This session contained two keynote papers, 13 general papers presented orally and 24 poster presentations.

The research area of sampling, and particularly trapping, has made great advances in the last 20 years or so because of:

- the discovery and characterisation of pheromones;
- trap design improvements that take advantage of insect behaviour; and
- the use of statistical methods for interpreting trap catches.

Traps have very important roles in stored product insect pest management for monitoring insect populations and evaluating the efficacy of control treatments. More recently, we have begun to see and develop opportunities to use traps and pheromones to suppress populations.

There has been a good mix of fundamental research to field application. One very good piece of news is that a Sitophilus pheromone-food attractant lure may be commercially available in as little as 2 years.

Trap design has been actively pursued since the last conference. At the high technology end, Dr Subramanyam from USA and Dr Yao Wei from China both reported on computer assisted monitoring using probe traps containing electronic sensors. At the less sophisticated end of the spectrum, we heard of several traps that are very successful in small storages in southern China, and the use of food baits in both Brazil and the USA.

The impending loss of methyl bromide means that monitoring for insects is more important than ever and we need to be able to interpret trap catches meaningfully in this regard. We heard about using special computer software to draw contour maps of populations that can assist in evaluating success of treatments or locating infestations.

One topic that stands out is the obvious progress over the last 4 years in using traps to suppress insect populations, for example focused mass trapping in Hawaii, USA, trap and kill in small storages in China, and mating disruption in Australia.

I will leave you with the best quotation from the session. Cheng Ping said that the key to success in trapping is "unremitting perseverance." I think that this is actually true for all aspects of stored product protection.

The discussion can be summarised as highlighting that more work was needed on pheromones.