

A447 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY RESEARCH AWARD COMMITTEE

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

The Committee consists of the Chair plus six members.

The term of office for members is two years.

The Chair serves for one year.

C. Functions:

1. To encourage nominations for this award.
2. To become familiar with the Guidelines and Procedures for this award and to be responsible that all nominations fulfill the required criteria of eligibility for the award.
3. To evaluate nominations and to select from among those nominated the most outstanding nominee for the award.

D. Procedure:

1. The ASA Headquarters Office distributes the nominations to the Committee members and advises them of the scoring or ranking procedure to be followed. The Chair transmits any special instructions to members.
2. The Chair of A447 reports the results of the Committee's selection process to the General Awards Chair.
3. The Chair of A447 serves as a member of the Society's General Awards Committee.
4. The Chair of A447 submits an annual report as requested by the Society.

E. Presidential Responsibilities:

The ASA President:

1. Appoints new members to replace those whose terms expire and appoints the Chair of the Committee.
2. Cooperates with the Committee in its activities, as appropriate or in response to need.
3. Notifies the Committee directly or via General Awards Chair of all deadlines on award selection, annual report, etc.
4. Receives and takes action directly, or by referring to the ASA Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors, as appropriate, all suggestions and/or recommendations for action from the Committee.

F. Description of Award:

The Environmental Quality Research Award is presented to recognize excellence in environmental quality research by an agronomic scientist. The award consists of a certificate and an honorarium of \$1,000.

G. Award Criteria:

The award is intended to recognize contributions which have enhanced the basic understanding of (a) the behavior and fate of pollutants in terrestrial and/or aquatic ecosystems, and (b) stability of an ecosystem in response to disturbances resulting from the land for food and energy production and society's needs to dispose of and/or utilize waste products. Principal criteria to be used in the selection process are creativity and originality of the research and significance of the research and its contribution to the field of environmental quality.

H. Format for Nominations:

A format guide, approved by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, is issued each year. The Chair and Committee members shall receive a copy of this guide at the time it is mailed from Headquarters.

I. Eligibility of Nominations:

Nominations for these awards are accepted only from individual members of the Society. Members of the Executive Committee and members of the award committee are not eligible to submit nominations.

J. Eligibility of Nominees:

Membership in the Society is not required for this award.

K. Team Nominations:

Nomination of a team is acceptable, provided the following criteria are met: (a) at least one member of the team is an agronomist; (b) where other disciplines are represented on the team, the agronomist must have contributed 50% or more to the team effort; (c) only publications where all team members are authors, or honors and awards received by the team, may be listed; individual efforts must be omitted from the team nomination.

L. Scoring or Ranking Procedure:

Each member of the committee ranks the nominees in order from 1 to n (the number of nominees). Each member's ranking is conveyed in writing to the Chair, who totals the points received by each nominee. The award recipient is the nominee receiving the lowest score. The Chair may vote in all selection ballots, but the Chair's selections must be made before seeing the selection of the other members. The award need not be presented in a given year if it is judged that the nominees do not meet the criteria.

M. Revising Guidelines or Procedures:

The award committee may recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, description, selection process of recipients, etc., for this award. All recommendations must be approved by the ASA Board of Directors or Executive Committee before said recommendations may be implemented. It is preferable to submit recommendations through the Society Awards Chair; however, recommendations may be submitted through the President or directly to the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

N. Ties and a Deadlocked Committee:

1. The Award Committee is expected to make every effort to break tie votes.
2. If the Award Committee cannot break the tie vote, the Award Committee Chair shall notify Headquarters. Headquarters will reproduce and send copies of the nominations of the individuals involved in the tie to the members of the General Awards Committee.
3. The General Awards Committee will review the nominations and vote. The Chair of the Award Committee in question will also vote but the vote will not be counted unless there is a tie in the vote of the General Awards Committee.