OPPORTUNITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND PLACEMENT IN FARMING IN THE WYTHEVILLE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT

by

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Thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

in candidacy for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

Agricultural Education

APPROVED:

Director of Graduate Studies

APPROVED:

Head of Department

Dean of Agriculture

Supervisor or Major Professor

1951

Blacksburg, Virginia

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Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

The Need for the Study

There is a need in the educational program of students enrolled in All-Day, Part-Time and Institution On-Farm Training Program for guidance to facilitate their becoming established in farming on a satisfactory basis.

World War II Veterans seeking Institution On-Farm Training and ex-students of vocational agriculture have found it difficult to locate suitable farms in the Wytheville Magisterial District which would enable them to become established in farming.

H. W. Sanders in his study "Trends Indicated By the Follow-Up Study"[1] found that of 679 white vocational agriculture students from Wythe County leaving school from 1918 to 1949, two hundred and five (205) or only 30.2 per cent are engaged in farming or related occupations.

Since this study indicates a low percentage of vocational agriculture students engaging in farming or related occupations, there is a need for the vocational agriculture program to make available information which can be used in the counseling of students and prospective students as to the opportunities for becoming established in farming in the Wytheville Magisterial District.

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1. Sanders, H. W., "Trends Indicated By The Follow-Up Study," Minutes of Twenty-Third Conference of Instructors of Vocational Agriculture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, 1950, p. 29.

H. G. Kenestrick in his study "Some Economic Factors Affecting the Establishment of All-Day Students of Vocational Agriculture in Ohio in Farming"[2] found that in 1935 only 45.7 per cent of 3,033 former all-day students of vocational agriculture who left high school between 1918 and 1934 inclusive were farming.

This study indicates a similar situation existing in Ohio in the number of ex-students of vocational agriculture becoming engaged in farming.

In Mr. Kenestrick's study of a sampling of the former students who were engaged in farming, he found that only one-third had reached a status of owner, renter or manager.

A similar study of the Wytheville Magisterial District would indicate those opportunities that are available for students to become successfully engaged in farming.

The Problem

The purposes of this study are as follows:

1. To discover the opportunities for establishment in farming or for placing young men in farming positions in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia.
2. To discover the nature of these opportunities.
3. To discover the qualifications that are desired of those who might become renters or who might secure employment as farm laborers.
4. To discover which agencies assist farmers in becoming established in farming.

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2. Kenestrick, H. G., "Some Economic Factors Affecting the Establishment of All-Day Students of Vocational Agriculture in Ohio in Farming." Unpublished Doctors' Dissertation, Ohio State University, Columbus, 1936, p. 202.

Opportunities, as used in this study, may be defined as possibilities for becoming established in farming. It is recognized that not all of the vacancies in the study offer very much in the way of possibilities. An effort was made to indicate to some extent, the desirable vacancies from the standpoint of opportunities for satisfactory establishment in farming.

Basic Assumptions

1. It was assumed that the answers given by farmers to the questions used in the survey were accurate since each farmer was interviewed in person.

2. It was assumed that by analyzing the data from the sampling of the Wytheville Magisterial District on the basis of type of farming, it may be possible to obtain some information about the number and nature of vacancies that might be available on the other farms in the District not included in the Study, as well as other Districts in Wythe County.

Review of the Literature

The review of literature included Kenestrick's "Some Economic Factors Affecting the Establishment of All-Day Students of Vocational Agriculture in Ohio in Farming."[3] The purpose of this study was to discover to what extent and by what means former students have succeeded in advancement in establishing themselves in farming, at what rates they have advanced in farming status, and how the situations of present students differ from those of former students.

3. Ibid., p. 202.

A survey study was made of all former All-Day students in five typical counties in Ohio who had left school during the period 1918 to 1934, inclusive, to determine size of home farm, number of years of vocational agriculture, and present occupations.

This study revealed that of the 3,033 former students, 45.7 per cent were reported farming in 1935; 1918-1924, the per cent farming was 25.0; 1924-1929, the per cent farming was 41.0; and for the groups leaving school in 1929-1934, the percentage was 59.3. The rate of advancement in farming was slow.

A follow-up study to discover occupational status of former students of vocational agriculture in Virginia was made by C. E. Richards and T. J. Wakeman's "Occupational Status of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture."[4]

Data for the study were secured by the authors from each of the district supervisors of Agricultural Education in Virginia. The data consisted of the summaries of the occupational record of vocational agriculture students by years for each school in the district. The summaries included the follow-up records from the time the departments were established through the school year 1936-1937.

The study indicated that a larger percentage of ex-students who had had four years of vocational agriculture went into farming as partners and as owner-operators. The study also revealed that parent-owned farms placed a higher percentage of ex-students as partners and

4. Richards, C. E. and Wakeman, T. J., "Occupational Status of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture." Published Masters' Thesis, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, 1940, p. 81.

as owner-operators than any of the other groups. It was discovered that the older the student was when he enrolled in vocational agriculture, the more likely he was to go into farming.

A follow-up study to discover what becomes of ex-students of vocational agriculture in Virginia was made by H. W. Sanders' "Trends Indicated by the Follow-Up Study."[5]

Data for this study were secured from the follow-up reports from local agriculture departments in Virginia. Some data were also secured from supervised practice reports from local agriculture departments in the State.

The study indicated that only 12,935 or 23.98 per cent of the 53,952 ex-students of vocational agriculture in Virginia enrolled from 1918 to 1949 were engaged in farming. The study also revealed that 3,382 or 6.27 per cent of all former ex-students of vocational agriculture were engaged in occupations related to farming.

Other literature reviewed consisted of John Barnhart McClelland's "Opportunities for Placement and Establishment on Farms in Selected Ohio Communities Where Vocational Agriculture Is Taught."[6]

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5. Sanders, H. W., op. cit., p. 29.

6. McClelland, John Barnhart, "Opportunities for Placement and Establishment on Farms in Selected Ohio Communities Where Vocational Agriculture is Taught." Published Doctors' Dissertation, Ohio State University, Columbus, 1940, p.

The purposes of this study were to discover the approximate number of opportunities for placement and establishment of boys and men on farms other than their home farms, to discover the nature of the vacancies, and to discover the qualifications desired in those who might fill the positions.

By use of a survey form, teachers and students of vocational agriculture in 178 communities interviewed operators of 1,842 farms which adjoined the home farm of seniors.

The study indicated that very little was offered in the way of permanency of employment, wages or desirable living conditions. The study indicated that a more detailed investigation would lead to a program with greater emphasis on supervised farming activities.

Limitations

Farms selected for this study were located in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia. There are 493 farms, three acres and over, in this district of which 185 received 51 per cent or more of their income from the farm during 1950. A farm may be defined as any tract of land three acres or more producing livestock or crops. By random sampling, data were secured from 51 farms, or 25 per cent of the 185 farms in the District, receiving 51 per cent or more of their total income from the farm. The 51 farms were classified according to the acreage and were divided into six groups. These 51 farms were surveyed during January and February of 1951 and all data secured in the study would be current for the 1951 farming season. The farms were grouped as follows:

