



STATION NEWS

A House Organ for Station Employees
Not for Publication Without Consent

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New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 8 - 10:30 a.m. - Tour - Audio Visual Bus, Community Education Center, Rochester
9 - 9:30 a.m. - Tour - Brighton Central School, Enriched Science Course Students
9 - 10:00 a.m. - Tour - Cub Scouts, Canandaigua

BYSSOCHLAMYS SEMINAR HELD

Evidence indicates that the incidence of spoilage outbreaks of thermally processed acid foods caused by the mold, *Byssochlamys*, is increasing. So that those concerned with this mold could exchange information, a seminar type meeting was held at the Food Research Laboratory on the afternoon of June 18 and the morning of June 19. More than 50 persons from 32 organizations in 12 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada came to Geneva for the meeting. Attending were representatives from educational institutes, federal and industrial supported research laboratories in this country and Canada, material suppliers to the food industry, and the food processing industry.

The meeting was organized through the cooperation of C. B. Denny of the National Canners Association, D. I. Murdock of the Coca-Cola Company, D. T. Maunder

of the Continental Can Company, and Don Splittstoesser and Don Downing of the Station's Food Science and Technology Department.

Attesting to the success of the meeting is our cover photograph this issue which shows Dr. James Canada of Gerber Products Research Division in deep thought before answering a question asked at the seminar.

PROFESSOR SLATE RETIRES

This afternoon members of the Station family meet in the lounge upstairs in Jordan Hall to honor Professor George L. Slate for his 47 years of service to the Experiment Station and New York agriculture. This distinguished scientist retires Monday following a colorful career as the Station's small fruit breeder.

He is the last of the old guard on the professional staff who could retire at the age of 70. During his tenure with the Station, he has helped train six of the nine directors the institution has had in its history. He began with Director Thatcher, then Directors Morrison, Hedrick, Parrott, Heinicke, and finally Barton. George and his wife, Muriel, will spend their retirement in Geneva at their home on Highland Avenue.

Born in Bernardston, Massachusetts, Professor Slate graduated from Massachusetts Agricultural College (now University of Massachusetts) in 1921 and received his master's degree from Harvard University in 1926. He joined the staff of the Geneva Station in April 1922 as an assistant in research, being promoted to an assistant professor of pomology in 1928, to associate professor of pomology in 1945, and to professor of pomology in 1951.

Throughout his career at the Station, Professor Slate has been responsible for the small fruit breeding program in the Pomology Department. As part of his research program, he has raised more than 121,000 raspberry and blackberry seedlings, 155,000 strawberry seedlings, 2,000 filbert seedlings, 1,500 currant seedlings, and 179 gooseberry seedlings. He is a profound publisher having more than 600 published articles to his credit. In frequent demand as a speaker before scientific meetings, grower meetings, and garden clubs, Professor Slate has earned the respect and admiration of thousands of persons since coming to the Station.

As a result of his extensive small fruit breeding program, Professor Slate has introduced and named 41 new varieties. Included in this list are 11 red raspberries, 6 black raspberries, 3 purple raspberries, 18 strawberries, and 3 blackberries. Most small fruit growers will rapidly recognize such varieties as the Ulster, Milton, September, and Hilton red raspberries; the Allen and Huron black raspberries; Marion and Clyde purple raspberries; Catskill, Empire, Fletcher, Frontenac, Fortune, Geneva, and Gala strawberries; and the Darrow blackberry. All these varieties were named by Professor Slate as a result of his extensive trials on the Station farms.

As an author, Professor Slate has not only contributed to the scientific journals and bulletins and research circulars of the Geneva Station, but has been a prolific writer in noted newspapers and farm and garden publications. He has authored articles for the Boston Sunday Herald, Country Gentleman, Better Homes and Gardens, the New York Times, Philadelphia Inquirer, Encyclopedia Americana, and the Reader's Digest Book of the Garden. Although many of his articles deal with growing small fruits, Professor Slate is an avid gardener and has spent many years raising nut trees and lilies as a hobby.

His society activities include being a member of the American Society for Horticultural Science since 1922; the Northern Nut Growers association, where he served as secretary from 1933 to 1945 and president from 1954 to 1955, as well as serving as editor of the Association's annual reports for a number of years; and the North American Lily Society, in which organization he has edited the yearbook from 1947 to the present time. He is also an honorary member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, is an editorial consultant of Horticulture Magazine, and was a corresponding member of the Lily Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society from 1948 to 1967.

During his career, Professor Slate has won numerous awards and recognitions among which are the Jackson Dawson Medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1949, the Gold Medal from the Men's Garden Club of America in 1959, the American Horticultural Society Citation in 1965, the E. H. Wilson Award from the North American Lily Society in 1960, and his most recent award was the Wilder Medal presented to him by members of the American Pomological Society in 1968.

