A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF VIRGINIA VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE SINCE 1928

by

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III

Thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

in candidacy for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

Agricultural Education

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May 21, 1952

Blacksburg, Virginia

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
	List of Tables	iii
	Acknowledgements	vi
I.	INTRODUCTION	1
	History	1
	Purposes of the study	5
	Limitations	5
	Definitions of terms	6
	Assumptions	7
	Setting and need	8
	Method of procedure	8
	Summary of the chapter	9
II.	REVIEW OF LITERATURE	11
III.	STATUS OF VIRGINIA AMERICAN FARMERS PRIOR TO RECEIVING THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE	18
	Summary of the chapter	42
IV.	PRESENT STATUS OF VIRGINIA AMERICAN FARMERS	44
	Summary of the chapter	93
V.	CONCLUSIONS	96
VI.	RECOMMENDATIONS	99
VII.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	101
VIII.	VITA	103
IX.	APPENDIX	105

LIST OF TABLES

Table Number		Page
1	Age Distribution of 57 Candidates at the Time They Applied for the American Farmer Degree	20
2	Years of Vocational Agriculture Completed from 1940 Through 1949	21
3	Length of Time from Receiving the State Farmer Degree until Receiving the American Farmer Degree	22
4	Number of F.F.A. Offices Held	23
5	Distribution of F.F.A. Offices	24
6	Number of Organizations Belonged to in High School	25
7	Number of Community Organizations Participated in by Applicants	26
8	Number Attending College	27
9	Number of Brothers and Sisters	28
10	Number of Children in the Home Family	29
11	Position in the Family	30
12	Martial Status of Candidates	31
13	Size of the Home Farm	32
14	Type of Home Farm	32
15a	Extent of Candidates Participation in the Farming Program	34
15b	Extent of Candidates Participation in the Farming Program	35
16a	Candidate's Share of Livestock - Number of Head Owned	36
16b	Candidate's Share of Livestock - Number of Head Owned in Partnership	37
17	Candidate's Share of Poultry on the Home Farm	39
18	Candidate's Per Cent Share of Livestock and Poultry Owned in Partnership	40

Table Number		Page
19	Candidate's Financial Status	41
20	Virginia American Farmers, 1928-1950	48
21	Number of Degrees Awarded and Number of Degrees Allowed the Virginia Members of the F.F.A.	51
22	Number Responding to the Questionnaires by Areas of Supervision	54
23	Present Age of 84 Virginia American Farmers	55
24	Martial Status	55
25	Number of Children in American Farmers Families	56
26	Number of Vocational Agriculture Instructors in High School.	57
27	Number Attended College	58
28	Years of College Completed	58
29	Courses Pursued in College	59
30	Service in the Armed Forces During World War II	60
31	Highest Rank Attained in the Military Services During World War II	61
32	Length of Military Service During World War II	62
33	Number of Community Organizations Participated in by American Farmers	63
34	Occupational Distribution of 84 Virginia American Farmers	65
35	Number Living in Their Home Communities	66
36	Farming Status	67
37	Number Planning to Farm	67
38	Reasons for not Farming	68
39	Methods of Becoming Established in Farming	69
40	Number Influenced by the American Farmer Degree to Select Farming as Their Occupation	70

Table Number		Page
41	Value of Agriculture Training in High School for Present Work	71
42	Number Reporting Supervised Farming Program as a Help in Becoming Established in Farming	72
43	Incentive for the American Farmer Degree	73
44	Average Gross Income, 1947-1951 Inclusive	75
45	Type of Farming	76
46	Acreage of Pasture, Timberland and Meadow Owned	77
47	Acreage of Pasture, Timberland and Meadow Owned in Partnership	78
48	Acreage of Pasture and Timberland Rented	79
49	Acreage of Crops Owned	80
50	Acreage of Crops Owned in Partnership	81
51	Acreage of Crops Rented	82
52	Total Acreage of Farm Land Owned	83
53	Total Acres of Farm Land Owned in Partnership	84
54	Total Acres of Farm Land Rented	85
55	Total Value of Farm Land	86
56	Amount of Livestock Owned	87
57	Amount of Livestock Owned in Partnership	88
58	Amount of Poultry Owned	89
59	Amount of Poultry Owned in Partnership	90
60	Total Value of Livestock and Poultry	91
61	Total Value of Equipment	92

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writer expresses his gratitude to the following persons who contributed much to this study and without whose cooperation it could not have been completed:

Members of the Agricultural Education Department, who guided in the selection of the problem, and spent considerable time and effort in ironing out the difficulties encountered.

Other members of the Vocational Education Department for their helpful assistance.

Members of the advisory committee for their helpful suggestions.

Area supervisors and certain teachers of vocational agriculture in Virginia who furnished the present addresses of, and other information about, the American Farmers included in this study.

The men now holding the American Farmer Degree in Virginia who made this study possible through their cooperation and willingness to give personal information.

Members of the U.S. Office of Education for their cooperation in providing application forms.

My wife, for her encouragement and typing of this thesis.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

History

When the F.F.A. was first established in 1928, it was recognized that some means should be provided by which members could advance to higher standings within the organization. Therefore, four active membership degrees were provided. These were: (1) Green Hand, (2) Chapter Farmer, [1] (3) State Farmer, and (4) American Farmer. Each of these degrees are based upon achievement. The American Farmer Degree denotes higher levels of accomplishments in F.F.A. work, community service, community organizations, earnings, savings, investments, scholorship and leadership, than the other three degrees.

The national constitution of the F.F.A. has set forth the following minimum requirements for election to this degree: [2]

> "Article IV. Active Membership Degrees and Privileges ..... Section E. American Farmer Degree. Minimum qualifications for election:
>
> 1. Must have held each of the three prerequisite degrees prior to election to the Degree of American Farmer, have been an active member of the F.F.A. continuously for at least 36 months, and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter and State association.

1/ Changed from Future Farmer to Chapter Farmer at the 1941 National F.F.A. Convention held annually at Kansas City, Missouri.

2/ Official Manual for Future Farmers of America, French-Bray Printing Co., Candler Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland, p. 16.

2. Must have satisfactorily completed at least three school years of instruction in vocational agriculture, or have completed all of the vocational agriculture offered in the school last attended, have been out of high school for at least 12 months prior to the convention at which the degree is granted, and have in operation an outstanding program of supervised farming. Productive projects must show comprehensive planning, continuation, growth, and increase in scope as substantiated by complete, accurate, and neat records.

3. During the period covered by his application, the candidate must have earned by his own efforts from farming and other agricultural work and have deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least $500, provided that at least two-thirds of this amount is derived from his supervised farming program. In the cases where the applicant has assisted in the support of dependents, the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Trustees, may be considered as an investment.

4. Show outstanding ability as evidenced by his leadership and cooperation in student, chapter, and community activities, and have a satisfactory scholorship record as certified to by the local school superintendent or principal."

The interpretation of these minimum qualifications for the American Farmer Degree is important and these are set forth by the National F.F.A. Advisory Council as: 1/

1. "Each candidate will be considered on his accomplishments as revealed in his record and must measure up to <u>each minimum qualification</u> for an American Farmer.

2. A candidate for the Degree of American Farmer must be an active member of the F.F.A. when this application is filed with the State association. According to the constitution, an F.F.A. 'member may retain his active membership continuously throughout his entire high school career and for three years after the first national convention following

1/ <u>Interpretation of Minimum Qualifications for The American Farmer Degree Made by The National F.F.A. Advisory Council,</u> 1948-1949 form 665, Application for American Farmer Degree, page B.

graduation from, or leaving high school, or until he may become 21 years of age, whichever length of time is greater. No individual, however, may retain his active membership beyond his 25th birthday.

An active member shall be considered in good standing when:

(1) He attends local chapter meeting with reasonable regularity while enrolled in the school where the local chapter is established.

(2) He shows an interest in, and takes part in, the affairs of the chapter.

(3) He pays his dues regularly and conducts himself in a manner becoming a member of the organization.'

3. The time limit of awarding the American Farmer Degree shall be three years after the first national convention following graduating from or leaving high school.

4. A candidate for the Degree of American Farmer must be nominated by a State association.

5. The candidate must have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter and State association. This must include:

(a) A minimum of 6 different types of local F.F.A. chapter activities. .....

(b) The candidate must also attend at least 2 different F.F.A. activities above the local chapter level. .....

6. The candidate's application must include:

(a) A minimum of 5 different improvement projects. .....

(b) Ten different supplementary practices. .....

(c) The supervised farming program must show improvement in quality or show expansion, or both, and that the candidate is becoming established in a type of farming as evidenced by one or more productive projects showing at least 2 years' continuation.

(d) A candidate not living on the farm continuously throughout the year, including candidates in college, must show by a detailed written statement in the application or attached to it that he has personal responsibility for the operation and management of his outstanding program of supervised farming and his plans and intentions for becoming established in farming.

7. The total amount of errors in the applicant's supervised farming program must not:

(a) Exceed 5 per cent of the total labor income.

(b) The total errors in the financial statement, page 8 shall not exceed 5 per cent of the value when compared with the information found on pages 4 and 5 of the application form.

8. Money that is productively invested must have been used in connection with one or more of the following: livestock, crops, farming equipment, farm supplies, savings, and relief of immediate family members, but not for items of personal use, such as autos, radios, travel, school expenses and musical instruments.

9. The candidate must have:

(a) Held a constitutional office. .....

(b) Participated in some chapter activity, such as public speaking, parliamentary procedure, livestock contests, or food preservation. ....

10. The cooperative activities must include at least three group functions, such as cooperative buying and selling of agricultural products, conducting educational tours and recreational activities, of which at least one must show group financing in cash or kind. .....

Statement of the problem

The problem of this study is to determine what the vocational agriculture students who have received the American Farmer Degree have done since they received this degree and the advancements they have

been able to make.

A minor problem arising out of this study is to determine the status of the average vocational agriculture boy who received the American Farmer Degree at the time he received the degree.

Purposes of the study

The purposes of this study may be listed as follows:

1. To determine the educational status of those persons who received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950.
2. To determine their occupational and economic status.
3. To determine their promotions.
4. To determine their leadership attainments.
5. To determine their status at the time they received the American Farmer Degree.

Limitations

This study included 117 Virginia American Farmers who received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950.

The questionnaire type of study was made and none of the recipients were interviewed personally. This is a definite limitation as more reliable information could have been gained through personal interviews. However, the large number and widely scattered locations of these Virginia American Farmers made a questionnaire type of study desirable because of limited time and expense.

Only fifty-seven application forms used by Virginia American Farmers were secured from the national F.F.A. executive-secretary in

Washington. These fifty-seven application forms were used by the applicants from 1940 through 1949 with the exception of 1948. Seven young men from Virginia received the American Farmer Degree in 1948 but only four application forms were obtained for that year. In determining the status of the average vocational agriculture boy at the time he received the American Farmer Degree, all information was obtained from these fifty-seven application forms. Although this is but 48.7 per cent of the total young men in Virginia to receive the American Farmer Degree, it is assumed that they will give a true picture of the entire group.

From a total of 108 questionnaires sent out, only 84 or 77.8 per cent were returned. This is a relatively high per cent, but in a study of this group, there should be closer to a 100 per cent return.

Definition of terms

"American Farmer," recipient, degree winner, and candidates as used in this study refer to those young men in Virginia who met the requirements for the American Farmer Degree as provided by the rules and regulations of the national organization of the F.F.A. and who applied for and had this degree conferred upon them.

F.F.A. is the abreviation of the Future Farmers of America, which is a national organization of boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools.

The term "occupation" refers to the regular vocation in which a person is engaged.

"Occupational status" means the position within an occupation. In this study the occupational status given is farming, related, and other. Those actively engaged in farming are included in the first group. Those who are engaged in occupations closely related to farming such as an agriculture instructor, farm machinery employee, livestock dealers, would be classified as engaged in related occupations. Those persons who are neither in farming nor in related occupations are classified as other. A bus driver, a miner or a minister would be included in this category.

Farming tenure, as used in this study, denotes the position of those engaged in farming, such as owner, partner, renter, tennant or part-time.

Assumptions

Since the number of American Farmer Degrees to any State or territory is limited to one degree per one thousand members, or major portion thereof, 1/ it is assumed that those persons in Virginia who have received this degree represent the best of the vocational agriculture boys.

It is assumed that the 57 young men studied in Chapter III, were representative of the group in determining the status of the American Farmer at the time he received the American Farmer Degree.

It is also assumed by the writer that all information supplied in

1/ Official Manual, Future Farmers of America, The French-Bray Printing Co., Candler Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1949, p. 22.

response to the questionnaires was valid.

Setting and need

Although there have been 117 American Farmer Degrees awarded to Virginia students of vocational agriculture from 1928 through 1950, there has never been a study made of this group.

Since the end-product of any organization forms the criteria by which that organization is judged, it is well to study this group and see where they are and what they have done.

A study of this type will be of interest to many of the people connected with F.F.A. activities. Perhaps the results of this study will be used as an incentive to encourage more boys to strive for this award. In addition it could serve as a partial evaluation of the criteria upon which the degree has been awarded.

Method of procedure

The problem of determining just what the vocational agriculture students who received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950 have done since they received the degree was selected and a thesis outline on this problem was submitted in July, 1951. All available literature pertaining to this study was then reviewed.

A list of the names and school addresses of Virginia American Farmers was obtained from the executive secretary for the Virginia association of the F.F.A. This list was then broken down into a list of recipients from the six supervisory areas of vocational agriculture

in Virginia. The present or last known addresses of the American Farmers were obtained in part from the different area supervisors and in part from the instructors of vocational agriculture at the school attended by the recipicent.

A questionnaire was then formulated and sent to eight American Farmers known by the writer, along with a personal letter asking for their criticism of the questionnaire. The questionnaire was then revised and sent to 100 Virginia American Farmers. Prior to sending out the questionnaires, the application forms used by 57 Virginia American Farmers were obtained by Mr. T. J. Horne from Mr. A. W. Tenney, National Executive Secretary of the F.F.A. During the time the questionnaires were being returned, information was being tabulated from the application forms, and the results were being written.

Within five weeks a total of 57 questionnaires were returned and a follow-up letter was sent to those who had not returned their questionnaries by this time. (See page 112, appendix)

Four weeks later a letter was sent to five area supervisors asking for help in securing the remainder of the questionnaires.

All data were tabulated with the use of departmental adding machines and no attempt was made to go into statistical compilations because of the limited application to such a study.

Summary of the chapter

This is a study of the boys in Virginia who have received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950, to learn just what these

American Farmers have done and the advancements they have been able to make. The purposes of the study are:

1. To determine the educational status of those persons who received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950.
2. To determine their occupational and economic status.
3. To determine their leadership attainments.
4. To determine their promotions.
5. To determine their status at the time they received the American Farmer Degree.

To get this information 57 application forms of successful candidates for the American Farmer Degree were secured from the national F.F.A. office. To get the other information concerning advancements and present status of Virginia American Farmers, a questionnaire was formulated and sent to 108 American Farmers. Only 84 or 77.8 per cent replied to the questionnaire in time for the study to be completed by May 26, 1952. The remainder were either contacted by their agriculture instructors or area supervisors of vocational agriculture or their present occupation was supplied by these men.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Although there have been many studies made of vocational agriculture boys, only four studies relating directly to those boys who have received the American Farmer Degree have been found. Other studies have included those boys but not as a group by themselves. There have been national studies made, covering 47 States, by Myers and Lathrop, 1/ but these studies were made early and did not include a very large number of American Farmers. Those studies of American Farmers and those studies of Virginia ex-students of vocational agriculture are of more importance to this study of Virginia American Farmers.

Sharitz 2/ studied 306 State Farmers or 51.6 per cent of the total number of boys receiving the State Farmer Degree from 1927 to 1938, and compared these boys with 269 selected boys called the check group.

He found that the State Farmer boys were superior, on the average, to the check boys on all factors studied. The factors studied were:

1/ Carleton E. Wright, Occupational Distribution, Entrance into Farming and Opportunities for Farming of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture; A Critical Review of Research in One Phase of Agricultural Education, Agricultural Series 13, Bulletin No. 82, Federal Board for Vocational Education, Washington, D. C., 1934, pp. 10-14.

2/ T. J. B. Sharitz, Jr., Comparison of Virginia Future Farmers of America Receiving the State Farmer Degree Between 1927 - 1938 with Boys not Holding the Same Degree, Vocational Education, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia, 1940.

years of agriculture completed, number of enterprises completed, hours of self labor, investment in farming, investment in savings, size and type of home farm, improved practices, high school grades, years of rally judging, years of athletic participation, public speaking and degree team, times led group discussion, offices held in high school, occupation in 1939-1940, affiliation with organizations since leaving high school, place of living, and participation in elections.

The State study, under the direction of H. W. Saunders, 1/ covers thirty-one years, 1918-1949, and 53,952 ex-students of vocational agriculture.

The study reveals that the percentage of ex-students engaged in farming has tended to decrease although the number entering farming is increasing. About one-fourth of the white boys who studied vocational agriculture are actually farming and slightly less than one-third, (31.82 per cent) are engaged in farming and related occupations. Ex-students who farm tend to stay in their home communities and show an encouraging trend toward farm ownership or partnership with their father.

The study also indicates that the longer a boy studies agriculture in high school the more likely he is to engage in farming.

The number of boys receiving the American Farmer Degree was not determined, however, they were included in the group and their

1/ H. W. Sanders, Trends Indicated by the Follow-Up Study, Vocational Education Department Mimeograph, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia, 1950.

occupational status was determined in the 53,952 ex-students. Of the 44,330 white students in vocational agriculture, a very small per cent have attained the American Farmer Degree.

In a study of 73 North Carolina American Farmers, James 1/ found that 45.21 per cent of the young men in North Carolina who had received the American Farmer Degree are engaged in farming. He also found that American and State Farmer degree winners attended agricultural colleges and entered related occupations in greater proportions than young men not holding that degree.

