

THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS AND TRENDS OF  
OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE  
GRADUATES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS,  
CLASSES 1959 to 1963

By

RONALD EDWARD HILL

Bachelor of Science  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
1954

Bachelor of Divinity  
Princeton Theological Seminary  
Princeton, New Jersey  
1959

Submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of  
the Oklahoma State University  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of  
MASTER OF SCIENCE  
May, 1964

Director, Name: Ronald Edward Hill

Date of Degree: May 24, 1964

Institution: Oklahoma State University Location: Stillwater, Oklahoma

Title of Study: THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS AND TRENDS OF OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE GRADUATES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS, CLASSES 1959 to 1963

Pages in Study: 45 Candidate for Degree of Master of Science

Major Field: Agricultural Education

Scope and Method of Study: This study involves one-third of all Oklahoma high schools having a program in Vocational Agriculture and includes every graduate in vocational agriculture of those high schools over the past five years - classes 1959 to 1963. As a means of conducting this investigation, a questionnaire was created to obtain the following information: What each graduate is now doing occupationally, when each individual was graduated, to what extent the student participated in F. F. A. work (the Future Farmer of America Degree he attained) and the location of each individual's home - on the farm proper or in town. The names of each school's graduates were obtained from the State Office of Vocational Agriculture and typed on the questionnaire by classes. This information along with a concise list of instructions and a letter from Mr. J. B. Perky, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, explaining the nature and importance of this study, was included with the questionnaire. Ninety-two percent of 127 questionnaires were returned.

Findings and Conclusions: The 18.16 % of the graduates found to be farming is in keeping with the information derived from past surveys but slightly lower than any of them possibly indicating a gradual downward trend over a period of years of those farming. It is rather apparent that a minimum of 25 % are leaving the State for employment elsewhere. This usually takes place a few years following high school graduation rather than immediately afterwards. The higher the F. F. A. Degree achieved, the greater chance there is of the graduate entering farming, a post high school educational institution and remaining a State resident. The type of residence background a graduate had is apparently quite determinative of his future relationship with agriculture. There is also an indication of a special need for that rural student who is without a farming background. Our present day programs have failed to train him in occupations which are available.

ADVISER'S APPROVAL

*Ronald E. Hill*

---

THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS AND TRENDS OF  
OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE  
GRADUATES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS,  
CLASSES 1959 to 1963

Report Approved:

*Everett D. Edington*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Report Adviser

*Robert R. Price*  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Russ MacLinn*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean of the Graduate School

## PREFACE

A very sincere note of appreciation is expressed to Dr. Everett D. Edington who has provided sterling advice and direction for this study and with whom it has been a pleasure to work. Also, indebtedness is acknowledged to Dr. Robert R. Price, from whom came the initial suggestion of this project, and to the secretarial help in the Agricultural Education Office.

An expression of gratitude is also extended to those in the State Office of Vocational Agriculture in Stillwater, Oklahoma, who so generously and freely opened their records to provide the necessary background information for this survey. A special word of appreciation is made to Mrs. Evelyn I. Wilson of that office for her courteous and informative assistance.

As well, gratitude is acknowledged to those in the Oklahoma State University Computer Center whose hours of work and deliberation in calculating the results of the questionnaires immensely facilitated the completion of this study.

Finally, to those who have served on the examining committee, a very personal word of appreciation is offered.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I. THE REASONS FOR THIS STUDY . . . . .	1
The Scope of This Study . . . . .	2
The Methodology . . . . .	2
II. SURVEY OF LITERATURE . . . . .	6
III. THE RESULTS OF THIS STUDY . . . . .	9
A Study by Districts . . . . .	11
A Study by Year of Graduation . . . . .	17
A Study by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	23
A Study by Type of Student . . . . .	27
A Study of Off-farm Agricultural Occupations . . . . .	32
IV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	43
BIBLIOGRAPHY. . . . .	46
APPENDIX . . . . .	47

