



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE



The Millennium World Food Prize Laureates

DR. EVANGELINA VILLEGAS & DR. SURINDER K. VASAL

IOWA STATE CAPITOL, DES MOINES, IOWA, USA
OCTOBER 12, 2000



A PRIZE FOR THE WORLD

The award symbolizes significant victories in the continuing global struggle to eliminate poverty and meet humanity's nutritional needs.

Our world is one of contrast between abundance and want, prosperity and poverty. A place where famine and hunger persist and acute poverty prevents many from sharing the world's bounty. Croplands shrink, yet the population grows by nearly 90 million a year, a quarter million every day.

Nearly one billion people, mostly women and children in developing countries are left without. But around the world, dedicated people valiantly and effectively address the alleviation of poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

Combining scientific skills with the compassion of the human heart, scientists of the world have coaxed greater and greater volumes of food from an ear of corn, a tassel of wheat, a panicle of rice. This is one kind of miracle celebrated by The World Food Prize. The World Food Prize gives richly deserved recognition to pioneers who improve food security upon our small planet. And just as importantly, the award seeks to inspire and challenge creative, dedicated individuals to follow these pioneers and chart new territory.

The World Food Prize is the foremost international award recognizing – without regard to race, religion, nationality or political beliefs – the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the

quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. The Prize recognizes contributions in any field involved in the world food supply – food and agricultural science and technology, manufacturing, marketing, nutrition, economics, political leadership and the social sciences.

The World Food Prize emphasizes the importance of a nutritious and sustainable food supply for all people. By honoring those who have worked successfully toward this goal, The Prize calls attention to what has been done to improve the world food supply and to what must be accomplished in the future.

The Laureate receives \$250,000 and an original sculpture created by world-renowned designer Saul Bass.



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

The Foundation commissioned world-renowned designer Saul Bass to create this distinctive award sculpture signifying the importance of food in the world.



Dr. Evangelina Villegas
Mexico



Dr. Surinder K. Vasal
India

THE MILLENNIUM WORLD FOOD PRIZE LAUREATES

A unique, two-decade collaboration between two scientists led to breakthrough achievements in the development of Quality Protein Maize (QPM) – which stands to greatly improve nutrition for hundreds of millions of people in developing countries.

Dr. Surinder K. Vasal and Dr. Evangelina Villegas were born half a world apart – he in India, she in Mexico. Sam, as he is known to his friends, developed an early love for maize and pursued his interest after receiving his Ph.D. in Genetics and Plant Breeding from the India Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi. Eva credits a love of chemistry and biology, an ongoing interest in maize as a vitally important crop in Mexico and the support of her family and professors as key ingredients leading to her Ph.D. in Cereal

Chemistry and Plant Breeding from North Dakota State University.

A Dynamic Partnership

Drs. Villegas and Vasal began a collaborative maize research effort in Mexico in the early 1970s while they were working at Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maíz y Trigo also known as the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, or CIMMYT in Mexico.

The two met at CIMMYT when Eva was in charge of the lab and Sam was newly assigned as the plant breeder to work on QPM. Through a unique show of determined teamwork, they integrated cereal chemistry and plant breeding techniques to develop QPM germplasm by combining the existing opaque-2 gene maize with genetic modifiers, resulting in a maize with hard kernel

characteristics, good taste and higher quality levels of lysine and tryptophan – two essential amino acids in human nutrition.

During the course of their research they overcame numerous setbacks and obstacles to widespread acceptance of QPM varieties. Maize with the opaque-2 gene was developed at Purdue University in 1963, although its origins date back to the 1920s. The kernel was opaque, chalky in appearance and soft instead of hard and transparent. While lysine and tryptophan levels were better than in conventional maize, opaque-2 had lower yields and was more susceptible to ear rot and insect damage. The taste and kernel appearance were not acceptable to farmers.

