Rust Diseases: Threats to Global Food Security in the Context of Climate Change

21 & 22 February 2007
The Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute
NSW DPI, Menangle

The Symposium
Rust diseases continue to pose serious international concern for food security and biodiversity in temperate cereal crops, horticulture and forest industries. Several economically important rust diseases remain exotic to Australia. The Symposium will bring together national and international speakers to address current global movements in the rust diseases, with an emphasis on the potential impact of climate change. Australia remains vulnerable to endemic and exotic rust diseases, and the Symposium will address our needs for prevention and preparedness by providing ample discussion of invited papers, and a concluding open forum discussion and recommendation session.

The Speakers
A panel of nine leading scientists will present papers covering a wide range of topics concerning rust diseases. Confirmed international speakers include:
- Dr Richard Ward, Director of the Global Rust Initiative, CIMMYT, Mexico
- Dr Sanjay Rajaram, Director ICARDA-CIMMYT, Syria
- Dr Les Szabo, Research Geneticist, USDA ARS St Paul, USA

The Venue
The Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute, Menangle, is located in outer metropolitan Sydney with convenient road, rail and air access through Sydney. The Symposium dinner will be held at historic Belgenny Farm.

Registration and Accommodation
A registration fee of $150 will include all meals and electronic copies of abstracts. The fee also includes the Symposium dinner and pre-dinner tour at Belgenny Farm. Delegates will need to arrange and book their own accommodation in nearby hotels. Accommodation and registration details will be provided in the second circular. This will be distributed in the near future. To ensure delivery of the second circular, please respond to PBI.information@camden.usyd.edu.au. Note that there will be an upper limit for registrations.

NSW Centre for Animal and Plant Biosecurity
An alliance that brings together the expertise and facilities of three major research and teaching centres near Camden was launched by the NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, and Pro Vice Chancellor Professor, Beryl Hesketh, in March 2006. The three groups include the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute (NSW Department Primary Industries) and The University of Sydney’s Plant Breeding Institute (Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources) and the Faculty of Veterinary Science.