This month, Plant Physiology celebrates the publication of our 25,000th research article since the journal’s inception in 1926. This incredibly rich archive includes some of the most influential articles published in the plant sciences and accounts for Plant Physiology being the most highly cited plant science journal, topping 52,000 citations in 2009 alone.

To commemorate this remarkable milestone, we are publishing this Celebration Issue, which features a forward-looking collection of articles intended to highlight current work and emerging ideas that promise to shape the direction of plant research into the future. This Issue includes 35 “Future Perspectives in Plant Biology” articles, a representative but by no means exhaustive slice of research representing just that—the future of plant research. We realize that, in limiting the number of contributions selected for publication, we were unable to cover all areas of plant research.

While this Celebration Issue is looking to the future, we are also revisiting our past in the accompanying online “Classics Collection” (www.plantphysiol.org/misc/classics.dtl). The collection is intended to draw attention to a select few of the 25,000 articles published in Plant Physiology that the contemporary plant research community identified as playing a seminal role in shaping plant biology as we know it today. We foresee that the “Future Perspectives in Plant Biology” commentaries included in this issue are pointing toward areas where future Plant Physiology classics will emerge.

These issues would not have been possible without the help of Plant Physiology’s dedicated editorial staff and members of the editorial board. We have enjoyed organizing the Celebration Issue and appreciate the enthusiastic response and contributions received from the plant science community.

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