



ROCA AWARD OF MERIT 1962 – Dr David Riceman

David Riceman (RDA, 1931) was awarded the Diploma of Agriculture with First Class Honours, then gained practical farming experience before obtaining a degree in Agricultural Science in 1935. He subsequently researched plant nutrition on Kangaroo Island's ironstone soils, the calcareous coastal soils and the leached siliceous sands in the South-East. In his role as Senior Principal Research Officer with the CSIRO Division of Biochemistry and Nutrition, he conducted extensive trace element research. The copper, zinc and cobalt deficiencies were identified by Dr Riceman and Professor Colin Donald during their 1930s research. The results of this research enabled thousands of hectares of South Australia's South-East to be transformed into highly productive grazing, cropping, viticultural and horticultural enterprises. Dr Riceman published the findings of his research in more than 20 scientific papers and was awarded the Australian Medal of Agricultural Service in 1953.

