MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS LARRY G. BUNDY

Larry G. Bundy, emeritus professor of soil science and extension soil scientist died on 8 July 2013 at Agrace Hospice, Madison, Wisconsin. He was born on 21 December 1943 in Red Bud, IL, the son of Lacy and Martha (Asselmeier) Bundy. Bundy was raised on a grain and livestock family farm in Monroe County, IL where he attended public elementary and secondary schools. He received his BS (1966) and MS (1967) degrees from the University of Illinois, served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971, and then received a PhD in soil chemistry from Iowa State University in 1973.

From 1973 to 1982, Dr. Bundy worked in industry as a soil scientist for Libby, McNeill & Libby and Nestle Enterprises, Inc. in Janesville, WI. He then joined the soil science faculty in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in April 1982 and was promoted to associate professor in 1988 and professor in 1992. He retired in 2007.

Professor Bundy served the University of Wisconsin-Madison in an extension/applied research position oriented toward soil fertility and nutrient management issues of interest to Wisconsin farmers, agricultural professionals, and state and federal agencies. The overall objective of Dr. Bundy’s extension program was to provide education and training on nutrient management and the environmental implications of nutrient use. Each year, Dr. Bundy’s extension activities averaged over 3,500 client contacts through numerous program presentations, individual consultations and prolific writings. Throughout this career, Dr. Bundy served as the liaison between state and federal agencies and the Department of Soil Science on nutrient management issues and policy. He provided direct assistance with the creation of the Wisconsin nutrient management standard. This participation resulted in a sound science base for Wisconsin’s nutrient management policy.

Dr. Bundy’s applied research program provided the basis for much of his extension education program and focused on improving nutrient use efficiency to enhance economic returns to producers and minimize adverse environmental effects caused by nutrient losses from cropland. Research accomplishments include development of a soil-specific approach for corn nitrogen (N) recommendations based on the results of corn N response experiments. Other research contributions include development and evaluation of diagnostic methods for predicting N availability to plants, investigation of the mechanisms involved in soybean effects on N needs of subsequent crops, tillage and fertilizer N source effects on N use efficiency, and determination of N requirements and management practices for winter wheat. Assessments of N management practice effects on N losses to the environment were integrated into the research described above. Another of Dr. Bundy’s research efforts was identifying production conditions where
starter fertilizer was beneficial and profitable.

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Since 1998, Dr. Bundy’s research included studies of agricultural management practice effects on phosphorus (P) losses in water runoff from cropland. This work was stimulated by the need for a research base to support federal and state agency efforts to develop and implement P-based nutrient management policy in Wisconsin. Dr. Bundy conducted studies to evaluate the effects of soil characteristics, manure additions, soil P concentrations, and tillage on P runoff losses. Results from all of these studies were integrated into the Wisconsin P index, a practical P loss risk assessment model that provides the basis for P-based nutrient management planning. Dr. Bundy authored more than 280 technical papers, including 70 refereed journals, 6 book chapters, and 83 extension fact sheets or bulletins.

Although classroom teaching represented a minor component of his responsibilities, Dr. Bundy taught at least one course in most years since joining the faculty, including Advanced Soil Management or Soil Fertility and Environmental Quality in the Farm and Industry Short Course program, and co-taught Nutrient Management for Agronomic Crops and/or Nutrient Management for Horticultural Crops. He served as major professor for three PhD and 13 MS degrees in Soil Science and was a much sought after member of numerous graduate student committees.

From 2001 until his retirement, Dr. Bundy served as co-director of the CALS Nutrient and Pest Management Program. During his career, Dr. Bundy received awards from CALS, UW-Extension, UW Graduate School (Vilas Associate Award), American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Soil Science Society of America (SSSA), UW Agricultural Research Stations, American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Wisconsin Fertilizer and Chemical Association, Epsilon Sigma Phi (Extension Honorary Society), and the Wisconsin Association of County Agricultural Agents. He was named Fellow of ASA in 1994 and SSSA in 2001.

In retirement, Dr. Bundy enjoyed traveling, fishing, gardening, reading mystery novels, and attending University of Wisconsin athletic events. He also remained scientifically active as he continued to write and review refereed manuscripts.

In addition to Susan Bundy (Coleman), his wife of 46 years, survivors include his sons Christopher (Heather) Bundy and Jonathan (Maria) Bundy along with grandchildren Julian, Tyler, and Elliana.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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