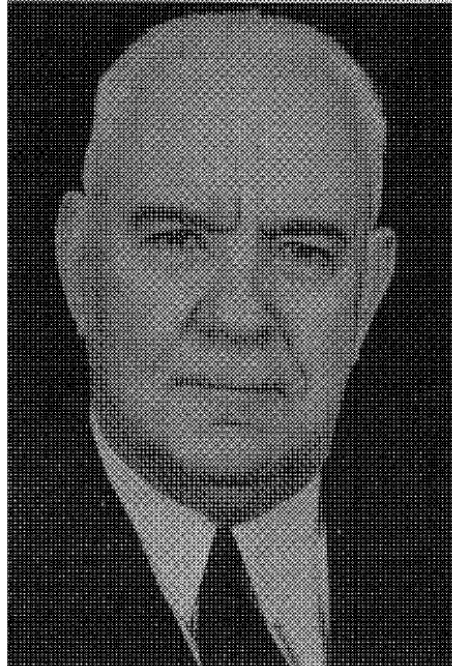


From the Oat Newsletter, volume 27, 1976:

F. A. Coffman
In memory



Franklin A. Coffman, formerly Principal Agronomist in Oat Investigations, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture died December 20, 1976. He was born in Jewel, Kansas, December 30, 1892. Mr. Coffman received the BSA and MS degrees from Kansas State College in 1914 and 1922, respectively. He took further graduate studies in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School from 1924 to 1928.

Mr. Coffman was on the staff at the Agricultural Experiment Station in the Philippines from 1914 to 1916; Assistant Botanist, Kansas State College in 1916 and 1917; and started his career in the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a field assistant in 1917. He conducted breeding and cultural research on cereals at Akron, Colorado, from 1918 through 1923. In January 1924 he was assigned to the Oat Project, Cereals Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture and transferred to Arlington, Virginia. He was stationed there and at Beltsville, Maryland, until he retired in 1962. After retirement, he was a Collaborator of the Agricultural Research Service until his death. He also was a Consultant to the University of Florida in 1963.

Mr. Coffman was a long-time member of the American Society of Agronomy and the Crops Science Society of America. He was elected a Fellow of ASA in 1949. He was a member and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a Member of the American Genetic Association. He received the Superior Service Award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1962. He received the Distinguished

Service Award in Agriculture from Kansas State University in 1966. He also received an award from the National Oat Conference in 1970 for "...Meritorious service toward making oats a successful agricultural crop species."

Mr. Coffman made outstanding contributions in the fields of breeding, genetics, and pathology of the cereals during the 45 years of his active research career. He was in oat research from 1924 until long after his retirement. He was Secretary of the National Oat Conference from 1950 until 1962 and leader of the U.S. Department of Agriculture oat research program in the Southern and Eastern States from 1950 to 1962. He had about 130 publications on oats, and also edited and contributed to ASA Monograph No.8, "Oats and Oat Improvement". His last publication was a U.S.D.A. Technical Bulletin on the history and classification of oat varieties which was in press at the time of his death.