

BACKSTORY

INTERVIEW BY MARISA PALMIERI



Louis Lynn

**CHAIRMAN
ENVIRO AGSCIENCE
COLUMBIA, S.C.**

EDUCATION

Spaulding High School
Lamar, S.C.
Class of 1967

Clemson University
Bachelor's of Science, Horticulture
Class of 1970

Clemson University
Master's of Science, Horticulture
Class of 1973

University of Maryland College Park
Ph.D., Horticulture
Class of 1975

WORK EXPERIENCE

1975-1978
Elanco
Research Scientist
Indianapolis

1978-1985
Monsanto
Various locations

1984-2014
President
Enviro AgScience
Columbia, S.C.

2014-Present
Chairman
Enviro AgScience
Columbia, S.C.

+
Board member for Clemson
University (since 1988),
BB&T, American Horticultural
Society, National Association
of Minority Contractors and
National Urban League



Enviro AgScience's roots are in commercial landscaping. Today, landscaping makes up about 10 percent of the business. The rest is construction.



Lynn, seated with his wife Audrey, has three children who are in the business. His daughter Krystal Conner, a pharmacist with an MBA, is CEO (top right); daughter Adrienne Sienkowski, an engineer, is COO (top left); and son Bryan Lynn (top center) is a facilities manager with an associate degree in landscape and grounds maintenance.

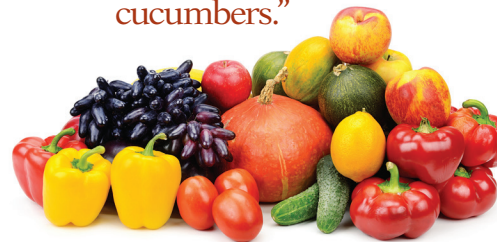
"I'd won a 4-H award and Clemson was the ag school, so I got a scholarship there. I was in the second class to integrate Clemson."

CLEMSON
UNIVERSITY



During a round of downsizing, Lynn accepted a severance package from Monsanto and left to move back to the South and start his own company.

"My dad was a vegetable farmer. As a teenager, to make money, he'd let me take a truck on Saturdays. I'd park on a street corner and sell watermelons, cantaloupes and cucumbers."



"I worked for Monsanto during Roundup development years. They called the horticulture crops 'minor crops,' which I always considered an insult."

"I felt like folks have given us an opportunity because we were a small or minority business. One of my mentors said, 'If you're going to feed from the public trough, you're going to pay your civic rent.' So I give my time and talent on these boards."

WORDS OF WISDOM "Say what you are going to do; then do what you said you were going to do." •

"To employees: 'If I do good, then you do good.'" • "Never ask employees to do anything illegal or immoral."