

42nd

Annual Ceremonies

Honoring Florida's Great Agriculturalists



February 15, 2022
Entertainment Hall
The Florida State Fair

FLORIDA



Agricultural

HALL OF FAME

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2021 - 2022

Program

5:00 p.m. Reception

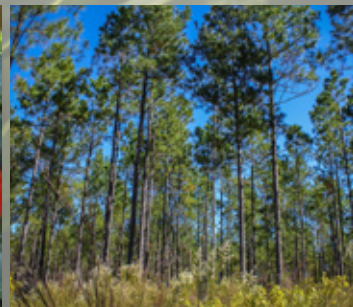
6:00 p.m. Welcome
Ray Hodge, President
Florida Agricultural
Hall of Fame Foundation

Dinner

Presentation of Inductees
The Honorable
Nicole “Nikki” Fried,
Florida Commissioner
of Agriculture



2021-22 Inductees





2021 Inductee

Reggie Brown

Industry veteran **Reggie Brown's** leadership and tenacity have had a profound and lasting effect on the tomato industry in Florida and beyond.

Brown's family is well-known in Alachua County for its multigenerational Brown's Farm and legendary roadside produce stand. Despite a career that has taken him all over the world to advocate for growers, Brown's roots have remained with his family's operation.

After graduating from the University of Florida (UF) in 1969, Brown served two years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He returned to UF to earn his master's degree in agriculture, and then spent 12 years as a UF/IFAS Extension Service agent in various capacities. After a 10-year stint at the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association as marketing and membership director, Brown was named executive vice president of the Florida Tomato Exchange. At the same time, he also led the Florida Tomato Committee and the Florida Tomato Growers Exchange.

In those roles, he would become the face of the Florida tomato industry, leading on numerous fronts including unfair Mexican trade practices, tomato food safety and the effort to retain the use of methyl bromide as a crop-protection tool.

For years, Brown was on the forefront in fostering fair trade for the tomato industry and in resolving trade disputes. His effective leadership began before the negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement and continued well beyond to ensure that Mexico adhered to negotiated suspension agreements designed to balance unfair trade practices.

With great foresight, Brown saw the federal government moving toward food safety regulations. Years before the Food Safety Modernization Act became law, he successfully worked to gain consensus among growers, regulators and other stakeholders to develop statewide food safety standards for Florida fresh market tomatoes. Those efforts became the benchmark for the development of the national produce safety guidance.

As chairman of the Crop Protection Coalition, Brown was the voice of the industry nationally and internationally. He served on the delegation to the Montreal Protocol Treaty negotiations for 10 years during the phase-out of methyl bromide, a decades-old component of pest management for many Florida crops, strongly protecting the interests of growers.

Now, Brown's induction into the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame brings him full circle, as he led the Hall of Fame Foundation for years as its volunteer president, preserving the legacies of so many outstanding Florida agricultural pioneers and leaders.

2021 Inductee



Bobby McKown

Bobby McKown spent his career championing and defending the health and well-being of Florida agriculture and, in particular, the Florida citrus industry, before state, national and international regulatory bodies. He is best known for his decades as the executive vice president/CEO of the state's largest citrus growers association, Florida Citrus Mutual (FCM), leading the industry through a critical period.

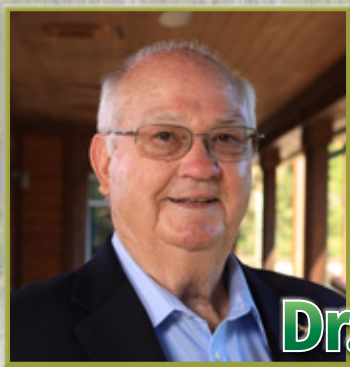
McKown took the helm of the association in 1980. Over the course of his career he earned a reputation as an expert in international trade negotiations and was appointed by five presidential administrations to every trade committee, task force and advisory position of any influence. He participated in the development of four different trade agreements, including the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement for Tariff and Trade (GATT). He not only protected Florida citrus growers from unfair trade practices, he also worked to gain the best results for the state's agriculture industry as a whole.

