



K-STATE AGRONOMY



1906

2006

A Century Remembered



Pre- "Department of Agronomy"

- 1858-1863: Bluemont College
- 1863: Kansas State Agricultural College
- W.K. Kedzie (Chemical Department) conducted early work on crops and soils.
- 1887: Hatch Act establishes KAES

Pre-”Department of Agronomy”

- 1888-1905: Agronomic research conducted in Botany, Agriculture, Farm, and Chemical Departments.
- 67 KAES publications: Crop Science and Weed Science
- E.M. Shelton. 1888. Experience with Cultivated Grasses and Clovers in Kansas

Pre- "Department of Agronomy"

- June 1902: KBOR “voted that Soil Physics be carried out in the Farm Department and that Soil Chemistry be carried out in the Chemical Department”.
- J.T. Willard (Chemical Department, Head 1897-1918) conducted work on crops and soils

Department of Agronomy: 1906-1910

- Board of Regents Minutes, July 17, 1906

“Moved by Regent Nichols that the name of the Agriculture Department be changed to Agronomy. Carried.”

Department of Agronomy: 1906-1910

- Albert M. Ten Eyck, Head, 1906-1910
- V.M. Shoesmith. 1906. The Study of Corn



Professor A. M. Ten Eyck

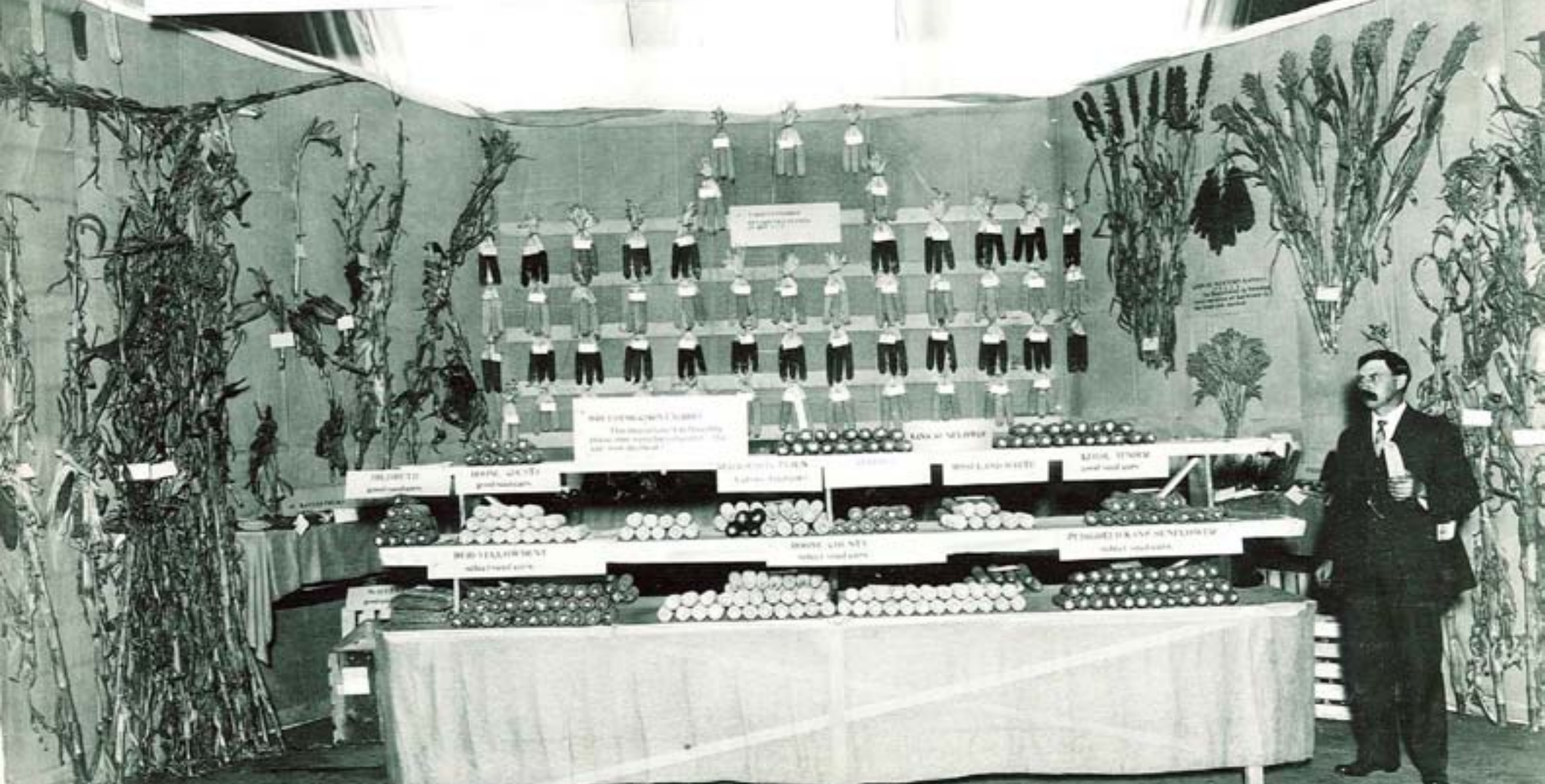


AGRICULTURAL HALL.

