2016 NCPDN ANNUAL MEETING
Presenters for April 19, 2016

Patty McManus: *Patty McManus has been chair of the Department of Plant Pathology at the UW-Madison since 2014 and on the faculty since 1995, with extension and research responsibilities for fruit crops important to the economy of Wisconsin. A native of Wisconsin, Patty earned her BS in Botany at UW-Madison and then MS and PhD degrees at Michigan State University, where she focused on chestnut blight for her MS research, and fire blight of apple for her PhD and postdoc research. At UW-Madison Patty's program has focused on cranberry, apple, cherry, and most recently, cold-climate wine grapes.*

Dimitre Mollov: *Dr. Dimitre Mollov is a plant virologist working with the USDA National Germplasm Resources Laboratory. Like many virologists, the plants that get him excited are those that incite a response along the lines of "What's wrong with THAT?" He may repeat those same words, but with an inflection indicating intense interest and possibly a little bit of schadenfreude. Prior to joining USDA, for about seven years he resided at a plant disease clinic in the Midwest. There his lucidity was slighted and research aspirations doomed which prompted his migration to Maryland. Dimitre has produced some cutting edge research that could only be a product of somebody willing to devote a large chunk of their social life to a potato. His work has been published in prestigious virology journals, and has been considered for a few psychological journals. Dimitre shows a great deal of benevolence towards anything with a cell wall. He has never seen a flowering perennial he didn't wish to adopt.*

Tuan Tran: *Tuan Tran is a graduate student in the Caitilyn Allen lab in the Department of Plant Pathology at the UW-Madison. His research focuses on both the applied and basic aspects of the Ralstonia solanacearum - plant interaction. Tuan's recently published work on developing a secure and sensitive detection pipeline for R. solanacearum is currently being implemented by greenhouses in Guatemala to speed up the diagnostic process due to restrictions in transporting suspect plant materials. At the same time, his Ph.D. work also focuses on understanding the role of R. solanacearum extracellular nucleases in interactions with plant root extracellular DNA traps, and how these enzymes modulate bacterial biofilms during infection.*

R. Bruce Allison: *R. Bruce Allison is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at the UW-Madison. Bruce received his undergraduate degree at Brown University, and MS and PhD degrees at the UW-Madison. Bruce teaches classes on sustainable forestry and tree risk assessment, and does cooperative research with wood engineers at the USDA Forest Products Laboratory. Bruce is also an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, president of Allison Tree Care LLC, past president of the Wisconsin Arborist Association, past chairman of the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council, and a governor-appointed member of the Wisconsin Council on Forestry.*

Amanda Gevens: *Amanda Gevens is an Associate Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Amanda develops integrated and innovative disease management programs for potato and vegetable crops as well as for potatoes in storage. Amanda works closely with growers of all scales and production approaches, from organic to conventional. She addresses many fundamental disease questions with research programming in the focus areas of pathogen ecology and management. Amanda has a particular interest in the study of oomycete vegetable pathogens, such as Phytophthora infestans. She organizes, contributes to, and edits a weekly vegetable crop updates newsletter through the University of Wisconsin Extension which has become highly sought after for in-season production guidance especially for disease and insect control. She earned her BS in Biology from Muhlenberg College in PA, her MS from Purdue University, and her PhD from Michigan State University. During her PhD program, Amanda focused her research and extension efforts on questions surrounding the spread and control of Phytophthora crown and fruit rot in pickling cucumbers and snap beans in*

Michigan. Before joining the faculty at UW-Madison, she was an assistant professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Craig Brabant: *Craig Brabant is an insect taxonomist and systematist who is passionate about discovering and describing (at least a small part of) the world's entomofauna. Craig received his BS in Entomology and Zoology and his MS and PhD in Entomology from the UW-Madison. He accepted the position of Academic Curator of the Wisconsin Insect Research Collection (WIRC) in January, 2016. The WIRC (housed in the Department of Entomology) has the core mission of supporting the global research community. This is accomplished by 1) conducting field surveys and collections-based research; 2) serving as a permanent repository for scientifically valuable specimens and collection event data; 3) documenting the entomofauna of the Great Lakes Region, the United States, and selected taxa worldwide; and 4) discovering, documenting, interpreting, and disseminating knowledge about the natural world through the Land Grant Mission of scientific research, education and outreach. More information about the collection can be found at http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/wirc/. You can follow the WIRC on Twitter @WIRCInsects.*

Brian Hudelson: *Brian Hudelson is affectionately known as "Dr. Death" because of his love of plant diseases. Brian received his BS in Botany, Bacteriology and Molecular Biology, MS in Biometry and PhD in Plant Pathology from the UW-Madison, and in 1998, became the director of the Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic (PDDC). The PDDC provides expertise in diagnosing plant disease problems, and information on plant diseases and their control to a wide range of clientele throughout the state of Wisconsin. For more information on Brian and the PDDC, check out http://pddc.wisc.edu or follow the PDDC on Twitter @UWPDDC.*

