

# CSA Newsletter



Canadian Society of Agronomy

Fall 2002

## President's Message

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Saskatoon in July and several issues of importance to the Society were discussed. I would like to focus on three opportunities that were discussed at the meeting and also include activities by the Executive to date.

A first issue is the future of CSA conferences. A resolution was passed in Saskatoon that "dates and location for CSA annual meetings will be set by the Executive board based on suitable associations with other societies, international conferences or related activities. At this meeting the CSA will hold its' Annual General Meeting". Discussion surrounding the resolution identified a potential theme for the conference in 2004 as "Global warming and greenhouse gas emissions". It was further suggested that this conference be international in scope and be joined with another international conference.

Since that time Steve Sheppard and I have participated in two conference calls with other AIC Scientific Societies and with AIC representatives. To this point in time we have a proposal to hold an international conference / symposium on global warming in 2004 either in association with an international conference of agricultural engineers or foresters. The format would be for a two-day symposium to be run to overlap with the associating international conference, and to be followed by two days of Society Technical Sessions and Annual General Meeting.

Several of the Scientific Societies have expressed interest in this conference proposal. AIC has offered to host the conference, using a professional planner and with a conference planning committee consisting of Society representatives. A stipulation of the Societies has been that the format would be built around scientific sessions. There would be no plenary-type session and the registration fee for Society members would be no higher than \$200. Steve and I would appreciate receiving your comments.

A second opportunity is for CSA members to write a book on Methods in Agronomic Research to parallel an existing, very popular book on Soil Sampling and Methods of Analysis sponsored by the Canadian Society of Soil Science. Discussion at the AGM indicated that there was a need for this publication and the expertise existed within the Society. It was suggested that an editor or editorial board was required to lead this initiative. The advantages of such a project are the visibility it would provide the Society and its members and the not-insignificant revenues that such a book could generate for the Society. Although there is no time line to start this project, I ask that members interested in working as editor or as a member of an editorial board contact Steve or myself before the end of the calendar year.

Finally, it was suggested at the AGM that the CSA involve more graduate students in its activities. Some ideas that arose during discussion were to produce a CSA brochure aimed at graduate students that could be sent with a welcoming package from agricultural universities. Another idea was to have a graduate student representative on the Executive. A third suggestion was to promote a Canadian evening at the American Society of Agronomy meetings to

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Canadian Journal of Plant Science/Revue Canadien de  
Phytotechnie  
**2002 Editor's report for Volume 81**  
**(2001)**

Peter Hicklenton

The Journal experienced a 3% increase in submitted manuscripts during 2001, continuing the stabilization trend that we have seen in the past 3 years (30% increase from 1998 to 1999; 8% increase from 1999 to 2000). A total of 202 manuscripts were submitted (Table 1). The total number of accepted manuscripts (including those still in process with a strong likelihood of eventual acceptance) was 152 in 2000, as compared with 160 in the previous year. Early indications show numbers of submissions will remain quite stable for 2002.

The category breakdown was:

- ◆ 70 Full Papers
- ◆ 22 Short Communications
- ◆ 30 cultivar description
- ◆ 3 Reviews
- ◆ 27 manuscripts are still in process (as of June 22, 2002)

A total of 46 manuscripts were rejected (23%) and 4 were withdrawn. Notable were the increase in Short Communications, and decrease in Cultivar Descriptions as compared with 2000. The number of review articles held steady (3 published in 2001, as compared with 4 in 2000), but this is still an area where I would like to see more submissions. On one front our record on processing time was somewhat worse than in previous years (between 42 and 328 days for full papers with associate editors), but slightly better with authors (between 13 and 229 days), with an average processing time of 203 days (about 6½ months), very similar to 2000.

### Origin and Type of Manuscripts

Canadian institutions accounted for the majority of manuscripts submitted in 2001, but the number of submissions was also up from the United States, an encouraging sign. Key details are:

- ◆ Canadian manuscripts: 157 (78%) similar to 2000
- ◆ U.S. manuscripts: 19 (8%) up 26% from 2000
- ◆ Other countries: 22 (11%) up 18% from 2000

As in previous years, the rejection rate for foreign (77%) and U.S. manuscripts (37%) was significantly greater than that from Canadian sources. The overall rejection rate was the highest since 1998. The reasons for this are not clear, but all indications are that the quality of published manuscripts is being strongly maintained.

As in previous years Federal Government labs represented the major sources of Canadian submissions (54% of the total; Table 3), but the total number of papers from Government labs were down in 2001. Universities took up the slack, with a small increase over 2000.

