

2011 Rice Awards

Horizon Ag, *Rice Farming* magazine and the USA Rice Federation are proud to bring you the recipients of the 2011 Rice Awards. The program highlights three honorees for their contributions to the success of the rice industry through the Rice Farmer of the Year, the Rice Industry Award and the Rice Lifetime Achievement Award.

RICE FARMING

USA Rice[™]
FEDERATION

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Advanced from the Start

Mark Wimpy

RICE FARMER OF THE YEAR

Many years ago, Mark Wimpy's great grandfather, D.C., homesteaded a small piece of property just south of Jonesboro, Ark., and that parcel of land is still part of the Wimpy operation today. One of Mark's first memories of his grandfather Gus was sitting on a tractor with him when Mark was about five years old, listening to Gus talk about his love of the land and the importance of working hard to produce a good crop. Being raised on a family farm, Mark spent each day alongside his grandfather, father and uncle Pete, learning their methods and trying to improve upon them with modern technology.

In 1980, while attending Arkansas State University and working for his father Gaylon, Mark had the opportunity to lease 300 acres. After successfully harvesting his first crop, he was bitten by the farming bug and knew that his heart belonged to the land. He devised an expansion plan to grow his operation at a steady, but manageable, pace and has been farming ever since.

Today, Mark, his wife Belinda, daughters Hannah and Haley, Haley's husband Tim and Mark's father Gaylon in partnership farm about 4,000 acres of rice, soybeans and wheat, all irrigated. Efficiency, environmental protection and conservation are Mark's ultimate goals. Raising quality seed is continually regarded as his greatest achievement as a farmer. At the same time, he strives to maintain the integrity of the land, conserving the resources available for generations to come.

Mark utilizes the technology that is currently available to aid in the re-establishment and conservation of the resources that he has employed for the past 32 years. He has adopted a variable-rate fertility program that employs a GPS grid system to more accurately fertilize his crops. This program has increased yields and decreased the cost of over- or under-fertilization, benefiting his farming operation and the environment.

"Variable-rate allows us to apply the maximum amount of fertilizer on our crops to produce the highest yield that we can without crossing over that threshold," Mark says. "Over the years, my crop consultant Lance Ramthun and I have noticed that my rice has become more uniform, which helps with harvest, and my yields have stabilized."

The Arkansas farmer is also a seed rice producer for Cache River Valley Seed, LLC in Cash, Ark. He raised his first seed rice in the mid-80s.

"I take great pride in keeping my farm clean and producing quality seed," Mark says. "I'm proud of the fact that what I am growing this year, someone else will be



growing next year. I want it to be perfect for them."

Mark points out that in the area where he farms, having access to enough water has always been a challenge. When he started irrigating his soybeans in the mid-1980s, he realized he needed more water, and, luckily, one of his landlords purchased an adjoining farm with a 225-acre reservoir.

"Every drop of surface water that we use is a drop we don't have to pump out of the ground," Mark says. "We fill the reservoir up in the wintertime, then use that water all summer over and over again."

