Eric Welsh, Program Manager–Marketing & Business Relations for the American Society of Agronomy, announced the 2015 CCA Photo Contest winners this month. This is the contest’s second year, and Welsh says “we’ve received excellent submissions that portray the themes of planting, growing, and harvesting. All the photos represent the roles CCAs play in meeting the challenges of growing crops while protecting the environment and creating economic viability for their clients.”

First-place winner, Chris Zemlak, found his subject matter for “Harvest Never Ends” while out scouting fields. “I came across this equipment set up on the edge of the road. Due to the condition, it has obviously not seen use for many years. What made me stop to take this picture was that all the pieces shown were top of the line cutting-edge technological advancements in their day. It serves as a reminder that to succeed and move forward in agriculture, we need to adapt and build on the fundamentals of the past. We still employ the art of growing the crop, but the sheer scope of technology utilized has changed the overall science of farming. While we are evolving and adjusting our approach, we need to harvest the knowledge at every opportunity, and it truly never ends.” Zemlak takes home a $700 prize.

“Tomorrow’s Agronomist,” by Matt Salentiny, won second place, worth $300. It features Salentiny and his son, Timothy, during grain harvest. “I felt proud to see him playing in the corn and to see the little farmer in him as we watched the crop come out.”

“Pollination is a key phase of the growing process,” says Barbara Guinamard, third-place winner. “It is the essential step for next generation. We are always told that it’s the little things in life that make the difference. The picture underscores how important bees are to the life cycle.” Guinamard titled her entry “Scouting Among the Bees,” and won $100.

The 2016 CCA Photo Contest is now open. See below for more information on how to enter and win your prize!