IICA Honors Outstanding U.S. Contributions to Agriculture
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IICA’s founding 60 years ago represents the achievement of a long-cherished inter-American aspiration. The year was 1942 and the Second World War had made it necessary to find alternatives for the production of strategic tropical crops. In response, a research and education institute was created. In 1979, this institute was transformed, with a new Convention, into a technical cooperation agency specializing in agriculture and rural well-being.

Since its very inception, the visionaries who fostered the creation of IICA recognized the importance of promoting mutual understanding among the leaders of agriculture. Now, at the beginning of this millennium, the Institute has received new mandates from the General Assembly of the Organization of American States and from the Third Summit of the Americas which, rightfully, underscore the role IICA should play in the hemispheric dialogue and in building consensus on the larger issues of development and poverty alleviation in rural areas.

After 60 years, we at IICA are rededicating ourselves to reducing social inequities and alleviating rural poverty by promoting sustainable rural development and modernization of the rural sector. Today, 34 IICA Offices work to meet the needs of member countries in areas of trade and agribusiness development, sustainable rural development, agricultural health and food safety, technology and innovation, education and training, and information and communication.

The United States has had a special relationship with IICA since it served as one of the founding members. IICA’s Office in Washington, D.C., has played a key role in the development and success of the Institute. Today, the Washington Office houses the new Directorate of Strategic Partnerships, which has been tasked with forging and coordinating alliances with strategic international partners to strengthen the financial and technical base of the Institute. Most importantly, it serves to channel the collective strengths of some of the best and most creative thinking in agriculture and rural development to the rest of the countries of the hemisphere.

We express our thanks and appreciation to the Government and people of the United States of America for continued support during these 60 years.

Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Director General
IICA
On behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, I congratulate the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. The United States was a founding member of IICA, and for the past sixty years we have supported its growth from a small tropical agriculture research institution to a hemispheric forum for agriculture and technical assistance.

The United States and IICA have a long history of collaboration. This cooperation has been essential for promoting prosperity in rural communities. The United States endorses IICA’s renewed efforts to build an institution that helps its Member states meet the challenges of the future. IICA can play a role in important issues such as the acceptance of new technologies and the enormous potential they offer to contribute to food security. IICA can also assist in the advancement of trade integration and the establishment of common international standards so important to competitive trade and the development of the rural sector.

IICA’s strategic vision lends itself to providing knowledge, leadership, and technical support aimed at improving the lives of people and seeking prosperity for all nations in the hemisphere.

Once again, we congratulate IICA on 60 years of leadership in agriculture for the nations of the Americas.

Ann M. Veneman
Secretary
As the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) approached its 60th anniversary, the IICA Office in the USA sought an appropriate way to commemorate this important milestone. Created in 1942, IICA today represents the agricultural progress and aspirations of 34 countries of the Western Hemisphere. Under the leadership of IICA’s Director General Chelston W.D. Brathwaite, IICA Offices in each of its Member States has developed unique anniversary celebrations. The IICA Office in the U.S. decided to honor IICA’s 60 years of promoting rural prosperity in the Americas by recognizing the achievements of the individuals and institutions in the United States that have enriched agriculture across the Americas.

Nominations, requested from our colleagues in government, academia and the private sector, resulted in a list of highly accomplished and distinguished individuals. The individuals and institutions presented here represent a broad range of contributions to the many facets of agriculture and rural life, along with many others whose work has enriched the lives of others throughout the hemisphere and around the globe.

We gratefully acknowledge the organizations that helped us in this endeavor, especially the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and the National Agricultural Library. Thanks to these groups and others who assisted us in promoting the idea of recognizing eminent Americans in agriculture and identifying many of the individuals in the following pages.

Felipe P. Manteiga
Representative in the U.S.
### Honorees

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<th>Perry F. Adkisson and Ray F. Smith</th>
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<td>Perry Adkisson and Ray Smith have revolutionized green farming with their leadership in the development of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for which they won the World Food Prize in 1997. Providing a sustainable method to control agricultural pests, IPM brings together the effective use of biological controls, organic compounds, crop management techniques, and some use of chemical pesticides. IPM enables farmers to increase profit margins and reduce negative environmental impact. Adkisson and Smith helped develop IPM programs for fruit, citrus, alfalfa, soybeans, grain sorghum, cotton, peanuts and rice. As a result, the United States has reduced its pesticide use by half. Both men have worked to promote IPM globally through their work with the Consortium for International Crop Protection and the FAO Expert Panel on Integrated Pest Control. Today, IPM principles are applied on food crops around the world.</td>
<td>Ralph Herbert Allee, IICA’s second Director General, established the organization’s headquarters in Turrialba, Costa Rica. During his tenure from 1943 to 1960, Allee was instrumental in the formation of many key IICA programs. He established the graduate school at Turrialba and initiated the organization’s first agricultural development projects outside Costa Rica. His efforts were crucial in establishing IICA’s first regional offices in Uruguay, Cuba and Peru for the southern, northern and Andean zones. Before heading IICA, Allee directed the USDA Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations and was a member of the Inter-American Tropical Agriculture Committee, which selected the Turrialba field office’s location.</td>
<td>Alice Atwood, a leader in botanical bibliography, developed the Plant Science Catalog during her almost 40 years (1904-1942) at the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Department of Agriculture library. The catalog, a unique reference work, is still in use at the National Agricultural Library. Written with S.F. Blake and based on the catalog, her Geographical Guide to the Floras of the World remains a significant publication. “Miss Atwood’s Catalog” also was a predecessor to the Bibliography of Agriculture, and served as a model for future agricultural bibliographies.</td>
<td>Henry Beachell’s contributions to rice farming have revolutionized rice production around the world. Beachell spent 32 years heading the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s rice breeding program where he developed varieties that would thrive in the southern states and withstand mechanized farming. After retiring from USDA, he went to the International Rice Research Institute where, in 1963, he developed IR8, a fast-maturing high-yield variety that dramatically increased rice production when it was released to Asian farmers three years later. He spent 20 years refining and improving IR8’s pest resistance and cooking qualities. Although IR8 has been modified and adapted to different climates, it remains the basis for 70 percent of the rice grown globally. In 1996, Beachell shared the World Food Prize with Gurdev Khush.</td>
<td>Hugh Hammond Bennett is known as the father of soil conservation for his career-long efforts to combat soil erosion and reverse declining yields. Bennett helped establish the Soil Erosion Service in the Department of Interior and became its first director in 1933. He focused on reforming farming practices to combat erosion. His efforts, coupled with the devastation of the Dust Bowl in the early 1930s, led to the 1935 creation of the Soil Conservation Service, now the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in the Department of Agriculture. Bennett received many honors during his lifetime, and in 2000 was named a charter inductee in the USDA Hall of Heroes.</td>
<td>Clarence Birdseye revolutionized food processing and marketing by transforming the frozen food industry. As a fur trader in Labrador, he noted that when Eskimos preserved their food during arctic winter, the thawed food tasted better than that which had been frozen in the warmer temperatures of fall or spring. This led Birdseye to develop improved methods of quick freezing, which inhibit large ice crystals from forming and retain the cellular structure of the food. In 1924 he became one of the founders of General Foods Company, later bought by Postum Company, which became General Foods Corporation. Birdseye’s invention also led to the birth of the refrigerated shipping industry and set the foundation for non-traditional agricultural trade in perishables.</td>
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Norman E. Borlaug