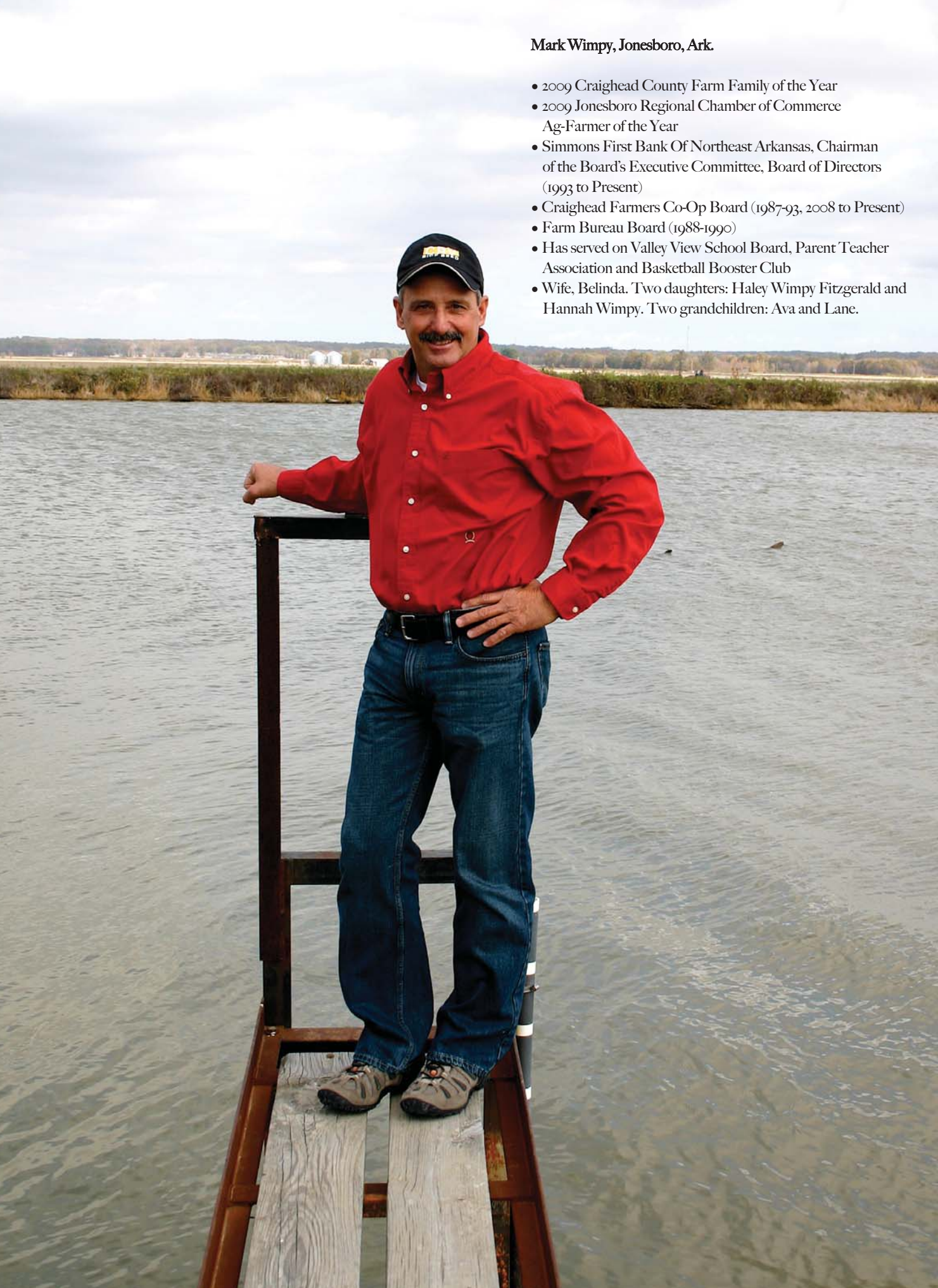
"We have a tailwater recovery system that is part of a canal project with which I am involved," he adds. "When water runs off my fields, it goes back to the reservoir where it is stored. Then it can be brought back to the fields and again returned to the reservoir, which is my primary source of water."

Although it's no secret that farming is hard work, it also can be very rewarding.

As the 2011 Rice Farmer of the Year, Mark Wimpy, says, "I enjoy farming as a way of life, and my goal is to produce a quality crop as efficiently as I can."

Mark Wimpy, Jonesboro, Ark.

- 2009 Craighead County Farm Family of the Year
- 2009 Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Ag-Farmer of the Year
- Simmons First Bank Of Northeast Arkansas, Chairman of the Board's Executive Committee, Board of Directors (1993 to Present)
- Craighead Farmers Co-Op Board (1987-93, 2008 to Present)
- Farm Bureau Board (1988-1990)
- Has served on Valley View School Board, Parent Teacher Association and Basketball Booster Club
- Wife, Belinda. Two daughters: Haley Wimpy Fitzgerald and Hannah Wimpy. Two grandchildren: Ava and Lane.



Dr. Rick Cartwright

RICE INDUSTRY AWARD

If three words could best describe Dr. Rick Cartwright, it would be these: A problem solver. By his own admission, this is his passion, and it hasn't gone unnoticed by others either.

Rice consultant and agronomist, Jason McGee of Cherry Valley, Ark., says, "I have been in the position of needing assistance numerous times in rice production fields when no one could figure out what was going on. Rick has an amazing ability to sift through the entire production year in a matter of minutes and come up with what the problem is and many times the solution to it.

"His knowledge and ability in the field are the very best," he adds. "His willingness was, and still is, immediate, and he has always been there to help anyone in our industry with production issues. In many cases, Dr. Cartwright was even asked to recommend things outside his expertise in plant pathology and disease management. He is simply the single best rice agronomist in the field today."

