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AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITOR

As editor, I would like to welcome all our readers to this first publication of the International Oak Society Journal. Given adequate time and opportunity, I anticipate that many more are to follow.

Most of the articles included are of an introductory nature, to ease our way into the horticultural arena before getting involved with exact specifics and scientific debate. Since this is an international organization, I have tried to include a diversity of material that might circumspect the continuity of the whole. But I feel strongly that the articles are stimulating and worthy of bringing together in this first issue. It was also important to get this journal published so that more people could get involved and contribute their knowledge on the wonderful genus *Quercus*.

The I.O.S. evolved out of a very informal correspondence and seed exchange between Steven Roesch in America and Susan Cooper in England. As they exchanged miscellaneous seeds, their requests centered around on species in particular, namely oaks, and thus began the I.O.S. Mr. Roesch took it upon himself to contact people around the world who were interested in oaks and to set up a network of seeds. When I got involved in the I.O.S. I saw the need for centralization and some kind of literature that could unite its members. I sent letters to addresses that Steven Roesch had given me, asking for help and contributions to what was at first suggested as the I.O.S. Journal.

On future publications, we hope to spotlight at least on oak species and try to involve ourselved more thoroughly into the science of propagating and growing oaks. We would also like to promote our seed exchange and encourage our readers to write to each other and explore the numerous species of oaks available.