Norman Borlaug’s work to feed the hungry ignited what is known today as the “Green Revolution.” In 1970, he became the only agricultural scientist to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Having seen the devastation of crop failures during the Dust Bowl, he dedicated his life’s work to promoting the benefits of high-yield farming. More than anyone, Borlaug’s work helped ensure that, except in sub-Saharan Africa, global food production has expanded faster than human population, averting mass starvation and helping feed over a billion people. He began his work in Mexico at what evolved into the International Maize and Wheat Center. There he helped develop dwarf spring wheat especially suited to high-yield farming and cereals insensitive to the hours of light in a day. His work later took him to Latin America, Asia, Africa, India and Pakistan. Borlaug continues to lead the advocacy of scientific solutions to address food security and hunger.

Earl N. Bressman

Earl N. Bressman served as IICA’s first Director General (1942-1943). Working from offices in Washington D.C., Bressman achieved legal representation for IICA in the United States and Costa Rica and managed the approval and ratification of the Multilateral Convention of IICA. He was responsible for the structuring of IICA’s research and education programs, as well as the physical construction in 1943 of the first field office, located in Turrialba, Costa Rica. He established five program areas: agricultural engineering, animal production, entomology, plant production and soils.

Albert “Scaff” Brown

Albert L. “Scaff” Brown worked on rural development in Latin America through both government and private consulting concerns. He spent 18 years as a foreign service officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Brown’s last post was as chief of the rural development office for Latin America and the Caribbean. There he guided USAID support to modernize agriculture and to establish non-traditional exports as options for the rural poor. Mr. Brown’s most enduring legacy was his development of the agency’s project design and evaluation system. From 1986 until he retired in 1994, as executive vice president of Chemonics International, he continued to promote the eradication of rural poverty through competitive agriculture.

Howard G. Buffett

Howard G. Buffett is Chairman of Lindsay Manufacturing, a worldwide leader in the manufacturing of agricultural irrigation products. He also serves as President of The Howard G. Buffett Foundation, a private foundation that supports conservation initiatives. Buffett actively supports numerous conservation efforts and his writings and wildlife photography focus on seeking sound economic and political solutions to the problem of feeding a growing population while preserving the world’s biodiversity. His book, On the Edge: Balancing Earth’s Resources, explores the partnership between biodiversity and high yield agricultural production. Mr. Buffett has received the Aztec Eagle Award from the President of Mexico, the highest honor bestowed to a foreign citizen by the Mexican government.

Albert F. Chandler, Jr.

Robert Chandler, Jr., through his efforts as founding director of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), led the development of high-yield rice plants. These new varieties, increased rice production in Asia by 66 percent, averting a potential famine. After 10 years with IRRI, he became founding director of the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center in Taiwan. There he headed efforts to develop varieties of vegetables suitable to the tropics. He worked with The Near East Foundation, the Ford and Rockefeller Foundation, the Ford and Rockefeller
**Honorees**

**César Chávez**
César Chávez was hailed as “a special prophet for the world’s farm workers.” He was a farm worker from childhood who struggled to empower, protect, and enfranchise those forgotten ones who labor to create America’s bounty. Raised in migrant camps, Chávez left school after the sixth grade. However, his lack of formal education did not hinder his fight to improve the lives of farm workers. In 1962 he founded the National Farm Workers Association, which in 1966 became the United Farm Workers and represented up to 50,000 workers. His goal was to provide better pay and safer working conditions through organizing the union and through non-violent protests. In 1994, Chávez was posthumously awarded the Medal of Freedom, America’s highest civilian honor.

