



Bio-control Matters

President's Corner:

(By Don Elliott, President, ANBP)

In this issue of the newsletter I would like to again thank the ANBP Board of Directors and members for all the work they have done. The following is a summary of some of the many major actions and tasks completed by the ANBP Board of Directors, Executive Director Maclay Burt and other ANBP members so far in 2003-2004 (many were initiated before 2003). Many tasks are always still underway, especially with regulatory issues and input from all ANBP members is important and always welcome.

The ANBP Code of

Ethics: has been revised and will apply to all members when renewing membership for 2005. New members must be approved by the ANBP Board of Directors.

The ANBP Code of Ethics was made into

a Certificate of Membership to be given to members upon accepting membership and payment of dues. The ANBP Logo is also now available for use by ANBP members. There is a new membership category of "Practitioner" and some of the fees were changed, so there are now two voting categories,

Producer (\$550) and Distributor (\$250) and two non-voting memberships, Practitioner (\$125) and Associate (\$25). Producer members can vote on issues facing the association, including the election of new board members. Distributor members can be nominated for the board and then vote in the election of board members. If distributor members are elected to the board they then have full

voting rights on issues facing the board and ANBP. "Practitioner" was defined as a person and/or business engaged in the application of macrobial (i.e. invertebrates: insects, mites and nematodes) biocontrol organisms, consulting, educa-

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ANBP's Mission Statement

ANBP's Mission is to address key issues of the biological control industry through advocacy, education, and quality assurance.

"Bio-Control Matters" is published by the Association of Natural Bio-control Producers four times per year to provide members with information, thought and opinion on biological control affairs. **Bio-Control Matters** advocates the interests of commercial biological control and the public interest of quality agricultural production and environmental protection. **Bio-Control Matters** welcomes contributions of comment and opinion, as well as articles of general interest. All contributions must be signed by the contributor. Send contributions for consideration to Maclay Burt, ANBP Executive Director, 2230 Martin Drive, Tustin Ranch CA 92782. Phone/fax (714) 544-8295. (E-mail execdir@anbp.org). Published contributions may not necessarily reflect the views or policy of ANBP.

ANBP was formed in 1990 by commercial insectariesto provide a united voice in regulatory issues facing the industry. ANBP is also dedicated to quality standards and educating the agricultural and academic communities about the importance of biological pest controls for pest management. ANBP membership exceeds 100, including 46 producers and/or suppliers. Through its efforts, ANBP is recognized as THE spokesman for the commercial biological control industry.

ANBP Board

- Don Elliott, President (Applied Bio-nomics Ltd)
- Tom Kueneman Vice President (Plant Sciences, Inc./Koppert)
- Carol Glenister Secretary (IPM Laboratories)
- Dan Cahn Treasurer (Syngenta Bio-line, Inc.)
- Jake Blehm (Buena Biosystems)
- Kimberly Gallagher ((Sterling Nursery)
- Angela Hale (The Bug Factory)
- Eda Reinot (Becker Underwood)
- Richard Ward (Biobest Canada Ltd)

Contributing Members

ANBP is pleased to recognize the following members for their interest in biocontrol and their generous support of ANBP's programs and goals.

- **California Avocado Commission**
- **Donald L. Flaherty**
- **Pest Management Associates**
- **The Morning Star Packing Company**

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tion and pest management. Distributors and producers are voting positions and both can nominate members to the ANBP Board. In 2004, nomination forms for vacant or new 2005 board positions will be mailed out to these members along with the 2005 ANBP membership renewal forms. If it is impossible for Distributors and Producer members to attend the annual meeting and they wish to vote, absentee ballots can be requested. Since the ANBP works by the energy of its volunteer members, it is important that members actively take part and attend the annual meetings.

ANBP By-laws and Procedures: A change in ANBP By-laws vote was conducted over the internet by ANBP Producer Members. ANBP By-laws were revised to reflect the new Practitioner membership category and to officially allow ANBP meetings to be held outside of California.

