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To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting a thesis written by John David Todd entitled "The Attitude of Adult Farmers Toward Adult Education in Vocational Agriculture in the Eagleville School Area of Rutherford County, Tennessee." I recommend that it be accepted for nine quarter hours of credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Agricultural Education.

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THE ATTITUDE OF ADULT FARMERS TOWARD ADULT EDUCATION IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE EAGLEVILLE SCHOOL AREA OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

A THESIS

Submitted to
The Graduate Council
of
The University of Tennessee
in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the degree of
Master of Science

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by

John David Todd

August 1959

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This study was made possible by the interest and cooperation of many persons. The writer wishes to express his thanks to all of those who assisted in the progress of the study.

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND ITS DEFINITION

Statement of the Problem

The problem was to determine the attitude of adult farmers toward adult education in vocational agriculture in the Eagleville School area of Rutherford County, Tennessee.

For purposes of analysis the problem was divided into four sub-problems.

1. To determine the relationship of the farmers' status and background upon their attitude toward adult education in vocational agriculture.
2. To determine the reasons why the farmers did or did not attend adult classes.
3. To determine the attitude of farmers toward course content for the class, frequency of meeting, and season of the year to offer the classes.
4. To determine the relationship of the farmers' status, background, and attitude toward adult education upon the sources of information that they have used for changes and trends in agriculture.

Importance of Study

The writer of this study wished to know what the farmers in his community thought of the adult farmer program which he had conducted.

He also wished to know how his program compared with the other sources of information which the farmers had used in keeping abreast of the changes and trends in agriculture.

This study could be used in answering some questions which other vocational agriculture teachers might have concerning the value of adult classes. The results of this study should have some carry over between communities.

The results of this study could also be used as an effective public relations media. It should support the fact that the adult education program of the vocational agriculture teacher has contributed in a very important way in helping to meet the educational needs of the farmers.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

One hundred farmers living in the area that was served by the Eagleville School in Rutherford County were used in making this study. The one hundred farmers were divided into two groups. Forty of this number had attended or were attending adult classes at the time of this study. The other sixty had never attended adult classes.

This study was conducted to determine what the farmers thought of the adult farmer program. It was not a part of the study to determine the changes that the farmers might offer for improving the adult program. Although some indications for improvement could be derived from the results of the study.

There were a few limitations to the study. Colored farmers were excluded. Due to racial and social problems, they had no opportunity to avail themselves to the adult program of Eagleville School. The farm day-laborers and sharecroppers were also excluded. It was the writer's belief that since they had no managerial responsibility for the production of agricultural products, their attitudes would not be a true representation of the farmers in the community. Any educational program in that case should be confined to the persons who made the decisions.

Definition of Terms

Attitude. This term is very intangible. In this study it was used to refer to the thoughts and feelings which the farmers had toward the adult program of vocational agriculture.

Vocational Agriculture. This term was used to refer to agriculture that is taught in the public high schools under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917. It has been interpreted to include adults as well as high school boys.

Adult Farmer Class. In this study this term referred to a series of class meetings which were conducted for persons who were established in farming and were beyond the high school age. Twelve meetings are usually considered the minimum for one class.

Farmer. This title was given to persons whose work was devoted to producing agricultural products. It was also inclusive to those persons who make managerial decisions in helping to produce agricultural products.

Type of Farming. In this study this term referred to the degree of speciality which a farmer had toward any enterprise or groups of enterprises. If he had several enterprises with no particular one as a speciality, he was referred to as a "general farmer." If 50 per cent of his income came from a particular enterprise, he was referred to as that "type" of a farmer.

Other Types of Farming. This term was used in this study to classify the types of farming not included in the other types which are listed. In this study there were only two farmers not included in some of the more prominent types of farming. One was a vegetable farmer and the other had his land in the Soil Bank. These were classified as "other types of farming."

Part-Time Farmer. This term was used in this study to refer to those farmers who earn 50 per cent or more of their income from some source other than the farm or who are employed off the farm in excess of one hundred days per year.

Renter. This term in this study was applied to those farmers who did not own the land they farmed. They either pay cash rent or give the landowners part of the crop they produce for the use of the land.

Partnership-Owner. In this study this term was applied to the landowners who owned the land jointly with someone else. In some cases it was a family relationship where the only son farmed the land for aged parents. Although he had no deed, part of the farm was his because of relationship. This term did not apply to a husband and wife partnership.

Tenure Status. This term was interpreted in this study to refer to the manner in which a farmer held the land he farmed. He could have been a full owner, partnership owner, owner of some land and renter of additional acres, or a full renter of the land he farmed.

Number of Years Farming. This expression was used in this study to refer to the number of years that a person had spent in producing agricultural products. For the farmer who had farmed all his life, the number of years farming was calculated from the time he became mature enough to perform physical work and make some managerial decisions and was inclusive to the time that he could not work or ceased to make the decisions for the operation of the farm.

Current Agricultural Problems. In this study this term was used in referring to a course of study for an adult class. It referred to problems that might arise in any enterprise. It differed from a course of study where a class would be set up to study a complete enterprise regardless of current problems that would arise.

Government Policy. This term was used in referring to a course of study for an adult class. It was a study of programs, policies, or laws which were set up by the Federal Government and directly influenced the farmer. Examples of such policies would be the Soil Bank, Social Security Act, and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee's policies and programs.

Assumptions

The following assumptions were made:

1. The farmers who were interviewed would be sincere in answering all questions.
2. The farmers who were selected for this study represented a cross-section of the farmers in the community.
3. There would be a difference in attitude between the farmers who had attended adult classes and the ones who had not attended.

Method of Procedure

A master list of all the farmers owning farms in the Eagleville School Community was obtained from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Office. A committee who was familiar with the farmers and school area was appointed to help in screening the farmers. All colored, absentee owners, retired, or deceased farmers were excluded from the list. The farmers who farmed the absentee owners' land and new farmers in the community were added to the list.

The composite list contained one hundred and seventy farmers. This represented farmers who had attended and who had not attended adult classes. For comparison purposes these two groups of farmers were divided.

The list of farmers who had attended adult classes was obtained from the adult class roll of the classes that were in progress and from Evening School Reports found in the files of classes taught in prior years. There were forty-three farmers living in the school community

who had attended adult classes. That left one hundred and twenty-seven who had never attended such classes.

There were two communities in the over-all school community that had experienced an adult program particularly for that community. There had been eight classes conducted in one community and the writer organized the only class that the other community had experienced. The forty-three farmers that had attended adult classes came from both communities.

Forty farmers from the list of farmers that had attended adult classes were interviewed personally by the writer. In order to interview sixty farmers who had never attended adult classes, the list of one hundred and twenty-seven farmers was arranged alphabetically and every other name was checked. The farmers whose names were checked were interviewed personally by the writer. Except in a few cases, the farmers who were checked to be interviewed were interviewed.

The purpose and values of this study and the questions in doubt were explained to each farmer before he was interviewed. Cooperation was very satisfactory among the farmers.

The data were recorded and tabulated by the writer. The data are presented in tables and factual statements that follow in this study.

The list of farmers interviewed and the questionnaires asked the farmers are included in the Appendices.

Review of Related Studies

Anderson[1] made a study on 550 veterans from eleven states who were enrolled in the Veterans' Farm Training Program. More than 80 per cent of the veterans were of the opinion that the training they received contributed more than the subsistence payments toward their establishment and progress in farming. More than 50 per cent of the veterans indicated that they would continue such an educational program without pay if such a program was offered.

Carlton[2] surveyed eighty-five white farm operators. Three-fourths of the farmers reported they would attend adult classes if they were offered. Those farmers desiring to attend expressed a desire for training in a large number of areas. After four meetings were conducted at the local school, 35 per cent of those expressing a desire to attend actually had attended one or more classes. The farmers favored holding the meetings during the winter and fall months any time during the week, but preferred Monday night.

Those farmers indicating that they would not attend offered a variety of reasons for not attending. Among those reasons were: lack of interest, shortage of time, advanced age, and fatigue.

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[1] Willard Raymond Anderson, "Implications for Adult Education in Agriculture from Responses of Participants in the Veterans' Farm Training Program," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:3-4, 1953.

[2] Jean F. Carlton, "The Possibility of Adult Education in Agriculture at Southern High School, Lothian, Maryland," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:13, 1953.

Clark[3] found in his study that at least one-half of the adult class meetings should be over by Christmas time.

Guiler[4] surveyed seventy participating members of young and adult farmer groups. He found that 77 per cent of the farmers surveyed thought that better school relationship existed because of the adult program.

Mack[5] found in his study of eight hundred adults that interest in learning tended to decline after middle age.

Taylor[6] surveyed 110 agriculture teachers who had taught adults during the 1952-53 school year. Forty-four teachers of the group reported that the adult class determined the course of study. This method was used by eleven more teachers than any other method.

Bass[7] referred to five studies that were conducted in four states. These studies found that the proportion of adult farmers interested in

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[3]Loy R. Clark, "Developing a Procedure for Organizing an Adult Farmer Program at the Fredericktown High School," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:15, 1953.

[4]Gilbert Samuel Guiler, "An Evaluation of the Young and Adult Farmer Program at Canal Winchester," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:35, 1953.

[5]John Archibald Mack, "Determining Community Needs for Adult Education Based upon an Analysis of Educational Interest of Eight Hundred Adults in the Itchaca High School Area," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:55, 1953.

[6]Louis C. Taylor, "Evaluation of Adult Education in Vocational Agriculture During 1952-53," (Unpublished Master's Thesis, Department of Agricultural Education, The University of Tennessee, August, 1954) p. 45.

[7]B. C. Bass, "Adult Farmer Education," The Agricultural Education Magazine, 30:105, November, 1957.

attending adult farmer classes were: 63 per cent, 67 per cent, 70 per cent, 75 per cent and 73 per cent. Availability of services and facilities seemed to influence interest in farm mechanics. The farther from town the more interested were farmers in farm mechanics.

Bass[8] referred to some more studies that found that farmers living more than five miles from the meeting place of adult classes did not attend as regularly as members living nearer. Some more reasons for not attending adult classes were as follows: (1) lack of time, (2) off-farm work, (3) poor roads, (4) did not know the instruction was offered, (5) had never been invited.

Anderson[9] interviewed eighty-eight white farm operators. Seventy-three per cent of the farmers were interested in adult classes and supervisory farm visits, but there was evidence that farmers were not taking advantage of the educational services available to them. Their main source of agricultural information was other farmers.

Bretl[10] conducted a study by surveying 270 adult farmers and 182 young farmers. One of his findings was that 75 per cent of the adult classes should be conducted during the winter months.

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[8] Ibid., p. 106.

[9] Walter Herman Anderson, "Grouping Adult Farmers for Instruction Based on Interest and Participation," Summaries of Studies in Agricultural Education, Supplement 10:7, 1957.

[10] Gerald G. Bretl, "Methods and Practices Used in Obtaining and Maintaining Young and Adult Farmer Agricultural Evening Classes in Wisconsin," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 11:9-10, 1958.

Tabb[11] surveyed 250 vocational agriculture teachers in Kentucky. He concluded that interest in instruction in agriculture was affected by age. The highest interest age seemed to be between thirty-five and fifty-five.

Brandt[12] interviewed personally forty-four farmers and asked them to check the problems which they were interested in studying. The farmers were interested in those problems that pertained to the enterprises on their farms.

Hahn[13] made a study in Wisconsin where personal interviews were conducted in forty neighborhoods. He found that: (1) 77 per cent thought that adult classes would be of value, (2) 51 per cent said they would attend, (3) 21 per cent said they would attend if they were of interest, (4) 32 per cent had never attended an adult class.

Organization of Study

Chapter I introduces and defines the problem.

Chapter II includes the data showing the characteristics of the farmers which were included in this study. Characteristics such as:

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[11]W. R. Tabb, "A Study of the Need for Developing Adult Farmer Course Outline in Kentucky," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 9:74-75, 1956.

[12]Leo Stephens Brandt, "Developing an Adult Education Program in Agriculture for the Burlington Community," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 8:13, 1955.

[13]Howard Hahn, "Educational Attitudes of Adults in Rural Neighborhoods," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 8:38, 1955.

tenure status, age, type of farming, size of farm, and number of years farming were included in this chapter.

Chapter III showing the relationship of the farmers' status and background upon their attitude toward adult education.

Chapter IV includes the data and discussions of the reasons why the farmers did or did not attend adult classes.

Chapter V presents data showing the farmers' attitudes toward course content, frequency of class meetings, and the best season to offer the classes.

Chapter VI includes data and discussions of the sources of information which the farmers were using for changes and trends in agriculture.

Chapter VII includes a summary of the findings and implications of the study.

CHAPTER II

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARMERS INTERVIEWED IN THE EAGLEVILLE COMMUNITY

The purpose of this chapter is to show the characteristics of the one hundred farmers who were interviewed in 1958.

Tenure Status and Type of Farming

As shown in Table I, 40 per cent of the farmers were owners of the land they operated, 21 per cent were partnership owners, and 22 per cent owned some land but rented some additional land in order to carry on their farming operations. Only 17 per cent were complete renters of the land they farmed.

A further analysis of this table shows that general farming was the leading type in the community. Sixty-nine per cent of all the farmers were general farmers. Dairying was second with 16 per cent, and livestock was third with 7 per cent. Tobacco and poultry type farms each included 3 per cent of the total farmers.

