

1950's Distinguished Service Awardees

George E. Bishop, Marquette

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1954

For his leadership in the economic development of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, his untiring efforts in behalf of agriculture, and his keen interest in boys' and girls' 4-H Club activities.

Clark L. Brody, Lansing

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1954

For more than a half-century of leadership as a farmer, a county agricultural agent, a member and chairman of the State Board of Agriculture, and the executive secretary and vice-president of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

John B. Strange, Grand Ledge

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1954

For his unselfish service as a leader of farm organizations, as commissioner of agriculture and a legislator in the State of Michigan, and as an outstanding farmer for more than a half-century.

Waldo E. Philips, Decatur

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1955

For his farm leadership, help in organizing the Michigan Elevator Exchange and Michigan Farm Bureau, years of service to the Grange and his total of 151 years of service on boards of directors or in offices of trust.

Milon Grinnell, East Lansing

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1955

For his vision and leadership as editor of the Michigan Farmer, stimulation of young people and their programs, encouragement of rural health, safety and soil conservation and great support of agricultural research and education.

Ernest W. Ruehs, Caledonia

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1955

For his leadership in farm organization, school and Church affairs, perfecting and adopting new farm management practices, continually seeking better ways to market farm products and active interest in youth throughout more than a half century.

H. Alfred Sturm, Pigeon

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1956

For helping to promote the use of better seed through 36 years as a member and officer of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association, as a director of the Michigan Foundation Seed Growers' Association and as chairman of the Huron-Tuscola Seed Growers' Association, help to the Cooperative Extension Service as a State Advisory Board member, work in school administration and leadership in church activities.

Robert J. Sutton, Dafter

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1956

For his leadership in many farm and civic groups to aid agriculture, especially in the Upper Peninsula, 10 years of service as a 4-H Club leader and help in founding a Youth Center, years as a board member of the State Grange, 24 years of service on the local school board and 18 years as a leader in township government and 35 years as a director of the county cooperative association.

Charles S. Force, Kalamazoo

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1956

For his leadership in the feed and grain industry and help to students wishing to enter that field, invaluable aid to the Cooperative Extension Service, service to Michigan rural youth, leadership as a member of many civic groups and his contribution toward better understanding among farm and city people, and service to education as a member of the local school board.

Erich L. Kerlikowske, Coloma

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1957

For helping promote the fruit industry, particularly peaches, through his outstanding leadership as a member and officer of the National Peach Council and Michigan Horticulture Society, interest in soil-building farming programs, progressiveness in seeking out and putting into use new and improved agricultural practices, developing Michigan's marketing program and leadership in local school, church and government activities.

Harry E. Rohlfs, Akron

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1957

For seeking to improve the marketing of Michigan agricultural products as president of Michigan Cooperative Bean Market Association, and as a member of the National Dry Bean Advisory Committee, skillful use of improved farm practices in building a highly successful farming operation, helping lay plans for boosting the agricultural and industrial development of county and state, and contribution to community through church and government activities.

Stanley, M. Powell, Ionia

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1957

For representing Michigan agriculture as legislative counsel of the Michigan Farm Bureau, official of the Michigan State Grange, member of the Michigan Fair Commission, contributing editor for Michigan Farmer and member of many state and national boards, commissions and committees, leadership in the community as officer of his church and member of the school board and outstanding record as a breeder of Milking Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep.

Luther C. Klager, Manchester

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1958

For his service in representing the poultry industry on state and national groups, long-time efforts in promoting the production of high quality eggs and poultry meat, work in promoting the consumption of poultry and contributions to the local community through church and civic activities.

Marshall Wells, Birmingham

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1958

For his outstanding service in helping disseminate agricultural information to Michigan farmers as farm editor of Radio Station WJR, Detroit, efforts in interpreting agriculture and farm policy to urban people, and contribution to 4-H Club work through a program of recognition for local club leaders.

Malcolm G. Dickerson, Bloomington

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1958

For his many contributions to the Michigan seed industry as the first producer of hybrid seed corn in the state, promoting the production, processing and distribution of high quality seed as a member of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association for 27 years and leadership in local farm and church organizations.

Andrew G. Lohman, Hamilton

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1959

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the state and national poultry industry, as a poultry man, a feed manufacturer, an egg grader, a researcher in egg quality, a poultry meat processor, and a poultry meat and egg merchandiser, and keen business management and leadership ability in farm cooperatives and in community organizations.

Howard F. Simmons, Pontiac

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1959

For his long service to Michigan's agriculture and dairy industry, 34 years with the Michigan Milk Producers Association, 16 years of which he was secretary-manager, many contributions to the national dairy industry as a foremost authority on milk marketing, and interest in local community activities, particularly those in the church.

Herbert M. Van Aken, Eaton Rapids

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award - Farmers' Week, 1959

For his leadership in state and national soil conservation work, making his own farm an outstanding example of good land use, contributions to Michigan agriculture as a chairman of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, encouragement of family cooperation in farming, and many activities in local school, church and civic affairs.