President's Annual Report

The 1974-75 society year, which began following the Tuesday noon luncheon at the annual meetings in Chicago, was a busy and productive one for officers, committees, and the Headquarters staff. The CSSA Executive Committee met three times during the year. Two meetings were held in Madison (February 24 and June 17-18) and one was held in Knoxville (August 24). Some specific activities initiated and actions taken during the year are listed below.

Crop Science Award. For the first time, CSSA had complete responsibility for the Crop Science Award. Also for the first time, the award was presented at the CSSA luncheon, and for the first time it was awarded to a research team. The nomination form has been simplified to make nominations easier to prepare and easier to evaluate, and emphasis is being placed on research accomplishments in the past 10 years.

Division Awards for Best Papers. Divisions C-1, C-3 and C-5 participated in a program intended to stimulate better presentations of volunteer papers at the 1974 annual meetings in Chicago. A panel of judges chose the best presentation at each session of Divisions C-1, C-3, and C-5, and the presenter received a certificate of recognition awarded by CSSA through his departmental chairman. Research Directors of the recipient's organization were also notified of the award. Only one division, C-5, chose to participate in this awards program at the 1975 annual meetings in Knoxville.

American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy (ARCPACS). Because of the increased need for the recognition of agronomists, crop scientists, and soil scientists as professionals, a program has been developed by the American Society of Agronomy with CSSA and SSSA cooperating to establish a program of certification. The program will be operated by an ARCPACS Board consisting of three sub-boards — one for certification of agronomists, one for crop scientists, and one for soil scientists. Your President has appointed the Chairman and members of the Crops Sub-board who will develop a procedure for the certification of Crop Scientists. An ARCPACS Manager will be hired to operate the program at the Headquarters building in Madison.

Preservation of Genetic Stocks. Preservation of genetic stocks and broadening the germplasm base of major crops of the USA has become increasingly more important in recent years. As countries continue to develop and intensify agricultural production to meet the demands for food, much useful germplasm has been rapidly disappearing. Also the demand for high-yielding cultivars has resulted in the utilization of a rather limited number and often somewhat related cultivars on farms in the USA. CSSA has taken two steps to strengthen our work in this area. Four ex-officio members have been appointed to our C851 Preservation of Genetic Stocks Committee. All four are directly involved in USDA-ARS programs for the storage, maintenance, and distribution of crop germplasm. Your President has also been called upon to nominate members for a National Plant Genetics Resources Board established by Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz. This Board will be in operation soon and will provide another avenue through which our C851 Committee can operate to see that useful germplasm is properly collected, were either initiated or completed during 1974-75:

1. Crops & Man by Dr. Jack R. Harlan. This book in the Foundations for Modern Agriculture series is to be printed and distributed by CSSA.
7. Land Use Planning. An ASA, CSSA, and SSSA approved Monograph. An editorial committee has been appointed to develop the book.
8. Sunflowers. An ASA, CSSA, and SSSA approved Monograph. An editorial committee has been appointed to develop the book.
9. Modeling of Plant and Soil Systems. An ASA, CSSA, and SSSA approved Monograph. An editorial committee has been appointed to develop the book.
10. Dryland Agriculture. An ASA, CSSA, and SSSA approved Monograph. An editorial committee has been appointed to develop the book.

Collaboration on Publications or Symposia:

1. Conservation Tillage Handbook being published by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.
2. Integration of Resources for Beef Cattle Production. Symposium planned for annual meeting of the Society for Range Management, Omaha, Neb., in July 5-10, 1976.
6. Conservation Tillage Handbook being published by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.