

## NSIF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR 1977

Wilbur H. Bruner  
Columbus, Ohio

WILBUR H. BRUNER, retired extension swine specialist, Ohio State University, received the first NSIF Distinguished Service Award. This award was established by the Board of Directors of NSIF to recognize individuals for distinguished record of long and continued service to the swine industry in the area of performance testing.

Mr. Bruner could be appropriately titled "the Father of Swine Testing Implementation in the United States." He is a native of Ohio and received his Bachelors Degree from Ohio State University in 1927 and did graduate work at Cornell University and Ohio State University. His educational leadership in Ohio agriculture extends over a period of 46 years including serving as a vocational agriculture instructor, a county agricultural agent, the executive secretary for the Ohio Wool Growers Association, an extension swine marketing specialist and an extension swine specialist.

In 1946, Mr. Bruner started the first county swine test station at Peeble County while he was the county agricultural agent in that county. He was instrumental in developing the Ohio Pork Improvement Program and served as its secretary-treasurer from 1954 to 1969. In 1954, he was responsible for starting the first state swine evaluation station in the United States at Columbus, Ohio. Through his efforts and cooperation with purebred breeders, commercial producers, marketing agencies and meat processors, he demonstrated and documented the importance of performance records in the selection of breeding stock.

His numerous awards in recognition of his distinguished leadership include the American Society of Animal Science Livestock Extension Award, the National Hog Farmer Award for Outstanding Service to the Swine Industry, Induction into the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame and having the Wilbur H. Bruner Industry Award established at Ohio State University in his honor, in 1976.

Mr. Bruner's long and distinguished service in the area of performance testing and establishing swine evaluation stations at both the county and state levels make him truly an outstanding recipient of the 1977 Distinguished Service Award.