

M. R. McClung



Marvin Richard McClung, a native of Quinwood, in Greenbrier County, is known as a man dedicated to scientific agriculture and one who has given outstanding service to the State's agricultural industry.

Dr. McClung graduated from Rainelle High School in 1936, received a B.S. degree in Animal Science at West Virginia University in 1941, an M.S. degree in Poultry Breeding from the University of Maryland in 1942, and a Ph.D. in Animal Breeding and Genetics from Iowa State University in 1953. Over the years, he has held numerous professional positions in various states, including Rhode Island, Arkansas, and Iowa. In 1964, he became Professor and Chairman of the Department of Animal Industry and Veterinary Science at West Virginia University. In 1964, he left the chairmanship, but continued as Professor until he retired in 1979. He has published 82 technical articles and papers.

Major contributions to West Virginia agriculture by Dr. McClung include the leadership role in developing the West Virginia Beef Cattle Performance Testing Program, which saw more than 200 purebred beef cattle herds with more than 12,000 cows enrolled in an on-the-farm testing program; in developing the first bull feeding test and later the Performance Tested Bull Sale; the formation of the West Virginia Cattlemen's Association, which has more than 1,000 members and which developed its own self-improvement assessment program to support and publicize the industry; the development of an electronic marketing system in West Virginia for feeder calves and lambs; and the expansion of the boiler and turkey industry to include a modern processing and manufacturing plant, and a complete hatchery feed mill complex. He has also been a member of the corporate board of the Southern States Cooperative.

Dr. McClung has received many awards, including the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the West Virginia College of Agriculture and Forestry. Throughout his very busy and distinguished professional career, he has always found time to be an active member of civic organizations and to conduct a private farming operation. In essence, Dr. McClung has been the heart and soul of the West Virginia cattle industry and the West Virginia Cattlemen's Association.