MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Board of Trustees (BoT) and the Executive Council (NEC) of the Nigerian Society for Plant Protection (NSPP), I wish to express my appreciation for the continual commitment of NSPP members to the sustenance and development of the Society.

The demise of Late Professor E.O. Ogunwolu in October 2018 saddens our hearts, but we are consoled by the legacies he left behind, especially in the field of economic entomology. During his time as Vice President of NSPP, he pursued excellence and was committed to the core values that established our great Society. His commitment as past Vice President will greatly be missed by NSPP and other organizations he was associated with, locally and outside Nigeria.

It is my utmost desire that NSPP will keep waxing stronger as we continue to rise collectively and individually to the challenges of pests and diseases ravaging crop fields in Nigeria.

Yours in Service.

Prof. Olufunmilola ALABI (FNSPP, FASI)
President

Editorials

It is my utmost delight to welcome you to this edition of 2018 NSPP’s quarterly newsletter. In this issue are news about the golden jubilee of the Department of Crop Protection, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, heartwarming news of some of our members and tribute to a past Vice President of NSPP – late Professor E.O. Ogunwolu. It also features announcement of the 44th Annual Conference/General Meeting of NSPP holding at Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State with the theme “Sustainable Plant Health for Inclusive Development in a Changing Climate”. To add to the news bits of our newsletters, we also welcome abridged versions of monographs on topical issues that border around crop protection at research, policy and trending innovations. We will be grateful to have your feedbacks too as this will help us improve future editions.

Have a great time perusing every page of this edition. Enjoy!

Chris O. ECHE, Ph.D
Asst. Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Department of Crop Protection, Ahmadu Bello University Celebrates Golden Jubilee

The Department of Crop Protection, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria celebrated 50 Years of its existence on the 11th October, 2018. The occasion was marked with an award ceremony, tour of the Department and her facilities, the unveiling of portrait pointillism of staff in the Department who had been honoured as Fellows of their various national and international academic societies and a dinner later in the evening to close the event.

The award ceremony featured two presentations, from the Head of Department, Professor Olalekan Banwo and Professor Matthew D. Alegbejo (most senior Professor in the Department). The presentations gave an overview of the giant strides the Department had taken in the fifty years of her existence. Notable of these achievements is growing from two units (Entomology and Pathology) to six units (Entomology, Mycopathology, Bacteriology, Virology, Nematology and Mycotoxicology). These units have between them nineteen variedly equipped laboratories manned by staff with the requisite technical expertise who serve not only scientist/researchers but students, farmers, other Institutes and private companies. Majority of the big names in Crop Protection in Nigeria today have their roots in the Department and some of them have either helped to establish other Faculties of Agriculture/Department of Crop Protection or are pioneer members of such places (FUT Minna, UniAbuja, Unilorin, FUNAAB, UNICAL, Uniuyo, MAUTECH, FUOYE etc).

Other achievements include producing the first professor of Plant Bacteriology in Africa in the person of Professor I.D. Erinle and being the only Department in the North to issue phytosanitary certificates for agricultural materials intended for overseas analysis, capacity for detection and quantification of mycotoxins (aflatoxins). It also has the largest arthropod reference collection in West Africa and a well-equipped insect rearing laboratory with power backup, The Department has produced 27 professors to date and 20 Fellows from nationally and internationally recognised bodies/societies (including an Order of the British Empire and seven fellows of NSPP). Five staff of the Department have served in various capacities in the Executive Council of NSPP. Also, the Department has always had excellent staff members who have won and are still winning countrywide and globally competitive prestigious awards bringing fame to the University. For example for the FGN/ State Governments/ABU awards (14 recipients); UK Government awards (10): German Government awards (10), US Govt awards (11); Belgian Govt (2) etc. Currently the Department has four members of staff undergoing their PhDs overseas (UK, USA, Kenya/South Africa and Malaysia).

For Students graduation, almost 200 UG students did their project reports in the Department, 150 for M.Sc. and over 50 for PhD. The emphasis here is on quality graduates who are in different spheres of life and parts of the world.

The Department also had the rare privilege and honour of hosting the current serving minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Audu Ogbeh in January, 2018.

