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Editorial – Trevor James

Senior Scientist (Pest & Weed Management, AgResearch)

Apologies for the lateness of this newsletter but work schedules and redundancies have taken their toll on committee members.

Let's not forget biosecurity!

The more mobile pests, insects and diseases, tend to get maximum focus when it comes to biosecurity. However, let's not forget the more docile unwanted immigrants – weeds. These also appear to be difficult to keep out, with a few important weeds sneaking across our borders in recent years. Among the more significant is *Abutilon theophrasti* (velvet leaf in USA and butter print in NZ). Velvet leaf is the worst broadleaf weed in maize and soya bean in USA and is also a problem weed in Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa. Originally from Asia, it is used for its jute-like fibre, and as an herbal remedy, the seed is eaten in China and Kashmir. It was introduced to North America in the 18th century from China and has now become one of the foremost broadleaf weeds there. If uncontrolled, it reduces yields by up to 34% and costs the industry hundreds of millions of dollars in control and damage.

The first record of it in NZ was when MAF imported it as a species for evaluation as a fibre producer, but since then it has been accidentally imported with soya bean seed and as a contaminant of other grains – all in SI. Currently, there are three confirmed infestations around Waikato – incursion pathways unknown!

Velvet leaf has large, velvety soft leaves that are clammy to touch and have a musky odour. The buttery coloured flowers only open for a few hours during the hottest part of the day. It has distinctive seed pods containing about 40 large, hard black seeds. It is a summer growing annual plant which has the ability to germinate throughout the warmer months. Growing to 3 m tall, its biological and ecological characteristics make it particularly competitive and persistent in cultivated fields. Herbicide control is difficult and once established, it is almost impossible to avoid seed production. The economic threshold in maize is reported to be between 0.3 and 1.7 plants /m².

Also ... remember that a multitude of new weed species was accidentally introduced with coco peat into the plant nursery industry some five years ago? Well, they are turning up again, which indicates that the import standards are possibly not being enforced or are themselves at fault.

This brings me to the real point of this editorial, which is not our border biosecurity but internal biosecurity and the role of our Society members in this. Researchers are in a prime position to be potential culprits in this area as they:

- Are frequently around or inspect new weeds and pests
- Move between a number of susceptible sites, often long distances apart
- Are frequently in a hurry and don't apply the maxim of due diligence!

So let's all be sure that in the course of our regular work we don't spread weeds and pests and certainly not into areas that don't have them.

New Zealand Plant Protection Society Conference 2012

Rutherford Hotel, Nelson

NZ Plant Protection Symposium
Monday, 13 August 2012

The latest on PSA
(*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*)

If you would like to submit an abstract for the symposium please do so to Joel Vanneste before April 15. Joel.Vanneste@plantandfood.co.nz

Join us for what is shaping up to be an excellent symposium on a topical subject



PSA-V damage



Abutilon theophrasti, flower, seed pod and in maize crop

NZ Plant Protection Conference 2012

Tuesday 14 – Thursday 16 August



A draft conference programme is expected to be on the Society website about 15 June.

<http://www.nzpps.org/index.php>

The Rutherford Hotel offers the following for NZPPS delegates.

Bed & breakfast rate of \$220.00 inc GST (non commissionable), this is a rate based on twin share and includes 2 x fully cooked breakfasts, or room only \$180.00 inc GST per room per night.

New conference feature Professional Development

Last year the NZPPS exec analysed the membership profile of NZPPS and were not surprised to discover that the majority of our members had been members for nine or more years. This started us thinking about what we could do to add value to those members that were well established in their research careers. One initiative is to offer some professional development at the conference. We received several suggestions for courses and this year we are introducing concurrent sessions on the Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning of the conference. The structure of the concurrent sessions will be two lectures/workshops repeated each day so that you don't miss a favourite session (or the one you are presenting in). This year we are very pleased to announce that Dr Naomi Cogger from the Massey University EpiCentre will be providing these lectures. We are still developing the course content but are planning one introductory lecture on epidemiology theory in study design and a second more advanced lecture possibly on risk analysis, sampling or data management. **Watch this space...** Karyn Froud, NZPPS President.

From the Editor – March 2012



It has certainly been an unusual year for those of us based in Canterbury. The earthquakes have had an incredibly disruptive effect on our lives and I particularly want to recognise our printer, The Caxton Press, who is based in the Christchurch CBD and went to extraordinary lengths to ensure the journal was produced on schedule. This wasn't helped by the major Christchurch snowfall in the last week of the printing/binding process. I will always remember having the Managing Director help me load the journals into the car in freezing temperatures and then carefully making my way back home on the icy roads with this very heavy load!

