

J. Fielding Reed PPI Fellowships Awarded to Four Outstanding Graduate Students

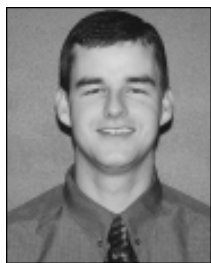
Four outstanding graduate students have been announced as the 2004 winners of the J. Fielding Reed PPI Fellowships awarded by PPI. Grants of \$2,500 each are presented to the individuals. All are candidates for either the Master of Science (M.S.) or the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in soil fertility and related fields.

The four winners for 2004 are:

- **Chad B. Godsey**, Kansas State University
- **Joshua L. Heitman**, Iowa State University
- **(Juan) Andrés Quincke**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- **Micah Woods**, Cornell University

“Since these awards began in 1980, a total of 146 graduate students have now received Fellowships from the Institute,” said Dr. David W. Dobb, 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. Following is a brief summary of information for the 2004 recipients.



Chad Godsey

Chad B. Godsey is working toward a doctorate degree in soil fertility at Kansas State University (KSU). His dissertation title is “Management of Acid Soils in No-till Cropping Systems.” Mr. Godsey was raised on a diversified farm in eastern Colorado and earned his B.S. degree at Colorado State University in 1999. In addition to his research and course work, he manages the daily activities of the KSU Plant and Soil Testing Laboratory. He also has considerable

involvement in Extension programs, research, and teaching responsibilities, and has been involved with several community and volunteer activities. For the future, he intends to work as a professional soil scientist, enabling producers to make profitable and environmentally responsible decisions.



Joshua

Joshua L. Heitman is in the early stages of work toward his doctorate degree in soil physics/water resources at Iowa State University. While completing his B.S. and M.S. degrees at Kansas State University, he achieved an outstanding academic record and received numerous honors and awards. Mr. Heitman is a native of Kansas, with a farm background. His M.S. thesis problem involved quantification of nitrate leaching from the root zone of irrigated corn. He plans to incorporate field-scale watershed processes encountered by producers, such as nutrient runoff, into his Ph.D. research. Mr. Heitman’s goal is to develop a research program that can help producers overcome applied agronomic problems while achieving environmental responsibility.



Andrés

(Juan) Andrés Quincke, a native of Uruguay, is currently working toward a doctorate degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His proposed Ph.D. dissertation is “Occasional Tillage of No-till Systems to Improve Crop Yield, Soil Quality, and Carbon Sequestration.” Mr.

Quincke is interested in management practices that might better favor soil microbes that directly stimulate crop growth...the thesis for his M.S. degree, completed in 2003, was on the influence of starter fertilizer on soil microbial community dynamics. While no-till is well known for soil conservation and organic matter (OM) benefits, stratification of phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and OM can become pronounced. His study will look at carbon pools, microbial community composition, redistribution of nutrients, and yield comparisons after a one-time, occasional tillage under rainfed corn-soybean or sorghum-soybean rotations.



Micah Woods

Micah Woods began his Ph.D. program at Cornell University in 2003. His research is addressing current issues regarding K fertilization and soil analysis in sand dominated systems. The lack of available information for K

requirement in sand rootzones leaves practitioners without a science-based strategy

for managing high value sports turf and golf course greens. A native of Oregon, Mr. Woods earned his B.S. degree at Oregon State University in 1994. He then worked at various golf courses in the U.S. before becoming a golf course superintendent in Shanghai, China, from 1998 to 2000, and later an agronomic consultant on turfgrass in Japan. He has been widely recognized for his diverse work experience and academic accomplishments. Completion of his current studies will lay the groundwork for future research into nutrient management of recreational and aesthetic turf, while also providing a valuable database of information for today's turfgrass managers.

The PPI Fellowships are named in honor of Dr. J. Fielding Reed, who served as president of the Institute from 1964 to 1975. Dr. Reed, who passed away in 1999, was well-known for inspiring advanced study and for encouragement of students and teachers.

The Fellowship winners were selected by a committee of PPI scientists. Dr. Tom W. Bruulsema, PPI/PPIC Northeast Region Director, served as chairman of the selection committee. **BC**

Wagner Award... (continued from page 3)

strategies for pulse crops has been key in providing growers with a wealth of practical production information and inoculant products.

Her research focuses on soil fertility and agronomy for maximized nutrient use efficiency. A focus on soil N-cycling includes testing and development of appropriate N fertilizer recommendations with applications for precision farming and optimized fertilizer use efficiency. More recently, her research has examined the variability of soil-available copper and boron with the objective of determining factors influencing variable fertilizer responses, particularly on soils testing within the marginal range.

Dr. Walley was involved in establishing two major extension events in Saskatchewan...the Field Diagnostic School and the Agronomy Training Workshop. She has also chaired the provincial Saskatchewan Soil Fertility Subcouncil. As a teacher, Dr. Walley is recognized as a dedicated, effective, and popular educator with the ability to reach many different types of students.

She is an active member of ASA, Soil Science Society of America, Canadian Society of Soil Science, and Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists. A native of Manitoba, Dr. Walley received her M.Sc. degree at the University of Manitoba and her Ph.D. at the University of Saskatchewan in 1993. **BC**