

A Message to Readers of *Better Crops with Plant Food*



This issue of *Better Crops with Plant Food* marks a new chapter in the long history of this unique publication. A new organization called the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) is now the owner and publisher. A list of the founding members of this new Institute appears on page 2.



The Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI) was the owner and publisher of *Better Crops with Plant Food* for many years. With the formation of IPNI, PPI no longer exists. However, the programs and staff that were assembled by PPI are now part of IPNI. New and expanded programs in key regions of the world are expected.

The primary mission of PPI was related to P and K. However, the mission of IPNI is expanded to include N, S, and other nutrients in addition to P and K.

IPNI will be science-based to better understand and share information on how to most efficiently and effectively use all available sources of plant nutrients to provide for the food, fiber, feed, and fuel needs of the growing human family. We will seek new information through scientific discovery and evaluation, and apply this knowledge in ways that are protective of the environment, preservative of natural resources, economically sustainable, and socially acceptable. Another goal is to educate industry, governments, and the public about the most current information on the safe and appropriate use of plant nutrients in food, fiber, feed, and fuel production.

Historical Note

Better Crops with Plant Food has had a long and proud history of publishing sound, dependable, accurate, and useful information on crops, soils, fertilizers, and related subjects. Many readers may not realize that *Better Crops* first began publication in 1923. *Plant Food* was the name of a second publication that came into print in January 1926. Because the mission of the two publications was so similar and for other reasons, the two magazines were combined and the first issue of *Better Crops with Plant Food* was published in July 1927.

A New Format

For many years, *Better Crops with Plant Food* was published in a 6 x 9-in. page size. While this was unique, the format also had limitations regarding the layout and presentation of articles and other content. Beginning with this issue, the page size has increased to 8½ x 11-in. Some other changes in style, listing of references with articles, and the mix of international and North American articles are intended to make the magazine even more effective.

Incidentally, articles from each issue of *Better Crops with Plant Food* will now be found at the IPNI website: >www.ipni.net<. Back issues can also be found at the same URL.

Moving Forward

Tremendous changes in agriculture, the fertilizer industry...and the world...have occurred in recent decades. No one can predict the future, but we expect IPNI and *Better Crops with Plant Food* will adapt to the new realities and serve well for many years to come.

Dr. Terry L. Roberts,
President, IPNI
E-mail: troberts@ipni.net

**BETTER
CROPS**
WITH PLANT FOOD

International Plant Nutrition
Institute
Suite 110, 655 Engineering Drive
Norcross, Georgia 30092-2837

Periodicals
Postage