

THE FEASIBILITY OF A COMMUNITY BASED FOOD
CORPS PROGRAM IN IKOM DIVISION OF
CROSS RIVER STATE NIGERIA

By

HENRY MBEH NDIFON

Bachelor of Science
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma
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Master of Science
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma
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CROSS RIVER STATE NIGERIA

James W. White
Thesis Adviser

Robert R. Price

James P. Key

James S. Kirby

Robert H. Resbeck

Norman A. Durham
Dean of the Graduate College

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DEDICATION

In humble gratitude for forebearers of high resolve this work is dedicated to my children in the hope and trust that they likewise may carry on with high purposes and accomplishments.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The stature of a nation, to a large extent, is a measure of its ability to adopt, to change and to adjust to new challenges. Certainly Nigeria's greatness in the African context can be measured in such terms. As a people, we have chosen to look ahead rather than be content with the past. If Nigeria is to maintain its stature as a African leader, then it must continue to look ahead and one look into the future will indicate that the territory has changed. Our challenge is no longer the importation of food stuffs to feed the masses but a revitalization of our productive agricultural sector.

Agriculture has always been the basis of the Nigerian economy. Sixty percent of the total work force is engaged in producing food, yams, cassava, plantain, rice, beans, sugarcane and citrus to feed the population. Nigeria also produces cocoa, palm oil, groundnuts, rubber, cotton and timber as raw materials for local industry as well as export. The goal of Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) under the last military government, was to become self-sufficient in food production. Currently it is also the goal of the civilian government through the Green Revolution Program.

The need to increase agricultural output substantially, as a deterrent against malnutrition and a means of improving the standard of

living of every Nigerian cannot be disputed. Furthermore, resources have been provided by the government to assist farmers in acquiring agricultural import. Land and water development and machine hire resources have also been expanded under current government programs in the attempt to increase agricultural output. In addition, the Nigerian agricultural bank has established grants in aid to farmers, directly and indirectly. Loans are also made available to graduates of the farm institutions and small scale farmers.

According to Gusau (1, p. 39), "The Green Revolution means that we should strive to bring Nigeria back to its past position, where we were able to feed ourselves":

The government's goal is self-sufficiency of food crop production in the next five years, along with additional emphasis on cash crops for export in the next seven years. According to the Central Bank of Nigeria (2) the government will provide monetary resources (N14.3 billion U.S. equivalent \$21.75 billion) over the next five years. From both private and public sectors. The goal of the Green Revolution and resources being made available are impressive. However, it's easy for the Nigerian Federal Government to develop a nationwide plan, but quite another problem to assess overall success.

The agricultural policy of the government sought to increase cultivable areas rather than raising the productivity of the area cultivated by the subsistence farmers who in fact account for over ninety percent of Nigeria's total agricultural output. The main inputs have always been emphasized as land and labor while seed, equipment and livestock were often neglected or unimproved. The federal government takes fertilizer consumption as a rough index for measuring the level of

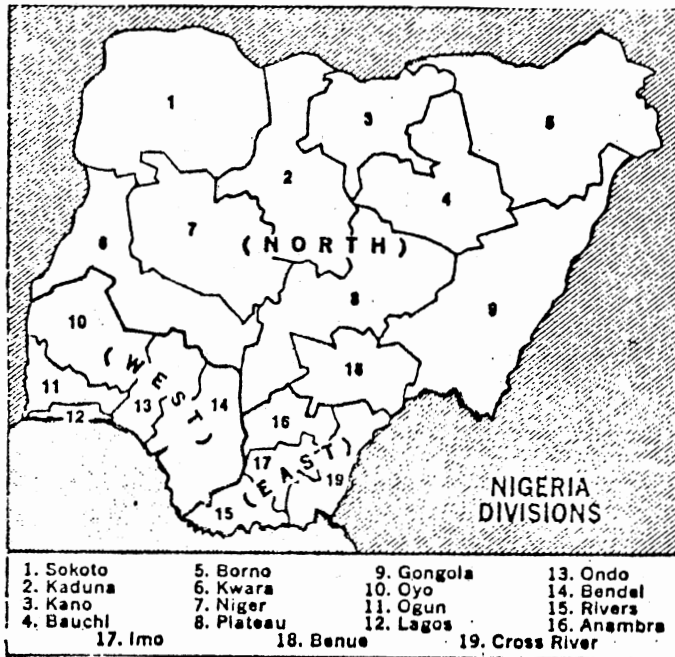
modernization of production. However, this remains on the average very low.

The major problem facing the Green Revolution is the lack of a physical infrastructure to support its projects. The roads are bad, lack of cold storage, poor marketing facilities and availability of water supply. There are fundamental problems regarding the goals of the Green Revolution that may prove difficult to solve. The huge technological and engineering inputs are far from a revolution in terms of the average peasant farmer. Indonesia's Green Revolution is an example of the possible pitfalls facing the Nigerian Government. The Indonesian Government provided loans to small farmers to purchase high yield rice varieties and chemicals, however, poor farmers in need of cash sold the fertilizer. As a result of corruption at all levels of government and farmers, the corporations finally succeeded in producing rice for consumers at twice its normal price per unit.

The public is alarmed by such large investments from the government with few strings attached to check the potential pitfalls. These areas of concern led to the determination of a need for a feasibility of a community based food corps program, where farmers will be the ultimate decisionmakers.

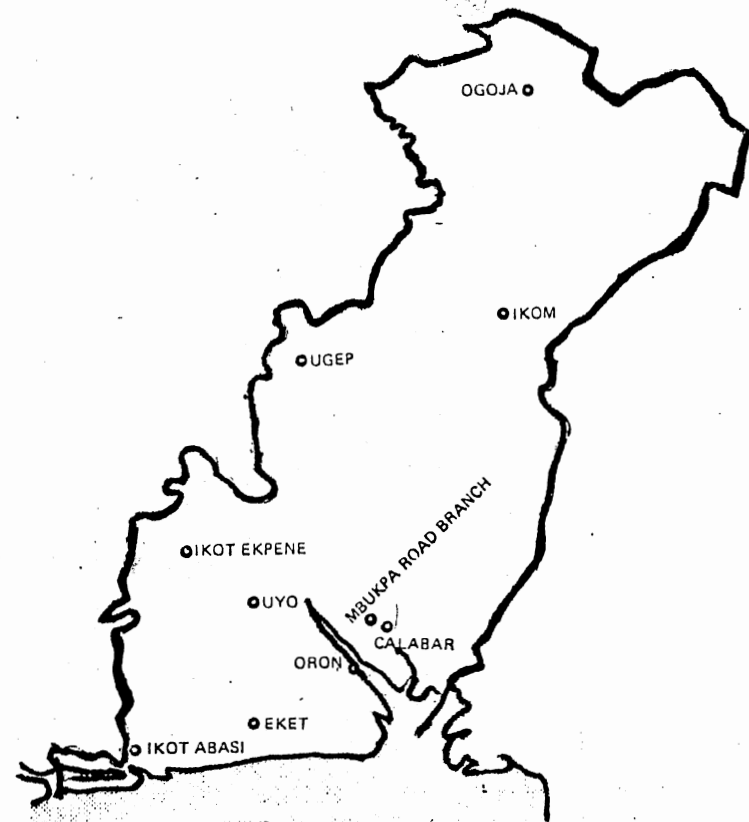
Location and History of the State

Cross River, a state of 3.6 million people, possesses more of the important agricultural resources than do most of the other states within the Federal Republic of Nigeria (3). Calabar is the state capitol, and there are sixteen other major cities within the state. The state comprises an area of 11,503.2 square miles (Figures 1 and 2).



Source: Collier's Encyclopedia, Vo. 17
New York, 1976 p. 539.

Figure 1. Map of Nigeria



Source: N. D. Ofiaja, "The Case of Nigeria
and Cameroun," Vantage Press, New
York (1979).

Figure 2. Map of Cross River State Showing
the Location of Ikom Division

The state lies near the equator, with the typical tropical climate of high humidity and temperatures. The climate of the state follows a pattern made up of the two seasons described below:

1. The Wet Season begins in April and lasts through October. The peak rainfall occurs during the months of June through August.
2. The Dry Season which lasts from November through March is also the harvest season. During the early part of the dry season the average temperature is about 60° F, while the latter part of the season the average temperature is around 95°F.

Since Cross River State is limited by these climatic conditions, most of the state depends on the production of tropical crops. The state is divided into two zones. The following are illustrations of the zones based upon the major crops produced in the area:

1. The Northern Zone comprises Ogoja and Calabar provinces. It is famous for the production of gmelina, teak, rubber, palm trees and cocoa. In addition, peanuts, rice, yams, cassava, plantain and corn are extensively grown.
2. The Southern Zone includes both Uyo and Anang provinces. Corn, rice, palm trees, cocounuts, yam (anem), rubber and cassava are also produced in this zone, although to a limited extent when compared to the Northern Zone.

Brief History of Ikom Division

Ikom Division with a population of about 130,000 people is located in the Northern Zone of the state. The division covers an area of

2,300.6 square miles, approximately one-fifth of the entire state (Figure 2). The division has a tropical climate which is influenced by the northeast and southwest trade winds. The natural vegetation is made up of rain forest and savannah. These climatic conditions provide an environment, favorable to agricultural production. Among the cultivated crops are yams, plantain, corn (maize), rice, cassava, cocoa-yam and cocoa of which the division is the state's leading exporter.

The farmer preference for the crops he raises and for the agricultural methods, systems and techniques he follows is a result of centuries of tradition. A wide range of variables provide the background for most of the farming operations. These include the extremes of rainfall, use of simple and crude tools, a tenure system, difficulties of travel and communications, and the overriding urgency of farmers to provide their families with food.

As the result of past tradition, farmers produced crops normally associated with the culture in which they inhabited. Basically the farmers in the division are classified as either food crop producers or tree crop producers. The former grows yams, corn, cassava and cocoa-yam as his/her source of income and to feed their family, while the latter grows crops such as cocoa, rubber and palm for export markets.

It is believed that less than forty percent of the available agricultural land is being currently utilized for agricultural production. While approximately ninety percent of the labor force in the division is engaged in farming. Most of the producers are traditional "peasant farmers" who barely produce enough to feed themselves and their families. In addition they also continue production on the same land with no soil improvement practices.

La Anyane (4) identifies these problems as some of the constraints on agricultural development:

1. Environmental problems - high cost of fertilizers coupled with the inability of the peasant farmer to apply its fertilizer correctly to the soil.
2. Economic problems - labor migration, pricing and marketing of agricultural products.
3. Management problems - the increasing effects of weeds, pests, and diseases.
4. Social diseases - the continuous use of traditional methods.
5. Institutional problems - problems associated with agricultural credit, rural infra-structure and the absence of many competent Agricultural Extension Education Personnel (p. 391-402).

Progress could be made regarding individual farmers and the division if these problems were overcome. Abandonment of the traditional methods of farming and adoption of improved production practices could result in increased food production.

Therefore, it would be desirable that a study be conducted among the farmers of Ikom Division whose daily lives depends on the outcome of their farming practices.

Purpose of the Study

The major purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of a community based food corps program and to establish recommendations as to how agricultural extension workers can most effectively direct and guide farmers to become involved in such a program. Further, the study sought to discover how extension workers and farmers might

cooperate through a joint effort to enhance food crop production and enable success for such a program.

Objectives of the Study

To satisfy the purpose, the following objectives were cited:

1. To describe the functions of successful community-based food corp program.
2. To determine the possible degree of acceptance of a food corps program by agricultural extension personnel and farmers.
3. To determine the appropriate methods of initiating a food corps program in Ikom Division.
4. To make conclusions as to the feasibility of a community based food corps program in Ikom Division.
5. To develop recommendations as to actions which should be taken to assure success of such a program.

Statement of the Problem

Most of the problems currently facing farmers are the result of the lack of planning and/or planning without the involvement and input of farmers in developing extension and government farm programs.

The O.F.N. that was conceived by government officials was abandoned largely due to the lack of infrastructure to support the program and the exclusion of farmers in the decisionmaking process.

In spite of the importance of agriculture there is disturbing evidence that the Cross River State Government is shifting its traditional role of support away from small farmers. Nowhere is this shift more apparent than in the erosion of support for small production.

Apparently, Cross River State has not sought to develop farm programs that has produced input.

The program that was initiated has not changed the rural life style. Furthermore, this result is clearly evident.

1. Constant imigration to the urban areas.
2. Continuing failure of certain segments of the population to provide human needs.
3. Disintegration of the family nucleus.

For such programs to be successful, there is a need for a study regarding the farmers acceptibility and their involvement in all phases of a program. Unless participation of the farmers is secured, a sound progressive agricultural development program will be difficult to achieve.

As a result of the many variables involved, it is of utmost importance to secure the involvement, participation and input of farmers if a successful community-based food corp program is to be established.

Rationale for the Study

The much vaunted Operation Feed the Nation (O.F.N.) in the 70's and the Green Revolution (G.R.) of the late 70's has not solved the problem of increasing food production. However, it has brought us face to face with the stark horror, the possibility and indeed, some say inevitability of large scale hunger.

Our current preoccupation with building our nation's capitol at Abuja and testing a new system of government (presidential system) has prompted federal officials to channel their interest and concerns to areas other than the revitalization of agricultural programs. Whether

such direction is in the best interest of the nation remains to be seen. However, there is no question regarding the decreased consequences of production.

Regardless of how or why O.F.N. and the Green Revolution failed, it is time to look at the available alternatives. Planning, implementation and evaluation are important areas in the program development process. Lioberger (5) state in a rather positive way that: "The adoption of a new idea is a process through which the individual consciously or unconsciously passes when he first becomes aware of a new practice until the time he adopts such a practice." Nigerian farmers may or may not have been aware of O.F.N. and G.R. goals, ideas, methods and practices.

The investigator working under close supervision from the Department of Agricultural Education will examine the possibility of a community-based food corps program where Cross River State Government and the rural farmers of Ikom Division will be involved in all stages of the program. The information provided through this study should be useful regarding the state government and the rural farmer's collaboration.

Assumption of the Study

Concerning the study, the following were made:

1. The response made by the participants of this study were accurate and sincere.
2. Agricultural extension workers at the field level were better qualified to answer the questionnaire because they had close association with producers on a day-to-day basis.
3. Tree crop farmers or producers have a somewhat different

outlook on agriculture than do their counterparts, food crop farmers or producers.

Definitions

The following terms were used throughout the study and need to be defined:

1. Clan according to Webster (6, p. 205) is defined as "a group or united by a common interest or characteristic". It comprises a number of villages.
2. Ejido is a communally held tract of land which can be assigned to village members for life and inherited by their families, but never mortgaged or sold.
3. The term farmer is used in this study to indicate the person in the household of the extended family who has the greater responsibility in terms of management and decisionmaking. Others in the household may be closely associated with the operation but the farmer bears the greater responsibility.
4. Householder/producer is a term used in this study to indicate a respondent from a given household. It might be the farmer or it might be his wife or another adult of the extended family. In all cases though, the respondent was closely related to the farming operation.
5. Food corps is a program that brings technicians, extension personnel and farmers together in a mutual concern to increase food production.
6. Rural community refers to the people in a predetermined area who live on dispersed farms or in a hamlet or village of

less than 2,500 population which function as a center for common interests.

7. Sarvodaya means "the awakening of all" (a term coined by Ghandi).
8. Sharamadana means "Gifts of Labor" (a term used in Sri-Lanka by the organizers of community projects).
9. Food crop producers refers to particular farmers who are engaged in growing per annual crops that are used for home consumption and any left over is sold for cash.
10. Tree crop producers refers to farmers who are engaged in growing annual crops that are sold for cash.

Scope and Limitations

An attempt was made to survey all the agricultural extension personal in Ikom Division in this research effort.

In order to insure the most accurate means of data collection, the questionnaire used to gather information from agricultural extension staff was personally administered by the Divisional Agricultural Extension Officer during their regularly scheduled extension meetings. The administering process yielded 83 percent participants by the agricultural extension staff (22 participants).

Questionnaires were hand delivered to the householder/producer by the researcher and the assistance of five supportive friends. The survey was limited only to householder/producers who were residents of the pre-selected sampling units.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The purpose of this chapter is to present selected background information for the study. The presentation of the background information is divided into five major areas and a summary.

1. Current world food situation.
2. The structure and functions of the ministry of agriculture and natural resources in Nigeria.
3. The relationships between agricultural extension agents and farmers.
4. The rural community: a setting for agricultural resources development.
5. Concepts of community based food corps program.

Current World Food Situation

A quarter of the population of the developing world may be suffering from hunger and malnutrition. Unless present production trends are changed, income distribution improved, and/or population growth are reduced significantly, the problem could become worse. According to Minear (7, p. 10) "one out of every eight persons alive in 1970 was hungry." The situation is worse than in 1970. The most dense population of the hungry are located in southern Asia, Africa and the Near East.

A Wall Street Journal article (8) emphasized:

To feed these masses and improve their diet modestly, food supplies would have to increase 306% in the Far East, 207% in the Mid-East, 238% in Latin America, and 159% in Africa, according to the United Nations. By contrast, food production in these areas as a whole rose 54% during the past 25 years (p. 15).

For both the developed and less-developed countries, world food output has been rising approximately three percent per year over the past twenty years. The upward trend has not been smooth for either the developed or developing countries.

