

An Invitation to Join



The premier societies for agronomy, crop,
soils, and environmental professionals



American Society
of Agronomy



Crop Science
Society of America



Soil Science
Society of America

About the Societies

The American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA), and Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) are non-profit international educational organizations headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin. While each society is autonomous, all three societies share a close working relationship and collaborate on projects, meetings, publications, educational outreach, certification, awards and scholarships, a science policy office in Washington, DC, and many other member services. Members may join one, two, or all three Societies.

Society members are dedicated to the conservation and wise use of natural resources to produce food, feed, fiber, forage, fuel, and pharmaceutical crops while maintaining and improving the environment.

ASA-CSSA-SSSA members run the gamut of agronomy, crop, soils, environmental, and related sciences professionals, representing different specialties, areas of interest, education levels, work settings, geographic location, and age ranges.

Since their inception, the Societies have continued to evolve, modifying their programs and services to support the changing needs of members. Today, the Societies are seen as progressive, scientific organizations that a wide variety of scientists can call their professional home.

Who Are Society Members?

When you join ASA, CSSA, and/or SSSA, you're joining nearly 11,000 agronomy, crop, and soil scientists worldwide. Members are employed by universities, business, government, and institutes. Applied professionals, consultants, and undergraduate/graduate students are also a vital part of the Societies. Nearly 20% of the Societies' membership is international.

Which Society is right for you? It depends on your own interests. Members may choose to join one, two, or all three Societies.

American Society of Agronomy (founded 1907)

The American Society of Agronomy (ASA) is dedicated to the development of agriculture enabled by science, in harmony with environmental and human values. The Society supports scientific, educational, and professional activities to enhance communication and technology transfer among agronomists and those in related disciplines on topics of local, regional, national, and international significance.

Crop Science Society of America (founded 1955)

The Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) is an education and scientific organization comprised of members who advance the discipline of crop science by acquiring and disseminating information about crops in relation to seed genetics and plant breeding; crop physiology; crop production, quality, and ecology; crop germplasm resources; and environmental quality.

Soil Science Society of America (founded 1936)

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) is the professional home for those throughout the world dedicated to advancing the discipline and practice of soil science by acquiring and disseminating information about soils in relation to crop production, environmental quality, ecosystem sustainability, bioremediation, waste management and recycling, and wise land use. By becoming a member, you also join the more than 45,000 soil scientists who are members of the International Union of Soil Sciences.

About Membership

Membership Categories

Active—*Professional U.S. and international members*

Graduate—*Those working toward an advanced degree in agronomy, crop, environmental, and soil sciences*

Undergraduate—*Those studying for a bachelor's degree*

Sustaining—*Companies who support Society activities*

Membership Benefits

Every member receives:

- Monthly *CSA News* magazine
- Discounts on subscriptions to our highly regarded and well-cited journals
- Discounts on our publications (plus free shipping for U.S. members)
- Access to the online Member Directory and networking opportunities
- Biweekly email news alerts—*Science Policy* and *News Flash*
- Option to publish research in our journals at a reduced rate
- Opportunity to present posters and oral papers at the International Annual Meetings
- Access to information-rich websites
- Membership in up to four Divisions of Interest
- Free online posting of resumes and access to the Career Placement Center
- Discounts on International Annual Meetings and regional meetings registration

Membership Opportunities

Members may take advantage of these:

- Professional certification programs, the benchmark of excellence
- Awards, scholarships, and fellowships only available to members, including undergraduate and graduate programs
- Volunteering for association committees and editorial boards for networking and visibility opportunities, and to hone leadership skills
- Science Policy office activities
- Agronomic Science Foundation programs
- Special activities, programs, and services offered by each Society

*Stay in the loop.
Access the information you need,
when you need it.*



“My membership has been vital to my success as a soil scientist in so many ways. The relevance and quality of the journals I receive are one of the primary ways I keep current with new research findings and their potential applicability to my projects. Attending the Annual Meetings allows me to learn about cutting-edge research developments that have direct impact on my work.

My personal network has also expanded through my Annual Meeting attendance and participation in a variety of Societies committees. I’ve had the opportunity to interact closely with other scientists working in academia, government, and other public and private companies.

In my experience, there is no other professional organization where the input of members is taken more seriously or one that is working harder to exceed member expectations.”

Deborah Soukup
Visiting Assistant Professor
University of Nevada – Las Vegas
Geoscience Department
Member 20 years

Current and future leaders in agronomy, crop, and soil science depend on ASA-CSSA-SSSA for the information they need, when they need it—whether it's the latest advances in the field or cutting-edge research. Societies members have exclusive and preferred access to leading journals, books, monographs, CDs and DVDs, educational materials, and more, including a monthly magazine and electronic research highlights and summaries. The International Annual Meetings bring together professionals from around the world and feature thousands of poster sessions and oral sessions, as well as symposia and guest lecturers.

