

Magnusson Honored with Achievement in Crop Improvement Award

Richard Magnusson of Roseau was recognized with the Achievement in Crop Improvement Award at the 110th Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA). The award, MCIA's highest honor, is presented annually to recognize exemplary service to the seed industry as well as outstanding leadership in agriculture and the local community.

Described as an advocate for farmers and seed producers, Richard has dedicated countless hours to a number of organizations. He has worked closely with University of Minnesota researchers and chaired the Minnesota Turf Seed Council working to improve grass seed production in Northern Minnesota. He was instrumental in the formation and operation of RL Growers Cooperative, a grower group producing and marketing turf grass seed products.

A member of various commodity groups, Richard has served as president of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers and as chairman of the Minnesota Wheat Council Research Committee. He was also a board member of the National Association of Wheat Growers.

A member of MCIA for over 25 years, he was elected treasurer and chairman of the MCIA Board of Directors. Locally Richard has been active in the Jaycees, Lions Club, township board and the county crop improvement association.

The Magnusson family has a long history of farming and seed production in the Roseau area. Richard started farming while in high school trading his labor for the use of equipment. He attended the University of Minnesota, Crookston and North Dakota State University earning a degree in agronomy. He returned to the family farm and joined a partnership with his father Yvonne and brothers, John and Robert.

Today Richard in partnership with his nephews, Aaron and Matthew, continues to produce a diversified crop mix with an emphasis in seed production. Seed crops produced include wheat, soybeans, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, timothy, reed canarygrass and several native species.

The Award is sponsored by the *The Farmer* magazine, Editor Paula Mohr, made the presentation to Richard and his wife, Kathy. They were joined by their children Joseph, Sasha, Andrew and Nicholas.

In accepting the award Richard thanked his family saying, "I greatly appreciate the support of my wife, Kathy, my brothers and now my nephews. It is because of them that I have been able to get involved in

various organizations and activities." He also acknowledged the efforts of others in the Roseau area that have helped the grass seed industry expand and continue to be a viable industry in northern Minnesota.



Richard Magnusson



Richard & Kathy Magnusson and family

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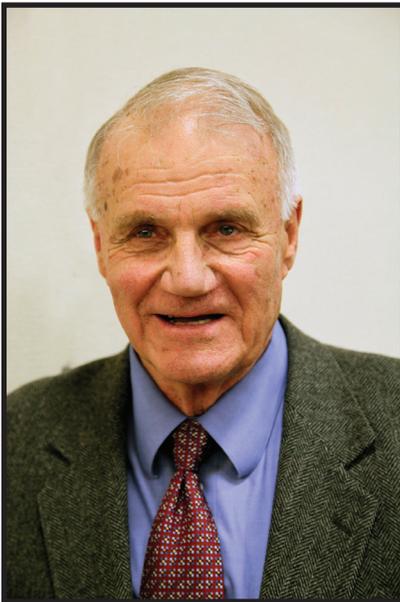
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MCIA Presents Premier & Honorary Premier Seedsman Awards

The Premier Seedsman Award has been presented annually since 1929 to recognize individuals or partners involved in quality seed production, active in the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, and who provide excellent service to the seed industry. The Honorary Premier Seedsman Award presented annually since 1930 recognizes individuals not directly involved in the seed industry but who have actively supported the seed industry, the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, and their local community. At this year's annual meeting held at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls, four individuals were honored. *Recognized as Premier Seedsman were David Haugo and Jim Hunzeker; Mary Hanks and Jim Palmer were named Honorary Premier Seedsman.*



Jim Hunzeker, Mary Hanks, Richard Magnusson, David Haugo and Jim Palmer.



David Haugo, of Waubun, was recognized for his long history of producing certified seed. He started producing certified seed in 1951 as a class project while a student at the Northwest School of Agriculture, in Crookston.

David began farming with his father Olaf and now farms with his sons Allen and John. Over the past 60 years the Haugo's have produced certified wheat, barley, oats, soybeans and hybrid sunflower seed.

As a seed grower David enjoys the opportunity to grow the newest varieties on his farm and he recognizes that extra time and effort is required to produce seed but he likes the challenge of producing a high quality seed product.

