



International Section

This edition of *Better Crops with Plant Food*, which is published by PPI/PPIC, includes a section of international articles. Here's why: *Better Crops International* will no longer be published as a separate magazine. There are several reasons for this change, including efficiency and adapting to better serve the various audiences.

Better Crops International originated in 1985 and was typically published two times each year, going primarily to readers outside North America. Because *Better Crops with Plant Food* is published four times each year, international articles will now appear more frequently.


Better Crops with Plant Food has a long history and has continually adapted through the years to effectively deliver agronomic research information in a practical, interpretive style. We appreciate the ongoing interest of the thousands of readers of this magazine. The PPI/PPIC website (>www.ppi-ppic.org<) also offers ready access to current and past issues of *Better Crops with Plant Food*, available as PDF files.

Dr. Christian Witt Named Director of PPI/PPIC/IPI Southeast Asia Program

Dr. Christian Witt, a well known and innovative soil scientist, is the new Director of the reorganized Southeast Asia Program, effective February 1, 2004. Based in Singapore, this program is now being operated as a joint mission of PPI/PPIC and the International Potash Institute (IPI). The region includes Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Papua New Guinea.

"We are very happy that Dr. Witt has accepted this position. He is highly qualified for the responsibility and is already familiar with the challenges and opportunities in the region," said Dr. David W. Dibb, President of PPI. Dr. Adolf Krauss, Director of IPI, in Basel, Switzerland, joined in announcing the new operating arrangement.

Dr. Witt is a native of Germany. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees at the University of Hamburg, then earned his Ph.D. in 1997 at Justus-von-Liebig University in Germany.

From 2000 through 2003, Dr. Witt worked as Affiliate Scientist in Soil Science with the Crop, Soil and Water Sciences Division, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), in the Philippines. He served as coordinator of the workgroup "Reaching Toward Optimal Productivity" of the Irrigated Rice Research Consortium (IRRC). Dr. Witt is co-developer of the site-specific nutrient management approach in irrigated rice and developer of training and promotional material, including the standardized leaf color chart for nitrogen management. 



C. Witt