



Minutes of the 29th annual meeting of the

WESTERN COMMITTEE ON PLANT DISEASE

13 October, 2004

Quality Inn, 90 – 22nd Street East
Saskatoon SK

In Attendance:

Name

Organization

Chair:

Khalid Rashid* Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Vice-chair:

Penny Pearce Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization

Secretary-Treasurer:

Ralph Lange Alberta Research Council

Randy Adrian	Primegro - Frontier SK
Sabine Banniza	CDC, University of Saskatchewan
David Currey	Western Agricultural Research Services
Mardi Desjardins*	MAFRI
David Feindel	Bayer Crop Science
Myriam Fernandez	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
David Forster	Syngenta Crop Protection
Coreen Franke	Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
Bruce Gossen*	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Derwyn Hammond	Canola Council of Canada
Corrinne Harris	Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food, and Rural Revitalization
Scott Henry	Bayer Crop Science
Ron Howard*	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Henry Huang	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Lethbridge
Al Irvine	Arvesta Canada
David Kaminski*	MAFRI
Lori-Ann Kaminski	ARDI
Al Kohlman	CFIA - Calgary
Mark Kuchuran	BASF Canada
Randy Kutcher*	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Paul Laflamme	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development



<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Rod Lessmeister	Syngenta Crop Protection
Kent MacDonald	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Alex Matus	Bayer Crop Science
Rod McLeod	Bayer Crop Science
Robin Morrall	University of Saskatchewan
Brian Rex	CFIA
Jessica Roberts	PMRA Ottawa
Andrea Saunders	CFIA - Edmonton
Paul Sawatsky	PRMA
Rob Spencer*	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Andy Tekauz*	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Jill Thomson	University of Saskatchewan
Kelly Turkington*	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Venkata Vakulabharanam	ICMS Ltd.
Peter Volney	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Shannon Warren	ADFARM
Doug Winmill	CFIA
Brian Wintonyk	DowAgrosciences Canada Inc.
Jian Yang*	Alberta Research Council

* WCPD member

1.0 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS KHALID RASHID, CHAIR

Come to order 8:11 AM. Chair Khalid Rashid made brief welcoming remarks, and brief introductions of participants were made around the room.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Kelly Turkington requested that the report from the ICPM representative be added to item 11

Move adoption of the agenda as modified. (Turkington/Gossen – Carried)

3.0 MINUTES OF THE 28TH ANNUAL MEETING IN 2003, KELOWNA, BC RALPH LANGE, SECRETARY

Typographical errors were noted on pages 3, 4, 7 and 9 of the 2003 minutes.

Move acceptance of the 2003 minutes as modified. (MacDonald/Banniza – Carried)



4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1. TREASURERS REPORT, RALPH LANGE

The WCPD bank account remains at the CIBC in Morden, MB. Due to the small number of transactions (two per year, on average) the account is dormant; this was not the case in the past, when guideline sales over the course of each year generated multiple transactions.

Expenses were \$0.00 for this period because web posting of the guidelines meant that no disks were purchased, and no mailing costs were incurred.

Total Expenses 2003.....	\$0.00
Balance forward, 16 April, 2004.....	\$3357.17
Balance 12 October 2004.....	\$3357.17

R. Lange questioned the need for continue to maintain a separate account for WCPD, given that there is no charge for the guidelines, nor any revenue stream. There is also no need for revenue, other than a small annual charge for web space and domain registration, since the guidelines are no longer available in printed or diskette formats. The only use for funds would be to defer the costs of invited speakers, or perhaps donations. Robin Morrall suggested that it may be a good idea to merge accounts with WFPM, and share revenues from registration fees for speakers. This may also work for WCCP, since that group also has no incoming revenue and no costs other than speakers. K. Rashid suggested that the remaining funds could be placed in a term deposit, and generated interest used for the purposes of WCCP. This may also remove the inconvenience of the WCPD account becoming dormant each year through lack of use. Khalid suggested that the matter be left to the WCPD executive.

Move acceptance of the report (Lange/LaFlamme – Carried)

4.2. DISPOSITION OF 2003 RESOLUTIONS

Regarding the discontinuation of the Alberta Dutch Elm Disease program (STOPDED), the chair (T. K. Turkington) has corresponded with P. Woloshyn of AAFRD, who indicated that the program has been reinstated.

4.3. CORRESPONDENCE

None

5.0 APPOINTMENTS

5.1. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The nominations committee was comprised of R. Howard (chair) T. K. Turkington, and K. Rashid.

5.2. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The nominations committee was comprised of P. Pearse, A. Tekauz, and B. Gossen.



6.0 REPORT FROM EDITORS

6.1. GUIDELINES EDITORS REPORT, MARDI DESJARDINS/TRACY SHINNERS-CARNELLEY

Deadline for chapter revisions is November 15, 2004.

