

## *Dr. R.L. Mikkelsen Joins PPI Staff as Western Region Director*

**D**r. Robert L. Mikkelsen has joined the staff of the Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI) as Western Region Director. He is based in Davis, California, with responsibility for PPI agronomic research and education programs in the states of Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



**Dr. R.L. Mikkelsen**

in 1987 as Soil Chemist/Project Leader. In 1991, Dr. Mikkelsen became Assistant Professor of Soil Science at NCSU and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1997.

At NCSU, Dr. Mikkelsen was honored as Outstanding Graduate Instructor of the Year in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He has served as chairman of Soil Science Society of

“We are understandably very happy to have Rob as part of the organization. He is a highly respected scientist and educator who also has tremendous knowledge of agriculture in California and the western region,” said Dr. David W. Dibb, PPI President. Dr. Mikkelsen assumes responsibility for the region following the recent retirement of Dr. Al Ludwick, who had served as Western Director since 1980.

Dr. Mikkelsen was previously Associate Professor of Soil Science at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in Raleigh. A native of California, Dr. Mikkelsen earned his B.S. degree in Agronomy/Soils at Brigham Young University in 1981, then received his Ph.D. in Soil Science at University of California, Riverside, in 1985. He was a postdoctoral research scientist and assistant research soil scientist there before joining the National Fertilizer Development Center at Muscle Shoals, Alabama,

America (SSSA) Division S-4 (Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition) and on the editorial boards of *Soil Science Society of America Journal*, *Fertilizer Research*, *Nutrient Cycling in Agroecosystems*, *Agronomy Journal*, and *Journal of Environmental Quality*.

Widely known for his research and expertise in nutrient management, Dr. Mikkelsen has authored or co-authored numerous research publications and book chapters in recent years. In addition to basic agronomic and fertilizer technology, his research has included nutrient interactions with the environment, animal waste management, and nutrient budgets. He is a Licensed Soil Scientist and is listed in the North Carolina Registry of Certified Professionals in Soils.

Dr. Mikkelsen is involved in several professional societies, including the American Society of Agronomy. [BC](#)

### ***PPI/PPIC on the Web: [www.ppi-ppic.org](http://www.ppi-ppic.org)***

**L**earn more about PPI/PPIC programs, research support, publications, and links by visiting the website at [www.ppi-ppic.org](http://www.ppi-ppic.org). From the central website, visitors may reach the various individual regional sites where PPI/PPIC programs are at work in the world. [BC](#)