



INSTITUTE NEWS

Wallace Institute Urges Research on Ways To Cut Pesticide Use

The agriculture research community should set a goal of learning how to "by the year 2000, grow our food and fiber with half or less than half of the pesticides now used," according to testimony made recently by Neill Schaller, Associate Director of the Wallace Institute, before the Senate Subcommittee on Agricultural Research, Conservation, Forestry, and General Legislation of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. At the oversight hearing on implementation of agricultural research priorities, Schaller said there is a need to defuse the myth that

"sustainable agriculture does not lend itself to good scientific research," and honestly recognize scientists who study sustainability.

Dr. Lynch Hired as Wallace Institute Senior Analyst

Dr. Sarah Lynch, a former USDA economist, is now a senior analyst with the Wallace Institute's Policy Studies Program. She will participate with Dr. Kitty Reichelderfer Smith, Director, Policy Studies Program, in the planning, design, and conduct of studies, and in the reporting and outreach of findings from studies conducted under the program. Those studies will assess the implications for sustainable

agriculture of alternative policies or policy directions.

Dr. Lynch will initiate a major study of "green payment program" implementation options, which involve supplementing or substituting commodity program benefits with farm income support payments that would directly contribute to agro-environmental quality goals. Dr. Lynch previously was an economist with the USDA's Economic Research Service, Resources and Technology Division; she also was a self-employed consultant and economist, and a graduate research assistant at Cornell University's Food and Nutrition Policy Program. She has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University.



BOOK NOTICES

Agricultural Research Alternatives. William Lockeretz and Molly D. Anderson. 1993. University of Nebraska Press, PO Box 880520, Lincoln, NE 68588-0520. x+239 pp. \$30 (add \$2.50 s&h), hardcover.

An analysis of research strategies especially associated with alternative agriculture, such as multidisciplinary research, ecology as a foundation for understanding and designing agricultural systems, and on-farm and participatory research. To enable the best ideas from alternative agriculture to permeate all spheres of agricultural research, alternatively-oriented or otherwise, the authors propose institutional and policy changes in departmental organization, the professional reward system, funding mechanisms, and agricultural education.

Challenging the Professions: Frontiers for Rural Development. Robert Chambers. 1993. Intermediate Technology Publications. Distributed in the U.S. by Women, Ink, 777 United Nations Plaza, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10017. xvi+143 pp. \$32.50, hardcover; \$6.50, paper.

The "challenge" offered by this book is for professionals in rural development to come up with fundamentally new ways of thinking about their field that will enable them to overcome the biases created by their own values and the rigidity that has unnecessarily restricted the available strategies. The author strongly advocates an approach in which professionals learn from the people they are working with, instead of imposing systems that reflect the

prevailing distribution of wealth and power.

Crop Evolution, Adaptation and Yield. L.T. Evans. 1993. Cambridge University Press, 40 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011-4211. xi+500 pp. \$95.00, hardcover.

This book reviews the major paths that have been followed, or that may be followed in the future, to develop crop varieties that are adapted to a broader range of conditions, that yield better where they already are grown, or that make more efficient use of finite resources. Research findings are reported from many crops and many regions, both tropical and temperate, in both traditional and industrialized systems.