More of the farmers were owners of the land they farmed than of any other tenure group. Twenty-eight of the sixty-nine general farmers were owners of their land. This represented 40.5 per cent of the total general farmers.

The dairy farmers who were owners of their land represented 31.2 per cent of the total dairy farmers. The owners of the livestock farmers represented 28.5 per cent of the total.

TABLE I

TENURE STATUS TO TYPE OF FARMING

Tenure Status		Types of Farming											
		General		Dairying		Livestock		Tobacco		Poultry		Others	
Types	No. of Farmers	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Full owner	40	28	40.5	5	31.2	2	28.5	2	66.7	2	66.7	1	50
Partnership owner	21	11	15.9	6	37.5	3	43			1	33.3		
Owner and renter	22	18	26.1	2	12.6	1	14.2					1	50
Renter	17	12	17.5	3	18.7	1	14.3	1	33.3				
Total no.	100	69	100	16	100	7	100	3	100	3	100	2	100

The partnership owners were represented more among the specialized farmers; such as, dairying and livestock. Forty-three per cent of the livestock farmers and 37.5 per cent of the dairy farmers were partnership owners.

The renters among all types of farming represented about the same percentage. The only important difference was the one tobacco farmer out of a total of three who was a renter.

Tenure Status of Part-Time and Full-Time Farmers

Table II shows a breakdown of the types of tenure status into part and full-time farmers. The number of full-time and part-time farmers among the full owners were divided equally, 50 per cent in each case. This does not hold true among any of the other types of tenure status. Eighty-eight per cent of the renters were full-time farmers, and only 12 per cent were part-time farmers.

The part-time farmers had more ownership of the land they farmed than the full-time farmers. Twenty of the twenty-nine part-time farmers were full owners of the land they farmed. This was 69 per cent of the total part-time farmers. Only twenty of the seventy-one full-time farmers were full owners of the land they farmed. This was only 42 per cent of the total full-time farmers.

TABLE II

TENURE STATUS ACCORDING TO PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME FARMERS

	Kind of Farmer					
	Full-Time		Part-Time		Total	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Full owner	20	50	20	50	40	100
Partnership owner	18	85.7	3	14.3	21	100
Owner and renter	18	82	4	18	22	100
Renter	15	88	2	12	17	100
Total	71		29		100	

Age of Farmer to Size of Farm

Table III shows how the age of the farmers compared to the size of their farm operation. Nine per cent of the farmers were between twenty and thirty years old. Four per cent were over seventy years of age. Twenty-one per cent of the farmers were over sixty years old. Seventy per cent of the farmers were between thirty and sixty years of age.

There were seven farms which represented 7 per cent of the total that were under fifty acres. Nine per cent of the farms were larger than five hundred acres. Forty-two per cent of the farms were between one hundred and two hundred acres. There were 24 per cent of the farms larger than three hundred acres, but only 18 per cent smaller than one hundred acres.

As shown in Table III there was not much relation between age of farmer and size of farm operation, except the older farmers were not operating the larger farms. There were only four farmers above sixty years of age operating farms larger than three hundred acres, but there were three farmers under thirty operating farms over five hundred acres. These three farmers under thirty years of age represented one-third of the total farmers operating farms over five hundred acres.

Age of Farmer and Tenure Status

An analysis of Table IV reveals that most of the owners were over forty years of age. Ninety per cent were over forty and 10 per cent were

TABLE III

AGE OF FARMERS TO SIZE
OF FARM OPERATED

Size of Farm		Age Range					
Range	No.	20-30 No.	30-40 No.	40-50 No.	50-60 No.	60-70 No.	Over 70 No.
Less 50 acres	7	1	2	1	1	2	0
50-100 acres	11	0	4	2	0	3	2
100-150 acres	20	1	4	6	6	3	0
150-200 acres	22	1	7	3	7	3	1
200-250 acres	8	1	2	1	3	1	0
250-300 acres	8	1	2	1	2	1	1
300-400 acres	10	1	4	2	2	1	0
400-500 acres	5	0	0	3	1	1	0
Over 500 acres	9	3	2	2	0	2	0
Total no.	100	9	27	21	22	17	4

TABLE IV

AGE OF FARMER IN RELATION
TO TENURE STATUS

Age		Tenure Status							
		Full Owner		Partnership Owner		Owner and Renter		Renter	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
20-30	9	0	0	4	19	3	13.6	2	11.7
30-40	27	4	10	11	52.3	8	36.4	4	23.8
40-50	21	10	25	1	4.7	5	23	5	29
50-60	22	12	30	2	9.7	6	27	2	11.7
60-70	17	10	25	3	14.3	0	0	4	23.8
Over 70	4	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	40	100	21	100.0	22	100.0	17	100.0

over seventy. All of the farmers over seventy were owners. Only four farmers over sixty years of age rented land, and they were full renters.

The younger farmers were primarily partnership owners or part owners. There were no farmers under thirty years of age who were full owners of the land they farmed. Nineteen per cent of the partnership owners were under thirty, and 52 per cent were between thirty and forty years of age. There were 14 per cent of the part owners under thirty and 36 per cent between thirty and forty years of age.

The renters were represented throughout most of the age ranges, with the exception of no renter being over seventy years of age. About 65 per cent of the renters were between thirty and sixty years of age.

Size of Farm and Tenure Status

Table V shows the size of the farms according to tenure status of the farmers. An analysis of this table shows that four out of the seven farms that were smaller than fifty acres were owned by the operator. About 15 per cent of the farms smaller than fifty acres were rented. The farms between fifty and one hundred acres had about a 64 per cent ownership, and only about 8 per cent were rented.

Very few of the larger farms were rented completely, neither were many owned by full owners. The farms over five hundred acres were 44 per cent partnership owned; and 23 per cent were owned with some of the land rented, although 33 per cent did have full owners. Sixty per cent of the farms between four hundred and five hundred acres were part owned and 20 per cent had partnership owners. There were no farms in this range which were completely owned.

TABLE V

SIZE OF FARM TO TENURE STATUS

Size of Farm	No.	Per Cent	Tenure Status: Full Owner No.	Full Owner Per Cent	Partnership Owner No.	Partnership Owner Per Cent	Owner and Renter No.	Owner and Renter Per Cent	Renter No.	Renter Per Cent
Less 50 acres	7	100	4	57	1	14.3	1	14.3	1	14.4
50-100 acres	11	100	7	63.6	3	29	0	0	1	7.4
100-150 acres	20	100	6	30	2	10	4	20	8	40
150-200 acres	22	100	10	45.4	2	9	7	31.8	3	13.8
200-250 acres	8	100	2	25	2	25	2	25	2	25
250-300 acres	8	100	5	62.5	3	37.5	0	0	0	0
300-400 acres	10	100	3	30	3	30	3	30	1	10
400-500 acres	5	100	0	0	1	20	3	60	1	20
Over 500 acres	9	100	3	33	4	44.4	2	22.6	0	0
Total	100		40		21		22		17	

The farms between one hundred and four hundred acres had no significant differences. In most cases more of them were owned fully than by any other method.

Size of Farm of Full and Part-Time Farmers

Table VI presents the size of the farms of the full and part-time farmers. An analysis of this table shows that the farmers who operated less than fifty acres were primarily part-time farmers, and the farmers who operated the larger acres were full-time farmers. There were seven farms of less than fifty acres. Six of these farms were operated by a part-time farmer. This represented 85.7 per cent. There were nine farms over five hundred acres. Seven of these were operated by full-time farmers. This represented 77.7 per cent. All five of the farms between four hundred and five hundred acres were operated by a full-time farmer. In most cases 75 per cent of the farms larger than one hundred acres were operated by full-time farmers.

Age of Farmer and Number of Years Farming

The data recorded in Table VII show the relation between the age of the farmer and the length of time that he has been farming. Most of the farmers in this study had been farming all of their lives. There were nine farmers between twenty and thirty years of age. Six or 66.7 per cent of those farmers had farmed between ten and twenty years. All of the farmers over seventy years of age had farmed over fifty years.

TABLE VI

SIZE OF THE FARMS OF THE PART AND FULL-TIME FARMERS

Size of Farm (Range)	Kind of Farmer				Total No.
	Part-Time		Full-Time		
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	
Less 50 acres	6	85.7	1	14.3	7
50-100 acres	4	36.3	7	63.7	11
100-150 acres	5	25	15	75	20
150-200 acres	5	22.7	17	77.3	22
200-250 acres	2	25	6	75	8
250-300 acres	3	37.5	5	62.5	8
300-400 acres	2	20	8	80	10
400-500 acres	0	0	5	100	5
Over 500 acres	2	22.3	7	77.7	9
Total no.	29		71		100

TABLE VII

AGE OF FARMERS IN RELATION TO
NUMBER OF YEARS FARMING

Number of Years Farming		Age (Range)											
		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		Over 70	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
1-10 years	10	3	33.3	6	22.2			1	4.6				
10-20 years	23	6	66.7	11	40	4	19	2	9.1				
20-30 years	20			10	37.8	7	33.3	2	9.1	1	5.9		
30-40 years	24					10	47.7	12	54.5	2	11.8		
40-50 years	15							5	22.7	10	58.8		
Over 50 years	8									4	23.5	4	100
Total	100	9	100	27		21	100	22	100	17	100	4	100

There were 58.8 per cent of the farmers between sixty and seventy that had farmed between forty and fifty years. The same situation that was described above existed in the other age ranges also.

Summary

The following conclusions can be reached from the findings presented in this chapter:

1. Sixty-nine per cent of the farmers interviewed were general farmers. Dairy farming was next in importance.
2. Seventy-one per cent of the farmers were full-time farmers.
3. Sixty-nine per cent of the part-time farmers were full owners of their land.
4. Seventy per cent of the farmers were between thirty and sixty years of age.
5. Ninety per cent of the farmers who had full ownership of their land were over forty years of age.
6. No farmer under thirty years of age had full ownership of all the land he farmed.
7. Forty-two per cent of the farms were between one hundred and two hundred acres in size.
8. Most of the farms of less than fifty acres were operated by part-time farmers.
9. A large percentage of the larger farms were either owned by partnership or part of the land was owned and the other was rented.

10. Most of the larger farms were operated by full-time farmers.

11. Most of the farmers had farmed all their lives.

CHAPTER III

THE RELATION OF THE FARMERS' STATUS AND BACKGROUND UPON THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD ADULT EDUCATION IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

The purpose of this chapter is to present and discuss the data which show how the farmers' status and background were related to their attitude toward adult education in vocational agriculture. Such factors of status and background as; type of farming, size of farm, tenure status, age of farmer, and participation in the adult program were used in determining the attitudes of the farmers.

Type of Farming

The data in Table VIII show how the type of farming carried on was associated with the number of classes that the farmers had attended. There was not much difference among the different types of farming with the farmers who had never attended adult classes. Forty-one or 59.4 per cent of the general farmers had never attended adult classes, ten or 62.5 per cent of the dairy farmers had never attended adult classes, and 57.1 per cent of the livestock farmers. About the same percentage held true with the tobacco and poultry farmers.

A further analysis of this table will show that the general farmers and the dairy farmers in some cases attended more different classes than the more specialized farmers. There were sixteen farmers who had attended one class. Eleven of those were general farmers, two

TABLE VIII

TYPE OF FARMING IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF CLASSES THE FARMERS HAD ATTENDED

Classes Attended		Types of Farming											
		General		Dairying		Livestock		Tobacco		Poultry		Others	
Number	Total	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
None	60	41	59.4	10	62.5	4	57.1	2	66.7	2	66.7	1	50
1	16	11	15.9	2	12.5	2	28.6	0	0	0	0	1	50
2	4	3	4.3	1	6.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	9	7	10.1	1	6.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	0	0
4	3	1	1.6	0	0	1	14.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0
5	2	2	2.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than 5	6	4	5.8	2	12.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	69	100	16	100	7	100	3	100	3	100	2	100

were dairy farmers, and two were livestock farmers. There were more general farmers in this study, but these figures represented 15.9 per cent of the general farmers, 12.5 per cent of the dairy farmers, and 28.6 per cent of the livestock farmers. There was only one livestock farmer who represented 14.3 per cent of the total that attended more than one adult class. Seven of the nine farmers who had attended three classes were general farmers. Four of the six farmers who had attended more than five classes were general farmers. The other two were dairy farmers. Three of the four who had attended two classes were general farmers. The other was a dairy farmer.

Table IX shows that there were twenty-eight general farmers who had attended adult classes, six dairy farmers, and only three livestock farmers. There was so much spread among the number of farmers under each type of farming that availed themselves of the classes that percentages would not be of much significance, but it can readily be seen that the general farmers took more advantage of the classes. The dairy farmers and the livestock farmers that attended the classes were more regular in attendance. About 67 per cent of the dairy and livestock farmers attended at least 75 per cent of the classes. Only 46.4 per cent of the general farmers attended 75 per cent of the classes.

