



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**VALTER CASARIN JOINS STAFF OF IPNI
AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BRAZIL PROGRAM**

September 1, 2009 – Norcross, Georgia, USA – Dr. Valter Casarin joined the staff of the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) as Deputy Director, Brazil Program, effective August 15, 2009. He will be based in the IPNI office in Piracicaba, São Paulo, Brazil, and will work in coordination with Dr. Luís Ignácio Prochnow, Director of the Brazil Program.

“Dr. Casarin is an outstanding scientist and has a strong record of academic achievement plus other valuable experience,” said IPNI President Dr. Terry Roberts. “Brazil is a key program for IPNI and we are very pleased to have the excellent talents of Dr. Casarin cooperating in the successful efforts ongoing in this critically important agricultural region.”

Dr. Casarin was born in Brazil, where he received most of his education before earning his Ph.D. in soil science at the Superior Agronomical School of Montpellier (Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Montpellier), Montpellier, France, in 1999. His thesis emphasized chemical actions performed by ectomycorrhizal fungi on the rhizosphere and consequences on the bioavailability of phosphorus. Before that he studied at the University of Agrarian and Veterinary Science of Jaboticabal, UNESP, in São Paulo and became Agronomist Engineer in 1987. In 1994, he achieved an exceptional accomplishment by earning an undergraduate degree as Forest Engineer and also his M.S. degree in Agronomy at Superior Agriculture School, University of São Paulo. His masters dissertation was on liming materials applied to a dark red latossol supporting an orange orchard.

Since 2004, Dr. Casarin has worked as an agricultural and forestry consultant, including the coordination of several research and fertilizer development projects. Earlier in his career, he had responsibilities in lecturing and research at universities in the state of São Paulo.

During his professional career, Dr. Casarin has been involved in several working groups and

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has collaborated in a large number of seminars and conferences related to various crops and nutrient concerns. He has published several papers in peer-reviewed journals and has chapters in three books. Dr. Casarin also has an extensive record of participation and presentations at various congress, symposia, and scientific meetings.

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For further information, please visit the IPNI website: >www.ipni.net<

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Digital photo of Dr. Casarin available at: >www.ipni.net/pr< or on request.

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