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DEPARTMENT OF SOIL AND CROP SCIENCES

October 26, 2009

Aggie Agenda



Volume III, Issue 10

The past three weeks have been filled with tributes to the work of Dr. Norman Borlaug. Thanks to all that helped make his memorial here and at the World Food Prize special. Dr. Runge is to be commended for his help in organizing a symposium to pay tribute and a note of appreciation to Dr. Swaminathan for sharing in a special seminar.

It was a pleasure to attend the World Food Prize where we were well represented by our local students thanks to Michelle Feagley- Jedlicka. The Beachell/ Borlaug scholars also participated along with several from the Borlaug Institute. Dr. Borlaug's work certainly reflects well on our department and we have much to live up to.

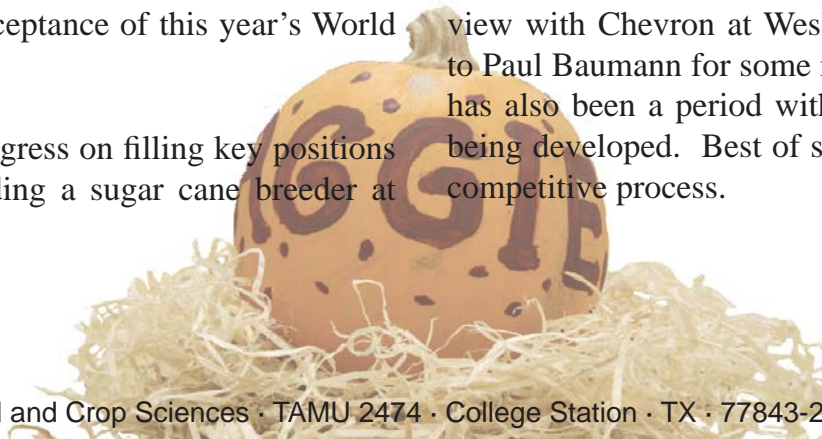
We also had the opportunity to share in the memory of Dr. Rosenow and his extensive contribution to the sorghum industry and the World. Dr. Gebisa Ejeta reflected on his significance to both himself and the sorghum world in his acceptance of this year's World Food Prize.

We continue to make progress on filling key positions in the department including a sugar cane breeder at

Weslaco (thanks to all who helped with the interviews), development of an interview list for our turf ecology position and development of search team for Uvalde extension. We have ads out for the wheat genetics position at Amarillo, cropping systems at Vernon and we are developing a soils position at Overton. Please keep these in mind for recruitment while at the National meetings in Pittsburgh, next week. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Rob Duncan aboard as he plans to join us in the near future as our State wheat/small grains extension specialist.

We are exploring a potential ETF position, development of integrated watershed management positions and Puff requests. Several have been developing working proposals with our corporate relations team including meetings with ClearVision, Earthtec Solutions, FMC and Monsanto. Thanks to Travis Miller and Mike Gould for coordinating the most recent review with Chevron at Weslaco and congratulations to Paul Baumann for some nice looking Jatropha. It has also been a period with several Federal Grants being developed. Best of success as these enter the competitive process.

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This week is the rescheduled golf tournament to support Turf research education and extension (sorry, due to inclement weather this had to be canceled and will be rescheduled one more time). We will also have the Soil Water Forage Testing Lab advisory meeting and the curriculum committee will be meeting to discuss progress with the review.

We hope everyone enjoyed the tailgate warm-up. Thanks to everyone - especially our stu-

dents and Tami Hons for making this a delightful event. Our next event will be Thanksgiving lunch, Nov. 24.

Don't forget the statewide faculty meeting to be held at noon on Thursday Oct 28. See agenda in separate box. I look forward to seeing everyone in Pittsburgh next week. Make sure to invite any Aggies to our Soil and Crop Sciences Mixer in August Henry's City Saloon across from the convention center (946 Penn Avenue) on Tuesday, Nov 3, 2009 from 5:30 to 7:30.

David



Gold Housekeeping Award

A huge thanks to all those that helped with the Borlaug Memorial services. There were many "behind the scenes" individuals that were a great help in setting up, hosting, cleaning up and taking care of the many tasks that were necessary to achieve the great program that took place to show our love and respect for such a great individual as Dr. Norman Borlaug.