6.2. SLIDE EDITORS REPORT, RHONDA KURTZ

No report. Slides are being re-scanned at a higher resolution to improve the image quality of the electronic version of the slide set.

6.3. WEB SITE EDITORS REPORT, RALPH LANGE/DEE ANN BENARD

The Western Forum on Pest Management (WFPM) web site is located at www.westernforum.org. The site currently has content from the Western Committee on Crop Pests (WCCP) and Western Committee on Plant Disease (WCPD); the sites for each of these committees are sub-pages linking from the WFPM home page. All content from the former WCPD website (<http://www.arc.ab.ca/extranet/wcpd/wcpd.htm>) has been transferred to the WFPM site. The WCCP content consists of a brief introductory paragraph and a link to a pre-existing WCCP site (www.members.shaw.ca/dan-johnson/wccpabout.html), maintained by Dan Johnson. A page for the Western Committee on Livestock Pests has also been created, but is not currently visible to users, since no content has been submitted.

The WFPM site is hosted by Geo-Hosting <http://www.geohost.ca/>. The WFPM has a one-year "Bronze" contract, and is entitled to 50.00 MB web space and 50 GB web traffic per month. Currently WF is using 32.23 MB of web space; average web traffic for the past month was approximately 0.16 GB. The bronze account also entitles WFPM to 50 e-mail addresses. These could be used redirect messages to WFPM officers, chapter editors, etc.; none are currently in use. The domain westernforum.org was registered through Geo-Hosting on 06 May, 2004 and is renewable on an annual basis. The site was created and is maintained using Microsoft FrontPage 2000.

Annual costs (Canadian dollars) to WFPM for the website are \$10 for domain registration, \$75 for hosting, \$5.95 for GST, totalling \$90.95. Costs were paid on-line by the R. Lange, and then submitted to the WFPM treasurer.

Ken Fry has left the Alberta Research Council, and withdrawn from his role as WFPM web co-editor. The remaining editor (R. Lange) requests that a new co-editor be appointed to manage WCCP content. The new co-editor should have access to Microsoft FrontPage. Alternatively, content could be prepared, then forwarded to R. Lange for publication. Username/password access could also be granted to WCPD/WCCP guideline editors, provided they have they have FrontPage installed on their computers. Allowing editors of individual chapters access is problematic at present.

Requests for specific pages on the WFPM web site, September 9 - October 9, 2004.

Number of requests	Page description
104	WFPM meeting notice
57	Acrobat version of WFPM meeting notice
56	2003 WFPM minutes
45	WCPD home page
40	Instructions for WCPD chapter chairs
37	Home page for WCPD guidelines
36	2004 WFPM agenda
35	2003 WCPD minutes
31	WCPD meeting page
28	WCCP home page
28	Home page for WCPD minutes
21	Special crops chapter of WCPD guidelines
366	Files with less than 20 requests



Requests from hosts, September 9 - October 9, 2004

Number of requests	Percent of total requests	IP address owner
749	4.19%	Alberta Research Council
305	13.92%	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
249	6.57%	SaskTel subscribers
152	10.98%	Government of Alberta
124	11.73%	Government of British Columbia
152	10.98%	Manitoba Telephone System (MTS.net) subscribers
1286	42.48%	77 unlisted hosts with less than 100 requests

Move acceptance of the report (Lange/Tekauz – Carried)

7.0 STATUS OF CPS PUBLICATIONS AND MEETINGS

7.1. DISEASES & PESTS OF VEGETABLE CROPS IN CANADA (B. GOSSEN)

Excellent sales of the French edition, which is in use as a text book, mean that all copies will be sold within the next year. Sales of the English edition are slower, so the current printing will meet needs for five to seven years. A reissue of the current French edition will result in a loss of \$25 per book. Revisions need to be planned now. Possibilities include a full revision in co-operation with NSOC, splitting the book into separate volumes and revising these separately, or (unlikely) splitting the pathology portions from the entomology content and revising and publishing separately.

7.2. DISEASES OF FIELD CROPS IN CANADA (R. MORRALL)

Sales of the English edition, which was published in 2003, have exceeded expectations. Of the initial print run of 8000 books 5333 have now been shipped. The remaining stock will last for one more year. The French edition is currently being published; the initial run of 2 500 – 3 000 copies is anticipated to be released in December 2004. Sponsorship raised \$29 500 toward the printing cost of \$60 000 - \$70 000. The French volume will be 10% thicker than the English edition. In response to a question from A. Tekauz regarding binding quality, Robin stated that slight changes will be made to prevent the page losses common with the English edition. Khalid Rahid asked if it would not be wise to print more copies of the French version given the higher-than-anticipated sales of DPVCC. Robin answered that the planned number of copies should be adequate, since large areas of Quebec have no field crop production whatsoever.