**Mary-Dell Chilton**
Mary-Dell Chilton led a team that developed the first genetically engineered commercial crops. Chilton and her colleagues modified tobacco plants to be resistant to crown gall disease. The disease commonly afflicts broad-leaved plants such as grapes, stone fruits and ornamentals. Their method involved inserting a foreign gene through a bacterium that normally affects the host plant. Her current research focuses on improving the technology for introducing new genes into plants. Chilton was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1985. She received the Benjamin Franklin Award for Life Sciences in 2002, joining laureates that include Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking.

**Thad Cochran**
Thad Cochran has served in the U.S. Senate for more than 20 years, creating a strong legacy in agriculture, education, and wildlife conservation. He wrote key provisions in the farm bills of 1985, 1990, and 1996 and authored the legislation creating the marketing loan program for cotton and rice, considered one of the most successful agriculture programs ever enacted. He has helped fund agriculture, forestry and aquaculture facilities at several universities. Cochran also helped create a program for sharing U.S. agricultural know-how through the Cochran Fellowship Program. The program, run by the Department of Agriculture’s Foreign Agricultural Service, has provided non-academic training in the U.S. for 7,600 participants from 81 countries.

**Eligio “Kika” de la Garza**
Eligio “Kika” de la Garza served 32 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. When he became Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, he was the first Hispanic to chair a standing committee since 1917. Under his leadership, the Agriculture Committee passed three omnibus farm bills and other measures to assist agriculture, encourage rural economic development and improve human nutrition. His committee established target prices for goods, created disaster assistance for farmers and ranchers who lost production to natural disasters, and formulated programs to distribute government-owned commodities to impoverished citizens. He also worked to strengthen environmental protection for agricultural lands. In 1978 he received the Order of the Aztec Eagle from Mexican President José López Portillo, which is the highest honor Mexico can bestow on a foreigner.

**Alain de Janvry**
Alain de Janvry, one of the world’s leading agricultural development economists, is professor of Agriculture and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. His more than 150 published articles, several books and monographs reflect the concerns driving his research: alleviating poverty by focusing on the welfare of rural households and the search for programs and policies that will reduce the incidence of poverty. His research efforts include work on demand analysis, land reform, rural development, and managing conflict between aid and trade. His findings and advocacy to eradicate rural poverty have successfully shifted the focus from solely agricultural solutions to a more comprehensive approach to the rural economy. He has been an advisor to the governments of the Dominican Republic, India, Mexico, Ecuador, Argentina, Columbia and Chile.

**Ray A. Goldberg**
Ray Goldberg developed agribusiness analytical concepts that became the key inspiration in transforming U.S. and global agri-food systems. Together with John H. Davis, he developed the Agribusiness Program at Harvard Business School and headed the program for almost 30 years. He has authored and supervised the development of over 1000 case studies on the global food system. Goldberg also was the founding president of the International Agribusiness Management Association. One of Goldberg’s current challenges is devising better ways to inform consumers about the safety and improved nutritional value of new foods, as more genetically modified, environmentally sound products are available.
Claudio Gonzalez-Vega
Claudio Gonzalez-Vega directs the rural finance program at Ohio State University. The program is recognized globally as a leader in the analysis and promotion of rural financial markets in developing countries and economies in transition. His well-articulated analysis and advocacy played a central role in transforming the Latin American and Caribbean rural financial industry from one based on subsidized and unsustainable solutions to one guided by market driven, competitive approaches where micro and small producers could access improved financial services.

Carlos M. Gutierrez
Carlos M. Gutierrez, chairman and CEO of Kellogg Company, heads the world’s largest producer of cereal and a leading producer of many other foods. The company has projected annual sales of more than $9 billion. Gutierrez began his almost 30-year career with Kellogg in 1975 as a sales representative in Mexico City. Gutierrez is a co-trustee of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Trust. One of the world’s largest private foundations for more than 60 years, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has awarded grants in the U.S., Latin America, the Caribbean and southern Africa to reduce poverty, improve health and empower people to help themselves.

Tony P. Hall
Tony P. Hall serves as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations agencies in Rome. Hall has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to alleviate world hunger and improve international human rights. As a congressman, he was a founding member of the Select Committee on Hunger and served as its chair from 1989 until it was abolished in 1993. He sponsored legislation assisting the Women, Infants and Children feeding programs. Hall has received U.S. and worldwide recognition for his efforts on behalf of the world’s poor and hungry.

Arnel R. Hallauer
Arnel R. Hallauer’s work with quantitative genetics in plant breeding has led to the development of superior corn hybrids worldwide. His achievements provided a clearer understanding of the inheritance of quantitative traits and allowed for the development of more effective breeding methods. Since the 1960s, he has added valuable traits like drought tolerance and disease and insect resistance to U.S. Corn Belt lines by crossing them with exotic varieties. Hallauer’s research has had a global impact on plant breeding programs, and he has assisted maize scientists all over the world. In 1989, Hallauer was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and received the Agronomic Achievement Award of the American Society of Agronomy. In 1992, he was inducted in the USDA Agricultural Research Service Hall of Fame.

Peter E. Hildebrand
Peter E. Hildebrand directs the international programs of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida. Hildebrand joined the University following 15 years of living abroad and working on development programs. He developed many of the ideas that are the foundation for the Farming Systems Research and Extension methodology, and he was the founding president of the global Association for Farming Systems Research and Extension. Hildebrand’s research on farming systems, gender analysis, small-farm livelihood systems and tropical conservation and development pioneered participatory research techniques and narrowed the gap between research and farmers in developing countries.

