

IPNI Crop Nutrient Deficiency Photo Contest—2008

While the classic symptoms of crop nutrient deficiencies are not as common in fields as they were in the past, they do still occur. To encourage field observation and increase understanding of crop nutrient deficiencies and other conditions, the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) is sponsoring a photo contest during 2008.

“We hope this competition will appeal to practitioners working in actual production fields,” said IPNI President Dr. Terry Roberts. “Researchers working under controlled plot conditions are also welcome to submit entries. We encourage crop advisers, and others to photograph and document deficiencies in crops.”

Some specific supporting information is required for all entries, including:

- The entrant’s name, affiliation, and contact information.
- The crop and growth stage, location, and date of the photo.
- Supporting and verification information related to plant tissue analysis, soil test, management factors, and additional details that may be related to the deficiency.

There are four categories in the competition: Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), and Other. Entries are limited to one per category (one individual could have an entry in each of four categories). Cash prize awards are offered in each of the four categories as follows:

- First place = US\$150
- Second place = US\$75
- Third place = US\$50

Photos and supporting information can be submitted until December 15, 2008 and winners will be announced in January of 2009. Winners will be notified and results will be posted at the website.

Entries are encouraged from all regions of the world. However, entries can only be submitted electronically as high resolution digital files to: www.ipni.net/photocontest.

For questions or additional information, please contact:

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Shown at right are some photos as examples of deficiency symptoms. [BC](#)



Nitrogen deficiency in corn.



Phosphorus deficiency in cotton.



Potassium deficiency in soybeans.



Sulfur deficiency in canola.

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development of local technology. The sudden increase in the international grain price represents both an opportunity and a challenge for local producers. Simple techniques like the omission plots can provide a robust way of generating solid information to develop site specific fertilizer recommendations which can be implemented and refined immediately. [BC](#)

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References

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- Witt, C., J.M. Pasuquin, and A. Dobermann. 2006. Toward a site-specific nutrient management approach for maize in Asia. *Better Crops with Plant Food*. 90 (2): 28-31.



Nitrogen omission plot beside the complete treatment at San Carlos, Ecuador.