

The Potato Association of America
97th Annual Meeting
Quebec City, Quebec Canada

"Symposium on Bacterial Diseases of Potatoes"
(sponsored by Plant Protection Section)

Dr. Willie Kirk, (Dept. of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824) with the co-operation of Dr. Neil Gudmestad (NDSU) have organized a "**Bacterial Diseases Symposium**" for the 97th PAA Annual Meeting in Quebec City, 28 July to 1 August 2013. Four speakers have agreed to contribute to the symposium.

1. Dr. Ian Toth, James Hutton Institute, Invergowrie, Scotland, UK (formerly SCRI) has agreed to deliver two contributions, one on Pectobacteria and the other on an emerging threat in Europe, *Dickeya* species. Dr. Toth is a renowned international bacteriologist and well known in the field of potato bacteriology. The presentation that Dr. Toth made as a keynote speaker at the triennial meeting of the EAPR in Oulu, Finland on bacterial effectors mechanisms was comprehensive and was very well received.

2. Dr. Joseph Munyaneza (USDA) Yakima Agricultural Research Lab, Wapato, WA 98951, USA, has agreed to present the latest research on *Candidatus Liberibacter* the cause of Zebra Chip.

3. Dr. Leslie Wanner (USDA) USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, MD 20705, USA has agreed to bring the community up to date on the latest in research on *Streptomyces scabies* and other species that are causing common scab on potato problems in North America.

4. Finally, Dr. Neil Gudmestad (NDSU) Dept of Plant Pathology, Dept 7670, PO Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58105, USA has agreed to present an update on important pectobacterial diseases of potato in North America, and Dr. Solke de Boer (currently in retirement) may co-present.

The five presentations each of about 30-minute duration will provide the audience with a comprehensive update on bacterial diseases of potato in Europe and North America.