

2018 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

by Roger Gast Acting Awards Committee Chair

Everyone knows of some skilled and outstanding weed scientists in the western region who have contributed a great deal over the years and deserve our recognition and appreciation. One way to recognize such persons is to nominate them for a WSWS award. Please take the time and nominate an individual for one of awards listed below.

CRITERIA USED FOR EVALUATING NOMINATIONS: Awards are based on merit and impact on weed science and weed management practices. Applicants **MUST BE** a member of WSWS. Professional achievements and their impacts are the principal criteria for receiving these awards. There is no requirement that an award be given in any or every category. Past winners are not eligible again in the same category. An award may be given each year in both the private and public sectors for Outstanding Weed Scientist and Outstanding Weed Scientist – Early Career. Only one award may be given each year for Weed Manager and Professional Staff. Within the guidelines for each category, there is flexibility to fit the nominee.

I. OUTSTANDING WEED SCIENTIST

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in weed science from individuals in both the public and private sectors. Principle criteria for this award includes innovative or unique approaches that result in learning, ability to clearly communicate ideas, motivation of the intended audience, demonstrate excellence and creativity in research accomplishments, applying results to solve problems in weed science, the impact on weed management practices and principals of weed science, and recognition of accomplishments by peers and intended audiences.

II. OUTSTANDING WEED SCIENTIST – EARLY CAREER

This award is to be given to members in the private and public sectors with no more than 10 years of service after completion of their terminal degree. This award recognizes outstanding achievements in weed science early in the individual career with the same criteria as the outstanding weed scientist above.

III. WEED MANAGER

This award recognizes outstanding and sustained contributions in support of weed science activities. This award is intended for those paid by taxpayers and are working in the public sector, such as employees of state departments of agriculture, weed boards, public land managers, and vegetation management personnel. The nominee must have been involved in the WSWS and weed science for at least five years at the time of nomination.

IV. PROFESSIONAL STAFF

This award recognizes outstanding and sustained contributions in support of weed science activities. 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 the WSWS and weed science research, extension, or resident education for at least five years at the time of nomination.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by **December 1, 2017**.

NOMINATOR'S RESPONSIBILITY: The nominator will submit a nomination document following the "Instructions for Nomination" guideline. The nominator is responsible for obtaining three letters of support and including them with the nomination package. Unsuccessful nominations will remain active for three years; however, an updated nomination packet of holdover candidates is encouraged.

The nomination package, including the supporting letters, should be sent, by email, to the chair of the Awards Committee by **December 1, 2017**:

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