

Fertilizer group to sponsor agronomy research

ATLANTA, Ga. — The Foundation for Agronomic Research was given life in November 1980 when the Board of Directors held its organizational meeting.

"This is a milestone in the agronomics of long-term market development for the fertilizer industry and in the agro-economics for the farmer who is increasingly burdened by skyrocketing costs," said B R Willett, chairman of the new Foundation board. Willett is president of Kalium Chemicals and chairman of the Potash & Phosphate Institute board.

The Institute approved the establishment of the Foundation at its October board meeting. The Founda-

tion was organized in close linkage with the Institute to broaden the base of support to universities and other institutions for research in total crop production systems.

"The Foundation gives us a new way to stress the importance of maximum yield research as we strive to help the farmer produce maximum economic yields," said R E Wagner, president of the Potash & Phosphate Institute and president of the new Foundation.

"This approach will strengthen research on plant nutrients as well as other

factors in the total production system," he continued. "The Foundation will allow other industries such as nitrogen, sulphur, seed, chemical and farm equipment, associations, foundations, and private individuals to make contributions to finance research in the U.S and other countries."

Research will be sponsored by the Foundation to show the interactions of potash, phosphate, other nutrients and production factors that can produce those higher yields to keep the farmer's operation profitable.

Other Foundation board members are Wagner; S T Keel, retired senior vice president for the International Minerals & Chemical Corporation; David Dombowsky, president of the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan and vice chairman of the Foundation; Ronald R Johnson, president of

Agrico Fertilizer Company; E T York, retired chancellor of the University System of Florida; William F. Hueg, Jr, deputy vice president and dean, University of Minnesota, and PPI staff members, C P Ellington, executive vice president, and W L Nelson, senior vice president.

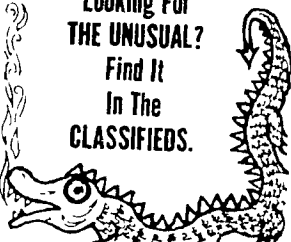
Even before formal announcement of the Foundation, early contributors gave collectively \$250,000 per year for research over the next three years. Those early contributors are Agrico Chemical Company, International Minerals & Chemical Corporation, Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, and Chemical Enterprises, Inc.

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