Meritorious Service
Award Presented
to
JOHN T. ALEXANDER

Mr. Alexander has been a member of the Society since 1948. He has served on the General Arrangements Committee, twice as Chairman of the Agronomy Section, and on the Publication’s Committee; has authored or coauthored seven papers presented at general meetings; and has authored or coauthored five papers in the ASSBT Proceedings or Journal. He was co-editor of the book *Sugarbeet Production, Principles and Practices* printed by Iowa State University Press. His career in the beet sugar industry started in 1947 as research agronomist for the Holly Sugar Corporation in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he became agricultural production manager in 1966. Between 1970 and 1973 he was sugarbeet consultant for Hawaiian Agronomic International, following which he became General Manager of the Red River Valley Cooperative, Inc. at Hillsboro, North Dakota. He assumed his present position as Assistant General Agriculturist–Extension, American Crystal Sugar Company, Moorhead, Minnesota in 1975. After attending Pueblo Junior College, Pueblo, Colorado he earned a B.S. degree in agronomy, technical soils in 1947 from Colorado State University. His studies were interrupted between 1942 and 1946 while serving as an enlisted man and officer in the Medical Corps and Parachute Field Artillery serving in the South Pacific. His further studies include graduate work at MIT in 1950-51 and an intensive course for industrial agronomists at Purdue University. He has contributed significantly to the industry through his investigations of the influence of nitrogen fertilizer application on sugarbeet quality and the development of associated analysis techniques.
Mr. Burtch has been a member of the Society since 1953. He has served three biennia as a director representing the Pacific Coast Region, has been Agronomy Section Chairman, and has served on the Awards Committee. He has authored or coauthored forty-one papers which have appeared in the Proceedings and Journal. His career in the beet sugar industry started in 1952 as an agronomist for Spreckels Sugar Company in the Sacramento Valley. He was transferred to the Fresno Area in 1960 in the same capacity and was promoted to Chief Agronomist in charge of agronomic research in 1965. Mr. Burtch was born in a small agricultural community in western New York state where he attended elementary and high school, working his summer vacations in agriculture. He attended Washington and Jefferson College in southwestern Pennsylvania where he received a B.S. in chemistry in 1944. He entered the Navy after graduation, serving as officer in charge of a small landing craft in the Pacific theater. Following World War II he attended Utah State University where he earned a M.S. in soil science. He moved to Salinas, California in 1948 where he became an agronomist with the USDA ARS at the U.S. National Rubber Research Station. Mr. Burtch consistently has cooperated with other sugarbeet scientists, both private and public, in research on problems of common interest in sugarbeet agriculture.
Meritorious Service Award Presented to GERALD E. COE

Dr. Coe has been a member of the Society since 1954. He has served one biennium on the Nominating Committee, has been Genetics and Variety Improvement Section Chairman, and Chairman of the Plant Breeders Forum. He has authored or coauthored twenty-three published scientific papers, ten of which have been in either the Proceedings or Journal of the ASSBT. He has been author or coauthor of fifteen papers presented at ASSBT biennial meetings with additional contributions to the Eastern Regional biennial meetings. He began his work with sugar beets in 1952 as a plant geneticist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland. He has cooperated in developing breeding lines with improved tolerance to blackroot and leaf spot diseases, and has participated in the release of twenty lines to industry cooperators. These breeding lines used in commercial hybrids have contributed greatly to sugar beet yield and production increases, particularly in the eastern U.S. sugar beet production areas. Dr. Coe was born in Illinois but moved to Texas where later he attended the Texas College of Arts and Industries and from which he was awarded a B.S. in agricultural education. Later he attended the University of Texas where he earned a Ph.D. in botany with a minor in plant genetics. His military service from 1944 to 1946 was in the Infantry.
Meritorious Service Award Presented to

F. J. HILLS

Dr. Hills has been a member of the Society since 1948 and has served as Chairman of the Agronomy Section and the Plant Pathology Section; as a Session Chairman on several occasions; on the Nominating Committee; and most recently as Agricultural Program Chairman. He is perhaps the Society's most prolific contributor of papers for both publication and presentation at general meetings — he has authored or coauthored more than 135 technical and semi-technical publications, 25 of which have been in the Proceedings or Journal of the ASSBT. Dr. Hills graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1941 with a B.S. in agricultural economics. From 1942-1946 he served in the U.S. Marine Corps, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant. His service to the beet sugar industry began in 1946 as field superintendent and agronomist for Spreckels Sugar Company at Bakersfield, California. In 1951, he returned to college at the University of California at Davis where he earned the M.S. in plant pathology, then started on his present career as extension agronomist on the Davis campus. He completed his studies for the Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1961. On sabbatical leave in 1965-66 he helped lay the groundwork for research on the yellow-wilt disease of sugarbeet in Chile. In 1971, he was on a three month's leave to study the yellow virus of sugarbeet at Broom's Barn Experiment Station in England. Most recently he has been coauthor of the book Agricultural Experimentation, Design and Analysis, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1978.
Meritorious Service Award Presented to DONALD L. OLDEMEYER

