

# Dennis R. Gardisser, Ph.D., P.E.



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**President, WRK of Arkansas, LLC**  
Lonoke, Arkansas, 1997 to present.

Born and raised on a dairy farm in Northwest Arkansas, Washington County. Married - 2 daughters – 4 grandchildren. Age 58.

## Education

**Ph.D. Engineering**, University of Arkansas, 1992. Dissertation title: "*Computer Simulation of Dry Material Distribution Patterns from Agricultural Aircraft*".  
**M.S. Agricultural Engineering**, University of Arkansas, 1981. Thesis title: "*Evaluation of Cotton Plant Thinning and The Effects of Along-the-Row Plant Distribution*".  
**B.S. Agricultural Engineering**, University of Arkansas, 1979.

## Awards

**National Agricultural Aviation Hall of Fame**, 2009.  
**Arkansas Association of Cooperative Extension Specialists – Faculty Service Award** 2008.  
**Pesticide Stewardship Alliance – Program Excellence (PAASS & S.A.F.E.)** 2008  
**Arkansas Aviation Hall of Fame**, 2007  
**FAAST Aviation Safety Counselor of the Year**, Arkansas 2008.  
**CFI (Certified Flight Instructor) of the Year – Arkansas** 2008  
**William O. Marsh Safety Award**, NAAA, 2005  
**Lee Abide Award**, MS AAA , 2005  
**FAA Aviation Safety Counselor of the Year**, Arkansas and Southwest Region, 2004.  
**Biological & Agricultural Engineering Academy**, Arkansas, 2004.  
**NAAA Falcon Club**, 2003.  
**ASAE Blue Ribbon Award – Education Aids:Fact Sheets**, 2003  
**Outstanding Agricultural Engineer**, Arkansas Section ASAE, 2001.  
**Outstanding Education Award**, Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association, 2001, 2002.  
**University of Arkansas – John White Team Award**, University of Arkansas Rice Processing Program, 2000.  
**Outstanding Service & Honorary Associate Membership**, Missouri Agricultural Aviation Association, 2000, 2002-present.  
**Agrinaut Award**, National Agricultural Aviation Association, 1999  
**Service Award**, Professional Applicator Institute, Agricultural Retailers Association, 1998.  
**Outstanding Service** Arkansas Section ASAE – 1998.  
**Outstanding Service**, Missouri Agricultural Aviation Association 1996.  
**Lifetime member**, Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association 1995.  
**Meritorious Service** - Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association 1994.  
**Delta Air Corporation “Puffer” Award** - For outstanding achievement in the design of agricultural aircraft and equipment, National Agricultural Aviation Association, 1993.  
**Outstanding Specialist of the Year** - Arkansas Association of Cooperative Extension Specialists, 1989.  
**Outstanding Service** - Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association, 1988, 1990, 1993.  
**Outstanding Young Agricultural Engineer** - Southwest Region -American Society of Agricultural Engineers, 1987.

## Job History

**Professor & Associate Department Head**, UofA Biological & Agricultural Engineering, October 2002 – January 2009  
**Extension Engineer**, UofA Cooperative Extension Service, June 1982 to October 2002.

**Extension Professor**, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 1992 to January 2009.

**Vice President for Research & Development and Partner**, W R K, Inc., Manhattan, Kansas, 1990 to 1997.

**Instructor & Graduate Research Assistant**, UofA, Fayetteville, AR, August 1989 to 1992.

**Test Engineer**, Bush Hog R&D Center, Selma, Alabama, August 1981 to June 1982.

**Truck Driver**, Howard Liles Co., Fayetteville, AR, May 1977 to May 1982.

**Graduate Research Assistant**, UofA, Fayetteville, AR, August 1979 to August 1981.

**Veteran**, United States Marine Corps, 1970-74.

**Data Processor**, Bear Brand Hosiery Co., Fayetteville, AR 1969 to 1974.

## Current Job Responsibilities

**WRK of Arkansas, LLC** Agricultural chemical application research, testing, product development, drift evaluations, training seminars, fly-in clinics, literature development, and education. Specializing in all types of chemical application technology from a variety of platforms. Aviation Insurance Agency.

**Professor & Associate Department Head - Extension Engineer** (Retired) - Biological & Agricultural Engineering UofA CES. Primary emphasis areas are agricultural chemical applications (pesticides and plant nutrients - aerial and ground), processing (grain storage, drying, and handling), precision agriculture GIS/GPS, and agricultural fencing systems.

## Committees

**Professional Aerial Applicator Support System (PAASS) –** content committee 2000 – present.

**Arkansas Engineering Foundation**, member & past Chairman 1997- 1999

**Arkansas Council for Engineering and Related Sciences**, Arkansas Section ASAE representative 1995 – present

**National Agricultural Aviation Association**, Board of Directors, Research & Technology, Research & Education Foundation, Federal regulations & safety

**U.S. Coalition for Drift Minimization** Co-chairman of the Technology Section, 1996 to 2000.

**AAPCO (American Association of Pesticide Control Officials)** Drift Management Sub-committee

## Hobbies

Aviation, water sports, hunting, archery, fishing, tennis, racquetball, snow skiing, ammunition reloading and testing, martial arts, woodworking, carpentry, electronics, mechanics and international travel.

## Aviation

**Commercial Pilot** (ASEL, Instrument, Agricultural, FAASTeam Lead Representative, Wings level XIV, CFI, Australian pilot’s license)

**AAAA** Lifetime Member, Arkansas Agricultural Aviation SAFE Analyst, AAAA Fly-In coordinator, AAAA Convention - Technical Program Coordinator, MO, MS, CO AAA & Canadian AAA member, **WRK** Agricultural aviation research and education, development of WRK Dry Material Analysis System and Drift Analysis System, WRK DropletScan™, all types of chemical application training nationally and internationally, and chemical application technologies, efficacy, and litigation.