David has been and continues to be involved in numerous state and local organizations. He served as president of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers and on the Board of the National Association of Wheat Growers. He is a member of the Farmers Union and serves on the State Farm Services Agency (FSA) Committee.

Locally he has been active in the Mahnomon County Crop Improvement, serving as president. He has also served in leadership roles on the Waubun School Board and Wild Rice Lutheran Church. David and his wife Jean have been married for over 50 years; have six children and 19 grandchildren.



James Hunzeker of Spring Grove was recognized for the 30 years he has spent working with native species and getting them accepted for use in road construction and restoration projects.

What began in 1976 as a crop and hog farm has evolved into a sod company, a turf and native installations company and Shooting Star Native Seeds.

Jim has been involved in all aspects of the native seed business from hand collecting seed, establishing seed increase plots, seed conditioning, plantings, marketing and business development. In the mid-1990's Shooting Star was involved in the Iowa Prairie Reconstruction Project which utilized

over 350 different species in hundreds of locations.

A member of the MCIA Native Seed Committee, Jim assisted in the development of standards for MCIA's native seed program. He was elected to the MCIA Board of Directors, serving 3 years as Board Chairman. He has also been on the local school board, County Advisory Committee and church council.

Jim credits his partners Howard Deters and Mark Udstuen in making Shooting Star a premier producer and supplier of native seeds in the Midwest. Along with their employees they pride themselves on providing top quality products from the best local sources, as well as the technical knowledge to meet the needs of their customers.

Honorary Premier Seedsman



Mary Hanks of Northfield was recognized for her support of MCIA and organic agriculture through her work at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Mary is currently the Director of the Agricultural Marketing and Development Division.

Growing up in Kansas City, Mary earned a degree in Biology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and received her Master's and Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from Iowa State University.

Serving the State of Minnesota for over 20 years at MDA she has had numerous responsibilities including Integrated Pest Management Coordinator and supervisor of the Sustainable Agriculture program.

Mary continues to work with the organic program, including organizing the annual Minnesota Organic Conference.

Mary's involvement with MCIA began as part of a focus group to help MCIA determine the feasibility of becoming an organic certifier. She was a member of the MCIA task force reviewing the MCIA "Brand" and served six years on the MCIA Board of Directors.

She has served on the Board of the Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota, as Chair of the Board for The Minnesota Project and on the Rural Life Advisory Board for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Locally she has also been involved with the Boy Scouts and an active member on several parish committees.



Jim Palmer of Mankato was recognized for his support of MCIA and the University of Minnesota while he served as Executive Director of the Minnesota Soybean Growers (MSGA) and the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Counsel (MSR&PC).

Under Jim's nearly 20 years of leadership, the MSGA and MSR&PC initiated several policy, marketing and research efforts that have benefited soybean farmers.

Growing up on a large farm in Northeast Missouri, Jim attended Mark Twain High School in nearby Hannibal. He graduated from the University of Missouri in Columbia, majoring in Ag Economics.

He came to Minnesota as Executive Director of MSGA in 1985. It was while attending

his first MCIA Annual meeting that he saw the value of the University of Minnesota soybean breeding program and its importance to seed producers.

Over the years Jim encouraged the continued support of the Minnesota soybean breeding and research programs. Jim also believed there was a need to support entities like MCIA and the food grade soybean export programs that help Minnesota soybeans producers.

MCIA members were integral in the founding of the MSGA and there continues to be a strong bond between the two organizations. Jim credits the members of the MSGA/MSR&PC for their continued support of MCIA and the University of Minnesota.

Congratulations to All!

Annual Meeting Review



On January 15 and 16, 2013, the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association held its 110th Annual Meeting at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls. Seed producers from around the state participated in the educational program, business meeting and awards banquet. University of Minnesota Climatologist/Meteorologist, Dr. Mark Seeley, captivated the audience with his presentation on Minnesota's Interesting and Changing Climate. Other meeting events included:

Seed Certification Workshop - Brent Turnipseed, Professor, South Dakota State University Seed Laboratory; Steve Sebesta, Deputy Seed Commissioner, North Dakota State Seed Department; and MCIA staff: Jody Prudhomme and Jennifer Pernsteiner, Certification Specialists and Kris Folland, Field Supervisor.