According to Wortman, (9, p. 14) "the less developed world is losing capacity to feed itself after losing its export surplus of grains in the 50's". There is a moral obligation to provide adequate and nutritious food for all the people of the world. Many national and international agencies are working towards this objective. In a resolution passed during the World Food Conference held in Rome (November, 1974), it was agreed that "... within a decade no child will go to bed hungry, that no family will fear for its next day's bread, and that no human being's future and capacities are stunted by malnutrition" (10, p. 62-63).

Attacking the Problem of World Hunger

The concept of providing basic services to meet basic needs is not a stunning intellectual breakthrough. It is a humbling reminder of the basic needs of human beings. But the implications of solving these basic problems may be revolutionary in nature.

According to Sisler (11, p. 21) "when a blind person is helped to a car, his companion closes the door approximately fifty percent of the time. The problem is that the blind person does not know in advance

which fifty percent." So is the case of massive food shipments to hungry nations may appear to be the humanitarian gesture--closing the car door. What if the arrival of this food depresses prices in the recipient nation to the point where the farmers curtail their food production? Sisler suggests (11, p. 22) " ... a greater depth of understanding if action is to have positive results".

According to Bergland (12):

The problem of meeting the world's future food needs is not just a production problem. Nor is it simply a developing country problem, a population problem, an income problem or a distribution problem. It is all of these and more (p. 2).

The first fundamental principal of the strategy of basic service is people's participation and decentralization of the development effort.

In this regard considerable attention is being focused on the proposed program in the People's Republic of China to expand farm production.

Bergland (12, p. 3) suggested that "the key is to develop and transfer appropriate levels of technology to poor countries--machinery that fits farm size, easily operated and serviced by local personnel with locally developed parts."

Price (13, p. 5) suggested five steps developing nations could take to reduce their need for imported food:

1. High priority given to agricultural research, agricultural education and extension and increased agricultural production.
2. Development of idle land for agricultural purposes.
3. Increase the number of food crops and yields.

4. Increased emphasis on the family planning and education.
5. Raising prestige of agriculture and the self esteem of farmers. The socio-economic level of farmers must be improved.

The Structure and Function of the Ministry of
Agriculture and Natural Resources
in Nigeria

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, operating as an integral part of the federal government with the principal office in Lagos, has legal responsibility for all federal agricultural projects in the nation.

Since Nigeria operates on a federated system of government, each state has a Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources operating to administer and support the State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in all projects that are funded by the federal government, while technical advice are also rendered to state funded projects. Figure V depicts the general structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Cross River State of Nigeria.

Function of Agricultural Research,

Extension and Education

Prior to Nigerian independence, the activities of agricultural research were not separated from those of extension and other general services. All agricultural services were administratively structured as a part of the Department of Agriculture. Research programs were confined for the most part to the day-to-day problems encountered by

either the research component or extension.

In accordance with the Federation of Nigeria Constitution of 1963, scientific and industrial research was included in the concurrent legislative list and it was up to each government within the federation to organize and engage in whatever research it considered to be in the interest of its economic policy. Legislative order of 1963 initiated separate institutions of Agricultural Research and Extension.

Agricultural Research. Research is basic to the agricultural economy of any country and is particularly so in the case of an underdeveloped country.

According to Nesius (14, p. 132) "the function of research in agriculture is to discover and investigate the fundamental laws governing plant and animal life and their productivity and economic efficiency to the agricultural industry".

The importance of agricultural research has stimulated various state governments to provide in-service training for agricultural research personnel. Most incentives provided for training were scholarships to study in a "developed" country.

Agricultural Extension. Scientific information is of little value to the agricultural economy of a country unless it is applied at the farm level. According to Penders (15, p. 16), "agricultural extension methods require special techniques in order to succeed since they deal with not only the productivity but also the social, cultural and economic aspects of rural life".

Knowles (16) perceived the role of extension officers as an adult educator who assisted farmers diagnose their needs and plan a sequence

of experiences to produce a desired outcome.

Fay (17, p. 68) suggested that the aim of extension is: "to bring the farmer the knowledge and help that will enable him to farm more efficiently and increase his income".

The objective and scope of extension is to raise agricultural productivity, promote a higher standard of living among the rural population and enhance rural welfare. To achieve such an objective, Savite (18, p. 17) recommended that extension personnel act as friends instead of imposing their will or government policy on the farmers.

Agricultural Education. The demand of the extension service in Nigeria for agricultural graduates accounts for more than eighty percent of the outlets for university graduates in agriculture.

There are also demands for agricultural graduates in other areas such as research institutions, rural education institutions, plantation undertakings and in certain commercial houses such as the fertilizer and chemical industries for technical services.

In fact the shortages of trained agricultural personnel is one of the most acute in Nigeria's developing economy.

Oyenuga (19) stressed the value of trained agricultural personnel when he stated:

Nigeria will continue to bear the brunt of agricultural development programs, well into the 1960's. The truth of the matter is we just cannot train enough degree holders in fields of agriculture to meet the needs of development (p. 292).

Lindley (20), a UNESCO field staff officer, pointed out that assistance program directed towards the agricultural sector must be concerned directly with the education. The following seem to be important factors considering the development of agricultural education:

1. Teaching agriculture education programs in the primary and middle schools, colleges or university level must rest firmly on a foundation of well-educated manpower.
2. Teacher training programs should include technical agricultural subjects and methodology; training in the techniques of communication and in the human and social aspects of the cultural environment.
3. Assistance programs in agricultural education should be formulated by individuals who have an intimate knowledge of both the country and the subject matter.
4. In the process of plan development, clear cut objectives must be stated so that all levels of administration understand the purpose of a particular project.
5. Organization along all phases of program action is the essential ingredient for successful programs (20).

Furthermore, when developing an agricultural education and extension training program designed to serve the cause of rural development, it is important to keep in mind (21):

1. The Curricula: should indicate purpose of the training level of recruitment, subjects and their content, timetables, duration of theoretical course, duration of practical course, systems employed to check student's progress, teaching staff required, period of training, tasks of the teachers, facilities to be used, relations between the schools, extension services, research, cooperative and production services.

It is also introduced in the curricula such subjects as economics, rural sociology, development, management, extension,

- environmental, human nutrition and modern communication aides.
2. Location of Agricultural Schools: a school of agriculture should be in the countryside though not in an isolated position. The school farm should allow for student participation and act as a practical laboratory for modern production methods, besides production and research activities, provide demonstrations for local farmers, and provide facilities for farm studies.
 3. Laboratories and Technical Libraries: the equipment and operating methods of laboratories and technical libraries should be according to the recent establishments in these fields.
 4. Training of Specialists: specialists are as important as agriculture generalists or middle-level professionals. Specialists can be trained locally by making use of consultants or by sending them abroad to a foreign university.
 5. Research: this includes not only agricultural reserach, but research in management, sociology and industrial methods. For an effective link between education, research and extension, it is essential to have a coordinating body at the highest level. The task of such a body is to decide on education, extension and research programs, taking account of the country's actual needs.
 6. In-Service Training: the agricultural education system should provide in-service training for technicians and for agricultural producers. These training courses can be organized on a farm, at a research station or in a village.
 7. Teacher Training: teachers should be provided with

opportunities either at home or abroad to learn new techniques of effective instruction and they should be remunerated so that they can devote their wholehearted energy to their jobs.

8. Adult Education for Farmers: in the rural community, agricultural educators must devise and use suitable training methods which will reach as many people as possible. A well-structured agricultural extension service backed by research services could play an effective role in training the rural masses. The same applies to these knowledge transmission means demonstration, manuals, posters, audio-visual aids, radio television and so on (p. 8-10).

It must be recognized that education and training alone cannot raise the rural population's standard of living. Other things must accompany a mass training campaign as: agrarian reform, credit facilities, fair and guaranteed prices, adequate transport facilities, marketing facilities, adaptation of school curricula, social infrastructure and support of producer's cooperative.

The Relationship Between Agricultural

Extension Agents and Farmers

According to Maunder (22, p. 9) "agricultural extension is confronted with the task of assisting local farmers improve their farms, farming practices, increase production which in turn increases gross farm income".

Pesson (23) maintains that better programs are developed when extension personnel work in conjunction with local people because the

people's needs and interests are considered in the program development.

The training, experience and personality of an extension worker have definite effects on the success of extension programs. The training program should be designed to prepare the extension worker to be a community organizer, adult educator and a student of human behavior in general.

According to Maunder (22), extension workers need training in the following areas:

1. Technical subject matter area in agriculture and home economics,
2. Organization, administration and operation of the extension programs,
3. The process of human development,
4. Program planning development, execution and evaluation of program effectiveness,
5. The teaching and learning process,
6. The community social system,
7. Communication methods, and
8. The design of practical research programs that meet the needs of the local clientele'.

According to Stier (24), the following should be part of the training for local leaders and/or other informal leaders in extension work. The needs are as follows:

1. Leaders should be able to organize local groups.
2. Leaders should assist in spreading the influence of extension workers by informing neighbors and friends.
3. The leader should be able to furnish technical knowledge and

- information to their clientele'.
4. Organize self-help projects to improve social and economic conditions.
 5. Leaders should encourage people to join special groups and participate in local projects.
 6. They should encourage clientele' to attend meetings, trips and demonstrations.
 7. Assist in selecting project leaders and resource personnel.
 8. Be able to engage in the teaching-learning process.
 9. Encourage friends and neighbors to adopt improved practices.
 10. To inform the extension worker of progress being made.

The Rural Community: A Setting for Agricultural Resource Development

It was indicated earlier in this study that a rural community refers to the people in pre-determined areas who live on dispersed farms, hamlets or villages with populations under 2,500.

Development and Rural Community Development

Tweeten and Brinkman (25) describe development as:

... A dynamic goal, because measures to improve well-being, such as expanding the economic base improving services or providing equality of opportunity shift in emphasis through time (p. 4).

Good (25, p. 123) defines development as "growth or change in structure, function or organization, constituting an advance in size, differentiation, complexity, integration, capacity, efficiency or degree of maturity ..."

The main theme of these definitions are change, progress,

wellbeing, improvement of life style systems, education, culture, health, production and in general the drive towards an effort to solve and/or improve the economic and social problems.

Figure 3 illustrates the position and relationship of the rural community within the context of the Nigerian Government. This presentation constitutes a synthesis of concepts and ideas gained from experiences as a civil servant with the Cross River State Government of Nigeria.

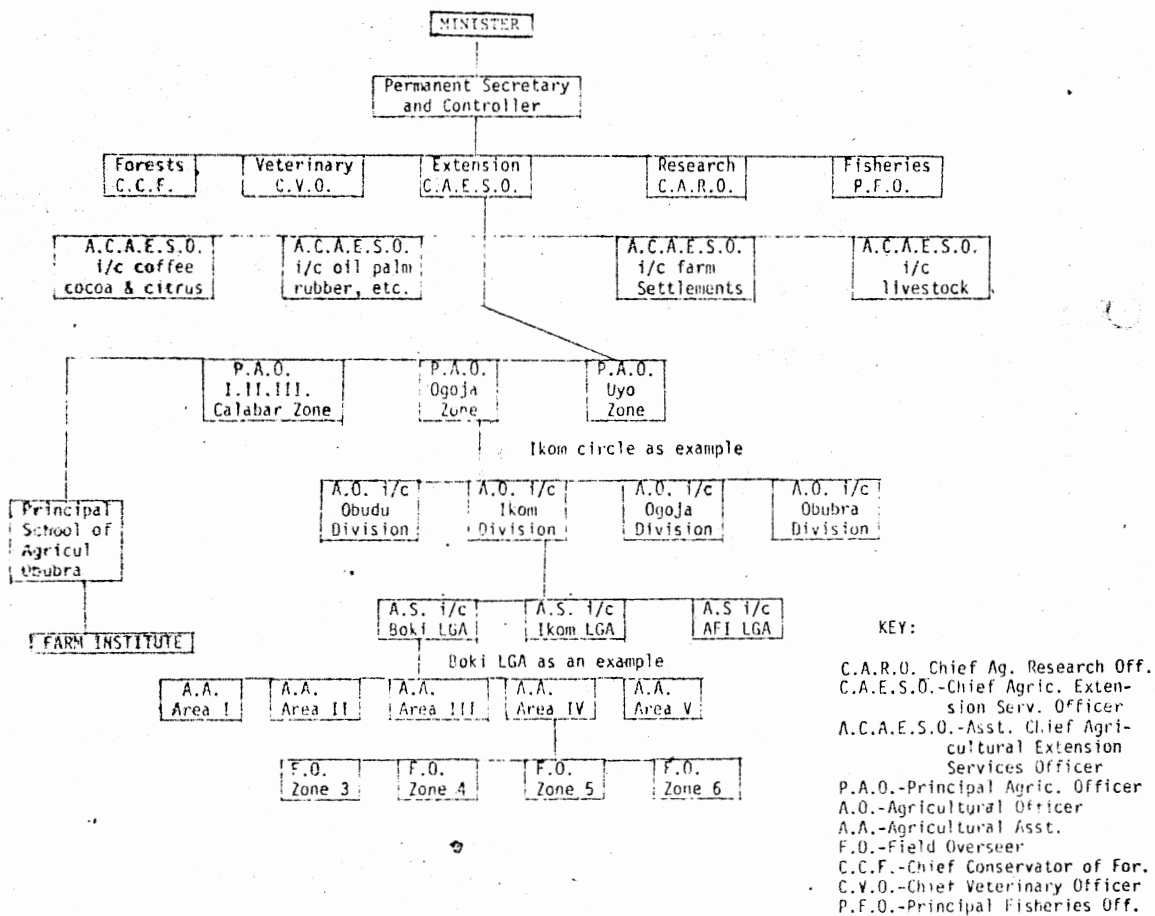
Good (26, p. 120) defines community development as: "the effort of a community to identify its problems and to attempt to establish and reach its goals primarily through the application of the educational process".

To attain the goals of community development, one must understand the interrelationship existing between the aspects of both human and community development. The model, shown in Figure 4, portrays Tweeten and Brinkman's concept of the interrelationship. It identifies the resource base and participant relationships. In addition, the figure cites a summary of the major areas of development (25).

Concept of Community Based Food Corps Programs

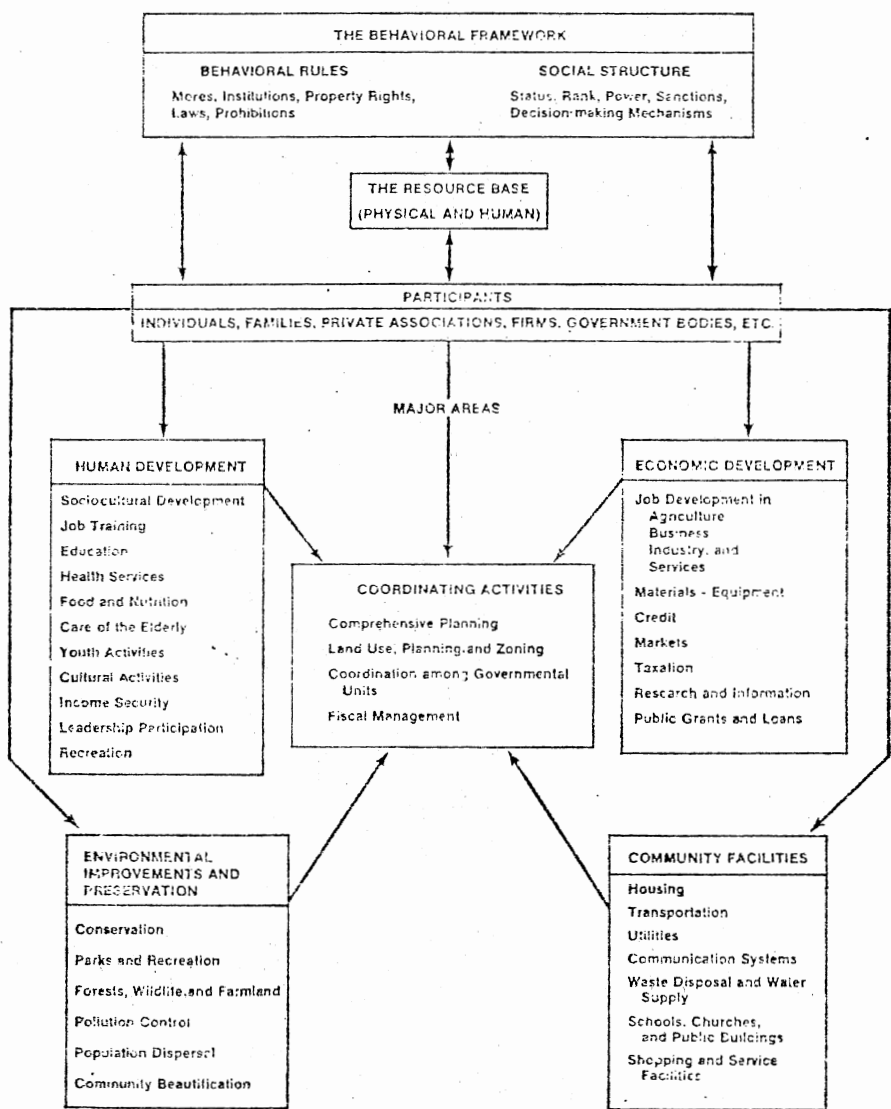
Community-based food corps are perceived by many to have different meanings. To some it denotes a specific geographical food area, to others a social system and to still others a set of cultural values which people share.

