

Scientist honored for insect research

by Kelli Proctor

Battalion Reporter
Dr. Perry Adkisson, deputy chancellor for agriculture for the Texas A&M University System, has been named 1982 Distinguished Texas Scientist by the Texas Academy of Sciences. Adkisson recently received the award in recognition of his work in insect biology and developing pest management systems for cotton growers. For instance, some of his studies revealed that the length of the day was a major controlling factor in the reproductive cycle of insects which explains why they are reproductively dormant in fall and active in the spring.

Adkisson is only the third person to receive the award. Adkisson was elected in 1979 to the National Academy of Sciences, an organization chartered by the U.S. Congress to provide advice to the president and Congress on scientific matters and problems. "It is the most prestigious scientific group in the United States and election to membership is considered the highest honor you can achieve," Adkisson said.

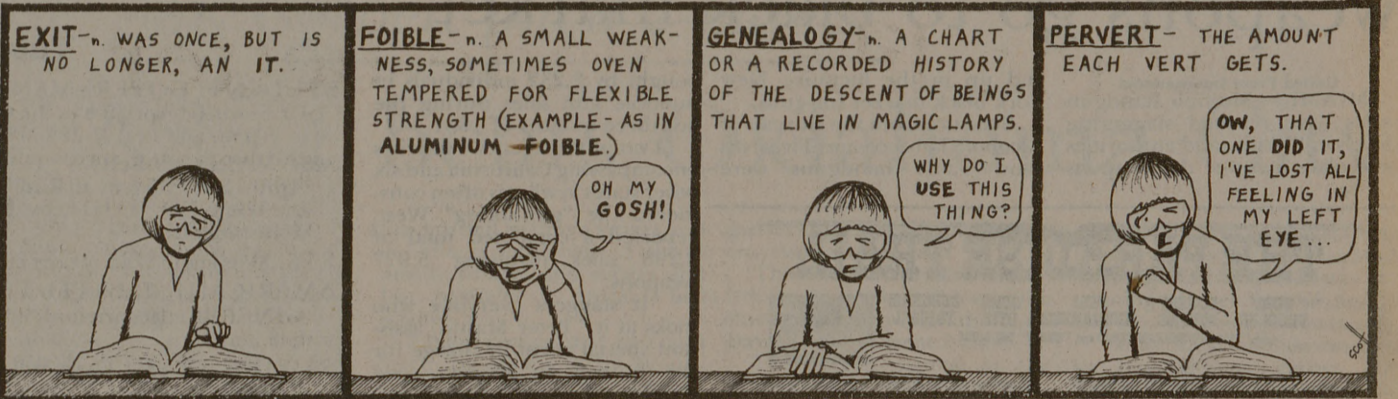
Adkisson received his bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Arkansas and his master's degree in agronomy also from Arkansas. He received

his doctorate from Kansas State University in entomology and did post doctorate research in insect physiology at Harvard University.

In 1958, Adkisson came to Texas A&M as assistant professor and a project leader in cotton research. He was promoted in 1979 to deputy chancellor of agriculture after serving as head of the entomology department and vice president for agriculture.

As deputy chancellor for agriculture, he oversees and coordinates activities of all agriculture agencies and services for the System, Adkisson said.

Warped



By Scott McCullar

High court strikes down paternity suit time limit

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled unanimously Monday that the father of an illegitimate child cannot escape paying child support merely because the one-year time period for filing suit against him has lapsed.

Tackling the sensitive legal issue of paternity suits, the justices struck down a Texas law requiring an unwed mother to sue the purported father during the first year of her illegitimate child's life.

Under the Texas statute, once a child's first birthday has passed, women cannot pursue such suits, which generally are filed for child support payments.

Writing for the court, Justice William Rehnquist concluded illegitimate children must have the same opportunity for obtaining financial support from a parent as legitimate children.

"By granting illegitimate chil-

dren only one year in which to establish paternity, Texas has failed to provide them with an adequate opportunity to obtain support," Rehnquist said.

He stressed an unwed mother is in a particularly tough situation during her child's first year of life as a result of "financial difficulties caused by child-birth expenses, continuing affection for the child's father, a desire to avoid disapproval of family and community, or the emotional strain and confusion that often attend the birth of an illegitimate child."