Public/Private Wheat Breeding Partnerships - Dr. Jim Anderson, Professor, University of Minnesota and Dr. Jim Peterson, VP Wheat Research, Limagrain Cereal Seeds.

New Seed Crops for Minnesota - Dr. Donald Wyse, Professor, University of Minnesota.

Awards Banquet - Dr. Mark Seeley, Climatologist/Meteorologist, University of Minnesota.

American Seed Trade Association Update - John Latham, North Central Regional Vice President, ASTA and President, Latham Hi-Tech Seeds.

Insecticide Seed Treatments - Benefits and Limitations - Dr. Ian MacRae, Associate Professor, University of Minnesota Extension.

Roundup Ready® Soybean Patent Expiration - Mackenzie Kolbet, Monsanto.

Thank You Annual Meeting Sponsors & Exhibitors

Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council, Minnesota Corn Growers Association, Albert Lea Seed House, BioDiagnostics Inc., Bjerke Brothers Inc., Bratney Companies, Dow AgroSciences, The Farmer Magazine, Gateway Building Systems Inc., Greif Inc., Limagrain Cereal Seeds, Minnesota Twins, Minnesota Vikings, Monsanto Company, Profile Industries, Scheels, Sportsman's Lodge, Syngenta Cereals, University of Minnesota, Agassiz Seed & Supply, Midwest Shippers' Association, Northern Bag and Box Company, SK Food International, Inc., SDSU Seed Testing Laboratory and Soyko International.

Official Minutes of the 2013 MCIA Annual Business Meeting

Chairman Duane Dahlman called the 110th annual meeting of the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association to order at 8:25 a.m. on January 16, 2013 at Bigwood Event Center, Fergus Falls, MN. Dahlman appointed Ben Lang as Parliamentarian.

Dahlman recognized the following meeting sponsors and thanked them for their support: Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council, Minnesota Corn Growers Association, Albert Lea Seed House, Inc., BioDiagnostics, Inc., Bjerke Brothers, Bratney Companies, Dow AgroSciences, Gateway Building Systems, Inc., Greif, Inc., Limagrain Cereal Seeds, Midwest Shippers' Association, Minnesota Twins, Minnesota Vikings, Monsanto Company, Profile Industries, Sawvell's Seed, Inc., Scheels, Sportsman's Lodge, Syngenta Cereals, *The Farmer* magazine and the University of Minnesota.

Dahlman confirmed that proper proof of notice of the meeting had been published in the Winter 2012 issue of the Minnesota Seed Grower and determined that a quorum was present. Dahlman introduced the MCIA Board of Directors to the membership.

The following agenda items were addressed:

- Secretary's Report and Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting – a motion was moved and seconded that the minutes, as published in the Spring 2012 issue of the Minnesota Seed Grower, be approved. Motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report – Dahlman indicated a Statement of Activities and Financial Position for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2012 was included in the meeting registration packet. The board accepted the report at its November 2012 meeting.
- Chairman's Report – Chairman Dahlman's full report can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.
- Nominating Committee Report – Dahlman presented the following slate of candidates submitted by the Nominating Committee chaired by Craig Damstrom, Alexandria, MN: Jim Kukowski, Strathcona, MN – District 1, and Paul Adams, Wendell, MN – District 2. Nancy Ehlke – Category B position, representing the University of Minnesota, was nominated by Dr. Allen Levine, Director of the Minnesota Agricultural

Experiment Station. Dahlman then called for nominations from the floor. There being no further nominations, a motion was moved and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot for all candidates. Motion passed.

- President's Report – Chairman Dahlman called upon Ben Lang to give his President's report. Lang reported that MCIA had very positive financial results in the fiscal year that ended May 31st, 2012. MCIA has captured new business in its efforts to diversify services that have contributed to strong growth in business and revenues. New promotional efforts are underway including the completion of a new website. The organization continues to position itself for future growth by promoting its services and capabilities, building financial reserves, anticipating industry demands and actively seeking business opportunities.

