



Albert J. Heber, PE, emeritus professor, Purdue University, is being honored for outstanding achievements in agricultural odor and air quality, building environment, air system design, and for service to the profession of agricultural and biological engineering.

Heber is an emeritus professor of the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at Purdue University. He is also an agricultural engineering consultant and president of Heber Consulting.

Heber has an exemplary record in research, education, and extension. He began his research in livestock pollution management and air quality with a swine dust characterization study. For 15 years, as interest in air quality research increased, he remained at the forefront, leading the most comprehensive livestock air quality research studies and setting the standard for on-farm air quality measurements. The continuous emission monitoring method Heber introduced in the US was used in a major field test of a commercial manure additive for controlling NH₃, H₂S, and odor. Heber has led a number of studies including a USDA baseline study of swine and layer emissions and the landmark National Air Emissions Monitoring Study. His research has vastly improved the knowledge base of livestock air quality, creating a baseline for determining animal and worker exposure, concentration and emission dynamic, emission rates, and factors influencing pollutant emissions. Heber worked to develop the Purdue Setback model, which is a convenient and powerful tool in providing science-based information and recommendations for evaluating and comparing siting options and separation requirements to reduce potential environmental impacts of livestock farms of all sizes.

A 39-year member of ASABE, Heber has been extensively involved in a number of ASABE committees as both a member and leader. He is a current member of the Plant, Animal, and Facility Systems Animal Facilities and Systems Group, Standards Oversight Committee, and Standards and Technical Council.

Heber has an extensive publications record, having authored or co-authored more than 350 peer-reviewed articles, refereed abstracts, book chapters, extension tools, and other publications. Throughout his career, Heber has received a number of awards. Most recently, he was named the 2020 and 2019 Counselor of the Year for the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at Purdue University. He is a member of the Purdue College of Agriculture Millionaires Club and received the Purdue University Provost Office Seed for Success award. He also received the 2005 Tony and Mary Hulman Health Achievement Award in Environmental Health from the Indiana Public Health Foundation.

