

Excellence in Extension Award

This award was established in 1988 by the APS Council in recognition of excellence in extension plant pathology. The award is presented to those involved in formal plant pathology extension with recognized superior contributions in developing or implementing leadership roles in local, regional, or national honor societies or professional organizations.

Howard F. Schwartz



Howard F. Schwartz was born in Grand Island, NE. He received a B.S. degree in agronomy from the University of Nebraska and an M.S. degree in plant pathology and plant breeding from the University of Minnesota. In 1977 he received his Ph.D. degree in life sciences (plant pathology) from the University of Nebraska. He joined CIAT in Cali, Colombia, as a senior research bean pathologist in 1977. His program emphasized development of germ plasm resistance to priority fungal and bacterial pathogens of beans in Latin America and eastern Africa. He collaborated with and trained national program scientists

and students from these areas.

In 1980 he joined the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Colorado State University as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1985 and to professor in 1991. His appointment is 50% research and 50% extension. His program addresses fungal and bacterial disease problems of major row crops.

Shortly after joining the department Dr. Schwartz assumed leadership and coalesced the bean research/extension group into a dynamic interdisciplinary team that provides strong support to the industry.

While Dr. Schwartz's program emphasizes personal interaction with clients, he is also a leader in innovative delivery technologies, as exemplified by his leadership in the development of a statewide network of electronic weather stations (COAGMET) and the application of this technology to weekly pest alerts (BEANET and ONIONET). These programs allow rapid distribution of IPM information and timely application of appropriate strategies. Dr. Schwartz has also been instrumental in development of time-sensitive IPM information for satellite transmission. The system provides timely pest alerts and digitized illustrations of disease problems. This technology is on the cutting edge of information delivery and is the type of innovative information dissemination that will be critical to the future of extension plant pathology.

Dr. Schwartz has edited five books and bulletins on dry bean problems. He has authored 16 book chapters, more than 90 papers in trade and scientific journals, and 25 extension bulletins, as well as contributed to newsletters and releases. He has produced five videotapes on onion and bean disease management and is developing a library of digitized electronic images (>3,000) of plant pests and production practices for CD-ROM products and satellite delivery of IPM programs for Colorado and the surrounding region. Dr. Schwartz has also served as an associate and senior editor of *Plant Disease*.

Dr. Schwartz also serves as an advisor and committee member in the departmental graduate program and has been involved in training international graduate students.

Dr. Schwartz is an exceptional colleague and extension specialist whose good humor, enthusiasm, and commitment are emblematic of our Society and this award.