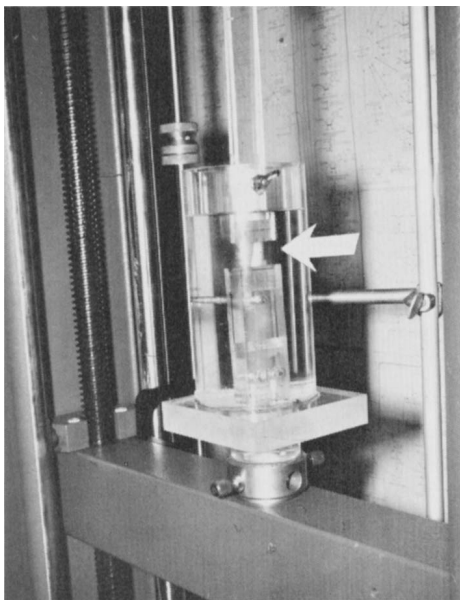
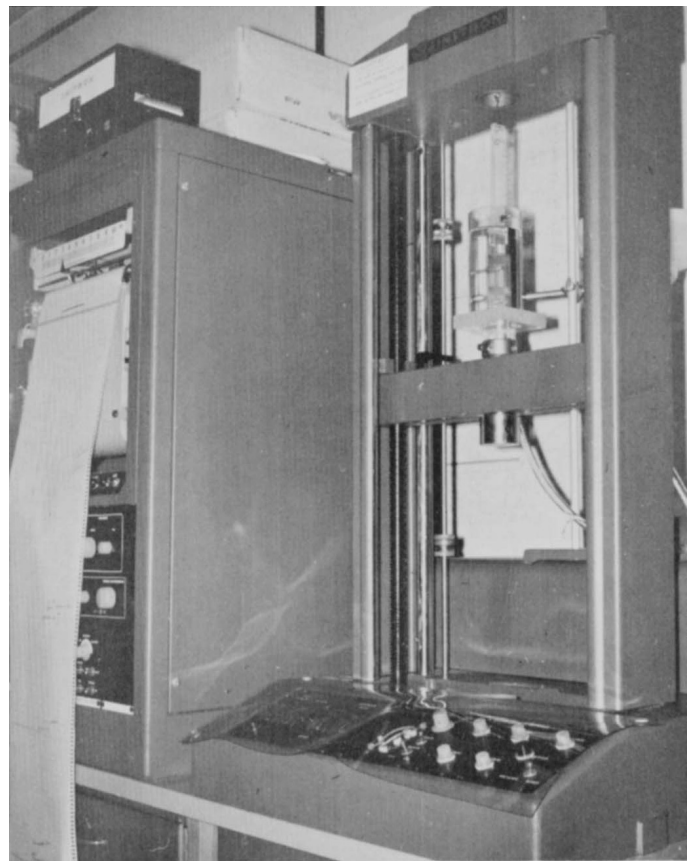
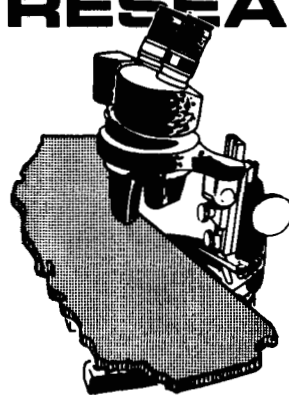


Citrus peel strength testing with INSTRON at Riverside

INSTRON, the highly sensitive mechanical testing device shown in photos here, is in use at the Department of Plant Sciences, Riverside. The machine allows analysis of stress and strain relationships in very small and fragile samples. In this case, it is being used to determine the elasticity and tensile strength of the peel tissue in citrus. Photo right (and close-up below) shows the instrument with a strip of citrus peel (arrow) in position for tensile strength testing. The control console of the machine (to left in photo right) has a recorder that gives a graphic record of each test. This study is part of an experiment to determine how water relationships result in citrus "splitting." These tests are under the direction of Merrill R. Kaufmann, Assistant Plant Physiologist.



RESEARCH PREVIEWS



A continuing program of research in many aspects of agriculture is carried on at University campuses, field stations, leased areas, and many temporary plots loaned by cooperating landowners throughout the state. Listed below are some of the projects currently under way, but on which no formal progress reports can yet be made.

BAIT FOR SNAILS

A claim that redwood bark is toxic or repellent to snails was investigated by scientists in the Division of Economic Entomology, Riverside and was not substantiated in tests on the European brown garden snail. Scientists are also studying various calcium compounds to see if they will improve the snails' acceptance of bait.

MOTH-PROOFING

A UCLA-developed nontoxic proofing agent that will protect wool and fur against insect attack is currently being evaluated.

PET SPRAY

Agricultural scientists at University of California, Los Angeles, have developed a nontoxic pressurized pet spray to rid small animals of ectoparasites and fungal skin disorders.

MECHANISMS OF RESISTANCE

The chemical bases of plant disease and the interaction between host and pathogen have been the subject of a research project carried out by plant pathologists at Riverside. Researchers are particularly interested in learning more about the mechanisms of disease resistance.

NATURAL ABSCISSION RETARDANTS

Scientists in the Department of Agronomy and Range Science, Davis, are attempting to isolate and identify a series of abscission-retarding compounds in cotton.

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