

# AWARDS

Presented at the  
2005 General Meeting  
of the ASSBT

Riviera Resort and Racquet Club  
Palm Springs, California

March 2 – 5, 2005

### **Honorary Membership**

#### **Michel Desprez**

Michel was born in Cappelle en Pevele France. He began his career in the sugarbeet seed industry in 1952. Michel served as Chairman of Florimond Desprez Veuve & Fils, the research division of Florimond Desprez from 1963 till he retired in 2001. Since that time he has served as a consultant for the company. Michel was President of the French Breeders Association; was head of the genetics group and a member of the Scientific Committee of the IIRB. He is a member of the ASSBT, the SFG (French Society of Genetics), and on the Board of the ITB (French Sugar Beet Technical Institute). He is also Vice President of Organobio (the French Association for Bioindustries). Michel also serves as an expert for the FAO and has carried out several missions for this group. Through his efforts, Florimond Desprez has developed several subsidiaries in Morocco, Spain, Czech, Italy, Belgium and Russia, and in 2000 purchased Seedex Inc., a company specializing in sugarbeet seed in Colorado.

#### **Stewart Bass**

Stew was born and raised in Stevenville, Montana. He graduated from the University of Montana with a degree in Business Administration. He began his career with American Crystal Sugar Company in 1954. In 1975 he was named General Agriculturalist, and in 1981 was named Vice President of Agriculture. Stew retired in 1986. Stew served on the Board of Directors of the BSDF from 1975-85 and was President in 1983. Stew held many positions within the ASSBT including, General Arrangements Committee, General Program Chairman in 1972, served on the Board of Directors, and was President in 1983-1983. Stew also served on the Board of Directors of West Coast Beet Seed Company from 1974-1986 and was President in 1976. In addition to his many other citations for bravery in World War II, Stew received the Navy Cross for his service as a Navy torpedo-bomber pilot in the Pacific Theater.

#### **Robert Levos**

Bob was born in Wheatland, ND and graduated from Interstate Business College in Fargo, ND. He also attended the Beet End and Sugar End of the McGinnis Institute of Beet Sugar Technology. Bob joined American Crystal Sugar Company in 1965. He served as an agriculturalist until 1975, Agricultural Manager from 1975 – 1981, General Agriculturalist from 1981-1986 and Vice President of Agriculture from 1986-1998,

at which time he retired. Bob served on the Board of Directors of the BSDF from 1986-1998 and on the Board of Directors of the ASSBT from 1988-1989. We remember Bob best for his great sense of humor and serving as Master of Ceremonies for this Awards Banquet for many years. Bob also attended several Summer IIRB meetings with the ASSBT group. Bob was also on the Board of Directors of West Coast Beet Seed Company from 1986 –1998, serving on many committees, and as President in 1990.

### **Meritorious Service Award**

#### **Dr. Carol Windels**

Carol joined the University of Minnesota in 1984 at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center. She has developed a research program that is recognized at the national and international level. Today she is considered one of the top plant pathologists in the world relating to soilborne diseases of sugarbeets. In addition to her research program, Carol is highly involved with the companies that support our industry. She has presented many papers and seminars to American Crystal Sugar Company, Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative and Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative. She has presented many papers at the ASSBT and the American Phytopathological Society, of which she has served as President. In 2003 she was named a fellow in the APS.

#### **Dr. John Gallian**

John has spent his career as an Extension Specialist at first the University of Nevada, Reno and at the University of Idaho. John is a member of the ASSBT and the American Phytopathological Society. In his position as Associate Extension Professor, he has 100 percent responsibility for sugarbeets. His experience includes agronomy, weed control, fertility, diseases, pest management and seed production. He has conducted an extensive variety-testing program and field and laboratory diagnostic procedures. He also serves as the liaison between the University of Idaho and the sugarbeet industry. He has International consulting experience including the Peoples Republic of China, Russia and Spain.

#### **George E. Burt**

George began his career as a Research Agronomist in Mason City, Iowa with American Crystal Sugar Company in 1969. In 1971, he transferred to Rocky Ford, Colorado and again to Moorhead, Minnesota in 1974.

George became Assistant Manager of West Coast Beet Seed Company in 1977 and was promoted to Manager and Secretary in 1980. He has seen many thousands of acres of hybrid sugarbeet seed grown under his direction and initiated a number of new production practices such as replanting, as needed, over-wintered stecklings in the early spring to facilitate small productions of new hybrids that looked promising. George has co-authored several papers for the ASSBT, given oral presentations and served on the Board of Directors. He also authored articles for Crystallized Facts and along with Dr. Russ Johnson, co-authored the History of West Coast Beet Seed Company.

#### **40 Year Veteran Awards**

Bob C. Stephens – Michigan Sugar Company  
Herbert C. Wilson – Michigan Sugar Company  
Jack A Fulton – Western Sugar Cooperative  
Alice Takacs – Rogers Sugar Ltd.  
Eugene Kramer – Monitor Sugar Company  
Verda Rost – The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Arland Olson – The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Gilbert Wells – The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Bob Dunbar – The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Steve Coley – The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Charles Schmalz – The Amalgamated Sugar Company