## Introduction to this Issue

This special issue of Better Crops International features summaries of papers presented at the Balanced Fertilization Situation Report-II, China (BFSR-II), organized by Canpotex Limited. The event took place in Beijing, People's Republic of China (PRC), in January of 1996.

While the complete papers from the BFSR-II are available in a published proceedings, the abstract articles presented here provide the highlights and key points addressed by the speakers.

Balanced fertilization is an important concept, especially for the People's Republic of China and other regions facing the challenge of increasing agricultural production. While great strides have been accomplished in recent years, much remains to be done in diagnosing field conditions, completing research efforts, and relaying information to those who need to know more about nutrient management.

The Potash & Phosphate Institute/Potash & Phosphate Institute of Canada (PPI/PPIC) and Canpotex Limited acknowledge the great cooperation of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture in sponsoring and organizing the BFSR-II.

English summaries of the technical papers herein were prepared from the original papers by Dr. Sam Portch of the Potash & Phosphate Institute, Hong Kong office.

The authors' original papers can be found in the proceedings of Balanced Fertilization Situation Report-II, available from Canpotex Limited, Hong Kong office.