In addition to working in the field as a problem solver, Dr. Cartwright also enjoys the diversity of people who are involved in rice.

"It's a really dynamic and diverse collection of people, and I enjoy that," he says. "I like learning new things and meeting new folks, and working in rice – rice pathology in particular – allowed me to do this professionally and personally. We all have the same philosophy: We want to help people and make things better. And the most memorable outcome of working together was my opportunity to teach about rice one-on-one to many students, including growers, county agents, consultants, industry personnel, college students, etc., and, at the same time, learn so much from them."

Throughout his career as a plant pathologist, Dr. Cartwright was in on the beginning of bacterial panicle blight in the South, helped establish chemical control of kernel smut in rice and was one of the first to observe false smut in rice in Arkansas. Dr. Cartwright also worked side-by-side with the agronomists and soil specialists through the potassium deficiency days – a new wrinkle in rice production that popped up in the early 1990s that brought back two major – albeit old – rice diseases, stem rot and brown spot.

Dr. Cartwright recalls that one of the highlights of his career was helping bring azoxystrobin fungicide into the marketplace in the mid-1990s.

"This chemistry really changed the dynamics of rice management in the southern United States," he says.



"We got to see what a real fungicide would do in a commercial field crop for the first time in my career."

When asked what he would name as some of the significant milestones in U.S. rice production, Dr. Cartwright mentioned various rice breeding programs, molecular technology and the globalization of agriculture.

"There's no turning back the clock," he says. "The globalization of agriculture has changed everything from moving information about new pathogens, new insects, new weeds around the world quickly to opening up trading opportunities, cultural exchange, educational and scientific opportunities and collaboration. Agriculture has always been on the forefront of globalization, and in the last 10 to 15 years, it has become a fact of daily life."

Recently, Dr. Cartwright has moved into administration as the Associate Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources with the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service.

"I am very focused on impact and visibility," Cartwright says. "I want to make sure that the programs of the Arkansas Cooperative Extension are very current, comprehensive, competitive and efficient. I want to be able to show that they are about changing things and improving people's lives. The positives need to be more visible. That's what drives me."

And, without a doubt, if anyone is capable of making this happen, it's Dr. Rick Cartwright, recipient of the 2011 Rice Industry Award.

Dr. Rick Cartwright, Little Rock, Ark.

- B.S. in Plant Protection/Pest Management and M.S. in Plant Pathology – University of Arkansas
- Ph.D. in Plant Pathology – University of California, Davis
- Worked directly with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service since 1995
- Currently serves as Associate Director – Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture
- Has received numerous awards or commendations, including the John White Outstanding Extension State Faculty Award from the Division of Agriculture
- Received the Distinguished Rice Research and Education Award from the Rice Technical Working Group
- Married to Lynette Warren. Three children: Seth, Amanda and John. Two grandchildren: Gordon and Evelyn.



Jacko Garrett, Jr.

RICE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

From the time that he was 12 years old, Jacko Garrett, Jr., knew what he wanted to do in life. He wanted to be a farmer and a rancher. Early on, he farmed with his father, Jack Garrett, but in Jacko's words, he was a mainly a cowboy until he married his wife, Nancy.

"After Nancy and I married, I focused more on farming, and she took care of the ranching end of the business," he says. "I wanted to be on the land and be a farmer. I liked the freedom of working for myself and having the opportunity everyday to do something to improve my operation or try something different. That was always exciting to me."

