



ASSCT

Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists

Life Member

Dr Mac HOGARTH AM



Mac was born in Dalby on 12 September 1942. He was educated at a one-teacher school outside Jandowae before going to the Toowoomba Boys Prep School and then to The Southport School. He married Tricia Ward in 1973 and they have three daughters and six grandchildren.

He attended the University of Queensland in 1960 and gained a Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1963. He obtained a scholarship from the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations (now BSES Ltd) to study for a Masters degree at the University of Sydney where he specialised in Biometrics and Quantitative Genetics. His first posting was to Meringa Experiment Station where he commenced his career with the Plant Breeding group. He was transferred to Brisbane in 1969 to be the first Biometrician in BSES. He obtained his PhD from the University of Queensland in 1973.

In 1985, he was transferred to the Bundaberg Experiment Station to lead the plant breeding group in South Queensland. In 1990, he returned to Brisbane to lead the plant breeding group for BSES and was part of the Executive Team. He retired from BSES in 2002. His major research contributions were in quantitative genetics, the establishment of databases to improve the efficiency of the plant breeding program, and the establishment of the biometrics unit in BSES.

After retirement, Mac became a Director of SRDC for six years. In 2010, he was asked to join a Scientific Advisory Group set up by the European Union to oversee projects funded by the EU in Developing Countries that sell sugar to the EU. This program extends to the end of 2014.

He has been actively involved in ASSCT for many years. He served terms as Secretary and Chairman of the Agricultural Section in 1988 and 1989 and was President of the Society in 2002. He was the Editor from 1998 to 2006 and was made Life Member in 2003.

He has been the Editor of ISSCT since 2001 and will edit his fifth Proceedings for the Society in 2013 for the conference to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He was honoured to be made a Life Member of ISSCT in 2007.

Mac was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2006.