



**Science
Societies**

Society flagship journals name 2026 Outstanding Paper Award finalists

By David E. Clay (ASA), Bingru Huang (CSSA), and Markus Flury (SSSA), Editors-in-Chief

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The American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America are pleased to announce the finalists for the Outstanding Paper Award for each Society through their three flagship journals: *Agronomy Journal* (ASA), *Crop Science* (CSSA), and the *Soil Science Society of America Journal* (SSSAJ). Authors of the winning papers will be acknowledged during an awards ceremony at the [CANVAS 2026](#) meeting in Portland, OR, Nov. 1–4, 2026.

The process for being acknowledged as a finalist or receiving this award starts with you [submitting your work](#) to one of the flagship journals published by our Societies. Following submission, your paper will be reviewed by experts who have the goal of providing constructive suggestions. Whether the paper is accepted or rejected, we believe that the reviews will help you improve the quality of the paper. Following acceptance, our Societies may promote your work through various means such as webinars, video summaries, plain language summaries, podcasts, awards, social media, magazine articles, and emails.

Published papers for the prior two years are considered for the Society Outstanding Paper Award. Finalists for this award are selected based on the number of citations and full-text views. The final selection for this award is made by a highly qualified committee that may include the Society's president, editor-in-chief, journal editor, technical editors, and an additional Society member appointed by the president for a given Society. The committee will evaluate the selected works for clarity, originality, and importance. All finalist papers are truly outstanding, and they represent less than 1% of the submitted papers. We encourage you to read these papers below.

In 2026, the Outstanding Paper Award finalists were selected from 467 papers (from *Agronomy Journal*) for the ASA Society Award, 477 papers (from *Crop Science*) for the

CSSA Society Award, and 327 papers (from the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*) for the SSSA Society Award.

Agronomy Journal



Finalists for the ASA Society Award for Outstanding Paper

Finalists for this award are chosen from ASA's flagship journal, *Agronomy Journal*.

The journal publishes reviews and original research in agriculture, natural resources, soil science, crop science, agroclimatology, agronomic modeling, production agriculture, crop genetics, plant breeding, and instrumentation.

Sustainable Sweetpotato Production in the United States: Current Status,

Challenges, and Opportunities by Justin George, Gadi V. P. Reddy, Phillip A. Wadl,

William Rutter, Julianna Culbreath, Pierre W. Lau, Tahir Rashid, Matthew C. Allan,

Suzanne D. Johaningsmeier, Amanda M. Nelson, Ming Li Wang, Augustine Gubba, Kai-

Shu Ling, Yan Meng, Daniel J. Collins, Sathish K. Ponniah, Prasanna H. Gowda.

<https://doi/10.1002/agj2.21539>

Should We Consider Integrated Crop–Livestock Systems for Ecosystem Services,

Carbon Sequestration, and Agricultural Resilience to Climate Change? By Alan J.

Franzluebbers and John R. Hendrickson. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21520>

A Review of Intercropping Systems in Western Canada by Vengai Mbanyele,

Rebecca Oiza Enesi, Lana Shaw, and Linda Yuya Gorim.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21622>

Persistence and Disadoption of Sustainable Agricultural Practices in the

Mississippi Delta Region by Santosh Pathak, Hua Wang, Dat Q. Tran, and Naveen C.

Adusumilli. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21519>

Perspective of US Farmers on Collaborative On-Farm Agronomic Research by

Carlos B. Pires, Fernanda S. Krupek, Gabriela I. Carmona, Osler A. Ortez, Laura

Thompson, Daniel J. Quinn, Andre F. B. Reis, Rodrigo Werle, Péter Kovács, and Maninder

P. Singh. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21539>

A Critical Review of the Factors Influencing Pre-Harvest Sprouting of Wheat by S. I.

Hull, P. A. Swanepoel, and W. C. Botes. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21701>

Assessing Relationships of Cover Crop Biomass and Nitrogen Content to

Multispectral Imagery by Jarrod O. Miller, Amy L. Shober, and Jamie Taraila.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21554>

Soil Inoculation With Nitrogen-Fixing Bacteria to Supplement Maize Fertilizer Need

by Logan P. Woodward, Connor N. Sible, Juliann R. Seebauer, and Frederick E. Below.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21729>

Long-Term Tillage and Cover Cropping Differentially Influenced Soil Nitrous Oxide

Emissions From Cotton Cropping System by Jashanjeet Kaur Dhaliwal, Facundo R.

Lussich, Sindhu Jagadamma, Sean M. Schaeffer, and Debasish Saha.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21661>

Cover Crops, Double-Crop Soybean, and Nitrogen Rates Affect Productivity and

Profitability of a No-Till Rotation by Elizabeth Yeager, Peter Tomlinson, Giovanni Preza

Fontes, Jessica Grunberg, J. Anita Dille, Kevin Arnet, and Kraig Roozeboom.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.70037>

Economics of Strip Cropping With Autonomous Machines by A. K. M. Abdullah Al-Amin, James LowenbergDeBoer, Bruce J. Erickson, John T. Evans, Michael R. Langemeier, Kit Franklin, and Karl Behrendt. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agj2.21536>

Crop Science



Finalists for the CSSA Society Award for Outstanding Paper

Finalists for this award are chosen from CSSA's flagship journal, *Crop Science*. The journal publishes reviews, interpretive articles, and original research on any aspect of crop science, including agronomy, physiology, and genetics.

