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### Preface

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# PREFACE

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This volume represents the fourth installment from a series of national quail symposia that began in Oklahoma during 1972. On May 6–9, 1997, Tall Timbers Research Station, in cooperation with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, hosted Quail IV: Fourth National Quail Symposium. The purpose of Quail IV was to bring together researchers, managers, administrators and landowners interested in the management and biology of wild quail, so that they could assess the state-of-the-art of quail management and research.

As you will see from these proceedings, there is a lot of research being conducted on quail. Most of this research involves northern bobwhites, but there is also significant work being conducted on most western species of quail as well. All of the research presented at Quail IV, including the work on western quail species, has broader implications for game bird and wildlife management. There is something to be learned from everyone who is conducting quail research.

The Herbert Stoddard Memorial Game Bird Lecture, which has been a regular feature of recent Game Bird Seminars at Tall Timbers, was a featured part of the Quail IV program. Dr. Dick Potts, Director General of the Game Conservancy, gave the Fourth Stoddard Memorial Lecture at Quail IV. Dr. Potts' pioneering research on partridge populations and management in England has served as a model for much of the bobwhite research that has been conducted here in the states during the past decade.

Along with the contributed oral and poster papers, workshops on: (1) Modeling Habitat and Populations, (2) Collecting and Analyzing Telemetry Data, (3) Farm Bill Provisions for Quail, and (4) Strategies for Developing Quail Management Plans, were critical parts of the program. Concluding remarks by John Roseberry from a researcher's viewpoint, and Hunter Drew from a manager's perspective, rounded out the program after George Hurst roasted the conference organizers at the banquet. I look forward to Quail V in 2002.