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

ON THE DEATH OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS WILLIAM H. PAULSON

William H. Paulson, associate professor emeritus, Department of Agronomy, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UW-Madison died on November 11, 2005 at the age of 79.

Born August 8, 1926, William (Bill) Paulson was raised in Del Norte, Colorado. Upon graduating from high school in 1944, he joined the US Army, serving with the 40th Infantry Division in the South Pacific. After his discharge, Bill pursued and received his BA and MS degrees from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. He farmed for a short time before being appointed superintendent of the Fort Lewis Agricultural Research Station in Durango, CO. In 1959, Bill began his studies toward MS and PhD degrees in the UW-Madison, Department of Agronomy, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. While undertaking these graduate studies, in 1963 he was appointed the first superintendent of the 525-acre UW Agricultural Research Station at Lancaster, WI.

The objective of this newly developed research farm was to address soil and water management issues on the productive soils located on the sloping topography of the Driftless Area in the Upper Mississippi River Valley under the direction of a four-state (IL, IA, MN, and WI) research advisory committee. Bill Paulson facilitated and coordinated research studies related to soil conservation, erosion control, long-term crop rotations, pasture improvement and management, tillage methods, soil compaction, sustainable agriculture, pest management, adapted crop varieties and seeding mixtures, and the utilization of forages in efficient beef cattle management and production. Findings from these studies were published in various research and outreach publications and distributed widely among pertinent researchers and the agricultural community. Research results from the UW Lancaster Agricultural Research Station laid the groundwork for designing efficient, sustainable, and environmentally friendly crop and livestock production for farmers in northwestern Illinois, northeastern Iowa, southeastern Minnesota, and southwestern Wisconsin.

Bill Paulson will be remembered for his dedication to the agriculture of southwestern Wisconsin, his willingness to accommodate the needs of a wide range of research projects and those researchers conducting them, and his ability to coordinate a broad range of research being conducted at the UW Lancaster Agricultural Research Station. Bill Paulson also was a resource valued by county agricultural agents, farm people, and agribusiness of the region. Bill retired in 1991.

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