The average age of young men receiving the degree was eighteen years and two months, the average size of the home farm was 245.7 total acres and 101.4 cultivated acres. Degrees were awarded to young men between the age of sixteen and twenty-one years inclusive.

Tobacco farming was the type of farming followed by the largest per cent of the home farms.

The average number of children in families from which American Farmers came was 5.74 and of these 3.56 were boys and 2.18 girls.

James also found that 45.21 per cent of the 73 American Farmers were in farming; 10.96 per cent were in occupations related to agriculture; 15.07 per cent were in occupations not related to agriculture;

1/ Gerald B. James, An Occupational Distribution Study of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture Who Received The American Farmer Degree from The North Carolina Association of Future Farmers of America During The Period July 1928 Through July 1947. Unpublished M.S. Thesis, North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, University of North Carolina, 1948, p. 105.

4.11 per cent were still in the military forces; 15.07 per cent were in agricultural colleges, and 9.59 per cent were in non-agricultural colleges and schools.

In his study of 36 American Farmers of Louisiana, Rogers [1/] found that general farming was followed on 52.8 per cent of the home farms of most of the boys.

Of the 36 American Farmers, 14 were farming, 6 were in related occupations, and 16 were in non-agricultural occupations. Ten of the 14 American Farmers engaged in farming were farming in home communities, 8 were farming as owners, 1 as a partner, 4 as managers and 1 as a tenant.

Seventy and five tenths (70.5) per cent of the 17 American Farmers who went to college attended agricultural colleges.

Twenty-eight or 77 per cent of the 36 boys received the American Farmer Degree between the ages of 17 and 20 years.

Fifteen or 41.4 per cent of the home farms are below 100 acres in size and three or 7.3 per cent have more than 500 acres.

The 14 established in farming had an average of 2.9 brothers each as compared to an average of 2.7 brothers for each of the 22 living that were not engaged in farming.

In the follow-up study of distinguished West Virginia Future Farmers

1/ J. D. Rogers, Occupational Study of American Farmers in Louisiana, Unpublished M. S. Thesis, Louisiana State University, p. 64.

Wayman [1] studied 7 boys who had received the American Farmer Degree and 49 boys who had received the State Farmer Degree.

Wayman found that the average period of vocational agricultural instruction was 3.31 years, the average age of the boys when receiving the degree was 22.18 years and all members except one graduated from high school.

He also found that 18 were farming full time, 8 were farming part-time, 3 were attending agricultural colleges, 3 were attending non-agricultural colleges, 13 were attending high school, 2 were in occupations related to farming, and 10 were in non-agricultural occupations.

Of those farming, 4 were farming as owners, 4 as partners, 3 were working at home for definite wages, 5 were working at home for indefinite wages and 2 were at home with income from one or more enterprises.

Keener's [2] study included 73 American Farmers from Oklahoma. Of the 73 American Farmers studied, 2 were deceased and 60 or 84.5 per cent replied to the questionnaire.

Keener found that 8 students had 3 years of vocational agriculture, 52 students had 4 years of vocational agriculture; 37 students had 1 agriculture teacher, 19 had 2 agriculture teachers, and 4 had 3 agriculture teachers. Ninety-two and three tenths (92.3) per cent of the

1/ Walter H. Wayman, A Follow-Up Study of Distinguished West Virginia Future Farmers, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, 1938, p. 53.

2/ George W. Keener, A Study of Young Men Holding the American Farmer Degree in Oklahoma, Pennsylvania State College, 1947, p. 58.

students were inspired to obtain the American Farmer Degree by the teacher of agriculture, 66.7 per cent by their parents, 6.7 per cent by business men, and 3.3 per cent by former students.

Of the 60 American Farmers of Oklahoma, there were two national presidents, three Star Farmers of the South, one of whom was the Star Farmer of the South. All 60 finished high school, 52 or 86.7 per cent studied vocational agriculture four years, and none less than three years.

Twenty-four, or 40 per cent of the young men attended college for an average attendance of one year. Seven received B.S. degrees in agriculture, of which four received higher degrees. Twenty-two of the 24 pursued or are pursuing agricultural courses.

The group of 60 American Farmers studied held a total of 242 organization offices during their high school career. All but three held offices in the F.F.A.

Out of the twenty-four entering college, 12 won 12 major leadership honors.

The group of 60 held 67 memberships in local and state farm organizations, with 11 holding offices. Two out of a membership of 20 held offices in the Farmers Union and 2 held offices in the Farm Bureau, which has 11 American Farmers as members.

Fifty of the 60 American Farmers are engaged in farming, 10 have jobs closely related to agriculture. Of those farming 41 or 68 per cent started with their parents and 41 or 68 per cent borrowed money, 14 earned money as labor on parents farm and 6 earned money as a laborer

on other farms. Three took over the home farm duties upon graduating from vocational agriculture.

Those 50 actually farming listed five major methods used in becoming established in farming. Some used two or three of the methods giving 105 answers; 68.3 per cent started with their parents and borrowed money; 23.3 per cent earned money while working as labors for parents, while 10 per cent earned money working as labors for persons other than their parents. Five per cent borrowed money and moved on farms alone to acquire the needed space for livestock.

CHAPTER III

STATUS OF VIRGINIA AMERICAN FARMERS PRIOR TO RECEIVING THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE

Introduction

In a follow-up study, where the present status of a group is determined, it is necessary to have a knowledge of the background of this group in order that one may better understand their advancements and achievements. Since the environment and the background of a person is a major factor influencing that persons behavior, his advancements, and achievements, it is necessary to study some of the factors relating to his early life. Among those factors studied is the age of the boy, size of the home family, position of leadership in high school and the F.F.A., size of home farm, type of home farm, community activities, and extent of participation in farming.

In determining the status of the average vocational agriculture boy at the time he received the American Farmer Degree, it may be possible to give a partial answer to many questions that arise concerning the American Farmer. Perhaps a typical question is: "In addition to meeting the minimum qualifications, what should a boy do to win the American Farmer Degree"?

Many questions may not be answered in a study of this type, but perhaps they can be better understood and partially answered if more is known about the background of the American Farmer. Perhaps some are the only sons, and inherited the home farm. Others may be the sons of

fathers who farmed as tennants, or renters, and could not grow into the farming business on the home farm. Perhaps some came from large families and small farms.

This part of the study is based upon fifty-seven application forms used by boys applying for the American Farmer Degree from 1940 through 1949. Although this group is but 48.7 per cent of all the young men receiving the American Farmer Degree and are from the last ten years covered by the study, it is believed they are representative of the entire group and would give a true picture as to the status of the average boy prior to receiving the American Farmer Degree.

Age distribution of 57 candidates for the American Farmer Degree

According to the interpretations of the minimum qualifications for the American Farmer Degree made by the national F.F.A. advisory council, (1951-1952, Form 665, see page 115, appendix) a candidate must be an active member of the F.F.A. at the time the application is filed. The candidate may retain his active membership throughout high school and for three years after the national convention following graduating from or leaving high school, or until he becomes 21 years of age, whichever length of time is greater.

Two of the candidates were 22 years of age at the time they applied for the American Farmer Degree, but they had not been graduated from high school over three years (Table 1).

Of the two boys who were 16 years of age at the time they applied for the degree, one had completed four years of vocational agriculture and one had completed five years.

The majority of the candidates were 19 years of age, and 82.3 per cent were between the ages of 18 and 20 years. The average age of all applicants was 19.27 years.

Table 1.- Age Distribution of 57 Candidates at the Time They Applied for the American Farmer Degree

Age group	Number of boys	Per cent
16	2	3.5
17	3	5.3
18	16	28.0
19	17	29.8
20	14	24.6
21	3	5.3
22	2	3.5
Totals	57	100.0

Years of vocational agriculture completed

In Virginia, not all departments of agriculture in the rural secondary public schools, offer just four years of agriculture. According to the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree, a candidate must have completed at least three school years of instruction in vocational agriculture, or have completed all of the vocational agriculture offered in the last school attended. However, the majority of Virginia American Farmers studied vocational agriculture for a period of four years (Table 2). There were forty-six or 80.7 per cent in this category.

Years of vocational agriculture studied varied from two years to five years. There were only two boys who studied agriculture for two years, and only two who studied agriculture for five years.

The average years of vocational agriculture studied by fifty-seven boys was 3.9.

Table 2.- Years of Vocational Agriculture Completed from 1940 through 1949

Years	Number	Per cent
5	2	3.5
4	46	80.7
3	7	12.3
2	2	3.5
Totals	57	100.0

Length of time from receiving the State Farmer Degree until receiving the American Farmer Degree

Since the State Farmer Degree is the degree next to the American Farmer Degree, and is prerequisite of the American Farmer Degree, it is interesting to note that according to Table 3 about one-fifth (21.1 per cent) of the boys had received the American Farmer Degree one year after receiving the State Farmer Degree. Most boys received the American Farmer Degree two years after receiving the State Farmer Degree, and only one boy received the American Farmer Degree four years after the State Farmer Degree.

The average length of time from receiving the State Farmer Degree until receiving the American Farmer Degree was 2.1 years.

Table 3.- Length of Time from Receiving the State Farmer Degree until Receiving the American Farmer Degree

Number of years	Number of boys	Per cent
4	1	1.7
3	20	35.1
2	24	42.1
1	12	21.1
Totals	57	100.0

Average time for all boys 2.1 years.

Number of F.F.A. offices held by 57 candidates

The part of the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree dealing with the satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter and State association was interpretated by the national F.F.A. advisory council to include: 1/

(a) A minimum of six different types of local F.F.A. chapter activities.

(b) The candidate must also attend at least two different F.F.A. activities above the local chapter level.

Although Table 4 does not list the activities of the local chapter, it does reveal the offices held by the candidates. The F.F.A. offices held by these boys include the following: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and reporter on the chapter, federation and State levels.

1/ Form 665, Revised 1948, Application for American Farmer Degree, page C, (see page 116, appendix).

Table 4.- Number of F.F.A. Offices Held

Number of offices	Number of boys	Per cent
0	2	3.5
1	7	12.3
2	16	28.1
3	18	31.6
4	8	14.0
5	5	8.8
6	1	1.5
Totals	57	100.0

Although two boys did not hold any of the above mentioned offices, they were active in the F.F.A. work, high school organizations, and community service. One of the boys served on the program of work committee on the local, federation, and State F.F.A. levels. Both boys also carried out good supervised farming programs.

Most boys held at least three offices and one boy held six. The average number of offices held by all boys was 2.7.

These figures indicate that it is possible for a boy to win the American Farmer Degree without holding any of the major offices in the local F.F.A. chapter.

Distribution of F.F.A. offices held

According to the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree, the candidate must show outstanding ability as

evidenced by his leadership and cooperation in student, chapter, and community activities. The fact that these boys have shown a great deal of leadership in these activities is indicated in Tables 4, 5, 6, and 7.

There have been thirty-four local, fourteen federation and seven State presidents for a total of fifty-five president offices filled by candidates for the American Farmer Degree (Table 5). There were only two State vice-presidents and there were no State treasurers among the fifty-seven degree applicants studied.

Table 5.- Distribution of F.F.A. Offices

	President		Vice-president		Secretary		Treasurer		Reporter	
Organization	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
Chapter	34	59.6	23	40.4	15	26.3	15	26.3	15	26.3
Federation	14	24.5	8	14.0	7	12.3	1	1.8	4	7.0
State	7	12.3	2	3.5	4	7.0	-	-	3	5.3
Totals	55	96.4	33	57.9	26	45.6	16	28.1	22	38.6

The position of treasurer was held by the least number of persons and the office of president was held by most.

Number of organizations belonged to in high school

As evidence of leadership and cooperation in student activities, the fifty-seven young men held a total of 184 memberships in high school organizations (Table 6). This is an average of 3.1 organizations belonged to by each American Farmer Degree applicant.

The number of organizations these boys held membership in other

than the F.F.A. varied from none to nine. Most boys had membership in three organizations, two had membership in nine organizations, and fourteen boys did not hold membership in any organizations except the F.F.A.

Table 6.- Number of Organizations Belonged to in High School

Number of organizations	Number of applicants holding membership	Per cent	Number of offices	Number of applicants holding offices	Per cent
0	10	17.5	0	14	24.6
1	8	14.0	1	9	15.8
2	8	14.0	2	7	12.3
3	9	15.8	3	9	15.8
4	3	5.3	4	2	3.5
5	7	12.3	5	4	7.0
6	5	8.8	6	6	10.5
7	2	3.5	7	4	7.0
8	3	5.3	8	2	3.5
9	2	3.5	9	0	-
Totals	57	100.0		57	100.0

These same fifty-seven boys held a total of 158 offices or an average of 2.8 offices per boy. This is important when we realize that the average number of organizations belonged to was 3.1 and the average number of offices held in these organizations was 2.8. These figures suggest that the boys were leaders in most high school organizations to which they belonged. Some of the high school organizations

belonged to by these boys are as follows: Beta Club, Monogram Club, Library Club, Dramatic Club, Journalism Club, Debating Club, Student Cooperative Associations, Student Council, and Glee Club.

Number of community organizations participated in by applicants

Most boys held membership in only one community agricultural organization, while the majority of boys held membership in two community non-agricultural organizations (Table 7).

The number of community organizations participated in by the boys prior to receiving the American Farmer Degree varied from none to five for the non-agricultural organizations and from none to three for the agricultural organizations.

Table 7.- Number of Community Organizations Participated in by Applicants

Number of organizations	Agricultural organizations				Non-agricultural organizations			
	Members	Per cent	Officers	Per cent	Members	Per cent	Officers	Per cent
1	16	28.1	8	14.0	13	22.8	15	26.3
2	7	12.3	5	8.8	19	33.3	19	33.3
3	4	7.0	1	1.8	8	14.0	6	10.5
4	-	-	-	-	4	7.0	2	3.5
5	-	-	-	-	1	1.8	1	1.8
None	30	52.6	-	-	12	21.1	-	-
Totals	57	100.0			57	100.0		

Since the average age of the boys prior to receiving the American Farmer Degree was 19.3 years, (see Table 1), it is reasonable to expect

that these boys did not belong to a great number of community organizations at this young age. However, these fifty-seven boys held 138 memberships in all community organizations. There were 105 offices filled by these members for an average of 1.8 offices in a community organization per boy.

It is interesting to note that one boy belonged to five community non-agriculture organizations and held five offices in these organizations.

The average number of organizations belonged to per boy was 2.4. Thirty boys did not belong to an agriculture organization, twelve did not belong to a non-agriculture organization, and seven did not belong to any community organization.

Number attending college

Although the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree states that a candidate shall have a satisfactory scholorship record as certified by the local school superintendent or principal, fifteen or 26.4 per cent were attending schools of higher learning at the time they applied for the American Farmer Degree (Table 8).

Table 8.- Number Attending College

College attending	Number	Per cent
Agriculture	12	21.1
Non-agriculture	3	5.3
Total attending college	15	26.4
Total not attending college	42	73.6
Total	57	100.0

Of the fifteen attending college, 80 per cent were enrolled in agriculture college and 20 per cent were enrolled in non-agriculture colleges.

Number of brothers and sisters in the families of 51 candidates

The application form (see page 114, appendix) was revised January 1941. Those application forms used prior to that date did not contain questions relative to the number of brothers and sisters in the home family. Therefore, the six boys who applied for the American Farmer Degree during 1940 are not included in this section of the study.

The number of brothers of American Farmer Degree winners prior to receiving the American Farmer Degree, varied from none to five while the number of sisters varied from none to four (Table 9). Only one boy had four sisters, but three boys had five brothers.

Table 9.- Number of Brothers and Sisters

Number of brothers	Number of American Farmers	Per cent	Number of sisters	Number of American Farmers	Per cent
0	13	25.5	0	10	19.6
1	19	37.3	1	14	27.4
2	10	19.6	2	16	31.4
3	4	7.8	3	10	19.6
4	2	3.9	4	1	2.0
5	3	5.9	5	0	-
Totals	51	100.0		51	100.0

Although there were thirteen American Farmers with no brothers and ten boys with no sisters, there were only four or 7.8 per cent with neither brother nor sister. This means that 7.8 per cent of boys applying for the American Farmer Degree were the only child. However, most boys who received this degree had one brother and two sisters.

Number of children in the family

The number of children in the home families of 51 American Farmers varied from one to nine (Table 10). There were four families where the American Farmer was the only child. One family had nine children, including the American Farmer, and there was one family with eight children. Most families had three or four children and the average size of the family was 4.0 children.

Table 10.- Number of Children in the Home Family

Number of children	Number of families	Per cent
1	4	7.8
2	8	15.7
3	10	19.6
4	10	19.6
5	7	13.7
6	7	13.7
7	3	5.9
8	1	2.0
9	1	2.0
Totals	51	100.0

Position in the family

Table 11 reveals that sixteen American Farmers were the first child in the family. More than half (54.9 per cent) of the American Farmers were either the first or second child. Only one American Farmer was above the sixth child in the family, and he was the ninth child. The average rank in the family was 2.4.

These figures suggest that since most American Farmers were either the first or second child, that they were more eligible to obtain the American Farmer Degree than other brothers who came along later.

Table 11.- Position in the Family

Rank	Number	Per cent
First	16	31.4
Second	12	23.5
Third	9	17.6
Fourth	7	13.7
Fifth	3	5.9
Sixth	3	5.9
Ninth	1	2.0
Totals	51	100.0

Martial status of candidates

Only a small per cent of the boys were married at the time they applied for the American Farmer Degree (Table 12). There were only

five married at this time, and the average age at the time they were married was 19 years and 10 months.

Table 12.- Martial Status of Candidates

Status	Number	Per cent
Married	5	8.8
Single	52	91.2
Totals	57	100.0

Size of the home farm

If a boy were from a large-sized farm, it seems reasonable that he would have a better opportunity to expand his supervised farming program than a boy would have if he were from a small farm.