Dr. Oldemeyer has been a member of the Society since 1956, having served three biennia as a Director, one biennium on the Editorial Committee, and one biennium on the Committee on Constitution and By-laws. He has been the coauthor of two papers in the ASSBT Journal and has given papers at eight biennial meetings. He began his career in the beet sugar industry in 1954, at Nyssa, Oregon, as Assistant Plant Breeder for the Amalgamated Sugar Company, where he currently is the Manager of Seed Production and Development. His activities have included the development of curly top-resistant varieties, general agronomic research with sugarbeets, studies of storage losses, and beet seed production. He is on the boards of directors for the Western Seed Production Corporation, West Coast Beet Seed Company, and the Beet Sugar Development Foundation. He was reared on a sugarbeet farm near Brush in northeastern Colorado and enrolled at Colorado State University in 1942. His education was interrupted while serving in the U.S. Army, after which he returned to receive a B.S. degree in agronomy in 1948. He earned a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University with a major in agronomy and a minor in botany, following which he joined the staff at the Irrigation Branch Experiment Station at Prosser, Washington as Assistant Agronomist. He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology and has been active in local government and church activities.
Mr. Sunderland has been a member of the Society since 1956. He has served on the General Arrangements Committee, the Advisory Council, and the Nominating Committee; as Director, Agriculture at Large; as Program Committee Chairman; and presently as a Director. He started in the sugarbeet business as an apprentice fieldman for the Great Western Sugar Company at Scottsbluff, Nebraska in 1947. The following year he was promoted to Fieldman and served several points in Nebraska in that capacity before being promoted to Assistant Agricultural Manager at Scottsbluff. In 1955, he was transferred to the Northern Ohio Sugar Company, a subsidiary of Great Western, where he was named District Agricultural Manager. In 1973, he was appointed Vice President-Agriculture for Michigan Sugar Company, a post he presently holds. Through the years he has been a leader in the transition from wide rows to narrower rows, the use of herbicides, planting to final stand, improvement of beet receiving equipment, and other agricultural practices in Ohio and Michigan. He is a Director of the Beet Sugar Development Foundation and West Coast Beet Seed Company. A native of Missouri, he received a B.S. degree in soil science from the University of Missouri in 1947 after spending 3½ years in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. He has been active in civic affairs throughout the years and served in numerous capacities in local, county, and state organizations.
Mr. Yeager has spent essentially a lifetime in the beet sugar industry, having been reared on a sugarbeet farm five miles south of Longmont, Colorado. His career with Holly Sugar Corporation began in 1947 as a farm agent at the Harden, Montana factory, where he was promoted to Chief Agriculturist in 1949. A year later he was named Chief Agriculturist for Holly's Worland Plant. In 1956 he was transferred to the same position at Swink, Colorado. Three years later he was promoted to Assistant Eastern Agricultural Manager with offices in Colorado Springs and two years later was promoted to Eastern Agricultural Manager. In January, 1965, he was appointed General Agriculturist and was elected Vice President–Agriculture six months later. He was promoted to his present position as senior Vice President–Agriculture in June of 1975. Glen graduated from Colorado State University in 1939 with a degree in agricultural economics. Between graduation and his joining Holly, he worked for International Harvester Company at its Cheyenne sales office; was named County Agricultural Agent at Montrose, Colorado; and General Agent and Agriculturist for the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad at Grand Junction, Colorado. Glen has been a member of the ASSBT since 1952, and served as a Director, Vice President, and President. He has served as Director and President of the West Coast Beet Seed Company, as Director and President of the Western Seed Production Corporation, and as a lecturer at the Beet Sugar Institute.
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

James H. Fischer, Fort Collins, Colorado
Russell T. Johnson, San Francisco, California
Asa C. Maxson, Longmont, Colorado

FORTY-YEAR VETERAN AWARDS

Sam C. Campbell, West Coast Beet Seed Co.
Beverly E. Easton, Private Consultant
Ernest M. Hartmann, Spreckels Sugar Division/Amstar Corporation (Retired)
Sabin G. Hooper, The Great Western Sugar Co.
Ralph S. Lambdin, Spreckels Sugar Division/Amstar Corporation (Retired)
Edward F. Lansdown, Holly Sugar Corporation
Somers Moore, Spreckels Sugar Division/Amstar Corporation
Dudley E. Sims, American Crystal Sugar Co.
Edward L. Swift, American Crystal Sugar Co.
Wilson O. Weckel, Spreckels Sugar Division/Amstar Corporation (Retired)