Table X compares the type of farming to the farmers' desire to attend classes. Thirty-three or 82.5 per cent of the farmers who had attended adult classes expressed the desire to attend again. Fifteen per cent were undecided and one would not attend again. Among the three leading types of farming the general and dairy farmers were about equal

TABLE IX

TYPE OF FARMING IN RELATION TO THE REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE

Classes Attended			Type of Farming											
			General		Dairying		Livestock		Tobacco		Poultry		Others	
Percentage	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
80+	9	22.5	7	25	1	16.7	1	33.3	0		0		0	
75	10	40	6	21.4	3	50	1	33.3	0		0		0	
50	12	30	9	32.2	1	16.7	1	33.4	0		0		1	100
25	7	15.5	6	21.4	0	0	0	0	0		1	100	0	
25	2	5	0	0	1	16.6	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	
Total	40	100	28	100	6	100	3	100	1	100	1	100	1	100

TABLE X

COMPARISON OF THE TYPE OF FARMING TO
FARMERS' DESIRE TO ATTEND
ADULT CLASSES

Type of Farming		Had Attended Adult Classes								Had Not Attended Adult Classes							
		Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided		Total		Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided		Total	
Type	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
General	69	23	82.1	1	3.8	4	14.1	28	100	16	39	9	22	16	39	41	100
Dairying	16	5	83.3	0		1	16.7	6	100	6	60	2	20	2	20	10	100
Livestock	7	2	66.7	0		1	33.3	3	100	2	50	0		2	50	4	100
Tobacco	3	1	100	0		0		1	100	0		1	50	1	50	2	100
Poultry	3	1	100	0		0		1	100	1	50	1	50	0		2	100
Others	2	1	100	0		0		1	100	1	100	0		0		1	100
Total	100	33	82.5	1	2.5	6	15	40	100	26	43.3	13	21.7	21	35	60	100

in response to attend again. Twenty-three or 82 per cent of the general farmers and 83 per cent of the dairy farmers expressed such a desire. The only farmer who was not interested in attending was a general farmer.

Among the farmers who had never attended adult classes, twenty-six or 43 per cent said they would attend, twenty-one or 35 per cent were undecided and thirteen or 22 per cent would not attend. Among the three leading types of farming, 60 per cent of the dairy farmers expressed a desire to attend adult classes, 20 per cent were undecided, and 20 per cent were not interested. Fifty per cent of the livestock farmers indicated they would attend and 50 per cent said they would not. The most negative attitude was among the general farmers. Sixteen or 39 per cent said they would attend, 39 per cent were undecided, and 22 per cent were not interested.

Size of Farm

As shown in Table XI, 42 per cent of the farmers who attended adult classes farmed between one hundred and two hundred acres. As a group these farmers took more advantage of the adult classes. Forty-five per cent of the farmers who farmed between 100 and 150 acres and 59 per cent of the farmers who farmed between 150 and 200 acres did not attend any class. There were three or 13.6 per cent of the total in the latter group that attended over five classes. Only one farmer who farmed less than fifty acres attended over one class. Two farmers out of seven in this group attended only one class. The largest percentage of any size group that attended five or more classes was the group of

TABLE XI

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF ADULT CLASSES THE FARMERS HAD ATTENDED

Classes Attended		Size of Farms															
		Less 50 Acres		50-100 Acres		100-150 Acres		150-200 Acres		200-250 Acres		250-300 Acres		300-500 Acres		Over 500	
Number	Total	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
None	60	4	57.1	10	90	9	45	13	59	7	87.5	3	37.5	9	60	5	55.5
1	16	2	28.5	1	10	4	20	3	13.6	1	12.5	3	37.5	2	13.3		
2	4					4	20										
3	9	1	14.4			2	10	2	9			1	12.5	2	13.3	1	11.1
4	3					1	5	1	4.8					1	6.7		
5	2															2	22.2
Over 5	6							3	13.6			1	12.5	1	6.7	1	11.2
Total	100	7	100	11	100	20	100	22	100	8	100	8	100	15	100	9	100

farmers who farmed over five hundred acres. There were only nine farmers in this group, but one-third of the farmers attended five or more classes.

Farmers in the one hundred to two hundred acre group attended class more regularly (Table XII). Approximately 67 per cent of the farmers who attended over 80 per cent of the time were in the above group. Forty per cent of the farmers who attended 75 per cent of the time were in this group, and 58 per cent of the farmers who attended 50 per cent of the time were also in this group. The farmers in the smaller acreage groups and in the larger acreage groups attended less regularly. Only one farmer who farmed less than one hundred acres attended 80 per cent of the time; also no farmer who farmed over five hundred acres attended over 50 per cent of the classes.

Table XIII shows that within the group of farmers who had attended classes, the only difference in desire to attend was within the 100 to 150 acre group. Five or 45 per cent of this group expressed a desire to attend, and equal number was undecided, and one did not want to attend. The other acreage groups were practically unanimous in wanting to attend more classes.

Among the farmers who had never attended adult classes, the highest percentage among any group who would attend was in the three to four hundred acre group. Eighty per cent expressed that desire, but there were only five farms in this group. Thirteen farms were between 150 and 200 acres. About 62 per cent of the farmers in this group expressed the desire to attend adult classes. This represented the largest group of farmers who expressed the desire to attend an adult class.

TABLE XII

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE IN ADULT CLASSES

Size of Farm		Regularity of Attendance									
		80+		75		50		25		25-	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Less 50 acres	3					1	8.4	1	14.3	1	50
50-100 acres	1	1	11.1								
100-150 acres	11	3	33.3	1	10	5	41.6	1	14.3	1	50
150-200 acres	9	3	33.3	3	30	2	16.6	1	14.3		
200-250 acres	1			1	10						
250-300 acres	5	1	11.1	2	20	1	8.4	1	14.3		
300-400 acres	5	1	11.2	2	20	1	8.4	1	14.3		
400-500 acres	1			1	10						
Over 500 acres	5					2	16.6	2	28.5		
Total	40	9	100	10	100	12	100	7	100	2	100

TABLE XIII

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO THE FARMERS' DESIRE TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES

Size of Farm		Had Attended Adult Classes							
		Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided		Total	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Less 50 acres	7	3	100	0	0	0	0	3	100
50-100 acres	11	1	100	0	0	0	0	1	100
100-150 acres	20	5	45.5	1	9	5	45.5	11	100
150-200 acres	22	9	100	0	0	0	0	9	100
200-250 acres	8	1	100	0	0	0	0	1	100
250-300 acres	8	4	80	0	0	1	20	5	100
300-400 acres	10	5	100	0	0	0	0	5	100
400-500 acres	5	1	100	0	0	0	0	1	100
Over 500 acres	9	4	100	0	0	0	0	4	100
Total	100	33	82.5	1	2.5	6	15	40	100

TABLE XIII (continued)

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO THE FARMERS' DESIRE TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES

Size of Farm		Had Not Attended Adult Classes							
		Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided		Total	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Less 50 acres	7	1	25	1	25	2	50	4	100
50-100 acres	11	3	30	3	30	4	40	10	100
100-150 acres	20	5	55.6	1	11.1	3	33.3	9	100
150-200 acres	22	8	61.5	2	15.4	3	23.1	13	100
200-250 acres	8	2	28.5	1	14.5	4	57	7	100
250-300 acres	8	0	0	2	66.7	1	33.3	3	100
300-400 acres	10	4	80	0	0	1	20	5	100
400-500 acres	5	1	25	1	25	2	50	4	100
Over 500 acres	9	2	40	2	40	1	20	5	100
Total	100	26	43.3	13	21.7	21	35	60	100

Tenure Status

As shown in Table XIV, the farmers who owned part of the land they farmed and rented additional acres were least represented in adult classes. There were twenty-two farmers in this group and sixteen or 73 per cent had never attended adult classes. The other types of tenure status were about equal in the number of their group that had never attended adult classes. The renters were low with 53 per cent. Most of the renters who attended adult classes had attended only one class. This group represented about 24 per cent of all the renters. Only one renter had attended over three adult classes.

While very few part owners attended adult classes, they were the most regular group in attendance. All of the farmers in this group that attended adult classes were in attendance 75 per cent of the time (Table XV). The owners attended less regularly than any other group. There were about 30 per cent of this group that attended 25 per cent or less of the classes.

The data in Table XVI indicates that the tenure status of the farmers was associated with their desire to attend adult classes.

Among the farmers who had attended adult classes, the renters had the least desire to attend another adult class. Five or 62.5 per cent of those farmers said they would attend again, 25 per cent were undecided, and 12.5 per cent would not attend again. This compared to 82.5 per cent of all farmers, who had attended, who would attend again, and 2.5 per cent who would not attend again.

TABLE XIV

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF ADULT CLASSES THE FARMERS HAD ATTENDED

Tenure Status	Total		Number of Classes													
			None		1		2		3		4		5		Over 5	
Type	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Full owner	40	100	23	57.5	8	20	2	5	4	10	1	2.5			2	5
Partnership owner	21	100	12	57.1	3	14.3			1	4.8	2	9.5	2	9.5	1	4.8
Owner and renter	22	100	16	72.7	1	5			3	13.2					2	9.1
Renter	17	100	9	53	4	23.5	2	11.8	1	5.8					1	5.9
Total	100		60		16		4		9		3		2		6	

TABLE XV

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO THE REGULARITY
OF ATTENDANCE OF ADULT CLASSES

Tenure Status			Percentage of Classes Attended									
			80+		75		50		25		25-	
Type	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Full owner	17	100	4	23.5	3	17.6	5	29	3	17.6	2	12.3
Partnership owner	9	100	1	11.2	3	33.3	2	22.2	3	33.3		
Owner and renter	6	100	1	16.7	5	83.3	0					
Renter	8	100	3	37.5	0		4	50	1	12.5		
Total	40	100	9	22.5	11	27.5	11	27.5	7	17.5	2	5

TABLE XVI

COMPARISON OF TENURE STATUS TO THE FARMERS' DESIRE TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES

Tenure Status Type	No.	Had Attended Adult Classes: Would Attend Again No.	Per Cent	Would Not Attend Again No.	Per Cent	Undecided No.	Per Cent	Total No.	Per Cent	Had Not Attended Adult Classes: Would Attend No.	Per Cent	Would Not Attend No.	Per Cent	Undecided No.	Per Cent	Total No.	Per Cent
Full owner	40	13	76.4	0		4	23.6	17	100	6	26	10	43.4	7	30.6	23	100
Partnership owner	21	9	100	0		0		9	100	5	41.6	1	8.4	6	50	12	100
Owner and renter	22	6	100	0		0		6	100	10	62.5	2	12.5	4	25	16	100
Renter	17	5	62.5	1	12.5	2	25	8	100	5	55.5	0		4	44.5	9	100
Total	100	33	82.5	1	2.5	6	15	40	100	26	43.3	13	21.7	21	35	60	100

Among the farmers who had never attended an adult class, the full owners were least interested in the classes. Only 26 per cent would attend adult classes, 43.4 per cent would not, and 30.6 per cent were undecided. The owners and renters were the most favorable. Sixty-two and five-tenths per cent of this group would attend. This compared to 43.3 per cent of all farmers who had never attended, who would attend, and 21.7 per cent who would not attend.

Table XVII shows how the part and full-time farmers had participated in the adult program. There was no significant difference between the two groups. Among the farmers who had attended adult classes, 31 per cent of the part-time farmers and 33.8 per cent of the full-time farmers would attend again. This compared to 33 per cent of all the farmers that would attend. This relation held true in all cases except one. About 10 per cent of the part-time farmers who had attended were undecided about attending again. Only 4.2 per cent of the full-time farmers were undecided.

Age of Farmer

More of the farmers between forty and sixty years of age had attended adult classes than any other age range (Table XVIII). Fifty per cent of the farmers between fifty and sixty and 47.6 per cent of the farmers between forty and fifty had attended adult classes. Only 14.3 per cent of the farmers in the forty to fifty age range and 18 per cent in the fifty to sixty range had limited themselves to one class.

TABLE XVII

PARTICIPATION OF PART AND FULL-TIME FARMERS IN ADULT CLASSES

Type of Farming	Total		Had Attended						Had Not Attended					
			Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided		Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Part-time	29	100	9	31	0	0	3	10.3	7	24.1	4	14	6	20.6
Full-time	71	100	24	33.8	1	1.4	3	4.2	19	26.7	9	12.6	15	22.3
Total	100		33		1		6		26		13		21	

TABLE XVIII

AGE OF THE FARMERS IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF CLASSES THEY HAD ATTENDED

Classes Attended		Age Range											
		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		Over 70	
Number	Total	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
None	60	6	66.7	17	63	11	52.4	11	50	12	70	3	75
1	16	0	0	6	22.2	3	14.3	4	18.1	2	11.7	1	25
2	4	0	0	0	0	2	9.5	1	4.6	1	6.1	0	0
3	9	1	11.1	1	3.7	3	14.3	3	13.6	1	6.1	0	0
4	3	0	0	1	3.7	0	0	2	9.1	0	0	0	0
5	2	1	11.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6.1	0	0
More than 5	6	1	11.1	2	7.4	2	9.5	1	4.6	0	0	0	0
Total	100	9	100	27	100	21	100	22	100	17	100	4	100

The farmers over seventy years of age had attended least. Seventy-five per cent of those farmers had never attended an adult class. Seventy per cent of the farmers between sixty and seventy had never attended. The younger farmers ranked next in lack of participation in the adult program. Sixty-three per cent of the farmers between thirty and forty and about 67 per cent of the ones between twenty and thirty had never attended an adult class.

