

Andrew Sharpley

Biographical Sketch

Andrew Sharpley joined the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville in 2006. He is Distinguished Professor of Soil and Water Sciences, Director of the Discovery Farms for Arkansas Program and Chair of the Division of Agriculture's Environmental Task Force. He received degrees from the University of North Wales and Massey University, New Zealand and spent 25 years with the USDA-ARS in Oklahoma and then Pennsylvania. His research investigates the cycling of phosphorus in soil-plant-water systems in relation to soil productivity and water quality and includes the management of animal manures, fertilizers, and crop residues. He also evaluates the role of stream and river sediments in modifying phosphorus transport and response of receiving lakes and reservoirs. He developed widely accepted decision making tools for agricultural field staff to identify sensitive areas of the landscape and to target management alternatives and remedial measures that have reduced the risk of nutrient loss from farms.

He works closely with producers, farmers, and action agencies, stressing the dissemination and application of his research findings and is leading an on-farm demonstration, verification, and research program to show the benefits of Best Management Practices that protect water quality and promote sustainability of farming systems. He is the 2016 President-Elect of the Soil Science Society of America, Editor-in-Chief of the Soil Science Society of America, a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America Soil, and Water Conservation Society. In 2008 was inducted into the USDA-ARS Hall of Fame and in 2012 received the Christopher Columbus Foundation Agriscience Award.