A new detailed ANBP Procedures Manual was compiled by executive Director Maclay Burt including details of ANBP day to day operations such as Board Meetings, Meeting Minutes, Database, Mail Merge, Newsletter, budget/banking, ANBP Articles, Bylaws, Nominations, Membership, website domain access, electronic newsletter....

Research Needs and Research Fund: A letter was drafted to be sent to high value agricultural industries that have pest problems that may be solved using biocontrol.

There were many ideas for use of the growing ANBP research fund but it is relatively small and one use that was voted on by the board was to set aside \$1000 from this fund for a student biocontrol award to be presented at fall annual meetings. The first award will be presented for best student presentation at the 2004 Annual meetings in Colorado. Several ANBP producer and contributing members have donated funds toward the Research Fund.

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Accounting: Dan Cahn is now treasurer and Dan Cahn, Jake Blehm and Maclay Burt have signing authority on the ANBP bank account (2 signatures are required). The legal and lobby costs have gone over budget and may need to be capped or excess expenditures provided for. The ANBP 2003 conference operated at a slight loss due in part by a poor CAN/USA \$ exchange rate and high meal costs.

Regulatory: ANBP working with IBMA was involved in delaying and making changes beneficial to the commercial biocontrol industry to the Draft International OECD Document "Guidance for Regulation of Invertebrates as Biological Control Agents (IBCA)". Meetings were held with OECD representatives by Don Elliott and Angela Hale in Brussels and Paris. Meetings were also held by Carol Glenister and Brian Spencer with the OECD meeting Chairperson, Wendy Sexsmith in Ottawa.

ANBP also signed on with the IBMA on March 2004 to lobby the OECD Biopesticides Steering Group to emphasize "facilitating" instead of regulating biologicals and also to change the name of the process from "registration" to "regulation". Numerous letters and petitions were made and meetings were held with USDA APHIS representatives (Washington x2, Carol Glennister, Dan Cahn,) to attempt to change new restrictive USDA APHIS regulation and labeling of APHIS permitted invertebrate biocontrols. Regulatory representatives (Robert Flanders- APHIS, Peter Mason & Doug Parker- Agriculture Canada) were invited as speakers at the 2003 ANBP annual meeting. Things were not improving with importation into the USA so Washington attorney Aleen Rothschild-Seidel and Washington lobbyist Robert Gray were also hired by ANBP to assist. Letters of support were provided from major growers and users of biocontrol. Several ANBP producers have contributed funds toward the legal and lobby costs in 2003-2004. A list of ANBP inver-

tebrate biocontrol organisms and hosts currently imported into the USA under USDA-APHIS Permits was compiled (38 bios and 9 hosts) and will be listed on the ANBP website. On April 20-23, meetings of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Biocontrol Group were held in Calgary, Alberta. We had asked Peter Mason earlier if ANBP members could attend the meeting and he welcomed input from commercial biocontrol producers. Three ANBP members attended the meeting, Applied Bio-Nomics Ltd (Brian Spencer), The Bug Factory (Angela Hale) and Biobest Canada (Richard Ward). There will be minutes of the meetings circulated at a later date. Overall the meeting was very positive and NAPPO representatives discussed the input of North American commercial producers. A new NAPPO "Charge" (Initiative) for 2004 was made: that members of the NAPPO Biocontrol Committee will investigate methods of assisting the commercial movement of invertebrate biocontrol organisms between NAPPO countries (Canada/USA/Mexico). The following is a list of some of the government representatives at the NAPPO meetings: Dr. Joseph Vorgetts, Chairman, NAPPO, Biological Control Committee, National Biological Control Program Headquarters Manager, USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit- Pest Detection and Management, Invasive Species and Pest Management Branch; Dr. Wayne F. Wehling, Entomologist, USDA-APHIS, Marketing and Regulating Programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, PPQ; Dr. Walter P. Gould, Entomologist, USDA-APHIS, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, PPQ; Dr. Peter Mason, Section Head, Entomology Biodiversity and IPM, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Douglas Parker, Identification and Regulatory Entomologist, Center for Plant Quarantine Pests, Canadian Food Inspection Agency; Barbara Peterson, Commodity Officer, Horticultural Section, Plant Health and Production Division, Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Manuel Mejia, Technical Director, North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO). One of the great concerns of the meeting was the lack of gov-

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ernment specialists now available to identify invertebrate biocontrol agents or invertebrate plant pests. Many major insect and mite orders have no North American authorities that can identify them due to specialists retiring and not being replaced.

