

Review of "Diseases of Vegetable Crops"

Tony Cooke
Department of Employment, Economic Development
& Innovation

Project Number: VG07136

VG07136

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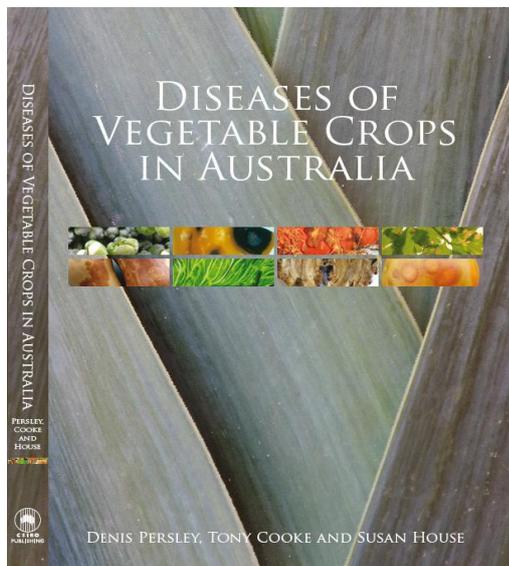
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Purpose of Project:

The book, *Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia*, provides a comprehensive coverage of important diseases affecting the broad range of vegetables grown throughout Australia. Written in a practical, straightforward style, the book explains how to identify and manage each disease, describing the symptoms, importance, the means of infection and spread and disease management.

Based on the highly regarded early 1994 edition of *Diseases of Vegetable Crops*, published by the Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries, Queensland, this new book has been extensively revised and expanded. Emphasis is placed on integrated disease management and diseases that are biosecurity threats to the vegetable industry are included.

Funding Sources:

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CONTENTS

MEDIA SUMMARY	2
TECHNICAL SUMMARY	3
INTRODUCTION	4
METHODS	4
RESULTS	5
DISCUSSION	5
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.....	5
RECOMMENDATIONS	6
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	6
APPENDICES	
<i>Order form – Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia</i>	7
<i>Introductory pages - Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia</i>	8
<i>Complimentary book copy - Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia</i>	

Media summary

A comprehensive new publication for the vegetable industry, *Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia*, was released in April 2010. This book provides current information on the diagnosis, nature and management of diseases affecting vegetable crops in Australia. Written in a practical, straightforward style it explains how to identify and manage over 300 diseases in 34 crops. The text is supported by over 500 colour images of disease symptoms. The book emphasises integrated disease management and also includes information on biosecurity threats to the vegetable industry.

Based on the highly regarded 1994 book, *Diseases of Vegetable Crops*, this new work has been extensively revised and expanded. It is an essential reference for all involved in the vegetable industry, students and educators and the enthusiastic home gardener and hobby farmer. The book has been written by experienced plant pathologists from throughout Australia, edited by Agri-Science Queensland staff and published by CSIRO Publishing.

Technical Summary

Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia

- 18 expert authors
- 38 vegetable crops
- 314 crop diseases
- 16 biosecurity threat diseases
- 587 images

Accurate information about diagnosing and managing diseases is essential for sustainable crop production. The book, *Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia*, provides a comprehensive reference for important diseases affecting the broad range of vegetables grown throughout Australia.

Written in a straightforward style, the text explains how to identify and manage each disease, with information on disease symptoms, significance, means of infection and spread, and management.

The text is supported by quality colour images. The book will become the new standard reference in applied plant pathology in Australia for vegetable crops.

Based on the highly regarded early 1994 edition of *Diseases of Vegetable Crops*, published by the Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries, Queensland, this new book has been extensively revised and expanded. Emphasis is placed on integrated disease management and diseases that are biosecurity threats to Australian vegetable production

Features

- Authors are experienced plant pathologists from throughout Australia
- Written in a straightforward style with a minimum of scientific terms
- Provides accurate information about significant diseases affecting major vegetable crops in Australian tropical and temperate regions
- Each disease is illustrated with high quality colour photographs
- Includes a comprehensive glossary and current sources of further information
- Describes key exotic diseases that are biosecurity risks to the Australian vegetable industry

The book will be an essential resource for growers, horticulturists, crop consultants, research scientists, plant pathologists, quarantine officers, agribusiness representatives, pest management personnel, educators and students.

Published by CSIRO Publishing (Landlinks Press), 'Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia' was released on April 20, 2010.

Introduction

A book previously published by the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) in 1994, *Diseases of vegetable crops* was a standard reference for the vegetable industry, providing clear, basic information about the nature and management of plant diseases. It was a valuable and widely used plant pathology resource for researchers, growers and the industry across Australia. The book sold out some time ago, leaving a considerable gap in information.

