

**Western Fertilizer Handbook, Turf & Ornamental Edition-Book Development**  
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**Project Leaders**

Renee Pinel  
President  
Western Plant Health Association  
4460 Duckhorn Drive, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
(916) 574-9744  
reneep@healthyplants.org

Pamela Emery  
Director of Programs  
Western Plant Health Association  
4460 Duckhorn Drive, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
(916) 574-9744  
reneep@healthyplants.org

Throughout the past several years, the Western Plant Health Association's (WPHA) Western Fertilizer Handbook Committee, a sub-committee of the WPHA Soil Improvement Committee, has been working to develop accurate text for its third edition of the turf and ornamental version of the *Western Fertilizer Handbook*. To date, the Western Fertilizer Handbook Committee has created drafts of each of the chapters, compiled appropriate photographs and is in the process of obtaining peer reviews and finalizing the text and figures and tables. The manuscript is currently undergoing final technical edits and proof-edited and proof editing has begun. The final document should be available for purchase in the fall of 2010.

The Western Fertilizer Handbook Committee now meets four times a month in the WPHA office and works as a team throughout each week, via phone call and e-mail to review and work on the text for the chapters, the components which are written and revised throughout that particular month. Additionally, the key editors of the book Jerome Pier of Crop Production Services and Dave Barlow of JR Simplot Company, Pam Emery, and WPHA's student intern Joanne Hyunh have an established FTP site which allows them to upload and share files through a user-friendly site, *box.net*.

An electronic system has been set up to help organize the writing team. This system is easy to maintain and keep organized. It is available and utilized by the writing team during the in-office writing meetings. Separate folders are maintained for each chapter. Within each chapter folder there are sections for tables, figures, photographs, formulas and peer comments. The most current document is easy to access. All writers use a standardized file labeling system that helps identify the author/reviewer and the date it was worked on. This system has allowed the writing team to focus on writing rather than organizing the document.

Joanne created a style- guideline sheet for the book which is updated regularly as “rule” for the book are determined. This document has been proved valuable so that the book is standardized to a common format. Additionally, Joanne has created files for photos that are needed, has sent “permissions” letters for content that the authors wish to include in the book, and has worked closely with the design team, providing necessary information and proofing content. WPHA’s communications director is also editing the chapters for grammar, spelling, and consistency in format.

Joanne provided monthly updates to WPHA’s Director of Programs as to her progress and her internship is just about complete. Joanne may continue to work with the writing team this spring, if her schedule permits.

WPHA’s Western Fertilizer Handbook writing team has sent you a copy of Chapter 5, a draft chapter from the composition team at Bookmasters.