

# AWARDS

Presented at the  
2019 General Meeting  
of the ASSBT

The Disneyland Hotel  
Anaheim, CA

February 25 - February 28, 2019

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD****40th Biennial Meeting**

**Dr. Ann Smigocki** – Ann has served the sugar beet industry as a Research Geneticist with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, MD for more than two decades. Dr. Smigocki's research has significantly advanced our knowledge of hormonal effects on sugar beet growth, development, and tolerance to insects. Ann has developed a transient gene expression system that provides the sugar beet research community and industry a method to rapidly screen gene functions, and she has identified key genes that are involved in resistance against the sugar beet root maggot. Dr. Smigocki is internationally recognized as an expert in identifying the genes and molecular events that are involved in disease and pest resistance, and she has a long history of applying her research findings toward the development of sugar beets that are genetically more tolerant to fungal diseases and insects. Additionally, she has served the society as a 13-year member of the editorial board for the *Journal of Sugar Beet Research*.

**Dr. Gary A. Secor** – Gary is a native of Bozeman, Montana, and received both his undergraduate and master's degrees from Montana State University. After receiving his Ph.D. degree in Plant Pathology from the University of California – Davis in 1977, he joined the faculty of the Department of Plant Pathology at North Dakota State University in 1978 where he currently serves as Professor. While his early career at NDSU focused exclusively on potato disease management and variety development, he expanded his research program to include sugar beet pathology in 1996 when he initiated research to understand the development of fungicide resistance in *Cercospora beticola*. Later Dr. Secor expanded his program to unravel the etiology of novel *Fusarium* and bacterial diseases of sugar beet. Dr. Secor has helped the industry develop several 'resistance management strategies' that have been the backbone of many industry recommendations to sugar beet growers. Gary is recognized by many as one of the worldwide leaders in fungicide resistance management.

---

## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

### 40th Biennial Meeting

**Richard C. (Rick) Mont** - Rick began his sugar industry career in 1967, as an Assistant Chemist with the Great Western Sugar Company in Billings, Montana and Goodland, Kansas. Rick was instrumental in the first Quality Systems Initiative with Great Western Sugar Company in Brighton, Colorado. Within a few years, Rick assumed the Factory Chemist position in Greeley, Colorado, and Fremont, Ohio Facilities. While at Fremont, Rick moved into the factory operations as Assistant Superintendent and was promoted to Assistant Factory Manager, managing the juice campaign responsibilities.

Rick was hired by the American Crystal Sugar Company in June of 1977, working with the initial Ion Exchange System at Moorhead, MN. Rick's responsibilities with the company were diverse and included Assistant Superintendent; Factory Superintendent; Factory Manager at Moorhead, Minnesota; Process Engineer, General Chemist, and Operations Manager in Drayton, ND. In 1988, he was promoted to Director of Total Quality and four years later was assigned as Manager of Quality Assurance. In 1995, Rick was assigned as a Special Project Engineer at the Corporate Headquarters where he returned to manage the Moorhead factory for one campaign to assist in the training and development of upcoming candidates for similar positions. In 1997, Rick accepted the position of Production Superintendent at American Crystal's East Grand Forks Facility and held the position for four years until his retirement in 2001. Rick's dedication to beet processing education has been invaluable and continues today with his involvement in the MIBST Processing Schools.

**Dr. Don Morishita** – Don is an Idaho native, having been born and raised on a farm near Idaho Falls. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Utah State University and both his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Weed Science from the University of Idaho. Don began his career as a weed scientist at Kansas State University in 1986 and in 1990 he joined the University of Idaho Faculty of Weed Science. Along with Don's teaching responsibilities he was the Extension Specialist, and the superintendent of the University of Idaho Kimberly Research and Extension Center. His research and extension responsibilities focus on integrated weed management in sugar beet, dry bean, and small grain cropping systems. Don's research and extension efforts in sugar beet include optimizing economic returns and herbicide resistance management strategies with herbicide tank mixes, clarifying the effects of conservation tillage practices on weed management and sugar yield, monitoring of glyphosate-resistant weeds in Idaho and Oregon, and investigating the potential hormetic effects of herbicides on sugar beet yields. In addition, Don has worked tirelessly for years on planning and organizing the annual Snake River Sugar Beet Conference in Idaho.

**Dr. Gerhard Steinrücken** - Dr. Steinrücken has spent his entire career advancing sugar beet breeding and technology. From 1985 to 2010, he was an active plant breeder advancing to the Head of Beet Research that influenced USA and European sugar beet variety development. Early in his career, Gerhard introduced diploid breeding to Strube-Dieckmann in partnership with VanderHave. His efforts also focused on Rhizomania tolerance and the genetic base he developed is still used within the SESVanderHave program in the USA and European markets. After leading Syngenta's European Biological Assessment efforts, Dr. Steinrücken had an opportunity to refocus on the crop where his career began. In the time spent directing the research efforts within SESVanderHave, Dr. Steinrücken has made invaluable contributions to our program. His leadership and guidance has made an immense positive impact on how SESVanderHave operates and has strengthened our human capital and process efficiencies. His influence will be carried forward for many years by ensuring continued success for SESVanderHave and global sugar beet growers.