Agronomy submissions were, once again, the largest category, but increases in Horticulture, Pest Management, and

Application of Technology were encouraging. With 63 % of CJPS submissions in Agronomy and 36% from Horticulture, Pest Management, and Application of Technology we can consider ourselves truly a well-rounded Plant Science Journal!

### Manuscript flow and language

In 2001 the majority of manuscripts were submitted during the late winter/early spring with a peak in April. The number of French language manuscripts held constant at around 3% of the total.

Over the past 12 months the journal has been beset by two Associate Editor resignations during the middle of their terms. While this poses problems, we certainly appreciate that personal work loads change, sometimes to a point where it is no longer possible to continue in a role as CJPS associate editor. Under these circumstances, I appreciate being informed as early as possible so that arrangements can be made to re-allocate manuscripts and arrange a smooth hand-over.

I want to take this opportunity to thank outgoing Associate Editors (whose term is completed at the end of 2002) Drs. Alek Thin Meiw Choo, Jim Moyer, John O'Donovan, Tom Papadopoulos and Nicolas Tremblay for their commitment to the Journal and invaluable help. During 2001 and early 2002 we have welcomed new AE's Drs. Anita Brûlé-Babel, Robert Conner, Surya Acharya, Shabtai Bittman, and Robert Graf. In January 2003 Drs. Jerry Ivany, Douglas Waterer, Elroy Cober and Hugh Beckie will join the team. I also welcome Dr. Alek Thin-Meiw Choo as our new representative on the Policy Sub Committee. Alek joins myself and Peter Toivonen in representing the Journal on PSC.

I extend thanks to the executives of CSA and CSHS for their continued support and assistance throughout the year. The Journal exists to serve the needs of our Scientific Societies and I am always pleased to receive comments and feedback from them on issues concerning CJPS. My sincere thanks also to Tim Fenton and Laurie Scott who have compiled the statistics for this report and whose professional dedication to the Journal make the Editor's task so much easier!

### CANADIAN JOURNAL OF PLANT SCIENCE: DATA ON 2001 MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS PROCESSING OF 2001 MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts	No.	%	Processing Time (Range in Days)		
			Associate	Authors	Total
Accepted P	70	35 (36/41/39)	42-328	13-229	203 (201/182/184)
Accepted SC	22	11 (7)	48-184	0-204	148
Accepted CD	30	15 (27)	32-187	10-169	151
Accepted Reviews <sup>1</sup>	3	1 (2/0.5/1)	65-174	45-338	289 (234/204/213)
Accepted MS <sup>2</sup>	27	13 (10/3/8)	Revision in process		
Rejected MS	46	23 (15/24/20)	6-250	0-103	88 (81/100/82)
Withdrawn	4	2 (3/2/5)	59-165	93-234	248 (146/124/200)
Symposium	0	0 (0/5.5/4)			
Workshop	0	0 (0/0/1)			

<sup>1</sup> Reviews and Biology of Canadian weeds  
( ) values for '00, '99, '98

<sup>2</sup>Review incomplete

# Announcement and Call for Papers

## THE FIRST ATLANTIC AGRONOMY WORKSHOP

Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

January 15-16, 2003

Organized by Canadian Society of Agronomy

<http://www.agronomycanada.com>

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

*The Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) recognizes that there is a need for a forum, in the Atlantic Region, for agronomy people (cereals, corn, forages, pulse crops, soybeans, etc) to get together to exchange ideas and research results. The CSA will organize a 2 day meeting for professional Agrologists / CCA's in the region to fill this void. The CSA will sponsor the meeting which will be run as an "at cost" event covered by registration fees. Application has been made for Certified Education Credits to be awarded for this Workshop.*

This meeting, aimed at both researchers/graduate students and advisers, is planned to provide a forum for presentation of new information and discussion on all aspects of agronomic crop production in the Atlantic Region including:

### □ Crop Production

- Buffer zones for runoff management
- Crop management practices
- Crop rotations
- Crop fertility
- Cropping effects on environment
- Cultivar development and evaluation
- Organic crop production
- Soil erosion control
- Direction of future cropping research in Region.

