## W.M. Stewart Now with PPI as Great Plains Regional Director

M. "Mike" Stewart has joined the staff of PPI as Great Plains Director. He is responsible for the agronomic research and education programs of the Institute in the region, effective May 1, 1996.



"Mike Stewart has just completed his doctorate degree program in soil chemistry and earlier worked in the fertilizer and turf industries for several years," said Dr. David W. Dibb, President of PPI. "He brings extensive experience and educational background to our organization and we at PPI welcome him."

In 1980, Dr. Stewart received his B.S. in Soil Science from Texas Tech University. He went on to Texas A&M University to earn his M.S. in Soil Science in 1983 and then his Ph.D. in Soil Chemistry this year. Between his M.S. and his Ph.D., Dr. Stewart worked in various facets of the industry developing his capabilities in consulting and management.

Over the past 11 years, he has been involved in research, consulting, sales and management. Through this experience, he has refined knowledge of fertilization, soil amendment and pesticide usage, and other agronomic principles.

In his new responsibilities, Dr. Stewart will direct PPI programs in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, western Texas and New Mexico. He is located in Lubbock, Texas.

## Dr. L.S. Murphy Resigns from PPI

r. Larry S. Murphy, Senior Vice President of PPI, resigned effective April 19 to accept the position of Vice President for Research, AmiLar International. During his 19 years at PPI, Dr. Murphy was totally dedicated to potash and phosphate market development and service to the Institute's membership.

## **PPI Communications** Staff Changes Announced

Atherine P. Griffin has been promoted to Assistant Editor and Kari A. Couch has joined the PPI communications group staff. Ms. Griffin has been with PPI since 1992 and has responsibilities related to *Better Crops with Plant Food* and various other publications and communications projects. Ms. Couch is a recent graduate of Utah State

University with a major in Journalism. She will handle projects involving desktop publishing for PPI, as well as responsibilities related to the Foundation for Agronomic Research. Kathy A. Hefner, formerly Assistant Editor, has left PPI and moved with her husband to North Carolina following his promotion to a new position.