

2003 Review

Animal Science Teaching Support Group

3125 State Avenue

Ames, IA

A S. Leaflet R1847

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Animal Science Teaching Units

History

The Animal Science Teaching Support group has existed since the mid '60's, when the livestock production demonstration units for Beef, Sheep, and Swine were moved off campus. Three to six full time staff and one to three student employees have provided a variety of services for the Teaching program. In the early '90's, Farm Service was closed, and the support group absorbed some of their services, notably, forage harvesting for horses and ruminants, including Dairy.

History of Facilities

The Teaching Support Group has used the Zumwalt Station Farm (named after an interurban rail depot) building site since the early '70's. The Agronomy Farm previously used the facilities. Many nails on approximately 2" centers are still embedded in the brace-work and rafters of buildings. The nails were used to dry research corn in the ear on wire ear-dryers which were hung on these nails. Aerial photos from about 1950 show dormitories also at this site. These buildings housed a conscientious objector work site during the '40's.

The main building on the site is a brick barn with a wing attached to it perpendicularly. On the opposite outside wall from this wing, an additional wing was planned, but was never built. It was to be used for housing horses, but tractor power replaced that need, and the opening in the brick wall for the horse wing was poured shut with concrete.

Present Facilities

Buildings currently used include a brick 65x113' barn housing an office, a shop, and equipment storage. Other buildings, primarily used for equipment and forages storage include a 28x48 corncrib, a 20x84' machine shed, and a 29x93' machine shed. Four old quonset buildings have also been put up on 6' high railroad ties for additional shed space.

Equipment

The support group maintains the following equipment which is used by all of the teaching individual species. Hours of use per species is recorded, and repairs and

replacement costs are prorated accordingly. Equipment used includes 7 tractors, 3 field mowers, 2 rear mount rotary mowers, 4 lawn mowers, 2 skid loaders, 3 manure spreaders, 4 field rakes, 8 flatracks, 5 barge or other wagons, 4 livestock trailers, and various shop and feeding equipment.

Mission

To serve the teaching farms in their needs for equipment, forages, facilities, fertility, and waste, weed, and livestock management.

Contributions

Mow about 1500 acres per year
 LRB about 1500 bales of hay and bedding per year
 Coordinate baling of about 500 LSB of grass and alfalfa per year
 SSB and handle about 8000 bales per year
 Establish about 25 acres per year in alfalfa or alfalfa/grass
 Service and provide minimal repairs on all equipment
 Work with FP&M to install ceilings, roofs, fences, bathrooms (FP&M provides materials, support crew provides labor and expertise)
 Work with FP&M to maintain buildings. Support group is first call; Facilities is knowledgeable notified for legitimate "cost-center" items such as furnaces, fans, ballasts, doors, drain problems.
 Maintain livestock waterers.
 Move snow as needed for classes and feeding operations
 Work with ISU's Land Manager on Manure Management Plan
 Coordinate pumping of 850000 gallons of liquid manure
 Maintain lift station pump
 Pump 3 million gallon lagoon
 Spray weeds spring and fall
 Spray alfalfa pests
 Maintain pesticide applicators certification
 Provide setup/teardown/cleaning labor for livestock labs and animal shows
 Provide safety training and equipment training oversight
 Provide continuity amidst changing student and graduate-student workers, and in carrying out administrative directives.