



# GREEN NOTES

*Promoting Plant and Crop Health while Protecting the Environment*

## *2006 in Review*

### **New Plant Doctors and DPM Students**

**Graduates.** In 2006, 12 students completed their Doctor of Plant Medicine (D.P.M.) degrees at the University of Florida-IFAS, College Of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Spring graduates included Drs. Amanda Bisson, Elizabeth Johnson, Elizabeth Malek, Michael Merida, Rachel Ribbeck, and Mary Sullivan. Bisson is employed by Alta Systems, Gainesville, FL, Johnson is a Plant Survey Specialist with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry, Gainesville, FL, Malek is an Extension Program Specialist in the Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, Merida is a Plant Health Manager at Costa Nursery Farms, Gould, FL, Ribbeck is a Crop Consultant with Glades Crop Care, Inc., Jupiter, FL, and Sullivan is a Supervisor at Nature Works Landscape Services, Inc., Walpole, MA.



**Left to right: Drs. Malek, Bisson, Merida, Sullivan, Johnson and Ribbeck**



**Dr. Anthony Camerino**

Drs. Anthony Camerino and Monica Cooper completed requirements for their D.P.M. degrees in August. Camerino took a position as a County Extension Faculty with the University of Florida-IFAS with responsibility for Home Horticulture and the Master Gardener Program in Citrus County, FL. Cooper is a Research Associate at the University of California, Biological Control Laboratory, Kearney Agricultural Research Center.

D.P.M. degrees were conferred in the Fall to Drs. Tomas Chiconela, Jamba Gyeltshen, and John Porter. Chiconela is pursuing a Ph.D. in Agronomy/Weed Science at the University of Florida-IFAS under the direction of Dr. William

Haller, Gyeltshen is a lecturer in pest management at the College of Natural Resources, Lobesa, Bhutan, and Porter is a Tree Health Specialist with Bartlett Tree Experts, Inc., Tallahassee, FL.



**Left to right: Drs. Chiconela, Porter and Gyeltshen**

**New DPM students** who started their program of study in 2006 included: Jinyong Bae (Korea), Anthony Barbaglia (Missouri), Romy Krueger (Germany), Joyce Merritt (California) Lacey Mount (Florida), Namgay Om (Bhutan), and Dyrana Russell-Hughes (Jamaica).

## Certificate in Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management Launched.

Spring 2006 saw the establishment by the Plant Medicine Program of the Certificate in Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management.

Norman Leppla and Robert McGovern individuals in state and federal agencies, objective is to prepare graduate students in the area of regulatory agriculture with Departments of Agriculture, USDA, similar international groups. The credit hours including Principles of Plant and Management, Colloquium in Plant Significance, and Internship in Plant Pest Management. The 2006 colloquium



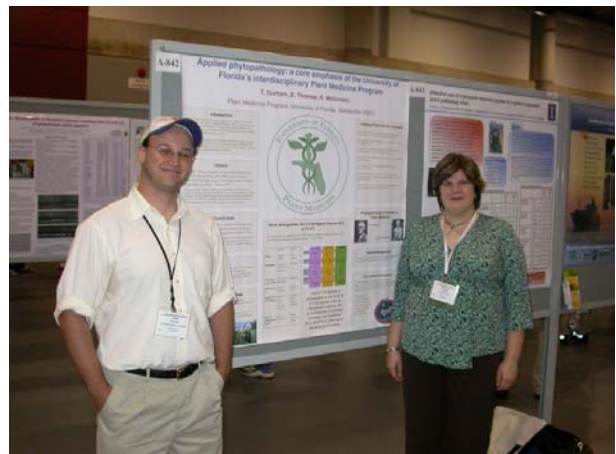
presentations on such wide ranging regulatory pests as Sudden Oak Death, Hibiscus Mealybug and invasive weeds. Information on the Certificate in Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management may be found at: [http://dpm.ifas.ufl.edu/plant\\_pest\\_risk\\_assessment/index.shtml](http://dpm.ifas.ufl.edu/plant_pest_risk_assessment/index.shtml).

