



OREGON'S AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS

Summer 1988

100 YEARS OF PROGRESS

Agricultural Experiment Station • Oregon State University

THE EDITOR'S NOTE

The Agricultural Experiment Station is celebrating its 100th birthday. And on your birthday, someone usually takes your picture. So this special centennial issue is filled with pictures.

Like a lot of people I appreciate old photos, the understanding a grin or a frown or bead of sweat can send across time. The Experiment Station is publishing a history that'll have those kinds of pictures. But this issue doesn't.

What follows are relatively modern photographs of Oregon agriculture and rural life. In violation of standard journalism, they don't have captions. The images are here simply to celebrate 100 years of research by the men and women who have made up the Experiment Station, and to remind us all of an industry and way of life that have contributed a lot toward making Oregon the nice place it is.

The Experiment Station's first director was appointed in the summer of 1888. The money came from the federal government through a bill called the Hatch Act. The Station started with one lab and 35 acres of land on what's now the lower OSU campus.

The research and administrative headquarters are still on the campus. But the Experiment Station has really grown. In 1901 it opened its first branch at Union in the cattle country near La Grande. Now it has branch research facilities around Oregon serving the various agricultural regions of the state. The Station also operates the OSU Seafoods Laboratory in Astoria and sponsors research at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

Today the Experiment Station is operated with federal, state and private funds in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cooperative State Research Service.

This summer Station Director Thayne Dutson has been on the road, talking about the centennial at various events. He says there are so many research highlights from the first 100 years, it's dangerous to single any out. But he usually does. (Who could resist mentioning Lady MacDuff, the white Leghorn hen that laid 313 eggs in 1913 and set a new world record?)

Station scientists have had a big impact on the Oregon economy and quality of life. Here are a few examples. Over the last 100 years they:

- discovered better ways to control diseases and pests and store, ripen and market Oregon's luscious and high-value fruits and other crops.

- operated breeding programs that gave the state a steady stream of improved wheat, vegetable, fruit and berry varieties.

- developed a new way of bringing cherries that revolutionized the maraschino trade.

- identified the cause of white muscle disease, a serious problem in cattle and sheep, and showed ranchers how to prevent it.

- invented the flea collar.

- analyzed the good and bad effects of many foods we eat.

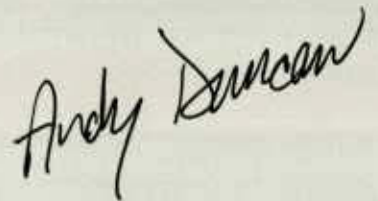
- did pioneering studies of nitrogen fixation in plants.

- helped the state's young wine industry develop.

Of course Station scientists were involved in thousands of other projects. A few definitely were off the beaten path. For example, with the funding of the National Science Foundation, microbiologists studied the rebirth of life in lakes decimated when Mount St. Helens exploded in 1980.

Usually Director Dutson follows his highlights, which aren't necessarily the same as those I've listed here, with a talk about the future, computers and biotechnology and other promising research that's going to have dramatic impact in the next century. Write us if you want more information about the first 100 years, or about his predictions for the future.

And we hope you enjoy the photographs. Next issue we'll get back to the job of publishing articles about the research you and all Oregonians help support.



