



Dr. James A. DeShazer, Professor Emeritus, Univ. of Idaho and Retired P.E.

Jim DeShazer's intense interest has been building bridges between engineering and the sciences for the betterment of agriculture. He received his PhD in Biological and Agricultural Engineering with a Math Minor from North Carolina State University in 1967. He then joined the Agricultural Engineering Department at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL) as Associate Professor with emphasis in Livestock Environment.

In 1970, with cooperation from Dr. Hahn and Dr. Walker, Jim initiated the First International Livestock Environment Symposium which was held in Lincoln, NE in April 1974. His background degrees are BSME & BS General Agriculture from Univ. of Maryland, MS from Rutgers University with graduate courses in Animal Physiology, Advance Mathematics and Engineering. Animal Calorimetry, both direct and indirect, is Jim's specialty to provide design data for livestock environmental control systems and for mathematically predicting livestock responses. Electronic stockmanship – the use of electronics to enhance the welfare and care of livestock – was presented by Jim at the 1988 ILES III as a keynote challenge. From 1990 to 2000 he founded the series of six "Optics in Agriculture" two-day sessions at OPTCON in Boston which included a 1998 & 2000 session on "Precision Agriculture & Biological Quality".

His leadership and awards include Assistant Dean of Agricultural Research, UNL; Dept. Head of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Univ. of Idaho; President of Idaho Society of Professional Engineers; Director of the Idaho Research Foundation; Chair of USDA-CSRS Committees; Life Member of ASABE, NSPE, and Sigma Xi; and Fellow of ASABE. He received a Certificate of Appreciation from ASABE in 2010 for being editor of the monograph "Livestock Energetics and Thermal Environmental Management". In 2017, he received the Distinguished Retiree Award from the Univ. of Idaho.