

## Thomas L. Jensen Joins Staff of IPNI as Northern Great Plains Director


Dr. Thomas L. Jensen is joining the staff of IPNI as Northern Great Plains Regional Director effective May 1. He will be based in the Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, office of the Institute, with responsibility for agronomic programs of the organization in the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, plus the states of Montana and North Dakota.

“We are very happy to have Tom Jensen joining in the important work of this new organization,” said IPNI President Dr. Terry L. Roberts. “He has an outstanding background that bridges academic, industry, and farm-level expertise in crops, soils, environment, and related issues. Dr. Jensen is well-qualified to direct the work of the Institute in this key region.”

Dr. Adrian M. Johnston, who has served as Director of the Northern Great Plains Region for the past several years, was recently promoted to Vice President, Asia Group, and has responsibility for IPNI programs in China, India, and Southeast Asia. He is also based in Saskatoon.

A native of southern Alberta, Dr. Jensen received his B.Sc. in 1979, his M.Sc. in 1985, and his Ph.D. in 1996, all at the University of Alberta. His Ph.D. thesis examined the effect of three tillage systems on the growth of cultivars of canola, barley, and field pea. From 1979 until 1982 he was a research agrono-

mist in the Soil Science Section of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. He worked for Alberta Agriculture and Food from 1982 through 1995 out of Lethbridge and later Edmonton, primarily in soil conservation, specializing in conservation tillage research and extension. From 1995 to 2003, Dr. Jensen was Corporate Agronomist for Agrium Inc. in Calgary. Since April 2003, he has been employed with Agricare United, based in Calgary, most recently with the title of Agronomic Research and Development Manager.

Throughout his career, Dr. Jensen has been active in community and professional organizations, including recent service as a representative on the Nutrients in the Environment Committee of the Canadian Fertilizer Institute. He is a Certified Crop Adviser and a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, and Alberta Institute of Agrologists. 

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Dr. Tom Jensen

### Conversion Factors for U.S. System and Metric Units

Because of the diverse readership of *Better Crops with Plant Food*, units of measure are given in U.S. system standards in some articles and in metric units in others...depending on the method commonly used in the region where the information originates. For example, an article reporting on corn yields in Illinois would use units of pounds per acre (lb/A) for fertilizer rates and bushels (bu) for yields; an article on rice production in Southeast Asia would use kilograms (kg), hectares (ha), and other metric units.

Several factors are available to quickly convert units from either system to units more familiar to individual readers. Following are some examples which will be useful in relation to various articles in this issue of *Better Crops with Plant Food*.

To convert Col. 1 into Col. 2, multiply by:	Column 1	Column 2	To convert Col. 2 into Col. 1, multiply by:
Length			
0.621	kilometer, km	mile, mi	1.609
1.094	meter, m	yard, yd	0.914
0.394	centimeter, cm	inch, in.	2.54
Area			
2.471	hectare, ha	acre, A	0.405
Volume			
1.057	liter, L	quart (liquid), qt	0.946
Mass			
1.102	tonne <sup>1</sup> (metric, 1,000 kg)	short ton (U.S. 2,000 lb)	0.9072
0.035	gram, g	ounce	28.35
Yield or Rate			
0.446	tonne/ha	ton/A	2.242
0.891	kg/ha	lb/A	1.12
0.159	kg/ha	bu/A, corn (grain)	62.7
0.149	kg/ha	bu/A, wheat or soybeans	67.2

<sup>1</sup>The spelling as “tonne” indicates metric ton (1,000 kg). Spelling as “ton” indicates the U.S. short ton (2,000 lb). When used as a unit of measure, tonne or ton may be abbreviated, as in 9 t/ha. A metric expression assumes t=tonne; a U.S. expression assumes t=ton.