

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ASA Honors Dr. Pengyin Chen with Pinnacle Award

St. Louis, Mo., March 16, 2021. The American Soybean Association (ASA) recognized Dr. Pengyin Chen from Sikeston, Missouri, with its Pinnacle Award during an awards ceremony broadcast March 16.

The ASA Pinnacle Award is an industry-wide recognition of individuals who have demonstrated the highest level of contribution and leadership within the soybean family and industry through work involving a significant amount of their lifetime.

Dr. Chen, a professor in soybean breeding at the University of Missouri Fisher Delta Research Center in Portageville, Missouri, is recognized as a pioneer in the soybean and soy food industries. His life's work has aimed to develop genetics that allow U.S. farmers to capture extra value from higher soybean yield and quality.

Since the mid-1980s in Iowa, Dr. Chen's career in plant breeding and genetics has taken him to Texas, Virginia, Arkansas and Missouri. In the 1990s, Dr. Chen was part of the team that brought the Hutcheson soybean to market, which is known to be an ancestor to nearly 80% of soybean varieties grown in the South.



Dr. Pengyin Chen

Throughout his career, Dr. Chen has released a combined total of more than 30 conventional row crop varieties and food grade varieties. He is the most prolific food grade soybean breeder, having developed the highest-protein commercial soybean varieties.

Dr. Chen developed soybeans for tofu, edamame, soymilk, natto bean sprouts, and soy nuts. At the University of Missouri, he is helping release high oleic soybean varieties.

"Dr. Chen is a trailblazer in soybean research and breeding, and his professional accomplishments have benefited soybean growers across the United States," said ASA Vice President Brad Doyle, who is an Arkansas soybean grower and nominated Dr. Chen for the Pinnacle Award. "His contributions to

soybean genetics are a cornerstone to the innovation and progress we see across the industry today.”

Outside the lab, Dr. Chen excels at communicating about soybean genetic advances through field days and meetings with growers, foreign buyers and researchers. He’s written or co-authored more than 225 journal articles.

In addition, Dr. Chen has taught classes in plant breeding and soybean production, helping educate and mentor dozens of students, many now employed by major agriculture companies and universities.

Dr. Chen is an outstanding geneticist known worldwide for his work in plant breeding and soybean genetics—a lifetime of work that has provided significant benefit to farmers and strengthened the U.S. soybean industry.

###

The American Soybean Association (ASA) represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international policy issues important to the soybean industry. ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 300,000 soybean farmers.

For more information contact:

Jordan Bright, ASA Communications Manager, jbright@soy.org

Access this release online at SoyGrowers.com.

If you no longer want to receive News Releases from the American Soybean Association, [opt out here](#).

[Unsubscribe](#) from all ASA email.