



Call for Abstracts for Paper and Poster Presentations

Free Abstract Submission Open:

The Science Protecting Plant Health Conference, organized by the Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS) and the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (PBCRC), is to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in Queensland, Australia on 26 – 28 September 2017. We are happy to announce that abstract submission for the conference is open. Please note that all abstracts are to be submitted online only.

Abstract Guidelines

Abstracts submitted must be original and the body of the text (excluding title, authors and author affiliations) should be no more than 300 words in length.

Free Abstract main categories/themes:

- Pathology
- Entomology
- Biosecurity
- Other

To assist the Program Committee to allocate your abstract to the correct area for assessing, can you please select the most relevant subject matter (please select a maximum of two preferences).

- Control
- Spread
- Diagnosis
- Ecology/epidemiology
- Prevention
- Containment
- Pest risk assessment
- Prediction
- Plant defense
- Policy
- Environment
- Community and industry engagement
- Other (please specify)

Free Abstracts will be considered for both oral and poster presentations but the final decision will be made at the discretion of the program committee. Please submit your abstract under the Free Abstract Submission. Please do not submit as an Invited Presenter.

To submit an abstract, please follow the hyperlink: <https://yrd.currinda.com/event/1063>

The closing date for abstract submission is now: **25th April 2017**

Upon receipt of your submission, YRD will issue an email confirmation to the submitting author within 48 hours of submission. If you do not receive a confirmation email in this time period, please contact spph@yrd.com.au. All abstracts will be reviewed by the program committee and you will be notified of your submission outcome via email no later than 26th May 2017. Instructions will be provided on the notification email



Example Abstract (Please do not copy this abstract)

Analysis of the NID domain of the capsid protein of banana streak virus and utilization for diagnostics

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The banana streak virus (BSV) capsid protein contains an N-terminal, intrinsically disordered (NID) domain that is surface-exposed on the virion and likely is multifunctional and plays important roles in viral replication and transmission. The immunodominant continuous epitopes on the virion are also located in the NID domain, and therefore this domain is of great interest from a diagnostics perspective. The BSV capsid protein is cleaved from a larger polyprotein through the action of the virus-encoded aspartic protease but the enzyme substrate sites, and hence the protein boundaries, have not yet been determined. Success has been achieved in expressing the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) aspartic protease in *E. coli* using methods developed for mammalian-infecting retroviruses and enzyme activity is currently being investigated. Once methods are optimized for CaMV, then work will begin on characterizing the BSV AP.

Using chemically synthesized peptides to mimic the continuous epitopes in the BSV NID domain, antisera have been raised in rabbits, and shown to cross-react with the virus in a range of assay formats such as ELISA, immunosorbent electron microscopy and immunocapture PCR. This technology promises to provide a rapid and reproducible way of generating immunodiagnostic reagents for all plant-infecting pararetroviruses.