

The Society for



ECONOMIC BOTANY, INC.

DEDICATED TO THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE USES OF PLANTS BY PEOPLE

PRESS RELEASE

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St. Louis, Missouri - Brent and Elois Ann Berlin recipients of the Society for Economic Botany Distinguished Economic Botanist Award.

Dr. John Rashford, President of the Society for Economic Botany, announced today that Drs. Brent Berlin and Elois Anne Berlin are the recipients of the 2008 Distinguished Economic Botanist Award, the society's highest honor for professionals. They will be honored June 5th in a formal ceremony during the society's annual meeting in Durham, North Carolina.

Council member Dr. Rick Stepp, said "The work of Brent Berlin and Elois Ann Berlin over the last four decades has led to major theoretical advances in cognitive and medical ethnobiology. Their work has always demonstrated the highest ethical standards during years of intensive fieldwork in Mexico and Peru. They have described the encyclopedic plant knowledge of the Highland Maya in numerous publications and, in the process, revealed a healing system on par with that of the great Far East traditions. They were amongst the first researchers to actively work with native collaborators and they are deeply committed to their research communities and local partners."

The Distinguished Economic Botanist Award, established in 1978, is bestowed annually by the Society on the basis of outstanding education and research accomplishments. The award represents the ultimate achievement in the field of Economic Botany. The Society for Economic Botany is the largest international scientific organization fostering and encouraging research and education on the past, present, and future uses of plants by people. For more information, contact Dr. Michael B. Thomas, Secretary. Tel: 808 375-6275.

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SEB is a 501 c(3) non-profit organization registered in the state of NY.*

The Society for Economic Botany (SEB) was established in 1959 to foster and encourage scientific research, education, and related activities on the past, present, and future uses of plants, and the relationship between plants and people, and to make the results of such research available to the scientific community and the general public through meetings and publications.