

Bio-Diversity in Modern Agriculture through High Yielding Crops

Biographies

Dr. Arden Andersen is a soil scientist, agricultural consultant and a physician. He specializes in the management of soils, crops and animals in a productive, profitable and environmentally sustainable way. He is a consultant on education, product formulation and market development, and a world authority in biological agriculture. He holds a B.S. in Agricultural Education, a Ph.D. in Biophysics and has a medical degree. He consults to agricultural enterprises worldwide. He is the author of cutting edge books that bridge the gap between soil and plant science and human health: *The Anatomy of Life and Energy in Agriculture, Science in Agriculture and Real Medicine, Real Health*. Dr. Andersen spent ten years with two of the US's pre-eminent biological farming experts, Dr. Carey Reams and Dr. Dan Skow. Dr. Andersen also practices preventative and nutritional medicine in the United States and lectures on soils, agronomy and human health. He is currently working on his Masters of Science in Public Health and training in Occupational Health.

Dr. Dan Skow D.V.M. a practicing veterinarian and partner of Fairmont Veterinary Clinic in Fairmont, Minnesota. Dan is also the founder and partner of International Ag Labs Inc., a lab devoted to carrying on the legacy of Dr. Reams' approach to soil fertility and crop growth. Dr. Dan is a long-time trainer in teaching Dr. Reams' methods.

Bob Streit born and raised on a farm in Mitchell County Iowa, graduated from ISU with a degree in Plant Pathology and Pest Management. He worked four years with ServiTech Inc. Bob then organized the agronomy services with a large co-op in central Iowa. He then worked 19 years with DeKalb and Cargill/Mycogen Seed Companies as a tech service agronomist. After multiple mergers he began working for farming clients as a consulting agronomist in Iowa. Until 2000 Bob also helped work and manage the home farm. In recent years he has been traveling to South America to study soybean rust and work with their pathologists on control methods. This has led him to work with the U.S. Rust Task Force and other projects with the USDA.

Larry Acker was born and raised on the family farm near Polo, Illinois. He received his Agricultural Science degree majoring in Geology and Chemistry at the University of Illinois. He finished his masters degree in late 1967. He was also awarded the Certified Professional Agronomist and Certified Soil Scientist from the American Society of Agronomy in 1979 for work in soils and geology. After graduating from college, Larry worked for the USDA for ten and one-half years. He then left the federal government for farming in 1979 and has since served as a consultant for numerous individuals, county and state units of government. He has published a newspaper weather column called 'The Hot Corner' since August of 1982. Larry is currently a weather consultant for a newspaper chain and does their short and immediate range forecasts. He is a member of the Foundation for the Study of Cycles and is also a contributing member of the America Weather Observers (AWO). He has over 30 years experience in the futures markets. He is a licensed Commodities Trading Advisor (C.T.A.) but limits his advice to active clients. He is in demand for speaking engagements to groups with widely varied interests.

Dr. Michael McNeill was born and raised in Algona, Iowa. He received his B.S. degree in Agronomy from Iowa State University, he then later received his M.S. degree in Plant Physiology and Ph.D. in Statistical Genetics. Prior to developing a new company called Ag Advisory, Ltd., Mike worked as a Research Scientist and Research Director. Ag Advisory, Ltd. is an agricultural consulting company working with clients from Texas to Saskatchewan, Canada.

Jeffrey D. Littrell is Vice President of B.R.T. and FHR Farms and has studied with Dr. Skow and Dr. Andersen for over 15 years working and formulating liquid and dry fertilizers, building soil programs, and using the Morgan soil test. Jeff has studied at U of MN Waseca/Rochester, IA State, and Purdue University. He has designed programs for agriculture crops and turf. Additionally, he continues to work closely with the family farm, which has been organic for 14 years.

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Don M. Huber Dr. Huber is Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Idaho (1957, 1959), a Ph-D from Michigan State University (1963), and is a graduate of the US Army Command & General Staff College and Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He was Cereal Pathologist at the University of Idaho for 8 years before joining the Department of Botany & Plant Pathology at Purdue University in 1971. His agricultural research the past 50 years has focused on the epidemiology and control of soilborne plant pathogens with emphasis on microbial ecology, cultural and biological controls, and physiology of host-parasite relationships. Research also includes nitrogen metabolism, micronutrient physiology, inhibition of nitrification, and nutrient-disease interactions. In addition to his academic positions and research, Dr. Huber has had several concurrent careers including 14 years as a professional labor-relations mediator with 7 years service on the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board as a Mediator/Fact Finder/Conciliator, and served 12 years on two school boards with recognition as a Master Board Member from the Indiana School Board Association and Honesty in Public Service Award from Taxpayers United For Fairness. He retired in 1995 as Associate Director of the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center (Colonel) after 41+ years of active and reserve military service. He has received various awards for his scientific accomplishments and contributions to government. Dr. Huber is an active scientific reviewer; international research cooperater with projects in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Mexico, and Russia; and a consultant to

academia, industry, and government. He is author or co-author of over 300 journal articles, Experiment Station Bulletins, research presentations, book chapters and review articles; 3 books, and 84 special invited publications. He is internationally recognized for his expertise in the development of nitrification inhibitors to improve the efficiency of N fertilizers, interactions of the form of nitrogen, manganese and other nutrients in disease, herbicide-nutrient-disease interactions, techniques for rapid microbial identification, and cultural control of plant diseases. His greatest accomplishment has been his marriage to Paula Huber and their 11 children and 35 grandchildren. Dr. Huber currently serves as APS coordinator of the USDA National Plant Disease Recovery System (NPDRS).

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