



PAUL J. EASTMAN HONORED

Paul J. Eastman was born in Vermont, but moved to Maine at an early age. He entered the University of Maine in 1940. His education was interrupted by World War II during which he served in the Air Force as a navigator. After serving three years, he re-entered the University and received his B.S. degree in 1946, and his M.S. degree in 1948. He was an outstanding student, and a member of Alpha Zeta honorary fraternity.

Following graduation, he worked a short time for the Maine Agri-

cultural Experiment Station. In this capacity he did some of the original work on chemical vine killing of potatoes.

In the fall of 1948, Mr. Eastman was employed by the Maine Department of Agriculture where he has been ever since. At first he was assistant chief of the Division of Plant Industry, and for the past several years he has been chief of that division. He is also serving as the Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture.

During the past twenty years Mr. Eastman has been responsible for many programs in the Maine Department of Agriculture, but his greatest responsibility has been in seed potato certification, and seed development.

Under his leadership, several innovations in seed improvement work have been initiated. The Maine potato seed board farm, known as Porter Farm has been developed and successfully produces over 100 acres of top quality seed each year. Seed from this farm is fed into the Maine potato industry through foundation seed growers. The fact that demands for seed each year are three times greater than the supply is proof of the program's success.

Largely through Paul's efforts a seedling development program was started, and this year some 80 varieties and seedlings are being produced under careful supervision and the best known seed producing practices. This program is designed to increase small lots of seedlings or new varieties so that a supply of high quality seed is available for varietal testing and for commercial increase.

Through Paul's efforts funds were made available this past year to hire a person in Maine to do potato breeding and to assist in evaluating new seedlings and varieties.

On a national level, Mr. Eastman is recognized as a leader in potato certification work. He has served on many committees and on several occasions has been asked to testify at various legislative hearings in Washington in relation to seed certification.

He has been very active in The Potato Association of America, having served on many committees and as President of the organization.

It is with great pleasure that I present Paul J. Eastman as an Honorary Life Member of The Potato Association of America.

PAUL N. MOSHER