



Teryl Roper Leaving UW-Madison

After 20 years as a faculty member in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I have accepted the position as Head of the Plants, Soils, and Climate Department at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. I have greatly enjoyed my work here in Wisconsin. I have especially enjoyed working with Wisconsin's cranberry industry. However, after 20 years of similar work I am looking forward to new challenges and opportunities in my career. This position at Utah State University will allow me to use different skills and to be involved in new activities.



Utah State University is the Land-grant college for Utah. The Plants, Soils, and Climate department is an amalgamation of scientists similar to what is found in the Horticulture, Agronomy and Soils departments at UW-Madison. It is a diverse department, but one with great people who are doing quality science. My goal is to help increase the academic standing of the department.

My wife and I grew up in Utah. We have two children who are living there in addition to our extended families. My wife attended her freshman year of college at Utah State. In a sense we are 'going home'. We are looking forward to being closer to our families. I have B.S. and M.S. degrees in Botany from Brigham Young University and a PhD in Horticulture from Washington State University. Thus I have strong roots and pull to the western US.

I will miss my association with colleagues at the University as well as my interaction with growers in Wisconsin. I have come to respect the love that growers have for what they do. Hopefully you will remember some of the work I have done here as I have tried to help growers be more productive and to produce and market a high quality product.

Perhaps I'll find reasons to return to Wisconsin on occasion in the future. Whether my position is refilled or not is up to the Horticulture Department and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at UW-Madison. I am cautiously optimistic that the position will be refilled. A younger person will provide much needed energy to re-vitalize fruit Extension work in Wisconsin.