PJ Liesch: *Patrick (PJ) Liesch is an Extension entomologist and director of the UW-Madison Insect Diagnostic Lab. PJ is a regular guest on Wisconsin Public Radio and a speaker for the Master Gardener program, the WI-First Detector Network, the WI-Pesticide Applicator Training program, and the UW Farm and Industry Short Course program. He is an avid insect collector and has an inordinate fondness for beetles. PJ can also be found Tweeting about interesting insects coming in to the diagnostic lab @WiBugGuy.*

Christelle Guédot: *Christelle Guédot joined the Department of Entomology at UW-Madison in October 2012 as the Fruit Crop Entomologist and Extension Specialist. Her research program focuses on 1) developing and refining effective, economical, and environmentally-sound insect pest management (IPM) strategies; 2) determining the importance of native and managed pollinators and developing strategies for conserving and enhancing pollination services for fruit crops in Wisconsin; and 3) addressing emerging issues that relate to new invasive species for implementing management strategies to mitigate unexpected, and often devastating, crop damage. The focus of her extension program is to provide up to date, research-based information to Wisconsin fruit growers on effective and sustainable IPM practices and pollination services.*

Ann MacGuidwin: *Ann MacGuidwin is a nematologist and the Vaughn-Bascom Professor of Plant Pathology at UW. She obtained BS and PhD degrees from Michigan State University and an MS degree from the University of Florida. She joined the UW Department of Plant Pathology in 1984 with a research/teaching appointment. Ann was inspired to become a nematologist after living and traveling in Africa for 18 months, so she has always maintained a strong interest in research that benefits producers. Research projects in her lab include: overwinter survival of nematodes, the impact of nematode behavior on chemical uptake, optimal foraging strategies of migratory herbivorous nematodes, and the influence of cropping systems and soil fumigation on nematode community structure. Her team has studied nematode management strategies ranging from conventional chemistries to cover crops and solarization. Ann works closely with the vegetable and field crop industries of Wisconsin, but her projects cover all crops including*

mint, cranberries and ginseng. She runs a nematode diagnostic service that handles 500 to 700 samples each year and sells nematode inoculum to industry. Ann teaches Soil Biology, Biology of Plant Pathogens, and a biology course for non-science majors, using every opportunity to talk about her favorite subject – nematodes.

Brooke Babler: *Brooke Babler is a research specialist in the Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Tissue Culture Laboratory which is located on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. This program is responsible for producing approximately 90% of the publicly available varieties for seed potato growers in Wisconsin. Her research focuses on enhancing tissue culture production in developed and developing countries, advancing pathogen diagnostic assays and improving virus eradication procedures. Brooke also performs various outreach activities such as visiting or hosting laboratories interested in potato tissue culture training and instruction of a course on field crop diseases. Brooke received a BS in Plant Pathology and an MS in Horticulture-Plant Breeding from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.*

Mark Renz: *Mark Renz is an associate professor and extension weed specialist with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Mark researches and extends information about the biology and management of invasive plants. Research goals in Dr. Renz's lab are centered on developing information that will improve management by improving the knowledge and understanding of invasive plant biology. Mark has over 15 years of experience with management of invasive plants throughout the United States in a wide range of habitats including riparian zones, roadsides, floodplains, prairies, wetlands, and forests. Mark's education efforts focus on providing technical information and educational opportunities for agency staff, consultants, companies, and citizens concerned about invasive plants. Mark also is the president of the Midwest invasive Plant Network whose mission is to reduce the impact of invasive plants in the Midwestern United States.*

Mike Hill: *Michael Hill is a Project Manager/Systems Analyst for the Center for Environmental Regulatory Information Systems (CERIS) located at Purdue University. Michael has over 20 combined years of experience in the public and private sectors. Michael began work as a contractor for Delphi Delco Electronics Systems in 1994 working with document management systems. He then joined EDS (Electronic Data Systems) in 1998 where he developed software for transmission and engine control modules up until he joined Purdue University in 2005. In February 2006, Michael became the Project Manager for the NPDN National Repository.*

Eileen Luke: *Eileen Luke is the director of the Center for Environmental and Regulatory Information Systems (CERIS), a recognized center at Purdue University with fourteen professional staff and two graduate students. Since 1994, she has been managing and leading information technology development at CERIS including the National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPIRS), the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) Information Services and the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN). These projects cover pesticide registrations, plant pest survey, and plant diagnostics respectively. She has an MS in Statistics from Purdue University and a BS in Mathematics from UC Davis. With over 25 years' experience in IT development in agricultural information systems, Eileen has directed development of a wide variety of software applications to provide web interface access to database systems that meet the needs of customers. In maintaining and enhancing the CERIS IT infrastructure, she has provided leadership and organization in directing IT professionals to develop custom information solutions that help clients meet agricultural, regulatory and extension requirements. Some of CERIS' recent accomplishments include software development of the Purdue Plant Doctor Apps for iPhone, iPad and Android devices.*