Newsletter: The ANBP Newsletter is now compiled by Maclay Burt and is sent out in electronic format to each member and is also available on the website

Website: The website continues to be updated and revised with help of Glenn Scriven and the website committee (Cahn, Kueneman, Wainwright-Evans) and the site now has: the ANBP newsletter, 41 suppliers and their products, code of ethics, ANBP Newsletter now on the website including lists of current members. Producer members in good standing may submit their companies product list, description and website link and they will be posted on the Producers section of the ANBP Internet Site. The ANBP Internet site, anbp.org has up to 1277 hits a day, and is the second most popular biocontrol site on the internet. The website now has a new "current news" page. Glenn requests: "Email me any news of interest to the biocontrol community and I will post it on the page." Also Glenn requested updates on biocontrols, new predators and parasites and application information. If the site is to be of value to the public, it needs to be updated regularly. This keeps people coming back to the site to check for new information and improves our ranking on the search engines (Google).

ASTM/IOBC Quality Control: A history of the development of Quality Control by the ANBP/ASTM was published as "Quality Assurance in North America: Merging Customer and Producer Needs" by ANBP/ASTM members C.S. Glenister, A.

Hale, and A. Luczynski. This was published in the new CABI book "Quality Control and Production of Biological Control Agents Theory and Testing Procedures, edited by J.C. van Lenteren.

ASTM Membership can now be paid by ANBP for ASTM Members actively involved in writing standards if they request this. Because of copyright issues with ASTM, any new standard should first be submitted to IOBC in IOBC format and then converted to ASTM format. IOBC and ASTM standards should have more than one author and if possible a scientific authority that is familiar with the biocontrol.

Liaison / Education: A yearly ANBP Award of Excellence was initiated to be presented at the annual meeting in the form of a brass plaque to individuals that make outstanding contributions to commercial Biocontrol. Dr. Dave Gillespie of Agriculture of Agriculture Canada was given the award in 2003. Dan Cahn was invited to be involved in the planning of the 3rd California Biocontrol conference as a commercial producer and ANBP member. ANBP was invited and Jake Blehm attended the USDA Agricultural Research Services (ARS) meetings to formulate the next 5 year plan for USDA-ARS agriculture research. Many of the ARS 5 most "critical" issues are shared by ANBP: 1. Regulatory issues, 2. Pilot studies, 3. Indigenous beneficials, 4. Liaison with industry, 5. Virtual information center. A new ANBP Poster was designed and made up by Carol Glenister and is available for use at meetings (pdf file is available for future printings. It has been displayed and manned by: Angie Hale at the IOBC meetings in Montpellier, Carol Glennister at the Washington meetings, Don Elliott at the Canadian Forum for Biological Control and Jake Blehm at the ARS Meetings. Carol Glenister attended PPQ Stakeholders meetings in Washington. Don Elliott attended the Canadian Forum for Biological Control meeting "Successes in and barriers to implementation of biocontrol in IPM systems". 50 Participants attended representing Canadian bio-

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control researchers, practitioners, industry and regulators. Discussion on over-regulation of both research and commercial biocontrol. Members passed 2 motions: 1/ To endorse the present process of regulation used in Canada by Agriculture Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agencies. 2/ to strike a committee to develop a position paper with other partners, including ANBP with regards to the OECD draft document.

Nominations:

A call for nominations for ANBP Board positions will be found in this newsletter.

