



### **Sam Eathington**

Sam Eathington was raised on a grain and livestock farm in west-central Illinois. He received his B.S. ('90), M.S. ('93), and Ph.D. ('95) from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Sam's graduate education focused on genetics, plant breeding (soybeans and corn) and application of molecular markers to plant breeding. Sam spent one year as the Quantitative Traits Project Leader for ICI/Garst Seed Company, where he worked to integrate molecular markers into traditional corn breeding programs. In September of 1996, Sam joined Monsanto as part of Asgrow Seed Company's New Concept corn program. This program focused on trait integration and application of molecular markers. In 1998, Sam accepted the ROW Trait Integration position for Monsanto Global Seed Company. In this role, Sam worked to integrate and develop the trait integration programs for Monsanto's International corn breeding programs. In April of 1999, Sam became the Team Leader for the Molecular Breeding Informatics and Quantitative Applications Team. This team was responsible for development and implementation of informatic tools that support the analysis of molecular marker information. In January of 2001, Sam also assumed leadership of the Molecular Breeding Project Coordination program, which is responsible for implementing molecular breeding project plans in cooperation with the breeding programs. In September of 2005, Sam became the North America Corn Line Development Director.