VITTUMS LEAVE FOR PHILIPPINE ASSIGNMENT

Morrie Vittum, his wife, Winifred, and the youngest of their three children, Patricia Joan, are on the way to the Philippines for a 2-year assignment as Project Leader of the Cornell-Los Banos project with the University of the Philippines. The Vittums are replacing Director Joseph Metz from the Ithaca campus and his family who are returning to Cornell.

The Cornell-Los Banos project has about 3 years to run under its present contract. One of the primary reasons the Vittums were chosen, in addition to Morrie's recognized administrative ability, is because of his outstanding research contributions through the years in the area of soil-plant-water relationships and multiple cropping practices. As Project Leader, he will have the responsibility of coordinating the activities of the project both from the scientific and academic sides.

Morrie received his B.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts, his M. S. degree from the University of Connecticut, and his Ph.D. degree from Purdue University. His scientific interests cover all aspects of evapotranspiration and soil-plant-water relationships, including the effects of fertilizers and cultural practices on the yield and quality of vegetables. He came to the Geneva Station in 1946 as an assistant professor in vegetable crops, was promoted to associate professor in 1950, and professor in 1959. He has been head of the Vegetable Crops Department since 1960.

In an unusual move last year, he received a courtesy joint appointment as a professor of soil science in the Agronomy Department on the Ithaca campus. Morrie, since coming to the Station, has worked very closely with members of that department on a number of projects, and the appointment was requested by members of Agronomy and granted by the Cornell Board of Trustees in recognition of his cooperative efforts.

He has had two sabbatic leaves since coming to the Station--the first was in 1956 when he went to the Vegetable Crops Department at the University of California, Davis, and the second was in 1964 when he spent 6 months in the Horticulture Department at Oregon State University.

Morrie has served as chairman of the National Joint Committee of Fertilizer Application, chairman of the Northeast Regional Research Committee NE-35, chairman of the Northeast Regional Research Committee NE-48, chairman of the New York (Geneva and Ithaca) Interdepartmental Vegetable Research Task Force, and chairman of the George D. Scarseth Memorial Scholarship Fund. He is an active member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, the International Society of Soil Science, the American Society for Horticultural Science, the International Society for Horticultural Science, the American Institute for Biological Sciences, and Sigma Xi.

The Vittums are residents of Phelps.

EMPLOYEES RECEIVE AWARDS

Cornell University held its fourteenth annual ceremony Wednesday night recognizing those employees with 25 or more years of service. A dinner was held in the Ballroom of the Statler Inn on the Ithaca campus with Steven Muller, vice-president for public affairs, and Arthur H. Peterson, controller, the keynote speakers. Awarded pins for service from the Geneva Station were Florence Updike, Food Science and Technology, for 35 years; John Shannon, Pomology, 30 years; Joanne E. Whitcombe, Food Science and Technology, 25 years; and Marian Holland, Entomology, 25 years. Recognition pins are awarded non-professional employees beginning with 5 years of service and every 5 years thereafter.

Other Station employees with more than 25 years service are Cecelia DeWall, Pomology; Roy Bergstresser, Entomology; Anthony Bruni, Pomology; Wilson Hey, Administration; Carrie Legnini, Seed Investigations; William Mookhoek, Plant Introduction; Betty Nelson, Seed Investigations; Steward Patrick, Seed Investigations; Claude Heit, Seed Investigations; Neils Pedersen, Administration; John Schadt, Entomology; and Leon Tyler, Administration.

Congratulations to each of you for your long and faithful service to Cornell University and its New York State Agricultural Experiment Station.

PROMOTIONS

Thomas DeYulio has been promoted from field helper to field assistant effective July 1.

Alex Calabrese has been promoted from greenhouseman to head greenhouseman effective July 1.

Thomas Phelan has been promoted from field assistant to greenhouseman effective July 1.

RETIREMENTS

Harold Grippen retires as head greenhouseman effective June 30. Harold has been at the Station since 1954.

Floyd DeJohn retires June 30 from the Vegetable Crops Department. He has been at the Station since 1958, first beginning work in the Seed Investigations Department and before the end of the year was transferred to Vegetable Crops where he has since remained.

PECK RETURNS FROM NETHERLANDS

Nathan Peck spent almost 3 weeks in The Netherlands and England. While in The Netherlands, he participated in the International Society for Horticultural Science symposium on timing field production of vegetables held at Alkmaar. He presented a paper that he and Ben Clark prepared on emergence of broccoli seedlings. Following the meetings, he went to Wageningen in The Netherlands, where most of you will recall Gerry Marx spent his sabbatic leave several years ago. Before attending the symposium, Nathan visited several experiment stations in England.

LIPPOLDS VISIT GENEVA

Ann and Paul Lippold, a former faculty member in Entomology are visiting Geneva for 3 days on their annual leave from Dacca, East Pakistan. Paul looks splendid and like an English colonial in his new moustache. Paul expects to go back soon to the Orient and spend some time in the Philippines before proceeding back to Dacca. Ann and the children will visit with her family in the midwest before returning sometime later this summer.