### □ Pest Management (diseases, insects, nematodes, weeds)

- Field experiments and results from long-term studies
- Interaction with cultural methods of control
- Management and control of individual pest species
- Pest management regulation

Invited guest speakers will give lead presentations on selected areas of the above listed subjects. The organisers invite offers of spoken and poster presentations. Slots are available for approximately 35 oral papers which are related to the session topics (see tentative program). The papers are to be 12 minutes in length plus a 3 minute period for questions. Offers that cannot be accommodated in the oral sessions will be allotted space for a poster presentation. Abstracts of all papers/posters will be published in a volume of *Canadian Journal of Plant Science*. A prize will be offered for the best paper and poster presented

by a graduate student. Authors must indicate on the form whether the paper or poster is intended for the graduate student competition.

Titles and abstracts are to be submitted to Dr. Jerry A. Ivany , P.Ag., Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Crops and Livestock Research Centre, 440 University Ave., Charlottetown, PE, C1A 4N6, Tel: 902 566 6835: Fax: 902 566 6821: E-mail: [Ivany@agr.gc.ca](mailto:Ivany@agr.gc.ca).

For more details, as they become available, please visit the CSA Website:

[www.agronomycanada.com](http://www.agronomycanada.com)

To be included on our automatic mailing list please contact:

Jerry A. Ivany PhD, P.Ag.  
Agriculture and Agri Food Canada  
Crops and Livestock Research Centre  
440 University Ave.  
Charlottetown, PE, C1A 4N6  
Tel: 902 566 6835  
Fax: 902 566 6821  
EM: [IvanyJ@agr.gc.ca](mailto:IvanyJ@agr.gc.ca)

**Deadline for offer of Paper / Poster Title is  
December 6, 2002**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT IS  
JANUARY 8, 2003**

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## Atlantic Field Crops Workshop Progress Report July 16, 2002

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The Atlantic Provinces Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee has disbanded all of the Atlantic Advisory Committees and as a result there is no forum for agronomy people (cereals, soybeans, corn, forages, pulse crops, etc) to get together to exchange ideas and research results. The Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) plans to sponsor a 1.5 to 2 day meeting for professional Agrologists / CCA's in the Atlantic region to fill the void left by the APASCC decision. This initiative is spear headed by Jerry Ivany and Yousef Papadopoulos. An *ad hoc* organizing committee was assembled; Jerry Ivany (co-chair), Yousef Papadopoulos (co-chair), Ralph Martin, Peter Boswall, Mike Price and Jack van Roestel. Additional help will be recruited for additional organization needs. For more details, as they become available, please visit the CSA Website: [www.agronomycanada.com](http://www.agronomycanada.com) or contact Yousef A. Papadopoulos, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada 12 Harris Ave. Truro, NS B2N 3N2; Tel: 902-896-0400 Fax: 902-896-0200, Email: [Papadopoulos@agr.gc.ca](mailto:Papadopoulos@agr.gc.ca).

# AWARDS Citations

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## CSA Fellow - 2002

### Dr. Robert Zentner

Bob Zentner was raised on a farm in Leroy, Saskatchewan. He received a BSA in Agricultural Mechanics from the U of S in 1972. After a year as an Ag Econ technician at Lethbridge Research Station, he returned to the U of S and



completed an MSc in Ag Econ in 1975 and a PhD at the University of Minnesota in 1982. During this period Bob was employed as a Research Economist at Lethbridge. In 1981, he moved to Swift Current as Research Scientist and since 1992 has been Head of the Land Resource and Environment section. Bob has also served as an Adjunct Professor at the U of S since 1985 where he has supervised 5 MSc thesis projects and served on several other graduate student advisory committees.

Dr. Zentner's outstanding productivity and leadership of multidisciplinary agricultural research has spanned all facets of developing economic and environmentally sustainable farming systems in Western Canada. His exceptional level of productivity and technology transfer has been remarkable considering his extensive management responsibilities and leadership in

regional and federal and provincial programming. As one of a few Ag Economists in the Research Branch of Ag. Canada, Dr. Zentner is frequently called on to advise senior management and Policy Branch on a wide range of national and international issues of a strategic nature. His extensive experience (especially with his farming background) and comprehensive knowledge of the Ag Industry has helped producers enhance their income and economic wealth and reduce their risk. His most notable achievement in this regard has been his key role in promoting sustainable production systems with alternative crops (besides spring wheat) in southwestern Saskatchewan.

Dr. Zentner's contributions and impact on the sector are reflected in the many awards or public recognition he has received from his peers, private industry and employer. He was presented with >Distinguished Agrologist Award= from the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists in 1994; >Commemorative Medal for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation of Canada= by the Governor General of Canada in 1994; Departmental >AgCelle Award= for innovation (SMS) in 1995; named to the >Wall of Honor= at the University of Saskatchewan in 1997; received the >Agronomy Merit Award= from Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Agricore and Westco Fertilizers Ltd. in 1998; and made >Fellow= of the Agricultural Institute of Canada in 2000.

