

“J. Fielding Reed PPI Fellowships” Awarded To Four Graduate Students

Four outstanding graduate students have been announced as the 1999 winners of the “J. Fielding Reed PPI Fellowship” awards by the Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI). Grants of \$2,000 each are presented to the individuals. All are candidates for either the Master of Science (M.S.) or the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in soil fertility and related sciences.

Beginning in 1980, a total of 120 students have now received the Fellowships. The four winners for 1999 are:

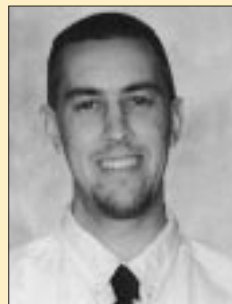
- **Kristofor R. Brye,**
University of Wisconsin, Madison
- **James Scott Reiter,**
Texas Tech University, Lubbock
- **Gregory J. Schwab,**
Kansas State University, Manhattan
- **Ronald K. Young,**
Kansas State University, Manhattan

“Each year, we take this opportunity to recognize and encourage an outstanding group of graduate students in agronomic sciences,” said Dr. David W. Dibb, President of PPI.

Funding for the Fellowships is provided through support of potash and phosphate producers who are member companies of PPI.

Scholastic record, leadership, and excellence in original research are among the important criteria evaluated for the Fellowships. Following is a brief summary of information for each of the 1999 recipients.

Kristofor R. Brye is a native of Middleton, Wisconsin. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, and earned his M.S. degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He is currently working



toward a Ph.D. at that institution, his major area of study being soil science with a minor in environmental law. Mr. Brye was the recipient of the American Society of Agronomy Outstanding Soils Student Award in 1995 and he is listed in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. The title (tentative) of his Ph.D. dissertation is “Carbon and Nitrogen Budget Evaluation of Natural and Managed Ecosystems.” Following graduate school, Mr. Brye plans to continue conducting research, concentrating on relevant environmental and soil science problems, integrating his scientific and research background with regulatory aspects of mitigating environmental contamination.

James Scott Reiter was born in Petersburg, Virginia. He received his B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (VPI) and is currently studying for his M.S. degree at Texas Tech University, Lubbock. His



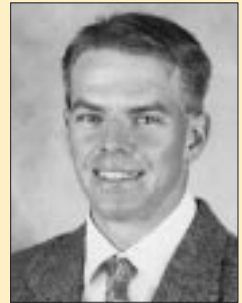
major area of study is soil science. Mr. Reiter received several honors and awards as an undergraduate, including the American Society of Agronomy Outstanding Senior Award in 1998. The title of his M.S. thesis is "Management Strategies for Maximizing Cotton Production in a Short Season Environment: Water:Phosphorus Interactions." Following his graduate work, Mr. Reiter would like to do research or become an Extension specialist, working with row crops forages. He plans to return to the southeast U.S. to pursue a career because he believes, "That area holds the most potential for increasing food supply as the world population continues to grow."

Gregory J. Schwab was born in Hamilton, Ohio. He completed his B.S. degree at Berea College, Kentucky, then earned an M.S. degree at Auburn University. He is currently in the fourth year of his Ph.D. program at Kansas State University, Manhattan. His major area of study is soil fertility. The title of his dissertation is "Management of Available Phosphorus Stratified Surface Soils in Reduced Tillage Cropping Systems." His research involves the evaluation of best management practices for available phosphorus (P) stratified surface soil in reduced tillage cropping systems. The results of his research will be used to help refine P fertilizer recommendations in Kansas and should show the advantages of subsurface applications in reducing



P runoff in conservation tillage systems. Mr. Schwab plans a career as a soil fertility Extension specialist or as manager of a commercial soil testing laboratory.

Ronald K. (Kris) Young is a native of Wichita, Kansas. He received his B.S. degree from Kansas State University, Manhattan, graduating Summa Cum Laude. He is currently studying for his M.S. degree at Kansas State, his major area of study being soil fertility/nutrient management. Mr. Young has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the American Society of Agronomy Outstanding Senior Award in 1998. He is also listed in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. The title of his thesis is "Site Specific N Management for Irrigated Corn in Kansas." His research has two primary focuses: increasing production profits and decreasing environmental risks. Following graduate work, Mr. Young plans to pursue a career in nutrient management, using his crop production background and experience with precision agriculture technologies.



The Fellowships are named in honor of Dr. J. Fielding Reed, former President of PPI. Dr. Reed passed away June 8, 1999. The Fellowship winners are selected by a committee of PPI scientists. Dr. A.E. Ludwick, PPI's Western U.S. Director, served as chairman of the selection committee for the 1999 Fellowships. ^{BC}