

# FOREWORD

## Symposium : Sunflower Downy Mildew

The aim of the ISA-Symposium on Sunflower Downy Mildew was to gather many specialists working on sunflower downy mildew to contribute to an update on research and to make propositions for international collaboration, in particular concerning resistance genes, races, and control methods.

The symposium was approved by the ISA during the Beijing Conference in 1996. After considering many factors, the ISA decided to hold the symposium at Fargo, North Dakota, USA, on January 12-14, 1998.

The publication of communications presented at the symposium will allow readers to be informed about all aspects of downy mildew.

**Session I :** Races of Downy Mildew covered the presence of races in various countries, the potential of downy mildew as a serious disease of sunflower, and the molecular variability of *Plasmopara halstedii*.

**Session II :** Chemical and Biological Control presented the newest information on metalaxyl resistance in French isolates and managing downy mildew by chemical and biological control.

**Session III :** Managing Downy Mildew from a Seed Company Perspective brought together breeders from five companies for a panel discussion on control strategies.

**Session IV :** Downy Mildew Resistance presented information on molecular mapping of Pl genes imparting downy mildew resistance and on which wild species may serve as a resource for additional resistance genes.

**Session V :** Was a general discussion on international collaboration, testing methodologies, symptom interpretation, and race and gene nomenclature.

We hope that our readers will find interesting information in this publication and we would like to thank the authors for their contributions.

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