Data in Table XIX show the relation between age and regularity of attendance. An analysis of this data will show that the farmers in the thirty to forty age range attended a larger percentage of the classes than any other age group. Seventy per cent of the farmers in that age range attended at least 75 per cent of the class meetings. Out of the nine farmers who attended 80 per cent or more of the classes, four were between thirty and forty.

The next most regular in attendance were the farmers between fifty and sixty years of age. Seven out of eleven or 64 per cent of the farmers in that age range who attended adult classes attended 75 per cent of the meetings. Only one farmer over seventy attended adult classes, and he attended only 25 per cent of the meetings. There was only one farmer between twenty and thirty who attended classes, and he attended 75 per cent of the meetings.

Among the group of farmers who had attended adult classes, the expressed desire to attend another class began to decrease around forty years of age (Table XX). Only 60 per cent of the farmers who had attended adult classes expressed a desire to attend again. Approximately 80 per

TABLE XIX

AGE OF THE FARMERS IN RELATION TO THE REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE

Classes Attended		Age Range											
		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		Over 70	
Percentage	No. of Farmers	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
80+	9	0	0	4	40	1	16.7	3	27.2	1	20	0	0
75	10	1	33.3	3	30	1	16.8	4	36.3	1	20	0	0
50	12	1	33.3	1	10	4	33.3	3	27.2	3	60	0	0
25	7	1	33.4	2	20	2	16.6	1	9.3	0	0	1	100
25-	2	0	0	0	0	2	16.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40	3	100	10	100	12	100	11	100	5	100	1	100

TABLE XX

AGE OF FARMERS IN RELATION TO THEIR DESIRE
TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES

Age of Farmers		Had Attended Adult Classes								Had Not Attended Adult Classes							
		Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided		Total		Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided		Total	
Range	No.	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
20-30	9	3	100	0	0	0	0	3	100	3	50	0	0	3	50	6	100
30-40	27	10	100	0	0	0	0	10	100	10	58.8	2	11.8	5	29.4	17	100
40-50	21	6	60	0	0	4	40	10	100	6	54.5	3	27.2	2	18.3	11	100
50-60	22	9	81.8	0	0	2	18.2	11	100	3	27.2	3	27.2	5	45.6	11	100
60-70	17	4	80	1	20	0	0	5	100	4	33.3	3	25	5	41.7	12	100
Over 70	4	1	100	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	2	66.7	1	33.3	3	100
Total	100	33	82.5	1	2.5	6	15	40	100	26	43.3	13	21.7	21	35	60	100

cent of those over fifty said they would like to attend another class. This compared to 100 per cent of the farmers under forty who expressed a desire to attend adult classes.

Among the farmers who had not attended adult classes, the percentage who desired to attend was somewhat lower than in the former case. There were about 50 per cent of the farmers under fifty who desired to attend. Beyond fifty years of age the desire to attend decreased greatly. Only 27.2 per cent of the farmers between fifty and sixty and 33.3 per cent of the ones between sixty and seventy expressed the desire to attend adult classes.

The findings in this study agreed with the findings of Mack.[1] His study found that the desire to learn declined after middle age.

Participation in Adult Classes

As shown in Table XXI, fifty-nine farmers said they would attend an adult class, but only twenty-three attended the last class that was offered. This represented 39 per cent of the ones who said they would attend. None of the farmers who were undecided attended the last class that was offered.

Carlton's[2] study found that 35 per cent of the farmers who expressed a desire to attend adult classes actually attended at least

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[1]John Archibald Mack, "Determining Community Needs for Adult Education Based upon an Analysis of Educational Interest of Eight Hundred Adults in the Itchaca High School Area," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:55, 1953.

[2]Jean F. Carlton, "The Possibility of Adult Education in Agriculture at Southern High School, Lothian, Maryland," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:13, 1953.

TABLE XXI

ATTENDANCE RECORD IN RELATION TO THE FARMERS' DESIRE TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES

Attendance in Last Class Offered	Desire to Attend: Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided		Total	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Expressed desire to attend	59	100	14	100	27	100	100	100
Did attend	23	39	0	0	0	0	23	23
Did not attend	36	61	14	100	27	100	77	77

one of the class meetings when the class was offered. There was not much difference between the findings of the two studies.

Table XXII presents data showing how the regularity of attendance related to the desire to attend adult classes. Only one farmer who had attended more than 75 per cent of the time was undecided about attending again.

Table XXIII shows how the desire to attend more adult classes related to the number of classes the farmers had attended. There was no doubt from the farmers who had attended five or more classes. They were 100 per cent in agreement to attend again.

Summary

1. The general farmers attended more adult classes than the specialized farmers. The only exception was the dairy farmer.
2. The farmers who farmed between one hundred and two hundred acres took more advantage of the adult classes than any other acreage group.
3. The renters had the least desire to attend adult classes.
4. The farmers who owned part of the land they farmed and rented some additional land had attended fewer adult classes, but the ones who attended were more regular in attendance than any other group.
5. The full owners who had never attended adult classes were not as favorable as the other tenure groups in attending adult classes.

TABLE XXII

REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO THE DESIRE TO ATTEND FUTURE CLASSES

Regularity of Attendance Percentage	Total		Desire to Attend: Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
80+	9	100	8	88.8			1	11.2
75	10	100	10	100	0		0	
50	12	100	8	66.7	1	8.3	3	25
25	7	100	6	85.7			1	14.3
25-	2	100	1	50			1	50
Total	40		33		1		6	

TABLE XXIII

RELATION OF THE NUMBER OF CLASSES ATTENDED TO THE DESIRE TO ATTEND FUTURE CLASSES

Number of Classes Attended	Total		Desire to Attend					
			Would Attend Again		Would Not Attend Again		Undecided	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
1	16	100	14	87.5	1	6.2	1	6.3
2	4	100	1	25	0	0	3	75
3	9	100	8	88.8	0		1	11.1
4	3	100	2	66.7	0		1	33.3
5	2	100	2	100				
More than 5	6	100	6	100				

6. More of the part-time farmers than the full-time farmers who had attended adult classes were undecided in attending adult classes.

7. Thirty-three of the forty farmers who had attended adult classes were favorable toward attending again. Twenty-six of the sixty who had never attended were also favorable toward attending.

8. The farmers between forty and sixty were enrolled in more adult classes than any other age group.

9. The desire to attend adult classes tended to decrease after forty to fifty years of age.

10. The farmers who attended the most classes with the best regularity were more favorable than the other farmers toward attending more classes.

11. Only 39 per cent of the farmers who were favorable toward attending adult classes attended the last class that was offered.

CHAPTER IV

REASONS FOR ATTENDING OR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES

Reasons for Attending

As shown in Table XXIV, thirty-five of the forty farmers listed that they attended because they enjoyed the social "get together" of the classes. This reason was checked by more of the farmers than any other one. Thirty of the forty farmers listed the following reasons for attending adult classes: attended because they gained knowledge that helped them solve problems in their farming program, attended because they gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers, and attended because it helped create better community school relationship. Twenty-eight of the forty listed that they attended to help out the teacher, and twenty-three attended because they were invited.

A further analysis of this table will show the reasons given according to tenure status. There were several reasons given by farmers under each of the tenure status, but the farmers who were part owners and the partnership owners listed more reasons for attending than the other farmers. There were seven reasons that could have been listed. The part owners listed an average of six reasons, and the partnership owners listed an average of five and four-tenths. The full owners only listed an average of four and six-tenths reasons per farmer.

Among the farmers who were interviewed, age did not appear to have much relation to the reasons for attending adult classes (Table XXV).

TABLE XXIV

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Tenure Status			
		Full Owner	Partner-ship Owner	Owner and Renter	Renter
		No.	No.	No.	No.
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	10	6	6	6
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming programs	30	10	6	6	8
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	11	9	4	6
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	15	9	5	6
Attended to help out the teacher	28	13	7	4	4
Attended because they were invited	23	9	6	5	3
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	12	6	6	6
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	17	9	6	8
Average number of reasons given per farmer		4.6	5.4	6	4.8

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

TABLE XXV

AGE OF FARMERS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Age of Farmers					
		20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	Over 70
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	2	6	7	9	4	
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming programs	30	1	9	7	9	4	
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	3	8	6	7	5	1
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	3	10	7	9	5	1
Attended to help out the teacher	28	2	6	7	9	3	1
Attended because they were invited	23	3	6	5	5	3	1
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	2	7	8	8	4	1
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	3	10	10	11	5	1
Average number of reasons given per farmer		5	5.3	5.2	4.7	5	5.6

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

Farmers among all the ages attended for nearly the same reasons.

According to Table XXVI farmers from the three leading types of farming: general, dairying, and livestock listed more reasons for attending than the other farmers. The general and the dairy farmers gave an average of five reasons, and the livestock farmers six reasons for attending adult classes. This compared to only four reasons for the tobacco and poultry farmers.

The general, dairy, and livestock farmers listed a desire for information as a reason for attending. Twenty-three of the twenty-eight general farmers, four of the six dairy farmers, and two of the three livestock farmers attended in order to gain knowledge to help solve problems. Only one of the other three farmers listed that as a reason for attending.

Farmers who farmed smaller acres listed fewer reasons for attending than the larger farm operators (Table XXVII). The farmers who operated less than fifty acres only listed two and seven-tenths reasons per farmer for attending adult classes. This compared to six and two-tenths reasons per farmer for the farmers who operated over four hundred acres. With the exception of the one farmer, the reasons per farmer averaged less than four and five-tenths for the farmers who operated less than 150 acres.

Not much relationship was evident between the number of classes attended and the reasons listed for attending (Table XXVIII). There is more relationship between regularity of attendance and reasons for attending than there is between the number of classes attended. This is shown in Table XXIX.

TABLE XXVI

TYPE OF FARMING IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Type of Farming					
		General	Dairying	Livestock	Tobacco	Poultry	Others
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	21	3	2	1	1	
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming programs	30	23	4	2		1	
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	21	5	3		1	
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	24	5	3	1	1	1
Attended to help out the agriculture teacher	28	19	5	3	1		
Attended because they were invited	23	15	5	3			
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	23	3	3	1		
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	28	6	3	1	1	1
Average number of reasons given per farmer		5.2	5	6.3	4	4	1

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

TABLE XXVII

SIZE OF FARMS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Size of Farm: Less 50 Acres	50-100 Acres	100-150 Acres	150-200 Acres	200-250 Acres	250-300 Acres	300-400 Acres	Over 400 Acres
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	1	1	8	8		1	4	5
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming programs	30	1	1	9	9	1	2	3	4
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	0	1	6	8	1	5	4	5
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	3	1	7	8	1	5	5	5
Attended to help out the teacher	28	1	1	7	6	1	5	3	4
Attended because they were invited	23		1	5	7	1	4	2	3
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	2	1	7	7	1	3	4	5
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	2	1	11	9	1	5	5	5
Average number of reasons given per farmer		2.7	7	4.4	5.9	6	5	5	6.2

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

TABLE XXVIII

THE RELATION OF THE NUMBER OF CLASSES ENROLLED IN TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Number of Classes Enrolled In					
		1	2	3	4	5	5+
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	8	3	8	3	2	4
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming programs	30	12	3	5	3	1	6
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	11	3	7	2	2	6
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	14	2	8	3	2	6
Attended to help out the agriculture teacher	28	11	2	9	2	1	3
Attended because they were invited	23	11	2	4	1	1	4
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	14	1	8	1	2	4
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	16	4	9	3	2	6
Average number of reasons given per farmer		6.0	5.0	6.4	6.0	6.5	6.5

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

The farmers who attended 80 per cent or more of the meetings gave an average of six reasons per farmer for attending classes. This compared to only three reasons per farmer for the farmers who attended less than 25 per cent of the meetings. A further analysis of Table XXIX will show that all nine of the farmers who attended 80 per cent of the meetings attended to gain knowledge to help solve problems in their farming programs.

Reasons for Not Attending

The reason that more of the farmers gave for not attending was, "never been invited" (Table XXX). Seventeen of the sixty farmers gave this as their reason. Sixteen farmers said they were too busy, and fifteen of the sixty did not know the classes were offered. Thirteen farmers said they could not leave home at night because of their family. Only three of the sixty said that they were not interested, and two claimed that the classes interfered with other activities.

A further analysis shows how tenure status related to the reasons given for not attending. Fifteen farmers said that they did not know the classes were offered. Forty per cent of the farmers who gave this as a reason were partnership owners. Seventeen farmers gave the reason of not being invited, and 41 per cent of the ones who used that reason were renters. Thirteen farmers said they could not leave home at night because of their family, and 38.4 per cent of those were owners. All seven of the farmers who used poor health as a reason were owners. The three who were not interested were also owners. Three farmers used the

TABLE XXIX

REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total No.	Per Cent of Classes Attended				
		80+	75	50	25	25-
Helped locate problems in farming programs	28	8	6	8	5	1
Gained knowledge that helped solve problems in farming program	30	9	7	9	5	0
Gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers	30	7	8	9	6	0
Enjoyed the social "get-together"	35	8	9	11	6	1
Attended to help out the teacher	28	7	9	7	3	2
Attended because they were invited	23	7	8	5	2	1
Helped create better community-school relationship	30	8	8	8	5	1
Total number of farmers interviewed	40	9	10	12	7	2
Average number of reasons given per farmer		6	5.5	4.7	4.5	3

*The farmers could list more than one reason for attending.

