



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STEVEN B. PHILLIPS JOINS STAFF OF IPNI
AS SOUTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR**

May 1, 2007 – Norcross, Georgia, U.S.A. – Dr. Steven B. Phillips is joining the staff of the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) as Southeast Region Director effective June 1, 2007. He will have responsibility for agronomic programs of the organization in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

“We welcome Steve Phillips to the staff of IPNI and know he will be a great asset to the programs of this new organization,” said Dr. Terry L. Roberts. “He has a strong background in research and extension programs focused on applied soil fertility and plant nutrition as related to production agriculture. His record of both academic and extension publications and presentations is impressive.”

Dr. Clifford S. Snyder of Conway, Arkansas, has served as Director of the Southeast Region and previously the Midsouth Region of IPNI (formerly the Potash & Phosphate Institute) since 1995. He was recently promoted to the new position of Nitrogen Program Director and will coordinate IPNI efforts dealing with environmental issues associated with nitrogen fertilizer use in agriculture, both in North America and internationally.

A native of Oklahoma, Dr. Phillips holds a B.S. degree (1993) from Cameron University in Lawton, and M.S. and Ph.D. (1999) degrees from Oklahoma State University at Stillwater. From 1999 until June 2005 he was Assistant Professor, Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition, Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences, Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center (AREC), Virginia Tech.

He became Associate Professor in July 2005 and has maintained a 75% research/25% extension responsibility. The majority of his research has dealt with efforts to improve the fertilizer use efficiency of various field and vegetable crops. A portion of this work is focused on developing an

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optical sensor-based fertilization system to be used for winter wheat and corn production. Another area of Dr. Phillips research is broiler litter management.

The extension component of his work involved dissemination of production-related information to growers, industry, and county extension personnel. This information includes providing soil fertility recommendations, assisting with soil test interpretations, and various presentations of research results. Dr. Phillips has also carried responsibility for advising graduate students.

In recent years, Dr. Phillips has also been involved in several international workgroups and collaborative research projects with scientists in Argentina, Mexico, India, and other countries.

His professional affiliations include membership in the Soil Science Society of America, American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Virginia Vegetable and Potato Growers Association, Virginia Crop Production Association, and others.

*For further information, please visit the IPNI website: >www.ipni.net<.
Or contact Dr. Terry Roberts at IPNI: tel. 1.770.447.0335; e-mail: troberts@ipni.net.
Digital photo of Dr. Phillips is available at >www.ipni.net/pr< or on request.
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