The average size of the home farm was 281 acres (Table 13).

The size of farms ranged in acres from 58.3 to 987. There were five boys from farms of 100 acres or less and six boys were from farms of 501 acres or over, while most boys were from farms from 201 to 250 acres in size.

These figures indicate that boys who have received the American Farmer Degree were not necessarily from exceptionally large farms. It appears that the number of boys from small farms was about equal to the number of boys from larger farms.

Type of home farm

Virginia, with its mountain ranges and coastal plains, is suited for diversified farming. Table 14 reveals that general farming was

Table 13.- Size of the Home Farm

Size in acres	Number of boys	Per cent
100 or under	5	8.8
101 - 150	9	15.8
151 - 200	8	14.0
201 - 250	10	17.5
251 - 300	6	10.5
301 - 350	6	10.5
351 - 400	3	5.3
401 - 450	3	5.3
451 - 500	1	1.8
501 or over	6	10.5
Totals	57	100.0
Smallest farm	58.3 acres	
Largest farm	987.0 acres	
Average size	281.0 acres	

Table 14.- Type of Home Farm

Type of farm	Number of boys	Per cent
General	42	73.7
Dairy	9	15.8
Tobacco	3	5.2
Other	3	5.2
Totals	57	99.9

followed on most of the home farms while dairying was next in importance. Tobacco farming was followed on the home farms of only three boys.

Types of farming classified as other included one peanut farm, one plant farm and one livestock and poultry farm.

Extent of candidates participation in the whole farming program

In Table 15a the different major enterprises owned or managed by fifty-seven candidates for the American Farmer Degree are listed. These figures reveal the great diversification of Virginia agriculture since no one enterprise was participated in by all boys. This indicates that the candidate had several enterprises in his supervised farming program. Corn, pasture, small grain, and hay were enterprises engaged in by most boys.

There was a wide range in scope of all enterprises listed, indicating that some boys had minor interests in an enterprise and other had a major interest in that enterprise.

Tobacco, peanuts, truck, and others were listed separately, (Table 15b), because the man hours required per acre limited their scope. For this reason they could not be listed in the same acreage category as the other crop enterprises.

Over half of the candidates did not engage in these enterprises. More boys had some truck crop enterprises, and the least number of boys had peanuts as an enterprise.

These figures indicate that peanuts are not grown as widely in Virginia as truck crops.

Table 15a.- Extent of Candidates Participation in the Farming Program

Size in acres	Pasture		Timber		Meadow		Waste		Corn		Hay		Smallgrain		Soybeans	
	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
10 or under	7	12.3	4	7.0	5	8.8	2	3.5	17	29.8	12	21.1	9	15.8	7	12.3
11 - 20	9	15.8	1	1.8	1	1.7	2	3.5	14	24.6	6	10.5	10	17.5	4	7.0
21 - 30	1	1.8	3	5.3	-	-	-	-	4	7.0	4	7.0	5	8.8	-	-
31 - 40	1	1.8	-	-	2	3.5	1	1.8	3	5.3	3	5.3	5	8.8	-	-
41 - 50	4	7.0	2	3.5	3	5.3	-	-	4	7.0	1	1.7	3	5.3	-	-
51 - 60	2	3.5	2	3.5	-	-	-	-	1	1.7	1	1.7	-	-	-	-
61 or over	10	17.5	9	15.8	3	5.3	-	-	-	-	3	5.3	1	1.7	1	1.8
Did not participate	23	40.3	36	63.1	43	75.4	52	91.2	14	24.6	27	47.4	24	42.1	45	78.9
Totals	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0
Least acreage	1		3		3		5		2		1		3		1	
Greatest acreage	350		400		75		35		90		162		98		110	

Table 15b.- Extent of Candidates Participation in the Farming Program

Size in acres	Tobacco		Peanuts		Truck		Other	
	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
.5 or under	2	3.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
.6 - 2.0	6	10.5	1	1.8	15	26.3	4	7.0
2.1 - 4.0	2	3.5	2	3.5	4	7.0	4	7.0
4.1 - 6.0	2	3.5	1	1.8	2	3.5	5	8.8
6.1 - 8.0	2	3.5	-	-	1	1.8	2	3.5
8.0 or over	1	1.8	4	7.0	2	3.5	5	8.8
Totals	15	26.3	8	14.1	24	42.1	20	35.1
Did not participate	42	73.7	49	85.9	33	57.9	37	64.9
Totals	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0
Least acreage	.5		1		1/8		.6	
Greatest acreage	12		100		30.5		40	

Candidates' share of livestock

In addition to the extent of the candidates' participation in the crops aspect of farming, the number of livestock owned or owned in partnership by the candidate would further suggest his scope and growth into the farming business.

Table 16a reveals the number of head of livestock owned by the candidates and Table 16b reveals the number of head of livestock owned in partnership by the candidates. As in crop enterprises, not all boys engaged in any one single livestock enterprise. Most boys had more dairy cattle and swine as their enterprises than any other type of livestock.

Table 16a.- Candidate's Share of Livestock - Number of Head Owned

Number of head	Beef cattle		Dairy cattle		Swine		Horses and mules		Sheep	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1 - 4	9	15.8	13	22.8	14	24.5	11	19.3	3	5.3
5 - 8	8	14.0	7	12.3	4	7.0	1	1.7	2	3.5
9 - 12	1	1.8	4	7.0	3	5.3	-	-	2	3.5
13 - 16	2	3.5	3	5.3	3	5.3	-	-	-	-
17 or over	-	-	3	5.3	3	5.3	-	-	5	8.8
Totals	20	35.1	30	52.6	27	47.4	12	21.0	12	21.1
Did not own	37	64.9	27	47.4	30	52.6	45	79.0	45	78.9
Totals	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0
Total number owned	102		257		171		27		217	
Average number	1.8		4.6		3.0		0.5		3.8	
Largest number	13		54		25		6		50	

Table 16b.- Candidate's Share of Livestock - Number of Head Owned in Partnership

Number of head	Beef cattle		Dairy cattle		Swine		Horses and mules		Sheep	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
1 - 4	1	1.7	4	7.0	7	12.3	11	19.3	-	-
5 - 8	-	-	5	8.8	1	1.7	2	3.5	-	-
9 - 12	2	3.5	3	5.3	-	-	1	1.7	-	-
13 - 16	1	1.7	1	1.7	-	-	-	-	1	1.7
17 or over	5	8.8	2	3.5	10	17.5	-	-	4	7.0
Totals	9	15.7	15	26.3	18	21.5	14	24.5	5	8.7
Did not own in partnership	48	84.2	42	73.7	39	68.4	43	75.4	52	91.2
Totals	57	99.9	57	100.0	57	99.9	57	99.9	57	99.9
Total owned in partnership		247		360		397		49		219
Average number		4.3		6.3		6.9		.9		3.8
Largest number		83		175		57		11		73

The scope of these enterprises also varied a great deal. One boy owned as many as 175 dairy cattle in partnership, while forty-two boys did not own any in partnership.

Swine, dairy cattle and beef cattle were the most numerous livestock owned in partnership by most boys, while dairy cattle, sheep and swine were the most numerous livestock owned by most boys.

These fifty-seven boys owned a total of 778 head of livestock, while the number owned in partnership was 1,294. This is an average of 13.6 head of livestock owned per boy and 22.7 head of livestock owned in partnership per boy.

Candidate's share of poultry

The number of poultry owned varied from 25 to 4,100, while the number owned in partnership varied from 30 to 4,700 (Table 17).

Most boys owned from 151 to 200 poultry and owned 301 or over in partnership.

There were eighteen boys who owned 8,150 birds and twenty-one boys owned 23,277 birds in partnership.

The average for all boys was 143 owned and 408.4 owned in partnership. The least number owned by any boy was 25 and the least number owned in partnership by any boy was 30.

Candidate's per cent share of livestock and poultry owned in partnership

Of those boys having a partnership share of livestock and poultry, over half, (60.5 per cent), owned a fifty per cent share, and only

Table 17. Candidate's Share of Poultry on the Home Farm

Number	Candidate's share			
	Number owned	Per cent	Number owned in partnership	Per cent
50 or under	1	1.8	4	7.0
51 - 100	2	3.5	3	5.3
101 - 150	2	3.5	-	-
151 - 200	7	12.3	3	5.3
201 - 250	2	3.5	-	-
251 - 300	-	-	1	1.8
301 or over	4	7.0	10	17.5
Totals	18	31.6	21	36.9
Number not participating	39	68.4	36	63.1
Totals	57	100.0	57	100.0
Total number of poultry		8,150		23,277
Average		143		408.4

2.5 per cent owned a twenty per cent share (Table 18).

The 57 candidates held a total of 80 partnerships or an average of 1.4 partnerships per candidate.

These figures suggest that many of the boys were deeply interested in farming and were trying to grow into the farm business.

Financial status of the candidates

The minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree states that: "During the period covered by his application, the

Table 18.- Candidate's Per Cent Share of Livestock and Poultry Owned in Partnership

Per cent share	Number	Per cent
20	2	2.5
25	8	10.0
33 1/3	21	26.3
50	49	61.2
Totals	80	100.0

candidate must have earned by his own efforts from farming and other agricultural work and have deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least $500, provided that at least two-thirds of this amount is derived from his supervised farming program." 1/ Table 19 indicates that most boys had from $2,100 to $3,000 income from their supervised farming programs, and only four had an income of $1,000 or under.

The average income from supervised farming per boy was $3,699.09, but one boy had over $10,100 income from his supervised farming program.

The total assets varied from $727.35 to $82,568, the total for all boys was $549,521.45, and the average assets of all boys was $9,640.73.

The investment in farming also had a wide range, and the boys

1/ Official Manual Future Farmers of America, The French-Bray Printing Co., Candler Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1949, p. 16.

Table 19.- Candidate's Financial Status

Amount	Income from supervised farming		Total assets		Investment in farming	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
$1,000 or under	4	7.0	3	5.3	10	17.5
1,100 - 2,000	11	19.3	8	14.0	9	15.8
2,100 - 3,000	14	24.6	9	15.8	4	7.0
3,100 - 4,000	7	12.3	6	10.5	9	15.8
4,100 - 5,000	7	12.3	5	8.8	4	7.0
5,100 - 6,000	5	8.8	3	5.3	3	5.3
6,100 - 7,000	2	3.5	1	1.7	4	7.0
7,100 - 8,000	4	7.0	6	10.5	-	-
8,100 - 9,000	2	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.5
9,100 -10,000	-	-	2	3.5	1	1.8
10,100 or over	1	1.7	12	21.1	11	19.3
Totals	57	100.0	57	100.0	57	100.0
Total amount	$210,848.41		$549,521.45		$386,223.17	
Average per boy	$3,699.09		$9,640.73		$6,740.70	
Range	$655.38 to $10,575.88		$727.35 to $82,568.00		$255.00 to $80,725.00	

seemed to be about equally distributed in this category. There were ten boys who had $1,000 or under invested in farming, and eleven boys had $10,100 or over invested in farming. The total amount invested in farming was $380,223.17, or an average of $6,740.70 per boy.

These figures give a good indication that many of the boys were

well on their way to becoming established in farming. Many, more than met, the $500 minimum requirements stated in the constitution of the Future Farmers of America as minimum requirements for the American Farmer Degree. Then, too, it would appear that applicants for the American Farmer Degree need to have an average of about $6,740.70 invested in farming to be a successful candidate.

Summary of the chapter

From the foregoing part of the study, it would appear that the average young man who applied for the American Farmer Degree:

1. was 19.3 years of age,
2. completed 3.9 years of vocational agriculture,
3. applied for the American Farmer Degree 2.1 years after receiving the State Farmer Degree,
4. held 2.7 offices in the F.F.A.,
5. held membership in 3 other high school organizations,
6. held 2.8 offices in other high school organizations,
7. held membership in 1.8 community organizations,
8. came from families of 4 children,
9. came from a 281 acre farm,
10. participated mostly in corn, pasture, small grain, and hay enterprises,
11. had more dairy cattle and swine as enterprises than any other type of livestock,
12. owned 13.6 head of livestock outright,
13. owned 22.7 head of livestock in partnership,
14. owned 142.9 fowls outright.

15. owned 408.4 fowls in partnership,

16. had $3,699.09 income from supervised farming program, and

17. had $6,740.70 invested in farming.

The above figures give an indication of the requirements that should be met for a boy to become a successful candidate for the American Farmer Degree. These average figures also suggest that candidates for the American Farmer Degree must go well beyond the minimum requirements to successfully meet the competition for election to this degree.

CHAPTER IV

PRESENT STATUS OF 84 VIRGINIA AMERICAN FARMERS

Introduction

This part of the study was made entirely by the use of the questionnaire with the exception of information gathered from the area supervisors and certain instructors of vocational agriculture concerning the status of those men who did not respond to the questionnaire. This information is summarized at the end of this chapter.

Information was also gathered from the area supervisors of vocational agriculture in Virginia concerning the way in which they selected candidates for the American Farmer Degree in their geographical area of the State.

Procedure for selecting candidates for the American Farmer Degree in Virginia

In general, the following procedure has been followed throughout the State in selecting the candidates for the American Farmer Degree.

Application forms are sent to each area supervisor of vocational agriculture, early in the calendar year, from the State F.F.A. adviser at Richmond, Virginia.

Each instructor of vocational agriculture has a copy of the various dates on which reports are due in the area supervisor's office. Among the reports listed, is the American Farmer Degree application form which is due in the area supervisor's office on April 1. Prior to this date, the instructors of vocational agriculture request or they are sent a certain number of these application forms. Boys who have

made outstanding records as State Farmers are usually encouraged to apply for the American Farmer Degree by the instructor of agriculture or the area supervisor.

After the application forms are completed, they are sent to the area supervisor where they are checked for errors. The boys who have the best records of achievement in F.F.A. work are selected by the area supervisor. If a boy has an outstanding record, but has made errors in completing the application form, the area supervisor may return the application form to the boy with the suggestion that he apply again next year. In some cases if the boy has an outstanding record of achievement, has made errors in his application form, and cannot apply for this degree the following year, he is asked to correct and resubmit the application.

The area supervisors then send the application forms to the Department of Agricultural Education, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia. Prior to 1940 the application forms were sent to Professor H. C. Groseclose at V.P.I. From 1940 to 1946 the forms were sent to Professor E. Y. Noblin, and from 1946 to the present time they have been sent to Professor C. S. McLearen. These forms are checked and scored by Mr. McLearen on the basis of supervised farming program, earnings and income from sources other than the supervised farming program, present financial statement, leadership and cooperative activities, and scholorship. On the basis of the above information, Mr. McLearen selects the top applicants and usually two or three more than is allowed the State organization. The application forms are then brought before a

committee composed of the State F.F.A. adviser, a representative from each area of supervision, and Mr. McLearen. This committee selects the number of applicants allowed the State by the national F.F.A. constitution and after these applicants have been agreed on by the majority of the committee, they must be approved and submitted to the national F.F.A. office not later than June 30 of the year in which the degrees are to be awarded.

If the applicants are accepted as candidates for the American Farmer Degree, they are notified by the State adviser and are elected to the American Farmer Degree by a majority vote of the delegates present at the national convention held annually at Kansas City.

Virginia American Farmers

A list of Virginia American Farmers, stating the year the degree was awarded, the name of the boy, the F.F.A. chapter to which he belonged, and his present address, is found in Table 20.

There were 117 American Farmer Degrees awarded to boys in Virginia between 1928 and 1950. Of these 117 persons, 6 are deceased, and five are in the military service.

Questionnaires were sent to 108 of these men but were not sent to three men in service because their present address could not be secured.

There were three Star Regional Farmers and two Star American Farmers in this group of young men.

The number of degrees awarded and the number of degrees allowed the Virginia members of the F.F.A.