TABLE XXX

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total		Tenure Status							
			Full Owner		Partnership Owner		Owner and Renter		Renter	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Did not know that classes were offered	15	100	1	6.7	6	40	3	20	5	33.3
Never been invited to attend	17	100	4	23.5	4	23.5	2	11.9	7	41.1
Too busy	16	100	3	18.7	3	18.7	9	56.2	1	6.4
Cannot leave home at night because of family reasons	13	100	5	38.4	4	30.7	3	23	1	7.9
Health would not permit	7	100	7	100						
Plan to quit farming	1	100	1	100						
Did not think they could profit from instruction	3	100	2	66.7	1	33.3				

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXX (continued)

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total		Tenure Status							
			Full Owner		Partnership Owner		Owner and Renter		Renter	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Not interested	3	100	3	100						
Make use of other sources for changes in agriculture	3	100	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.4		
Neglected to attend	3	100			3	100				
Classes competed with TV and other activities	2	100	1	50					1	50
Total farmers	60		23		12		16		9	

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

reason of neglecting to attend and all three were part owners.

According to Table XXXI, only one farmer who farmed less than one hundred acres claimed he was too busy to attend adult classes. Seven farmers or 44 per cent of the ones using this as a reason farmed between 150 and 250 acres. Seven farmers said their health would not permit them to attend, and three or 43 per cent of the farmers who used that reason operated from fifty to one hundred acres. Three farmers did not think they could profit from the instruction offered. Two of those three operated less than fifty acres. Three farmers said they were not interested, and two of those three operated over four hundred acres.

Table XXXII compares the type of farming to the reasons given for not attending adult classes. There appears to be very little or no significance to the association of these variables. But there were a few reasons which were more prevalent among the "general farmers" than any other type of farming. Eleven or 84.6 per cent of the farmers who could not leave home at night because of their families were general farmers. Seven farmers used poor health as a reason. Six of those seven were general farmers. All three of the farmers not interested in the classes were general farmers, and all three of the farmers who neglected to attend were also general farmers.

There were fifteen farmers who did not know the classes were offered. Seven of that number were between thirty and forty years of age. Seven or 44 per cent of the farmers who used the reason of being too busy were between thirty and forty years of age (Table XXXIII). All of the farmers who used the reason of poor health were over sixty years

TABLE XXXI

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total		Size of Farms													
			Less 50 Acres		50-100 Acres		100-150 Acres		150-200 Acres		200-250 Acres		250-300 Acres		300-400 Acres		Over 400 Acres	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Did not know that classes were offered	15	100	1	6.7	4	26.6	2	13.3	3	20	1	6.7			1	6.7	3	20
Never been invited to attend	17	100	2	11.7	4	23.5	2	11.7	3	17.6	2	11.8			1	6	3	17.7
Too busy	16	100			1	6.3	3	18.7	5	31.2	2	12.5	1	6.3	3	18.7	1	6.3
Cannot leave home at night because of family reasons	13	100			2	15.3	4	30.7	1	7.9	1	7.8	2	15.3			3	23
Health would not permit	7	100			3	42.8			2	28.5	1	14.3	1	14.4				
Plan to quit farming	1	100							1	100								

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXXI (continued)

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	Total		Less 50 Acres		50-100 Acres		100-150 Acres		150-200 Acres		200-250 Acres		250-300 Acres		300-400 Acres		Over 400 Acres	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Did not think they could profit from instruction	3	100	2	66.7											1	33.3		
Not interested	3	100									1	33.3					2	66.7
Make use of other sources for changes in agriculture	3	100			1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.4								
Classes competed with TV and other activities	2	100			1	50	1	50										
Neglected to attend	3	100							1	33.3	1	33.3					1	33.4
Total farmers	60		4		10		9		13		7		3		5		9	

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXXII

TYPE OF FARMING IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	No.	Per Cent	Type of Farming: General No.	General Per Cent	Dairying No.	Dairying Per Cent	Livestock No.	Livestock Per Cent	Tabacco No.	Tabacco Per Cent	Poultry No.	Poultry Per Cent	Others No.	Others Per Cent
Did not know that classes were offered	15	100	7	46.6	4	26.6	3	20					1	6.8
Never been invited to attend	17	100	9	53	3	17.6	2	11.7	1	5.9	1	5.9	1	5.9
Too busy	16	100	10	62.5	3	18.7					2	12.5	1	6.3
Cannot leave home at night because of family reasons	13	100	11	84.6	1	7.7					1	7.7		
Health would not permit	7	100	6	85.7	1	14.9								
Plan to quit farming	1	100	1	100										
Did not think they could profit from instruction	3	100	1	33.3			1	33.3	1	33.4				
Not interested	3	100	3	100										

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXXII (continued)

TYPE OF FARMING IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

Reasons Given	No.	Per Cent	Type of Farming: General No.	General Per Cent	Dairying No.	Dairying Per Cent	Livestock No.	Livestock Per Cent	Tobacco No.	Tobacco Per Cent	Poultry No.	Poultry Per Cent	Others No.	Others Per Cent
Make use of other sources for changes in agriculture	3	100	2	66.7	1	33.3								
Neglected to attend	3	100	3	100										
Classes competed with TV and other activities	2	100	2	100										
Total farmers	60		41		10		4		2		2		1	

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXXIII

AGE OF FARMERS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

	Total		Age of Farmers											
			20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		Over 70	
Reasons Given	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Did not know that classes were offered	15	100	1	6.8	7	46.6	2	13.3	2	13.3	3	20		
Never been invited to attend	17	100	1	6	5	29.4	3	17.6	3	17.6	5	29.4		
Too busy	16	100	1	6.3	7	43.7	4	25	4	25				
Cannot leave home at night because of family reasons	13	100	1	7.8	1	7.8	2	15.3	4	30.7	3	23	2	15.4
Health would not permit	7	100									4	57.1	3	42.9
Plan to quit farming	1	100							1	100				
Did not think they could profit from instruction	3	100	1	33.3					1	33.3	1	33.4		

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

TABLE XXXIII (continued)

AGE OF FARMERS IN RELATION TO THE REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES*

	Total		Age of Farmers											
			20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		Over 70	
Reasons Given	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Not interested	3	100							1	33.3	1	33.4		
Make use of other sources for changes in agriculture	3	100			3	100								
Classes competed with TV and other activities	2	100	1	50			1	30						
Neglected to attend	3	100	1	33.3			1	33.3	1	33.4				
Total farmers	60		6		17		11		11		12		3	

*The farmers could list more than one reason.

of age. Three farmers claimed that they had some source other than adult classes for keeping abreast in agriculture. All three of those were between thirty and forty years of age.

Summary

1. The reason used by more of the farmers for attending adult classes was that they enjoyed the social "get together" of the classes.
2. Some more reasons which were given by a large percentage of the farmers were: attended because they gained knowledge that helped them solve problems in their farming program, attended because they gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers, and attended because it helped create better community-school relationship.
3. The partnership owners and the part owners listed more reasons for attending than any other tenure group.
4. The larger farm operators gave more reasons for attending adult classes than the smaller operators.
5. The farmers who attended more regularly also listed more reasons for attending than the ones who attended less frequently.
6. The following reasons were listed by more farmers for not attending adult classes: never been invited, too busy, did not know the classes were offered, cannot leave home at night because of family reasons.

7. More of the renters used the reason of "not being invited" as their reason for not attending adult classes.
8. A large percentage of the farmers who claimed they were too busy to attend adult classes farmed between 150 and 250 acres. Most of those farmers were between thirty and fifty years of age.
9. All of the farmers who used "poor health" as a reason were over sixty years of age.

CHAPTER V

THE ATTITUDES OF THE FARMERS TOWARD COURSE CONTENT, FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS, AND SEASONS OF THE YEAR FOR THE CLASSES

Course of Study

All of the farmers, even the ones who did not express an interest to attend adult classes, listed the subjects which they thought should be emphasized in adult classes. An analysis of their indicated preferences shows that eighty-three of the one hundred farmers thought that livestock production should be emphasized (Table XXXIV). Fifty-six thought that crop production should be emphasized, and forty-seven included soil conservation. Current agricultural problems and farm management were included by forty-five farmers, and thirty-six listed farm mechanics. Only twenty-five of the one hundred expressed the desire to study government policies.

It was quite evident that the farmers' choice of course content was closely related to their type of farming (Table XXXIV). The farmers all wanted to study a wide variety of subjects. It could be noted that all the tobacco farmers listed crop production, and all the livestock farmers listed livestock production. These farmers also listed other subjects, but not as many as the other farmers. The livestock farmers only averaged two and seven-tenths subjects per farmer, and the tobacco farmers three and three-tenths subjects per farmer.

TABLE XXXIV

THE RELATION OF TYPE OF FARMING TO THE FARMERS' CHOICE OF COURSE CONTENT FOR THE CLASSES*

Course Content	Number	Type of Farming: General No.	Dairying No.	Livestock No.	Tobacco No.	Poultry No.	Others No.
Current agricultural problems	42	31	6	2	1	2	0
Livestock or livestock products' production	83	56	13	7	2	3	2
Crop production	56	36	9	4	3	3	1
Soil conservation	47	29	11	4	1	2	0
Farm management	42	28	9	1	1	3	0
Study of current government policies	25	17	5	0	2	1	0
Farm mechanics	36	27	6	1	0	2	0
Total number of farmers interviewed	100	69	16	7	3	3	2
Average number of choices per farmer		3.3	3.7	2.7	3.3	5.3	1.5

*The farmers could list more than one choice.

The two farmers who were not classified according to any type had a limited choice of subject matter for the classes.

Data in Table XXXV show that the farmers between forty and fifty had a more diversified choice of subject matter than any of the other farmers. The farmers under thirty and over sixty had the least number of choices per farmer. The farmers between forty and fifty had nearly four choices per farmer. This compared to two and five-tenths for the ones between sixty and seventy and three choices per farmer for the ones under thirty.

No relationship was apparent between different subjects which were chosen and age of the farmers.

There was not much comparison that could be made between tenure status and specific subjects desired, but there was a difference between the number of subjects each wished to study (Table XXXVI). The owners had a wider range of choices than the others. Those farmers averaged four and two-tenths choices per farmer. The partnership owners had three and seven-tenths choices per farmer, but the renters had only three and two-tenths choices.

The factor which seemed to have the greatest relation on the course content of the adult class was the number of classes the farmers had attended. Table XXXVII presents data showing the association with that factor. The farmers who had never attended adult classes had few choices of subjects. They averaged only two and six-tenths choices per farmer. The farmers who had attended only one class had three and five-tenths. The farmers who had attended five or more classes had the most choices of any group or factor which has been discussed. From a list of

TABLE XXXV

THE RELATION OF AGE TO THE FARMERS' CHOICE OF COURSE CONTENT FOR THE CLASSES*

Course Content	Number	Age 20-30 No.	30-40 No.	40-50 No.	50-60 No.	60-70 No.	Over 70 No.
Current agricultural problems	42	4	15	10	9	3	1
Livestock or livestock products' production	83	6	24	16	19	15	3
Crop production	56	3	13	12	10	7	2
Soil conservation	47	3	13	12	10	7	2
Farm management	42	4	8	14	10	3	1
Study of current government policies	25	1	5	7	6	5	1
Farm mechanics	36	5	8	11	8	0	2
Total number of farmers interviewed	100	9	27	21	22	17	4
Average number of choices per farmer		2.9	3.2	3.9	3.2	2.5	3.0

*The farmers could list more than one choice.

TABLE XXXVI

THE RELATION OF TENURE STATUS TO THE FARMERS' CHOICE OF COURSE CONTENT FOR THE CLASSES*

Course Content	Number	Tenure Status			
		Full Owner	Partnership Owner	Owner and Renter	Renter
		No.	No.	No.	No.
Current agricultural problems	42	13	9	14	6
Livestock or livestock products' production	83	35	19	14	15
Crop production	56	20	13	11	12
Soil conservation	47	18	13	10	6
Farm management	42	17	12	8	5
Study of current government policies	25	12	5	4	4
Farm mechanics	36	15	6	7	8
Total number of farmers interviewed	100	40	21	22	17
Average number of choices per farmer		4.2	3.7	3.1	3.2

*The farmers could list more than one choice.

TABLE XXXVII

THE RELATION OF THE NUMBER OF CLASSES ATTENDED TO THE FARMERS' CHOICE OF COURSE CONTENT FOR THE CLASSES*

Course Content	Number	Number of Classes Attended						
		None	1	2	3	4	5	5+
Current agricultural problems	42	20	5	3	4	3	1	6
Livestock or livestock products' production	83	43	16	4	9	3	2	6
Crop production	56	27	10	4	6	2	2	5
Soil conservation	47	24	8	3	5	2	1	4
Farm management	42	16	9	3	5	2	1	6
Study of current government policies	25	12	5	2	3	1	0	3
Farm mechanics	36	18	4	2	6	1	1	4
Total number of farmers interviewed	100	60	16	4	9	3	2	6
Average number of choices per farmer		2.6	3.5	5.2	4.2	4.6	4	5.6

*The farmers could list more than one choice.

seven subjects they averaged five and six-tenths choices per farmer.