The value of this publication has been acknowledged nationally and internationally. The size, format and content has proved to be convenient for use as a field and laboratory reference for all involved in diagnosing and managing vegetable diseases.

In conjunction with CSIRO Publishing, DPI&F (now Agri-Science Queensland-Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) was asked to revise and publish a revised edition to meet the needs of the vegetable industry. The overall plan was to revise and expand the text, include information on new endemic diseases, update and replace images and include biosecurity threats to the vegetable industry. The book was to be fully indexed and have a durable hard cover. An integrated approach to disease management was to be emphasised throughout the text.

While the publishing costs will be covered by the returns from sales, some financial assistance was required for the preparation of the manuscript and images for the publication. The project to revise and expand the publication is part of the Horticulture Australia national vegetable pathology program.

Methods

Text of *Diseases of vegetable crops* (1994) was scanned to capture the content in a suitable format for editing. Each chapter was allocated to an appropriately qualified researcher, either within Agri-Science Queensland or from other organisations for the content to be reviewed, updated and expanded to include the latest knowledge available on that crop. A master copy of the manuscript was maintained and each chapter (once quality assured) was added to the text. The final text was edited, revised and corrected, where necessary. There are 23 chapters in the book. In addition to chapters on the major vegetable crops grown in Australia, chapters were prepared on diseases of Asian vegetables and herbs and speciality crops to reflect their importance in the vegetable industry. Key biosecurity threats to the vegetable industry were included using the industry biosecurity plan as a guide. The glossary was revised and expanded and the book fully indexed. The images from the existing book were reviewed to determine their relevance, and new images sourced as appropriate. A considerable number of new images were obtained by the editors and authors, often as part of disease surveys undertaken in projects within the HAL national vegetable pathology program. Appropriate digital copies of images were sourced and scanned from original slides. The final manuscript and images were sent to CSIRO Publishing for design and printing. A marketing plan was developed in collaboration with CSIRO Publishing who will market the new publication in collaboration with DEEDI staff.

Results

The final manuscript with all images was supplied to CSIRO Publishing in November 2009. *Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia* was released on April 20, 2010. It has 23 chapters. The book discusses 314 diseases in 38 vegetable crops and includes 587 colour images of disease symptoms.

Introductory pages, including the contents page, and an order form are provided in appendices 1 and 2.

A copy of the book has been supplied to Horticulture Australia as part of the final report.

Discussion

The contents of *Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia* are a significant contribution to information on plant disease identification and management for the vegetable industry in Australia. A group of experienced plant pathologists have provided current information on the identification, nature and management of plant diseases affecting most vegetable crops grown in Australia. This information will remain timely and valid for some years. Specific chemical recommendations were not included as these frequently change, vary between States and may create legal issues where chemicals have been deregistered for health and/or environmental reasons. Appropriate websites have been included to allow access to current data on chemical use.

The project has facilitated a major revision of information on the identification and management of diseases in vegetable crops. This information can be used in a variety of ways to develop extension packages directed towards specific crops or problems.

All of the text and images are stored electronically and can be easily edited according to future needs.

Future revisions could be done by having the book available on line and revising, as necessary, as new diseases appear, their relative importance changes or new information on management becomes available.

Technology transfer

As part of the marketing plan, the book has been widely publicised nationally and internationally.

The book was formally released at the AUSVEG National Convention and Trade Show on the Gold Coast, Queensland on May 28 at a breakfast sponsored by DEEDI.

Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia has been presented to national and international retailers and library suppliers by CSIRO Publishing distributors, for example New South Books, Manaaki Whenua Press and Stylus Publishing.

Direct mail promotion has included flyers and satchel inserts for conferences, CSIRO and Landlinks catalogues, plant pathology and related journals and an insert into *Your Garden* magazine.

An article on the book was prepared for the AUSVEG journal *Vegetables Australia* and three gratis copies provided to promote the book.

A similar promotion was undertaken with *Good Fruit and Vegetables* magazine, the major media outlet for the fruit and vegetable industries.

Review copies have been sent to ten journal/ magazine editors including *Australasian Plant Pathology*, *Plant Protection Quarterly*, *AQIS Bulletin*, Pestnet and *Gardening Australia*.

Book will be listed on the American Phytopathology Society website (www.apspress.org).

A media release was prepared and distributed by Horticulture and Forestry Sciences (DEEDI) to a wide range of newspaper and industry publications throughout Australia.

