

24th Fluid Forum Offers Broad Agenda

Insights provided on a wide range of research showing the advantages of fluid fertilizers in improving yields.

The Fluid Journal • Official Journal of the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation • Spring 2015 • Vol. 23, No. 2, Issue #88

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Talking Stick was again the site for the 24th Annual Fluid Forum held from February 15 to 17 in Scottsdale, Arizona as researchers and ag people from the United States and overseas gathered for two days of sharing the latest in field research to improve crop yields. Information-packed sessions, led by leading researchers funded by the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation, headquartered in Manhattan, Kansas, spoke to packed sessions on the latest developments in improving yields using fluid fertilizers.

Opening the first session Monday afternoon was Russell French of Dupont/Pioneer who spoke on “Implementing Research and Adapting for High-Yield Agriculture.” The opening day sessions ended with a talk assessing the potentials for drip irrigation and fertigation, delivered by Dr. Fred Below of the University of Illinois.

An FFF board-sponsored reception in Talking Stick’s spacious Garden Atrium followed the afternoon session, treating a crowd of 121 registrants to a multi-tabled array of gourmet delights.



Steve Keller, Chair of FFF Board of Directors, calling the 2015 Annual Meeting of the FFF to order.



He also briefly discussed some of the subjects brought up at the recent Board of Directors meeting.

Dale Leikam also made the President's Report, offering thanks to supporting members, recognizing FFF board companies who have served as sponsors, researchers, and program speakers. He also brought members up-to-date on the FFF's finances and any new research projects.

This was followed by a presentation of the Researcher of the Year award which went to Dr. Tony Vyn of Purdue University for his outstanding fluid fertilizer research contributions to agriculture.

The prestigious Werner Nelson Award was presented to Dr. Carrie Laboski of the University of Wisconsin for her outstanding contributions to wise use of fertilizer to maximize crop yields and profits.

Fluid Fellow Awards, given in recognition of leadership in the fluid fertilizer industry, were presented to: Waddy Garrett of VitAg, Carl Bruce, of Wilbur-Ellis, Cliff Snyder of IPNI, and Tom Fairweather of Tessengerlo-Kerley. At the close of the meeting, the gavel was

passed from Board Chair Steve Keller of Morral Companies to Dr. Terry Tindall of J.R. Simplot Company.

The Tuesday afternoon sessions began with a testy look at the regulatory and environmental challenges facing this country and the opportunities we have in dealing with those challenges. Following

this was an array of research updates that provided the very latest in fluid fertilizer research and technology.

In 2016, the 25th Annual Fluid Forum will again be held at Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. Dates are February 15 to 16, 2016. Be sure and put this on your calendar.



Ed Krysl receiving the Distinguished Service Award for his 50 years of service to both the National Fluid Solutions Association (NFSA) and the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation. Standing next to him is his wife Neta, another long-time dedicated worker for the FFF. Presenting the award is Steve Keller, Chair of the FFF Board of Directors.

Following a Continental Breakfast the next morning, the discussion was an hour presentation by Dr. Peter Mansoor of Ohio State University on the formation and activities of ISIS, the vile acts they perform and the effect they are having worldwide. This was followed by a broad range of subjects covering the

latest in fluid technology reports by ten researchers speaking on such topics as irrigation timing in corn fertigation, a recap on 4R nutrient stewardship, environmental challenges, and improving cotton production efficiency.

The noon annual meeting of the FFF was a festive occasion that included a



multi-course luncheon followed by an annual report concerning FFF business, including Board of Directors reports.

Recognition was given by Board Chair Steve Keller to those members who have regularly provided FFF support, plus eight new companies who have recently joined in their support of the Foundation.

