Workmen constructing an experimental ridged field at San Antonio. Fields were raised with transported marl deposits, and fertilized with organic materials. A deep pit in the forest floor had peat and muck layers at 132 to 200 cm, under marl and clay deposits.

**Professionalism & State Societies**

**THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE ASA PROPOSAL FOR REGISTRY OF CERTIFIED AGRONOMISTS, CROP SCIENTISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS**

A year ago the Executive Committee of the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) selected a committee to develop a plan to offer certification to soil scientists. I was named chairman. The principal impetus for the action of the Executive Committee and SSSA Board was recognition of the fact that soil mappers and people engaged in soil survey quality control needed some form of certification. The certification envisioned would document a judgment by professional peers of each individual’s competence. It would not have legal status; such status can only be conferred by a state organiza-

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1The first three articles in this series are based on presentations at the SSSA meetings in Chicago, November 1974.