Plant-Based Protein Crops and Their Improvement: Current Status and Future

Perspectives by Asheesh K. Singh, Dinakaran Elango, Joscif Raigne, Liza Van der Laan, Ashlyn Rairdin, Chandrakant Soregaon, and Arti Singh.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21389>

Production and Cultivation Dynamics of Millets in India by O. P. Yadav, D. V. Singh, Vandita Kumari, Manoj Prasad, Sushmita Seni, Roshan Kumar Singh, S. Sood, Lakshmi Kant, B. Dayakar Rao, R. Madhusudhana, B. Venkatesh Bhat, S. K. Gupta, D. K. Yadava, and T. Mohapatra. <https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21207>

Genetic Gains in Short-Season Corn Hybrids: Grain Yield, Yield Components, and

Grain Quality Traits by Kyle King, Antonella Ferela, Tony J. Vyn, Slobodan Trifunovic, Doug Eudy, Charles Hurburgh, Kendall R. Lamkey, and Sotirios V. Archontoulis.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21199>

Do Newer Maize Hybrids Grow Roots Faster and Deeper? By Cintia Sciarresi, August Thies, Christopher Topp, Douglas Eudy, Slobodan Trifunovic, Alejo Ruiz, Philip M. Dixon,

Fernando Miguez, Lee C. Burras, and Sotirios V. Archontoulis.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21208>

Litchi Postharvest Physiology and Handling by Chao Chia Huang, Robert E. Paull, and Tsu-Tsuen Wang. <https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21274>

Severe Storm Damage and Short-Term Weather Stresses on Corn: A Review by Alexander J. Lindsey, Osler A. Orteza, Peter R. Thomison, Paul R. Carter, Jeffrey A. Coulter, Greg W. Roth, Daniela R. Carrijo, Daniel J. Quinn, and Mark A. Licht.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/csc2.21212>

**Soil Science Society
of America Journal**



Finalists for the SSSA Society Award for Outstanding Paper

Finalists for this award are chosen from SSSA's flagship journal, the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*. The journal publishes basic and applied soil research covering all areas of soil science in agricultural, forest, wetlands, and urban settings. It provides an internationally recognized and comprehensive venue for soil scientists, biogeochemists, and agronomists to publish their research.

Soil Landscapes of the United States (SOLUS): Developing Predictive Soil Property Maps of the Conterminous United States Using Hybrid Training Sets by Travis W. Nauman, Suzann Kienast-Brown, Stephen M. Roecker, Colby Brungard, David White, Jessica Philippe, and James A. Thompson. <https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20769>

Examination of the Reliability of X-ray Powder Diffraction Analysis to Determine Mineral Composition of Soils by Kohei Kurokawa, Kazuki Azuma, Atsushi Nakao, Atsuhito Suzuki, Shokichi Wakabayashi, Shigeto Fujimura, Takuro Shinano, and Junta

Yanai. <https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20757>

The Multi-Faceted Relationship Between Nitrogen Mineralization and Soil Texture

by Daniel Geisseler, Kenneth Miller, Suzette Santiago, and Majdi Abou Najm.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20728>

Field Trial Guidelines for Evaluating Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers by Sarah E.

Lyons, D. Brian Arnall, Dana Ashford-Kornburger, Sylvie M. Brouder, Erik Christian, Achim Dobermann, Stephan M. Haefele, Jason Haegele, Matthew J. Helmers, Virginia L. Jin, Andrew J. Margenot, Josh M. McGrath, Kelly T. Morgan, T. Scott Murrell, Deanna L. Osmond, David E. Pelster, Nathan A. Slaton, Peter A. Vadas, Rodney T. Venterea, Jeffrey J. Volenec, and Claudia Wagner-Riddle, <https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20787>

Calibration of TERS 10 and TERS 12 Electromagnetic Soil Moisture Sensors by

Sofia Cominelli, Leonardo D. Rivera, William G. Brown, Tyson E. Ochsner, and Andres Patrignani. <https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20777>

SHAPEv1.0 Scoring Curves and Peer Group Benchmarks for Dynamic Soil Health

Indicators by Márcio R. Nunes, Kristen S. Veum, Paul A. Parker, Scott H. Holan, Joseph P. Amsili, Harold M. van Es, Skye A. Wills, Cathy A. Seybold, and Douglas L. Karlen.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20668>

Prediction Accuracy of pXRF, MIR, and Vis-NIR Spectra for Soil Properties—A

Review by Gafur Gozukara, Alfred E. Hartemink, Jingyi Huang, and José Alexandre Melo Demattê. <https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.70028>

Effect of Alkali Residue and Humic Acid on Aggregate Structure of Saline-Alkali

Soil by Chang Liu, Hongzhou Shang, Lihua Han, and Xiaoran Sun.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/saj2.20624>

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