Dr. Zentner has been on the Editorial board of CJP Science for 6 years. Finally, Bob continues to farm with his brother at Leroy, using his holidays to help with seeding and harvesting.

## CSA Fellow - 2002

### Dr. Shabtai Bittman

Dr. Shabtai Bittman was born in Israel and grew up in Montreal, QC. He received his BSc in 1972 and MSc in 1975 from McGill University. After working as a sessional lecturer at MacDonald College, Shabtai joined AAFC in 1977 as a Biologist at Nappan, NS. In 1978 he moved to Melfort,



SK to work with the forage program, completing his PhD at the U of Saskatchewan in 1985. In 1987 Shabtai transferred to the Agassiz Research Station where he continues to work as a Forage Agronomist, and between 1991-1999 served as research leader of the Soils and Environmental Protection Section.

Dr. Bittman is a highly innovative agronomist who has made substantial and wide-ranging contributions to our knowledge of the management of forage crops and livestock wastes. He has worked with a wide variety of grass and legume forage species, forage crop and livestock production systems. Among other achievements, he has pioneered a method for evaluating grazing tolerance, identified a highly persistent alfalfa strain ('Yellowhead'), proven the value of tall fescue as a forage species for BC and the Pacific Northwest, devised a novel method

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# AWARDS Citations

## Dr. Shabtai Bittman

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(patented) to enrich selenium levels in crops, developed a successful relay cropping system to conserve nutrients, and designed an award-winning liquid manure applicator that is being manufactured commercially. Dr. Bittman has been very effective in transferring technology to clients (eg. his approach to corn hybrid testing has been a model of effective technology transfer).

In addition to his diverse research activities, Dr. Bittman provides substantial leadership for his discipline by serving on various committees such as the Canada Expert Committee on Forage Crops and as the Head of the Soils and Environmental Protection Section at PARC. In those roles, he exerts substantial influence on the focus and direction of soils, forage and livestock research, regionally, nationally and internationally. Dr. Bittman has also played a key role in promoting the activities of the CSA, currently serving as secretary-treasurer.

## CSA Fellow - 2001

### Dr. Clarence Swanton

Dr. Clarence Swanton is a native of Ontario and obtained his BSc in Botany from the University of Toronto in 1975, MSc in Agrometerology from the University of Guelph in 1977, and PhD in Plant Ecology from the University of Western Ontario in 1986. He was employed by Campbell Soup Company as a Research Assistant from 1977-78, Ridgetown College as a Weed Biologist from 1978-85, and joined the Department of Crop Science at the University of Guelph in 1985.

Many weed scientists and agronomists would consider Clarence to be the authority on integrated weed management in Canada and



internationally. He has provided leadership in weed control in Ontario and eastern Canada by sharing ideas and developing research based on his contact with growers, industry representatives, other researchers and policy makers. He is in demand as an invited speaker around the world, in recognition of his ideas and expertise.

Dr. Swanton has an excellent track record as a university teacher, reflecting his ability to communicate ideas clearly and motivate students. As a result a large number of the undergraduate students that he has taught have chosen to pursue graduate studies under his supervision.

In 1998 Clarence was appointed the first Chair of the Department of Plant Agriculture at the University of Guelph, an amalgamated department combining the former Departments of Crop Science, Horticultural Science and the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario, a former provincial government research institute. Throughout this time as Department Chair Clarence has maintained an active research program. Dr. Swanton is known for challenging his students with research projects that expand the theoretical horizon of weed science, but also have an applied end product.

Dr. Swanton has been recognized for his contribution to weed science with several

awards, including the Weed Science Society of America – Outstanding Weed Science Paper in 1994; Ontario Agricultural College Distinguished Research Award (1996); The Tenth Annual David W. Staniforth Lecturer, Iowa State University (1997); Dow AgroScience Excellence in Weed Science Award for Canada (1997); Invited reviewer of the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems in Australia (1999); and the Weed Science Society of America's Outstanding Researcher Award in 2001. Clarence served the Canadian Society of Agronomy as eastern Canada director from 1997-2000

## CSA Young Agronomist - 2001

### Mr. William May

Mr. Bill May is a native of Southern Ontario. He obtained his BSA in 1987 and MSc in 1993 from the University of Guelph. From 1991-1994 Bill worked



with the canola research program at Guelph, before moving to Melfort, SK to take on the position of Alfalfa IPM Specialist, a joint position with the Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed producers Assn and AAFC. Since 1997, Bill has

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## **Bill May**

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worked as a research agronomist with AAFC at Indian Head and the Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation.