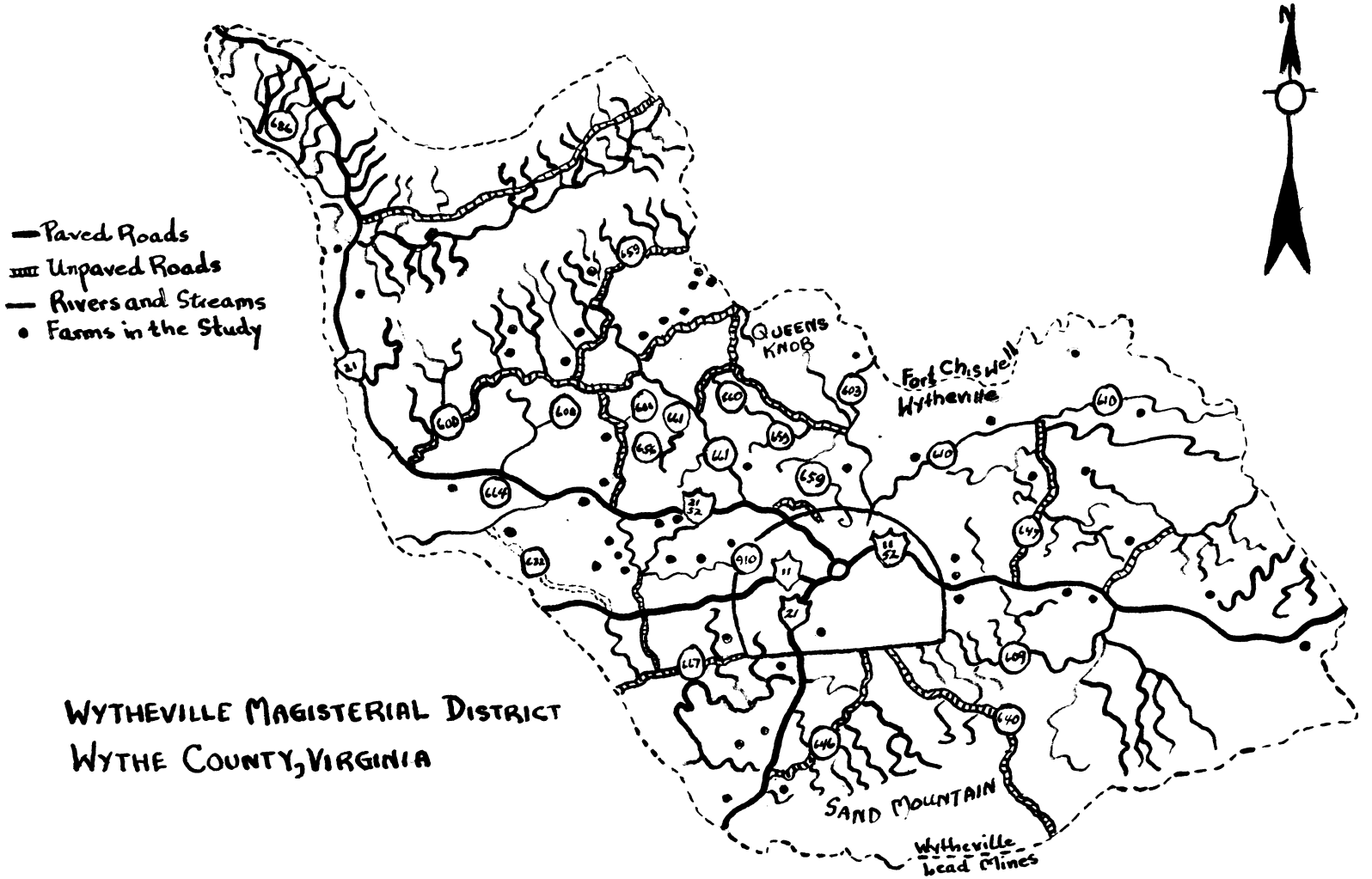

Figure 1. The Location of Farms in the Study

Group I: 3- 16 acres

Group II: 17- 80 acres

Group III: 81-200 acres

Group IV: 201-400 acres

Group V: 401-700 acres

Group VI: over 700 acres

Twenty-five per cent of the farms falling in each of the above acreage groups were surveyed.

Method of Securing Data

The data for this study were secured by the author contacting each of the 51 farm operators in person. A survey form was used in securing the data. Helpful suggestions were obtained from the survey form used by John Barnhart McClelland in his study of "Opportunities for Placement and Establishment on Farms in Selected Ohio Communities Where Vocational Agriculture Is Taught."[7]

Summary of Chapter

This is a survey study of 51 farms in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia, to determine placement opportunities for establishment in farming.

Follow-up studies of all-day students who have been enrolled in vocational agriculture show that the majority of these students do not become established in farming. This fact, coupled with the lack of suitable opportunities for World War II Veterans to secure desirable

7. Ibid.

farming situations to enable them to qualify for Institution On-Farm Training, justifies the need for this study of opportunities which are available in the Wytheville Magisterial District for establishment and placement in farming.

Review of previous studies made in Ohio and Virginia indicate the existence of similar situations.

From representative farms in the Wytheville Magisterial District, this study may be projected to determine the needs for Wythe and adjoining counties.

Chapter II

CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMS AND FARM OPERATORS STUDIED

This chapter deals with the characteristics of farms and farm operators as revealed by the data from the survey forms.

Age of Operators

The study, by discovering the present ages of farm operators in the Wytheville District, might indicate the ages at which farmers may expect to have become established in farming.

TABLE 1. - AGE OF ALL FARM OPERATORS

Age	Number of Operators	Per Cent
Under 25	1	1.9
25 - 34	9	17.6
35 - 44	3	5.9
45 - 54	20	39.3
55 - 64	12	23.5
65 - over	6	11.8
Total	51	100

Table 1 indicates that of fifty-one farm operators interviewed, only 19.5 per cent were under 35 years of age while 52.7 per cent were between the ages of 45 and 64. This indicates that younger men have not become established in farming in large numbers and that the process of

becoming established requires a number of years after high school graduation age because the greatest number of farmers are in the 45 - 54 age group.

The low percentage of operators in the 35-44 age group could be effected by boys entering the Armed Services during World War II and failing in some cases to return to farming in their communities as a life vocation. While this possibility exists and was not covered in the data of the study, at no time was the author made aware of its effects in gathering data from the farmers and farm operators.

The 11.8 per cent in the 65 and over age group is a comparatively larger percentage and indicates that many older farm operators have had to continue operating their farms who might normally have employed farm operators to run the business or retired from farming if adequate labor had been available. This situation is probably caused by heavy industrial usage of manpower resulting from above normal availability of jobs and high wages in war emergency industry in the vicinity.

Because there are only 5.9 per cent of farm operators in the middle age group (35 - 44), there will be more opportunities available for farm operators in the next ten years.

The increased percentage 1.9 between the under 25 age group and 17.6 for the 25 - 34 age group is probably due to boys returning to farming as a result of the Institutional On-Farm Training Program, since many of these men fall within this age classification.

TABLE 2. - AGE OF FARM OPERATORS IN THE STUDY CLASSIFIED BY OPERATING STATUS

Age	Owner and Part-Owner		Tenants and Managers		Total	
	Number and Per Cent of Operators					
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Under 25	1	1.9	0	0	1	1.9
25 - 34	4	7.8	5	9.8	9	17.6
35 - 44	3	5.9	0	0	3	5.9
45 - 54	17	33.4	3	5.9	20	39.3
55 - 64	12	23.5	0	0	12	23.5
65 - over	6	11.8	0	0	6	11.8
Total	43	84.3	8	15.7	51	100

The data in Table 2 indicates that of the fifty-one farm operators in the survey, only eight have failed to attain the status of owner and part-owner. None of these eight who have not reached the status of owner and part-owner are in the 55 - 64 and over age group.

Sixty-two per cent of all tenants and managers were in the 25 - 34 age group while only nine per cent of all owners and part-owners were in this age group.

The study reveals that young men in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia have a tendency to begin as tenants and managers and those who remain in farming are more likely to become owners and part-owners by the time they have reached 55 years of age. This would seem to support the growing idea that organized instruction should be maintained for those young men out of school who remain in the community as farm workers.

Size of Farms Studied

Farms in the study range in size from three to over 700 acres.

TABLE 3. - FARMS IN STUDY CLASSIFIED BY ACREAGE

Acreage	Number	Per Cent
3 - 16	3	5.9
17 - 80	19	37.3
81 - 200	18	35.3
201 - 400	5	9.8
401 - 700	4	7.8
701 - over	2	3.9
Total	51	100

Of the fifty-one farms in the study, 37 farms (72.6) were in the 17 - 200 acre group. As the acreage of farms increased beyond 200 acres, the number of farms decreased. Eleven farms, or 21.5 per cent, were over 200 acres.

Only three of fifty-one farms, or 5.9 per cent, contained less than 17 acres. In this classification the survey discovered very little or no opportunity for farming or for becoming established in farming.

Types of Farms Studied

TABLE 4. - FARMS IN STUDY CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type	Number	Per Cent	Total Farms In Study
General	37	73	37
Dairy	10	19	10
Beef	4	8	4
Total	51	100	51

Table 4 indicates that 37 or 73 per cent of all farms in the study were general farms. Ten farms were dairy farms, or 19 per cent, and four farms were beef farms representing eight per cent.

