

*Dearest,*

*We came to the end of another volume of Horticultura Brasileira, fortunately with great success! Our impact factor at Scielo (www.scielo.br), 0.3204 (three-year base), continues among the top 10 for journals in our field, confirming our position as the leading scientific journal published in Brazil for vegetables, medicinal and condimental herbs, and ornamental plants.*

*Our cover in this issue brings the contribution of one of our scientific editors, Professor Maria de Fátima Arrigoni-Blank. The basil cultivar Maria Bonita, developed at the Federal University of Sergipe, illustrates it. The text of the cover is rich in information about various medicinal and condimental herbs, native from Brazil and exotic. It is a nice reference to the biodiversity of this group of plants, an inestimable wealth at our hands.*

*Finally, I would like to thank each one who contributed to Horticultura Brasileira in 2009: authors who sent us the best of their scientific production, peer reviewers who anonymously devoted to the authors their time and expertise, and scientific and associated editors, who played their role with dedication and efficiency. The board of the Brazilian Association for Horticulture Science, constantly striving to give us an easy time, deserves special mention. I am certainly in debt with our assistant editor and our secretariat, always diligent, tireless managing the reviewing and evaluation process, and producing our new issues.*

*In 2010, we will continue to seek excellence, efficiency, and agility to serve you at our best.*

*See you in the next volume,*

*Paulo Melo, editor-in-chief*