



## International Society for Plant Pathology

Professor Jan Leach, President (2018-2023)

### July 2023 Committee Report to the ISPP Executive and Council ISPP Committee on Forest Pathology

*Please complete your report using this proforma*

Return the completed report by email to Andrea Masino, Business Manager, ISPP ([andrea.masino@unito.it](mailto:andrea.masino@unito.it)) with copy to Khaled Makkouk ([virologist1974@gmail.com](mailto:virologist1974@gmail.com)) by 15 June, 2023

**Subject Matter Committee.** Forest Pathology

**Established:**

**Web address for SMC.** There is no specific website for this SMC although the SMC is very closely linked with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), which maintains a website: <https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70200/>

**Name (s) of personnel preparing report:** Tod Ramsfield, Julio Javier Diez Casero, Irene Barnes

**Nominated Officers:** Leadership to be changed around the time of the ICPP in Lyon.

**Current membership:** Membership is open to any forest pathologist from any country.

**WEBSITE MANAGERS:** This SMC does not have a website.

About the SMC

The Forest Pathology SMC leverages the activities of International Union of Forest Research Organizations Research Group 7.02 – forest pathology. The activities of the research group are inclusive of all forest pathologists globally and all aspects of tree health are studied through the Working Party structure. Each working party is directed by a leadership team that organizes working party meetings and identifies emerging areas within their focus area. Multiple in person and online meetings have occurred over the course of the 2018-2023 period.

**Committee Meetings:** International forest pathology meetings have occurred over the 2018-2023 as follows:

- 2018: First IUFRO WP 7.02.13 meeting “Improving forest health in commercial plantations”, Punta del Este, Uruguay, 21 – 23 March 2018.
- 2019: Joint meeting of IUFRO Working Parties “Shoot, foliage, and stem diseases” and “Wilt diseases”, Florence, Italy, 6 – 10 May 2019.
- 2019: IUFRO World Congress, Curitiba, Brazil, 29 September – 5 October 2019
- 2019: 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of IUFRO Working Party 7.02.09 “Phytophthora in forests and natural ecosystems”, La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy, 17 – 25 October 2019.
- 2020: In person meetings cancelled.
- 2021: 5 part tree health webinar series:  
Webinar 1: Tree health resistance to diseases and pests – Interaction with and facilitation by the microbiome:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEjnvqpxk8g&t=15s>  
Webinar 2: Forest health in southern hemisphere commercial plantations:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfHT2P5POBY&t=2427s>  
Webinar 3: Molecular tools for the advancement of research on vascular wilt pathogens: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdVqZt8zWjc>  
Webinar 4: Collaborative approaches to global tree health challenges:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQ48y9UryxQ&t=394s>  
Webinar 5: Updating information on forest diseases and insect pests in the tropics: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbIeOo5A7kI&t=4395s>
- 2022: 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of IUFRO Working Party 7.02.09 “Phytophthora in forests and natural ecosystems”, Berkeley, CA, USA, 19 – 25 June 2022.
- 2022: Foliar, shoot, stem and rust diseases of trees – Forest diseases during global crises, Durham, USA, 26 June – 1 July 2022
- 2022: IUFRO All Division 7 meeting, Lisbon, Portugal, 6 – 9 September 2022
- 2022: 7<sup>th</sup> IUFRO International workshop on the genetics of tree-parasite interaction in forestry understanding forest tree-antagonistic interactions in a changing world. Pontevedra, Galicia, Spain, 12 – 17 September 2022.
- 2023: ICPP: At least 5 sessions chaired by members of the SMC.
- 2023: Joint meeting of IUFRO Working Parties 7.02.12 and 7.02.03 “Novel and classical strategies to manage forest health in plantations”, Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil, 17 – 20 September 2023

**Committee Activities:** Committee members have actively participated in the Global Plant Health assessment, led by Serge Savary. Specifically, the sections on urban trees, oaks, softwood trees and eucalypts were all developed and written by active SMC members. The ICPP 2023 meeting has been well advertised through the forest pathology research group and we expect that a strong contingent of forest pathologists will present their research findings during the congress. A pre-conference field tour has been

organized by Dr. Pascal Frey during which many forest pathologists in attendance will be able to network as well as observe current forest health issues in France.

**Subject Matter Committee focus issues:** The SMC focuses on specific types of forest disease that affect tree roots, stems and leaves, as well as overarching issues such as invasive species, breeding for resistance, plantation diseases, and the social dimensions of forest health.

**Publications:**

Special issue: “Viruses in Forest and Urban Trees and Shrubs” Forests, 2022

Members of the SMC contributed directly to the recent Global Plant Health Assessment led by Serge Savary, specifically in the sections on urban trees, oaks, softwood trees and Eucalypts.

**Additional Comments:** A high level of activity was retained throughout the 5 year period, although meetings were affected by COVID-19 and ensuing travel restrictions. This caused meetings to shift online and multiple webinars were conducted in 2021. These webinars have been retained on YouTube and are available for all (links above).

**Submitted by:** Tod Ramsfield

**Date:** 15 June 2023