

Harold H. Kidder



Harold E. Kidder was born at Crowley, Colorado, on March 12, 1922. He graduated from high school in Los Angeles; served four years in the U.S. Navy Seabees; gained a B.S. degree in Animal Science with honors at Colorado A&M in 1950, an M.S. in Genetics at the University of Wisconsin in 1951, and a Ph.D. in the Physiology of Reproduction at the same school in 1954. He came to West Virginia University as a member of the Animal Science faculty in 1954.

Dr. Kidder's initial responsibilities encompassed research, teaching, and extension; however, teaching and serving as the undergraduate student advisor soon began to absorb a large amount of time. He has guided the professional careers of at least 3,000 students.

Dr. Kidder's effectiveness as a teacher has been acknowledged in many ways, including his selection by students as the first recipient of the Outstanding Teacher Award in the College of Agriculture and Forestry and again in 1977 and 1986; recipient of the Senior Faculty Merit Award of Gamma Sigma Delta in 1977; and selection by the University Faculty for the West Virginia Outstanding Teacher Award in 1974 and again in 1980. On April 23, 1986, Dr. Kidder was presented the West Virginia Foundation, Inc., Endowment Award as one of the six most outstanding teachers at the University. In 1986, he also received the national "Outstanding Teacher for Agriculture" Award from the American Society of Animal Science.

Dr. Kidder coached the West Virginia University Livestock Judging Team for more than 30 years and the Horse Judging Team for 15 years. He served a term as President of the International Livestock Judging Coaches Association, and was President of the Faculty Senate at West Virginia University in 1984.

Dr. Kidder is recognized as having contributed more to the agricultural education of youth and the State than any other individual. He is also highly recognized for his leadership in promoting improvements in the West Virginia beef cattle industry and for his willingness to help in any and all agricultural extension activities. In his 34-year career, 30 of his students have received the Ph.D. degree in Reproduction Physiology.