

David W. Dibb, President of Potash & Phosphate Institute, to Retire



The Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI) announced in August that Dr. David W. Dibb, President, will retire from the international agricultural research organization at the end of this year. Dr. Dibb's retirement will bring to a close a 30-year career at PPI, including 17 years as President, the longest tenure in that leadership role in PPI's 70-year history.

"It's no overstatement that the world owes a debt of gratitude to David Dibb, who for the past three decades has assisted numerous countries in developing their food production systems," said Bill Doyle, Chairman of PPI's Board of Directors and President and CEO of PotashCorp. "By combining sound, science-based agronomic and economic practices with PPI's unparalleled soil fertility research, Dr. Dibb has touched the lives of millions. The PPI Board and all who know David wish him and his wife, Vivian, a long and healthy retirement. He will be greatly missed."

Raised on a mixed crop and dairy farm in Utah, Dr. Dibb earned his B.S. degree in Agronomy-Soils from Brigham Young University in 1970 and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1974. As President of PPI, Dr. Dibb has directed the activities of nearly 30 Ph.D. level agronomists in North America and international programs.

Under his leadership, PPI has played a key role in delivering new food production technology to North America, Central America, South America, India, China, and areas in Southeast Asia. He has also directed the establishment of new PPI programs in Northern Latin America, Mexico, Central America, Latin America Southern Cone, and India.

As President of PPI, Dr. Dibb... working with member companies and the Board of Directors...guided the Institute through a time of significant change in agriculture and in the fertilizer industry.

"PPI/PPIC programs have introduced and encouraged many concepts, technologies, programs, and partnerships that are essential to modern production agriculture. While ideas have been the catalyst, cooperation has been the key to innovative adoption," Dr. Dibb emphasizes.

Among important initiatives, practices, and programs the Institute has encouraged, he lists the following: soil testing; plant analysis; field diagnostics; maximum yield research (MYR) and maximum economic yield (MEY) management; nutrient balance; nutrient uptake and removal, nutrient budgets, and soil test survey summaries; precision agriculture, GPS, and GIS technologies; the International Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) program; site-specific nutrient management; conservation tillage; environmental issues; nutraceuticals, phytochemicals, and food quality; and improvement of food quality through nutrient management.

A Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Soil Science Society of America, and American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Dibb is listed in *Who's Who in Science and Engineering* and *Who's Who in America*. He has been recognized with the Honored Alumni Award by Brigham Young University's College of Biology and Agriculture, and received the Agronomic Industry Award from ASA. He is also Honorary Professor of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. [BC](#)