Some concepts of community based food corps programs are expressed as decentralized structures using some degree of voluntarism for self-help in food production. Morgenthau (27) states a concept of a



Source: V. A. Oyenuga, "Agriculture in Nigeria," FAO (1968).

Figure 3. Structure of Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Cross River State of Nigeria



Source: L. Tweeten, "Micropolitan Development," Iowa State University Press, Ames (1976).

Figure 4. Model for Rural Development

community-base food corps program as:

To organize those who are hungry and those who have technical knowledge about production into a mutually sustaining relationship that will bring out the knowledge of the technicians (p. 1).

Food Corps Programs in Mexico and Sri-Lanka

Economic development begins in the village of the world through the collaboration of farmers with extensive field staff of their own culture. According to Ndifon (28, p. 72) "a food corps type program should be implemented using the principles of Shrawadana and Sarvodaya". Two proven models, one in Mexico, the other in Sri-Lanka, may put flesh on the conceptual bones.

The Mexican Experience. The "Green Revolution", which has barely begun in many countries of the world, is over twenty years old in Mexico. The decision by the Mexican officials to import agricultural technology in the early 40-s in fact initiated the program of genetic research which today has become the "heart" of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT).

Plan Puebla. The anti-agrarian movement, after the Cardena era and the gap that was created by CIMMYT and those who were hungry, led a group of CIMMYT scientists to start a new program in Mexico called the Plan Puebla.

According to De Alcantara (29) the objective of the Plan Puebla was to provide credit, manufactured inputs, high-yielding and/or improved crop varieties and technical assistance to ejidatarios in forgotten regions, in hope of raising farm income and purchasing power (p. 495).

According to Morgenthau (27, p. 13) "small farmers of the Puebla Valley and agricultural technicians working together as a team dramatically increased food production".

Faculty and students from Mexico's graduate agricultural institute at Chapingo studied the social and political structures of the villages, carried out their agricultural research as a cooperative team with the farmers. According to Hausen (30, p. 33) "through cooperative action between technicians and villagers, Plan Puebla has brought about a remarkable change in the standard of living among people who previously lived on the edge of hunger."

Sri-Lanka Experience. One pillar of the food corps concept is the Sarvodaya movement in Sri-Lanka. It constitutes a genuine village-level, decentralized self-help program. According to Reddy (31, p. 2) "self-reliance begins at home, the growth of confidence that you can tackle your own problems is the crux of development".

Furthermore, Reddy (31) warns against trying to develop gadgets and devices for Indian villages while sitting in a lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Sarvodaya's fame in development circles has derived largely from the massive scale of its mobilization of villagers in their own behalf.

According to Holden (32, p. 7) more than 100 people were working to widen a dirt road ... urban clerks and government workers from distant cities were wielding picks alongside local villagers. As an organizational device, Sharamadana seems highly effective. Sri-Lanka villagers, who after more than three centuries of colonial domination have gained control of their own destination through the Sharmadana

experience.

Wortman (9) asserted that "those in charge of promoting new farming systems often said the small farmers were too conservative, too ignorant, too fearful of risk or too apathetic to change, can now look back and see the example of Sarvodaya in Sri-Lanka. According to Morgenthau (27) "a program like Sarvodaya liberates the mind to think that the problem of hunger can be solved".

Under Ariyaratne's leadership, Sarvodaya has expanded far beyond Shramadana camps. Once a village has been awakened to its own potential, village councils are formed among the elders, and they direct subsequent development efforts.

Today, Sarvodaya, a term coined by Ghandi meaning "The awakening of all" has established programs in more than 2,500 Sri-Lanka villages.

Summary

This review of literature indicates that combined efforts of farmers, extension workers and agricultural technicians can make a difference in rural development programs.

Increasing expenditures for increased food production results in more profitable solutions than acquiring real estate by repressive and/or military interventions.

However, this review of literature has established (1) the need for close working relationship between the agricultural extension staff, agricultural technicians and farmers; (2) the current food situation and solving the problem; (3) a theoretical framework for bases and trust for a rural community development using the concept of food corps

program; and (4) identification of factors that will improve the overall educational training of the extension agents.

CHAPTER III

DESIGN AND CONDUCT OF THE STUDY

The major purpose of this chapter was to present the design and procedures used in conducting this research effort. The methodology was determined by the purpose and specific objectives outlined previously in the study. To gather and analyze data pertaining to the intent and objectives of the study, the following tasks were accomplished:

1. Determination of a population from which appropriate data was to be derived.
2. Development of an appropriate survey instrument for data collection.
3. Determination of a proper means to approach the study population with regard to their participation in this research effort.
4. Establish appropriate procedures for data analysis.

The Population

The population of the study was selected as conforming to criteria:

- A. Adult individuals closely associated with the farming operation.
 1. The respondents from the sampling units were adult residents of a village household.

2. The respondents were of voting age (21 years or greater).
3. The respondents had been residents of the community for at least three years.

B. Agricultural Extension Staff - the agricultural extension staff respondents were identified proportionately as listed in the 1973 census data (the latest available).

1. They were currently serving in agricultural extension at the field level.
2. No supervisors or assistant supervisors were included.

When the farmers, as head of the household was at home he was interviewed, if not at home either the wife or another adult closely associated with the farming operation and living as a part of the extended family was asked to respond.

The householder/producer population consisted of twenty-one sampling units pre-selected from five clans. The sampling units were Agaragba, Abijang, Adijinkpor, Ajassor, Akam, Akparabong farms (B/Ekiem Road), Akparabong town, Bendeghe Afi, Bendeghe Ekiem, Edor, Effraya, Etomi, Ikom town, Las Motor, Mgbaka, Nde Junction, Nde town, Nkum, Okagha, Okuni and Two Miles. Each sampling unit was at least two km apart from a population of thirty units.

Abia, Abinti, Agbokum cocoa-nut, Agbokum waterfalls, Balep, Ekukunela, Ettara, Knarasi, Mpot and Nkpura were left out because of their remoteness and lack of transportation to and from the units previously mentioned (Figure 5).

A total of 232 questionnaires were administered in January, 1983, of which 210 involved the farmers who comprised the sample and 22 extension agents who comprised a population. As shown in Table 1, the

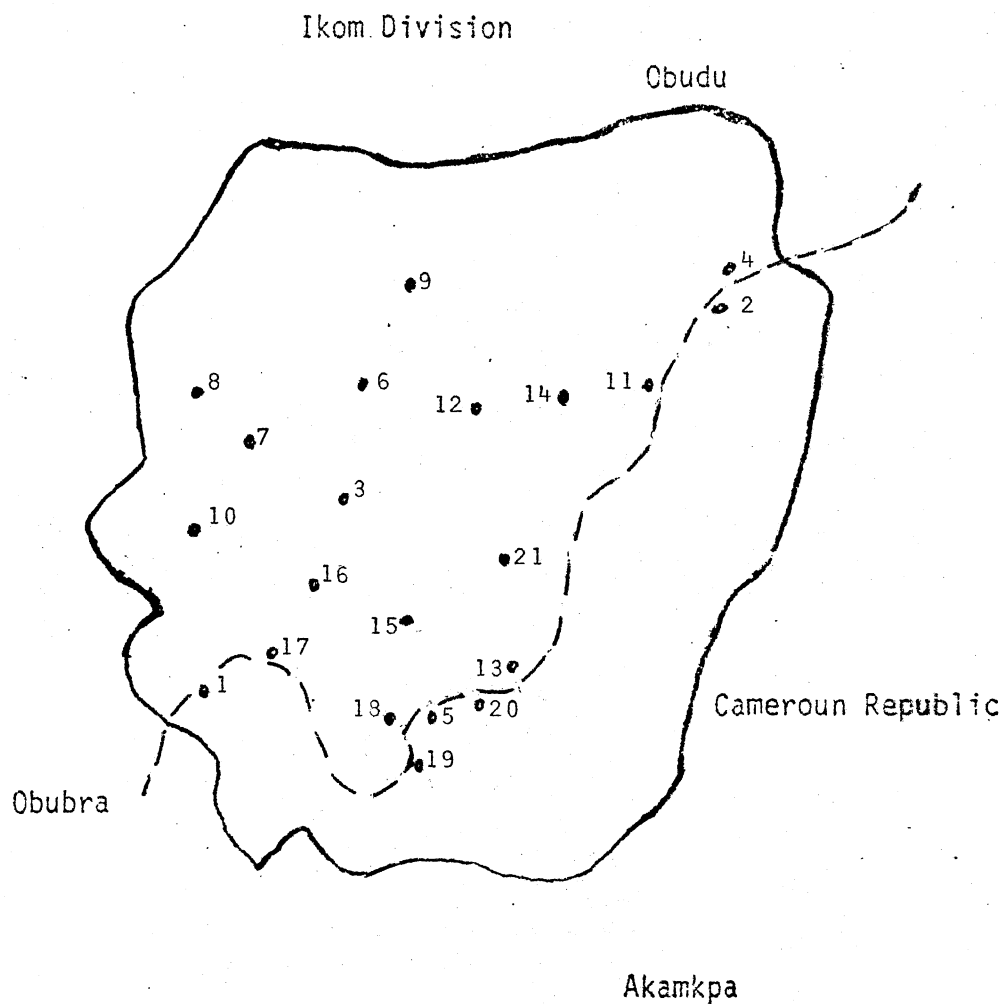


Figure 5. Map of Ikom Division Illustrating the location of the twenty-one units.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Abaragba | 12. Etomi |
| 2. Abijang | 13. Ikom Town |
| 3. Adijinkpor | 14. Las Motor |
| 4. Ajassor | 15. Mgbaka (Afi) |
| 5. Akam | 16. Nde Junction |
| 6. Akparabong Farm (B/Ekiem road) | 17. Nde Town |
| 7. Akparabong Town | 18. Nkum |
| 8. Benedeghe Afi | 19. Okagha |
| 9. Benedeghe Ekiem | 20. Okuni |
| 10. Eдор | 21. Two Miles |
| 11. Effraya | |

TABLE I
DISTRIBUTION OF THE SURVEY INSTRUMENTS TO RESPONDENTS

| Person Administering Survey | Occupation | Distribution in Sample Area/Unit | Copies to be Distributed in Sample Area/Unit | Population Category |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Pius Adie | Agricultural Extension Officer Ikom | Divisional level (Ikom) | 22 | Agricultural Extension Personnel |
| Okim Oben | Civil Servant | Ikom Town, Nkum Okuni, Akam | 40 | Householder/ Producer |
| Cornelus Mbu | Vice Principal Ajassor Comp Sec. School | Effraya, Ajassor, Agijang | 30 | Householder/ Producer |
| Mr. Samuel Atu | Civil Servant | Adijinkpor | 10 | Householder/ Producer |
| Richard Ojong | Civil Servant | Akparabony Farms Akparabony Town Bendeghe Afi | 30 | Householder/ Producer |
| Aniette D. Akpan | Civil Servant | Las Motor, Two Miles | 20 | Householder/ Producer |
| Henry Ndifon | Graduate Student Oklahoma State University | Edor, Etomi, Mgbaka, Bendeghe Ekiem, Nde Town, Nde Junction, Abaragba, Okagha | 80 | Householder/ Producer |
| TOTAL | | | 232 | |

survey was carried out at the divisional level for agricultural extension staff. Among the target sample of producers in the twenty-one sampling units were (sampling units reflects approximately equal population groupings) 210 producers which consisted of "food crop" and "tree crop" producers.

Development of the Instrument

In order to gather information concerning the feasibility of a food crops program in Ikom Division, Nigeria, a restricted type of questionnaire was developed (Appendices A and B).

The major format of the questionnaire included both five point and four point "Likert-type" scales of selected categories to which producers and selected individuals were requested to indicate their response. In addition, 'yes' or 'no' responses were solicited as well as short fill-in-the-blank answers and rank order questions. The extension staff survey consisted of fifty-one items, while the farmer/producer form had fifty-two items.

Nigerian graduate students at Oklahoma State University were instrumental in assisting the author to structure the survey so that the respondents could follow the format and answer the questions with a minimum of assistance from the survey distributors.

Collection of the Data

The researcher, with assistance received from five colleagues administered the questionnaire to 22 extension personnel and 210 "food crop producers" and "tree crop producers". Data shown in Table II depicts population categories, copies of schedule distributed, area

TABLE II

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SURVEY INSTRUMENT TO HOUSEHOLDER/PRODUCERS
FROM THE GIVEN LOCUS POINT OF EACH SAMPLING UNIT

| Food Crops Producers | Sampling Units | | Locus Point | Distribution During Market Days |
|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Tree Crop Producers | | | |
| Bendeghe Afi | Akparabong Farms (B/Ekiem Road) | | Primary School | Saturday |
| | Akparabong Town | | Ekpe Hall | Saturday |
| | | | Chief's Compound | Saturday |
| Abijang | | | Ekpe Hall | Thursday |
| | Ajassor | | Ekpe Hall | Thursday |
| | Bendeghe Ekiem | | Chief's Compound | Friday |
| | Effraya | | Primary School | Monday |
| | Etomi | | Primary School | Wednesday |
| Edor Mgbaka Nde Junction Nde Town | | | Chief's Compound | Thursday |
| | | | Ekpe Hall | Monday |
| | | | Church Compound | Monday |
| | | | Chief's Compound | Monday |
| Abaragba Akam | | | Chief's Compound | Tuesday |
| | | | Chief's Compound | Monday |
| | Okagha | | Ekpe Hall | Wednesday |
| Nkum Okuni | Adijinkpor | | Church Compound | Monday |
| | Ikom Town | | Etayip Ekep Hall | Monday |
| | Las Motor | | Church Compound | Monday |
| | | | Chief's Compound | Tuesday |
| | | | Primary School | Sunday |
| | Two Miles | | James & Harrison | Monday |

sampled and identifies the person directly responsible for administering the survey schedule.

A grid configuration was used to establish location of householder/producers in each sampling unit and provided explicit direction for determining location of potential respondents (Figure 6). As shown in Table II the locus point for securing the location of the householder/producers to be interviewed was the center of the sampling unit which had a radius of two kilometers (Figure 6). The specific locus point and consequent location of each respondent was identified as a sampling unit stratified into quadrants and samples were taken.

After identifying the twenty-one sampling units (both food and tree crop producers included), survey schedules were distributed only during the market days. This was done to enhance a higher percentage of returned questionnaires.

Analysis of Data

Information obtained or perceived by extension personnel and householder producers ("food and tree" crop producers) included use of an openended questionnaire provided a means to identify needs and to the importance and value of initiating a food corp program.

Simple arithmetic means, frequency distributions and percentages were used to describe the data collected. For each statement listed, frequencies and means of responses with regard to degree of importance on both five point and four point interval scales were determined.

"Mean responses" were calculated by multiplying the number of responses in each rank order by the numerical value of the category and

summing the products. The sum of the selected items were divided by the total number of responses to secure the mean response.

The four point and five point "Likert type" scales used in securing extension agents and producer responses relative to the importance, feasibility and perceptions of a food corp program were assigned the numerical values shown in Table III. The real limits established with regard to response categories are also revealed.

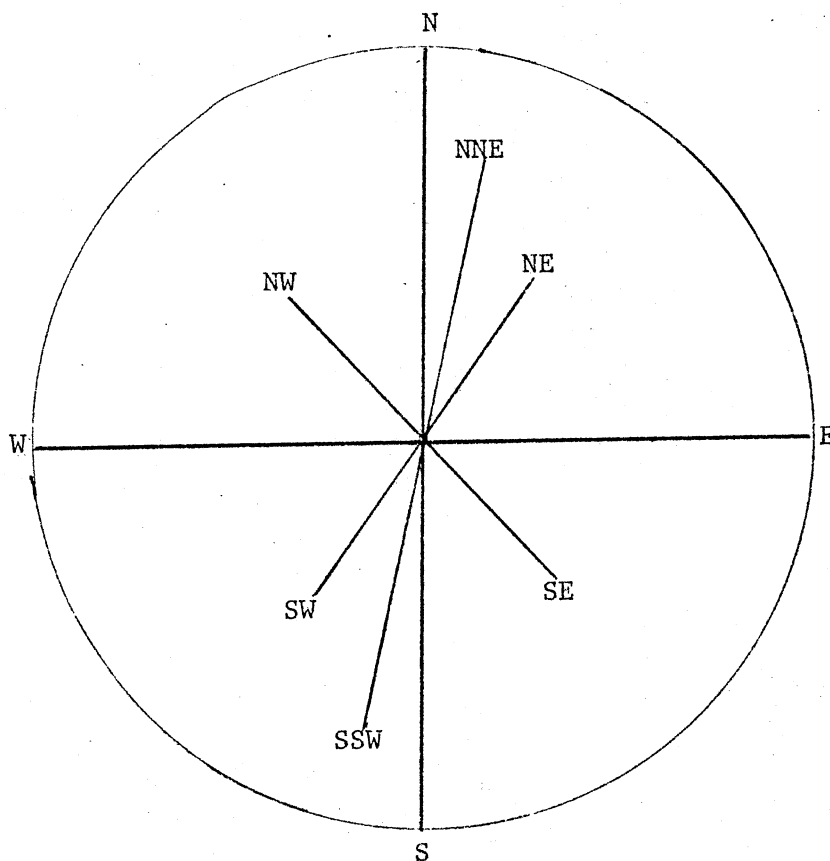


Figure 6. Grid Configuration used in Identifying Householder/Producers in the Sampling Units

TABLE III

SCALE OF NUMERICAL VALUES AND REAL LIMITS ESTABLISHED

| Response | Numerical Value Assigned to Statements | Real Limits for Response Category |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Very Satisfied | 4 | 3.5 - 4.0 |
| Satisfied | 3 | 2.5 - 3.49 |
| Dissatisfied | 2 | 1.5 - 2.49 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 1 | 1.49 and below |
| Always | 5 | 4.5 - 5.0 |
| Often | 4 | 3.5 - 4.49 |
| Sometimes | 3 | 2.5 - 3.49 |
| Seldom | 2 | 1.5 - 2.49 |
| Never | 1 | 1.49 and below |
| A Severe Problem | 4 | 3.5 - 4.0 |
| A Moderate Problem | 3 | 2.5 - 3.49 |
| A Small Problem | 2 | 1.5 - 2.49 |
| Not a Problem | 1 | 1.49 and below |
| Very Important | 5 | 4.5 - 5.0 |
| Important | 4 | 3.5 - 4.49 |
| Some Importance | 3 | 2.5 - 3.49 |
| Little Importance | 2 | 1.5 - 2.49 |
| No Importance | 1 | 1.49 and below |
| Most Effective | 4 | 3.5 - 4.0 |
| Effective | 3 | 2.5 - 3.49 |
| Less Effective | 2 | 1.5 - 2.49 |
| None Effective | 1 | 1.49 and below |

CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

Introduction

The major purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of a community based food corps program and to establish recommendations as to how agricultural extension workers can most effectively direct and guide farmers to become involved in such a program. Further, the study sought to discover how extension workers and farmers might cooperate through a joint effort to enhance food crop production and enable success for such a program. In addition, it was the intent of the researcher to determine the extent of probable acceptance of a food corps program by both extension staff and by farmers.

