

**2017**  
**Missouri Agricultural Extension Professionals**  
**Agriculture Leadership Award Winner**

**Name: Dr. Brad Fresenburg**

**Submitted by: Todd Lorenz**

**Describe leadership contributions to Missouri agriculture:**

Dr. Brad Fresenburg's mix of dedication, knowledge and ethics have made him a reliable source for production agriculture across Missouri and surrounding states. He served as the Administrator of the Missouri Pesticide Applicator Training program, which annually provides approximately 2000 commercial and 5000 private applicators training in the safe use and handling of pesticides. In 2014, he received a \$73,000 grant to work on the Modernization of Missouri PSEO to achieve Enhanced Competency of Pesticide Applicators. Knowing that retirement was in the near future, he spent countless hours working on updating the program leaving "the house" in better shape than when he got there.

In addition to his leadership in the PAT program, Brad directed the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program at MU. Brad developed the online Sportsturf Advantage website (<http://turg.missouri.edu/stat/>) utilized by the industry nationwide. He is actively sought after for numerous Sports Turf and Ornamental advisory councils at state and multi-state levels.

**Describe leadership contributions to University of Missouri Extension:**

Brad's research was utilized for enhanced learning by not only students but statewide through Extension Field Faculty and industry as well.

While being recognized as an industry leader, he never turned down a site visit or opportunity to do Extension work, throughout the state, working elbow to elbow with specialists through various forms of communication and education. He is the undeniable leader educating thousands of Missouri Master Gardeners in turfgrass. He was one of the consistently reliable State Specialist who always provided timely support to Extension Field Faculty typically with little lead-time. Brad truly embodied the leadership conduit between regional specialists and academic departments, state and federal agencies, and private groups keeping all informed of the most recent developments.

Extension specialists throughout the state cherish his publication efforts and utilize that resource regularly. He is an author of more than 125 newsletters, 11 journals, 12 abstracts, 38 Extension publications, 3 videos, numerous research reports, 24 radio spots, and 33 press releases. Brad has been a speaker at local, state, regional and national conferences and symposiums. Most of these activities have occurred since 2000.

As a lifelong leader committed to the mission of University of Missouri Extension, while spreading educational knowledge with passion, I strongly recommend Dr. Brad Fresenburg for the MAEP Agriculture Leadership award. He truly bleeds Black & Gold for Missouri Agriculture.

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