Regulatory Report:

(By Dan Cahn, Chair, Regulatory Committee)

The Regulatory Committee, together with our Washington representative Bob Gray and our attorney Aleen Rothschild-Seidel, continues to trade shots with USDA over the restrictions on importing beneficials into the US. In January 2004 we petitioned Anne Veneman, Secretary of Agriculture, to allow the Department of Homeland Security Agricultural Inspectors (previously USDA APHIS employees) to inspect shipments of biological control products at ports of entry rather than the patchwork system of sending the products to APHIS facilities for inspection and reshipment. While this is working at some ports of entry, albeit with considerable extra cost, there are no inspectors at the key entry points of Blaine Washington, the Federal Express hub at Memphis or the UPS hub at Louisville. It is virtually impossible to distribute products in the US without using the major package delivery services!

The response to our petition by Alan Dowdy, the Acting Director of APHIS Plant Health Programs, was a denial of our request. In his letter Mr. Dowdy made several interesting comments. He claims that physical inspection of all shipments is necessary because "...PPQ specialists sometimes discover organisms that - unin-

tionally or otherwise—could be harmful to the biosecurity of our Nation's agriculture and environment". He also stated that "...many developed countries do not allow any commercial imports of biological pest control agents for direct release..."

We have responded to Secretary Veneman asking for an explanation of these statements. We are unaware of any incidents of harmful organisms that have been discovered in commercial shipments. The only recent case we know of a suspect organism was resolved by supplying APHIS with an up to date taxonomic key of the beneficial in question. In any case there was no question of anything "harmful to the biosecurity of our Nation's agriculture..."

The statement about other developing countries was also strange, since every European and North American country allows commercial products to be imported and released directly into the environment. We expect that, as usual, they have confused commercial shipments with new exotic insects that are imported for research purposes.

We intend to confront these issues at a meeting with Secretary Veneman's chief of staff and the Associate Director of APHIS on May 20. We will also make some Senate and House calls to keep the pressure up. Stay tuned for the next chapter

Call For Nominations:

At the October 1 Annual General Meeting at Conference 2004, three people will be elected to three-year terms as members of the Board of Directors.

All Producer Members and Distributor Members are eligible to stand for election.

Any member may nominate someone who is a Producer or Distributor member.

Please e-mail your nomination to Nominations Chair Angela Hale at ahale@thebugfactory.ca

Committees 2004:

- **Regulatory:** Cahn (Chair), Elliott, Glenister, Ward
- **Research Needs:** Hale (Chair), Blehm, CAhn, Ward
- **Liason and Education:** Gallagher (Chair), Elliott, Glenister, Luczynski, Wainwright-Evans
- **Nominating:** Hale (Chair), all Board members
- **Audit:** All Board members
- **Conference:** Ward (Chair), Hale (Program Chair), Blehm
- **Quality Control:** Glenister (Chair), Elliott, Luczynski

Regulatory Fund

Contributors:

ANBP has experienced extraordinary expenses in dealing with the recent APHIS/Homeland Security regulations that are restricting movement and increasing costs of all biocontrol imports now entering the US.

Nearly \$8000 has been spent, including attorney and lobbyist fees, along with ANBP travel to Washington for Congressional and APHIS meetings.

ANBP is gratified at several members' generous voluntary contributions to defray some of these costs.

They include:

- Beneficial Insectary
- Biobest Canada Ltd.
- IPM Laboratories
- Koppert Biological Systems, Inc.

A special mailing to all individual Producer and Distributor members is in process to request additional one-time support.

ASTM Report:

(By Committee Chair Carol Glenister)

The ASTM meeting was held on February 28.

Angela Hale has prepared a first draft of the Orius draft standard. She is working together with Jan Vermeulen of Biobest. They are following the IOBC method, which involves sieving.

Don Elliott is working together with Linda Gilkeson on the Aphidoletes draft standard.