TABLE 5. - LAND IN HARVESTED CROPS AND ROTATED PASTURE CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING AND STATUS OF OPERATOR

Status of Operator	Total Acres in Farm	Number of Farms	All Land in Farms	Land in Harvested Crops and Rotated Pasture		
			Average Acres	Total Acres	Average Acres	Per Cent
Owners And Part Owners	7767	43	180.68	2120	48	27
Tenants and Managers	1529	8	191.12	387	49	25
Total All Farms	9296	51	182.27	2507	49	27

It is interesting to note from Table 5 that the average acreage in harvested crops and rotated pastures is about the same for owners and part owners as is the average acreage for tenants and managers. Futhermore, the average size of the farms for owners and part-owners is slightly less than the size of farms operated by tenants and managers. One might conclude that tenants and managers are located on average to large farms.

Summary of Chapter

Chapter II gives the characteristics of farms and farm operators in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia. Because there is a tendency of all farmers to fall in the advanced age group, more job opportunities will become available for operators within the next ten years because the advanced age group will have to be replaced by young operators. A majority (84 per cent) of all operators interviewed were farm owners or part-owners. The average size of farms surveyed is 182 acres, which is slightly less than the average size of farms operated by tenants and managers.

Chapter III

THE AMOUNT OF LABOR ON THE FARMS STUDIED, THE AMOUNT OF LABOR NEEDED

The tables on the following pages contain the tabulated results of data secured from farm operators relative to the amount of available labor on the farms and the amount needed. Labor was classified in the tables under two groupings; namely, Hired Hands and Share Plan other than tenancy.

The Family Labor and Outside Persons Employed

In Table 6 the number of persons other than the family members who were employed last year is given according to type of farming and the status of the farm operator. A total of 91 persons were employed as hired hands or on a share plan basis other than tenancy on the 51 farms included in the study.

TABLE 6. - PERSONS OTHER THAN FAMILY MEMBERS EMPLOYED LAST YEAR

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Hired Hands Full Time	Hired Hands Part Time	All Hired Hands	Share Plan Other Than Tenancy Full Time	Share Plan Other Than Tenancy Part Time	All on Share Time	Total Employed As Hands or on Share Basis Other Than Tenancy	Total Farms in Study
GENERAL								
Owner and Part Owner	1	16	17	0	4	4	21	32
Tenant and Manager	2	8	10	1	1	2	12	5
Total General Farms	3	24	27	1	5	6	33	37
DAIRY								
Owner and Part Owner	9	15	24	1	0	1	25	7
Tenant and Manager	3	9	12	3	4	7	19	3
Total Dairy Farms	12	24	36	4	4	8	44	10
BEEF								
Owner and Part Owner	6	8	14	0	0	0	14	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	6	8	14	0	0	0	14	4

During the year 1950, the farm operators in the study employed a total of 77 hired hands compared to 14 hired on a share plan basis other than tenancy. This indicates a greater opportunity for hired hands than for workers on a share plan other than tenancy basis.

Of the 77 hands hired, 21 were hired on a full-time basis and 56 were employed part-time. Five workers were hired full-time on a share plan other than tenancy basis as compared to nine employed part-time. From this it appears there exists the greatest opportunity for employment both in hired hands and share plan on a part-time basis.

On the 37 general type farms, 33 persons were employed as compared to 44 persons on the 10 dairy farms and 14 employed on the four beef cattle farms. This would indicate the greatest opportunity for employment on dairy farms either as a hired hand or on a share plan other than tenancy basis.

Dairy farms operated by owner and part-owner offer more opportunity for employment than the tenant and manager type. This may be explained by the fact that the owner-operated herds of dairy cattle are larger than the tenant and manager herds included in the study.

TABLE 7. - NUMBER OF NEW OR DIFFERENT PERSONS WHO PROBABLY WILL BE EMPLOYED AS HANDS OR ON A SHARE BASIS NEXT YEAR CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Persons Who Will Probably Be Hired as Hands			Persons Who Will Probably Be Employed On a Share Basis			Total Persons Probably To Be Employed as Hands or on a Share Basis	Total Farms in Study
	Full Time	Part Time	Total	Full Time	Part Time	Total		
	Number of Persons							
GENERAL								
Owner and Part Owner	1	14	15	0	1	1	16	32
Tenant and Manager	0	7	7	0	0	0	7	5
Total General Farms	1	21	22	0	1	1	23	37
DAIRY								
Owner and Part Owner	2	11	13	0	0	0	13	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	2	11	13	0	0	0	13	10
BEEF								
Owner and Part Owner	2	7	9	0	0	0	9	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	2	7	9	0	0	0	9	4

The number of different persons who will probably be employed as hands or on a share basis next year does not necessarily equal the total number of laborers needed on the 51 farms. Because of the present world crisis, many farmers indicated at the time the data were secured that they probably would be unable to secure the labor needed during the coming year.

As revealed by Table 7, a total of 44 persons will probably be employed next year as hired hands including full-time and part-time persons. Only one person will probably be employed on a share basis indicating little opportunity in this area for employment for the coming year.

A total of 23 hired hands will be employed by owners and part-owners of general type farms indicating the greatest need as compared to 13 to be employed on dairy farms and only nine on beef farms.

TABLE 8. - FARMS WHERE MALE PERSONS OUTSIDE OF THE FAMILY WOULD HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED LAST YEAR IF THEY HAD BEEN AVAILABLE CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Full-Time Outside Persons Would Have Been Employed		Part-Time Outside Persons Would Have Been Employed		Full-Time and Part-Time Persons		Total Farms in Study
	Farms	Persons	Farms	Persons	Farms	Persons	
GENERAL							
Owner and Part Owner	3	4	7	12	10	16	32
Tenant and Manager	0	0	2	4	2	4	5
Total General Farms	3	4	9	16	12	20	37
DAIRY							
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	2	4	2	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	0	0	2	4	2	4	10
BEEF							
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	1	2	1	2	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	0	1	2	1	2	4

As indicated in Table 8, there were only three farms where full-time outside persons would have been employed last year had they been available, representing a total of four hands needed. There were 12 farms where 22 part-time laborers would have been employed had they been available, or a total of 15 farms needing 26 full-time and part-time persons. This would indicate that last year the greatest demand for hired hands was on a part-time basis.

On general type farms, there was a greater opportunity for employment than in the other types of farming. Last year there existed no opportunity for full-time employment on dairy or beef farms, and only six persons would have been employed on a part-time basis.

Operators of Dairy and Beef farms were able to employ all full-time persons needed last year. However, there existed a need for six part-time outside persons who would have been employed had they been available. This would reveal little need for additional hands on dairy and beef farms, while on general type farms there was a greater need for labor than the available supply.

TABLE 9A. - AVAILABILITY OF FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME PERSONS IN THE FAMILY OTHER THAN THE OPERATOR AND PERSONS NEEDED CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Sons and Other Male Relations Available			All Family Labor Available	Labor Needed In Addition to Operator			All Labor Needed	Total Farms in Study
		Part-Time				Part-Time			
	Full Time	Out of School	In School		Full Time	Out of School	In School		
GENERAL									
Owner and Part Owner	10	15	16	41	23	27	19	69	32
Tenant	0	0	3	3	3	9	4	16	5
Total General Farms	10	15	19	44	26	36	23	85	37
DAIRY									
Owner and Part Owner	2	0	1	3	9	13	3	25	7
Tenant	0	1	2	3	6	14	2	22	3
Total Dairy Farms	2	1	3	6	15	27	5	47	10
BEEF									
Owner and Part Owner	5	1	1	7	10	6	5	21	4
Tenant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	5	1	1	7	10	6	5	21	4

TABLE 9B. - THE PERSONS IN THE FAMILY OTHER THAN THE OPERATOR AVAILABLE FOR WORK, THE NUMBER NEEDED, AND THE SHORTAGE CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farm and Status of Operator	Persons Available As Family Labor	Persons Needed For Next 12 Months	Persons Needed In Addition To Family Labor	Total Farms In Study
	Number of Persons			
GENERAL				
Owner and Part Owner	41	69	28	32
Tenant	3	16	13	5
Total General Farms	44	85	41	37
DAIRY				
Owner and Part Owner	3	25	22	7
Tenant	3	22	19	3
Total Dairy Farms	6	47	41	10
BEEF				
Owner and Part Owner	7	21	14	4
Tenant	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	7	21	14	4

There are available for work on the 51 farms surveyed a total of 57 sons and other male relatives; of this number only 17 are available full-time and the remaining 40 are available part-time. Twenty-three of the part-time group are in school and 17 are living at home but are employed in other types of work.

