July 20, 2020

Subject: 2019 Shepard Award Committee Report

To: President and Executive Committee, American Pomological Society

From: Fumiomi Takeda, Shepard Award Committee Chairperson

The Paul Howe Shepard Award recognizes outstanding research and promotes the publication of good research in Society’s official publication. The Shepard Award has been presented since 1962 for the best research paper published each year in the Journal of the American Pomological Society. The Shepard Award is named in honor Paul Howe Shepard of Missouri, who was the President of the Society from 1955 to 1960 and passed away in 1961.

The following criteria were used to select the best paper:

* The paper must be a research paper. It should receive a higher rating if the research findings are replicated (for example, rootstock trials replicated at least twice either by year or location). Observational reports will not be rated as highly unless they contain very useful or unusual information.
* The paper contains new, useful and/or unusual information.
* The information is presented in a clear and accurate manner.
* The information is useful to a large part of the American Pomological Society membership.

The following seven individuals volunteered to serve on the Shepard Award Committee to select the best research paper published in the Journal in 2019.

* Ann Callahan, USDA, ARS, Appalachian Fruit Research Station, Kearneysville, WV
* Sherif Sherif, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Winchester, VA
* Kathy Demchak, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
* Juanita Popenoe, University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Tavares, FL
* Cameron Peace, Washington State University, Pullman, WA
* Sara Serra, Washington State University, Wenatchee, WA
* Lisa DeVetter, Washington State University, NW Washington REC, Mt. Vernon, WA

The members were tasked to select their first, second, third, fourth, and fifth place papers using the above criteria, and these ranked papers were assigned 12, 8, 5, 3, and 2 points, respectively. The committee members overwhelmingly choose the paper by Teryl Roper *et al*. as the best research paper published in the Journal in 2019.

The committee recommends to the Executive Committee that the 2019 Shepard Award be presented to:

Title:  Performance of 'Montmorency' sour cherry (Prunus cerasus L.) on size-controlling rootstocks at

 six NC140 trial locations in North America

Authors:  T. Roper, B. Black, M. Stasiak, R. Marini, J. Cline, T. Robinson, G. Lang, L. Anderson, R.

 Andersen, J. Freer, G. Greene, and R. Perry

Citation: Journal of the American Pomological Society 73(3):68-177 (2019)

The Chairperson will present a certificate (*via* mail) to each of the authors. Also, it is noteworthy that most of the committee members selected as their second-place paper: “Multiple sources of eastern filbert blight resistance provide breeding utility in New Jersey’, by Molnar et al., Journal of the American Pomological Society 73(3):17

Respectfully submitted,

Fumiomi Takeda