More than 800 scientists from around the world gathered in St. Petersburg July 18-26, 2003 to celebrate its 300th birthday and to share their latest scientific results at the 11th IS-MPMI Congress. The venue was the grand Hotel Pribaltiskaya on the shores of the Baltic Sea. The audiovisual arrangements were flawless. The cultural program was superb, including a private showing of Swan Lake at the Mariinsky Theater, an excursion to the extraordinary art collection of the Hermitage, boat rides on the Neva River, and a final social dinner featuring folk dancers and a balalaika band. The midnight sun contributed a spectacular backdrop.

On behalf of the Society and all plant-microbe scientists, we thank the indefatigable organizing committee, led by Igor Tikhonovich of the All-Russia Research Institute for Agricultural Microbiology, St. Petersburg. Many thanks are also due to the agencies and private companies, including UNESCO, for their sponsorship and financial support. The American Society for Microbiology paid the registration fees for 200 Russian participants. Balt Union, the designated tour facilitator, did a great job arranging excursions.
The presentation of many excellent posters by graduate students and postdoctoral associates made the awards decisions particularly difficult this year for the IS-MPMI Advisory Committee. There were three third prizes, two second prizes, and one first prize.

Third place prizes went to:
E. E. Andronov, M. I. Roumiantseva, Terework, K. Lindström, N. I. Dzyubenko, O. P. Onishchuk, O. N. Kurchak, and B. V. Simarov (All-Russia Institute for Agricultural Microbiology, St. Petersburg, and the University of Helsinki, Department of Applied Chemistry) for “Host plant effects on the diversity of \textit{Sinorhizobium meliloti} and \textit{Rhizobium galegae} populations.”

J. Staal, M. Kaliff, and C. Dixelius (Department of Plant Biology, Uppsala, Sweden) for “Defense responses in \textit{Arabidopsis} to \textit{Lepiodsphaeria maculans}.”


Second place prizes went to:
M. M. Saad, H. Kobayashi, C. Marie, W. I. Broughton, and W. J. Deakin (LBMPS, University of Geneva, Switzerland) for “Identification of new proteins secreted by the type III secretion system of \textit{Rhizobium} sp. NGR234.”


The first prize went to:
W. Ai-Jiuan, M. Durrant, R. W. Michelmore, and J. P. Rathjen (Sainsbury Lab, U.K., and the Department of Vegetable Crops, UC Davis, U.S.A.) for “Negative regulation of tomato Pto by a patch of surface-exposed residues.”

Congratulations, everybody! Enjoy your prizes.
Calendar of Events

REDBIO Meeting of the Cooperation Network on Plant Biotechnology in Latin America
June 21-25, 2004 • Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

The REDBIO Meeting of the Cooperation Network on Plant Biotechnology in Latin America and the Caribbean (REDBIO/FAO) is the largest of its kind in the region in the field of Agricultural Biotechnology. REDBIO/FAO organizes this event every three years in conjunction with national counterparts. REDBIO 2004 is expected to gather approximately 800 biotechnology laboratories, hundreds of universities, and thousands of scientists from more than 40 countries and five continents.

Biotechnology is currently experiencing a very strong surge in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the timeliness and scope of REDBIO 2004 give it a unique position for those wishing to encounter significant scientific and business opportunities in the region. REDBIO 2004, as part of the framework of the REDBIO/FAO network, is an ideal forum for the pursuit of collaborative efforts in hopes of maximizing the access and the sharing of benefits derived from biotechnology.

Main thematic areas of REDBIO 2004 include Nutrition Genomics, Abiotic/Biotic Stress, Molecular Farming, Exploring Biodiversity, Opportunities for Agriculture Competitiveness, Bio-Business and Information, Public Perception, and Regulatory Framework as regional capacity building factors. Furthermore, crop-specific workshops will be developed to spotlight strategic agricultural crops and/or areas of scientific importance. Also, a new feature to be found at REDBIO 2004 will be the BIO-SHOW, an exhibition designed to promote biotechnology as a platform for business in the region. The BIO-SHOW will provide a space where biotech companies can network and link up with regional and extra-regional counterparts for business, science, or other collaborative pursuits.

For information, see: http://www.redbio.org/ and http://www.redbio.org/rdominicana/redbio2004rd/welcome.htm, or contact Dr. Rufino Perez-Brennan, president of the organizing committee at redbio2004@redbio.org.