Jan Nyrop presented results from the Persimilis counting trials at the 2003 Niagara meeting. The data had no hint of bias. The statistical interpretations will be included in a revised standard for Persimilis and is likely to be usable for several other mite species.

Anna Luczynski presented an update on research on Encarsia formosa vigor and flight data. The research gathered data that compared emergence, flight and parasitism after 1, 7, 14, and 21 days in storage under 2 temperature regimes on one production batch. Jan Nyrop also suggested that a study be performed with different sample sizes to improve the understanding of the data. She asked that ANBP consider contributing funding from its research fund to support a part time summer student to replicate studies on more batches. Any private funding would be matched by Canadian funding.

The group resolved to include a discussion of critical quality parameters for Encarsia in the methods section of the Encarsia quality standard. The number of samples required needs to be worked out.

Jan Nyrop presented his analysis of Anna Luczynski's data on predator and prey numbers in Cucumeris sachets at receipt and over time. The initial

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predator numbers in the sachets are highly variable and the patterns of predator release, even in a very controlled environment, are highly variable from company to company and from shipment to shipment. Also, there was no relationship between predator escape from the same sachets over time. Their conclusion is that it will not be possible to create a standard for the sachets. There was general agreement among the producers that this confirmed their feelings as well, and that they were not actively developing guidelines for the sachets for this reason.

Carol Glenister asked that task group chairs register their standards drafts on the ASTM.Org website and briefly reviewed how to do this. She also encouraged the task group chairs to involve IBMA members, academics, growers, and government employees on their task groups.

Angela Hale presented the Quality Guidelines Global Coordinators list for review and suggested that everyone join the Arthropod Mass Rearing and Quality Control working group of the International Organization of Biological Control (can be found at AMRQC.org).

Eda Reinot agreed to investigate whether the beneficial nematodes producers were interested in creating quality standards for nematodes in the ASTM format. Talk to Becker Underwood UK and also to academic institutions (OSU).

The next meeting will be on September 30 at Colorado Springs, site of ANBP's Conference 2004.

IPMnet NEWS:

(Excerpts From Issue #125)

>>GLOBAL IPM SNAPSHOTS <<

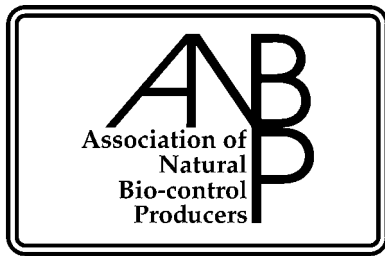
** An imported weevil has successfully controlled the invasive aquatic weed, *Azolla filiculoides* (red waterfern), in Southern Africa. *--> A.J. McConnachie, <mailto:AJMcConnachie@yahoo.com>.

** Research in Canada will study reduced herbicide usage in canola leaves a small base of late emerging weeds, attracts natural enemies of pest insects, and yields positive overall results for producers. *--> L. Dossdall, <mailto:Lloyd.Dossdall@ualberta.ca>.

** A 3-year study on natural enemy conservation in cotton revealed that insect growth regulator compounds were more selective and facilitative of biologically based management than insecticides. *--> S.E. Naranjo, <mailto:SNaranjo@wcrf.ars.usda.gov>.

** Economists forecast that, by 2014, 11 GM crops will be grown in Europe with sugarbeet, maize, and cotton leading the pack, each raised on up to 45 percent of the area planted to these crops. *--> Crop Prot. Monthly, <http://www.crop-protection-monthly.co.uk>.

** The essential oil of *Nepeta cataria* (catnip, catmint) is said to repel some insects and vertebrates, attract others (esp. cats), and be an aphid pheromone. *--> W. Quarles, <mailto:birc@igc.apc.org>.



www.anbp.org

CONFERENCE 2004



“Commercial Bio-control: Private Industry and Public Support”

October 1-2, 2004

Radisson Inn North

Colorado Springs, Colorado

8119 North Academy Boulevard

Colorado Springs CO 80920

(719) 598-5770, Fax (719) 598-5965

Theme: “Commercial Bio-control: Private Industry and Public Support” reflects the need for the commercial bio-control industry to maintain its positive image and have support from the general public and also continue to work with the public sector. For our industry to grow and thrive, we must continually strive to improve communication with government officials and researchers. The program includes sessions intended to interest all stakeholders in the commercial biocontrol industry, provoking thought and discussion on important topics that can enhance or threaten our industry.

