

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS DAVID CURWEN

Dr. David Curwen, age 63 died on August 23, 1998 at his home at Custer, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife Barbara. Other survivors include: a son, Douglas (Betsy) Curwen of Plover, daughter, Jennifer (Michael) Szerlog of Eugene, Oregon; daughter, Evalee (Thomas) Kunkel of Eau Claire; daughter, Lori (Patrick) Falkner of Sheldon, Iowa; daughter, D. Lynn Polzin of Spencer; son Donald (Linda) Johnson of Stevens Point; brother, Peter (Mary) Curwen of Ballston Spa, New York and 17 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one granddaughter, Caitlin Jo Curwen.

Dr. David Curwen joined the faculty of the Department of Horticulture UW-Madison in 1963 as an assistant professor. He received his Ph.D. degree in horticulture from Pennsylvania State University. Prior degrees were earned at Penn State (M.S. – 1960) and the University of Vermont (B.S. – 1957). Dr. Curwen was promoted to associate professor in 1970 and professor in 1977.

Dave was a long time member of the Potato Association of America, The American Society for Horticultural Science and the professional society for cooperative Extension, Epsilon Sigma Phi. From the time of his initial appointment through his retirement Dr. Curwen had his office located at the Hancock Agricultural Research Station in the Central Sand area of Wisconsin. This arrangement enabled him to serve the irrigated agricultural crop industry more effectively and efficiently. Throughout his career Dr. Curwen had the responsibility for developing and implementing a combined extension-research program for assisting in the expansion of commercial potato and vegetable crop production and processing in the central Wisconsin area. In addition he aided smaller scale fresh market vegetable crop producers with their production and marketing problems. Dr. Curwen worked toward solving unique environmental and general public relationship problems generated by the expanding agricultural industry in the central Wisconsin area. A substantial amount of recognition was given to Dr. Curwen for not only recognizing these problems at an early date but for designing and implementing extension programs to meet these concerns. Thanks to his foresight there now is a better understanding within the general community for the value of a dynamic and economically sound agricultural production and processing industry. Likewise, the agricultural interests in this region are now much more aware of general public concerns particularly in regard to environmental-related problems. This improved relationship has also provided for a more sustainable future for the potato and vegetable industry in central Wisconsin.

For many years Dr. Curwen has served as the executive secretary of the Potato Association of America. This professional society embraces a membership of research, extension and industry people from throughout North and South America, and publishes the American Potato Journal which provides a vehicle for reporting research from a wide range of disciplines focusing on the potato as a world food crop.

Dr. Curwen also contributed to various teaching programs in the Department of Horticulture. He often drove the 200 mile round trip to lecture on a regular basis for vegetable courses and seminars. Dr. Curwen was responsible for over 100 formal publications, over 70 extension publications, numerous computer programs and presented countless topics at state, regional and national meetings over a period of 30 years.

Specific programs for which Dr. Curwen was responsible for developing and delivering include effective wind erosion control, improved irrigation management, protecting groundwater quality, reduced pesticide usage and improving market opportunities for commercial potato and vegetable producers in central Wisconsin. Some specific nationally recognized programs in which Dr. Curwen was intimately involved in development include: the Wisconsin Irrigation Scheduling Program (WISP) and the Integrated Pest

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Management Program (IPM). These programs are now widely used in Wisconsin, nationally and internationally. These programs have had a highly significant effect on reducing pesticide usage and in guarding and improving groundwater quality. These programs have also served to improve the economic position of the vegetable industry as well through lowering input costs of production.

Dr. Curwen will be long remembered for his dedicated service to the vegetable industry of Wisconsin and the nation and his many contributions to his department and the university. He is missed by his family, colleagues and the vegetable growers who benefited so greatly from his dedication throughout his working career.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Larry Binning, chair

John Schoenemann