

## **WPVGA Industry Award Recipients**

1982

Grower of the Year – Mike Patrykus

Research – M.P. Pinkerton

1983

Grower of the Year – Myron Mommsen

Young Grower of the Year – Bob Guenthner

Research – Francis Gilson

Associate – Marv Hopp

Auxiliary – Patricia Diercks

1984

Growers of the Year – Ed, Joe and Al Okray

Young Grower – Dick Pavelski

Research – Dave Curwen

Associate – Tony Gallenberg

Auxiliary – Arlene Malek

1985

Grower – Mel Rominsky

Young Grower – Tom Diercks

Research – Myron Groskopp

Associate – Allan Mueller

Auxiliary – Kathie Baginski

1986

Grower – Bob Diercks

Young Grower – Brian West

Research – Walt Stevenson

Associate – Hub Moore

Auxiliary – Anita Polzin

1987

Grower – Don Schroeder

Young Grower – Hod Chilewski

Research – Steve Slack

Associate – Gerald Volm

Auxiliary – Deb Wolter

1988

Grower – Louis Wysocki

Young Grower – Bob Lapacinski

Research – Art Kelman

Associate – Hal Roberts

Auxiliary – Dianne Somers and Avis Wysocki

1989

Grower – Wayne Brittenham

Young Growers – Steve Diercks, John Wolter

Research – John Schoenemann

Associate – Jay Arend

Auxiliary – Sadie Bushman

Auxiliary Leadership Award – Gerri Okray

Volunteer – John Knoch

Conservationist of the Year – Pete Wallendal

1990

Young Grower – Ron Mach

Volunteers – Steve Diercks, Tom Wild

Research – Walt Stevenson

Associate – Myron Groskopp

Auxiliary – Barbara Bushman

1991

Young Grower – Jim Okray

Volunteer – Nick Somers

Research – Jeff Wyman

Associate – Paul Roberts

Auxiliary – Kathleen Baginski

1992

Young Grower – Conroy Soik

Volunteer – Bob Stodola

Researchers – Stan Peloquin, Larry Binning

Associate – Joe Nagel

Auxiliary – Ellen Wysocki

1993

Young Grower – Dennis West

Volunteer – Steve Bartsch

Researchers – Dave Curwen, Tom German

Associate – Mike Robinson

Auxiliary – Caroline Wild

1994

Young Grower – John T. Schroeder

Volunteer – Francis Wysocki

Research – Walt Stevenson

Associate – John Landa

Auxiliary – Chris Anthony

Industry Appreciation Awards – Andy Merry, Linda Rather, Randy Van Haren,  
Terry Wex, Steve Bartsch, John Wallendal, Dick Lower

1995

Young Grower – Mike Wolter

Volunteers – Jim Okray, Terry Wex

Research – Bob Coltman

Associate – Marilyn Warner

Auxiliary – Gerri Okray

Industry Appreciation Awards – Nick Somers, Louis Wysocki

1996

Young Grower – Jim Wysocki

Volunteer – Dick Pavelski

Research – Jeff Wyman

Associate – Dean and Marilyn Allen

Auxiliary – Jane Zdroik

Industry Appreciation – Dave Ankley, Tia and Mitchell Bushman

Environmental Stewardship Awards – Wallendal Supply, Coloma Farms

1997

Young Growers – John and Andy Wallendal

Volunteer – Al Sowinski

Research – Walt Stevenson

Associate – Tom Grall

Auxiliary – Linda Bacon

Industry Appreciation – Justin Isherwood, Tamas Houlihan

1998

Young Growers – Andy Diercks, Sam Ourada

Volunteer – Peg DeLapp

Research – Ann MacGuidwin

Associate – Rueben Hintz

Auxiliary – Sharon Wysocki

Industry Appreciation – Dean Zuleger, Dale Nelson

1999

Young Grower – Scott Erdman

Volunteer – Larry Alsum

Research – Keith Kelling

Associate – Peg DeLapp

Farm Woman – Irene Gagas

Industry Appreciation – Chris Anthony, Jerry Martin, Wysocki Produce Farm, Inc.

2000

Young Grower – Brian Bushman

Volunteer – Chris Anthony  
Research – Jiming Jiang  
Associate – Bill Tatro  
Farm Woman – Carol Yeska  
Industry Appreciation – Louis Wysocki, Mike Lester

2001 (February)

President's Award – Tamas Houlihan, Conroy Soik  
Industry Appreciation – Peg DeLapp

2002

Young Grower of the Year – Jim Bacon  
Volunteer of the Year – Andy Diercks  
Research – Deana Sexson  
Associate – Tony Grapsas  
WPVGA Potato Industry Woman of the Year – Lynn Isherwood  
Industry Appreciation – Larry Binning, Dale Bowe, Lori Gunderson  
President's Award: Louis Wysocki

2003

Young Grower of the Year – Jeff Sommers  
Volunteer of the Year – Carole Gagas  
Research – Chuck Kostichka  
Associate – Dale Nelson  
WPVGA Potato Industry Woman of the Year – Bonnie Shafel  
Industry Appreciation – Bob Hanneman, John Helgeson, John Shields  
President's Award – Mike Carter and Steve Diercks

2004

Young Grower: Brad Faldet  
Volunteer: Jim Wysocki  
Researcher: A.J. Bussan  
Associate Division: Darrell "Butch" Fencil  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Shirley Sowinski  
President's Award: Gary Bula, Victor Anthony, Newton & Theresa Alsum  
Industry Appreciation: Keith Kelling

2003

Young Grower: Chad Bartlett  
Volunteer: Mike Finnessy  
Researcher: Jeff Wyman  
Associate Division: Marv Hopp  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Carole Gagas  
President's Award: Mike Carter  
Industry Appreciation:

