

2026 Ohio Certified Crop Adviser of the Year Award



The Ohio Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Program is sponsoring one state award titled “Ohio Certified Crop Adviser of the Year.” The award program is designed to recognize an individual who is highly motivated, delivers exceptional customer service for farmer clients in nutrient management, soil and water management, integrated pest management and crop production, and has contributed substantially to the exchange of ideas and the transfer of agronomic knowledge within the agricultural industry in Ohio.

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to increase the awareness that both farmers and their service people strive to do their best in making cropping decisions that are economically and environmentally sound. A CCA must meet the standards set by the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) and maintain the certification through continuing education. They also sign a code of ethics pledging to do their best and operate in the best interests of their client. Together, a farmer and a CCA, make a team that is working to manage an economically viable business while practicing responsible stewardship. This is a win/win approach for both farmers and CCAs.

Eligibility

1. Nominee must hold a current Ohio CCA certification and be in good standing.
2. Nominees will be evaluated on the basis of the information provided in the nomination, and possibly for the finalists from participation in an interview.
3. Individual must be nominated.
4. Files on nominees will be kept active for three years.
5. Former recipients of the Ohio Excellence in Crop Advising or CCA of the Year Award are not eligible.

Nomination Process

6. The Ohio CCA Board will notify the farm press, County Farm Bureaus, County OSU Extension offices, County Soil & Water Conservation Districts and others of the request for nominations.
 - A. Nominations are due to the Ohio CCA Board by **January 15 of each year**.
 - B. Selection Committee (made up of a commodity board grower member, an Ohio CCA board member and an industry representative) to review the nominations and select the top five candidates.
 - C. The top five candidates may be asked to participate in an interview conference call, of up to 30 minutes. The selection committee will then select the winner.
 - D. The state awardee and nominator will be notified (February).

Recognition

7. The Ohio Certified Crop Adviser of the Year Award will be presented at the 2025 Conservation Tillage Conference currently scheduled for March 2026 in Ada, Ohio. The state award includes a plaque, recognition in industry publications, and a \$1500 cash award from the agronomic industry.

Send Nomination forms via email to: jwelsheimer@oaba.net or mail to Ohio AgriBusiness Association, 5151 Reed Rd. Suite 126-C, Columbus, Ohio 43220-2598, Attn: Ohio CCA Board

Any questions? Please call Janice Welsheimer at 614-326-7520, ext. 3.

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Nomination Form

Nominee _____

CCA Certification Number _____

Employer (name or if independent) _____

Position _____ Years of crop advising experience _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Nominated by _____

Relationship: grower peer employer

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

1) How many years have you known the nominee? _____

2) What duties does the CCA provide for you?

- Nutrient management plans
- Weed management recommendations
- Soil sampling
- Scouting
- Seed recommendations
- Variable rate planning
- Harvest data management
- Other _____

3) Does the nominee provide you with assistance on understanding the newest technology in agriculture?

Yes No

4) Does the nominee attend professional meetings that discuss topics of interest to your operation?

Yes No

If so, how well does the CCA share that information with you or your customers?

Scale 1-5, with 1 a low and 5 high 1 2 3 4 5

5) Is the nominee well rounded in the field of agriculture?

Scale 1-5, with 1 a low and 5 high 1 2 3 4 5

6) How often is the nominee on your farm or the farm of your customers?

weekly monthly twice monthly quarterly twice yearly yearly

7) Is the nominee involved in the community? Yes No

Type of activity _____

8) Does the nominee make contributions to the CCA program or the crop advising community?

Yes No

Type of activity _____

9) Is the applicant ethical in their recommendations? (in other words, do you feel they have your best interests in mind when suggesting products for your operation or through your business?)

Scale 1-5, with 1 a low and 5 high 1 2 3 4 5

10) How does the CCA share information with you and others?

- Newsletter
- On-farm research
- Field day
- Field visits
- Winter grower meeting
- Other _____

11) What particular activity did the CCA perform that caused you to nominate her/him?

12) Why do you believe the nominee should receive the Certified Crop Adviser of the Year Award?

13) What skills or initiatives has the nominee displayed in their crop advising career that sets them apart from their colleagues?