

Information Agriculture Conference on Site-Specific Integrated Crop Management Systems Set for June 27-30

THE POTASH & PHOSPHATE INSTITUTE (PPI) is coordinating plans for a program June 27 through 30, 1995, spotlighting several new technology tools for modern crop production. It is called **"Information Agriculture: A Conference on Site-Specific Integrated Crop Management Systems and Electronic Communications for Agriculture."** The event will be held at the Chancellor Hotel & Convention Center, Champaign, IL.

Field and laboratory demonstrations of equipment and services available from agribusinesses, universities and government agencies will also be featured, along with discussion sessions and visits to farmers who are using site-specific and electronic communication technologies.

The last three days (June 28, 1:00 pm through June 30, 12:00 noon) will be devoted to a conference of invited speakers and volunteer poster sessions. One display will show progression through the growing season of an integrated system of technology applied to site-specific crop management. It will be presented by leaders in the development of the different components. Alternatives, missing links, and potential pitfalls will also be noted.

Some of the topics, tours and exhibits include:

- Illini FS VRT Center: Site-Specific Nutrient and Pest Management Systems; Yield Mapping, Grid Sampling, Variable Rate Application
- CYBERFARM: A demonstration of a rural community information network
- National Center for Supercomputer Applications GIS Laboratory
- Natural Resources Conservation Service mapping and GIS activities and services
- Maintaining integrity of data; ownership, access; pedigree; anonymity of source
- Expert Systems as a management tool. Examples of real-world applications
- Record systems; Infielder, AGRIS
- Internet access
- Mapping systems; GIS, GPS, remote sensing; What they do and don't do
- Legal issues of site-specific management and data handling
- Integrating all of the pieces into a management and information system

The conference will include opportunities to earn continuing education credits for the Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) program.

The program is co-sponsored by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, National Center for Supercomputer Applications, Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association, CCNet Agriculture Committee, The Fertilizer Institute, Agricultural Retailers Association, Foundation for Agronomic Research, Agricultural Education & Consulting, American Society of Agronomy, *Successful Farming*, *ag/INNOVATOR*, John Deere Precision Farming Group, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., AGRIS Corporation, TopSoil Testing Service, RDI Technologies, Inc., Rockwell International, Illini FS, Conservation Technology Information Center, *Farm Chemicals*, *PACE*, *Application Technology*, *Dealer Progress*, Ag Electronics Association, INFIELDER Crop Record System, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Center for Complex Systems Research of the Beckman Institute.

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