

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ELWOOD A. BRICKBAUER

Elwood A. Brickbauer, professor emeritus of agronomy, died on June 28, 2009. He was born on June 29, 1920 and grew up on his family's farm near Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Elwood graduated from Elkhart Lake High School in 1938. He received his BS degree in agricultural education (1943) and MS degree in agronomy (1961) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Elwood began his professional association with the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 1946 through employment with the College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service as emergency labor agent in Dodge County. He coordinated seasonal agricultural labor resources, which were limited due to the personnel requirements of our armed forces during World War II. That fall, he accepted a position as Jefferson County 4-H Club agent. In November 1947, he returned to Dodge County as agricultural agent responsible for the dissemination of information on best production and management practices to the county's agricultural community. He also served as county extension office administrator.

Elwood joined the UW-Madison agronomy department faculty in 1957 as extension specialist in the area of grain crops production. He was responsible for the development and presentation of extension education programs related to the latest grain crop research and production practices to county extension agents and Wisconsin's agricultural community. The information for many of these programs was based on his individual effort, particularly in the area of crop variety evaluation. It was also his role to bring grower problems and concerns to the attention of research faculty in the Department of Agronomy.

Beginning in the 1960s, Wisconsin witnessed a notable increase in acreage of corn grown for sale rather than for on-farm consumption. Corn acreage moved northward, and in 1966, Wisconsin shifted from a grain-deficit state to exporting surplus corn production elsewhere. Elwood's extension programs played a major role in this change. His local crop variety trials were expanded into extensive regional hybrid corn evaluation trials conducted at twelve locations across the state in collaboration with county extension offices and local agribusiness groups. This expansion was in part driven by the public's demand for performance information on commercial as well as public hybrid corn varieties.

Elwood Brickbauer initiated a "Corn, from Bag to Bin" extension education program in collaboration with other pertinent extension specialists. With other agronomists, he initiated annual training sessions for county agricultural agents and the seed industry. Their purpose was to update these clientele on new research results and consequent recommendations. Elwood was also a participant in the production and regular updates of a three-volume "Crop Reference Manual" for use by county extension faculty, vocational technical school faculty, the seed industry and top crop producers.

With increasing grain acreage and production, growers required knowledge of the various aspects of grain marketing. Brickbauer, in collaboration with extension agricultural economists, initiated that training. He served as a member of the Wisconsin Cash Grain Council and was also active in the establishment of the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association and the Wisconsin Grain Dealers Association. Elwood will be remembered as ever-ready to fill an education niche whenever one was developed. He conducted dry bean trials and educational meetings for growers in northwestern Wisconsin. Also, in collaboration with specialists from the food science department, he conducted educational programs on wild rice harvest and processing among Native Americans in northwestern Wisconsin and Minnesota. The latter was part of an Upper Great Lakes regional development programming effort.

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In addition to his extension responsibilities, Elwood was elected a director on the Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association Board and served as its secretary-treasurer for thirty years. The association is a quasi-legislative agency serving as the official, regulatory seed certification agency for all certified seed produced in Wisconsin. He prepared the history of the Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association. He also served as the Wisconsin director of the International Seed Certification Association and as a director of the International Crop Improvement Association. Elwood authored more than 100 extension publications, research reports and a book chapter on approved practices in crop production.

Elwood was an honorary member of the Association of American Seed Certification Officials and of the Wisconsin Feed, Seed and Supply Association. He also was a member of the American Society of Agronomy. He served as chair of the Middleton Planning Commission of Parks and Recreation, as president of the Sertoma Club of Middleton and as council president of his local church. He retired from the University of Wisconsin in 1980 and as director and secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association in 1992.

Elwood is survived by his wife Lydia E. (Albertin) Brickbauer; daughters Carol Ozark of Palos Verdes Estates, California, and Mary (Robert) Bauer of Vienna, Virginia, and son James (Judy) of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin; six grandchildren; his sister and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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