

## Albino Strawberry Studies, Berkeley

MINERAL NUTRIENT STUDIES with strawberries by Albert Ulrich, Plant Physiologist, Department of Soils and Plant Nutrition, U.C. Berkeley (left photo) are aimed at developing data to aid in solving the albino problem. The albino problem is a failure of strawberry fruit to color properly, showing a mottled, pink and white flesh internally, and white areas externally with skin tender and easily bruised. Losses from albino fruit. have amounted to from one third to one half of the berries from a picking in some years.

Shasta, Tioga, and E<sub>1</sub> varieties of plants are being grown in nutrient solutions in the greenhouses at the Oxford Tract. Polyethylene-lined 5-gallon pots are used with cork rings and cover-board for plant support. Plastic tubing into each container allows continual aeration. Climate compartments within the greenhouse are used to simulate day and night temperatures in the coastal, upper San Joaquin, and lower San Joaquin valley areas. Distilled water and nutrient salts are added as needed, and the pH is maintained between 5 and 6. Most elements have already been studied, and work this summer involves testing for possible effects of deficiencies in manganese, zinc molybdenum, chlorine and copper.





#### CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE

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# RESEARCH PREVIEWS



A continuing program of research in many aspects of agriculture is carried on at University campuses, field stations, leased areas, and many temporary plots loaned by cooperating landowners throughout the state. Listed below are some of the projects currently under way, but on which no formal progress reports can yet be made.

#### BEE DISEASE CONTROL

Entomologists at Davis are studying the ability of beekeepers to follow instructions in eradicating American foul brood by means of drugs. If it is found that control of the disease by drugs is practical, revision of present control programs will be stimulated.

#### DBCP INJECTIONS

Both laboratory and field tests by nematologists at Davis indicate that injection of DBCP to control nematodes resulted in deeper distribution, as measured by gas chromatography, than application by flood or sprinkler irrigation.

### MOUNTAIN MEADOW IMPROVEMENT

Soil scientists and foresters at Berkeley are cooperating on measurement of soil nutrients and their availability to forage plants in mountain meadows. The effects of fertilization in such meadows are also being considered.