Position Updates - See job descriptions at: <https://great.jobs.tamu.edu>

- Extension Wheat Specialist, College Station - Welcome Rob Duncan
- Agronomist, Uvalde - Advertised
- Crop Stress Physiology, Amarillo - Welcome Dr. Qingwu (Fred) Xue
- Sugar Cane Breeder, Weslaco - Interviewing
- Turf Ecology, College Station - Advertised/Selecting Interviewees
- Cropping Systems, Vernon - Advertised
- Small Grains Genetics, Amarillo - Advertised
- Soil Fertility, Overton - Position being developed

Statewide Faculty Meeting Agenda Oct. 28. 2009

Highlights Overview

State budget

National issues

College and University

Departmental

Position Updates

Emeriti Vote

Curriculum Review

Jim Heilman

Faculty Advisory

Frank Hons

Less than 12 month appointments-Frank Hons

Other

Welcome - New Babies



Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. David Baltensperger on the birth of their second granddaughter, Mia Taylor Rowse (6lbs/11ozs). Mia was born Oct. 22 to Stacey and Dana Rowse and big sister Abby. Both Mom and Mia are doing well.



It's a boy! Kim and Stephen Labar are the proud parents of Cameron Lee Labar (7lbs/ 8oz. 20 in.) born Wednesday, Oct 21 at 10:55 p.m. Kim and Cameron are doing well.



Dr. Swaminathan



Drs. Swaminathan & Baltensperger

Dr. Swaminathan, a member of Indian Paliament and long term colleague of Dr. Norman Borlaug, took time during his visit to present a special seminar to Soil and Crop Sciences faculty and students with a vision for efforts needed to feed and sustain the world.

Concern

Mike Schubert, retired peanut researcher, had lung transplant surgery last Saturday. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers as he goes through recovery. Mike was employed at the Lubbock Center before his retirement.

Upcoming Seminars

- Oct. 28** **Dr. Juan Landivar** - Opportunities for Cooperative Research at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Corpus Christi
- Nov. 4** **Aditi Kondhia** - The Response of High Biomass Rice to Different Abiotic Stress
Jason Anderson - Cytogenomic Analyses of the Genus Sorghum
- Nov. 11** **Ronald Navarrete**
Elvira Dewi - Root Morphology of Drought Resistance in Cotton (*Gossypium L*)
- Nov. 18** **Anil Sonemahally**
Richard E. Mason

Seminars are held in room 103 at 4:00. Refreshments are served at 3:45.

Poster Printing

Sign Up Now to print ASA posters. Sign-up sheet outside of the Communications Office on the 3rd Floor.

Tailgate Warm-Up



Organizers were pleased with the first Soil & Crop Sciences Tailgate Warm-Up Party, October 9, 2009, in Wellborn near College Station.

Over 150 faculty, staff and students, along with their families and friends, attended the event. Tables were decorated with colorful pumpkins and aggie mums. Great volumes of BBQ and drinks were consumed while listening to country music and visiting with each other. Some guests even tried playing ladder ball for the first time.

“The Agronomy and Turf Clubs, along with their advisors, were instrumental in the party’s success,” said Tami Hons. “They not only helped organize the party, they helped sell tickets, decorate, set up, take down, and were also in charge of games and music.”

The Department is also grateful for the countless others who volunteered and to party sponsor, Syngenta.



2009 AACC International Best Student Research Paper Competition

Winners for the 2009 Best Student Paper Research Paper Competition were announced during the AACC (American Association of Cereal Chemists) Annual Meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland in September. Congratulations to *Liyi Yang* on winning second place.



President Mary Ellen Camire and Liyi Yang



Participants at the 2009 AACC International Best Student Research Paper Competition included (pictured left to right): Moustafa Saad, Sean Finnie, Stephanie Moriartey, Liyi Yang, Sindhu Nair, and Catrin Tyl.

Young Scholar Award - Soil Science Society of America



Dr. Cristine Morgan has been chosen to receive the S-6 Young Scholar Award. This Award recognizes young scientists who have made an outstanding contribution in Soil and Water Management and Conservation within seven years of completing their Ph.D. She will be presented this award at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, November 2009.

Lloyd Nelson

Dr. Lloyd Nelson received the "ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD" for 2009 from Mississippi State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. It is in recognition of outstanding contributions and professional development during his career.

KUDOS!

