



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

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From Asia to Africa

The Eyes of the World Turn to Iowa

On behalf of the Ruan Family and our Council of Advisors, welcome to what we believe will be "The Most Significant Observance of United Nations World Food Day Anywhere Around the Globe."

The Iowa State Capitol is once again the setting for the presentation of The World Food Prize, awarded for "Nobel-like" achievements in increasing the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. We are most grateful that the Iowa Legislature has granted permission for our Laureate Award Ceremony to take place in this august setting, and we are very pleased that Iowa Lt. Governor Sally Pederson will preside at this ceremony.

It is of particular significance that, as the 2004 World Food Prize is presented, there will be assembled in this magnificent chamber more life saving achievement than at any other place in the world. Included are Nobel and World Food Prize Laureates, government officials, research scientists, international experts, business representatives and leaders of anti-hunger advocacy organizations.

Tonight we will add two more individuals to this distinguished pantheon of heroes: Professor Yuan Longping of China, and Dr. Monty Jones of Sierra Leone. It is especially fitting that these two rice breeders are being honored during the United Nations International Year of Rice and on UN World Food Day. Previous World Food Prize Laureates have come from Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Denmark, India, Mexico, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the United Nations.

The World Food Prize has sought to celebrate this occasion through our:

International Symposium on Rice, Biofortification and Enhanced Nutrition;

10th Anniversary Global Youth Institute; and

*Harvest Festival bringing together the arts, humanities, history and education
in a statewide focus on food insecurity in the world.*

We are especially pleased that this ceremony will be seen across Iowa and will be available around the world, *From Asia to Africa*, through Iowa Public Television.

Thank you for joining us.

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn
President



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

A Happy 90th Birthday Dedication



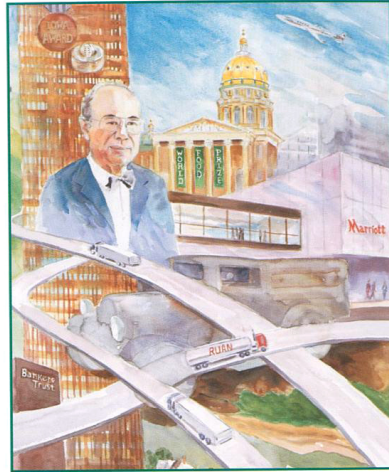
DR. NORMAN BORLAUG

Norman Borlaug and John Ruan were born just a month apart in 1914 in small towns in Iowa. John Ruan spent his early years in Beacon, Iowa. Forced to drop out of school in the Depression, he built a one truck hauling operation into a transportation, banking, insurance and real estate enterprise of national proportions.

At the same time, Norman Borlaug left his family's farm near Cresco to enter the University of Minnesota, earning degrees in forestry and plant pathology. Following his extraordinary breakthrough achievement in wheat breeding which helped feed millions in Mexico, India and Pakistan, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 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 heroically confront the issue of food security in the world. Thus, the World Food Prize was created. But shortly thereafter, it was nearly lost when the original sponsor withdrew. It was then that John Ruan stepped forward to rescue "The Prize." He moved it to its new home in Des Moines in 1990, and subsequently provided the endowment so it could continue to be awarded every year.

The above paintings by Iowa artist Nadine Hawbaker were commissioned by The World Food Prize as a tribute to the two men whose leadership is being honored as we celebrate their 90th birthdays as a part of The World Food Prize Harvest Festival.



MR. JOHN RUAN

Laureate Award Ceremony

October 14, 2004

The Iowa State Capitol Building

Musical Prelude

Des Moines Symphony Chamber Ensemble

Procession of Laureates and Dignitaries

"In Any Language" by Iowa Poet Lucille Wilson

African Music by Madou Dembele
and Euphrasie Johoun

The World Food Prize Youth Institute
John Chrystal Award and Ahmanson Intern Award

Violin Solo by Hanna Wolle

Laureate Proclamation, Lt. Governor Sally Pederson

Presentation of the 2004 World Food Prize

The Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble
Directed by Carol Stewart

Dinner to Follow in the Capitol Rotunda



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

The Laureate Announcement Ceremony



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

MARCH 29, 2004

The announcement of Professor Yuan Longping of China and Dr. Monty Jones of Sierra Leone as the 2004 World Food Prize Laureates took place at a ceremony in the magnificent Benjamin Franklin Room at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C.

