



Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2010

Contact: Judi Shellenberger (315) 258-0090

Cell Phone (315) 730-6353

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2010 *AGRISCIENCE AWARDS*

February 7, 2010, Auburn, New York - The Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, a Federal government agency, is now accepting Nominations for the new 2010 *Agriscience Awards*. The awards are presented by the Foundation in partnership with the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The mission of this partnership is to present the First Annual *Agriscience Awards* to recognize, through **eight** monetary awards and research funds, two adult scientists and provide research funds; three current secondary school educators; and three current secondary school students who are judged to exemplify excellence in the field of agriscience and to highlight the importance of agriculture in the 21st century.

Two \$25,000 Distinguished Agriscience Scientist Awards

Two *\$25,000 Distinguished Agriscience Scientist Awards* will be presented to adult scientists who are making or have recently made significant and positive contributions in the field of agriscience. In addition, **\$25,000** will be presented to each scientist recipient to be used to hire a graduate student/researcher to assist with a specific research project or to be used toward the project itself. The awards will provide incentive for continuing the research.

A comprehensive outline of the specific research project must accompany the initial Nomination, and will be judged as part of the overall Nomination packet submitted. Funds for the research project will be released in increments based on the progression of the research, not to exceed two years, with a final report on the results due upon completion.

Three \$10,000 Agriscience Educator Awards

Three *\$10,000 Agriscience Educator Awards* will be presented to three current secondary school educators, with at least five years of teaching experience, and who emphasize concepts, principles and applications in their curriculum to promote the study of agriscience to students.

Three \$5,000 Agriscience Student Awards

Three *\$5,000 Agriscience Student Awards* will be presented to current secondary school students who are making or have recently made significant and positive contributions related to the study of agriscience.

- o v e r -

All nominations are accepted online at: www.agriscienceawards.com. Please visit this website for information on the competition rules and regulations. The deadline for 2010 Nominations is Tuesday, April 6. Any questions related to the competition may be directed to Judi Shellenberger, Executive Director of the Foundation at: judithmscolumbus@cs.com or (315) 258-0090.

The **Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation** is an independent Federal government agency established by Congress in 1992 to “encourage and support research, study and labor designed to produce new discoveries in all fields of endeavor for the benefit of mankind.” The Foundation has created ***Frontiers of Discovery–Work in Progress and Discover the Future*** programs that honor “cutting edge” innovations; innovative ideas of America’s youth; and educators. Other programs sponsored by the Foundation include: ***Homeland Security Awards*** and ***Life Sciences Awards***, please visit: www.ccolumbusfoundationawards.org. The ***Christopher Columbus Awards*** are designed exclusively for middle school students. Please visit: www.christophercolumbusawards.com. For additional information, please visit: www.columbusfdn.org or contact Judi Shellenberger at: (315) 258-0090 or email: judithmscolumbus@cs.com.

The American Farm Bureau Federation is the unified national voice of agriculture, working through our grassroots state and county Farm Bureaus to enhance and strengthen the lives of rural Americans and to build strong, prosperous agricultural communities. Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization governed by and representing farm and ranch families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity and social advancement and, thereby, to promote the national well-being.

###