Data collected in this study involved securing both selected background information and statements and/or opinions given by the 154 farmers and eighteen agricultural extension staff in the twenty-one sampling units in Ikom Division of Cross River State of Nigeria. The purpose of this chapter is to report the findings revealed and the analysis of data assembled.

Data Regarding Collection of Response

Perhaps it would be well to recognize that the research faced certain difficulties in obtaining data from the agricultural extension

Staff in Cross River State of Nigeria. One difficulty encountered, which might be ascribed to "bureaucratic red tape", was that the researcher could not obtain official permission from the Ministry of Agriculture at Calabar to enable him to administer the questionnaire. However, the researcher personally pleaded with the agricultural extension officer at Ikom to allow him to administer the questionnaire to agricultural extension field staff. The research is grateful that the officer acquiesced.

Background of the Population

The population of this study included 232 respondents, both farmers and/or householder/producers and extension staff residing in and serving in Ikom Division. The 232 respondents were dispersed among householder/producers and extension staff as follows: 110 food crop producers, 100 tree crop producers and 22 serving with agricultural extension. It is acknowledged that the major source for data used in the study was the fifty-two item questionnaire completed by interview with 154 householder/producers, 70 were food crop producers and 84 were tree crop producers. Among the target population of 210 householder/producers, the grid sampling technique described in detail in the section of the study showing methodology used, page Table IV reveals that 73 percent of the target population participated in the survey.

The selection of agricultural extension staff respondents was based on the 1973 census data which was the only data available to the researcher. Twenty-two agricultural extension staff were reported in the 1973 census data and all were used. Final response to the survey was 82 percent of the agricultural extension staff target population.

TABLE IV
DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF
AND HOUSEHOLDER/PRODUCER PARTICIPANTS

| Population Category | Number Surveyed | Number Returned | Percent Returned |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Agricultural Extension Staff | 22 | 18 | 82.00 |
| <u>Farmers</u> | | | |
| Food Crop Farmers | 110 | 70 | 63.64 |
| Tree Crop Farmers | 100 | 84 | 84.00 |
| Total Farmers | 210 | 154 | 73.33 |

Findings of the Study

It should be noted that the first objective of this study was to describe successful food corps based program and how these now function in such areas as Sri-Lanka and Mexico. The researcher chose to discuss data related directly to the above objective in the section directed toward the review of literature.

Personal and Demographic Data of Respondents

Agricultural Extension Staff Responses

Data collected and presented in Table V show that of the eighteen agricultural extension staff respondents included in the study, 5 (27.78 percent) were in position with a major responsibility of advising "tree crop" farmers while 13 (72.22 percent) were in positions with a major responsibility for advising "food crop" farmers. It is also interesting that of the 18 agricultural extension staff involved in the study, 7 (39.89 percent) have been in agricultural extension service between 0-9 years, while 5 (27.78 percent) were found to have had 10-19 years tenure, 3 (16.67 percent) with between 30-39 years, with 1 (5.56 percent) responding that he had cultural extension service work for more than 40 years.

Householder/Producer Responses

Findings as shown in Table VI, consisting of demographic data regarding responding householder/producers show that of the 154 individuals included in the study, 107 (69.48 percent) were male and 47 (30.52 percent) were female. It is interesting to note that 25.97 percent of

TABLE V
 AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF PARTICIPANTS
 N = 22

| Comparison Factor | Distribution of Response Group | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Agricultural Division | Number | Percentage |
| Agriculture | 5 | 27.78 |
| Extension | 13 | 72.22 |
| Years in Service | | |
| 0- 9 years | 7 | 38.89 |
| 10-19 years | 5 | 27.78 |
| 20-29 years | 3 | 16.67 |
| 30-39 years | 2 | 11.11 |
| 40 years and above | 1 | 5.56 |

the respondents were between the ages 30-39, and 40-49 respectively while 24.68 percent were between ages 20-29, 14.29 percent were between ages 50-59, and 9.09 percent were between ages 60-69.

As regards to their years in farming, of the 154 householder/producers, 51 (33.12 percent) were found to have been in farming between 10-19 years, 34 (22.08 percent) between 0-9 years, 27 (17.53 percent) between 20-29 years, 23 (14.94 percent) between 30-39 years, while 19 (12.34 percent) have been in farming 40 years and above.

Food Crop Producer Responses

Data as shown in Table VI, relating specifically to food crop producers, indicate that of the 70 respondents included in the study, 47 (67.14 percent) were male and 23 (32.86 percent) were female. It is worth noting that 54.28 percent were in the age group, 14.29 percent were continuing identification of age groupings between 50-59, while 5.71 percent were between ages 60-69.

As regards to their years in farming, of the 70 food crop producer respondents, 24 (34.29 percent) have been in farming between 0-9 years, 21 (30.00 percent) between 10-19 years, 12 (17.14 percent) between 20-29 years, 9 (12.86 percent) between 30-39 years, and 4 (5.71 percent) have been in farming 40 years and above.

Tree Crop Producer Responses

Data as shown in Table VI relates specifically to tree crop farmers. These data indicate that of the 84 respondents included in the study, 60 (71.43 percent) were male and 24 (28.57 percent) were female.

It is interesting to note that 50.00 percent between ages 20-29,

TABLE VI
 SUMMARY OF IKOM PRODUCERS RESPONSES BASED
 ON SEX, AGE AND YEARS IN FARMING

| Comparison Factor | Distribution by Response Group | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------|--|-------|------------------|-------|
| | Producers Associated with N = 70 | | Producers Associated with N = 84 | | Total N = 154 | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Sex: | | | | | | |
| Male | 47 | 67.14 | 60 | 71.43 | 107 | 69.48 |
| Female | 23 | 32.86 | 24 | 28.57 | 47 | 30.52 |
| Age: | | | | | | |
| 20-29 | 18 | 25.71 | 20 | 23.81 | 38 | 24.68 |
| 30-39 | 19 | 27.14 | 21 | 25.00 | 40 | 25.97 |
| 40-49 | 19 | 27.14 | 21 | 25.00 | 40 | 25.97 |
| 50-59 | 10 | 14.29 | 12 | 14.29 | 22 | 14.29 |
| 60-69 | 4 | 5.71 | 10 | 11.90 | 14 | 9.09 |
| Years in Farming | | | | | | |
| 0- 9 | 24 | 34.29 | 10 | 11.90 | 34 | 22.08 |
| 10-19 | 24 | 30.00 | 30 | 35.71 | 51 | 33.12 |
| 20-29 | 12 | 17.14 | 15 | 17.86 | 27 | 17.53 |
| 30-39 | 9 | 12.86 | 14 | 16.67 | 23 | 14.94 |
| 40 years and above | 4 | 5.71 | 15 | 17.86 | 19 | 12.34 |

14.29 percent between ages 50-59 and 11.90 percent between ages 60-69.

As regards to their years in farming, 30 (35.71 percent) have been in farming between 10-19 years, 10 (11.90 percent) between 0-9 years, 15 (17.86 percent) between 20-29 years, 14 (16.67 percent) between 30-39 years, and 15 (17.86 percent) have been farming 40 years and above.

When responses of food crop producers and tree crop producers are compared as shown in Table VI, there is no noticeable difference as regards to sex, but when data is examined with regard to the age factor, it is found that more than 50.00 percent of the householder/producers are in the age bracket of 30-49 years. Further, it is evident that slightly older people are engaged in tree crop production than is true for those categorized as producers. There is a marked difference to be found when years in farming is examined. It was found that there are about two times more farmers in the tree crop production category with more than 30 years in farming than is true among food crop producers.

Perhaps the reason for these striking differences in both the factors of age and years in farming is due to the fact that (1) tree crop production entails a much longer term of investment and mandates constant supervision, especially during the extended years of operation; (2) land tenure among tree crop producers is necessarily quite extended because of the more perennial nature of producing units and greater investment during a single year, which when combined with the fact that tree crops constitute a more reliable source of income than is true for food crops, and explains the reason why; (3) more people are likely to start in food crop farming because they need less than one acre to begin a farming operation. It is evident that more young people start

farming operations with food crops than is true with a beginning operation in tree crops.

Data Description of Probable Acceptance
of the Food Corps Program

Extent to which Selected Items Constitute

a Problem for Farmers

Data shown in Tables VII, VIII and IX present summaries of responses from the three groups: (1) agricultural extension staff, (2) food crop producers and (3) tree crop producers. Further, the data compares perceptions of each of the groups as to the extent to which selected problem areas are associated with the farming prevalent in the community. These responses reveal that all items are between a mean score from 1.50 to 3.49 which is evident that as a group, agricultural extension staff, food crop farmers and tree crop farmers reported the problem areas either as "a small problem" and "a moderate problem".

Agricultural Extension Staff Responses. Data shown in Table VII regarding perceptions of agricultural extension staff as to the extent selected items were considered problems reveal, as ranked in descending order, the following items as being those which respondents perceived as constituting "a moderate problem":

1. Cost of materials for farming operations,
2. Prices received for farm products,
3. Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods,
4. Ability of agricultural extension personnel to explain new and improved farming methods,

TABLE VII
 PERCEPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WITH REGARD
 TO THE RELATIVE EXTENT TO WHICH SELECTED ITEMS
 CONSTITUTE A PROBLEM FOR PRODUCERS

N = 18

| Item | Not A Problem | | A Small Problem | | A Moderate Problem | | A Severe Problem | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Resp. Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods | 3 | 16.70 | 2 | 11.10 | 5 | 27.80 | 8 | 44.40 | 54 | 3.00 | 3 |
| Ability of Agricultural Extension Personnel to explain new or improved farming methods | 3 | 16.70 | 5 | 27.80 | 5 | 27.80 | 5 | 27.80 | 48 | 2.67 | 4 |
| Usefulness of information provided by Agricultural Extension Personnel to farmers | 5 | 27.80 | 3 | 16.70 | 4 | 22.20 | 5 | 33.30 | 43 | 2.39 | 6 |
| Farm Productivity | 2 | 11.10 | 2 | 11.10 | 7 | 38.90 | 7 | 38.90 | 45 | 2.50 | 5 |
| Prices received for farm products | -- | ----- | 4 | 22.20 | 5 | 27.80 | 9 | 50.00 | 39 | 3.27 | 2 |
| Cost of materials for farming operations | 2 | 11.10 | 2 | 11.10 | 2 | 11.10 | 12 | 66.70 | 60 | 3.33 | 1 |

TABLE VIII
 PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS RESPONSES WITH REGARD
 TO THE RELATIVE EXTENT TO WHICH SELECTED ITEMS
 CONSTITUTE A PROBLEM FOR PRODUCERS

N = 70

| Item | Not A Problem | | A Small Problem | | A Moderate Problem | | A Severe Problem | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Resp. Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods | 14 | 20.00 | 6 | 8.57 | 11 | 15.71 | 39 | 55.71 | 215 | 3.07 | 6 |
| Ability of Agricultural Extension Personnel to explain new or improved farming methods | 6 | 8.57 | 12 | 17.14 | 21 | 30.00 | 31 | 44.29 | 217 | 3.10 | 5 |
| Usefulness of information provided by Agricultural Extension Personnel to farmers | 3 | 4.29 | 14 | 20.00 | 22 | 31.43 | 31 | 44.29 | 221 | 3.16 | 4 |
| Farm Productivity | 4 | 5.71 | 9 | 12.86 | 26 | 37.14 | 31 | 44.29 | 224 | 3.20 | 3 |
| Prices received for farm products | -- | ----- | 8 | 11.43 | 17 | 24.92 | 40 | 57.14 | 233 | 3.33 | 2 |
| Cost of materials for farming operations | 9 | 12.86 | 4 | 5.71 | 9 | 12.86 | 48 | 68.57 | 235 | 3.37 | 1 |

TABLE IX
 PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS RESPONSES WITH REGARD
 TO THE RELATIVE EXTENT TO WHICH SELECTED ITEMS
 CONSTITUTE A PROBLEM FOR PRODUCERS

N = 84

| Item | Not A Problem | | A Small Problem | | A Moderate Problem | | A Severe Problem | | Cumil. Rating | Mean Resp. | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods | 8 | 9.52 | 14 | 16.67 | 11 | 13.10 | 51 | 60.71 | 273 | 3.25 | 3 |
| Ability of Agricultural Extension Personnel to explain new or improved farming methods | 6 | 7.14 | 13 | 15.48 | 26 | 30.95 | 39 | 46.43 | 266 | 3.17 | 5 |
| Usefulness of information provided by Agricultural Extension Personnel to farmers | 6 | 7.14 | 11 | 13.10 | 31 | 36.90 | 36 | 42.86 | 265 | 3.15 | 6 |
| Farm Productivity | 6 | 7.14 | 8 | 9.52 | 31 | 36.90 | 39 | 46.43 | 271 | 3.23 | 4 |
| Prices received for farm products | 2 | 2.38 | 2 | 2.38 | 28 | 33.33 | 52 | 61.90 | 298 | 3.55 | 2** |
| Cost of materials for farming operations | 3 | 3.57 | 6 | 7.14 | 9 | 10.71 | 66 | 78.57 | 306 | 3.64 | 1** |

** A Severe Problem

5. Farm productivity, and
6. Usefulness of information provided by agricultural extension personnel to farmers.

Food Crop Producer Responses. Data as shown in Table VIII with regard to food crop farmers' response noteworthy reveal that all the problem areas earned a mean score of 3.07 to 3.37 evidencing that responding producers perceived all items as "a moderate problem".

The ranking was made in descending order of item each of which food crop producer respondents perceived as "a moderate problem". The ranking in order of the greater problem shown first:

1. Cost of materials for farming operations,
2. Prices received for farm products,
3. Farm productivity,
4. Usefulness of information provided by agricultural extension personnel to farmers,
5. Ability of agricultural extension personnel to explain new and improved methods, and
6. Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods.

Tree Crop Producer Responses. Data shown in Table IX with regard to tree crop farmers' responses, reveal that problem areas earned a mean score from 3.15 to 3.64. With the exception of two items" (1) the prices received for farm products and (2) cost of materials for farm operation both of which were considered as "a severe problem", all items were assessed as "a moderate problem". The ranking, made in descending order, of those items which tree crop farmers respondents considered "a severe problem". (One and two) and the remainder as

"a moderate problem" are:

1. Cost of materials for farming operation,
2. Prices received for farm products,
3. Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods,
4. Farm productivity,
5. Ability of agricultural extension personnel to explain new and improved farming methods, and
6. Usefulness of information provided by agricultural extension personnel to farmers.

There is no significant difference when responses expressed by food crop producers are compared with than that of agricultural extension staff.

Willingness to Work with Producers in Selected

Aspects of Group Activities

Findings as presented in Table X and XI reveal responses received from agricultural extension staff and producers regarding their willingness to work with producers in selected aspects of group activities. It is important to note that Table XI is a combined response of food crop producers and tree crop farmers.

Agricultural Extension Staff Responses. Data collected and presented in Table X reveal that all respondents in the study like working in a group. The respondents also indicated that they do have a current program with farmers to increase food production (18 (100.00 percent).

