

IPNI Staff Honored with Awards at 2007 ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meetings

Three scientific staff members of IPNI were recognized for their career achievements during the recent annual meetings of the American Society of Agronomy-Crops Science Society of America-Soil Science Society of America (ASA-CSSA-SSSA). They are:

- Dr. Tom Bruulsema, elected Fellow of ASA
- Dr. Fernando García, Agronomic Industry Award
- Dr. Rob Mikkelsen, elected Fellow of SSSA

Dr. Bruulsema is Northeast Region Director in the IPNI



Dr. Bruulsema, right, accepted the Fellow Award from ASA President Dr. Jerry Hatfield.

North American Program, based at Guelph, Ontario. He received a B.S. in agriculture and M.S. in crop science at the University of Guelph and Ph.D. in soil science from Cornell University. His research program focuses on the benefits of plant nutrition for the crops of the region, and his educational activities feature responsible, science-based use of fertilizer nutrients. He currently serves as President of the Canadian Society of Agronomy and served as President of the ASA-SSSA Northeastern Branch from 1999-2002. Dr. Bruulsema has also been active in the Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Program, as Chair of the International (2001-2004) and Ontario (1999-2000) boards. He currently represents CCA on the ASA Board of Directors. He also has experience in international agriculture, having served 4 years with the Mennonite Central Committee as research agronomist in Bangladesh.

Dr. García is Director of the Latin America-Southern Cone



Dr. García received the ASA Agronomic Industry Award.

Program, based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is the first winner of the Agronomic Industry Award from outside North America. Dr. García is a native of Argentina and earned his B.S. degree from the University of Buenos Aires and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Kansas State University. He joined the staff of PPI (now IPNI) in 1998 and coordinates an active program of research support and educational programs on soil fertility and management, crop nutrition

management, and fertilization in the Southern Cone countries of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Dr. García has developed a highly effective program working with national agricultural institutes and universities, as well as with farmers and industry groups. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 extension and research publications, 16 refereed journal articles, and 55 abstracts. Dr. García is the current president of the Soil Science Association of Argentina (AACS). He is a member of ASA, SSSA, the International Fertiliser Society, and the Soil Science Societies of Bolivia and Chile.

Dr. Mikkelsen is the Western Region Director in the IPNI North American Program, based at Merced, California.



Dr. Mikkelsen, center, received the Fellow Award from SSSA President Dr. Rattan Lal, right. The President of Bangladesh, Iajuddin Ahmed (at left), was guest lecturer at the ceremony.

He earned his B.S. degree from Brigham Young University and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Riverside. Dr. Mikkelsen worked as a Research Scientist at the National Fertilizer Development Center of the Tennessee Valley Authority from 1987 to 1991. He was responsible for nutrient management issues involving fertilizers and irrigation, and received a patent for new fertilizer innovations. He joined the Soil Science Faculty at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in 1991, where he was active in graduate education. His research focused on managing fertilizers and manures in cropping systems to maximize nutrient efficiency and productivity. He joined the staff of PPI (now IPNI) in 2002 and works throughout the Western U.S. and Canada to promote science-based education and research programs related to plant nutrient use. He is an active leader in many regional and national professional organizations. He currently represents soil fertility and plant nutrition issues on the Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors. He has served on numerous international editorial boards, including his current work with the Soil Science Society of America Journal. Dr. Mikkelsen was elected as a Fellow of ASA in 2005. 