Chairman Dahlman then called for other business. There being no further business brought to the floor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

MCIA Board of Directors Elected

Jim Kukowski of Strathcona (District 1) was elected to the MCIA Board at the Annual Meeting. Re-elected were **Paul Adams** of Wendell and **Nancy Jo Ehlke** from the University of Minnesota. Thank you to outgoing Board member: **Chad Anvinson** of East Grand Forks.

Officers:

Duane Dahlman, Cokato, MN, Chairman
David Boehm, West Fargo, ND, Vice Chairman
Neal Anderson, St. Peter, MN, Secretary
Paul Adams, Wendell, MN, Treasurer

Members:

Brent Benike, Baudette, MN
Craig Damstrom, Alexandria, MN
Nancy Jo Ehlke, University of MN
Paul Kjolhaug, Willmar, MN
Jim Kukowski, Strathcona, MN
Jay Miller, Shakopee, MN
Michael Zabel, Plainview, MN



Jim Kukowski

Annual Meeting Chairman's Report

Duane Dahlman, Board Chair



Barbara Bush was quoted as saying "Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be

how you treat other people, your family, friends, and co-workers and even strangers you meet along the way." One never knows who that stranger is next to you at the table, in line at a store, or seated next to you on an airplane. It may be your next client, a new contract grower, or a sales person of a machine you need. Whoever it may be, success of your operation may be in the conversation you have with that person.

Throughout this last year the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) has been an opportunistic organization, grooming ideas that may arise from board meetings, member discussions, and co-workers. Ben Lang, our CEO, is a promoter of such discussions as he can see their value. As Barbara Bush said that success is also based on how you treat your co-workers.

The atmosphere of MCIA is one in which we can all be proud. There is a willingness to help each other whenever needed. This only enhances the organization as a whole when the employees are creating an atmosphere that breeds success of the company. Under the leadership of Ben Lang, our organization has a new look which is now becoming the norm.

A few years ago certification of public varieties was starting the down swing. This only meant that for MCIA to remain fiscally sound, new avenues and opportunities needed to be pursued. Organic certification was on the horizon as an opportunity for the organization to engage in. It has been a process that at times seemed like it was not moving as fast as

we would like, but has always been in an upward trend. Now we can see that there is a place in the organic industry for MCIA. This is due to the employees determined to make it work along with a board that has supported its moving forward.

Bill Cosby once said "In order to succeed, your desire for success needs to be greater than your fear of failure". How true this is especially with our organic program. There was no fear of failure with our staff when implementing this program. The numbers are now showing a program that can stand with the rest.

It has been a privilege to be a part of this past year's board. Our discussion at board meetings has been very insightful to the subject at hand. It is necessary to keep meetings moving along but yet allow everyone a chance to express their opinion. Much credit is given to our staff as they are well prepared, the agenda and meeting materials are sent in advance to the board members. Although we always prefer that members attend the meetings in person, occasionally board members have joined in the meeting by phone. We do recognize that there are circumstances that do arise which limit the ability to attend. I would encourage each of you to consider the opportunity to be on the board.

If you have never been on the MCIA Board or have not been on for a while, you would be enlightened as to how much it has changed over the years and what a good organization we as members are a part of. I have said it before but it is worth repeating. Our staff is second to none and it starts with Ben as our CEO. If you are ever asked or even have an inkling about being a board member, please let us know. You will be rewarded many times over.

I encourage you to look at the MCIA website (www.mncia.org). If you haven't

visited the site recently, you will find it easy to move around and locate needed information. It is a tool that is readily available to answer your questions, as well as, access to forms needed for certification purposes.

Webster defines the word impact as "measure of tangible and intangible efforts (consequences) of one thing or entity's action or influence upon another". We make an impact with every step we take and every word we say. Whether it is the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, your own business, or just in conversation, what you say or do will affect the way one thinks or performs their duties in your organization.

It may seem trivial to you but others may be impacted in a much different way. I bring this to light as our staff represents us on a local, state and national level which puts our organization in a desirable position. Representation by Ben Lang on national boards and staff at various meetings creates an image that MCIA is an organization that is moving forward and seeking out new programs to help our membership prosper.

I close with our Mission Statement: Minnesota Crop Improvement Association is an organization dedicated to improving the productivity, profitability, and competitive position of producers, processors, and distributors of agricultural products by providing services to enable them to provide high quality products to Minnesota, the United States and the World.