In Remembrance - *Dr. Darrell Rosenow*



Darrell Thaine Rosenow, 73, of Lubbock, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, Texas following a sudden illness.

Darrell was born near Clay Center, Kan. on Sept. 19, 1936 to Ivan and Edna Rosenow. On Aug. 12, 1962, he married Beverly Jean Kobetich in Longford, Kan. They lived in College Station, Texas until July 1964 when they moved to Lubbock, Texas, where they continued to reside.

Darrell attended rural elementary schools and then graduated from Clay Center High School as valedictorian. Darrell received his B.S. and Masters degrees from Kansas State University in 1958 and 1960, respectively. He received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in 1970. He began working as a research scientist at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in Lubbock in 1964. He became a full professor with Texas A&M University in 1978 and remained with

Emeritus status up to his death.

Darrell devoted his life's work to the improvement of grain sorghum growth in developing areas of the world and for domestic use. His work in plant genetics and breeding focused on converting tall, exotic sorghums, into shorter varieties, as well as breeding lines with significantly improved drought and disease resistance. Grain sorghum is used in agriculture domestically and as food internationally, feeding up to 500 million people. Throughout his career, Darrell worked in collaboration with various scientists, universities and programs across the world. He was committed to the development of young scientists and to collaborating with colleagues in his field. In his career, Darrell traveled extensively across the globe, particularly in Africa (Sudan, Mali, Niger), Central America and India. The many awards received throughout his career included the 2003 Award for Scientific Excellence from the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development and the TAMU System Deputy Chancellor's Award in Excellence for International Service in 1993. Darrell was a leader in sorghum on domestic and international levels, who significantly contributed to his discipline, the Texas A&M University System and citizens of the world.

Darrell was a faithful member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church and the Seeker's Sunday School Class. He had a long career as a fast pitch softball pitcher in Texas and Kansas and was inducted into the Kansas Softball Hall of Fame. He was actively involved in assisting the Coronado High School Girls Fastpitch Softball summer program. He was a long time member of the Board of Lubbock Girls Basketball organization.

Darrell enjoyed sports, traveling with Beverly and spending time with his family. He took great pride in his family and his friends. His favorite pastimes included, gardening (sharing with neighbors), golfing, skiing and attending sporting events. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, colleague, mentor, coach and friend.

Darrell was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Beverly of Lubbock; daughters, Sheri Rosenow of Redmond, Wash., Becky Melton and husband David of Plano and Kristi Weaber and husband Tom of Amarillo; four grandchildren, Dillon Melton, Audrey Melton, Brendan Weaber and Kendall Weaber. Survivors also include one brother, Don Rosenow; and one sister, Nola Schmale, both of Clay Center, Kan.; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

The family has requested that memorials be sent to The Darrell Rosenow Memorial Scholarship Fund at the National Grain Sorghum Producers Foundation, 4201 N. Interstate 27, Lubbock, TX 79403 (806)749-3478; or to St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 3708 45th, Lubbock, TX 79413 (806)797-4393.

Best Grad Student Office Contest

Soil & Crop Sciences

Grand Prize: \$50 gift certificate to the restaurant of your choice.

1st Place: \$35 gift certificate to the restaurant of your choice.

2nd Place: \$25 gift certificate to the restaurant of your choice.

Enter your office area NOW!

Be creative!

Any needed supplies should be requested through Kathy Schmitt (Rm. 240, 845-4080).
Put up your posters, keep it professional yet comfortable.

Entry Forms available in the Instruction Office (Rm. 217).

Deadline for entries: 10/31/09

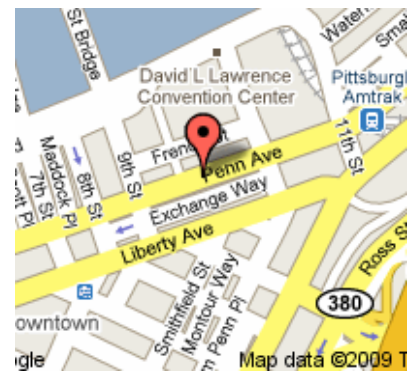
TAMU SOIL & CROP SCIENCES MIXER

The Faculty and Staff of
Texas A & M University
Department of Soil & Crop Sciences
invite you to join in food, fun, and fellowship

On

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



August Henry's City Saloon
946 Penn Ave, Pittsburg, PA

Everyone is welcome!