



**Ohio Agricultural Research
and Development Center**

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DATE: January 17, 2012

TO: Department Chairs, Associate Chairs, Program Heads, School
Directors and Graduate Studies Committee Chairs

FROM: Steven A. Slack, Director

SUBJECT: **2012 OARDC Director's Innovator of the Year Award**

The Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center has a rich history of innovation and entrepreneurship. Many of these ideas have created or introduced commercial products, services, programs or processes that benefit stakeholders. In an effort to reward and recognize the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, the OARDC Director's Innovator of Year Award was created.

Objective: To recognize OARDC scientists, who have introduced innovations or that have or will have a major impact on agricultural production, business, rural communities, technology and the health and well-being of animals and human beings.

Eligibility: Nominees must have an OARDC appointment.

Award: One award will be given each year. The award may be to an individual or team. The award consists of a plaque and \$1000 to each team member, not to exceed \$5,000 for the team and \$2500 to an operating expense account of the awardee for one year only, not to exceed \$5000 total in the case of a team award.

Evaluation Criteria: The purpose of this award is to recognize faculty for their creativity in innovation and entrepreneurship. Nominated faculty, should have a regionally, nationally or internationally recognized invention, methodology, product, service, program or process that has had a significant impact on the scientific discipline, businesses, communities and industries.

Nominees will be evaluated on:

1. Uniqueness of the innovation and what makes this innovation particularly notable.
2. The potential impact of the innovation in revenue, cost savings, social value, value to business and industry and/or value to well-being of animals and human beings.
3. Any awards, patents, licenses, grants and contracts obtained as a result of the innovation.
4. A one-page description of the innovation.

Nomination Procedure and Deadline:

1. Five copies of each nomination should be submitted to the OARDC Director's Office at either Columbus or Wooster campus, attention Steve Slack, **on or before 5:00 p.m. Monday, March 5, 2012.**
2. The nomination packet must include a cover sheet with the signature of both the department chair and the nominator.
3. Departments may submit unlimited nominations.

Review Committee: Nominations will be reviewed by the OARDC's Director's Cabinet.

Award Presentation: The award will be presented at the OARDC Annual Research Conference to be held on April 26, 2012 at the Shisler Conference Center, Wooster, OH 44691.

C: D. A. Benfield
F. W. Ravlin