

Pesticulars

The Professional Pest Management Association of B.C.

Why join the Professional Pest Management Association of B.C.?

Consider the member benefits

- Admission to the Annual General meeting and a copy of the proceedings. The AGM has gained a reputation for strong agendas and interesting speakers
- An established means for communication amongst your professional peers
- Collective voice for advocating the pest management approaches you believe in: see our mission statement
- Your copy of *Pesticulars* the popular PPMA newsletter, published twice a year, including the AGM proceedings
- A facility to shop your resume in case you are looking for employment
- A venue for students to talk about their research
- And ... the lowest membership fee for any professional organization ... *on the planet*

www.sfu.ca/~ppmabc

Past President's Message

Victoria Brookes

I have been working with great people during my last two years on the executive of the PPMBC. I have made more contacts and been able to expand my knowledge in the pest management field. Our organization is a unique opportunity to meet people involved with many aspects of pest issues. It provides a comfortable forum to exam and discuss pest issues.

The executive provided a unique opportunity at the 2010 annual general meeting and symposium to meet Dr. Luciano Rovest, who has worked in several developed and developing areas of the world, most recently Sri Lanka. He was able to



provide us with first hand information on how he has been able to use his knowledge in developing sustainable programs for pest control. We were also able to honour, Dr Bernie Roitberg, with a Lifetime Achievement award and Jane Stock with the Contech Award of Excellence.

I thank all the present executive; Debbie Henderson, Jim Matteoni, Tammy McMullan, Chelsea Eby, Markus Clodius, Erin Adams and Erfan Vafaie and past members; Todd Kabaluk, Alex Chubaty and Wim van Herk for their willingness to serve on the committee.

Sincerely,
Victoria Brookes

Professional Pest Management Association of British Columbia

Call for submission of oral presentations
2011 Symposium

"Biodiversity"

Monday, March 28, 2011
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby

Student Awards Presented

Submit title, authors, abstract (50 words),
and contact information by March 15, 2011

ppmabc@sfu.ca

www.sfu.ca/~ppmabc/

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PPMABC 1st Annual Photo Contest

We are looking for a Pest Management Themed **photograph** to be used as the cover of "Pesticulars". The executive board will determine a short-list of photographs which will be posted on the website (<http://www.sfu.ca/~ppmabc/index.html>). PPMABC members will be able to vote via email on the short-listed photographs (one vote per member). The winner of the Photo Contest will receive a free, one-year membership to the PPMABC, have his/her photograph framed and presented at the next PPMABC AGM as well as having their photograph used as the cover of Pesticulars.

Please submit your photograph, name and contact information to ppmabc@sfu.ca by June 1st, 2011. Voting will end on June 30, 2011.

See the following for more details:
http://www.sfu.ca/~ppmabc/photocontest/PhotoContest_Spring_2011.pdf

Summary of ESC & ESBC 2010 Joint AGM

Written by Markus Clodius, Membership Director

From October 31st to November 3rd, the Entomological Society of Canada and the Entomological Society of BC met at the Coast Plaza Hotel in Vancouver. The theme of the meeting was "Communication", and as well as the plenary session on that subject, symposium topics included arachnology, the Biological Survey of Canada, community ecology, invasive insects, invertebrate conservation, and mountain pine beetle genomics. But as usual, the poster and student presentations covered a much wider range of topics, and with almost 300 people attending the meeting, finding someone to talk to about one's favourite creature/behaviour/ecosystem was pretty easy. Two symposia also honoured individuals: the memorial symposium for the late Terry Shore, and the career retrospective (and light roasting) of Mark Winston.

Dr. Charles Vincent of AAFC was awarded the ESC's Gold Medal for outstanding achievement in Canadian entomology, and in keeping with the meeting's theme, concluded his address by singing to his audience. The C. Gordon Hewitt Award for outstanding achievement by a Canadian entomologist under 40 was given to Dr. Dezene Huber of UNBC (who did not sing), and Dennis St. John of Willowbrook, BC, received the Norman Criddle Award for contributions to entomology by a non-professional. All in all, we had a pretty good time. For those who would like more details, the meeting program is still available as a .pdf file from http://www.sfu.ca/biology/esbc/JAM/jam_announce.html.

2010 AGM

This year's PPMABC Annual General Meeting was held at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Langley, BC.