Mr. May has developed and transferred innovative technologies to improve integrated pest management in alfalfa seed production systems. He worked with weed scientists, entomologists and plant pathologists to establish those factors most limiting the yield and purity of alfalfa seed fields in NE Saskatchewan. In Indian Head Bill has been involved in developing proposals, and securing funding for comprehensive agronomic projects on the management of oats, canaryseed and most recently durum wheat. The oat projects, which captured broad based industry support, re-evaluated much of the basic agronomic research with oats by focussing on the impact of various agronomic practices on not only yield but the quality of oat. Mr. May, in consultation with producer and field agronomists, developed a set of canaryseed research proposals, and then with funding launched the largest evaluation of the production of canaryseed in Canada. This research evaluated those factors that were expected to be contributing to the highly variable canaryseed yields being recorded. Bill has also been instrumental in taking the lead to expand the labels of certain herbicides and fungicides to include canaryseed by initiating research into minor use registrations. Most recently Bill has initiated a new program evaluating durum agronomy with the main objective of evaluating those management inputs that are likely to have the greatest impact on high yield and high grain protein. Preliminary results indicate that this industry funded project is going to provide some insight into where producers should be focusing their attention with this crop to ensure high quality and yield.

Mr. May has participated as an invited speaker in extension events sponsored by both industry and the provincial extension service. He is called on regularly by producers who are

developing crop management plans involving oats, canaryseed and durum, establishing him as a regional expert in these crops. Using his enthusiastic presentation style, Bill has helped to clarify the management of forage and cereal crops for optimum production efficiency.

## **CSA Distinguished Agronomist - 2002**

### **Mr. Don Wentz**

Don Wentz began working with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) in 1971 as a Farm Management instructor and then



in 1973 as an Irrigation Specialist in Lethbridge. In 1977 he took a position as District Agriculturist also in

Lethbridge and completed an M. Ag. at the University of Alberta in 1982. In 1983 he became Regional Soil Salinity Specialist and in 1989 Provincial Soil Salinity Specialist, a position he held until he retired in March 2002.

During his career, Don demonstrated a strong commitment to providing farmers and ranchers in Alberta with information and technology that would increase the productivity and sustainability of their farms. Don provided leadership in applied research and worked closely with other researchers to initiate studies addressing information gaps. He is an excellent team player and worked closely with producer groups, municipalities and other specialists to address priority issues. Don had a knack for communicating with producers and gaining their trust and support. He was particularly effective in promoting the control of dryland salinity. Don was instrumental in developing a Dryland Salinity Page on the AAFRD website, Ropin' the Web. This page is consistently one of the top sites being requested.

Don has always looked forward to expanding his knowledge of alternate tillage options, chemical fallow, direct seeding and all other soil conservation management aspects. His involvement with Reduced Tillage LINKAGES after retirement is testament to his continued dedication to the promotion of conservation farming practices.

Don Wentz served as secretary of CSA from 1990-92, and was the first CSA newsletter editor.

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## **President's Message, cont'd**

### **from page 1**

attract Canadian students studying in the United States.

Your reaction to these opportunities and if possible, your contribution, will strengthen the Society and potentially your professional growth and development. I hope you find them interesting enough to warrant attention in your already busy days.

I look forward to hearing from you and wish you a successful completion of the harvest season.

**Lianne Dwyer**

## CSA Pest Management Scholarship Winner presents her paper in Saskatoon

Ms. Robyn Underwood of the University of Manitoba was selected as the winner of the CSA Pest Management Scholarship in 2001. Her PhD research project is a study to determine the effectiveness and practicality of fumigating over-wintered honey bee hives in managed facilities where temperature and colony characteristics can be controlled. The effectiveness of formic acid fumigation is being investigated on Varroa mites and Nosema disease and has the potential to markedly reduce pesticide use in controlling honey bee parasites and diseases. Her project is supervised by Dr. R. W. Currie in the Department of Entomology.

The \$500 cash portion of the scholarship was previously sent to Robyn and she traveled to the CSA Meeting in Saskatoon, July 14 -17, 2002 and presented a paper on her results to date. The travel portion of the award of up to \$1000 is provided by Monsanto Canada Inc.

