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## **Vitamin Retailer News**

### **Upton to Receive ASP Award**

The American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) recently announced the selection of Roy Upton, RH, DAc, as the 2012 winner of the Varro. E. Tyler award. The award [will be presented at the annual ASP meeting July 28<sup>th</sup>-Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, New York City].

Named after the late Varro E. Tyler, PhD, ScD, former dean of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, vice president of Academic Affairs at Purdue University, and first president of ASP, the award recognizes outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of herbal medicine. According to the ASP nominating committee, “Roy Upton exemplifies the standards and principles that Varro Tyler sought to bring to the botanicals industry.”

Upton has been working and practicing professionally as an herbalist since 1981. Trained in ayurvedic, Chinese and Western herbal medicine, Upton is the founder, executive director and editor of the *American Herbal Pharmacopoeia* (AHP); is a co-founder, past president and vice president of the American Herbalists Guild (AHG); and serves on the Committee of Revision for the United States Pharmacopeia (USP) and botanical expert advisory committees of AOAC International, the American Botanical Council (ABC) and NSF International. Upton is also visiting faculty for the Master of Science in Herbal Medicine program at Tai Sophia, Laurel, MD and the Complementary and Alternative Medicine Program at the University of Southern California, School of Pharmacy, Los Angeles, CA.

Upton is the staff herbalist for the California-based herbal supplements company, Planetary Herbals; is a member of the

Standards Committee of the American Herbal Products Association (AHPA); and is an internationally recognized lecturer and author of numerous popular and peer-reviewed scientific publications, including the recently published *Microscopic Characterizations of Botanical Medicines*.

“Roy recognized a need that no one else had seen,” said Michael McGuffin, president of AHPA and longtime AHP board member. “AHP filled a void where there once was nothing.”