7.3. CANADIAN PLANT DISEASE SURVEY (R. MORRALL)

Each year 50 – 55 survey reports are published in CPDS, most of which pertain to cereal diseases. Vegetable disease surveys are the most infrequent category. It may be worth considering reinstating the small non-refereed research reports published in CPDS in past years. Production of the journal is now completely under the control of the Canadian Phytopathological Society, which also posts the journal on its web site. CPDS was formerly published on an AAFC website. Kelly Turkington stated that the Pest Management Research Reports may also be leaving AAFC webspace in the near future.



Myriam Fernandez asked Robin about the costs of producing CPDS – these total approximately \$1 600 per year, costs are incurred through printing of a small number (50) of copies for libraries, plus labour for final word processing.

7.4. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT – B. GOSSEN)

The annual meeting was well attended, particularly by *emeritus* members. Unfortunately, CPS lost approximately \$10 000 plus the cost of the special edition of the CJPP, totalling \$25 000. Because of this financial loss, the planned CD was cancelled. The next meeting of the CPS will be held as part of Plant Canada, June 15 – 19, in Edmonton.

Move acceptance of publications and meeting reports (Morrall/Kaminski – Carried)

8.0 REPORTS FROM THE PESTICIDE INDUSTRY

8.1. BAYER CROPSCIENCE (ROD MCLEOD)

Rod gave an update on the status and efficacy of Prosper seed treatment for canola and rapeseed. His presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- The freezing point of the product is –10 C, but it can be applied down to –20 C, which means that the product can be applied in winter.
- Effective against Rhizoctonia, Pythium, and Fusarium seedling blights and seed borne blackleg. Efficacy against Rhizoctonia will persist into the 4-leaf stage of the crop.
- No RTA version will be available
- The Prosper 400 formulation is anticipated to be the best seller.

8.2. BASF (MARK KUCHURAN)

Mark presented information on the use of Lance (BAS 510) against white mold of dry beans. The information Mark presented included:

- Lance is a Group 7 fungicide
- Must be applied as a preventative treatment in the 20 – 50% bloom stage (in beans and canola), which is slightly earlier than the recommended application stage for Ronilan
- In response a question from Robin Morrall, cost is \$3 - \$4/acre greater than Ronilan

9.0 REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

9.1. PEST MANAGEMENT REGULATORY AGENCY (JESSICA ROBERTS)

Jessica presented recent information on emergency registrations, minor use registrations, new products registered, and gave a summary of NAFTA Joint Review Submissions. Information and full viewing on all regulatory or decision documents are available at <http://www.pmra-arla.gc.ca>. For background on joint reviews, refer to Directive JR2004-01 at <http://www.pmra-arla.gc.ca/english/pdf/nafta/naftajr/nafta-jr2004-01-e.pdf>.



9.2. CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY (BRIAN REX)

- Golden nematode and soybean rust have been added to the least of regulated pests of soybeans
Standards for the disposal of soybean screenings are now available
- CFIA is conducting annual surveys for Sudden Oak Death (SOD) in BC; some positive samples have been identified in nurseries. Further dispersal of SOD is being limited through restrictions on movement.
SOD had been detected on Camillia.
Most imports from contaminated sources in the USA have now been tracked down.
- Potato wart was detected within the quarantine area in PEI, but has not been found outside of the quarantine area.
- India has instituted a certificate guaranteeing that pea shipments be free of pests, plus fumigation with methyl bromide. The concern is primarily with pea cyst nematode, also stem nematode and pea and bean weevil. CFIA has negotiated a temporary waiver of the requirement for fumigation at point of origin, and is negotiating requirements for fumigants, as well as the pests listed by India.

10:15 - 10:50 Coffee Break

10.0 DISEASE SITUATION REPORTS AND GUIDELINE UPDATES

10.1. CEREALS (ANDY TEKAUZ)

The disease situations in Manitoba and Saskatchewan were generally similar, as were the environmental conditions. Compared to normal, disease levels were generally low in 2004.

Conditions in Manitoba were cool and moist early in the season, which delayed seeding as well as maturation of winter crops. Cool conditions continued into July. The weather became wet and cool again in mid-August and September. Harvesting delays due to wet conditions caused a decline in the quality of harvested grain.

