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Agricultural Experiment Station News January 1973

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FROM THE DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

North Central Planning Research and Coordinating Committee

I am a member of this committee established in 1972 by the North Central Experiment Station Directors. It includes representatives of ARS, ERS, USFS, GSRS, agricultural extension, and industry as well as experiment stations. Other similar committees are functioning in the other three regions. As one might suspect, the coordination between ARS and the experiment station programs as represented in these committees is facilitated by the recent ARS reorganization.

The objectives of this effort are to 1) analyze the agricultural research in the region, particularly with respect to specific strengths or gaps; 2) determine the shifts in research programs in experiment stations and USDA in the next few years, assuming no or small increases in financial support, 3) identify possibilities for specialization and coordination between ARS and the SAES, and between the various stations tending to carry on fewer programs better.

Thus this approach is not open ended as was the "National Program of Research for Agriculture." Rather it emphasizes how to increase the effectiveness of our present research resources.

Before the task is finished it will involve extensive input from the NCR, NCIRS, and NCA committees of the region. The work of the committee will actually be carried on by means of seven Research Program Groups, including Natural Resources, Forestry, Crops, Animals, Food Safety and Nutrition, Rural Development, and Competition, Trade, Prices, and Income. These RPGs will in turn rely heavily on inputs from the appropriate NCR, NCIRS, and NCA committees, which already exist as standing committees in the region. Two RPGs have been established so far; one on Animals, and one on Rural Development.

Planning and coordination of research programs as complex and large as those represented by USDA and the SAES is a very ponderous process. However, hopefully, this approach may move us a step closer to more coordination of our efforts.

Howard W. Ottoson

Harvest - 1972 (1973)

Field Laboratory combining crews were back in the fields between Christmas and New Year’s until the December 29 rain storm and, later the snow stopped the grain sorghum harvest. Harvesting losses were reduced to a minimum by going low and slow. Several hundred acres are still in the "deep freeze" but will be harvested when conditions permit and before spring work begins.

All corn and soybean harvest was finished before Christmas. Despite a December 6 moratorium on propane for grain dryers, harvesting was not delayed but utilizing large size false floor, unheated air drying bins which had been held in reserve.

Warren W. Sahs
PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Dinsmore, Karren E. - Asst. Prof. of Human Development of Home Economics (appointment)
ECHTERNKAMP, Sherrill E. - Asst. Prof. of Animal Science (courtesy appointment)
Swoboda, Donald W. - from Adm. Asst. for Programs and Rep. to Asst. Ext. Agriculturist
Van Etten, James L. - Asso. Prof. of Plant Path. and Botany (leave of absence) to Italy

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Clanton, Donald C. - North Platte Station - Eli Lilly and Co. 6,000
Moser, B. D. - Animal Science - Garnett-Ross Inc. 500
Shahani, Khem M. - Food Science and Technology - W. R. Grace and Co. 2,000
Tolman, Walter and Paul Guyer - Northeast Station and Animal Sci. - Ma Nu Va Pro. 1,000
Ward, John K. - Animal Science - Dow Chemical Company 8,100

GENERAL NOTES

1. Dean Frolik is currently engaged in his special assignment in Vietnam and Director Ottoson is Acting Dean.

2. Dr. Hazel Anthony was named Dean and Dr. R. Patricia Sailor, Associate Dean of the College of Home Economics by the Board of Regents on January 6. The College is fortunate to have these able administrators to continue its strong leadership. The Experiment Station office looks forward to their participation in research programming. Congratulations to all.

3. It appears that Huntington Avenue will be paved as a four-lane street with a median strip from 33rd to 48th (curving to Leighton Street on the east end) during 1973. Holdrege avenue widening along the south of the campus will likely be in 1974.

4. If you would like to see "Proposed Forms and Guidelines for Acquisition of Information from Owners and Operators of Point Sources" generated by the EPA and published in the December 5 Federal Register, we have a couple of copies in the office. As related to agricultural operations, it is all inclusive and distressingly unrealistic and impractical. It is being appealed by many including the Experiment Station Directors.

5. We appreciate your fine participation in the Experiment Station - Extension Workers Conference. The planning committee modified the format from previous years and hopes you found the meeting beneficial. We solicit your individual reactions and suggestions concerning the future of such conferences.

6. The University's 360/65 computer is now available for use on Saturdays. Preventive maintenance has been shifted to Sundays to make it available for Saturday use.

7. In recent weeks there have been several rather comprehensive multidiscipline review and planning sessions focusing on specific research programs: Dry beans, Waste Management and Sugarbeets. These were very productive, particularly as resulting in summary documents which provide a format for planned program efforts which clarifies objections, responsibility and relationship.

8. Field Laboratory Hunting statistics of 1972 include 3320 hunters surviving and 673 pheasants, 32 quail, 114 rabbits and 9 squirrels not surviving. Our thanks to all who cooperate in this public relations activity and particularly to Mr. Hastert and his crew who provide for security and control.

9. "By the street of By-and-by one arrives at the house of Never".

R. W. Kleis


ABSTRACTS


BULLETINS PRINTED

MP 28 First International Winter Wheat Conference Proceedings.

RB 251 Winter Wheat Cultivar Performance In an International Array of Environments. J. E. Stroike and V. A. Johnson.