Albion Holds 2006 Conference on Plant Nutrition

By Jeremy O’Brien

During the week of January 24-27, 2006, Albion held its latest in a series of conferences on plant nutrition. This meeting provides an opportunity for agronomists and consultants to hear presentations on the latest research being conducted throughout the world using Metalosate® products. It also provides a unique opportunity for interaction with other individuals working with various crops in different growing regions of the U.S. as well as internationally.

The first speaker was Dr. H. DeWayne Ashmead who spoke about the history of Albion from its beginning in 1956. There were many comments expressing appreciation for the facts and history presented by DeWayne.

The next presentation was given by Dr. Robert Jeppsen. He spoke in great detail about the Differences in Organic Minerals and Advantages of Albion Metalosate Metal Amino Acid Chelates in Foliar Absorption. The presentation was very informative at a fairly high technical level regarding the advantages of using Metalosate products in agriculture.

Following Dr. Jeppsen, Dr. Gene Lester from the USDA-ARS in Weslaco, Texas, presented some research work that he and a colleague had performed and published where they compared Metalosate Potassium to Potassium Chloride sprays with and without a surfactant applied during fruit development to netted muskmelon development and looked at the effects on quality.

The next speaker was Rene Carlson from Ocean Agriculture in South Africa. She spoke about use of Metalosate Potassium on apples, Metalosate Zinc on citrus and also the application of zinc from various sources to dry-land wheat.

After Rene’s presentation Chris Janssens of Hermoo in Belgium presented data from research conducted by Dr. Jozef Vercammen with PCF in Belgium on the Control of Dead Flower Buds in Conference Pears during Spring Using Metalosate Zinc.

Felix Fares of Albion presented the results of a field trial conducted in Egypt on yield and tuber size on Lady Crystal potatoes. The results of this research project were presented in the April 2005 newsletter. Metalosate Multimineral was applied to the potatoes in this project. Felix also reported about peanut research.

Steen Kjeldsen from Brenntag Nordic in Denmark presented the results of work done by Winnie Olsen also with Brenntag Nordic. He spoke about the effect of Metalosate products on Christmas trees in Denmark; yield and fruit quality of strawberries in Sweden; and starch potatoes in both Denmark and Sweden.

The final speaker of the day was Jennifer Hartle from Albion. Jennifer presented work that she and others at Albion have done on the identification and quantitation of chelation in metal glycinate chelates. Jennifer was able to take a large amount of technical research information and data and present it in a way that was easy to understand.

Over the next several months many of the presentations given at the conference will be summarized in the monthly newsletter. Watch for them. If you would like copies of all of the papers presented in CD or book form, contact your local Albion Advanced Nutrition representative.