

THE IMAGE OF THE FFA AS PERCEIVED BY CURRENT  
ACTIVE MEMBERS AND ADVISORS

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in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
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DOCTOR OF EDUCATION  
December, 1973

Thesis

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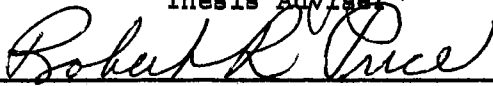
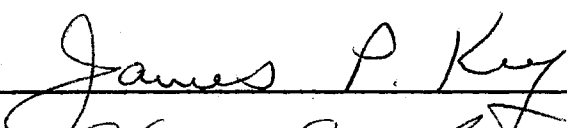
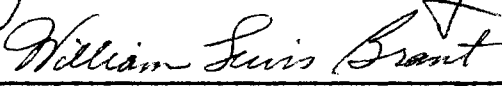
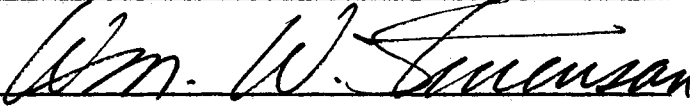

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Indebtedness is acknowledged to the many persons whose cooperation helped make this study possible.

The writer wishes to express his appreciation for the advice and encouragement given him by the various members of the faculty of the Department of Agricultural Education, Oklahoma State University. In particular he wishes to thank Dr. Robert R. Price, major adviser, and Dr. H. Robert Terry, major thesis adviser, for their guidance and continuous encouragement throughout the graduate program and the dissertation study.

Appreciation is also extended to Dr. James P. Key, Dr. William Brant, and Dr. William W. Stevenson, members of the investigator's graduate committee, whose wise counsel and practical suggestions were always given consideration.

Sincere thanks is extended to the active members and advisors of the schools selected as participants in the study. Without their cooperation this study would not have been possible.

Appreciation is expressed to the State Supervisory Staff for Vocational Agriculture for their assistance and encouragement to complete this study.

Special recognition is given to Mrs. Mary Rhoads for her typing efforts from the early stages of the study through typing of the dissertation.

The investigator wishes to express sincere appreciation to his wife, Wanda, daughters, Kristen and Meredith, and mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Duell Braker, who have also been a source of encouragement, assistance, and inspiration throughout the graduate program and this study. To them, this work is dedicated.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Within recent years, the traditional concept of vocational agriculture has been altered. An almost total emphasis upon production agriculture is gradually yielding to a modification which will better meet contemporary needs of vocational agriculture students. In addition to production agriculture, an increasing number of departments of vocational agriculture are providing greater opportunity for students to study agricultural mechanics, agricultural resources, agricultural sales and services, forestry, and ornamental horticulture. With a broadening of vocational agriculture course offerings, leaders in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) have become cognizant of a pressing need to re-examine and re-evaluate the nature and effectiveness of the FFA program on local, state, and national levels. Such re-examination and re-evaluation of the FFA program is definitely resulting in modification and change.

"Most of us will deny that we resist change whether it be in our philosophy, style of dress, instructional program, or organization. Our actions do not always verify our statements." (1) The changes which have occurred in the FFA organization during its history are cases in point of the previous statement. Many changes have taken place, but each time those advocating change have encountered a great amount of resistance. Invariably, one clique or faction has appeared to be

convinced that the changes were a must, while another faction has felt compelled to resist even the smallest change.

Examples which have generated simultaneous demand for and resistance to change within the FFA include the following: the initial founding of the National organization in 1928; revision of the ceremonies in 1938; the revision of the constitution periodically throughout the years; the merger of the New Farmer Association and the FFA organizations in 1965; admission of girls into the organization in 1960; and, quite recently, changes in degree names and awards allegedly made to parallel increasing emphasis placed on agriculturally related occupations; revamping of the organization; name changes; and many more.

Another controversy was generated by the proposed merger of all vocational clubs into a single unit. Some people seem to think there is too much duplication in and among organizations. Others tend to differ with this line of thought, such as Wilson (2):

The relationship of the FFA to other vocational education youth groups is a fertile area for discussion. Some 'togetherness' is desirable, but common advisors, mergers, and the across-the-board approach to vocational education youth programs would result in the weakening of all programs. There is a danger today of generalizing vocational education to such an extent that it is meaningless. The FFA, like vocational agriculture, must maintain its identity in order to be effective, and in fact to survive.

From all indications, it would appear that the FFA is in the process of changing again. Evidence of this was provided at the National FFA Seminar, "Operation Update," held in March, 1972, in Washington, D.C. There, it was strongly advocated that the FFA should be drastically re-vamped to meet the needs of all members. Also, changes were called for which, asserted, would make the FFA more "relevant and flexible."

Thus, the FFA has been, and continues to be, involved in a variety of changes. The nature of these changes and the procedures employed to bring them about have kindled and nurtured many controversies within the organization. It would appear that the point has now been reached where there is a need to take a closer look at the "current change" situation within the FFA organization.

Although the FFA has experienced the changes listed, the organization has resisted attempts to change. The voting down of the amendments at the 1973 National Convention would be a good example of this. The ability to resist change has protected the FFA organization from losing its original identity and purpose. If the FFA had made all of the changes proposed by differing factions through its history, the organization would have lost some of its continuity, leadership roles, and image.

#### Statement of the Problem

The alterations currently being advocated for the FFA are the most extensive ever proposed. The rationale being employed in support of these proposals for "overhaul" is the contention that the current image of the FFA is one of a somewhat outdated organization which is not reflective of modern vocational agriculture programs. For this reason, it is argued that the organization is failing to attract as many students as it should and that quite often it does not adequately serve the needs of members after they have joined. Therefore, leaders at the national level have recently presented plans for improving the image of the FFA.

Since most organizational and operational changes in the FFA are

initiated by the National Board of Directors (adults) then acted upon by the delegates (usually state officers) to the National FFA Convention, there are some serious questions as to how much involvement in decision-making is afforded members and advisors of local chapters. In view of the fact that the latter groups are those affected most by changes and, further, that they are responsible for making the organization "work" in their communities, it seems essential that attitudes and opinions as to the image of the FFA at the "grass roots" level be assessed before changes are implemented. This would appear to be particularly true with reference to program and policy changes of the magnitude of those currently under consideration.

It seems reasonable that once the "image" attitudes of those most directly involved with the local FFA chapter operation are known and evaluated, there will be available a sound guide for determining whether or not there is a need for changes within the organization. Also, the likelihood of proposed changes being accepted by the organization's membership should be greatly increased if it could be determined that the image reflected by the organization among the membership stood in need of improvement. Any changes in image could thus be generated from the grass roots level.

#### Purpose of the Study

The major purpose of the study was to determine the image of the FFA as perceived by active members and advisors of the organization with particular reference to structure, operation, awards and degree program, and relationship to vocational agriculture.



### Objectives of the Study

To accomplish the purpose of the study, the following objectives had to be attained:

1. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the organization and operation of the FFA.
2. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the relationship of vocational agriculture and the FFA.
3. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the degree and awards program of the FFA.
4. To determine the importance of selected problems in the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members.
5. To determine the importance of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members of the FFA.

### Need for the Study

Many decisions concerning the FFA organization appear to have been made with a great deal of input from adults, even to the point that, in the opinions of many adults, leaders above the local level have allegedly had a tendency to "run the organization." An opinion rather commonly shared is that these adults attempt to force changes without involving the active members.

The National Board of Directors for the FFA is composed of four Regional representatives for agricultural education, four State supervisors of vocational agriculture (one from each of four administrative regions), and the Chief of Agricultural Education, Office of Education,

who, as National Advisor, is Chairman of the Board. The National FFA Officers meet with the Board of Directors to make recommendations with respect to the business of the FFA.

With the administration of the organization controlled by the National Board of Directors, the rank and file of membership generally has little direct input in the administration of the organization. Even the delegates to the National Convention may not represent the local chapter. Most of the delegates are State Officers and really may not realize what the local members want or feel. Their duties have been mostly concerned with administering the state organization.

Many have been critical of the operation of the organization by adult leaders. For example, Scarborough (3) in reacting to the question, "Is the FFA really a boy's organization?" stated:

I think that it is at the local level, if the advisor limits himself to that role. Above the chapter level, it becomes more difficult if not impossible for the boys to 'run the organization.' This may not be necessary, desirable or possible, but we say that the FFA is a boy-owned and operated organization. I am suggesting that state and national operations in the name of the FFA are largely the work of adults. Even where boys are actively involved, such as serving as delegates at the state and national conventions, any decisions by the boys are 'protected' by some sort of veto power by the adults. . . . It must be embarrassing to the highly intelligent young men serving as national officers to have every action that they take as leaders of the FFA subject to the immediate endorsement of their elders.

Another caution about adult-initiated and controlled changes in the FFA was voiced by Warmbrod (4), who stated:

The fact is indisputable that the FFA has made and will continue to make significant contributions to vocational agriculture and to the development of vocational agriculture students. We must not lose sight, however, that FFA is a means, not an end in itself. Its very root and purpose are derived from the program of vocational education in agriculture and the school and social settings in which public education functions. We adults must not mistake what we want or think FFA to be with what it should and must be to

serve. The purpose for which it was established--the development of qualities of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation in all students of vocational agriculture.

Advisors to the FFA have accepted that the FFA aims and purposes are meeting the needs of the members. As Scarborough contended, if this is a boy-owned and operated organization, why do adults have the veto power in all decisions? The aim of the FFA is to develop leadership, citizenship, and cooperation. If the adult advisors have the veto power mentioned, is the primary aim being met?

Little comment needs to be made concerning the FFA organization in the past. The accomplishments of the FFA speak and stand for themselves. However, now problems have arisen. Many people think the FFA is old and outdated. Many feel that the terms "farmer" and "agriculture" are not only archaic but discriminating and, as a result, have proposed to change the name of the organization. One of these was Russell (5), who contended:

Since the youth organization will likely continue to be the primary means of informing the public about agricultural education, the proposal suggested that the 'Future Farmers of America' name be changed to the 'Agricultural Career Clubs of America' (ACCA).

Regardless of whether the major problem is the purported adult domination of the organization, the need for renaming or otherwise updating the organization, or some other situation, one of the major concerns voiced is the fact that FFA membership as a percentage of total enrollment in vocational agriculture is disproportionate. The highest level of FFA membership came in 1969, when there were about 450,000 members. This was 83.3 percent of the students enrolled in vocational agriculture. In 1970, there were 550,600 vocational agriculture students. Of these, 430,000, or 78 percent, were members of the FFA (6).

The final FFA membership for the 1972-73 year totaled 447,577, which was 78.2 percent of the total vocational agriculture enrollment (7).

Due to the lack of growth in the levels of FFA membership and the growing number of comments and concerns being expressed by persons involved with the organization, it was felt that there was a need for a study on a nation-wide scope to assess the attitudes of advisors and members toward the FFA. Results of such an effort should provide a realistic base which may provide direction needed for changes and improvements in the organization as indicated by those most affected by such actions.

#### Assumptions of the Study

For the purpose of the study, the following assumptions were accepted by the investigator:

1. That departments selected for the study were representative of the other departments in their respective states.
2. That advisors and their active FFA members could provide accurate evaluations of the FFA programs.
3. That advisors and their active FFA members' responses to statements favorable and unfavorable to the FFA organization would serve as predictors of their attitudes toward the FFA organization.
4. That attitudes expressed by the advisors and the active FFA members were honest expressions of their opinions.

#### Scope of the Study

The information for the study was collected through the use of an instrument to assess attitudes and to obtain a rank ordering of values,

experiences, and problems as perceived by advisors and members. The instrument was developed through interviews with teachers and students of vocational agriculture and through an assignment on the FFA in a course in Agricultural Education at Oklahoma State University.

Literature from the National FFA Seminar Proceedings, "Operation Update," held in March, 1972, was reviewed and current problems were assessed and statements relating to these problems were put in the instrument. After the instrument was completed, a panel comprised of the Oklahoma Vocational Agriculture and FFA Supervisory staff reviewed the instrument and suggested changes were made.

The instrument was sent to 112 chapters throughout the United States. Chapters were selected at random from a list of chapters in each state provided by the National FFA Office in Alexandria, Virginia. The advisor of each chapter was instructed to select five designated active FFA members from his membership roll to respond to the instrument. The population had the potential of 112 advisors and 560 active members.

The 112 chapters selected represented the same number of delegates that are sent each year to the National FFA Convention. Each state was represented by the same number of chapters as they have delegates to the National FFA Convention.

The instrument was mailed to the chapters during the spring of 1973. A follow-up letter was sent out three weeks later to the chapters not responding, encouraging the teachers and their FFA members to do so. The final set of surveys was mailed in August, 1973, to the alternate schools.

### Definition of Terms

For the purpose of this study the following definitions seemed pertinent and relative.

Attitude: How a person feels toward certain aspects of the FFA organization.

Value: Refers to the culturally weighted preference for a thing or things, for people, for institutions, or for some kind of behavior. Values have also been defined as very inclusive general attitudes. Simply put, values express the "good," the "bad," the "should," and the "oughts" of human behavior.

Future Farmers of America (FFA): Refers to a national organization of youths who are enrolled in vocational agriculture. It is an intra-curricular activity of vocational agriculture.

Degree Program: Refers to the various degrees awarded to the members of the FFA for their accomplishments. The degrees are Greenhand, Chapter Farmer, State Farmer, and American Farmer.

Aims and Purposes of the FFA: Refers to the primary aim and purpose and the specific aims and purposes of the FFA organization. The primary aim is the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship. There are twelve specific purposes for the organization.

Vocational Agriculture: Refers to a course taught in high schools designed to train present and prospective persons for careers in agriculture.

Advisors: Refers to the vocational agriculture teachers that advise the FFA chapters.

Production Agriculture: Refers to type of supervised experience programs that students in vocational agriculture may have. These types of programs deal with the production aspect of agriculture.

Related Agricultural Occupations: Refers to "Agribusiness" or "agricultural business." They are those operating units that support production agriculture in such ways as marketing, processing, and servicing.

Active Member: Refers to any student who is regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture and has paid his dues to the local chapter and the state and national associations. The person must be in good standing with his local chapter.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This study involved the expressed attitudes of teachers and students of vocational agriculture toward the image of the FFA.

The review of literature has been organized into three different sections. These are as follow:

1. Attitudes and attitude measurement
2. Organization of the Future Farmers of America
3. Relationship of FFA to vocational agriculture

#### Attitudes and Attitude Measurement

Though there are many definitions of attitude, Thurstone's (8) will be used to explain the term as it applies to this study:

An attitude is the sum total of a man's inclinations and feelings, prejudice or fears, thoughts and convictions about any specified topic. The term opinion will be used as the verbal expression of the attitude.

If a teacher says that an FFA member will make a good leader, this statement is spoken as an opinion. The term opinion is restricted to the verbal expression, but it is an expression of what? It expresses an attitude, supposedly. Hutt (9) says: "By attitudes we mean the beliefs, feelings, and action tendencies of an individual toward objects, ideas, and people."

The next point concerns what it is that we want to measure. According to Thurstone (8), when a teacher says that all students should

belong to a youth organization, the thing that interests them is not actually the string of words or even the meaning of the statement, but rather the attitude of the speakers' thoughts and the feelings of the teacher about students and youth organizations. It is the teacher's attitude, then, that actually interests his students. For this study the opinion has interest only insofar as it is interpreted as a symbol of attitude. It is therefore something about attitudes that will be measured. Opinions shall be used as the means to measure attitudes.

Murphy and Likert (10) stated:

Attitude measurement is not an end in itself. Its purpose is usually to provide information concerning motives of individuals or groups in situations or assist social planners and controllers to understand behavior dynamics.

Attitude measurement was used in this study to determine how teachers and students of vocational agriculture felt about the image of the FFA. Opinions may have been used to express attitudes.

Murphy and Likert (10) discuss the need for a distinction between attitude and opinion with these statements:

It has been said that an attitude is a set or adjustment in preparation for a certain sort of overt behavior, whereas an opinion is merely a judgment stated in verbal terms. The words 'attitudinal' and 'opinion' are loose terms borrowed from daily life, and not yet received any final definition through concrete empirical work; their meaning is far indeed from realizing the crisp finality of such terms as 'olm' and 'erg.'

According to Oppenheim (11):

Most definitions of attitude agree that an attitude is a state of readiness to react to stimuli. The individual's attitudes are present but dormant most of the time; but attitudes are reinforced by beliefs and often attract strong feelings.

"The first restriction on the problem of measuring attitudes is to specify an attitude variable and to limit the measurement to that



variable," according to Thurstone (8). The variable in this study was attitude toward the image of the FFA organization. The scale to measure this attitude was developed especially for this study.

Through assessment of attitudes of active members and advisors toward the FFA, direction should be obtained for making needed changes and improvement in the organization. From this the "grass roots" level can provide input into the direction of the organization. By assessing attitudes through opinions of active members and advisors the feelings of these groups toward selected aspects of the organization can be formulated; therefore, the image of the FFA can be determined as perceived by active members and advisors.

#### Organization of the Future Farmers of America

Gray (7), National Executive Secretary, stated in the introduction of the 1973 Official FFA Manual the following:

Organized in November 1928, the FFA is an integral part of the program of vocational education in agriculture in the public school system of America. The FFA has served to strengthen instruction for students in vocational agriculture by providing a laboratory for practical training in agriculture, leadership, cooperation, and citizenship. No national youth organization enjoys greater freedom of self government under adult counsel than the FFA. . . . The FFA is 100 percent American in its ideals and outlook and has no outside affiliations. There is no secrecy in any of its ceremonies.

The Official Manual of the Future Farmers of America (6) gives the following description of the organization:

The FFA is intra-curricular and originated as part of the high school vocational agriculture curriculum. FFA activities encourage members to learn through active participation how to conduct and take part in public meetings; to speak in public; to buy and sell cooperatively; to solve their own problems; to finance themselves and to assume civic

responsibility. FFA exists today because of a cooperative spirit and a desire on the part of students 14 to 21 years of age to have a national organization in which they can secure practical business experience, act as their own instructors, and good fellowship with others who have a common interest in agri-business. Members strive for improved agriculture, better local communities, a more satisfying home life and responsible citizenship.

This is the philosophy that the FFA has operated under since it was formed. However, since the FFA was organized, a number of changes have taken place. The full impact of the changes which have occurred in vocational agriculture and the FFA was brought out in a speech delivered by President Nixon at the 1968 National FFA Convention. The President clearly revealed that the FFA has become a tool to strengthen the program of instruction and experience programs of the vocational agriculture student. For many years the FFA stressed production agriculture and enterprises which taught students responsibility and thrift, the values of free enterprise, and vocational skills needed to farm. The present program has broadened to include such things which will prepare young men to fill enlarging demands of manpower in business and industries which supply, process, and market the products of farms and ranches. The President concluded his speech with these remarks, advancing the idea that a close bond exists between all students of vocational agriculture:

It stems from an interest in American agriculture and the bright future on the total agri-industrial complex.  
. . . The common bond exists whether FFA members live on a farm, ranch, in a small town or in one of the large cities where vocational agriculture and FFA programs are being organized . . . (12).

The Official FFA Manual (13) states the following:

The foundation upon which the Future Farmers of America organization is built includes leadership and character development, sportsmanship, cooperation, service, thrift,

scholarship, improved agriculture, organized recreation, citizenship, and patriotism.

The National FFA has definite aims and purposes (6):

The primary aim of the Future Farmers of America is the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship. The specific purposes for which this organization was formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent, aggressive rural and agricultural leadership.
2. To create and nurture a love of country life.
3. To strengthen the confidence of students of vocational agriculture in themselves and their work.
4. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of agricultural occupations.
5. To encourage members in the development of individual farming programs and establishment in agricultural careers.
6. To encourage members to improve the farm home and its surroundings.
7. To participate in worthy undertakings for the improvement of agriculture.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To participate in cooperative effort.
10. To encourage and practice thrift.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
12. To provide and encourage the development of organized rural recreational activities.

