

## **Mid America CropLife Association**

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### **MACA Honors Educator of the Year**

#### ***For Immediate Release***

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**St. Louis, MO**— The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) honored an academic leader at its recent annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri.

The MACA Educator of the Year Award was presented to **Allen Summers**, President of the Asmark Institute. The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated significant contributions to American agriculture, especially in the MACA region. Also, the person has demonstrated evidence of consistency in educating the public on the values of production agriculture.

The Asmark Institute was established in 1990, and during the first fifteen years amassed a very unique collection of intellectual property, educational training materials, software technologies and compliance assistance materials, services and systems, all geared specifically to the retail agricultural sector. Then in September of 2005, the Institute was organized as a private, not-for-profit educational organization, to provide the resources necessary to effectively support, lift and advance those it serves with Allen Summers as the person behind it who made it happen.

The Institute is recognized for:

- Providing compliance materials and services,
- Developing common sense solutions to new regulatory requirements,
- Assisting the government in its mission of protecting life, property and the environment,
- Monitoring enforcement activity for uniformity, and
- Supporting industry efforts to arrive at fair and reasonable regulation.

Most recently, the Institute created an applicator training course for professional applicators with up to 5 years' experience. It is a hands-on course offered to help farm center management meet the challenges of training high quality personnel. The dedicated facility includes 10 acres with a mile of all-weather track strategically designed to provide the most realistic hands-on driving experience possible. More than a million dollars in equipment is used to facilitate this four day learning course.

A photograph is available from the MACA office upon request.

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) is a non-profit association of manufacturers, distributors/formulators and allied industry of crop protection products in 13 Midwestern states. MACA works to research issues relating to crop production and to work together to improve the crop life cycle, via health, safety and public education. Check our web site at [www.maca.org](http://www.maca.org).