

Dr. Jeffrey M. Novak

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Education:

1989 PhD, Soil Morphology and Genesis, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

1983 MS Soil Fertility, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

1980 BS Agronomy, Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, PA

Experience:

1992-present: Research Soil Scientist, Coastal Plain Soil, Water and Plant Research Center, USDA-ARS, Florence, SC

1991-1992 Postdoctoral Research Associate, National Soil Tilth Laboratory, USDA-ARS, Ames, IA

1989-1991 Research Ecologist, Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC

Scientific accomplishments:

As a result of major contributions to the advancement of conservation tillage and soil C sequestration, quantification of soil spatial variability, P fate and transport, and biochar technology, Dr. Novak is a nationally and internationally recognized authority on soil and water quality. His significant research has been documented in 120 technical publications. Dr. Novak's stature in the scientific community is also demonstrated by multiple collaborations with researchers in US federal agencies (USDA, DOE, and EPA) as well as appointments to vital scientific advisory panels and editorial boards both domestic and international. Accordingly, he has provided consultation on soil quality to scientists in both Europe and Asia. Furthermore, Dr. Novak has delivered over thirty significant, invited presentations at national and international meetings. His stature and leadership in soil C and bioenergy research resulted in his appointment by the Deputy Administrator, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, as Coordinator for ARS Biochar Research initiatives. Collectively, Dr. Novak's research contributions have clarified/solved important issues for American agriculture, while advancing the ARS soil and agricultural byproducts national programs.

Honors and Awards

Award for service as an associate editor for The Journal of Environmental Quality, 2001-2003.

Best Research Article Award, The Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, 2002.

Honorable Mention Paper Award, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (formerly American Society of Agricultural Engineers), 2004.

Awarded for service as an associate editor for The Soil and Water Conservation Society, 2005-2007.

Special Invitations

- Invited to make two presentations on "Selection and Use of Designer Biochars to Resolve Characteristics of Degraded Soils" and "What is a Good Biochar for Soils" at the 23rd National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists Annual Meeting in Amelia Island, FL, 2010.
- Invited to make a presentation entitled "Soil Resources Quality: The Foundation for Sustainable Food, Feed and Fuel" at the 5th Annual Cellulosic Biofuel Summit in Washington, DC, 2010.
- Invited to serve as an advisor by the Environmental Defense Fund at a program entitled "Managing Phosphorus in Agricultural Landscapes-the Role of Aquatic Ecosystems" to provide technical insight concerning the development of landscape features to mitigate off-site phosphorus movement in Washington, DC, 2011.
- Invited to make a presentation on "The Varied Roles of Char in US Agriculture: Impacts on Soil Quality, Contaminant Binding, and Reductions in Greenhouse Gases Emissions" at the 4th International Congress – EUROSIL, in Bari, Italy, 2012.
- Invited as a keynote speaker to present "Designing relevant biochars to revitalize soil quality: Current Status and advances" at the 16th International Humic Substance Society meeting at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, 2012.
- Invited to make a presentation on "The science and soil aspects of biochars: Current status and advances" to scientists and biochar stakeholders at the Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School in Ocean City, MD, 2012.