

*Spitze Land Grant University  
Faculty Award for Excellence  
Recipients*



James N. Moore.....	1995
George E. Templeton.....	1996
Justin R. Morris.....	1997
Ronald E. Talbert.....	1998
Fred Stephen.....	1999
John Kirkpatrick Skeeles Sr. ....	2000
Robert D. Riggs.....	2001
Lawrence R. "Dick" Oliver.....	2002
Terry J. Siebenmorgen.....	2003
Max V. Meisch.....	2004
Derrick M. Oosterhuis .....	2005
Sung Man Lim .....	2006
Duane Wolf .....	2008
Park Waldroup.....	2009
Eric J. Wailes .....	2010



The University of Arkansas  
is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



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Land Grant University  
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UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS

DALE BUMPERS COLLEGE  
OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD  
& LIFE SCIENCES

## The Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence

The Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence recognizes meritorious and comprehensive scholarly performance in the areas of academic responsibility unique to the Land Grant mission: teaching and advising, research and publication, extension and public service, and participation in professional associations and faculty governance. Tenured faculty members with at least 10 years of continuous service with the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences or the Division of Agriculture are eligible for consideration.

The award includes an unrestricted cash award of \$6,500 from a fund established by Robert G.F. Spitze and the late Hazel Taylor Spitze. The Spitzes have also provided generous endowments for student scholarship funds.

Bob Spitze, a native of Berryville, and Hazel Spitze, a native of DeQueen, are both graduates of the College with B.S. degrees in general agriculture and home economics, respectively. They went on to earn doctoral degrees, hers in education from the University of Tennessee and his in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin. As professors at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign they have made lasting, nationally recognized contributions through the Land Grant University System.



Robert G.F. Spitze, Ph.D.  
BSA 1947



Hazel Taylor Spitze, Ph.D.  
BSHE 1943

## John R. Clark 2011 Spitze Award Recipient

University Professor John R. Clark, director of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture's fruit breeding program, is a world authority on applied fruit breeding and genetics, particularly in blackberries. He has developed and co-developed with his predecessor, James N. Moore, 36 fruit cultivars including 26 patented or patent-pending. His "Arkansas blackberry varieties" are grown coast-to-coast and in many other countries. They include thornless blackberries that have played a dominant role in making the fruit a retail product in the United States. He developed the first and only primocane-fruited blackberries, which fruit on current-year canes (autumn fruiting) and have the potential to revolutionize blackberry production worldwide. Other fruits in the breeding program include peaches, grapes, nectarines, blueberries and muscadines.



John R. Clark  
University Professor

The many research publications authored by Clark include the authoritative "Blackberry Breeding and Genetics" chapter in *Plant Breeding Reviews* (2007). He is also widely recognized for his expertise and success in marshalling intellectual property rights on behalf of the University and Division of Agriculture through licensing agreements and partnerships with nurseries and fruit companies throughout the U.S. and abroad. Royalties and testing/breeding agreement fees collected since he assumed leadership of the breeding program total about \$2.5 million.

A University employee since 1980, Clark was director of the Division of Agriculture's Fruit Substation at Clarksville from 1983 to 1994 and was appointed to a faculty position in 1994. He is a Fellow of the American Society for Horticultural Science and has served as president and chairman of the board for the Society. He has been a teacher, role model and mentor to undergraduate and graduate students, including many graduates now pursuing careers in the fruit industry, research and education.

Clark has B.S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture from Mississippi State University and a Ph.D. in plant science from the University of Arkansas.