Satchel inserts were provided for the seven conferences including 2010 AUSVEG national conference, Global Biosecurity 2010 conference, AAIASST National conference and Food Futures conference.

Conference presentation: Cooke AW, Persley DM, Gambley CF, House (2009) New books: Diseases of fruit and vegetable crop in Australia. Abstracts Australasian Plant Pathology Society Conference September 29 - October 1 2009, Newcastle, p151

Recommendations

The book has a life of five to ten years and it should continue to be actively promoted as a valuable resource for the vegetable industry.

Consideration should be given to ways of using the revised information and images to produce new, relevant information for the vegetable industry.

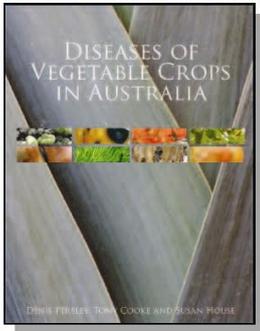
Revisions and addition of new images be made to an electronic version of the manuscript to facilitate the provision of revised editions.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the support of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society and Agri-Science Queensland (Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI)).



New title



Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia

Edited by Denis Persley, Tony Cooke & Susan House

Provides a diagnostic guide and a key reference for diseases affecting vegetable crops in Australia.

APRIL 2010

CSIRO PUBLISHING

368 pages, Hardback

Colour illustrations

ISBN: 9780643096387

\$150.00

Diseases of Vegetable Crops in Australia provides a diagnostic guide and a key reference for diseases affecting vegetable crops in Australia. It is an essential reference for growers, their consultants and managers, horticulturists, plant pathologists, plant protection diagnosticians, integrated pest management specialists, educators, students and agribusiness representatives, as well as the enthusiastic home gardener and hobby farmer.

The book includes an account of the causes of plant diseases and the principles underlying their management, as well as an overview of important diseases common to many Australian vegetable crops.

Based on the highly regarded 1993 edition of *Diseases of Vegetable Crops*, this new work has been extensively revised and expanded, and now includes descriptions on causal pathogens, symptoms, source of infection, how the diseases are spread and recommended management for 36 major and specialty crops. The text is supported by quality colour images to help growers diagnose diseases, and special reference is made to diseases that are biosecurity threats to Australian vegetable production.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

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APR 10

DISEASES OF VEGETABLE CROPS IN AUSTRALIA



DENIS PERSLEY,
TONY COOKE AND SUSAN HOUSE

Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries,
Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation



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CONTENTS

Foreword	v	13 Ginger	143
		<i>Ken Pegg and Graham Stirling</i>	
Preface	vii	14 Herbs and speciality crops	149
		<i>Heidi Martin and Denis Persley</i>	
Contributors	ix	15 Lettuce	167
Acknowledgements	xi	<i>Heidi Martin, Denis Persley and Cherie Gambley</i>	
1 Plant diseases – an introduction	1	16 Onion and related crops	179
<i>Denis Persley and Heidi Martin</i>		(garlic, leek, shallot)	
2 Common diseases of vegetable crops	15	<i>Denis Persley and Barbara Hall</i>	
<i>Denis Persley and Graham Stirling</i>		17 Parsnip	193
3 Asian vegetables	35	<i>Elizabeth Minchinton and Desmond Auer</i>	
<i>Leanne Forsyth, Len Tesoriero and Barry Conde</i>		18 Pea	197
4 Asparagus	45	<i>Heidi Martin</i>	
<i>Christine Horlock and Bob Davis</i>		19 Potato	203
5 Bean	51	<i>Heidi Martin, Rudolf De Boer, John Thomas and Denis Persley</i>	
<i>Denis Persley and Heidi Martin</i>		20 Rhubarb	227
6 Beetroot and silver beet	67	<i>John Thomas and Denis Persley</i>	
<i>Heidi Martin</i>		21 Sweet corn	231
7 Brassicas (crucifers)	73	<i>Denis Persley</i>	
<i>Denis Persley and Heidi Martin</i>		22 Sweetpotato	239
8 Capsicum (pepper)	87	<i>Denis Persley and Eric Coleman</i>	
<i>Denis Persley, Heidi Martin and Murray Sharman</i>		23 Tomato	245
9 Carrot	99	<i>Heidi Martin, John Thomas and Denis Persley</i>	
<i>Denis Persley</i>		Glossary	275
10 Celery	107	Index	278
<i>Bob Davis and Denis Persley</i>			
11 Cucurbits	113		
<i>Denis Persley, Chrys Akem and Heidi Martin</i>			
12 Eggplant (aubergine)	139		
<i>Heidi Martin</i>			