1976 Annual Meetings, Crop Science Society of America

Based on the theme "Agronomists and Food: Contributions and Challenges," the joint annual meetings of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America were held in Houston, Tex., from 28 Nov. to 3 Dec. 1976.

The meetings were attended by more than 3,300 members and guests. They had the opportunity to select from more than 1,125 papers presented in paper sessions and symposia. They also attended functions at meals, tours, and visited book and commercial exhibits. Highlighting the week's activities were the presentations of awards, naming of new ASA and SSSA Fellows, and the introduction of 1976-77 officers.

The keynote address was presented by Dr. C. R. Wharton, president of Michigan State Univ. His speech, "Ecology and Agricultural Development: Striking a Human Balance," was presented on Monday morning. A special theme-related session on Tuesday afternoon included papers on, "Agronomists and Food: Contributions" by Dr. D. W. Thorne, professor emeritus of soil science at Utah State Univ., and, "Agronomists and Food: Challenges," by Dr. J. B. Kendrick, Jr., vice president—Agricultural sciences at the Univ. of California. This session was arranged and presided over by Dr. M. D. Thorne, ASA President-Elect. All three of these papers will be included in an ASA Special Publication.

At the CSSA-SSSA joint program on Tuesday evening, Drs. V. A. Johnson and J. W. Schmidt of the Univ. of Nebraska, recipients of the 1975 Crop Science Award, discussed, "Wheat—Its Role in America's Heritage and Future," and Dr. Dale Swartzendruber, Purdue Univ., recipient of the 1975 Soil Science Award, presented a paper on, "Soil Physics—Reflections and Perspectives."

In recognition of the U.S. Bicentennial celebration, several landmark papers and sessions were presented. In Division A-1, Dr. J. B. Peterson of Purdue Univ. presented a paper titled, "Agronomic Education Bridges Science and Application." Division A-2 sponsored a session on, "Development of Natural Resources Management on Military Lands." Dr. Edgar Lenon, USDA-ARS and Cornell Univ., presented a paper on, "Clayology and Agriculture," in Division A-8. Division A-4 featured "Focus on the Future With An Eye to the Past," by Dr. W. F. Hug, Jr., of the Univ. of Minnesota. "The Impact of 200 Years of Improved Technology of Environmental Quality," by Dr. H. E. Kneenig of Michigan State Univ., was featured in Division A-6. In Division A-6, Dr. N. C. Brady of the International Rice Research Institute discussed, "The Role of Agronomists in International Agriculture Development." Dr. R. W. Howell of the Univ. of Illinois presented a paper on, "Crop Physiology in the Third Century," in Division C-2. Division C-5 sponsored a symposium on, "1976 Turfgrass Industry Challenges in Research, Teaching, and Continuing Education."

In the SSSA Divisions, Dr. W. H. Gardner, Washington State Univ., presented, "Historical Highlights in American Soil Physics, 1776-1976," in Division S-1; Dr. G. W. Thomas, Univ. of Kentucky, presented, "Historical Developments in Soil Chemistry: Ion Exchange," in Division S-2; Dr. F. F. Clark, USDA-ARS, Fort Collins, Colo., presented, "Soil Microbiology—It's a Small World," in Division S-3; Dr. F. G. Viets, Jr., Fort Collins, Colo., presented, "A Perspective on Two Centuries of Progress in Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition," in Division S-4; Dr. M. G. Cline, Cornell Univ., presented, "Historical Highlights in Soil Genesis, Morphology, and Classification," in Division S-5; Dr. G. M. Browning, Iowa State Univ., presented, "History and Challenges in Soil and Water Conservation and Management," in Division S-6; and Drs. G. G. Williams and D. A. Russel, TVA, presented, "History of Chemical Fertilizer Development," in Division S-8.

In addition to the above programs, several symposia were held during the week, including: "Soil Geomorphology" (Division S-5); "Diagnosing Field Problems at High Yield Levels" (Division A-4, S-4, S-8, and Field Research Station Supervisors); "Brassica for Forage Quality" (Divisions C-6 and C-1); "Crop Tolerance to Suboptimal Land Conditions" (Divisions A-6, C-1, C-2, C-3, and S-4); "Milling and Grain Quality" (Divisions C-1 and C-6); "Agronomic Implications of Wintertime Soil and Micrometeorite Conditions" (Divisions S-1, A-3, and S-6); "Crop Residue Management" (Divisions S-6, S-4, S-3, and C-5); "Large-Scale Yield Modeling" (Divisions A-3, S-1, S-6, and C-5); "Minerals in Soil Environments" (Divisions S-9, S-5, and S-2); and "Tall Fescue" (Divisions C-8 and C-6).

Assumed that the papers satisfy editorial requirements of the society, new Special Publications are expected to be published from the symposia on "Crop Residue Management Systems" and "Crop Tolerance to Sub-optimal Land Conditions."

The traditional banquet was held Wednesday evening and featured an address titled, "Agronomists and Food: Contributions and Challenges for the Cereals," by Dr. F. L. Patterson, ASA President. The paper appears as the lead article in the Jan-Feb 1977 issue of Agronomy Journal. Approximately 925 people attended the banquet.

The 1976 Edward W. Browning Award for Improvement of Food Sources was presented to Dr. Charles F. Black, Charles F. Curtis Distinguished Professor in Agriculture at Iowa State Univ. Dr. Black led the effort that culminated in the formation of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST). CAST task forces are improving the factual background for decision-making on agriculture-related matters that affect the entire country. The Browning Award is administered by the New York Community Trust and the recipient selected by ASA. The award consists of a $5,000 check, a bronze medal, and a certificate.

Special recognition was afforded three longtime members who were named Emeritus Members. Those honored included Dr. W. H. Allaway, senior lecturer in agronomy at Cornell Univ.; Dr. John B. Peterson, associate professor of Purdue Univ. Laboratory for Application of Remote Sensing; and Dr. William H. Pierce, emeritus professor at Iowa State Univ.

The Crops and Soils Magazine Award for superior agricultural writing was presented to Dr. G. E. Richards, Northern Region agronomist with the Olin Corp., for his article, "Phosphorus Fertilization: Can we do a Better Job?" which appeared in the January 1975 issue. Honorable mention certificates were presented to Dr. J. W. Cary for his article, "Here's How Frost Damages Seedlings," in the January 1975 issue, and to Dr. J. J. Mortvedt for, "Iron Chlorosis: Where It's a Problem, What Can be Done," in the August-September 1975 issue.

The Univ. of Nebraska Agronomy Club again received the Agronomy Club Achievement Award. Allen Unger, Univ. of Nebraska, won the National Student Speech Contest. R. I. Baumhardt, Texas A&M Univ., won the National Student Agronomic Photography Contest. Larry Hageman, Univ. of Illinois, won the Student Essay Contest, "The Future of Haymaking, Stacks, and Large Round Bales." A team from the Univ. of Minnesota-St. Paul was honored for winning first place honors in both the Kansas City and Chicago judging contests in 1975. The Univ. of Wisconsin-Platteville had the first place team in the National Soil Judging Contest.

Twenty-two new Fellows of the Society were chosen for professional achievements and meritorious service.

Dr. Fred L. Patterson of Purdue Univ. passed the presidential gavel to Dr. Marlowes G. (Mike) Clay, USDA-ARS, Ames, Iowa. Dr. J. W. Pendleton of the Univ. of Wisconsin was recognized as the new President-Elect.

A highlight of the 21st annual CSSA meeting was the luncheon and presentation of the Crop Science Award to Dr. Marcus S.