



ARKANSAS PLANT FOOD ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Fall 2011

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"The competitor to be feared is one who never bothers about you at all, but goes on making his own business better all the time."

Henry Ford, quoted in *The Wichita Eagle*.

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MISSION STATEMENT

"The association shall foster and promote the dissemination of useful and practical information regarding all forms of plant food and lime, their application to crops of all kinds, better cultural practices, and other related information which would result in the production of better crops and increased farm income."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

WOW!!! What a spring! When I mentioned in the last newsletter that change and challenge is now a constant that we all must deal with in our business, I had no idea of the challenges that we would all face this spring. Tornadoes, floods, drought, hail, volatile markets – I do not believe that I have ever experienced a spring with such extremes. We did have to change the way we did some things in the past to face these challenges but it appears that the crop harvest this fall will be one of the most profitable in history. I am constantly amazed at how adaptable our industry is, especially when confronted with challenges.

To continue to be equipped for the changes and challenges that lay ahead of each of us, I would like to ask you to do three things. First, make your plans to attend the Arkansas Crop Management Conference in North Little Rock on January 17-20, 2012. Secondly, become more active in the APFA – we can make an impact on agriculture in Arkansas. And lastly, invite someone that is not a member of the APFA to join with us and help make a difference in crop production in Arkansas.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as the president of the APFA. If you have any questions, comments or ideas for improvement in our association, please call or e-mail me.

See you in North Little Rock,

Jim Magness, APFA President

FROM THE FERTILIZER INSTITUTE

Fertilizer and Rising Food Prices

According to an article recently published by TIME magazine, “Food prices are near historic highs, driven upward by an ever larger, ever hungrier population.” Data recently released by the United Nation’s (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which states that food currently costs 39 percent more today than it did a year ago, supports the notion that food prices are once again on the rise. Add to that the UN’s projections that the global population will increase by more than two billion people in the next 40 years and the challenge of meeting the world’s demand for safe and affordable food becomes that much more complicated.

Read more at www.Fertilizer101.org

Fertilizer and World Economics

In many parts of the world, just a little fertilizer can go a long way. If soil is sufficiently productive, farmers in less developed areas of the world can grow enough food to feed their family. With adequate soil nutrition, health and economic prospects improve dramatically. These benefits accumulate independent of producing a crop surplus, which permits a farmer to enter into commerce, exchanging his surplus crop for something of value that can’t be produced for himself as efficiently as it can by someone else.

Read more at www.Fertilizer101.org

A Global Impact

Over the years, India’s burgeoning population and periodic famines have made for fairly regular headlines. However, the picture changed dramatically beginning in the late 1960s, when maize, wheat, and rice, developed through the work of Dr. Norman Borlaug, began to have an impact. In what came to be known as the Green Revolution, new varieties enabled India to feed itself, even during years when the weather was adverse. Wheat

harvests rose from 12.6 million tons in 1965, to 36 million tons in 1980, to a whopping 73.5 million tons in 1999.

Read more at www.Fertilizer101.org

The Global Dynamics of Fertilizer

Food security – having enough food to feed a growing population remains one of the great challenges facing humanity. The 2008 Millennium Project State of the Future report issued by the United Nations says food production must increase by 50 percent by 2013 and double in 30 years if we are to make significant progress in feeding more of the world’s undernourished people.

Read more at www.Fertilizer101.org.

ACMC 2012 TENTATIVE PROGRAM SOIL FERTILITY 1:05-4:50 PM JANUARY 17, 2012

Fertilizer Outlook – Lance Reeder, The Mosaic Company

Crop Nutrient Additives and Extenders – Dave Franzen, North Dakota State

Development of a New Soil Nitrogen Test – Trent Roberts, University of Arkansas

Soil and Fertilizer Amendments – Nathan Slaton, University of Arkansas

Panel Discussion – Soil Sampling and Precision Agriculture in Crop and Soil Management

Nathan Slaton, University of Arkansas

Dustin Engler, Helena Chemical

Clint Jayroe, Cresco Ag, LLC

Lance Ramthum, Field Concepts, LLC

Open Q and A Session

UPCOMING APFA EVENTS AND MEETINGS

ARA 2011 Conference & Exhibition

Waldorf Astoria Boca Raton Resort
Boca Raton, FL
November 29-December 1, 2011

Annual ACMC Conference

Wyndham Riverfront Hotel
North Little Rock, AR
January 17-20, 2012

APFA Soil Fertility Workshops

UA Soil Test Lab
Marianna, AR
February 14, 2012

Arkansas State University
Jonesboro, AR
February 15, 2012

Southwest Fertilizer Conference

Marriott River Center
San Antonio, TX
July 14-18, 2012

Future Annual Conferences

Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock
2013 - January 22-25
2014 - January 21-24

PLAN TO ATTEND THE FERTILITY WORKSHOPS NEXT YEAR

The Arkansas Plant Food Association (APFA) in collaboration with The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture has planned a series of fertility workshops to be held during February of 2012.

Experts from the University of Arkansas will be talking about soil sampling, soil testing, the N, P, and K cycles, new fertilizer technology, and the basis of existing fertilizer recommendations.

The first workshop is scheduled for February 14 at the Lon Mann Cotton Research Station in Marianna. The second workshop will be held on February 15 at the campus of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Registration for this event is \$50 per person to cover lunch and facilities fees. Continuing education units in nutrient management will be offered for those who register. Registration for these events will be done online by visiting APFA's web page at www.apfa.com.

The Arkansas Fertilizer Industry has lost two giants recently
with the passing of Jack Whitmore and Kenneth Crisp.



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS



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