McKown cultivated political connections and used them to strengthen the industry. During the 1980s, when the industry was ravaged by citrus canker and devastating freezes, he fought for and earned state and federal assistance for growers. He also was instrumental in stopping competitors from illegally dumping frozen concentrate orange juice below fair market value in the United States.

McKown's accomplishments also include more than 15 gubernatorial appointments. His fierce advocacy and education efforts were grounded in the genuine belief that the Florida citrus industry could weather any storm, natural or man-made, with abundant, relevant communication and strong, reliable relationships. His commitment to the growers he represented never wavered.

Because of his important role in protecting the interests of growers, Bobby McKown was once dubbed "the voice of oranges" throughout the world. An endowed fund at the University of Florida was established at his retirement. His accomplishments were recognized by the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame when he was inducted in the class of 2005.

Before joining FCM, McKown, a graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in advertising and management, worked for the *Winter Haven News Chief*, the Florida Canners Association and the Florida Agricultural Research Institute (now known as the Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association).



2021 Inductee

Dr. Wayne Smith

Dr. Wayne Smith's contributions to Florida agriculture encompass his lifelong devotion to education and research and his passion for forestry.

Smith, a native of Marianna, Florida, and graduate of the University of Florida, returned to his alma mater in 1964, advancing through the academic ranks to professor, director, and finally professor emeritus. In retirement he came back to serve as interim dean for IFAS Research and then the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. He proved to be a groundbreaking educator and researcher and a remarkable administrator.

Smith played a key part in the research, development, and implementation of the first Best Management Practices (BMPs) for silviculture. BMPs soon spread across Florida's agricultural industry and changed the face of agriculture. His research in fertilization led to practices that increased pine forest productivity by up to 300%. And his pioneering work in bio-energy made Florida a leader and earned accolades from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Smith's work has been recognized around the globe, including an audience with royalty. He has been a consultant for the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, and he was called upon to testify before Congress, always being a staunch supporter of agriculture.

As director of the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources & Conservation, Smith restructured the teaching programs to tackle more "real world" scenarios to better prepare students for careers. He sought to create an atmosphere of excellence, not only teaching students to be better foresters, but better people. At the same time, he strengthened partnerships with industry to better meet its needs from research and for job-ready foresters.

He was a driving force in expanding the school's Austin Cary Forest Campus to better meet the school's program needs. In retirement, he led fundraising and took an active role in design of the new Stern Learning Center and support facilities, including the turpentine education site and sawmill restoration.

Smith's grant-writing efforts garnered more than \$16 million in funding, greatly enhancing both educational and research opportunities. He and his wife Mitzi, an attorney, also established the Wayne Smith and Mitzi Austin Forest Resources Law and Policy professorship and provided support for the Wayne Smith Student Leadership Fund.

Previous recognitions include the Florida Forestry Association's Distinguished Service Award, UF/IFAS Medal of Service, Society of American Foresters (SAF) fellowship, and Florida SAF Hall of Fame.



2021 Inductee

John Stitt

John Stitt realized early in his career that the agricultural ecosystem in Southwest Florida was vastly different from that in Central Florida and the region around Lake Okeechobee. In addition, he saw that the need for research in beef cattle pastures and citrus and sandland sugarcane production was badly needed. That vision, coupled with years of effort, led to the development of the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee. Today, the center provides cutting-edge research for citrus, vegetables, water quality, soil science and weed science.

Stitt and his family moved to Miami shortly after his birth in 1938. His father bought land near Clewiston and developed it into a beef cattle operation when Stitt was a teen. Following graduation from Clewiston High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from the University of Florida in 1960 and a master's degree in animal production from Texas A&M University in 1962. After serving in the Air Force Reserve, he assumed management of the family cattle ranch in 1964.

In 1983, Stitt met with Ken Tefertiller, UF's vice president for Agriculture and Natural Resources, to propose a research center in southwest Florida. He organized several meetings with producers representing the cattle, citrus, sugarcane and vegetable industries in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties to outline his idea. They expressed support and asked Stitt to lead the effort to organize the South Florida Agricultural Council and move the idea forward.

