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The Cover



Research to possibly by-pass the laborious and time-consuming preparation of burley tobacco beds is demonstrated in this cover picture. E. M. Smith, of the Agricultural Engineering Department, is holding some pelleted (clay-coated) tobacco seed. Covering the tiny seed with clay makes the seed large enough to be handled by a machine, which makes field-planting possible. Smith's tests last season showed reasonable success in field-planting. The machine at the left lays row plastic, used as a mulch and a weed-depresser; the pelleted seed is planted through holes punched in the plastic. (Photograph by Robert C. May)