Welcome to the first issue of Albion’s new format for our newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you up to date on the happenings within the plant division. I have taken on the responsibility of writing these newsletters and hopefully will be able to keep up with them on a monthly basis. This newsletter will be sent to you via e-mail.

Recently, Albion held a conference on plant nutrition near our corporate headquarters in Utah. The conference was well attended and judging from personal conversations that I had with many of the attendees, it was very beneficial for everyone. Not only did it provide a great opportunity to learn more about the Metalosate® products, but it also provided a forum for interaction with many others who are involved in the same profession (crop advising) mainly in the western US. The conference also provides the opportunity for many of the people here at Albion Advanced Nutrition to become acquainted with some of our customers, to be able to put a face with a name and voice.

A variety of topics were addressed at the conference. These included a general presentation on plant nutrition by Kevin Dickinson. Stephen Ashmead spoke about the advantages of amino acid chelation as well as proofs of chelation. Dr. Gene Lester reported on work he has done with Metalosate Potassium and its effects on cantaloupe quality, sugar content, and related compounds. Winnie Olsen reported on several trials she has completed in Denmark using Metalosate products on cabbage, romaine lettuce, and christmas trees. Dr. Jozef Vercammen reported the results of work he completed last year on conference pears in Belgium. They had significant reduction of dead flower buds by applying Metalosate Zinc in the fall. Alastair Forsyth then reported on work that his company has performed using Metalosate Iron to significantly reduce chlorosis on citrus trees in South Africa. I was the concluding speaker, presenting the results from two field trials in the Pacific Northwest. The first was a Metalosate trial on blueberries and the other was calcium work done on golden delicious apples.

Dr. Gene Lester’s presentation opened the door to a new area of research when he determined that the Metalosate treated cantaloupes contained higher levels of ascorbic acid and beta carotene, both of which are very important human wellness compounds. We would like to pursue the same type of research on other types of crops.

As with past conferences, we have put together a book containing the conference proceedings. We have also placed the same information on a CD, along with the proceedings from the four prior conferences dating back to 1996. We would be happy to provide you with a paper copy, a CD or both upon your request. To access the proceedings directly, click here. Please let Deanna Brewer or your local Albion representative know of your needs.

In closing, something to ponder, “The key to happiness is having dreams. The key to success is making your dreams come true.” Anonymous