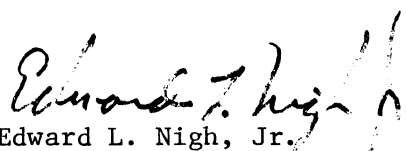


INTRODUCTION

Arizona farmers harvested their eleventh crop of sugarbeets for sugar in 1977. Also, a significant portion of the nation's beet seed is produced in Arizona each year and per acre yields and seed quality have been excellent.

Sugarbeets fit rotations at the lower and intermediate elevations of Arizona very well. Where beets are grown as a winter-annual much of the growth occurs when temperatures are cool and when water use is very efficient. While a high level of management is required, the potential returns per acre from sugarbeets are higher than for most other winter-annual crops.

The Arizona Sugarbeet Growers Association and Amstar-Spreckels Sugar Division have continued to be very strong forces in maintaining sugarbeets as a successful crop in Arizona. Representatives of both of these organizations have worked closely with representatives of the College of Agriculture and a team approach has resulted. The College of Agriculture is grateful for the cooperative spirit which has continued throughout the years and we offer this report as a product of our joint effort.



Edward L. Nigh, Jr.
Associate Director
Cooperative Extension Service



L.W. Dewhirst
Director
Agricultural Experiment Station



Gerald R. Stairs
Dean, College of Agriculture
Director, Cooperative Extension Service