



2021 NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Born: Jan. 25, 1930
Died: Feb. 12, 2016

Primary Connection:

- North Carolina State University: Biochemistry Professor and Researcher

Education:

- University of Maryland: Bachelor's Degree, 1954; Master's Degree, 1955
- North Carolina State University: Ph.D., Plant Physiology, 1958

Key Memberships/Awards:

- American Society of Florists: Alex Laurie Award, 2012
- North Carolina Project SEED: Principal Investigator, 2007-09

10 Things You Need to Know About

Edward Sisler

Inventor of 1-MCP for Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Freshness

U.S. PATENT NO. 5,518,988

1. Sisler was born and raised in Friendsville, Maryland, and he attended the University of Maryland for both his bachelor's and master's degrees.
2. He was one of seven children in his family.
3. He earned his doctorate in plant physiology at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in 1958.
4. Sisler completed postdoctoral research at the prestigious Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York.
5. He joined the Department of Crop Science and Chemistry at NCSU as an assistant professor in 1961. By 1982, he worked as a professor of biochemistry in the Department of Structural and Molecular Biochemistry.
6. Sisler had been studying the various aspects of ethylene physiology and biochemistry for years before collaborating with horticulturalist Sylvia Blankenship in the 1980s.
7. Sisler is known among the scientific community as "The Father of 1-MCP."
8. He was honored with the Alex Laurie Award for floriculture research and education by the American Society of Florists in 2012.
9. Sisler and Sylvia Blankenship were proponents of using the library to research previous experiments done with ethylene, believing that older scientific literature was just as valuable as what could be found on the computer.
10. He held 10 U.S. patents.