

**Dr. Brian Fowler 1964 College
2023 Honorary Life Member**

Brian was raised on a farm at Clair, Sask. He used his participation in 4-H as a springboard to his U of S education. He earned his BSA with Great Distinction, completed his MSc at the U of S, then obtained his PhD at the U of Manitoba. As a Professor in the Dept. of Plant Sciences, and one of the first scientists at the Crop Development Center, Brian spent his career improving winter wheat production, resulting in 18 varieties adapted for Canadian Prairies. These varieties have covered as much as 95 percent of the WW acreage in western Canada and have been grown extensively in the northern US Great Plains.

His early research concentrated on winter wheat and conservation production systems. This was a key element in the development of a low input, profitable, no-till production system, and responsible for expanding winter wheat across the western prairies. Farmers who pioneered the trend to no-till seeding gained their experience with winter wheat, and Brian provided these innovators with the necessary research and extension information. In 1994 he was made 'A Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy' and in 2001 'A Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy' for the significant development of winter cereal production and conservation farming systems on the Canadian Prairies and the Northern Great Plains.

In 2011 he received the Ducks Unlimited North American Recognition Award, for his indelible mark on the landscape of the Prairie Pothole Region of Canada and the US. Brian's WW varieties provided nesting sites for waterfowl and upland game birds over 10 million acres. Very active in extension programs that includes publication of numerous bulletins and fact sheets. He cooperated with DUC in developing the "Conserve and Win" program, working to promote conservation farming systems. His Conserve and Win Winter Wheat Manual was widely accepted as a primary information package in western Canadian conservation production systems, and remains as the go-to information globally.

Using the internet as an educational and extension tool, Brian developed five websites that universities in USA, Australia, Turkey, and Korea have requested to use. In addition to abstracts and research reports, he has published 186 papers in scientific journals, edited books and conference proceedings, with ongoing accolades for his work. Brian has had a long and significant impact in Saskatchewan, Canadian and Global Agriculture. He was inducted into the SAHF in 2018 and only retired from AgBio as Professor Emeritus in 2019. Brian and his wife Sharon (1946-2011) have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. He continues his adventures from home-base in Saskatoon.