



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

TO: Ohio Soil Scientists

FROM: George Hall, Dept. of Agronomy, O.S.U.

At the meeting of SCS and DLS soil scientists the second week in December, a short discussion was held concerning the organization of a state-wide association of soil scientists. There seemed to be enough interest in such an association to warrant further efforts. In response to my request for help with the organizational process, a number of you volunteered your services. From those who talked to me, I selected the following seven to do the background work:

Jim Bauder	Bob Roseler
Cecil Flesher	Joe Steiger
Jon Gerken	Dwain Waters
Lyle Jones	

Selection was based mostly on geographic distribution and areas of interest. Those of you who were not asked to serve on this committee will have plenty of opportunity later.

One of the first questions that many of you will ask is "why do we need a state organization?" The first response of many will be that such an organization can push for state registration of soil scientists. This will probably be one of the goals and a very important one, but perhaps more important is the need to promote professionalism and improve communications among Ohio soil scientists. Other goals will undoubtedly be raised as we move along in the organizational process. Organization of soil scientists or soil classifiers has taken place in a number of states and most have found it to be beneficial.

To keep the momentum going, we cannot wait until we meet next December; therefore, we have scheduled an organizational meeting on the afternoon of January 14 following the Ohio Chapter of SCSA meeting at Scotts Inn, Columbus. The Federation, which will be meeting at the same time, has told us we can use Rooms 551-553 at 1:30 p.m. for our meeting. The agenda for the meeting is not complete, but should be roughly as follows:

1. Reports on similar organizations in other states.
2. Open discussion on various aspects of the organization, including
 - a) Goals
 - b) Membership
 - c) Dues
 - d) Charter and by-laws
3. Election of officers.

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If you are planning to attend the SCSA meeting, I hope you will stay around for the organizational meeting. If you will not be able to attend the meeting but would like to comment on any aspect of an association of soil scientists, I hope you will take the time to send your ideas to one of the committee or to me before the meeting. We will plan to put out a short newsletter following the meeting.

I would like to emphasize that this association will have no official ties with the SCS or DLS. The amount of activity in such an association is strictly up to the individual soil scientist.

Hope to see many of you on January 14 or hear from you before that time.