Fund Supports Variety Development Research



Today's headlines are dominated by talk of the "sequestration" and potential federal spending cuts. This is occurring at a time when the need for agricultural research continues to grow as food production systems are strained by world population growth. How will universities performing agricultural research continue to fill their unique and important role as funding sources are threatened?

This is not a new problem. In the early 1990's, MCIA worked with the University of Minnesota to establish a fund for crop variety development. Traditionally, the University had relied on money from the state and federal government. It was apparent at the time that those funding sources were declining and a long term plan to provide financial resources for crop improvement activities was needed. In 1993, the Variety Development Fund (VDF) was established, funded by fees collected on seed sales of public varieties of wheat, barley, oats and soybeans developed at the University of Minnesota.

The VDF program continues to this day. Fees are collected from seed producers in Minnesota and neighboring states. Funds accumulated are invested by the University of Minnesota

Foundation to achieve consistent growth while protecting the principal. Since being established, distributions have been limited with the goal of increasing the size of the fund. It has now grown to the point where grant allocations could be considered.

In January, a board composed of the University Associate Dean and department heads along with a representative of MCIA appointed by the Board of Directors (I served in that role) met to consider proposals from University researchers. Funds were allocated to support projects directly related to crop variety development for familiar crops (wheat, barley, and perennial ryegrass) as well as two promising new crops (perennial sunflower and field pennycress). In addition, funding to improve MCIA's climate-controlled seed storage facilities was also approved.

If properly funded and managed, the VDF can continue to provide support for plant breeding at the University of Minnesota. Supporting the University in this area contributes more than seed technology and research. It helps the University develop its most important product - well trained students that are the next generation of professionals and scientists to work in the seed industry.

Organic Corner

Michelle Menken, Organic Coordinator



Time to Update and Renew



We are just back from the Organic Farm Conference in La Crosse. It was packed- over 3,000 attendees. If we can use that as a gauge, then organic is growing. Thank you everyone who stopped by and visited with us.

We are now working on our vegetable and crop renewal packages. They should be sent out shortly. This year the **Renewal Cover Letter** will give you the name of the MCIA organic staff person who will be handling your file for the year. Please address all your correspondence and calls to her. This will help us avoid duplication of effort. If your contact person is unavailable, we will all still be here to follow up. The organic phone number is 1-855-213-4461.

You will also be getting a **Materials List** in your renewal packets. The first part will include all the materials you used last year. We are asking you to identify the products that you plan to use again this year. The second part is a request form. Please list any new products you want reviewed for use this year. We have created this form, together with a master approved materials list, to help expedite input material review. Remember all input materials must be approved prior to use. For processors all changes to recipes, ingredients and labels must be approved prior to production.

We will be working with a few new inspectors this year, so don't be surprised to see some new faces. We have begun to advertise more heavily and are ready to grow. Please recommend us to your friends, colleagues and neighbors who are thinking about "organic certification".



**REMEMBER TO SAVE YOUR
PROOF OF SEED SOURCE
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- Jim Kukowski Director
- Jay Miller Director
- Michael Zabel Director

MISSION STATEMENT

Minnesota Crop Improvement Association is an organization dedicated to improving the productivity, profitability and competitive position of producers, processors, and distributors of agricultural products by providing services to enable them to provide high-quality products to Minnesota, the United States and the World.

Enhancing Value, Improving Marketability



Since 1903

CALENDAR

March

- 19-21 U of MN Extension Forage Meetings, various locations
- 22 MCIA Board Meeting, St. Paul
- 26-28 MN Soybean Growers Seminar,
Profitability Optimization (Weed Resistance)
Mahnomen, Willmar & Mankato
For more info: www.mnsoybean.org

April

- 2-3 Northern AOSCA Regional Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 8-11 Native Seed Conference, Santa Fe, NM

May

- 21-23 Food Grade Bean Conditioning Workshop, Ames, IA*

June

- 13-14 MCIA Board Meeting, Baudette

*May - August Iowa State University - Seed Conditioning Workshops
Register by phone: 515-294-6222 or online:
www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/seedscience/home.html

**For more information on these and other events,
go to www.mncia.org**