

She is a native of California and received her B.A. degree in Biology from the University of California at Davis. She earned her Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Tennessee and started her faculty appointment at Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN) in 1971. Her research specialties during her undergraduate and graduate programs involved basic studies on algal biology, so once she arrived at Purdue she had to learn about the problems that algae and aquatic plants were causing pond and lake property owners in Indiana and how to control them. Thanks to input from people around the state, including commercial applicators and IDNR personnel, she decided to study the mat-forming alga, Pithophora, which causes major infestations and is very difficult to control.

Although by the time of her retirement (December 2010) she had not been able to find the “silver bullet” for the long-term control of *Pithophora*, she did learn a lot about its life cycle, the environmental parameters that control its growth, and its responses to algicides. Later she applied some of the same techniques to study the seasonal growth patterns of other mat-forming algae, particularly *Spirogyra* and *Oscillatoria*. Other projects involved studying algae control alternatives to copper, such as barley, biological controls, dyes, plant growth regulators, and non-copper based chemistries. She and her students and technicians were successful in isolating many problem-causing algae into uni-algal culture and developed bioassays to test potential algicides.

Her official appointment at Purdue was to conduct research and teach. She feels that her greatest contribution to aquatic plant management was her willingness and ability to educate people in Indiana and the Midwest who needed guidance in controlling algae and aquatic weeds. She did this with publications and by speaking at numerous pond clinics, lake association meetings, and applicator meetings at the county and state level and to many professional and academic groups throughout the country.

Each year she taught a very popular day-long training session for people interested in obtaining certification in aquatic pesticide application (Category 5) in Indiana. She wrote the original training manual and several revisions. She provided similar training sessions in other states, and her manual (and certification exam) has been adopted by regulatory agencies in several states.

Her other most fulfilling experience was the interaction she had with her postdoctoral associates and graduate students. They contributed as much or more to her knowledge base as she did to theirs.

She is particularly indebted to the Army Corps of Engineers (Aquatic Plant Control Research Program), which funded much of her research and supported several of her students. She also was grateful for industry support, both from individual companies and from the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation. She is pleased that several students who took her Aquatic Botany class as undergraduates went on to work in the aquatic plant management or natural resource areas.

During her career, she was privileged to be recognized for her research and teaching. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and she was named to Purdue's Great Book of Teachers. She was the first female to be recognized as Outstanding Teacher in the School of Agriculture at Purdue. She served as Newsletter Editor, Secretary, and President of the Phycological Society of America (phycology = algae) and was Editor of the Journal of Phycology for 8 years.

Early in her Purdue career she convened annual meetings on campus for commercial applicators. It was as an outgrowth of these meetings that the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society came into being in 1980-81. She served as Newsletter Editor and President of the Society. She enjoyed her association with all of her many friends at MAPMS and considers the Society to be one of her most memorable professional contributions.

The Society is pleased to bestow "Honorary Member" status to Dr. Carole Lembi!