

DAVID THOMPSON ELECTED AS A FELLOW OF THE IPPS EASTERN REGION



The 2019 Fellow Award Recipient is W. David Thompson, President of Foxborough Nursery in Street, Maryland. David has been a member of IPPS Eastern Region since 1976. He has served on five IPPS committees, has contributed four papers to the IPPS proceedings, and currently serves on the IPPS Eastern Region Board of Directors. Fellows of IPPS-Eastern Region are selected by the Region for their outstanding contributions to the advancement of the Society and to the field of plant propagation or production.

David Thompson, left, with Recognition Committee Chair, Brian Maynard

David grew up inspired by his family's vegetable and flower gardens and studied horticulture at the University of Maryland, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in 1975. A few years later, in 1978, he founded Foxborough Nursery with his wife, Marilyn. In the ensuing 40 years Foxborough Nursery has grown to a 525-acre operation. In addition to his successful business, David has served important roles in the Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association, from which he received the Professional Achievement Award, and the Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show. In 1994 he was honored by the University of Maryland College of Agriculture Alumni Association's Meritorious Service of Agriculture award. He is also a founding member of the American Conifer Society and has served as president of its Eastern Region chapter.

Foxborough started with some of the last plants propagated by Henry J. Hohman of Kingsville Nursery, which was world famous for growing unusual conifers, broadleaf and deciduous plants. Foxborough is a lovely and successful nursery with an inventory of over 900 cultivars, mostly propagated from cuttings or grafts. Foxborough Nursery's goal is to grow the finest quality true-to-name trees and shrubs on the East Coast and is now moving into the next generation with their two sons, Brad and Andrew. We visited Foxborough in 2002 during the Baltimore joint Eastern Region/Southern Region meeting and again last year when we met in Newark, Delaware.

Upon receiving the Award, David commented that he was "shocked, proud and honored to receive this award." He remembered fondly that when he graduated, his mentors encouraged him to join IPPS and he has been a member ever since!