

**Henry M. Covington Extension Award**  
**Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Sciences**

Donor: Endowed by the late Henry M. Covington, Professor Emeritus, Department of Horticultural Science, North Carolina State University.

Award: \$200 and a plaque

Objectives: To recognize outstanding and valuable contributions in horticulture. Contributions are to be within the scope of Horticultural Extension activities in the broad areas of commercial production, processing or marketing, home grounds and youth work.

Eligibility: The nominee should be actively engaged in Horticultural Extension work at the time of nomination and should

- 1) Have had a minimum of 5 years experience in horticultural work as an Extension agent or college specialist in Cooperative or Agricultural Extension, not a full-time administrator.
- 2) Have a minimum of 60 percent Extension appointment.
- 3) Be a member of the Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Science.
- 4) Not be a selectee for any other award by the Region for the given year, nor a previous recipient of the Extension Award.
- 5) No member of the Selection Committee can be a nominee for the award. If a member is nominated, he must be replaced unless he chooses not to remain a candidate.

About the Donor:

Henry M. Covington, a native of Bennettsville, South Carolina, obtained his B.S. degree in Horticulture from Clemson University. He obtained his M.S. degree from Louisiana State University in 1941; his research was on sweet potatoes. He planned to go to Cornell University to obtain a Ph.D. degree, but he was immediately called into active service when the U.S. became embroiled in World War II. He was assigned to the Quartermaster Corps in the U.S. Army, and was in the Hydrated Foods Section in Chicago. He later was transferred to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he was the regional supervisor for the Southern Region. He was honorably discharged in 1946.

In February 1948, Henry joined the faculty in the Department of Horticulture at North Carolina State College. He was an Extension Vegetable Specialist, and 90% of his time was spent on sweet potato production. He became very active in the Southern Region, ASHS, and in the Sweet Potato Collaborators' group. He was the first recipient of the Carl S. Bitmer Extension Award, was elected a Fellow in ASHS in 1973, and in 1974 he received the Outstanding Service Award from the North Carolina Yam Commission. In 1973 he retired from North Carolina State University, but has remained active in the sweet potato industry.