Interested students can obtain application forms and information about the CSA Pest Management Scholarship on the CSA web page at [www.agronomycanada.com](http://www.agronomycanada.com) Applications for the 2003 Scholarship are due by May 1, 2003 to J.A. Ivany. The 2003 meeting of the Canadian Society of Agronomy will be held in Montreal, August 10 - 13. No scholarship was awarded in 2002.

**J.A. Ivany**  
**Chairman**  
**Pest Management Scholarship Committee**



## CSA 2002 Student Awards

### POSTER AWARDS:

**Winner:** Alana Dixon (missing from photo)  
**Assessing Lodging Resistance in Spring Wheat**

A. J. Dixon, D. Spaner, Keith G. Briggs  
4-16D Agriculture/Forestry Centre,  
University of Alberta  
Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science  
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2P5

**Runner-up:** Cedric MacLeod  
**The Effects of Liquid Hog Manure Application on Oat Residue  
Decomposition in Heavy Clay Soils**

C.J. MacLeod, M.M. Erb, D.A. Lobb, D.L. Burton, D.N. Flaten  
Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 2N2

### PAPER AWARDS:

**Winner:** David Przednowek  
**The effect of pulse crop rotation and controlled-release urea (CRU) on  
nitrogen accumulation and end-use quality of AC Barrie wheat**

D. W. Przednowek<sup>1</sup>, D. N. Flaten<sup>1</sup>, M. H. Entz<sup>1</sup>, H. D. Sapirstein<sup>1</sup>, R. B. Irvine<sup>2</sup>, and B.  
G. McConkey<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 2N2; <sup>2</sup>Brandon Research Centre;  
<sup>3</sup>Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre

**Runner-up:** Shirley Ross  
**Interaction between berseem clover and oats**

Shirley M. Ross<sup>1</sup>, Jane R. King<sup>1</sup>, R.César Izaurralde<sup>2</sup>, and John T. O'Donovan<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, 4-10 Agriculture-Forestry Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2P5; <sup>2</sup>Battelle Pacific National Lab., Washington DC, USA 20024-2115; <sup>3</sup>Northern Agriculture Research Centre



# Canadian Society of Agronomy Annual Meeting

Saskatoon, July 15-17, 2002

## Held in conjunction with the Agricultural Institute of Canada Annual Meeting

The CSA program consisted of two symposia, four technical sessions, poster presentations, a field and a laboratory tour, the annual business meeting, and a banquet. The program started on the afternoon of July 15 with a symposium entitled "Drawing conclusions from long-term multi-disciplinary research (or will I live long enough to publish)" with an audience of about 60. Four scientists from across Canada presented results from their long-term experiments and each discussed specific issues such as how to start this type of research, maintaining funding and interest, changing treatments, and managing data. The second symposium, entitled "Genetically modified crops: Who wins, who loses?" was held on the afternoon of July 17 and attended by close to 100 people. This symposium covered a wide range of topics from the escape of transgenes to legal implications and public perception and stimulated a lively discussion among the speakers and members of the audience.

Volunteer oral sessions were held on Tuesday with 29 presentations made in four separate sessions. Eleven of the presentations were by graduate students, as part of the CSA student paper competition. In addition there were 43 poster presentations, three of which were by graduate students, also part of the student competition. Posters were set up for two full days, permitting ample time for viewing.

The awards banquet was held on the evening of Tuesday, July 16 at the Kernen Crop Research Farm of the University of Saskatchewan. The banquet, which included a brief tour of the research farm, was attended by 75 people and was held jointly with the Canadian Society of Agrometeorology. The following CSA awards were presented: Fellowships to Bob Zentner, Clarence Swanton and Shabtai Bittman; the Distinguished Agronomist Award to Don Wentz; and the Young Agronomist Award to Bill May. For the student awards, Robyn Underwood of the University of Manitoba received the CSA Pest Management Award; Alana Dixon of the University of Alberta and Cedric MacLeod of the University of Manitoba were winner and runner-up for the student poster awards; and the student paper awards went to David Przednowek of the University of Manitoba and Shirley Ross of the University of Alberta.

Tours were held on the morning of Wednesday, July 17. The field tour started with a drive through of the Innovation Place Research Park. The AAFC Saskatoon Research Centre Farm was then visited with presentations made on the canola and forage breeding programs. At the Monsanto Research Farm, a slide presentation on round up ready wheat was made, followed by a tour of field experiments on weed control in crop rotations. The laboratory tour, held on the University of Saskatchewan campus included visits to the Plant Biotechnology Institute, the College of Agriculture Phytotron, and the AAFC Research Centre, including Plant Gene Resources of Canada.