---

## SAVITSKY MEMORIAL AWARD

### American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists



**Arne Sloth Jensen** has served the sugar beet industry for over 50 years. He started working in the beet industry immediately after graduation in 1966. His initial work was with the development and installation of DDS slope diffusers. His first work with steam drying of beet pulp started in 1979. It was in 1981, with the onset of the oil crisis, that the Danish Sugar Corporation was willing to work with Mr. Jensen and appropriate funding was committed to developing a steam drier. It all started with three engineers

and fundamental research in a laboratory over a 2 year period.

In 1983, a pilot plant was built at the Stege Sugar Factory in Denmark. In 1985, a prototype structure was built and after struggling for a few years, the first steam drier became functional in 1987. Unfortunately, the Stege sugar factory closed in 1990 but not before the French sugar factory, Nangis, ordered a steam drier for 25 t/h of water evaporation. Mr. Jensen eventually moved to NIRO when the Danish Sugar Corporation stopped producing equipment.

Over time, several steam driers were installed at different European sugar factories, especially in the former Eastern Germany. In 1997, Mr. Jensen became a consultant on steam driers and his first big job was in the US where he assisted SMBSC with the installation of two steam driers and the evaporation station. Mr. Jensen eventually founded EnerDry A/S in 1998 and successfully started to install steam driers across the United States. These driers helped the sugar beet industry be more efficient by saving energy cost along the way. It also helped reduce emissions which was a benefit to everyone. As CEO of EnerDry A/S Mr. Jensen is known as the “father of steam drying, the intelligent way of drying beet pulp.”

For his dedicated service to the sugar beet industry and the success of his steam drier, Arne Sloth Jensen was honored as the Savitsky Memorial Award winner at the 40th Biennial Meeting of the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists in Anaheim, CA in 2019.

## **40 YEARS IN THE INDUSTRY**

### **American Crystal Sugar Company**

Anthony M Newquist  
 Bradley G Erickson  
 Brian S Karboviak  
 Daniel J Bueckers  
 David B Gilleland  
 Dean P Marvig  
 Dennis H Gerlach  
 Gary W Thom  
 Gregg P Enger  
 Jeff Moritz  
 Jeffrey A Olson  
 Jerry Christenson  
 Joseph C Hegg  
 Mark D Mitchell  
 Michael D Frank  
 Michael L Effhauser  
 Milton M Elhard  
 Paul A Dahlman  
 Ray P Krull  
 Ronald A Clemetson  
 Sandra M Kruse  
 Scott T Wollin  
 Stanley A Walker  
 Steven D Fish  
 Thomas F Froehler  
 Timothy L Meshefski

### **Amalgamated Sugar Company**

David R Hawk  
 Diego Castellanoz  
 Don B Fenstermaker  
 Julie E Bennett  
 Michael J Fowers  
 Pamela J Fowler  
 Steven C Woody  
 Vicki Burnett  
 Curtis Kessel  
 Tim Vandeventer

### **Beet Sugar Development**

#### **Foundation**

Paul D Pfenninger

#### **Betaseed**

Robert Mason

#### **Lantic, Inc**

Edward Derkson

### **Michigan Sugar Company**

Percilla Owens  
 Thomas Gracias  
 Luis Rivera  
 Robert Trowhill  
 Gerald Grevel  
 Mike Millershaski

### **Minn-Dak Farmers' Cooperative**

Donald Facey  
 Robert Grotluschen  
 Thomas Knudsen  
 David Lindstrom  
 Valerie Nelson  
 Steven Ziegelmann

### **Sidney Sugars, Inc**

Brent Coon  
 Kim Rehbein  
 William Voss

### **Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative**

Stephen J Waldorf  
 Timothy R Van Der Hagen  
 Allan L Rosaasen  
 James E Schueller  
 Kallyn J Larsen  
 Porfirio Martinez  
 Kim L Savoie  
 Jeffery Slettedahl  
 John A Fink  
 Michael W Dreier  
 Karen D Zieske  
 Kevin M Zimmer  
 Daniel Johnson  
 Darwin H Hauptli

### **Western Sugar Cooperative**

Gerald Sterkel  
 Frank Woyak  
 Kenneth Blevins  
 Ron Schmidt  
 Frank Garcia  
 Les Reichert

### **Wyoming Sugar**

William Kumpe  
 Florencio Deniz  
 Todd Bryngelson

### **USDA-ARS**

Larry Campbell