The By-Laws of the constitution of the Future Farmers of America

Table 20.- Virginia American Farmers, 1928-1950

Year	Name	Chapter	Address
1928	Joseph Beard	Floris	Fairfax
1929	Edward Burford	Amherst	Amherst
	T. F. Kidd, Jr.	Rural Retreat	(deceased)
	R. B. Storey, Jr.	Courtland	Courtland
1930	William Buchanan	Shorthorn	Broadford
	Dorsey Carrier	Strasburg	Strasburg
	Joe H. Gardner	Holland	Holland
1931	Ray Alderman	Woodlawn	Rt. #3, Galax
	Clarence Daughtrey	Holland	Carsville
	Jeter Lampkin	Wicomico	Wicomico Church
1932	George Wright	Stephens City	Brucetown
	John Beard	Herndon	Lorton
	Bayard A. Rucker, Jr.	Upperville	Eastham
1933	William A. Brooks	Stuarts Draft	Stuarts Draft
	Ashby S. Brumback	Middletown	Stephens City
	J. S. Buchhanan	Shorthorn	North Carolina State College, Raleigh, North Carolina
	Thornton Oliver	Holland	(deceased)
	Hilton Rector	Chivalee	Chilhowie
1934	J. H. Chapman	Smithfield Ham	Smithfield
	Andrew Jackson	Woodlawn	Laurel Fork
	Graham James, Jr.	Herndon	Herndon
	Clarence Lowe	Whaleyville	
1935	J. F. Blankenbaker	Criglersville	Brightwood
	William R. Shaffer	Muhlenberg	Woodstock
1936	Garvis Huff	Hillsville	Unionville
	Marvin Huff	Hillsville	Hillsville
	Wayne LaRue	Woodlawn	Tupelo, Mississippi
	Hayes Sadler	T.V. Downing	Dixie
	Vernon Trivilian	Botetourt	Cologne
	Berlin Webb	Hillsville	Caretta, West Virginia
1937	Robert Bristow *	Saluda	Churchview
	Amos Healy	Saluda	Churchview
	Warren Good, Jr.	Massanutten	Mt. Jackson
	R. W. Moffett	Stuarts Draft	Rt. #2, Staunton
	John A. Yowell	Criglersville	Bealeton

Continued-

Table 20.- Virginia American Farmers, 1928-1950 Continued

Year	Name	Chapter	Address
1938	Charles T. Haynie	Front Royal	Happy Creek
	Herbert Manuel	Middletown	Box 310, Strasburg
	Sidney Wortman	Legume	(deceased)
	Roy James	Herndon	Herndon
	W. E. Horton	Whaleyville	Whaleyville
	Hunter Greenlaw *	Falmouth	Fredricksburg
1939	W. Homer George	Catlett	Catlett
	Ralph O. Hamilton	West Augusta	West Augusta
	Fred Jackson	Cleveland	(deceased)
	Angus Myers	Warrenton	Warrenton
	R. W. Paulette	Appomattox	Appomattox
	Lyle H. Pond	Wakefield	Wakefield
	Harvey Smith	Whaleyville	630 N. Ellen Road, Newport News
	Samuel Spangler	Harrisonburg	Harrisonburg
1940	Willie H. Copley, Jr.	South Hill	(deceased)
	Thomas R. Dodson	Dan River	Ringgold
	Ralph A. Reynolds	Newport	Bland
	James R. Russell	Stephens City	Rt. #2, Winchester
	Robert J. Slade, Jr.	Dendron	Dendron
	Archer I. Yeatts, Jr.	Climax	Rt. #3, Chatham
1941	Thomas P. Scott	Randolph	Rt.#1, Farmville
	Roy R. Smith	Lebanon	Rt. #1, Cleveland
1942	Charles Bristow	Botetourt	Harcum
	J. V. Garland, III	Christopher	Village
	N. G. Lankford	Franklin	Box 535, Franklin
	Joseph A. Nelson	Victoria	Marine Corps
	Tom W. Pemberton	Slash Cottage	(deceased)
	W. D. Walker, Jr.	Randolph	Military Intelligence, 501 B. F. Station, Washington, D. C.
1943	R. E. Drake, Jr.	Newsoms	Newsoms
	H. Clifton Easter	Randolph	Farmville
	Lester Marsh	Lively	Shenandoah
	Edward P. Moncol	Disputanta	Prince George
	Roy S. Robertson, Jr.	Lebanon	Cleveland
	O. Beverly Roller	Weyers Cave	Weyers Cave
	Robert Smith	Beaverdam	Hewlett

Continued-

Table 20.- Virginia American Farmers, 1928-1950 Continued

Year	Name	Chapter	Address
1944	Joseph E. Chudoba	Disputanta	Prince George
	William H. Courtney	Cople	Kinsale
	Garland B. Garrette	Robert E. Lee	
	William H. Parcell	Rocky Mount	914 Beechwood Drive, S.W. Roanoke
	Epes O. Rainey	Midway	Sutherland
	C. N. Wine	Timberville	New Market
1945	William Agnew	Burkeville	Burkeville
	Benjamin J. Bryant	Newsoms	Handsom
	Francis M. Harris	Washington Henry	Ellerson
	Dennis McCarty, III	Marshall	Delaplane
	Frank C. Ott	Remington	Remington
	Harper K. Phillips	New Hope	Waynesboro
	Ben David Wheeler	Robert E. Lee	Rt. #3, Appomattox
1946	Joseph A. Barlow, Jr.	Caroline	Shumansville
	David S. Farmer, Jr.	Wilson Memorial	Vernon Hill
	Galen Flora	Boones Mill	Boones Mill
	Edward Goode	Rocky Mount	Ferrum
	J. L. Hopkins	McGaheysville	McGaheysville
	William R. Perrow	Concord	Concord
	J. C. Whitmore, Jr.	Dendron	Wakefield
1947	John A. Cleaton	LaCrosse	LaCrosse
	John L. DeBusk	Shorthorn	Saltville
	James E. Duerson	Louisa County	Bumpass
	Morgan B. Ott, Jr.	Bealeton	Remington
	Carson E. Stroop	Weyers Cave	Weyers Cave
1948	Joseph B. Carr	D.S. Lancaster	832 Patterson Avenue S.W., Roanoke
	Garnett Clark	Legume	Chase City
	C. R. Guthrie	Dublin	Dublin
	John H. Kennedy, Jr.	Stony Creek	Stony Creek
	Carnice E. Mannon	Floyd	Riner
	Gareth B. Miller	Bridgewater	Louisville, Kentucky
	William D. Wampler	Dayton	Harrisonburg
1949	W. H. Groseclose	Ceres	Nebo
	Albert F. Heishman	Massanutten	Mt. Jackson
	Dallas H. Johnson	Fluvanna	Palmyra
	George H. Peery, Jr.	Ceres	Ceres
	William L. Simmons	North River	Bridgewater
	Robert S. Stevens, Jr.*	Rustburg	Lynchburg
	Riley J. Stewart	Appomattox	Evergreen

Continued-

Table 20.- Virginia American Farmers, 1928-1950 Continued

Year	Name	Chapter	Address
1950	Hubert Carson	Concord	Concord
	Robert C. White	New London	Forest
	Berl Patterson	Spottswood	Spottswood
	William F. Rhudy, Jr.	Elk Creek	Elk Creek
	Charles B. Spangler, Jr.	Floyd	
	Johnnie Tomlin	Holland	Holland
	Harold W. Roller	Broadway	Broadway
	Milton Wickham	Montpelier	Beaverdam

* Star American and Star Regional Farmers.
** Star Regional Farmer only.

states that candidates for the American Farmer Degree from each State shall be limited to one candidate for each 1,000 active members in the association or major fraction thereof, but each State in good standing is entitled to at least one American Farmer Degree candidate. 1/

Table 21 reveals the numerical growth of the Virginia Association of the F.F.A. 2/ The year, the number of chapters, the membership, the number of American Farmer Degrees allowed, and the number of American Farmer Degrees awarded to Virginia young men are given in this table.

There have been a total of 136 American Farmer Degrees allowed the Virginia Association of F.F.A. and 117 degrees or 86.0 per cent have been awarded to Virginia F.F.A. boys.

1/ Official Manual Future Farmers of America, French-Bray Printing Co., Candler Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1949. By-Laws, Article VII, Section A, p. 22.

2/ The writer is indebted to the executive secretary-treasurer of the Virginia Association of the F.F.A. for the membership and number of chapters by years.

For twelve years out of twenty-three, Virginia received the full quota allowed and one year, 1941 only two degrees out of an alloted eight were awarded to Virginia boys.

For the past three years, Virginia has received her full quota of American Farmer Degrees. These figures indicate that candidates were chosen more carefully than formerly.

Table 21.- Number of Degrees Awarded and Number of Degrees Allowed the Virginia Members of the F.F.A.

Year	Number of chapters	Membership	Number of degrees allowed	Number of degrees awarded	Per cent received
1928	100	1,200	1	1	100
1929	120	2,202	2	3	150
1930	112	2,979	3	3	100
1931	154	3,526	4	3	75
1932	162	3,856	4	3	75
1933	164	4,111	4	5	125
1934	173	4,784	5	4	80
1935	180	5,238	5	2	40
1936	202	5,675	6	6	100
1937	212	6,163	6	5	83.3
1938	224	6,503	7	6	85.7
1939	236	7,592	8	8	100
1940	248	8,026	8	6	75
1941	249	8,088	8	2	25
1942	250	7,758	8	6	75
1943	229	6,880	7	7	100
1944	225	6,504	7	6	85.7
1945	213	6,529	7	7	100
1946	211	6,642	7	7	100
1947	218	7,074	7	5	71.4
1948	214	7,193	7	7	100
1949	212	7,365	7	7	100
1950	213	7,714	8	8	100
Totals			136	117	86.0

Geographical distribution of Virginia American Farmers

Figure 1 reveals the geographical location of those men in Virginia who have received the American Farmer Degree from 1928 through 1950. Each dot represents the approximate locality from which one or more American Farmers lived at the time they received the American Farmer Degree. This is an indication as to the widely scattered location of these American Farmers in Virginia.

Number responding to the questionnaire by area of supervision

In Virginia there are six areas of supervision for vocational agriculture scattered throughout the State. The vocational agriculture program developed in any area is the responsibility of the area supervisor in charge of that area. The area supervisor also has the responsibility of submitting the application forms of candidates for the American Farmer Degree from his area to the V.P.I. Agricultural Education Department at Blacksburg.

American Farmers in one area of supervision responded 100 per cent to the questionnaire (Table 22). Those men were from the Southwest A area. The area from which the smallest number of responses came was Southwest B. It is interesting to note that these two neighboring areas also had an equal number of American Farmers.

The number of American Farmers from each area varied from 11 in each of the Southwest Virginia areas to 33 in Northern Virginia.

Present age of 84 Virginia American Farmers

The age range of American Farmers was from 45 to 18 and the average

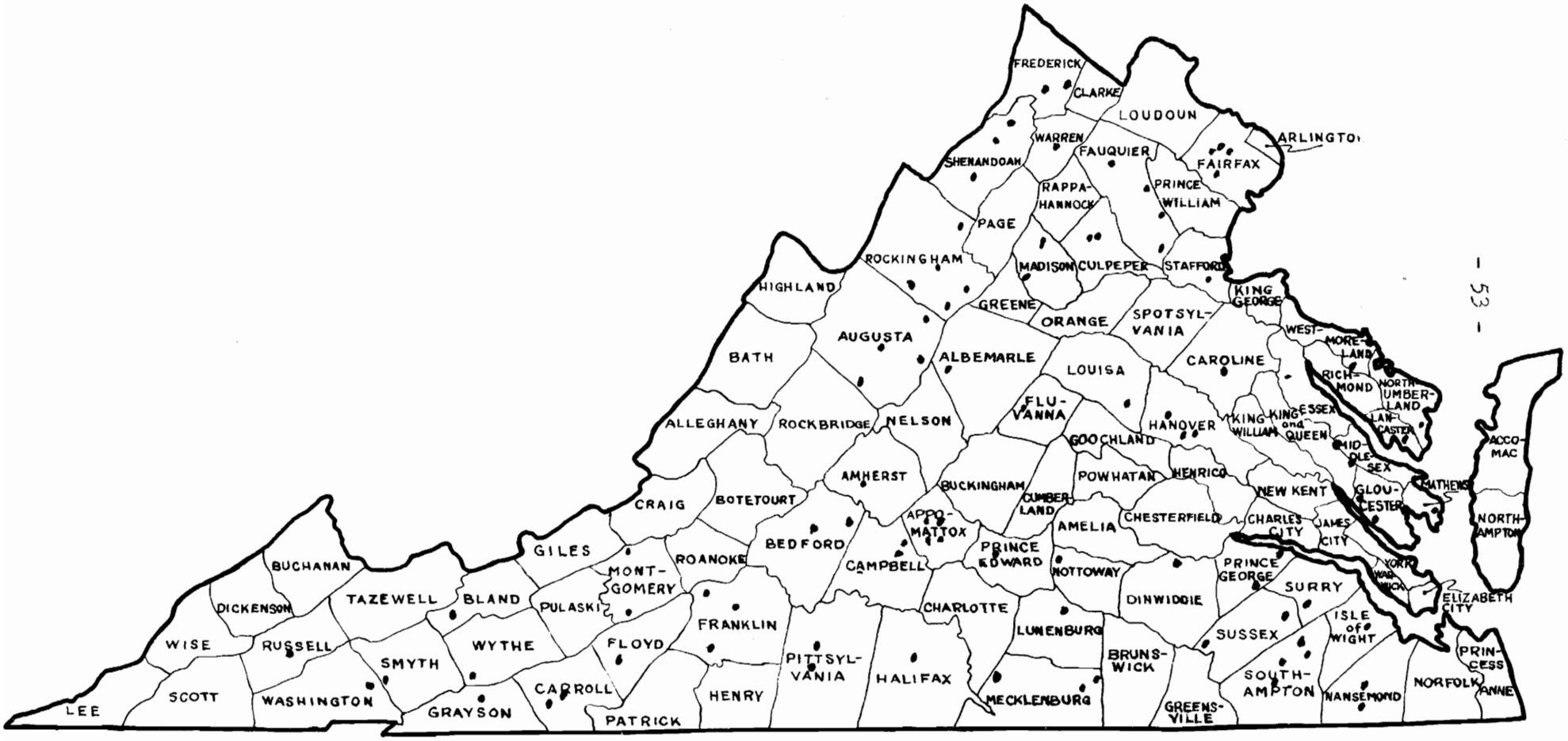

Figure 1. Geographical Distribution of Virginia American Farmers.
• Area from which one or more American Farmers came.

Table 22.- Number Responding to the Questionnaires by Areas of Supervision

Supervisory areas	Number			Per cent
	American Farmers	Question-naires sent	Question-naires returned	
Northern	33	33	29	87.9
Eastern	27	25	15	60.0
Southside	22	20	17	85.0
Central	13	11	8	72.7
Southwest A	11	10	10	100.0
Southwest B	11	9	5	55.6
Totals	117	108	84	77.8

age of all American Farmers was 29.4 years (Table 23).

Most American Farmers were in the 26 year age group and only five were over 39 years of age. There were no American Farmers reporting their age as 40 years.

Martial status

Seventy-five per cent of the American Farmer Degree recipients were married and 25 per cent were not yet married (Table 24). Of those who were married, seven had been married less than one year and two had been married over twenty years. Most American Farmers had been married for a period of from one to five years. One American Farmer did not respond to the question as to whether he was or was not married.

Table 23.- Present Age of 84 Virginia American Farmers

Age	Number	Per cent	Age	Number	Per cent
18	1	1.2	32	3	3.6
20	1	1.2	33	5	5.9
21	6	7.1	34	4	4.8
22	5	5.9	35	2	2.4
23	6	7.1	36	4	4.8
24	3	3.6	37	3	3.6
25	5	5.9	38	4	4.8
26	7	8.3	39	2	2.4
27	6	7.1	41	1	1.2
28	3	3.4	42	1	1.2
29	5	5.9	43	1	1.2
30	3	3.6	44	1	1.2
31	1	1.2	45	1	1.2
			Totals	84	100.0

Table 24.- Martial Status

Status	Number	Per cent
Single	21	25.0
Number of years married:		
Under 1	7	8.3
1 - 5	22	26.2
6 - 10	12	14.3
11 - 15	17	20.2
16 - 20	2	2.4
Over 20	2	2.4
Did not report	1	1.2
Totals	84	100.0

Number of children in the American Farmers families

Table 25 reveals that of the 63 married American Farmers, twenty-one did not have any children and one had five children. Most American Farmers had either one or two children. The average number of children per family was 1.3.

Table 25.- Number of Children in American Farmers Families

Number of children	Number of American Farmers	Per cent
0	21	33.3
1	16	25.4
2	16	25.4
3	8	12.7
4	1	1.6
5	1	1.6
Totals	63	100.0

Number of agricultural instructors in high school

In chapter three, (see Table 2, page 21) it was revealed that the years of vocational agriculture completed by the 57 candidates for the American Farmer Degree varied from two years to five years and most candidates completed four years of instruction in vocational agriculture.

Table 26 reveals that the number of vocational agriculture instructors the 84 American Farmers had while in high school varied from one to four, although most boys, (63.1 per cent) had only one agriculture instructor. The average number of agriculture instructors for all

boys was 1.5. This gives some indication as to the teaching tenure for vocational agriculture instructors. These figures also suggest that a young man could also carry out his supervised farming program under the guidance of different instructors.

Table 26.- Number of Vocational Agriculture Instructors in High School

Number of agriculture instructors	Number of American Farmers	Per cent
1	53	63.1
2	22	26.2
3	7	8.3
4	2	2.4
Totals	84	100.0

Number of American Farmers attending college

There are 33 Virginia American Farmers, or 39.3 per cent, who have continued their education on the college level for at least one quarter (Table 27). Out of this number, 26 attended agricultural colleges and 7 attended colleges and did not major in some phase of agriculture. There are 51 American Farmers, or 60.7 per cent, who did not attend college.

Years of college completed

The extent of college education is indicated in Table 28. Most American Farmers completed a four year course and only three attended college for a period of less than one year.

The figures in Table 28 indicate that 65.5 per cent of those enrolled

Table 27.- Number Attended College

Status	Number	Per cent
In agriculture college	26	31.0
Non-agriculture college	7	8.3
Total in college	33	39.3
Did not attend college	51	60.7
Totals	84	100.0

Table 28.- Years of College Completed

Years completed	Agriculture		Non-agriculture	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 1	1	3.9	2	28.6
1	2	7.6	1	14.3
2	3	11.5	0	-
3	3	11.5	0	-
4	14	53.8	3	42.8
4 1/2	1	3.9	0	-
5	1	3.9	0	-
5 2/3	1	3.9	0	-
6	0	-	1	14.3
Totals	26	100.0	7	100.0

in agriculture colleges completed four years and received their B. S. degree while only 57.1 per cent of those enrolled in non-agriculture colleges completed four years and received a B. S. degree.

One American Farmer studying agriculture has completed five and

two-thirds years in preparing for a veterinarian and one American Farmer not in agriculture spent six years majoring in law.

There were three American Farmers in agriculture and one in non-agriculture who completed four years, and went on to do graduate work.

Courses pursued in college

Of those 26 American Farmers enrolled in agriculture colleges, most of them were enrolled in the department of Agricultural Education (Table 29). One American Farmer who was enrolled for a period of less than one year, did not report his major course.

Of the seven American Farmers enrolled in non-agriculture colleges, two were preparing for the ministry, and two were law students.

Table 29.- Courses Pursued in College

Major course	Number	Per cent
In agriculture colleges:		
Agricultural Education	9	27.3
Animal Husbandry	7	21.2
Dairy Husbandry	3	9.1
Agricultural Engineering	2	6.1
General Agriculture	1	3.0
Rural Sociology	1	3.0
Poultry Husbandry	1	3.0
Veterinary Medicine	1	3.0
Not reported	1	3.0
Total in agriculture	26	78.7
In non-agriculture colleges:		
Bible and Religion Education	2	6.1
Law	2	6.1
General Accounting	1	3.0
Biology	1	3.0
Not reported	1	3.0
Total in non-agriculture	7	21.2
Totals	33	99.9

One of the two who did not attend a full college year did not report his major course.

