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Dr. P. Jeffrey Berger Receives ADSA Fellow Award

Champaign, IL – The American Dairy Science Association is pleased to announce Dr. P. Jeffrey Berger as a 2010 recipient of the ADSA Fellow Award. The award was presented on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, during the awards ceremony at the ADSA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

The purpose of the ADSA Fellow Award is to recognize Dairy Foods Division and Production Division members of the American Dairy Science Association who have rendered distinguished service to the dairy industry over 20 years or more. The winner must have made exceptional contributions to the dairy industry, to a dairy related discipline, or the American Dairy Science Association; in addition, the winner must be and have been a member of the American Dairy Science Association for a minimum of twenty years.

Berger is a professor in the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. Berger's career has focused on implementation of mixed-model genetic prediction techniques, regional research projects to emphasize genetic enhancement of dairy cattle, and teaching computer techniques for biological research.

Much of his efforts have focused on the implementation of mixed-model genetic prediction techniques and the analysis of genetic resource populations at the experimental, regional, and national level. Detailed and innovative studies applied to sire evaluation for calving ease from 1978 to 1988 provided a benchmark for the dairy industry, as calving ease sire evaluations became defining characteristics for value-added semen. That calving ease ranks as the third most "desirable breeding decision trait," after milk yield and udder composite stresses the importance of his research. Implementation of a threshold model sire evaluation for calving ease was completed in 1988. By applying mixed-model genetic prediction techniques on an industry-wide basis, Berger brought the United States to a position of world leadership in predicting easy-calving sires and promotion of high-performance sires. The first comprehensive analysis of stillbirth data in the United States was completed in 2000.

Berger excelled as a teacher at the graduate level. A combination of good graduate students and undergraduate student interns has advanced the level of scholarship coming from his laboratory.

Berger has mentored 9 PhD and 13 MS students and sponsored 13 postdocs and visiting scientists. Berger has authored or coauthored more than 76 peer-reviewed journal articles, and he has presented more than 25 invited presentations in the United States and nine countries. A member of ADSA since 1967, he has served on the Dairy Cattle Improvement Committee and the editorial board of the *Journal of Dairy Science*. In 2008, Berger received the J. L. Lush Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics.

It is with great pleasure that ADSA presents Dr. P. Jeffrey Berger with a 2010 ADSA Fellow Award.

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