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AGRICULTURE at Berkeley

THE GENERALLY URBAN atmosphere of the Berkeley campus conceals a major factor in the agricultural eminence of the University of California. The unique concentration of basic work in the biological, physical, and social sciences at Berkeley adds strength to agricultural research programs in genetics, entomology and parasitology, cell physiology, soils and plant nutrition, plant pathology, agricultural economics, and nutritional sciences. Scientists in these fields form an important unit of the statewide Agricultural Experiment Station and also teach in Berkeley's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Many special facilities developed at Berkeley since the founding of the University add to the strength of both research and teaching on the campus. Among these are the Agriculture Library and Giannini Foundation Library, which house outstanding collections of source material in agriculture and agricultural economics; the Oxford Tract adjacent to the campus which includes open plot areas, greenhouses, field laboratories, and environmental control cabinets; related facilities at the Gill Tract, in nearby Albany; and special libraries, electron microscopes, computers, and a wide range of equipment and specialized laboratories in Wellman, Giannini, Hilgard, Morgan, and Mulford Halls on campus.

These facilities are dedicated to the development of basic knowledge oriented toward solution of food and fiber problems of the future, but they serve also as a base for applied research aimed directly

at solving immediate practical problems. Berkeley agricultural scientists, with special competencies in their fields, carry on extensive experimental work in agricultural areas and communities throughout California. They give special attention to problems that, for geographical or climatic reasons, can best be studied in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Agricultural Experiment Station established at Berkeley in 1874, antedating by 13 years the federal Hatch Act, is the nation's oldest continuously operated college-associated station. The program built on that foundation has been modified as research related more directly to agricultural production has developed on other campuses. Today's program reflects a policy expressed in the University-wide academic plan of 1961, that the program in agriculture at Berkeley "should continue to emphasize teaching and Experiment Station research in the basic physical, biological, and social sciences, taking advantage of the vast array of scientific resources on that campus to add to the pool of fundamental knowledge upon which advances in agricultural technology depend."

Agricultural research at Berkeley, carried on by a faculty of about 130 and approximately 50 academic specialists, postdoctoral fellows, and other scientists, is linked with work at Davis, Riverside, and outlying field stations through the Agricultural Experiment Station. The scientific specialties and special facilities concentrated at Berkeley fill a large sector in the statewide research programs.