Service in the Armed Forces during World War II

During World War II many farmers were deferred from military service because of their responsibilities in producing food, essential to the war effort. However, of the 84 Virginia American Farmers, over one-fourth, (26.2 per cent) have served or are now serving in the military forces (Table 30). This figure does not include two American Farmers who gave their lives during World War II.

Most American Farmers served in the Army, and the least number served in the Navy and Marine Corps. There were two American Farmers in the Merchant Marines.

Table 30.- Service in the Armed Forces During World War II

Branch of service	Number of men serving	Per cent of those in service	Per cent of totals
Army	15	65.3	17.9
Air Force	4	17.4	4.7
Navy	1	4.3	1.2
Marine Corps	1	4.3	1.2
Merchant Marines	2	8.7	2.4
Totals	23	100.0	27.4
Not in service	61		72.6
Totals	84		100.0

Highest rank attained in the military service during World War II

The twenty American Farmers in the Army, Air Force, and Marine

Corps continued to show evidence of their leadership during their military service. Table 31 reveals that nine American Farmers did not hold a commission in service, but 11 were commissioned officers. The highest rank attained varied from a private first class to a lieutenant colonel.

The one American Farmer in the Navy held the rank of 3rd class petty officer. One American Farmer in the Merchant Marines was a F.W.T. oiler, and the other American Farmer was a 2nd class petty officer.

These figures indicate that these American Farmers were leaders with a variable amount of responsibilities.

Table 31.- Highest Rank Attained in the Military Services During World War II

Highest rank attained	Number	Per cent
Private First Class	1	4.3
Corporal	4	17.4
Sargent	4	17.4
Lieutenant	4	17.4
Captain	3	13.1
Major	2	8.7
Lieutenant Colonel	2	8.7
F.W.T. Oiler	1	4.3
Second Class Petty Officer	1	4.3
Third Class Petty Officer	1	4.3
Totals	23	99.9

Length of military service during World War II

The length of time spent in the military services during World War II varied from one year to four years and six months (Table 32).

Twenty-three of the 84 American Farmers who replied to the questionnaires served in the Armed Forces during World War II. Thirteen or 56.5 per cent of these American Farmers served overseas. There were two American Farmers who are not included in this group. They gave their lives in the service of their country during World War II.

One American Farmer remained in the Marine Air Corps after World War II as a pilot, but the length of time he has served was not learned since his present address was unknown.

Table 32.- Length of Military Service During World War II

Length of service	Number	Per cent
1 year - 1 year, 11 months	6	26.1
2 years - 2 years, 11 months	5	21.7
3 years - 3 years, 11 months	5	21.7
4 years - 4 years, 11 months	7	30.4
Totals	23	99.9
Now in service	1	4.3
Served overseas	13	56.52

Number of community organizations participated in by American Farmers

The 84 American Farmers held a total of 292 memberships in community organizations for an average of 3.5 memberships held in community organizations,(Table 33).

These same American Farmers held a total of 221 offices in their community organizations for an average of 2.6 offices held per American Farmer.

Table 33 reveals that only 30 American Farmers, or 35.7 per cent, were members of churches. The questionnaire was definitely weak here because of the directions given by which the question was to be answered. It appears to the writer that more of these American Farmers

Table 33.- Number of Community Organizations Participated in by American Farmers

Community organizations	American Farmer Members		Office	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Average number held
Livestock Associations	35	41.5	14	.4
Church	30	35.7	38	1.3
Young Farmers	26	30.9	28	1.1
Cooperatives	26	30.9	14	.5
Farm Bureau	25	29.8	8	.3
Ruitan	25	29.8	24	.9
Grange	12	14.3	19	1.6
Masons	8	9.5	6	.7
Rotary	6	7.1	3	.5
Kiwanis	4	4.8	2	.5
Lions	3	3.6	6	2.0
Others	93	110.7	59	.6
Totals	292		221	

Average number of organizations in which membership was held... 3.5

Average number of offices held per American Farmer 2.6

belonged to churches than these figures indicate. If church had been given along with the other examples, the writer feels that more American Farmers would have listed the church as a community organization to which they belonged. (See page 108, appendix).

More degree winners participated in livestock associations as members than any other community organization, although only 14 offices were held in these livestock associations by American Farmers.

The least number of degree winners belonged to the Lions Club, but these members held an average of two offices each in this organization.

Of those American Farmers holding membership in the Church, the Young Farmers, the Lions Club, and the Grange, there was an average of over one office filled per American Farmer member in these organizations.

Of the 28 offices held by American Farmers in the Young Farmers Club, one was president of the Young Farmers of Virginia, two were secretaries, one was a vice-president, and one was a director. All other offices held were on the local level.

Occupational distribution of 84 Virginia American Farmers

Table 34 reveals that 56 American Farmers were actually engaged in farming, 13 were in related occupations and 6 were in agricultural colleges for a total of 75 or 89.3 per cent either in farming or related occupations.

There were only nine or 10.7 per cent in occupations not related to farming and two of these American Farmers were in non-agricultural colleges.

In comparison with other States, we find that 89.3 per cent of

Virginia American Farmers are in farming or related occupations, 71.24 per cent of North Carolina American Farmers are in farming or related occupations, [1] 55.55 per cent of Louisiana American Farmers are in farming or related occupations. [2]

Table 34.- Occupational Distribution of 84 Virginia American Farmers

Occupations	Number	Per cent
Farming	56	66.7
Related to farming	13	15.5
In agricultural colleges	6	7.1
Total in farming or related occupations	75	89.3
In non-agricultural colleges	2	2.4
Non-related occupations	7	8.3
Total in non-related occupations	9	10.7
Totals	84	100.0

Number living in their home communities

Of the 56 actually engaged in farming, 50 were farming in their home communities and six were farming away from their home communities (Table 35).

1/ G. B. James, An Occupation Distribution Study of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture Who Received the American Farmer Degree from the North Carolina Association of Future Farmers of America During the Period July 1928 Through July 1947, Unpublished M. S. Thesis, North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, University of North Carolina, 1948, p. 61.

2/ J. D. Rogers, Occupational Study of American Farmers in Louisiana, Unpublished M. S. Thesis, Louisiana State University, 1947, p. 40.

There was a total of 60 or 71.7 per cent living in their home communities and 24 or 28.6 per cent were not in their home communities.

These figures indicate that most American Farmers, who farm do so in their home communities.

Table 35.- Number Living in Their Home Communities

Residence	Number	Per cent
Farming in home community	50	59.5
Not farming in home community	10	11.9
Total living in home community	60	71.4
Not in home community	24	28.6
Totals	84	100.0

Farming status

Since the capital requirements for entrance into farming have increased greatly in recent years, 1/ it seems reasonable to expect a very small per cent of American Farmers will be farming as owners.

Of the 56 American Farmers actually engaged in farming, most American Farmers were farming as partners, and only one was farming as a laborer (Table 36).

Twelve American Farmers operated farms as owner, four were renters and nine farmed part-time.

These figures indicate that the agricultural ladder is followed to full ownership of farms.

1/ W. L. Gibson, Jr., We Seldom Farm Up to Our Know-How, Agricultural Economics Department Mimeograph, Speech given to the Virginia Bankers' Association, 1950, p. 1.

Table 36.- Farming Status

Status	Number	Per cent
Owner	12	21.4
Partner	30	53.6
Renter	4	7.1
Laborer	1	1.8
Part-time	9	16.1
Total farming	56	100.0

Number planning to farm

Of the 28 American Farmers not actually engaged in farming, 19 have definitely decided to enter farming sometime in the future (Table 37).

These figures suggest that those American Farmers not engaged in farming, have a deep interest in farming, and most of them plan to farm in the future.

Table 37.- Number Planning to Farm

Planning to farm	Number	Per cent
Plan to farm	19	67.9
Do not plan to farm	6	21.4
Undecided	3	10.7
Total not farming	28	100.0

Reasons for not farming

Table 38 reveals that 24 of the 28 American Farmers not actually

engaged in farming gave reasons why they were not farming. Although many responses were given as the reason why they were not farming, these responses could be classified under the general headings in Table 38.

Slightly less than one-fifth of the American Farmers not farming, gave the reason why they were not farming as having more interest elsewhere. Better pay and more attractive working hours were factors entered here. Several responses also stated that with the better pay, they planned to buy a farm.

Limited capital was the response given by six American Farmers as to why they were not farming at the present time. This is an important factor in these days of inflation.

Four American Farmers did not give reasons why they were not farming.

Table 38.- Reasons for not Farming

Reasons	Number	Per cent
Limited capital	6	21.4
More interest elsewhere	5	17.9
Physical handicap	3	10.7
More interest in ministry	4	14.3
Attending college	3	10.7
Wife does not like farming	2	7.1
Discouraged by the depression	1	3.6
Did not reply	4	14.3
Totals	28	100.0

Methods of becoming established in farming

Since the majority of the Virginia American Farmers who are farming checked more than one method of becoming established in farming, the percentages in Table 39 are based on the number of times that each method was checked.

Those 56 who are actually farming listed eight major methods of becoming established in farming. Many checked more than one method, giving 101 responses.

The figures in Table 39 reveals that most American Farmers became established in farming through inheritance and by borrowing money. Twenty-four either used money from their enterprises or expanded their supervised farming program.

These figures indicate that the vocational agricultural programs

Table 39.- Methods of Becoming Established in Farming

Methods	Number	Per cent
Inherited	18	32.1
Borrowed money	16	28.6
Used money from enterprises	13	23.2
Expanded supervised farming program	11	19.6
Rented	9	16.1
Bought home farm	7	12.5
Bought out relatives	6	10.7
Share-cropped and used money	3	5.4
Others	18	32.1
Totals	101	

of these American Farmers had much to do with their becoming established in farming.

Number influenced by American Farmer Degree to select farming as an occupation

Slightly over three-fourths, (78.6 per cent) of those American Farmers now farming checked the American Farmer Degree as influencing them in selecting farming as their occupation (Table 40).

Of those who reported that the American Farmer Degree did not influence them in selecting farming as an occupation to follow, three American Farmers stated that they had decided to farm before they received the American Farmer Degree. Perhaps more would have given this response if a question had been asked to secure this information.

Table 40.- Number Influenced by the American Farmer Degree to Select Farming as Their Occupation

	Number	Per cent
Influenced in selecting farming	44	78.6
Did not influence	12	27.4
Totals	56	100.0

Value of agriculture training in high school for present job

Seventy-five, or 89.3 per cent, had decided that their agriculture training in high school was of high value to them in their present work (Table 41).

Of the three who reported that their agriculture training in high school was of low value to them in their present work, two American

Farmers were in occupations not related to agriculture and one was in a related occupation.

There were 75 American Farmers in agriculture or related occupations, (see Table 34) and it is interesting to note that 75 American Farmers considered their agriculture training in high school to be of high value to them. These figures would seem to indicate that the agriculture training received in high school is of little practical value to a person not engaged in agriculture or a related occupation. However, two farmers and two American Farmers in related occupations checked their agriculture training in high school as being of medium value to them and four American Farmers in occupations not related to farming checked their agriculture training in high school as of high value to them in their present work.

Table 41.- Value of Agriculture Training in High School for Present Work

Value	Number	Per cent
High	75	89.3
Medium	4	4.7
Low	3	3.6
Did not report	2	2.4
Totals	84	100.0

Number reporting supervised farming program as a help in becoming established in farming

Of the 56 American Farmers established in farming, 52 or 92.8 per cent reported that their supervised farming program was a help in

becoming established in farming (Table 42).

Two reported that their supervised farming program did not help them become established in farming, and these same two American Farmers reported that the American Farmer Degree did not influence them in selecting farming as an occupation. However, these two American Farmers reported that their agricultural training in high school was of high value to them in their present work.

The figures in Table 42 indicate very strongly that the supervised farming program of a boy in high school will definitely help him become established in farming.

Table 42.- Number Reporting Supervised Farming Program as a Help in Becoming Established in Farming

	Number	Per cent
Did help	52	92.8
Did not help	2	3.6
Did not report	2	3.6
Totals	56	100.0

Incentive for the American Farmer Degree

Since there were more than one person reported as giving Virginia American Farmers the incentive to strive for the American Farmer Degree, the percentages given in Table 43 are based on the number of times each American Farmer checked the person or persons who gave him the incentive to work toward this degree.

The instructor of vocational agriculture gave 81 or 96.4 per cent

of the boys the incentive to work toward the American Farmer Degree. The parents gave 26 of the boys the incentive to work for the degree and only three American Farmers listed former students and three listed businessmen as giving them the incentive to work for the American Farmer Degree.

More American Farmers checked both the agricultural instructor and their parents, and one checked the agricultural instructor, parents, former students and a businessman as the persons who gave him the incentive to work toward the American Farmer Degree.

These 84 Virginia American Farmers listed 123 persons as giving them the incentive to work for the American Farmer Degree or an average of 1.5 persons each.

Of the 26 reporting that the incentive was given by their parents, 24 also listed the agricultural instructor and two American Farmers listed their parents only as giving them the incentive to strive for this award.

Table 43.- Incentive for the American Farmer Degree

Person giving the incentive	Number	Per cent
Agricultural Instructor	81	96.4
Parents	26	31.0
Former Students	3	3.6
Businessman	3	3.6
Others	10	11.9
Total	123	
Average per boy 1.5		

These figures suggest that the agricultural instructor had more influence over the boys in giving them the incentive for the American Farmer Degree than any other person or group of persons.

Average gross income, 1947 - 1951 inclusive

Table 44 reveals that 64 American Farmers reported an income from farming during the five-year period, 1947-1951 inclusive, and 43 American Farmers reported an average income from other sources. This gives a total of 107 average incomes reported. However, 25 American Farmers reported an income both from farming and from other sources, and two American Farmers did not report on either.

Of the 64 American Farmers reporting an average income from farming, eight were classified as students, and three are classified as being in occupations related to farming.

Of the 64 reporting an average income from farming, over half, (35), reported $4,000 or under; while 23 of the 43 American Farmers reporting average incomes from other sources reported $3,000 or under.

Fourteen American Farmers reported an average income of $6,000 or over from farming while none reported this amount from other sources.

These figures suggest that those who went into farming have had an average income greater than those who are not in farming.

Type of farming

Of the 56 Virginia American Farmers, 41 or 73.2 per cent were engaged in general farming (Table 45). Dairy farming was next to general farming with nine American Farmers engaged in this type of farming. Only one

Table 44.- Average Gross Income, 1947 - 1951 Inclusive

Amount of money	From farming		From other sources	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
$1,000 or under	7	10.9	9	20.9
1,100 - $2,000	10	15.6	6	14.0
2,100 - 3,000	10	15.6	8	18.6
3,100 - 4,000	8	12.5	10	23.3
4,100 - 5,000	8	12.5	5	11.6
5,100 - 6,000	7	10.9	5	11.6
6,100 - 7,000	1	1.6	-	-
7,100 - 8,000	6	9.4	-	-
8,100 - 9,000	3	4.7	-	-
9,100 - 10,000	1	1.6	-	-
10,100 or over	3	4.7	-	-
Totals	64	100.0	43	100.0

Total number of incomes reported	107
Number reported two sources of income	25
	82
Number did not report any amount of income	2
Totals	84

American Farmer was engaged in orchard farming.

These figures indicate that the conditions in Virginia are suitable for general farming and that the majority of American Farmers are engaged in this type of farming.

Table 45.- Type of Farming

Type of farming	Number	Per cent
General	41	73.2
Dairy	9	16.1
Poultry	3	5.4
Beef Cattle	2	3.5
Orchard	1	1.8
Totals	56	100.0

Acreage of pasgure, timberland, and meadow owned

The acreage of pasture owned varied from 2 to 190, the acreage of timberland varied from 2 to 200, and the acreage of meadow land varied from 4 to 30 (Table 46).

There were 19 owning 1,237 acres of pasture for an average of 65.1 acres owned per American Farmer. Eighteen American Farmers owned 1,424 acres of timberland for an average of 79.1 acres owned per American Farmer. There were only six American Farmers owning a total of 88 acres of meadow land for an average of 14.7 acres per American Farmer.

Of those 56 American Farmers engaged in farming, only 19 or 33.9 per cent reported owning pasture, 18 or 32.1 per cent reported owning timberland, and 6 or 10.7 per cent reported owning meadow land.

Acreage of pasture, timberland and meadow owned in partnership

There were 30 American Farmers having a partnership in 2,618 acres of pasture for an average of 87.3 acres per American Farmer (Table 47). Twenty-three American Farmers held a partnership in 2,147 acres of

Table 46.- Acreage of Pasture, Timberland and Meadow Owned

Acres	Pasture		Timberland		Meadow	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 25	7	36.8	3	16.7	5	83.3
25 - 49	4	21.0	-	-	1	16.7
50 - 74	3	15.8	6	33.3	-	-
75 - 99	-	-	4	22.2	-	-
100 - 124	1	5.3	1	5.5	-	-
125 - 149	-	-	1	5.5	-	-
150 or over	4	21.1	3	16.8	-	-
Totals	19	100.0	18	100.0	6	100.0
Average per American Farmer		65.1		79.1		14.7
Per cent reported		33.3		32.1		10.7
Total acreage		1,237		1,424		88
Range		2 - 190		2 - 200		4 - 30

timberland for an average of 89.0 acres per American Farmer, and four owned 161 acres of meadow land in partnership for an average of 40.3 acres per American Farmer. These averages are above the averages of pasture, timberland and meadow land owned, as revealed in Table 46.

Only two American Farmers owned 50 acres or more meadow land in partnership while none owned this much.

The number of acres owned in partnership had a wider range than the number of acres owned.