Frequency of Class Meeting

Table XXXVIII shows the farmers' desire for frequency of class meetings. Forty of the one hundred farmers thought the classes should meet weekly, thirty-three thought every other week was sufficient, twenty-five preferred monthly meetings, and only two thought twice a week would be the most desirable frequency.

There was about equal response from the different types of farming between weekly and every other week class meetings. This nearly held true with the farmers who preferred monthly meetings, but the dairy farmers expressed a higher percentage of desire for monthly meetings than any of the other types of farming. About 38 per cent of the dairy farmers preferred monthly meetings. This compared to 26 per cent of the general farmers, and 14 per cent of the livestock farmers.

There was not much comparison between the farmers' age and their desired frequency of class meeting (Table XXXIX). Farmers from all age ranges preferred the weekly or every other week meetings. It may be noted that the two farmers who preferred twice weekly meetings were under forty years of age.

The data in Table XL show how the number of classes the farmers had attended related to their desire for frequency of class meetings. It appeared that the more classes the farmers had attended, the more of them chose a weekly meeting. The ones who had not attended any or only one class divided their choice between weekly, every other week, and

TABLE XXXVIII

RELATIONSHIP OF THE TYPE OF FARMING
TO THE DESIRED FREQUENCY
OF CLASS MEETINGS

Frequency of Meetings	Total No.	Type of Farming											
		General		Dairying		Livestock		Tobacco		Poultry		Others	
		No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Twice weekly	2	1	1.6	0		1	14.3	0		0		0	
Weekly	40	25	36.2	6	37.5	4	57.1	2	66.7	3	100	0	
Every other week	33	25	36.2	4	25	1	14.3	1	33.3	0		2	
Monthly	25	18	26	6	37.5	1	14.3	0		0		0	
Total	100	69	100	16	100	7	100	3	100	3	100	2	100

TABLE XXXIX

RELATIONSHIP OF THE FARMERS' AGE
TO THE DESIRED FREQUENCY
OF CLASS MEETINGS

Frequency of Meetings	Total No.	Age Range											
		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70+	
		No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Twice weekly	2	1	11.6	1	3.8								
Weekly	40	4	44.4	9	33.3	10	47.6	9	40.9	6	35.2	2	50
Every other week	33	3	33.3	14	51.8	2	9.6	8	36.3	5	29.6	1	23
Monthly	25	1	11.7	3	11.1	9	42.8	5	22.8	6	35.2	1	25
Total	100	9	100	27	100	21	100	22	100	17	100	4	100

TABLE XL

RELATIONSHIP OF THE NUMBER OF CLASSES ATTENDED
TO THE DESIRED FREQUENCY
OF CLASS MEETINGS

Frequency of Meetings	Total No.	Number of Classes Attended: None No.	None Per Cent	1 No.	1 Per Cent	2 No.	2 Per Cent	3 No.	3 Per Cent	4 No.	4 Per Cent	5 No.	5 Per Cent	5+ No.	5+ Per Cent
Twice weekly	2	2	3.3												
Weekly	40	21	35	4	25	3	75	5	55.5	2	66.7	1	50	4	66.7
Every other week	33	20	33.3	9	56.2	0	0	1	11.2	0	0	1	50	2	33.3
Monthly	25	17	28.4	3	18.8	1	25	3	33.3	1	33.3	0	0	0	0
Total	100	60	100	16	100	4	100	9	100	3	100	2	100	6	100

monthly meetings. The two farmers who chose twice weekly had never attended an adult class.

There were eleven farmers who had attended four or more classes. Seven of the eleven indicated that they preferred a weekly meeting. There were sixty farmers who had never attended adult classes. Twenty-one or 35 per cent preferred weekly meetings, 33 per cent preferred every other week meetings, and 28 per cent preferred monthly meetings. No farmer who had attended five or more classes preferred a monthly meeting. The farmers who had attended only one class showed preference to an every other week meeting. Nine or 56 per cent of those farmers indicated that preference.

According to data in Table XLI, the farmers who had attended 80 per cent or more of the time had about equal response for weekly or every other week meetings. Eighty per cent of the farmers who had attended 75 per cent of the time preferred monthly meetings. The ones who preferred monthly meetings had attended 50 per cent or less of the time.

The data in Table XLII show the preference of the farmers who had never attended adult classes toward the frequency of class meetings. There were twenty-six farmers who expressed the desire to attend adult classes. Ten or 38.4 per cent preferred monthly meetings, an equal number preferred every other week meetings, 19 per cent preferred weekly meetings, and 4 per cent preferred twice weekly meetings. Among the farmers who were undecided or said that they were not interested in attending, the largest percentage of them indicated a preference for a weekly meeting.

TABLE XLI

RELATIONSHIP OF REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE
TO THE DESIRED FREQUENCY
OF CLASS MEETINGS

Frequency of Meetings	Regularity of Attendance Per Cent											
	Total		80+		75		50		25		25-	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Twice weekly	0											
Weekly	19	47.5	4	44.4	8	80	3	25.1	3	43	1	50
Every other week	13	32.5	5	55.6	2	20	4	33.3	2	28.5	0	0
Monthly	8	20	0		0		5	41.6	2	28.5	1	50
Total	4	100	9	100	10	100	12	100	7	100	2	100

TABLE XLII

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ATTITUDE TOWARD ATTENDING ADULT CLASSES TO THE DESIRED FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Frequency of Meetings	Attitude Toward Attending Classes							
	Total		Would Attend		Would Not Attend		Undecided	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Twice weekly	2	3.4	1	4	1	7.8		
Weekly	21	35.0	5	19.2	6	46.1	10	47.6
Every other week	20	33.3	10	38.4	3	23.0	7	33.3
Monthly	17	28.3	10	38.4	3	23.1	4	19.1
Total	60	100	26	100	13	100	21	100

Seasons of the Year for the Classes

Data in Table XLIII show that forty-six of the farmers thought the winter was the best season for the adult classes. Nineteen per cent thought that the fall and winter were the best seasons, 10 per cent preferred year-round meetings, and 7 per cent preferred spring. Among the three leading types of farming, the farmers all preferred winter, but the dairy farmers showed preference by a larger percentage than the other two. Eleven or 69 per cent of all the dairy farmers preferred winter. This compared to 42 per cent of the general farmers and 57 per cent of the livestock farmers.

Table XLIV shows the relation of age to the farmers' desire for a certain season or seasons for adult classes. More of the farmers preferred winter, but there was a tendency for this desire to decrease after fifty years of age. There were 52 per cent of the farmers between forty and fifty who preferred winter, but only 36 per cent of the farmers between fifty and sixty and 25 per cent of the ones over seventy.

The farmers who attended the most classes preferred winter, but there was a tendency for some of the farmers toward a fall and winter combination (Table XLV). Five or 83.3 per cent of the farmers who attended five or more of the classes preferred winter. The other farmers preferred fall and winter. Fifty per cent of the farmers who had attended one class preferred winter, but 25 per cent preferred fall and winter. Only 45 per cent of the farmers who had never attended adult classes preferred winter, and all ten of the farmers who preferred year-round meetings had never attended an adult class.

TABLE XLIII

THE RELATIONSHIP OF TYPE OF FARMING ON THE DESIRED SEASONS FOR THE CLASSES

Seasons of Year	Number	Types of Farming											
		General		Dairying		Livestock		Tobacco		Poultry		Others	
		No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Winter	46	29	42	11	68.7	4	57	2	66.7				
Spring	7	6	8.6			1	14.3						
Summer	3	2	2.9	1	6.3								
Fall	6	5	7.2	1	6.3								
Fall and winter	19	13	18.8	1	6.3	1	14.3			2	66.7	2	100
Fall and spring	3	3	4.3										
Winter and spring	4	2	2.9	1	6.2	1	14.4						
Fall, winter, and spring	2	1	1.5							1	33.3		
Year round	10	8	11.6	1	6.2			1	33.3				
Total	100	69	100	16	100	7	100	3	100	3	100	2	100

TABLE XLIV

THE RELATIONSHIP OF AGE ON THE DESIRED SEASONS FOR THE CLASSES

		Age											
		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70+	
Seasons of Year	Number	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Winter	46	4	44.4	15	55.5	11	52.3	8	36.3	7	41.1	1	25
Spring	7					2	9.5	3	13.6	1	5.9	1	25
Summer	3					2	9.5	1	4.6				
Fall	6					1	4.8	3	13.6	1	5.9	1	25
Fall and winter	19	2	22.2	6	22.2	2	9.5	2	9.1	7	41.1		
Fall and spring	3			1	3.8			1	4.6			1	25
Winter and spring	4	2	22.2			2	9.5						
Fall, winter and spring	2			2	7.4								
Year round	10	1	11.2	3	11.1	1	4.9	4	18.2	1	6		
Total	100	9	100	27	100	21	100	22	100	17	100	4	100

TABLE XLV

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE NUMBER OF CLASSES ATTENDED ON THE DESIRED SEASONS FOR THE CLASSES

Seasons of Year	Total No.	Classes Attended: None		1		2		3		4		5		5+	
		No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Winter	46	27	45	8	50	1	25	2	22.2	2	66.7	1	50	5	83.3
Spring	7	3	5	2	12.5	1	25	1	11.2						
Summer	3	2	3.3			1	25								
Fall	6	5	8.3					1	11.1						
Fall and winter	19	11	18.3	4	25	1	25	1	11.1			1	50	1	16.7
Fall and spring	3	1	1.7					2	22.2						
Winter and spring	4	1	1.8	1	6.2			2	22.2						
Fall, winter and spring	2			1	6.3					1	33.3				
Year round	10	10	16.6												
Total	100	60	100	16	100	4	100	9	100	3	100	2	100	6	100

Data in Table XLVI show the relation between regularity of attendance and the best season for the classes. An analysis of this table shows that the farmers who attended the most regular had a wide range of seasons as their choice. Only 22 per cent of the farmers who attended 80 per cent of the meetings preferred winter. Thirty-three and three-tenths per cent preferred spring and an equal number preferred fall and winter. Fifty per cent of the farmers who attended 75 per cent of the time preferred winter, but seven out of the nine farmers who attended 25 per cent or less of the meetings preferred winter.

It appeared that winter was the best season for adult classes, but there was some indication for a winter and fall combination. This finding was in agreement with Carlton's[1] study which found that the farmers preferred the winter and fall months for adult classes.

Summary

1. The farmers desired a very diversified course of study for the adult classes. Some of the leading areas which they wished to study were: livestock production, crop production, soil conservation, farm management, and farm mechanics.
2. The farmers between forty and fifty years of age desired a more diversified course of study than the farmers in the other age ranges.

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[1]Jean F. Carlton, "The Possibility of Adult Education in Agriculture at Southern High School, Lothian, Maryland," Summaries of Studies in Agriculture Education, Supplement 6:13, 1953.

TABLE XLVI

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE ON THE DESIRED SEASONS FOR THE CLASSES

Seasons of Year	Regularity of Attendance											
	Total		80+		75		50		25		25-	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Winter	19	47.5	2	22.2	5	50	5	41.6	6	85.7	1	50
Spring	4	10	3	33.3	1	10						
Summer	1	2.5									1	50
Fall	1	2.5			1	10						
Fall and winter	8	20	3	33.3	1	10	4	33.3				
Fall and spring	2	5			1	10	1	8.4				
Winter and spring	3	7.5			1	10	2	16.7				
Fall, winter and spring	2	5	1	11.2					1	14.3		
Year round												
Total	40	100	9	100	10	100	12	100	7	100	2	100

3. The full owners desired a more diversified course of study than the farmers in the other tenure status.
4. The farmers who had attended more classes desired a more diversified course of study than the other farmers desired.
5. More of the farmers desired a weekly or an every other week meeting for the adult classes.
6. The farmers who attended the most classes preferred weekly meetings, but as the number of classes attended decreased, the tendency was toward every other week meetings.
7. Most of the farmers who desired monthly meetings had never attended adult classes before.
8. The farmers preferred winter as the best season for adult classes. There was a tendency for a fall and winter combination.
9. All of the farmers who wanted a year-round class had never attended a class before.
10. The farmers who attended the classes with the most regularity had a wide range of choices for the best season. Their choice ranged from fall to spring.
11. The desire for a winter class seemed to decrease after fifty years of age.

CHAPTER VI

SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY FARMERS

The purpose of this chapter is to present data and discussions showing how the farmers' status, background, and attitude toward adult education related to the sources of information used for changes and trends in agriculture.

Sources of Information

Sixty-nine farmers reported magazines as a source of information, sixty-seven listed other farmers, forty-nine listed seed and fertilizer dealers, and thirty-eight listed radio and television (Table XLVII). Adult classes ranked next. Twenty-six farmers reported adult classes and twenty-four listed visits by the agriculture teacher as a source which they used. Only six farmers listed visits by the county agricultural agents as a source and eleven reported they visited the county agent's office. Eight farmers used experiment stations and nineteen read agricultural bulletins for the changes and trends in agriculture. There were six farmers who reported that they depended on their own judgment.