One hundred fifty-three persons are needed on these farms: 51 full-time and 102 part-time. There is a greater need for part-time labor on farms in the study, since much of the work occurs during the summer months. Some of the additional labor needed for the peak seasons such as harvesting of crops is not needed for the entire year.

There is a shortage of 41 persons for general farms. Sixteen are needed full-time and 25 are needed part-time. Forty-one workers are needed on dairy farms: 13 full-time and 28 part-time. Ten full-time workers are needed on beef cattle farms and 11 part-time workers. There are available as family labor five full-time workers and two part-time workers, leaving a shortage of five full time and nine part-time laborers.

Of 69 part-time laborers out of school needed, 17 were found on farms in the study as family members, thus leaving a shortage of 52 persons out of school. Of the 33 persons in school needed part-time, 23 were available on farms as family laborers, leaving a shortage of 10. It would appear that the opportunities are greatest for boys and men out of school on a part-time basis.

TABLE 10.- TOTAL MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT OF NEW HANDS WHO PROBABLY WILL BE EMPLOYED PART-TIME NEXT YEAR

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	1-5 Months	6-11 Months	12-17 Months	18-23 Months	Total Farms Probably Employing Hands Part-Time	Total Persons Probably Employed Part-Time	Total Farms In Study
	Number of Farms						
GENERAL							
Owner and Part Owner	9	2	0	0	11	14	32
Tenant and Manager	4	0	0	0	4	7	5
Total General Farms	13	2	0	0	15	21	37
DAIRY							
Owner and Part Owner	2	2	0	0	4	11	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	2	2	0	0	4	11	10
BEEF							
Owner and Part Owner	1	1	1	0	3	7	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	1	1	1	0	3	7	4

The Probable Months of Employment of New and Part-Time Persons

The summarized data in Table 10 indicate the total months that new persons will probably be employed part-time next year.

Fifteen general type farm operators plan to employ 21 new persons part-time for the coming year. On 13 of these farms, workers will be employed for 1-5 months and on two farms for 6-11 months.

Four dairy farms offer opportunities for 11 persons part-time. Two of these farms offer employment for workers for 1-5 months and two farms for workers for 6-11 months.

The three beef farms in the study offer employment for seven persons part-time. On one farm persons will be employed from 1-5 months; one farm, 6-11 months; and one farm, 12-17 months.

A majority of the farms as indicated by Table 10 offers employment for new hands for a period of 1-5 months.

Summary of Chapter

During the past year there were a total of 91 persons employed as hired hands, including hands on a share plan basis other than tenancy, on the 51 farms surveyed in this study. The study revealed a greater number of persons employed as hired hands than workers on a share plan other than tenancy basis. There is a greater number of persons hired on a part-time basis other than full-time basis in both groupings (hired hands and hands on a share other than tenancy). More persons were employed on dairy farms last year; however, there was a need for persons on the general type farms who were not available. This would indicate the greatest opportunity for employment on the general type farms.

Next year the 51 operators plan to employ a total of 45 persons including full-time and part-time persons as hired hands but only one on the share plan basis. This would indicate little opportunity for employment on the share plan basis other than tenancy.

On the 51 farms there were available for work 57 persons in the category of family labor. These farms need 153 workers for the coming year. This gives a difference of 96 persons over and above family labor who are now, or will have to be, employed to conduct the farming operation during the coming year. Survey data indicate that operators desire to secure for hire 45 new or different persons on a part-time or full-time basis for the coming year.

Chapter IV

CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMS OFFERING OPPORTUNITY FOR ESTABLISHMENT IN FARMING

This chapter deals with the characteristics of farms offering opportunity for establishment in farming. Of the 51 farms in the study, there is a total of 22 farms offering employment.

Size of the Farms

Of the 51 farms included in the study, offering placement opportunity, there are 15 general farms averaging 103.4 acres per farm, four dairy farms averaging 170 acres per farm, and three beef farms averaging 600 acres per farm. With the exception of general type farms, these farms are characterized by a comparatively large acreage and therefore need more labor for production, especially during peak seasons.

Only one of the 51 farms is for sale. This is a general type farm consisting of 193 acres. There are no farms for rent. This indicates little turnover in farm ownership and management. This situation might be influenced by the high prices of farm commodities which enables the farmer to be more successful in the farming business.

It is very evident that the greatest number of opportunities for placement in farming exist in the cases of farm owners. In all categories, only four farms in the tenant - manager classification will need new persons for this crop year, yet in the average size of these farms are greater in acreage than the owner - operator classifications.

TABLE 11. - ACRES IN FARMS PROBABLY OFFERING PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Farms Reporting Acres		Farms for Sale			Farms for Rent			Farms Probably Employing New Persons		
	Number	Acres Per Farm	Number	Total Acres	Acres per Farm	Number	Total Acres	Acres per Farm	Number	Total Acres	Acres per Farm
GENERAL											
Owner and Part Owner	32	132	1	193	193	0	0	0	11	976	88.7
Tenant and Manager	5	220	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	575	144
Total General Farms	37	352	1	193	193	0	0	0	15	1551	103.4
DAIRY											
Owner and Part Owner	7	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	680	170
Tenant and Manager	3	266	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Farms	10	412	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	680	170
BEEF											
Owner and Part Owner	4	492	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1800	600
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	4	492	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1800	600

Types of Farms

Farms offering opportunities for workers are classified according to type and status of operator. There is a total of 22 farms of the 51 included in the study offering opportunity for placement.

The summarized data on Table 12 indicate that the 15 general type farms offer the greatest number of opportunities for employment. Fourteen of these farms offer employment for two hired hands, full-time and eight part-time. One general type farm offers employment for persons part-time on a share agreement basis.

Of the ten dairy type farms, four offer full-time work and two part-time work. There is no opportunity for employment on share agreement.

Three of the four beef farms in the study offer opportunity for hired hands part-time. There exists no opportunity for hired hands full-time on a share agreement basis.

Of the 22 farms indicating placement opportunities, four offer opportunities for hired hands full-time, seventeen for part-time work, and only one on a share agreement basis.

There is little opportunity for buying and renting a farm, as there is only one for sale and none for rent.

TABLE 12. - FARMS PROBABLY OFFERING PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Farms for Sale	Farms for Rent	Opportunities for Hired Hands			Opportunities for Share Agreement			Total Farms Offering Employment as Hands or Share Agreement	Total Farms In Study
			Full Time	Part Time	Total	Full Time	Part Time	Total		
GENERAL										
Owner and Part Owner	1	0	2	8	10	0	1	1	11	32
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	4	5
Total General Farms	1	0	2	12	14	0	1	1	15	37
DAIRY										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	0	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	0	4	10
BEEF										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	3	4

TABLE 13. - AGES OF ALL FARM OPERATORS AND OWNERS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Under 25 Years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 and over
	Number of Operators					
GENERAL						
Owner and Part Owner	0	1	1	4	4	1
Tenant and Manager	0	2	1	1	0	0
Total General Farms	0	3	2	5	4	1
DAIRY						
Owner and Part Owner	0	1	0	1	2	0
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Farms	0	1	0	1	2	0
BEEF						
Owner and Part Owner	0	1	0	1	1	0
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	1	0	1	1	0

Ages of Farm Operators and Owners

Of the 22 operators on farms offering opportunity for establishment in farming, eight have reached the age of 35 to 54 and seven were between 25 to 44, while no operators were younger than 25.

Fifteen of the 22 farm operators were found on the general type farms, four were located on dairy farms and three on beef cattle farms.

