



10th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PLANT PATHOLOGY

Bio-security, Food Safety and Plant Pathology:

The Role of Plant Pathology in a Globalized Economy

Sunday 25 - Friday 30 August 2013, Beijing, CHINA

The 10th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP2013) was held at Beijing International Convention Center (BICC), which is near the beautiful Olympic Village, from the 25th to the 30th of August 2013. This Congress also incorporated the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Chinese Society for Plant Pathology (CSPP).

The event attracted 1779 delegates representing 72 countries from around the world, plus more than 100 accompanying persons. There were 2 plenary sessions, 5 keynote sessions, 66 concurrent sessions and 9 evening sessions. 1591 abstracts were received, including 329 from invited lectures at plenary, keynote and concurrent sessions. 196 out of 1262 offered papers were selected as short talks at concurrent sessions.

The congress was held under the High Patronage of the Chinese Association of Science & Technology, and received the Patronage of the National Natural Science Foundation of China and China Agricultural University.

The Congress began with a traditional Chinese welcome ceremony, drum dancing. The performance aims to evict evil spirits and bring good luck and peace. The intense, energetic and rhythmic beats accompanied with the colorful dancing of the drummers brought the audiences both the strong visual and auditory impact. During the opening, the delegates were welcomed by M. Lodovica Gullino, President of the International Society for Plant Pathology, Zhangliang Chen, Vice President of the Chinese Association of Science & Technology, Bingsheng Ke, President of China Agricultural University, Rongxiang Fang, Vice President of ICPP 2013 and You-Liang Peng, Chairperson of ICPP2013. The Congress inaugural address, “Crop genomics and biotechnology: Feeding the billions” was presented by Qifa Zhang, Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Third World Academy of Sciences, Director of the National Key Laboratory of Crop Genetic Improvement, Dean of the College of Life Science and Technology, Huazhong Agricultural University. The Congress then proceeded to offer a busy and exciting range of presentations, which covered all disciplines within the field of plant pathology. Stimulating discussions occurred in all sessions.

This congress was well supported by sponsors. The principal sponsors were China Agricultural University, National Natural Science Foundation of China, Beijing Dabeinong Technology Group Co., Ltd., State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology, Northwest A&F University, State Key Laboratory of Crop Stress Biology for Arid Areas, Hunan Plant Protection Institute, Liaoning Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Zhong Nong Lv Kang (Beijing) Biotech.

Co., Ltd., Beijing Society for Plant Pathology, Beijing University of Agriculture, Qingdao Agricultural University, Huazhong Agricultural University, ISPP and 9th ICPP. Other sponsors included the 973 program of MOST, China, Yunnan Chhi-Min Bio-Engineering Co., Ltd., Bei Nong (Hai Li) Zhuo Zhou Seed Coating Chemical Co., Ltd., Henan Zhongzhou Seed Science Development Co., Ltd., Xinyi Yongcheng Chemical Industrial Co., Ltd., Beijing Engineering Research Center of Seed and Plant Health, Ningxia Xixia King Winery Co., Ltd., the American Phytopathological Society, British Society for Plant Pathology, Hebei Wanquan Lihua Chemicals Co., Ltd. and Beijing inspection and Quarantine Testing Center.

Scientific Programme

The theme of the Congress was " Bio-security, Food Safety and Plant Pathology: The Role of Plant Pathology in a Globalized Economy ". There were two plenary sessions and five keynote sessions focusing on the main theme of the Congress.

The topics were:

P1: The Role of Plant Pathology in a Globalized Economy

P2: Can We Improve Global Food Security (organized by ISPP Task Force)

K1: The Role of Plant Pathology in Bio-security and Food Safety

K2: Genomics, Proteomics and Plant Pathology

K3: Host-Pathogen Interactions and Molecular Plant Pathology

K4: Recent Developments in Disease Management

K5: Plant Pathology in Asia

The Congress also emphasized on the ISPP's initiative on Global Food Security with a special evening session on "1 Billion Hungry People: What Can We Do?" in addition to the plenary session on "Can We Improve Global Food Security?"

During the week, there were 66 concurrent sessions covering 45 topics (19 topics had more than one session), mostly with four invited talks and four short talks in each session. The topics included research progress in emerging direction and forefront areas of Plant Pathology such as "Nanotechnology for Plant Health", "Forensic Plant Pathology", "Molecular Host-Pathogen Interaction" and "Genomics and Proteomics"; The new technologies and strategies for rapid detection of pathogens, accurate monitoring, diagnosis and management of plant diseases; Novel models for carrying out the extension mission; Scientific publications and teaching, which offered a rather dense and rich programme highlighting the diverse aspects of modern Plant Pathology for participants from all over the world.

The poster-viewing sessions were vibrant, well attended and informative. In total, there were more than 1100 poster presentations over the display sessions during the week, with the same rich topics ranging from disease management in the field to the molecular analysis of plant pathogens in the lab. The abstracts of the invited and

offered papers were published on a special issue of the CSPP Journal of "Acta Phytopathologica Sinica" of 620 pages, available also on CD-ROM.

