



IAF NEWS

UBC Professor Wins Award of Excellence for Innovation

January 25, 2013, Abbotsford, B.C. – The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. (IAF) announced today that Dr. Jim Thompson, Professor and Director of the University of British Columbia (UBC) Dairy Education and Research Centre, is the recipient of the 2013 Award of Excellence for Innovation in Agriculture and Agri-Food.

“B.C.’s agriculture and agri-food industry depends on innovation to keep it sustainable and competitive in increasingly challenging times,” said IAF chair, Peter Levelton. “Tonight we honour Dr. Thompson for his contributions in facilitating innovation in his field. His pioneering efforts in developing UBC’s Dairy Education and Research Centre have produced significant advancements for the dairy sector in B.C. and beyond.”

A self-sustaining operation that supports the development and adaptation of new technologies for the dairy industry, the Centre is unparalleled on an international scale. The facilities benefit producers in B.C. and around the world by supporting research and teaching in the areas of cattle reproduction, nutrition, housing, welfare, and nutrient and energy recovery from manure.

“It is very gratifying to be recognized for my efforts with the Centre,” says Dr. Thompson. “Taking the vision from concept to reality has been an incredible journey, and the rewards of witnessing the improvements in dairy cattle practice in the province are ongoing.”

The IAF Award of Excellence for Innovation in Agriculture and Agri-Food celebrates the innovative thinkers in the B.C. agriculture and agri-food industry who are responsible for generating additional economic, environmental or social benefits to British Columbia and the B.C. agriculture and agri-food industry. The award is open to individual producers, processors, agri-business owners/operators and other industry leaders. This year’s winner was announced on January 23 at the B.C. Agriculture Council’s Agri-Food Industry Gala in Abbotsford.

“We are very pleased Dr. Thompson’s accomplishments are being recognized with this industry award,” said Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz. “Dr. Thompson’s leadership has been invaluable to AAFC’s successful research partnership with the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre, which benefits countless dairy producers with its world-class research.”

“Dr. Thompson’s accomplishments are a key reason British Columbia’s dairy sector continues to be respected as an international leader in discovery and excellence,” said BC Minister of Agriculture Norm Letnick. “On behalf of all British Columbians, I extend my congratulations and appreciation to Dr Thompson for his

IAF programs are funded by:



dedication and leadership. His success exemplifies the innovation the Investment Agriculture Foundation and the B.C. government work so hard to encourage and support.”

The Investment Agriculture Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that strategically invests funds on behalf of the federal and provincial governments in support of innovative projects that benefit the agriculture and agri-food industries in British Columbia.

-30-

For more information contact:

Sarah Rostami
IAF Communications
250.356.1772
srostami@iafbc.ca