TABLE XLVII

TENURE STATUS IN RELATION TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	Number	Tenure Status			
		Full Owner	Partnership Owner	Owner and Renter	Renter
		No.	No.	No.	No.
Adult classes	26	11	5	6	4
Visits by agriculture teacher	24	11	4	5	4
Visits by county agents	6	3	1	1	1
Visits to county agent's office	11	5	3	2	1
Magazines	69	24	17	15	13
Newspaper	25	10	7	3	5
Seed and fertilizer dealer	49	23	7	11	8
Radio and TV	38	15	8	4	11
Other farmers	67	25	16	14	12
Reading agricultural bulletins	19	10	6	2	1
Experiment stations	8	1	3	3	1
Own judgment	6	1		4	1
Total number interviewed	100	40	21	22	17

*The farmers could list more than one source.

Sources of Information According to Status and Background

According to Table XLVII there was not much comparison between the different tenure status, but a few differences were established. Only one full renter was visited by a county agent and only one ever visited his office. The renters used the adult classes at the same ratio as the land owners. About one-fourth of the total in each case reported adult classes as a source of information.

There was a slight difference in tenure status among the farmers who relied on their own judgment. Five of the six farmers who reported using their own judgment were renters of land, although four of that number were classified as part owners.

The younger farmers did not list the adult classes as a source of information as much as the farmers in the other age ranges (Table XXLVIII). From the nine farmers under thirty only one listed adult classes as a source of information. It was shown in Table XVIII that there were three farmers in this age range who attended adult classes. The younger farmers did not make use of the county agricultural agents either. They used magazines and other farmers. Seven of the nine farmers under thirty listed magazines, and eight listed other farmers.

The older farmers were the ones who depended on their own judgment. Four of the six farmers who listed that as a source were over fifty years of age.

TABLE XLVIII

AGE IN RELATION TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	No.	Age Range 20-30 No.	30-40 No.	40-50 No.	50-60 No.	60-70 No.	Over 70 No.
Adult classes	26	1	9	6	6	4	0
Visits by agriculture teacher	24	1	8	5	7	3	0
Visits by county agents	6	0	3	1	1	1	0
Visits to county agent's office	11	0	6	1	2	2	0
Magazines	69	7	19	18	13	10	2
Newspaper	25	1	7	8	2	5	2
Seed and fertilizer dealers	49	2	15	11	9	10	2
Radio or TV	38	3	8	8	7	9	3
Other farmers	67	8	19	13	13	12	2
Reading agricultural bulletins	19	2	5	5	5	1	1
Experiment stations	8	1	5	1	0	1	0
Own judgment	6	0	1	2	2	0	
Total number interviewed	100	9	27	21	22	17	4

*The farmers could list more than one source.

Table XLIX presents data showing how the size of the farm related to the sources of information used by the farmers. Adult classes were listed by farmers from all of the different acre ranges of farms. There were twenty-four farmers who listed visits by the agriculture teacher as a source of information. Fourteen of that twenty-four operated between one hundred and two hundred acres. The farmers in that size range seemed to receive more information from the county agricultural agents than the farmers from the other size groups. Four of the six farmers who listed visits by the county agent as a source operated between one hundred and two hundred acres. Eight of the eleven who visited the county agent's office operated within the same acre range.

Five of the six farmers who depended on their own judgment operated less than two hundred acres.

Farmers from all size farms depended on the two leading sources of information: magazines and other farmers for their sources of information.

Sources of Information According to Attitude of Farmers Toward Adult Classes

Table L presents data showing the sources of information which the farmers used according to the number of classes that they had attended. There were eight farmers who had attended five or more adult classes. Six of those eight listed adult classes as a source of information. Even six farmers who had never attended adult classes listed visits by the agriculture teacher as a source of information.

TABLE XLIX

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	No.	Size of Farms (Range) Less 50 Acres No.	50-100 Acres No.	100-150 Acres No.	150-200 Acres No.	200-250 Acres No.	250-300 Acres No.	300-400 Acres No.	Over 400 Acres No.
Adult classes	26	3	1	4	7	1	2	4	4
Visits by agriculture teacher	24	1	2	7	7	2	0	1	4
Visits by county agents	6	0	0	1	3	1	0	1	0
Visits to county agents office	11	0	0	0	8	2	0	1	0
Magazines	69	4	6	15	17	6	6	6	9
Newspaper	25	1	2	5	6	2	4	3	2
Seed and fertilizer dealers	49	1	2	5	6	2	4	3	2
Radio or TV	38	3	5	9	6	4	3	2	6
Other farmers	67	3	7	14	15	6	5	5	12

*The farmers could list more than one source.

TABLE XLIX (continued)

SIZE OF FARM IN RELATION TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	No.	Size of Farms (Range)							
		Less 50 Acres	50-100 Acres	100-150 Acres	150-200 Acres	200-250 Acres	250-300 Acres	300-400 Acres	Over 400 Acres
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Agricultural bulletins	19	0	1	4	5	3	3	1	2
Experiment stations	8	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	1
Own judgment	6	1	1	1	2	0	0	1	0
Total number interviewed	100	7	11	20	22	8	8	10	14

*The farmers could list more than one source.

TABLE L

NUMBER OF CLASSES ATTENDED IN RELATION TO THE SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	No.	Number of Classes Attended						
		None	1	2	3	4	5	5+
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Adult classes	26	0	10	1	8	1	1	5
Visits by agriculture teacher	24	6	7	1	4	2	2	2
Visits by county agents	6	3	0	0	2	0	0	1
Visits to county agent's office	11	7	2	0	1	0	0	1
Magazines	69	41	10	4	7	1	1	5
Newspaper	25	11	4	1	5	1	1	2
Seed and fertilizer dealers	49	24	13	3	5	1	0	3
Radio or TV	38	24	7	1	3	1	0	2
Other farmers	67	43	9	2	6	2	2	3
Reading agricultural bulletins	19	7	4	0	4	1	1	2
Experiment stations	8	3	0	0	2	1	0	2
Own judgment	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number interviewed	100	60	16	4	9	3	2	6

*The farmers could list more than one source.

At least 50 per cent of the farmers who used the services of the county agricultural agents had never attended adult classes. Three of the six who listed visits by the county agents and seven of the eleven who visited the agent's office had never attended adult classes.

There were sixty farmers who had never attended adult classes. This represented 60 per cent of the total. About the same percentage depended on magazines and other farmers for the latest in agricultural trends. Sixty-nine farmers used magazines, and forty-one of these had never attended adult classes. This represented 59 per cent of the total. There were sixty-seven farmers who depended on other farmers for sources of information. Forty-three of those had never attended adult classes. This represented 64 per cent of the total. Therefore, about the same percentage of farmers who attended adult classes used magazines and other farmers as sources of information as did the farmers who had never attended adult classes.

All of the farmers who used their own judgment for trends in agriculture had never attended adult classes.

Table LI presents data showing how the regularity of attendance was related to the sources of information used by the farmers. It can readily be seen that the farmers who attended the most regularly listed adult classes as a source of information. There were nineteen farmers who attended over 75 per cent of the time. Sixteen of those nineteen listed adult classes as a source of information. There were nine farmers who attended 25 per cent or less of the time. Only three of that number listed adult classes as a source of information. Even among the farmers who used both adult classes and services of the county agents, the

TABLE LI

REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO THE SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY THE FARMERS*

Sources of Information	No.	Percentage of Classes Attended				
		80+ No.	75 No.	50 No.	25 No.	25- No.
Adult classes	26	7	9	7	2	1
Visits by agriculture teacher	18	8	3	4	2	1
Visits by county agents	3	2	0	1	0	0
Visits to county agent's office	4	2	2	0	0	0
Magazines	28	5	6	9	6	2
Newspaper	14	3	2	5	3	1
Seed and fertilizer dealers	25	7	5	6	5	2
Radio or TV	14	5	2	4	3	0
Other farmers	24	5	6	8	5	0
Reading agricultural bulletins	12	2	3	3	4	0
Experiment stations	5	2	1	1	1	0
Own judgment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number interviewed	40	9	10	12	7	2

*The farmers could list more than one source.

farmers who were most regular in attendance made more use of the county agricultural agents. Three farmers reported visits by the county agent. Two of those three had attended 80 per cent of the adult classes. All four of the farmers who visited the county agent's office attended 75 per cent of the classes.

Table LII shows how the farmers' desire to attend adult classes related to the sources used for changes and trends in agriculture. All twenty-six farmers who listed adult classes as a source for changes and trends in agriculture expressed a desire to attend another class. There were twenty-four farmers who listed visits by agriculture teacher as a source. Eighteen of that number had attended adult classes, and fifteen expressed the desire to attend another class. Three were undecided. Six of the twenty-four who reported visits by the agriculture teacher as a source of information had never attended adult classes. Four of that six expressed a desire to attend adult classes.

There were six farmers who reported visits by the county agent as a source of information. Three of that number had attended adult classes and would attend again. Three had never attended an adult class and only one of the three would not attend a class, one was undecided, and the other one reported he would attend.

Among the farmers who used magazines and other farmers as a source of information, there was not much comparison that could be made between the farmers who had attended and who had not attended adult classes.

It can be noted from this table that no farmer who used experiment stations and bulletins as sources of information reported that they would

TABLE LII

SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY FARMERS IN COMPARISON TO THEIR DESIRE TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES*

Sources of Information	No.	Had Attended			Had Not Attended		
		Would Attend Again No.	Would Not Attend Again No.	Undecided No.	Would Attend No.	Would Not Attend No.	Undecided No.
Adult classes	26	26					
Visits by agriculture teacher	24	15		3	4		2
Visits by county agents	6	3			1	1	1
Visits to county agent's office	11	4			4	2	1
Magazines	69	22	1	5	19	8	14
Newspaper	25	11		3	4	2	5
Seed and fertilizer dealers	49	19	1	5	12	5	7
Radio or TV	38	11	0	3	6	7	11
Other farmers	67	19		5	19	7	17

*The farmers could list more than one source.

TABLE LII (continued)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED BY FARMERS
IN COMPARISON TO THEIR DESIRE
TO ATTEND ADULT CLASSES*

Sources of Information	No.	Had Attend			Had Not Attended		
		Would Attend Again No.	Would Not Attend Again No.	Undecided No.	Would Attend No.	Would Not Attend No.	Undecided No.
Experiment stations	8	5	0	0	3	0	0
Reading agricultural bulletins	19	10	0	2	4	0	3
Own judgment	6	0	0	0	4	0	2
Total number interviewed	100	33	1	6	26	13	21

*The farmers could list more than one source.

not attend adult classes. There were five undecided who used bulletins, but no one undecided who reported experiment stations as a source of information.

There were six farmers who used their own judgment, and four of those reported they would attend adult classes and the other two were undecided.

Summary

1. Magazines and other farmers were the leading sources of information which the farmers used for changes and trends in agriculture.
2. Twenty-six per cent of the farmers reported that they used adult classes as a source of information. Twenty-four per cent of the farmers reported visits by the agriculture teacher as a source of information.
3. Six per cent of the farmers listed visits by the county agricultural agents as a source of information, and eleven per cent reported that they visited the county agent's office.
4. Very few of the renters reported using the services of the county agent as a source of information.
5. A larger percentage of the farmers under thirty years of age, than of any other age range, listed other farmers and magazines as their sources of information.
6. About the same percentage of farmers who had attended adult classes as the ones who had not attended, listed magazines

and other farmers as their source of information.

7. The farmers who attended adult classes with the most regularity reported adult classes as a source of information.
8. The farmers who attended adult classes with the most regularity were the most favorable toward the services of the county agricultural agents.
9. All of the farmers who listed adult classes as a source of information expressed the desire to attend again.
10. All eight of the farmers who listed experiment stations as a source of information were favorable toward attending adult classes.

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

Summary

The purpose of this study was to determine the attitudes of the adult farmers toward adult education in vocational agriculture in the Eagleville School area of Rutherford County, Tennessee. It was the primary intent of this study to determine what the farmers thought of the overall adult program, and to determine some factors that were associated with their attitudes.

The following summary statements are based on the findings of this study:

1. General farming was the leading type of farming in the community.
2. Seventy-one per cent of the farmers were full-time farmers.
3. Seventy per cent of the farmers were between thirty and sixty years of age.
4. Forty-two per cent of the farms were between one hundred and two hundred acres.
5. A large percentage of the larger farms were either owned by partnership or part of the land was owned and the other was rented. Most of the larger farms were operated by full-time farmers.
6. Most of the farmers had farmed all of their lives.
7. The farmers who farmed between one hundred and two hundred acres took more advantage of the adult classes.

8. The renters had the least desire to attend adult classes.
9. Thirty-three of the forty farmers who had attended adult classes were favorable toward attending another class, but only twenty-six of the sixty who had never attended were favorable toward attending. Only 39 per cent of the farmers who were favorable toward attending adult classes actually attended the last class that was offered.
10. The farmers who were the most regular in attendance had the most favorable attitude toward attending more classes.
11. The desire to attend adult classes tended to decrease after middle age.
12. The farmers gave a large number of reasons for attending adult classes. Some of the more important reasons were: (1) they enjoyed the social "get together" of the classes; (2) they gained knowledge that helped them solve problems in their farming programs; (3) they gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers; and (4) adult classes helped to create better community-school relationship.
13. The farmers who did not attend adult classes gave several reasons for not attending. The following were some of the more important reasons: (1) they had never been invited; (2) too busy; (3) did not know the classes were offered; and (4) cannot leave home at night because of family reasons.
14. The larger farm operators and the farmers who attended the most regularly gave the most reasons for attending.
15. More of the renters used the reason of "not being invited" as their

reason for not attending adult classes.