Summary of Chapter

This chapter gives the characteristics of farm operators and owners and farms offering opportunity for placement in farming. Of the 51 farms surveyed 22 offer opportunity for placement. The average farm acreage offering opportunity is comparatively large. General type farms were discovered to offer the greatest number of placement opportunities. The age groupings of owners and operators indicate the greatest number falling in and past the 45 year age group.

Chapter V

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENT OF NEW PERSONS FOR WHICH THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES

This chapter deals with the qualifications and requirements that farm operators feel should be met by persons they plan to employ, both as hired hands and share plan other than tenancy basis. Twenty-two farms in the study plan to hire a total of 45 workers.

Qualifications and requirements include preferred age, marital status, educational attainment and the amount of farm experience desired by the person to be employed. Included also is the approximate wage which operators are willing to pay workers.

Qualifications Required

Table 14 reveals that out of 22 farms probably employing new hands during the coming year, 15 were interested in applicants over 25 years of age.

Three of the four dairy farms were interested in personnel 25 to 35, while beef cattle farms were interested in employing workers between the ages of 21 and 34 years.

Many of the farm operators stated at the time the data were secured that they would prefer workers who would be over the present draft age of 26. Only one farm indicated vacancies for persons over 44 years of age; however, four general type farms had no preference as to age.

It would appear that the majority of the opportunities for employment and establishment on the 22 farms are for workers between the ages of 24 and 34. There exists little opportunity for men beyond the age of 35.

TABLE 14. - PREFERRED AGE OF NEW HANDS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	No Preference	High School Student	Under 21 Not in School	21-24 Years	25-34 Years	35-44 Years	45-54 Years	55 and Over	Total Operators Probably Employing Hands	Total Farms in Study
	Number of Farms									
GENERAL										
Owner and Part Owner	2	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	11	32
Tenant and Manager	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	5
Total General Farms	4	0	0	4	6	1	0	0	15	37
DAIRY										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	10
BEEF										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	4

TABLE 15. - MARITAL STATUS PREFERRED OF NEW HANDS WHO PROBABLY WILL BE EMPLOYED CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Single Hands Preferred		Married Hands Preferred		Total Farms Probably Employing Hands	Total Hands Probably To Be Employed	Total Farms In Study
	Number Farms	Number Hands	Number Farms	Number Hands			
GENERAL							
Owner and Part Owner	2	5	9	13	11	18	32
Tenant and Manager	3	5	1	2	4	7	5
Total General Farms	5	10	10	15	15	25	37
DAIRY							
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	3	11	4	11	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	0	0	3	11	4	11	10
BEEF							
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	3	9	3	9	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	0	3	9	3	9	4

Table 15 indicates that of 45 hands probably to be employed on the 22 farms, 35 are preferred by the farm operators to be married. Only 10 hands on five farms are preferred by the operator to be single. This is probably due to the fact that married men are normally considered more dependable and would be less likely to become engaged in the current defense program than single men.

All of the 10 single hands needed were desired by operators of general type farms. It is apparent that little opportunity exists for single workers to be employed on the farms studied.

Of the 22 indicating opportunity for employment of new hands for the coming year, the earning wages ranged from $3.50 to $5.00 or more per day. Only one operator offered a daily wage under $4.00. Fifteen operators indicated that they would pay $5.00 or more per day, while seven offered $4.00 to $4.99.

Although the majority of operators of the farms wishing to employ workers offered $5.00 or more per day, they were in doubt as to the availability of workers since the amount offered is considerably less than wages offered in nearby industries.

Table 16 indicates the approximate daily wages the operators will pay new employees.

TABLE 16. - APPROXIMATE DAILY WAGES OPERATOR WILL PAY NEW HANDS WHERE NO LIVING ESSENTIALS WILL BE PROVIDED CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Daily Wages				Total Farms Probably Employing Hands	Total Farms in Study
	$3.50 to 3.99	$4.00 to 4.49	$4.50 to 4.99	$5.00 or More		
	Number of Farms					
GENERAL						
Owner and Part Owner	0	2	3	6	11	32
Tenant and Manager	0	1	0	3	4	5
Total General Farms	0	3	3	9	15	37
DAIRY						
Owner and Part Owner	1	0	0	3	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	1	0	0	3	4	10
BEEF						
Owner and Part Owner	0	1	0	2	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	1	0	2	3	4

TABLE 17. - HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTATINMENT REQUIRED OF THE TENANT CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	No Requirement	Grade School		High School				Total Farms Employing Hands	Total Farms in Study
		Not Completed	Completed	Took Voc. Agri.	Other Courses	Graduated	Other Education		
	Number of Farms								
GENERAL									
Owner and Part Owner	2	6	3	0	0	0	0	11	32
Tenant and Manager	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	5
Total General Farms	4	8	3	0	0	0	0	15	37
DAIRY									
Owner and Part Owner	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	4	10
BEEF									
Owner and Part Owner	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4

TABLE 18. - PRACTICAL FARM EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OF NEW HANDS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	No Experience Required	General Farm Experience			Special Experience	Operators Probably Employing Hands	Total Farms in Study
		1-4 Years	5-9 Years	10 Years or Over			
	Number of Farms						
GENERAL							
Owner and Part Owner	3	8	0	0	0	11	32
Tenant and Manager	2	1	0	1	0	4	5
Total General Farms	5	9	0	1	0	15	37
DAIRY							
Owner and Part Owner	1	3	0	0	0	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	1	3	0	0	0	4	10
BEEF							
Owner and Part Owner	1	1	1	0	0	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	1	1	1	0	0	3	4

In regard to the educational attainment required of the new hands to be hired, eight of the farm operators indicated that no requirement would be made, while 12 operators required that the hands have at least attended grade school. Only two of the 22 farms employing workers indicated that the employee must have attended high school and to have taken vocational agriculture.

As mentioned before in this study, few of the present operators have attained education beyond grade school. Table 17 reveals that little stress is given to the amount of education of the hands to be hired.

Table 18 gives the amount of practical farm experience required of the new hands to be hired on the 22 farms offering opportunity for employment. Twenty of the 22 farms planning to employ new hands indicated that four years or less of practical farm experience would be required. Only one farm required as much as 10 years experience. Seven, or approximately one-third of all farms employing new hands required no previous farm experience.

Several of the farm operators wishing to employ hands stated that due to the nature of the work in which the new hands will be engaged, previous farm experience was not required.

From the information obtained it appears that operators will manage the farms, make all decisions, and depend upon hired hands for labor.

Finding New Hands

Thirteen of the 22 farm operators employing workers for the coming year stated that they have persons in mind. Four farm operators were interested in applicants now, and five indicated that they would be interested in applicants later.

Since over one-half of the farm operators wishing to employ new hands have persons in mind whom they might employ, it is probable that many of the operators plan to use labor available in or near the community. During the interview with farm operators, many of them disclosed that their labor shortage is somewhat met by the exchange of labor.

TABLE 19. - OPERATORS' COMMENTS CONCERNING FINDING NEW HANDS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Operator Has Person In Mind	Operator Interested In Applicants Now	Operator Interested In Applicants Later	Operator Not Interested In Applicants At Any Time	Other Comments	Total Farms Probably Employing Hands	Total Farms in Study
	Number						
GENERAL							
Owner and Part Owner	6	5	0	0	0	11	32
Tenant and Manager	3	0	1	0	0	4	5
Total General Farms	9	5	1	0	0	15	37
DAIRY							
Owner and Part Owner	2	0	2	0	0	4	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	2	0	2	0	0	4	10
BEEF							
Owner and Part Owner	2	0	1	0	0	3	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	2	0	1	0	0	3	4

Summary of Chapter

A majority of farm operators planning to hire new workers for the coming year stated that they prefer workers who would be over 26 years of age (the present draft age). There exists little opportunity for men beyond the age of 35. Because married men are less likely to be changing jobs frequently, most operators prefer them to single men.

The earning wage of $5.00 per day to be paid by a majority of operators is a much higher wage than those of farm workers of previous years but is low compared to wages paid by near-by industries.

There is little stress given to the amount of education, but most farmers prefer farm experience of 1 to 4 years for hands to be hired.

Over half of the operators wishing to employ new hands already have a knowledge of persons available, and in many cases have contacted them. An exchange of labor among farmers helps to cope with the problem of labor shortage.

