CONTENTS

Volume I
Welcome
Preface
Officers, ISSCT & Congress
Program
Factory
Processing
Engineering
Co-Products
Plenary
Managers’ Forum
Chairman’s Report
TPC Chairman’s Report
Secretary’s Report
Author Index

Volume II
Author Index
Cross-Disciplinary Papers
Agricultural Papers
Agronomy
Agricultural Engineering
Biology Papers
Plant Breeding
Molecular Biology
Pathology
Entomology
Welcome

XXV ISSCT SILVER JUBILEE CONGRESS

GUATEMALA 2005

On behalf of Guatemala’s sugar agroindustry and the Guatemalan Society of Sugar Cane Technologists (ATAGUA), it is both a pleasure and an honour to welcome all the delegates to the XXVth ISSCT Congress, the Silver Jubilee.

We are very proud that the XXVth ISSCT Congress is being held in our country. We are certain you will find it interesting to see how an industry with no subsidies or favoritisms has been able to prosper in such a highly distorted sugar market.

We have worked hard to give you not only a technically excellent Congress, but also to make you feel at home providing the hospitality you expect and deserve.

Our theme: ‘SHARING TECHNOLOGY’.

Our goal: Showing our colleagues from all over the world what we have achieved under adverse conditions (distortions in the world market, among the lowest import tariffs and internal prices in the world).

We trust that the 200 papers and posters that will be presented will fulfill your expectations, thanks to the extraordinary efforts that both the Executive Committee and the Technical Program Committee of the ISSCT have done.

We have carefully prepared logistical aspects that include the Convention Centre, hotels, meals and social activities at the lowest rates.

These combined efforts of all parties and your constructive participation contribute to make this an outstanding Congress that brings real benefits to the sugar world.

Welcome to Guatemala, the Land of Eternal Spring!

FRATERO VILA
COC CHAIRMAN
PREFACE

DURING the 2001 ISSCT Congress in Brisbane, the ISSCT Executive took the decision to appoint a Permanent Editor to manage the production of the Proceedings for future Congresses. As I was about to retire from my full-time position and because I had enjoyed the challenge of editing the Proceedings for the 2001 Congress, I applied for the position and was fortunate enough to be chosen.

As I am able to compare the process used to produce the Proceedings in 2001 with the current Proceedings, I am in a position to assess the merit of the decision to appoint a Permanent Editor. From my point of view, the process was much better for the current Congress, so I believe that ISSCT should continue to appoint a Permanent Editor for future Congresses.

Several changes were made to the process, which helped to streamline the flow of papers. First of all, authors were requested to submit abstracts of their papers to the Editor in January, 2004. These abstracts made it easier for Section Chairs to choose which papers should proceed to full papers and which would be better presented as poster papers. After receiving advice from the Section Chairs, I then advised authors and requested them to return their papers to me by April 15 and posters by May 15. It was pleasing that almost all authors accepted this invitation, and most of them sent their papers on time. The papers were then sent to Section Chairs who arranged for referees to review the papers, and the revised papers were then sent to me. The big difference for this Congress was that I knew where each paper was at all times whereas, in 2001, I did not always know what papers had been received, let alone what stage they had reached in the review process. Another important improvement was that the translation of abstracts was organised by me rather than the Commissioners—this saved them a job, and this process worked much more smoothly. As a result of these changes, I was able to make enquiries when papers or translations were missing, and possible problems could be solved before it was too late.

All communication was conducted by email, and I know of only a few instances where this created problems. As I acknowledged all emails received from authors and Section Chairs, they knew that the papers had been received. If the email was not acknowledged, they were required to resend the email. It was rare that this needed to be done. I am only aware of one paper that was sent to me by email but was not received. Fortunately, this problem was identified before it was too late, and the paper was saved.

As in 2001, the referees did an outstanding job of reviewing papers and helping non-English speakers with English expression, and I know that the non-English speakers appreciated these efforts. I also appreciated this work, as it made my job so much easier when I received papers that were written in idiomatic English.

I received wonderful support from the Chairman of the Technical Program Committee, Vic Mason, and the Chairman of ISSCT, Jean Claude Autrey, both of whom were always available to assist me with problems and to offer advice.

I would like to thank all the Section Chairs who performed their jobs so diligently and who usually responded to my appeals for action when I was concerned that we were running behind schedule. I would also like to thank all the people who volunteered to translate abstracts into French or Spanish. In some Commissions, this is a very onerous task, and all translators worked very hard to keep me happy. I owe a debt of gratitude to Peter Knight, the Production Editor. Peter's work is mostly unrecognised, but is absolutely essential, as he ensures that the papers have a similar format, that references are correct, that tables and figures are actually in the paper and referenced in the text, and he has to assemble the papers into order and allocate page numbers. He also corrects errors that have been missed by the reviewers and by me. In short, he is responsible for quality control.

Finally, I would like to thank ISSCT and the Congress Organising Committee for entrusting me with the role of Permanent Editor. Despite occasional frustrations, it has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience, and I trust that the final product will be a fitting tribute to all those hardworking people who have made it possible.

D.M. Hogarth
Editor, Brisbane