



Science
Societies

2025 journal Outstanding Paper Awards

October 13, 2025



Each year, ASA, CSSA, and SSSA and its journals recognize outstanding journal papers with annual awards presented at CANVAS meeting. Following are this year's winners.

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Society Awards

Articles published during the preceding two years are considered for the current year's award (e.g., articles from 2023 and 2024 are considered for the 2025 award). In general, the selection is based on evaluation of how the article has advanced knowledge in the profession, the effectiveness of communication, and its originality and impact.

ASA Society Award winner

"A Global Meta-Analysis of Cover Crop Response on Soil Carbon Storage Within a Corn Production System" by Deepak R. Joshi, Heidi L. Sieverding, Hui Xu, Hoyoung Kwon, Michael Wang, Sharon A Clay, Jane M. Johnson, Resham Thapa, Shaina Westhoff, and David E. Clay. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21340>

CSSA Society Award winners

Original Research: "LEADER (Leaf Element Accumulation from DEep Roots): A Nondestructive Phenotyping Platform to Estimate Rooting Depth in the Field" by Meredith T. Hanlon, Kathleen M. Brown, and Jonathan P. Lynch. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21149>

Review: "Contributions of Plant Breeding to Soil Carbon Storage: Retrospect and Prospects" by Hanna Poffenbarger, Michael Castellano, Dennis Egli, Angelica Jaconi, and Virginia Moore. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.20920>



Deepak Joshi



Molly Hanlon



Hanna Poffenbarger

SSSA Society Award winner

“Fourier–Transform Infrared Spectroscopy for Soil Organic Matter Analysis” by Andrew J. Margenot, Sanjai J. Parikh, and Francisco J. Calderón. See

<https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20583>

Journal Outstanding Paper Awards

As with the Society Outstanding Paper awards, articles that are eligible for the Journal Outstanding Paper Awards are published during the preceding two years. The articles undergo a selection process based on evaluation of how the article has advanced

knowledge in the profession, the effectiveness of communication, and its methodology, originality, and impact.

Agricultural & Environmental Letters

Research Letter: “Investigating Tradeoffs in Nitrogen Loss Pathways Using an Environmental Damage Cost Framework” by Giovani Preza–Fontes, Laura E. Christianson, and Cameron M. Pittelkow. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/ael2.20103>

Commentary: “The Fate of Nitrogen of Ammonium Phosphate Fertilizers: A Blind Spot” by Andrew J. Margenot and Jeonggu Lee. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/ael2.20116>

Agrosystems, Geosciences & Environment

“Determining Cardinal Temperatures for Eight Cover Crop Species” by Mila V. Pessotto, Trenton L. Roberts, Matthew Bertucci, Caio dos Santos, Jeremy Ross, and Mary Savin. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/agg2.20393>



Andrew Margenot





Mila Victorio Pessotto

Crop, Forage & Turfgrass Management

Applied Turfgrass Science Section: “Strategies for Reducing Inputs and Emissions in Turfgrass Systems” by Ross C. Braun, Chase M. Straw, Douglas J. Soldat, Michael A. H. Bekken, Aaron J. Patton, Eric V. Lonsdorf, and Brian P. Horgan. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/cft2.20218>

Crop Management Section: “Managing Soil Acidity vs. Soil Ca:Mg Ratio: What Is More Important for Crop Productivity?” by Andrea Leiva Soto, Steve W Culman, Catherine Herms, Christine Sprunger, and Douglas Doohan. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/cft2.20210>

Forage and Grazinglands Section: “Agronomic and Structural Responses of Stockpiled Alfalfa–Bermudagrass Mixtures” by A. C. C. M. Vasco, L. S. Silva, J. C. Burt, K. Mason, M. K. Mullenix, C. Prevatt, and J. J. Tucker. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/cft2.20223>



Ross Braun



Andrea Leiva Soto



Journal of Environmental Quality

“Microplastics in Composts, Digestates, and Food Wastes: A Review” by Katherine K. Porterfield, Sarah A. Hobson, Deborah A. Neher, Meredith T. Niles, and Eric D. Roy. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/jeq2.20450>

Journal of Plant Registrations

“Registration of Three Sweet Sorghum Lines With High Tolerance to Sorghum Aphid (*Melanaphis sorghi*)” by Joseph E. Knoll, Minori Uchimiya, Chad M. Hayes, Somashekhar M. Punnuri, Karen R. Harris-Shultz, and J. Spencer Smith. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/plr2.20310>

Natural Sciences Education

“Plant Blindness Represents the Loss of Generational Knowledge and Cultural Identity” by Stacie Blue, Christina L. M. Hargiss, Jack Norland, Edward S. Dekeyser, and Paula Comeau. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/nse2.20106>



Katherine Keith Porterfield





Stacie Blue

The Plant Genome

“Simple Tidy GeneCoEx”: A Gene Co-Expression Analysis Workflow Powered by Tidyverse and Graph-Based Clustering in R” by Chenxin Li, Natalie C. Deans, and C. Robin Buell. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/tpg2.20323>

The Plant Phenome Journal

“A Comparison of Genomic and Phenomic Selection Methods for Yield Prediction in *Coffea canephora*” by Paul Adunola, Estefania Tavares Flores, Elaine M. Riva-Souza, Maria Amélia G. Ferrão, João Felipe B. Senra, Marccone Comério, Marcelo C. Espindula, Abraão C. Verdin

Filho, Paulo S. Volpi, Aymbiré F. A. Fonseca, Romario G. Ferrão, Patricio R. Munoz, and Luis Felipe V. Ferrão. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppj2.20109>

Urban Agriculture & Regional Food Systems

“Garden Soil Bacteria Transiently Colonize Gardeners' Skin After Direct Soil Contact” by Gwynne Á. Mhuireach, Kevin G. Van Den Wymelenberg, and Gail A. Langellotto. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/uar2.20035>



Chenxin Li



Paul Adunola



Vadose Zone Journal

“Developments and Applications of the HYDRUS Computer Software Packages Since 2016”
by Jiří Šimůnek, Giuseppe Brunetti, Diederik Jacques, Martinus Th. van Genuchten, and
Miroslav Šejna. See <https://doi.org/10.1002/vzj2.20310>



Jiří Šimůnek

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