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Summer 1988, Vol. 35, No. 1



Photographers

Dave King—Pages 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, back

Bob Henderson—Pages 3, 16, 18

Dick Floyd—Page 8

Tom Gentle—Cover, page 7

Gwil Evans—Page 6

Ken Kingsley—Page 11

Dennis Dimmick—Pages 14, 16

Scot Duff—Page 11

Andy Duncan—Pages 9, 15, 19, 20, 21, 23

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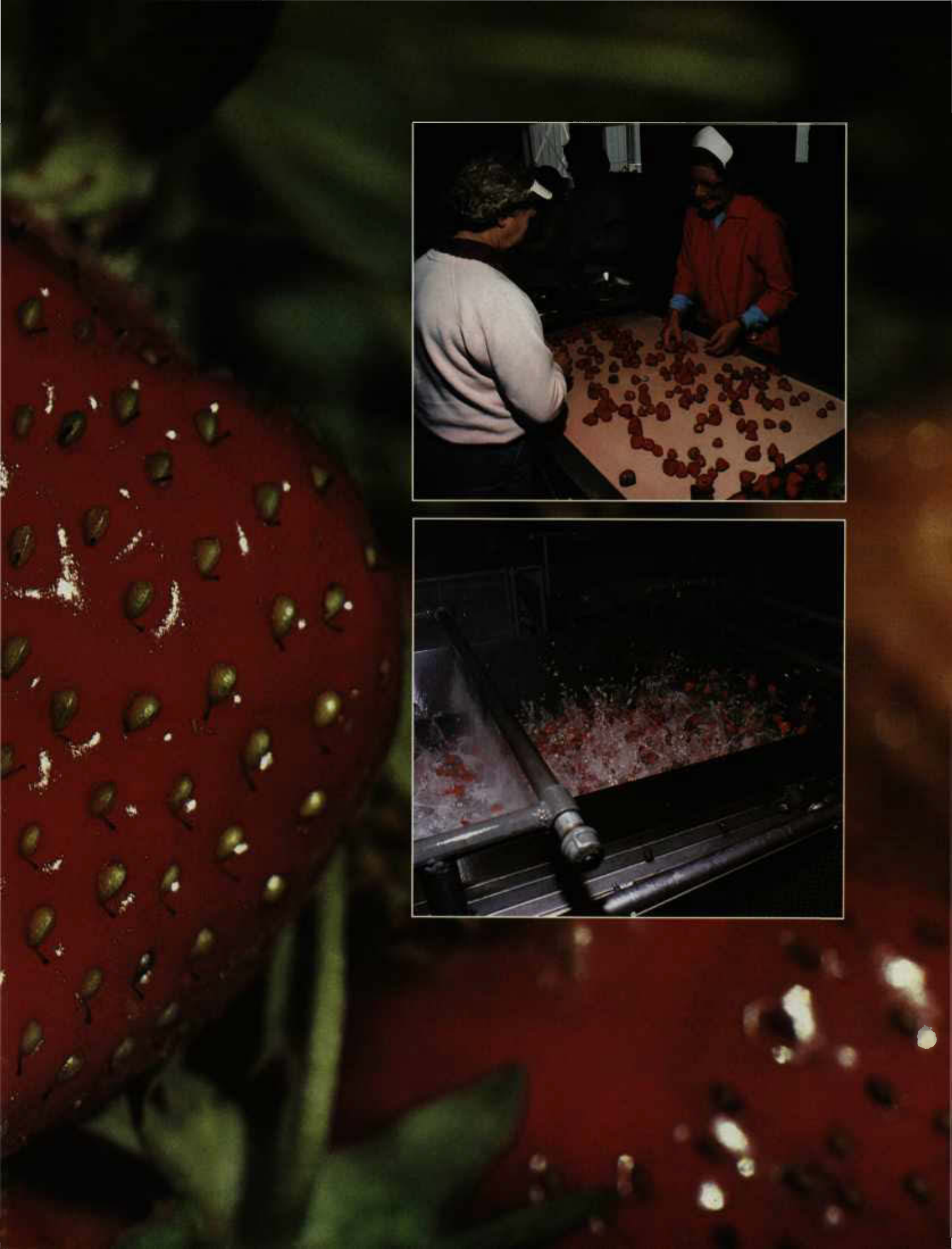
Dave King
Photographer

