On Tuesday and Wednesday.

On Thursday buses will be provided to visit the Montana Brancott Winery (<http://www.adwnz.com/Pages/wineries/brancott.html>) which will be the venue for the third day of presentations and will provide an opportunity of tasting and tour of the winery at the end of the session if desired.

### Accommodation

Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel will be the venue for the Conference dinner and is only a few minutes walk from the Marlborough Centre. The Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel is offering a special rate to those attending the conference of \$125.00 per room. This is based on single, twin share or double occupancy. This rate is GST inclusive. To receive the special rate please quote the following room reference number 150 345 86 when booking. The Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel are able to offer 54 rooms for the nights of the conference. Further rooms required will be accommodated at neighbouring motels. For more information on the Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel visit <http://www.scenic-circle.co.nz> and select Blenheim.

The Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel will also offer a special breakfast deal of \$16.00 per person. This includes continental and full cooked.

### Parking

Council parking is available directly north of the Marlborough Centre but most people attending the conference should be able to walk few minutes from the accommodation. A large car park is available at the Montana Brancott winery.

## Conference

More information about Marlborough and Blenheim can be found at destination Marlborough (<http://www.destinationmarlborough.com/Home> ).

If you have other questions contact Dion Mundy at [dmundy@hortresearch.co.nz](mailto:dmundy@hortresearch.co.nz)

## **NZIAHS Convention 2006 Napier September 5-7** **Call for papers**

Tuesday 5 September? Forum Day entitled "Good for Growing",  
Where we will attempt to grapple with some of the issues raised by  
Morgan Williams' Growing for Good.

We now ask for abstracts of papers for scientific sessions on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>  
September.  
These papers can obviously follow the theme of the Forum but e also invite you to submit papers  
on any innovative research topics.

Please send abstracts to John Palmer at HortResearch  
[jpalm@hortresearch.co.nz](mailto:jpalm@hortresearch.co.nz) by Friday 2nd June 2006

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