When extension respondents were asked "which of the following would you be interested in working with in a new program", 7 (38.89 percent)

TABLE X
 RESPONSES OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WORKERS WITH
 RESPECT TO THEIR WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH PRODUCERS
 IN SELECTED ASPECTS OF GROUP ACTIVITIES

| Item | Number | Percentage |
|--|--------|------------|
| Do you like working in a group? | | |
| Yes | 18 | 100.00 |
| No | -- | ----- |
| Do you have any current program with Farmers to increase food production? | | |
| Yes | 18 | 100.00 |
| No | -- | ----- |
| Which of the following would you be interested in working with in a new program: | | |
| Councillors | 5 | 27.78 |
| Community Leaders | 6 | 33.33 |
| Farmers | 7 | 38.89 |
| Type of help desired from above group/individuals: | | |
| Designing appropriate program for farmers | 2 | 11.11 |
| Getting information to farmers | 10 | 55.56 |
| Help organize farmers to regular meetings | 6 | 33.33 |

TABLE XI

SUMMARY OF PRODUCERS RESPONSES REGARDING THEIR
WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH A SELECTED
GROUP AND TYPE OF HELP DESIRED

| Item | Distribution by Response Group | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | Food Crop Farmers N = 70 | | Tree Crop Farmers N = 84 | | Total N = 154 | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Do you like working in a group: | | | | | | |
| Yes | 63 | 90.00 | 72 | 85.71 | 135 | 87.66 |
| No | 7 | 10.00 | 12 | 14.29 | 19 | 12.34 |
| Do you have any current program with Agric. Ext. to increase food production? | | | | | | |
| Yes | 48 | 68.57 | 58 | 69.05 | 106 | 68.83 |
| No | 22 | 31.43 | 26 | 30.95 | 48 | 31.17 |
| Which of the following would you be interested in working with in a new program: | | | | | | |
| Agric. Extn. Staff | 40 | 57.14 | 52 | 61.90 | 92 | 59.74 |
| Councillors | 3 | 4.29 | 4 | 4.76 | 7 | 4.55 |
| Community Leaders | 11 | 15.71 | 19 | 22.62 | 30 | 19.48 |
| Other Farmers | 13 | 18.57 | 7 | 8.33 | 20 | 12.99 |
| None of the Above | 3 | 4.29 | 2 | 2.38 | 5 | 3.25 |
| Type of help desired from above group/ individuals: | | | | | | |
| Designing appro- priate programs for farmers | 16 | 22.86 | 21 | 25.00 | 37 | 24.03 |
| Getting infor- mation to farmers | 27 | 38.57 | 37 | 44.05 | 64 | 41.56 |
| Supply of labor | 16 | 22.86 | 20 | 23.81 | 36 | 23.38 |
| Easing credit Restrictions | 11 | 15.71 | 6 | 7.14 | 17 | 11.04 |

preferred farmers, 6 (33.33 percent) preferred community leaders, while 5 (27.78 percent) preferred councillors. Another follow-up question "Type of help desired from above group/individuals?" reveals that 10 (55.56 percent) indicated getting information to farmers, 6 (33.33 percent) indicated help to organize farmers to regular meetings, while 2 (11.11 percent) preferred designing appropriate programs for farmers.

Householder/Producer Responses. Data collection and presented in Table XI show that of the 154 respondents included in the study, 135 (87.66 percent) like working in a group and 19 (12.34 percent) do not like working in a group. Of food crop producers and 72 (85.71 percent) were tree crop producers. Of the 19 farmers with a negative response, 7 (10.00 percent) were food crop farmers and 12 (14.29 percent) were tree crop farmers.

When producer respondents were asked if they have "Any current programs with agricultural extension staff to increase food production?" 106 (68.83 percent) answered "yes" while 48 (31.17 percent) answered "no". Of the 106 farmers with affirmative answers, 48 (68.57 percent) were food crop farmers and 58 (69.05 percent) were tree crop farmers.

When respondents were asked "Which of the following would you be interested in working with a new program?" 92 (59.74 percent) agricultural extension staff, 30 (19.38 percent) preferred community leaders, 20 (12.99 percent) preferred other farmers, 7 (4.55 percent) preferred councillors, and 5 (3.25 percent) indicated "none of the above".

Of the food crop respondents to the above question, 40 (57.14 percent) preferred agricultural extension staff, 13 (18.58 percent) preferred other farmers, 11 (15.71 percent) preferred community

leaders, 3 (4.29 percent) preferred councillors while 3 (4.29 percent) indicated "none of the above".

In a like manner, of the 84 tree crop respondents to the above question, 52 (61.90 percent) preferred agricultural extension staff, 19 (22.62 percent) preferred community leaders, 7 (8.33 percent) preferred other farmers, 4 (4.76 percent) preferred councillors and 2 (2.38 percent) indicated "none of the above".

Another follow-up question, "Type of help desired from above group/individuals?" reveals that of the 154 householder/producers in the study, 64 (41.56 percent) indicated designing appropriate programs for producers, 36 (23.38 percent) indicated supply of labor and 17 (11.4 percent) indicated ease credit difficulties.

Of the 70 food crop producers' responses as to the type of assistance desired, in descending order are to be found, 27 (38.57 percent) indicating getting information to farmers, 16 (22.86 percent) indicated finding adequate supply of labor, and 11 (15.71 percent) indicated easing of credit restrictions. In like manner, of the 84 tree crop respondents to the above question, 37 (44.05 percent) indicated getting information to farmers, 21 (25.00 percent) indicated designing appropriate programs for farmers, 20 (23.81 percent) indicated finding an adequate supply of labor, and 6 (7.14 percent) indicated easing credit restrictions.

There was no noticeable differences found when Tables X and XI are compared.

Program Head

Data shown in Tables XII and XIII present responses of agricultural

TABLE XII
 RESPONSES OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF
 WITH REGARD TO THE TYPE OF PEOPLE
 THEY WOULD PREFER FOR HEADING
 A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 18

| Item | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| Local Chief | 3 | 16.67 |
| Councillor | 1 | 5.56 |
| Agric. Extension Staff | 1 | 5.56 |
| Joint Committee of Farmers and Agricultural Extension Staff | 13 | 72.22 |

TABLE XIII

RESPONSES OF TWO GROUPS OF PRODUCERS WITH
 REGARD TO THE TYPE OF PEOPLE THEY
 WOULD PREFER TO HEAD THE FOOD
 CORPS PROGRAM

| Item | Distribution by Response Group | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | Food Crop Farmers N = 70 | | Tree Crop Farmers N = 84 | | Total N = 154 | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Whom would you like to head the Food Corps Program: | | | | | | |
| Local Chief | 10 | 14.29 | 17 | 20.24 | 27 | 17.53 |
| Councillor | 7 | 10.00 | 1 | 1.19 | 8 | 5.19 |
| Agric. Extn. Staff | 11 | 15.71 | 9 | 10.71 | 20 | 12.99 |
| Joint Committee of Farmers and Agric. Extension Staff | 42 | 60.00 | 57 | 67.86 | 99 | 64.29 |

extension staff and farmers, respectively, with regards to the type of people they would prefer for heading a food corps program.

It's important to note that Table XIII is a combined response of food crop farmers and tree crop farmers.

Agricultural Extension Staff. Data as shown in Table XII regarding the agricultural extension staff responses show that of the 18 respondents in the study, 13 (72.22 percent) would prefer local chief, 1 (5.56 percent) would prefer councillor, and 1 (5.56 percent) would prefer agricultural extension staff.

Householder/Producer Responses. Data shown in Table XIII regarding producers responses reveal that of 154 farmers included in the study, 99 (64.29 percent) would prefer a joint committee of farmers and agricultural extension staff and 8 (5.19 percent) would prefer a councillor.

Of the 70 food crop producers included in the study, 42 (60.00 percent) would prefer a joint committee of farmers and agricultural extension staff to head the program, 11 (15.71 percent) would prefer agricultural extension staff, 10 (14.29 percent) would prefer local chief and 7 (10.00 percent) prefer councillor.

In like manner, of the 84 tree crop respondents to the above question, 57 (67.86 percent) prefer a joint committee of farmers and agricultural extension staff, and 1 (1.19 percent) would prefer the councillor to head the program.

Data Description of the Most Appropriate
Methods to Involve Participants

The Most Effective Method of Getting
People Involved in the Program

The core to any successful program is the involvement of the people that the program is designed for. Table XIV, XV and XVI represent a perception of the most effective methods of involving participants. These responses reveal that all items are between a mean score from 2.50 to 4.00 which is evident that as a group agricultural extension staff, food crop farmers and tree crop farmers indicating the effective methods as "most effective" and "effective".

Agricultural Extension Staff Responses. Data as shown in Table XIV with regards to agricultural extension staff responses noteworthy that all the methods earned a mean score from 2.50 to 3.49 which evidences that agricultural extension staff perceived all methods as "effective" with the exception of one method, farm demonstrations in the village, which was perceived as "most effective" with a mean score of 3.56. The rankings were as follows:

1. Farm demonstration in the village,
2. Slide presentation at meetings,
3. Radio programs,
4. Agricultural extension visits,
5. Newspapers, and
6. TV programs.

Food Crop Responses. Findings presented in Table XV show responses

TABLE XIV

PERCEPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WITH REGARD
TO THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD OF GETTING PEOPLE
INVOLVED IN A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 18

| Methods | Most Effective | | Effective | | Less Effective | | Not Effective | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Slide presentation at meetings | 10 | 55.56 | 3 | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | -- | ----- | 59 | 3.29 | 2 |
| TV programs | 6 | 33.33 | 6 | 33.33 | 2 | 11.11 | 4 | 22.22 | 50 | 2.78 | 4 |
| Radio programs | 6 | 33.33 | 5 | 27.78 | 2 | 11.11 | 5 | 27.78 | 48 | 2.67 | 6 |
| Newspapers | 6 | 33.33 | 4 | 22.22 | 6 | 33.33 | 2 | 11.11 | 50 | 2.78 | 4 |
| Agricultural Extension Visits | 6 | 33.33 | 9 | 50.00 | 1 | 5.56 | 2 | 11.11 | 55 | 3.06 | 3 |
| Farm Demonstrations in Village | 14 | 77.78 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | 2 | 11.11 | 64 | 3.56 | 1* |

* Most Effective

TABLE XV
 PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE
 MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD OF GETTING PEOPLE
 INVOLVED IN A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 70

| Methods | Most Effective | | Effective | | Less Effective | | Not Effective | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Slide presentation at meetings | 50 | 71.43 | 16 | 22.86 | 4 | 5.71 | -- | ----- | 256 | 3.66 | 2* |
| TV programs | 34 | 48.57 | 25 | 35.71 | 9 | 12.86 | 2 | 2.86 | 231 | 3.30 | 5 |
| Radio programs | 32 | 45.71 | 30 | 42.86 | 8 | 11.43 | -- | ----- | 234 | 3.34 | 4 |
| Newspapers | 29 | 41.43 | 21 | 30.00 | 19 | 27.14 | 1 | 1.43 | 218 | 3.11 | 6 |
| Agricultural Extension Visits | 37 | 52.86 | 25 | 35.71 | 8 | 11.43 | -- | ----- | 239 | 3.41 | 3 |
| Farm Demonstrations in Village | 55 | 78.57 | 13 | 18.57 | 1 | 1.43 | 1 | 1.43 | 261 | 3.73 | 1* |

* Most Effective

TABLE XVI

PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE
 MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD OF GETTING PEOPLE
 INVOLVED IN A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 84

| Methods | Most Effective | | Effective | | Less Effective | | Not Effective | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Slide presentation at meetings | 58 | 69.05 | 17 | 20.24 | 8 | 9.53 | 1 | 1.19 | 300 | 3.57 | 2* |
| TV programs | 49 | 58.33 | 14 | 20.00 | 20 | 23.81 | 1 | 1.19 | 279 | 3.32 | 6 |
| Radio programs | 35 | 41.67 | 39 | 46.43 | 8 | 9.53 | 2 | 2.38 | 293 | 3.49 | 3 |
| Newspapers | 33 | 39.29 | 32 | 38.10 | 17 | 20.24 | 2 | 2.38 | 281 | 3.35 | 5 |
| Agricultural Extension Visits | 49 | 58.33 | 23 | 27.38 | 7 | 8.33 | 5 | 5.95 | 284 | 3.38 | 4 |
| Farm Demonstrations in Village | 65 | 77.38 | 16 | 19.05 | 1 | 1.19 | 2 | 2.38 | 312 | 3.71 | 1* |

* Most Effective

by the food crop farmers. Their responses reveal that all methods are between a mean score from 2.50 to 4.00 which is evidence that as a group food crop farmers reported the method as "most effective" and "effective".

Data as shown in Table XV with regard to the food crop farmers responses show ranking in descending order as follows:

1. Farm demonstration in the village,
2. Slide demonstration at the meetings,
3. Agricultural extension visits,
4. Radio programs,
5. TV programs, and
6. Newspapers.

Tree Crop Responses. Data presented in Table XVI with regard to responses made by tree crop producers show that all the methods earned a mean score from 2.50 to 4.00 which is evident that tree crop producers perceived all methods as "most effective" and "effective". Data as shown in Table XVI regarding the tree crop producers responses is ranked in descending order as follows:

1. Farm demonstrations in the village,
2. Slide presentation at meetings,
3. Radio programs,
4. Newspapers, and
5. TV programs.

Extent of Involvement in the Program

Data shown in Tables XVII, XVIII and XIX are perceptions of

TABLE XVII

PERCEPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WITH REGARD
TO THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED
IN THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 18

| Areas of Involvement | Always | | Often | | Sometimes | | Seldom | | Never | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Attending the program meeting | 10 | 55.56 | 7 | 38.89 | -- | ----- | 1 | 5.56 | -- | ----- | 80 | 4.44 | 2** |
| Helping to solicit others to join the program | 4 | 22.22 | 7 | 38.89 | 5 | 27.78 | 1 | 5.56 | 1 | 5.56 | 66 | 3.67 | 4** |
| Inviting prominent leaders to your demonstration | 4 | 22.22 | 8 | 44.44 | 4 | 22.22 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | 68 | 3.78 | 3** |
| Giving valuable advise to neighbors on how to improve their farming methode | 13 | 72.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 1 | 5.56 | -- | ----- | 1 | 5.56 | 81 | 4.50 | 1* |

* Always

** Often

TABLE XVIII

PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE
EXTENT TO WHICH THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED IN
THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 70

| Areas of Involvement | Always | | Often | | Sometimes | | Seldom | | Never | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Attending the program meeting | 54 | 77.14 | 15 | 21.43 | 1 | 1.43 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 333 | 4.76 | 1* |
| Helping to solicit others to join the program | 31 | 44.29 | 29 | 41.45 | 6 | 8.57 | 4 | 5.71 | -- | ----- | 297 | 4.24 | 3 |
| Inviting prominent leaders to your demonstration | 24 | 34.29 | 32 | 45.71 | 14 | 20.00 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 290 | 4.14 | 4 |
| Giving valuable advise to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods | 38 | 54.29 | 25 | 35.71 | 5 | 7.14 | 2 | 2.86 | -- | ----- | 309 | 4.41 | 2 |

* Always

TABLE XIX
 PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE
 EXTENT TO WHICH THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED IN
 THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 84

| Areas of Involvement | Always | | Often | | Sometimes | | Seldom | | Never | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|------|-------|------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Attending the program meeting | 63 | 75.00 | 17 | 20.24 | 1 | 1.19 | 1 | 1.19 | 2 | 2.38 | 390 | 4.64 | 1* |
| Helping to solicit others to join the program | 37 | 44.05 | 29 | 34.52 | 11 | 13.10 | 5 | 5.95 | 2 | 2.38 | 346 | 4.12 | 3 |
| Inviting prominent leaders to your demonstration | 23 | 27.38 | 38 | 45.24 | 14 | 20.00 | 4 | 4.76 | 5 | 5.95 | 233 | 3.82 | 4 |
| Giving valuable advise to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods | 47 | 55.95 | 27 | 32.14 | 5 | 5.95 | — | — | 5 | 5.95 | 367 | 4.37 | 2 |

* Always

agricultural extension staff, food crop producers and tree crop producers with regard to the extent to which they would be involved in the program. These responses, that all items are between a mean score from 3.50 to 5.00 which is evident that as a group, agricultural extension staff, food crop producers and tree crop producers perceived their involvement as "always" and "often".

Agricultural Extension Staff Responses. Data as shown in Table XVII with regards to agricultural extension staff responses reveal that all areas of involvement earned a mean score from 3.50 to 4.49, indicating that agricultural extension staff perceived all areas of involvement, "giving valuable advice to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods" which was perceived as "always" with a mean score of 4.50. The ranking was made in descending order as follows:

1. Giving valuable advice to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods,
2. Attending the program meeting,
3. Inviting prominent leaders to demonstrations, and
4. Helping to solicit others to joint the program.

Food Crop Producer Responses. Findings presented in Table XVIII show responses by the food crop producers. These responses reveal that all areas of involvement earned a mean score from 3.50 to 4.49, which is evident that food crop producers perceived all areas of involvement as "often" with the exception of one area, "attending the program meeting", which was perceived as "always" with a mean score of 4.76. These areas were ranked as follows:

1. Attending the program meeting,

2. Giving valuable advice to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods,
3. Helping to solicit others to join the program, and
4. Inviting prominent leaders to demonstrations.

Tree Crop Producers Responses. Data shown in Table XIX reveals the responses of tree crop producers. These responses reveal that all areas of involvement earned a mean score from 3.50 to 4.49, which is evident that tree crop producers perceived all areas of involvement as "often" with the exception of one area, "attending the program meeting", which was perceived as "always" with a mean score of 4.04. These areas were ranked as follows:

1. Attending the program meeting,
2. Giving valuable advice to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods,
3. Helping to solicit others to join the program, and
4. Inviting prominent leaders to the demonstrations.

