

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS MALCOLM (MAC) DANA

Professor Malcolm N. Dana ('Mac') was a member of the Department of Horticulture at UW-Madison for 35 years, retiring in 1987. As a teacher and scientist, he made many notable contributions to the applied plant sciences. Professor Dana's classes in the science and art of the growth and culture of high value crops were legendary for clarity, but always spiced heavily with humor and personal experiences. He had an undying interest in undergraduate students and spent many hours discussing all kinds of topics with them over cookies and juice. He was one of those teachers that students migrated to for help and advice. Mac carried this lust for teaching through to discussions with professional and public groups. His thorough knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of plants coupled with his ability to clearly present this knowledge to any audience in an exciting way was uncanny.

Perhaps Professor Dana was recognized most widely in national and international levels for his work on weed species infesting fruit crop plantings, especially cranberries. His research on the control of these pest plants contributed very significantly to increased production throughout Wisconsin and North America. Equally important research by Dr. Dana and his graduate students determined the essentiality of ammonium as opposed to nitrate nitrogen for cranberry growth and productivity. This research and other studies on cranberry plant nutrition ultimately led to detailed test standards for this crop and revolutionized fertility practices throughout the cranberry industry. Professor Dana formed a key part of a research/outreach team that in large part paved the way for Wisconsin to become the leading producer of cranberries in the world.

In Madison, Mac was known for his extensive urban garden. In the space of a typical backyard, he grew representatives of almost every fruit crop grown in Wisconsin. Most unique was his miniature cranberry bog. The garden served his teaching interests as he usually held several laboratory sessions every year in his backyard.

Professor Dana served as department chair and was recognized by students, colleagues and industry with numerous awards involving teaching, research and outreach. Most notable were the local and national awards recognizing his teaching in the college and his service to the fruit industries in Wisconsin. Mac is survived by his wife and two sons, one of whom continues the legacy as a professor in the plant sciences.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Brent McCown, Chair
Elden Stang