Overall, the 2002 CSA meeting was a success with many interesting presentations and discussions and with at least 60 delegates attending most of the sessions. We appreciate the support of our sponsors: SECAN Association, Dow AgroSciences Canada, Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association, Gustafson and Simplot Canada Ltd.

*Prepared by Bruce Coulman*

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## Upcoming Conferences

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### Canadian Societies of Agronomy and Soil Science meet in Montreal in 2003

The Canadian Societies of Agronomy and Soil Science will meet jointly for three days (August 10-13, 2003) with the Fourth International Conference on Mycorrhizae (ICOM4) to be held on August 10-15, 2003, in Montréal, Québec, Canada. The International Conference on Mycorrhizae is hosted in Canada for the first time. Two joint symposia will be of particular interest to agronomists and soil scientists. A first symposium on mycorrhizae and agricultural practices will focus on the interaction between mycorrhizae and cropping systems, P nutrition, pest management, and crop rotation. The impact of mycorrhizae on soil quality will be discussed in a second symposium and will emphasize the role of glomalin on soil structure, and the significance of mycorrhizae to soil physical and biological quality. Both Agronomy and Soil Science societies will also have oral presentations and poster sessions on all disciplines of soil and agronomic sciences. The Conference will be held at the International Civil Aviation Organization Conference Centre located in downtown Montreal. Tourist excursions and field trips will also be offered. All information related to the program, registration, and oral and poster presentations will be posted on the web site at <http://www.congresbcu.com/icom4>. Contact [Belangergf@erniagr.ca](mailto:Belangergf@erniagr.ca) or [angersd@agr.gc.ca](mailto:angersd@agr.gc.ca)

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### Plant and Microbe Adaptations to Cold, Quebec City, May 2003

Laval University will host the next international meeting on "Plant and Microbe Adaptation to Cold". The conference will be held at the Palace Royal Hotel in Quebec City, May 25-29, 2003. The objective of the meeting is to gather scientists working on the winter survival of agricultural and forest plants, as well as scientists studying the functioning of microbes at low temperatures. Emphasis will be put on low temperature adaptation as a component of general stress response of plants. The workshop will also address the impact of climate change on plant and microbe adaptation to cold. For more information visit our web site at <http://www.pmac2003.org> or contact Dr. Annick Bertrand, chair of the organizing committee at the following email address: [bertranda@agr.gc.ca](mailto:bertranda@agr.gc.ca)

# Your CSA Executive

First draft of what your Executive does; comments welcome!

## All

- take part in meetings, teleconferences and email exchanges to the extent possible
- represent CSA, promote agronomy and the CSA, and encourage membership in CSA and subscription to CJPS
- mentor new executive members and new CSA members
- take on special projects as opportunities arise

## President

- *de facto* contact point for CSA
- liaise with other organizations including AIC and other associate member organizations of AIC
- chair meetings and teleconferences, seek consensus or initiate votes on issues
- maintain files related to the business of CSA, including correspondence and project reports
- maintain schedule for CSA activities, and ensure progress
- with Secretary/Treasurer, make decisions on small and discretionary items of business such as small purchases and on directions given to Executive Director
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters

## Secretary/Treasurer

- maintain financial records, direct payment of invoices, and do financial planning including investment
- responsible to ensure AGM meeting minutes are recorded and verified, and shares or delegates responsibility to take notes at other meetings
- with President, make decisions on small and discretionary items of business such as small purchases and on directions given to Executive Director
- maintain decision records, and ensure that CSA activities coincide with agreed upon directions
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters

## Executive Director

- communicate with Executive and members on regular basis, including ~monthly emails
- liaise with Executive Directors of related organizations to facilitate interactions and benefits on behalf of members
- seek and provide membership benefits, such as book discounts, job notices and other communications
- carry out directions given by President and Secretary/Treasurer
- edit, prepare and arrange for printing and distribution of 3-4 newsletters per year

- manage membership renewal process, and promote membership
- manage corporate sponsorship for CSA
- manage CSA web site, including generation and approval of content
- provide first-point-of-contact for CSA, facilitate contact among members and direct inquiries to appropriate members
- maintains files to document his/her activities
- make purchases and invoice CSA for expenses with agreement of the Secretary/Treasurer
- assist Executive members on special projects
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters

## President-Elect

- accept mentoring and become familiar with CSA decision process and CSA activities
- play a prominent role in special projects on behalf of CSA

## Past President

- continue to mentor other executive members
- ensure continuity of CSA directions
- chair nominations committee