Painstaking Research

And so the stage was set for the work to come. Dr. Vasal said, “The work was difficult

in the beginning. We had to develop very large quantities of germplasm and it was a time consuming process of elimination. By mid-1975, we had some materials which yielded better agronomic characteristics and by 1984 we made definite advances.”

Dr. Villegas added, “We had a very good group of people and the support to analyze thousands of samples a year. Sometimes 20,000-25,000 analyses per year – with up to 500 samples per week.”

Along the way, conflicting nutrition reports on the need for protein versus the need for calories in the diets of people in developing countries diminished interest in QPM.

Early varieties, even with their accompanying drawbacks, were rushed to market and were ultimately rejected.



Drs. Villegas and Vasal realized that the higher protein maize would not reach the stomachs of the malnourished until they, the scientists, improved yields and other agronomic characteristics to compete with normal maize.

A Final Obstacle

By the mid-1980s, their persistence paid off. They developed maize with both high quality amino acids and an almost completely normal grain type. But, it was at this point that support for their approach to the development of enhanced protein maize lost support and research funds were withdrawn.

Their discovery remained unexploited because many nutritionists felt that protein could be added to the diets of the poor in other ways. However, in the early 1990s,



with support from the Nippon Foundation and Sasakawa Global 2000, whose co-founders include former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, CIMMYT began to promote QPM in Ghana and several other African countries. QPM has also been increasingly utilized with very positive results in China, Mexico and parts of Central America. Wherever it is integrated into the diet, nutrition levels rise and children's health improves dramatically.

The Need for QPM

In Central and South America, Africa and Asia, several hundred million people rely on maize as their principal daily food. Maize is widely used as a weaning food for babies. Many small livestock farmers or smallholders also use it to feed pigs. Conventional maize





John Ruan

THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

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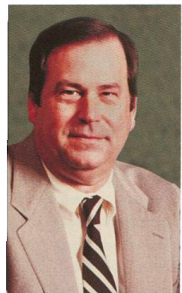
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John Ruan III



Dr. Norman E. Borlaug



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE FOUNDATION

PRESENTS THE

Millennium World Food Prize Laureates

TO THE
UNITED NATIONS DIPLOMATIC CORPS
AT A
LUNCHEON CEREMONY

FEATURING REMARKS BY
AMBASSADOR RICHARD C. HOLBROOKE
AND
U.S. SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
DAN GLICKMAN

12:30 P.M.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2000

■
Rainbow Room
65th Floor
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York



Amb. Richard C. Holbrooke



Hon. Dan Glickman



is lacking in quality protein content, especially lysine and tryptophan, which are two essential amino acids the human body cannot synthesize and, therefore, must be obtained from food.

Normal protein deficient maize is not a quality food staple. People relying on it typically suffer from malnutrition. Babies weaned on it are frequently underweight, prone to disease and are at high risk for starvation. At a time when UNICEF reports one million infants and small children alone are starving each month, the use of QPM in daily rations can improve health and even save lives. QPM offers 90 percent of the nutritional value of skim milk, the standard for adequate nutrition value.

Babies and adults consuming QPM are healthier and at lower risk for malnutrition



disorders such as Marasmus and Kwashiorkor – seen all too commonly in photos of children with bone-thin limbs and distended bellies or bodies swollen with edema. Animals fed on QPM experience rapid weight gain and are ready for market sooner. QPM is also an additional quality protein source for small farm families.

Countering Malnutrition

While Drs. Villegas and Vasal developed QPM through field and laboratory research in Mexico, their teaching and that of others helped spread its adoption and use across the globe. Hybrids were developed and tested for widely varying climatic and growing conditions. The maize germplasm developed at CIMMYT contributes more than one billion dollars annually to the economies of developing countries.



Data from Mexico, Africa and other countries repeatedly report better utilizable protein levels in diets of the resource-poor, complete recovery from malnutrition and enhanced nutrition and growth in animals. CIMMYT and other initiatives such as Sasakawa Global 2000 continue the research and development of QPM. Quality Protein Maize has had positive impact on millions of people. “It can remedy nutritional deficiencies from diets heavy in maize,” said Vasal. In studies in Columbia and Peru, malnourished children were restored to health on controlled diets using QPM as a protein source.

