

## FORWARD

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The Eighth International Sunflower Conference convened at the Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A., on July 24-26, 1978.

The position of the sunflower as an oilseed and confectionary crop has increased dramatically. Sunflower oil is now the second largest world source of vegetable oil. The importance of the crop is reflected in the 1978 Conference attendance of over 700 representatives from thirty-eight nations.

The Proceedings of the Conference will reflect the excellent opportunity which was provided all segments of the industry to share research findings and practical experience. More importantly, the Conference served as a forum to define research and development needs. The papers in the Proceedings herein contained have been printed exactly as presented by the research scientists. No attempt has been made to edit or change the contents in any way.

The unpublished research data which appear in these Proceedings must be considered privileged communications and should not be quoted without permission of the research workers who so freely shared their knowledge.

Too many individuals and groups made valuable contributions to the success of the Conference to attempt to list them here. The Chairman does wish to express appreciation to the sunflower industry leadership for their confidence in entrusting him and his committee with the duties and responsibilities of the chairmanship. Special appreciation is expressed to representatives of foreign nations who contributed valuable information. Finally, I wish to express appreciation to my own organization, The Sunflower Association of America, which encouraged us to participate freely in the organization and conduction of the Conference.

Ralph V. Hayenga, Chairman

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