REPORT

XIII CONFERENCE OF THE SECTION FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF PLANT DISEASES OF THE POLISH PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, BYDGOSZCZ, APRIL 25–26, 2006

The XIII Conference of the Section for Biological Control of Plant Diseases of The Polish Phytopathological Society took place on April 25–26, 2006, in the University of Technology and Agriculture in Bydgoszcz. It was devoted to "New achievements in biological control of plant diseases".

The meeting of the Section was originally planned for 2005, but it was shifted to 2006 so as not to interfere with the General Assembly of The Polish Phytopathological Society and accompanying symposium "Current problems in phytopathology", held in Lublin in 2005.

The Conference was organized by Professor Czesław K. Sadowski (chairman of the Section) and his co-workers from the Department of Phytopathology, University of Technology and Agriculture (co-organizer of the conference). It began with a presentation by Professor Leszek B. Orlikowski, the first chairman of the Section, who summarized the first 14 years of the Section activity, with 12 conferences held in Skierniewice:

I Conference 1991.11.28–29
Wykorzystanie metod biologicznych w ochronie roślin przed chorobami
[Application of biological methods for plant protection against diseases]

II Conference 1992.04.9–10
Płodozmian i zmianowanie w biologicznej ochronie roślin przed chorobami
[Crop rotation and aftercrop in biological control of plant diseases]

III Conference 1992.11.26–27
Mikoryza endotroficzna jako element biologicznej ochrony roślin przed chorobami
[Ectotrophic mycorrhiza – an element of biological control of plant diseases]

IV Conference 1993.04.22–23
Grzyby ryzosferowe a zdrowotność roślin
[Rhizosphere fungi *versus* plant health status]

V Conference 1994.04.21–22
Rola mikroorganizmów i niektórych roślin w ochronie upraw przed grzybami chorobotwórczymi
[Role of microorganisms and some plants in protection of plantations against pathogenic fungi]

VI Conference (international) 1995.04.20–21
Biological control of soil-borne and postharvest pathogens

VII Conference (international) 1996.04.18–19
Effectiveness of some microorganisms and plant extracts in the control of plant diseases

VIII Conference (international) 1997.04.21–22
Trichoderma spp., other microorganisms and plant extracts in plant diseases control

IX Conference (international) 1998.04.23–24
Biological agents and their effectiveness in the control of plant pathogens

X Conference (international) 1999.04.22–23
Methods of estimation of biological control agents in the protection of plants against soil-borne and leaf pathogens

XI Conference (international) 2001.04.5–6
Use of microorganisms and plant extracts in the control of plant diseases – results of the last 10-year-study

XII Conference (international) 2003.04.3–4
Chitosan and other compounds in the control of plant diseases

Phot. 1. Professor L.B. Orlikowski, the first chairman of the Section for Biological Control of Plant Diseases of The Polish Phytopathological Society (photo by D. Pańka)

Professor Sadowski and all the participants heartily congratulated Professor Orlikowski with the achievements in his leading the Section, commemorating the moment with a picture of Bydgoszcz old town (Phot. 1).

The XIII Conference in Bydgoszcz was attended by 40 scientists (three from abroad) who presented 14 lectures and 20 posters.

The main topic of the Conference was the practice and prospects of biological preparations application for protection of plants against diseases, which led to a vivid discussion on the future of biopreparations as compared with chemical preparations. The unstable nature and inconsistency of bioproducts – and their efficacy, was compared with more stable nature of pesticides.

After the poster session on April 26, a scientific trip to State Plant Health and Seed Inspection Service in Bydgoszcz took place, where the laboratory head, Aurelia Krzysiak M.Sc. (Phot. 2), presented the Voivodeship Laboratory (Phot. 3) and Seed Testing Laboratory.

The Conference materials were published in English as a Conference book (112 pp.), a few copies of which are still available from the organizers.

Phot. 2. The laboratory head, Aurelia Krzysiak M.Sc., with Professor Cz.K. Sadowski, the chairman of the Section for Biological Control of Plant Diseases of The Polish Phytopathological Society (photo by M. Mańka)

Phot. 3. The laboratory head, Aurelia Krzysiak M.Sc., guiding the Conference participants in the State Plant Health and Seed Inspection Service in Bydgoszcz (photo by M. Mańka)

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The next, XIV Conference of the Section will be organized in 2008.

Małgorzata Mańka