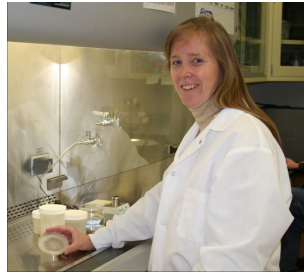


2009 CONVENTION GUEST SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Rosalind James

Dr. Rosalind James is Research Leader of the Pollinating-Insect Biology, Management, and Systematics Research Unit in Logan, UT. The mission of the laboratory, also known as the Bee Biology and Systematics Lab, is to develop bees as sustainable pollinators of agricultural crops, focusing on domesticating new bee species, that is, bees other than honey bees. Additional research is directed in areas of bee biosystematics and pollination biology. Dr. James obtained a PhD in Entomology from Oregon State University and worked as a Senior Scientist at the EPA Environmental Research Laboratory in Corvallis, OR, before joining ARS as an expert in microbial control of insect pests.

Dr. James's expertise is in insect pathology, and she now works on developing novel control options and delivery systems for the management of chalkbrood and other diseases, parasites, and predators in bees, especially the alfalfa leafcutting bee. Her research contributes to our basic understanding of host-pathogen interactions and the improvement of methods for controlling bee diseases in agricultural production systems.

Dr. James is currently active in the Society for Invertebrate Pathology, serving as Secretary/Treasurer (2004-2006) and Chair Elect (2006-2008) of the Fungus Division, and has published on a variety of subjects including bee diseases, biological control, genetic engineering, and risk assessment.

Rhéal Lafrenière

Rhéal was introduced to honey bees at the age of 15 where he was employed by a local commercial beekeeper in the small rural village where he grew up in Manitoba. Throughout high school and University, Rhéal continued to work with honey bees. When he wasn't working for commercial beekeepers in Manitoba or New Zealand, he was either working with bees at the University of Manitoba under Dr. Cam Jay or as a bee inspector for the Province of Manitoba under Don Dixon! Rhéal earned his Masters degree in Entomology at the University of Manitoba in 1994 and in 1996 started working for the Provincial Department of Agriculture in Manitoba, first as an Extension Apiarist and then as the Provincial Apiarist. Rheel was the CAPA Secretary/Treasurer from 2000-2006 and CAPA Vice-President from 2006-Present. This past year, Rhéal worked very closely with the Canadian Honey Council on some important national initiatives.

Other Guest Speakers include:

- **Paul Kozak**, Associate Extension Apiculturist/New York State IPM Program –Department of Entomology, Cornell University
- **Barbara Smith**, Foodland Ontario, Client Services Officer, Foodland Program and Savour Ontario Program
- **Sally Huffman Brown**, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Project Coordinator/Farm Business Management, Growing Forward Program
- **Robin Honey**, RGD President, Honeydesign Marketing and Communications