

interactions to the art of plant pathology. However, as our science continues to evolve, we must redouble our efforts to reach out to and serve and speak for all members of our society. Our society is healthy, and through the activities of the Office of Public Affairs and Education and the Public Policy Board, it is much more visible to policymakers and the public in general. Similarly, the PLANT MANAGEMENT NETWORK has increased our visibility in the scientific community, as well as to others who are practicing the art of plant pathology. For our society to remain healthy, it is essential that we attract new membership, especially new students. As agriculture has evolved and continues to evolve in this country, I am concerned that we aren't competing effectively for the dwindling supply of students who have an interest in agriculture and, perhaps more importantly, the interaction of plants and microbes in general. New students and professionals are the life blood of our society. Ways to attract and support new graduate students must be one of our highest priorities. J. C. Walker writing on the "Future of Plant Pathology" in 1963 stated "The question before us is, where do we as plant pathologists stand today? What of the future?" I think we are poised to address the many problems agriculture is facing today and have a very bright future, and I will work closely with other members of the APS Council to assure this future. ■

International Symposium on Management of Vector-Borne Viruses Held in India

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the Indian Virological Society (IVS) organized an international symposium on Management of Vector-Borne Viruses, February 7–10, 2006, at ICRISAT, Patancheru, Hyderabad, India. The symposium had two themes (i) National Symposium on Current Status and Future Challenges in Management of Vector-Borne Virus Diseases in India, and (ii) International Seminar on Management of Insect Transmitted Plant Viruses Occurring in the Semi-Arid Tropics. Nearly 200 delegates, representing Australia, Bangladesh, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Iran, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Syria, the United Kingdom, and the United States, took part in the meeting. The U.S. delegation included **W. Allen Miller**, Iowa State, **Ben E. Lockhart**, University of Minnesota, **James W. Moyer**, North Carolina State University, **Robert A. Owens**, USDA Beltsville, **Karl Maramorosch**, Rutgers University, **H. R. Pappu**,



Participants of the International Symposium on Management of Vector-Borne Viruses held at ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India

Washington State University, and **Claude M. Fauquet**, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center.

A total of 92 oral papers and 61 poster presentations were made in separately held sessions on plant, human, and animal viruses. Abstracts of oral and poster presentations were published and distributed to all participants. These are also available for free download from the symposium website at www.mvbw2006.org.

The inaugural session of the symposium began with opening remarks by **Frances Kimmins**, programme manager, U.K. Department for International Development Crop Protection Programme, **Krishna Ella**, president, Bharat Biotech International Limited, **Dyno Keatinge**, deputy director general-ICRISAT, **Farid Waliyar**, principal scientist and special advisor to director general, ICRISAT, and **Narayan Rishi**, president of the IVS, with **Anupam Varma**, vice president of the Indian National Science Academy presiding and **I. Nagaraj**, director, ICRISAT, providing the concluding remarks. The organizers of the meeting were **P. Lava Kumar**, virologist and **Farid Waliyar**, ICRISAT.

The symposium covered emerging and reemerging viruses in tropics; management of vector-borne plant virus diseases; advances in transgenic approaches, vaccines and diagnostics; and virus disease epidemiology and management. Several eminent virologists from India and around the world made keynote presentations on these subjects. A competition for best student oral presentation and poster presentation was held for young scientists and winners were selected. In addition, **Y. L. Nene**, chair of the Asia-Agri History Foundation, India (formerly DDG of ICRISAT) and **Karl Maramorosch**, Rutgers University, USA, were recognized for their significant contributions to the field of virology.

Special thanks goes to Team ICRISAT, especially to **Lava Kumar**, for excellent organization, and **Claude M. Fauquet**, for leading the U.S. delegation; and to **R. Khetarpal** and **R. D. V. J. Prasad Rao** (National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, India), **K. Muralidharan** (Directorate of Rice Research, India), and **K. S. Ravi** (Mahyco Research Foundation, India) for excellent support. The organizers at ICRISAT would like

to thank all the participants, invited delegates and keynote speakers, technical session chairs and cochairs, and sponsors for their contributions to the symposium. Visit www.mvbw2006.site for further details about this meeting.

ICRISAT will be hosting the 10th International Plant Virus Epidemiology Symposium (IPVE) with the theme "Controlling Epidemics of Emerging and Established Plant Virus Diseases – The Way Forward" October 15–19, 2007. This symposium will be organized under the auspices of the International Society for Plant Pathology and will be held in Asia for the first time. Details of the symposium are available at www.ipve2007.net/ ■

Indo-U.S. Workshop on Plant Virology Held in New Delhi, India

A joint Indo-U.S. Workshop on Plant Virology was held at the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, February 11–12, 2006. The workshop was attended by several plant virologists from India and a nine-member delegation of U.S. scientists. The U.S. delegation was led by **Roger Beachy** and **Claude Fauquet** and included **Scott Adkins**, **John Hammond**, **Allen Miller**, **James Moyer**, **R. A. Naidu**, **Robert Owens**, and **Hanu Pappu**. The aim of the workshop was to review, discuss, and identify areas of research of high priority. More than 30 plant virologists from India, led by **Anupam Varma** and **Indranil Dasgupta** and representing various research institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), state agricultural universities, and industry, participated in the discussions. Several key areas of research were identified and recommendations were made which will be submitted to **M. K. Bhan**, secretary of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. The meeting was sponsored by the Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum, Department of Biotechnology, India and USAID, and was hosted by the Indian National Science Academy. ■