

New Agricultural Chemicals Laboratory for American Cyanamid



A wide range of climates and weather conditions can be simulated in these constant temperature chambers



This specially designed dusting hood provides facilities for the accurate delivery of controlled amounts of dusts to plants for experimental purposes

This moving sprayer can be adjusted to duplicate field spraying conditions



AMERICAN CYANAMID Co. has opened its new agricultural chemicals laboratory at Stamford, Conn. The laboratory, which has cost over a half-million dollars to build and equip, will specialize in the study of fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, fumigants, soil conditioners, and related chemicals.

The new building, for which ground was broken in October 1951, becomes another major addition to Cyanamid's research facilities at Stamford. The entire group of Cyanamid's Stamford laboratories, spread over an area of 41 acres and requiring the services of over 1000 persons, has recently been the scene of varied research activity—research that last year cost the company approximately \$8 million.

The new laboratory will be the hub of Cyanamid's research on agricultural chemicals. Described as one of the most modern and complete industrial laboratories of its kind in the world, the new facility consists of a two-story building, in addition to two adjoining greenhouses. The building has a total floor space of over 21,000 square feet (the floor area for all of the Cyanamid's Stamford laboratories: 450,000 square feet).

Personnel at the laboratory will include about 25 persons, of whom five are chemists and the remainder are biologists, entomologists, plant pathologists, and others. Supporting the efforts of these men are over 25 researchers at Stamford whose work ties in, at least in part, with the agricultural chemicals division. In this latter group are analytical chemists, chemical engineers, organic chemists, toxicologists, and others whose services are needed periodically for the solution of specific problems.

Agricultural chemicals are nothing new to Cyanamid. The company's extensive research on agricultural chemicals began at its Warners plant in New Jersey in about 1930. Later, when the Stamford Research Laboratories were completed in 1936, the investigation of agricultural chemicals became one of the laboratories' earliest and most important projects. Then, as now, a major share of the research effort was devoted to new insecticides, although increasing emphasis is now being placed on herbicides and defoliant.

Today, about 40% of Cyanamid's work on agricultural chemicals is aimed at improving the production and use of existing products. These products include fertilizers, defoliant, insecticides, rodenticides, soil conditioners, and others.

The balance of Cyanamid's agricultural chemicals research—a substantial 60% is devoted to totally new products. Cyanamid, like most companies, conducts a systematic search for the needed compound by screening thousands of already existing materials, as well as materials of unknown application that have recently been synthesized in the laboratory.

In its extensive agricultural chemicals program, Cyanamid supports specific research projects at agricultural experiment stations throughout the country. For this work, Cyanamid has given numerous grants and fellowships to students at various universities. In addition, the company has a staff of over 15 full-time employees who conduct a varied program of field research at a number of agricultural experiment stations.

Considering the impressive research talent assembled at the new laboratory, the extensiveness of its facilities, and the sizable budget devoted to the exploration of new products, Cyanamid can be counted on to make continued strides in the development of major chemicals for agriculture.

Interior view of one of the two greenhouses connected to the Cyanamid agricultural chemicals laboratory. Each greenhouse is 30 feet wide and 110 feet long and is equipped with automatic temperature control equipment

