

ARS RESEARCH SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR AWARDS PROGRAM

PURPOSE

To annually recognize the creative efforts, scientific leadership and the major research accomplishments of ARS research scientists. Contributions of these scientists help position ARS in the forefront of agricultural research.

CATEGORY

Senior Research Scientists

- 1 Distinguished Senior Research Scientist (*)
- 7 Area Senior Research Scientists

Early Career Research Scientists

- 1 Herbert L. Rothbart Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist (*)
- 7 Area Early Career Research Scientists

Sixteen scientists are selected and rewarded annually for this program. Each Area selects a senior research scientist and an early career research scientist. From the Area award recipients, the national award recipients are chosen.

Those asterisked above denote the national winners.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations may be made of early career scientists who began their permanent research scientist career with ARS within the last 7 years and have completed their highest degree within the last 10 years.

Nominations may be made of senior research scientists who have been in permanent research scientist positions with ARS for more than 7 years.

Cutoff for eligibility will be May 1 of the year nominated.

Team nominations will not be accepted.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations should address the applicable category criteria:

Senior Research Scientists:

- Sustained research productivity.
- Impact on science and technology.
- Recognized scientific leadership where personal technology expertise is used to guide, lead, or influence the research efforts of other scientists.
- Development of other research scientists - cooperating, counseling, or extending a helping hand, particularly to younger scientists as contrasted to only furthering one's own career.

Early Career Research Scientists:

- Impact of at least one contribution of major impact, or one with potential for major impact on science and technology.
- Internal and/or external research collaborations and work with others.
- Partnerships with industry, stakeholders and/or customers.

The nomination of the Herbert L. Rothbart Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist of the Year is forwarded as the Agency's nomination for the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers competition. In addition to addressing the above criteria for the Early Career category, the following information should also be addressed in nominations:

- Outreach and communication to promote understanding of science.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

Any ARS employee may submit a nomination of a research scientist. All nominations must be prepared and forwarded through supervisory channels so that they reach the appropriate Area Director by May 2, 2005.

Each of the selection criteria must be addressed. Nominations must fully support the accomplishments, achievements, and impact of the scientist. If the scientist shared in an accomplishment, the scientist's role should be clearly specified. The nomination format is

attached. A list of publications must be attached to the nomination form. Publications must be listed in chronological order and peer reviewed publications must be listed separately from other types of publications, i.e. patents, book chapters, conference proceedings, etc. Those publications where the nominee was senior author should be marked with an asterisk (*).

Area Directors will appoint a panel which will review the nominations and select an appropriate number of candidates for Area Director selection.

Area nominations in each category will be forwarded to the Human Resources Division by June 3, 2005.

The Administrator will appoint a selection committee composed of experts to evaluate nominations and make a recommendation. All selections are approved by the Administrator.

NATURE OF RECOGNITION

All award winners will receive cash awards and additional research support funding as indicated below. Winners will be formally recognized with an award plaque at the Annual ARS Recognition Program in February 2006.

National winners:

Note: Cash awards and research support will be funded by Headquarters.

	Category	Cash Award	Research Support
1	Distinguished Senior Research Scientist	\$5,000	\$40,000
1	Herbert L. Rothbart Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist	\$4,000	\$25,000

Area winners:

Note: Cash awards will be funded by Headquarters. Research support will be funded by the Areas.

7	Area Senior Research Scientists	\$4,000	\$20,000
7	Area Early Career Research Scientists	\$3,000	\$15,000

SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORMAT

