



Canadian Forum for Biological Control

Forum Canadien pour la Lutte Biologique

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Canadian Forum for Biological Control Thursday, October 30, 2003

The Grand Okanagan Lakefront Resort and Conference Centre; Shuswap Rm.
1310 Water St., Kelowna, BC

- 1) **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm. Approximately 35 members were in attendance.
- 2) **Approval of 2002 minutes.** The minutes of the 2002 AGM were circulated to members and approved.
- 3) **President's Report.** The President's Report was presented by Rose De Clerck-Floate (see Appendix I)
- 4) **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report was presented by Bruce Broadbent and approved (see Appendix II).
- 5) **Biocontrol Network.** An update on the Biocontrol Network was presented by Mark Goettel. The Network is funded by NSERC for a 5-yr period ending April 2006, with possible renewal. Current research emphasizes three areas: i) greenhouses; ii) tree nurseries and managed forest stands; and iii) innovation tools for discovery and testing. The Network's goals are to create new knowledge and expertise from multi-sectorial research collaborations, transfer this to Canadian-based industries and other organizations, and train highly qualified personnel for employment in the new economy. Members are encouraged to view the Network's website for additional information on mandates, organization structure, research opportunities, and meetings (<http://biocontr.prestosite.net>).
- 6) **ECIPM.** Owen Olfert announced the upcoming meeting of the Expert Committee on Integrated Pest Management, on November 28-29 at Charlottetown, PEI. Members are encouraged to view the ECIPM's website for additional information on mandates, organizational structure, Pest Management Research Reports and related items (<http://www.carc-crac.ca/english/ECIPM/ecipm.htm> or <http://www.carc-crac.ca/french/ECIPM/ecipmf.htm>). Owen also mentioned that the ECIPM recognizes the CFBC as Canada's expert society in biocontrol. It was suggested that the CFBC prepare a report on our annual symposium and meeting for presentation at the ECIPM meeting in Charlottetown. Rose De Clerck-Floate agreed to prepare and forward a

report of this year's CFBC meeting to Christine Noronha for presentation at the ECIPM meeting. [Action - R. De Clerck-Floate] [This report is attached as Appendix III]

- 7) **Draft OECD Guidelines.** Peter Mason, acting on behalf of Don Elliott, President of the Association of Natural Bio-control Producers (ANBP), expressed ANBP's concerns regarding intended implementation of the draft OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) Guidelines for Regulation of Invertebrates as Biological Control Agents. Currently, arthropod biocontrol agents are regulated by the CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) under the mandate of the Plant Protection Act. The Biological Control Review Committee (BCRC) peer reviews petitions for release of biological control agents submitted to the CFIA and recommends to CFIA if release should or should not be granted. The past performance of this regulatory process has been very satisfactory in meeting the needs of the biocontrol industry. However, there is currently discussion as to whether oversight should pass to the PMRA (Pest Management Regulatory Agency) by virtue of the new Pest Control Products Act. Industry is concerned that the transfer of regulatory oversight to PMRA would unnecessarily increase the time and expense of meeting regulatory requirements.

The membership unanimously approved a motion (Motion 1) that CFBC endorse continued regulatory oversight of arthropod biocontrol agents by CFIA. Peter Mason was appointed chair of a sub-committee (members to be chosen by him and to include industry representation) which will draft a CFBC position paper on this issue.

The membership unanimously approved a motion (Motion 2) that CFBC endorse continued regulation of arthropod biocontrol agents by CFIA. Peter Mason was appointed chair of a sub-committee (members to be chosen by him and to include industry representation) which will draft a CFBC position paper on this issue.
- 8) **CFBC website.** There were discussions on establishing a CFBC website. Posted items could include the CFBC logo, mandate, AGM agendas and minutes, a list of the Executive, and PDFs of presentations from past symposia. There was a suggestion that CFBC members also be listed, but members expressed concerns that members might then receive unwanted e-mails. Martin Erlandson agreed to follow up on these ideas and to have a site prepared for the next meeting. [Action - M. Erlandson]
- 9) **CFBC mandate.** The Executive will prepare a written mandate clearly stating the purpose of the CFBC and what distinguishes it from similar organizations. This subsequently would be posted on the proposed CFBC website. [Action - Executive]
- 10) **Cross-border shipments.** Peter Mason advised members that new regulations in the USA will complicate imports of live beneficial arthropods into that country. Such agents will now be required to go directly to one of 14 APHIS plant quarantine facilities, be inspected as a plant pest, and then be released and reshipped to the end user or distributor. The new shipping procedures will cause an unnecessary delay of at least two to five days and cause loss of quality and mortality to many types of perishable species. A more serious issue is that the high costs of multiple shipments will likely make the cost of some agents prohibitive.
- 11) **Other Business.**
 - a. Membership. There were discussions on the length of time unpaid members should remain on the membership list. It was decided that unpaid members would be removed from the membership list after three years.