Paper numbers were similar to last year – 62 abstracts submitted and 42 papers published. Again there were four papers rejected for various reasons. I think it is important to publicise this fact so that people are aware that they must put significant thought and effort into the preparation of their papers. The papers that have not been rigorously reviewed internally are very obvious and they take significantly longer to move through the editorial process. The number of pages per paper continues to increase – reaching 6.7 this year. To me this indicates that authors are submitting more detailed papers now, which is an encouraging statistic for the journal. The pdf files have been loaded on the website and the four changes made post-publication are indicated elsewhere in this newsletter.

There has been a lot of positive feedback about the new journal format and I really like the new photos on the front cover. In addition it is great that two authors have decided to publish colour photos as part of their papers – at their own cost. If you wish to do this, then all you need to do is ask me and I will request a quotation for the additional cost from the printer. Note that candidate photos for the cover spots for Volume 65 should be sent to me before 15 May. Also, please remember that, while I work for AgResearch, my role as NZPP Editor is completely outside this position. Therefore, all emails should be directed to editor@nzpps.org (it is helpful to set up an email address called “NZPP Editor” that doesn't use my name) and I would prefer that any discussions about papers are done outside my work hours. Also please remember to use the assigned paper number in all correspondence – it is really helpful if this is in the “Subject” line of the email.

As many of you will know the website editor, John Kean, and I implemented an online submission system for abstracts in February 2012. Abstracts were automatically logged and given a number, and authors received a response to say the abstract had been received. John and I are very pleased with how well this worked and we are now developing the next step – which is online submission of papers. Please note that there is now a NZPP template loaded on the website and authors should use this to prepare their papers. Papers will be submitted to the website and they will then be forwarded on to the referee(s) – authors will no longer have to carry out this step. This means that refereeing can now be done anonymously. I will collate the referee(s) responses and add my own comments and then forward the paper to authors as usual. Please remember that – unless the abstract does not fit within the scope of the journal – a full paper is expected for oral presentations and this should be submitted by 15 April (or 15 May if you have requested the later date). Don't wait until you have been notified before you start preparing the paper.

I would like to thank the committee for their support this year, and particularly want to acknowledge all of the referees for their timely and impartial evaluations. Lastly – but certainly not least – thanks to my wonderful family for their support during that very hectic April-June period.

Sue Zydenbos

Impact Factor

The executive is still working on obtaining an Impact Factor for the journal so please help us by citing as many NZPP papers as you can.



New Zealand Plant Protection Medal



During the annual dinner of the 64th conference at Rotorua, Dr Jim Walker was awarded the NZPP Medal for 2011.

Dr Walker, who works with Plant & Food Research in Havelock North, was recognised for his significant contribution to plant protection during a 30-year career.

Reflecting on his work, Jim says he is most proud of having helped reduced pesticide use in fruit production.

He leads a team of researchers from Plant & Food. Research focused on developing innovative tools and techniques for managing pests and diseases affecting the New Zealand horticultural industry.

His work includes developing and supporting the implementation of Integrated Fruit Production (IFP) programmes, which reduce reliance on pesticides.

During a five-year period in the 1990s, Jim led the whole pipfruit sector to switch from a calendar-based pest and disease management programme to one modelled around monitoring and thresholds for making spray decisions and use of new, selective products.

He regularly acts as a scientific advisor on phytosanitary issues to support New Zealand's case in market access negotiations with overseas countries. Recently he served as a technical expert on the New Zealand team that went to the World Trade Organisation in Switzerland to successfully argue that Australia should allow the import of New Zealand apples.

He has also written or co-authored approximately 60 scientific papers and more than 100 articles, industry manuals and sector reports.

Jim's current interests include a focus on developing tools such as computer software to analyse industry-wide databases – for traceability and to manage environmental risks from sprays.

He has also provided crucial guidance for the application of IFP to other sectors including wine grapes, summerfruit, citrus and onions.

Jim stands out as a researcher who is keen to transfer science to being useful in the orchard. He presents his research in a very accessible way at conferences, grower meetings and technical workshops.



Dr Jim Walker receiving the NZPP Medal from Society president Karyn Froud

If you would like to honour someone who has made an exceptional contribution to plant protection, consider nominating them for this medal. The medal is awarded for outstanding services to plant protection, whether through research, education, implementation or leadership.

Nominations close on 1 July.

Criteria:

- Nominees do not necessarily have to be members of New Zealand Plant Protection Society. However, those nominating anyone **MUST** be a member of the New Zealand Plant Protection Society.
- Each nomination must include a seconder, who should also be a member of New Zealand Plant Protection Society.
- Nominees would normally be expected to be living in New Zealand, but people living overseas with strong New Zealand connections will also be eligible.

Nomination forms available at www.nzpps.org. Please send your nominations to; The Secretary, New Zealand Plant Protection Society, Private Bag 4749, Christchurch 8140.

