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Plant Production Educational Series

Steve Foltz

President IPPS Eastern Region

Starting later this year IPPS-ER will be bringing to you a series of educational opportunities. This series is meant as an opportunity to target the many aspects of plant production, from tissue culture to the B&B production of large shade trees, insect and disease problems, great new plants coming into production or that just need a little more love and attention! Regardless of the topic - keeping in line with our goal to “seek and share” knowledge, this educational series, most importantly, is meant to provide continuing education to our members while also serving as a recruiting tool to attract and expand our membership!

As President I have had the honor of seeing this organization from a new perspective. What I see is the most talented group of Nursery Owners, Propagators, Plantsman, Growers, and Educators in our industry! This is a group of individuals who are super busy with their businesses, school, and the day-to-day running of their companies, and all the issues that come up daily. Yet each and everyone of them takes the time to help others at the Annual Conference, speak at educational programs, or open their nurseries to tours so that others can see what they have learned to produce a higher quality plant. Brian Decker said to me once that every IPPS meeting he has gone to, he has picked up something that made his company better! That is what IPPS is all about! Helping us all get better!

This is why I would like to take this time to invite each one of you reading this to share this article with your friends! Personally invite 5 potential IPPS members to join the Eastern Region. We all have our specialties, and this educational series will reflect and target that. I looked at our membership and was surprised at how many quality people in our industry are not members of IPPS. I suspect there is still the sense that this organization is only meant for Propagators is a big reason for that. This is why we changed the name to the International Plant Production Society! We have a very simple message to “Seek and Share”. What separates IPPS from other organizations is that we are focused on the production of plants. Finding the best ways to produce quality plants for the benefit of every person in every community! We are a part of something special! Let’s seek new members and share this message with our friends and colleagues!

Steve Foltz

IPPSER President