California Avocado Society 1987 Yearbook 71: 30

Award of Honor 1986 EUGENIO SCHIEBER



Eugenio Schieber

In 1986, Eugenic Schieber was designated by the California Avocado Society to be the recipient of its Award of Honor for outstanding meritorious service in behalf of the avocado industry. Because Dr. Schieber was unable to come to California in 1986 to receive his award in person at the annual meeting of members of the Society, University of California/Riverside Professor Emeritus George A. Zentmyer described to the assembled members the work and accomplishments of the awardee (see 1986 Yearbook) and made the award to Dr. Schieber *in absentia*.

Dr. Schieber was present at the annual meeting on October 2-3, 1987, where, introduced by Dr. Zentmyer, he received in person the medal and plaque awarded to him *in absentia* in 1986. His response, somewhat abbreviated, follows.

Dr. Schieber: Thank you so much.

I arrived with a great welcoming—you know, the "Guatemalan earthquake" [that shook the Los Angeles area October 1]...I have been telling Dr. Zentmyer and Dorothy to move down to Guatemala... (Laughter.)

I want to give four thanks, very quick—especially, of course, Professor Zentmyer, who since '52 I knew him, but I was strictly a plant pathologist; but he was the man responsible that pushed me into the jungles— sometimes very quite dangerous jungles (laughter)—but it has been a great experience, you know, going out in the jungle....He pushed me into botany. Botany was my minor at Wisconsin.

Now, I'm very thankful to Professor Coffey that he keeps me going out into the jungle, to see if I get something like Martin Grande again. That was a big luck, we got it with the late Martin Grande.

I'm so thankful to all of you, because you pay my per diems....I don't forget you. (Laughter.)

The last thing: I'm sharing this (award)...I told them in my broken Spanish...my helpers. Now Martin Grande—not any more with me, of course. I have Martincito thirteen years hunting with me, and Daniel six years; and I'm sharing this award with my two Mayan helpers. And they will say then in their (native) language; "Thank you, thank you." Thank you.