

Robert E. Wagner Award Recipients Announced

Two outstanding agronomic scientists have been selected to receive the 1996 Robert E. Wagner Award by PPI. The Award encourages worldwide candidate nominations and has two categories...one for a senior scientist and one for a younger scientist under the age of 40. The recipient in each category receives a monetary award of US\$5,000.

Professor Lin Bao of the Soil and Fertilizer Institute (SFI), Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), was selected in the senior scientist category. Dr. William R. Raun, Department of Agronomy, Oklahoma State University, receives the honor in the young scientist division.

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 development of the MEY management concept...for more profitable, efficient agriculture.

“With nominations received from throughout North America and other parts of the world, selection of these two individuals represents a global honor,” said Dr. David W. Dibb, President of PPI. “The standards for this award are high, and those chosen are truly deserving of the recognition.”

Dr. Lin is Director (Retired) of SFI in Beijing, People’s Republic of China, and continues working in agronomic science and

technology transfer by guiding Ph.D. students in research studies and serving on executive committees of several scientific societies in China. During the past 35 years, he has made a substantial contribution to plant nutrition research and educational activities in the areas of soil fertility, plant nutrition, and balanced fertilization. In the late 1970s, he became the leader of the China National Network on Evaluation of Chemical Fertilizer Use (CNNECFU), a national research network organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and CAAS. The results of this work have provided a scientific basis for China to guide the production,

importation, distribution and application of mineral fertilizers.

Dr. William R. Raun is Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, and directs the Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition Research Program in the state. He is widely recognized as a leader in soil fertility research, and is distinguished in the application of statistics for interpretation of research, especially as related to long-term field studies. He has recently been involved in pioneering work in the development of sensor-based technology for real time precision farming in the application of variable rate nitrogen top-dressing on winter wheat and bermudagrass. New technology related to Dr. Raun’s recent research could lead to increased yields by eliminating nutrient deficiencies in all areas of a field while avoiding over-application in some areas. **BC**



Prof. Lin Bao



Dr. William R. Raun