

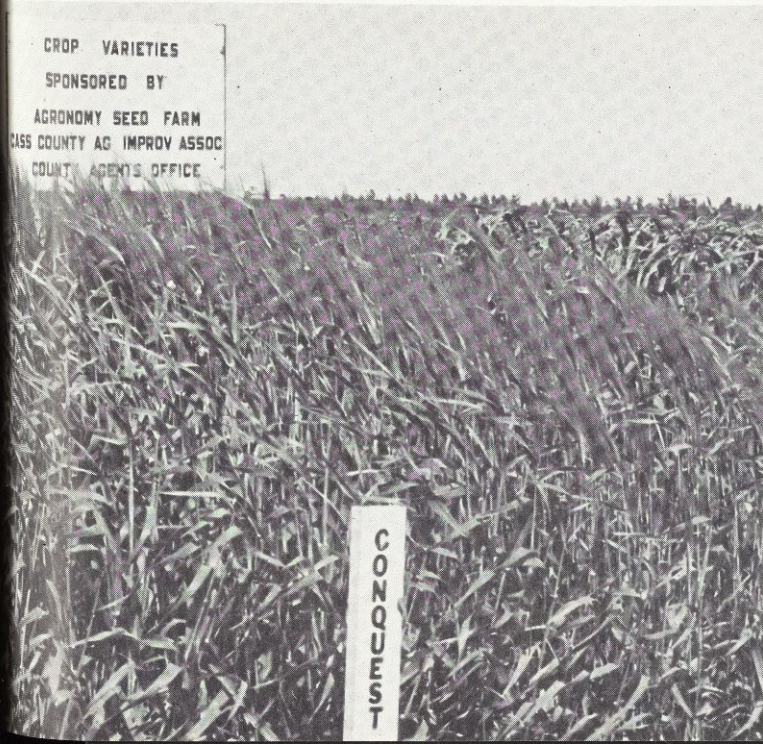


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Bulletin

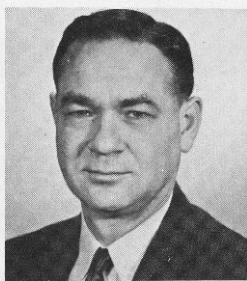
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July - August, 1968



From the DIRECTOR

A. G. HAZEN



Potato production in North Dakota has grown from merely a few acres planted in the early 1900's to more than 110,000 acres in 1967. The major commercial horticultural crop produced in North Dakota, potatoes add greatly to the overall economy of the state and especially benefit the economy of the Red River Valley. North Dakota ranks fifth in total potato production and fourth in certified seed potato production in the United States.

Since 1957 eight new potato varieties have been introduced by North Dakota State University. Of these varieties, Norland and Norgold Russet have been the most popular. Both of these varieties are grown extensively in North Dakota and other production areas. In the Columbia Basin of Washington about 60 per cent of the total potato production is of the Norgold Russet variety.

The release of two new varieties in 1968, Norchip and Norchief, should help strengthen potato production in North Dakota and elsewhere. Tests show that both varieties are adapted for table stock, chipping and seed growing.

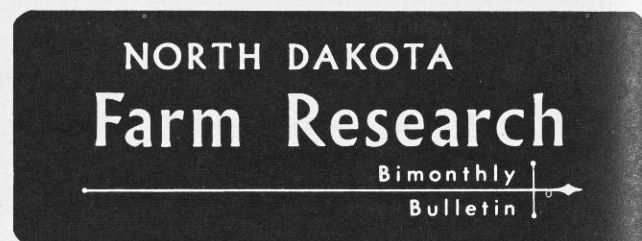
Potato research at NDSU concerns areas other than breeding and variety development, however. Disease situations are studied and fungicide recommendations are made by the Department of Plant Pathology. Insect problems are investigated and insecticide recommendations are projected by the Entomology Department. Soils and fertilizer recommendations are made by the Soils Department. Storage and machinery research is conducted by the Agricultural Engineers. Physiological and cultural recommendations are made by the Horticulture Department. Quality studies for processing are conducted at the recently established Potato Processing Laboratory at East Grand Forks, Minnesota. This laboratory is unique in that it is a cooperative endeavor between the Minnesota and North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Stations, the United States Department of Agriculture and the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association.

The cooperative effort of all these departments is essential to the overall success of the potato program. The North Dakota potato grower's high interest and concern for potato research and variety development has furnished a stimulus that is not only demanding but also encouraging to the researcher.

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On The Cover: A monument and plaque identify NDSU's Dalrymple Experimental Plot, located adjacent to the Agronomy Seed Farm at Casselton. The land acquisition, recently dedicated, was made possible by a bequest from the late John S. Dalrymple. Plots and field on the Agronomy Seed Farm are also shown.



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