KANSAS

AGRICULTURAL

COLLEGE



Crop Variety Display, Chicago, 1907

Department of Agronomy: 1906-1910

- “. . . and to understand the principles of agriculture requires a knowledge of many sciences”
- Four general areas of study:
 - Soils
 - Crops
 - Farm mechanics
 - Farm management

North Farm Purchased 1909

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY

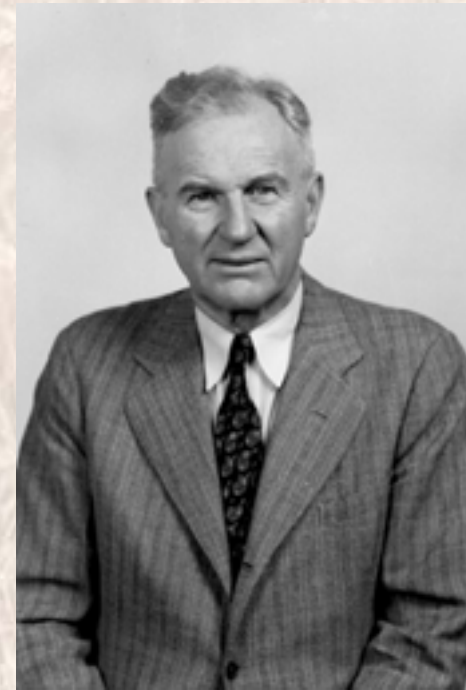
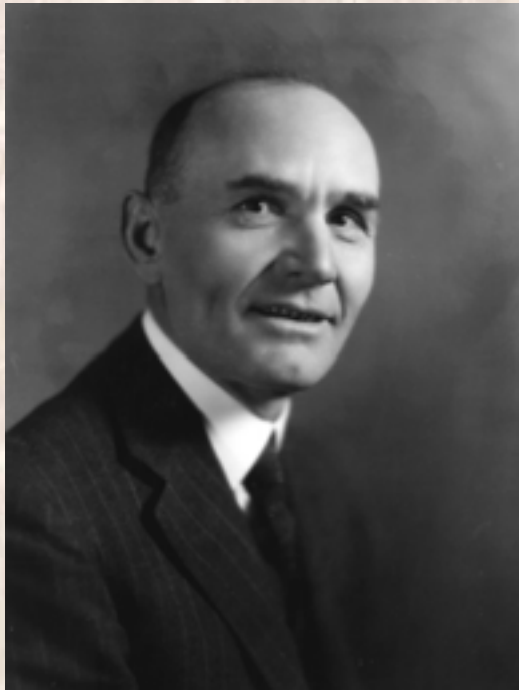
NORTH FARM

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

2200 KIMBALL

Department of Agronomy: 1910-1925

- William M. Jardine, Head, 1910-1913
- Leland E. Call, Head, 1913-1925



Department of Agronomy: 1910-1925

- 1914: Smith Lever Act establishes Cooperative Extension
- 1916: Klod and Kernel Klub organized



OFFICERS and MEMBERS. Left to right in the picture: Top row—H. D. Holloman, H. M. Latta, H. J. Haas. Third row—G. A. Becker, Trust. H. B. Gentry, V. P. L. S. Evans, Jr., D. A. Rein. Second row—E. W. Parsons, R. T. Latta, R. P. Murray, L. E. Weaver, R. L. Prater, R. C. L. Bottom row—F. G. Parsons, Pres., R. B. Jansen, C. R. Dorian, J. R. Dickie. Members not in the picture: J. L. Munn, M. P. Reeves.

KLOD AND KERNEL KLUB

THE Tri-K is an organization of students and faculty men interested in agronomy and related fields. The club sponsors students' crop judging contests and similar activities. The club is a member of the student section of the American Society of Agronomy.



EAST WATERS hall is the home of milling and agronomy students and houses the offices of the Ag dean and the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association.

