



OCTOBER 2015 PLP BULLETIN

October Seminars

- 10/06** Hijacking host transcription as a disease strategy. Dr. Frank White, UF, Plant Pathology Dept.
- 10/13** New insights into Phytophthora infestans and P. palmivora at their centers of origin. Jinan Wang, UF, Plant Pathology Dept.
- 10/20** Spatial and temporal spread of banana Xanthomonas wilt in Tanzania. Mpoki Shimwela, UF, Plant Pathology Dept.
- 10/27** Soil health management and biodiversity: the central pillars of plant disease management in organic agriculture. Dr. Maria Finckh, University of Kassel, Department of Ecological Plant Protection.

Departmental Coffee Break

October 9th, in rooms 1306 & 1308 at 10 o'clock. The October hosts will be van Bruggen, Polston, Smith, and White.***Directly following the coffee break, there will be our annual EH&S lab safety training.

PLP Faculty Meeting

Our regularly scheduled faculty meeting for the month of October will be held on Monday, October 19, in room 2502, Fifield Hall from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Polycom connection number will be announced closer to the date.

From the Chair's Desk

I would like to provide a brief overview of the current and upcoming faculty hiring activities in Plant Pathology. We have just completed interviews of four candidates for a citrus virology position at the Citrus Research and Extension Center, in Lake Alfred. I expect that we will have the results of that search within the month. In February we will be interviewing three candidates for a row crop pathology position at the North Florida REC in Quincy. That position is being advertised now. Other positions will be advertised over the next several months:

- Forest Health/ Plant Genetics in Gainesville
- Tropical Crop Genetics/Biotechnology in Gainesville
- Citrus Pathologist at the South West REC in Immokalee

As a reminder, Liliana Cano will arrive in January 2016 at the Indian River REC; she will be our newest citrus pathologist. We are fortunate to be able to hire six new faculty members in the department! Thanks to all who have participated in these recruiting events.

CGIAR workshop overview/Karen Garrett. Managing seed degeneration and seed systems in roots, tubers, and bananas. Twenty-one CGIAR (<http://www.cgiar.org/>) scientists and their collaborators met at the University of Florida Sept 21-24, to advance projects addressing management of seed degeneration and seed systems. These projects are part of the CGIAR research program on roots, tubers and bananas (<http://www.rtb.cgiar.org/>). Several members of the group recently contributed to a background paper on seed degeneration in potato that calls for a new integrated seed health strategy (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ppa.12439/abstract>). The scientists met with members of the Plant Pathology Department in a reception Sept 21 and presented as a panel for the department seminar. The workshop closed with planning for new collaborations among CGIAR centers and UF, including the Garrett Lab. Yanru Xing, John Hernandez Nopsa, and Ravin Poudel did a great job of helping to organize the meeting.

Greenhouse Updates

Reminder: Greenhouse Spray Day is Wednesday, first thing in the morning. If special arrangements are needed, you must send your request via e-mail to mstilwel@ufl.edu by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Other Interesting News

The Program Presentation Board for October will be sponsored by Dr. Wen-Yuan Song.

Did you know there is a Campus Taxi Service for faculty and staff?

Campus Cab Reservations (Campus Cab taxi service is provided at no cost to our customers. Our service is intended for official business only.) Reservations must be booked at least 60 minutes in advance. However, due to high demand, we recommend submitting your reservation request as far in advance as possible.

Reservations may be requested or cancelled by calling (352) 392-RIDE or emailing campuscab@ufl.edu.

Last minute cancellations are difficult to coordinate, so please give us as much notice as possible if cancelling your reservation.

- Campus Cab taxis will pick up and deliver customers to a designated spot at or near their building.
- Customers should be waiting at the designated pick-up location at the requested time of departure. Taxis will wait a maximum of 5 minutes after requested time of departure at a pick-up location before leaving.
- Please check and ensure that you have taken all your personal belongings with you before exiting the taxi. We cannot be responsible for items left behind.
- Demand for Campus Cab service is high, and all reservations are made on a first-come first-served basis. Campus Cab does not overbook its service and reserves the right to refuse any reservation.
- Faculty and staff with permanent or temporary disabilities who are unable to ride in an unmodified 4-door sedan will be referred to **Gator Lift** for their transportation needs.
- Please be patient - we have a limited number of cabs serving campus, and coordination and communication are more complex than one would think. Rarely do people have to wait for a confirmed reservation.

The American Phytopathological Society offers great benefits to Members. Contact APS Member Services, 1-800-454-7250, or e-mail apsinfo@scisoc.org .

September 30th will begin the new rental car contract between UF and Enterprise Rent-A-Car and National Car Rental. When calling to make a reservation, 1-877-690-0064, please reference Contract ID XZ55500.

Congratulations to our Emeritus Professor, Dr. R. Charudattan. SolviNix LC, the bioherbicide developed at the Plant Pathology Department and further developed and registered by BioProdex, Inc., is the winner of an AGROW AWARD 2015 in the Best New Biopesticide category. The award, received by the company President & CEO Dr. Raghavan “Charu” Charudattan, was presented at a black-tie ceremony on September 17, 2015 in London, England.

Positions in Plant Pathology

For the month of September, there were four postings for positions available. **Jobs are now posted online – see the JOBS button on the front page of the Department of Plant Pathology Web site.**

<http://plantpath.ifas.ufl.edu/>

- Research Professional
- IPM Specialist
- Assistant Professor
- Assistant Professor

Upcoming Holidays and Events

Sept. 27–10/26	Newberry’s Cornfield Maze, Newberry
Oct. 12	Columbus Day (not a UF holiday)
Oct.17-Oct. 18	Fall Plant Sale and Orchid Show, Kanapah Botanical Gardens, Gainesville
Oct. 19-Nov. 6	UF Open Enrollment
Oct. 24	11 th Annual Bat Festival, Lubee Bat Conservancy, Gainesville
Oct. 24	Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5k walk, Downtown Gainesville
Oct. 25	High Springs Fall Festival, High Springs
Oct. 31	21 st Boo at the Zoo, 3-7:30 p.m. Santa Fe Teaching Zoo, Gainesville
Oct. 31-Nov. 1	Micanopy Fall Festival, Micanopy
Nov. 6	UF Homecoming (holiday)
Nov. 14	Plant Pathology Tailgator Event, Fifield Hall