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**WESTERN PLANT BOARD OFFICERS**

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*BRAD LEWIS, SECRETARY*

January 15, 2014

**RE: 95<sup>th</sup> Western Plant Board Annual Meeting**

Dear Participant:

The Arizona Department of Agriculture looks forward to your participation in the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Plant Board to be held March 24-27, 2014 in Tucson, Arizona. Enclosed is a **draft** conference agenda, registration, hotel and transportation information. Following are some details for planning your trip and participation in events in this unique location:

**Accommodations**

This year's event will be held at the Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites. The hotel is reserving a block of one-bedroom suites for participants at a rate of \$99 per night for single or double occupancy. The rate is good for up to three days prior and three days after our meeting in the event you want to capitalize on a longer stay to enjoy the areas attractions. The hotel will offer participants the option to purchase a breakfast voucher for \$10 inclusive per day to enjoy the breakfast buffet as breakfast is on your own. **Reservations must be made no later than February 21, 2014**, and early registrants will enjoy a guarantee of a suite-style room especially if we exceed our room block.

**Kartchner Caverns State Park Rotunda Tour**

This optional Monday (March 24<sup>th</sup>) tour prior to registration and the President's reception will explore over 250,000 years of nature's artistry beneath the beautiful Chihuahuan desert. Kartchner Caverns is hailed as **one of the world's top show caves**, this natural wonder is now open for guided tours. Due to space availability at the cavern, the **tour is limited to the first 20 participants** (no age restrictions) who register for this activity.

([www.azstateparks.com/Parks/KACA/index.html](http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/KACA/index.html))

**Annual Meeting Banquet**

This year's banquet will offer a relaxing, off-site opportunity for education, dining and fellowship at the scenic Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum ([www.desertmuseum.org](http://www.desertmuseum.org)) in the heart of the Saguaro National Park. Enjoy spectacular scenery, and dress casually for comfort.

Please check out the websites listed in the registration materials, plus the Arizona Experience website (<http://www.arizonaexperience.org/>) for additional information and planning for your trip or extended stay.

I look forward to receiving your completed registration materials. See you in Tucson!

Sincerely,

G. John Caravetta