Department of Agronomy: 1910-1925

- 1917: Kanred Wheat, H. Fuller Roberts, Botany
- 1917: John Parker, Wheat Breeder
- 1919: First field inspection, KCIA
- 1923: First Agronomy Experiment Field
- 1923: First Crops Judging Team
- 1925: Agronomy Field Days Begin

Department of Agronomy: 1925-1946

- Ray I. Throckmorton,
Head, 1925-1946
- Depression, dust bowl,
WWII
- 1929-1930: 15 crop
courses, 8 soils courses, 4
graduate courses



Alfred E. Aldous, Prescribed Burning



Department of Agronomy: 1925-1946

- 1931: KSAC becomes Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 1936: Kling L. Anderson, Range Scientist
- 1943-44 H.H. King (Chemistry Department) publishes in SSSAP
- 1945: Soil Conservation Curriculum created

Department of Agronomy: 1946-1970

- Harold E. Myers, Head, 1946-1952
- Raymond V. Olson, Head, 1952-1970



Department of Agronomy: 1946-1970

- 1947: First county soil testing lab
- 1947: Elmer Heyne, Wheat Breeding
- 1948: Roscoe Ellis, Jr., Soil Chemistry
- 1951-1952: Ph.D. in Agronomy, Soils
- Early 1950s (?), State soil testing lab opens

1957 Fire in Waters Hall



Department of Agronomy: 1946-1970

- 1958: Soils Judging Team begins with Orville Bidwell
- 1959: KSCAAS becomes Kansas State University
- Late 1950s-1960s: “Full-Load” Extension meetings and “In-Depth” Schools introduced
- 1963: Extension Agronomy faculty move to Waters Hall
- 1964: Klod and Kernel Klub becomes Wheat State Agronomy Club



K-6905-11

Tornado at the Agronomy Farm, 1966



Department of Agronomy: 1971-1990

- Hyde S. Jacobs, Head, 1971-1980
- George E. Ham, Head, 1980-1990



Department of Agronomy: 1971-1990

- 1977: Newton Wheat released
- 1981: First Weeds team competes
- 1982: Ellis and Heyne lectureships established
- 1989: Rannells Flint Hills Prairie research site established

Kansas Rangelands

their management,
based on
a half century of research



Bulletin 622 • October 1978 • Agricultural Experiment Station • Kansas State University, Manhattan • Floyd W. Smith, director

Harney Silt Loam

Adopted as the State Soil of Kansas

April 12, 1990



Groundbreaking, Throckmorton Phase I



Say thanks to an Extension Specialist

- New and improved crop varieties/hybrids
- Soil fertility
- Tillage
- Weed control
- Training of County Extension Agents
- Profound impacts on productivity, preservation of our soil resource, water quality, and many more

Extension Agronomy Faculty 1985



Department of Agronomy: 1990-2006

- Gerry L. Posler, Head, 1990-1998
- David E. Mengel, Head, 1998-2005



Department of Agronomy: 1990-2006

- **Environmental research greatly expands**
- **1991: Anderson lectureship established**
- **1998: Betty and Heyne wheat varieties released**
- **1999-2004: Crops Judging Team wins 6 consecutive national titles.**

Throckmorton Phase II Groundbreaking, March 1992



Jagger Wheat Released 1994



Department of Agronomy: 1990-2006

- 2001: Consortium for Agricultural and Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases established
- 2001: Center for Sorghum Improvement established
- 2003: Learning Farm established



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Kansas State University
Agromony
a **GROWING** profession

- 36 Faculty (56% with national recognition)
- 100 Undergraduate students with 100% placement
- 55 Graduate students
- Five experiment fields



Kansas State University
Agronomy
a **GROWING** profession

- \$8,000,000 budget
- Extramural funding expenditures
 - 2nd College of Agriculture
 - 4th University-wide
- >250 on the payroll



**Excellent laboratory,
greenhouse, and
teaching facilities**





**Excellent field research
and seed production facilities**







Wheat State Agronomy Club

Agronomy Graduate Student Association



Economic Impact

- Approximately 2628 graduates since 1906
- Considering the difference in earnings between high school graduates and those holding a bachelors degree, our students have contributed >\$2.4 Billion to the economy
- Does not consider significant personal and social benefits associated with a college education.

