

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROBERT H. GRUMMER

Professor Emeritus Robert H. Grummer was born in Luzern, Iowa on June 27, 1916 and died in Madison, Wisconsin on April 18, 2006. Bob received his B.S. in animal husbandry from Iowa State University in 1939; his M.S. in 1943 and his Ph.D. in 1946, in animal nutrition from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After completing the bachelor's degree, Bob applied for a job as a 4H Club agent in Iowa. Jobs were scarce then but he managed to get one of the two 4H Club jobs available at the time and soon began his work with 4H in Jasper County, Iowa. After almost two years on the job a new opportunity presented itself. A call from Dr. Gus Bohstedt, then-chair of the Department of Animal Husbandry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, invited him not only to become the campus herdsman but gave him the title of instructor in the Department of Animal Husbandry. As part of the deal he was invited to initiate graduate study for the Master of Science, which was awarded in 1943 with Dr. Bohstedt serving as his graduate advisor. For the Ph. D. he continued under the direction of Dr. Bohstedt but added a biochemistry component by having a joint major advisor in Dr. Paul Phillips, who was a professor of biochemistry. After joining the faculty of the Department of Animal Husbandry in 1941 as an instructor, he rose through the ranks and became a professor in 1953. He served as the department chairman from 1953-1963 and again in 1966. He retired in September 1979.

His departmental activities focused on swine production and nutrition with a strong emphasis on undergraduate teaching and industry extension. Dr. Grummer was considered a hands-on scientist. Because of his scientific background and close connection to farmers and the feed industry, he was able to make a significant contribution to the pork industry. An example of this was his ability to solve a problem of poor growth of pigs due to a zinc deficiency caused by a mineral-mineral interaction with zinc, calcium and phosphorus. Here, a basic understanding of the principles of mineral nutrition was used to solve a practical problem in the field.

As a teacher, Dr. Grummer participated in five courses in the undergraduate program of the department. He contributed to the introductory course MAS 101, which on occasion had over 200 students; an advanced course in Meat Animal Evaluation, which had an approximate enrollment of 25; another advanced course MAS 312, which focused on animal nutrition and feed formulation and which had from 40-70 students enrolled; and a course that he developed and taught in Swine Production MAS 432, which had up to 40 students per semester. Dr. Grummer also developed and taught the Swine Management course to up to 70 students per term in the Farm and Industry Short Course program. As a result of his teaching activities, Professor Grummer received a total of five teaching awards with the U.W. Chancellor's Teaching Award as being one of the most cherished. Following his retirement, his sustained interest in teaching was evident by his instruction of non-farm youth in methods of animal handling.

His research focus, as represented by peer-reviewed scientific publications, was directed roughly equally toward the scientific aspects of pork production and swine nutrition. A significant but minor research effort was swine reproduction while some attention was paid to the impact of genetics to swine production. Pork quality was of interest to Professor Grummer and was the focus of six publications. His total of 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications represents a continuous effort over 29 years. His graduate students often worked with professors in the Department of Biochemistry, the Laboratory of Genetics and the Department of Nutritional Sciences. His research activities were recognized by awards from the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders, the Wisconsin Pork Producers and the American Society of Animal Science.

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Direct contact with swine producers and the feed industry of Wisconsin was an activity to which Professor Grummer dedicated a great amount of effort. He was joined in this activity by two long-time friends, Fred Giesler, swine extension specialist, and Carl Hirschinger, extension livestock specialist. This activity brought him many long-time friends, friends that sought his advice with regard to pork production problems and also to counseling their children if and when it came time for them to venture off to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In recognition of his contribution to the animal and feed industries of the state over 37 years, the Wisconsin Pork Producers set up the Wisconsin Pork Producer-Industry Fund, which provides funds for applied research to solve Wisconsin swine industry problems and to support education of young people to enter the pork industry. Over the last 25 years, approximately 100 Pork Industry Awards have been given to Wisconsin young people because of the good work of Professor Grummer and the award set up in his name.

Professor Grummer was an avid outdoorsman and passionate about hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed collecting and refinishing antiques and was particularly proud of his duck decoy collection. Bob Grummer was a dedicated teacher, advisor and advocate for animal agriculture. He will be remembered for his sincere interest in his students and the swine industry.

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