Fusarium head blight occurred at low levels; the disease was more common in southwestern Manitoba than elsewhere. Disease incidence in spring wheat fields not sprayed with fungicides was 10 – 15%; most fields were sprayed. All FHB was caused by *Fusarium graminearum*. FHB incidence in winter wheat was 2% overall; up to 60% of heads were infected in affected fields. Disease index was less than 1% (minimal damage). Fungicides were applied to most winter wheat fields. Damage to barley was minimal. Most isolates obtained from barley were *F. graminearum*, but *F. poae* (23%) and *F. sporotrichioides* (10%). As usual, no visible symptoms were seen on oats. Moist conditions late in the season, increased lodging and delayed harvesting may result in an increase in mycotoxin concentrations in harvested grains.

Leaf spot disease levels were low, except for early tan spot in wheat. Some of this may be due to off-label fungicide treatments, such as ½ rate Tilt applications, or tank-mixes with



herbicide. Early tan spot lesions did not develop quickly as the season progressed, resulting in no significant damage.

Slow arrival of inoculum resulted in delayed spread and development of cereal rusts. Rust levels were very light on oats, and absent on wheat and barley. Leaf rust levels were very low in wheat as well; treatment of most crops with fungicides reduced leaf rust severity. Crown rust of oats occurred only in trace levels in wild and commercial oats; incidences of 20% - 50% occurred in very late tame oat fields. Stripe rust was rare.

Cereal smut incidences were relatively low; incidence was highest in durum wheat, 61% of durum fields had trace levels. Smut of 6-row barley occurred at trace levels in 75% of fields surveyed. Other smuts were rare.

Losses to barley yellow dwarf virus were negligible due to late aphid arrival, which was caused by cool summer conditions and a lack of south winds. Levels of wheat streak mosaic virus were lower than in 2003. WSMV was detected in some fields that were not adjacent to winter wheat fields – this may indicate some previously unknown mite behaviour.

Flame chlorosis was not observed in 2004 or the preceding few years.

The Manitoba provincial diagnostic lab processed 157 cereal samples. Tan spot was prevalent, as was physiological leaf spot of barley. Other noteworthy conditions included bacterial blight of oats and significant amounts of mid-stalk lodging of oats. The lodging symptoms on oats had no discernable yield effects.

The disease situation in Saskatchewan was similar to Manitoba. Spring moisture and cool temperatures delayed seeding to the point that seeding was not completed until mid-June. Tan spot symptoms were reported early, resulting in some early application of foliar fungicides. By mid summer development of 50 – 75% of crops was delayed, but most were relatively disease-free. Cool late summer conditions plus a severe frost on August 20 caused severe damage, reductions in quality, and harvesting delays.

None of the leaf spot diseases occurred at severe levels. Most crop damage was the result of hail, lodging and frost, not disease. Anecdotal reports of stripe rust were received, in addition to samples of stripe rust on heads from late maturing crops in central and southern regions of Saskatchewan. Other rust diseases were not common.

Root rot was not a concern.

Fusarium head blight occurred in only 15% of fields, and severity was low. *Fusarium avenaceum*, followed by *F. poae*, then *F. graminearum*, were the most commonly isolated species. Severity of leaf spotting diseases was low; the most common pathogen in this group was *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis*.

Environmental conditions caused an increase in kernal diseases, especially red smudge. Durum wheat was the most affected cereal; 80% of durum was downgraded to #2 or #3. Chemical damage symptoms were also noted.

In Alberta, the early part of the growing season was cool and dry. June was normal, July dry, and August and September were moist. Late season moisture delayed harvest. Rain or snow in mid August to mid September resulted in mildew, sooty moulds and sprouted grain, in turn causing a reduction in grain quality. Leaf and root diseases occurred at



lower levels than normal. Stripe rust was common on spring wheats, and was found in one barley field. Takeall levels were higher than normal, perhaps the result of canola-wheat rotations. Ergot occurred at higher than normal levels in rye and durum. Fusarium head blight was found in ten fields in a survey of 96 wheat fields. All of the affected fields were irrigated.

David Kaminski commented that wheat is graded on mycotoxin content in central/eastern Canada, whereas it is graded on visible symptoms in the west. It may be prudent to adopt a mycotoxin-based grading system.

10.2. FORAGE LEGUMES

DAVID KAMINSKI

No formal surveys were conducted. Cool, wet conditions increased the incidence of all foliar diseases, especially spring black stem. Root diseases were not a great concern. In Saskatchewan, cold, wet conditions resulted in reduced seed set of alfalfa. In response to a question on the prevalence of stem nematode, David stated that the prevalence is unknown. The EU requires testing of seed lots, but the pathogen has never been found. Bacterial wilt is becoming a trade issue, as China wishes to ensure that seed is free of the disease. There have been no reports of bacterial wilt in Canada, but credible surveys of seed, coupled with testing by accredited labs.

10.3. GRASSES

BRUCE GOSSEN

Report given by Bruce Gossen.