Web Sites

www.agronomy.org

www.crops.org

www.soils.org

www.acsmeetings.org

www.careerplacement.org

www.scijournals.org

www.a-s-f.org

Our members say that visiting our websites and gathering valuable information from them is one of the most important benefits of membership. Each of the Societies has a website with access to publications (journals, publishing information, professional tools, online abstract and article access, research highlights), career information, member benefits (divisions of interest, branches, awards, society calendar), meetings, society information (mission, reports, officers, committees, position statements), public affairs, and much more.

CSA News

Members receive a subscription to *CSA News*, one of the top-rated benefits of membership. It features summaries of the latest research, science news, Society news, and more. It's a great way to stay informed.

Publications Online

Access the Society Store online for a complete list of books, monographs, CDs, DVDs, brochures, and print-on-demand products. Members receive a discount on Society products.

Research Online

Members may access our journals online (*see next page for a list of journals*) and search abstracts by subject collections or the search terms of your choice. You may choose to be notified via email when new research is published that interests you. Annual Meetings abstracts are also searchable online.

***Communicate your discoveries.
Be recognized for your achievements.
Declare your professionalism.***



“The privilege of submitting manuscripts for publication is a major benefit of the Societies membership. So is easy access to the latest journal papers—that allows me to keep up-to-date on our sciences and then put the information to work. This was a great resource for me recently when I wrote a comprehensive water quality report.

I also value the chance to attend International Annual Meetings and present posters and seminars of the team research we conduct at the USDA–ARS National Soil Tilth Lab, for many reasons: I meet colleagues from around the world, learn about what they are currently doing and how they are doing it, and discuss specific issues relating to our research. I can take the results of our work and apply it to some ‘big sky’ thinking, then communicate the perspective for the big picture. And it’s a joy to meet with old friends.”

Dana Dinnes
Agronomist
USDA – ARS
Member 12 years

Opportunities

In a competitive environment, one of the best ways to advance in your career is to be recognized by your peers. ASA-CSSA-SSSA members may publish their research in our well-cited journals at reduced rates. Only members may submit poster and oral abstracts for the International Annual Meetings, one of the most prestigious venues for agronomy, crop, soil, and environmental scientists. Regional meetings, special publications, awards, fellowships, and volunteer opportunities all offer ways to gain professional recognition and advance your career.

Journals

Submit your articles for publication in one of our highly regarded, well-cited journals at a reduced rate. Editing and publishing assistance is available.

- *Agronomy Journal*
- *Crop Science*, featuring the new *The Plant Genome* supplement
- *Soil Science Society of America Journal*
- *Journal of Environmental Quality*
- *Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Education*
- *Soil Survey Horizons*
- *Vadose Zone Journal*

International Annual Meetings

Join thousands of your peers from more than 50 countries for thought-provoking presentations, more than 2,500 poster/oral paper sessions, field trips, and career development programs. Only members may submit abstracts for oral and poster sessions, which are recorded and posted to our website for additional exposure throughout the year.

Career Development & Placement Center

Learn how to get ahead in your career with special workshops and programs focused on career development. Past topics have included “Job Opportunities Outside Academia” and “Writing Manuscripts for Publication.” Members may also access job search resources through our Career Placement Center. You can post your resume online, post one free “position wanted” ad annually, search job listings, and more.

Awards, Scholarships & Fellowships

ASA-CSSA-SSSA members nominate colleagues, students, and industry leaders for exceptional scientific achievements and service and award more than \$200,000 in honorariums each year to recipients of 45 awards and scholarships.

Certification

ASA and SSSA administer three certification programs, the Certified Professional Agronomist, Certified Professional Soil Scientist or Classifier, and Certified Crop Adviser. The professional standards these programs set are widely respected and referenced by or written into a number of state and local statutes.



***Reach out to your peers.
Tap into a helpful network.
Mine a rich resource for information.***

“As an undergraduate, interacting with the Societies members at the International Annual Meetings was a very valuable experience. I could display research, knowledge, and enthusiasm for my area of study and meet many influential people in our industry.

I explored a variety of topics that interested me during the poster and oral sessions and learned about new potential career paths.

Now, as a graduate student, I find membership in the Societies priceless. Networking at various meetings and conferences has allowed me to gain valuable information for my research and future in the industry. The journals provide reliable information on innovative research in my field.

I also find the websites well organized and easy to navigate. I feel the Societies have done a lot in the past few years to become more appealing to the younger generation of agronomists and crop and soil scientists. All in all, I have found membership to be very rewarding.”

Courtney Thomas

Graduate Research Assistant
University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Member 4 years

More than 11,000 scientists around the world consider ASA-CSSA-SSSA their professional home. As a member, you can connect with your peers through exclusive access to the online Member Directory, leadership opportunities, and more. No matter where you are in your career—student, just starting out, or at your peak—and whether you want to discuss a technical aspect of research or get career advice, we make it easy for you to make connections that matter.

