

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

AWARD CATEGORIES

- I. Distinguished Achievement, Research
- II. Distinguished Achievement, Education
- III. Distinguished Achievement, Service
- IV. Distinguished Achievement, Young Scientist
- V. Distinguished Achievement, Industry
- VI. Distinguished Achievement, Professional Staff

The above awards are available for presentation by the NCWSS to recognize persons who have made outstanding contributions to Weed Science in the North Central Region. Up to five awards can be given among these categories per year - awards given according to merit.

ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEES

Nominees (or, in the case of the professional staff category, their supervisor) must have been NCWSS members for at least five years and are active members at the time of nomination. A member may be eligible in more than one category but can receive only one award within a three-year period. Members nominated to receive the Young Scientist Award must have received their terminal degree no more than 10 years before receiving the award at the annual meeting. Members of the NCWSS Executive Committee and Distinguished Achievement Award Committee (DAAC) are ineligible to be nominated with the exception that members of the NCWSS Executive Committee may be nominated in the Young Scientist category. In the situation where it is desired to nominate a DAAC member, the member may resign from the committee to be eligible for nomination. A DAAC member may also resign from the committee upon submission of a nomination for a fellow member.

ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINATORS

Nominations will be received from active members of NCWSS. Members of the DAAC are ineligible to make nominations or write a support letter but are exhorted to actively encourage other Society members to submit nominations.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Preparation. To assure that a nominee can be adequately evaluated for the award, the nomination document must be accurately prepared and contain the required information. Obtain the assistance of the nominee when preparing the nomination to ensure accurate information. If the DAAC Chairperson determines that a nominee might fit into a category other than that originally indicated by the nominator, this change can be made following consultation with/and agreement by the nominator.

Submission. An electronic copy of the nomination should be emailed to the Chairperson of the DAAC at the address given with the Call for Nominations. Each copy must contain the components listed below in the "Information Required for Nominations for Distinguished Achievement Awards" section.

Once submitted, a nomination will be evaluated by the Committee for three successive years. For unsuccessful nominations, the nominator has the option of submitting a completely new nomination package, or furnishing an update of the original package each year the nomination is reconsidered. The three-year eligibility is renewed each time an updated nomination document is submitted.

Submission deadline. All materials must be received by the Chairperson by September 30 the year of nomination to be considered.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION

The DAAC evaluates nominations and recommends awards to the NCWSS Executive Committee for ratification. Persons receiving the awards are promptly notified by the NCWSS President. The DAAC is composed of active NCWSS members from various interest groups within the NCWSS and has both experienced members as well as new Society members. Membership on the committee consists of nine members with various lengths of service, and a select number of members are replaced yearly. The chair is the NCWSS Past President and the vice-chair is the President.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Distinguished Achievement Awards will be presented at the annual NCWSS awards ceremony where a Distinguished Service Award Plaque will be presented.

CRITERIA USED TO EVALUATE NOMINEES

Awards are based on merit. There is no requirement to give an award in any or every category, and multiple awards may be given in one category. Within the guidelines for each category, there is flexibility to fit the nominee. Professional achievements and their impact are the principal criteria for receiving these awards.

I. EDUCATION. This award recognizes outstanding educational achievements in weed science. Individuals making outstanding contributions in areas such as resident, extension, industrial, and regulatory education are eligible. Principal criteria include innovative or unique approaches that result in learning, ability to clearly communicate ideas, motivation of the intended audience, and recognition of accomplishments by peers and the intended audience.

II. RESEARCH. Awards in this category are to recognize outstanding research achievements in weed science. Selections will be based on demonstrated excellence and creativity in research accomplishments; in conducting research and applying the results to solve problems in weed science; and, in applying unusual creativity to the research effort.

III. SERVICE. This award is given for exceptional service to the North Central Weed Science Society. Outstanding and or creative contributions in volunteering, committee service or board leadership activities that bring significant impact or important changes to the society are criteria for this award.

IV. YOUNG SCIENTIST. This award is to be given to members who fulfill the requirements to qualify in the above education, research, and service award categories and who must have received a terminal degree no more than 10 years before receiving the award at the annual meeting.

V. INDUSTRY. Awards in this category are given to representatives of industry who meet the basic guidelines in the above education, research, or service categories. For these individuals, it is important to include the contributions this individual has made to weed science within the industry. Examples include: patents, development of unique formulations, development of research techniques, discovery of unique uses for a product, service to NCWSS or to agriculture in general.

VI. PROFESSIONAL STAFF. This award recognizes outstanding and sustained contributions in support of weed science activities in the North Central region. Nominees will be restricted to individuals that work under the direction of university, federal, or industry scientists. These individuals may have titles such as researcher, research associate, technician, support scientist, or specialist. The nominee must have been involved in weed science research, extension, or education for at least five years at the time of nomination.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR NOMINATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

COVER PAGE: The cover page should include:

1. Statement of nomination. "Nomination of _____ for the NCWSS Distinguished Achievement in Weed Science, _____ Award".
2. Nominee. Give name, title, complete mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.
3. Nominator: Give name, complete mailing address, telephone, and e-mail address.

EVALUATION STATEMENT: A concise summary and evaluation of the nominee's contributions, *not to exceed two pages*, explaining why the nominee is qualified to receive the award. This statement serves as the nominator's letter of support for the nominee.

QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINEE: Provide the documentation outlined below as appropriate for the individual nominee and category. A current C.V. may be substituted if it provides the committee with the information needed to assess the qualifications of the nominee. The C.V. *shall not exceed ten pages* in length and no less than 10 pt font or the nomination will be disqualified.

1. Degrees received. Give major, date, and institution for each [advanced] degree.
2. Memberships in honorary and professional societies.
3. Honors and awards.
4. Professional positions held.
5. Professional contributions. A written assessment of the impact of the nominee's professional contributions pertinent to the award they are being considered for will be most helpful to the committee. Nominators may also wish to list the nominee's most significant contributions: a) books written or edited, b) refereed journal articles, c) technical papers (includes abstracts, research reports, extension leaflets and bulletins, etc.), d) non-technical papers (includes magazine and newspaper articles and other articles written for agricultural public) and e) contributions other than publications as appropriate to support the nomination.

SUPPORTING LETTERS: A copy of each of two supporting letters (in addition to the nominator's evaluation statement), solicited by the nominator, shall be submitted with the nomination document. Preferably, letters should not exceed two pages in length. Members of the Awards Committee are not eligible to write supporting letters for the DAA nominees.