

**Agronomic Division — 1995 Annual Report**  
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In the laboratory, the Agronomic Division has continued and nearly completed its effort to automate its functions through implementation of the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) project. As a result, the division has had a productive and record-breaking year. More than 292,800 soil, plant tissue, waste, solution and nematode samples were processed and analyzed. This figure represents 18,500 more samples than were handled the previous year.

In the field, Agronomic Division regional agronomists spearheaded an effort to promote and encourage conservation tillage statewide. Six conservation tillage field days were organized, each involving the Agronomic Division, university and extension personnel, agricultural supply companies, resource conservation personnel, growers and the press. In each case, the following benefits of conservation tillage were emphasized: potential yield increases, especially during drought years; increased efficiency through reduction in fuel-, equipment- and labor-related costs; increased capacity to farm larger acreages; and improved soil structure.