Workshops

Associated with the Congress were 9 satellite workshops. The first workshop, "4th Workshop of the International Cereal Nematodes Initiative" organized by Institute of Plant Protection, Chinese Academy of Science and CIMMYT/Turkey was held at Friendship Hotel Grand, Beijing from 22 to 24 August. Three workshops, "5th International *Phytophthora*, *Pythium*, and Related Genera Workshop", "International Workshop on Viroids and Satellite RNAs (IWVdS)" and "Management of Plasmodiophorid Plant Pathogens to Ensure Food Security" were held at Congress venue- Beijing International Convention Centre from 24 to 25 August. "11th International Epidemiology Workshop" organized by China Agricultural University and ISPP Epidemiology Committee was also held in Beijing from 22-25 August at Jinma Hotel. Meanwhile, three pre- Congress workshops were holding outside of Beijing, including "11th International Fusarium Workshop" organized by ISPP *Fusarium* Committee and Zhejiang University at Hangzhou, 22-24; "5th International Symposium on *Rhizoctonia*: Progress and Challenges in the 21st Century" organized by ISPP *Rhizoctonia* Committee and Henan Agricultural University at Zhengzhou, 22-24 August; and "15th International *Sclerotinia* Workshop" organized by Huazhong Agricultural University and the Oil Crops Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences at Wuhan, 20-24 August. After the Congress there was a four day "Global Root Health Forum workshop" sponsored by Syngenta in Beijing.

Post-Congress Technical Excursion:

There was a three day tour "Forest Pathology Field Tour" from 31 August to 2 September, which was organized by Department of Forest Protection, Beijing Forestry University, ISPP Forest Pathology Interest Group and Chinese Society of Forest Pathology. During the three day tour participants could see a number of tree diseases in the larger Beijing area, and had the opportunity to spend time with fellow forest pathologists to discuss tree health issues.

Bursary Scheme

Thanks to the generosity of several international, national and local institutions, 119 bursaries were offered. The countries receiving the highest number of bursaries were India, Pakistan and Egypt. The highest bursary was up to 2,798 €. The contributing institutions were China Agricultural University, Beijing Dabeinong Technology Group Co., Ltd., State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology, Northwest A&F University, State Key Laboratory of Crop Stress Biology for Arid Areas, Hunan Plant Protection Institute, Liaoning Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Zhong Nong Lv Kang (Beijing) Biotech. Co., Ltd., Beijing Society for Plant Pathology, Beijing University of Agriculture, Qingdao Agricultural University, Huazhong Agricultural University and ISPP.

Social Programme

Different social events were offered to the delegates. The welcome reception on Sunday evening provided an opportunity for more than 1200 delegates to meet, talk and taste some exciting food. On Thursday night, 856 participants took part to the Congress dinner, after a wonderful performance by Beijing Song and Dance Ensemble in the Auditorium of BICC.

Concluding Session

The Congress concluded on Friday August 30 with a closing session chaired by Prof. Maria Lodovica Gullino, President of ISPP. A number of awards were presented.

The ISPP 11th Jakob Eriksson Prize was presented by a representative of the Swedish Embassy on behalf of the ISPP and the Swedish Academy of Science to Prof. Jeffrey B. Jones of the University of Florida in recognition of his numerous seminal research contributions in plant bacteriology that have substantially increased our understanding of the interactions between bacterial pathogens and their host plants. Prof. Jeffrey B. Jones presented the Jakob Eriksson Oration on recent approaches on control of bacterial spot of pepper and tomato and citrus bacterial canker.

ISPP Fellowships were awarded to Prof. Richard Falloon for his contribution to plant pathology and for his service to, and continued support of, the International Society for Plant Pathology; to Prof. Jaccov Katan for his studies on the biology and epidemiology of economically important soil-borne pathogens and for his attention to integrated plant disease management, with a special mention for the development of soil solarisation as well as for his strong support of the activities of ISPP in the Middle East; to Prof. Richard Strange for his contribution to research and teaching in plant pathology, especially in relation to food security in developing countries, and for his great effort in the creation and development of the Society's own journal Food Security as a channel for sharing knowledge in this uniquely challenging arena.

There followed an announcement of ISPP new officers, and the ISPP congress flag was passed from Prof. Maria Lodovica Gullino to Dr. Greg I. Johnson, the new President of ISPP. A passionate speech was then delivered by Dr. Greg I. Johnson. The closing ceremony was finalized by Prof You Liang Peng, ICPP2013 Chair, followed by a formal invitation to ICPP2018 in Boston USA, presented by Prof. Michael J. Boehm on behalf of ICPP2018 hosting society, APS.

Prof. You-Liang Peng

Chairman, ICPP2013 Organising Committee