



NORTH DAKOTA  
**Farm Research**

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New Research Unit . . . . page 2

# From the DIRECTOR



**A. G. HAZEN**

Livestock and livestock products return about one-third of the annual cash income from crops, livestock, and government payments for North Dakota producers.

We sometimes tend to statistically isolate a commodity or group of commodities as if they were unrelated to or independent of other commodities. Thus, if we consider only the cash income statistic we might conclude that livestock and livestock products are entirely separate from crops. Under some circumstances, such as a large feedlot enterprise where the livestock and feed are purchased separately, labor is employed, and the sales are entirely from livestock, cash sales might be considered independent of crop production.

However, for most cash income from livestock production and livestock products in North Dakota, there is an interdependence between livestock and crops. There is also an interdependence between personnel and facilities utilized for research with livestock and with crops in the Agricultural Experiment Station.

An example of this interdependence and integration of effort is the recently completed livestock facility at the Carrington Irrigation Branch Station. This facility consists of four research barns designed to handle separate lots of beef cattle, a fifth barn to handle extra and/or sick cattle, two upright silos, a utility building for machine and feed storage, and a residence to house a livestock specialist. The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District provided funds to build this livestock facility. Operational funds will be a part of the regular operating budget of the Carrington Irrigation Branch Station.

This additional livestock research facility is not intended to be used for research with livestock production, livestock diseases, or other similar research. Rather, the primary purpose of the livestock facility is to provide a research tool which will assist in developing information about the conversion of feed and forage crops, grown under North Dakota irrigated conditions, into livestock for sale as cash income. This is an example of inte-

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**On The Cover:** Someday soon these new feedlots at the Livestock Unit on the Carrington Irrigation Branch Station will be full of beef cattle. They will be used to test and demonstrate different management schemes for handling livestock and forage production on an irrigated farm in North Dakota.

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