Economic Impact

- Pasture burning
 - Increased weight gains and reduced brush control costs
 - Annual net return of \$22,400,000



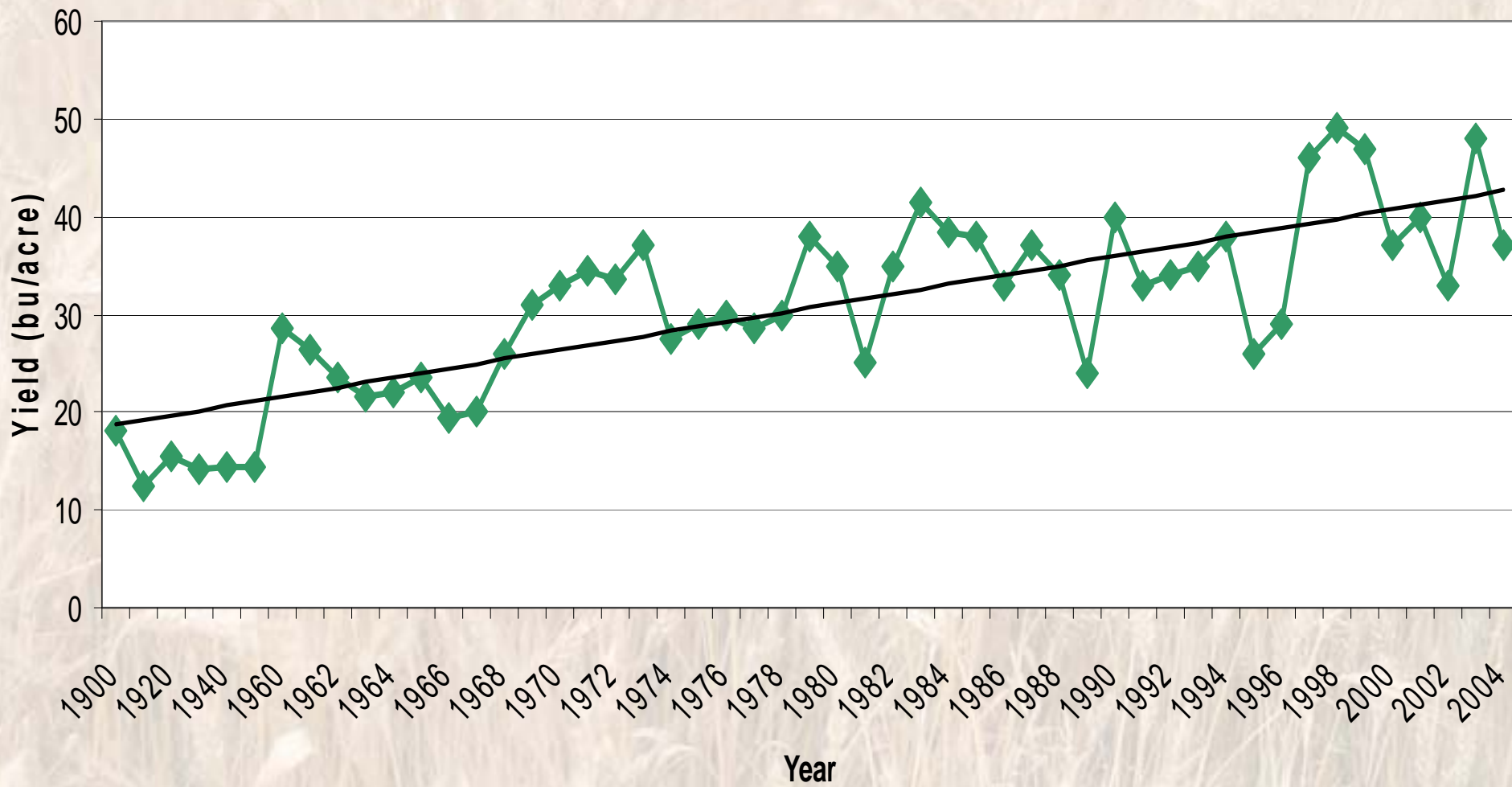
Economic Impact

- Intensive early stocking
 - Increased weight gains
 - Annual net return of \$76,125,000





KANSAS WHEAT YIELD 1900-2004



Economic Impact

- Average crop yields have doubled since 1900
- For wheat, since 1977, 87% of the increase is due to wheat breeding
- Estimated economic benefit of KAES wheat breeding is \$89 million/yr, or \$2.6 billion since 1977.
- \$18.50 returned to the state economy for each dollar invested

What does the future hold for Agronomy?

- Plenty of issues that need our expertise
 - Crop breeding and genetics
 - Environmental issues
 - Global climate change
 - Air quality
 - Herbicide-resistant crops and weeds
 - Many more
- Global food supply

What does the future hold for Agronomy?

- Alternative crops
- Cooperative Extension/Engagement
- Preservation/Enhancement/Utilization of our soil and rangeland resources
- Further expansion of our research beyond the boundaries of traditional agriculture
- High demand for our graduates

K-STATE AGRONOMY



K-STATE AGRONOMY



Two Centuries Remembered