

## ipmPIPE Featured as New PMN Webcast

Joining the growing number of webcasts on the Plant Management Network's [Focus on Soybean](#) is a new presentation describing the Integrated Pest Management Pest Information Platform for Extension and Education or ipmPIPE for short. Presented by Dr. Donald Hershman, University of Kentucky, the talk is titled [The ipmPIPE: A New Tool for Enhancing IPM Use in Soybean](#).

The ipmPIPE now involves monitoring and reporting pests of soybean and various legume crops, specifically soybean aphid and soybean rust, with other components in development.

Advances of the ipmPIPE over the existing IPM template include easy stakeholder access to pest incidence and distribution data, disease forecasting, and state-specific control recommendations, through a public website, on a near-real time basis. *Plant Management Network* is a not-for-profit science-based resource concentrated on improving crop management and production.

## Diagnostics Subcommittee Update

Karen L. Snover-Clift  
Committee Chair  
Cornell University  
Department of Plant Pathology

The NPDN diagnostics subcommittee held a conference call on March 13, 2008. During this meeting a number of issues were addressed. Please refer to the diagnostics subcommittee web page of the [NPDN web site](#) for complete minutes of this meeting (login and password required).

Topics of discussion included:

- Beltsville-NPDN diagnostician training planning.
- Lab accreditation progress.
- National Plant Board survey.
- Entomology documents, entomology minimum lab standards and submission of insect samples to diagnostic facilities.
- Joel Floyd's request for collaboration on a Lepidoptera Workshop.
- How to renew our laboratory permits using the on-line system.

The next conference call will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2008.

## Diagnostics Tip of the Month: Moist-chamber on Water Agar

Julia W. Thompson  
Missouri Department of Agriculture

A Petri dish with water agar makes an excellent moist-chamber for small samples pieces. The agar does not dry out as quickly as filter paper and provides the sample with even moisture.

Occasionally a pathogen will grow into the agar from the sample and form identifiable structures on the agar even before it does on the plant tissue itself.

# Diagnostic Updates



Apple leaf moist-chambered on water agar in a Petri dish sealed with Parafilm® (Photo Julia W. Thompson)