

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **2017 Outstanding Agricultural Mentor Award In Its 15th Year**

Nominations are being sought for the 2017 Outstanding Agricultural Mentor Award. The Outstanding Agricultural Mentor Award is in its 15th year and recognizes people in agriculture who have been positive mentors and role models for people in agricultural fields, especially women. Mentors play an integral role in the development of our agricultural leaders and they often go unheralded. Minnesota District 11 Agri-Women formally recognizes the excellent work of these mentors during their annual Women's Agricultural Leadership Conference. Please assist us in recognizing these outstanding mentors by nominating a mentor that has made an impact for agriculturalists.

The Outstanding Agricultural Mentor Awards will be presented during the luncheon at the **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Agricultural Leadership Conference, Agriculture 2017: Embracing Innovation on April 12, 2017** at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska, Minnesota.

Anyone may nominate a mentor to receive this award. You do not have to be in a formal mentoring program to make a nomination. Mentors can be of any age or gender and need to have influenced somebody in the field of agriculture. Although this award is coordinated by Minnesota District 11 Agri-Women, mentors or their nominators need not be affiliated with the Agri-Women organization, nor is affiliation considered criteria for evaluation.

Applications are due March 9, 2017 and may be found on the Women's Agricultural Leadership Conference Agriculture 2017: Embracing Innovation conference web site at [www.womensagleadership.org](http://www.womensagleadership.org) or by e-mailing Emily Wilmes at [krek0033@umn.edu](mailto:krek0033@umn.edu).

Past Mentoring Award winners include:

***Carol Abrahamzon***

***Leah Addington***

***Susan Anderson***

***Jim Boerboom***

***Dr. Michael Boland***

***Mary Buschette***

***Tim Claus***

***Dr. Dale Dahl***

***Steve Dille***

***Shirley Doering***

***Sarah Dornink***

***Yvonne Erickson***

***Terri Fast***

***Annette & Kay Fernholz***

***Amy Gales***

***Claudine Goodrich***

***Mary Hanks***

***Margaret Hart***

***Gene Hugoson***

***Paul Hugunin***

***Jerry & Linda Jennissen***

***Robin Kinney***

***Marie LeFebvre***

***Kim Lippert***

***Dr. Will Marsh***

***Robert Marzolf***

***Sheryl Meshke***

***Becky Meyer***

***Michael Miron***

***Former Lieutenant***

***Governor Carol Molnau***

***Doris Mold***

***Natasha Mortenson***

***Sherry Newell-Opitz***

***Melissa Norby***

***Mary Ellen Otremba***

***Barb Overlie***

***Barb Piehl***

***Steve Pooch***

***Bernie Quist***

***Lavyne Rada***

***Juanita Reed-Boniface***

***Kris Schmitt***

***Dr. Michael Schmitt***

***Yvonne Simon***

***Jim Stordahl***

***Linda Tank***

***Julie Tesch***

***Tamia Trulson***

***Donna Ulseth***

***Susan VonBank***

***Cliff Vrieze***

***Don Wick***

***Stephanie Wohlhuter***

***Louise Worm***

***Pat Yeagle***