Chapter VI

PROCEDURE FOR BECOMING ESTABLISHED IN FARMING

This chapter concerns the procedure followed by farm operators and owners for becoming established in farming on the 51 farms in the study located in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia.

The study indicates the nature of services rendered and the various agencies that have contributed toward the successful establishment of these operators and owners in farming.

TABLE 20. - AGENCIES ASSISTING FARMERS
IN BECOMING ESTABLISHED IN FARMING CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Farm Bureau	County Agent	Voc. Agri. Department	Soil Conservation Service	U. S. Forestry Service	Productive Marketing	Local Banks	Home Demonstration Agent	Home Economics Department	Federal Land Bank	Total Farms In Study
	Number of Farmers										
GENERAL											
Owner and Part Owner	9	18	25	7	2	3	12	16	12	4	32
Tenant and Manager	1	2	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	5
Total General Farms	10	20	29	7	2	3	13	17	13	4	37
DAIRY											
Owner and Part Owner	3	4	6	2	1	2	4	5	2	1	7
Tenant and Manager	2	3	3	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	3
Total Dairy Farms	5	7	9	4	2	4	7	7	3	2	10
BEEF											
Owner and Part Owner	4	4	4	2	0	2	1	1	1	2	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	4	4	4	2	0	2	1	1	1	2	4

TABLE 21. - METHOD OF ACQUIRING PRESENT FARMING STATUS

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Day Laborer	Share Cropper	Renter	Tenant	Manager	Farm Inherited	Purchased	Acquired by Marriage	Other	Total Farms in Study
	Number of Operators									
GENERAL										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	0	0	13	22	1	0	32
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Total General Farms	0	0	0	5	0	13	22	1	0	37
DAIRY										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	7
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	0	0	0	3	0	2	5	0	0	10
BEEF										
Owner and Part Owner	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	4

How Farmers Become Established

Of the thirty-two farmers classified as owner or part-owner on general type farms, 68 per cent purchased all or part of their farms, and 40 per cent inherited all or part of their farms. Only one farmer in the study acquired a farm by marriage. A total of 30 farmers or 69 per cent, of all owners and part-owners engaged in all types of farming represented in the study; namely, general, dairy, and beef, purchased either all or part of their farms.

As is evident by the large percentage of farms purchased, the greatest opportunity for a person wishing to become established in farming in this area is to purchase the farm.

TABLE 22. - FARMERS' COMMENTS CONCERNING TYPE OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF FARMING AND STATUS OF OPERATOR

Type of Farming and Status of Operator	Instructional	Advisory	Financial	Other	Total Farms in Study
	Number of Farms				
GENERAL					
Owner and Part Owner	14	28	23	0	32
Tenant and Manager	1	4	3	0	5
Total General Farms	15	32	26	0	37
DAIRY					
Owner and Part Owner	4	7	5	0	7
Tenant and Manager	3	3	3	0	3
Total Dairy Farms	7	10	8	0	10
BEEF					
Owner and Part Owner	4	4	4	0	4
Tenant and Manager	0	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Farms	4	4	4	0	4

Types of Services Rendered

The services rendered by Agencies assisting farm operators were instructional, advisory and financial. Of the fifty-one farm operators, 38 received financial assistance, 46 received advisory, and 26 instructional assistance.

The nature of assistance received by the greatest number of individuals was advisory, with financial assistance ranking second. However, while most agencies are in a position to offer advisory assistance, only a few of the agencies could render financial assistance.

There would also be certain times when all might be in need of advisory assistance while some farm operators may never be in need of financial assistance.

Summary of Chapter

From the tabulated data, it is apparent that farm operators in the Wytheville Magisterial District, use to a great extent the services of agencies serving this area.

The type of assistance rendered by the agencies were instructional, advisory and financial. The nature of service received by the greatest number of farm operators was advisory assistance with financial ranking second. The study indicates a large group receiving assistance which aids the operators in becoming established in farming.

It was found that the majority of the farm operators became established by purchasing all or part of their farms.

Chapter VII

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

General Information

This is a survey study of 51 farms in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia, to determine the approximate number of opportunities for placement and establishment of boys and men on farms, to learn what vacancies exist, to learn the qualifications desired in those who might fill the positions and to discover the agencies offering assistance to farm operators and the nature of services rendered.

Previous studies made in Virginia and Ohio reveal that the majority of former students of vocational agriculture do not become established in farming after leaving school. Since World War II, veterans in the Wytheville Magisterial District have encountered difficulty in locating suitable farming situations which would enable them to qualify for the Institutional On-Farm Training.

This study is limited to farms in the Wytheville Magisterial District receiving 51 per cent or more of their income from the farm.

Of the 185 farms in the district, 25 per cent were used for the study.

The primary emphasis is placed upon vacancies that exist at present or that probably will occur within the next 12 months, according to statements of the farm operators.

Conclusions

From the information gained from the 51 farms surveyed, the following conclusions are given:

1. A large percentage of farm owners or part-owners fall in the advanced age group.
2. There will exist opportunities for young men in farming as the advanced age group retires from farming.
3. The greatest number of opportunities exists on general type farms during 1951.
4. A total of 96 persons will be needed to conduct the farming business on the 51 farms surveyed, or 384 workers for the Wytheville Magisterial District since the farms surveyed represent only 25 per cent of the farms in the District.
5. Farm operators desire to hire 45 new hands, or a total of 180 in the district. The majority of these persons will be employed on a part-time basis.
6. Additional farm help is needed on farms during peak seasons, and these persons will be employed on a part-time basis.
7. Twenty persons will be employed full-time, and 156 persons will be employed part-time in the district during the 1951 farming season.
8. High prices farmers receive for farm commodities probably encourage farmers to continue in the farming business. This appears evident, since there will only be four farms for sale in the district (one farm for sale of the 25 per cent studied) and none for rent.

9. The acreage of the 22 farms in the study offering opportunity for placement of new workers is rather large and needs more labor for production, especially on general type farms during peak seasons.
10. The majority of the operators wishing to employ new hands were interested in employing married men over 26 years of age.
11. Operators wishing to employ new hands indicated that little emphasis would be given to the amount of education beyond the grade school.
12. The nature of the work to be performed on the farms employing new persons did not require in the majority of cases more than from one to four months of previous farm experience.
13. Locating new hands did not pose a serious problem, since many of the farmers already had contacted persons to be hired.
14. The labor shortage on some farms will continue to be met by the exchange of labor.
15. Agencies located in the Wytheville Magisterial District are used to a great extent by the farm operators.
16. Vocational Agriculture and the County Agent are used by more farmers than are other agencies.

Recommendations

1. The author believes that a similar study would be helpful to other teachers of vocational agriculture in Virginia if conducted in their farming communities.
2. It is recommended that another study be conducted in the Wytheville Magisterial District in the future, or perhaps in one or all of the other districts in Wythe County.
3. The author recommends the use of the findings in this study whenever possible in the counseling of young farmers and prospective farmers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express his appreciation to the members of his advisory council for their helpful suggestions and council. The guidance received by the adviser and staff members of the Department of Agricultural Education at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute is greatly appreciated.

To the fifty-one farmers in the Wytheville Magisterial District, Wythe County, Virginia, who cooperated by supplying the data needed for the study, the author is grateful.