10.4. GREENHOUSE CROPS

ROBERT SPENCER

Internal fruit rot of sweet pepper, caused by a number of fusarium species, occurred for the first time in Alberta. Powdery mildew was found on all begonias, and on butter, head and romaine lettuce. A survey of cucumber greenhouses found that root and stem rot caused severe damage in several operations.

In BC, chrysanthemum white rust occurred in two greenhouses – eradication measures were imposed. Powdery mildew of cucumbers was identified as the major disease in many greenhouses.

10.5. MUSHROOMS

DANNY RINKER

The report was presented by Khalid Rashid.

Dry bubble, wet bubble, cob wet, aggressive green mould, casing green moulds and bacterial blotch continued to be the prevalent problems, but overall disease levels remained fairly low in 2004. This may be due to modernization of facilities and practices by growers. The loss of benomyl may impact control of casing green mould.

10.6. OILSEEDS

RANDY KUTCHER / KHALID RASHID

Sclerotinia disease was the most important disease of oilseed crops in 2004. In a survey of 68 Manitoba canola fields, sclerotinia stem rot was found in 72%, with an average incidence of 9%. Blackleg basal cankers were found in 34% of fields surveyed with an average incidence of 6.4%. Alternaria pod spot was observed in 9% of crops at low incidence. No fusarium wilt was observed. In Saskatchewan, stem rot was found in 83% of fields surveyed.

Sclerotinia wilt was the most prevalent sunflower disease, although rust and verticillium wilt also occurred frequently.



Pasmo was the most common flax disease, followed by fusarium wilt/root rot complex.

12:15 - 13:20 Lunch Break

10.7. ORNAMENTALS

VIPPEN JOSHI

The report was presented by Gayle Jespersen.

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is a quarantine pest in Canada. An SOD certification program has been instituted in BC to ensure nursery stock is SOD-free. A successful recall was launched to recover camillia plants imported from California. Few reports of problems on ornamentals were encountered in Manitoba or Saskatchewan.

10.8. TREES

RALPH LANGE

Manitoba (information provided by Mardi Desjardins and Philip Northover, Soils & Crops, MAFRI)

Submissions of tree samples to the Crop Diagnostic Centre were down about 10% this season. Growing conditions for trees were generally good throughout the province with plenty of moisture in most areas of the province and with fewer stress related problems being reported. Even though moisture and humid conditions were present throughout much of the growing season, there was no increase of sample numbers related to leaf spot diseases recorded by the Crop Diagnostic Centre. Conditions for spread of Rhizosphaera needle cast of spruce were ideal in the early part of the season and it is anticipated that this could result in an increase in reported cases next season when the symptoms from this years new infections become visible.

Summary of diseases diagnosed on shelterbelt trees and woody ornamentals submitted to the Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Crop Diagnostic Centre in 2004.

Crop	Symptom/ Disease	Causal Agent	Number Of Samples
Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	Anthraxnose	<i>Gloeosporium aridum</i>	3
	Canker	<i>Botryosphaeria</i> sp.	1
	Canker	unidentified	2
	Herbicide injury		13
Basswood	Herbicide injury		3
Birch	Dieback	<i>Melanconium betulinum</i>	1
Caragana	Powdery mildew	unidentified	2
	Herbicide injury		2
Cotoneaster	Fireblight	<i>Erwinia amylovora</i>	1
	Chlorosis	iron deficiency	1
Elm	Dutch elm disease	<i>Ophiostoma ulmi</i>	5
	Wilt	<i>Verticillium albo-atrum</i>	1
	Herbicide injury		2
Lilac	Environmental injury		4
	Herbicide injury		4
Maple	Anthraxnose	<i>Kabatiella apocrypta</i>	1



Summary of diseases diagnosed on shelterbelt trees and woody ornamentals submitted to the Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Crop Diagnostic Centre in 2004.

Crop	Symptom/ Disease	Causal Agent	Number Of Samples
(<i>Acer</i> spp.)	Herbicide injury		10
Mountain ash	Fireblight	<i>Erwinia amylovora</i>	1
	Canker	<i>Nectria</i> sp.	1
Oak	Anthraxnose	<i>Discula quercina</i>	1
	Herbicide injury		1
Pine	Needle cast	<i>Lophodermium</i> sp.	1
	Environmental injury		2
Poplar	Bronze leaf disease	<i>Apioplagiostoma populi</i>	4
	Canker	<i>Cytospora chrysosperma</i>	2
	Environmental injury		1
	Herbicide injury		5
Spruce	Cytospora canker	<i>Leucostoma kunzei</i>	5
	Needle blight	<i>Lirula</i> sp.	1
	Needle cast	<i>Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii</i>	23
	Environmental injury		25
	Herbicide injury		3
Willow	Environmental injury		2
	Herbicide injury		7

2004 Dutch Elm Disease Summary for Saskatchewan (information provided by David Congly, Grant Holzgang, and Penny Pearce, SAFRR)

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) remains a serious threat to Saskatchewan elm trees. Although DED was confirmed in fewer communities across the province in 2004, the incidence of DED has increased in areas of known DED infections. Currently, DED has been detected in 25 different cities, towns and/or resort communities.