Worldwide Impact

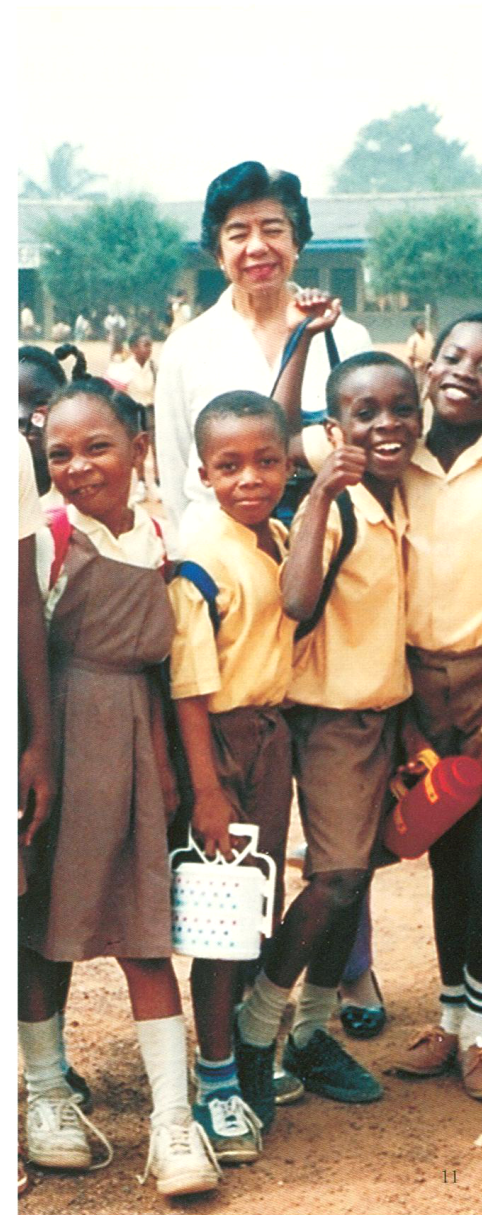
QPM research and development have spread from Mexico to Central and South America to Africa, Europe and Asia. Just one dramatic example of the

impact of QPM is the miraculous turnaround in lives of the poor in Guizhou, the poorest province in China. QPM hybrid yields are 10 percent higher than other hybrids. New animal production enterprises enabled by QPM have brought increased food security and disposable income. As an elderly woman farmer in a Guizhou village explained, “We have always worked hard but barely kept alive until QPM arrived (in 1994). Now my family is happy. I have a good house, good clothes, and I can travel to the local town.”

By 1999, the impact of Dr. Villegas’ and Dr. Vasal’s breakthrough achievement could finally be seen in terms of improvement in the human condition and thus The World Food Prize could be awarded to them.

Both scientists acknowledge that CIMMYT’s commitment, leadership and funding was instrumental in facilitating the development of QPM. CIMMYT’s current Director General Timothy Reeves said,

“The potential contributions of QPM to the world population are enormous. The efforts of Drs. Villegas and Vasal have laid the foundation for what will be one of the most important contributions to food security in human history.”





