

THE SASKATCHEWAN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SOILS AND LAND USE  
(Report to the 1976 Workshop)

Membership on council was unchanged during the year under report, with a total of 18 members. The Executive of Council which consists of the chairman, secretary, and chairmen of the four standing committees, met as required with full council meetings restricted to two.

Council membership is outlined below:

M.R. Kilcher	F. Bond
W. Nuttall	G. Wilson
R.N. McIver	R.E. Melvin
D. Read	J.W. Hamm
W.E. Johnson	J.L. Henry
H. Ukrainetz	D.A. Rennie
T.S. Phenix	D.F. Acton
L. Weixl	H.M. Austenson
R.K. Foster	H. Amundson

Highlights of the Year's Activity

The name of the council has been changed from the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Soils to the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Soils and Land Use. This change has been approved by SASCC.

The former Land Resource Committee has been disbanded and replaced with the Land Use Committee. This committee, chaired by J.L. Henry and with representation from Environment Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, has been given specific terms of reference related to land use in Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Soil Data Bank

Council continued to strongly support the need for funding to enable the various files in the bank to be updated. The Data Bank at present is of little value to the council as a vehicle to process and consolidate soil productivity data. The availability of this information in an accessible form is essential for current and reliable recommendations for farmers and other users of soil productivity information. We note with regret that there appears to be little chance of significant funding being obtained in the near future.

#### Research Priorities

The Executive of Council met with a number of agronomists in the province on July 9, 1975 to discuss research priorities. General guidelines on significant areas of deficiency were obtained and further meetings are scheduled in the spring of 1976; tentative arrangements have been made to meet with the Land Resource and Ecologics Research Group of the College of Agriculture with view to further prioritizing research in soils, land use and agronomy on a provincial basis.

Council through cross membership in the Western Canada Soil Coordinating Committee and the Canada Soil Fertility Committee continued to work towards the solution of significant problems affecting soil productivity. A number of council members participated in the Nitrogen Symposium sponsored by the W.C.S.C.C. in late January, 1976; this meeting was well attended and the review papers in general were excellent.

#### Publications

During the year under report the following publications were prepared:  
1976 Saskatchewan Fertilizer and Cropping Practices Bulletin.  
1975 Workshop Proceedings.