

RESEARCH FUNDING

ABOUT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH...

In October of 1987 the University of Arizona dedicated the Maricopa Agricultural Center (Big MAC). This 2100 acre research station and demonstration farm is a tribute to Bart Cardon, Pete Dewhirst and all of the others who worked to complete this internationally unique research facility. This was evident from the size of the audience and the numerous congratulatory letters associated with Big MAC's dedication. The coupling of programmatic efforts now possible at Big MAC with our other scientific activities in Tucson and elsewhere signals a new era in the College's research, instruction and extension programs. This new continuum of relevant agricultural science should well serve Arizona's agricultural industry for many decades.

This has been a year of growth and change for the College of Agriculture. Considerable effort has been directed to refining our programs with a goal of selected excellence in those areas most important to the future of Arizona's agriculture. We firmly believe that our College will become the international center of excellence in most facets of agricultural research, instruction and extension relative to arid and semi-arid lands. To achieve these goals, we have looked at our organization to ensure we are poised to maximize our current resources and, equally important, to be more competitive nationally and internationally for additional funding. Several key people have joined our team and others are being actively recruited. Most of these new hires are from outside the College and will bring fresh insight and vigor to the solution of our problems. Included are Dr. John Law, Associate Dean for Instruction; Dr. Peter Wierenga, Head, Department of Soil and Water Science; Dr. Brian Larkins, Head, Department of Plant Sciences; Dr. Ed Kendrick, Head, School of Renewable

Natural Resources; Mr. Gordon Johnson, Director of Agricultural Administrative Services; and Dr. Merle Jensen, Assistant Dean for Sponsored Research. Dr. Pete Dewhirst, who represents the corporate memory and stability of our College, now serves as Vice Dean. In addition to a new Associate Dean for Research, we are also recruiting for the headships in Entomology, Animal Sciences, and Family and Consumer Resources. Coupled with critical new faculty hires, these new members of the administrative team will add to the problem-solving capabilities relating to Arizona's agriculture.

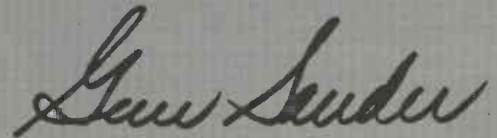
Construction of the new Agricultural Biotechnology Laboratory Building will begin sometime this fall. We wish to especially thank Senator Dennis DeConcini and the other members of the Arizona delegation for helping us secure a \$4.57 million USDA matching construction grant allowing us to increase the size of the building. Actually, this building is vitally important to the future scientific programs of the College and is a tribute to Arizona's agricultural industry.

Funding for this \$17.8 million building came principally from either the sale or leasing of lands originally donated to the College by agricultural producers in the state. While many contributed to securing federal help from the USDA, three deserve special mention. These are Dr. Pete Dewhirst, Mr. Wilbur Wuertz and Ms. Margy McGonagill.

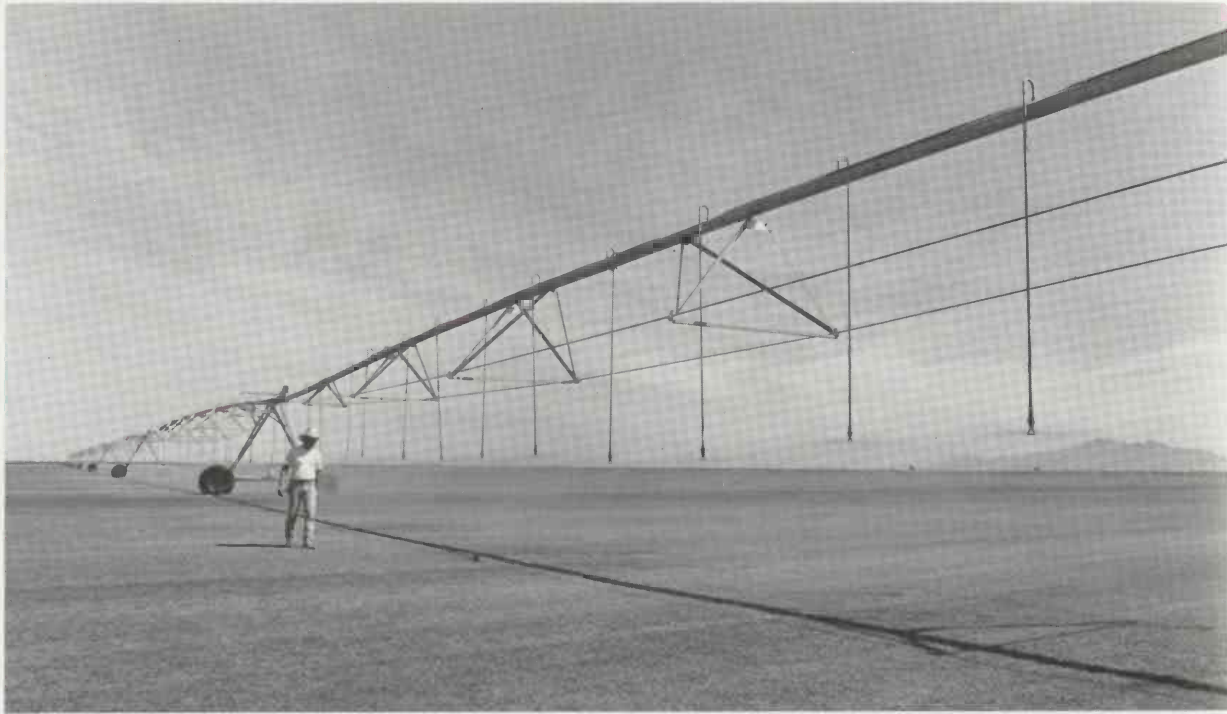
This also was a year of considerable recognition for a group of scientists who constitute the University's Center for Insect Science. This team of faculty from the College of Agriculture, Faculty of Sciences and the USDA Bee Lab received a \$1.7 million grant from the National Science Foundation. Only three of these prestigious biological center grants were awarded this

past fiscal year, the other two going to Johns Hopkins University and the University of California at Berkeley. Personally, I believe this recognition to be a clear signal that Arizona's efforts in the insect sciences are second to none. I believe our University will also be equally competitive in the area of plant biology as it relates to stress. Expanded vegetable research and extension programs at the Yuma and Maricopa Agricultural Research Centers are also rapidly evolving. Plans for a much needed Environmental Sciences Building, which will house parts of our School of Renewable Natural Resources, Soil and Water Science and the Office of Arid Lands Studies, will be initiated in the coming year. This additional building will further alleviate the single largest problem facing the College of Agriculture—the lack of adequate research space.

In closing, I would like to return to Big MAC. I am pleased to inform you that the University of Arizona and the Arizona Board of Regents have authorized naming the principal science building at the Maricopa Agricultural Center the Bartley P. Cardon Agricultural Research Building. The responses we received from many of you were overwhelming in making this request become a reality. It is indeed a worthy tribute to a distinguished scientist/administrator who has contributed much to this College and Arizona's agriculture.



Eugene G. Sander
Dean and Director
Agricultural Experiment Station



L. Ketchum



A. Fertig



L. Ketchum