

On April 22, Samuel F. Herb, research chemist at the Eastern Regional Research Center (ARS, USDA) in Wyndmoor, PA, and Marion E. Whitten, leader of cereal and oilseeds research at USDA's Agricultural Marketing Research Institute in Beltsville, MD, were presented the AOCS Award of Merit at the 67th Annual Spring Meeting in New Orleans.

Herb, who joined AOCS in 1944, has been a member of the Spectroscopy, Instrumental Techniques, and Program and Planning committees and an associate member of the AOCS Membership Committee; chairman of the Ad hoc Committee on Overlapping Technical Committees and the gas chromatography subcommittees of the Smalley and Instrumental Techniques Committees; cochairman of the 1974 Fall Meeting Finance Committee; AOCS representative to ASTM Committee E-19 on Chromatography; adviser to the Codex Alimentarius Commission's Committee on Fats and Oils; and has organized and participated in a number of symposia for AOCS national meetings. Along with ERRC's Frank Luddy, Herb received the Northeast Section's 1975 Achievement Award in recognition of his original research in lipid chemistry. He is currently as associate editor of *JAOCS*.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University, Herb was engaged for 30 years in research on the composition and structure of the fatty acids and glycerides of fats and oils, having joined USDA in 1942. For the past three years, he has been working on the analysis and isolation of toxic glycoalkaloids from potatoes and other edible plants because of their potential health hazard. He is author or coauthor of 48 scientific papers and one patent and a member of the American Chemical Society, American Society for Testing and Materials, Delaware Valley Chromatography Forum, and the Philadelphia Organic Chemists' Club.

Whitten, an AOCS member since 1930, is currently chairman of the Seed and Meal Analysis Committee and its Sampling Subcommittee and a member of its Mycotoxin Subcommittee. He also serves as a member of the Smalley Committee's Aflatoxin Subcommittee and of the Oilseeds and Oilseed Meals Committee, and is AOCS Representative to the Advisory Board of the National Academy of Sciences' Office of Critical Tables. In the past, Whitten has been active in committees on Moisture, Selenium, Chemical Oilseed Extraction, Sample Preparation Cottonseed, Neutral Oil Loss, Intersociety Relations, and Membership, and was chairman of Special AOCS Functions at the 1968 AACC-AOCS Washington Meeting.

Before joining the Agricultural Marketing Research Institute in 1945, Whitten, a graduate of Texas A&M University, was a chemical engineer for Singleton Oil Mills of Texas and a chemical officer of the 3rd Armored Division during all its European operations, attaining the rank of colonel. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Association of Cereal Chemists, and a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemists.

The Award of Merit program was established in 1967 to recognize current achievements, without regard to age of the nominee, and to serve as a stimulus for those working in various AOCS activities. Types of service to be considered include active service to AOCS committee work; marked leadership in technical, administrative, or special committee or Society activities; outstanding activity or service that has particularly advanced the Society's prestige, standing, or interest; and any distinguished service to the Society not otherwise specifically provided for. ■



Samuel F. Herb

## Award of Merit Presented to Herb and Whitten



Marion E. Whitten