GROWERTALKS

GT in Brief

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Congratulations, Bill Miller!

Chris Beytes

Congratulations to our long-time friend and *GrowerTalks* and *Ball RedBook* contributor Dr. Bill Miller of Cornell University who received the Society of American Florists' Alex Laurie Award for Research & Education for his many contributions to floriculture research and education. Bill was recognized during SAF's 141st annual convention in Amelia Island, Florida, in August.

Raised on a bulb farm in California, Dr. Miller earned his bachelor's degree from the University of California-Davis, and his master's and doctoral degrees from Cornell University. He returned to Cornell in 1998, where he led the Flower Bulb Research Program for more than two decades. His research has advanced production and postharvest practices for flower bulb crops. And his work on lily leaf yellowing contributed to the registration of Fascination, a plant growth regulator now used on an estimated 75% of U.S.-grown lilies.

Beyond his research, Dr. Miller is recognized for his ability to educate and mentor the next generation of floriculture professionals.

"Over decades, he has trained a generation of floriculture professionals who now serve in academia, industry leadership, extension and consulting roles," said former student Cheni Filios, seed trade compliance manager for Ball Horticultural Company.

Dr. Miller's passion for horticulture also extends into his community. Working with the Ithaca Garden Club, he helped spearhead the planting of more than 180,000 flower bulbs throughout the city. **GT**