

ANDREW SHARPLEY

Biographical Sketch

In 2006, Andrew Sharpley joined the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He is Chair of the Division of Agriculture's Environmental Task Force and Associate Director of the Watershed Research and Education Center. He received degrees from the University of North Wales, United Kingdom in 1973 and Massey University, New Zealand in 1977, and spent 25 years with the USDA-ARS in Oklahoma and then Pennsylvania. His research investigates the cycling of phosphorus in soil-plant-water systems in relation to soil productivity and water quality and includes the management of animal manures, fertilizers, and crop residues. Most recently he has developed decision making tools for agricultural field staff to identify sensitive areas of the landscape and to target management alternatives and remedial measures that have reduced the risk of nutrient loss from farms. These tools are now widely accepted by US EPA, NRCS, and the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning Strategy.

He works closely with action agencies, producers, and farmers, stressing the dissemination and application of his research findings and has focused on achieving results that are both economically beneficial to farmers and environmentally sound to the general public, and has been a strong proponent of realistic and practical agricultural water quality guidelines. He was a Technical Editor for the Journal of Environmental Quality, Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy and Soil Science Society of America and received their Applied Soil Science and Environmental Quality Research Awards and recently received USDA's Secretary's Honor and Technology Transfer Award for his contribution to developing simple risk assessment tools for use by farmers and action agencies as part of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning strategies. Dr. Sharpley served on EPA's Scientific Advisory Board "Hypoxia Advisory Panel" and last year was inducted into the USDA-ARS Hall of Fame.