These figures indicate that those owning pasture, timberland and

meadow land in partnership have a greater acreage than owners.

Table 47.- Acreage of Pasture, Timberland and Meadow Owned in Partnership

Acres	Pasture		Timberland		Meadow	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 25	5	16.7	7	30.4	1	25.0
25 - 49	6	20.0	4	17.4	1	25.0
50 - 74	8	26.7	4	17.4	1	25.0
75 - 99	-	-	1	4.3	1	25.0
100 - 124	5	16.7	1	4.3	-	-
125 - 149	2	6.6	2	8.7	-	-
150 or over	4	13.3	4	17.4	-	-
Totals	30	100.0	23	99.9	4	100.0
Total acreage	2,618		2,047		161	
Average	87.3		89.0		40.3	
Per cent reported	35.7		27.4		4.8	
Range	10 - 400		2 - 600		15 - 60	

Acreage of pasture and timberland rented

There was no meadow land rented, 766 acres of pasture was rented, and 577 acres of timberland was rented (Table 48).

There were only four American Farmers classified as renters (see Table 36, page 67), but seven American Farmers rented pasture and five rented timberland. These figures indicate that those American Farmers engaged in farming as partners and others also rented land.

There were no American Farmer renting between 50 and 124 acres of

pasture or timberland, and there were two American Farmers renting 125 or more acres of pasture and three American Farmers rented 125 or more acres of timberland.

The number of acres of pasture rented by these seven American Farmers varied from 10 to 400 acres, and the number of acres of timberland rented by five American Farmers varied from 20 to 209 acres.

These figures indicate that slightly less than one-third (28.6 per cent) rented pasture on a large scale and over one-half, (60.0 per cent) of those renting timberland, rented it on a large scale.

Table 48.- Acreage of Pasture and Timberland Rented

Acres	Pasture		Timberland	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Under 25	4	57.1	1	20.0
25 - 49	1	14.3	1	20.0
125 - 149	1	14.3	1	20.0
150 or over	1	14.3	2	40.0
Totals	7	100.0	5	100.0
Total acreage		766		577
Average		109.4		115.4
Range		10 - 400		20 - 209

Acreage of crops owned

Although only 12 American Farmers were classified as farm owners, 21 reported owning some crop land (Table 49). This indicates that those American Farmers not classified as farm owners do own land and

are becoming more firmly established in farming as evidenced by farm ownership.

Slightly less than one-half, (47.6 per cent) of the American Farmers owned under 50 acres of crops and slightly less than one-fifth, (19.0 per cent) owned 150 acres or more of cropland.

These figures indicate the extent of crop farming engaged in by farm owners.

Table 49.- Acreage of Crops Owned

Number of acres	Number owning	Per cent
Under 25	4	19.0
25 - 49	6	28.6
50 - 74	3	14.3
75 - 99	1	4.8
100 - 124	2	9.5
125 - 149	1	4.8
150 or over	4	19.0
Totals	21	100.0

Acreage of crops owned in partnership

There were 30 American Farmers farming as partners, but Table 50 reveals that only 29 reported owning crops in partnership. These figures suggest that all American Farmers farming as partners did not have crops in partnership.

Of the 29 American Farmers, there were seven who owned from 25 to 49 acres of crops in partnership, and none owned less than 25 acres

of crops in partnership.

These figures indicate that those farming as partners in crops, farm on a larger scale than those men farming as owners.

Table 50.- Acreage of Crops Owned in Partnership

Number of acres	Number owning in partnership	Per cent
25 - 49	7	24.1
50 - 74	3	10.3
75 - 99	6	20.7
100 - 124	3	10.3
125 - 149	3	10.3
150 - 174	4	13.8
175 - 199	1	3.5
200 or over	2	6.9
Totals	29	99.9

Acreage of crops rented

There were 13 American Farmers who rented crops, but there were only four American Farmers classified as renters. (See Table 36). This indicates that American Farmers farming other than renters, also rented land (Table 51).

Most American Farmers rented from 75 to 124 acres of crops and the least number rented from 125 to 174 acres of crops. There were three American Farmers who rented under 25 acres and three rented 175 or more acres of crops.

These figures reveals that of the 56 American Farmers actually

engaged in farming, 13 or 23.2 per cent rent land. This further indicates that renting land is of importance to those American Farmers engaged in farming.

Table 51.- Acreage of Crops Rented

Number of acres	Number renting	Per cent
Under 25	3	23.1
25 - 74	2	15.4
75 - 124	4	30.7
125 - 174	1	7.7
175 or over	3	23.1
Totals	13	100.0

Total acreage of farm land owned

Table 52 reveals that 21 American Farmers reported land owned, but there were only 12 classified as farm owners. (See Table 36). Table 49 also revealed that 21 American Farmers reported as owning crops. This further indicates that those American Farmers farming other than farm owners are advancing toward farm ownership.

Slightly less than one-half, (47.6 per cent) owned 149 acres or less and the remainder owned 150 acres or more.

Two American Farmers owned under 50 acres and three owned over 300 acres. The number of acres owned varied from 7 to 842 and the average acres owned was 192.1. Since the average size of farms in Virginia is 103.1 acres, 1/ these figures indicate that this group of American

1/ Preliminary 1950 Census of Agriculture, United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1951.

Farmers is well above the State average.

Table 52.- Total Acreage of Farm Land Owned

Number of acres	Number owning	Per cent
Under 50	2	9.5
50 - 74	2	9.5
75 - 99	1	4.8
100 - 124	4	19.0
125 - 149	1	4.8
150 - 174	3	14.3
175 - 199	1	4.8
200 - 249	2	9.5
250 - 299	2	9.5
300 or over	3	14.3
Totals	21	100.0

Total acres owned 4,033

Average per American Farmer 192.1

Range ..... 7 - 842

Total acreage of land owned in partnership

There were 30 American Farmers classified as farming as partners, (see Table 36), 29 of these American Farmers reported the amount of land they owned in partnership, and one American Farmer did not report the amount of land he owned in partnership (Table 53).

The number of acres owned in partnership varied from 28 to 900. A total of 6,789 acres was reported as owned in partnership for an

average of 234.1 acres owned in partnership per American Farmer. The average number of acres owned in partnership is slightly more than the average number of acres owned.

A larger percentage of the American Farmers owned 300 acres or more of land in partnership than farm owners, and a lesser percentage owned under 50 acres in partnership than the percentage of farm owners.

These figures indicate that the American Farmers farming as partners owned more land in partnership than those American Farmers farming as owners.

Table 53.- Total Acres of Farm Land Owned in Partnership

Number of acres	Number owning in partnership	Per cent
Under 50	1	3.4
50 - 74	-	-
75 - 99	4	13.8
100 - 124	4	13.8
125 - 149	2	6.9
150 - 174	4	13.8
175 - 199	1	3.4
200 - 249	3	10.3
250 - 299	4	13.8
300 or over	6	20.7
Totals	29	99.9

Total acres owned in partnership 6,789

Average per American Farmer 234.1

Range ..... 28 - 900

Total acres of land rented

Table 54 reveals that there were no American Farmers renting between 125 and 199 acres of land. Four American Farmers rented under 50 acres and eight American Farmers rented 300 or more acres. There were a total of 18 American Farmers reported as renting land and 11 of these American Farmers rented over 200 acres each.

The number of acres rented varied from 15 to 784 and the average acreage rented was 258.6.

These figures suggest further that renting is of major importance to those American Farmers now farming.

Table 54.- Total Acres of Farm Land Rented

Number of acres	Number renting	Per cent
Under 50	4	22.2
50 - 74	1	5.6
75 - 99	1	5.6
100 - 124	1	5.6
200 - 249	3	16.6
300 or over	8	44.4
Totals	18	100.0

Total acres rented 4,655

Average per American Farmer 258.6

Range ..... 15 - 784

Total value of farm land

Although there were 42 American Farmers engaged in farming as

owners or partners, only 32 American Farmers reported the value of their farm land (Table 55).

There were six American Farmers who reported the total value of their farm land as being $25,000 or over, and four reported the total value of their land as being under $5,000.

The total value of all land reported was $569,165 or an average value of $17,473.93 per American Farmer.

The total value of farm land varied from $1,500 to $125,000.

The figures in Table 55 reveals that 19 or 59.4 per cent of the American Farmers reported the total value of their farm land as $10,000 or over.

Table 55.- Total Value of Farm Land

Value	Number	Per cent
Under $5,000	4	12.5
$5,000 - $9,999	9	28.1
10,000 - 14,999	5	15.6
15,000 - 19,999	7	21.9
20,000 - 24,999	1	3.1
25,000 or over	6	18.8
Totals	32	100.0

Total value of all land $569,165

Average value per American Farmer 17,473.93

Range ..... $1,500 - $125,000

Amount of livestock owned

There were 39 American Farmers reported as owning livestock, and most American Farmers owned from 25 to 49 head of livestock (Table 56).

The number of livestock owned varied from 1 to 150. The total number of livestock owned was 1,398 and the average number of livestock owned was 36.8 head.

These figures indicate that livestock has a definite place in the farming programs of these American Farmers. They also suggest that the conditions found in Virginia are suitable for livestock production.

Table 56.- Amount of Livestock Owned

Number of head	Number owning	Per cent
Under 5	8	20.5
5 - 9	3	7.7
10 - 14	4	10.3
15 - 19	4	10.3
20 - 24	5	12.8
25 - 49	10	25.6
50 - 74	1	2.6
75 - 99	2	5.1
100 or over	2	5.1
Totals	39	100.0

Total number of head owned 1,398

Average number per American Farmer 36.8

Range ..... 1 - 150

Amount of livestock owned in partnership

There were 30 American Farmers reported as owning livestock in partnership (Table 57). Of these American Farmers, 9 or 30 per cent owned under 75 head of livestock in partnership, 15 or 50 per cent owned from 75 to 149 head of livestock in partnership, and 6 or 20 per cent owned 150 or more head of livestock in partnership.

The total number of livestock owned in partnership was 3,610 for an average of 120.3 head owned in partnership per American Farmer.

The number of livestock owned in partnership varied from 2 to 330.

Table 57.- Amount of Livestock Owned in Partnership

Number of head	Number owning in partnership	Per cent
Under 25	4	13.3
25 - 49	2	6.7
50 - 74	3	10.0
75 - 99	6	20.0
100 - 124	6	20.0
125 - 149	3	10.0
150 - 174	1	3.3
175 or over	5	16.7
Totals	30	100.0

Total number of head 3,610

Average per American Farmer 120.3

Range ..... 2 - 330

These figures further suggest the importance of livestock in the

farming programs of these American Farmers and that livestock is well adapted to the existing conditions in Virginia.

Amount of poultry owned

Table 58 reveals that only 12 American Farmers reported owning poultry. Of these 12 American Farmers, 8 or 66.7 per cent owned under 100 birds, and only 2 owned over 200 birds.

The number of birds owned varied from 25 to 2,800 and the average number of birds owned per American Farmer was 309.6.

These figures indicate that poultry is not as widely owned by these American Farmers as livestock.

Table 58.- Amount of Poultry Owned

Number of birds	Number owning	Per cent
Under 50	4	33.3
50 - 99	4	33.3
100 - 149	1	8.3
150 - 199	1	8.3
200 or over	2	16.7
Totals	12	99.9

Total number of birds owned 3,715

Average number per American Farmer 309.6

Range ..... 25 - 2,800

Amount of poultry owned in partnership

Table 59 reveals that there were 14 American Farmers reported

owning poultry in partnership. Of these 14 American Farmers, 7 or 50 per cent owned 200 or more birds in partnership and only one American Farmer owned under 50 birds in partnership.

The number of birds owned in partnership varied from 30 to 1,200 and the average number of birds owned in partnership was 334.6.

The figures in Table 58 and Table 59 reveal that 26 American Farmers or 46.4 per cent of the American Farmers engaged in farming own poultry either as owners or partners. These figures also suggest that poultry has a definite place in the farming programs of slightly less than one-half of the American Farmers.

Table 59.- Amount of Poultry Owned in Partnership

Number of birds	Number owning in partnership	Per cent
Under 50	1	7.1
50 - 99	2	14.3
100 - 149	3	21.4
150 - 199	1	7.1
200 or over	7	50.0
Totals	14	99.9

Total number of birds 4,685

Average number per American Farmer 334.6

Range .....30 - 1,200

Total value of livestock and poultry

Of the 56 American Farmers engaged in farming, 50 or 89.3 per cent reported the value of livestock and poultry owned or owned in partnership

(Table 60).

The total value varied from $100 to $46,000 and the average value per American Farmer was $8,947.58.

Since the average value of farm land owned or owned in partnership was $17,473.93 and the average value of livestock and poultry owned or owned in partnership was $8,947.58, there is a ratio of the value of farm land to the value of livestock and poultry of 1.95 to 1. This may also be interpreted that for every $1.95 invested in land, these American Farmers have $1 invested in livestock and poultry.

Table 60.- Total Value of Livestock and Poultry

Value	Number	Per cent
Under $1,000	4	8.0
$1,000 - $2,999	10	20.0
3,000 - 4,999	10	20.0
5,000 - 6,999	6	12.0
7,000 - 8,999	6	12.0
9,000 - 10,999	1	2.0
11,000 - 12,999	3	6.0
13,000 - 14,999	1	2.0
15,000 or over	9	18.0
Totals	50	100.0

Total value $447,379

Average value per American Farmer 8,947.58

Range ..... $100 - $46,000

Total value of equipment

Table 61 reveals that 46 of the 56 American Farmers engaged in farming reported the value of their equipment as $210,529. This gives an average value of equipment of $4,576.72 per American Farmer.

Table 55 reveals that only 32 American Farmers reported the value of farm land while in Table 61, 46 American Farmers reported the value of farm machinery. This indicates that more American Farmers owned or owned in partnership more machinery than owned farm land as owners or in partnership.

Table 61.- Total Value of Equipment

Value	Number	Per cent
Under $1,000	5	10.9
$1,000 - $1,999	7	15.2
2,000 - 2,999	6	13.0
3,000 - 3,999	9	19.6
4,000 - 4,999	7	15.2
5,000 - 5,999	1	2.2
6,000 - 6,999	2	4.3
7,000 - 7,999	1	2.2
8,000 or over	8	17.4
Totals	46	100.0

Total value of all equipment $210,529

Average per American Farmer 4,576.72

Range ..... $450 - 22,810

There is a ratio of the value of farm land to the value of livestock and poultry to the value of equipment of 3.82 to 1.93 to 1.

The average value of land per American Farmer was $17,473.93, the average value of livestock was $8,947.58, and the average value of equipment was $4,576.72. This gives a total average of $30,998.23 for land, livestock and equipment. This does not represent the total amount invested in farming, but it does represent a major portion of that amount. At the time 57 American Farmers received the American Farmer Degree, the average amount they had invested in farming was $6,740.70. The average American Farmer now has $24,257.53 above this figure invested in livestock, land and equipment. This indicates that the average American Farmer has made advancements in farming or inflation has hit him.

Summary of the chapter

From 1928 through 1950, Virginia has received 86 per cent or 117 out of a possible 136 American Farmer Degrees allowed on the basis of active membership in the State association of the F.F.A.

The American Farmers are widely scattered throughout the State and 84 of the 108 American Farmers responded to the questionnaire sent them.

These American Farmers have continued to show leadership ability since they received the American Farmer Degree. Of the 23 American Farmers who served in the military services during World War II, 9 were non-commissioned officers and 13 were commissioned officers. One

American Farmer was in the Merchant Marines and 3 were in the Navy.

Leadership is further indicated by the fact that the 84 Virginia American Farmers held an average membership in 3.5 community organizations and they held an average of 2.6 offices in these organizations.

The educational advancements made by the 84 Virginia American Farmers is rather high, since 33 or 39.28 per cent attended college. Of the 33 American Farmers who attended college, 21 received the B.S. degree and 4 of these extended their college education beyond 4 years.

In determining the occupational status of the 84 American Farmers, it was found that 56 were farming, 13 were in occupations related to farming, and 6 were in agricultural colleges for a total of 75 or 89.3 per cent in farming or related occupations. Two American Farmers were in non-agricultural colleges and 7 were in occupations not related to agriculture. Sixty of these American Farmers lived in their home communities and 24 did not live in their home communities.

The average gross income for a five-year period was greater for those American Farmers engaged in farming than those who were not engaged in farming.

Most American Farmers who are now farming are farming on general farms. The 21 who own farm land, owned an average of 192.1 acres and the 29 who reported owning farm land in partnership, had an average of 234.1 acres owned in partnership.

The average American Farmer owned 35.8 head of livestock and 120.3 head of livestock in partnership. Only 26 American Farmers reported poultry as being owned or owned in partnership.

It appears that the ratio of the value of farm land to the value of livestock and poultry to the value of equipment of these American Farmers is about normal for an average farm business.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Although the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree have remained essentially the same during the past ten years, the actual achievements of the candidates for the American Farmer Degree have increased beyond these minimums.

2. Candidates for the American Farmer Degree in Virginia must go well beyond the minimum requirements to successfully meet the competition for election to this degree.

3. A successful candidate for the American Farmer Degree should: be a State Farmer about 19.3 years of age, apply for the American Farmer Degree approximately 2.1 years after receiving the State Farmer Degree, hold about 2.7 offices in the F.F.A., hold membership in about three other high school organizations, be from a home farm of about 281 acres, own about 13.6 head of livestock with about 22.7 head of livestock in partnership, own about 142.9 fowls with about 408.4 fowls in partnership, have about $3,699.09 income from supervised farming, and have about $6,740.70 invested in farming.

4. American Farmer Degree winners in Virginia are widely distributed throughout the State.

5. All areas of supervision in the State do not have American Farmer Degree winners every year.

6. American Farmers who enter colleges, enter agricultural colleges in greater numbers than they enter non-agricultural colleges.

7. Of those American Farmers entering agricultural colleges, more enrolled in agricultural education than any other curriculum.

