

January 15, 2007

Dr. Gary Hein, President
North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America
University of Nebraska
Panhandle Research & Extension Center
4502 Ave I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Dear Dr. Hein:

The 2007 Award of Merit Committee consisted of the following members.

Blair Siegfried, University of Nebraska (Chair)
Mike Gray, University of Illinois
Billy Fuller, South Dakota State University
Casey Burks, Pioneer Hi-Bred
Michelle Smith, Dow AgroSciences

The Committee received two nominations in response to the call for nominations sent out to all members in Nov. 2006. The two nominees were Dr. Larry Charlet, USDA-ARS, Northern Crop Science Laboratory and Dr. Mike Culy, Dow AgroSciences. Dr. Culy's nomination was originally received in 2005, and the nominator asked that his package be considered again in 2006.

Both candidates were extremely deserving and had a well documented history of contributions to the branch. However, based on a committee majority, Dr. Mike Culy was voted to receive the 2007 Award of Merit. The committee strongly urges that Dr. Charlet's nomination be considered in next year's competition and that the Chair of the committee contact the nominator (Dr. Janet Knodel, North Dakota State University) to be certain that the package is updated if necessary.

Please contact me if you require additional information regarding the committee's deliberations.

Best regards,



Blair Siegfried, Chair
Award of Merit Committee