

2019 Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lecturer

Dr. Deanna Osmond Professor, Associate Department Head and Extension Leader North Carolina State University



Dr. Deanna Osmond

Dr. Deanna Osmond works at the interface of nutrient management, conservation practices, and water quality in the Crop and Soil Science Department at North Carolina University. For the past 25 years she has conducted field- and watershed-scale experiments to find conservation practices, including nutrient management, that reduce nutrient loading, especially in impaired watersheds. As an extension specialist, she then provides these research results to farmers, agency personnel, and citizens. She has led several national or regional projects to determine the effectiveness of conservation efforts at the watershed scale not only North Carolina but also nationally. Importantly, she has worked to transfer lessons learned from these projects to multiple stakeholders.

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Dr. Osmond is a Professor of Soil Fertility, Associate Department Head and Extension Leader at North Carolina State University. Her research is focused on agricultural production, reduction of agricultural pollutants through the use of conservation practices including riparian buffers and the development of decision support systems that both function at the watershed-scale and are applicable to field-scale soil fertility issues. These systems are designed to allow maximum user flexibility, yet to provide reliable information and answers.

Dr. Osmond is a fellow of the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America, and a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award by the American Society of Agronomy.

Notable recent awards include:

- Agronomic Extension Education Award, American Society of Agronomy
- Distinguished Service Award, Corn Growers Association of NC
- Professional Achievement Award – Water Quality, Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

Ph. D., Agronomy, Cornell University

M.S., Soil Science, NC State University

B.S., Agronomy and Anthropology, Kansas State University

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, University of 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, USDA-NRCS. Washington DC, Pedology
2018: Keith Bristow, CSIRO, Australia, Soil Physics
2019: Deanna Osmond, North Carolina State Univ., Soil Fertility

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-seven
Annual

Roscoe Ellis, Jr. Lectureship in SOIL SCIENCE

**“Extension made my
career fun and relevant:
nutrient management,
conservation practices,
and water quality”**

Dr. Deanna Osmond

**Professor, Associate Dep. Head
and Extension Leader
North Carolina State University**

**4:00 p.m. Monday,
March 25, 2019**

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

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