Leslie R. Holdridge
Leslie R. Holdridge is best known for his invention in 1947 of the Life Zones of the World ecological classification system as a way to interpret and explain the great diversity of tropical ecosystems. Holdridge’s work was based on “biotemperature” (all temperatures above freezing and plant dormancy) rather than degrees latitude or meters of elevation as were previously used. The Holdridge Life Zone model has been used extensively throughout the tropical countries of Central and South America and the Caribbean as a frame of reference for agricultural improvement experiments. NASA incorporated Holdridge’s work in its models of climate change. Holdridge served as director of IICA from 1951 to 1952 and headed its department of natural resources until 1960.

Virginia H. Holsinger
Virginia H. Holsinger’s work with dairy products has enriched the health of needy people worldwide. She created a whey-soy drink mix that replaces non-fat dry milk in international food donation programs. Holsinger’s most widely-know effort is the development of the enzyme treatment that makes milk digestible for those with lactose intolerance. She also led a team that developed a corn-soy blend that delivers the full nutritional needs of hungry people and is easily prepared without cooking, a product saving lives in refugee camps and disaster centers around the world. Holsinger has received many honors from USDA, as well as from the American Chemical Society, the Institute of Food Technologists and others.
Honoeees

Floyd P. Horn
Floyd Horn is the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In that role he oversees national and international research in improved crop and livestock production, pest management, livestock diseases, food safety and biotechnology, human nutrition, and sustainable agriculture. In 2001 he served in the White House Office of Homeland Security as the first Director of Food, Agriculture and Water Security, thus helping to secure the safety of the American food supply as well as the one-sixth of all American jobs that are tied to agriculture. Horn has always promoted broad-based international cooperation, especially with Latin America, South Africa, the Former States of the Soviet Union, and the Middle East. He was honored in both 1992 and 1999 for his initiative and excellence in developing innovative research programs, with Presidential Rank Awards for Meritorious Service. He also received the Doctoris Honoris Causa from Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León in 1995, and the Alfonso Reyes Golden Medallion of Honor for his contributions to research, in 1999.

Austin, Oliver and Leslie Hubbard
The Hubbard brothers, Austin, Oliver and Leslie, revolutionized the poultry industry in the 1920s with the development of chickens resistant to pullorum, a costly and persistent disease. Later the brothers focused on poultry genetics, developing the New Hampshire Red, a popular meat and egg chicken in the 1950s. They continued to work on enhancing both egg and meat strains, leading to dramatic improvements in productivity, feed conversion and hardiness. They helped expand availability of wholesome, low-cost protein to people around the world. In their later years, they continued to support initiatives to improve living conditions in underdeveloped countries. Today, almost half the world’s chickens have lineage that traces back to Hubbard Farms.

Edward F. Knipling
Drs. Edward Knipling and Raymond Bushland are entomologists renowned for their development of the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT), an environmentally sound way to control pests that threaten livestock and crop production. They began developing the technique in the 1940s while working in a U.S. Department of Agriculture laboratory in Texas. The technique uses the release of sterile male pests to reduce the reproductive capability of the species. SIT has been used to eradicate populations of screw worm, which can decimate cattle and other livestock, as well as pests that threaten fruit, vegetables and fiber crops. In 1954, SIT eliminated the screw worm population on the island of Curacao in only seven weeks. Knipling and Bushland received the World Food Prize in 1992 for their work.

Alex McCalla
Alex McCalla is Professor of Agricultural Economics, Emeritus, at the University of California, Davis. After joining the faculty at the University of California, Davis in 1966, he became Dean of the College of Agricultural Economics in 1970. Additionally, McCalla served as study director of the first review of the International Agricultural Research Centers of the Consultative Group in International Agricultural Research. He also chaired the Group’s Technical Advisory Committee. As Director of the World Bank’s Agricultural and Natural Resources Department from 1994 to 1999, McCalla revitalized the Bank’s rural development agenda. He also co-authored the book, Agricultural Policies and World Markets and led a congressionally mandated study published in 1986 titled Export Embargoes, Surplus Disposal and U.S. Agriculture.

Barbara McClintock
Barbara McClintock won the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1983 for her discovery 30 years earlier of “jumping genes.” Studying the relationships between plant reproduction and genetic mutations in maize, McClintock discovered that genes move around within chromosomes. She also showed how certain genes were responsible for the expression or suppression of specific characteristics such as the color of leaves or kernels. Her work did not reflect the common wisdom of molecular biology at the time and was widely ignored until years later when its impact was better understood. She was the third woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences and the first to become president of the Genetics Society of America. In addition to the Nobel Prize, she was awarded the National Medal of Science by President Nixon and was the first to receive the MacArthur Foundation Grant.
Promoting the development of third world and developing countries. As head of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), he managed missions in 70 countries, and oversaw peak funding for agricultural development. One of the founders and co-chairs of the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa, McPherson has linked America’s farmers with efforts to increase food production in Africa by harnessing the power of information technology and biotechnology. He is the recipient of many honors including the UNICEF Award for Outstanding Contribution to Child Survival and the U.S. Presidential Certificate of Outstanding Achievement. McPherson is the current chairman of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). This influential institution advises the U.S. Government on its foreign aid to support rural development primarily through the science and technologies of the U.S. land grant colleges and universities.

David R. MacKenzie
David R. MacKenzie, a respected scientist, author, administrator and policy analyst, directed the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Stations. In that position, he also served as vice-chair of the Homeland Agro-Security Task Force, whose purpose is to protect U.S. agriculture and food systems from terrorist attack. Previously, he had been the national program leader for biotechnology programs with USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. MacKenzie gave particular attention to the safe use of new tools in molecular biology for crop and livestock improvement. During his career, Mackenzie worked at many international agriculture research centers including the International Center for Maize and Wheat Improvement, the International Rice Research Institute, the Asian Vegetable and Development Center in Taiwan, and served on the Board of Trustees of the International Potato Center.

