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# Editorial

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The rapid progress of science makes necessary the creation of new names for new products and for newly recognized phenomena. However, because clear terminology is fundamental to understanding, it is important for all of us to be concerned about the terms we use and how we use them. In the applied sciences, with the vital need to promote understanding between scientists and non-scientists, there is an added burden of responsibility on all concerned to strive for clarity. A letter in this issue (page 99) draws attention to the diverse and potentially confusing use that has been made of 'biotic' in words involving feed additives, and goes on to emphasize the desirability of establishing world wide agreement on terminology. Echoing a suggestion previously made by Dr Derek Shrimpton in 1996 (*WPSJ* 52: 3–4), Dr Gordon Rosen concludes his letter with the suggestion that 'Progress towards a common nomenclature could be catalysed and promoted by the participation of international (or large regional) scientific and trade organizations, including the World's Poultry Science Association'. It is surely appropriate that this is a role in which the WPSA should become involved.

In 1998 we can enjoy two major WPSA Federation meetings – the Asian Pacific Congress and Exhibition takes place in Nagoya, Japan on 4–7 June (see also Federation News on page 106) and the 10th European Poultry Conference in Jerusalem, Israel on 21–26 June. Both events, which include technical and trade exhibitions, provide splendid opportunities to learn more about the most recent developments in poultry science and technology. In addition to the carefully prepared scientific programmes, these conferences are characterized by the interchange of ideas and information that occurs during innumerable informal discussions among participants in all sectors of the industry. The conferences are complemented by interesting technical and social programmes. For those who have not already registered, there is still time to make arrangements to take part. Details are given in the Calendar section at the back of this issue of the journal.

Now that the publication frequency has increased to four issues each year, there is more scope for the *WPSJ* to be used to draw attention to employment opportunities. This issue contains the first advertisement for many years to give details of a senior poultry research scientist appointment (see page 68).

**Chris Hann**