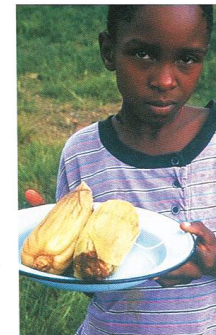
2000 WORLD FOOD PRIZE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The Safety of Genetically Modified Crops and Their Role in Feeding Developing Countries in the 21st Century

October 12-13, 2000
Marriott Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa, USA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:00 a.m.	OPENING CEREMONY
Presenters	Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn, <i>President, The World Food Prize Foundation</i> Mr. John Ruan, <i>Chair, The World Food Prize Foundation</i> Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, <i>1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; Chair, The World Food Prize Council of Advisors</i> Hon. Thomas J. Vilsack, <i>Governor of Iowa</i> Hon. Sally J. Pederson, <i>Lt. Governor of Iowa</i>
9:15 a.m.	PANEL 1 <i>Trends in Genetically Modified Crop Usage and Related Issues</i>
Moderator	Mr. A.S. Clausi, <i>(Ret.) Senior Vice President, General Foods Corporation; Member, The World Food Prize Council of Advisors</i>
Presenters	Dr. Ismail Serageldin, <i>(Ret.) Vice President, The World Bank</i> Dr. Clive James, <i>Chair, International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA)</i> Dr. James Peacock, <i>Chief, CSIRO Plant Industry</i>
11:00 a.m.	PANEL 2 <i>Governors' Dialogue – The View From the States</i>
Presenters	Hon. Thomas J. Vilsack, <i>Governor of Iowa</i> Hon. Edward T. Schafer, <i>Governor of North Dakota</i>
12:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON SESSION
	Keynote Address <i>Agricultural Biotechnology: Making Good on Its Global Potential</i> Ambassador Alan Larson, <i>U.S. Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs</i>
2:00 p.m.	PANEL 3 <i>Ethical and Environmental Safety Issues Related to Genetically Modified Crops</i>
Moderator	Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, <i>Chairman, Swaminathan Research Foundation; 1987 World Food Prize Laureate</i>
Presenters	Dr. Bernard Schwetz, <i>Acting Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration</i> Dr. Perry Adkisson, <i>Chancellor Emeritus, Texas A & M University; 1997 World Food Prize Laureate</i> Dr. C.S. Prakash, <i>Director of the Centers for Plant Biotechnology Research, Tuskegee University</i> Ms. Hope Shand, <i>Research Director, Rural Advancement Foundation International</i> Dr. Miguel Altieri, <i>Professor of Agroecology, University of California at Berkeley</i>
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	MILLENNIUM LAUREATE AWARD CEREMONY & DINNER Iowa State Capitol Building



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:00 a.m.	SPECIAL BREAKFAST SEMINAR
Presenters	<i>The Life and Times of Henry A. Wallace</i> Hon. John C. Culver, <i>Former U.S. Senator</i> Mr. Carlos Molestina, <i>Director of External Relations Division, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture</i>
9:15 a.m.	OPENING ADDRESS
Presenter	<i>The Development of Golden Rice</i> Dr. Ingo Potrykus, <i>Professor Emeritus of Plant Sciences, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology</i>
10:00 a.m.	PANEL 4 <i>The Role of GMOs in Feeding Developing Countries: Necessity or Overstated Resource?</i>
Moderator	Dr. Per Pinstrup-Andersen, <i>Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
Presenters	Dr. Hans R. Herren, <i>Chief Executive and Director General, International Institute of Insect Physiology and Ecology, Kenya; 1995 World Food Prize Laureate</i> Dr. Florence Wambugu, <i>Director, Afri-Center, International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA)</i> Dr. Chen Zhang-Liang, <i>Vice President, Peking University; Director, National Laboratory of Plant Genetic Engineering</i> Dr. Usha Barwale-Zehr, <i>Joint Director of Research, Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds</i>
12:00 noon	LUNCHEON SESSION
	Keynote Address <i>Biotechnology as Viewed from Europe</i> Hon. Karl-Heinz Funke, <i>Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Forestry, Federal Republic of Germany</i>
2:00 p.m.	PANEL 4 <i>Laureates' Dialogue</i>
Moderator	Dr. Robert Havener, <i>President Emeritus, Winrock International; Member, The World Food Prize Council of Advisors</i>
Presenters	Dr. Evangelina Villegas, Dr. Surinder K. Vasal H.E. He Kang
	Laureates
	Dr. Perry L. Adkisson Dr. Hans R. Herren Dr. Henry Beachell Dr. Gurdev Khush Mr. B.R. Barwale Dr. John S. Niederhauser Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Perry Adkisson, Ph.D., Chancellor Emeritus of Texas A & M University, chairs the National Academy of Sciences Study Committee on the safety of transgenic plants in the food supply. He was a co-recipient of The World Food Prize in 1997 for developing and implementing Integrated Pest Management, which revolutionized crop protection methods and changed the direction of agricultural research in this area.

