

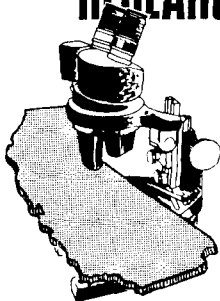


Large Animal Center U.C. Davis



Research projects are now in progress at the new Harold Cole Facility for study of the biology of large animals at University of California, Davis. Photo above shows the small animal research center, to left, where studies of basic biological processes, applicable to large animal research, are conducted at low cost with laboratory rats and mice. Outdoor animal holding pens are shown to right in photo above. Photo to left shows the physiology-metabolism center for live large-animal studies of digestive, metabolic, and growth processes. Also included in the Facility is a body-composition laboratory for analysis of factors in the development of muscle components in large animals. The Facility is named after Dr. Harold H. Cole, Professor Emeritus, Department of Animal Science, who retired in 1965 as an internationally recognized authority on animal physiology.

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.

TABLE WINE VARIETIES FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Testing is in the final stages for wine grape varieties that will grow well in the San Joaquin Valley and yet produce superior table wines. This could prove to be a boon at a time when the traditional table wine areas can no longer supply the ever-increasing demand for such wines.

THE FUTURE OF FARMING

Agricultural economists at Davis are attempting to develop techniques that will enable them to look into the future (perhaps to the year 2000) and to better determine the directions California's agri-

culture will take. Long-range projections of crop, livestock, land, and water trends, and trends in the structure of farm enterprises are well advanced.

EXTENDING MARKET LIFE OF STRAWBERRIES

Pomologists and engineers at Davis are studying ways to increase the market life of strawberries that must be shipped great distances. In several tests gamma irradiation of the berries seemed to be helpful.

CONTROL OF YELLOWSTAR THISTLE

Biological control specialists from Berkeley are attempting to introduce an insect into California that will destroy yellowstar thistle. To date, results have been discouraging, but the work continues.

AVOCADO OIL

Food scientists at Davis are investigating the possibility of using avocados as a source of edible oil. This might prove to be especially important in tropical countries like Indonesia.

SOIL NUTRIENTS FROM OLD RUBBER TIRES?

Vegetable crops specialists at Davis have been experimenting with the use of old rubber tires, sliced into chips, recycled into the soil as a source of nutrients—specifically zinc and sulfur. This helps to solve one problem (what to do with old tires), but too heavy applications of the old rubber were found to adversely affect nitrification in the soil. The process cannot be recommended at this time.

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