Awards



This year's recipient of the **ConTech Award** was Jane Stock (posthumous) and accepted by Ruth Olds, presented by Cameron Lait of ConTech (above). Markus Clodius of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada presented this year's **Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award** to Dr. Bernard Roitberg (below).



AGM Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors for this year's AGM:

**ConTech
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The PPMABC is looking for companies who would be interested in sponsoring or co-sponsoring a coffee break or lunch at next year's AGM in return for advertising space. Morning coffee with muffins costs \$300, mid-morning and afternoon coffee costs \$200 and lunch costs \$1000. If interested, please contact Tammy McMullan (ppmabc@sfu.ca).

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Summary of WCCP 2010 meeting

Written by Wim van Herk, PPMABC Member

The 2010 Western Forum on Pest Management meeting was held in the Coast Lethbridge Hotel & Conference Centre, in Lethbridge, AB, from October 13 to 15. The Forum is essentially two meetings held concurrently in adjacent rooms, one organized by the Western Committee on Plant Disease, the other by the Western Committee on Crop Pests (WCCP). This arrangement allows attendees to move back and forth between the meetings, which is both convenient and a little frustrating as many have an interest in both. This year the Forum was followed by a joint symposium of the Entomological Society of Alberta and the Plant Pathology Society of Alberta. I restricted myself to the WCCP talks.

Attendees at the WCCP meeting included AAFC entomologists, provincial entomologists, representatives of the PMRA, the Canola Council and of some pesticide companies, and a few entomologically-minded graduate students. After the usual pleasantries, we heard provincial insect pest summaries, followed by provincial insect pest research summaries, followed by reports from PMRA and the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network, followed by a few special reports. Altogether too much information to summarize in one page; I'll focus on the pest summaries.

Susanna Acheampong reported on the extensive surveys carried out in BC for spotted wing drosophila, now widely distributed in the province and posing a serious threat to soft fruit industries. Other bad news included the absence of bees and bumblebees on Vancouver Island resulting in the non-pollination of pumpkin, squash, tomatoes and some berry crops, and pea leaf weevils causing significant damage in field peas in the North Okanagan.

Scott Meers reported that cutworms were the hot topic for Alberta in 2010, several species causing serious damage in all crop production areas of the province, from the Peace country to southern Alberta. Cabbage seedpod weevil caused the greatest economic damage to cropland, with threshold levels occurring in more and different areas than other years. Cereal leaf beetles caused economic damage in a few fields in southern Alberta, which was a first for the province.

Scott Hartley reported that Saskatchewan's cool wet spring caused flea beetles and grasshoppers to not be a problem in 2010. Instead, the main pests of field crops were cutworms, pea leaf weevil, and cabbage seedpod weevil.

John Gavloski reported that there were few insect problems in cereal crops in Manitoba, but cutworms, root maggots, and diamond back moth were a problem in canola, and *Lygus* bugs were the main insect concern in sunflower. Cutworms and weevils carried the day in the prairies.

Some of the other pest concerns were shared in the special reports. David Weaver of Montana discussed his work on wheat stem sawfly. In Montana wheat stem sawfly can cause up to 90% crop loss in affected fields. I reported on the Vernon lab's identification of wireworms of economic importance in Canada. This work was aided hugely this year by Syngenta Crop Protection's distribution of wireworm bait sampling kits to all wheat farmers who bought their insecticides. Lloyd Dosdall showed pictures of an astounding outbreak of *Amara littoralis* in central Alberta, one that required their removal from driveways with shovel and broom.

Perhaps the salient theme of the day was the weather. The unusual amount of rainfall in the Prairie Provinces in 2010 caused many fields to either not be planted, or not be harvested—both of which can have significant, if unpredictable, effects on pest abundance and distribution in 2011.

Election

Also at this year's AGM, candidates for positions on our executive were elected or appointed. A big 'thank you' to our outgoing executives as we welcome our new executive committee.

President: Deborah Henderson

Currently the Director and Leading Edge Endowment Fund Innovation Chair at the Institute for Sustainable Horticulture at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Deb started her career in agriculture in BC in 1988 when she founded E.S. Cropconsult Ltd. to offer IPM and research services to vegetable and berry growers in SW BC. She developed an active research program at the company involving biological and non-chemical management strategies for pests and diseases. Building on this background, she is developing, at the Institute, a research program in microbial biocontrol products, and cropping systems that utilize them.



