April 2019

To: Iowa’s agriculturalists, researchers, extension workers, educators, and farmers

From: Mark Rasmussen, Leopold Center Director

RE: 2019 Spencer Award for Sustainable Agriculture

For the past 18 years, the Leopold Center has been pleased to work with the Spencer family to present this award to deserving Iowans in agriculture. Many of the Spencer Award winners have been farmers and landowners who were wonderful examples of how to use conservation practices to make their land and operations more sustainable — and leave the land in great shape to pass on to their families. Other Spencer Award winners included ISU professors, extension educators, farm managers and USDA scientists who have been pioneers in sustainable research and promotion.

What they ALL have in common is a desire to improve Iowa’s landscape, albeit in very different ways. Some lead by example, showing their neighbors what will work on their land and how. Others have promoted alternative crop production, organic farm products or sustainably raised livestock. Some work in the field, others in the lab and still others offer education and mentoring to their peers.

If you know someone who fits into any of these categories (or you are such a person), please consider applying for the 2019 Spencer Award for Sustainable Agriculture.

The nomination may be submitted as a paper copy or you can use the electronic form found at http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/. Please send your nominations for the Spencer Award by June 30, 2019. Send nominations to Mark Rasmussen, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, 209 Curtiss Hall, 513 Farm House Lane, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011; or e-mail your materials to markras@iastate.edu (use Spencer Award as subject line).