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it covers it all!*



# THE GRASS ROOTS

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## ***Wyse to Lead College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison***

Roger E. Wyse, a noted scholar, academic administrator and national agricultural policymaker, was named dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin - Madison by Chancellor Donna E. Shalala on Friday, May 29th.

Wyse, 49, currently serves as both director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and dean of research at Cook College and Rutgers University. His academic experience at Rutgers followed a distinguished career as a plant biochemist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

During his six years at Rutgers, Wyse guided strategic planning and revitalizing of New Jersey's Agricultural Experiment Station. Under Wyse's leadership, Rutgers has hired outstanding young faculty, added \$120 million in new agriculture and environmental science research and teaching buildings, and attracted substantial government and industry funds.

"Our search and screen committee did a superb job in indentifying Roger Wyse as the top candidate for one of the nation's premier agricultural research and education posts," Shalala said on May 29th. "It took a while for all the details of his hiring to be finalized, but I know the university community and the citizens of Wisconsin will soon discover it was well worth the wait to draw Roger Wyse to the state," she said.

"We had a very strong field of candidates, with a large segment of the best people in agriculture as applicants," said Meat and Animal Science Professor Neal First, chair of the search committee. "But Roger Wyse was our overwhelming choice. He has the right combination of both basic and applied

research expertise, educational and personal background, and state and federal policy-making experience to be an exceptional dean," said First. "We are delighted that he will be CALS' new leader. He will be a wonderful complement to the existing strong leadership."

Wyse succeeds Leo Walsh, who was dean of CALS for nearly 12 years, and led the college through a period of both major growth and emerging public and political concern for farm productivity, environmental protection, genetic engineering and the survival of farm families and rural communities. Walsh stepped down in May 1991, and returned to the Department of Soil Science.

Shalala lauded Acting Dean Neal Jorgensen, who has ably guided the college through the 14-month transition period. "Neal took on the task of budget reallocation, and balanced the budget without alienating the faculty, showing that he has real leadership skills," she said.

Wyse officially becomes the ninth CALS dean, director of the Wisconsin Agriculture Experiment Station and professor of horticulture as of August 1. In the interim, he will split his time between Wisconsin and New Jersey so that he can prepare for new duties here while completing some projects at Rutgers.

At the national level, Wyse has chaired two White House task forces developing policies for minor use pesticides and for cranberry production. Last year, New Jersey Governor James Florio named him chair of the FARMS Commission, a panel examining the future of agriculture in that state.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## ***Interviews for UW Staff are Complete; Decisions Awaited***

*By Monroe S. Miller*

The Department of Plant Pathology has moved to fill the position vacated by Dr. Gayle Worf when he moved to the UW CALS Extension Dean position. Interviews for the Worf position are complete and the department has offered the position to the successful candidate. Word of either acceptance or rejection by the candidate is awaited.

The Department was well along in the same process last year when the Governor, responding to state fiscal pressures, instituted a hiring freeze on all state positions. That action required the officials in Plant Pathology to start the process all over once the hiring freeze was lifted and permission to proceed granted by the CALS and UW-Madison administration.

Sources indicate we should know by July who will be helping us with our turfgrass disease problems in the future.

The last two weeks of May saw four excellent candidates visit Madison as the interview process for Dr. Robert Newman's position in the Department of Horticulture moved forward.

The department chairman, Dr. Larry Binning, and the chairman of the search and screen committee, Dr. Ed Hasselkus, were kind enough to make industry representatives a part of the interview process.

*(Continued on page 29)*

**Wyse to Lead CALS** (Continued from front page)

Wyse earned a B.S. in agronomy from Ohio State University in 1965, and both an M.S. in crop science and a Ph.D. in plant physiology from Michigan State University in 1967 and 1969. He grew up on a 120-acre family dairy and crops farm in Fulton County, Ohio. While his father worked as a drainage contractor, Wyse milked the cows and operated the farm with the rest of his family.

"Being responsible for a farm as a teenager helps you develop a real sense of responsibility and a strong work ethic," Wyse said. "It also means I have a special concern for the survival of the American family farm."


Throughout his research career, Wyse has examined the physiological factors that control yield and quality in crop plants like sugar beets and corn. Wyse's earliest research, beginning in graduate school, involved the physiology of the sugar beet. He continued that line of research with the USDA at Logan, Utah, where he worked with engineers to develop sugar beet storage facilities.

In 1986 Wyse accepted his first academic post as a distinguished professor of Soils and Crops and senior associate director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Rutgers University,

New Jersey's flagship state university. "I felt it was an opportunity to have a broader impact on agriculture," he said. "New Jersey was going through a period of re-evaluating the role of the Agricultural Experiment Station, and I thought I could play a role in revitalizing and positioning it to address the complexity of issues facing agriculture in a rapidly urbanizing environment.

Wyse said the lure of the UW-Madison post was too strong to overcome. "The CALS deanship was an opportunity to move into a university that has a world-class faculty and a long tradition of excellence in research and public service," he said. "It will be exciting and challenging to take the very strong research program here and, with the Wisconsin Experiment Station, ensure that agriculture in Wisconsin remains viable and profitable."

Wyse's wife, Jaleh Daie, a professor and chair of plant physiology in the Rutgers Department of Crop Science, has accepted an offer to become a professor of botany at UW-Madison. Her initial appointment will be in the Biotechnology Center, and she will also serve as the senior science advisor to the UW System's vice president for academic affairs. Daie is expected to join the UW faculty in January 1993.



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