## Western Director 1

- represent 'western' perspectives

## Western Director 2

- represent 'western' perspectives

## Eastern Director 1

- represent 'eastern' perspectives

## Eastern Director 2

- represent 'eastern' perspectives

## Membership Committee

- monitor membership statistics
- plan, direct and to the extent possible take part in initiatives to promote membership
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters

## Honours & Awards 1 (*ex officio*)

- manage the nomination, selection and delivery of awards to CSA members and to student presenters at the annual conference
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters regarding nomination deadlines and award results
- circulate to the media the annual CSA award results for publication

## Meeting organizer (*ex officio*)

- keep executive aware of planning, and seek advice and help from executive as appropriate
- report to members in various ways, including report to the AGM and messages in the newsletters

## CSA Offices

The CSA Business Office, contact Steve Sheppard, Executive Director of CSA, P.O. Box 637, Pinawa, Manitoba, R0E 1L0, Canada; Tel: (204) 753-2747; Fax: (204) 753-8478; Email: [sheppards@ecomatters.com](mailto:sheppards@ecomatters.com)

The CSA Membership Office for membership applications and payments, and CJPS journal subscriptions, contact Ellen McWeeny, Membership & Subscriptions Coordinator, Agricultural Institute of Canada, Suite 1112, 141 Laurier Ave. W., Ottawa, ON, K1P 5J3; Tel (613) 232-9459 ext 307; Fax: (613) 594-5190; Email: [services@aic.ca](mailto:services@aic.ca)

## CSA - Online

### From "The Office"

See the CSA web site homepage, [www.agronomycanada.com](http://www.agronomycanada.com) for previous newsletters, the constitution and by-laws, awards, membership forms, history of CSA, posters to download, sponsors, events, and jobs.

Executive Director, Projects for 2002/2003

This is an interesting job. Each year I have been helping with CSA we have taken on special projects. In 2000 it was a massive membership campaign, where we contacted over 1600 people who might be (ought to be!?) members of CSA. In 2001, we undertook corporate sponsors, and developed a program where they got decent return for their contributions. In 2002 we promoted CSA and CJPS by shipping sample copies of the journal and other materials to about 300 agronomists in the border-states and over 500 CCAs in Canada.

For 2002/2003 we have some different plans. AIC has agreed to allow us to market advertisement space in CJPS, and to receive most of the revenues from that. We are also considering other issues such as incorporation ... other member organizations under AIC of already done this, so we can learn the advantages and pitfalls from them.

One of the more interesting prospects is the preparation of a book. CRC Press is very supportive of this. The Canadian Society of Soil Science have done two books so far that have been very profitable. In addition, the books raise the profile of the society, the editors and the authors. One idea was to prepare a book on methods of agronomic research, probably concentrating on whole-plant research in the laboratory or in the field. I have had one person volunteer a chapter so far. If you are interested in our outline, let me know. I think it is great opportunity, and a good career milestone for many of us.

Looking forward to working with you in the coming year.

**Steve S.**

Executive Director

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## Executives of CSA past and present

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Position	2000	2001	2002	2003
President	Cindy Grant	Cindy Grant	Lianne Dwyer	Lianne Dwyer
President-Elect	Lianne Dwyer	Lianne Dwyer	Paul Jefferson	Paul Jefferson
Secretary-Treasurer	Gilles Belanger	Gilles Belanger	Shabtai Bittman	Shabtai Bittman
Western Director 1	Pat Juskiw	Pat Juskiw	Ron Pidskalny	Ron Pidskalny
Western Director 2	Jim Moyer	Martin Entz	Martin Entz	Byron Irvine
Eastern Director 1	Jerry Ivany	Jerry Ivany	Bill Deen	Bill Deen
Eastern Director 2	Clarence Swanton	Y. Papadopoulos	Y. Papadopoulos	Baoluo Ma
Honours & Awards 1	Adrian Johnston	Adrian Johnston	Adrian Johnston	Adrian Johnston
Honours & Awards 2	Lorraine Bailey	Lorraine Bailey	Lorraine Bailey	Lorraine Bailey
Honours & Awards 3	David Major	David Major	Cindy Grant	Cindy Grant
CSA Conf. Program Reps	Martin Entz	Dave Hume	Bruce Coulman	Gilles Belanger
Membership Committee	Pat Juskiw	Pat Juskiw	Pat Juskiw	Stan Blade
Nominations Committee 1	David Major	David Major	Cindy Grant	Cindy Grant
Nominations Committee 2	Don Smith	Don Smith	David Major	David Major