Linda Auld accomplishments relevant to the Dormon Award:

1. For over 40 years has raised 148 species of butterflies & moths, studying and photographing their life cycles.

2. For 47 years worked at three-generation family pest control business (established in 1921 by her grandfather) helping customers solve their household pest problems using mission statement: “I sell death for pests and promote life for the rest!”

3. 31 years of NABA (North American Butterfly Association) butterfly counts at Honey Island

Swamp, Bonnet Carre Spillway, Starkville, Gloster Arboretum, Delta National Forest, Alexandria, and Tallahassee Florida. This important data helps researchers and scientists to evaluate and understand fluctuations that may affect butterfly colonies and their existence.

4. Participated in both Monarch Watch (University of Kansas) and University of Toronto monarch migration studies—the butterfly tagging program

5. Has written articles about plants and insects for Louisiana Gardener Magazine, Southern

Lepidopterists Society publications, Baton Rouge Audubon Society, LA Native Plant Society, MS Native Plant Society, Orleans Audubon Society, and Crosby Arboretum newsletters.

6. Over five years assisted Dr. Christen Steele (Tulane University) monitoring Oe parasite infection levels in the New Orleans area.

7. Gave workshops to teach gardeners about Oe and the sampling/testing process that was

designed by University of Georgia’s Project Monarch Health program.

8. Promoted Briarwood Nature Preserve and Caroline Dormon by writing articles, giving PowerPoint presentations, and selling her books at the store and online websites.

9. Promoted butterfly gardening with multiple garden clubs, schools, scouts, and plant societies

10. “Project: MONARCH”:  In 2014 installed butterfly gardens in seventeen schools and three Louisiana Welcome Centers, and Monarch Way Stations in seven cities.

11. In 2014 became Louisiana’s milkweed seed distributor selling 120,000 seeds

12. 2015-2016 Performed botanical survey of the Gloster Arboretum with Mac Alford (University of Southern Mississippi-Hattiesburg) identifying 465 different plants, trees, and shrubs on the 360-acre property

13. 1992-2024:  Butterfly surveys at the Gloster Arboretum, identifying eighty-one species of

butterflies

14. In 2016 planted pollinator gardens at her business in Harahan

15. In 2019 wrote and self-published “BugLady’s Butterfly Summer,” fifteen adventure stories about nature discoveries—showcasing life cycles of butterflies and moths, their caterpillar hosts and preferred nectar plants

16. In 2019 launched “Geaux Grow Natives” program to promote the sale of six specially selected caterpillar host and butterfly nectar plants that had been produced by local growers and enlisted twelve local garden centers to sell them

17. During 2020-2022 sold over fifty different native plants, using the business display gardens to show people how the plants grow and give them ideas of how to use them in their landscapes.

18. These gardens were third in the state to be certified “gold level” through the newly- organized LA Native Plant Society’s Certified Habitat Program.

19. Spring 2023 organized volunteers to revitalize the Gloster Arboretum Memorial Garden and

donated 250 assorted native plants from her home garden to create a Monarch Way Station filled

with native milkweeds and nectar plants.

20. May 2023 donated 125 plants from her home garden to Sanctuary Preservation in Metairie

Louisiana and installed with the assistance of Sierra Club volunteers

21. Summer/Fall 2023 spearheaded a campaign to organize and enlist volunteers in five cities to

begin studying the Oe infection rates along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

22. 2024 presenting “Monarchs, Migration, Milkweed, and Oe” PowerPoint which describes the two newly proposed monarch migration routes and the scientific techniques used to study them. Also explains the Oe protozoan parasite, its crippling effects on the butterflies, and the great importance of people planting native milkweeds in their gardens. Has sixteen confirmed dates so far and will be traveling to cities throughout Louisiana and Mississippi with plans to enlist more volunteers to participate in the Oe testing program.