



Dispersal Notes



February 2016 News Flyer

Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology
Iowa State University

Calendar

Note: 2016 PLPM seminar is located in 107 Kildee Hall on Tuesdays from 3:10 to 4 pm and Brown Bag series is located in 255 Bessey on Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 pm.

February 9th – PLPM Seminar: Dr. Josh Selsby, ISU Animal Science Department. Title: “He’s virtually worthless: alternative approaches to student evaluation of teaching”.

February 11th – Brown Bag: Mark Gleason. Title: “Navigating the manuscript maze: submission, review, revision, acceptance”.

February 16th – PLPM Seminar: “Dr. Martin Chilvers, Michigan State University. Title: “Soybeans and root health – what’s really going on down below ground?”.

February 16-17th – [Iowa Soybean Association Research Conference](#). Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

February 18th – Brown Bag: Rebecca Polich (EEOB Department). Title: “Communicating science to K-12 audiences”.

February 23rd – PLPM Seminar: Dr. Gary Munkvold. Title: “The dynamic *Fusarium* complex infecting maize and soybean plants”.

February 25th – Brown Bag: Larry Halverson. Title: “An inside look at the National Science Foundation’s competitive grant world”.

Awards

Tom Maier won the [2016 Professional and Scientific Staff Award](#) from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Mark Gleason, Laura Jesse and Lina Rodriguez Salamanca were part of the Iowa Master Gardener Team that won the [2016 Team Award](#) from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Publications

Sisson, A.J., Kandel, Y.R., Robertson, A.E., Hart, C.E., Asmus, A., Wiggs, S.N., and Mueller, D.S. 2016. [Effect of foliar fungicides on hail-damaged corn](#). Plant Health Progress 17: 6-12.

Anderson, S.J., Simmons, R.D., French-Monar, R.D., and Munkvold, G.P. 2016. [Susceptibility of maize inbreds and incidence of symptomless infection by the head smut pathogen, *Sphacelotheca reiliana*](#). Plant Health Progress 17: 1-5.

Stories

ISA gifts \$500,000 to Biosciences Initiative

On January 25th, the Iowa Soybean Association officially announced a [gift](#) of \$500,000 to the University that will go to the Biosciences Initiative and the Advanced Teaching and Research Building. Representatives from ISA and ISU were recognized at the Men’s Basketball game on 1/25 as well.



Left to right: Cy, Kirk Leeds (CEO ISA), Ed Anderson (Senior Director for Research ISA), Steven Leath (ISU President), Wendy Wintersteen (Dean College of Agriculture and Life Science ISU), Greg Tylka (Direction Iowa Soybean Research Center), Thomas Baum (Chair, Dept. of Plant Pathology and Microbiology ISU), Karey Cleghorn (COO ISA).

Claudia Lemper wins Best Footwork Award at Story County Stars

Claudia Lemper, a lecturer in the PLPM department, participated in the third annual Dancing with the Story County Stars on January 29th. The event raised \$37,582 for Heartland Senior Services. Lemper won an award for Best Footwork. See the Iowa State Daily [article](#) for more information.

Dr. John Hill Retires

The PLPM department bid farewell and happy retirement to Dr. John Hill, who has been a professor at ISU since 1972. More photos [here](#).



Dr. Hill at his retirement party.



PLPM paper Phytopathology Editor’s Pick for January 2016.

The paper, titled “[Multilaboratory Comparison of Quantitative PCR Assays for Detection and Quantification of *Fusarium virguliforme* from Soybean Roots and Soil](#)” was authored by thirteen authors from different universities, including ISU PLPM members **Yuba Kandel, Daren Mueller and Leonor Leandro**.

Diagnose it!

By: Ed Zaworski

[ISU Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic](#)

The images from last month’s game show bark beetle damage, on a tree that had succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease. This was successfully identified by Daniel Sjarpe and David Soh.

Below is February’s mystery disease:

Host: Spruce **Symptoms:** Needle discoloration and premature needle drop.

Key Hint: Small fungal fruiting bodies are produced in the needle stomata.

Send your diagnosis to: aqbeeman@iastate.edu