Foster E. Mohrhardt
Foster E. Mohrhardt led the modernization of U.S. agricultural libraries when he directed the transition of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s library into the National Agricultural Library in 1962. Mohrhardt directed the library from 1954 to 1968. Under his tenure, the library was housed in a new building in Beltsville, Maryland, its catalog published in book form, and computerization of its catalog and indexing begun. Mohrhardt was a founder and first president of the International Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists.

C. Manly Molpus
C. Manly Molpus is a world leader of the U.S. agri-food community. He serves as President and CEO of the Grocery Manufacturers of America, the world’s largest association of food, beverage and packaged goods companies. Together, these companies represent annual U.S. sales of more than $460 billion and employ 2.5 million workers. He advises major agri-food organizations including the Stedman Center for Nutritional Studies at Duke University and the Center for Food and Nutrition Policy. He is a director of the Congressional Hunger Center and in 2001 was appointed to the USDA/USTR Agriculture Policy Advisory Committee for Trade.

Frank J. Mulhern
Frank J. Mulhern headed the Agricultural Research Service’s Animal Health Division when the landmark 1966 Laboratory Animal Welfare Act was passed. Mulhern led and supported the writing of the first regulations and standards that made enforcement of the act possible. He later received the Albert Schweitzer Medal for his dedicated implementation of the act despite inadequate funding. Mulhern also had a leadership role in cooperation between Mexico and the United States from 1947 to 1952 to halt a massive outbreak of foot and mouth disease. Mulhern became the first Administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

John S. Niederhauser
John S. Niederhauser, the 1990 recipient of the World Food Prize, has been a decades-long leader in potato research. Niederhauser discovered that Mexico was the place of origin of the pathogen that causes potato late blight, which caused the Irish famine in the 1840s. He led efforts to develop blight resistant potatoes that require fewer chemical fungicides, enabling farmers to grow them with reduced cost and risk. Niederhauser aided in the development of strong national potato development programs in Mexico, Pakistan, Colombia, India and Turkey. These countries doubled or tripled their potato acreage and productivity. He founded several international organizations dedicated to sharing and promoting the efforts of the scientists working on potato programs. These include the International Potato Center in Lima, Peru, and the Regional Cooperative Potato Program linking Mexico, Central America, Panama and the Caribbean.
and other tropical regions. Raun also served as executive director of the MidAmericia International Agricultural Consortium, developing research partnerships between the five consortium universities and their counterparts in Mexico.

Harold M. Riley
Harold M. Riley’s career has been dedicated to improving food and agricultural marketing systems in Latin America. Through field research, advisory and training programs in Brazil, Costa Rica, Columbia, Ecuador and Mexico, he made a major contribution in developing an appropriate framework for analyzing marketing systems, identifying constraints, and outlining action programs for marketing improvement. Riley’s emphasis on the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach is exemplified by his work at Michigan State University. There, work on marketing systems development brought together faculty and students from the colleges of agriculture, business and communications in collaborative projects in Puerto Rico, Columbia, Brazil, Costa Rica and Bolivia. Riley provided significant help to the development of the Inter-American Center for Marketing, and his research has provided resource for training materials used throughout the hemisphere. Because of Riley’s work, millions of lives have been improved as export growth creates jobs and sustainable incomes for rural families.

G. Edward Schuh
G. Edward Schuh is recognized internationally as an expert in economics and agriculture. He currently directs the Freeman Center for International Economic Policy at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. Additionally, he chaired the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). Schuh was a program advisor for the Ford Foundation in Brazil. He served as Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and as director of agriculture and rural development at the World Bank. Schuh has received five professional awards from the American Agricultural Economics Association and singular recognition for his work in Brazil.

Nevin S. Scrimshaw
Nevin Scrimshaw founded and heads the International Nutrition Foundation, where he continues his lifetime work of reducing world hunger and finding creative local solutions to nutrient deficiencies. In 1949, he became the founding director of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama. While there, he developed INCAPARINA, a food made from cotton-seed flour and maize to provide an affordable native protein source for children suffering from kwashiorkor, a deadly disease attacking children whose diets are protein poor. In 1967, he developed BALAHAR, made from peanut flour and wheat, which helped alleviate a

Wilson Popenee
Wilson Popenee can be credited with bringing many tropical foods onto the tables of those in non-tropical countries and with improving the economy of those tropical producer countries. As an agricultural explorer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, he traveled to research and obtain cuttings or seeds of choice varieties of fruits such as avocado, mango, papaya, and cherimoya. His Manual of Tropical and Subtropical Fruits, first published in 1920 and reprinted most recently in 1974, is still considered the standard work on the subject. After leaving USDA, he worked for United Fruit Company, founding the company’s Lancetilla Agricultural Experiment Station in Honduras. He also was the founding director of Escuela Agrícola Panamericana in Honduras. Zamorano, as this center of excellence is popularly known, has trained generations of highly respected agricultural leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean and has served as a global model. Popenee’s achievements were honored with numerous awards from the United States and countries throughout Latin America.

Ned S. Raun
Ned S. Raun has managed international agriculture research programs throughout Latin America, Africa and Asia for over 40 years. Working through the Rockefeller Foundation, Raun developed livestock research and training programs in Mexico, Colombia and other Latin American countries. He participated in the founding of the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical in Cali, Colombia, where he also directed the beef production systems program. With Winrock International, Raun directed the development of research and education programs in Sub-Saharan Africa and other tropical regions. Raun also served as executive director of the MidAmericia International Agricultural Consortium, developing research partnerships between the five consortium universities and their counterparts in Mexico.

