



ISPP

International Society for Plant Pathology

(Professor Richard Falloon, President)



Report to ISPP from an Associated Society for 2003-2008.

Name of Society. American Phytopathological Society. (APS) **Established:** 30 December, 1908

Web address for Society. www.apsnet.org

Name of personnel preparing report. Danise Beadle – Secretary

Nominated Officers. Is the list on the ISPP website correct? Yes/~~No~~

(If Yes there is no need to list them here. If listing is not correct, please list here President, Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager/Office and ISPP councillors (address, telephone and email contacts).

Will a Society member be making corrections to the ISPP entry for your society on-line? Yes/~~No~~

Society Contact: Steve Nelson, Executive Vice President Email snelson@scisoc.org

Society membership. 4780 members in 2006; 4830 members in 2007; 5232 members in 2008.

Report for 2003-2008.

- APS is an international scientific organization devoted to the study of plant diseases and their control. APS advances modern concepts in plant health management in agricultural, urban and forest settings. The Society was founded in 1908 and has grown from 130 charter members to more than 5,000 plant pathologists and scientists worldwide. APS provides information on the latest developments and research advances in plant health science through its journals and its publishing arm, APS PRESS. APS advocates and participates in the exchange of plant health information with public policy makers, and the larger scientific community; and provides opportunities for scientific communication, collaboration, and professional development.
- Society publications include the journals, [Phytopathology](#), [Plant Disease](#), and [Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions](#), [Plant Management Network](#), an online cooperative resource for the applied plant sciences, features peer-reviewed citable journals and an extensive searchable database. One member journal includes, *Plant Health Progress*, a multidisciplinary science-based journal covering all aspects of applied plant health management in agriculture and horticulture and another is *PDMR- Plant Disease Management Reports* representing the combination of two on-line publications, Fungicide and Nematicide Tests and Biological and Cultural Tests. Finally, *The Plant Health Instructor* is a journal of peer-reviewed instructional materials and teaching scholarship for plant pathology and closely related disciplines. In addition to the above, APS PRESS has over 250 plant science titles available.
- APS holds one national meeting annually ([Annual Meetings](#)), with regional meetings occurring through the six divisions (Northeast, Potomac, North Central, Pacific, Southern and Caribbean). Past joint meetings have included 2006 with the Canadian Phytopathological Society and Mycology Society of America, 2007 with the Society of Nematology.
- *Society Conferences and Workshops* In addition to those occurring at the annual meetings, reference annual meeting program highlights for further detail, APS endorses multiple workshops, symposia and on-line events in various venues. Examples include the National Soybean Rust Symposium (2005, 2006, 2007), [Methods to Detect Microbes and Microbial Diversity in Soil](#) (2005) and [Sudden Oak Death Workshop](#) (2003).

Plant Pathology in the Region Served by the Society

Following the guidelines of the societal Strategic Plan ([APS Strategic Plan](#)), priorities are formed and actions/directives forwarded to the specific Boards and Offices of APS. Examples of some of the recent accomplishments and future directives include,

- APS Journals -increased access–Atypon, electronic consolidator, active–Back-issues of APS journals are now online.
- Plant Management Network -Joined AGORA: subscription content free to institutions in countries with developing economies.
- Future of Plant Pathology Education – Based on results from the ad-hoc committees, Future of Education in Plant Pathology and the Profession of Plant Path: Status & Future Prospects, APS will hold a national workshop to bring together educators, governmental leaders, employers, and students to: Enhance understanding of the current status of plant pathology education and the future needs for plant pathologists in the US, Identify strategies for strengthening plant pathology education and research training opportunities, and Develop action plans for carrying out the proposed strategies.
- Food safety. With increased concern about contamination of plant foods by human pathogens, the Public Policy Board of APS is planning for a national workshop to bring together plant pathologists and food scientists and to develop a coordinated strategy for addressing this critical need.
- International Outreach – through the Office of International Programs, the Library Assistance Program, the International Service Award, the JANE Award, the International Travel Fund, and APS Group Memberships continue to expand. The newest initiative is the **OIP Global Experience** which helps young plant pathologists work with scientists and extension personnel in developing countries in training and outreach efforts.
- APS-ISF Collaboration on the Codification of Pathogen Races / Strains Commonly Used in the Seed Industry – through the work of this ad-hoc committee a set of priorities and objectives related to establishing a set of standardized guidelines on the codification of races and strains of plant pathogens of interest to the seed industry are being developed that could be readily adopted as well as provide a potential mechanism for maintaining and long-term storage of pathogen reference cultures and/or seeds of host plant differentials .
- Workshop on Culture Collections: Ensuring the Availability of Essential Research Resources for Plant Associated Microbes initial meeting 2007, international meeting in development.
- Permitting - APS and USDA-APHIS worked together to identify and implement mechanisms for streamlining and increasing the effectiveness of the permitting system. The creation of the ePermit system, the formation of an Advisory Board on Permitting, and the development of Widely Prevalent Pathogen Lists for each state are examples of successful initiatives. Current discussions relate to the development of a pathogen risk system that would facilitate interstate movement of pathogens and regulatory changes within PPQ.
- International Societal Collaborations - APS in an effort to enhance member value and maximize interactions co-signed with the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology a cooperative agreement for joint membership in May of 2007. Symposia exchange at annual meetings, feature articles for newsletters, as well as publication of articles in either journal at membership rates were some of the original points of agreement. From this initial model, APS formed an ad-hoc committee charged with developing a protocol whereby APS can evaluate potential collaborations with other societies in terms of both

reciprocal member value and appropriateness of any special benefits afforded to one society or the other.

- APS-USDA Biosecurity Workshop 2007 - APS and the USDA collaborated again to host a very successful workshop, focused on issues related to the National Plant Disease Recovery System (NPDRS). The purpose of the workshop was to bring together representatives of the various agencies of the USDA, scientists from land-grant universities, and representatives of industry to review completed drafts of three plant disease recovery plans, to identify additional high-consequence diseases for which plans should be developed, and to discuss related topics, such as the definition of “recovery” and the role of forensics in recovery plans.
- Meeting of Americas - The Mexican Phytopathology Society (MFS) has offered to be the host site for the MOA. This proposed joint meeting of the Plant Pathology Societies within the Americas is planned for spring/summer of 2010.
- APS will host IPCC (International Plant Protection Convention) at its annual meeting in 2011 (Honolulu, HI).