As in past years, the highest numbers of infected trees were found in Lumsden and Estevan. In Lumsden, 44 trees tested positive in 2004, whereas 34 trees were found in 2003. In Estevan, 25 trees tested positive compared to 17 trees the year previous. Katepwa Beach had 10 infected trees and Fort Qu'Appelle had four, an increase from 2003 when only one infected tree was found at each location. Tisdale has reported six infected trees, twice that of last year. DED has also been found in two new communities: Indian Head and Regina Beach. The occurrence of DED in either of these locations is not a surprise since they are both in close proximity to areas of known DED infection. In the major centres, DED levels have remained fairly consistent. In the City of Regina, 12 trees have tested positive for DED. This is a marked increase from 2003 when only one infection was observed. Yearly variations in DED incidences can be attributed to a combination of factors. Last year, environmental conditions were not conducive to DED detection. Without an adequate amount of precipitation, it becomes difficult to



differentiate between trees exhibiting drought related symptoms and trees afflicted with DED. Elevated levels of rainfall in the Regina area in 2004 have alleviated this particular problem. Improved DED detection within Regina may have also contributed to the increased incidence of DED. With an additional year of experience, the City of Regina staff responsible for DED surveillance will have become more adept at identifying trees afflicted with DED.

The occurrence of DED in the City of Moose Jaw continues to be fairly low. This year, only one case of DED has been confirmed. In 2003, two trees within the city limits tested positive for DED. The City of Saskatoon and City of Prince Albert remained DED-free in 2004.

Provincial DED Program (SK Environment):

The partnership between SK Environment and municipalities continues to be successful in managing DED. Combined efforts have controlled the spread of the problem in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert. In addition, several communities that reported the disease last year have no infections so far.

Buffer zones have been established outside urban centers with significant elm populations. These zones are intensively monitored by the department and infected elms and those that appear to be susceptible to infection, are removed before the disease can enter the community. There was a significant increase of infected elms in the Moose Jaw Buffer with about 50 trees identified for removal compared to two last year. Conversely, the number of infected trees in the Regina buffer was down.

Many communities are continuing their DED management work with financial help from Saskatchewan Environment. This includes pruning, spraying and public education. The public can help in the fight against the disease by having their elms pruned of dead and dying material and by not storing or transporting elm firewood, which can carry the disease.

DED Submissions to the Provincial Crop Protection Laboratory:

As of September 21, there have been 363 samples submitted for DED testing. Forty-seven per cent of submissions have tested positive, 48 percent have tested negative, and 5 percent are awaiting diagnosis or were an insufficient sample.

Sample submission was slow during the early part of the season due to environmental conditions. With the cool, wet spring DED, symptomology was not readily apparent on most trees. However, the number of submissions increased substantially throughout August and September as a result of drier, warmer weather.

DED Research Partnership:

This summer the Saskatchewan DED program formed a new research partnership with the Department of Microbiology at the University of Manitoba. Under this agreement, positive DED specimens are directly shipped from SAFRR's provincial lab to the University of Manitoba. The provision of these positive samples will assist in the research initiatives of Dr. Jim Reid and Dr. George Hausner, who are currently investigating the mitochondrial DNA composition of various *Ophiostoma ulmi* fungal species, the causal agents of DED.

Alberta (information provided by Rob Spencer (AAFRD) and Ralph Lange (ARC))



Due to information distributed on Bronze Leaf Disease and its potential in Alberta, many calls were received and a number of samples submitted to the 2 Plant Health Diagnostic Labs in Alberta. No confirmed positive samples. Many of the callers actually were observing Marsonina leaf spot or other leaf spots/blights of poplar. Several cases of various cankers (Hypoxylon, Nectria, etc.). Some calls on Fireblight. Fireblight was definitely a problem in many parts of Alberta. One call with an unusual disorder of Ponderosa pine (in a nursery). Diagnosed as a Needle Droop of Pine (similar to Red Pine Needle Droop), caused by environmental stress (extreme drought following lots of active transpiration).