Pedro Sanchez
Pedro Sanchez has enriched literally thousands of lives around the world through his work to transform depleted soil into productive agricultural land. As leader of North Carolina State’s Rice Research Team in Peru, Sanchez helped Peruvians become rice self-sufficient within three years. In Brazil, Sanchez headed a soil management effort that enriched 75 million acres of previously infertile soil, increasing yields 60 percent. In Africa, he promoted agroforestry as a way of replenishing depleted soils. The 150,000 small farmers using the method have seen yield increases as great as 400 percent. Sanchez has been named chair of the United Nations Task Force on World Hunger. He won the World Food Prize in 2002.
famine in India. He also devised a method, now used throughout Central and Latin America, to iodize local salt to prevent goiter. In 1975, he organized the World Hunger Program for the United Nations University and directed the Program’s food and nutrition activities until 1998. Scrimshaw was the World Food Prize laureate in 1991.

Rodney Sharp
Rodney Sharp helps people in agriculture survive economically uncertain times. As an agriculture economist for the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension, he has provided direct assistance to farmers and ranchers, teaching thousands how to keep clear financial records and create enterprise, partial and whole-farm budgeting. Through his involvement with the Farm Management Team, Sharp also provided in-depth financial management workshops teaching skills for individuals to evaluate their economic health. He designed software programs to complement the Integrated Farm Financial Statements developed by Oklahoma State University. With Sharp’s additions, producers can compute break-even prices and evaluate the price and profit potential of alternative production and marketing strategies. Under his leadership, the group developed a conference designed to provide tools to USDA agencies and others to support non-traditional, innovative resource-based enterprises.

Louise Stanley
Louise Stanley institutionalized the study of home economics at the federal level and was a driving force in its acceptance as an academic discipline. She became the first woman to head a bureau in the U.S. Department of Agriculture when she was named chief of the Bureau of Home Economics in 1923. During her tenure, the Bureau developed four basic diet plans for families of different income levels. These plans were used widely by the government during the Depression and World War II. Stanley also directed the first national study of rural housing and the consumer purchase survey. Her guidance helped address gaps in nutritional knowledge and launch educational programs in Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico.

John D. Strasma
John D. Strasma, Professor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, has made many contributions to the university’s Land Tenure Center. Among his many achievements, Strasma served as Chief of Party of the Center’s programs in Chile for four years and helped set the terms of Nicaraguan bonds offered to land owners as compensation for property taken under Sandinista government land reforms. He also directed the University’s Center for Development, which serves the mid-career educational needs of development staff from around the world. Governments around the globe continue to seek his expertise on land reform, taxation, public finance and international trade. Prior to joining the university, Strasma worked with the Peruvian Ministry of Finance, the United Nations Institute in Senegal and UN Secretariat in New York, the University of Chile and the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. In 1999, he received the McCain/Fulbright Distinguished Faculty Chair in Property Systems at the Centre of Property Studies, University of New Brunswick.

David L. Suarez
David L. Suarez has completed research explaining how chickens and turkeys contract avian influenza and made contributions to new vaccines to treat the disease. Working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service, Suarez was part of a team that in 1997 identified and created a vaccine for H5N1, a new avian influenza strain that crossed over to humans with deadly results. His work there helped ensure that the H5N1 influenza did not cause a global pandemic, as other influenza strains have done. Suarez has also developed a rapid diagnostic test that can be performed by labs that do not routinely work on influenza viruses. The test is being used in live bird markets in Virginia and the northeastern United States. For his work on avian flu, Suarez received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

H. David Thurston
H. David Thurston has made valuable contributions in over 46 years of teaching and research on root and tuber crops like potatoes and cassava. Thurston has worked to identify practical, sustainable ways to manage plant disease in traditional farmer systems. He has written books on this topic as well as slash/mulch agricultural systems and tropical plant diseases. After 11 years in Colombia, South America, as a member of an interdisciplinary team of Rockefeller Foundation scientists, he joined Cornell University’s Plant Pathology and International Agriculture Program. Under his guidance, many students have participated in interdisciplinary courses on tropical agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean. Thurston has supported efforts allowing more than a thousand Cornell students to participate in an annual two-week field trip to the Western Hemisphere tropics. He established a working group on mulch-based agriculture and served five years as chairman of the board of directors of the Consortium for International Crop Protection.
Norman Uphoff
Norman Uphoff directs the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD), continuing his 25 years of work in rural development. His focus has been on community-based natural resource management, sustainable agriculture, and local institutions. Through CIIFAD, Uphoff works to enhance social and human potential as well as seeking technical, agricultural and policy success. Most CIIFAD programs focus on constrained and vulnerable agroecosystems. However, in Southeast Asia, he works on improving the stagnating yields of irrigated rice and wheat cropland that provides grains for almost 20 percent of the world’s population. In addition to his work with CIIFAD, he directs the International Agriculture Program at Cornell University where he is a Professor of Government. Uphoff has served as a consultant to many organizations including the World Bank, USAID, the United Nations, FAO, The Ford Foundation, CARE, and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.

Jose Vincente-Chandler
Jose Vincente-Chandler designed agricultural production systems specifically for conditions in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. While working at the USDA Soil and Water Conservation Research Laboratory in Puerto Rico, he developed systems for efficient production of beef and milk on all-grass rations in steep pastures and tropical humidity, as well as high-density, full-sunlight coffee production. Vincente-Chandler also created solutions to address problems of growing rice and plantains for domestic needs. Vincente-Chandler was inducted into the Agricultural Research Service Hall of Fame in 1988.

