

services. Involved in the reorganization, which is expected to take place around the first of the year, are the present department of entomology, the shade tree laboratory, the seed laboratory, arboriculture, plant pathology, and all members of the experiment station and extension staffs having primary responsibility as plant pathologists or botanists. A head for the department has not yet been selected, but detailed plans call for various sections with a leader.

ASSOCIATIONS

Weed Society Sets Dates To Stress Basic Research

Fundamental research in weed control is to be the theme of the second meeting of the Weed Society of America. The meeting will take place Jan. 13 through 15, 1958, at the Hotel Peabody in Memphis, Tenn. The Southern Weed Conference, host to the Weed Society, will meet on Jan. 16 at the same place.

MWSIC Merges with NPFI; Beers to Be Midwest Director

A plan under which the activities of the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee of Chicago will be merged into the program of the National Plant Food Institute was approved by the Institute's Board of Directors, meeting at Atlanta, Ga., on Nov. 1.

John A. Miller, president of NPFI, said that the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee, of which Zenas H. Beers is executive secretary, will serve as the Midwest regional office of NPFI with headquarters in Chicago, effective Jan. 1, 1958.

Members of the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee voted in favor of the plan at a meeting in Chicago on Oct. 31.

The Midwest regional office will be one of four regional offices established under the NPFI's expanded program in the field of research and education. The Midwest regional office will cover Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

"It is the intention of the Institute to carry on the good work previously conducted by the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee and, in addition, the Institute expects to expand the Midwestern program through greater financial support," Mr. Miller said. "Among the many activities that

will be conducted will be the annual meeting with Midwestern agronomists," he promised.

Award Founded for Scientific Aids to Vegetable Growing

An award has been founded to stimulate major scientific contributions to the growing of vegetable crops for processing. Campbell Soup Co. is donor of the award, which will be administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. It is to be given for the first time this year and annually thereafter. The recipient of the award will receive \$1500 in cash and a bronze medal.

Eligible studies must be related to the production of vegetables, including mushrooms, and be in the fields of horticulture, genetics, soil science, plant physiology, entomology, plant pathology, or other similar scientific areas. The research work must pertain to production of raw vegetables for processing purposes rather than to the processing of these crops. Scientific contributions will be considered, provided they have been published, or accepted for publication, in a recognized scientific journal not more than two years prior to the granting of the award. Candidates must be residents of the U. S. or Canada.

Nominations for the award are to be made directly to a member of the award committee. Members are: Louis P. Reitz, chairman, G. J. Haeusler, Sterling B. Hendricks, Iver J. Johnson, F. C. Stark, Jr., G. Ledyard Stebbins, Jr., and E. E. Wilson.

NPFI Sponsors Study of Method to Predict Fertilizer Use

A research project to develop methods for estimating regional and national demand for plant food, one and two years in the future, has been established by the National Plant Food Institute and will be conducted by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station under a grant from NPFI.

R. A. King will be project leader for the study, and Wilson Riggan will be his research assistant.

"The project has been prompted by the need of the fertilizer industry for some reliable basis for projecting demand to be used in planning production and sales programs," Dr. Russell Coleman, NPFI executive vice president, points out.

"There is reason to believe," Dr. Coleman said, "that the factors influencing the demand for fertilizer

today are much more complex than in the recent past. For instance, prior to World War II, fertilizer consumption tended to follow very closely the trend in farm income. In recent years, however, farm income as such seems to have had less influence although it undoubtedly is still a factor."

Dr. King hopes to be able to evaluate all of the various factors which influence trends in fertilizer consumption, and to develop a formula which will make possible at least short-term projections of demand. The study will consist of a thorough examination of previous work in this field, an exhaustive evaluation of available data, and an attempt to construct appropriate models on the basis of this information for estimating future fertilizer consumption trends.

Chemical, Biological Control Of Pests on AAAS Program

Control of plant and animal pests by chemicals and genes is to be reviewed and discussed at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The symposium on biological and chemical control of plant and animal pests will take place on Dec. 28 through 30 at the Washington Hotel in Indianapolis, Ind. It will be divided into four parts—recent advances in chemical control measures, recent advances in biological control measures, inherent resistance to pests, and problems related to and consequences of biological and chemical control measures. Over 20 nationally prominent scientists will appear on the program.

PEOPLE

NPFI Appoints Regional Directors for Expanded Program

Richard B. Bahme, R. L. Beacher, and Samuel L. Tisdale have been appointed to open regional offices for the National Plant Food Institute's expanded program of research and education. Dr. Bahme, formerly manager of technical development for Pacific Guano at Berkeley, Calif., will have headquarters in San Francisco. Dr. Beacher, former agronomy professor at the University of Arkansas, will direct the Southwestern regional program from his present headquarters at Fayetteville, Ark. Dr. Tisdale, formerly director, soil testing division, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, will direct the Southeastern regional program. His headquarters will be at Atlanta, Ga. The Midwest