The NZPPS Research Scholarship for 2011 was awarded to Matthew Denton-Giles for his study on Camellia flower blight resistance. Matthew is studying for a PhD at Massey University.

The host specific fungal pathogen *Ciborinia camelliae* has become the most significant pest of camellia plants since its accidental introduction in the 1990's. Recent research suggests that genetic resistance to the pathogen exists within the *Camellia* genus. Matthew's research will focus on identifying and exploiting the properties of naturally occurring resistance genes in order to prevent infection of camellia blooms.



The Dan Watkins scholarship for weeds was not awarded this year

Unfortunately, the scholarship sub-committee did not receive a suitable applicant to meet the criteria of the scholarship this year.

Membership and conference fees.....

Following discussion at the last General Meeting, the executive has set the annual membership fee to \$85 as there was good support for the increase.

Also, commencing with the 2012 conference, the cost for non-members attending the conference will be more than that for members, and only members will receive a copy of the journal. That is, if a non-member attends the conference and wants a copy of NZPP then they must become a member of the Society or purchase the Journal through Manaki Whenua.

At the August General Meeting you elected Dr Kirstin Wurms to the executive. As she has not served in this capacity previously, we asked her to introduce herself.

I have been working at Plant&Food Research (formerly HortResearch), Ruakura for 13 years. My research interests are plant defence mechanisms against disease, and use of natural products to reduce or replace the use of synthetic pesticides. As the newest member of the executive, I hope to bring a fresh perspective and to further raise the profile of the Society and plant protection science in general. With two young children (aged 6 and 3), and a husband whose work often takes him out of town, life is very busy, but in my spare time I like to hang out with friends, go to the gym and walk my Dalmatian dog.



..... and online payment

For the first time last year the NZPPS website allowed you to pay your annual membership and conference fees securely online using your credit card. Unfortunately the Paymex system we used was too cost effective for the banks to stomach so they withdrew all credit to Paymex, effectively putting them out of business! So this year to provide the same level of service to our members we have opted to purchase a similar service from our regular bankers. Hopefully, this will be fully implemented by the time conference registration fees are set.

New Zealand Committee on Pesticide Resistance (NZCPR) meeting

Pesticide Resistance Management update

A meeting of the New Zealand Committee on Pesticide Resistance (NZCPR) was held during the last conference (10th August 2011, NZ Plant Protection Conference, Distinction Hotel, Rotorua). The meeting was attended by Dr Rob Beresford (Chairman), George Follas (NZPPS member), Grant Haggerty (lead Fungicide task group), Dr Kerry Harrington (lead Herbicide task group). Dr Bruce Chapman (lead Insecticide task group) was unable to attend. The key points coming out of the meeting were:

1. A new strategy for SDHI fungicides was presented at the conference. See the paper in the 64th New Zealand Plant Protection Journal.
2. Update on the Mode of Action (MOA) charts. These will be checked to ensure that new actives have been included. Each task group chairman Herbicide, Insecticide, Fungicide is responsible for this. These will appear on the NZPPS website when completed.
3. Discussion was held on the need to make access to the strategies on the website easier. One approach is to separate out PDF's.
4. Fungicide resistance in pomefruit was reviewed. Testing/Survey is being undertaken in apples as part of a research program – Plant & Food Research and Pipfruit NZ.
5. The use of MOA codes and group numbers on labels with relevant statements was discussed. The Committee will strongly encourage companies and the New Zealand Regulators to ensure this information is on product labels. There are a number of products now in the New Zealand market with this information and it is increasing.
6. The Committee felt that there needs to be increased efforts to collate information from a wide range of sources on ongoing resistance management, monitoring and findings. If you have insights, findings or research results

that are in this area please share it with the task group Chairs listed above.

7. Psyllid resistance management strategy was identified as a gap and work needs to be undertaken to prepare a strategy.

The herbicide task group met separately and. Dr Kerry Harrington reported.

The main activity in recent times has been to try getting pesticide groups listed on the labels of all pesticides so that this can be used to help guide farmers and growers to rotate between pesticide groups as part of their spray programme. AGCARM have been helping us push the case to ACVM to get this as a mandatory requirement on all labels. At present, ACVM have decided that this should simply be optional for companies to put information about resistance management on their labels. We are going to write to ACVM asking that they consider supporting this recommendation, and perhaps even make it more mandatory than suggested in this wording.

As head of the Herbicide Resistance group, Dr Harrington will collect information on new cases of herbicide resistance that are being noticed in the field within New Zealand.

Errata for NZPP Vol. 64 (2011)

Changes may be made to papers and poster abstracts that have been published in the hard copy of *New Zealand Plant Protection*. These changes are made to the .pdf file and the altered versions are available on the website (www.nzpps.org). A hardcopy "Errata List" is not printed, apart from in the December issue of the New Zealand Plant Protection Society newsletter. If in doubt about the contents of a printed paper – remember that the website always has the most recent version of a paper.

