

Follow the Yellow Brick Road



Perhaps you've heard that IPNI is being restructured. Key scientific resources are moving to the industry's trade associations to strengthen their 4R and other agronomic initiatives, and to provide direct scientific support for engagement with their stakeholders. This transition marks the end of an era.

Many of us at IPNI feel like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz as we embark on the yellow brick road in search of Emerald City. We are a little uncertain and the road ahead is not entirely straight. As seen in the movie, the road has graceful curves as it travels over the rich grassy land; it has areas where the bricks are polished and smooth and clearly marked. It also has areas where the bricks are broken or uprooted, or missing altogether like in the dark abandoned forests of Oz. The road ahead is uncertain and even frightening ... change always is.

But change is also exciting and reinvigorating. It causes us to adapt and to improve, and it strengthens us. IPNI has always attracted talented and highly capable scientists ... scientists dedicated to improving nutrient management and nutrient use efficiency, to improving food production and farmer's livelihoods, and to protecting our environment. That dedication and service to global agriculture will not change; it will continue albeit in a different setting as our staff move on to other opportunities and challenges.

IPNI is leaving a great legacy. *Better Crops* is part of that legacy. It's been an honor to have worked in this amazing Institute and in partnership with all of you. On behalf of everyone at IPNI, we thank you for your support over many years. We wish you well and hope our paths will cross again as we begin our journey down the yellow brick road in search of our "Emerald City."

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