Secretary of State Colin Powell presided at this event which included the Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Director General Dr. Jacques Diouf, Agency for International Development Administrator Andrew Natsios, Undersecretary of State Alan Larson, and members of Congress and the Diplomatic Corps.

A highlight of the ceremony was the surprise presentation of a cake and the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.



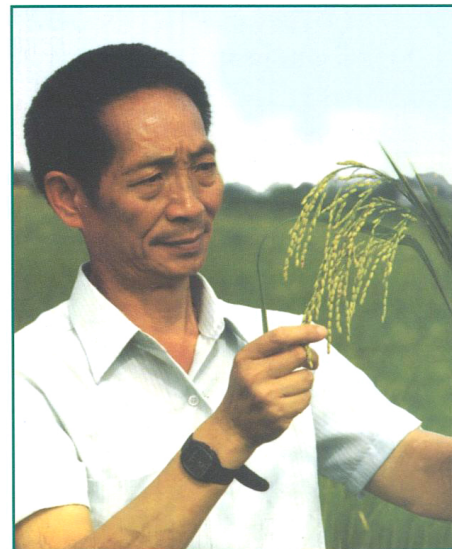
*"They have done great honor to their countries
and great service to humankind."*

- Secretary of State Colin Powell



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

The 2004 World Food Prize Laureates



YUAN LONGPING



MONTY JONES

*The \$250,000 World Food Prize is the World's Foremost Award Recognizing Contributions
to Increasing the Quality, Quantity or Availability of Food*



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE



YUAN LONGPING
China

Born in Peking, Yuan Longping graduated from Southwest Agricultural University in China in 1953, and then was assigned to teach crop genetics and breeding in Hunan Province where he began his research into the development of hybrid rice. In 1971, while working at the Hunan Academy of Agricultural Sciences, he made his major scientific breakthrough.

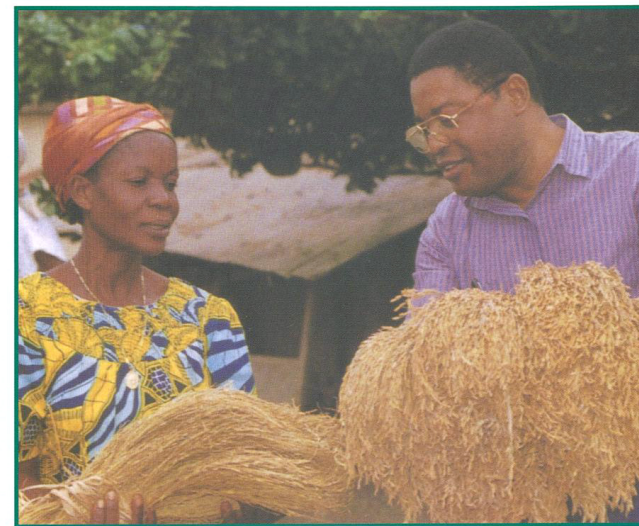
Professor Yuan is widely acknowledged as the first person to discover how to achieve heterosis in rice, a phenomenon in which the progeny of two distinctly different parents grow faster, yield more, and resist stress better than either parent. Since rice is a self-pollinating crop, it was widely believed that such an achievement was not possible. However, following several years of painstaking research and testing, Professor Yuan isolated the genetic elements that overcame this impediment.

Professor Yuan and his team soon produced the first ever widely applicable commercial hybrid rice variety called Nan-you No. 2, which was released in 1974. Planting of this new variety spread so widely, that now almost half of China's rice production area is planted in hybrid rice. With a 20 percent higher yield over previous varieties, this translates into enough food for approximately 60 million more people per year in China alone.