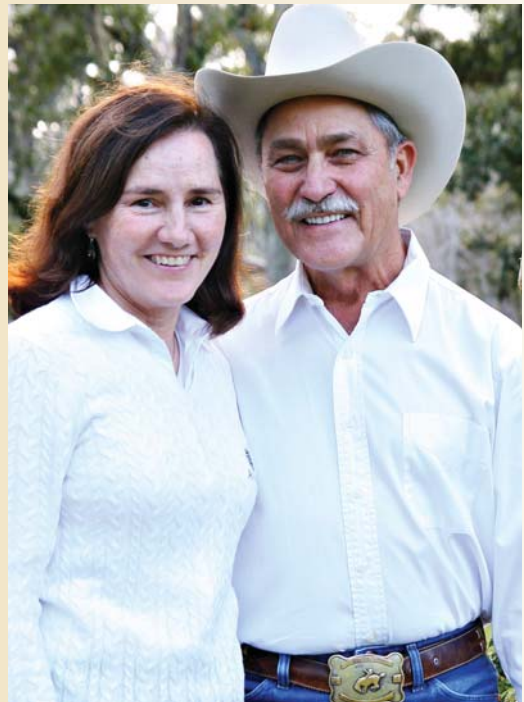
To help fulfill this desire, Jacko developed a close relationship with university and USDA rice scientists. In 1983, he was the first to grow Lemont foundation seed. Jacko was always pushing the envelope and improving production practices to ensure a sustainable rice industry. For example, he was instrumental in implementing drastically reduced seeding rates to less than 10 pounds per acre, always trying to stretch his available seed to the maximum. Jacko was definitely an industry leader in reducing seeding rates while maintaining high yields.

He also grew and sold registered seed stock for all the Southern rice-producing states for many years. LSU AgCenter senior rice breeder, Steve Linscombe, notes that when Jacko was in the pure line variety seed production business, his seed was considered the very best in the business.

"His seed cleaning and processing operation is state-of-the-art and has been copied by many in the industry over the years," Linscombe says. "As well, his seed field roguing programs are unsurpassed for detail and thoroughness. In fact, for several years, Mr. Garrett sent his roguing crews to the Rice Research Station to assist in the roguing efforts of our foundation seed production fields. He always has bent over backwards to assist in improving our seed production program.

"Another example of Mr. Garrett's national and international reputation is the number of visitors that he hosts at his farm," Linscombe adds. "Through the years, that number has to be well over a thousand. Many international visitors who tour our research station have either just visited Garrett Farms or were on their way to do so after leaving us. He also hosted a field day for many years with a huge attendance."

In addition to his efforts on behalf of the rice industry, Jacko is truly a humanitarian. In 1999, he established the Share the Harvest Foundation, a Texas non-profit organization with the double goal of feeding the hungry in the local area and being a consistent source of milled



rice for the Houston Food Bank and those living in the Food Bank's service area. This mission continues today thanks to the generous donations given annually from local rice farmers and industry related companies.

"According to Houston Food Bank's database, Share the Harvest Foundation has donated more than 5,500,000 pounds of rice since 2000," notes John Kreger, Director of Food Resources, Houston Food Bank.

In reflecting on his career, Jacko says one of the most enjoyable aspects to him was meeting and working with so many different people in the rice industry.

"Every year after harvesting my crop, I would take a trip into south Louisiana, then up through the Delta and into Missouri, stopping and visiting with different farmers," he says. "I would always get new ideas that I wanted to come home and try for myself. All in all, I have to say that it's has been a fun and interesting ride."

Perhaps Mo Way, Texas Extension rice specialist captures the essence of Jacko Garrett, Jr. best.

"As the sign in front of the Garrett's headquarters reads, 'You reap what you sow,' and Jacko has dedicated his life to his family, community and the rice industry. We have all reaped the benefits of Jacko's hard work and dedication."

With that said, we are proud to honor such a hard working and deserving man, Jacko Garrett, Jr., as the recipient of the 2011 Rice Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jacko Garrett, Jr., Danbury, Texas

- B.A. in Business Management - Texas Christian University
- Long-time member of numerous industry related organizations
- Owner/President of Eagle Rice Dryer
- Owner of Garrett Seed Rice for more than 25 years
- Founder of Share the Harvest Foundation in 1999
- Member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church
- Wife, Nancy. Two daughters: Traci LaChance (husband, Paul) and Christy Jennings (husband, Webb).
Six grandchildren: Garrett and Meagan Harvey, Alex and Leslie LaChance and Mary B. and Lila Jennings.



2011 Rice Awards

The U.S. rice industry has a long history of recognizing key members who represent a spirit of deep commitment and service to the trade. While it is difficult to recognize all who participate in any given year, those exemplifying a level of service and contributions above and beyond expectations are singled out for special recognition by their peers.

The Rice Industry Award honors the person who has proven to be innovative in his or her role in this industry. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes the person who has dedicated his or her life to the viability of the U.S. rice industry. The Rice Farmer of the Year Award honors a producer who has shown determination, innovation or dedication to growing the crop. Please take a moment to review the accomplishments of each of these outstanding recipients that set them apart as leaders in the U.S. rice industry.

