THE TEXAS STATION PLAN OF COOPERATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF PEDIGREED COTTON SEED

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The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station has found after repeated trials that small sample distributions of crop varieties which have been developed by its plant breeders has not been satisfactory. This is because of the liability to loss of the variety due to the lack of understanding by farmers of proper methods of keeping the variety pure, as well as effective means of increasing and distributing the seed commercially.

Accordingly, a smaller number of distributions with larger amounts of seed were tried, and Sudan grass, Spur feterita, and others of the grain sorghums have been distributed in this way with fair success.

On the development of a variety of cotton, however, it was found more practicable to group the distribution into centers, organizing each center for cooperative effort where the “one variety of cotton for a community” idea could be successfully carried out.

It is desired in this article to present briefly the method used by the Texas Station in the distribution of a strain of pedigreed seed, developed by the Station, through a cooperative organization of farmers.

The Texas Station has thirteen substations, where plant breeding is carried on under the supervision of specialists of the Main Station

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