

LIMITATIONS OF THE MIND

I count as great fortune the opportunity my work has provided in meeting people who tenaciously harness intellect with logic and compassion, and who view the inhabitants of this world with understanding and tolerance. *Limitations of the mind* is a phrase I borrow from a friend in Pakistan, Dr. Zafar Altaf. In one of his books, he cites Banham's 'The Anatomy of Change'. He offers what I consider to be a key principle and ingredient for progress: "What cannot be readily bought are the teams of skilled, committed and experienced people." Together, teams of people can challenge *limitations of the mind*.

Over the past decade and more, the truth of Banham's statement repeatedly proves itself in what I see and hear as I visit with PPI/PPIC staff and their cooperators and colleagues. Regarding the Institute, its construct as originally devised and as it evolves in each and every one of its programs, is centered on building teams ... of researchers, extension agronomists, farmers, decision makers and industry ... all focused on improving soil productivity to overcome limitations of the soil ... and the minds of those who tend them. These teams of skilled, committed and experienced people from different disciplines and diverse backgrounds are fundamentally important to the tasks of increasing prosperity for farmers, food sufficiency for nations, and environmental security for our global village. They are also fundamentally critical in meeting the challenges still before us, to the challenges that limit our minds.

I offer my sincere thanks to all who labor with us. It's a great experience and it provides great satisfaction as we view the tremendous progress made. But, we haven't crossed the finish line. There is still much left to do.

Agronomists and soil scientists are literally, people of the earth ... people with their feet on the ground and their hands in the soil. They are my kind of people because where we work and what we do is uniquely basic to social development and progress. **What's slowing our progress; what's holding us back? Is it *limitations of the mind*?**



Dr. Mark D. Stauffer,
Senior Vice President,
International Programs, PPI
and President, PPIC

**BETTER
CROPS**

WITH PLANT FOOD

Potash & Phosphate Institute
Suite 110, 655 Engineering Drive
Norcross, Georgia 30092-2837

Printed on recycled
paper with soy ink.



Periodicals
Postage