Texas officials argued the one-year limit was needed to prevent misuse of the legal process and because an alleged father may have a difficult time presenting evidence on his own behalf long after a child's birth. But Rehnquist declared the 12-month time frame "denies illegitimate children in Texas the equal protection of the law."

The court did not say specifically how long a period a state

must allow for filing paternity suits, but indicated it must be substantially longer than one year.

The appeal was brought by Lois Mae Mills of Sinton. She challenged a state court ruling that threw out her paternity case against Dan Habluetzel.

State courts refused to hear Mills' arguments because she

filed the case when her child was 13 months.

Noting the Supreme Court previously had accorded numerous rights to illegitimate children, Mills told the justices: "These rights are currently meaningless to a substantial class of illegitimate children in Texas by virtue of the one-year statute of limitations in paternity cases."

Texas supplies water to an Arkansas town

United Press International
TEXARKANA, Ark. — Texans may have to fight for Arkansas water to keep their farms lush and fertile in the dry western plains, but Arkansas has been quietly siphoning water from Texas since 1928.

The joint water department of Texarkana, Tex., and Texarkana, Ark., uses about 60 million gallons of water a day from Wright Patman Lake, about 10 miles west of the Arkansas-Texas border.

"We've chuckled about it, but haven't raised any flags over it," said George Basham, an attorney for the Texas Department of Water Resources.

The cities struck the water agreement in 1894 and first used water from wells in Arkansas. But in 1928, they switched to lakes in Texas and have been using Wright Patman Lake water since 1957.

Texarkana, Ark., pays for the treatment of water used by its residents — about 40 percent of the cost last year — but other-

wise, the water from Texas is free.

Records show the mayors of the two Texarkanas worked together to get the first state permit to use Texas lake water, Basham said.

Selling water to Arkansas "probably was contemplated all along," he said. "There's no legal impediment under the water code. And we, as an agency, have no problem with it."

Roger Ford, director of the joint Texarkana water department, said he also knows of no one upset about the arrangement, but he is getting uneasy.

"This puts Texarkana in a very uncomfortable position," Ford said. "We don't want our water resources and our future water supply to become part of the political situation."

Texas Gov. William Clements has been boasting for more than a year that Texas will "steal" water from Arkansas when the Ogallala Aquifer under Texas runs dry.

The Arkansas Legislature

tried to dissuade Clements last year by passing a law forbidding the export of more than six gallons of Arkansas water at a time. But Clements has continued to assure Texas audiences that Arkansas — and specifically Arkansas Gov. Frank White — will be willing to sell water to Texas.

One serious study proposed building large canals from Arkansas to West Texas. Less serious Arkansas planners have suggested trading water for oil — barrel for barrel.

Ford said Texarkana is working on a plan to get water from Millwood Lake, directly north of Texarkana in Arkansas. But building a reservoir and distribution system would be a massive undertaking, and Texarkana will have to depend on Wright Patman Lake in the meantime.

Without it, Ford said: "If we needed water right now, we'd have to wait almost 60 years before we got a drop."

Bullock says Texans must pick programs

United Press International
AUSTIN — Comptroller Bob Bullock estimated Monday that Texas will lose \$650 million because of federal budget cuts and called on state and local authorities to decide which federal programs they want to start paying for.

"The 1983 budget the president has submitted to Congress proposes eliminating and trimming hundreds of programs Uncle Sam has been paying for," Bullock said. "As best I can tell, these cuts will mean about \$150 million less in social services and not more than half a billion dollars less in grant funds for Texas."

Bullock said some of the funding cuts probably would be restored by Congress. He also said Texas could afford to pay for the "best" of the programs,

possibly without a tax cut.

Bullock said Texas only gets \$1 in federal grants for every \$1.40 Texans pay to support the grants.

"We can keep that money at home and use it more efficiently," Bullock said. "And we can

probably meet the needs of our students, the poor and needy without a tax increase since we can still depend on the federal government to spend more defense dollars for products made in Texas and to keep mailing Social Security checks to Texans."

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