

NOMINATION FOR REGIONAL CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AWARD

Alpha Zeta Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi, Texas



Name: Billy E. Warrick, Ph.D.
Professor and Extension Agronomist

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Education: Ph.D., Agronomy, Texas Tech University, 1989
M.S., Plant Science, West Texas State University, 1976
B.S., General Agriculture, West Texas State University, 1975

Employment:

- ▶ Professor and Extension Agronomist, September 1, 2003 - Present
- ▶ Associate Professor and Extension Agronomist, September 1, 1996 - August 31, 2003
- ▶ Assistant Professor and Extension Agronomist, August 1, 1989 - August 31, 1996
- ▶ Extension Associate, June 1, 1989 - August 1, 1989
- ▶ Hockley County Extension Agent, Levelland, Texas, May 16, 1984 - May 31, 1989
- ▶ Hale County Extension Agent, Plainview, Texas, March 16, 1980 - May 15, 1984
- ▶ Potter County Extension Agent, Amarillo, Texas, September 1, 1976 - March 15, 1980

Professional Accomplishments:

Leadership and Service

- ▶ President, Alpha Zeta Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi, 2007
- ▶ Trustee, Texas 4-H Foundation, 2000- 2003
- ▶ Sub-Committee Chairman for Texas A&M University Technology Committee, 1999 to Present
- ▶ President, Texas Cooperative Extension Specialists Association, 2000
- ▶ President, Tom Green County 4-H Adult Leaders Association, 2000 & 2001
- ▶ Sub-Committee Chairman for Texas Cooperative Extension Result Demonstration Task Force, 2000
- ▶ President, Alpha Zeta Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi, 1997
- ▶ Chairman, Texas Cooperative Ext. Specialists Asso. – Professional Development Committee, 1995

Honors and Awards

- ▶ Epsilon Sigma Phi Southern Region Distinguished Service Award, 2003
- ▶ Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture, 2002
- ▶ Specialist of the Year in Texas Agriculture, 2001
- ▶ Superior Service Award, 2001
- ▶ Alpha Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi Meritorious Service Award, 2000
- ▶ USDA Certificate of Appreciation for Pesticide Educational Efforts, 1999
- ▶ Special Achievement Award for Extension from Soil and Crop Sciences Department, 1998
- ▶ Silver Clover Award for Outstanding 4-H Leader, Tom Green County, 1998
- ▶ State Distinguished Service Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi, 1996
- ▶ Alpha Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi Meritorious Service Award, 1995

Program Accomplishments:

Professional

Dr. Warrick believes strongly in professional development and actively participates in Epsilon Sigma Phi and the Texas Cooperative Extension Specialists Association. He was active at the district and state level in both associations and colleagues demonstrated their confidence in his leadership abilities by electing him president of both associations.

Dr. Warrick's major accomplishment while working for 17 years as Extension Agronomist in West Central Texas, has been to maintain an active soil and crops education and applied research program for the 2.2 million acres of crop production in West Texas. The 46 counties he serves is the largest in Texas (585 miles across from East to West and 280 miles from North to South). His programs would not exist without the support of the County Extension Agents and colleagues in TCE, TAES, USDA and other universities, organizations and agencies. As district agronomist, he has gained the respect and confidence of County Extension Agents, Specialists, producers, and business leaders. He served as a resource person at 857 adult educational programs where he trained 55,200 clientele (mostly producers) and 336 volunteer leaders. He has made presentations at 442 county production meetings, 145 field days, 48 program area committee meetings and 56 agent training meetings.

The primary objective of his applied research and demonstration efforts is to develop a localized database to address producer questions and priority issues and to guide production trends in the region. He successfully uses "turn-row meetings" when teaching at the field level. The success of this teaching method focuses on direct producers contact in a field laboratory situation. By presenting critical information at regular intervals during the growing season, farmers make needed management changes that increase profits. In his Extension career he has been involved in planning, conducting and evaluating 1016 result demonstrations. He obtained \$189,900 in grant support and \$247,500 worth of materials that were used to conduct 188 applied research tests involving a variety of commodities.

Leadership

His interest in technology started with computers in 1984. He has shared his knowledge of computers and his skills in graphics and web page design with people across Texas. Dr. Warrick's use of the web was, at one time, a novelty. That isn't the case today. Warrick's personal web page is well designed and provides easy access to crop production information 24 hours a day 365 days a year. It is a portal for people across the United States and generates contacts from people in and out of the state. He has assisted his Department and University in making a presence on the web. He provides training, encouragement, skills and resources to anyone who asks. His knowledge of photograph and computer graphics gives him a new training avenue as he assists agents and specialists in gaining skills for Distance Diagnostics, Computer Presentations, and web design. His training has reduced the strain on the University e-mail system by teaching colleagues how to properly compress graphics. He is currently involved in distance education projects and assists people across the state in improving posted materials. He serves as web master for three state and two association web sites and advisor to three regional web sites. The result of his work has an impact on people across Texas and the United States.

The need for a web site for the National ESP Organization was expressed at the 1996 National meetings that Warrick attended. Soon after his return, he had the web site up and running. He has served as web master for Epsilon Sigma Phi since April 1997. He has been involved with design and often makes recommendations concerning content. National and Regional officers count on the web for a wide range of purposes. Each year new demands and suggestions have increased the importance of the National web site. Warrick has had to develop additional skills to meet the request made by ESP members. Chapter presidents, committee membership, committee plans of works, newsletters, training resources, and much more are available at one location. Through his effort the organization effectively uses the internet to keep its members informed of activities and events. The posting of the ESP handbook eliminated the cost of production and distribution and made it available to all members. Today, members are better informed and kept current on activities and events through the National web site that he manages.

Support Statement:

Dr. Warrick is a totally unselfish professional. His impact on many may never be realized or acknowledged. He is an outstanding role model and is genuinely interested in the success of all those around him. Epsilon Sigma Phi, Texas A&M University, crop producers and colleagues have all benefitted from Dr. Warrick's involvement. He is most deserving of this award.