Horizon Ag and its seed partners are honored to support these awards that recognize outstanding contributions to the rice industry. Growers have learned to depend on Horizon Ag varieties in the field, with over 4 million acres planted since the launch of our product line. Outstanding weed control from the Clearfield® system coupled with some of the highest quality rice varieties available have impacted U.S. rice production in a very positive way. As the leading provider of Clearfield rice seed to the market place, and over a decade of success bringing outstanding products to market, we are very proud to honor the 2011 award winners. For more information on Horizon products, please contact your local seed retailer or visit www.horizonseed.com.

Sincerely,
Randy Ouzts
General Manager, Horizon Ag



Horizon Ag would like to recognize past Rice Awards recipients.

1992

Dennis Leonards, Crowley, La.

1993

Jacko Garrett, Danbury, Texas

1994

Nolen Canon, Tunica, Miss.

1995

Duane Gaither, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

1996

Leroy & Chris Isbell, England, Ark.

1997 Charles Berry, Tunica, Miss.

John Denison, Iowa, La.

Paul Haidusek, Devers, Texas

Errol Lounsberry, Vermilion Parish, La.

Charley Mathews Jr., Marysville, Calif.

Patrick Mullen, Des Arc, Ark.

Fred Tanner, Bernie, Mo.

1998

Tommy Andrus, Moorehead, Miss.

Don Bransford, Colusa, Calif.

Larry Devillier Jr., Winnie, Texas

Dennis Robison, Poplar Bluff, Mo.

Gary Sebree, Stuttgart, Ark.

Linda Zaunbrecher, Gueydon, La.

1999

Ken Collins, Biggs, Calif.

James Hoppe, Fenton, La.

Charles Parker Johnson, Neelyville, Mo.

Abbott Myers, Dundee, Miss.

Lowell George "L.G." Raun Jr.,

El Campo, Texas

Martin Walt Jr., Dumas, Ark.

2000

John B. Alter, DeWitt, Ark.

R. Ernest Girouard Jr., Kaplan, La.

Bill Griffith, Boyle, Miss.

Ken Minton, Dexter, Mo.

Michael Rue, Marysville, Calif.

J.D. "Des" Woods, Katy, Texas

2001

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Larry and Candice Davis, Bolivar

County, Miss.

Rice Industry Award:

Jack Williams, UC Cooperative Extension

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

David LaCour, Vermilion Parish, La.

2002

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Tommy Ray Oliver, Stuttgart, Ark.

Rice Industry Award:

Howard Cormier, LSU AgCenter,

Abbeville, La.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Leland L. Carle, Stuttgart, Ark.

2003

Rice Farmer of the Year:

David Monroe Smith Jr., Jonesboro, Ark.

Rice Industry Award:

Dr. Johnny Saichuk,

LSU AgCenter, Crowley, La.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Lundberg Brothers, Richvale, Calif.

2004

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Dane Hebert, Maurice, La.

Rice Industry Award:

Dr. M.O. "Mo" Way, Texas

A&M, Beaumont, Texas

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Dr. Joseph Musick, LSU

AgCenter, Crowley, La.

2005

Rice Farmer of the Year:

John Greer, Jonesboro, Ark.

Rice Industry Award:

Charles "Eddie" Eskew, Jennings, La.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Donald Bransford, Colusa, Calif.

2006

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Gibb Steele, Hollandale, Miss.

Rice Industry Award:

Chuck Wilson, DeWitt, Ark.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

John Denison, Iowa, La.

2007

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Clarence Berken, Lake Arthur, La.

Rice Industry Award:

Dr. Joe Street, Stoneville, Miss.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Dr. Steve Linscombe, Crowley, La.

2008

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Milton LaMalfa, Richvale, Ca.

Rice Industry Award:

John Cummings, Fort Collins, Colo.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Martin Ahrent, Corning, Ark.

2009

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Curtis Berry, Robinsonville, Miss.

Rice Industry Award:

John E. Broussard, Jr., Fairfax, Va.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Carl Wayne Brothers, Stuttgart, Ark.

2010

Rice Farmer of the Year:

Greg, C.J. and Jeff Durand

St. Martinville, La.

Rice Industry Award:

Dr. Richard J. Norman, Fayetteville, Ark.

Rice Lifetime Achievement Award:

Dr. Elaine T. Champagne, New Orleans, La.