An organization with aims and purposes such as listed is truly a part of something worthwhile.

In order to accomplish the foregoing aims and purposes, certain patterns of operation have been formulated for the organization. At the local level the local program of activities is planned by the chapter members and advisor. The local vocational agriculture teacher serves as

advisor, and officers are elected from members who hold the Chapter Farmer degree when possible. This group works closely with school officials in determining the activities of the chapter for the school year and summer months. The Official Manual (6) suggests: "When FFA activities are approved by the administration it eliminates the possible duplication of school activities and promotes cooperation between school departments."

At the state level state officers are elected by the delegate body made up of local members. This set of state officers plans the program of activities for the state association with the guidance of the state advisors and the supervisory staff for vocational agriculture and FFA.

The FFA at the national level is an organization of, by, and for students enrolled in vocational agriculture under the provisions of the National Education Act. In 1972, the FFA had more than 430,000 active members in 7,857 chapters located in the nation's public schools (14).

The National officers are selected each year at the National FFA Convention. They include a National President, a National Secretary, and four National Vice Presidents, one from each region.

The elected officers constitute the Board of National Officers. The primary duty of the Board of National Officers is to advise and make recommendations to the National Board of Directors with respect to the control of the activities and business of the organization.

The National FFA Constitution states the following (7):

The national officers shall be elected annually from the members holding the American Farmer Degree by a majority vote of the delegates assembled at the national convention.

The Nominating Committee consisting of two members from each of the four regions and one at large shall study and review the qualifications of each applicant who is eligible and whose application has been approved by his State Advisor

for consideration as a national officer. This committee shall report during the national convention.

The President and the Secretary shall be elected from the membership at large. A member cannot hold a national office and a State office at the same time.

The election of Vice Presidents shall follow a seniority cycle. The region from which the Second Vice President comes during the current year shall be entitled to a First Vice President the succeeding year, and so on for the other regions.

National Officers shall be elected to serve from one national convention through the next succeeding national convention and shall not be re-elected, nor eligible for election to another national office. If, in case of extreme emergency a national convention is not held in any given year, the National Board of Directors shall make provision for the appointment of National Officers for the next succeeding year . . .

The National Board of Directors, established by Public Law 740, is the agency that provides advice and assistance for the Board of National Officers. The FFA constitution (7) states in Article XIV the following:

The governing body of the organization, which shall exercise the powers granted in Section 4 of Public Law 740, shall be a National Board of Directors composed of: (a) the Chief of the Agricultural Education Service, Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, who shall act as chairman; (b) four staff members in the Agricultural Education Service, Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and (c) four State Supervisors of Agricultural Education . . . The four State Supervisors authorized in Section 8 (a) (3) of Public Law 740 to serve on the National Board of Directors shall be elected (one from each region established in Section B of Article III of these Bylaws by the National Board of Directors) by the State Supervisors of the respective regions. . . . The four regions as set up by the National Board of Directors include the following states:

<u>Pacific</u>		<u>Central</u>	
Arizona	Nevada	Illinois	Minnesota
California	New Mexico	Indiana	Missouri
Colorado	Oregon	Iowa	Nebraska
Hawaii	Utah	Kansas	North Dakota
Idaho	Washington	Kentucky	Ohio
Montana	Wyoming	Michigan	South Dakota
			Wisconsin

North Atlantic

Connecticut  
 Delaware  
 Maine  
 Maryland  
 Massachusetts  
 New Hampshire  
 New Jersey  
 New York  
 Pennsylvania  
 Rhode Island  
 Vermont  
 West Virginia

Southern

Alabama  
 Arkansas  
 Florida  
 Georgia  
 Louisiana  
 Mississippi  
 North Carolina  
 Oklahoma  
 Puerto Rico  
 South Carolina  
 Tennessee  
 Texas  
 Virginia

Delegates to the National FFA Convention, held annually in Kansas City, Missouri, approve or vote down recommendations made by the National Board of Directors and the Board of National Officers. Delegates and convention site are selected on the following basis according to the FFA constitution (7):

A national convention of Future Farmers of America shall be held annually, except in case of an extreme emergency declared by the National Board of Directors. The time and place of meeting shall be determined by the National Board of Directors.

Each State association is entitled to send two delegates from its active membership to the national convention, plus one additional delegate for each 10,000 active members or major fraction thereof above the first 10,000, such delegates to be selected as provided in the State Constitution or Bylaws. Fifty-one percent of the delegate body from at least 26 States shall constitute a quorum.

State associations shall determine the number and method of selection of delegates to State conventions.

Many have been critical of the "unequal" representation on the National Board of Directors and delegates to the National Convention. As of July, 1972, the Southern Region had 51.08 percent of the total FFA membership and had only 36 delegates to the National Convention. Each delegate represents 6,133+ members in comparison to the North Atlantic region representation of 1,031+ members.

Along the same line, the Board of Directors is also very much unbalanced on representation. Each region has two directors (one being a State Supervisor and the other being in the Agricultural Education Service, Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare). Again the Southern Region has two directors, representing 51.08 percent of the total membership, while the North Atlantic Region has two directors, representing 5.75 percent of the total membership (15).

This unequal representation has caused many problems on the national scene. The following table (next page) was submitted in a graduate student's report at Texas Tech University (15).

To recognize members at the local, state, and national levels for outstanding participation in the FFA, a degree and awards program was established. Through the years the requirements were changed and updated to fit the changing program of vocational agriculture. It should be pointed out at this time that many changes in the degree program have been made since this study was started. To list the requirements for the various degrees would be meaningless.

Many young men that have been FFA members want to achieve the challenges and opportunities offered in the degree program. In selecting members to receive the degrees, a broad range of requirements and accomplishments are taken into consideration. These accomplishments include the member's supervised farming program, his leadership abilities, scholarship, knowledge of the FFA, and many others. The FFA degree programs take into account many things which a member does in his organization, school, and community.

TABLE I  
REGIONAL FFA MEMBERSHIP--NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE REPRESENTATION  
1971-1972

Region	Total FFA Membership	Percentage of Total FFA Membership	Number of National Convention Delegates	Percentage of National Convention Delegates	Number of Members Represented by Each Delegate
North Atlantic	24,757	5.73	24	21.05	1,031+
Pacific	48,180	11.15	25	21.93	1,927+
Central	138,487	32.04	29	25.44	4,775+
Southern	220,789	51.08	36	31.58	6,133+
Totals	432,213	100.00	114	100.00	
Average					3,792



There are four degrees in the FFA, and the qualifications for the various degrees are progressive. The first two--Greenhand and Chapter Farmer--are awarded by the local chapter. The third degree--the State Farmer--is limited to 2 percent of the state's active membership and is conferred by the state association. The coveted American Farmer degree is limited to one member per thousand. The American Farmer degree is awarded by the National FFA organization annually at the National FFA Convention held in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Future Farmers of America is a non-profit, non-political, agricultural youth organization of voluntary membership, designed to take its place along with other agencies striving for the development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation of its members. It also strives to improve agriculture and country life.

Organized on the local, state, and national levels, programs of activities are designed to meet the needs of students of vocational agriculture in recognizing outstanding programs. Officers elected at the various levels administer the organization with the guidance of an adult advisor or counsel. No other national organization enjoys the freedom of self government in directing the program of activities.

#### Relationship of FFA to Vocational Agriculture

Phipps (16) states:

The Future Farmers of America is the national organization of, by, and for boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools which operates under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts.

From this statement one might surmise that the FFA is a tool to interest and motivate students in vocational agriculture. Students in vocational agriculture who participate in FFA activities learn to

conduct and take part in public meetings, to speak in public, to buy and sell cooperatively, and to assume civic responsibility.

The FFA is an intra-curricular part of vocational education in agriculture in the public school system of America . . . . The FFA is recognized as an integral part of the program of vocational agriculture. (16)

Welton and Bender (17) state:

With a broadening of vocational agriculture course offerings, the FFA has become cognizant of the need to re-examine and re-evaluate the nature and effectiveness of the FFA program on the local, state and national levels.

On May 8-9, 1968, the National Outlook Seminar on Agricultural Education was held in St. Louis, Missouri. This group adopted the following goals for modifying the FFA:

1. Continue to strengthen the FFA as an integral part of agricultural education through Public Law 740.
2. Promote the philosophy that all students should be members of the FFA and that it no longer remain a 'voluntary' organization.
3. Make adjustments in the FFA to enable it to properly serve ALL students.

In discussing the place of the FFA in vocational agriculture from a teacher's viewpoint, Selland (18) writes:

The FFA is an interrelated part of the vocational agriculture program. . . . It must not be something separate. We must use the FFA as a teaching tool just as we use the agriculture mechanics shop and the supervised occupational experience program as the teaching device to 'learn by doing' the principles taught in the classroom.

Also in the area of new approaches for meeting today's needs in vocational agriculture Cook (19) stated that vocational agriculture was being vigorously criticized as to its value as an educational asset in America's public schools. He believed that this was due, in part, to the close relationship vocational agriculture has with the image American people have developed toward the farmer. "There is just enough

truth in part of the criticism being made to feel the 'smart' and 'sting' of the accusations." (19)

#### Summary

An attempt was made to measure attitudes of advisors and active members of the FFA on selected aspects of the organization. Attitudes are very important in any organization. People react to every situation, and the way people react will determine their attitude toward a certain point.

The FFA is noted for its ability to train young people to become leaders in their communities. The FFA will continue to operate as an organization, but in order to be a strong organization, members and advisors must have knowledge of the direction the organization should be going.

The FFA as an organization at the local, then state, and, finally, national level, grew out of the efforts of teachers of agriculture to make their instruction more effective. Teachers wanted ways of carrying instruction to the "doing" level. The FFA is an integral part of vocational agriculture and will be a "means" rather than an "end" of the instructional program.

## CHAPTER III

### DESIGN AND CONDUCT OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the methods and procedures used in conducting this study. These were dictated by the central purpose of the study, which was to determine certain aspects of the image of the FFA as perceived by advisors and students of vocational agriculture. Specific objectives of the study also provided guidance for the design and conduct of the investigation. The objectives were:

1. To assess attitudes toward selected aspects of the organization and operation of the FFA.
2. To assess attitudes toward selected aspects of the relationship of vocational agriculture and the FFA.
3. To assess attitudes toward selected aspects of the degree and awards programs of the FFA.
4. To determine the importance of selected problems in the FFA as perceived by students and teachers of vocational agriculture.
5. To determine the importance of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA as perceived by teachers and students of vocational agriculture.

In order to collect and analyze data pertaining to the purpose and objectives developed for guidance of the study effort, it was necessary to accomplish the following tasks:

1. Determine the population of the study.
2. Develop the instrument for data collection.
3. Develop a procedure for data collection.
4. Select methods of data analysis.

### The Study Population

This study, being concerned with the Future Farmers of America organization, was conducted on a national scope. Representatives from each state consisted of student members and advisors of FFA in schools which offered vocational agriculture. Each state was represented by the same number of FFA chapters as that state has delegates to the National FFA Convention held each year in October in Kansas City, Missouri. The delegates to the National FFA Convention are selected on the basis of total FFA membership in the respective states.

In each school the teachers of vocational agriculture and FFA advisor were asked to administer the instrument to five designated active FFA members in the chapter and return the completed instruments to the investigator. The members designated were the first, third, seventh, twelfth, and last names on the chapter membership list sent out by the National FFA Office.

Schools in each state were randomly selected from a list of chapters by states provided by the National FFA Office in Alexandria, Virginia. From two to six chapters were selected in each state to yield a total of 112 chapters nation-wide.

Data collection instruments were mailed to schools chosen with instructions on how to complete the instrument. Several follow-up letters were mailed at various intervals to those schools that had not returned the completed instrument.

## Development of the Instrument and Collection of the Data

In formulating the statements used on the questionnaire, the investigator reviewed related literature and certain instruments such as those developed by Shultz (20), Bail (21), Divita (22), and Brown (23). The investigator also considered personal concerns and suggestions from teacher educators and members of the state staff.

The instrument was developed in two parts. Part one contained statements of critical issues regarding the FFA organization. A Likert-type scale was considered most appropriate for part one as a means of securing the extent to which the respondents agreed with the image assessment statements contained on the instrument. Part two involved the ranking in order of importance of problems, values, and experience in the FFA as perceived by the respondents.

Part two contained two sections to which the advisors and members were to rank order selected problems in the FFA and values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA. Statements were selected from a list secured by interview of advisors and members at the 1971 and 1972 National Conventions and by assignments given to 65 former FFA members in an Agricultural Education class at Oklahoma State University in the spring and fall of 1972.

The instrument was then formulated and was placed in the hands of the State Supervisory Staff of Vocational Agriculture and FFA for Oklahoma for their evaluation. An interview with each person was conducted, and necessary changes, deletions, and additions were made.

The instrument contained statements that were "pro" and "anti" in nature which were designed to determine the image of the FFA held by

those teachers and students of vocational agriculture. Nearly equal amounts of "pro" and "anti" statements were included on the instrument. These statements were randomly selected and placed in random order on the data-collecting instrument. (Refer to Appendix.)

The instrument then was completed and a final trial was run in two high schools near the Stillwater, Oklahoma, area. The schools used were Ripley and Mannford. The advisors reported that the students selected had no problems with the instrument.

Schools were selected throughout the United States to participate in the study. A list of all FFA chapters was secured from the National FFA Office and chapters were selected at random. Each state had the same number of chapters selected as that state had delegates to the National FFA Convention. Therefore, each state was to have at least two representatives.

Survey packets were mailed to the vocational agriculture instructor in the selected schools during April, 1973. By June 1, 1973, 40 completed packets were returned. A follow-up letter encouraging the advisors to return the completed survey was mailed on June 8, 1973. By August 1, 1973, 50 surveys were returned.

On August 13, 1973, a letter was mailed to the 62 non-respondents with an enclosed self-addressed, stamped postcard asking the advisors if they wished to be included in the study. Twenty-seven postcards were returned, of which 17 said they wished to participate. Alternate schools were then selected for the ones that said they did not wish to be included in the study. A letter was mailed to the alternate schools telling the advisors of the study and asking if they would be willing to participate. Eight expressed that they would be willing to participate,

and survey packets were mailed to the alternate schools and to the ones that indicated they had lost or misplaced the original set.

A cut-off date of September 30, 1973, was set to determine the population. An attempt was made to get at least one response from each state by selecting a third alternate; the cut-off date was extended.

A second letter was mailed to the vocational agriculture instructors that had indicated they would participate encouraging them to return their surveys by October 5, 1973. This date was the cut-off date of returned surveys to be analyzed in this study. A total of 76 surveys were returned and analyzed in this study.

#### Analysis of Data

In analyzing the data two methods were used. For Part One each of the 41 statements were analyzed separately and then grouped under each objective. Percentage, number of responses, and mean scores were used to analyze Part One.

Limits were set and a mean score, percentage, and number of responses in each of the categories of Strongly Agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree were calculated for each region and on overall.

Limits were set at 4.5 and above for Strongly Agree; 3.50 to 4.49 for Agree; 2.5 to 3.49 for Undecided; 1.5 to 2.49 for Disagree; and 1.4 and below on Strongly Disagree. On negatively stated statements, the values were calculated in reverse.

In analyzing the data in Part Two in rank ordering of problems and experiences offered by or values gained from the FFA, a Kendall Coefficient of Concordance, "W" statistic, was used. Kendall has two methods



found in Siegel (24) and Runyan and Haber (14). A formula for large samples (N larger than 7) was used. The formula is basically a  $X^2$  formula:

$$X^2 = \frac{s}{kN(N+1)} \quad df = N-1$$

s = Sum of square of the observed deviations from the mean of  $R_j$ ; that is,

$$s = \sum \left( R_j - \frac{\sum R_j}{N} \right)^2$$

$R_j$  = The sum of the ranks in the jth column or sample.

k = Number of sets of rankings, e.g. the number of judges.

N = Number of entities (objects or individuals) ranked.

The probability that the ranking would occur by chance can be tested by the use of a  $X^2$  table.

## CHAPTER IV

### PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

#### Introduction

The primary purpose of this study was to determine the image of the FFA as perceived by active members and advisors. In order to accomplish the purpose of the study, the following specific objectives were formulated:

1. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the organization and operation of the FFA.
2. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the relationship of vocational agriculture and the FFA.
3. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the degree and awards program of the FFA.
4. To determine the importance of selected problems in the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members.
5. To determine the importance of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members of the FFA.

As discussed in the previous chapter, a group of statements were developed to assess the image of the FFA as perceived by active members and advisors of the FFA organization.

### Population

The population of this study was comprised of a random sample of FFA chapters selected from each of 49 states. In each state the same number of chapters were selected as that state has delegates to the National FFA Convention. Alternates were also selected at random.

Table II contains a breakdown of the states into their respective regions. Also included are the number of chapters asked to participate within each state and the number of chapters that returned the survey packet.

#### TABLE II

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS REPRESENTING EACH STATE BY REGION  
AND NUMBER OF CHAPTERS RESPONDING TO THE SURVEY

State	Possible Number of Chapters	Number Returned
Pacific Region		
Arizona	2	2
California	3	1
Colorado	2	1
Hawaii	2	0
Idaho	2	2
Montana	2	2
Nevada	2	2
New Mexico	2	2
Oregon	2	1
Utah	2	1
Washington	2	2*
Wyoming	2	1
Total	25	18

TABLE II--(Continued)

State	Possible Number of Chapters	Number Returned
Central Region		
Iowa	2	1
Illinois	3	3
Indiana	2	2
Kansas	2	1
Kentucky	2	2
Michigan	2	1
Minnesota	2	1
Missouri	2	1
Nebraska	2	2
Ohio	3	3
North Dakota	2	2
South Dakota	2	2
Wisconsin	3	2
Total	29	23
North Atlantic Region		
Connecticut	2	2
Delaware	2	1
Massachusetts	2	1
Maryland	2	1
Maine	2	1
New Hampshire	2	1
New Jersey	2	2
New York	2	2
Pennsylvania	2	1
Rhode Island	2	2
Vermont	2	2*
West Virginia	2	1
Total	24	17
Southern Region		
Alabama	4	3
Arkansas	2	0
Florida	2	1
Georgia	3	1

TABLE II--(Continued)

State	Possible Number of Chapters	Number Returned
Southern Region--Continued		
Louisiana	2	1
Mississippi	2	1
North Carolina	3	1
Oklahoma	3	3
South Carolina	2	0
Tennessee	3	2
Texas	6	4
Virginia	2	2
Total	34	19

\*One chapter in each of these states returned their surveys incomplete because their programs had been dropped.

An attempt was made to collect responses from 100 percent of the states. It should be noted that 20 states returned 100 percent of the survey packets while three states failed to return any of the survey packets.

The following procedure was followed in an attempt to collect data from all of the states. The chapters selected were mailed survey packets on April 27, 1973. A follow-up letter was mailed to these schools encouraging the advisors to complete and return the packets. This letter was mailed on May 15, 1973. On June 8 a second letter was sent. On August 13, 1973, a third letter was mailed which included a self-addressed, stamped postcard for the advisor to indicate if he still wished to participate in the study and if he needed a new set of surveys.

New packets were mailed to the ones that had indicated new ones were needed. For the ones that indicated that they did not want to participate in the study, alternate schools were selected and a letter explaining the study was mailed to them on September 3, 1973. Postcards were included so these advisors could indicate if they would be willing to complete the packets.

A follow-up letter was sent to the alternate group that had indicated they would be interested in filling out the surveys, reminding them of their choice and encouraging them to return the surveys.

On September 25, 1973, a third alternate was mailed a group of surveys along with a letter asking them to fill out the instrument and return it. Each advisor was told of the importance of each state's being represented and that his state had not responded in any way.

All told, 76 chapters responded for a 67.9 percent return. It should be noted at this time that two schools returned incomplete survey packets because the schools had dropped the vocational agriculture program and the FFA had been closed out.

Table III is a summary of selected data of active members who responded by regions. Information presented in this table includes the classification according to grade in school, type of vocational agriculture program, and FFA degree or degrees obtained. Of the 361 usable member responses, there were 54 freshmen, 83 sophomores, 116 juniors, 105 seniors, and 3 graduates.

