

Subject: Dr Jim Peacock

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Subject: Dr Jim Peacock

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Dear All

It is with great pleasure that I advise that I have decided to extend Dr Jim Peacock's term as Chief of Plant Industry through to December 2003.

This comes both as a clear recognition of the outstanding contributions which he has made to science, CSIRO and Australia in an exceptional career with Plant Industry but, also and most importantly, to provide the opportunity for Jim to lead the Division through a series of very exciting developments planned over the next couple of years.

These developments will, I believe, cement Plant Industry's position as one of the world's very top plant bioscience laboratories. I expect Jim and the PI team to achieve a great deal over this period both in consolidating existing work and in initiating new research and joint venture activities. This will lead to his handing over the reins in late 2003.

At the same time, we both believe that Jim should be given the opportunity to return to the bench (has he ever truly left it?) to enable him to apply his knowledge, drive and enthusiasm to addressing some of the purely scientific challenges that I know Jim wants to pursue. Jim will therefore be staying on in the Division - at the bench, not in the Chief's office - for two years after stepping down as Chief. As such, he will be appointed as a CSIRO Fellow from December 2003 through to December 2005.

Finally, as some of you may have already heard, Jim has been nominated as the next President of the Australian Academy of Science. This again is testimony to Jim and the Division's international status and enormous productivity, and his major contribution to Australian science over many years. If successful, this four-year appointment would be a tremendous boost. We wish him all the very best through this process.

I know you will all join me in congratulating Jim on this new and exciting period in his exceptional career.

With best regards

Geoff

Dr Geoff Garrett

Chief Executive CSIRO

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