

Terry L. Roberts Named President of PPI



The Board of Directors of the Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI) has named Dr. Terry L. Roberts as President of the international agricultural research organization, effective January 1, 2006. The announcement came from Bill Doyle, Chairman of the PPI Board and President and CEO of PotashCorp.

"Terry Roberts is a highly qualified leader, agronomic scientist and also an effective administrator with a wide spectrum of experience. His understanding and insight related to PPI programs, staff, the academic community, and the fertilizer industry will be great assets in the transition to this new responsibility," Mr. Doyle explained. "This is an important time in meeting the challenges of growing more food on limited land, while protecting the environment and using resources wisely. We are pleased that Dr. Roberts is accepting this key position with PPI."

He will be only the sixth president in the 70-year history of the Institute. Dr. David W. Dibb, who had served as President since 1989, announced his retirement effective December 31, 2005.

Dr. Roberts most recently served as Senior Vice President of PPI and the Potash & Phosphate Institute of Canada (PPIC). He also held the title of International Programs Coordinator and had responsibility for member services and communications.

Dr. Roberts previously served as president of the Foundation for Agronomic Research (FAR) and continues as a vice president of that organization.

A native of Alberta, Canada, he grew up in a family fertilizer business. Dr. Roberts received a B.S.A. degree in Crop

Science in 1981 and a Ph.D. in Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition in 1985 from the University of Saskatchewan. He joined the PPI/PPIC staff in 1989 as Western Canada Director, with responsibility for agronomic research and education programs.

In June 1999, Dr. Roberts was transferred to PPI's headquarters in Norcross, Georgia, and was named President of FAR. At the same time, he was appointed Vice President of PPIC for the Latin American Program, and coordinated the Institute's regional programs in Brazil, Northern Latin America, Latin America-Southern Cone, and Mexico/Northern Central America. In February 2002, Dr. Roberts was appointed PPI Vice President, Member Services and Communications. He continues to direct the communications group of the institute, including publication of *Better Crops with Plant Food* magazine, as well as the website and electronic information.

In November 2004, Dr. Roberts was elected Senior Vice President, PPIC, and in January 2005 he became Senior Vice President, PPI, and International Program Coordinator.

An effective communicator and internationally respected as a speaker and writer, Dr. Roberts has given more than 300 invited lectures, seminars, symposia, and other presentations around the world and has written more than 160 technical and non-technical papers. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy.

Dr. Roberts and his wife, Marianne, have five children and now live near Atlanta, Georgia. **BC**

Note: Changes in titles and responsibilities of some PPI/PPIC staff members are outlined in an item on page 25.