Vice President: Jim Matteoni



In 1993 I was invited to Chair the Greenhouse Production Department at the new Kwantlen Polytechnic University School of Horticulture, and served an instrumental role in the development of the Institute for Sustainable Horticulture at Kwantlen. Research interests include the development of

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bumble bees for commercial pollination in greenhouse vegetables, distribution of imidacloprid in greenhouse peppers, and conservation biocontrol in field nurseries. I maintain an active contact with the horticulture sector through IPM focus groups that include students and IPM practitioners on site to examine a specific pest situation. I look forward to working with the pest management community in BC for the next few years!

Past President: Victoria Brookes

An Agricultural Sciences graduate from UBC, who began working with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Agassiz as a summer student in 1973 and has been on regular staff since 1977. Presently involved with the Pesticide Reduced Risk and Minor Use Program and work with a variety of projects in the vegetable, fruit, nursery and greenhouse industries primarily concerning insects, diseases and weeds. This involves cooperation with commodity group representatives and researchers across Canada and also with the IR-4 Minor Use Program in the U.S.



Treasurer: Tammy McMullan

Currently a Senior Lecturer at SFU: since 1988, Tammy has taught a wide range of courses, including graduate-level field courses in pest management. Tammy has held numerous Research Assistant positions and been involved in several research projects on a wide variety of insect pests, served as Director of the BC Entomological Society, and has previously held the positions of Secretary and Student Representative.



Secretary: Erin Adams

She completed BSc. at UVic during which worked for BCMAL's Plant Diagnostic Lab and at AAFC in Agassiz. She is currently at SFU completing her MPM under the supervision of Dr. Bernie Roitberg and Dr. Bob Vernon.



Membership Director: Markus Clodius

Markus studied botany at UVic, and was converted to entomology while earning an MPM degree at SFU.

After monitoring mosquito populations for the City of Port Coquitlam, he joined the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada research centre in Summerland, as a technician in codling moth and cherry fruit fly research. He later joined Bob Vernon's lab at Agassiz, studying wireworms and cabbage root maggot, and now part of AAFC's Minor Use Pesticide Program. He also keeps honey bees, but just for the fun of it.



Student Representative: Chelsea Eby

Completed her BSc in Victoria while working co-op jobs in the field of insect pest management. Following graduation, she continued to work in the pest management field in BC and in England and is currently enrolled in MPM program at SFU working on Apple Clearwing Moth, a new pest in BC's apple industry.



Pesticulars Editor: Erfan Vafaie



Completed his BSc (Hons) at the University of Western Ontario, and currently working towards his MPM under the supervision of Dr. Jenny Cory (SFU) on biological control of aphids using parasitoids. Erfan hopes to incorporate his grassroots level community development experience with

his education in biological control of pests to aid in the movement towards more sustainable agricultural practices.

Endnotes

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Canadian Pest Management Association
March 6 – 8, 2011, Halifax, NS
<http://www.pestworldcanada.net/cpma/events/>
- 57th Annual Soil Fungus Conference
March 21 – 23, 2011, Davis, CA
<http://soilfungus.ars.usda.gov/>
- *Climate Change and the Implications for the Plant Protection Symposium*
June 7 – 8, 2011, Guelph, ON
<http://www.cropprotection.open.uoguelph.ca/>
- *Canadian Phytopathological Society*
July 17 – 21, 2011, Halifax, NS
<http://www.cps-scp.ca/meetings.shtml>
- Canadian Weed Science Society Annual Meeting
November 22 – 24, 2011, Niagara Falls, ON.
<http://www.weedscience.ca/annual-meeting>

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Electronic Publishing

Pesticulars is now an electronic publication. To ensure that you receive your copy, please send us an updated email address. Email addresses and mailing information (for ballots and voting information) can be sent to Tammy McMullan (ppmabc@sfu.ca).

Website

Our new website address is www.sfu.ca/~ppmabc/. Check it out for information on our association, contact details, copies of *Pesticulars*, and upcoming events.

Webmaster: Erfan Vafaie (evafaie@sfu.ca).

Pesticulars Submissions

We are always looking for pest management topics to publish. If you or know of others who have information to relay, exciting research to share, or upcoming events that you would like posted in one of our issues, please contact Erfan Vafaie (evafaie@sfu.ca).
