

Table 2. Cash flow and net present value of N and P management strategies.

Year	Crop	Cash flow of uniform N and P rates, \$/A	Increase or decrease in cash flow, compared to cash flow of uniform N and P rates		
			Variable N and P	Variable P, uniform N	Uniform P, variable N
1997	Corn	174.89	-5.09	-8.82	-9.85
1998	Soybean	182.90	4.00	3.90	0.00
1999	Corn	187.94	3.34	0.60	2.70
2000	Soybean	147.30	3.28	2.71	0.00
2001	Corn	117.00	5.96	1.70	-0.87
Net present value:		810.03	11.49	0.10	-8.02

university-recommended whole-field rates. On average, university recommended P rates were close to the economically optimum P rates for this field, ignoring any residual value at the end of the study.

Corn and soybean yields from a variable N and P program, assuming optimum rates could be applied in each area of the field, exceeded those of a uniform rate program in all years of the study (Table 1). Varying only one nutrient, rather than both, decreased the opportunities for yield improvements.

Net present value (cash flow minus initial investments) for the variable N and P program exceeded that of a uniform N and P program by approximately \$11.50/A (Table 2), a significant increase. Uniform N applications combined with variable P rates did not produce significantly higher profit margins.

Returns to a variable N/uniform P strategy were significantly less than the completely uniform approach, indicating that spatial management of N over multiple growing seasons was more difficult than spatial management of P in this field. **BC**

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For further reading

Lambert, D.M., J. Lowenberg-DeBoer, and G.L. Malzer. 2006.

Agron. J. 98:43-54.

Dr. Paul E. Fixen Elected Fellow of AAAS

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) recently awarded the distinction of Fellow to Dr. Paul E. Fixen, IPNI Senior Vice President, Americas Group Coordinator, and Director of Research. In making the announcement, AAAS explained that individuals are elevated to this rank because of their efforts toward advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished. New Fellows will be presented with an official certificate and rosette pin at a forum during February in San Francisco.

Dr. Fixen was elected under the AAAS Section on Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources: For outstanding contributions to the science of crop nutrient management, particularly for chloride nutrition and for use of advanced technologies in improving nutrient use effectiveness. AAAS, founded in 1848, is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal *Science*. **BC**



International Plant Nutrition Institute Announces the "IPNI Science Award"

IPNI President Dr. Terry L. Roberts recently announced a new program to recognize outstanding achievement in the field of plant nutrition.

"The IPNI Science Award is to be presented each year to one agronomic scientist. Private or public sector agronomists, crop scientists, and soil scientists from all countries are eligible for nomination," Dr. Roberts explained.

The recipient will receive a plaque and a monetary award of US\$5,000 (five-thousand dollars). The award recognizes outstanding achievements in research, extension, or education which focus on efficient and

effective management of plant nutrients and their positive interaction in fully integrated crop production that enhance yield potential. The purpose of the award is to acknowledge and promote distinguished contributions by scientists involved with ecological crop intensification where productivity is increased and the environment is improved.

For 2007, nominations for the IPNI Science Award must be received by September 30; winner of the award will be announced December 31. To learn more about this program and to obtain a nomination form, visit the IPNI website at www.ipni.net/awards. **BC**