

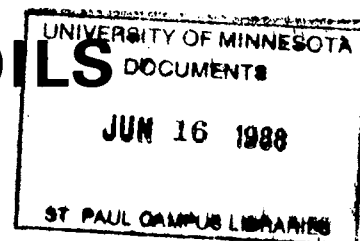
The Northwest Experiment Station News

Published by the Northwest Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota
CROOKSTON, MN

JULY 1987

VOLUME 15, NO. 2

ANNUAL CROPS AND SOILS DAY PLANNED



The tours for the 1987 Crops and Soils Field Day, July 15th, have been designed to provide information for the agriculture producer, agribusiness person, homeowner and gardener.

AGRONOMY - Agronomy tours during the 1987 Crops and Soils Field Day will feature several aspects of weed control, crop management, and varietal development. Herbicide-nitrogen combinations for wild oat and broadleaf weed control in spring wheat, and herbicide injury associated with late-season application of broadleaf herbicides will be discussed by extension specialists and researchers. Current and soon-to-be-released varieties of wheat and barley and tillage-disease relationships will be highlighted during the small grains tour. Also included during 1987 will be a tour which features navy and pinto bean varieties and disease control, along with alfalfa varieties and management.

PLANT PATHOLOGY - In the Plant Pathology plots, Dr. Carol Windels will present data on the effect of reduced tillage (no-till, chisel plow and moldboard plow) on root rot, leaf spot disease and fungicide effectiveness on wheat and barley. Dr. Richard A. Meronuck, extension plant pathologist, University of Minnesota, St. Paul will discuss monitoring fields for white mold and rust in fieldbeans, rates and timing of fungicide applications, and the effectiveness of various fungicides.

SOIL SCIENCE - The plot tours in the Soil Science research area will feature topics ranging from foliar N application on wheat to conservation tillage to phosphorus fertilization. Dr. George Rehm, soil science extension specialist, will address the implications on wheat grain yield and protein of applying N on wheat at different growth stages.

Dr. Ray Allmaras, a USDA-ARS soil scientist specializing in conservation tillage systems will review some of the results of research in northwest Minnesota pertaining to the adaptability of conservation tillage systems. Information about current and future research concerning phosphorus soil testing particularly with spring grains will be discussed by Dr. John Lamb, soil scientist at the Northwest Experiment Station. Last but not least, Carlyle Holen, area extension agent in Crop Pest Management, will discuss the effectiveness of late season application of herbicides for broadleaf control.

HORTICULTURE - Two tours relative to Horticulture are planned. Dr. Gary McVey will discuss commercial vegetable production and demonstrate planters, trickle irrigation and the use of plastic and chemicals for weed control. The vegetable crops will include onions, cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, tomato, cantaloupe, squash and watermelon. Strawberry and raspberry production will also be featured. Roger Wagner, horticulturist at UMC, will conduct a tour of the campus grounds and describe the various trees and shrubbery as well as the best varieties of flowers on the campus.

SWCD - The West Polk County SWCD will be on hand to discuss windbreak design and tree variety selection. The Station's nursery of trees and shrubs suitable for Valley planting, as well as new experimental lines will be toured.

BIO-MASS - The University has been conducting research in northwest Minnesota on producing fuel from hybrid poplars and cattails during the past 2 1/2 years.

A 28-acre hybrid poplar field has been established near Oklee, Minnesota. The research being conducted on the 250,000 trees involves productivity, disease resistance, insect tolerance, winter survival, herbicide use and fertility requirements. On the July 15 tour, details of research on winter-hardiness, nitrogen-cycling, biomass yields, pre-plant herbicide use and regrowth will be discussed.

In 1985 a one-half acre pond was constructed by the University at the American Crystal sugar plant in Crookston. The wastewater from beet processing has been used as the water and nutrient source in growing cattails as a crop. The goals of this research are: maximizing productivity, determining the potential of cattails in wastewater treatment and evaluating total water-loss.