Dr. Ali Quoreshi (Symbiotech Research Inc.), currently located at 20/20 Seed Laboratories in Nisku, AB, is conducting a research project entitled “Mycorrhizal nutrient loading and carbon loading for improved seedling production using TreeBoost.” The objective is to improve production of white spruce and Jackpine seedlings. Dr. Quoreshi is also collaborating with Dr. Damase Khasa (Université Laval) on “Ecophysiology of ectomycorrhizal tree seedlings in the oil sands tailings.” The goal of this project is to establish poplar (various species and hybrids) at Syncrude oil sands tailings sites near Ft. McMurray. In a related project, Dr. Quoreshi is collaborating with Dr. Sébastien Roy of Université de Sherbrooke on improving actinorhizal nitrogen fixation in green alder roots by Frankia species.

British Columbia (information provided by Rob Ormrod, CFIA, BC.)

Monrovia nurseries shipped Camellia plants infected with Sudden Oak Death (*Phytophthora ramorum*, SOD) across North America. The area with the highest risk of spread is considered to be the Appalachian forest ecosystem south of Lake Erie, although the area extending into Ontario is also at risk. Shipments of plants from infected nurseries were also sent to Canada. SOD was identified in nine retail nurseries in BC. As a result of a homeowner recall, 1400 Camellia plants sold by these nurseries were recovered; of which ten plants were infected. Two contaminated production nurseries were also identified. Through trace backs, three plants from two sites were recovered, where landscape contractors had installed them. Trace backs from these commercial nurseries continue. The BC Landscape and Nursery Association has been co-operating with CFIA, and is planning on instituting an SOD certification program.

In BC, *P. ramorum* has also been identified on one firethorn (first record in the world on this host species), one viburnum, and several rhododendrons

CFIA is redeveloping import regulations to reflect the SOD risk. The revised regulations will require that imported host species be sourced from a pest-free geographical area, or from a pest-free place of production.

10.9. POTATOES

FOUAD DAAYF / JANICE ELMHIRST

The report was presented by Khalid Rashid.

Poor conditions at planting time resulted in a wide range of planting dates. Despite cool, wet conditions throughout much of the summer, late blight was uncommon. Early dying syndrome remains a concern in Manitoba. Bacterial ring rot was detected in September in Manitoba. In Alberta, Alternaria occurred earlier than usual. Dry rot was a problem in some seed and processing potato storages. Culled potatoes infected with powdery scab were identified. Crops in Saskatchewan were generally healthy, and yields were exceptionally



high. Early blight and Rhizoctonia were seen, but no late blight or bacterial ring rot were detected. Increased virus levels were observed within the seed system in Saskatchewan.

10.10. SPECIAL CROPS

PENNY PEARSE

There was one report of fusarium head blight on canaryseed. There were also problems in canaryseed septoria leaf mottle, and with poor seedling emergence (not disease related). There was a decline in chickpea acreage, but the remaining growers are now experienced with production of the crop. Production has shifted to the Desi type. Aschochyta levels were low to moderate.

Half of the corn samples examined in Manitoba were infected with *Fusarium* spp. Stalk rots and root rots caused by *F. gaminearum* and *F. equiseti* were most common.

Some blossom blight was observed on coriander. Frost damage also occurred. Disease control options in coriander are limited, particularly since few fungicides are available (Quadris has a URMULE registration).

Foot rot problems caused by *Pythium* spp. *Fusarium* spp. and cool weather occurred in cumin crops. Registered seed treatment products are required for this crop.

Levels of bacterial brown spot were higher than normal, while other bacterial bean diseases were normal. Anthracnose was the most common fungal disease, followed by stemphyllium, rust and sclerotinia.

Rapid development of anthracnose of field peas to severe levels occurred in 2004.

Mycosphaella blight & foot rot were also severe. Downey mildew was a problem in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Powdery mildew was prevalent but not severe because producers are switching to resistant cultivars.

Acreage of lentils increased. Chlorotic flecking due to waterlogged soils occurred, but crops recovered. Above-normal levels of anthracnose and ascochyta occurred because fungicide applications were delayed by rain. Sclerotinia was severe in peas. The quality of the harvested crop was poor.

Fewer acres of soybean were planted this year because of late maturity and frost.

Diagnostic labs noted an increase in ascochyta, as well as major regional differences on peas with respect to *mycosphaerella*.

10.11. FRUITS SHOLBERG

PHILLIP NORTHOVER / PETER

The report was presented by Bruce Gossen for Phillip Northover.

In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, cool and moist weather caused high levels of leaf spotting diseases in strawberry, in addition to winter injury and root and crown rot.

Nematode has not been detected in strawberry plants grown for crown production. An unknown virus disease complex, believed to be Strawberry Crinkle Virus, is occurring in BC strawberry crops. Rust and *Entomosporium* were the predominant diseases of Saskatoon in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and powdery mildew was reported in several orchards in north-central Saskatchewan.

Blueberry Scorch Virus is now endemic in the Fraser Valley, and Blueberry Shock Virus is widespread.

