Former Texas Soil Scientists Meet

Former soil scientists who worked in Texas met for their third annual get-together in Temple on Saturday, Apr. 6, 1991. Twenty-nine soil scientists, three nonsoil scientist friends, four SCS employees, and 20 spouses were present for the fellowship, luncheon, and short program. A door prize was awarded to Dr. L.J. Bartelli from Hancock, MI for having traveled the farthest. Wes Fuchs from Ft. Worth, TX won the prize for having worked in the greatest number of locations during his career. Prizes were given to Mrs. Clarence Rechenthin of Temple for having been married the longest and to Billy Wagner of Stillwater, OK for being the most recently retired person. Joe Nichols, head of the Soils Staff at the South National Technical Center gave a brief update of the “State of the NCSS Program—1991.” Four were present who are more than 80-yr old. This event has proven to be most enjoyable for those who participate. The group was organized through the efforts of Jim Coover, Gordon McKee, Allen Newman, and Charlie Thompson.

Letter to the Editor

Comment on “Review of Selected Pedons for Andic Soil Properties in the Northeast United States”

Earl B. Alexander

I appreciated the article of Mount et al. (1991) about soils with andic properties in an area without volcanic materials. This is a phenomenon that I have been aware of since I mapped soils in a cool humid climate more than 30 yr ago, although the soil properties were not referred to as “andic” then. It seems, however, that few other pedologists have realized that soils with andic properties develop in any other than volcanic materials.

Although I first mapped soils with andic properties in nonvolcanic materials in northwestern California, I first realized that the phenomenon was not recognized by most other pedologists when I was in Colombia. There, the Andes Mountains are split into three parallel ranges. Soils with andic properties occur at all elevations in the Cordillera Central (Central Chain) where there are many recently active volcanoes, but only above about 1,800 to 2,000 m on the east side of the Cordillera Oriental (Eastern Chain) in eastern Cundinamarca where the volcanic influence is negligible (Alexander and

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