Registration: Go to www.anbp.org and complete the printable registration form. To assure maximum security, mail it, your check or credit card information (name, account number, exp. date) to ANBP, 2230 Martin Drive, Tustin CA 92782, Phone or Fax 714 544 8295. Email execdir@anbp.org. Please DO NOT use US government credit cards, as ANBP is not an approved vendor.

The Conference fee of USD295 (USD350 after August 29, 2004) includes all sessions, breaks, 2 lunches, a September 30 welcome wine and cheese reception and a Western Barbeque and show on October 1. Guest participation and fees can be arranged on a request basis.

The hotel has a limited room block at USD79 single/double Until August 29, including a full breakfast and airport transportation. *Book direct with hotel.*

Preliminary Program:

Thursday, September 30

- ANBP Board Meeting
- ASTM Quality Assurance Meeting
- Wine and Cheese Reception and Mixer

Friday, October 1

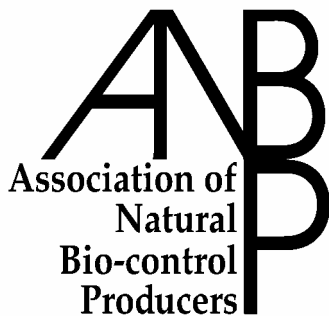
- Ethics and Public Perception of the Biocontrol Industry
- Technology Transfer: From Research to Practical Application
- Pathogens: Positive and Negative Effects on Microbial Biocontrol Agents
- Propagation Greenhouse and local area tour, followed by a Western BBQ and entertainment

Saturday, October 2

- Field Performance of Augmentative Biocontrol Agents
- Organic Crop Production and Marketing Products to the Consumer
- Keynote Address
- ANBP Annual General Meeting
- Importing and Exporting: Facilitating International Movement of Commercial Biocontrol Agents
- ANBP New Board of Directors Meeting

Upcoming Meetings, Workshops and Events

Date	Title	Location	Contact info
June 10-13, 2004	IOBC/WPRC Working Group 'Management of Plant Diseases and Arthropod Pests by BCA's and their Integration in Greenhouse Systems'	Trentino, Italy	www.ibma.ch/pdf/event20040610_fa.doc
July 13-15, 2004	California Conference on Biological Control IV 'Biological Control and Organic Production'	Berkeley, California, USA	www.cnr.berkeley.edu/biocon/
Aug 15-21, 2004	Int'l Congress of Entomology	Brisbane, Australia	www.ice2004.org
Sept 30 - Oct 2,	Florida Nursery and Allied Trades Show	Orlando, FL, USA	www.fnats.org
Oct 1-2, 2004	ANBP Annual Conference and AGM 2004 'Commercial Bio-control: Private Industry and Public Support'	Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA	www.anbp.org
Oct 5-9, 2004	2 nd European Whitefly Symposium	Cavtat, Croatia	www.whitefly.org/ewsii-info.html
Oct 6-7, 2004	Canadian Greenhouse Conference	Toronto, ONT, Canada	www.canadiangreenhouseconference.com
Oct 18-22, 2004	North American Plant Protection Organization	Vancouver, BC, Canada	www.nappo.org
Oct 20-21, 2004	Setting the Table: Tools and Techniques for a Sustainable	Burlington, VT, USA	www.uvm.edu/~nesare
Nov 3-6, 2004	International Horti Fair (NTV)	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	www.hortifair.nl
Sept 12-16, 2005	2 nd Int'l Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods	Davos, Switzerland	ISBCA@bluewin.ch



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