Professor Yuan has built an additional legacy of combating food shortages and hunger through his efforts to spread his techniques for producing hybrid rice to scientists around the world, and through his ongoing research to develop "super hybrid" rice capable of doubling the yield of conventional rice varieties. All of these exceptional breakthrough achievements have brought global recognition to Professor Yuan and caused many to call him the "Father of Hybrid Rice."



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE



MONTY JONES
Sierra Leone

Born in Sierra Leone, Monty Jones began his professional career in his home country in the Mangrove Swamp Rice Research Project in Rokupr supported by the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA). WARDA is one of the 16 international research centers sponsored by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Following a variety of assignments, in 1991 Dr. Jones became the leader of the Upland Rice Breeding Program at WARDA, then located in Côte d'Ivoire. It was in this position that he made his exceptional breakthrough achievement.

Working closely with colleagues at WARDA, Monty Jones succeeded where all others before him had failed. In an achievement "unprecedented in the history of rice breeding," he broke through the genetic barrier and became the first person ever to combine Asian and African rice varieties to produce a stable and fertile rice line with higher yields, shorter growing cycles, and more protein than either of its parents. Key to this effort was his work in the gene banks at WARDA, which held seeds from over 1500 African Rice Species that faced extinction. In recapturing the genetic potential of ancient African rices which had grown on that continent for over 3000 years, Dr. Jones developed a New Rice for Africa (NERICA), uniquely suited to poor African farmers.

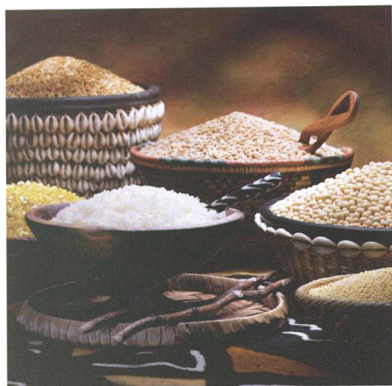
With the ability to resist weeds, survive droughts and thrive on poor soils gained from its African parent, and the trait of higher productivity from its Asian ancestor, NERICA is a crop capable of increasing farmers' harvests from 50 to 250 percent, potentially benefitting 20 million poor farmers in West Africa alone. In producing a "New Rice" for Africa in Africa and by Africans Dr. Monty Jones has fulfilled a life-long dream and brought global recognition to himself, WARDA and the thousands of African scientists who labor so hard to uplift their people.



THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

The World Food Prize Harvest Festival

Celebrating United Nations World Food Day and The International Year of Rice



The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has declared 2004 the International Year of Rice. The Presentation of The World Food Prize to two distinguished scientists who have made "Nobel-like" achievements in rice breeding is an especially fitting culmination of this year-long celebration. Coming as it does on the occasion of United Nations World Food Day - October 16 - adds special meaning to this ceremony.

To add the power of the arts to this celebration, with the generous support of Mr. Arthur Neis, an original work of photographic art by the renowned artist Chee Wang Ng was commissioned in honor of the 2004 Laureates. Entitled "Bountiful Harvest," this work and a number of Chee's other portraits which celebrate Rice From Africa to Asia have been on display for a month in the Atrium of Capital Square in Des Moines as part of The World Food Prize Harvest Festival.



The World Food Prize Global Youth Institute

Presenting the John Chrystal Award and the Ahmanson Intern Award



Rachael Collier
Ahmanson Intern Award

International Potato Center
(CIP)
Lima, Peru



Megan Srinivas
John Chrystal Award

International Centre for Insect
Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)
Nairobi, KENYA



Addie Hall
Ahmanson Intern Award

International Rice Research Institute
(IRRI)
Los Baños, the Philippines

Now celebrating its 10th Anniversary, The World Food Prize Global Youth Institute provides a three-day educational opportunity and forum for high school students from Iowa and around the world. In 2004, we are pleased to welcome a group of Nigerian students to participate in our program. At the Youth Institute, our students interact with Nobel and World Food Prize Laureates and are exposed to an array of experts, facilities and organizations relating to food security.

