

PLANT AND HUMAN NUTRITION

Minds are like parachutes...they only function when open.

Often, soil and plant scientists overlook the important relationship between chemical composition of plants and human nutrition and health.

But the public is aware of this. People recognize the need for potassium, phosphorus, calcium and proteins in their diet, and know that bananas and citrus are good sources of potassium.

They see the value of beta carotene and vitamins C and E, and can tell you what plants supply them. They have definite opinions about margarine produced from corn oil, or canola or sunflower oil.

Soil and plant scientists have concerned themselves with yield, pesticide resistance, weather tolerance and pollution control. Great! But do they connect soil properties and treatment with human nutrition? Are plant breeders associating plant properties with human health?

The agronomist of the future will take into account the health needs of people, which means getting adequate and balanced levels of nutrients into the plant. Soil properties, plant nutrient levels, and other plant properties will assume greater importance. What an interesting field in which to be involved.

J. Fielding Reed

**BETTER
CROPS**
WITH PLANT FOOD

Potash & Phosphate Institute
Suite 110, 655 Engineering Drive
Norcross, Georgia 30092-2843

SECOND-CLASS
POSTAGE