

Robert E. Wagner Award Winners Announced by PPI

Two outstanding agronomic scientists have been selected to receive the 2002-2003 Robert E. Wagner award by the Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI). The award encourages worldwide candidate nominations and has two categories...Senior Scientist and Young Scientist, under the age of 45. Each recipient receives \$5,000 as part of the award.

Dr. John L. Havlin, Professor, Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University (NCSSU), Raleigh, was selected in the Senior Scientist category.

Dr. Newell R. Kitchen, Soil Scientist with the USDA-ARS, Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit, Columbia, Missouri, receives the Young Scientist honor.

The Robert E. Wagner Award recognizes distinguished contributions to advanced crop yields through maximum yield research (MYR) and maximum economic yield (MEY) management. The award honors Dr. Wagner, President (Retired) of PPI, for his many achievements and in recognition of his origination of the MEY management concept...for profitable, efficient agriculture.

"We are pleased to add Dr. Havlin and Dr. Kitchen to the list of distinguished winners of the award. Both are highly worthy recipients of this honor and exemplify the high standards it represents," said Dr. David W. Dibb, President of PPI.

Dr. Havlin is a renowned educator, researcher, and leader in North American agriculture and worldwide. His contributions to agriculture through research and education on yield-limiting factors related to soil and crop management have resulted in improved nutrient and water-use efficiency, soil productivity, and environmental quality in the Great

Plains and Southeast U.S. His groundbreaking work on the spatial distribution of phosphorus (P) and its correlation with wheat grain P led to improved soil-sampling strategies and P recommendations now in use by soil test laboratories in the Midwest. The studies he initiated on variable rate nitrogen (N) management have caused increased N-use efficiency in corn production. His innovative demonstration programs on precision agriculture technologies have educated and benefited producers, fertilizer dealers, and agriculture

advisers throughout the country. Dr. Havlin co-authored and revised the book *Soil Fertility and Fertilizers*, which has proven to be an outstanding resource for students and crop advisers throughout North America. He is also recognized as a Fellow in the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy.

Dr. Kitchen is nationally recognized for his research and outreach activities on nutrient management, water quality, and precision agriculture. He has been a leader in investigating the impact of cropping systems on water quality. Results from his research programs have improved N management strategies for cropping systems in different climate/soil regions of the country, resulting in improved N use efficiency. His innovative work with soil electrical conductivity as an indirect method of measuring depth to claypan and moisture holding capacity has been instrumental in the development of management zone concepts and maps for use in precision farming. He has been described as an excellent scientist with a thorough understanding of the fundamental science at work in the world of production agriculture. **BC**



Dr. John L. Havlin



Dr. Newell R. Kitchen