Regarding the type of program, 79 percent, or 265 out of 336 of the members responding, had production-type programs; 61 had agri-business type programs; and 10 had both types.

TABLE III  
SUMMARY OF SELECTED DATA OBTAINED FROM ACTIVE MEMBERS BY REGIONS

Region	Total No.	Classification										Degree Held										
												Type Program			Greenhand		Chapter Farmer		State Farmer		American Farmer	
		Freshmen		Sophomores		Junior		Senior		Graduate												
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Prod.	Agri- Bus.	Both	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Pacific	80	8	10.0	23	28.8	21	26.3	28	35.0			43	7	7	57	71.3	41	51.3	12	15.0	1	1.3
North Atlantic	79	11	13.9	11	13.9	32	40.5	24	30.4	1	1.3	59	15	2	73	92.4	55	69.6	5	6.3	1	1.3
Central	109	15	13.8	24	22.0	34	31.2	35	32.1	1	0.9	87	6	1	93	85.3	79	72.5	12	11.0	-	-
Southern	93	20	21.5	25	26.9	29	31.2	18	19.4	1	1.1	76	33	-	93	100.0	80	86.0	15	16.1	1	1.1
Overall	361	54	15.0	83	23.0	116	32.1	105	29.1	3	0.8	265	61	10	316	87.5	255	70.6	44	12.2	3	0.8

Only 316 responded as to the degree held. All 316 marked the Greenhand degree, while 255, 90.6 percent, indicated they were Chapter Farmers; 44, 12.2 percent, were State Farmers; and 3, 0.8 percent, were American Farmers.

#### Findings Regarding Attitudes of Active Members and Advisors of the FFA

The following section of this chapter is an attempt to present and analyze data collected relative to these statements. To facilitate presentation of these responses, the section is first sub-divided by objectives. Within each of these sub-divisions, there is an additional breakdown according to the main components of each objective. Summaries of responses to statements intended to assess attitudes toward each of these components and the major objectives are then presented.

The latter part of the chapter attempts to describe the importance of selected problems of and values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA as perceived by members and advisors.

The writer developed an instrument containing 41 statements concerning the organization and operation of the FFA, name, degree and awards program, and relationship of vocational agriculture to the FFA. The advisors and active members responded to each statement. In a very few cases there were instances where respondents failed to respond to all statements. In these cases, the responses were counted as an undecided response.

Tables were developed showing the number of respondents; number and percentage responding to each statement in each category of Strongly Agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree, or Strongly Disagree; and a mean



response for each statement. These data are shown for both advisor and active member by region and on overall.

To facilitate comparison of the findings of the frequency distribution and mean responses, numerical values were assigned to the response scale for those statements of a positive nature in the following pattern:

Strongly Agree	= 5
Agree	= 4
Undecided	= 3
Disagree	= 2
Strongly Disagree	= 1

However, since certain statements were purportedly of a negative nature, it was necessary to reverse the above numerical scale for those statements with a negative connotation. The latter scale was as follows:

Strongly Agree	= 1
Agree	= 2
Undecided	= 3
Disagree	= 4
Strongly Disagree	= 5

Also, due to a need to determine the average response of a group and for an overall rating and because computation of these mean responses resulted in decimal fractions, a range of numerical values was established for each degree of agreement response category for positive and negative statements as follows:

	<u>Range for Positive Statements</u>	<u>Range for Negative Statements</u>
Strongly Agree	4.5 - 5.0	0 - 1.49
Agree	3.5 - 4.49	1.5 - 2.49
Undecided	2.5 - 3.49	2.5 - 3.49
Disagree	1.5 - 2.49	3.5 - 4.49
Strongly Disagree	0 - 1.49	4.5 - 5.0

Thus, if the mean response of a group was determined to be 4.6, then according to the foregoing formula the group was considered to strongly agree with the statement in question.

Attitudes Toward Organization and  
Operation of FFA

This section contains five sub-divisions with appropriate statements designed to measure attitudes of active members and advisors toward selected aspects of the organization and operation of the FFA.

Primary Aim and Purpose

Four statements were developed to measure the attitudes of advisors and active members toward the primary aim and purposes of the FFA.

The FFA Provides a Sufficient Number and Variety of Leadership Training Opportunities for Its Members. As reported in Table IV, there were no major differences in mean responses of advisors and members. The range was from 3.13 to 4.5. All the mean responses except that of the Pacific Region advisors were in the Agree category. The Pacific advisors, with a 4.5, were in the Strongly Agree category and are at the lower limit. The closeness of the overall mean responses of the advisors and members should be noted.

The FFA Provides Numerous Opportunities for the Development of Leadership. According to the data presented in Table V, only 3.1 percent of the members were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category. All mean responses were in the Agree category with the exception of the Pacific Region advisors. This group was in the Strongly Agree category. Again, the closeness of the overall mean responses of advisor and active members should be noted.

TABLE IV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA PROVIDES A SUFFICIENT NUMBER AND  
VARIETY OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ITS MEMBERS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	8	50.0	8	50.0							4.50
	Member	80	34	42.5	44	55.0	2	3.0					4.40
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	13	81.3							4.19
	Member	79	31	39.2	34	43.0	7	8.9	7	8.9			4.13
Central	Advisor	22	3	13.6	19	86.4							4.14
	Member	109	38	34.9	68	62.4	3	2.8					4.32
Southern	Advisor	19	6	31.6	13	68.4							4.32
	Member	93	39	41.9	53	57.0	1	1.1					4.41
Overall	Advisor	73	20	27.4	53	72.6							4.27
	Member	361	142	39.3	199	55.1	13	3.6	7	1.9			4.32

TABLE V  
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA PROVIDES NUMEROUS  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	13	81.3	3	18.7							4.81
	Member	80	29	36.3	46	57.5			5	6.3			4.24
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			15	93.8			1	6.3			3.88
	Member	79	21	26.6	41	51.9	13	16.5	2	2.5	2	2.5	3.97
Central	Advisor	22	8	36.4	14	63.6							4.36
	Member	109	38	34.9	65	59.6	4	3.7	2	1.8			4.28
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	15	78.9							4.21
	Member	93	36	38.7	49	52.7	8	8.6					4.30
Overall	Advisor	73	25	34.7	47	64.4			1	1.4			4.32
	Member	361	124	34.3	201	55.7	25	6.9	9	2.5	2	0.6	4.21

The Training That FFA Members Receive in Leadership, Cooperation, and Citizenship Prepares the Individual to Take His Place in Society.

Table VI presents the data for this statement. It should be noted that across all regions the mean response for advisors and active members were at least in the Agree category. However, both the advisors and members of the Pacific Region were in the Strongly Agree category. Overall, 86.3 percent of the advisors rated this statement in the Agree or Strongly Agree category, while 92.0 percent of the members' responses were in these categories.

Cooperation Is Not Stressed in the FFA Organization. Table VII presents the data for a negatively oriented statement. By reversing the numerical scale, it was found that the mean response for all groups fell in the Disagree category. In effect, this would mean that all advisors and active members would agree that cooperation is stressed in the FFA organization.

Summary of Aims and Purposes Statements. Table VIII is a comparison of mean responses for advisors and active members to statements designed to assess attitudes toward the primary aim and purposes of the FFA. As one analyzes the table, it is noted that all mean responses are relatively close. There are no major differences in mean responses between advisors and members. All mean responses were in at least the Agree category. The largest difference is between advisors and members for the statement concerning the opportunities the FFA provides for development of leadership. Across all regions the mean response tends to be to the Strongly Agree side of the scale.

TABLE VI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE TRAINING THAT FFA MEMBERS RECEIVE  
IN LEADERSHIP, COOPERATION, AND CITIZENSHIP PREPARES THE INDIVIDUAL  
TO TAKE HIS PLACE IN SOCIETY"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	11	68.8	3	18.8	2	12.5					4.56
	Member	80	55	68.8	25	31.3							4.69
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	10	62.5			2	12.5	1	6.3	3.75
	Member	79	32	40.5	36	45.6	9	11.4	2	2.5			4.29
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	19	86.4			1	4.5			4.00
	Member	109	47	43.1	52	47.7	7	6.4	3	2.8			4.31
Southern	Advisor	19	7	36.8	8	42.1			4	21.1			3.95
	Member	93	20	21.5	65	69.9	8	8.6					4.22
Overall	Advisor	73	23	31.5	40	54.8	2	2.7	7	9.6	1	1.4	4.06
	Member	361	154	42.7	178	49.3	24	6.6	5	1.4			4.33

TABLE VII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "COOPERATION IS NOT STRESSED IN THE FFA ORGANIZATION"  
(NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16							13	81.3	3	18.8	4.19
	Member	80			2	2.5	5	6.3	36	45.0	37	46.3	4.35
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			3	18.8			8	50.0	5	31.3	3.94
	Member	79	7	8.9	7	8.9	5	6.3	29	36.7	31	39.2	3.89
Central	Advisor	22							12	54.5	10	45.5	4.46
	Member	109	7	6.4	9	8.3	5	4.6	33	30.3	55	50.5	4.10
Southern	Advisor	19					4	21.1	10	52.6	5	26.3	4.05
	Member	93	3	3.2	6	6.5	6	6.5	44	47.3	34	36.6	4.08
Overall	Advisor	73			3	4.1	4	5.5	43	58.9	23	31.5	4.15
	Member	361	17	4.7	24	6.6	21	5.8	142	39.3	157	43.5	4.10

TABLE VIII  
COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES REGARDING ATTITUDES TOWARD PRIMARY AIM  
AND PURPOSES OF THE FFA

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
1. The FFA provides a sufficient number and variety of leadership training opportunities for its members.	4.50	4.40	4.19	4.13	4.14	4.32	4.32	4.41	4.27	4.32
2. The FFA provides numerous opportunities for the development of leadership.	4.81	4.24	3.88	3.97	4.36	4.28	4.21	4.30	4.32	4.21
3. The training that FFA members receive in leadership, co-operation, and citizenship prepares the individual to take his place in society.	4.56	4.69	3.75	4.29	4.00	4.31	3.95	4.22	4.06	4.33
4. Cooperation is not stressed in the FFA organization. (Negative Statement)	4.19	4.35	3.94	3.89	4.46	4.10	4.05	4.08	4.15	4.10



Name of the Organization

Four statements were designed to measure the attitudes of advisors and active members of the FFA toward the name of the organization.

The Use of the Letters "FFA" Rather Than "Future Farmers of America" in Referring to the Organization Attracts More Members to Join.

In Table IX all the mean responses were in the Undecided category, except the Southern Region members. This group had a 3.5, which fell in the lower limit of the Agree category. The range of mean responses was from 2.85 to 3.50, with all except two being above 3.00. Overall, both mean responses were above 3.00. It should be noted that both groups had over 25 percent in the Undecided category on this statement.

A Small Percentage of FFA Members in Your State Want to Be Referred to as "Future Farmers." Table X presents a summary of responses to a statement designed purposely to cast a negative slant on the traditional name of the organization. Across all regions mean responses of both members and advisors were in the Undecided category, except for the Pacific Region advisors. Members responded rather heavily in the Undecided category, with 32.7 percent of the responses falling in this area. The range of mean responses was from 2.69 to 3.81, with most being above 3.0.

The Name "Future Farmers of America" Restricts Expansion of the Off-Farm Agriculture Related Aspect of the Total Vocational Agriculture Program. Table XI is a summary of responses for the above statement. Across all regions the range of mean responses was from 2.23 to 3.63. According to the data in this table, members tended to have a lower mean

TABLE IX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE USE OF THE LETTERS 'FFA' RATHER THAN THE NAME 'FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA' IN REFERRING TO THE ORGANIZATION ATTRACTS MORE STUDENTS TO JOIN"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	3	18.8	7	43.8	3	18.8			3.38
	Member	80	5	6.3	24	30.0	22	27.5	12	15.0	17	21.3	2.85
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	5	31.3	5	31.3	2	12.5	2	12.5	3.19
	Member	79	4	5.1	32	40.5	18	22.8	9	11.4	16	20.3	2.99
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	11	50.0	4	18.2	6	27.3			3.32
	Member	109	4	3.7	37	33.9	40	36.7	26	23.9	2	1.8	3.14
Southern	Advisor	19			11	57.9	4	21.1	3	15.8	1	5.3	3.32
	Member	93	16	17.2	38	40.9	19	20.4	16	17.2	4	4.3	3.50
Overall	Advisor	73	6	8.2	30	41.1	20	27.4	14	19.2	3	4.1	3.30
	Member	361	29	8.0	131	36.3	99	27.4	63	17.5	39	10.8	3.13

TABLE X

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF FFA MEMBERS IN  
YOUR STATE WANT TO BE REFERRED TO AS 'FUTURE FARMERS'"  
(NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8			10	62.5	3	18.8	3.81
	Member	80	7	8.8	15	18.8	29	36.3	19	23.8	10	12.5	3.13
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			10	62.5	2	12.5	3	18.8	1	6.3	2.69
	Member	79	2	2.5	34	43.0	25	31.6	13	16.5	5	6.3	2.81
Central	Advisor	22			8	36.4	3	13.6	7	31.8	4	18.2	3.32
	Member	109	6	5.5	26	23.9	42	38.5	25	22.9	10	9.2	3.06
Southern	Advisor	19			8	42.1			8	42.1	3	15.8	3.32
	Member	93	11	11.8	33	35.5	22	23.7	21	22.6	6	6.5	2.76
Overall	Advisor	73			29	39.7	5	6.8	28	38.4	11	15.1	3.29
	Member	361	26	7.2	108	29.9	118	32.7	78	21.6	31	8.6	2.95

TABLE XI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE NAME 'FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA'  
RESTRICTS EXPANSION OF THE OFF-FARM AGRICULTURE RELATED ASPECT  
OF THE TOTAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAM"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			5	31.3	3	18.8	8	50.0			2.81
	Member	80	3	3.8	19	23.8	17	21.3	22	27.5	19	23.8	2.56
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	7	43.8	3	18.8	3	18.8			3.63
	Member	79	5	6.3	16	20.3	16	20.3	31	39.2	11	13.9	2.66
Central	Advisor	22			8	36.4	4	18.2	7	31.8	3	13.6	2.77
	Member	109	4	3.7	17	15.6	36	33.0	41	37.6	11	10.1	2.65
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	2	10.5			12	63.2	2	10.5	2.58
	Member	93	6	6.5	14	15.1	6	6.5	36	38.7	31	33.3	2.23
Overall	Advisor	73	6	8.2	22	30.1	10	13.7	30	41.1	5	6.8	2.92
	Member	361	18	5.0	66	18.3	75	20.8	130	36.0	72	19.9	2.52

response than did the advisors. It should be noted that overall 55.9 percent of the members and 47.9 percent of the advisors were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category. Only 38.3 percent of the advisors and 23.3 percent of the members were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category.

The Name "Future Farmers of America" Implies That the Organization Is Concerned Mainly With the Production Aspect of Agriculture. According to the findings presented in Table XII, all the mean responses were in the Undecided category with the exception of the North Atlantic Region advisors. This group responded in the Agree category with a 3.88. One should note the narrow margin of difference between the overall mean responses of advisors and members. One might also note that 31.5 percent of the advisors and 28.5 percent of the members responded either in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree categories.

Summary of Mean Responses of Attitudes Toward the Name of the Organization. According to the comparison of mean responses presented in Table XIII, advisors and members tended to respond in the Undecided category except for Pacific Region advisors and Southern Region members. These two groups responded in the Agree and Disagree categories, respectively.

#### Operation of Local, State, and National Organizations

Statements for this component of objective one were designed to measure attitudes of advisors and members concerning the operation of the organization at the local, state, and national levels.

TABLE XII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE NAME 'FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA' IMPLIES  
THAT THE ORGANIZATION IS CONCERNED MAINLY WITH THE PRODUCTION  
ASPECT OF AGRICULTURE"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			8	50.0	5	31.3	3	18.8			3.31
	Member	80	12	15.0	40	50.0	12	15.0	7	8.8	9	11.3	3.49
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	12	75.0			2	12.5			3.88
	Member	79	5	6.3	43	54.4	19	24.1	7	8.9	5	6.3	3.46
Central	Advisor	22			11	50.0	4	18.2	7	31.8			3.18
	Member	109	12	11.0	43	39.4	15	13.8	27	24.8	12	11.0	3.15
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	5	26.3			9	47.4	2	10.5	2.90
	Member	93	8	8.6	41	44.1	8	8.6	33	35.5	3	3.2	3.19
Overall	Advisor	73	5	6.8	36	49.3	9	12.3	21	28.8	2	2.7	3.29
	Member	361	37	10.7	167	46.3	54	15.0	74	20.5	29	8.0	3.30

TABLE XIII  
COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES AS TO ATTITUDES TOWARD  
THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
5. The use of the letters "FFA" rather than the name "Future Farmers of America" in referring to the organization attracts more students to join.	3.38	2.85	3.19	2.99	3.32	3.14	3.32	3.50	3.30	3.13
6. A small percentage of FFA members in your state want to be referred to as "Future Farmers." (Negative Statement)	3.81	3.13	2.69	2.81	3.32	3.06	3.32	2.76	3.29	2.95
7. The name "Future Farmers of America" restricts expansion of the off-farm agriculture related aspect of the total vocational agriculture program.	2.81	2.56	3.63	2.66	2.77	2.65	2.58	2.23	2.92	2.52
8. The name "Future Farmers of America" implies that the organization is concerned mainly with the production aspect of agriculture.	3.31	3.49	3.88	3.46	3.18	3.15	2.90	3.19	3.29	3.30

It Is Not Possible for the National Officers to Operate and Manage the FFA Organization. Table XIV shows the responses to another negatively stated statement. Again the mean responses present a positive correlation. The range of mean responses was from a 2.47 to 3.75. Overall the mean responses were above 3.00. With the exception of the Pacific Region advisors, all mean responses were in the Undecided range. This group response was at the Disagree level.

Every Region Should Be Represented Based on Total Membership of the Region on the National Board of Directors for the FFA. For Table XV a varied mean response across regions was observed. The mean responses ranged from a 2.92 to 3.88, with all being in the Agree category except the Pacific Region members, who were in the Undecided category. Overall 69.8 percent of the advisors and 57.0 percent of the members were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category. A rather large number of advisors and members' responses were in the Undecided category.

The FFA Is a Member-Owned, Member-Operated Organization. In analyzing the compilation of responses found in Table XVI, one observes that all mean responses are in the Agree category. One should note that the Central Region advisors had the highest mean response with a 4.09, while the Southern Region advisors had the lowest with a 3.53, barely in the Agree category. One should also note that there were no responses in the Strongly Disagree category.