Christine Vladimiroff
Christine Vladimiroff works to eliminate hunger in the United States and around the globe. Vladimiroff chairs the Board of Directors of Bread for the World, an advocacy organization seeking justice for the hungry by advocating their needs to lawmakers. She previously served seven years as President and CEO of Second Harvest, a national network of food banks feeding hundreds of thousands of hungry people throughout the country. She serves, by presidential appointment, on the Food Security Advisory Committee. A Benedictine nun, Vladimiroff is prioress at the Mount Saint Benedict Monastery in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Henry A. Wallace
Henry A. Wallace was instrumental in the founding of IICA. He pioneered the idea of “complementary agriculture,” focused on encouraging countries to produce crops that would not compete, but complement each other in the Americas and compete in global markets. In 1943, Wallace, as Vice President of the United States, placed the first stone of the headquarters for the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (today’s IICA). In addition to his international achievements, Wallace became a major figure in the development of hybrid corn. He founded the Hired Corn Company, now called Pioneer Hi-Bred, which is the world’s largest seed corn and soybean company. As U.S. Secretary of Agriculture (1933-1940), Wallace created many of the federal farm programs still in existence today.

Morris D. Whitaker
Morris D. Whitaker has spent almost 30 years promoting and developing programs in economics and rural development. Whitaker has worked in most Latin American countries, with the bulk of his efforts in Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Bolivia and the Dominican Republic. He is the author of seven books and numerous other publications. His ideas on the economic policies of water resources management, especially as a vital component of rural development, have helped reduce farmers’ dependence on the public sector for their irrigation needs. Whitaker’s work has provided a model in many developing countries. His work also provided guidance for reorganization of public sector water agencies into new roles in planning, technical assistance and applied research. While serving as director of the Utah State University Office of International Programs and Studies, Whitaker effectively linked the capabilities of the land-grant university system with the needs of people across the Americas.

Saul T. Wilson
Saul Wilson has improved human health through his achievements in veterinary epidemiology and public health. In more than 50 years as a scientist, Wilson helped control and eradicate bovine tuberculosis, hog cholera, African swine fever, pseudo-rabies, and exotic Newcastle disease. While he was Director of the National Program Planning Staff of USDA/APHIS Veterinary Services, procedures and policies were developed for licensing the veterinary biological products by recombinant DNA technology. Methods were also developed that increased the gene pool of cattle that were free of foot-and-mouth disease. In 1990.
USDA honored his contributions by creating a scholarship program in his name. The program attracts underrepresented groups in the APHIS workforce to careers in veterinary medicine and biological sciences. After retiring from USDA, he returned to his alma mater, Tuskegee University, where he heads the international program in veterinary medicine. Wilson has won many awards including recognition of distinguished service by the Dominican Republic and Dominican Veterinary Medicine Association.

Catherine E. O’Connor Woteki
Catherine Woteki serves as Dean of Iowa State University’s College of Agriculture. In 2002, her first year as dean, she helped implement several new initiatives including the Institute for Food Safety and Security and the Center for Integrated Animal Genomics. Woteki served as the first USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety, responsible for developing U.S. food safety policies through the President’s Council on Food Safety and the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Additionally, she had oversight of national safety for meat, poultry and egg products regulated by the Food Safety Inspection Service. During her tenure, implementation of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points system resulted in major declines in pathogen occurrences in meat and poultry products. Among other offices, Woteki served as USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics and as director of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Sciences/Institutes of Medicine. Policies established under her leadership have had a continuing impact on food safety and trade regulations.

E. Travis York, Jr.
E. Travis York, Jr. has spent a lifetime strengthening the land grant university system and its role in both domestic and international agricultural development. He has employed his talents as a scientist, educator, administrator and become a recognized leader in agriculture. In addition to supporting the mission of land grant universities, York served as an advisor to Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan. In that capacity, he traveled widely to provide agricultural assistance in countries throughout Latin America, Asia and Africa. His analysis of the agricultural development challenges faced by the countries of Central America and the Caribbean was a precursor to the Caribbean Basin Initiative. He continues to focus on alleviating world hunger, particularly on expanding food production to meet rapidly growing needs, making food safer and more accessible, and increasing production efficiency to lower food costs. He has received many national and international honors, with 7 awards or programs established in his name.

Allen M. Young
Allen M. Young has been a driving force in developing studies on sustainable cocoa production as well as rainforest education and preservation. An expert on cocoa pollination, he is studying the biological feasibility of cocoa production in preserved tropical forests. His study attempts to recreate the conditions of cocoa’s natural habitat and thereby reduce pests and disease. In his book, The Chocolate Tree, Young concluded that successful natural pollination of cocoa by insects called midges is tied to the ecology of the rainforest, where midges flourish. Because tropical forests provide habitat for as many as half of the species on earth, developing prudent uses of the forests might halt their decline. Young was one of the founders and now serves on the board of the Tirimbina Rainforest Center, an 800-acre rain forest preserve in Costa Rica, focused on research and education. Young is curator of zoology and vice president of collections, research, and public programs at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Patricia Young
Patricia Young has directed World Food Day activities in the United States since it was first observed in 1981. World Food Day, designed to increase awareness, understanding and informed, year-round action to alleviate hunger, is observed on October 16 in recognition of the 1945 founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Young’s efforts also started “Feeding Minds, Fighting Hunger,” a worldwide educational initiative. Now available in 10 languages with many more planned, the program includes curricula for children and youth to help them understand the problem of hunger and stimulate them to participate in solutions. Young believes that long-term impact of this work will create generations with more sensitivity to world hunger issues.
The strength of American agriculture is exemplified by the achievements of individuals like those honored in this publication. Many organizations and institutions also have enriched our agricultural progress and knowledge.

