

Rodger K. Johnson Honored with 2008 ASAS Fellow Award—Research Category

Savoy, IL—Rodger K. Johnson has been awarded the 2008 ASAS Fellow Award—Research Category sponsored by ASAS. Johnson was bestowed the award on July 8, 2008, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the ASAS awards ceremony as a part of the society's annual meetings.



Rodger K. Johnson was born July 17, 1943, and grew up near Carpio, North Dakota. He received a BS degree in animal science from North Dakota State University in 1965, and MS and PhD degrees from Oklahoma State University in 1971 and 1973, respectively. He was assistant and then associate professor at Oklahoma State University during 1973–1978. In 1978, he accepted a position at the University of Nebraska in the Department of Animal Science and achieved the rank of professor in 1981. He continues today as Omtvedt Distinguished Professor of Swine Genetics at the University of Nebraska.

During his career as a swine geneticist spanning more than 30 years, Rodger K. Johnson has been a leader in selection methods and crossing programs for commercial swine production. He has authored or co-authored more than 125 refereed journal articles and presented more than 40 major invited talks at venues around the world. He has had a tremendous impact on several graduate students and has directed 18 MS and 16 PhD degrees while at the University of Nebraska and Oklahoma State University.

Johnson received the J.R. Prentice Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics from the American Society of Animal Science in 1988, and the Distinguished Service Award by National Swine Improvement Federation in 1998. He served as Section Editor of Breeding and Genetics for the Journal of Animal Science and has been president of Midwest Section of the American Society of Animal Science.

Rodger and his wife, Janelle, have two daughters, Julie and Sheri, and a son, Ryan, and four grandsons and one granddaughter.