2004

2003 Review—Animal Science Teaching Support Group, 3125 State Avenue, Ames, IA

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2003 Review
Animal Science Teaching Support Group
3125 State Avenue
Ames, IA

A S. Leaflet R1847

Bob Hibbing, Operations Superintendent,
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. Arial
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.