The ranking order for the combined responses of food crop producers and tree crop producers is very similar to that expressed by agricultural extension staff.

Data Description of the Crops that

Could be Used in the Program

Extent to which Selected Crops will be

Important in the Program

Data shown in Tables XX and XXI are perceptions of food crop producers and tree crop producers with regards to the extent to which

TABLE XX
 PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO SELECTED
 CROPS THAT WILL BE MOST HELPFUL IN ESTABLISHING
 A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 70

| Selected Crops | Very Important | | Important | | Some Importance | | Little Importance | | No Importance | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava Planting and Harvesting | 57 | 72.86 | 15 | 21.43 | 4 | 5.71 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 327 | 4.67 | 2 |
| Pepper Planting and Harvesting | 13 | 18.57 | 30 | 42.86 | 20 | 28.57 | 7 | 10.00 | -- | ----- | 259 | 3.70 | 10 |
| Yam Planting and Harvesting | 62 | 88.57 | 5 | 7.14 | 3 | 4.29 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 339 | 4.84 | 1 |
| Tomato Planting and Harvesting | 20 | 28.57 | 19 | 27.14 | 26 | 37.14 | 3 | 4.29 | 2 | 2.86 | 262 | 3.74 | 9 |
| Corn Planting and Harvesting | 44 | 62.86 | 21 | 30.00 | 3 | 4.29 | 2 | 2.86 | -- | ----- | 317 | 4.53 | 4 |
| Cocoa-yam Planting and Harvesting | 49 | 70.00 | 17 | 24.29 | 3 | 4.29 | 1 | 1.43 | -- | ----- | 324 | 4.63 | 3 |
| Groundnut Planting and Harvesting | 30 | 42.86 | 14 | 20.00 | 20 | 28.57 | 2 | 2.86 | 4 | 5.71 | 274 | 3.91 | 8 |
| Potato Planting and Harvesting | 25 | 35.71 | 29 | 41.43 | 12 | 17.14 | 1 | 1.43 | 3 | 4.29 | 282 | 4.03 | 5 |
| Bean (black eye pea) Planting and Harvesting | 29 | 41.43 | 23 | 32.86 | 10 | 14.29 | 5 | 7.14 | 3 | 4.29 | 280 | 4.00 | 7 |
| Plantain Planting and Harvesting | 29 | 41.43 | 19 | 27.14 | 17 | 24.29 | 5 | 7.14 | -- | ----- | 282 | 4.03 | 5 |

TABLE XXI
 PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS RESPONSES WITH REGARD
 TO SELECTED CROPS THAT WILL BE MOST IMPORTANT
 IN THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 84

| Selected Crops | Very Important | | Important | | Some Importance | | Little Importance | | No Importance | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava Planting and Harvesting | 58 | 69.05 | 21 | 25.00 | 5 | 5.95 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 389 | 4.63 | 1 |
| Pepper Planting and Harvesting | 10 | 11.90 | 25 | 29.76 | 13 | 15.48 | 31 | 36.90 | 5 | 5.95 | 256 | 3.05 | 10 |
| Yam Planting and Harvesting | 49 | 58.33 | 30 | 35.71 | 5 | 5.95 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 380 | 4.52 | 2 |
| Tomato Planting and Harvesting | 24 | 28.57 | 31 | 36.90 | 20 | 23.81 | 8 | 9.52 | 1 | 1.19 | 321 | 3.82 | 7 |
| Corn Planting and Harvesting | 35 | 41.67 | 34 | 40.48 | 14 | 16.67 | 1 | 1.19 | -- | ----- | 355 | 4.23 | 5 |
| Cocoa-yam Planting and Harvesting | 42 | 50.00 | 30 | 35.71 | 11 | 13.10 | 1 | 1.19 | -- | ----- | 365 | 4.35 | 3 |
| Groundnut Planting and Harvesting | 25 | 29.76 | 37 | 44.05 | 17 | 20.24 | 5 | 5.95 | -- | ----- | 334 | 3.98 | 6 |
| Potato Planting and Harvesting | 17 | 20.24 | 30 | 35.71 | 23 | 27.38 | 11 | 13.10 | 3 | 3.57 | 299 | 3.56 | 8 |
| Bean (black eye pea) Planting and Harvesting | 18 | 21.43 | 26 | 30.95 | 25 | 29.76 | 11 | 13.10 | 4 | 4.76 | 295 | 3.51 | 9 |
| Plantain Planting and Harvesting | 45 | 53.57 | 17 | 20.24 | 20 | 23.81 | 2 | 2.38 | -- | ----- | 357 | 4.25 | 4 |

selected crops will be most important in the food corps program. These responses reveal that all selected crops are between a mean score from 2.50 to 5.00, which is evident that as a group, food crop producers and tree crop producers perceived that selected crops are "very important", "important" and "some importance".

Food Crop Producers Responses. Findings in Table XX, as perceived by the food crop producers, reveal that all selected crops are between a mean score from 3.50 to 5.00, which is evident that as a group, food crop producers perceived the selected crops as "very important" and "important".

The data in Table XX, with regard to food crop producers responses show the ranking in descending order as follows:

1. Yam planting and harvesting, and
2. Cassava

Tree Crop Producers Responses. Findings in Table XXI as perceived by the tree crop producers reveal that all selected crops are between a mean score from 3.50 to 5.00, which is evident that tree crop producers perceived all selected crops as "very important" and "important", with the exception of one crop, pepper planting and harvesting, which was perceived as "some importance" with a mean score of 3.05.

Because of the above situation, the ranking was made using the descending order of selected crops which the tree crop producer respondents perceived as "very important" and "important" respectively.

1. Cassava planting and harvesting, and
2. Yam planting and harvesting.

In like manner, those selected crops with which the tree crop producer

considered as important and as ranked in ascending order, were:

1. Cocoa-yam planting and harvesting,
2. Plantain planting and harvesting,
3. Corn planting and harvesting,
4. Groundnut planting and harvesting,
5. Tomato planting and harvesting,
6. Beans (black eye pea) planting and harvesting, and
7. Pepper planting and harvesting.

Number of Acres that Agricultural Extension
Staff would Advise for Selected Crops
in the Program

Data shown in Tables XXII and XXIII present summaries of responses of extension staff with regards to the number of acres of selected crop which they would advise for each farmer. It is worth noting that the role of agricultural extension staff in the food corps program is to work with the farmers to improve and increase their agricultural production.

When data shown in Tables XXII and XXIII are examined, it would seem rather revealing to discover that one-half of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per extension staff for the "first year" of the program while two-fifths of the selected crops had an average of 3.44 and above per "extension staff" for the "second year" of the program.

First Year Acreage. Data shown in Table XXII as perceived by agricultural extension staff with regard to the number of acreage of

TABLE XXII

PERCEPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WITH REGARD TO THE
NUMBER OF ACRES OF SELECTED CROPS WHICH THEY WOULD ADVISE
FOR EACH PRODUCER FOR THE FIRST YEAR
OF THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 18

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cummul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava | 8 | 44.44 | 5 | 27.78 | 4 | 22.22 | 1 | 5.56 | -- | ----- | 56 | 3.11 | 2 |
| Pepper | 1 | 5.56 | 4 | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 9 | 50.00 | -- | ----- | 23 | 1.28 | 10 |
| Yam | 8 | 44.44 | 3 | 16.67 | 7 | 38.89 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 55 | 3.06 | 4 |
| Tomatoes | 2 | 11.11 | 4 | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 7 | 38.89 | 2 | 11.11 | 33 | 1.83 | 8 |
| Corn | 10 | 55.56 | 6 | 33.33 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 62 | 3.44 | 1 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 7 | 38.89 | 5 | 27.78 | 6 | 33.33 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 55 | 3.06 | 4 |
| Groundnut | 2 | 11.11 | 4 | 22.22 | 6 | 33.33 | 6 | 33.33 | -- | ----- | 38 | 2.11 | 6 |
| Potatoes | 1 | 5.56 | 3 | 16.67 | 7 | 38.89 | 5 | 27.78 | 2 | 11.11 | 32 | 1.78 | 9 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 2 | 11.11 | 2 | 11.11 | 9 | 50.00 | 4 | 22.22 | 1 | 5.56 | 36 | 2.00 | 7 |
| Plantain | 9 | 50.00 | 2 | 11.11 | 5 | 27.78 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | 54 | 3.00 | 3 |

TABLE XXIII

PERCEPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF WITH REGARD TO THE
NUMBER OF ACRES OF SELECTED CROPS WHICH THEY WOULD ADVISE
FOR EACH PRODUCER FOR THE SECOND YEAR
OF THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 18

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cumul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava | 14 | 77.78 | 4 | 22.22 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 66 | 3.67 | 1 |
| Pepper | 3 | 16.67 | 1 | 5.56 | 8 | 44.44 | 6 | 33.33 | -- | ----- | 37 | 2.06 | 6 |
| Yam | 13 | 72.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 | 1 | 5.56 | -- | ----- | 66 | 3.67 | 1 |
| Tomatoes | 2 | 11.11 | 2 | 11.11 | 5 | 27.78 | 7 | 38.89 | 1 | 5.56 | 33 | 1.72 | 10 |
| Corn | 11 | 61.11 | 6 | 33.33 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 66 | 3.67 | 1 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 13 | 72.22 | 2 | 11.11 | 1 | 5.56 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | 62 | 3.44 | 4 |
| Groundnut | 2 | 11.11 | 6 | 33.33 | 7 | 38.89 | 3 | 16.67 | -- | ----- | 33 | 1.83 | 9 |
| Potatoes | 1 | 5.56 | 3 | 16.67 | 8 | 44.44 | 5 | 27.78 | 1 | 5.56 | 34 | 1.89 | 7 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 2 | 11.11 | 1 | 5.56 | 9 | 50.00 | 5 | 27.78 | 1 | 5.56 | 34 | 1.89 | 7 |
| Plantain | 12 | 66.67 | 2 | 11.11 | 2 | 11.11 | 2 | 11.11 | -- | ----- | 50 | 2.78 | 5 |

selected crops which they would advise each producer in the first year of the program.

The selected crops ranked are based on the average in descending order. These are:

1. Corn
2. Cassava
3. Plantain
4. (tie) Yam and Cocoa-yam
6. Groundnuts
7. Bean
8. Tomatoes
9. Potatoes
10. Pepper

Second Year. Data shown in Table XXIII, as perceived by agricultural extension staff with regard to the number of acreage of selected crops which they would advise each producer in the second year of the program.

The selected crops ranked are based on the average acreage in descending order. These are:

1. (tie) Cassava, Yam and Corn
4. Cocoa-yam
5. Plantain
6. Pepper
7. (tie) Potatoes and bean
9. Groundnuts
10. Tomatoes

It should be noted that when responses regarding the number of

acres "extension staff" would advise each producer are compared for the "first year" and "second year" of the program, five selected crops are ranked among the first five for each period. These were cassava, yam, corn, cocoa-yam and plantain. One can deduce that the extension staff perceived the above crops as the main food crop of the producers in the division.

Number of Acres that Food Crop Producers feel

Appropriate to use for Selected Crops

in the Program

Data shown in Tables XXIV and XXV, as perceived by food crop producers with regard to the number of acres of plantings of selected crops in the program. When data shown in Tables XXIV and XXV are examined, it reveals that two-fifths of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per producer for the "first year" and three-fifths of the selected crop had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per producer in the "second year" of the program.

First Year Acreage. Findings presented in Table XXIV as perceived by food crop producers with regard to the number of acreage of plantings of selected crops they feel appropriate in the first year of the program. The selected crops ranked are based on average descending order. These are:

1. Cassava
2. Yam
3. Corn
4. Cocoa-yam
5. Tomatoes

TABLE XXIV

PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER
OF ACRES OF PLANTINGS OF SELECTED CROPS THEY
FEEL APPROPRIATE IN THE FIRST YEAR OF
THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 70

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cummul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava | 56 | 80.00 | 11 | 15.71 | 3 | 42.86 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 263 | 3.76 | 1 |
| Pepper | 10 | 14.29 | 17 | 24.29 | 19 | 27.14 | 24 | 34.29 | -- | ----- | 153 | 2.19 | 10 |
| Yam | 53 | 75.71 | 14 | 20.00 | 2 | 2.86 | 1 | 1.43 | -- | ----- | 259 | 3.70 | 2 |
| Tomatoes | 30 | 42.86 | 14 | 20.00 | 20 | 28.57 | 6 | 8.57 | -- | ----- | 208 | 2.97 | 7 |
| Corn | 40 | 57.14 | 19 | 27.14 | 11 | 15.71 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 239 | 3.41 | 3 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 37 | 52.86 | 21 | 30.00 | 11 | 15.71 | 1 | 1.43 | -- | ----- | 234 | 3.34 | 4 |
| Groundnut | 26 | 37.14 | 24 | 34.29 | 16 | 22.86 | 4 | 5.71 | -- | ----- | 212 | 3.03 | 5 |
| Potatoes | 15 | 21.43 | 22 | 31.43 | 16 | 25.71 | 13 | 17.57 | 2 | 2.86 | 175 | 2.50 | 9 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 9 | 12.86 | 29 | 41.43 | 25 | 35.71 | 5 | 7.14 | 2 | 2.86 | 178 | 2.54 | 8 |
| Plantain | 22 | 31.43 | 29 | 41.43 | 17 | 24.29 | 2 | 2.86 | -- | ----- | 211 | 3.01 | 6 |

TABLE XXV

PERCEPTIONS OF FOOD CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER
OF ACRES OF PLANTINGS OF SELECTED CROPS THEY FEEL
APPROPRIATE IN THE SECOND YEAR
OF THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 70

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cummul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava | 46 | 65.71 | 19 | 27.14 | 5 | 7.14 | — | ----- | — | ----- | 251 | 3.59 | 1 |
| Pepper | 7 | 10.00 | 14 | 20.00 | 20 | 28.57 | 29 | 41.43 | — | ----- | 139 | 1.99 | 10 |
| Yam | 45 | 64.29 | 15 | 21.43 | 10 | 14.29 | — | ----- | — | ----- | 245 | 3.50 | 2 |
| Tomatoes | 25 | 35.71 | 16 | 22.86 | 16 | 22.86 | 13 | 18.57 | — | ----- | 193 | 2.76 | 5 |
| Corn | 37 | 52.86 | 18 | 25.71 | 13 | 18.57 | 2 | 2.86 | — | ----- | 230 | 3.29 | 3 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 31 | 44.29 | 19 | 27.14 | 18 | 25.71 | 2 | 2.86 | — | ----- | 219 | 3.13 | 4 |
| Groundnut | 21 | 30.00 | 18 | 25.71 | 19 | 27.14 | 10 | 14.29 | 2 | 2.86 | 186 | 2.66 | 6 |
| Potatoes | 11 | 15.71 | 19 | 27.14 | 25 | 35.71 | 13 | 18.57 | 2 | 2.866 | 164 | 2.34 | 8 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 1 | 1.43 | 21 | 30.00 | 29 | 41.43 | 17 | 25.71 | 1 | 1.43 | 142 | 2.03 | 9 |
| Plantain | 15 | 21.43 | 27 | 38.57 | 17 | 24.29 | 11 | 15.71 | — | ----- | 186 | 2.66 | 6 |

6. (tie) Groundnuts and Plantain
8. Potatoes
9. Bean
10. Pepper

Second Year Acreage. Data shown in Table XXV, as perceived by food crop producers, with regards to the number of acreage of plantings of selected crops they feel appropriate in the second year of the program.

The selected crops ranked are based on average descending order.

These are:

1. Cassava
2. Yam
3. Corn
4. Cocoa-yam
5. Groundnuts
6. Plantain
7. Tomatoes
8. Beans
9. Potatoes
10. Pepper

It is interesting to note the responses regarding the number of acreage food crop producers feel appropriate when compared with the "first year" and "second year" of the program. The ranking remains the same for the first four crops, while two other crops average acreage increases in the second year period. These crops were groundnuts from 2.66 to 3.01 acres in the second year. Further, examination will reveal that these two crops were tied for the sixth rank in the

first year period.

Number of Acres that Tree Crop Producers would
like to use for Selected Crop in the Program

Data shown in Tables XXVI and XXVII, as perceived by tree crop producers with regard to the number of acres of planting of selected crops which they feel appropriate to the number of acres of planting of selected crops which they feel appropriate in the program. It is worth noting that the tree crop producer also engages in food crop production to a limited extent. When data shown in Tables XXVI and XXVII are examined, it reveals that one-half of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per producer for both periods in the program.