Miguel Altieri, Ph.D., is a Professor of Agroecology at the Center for Biological Control, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, University of California-Berkeley. Among several other responsibilities, he is Technical Advisor to the Latin American Consortium on Agroecology and Development in Santiago, Chile.

John Culver, former Senator from Iowa, is currently a senior partner with the law firm of Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin and Kahn in Washington, DC. He is a Director of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, a member of the Senior Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Board Chairman of Very Special Arts.

Karl-Heinz Funke is Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Forestry in the Federal Republic of Germany. He has served in several governmental posts, including the Mayor of Varel, member of the Lower Saxony State Parliament, and Minister of Food, Agriculture and Forestry of Lower Saxony.

Hans Herren, Ph.D., is the Chief Executive and Director General of the International Institute of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya. He is the recipient of the 1995 World Food Prize, recognized for his work in developing and implementing biological control for the cassava mealybug, which had nearly destroyed the entire Africa cassava crop.

Clive James, Ph.D., is Chairman of the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications. Prior to his co-founding of ISAAA, he was Deputy Director General for Research at the International Wheat and Maize Improvement Center in Mexico. He also has worked in the developing countries of Asia, Latin America and Africa on agricultural research and development issues.

Alan P. Larson, Ph.D., is Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. He is

Secretary Albright's senior-most advisor on international economic policy, trade and aviation, and leads the U.S. panel conducting the policy dialogue on biotechnology with the European Union.

Carlos Molestina is Acting Director of External Relations at the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), a hemispheric organization headquartered in Costa Rica.

James Peacock, AC, is Chief of CSIRO Plant Industry, in Canberra, Australia. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and The Royal Society of London, a Foreign Associate of the U.S. Academy of Sciences, and a Foreign Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.

Per Pinstrup-Andersen, Ph.D., is Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute. He is a member of the National Research Council's Committee on Biotechnology, the Working Committee on Biotechnology under the State Department's Advisory Council on International Economic Policy and the World Health Policy Forum.

Ingo Potrykus, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Plant Sciences at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. He and his colleagues

have applied genetic engineering technology to crop plants such as rice, wheat, sorghum and cassava. He appeared on the cover of *TIME* Magazine (July 31, 2000) for his contribution to the development of beta-carotene-enriched "golden rice."

C.S. Prakash, Ph.D., is Professor of Plant Molecular Genetics at Tuskegee University and Director of the Center for Plant Biotechnology Research. His petition in support of agricultural biotechnology has drawn support from nearly 3,000 scientists.

Edward T. Schafer, elected Governor of North Dakota in 1992 and re-elected for a second term in 1996, is the National Governors' Association co-leader for agriculture and leader of the Transportation Revenues Used Solely for Transportation Coalition. He is currently Chairman of the Republican Governors Association.

Dr. Bernard Schwetz, D.V.M., Ph.D., is the Acting Deputy Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology and was Acting Director of the Environmental Toxicology Program at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National

Institutes of Health, before assuming a post at the FDA in 1993.

Ismail Serageldin, Ph.D., recently retired as Vice President of The World Bank and Chairman of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. Currently he is a Special Advisor to The Bank, a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the American University in Cairo, and is Advisor to the Egyptian Government on the New Library of Alexandria.

Hope Shand is Research Director of the Rural Advancement Foundation International, a non-governmental organization based in Montreal, that is dedicated to the conservation and sustainable improvement of agricultural biodiversity, and to the socially responsible development of technologies useful to rural societies.

