

Foreword

The achievement of an increase in soil fertility, combined with the preservation of the soils for intensive food production, is of outstanding importance nowadays.

In this connection, the University of Horticulture considered it a great privilege to host the Hungarian-British Joint Seminar on Plant Breeding and Soil Fertility, which took place in Budapest from 7-13 April, 1984.

The organization of the Seminar was an important step in establishing bilateral cooperation between British and Hungarian scientists on topics closely connected with the development of agriculture. The scientific programme was organized in two sessions: A. Plant Breeding and Chemicals in Crop Maximization, and B. Soil Fertility.

The lectures of the British participants were focused on the prediction of crop nutrient requirements and on its practical aspects.

The papers of the Hungarian lecturers covered a wide range of subjects: the prediction of the agroecological potential of Hungary, various aspects of fertilizer use, and certain questions of soil biology and crop production.

The presentations were followed by extensive and lively discussions.

I wish to avail myself of the opportunity to express my thanks to the Editorial Board of *Agrokémia és Talajtan* for publishing the papers presented in Session B.

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