Local Members Should Be Given a Greater Part in the Operation of the National Organization. A study of mean responses in Table XVII reveals that only the Southern Region advisors were in the Agree category with a 3.74. Across all regions the mean responses ranged from



TABLE XIV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL  
OFFICERS TO OPERATE AND MANAGE THE FFA ORGANIZATION"  
(NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8	3	18.8	5	31.3	5	31.3	3.75
	Member	80			15	18.8	29	36.3	31	38.8	5	6.3	3.33
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	5	31.3	3	18.8	3	18.8	3	18.8	3.00
	Member	79	6	7.6	16	20.3	22	27.8	24	30.4	11	13.9	3.23
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5			10	45.5	10	45.5	1	4.5	3.46
	Member	109	6	5.5	17	15.6	37	33.9	40	36.7	9	8.3	3.27
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	10	52.6	1	5.3	4	21.1	1	5.3	2.47
	Member	93	3	3.2	19	20.4	33	35.5	26	28.0	12	12.9	3.27
Overall	Advisor	73	6	8.2	18	24.7	17	23.3	22	30.1	10	13.7	3.16
	Member	361	15	4.2	67	18.6	121	33.5	121	33.5	37	10.2	3.27

TABLE XV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "EVERY REGION SHOULD BE  
REPRESENTED BASED ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGION ON  
THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE FFA"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	8	50.0	5	31.3					3.88
	Member	80	12	15.0	15	18.8	21	26.3	20	25.0	12	15.0	2.92
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	12	75.0			2	12.5			3.88
	Member	79	10	12.7	42	53.2	17	21.5	6	7.6	4	5.1	3.61
Central	Advisor	22			14	63.6	7	31.8	1	4.5			3.59
	Member	109	10	9.2	54	49.5	26	23.9	15	13.8	4	3.7	3.47
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	8	42.1	7	36.8					3.84
	Member	93	14	15.1	49	52.7	19	20.4	10	10.8	1	1.1	3.70
Overall	Advisor	73	9	12.3	42	57.5	19	26.0	3	4.1			3.78
	Member	361	46	12.7	160	44.3	83	23.0	51	14.1	21	5.8	3.44

TABLE XVI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA IS A  
MEMBER-OWNED, MEMBER-OPERATED ORGANIZATION"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	8	50.0	2	12.5	3	18.8			3.56
	Member	80	15	18.8	51	63.8	9	11.3	5	6.3			3.95
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	10	62.5			3	18.8			3.81
	Member	79	22	27.8	36	45.6	16	20.3	5	6.3			3.75
Central	Advisor	22	4	18.2	16	72.7	2	9.1					4.09
	Member	109	32	29.4	52	47.7	13	11.9	12	11.0			3.95
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	8	42.1	4	21.1	4	21.1			3.53
	Member	93	20	21.5	55	59.1	11	11.8	7	7.5			3.95
Overall	Advisor	73	13	17.8	42	57.5	8	11.0	10	13.7			3.80
	Member	361	89	24.7	194	53.7	49	13.9	29	8.0			3.95

TABLE XVII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "LOCAL MEMBERS SHOULD BE GIVEN A GREATER PART IN THE OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			5	31.3	5	31.3	3	18.8	3	18.8	2.75
	Member	80	10	12.5	17	21.3	36	45.0	17	21.3			3.25
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			3	18.8	8	50.0	5	31.3			2.88
	Member	79	10	12.7	29	36.7	29	36.7	11	13.9			3.48
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	6	27.3	8	36.4	7	31.8			3.05
	Member	109	15	13.8	35	32.1	35	32.1	24	22.0			3.38
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	11	57.9	3	15.8	1	5.3	1	5.3	3.74
	Member	93	11	11.8	49	52.7	25	26.9	8	8.6			3.05
Overall	Advisor	73	4	5.5	25	34.2	24	32.9	16	21.9	4	5.5	3.12
	Member	361	46	12.7	130	36.0	125	34.6	60	16.6			3.45

2.75 to 3.74. It should be noted that a large percentage of advisors and members marked the Undecided response, with 32.9 percent of the advisors and 34.6 percent of the members being in this category.

Local Members Should Be Given a Greater Part in the Operation of the Local Chapters. In Table XVIII the advisors' mean responses were in the Undecided category with the exception of the North Atlantic Region. All members' mean responses were in the Agree category, with a range from 3.59 to 4.03. From this, members were agreeing that they should have more input into the operation of the local chapter.

At the State and National Levels It Is Necessary That Adults Have More Responsibilities in "Running" the Organization Than the Members. Mean responses were quite varied in Table XIX across the regions. Only the Pacific Region advisors and members were in the Disagree category, with all others in the Undecided category. One should note that overall both the advisors and members' mean responses were in the Disagree category. It should also be noted that only 26 percent of the advisors' responses and 26.9 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree categories.

Local Members Should Be Given a Greater Part in the Operation of the State Association. A summary of responses to this statement is presented in Table XX. Mean responses ranged from 2.63 to 3.81. Both Pacific Region advisors and members held the low mean responses. North Atlantic and Southern Region mean responses were all in the Agree category. Overall both advisors and members' mean responses were in the Undecided range with a tendency toward the Agree category.

TABLE XVIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "LOCAL MEMBERS SHOULD BE GIVEN A  
GREATER PART IN THE OPERATION OF LOCAL CHAPTERS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	5	31.3			8	50.0			3.19
	Member	80	24	30.0	34	42.5	15	18.8	7	8.8			3.92
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	5	31.3	10	62.5			1	6.3			4.19
	Member	79	22	27.8	39	49.4	16	20.3	2	2.5			4.03
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	12	54.5			8	36.4			3.36
	Member	109	12	11.0	58	53.2	24	22.0	12	11.0	3	2.8	3.59
Southern	Advisor	19			11	57.9	3	15.8	4	21.1	1	5.3	3.26
	Member	93	8	8.6	65	69.9	12	12.9	8	8.6			3.79
Overall	Advisor	73	10	13.7	38	52.1	3	4.1	21	28.8	1	1.4	3.48
	Member	361	66	18.3	196	54.3	67	18.6	29	8.0	3	0.8	3.81

TABLE XIX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "AT THE STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS IT IS NECESSARY THAT ADULTS HAVE MORE RESPONSIBILITIES IN 'RUNNING' THE ORGANIZATION THAN THE MEMBERS"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8	3	18.8	5	31.3	5	31.3	2.25
	Member	80			18	22.5	10	12.5	37	43.3	15	18.8	2.39
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			3	18.8	5	31.3	6	37.5	2	12.5	2.56
	Member	79			29	36.7	14	17.7	22	27.8	14	17.7	2.73
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	6	27.3	3	13.6	11	50.0	1	4.5	3.18
	Member	109	1	0.9	19	17.4	14	12.8	50	45.9	25	22.9	2.76
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	5	26.3	3	15.8	8	42.1	2	10.5	3.05
	Member	93	5	5.4	25	26.9	9	9.7	35	37.6	19	20.4	2.59
Overall	Advisor	73	2	2.7	17	23.3	14	19.2	30	41.1	10	13.7	2.41
	Member	361	6	1.7	91	25.2	47	13.0	144	39.9	73	20.2	2.48

TABLE XX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "LOCAL MEMBERS SHOULD BE GIVEN A  
GREATER PART IN THE OPERATION OF THE STATE ASSOCIATIONS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			5	31.3			11	68.8			2.63
	Member	80	7	8.8	29	36.3	22	27.5	19	23.8	3	3.8	2.95
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			13	81.3	3	18.8					3.81
	Member	79	9	11.4	41	51.9	20	25.3	9	11.4			3.63
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	9	40.9	6	27.3	6	27.3			3.23
	Member	109	9	8.3	45	41.3	29	26.6	26	14.7			3.34
Southern	Advisor	19			15	78.9			3	15.8	1	5.3	3.53
	Member	93	4	4.3	56	60.2	25	26.9	8	8.6			3.60
Overall	Advisor	73	1	1.4	42	57.5	9	12.3	20	27.4	1	1.4	3.30
	Member	361	29	8.0	171	47.4	96	26.6	62	17.2	3	0.8	3.45



Each State Should Have Representation Based on Total Membership in the State at the National FFA Convention. Data presented in Table XXI is a summary of responses for this statement. Only the Pacific Region advisors and members and the Central Region members' mean responses were in the Undecided category. All others were in the Agree category. It should be noted that a small percentage of responses were in the Undecided category.

Members at All Levels Should Be Consulted Before Changes Are Made in the FFA Organization. According to data presented in Table XXII, 89 percent of the advisors and 91.1 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category. The results show a tendency to lean toward the Strongly Agree category, with all mean responses with the exception of the Central Region advisors' being above 4.0.

Members Should Be Involved in Selection of the National Officers. Table XXIII presents a summary of responses concerning this statement. Mean responses were quite varied across all regions but tended to be toward the Agree category. Only the North Atlantic Region advisors and Central Region advisors and members' mean responses were in the Undecided category. All other mean responses were above 3.50 and in the Agree category.

Summary of Statements Measuring Attitudes Toward the Operation of Local, State, and National Organization. Table XXIV presents a comparison of mean responses for the statements designed to measure attitudes toward the operation of local, state, and national organizations. The mean responses for members and advisors again show no major differences

TABLE XXI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "EACH STATE SHOULD HAVE REPRESENTATION BASED  
ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE STATE AT THE NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	8	50.0			3	18.8	2	12.5	3.44
	Member	80	7	8.8	27	33.8	10	12.5	12	15.0	24	30.0	2.76
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			11	68.8	2	12.5	3	18.8			3.50
	Member	79	9	11.4	39	49.4	11	13.9	11	13.9	9	11.4	3.35
Central	Advisor	22	6	27.3	11	50.0	2	9.1	3	13.6			3.91
	Member	109	19	17.4	54	49.5	8	7.3	22	20.2	6	5.5	3.53
Southern	Advisor	19	5	26.3	10	52.6	1	5.3	3	15.8			3.90
	Member	93	16	17.2	46	49.5	7	7.5	19	20.4	5	5.4	3.53
Overall	Advisor	73	14	19.2	40	54.8	5	6.8	12	16.4	2	2.7	3.71
	Member	361	51	14.1	166	46.0	36	10.0	64	17.7	44	12.2	3.32

TABLE XXII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "MEMBERS AT ALL LEVELS SHOULD BE  
CONSULTED BEFORE CHANGES ARE MADE IN THE ORGANIZATION"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	8	50.0	5	31.3	3	18.8					4.31
	Member	80	49	61.3	26	32.5			5	6.3			4.49
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	13	81.3							4.19
	Member	79	38	48.1	36	45.6	3	3.8	2	2.5			4.39
Central	Advisor	22	4	18.2	15	68.2			3	13.6			3.91
	Member	109	41	37.6	57	52.3	4	3.7	7	6.4			4.29
Southern	Advisor	19	7	36.8	10	52.6			2	10.5			4.16
	Member	93	31	33.3	51	54.8	6	6.5	4	4.3	1	1.1	4.09
Overall	Advisor	73	22	30.1	43	58.9	3	4.1	5	6.8			4.12
	Member	361	159	44.0	170	47.1	13	3.6	18	5.0	1	0.3	4.30

TABLE XXIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "MEMBERS SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN SELECTION OF THE NATIONAL OFFICERS"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			13	81.3			3	18.8			3.63
	Member	80	15	18.8	32	40.0	15	18.8	16	20.0	2	2.5	3.53
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			6	37.5	5	31.3	5	31.3			3.06
	Member	79	13	16.5	36	45.6	16	20.3	9	11.4	5	6.3	3.54
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	7	31.8	5	22.7	8	36.4	1	4.5	2.96
	Member	109	19	17.4	36	33.0	27	24.8	24	22.0	3	2.8	3.40
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	14	73.7	1	5.3			1	5.3	3.95
	Member	93	17	18.3	57	61.3	11	11.8	7	7.5	1	1.1	3.88
Overall	Advisor	73	4	5.5	40	54.8	11	15.1	16	21.9	2	2.7	3.38
	Member	361	64	17.7	161	44.6	69	19.1	56	15.5	11	3.0	3.58

TABLE XXIV

COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES TOWARD OPERATION  
OF LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
9. It is not possible for the National officers to operate and manage the FFA organization. (negative statement)	3.75	3.33	3.00	3.23	3.46	3.27	2.47	3.27	3.16	3.27
10. Every region should be represented based on total membership of the region on the National Board of Directors.	3.88	2.92	3.88	3.61	3.59	3.47	3.84	3.20	3.27	3.44
11. The FFA is a member-owned, member-operated organization.	3.56	3.95	3.81	3.75	4.09	3.95	3.53	3.95	3.80	3.95
12. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the National association.	2.75	3.25	2.88	3.48	3.05	3.38	3.74	3.05	3.12	3.45
13. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of local chapters.	3.19	3.92	4.19	4.03	3.36	3.59	3.26	3.79	3.48	3.81
14. At the state and national levels it is necessary that adults have more responsibilities in "running" the organization than the members.	2.25	2.39	2.56	2.73	3.18	2.76	3.05	2.59	2.41	2.48
15. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the state association.	2.63	2.95	3.81	3.63	3.23	3.34	3.53	3.60	3.30	3.45
16. Each state should have representation based on total membership in the state at the National FFA Convention.	3.44	2.76	3.50	3.35	3.91	3.53	3.90	3.53	3.71	3.32
17. Members at all levels should be consulted before changes are made in the FFA organization.	4.31	4.49	4.19	4.39	3.91	4.29	4.16	4.09	4.12	4.30
18. Members should be involved in the selection of the National officers.	3.63	3.53	3.06	3.54	2.96	3.40	3.95	3.88	3.38	3.58

of attitudes. All responses are relatively close. All mean responses tend to be in the same category of agreement with the exception of the statement concerning representation being based on membership in the state for delegates to the National FFA Convention and directors for the National Board of Directors.

#### Adaptability of the FFA (Rural-Urban)

Much has been said about the FFA being adapted to various settings. A summary of responses dealing with attitudes of advisors and active members concerning the organization serving the rural and urban members will be presented in the following section.

An Adequate Number of Experiences Are Provided for Agribusiness Students. According to the data presented in Table XXV, members' mean responses tended to be higher than did the advisors'. Members' mean responses ranged from 3.47 to 3.68, while advisors' mean responses ranged from 3.23 to 3.56. It should be noted that 25 percent of advisors and members' responses to this statement were in the Undecided category. Also note should be made that 46.3 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category, while 62.6 percent of the members' responses were in these categories.

The FFA Needs to Provide More Experiences and Opportunities for Members in the Off-Farm Agriculture-Related Occupational Areas. Table XXVI presents a summary of responses of advisors and active members concerning this statement. Across all regions advisors and members' mean responses were in the Agree category, with a range from 3.55 to 4.06. Note should be made that 23.9 percent of the advisors and 79.5 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category.

TABLE XXV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF EXPERIENCES  
ARE PROVIDED FOR AGRIBUSINESS STUDENTS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	5	31.3	3	18.8	5	31.3			3.38
	Member	80	3	3.8	52	65.0	15	18.8	10	12.5			3.60
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	6	37.5	3	18.8	3	18.8	2	12.5	3.56
	Member	79	9	11.4	39	49.4	20	25.3	11	13.9			3.58
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	10	45.5	4	18.2	7	31.8			3.23
	Member	109	11	10.1	50	45.9	27	24.8	21	19.3			3.47
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	8	42.1	8	42.1	2	10.5			3.42
	Member	93	8	8.6	54	58.1	27	29.0	1	1.1	3	3.2	3.68
Overall	Advisor	73	7	9.6	29	39.7	18	24.7	17	23.3	2	2.7	3.30
	Member	361	31	8.6	195	54.0	89	24.7	43	11.9	3	0.8	3.58

TABLE XXVI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA NEEDS TO PROVIDE MORE  
EXPERIENCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS IN THE OFF-FARM  
AGRICULTURE RELATED OCCUPATIONAL AREAS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	7	43.8	3	18.8	3	18.8			3.63
	Member	80	22	27.5	41	51.3	10	12.5	7	8.8			3.98
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	11	68.8			2	12.5			4.06
	Member	79	20	25.3	46	58.2	9	11.4	4	5.1			4.04
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	12	54.5	4	18.2	4	18.2			3.55
	Member	109	16	14.7	69	63.3	6	5.5	17	15.6	1	0.9	3.81
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	12	63.2	1	5.3	1	5.3	1	5.3	3.90
	Member	93	15	16.1	58	62.4	15	16.1	5	5.4			3.73
Overall	Advisor	73	12	16.4	42	57.5	8	11.0	10	13.7	1	1.4	3.74
	Member	361	73	20.2	214	59.3	40	11.1	33	9.1	1	0.3	4.01



The FFA Should Be the Vehicle for Making the Vocational Agriculture Instructional Program Meaningful and Relevant. In analyzing the compilations of responses found in Table XXVII concerning this statement, one finds that across all regions advisors and active members' mean responses were in the Agree category. The range of mean responses was from 3.75 to 4.13. It should be noted that there were no responses in the Strongly Disagree category and that 74.0 percent of the advisors and 81.7 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree and Strongly Agree categories.

State Associations and Local Chapters Should Be Given the Flexibility to Set Standards for Degree, Awards, Name, Rituals, and Other Aspects of the FFA. According to the data presented in Table XXVIII concerning the flexibility of local chapters and state associations to set standards for the FFA, across all regions all mean responses except those of the Pacific Region advisors were in the Undecided category. The Pacific Region advisors' mean response was in the Disagree category. Mean responses were quite varied and ranged from 2.19 to 3.36. Note should be made that 57.6 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category, while only 30.4 percent of the members' responses were in these categories.

Summary of Responses Relating to Adaptability of the FFA. Table XXIX presents a summary of mean responses of attitudes relating to the adaptability of the FFA (rural-urban). Across all regions members and advisors tended to be in agreement and mean responses tended to be close. For three of the statements, members' mean responses tended to be higher than the advisors'. The last statement concerning the

TABLE XXVII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA SHOULD BE THE VEHICLE FOR  
MAKING THE VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM  
MEANINGFUL AND RELEVANT"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	5	31.3	5	31.3	3	18.8	3	18.8			4.13
	Member	80	20	25.0	48	60.0	12	15.0					4.10
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	5	31.3	3	18.8	2	12.5	6	37.5			3.75
	Member	79	14	17.7	47	59.5	5	6.3	13	16.5			3.79
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	19	86.4	1	4.5					4.05
	Member	109	24	22.0	65	59.6	14	11.9	6	5.5			3.98
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	11	57.9	1	5.3	3	15.8			3.84
	Member	93	24	25.8	53	57.0	15	16.1	1	1.1			4.08
Overall	Advisor	73	16	21.9	38	52.1	7	9.6	12	16.4			3.80
	Member	361	82	22.7	213	59.0	46	12.7	20	5.5			3.99

TABLE XXVIII

SUMMARY OF THE RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "STATE ASSOCIATIONS AND LOCAL CHAPTERS SHOULD BE GIVEN THE FLEXIBILITY TO SET STANDARDS FOR DEGREES, AWARDS, NAME, RITUALS, AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE FFA"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8			10	62.5	3	18.8	2.19
	Member	80	10	12.5	31	38.8	10	12.5	17	21.2	12	15.0	3.13
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			5	31.3	3	18.8	6	37.5	2	12.5	3.06
	Member	79	5	6.3	31	39.2	20	25.3	16	20.3	7	8.9	2.89
Central	Advisor	22			10	45.5	2	9.1	10	45.5			3.00
	Member	109	18	16.5	32	29.4	26	23.9	26	23.9	7	6.4	3.26
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	7	36.8			8	42.1	3	15.8	2.74
	Member	93	11	11.8	42	45.2	15	16.1	19	20.4	6	6.5	3.36
Overall	Advisor	73	1	1.4	25	34.2	5	6.8	34	46.6	8	11.0	2.69
	Member	361	44	12.2	136	37.7	71	19.7	78	21.6	32	8.9	3.23

TABLE XXIX  
COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES RELATING  
TO ADAPTABILITY OF THE FFA (RURAL-URBAN)

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
19. An adequate number of experiences are provided for agribusiness students.	3.38	3.60	3.56	3.58	3.23	3.47	3.42	3.68	3.30	3.58
20. The FFA needs to provide more experiences and opportunities for members in the off-farm agriculture-related occupational areas.	3.63	3.98	4.06	4.04	3.55	3.81	3.90	3.73	3.74	4.01
21. The FFA should be the vehicle for making the vocational agriculture instructional program meaningful and relevant.	4.13	4.10	3.75	3.79	4.05	3.98	3.84	4.08	3.80	3.99
22. State associations and local chapters should be given the flexibility to set standards for degrees, awards, name, etc. for the FFA.	2.19	3.13	3.06	2.89	3.00	3.26	2.74	3.36	2.69	3.23

flexibility of local chapters and state associations for setting standards for degrees, awards, name, etc., tended to be varied. No pattern could be observed.

FFA Ceremonies (Opening and Closing), Degree, Creed, Etc.

A Change Is Needed in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for FFA Meetings. In Table XXX data concerning a change in the opening and closing ceremonies for FFA meetings are presented. Responses tended to be to the Disagree side of the scale, with only the North Atlantic advisors' mean responses being above 3.00. Overall, 57.5 percent of the advisors and 62.6 percent of the members' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category, while only 28.8 percent of the advisors and 16.0 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category.

