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# Development of Research Farms

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# Development of Research Farms

## **Abstract**

Includes:

Armstrong Farm

Lauren Christian Swine Farm

Neely-Kinyon Farm

## **Disciplines**

Agricultural Science | Agriculture

## Development of Research Farms

Bernard Havlovic, farm superintendent

### **Armstrong Farm**

The research farm continues to grow and develop in its ninth year of operation. Erosion control improvements were made to the farm's southwest 80 in mid-April, when 3,650 feet of narrow-based terraces were constructed and seeded. The southwest 80 also was the site of construction of the farm's wetland demonstration area, completed June 2001. Both surface and tile drainage water from a 23-acre area is filtered through three wetland berms prior to exiting the property.

Several improvements to the farm's feedlot area were completed in 2001, including reshaping of the west mound and installation of a landscaping fabric in the cattle-working pen to improve drainage. Extensive improvements were made to the farm residence following spring hailstorms. These included replacement of the old roof and chimney with new sheeting and asphalt shingles.

### **Lauren Christian Swine Farm**

Significant scheduling changes were made in 2001, when the farm converted from a weekly farrowing schedule to a biweekly farrowing. Other changes designed to better accommodate ongoing research projects included conversion of the automated feeding system in the east hoop structure to feeding stalls as well as improvements to the auger feeding system in the nursery buildings.

### **Neely-Kinyon Farm**

Thirty acres of the Neely-Kinyon Farm, including the 17-acre block for the Long-Term Agroecological Research (LTAR) study, were "certified organic" in 2001. Remaining portions of the farm are in the three-year transitioning process leading toward organic certification.

*Field Experiments.* Seventeen new field experiments were established at all the farms in 2001, and a total of 71 research projects, demonstrations, and training courses were conducted by ISU research and extension staff representing six departments. The farm has become a major supplier for research project pigs for scientists on the ISU campus as well as other outlying research farms.

### **New experiments established at the Armstrong Farm:**

Animal Manure Time-of-Application Study  
Soil Test Nitrogen and Carbon Experiment  
Long-term Crop Rotation/Nitrogen Study  
Winter Triticale Variety Trial  
Corn Seed Treatment Study  
Corn Row Spacing Study  
Soybean Bean Leaf Beetle  
Insecticide Evaluation  
All-America Selections Display Garden  
Flowering Shrub Demonstration Planting  
Vitamin D in the Feedlot Ration Study  
Yeast in the Starter Feedlot Ration Study  
Implant Comparison for Feedlot Cattle  
Feedlot Management Shortcourse

### **New experiments established at the Lauren Christian Swine Farm:**

USDA Nursery Pig Feeding Trial  
4-H Pig Project  
Mycoplasma Pneumonia Trial

### **New experiments established at the Neely-Kinyon Farm:**

Organic Grape Production Study  
Organic Measures to Control  
Soybean Seed Staining  
Edamame Soybean Evaluation  
Year-round Beef Cattle Grazing Demonstration