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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

1 July 1968

Dr. George H. Hepting
Forest Disease Research - USDA, FS
PO O. Box 2570
Asheville, N. C. 28802

Dear Dr. Hepting:

Thank you for your letter of June 21. I shall be very pleased to attend the meeting in Columbus provided I have an opportunity to attend, which is not yet certain. I will let you know more details on that later.

I feel there is some confusion transmitted to you by Fred Wellman concerning our efforts. We have developed our program more to handle primary (raw) biological data, rather than to work on retrieval of information from literature. Our effort supports more the work of the pathologist in keeping track of his own experimental figures as he collects them. We can also employ our system for data recording on specimens of interest to workers such as a museum curator would take care of "curatorial information." We have felt that this was a more important area of activity for our purposes because we are aware of such efforts as yours, Biological Abstracts and others who are either developing or have developed systems for the retrieval of the literature. I suspect that our techniques for the computer are not too entirely different from those which you have, but this is difficult to know until we have seen your system in detail. I hope there will be an opportunity sometime for us to meet and I will do my best to get to the Meetings at Ohio State.

Thank you for your reprints.

Sincerely,

David J. Rogers
Professor of Biology

DJR:gm

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

FOREST DISEASE RESEARCH
P. O. Box 2570
ASHEVILLE, N. C. 28802

1670

June 21, 1968

Dr. David J. Rogers, Professor
Department of Biology
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Dear Dr. Rogers:

Fred Wellman showed me a copy of your letter to him of June 5, concerning your Literature Retrieval (LR) system for biology. Dr. Foote of the Entomology Society of America is chairman of their LR committee, and has invited the American Phytopathological Society (APS) to join with them and others in developing a system of LR for their fields. Since I developed INTREDIS, an operating system of LR for forest pathology, the president of the APS named a LR committee, with me chairman. We are to pursue automated LR for at least all of entomology and pathology.

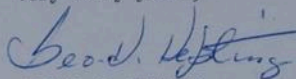
I have heard virtually nothing from Dr. Foote, but we are to meet together at this summer's AIBS meeting in Columbus, and try to chart a course of action.

INTREDIS has been operating successfully for two years, and now averages producing about 100 bibliographies, ^{per year} by request only, at the NAL in the United States and about 100 at the Ottawa, Canada center.

Naturally, I am very much interested in your LR system and hope you will send me enough information to acquaint me with it. I also would like to invite you to join with the Entomology Society, and the APS LR committees, during our deliberations in Columbus. The APS meets between September 2 and 6. When I find out the date and place of the meeting on LR, I will let you know.

Attached are two documents to acquaint you with INTREDIS. Printouts in the United States are now run by the National Agricultural Library in Washington.

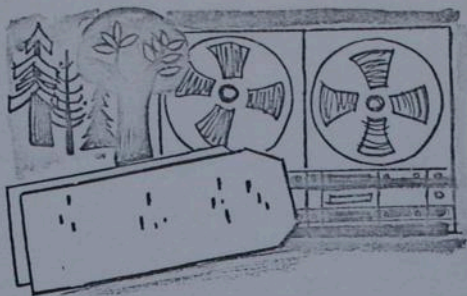
Very truly yours,



GEORGE H. HEPTING
Principal Research Scientist



Enclosures 2



International Tree Disease Register

GEORGE H. HEPTING

For conceiving and developing INTREDIS, Dr. Hepting received in March 1967 a special merit award in Secretary Freeman's program for outstanding cost reduction achievement.

An electronic system of literature storage and retrieval for forest pathology has been put into operation by the U.S. Forest Service in cooperation with the Canada Department of Forestry and Rural Development.

Designed for worldwide coverage of the field of tree diseases, the International Tree Disease Register (INTREDIS) offers a much-needed service to researchers working in forest pathology. The project was sponsored by the FAO/IUFRO Symposium on Internationally Dangerous Forest Diseases and Insects, Oxford, 1964.

INTREDIS enables any qualified person to receive a literature list by author, approximate title of article, and reference to an abstract journal carrying the article. Coverage includes all articles likely to be of interest to a tree pathologist which have been abstracted by *Review of Applied Mycology*, *Forestry Abstracts*, *Biological Abstracts*, and *Air Pollution Control Association Abstracts*. Abstract

citations dating from the early 1940's through 1965 have already been coded; ultimately, those dating back to 1930 will also be included.

INTREDIS can provide a printout within an hour after receipt of a request, and it is inexpensive. A request may be made by subject (for example, root rot or seed diseases), or kind of tree (for example, white oak or Douglas-fir), or causal organism (for example, *Endothia parasitica* or *Pseudomonas syringae*), or place (for example, Mexico or Australia or all of South America), or date, or author. Thus, the computer can search the magnetic tape in one operation for, say, "nematodes in the genus *Xiphinema* attacking white pine roots in Canada," and print out a list of appropriate references, as easily as it can print out the world literature on air pollution effects on trees.

INTREDIS has some novel features that make it feasible, effective, and reasonably inexpensive. First, a professional forest pathologist assigned to INTREDIS selects the articles for coding by going through each issue of the named abstract journals. His knowledge of the discipline helps him determine what to select and how to code his material for the punchcard operator, who punches one or more 80-column cards for each coded reference, the number depending upon the amount of cross-referencing needed.

AIBS

JUN 24 1968

CODES TO THE INTREDIS REGISTER SYSTEM
FOR LITERATURE RETRIEVAL
IN FOREST PATHOLOGY

Compiled by
George H. Hepting
Forest Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Under the sponsorship of the
FAO-IUFRO Symposium on
Internationally Dangerous Forest Diseases
and Insects
Held at Oxford, England, July 20-29, 1964