

Robert, P.C., Rust, R.H., Larson, W.E. (ed.): **Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Precision Agriculture and Other Resource Management.** – American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America, Bloomington 2000. CD-ROM. ISBN 40326. USD 14.00.

The conference was organized by the Precision Agriculture Center, University of Minnesota, USA and held at Bloomington, Indiana, USA on July 16-19, 2000. It was attended by over 700 participants representing 28 countries. More than 200 oral and poster papers were presented. Texts of all the papers and posters are divided into the following 18 chapters: Natural resource variability; Yield variability; Geostatistics/Sampling; Management zones; Managing variability; Management for crop qualities; Engineering technology; Applications of remote sensing to precision agriculture; Remote sensing/nitrogen management; Remote sensing/pest detection and management; Modeling; Information management; Profitability; Environment; Integrated projects; Integrated approaches for a practical precision agriculture; New applications around the world; and Technology transfer. This listing of chapters indicates that the Proceeding on SD-ROM fully cover all the topics related to precision agriculture and offer an excellent source of both information and data.

Precision agriculture requires many exact data from the individual parts of a field as well as biological interpretation of a huge amount of information. It is not only a problem of agronomy, but also of crop biology. I would like to emphasize that precision agriculture and crop biology are closely interconnected. Precision agriculture utilizes large amount of information on soil, plant, and

microclimate which could be very effectively used in crop biology to derive many appropriate methodologies for studying the effect of the environment on plant growth. In addition, the three chapters dealing with remote sensing suggest a robust tool of use in crop biology studies.

Using the "Search" function, I found 22, 11, and 8 papers containing the words chlorophyll, photosynthesis, and photosynthetic, respectively. For example, these papers describe the potential influence of landscapes on <sup>13</sup>C discrimination in plants, modelling of photosynthesis as a function of photosynthetically active radiation, leaf spectral reflectance for early detection of disorders in crop growth, use of complex crop simulation models in fine tuning fertiliser recommendations, *etc.* Simply, if a researcher in photosynthesis would like to be stimulated by new methods or application possibilities for his or her own area of research, try browsing the papers reviewed. This CD-ROM is a searchable database containing practically all the structures used in published proceedings, such as related Society publications, a preface, abstracts and full papers with colour images and maps, a summary of decision support tools working groups, a list of participants and exhibitors. All the information is in PDF format. This CD-ROM requires "Acrobat Reader With Search ®".

L. NÁTR (*Praha*)