

## Cereal Seed Diseases and their Control

A seminar on this topic was held at Lincoln College on 8 July, 1975, and was attended by over eighty people, including members of Government departments, chemical firms, seed merchants, and farmers.

There were twelve speakers. The initial sessions dealt with the biology of seed-borne, soil-borne and air-borne pathogens that cause seed and seedling diseases of cereals. Later sessions dealt with the chemicals available for their control as well as trials to assess their effectiveness. The last three speakers were concerned with the methods of applying fungicides to seeds and in evaluating the efficiency of seed treatment.

The Proceedings of the Seminar are now available as a booklet of 120 pages. It contains twelve articles which have been published in full with diagrams, figures and photographs as well as the discussion on each paper.

Copies of the booklet can be obtained from the Registrar, Lincoln College, Canterbury, New Zealand, at a cost of \$2.50 each.

### Erratum

In the Research Note entitled "*Phytophthora cin-namomi*" Associated with Patch Death in Tropical Rain Forests in Queensland" by B. N. Brown published in the Volume 5 Number 1 issue of the APPS Newsletter, the last sentence of the second paragraph should have read as follows:

"The above records are from woodlands and coastal "Wallum" heaths of south-eastern Queensland and from eucalypt forests of south-eastern and north-eastern Queensland and not from rain forest communities."

QUEENSLAND PUBLIC SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

**PLANT PATHOLOGIST**  
MAREEBA

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Applicants should possess an honours degree in Agricultural Science or its equivalent with Plant Pathology as a major. Postgraduate training and/or experience in plant disease investigations would be a distinct advantage.

**DUTIES:** To carry out investigations into the diseases of field crops, particularly tobacco, on the Atherton Tablelands and provide a local diagnostic service.

**SALARY:**

Division I — \$13,616 to \$15,821 per annum.

Division II — \$ 9,278 to \$13,168 per annum.

Appointment to a particular level depends upon qualifications and experience.

**APPLICATIONS** quoting position reference number 507 V 76 and containing full particulars of name, address, telephone number, date of birth, marital status, qualifications, experience and present employments and furnishing copies of testimonials and the names of two referees should be forwarded to the Chief Administration Officer, Department of the Public Service Board, Box 59, Post Office, Brisbane, North Quay, Queensland, 4000, by 2 August 1976. (6538)

## MEMBERSHIP AT DECEMBER 31, 1975

New South Wales	84
Queensland	62
Victoria	54
Western Australia	26
South Australia	22
Australian Capital Territory	21
New Zealand	17
Tasmania	10
Papua New Guinea	8
Northern Territory	1
Others	14
Sustaining Associates	20
Libraries	37
Total	376

The net increase in ordinary membership since the last Annual General Meeting is 5; there were 12 resignations from the Society during the period. The number of libraries receiving the Newsletter has increased by 13, and there are 5 additional Sustaining Associates.

## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

### New President

The incoming President of the A.P.P.S. is Dr. Ronald C. Close.

Dr. Close graduated from Auckland University, in 1953, with an M.Sc. in botany. From 1953-1957 he was a plant pathologist with the Plant Quarantine Service of the N.Z. Department of Agriculture.

He joined the D.S.I.R. in 1957, and until 1965 was with their Crop Research Division. In this position he was actively involved in potato research, especially on the incidence and properties of virus diseases, and in developing resistant varieties. He initiated an aphid trapping programme and correlated the information obtained, with the spread of plant viruses. Further research on potato leaf roll virus showed that it was a major disease problem in N.Z., and that it could be controlled by the application of systemic insecticides at planting time. From 1960-1962 he studied plant viruses at Rothamsted Experimental Station, during which time he obtained his Ph.D. from London University, with a thesis on interactions between potato viruses in multiple infections.

From 1965-1973 he was with the Plant Diseases Division of the D.S.I.R. where, in addition to virus research, he completed work on bacterial blight of peas, eyespot control in wheat with fungicides, and on lucerne diseases. The lucerne project led to his discovery of bacterial wilt, and to the testing and evaluation of resistant cultivars. His virus research was on the epidemiology and control of barley yellow dwarf virus in wheat, and on pea leaf roll virus in peas, dwarf beans and broad beans. During this work, subterranean clover red leaf virus was found to be present and of major importance in legume crops.

In 1973 he joined Lincoln College as Senior Lecturer in Plant Pathology and is active in teaching plant pathology to Diploma and Degree students and in supervising post-graduate students. His present research interests include virus diseases of legumes, lucerne diseases and the control of leaf rust of barley.