



Dr. Murray L. Kinman.

V. S. Pustovoit Award Winner 1980. U.S.A.

Dr. Murray Kinman kept U.S. government-supported research on sunflowers alive in the 1940's and 1950's prior to the release of Pustovoit's high oil varieties. As the Investigation Leader of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's sunflower research program, he initiated the National Sunflower variety and hybrid testing program and compiled the results.

Dr. Kinman discovered and named the first restorer genes which made possible the development of hybrid sunflowers based on cytoplasmic male sterility. He developed both the male and female inbred lines which became the basis of the world hybrid sunflower industry. These original lines carried the dominant genes for the restoration of male fertility and for resistance to rust, downy mildew and Verticillium wilt. He also brought into use two types of recessive branching in male parents, and was the first to test three-way hybrids predicting that they would become the most commonly used type of hybrids.

Above all, it was Murray L. Kinman's initiative and effort that was directly responsible for the formation of the International Sunflower Association as he organised the first International Sunflower Conference in 1964.