

Cooperation Makes Dream Come True

# Cotton Research Center Dedicated

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A dream of all those interested in the future of cotton in Arizona has been realized. The buildings of the new University of Arizona Cotton Research Center at Mesa, Arizona, were dedicated Dec. 6, 1956.

How the Cotton Research Center came into being is an excellent example of what the word *cooperation* means. Arizona cotton growers through their organization, the Arizona Cotton Planting Seed Distributors, donated a 265-acre, irrigated farm to the University. The Arizona State Legislatures of 1954 and 1955 appropriated funds for construction of the buildings.

Additional funds were provided through the Arizona Cotton Planting Seed Distributors to make it possible to add a library-conference room to the original building plans. Plans for the center were developed with close cooperation between the staffs of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cotton Section of the U.S. Agricultural Research Service.

## Five New Buildings

The five new buildings at the Cotton Research Center are:

At the dedication, U of A Dean Harold E. Myers with Dr. Byron T. Shaw of the Agricultural Research Service of USDA, a speaker at the Dec. 6 ceremony.



Janet Cooper, Arizona Maid of Cotton, cut the ribbon across the doorway. Here she is shown with U of A Pres. Richard A. Harvill, left, and Kenneth McMicken of the Cotton Planting Seed Distributors, right.

(1) An office-laboratory building containing nine offices, five laboratories, the library-conference room and a reception room. Unique in the laboratories is a fiber analysis room where temperature and humidity are precisely controlled to permit technicians to measure cotton fiber properties accurately. This laboratory is cork insulated, sealed against outside humidity variations, and has a separate air-conditioning unit. The other laboratories are for plant pathology, nematology, general chemistry and ginning and preparation of small cotton samples for fiber analysis.

(2) A greenhouse and headhouse for growing cotton plants during the winter months.

(3) A machine shop for development and repair of cotton machinery. Next to the shop and connected by a breezeway is a gin room where cotton can be ginned and cleaned for milling quality tests and for processing cotton breeder seed.

(4) A machinery storage shed containing storage room for hand tools.

(5) A residence for the farm superintendent.

Development of the Arizona Cotton Research Center has made possible even closer cooperation between federal and University of Arizona cotton research workers. The entire staff from the former U. S. Department of Agriculture Sacaton Field Station has been transferred to the center. Four university staff members are now stationed there and it is hoped more can be added when additional offices and laboratories are constructed.

With facilities comparable to the best in the United States, and with a capable and growing research staff, this new center assures Arizona cotton farmers that their problems will be met more effectively than ever before.

## Research Already Begun

A vigorous research program is already in progress at the Cotton Research Center. Nearly 80 acres of cotton for experimental purposes were planted there in 1956. Cotton breeding, disease control, cultural practices, weed and insect control were some of the kinds of studies begun there in 1956. These studies will be continued and, in addition, the program for 1957 will include research on soil fertility and mechanization.

Left to right, U of A Pres. Harvill, J. Clyde Wilson of the Cotton Growers, Dr. Byron T. Shaw, Kenneth McMicken, Dean Myers.

