

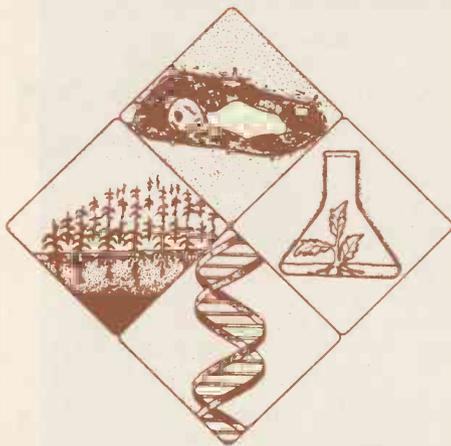
Academic Programs



PLANT SYSTEMS



Dominic Odenshaw



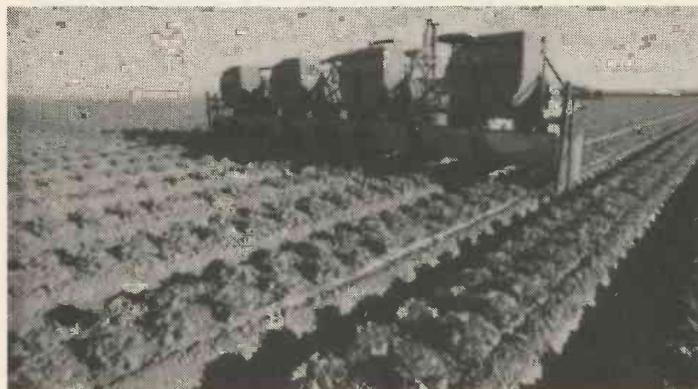
S. McGinley

" I like plant science because there's always something new to learn, and it's ever-changing. I enjoy studying the way plants respond to environmental conditions. The people here have influenced me in a very positive way, and allowed me to be the person I am. The teachers have always been available for me and for other students. Being a teacher assistant in the department has been one of the best experiences I've had. It helped me get the job I have now."

Della Fletcher
Plant Sciences, M.S.
Career: Program coordinator for an Extension program in landscape water conservation

Plant Sciences Department

Majors in this department provide students with a broad background in plant biology. Classes focus on all aspects of plant growth, development, and culture, from the molecular level through the plant's interaction with the environment. Career opportunities include plant improvement, horticulture, environment/ecology, agronomy, plant biotechnology or agribusiness. Modern research facilities on-campus comprise a greenhouse complex, plant tissue culture facility, biotechnology materials and equipment. Two research farms are located within minutes of the campus. The department offers programs leading to the B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in **Plant Sciences**.



Program Spotlight

THE TURF PROGRAM

Most outdoor recreational facilities, from golf courses to city parks, use turfgrass. Qualified professionals are needed to manage these facilities, where annual budgets for personnel and equipment can exceed \$1 million. The goal is to produce the best turf possible, with the least amount of water, fertilizer and pesticides.

Students in both **Plant Sciences** and the **Agricultural Technology Major** have the opportunity to pursue coursework in turfgrass management. Plant science majors generally undertake heavier course load in the basic sciences to prepare for either graduate work or careers investigating the biological and physical aspects of turf grasses.

The Desert Turfgrass Research Facility and accompanying Karsten Laboratory at The University of Arizona Campus Agricultural Center in Tucson form a state-of-the-art facility devoted to the special challenges and requirements the turf industry faces in dry climates. Both graduate and undergraduate students can choose courses in beginning and advanced turf management, and then gain hands-on experience performing experiments and working on turf plots and greens at the Center. They are also expected to perform summer internships at large turfgrass facilities.

UA turfgrass students have secured employment as superintendents at some of the most prestigious golf courses in the United States.