With Stitt's leadership and the cooperation of the legislative delegation, the council secured \$2.39 million in funding for construction. In 1988, the Board of Regents, the UF/IFAS leadership, and the council developed a five-year plan to complete the staff funding. The result was the opening of a fully funded research center staffed with a director and 12 researchers.

In addition to serving on numerous advisory committees to the Immokalee center, Stitt has been extensively involved in industry organizations, including the Florida Cattlemen's Association and Florida Farm Bureau. He and his wife, Sandra, live in Clewiston. The couple were blessed with three daughters: Melissa, Jennifer and Rachel, and they have four grandchildren.

2022 Inductee



John L. Hundley

John L. Hundley always knew he wanted to be a farmer. For more than five decades, he has been an active part of Florida's agricultural community, leading with great humility and devoting much of his time and talents through civic and industry engagement. All the while, he mentored countless individuals along the way.

A native of Pahokee and graduate of the University of Florida, he worked on his father's farm before founding Hundley Farms, Inc., with his wife Patsy in 1969, using only the title of Patsy's Ford Fairlane 500 as security. The enterprise began on 400 acres of leased land, growing sweet corn and radishes. Today, the operation consists of approximately 20,000 acres in Florida and Georgia, where they grow sugar cane, sweet corn, green beans, radishes, cabbage, field corn, rice, cattle, cotton, peanuts, and assorted winter produce. The Hundley Farms team now includes their son, John Scott Hundley, and their daughter and son-in-law, Krista and Eric Hopkins. Also active in the family owned and operated business is the next generation, which includes grandson Cooper and granddaughter Caroline.

A founding member of the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, Hundley has been on its board of directors for more than 35 years and served as its chair of the board for seven years. He was only the second chair to serve in the Cooperative's 60-year history. Under his leadership, the Cooperative developed Tellus Products, LLC, an innovative, sustainable packaging company that upcycles sugar cane byproduct.

With a commitment to leadership and as a driving force within the industry, he has served on the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District and as chair of the Pioneer Growers Cooperative. He has also been active in numerous other groups, including the Florida Sugar & Molasses Exchange, Sweet Corn Growers Exchange, Tellus Products, Farm Credit, Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association and Florida Farm Bureau.

Among his many accomplishments, Hundley is credited with strengthening the unity of those farming within the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA).

Hundley has previously been named the Swisher Sweets Florida Farmer of the Year, the Palm Beach County Farm Bureau EAA Farm Family of the Year, the Florida Growers Association Grower of the Year and the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches Leader of the Year.

Admired by many, Hundley's life work in agriculture has built an organization known as much for its focus on innovation, precision agriculture, and conservation and sustainability efforts as its giving to the community and industry.

FLORIDA



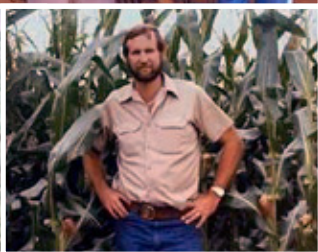
Agricultural

HALL OF FAME

1980	Edwin Hall Finlayson Thomas Gilbert Lee Nathan Mayo Henry Oscar Partin Hoyle Pounds Egbert Norman Reasoner	1990	Dr. Robert Henry Harms Raymond P. Oglesby Carl G. Rose Dr. E.T. York Jr.
1981	Irlo Overstreet Bronson Gilbert Andrew Tucker J. Francis Cooper Louis E. Larson Pliny Ward Reasoner Don A. Storms Sr.	1991	Doyle E. Carlton Jr. Dr. Tony J. Cunha Julian B. Lane Joseph M. O'Farrell Sr.
1982	Willard M. Fifield Robert G. Pitman Jr. Dr. Herman J. Reitz James N. Watson	1992	Edward J. Campbell N. Curtis Peterson Edgar H. Price Vance V. Vogel
1983	Dr. Raymond B. Becker John M. Fox	1993	Karl Albritton Wm. Travis Loftin Dr. John Mortensen Dr. Julia Morton Dr. Marshall O. Watkins
1984	Alan James Norden	1994	Elton L. Hinton Dr. J. Wayne Reitz Latimer H. Turner George H. Wedgworth
1985	John Duda Andrew Duda Jr. Ferdinand Duda Clinton Huxley Coulter Sr. Doyle E. Conner	1995	Leroy Baldwin Dr. Clarence L. Campbell Jr. Latimer "Latt" Maxcy William H. Stuart Sr.
1986	Louis G. MacDowell Edwin L. Moore Cedric D. Atkins Lena Smithers Hughes B. Edward David Jr.	1996	Neal Palmer "Pal" Brooks Henry Gatrell Barnette E. Greene Jr. Gov. Wayne Mixson Snead Young Mathews Davis
1987	Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Anthony T. Rossi J.O. Pearce Jr. James S. Wershow	1997	William "Bill" H. Krome J.R. "Jack" Spratt Raymon F. Tucker Stephen Monroe Yoder Robert Billingsley Whisenant
1988	Paul Beary Dickman John Buckner Boy Sr. Ruth Springer Wedgworth	1998	Miles Edward Groover Edna Pearce Lockett Maxey D. Love Jr. Elliott L. Maguire Mabel M. Simmons
1989	Peter S. Harllee Charles P. Lykes Donald L. Wakeman		

