

2017 Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lecturer

Dr. David Lindbo

Director, Soil Science Division, USDA-NRCS. Washington DC



Dr. David Lindbo

Dr. Lindbo directs the soil and ecological site survey, research, and interpretation programs for the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Agency. He has spent his career working on land use soils relations, including soil interpretations, hydric soils, wastewater, and related issues. He has worked extensively with K12 students and teachers regarding soils and land use education. He has authored/co-authored numerous research and extension publications including practitioner training materials related to decentralized wastewater, low-impact development issues, hydric soils, and hydrogeology as well as a general interest soil book for young children "Soil! Get the Inside Scoop" and an advanced book "Know Soil, Know Life." He has over 130 publications, has given over 200 invited presentations, and taught well over 10,000 professionals in his array of extension courses.

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Dr. Lindbo currently serves as Director of the Soil Science Division, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, and is a Professor Emeritus of Soil Science in the Department of Soil Science at North Carolina State University. Dr. Lindbo is a former President of the Soil Science Society of America.

Notable recent awards include:

- Fellow Soil Science Society of America, 2009
- University of New Hampshire, Forest Resources Department, Outstanding Alumni 2013
- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) Award for Outstanding Educational Aids
- Co-Chair, Office of Science and Technology Policy Soil Science Interagency Working Group 2016-2017

Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Plant and Soil Science Dept.

M.S. University of Massachusetts, Geology Dept.,

M.S. University of New Hampshire, Forest Resources Dept.,

B.S. University of New Hampshire, Institute of Natural and Environmental

Dr. Lindbo has co-authored more than 130 refereed publications.

Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lecturers

- 1984: Boyd Ellis, Michigan State, Soil Chemistry
1985: Larry Wilding, Texas A&M, Soil Classification
1986: Fred Adams, Auburn, Soil Fertility/Chemistry
1987: Don Nielsen, UC Davis, Soil Physics
1988: Joe Ritchie, Michigan State, Soil Water Management
1989: Jim Tiedje, Michigan State, Soil Microbiology
1990: Terry Logan, Ohio State, Soil Water Chemistry
1991: John Mortvedt, TVA, Soil Chemistry
1992: Larry Murphy, PPI, Soil Fertility
1993: Peter Wierenga, Arizona, Soil Physics
1994: Al Page, UC Riverside, Soil Chemistry
1995: John Norman, Wisconsin, Environmental Biophysics
1996: Willard Lindsay, Colorado State, Soil Chemistry
1997: Peter Bottomley, Oregon State, Soil Microbiology
1998: Tom Sims, Delaware, Soil Chemistry
1999: Rufus Chaney, USDA-ARS, Environmental Chemistry
2000: Gyles Randall, Minnesota, Soil Fertility
2001: Kevin McSweeney, Wisconsin, Pedology
2002: Kate Scow, UC Davis, Soil Microbial Ecology
2003: Hugo Rogers, USDA-ARS, Plant Physiology
2004: Donald Sparks, Delaware, Soil Chemistry
2005: Ray Weil, Maryland, Soil Science
2006: Ed Gregorich, Canada, Soil Biochemistry
2007: Andrew Sharpley, Arkansas, Soil Chemistry
2008: David Kissel, Georgia, Soil Fertility
2009: Paul Bertsch, Kentucky, Environmental Chemistry
2010: David Laird, USDA-ARS, Soil-Environmental Quality
2011: Sally Brown, Washington, Soil Remediation
2012: Henry Janzen, Canada Soil Biochemistry
2013: Mike McLaughlin, CSIRO Environmental Biogeochemistry
2014: Susan Brantley, Penn. State Univ. Geosci./Env. Systems
2015: Douglas Karlen, USDA-ARS, Soil-Environmental Quality
2015: Ravi Naidu, CRC-CARE, Soil Chemistry/ Env. Remediation
2016: Diana Wall, Colorado State, Global Envi. Sustainability
2017: David Lindbo, Soil Science Division, USDA-NRCS. Washington DC

Roscoe Ellis, Jr.

Roscoe Ellis began a career of contributions to science and society at Kansas State University as an instructor in 1949. After completing his Ph.D. degree at the University of Wisconsin in 1954, he resumed teaching and research responsibilities in the Department of Agronomy at Kansas State University. His career was marked by numerous scientific achievements up to his untimely death in 1982.

Roscoe became a highly respected soil chemist through his research in clay mineralogy, soil phosphorus and micronutrient chemistry. He researched the quantification of clay minerals in mixtures and greatly expanded knowledge on the mineralogy and chemistry of Kansas soils. His studies on the interaction of phosphorus and zinc chemistry in soils advanced theoretical horizons and provided practical implications for fertilizer management on Kansas farms.

Dr. Ellis's characterization of zinc levels in Kansas soils led to the development of a zinc soil test procedure. That test was used to determine when responsive additions of zinc fertilizer could be recommended.

Dr. Ellis advanced the frontiers of knowledge in soil phosphorus chemistry through a variety of research studies. Perhaps his most significant work investigated the complexity of polyphosphate reactions in soils and their conversion to the plant available orthophosphate form. These studies advanced both the theoretical aspects of polyphosphate chemistry and the adaptation of polyphosphate use in crop production.

Dr. Ellis was highly sought after to partnership in studies involving soil chemistry. His cooperative studies with the USDA on soil and environmental factors causing magnesium deficiency in cattle (grass tetany) led to a better understanding of this significant problem.

Dr. Ellis mentored 32 graduate students and their efforts resulted in 45 scientific publications. He served his profession as Associate Editor of both the Agronomy Journal and Soil Science Society of America Journal, Soil Chemistry Program Chairman in 1962 for the Soil Science Society of America, and in 1979 he was named Editor-in-Chief of the Soil Science Society of America Journal.

Dr. Ellis's career as a preeminent teacher, researcher and person provided an excellent example for all. He was recognized with memberships in the honor societies of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Pi Mu Epsilon and as a Fellow of both the Soil Science Society of America and American Society of Agronomy.

Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lectureship



Roscoe Ellis, Jr.

The Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lectureship was established to advance soil science at Kansas State University by attracting prominent scholars to interact with students and faculty.

The lectures honor the career of Dr. Ellis and commemorate his many years of outstanding service to his students, Kansas State University, and the soil science community. His dedication, knowledge and helpfulness influenced many in their educational and scientific pursuits.

Donations by family, friends, and associates of Dr. Ellis in excess of \$10,000 endowed the Lectureship Fund with the Kansas State University Foundation. Income from this endowment supports expenses associated with providing this annual lectureship, but additional support is needed.

Please consider enhancing this fund so future soil scientists can continue benefiting from this lectureship. Your contributions and inquiries are encouraged and may be sent to:

Roscoe Ellis Lectureship
Department of Agronomy
2004 Throckmorton Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506

Thirty-fifth
Annual

Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lectureship in SOIL SCIENCE

**“Expanding Horizons:
Soil Science and the
General Public”**

By Dr. David Lindbo

**Director of the Soil Science
Division, USDA-NRCS and
Emeritus Professor of Soil
Science at North Carolina State
University**

**4:00 p.m. Tuesday,
April 11, 2017**

**1018 Throckmorton Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS**

Refreshments @3:30 p.m. in TH Lobby