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- Admission to the Annual General meeting and a copy of the proceedings. The AGM has gained a reputation for strong agendas and interesting speakers
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2015 Symposium

“The Road Ahead: Pest
Management In A Changing
Climate”

Wednesday, February 25,
2015

Simon Fraser University,
Burnaby

Pesticulars, PPMABC, Spring 2015

Summary of the 2014 AGM

The 2014 PPMABC Annual General Meeting was held at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC.

Awards



The 2014 recipient of the **ConTech Award** was Tammy McMullan (pictured above-right with Thelma Finlayson), current Treasurer of the PPMABC and senior lecturer in the Biological Sciences Department at Simon Fraser University. Tammy also presented a heartfelt presentation entitled: "On the IPM Trail: A Glimpse into the MPM Professional Courses".

Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Dr. Murray Isman, professor in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems at University of British Columbia (below). The award was given in recognition of Dr. Isman's outstanding contributions to entomology, pest management, and insect chemical ecology; as a researcher, mentor, teacher and leader.



The **Student Award** was given to MPM graduate student and current PPMABC Secretary, Jen Scholefield, for her presentation at the AGM entitled: Dose dependent responses to a baculovirus (*T. ni* SNPV) in the cabbage looper, *Trichoplusia ni*.



2014 AGM Sponsors

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The PPMABC welcomes sponsorship from companies interested in supporting the costs associated with the Association's annual AGM. If interested, please contact Tammy McMullan (ppmabc@sfu.ca).

Pesticulars, PPMABC, Spring 2015

A Tribute to *Michael James Smirle (1954–2014)*

Dr. Michael J. Smirle passed away on July 27, 2014, at his home in Summerland, British Columbia (B.C.), while working in what he affectionately referred to as his Mother's garden. Born in Abbotsford, B.C., on June 18, 1954, Mike grew up on the family farm in the nearby village of Bradner. He was the only child of Jim and Joan Smirle.

While growing up, he excelled at piano, academics and basketball. After graduating top all-round student from Abbotsford Senior Secondary in 1972, Mike began his academic career in the faculty of music at the University of British Columbia (UBC). When his father passed away in January, 1974, Mike took the year to travel extensively with his mother. He returned to UBC in the fall of 1974, this time enrolled in the Faculty of Science.

It was at UBC, on October 5, 1974, that Mike met Mary-Anne, his wife to be, and they began their journey in life together. He graduated in 1979, with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, after which he returned to his daffodil farm in Bradner, and worked part time as a lumber grader in the local mill.

Tiring of shift work, Mike returned to university, this time at Simon Fraser University (SFU), where he pursued a Masters in Pest Management. While studying under Dr. Mark Winston, Mike combined an interest in biochemistry with a love for honey bees, which he had cultivated as a child on the family farm. His Master's Thesis "Development of a Sensitive Bioassay for Evaluating Sub-lethal Pesticide Effects on the Honey Bee" was followed by doctoral studies, also at SFU, on the "Insecticide Resistance Mechanisms in the Honey Bee". His doctoral studies earned him a prestigious J.H. Comstock Award from the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

Upon completion of his Ph.D. in 1989, Mike worked as a sessional instructor at SFU, while undertaking a post-doctoral research fellowship at UBC with Dr. Murray Isman. Mike's post-doctoral research focused on the metabolism of secondary plant compounds in phytophagous insects. He examined the mode of action of natural-product insecticides, especially neem oil and other allelochemicals.

While working two years in Isman's laboratory, Mike published three scientific papers and a significant book chapter on Allomonones in Insect-Plant Interactions. More importantly, he also became close friends with Dr. Tom Lowery, with whom he collaborated for the rest of his career.

On the February 1, 1990, work brought Mike and the family, which now included sons James and Jeffery, to their home in Summerland, B.C. Mike worked at the Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre (PARC) as a respected and valued research scientist until his passing. Working at PARC was like coming home, as Mike shared his career with no less than seven Masters in Pest Management graduates from SFU, as

well as Tom Lowery from UBC. During his 24-plus years at PARC, Mike led a successful research team that focused on insect toxicology and determined the biochemical mechanisms of insecticide resistance—knowledge essential for developing strategies to manage resistant pest populations. With his capable technician Cheryl Zurowski always in support, he contributed to the development of pest management systems for orchard and grape crops, as well as to our understanding of the environmental fate of new insecticides. His collaboration on the Canadian International Development Agency Hebei Dry-Land Farming Project led to his becoming an Adjunct Professor at the University of Beijing, China.