First Year Acreage. Findings presented in Table XXVI reveal tree crop producers perceptions with regard to the number of acreage of plantings of selected crops they feel appropriate in the first year of the program. The selected crops ranked are based on average acreage in descending order. These are:

1. Yam
2. Cassava
3. Corn
4. Plantain
5. Cocoa-yam
6. Groundnuts
7. Tomatoes
8. Potatoes
9. Bean

TABLE XXVI

PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER
OF ACRES OF PLANTINGS OF SELECTED CROPS THEY FEEL
APPROPRIATE IN THE FIRST YEAR
OF THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 84

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cumul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Cassava | 56 | 66.67 | 19 | 22.62 | 7 | 8.33 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 295 | 3.51 | 2 |
| Pepper | 3 | 3.57 | 20 | 23.81 | 26 | 30.95 | 30 | 35.71 | 5 | 5.95 | 154 | 1.83 | 10 |
| Yam | 63 | 75.00 | 20 | 23.81 | 10 | 11.90 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 332 | 3.95 | 1 |
| Tomatoes | 28 | 33.33 | 16 | 19.05 | 23 | 27.38 | 14 | 16.67 | 1 | 1.19 | 220 | 2.62 | 7 |
| Corn | 42 | 50.00 | 21 | 25.00 | 19 | 22.62 | 2 | 2.38 | -- | ----- | 271 | 3.23 | 3 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 38 | 45.24 | 18 | 21.43 | 20 | 23.81 | 7 | 8.33 | 1 | 1.19 | 253 | 3.01 | 5 |
| Groundnut | 26 | 30.95 | 27 | 32.14 | 23 | 27.38 | 6 | 7.14 | 2 | 2.38 | 237 | 2.82 | 6 |
| Potatoes | 11 | 13.10 | 25 | 29.76 | 30 | 35.71 | 12 | 14.29 | 6 | 7.14 | 191 | 2.27 | 8 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 6 | 7.14 | 22 | 29.19 | 36 | 42.86 | 17 | 20.24 | 3 | 3.57 | 179 | 2.13 | 9 |
| Plantain | 34 | 40.48 | 26 | 30.95 | 24 | 28.57 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 262 | 3.12 | 4 |

TABLE XXVII

PERCEPTIONS OF TREE CROP PRODUCERS WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER
OF ACRES OF PLANTINGS OF SELECTED CROPS THEY FEEL
APPROPRIATE IN THE SECOND YEAR
OF THE FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 84

| Selected Crops | 4 acres | | 3 acres | | 2 acres | | 1 acres | | 0 acres | | Cumul. Acreage | Average Acreage | Rank |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Cassava | 66 | 78.57 | 15 | 17.86 | 3 | 3.57 | — | ----- | -- | ----- | 315 | 3.75 | 1 |
| Pepper | 5 | 5.95 | 24 | 28.57 | 37 | 44.05 | 16 | 19.05 | 2 | 2.38 | 182 | 2.17 | 10 |
| Yam | 63 | 75.00 | 13 | 15.48 | 7 | 8.33 | 1 | 1.19 | -- | ----- | 306 | 3.64 | 2 |
| Tomatoes | 37 | 44.05 | 18 | 24.13 | 18 | 20.43 | 9 | 10.71 | 2 | 2.38 | 247 | 2.94 | 6 |
| Corn | 53 | 63.10 | 19 | 22.62 | 11 | 13.10 | 1 | 1.19 | -- | ----- | 292 | 3.48 | 3 |
| Cocoa-Yam | 45 | 53.57 | 24 | 29.76 | 14 | 16.67 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 280 | 3.33 | 4 |
| Groundnut | 36 | 42.86 | 20 | 23.81 | 12 | 14.29 | 6 | 7.14 | -- | ----- | 234 | 2.79 | 7 |
| Potatoes | 24 | 28.57 | 32 | 38.10 | 13 | 15.48 | 11 | 13.10 | 4 | 4.67 | 229 | 2.73 | 8 |
| Bean (Black Eye Peas) | 15 | 17.86 | 30 | 35.71 | 18 | 21.43 | 17 | 20.24 | 4 | 4.76 | 208 | 2.48 | 9 |
| Plantain | 37 | 44.05 | 32 | 38.10 | 13 | 15.48 | 2 | 2.38 | -- | ----- | 272 | 3.24 | 5 |

10. Pepper

Second Year. Data shown in Table XXVII, as perceived by tree crop producers with regard to the number of acreage of plantings of selected crops they feel appropriate in the second year of the program. The selected crops ranked are based on average acreage in descending order.

These are:

1. Cassava
2. Yam
3. Corn
4. Cocoa-yam
5. Plantain
6. Tomatoes
7. Groundnuts
8. Potatoes
9. Beans
10. Pepper

When data shown in Tables XXVI and XXVII are compared, there is no difference found. When data shown in XXIV and XXVI of food crop producers and tree crop producers respectively are compared, it would seem rather revealing to discover that one-half of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above for tree crop producers for the "first year" of the program while food crop producers were found to have two-fifths of selected crops in the range of 3.00 average acreage for the same period. The striking differences occur due to the fact that the tree crop producers on "plantain", fourth rank, to protect their tree crops from the wind.

There was not significant differences found when Table XXV is compared to Table XXVII for the same period.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this chapter is to present in a concise manner the following topics: Purpose of the Study, Specific Objectives, Rationale for the Study, Design of the Study and the Major Findings of the Research. Through a detailed inspection of the preceding issues, conclusions and recommendations were presented based on the analysis of data herein.

Purpose of the Study

The major purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of a community based food corps program and to establish recommendations as to how agricultural extension workers can most effectively direct and guide farmers to become involved in such a program. Further, the study sought to discover how extension workers and farmers might cooperate through a joint effort to enhance food crop production and enable success for such a program.

Objectives of the Study

To satisfy the purpose, the following objectives were cited:

1. To describe the function of successful community-based food corp programs.

2. To determine the possible degree of acceptance of a food corp program by agricultural extension personnel and farmers.
3. To determine the appropriate methods of initiating a food corps program in Ikom Division.
4. To make conclusions as to the feasibility of a community based food corps program in Ikom Division.
5. To develop recommendations as to actions which should be taken to assure success of such a program.

Rationale for the Study

For the past two decades, the government has instituted a number of programs to solve the problem of feeding the nation's poor and building a viable rural environment, but each of the programs have fallen short of its objectives. The early 60's saw the birth of government farm settlements. The purpose of the government farm settlements was: (1) to increase food production, (2) to train young people on the different methods of farming, and (3) to improve the well-being of the rural communities.

The farm settlement program fell short of its objectives because:

1. Crops that were being promoted in the program were for export markets;
2. No emphasis was placed on local food crops that was vital to community;
3. Amenities were concerned on farm settlements while surrounding villages were neglected. This lead to rural farmers moving to the farm settlements to work for the government farms to enable them to enjoy such amenities

as electricity, pipe borne water, medical care, and day care centers for their children; and

4. Research and extension programs never reached the rural farmers until the late 60's.

The early 70's and late 70's saw the birth of the Green Revolution and Operation Feed the Nation, respectively. Their objective was to increase food production through an integration of research, extension and the rural farmers. The program suffered a set back because:

1. The rural farmers were not involved in the planning of the program that they were expected to carry out.
2. The policy makers injected the idea of government farms to increase food production and stabilize food prices. The farmers felt it was a direct competition by the government.
3. Farm inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides machinery and new hybrids of crops) that were supposed to be subsidized was hard to come by.
4. The political atmosphere was uncertain for investors to take the risk.
5. There were too few trained extension staff to effectively interpret and carry out government programs. Also they were underpaid, no means of transportation, lack of accommodations, and lack of support from other government agencies to enable them to effectively carry out their duties.

The need for a well coordinated program is essential to the development of a viable rural environment.

Design of the Study

Following a review of previously completed research and literature related to the problem, the major tasks involved in the design and conduct of the study were:

1. Selecting the study population,
2. Developing an instrument for data collection,
3. Collecting data, and
4. Analyzing the findings.

The study population consisted of three categories of respondents:

1. Agricultural extension staff,
2. Food crop producers, and
3. Tree crop producers.

For the agricultural extension staff respondents, 22 agricultural extension staff were reported in the 1973 census data and all were used. As can be seen, response to the survey was 82 percent of the respondents participated.

Among the target population of the householder/producers in the twenty-one sampling units (sampling units reflecting approximately equal population groupings for sampling purposes) a sample of 210 was taken from the units. The producers sample was taken according to a grid technique described in detail in the directions for administering the questionnaire (Figure ⁶4).

Regarding responses returned by the producer, 70 (62.64 percent) of food crop producers participated, while 84 (84.00 percent) tree crop producers participated. Data so secured, collated, and analyzed provided the basis from which findings of the study which led to conclusions drawn and recommendations made.

Summary of Findings

Personal and Demographic Data of Respondents

1. Of the 18 agricultural extension staff surveyed in this study, 5 (27.78 percent) were in Agricultural Extension (Tree Crop Unit), and 13 (72.22 percent) were in Agricultural Extension (Food Crop Unit). Seven (39.89 percent) have been in extension service between 0-9 years, 5 (27.78 percent) between 10-19 years, 3 (16.67 percent) between 20-29 years, 2 (11.11 percent) between 30-39 years, and 1 (5.56 percent) has been in extension for more than 40 years.
2. Householder/producers, as farmers, consist largely of younger people, with 50 percent of the producers being below 40 years old.
3. The exodus to metropolitan centers by the young people in the early 70's leaving the burden of modern practices in agriculture to the aged and illiterate farmers is leveling off. This can be seen with the steady increase of younger people in farming.

Findings presented as a summary in Table VI show differences between responses of the two groups with regard to their age and years in farming. It is interesting to note that:

1. There are twice more people between ages 60-69, in tree crop producing than food crop producing,
2. About 35 percent of all food crop producers have been farming nine years or less compared to only 11.90 percent of tree crop producers, and

3. About 33 percent of all tree crop producers have been in farming for more than 29 years compared with food crop producers with only 18 percent for the same period.

Summary of Findings Descriptive of Probable
Acceptance of the Food Corps Program

Extent to which Selected Items Constitute a
Problem for Producers

Responses of Agricultural Extension Staff. Findings presented as responses in Table VII show that agricultural extension staff perceived as a "moderate problem" all items thereby constituting a problem for producers. It would seem that the agricultural extension staff should offer opportunities for regular interactions to enable the farmers to try and solve some of these problems.

Producers. Findings presented as a summary in Tables VIII and IX show that food crop producers and tree crop producers respectively, perceived as "moderate problem" and "severe problem" all items, except two, which was felt to be "a severe problem" by the tree crop producers. These two items were prices received for farm products and cost of materials for farming operations.

Table XXVIII was designed to present an overall summary of farmers response with regard to the relative extent to which selected items constitute a problem for producers in the community. These were prices received for farm products and cost of materials for farming operations.

TABLE XXVIII

SUMMARY OF PRODUCERS PERCEPTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE RELATIVE
EXTENT TO WHICH SELECTED ITEMS CONSTITUTE A
PROBLEM FOR PRODUCERS

N = 154

| Item | Not A Problem | | A Small Problem | | A Moderate Problem | | A Severe Problem | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Resp. Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Opportunity to learn about improved farming methods | 22 | 14.29 | 20 | 12.99 | 22 | 14.29 | 90 | 58.44 | 488 | 3.17 | 4 |
| Ability of Agricultural Extension Personnel to explain new or improved farming methods | 12 | 7.79 | 25 | 16.23 | 47 | 30.52 | 70 | 45.45 | 483 | 3.14 | 6 |
| Usefulness of information provided by Agricultural Extension Personnel to farmers | 9 | 5.84 | 25 | 16.23 | 53 | 34.42 | 67 | 43.51 | 486 | 3.16 | 5 |
| Farm Productivity | 10 | 6.49 | 18 | 11.69 | 57 | 37.01 | 70 | 45.45 | 497 | 3.23 | 3 |
| Prices received for farm products | 2 | 1.30 | 25 | 16.23 | 45 | 29.22 | 92 | 59.74 | 555 | 3.60 | 1* |
| Cost of materials for farming operations | 12 | 7.79 | 10 | 6.49 | 18 | 11.69 | 114 | 74.03 | 542 | 3.52 | 2* |

* A severe problem.

Willingness to Work with Farmers in Selected
Aspect of Group Activity

Agricultural Extension Staff. Extension staff revealed they currently have a program with producers to increase food production. It was also revealed that 38.89 percent of the agricultural extension staff would be interested in working with producers in the food corps program, 33.33 percent would prefer to work with community leaders and 27.78 percent preferred working with councillors in the program.

When they asked "the type of help they desired from the above group", 55.6 percent indicated getting information to producers, 33.33 percent would like help in soliciting producers to regular meetings, while 11.11 percent would like to get help in designing appropriate programs for producers.

Householder/Producer. Findings presented as perceived by producers in Table XI reveal that 68.83 percent of the producers have a current program with the extension staff while 31.17 percent said they don't have any program with extension staff. It was also found that 59.74 percent would prefer to work in a food corps program with extension staff, 19.48 prefer community leaders, 12.99 percent prefer other farmers, 4.55 percent prefer councillors and 3.25 indicated "none of the above".

When they were asked "type of help desired from the above group", 41.56 percent indicated getting information to farmers, 24.03 percent would like help in designing appropriate programs for farmers, 23.38 percent would like help in the supply of labor, while 11.04 percent in areas of easing credit restrictions.

Program Head

Agricultural Extension Staff. Findings presented as indicated in Table XII show that 72.22 percent of extension staff would like a joint committee of farmers and agricultural extension staff to head the program, 16.67 percent would prefer the local chief, while 5.56 percent would prefer a councillor or an agricultural extension staff to head the program.

Householder/Producer. Findings as presented in Table XIII show that 64.29 percent of the farmers would prefer a joint committee of farmers and agricultural extension staff to head the program, 17.53 percent would prefer local chief, 12.99 percent prefer an agricultural extension staff and 5.19 percent would prefer a councillor to head the program.

Summary of Findings Descriptive of the Most
Appropriate Methods to Involve
Participants

The Most Effective Method of getting People
Involved in the Program

Agricultural Extension Staff. Findings as presented in Table XIV reveals that agricultural extension staff perceived as "effective" all methods except one, which was felt to be "most effective". This was farm demonstration in the village. It would seem that the method of approach by the agricultural extension staff in effectively involving participants should be a combination of all methods expressed with high priority given to farm demonstration in the village, slide presentation

at meetings and agricultural extension visits.

Householder/Producers. Findings as presented in Table XXIX is a summary of the data presented in Tables XV and XVI, revealing that both groups perceived as "effective" and "most effective" all methods of involving participants.

Producers felt farm demonstration in the village and slide demonstration at meetings are most effective in involving participants in the program. The "effective" methods are ranked in descending order as follows:

1. Agricultural extension staff visits,
2. TV programs,
3. Radio programs, and
4. Newspapers.

Extent of Involvement in the Program

It was found that agricultural extension staff perceived as "often" their extent of involvement in the program, with the exception of one area of involvement, which they expressed as "always". This was "giving valuable advice to neighbors on how to improve their farming method".

Findings as presented in Table XXX for both food crop producers and tree crop producers show that producers express as "often", all areas of involvement except one, which was felt to be "always". This was "attending the program meetings". It would seem that the producers are interested in the program and willing to attend regular meetings.

TABLE XXIX

**SUMMARY OF PRODUCERS RESPONSES WITH REGARD TO THE MOST EFFECTIVE
METHOD OF GETTING PEOPLE INVOLVED IN A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM**

N = 154

| Methods | Most Effective | | Effective | | Less Effective | | Not Effective | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Slide presentation at meetings | 112 | 72.73 | 33 | 21.43 | 12 | 7.79 | 1 | 0.65 | 556 | 3.61 | 2 |
| TV programs | 83 | 53.90 | 39 | 25.32 | 29 | 18.83 | 3 | 1.95 | 510 | 3.31 | 4 |
| Radio programs | 67 | 45.51 | 69 | 44.81 | 16 | 10.39 | 2 | 1.30 | 509 | 3.31 | 4 |
| Newspapers | 62 | 40.26 | 53 | 34.42 | 36 | 23.78 | 3 | 1.95 | 483 | 3.14 | 6 |
| Agricultural Extension Visits | 86 | 55.84 | 48 | 31.17 | 15 | 9.74 | 5 | 3.25 | 519 | 3.37 | 3 |
| Farm Demonstration in Village | 120 | 77.92 | 29 | 18.83 | 2 | 1.30 | 3 | 1.95 | 578 | 3.75 | 1 |

TABLE XXX

SUMMARY OF PRODUCERS PERCEPTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE EXTENT TO
WHICH THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED IN A
FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 154

| Areas of Involvement | Always | | Often | | Sometimes | | Seldom | | Never | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|------|-------|------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Attending the program meeting | 117 | 75.97 | 30 | 19.48 | 3 | 1.95 | 1 | 0.65 | 2 | 1.30 | 723 | 4.69 | 1 |
| Helping to solicit others to join the program | 68 | 44.16 | 58 | 37.66 | 17 | 11.04 | 9 | 5.84 | 2 | 1.30 | 642 | 4.17 | 3 |
| Inviting prominent leaders to your demonstration | 47 | 30.52 | 70 | 45.45 | 28 | 18.18 | 5 | 3.25 | 5 | 3.25 | 604 | 3.92 | 4 |
| Giving valuable advise to neighbors on how to improve their farming methods | 85 | 55.19 | 52 | 33.77 | 10 | 6.49 | 2 | 1.30 | 5 | 3.25 | 670 | 4.35 | 2 |

Summary of Findings Descriptive of the Crops
that Could be Used in the Program

Extent to Which Selected Crops will be
Important in the Program

Findings as presented in Table XXXI is a summary of the data presented in Tables XIX and XX. It reveals that food crop producers and tree crop producers express as "very important" two out of the ten selected crops. These were yam planting and harvesting and cassava planting and harvesting. While cocoa-yam, corn, plantain, groundnut, tomato and potatoes were felt to be "important". Beans and pepper planting and harvest were felt to be of "some importance".