The 4th International Rothamsted BioMarket
BioProducts from Plants and Microbes
November 5-6, 2003 • Harpenden, UK

Go to http://www.biomarket.rothamsted.ac.uk/programme/programme.php for this November's Conference Program at BioMarket 2003, our fourth annual international networking event for all those involved in commercializing added-value plant and microbial products with agri-food, health, industrial, and other applications. Activities include delegate presentations, one-to-one delegate partnering meetings and, new for 2003, an academic-industry interface zone. For further information, contact: Amanda King, Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, AL5 2JQ, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 (0)1582 763133 x 2840/2842; E-mail: biomarket@bbsrc.ac.uk. Rothamsted Research is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England under the registration number 2393175 and not-for-profit charity number 802038.

IS-MPMI Reporter gets a new editor

Thomas Baum has agreed to take over the job of editor-in-chief of the IS-MPMI Reporter effective January 1, 2004. Thomas is a molecular nematologist in the Department of Plant Pathology at Iowa State University. He can be contacted at tbaum@iastate.edu. On behalf of IS-MPMI, thank you, Thomas, for taking on this important position.

Good luck!

News from the USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center

The Molecular Plant Pathology Program at the USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center (DB NRRC), led by Dr. Yulin Jia (yjia@spa.ars.usda.gov), welcomes three new employees:

Dr. Eugenia Winston joined DB NRRC in June 2003, to work on the molecular mechanisms of rice blast disease resistance. Dr. Winston completed her Ph.D. under Dr. Carole Cramer at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in May 2003. She is currently working on understanding the coevolution of a plant resistance gene and the pathogen avirulence gene.

Hui Lin was an Adair Summer Intern from the Department of Plant Pathology of the University of Arkansas. Hui Lin received her B.S. degree in Biology from University of the Central Arkansas. She was involved in analyzing a rice lesion mimic mutant for understanding rice Pi-ta gene-mediated signal transduction pathways.

Andrew Gibbons, a graduate of Stuttgart High School, was an ARS summer trainee. He worked on identification of the rice blast resistance gene by PCR-based molecular marker analysis. He was recently admitted into Hendrix College on a Minister's Dependent Scholarship.
Three (3) Postdoctoral/Visiting Scientist Positions in Maize Signal Transduction Research

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. is the world leader in the discovery, development, and delivery of elite crop genetics, headquartered in Johnston, Iowa. We are seeking Postdoctoral Research Fellows/Visiting Scientists for a multi-disciplinary program aimed at elucidating signaling pathways controlling key traits, including kernel development, disease resistance and plant architecture in maize. Candidates with research records and hands-on experience in areas of signal transduction, including protein-protein interaction, subcellular localization of proteins using fluorescent tags, and cloning technology are encouraged to apply. A Ph.D. in plant molecular biology, biochemistry or related area is required. The Program has significant internal support and technological infrastructure in an interactive research environment. The program has an external scientific advisory board consisting of: Nam-Hai Chua (Rockefeller University), Jeff Dangl (University of North Carolina), Nick Harberd (John Innes Center), Ken Neet (Chicago Medical School), and Natasha Raikhel (UC Riverside). For information on individual positions, see below or visit www.pioneer.com for more complete descriptions.


Cell Biologist/Molecular Biologist - Job Code RES/QP51/WIS - Educational Qualifications Desired: Ph.D. in plant molecular biology, biochemistry or related area. Position Description: Cell Biologist/Molecular Biologist to study the subcellular localization and interaction of newly isolated members of the signal transduction pathway regulating aleurone cell fate specification in maize endosperm. Experience with fluorescence-tagged proteins and different forms of microscopy is required. Experience with confocal microscopy would be an asset. Relevant references for this project: Olsen, O.-A. (2001). Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol.; Plant Mol. Biol. 52, 233-267; Lid, S. et al. (2002). PNAS 99, 5460-5465; Shen, B. et al. (2003). PNAS 100, 6552-6557; Wang, C. et al., J. Biol. Chem.: Online M300745200. You must reference the relevant Job Code(s) above in order to be considered. Please send a resume/cover letter to: Employment Services, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, P.O. Box 14454, Des Moines, IA 50306-3454, or E-mail: apply@pioneerjobs.com. EOE.