It should be mentioned at this point that a change in the opening and closing ceremonies, degree ceremonies, and creed was adopted at the 1972 National FFA Convention. This change was made after this study was under way. However, both advisors and members indicated that a change was not needed.

Summary of Mean Responses Toward FFA Ceremonies. In Table XXXI mean responses for members tended to be lower than those for advisors. Members' mean responses tended to be on the Disagree side of the scale. Advisors' mean responses were in the Undecided category, except in the Southern Region.

TABLE XXX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "A CHANGE IS NEEDED IN THE OPENING  
AND CLOSING CEREMONIES FOR FFA MEETINGS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8	3	18.8	10	62.5			2.56
	Member	80	5	6.3	5	6.3	19	23.8	27	33.8	24	30.0	2.25
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			5	31.3	3	18.8	8	50.0			3.19
	Member	79	2	2.5	11	13.9	23	29.1	20	25.3	23	29.1	2.35
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	6	27.3	3	13.6	9	40.9	2	9.1	2.86
	Member	109	9	8.3	12	11.0	20	18.3	53	48.6	15	13.8	2.51
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	4	21.1	1	5.3	8	42.1	5	26.3	2.32
	Member	93	5	5.4	9	9.7	15	16.1	46	49.5	18	19.4	2.32
Overall	Advisor	73	3	4.1	18	24.7	10	13.7	35	47.9	7	9.6	2.66
	Member	361	21	5.8	37	10.2	77	21.3	146	40.4	80	22.2	2.37

TABLE XXXI

COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES TOWARD FFA CEREMONIES  
(OPENING AND CLOSING, DEGREE, CREED, ETC.)

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
23. A change is needed in the opening and closing ceremonies for FFA meetings.	2.56	2.25	3.19	2.35	2.86	2.51	2.32	2.32	2.66	2.37

## Attitudes Toward the Relationship of Vocational Agriculture to the FFA

This section contains two sub-divisions with statements designed to measure attitudes of advisors and active members toward the relationship of vocational agriculture to the FFA.

### Integral Part

Six statements will be presented in this section designed to measure the attitudes of advisors and active members toward the FFA being an integral part of the vocational agriculture program.

The FFA Provides Recognition of Students of Vocational Agriculture for Outstanding Programs. Table XXXII provides a summary of advisors and members' responses concerning recognition provided by the FFA for members with outstanding vocational agriculture programs. Across all regions members and advisors' mean responses were in at least the Agree category. However, it should be noted that the Pacific Region advisors' mean responses were in the Strongly Agree category. Note should also be made that 3.4 percent of the members and 5.3 percent of advisors' responses were in the Disagree and Strongly Disagree categories.

Membership in the FFA Is a Motivational Tool to Secure Enrollment in Vocational Agriculture. According to data presented in Table XXXIII concerning membership in the FFA being a motivational tool to secure enrollment in vocational agriculture, mean responses of advisors and members were in the Agree category except the North Atlantic Region advisors. This group's mean response was in the Undecided category. Mean responses ranged from 2.88 to 4.31. With the exception of the



TABLE XXXII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA PROVIDES RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS  
OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE FOR OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	13	81.3	3	18.8							4.81
	Member	80	27	33.8	46	57.5	5	6.3	2	2.5			4.23
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	5	31.3	10	62.5	1	6.3					4.25
	Member	79	29	36.7	42	53.2	8	10.1					4.27
Central	Advisor	22	10	45.5	12	54.5							4.46
	Member	109	47	43.1	59	54.1	2	1.8	1	0.9			4.39
Southern	Advisor	19	10	52.6	8	42.1					1	5.3	4.37
	Member	93	29	31.2	60	64.5	4	4.3					4.27
Overall	Advisor	73	38	52.1	33	45.2	1	1.4			1	1.4	4.47
	Member	361	132	36.6	207	57.3	19	5.3	3	0.8			4.30

TABLE XXXIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "MEMBERSHIP IN THE FFA IS A MOTIVATIONAL  
TOOL TO SECURE ENROLLMENT IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	5	31.5	11	68.8							4.31
	Member	80	14	17.5	40	50.0	12	15.0	10	12.5	4	5.0	3.63
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	8	50.0			3	18.8	3	18.8	2.88
	Member	79	16	20.3	32	40.5	13	16.5	16	20.3	2	2.5	3.56
Central	Advisor	22	4	18.2	14	63.6			4	18.2			3.82
	Member	109	11	10.1	61	56.0	13	11.9	21	19.3	3	2.8	3.51
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	14	73.7	1	5.3			1	5.3	3.95
	Member	93	18	19.4	49	52.7	19	20.4	7	7.5			3.84
Overall	Advisor	73	14	19.2	47	64.4	1	1.4	7	9.6	4	5.5	3.82
	Member	361	59	16.3	182	50.4	57	15.8	54	15.0	9	2.5	3.63

Pacific Region advisors, all mean responses tended to be toward the Agree side of the scale.

The FFA Provides Sufficient Activities to Allow the Majority of Members an Opportunity to Achieve Recognition. In Table XXXIV mean responses for advisors and active members across all regions were in the Agree category. Note should be made that 87.7 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category, while 87.1 percent of the members' responses were in these categories.

Membership in the FFA Should Be Automatic Upon Enrollment in Vocational Agriculture. In analyzing data in Table XXXV one immediately notices the large number of responses scattered across the scale. Mean responses were in the Undecided category, with the exception of the Pacific Region advisors and Southern Region advisors. These two groups, with a 3.88 and 3.58, respectively, were in the Agree category. Advisors' mean responses tended to lean to the Agree side of the scale, while the members' mean responses tended to lean to the Disagree side. Note should also be made that 37 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree categories, while only 50.7 percent were in the Agree or Strongly Agree categories. It should further be noted that only 40.7 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree categories, while 49.8 percent were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree categories.

The FFA Is an Essential Element in Successful Vocational Agriculture Programs. Table XXXVI presents the summary of data concerning the FFA's being an essential element in successful vocational agriculture programs. Overall mean responses for advisors and members were

TABLE XXXIV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA PROVIDES SUFFICIENT ACTIVITIES TO  
ALLOW THE MAJORITY OF MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE RECOGNITION"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	5	31.3	8	50.0	3	18.8					3.50
	Member	80	29	36.3	41	51.3	5	6.3	5	6.3			4.18
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			13	81.3			3	18.8			3.63
	Member	79	22	27.8	48	60.8	4	5.1	5	6.3			4.10
Central	Advisor	22	2	9.1	18	81.8			2	9.1			3.82
	Member	109	29	26.6	67	61.5	3	2.8	7	6.4	3	2.8	4.03
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	15	78.9	1	5.3					4.11
	Member	93	18	19.4	62	66.7	10	10.8	3	3.2			4.02
Overall	Advisor	73	10	13.7	54	74.0	4	5.5	5	6.8			4.00
	Member	361	98	27.1	218	60.4	22	6.1	20	5.5	3	0.8	4.08

TABLE XXXV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "MEMBERSHIP IN THE FFA SHOULD BE  
AUTOMATIC UPON ENROLLMENT IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	8	50.0	3	18.8			5	31.3			3.88
	Member	80	10	12.5	13	16.3	5	6.3	37	46.3	15	18.8	2.58
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	5	31.3	3	18.8			6	37.5	2	12.5	3.19
	Member	79	11	13.9	18	22.8	5	6.3	16	20.3	29	36.7	2.57
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	5	22.7	7	31.8	9	40.9			2.91
	Member	109	23	21.1	26	23.9	12	11.0	31	28.4	17	15.6	3.06
Southern	Advisor	19	5	26.3	7	36.8	2	10.5	4	21.1	1	5.3	3.58
	Member	93	15	16.1	31	33.3	12	12.9	27	29.0	8	8.6	3.19
Overall	Advisor	73	19	26.0	18	24.7	9	12.3	24	32.9	3	4.1	3.36
	Member	361	59	16.3	88	24.4	34	9.4	111	30.7	69	19.1	2.78

TABLE XXXVI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA IS AN ESSENTIAL  
ELEMENT IN SUCCESSFUL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	11	68.8	5	31.3							4.69
	Member	80	25	31.3	30	37.5	15	18.8	10	12.5			3.88
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	6	37.5	5	31.3			5	31.3			3.75
	Member	79	13	16.5	40	50.6	14	17.7	12	15.2			3.68
Central	Advisor	22	10	45.5	8	36.4	1	4.5	3	13.6			4.14
	Member	109	29	26.6	51	46.8	13	11.9	15	13.8	1	0.9	3.84
Southern	Advisor	19	12	63.2	4	21.1	3	15.8					4.47
	Member	93	49	52.7	28	30.1	6	6.5	10	10.8			4.25
Overall	Advisor	73	39	53.4	22	30.1	4	5.5	8	11.0			4.26
	Member	361	116	32.1	149	41.3	48	13.3	47	13.0	1	0.3	3.92

in the Agree category, and across all regions mean responses were in the Agree categories, with the exception of the Pacific Region advisors, who were in the Strongly Agree range with a 4.69. It should be noted that only one response was at the Strongly Disagree level.

The FFA Is Not Necessary for an Effective Vocational Agriculture Program. Table XXXVII presents data for another negatively stated statement. Mean responses as calculated tend to give a positive connotation for this statement. Findings reveal that across all regions the mean responses were in at least the Disagree category. Overall, 82.2 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree ranges, while only 68.7 percent of the members' responses were in the Disagree and Strongly Disagree range.

Summary of Attitudes Toward the Relationship of the FFA to Vocational Agriculture. Table XXXVIII presents a comparison of mean responses for this section concerning the attitude toward the relationship of the FFA to vocational agriculture as being an integral part. There were no major differences in mean responses between advisors and members. There were no patterns established of members disagreeing with advisors and vice versa. However, members and advisors' mean responses tended to be toward the Agree side of the scale.

#### Utilization of Classtime for FFA Activities

For this sub-division, responses to three statements will be presented.

TABLE XXXVII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA IS NOT NECESSARY  
FOR AN EFFECTIVE VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAM"  
(NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16							8	50.0	8	50.0	4.50
	Member	80	2	2.5	12	15.0	17	21.3	27	33.8	22	27.5	3.69
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			5	31.3			10	62.5	1	6.3	3.44
	Member	79			22	27.8	9	11.4	25	31.6	23	29.1	3.62
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	1	4.5	2	9.1	8	36.4	10	45.5	4.14
	Member	109	1	0.9	13	11.9	10	9.2	52	47.7	33	30.3	3.95
Southern	Advisor	19			4	21.1			5	26.3	10	52.6	4.11
	Member	93	4	4.3	12	12.9	11	11.8	42	45.2	24	25.8	3.75
Overall	Advisor	73	1	1.4	10	13.7	2	2.7	31	42.5	29	39.7	4.06
	Member	361	7	1.9	59	16.3	47	13.0	146	40.4	102	28.3	3.78



TABLE XXXVIII

COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES AS TO THE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FFA  
BEING AN INTEGRAL PART OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
24. The FFA provides recognition of students of vocational agriculture for outstanding programs.	4.81	4.23	4.25	4.27	4.46	4.39	4.37	4.27	4.47	4.30
25. Membership in the FFA is a motivational tool to secure enrollment in vocational agriculture.	4.31	3.63	2.88	3.56	3.82	3.51	3.95	3.84	3.82	3.63
26. Membership in the FFA should be automatic upon enrollment in vocational agriculture.	3.50	4.18	3.63	4.10	3.82	4.03	4.11	4.02	4.00	4.08
27. The FFA provides sufficient activities to allow the majority of members an opportunity to achieve recognition.	3.88	2.58	3.19	2.57	2.91	3.06	3.58	3.19	3.36	2.78
28. The FFA is an essential element in successful vocational agriculture programs.	4.69	3.88	3.75	3.68	4.14	3.84	4.47	4.25	4.26	3.92
29. The FFA is not necessary for an effective vocational agriculture program. (negative statement)	4.50	3.69	3.44	3.62	4.14	3.95	4.11	3.75	4.06	3.78

Taking Vocational Agriculture Classtime for FFA Activities Is Very Worthwhile. In Table XXXIX mean responses for advisors and members were very close and ranged from 4.18 to 4.53. Members tended to have a higher mean response than advisors. It should be noted that only one group, Central Region members, had responses in the Disagree and Strongly Disagree categories. One should also note that 93.1 percent of the members and 95.9 percent of advisors' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree categories.

The FFA Is an Integral Part of the Vocational Agriculture Curriculum. Findings presented in Table XL disclosed that 78.1 percent of the members and 93.2 percent of advisors' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category. Mean responses ranged from 3.68 to 4.81, with a tendency to lean toward the Strongly Agree range. Advisors tended to rate this statement higher than did the members.

Vocational Agriculture Classtime Should Not Be Used for Activities Related to FFA Contests and Awards. The tabulation of responses concerning using vocational agriculture classtime for FFA contests and awards is presented in Table XLI. Across all regions advisors and members' mean responses were in the Disagree category, meaning that it would be all right to use vocational agriculture classtime for activities related to FFA contests and awards. Members tended to rate this statement higher in degree of agreement than did advisors.

Comparison of Responses Related to Utilization of Vocational Agriculture Classtime for FFA Activities. According to mean responses presented in Table XLII as a summary of attitudes related to the utilization of vocational agriculture classtime for FFA activities, one notes

TABLE XXXIX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "TAKING VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE  
CLASS TIME FOR FFA ACTIVITIES IS VERY WORTHWHILE"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	5	31.3	11	68.8							4.31
	Member	80	44	55.0	34	42.5	2	2.5					4.53
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	5	31.3	10	62.5	1	6.3					4.25
	Member	79	40	50.6	34	43.0	5	6.3					4.44
Central	Advisor	22	7	31.8	14	63.6	1	4.5					4.18
	Member	109	44	40.4	49	45.0	9	8.3	6	5.5	1	0.9	4.18
Southern	Advisor	19	9	47.4	9	47.4	1	5.3					4.42
	Member	93	46	49.5	45	48.4	2	2.2					4.47
Overall	Advisor	73	26	35.6	44	60.3	3	4.1					4.32
	Member	361	174	48.2	162	44.9	18	5.0	6	1.7	1	0.3	4.39

TABLE XL

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA IS AN INTEGRAL  
PART OF THE VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE CURRICULUM"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	13	81.3	3	18.8							4.81
	Member	80	24	30.0	47	58.8	8	10.0	1	1.3			4.18
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	10	62.5			3	18.8			3.81
	Member	79	12	15.2	38	48.1	21	26.6	8	10.1			3.68
Central	Advisor	22	10	45.5	12	54.5							4.46
	Member	109	20	18.3	66	60.6	21	19.3	2	1.8			3.73
Southern	Advisor	19	5	26.3	12	63.2	2	10.5					4.16
	Member	93	28	30.1	47	50.5	15	16.1	2	2.2	1	1.1	4.07
Overall	Advisor	73	31	42.5	37	50.7	2	2.7	3	4.1			4.32
	Member	361	84	23.3	198	54.8	65	18.0	13	3.6	1	0.3	3.97

TABLE XLI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE CLASS TIME  
SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FFA CONTESTS AND AWARDS"  
(NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			3	18.8			10	62.5	3	18.8	3.81
	Member	80	2	2.5	2	2.5	5	6.3	32	40.0	39	48.8	4.30
North Atlantic	Advisor	16					5	31.3	8	50.0	3	18.3	3.88
	Member	79	2	2.5	9	11.4	10	12.7	36	45.6	22	27.8	3.85
Central	Advisor	22			3	13.6	3	13.6	12	54.5	4	18.2	3.77
	Member	109	3	2.8	10	9.2	9	8.3	49	45.0	38	34.9	4.00
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	1	5.3	2	10.5	10	52.6	5	26.3	3.90
	Member	93	1	1.1	14	15.1	16	17.2	30	32.3	32	34.4	3.84
Overall	Advisor	73	1	1.4	7	9.6	10	13.7	40	54.8	15	20.5	3.82
	Member	361	8	2.2	35	9.7	40	11.1	147	40.7	131	36.3	3.99

TABLE XLII

COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES RELATED TO UTILIZATION OF  
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE CLASSTIME FOR FFA ACTIVITIES

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
30. Taking vocational agriculture classtime for FFA activities is very worthwhile.	4.31	4.53	4.25	4.44	4.18	4.18	4.42	4.47	4.32	4.39
31. The FFA is an integral part of the vocational agriculture curriculum.	4.81	4.18	3.81	3.68	4.46	3.73	4.16	4.07	4.32	3.97
32. Vocational agriculture classtime should not be used for activities related to FFA contests and awards. (Negative Statement)	3.81	4.30	3.88	3.85	3.77	4.00	3.90	3.84	3.82	3.99

that mean responses are very close between advisors and members. Mean responses for all statements were in the Agree level, with most toward the Strongly Agree side of the scale.

### Attitudes Toward the Degree and Awards Program of the FFA

#### Procedure for Advancing of Degrees

Four statements are included in this sub-division to attempt to measure attitudes toward the procedure for advancing of degrees.

FFA Degrees Are Treated as Awards Rather Than Goals for Members to Achieve. Findings presented in Table XLIII tended to indicate that advisors and members were undecided about the FFA degrees being treated as awards rather than goals for members to achieve. Only the Pacific Region advisors' mean responses were in the Disagree category. Note should be made that 28.7 percent of the advisors and 37.4 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree and Strongly Agree categories.

The Name of the FFA Degrees Should Be Changed. Data concerning the statement that the names of the FFA degrees should be changed are presented in Table XLIV. Responses were varied across all regions. In the Pacific Region, both advisors and members' mean responses were in the Disagree category, with the advisors' (2.25) being to the Undecided side of the category and the members' (1.61) being to the Strongly Disagree side. The North Atlantic and Central Regions advisors' mean responses were both in the Undecided range, while members' mean responses from these two regions fell in the Disagree category. Southern region advisors and members' mean responses were both in the Disagree category.

TABLE XLIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "FFA DEGREES ARE TREATED  
AS AWARDS RATHER THAN GOALS FOR MEMBERS TO ACHIEVE"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			2	12.5	3	18.8	8	50.0	3	18.8	2.25
	Member	80	7	8.8	29	36.3	15	18.8	24	30.0	5	6.3	3.11
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			5	31.3	5	31.3	6	37.5			2.94
	Member	79	5	6.3	22	27.8	16	20.3	32	40.5	4	5.1	2.90
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	4	18.2	4	18.2	13	59.1			2.68
	Member	109	4	3.7	40	36.7	15	13.8	37	33.9	13	11.9	2.86
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	8	42.1			3	15.8	7	36.8	2.63
	Member	93	7	7.5	21	22.6	18	19.4	38	40.9	9	9.7	2.77
Overall	Advisor	73	2	2.7	19	26.0	12	16.4	30	41.1	10	13.7	2.63
	Member	361	23	6.4	112	31.0	64	17.7	131	36.3	31	8.6	2.90



TABLE XLIV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE NAMES  
OF THE FFA DEGREES SHOULD BE CHANGED"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8					8	50.0	5	31.3	2.25
	Member	80					5	6.3	39	48.8	36	45.0	1.61
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	2	12.5	3	18.8	6	37.5	3	18.8	2	12.5	3.00
	Member	79	5	6.3	9	11.4	14	17.7	31	39.2	20	25.3	2.34
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	4	18.2	7	31.8	6	27.3	4	18.2	2.64
	Member	109	4	3.7	6	5.5	19	17.4	41	37.6	39	35.8	2.04
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	4	21.1			10	52.6	4	21.1	2.37
	Member	93	4	4.3	1	1.1	19	20.4	45	48.4	24	25.8	2.10
Overall	Advisor	73	7	9.6	11	15.1	13	17.8	27	37.0	15	20.5	2.60
	Member	361	13	3.6	16	4.4	57	15.8	156	43.2	119	33.0	2.03

However, it should be noted that only 57.5 percent of the advisors' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category and 76.2 percent of the members' responses were in these categories.