Mike published 34 papers in peer-reviewed journals, two book chapters and 58 miscellaneous technical articles throughout his career. At PARC, he served as Head of the Environmental Studies Section for a number of years, eventually becoming the Test Site Manager for the Minor Use Pesticide Program at Summerland run by AAFC's Pest Management Centre. For the past few years, Mike led a major research project on Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) that brought together research scientists from both AAFC Centre's in B.C., Agassiz and Summerland. The Pest Management Regulatory Agency often sought out Mike for his expertise on resistance management. Co-workers at PARC looked to Mike for assistance on many issues as he had a seemingly infinite amount of patience and a calming presence. His ability to bring together disparate individuals into productive groups will be greatly missed. He was a longtime member of the Entomological Societies of Canada (ESC) and British Columbia (ESBC). He served as an Associate Editor to the ESC (2006–2014) and was on the Editorial Board of Biopesticides International (2004–2104). He was the President of the ESBC at the time of his passing.

Outside of work, Mike's greatest joy was spending time with his boys and their friends. He loved every moment spent on the sidelines of local soccer pitches and track and field venues, attending his sons' high school plays, or, most especially, cheering on James and Jeff at the hockey rink—watching them thrive and grow into the incredible young men they are today. Mike's lifelong love of music allowed him to share his talents as a regular organist at Holy Child Parish, and singing with the Mosaic Vocal Ensemble was a favorite pastime during his years in Summerland.

It always comes as a shock when the entomological community loses one of its valued scientists. This tragedy is compounded when that scientist has also been a great human being and a close friend for over 30 years. Mike was all of these things. He will be dearly missed by everyone fortunate enough to have known him.

Submitted by Gary Judd, Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Summerland, B.C.

PPMABC Executive

President: Kristine Schlamp, MPM

I am an instructor at the School of Horticulture with Kwantlen Polytechnic University. I also serve as coordinator with the registered non-profit society of the Abbotsford Soil Conservation Association. Throughout my career I have enjoyed a variety of dynamic and engaging responsibilities, situations that have involved integrating a balance of historical and current scientific crop and pest knowledge, an understanding of



application-specific concerns, a realization of the 'bigger picture'. I have collaborated with the general public, growers and front line workers in educational and co-operative research. I have witnessed the benefits of effective communication with growers, scientists, and affiliated extension personnel. We have explored strategies to mitigate pest problems, keeping in mind that some control methods, when used alone, can be ineffective and even prohibitively costly. Instead, relying on a cohesive integrated strategy of environmentally sound pest management tactics can be successful and financially rewarding. Currently, I sit on several boards, such as the Abbotsford Agriculture Chamber of Commerce Committee, Abbotsford Environmental Advisory Committee, FarmStart BC and I am the Secretary of the BC Plant Protection Advisory Council. I hold a Masters of Pest Management degree from Simon Fraser University.

Vice President: Carolyn

Teasdale

Carolyn is an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Consultant with E.S. Cropconsult Ltd. where she coordinates field monitoring and on-farm research in blueberry, raspberry and strawberry crops in the Fraser Valley. Carolyn completed her MPM at SFU in 2012 on pheromone-based monitoring and management of the raspberry crown borer. She has a B.Sc from UBC. Carolyn was previously the membership director for the PPMABC.



Webmaster: Paul MacDonald

Paul completed his BSc (Biology and Mathematics) in Halifax and BEd in Toronto. He is currently at SFU completing his MPM under the supervision of Dr. Jenny Cory.



Paul's research concerns the underlying factors that contribute to the population dynamics of the western tent caterpillar.

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: Jen Scholefield

Jen is a Masters of Pest Management student with Dr. Jenny Cory (SFU). She studies the use of multiple pathogens as biological control agents in the cabbage looper, a greenhouse pest. Jen is keen to incorporate a better understanding of evolution, in both host and pathogens, allowing for more sustainable long-term pest management. She expects to complete her degree in Spring 2015 but intends to stay in the area, hopefully with a job!



Membership Director:

Chelsea Eby

Chelsea completed her BSc in Victoria while working co-op jobs in the field of insect pest management. Following graduation from UVIC, she continued to work in the pest management field in BC and in England. She then completed her MPM program at SFU on visual and olfactory cues used by the Apple Clearwing Moth to locate food sources. Chelsea now works for Semios, a start-up company integrating wireless technology with pest management in the agricultural sector.



Student Representative:

Sebastian Ibarra

Sebastian completed his BSc in Winnipeg. He is currently at SFU completing his MPM under the supervision of Dr. Gerhard Gries. Sebastian's research involves the identification of alarm and marker pheromone components in the boldfaced hornet.

