



Your Farm Research Lab!

New Center to be Located
On University's Mesa Farm

New buildings and facilities to be installed at headquarters of the University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station at Mesa indicate clearly the confidence which Arizona farmers and ranchers have in the present and future value of research.

These new facilities are to be constructed with an authorization of \$215,000 from the 1952 session of the Arizona Legislature. They will be put into operation at the earliest possible moment for there are a number of problems waiting for answers. In fact, insect and plant disease problems have become so acute this year that an entomologist and a plant pathologist started working even before ground was broken for the new facilities. These men have been working from temporary quarters with their "laboratories" in their automobiles.

Mesa Station Laboratory

Foremost on the building program for the Mesa Station will be the main building with about 10,000 square feet of floor space. This building will probably be called the "Mesa Station Laboratory" (see picture above). It will provide offices and laboratories for technicians of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station and the State Chemist.

Experiment Station operations planned for the immediate future in connection with the Laboratory will include work by the departments of

horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, and soils. The offices and laboratories of the State Chemist in the new building will be used for analytical work on feeds, fertilizers, insecticides, and agricultural minerals which has been heretofore carried on in the College of Agriculture Building in Tucson.

In addition to seven specialized laboratories and ten offices, the new building will contain soil preparation and nitrogen rooms, a seed analysis room, a photographic darkroom, four temperature control rooms (for vegetable storage investigations) and a room to be used as a conference room and library.

Other facilities included in the building program are three 25-foot greenhouses equipped with a headhouse. A 40' x 40' utility building for storing and mixing fertilizers and insecticides and for storing seeds will also be constructed.

Attached to this utility building will be a seed storage room made available by a special appropriation of the Arizona Crop Improvement Association. This storage space will be used by the A.C.I.A. in its seed improvement work, much of which is carried on cooperatively with the University.

A feed mill building for storing, grinding and mixing feeds, and eight cattle-feeding lots each 60' x 60' with necessary working lots are to be built for an expanded animal husbandry

program. It is anticipated that all parts of the building program will be completed by mid-summer 1953.

To Help Meet Food Needs

These new research facilities are directly in line with the nation-wide effort to meet the food and fiber needs of the future. Our national population is growing at the rate of two and one-half million people a year. Since about three acres of cropland equivalent are needed to produce the annual food and fiber needs of each person in the United States, there are needed annually the equivalent of seven and one-half million acres of new cropland to feed and clothe the additional population.

According to present best estimates, there are about forty-five million acres that can be economically added to our present agricultural production area. Even if these forty-five million acres were added to our present cropland area at the rate required by our increasing population, which is very unlikely, they would last only six years.

The demand of the future can be met only by making better use of the land we already have. To accomplish this, we must look first toward **research**, for research is the living source of progress.

The new research programs planned for the Mesa Station have been designed with this necessity in mind and should contribute significantly not only to Arizona's agricultural problems but to those of the Nation as well.