Every FFA Member Who Achieves the Minimum Requirements of the Various Degrees Should Be Presented the Degree. As shown in Table XLV, 65.6 percent of the advisors and 58.5 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category. However, it should be noted that both members and advisors' overall mean responses (3.43) were in the Undecided category.

Members With Off-Farm Enterprises Do Not Receive as Much Consideration for FFA Degrees as Do Members With Production Enterprises (negative statement). Table XLVI presents a summary of responses concerning the consideration that members with off-farm enterprises receive for FFA degrees compared to production members. Across all regions mean responses were in the Undecided category, with a range from 2.56 to 3.08. Note should be made that 28.7 percent of advisors and 47.9 percent of members' responses were in the Disagree or Strongly Disagree category, while 61.6 percent of advisors and 43.7 percent of members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree range.

Summary of Mean Responses of Attitudes Toward Procedure for Advancing Degrees. Table XLVII presents a summary of mean responses for advisors and members concerning advancing of degrees. Across all regions mean responses were varied. The most variance was noted with the statement related to name change for degrees. The range of mean responses was from 1.61 to 3.00. The mean responses to all other statements were generally in the same category.

TABLE XLV

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "EVERY FFA MEMBER WHO ACHIEVES THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE VARIOUS DEGREES SHOULD BE PRESENTED THE DEGREE"

Region	Group	Number	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	2	12.5	5	31.3	3	18.8	3	18.8	3	18.8	3.00
	Member	80	7	8.8	22	27.5	17	21.3	27	33.8	7	8.8	2.94
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			14	87.5			2	12.5			3.75
	Member	79	7	8.9	43	54.4	7	8.9	15	19.0	7	8.9	3.35
Central	Advisor	22	4	18.2	7	31.8	4	18.2	5	22.7	2	9.1	3.27
	Member	109	29	26.6	41	37.6	20	18.3	17	15.6	2	1.8	3.72
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	10	52.6			5	26.8			3.68
	Member	93	11	11.8	51	54.8	16	17.2	12	12.9	3	3.2	3.59
Overall	Advisor	73	10	13.7	36	49.3	7	9.6	15	20.5	5	6.8	3.43
	Member	361	43	15.0	157	43.5	60	16.6	71	19.7	19	5.3	3.43

TABLE XLVI

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "MEMBERS WITH OFF-FARM ENTERPRISES DO NOT  
RECEIVE AS MUCH CONSIDERATION FOR FFA DEGREES AS DO MEMBERS WITH PRODUCTION  
ENTERPRISES" (NEGATIVE STATEMENT)

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			11	68.8	3	18.8			2	12.5	2.56
	Member	80	10	12.5	29	36.3	10	12.5	19	23.8	12	15.0	2.93
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	1	6.3	10	62.5			5	31.3			2.56
	Member	79	11	13.9	31	39.2	13	16.5	15	19.0	9	11.4	2.79
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	11	50.0	3	13.6	6	27.3	1	4.5	2.77
	Member	109	5	4.6	40	36.7	21	19.3	27	24.8	16	14.7	3.08
Southern	Advisor	19	3	15.8	8	42.1	1	5.3	5	26.3	2	10.5	2.74
	Member	93	9	9.7	22	23.7	23	24.7	34	36.3	5	5.4	3.04
Overall	Advisor	73	5	6.8	40	54.8	7	9.6	16	21.9	5	6.8	2.67
	Member	361	35	9.7	122	33.8	67	18.6	95	26.3	42	11.6	2.96

TABLE XLVII

## COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES TOWARD PROCEDURE FOR ADVANCING DEGREES

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
33. FFA degrees are treated as awards rather than as goals for members to achieve.	2.25	3.11	2.94	2.90	2.68	2.86	2.63	2.77	2.63	2.90
34. The names of the degrees should be changed.	2.25	1.61	3.00	2.34	2.64	2.04	2.31	2.10	2.60	2.03
35. Every FFA member who achieves the minimum requirements of the various degrees should be presented the degree.	3.00	2.94	3.75	3.35	3.27	3.72	3.68	3.59	3.43	3.43
36. Members with off-farm enterprises do not receive as much consideration for FFA degrees as do members with production enterprises. (negative statement)	2.56	2.93	2.56	2.79	2.77	3.08	2.74	3.04	2.67	2.96

### Scope of Awards

This section contains summaries of the responses to two statements relating to attitudes of advisors and members towards the scope of awards available within the FFA organization.

Awards in the Related Areas (Agribusiness) Are Adequate. According to data presented in Table XLVIII concerning adequacy of awards in related areas (agribusiness), mean responses were quite varied. The range of mean responses was from 2.38 to 3.52. With exception of the low and high, all mean responses were in the Undecided category. The North Atlantic Region advisors' mean response of 2.38 was in the Disagree category, and the Southern Region members' mean response of 3.50 was barely in the Agree category. Note should be made concerning the large number of Undecided responses. Advisors had 20.5 percent and members had 31.3 percent of the responses in the Undecided category.

The FFA Awards Program Has Enough Variety and Scope to Provide Ample Opportunities for Most Members to Earn an Award. Analysis of responses concerning the variety and scope of the FFA awards program to provide ample opportunities for most members to earn an award are presented in Table XLIX. Across all regions mean responses were in the Agree category, except the North Atlantic advisors. This group had a 3.38, which is in the Undecided category. For this group 50 percent of the responses were in the Agree range, 37.5 percent in the Undecided range, and 12.5 percent in the Disagree range. Overall, the mean responses for advisors and members were close, with a 3.75 and 3.77, respectively.

TABLE XLVIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "AWARDS IN THE RELATED  
AREAS (AGRIBUSINESS) ARE ADEQUATE"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16			5	31.3	6	37.5	5	31.3			3.00
	Member	80	5	6.3	40	50.0	20	25.0	15	18.8			3.25
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			3	18.8			13	81.3			2.38
	Member	79	2	2.5	31	39.2	26	32.9	18	22.8	2	2.5	3.17
Central	Advisor	22			12	54.5	6	27.3	4	18.2			3.36
	Member	109	6	5.5	39	35.8	39	35.8	21	19.2	4	3.7	3.20
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	8	42.1	3	15.8	7	36.8			3.16
	Member	93	9	9.7	43	46.2	28	30.1	13	14.0			3.52
Overall	Advisor	73	1	1.4	28	38.4	15	20.5	29	39.7			3.01
	Member	361	22	6.1	153	42.4	113	31.3	67	18.6	6	1.7	3.33

TABLE XLIX

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "THE FFA AWARDS PROGRAM HAS  
ENOUGH VARIETY AND SCOPE TO PROVIDE AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR MOST MEMBERS TO EARN AN AWARD"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	8	50.0	5	31.3					3.88
	Member	80	15	18.8	43	53.8	10	12.5	12	15.0			3.76
North Atlantic	Advisor	16			8	50.0	6	37.5	2	12.5			3.38
	Member	79	11	13.9	50	63.3	13	16.5	5	6.3			3.85
Central	Advisor	22			21	95.5	1	4.5					3.96
	Member	109	14	12.8	69	63.3	13	11.9	11	10.1	2	1.8	3.73
Southern	Advisor	19	1	5.3	15	78.9			3	15.8			3.74
	Member	93	9	9.2	62	66.7	12	12.9	7	7.5	3	3.2	3.72
Overall	Advisor	73	4	5.5	52	71.3	12	16.4	5	6.8			3.75
	Member	361	49	13.6	224	62.0	48	13.3	35	9.7	5	1.4	3.77



Comparison of Mean Responses of Attitudes Toward the Scope of Awards. Table L presents a comparison of mean responses of advisors and members related to scope of awards. There were no major differences in responses. For the statement relating to the adequacy of awards for related areas across all regions, mean responses were in the Undecided category except the North Atlantic advisors (2.38) and Southern Region members (3.52). For the second statement concerning variety and scope of awards across all regions, the mean responses were in the Agree category, except the North Atlantic advisors (3.38).

Effective Utilization of FFA Contests and Awards in the Instructional Program

For this component, three statements are presented to disclose attitudes of advisors and members toward the effective utilization of FFA contests and awards in the vocational agriculture instructional program.

FFA Contests and Awards Should Be a Part of the Curriculum. Findings presented in Table LI relate to FFA contests and awards as part of the vocational agriculture curriculum. Across all regions mean responses for advisors and members were in the Agree category. It should be noted that 87.7 percent of the advisors' responses and 76.2 percent of members' responses were in the Agree or Strongly Agree category.

FFA Contests Are Used as a Motivational Tool to Teach Selected Areas. Mean responses for advisors and members contained in Table LII ranged from 3.31 to 4.19. Only the North Atlantic Region advisors' mean response (3.31) was in the Undecided category. Across all regions all other mean responses were in the Agree category.

TABLE I  
COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES TOWARD SCOPE OF AWARDS

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
37. Awards in the related areas (agribusiness) are adequate.	3.00	3.25	2.38	3.17	3.36	3.20	3.16	3.52	3.01	3.33
38. The FFA awards program has enough variety and scope to provide ample opportunities for most members to earn an award.	3.88	3.76	3.38	3.85	3.96	3.73	3.74	3.72	3.75	3.77

TABLE LI  
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "FFA CONTEST AND AWARDS  
SHOULD BE A PART OF THE CURRICULUM"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	5	31.3	11	68.8							4.31
	Member	80	30	37.5	27	33.8	17	21.3	6	7.5			4.01
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	3	18.8	11	68.8	2	12.5					4.06
	Member	79	32	40.5	34	43.0	7	8.9	4	5.1	2	2.5	4.14
Central	Advisor	22	3	13.6	15	68.2	1	4.5	3	13.6			3.82
	Member	109	36	33.0	42	38.5	17	15.6	10	9.2	4	3.7	3.88
Southern	Advisor	19	6	31.6	10	52.6			3	15.8			4.00
	Member	93	43	46.2	31	33.3	13	14.0	6	6.5			4.19
Overall	Advisor	73	17	23.3	47	64.4	3	4.1	6	8.2			4.03
	Member	361	141	39.1	134	37.1	54	15.0	26	7.2	6	1.7	4.05

TABLE LII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "FFA CONTESTS ARE USED  
AS A MOTIVATIONAL TOOL TO TEACH SELECTED AREAS"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	3	18.8	13	81.3							4.19
	Member	80	20	25.0	50	62.5	10	12.5					4.00
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	1	6.3	8	50.0	2	12.5	5	31.3			3.31
	Member	79	20	25.3	41	51.9	9	11.4	9	11.4			3.91
Central	Advisor	22	1	4.5	20	90.9	1	4.5					4.00
	Member	109	24	22.0	57	52.3	12	11.0	14	12.8	2	1.8	3.80
Southern	Advisor	19	5	26.3	11	57.9	2	10.5	1	5.3			3.90
	Member	93	21	22.6	52	55.9	7	7.5	12	12.9	1	1.1	3.86
Overall	Advisor	73	10	13.7	52	71.2	5	6.8	6	8.2			3.90
	Member	361	85	23.5	200	55.4	38	10.5	35	9.7	3	0.8	3.91

FFA Contests Are a Place to Put Into Practice Skills Learned in the Classroom. Table LIII presents data concerning FFA contests as a place to put into practice skills learned in the vocational agriculture classroom. It is noteworthy that 95.3 percent of the advisors' responses and 82.5 percent of the members' responses were in the Agree and Strongly Agree categories. Only two members' responses of the North Atlantic Region were in the Strongly Disagree range. Across all regions mean responses of advisors and members were in the Agree category, with a range from 4.13 to 4.49. All tended to lean to the Strongly Agree side of the scale.

Comparison of Mean Responses of Attitudes Relating to Effective Use of FFA Contests and Awards in the Instructional Program. According to the comparison of mean responses presented in Table LIV, there were no major differences between advisors and members' responses in their degree of agreement as to the effective use of FFA contests and awards in the instructional program. Most mean responses were in the same category; all were toward the Agree or Strongly Agree side of the scale.

#### Findings Regarding Importance of Problems in

#### and Values Gained From or Experiences

#### Offered by the FFA

In this section four tables are presented, the first two of which deal with the ranking in order of perceived importance of selected problems in the FFA by advisors and members. The latter tables will deal with the rank ordering by advisors and members of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA.

TABLE LIII

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT "FFA CONTESTS ARE A PLACE TO  
PUT INTO PRACTICE SKILLS LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM"

Region	Group	Num- ber	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean Response
			Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	
Pacific	Advisor	16	8	50.0	5	31.3	3	18.8					4.31
	Member	80	39	48.8	41	51.3							4.49
North Atlantic	Advisor	16	4	25.0	12	75.0							4.25
	Member	79	27	34.2	41	51.9	7	8.9	2	2.5	2	2.5	4.13
Central	Advisor	22	3	13.6	19	86.4							4.14
	Member	109	37	33.9	66	60.6	4	3.7	2	1.8			4.30
Southern	Advisor	19	4	21.1	14	73.7	1	5.3					4.16
	Member	93	22	23.7	61	65.6	5	5.4	5	5.4			4.08
Overall	Advisor	73	19	26.0	50	68.5	4	5.5					4.21
	Member	361	125	34.6	209	57.9	16	4.4	9	2.5	2	0.6	4.24

TABLE LIV

COMPARISON OF MEAN RESPONSES OF ATTITUDES RELATING TO EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION  
OF FFA CONTESTS AND AWARDS IN THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

Statement	Region									
	Pacific		North Atlantic		Central		Southern		Overall	
	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.	Adv.	Mem.
39. FFA contests and awards should be a part of the curriculum	4.31	4.01	4.06	4.14	3.82	3.88	4.00	4.19	4.03	4.05
40. FFA contests are used as a motivational tool to teach selected areas.	4.19	4.00	3.31	3.91	4.00	3.80	3.90	3.86	3.90	3.91
41. FFA contests are a place to put into practice skills learned in the classroom.	4.31	4.49	4.25	4.13	4.14	4.30	4.16	4.08	4.21	4.24

### Importance of Selected Problems

Tables LV and LVI present a summary of usable responses obtained when advisors and members were asked to rank the importance of selected problems in the FFA, starting with the most important one first. It should be mentioned at this time that only usable ranks were used. If the respondent did not complete the ranking or did not rank at all, then it was not counted as a usable response. This is the reason that the numbers in each region are not the same as in the previous section.

In determining significance of the rankings of Tables LV, LVI, LVII, and LVIII, a Kendall's Coefficient of Concordance  $W$  was employed. This statistical procedure, explained at the beginning of this chapter, determined the degree of association between ranks. A chi square value was obtained, and referring to Table C in Siegel (14), the probability that the rankings would occur by chance was found to be less than one time in a thousand.

Because of the significance of the chi square values obtained, Siegel (14) pointed out:

Kendall suggested that the best estimate of the 'true' rankings of the  $N$  objects is provided when  $W$  is significant, by the order of the various sums of ranks,  $R_j$ . If one accepts the criterion which various judges have agreed upon (as evidenced by the magnitude and significance of  $W$ ) in ranking the  $N$  entities, then the best estimate of the 'true' rankings of those entities according to that criterion is provided by the order of the sums of ranks. This 'best estimate' is associated, in a sense, with least squares.

The Kendall coefficient of concordance  $W$  measures the extent of association among several ( $k$ ) sets of rankings of  $N$  entities. It is useful in determining the agreement among several judges or the association among three or more variables. It has special applications in providing a standard method of ordering entities according to consensus when there is available no objective order of the entities.



The formula used for this calculation was one for large samples (greater than seven). According to Sieger (14):

When N is larger than 7, the expression given in the formula is approximately distributed as chi square with

$$df = N-1$$

$$X^2 = \frac{s}{\frac{1}{12} k N (N+1)}$$

s = sum of squares of the observed deviations from the mean of  $R_j$ ; that is,

$$s = \sum (R_j - \frac{\sum R_j}{N})^2$$

$R_j$  = the sum of the ranks in the jth column or sample

k = number of sets of rankings

N = number of entities ranked

To determine an initial ranking of problems, a sum of ranks was computed by region and the ranking was based then on the problems in order of the least sums of ranks.

According to data presented in Table LV regarding the ranking of selected problems by advisors, it was found that the problem "Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities" ranked first in three regions. A total of 58 usable advisors' responses were received, and the sum of ranks for this statement was 204 and was ranked first overall.

The problem "Lack of interest and participation by members" ranked second overall, with advisors of three regions ranking it second. One region ranked it first.

Problems ranking third and fourth were those regarding lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapters and lack of flexibility in awards and degree programs. The problem dealing with lack of communication ranked third, with three regions ranking it third while the Pacific Region ranked it fourth. The statement related to lack of flexibility of degrees and awards was ranked fourth, with

TABLE LV

SUMMARY OF USABLE RESPONSES OF ADVISORS AS TO THE RANKING  
IN ORDER OF SELECTED PROBLEMS IN THE FFA

Problems	Region									
	Pacific N = 11		North Atlantic N = 12		Central N = 19		Southern N = 16		Overall Total N = 58	
	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank
The present name of the organization	112	13	96	7	180	9	121	10	509	8
Admission of girls in the FFA	101	11	94	5	207	14	134	14	536	12
Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities	33	1	58	1	70	2	43	1	204	1
Lack of interest and participation by members	46	2	68	2	63	1	52	2	229	2
Lack of flexibility in awards and degree program	77	5	97	8	145	5	100	5	419	4
Lack of leadership training for members	100	10	98	9	167	7	167	6	472	7
Lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapter	68	4	73	3	98	3	75	3	314	3
Wording of opening and closing ceremonies, ceremonies for degrees, and creed and degree names	106	12	125	13	164	6	123	12	518	11
FFA is not an integral part of vocational agriculture	130	15	120	12	183	10	114	7	547	13
Class time is used for FFA activities	141	16	164	16	228	16	120	9	653	16
Scope of awards are not broad enough	99	9	99	10	193	11	118	8	509	8
Changes are made in the organization without consulting members first	98	8	95	6	126	4	121	10	440	5
The FFA is not adaptable to urban settings in the present structure	52	3	100	11	197	12	91	4	440	5
Teachers (advisors) lack enthusiasm	88	6	126	14	175	8	128	13	517	10
Teachers (advisors) lack knowledge of the FFA	117	14	92	4	199	13	164	16	572	14
Teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors	97	7	135	15	216	15	140	15	588	15

NOTE:  $W = .20$ ;  $\chi^2 = 177.28$ ;  $p > .001$ .

three regions ranking it fifth and the North Atlantic advisors ranking it eighth.

In analyzing the remainder of the table, there was no relationship of ranks across the regions to the overall ranking except for the ones ranked fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth. These were similar in that three regions agreed on rankings with one region different.

Table LVI presents a summary of usable responses of active FFA members in their ranking of the importance of selected problems in the FFA. Much like the advisors' rankings, only the problems ranked 1, 2, 3, 4, 15, and 16 had any continuity across regions.

Members ranked the problem "Lack of interest and participation by members" first. Two regions ranked it first, and two regions had it in second place.

The problem ranked second by members was "Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities." Two regions--Pacific and North Atlantic--ranked this first, while the Southern and Central Regions ranked it second.

Third ranked overall was the problem "Lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapters." Three regions--Pacific, North Atlantic, and Central--ranked this third, while the Southern Region ranked it sixth.

For fourth the problem "Lack of leadership training for members" was chosen. Again, three regions--Southern, Central, and North Atlantic--rated this fourth; the Pacific Region ranked it eighth.

After this, there was no continuity of rating of statements with the exception of the statements ranked fifteenth and sixteenth. Members and advisors were in agreement that advisors are doing a good job of advising the local FFA chapter.

