



International Society for Plant Pathology

(Professor Lodovica Gullino, President)

ISPP

July 2013 Committee Report to the ISPP Executive and Council Committee on the (Committee on the Taxonomy of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria)

Subject Matter Committee: Committee on the Taxonomy of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria (CTPPB)

Established: 1982 (initially under the auspices of the Bacteriology Committee)
http://www.isppweb.org/about_tppb_history.asp

Web address for SMC: www.isppweb.org/about_tppb.asp

Name of personnel preparing report. Carolee T. Bull Convener, CTPPB

Nominated Officers:

We have no officers for the committee though Dr. Bull serves as the Convener.

Current membership

- **C.T. Bull** (Convener), US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Salinas, California, USA
- **T.A. Coutinho**, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa
- **T.P. Denny**, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia USA
- **G. Firrao**, Udine University, Udine, Italy
- **M. Fischer-Le Saux**, Institut National De La Recherche Agronomique, Beaucouze Cedex, France
- **X. Li**, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada; G.S. Saddler, Scottish Agricultural Science Agency, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
- **M. Scortichini**, Istituto Sperimentale per la Frutticoltura, Roma, Italy
- **D.E. Stead**, Food and Environment Research Agency, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, York, UK
- **Y. Takikawa**, Shizuoka University, Shizuoka, Japan

We announced the retirement of the esteemed Dr. Solke DeBoer from the committee in the May 2012 ISPP Newsletter. At the announcement of Dr. DeBoer's retirement, CVs were collected from potential new committee members. The committee reviewed the candidates and selected two new members in anticipation of additional retirements. We announced the appointment of Drs. Teresa Coutinho and Sean Li onto the committee in the September, 2012 ISPP Newsletter. We will be looking for at least one additional member for the committee in the coming year and are hoping to continue to increase diversity in nationality, race, and geographic location.

Committee Meetings:

The Committee last formally met at the 24th International Congress of Plant Pathology in Torino, Italy August 2008. Members attending: C.T. Bull, G. Firrao, G.S. Saddler, Y. Takikawa. The agenda for the meeting is available on the CTPPB website.

The CTPPB will hold two meetings at the 25th International Congress of Plant Pathology in Beijing, China. The first meeting will be a closed meeting of just committee members and the second meeting will be an open meeting directly after the special session on bacterial taxonomy. The proposed agenda for the closed CTPPB business meeting is provided under Focus Issues.

The vast majority of committee business is done via electronic communications.

Committee Activities:

Publications:

- C T Bull, S H De Boer, T P Denny, G Firrao, M Fischer-Le Saux, G S Saddler, M Scortichini, D E Stead, Y Takikawa. (2012) List of New Names of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria (2008-2010) *Journal of Plant Pathology* **94** (1), 21-27. See: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4454/jpp.fa.2011.003>.
- We are currently working on the next list of names, Bull et al., 2014 List of New Names of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria (2010-2012) and plan to have this publication submitted this fall.
- Developed an efficient strategy for updating the new names list.

Website activities:

- Removed the discussion forum from the website due to inactivity
- Posted links to publications and announcements of changes in committee membership
- Addition of Submit a New Name online form for published names
- Up-dated Historical records to the website

Resources for Committee Members:

- Drs. Bull and Ana Zacaroni (currently of EMBRAPA, Brazil) organized a file of all the manuscripts cited in the comprehensive and new names lists. The files were distributed to all of the committee members. Each committee member now has nearly all the manuscripts cited in the CTPPB publications.

Subject Matter Committee focus issues:

Our focus issues are reflected in the proposed agenda for the closed meeting of the CTPPB.

Proposed agenda for 2013 closed meeting:

The committee will be discussing many issues and deciding on which high priority issues should be taken care of.

1. Potential publications:

- a. New Names 2010-2012

- b. Letters to the editor about type and pathotype strains
 - c. Letters to the editor about nomenclatural confusion between the Code and the standards
 - d. Groups that need significant taxonomic work. Look at the List of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria and determine which groups need significant taxonomic work. Write as a review article.
 - e. Other topics for publication
2. Website issues:
 - a. What shall we do with the defunct Names list on the web
 - b. Shall we have a sub-committee work on developing a new web list
 - c. Reorganization of the website (links to the websites of culture collections, of journals of interest, of sites dealing with bacterial taxonomy, reading lists)
 - d. Develop a list of users to whom we can send information as needed
 - e. Is there a way to promote more interaction between the committee and others through the website? Do we need to?
 3. Committee Function and structure: How shall we proceed to produce our by-laws or constitution? Should we appoint a sub-committee to finish this work. Work on the structure of the committee was initiated in 2000 and advanced in 2006. Is it still the intent of the committee to develop the document?
 - a. Committee Reason d'être or Charge
 - b. Responsibilities of ISPP to the Committee
 - c. Responsibilities and charge of the Committee
 - d. Responsibilities of Committee Members and Convener
 - e. Length of Terms of Committee Members and Convener
 - f. Nomination of New Committee Members (should we nominate additional members upon David and Tim's retirements from the committee)
 - g. Nomination of New Committee Convener
 - h. Do we need a secretary
 - i. Postdoctoral intern for the committee
 - j. Other issues that need to be covered
 4. We have identified that the lack of formal coordination between the Code and the Standards has led to proposals that are not consistent with the intent of scientific nomenclature and hinders communication about plant pathogenic bacteria. The committee needs to decide what action it will take action to remedy this situation.
 5. The committee identified a need to better publicize our existence and function. How shall we accomplish this?
 6. Should we write a how to guide to developing names list? This could help us each time we write these documents and will help new members.
 7. Develop a database with information about all taxa to help explain choices made by the committee
 8. Work on the New Guide to Plant Pathogenic Bacteria. Is this project still moving forward or should we take it on. Many of us contributed to John Young's effort. Does anyone know the status?
 9. Determine agenda for open meeting.

Additional activities

Additional work identified:

Submitted by (**Carolee T. Bull**) (**Convener**),
(US Department of Agriculture, 1636 E Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93905, USA;
Carolee.Bull@ARS.USDA.GOV)