One unique American system stands out above the rest: the U.S. state universities and land grant colleges. The tenacity and vision of Jonathan Baldwin Turner from Illinois and Justin Smith Morrill of Vermont changed the course of U.S. history, and in so doing, world history. On the shoulders of these two giants the university land grant system was built when, on July 2, 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed the first Morrill Act “in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life.”

Most of IICA’s honorees were blessed by the knowledge and training delivered by this powerful system. Beyond U.S. borders, these effective colleges and universities have generously shared their bounty with the poor and hungry people of the world. Texas A&M University trained the innovators who built the modern Dominican Republic agriculture and agribusiness. Many agronomists and entrepreneurs who transformed Chilean agriculture were trained at, and received wise counsel from, the University of California, Davis. Their collective success has now become a global model. Michigan State University launched the agricultural marketing revolution in the Americas and the agri-food chain analysis it pioneered forms an integral part of today’s rural development strategies. The University of Florida and the University of Puerto Rico paved the way to intensive tropical agriculture and the former reinforced another great institution, Zamorano.

Iowa State University provided unique expertise in cereal and veterinary sciences. Utah State University, Colorado State University and the University of Nebraska created the human capital required to make deserts bloom. Ohio State University led the transformation of agricultural credit. Cornell University trained scientists and engineers and made possible the breakthroughs needed to make two ears of corn grow where only one had survived. The University of Georgia expanded the yields of cotton and peanuts in lands previously abandoned. Auburn University provided urgently needed options in aquaculture to feed growing populations. North Carolina State University led in soil sciences and integrated pest management.

Tuskegee University preserved the tradition set by Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver in working with vulnerable rural communities. Pennsylvania State University maintained a continuous process to improve pedagogical instruments in the agricultural disciplines.

We also acknowledge the courage and professional integrity demonstrated by many scholars in facing difficult issues, as demonstrated by faculty and students at the University of Wisconsin’s Land Tenure Center. And we recognize the University of Idaho for its science and outreach on the quintessential Andean crop—the humble potato.

We recognize the contributions of the MidAmerica International Agricultural Consortium (MIAC) comprising five universities (Iowa State University, Kansas State University, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska, Oklahoma State University) for its research and development programs in Latin America and collaboration with Mexico on agricultural and natural resource programs.

The Institute honors all the members of the National Association of State Universities and Land
Grant Colleges and, in so doing, also acknowledges the contributions made by the unsung many working in organizations dedicated to improving agriculture here and abroad.

Beyond those who launched and nurtured our current Era of Knowledge, one also finds outstanding institutions across the land. These groups include government agencies, private foundations, associations and corporations. They provide funding, research, manpower, and expertise in fields from economics to entomology, genetic engineering to conservation, veterinary medicine, food safety and more. They improve agricultural practices at home and help other nations by sharing knowledge and technology. We honor their efforts and achievements.

Government

Many government agencies—federal, state, local—have extended a friendly hand to agriculture in the Americas. Of these, our selection process has singled out: the U.S. Department of Agriculture, (founded by President Lincoln in May, 1862 and strengthened by one of IICA’s founders, Iowa’s Henry A. Wallace), the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Departments of Agriculture in the fifty states and four territories, all members of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, for their contributions in supporting agricultural prosperity in the U.S. and throughout the hemisphere.

Foundations and the Private Sector

The agricultural community in the Americas owes much to the work nurtured and supported by foundations, non-profit groups and private sector organizations including both trade associations and individual companies. In a very real sense, the entrepreneurs who shaped these groups have made possible the dissemination of agricultural knowledge and increasing opportunities for prosperity. Through their investments, leadership and commitment, these organizations have encouraged economic growth that leads to reduced poverty, increased food security, higher living standards and hence a brighter and peaceful future for all citizens.

A selected list represents the valuable contributions made by these outstanding organizations. One of them, the World Food Prize, inspired IICA’s recognition to these great Americans.

- Ford Foundation
- Grocery Manufacturers of America
- Kellogg Foundation
- Latin American Studies Association
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Winrock International—Henry A. Wallace Center for Agricultural and Environmental Policy
- World Cocoa Foundation
- The World Food Prize
The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture is a development organization that promotes food security, sustainable agricultural development and prosperity for the rural communities of the Americas. It seeks to support Member States in their pursuit of progress and prosperity through the development of rural people and agriculture so that they are more competitive, technologically prepared, environmentally sensitive and socially equitable.

Founded on October 7, 1942, IICA is the specialized agency for agriculture and rural well being of the Inter-American system. The Inter-American Board of Agriculture acts as IICA’s governing body and is composed of representatives from its 34 Member States from Canada to Argentina and the Caribbean. IICA Headquarters is located in San José, Costa Rica and provides technical services through its network of country offices in each Member State. There are also 14 nations in Europe and Asia that act as Observers to IICA proceedings and programs.

IICA’s institutional outreach includes services related to trade and market access issues, agribusiness development, agricultural health and food safety concerns, technological innovation and more broad-based holistic approaches to developing rural space that balance economic opportunity with environmental conservation. Developing policy environments and direct actions to reduce poverty and improve agricultural competitiveness are central to IICA activities.

As an international public institution for the 21st Century, IICA has a mandate to build new leadership capacities in Member States in order to shape global challenges into new opportunities that improve hemispheric understanding and institutional governance. This means forging new partnerships that are more responsive and provide greater investment opportunities for farmers, businessman and rural families whose livelihoods depend on agriculture. To this end, IICA also works closely with other public and private institutions as well as civic organizations to develop new ways to work together so that no child is hungry and that every family can attain its goals for a better life.
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