

Dr. Norman Borlaug: Nobel Laureate, USA



Position: Senior Consultant to CIMMYT and President of Sasakawa Africa Association

Education: Ph.D. Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota

Family: Married, children & grandchildren

Notable: Dr. Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. His central role in the green revolution is credited with increasing agricultural yields and saving millions from starvation. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences of USA and holds numerous honorary degrees and awards.



“The green revolution and now plant biotechnology are helping meet the growing demand for food production, while preserving our environment for future generations.”

Video Transcript:

Dr. Norman Borlaug. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. His central role in the green revolution is credited with increasing agricultural yields and saving millions from starvation.

I have devoted my life to the global challenge of providing adequate food production for a growing world population. Forty years ago, a green revolution was started using improved seed and fertilizer, helping dramatically increase the harvest while sparing forest and natural areas from the plow. It took both the scientific advances and the changes in economic policies by leaders to allow for the adoption of the green revolution technologies by millions of hungry farmers.

Over the past decade, we have been witnessing the success of plant biotechnology. This technology is helping farmers throughout the world produce higher yield, while reducing pesticide use and soil erosion. The benefits and safety of biotechnology has been proven over the past decade in countries with more than half of the world's population. What we need is courage by the leaders of those countries where farmers still have no choice but to use older and less effective methods. The green revolution and now plant biotechnology are helping meet the growing demand for food production, while preserving our environment for future generations.