Each Summer, the Borlaug-Ruan International Internship Program sends Youth Institute "graduates" on eight-week internships at acclaimed agricultural research centers in such countries as Malaysia, China, Brazil, Costa Rica, Trinidad, Ethiopia, Peru, Thailand, Mexico, India, Kenya, Indonesia, the Philippines and Egypt. After they return, the Borlaug-Ruan Interns write papers about their "life-changing" experiences abroad. These papers are judged and two interns are selected to receive the Ahmanson Intern and John Chrystal Awards. This year, the Ahmanson Intern Award is being shared.

The Ahmanson Intern Award is named in honor of Roberta Ahmanson for her generous support of the Youth Institute and her dedication to increasing students' awareness of the challenges of global food insecurity. The John Chrystal Award is given in recognition of Mr. Chrystal's lifelong commitment to improving international understanding and peaceful cooperation through agriculture and food security.



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The World Food Prize International Symposium



The Hon. Catherine Bertini
United Nations
Under Secretary-General
Chair, U.N. Nutrition Council
2003 World Food Prize Laureate



Dr. Howarth Bouis
Director
HarvestPlus
CGIAR Biofortification
Challenge Program



Dr. Joachim von Braun
Director General
International Food
Policy Research Institute
(IFPRI)



Dr. Ron Cantrell
Director General
International Rice
Research Institute
Philippines



Dr. Gordon Conway
President
The Rockefeller
Foundation



Dr. Gurdev Khush
1996 World Food
Prize Laureate
Professor, University
of California, Davis



H.E. Lan Lijun
Chargé d'Affaires
Embassy of
The People's Republic of China



H.E. Luis P. Lorenzo
Presidential Advisor for
Jobs Creation and
Countryside Development
Philippines



Dr. Susan McCouch
Professor of Plant Breeding
and Plant Biology
Cornell University



Dr. Peter McPherson
President, Michigan State University
Chair, Board for International
Food and Agricultural
Development
(BIFAD)



Dr. Richard Mkandawire
Agricultural Advisor,
New Economic Partnership
for Africa's Development
(NEPAD)



H.E. Dr. Sama S. Monde
Minister of Agriculture,
Forestry, and Food Security
Sierra Leone

Rice, Biofortification and Enhanced Nutrition



Dr. Kanayo Nwanze
Director General,
West Africa Rice
Development Association
Ghana



Dr. V. Prakash
Director
Central Food Technological
Research Institute
India



Dr. Pedro A. Sanchez
Professor of Tropical Agriculture
Columbia University
Co-Chair, U.N. Hunger Task Force
2002 World Food Prize Laureate
2003 MacArthur Fellow



The Hon. Emmy B. Simmons
Assistant Administrator,
Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade,
United States Agency for
International Development



Dr. Alfred Sommer
Dean, Johns Hopkins University
School of Public Health
Johns Hopkins University



M.S. Swaminathan
Chairman, MSSR,
Chennai, India
Co-Chair, U.N. Hunger Task Force
1987 World Food Prize Laureate



Dr. Steven Tanksley
Professor of Plant Breeding
and Plant Biology
Cornell University



Dr. Mark Walton
Vice President
RiceTec, Inc.



Dr. Ren Wang
Deputy Director General
International Rice
Research Institute
Philippines



Dr. Catherine Woteki
Dean, College of Agriculture
Iowa State University
Chair, Food and Nutrition Board
National Academy of Sciences



Featuring a 90th Birthday Address
by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Dr. Norman E. Borlaug
"60 Years of Fighting Hunger"



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The World Food Prize Laureates



