

Preface

The Eighth Conference of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists was held in Australia from May 13-31, 1979. The conference included a tour of major citrus areas and experiment stations as well as the formal meeting. The delegates convened in Sydney and then visited citrus orchards and experiment stations in the coastal area northeast of Sydney. The tour proceeded southwestwardly to Canberra where we visited the botanic gardens, the Australian National University, and the C.S.I.R.O. facilities. We viewed citrus disease problems and toured experimental plots in several locations in the Murrumbidgee and Murray River Valleys. The development of dwarfing budlines and the experiment on their behavior as mature plants were observed and discussed at Yanco and Dareton. Papers were presented at the formal conference in Mildura on May 23, 24, and 25. From Mildura, we proceeded west through the citrus areas of South Australia to Adelaide, where we observed South Australia's virus indexing facilities and visited the Waite Agricultural Research Institute.

The Eighth Conference of the IOCV was organized and ably conducted by a committee consisting of Graeme Evans, Chairman; Patricia (Broadbent) Barkley, Secretary; R. J. Van Velsen, M. Keenan, L. R. Fraser and L. L. Stubbs. Many activities were sponsored by the Departments of Agriculture of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, and by numerous grower organizations and cooperatives. The renowned Australian hospitality was evident at all stops and was greatly appreciated by the delegates.

The conference was attended by 97 delegates from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Cuba, France, Israel, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Surinam, Tahiti, Thailand, United States, and West Germany.

Examples of Australian citrus dieback, sudden death, dwarfing budlines and gummy pitting were observed at several locations along with the more universal problems of tristeza, psorosis, and exocortis.

At the conference banquet in Mildura on May 25, S. M. Garnsey was installed as Chairman of the IOCV succeeding L. G. Weathers. R. E. Schwarz won the balloting for Chairman-elect. His tragic death in July 1979 necessitated a new election in which A. A. Salibe was chosen for that office. H. D. Ohr was reappointed as Secretary-Treasurer.

This volume contains new information on the rapid detection of citrus tristeza virus (CTV) by serological and microscopic techniques. Reports on control of CTV by cross protection were received from Australia, India, and Japan, and additional procedures for characterization and detection of the greening and stubborn pathogens are

described. Research on natural spread and vectors of the causal agents of seedling yellows, tristeza, citrus ringspot, stubborn and greening is presented along with evidence for mechanical transmission of cachexia, Dweet mottle, citrus ringspot and other viruses. Reports on several disorders of unknown etiology are also included in this volume. The total of 52 papers provides the most recent information on virus and viruslike diseases from citrus-producing areas around the world.

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