Postdoctoral Position in Molecular Plant Nematode Interaction Research

One postdoctoral position is available starting July 2003 to conduct molecular studies of the interactions between Heterodera cyst nematodes and their host plants. We have at our disposal nematode parasitism proteins as well as plant (soybean and Arabidopsis) genes that change expression following cyst nematode infection. The successful candidate will conduct research to explore the functions of nematode and plant proteins in allowing successful parasitism using a variety of molecular biology and reverse genetics approaches. These approaches will include transgenic plant technologies, RNAi, in situ immunodetection, as well as biochemical methodologies. Candidates must have excellent knowledge of molecular biology tools and should demonstrate an interest in plant-microbe interactions. Prior nematology experience is not a prerequisite. Please send a hard copy of your application containing i) cover letter, ii) CV, iii) list of publications and reprints, and iv) list of contact addresses for three reference persons to Dr. Thomas J. Baum, Iowa State University, Department of Plant Pathology, 351 Bessey Hall, Ames, IA 50011 USA. Additional information can be obtained at http://www.baumlab.org.

Postdoctoral Scientist

University of Wisconsin-Madison. A postdoctoral position is available to study the molecular basis of pathogen recognition and defense activation in plants. We are examining NB-LRR R gene products, R-like transmembrane LRR-kinases, the pathogen-derived ligands that elicit defenses, and the proteins with which these R gene products and pathogen ligands interact. We work primarily with Arabidopsis but also with Brassica and soybean. Long-term goals are to understand structure-function relationships that govern plant defense activation, and generation of genes that encode novel pathogen recognition capacity. One position is available in late Summer 2003; an additional position may be available in the next year. Our laboratory is part of a large and very dynamic biological sciences research community at UW-Madison, and Madison is a great place to live! Please supply a detailed CV, names of three references (including phone, address, and E-mail information), and a brief description of your present work, timetable for taking a new position, and reasons for applying. Send to: Andrew Bent, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706; +1.608.265.3034 (voice); http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/fac/afb.htm; E-mail: afb@plantpath.wisc.edu.
**Postdoctoral Research Associate**
The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Root Disease and Biological Control Research Unit in Pullman, WA, is seeking a Postdoctoral Research Associate (Research Plant Pathologist/Microbiologist/Molecular Biologist). Ph.D. is required. Salary is commensurate with experience ($46,469 - $72,400 per annum), plus benefits. There are some citizenship restrictions. USDA is currently unable to sponsor H-1B or TN visas. The incumbent will investigate rhizosphere ecology and biological control of cereal root diseases by fluorescent Pseudomonas spp., focusing on genes involved in microbial competitiveness, rhizosphere fitness, and interactions with the host plant and with fungal root pathogens. Skills in microbiological and molecular genetic techniques and knowledge of bioinformatic approaches to gene identification, comparative genomics, and data management and analysis are required. Knowledge of plant-microbe interactions is highly desirable. Refer to [www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov) for the full text announcement (RA-03-022H) and for complete application instructions. Send application materials and references to Dr. Linda Thomashow, USDA/ARS, P.O. Box 646430, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6430 or E-mail thomasho@mail.wsu.edu. USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Postdoctoral Opportunity**
Postdoctoral position to study the mechanism of attachment of pathogenic E. coli to plant surfaces. Experience in molecular biology or bacterial genetics desirable. Available September 1, 2003. Contact ann_matthysse@unc.edu.

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**Welcome New Members**
The following members joined IS-MPMI between March 1, 2003 and August 31, 2003. Please join us in welcoming them to the Society!

