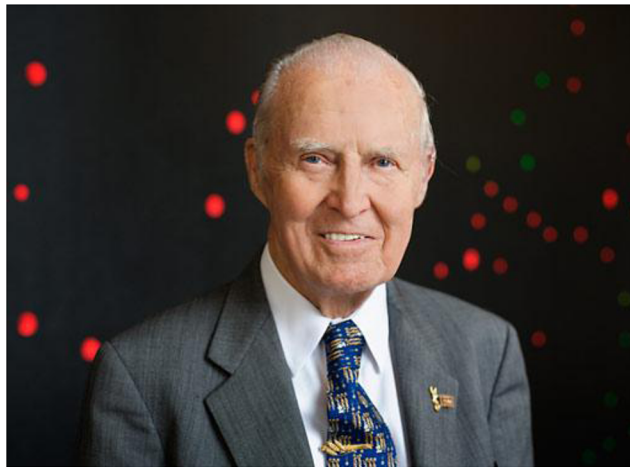


Norman Borlaug 1914 – 2009

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This issue is dedicated to the memory of Norman Borlaug who was born 100 years ago in March 1914 and died at his home in Dallas in 2009 at the age of 95. Starting in Mexico in the 1940s, Dr. Borlaug bred the high yielding, semi-dwarf wheat varieties, which were resistant to stem rust, and doubled or even tripled yields by the 1950s. As a result, Mexico went from importing 60% of its wheat to self-sufficiency by 1956. Having largely solved the food security problem in Mexico, Dr. Borlaug turned his attention to South Asia where his high yielding varieties reversed chronic food shortages and averted famine. For his work, Dr. Borlaug earned the sobriquet, the Father of the Green Revolution, and was

awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 2006. In 1998, Dr. Borlaug addressed the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP), challenging them to *do* something about food security. One of the results of that challenge is this journal, *Food Security: The Science, Sociology and Economics of Food Production and Access to Food*. His own Foreword to the journal is at *Food Sec.* (2009) 1, 1; the journal carried his obituary at *Food Sec.* (2009) 1, 389–390. We at the ISPP and Springer, joint owners of the journal, salute Norman Borlaug and thank him for his inspiration.