**ASPS Council Meeting September 28, 2014**

**PHYTOGEN -- EDITOR’S COMMENTS**

At the 2013 Council Meeting the increasing difficulty in soliciting articles for Phytogen was discussed. In 2013 only one small issue (Vol 15, Number 1) was generated in spite of considerable efforts by myself as editor and Tim Colmer as President. After discussion it was agreed that Phytogen should be retained, but we would move to a system of the membership sending articles of interest to the editor who would assess them for suitability and have them uploaded to a Phytogen page on the ASPS website. When sufficient articles had been uploaded they would be collected together to form an issue. Articles would be shorter and could include, but not be restricted to, the following categories.

* Reports: President, Secretary, Global Plant Council, FPB
* Profiles of newly appointed staff
* Our new PhDs
* Awards (eg., FAA) and reports from recipients of scholarships associated with the society (eg., Robertson Travelling Award)
* Conference highlights
* Issues for Plant Science – national/international.

This decision was discussed with the membership at the Annual General Meeting and accepted as a way forward.

We have trialled this new system since October last year. There were some delays in establishing a workable system for uploading articles sent to me but we have now have a Phytogen page and since July Janet Wheeler has been applying her expertise to format and upload articles. Thank you Janet for your efforts and Tim Colmer for your support in getting this organized. So it has taken time, but we do have a system that is working.

The major impediment remains the number of articles that members are putting forward for inclusion in Phytogen. This begs the question that was raised and discussed at the 2013 Council Meeting about the relevance of Phytogen for the society membership.

**Tina Offler -- Editor**