L-R: Prof. A.B. Zarafi, Treasurer NSPP; Prof. (Chief) A.D. Akpa, former VP NSPP; Prof. I.Onu, former Secretary NSPP; Prof. Olufunmilola Alabi, President NSPP; Prof. P.S. Chindo, former VP NSPP and Prof. O.O.Banwo (incumbent HOD) pose with the anniversary cake.
The occasion was graced by eminent personalities such as Professor Ango Abdullahi (former Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University and first indigenous Director, Institute for Agricultural Research), the Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, the Executive Directors of the Institute for Agricultural Research, National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services, National Animal Production Research Institute, Division of Agricultural Colleges, the President of the Ahmadu Bello University Alumni Association, retired/former staff of the Department, staff and students of the Department and friends. Awards of recognition/honour were given deserving former academic and technical staff members, past Heads of Department, past Chief Technologists, Longest Serving Staff and the special guest of the day, Professor Ango Abdullahi. Other award recipients included the Vice Chancellor, Professor Ibrahim Garba, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and President of NSPP Professor Olufunmilola Alabi and the Executive Director, Institute for Agricultural Research, Professor Ibrahim U. Abubakar.

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE-EKITI SET TO HOST THE 44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF NSPP

Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti is to host the 44th Annual Conference of Nigerian Society for Plant Protection in 2019. Conference is scheduled for 7-12th of April, 2019 at the Faculty of Agriculture, Ikole Campus.

NSPP FELICITATES WITH HER MEMBERS

Prof. B.D. Kashina on his appointment as Assistant Director, Research, Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), Zaria.

Dr A.A. Ahmed who defended his PhD on the 5th of October, 2018 at FUT-Minna (Plant Virology)
MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION TO NIGERIAN JOURNAL FOR PLANT PROTECTION (NJPP)

Manuscripts should be sent via e-mail (as attachment in Microsoft word) to the Editor-in-Chief, NJPP using the email: nsppjournal@gmail.com

Manuscript submission will be held to imply that it reports original unpublished research, and that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Please note that a non-refundable handling fee of N3000 only should be paid into NSPP bank account (See account details beneath) BEFORE submission. Manuscript submission must be accompanied with Evidence of Payment of handling fee. Upon acceptance, a publication fee will be charged per manuscript. This will be duly communicated to corresponding authors.

Advertisement rates can be obtained from the Editor-in-Chief.

NSPP BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Manuscript Processing Fees: N3,000
Annual Membership Dues: N3,000
Bank: Union Bank
Account Number: 0036642563
Account Name: Nigerian Society for Plant Protection

Acknowledgements:

Executive Council of NSPP for production of this issue.
All contributors.

Please send your contributions to nsppnewsletter@yahoo.com for publication in the next Edition: March, Volume 7(1) 2019.

THE PASSING OF AN ENTOMOLOGIST

Late Professor E.O. Ogunwolu was born on the 28th of June, 1946 in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. He attended St. John’s Primary School, Igbein in Abeokuta between 1952 and 1958. He went on to obtain West African School Leaving Certificate at King’s College, Lagos from 1960 to 1964 then, Higher School Certificate and General Certificate of Education, Advanced Level in 1966 from Abeokuta Grammar School, Ogun State.

Out of his love for agriculture and nature, young Ogunwolu went on to study agriculture as a discipline in 1967 at the prestigious University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Osun State from where he obtained B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture in 1970. He was employed by the then National Quarantine Service (now Nigerian Agricultural Quarantine Service) in 1971 as Plant Quarantine Training Officer. In 1974 he was awarded a Fellowship by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) to undertake a M.Sc. training in entomology from the University of Florida, United States of America (USA). Due to his outstanding performance during his M.Sc. programme he was offered a Graduate Research Assistantship of Louisiana State Agricultural Extension Service that enabled him bag a Ph.D. in entomology between 1979 and 1983.Upon his return from the USA, after completion of his Ph.D., he joined the service of the then University of Agriculture, Makurdi (now Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi) as Lecturer I in 1983, a rank he steadily rose from till he become a Professor of Entomology in 1993 and retired in 2016.


The life of Professor Ogunwolu was like an old wine that gets better with every passing day. Even with increasingly administrative responsibilities, he still had ample time for research and engagements with professional bodies such as Entomological Society of Nigeria (ESN), Nigerian Society for Plant Protection (NSPP), Agricultural Society of Nigeria (ASN), Gamma Sigma Delta Honour Society of Agriculture, USA and Weitz Centre for Development Studies, Rehovot, Israel. Due to his invaluable contributions to the advancement of entomological research in Nigeria, he was inducted Fellow of the Entomological Society of Nigeria (FESN). He was until his death a Member of the Board of Trustees (BOT) of ESN and a past Vice-President of the Nigerian Society for Plant Protection (NSPP). He was an assiduous worker and a mentor of mentors.

Professor Ogunwolu would be fondly remembered for his contagious passion and love for academics, pedagogic skills and simplicity. He is survived by his lovely wife Mrs Adebanke Ameoke Ogunwolu and daughters Arc. (Mrs) Titilope Temitayo Olowodara and Mrs Olubukunmi Tolulope Ige.