

Editor's Note

by The Editorial Committee
Proceedings
International Oak Society

This issue of *International Oaks* is the Proceedings of the Second International Oak Conference, held in October, 1997, in San Marino, California. The following pages contain the papers that were presented at that meeting. It has taken many months to get these Proceedings published and for that we apologize, but we hope the wait will prove to be worth it.

Part of the reason for the delay is that we had all of the papers reviewed by external reviewers prior to publication. Originally, our goal was to establish a rigorous peer review process to insure that everything in these Proceedings met the standards of a scientific publication. But it soon became clear that it was neither possible nor appropriate to apply such criteria to all of the manuscripts. Many of the papers presented at the Conference were never intended to be scientific publications. They reported on arboreta collections, or summarized work in a particular area of oak taxonomy or management. And others were thought pieces that speculated about such things as global climate change or isoprene emissions, and what the long-term implications might be for the genus *Quercus*. Only a handful of the papers actually reported on research projects. The Editorial Committee therefore decided to set different review criteria for different types of papers.

For research papers, we required the authors build on previous research in the subject area and demonstrate that they had utilized appropriate scientific methods. For other papers, we sought to ensure that they were informative, well written and of interest to the readers of this Proceedings. We are pleased with this process and the results and hope that you, the readers, are pleased also.

We especially want to thank the following individuals for their time and energy in the review process: Hugh Angus, Allen Coombes, Rosi Dagit, Tom Gaman, Richard Jensen, Amy Larson, Rudolph Light, Doug McCreary, Charles Nelson, Mike Reichenbach, Rick Standiford, Guy Sternberg, Kareen Sturgeon, Ted Swiecki, and Jerry Tecklin.

A final note: We did find that even with the common language of English, not everyone in the world spells things quite the same. But instead of Americanizing all of the words that have different spellings, we decided that while (or perhaps "whilst"?) American trees may hybridize, those in the U.K. apparently only hybridise, so we left those spellings as we found them. Enjoy your reading...