

## Preface

THE FOURTH CONFERENCE of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists was held in Italy, October 2-12, 1966. Formal papers were presented in the auditorium of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, October 2-4. After the Rome portion of the Conference, we visited several large commercial nurseries and the lemon-growing area of the Sorrento peninsula. By boat we traveled from Naples to Palermo where formal papers were presented, October 7 and 8, at the University of Palermo. Visits were made to several terraced citrus orchards in the Palermo area. From October 10-12 formal papers were presented and the business meeting was held at the University of Catania. Simultaneous translation to English, French, Italian, and Spanish was provided at Rome, Palermo, and Catania by FAO translators. This is the first time that such translations have been available at an IOCV Conference, and they added greatly to its effectiveness. Between sessions, citrus orchards, experiment stations, and laboratories in the Catania area were visited.

Participants at the Fourth Conference came from twenty countries: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Libya, the Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Surinam, Turkey, and the United States.

J. M. Bové arranged a post-Conference tour to Corsica, Nice, Spain, and Morocco for IOCV members and many participated. The visits to citrus orchards, experiment stations, and nurseries during the Conference and on the post-Conference tour added immensely to the success and the information yield of the Conference.

The steady growth of IOCV is reflected in the size of the *Proceedings*. For example, the three previous *Proceedings* were 243, 265, and 319 pages, respectively, and the fourth contains over 400 pages. In this volume and for the first time, papers on related subjects are grouped together.

At the First Conference, tristeza was the leading subject and accounted for about half the papers devoted to a single virus. Tristeza was still the leading subject at the Fourth Conference, but it accounted for only a

fourth of such papers, and the number of papers on stubborn and green-  
ing diseases had increased greatly. Papers on mechanical transmission,  
purification, and biochemistry increased from none at the First Confer-  
ence to 10 at the Fourth. This indicates healthy progress in that area.

Editing these papers was more difficult and time-consuming than antic-  
ipated but was highly rewarding nonetheless. In all attempts to increase  
the conciseness and clarity of papers, every effort was made to avoid  
changing the author's meaning and of course all changes were subject to  
approval by the author.

The Fourth Conference was the most outstanding to date in almost  
every aspect, and all those IOCV members and friends who gave their  
time and effort to make it so deserve the sincere gratitude and respect  
of all members. The hospitable reception accorded IOCV members in all  
the areas visited will be long remembered.

Orlando, Florida

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When citing this book, use the following abbreviation:

Proc. 4th Conf. Intern. Organization Citrus Virol.