The 2010 Richard and Minnie Windler Award Recipients are Jimmie Thompson, Bill Norris, and Deb Lewis, for their paper “The Vascular Flora of Ledges State Park (Boone County, Iowa) Revisited: Revelations and Recommendations” (Castanea 74:390–423).

Jimmie Thompson exemplifies the fact that much of our knowledge of the taxonomy, geography, and conservation needs of the world’s biota comes from the work of dedicated amateurs. Jimmie retired twelve years ago after a 31 year career as an Ames, Iowa postal employee. He is self-taught and has no formal schooling in botany. Since retirement, he has published a number of plant inventories of counties and smaller areas, including co-author of “Lessons From an Inventory of the Ames, Iowa, Flora (1859–2000),” published in the Journal of the Iowa Academy of Science in 2001, author of “An Inventory of the Vascular Flora of Hamilton County, Iowa (2001–2004)” which was also published in the Iowa Academy of Science Journal in 2007. He is at work on additional projects, including applied conservation projects. In addition, Jimmie has been active in the documentation of cultural resources, having recorded over 250 Native American sites in central Iowa with the State Archaeologist’s Office.

Dr. William R. Norris is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Western New Mexico University, where he is curator of the Dale A. Zimmerman Herbarium (SNM). He is also on the summer faculty of Iowa Lakeside Lab. Bill earned his B.S. at Lake Superior State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at Iowa State University. His M.S. thesis, supervised by pteridologist Dr. Donald Farrar, was a study of natural areas in the municipality of Ames, Iowa. The focus of his Ph.D. dissertation, co-supervised by conservation biologist Dr. Diane Debinski and Dr. Donald Farrar, was a study of how disturbance influences bird community structure in forests of northeast Iowa. Bill’s current research projects include a floristic study of...