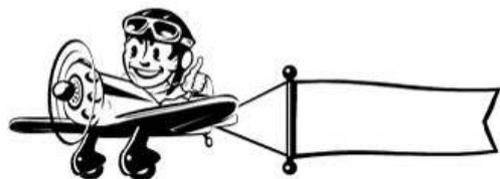
There were four corrections for Volume 64:

- p. 20 – In Table 2, 2nd column: align data in the "Selkirk" row (6th from bottom).
- p. 98 – Table 3, in the last column (% foliage infested): data for the Kerikeri 1 and Kerikeri 2 groups should be exchanged.
- p. 252 – some words in the title need to be italicised. It should read: **Presence of the effector gene *hopA1* in strains of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* isolated from France and Italy.**
- p. 295 – to the LIFE MEMBERS list add.

J.A. Zabkiewicz, Elected 2010

Ad for Ads

Members of the NZPPS represent a broad group of individuals and companies interested in furthering plant protection research. If you are interested in placing an advert to reach our membership then please read the advertising guidelines below. Advertisements can be sent to the secretary (secretary@nzpps.org).



NZPPS Newsletter Advertising Policy

Scope:

To outline the requirements and policy for allowing individuals or organisations to advertise for direct commercial gain in the NZPPSoc newsletter. It does not cover notifications for non commercial items such as scholarships, post doc fellowships or voluntary positions.

Rationale:

To provide an opportunity for members to communicate advertisements to other members.

Requirements:

1. Maximum size of 52 cm² (e.g. 80 [w] × 65 [d] mm).
2. The purchase of more than one 52 cm² for a single advertisement is at the discretion of the Exec Committee.
3. Advertisers must be fully paid individual or corporate members at the time of the publication.
4. Advertisements must fit the overall needs and aims of the membership.
5. Advertisements cannot contravene any other policies or constitution of the society.
6. Advertisements should be received by the end of the month preceding (30th April or 31st Nov.) the month the newsletter is published.
7. Cost: \$50 per add space (52 cm²) per issue. Payable upon receipt of invoice.
8. Final decision on inclusion qualification and content rests with the newsletter editor acting for the NZPPS Executive Committee.

BOOKS FOR SALE



NZPPS Title	Date	\$
An Illustrated Guide to Common Weeds of NZ (3rd edition)	2010	\$ 59.99
Paddock to PCR: demystifying molecular technologies for practical plant protection (<i>The 2010 pre-conference symposium proceedings</i>)	2011	\$ 39.95
Microbial Products: Exploiting Microbial Diversity for Sustainable Plant Production	2010	\$ 39.95
Surveillance for Biosecurity: pre-border to pest management	2008	\$ 39.95
Future challenges in crop protection: repositioning NZ's primary industries for the future	2008	\$ 39.95
Pesticide resistance: prevention and management strategies 2005	2005	\$ 39.50
Defending the green oasis: New Zealand biosecurity and science	2000	\$ 35.00
Plant protection challenges in organic production	2001	\$ 30.00
Managing urban weeds and pests	2000	\$ 40.00
Plant Protection: Costs, Benefits and Trade Implications	1993	\$ 39.00

All publications, as well as back issues of *New Zealand Plant Protection* and most *Conference Proceeding*, are available from:

Manaaki Whenua Press, PO Box 40, Lincoln, Canterbury, New Zealand
(MWPRESS@landcareresearch.co.nz).

Note- New Zealand Plant Protection Society members receive a discount provided they identify themselves as members at the time of ordering.

NZPPS Sustaining Members

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Future conferences

This year's Entomological Society conference 17-20 April 2012, Whangarei

<http://ento.org.nz/conference/>

NETS Pests in our Dynamic Landscapes (NZBiosecurity Institute Conference) 17-19 July, Wairakei Resort, Taupo

<http://biosecurity.org.nz/nets/next-nets/>

The 6th International Symposium on the Biology and Ecology of Gall Inducing Arthropods and related Endophytes 4-8 August 2013 O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, Queensland, Australia

<http://6isbegia.org>

The VIth International Weed Science Congress, 17-22 June, Hangzhou, China

<http://www.iwss.info/>

18th Australasian Weeds Conference, 8-11 October 2012, Melbourne

<http://www.18awc.com/>

43rd Australian Entomological Society and 2012 Australasian Arachnological Society Conference 25-28 November 2012, Centre for Arts, University of Tasmania, Hobart

<http://www.cdesign.com.au/aes2012/index.html>

Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge International Conference, 18-22 February 2013, Perth

<http://www.herbicideresistanceconference.com.au/>