16. A large percentage of the farmers who claimed they were too busy to attend adult classes, farmed between 150 and 250 acres. Most of those farmers were between thirty and fifty years of age.

17. The farmers desired a very diversified course of study for the adult classes. Some of the leading areas which they wished to study were: livestock production, crop production, soil conservation, farm management, and farm mechanics.

18. The farmers who attended the most classes with the most regularity desired the more diversified course of study.

19. The farmers desired a weekly or an every other week meeting for the adult classes.

20. A larger percentage of the farmers preferred winter as the best season for the classes, but there was a tendency for a fall and winter combination.

21. The desire for a winter class seemed to decrease after fifty years of age.

22. Magazines and other farmers were the leading sources of information used by the farmers for changes and trends in agriculture.

23. About 25 per cent of the farmers reported that they used the adult program of vocational agriculture as a source of information.

24. Six per cent of the farmers listed visits by the county agents as a source of information, and 11 per cent reported that they visited the county agent's office.

25. Very few of the renters used the services of the county agents, but

they listed the adult program of vocational agriculture at about the same percentage as the other sources which they used.

26. There was not much difference in comparison of the farmers who attended adult classes and who did not attend adult classes in the use of magazines and other farmers as sources of information.

27. A larger percentage of farmers under thirty years of age than of any other age range listed other farmers and magazines as their sources of information.

28. The farmers who were favorable toward the services of the county agents and experiment stations were also favorable toward the adult program of vocational agriculture.

Implications

A critical analysis of the findings presented in this study suggests a number of implications for persons concerned with adult farmer education. The investigator believes that some of the major implications are indicated in the following statements.

1. The adult farmer program of vocational agriculture plays an important role in helping to meet the educational needs of the farmers.

2. More effort should be used in trying to reach the farmers who are not using the adult farmer program of vocational agriculture.

3. The farmers were not using a single source of information for changes and trends in agriculture; therefore, the agencies which are concerned with informing the farmers of the latest in agriculture should cooperate in every possible way in helping to meet the educational needs

of the farmers.

4. There were indications that some of the farmers were not using the best facilities available as sources of information, but the ones who were using such facilities had a favorable attitude toward them.
5. There was such a large percentage of farmers who used other farmers, seed and fertilizer dealers, radio and newspaper as sources of information that a good adult farmer program could include a large number of farmers by simply contacting a few key farmers or other persons in places of responsibility.

In the writer's opinion this study should show the need for other studies in the field of adult education. The field is broad, and this study was not confined to many of the details which could be investigated. This study attempted to get an overall picture of the complete adult program.

This study should be conducted in other communities where there is an adult program for the farmers. The findings of such a study could be used in planning and conducting an adult program to meet the needs of the farmers. It is also the writer's opinion that such a study is a very good public relations media for the adult program in any community.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

INQUIRY FORM FOR ADULT FARMERS WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED ADULT FARMER CLASSES

I. General information:

1. Name _____
2. Age _____
3. Number of years farming _____
4. Number of acres operated _____
5. Tenure status:

   Full owner _____
   Partnership owner _____
   Owner and renter _____
   Renter _____
   Number of acres owned (full or partnership) _____
   Full time _____ or part time farmer _____

6. Type of farming (any one represents 50 per cent or more of total income)

   General _____
   Dairying _____
   Livestock _____
   Tobacco _____
   Cotton _____
   Poultry _____
   Others _____

II. Information about adult education in agriculture:

1. How many miles do you live from a place where there has been an adult class conducted? _____

2. Have you ever had the opportunity to attend such a class? (Been invited by a friend, agriculture teacher or public announcement) Yes _____, No _____.

3. Would you attend one if you had the opportunity? Yes _____ No _____, Undecided _____.

4. Reasons for not attending: (Check more than one if you desire)

   _____ Didn't know that such classes were offered.
   _____ Never been invited to one.

_____ Too busy.
_____ Can't leave home at night.
_____ Live too far from meeting place.
_____ Don't think that you can profit from instruction.
_____ Not interested.
_____ Have some other sources for changes and trends in ag.
_____ Don't feel that the teacher is qualified to offer the instruction that is needed.
_____ Others.

5. When do you think adult classes should be offered? (Check more than one if you desire)

Fall _____
Winter _____
Spring _____
Summer _____
Year round _____

6. How often do you think adult classes should meet?

_____ Monthly
_____ Every other week
_____ Weekly
_____ Twice Weekly

7. What areas of farm operation do you think should be emphasized more in adult classes? (Check more than one if you desire)

_____ Current agricultural problems
_____ Livestock or livestock products' production
_____ Crop production
_____ Soil or other resource conservation
_____ Farm mechanics or farm shop work
_____ Farm management
_____ Study of current government policies
_____ Others

8. Where do you receive most of your information about new crop varieties, methods, policies, or other changes or trends in agriculture? (Check more than one if you desire)

_____ Visits by agriculture teacher
_____ Visits by county agents
_____ Visits to county agent's office
_____ Magazines
_____ Newspaper
_____ Seed and fertilizer dealer
_____ Other farmers
_____ Reading bulletins
_____ Others

APPENDIX B

INQUIRY FORM FOR ADULT FARMERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED ADULT FARMER CLASSES

I. General Information:

1. Name _____ _____
2. Age _____
3. Number of years farming _____
4. Number of acres operated _____
5. Tenure status:

   Full owner _____
   Partnership owner _____
   Owner and renter _____
   Renter _____
   Number of acres owned (full or partnership) _____
   Full time _____ or part time farmer _____

6. Type of farming (any one represents 50 per cent or more of total income)

   General _____
   Dairying _____
   Livestock _____
   Tobacco _____
   Cotton _____
   Poultry _____
   Others _____

II. Information about adult education in agriculture:

1. How many different adult farmer classes have you attended? (a class is a series of class meetings) _____

2. About what per cent of the class meetings did you attend? 80% or more _____, 75% _____, 50% _____, 25% _____, less than 25% _____.

3. How many miles did you live from the meeting place of these classes? _____

4. Reasons for attending: (Check more than one if you desire)

   _____ Helped you locate problems in your farming program.
   _____ You gained knowledge that helped you solve problems

which you had in your farming program.
_____ You gained knowledge by sharing experiences with other farmers.
_____ You enjoyed the social relationship or "get together" that you had by meeting with other farmers.
_____ Attended to help out the agriculture teacher.
_____ Attended because you were invited.
_____ Helped create better community school relationship.

5. When do you think adult classes should be offered? (Check more than one if you desire)

_____ Fall
_____ Winter
_____ Spring
_____ Summer
_____ Year round

6. How often do you think adult classes should meet?

_____ Monthly
_____ Every other week
_____ Weekly
_____ Twice weekly

7. What areas of farm operation do you think should be emphasized more in adult classes? (Check more than one if you desire)

_____ Current agricultural problems
_____ Livestock or livestock products' production
_____ Crop production
_____ Soil or other resource conservation
_____ Farm management
_____ Study of current government policies
_____ Farm mechanics or farm shop work
_____ Others

8. Where do you receive most of your information about new crop varieties, methods, policies, or other changes in agriculture? (Check more than one if you desire)

_____ Adult classes in vo-ag
_____ Visits by agriculture teacher
_____ Visits by county agent
_____ Visits to county agent's office
_____ Magazines
_____ Newspaper
_____ Seed and fertilizer dealers
_____ Radio or TV

_____ Other farmers
_____ Reading bulletins

9. Would you attend another adult class if you had the opportunity?

Yes _____, No _____, Undecided _____.

10. Did you attend the last class offered? Yes _____, No _____.

APPENDIX C

LIST OF FARMERS IN THE EAGLEVILLE COMMUNITY WHO HAD ATTENDED ADULT FARMER CLASSES

* 1. Arnold, W. C.
* 2. Batey, L. J.
* 3. Beegle, Carl
* 4. Bell, Arch
* 5. Comstock, Floyd
* 6. Crosslin, F. E.
* 7. Dyer, W. H.
* 8. Elmore, A. P., Jr.
* 9. Elmore, Urbane
* 10. Floyd, L. C.
* 11. Frost, Raymond
* 12. Gillespie, Jack
* 13. Graham, C. C.
* 14. Hatcher, J. B.
* 15. Hall, Buford
* 16. Hay, D. M.
* 17. Heaton, Paul
* 18. Hill, Malachi
* 19. Johns, H. E.
* 20. Lee, W. T.
* 21. Manier, Edward Lee
* 22. Marable, G. C., Jr.
* 23. McCord, W. P.
* 24. Mosely, Harrison
* 25. Pate, Alvin
* 26. Pate, H. H.
* 27. Pate, Raymond
* 28. Pate, W. E.
* 29. Patterson, Thomas
* 30. Patterson, R. H.
* 31. Puckett, C. W.
* 32. Ralston, George
* 33. Snell, F. E.
* 34. Taliaferro, A. D.
* 35. Taylor, J. Rush, Jr.
* 36. Taylor, John
* 37. Redmon, J. J.
* 38. Turner, John E.
* 39. Turner, John R.
* 40. Turner, Willard
41. Jackson, Gordon
42. Reed, Harvey
43. Rowland, Tom

* These farmers were interviewed.

APPENDIX D

LIST OF FARMERS IN THE EAGLEVILLE COMMUNITY WHO HAD NEVER ATTENDED ADULT FARMER CLASSES

* 1. Abernathy, Fred
2. Alcorn, G. W.
3. Allison, John (retired farmer)
4. Anderson, Pete
* 5. Anderson, Richard
6. Anderson, Roy
* 7. Beesley, Charlie
8. Beech, E. C.
* 9. Bennett, Tom
10. Bennett, W. D.
* 11. Blackwell, Embree
12. Blackwell, Robert
* 13. Bolden, J. W.
14. Boyce, J. W.
* 15. Boyce, William
16. Burnett, Ellis
* 17. Chason, S. W.
18. Chrisman, Talmadge
* 19. Claxton, Melvin
20. Comstock, Gordon
* 21. Cothron, J. B.
22. Crick, Horace
23. Dalton, R. C. (He could not be located)
24. Dyer, Jim
* 25. Dyer, John M.
26. Dyer, John R.
* 27. Elmore, A. P., III
28. Elmore, Eris
* 29. Elmore, Hugh
30. Foster, Floyd
* 31. Floyd, O. C., Jr.
32. Fulghum, D. R.
* 33. Gillespie, Robert
34. Glenn, John H.
* 35. Harris, Forrest
36. Hay, Buddy
* 37. Hay, Ira
38. Henderson, W. T.
* 39. Hendrix, W. T.
40. Hewitt, J. W.

* These farmers were interviewed.

* 41. Holden, Wallace
42. Holten, John R.
* 43. Isom, William
44. Jackson, G. C.
* 45. Jackson, Robert
46. Jakes, W. J.
* 47. Jarrell, Bobby
48. Johnson, Barkley
* 49. Johnson, Malachi
50. Kelly, W. C.
* 51. King, Robert
52. Lamb, Gene
* 53. Lamb, James
54. Lamb, Leon
* 55. Lamb, William
56. Lamberth, Grady
* 57. Landis, William
58. Leverette, T. T.
* 59. Little, Raymond
60. Lowe, George
* 61. Lynch, A. S.
62. Manier, A. R.
* 63. Manier, D. L.
64. Manier, E. L.
* 65. Manier, John
66. Marable, A. D.
* 67. Maupin, John D.
68. Marshall, Howard
* 69. McDaniel, Henry
70. McDaniel, I. H.
* 71. McDaniel, Johnny
72. McClaran, John E.
* 73. McClaran, J. M.
74. McClarren, J. W.
* 75. Morgan, Kenneth
76. Morgan, O. S.
* 77. Morris, Hillary
78. Morris, Oden
79. Mosley, Horace (He could not be located.)
80. Neely, J. O.
* 81. Pate, J. H.
82. Pate, J. R.
* 83. Patilo, Harry
84. Patterson, Robert
* 85. Patterson, Robert A.
86. Patton, John
* 87. Perrell, Roscoe
88. Pope, Dalton

* These farmers were interviewed.

* 89. Puckett, Edd

90. Puckett, Fred

* 91. Puckett, Nat

92. Puckett, Russell

* 93. Ralston, Alex E.

94. Ralston, Andrew

* 95. Ralston, Dave

96. Ralston, D. E.

* 97. Ralston, D. H.

98. Ralston, Finder

* 99. Redmon, Larry

100. Redmon, Leon

* 101. Redmon, Robert

102. Reed, Jim

* 103. Reed, Leon

104. Rice, Bill

* 105. Rigsby, M. K.

106. Scales, Marvin

* 107. Scott, Horace

108. Sharber, Leslie

* 109. Simpson, Milton

110. Smith, Lindsey

* 111. Smotherman, W. B.

112. Snell, Clarence

* 113. Snell, Joe

114. Sutton, Ed

* 115. Taylor, A. C.

116. Taylor, Fred

* 117. Tucker, W. V.

118. Underwood, Gene

* 119. Underwood, Jimmy L.

120. Vincion, A. C.

* 121. Wade, J. G.

122. Waldron, Sam

* 123. Watkins, Son

124. Windrow, James

* 125. Wiley, Roy

126. Woods, Robert

127. Yeargin, George

* These farmers were interviewed.