

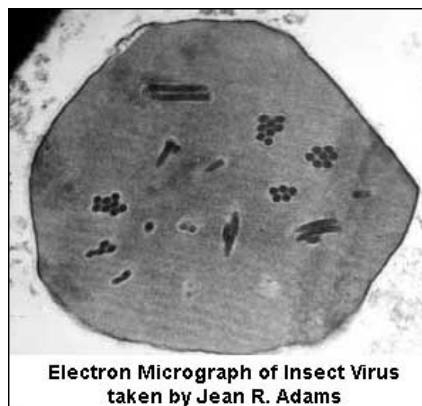


Jean R. Adams, 1928-2004

Dr. Jean Ruth Adams, 75, a longtime insect pathologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, died of cancer July 12 at her home in Hyattsville, Md. Dr. Adams received her Bachelors degree in Agricultural Research in 1950 and Ph.D. in Entomology in 1962 from Rutgers University. Between degrees, she spent 5 years as a laboratory technician at Rohm and Haas where she helped to develop and test the miticide Karathane. She joined the Insect Pathology Laboratory at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in 1962 after postdoctoral training at the University of Pennsylvania, 1961-1962.

Her long, distinguished career with the USDA included over 70 publications and the discovery of numerous insect pathogens. As the premier electron microscopist working in insect pathology, she was regularly sought by collaborators from around the world for help in identifying the cause of insect deaths. Electron microscopy was a new technique at the start of her career and required significant modifications of the preservation techniques before one could obtain usable images. Ultimately, she succeeded in obtaining excellent electron micrographs of many insect pathogens.

Of particular note was some early research that showed the presence of two distinct morphological forms (singly and multiply embedded) of insect viruses in the Nucleopolyhedrovirus genus.



**Electron Micrograph of Insect Virus
taken by Jean R. Adams**

Also noteworthy was the publication of the **Atlas of Invertebrate Viruses**, which she edited with Dr. J.R. Bonami near the end of her tenure with the USDA. Even after her official retirement from the USDA in 1996, she continued as an active collaborator in the Insect Biocontrol Laboratory, helping to catalog the many specimens of insect viruses obtained through her research career.

Dr. Adams was an active member of many professional societies including the Society for Invertebrate Pathology (Secretary, 1982-84), Electron Microscopy Society of America (Local Arrangements Committee, 1981-82; Scientific Exhibits Chair, 1982), Chesapeake Society for Electron Microscopy (Council member, 1976-78; Secretary/Treasurer, 1976-78; Secretary, 1980- 82), Entomological Society of America, Maryland Entomological Society, Washington Entomological Society, American Society for Microbiology and several others.

Dr. Adams never married. Survivors include a brother, Robert Adams of New Egypt, N.J.; and sister, G. Anne Carter of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.; six nieces; one nephew; eight grandnieces and six grandnephews. Her mother, Gertrude, died in 1962, and her father, Raymond, died earlier this year.