

# A CENTURY OF GREATNESS

Your father, your grandfather and your great-grandfather in all their lifetimes saw fewer changes in American agriculture than the middle-aged observer today.

Henry Adams, the historian, was an exacting and careful reporter as he described New England agriculture 150 years ago:

"The plow was rude and clumsy, the sickle as old as Tubal Cain, and even the cradle not in general use. The flail was unchanged since the Aryan exodus. In Virginia, grain was still commonly trodden out by horses. . . . Livestock was as a rule not only unimproved but ill-cared for. The swine ran loose; the cattle were left to feed on what pasture they could find. The ordinary cultivator planted his corn as his father had planted his, sowing so much rye to the acre, using the same number of oxen to plow, and getting in his crops on the same day. He was even known to remove his barn on account of the manure accumulated around it."

Today's greatest contrast with that pioneer era is probably in electronics. (A decade ago it would have been the chemicals in use in Agriculture.) At our Yuma branch stations the research workers, by using electronic instruments, can measure the solar heat beating down on a cow or steer. At our Campbell Avenue farms in Tucson the key to asphalt stripping of cold season row crops is electronic measurement of heat and moisture of soil at various depths.

At the University's Citrus Station, near Phoenix, Supt. Hilgeman has electronic instruments measuring by hour and minutes the changing temperature of a citrus leaf. (A 25-degree variation in a few hours is not unusual.) At the Plant Materials Center in Tucson Dr. Neal Wright has an involved electronic growth control chamber whereby he can test the light, heat, air movement, respiration, humidity and other factors of grasses.

Several oddly separate but related things come to mind:

1. All this gadgetry has practical application to help in America's production of food and fiber;
2. What an amazingly wide and varied training the agricultural scientist of today must have;
3. In the frightening military inventiveness of the Russians, how interesting and how very important is the fact that they still haven't learned to feed their own people adequately;
4. As we now celebrate the Land-Grant Centennial, what a wonderful century of agricultural progress lies there in history, culminating in the most advanced



agriculture and the best-nourished citizenry in the history of mankind;

5. Lastly, we in 1962 can look into the future to even greater advances, more startling changes, in the century we are just entering. With agricultural research and extension education developing new accomplishments and carrying them to the people, a revolution in human nutrition, in food and fiber production, will pour forth from men and women who are the classroom students of today.

*Harold E. Myers*

Dean

College of Agriculture  
and  
School of Home Economics

## Our Cover Picture



**FOY HERSCHEDE** of Springerville, left, proudly displays with **Louis Barbier** the Hereford bull and cow that won him Grand Champion awards for each at the recent Arizona National Livestock Show in Phoenix. The Herschede Herefords won many awards as did other outstanding Arizona and outstate breeders in all of the various cattle breeds. The University of Arizona with its Angus bull won Grand Champion award for the second consecutive year while a university Hereford placed Reserve Champion. Early bidding was active for champions easing back to slightly above normal for the balance of the auction. One well publicized feature was the price-topping for championship Charolaise breeding stock, well represented for the first-of-the-year stock show.

## In This Issue

Birds' Department Subject of Study	- 3
Diuron for Weeds in Cotton	- - - - 4
Charles U. Pickrell	- - - - 4
A Career in Plant Pathology	- - - - 5
Ariz. Homes Well-Equipped Electrically	6
Todd, Bee Man, Goes to Beltsville	- - 6
A 2-Way Deal on Sorghum	- - - - 7
Land-Grant Proclamation	-- - - - 8
Strontium Uptake Study	- - - - 9
Choosing Chipping Potatoes	- - - - 10
N. Dakotan In Extension Here	- - - 11
Lieberman, Entomologist, Here	- - - 11
Arizona Agriculture in 1961	- - - - 12
Buckner Gets Scholarship	- - - - 13
Metcalfe Agronomy Editor	- - - - 13
Cotton Staple Length Studies	- - - 14
4-H Dog Program	- - - - 15
Deltapine Tops in 1961	- - - - 15
Brechan Honored by Agents	- - - - 15
Don't Downgrade Agriculture	- - - 16

## PROGRESSIVE Agriculture in ARIZONA

Vol. XIV No. 2  
March-April 1962

Published bimonthly by the College of Agriculture, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, Harold E. Myers, dean.

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1949, at the post office at Tucson, Arizona, under the act of August 24, 1912.

Reprinting of articles, or use of information in *Progressive Agriculture in Arizona*, by newspapers and magazines is permitted, with credit.

Editor: John Burnham.

Editorial Board Members: Howard R. Baker, Extension Service; Mitchell G. Vavich, Experiment Station; Russell W. Cline, Resident Instructor; Mildred R. Jensen, School of Home Economics; Richard K. Frevert, chairman; Joe McClelland and George Alstad, ex-officio.

Arizona farmers, ranchmen and homemakers may have their names placed on the mailing list to receive *Progressive Agriculture* at no cost by sending a request to the College of Agriculture, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.