

Preface

The Ninth Conference of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists was held in Argentina, May 9 to 13, 1983, and was preceded by a preconference program in Brazil and followed by a post conference in Argentina.

The preconference program in Brazil was organized by former IOCV chairman, Victoria Rossetti, who was assisted by a number of other IOCV members. The delegates, from 12 countries, gathered in São Paulo, then journeyed by bus to numerous sites within the state of São Paulo.

We learned firsthand about the large, vigorous citrus industry of Brazil, observed disease problems affecting production, especially declinio, and visited numerous research facilities and plots to become familiar with work in progress. Declinio, mild-strain cross protection with tristeza, and leprosis were major topics. A 1-day technical workshop was also held at the Instituto Biológico, São Paulo, on May 6, and delegates had the opportunity to learn technical procedures firsthand from IOCV experts from different countries. Delegates were treated to traditional Brazilian hospitality which was greatly appreciated, and helped overcome the effects of long, busy days in the field and long bus rides. The 25th Anniversary of IOCV was also noted in several activities during the preconference program.

Immediately after the preconference program in Brazil, delegates assembled for the Ninth Conference. Following a brief plane ride to Foz da Iguazu on the Brazilian border, we journeyed at night across the rain-swollen Iguazu River in motor launches to reach the Hotel International. The International is situated on the brink of the spectacular Iguazu Falls and is surrounded by a national park. Torrential rains the previous month that flooded rivers throughout northern Argentina had pushed the falls to a thunderous level.

The conference and associated postconference program in Argentina were ably organized by a committee headed by Santiago Lasserre and Diego Rodriguez.

The conference was dedicated to the memory of Ralph Schwarz in the opening session with 100 delegates in attendance from 15 different countries. Following an opening address which highlighted the accomplishments of IOCV in its first 25 years, over 60 papers were presented on a wide variety of topics. Tristeza and the citrus declines known as blight, declinio, and declinamiento were major topics. Several papers were also presented on the naturally spread psorosis of Argentina, a problem of potential significance to other citrus-growing areas. Leprosis, citrus variegation, exocortis, greening, and stubborn all received attention in one or more papers.

A field trip during the conference gave delegates a chance to see some of the citrus disease problems of Argentina firsthand, and to visit the research project developed by Dr. Schwarz at Montecarlo.

At the Ninth Conference banquet, the past chairmen of IOCV were all honored as part of the IOCV 25th anniversary celebration. J. M. Bove received a special plaque as the only delegate to have attended all IOCV conferences. Chairman-elect Ary Salibe received the gavel from outgoing chairman S. M. Garnsey and announced that Luis Navarro had been voted the new chairman-elect.

Following the conference approximately 40 delegates attended a post-conference program to learn more about citrus disease problems and citrus research in Argentina. Although continued heavy rains caused some detours and modifications in plans during the program, we had interesting stops in Bella Vista and Concordia, and became more familiar with declamamiento and naturally-spread psorosis. Again our Argentine hosts were very hospitable and helped make the trip interesting and enjoyable.

As in the past, the Ninth Conference provided an excellent forum for exchange of information and ideas among researchers from all over the world. The formal program was augmented as usual by the informal interaction among delegates in a memorable setting.

The editors of these proceedings have used a format similar to that in recent IOCV proceedings although the inclusion of an abstract is new. Readers will note that binomials for common citrus species, cultivars, and hybrids have been omitted from the text, but are listed in a table at the end of the proceedings. The previous proceedings of IOCV are also cited in abbreviated form in the Literature Cited of Individual papers. A complete list of the previous proceedings can be found at the back of this volume. The addresses for all contributors are listed at the beginning of the volume. Editing was done to improve clarity and conciseness, but responsibility for accuracy of all contents rests with the individual authors.

Beginning with this Ninth Conference, papers will be judged for eligibility for the Wallace Award, an award for the paper(s) presenting an outstanding achievement. Judging for the Wallace Award will be done by a special committee.

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S. M. Garnsey
L. W. Timmer
J. A. Dodds
Editors