

B. INSTRUCTION - COURSES, CURRICULA, AND OTHER FORMS.

This department has always stressed the teaching phase of its work. In addition to its normal complement of instruction in the non-degree courses and the junior years in the degree course, it has graduated thirty-three students with the B.S.A. degree, who have specialized in agronomy. Graduate instruction was begun in the 1923-24 session. To date, twenty-four students have registered for the M.S.A. degree.

In accord with the general change in the College curricula, the courses offered by the agronomy department have undergone considerable revision. Many of the general and elementary courses, formerly given in the first two years for the bachelor's degree, have been discontinued. This prevents considerable repetition, which formerly existed, and provides a better scheme of instruction.

The new alignment of basic courses would seem to be a much better arrangement, giving, as it does, a much more thorough preliminary training. From the standpoint of this department, however, the rearrangement may possibly prove somewhat of a drawback since students have no contact with agronomy until after they are required to name their options. There is as yet no basis on which to gauge this effect since the present second year is the first which has come wholly under the new scheme.