



...A report to Soil & Crop Sciences Faculty by David Baltensperger



<http://soilcrop.tamu.edu>  November 20, 2006

Thanks to all of you for making the ASA-CSSA-SSSA meetings in Indianapolis such an Aggie powerhouse. A Quick search indicated that Soil and Crop Science faculty were involved directly in more than 120 presentations at the meetings. This does not include the fact that our Agronomy Club was awarded the Presidents Honor (Congratulations Dr. Zuberer and students). Extension recognition was given for both our variety testing web page and forage newsletter. View them at <http://varietytesting.tamu.edu> and <http://forages.tamu.edu>. A special thanks to the staff at home, that made the arrangements and announcements for the Aggie Mixer and helped develop and collect data for so many excellent oral presentations. I look forward to seeing even more of you at next years meeting in New Orleans.

This year we were fortunate to have Drs. Milt Engelke and Bill Payne elected as Fellows of ASA. Dr. Engelke was also elected as a Fellow of CSSA. Congratulations to both. Former student, Kevin Jensen was elected as Fellow of CSSA as well and former student Michael Vepraskas was identified as the Outstanding Soil Science Educator.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of our long-time oat/small grain breeder, Dr. Milton McDaniel. We appreciate his many contributions to the department and society over the years as we remember him.

It is always great to hear about our students in action and one item in particular was brought to my attention this week – the donation of sod by our Turf club to Habitat for Humanity—keep up the good work.

Dr. Ralph Wanniska was elected to the Tortilla Hall of fame. He is the first researcher to be recognized and is to be congratulated for his many valuable contributions to the industry.

Preparation for the departmental review on Dec 6 (9 working days) and faculty reviews are my primary calendar items for the next two weeks, however, I will also be in Amarillo for the Farm and Ranch Show and meetings with the Corn and Wheat Boards. I hope you all enjoy your Holiday next week – I plan to visit my family in Nebraska.

Tuesday the department will be co-hosting our annual Thanksgiving Lunch – Hope to see you there.

HEEP CENTER
Annual Thanksgiving Lunch
Tuesday, November 21, 2006
Serving in Room 424, Heep Center @ 11:45 a.m.
Seating in atrium areas and conference rooms.
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Each person should bring a dish to serve eight. (If you bring a guest, please bring a dish on their behalf, or make one dish to serve at least 12.). Turkey and Dressing will be provided by Soil and Crop Sciences. Ham and Rolls will be provided by Entomology.

Position Updates:

Turf Breeding Position at Dallas --- Advertised
Environmental Soil Scientist at Vernon --- Advertised
Soil Clay Mineralogist at College Station --- Advertised
Extension Forage Specialist at Overton --- Advertised
Wheat Breeder at College Station --- Interviews being scheduled
Extension Agronomist at Uvalde --- Interviews scheduled

Future Events:

- Nov. 21, 2:30 - Round Table, Wenge Lin, Watermelon Breeder from Zhengzhou Fruit and Vegetable Research Center in China
- December 5 & 6 - Texas Plant Protection Conference at the College Station Hilton
- December 6, 2006 - Departmental Review
- December 11-13 - Texas Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Austin, TX
- January 10, 2007 - Annual Meeting Soil & Crop in Room 101 @ 1:30 pm.

If you have future events for the Aggie Agenda, please send them to Judy Young at:

j-young@tamu.edu

Thanks for all your efforts to help prepare for the departmental review.



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