

"2008 Graduate Student Competition"
92nd Annual Meeting

August 11, 2008

Buffalo, NY USA

Nine students participated in the competition: 6 Ph.D. and 3 M.S. students. They made presentations in the following sections: Breeding and Genetics (4), Plant Protection (3), Physiology (1) and Production and Management (1). They were from eight institutions: Texas A & M University (1), North Dakota State University (2), Michigan State University (1), University of Florida (1), North Carolina State University (1), Washington State University (1), Colorado State University (1) and Cornell University (1). The students came from five countries: Chile (1), The People's Republic of China (2), Guatemala (1), Rwanda (1) and the USA (4).

The winners were:

Tie for 2nd Place:

2nd place – Andrew Houser, Plant Protection, Colorado State University, M.S., USA, 'Development of a greenhouse assay to evaluate potato germplasm for susceptibility to powdery scab'.

2nd place – Magnifique Nzaramba, Breeding and Genetics, Texas A & M University, Ph.D., Rwanda, 'Phenolic and glycoalkaloid levels of *S. jamesii* accessions and their anti-proliferative effect on human prostate and color cancer cells *in vitro*'.

3rd place – Juan Rodriguez, Plant Protection, North Dakota State University, M.S., Guatemala. 'Infection efficiency of three laboratory methods to inoculate potato tubers with *Phytophthora infestans*'.

Tie for 4th Place:

4th place – Nicole Nichol, Breeding and Genetics, Michigan State University, Ph.D., USA, '*CBF1* transgenic potatoes studied under drought conditions'.

4th place – Yongfei Zhang, Breeding and Genetics, Cornell University, Ph.D., The People's Republic of China, 'Loci that influence anthocyanin pigmentation of potato tuber flesh'.

The members of the Graduate Student Competition Committee in 2008 were Kathy Haynes (USDA/ARS - Beltsville), Leslie Wanner (USDA/ARS-Beltsville), Hector Lozoya Saldana (PICTIPAPPA, Mexico), Walter DeJong (Cornell University), Samuel Essah (Colorado State University) and Aymeric Goyer (Oregon State University).

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Submitted by Kathy Haynes, Chair
Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Committee