

MBPP 2006, Birnam, 18th - 20th September

Conference organizers:

John Jones (SCRI)

&

Chris Thornton (University of Exeter)

Information for Delegates

Programme Outline

www.mbpp.co.uk

Information for delegates

The venue

All scientific sessions will be held in the main room at the Birnam Institute. Tea and coffee breaks will be taken upstairs in the BI.

Meals

Lunches and dinners **for all delegates** will be served in the Baronial Hall of the Birnam House Hotel (across the road from the BI). Times of meals are provided in the programme outline. Breakfast will be served in the hotel in which you are staying.

Accommodation

Delegates are housed in three hotels: The Birnam House Hotel (across the road from the conference centre), The Atholl Arms and the Royal Dunkeld Hotel (both situated in Dunkeld approximately 10 minutes walk from the BI). Details of how to access your rooms and how to get to your hotels are provided with individual delegate packs. If there are any problems with the accommodation you have been allocated please speak to John Jones as soon as possible.

Parking

You may park your car at your hotel or outside the BI.

Banks and other facilities

A Halifax/Bank of Scotland cashpoint that accepts all major cards (and does not charge for withdrawals) is located in the main square in Dunkeld. To reach this from the BI leave the BI to the left by the main entrance, turn left at the main road and then right towards Dunkeld at the road junction. Immediately after crossing the River Tay at Dunkeld bridge turn left towards the cathedral. The bank is immediately on the left hand side. Alternatively there are post offices in Birnam and in Dunkeld that will allow users of some banks to withdraw cash free of charge.

Presentations

Please ensure that your powerpoint file is loaded on to the conference computer well before the session you are speaking in starts. You can do this when you register or during any breaks. If you must use a Mac please speak to John Jones well in advance of your presentation so that we can check for compatibility. You can load your presentation from a CD or from a USB memory stick. For 20 minute talks please aim to speak for 15 minutes leaving 5 minutes for questions. For 10 minute talks please talk for around 8 minutes, leaving 2 minutes of questions to be endured.

Things to do in and around Birnam

A map of the area, including details of a variety of walks, is included in your delegate pack. A variety of signposted walks are described ranging from gentle strolls along the banks of the Tay to more challenging walks that include a climb of Birnam Hill. For those that prefer less strenuous activities Dunkeld Cathedral is a short walk (~15 mins) from the conference venue. The Cathedral is situated on the bank of the River Tay and is open to the public. The National Trust for Scotland has renovated 20 houses dating from the 17th and 18th Century in Dunkeld and has a shop and small visitor exhibition in Cathedral Street in Dunkeld. It may also be possible to hire Mountain Bikes – see John Jones for more information.

Congress Sponsors

The organizers of MBPP 2006 would like to express their gratitude to the following for their generous sponsorship of the meeting:

The Gatsby Charitable Foundation



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Programme Outline

Monday 18th September

12.30 – 14.00 Arrival and Registration

14.00 – 14.10 Welcome and Introduction (J. Jones SCRI)

14.10 – 15.50 SESSION 1 (chair: Chris Thornton (University of Exeter))

(20 minute presentations)

Christopher J. Ridout, Paraskevi Skamnioti, Oliver Porritt, Soledad Sacristan, Jonathan D.G. Jones and James Brown (John Innes Centre, University of Oxford)
Multiple Avirulence Paralogues in Cereal Powdery Mildew Fungi

David E.L. Cooke, A.K. Lees, J. Gronbech Hansen, P. Lassen, B. Andersson and J. Bakonyi (SCRI, Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences)
Tracking *P. infestans* populations from lesions to continents

Susie Lee and Sarah J. Gurr (University of Oxford)
Mode of Action Studies on the Powdery Mildewicide Quinoxifen

Chris Rogers, Mike Challen, S. Muthumeenakshi, S. Sreenivasaprasad, Jon Green and John Whipps (Warwick HRI, University of Birmingham)
A DNA Helicase gene in the mycoparasite *Coniothyrium minutans* is required for sclerotial pathogenicity

