

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Articles

- 3** Traditional management of a hillside agroecosystem in Tlaxcala, Mexico: An ecologically based maintenance system
Daniel C. Mountjoy and Stephen R. Gliessman
- 11** Preferences for crop production practices among conventional and alternative farmers
Frederick H. Buttel and Gilbert W. Gillespie, Jr.
- 19** Weed seed destruction by arthropods and rodents in low-input soybean agroecosystems
Gerald E. Brust and Garfield J. House
- 26** Factors influencing the economic potential for alternative farming systems: Case analyses in South Dakota
Thomas L. Dobbs, Mark G. Leddy, and James D. Smolik
- 35** Improving the relevance of formal education and training in preparing international students as change agents for low-input agriculture
Kristin Cashman and Edgar Persons
- 43** Commentary: Resolving conflicts in American land-use values: How organic farming can help
Frederick Kirschenmann

Departments

Opinion—2 • From The Literature—17 • Resources—25 • Upcoming Events—34 • Book Reviews—41 • Institute News—48

Journal Editorial Board

Miguel A. Altieri, University of California at Berkeley • Lloyd A. Andres, USDA-ARS • David F. Bezdicsek, Washington State University • Harold F. Breimyer, University of Missouri • Michael C. Brumm, University of Nebraska • Frederick H. Buttel, Cornell University • Katherine L. Clancy, Syracuse University • Eliot Coleman, The Mountain School-Milton Academy, Vermont • R. James Cook, USDA-ARS • Robert B. Dahlgren, Iowa State University • John W. Doran, USDA-ARS • Sara Ebenreck, Editorial Consultant • Thomas C. Edens, Michigan State University • Frank P. Eggert, University of Maine • Lloyd F. Elliott, USDA-ARS • A. Dale Flowerday, Pioneer Hi-Bred International • Charles A. Francis, University of Nebraska • Stephen R. Gliessman, University of California at Santa Cruz • Joan Gussow, Columbia University • Don F. Hadwiger, Iowa State University • Richard R. Harwood, Winrock International • Glenn A. Helmers, University of Nebraska • Larry D. King, North Carolina State University • Dietrich Knorr, University of Delaware • J. Patrick Madden, Pennsylvania State University • Robert I. Papendick, USDA-ARS • James F. Parr, USDA-ARS/USAID • Richard L. Ridgway, USDA-ARS • Neill Schaller, USDA-ERS.

Institute Board of Directors

James R. Lukens, Fox, AR; President • John A. Harris, IV, Berwyn, PA; Vice President • Earl Lawrence, Martinsville, VA; Secretary • Maureen Hinkle, Washington, DC; Treasurer • Delmar Akerlund, Valley, NE • Robert O. Blake, Washington, DC • Katherine L. Clancy, Syracuse, NY • Jerold R. DeWitt, Ames, IA • Mrs Jean Wallace Douglas, Washington, DC • Joseph Dunsmoor, Beltsville, MD • Thomas B. Harding, Jr., Wind Gap, PA • Warren W. Sals, Lincoln, NE.

Journal Staff

Editor — *Garth Youngberg*
Technical Editor — *William Lockeretz*
Associate Technical Editor — *Paul B. Marsh*
Book Review Editors — *Thomas C. Edens*
— *James F. Parr*
Contributing Editor — *Sara Ebenreck*
Assistant to the Editor — *Sarah C. Byler*
Circulation Manager/Word Processing —
Susan E. Ward
Art Director — *Randy White*

Subscription Information

The American Journal of Alternative Agriculture (ISSN 0889-1893) is published quarterly by the Institute for Alternative Agriculture, Inc., 9200 Edmonston Road, Suite 117, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. The IAA is not responsible for statements and opinions expressed by authors. Journal subscription rates: Institutions \$40 a year (\$47 foreign); Individuals \$20 a year (\$27 foreign); IAA Members \$15 a year (\$22 foreign); Students \$10 a year (\$17 foreign). Second Class postage paid at Greenbelt, MD. Postmaster: Send address changes to American Journal of Alternative Agriculture, 9200 Edmonston Road, Suite 117, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Institute Information

The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a nonprofit, tax-exempt research and education organization established in 1983 to encourage and facilitate the adoption of low-cost, resource-conserving and environmentally-sound farming methods. It works closely with producer groups, public research and education institutions, and government agencies in promoting a sustainable agriculture system.

Its programs include providing a national information clearinghouse, serving as a voice for sustainable agriculture in Washington, and developing and implementing research and educational outreach programs. It holds an annual scientific symposium and publishes a monthly newsletter.

The Institute is governed by a grass roots Board of Directors, which includes several commercial-scale organic farmers, and maintains a small professional staff. It is supported by memberships and donations and grants from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

Cover

The cover photo depicts reclamation of eroded hillsides utilizing traditional slope management systems in Tlaxcala, Mexico. Sloped terraces combined with catchment basins (*cajetes*) conserve soil and water, trap nutrients, and allow for plant diversity. Photo provided by Daniel C. Mountjoy, Graduate Student in Human Ecology, University of California, Davis.