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## Foreword

The New Zealand Society for Horticultural Science (NZSHS) held a symposium/workshop on "Rootstocks for Fruit Crops" in Nelson, New Zealand, from 4 to 9 December 1994. The symposium was limited to 60 participants and held in a workshop format with a combination of keynote addresses, short contributory papers, research poster displays, discussion sessions, and field trips. It was attended by personnel primarily from The Horticulture and Food Research Institute of New Zealand Ltd, Massey and Lincoln Universities, the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board, the New Zealand Kiwifruit Marketing Board, the Fruit Industry Plant Improvement Agency, and a number of commercial tree nurseries and consultancy companies.

The Organising Committee comprised Dr John Palmer (Chair), Ms Jill Stanley (Secretary/Treasurer), Dr Ian Warrington, Dr Jill McLaren, Dr David Jordan, and Professor Richard Rowe.

The topics that were addressed included: Vigour control, precocity, and yield productivity; Propagation and compatibility; Fruit quality; Site specific problems; and Breeding.

The papers that follow in this special section of the *New Zealand journal of crop and horticultural science* are edited versions of the presentations given by the four invited keynote overseas speakers at the symposium. Their content covers all of the major tree and vine crops of significance to New Zealand horticulture, where rootstocks currently play a critical role in quality fruit production.

I. J. Warrington (Proceedings editor)  
for the Organising Committee  
NZSHS Symposium "Rootstocks for Fruit Crops".

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