Karen Lees, Stephen Roberts, Pari Skamnioti and Sarah Gurr (University of Oxford)
Gene Microarray Analysis using Angular Distribution Decomposition

Break 15.50 – 16.20 (Tea & Coffee available upstairs at the Birnam Institute)

16.20 – 18.00 SESSION II (chair: Richard Cooper, Bath)

(20 minute presentations)

Shazia Aslam, Robert W. Jackson, Marc R. Knight, Mari-Anne Newman, Gitte Erbs, Tina Tandrup Jensen and Richard Cooper (University of Bath, University of Oxford, and Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University Denmark)
Bacterial extracellular polysaccharides promote pathogenicity by suppressing plant defences

Sonia Humphris, Hui Liu, Gunnhild Axelsen, Lizbeth Hyman, Peter Hedley, Leighton Pritchard, Paul Birch and Ian Toth (SCRI)
Genomics approaches uncover new virulence and other life-style determinants in the plant pathogen *Pectobacterium atrosepticum*.

(10 minute presentations)

Lauren Ryder, Nick Talbot and Chris Thornton (University of Exeter)
Molecular characterisation and elucidation of the role of hexosaminidase in the growth promotion of *Arabidopsis thaliana* by *Trichoderma hamatum* GD12

Linda Hughes, Rebecca Allen, Laura Baxter, Peter Bittner-Eddy and Jim Beynon (Warwick HRI)
Synteny between *Hyaloperonospora parasitica* and *Phytophthora*: A Bioinformatics Approach

Romain Huguet and Nicholas J. Talbot (University of Exeter)
Investigating the role of *MST12* in MAPK signaling during infection-related development of *Magnaporthe grisea*

Gitte Erbs, Tina Tandrup Jensen and Mari-Anne Newman (Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University Denmark)
How are bacterial lipopolysaccharide (LPS) recognized by plant cells?

Siân Deller, John Keon, John Antoniow, Kim Hammond-Kosack and Jason Rudd (Rothamsted)
Investigating the role of reactive oxygen species (ROS) during *Mycosphaerella graminicola* infection of wheat

Dinner 19.00 (Birnam House Hotel)

Live music will be available later at the Tap Inn, next door to the Birnam House Hotel. Delegates wishing to avoid this can congregate in the bar of the Birnam House Hotel.

Tuesday 19th September

9.00 – 10.40 SESSION III (chair: Pieter van West (University of Aberdeen))

(20 minutes each)

Paraskevi Skamnioti and Sarah J. Gurr (University of Oxford)

Elucidating the role of cutinases and lipid inducible protein kinase in perception and signal transduction in *Magnaporthe grisea*

Mary Coates, Laura Baxter, Peter Bittner-Eddy, Haron Hall, Linda Hughes, Mahmut Tor and Jim Beynon (Warwick HRI)

Searching for Avirulence genes in *Hyaloperonospora parasitica*

Elizabeth Wilson (University of Leeds)

The role of the intestine in *Longidorus elongatus*

H. Dzahini-Obiatey, R.T.V. Fox, P.C. Aculey and Owusu Domfeh (University of Reading, and Cocoa Research Institute Ghana)

Detection of cocoa swollen shoot virus in novel cocoa tissues

Juan Morales, Steve C. Whisson, Anna O Avrova, Miles Armstrong, Sophien Kamoun and Paul R.J. Birch (SCRI)

Functional analysis of RXLR motif-containing sequences from the late blight pathogen *Phytophthora infestans*

Break 10.40 – 11.10 (Tea & Coffee available upstairs at the Birnam Institute).

11.10 – 12.00 SESSION IV (chair: Murray Grant (University of Exeter))

(10 minutes each)

Solange A. Mateo Montalcini, Pari Skamnioti and Sarah J. Gurr (University of Oxford)

Protein Kinase Cs in *Magnaporthe grisea*

Elise Lambeth and Nicholas J. Talbot (University of Exeter)

Determining the role of reactive oxygen species generation in *Magnaporthe grisea*?

