

USDA Honors Cornell Scientists For Superior Service

ITHACA — Two Cornell University scientists — one a pioneer in the use of bovine growth hormone to boost production efficiency of dairy animals, and the other a pioneer in the use of insect sex attractants for pest management — have been honored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Dale E. Bauman, professor of nutritional biochemistry in the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell, received a Superior Service Award. Wendell L. Roelofs, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of Insect Biochemistry at Cornell's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, was the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by USDA. They were cited for outstanding achievements of major significance to the USDA mission and to the nation as well as their contributions to their areas of specialization.

Bauman has focused his research on the regulation of

nutrient utilization in dairy animals, which has led to dramatic increases in the efficiency of milk production through the use of bovine growth hormone. The growth hormone technology is expected to have a major impact on animal agriculture in the U.S. and in other parts of the world.

His previous honors include the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Award from Germany in 1985, an honor reserved for those who have made "the most significant contribution to American agriculture" during the past several years.

Roelofs was recognized for his research contributions to the biology of insect sex attractants known as pheromones that are produced by female insects to attract males. His work over the past two decades at the Geneva station in isolating, identifying, synthesizing, and using insect pheromones has led to improved pest management systems for major agricultural crops.

He has garnered numerous awards, including the National Medal of Science in 1985 and the

Wolf Prize in agriculture from Israel. He is also the recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Award. Among other honors, he

was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1985. More recently, he was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts

and Sciences.

The awards were presented to Bauman and Roelofs today (June 4) at a ceremony in Washington, DC.

NFO Promotes Drought Plan

CORNING, Iowa — The National Board of Directors of the National Farmers Organization, meeting in session today, announced a plan to alleviate the situation farmers are facing in the drought-stricken Southeastern United States.

In announcing the plan, DeVon Woodland, president of the NFO, said, "It's time for politicians to stop making political hay at the expense of farmers and start developing a realistic solution to the problem. We believe the problem can be attacked by a series of steps."

The plan, as adopted by the board, is as follows:

Step I — Market the livestock that would normally be marketed

this fall now in an orderly way through a recognized bargaining organization.

Step II — Feedstuffs should be shipped by the federal government from the glutted areas. Oats and feed barley are particularly good feed for maintenance of livestock and are presently cheaper per ton than hay. In addition, the storage costs to the government over the 3-year reserve period would be comparable to the value of the grain itself.

Grain should be shipped in volume to secure favorable (near cost) freight rates. These low cost rail rates could also be used for hay from the Midwest.

All programs should be administered by the ASCS at minimal costs to the producers.

These feedstuffs would be made available only to dairy herds and foundation livestock herds.

Step III — National Farmers will assist in the securing of pasture in areas of the North where it is abundant. The federal government should subsidize the cost of moving the herds to the feed areas.

Woodland added that this problem will not be solved overnight and may take up to six months before any relief is permanent. He said, "I feel the NFO's plan assures farmers in that area of the country continued help until the situation changes."

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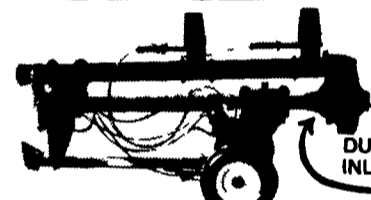

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