Heath named 2012 Wisconsin CCA of the Year

Cyndi Heath has been named the 2012 Wisconsin CCA of the Year! Heath works for Black’s Valley Ag Supply in Durand, WI. Nominated by Hannah Brion and her coworkers, she has more than 15 years of crop-advising experience at Black’s Valley Ag.

Heath works closely with more than 100 producers. Her activities include production, pest management, fertility, and water recommendations for field, seed, and sweet corn; soybean grown for food and grain; alfalfa; pastures; small grains; and fruit and vegetable crops. Northwest Wisconsin also has a very strong dairy industry, and Heath uses her background in animal health and nutrition to balance rations and make recommendations for economical feed supplements. She is also part of the management team at Black’s Valley Ag and assists with financial and human relations decisions. Her coworkers called her a strong leader and communicator.

Heath also writes nutrient management and comprehensive nutrient management plans for her producer clients, which include concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). The plans she writes for the CAFOs are phosphorus based and designed to meet manure handling/spreading performance standards that prevent or minimize water quality impacts.

Heath is also an active member in her community. She volunteers as a Boy Scout den parent, co-leader for the Pleasant Valley 4-H Club, and a member of the U.S. Belted Galloway Society. She is also an active FFA alum and recently served as a judge for the 2012 Regional Speaking Contest.

North Dakota CCAs meet

The North Dakota CCAs held their 10th Annual Meeting at the Fargodome in Fargo, ND, in January. Tim Kenyon, North Dakota CCA Chair, led the meeting, welcoming CCAs, students from the North Dakota State University (NDSU) College of Agriculture, and friends of the industry. North Dakota welcomed 18 new CCAs in 2012.

Dr. Herman Kandel, NDSU extension agronomist, gave a presentation in which he took an insightful look at farming in Kenya and Uganda and the challenges for producers growing sunflower and soybeans in Africa. Jason Hanson, regional agronomist with Winfield Solutions, was named the 2012 North Dakota CCA of the Year. He has been a CCA since 1995 and received a B.S. in agriculture economics. He has been in the ag industry for 21 years, the past 10 with Winfield, serving North Dakota, northwestern Minnesota, and dealers in Montana and South Dakota. Hanson, when asked what being a CCA meant to him, replied, “Being certified for me is mainly keeping current with agronomics to better help my clients. It is the power of networking with experts in the industry.” In his “spare” time, Hanson hobbies are being a 4-H leader, hunting, reading, running, coaching, hiking National Parks, and enjoying music. Congratulations Jason!