

NEWS RELEASE

UF/IFAS honors Mosaic Company at Dinner of Distinction

Date: October 6, 2015

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GAINESVILLE, Fla. --- The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences honored some of its most ardent supporters, including the Mosaic Company, at its annual Dinner of Distinction, held at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center on Friday.

This was the fourth year for the awards banquet that recognizes individuals and organizations that support and advance UF/IFAS in its research, teaching and Extension efforts.

The UF/IFAS Research Partner Award went to The Mosaic Company, based in Plymouth, Minnesota. Mosaic is the world's leading producer and marketer of concentrated phosphate and potash. The company employs approximately 8,900 people in six countries, and participates in every aspect of crop nutrition development.

"The Mosaic Company's importance in the field of crop nutrition development cannot be overstated. Mosaic is a leader in the field as a producer and marketer and that is not by happenchance; their dedication to the industry is to be commended," said Jack Payne, senior vice president of agriculture and natural resources at UF. "Also, we at UF/IFAS greatly appreciate their continued partnership and support of the mission of the university."

One of Mosaic's largest centers of operation is in central Florida, where they mine and process phosphates. As a neighbor to the University of Florida, The Mosaic Company and the Mosaic Company Foundation have been a true partner to UF/IFAS offering support to multiple UF/IFAS programs and centers around the state, including being the lead donor for the Range Cattle Research and Education Center's Grazing Lands Education Building where the main classroom was named in their honor.

Other UF/IFAS initiatives that Mosaic has supported include providing fertilizer best management practices to Extension agents through the Mosaic 4Rs Stewardship program.

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UF's Dean of Research Jackie Burns presented Mosaic's Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Mark Kaplan with the award at its annual Dinner of Distinction.