8. A higher per cent of American Farmers engage in farming than other ex-students of vocational agriculture.

9. American Farmers now have more invested in farming than the applicants for the American Farmer Degree had at the time they applied for the degree.

10. The supervised farming program of these American Farmers played a large part in helping them to become established in farming.

11. The instructor of vocational agriculture plays an important part in determining whether or not students in his department will receive the American Farmer Degree.

12. The American Farmers feel that the agricultural training received in high school is of great value to them in farming or working with farm people.

13. American Farmers have continued to show qualities of leadership after having received the degree.

14. Those American Farmers engaged in farming have had an average gross income for a five year period (during 1947-1951) that was higher than those American Farmers not engaged in farming.

15. A greater per cent of Virginia American Farmers are engaged in farming or have entered related occupations than North Carolina or Louisiana American Farmers.

16. Virginia American Farmers held an average membership in more community organizations than was held by Oklahoma American Farmers.

17. Of those American Farmers not now engaged in farming, most of them plan to farm in the future.

18. Of those American Farmers not engaged in farming, limited capital is a major reason why they are not farming.

19. Inheritance is a major factor helping American Farmers become established in farming operations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of information gathered in this study and its conclusions, the following recommendations are made:

1. That those persons responsible for the selection of candidates for the American Farmer Degree in Virginia, continue to select those candidates with the care that has been used for the past three years when Virginia received all the degrees allowed by the national constitution.

2. That the minimum qualifications for election to the American Farmer Degree be raised.

3. That the national office establish a standard system of filing the application forms of the successful candidates for the American Farmer Degree by States.

4. That more American Farmer Degree application forms be sent the area supervisors of vocational agriculture in the State.

5. That procedures for completing the American Farmer Degree application forms be taught all prospective teachers of vocational agriculture.

6. Since most American Farmers responded that their supervised farming program helped them become established in farming, it seems that more emphasis should be placed upon this phase of the total program of vocational agriculture throughout the State.

7. That the instructors of vocational agriculture encourage more State Farmers to apply for the American Farmer Degree.

8. In order to successfully meet the competition of other State F.F.A. associations for national offices, the American Star Farmer award and the Regional Star Farmer award, that only top applications in Virginia be sent to the national office.

9. That the achievements of Virginia applicants for the American Farmer Degree be raised by encouraging boys to apply for this degree during the last two years of their eligibility, rather than during the first year they meet the requirements.

10. That a study be made to determine whether or not departments of vocational agriculture throughout the State that have a high number of State Farmers also have a proportional number of American Farmers.

11. That this study be brought up to date within the next ten years.

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VITA

I, Gilmer Lester Greer, was born August 7, 1924 at Trout Dale in Grayson County, Virginia. I was the third child and second boy in a family of three boys and three girls reared by Lester Dennis and Ollie Greer. Our family was supported by my father who was first a farmer, then a barber and merchant and a rural mail carrier.

My elementary and high school education was obtained at the Trout Dale High School where I graduated as valedictorian in June of 1942. After taking the State examination, for the high school was not an accredited one, I spent over a year exempt from military service on my father's farm where I was the operator with certain managerial responsibilities.

On January 26, 1944 I was sworn into the service of my country and in August of that year I was sent to Italy where I served most of my military career in the infantry with the Leadership and Battle Training School. I was discharged June 1, 1946 from the armed forces at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

After spending the summer on a ranch in Wyoming, I returned home and attended the Virginia-Carolina High School at Grassy Creek, North Carolina where I was again graduated in June 1947.

In September 1947, I entered the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and completed the requirements for the B. S. degree in Agricultural Education in December, 1950.

I was married to Jessie Leigh Reedy of Grassy Creek, North Carolina on June 17, 1949.

Immediately after completing the requirements for the B. S. degree, I started my graduate program in January 1951, and pursued this course until June 1952.

Signed:

Gilmer L. Greer

Gilmer L. Greer

APPENDIX

Box A-553
Va. Tech Station
Blacksburg, Virginia

TO: Certain Teachers of Vocational Agriculture

Dear Men:

I am making a follow-up study of the vocational agricultural boys in Virginia who have received the American Farmer Degree since 1928. Many of the boys have moved from place to place since they received the degree and it may be difficult to locate them.

In order to make this study a success, I will need help to locate these boys. Your assistance will be of real value to me in conducting this phase of the study.

The following boys living in your area received the American Farmer Degree:

Year the degree was received	Name of the boy	Address of boy when he received the degree

Enclosed is a self-addressed postal card on which I would appreciate the present or last known address of the boys listed above who have received the American Farmer Degree.

If you desire a summary of the results of this study, please indicate at the bottom of the postal card.

A response at your earliest opportunity will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

G. L. Greer

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
Department of Agricultural Education
Blacksburg, Virginia

Dear American Farmer:

Twenty-three years ago the first young man from Virginia received the American Farmer Degree at Kansas City. Since the first national convention in Kansas City there have been 125 State Farmers from Virginia to receive this distinguished award. That is a record of which the Virginia Association of the Future Farmers of America may well be proud, and it is an honor to be one of these 125 recipients.

Although the number of Virginia American Farmers is relatively high, there has never been a study made to determine what each of them have accomplished since receiving the degree. Such a study is being made, but the cooperation of every Virginia American Farmer is needed to make this study a success. Because of the large number and the widely scattered locations, it will be impossible to visit each American Farmer and talk with them as should be done. Instead of doing this, a questionnaire has been enclosed which covers the information needed for the study. All the information in this questionnaire will be held in strict confidence, so please do not hesitate to answer the questions accurately and completely. Also, if there is not enough space provided, write on the back of the questionnaire, and include any pertinent information which you may consider to be of value to this study.

Your immediate response is requested and your cooperation will be of great value to the study and to the Virginia Association of Future Farmers.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience in returning the questionnaire.

A copy of the results will be made available to all who desire it.

J. T. Horne

J. T. Horne, Head
Agricultural Education

QUESTIONNAIRE

Part I

General Information

Name _____ Address _____

Present age in years _____. Married? Yes ____ No ____ When ____

If married, how many childred do you have? _____

How many agricultural instructors did you have while taking agriculture in high school? _____

Name of college attended, if any. _____

Address _____

Years completed _____ Major course _____

Do you live in your home community at the present time? Yes _____ No _____

If farming, did your father operate the home farm as an owner _____, tenant _____, manager _____, or partner _____. (check one)

Have you served in the Armed Forces? Yes _____ No _____.

If yes, give length of service _____ and branch of service _____.

Highest rank attained _____. Did you serve overseas? Yes _____ No ____

List below the positions of leadership held in the local, state regional or national association of FFA after you received the American Farmer Degree.

Year	FFA offices held, such as: president, secretary, etc.	Scope, such as: local state, regional or national

Part II

List below the community organizations or clubs in which you have or do hold membership since receiving the American Farmer Degree. Examples: Grange, Lions Club, Cooperatives, etc. If you held an office in these organizations, please specify.

Year	Organization	Office held, if any

Part III

A. Experiences by Years

Please fill in the following form as to the different occupations you have followed since you received the American Farmer Degree. An example of occupations followed two years by one young man is given.

Year	At home with definite or indefinite allowance	Farm laborer with specific wages		At home with income from one or more enterprises	Partner in a farm business		Renter and operator of farm	Owner and operator of farm	Manager of farm for another person	Other status	Type of farm	Acre size	Other occupations (specify)
		At home	Away from home		At home	Away from home							
1938-39											General	205	Student at V...I.
1939-40					x	x					General	260	

Part IV

A. Present Status

What is your present occupation? _____

If not farming, do you plan to farm in the future? Yes _____ No _____.

If not farming please give reasons.

_____

_____

_____

How did you become established in farming? (Please check)

_____ Inherited

_____ By renting

_____ Bought out relatives

_____ Bought home farm

_____ Used money from enterprises to buy farm

_____ Borrowed money

_____ Share-cropped and used money to buy farm

_____ Expanded supervised farming program until ab to purchase farm

Other _____

If farming, did the American Farmer Degree have a decided influence in your select of farming as your occupation? Yes _____ No _____

Has your agricultural training in high school been of high value _____, medium value _____, or low value _____ to you in your present work?

If farming, did your supervised farming program help you become established in farm ing? Yes _____ No _____. If so how? _____

From whom did you receive the incentive to work for the American Farmer Degree?

Agricultural instructor _____ parents _____ former students _____ businessman,

or others (specify) _____

What was your average yearly income during the past five years? 1947-51 inclusive. Please check.

From farming	Gross Income	From other sources
_____	$1,000 or under	_____
_____	1,100 -$2,000	_____
_____	2,100 - 3,000	_____
_____	3,100 - 4,000	_____
_____	4,100 - 5,000	_____
_____	5,100 - 6,000	_____
_____	6,100 - 7,000	_____
_____	7,100 - 8,000	_____
_____	8,100 - 9,000	_____
_____	9,100 -10,000	_____
_____	10,000 or over	_____

Part IV

B. Farming Status

Land Utilization	Acres owned	Owned in Partnership	Rented	Value of your share
Pasture				
Timberland				
Meadow				
Waste				
Crops (specify)				
Other land				
Totals				

Livestock

Kind	Total number	Owned	Owned in partnership	Value of Your Share
Beef cattle				
Dairy cattle				
Hogs				
Horses				
Sheep				
Poultry				
Other				

Total Value _____

Equipment

Number of pieces	Owned	Owned in partnership	Total value of your share

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
Department of Agricultural Education
Blacksburg, Virginia

March 5, 1952

You will be interested to know that more than half of the American Farmers in Virginia have sent in the information about themselves that was recently requested. Our progress to date is shown on the enclosed list of names. In a few weeks the replies will be summarized. If you have not already returned yours it certainly would be appreciated if you could spare about 25 or 30 minutes to fill it out and send it in. An extra blank form is enclosed, as you may have misplaced the old one.

We believe you will be pleased to get a copy of this study when it is completed. It will be helpful as well as interesting to all of us to know what becomes of American Farmers and how they are getting on. We would dislike to summarize the records without including you. That is why we are making this special appeal to you now. Please remember that the information you give will be considered confidential and no individual's record will be publicized.

Sincerely yours,

T. J. Horne, Head
Agricultural Education

VIRGINIA AMERICAN FARMERS

Year	Name
1928	Joseph Beard
1929	Edward Burford
	(T. F. Kidd, Jr.)
	R. B. Storey, Jr.
1930	William Buchanan
	Dorsey Carrier*
	Joe Henry Gardner
1931	Ray Alderman*
	Clarence Daughtrey
	Jeter Lampkin*
1932	George Wright*
	John Beard*
	Bayard A. Rucker*
1933	William A. Brooks*
	Ashby S. Brumback
	J. Sam Buchanan
	(Thornton Oliver)
	Hilton Rector
1934	Joel H. Chapman
	Andrew Jackson*
	Graham James, Jr.
	Clarence Lowe
1935	J. F. Blankenbaker
	William R. Shaffer
1936	Garvin Huff*
	Marvin Huff*
	Wayne Larrowe
	Hayes Sadler*
	Vernon Trivilian
	Berlin Webb
1937	(Robert Bristow)
	Amos Healy
	Warren Good, Jr.
	R. W. Moffett*
	John A. Yowell*
1938	Charles T. Haynie*
	Herbert Manuel*
	(Sidney Wortman)
	Roy James
	W. Ellnor Horton
	Hunter Greenlaw
1939	W. H. George*
	Ralph O. Hamilton*
	(Fred Jackson)
	Angus Myers*
	Ronald Wm. Paulette
	Lyle H. Pond
	Harvey Smith*
	Samuel Spangler*
1940	(Willie H. Copley, Jr.)
	Thomas R. Dodson*
	Ralph A. Reynolds*
	James R. Russell
	Robert J. Slade, Jr.
	Archer L. Yeatts, Jr.*
1941	Thomas Porter Scott
	Roy B. Smith
1942	Charles Bristow
	James V. Garland III*
	Norman G. Lankford*
	Joseph A. Nelson
	(Tom W. Pemberton)
	Wm. David Walker*
1943	R. E. Drake, Jr.
	Harley C. Easter
	Lester Marsh*
	Edward P. Moncol*
	Roy S. Robertson, Jr.*
	O. Beverly Roller*
	Robert Smith*
1944	Joseph E. Chudoba*
	William H. Courtney
	Garland B. Garrette
	William H. Parcell, Jr.*
	Epes Orton Rainey
	C. N. Wine*
1945	William Agnew
	Benjamin J. Bryant*
	Francis M. Harris
	Dennis McCarty, III
	Frank Campbell Ott*
	Harper K. Phillips
	Ben David Wheller*
1946	Joseph A. Barlow, Jr.*
	David S. Farmer, Jr.
	Galen Flora*
	Edward Goode*
	J. L. Hopkins
	William R. Perrow*
	J. Claude Whitmore, Jr.
1947	John A. Cleaton
	John L. DeBusk
	James E. Duerson*
	Morgan Beard Ott, Jr.*
	Carson E. Stroop
1948	Joseph B. Carr*
	Garnett Clark
	C. R. Guthrie*
	John H. Kennedy, Jr.
	Carnice E. Mannon*
	Gareth B. Miller
	William D. Wampler*
1949	W. Henery Groseclose
	Albert F. Heishman*
	Dallas H. Johnson*
	George H. Perry, Jr.*
	William L. Simmons*
	Robert S. Stevens, Jr.*
	Riley Jay Stewart*
1950	Hubert Carson
	Robert C. White*
	Berl Patterson
	William F. Rhudy, Jr.*
	Charles B. Spangler, Jr.
	Johnnie Tomlin
	Harold W. Roller*
	Milton Wickham*

* Replies received as of March 4, 1952. ( ) Deceased.

APPLICATION FOR

American Farmer Degree

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Due in the National Office on or before June 30

—★—

NOTE: These opening pages call attention to important considerations and offer helpful suggestions regarding the selection of candidates as well as the compiling and submitting of applications for the highest membership degree in the FFA. Careful study of the points set forth herein by applicants and advisers may prevent misunderstanding and possible disappointment. All applications are to be forwarded to the **National Adviser so as to reach the national FFA office by June 30th.** Final action will be taken at the next national convention.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications set up in the manner here shown are to be forwarded *directly to the National Adviser who will review* and submit them to the members of the National Board of Trustees with his recommendations. The National Board of Trustees, will then make further study of these applications and recommend to the delegates assembled in national convention the candidates whom they find qualified for election.

States will be notified at least 30 days prior to the next national convention regarding the status of all candidates who submitted applications.

Those responsible for recommending candidates to receive the Degree have only the evidence submitted in the application upon which to base their judgment. It is, therefore, important that the information called for be made as *complete, definite, neat and understandable* as possible. A check list is included to help the adviser evaluate the application.

Project record books are not required to accompany the application, but the National Adviser reserves the right to request any books from which summaries were taken for inclusion in a candidate's application. Keep the pages of the application together, and do not spread pages of the application through descriptive material or supporting evidence.

State and local advisers are to check and verify records submitted and inspect farming programs and the home farms of candidates for the Degree prior to the filing of the application, *noting general appearance, condition, and upkeep.* Brief statements covering this and other pertinent items by State advisers are to be inserted at the proper place in the application of each candidate. The State adviser's recommendation and proper certification must not be overlooked in filling out the application.

Submit with your application a glossy print bust photograph of yourself suitable for reproduction in a newspaper. It will be appreciated if you will include pictures of your supervised farming program that will be appropriate for use in rural magazines.

PROCEDURE FOR CHOOSING CANDIDATES

(From Article VII, By-Laws of the National Constitution)

SECTION A. A State association may submit, annually, one candidate for the American Farmer Degree for each 1,000 active members in the association or major fraction thereof computed on the basis of national dues received in the office of the National Treasurer by midnight of June 30. Each State association in good standing shall be entitled to submit at least one American Farmer candidate.

SECTION B. Election to the Degree of American Farmer shall be from the candidates at large.

SECTION C. Applications for the Degree approved by the State Adviser must be in the National FFA office not later than midnight of June 30, prior to the national convention at which the application will be considered. No additions or corrections will be accepted after that date, and *the application as received will be considered as the final basis for selection.* Applications not in the national office on June 30, or received from States from which all national dues for the fiscal year have not been received by the National Treasurer on or before June 30, will be rejected.

SECTION D. Neatly compiled applications conforming to regulation guide forms prepared and distributed by the National Executive Secretary must be submitted.

SECTION E. American Farmer candidates must be recommended by the National Board of Student Officers and receive a majority vote of the delegates present at a national convention of FFA.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION

(From Article IV, Section E, National Constitution)

1. Must have held each of the three prerequisite degrees prior to election to the Degree of American Farmer, have been an active member of the FFA continuously for at least 36 months, and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter and State association.

2. Must have satisfactorily completed at least three school years of instruction in vocational agriculture, or have completed all of the vocational agriculture offered in the school last attended, have been out of high school for at least 12 months prior to the convention at which the degree is granted, and have in operation an outstanding program of supervised farming. Productive projects must show comprehensive planning, continuation, growth, and increase in scope as substantiated by complete, accurate, and neat records.

3. During the period covered by his application, the candidate must have earned by his own efforts from farming and other agricultural work and have deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least $500, provided that at least two-thirds of this amount is derived from his supervised farming program. In the cases where the applicant has assisted in the support of dependents, the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Student Officers, may be considered as an investment.

4. Show outstanding ability as evidenced by his leadership and cooperation in student, chapter, and community activities, and have a satisfactory scholarship record as certified to by the local school superintendent or principal.

INTERPRETATION OF MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE MADE BY THE NATIONAL FFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Each candidate will be considered on his accomplishments as revealed in his record and *must measure up to each minimum qualification* for an American Farmer. *Failure to measure up on any one minimum qualification disqualifies.* See check list, Pages 14 and 15.

