

# Blog, Rice/Soybean Fact Sheet Earn National Honors

## CINCINNATI, ARK.

The Arkansas Row Crops Blog and a fact sheet for rice and soybean growers earned top honors at the joint annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America.

More than 4,000 people from around the world attended the meeting held Oct. 21-24.

The blog, <http://arkansascrops.com> and "Potassium Requirements and Fertilization of Rice and Irrigated Soybean," FSA2165, <http://bit.ly/UfJBp0>, were winners in the 2012 Extension Education Community Educational Materials awards program.

The blog, begun in March 2011, racked up more than 50,000 page views in its first nine months, with visitors from around the globe.

The team behind the crops blog:

- Trent Roberts, assistant professor of soil fertility/testing
- Jason Kelley, extension wheat and feed grains specialist
- Yeshi Wamishe, assistant professor-plant pathology
- Blake McClelland, extension cotton verification coordinator
- Nathan Slaton, professor and director the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's soil testing lab
  - Bob Scott, extension weed scientist
  - Travis Faske, extension plant pathologist
  - Kim Rowe, program associate, plant pathology
- Chuck Wilson, director of the Rice Research and Extension Center
  - Tom Barber, extension cotton specialist
  - Scott Stiles, extension economist
  - Leo Espinoza, extension soil scientist
  - Rick Cartwright, associate director of agri-

culture and natural resources for the UA Division of Agriculture

- Kevin Lawson, extension corn and grain sorghum verification coordinator
- Ralph Mazzanti, extension rice verification coordinator

Roberts said the judges were impressed with the timeliness and regularity at which new information was added to the blog and how it addressed specific producer needs.

The fact sheet authors are:

- Nathan Slaton, professor and director the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's soil testing lab
  - Jeremy Ross, extension soybean agronomist
  - Rick Norman, professor
  - Leo Espinosa, extension soil scientist
  - Trent Roberts, assistant professor of soil fertility/testing
  - Morteza Mozaffari, assistant professor of soil fertility/testing
  - Chuck Wilson, director of the Rice Research and Extension Center
  - Rick Cartwright, associate director of agriculture and natural resources for the UA Division of Agriculture

"The important thing to realize is that the judges represent extension programs from all over the country and the success of our fact-sheet and row crops blog really highlights the quality of the materials that our extension program creates," Roberts said. "These items were judged against materials from all over the United States.

"I think it really speaks to the quality of our extension program and personnel," he said. "To know that our extension program is recognized on a national level against other much bigger institutions is a really exciting and something we should all be proud of." △



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