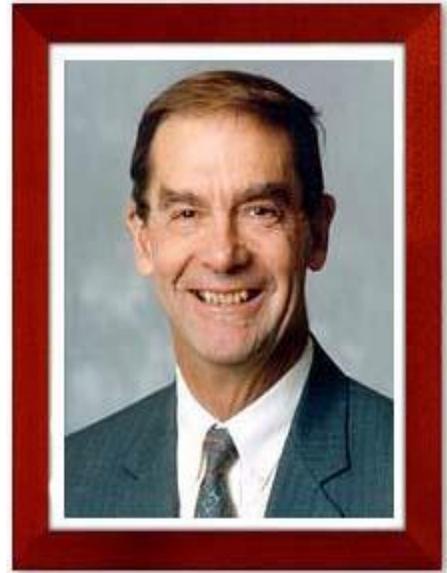


## Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

### D. HOWARD DOSTER (1933-)

Howard earned all three college degrees from The Ohio State University, then joined the faculty as an Extension Farm Management Specialist in 1968. He and 40 colleagues started the first Purdue Top Farmer Crop Workshop. He helped develop the machinery and tillage budgets and initiated the idea of farmers using the workshop's linear program computer budget to test four kinds of changes: crop mix, machinery size, tillage system, and farm size. He coordinated 250 Top Farmer Workshops on three continents helping 7,000 farmers interpret 25,000 farm budgets. He presented his 7-minute machinery economics speech emphasizing timeliness, use of big machinery, test before you invest, and associating with positive thinking people 900 times in seven countries. He helped create three 27-minute movies sponsored by Allis Chalmers, John Deere, and International Harvester. At the 2000 Top Farmer Workshop, Howard and 40 colleagues hosted a record number of farmers from 13 states.



Recognizing the influence of farm magazine writers, Howard set a goal of helping to write a national or regional article each month. Howard co-authored extension and research articles with 43 university colleagues, including annual crop budgets and influential papers on land rent, tillage economics and no-till long before it was generally accepted. He prepared input price prospects for the department's annual Outlook program. In 1983, he authored a paper where the term "site-specific farming" was first used.

Howard taught six classes, including a senior class, "How to Go Home and Start Farming with Dad." He co-authored three high school texts on entrepreneurship. He created and coordinated 20 annual Farming Together Workshops, coordinated the farm records program and the state farm management tour, was Purdue chapter co-founder and president of Gamma Sigma Delta, and was advisor for Alpha Zeta. He was a senior faculty fellow at Shreve Hall and coached the 1983 Purdue women's softball team to its best ever record. He was honored as a Kentucky Colonel for helping start the Kentucky Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers while serving as secretary of the Indiana Chapter. He earned titles of Accredited Farm Manager and Accredited Agricultural Consultant from the American Society. In 1992 he received the Indiana Extension Specialist Career Award.

With his wife Barbara, former Director of Undergraduate Programs in Purdue's School of Management, he helped their four children and spouses attend 24 colleges and earn 15 degrees, including seven from Purdue. One son was recognized as a Distinguished Purdue Agricultural Alumnus.