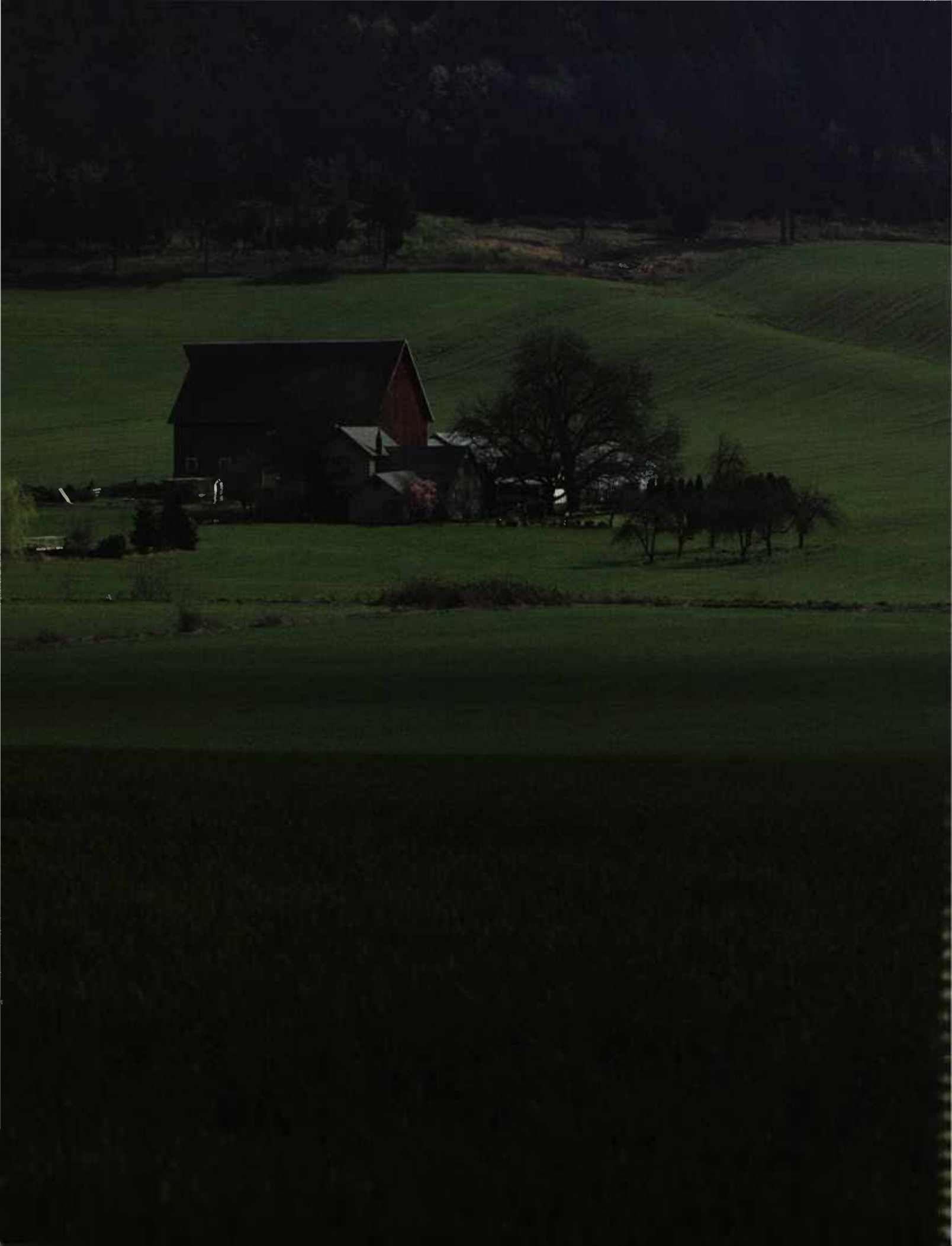
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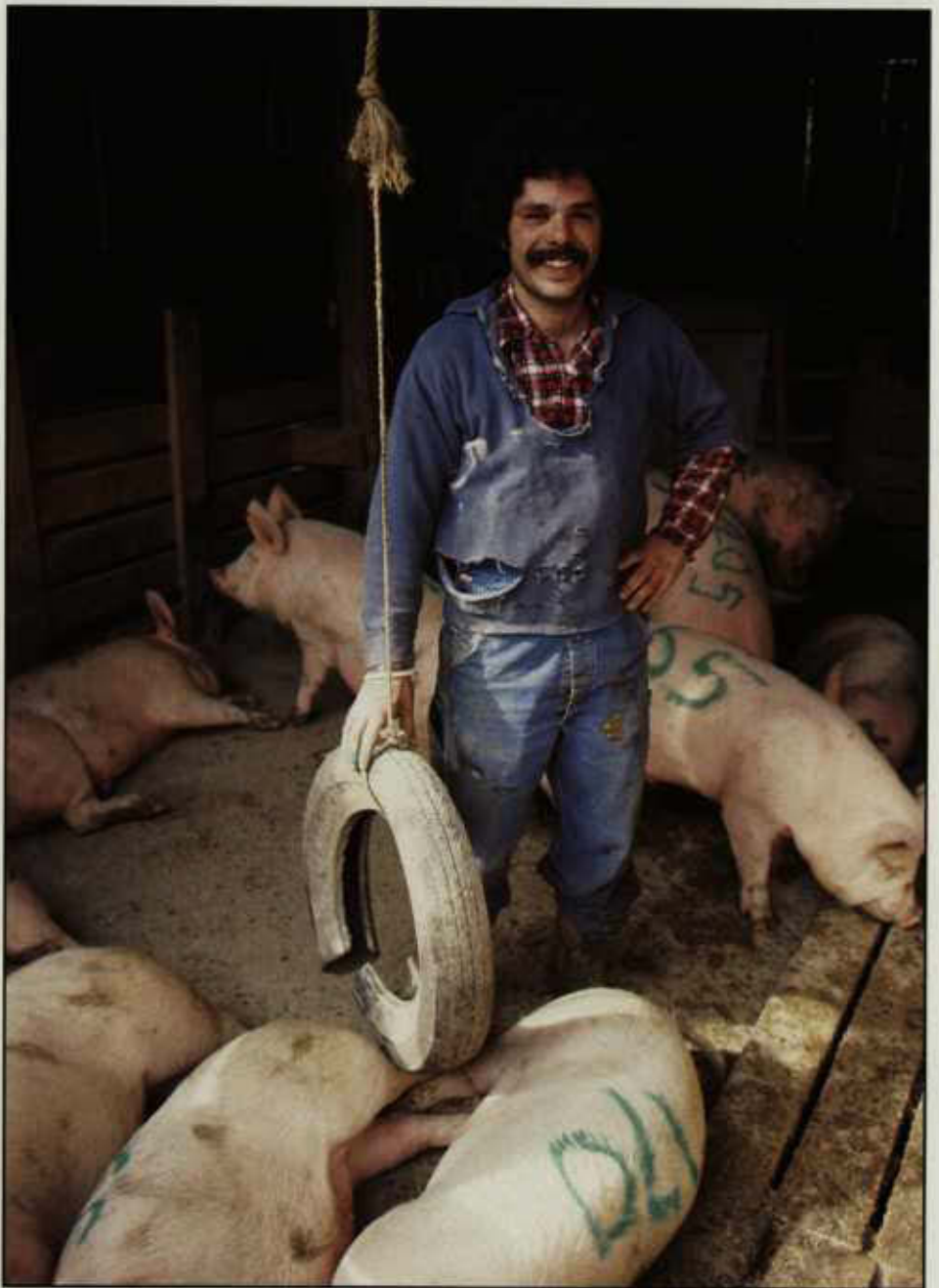








