

## IN MEMORIUM

*Charlie E. Rogers*

1938 – 1997

Dr. Charlie E. Rogers, Laboratory Director for the USDA Agricultural Research Service Insect Biology and Population Management Research Laboratory (IBPMRL) and Location Coordinator for all ARS research at Tifton, GA, died Friday, 27 June 1997.

Dr. Rogers received a B. S. degree in Biological Science from Northern Arizona University, a M. S. degree in Zoology from The University of Kentucky, and Ph.D. degree in Entomology from Oklahoma State University. He began his professional career in entomology at Texas A&M University in 1971 before joining the USDA-ARS in 1974 in Bushland, TX. In 1983, he transferred to Tifton to become Director of the Southern Grains Insects Research Laboratory, now the IBPMRL.

Dr. Rogers was an active member of the American Registry of Professional Entomologists/Board of Certified Entomologists (ARPE/BCE). He was a member of the West Texas – New Mexico Chapter of ARPE from 1971–1983, where he served as a Member of the ARPE Governing Board (1975–1982), member of the Awards Committee (1978), President-elect (1979), and President (1980–81) of the Chapter. He served as Senior Examiner and Chair of the ARPE Examining Board, member of the Nominating Committee for ARPE Professional Maintenance and Certification – Ecology and Population Dynamics (1988–1991), and Southeastern Representative to the Governing Council of BCE (1991–1993). As a result of this dedicated service to ARPE/BCE, he was appointed to the Special ARPE Committee for Review of ARPE/ESA Relations and Structure in 1989. He was elected Director of BCE and served as Director-elect in 1984 before he resigned due to health problems. In recognition of his dedicated service to BCE, he received the Southeastern Branch Award for ESA Distinguished Service to the Certification Program.

In addition to his administrative duties and service, Dr. Rogers maintained a strong and active research program throughout his career. He was a recognized national and international authority in sunflower and guar entomology and in the taxonomy, distribution, and useful attributes of wild *Helianthus* species. His research at the Tifton laboratory focused on an ectoparasitic nematode, *Noctuidonema guyanense*, that Remillet and Silvain discovered on the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, in French Guiana in 1984. This was the first description of a parasitic nematode on the moth stage of a noctuid. Dr. Rogers and coworkers determined the host range and distribution of the nematode in tropical/subtropical Americas, defined its chronic pathogenicity to moths, and delineated the mechanisms of host infestation by the nematode. This research represents a potential breakthrough in biological control for managing adult

noctuids, many of which are highly mobile, voracious pests of agricultural crops grown in the U.S. His research contributions were documented in over 200 publications, including five book chapters or review articles for symposia or special conferences.

Charlie was a true inspiration to his coworkers – a strong testament to his faith. He always had a calming effect on everyone he was around. Frequently, comments were made regarding his tranquil effect on people. One of his professors once said that when he was extremely upset, he would go see Charlie. In a very short time, he felt as though he had taken a tranquilizer. Charlie may not be with us in body, but his spirit will remain with us forever.

Fellow Scientists and Coworkers, Insect Biology and  
Population Management Research Laboratory  
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