



Reichelderfer Named Director of Institute's Policy Studies Program

Dr. Katherine H. Reichelderfer has been named the Director of the new Policy Studies Program at the Henry A. Wallace Institute for Alternative Agriculture. The program will respond to the compelling need for sound facts and information on the sustainability of agriculture to help inform the national policymaking process, including development of the 1995 farm bill.

Since 1991, Dr. Reichelderfer has been the Associate Administrator and, now, the Acting Administrator, of the Economic Research Service (ERS) at the USDA. She joined the ERS as a research economist in 1977, and has since led and conducted ERS research and educational programs in pest management, farm inputs, agricultural productivity, international economics, and natural resources and technology.

During 1990-1991, Dr. Reichelderfer was a Senior Fellow and Director of the Agriculture, Environment and Food Safety research program at the Washington-based National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, located in Resources for the Future.

She earned a Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from the University of Maryland in 1977.

Dr. Reichelderfer will assume her new duties on September 1.

Agriculture Committees Urged to Protect Family Farms

Fifteen local and national organizations, including the Wallace Institute, have written to the members of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, urging them to support budget proposals that "protect family farm income and encourage voluntary efforts to protect the environment"—and at the same time, achieve necessary spending reductions, assure a safe and abundant food supply, and provide increased funding for food assistance programs.

As part of the budget reconciliation package, the groups asked for support for establishing a "graduated triple base;" making the marketing loan for wheat and feed grains discretionary; requiring material participation of farm program partici-

pants; repealing the three-entity rule and attributing payments received by legal entities to natural persons; making adjustments in the integrated farm management program; directing the USDA to implement the Targeted Option Payment Program; and establishing an "environmental diversion bonus."

ATTRA Funding Increase Urged by Several Groups

Several farm organizations, including the Wallace Institute, have written to House Interior Subcommittee Chair Sidney Yates to urge increased funding for the Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA) program in Fayetteville, AR. The National Center for Appropriate Technology, which manages ATTRA, has requested funding of \$1.5 million for FY94; the Department of Interior has requested \$1.289 million, which is the same funding level it received last year. In supporting the \$1.5 million request, the groups described ATTRA as "a key organization in transferring sustainable agriculture technology."

Farm Profiles Invited

For its new department on alternative agriculture profiles, the *AJAA* welcomes short articles describing farmers who have adopted interesting alternative practices. The articles should include five elements: a brief description of the farm; the problems that made the farmer look for an alternative approach and the reasons why the alternative seemed plausible; a summary of the basic principles behind the alternative (possibly in a sidebar if it interrupts the flow of text); a discussion of how well the alternative has worked; and a discussion of the applicability of the alternative for other farms. The length should be 1500 to 2000 words.

Submissions must be accompanied by a release, signed by the farmer, giving permission for this material to be published in the *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture*. Vol. 3, No. 4, of the *AJAA* has a further description of the department (page 188); or query the editor for further information. Send submissions to the Editor, *AJAA*, 9200 Edmonston Road, Suite 117, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1551.

Letters To The Editor Invited

The *AJAA* welcomes letters, short or long, commenting on articles in this journal or sharing ideas likely to be of interest to other *AJAA* readers. Since our space is limited, we do reserve the right not to publish all letters or, at times, to publish only excerpts from them. To take part in this exchange of ideas, write to: Editor, *AJAA*, 9200 Edmonston Road, Suite 117, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1551.