## WWW.AVOCADOSOURCE.COM

## A web based virtual library of avocado

## Reuben Hofshi

The Hofshi Foundation

With most homes connected to the internet the world of information is literally at one's fingertips. The international avocado industry, researchers and aficionados are fortunate; they have access to a unique website, <a href="www.avocadosource.com">www.avocadosource.com</a>. The goal of avocadosource.com is to bring avocado knowledge to all by providing an open and free one-stop collection of avocado-related information from around the world. Research, country specific data, useful tools and a historical record through publications and slides are available at absolutely no cost to the user.

Some capabilities and short-term goals of <a href="www.avocadosource.com">www.avocadosource.com</a>:

- The site has posted all the Yearbooks from the California Avocado Society as well as all avocado related articles published by the American Society for Horticultural Science, South African Avocado Growers' Association, the Florida Horticultural Society and the Proceedings of all 5 World Avocado Congresses. Many other publications and materials relating to avocado are continually being added.
- The site provides complete articles and links to other external resources and will soon include hyperlinks to articles referenced within the article's text or citations.
  This capability puts all available information, which is permitted to be posted, literally at the user's fingertips.
- The search capability allows the reader to search efficiently for specific information by word, title and author.
- A group of useful tools have been created to help growers better understand and control aspects of cultural management such as fertilization, irrigation and salinity management.
- The site has a growing inventory of photographic resources made available by leading scientists and others. This will provide the international community with the continued legacy of those that have greatly influenced the avocado knowledge base.
- Projects we are contemplating for the future are an online journal, more tools, enhanced search capability and the posting of the degree theses written by the researchers associated with the world avocado industry.

<u>www.avocadosource.com</u> is provided **free of charge** and without advertisement by the Hofshi Foundation to all those interested in the avocado. You will find a visit to the site an experience and a glimpse at the library of the future. If you are a grower or a researcher with information to share, please send it to <u>webmaster@avocadosource.com</u>.

1