

The Phytopathological Society of Japan

c/o Japan Plant Protection Association, Nakazato 2-28-10, Kita, Tokyo 114-0015, Japan Homepage: http://www.ppsj.org

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Dear participants of ACPP 2020

ACPP 2020 is canceled!

On behalf of the 8th meeting of the Asian Conference on Plant Pathology 2020 (ACPP 2020) organizing committee, I regret to inform you that ACPP 2020 meeting in Tsukuba in Japan is canceled due to the worldwide spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since early last March, the organizing committee has been heavily discussing how to deal with this terrible situation and enable the continuation of this meeting. Unfortunately however, since this time the epidemic has spread like wildfire around the world. Although September is several months away, under the current global situation, the gathering of people from many nations in Japan would be unwise. The committee first considered postponing the meeting until it the virus spread dies down, however this was too difficult to schedule and plan financially because nobody can predict when life will be restored to normal. Therefore, we have decided that the meeting must be canceled at this time.

In light of the situation, any fees for registration, banquet dinner and the optional TV tour paid online will be fully refunded. The travel agency, JTB Corp, will be sending information on the details of the refund to each individual. Please be sure to cancel your accommodation and transportation bookings by yourself as necessary. The next ACPP meeting will be announced at a later date by its organizing committee and/or the office of the Asian Association of Societies for Plant Pathology.

It is safe to say these past months have been among some of the most tumultuous and emotional that any of us can remember in our lifetimes. The impact of the coronavirus outbreak has been felt by individuals and families, companies and communities all over the world. The response to this crisis has been extraordinary; as much for what it has required from our society as for what it has revealed of us as a people. While much remains uncertain right now, one thing is for sure; this crisis will pass. Our nation and communities will recover, hopefully soon.

Stay safe and be well,

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Prof. Dr. Shinya Tsuda (Hosei University) Chairperson The Conference Organizing Committee of the ACPP 2020