- b. A meeting will be held in June 2004, in Switzerland to develop guidelines for the screening of predacious/parasitic insects for the control of arthropod pests. For more information, members are asked to contact Ule Kuhlmann (e-mail; u.kuhlmann@cabi-bioscience.ch)
- 12) **Election of Treasurer for 2004.** In the absence of other nominations, Bruce Broadbent agreed to continue in his current role as Treasurer of the CFBC.
- 13) **2004 meeting.** Suggestions for the venue/time of the 2004 CFBC meeting included holding it in conjunction with either the western region meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) in Victoria (October), or at the annual meeting of the CPS, being held in Ottawa this June. The Executive will identify a meeting venue and inform the membership. [Action - Executive]
- 14) Adjournment

Motions from Item 7

Motion 1:

"We, the members of the Canadian Forum of Biological Control, having a vested interest in the importation and regulation of macrobial arthropod biological control agents, endorse the current process of regulation for these agents in Canada, which is administered by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, is harmonized with the regulation of these agents in the United States of America, and which has served well the Canadian public."

Motion 2:

"We, the members of the Canadian Forum of Biological Control (CFBC), move that the CFBC Executive strike a committee to develop a position paper with other partners (e.g., Association of Natural Biocontrol Producers) with regards to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Regulation of Invertebrates as Biological Control Agents."

Appendix I - CFBC President's Report for 2003

I need only to look at the tremendous response to this year's CFBC annual symposium to be convinced of the relevance and importance of biocontrol in Canada. Also, it indicates that the CFBC needs to continue to reach cross-group with timely information and updates on biocontrol development, implementation and emerging issues within our country.

The CFBC is a non-profit society comprised of members from across Canada who study, develop, provide, implement or promote biological control as a viable pest control strategy in sustainable agricultural production and environmental systems. Our members are cross-disciplinary; involved in the control of pest insects, plants or plant diseases through the applications of natural enemies (i.e., insects, pathogens) and/or biocontrol products (e.g., biopesticides). We are also broad-based, being comprised of individuals from federal and provincial government institutions, university and industry. Our strength is the ability to network among existing organizations (e.g., National Science, Engineering and Research Council, Biocontrol Network, Expert Committee on Integrated Pest Management, Association of Natural Bio-control Producers), stakeholders, researchers and regulators in the facilitation of biocontrol, the building of cooperative ventures/projects and the communication of emerging technologies and issues in the field.

I am currently moving to a new office and lab at Lethbridge (a great opportunity to clean) and in the process, came across the Proceedings of our inaugural meeting of the CFBC - September 30, 1992 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Do you realize that we now are eleven years old! It was at this meeting that the formal structure of the Society was proposed including an early mandate to "*provide leadership and set priorities for biocontrol on a national basis and to encourage and promote communications*".

The concept for the CFBC was actually hatched at the Biocontrol Workshop held in Calgary on October 12, 1990, which identified a number of functions not served by the existing organizations in Canada. These included a lack of coordination, communication and advocacy on biocontrol issues. Later, a questionnaire was circulated in Biocontrol News in May, 1992, which polled biocontrol researchers and practitioners on the relevancy of a Forum. Ninety percent of the 41 respondents answered 'Yes' to the question of "*Would the Forum as proposed serve a useful purpose?*" Furthermore, 83% felt the organization of scientific meetings and symposia would make a useful contribution to Canadian biocontrol as a whole, plus 76% felt an important role for the Forum would be to respond to issues and concerns pertaining to biocontrol.

It would appear that we have remained true to the original intent of the CFBC through our annual activities of facilitation, communication and promotion of biological control in Canada. The need for our Society has taken on renewed relevance with the development of the Agricultural Policy Framework, risk reduction strategies and environmental farm plans. Add to this, the growing resistance to pesticides shown by some of our serious agricultural pests and growing concerns by the public regarding pesticide use.

This year's symposium was specifically designed to help address some of the barriers and challenges in the delivery and implementation of biocontrol within IPM systems. If we are to add biocontrol to the toolbox of control methods available to IPM, we need to get past the bench, and determine how and where our agents can plug in effectively. The continued discussion on successes, opportunities and the challenges in biocontrol with our membership

and others also fulfills one of the original objectives of the CFBC; i.e., *"To provide a system for monitoring and responding to issues affecting biocontrol as they arise..."*.

We also fulfill our mandate by being an independent, national voice and facilitator on issues influencing the advancement of biocontrol in Canada. For instance, this year's members of our Executive were in contact with the Canadian natural biocontrol producers regarding concerns over draft OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) guidelines for regulation of invertebrates as biological control agents and how it would negatively affect their industry. As a body of experts, we can listen and provide guidance to both industry and regulators when we see the process jumping track.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts and enthusiasm of our 2002 Executive (Past-President - Sue Boyetchko, Secretary - Dave Gillespie, Treasurer - Bruce Broadbent) who have worked with me in broadening the membership base of our Society. In 2003, we also added for the first time, two Directors-at-Large (Zamir Punja - Simon Fraser University; Graeme Murphy - Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food), who will give us good representation from the academic and provincial sectors. Together with a new incoming Secretary (Kevin Floate - Lethbridge, AB) and Vice-President (Odile Carisse - Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC), we have a well-rounded and dynamic team which I am looking forward to working with in 2004.