2. A candidate for the Degree of American Farmer must be an active member of the FFA when this application is filed with the State association. According to the constitution, an FFA "member may retain his active membership continuously throughout his entire high school career and for three years after the first national convention following graduation from, or leaving high school, or until he may become 21 years of age, whichever length of time is greater. No individual, however, may retain his active membership beyond his 25th birthday."

"An active member shall be considered in good standing when:

(1) He attends local chapter meetings with reasonable regularity while enrolled in the school where the local chapter is established.

(2) He shows an interest in, and takes part in, the affairs of the chapter.

(3) He pays his dues regularly and conducts himself in a manner becoming a member of the organization."

3. The time limit of awarding the American Farmer Degree shall be three years after the first national convention following graduating from or leaving high school or until he becomes 21 years of age, whichever length of time is greater. (An exception is made for veterans. See Article III of Constitution.)

4. A candidate for the Degree of American Farmer must be nominated by a State association.

5. The candidate must have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities of the local chapter and State association. This must include:

(a) A minimum of 6 different types of local FFA chapter activities. See Pages 12 and 13.

(b) Attendance of at least 2 different FFA activities above the local chapter level. See Pages 12 and 13.

6. The candidate's application must include:

(a) A minimum of 5 different improvement projects, as defined on Page 10.

(b) A minimum of ten different supplementary practices, as defined on Page 11.

(c) A supervised farming program that shows improvement in quality and shows expansion, and indicates that the candidate is becoming established in a type of farming as evidenced by one or more productive projects showing at least 2 years' continuation.

(d) A detailed written statement in the application or attached to it for a candidate not living on the farm continuously throughout the year, including candidates in college, showing that he has personal responsibility for the operation and management of his outstanding program of supervised farming and his plans and intentions for becoming established in farming. See Page 9.

7. The total amount of errors in the applicant's supervised farming program must be:

(a) Less than 5 percent of the total labor income. See Pages 2 and 3.

(b) Less than 5 percent of the total value in the financial statement on Page 8, when compared with the information found on Pages 4 and 5 of the application form.

8. Money that is productively invested must have been used in connection with one or more of the following: livestock, crops, farming equipment, farm supplies, savings, and relief of immediate family members, but not for items of personal use, such as autos, radios, travel, school expenses and musical instruments.

9. The candidate must have:

   (a) Held a constitutional office or served as chairman of a major committee. See Page 12.

   (b) Participated in some chapter activity, such as public speaking, parliamentary procedure, livestock contests, or food preservation. Refer to Pages 12 and 13.

   (c) Taken part in an activity beyond the local chapter, such as holding an office or serving as an FFA delegate. See Pages 12 and 13.

10. The cooperative activities must include at least three group functions, such as cooperative buying and selling of agricultural products, conducting educational tours and recreational activities, of which at least one must show group financing in cash or kind. Refer to Page 13.

THE STAR AMERICAN FARMER AWARDS

From those elected to the American Farmer Degree at the coming national convention, the Star Farmer of America and Star Regional Farmers will be selected.

TO THE APPLICANT—Read carefully through this application form before filling out any part of it.

1951-52
Form 665*

APPLICATION FOR

American Farmer Degree

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

This application must be in the Office of Education, Washington, D. C., on or before June 30.

Chapter..... State.....

Year..... School.....

Name (as it should appear on certificate).....

Date of Birth..... Age.....

Post Office Address.....

Date entered high school..... Did you graduate?.....

If yes, give date..... If no, give date left school.....

Years of vocational agriculture offered in school last attended .....

Years of vocational agriculture you completed: All day ..... Day-unit.....

Date elected to the Green Hand Degree: Month ..... Year.....

Date elected to the Chapter Farmer Degree: Month ..... Year.....

Date elected to the State Farmer Degree: Month ..... Year.....

Have you had continuous active FFA membership for 36 months?.....

Are you now an active member of the FFA?.....

Name of college attending (if any).....

What is your present occupation?.....

Are you married?.....

Name of parents: Father..... Mother .....

Age of father if living:.....

Age of mother if living:.....

Ages of brothers living at home:					
Ages of brothers living away from home:					
Ages of sisters living at home:					
Ages of sisters living away from home:					

Other members of family living at home (specify):

*Prepared by the Future Farmers of America in cooperation with the Office of Education, Federal Security Agency.

I. CANDIDATE'S IN-SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUPERVISED FARMING PROGRAM DURING THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS APPLICATION*

A. Summary of the In-School Supervised Farming Program of the Candidate

School Year	Productive Enterprises	Scope	Total 1/ Credits (A)	Total 2/ Debits (B)	Labor 3/ Income on Project (C)	Amount 4/ actually received by candidate (D)
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
Total In-School						

(A)—(B)=(C)

1/ Include closing inventory value and all cash receipts.
2/ Include beginning inventory value and all costs except "Value of Self Labor".
3/ Total the labor income for each year and enter in this column by years and make an in-school total for all years.
4/ The actual amount of labor income received by the candidate. Other income is recorded on page 6 only.

*This is to be a true, accurate, and complete summary, compiled from the details found in the supervised farming records of the candidate. The National Adviser reserves the right to request any books from which these summaries were taken.

B. Summary of the **Out-of-School** Supervised Farming Program of the Candidate

The candidate must show his farming program **now in operation** by farm enterprises, indicating scope. List the productive projects and their scope for the current farming program but **do not** show estimates of credits, debits, and labor income.

School Year	Productive Enterprises	Scope	Total 1/ Credits (A)	Total 2/ Debits (B)	Labor 3/ Income on Project (C)	Amount 4/ actually received by candidate (D)
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
19..... to 19.....						
		Total				
				Total Out-of-School, B		
	(Transferred from Columns C and D, page 2)			Total In-School, A		
		Grand Total		(In-School and Out-of-School)		

(A)—(B)=(C)

1/ Include closing inventory value and all cash receipts.
2/ Include beginning inventory value and all costs except "Value of Self Labor".
3/ Total the labor income for each year and enter in this column by years and make an out-of-school total for all years.
4/ The actual amount of labor income received by the candidate. Other income is recorded on page 6 only.

*This is to be a true, accurate, and complete summary, compiled from the details found in the supervised farming records of the candidate. The National Adviser reserves the right to request any books from which these summaries were taken.

CANDIDATE'S FARMING STATUS

(Candidate fill in completely from date of enrolling in Vocational Agriculture class to the present)

Experience by years

Year	At Home With Definite or Indefinite Allowance	Farm Laborer With Specific Wages		At Home With Income From One or More Enterprises	Partner in a Farm Business		Renter and Operator of Farm	Owner and Operator of Farm	Manager of Farm for Another Person	Other Status	Type of Farm	Acre Size	Other Occupation Specify
		At Home	Away From Home		At Home	Away From Home							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Total acres in the Entire Farming Program

Total current farm business for the farm or farms included in this report and candidate's participation in that business. (This means the total farming operations of the candidate and the entire farm family that are operated as one unit with the same equipment, power, labor and capital.)

Land Utilization	Whole Farm Total Acres*		Extent of participation by candidate					
			Land Rented by Candidate Acres**	Land Owned by Candidate		Partnership Land Owned		
	Owned	Rented		Acres	Value	Acres	Percentage Share	Value of Share
Pasture								
Timberland								
Meadow								
Waste								
Crops								
Other land								
Total								

*Including any land owned and/or rented by the candidate.

**Include land share cropped by candidate.

A. The candidate's share of harvested crops on hand

Kind of Crop	Owned by candidate		Owned in partnership		
	Amount	Value	Amount	Percentage Share	Value of Share
Total	xxxxxxx		xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	

B. The candidate's investment in the growing crops
(Not estimated value of crop)

Kind of Crop	Owned by candidate		Owned in partnership		
	Amount	Value	Amount	Percentage Share	Value of Share
		$			$
Total	xxxxxxx		xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	

C. The candidate's share of the livestock on the farm

Kind	Owned by candidate		Owned in partnership		
	Number	Value	Number	Percentage Share	Value of Share
Beef cattle					
Dairy cattle					
Hogs					
Horses					
Sheep					
Poultry					
Other					
Total	xxxxxxx		xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	

D. Buildings and Equipment and candidate's share

Kind	Total Number	Owned by candidate		Owned in partnership		
		Number	Value	Number	Percentage Share	Value of Share
Total	xxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxx		xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	

II. CANDIDATE'S EARNINGS AND INCOME FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN HIS SUPERVISED FARMING PROGRAM DURING THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS APPLICATION

A. In School

1. Give detailed statement of earnings from **farming activities** not included in the supervised farming program reported under I, A, Page 2.

School Year	Activity and From Whom Received	Amount Received
19 ..... to 19		
	Total	

2. Give detailed statement of earnings from **non-farming activities.**

School Year	Activity and From Whom Received	Amount Received
19 ..... to 19		
	Total	

3. Summary statement of income other than earnings (gifts, prizes, and inheritances such as land and equipment).

School Year	Source or Nature	Amount Received
19 ..... to 19		
	Total	

B. Out of School

1. Give detailed statement of earnings from **farming activities** not included in the supervised farming program reported under I, B, Page 3.

School Year	Activity and From Whom Received	Amount Received
19..... to 19.....		
	Total	

2. Give detailed statement of earnings from **non-farming activities.**

School Year	Activity and From Whom Received	Amount Received
19..... to 19.....		
	Total	

3. Summary statement of income other than earnings (gifts, prizes, and inheritances such as land and equipment).

School Year	Source or Nature	Amount Received
19..... to 19.....		
	Total	

III. CANDIDATE'S PRESENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A. Candidate's Assets

Nature of Assets	Amount or Value
Cash-money in possession of candidate	
Checking account at bank	
Savings account at bank	
FFA thrift account	
Bonds, notes receivable, etc. (specify) (cash value)	
Cash surrender (not face value) value of life insurance if premiums are paid by candidate	
Value of land owned by candidate (page 4)	
Value of land owned in partnership (candidate's share only) (page 4)	
Value of harvested crops on hand owned by candidate (page 5A)	
Value of harvested crops on hand owned in partnership (candidate's share only) (page 5A)	
Investment in growing crops owned by candidate (page 5B)	
Investment in growing crops owned in partnership (candidate's share only) (page 5B)	
Value of livestock and poultry owned by candidate (page 5C)	
Value of livestock and poultry owned in partnership (candidate's share only) (page 5C)	
Value of equipment and buildings owned by candidate (page 5D)	
Value of equipment and buildings owned in partnership (candidate's share only) (page 5D)	
Other assets (specify)	
Total A	

B. Candidate's Liabilities

Nature of Liabilities	Amount or Value
Unpaid bills	
Notes to be paid	
Mortgages to be paid off	
Liens	
Other liabilities (specify)	
Total B	
Net Worth A—B **Total**	

C. Gifts and Donations made by the candidate

Nature of Gifts	Amount or Value
Aid to dependents, actual, cash or kind	
Other (specify)	
Total C	

D. A complete statement of how land, work stock, livestock, and equipment owned by the candidate were obtained and financed.

E. A complete statement by candidate justifying any unusual profits made or appraisal values given.

F. A complete statement of the candidate's rental or partnership agreements. Give details as to cash rent, crop rent, use of tools, work stock, etc.

G. A candidate not living on the farm continuously throughout the year, such as a college student, must show by a detailed written statement that he has personal responsibility for operating and managing the supervised farming program, and his plans and intentions for becoming established in farming.

H. If the net worth exceeds the totals on pages 2 and 3, Column D, and pages 6 and 7, give a detailed explanation of the excess.

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

(An undertaking involving a series of jobs to improve the appearance and real estate value of the farm, the efficiency of the farm business as a whole and which contributes to the comfort or convenience of the farm family.) **Do not include activities that are performed in connection with enterprises listed on pages 2 and 3. Indicate scope of each project listed.**

In-School Program

	Scope		Scope
First year—			
Second year—			
Third year—			
Fourth year—			

Out-of-School Program

	Scope		Scope
First year—			
Second year—			
Third year—			

SUPPLEMENTARY PRACTICES

(A small farm job for additional experience, skill, and efficiency lying outside of the jobs included in the students' production enterprises or improvement projects.) **Indicate scope of each project listed.**

In-School Program

	Scope		Scope
First year—			
Second year—			
Third year—			
Fourth year—			

Out-of-School Program

	Scope		Scope
First year—			
Second year—			
Third year—			

IV. CANDIDATE'S LEADERSHIP AND COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

A. Offices held in the FFA

School Year	FFA Offices held, such as president, and secretary. (Specify) List All Offices	Indicate level, such as local chapter, district, federation, State association.	Length of Service In Months
	President		
	Vice President		
	Secretary		
	Treasurer		
	Reporter		
	Sentinel		

B. Additional Leadership in the FFA

School Year	Participation in leadership events such as public speaking, camp, convention, fair, banquet, committee chairman, and band. (Specify)	Indicate level, such as local, district, federation, State and national.	Status or ranking, such as toastmaster, manager, delegate, and committee chairman (specify)

C. Cooperative Activities in the FFA

School Year	Nature of the group activity, such as buying or selling cooperatively, operating livestock improvement association as subsidiary of the FFA educational tours, recreational activities, and the like. (Specify)	Scope, such as number, value, head, pounds purchased or sold. (Specify)	Responsibility or participation. Give length of service

D. Miscellaneous Leadership and Cooperative Activities outside of the FFA

School Year	Participation, such as president of Freshman class, secretary Sunday School, member of high school honor society, captain of football team, membership and participation in farm and civic organizations, showing of livestock and exhibiting agricultural products. (Specify activity and organization)	Length of service in months, responsibilities and winnings

FAILURE TO MEET ANY ONE OF THE QUALIFICATIONS INDICATED IN THIS CHECK LIST WILL DISQUALIFY THE APPLICANT.

CHECK LIST

	Local Adviser	State Adviser	National Office
1. Will the candidate have been out of high school for at least 12 months prior to the next national convention? Refer to page 1			
2. Has the candidate satisfactorily completed at least three years of vocational agriculture or (if less than three-year program) all the vocational agriculture offered in the school last attended? Refer to page 1			
3. Will the candidate have held each of the three pre-requisite degrees by the next national convention? Refer to page 1			
4. Has the candidate been a continuous active member of the FFA for at least 36 months? Refer to page 1			
5. Was the candidate an active member of the FFA when the application was filed with the State association? Refer to page 1 and page B, 2			
6. Is the candidate becoming established in a type of farming as evidenced by one or more productive projects showing at least two years continuation? Refer to pages 2 and 3			
7. Does the candidate's supervised farming program show expansion and improvement in quality? Refer to pages 2 and 3			
8. Does the candidate have in operation an outstanding program of supervised farming? Refer to page 3			
9. Are the total errors in the candidate's supervised farming program less than five per cent of the total labor income? Refer to pages 2 and 3			
10. Has the candidate earned by his own efforts, during the period covered by this application, from farming and other agricultural work, and deposited or otherwise productively invested at least $500? Refer to pages 2, 3, 6, and 8			
11. Was two-thirds or more of the $500 earned derived from his supervised farming program? Refer to pages 2 and 3			
12. Are the total errors in the financial statement on page 8 less than five per cent of the value of net worth?			
13. If net worth on page 8 exceeds labor income (pages 2 and 3) plus earnings and income from sources other than supervised farming program (pages 6 and 7) has a detailed explanation been given of the excess value in "H." on page 9?			
14. Are the errors in the transfers from pages 4 and 5 to page 8 less than five per cent of the total value found on pages 4 and 5?			
15. Was at least two-thirds of the $500 productively invested in such things as livestock, crops, farming equipment, farm supplies, savings, and relief of immediate family members? Refer to page 8			
16. If the candidate is not living on the farm continuously throughout the year has he provided a detailed written statement showing that he has personal responsibility for the operation and management of his farming program, including his plans and intentions for farming? Refer to page 9			
17. Has the candidate completed a minimum of five different improvement projects? Refer to page 10			
18. Has the candidate completed a minimum of ten different supplementary practices? Refer to page 11			

	Local Adviser	State Adviser	National Office
19. Has the candidate held a constitutional office or served as chairman of a major committee of the FFA? Refer to page 12			
20. Has the candidate participated in some activity such as public speaking, parliamentary procedure, livestock contests and food preservation? Refer to page 12			
21. Has the candidate a minimum of six different types of local chapter activities? Refer to pages 12 and 13			
22. Has the candidate attended at least two FFA activities above the local chapter level? Refer to pages 12 and 13			
23. Has the candidate participated in an activity beyond the local chapter level, such as holding an office or serving as a delegate? Refer to pages 12 and 13			
24. Has the candidate participated in at least three cooperative group activities, such as buying and selling of agricultural products? Refer to page 13			
25. Did one of the cooperative group activities show financing in cash or in kind? Refer to page 13			
26. Does the candidate have a satisfactory scholastic record as indicated by the signature of school principal or superintendent? Refer to page 16			
27. Did the candidate and his parent or guardian sign the application? Refer to page 16			
28. Is candidate recommended by the State Adviser and certified by the designated officials? Refer to pages 15 and 16			

_____
Local Adviser

By _____
National Office

STATE ADVISER'S STATEMENT CONCERNING CANDIDATE AND CHECK LIST

Information on the work and accomplishments of the applicant including, among other things, information regarding general appearance, upkeep, and equipment of the candidate's home farm.

_____
State Adviser

V. CANDIDATE'S SCHOLASTIC RECORD

I hereby certify that ..... has shown outstanding ability as a student, and has a satisfactory scholarship record.

Signed: .....
Superintendent or Principal (indicate which)

.....
School

STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE AND PARENT

We have prepared this application and certify that the records are true, complete, and accurate.

.....
Candidate

.....
Parent or Guardian

CERTIFICATION

We have checked and verified the application of ..... and find that the statements contained herein are such that we are able to recommend him for the Degree of American Farmer in the FFA.

....., President ..... Chapter FFA

....., Local Adviser ..... Chapter FFA

....., Chairman, or member, of State Executive Committee, FFA