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APPENDIX

SURVEY OF FARM PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WYTHEVILLE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT

1. Name of Farm Operator _____ 2. Date_____
3. Address of operator _____
4. Name of owner(s) _____
5. Address of owner(s) _____
6. Location of this farm _____
7. Total number of acres in the farm _____.
   (Includes acres owned, rented and managed. Also include all outlying or separate fields operated by the farm operator. Do not include land which is rented and/or managed by someone other than the operator named in question 1 at the top of the page.)
8. Total number of acres in crops _____
   (Include rotated pasture)
9. Status of the farm operator
   1. ( ) Owner of the entire farm operated.
   2. ( ) Part-owner of the farm (Operator owns farm or part of farm operated and farms additional land rented from or managed for others)
      ( ) Acres owned
      Give Numbers of Acres Owned by Operator and Number of Acres Rented from or Managed for others.
      ( ) Acres rented or managed.
   3. ( ) Tenant
      ( ) Manager
10. Type of farm
   1. ( ) General (Less than 40% of the income is from any one farm enterprise, or more than 40% each from each of two farm enterprises.)
   2. ( ) Cash: Grain and hay crops
   3. ( ) Fruit, truck, potatoes, or tobacco
   4. ( ) Poultry
   5. ( ) Dairy
   6. ( ) Animal specialty other than dairy -- Specify _____
   7. ( ) Part-Time (Operator gainfully employed more than 6 months annually at other work. Farm products worth less than $750 (gross) annually).
   8. ( ) Self-Sufficing (50% or more of the farm products consumed at home.) Operator not gainfully employed as much as 6 months annually at other work)
   9. ( ) Irregular (Special product other than those mentioned above: livestock dealer; more than 50% of the income from boarders or lodgers; public institutions; or country estates with expensive dwellings and small acreage)
      Specify _____

SECTION A

Information about the Owner and Tenant or Manager

Note: First: Owner--Check in column 1 the answers to questions 11-14 for the owner of the farm; whether he is the operator or not. If the owner is an institution such as a bank or insurance company draw two parrallel lines through the answer boxes, in column 1, for questions 11-14 inclusive. Second: Tenant or Manager--In column 2 check the answers to questions 11-14 for the tenant or manager, if any. If there is no tenant or manager draw two lines through the boxes, in column 2, for questions 11-14 inclusive.

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Owner, Part Owner, or Absentee Owner Column 1	Tenant or Manager Column 2

11. Age at last birthday
Check only one item in each column for each question.

1. ( )	1. ( ) Under 25
2. ( )	2. ( ) 25 to 34
3. ( )	3. ( ) 35 to 44
4. ( )	4. ( ) 45 to 54
5. ( )	5. ( ) 55 to 64
6. ( )	6. ( ) 65 and over

12. Sex and marital status

1. ( )	1. ( ) Male, Single
2. ( )	2. ( ) Male, Married
3. ( )	3. ( ) Male, Separated, Widower, or Divorced
4. ( )	4. ( ) Female, Single
5. ( )	5. ( ) Female, Married
6. ( )	6. ( ) Female, Separated, Widowed, or Divorced

13. Education
Check only Highest type of education attended or completed

1. ( )	1. ( ) Did not complete grade school
2. ( )	2. ( ) Completed eighth grade
3. ( )	3. ( ) Attended high school--Vocational Agriculture
4. ( )	4. ( ) Attended high school--Other course
5. ( )	5. ( ) Graduated high school--Vocational Agriculture
6. ( )	6. ( ) Graduated high school--Other course
7. ( )	7. ( ) Attended college of agriculture
8. ( )	8. ( ) Attended other college or university
9. ( )	9. ( ) Other education

14. Number of living children ( )

SECTION B

Information about Operator's Sons and Other Male Relatives, 14 years of Age or Older, Available for work on This Farm during the Next 12 Months.

Note: This section applies to the farm operator whose name is given in question 1 at the top of page 1. If the operator has no sons or other male relatives available for work on this farm draw a large X through this section. (Question 15-19 inclusive) and go on to Section C.

15. ( ) Number of sons and other male relatives in school, available for part-time-work during the next 12 months.
16. ( ) Number of sons and other male relatives out-of-school, available for full-time work.
17. ( ) Number of sons and other male relatives out-of-school, available for part-time work (1 to 11 months)
18. ( ) Total months of employment of out-of-school sons and other male relatives available part-time.
19. ( ) Total number of sons and other male relatives living at home who are now enrolled, or who have been enrolled in all day, part-time, or evening courses in vocational agriculture.

SECTION C

Male Persons Needed in Addition to the Operator to Operate This Farm during the Next 12 Months in Accordance with Present Plans. (Include Family and Other Male Labor)

Note: Give the amount of labor that the operator feels he could use to advantage. It may be more or less than the amount of male family labor available. Include any outside male persons needed as well as sons and other male relatives needed in addition to the operator.

20. ( ) Number of male persons in school needed part-time in addition to the operator.
21. ( ) Number of male persons out-of-school needed full time in addition to the operator.
22. ( ) Number of male persons out-of-school needed part-time in addition to the operator.
23. ( ) Total months of labor of out-of-school male persons needed part-time (1 to 11 Months) Example: (2 men for 3 months each, equals 6 months of employment)
24. Is any change planned in the farming program within the next 12 months that will probably require more or less male persons, either relatives or others, than were available during the last 12 months?
Check Only One Item
    1. ( ) The program will be expanded but the type of farming will not be changed.
    2. ( ) The program will be expanded and the type of farming will be changed. Specify _____
    3. ( ) The program will be decreased but the type of farming will not be changed.
    4. ( ) The program will be decreased and the type of farming will be changed. Specify _____
    5. ( ) Other change: Specify _____
    6. ( ) No change is planned in the farming program that will require more or less male help.
    7. ( ) Not ascertainable.
25. If any change is planned during the next 12 months that willprobably require employment of more or less male persons than were available during the past 12 months, or which will probably require different male persons, give any comments concerning the reason for this change.
(Check Only One Item or Draw an X through the Question if No Change is Planned)
    1. ( ) The operator wishes to retire.
    2. ( ) Less Labor will be available from sons or other male relatives.
    3. ( ) Present outside male persons are leaving.
    Present tenant, person(s) having share agreement other than tenancy, or hired hand(s). Underscore above which are leaving.
    4. ( ) Satisfactory male persons outside of the family cannot be secured as tenant, on a share basis other than tenancy; or as hired hands. Underscore which cannot be secured.
    5. ( ) More labor will be available from sons or other male relatives.
    6. ( ) Satisfactory male persons outside of the family will be available as tenant, on a share basis other than tenancy or as hired hand(s). Underscore which are available.
    7. ( ) Other comments: Specify _____
    8. ( ) Not ascertainable

SECTION D

Outside Male Persons Employed as Hired Hands during the Past 12 Months.

Note: If no male help outside the family was employed one month or more during the past year draw a large X through questions 26-28.

26. ( ) Number of outside male persons employed as hands full-time during the past 12 months.
27. ( ) Number of outside male persons employed as hands part-time during the past 12 months.
28. ( ) Total Months of employment of part-time outside male persons during the past 12 months. (Example: 2 men for 3 months each, equals 6 months of employment.

SECTION E

Additional Outside Male Persons Who Would Have Been Employed During the Past 12 Months if Available at Prevailing Wages.

Note: If no outside male help would have been employed, draw a large X through questions 29-31 inclusive.

29. ( ) Number of additional outside male persons who would have been employed full-time during the past 12 months.
30. ( ) Number of additional outside male persons who would have been employed part-time.
31. ( ) Total month of employment of additional outside male persons who would have been employed part-time (1 to 11 Months). During the past 12 months. (Example: 2 men for 3 months each, equals 6 months of employment.

SECTION F

Share Agreement Other than Tenancy with an Outside Male Person(s) During the Past 12 Months

Note: This section applies only to share agreements in which the operator retains considerable responsibility in the operation and management of the farm. If the operator has not had a share agreement during the past 12 months draw a large X through questions 36 to 38.

32. ( ) Number of outside male persons having full time agreement during the past 12 Months.
33. ( ) Number of outside male persons having part-time agreement of 1 to 11 months of employment during the past 12 months.
34. ( ) Total months of employment of outside male persons having part-time agreement of 1 to 11 months during the past 12 months. (Example: 2 men for 3 months each, equals 6 months of employment.)

SECTION G

Probable Sale or Tenancy Arrangement

35. Is the farm for sale now or will it probably be for sale within the next 12 months? Check only one item.

1. ( ) Yes
2. ( ) No
3. ( ) Doubtful
4. ( ) Not ascertainable

36. Is the farm for rent to a new tenant now or will it probably be for rent within the next 12 months to a new tenant outside of the owner's family?

Note: Check "Yes" only if the present operator will give up the operation and the major responsibility for the management of the farm to another person. Section F applies to share agreements other than tenancy. Check only one.

1. ( ) Yes
2. ( ) No
3. ( ) Doubtful
4. ( ) Not ascertainable.