TABLE LVI

SUMMARY OF USABLE RESPONSES OF ACTIVE MEMBERS TO THE RANKING  
IN ORDER OF SELECTED PROBLEMS IN THE FFA

Problem	Region									
	Pacific N = 53		North Atlantic N = 51		Central N = 87		Southern N = 85		Overall Total N = 276	
	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank
The present name of the organization	522	11	472	10	806	10	731	10	2,531	11
Admission of girls in the FFA	338	4	492	12	696	7	423	3	1,949	5
Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities	162	1	232	1	378	2	406	2	1,178	2
Lack of interest and participation by members	209	2	240	2	333	1	355	1	837	1
Lack of flexibility in awards and degree program	441	6	354	5	742	8	437	5	1,974	7
Lack of leadership training for members	452	8	323	4	619	4	431	4	1,825	4
Lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapter	255	3	251	3	419	3	475	6	1,400	3
Wording of opening and closing ceremonies, ceremonies for degrees, and creed and degree names	563	12	476	11	819	12	731	10	2,589	12
FFA is not an integral part of vocational agriculture	453	9	443	9	817	11	770	12	2,483	10
Class time is used for FFA activities	639	14	621	14	991	13	888	13	3,139	14
Scope of awards are not broad enough	467	10	413	8	759	9	669	9	2,308	9
Changes are made in the organization without consulting members first	341	5	367	6	637	6	619	8	1,964	6
The FFA is not adaptable to urban settings in the present structure	442	7	387	7	640	5	617	7	2,085	8
Teachers (advisors) lack enthusiasm	604	13	600	13	1,001	14	913	14	3,118	13
Teachers (advisors) lack knowledge of the FFA	645	15	666	16	1,026	15	932	15	3,269	15
Teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors	669	16	610	15	1,097	16	1,018	16	3,394	16

NOTE:  $W = .33$ ;  $\chi^2 = 1,353.41$ ;  $p > .001$ .

A Kendall coefficient of concordance "W" was computed for each table. For Table LV the "W" was .20, a  $X^2$  value of 177.28 with a probability that the rankings would happen by chance less than one time in a thousand. For Table LVI the "W" was .33,  $X^2$  value of 1,353.41, with a probability of less than .001.

With values of "W" and  $X^2$  as computed, a significance was determined; and because of the significance a ranking of problems was established on the least sum of ranks.

#### Importance of Values Gained From or Experiences

##### Offered by the FFA

Tables LVII and LVIII present the data for advisors and members concerning the ranking in order of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA.

A summary of usable responses for advisors is presented in Table LVII. Only three statements contain any type of uniformity of responses. The statement dealing with development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation ranked number one. Three regions rated this first while the North Atlantic Region ranked it second. The other two statements ranked seventh and ninth. The statement related to the improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations ranked seventh. Only the Pacific Region ranked it eighth, while the other regions rated it seventh.

The statement "The improvement of scholarship" ranked ninth. Across all regions advisors were in agreement on the rank.

The computed Kendall "W" for Table LVII was .36, a  $X^2$  value of 174.06, with the probability that these ranks would happen by chance of

TABLE LVII

SUMMARY OF USABLE RESPONSES OF ADVISORS AS TO THE RANKING IN ORDER OF  
VALUES GAINED FROM OR EXPERIENCES OFFERED BY THE FFA

Value Gained or Experience	Region								Overall Total N = 61	
	Pacific N = 57		North Atlantic N = 14		Central N = 19		Southern N = 17			
	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank
The development of leadership, citizen- ship, and cooperation	24	1	45	2	35	1	28	1	132	1
The development of self-discipline	50	2	65	5	77	3	78	4	270	4
The development of character	64	5	50	3	79	4	64	2	257	2
The development and strengthening of confidence	57	4	51	4	72	2	79	5	259	3
The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations	97	8	86	7	104	7	91	7	378	7
The improvement of scholarship	103	9	110	9	147	9	111	9	471	9
The maturing of the individual	70	6	42	1	95	5	76	3	283	5
The development of establishing goals	51	3	73	6	103	6	92	8	319	6
The development of the ability to set life goals	73	7	107	8	143	8	85	6	408	8

NOTE:  $W = .36$ ;  $X^2 = 174.06$ ;  $p > .001$ .

less than one time in a thousand.

For Table LVIII the Kendall "W" was .22, a  $X^2$  value of 521.53, and a probability of less than .001.

Because of the computed values, a significance was determined, and because of the significance a ranking of values was established on the least sum of ranks.

Table LVIII presents a summary of usable responses of active members as to the rankings in order of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA. Members were more in agreement across regions than advisors and ranked the statement "The development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation" as number one.

Three regions ranked the statement "The development of self-discipline" second, while the Pacific Region ranked it fourth. Overall, it received a rank of two.

Statements that ranked eighth and ninth, "The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations" and "The improvement of scholarship" were ranked across all regions in those positions.

The rest of the statements had no continuity, and only after determining the total of the sum of ranks was any order established.

Basically, advisors and members did not disagree very much on the overall rank of the nine statements.

A list of selected comments that are typical of the groups surveyed are included in the appendix. These comments are directly related to the FFA organization and this study.

TABLE LVIII

SUMMARY OF USABLE RESPONSES OF ACTIVE MEMBERS TO THE RANKING OF ORDER  
OF VALUES GAINED FROM OR EXPERIENCES OFFERED BY THE FFA

Value Gained or Experience	Region									
	Pacific N = 59		North Atlantic N = 61		Central N = 91		Southern N = 83		Overall Total N = 294	
	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank	Sum of Ranks	Rank
The development of leadership, citizen- ship, and cooperation	112	1	150	1	211	1	192	1	665	1
The development of self-discipline	283	4	266	2	417	2	313	2	1,279	2
The development of character	296	6	324	7	445	5	324	3	1,389	3
The development and strengthening of confidence	282	3	271	3	428	4	425	6	1,406	4
The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations	337	8	344	8	505	8	492	8	1,678	8
The improvement of scholarship	451	9	408	9	706	9	549	9	2,114	9
The maturing of the individual	271	2	299	4	421	3	418	5	1,409	5
The development of establishing goals	291	5	307	5	466	6	439	7	1,503	7
The development of the ability to set life goals	307	7	314	6	471	7	410	4	1,502	6

NOTE:  $W = .22$ ;  $X^2 = 221.53$ ;  $p > .001$ .



## CHAPTER V

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this chapter is to present a summary review of the study problem and its setting, the design and conduct of the study, and the major findings. Also presented are conclusions and recommendations which are based upon analysis and summarization of data collected and upon observations and impressions resulting from the design and conduct of the study.

#### Summary of the Study

##### Purpose of the Study

The primary purpose of this study was to determine the image of the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members with particular reference to its structure, operation, awards and degree program, and relationship to vocational agriculture.

##### Specific Objectives of the Study

The following specific objectives were formulated to accomplish the major purpose of the study:

1. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the organization and operation of the FFA.
2. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the relationship of vocational agriculture

and the FFA.

3. To determine attitudes of advisors and active members toward selected aspects of the degree and awards program of the FFA.
4. To determine the importance of selected problems in the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members.
5. To determine the importance of values gained from or experiences offered by the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members.

#### Rationale for the Study

The alterations currently being advocated for the FFA are the most extensive ever proposed. The rationale being employed in support of these proposals for change is the contention that the current image of the FFA is one of a somewhat outdated organization which is not reflective of modern vocational agriculture programs.

The rank and file of members and advisors at the "grass roots" level of the organization have been told that to update and make the organization more attractive changes must be implemented. As a result of this "update" emphasis, portions of the organization have been altered to fit the modern vocational agriculture program. Members and advisors who must abide by these changes have not fully accepted them.

Therefore, a need was seen to go to the "grass roots" level of the organization and determine their attitudes toward the structure, operation, awards and degree program, name, and relationship to vocational agriculture of the FFA organization. From these findings and once the "image" attitudes of the ones most directly involved in the organization are known and evaluated, there will be available sound bases for deter-

mining needed changes within the organization, and the likelihood of proposed changes being accepted by the organization's membership should be greatly increased. Therefore, any change in image could be generated from the "grass roots" level.

#### Design and Conduct of the Study

Following a review of 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 was 112 FFA chapters throughout the United States. Each state was represented by the same number of schools as that state had delegates to the National FFA Convention. From each school, five active members and the advisor were asked to respond to the survey instrument, for a total of 361 active members and 73 advisors.

#### Findings of the Study

This study was concerned with determining the image of the FFA as perceived by active members and advisors. Five specific objectives were developed to guide the conduct of the study. Specific objectives one, two, and three contained several components with statements designed to measure the attitudes of advisors and active members toward each component, thus providing a basis to measure each specific objective.

The research findings in summary form are presented for each statement by components of each specific objective.

Attitudes Toward Selected Aspects of the  
Operation and Organization of the FFA

For specific objective one, the following components will be presented with the statements designed to measure attitudes of advisors and active members toward that component.

Primary Aim and Purposes. Statements dealing with this subject tended to be rated very close according to mean response. All mean responses were in at least the Agree category. Responses to the statement designed to assess attitudes toward the primary aim and purposes of the FFA are as follows.

1. The FFA provides a sufficient number and variety of leadership training opportunities for its members. Members and advisors agree with this statement. All responses were above 4.00, with a range of 4.13 to 4.50.

2. The FFA provides numerous opportunities for development of leadership. Active members and advisors tended to agree with this statement. Advisors' overall responses were all in the Agree or Strongly Agree category except one. This one response was in the Disagree category.

3. The training that FFA members receive in leadership, cooperation, and citizenship prepares the individual to take his place in society. Members' mean responses were higher than advisors' mean responses. However, all mean responses were at least at the Agree level.

4. Cooperation is not stressed in the FFA organization. Because this was a negatively oriented statement, the Disagree mean responses secured from all regions' advisors and active members indicated that

both groups were in effect indicating that cooperation is stressed in the FFA organization.

Name of the Organization. Respondents to this component tended to rate their mean responses at the Undecided level. Mean responses ranged from a 2.23 to 3.88, with most being around the 3.00 level. Responses to statements designed to assess attitudes toward the name of the organization are as follow:

1. The use of the letters "FFA" rather than the name "Future Farmers of America" in referring to the organization attracts more students to join. Members' and advisors' mean responses were in the Undecided category but were to the Agree side of the scale.
2. A small percentage of FFA members in your state want to be referred to as "Future Farmers." This being a negatively slanted statement, mean responses were calculated in reverse. Across all regions members and advisors tended to express a neutral response. Only the Pacific Region advisors were in the Disagree range.
3. The name "Future Farmers of America" restricts expansion of the off-farm agriculture-related aspect of the total vocational agriculture program. Active members and advisors expressed a mean response of Undecided to this statement; however, across all regions mean responses were to the Disagree side of the scale.
4. The name "Future Farmers of America" implies that the organization is concerned with the production aspect of agriculture. Only the North Atlantic advisors agreed with the statement. All other mean responses were in the Undecided range.

Operation of Local, State, and National Organization. Ten statements were used to analyze this component. Responses to statements designed to assess the attitudes toward operation of local, state, and national organizations are as follow:

1. It is not possible for the national officers to operate and manage the FFA organization. This negatively designed statement dealt with the national officers' operating and managing of the national organization. Overall the mean responses of advisors and members were in the Undecided category; however, the Pacific Region advisors agreed while the Southern Region advisors disagreed with this statement.

2. Every region should be represented based on total membership of the region on the National Board of Directors for the FFA. Advisors tended to rate this statement higher in degree of agreement than did members. Overall, advisors tended to agree with this statement while the members' mean response was in the Undecided range with a 3.44.

3. The FFA is a member-owned, member-operated organization. Across all regions members' and advisors' mean responses were in the Agree category.

4. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the National Association. Members and advisors tended to express a neutral position. The overall mean response was in the Undecided category. Only the Southern Region advisors' mean responses were in the Agree category.

5. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of local chapters. Members rated this statement higher on the scale than did advisors, meaning that members wanted to have a greater part in the operation of the local chapter.

6. At the state and national levels it is necessary that adults have more responsibilities in "running" the organization than the members. According to overall mean responses, members and advisors disagreed with this statement.

7. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the state association. The overall mean response of both groups was in the Undecided category; however, both advisors and members in two regions rated this in the Agree category, while the other two regions were in the Undecided range.

8. Each state should have representation based on total membership in the state at the National FFA Convention. Advisors' overall mean response was in the Agree category, while members' overall mean response was in the Undecided range relative to this statement.

9. Members at all levels should be consulted before changes are made in the organization. Across all regions both members and advisors tended to agree with this statement.

10. Members should be involved in selection of the National officers. Members' overall mean response tended to be in the Agree category, while advisors tended to rate this statement in the Undecided category.

Adaptability of the FFA (Rural-Urban). Four statements were designed to assess attitudes toward the adaptability of the FFA to various rural or urban settings. Responses to statements designed to assess attitudes for this component are as follow:

1. An adequate number of experiences are provided for agribusiness students. Members rated this statement in the Agree category, while advisors were found to be undecided.

2. The FFA needs to provide more experiences and opportunities for members in the off-farm agriculture-related occupational areas. Across all regions advisors and members' mean responses were in the Agree category.

3. The FFA should be the vehicle for making the vocational agriculture instructional program meaningful and relevant. Members and advisors' mean responses tended to be very close. All mean responses were in the Agree category.

4. State associations and local chapters should be given the flexibility to set standards for degrees, awards, name, rituals, and other aspects of the FFA. Overall mean responses to this statement for advisors and members were in the Undecided category. However, advisors' overall mean response was slanted toward the Disagree side of the scale and members' mean response was toward the Agree side of the scale.

FFA Ceremonies (Opening and Closing, Degree, Creed, Etc.). Only one statement was designed to assess attitudes toward the opening and closing ceremonies of the FFA. The statement was as follows:

1. A change is needed in the opening and closing ceremonies for FFA meetings. The overall mean response for members was in the Disagree category, while advisors' overall mean response was in the Undecided category.

Attitudes Toward Selected Aspects Pertaining to  
the Relationship of Vocational Agriculture  
and the FFA

For specific objective number two, the following components will be presented with the statements designed to assess attitudes of advisors



and active members as to the relationship of vocational agriculture and the FFA.

Integral Part. Six statements were used to analyze this component of specific objective number two.

1. The FFA provides recognition of students of vocational agriculture for outstanding programs. Across all regions the mean responses for advisors and active members were in at least the Agree category. The range of mean responses was from 4.23 to 4.81.

2. Membership in the FFA is a motivational tool to secure enrollment in vocational agriculture. All mean responses except those of North Atlantic advisors were in the Agree category. This advisor group had a mean response of 2.88, which was in the Undecided category.

3. The FFA provides sufficient activities to allow the majority of members an opportunity to achieve recognition. According to the findings for this statement, all members and advisors were in agreement.

4. Membership in the FFA should be automatic upon enrollment in vocational agriculture. Mean responses for this statement were varied. The range was from 2.57 to 3.88, with most being in the Agree category. The overall mean responses for advisors and members were in the Undecided category, with the advisors' mean response tending toward the Agree side and the members' mean response toward the Disagree side of the scale.

5. The FFA is an essential element in successful vocational agriculture programs. Findings for this statement indicated that across all regions members and advisors were in at least the Agree category, with a range of from 3.75 to 4.69.

6. The FFA is not necessary for an effective vocational agriculture program. Members and advisors tended to disagree with the statement, meaning that they would agree that the FFA is necessary for an effective vocational program.

Utilization of Classtime for FFA Activities. The following three statements were designed to assess attitudes about utilization of classtime for FFA activities.

1. Taking vocational agriculture classtime for FFA activities is very worthwhile. Across all regions members and advisors' mean responses were in at least the Agree category.

2. The FFA is an integral part of the vocational agriculture curriculum. Findings regarding this statement indicated that members and advisors' mean responses were in at least the Agree category. The Pacific Region advisors' mean response was in the Strongly Agree category.

3. Vocational agriculture classtime should not be used for activities related to FFA contest and awards. Mean responses across all regions were in the Disagree category. The range of mean responses was from 3.77 to 4.30. Thus, respondents felt that classtime should be used for FFA activities.

Attitudes Toward the Degree and Awards Program

Specific objective number three had three components with statements in each designed to assess the attitudes toward the degree and awards program of the FFA.

Procedure for Advancing Degrees. Four statements were designed to assess the attitudes toward the procedure for advancing degrees.

1. FFA degrees are treated as awards rather than goals for members to achieve. Across all regions members and advisors' mean responses were in the Undecided category, except the Pacific Region advisors. This group's mean response was in the Disagree category.

2. The names of the FFA degrees should be changed. Mean responses ranged from 1.61 to 3.00. Members tended to disagree, while the advisors' overall mean response was in the Undecided range.

3. Every FFA member who achieves the minimum requirements of the various degrees should be presented the degree. Overall mean responses for advisors and active members were exactly the same, with a 3.43. The range of mean responses across regions was from 2.94 to 3.75. This was in the Agree range.

4. Members with off-farm enterprises do not receive as much consideration for FFA degrees as do members with production enterprises. Across all regions the mean responses were in the Undecided category, with a range from 2.56 to 3.08.

Scope of Awards. Responses for two statements designed to assess attitudes toward the scope of awards are presented below.

1. Awards in the related areas (agribusiness) are adequate. Advisors of the North Atlantic region mean response was in the Disagree category, while the Southern Region members' mean response was in the Agree category. All other mean responses were in the Undecided category.

2. The FFA awards program has enough variety and scope to provide ample opportunities for most members to earn an award. Across all regions mean responses for advisors and members were in the Agree

category except the North Atlantic advisors. This group, with a mean response of 3.38, was in the Undecided range.

Effective Utilization of FFA Contests and Awards in the Instructional Program. Across all regions members and advisors agreed that contests and awards should be a part of the curriculum and used as a motivational tool to teach selected areas and that contests are a place to put into practice what has been learned in the classroom. Responses to statements designed to assess attitudes toward effective use of FFA contests and awards in the instructional program are as follow.

1. FFA contests and awards should be a part of the curriculum. Members and advisors agreed that contests and awards should be a part of the curriculum. Across all regions the mean responses were in the Agree category.

2. FFA contests are used as a motivational tool to teach selected areas. Mean responses ranged from 3.31 to 4.19, which was an Agree. Only the North Atlantic advisors' mean response was in the Undecided category, while all others were in the Agree category.

3. FFA contests are a place to put into practice skills learned in the classroom. Mean responses of advisors and members tended to be very close. The range was from 4.08 to 4.49, with all being in the Agree category on the Strongly Agree side of the scale.

Advisors and Members' Ranking in Order of the Importance of Selected Problems in the FFA

Sixteen selected problems in the FFA organization were used in this section for advisors and members to rank in order of importance. Advisors and members tended to agree on the ranking of the first four

and last four problems.

Ranked first by advisors and second by members was the problem "lack of involvement of members in chapter activities." However, members ranked the problem "lack of interest and participation by members" first, while advisors ranked it second.

Ranked third by both groups was the statement, "lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapter."

Ranked fourth by advisors was the statement, "lack of flexibility in awards and degree program," while members ranked fourth "lack of leadership training for members."

Advisors had a tie for fifth with the problems of "changes made in the organization without consulting members first" and "the FFA is not adaptable to urban settings in the present structure."

Members ranked fifth the problem of "admission of girls in the FFA."

Problems that advisors and members tended to agree were not problems in the organization and which were consequently ranked fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth were "classtime used for activities," "teacher (advisor) lack knowledge of the FFA," and "teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors."

Listed below are major problems in order as perceived by advisors.

1. Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities.
2. Lack of interest and participation by members.
3. Lack of communication between state and national offices and the local chapter.
4. Lack of flexibility in awards and degree program.
5. (Tie) Changes are made in the organization without consulting members first. AND The FFA is not adaptable to urban settings

in the present structure.

7. Lack of leadership training for members.
8. (Tie) The present name of the organization. AND Scope of awards is not broad enough.
10. Teachers (advisors) lack enthusiasm.
11. Wording of opening and closing ceremonies, ceremonies for degrees, and creed and degree names.
12. Admission of girls in the FFA.
13. FFA is not an integral part of vocational agriculture.
14. Teachers (advisors) lack knowledge of the FFA.
15. Teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors.
16. Classtime is used for FFA activities.

