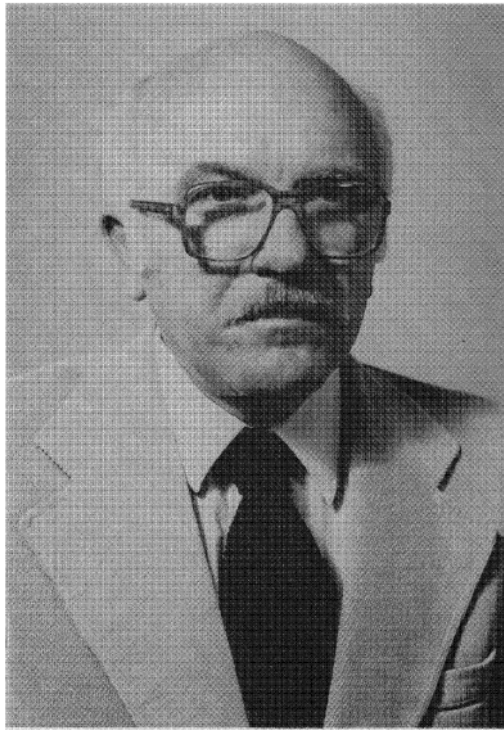


From the Oat Newsletter, volume 39, 1988:

DAVID H. SMITH, JR.



David H. Smith, Jr., curator of the National Small Grain Collection, Agricultural Research service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, died on September 7, 1988, at his home in Laurel, Maryland.

Dr. Smith was born in Hibbing, Minnesota, March 7, 1926. He attended Hibbing Junior College from 1946 to 1948, and Hamline University from 1948-1950, where he obtained a B.S. degree in Biology, with a minor in Chemistry. Dr. Smith attended the University of Minnesota from 1950-1955. He was awarded an M.S. degree from that institution in 1955. His major was Plant Pathology and his minor was Agricultural Biochemistry. Dr. Smith obtained his Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University in 1963, with a major in Plant Breeding and a minor in Genetics.

He served as a Biology teacher in Billings High School, Billings, Montana in 1955-1956, and was an Instructor in the Zoology and Botany Department at Brainerd Junior College, Brainerd, Minnesota from 1956 to 1959. He was an Assistant Instructor in the Crop Science Department at Michigan State University while working on his Ph.D. degree.

Dr. Smith began his professional career after graduation in 1963 as Assistant Professor in Research and Extension in the Crop science Department at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. In 1965, he was appointed as Research Geneticist

with the Agricultural Research service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and remained at Michigan State University to conduct research on control of the cereal leaf beetle, Oulema melanopus (L.), which at the time was a newly discovered insect pest that attacked wheat, barley, and oats in the North Central states. His contributions as part of an integrated pest management team resulted in the virtual elimination of the threat posed by this insect to small grain producers in the eastern U. S..

Dr. Smith moved to the Beltsville Agricultural Research center, Beltsville, Maryland in 1980 as curator of the National Small Grain Collection. He served in that capacity until his death in September 1988. He was a member of the Crop Science Society, the American Society of Agronomy, and of Sigma Xi. Along with his responsibilities as curator of the National Small Grain Collection, he served on the Oats, Rice, Barley, and Wheat Crop Advisory Committees.

Dr. Smith was well known for his interest in and his commitment toward helping younger research scientists in their developing careers. During his time at Michigan State University he had the opportunity to encourage and direct several graduate students. He retained contact with his former students and never lost interest in their progress. His interest in teaching continued throughout his career. While at the Beltsville Agricultural Research center, he frequently interacted with students from the University of Maryland. He often lectured in the Agronomy Department there and served in an advisory capacity to numerous graduate and undergraduate students interested in germplasm issues.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanne Harrison Smith, who lives in Laurel, Maryland; by his sister, Marcia I. Smith of Hibbing, Minnesota; and by a son, D. Erik Smith of Bath, Michigan; and a daughter, Julia I. Smith of Berkeley, California.