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Scott Russell recognized for dedication to Texas peanut farmers

LUBBOCK, Texas (August 14, 2012) – [Texas Peanut Producers Board](#) awarded this year's Outstanding Agent Award to Scott Russell for his continued commitment to peanut growers and their operations in both Terry and Yoakum counties for the past 12 years.

Each year TPPB gives this award to an individual who has exhibited support and dedication to the future of the peanut industry. Although in the past this award has gone to a county agricultural agent, the board wanted to recognize Russell for his outstanding contributions to peanut management as an integrated pest management agent.

“The peanut board felt Scott’s efforts as an in IPM agent deserved merit,” TPPB Executive Director Shelly Nutt said. “For more than a decade, he’s worked hard to provide peanut farmers with the information they need to better their farms.”

Over the past 12 years, Russell has worked with the IPM Steering Committee and local clientele to identify research and educational priorities. He has developed an extensive IPM Applied Research program in peanut insect and disease management in which he works closely with [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension](#) specialists, research specialists and other extension agents.

Russell's applied research program has evaluated seed applied fungicide treatments, management options for Sclerotinia Blight, leaf spot, peanut pod rot thresholds and treatments, as well as weed control in peanut. Russell has built a respected and trusted IPM scouting program, which includes more than 2,000 acres of peanuts.

Russell earned a degree in Elementary Education at [Lubbock Christian University](#) in 1998 and started teaching at New Deal Elementary that same year. After teaching six years, Russell was searching for a career change and went back to school at [Texas Tech University](#) to study entomology and ecology.

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*TPPB recognizes Russell
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In March 1998, Russell went to work for the [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#) in Dallas and Tarrant counties. Since 2000, Russell has served as Extension Agent-Integrated Pest Management for Terry and Yoakum counties.

Russell recently completed research and classwork at [Texas Tech University](#), toward his doctorate in agronomy and is currently writing his dissertation, which is entitled: Improving Management of Peanut Diseases caused by Soil borne Pathogens on the South Plains of Texas. Russell is active in the [American Peanut Research and Education Society](#).

Russell has been married to his wife Patricia for 29 years. Patricia is a special education teacher at Oak Grove Elementary School in Brownfield. They have one daughter, Lauren, who is a junior at [Tarleton State University](#). In his spare time, Russell likes to call coyotes and shoot handguns competitively.

TPPB congratulates Russell for his exceptional work for peanut farmers in Terry and Yoakum counties! For more information about TPPB, visit www.TexasPeanutBoard.com.

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The Texas Peanut Producers Board is a state-wide board funded by a voluntary checkoff program. TPPB is responsible for coordinating peanut research, promotion and marketing programs. For more information, visit www.TexasPeanutBoard.com.