Developed by Drs. and by a number of the certificate's for productive careers U.S. State AHIS-PPQ, and certificate requires 16 Pest Risk Assessment Pests of Regulatory Risk Assessment and schedule featured

## Plant Medicine at Meetings

The Plant Medicine Program was represented at many meetings and with a number of groups during the past year including the following:

- ☞ National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC) meeting, January 19-22, Tucson, AZ. Dr. Bob McGovern and DPM students Elizabeth Malek and Jeff Pack met with consultants and attended the educational sessions.
- ☞ Southern Division American Phytopathological Society meeting, February 6, Orlando, FL. Dr. Bob McGovern gave a presentation on the Plant Medicine Program.
- ☞ Southeast Branch of the Entomological Society of America, March 5-6, Wilmington, NC. Dr. Bob McGovern presented a poster on the Plant Medicine Program.
- ☞ USDA, CSREES and EPA, March 23-26, Washington, DC. Dr. Robin Spitko, and Harold Lambert representing the NAICC and Dr. Bob McGovern met with individuals in these federal agencies to discuss the nature and impact of the Plant Medicine Program.
- ☞ 5<sup>th</sup> National IPM Symposium, April 4-6, St. Louis, MO. Drs. Norm Leppla and Bob McGovern, DPM students Heidi Hans-Petersen and Tim Durham, and DPM graduate Dr. Christian Miller, Glades Crop Care, Jupiter, FL presented a workshop entitled *Implementation of Integrated Pest*



**DPM students Tim Durham and Denise Thomas at the APS meeting in Quebec City, Canada**

*Management through a Multidisciplinary Doctoral Program in Plant Health Management.* Their presentations may be found at: <http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposiumv/sessions/index.html>.

- Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, July 29-August 2, Quebec City Canada. DPM students Denise Thomas and Tim Durham and Dr. Bob McGovern presented posters on the program and certificate in Plant Pest Risk Assessment and Management. Denise Thomas attendance at the meeting was funded by the *Dr. J. Artie and Arra Browning Travel Grant*.

## Anthony Camerino Recipient of G.N. Agrios DPM Student Award



**Drs. George Agrios and Anthony Camerino**

Dr. Anthony Camerino was the recipient of the 2006 G. N. Agrios DPM Student Award. The award, named for the Plant Medicine Program's first director, Dr. George Agrios, is given annually to recognize the academic and professional accomplishments of a graduating DPM student. The award consists of a plaque and check for \$300. In addition to the D.P.M. degree, Dr. Camerino holds a B.S. in Biological Science from the University of Cincinnati. After graduation he took a County Extension Faculty position with the University of Florida-IFAS with responsibility for Home Horticulture and the Master Gardener Program in Citrus County, FL.

## Clinical Trials News

The Plant Medicine Program Clinical Trials coordinated by Charles Semer was initiated in 2005 to provide an opportunity for students to have supervised experience in designing and executing laboratory, greenhouse and field research in plant health management. Research cooperators include numerous agriculturally focused companies such as agrichemical producers and a multidisciplinary group of UF-IFAS faculty. In 2006, four DPM students under Semer's direction, Ken Ho Cho, Tim Durham, Megan Gilbert, and Jodi White, were engaged in a number of research projects including evaluation of fungicides for the control of *Phytophthora* spp. in field and greenhouse crops, Asian Soybean Rust in soybean, Early and Late Leaf Spot and White Mold in peanut, and Bacterial Spot in tomato. The students also investigated the sensitivity of isolates of *Fusarium oxysporum* from ornamentals to five commonly used fungicides, the mode of action of a potassium bicarbonate-based fungicide, the fungicidal activity of botanically-derived products, and the effectiveness of a frost protectant foam. Information on Clinical Trials research may be found at: [http://dpm.ifas.ufl.edu/clinical\\_trials/index.shtml](http://dpm.ifas.ufl.edu/clinical_trials/index.shtml).



## Grad Updates

2003 graduates, Osmond Barron and Adam Silagyi, have been on the move. Dr. Barron has been promoted to the position of Training Specialist with the USDA, APHIS-PPQ and is now based in Frederick, MD. Dr. Silagyi is now a Plant Survey Specialist with the USDA, APHIS-PPQ, Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey program in Gainesville, FL. 2005 graduate, Dr. Tina Bond, (Duperron) is now an Aquatics Agent with University of Florida-IFAS, Osceola County, FL Cooperative Extension Service.



**Dr. Osmond Barron (far right) with a group of Customs and Border Patrol trainees.**



**Dr. Adam Silagyi**