George Washington Carver

George Washington Carver was born into slavery in what is now known as Diamond, Missouri, in the early 1860s. He earned his high school diploma at Minneapolis High School in Minneapolis, Kansas. He studied botany at Iowa State Agricultural College in Ames, and was the first black student. He continued until he received his master's degree.

For the next two years, Carver did research at the Iowa Experiment Station. His work with plant pathology and mycology at the Iowa State Experiment Station earned him national recognition as a botanist. He became the first black faculty member at Iowa State.

In 1896 Carver became the head of the Agriculture Department at Tuskegee Institute. Carver continued to teach there for 47 years.

He was best known for his work with crop rotation techniques and alternative crops to cotton, such as peanuts and sweet potatoes. He received numerous honors for his work promoting environmentalism including the Spingarn Medal of the NAACP.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Washington_Carver