PEST CLINIC - Experts in disease, weed, and insect identification will be on hand to answer any questions regarding identification and control of these pests.

This archival publication may not reflect current scientific knowledge or recommendations.
Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>.

Smith's Comments



We must be in a drought cycle. The 320th load of alfalfa haylage off of 310 acres was just put in the silo without so much as a drop of rain on it. The above normal temperatures, coupled with below normal rainfall of the past three months, has hastened the development of the small grains in the area and reduced yield potential.

We must be in a drought cycle. The 320th load of alfalfa haylage off of 310 acres was just put in the silo without so much as a drop of rain on it. The above normal temperatures, coupled with below normal rainfall of the past three months, has hastened the development of the small grains in the area and reduced yield potential. All things considered, however, the agronomy, soils and plant pathology research plots on the Station and the eight off-Station locations are in relatively good condition.

The recently adjourned Minnesota Legislature provided the Station with funds to construct a new grain and feed handling center. This center will replace the elevator system currently being used that was built in 1906 primarily as a seed handling unit. There were many smiling faces on the livestock and farm crews when the bonding bill was passed. Thanks to all in the Legislature that supported the center especially our area and regional representatives and senators.

Sady Newell, principal accountant for the past 20 years, will retire on June 30. Sady has shown great patience in trying to teach me the ins and outs of handling the financial records of the Station during the past four years. The Station and, I'm sure all who have done business with the Station, will miss her.

The new dairy research and teaching facility, with the exception of the milking parlor, is complete and working well. Dedication of the facility will be on the afternoon of Crops and Soils Day. Dr. Marx has put together a program that all will enjoy.

The annual Crops and Soils Field Day is set for Wednesday, July 15. This day provides an opportunity for you to visit with research staff from St. Paul and the Station and to see what your Experiment Station is doing in the various research areas. We hope to see you on July 15.

Calendar of Events

Crops and Soils Day
July 15

**Prairie Grouse Technical
Council Conference**
Sept. 15, 16, 17 & 18

Sheep Day
October

Beef Cattlemen's Institute
October

Beef Day
December

Dairy Day
January 13

Beef Cow - Calf Day
Red Lake Falls
January 20

SADY RETIRES JUNE 30

Sady Newell, principal accountant at the Northwest Experiment Station, is retiring on June 30. Sady and her husband, Ben, spent some time in Arizona this past winter and they liked it so well, they thought it would be nice to be able to travel every winter.

Sady originally worked in the business office at the Technical College and transferred to the Experiment Station in 1974. The staff of the Experiment Station appreciates Sady's ability to accomplish the general accounting chores quickly and accurately, yet respond to the many individual requests for purchasing information needed on a daily basis.

Sady and Ben live in Fertile, Minnesota and she says she is not going to miss the drive during the winter months. They have three sons and eight grandchildren. Future plans include some traveling, sleeping late, and just enjoying life at a

slower pace.

Sady was presented with a plaque by Supt. Larry Smith (L) for her many years of devoted service at the 11th Annual Employee Recognition Banquet held

recently. She was also honored at a retirement coffee party by friends and staff on June 29.

Best wishes, Sady and Ben, and thanks for a job well done.



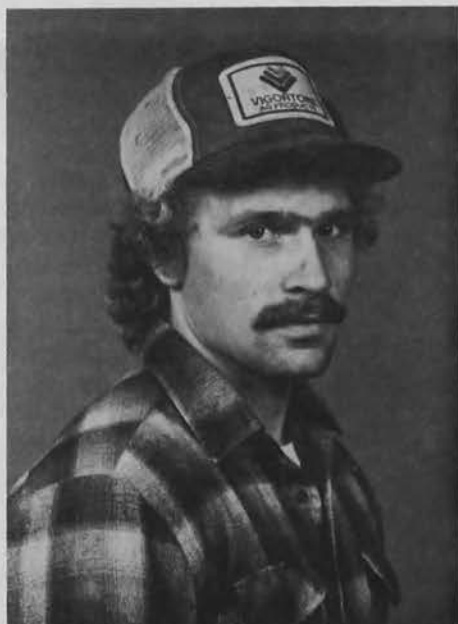
NEW FACES ON NWES STAFF

The staff of the Northwest Experiment Station has many new faces. Among them are Joe Larson and John Otterness, assistant farm animal attendants in the Meat Animal Science Department.