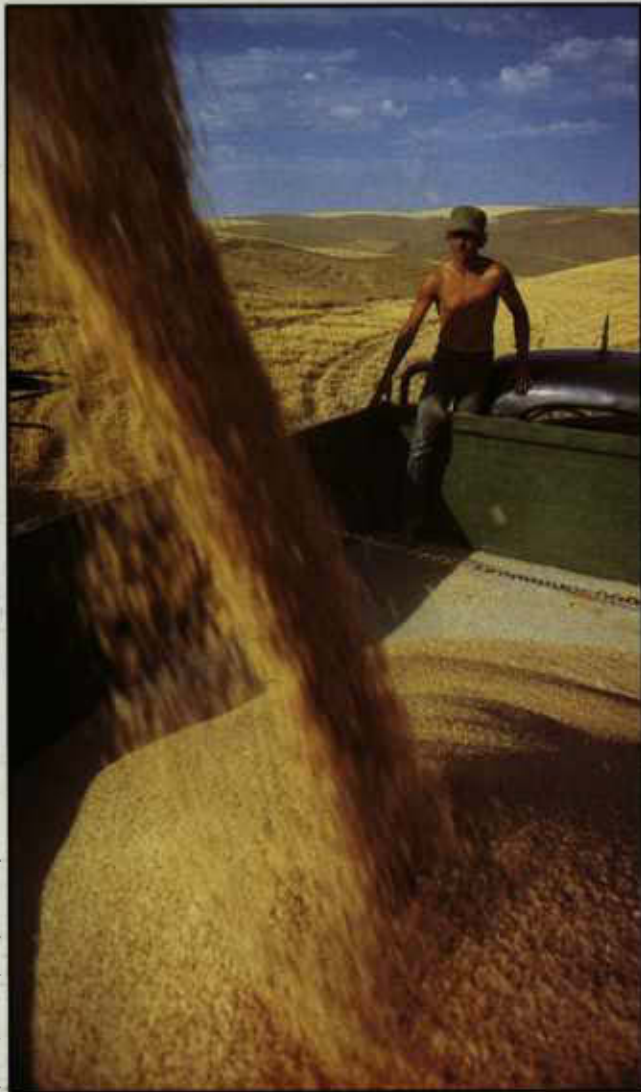


























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