

Agronomic Division — 1996 Annual Report
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In the laboratory, the Agronomic Division achieved the following milestones:

- completion of its Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) project, thereby fully automating laboratory functions;
- provision of public access to all agronomic reports (soil tests, nematode assays, plant tissue analyses, waste analyses and solution analyses) via the internet; and
- implementation of standardized procedures for detection of the tobacco cyst nematode.

In accordance with its training/education function, the Division

- hosted the joint annual meeting of the SERA-IEG 6, NCR-13 and NEC-67 soil testing societies;
- participated in the Electrotechnologies in Production Agriculture meeting sponsored by the Agricultural Technology Alliance;
- participated in Nutrient Management Training sponsored by the N.C. Plant Food Association;
- participated in the Waste Management Symposium sponsored by the Soil Science Society of North Carolina;
- helped develop training materials for certification of animal-waste-management-system operators; and
- conducted a state-wide series of animal-waste-management certification programs.

To inform the public about its recent technological advancements, the Division

- completely revised the publication “Crop fertilization based on North Carolina soil tests;”
- developed several new management notes;
- issued a brochure addressing waste analysis in North Carolina;
- distributed flyers on internet access to agronomic reports;
- publicized/promoted its services in at least 22 exhibits statewide; and
- updated its internet home page links to cover its entire range of publications.

The Agronomic Division facility, constructed two years ago to house its new state-of-the-art laboratories, was dedicated in May of this year. The new facility was named in honor of Dr. Donald W. Eaddy. Dr. Eaddy has been the Division’s director since 1969.