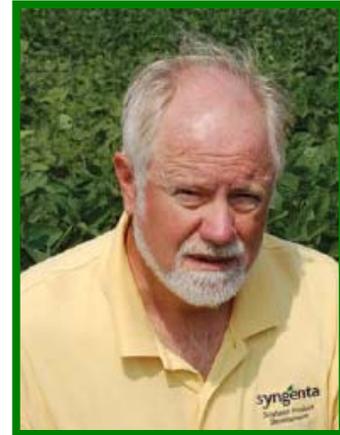


NEWS RELEASE

Don McClure Wins 2009 Canadian Plant Breeding and Genetics Award

Whistler, B.C. Tuesday July 14, 2009 – Soybean breeder Don McClure is recipient of the 2009 Canadian Plant Breeding and Genetics award. The Canadian Plant Breeding and Genetics Award, co-sponsored by the Canadian Seed Trade Association and *Germination* magazine, is a peer nominated and selected recognition of an outstanding contribution to the advancement of plant agriculture.

Don McClure has led Syngenta's NK Brand soybean breeding team for 20 years and his varieties have sold millions of units in Canada and the United States. "Through his determination, success and inspiration, the soybean product development program based in Arva, Ontario has emerged from a small testing program to a well recognized and respected breeding program," says co-nominator David Lee, Research Associate at Syngenta Seeds.



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Much of McClure's breeding efforts have been focused on the development of conventional varieties demanded by identity-preserved markets. His variety SO3-W4 has become one of the most respected and sought after varieties by both foreign buyers and Canadian growers. Sales of this variety are expected to reach one million units by the end of this growing season. SO3-W4 is the first early maturity variety in Canada with the preferred combination of quality traits for food uses and a strong agronomic package for Growers.

More recently, McClure has gained national attention from both urban and agriculture media through his work to develop the first aphid resistant variety to enter the Canadian market place. He was also instrumental in developing herbicide-tolerant varieties of soybeans that are adapted to all maturity groups in Canada and which have also proven to be extremely successful in the United States. "As a breeder, Don continues to deliver varieties that have met or exceeded the expectations of both Canadian and American growers," says co-nominator Adam Queen, Research Technician at Syngenta Seeds.

McClure's co-nominators summed up their letter of nomination as follows: "Don has proven to be one of the most successful soybean breeders in Canada, whose accomplishments have benefited Canadian growers and set industry standards. He is an invaluable resource to Syngenta Seeds and has developed a reputation for success in all aspects of the agriculture industry."

Don McClure received his award at the 86th annual meeting of the Canadian Seed Trade Association, held in Whistler, British Columbia.

For Information: Patty Townsend, VP Canadian Seed Trade Association
Tel: (613) 829-9527

Headquartered in the nation's capital, the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) represents the interests of 132 corporate members engaged in all aspects of seed research, production and marketing, both domestically and internationally.

Germination is Canada's first and only magazine aimed specifically at Canada's seed industry, and features the latest technological developments, breeding break-throughs and more.