10.12. VEGETABLES

RON HOWARD / KAN-FACHANG

The report was presented by Ron Howard.



Fruit and stem rot was observed on pumpkin, squash, pepper and eggplant crops in BC. The problem seems to be localized to specific fields. In Alberta, a 100% incidence of gray leaf spot was observed in a commercial planting of bok choy and suey choy. Twenty cole crop fields were surveyed for club root in 2004, and none was found. Approximately 15% of the suey choy crop in Alberta was lost to bacterial soft rot. In Saskatchewan, sclerotinia infectins were observed in pubmpkin, cabbage and tomatoes.

10.13. *INTERIORSCAPES* *ELIZABETH HUDGINS / SIMA MPOFU*

The report was presented by Khalid Rashid for Sima Mpofo.

10.14. *U.S. PLANT DISEASE UPDATES*

No report.

13:00 - 18:00 Afternoon session (coffee break at 15:00)

11.0 OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. *NOMINATION COMMITTEE* *RON HOWARD, KELLY TURKINGTON*

Nominations listed below for the year 2003-2004:

Executive Committee:

Chair	Khalid Rashid
Vice-Chair	Penny Pearse
Secretary/Treasurer	<i>Rob Spencer</i>
Guidelines Editor	Mardi Desjardins & Tracy Shinnners-Carnelley
Slide Set Editor	Rhonda Kurtz
Website Editor	Ralph Lange and Dee Ann Benard

Chapter Chairs/Alternates

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Cereals	Andy Tekauz	Kelly Turkington
Forage legumes	<i>David Kaminski</i>	<i>Sheau-Fang Hwang</i>
Grasses	Bruce Gossen	Dee Ann Benard
Greenhouse	<i>Robert Spencer</i>	<i>Jian Yang</i>
Mushrooms	Jim Menzies	Danny Rinker
Oilseeds	Randy Kutcher	Khalid Rashid
Ornamentals	Vippen Joshi	<i>Siva Sabaratnum</i>
Trees	<i>Ron Howard</i>	Karen Bedford
Potatoes	Fouad Daayf	Janice Elmhirst
Special crops	Penny Pearse	Debbie McLaren
Fruits	Phillip Northover	Peter Sholberg
Vegetables	<i>Gayle Jespersion</i>	Kan-Fa Chang
Interiorscapes	<i>Sima Mpofo</i>	<i>Ron Howard</i>

Italics indicate new nominees.

Motion to accept reports (Howard/Turkington – Carried)



11.2. RESOLUTION COMMITTEE P. PEARSE/B. GOSSEN

Be it resolved that a subcommittee be formed to study and recommend changes to resistance classifications for diseases of cereals. The subcommittee is to be composed of David Kaminski, Kelly Turkington, Andy Tekauz and Penny Pearse.

Pearse/Gossen – Carried

Resolution of thanks to the organizing committee

Pearse/Gossen – Carried

11.3. GUIDELINES-WEB COMMITTEE

D. KAMINSKI, T. SHINNERS-CARNELLEY, P. PEARSE, I. EVANS, G. JESPERSON, K. RASHID, J. MENZIES

A motion was made to dissolve the committee

Lange/Turkington – Carried

11.4. EXPERT COMMITTEE ON INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

K. TURKINGTON

Kelly Turkington gave a report on the ECIPM meeting. The Pest Management Research Reports web page, currently hosted on an Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada server, may have to find a new home, due to the AAFC that all documents be available in both official languages. The next meeting of the ECIPM will likely be held in Edmonton, in conjunction with the WFPM meetings.

Bruce Gossen made the suggestion that Kelly's term should be extended for one year, since Kelly will likely be on the WFPM and ECIPM organizing committees. Bruce also suggested that it may be time to select an entomologist as the WFPM representative to ECIPM. The ECIPM is dominated (numerically) by entomologists, so WF has chosen to send a plant pathologist.

12.0 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

The next meeting of the WCPD will be held in conjunction with WFPM in Edmonton, AB.

13.0 OTHER BUSINESS

None



14.0 SPECIAL TOPICS

- 14.1. *CONTROL STRATEGIES FOR SCLEROTINIA DISEASES IN OILSEED AND PULSE CROPS.*
DR. HENRY HUANG, AAFC, LETHBRIDGE RESEARCH CENTRE.
- 14.2. *MANAGEMENT OF SCLEROTINIA WHITE MOLD IN LENTILS AND CHICKPEAS.*
DR SABINE BANNIZA, CROP DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, UNIV. OF SASKATCHEWAN.
- 14.3. *CHANGING CLIMATE FOR DISEASE DIAGNOSTICS*
DAVID KAMINSKI (MAFRI), PENNY PEARSE (SAFRR)

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

16:50 (Tekauz)