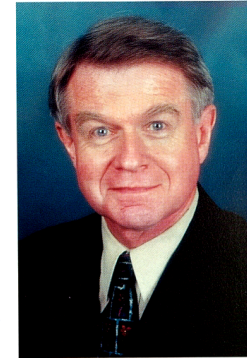
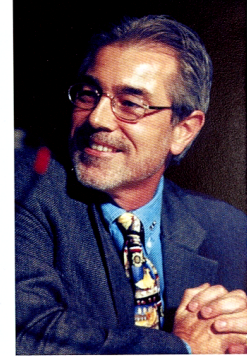
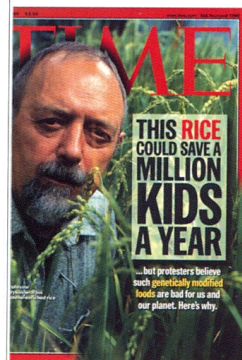
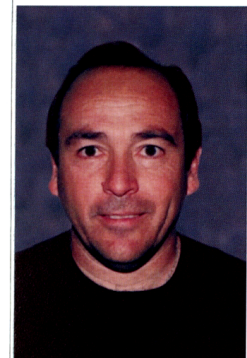
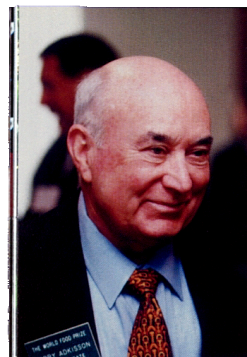
M.S. Swaminathan is Chairman of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, which was established in 1988 with the mission to harness science and technology for environmentally sustainable and socially equitable development. He received The World Food Prize in 1987 for his role as architect of India's "Green Revolution."

Thomas J. Vilsack, elected Governor of Iowa in 1998, is Co-chair of the newly formed Governors Biotechnology Partnership. He recently addressed a conference held at Harvard University on Conservation in the Internet Age.

Florence Wambugu, Ph.D., is Director of the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications, African Region Office, in Nairobi, Kenya. She has received professional recognition and several awards for her contributions to sweet potato virus disease research in Kenya, where the sweet potato is a staple crop.

Chen Zhang-Liang is Academic Vice President of Peking University and Director of the National Laboratory of Protein Engineering and Plant Genetic Engineering, in Beijing, China.

Usha Barwale Zehr, Ph.D., is Joint Director of Research of the Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company in India. She is a member of the World Water Commission and the Technical Advisory Committee, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.





THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE STORY

The Vision and Generosity Behind The Prize

The World Food Prize has reached greater and greater heights of international stature each year. But none of this would have happened if it were not for the efforts of Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman E. Borlaug and businessman and philanthropist John Ruan – two long-time friends who have made a mark on the world.

Dr. Borlaug and Mr. Ruan were born just a month apart in small towns in the State of Iowa. John Ruan spent his early years in Beacon, Iowa, and later attended Iowa State University. But when his father died, he left Iowa State and started a trucking business. That was the beginning of a trucking, banking, insurance and real estate enterprise of national proportions.

As the Depression loomed in the United States, Norman Borlaug left his family's farm near Cresco, Iowa, to enter the University of Minnesota. Degrees in forestry and plant pathology led the way to a distinguished career in which he revolutionized agriculture and eventually was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role as "Father of the Green Revolution."

In 1986, Dr. Borlaug envisioned an award like the Nobel Prize to honor individuals from many disciplines who quietly, and heroically confront the issue of food security in the world. Thus The World Food Prize was created.

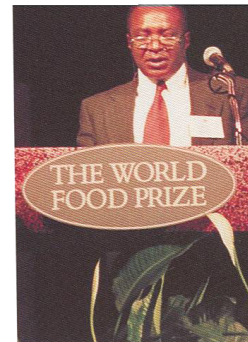
According to Dr. Borlaug, "There is no prize available in the Nobel Foundation for food or agriculture, and so they put me through the window for peace, the only window through which I could pass."