Number of Acres that Agricultural Extension
Staff would Advise for Selected Crops
In the Program

Data presented as summary in Table XXII reveal that one-half of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above which the extension staff perceived they would advise farmers. These crops were corn, cassava, plantain, yam and cocoa-yam. While groundnut, beans, tomatoes, potatoes and pepper had an average acreage of 12.8 and above.

Findings as presented in Table XXIII reveal that three selected crops were tied in rank for the first position. These crops were cassava, yam and corn, while cocoa-yam, plantain and pepper were ranked "fourth", "fifth" and "sixth" respectively. Potatoes and beans were tied at the seventh position, while groundnuts and tomatoes were ranked "ninth" and "tenth" respectively.

TABLE XXXI

SUMMARY OF PRODUCERS PERCEPTIONS WITH THE REGARD TO SELECTED
CROPS THAT WILL BE MOST IMPORTANT IN ESTABLISHING
A FOOD CORPS PROGRAM

N = 154

| Selected Crops | Very Important | | Important | | Some Importance | | Little Importance | | No Importance | | Cumul. Rating | Mean Score | Rank by Mean Score |
|--|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | N | X | | | |
| Cassava Planting and Harvesting | 109 | 70.78 | 36 | 23.38 | 9 | 5.84 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 716 | 4.68 | 2 |
| Pepper Planting and Harvesting | 23 | 14.94 | 55 | 35.71 | 33 | 21.43 | 38 | 24.68 | 5 | 3.25 | 515 | 3.34 | 10 |
| Yam Planting and Harvesting | 111 | 72.08 | 35 | 22.73 | 8 | 5.19 | -- | ----- | -- | ----- | 719 | 4.67 | 1 |
| Tomato Planting and Harvesting | 44 | 28.57 | 50 | 32.47 | 46 | 29.87 | 11 | 7.14 | 3 | 1.95 | 583 | 3.79 | 7 |
| Corn Planting and Harvesting | 79 | 51.30 | 55 | 35.71 | 17 | 11.04 | 3 | 1.95 | -- | ----- | 672 | 4.36 | 4 |
| Cocoa-yam Planting and Harvesting | 91 | 59.10 | 47 | 30.52 | 14 | 9.10 | 2 | 1.30 | -- | ----- | 689 | 4.47 | 3 |
| Groundnut Planting and Harvesting | 55 | 35.71 | 51 | 33.12 | 37 | 24.03 | 7 | 4.55 | 4 | 2.60 | 608 | 3.95 | 6 |
| Potato Planting and Harvesting | 42 | 27.27 | 59 | 38.31 | 35 | 22.73 | 12 | 7.79 | 6 | 3.90 | 581 | 3.77 | 8 |
| Bean (black eye pea) Planting and Harvesting | 47 | 30.52 | 49 | 31.82 | 35 | 22.73 | 15 | 10.39 | 7 | 4.55 | 575 | 2.73 | 9 |
| Plantain Planting and Harvesting | 74 | 48.05 | 36 | 23.38 | 37 | 24.03 | 7 | 4.55 | -- | ----- | 639 | 4.15 | 5 |

Number of Acres that Food Crop Producers Feel

Appropriate to Use for Plantings of

Selected Crops in the Program

Findings as presented in Table XXIV show that two-fifths of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per producer of the "first year" of the program. These were cassava, yam, corn and cocoa-yam. In like manner, Table XXV reveals that three-fifths of the selected crops had an average acreage of 3.00 and above per producer of the "second year" of the program. These were cassava, yam, corn, cocoa-yam, groundnuts and plantain.

It is worth noting that the first four selected crops for both years are the major food crops of the community.

Number of Acres that Tree Crop Producers Feel

Appropriate to Use for Plantings of

Selected Crops in the Program

Findings as presented in Table XXVI show that 50.00 percent of the selected crops had an average acreage score above 3.00 per producer for the "first year" of the program. These were yams, cassava, corn, plantain and cocoa-yam. While findings presented in Table XVII also show that 50.00 percent of the selected crops had an average acreage score above 3.00 acres per producer for the "second year" of the program. These were cassava, yam, corn, cocoa-yam and plantain.

Summary Statement as to Achievement

of Objectives of Study

1. The establishment of a food corps program does appear to be

feasible. This conclusion is justified through examination of data showing favorable perceptions by both a majority of householder/producers and by agricultural extension workers.

2. The appropriate methods to be used in establishing a food corps program were found to be:
 - a. Forming a joint committee of agricultural extension staff and producers;
 - b. Regular meetings in the villages between agricultural extension staff and producers; and
 - c. Having a farm demonstration in the village.
3. Recommendations as to actions which should be taken to assume success of the program are spelled out in the section of this chapter entitled "Recommendations".

Conclusions

From the analysis and interpretations of findings of the study, the following conclusions were made by the researcher.

Conclusion Concerning Probable Acceptance of the Food Corps Program

1. Findings as shown in Table X revealed that most of the respondents accented the idea of food corps programs in the community.
2. Respondents are interested in opening a better channel of communication as revealed in findings shown in Table XI.

Conclusions Concerning the Most Appropriate
Methods of Involving Participants

1. Joint committee of producers and extension workers be formed to head the program.
2. Producers attach much importance to farm demonstration in the village and slide presentations at meetings as revealed in findings presented in Table XXX.

Conclusions Concerning Crops that Could be
Used in the Program

1. Findings as shown in Table XXXI revealed that yams, cassava, cocoa-yam and corn were chosen "first", "second", "third", and "fourth" respectively as the major crops. The need for improved food crop varieties is well recognized by the farmers whose livelihood will be ruined by lack of improved farming methods and market for their products.
2. Producers reveal that using three acres in the first and second year of the program with the fore mentioned crops was more feasible.

Recommendations

As a result of the conclusions drawn from the review of literature, analysis and interpretation of data, the following recommendations are made:

1. Findings of this study should be made available to the Ministry of Agriculture to be discussed in workshops for agricultural extension staff.

2. Of foremost importance, as indicated by the literature and this study, close communication between the agricultural extension staff and producers should be encouraged. A greater majority of the agricultural extension staff and producers agreed on the importance of information flow between the two groups.
3. The government should encourage the extension staff to attend regular in-service training to enable them to be able to teach the producers new methods of production.
4. The extension staff should organize regular meetings to help identify producers who would be interested in working with the committees to start a food corp program.
5. Producers should be involved in conducting agricultural extension education programs.
6. A joint committee of producers and agricultural extension staff should be formed. This committee should be able to identify, recruit and utilize program planning and advisory committees in the conduct of the food corps program.
7. The initial phase of the program should begin with emphasis on four crops, cassava, yam, cocoa-yam and corn. This will enable the agricultural extension staff to effectively provide slides depicting cultural practices to be applied at various stages of growth of the forementioned crops.
8. This study should be replicated in other divisions of Nigeria likewise using a sample of agricultural extension staff and producers.
9. Finally, agricultural extension staff need to seek ways in

which producer may be led to see that the food corps program is, after all, their own program.

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APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

LETTER TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY REQUESTING
FOR PERMISSION TO SURVEY THE AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION STAFF

Department of Agricultural Education
448 Agricultural Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

December 10, 1982

The Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Agricultural and
Natural Resources
Calabar, C.R.S.
Nigeria

Permission for a Research Study of Agricultural
Administrators and Extension Staff in Calabar
and Ikom Respectively

Dear Sir:

I am conducting a study on the feasibility of a community based food corps program in Ikom Division. The basic concept behind this program is a "decentralized structure using some form of voluntarism for self-help in food production".

Your cooperation and high initiatives in this project will be highly appreciated. To this end, I am requesting that you give the bearer of this note a letter for the Chief Agricultural Officer at Ikom to help in the distribution and collection of the completed questionnaire from your subordinates.

Your opinion as appropriate will be considered and a final draft of the results will be presented to you in complete form.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Henry Mbeh Ndifon
Doctoral Candidate

cc: Dr. Robert P. Price
Thesis Advisor

Dr. James D. White
Thesis Advisor

Chief Agric. Officer
Agricultural Division
Calabar

APPENDIX B

LETTER TO FARMERS

Department of Agricultural Education
448 Agricultural Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

December 10, 1982

Dear Fellow Farmers:

We are studying the Feasibility of a Community Based Food Corps Program in Ikom Division. The results of this study could assist the C.R.S. government and the farmers in particular in developing a viable food production program that will have the input of farmers and the Agricultural Extension Personnel at all stages of the program.

The concept behind community based food corps program is that farmers and Agricultural Extension Personnel plan a program where volunteer and self-help is used to increase food production, ie. farmers will volunteer their time and land to Extension Personnel who will in turn develop a demonstration plot in the village to show farmers the most economical methods to increase food production.

You have been identified as one who can provide valuable information for this study. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return to me. All responses will be kept confidential.

Please accept our thanks and grateful appreciation for your cooperation and participation in this study.

Sincerely,

Henry Mbeh Ndifon
Doctoral Candidate
Oklahoma State University

Dr. James D. White
Assistant Professor

cc: Dr. Robert P. Price
Professor Emeritus and Chairman
of Thesis Committee

Enclosure

APPENDIX C

LETTER TO AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF

Department of Agricultural Education
448 Agricultural Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

December 10, 1982

Dear Agricultural Extension Personnel:

We are studying the Feasibility of a Community Based Food Corps Program in Ikom Division. The results of this study could assist the C.R.S. government and farmers in particular in developing a vialbe program. The input of farmers and Agriuctlural Extension Personnel are important at all stages of this program.

The concept behind "community based food corps program" is that farmers and Agricultural Extension Personnel plan a program where volunteer and self-help is used to increase food production, i.e. farmers will volunteer their time and land to Extension Personnel who will in turn develop a demonstration plot in the village to show farmers and interested groups the most economical methods to increase food production.

You have been identified as one who can provide valuable information for this project. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return to me. All responses will be kept confidential.

Please accept our thanks and grateful appreciation for your cooperation and participation in this study.

Sincerely,

Henry Mbeh Ndifon
Doctoral Candidate
Oklahoma State University

Dr. James D. White
Assistant Professor

cc: Dr. Robert P. Price
Professor Emeritus and Chairman
of Thesis Committee

APPENDIX D

STUDY INSTRUMENT

General Information for Farmers

Village: _____

Circle

1. Age: a. 20-29 b. 30-39 c. 40-49 d. 50-59 e. 60-69
2. Sex: a. Male b. Female
3. How long have you been in farming:
 - a. 0-9 years b. 10-19 years c. 20-29 years d. 30-39 years
 - e. 40 years and above.
4. Do you like working in a group?
 - a. Yes b. No
5. Do you have any current program with the Agric. Extension to increase your food production?
 - a. Yes b. No
6. Have you ever sought help from: (Check all that apply)
 - a. Agricultural Extension personnel _____
 - b. Fellow farmers _____
 - c. Local leaders/community leaders _____
7. How do you acquire labor to run your farm? (Check all that apply)
 - a. Through family labor _____
 - b. Through friends & other relatives _____
 - c. Through hired labor _____
8. Which of the following would you be interested in working with a new program?
 - a. Agricultural Exten. Personnel _____
 - b. Local Councillors _____
 - c. Community leaders _____
 - d. Other farmers _____
 - e. None of the above _____
9. What type of help would you desire from any of the above groups? (Check all that apply)
 - a. Help in designing appropriate programs for my farm. _____
 - b. Supply labor when I need it. _____
 - c. Ease credit difficulties. _____
 - d. Help in getting adequate information to run my farm efficiently. _____

10. If you are interested in the programs, which of the following apply to you? (Check all that apply)
- a. I do not have confidence in the Extension personnel. _____
 - b. I have my own way of getting around things. _____
 - c. I do not understand the combinations above. _____
 - d. Its too time consuming. _____

II. In what crops do you feel the community base food corps program will be most helpful to farmers.

| | Very Important | Important | Some Importance | Little Importance | No Importance |
|--|----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Cassava Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 2. Pepper Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 3. Yam Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 4. Tomato Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 5. Corn Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 6. Cocoa Yam Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 7. Groundnut Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 8. Potato Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 9. Beans (black eye pea) Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |
| 10. Plantain Planting and Harvesting | | | | | |

III. Which is the most effective method of getting everybody involved in the program to increase food production?

| | Very Effective | Effective | Less Effective | None Effective |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Slide presentation and meetings | | | | |
| 2. TV program | | | | |
| 3. Radio program | | | | |
| 4. Newspaper | | | | |
| 5. Agricultural Extension Visits | | | | |
| 6. Farm demonstrations in the village | | | | |

IV. How often will you like to be involved in the program?

| | Always | Often | Sometimes | Seldom | Never |
|--|--------|-------|-----------|--------|-------|
| 1. Attending the program meetings | | | | | |
| 2. Helping to organize others to join the project | | | | | |
| 3. Inviting prominent leaders to your demonstration | | | | | |
| 4. Giving valuable advise to neighbors on how to improve their farming method. | | | | | |

VI. If a community food corps program were to be organized in your community, which one of the following would you like to head the program?

1. The local chief should head the program. _____
2. The councillors should head the program. _____
3. The Agricultural Extension Personnel should head the program. _____
4. A joint committed of farmers and Agricultural Extension Personnel should head the program _____

Which one of the following will be most useful to you in the food corps program?

1. Having a training program in the area. _____
2. Visiting other projects or programs that are currently working on the concept of community based food corps. _____
3. Selecting a farmer from the area to attend a training program who will come back to teach others about the food corps program. _____

VII. To what extent do these problem areas associated with the agricultural and rural life exist in your community?

| | No Problem | A Small Problem | A Moderate Problem | A Severe Problem |
|--|------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <u>Farm Production Section</u> | | | | |
| 1. Opportunities to learn about improved farming methods. | | | | |
| 2. Ability of Agricultural Extension workers to explain new or improved farming methods. | | | | |
| 3. Usefulness of information provided by Agricultural Extension workers to farmers. | | | | |
| 4. Farm productivity. | | | | |
| 5. Prices received for farm products. | | | | |
| 6. Cost of materials for farming operation (hoe, knives, etc.). | | | | |

General Information of Agricultural
Extension Staff

- (1) Agricultural Division (Please check one)
1. ___ Agriculture 2. ___ Forestry 3. ___ Veterinary
4. ___ Extension 5. ___ Fishery
- (2) Your title or position _____
- (3) Years in service _____
- (1) Do you like working with farmers?
- a. Yes ___ b. No ___
- (2) Do you have any current program with the farmers to help them increase food production?
- a. Yes ___ b. No ___
- (3) Have you ever sought help from:
- a. Farmers ___ b. Local Leaders/community leaders ___
c. Councillors ___
- (4) Which of the following would you be interested in working within a new program:
- a. Farmers ___ b. Local Councillors ___
c. Community leaders ___ d. None of these above ___
e. Fellow Agricultural Extension Staff ___
- (5) What type of help would you desire from any of the above groups? (Check all that apply)
- a. Help in organizing farmers to regular meetings ___
b. Help in designing appropriate programs for the farmers ___
c. Help in getting adequate information to the farmers on how to run their farms efficiently ___
- (6) If you are not interested in the program, which one of the following apply to you? (Check all that apply)
- a. I do not have confidence in the farmers ___
b. I have my own way of getting around things ___
c. I do not understand the combination ___
d. Its too much time consuming ___

III. Which is the most effective method of getting everybody involved in the program to increase food production?

| | Very Effective | Effective | Less Effective | None Effective |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
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| 2. TV programs | | | | |
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| 5. Prices received for farm products. | | | | |
| 6. Cost of materials for farming operation (hoe, knives, etc.). | | | | |

VITA

Henry Mbeh Ndifon

Candidate for the Degree of

Doctor of Education

Thesis: THE FEASIBILITY OF A COMMUNITY BASED FOOD CORPS PROGRAM IN IKOM DIVISION OF CROSS RIVER STATE NIGERIA

Major Field: Agricultural Education

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born in Ikom, Cross River State, Nigeria, July 4th, 1954, to John Obim Ndifon and Alice Nyaim.

Education: Graduated from Government Secondary School Ikom (now Comprehensive Secondary School Ikom) in June, 1972, received the London General Certificate of Education (O/L) in January, 1972; received the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Oklahoma State University in May, 1980; received the Master of Science Degree at Oklahoma State University in July, 1981; completed requirements for the Doctor of Education degree at Oklahoma State University in December, 1983.

Professional Experience: Teacher, Holy Child Primary School, Ikom, 1968-70; Forest Assistant in Training (Extension Unit) NDE Pine and Yam Plantation, NDE, 1972-73; Acting Forest Extension Staff-Effraya Plantation and Corn Plot Last motor, 1973-74; Rural Science Master, Ikorodu High School, 1975.

Memberships: Collegiate FFA Chapter, Oklahoma State University, 1980-81; Member of Mount Zion Church, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1976-78; Financial Secretary, Nigerian Student Union of Oklahoma State University Chapter, 1976-77; Sports Secretary, Nigerian Student Union of OSU Chapter, 1979-80; International Student Organization Representative of OSU Chapter, 1980-81; Member of the Nigerian Student's Union in America at Minneapolis, Minnesota; President of Nigerian Student Union, OSU, 1981-82; Vice President of International Students Organization, OSU, 1982-83.