Silvia Forcat and Murray Grant (Imperial College)

Targeted and unbiased metabolomic approach to identify cell perturbations in plant defence

Diane O. Saunders, Claire Veneault-Fourrey and Nicholas J. Talbot (University of Exeter)

Cell cycle-mediated control of infection-related morphogenesis by the rice blast fungus *Magnaporthe grisea*

William Trueman, Marta Torres de Zabal and Murray Grant (Imperial College)

Bacterial effector proteins target plant ABA biosynthesis and signaling pathways in their assault on plant basal defence responses

12.00 – 13.00 LUNCH (Birnam House Hotel)

13.00 – 16.30 FREE SESSION

16.30 – 17.50 SESSION V (chair: Vivian Blok (SCRI))

(20 minutes each)

Michael Ravensdale, Ian Toth and Paul Birch (SCRI)

Phytohormones and suppression of resistance: new mechanisms of disease induction in the plant pathogen *Erwinia carotovora* subsp. *atroseptica*

L.N. Moleleki, **E.M. Gilroy**, H. Liu, P. Boevink, I.K. Toth and P.R.J. Birch (SCRI)

Role of *Pectobacterium atrosepticum* harpins in the manipulation of host defences

Jamie Smith (University of Leeds)

Characterisation of potato genes regulated by *Globodera pallida* and their utilization in novel resistance strategies

Dong Wang (University of Leeds)

Can synthetic chemodisruptive peptides expressed transgenically in crops provide biosafe control of nematodes?

Break 17.50-18.15 (Tea & Coffee available upstairs at the Birnam Institute)

18.15 – 19.00 Chris Ridout – Beer Today Champagne Tomorrow

19.00 – 20.00 Tasting of beer & sparkling wine (Upstairs at Birnam Institute)

20.00 Dinner (Birnam House Hotel)

Wednesday 20th September

9.30 – 10.30 SESSION VI (chair: Steve Whisson (SCRI))

(20 minutes each)

Claire Walker and Pieter van West (University of Aberdeen)

What is the mechanism of internuclear gene silencing in *P. infestans*?

J. Owusu Nipah, Phil Jones and Matthew J. Dickinson (University of Nottingham and Rothamsted)

Investigations into the possibility of seed transmission of lethal yellowing phytoplasma in coconut palms infected with the Cape St. Paul Wilt Disease

Mary Illes, Pari Skamnioti and Sarah Gurr (University of Oxford)

Role of Nitric Oxide and Nitric Oxide Synthases in *Magnaporthe grisea*

Break 10.30 - 11.00 (Tea & Coffee available upstairs at the Birnam Institute)

11.00 – 12.00 SESSION VII (chair: Jason Rudd (Rothamsted))

Miles Armstrong, Eleanor Gilroy and Paul Birch (SCRI)

Identification of a candidate plant protein of the *P. infestans* effector protein AVR3a

Christelle Robert, Leighton Pritchard and Frank Wright (SCRI).

Prediction of transcription factor binding sites in the bacterial plant pathogens: *Pectobacterium atrosepticum* (*Pba*) and *Dickeya dadantii* (*Dd*)

Alexandra Blanchard¹, Liliya Pylypenko^{2,3}, Amar Thirugnanasambandam², Vivian Blok², Sean Chapman², Eric Grenier¹, Catherine Lilley⁴, James Neatham², Mark Phillips², and **John T. Jones**² (¹INRA Rennes, ²PPI Programme, SCRI, ³Institute of Plant Protection Ukraine, ⁴School of Biology, University of Leeds)

Characterisation of a RANBPM multigene gene family from ESTs of *Globodera pallida*

11.55 - Award of SGM young presenter prize

LUNCH 12.00 – 13.00 (Birnam House Hotel)

Depart

Notes to speakers

1. All talks should be brought to the conference on a CD or memory stick and loaded onto the conference computer before the start of the session in which the talk is to be delivered
2. For 20 min contributions speakers have 15 mins to deliver their presentation and up to 5 mins for questions. For 10 min contributions speakers have 8 mins and 2 mins respectively