

BIOGRAPHICAL OUTLINE
DOYLE CONNER
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
STATE OF FLORIDA

PERSONAL DATA

Born: December 17, 1928, in Starke, Florida.
Married: Laurita Conner.
Children: Doyle, Jr. (10/28/55); Kimberly Ann (6/14/58); and John Bryant (4/8/61).
Private Life: General Farmer, insurance, real estate and bank director.

EDUCATION

Bradford County High School, Florida.
University of Florida, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 1952.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

President of 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America in Bradford County.
State President of FFA, 1946-47. National President of FFA, 1948-49.
Various campus offices at University of Florida, 1947-52.

POLITICS

Elected member of Florida House of Representatives from Bradford County, 1950, at age 21.
Re-elected to the House in 1952, 1954, 1956 and 1958.
Served as youngest Speaker of House of Representatives in 1957, at age 28.
Elected Commissioner of Agriculture in 1960. Re-elected commissioner for two years in 1964, and for four years in 1966, 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982, and 1986.

HONORS

One of Nation's Outstanding Youths, Outdoor Writers of America, 1947.
One of five Outstanding Young Men in Florida Jaycees, 1950.
One of ten Outstanding Young Men in Nation, U.S. Jaycees, 1961.
Chosen by Florida Bicentennial Commission as one of Florida's Patriots, 1976.
Recipient of Venezuela's highest award, Order of Francisco de Miranda in recognition of his efforts to increase trade between Florida and Venezuela, 1978.
First person outside USDA Foreign Agricultural Service to receive the Certificate of Merit for exemplary international trade programs, 1980.
USDA Superior Service Award for his aggressive programs to promote agricultural trade with other countries, 1980.
Recipient of the Fourth World Meat Congress Silver Bucranium Award for promoting international trade in livestock, 1981.
Inducted into the prestigious Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame, 1985.
Numerous awards for agricultural and public service activities.

GOVERNMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS

Chairman, Florida House of Representatives Agriculture Committee for several legislative sessions.
Created Office of Consumer Services to answer consumer complaints, 1967.
Formulated many cooperative programs between State and Federal Departments of Agriculture.
Initiated annual Florida-Latin America Agricultural Conferences, 1966.
Opened one of the most modern commodity testing laboratories in the United States, 1973.
Co-founder of the Southern United States Trade Association, 1975.
Prime-mover establishing national standard for the use of ethylene dibromide, 1984.
Established biological control programs for eradicating several animal and plant pests, most recent being eradication of Mediterranean fruit flies, 1985.

ORGANIZATIONS

Past President - Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (SASDA).
Past President - National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA).
Past President - Southern United States Trade Association (SUSTA).
Past President - University of Florida National Alumni Association.
Board Member - Agriculture Council of America.
Florida Farm Bureau, Florida Cattlemen's Association, Florida Chamber of Commerce, Mason (Scottish Rite), Shriner, Elk, Baptist, Honorary Kiwanian.

RESPONSIBILITIES

As commissioner, he is charged with the administration of laws in the fields of agriculture and consumer protection. As a member of the Florida Cabinet, he is responsible for furnishing leadership in state affairs and serves on the Board of Education, Department of Natural Resources, Department of General Services, Trustees for the Interim Improvement Fund, Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Administration, Pardon Board and other boards and commissions.