- **Miles R. Armstrong**
  Scottish Crop Research Inst, Dundee
  Tayside, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Thomas J. Baum**
  Iowa State Univ, Ames IA, U.S.A.
- **Paul R. J. Birch**
  Scottish Crop Research Inst
  Dundee, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Augusta Benine Bonnema**
  Wageningen Agricultural Univ
  Wageningen, NETHERLANDS
- **Constance W. Brown**
  Howard Univ, Washington DC, U.S.A.
- **Darby G. Brown**
  Univ of Wisconsin, Madison WI, U.S.A.
- **Claude Bruand**
  CNRS INRA,
  Castanet Tolosan, FRANCE
- **Min-Wen Cheng**
  Academia Sinica
  Taipei, TAIWAN REP OF CHINA
- **Alfredo Morals Cravador**
  Univ De Algarve, Faro
  Algarve, PORTUGAL
- **Ian C. Dodd**
  Lancaster Univ
  Lancaster, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Catherine Dogimont**
  INRA, Montfavet, FRANCE
- **Sharon L. Doty**
  Univ of Washington, Seattle WA, U.S.A.
- **Sophia K. H. Ekengren**
  Boyce Thompson Inst
  Ithaca NY, U.S.A.
- **Lauber Emmanuelle**
  CNRS INRA, Castanet Tolosan,
  FRANCE
- **Amit Gal-On**
  ARO The Volcani Center
  Bet Dagan, ISRAEL
- **Stephane Genin**
  CNRS INRA, Castanet
  Tolosan, FRANCE
- **Saskia A. Hogenhout**
  Ohio State Univ, Wooster OH,
  U.S.A.
- **Bridget V. Hogg**
  Univ Paul Sabatier (UMR CNRS)
  Toulouse, FRANCE
- **Xiang Huang**
  BASF Corp
  Res Triangle Park NC, U.S.A.
- **Jonathan Jones**
  John Innes Centre, Colney Lane
  Norwich, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Kathryn M. Jones**
  Cambridge MA, U.S.A.
- **Matthieu Joosten**
  Wageningen Agricultural Univ
  Wageningen, NETHERLANDS
- **Veronique Lefebvre**
  INRA, Montfavet,
  FRANCE
- **Yu-Zu Lin**
  Academia Sinica
  Taipei, TAIWAN REP OF CHINA
- **Steven E. Lindow**
  Univ of California, Berkeley CA,
  U.S.A.
- **Yoshinori Matsuda**
  Kinki Univ, Nara, JAPAN
- **Arlat Matthieu**
  CNRS INRA
  Castanet Tolosan, FRANCE
- **Dmitri V. Mavrodi**
  Washington State Univ
  Pullman WA, U.S.A.
- **Olga V. Mavrodi**
  Washington State Univ
  Pullman WA, U.S.A.
- **Eliane Meilhoc**
  INSA CNRS INRA
  Castanet Tolosan,
  FRANCE
- **Matthew A. Metz**
  USAID, Washington DC, U.S.A.
- **Richard W. Michelmore**
  Univ of California, Davis CA,
  U.S.A.
- **Benoit Moury**
  INRA, Montfavet Cedex,
  FRANCE
- **Yaacov Okon**
  Hebrew Univ of Jerusalem
  Rehovot, ISRAEL
- **Maria Sanchez-Contreras**
  John Innes Centre, Norwich
  Norfolk, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Marianne Sela**
  De Ruiter Zonen Seeds
  Bergschenhoek, NETHERLANDS
- **Jurriaan Ton**
  Univ of Neuchatel
  Neuchatel, SWITZERLAND
- **Ian K. Toth**
  Scottish Crop Research Inst
  Dundee, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Toshiki Uchiumi**
  Kagoshima Univ, Kagoshima,
  JAPAN
- **Paola Veronese**
  Purdue Univ, West Lafayette IN,
  U.S.A.
- **Julia A. Vorholt**
  INRA, Castanet Tolosan, FRANCE
- **Jack Vossen**
  Univ of Amsterdam
  Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS
- **Stephen C. Whisson**
  Scottish Crop Research Inst
  Dundee, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Valerie M. Williamson**
  Univ of California, Davis CA,
  U.S.A.
- **Eugenia M. Winston**
  USDA ARS DB NRRC
  Stuttgart AR, U.S.A.
- **Bingyu Zhao**
  Kansas State Univ, Manhattan KS,
  U.S.A.
- **Benoit Moury**
  INRA, Montfavet Cedex,
  FRANCE
- **Yaacov Okon**
  Hebrew Univ of Jerusalem
  Rehovot, ISRAEL
- **Maria Sanchez-Contreras**
  John Innes Centre, Norwich
  Norfolk, UNITED KINGDOM
- **Marianne Sela**
  De Ruiter Zonen Seeds
  Bergschenhoek, NETHERLANDS
October 2003, Volume 16, Number 10

Induced Systemic Resistance in Arabidopsis thaliana in Response to Root Inoculation with Pseudomonas fluorescens CHA0. A. Iavicoli, E. Boutet, A. Buchala, and J.-P. Métraux.