2004

Young Grower: Rod Zupon  
Volunteer: Ron Krueger  
Researcher: Amy Charkowski  
Associate Division: Dale Bowe  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Kathy Bartsch  
President's Award: Dennis Zeloski  
Industry Appreciation: John Shields

2006

Young Grower: T.J. Kennedy  
Volunteer: John T. Schroeder  
Researcher: Ann MacGuidwin  
Associate Division: Skip Tenpas  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Charlotte "Nicky" Wirz  
President's Award: Jim Wysocki  
Industry Appreciation: Chuck Kostichka and Steve Rosenthal

2007

Young Grower: Kevin Sigourney  
Volunteer: Dennis Bula  
Researcher: Walt Stevenson  
Associate Division: Volm Companies - In honor of: Chuck Resch, Gerald Volm and Mike Hunter  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Joan "Tippie" Williams  
President's Award: Dave Knights and Dick Pavelski  
Industry Appreciation: Dale Nelson  
Hall of Fame: Walt Stevenson

2008

Young Grower: Isaac Isherwood  
Volunteer: Steve Diercks  
Researcher: AJ Bussan  
Associate Division: Wayne Ganser  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Diane Wysocki  
President's Award: Andy Merry  
Industry Appreciation: Kevin Bula, Mike Carter, Rick Hafner, Nick Somers  
Agri-Communicator: Larry Alsum

2009

Young Grower: Jon Hamerski  
Volunteer: Brenda Bula  
Researcher: Russell Groves  
Industry Appreciation: Chuck Kostichka & Heartland Farms  
Agri-Communicator: Mike Finnessy  
President's Award: general – all growers

Associate Division Person: Tom Domaszek  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Sara Stelter

2010

Young Grower(s): Jeremie Pavelski, Dan Wild  
Volunteer: Cliff Gagas  
Researcher: Amanda Gevens  
Industry Appreciation: Alex Crockford, Ann MacGuidwin, Nick Somers, Dr. Molly Jahn  
Agri-Communicator: Nick Somers  
President's Award: Andy Diercks, Jerry Bushman, David Carter  
Associate Division Person: Steve Tatro  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Caroline Wild

2011

Young Grower: Paul Sowinski  
Volunteer: Larry Alsum  
Researcher: Alex Crockford  
Associate Division Business Person: Bill Zelinski  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: Brenda Bula  
President's Award: Louis Wysocki  
Industry Appreciation: Kevin Bula, Dr. Robert Coltman, Kirk Wille, Julie Braun  
Agri-Communicator: Jeremie Pavelski

2012

Young Grower: Shawn Bula  
Volunteer: Jeremie Pavelski  
Researcher: Jed Colquhoun  
Associate Division Business Person: Dan Wysocky  
Potato Industry Woman of the Year: none  
President's Award: Karen Walters & Julie Braun  
Industry Appreciation: Dennis Zeloski, AJ Bussan, Brad Faldet  
Agri-Communicator: Jacquie Wille

2013

Young Grower: Josh Mattek  
Volunteer: Ron Krueger  
Researcher: AJ Bussan  
Associate Division Business Person: Bill Zakrzewicz  
Industry Appreciation: HARS staff, Ron Mach, Gary & Lynda Bula, Jeff Wyman  
Associate Division Industry Appreciation: Mike Maguire, Cathy Schommer, Marv Hopp  
Agri-Communicator: Ron Kuehn & Jordan Lamb  
President's Award: Alicia Pavelski

2014

Young Grower: Eric Schroeder  
Volunteer: Kathy Bartsch

Researcher: Paul Mitchell  
Associate Division Business Person: Eugene Mancl  
Industry Appreciation: Chris Brooks, Glenn Carlson, Nick Somers  
Agri-Communicator: Dianne Somers  
President's Award: Tamas Houlihan; Wendy Alsum-Dykstra & Heidi Alsum-Randall

2015

Young Grower: Mark Finnessy  
Volunteer: Heidi Randall  
Researcher: Jiwan Palta  
Associate Business Person: Chris Brooks  
Agri-Communicator: JD Schroeder  
Industry Appreciation: Karen Rasmussen  
President's Award: Jordan Lamb

2016

Young Grower: Rod Gumz  
Volunteer: Andy Diercks  
Researcher: Jeff Endelman  
Associate Business Person: Wayne Solinsky  
Agri-Communicator: Louis Wysocki  
Industry Appreciation: Ed Burns  
President's Award: Shannon Finnessy

2017 (Presented in 2018)

Young Grower: Chad Malek  
Volunteer: Paul Cieslewicz  
Researcher: Shelley Jansky  
Associate Business Person: Sally Suprise  
Agri-Communicator: Andy Wallendal  
Industry Appreciation: Julie Braun, Mike Copas  
President's Award: Gina Schroeder

2018 (Presented in 2019)

Young Grower: J.D. Schroeder  
Volunteer: Eric Schroeder  
Researcher: Matt Ruark  
Associate Business Person: Cathy Schommer  
Agri-Communicator: John Keeling  
Industry Appreciation: Chuck Bolte  
President's Award: Anita Mattek

2019 (Presented in 2020)

Young Grower: Jeff Fassbender  
Volunteers: Cliff & Carole Gagas  
Researcher: Paul Bethke

Associate Business Person: Dale Bowe  
Agri-Communicator: Jerry Knutson  
President's Award: Jody Meddaugh  
Industry Appreciation: Nick Laudенbach

2020 (Presented in 2021)

Young Grower: Alex Okray  
Volunteer: Mike Carter  
Researcher: Yi Wang  
Associate Business Person: Kenton Mehlberg  
Agri-Communicator: Clark Camilli  
President's Award: Richard Gumz  
Industry Appreciation: Karen Rasmussen