



INSTITUTE NEWS

New Report Examines Industrialized Agriculture and Direct Marketing

A new report from the Wallace Institute focuses on the rise of "industrialized" agriculture and the increasing popularity of direct marketing of agricultural products. "In industrialized agriculture, farm-level control over agricultural production operations is being replaced by corporate control, which relegates farm-level workers to the role of hired labor," according to *Reorganizing U.S. Agriculture*, the second installment in the Institute's ongoing investigation of structural change in U.S. agriculture. "In direct marketing, farmers exercise substantial control over their products, from cultivation or weaning to final sale."

The report looks at the legal environment in which industrialized agriculture and direct marketing have evolved; how they have affected the distribution of control within agriculture; and what measures have been taken to alter that distribution of control. It recommends research to answer questions posed by the changing structure of agriculture. The report is \$6 from the Wallace Institute, 9200 Edmonston Road, #117, Greenbelt, MD 20770; (301) 441-8777; e-mail hawiaa@access.digex.net.

Senator Leahy Wins Organic Leadership Award

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), a member of the Wallace Institute's President's Council, is the first recipient of the Organic Trade Association's Organic Leadership Award, which was presented to him in September.

The new award acknowledges "leadership and vision in the furtherance of organic agriculture," and is being given to Senator Leahy for his "leadership in sponsoring the Organic Foods Production Act and his long-standing support of organic agriculture," according to the association. "During his 23-year tenure on the Senate Agriculture Committee, Leahy has been a steadfast supporter of organic agriculture and farmers."

Wallace Board Approves New Journal Editor At Mid-Year Meeting

The Wallace Institute's Board of Directors, at its mid-year meeting in Salinas, California, on September 5-6, approved the appointment of Dr. Robert I. Papendick to be the new Editor of *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture*, the Institute's quarterly, peer-reviewed journal of research on alternative agriculture. Dr. Papendick, currently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Crop and Soil Science at Washington State University, had previously been a research soil scientist with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service for almost 30 years.

Dr. Papendick, who assumes the editorship in January, 1998, succeeds Dr. Willie Lockeretz, Research Professor at Tufts University, who has edited *AJAA* since its inception in 1986.

After a reception on September 5 at the Emma Prusch Farm Park in San Jose, the Board of Directors met on September 6 at the Rural Development Center, directed by Jose Montenegro, a member of the Wallace Board. The Center, a project of the Association for Community Based Education, runs a Small Farm Education Program, a community-based agricultural education program designed to meet the needs and aspirations of low-income people seeking greater self-reliance.

After its meeting, the Board toured the Center and sustainable agriculture activities nearby, including the Elkhorn Slough Watershed Project, which seeks to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality in the strawberry fields of the watershed. The Board also toured the organic family farm of Phil Foster in Hollister.

Wallace Institute Names Members of President's Council

Dr. Frederick L. Kirschenmann, President of the Wallace Institute, has announced the members of the 1997-1998 President's Council, formed seven years ago to provide guidance and support for Wal-

lace Institute activities in promoting a more sustainable agricultural system in the United States and abroad.

Members are: Dr. Charles Benbrook, Benbrook Consulting Services; Norman A. Berg, Washington Representative, Soil and Water Conservation Society; Hon. George E. Brown, Jr., U.S. House of Representatives; Robert Gray, Resource Management Consultants; Ralph Grossi, President, American Farmland Trust; Dr. R. Jim Hildreth, Elmhurst, IL; Ms. Dana Jackson, Land Stewardship Project; Dr. Dennis R. Keeney, Director, Leopold Center; Hon. Patrick J. Leahy, U.S. Senate; Dr. Ned S. Raun, Stillwater, OK; Ronald L. Rosmann, farmer, Harlan, IA; R. Neil Sampson, Executive Vice President, American Forestry Association; Edward Sills, Pleasant Grove Farms, Pleasant Grove, CA; Dr. David G. Topel, Dean, College of Agriculture and Director of Experiment Station, Iowa State University; and Dr. Stephen Viederman, President, Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation.

Farmers Take the Lead in Protecting Ohio Watershed

Farmers are taking the lead in the Big Walnut Water Quality Partnership, a project designed to protect the natural resources of an important watershed in central Ohio. The initiators and decision-makers of the partnership are farmers and other land owners from the Big Walnut Creek watershed who serve on the board of trustees. "This is the first time that I know of that farmers have been in on a watershed project from the very beginning instead of being told what to do," said Bob Weiler, a farmer from the area.

Farmers in the project are committed to soil-conserving farming techniques, other best management practices, and responsible use of pesticides to ensure water quality. Support for the project comes from local, state, and federal agencies, including the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.