

ARS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARDS PROGRAM

PURPOSE

To annually recognize individuals/groups who have done outstanding work in transferring technology to users outside ARS.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations may be made of any ARS employee who has played a significant role in the transfer of ARS technology. Individual and group nominations will be accepted. Group nominations of ARS employees may include persons from other Federal agencies and non-Federal persons.

To be eligible for consideration, the technology or product developed by an individual or group, must be commercially available, or must be adopted and widely used by farmers, consumers, or other ARS customers. The impact of the transferred technology must be clearly stated in the justification-number of users, producers, or actual dollars saved. Public and environmental benefits must be clearly identified.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations must demonstrate all of the following criteria:

- o The individual or group has demonstrated uncommon creativity and initiative in the process of transferring technology; i.e., the nominee's involvement in the technology transfer process was active rather than passive.
- o The method or process used was particularly effective for the specific technology and clientele involved, e.g. Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), other types of cooperative agreements, patents and licensing, novel information dissemination techniques, release of public varieties, demonstration sites, field days, etc.
- o There is evidence of significant positive impact (commercial, environmental, food safety, etc.) of the technology transferred.
- o Introduction into the marketplace or the first public use of the technology must have taken place within the past three years.

The Selection Committee will select winners based on impact and specific outcomes from the transfer of technology. Research results alone, no matter how innovative, are not criterion for selection for this award. Statements that technology transfer will occur, or that a technology may,

could, would, or should potentially have an impact in the future, are also insufficient documentation of successful technology transfer. Certain formal technology transfer tools such as CRADAs, other research agreements, patents, and licenses are often important to the technology transfer process; however, they do not in and of themselves demonstrate successful technology transfer, unless they result in a new product being sold or the public use of a new technology.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

Any ARS employee may submit a nomination using the attached format. The justification for each nomination must address the selection criteria and must indicate the year in which the technology was first used commercially or when public use first occurred. All nominations should be forwarded through supervisory channels so that they reach the appropriate Area Director by May 1 of each calendar year. Each nomination should be prepared using the attached format.

Each Area Director may submit up to three nominations, which should be sent to the Human Resources Division by June 3.

The Assistant Administrator, Office of Technology Transfer, will appoint a diverse selection committee to evaluate the nominations and make a recommendation. All selections are approved by the Administrator.

NATURE OF RECOGNITION

Two nominations (individuals or groups) will be selected for *outstanding effort* in technology transfer, and up to six nominations may be selected for *superior* efforts in technology transfer.

Each of the two *Outstanding* winners will receive cash awards of \$4,000. The *Superior* winners will receive cash awards of \$3,000. If a group is selected, the award amounts will be determined by the Assistant Administrator, Office of Technology Transfer. Non-Federal persons are not eligible for cash awards, but may participate in the recognition event and receive an award plaque. Award plaques will be presented to all winners at the ARS Annual Recognition Program in February.

The two *Outstanding* nominations will be forwarded to the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) to be considered for their annual technology transfer awards program. The selection committee will select and forward additional candidates from the remaining ARS nominations, up to the maximum allowed by the FLC.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER NOMINATION FORMAT

NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS:

POSITION/GRADE:

PREVIOUS AWARDS:

(Last 5 Years)

CITATION:

(25 words or less, beginning with "For...")

JUSTIFICATION:

(The justification must specifically address each of the selection criteria. Justifications should clearly document the scientist's role and fully support the impact and outcome of the technology transfer. Please indicate the year the technology was first used commercially or when public use first occurred. Separate pages may be attached, limit two pages.)

NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS OF NOMINATOR: