

IPNI Expands Its African Programs

The International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) has recently expanded its activity in Africa, a move that has established a new program in West Africa and added new agronomic staff to its East and Southern Africa (formerly Sub-Saharan Africa) program. The expansion has been spurred by a grant provided by OCP S.A.

“We are pleased to start this special relationship with OCP S.A., which allows our Institute to better address the needs for research and education throughout the African continent,” said Dr. Terry Roberts, IPNI president. “This expanded capacity will be a great complement to our current activities in North (led by Dr. Mohamed El Gharous since 2013) and East and Southern Africa (led by Dr. Shamie Zingore since 2010) and will benefit all IPNI members.”

New Program in West Africa

IPNI has established a new West African program, a region covering the countries of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

Dr. Thérèse Atcham Agneroh has been hired as deputy director of this new program based out of the National Polytechnique Institute Félix Houphouët-Boigny (INP-HB) in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire. Dr. Agneroh is currently Associate Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Phytopathology and Plant Biology at INP-HB. She holds M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Phytopathology from the University of Minnesota-Saint Paul, USA. “Dr. Agneroh is an experienced agronomist and educator with a strong background in multidisciplinary research and extension, including working with NGOs and farmers in the Ivory Coast,” explained Roberts. “She is fluent in French and well positioned to help IPNI start a program in West Africa.”

The West Africa program has also hired Dr. Kokou Adambounou Amouzou as an agronomist. Dr. Amouzou holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences, which he obtained from University of Bonn, Germany. He has M.Sc. degree in Agricultural Resources and Environmental Engineering from the Ecole Supérieure d'Agronomie, Université de Lomé, Togo.

New Deputy Director for East and Southern Africa Program

Dr. James Mutegi was appointed program deputy director for East and Southern Africa based in Nairobi Kenya. Dr. Mutegi has been working for IPNI as a Soil Scientist and Farming System Analyst. He, amongst other responsibilities, coordinated the Soil Health Consortia and the Fertilizer Stakeholder Forum spanning across eight countries in Eastern and Southern Africa for five years. James holds a Ph.D. in Soil Fertility and Climate Change from the University of Aarhus, Denmark and a M.Sc. in Environmental Science from Kenyatta University. He has over 10 years of experience as a scientist and a consultant with national and international institutions in Africa. **BC**



Dr. Thérèse Atcham Agneroh
Deputy Director, IPNI West Africa



Dr. Kokou Amouzou
Agronomist, IPNI West Africa



Dr. James Mutegi
Deputy Director, IPNI East & Southern Africa



Dr. T Scott Murrell
IPNI Potassium Director

IPNI Staff Honored by American Society of Agronomy

Dr. T. Scott Murrell was named a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) — the highest recognition bestowed by the ASA. Dr. Murrell is Director of the Potassium Program for IPNI. In this role, Dr. Murrell provides leadership in on issues related to nutrient management with a focus on potassium. Members of the ASA nominate colleagues based on their professional achievements and meritorious service including outstanding contributions in research, teaching, extension, service, or administration and whether in public, commercial, or private service activities. Up to 0.3 percent of the Society's active and emeritus members may be elected Fellow. Dr. Murrell received his award at the 2018 ASA-CSSA Annual Meetings held in November at Baltimore, Maryland. **BC**

New Edition Available for Popular Fertigation Manual

The widely distributed book on all topics related to fertigation has been recently released in its second edition. The book has now been updated and revised into a complete manual on adding specific nutrients for crop production. The book contains over 250 pages of practical information for dealing with specific water, soil, and crop conditions likely encountered with fertigation.

Fertigation (2nd Edition). 2018. By Charles M Burt.

Cost: US\$70

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