

FROM THE DIRECTOR

(Continued from Page 2)

the University's total of 2,180 acres. The balance is occupied by buildings and housing, athletic facilities, parking lots, lawns, streets and sidewalks. The eight Branch Experiment Stations located throughout the state occupy another 6,050 acres, for a total of 7,850 acres in use by the College of Agriculture and the Agricultural Experiment Station.

Not appearing specifically in the annual report printed herein are the major areas of research including a wide range of topics, such as production, management, financing, marketing, consumer use, quality and processing of agricultural products. In addition, the Station personnel include in their studies several aspects of rural life including housing, utilities, conveniences, recreation, and population changes.

To accomplish all this, the subject matter of the College and Station is administered by 13 departments: Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy, Animal Science, Bacteriology, Biochemistry, Botany, Cereal Chemistry and Technology, Entomology, Horticulture and Forestry, Plant Pathology, Soils, and Veterinary Science. Each of the eight Branch Experiment Stations is also regarded as an administrative unit.

The agricultural research program is organized on a formal written project outline basis for each of about 150 specific research projects. This system has emerged over the years to meet the need to account for both the work of the Station and the expenditure of Federal funds, and is similar to the systems in use by all agricultural experiment stations throughout the nation.

Within the past 15 years the Agricultural Experiment Station has about doubled in size in terms of budget, personnel and activities. Even with an inflationary factor applied to the budgets, this growth has been noteworthy. We expect to continue to grow at the rate of 10 to 20 per cent into the immediate future to take care of the rapidly increasing needs of North Dakota agricultural industry for basic knowledge and interpretation.

We are extremely grateful to the people of North Dakota and their representatives in the State Legislature for their continuous moral and financial support of the agricultural research efforts in this state. We probably never will reach the point of being able to finance in any one year all of the worthwhile and beneficial projects needed by the industry. But at the same time we would be extremely remiss if we did not acknowledge at this annual report time the results of sound backing for our programs by the people. For this we extend a most cordial "Thank You."

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