"And now, with The World Food Prize, we have such a prize, so that on its own merit, food across all of the links in the chain can be recognized."

But even after The World Food Prize was created, it was nearly lost in the early 1990s when its original sponsor withdrew. It was then that John Ruan stepped forward to rescue The Prize.

He pledged his energy and resources "to these real life heroes whose work not only touches the world but also touches the hearts of all mankind."

True to his convictions about the importance of food to the world, John Ruan established The World Food Prize Foundation and personally endowed its operations for years to come. And since then, more than a dozen Laureates have been honored for their tremendous accomplishments, all thanks to



Dr. Norman E. Borlaug's vision and John Ruan's generosity.

The Prize Program

The World Food Prize is administered by The World Food Prize Foundation located in Des Moines, Iowa, USA. The Foundation is guided by a distinguished Council of Advisors in the establishment of policy and in the annual review of The Prize.

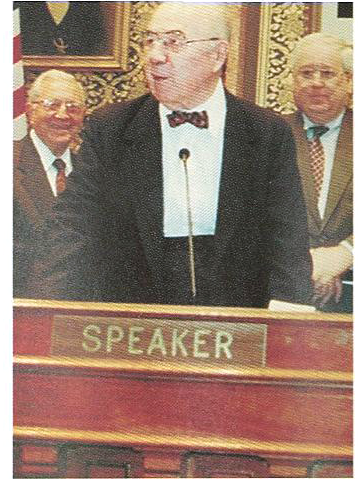
Each year, more than 4,000 institutions and organizations around the world are invited to nominate Laureate candidates. The World Food Prize Secretariat reviews all nominations for appropriateness and completeness and forwards them to the Selection Committee, which selects the candidate deemed most worthy of the award according to The Prize's objectives.

The Selection Committee is composed of nine distinguished individuals who are knowledgeable about various aspects of nutrition and food production, processing and distribution, including research, policy development and business management. Members of the Selection Committee remain anonymous, except for Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, the Committee's Chairman.

A World Class Symposium

Beyond The Prize itself, The World Food Prize sponsors an annual International Symposium. World leaders in agriculture and related fields are invited to present and discuss pertinent issues. Aspiring to be one of the top policy dialogues in the world, the Symposium focuses on important food security issues across the production and distribution chain.





Symposium attendees draw lessons both positive and negative from studies and action initiatives from presenters around the globe. Key positions and opinions are shared with government and international development agencies through the publication of a *Symposium Highlights* publication.

Youth Institute & International Internships

The World Food Prize Youth Institute was established in 1994 to increase awareness of The World Food Prize among young people. Each year the Institute provides an educational opportunity for students to present papers and interact with The World Food Prize Laureates and other world leaders on critical issues relating to food security. The Youth Institute motivates dedicated young people to

consider careers in food, agriculture and natural resource disciplines. In the future, the Youth Institute will be global in nature – attracting student participation from around the world.

Described by many as “life changing experiences,” The World Food Prize Youth Institute Summer Internship Program offers students the opportunity to work at research centers around the world for eight weeks during their summer break. The Foundation stresses the uniqueness of this program from other “study abroad” internship programs in that the students participate in research projects with world-renowned researchers while getting a first-hand view of real and pressing food security issues and nutritional problems in poverty-stricken areas.

Special Tribute

The World Food Prize Foundation wishes to formally acknowledge the generous support of the Youth Institute and The World Food Prize provided by the Governor and the State Legislature over the past decade. The World Food Prize Foundation extends a special thank you during this Millennium Celebration to the people of the State of Iowa.

The Foundation also expresses its great appreciation to Roberta and Howard Ahmanson and Fieldstead and Company for their extremely generous donation of \$80,000 in 1999 and 2000 to support The World Food Prize Youth Institute and their pledge to provide an additional \$80,000 in 2001 and 2002.