MEETINGS

Willard Crosier combined a series of committee meetings of the Association of Official Seed Analysts in Beltsville, Maryland and Richmond, Virginia with discussions about recently synthesized chemicals of Merck & Co. Inc., Rahway, New Jersey. At the association meetings, he and other pathologists and microbiologists organized the Committee on Pathology Testing of Seeds. Willard is chairman of the association's editorial committee and went to Richmond, Virginia to discuss the publications of the AOSA with his associate editors.

Wendell Roeloffs went to New York City June 25 to attend a meeting sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation to discuss ways and means by which the foundation can help to reduce environmental pollution by developing pest control methods other than chemical control.

Attending the Dwarf Fruit Tree Association summer tour in Leamington, Ontario, Canada from June 25-27 are Roger Way, James Cummins, Walter Kender, and Piero Fiorino.

Attending the Association of Official Seed Analysts meeting in Sacramento, California from June 22-26 was Claude Heit from Seed Investigations. After the meetings, he planned to confer with Bodger, Denholm, and Burpee personnel at Lompoc and visit the Tree Breeding Institute at Placerville. Then, he will go to Portland, Oregon to meet with the Pacific Tree Seed Council, including the U. S. Forest Service personnel and tree seed collectors.

Ray Mehlenbacker, Food Science, attended the Feed Microscopy School at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada June 16-21. At the meeting were feed microscopists throughout the United States and Canada as well as many foreign countries. The school provides a basic course in feed microscopy as well as refresher courses and allows attendees to discuss problems of a similar nature.

APPOINTMENTS

Alice R. Hottle has been appointed a research technician in Food Science effective June 16. Alice graduated from Syracuse University this month with a B.S. degree in nutrition and food science. She is working in the analytical chemistry section.

Margaret J. Chase was appointed a research technician in Food Science also on June 16. Margaret received her A.A.S. degree from SUNY Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill this month where she majored in science laboratory technology. She is working with Gil Stoewsand.

VISITORS

Dr. R. K. De of Shaw University visited the Entomology Department on Monday and Tuesday, June 23 and 24, to confer with members of the department regarding insect sex attractants and other matters of mutual interest.

Dr. Louis Sair, Director of Research, Griffith Laboratories, visited Food Science June 23. He was interested in the department's research on soy products.

Visiting Mike Dickson on Wednesday of this week were Mr. S. Takii, Managing Director of Takii Company, and Dr. T. Haruta, Chief of Experiment Station, from Japan.

ROBINSON GIVES COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Willard Robinson, head of Food Science and Technology, was the commencement speaker for the graduation ceremonies at Phelps and Clifton Springs High Schools. Phelps held their graduation exercises on Friday night, June 20, while Clifton Springs held theirs the following day. Robbie spoke on the challenges of the future.

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations are extended to Chang Lee (Food Science) and his wife who are the proud parents of a baby girl born June 23 in Geneva General Hospital. Janet is the name of the new arrival, and she weighed in at 7 lbs. 2 oz.

DEATHS

Sympathies of the entire Station family are extended to Stanley Lynn on the death of his mother and to Sam Braverman on the death of his father.

MARTHA WILKISON RECOVERING

Martha Wilkison (Food Science) who underwent surgery at Geneva General Hospital June 5 is now recuperating at her home at 68 Hamilton Street. She expects to return to her duties in Food Science in a few weeks.

NOTE OF INTEREST

Otis and Cynthia Curtis IV had a son, Otis F., on June 19. Otis formerly worked in Entomology and his current address is Twenty-Nine Palms, California. He is stationed at the Marine Base there.

SUMMER EMPLOYEES

Food Science and Technology: Penelope Fellows, Joseph Raymond, John Farnsworth, Alan Winship, Connie Clark, Robert Fordon, Deborah Ralston, James O'Brien, Christopher Auclair, William Dolan, and Anne Einset. Toby de Menezes and Costas Yiournas, graduate students at Ithaca, are also working for the summer. Donald Graham, A. Jayaraman, and Luisa Martinez, graduate assistants, are doing graduate thesis research here this summer.

Vegetable Crops: Andrea Braun, Karen Goodman, Peter Kimball, Steven LaBelle, Wendy Tashiro, Mike Walker. Also recently joining the Station family is Murray McLaughlin who is a graduate student in Vegetable Crops working with Stan Shannon.

WEATHER

		<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Rain</u>
June	3	81	53	.86
	4	63	46	.02
	5	63	48	
	6	71	51	.07
	7	59	47	.02
	8	70	53	
	9	66	48	
	10	70	44	
	11	77	56	
	12	82	65	
	13	89	69	.27
	14	83	64	
	15	77	55	.37
	16	59	51	.32
	17	68	46	
	18	74	54	
	19	73	57	.02
	20	78	58	tr.
	21	60	46	.69
	22	66	46	
	23	75	57	.58
	24	70	57	.74
	25	68	56	tr.
	26	72	56	
	27	85	67	.01