Membership Directory

Contacting other members is easy. The online Membership Directory makes searching by name, address, or Division of Interest as easy as typing a name.

Divisions of Interest

Each Society has specialized Divisions of Interest, whose major activity is to present papers and symposia at the Annual Meetings within their specific topic areas. They also hold business meetings at the Annual Meetings and may present member awards. In addition, the divisions may host listservs, web pages, awards, and newsletters. As a benefit of membership, you may join up to four divisions. You'll have the opportunity to develop focused peer networks, additional information resources, participate in elections, and serve through leadership opportunities.

Leadership Development

Networking connections made while volunteering can lead to research partnerships, job advancement, lifelong friendships, and personal fulfillment or recognition. Volunteerism is widely recognized for its leadership-building capabilities and as a positive addition to resumes and curriculum vitae. More than 1,800 society members guide the direction and development of the Societies by serving on 200+ committees and governance boards. The list is diverse and includes journal peer reviewers, book editors, award selection committees, division chairs, student club advisers, and mentors.

Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES)

SASES offers a variety of programs and activities on the local and national level. Undergraduate students have the opportunity to stimulate interest in agronomic, crops, soils and environmental sciences careers among other students, gain leadership skills and training, and associate with professionals in our sciences. Students hold regional meetings twice a year and also have an active program at the Annual Meetings.

Undergraduate & Graduate Opportunities

Thanks to the generous support of private industry and various individuals, the Societies offer a comprehensive awards and scholarship program for undergraduate and graduate students. Throughout the year, students compete nationally in several presentation contests. The soils and crops judging contests are part of this program, along with the agronomy club achievement awards and the outstanding senior recognition program.



***Make a difference for yourself,
for your field,
and for the future.***

“Society membership provides a forum to share one’s work and ideas with others of common professional interest. This exposes my best ideas and accomplishments to others and provides an opportunity for better minds to provide me with valuable challenges to my thinking—and suggestions for improvement as well.

Industry is focused on providing solutions through products and a partnership with universities is important when clients for these products are the same as those served by universities. The Societies provide one of the best opportunities for interchanges of ideas to occur regarding how to address the questions and needs of these mutual stakeholders.

The mentoring and nurturing I received as a graduate student by my major professors had nearly everything to do with my ability to develop a professional career. Since I do not have the opportunity to give back in the same way in my industry role, being a mentor for a promising scholar as part of the CSSA Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute affords me that privilege.”

Paul Carter
Agronomy Sciences Manager
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
Member for 30 years

One important reason to join ASA-CSSA-SSSA is to support your chosen profession. Whether you work in industry, government, or for a university, you have a vested interest in enhancing the perception of the agronomy, crop, and soil sciences. The Societies work on your behalf to educate the public, affect public policy through our Science Policy office and activities, and ensure the future by attracting students to the fields.

Advocacy

The Science Policy Office in Washington, DC represents the views of agricultural, natural resources, soils, and environmental scientists before Congress, federal agencies, and other organizations. Activities focus on science policy leadership and initiatives, tracking policy issues, directing grassroots advocacy, and seeking opportunities for members to provide written and oral science-based information to policymakers. All of these are aimed at increasing the importance and awareness of research funding and raising the visibility of our sciences. Members may participate in Science Policy Action Alerts and receive the biweekly electronic newsletter, *Science Policy Report*.

Public Affairs & Media Relations

Raising awareness of the value of agronomy, crop, and soil sciences are a high priority of the Societies. Projects such as “Soils Sustain Life: Educational Resources for Teachers,” an online soils resource for K-12 teachers, help bring our science into the classroom for the next generation. The Societies regularly issue media advisories and press releases highlighting scientific advances and achievements.

Smithsonian Soils Exhibit

You can play a role in establishing a permanent soils exhibit in the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC. Soil Science Society of America members believe now is the time to teach the world to value this irreplaceable resource. A traveling display and web-based activities will be components of this project.

Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF)

ASF assists members who wish to honor a loved one or colleague through a scholarship, award, or lectureship. A new fund bearing their name can be established as a lasting tribute or a contribution can be made to an existing fund. Donations to ASF, a 501(c)3 organization, may be tax deductible as charitable contributions.

Why Join?

Find the information you want, when you need it.

Gain professional recognition and advance your career.

Access a community of peers around the world.

Support your chosen profession.

Are you ready to join the more than 11,000 agronomy, crop, soil, and environmental sciences professionals around the world who call ASA, CSSA, and/or SSSA their professional home?

Join Now

Joining is easy. You may join online at:

www.agronomy.org

www.crops.org

www.soils.org

Membership applications may also be downloaded from the “Member Services” page of each of these websites and mailed or faxed.

Annual membership dues range from \$10 a year for undergraduate members to just \$87 a year for international active members.

For more information, please contact us by email at membership@agronomy.org or call us at 608-273-8080.



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