1987
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
India



1988
Dr. Robert F. Chandler
United States



1989
Dr. Verghese Kurien
India



1990
Dr. John Niederhauser
United States



1991
Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw
United States



1992
Dr. Edward F. Knipling
United States



1992
Dr. Raymond Bushland
United States



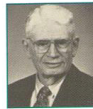
1993
He Kang
China



1994
Dr. Muhammad Yunus
Bangladesh



1995
Dr. Hans R. Herren
Switzerland



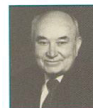
1996
Dr. Henry Beachell
United States



1996
Dr. Gurdev Khush
India



1997
Dr. Ray F. Smith
United States



1997
Dr. Perry Adkisson
United States



1998
B.R. Barwale
India



1999
Dr. Walter Plowright
United Kingdom



2000
Dr. Evangelina Villegas
Mexico



2000
Dr. Surinder K. Vasal
India



2001
Dr. Per Pinstrup Andersen
Denmark



2002
Dr. Pedro A. Sanchez
United States / Cuba



2003
Catherine Ann Bertini
United Nations / USA



2004
Dr. Monty Jones
Sierra Leone



2004
Prof. Yuan Longping
China

Hall of Laureates

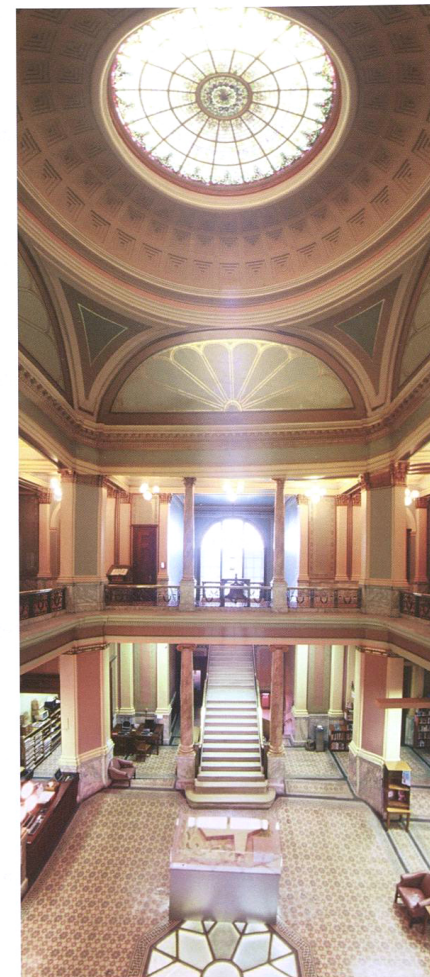
A Spectacular New Home for The World Food Prize

In Honor of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug



The Des Moines
Public Library

With a \$5 million pledge from the Ruan Family, a matching contribution from Polk County through the Vision Iowa Program and over \$2 million from the Federal Government, the Des Moines Public Library Building has an excellent start toward being transformed into a World Food Prize Hall of Laureates; honoring the heroes of the struggle against hunger; and serving as the convocation center for The World Food Prize International Symposium each October.



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With Special Thanks To

The Governor and The State Legislature of Iowa
Ruan Transportation Management Systems • The John Ruan Trust
The Iowa Department of Economic Development

The Ahmanson Family Trust • Ruan Securities
Pioneer Hi-Bred International • Bankers Trust

Monsanto • Kemin Industries • Iowa Corn Promotion Board • Principal Financial Group
Iowa Soybean Promotion Board • Humanities Iowa • Hy-Vee • Rotary Clubs of Iowa

Wellmark • John Deere • Farm Bureau • Belin Law Firm • Essex Meadows • Avis

Mid-American Energy • Mid-America Foundation • International Traders of Iowa • Iowa Savings Bank • Wells Fargo
USA Rice • Alliant Energy • Mercy Medical Center • Bob Brown Chevrolet • W.T. Dahl • Reynolds and Reynolds
Stine Family Foundation • West Bank • BSP, Inc. • Iowa State Education Association • Iowa Export Import Co.
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Sam and Delores Kalainov • James and Sandra Windsor, III • Arnie and Diana Ripperger • Sukup Manufacturing
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Manders • Jim and Patty Cownie • Greater Des Moines Foundation • Sphinx International
Harry Bookey and Pamela Bass Bookey • Nyemaster, Goode, Voigts, West, Hansell & O'Brien, P.C
Iowa Motor Truck Association • H.S. Carpenter

THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

666 Grand Avenue, Suite 1700 Des Moines, Iowa, USA 50309

Ph: 515-245-3785 Fax: 515-245-3785 wfp@worldfoodprize.org www.worldfoodprize.org