

From the Editors-in-Chief

Phytopathologia Mediterranea 48 (2009) marks several important milestones in the development of this journal, the publication organ of the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union. These developments aim both to maintain the well-established traditions of the Journal and continue its evolution as a high quality scientific publication. The mission of Phytopathologia Mediterranea continues to be the promotion of plant pathology in the Mediterranean region, the transfer of knowledge on diseases of Mediterranean crops, and to assist in the diagnosis and management of plant diseases associated with this region.

The Editorial Board has been reorganised, under two Editors-in-Chief and with an increased number of editors. These include scientists from 16 countries representing highly respected researchers with a broad range of expertise. The new Editorial Board continues the traditions of the previous Editor-in-Chief and Board, who have done much valuable work that has increased the standard of the Journal and gained inclusion in the Journal of Citation Reports.

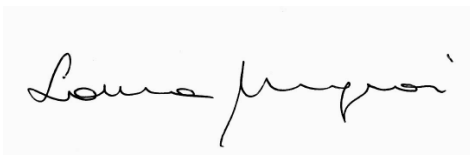
Phytopathologia Mediterranea is now available on the Internet, through the facilities of the Firenze University Press. Internet access will make the Journal more widely available increasing citation frequency and enhancing access by researchers around the world. Moreover, again through Firenze University Press, new articles can now be submitted on-line at www.fupress.com/pm; all that is needed to use this facility is a quick and free registration on the website. The on-line submission procedure is now active, and this will speed up and enhance the review process.

The Journal will continue to address all aspects of plant pathology, but it will devote more space to research on mycotoxins, biological and integrated management of plant diseases, and the use of natural substances in weed control.

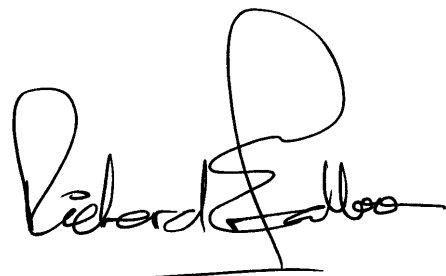
Phytopathologia Mediterranea has always had different sections for different types of articles: Research papers, Reviews, and Short notes. Several new sections have now been established for which contributions are encouraged. These include: New or unusual disease reports, News and prospects, Commentary, Current topics, Mini reviews, News and opinions, and Letters to the Editor. The expanded scope, along with the regular contributions of researchers, will enhance achievement of the Journal's goal of being an active communication and discussion forum on all aspects of plant pathology, especially relating to Mediterranean plants, but also more broadly across all facets of our science discipline.

This issue of Phytopathologia Mediterranea focuses on diseases of vine wood. It includes original research papers on the subject, and abstracts of oral presentations and posters presented at the International Workshop of Grapevine Trunk Diseases, held in Florence, September 1–3, 2008.

The new developments in administration of Phytopathologia Mediterranea and the expanded scope of the Journal will continue progress for improved impact factor ratings. More importantly, these developments will make the Journal an excellent knowledge source and information transfer publication for the plant pathology discipline.



Laura Mugnai



Richard E. Falloon