Fungal Biology and Agriculture: Revisiting the Field. O. Yarden, D. J. Ebbole, S. Freeman, R. J. Rodriguez, and M. B. Dickman.


The Medicago truncatula Sucrose Synthase Gene MtSucS1 Is Activated Both in the Infected Region of Root Nodules and in the Cortex of Roots Colonized by Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi. N. Hohnjec, A. M. Perlick, A. Pühler, and H. Küster.


A Mating-Induced Protein of Phytophthora infestans Is a Member of a Family of Elicitors with Divergent Structures and Stage-Specific Patterns of Expression. A.-L. Fabritius and H. S. Judelson.


September 2003, Volume 16, Number 9


The Dual Role of the Potyvirus P3 Protein of Turnip mosaic virus as a Symptom and Avirulence Determinant in Brassicas. C. E. Jenner, X. Wang, K. Tomimura, K. Ohshima, F. Ponz, and J. A. Walsh.


cDNAs Generated from Individual Epidermal Cells Reveal that Differential Gene Expression Predicting Subsequent Resistance or Susceptibility to Rust Fungal Infection Occurs Prior to the Fungus Entering the Cell Lumen. M. J. R. Mould, T. Xu, M. Barbara, N. N. Iscove, and M. C. Heath.

August 2003, Volume 16, Number 8

**Tobacco mosaic virus** Induced Alterations in the Gene Expression Profile of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. S. Golem and J. N. Culver.


Aphid-Induced Defense Responses in Mi-1-Mediated Compatible and Incompatible Tomato Interactions. O. Martinez de Ildaryua, Q. Xie, and I. Kaloshian.


**July 2003, Volume 16, Issue 7**


cg12 Expression Is Specifically Linked to Infection of Root Hairs and Cortical Cells during *Casuarina glauca* and *Allocasuarina verticillata* Actinorhizal Nodule Development. S. Svistoonoff, L. Laplaze, F. Auguy, J. Runions, R. Duponnois, J. Haseloff, C. Franche, and D. Bogusz.


**June 2003, Volume 16, Issue 6**

In Spite of Induced Multiple Defense Responses, Tomato Plants Infected with *Cucumber mosaic virus* and D Satellite RNA Succumb to Systemic Necrosis. P. Xu, E. B. Blancaflor, and M. J. Roossinck.


Novel Exchangeable Effector Loci Associated with the *Pseudomonas syringae* *hrp* Pathogenicity Island: Evidence for Integron-Like Assembly from Transposed Gene Cassettes. J. C. Charity, K. Pak, C. F. Delwiche, and S. W. Hutcheson.


Molecular Evidence that the Extracellular Cutinase Pbc1 Is Required for Pathogenicity of *Pyrenopeziza brassicae* on Oilseed Rape. D. Li, A. M. Ashby, and K. Johnstone.

*MPMI Journal Articles continued on page 8*

**May 2003, Volume 16, Issue 5**


An Investigation into the Involvement of Defense Signaling Pathways in Components of the Nonhost Resistance of *Arabidopsis thaliana* to Rust Fungi Also Reveals a Model System for Studying Rust Fungal Compatibility. D. G. Mellersh and M. C. Heath.


A Protein Kinase from *Colletotrichum trifolii* Is Induced by Plant Cutin and Is Required for Appressorium Formation. M. B. Dickman, Y.-S. Ha, Z. Yang, B. Adams, and C. Huang.

Flagellin from an Incompatible Strain of *Acidovorax avenae* Mediates H2O2 Generation Accompanying Hypersensitive Cell Death and Expression of PAL, CBI-1, and PBZ1, but Not of LOX in Rice. N. Tanaka, F.-S. Che, N. Watanabe, S. Fujiiwara, S. Takayama, and A. Isogai.


**April 2003, Volume 16, Issue 4**


Rhizobium-Induced Calcium Spiking in *Lotus japonicus* J. M. Harris, R. Wais, and S. R. Long.


Characterization of a Novel Barley Protein, HCP1, That Interacts with the *Brome mosaic virus* Coat Protein. Y. Okinaka, M. Mise, T. Okuno, and I. Furusawa.

Disruption of *Botrytis cinerea* Pectin Methylesterase Gene *Bcpme1* Reduces Virulence on Several Host Plants. O. Valette-Collet, A. Cimerman, P. Reignault, C. Levis, and M. Boccara.