In closing, I wish to thank all those that have continued supporting our Society; thereby keeping us going strong. Also, thank-you to Hugh Philip for helping us with local arrangements for this year's meeting. Lastly, thanks to Dave Gillespie and Bob Costello, organizers of the last IOBC (International Organization for Biological Control), who helped obtain a donation for the CFBC.

Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate
President, CFBC

**Appendix II - CFBC Treasurer's Report for 2003
CANADIAN FORUM FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL**

Financial Statement for October 02, 2002 - October 30, 2003
[AGM, Winnipeg] [AGM, Kelowna]

	Income	Expenditures	Balance
Income and Expenditures			
Balance carried forward Oct.02, 2002			3143.61
Membership (31) dues (\$15) for 2002-03	465.00		
AGM Winnipeg expenses [Room \$200, Coffee break \$287.74, Speaker costs \$800]		1287.74	
Cheque book fee [Bank of MTL] [Oct./02]		26.23	
Industry Canada Filing fee 2003 [June 1/03]		30.00	
IOBC Meeting BC donation [Aug. 19/03]	300.00		
Totals	765.00	1343.97	2564.64
	Assets	Liabilities	Net Worth
Assets and Liabilities at Oct. 30, 2003			
Current assets			
Bank balance at Bank of Montreal, London [no fee chequing account] with interest included	2566.02		
Interest earned [Oct. 02 - Oct.03]	1.38		
Current liabilities		0	
Net Worth			2566.02

NB: Membership dues (@ \$15/person) for 2003 not yet included.

Projected expenses for 2003 Kelowna Meeting: \$200 Room rental and \$178 Coffee break

Respectfully submitted on October 30, 2003
by A.B. Broadbent, Treasurer, CFBC

Appendix III - Report to the ECIPM on the 11th Annual Symposium and Meeting of the Canadian Forum for Biological Control: October 30, 2003, Kelowna, BC

Approximately 50 participants were in attendance at this year's meeting in Kelowna, representing biocontrol researchers (from AAFC, University and Province), practitioners, industry, regulators, managers and other interested parties. In addition to the symposium, there also were 11 posters presented by members on various biocontrol topics.

The symposium, "*Successes in and barriers to implementation of biocontrol in IPM systems*" addressed where we are presently in delivery of biological agents that are effective and can be plugged into current pest management systems. The five speakers ranged in focus and expertise. Graeme Murphy (Extension IPM Specialist/Entomologist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food) and Zamir Punja (Plant Pathologist, Simon Fraser University) presented their experiences/views and research/successes, respectively, during development and implementation of biocontrol in the greenhouse industry. Kevin Floate (Entomologist, AAFC), discussed the barriers to industry expansion of biocontrol of feedlot flies in Canada. Jennifer Otani (Entomologist, AAFC) spoke of the opportunities, but also industry-driven barriers, to the use of biocontrol against pests of turf/grass seed crops in the Peace River region of Canada. She came away from the meeting with several potential new collaborators as a result of her presentation. Lastly, Joan Cossentine (Entomologist, AAFC) gave an overview and producer perspectives on the use of biocontrol within the orchard industry, while highlighting some real successes.

The symposium wrapped up with an active, audience-interactive discussion of the issues surrounding promotion and use of biocontrol within various agricultural industries. The cross-section of backgrounds presented by both speakers and audience brought out many useful perspectives, and potential solutions when dealing with the barriers.

Highlights of the business meeting included;

1) discussion of the impact of proposed OECD guidelines for regulation of invertebrates (macrobial) biocontrol agents on biocontrol producers in Canada (information provided by Peter Mason of AAFC and Don Elliot of Applied Biomomics); two motions addressing this concern were passed, that: a) show CFBC support for the current system of regulating invertebrates under the Plant Protection Act and CFIA administration and, b) will allow formation of a CFBC committee (including industry members) to develop a position paper on this issue;

2) announcement that the CFBC will be launching a website for biocontrol information/membership communication in 2004.

The CFBC will continue to network with other biocontrol or biocontrol relevant groups/members in Canada such as the ECIPM, NSERC Biocontrol Network, and Association of Natural Bio-control Producers).

CFBC executive and board members for 2004 are; President, Rose De Clerck-Floate (AAFC, Lethbridge), Past-president, Sue Boyetchko (AAFC, Saskatoon), Vice President, Odile Carisse (AAFC, St. Jean sur Richileau), Secretary, Kevin Floate (AAFC, Lethbridge), Treasurer, Bruce Broadbent (AAFC, London), Directors-at-large, Zamir Punja (Simon Fraser U.) and Graeme Murphy (OMAF).

Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate; President, CFBC