1999	Alto Lee Adams Bert J. Harris Jr. Kenneth F. Jorgansen Copeland D. Newbern John Powell Wallace	2010	Ben Hill Griffin, III Rudy Hamrick Dan McClure Richard Alger
2000	Tom B. Adams Jack Monteith Berry William A. "Bill" Graham Henry F. Swanson	2011	Bill and Trudy Carey Pat Cockrell Paul Lyrene Joseph Orsenigo
2001	Al Bellotto Copeland Griswold Fountain H. May Sr. Bert Edward Roper	2012	Laurence Paul Cutts Robert Fuchs Gerald M. Mixon, Sr. Sidney L. Sumner
2002	Bernard A. Egan Carl B. Loop Jr. J.R. "Rip" Graves George F. Sorn	2013	Daniel A. Botts Charles H. Bronson Paul L. Nicoletti Eugene E. Trotter
2003	Arlen Neil Jumper Oma Richard Minton Sr. Dr. Martha Rhodes Roberts Dr. Kenneth Ray Tefertiller	2014	Scottie James Butler Dr. Robert Bruce Christmas Dr. Elver Myron Hodges Dallas Barton Townsend
2004	Thomas Richard Barber Jr. Vick and Faye Blackstone Donald Fariss May Fred Y. Montsdeoca Robert Nelson "Bob" Morris	2015	Robert Blake Whisenant Dr. Alvin C. Warnick Pat Wilson Edward, Ferdinand S., and Joseph Duda
2005	Dr. James M. Davidson Paul J. DiMare William D. "Billy" Long Jo Ann Doke Smith Frank "Sonny" Williamson Jr.	2016	Thomas H. Braddock Dr. Charles "Chip" F. Hinton Dr. Joseph C. Joyce Billy Kempfer
2006	Charles R. "Chuck" Smith Dudley Adelbert Putnam James Neville McAuthur Lillie "Belle" Jeffords Roy Gene Davis	2017	Eugene Badger William Cook Joe Marlin Hilliard Bernie Lester
2007	William R. Boardman Albert Greenberg Carroll Wayne Hawkins Berryman "Buster" Longino Jr. Ed and Imogene Yarborough	2018	Alfonso Fanjul J. Pepe Fanjul Lowell Loadholtz Harold Mikell
2008	Otis Odell "Pete" Clemons Hugh Malakowsky English Fritz Stein Jr. Alto Alfred Straughn	2019	Don Bennink Richard Gaskalla Sam Killebrew Sr. Michael J. Stuart
2009	Dr. James Griffiths Richard Kelly Kay Richardson Mason Smoak	2020	H. Fred Dietrich III John L. Jackson Robert Roberson





A Special Thank You to Our Pioneer and Settler Sponsors

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Thank you Rick Brown with Riverview Flower Farm
for supplying this year's banquet centerpieces.



The deadline for submitting
nominations for the 2023 Florida
Agricultural Hall of Fame is
September 1.

floridaaghalloffame.org/nominate

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Agricultural

HALL OF FAME



Special thanks to the
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for assistance with the program booklet and videos.