Note: If the farm is not for rent to a new tenant and will probably not be for rent within the next year, draw a large X through the rest of this section (Questions 37-40).

37. If the farm is for rent to a new tenant or will probably be for rent within the next 12 months what will be the type of tenancy agreement? (Check only one item or draw X through rest of section if farm is not for rent)
    1. ( ) Cash (Equipment and livestock to be furnished by renter)
    2. ( ) Crop Share (Equipment and livestock to be furnished by renter)
    3. ( ) Livestock Share (Equipment to be furnished by renter and livestock to be owned jointly.)
    4. ( ) Present equipment and livestock to be furnished by the landlord.
    5. ( ) Other: Specify _____
    6. ( ) Doubtful
    7. ( ) Not ascertainable

38. Approximate total capital required of the prospective tenant including value of livestock and equipment, if any, but not household goods.
    ( ) Approximate capital.

39. Marital or family status required of new tenant:
    Check only one item.
    1. ( ) No requirement
    2. ( ) Married with at least one out-of-school son
    3. ( ) Married
    4. ( ) Single
    5. ( ) Other requirement: Specify _____
    6. ( ) Not ascertainable

40. What education will be required of the new tenant?
    1. ( ) No requirement
    2. ( ) Some grade school work
    3. ( ) Completed eighth grade
    4. ( ) Attended high school--Vocational Agriculture
    5. ( ) Graduated high school--Vocational Agriculture
    6. ( ) Attended high school--Other course
    7. ( ) Graduated high school--Other course
    8. ( ) Attended college of agriculture
    9. ( ) Other education: Specify _____
    10. ( ) Not ascertainable

SECTION H

Information About New Persons Who Will Probably Enter into a Share Agreement or Who Will Probably be Employed as Hired Hands by the Owner or Operator During the Next 12 Months.

Note: First: Check or write in column 1 the answers to questions 41-52 inclusive for person(s) making share agreement. If it is not probable that a share agreement will be made with a new person(s) during the next 12 months, draw two neat parallel lines through the answer boxes in column 1, for questions 41-52.

Second: In column 2 check or write the answers to questions 41-52 inclusive for the hired hands. If it is not probable that any hands will be hired during the next 12 months, draw two neat parallel lines through the answer boxes in column 2 for questions 41-52.

Third: If it is probable that no new agreement will be made and that no new hands will be hired during the next 12 months draw a large X through this section.

Share Agreement Column 1	Hired Hands Column 2	This section refers Only to Male Persons outside the family of the owner or Operator.
41.		Number of new persons who will probably enter full time agreement, or be hired as hands full time during the next 12 months.
( )	( )	
42.		Number of new persons who will probably enter part-time agreement, or be hired as hands part time during the next 12 months (1 month or more)
( )	( )	
43.		Total Months of employment of new persons who will probably enter part-time agreement, or be hired as hands part-time during the next 12 months. (1 month or more)
( )	( )	(Example: 2 persons for 3 months each, 6 months of employment.)
44.		Marital status preferred of new persons entering into share agreement or to be employed as hands during the next 12 months.
( )	( )	Number of single persons preferred. (If married men preferred write "none")
( )	( )	Number of married persons preferred. (If single men preferred write "none")
( )	( )	Not ascertainable
45.		Preferred age of new persons entering into share agreement or to be hired as hands during the next 12 months.
1. ( )	1. ( )	No requirement
2. ( )	2. ( )	High school student
3. ( )	3. ( )	Under 21 not in school
4. ( )	4. ( )	21 to 24
5. ( )	5. ( )	25 to 34
6. ( )	6. ( )	35 to 44
7. ( )	7. ( )	45 to 54
8. ( )	8. ( )	55 and over
9. ( )	9. ( )	Not ascertainable
46.		Practical farm experience beyond the age of 16 required of new persons.
1. ( )	1. ( )	None
2. ( )	2. ( )	1 to 4 years on general farm
3. ( )	3. ( )	5 to 9 years on general farm
4. ( )	4. ( )	10 or more years on general farm
5. ( )	5. ( )	Special experience, Specify _____
6. ( )	6. ( )	Not ascertainable
47.		Education required of new persons (Check only one item indicating highest type of education required.)
1. ( )	1. ( )	No requirement
2. ( )	2. ( )	Attended grade school
3. ( )	3. ( )	Completed eighth grade
4. ( )	4. ( )	Attended high school--Vocational Agriculture
5. ( )	5. ( )	Attended high school--Other course
6. ( )	6. ( )	Graduated high school--Vocational Agriculture
7. ( )	7. ( )	Graduated high school--Other course
8. ( )	8. ( )	Attended college of agriculture
9. ( )	9. ( )	Other education: Specify _____
10. ( )	10. ( )	Not ascertainable

Share Agreement Column I	:	Hired Hands Column 2

48. Living essentials that will probably be provided for new persons.

( )	: ( )	Number of persons for whom no living essentials will be provided.
( )	: ( )	Number of persons for whom board and room will be provided in the operator's home.
( )	: ( )	Number of persons for whom separate home will be provided.
( )	: ( )	Number of persons for whom some other plan will be used. Specify_____
( )	: ( )	No plan ascertainable

49. Approximate wage operator will pay hired hands (confidential)

: ( )	Per month in case room and board or separate home will be provided.
: ( )	Per day in case no living essentials will be provided.
: ( )	Not ascertainable

50. Information about probable type of share agreement with new persons.
(Check only one item, if different types will be used for different people indicate this on the back of this page.)

1. ( ) Share in the entire farm business and also receive stipulated wages. If operator cares to give approximate wages and share, state below. Wages per month _____Per day_____Share_____
2. ( ) Share in the entire farm business but receive no additional wages.
3. ( ) Share in all of the cash crops only. Specify crops _____
4. ( ) Share in some of the cash crops only. Specify crops _____
5. ( ) Share in all of the livestock enterprises only. Specify enterprises _____
6. ( ) Share in some of the livestock enterprises only. Specify enterprises _____
7. ( ) Other arrangements. Specify _____
8. ( ) Type of agreement not ascertainable.

51. Approximate total capital required of new person(s) entering share agreement including value of livestock and equipment, if any, but not household goods.
( ) Approximate capital
( ) Not ascertainable.

52. Comments concerning the finding of new persons for share agreements or for employment as hired hands.
Note: Interviewer should explain that this information is entirely confidential and that applicants will not be sent to the farm unless specifically requested.
(Check only one Item)

1. ( )	: ( )	Operator has persons in mind.
2. ( )	: ( )	Operator interested in applicants now.
3. ( )	: ( )	Operator probably interested in applicants later
4. ( )	: ( )	Operator not interested in applicants at any time
5. ( )	: ( )	Other comments: Specify _____
6. ( )	: ( )	Comments not ascertainable

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SECTION I

Information concerning assistance provided by agencies for establishment and advancement in farming in the Wytheville Magisterial District.

53. Which agencies have rendered assistance in becoming established in farming?
    1. ( ) Wythe County Farm Bureau.
    2. ( ) County Agricultural Agent.
    3. ( ) High School Department of Vocational Agriculture.
    4. ( ) Soil Conservation Service.
    5. ( ) U. S. Forestry Service
    6. ( ) Productive Marketing.
    7. ( ) Local Banks.
    8. ( ) Federal Housing Administration.
    9. ( ) Home Demonstration Agent.
    10. ( ) High School Home Economics Department.
    11. ( ) Federal Land Bank.
    12. ( ) Other: Specify _____
    13. ( ) Not ascertainable.

54. Check the type of service received.
    1. ( ) Financial.
    2. ( ) Instructional.
    3. ( ) Advisory Service
    4. ( ) Other: Specify _____
    5. ( ) Not ascertainable.

SECTION J

Information concerning how farmers become established in farming in the Wytheville Magisterial District.

55. Check the procedure followed in becoming established in farming.
    1. ( ) Day Laborer
    2. ( ) Share Cropper
    3. ( ) Renter
    4. ( ) Tenant
    5. ( ) Manager
    6. ( ) Farm Inherited
    7. ( ) Purchased
    8. ( ) Acquired by Marriage
    9. ( ) Other: Specify _____
    10. ( ) Not ascertainable