

9th International Conference on Precision Agriculture July 20-23, 2008/InfoAg 2009 July 14-16, 2009

“Individuals involved in precision agriculture are encouraged to mark their calendars with the dates of two important events for 2008 and 2009,” notes Dr. Harold F. Reetz, of the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) and Foundation for Agronomic Research (FAR).



The 9th International Conference on Precision Agriculture (ICPA) is set for July 20-23, 2008, in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Rajiv Khosla of Colorado State University will serve as Conference Chairperson for the event, which was previously located at the University of Minnesota-St. Paul. Dr. Reetz serves on the Organizing Committee, along with Dr. Dwayne Westfall of Colorado State University and Mr. Quentin Rund of PAQ Interactive. The ICPA is oriented primarily to research prog-

ress, and facilitates interactions among scientists, producers, technology company representatives, equipment manufacturers, input dealers, agronomic consultants, software developers, educators, government personnel, and policymakers. Find out more at the website: www.icpaonline.org.

The next Information Agriculture Conference is scheduled for July 14-16, 2009, in Springfield, Illinois. “These two events have occurred in alternating years for the past several years. While they appeal to somewhat different audiences, there are individuals who plan to attend both,” Dr. Reetz explains. The InfoAg Conference is oriented more to practical application of precision farming, data management, and technology systems for agriculture. Find out more at the website: www.infoag.org.



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 ¹ (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

¹The 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 t/ha. A metric expression assumes t=tonne; a U.S. expression assumes t=ton.

Other Useful Conversion Factors

Phosphorus (P) x 2.29 = P₂O₅
 Potassium (K) x 1.2 = K₂O
 parts per million (ppm) x 2 = pounds per acre (lb/A)

Corn (maize) grain – bu/A x 0.062 = t/ha
 Wheat or Soybeans – bu/A x 0.0674 = t/ha