

Sloan Earl Jones

SLOAN EARL JONES died 14 January 2001 at the age of 95. Sloan was born near Pelham, Greenville County, South Carolina, 6 August 1905, and was living near Kerrville, Texas, at the time of his death. He graduated from high school in Greer, South Carolina, in 1924 and obtained his B.S. degree from Clemson College in 1928. His first entomological employment was with the United States Department of Agriculture where he worked on a boll weevil project during summer of 1928 at Tallulah, Louisiana. He entered graduate school at Texas A&M College in September 1928 and received his M.S. degree in entomology a year later.

Following graduation, Sloan took a temporary position with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES) conducting research on cotton insects at Taylor, Texas. He was transferred to a new cooperative state/federal pink bollworm laboratory at Presidio, Texas, in September 1929, where he became involved in various aspects of the broad research program that was being conducted in the laboratory. Although his position was eliminated after only a few months due to a shortage of funds, his period of unemployment was brief. In June 1930, he again was employed by TAES to work on projects at Sonora, Winter Haven, and College Station, Texas. His varied assignments included research on the control of bitterweed, and vegetable, cotton, and wheat insects. During the Great Depression, it was necessary to take advantage of all opportunities to obtain funding for employment and research. One such opportunity resulted in Sloan being "loaned" by TAES to the Livestock Sanitary Commission to investigate ways to control bitterweed on rangelands at Sonora and San Angelo, Texas. This plant proved to be highly toxic to sheep, especially during periods of drought, and there was an interest among ranchers in finding a control for it. Although this was not an entomological project, Sloan enthusiastically tackled the problem and later published a TAES bulletin on bitterweed control. Much of this research during the winter and spring of 1931-1932 was conducted while camping in a tent on a remote West Texas ranch. His research on truck-crop insects was conducted at Winterhaven, Texas, where several pests were investigated, but much of the emphasis was on control of the onion thrips.

Another of Sloan's many projects involved study of damage of false wireworms to wheat in the Texas Panhandle. During the period 1936-1938, he took leave from TAES to pursue graduate study at Iowa State College, receiving the Ph.D. degree in entomology in 1940. After completing his doctoral



Sloan Earl Jones (1905-2001)

studies, he returned to Winterhaven to continue vegetable insect research. An opportunity for professional advancement occurred in January 1941 when he was asked to establish the TAES El Paso Valley Experiment Station at Ysleta, Texas. It was at this time that his long career in administration began.

Sloan transferred to College Station in January 1947 to become Assistant Director of TAES and soon was promoted to Vice Director, a position he held until he resigned in March 1950 to assume management of a large farming operation and later an estate in the El Paso area. The estate was dissolved in 1954, at which time he became branch manager of a farm chemical company at El Paso. In August 1954, he was appointed as Director of the USDA-ARS Pink Bollworm Research Laboratory at Brownsville, Texas. He transferred to Beltsville, Maryland, in September 1957 to become Branch Chief of Field Crop Insects and Bee Culture Research. This large branch was divided into Field Crops, Cotton Insects, and Apiculture research branches and Sloan served as Chief of the Cotton Insect Research Branch until 1972 when USDA-ARS was reorganized. He then was transferred to Riverside, California, as area director of southern California and Hawaii. He retired in June 1974 and moved to Kerrville, Texas.

During his long years of service to agriculture, Sloan served on several important team and panel assignments, investigating diverse insect problems in the United States, India, Pakistan, and Mexico. He had an exceptionally broad experience in entomology and, until the end, maintained an interest in what was going on in the field. His long career in research and administration brought him into contact with many scientists and

agricultural producers, and he never seemed to have forgotten a single one of them. He always could be counted on to provide biological information on a wide array of acquaintances and to offer interesting historical accounts of insect pests and entomological events. His friendly and generous nature was evident to all who had the good fortune to share his acquaintance.

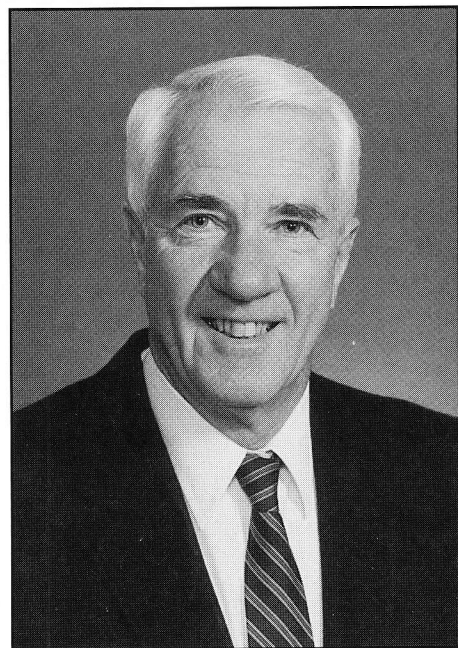
Sloan Jones is survived by his wife, Lucile, and daughter, Shelah.

*Dial F. Martin
USDA-ARS (retired)
Horace R. Burke
Texas A&M University (retired)*

George Albert Schaefers

PROFESSOR EMERITUS GEORGE SCHAEFERS died at his winter home in Sarasota, Florida, after a brief struggle with cancer. He is survived by his daughters Lynn and Gwen; son Richard; four grandchildren; two sons-in-law; and a daughter-in-law. George's wife, Kathryn, died in June 2001. Together they created a home that was remarkable. They had a knack for welcoming colleagues, students, and friends in a manner that mingled both the joys and responsibilities of rearing families with providing a social environment that was alive with discussions of an amazing array of local and international community issues.

George Schaefers grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania. He attended El Camino Junior



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