

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROBERT H. ANDREW

Robert H. Andrew, professor emeritus of agronomy, died in his home in Madison on December 25, 2006 at the age of 90. Professor Andrew was internationally and nationally recognized and respected as a researcher of the genetics, physiology, quality, pest resistance, culture and yield of sweet corn (*Zea mays* L.). He designed and taught courses in genetics, plant breeding and crop ecology and was extremely effective as an instructor.

Robert Andrew was born on August 2, 1916 in Platteville, Wisconsin. He attended elementary and secondary schools and two years of college in Platteville. He then came to the University of Wisconsin-Madison and received his B.A. with high honors in botany in 1938 and his Ph.D. in agronomy-genetics in 1942. Upon obtaining his Ph.D. he was employed by the Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture as a corn seed specialist. He joined the Department of Agronomy as an assistant professor in 1946.

Dr. Andrew quietly devoted his life to the improvement of one of the world's delicacies — sweet corn. His research led to significant yield and quality improvements in the US sweet corn food processing industry and for thousands of home gardeners. His research was mission oriented – to understand and solve the complex problems of sweet corn. He accomplished this in two ways. First, he improved the palatability for the consumer, and secondly, the yield level for the grower, which enabled a greater economic return. His improved inbred lines (28) formed the foundation of America's sweet corn industry. In Wisconsin alone, sweet corn acreage increased 59 percent and yield 129 percent due to his contributions.

Dr. Andrew has shared his extensive research findings in over 85 publications. Many of these are classic genetic studies concerning the quality traits of sweet corn. Conversely, he has developed improved technology for the culture of the species and made substantial contributions to its disease and insect resistance. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi and fellow of The American Society of Agronomy, of The Crop Science Society of America and of The American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Andrew trained over 60 graduate advisees including many international and minority students. With those, he exhibited a special empathy, and they respected and almost loved their "Prof." He challenged all students intellectually and instilled work ethics that have carried many to leadership positions in government, universities and industry.

Dr. Andrew married Nancy Wright in 1944 and she preceded him in death in 2004. He is survived by their children: Stephen (Chisato), Sarah (Theodore) Wichmann, Martha (Manuel) Quintana, Charles (Melanie), and 10 grandchildren.

We have lost a true friend, scientist and gentleman, but his life serves as a professional and humanitarian example for all of us.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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