Members ranked the major problems as follow:

1. Lack of interest and participation by members.
2. Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities.
3. Lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapter.
4. Lack of leadership training for members.
5. Admission of girls in the FFA.
6. Changes are made in the organization without consulting members first.
7. Lack of flexibility in award and degree program.
8. The FFA is not adaptable to urban settings in the present structure.
9. Scope of awards is not broad enough.
10. FFA is not an integral part of vocational agriculture.
11. The present name of the organization.

12. Wording of opening and closing ceremonies, ceremonies for degrees, and creed and degree names.
13. Teachers (advisors) lack enthusiasm.
14. Classtime is used for FFA activities.
15. Teachers (advisors) lack knowledge of the FFA.
16. Teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors.

Advisors and Members' Ranking in Order of  
Importance the Values Gained From or  
Experiences Offered by the FFA

Nine values or experiences were listed in this section for advisors and members to rank in order of importance. Members and advisors tended to be in agreement as to the importance of the problems, as both ranked the value or experience "the development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation" in first place. Both groups ranked in last place, or ninth, "the improvement of scholarship."

Listed below in order as ranked by advisors are the values or experiences.

1. The development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation.
2. The development of character.
3. The development and strengthening of confidence.
4. The development of self-discipline.
5. The maturing of the individual.
6. The development of establishing goals.
7. The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations.
8. The development of the ability to set life goals.

9. The improvement of scholarship.

As perceived by members, the following rank was established:

1. The development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation.
2. The development of self-discipline.
3. The development of character.
4. The development and strengthening of confidence.
5. The maturing of the individual.
6. The development of the ability to set life goals.
7. The development of establishing goals.
8. The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations.
9. The improvement of scholarship.

### Conclusions

Inspection and interpretation of the study findings prompted the formulation of certain conclusions by the investigator as detailed below.

### Operation and Organization of the FFA

1. The FFA provides numerous opportunities in sufficient number and variety for development of leadership.
2. The training that FFA members receive in leadership, citizenship, and cooperation contributes significantly to an individual's ability to take his place in society.
3. Respondents to the survey indicated by their neutral responses that no opinion for or against the name of the organization was strongly held.



4. The FFA should be a member-owned, member-operated organization with representation at the National Convention based on total membership in each state, and representation on the National Board of Directors should be based on total membership in each region.
5. FFA members felt that more responsibility in "running" the local chapter should be put on local members and that all members should be involved more in the selection of National officers.
6. FFA members are currently satisfied with the opening and closing ceremonies used for FFA meetings.

#### The Relationship of FFA to Vocational Agriculture

1. FFA members feel that the organization is providing an adequate number of experiences for agribusiness students, but there is a need for a greater number and variety of award programs and activities to recognize the agribusiness student.
2. The FFA performs a vital function for vocational agriculture programs--that of making the instructional program more meaningful and relevant.
3. In order to have a quality vocational agriculture program, it is necessary to have a strong FFA chapter as a part of the total program.

#### The Degree and Awards Program

1. The use of vocational agriculture classtime to teach about FFA and FFA activities, awards, degrees, etc., is justified.

2. The names of the FFA degrees should not be changed.
3. Presently, the FFA awards program has enough variety and scope so that the FFA members have the opportunity to achieve an award and/or degrees.

#### The Importance of Selected Problems

1. The major problems facing the FFA organization are lack of involvement of members, lack of interest, and lack of participation by members.
2. There was a strong agreement among respondents that advisors were doing a good job of advising FFA chapters at the local level.
3. An adequate communication system between national, state, and local levels does not exist.

#### Values Offered by or Experiences Gained

##### From the FFA

1. Respondents were in agreement that the established primary aim and purposes are still the major foundations on which the organization should be based.
2. Respondents indicated that the maturing of the individual, development of self-discipline, and development of character were the major values gained from the FFA organization.

#### General

1. Attitudes toward the FFA organization across regions and among members and advisors from the various regions did not differ

as much as might have been expected from such diverse groups.

2. Since it was assumed that knowledge of a situation leads to the forming of definite opinions, the large number of neutral responses to some statements may indicate that respondents were not knowledgeable enough concerning these statements to offer a positive or negative opinion. This was particularly noticeable for statements in the section dealing with the operation and organization of the FFA.
3. The lack of responses from some states to the survey may indicate that the FFA does not play as an important part in the vocational agriculture program as in those states responding fully and promptly.
4. The FFA is and will continue to be a strong organization for America's youth with interest in agriculture that can provide leadership training, maturity, recognition, and training to prepare the individual to take his place in society. This will continue to be so as long as direction for the organization comes from inputs from all levels: the National, the state, and the local chapters.

#### Recommendations

##### General

1. Advisors and members should attempt to learn more about the operation and organization of the FFA.
2. Members should become more involved in chapter activities and an attempt should be made to get every member actively involved and interested.

3. Advisors should continue to do a good job of providing sound advice to the local chapters and providing members the experiences needed.
4. The National and state levels of FFA need to have some type of procedure to gather information to determine the direction of the organization.
5. The National organization needs to strive to provide direction of the organization to all levels with input from all levels.

#### Additional Research

It is recommended that additional studies be conducted nationwide with adults, parents, businessmen, administrative personnel, teachers, and non-members concerning their attitudes toward the image of the FFA. It is further recommended that additional research be conducted in all states to determine the image within the state as perceived by active members and advisors.

As perceived by the investigator, it would be of value to follow up this study with a similar research in three or four years and continue to involve active members and advisors.

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APPENDIX

ATTITUDE MEASUREMENT INSTRUMENT, COVER LETTERS,  
FOLLOW-UP LETTERS, AND SELECTED COMMENTS

(TEACHER)

## THE IMAGE OF THE FFA AS PERCEIVED BY CURRENT

## ACTIVE MEMBERS AND ADVISORS

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Vo-Ag Students \_\_\_\_\_ Number of FFA Members \_\_\_\_\_

Number of students having:  
Production projects \_\_\_\_\_  
Agribusiness programs \_\_\_\_\_

List the number of times your chapter has received the following awards  
in the last five years:

Standard Chapter Award \_\_\_\_\_  
Superior Chapter Award \_\_\_\_\_  
National Chapter Award -- Gold \_\_\_\_\_  
Silver \_\_\_\_\_  
Bronze \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members applying for FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards in:

Production Agriculture \_\_\_\_\_ Agribusiness \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members applying for:

State Farmer \_\_\_\_\_ American Farmer \_\_\_\_\_



(STUDENT)

THE IMAGE OF THE FFA AS PERCEIVED BY CURRENT  
ACTIVE MEMBERS AND ADVISORS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Check one classification:  
 School \_\_\_\_\_ Freshman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_\_\_  
 Junior \_\_\_\_\_  
 Senior \_\_\_\_\_  
 Graduate \_\_\_\_\_

Offices held \_\_\_\_\_

Check the type of program that you have in vocational agriculture:

Production \_\_\_\_\_ Agribusiness \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for any FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards in the last year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, list the ones applied for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for any degrees in the last two years? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, list the degrees you applied for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check the degrees of FFA membership you hold:

Greenhand \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 American \_\_\_\_\_

## THE IMAGE OF THE FFA AS PERCEIVED BY CURRENT

## ACTIVE MEMBERS AND ADVISORS

Please respond to each of the following statements by circling the response that most nearly expresses your feeling on each individual statement.

SA--Strongly Agree  
A--Agree  
U--Undecided  
D--Disagree  
SD--Strongly Disagree

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. The FFA provides a sufficient number and variety of leadership training opportunities for its members.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 2. The use of the letters "FFA" rather than the name "Future Farmers of America" in referring to the organization attracts more students to join. | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 3. It is not possible for the National officers to operate and manage the FFA organization.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 4. Taking vocational agriculture classtime for FFA activities is very worthwhile.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 5. The FFA provides recognition of students of vocational agriculture for outstanding programs.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 6. Membership in the FFA is a motivational tool to secure enrollment in vocational agriculture.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 7. FFA contest and awards should be a part of the curriculum.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 8. FFA degrees are treated as awards rather than goals for members to achieve.  | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 9. FFA contests are used as a motivational tool to teach selected areas.  | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 10. An adequate number of experiences are provided for agribusiness students.   | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 11. Every region should be represented based on total membership of the region on the National Board of Directors for the FFA.                    | SA   A   U   D   SD |
| 12. Membership in the FFA should be automatic upon enrollment in vocational agriculture.  | SA   A   U   D   SD |

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 13. A small percentage of FFA members in your state want to be referred to as "Future Farmers."  | SA A U D SD |
| 14. The FFA is a member-owned, member-operated organization.   | SA A U D SD |
| 15. The FFA provides numerous opportunities for the development of citizenship.  | SA A U D SD |
| 16. The FFA provides sufficient activities to allow the majority of members an opportunity to achieve recognition.                                   | SA A U D SD |
| 17. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the National association.   | SA A U D SD |
| 18. The FFA is an integral part of the vocational agriculture curriculum.  | SA A U D SD |
| 19. The FFA is an essential element in successful vocational agriculture programs.   | SA A U D SD |
| 20. The names of the FFA degrees should be changed.  | SA A U D SD |
| 21. Vocational agriculture classtime should not be used for activities related to FFA contests and awards.   | SA A U D SD |
| 22. Every FFA member who achieves the minimum requirements of the various degrees should be presented the degree.                                    | SA A U D SD |
| 23. The training that FFA members receive in leadership, cooperation, and citizenship prepares the individual to take his place in society.          | SA A U D SD |
| 24. Cooperation is not stressed in the FFA organization.   | SA A U D SD |
| 25. The name "Future Farmers of America" restricts expansion of the off-farm agriculture related aspect of the total vocational agriculture program. | SA A U D SD |
| 26. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of local chapters.   | SA A U D SD |
| 27. The name "Future Farmers of America" implies that the organization is concerned mainly with the production aspect of agriculture.                | SA A U D SD |

28. At the state and National levels it is necessary that adults have more responsibilities in "running" the organization than the members. SA A U D SD
29. Awards in the related areas (agribusiness) are adequate. SA A U D SD
30. Local members should be given a greater part in the operation of the state association. SA A U D SD
31. The FFA needs to provide more experiences and opportunities for members in the off-farm agriculture-related occupational areas. SA A U D SD
32. Each state should have representation based on total membership in the state at the National FFA Convention. SA A U D SD
33. The FFA awards program has enough variety and scope to provide ample opportunities for most members to earn an award. SA A U D SD
34. A change is needed in the opening and closing ceremonies for FFA meetings. SA A U D SD
35. The FFA is not necessary for an effective vocational agriculture program. SA A U D SD
36. Members with off-farm enterprises do not receive as much consideration for FFA degrees as do members with production enterprises. SA A U D SD
37. FFA contests are a place to put into practice skills learned in the classroom. SA A U D SD
38. Members at all levels should be consulted before changes are made in the FFA organization. SA A U D SD
39. The FFA should be the vehicle for making the vocational agriculture instructional program meaningful and relevant. SA A U D SD
40. State associations and local chapters should be given the flexibility to set standards for degrees, awards, name, rituals, and other aspects of the FFA. SA A U D SD
41. Members should be involved in selection of the National officers. SA A U D SD

## PART TWO

Rank order the following statements of selected problems in the FFA. Put a (1) in the blank of the statement that you consider to be the most important, (2) in the blank of the statement you consider to be the next important, etc. A space has been left for you to add problems that you consider to be more important than the ones listed. Please rank these with the others.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The present name of the organization
- \_\_\_\_\_ Admission of girls in the FFA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of involvement of members in chapter activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of interest and participation by members
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of flexibility in awards and degree programs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of leadership training for members
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of communication between state and national offices and local chapter
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wording of opening and closing ceremonies, ceremonies for degrees, creed, and degree names
- \_\_\_\_\_ FFA is not an integral part of vocational agriculture
- \_\_\_\_\_ Class time is used too much for FFA activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of awards are not broad enough
- \_\_\_\_\_ Changes are made in the organization without consulting members first
- \_\_\_\_\_ The FFA is not adaptable to urban settings in the present structure
- \_\_\_\_\_ Teachers (advisors) lack enthusiasm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Teachers (advisors) lack knowledge of the FFA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Teachers (advisors) are not interested in helping as advisors
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Rank order the following statements of the importance of values gained from, or experiences offered by, the FFA. Place a (1) in the blank next to the statement which you feel is the most important, a (2) in the blank next to the one you would rank second, and so on. Please list any value or experience you feel may be more important than the ones listed and rank with the other statements.

\_\_\_\_\_ The development of leadership, citizenship, and cooperation

\_\_\_\_\_ The development of self-discipline

\_\_\_\_\_ The development of character

\_\_\_\_\_ The development and strengthening of confidence

\_\_\_\_\_ The improvement of agriculture and agriculture-related occupations

\_\_\_\_\_ The improvement of scholarship

\_\_\_\_\_ The maturing of the individual

\_\_\_\_\_ The development of the ability to establish goals

\_\_\_\_\_ The development of the ability to set life goals

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation and time.

COMMENTS:

**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY • STILLWATER**

Department of Agricultural Education  
(405) 372-6211, Ext. 444

74074

TO: Selected Vocational Agriculture Instructors

FROM: Dr. Robert R. Price  
Professor and Head

In responding to this request you have an opportunity to contribute to an attempt to discover just how members and advisors at the "grass roots" really see the image reflected by the FFA. Mr. Braker is trying to determine just what judgments the "real people" of our organization now possess.

Undoubtedly, this is the time when the FFA must preserve and extend a position of major influence in our nation's agriculture.

We are certain you will help us in this task by returning the enclosed response form. Certainly, you have the thanks of all people of good will toward the FFA.



## OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY • STILLWATER

Department of Agricultural Education  
(405) 372-6211, Ext. 444

74074

Dear Fellow Vocational Agriculture Teacher:

In connection with my work here at Oklahoma State University I am attempting to survey the attitudes of advisors and active members of the FFA concerning the present image of the FFA organization.

I would like to point out that your school has been selected by random sampling of all the schools in your state. For the results to be meaningful, it is very important that a response be received from all those selected. I know of no better people to talk to concerning the image of the FFA than the "real people" of the organization and the ones that really make the organization work.

Enclosed are six forms of the survey. One is marked "teacher" and five are marked "student." From your membership list, sent out from the National Office, please select the first, third, seventh, twelfth, and last name to respond to the survey. (Select only active members).

Completion of the survey at your earliest convenience and its return in the enclosed, stamped enveloped will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your and your students' time.

Sincerely yours,

*Clifton "Pete" Braker*

Clifton R. "Pete" Braker  
Graduate Teaching Assistant

mer

Enclosures (6)



**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY • STILLWATER**

Department of Agricultural Education  
(405) 372-6211, Ext. 444

74074

Dear Fellow Vocational Agriculture Instructor:

Presently I am trying to complete requirements for a Doctor's degree in Agricultural Education and need some assistance. I need several more schools to participate in a study concerning the image of the FFA as perceived by advisors and active members of the FFA.

Each state is represented by the same number of schools as that state has delegates to the National FFA Convention; so it is very important to have as many schools responding to the survey as possible.

Please indicate on the enclosed post card if you are interested in participating in the study and drop it in the mail today.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pete Braker".

Pete Braker  
Graduate Assistant

mer

Enclosure

Dear Fellow Vocational Agriculture Teacher:

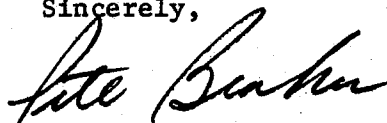
During the last week of April or first week of May you should have received a set of surveys concerning the image of the FFA. As of yet I have not received your completed surveys.

If you wish to be included in this study, please check the enclosed post card and return it. Also, if you have misplaced your surveys and need a new set, please check the appropriate box. A lot of expense and time has been put in on this study, and each state needs the proper representation. Alternate schools have been selected and will be used if you do not wish to participate.

Please indicate your desires on the card and return it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pete Braker".

Pete Braker  
Graduate Assistant

mer

Enclosure

**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY • STILLWATER**

Department of Agricultural Education  
(405) 372-6211, Ext. 444

74074

June 5, 1973

Dear Fellow Vocational Agriculture Teacher:

About three weeks ago you should have received a packet of questionnaires concerning the image of the FFA organization. Again, I would like to stress the importance of your returning the completed questionnaire. Each state is represented by the number of schools, selected randomly, as that state has delegates to the National FFA Convention. Without your returned responses your state will not have the proper representation. Now is the time to voice your opinion about the image of the FFA organization.

I would like to encourage you and your FFA members to respond to the survey and return it. From these responses I hope to be able to tell what advisors and members think the image of the FFA should be.

If you have already returned your surveys, please disregard this plea and thank you for your cooperation and time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clifton R. (Pete) Braker". The signature is written in dark ink and is somewhat stylized.

Clifton R. (Pete) Braker  
Graduate Assistant

mer

September 27, 1973

Dear Fellow Vocational Agriculture Instructor:

I am in desperate need of help. Presently I am trying to complete a nationwide study on the image of the FFA as perceived by advisors and members of the FFA. As of now, I have not heard from the schools selected randomly in your state. Please help me get a 100% participation of states.

Enclosed you will find six sets of surveys. One is marked teacher and five are marked students. Select a good cross-section of your students to respond to the surveys.

Your participation is needed very badly.

Thank you for your cooperation and time.

Sincerely,



Pete Braker  
Graduate Student  
Oklahoma State University

PB:cs  
Enclosures

A LIST OF SELECTED COMMENTS THAT ARE TYPICAL  
OF THE GROUPS SURVEYED

"I think the FFA is very good for a person, and I don't think it would hurt anyone to take it."

"Glad you are interested on how local members feel about the FFA organization."

"I strongly feel that local chapters should be able to vote on State and National officers."

"I hope the name stays the same and doesn't change."

"As a member of the FFA, I feel that the FFA should be run only by the FFA."

"I feel that the FFA is an ideal compliment to Vocational Agriculture, Horticulture, etc."

"FFA is not relevant to the majority of students."

"I feel that in the state of \_\_\_\_\_ the members in our association are proud to be called 'Future Farmers of America.' I hope the name, Future Farmers of America, is never changed."

"I believe the major problems have been presented and would like to know the results."

VITA *J*

Clifton R. Braker

Candidate for the Degree of

Doctor of Education

Thesis: THE IMAGE OF THE FFA AS PERCEIVED BY CURRENT ACTIVE MEMBERS  
AND ADVISORS

Major Field: Agricultural Education

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born near Eldorado, Oklahoma, December 2, 1934, the son of Duel C. and Mabel L. Braker.

Education: Graduated from Eldorado High School, Eldorado, Oklahoma, May, 1952; received the Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, in January, 1957, with a major in Agricultural Education; received the Master of Science degree from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, in May, 1965, with a major in Agricultural Education; engaged in post graduate study at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, from July, 1966, to June, 1972; attended Colorado State University during Summer Session, 1972; completed requirements for the Doctor of Education degree at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, in December, 1973.

Professional Experience: Training instructor, Ft. Lewis, Washington, from March, 1957, to March, 1959; graduate teaching assistant, Agricultural Engineering Department, Oklahoma State University, September, 1960, to May, 1961; teacher of vocational agriculture at Capron High School, Capron, Oklahoma, from August, 1961, to August, 1964; teacher of vocational agriculture at Hennessey High School, Hennessey, Oklahoma, from August, 1964, to January, 1972; graduate teaching assistant, Agricultural Education Department, Oklahoma State University, from January, 1972, to June, 1973; Curriculum Specialist, Oklahoma State Department of Vocational and Technical Education from June, 1973, to present.

Professional Organizations: Member of Oklahoma Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association, National Vocational Agriculture

Teachers' Association, American Vocational Association, Oklahoma Vocational Association, Oklahoma Education Association, National Education Association, Collegiate FFA, and Alpha Tau Alpha.

Leadership Activities: President of Kingfisher-Blaine County Professional Improvement Group, member of Block and Bridle, Hennessey Fatstock Show Committee, Kingfisher County Fatstock Show Committee, Board of Directors of Pete Gaily Plan of Oklahoma Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association, member of Church of Christ.