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PULPDENT CORPORATION

**Old Tools
New Applications**

Amalgam Carrier Furthers Agricultural Research

First developed in France, silver amalgam has been a widely used dental restorative in the United States since the 1840s.

Chester S. Ivory made dental history in 1931 when he patented the lever type amalgam carrier with which dentists are familiar today.

In the early 1950s, Dr. Harold Berk, co-founder of Pulpdent Corporation (then known as Rower Dental Manufacturing Company) developed the first double-end amalgam carrier.

Ivory and Berk would be smiling today if they could see the latest use of their inventions.

At the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, renowned for its programs in Physical and Biological Science, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture and Engineering, the amalgam carrier has become a tool of research in plant agriculture.

Monica Parker, a graduate student in the Department of Plant Agriculture, is researching sclerotinia rot in carrots, which is a serious field and postharvest fungal disease of the root vegetable.

Ms. Parker's research focuses on disease forecasting and the use of a shellfish industry by-product called chitosan to improve field and postharvest management of the disease. Chitosan is obtained from the outer shells of crabs and other crustaceans.

This technology was first developed by Dr. Lyndon Porter, plant pathologist and plant disease specialist at the United States Department of Agriculture.



Shows inoculation culture and Pulpdent amalgam carrier.



Shows amalgam carrier dispensing inoculation culture plug into carrot. 1000 carrots were inoculated.



Shows inoculated carrots in postharvest containers.