Joe Larson was born and raised on a farm near Euclid. He graduated from Crookston Central and attended UMC for two years where he obtained an Associates Degree in Animal Science.

Joe started working in the sheep department as part of his internship for his college studies. He has been a member of 4-H, FFA, and the American Junior Angus Association. Joe is single and one of his hobbies is raising Angus cattle.



John Otterness also graduated from UMC. John grew up near Spring Grove, Minnesota, where his parents operated a dairy and swine operation that John worked in while attending high school.

John started working in the sheep department during the lambing season on a part-time basis. John and his wife, Julie, are the parents of Samuel, an active toddler that keeps them very busy. John likes to lift weights in his free time.

Both John and Joe are supervised by Dr. Harvey Windels and Jeff Volesky.

The new face in the Soils Department is **Todd Cymbaluk**. Todd joined the staff of the Experiment Station as a junior scientist/soils in March. Todd's supervisor is Dr. John Lamb, assistant professor/soils.



Todd was born and raised just a few miles east of the Station. He is a graduate of Crookston Central and North Dakota State University with a degree in agronomy. Todd began working at the Northwest Experiment Station in 1981 as a summer employee in the Soils Department. He continued his employment throughout his high school and college days. Todd likes sports activities, hunting, wood working, travel and meeting people.



The new face in the Agronomy/Sugarbeet Department is **Julie Reitmeier**. Julie joined the Experiment Station staff on April 27 as a research plot technician. She assists Roger Ruthenberg with the sugarbeet field research done by scientists in agronomy, plant pathology, soil science and weed science. At the end of the field season, Julie will assist the Station's plant pathology project with greenhouse experiments involving sugarbeet seedling and root diseases. This position is funded by the Sugarbeet Research and Education Board of Minnesota and North Dakota.

Reitmeier grew up on a grain farm near Fertile, Minnesota; is a UMC graduate in Crop Science; has worked in several agriculture-related jobs including the ASCS, Central, and as a supervisor/scout in the Minnesota Extension Service Crop Pest Management program. Julie enjoys craft work, camping and fishing. She is married to Gary Reitmeier and they have a 2-year old daughter, Whitney.

**Welcome to all
the new members
of the NWES staff.**



***You are invited to the
Dedication for the
Dairy Research and Teaching Facility***

**July 15, 1987
1:15 p.m.
Northwest Experiment Station
University of Minnesota-Crookston**

The new Dairy Research and Teaching Center will be used to continue the applied research in nutrition, breeding, and management and to test and demonstrate high technology in the environmental area, the record management, data collection, milking procedures, and labor saving systems.

Taking part in the dedication festivities will be:

Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe

Representative Bernard Lieder

Vice President for Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics Richard Sauer

University of Minnesota Board of Regents Stanley Sahlstrom

Dairy Industry Representative Roger Odegaard

Chancellor of the University of Minnesota-Crookston Donald Sargeant

Superintendent of the Northwest Experiment Station Larry Smith

Please join us for the dedication on Wednesday, July 15, at 1:15 p.m.

Refreshments and tours of the center will follow.

UMC Word Processing

*The Northwest Experiment Station News
Issued by*

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NORTHWEST EXPERIMENT STATION
Crookston, MN 56716

Patti Malme, Associate Editor

CAR-RT
Third Class
Bulk Rate
Crookston, MN
Permit No. 10