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
I. Number of Schools and Students Included in This Study by Districts . . . . .	3
II. Number of High School Vocational Agriculture Graduates by Year . . . . .	9
III. Occupational Status of Graduates of High School Vocational Agriculture in Oklahoma From 1959 - 1963 . . . . .	10
IV. Occupational Status by District . . . . .	11
V. Number of Graduates in Farming by Districts . . . . .	12
VI. Number of Graduates Continuing in Higher Education by Districts . . . . .	13
VII. Number of Graduates in Military Service and State Residence by Districts . . . . .	14
VIII. Number of Graduates in Nonagricultural Occupations, Unemployed and Deceased by Districts . . . . .	16
IX. Occupational Status by Years . . . . .	17
X. Number of Graduates in Farming by Year of Graduation . . . . .	18
XI. Number of Graduates Continuing in Higher Education by Year of Graduation . . . . .	19
XII. Number of Graduates in Nonagricultural Occupations and State Residence by Year of Graduation . . . . .	21
XIII. Number of Graduates in Military Service, Unemployed and Deceased by Year of Graduation . . . . .	22
XIV. Occupational Status on the Basis of F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	23
XV. Number of Graduates in Farming by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	24
XVI. Number of Graduates With State Residence by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	24
XVII. Number of Graduates Continuing in Higher Education by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	25

XVIII.	Number of Graduates in Military Service and Nonagricultural Occupations by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	26
XIX.	Number of Graduates Unemployed and Deceased by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	26
XX.	Occupational Status on the Basis of Residence While Students . . . . .	27
XXI.	Number of Graduates in Farming by Type of Student . . . . .	28
XXII.	Number of Graduates With State Residence . . . . .	28
XXIII.	Number of Graduates in Military Service and Nonagricultural Occupations by Type of Student . . . . .	29
XXIV.	Number of Graduates Unemployed and Deceased by Type of Student . . . . .	29
XXV.	Number of Graduates Continuing in Higher Education by Type of Student . . . . .	31
XXVI.	The Distribution and Number of Graduates in the Major Areas of Off-Farm Agricultural Occupations . . . . .	32
XXVII.	The Distribution of Agricultural Occupations by District and Year . . . . .	33
XXVIII.	The Distribution of Agricultural Occupations by Degree and Type of Student . . . . .	36
XXIX.	Number of Graduates in Off-farm Agricultural Occupations by Branches of Agriculture . . . . .	39
XXX.	Number of Graduates in Off-farm Agricultural Occupations by Districts . . . . .	39
XXXI.	Number of Graduates in Off-farm Agricultural Occupations by Years . . . . .	40
XXXII.	Number of Graduates in Off-farm Agricultural Occupations by F. F. A. Degree . . . . .	41
XXXIII.	Number of Graduates in Off-farm Agricultural Occupations by Type of Student . . . . .	41
XXXIV.	Choices of Agricultural Occupations not Listed in Tables XXVII and XXVIII . . . . .	47

## CHAPTER I

### THE REASONS FOR THIS STUDY

There are several reasons for having conducted such a study as this. Mostly they are involved with the sweeping sociological changes taking place in our country today. It is certainly no secret that America is experiencing a vast reorientation from a rural to an urbanized culture. Most notable is the disappearance of the on-the-farm farmer and the rapidly growing phase of agriculture known as "Agribusiness". Yet, the latter has not begun to absorb into its ranks of employed the number of those previously earning a livelihood on the farm. In addition, we are experiencing today an appreciable drop in the number of those training in agriculture on the higher educational level.

For instance, in 1950 as a freshman entering Oklahoma State University as a Dairy Production Major, there was a total enrollment of 1,710 students in the School of Agriculture. But when returning fourteen years later to complete the work for the M. S. Degree in Agricultural Education, there were only 1,168 students enrolled in Agriculture. Meanwhile, during this span of time, 1950 to 1964, the total University enrollment rose from 8,517 to over 13,000.<sup>1</sup>

Another reason for this study is to determine the extent to which graduates from Oklahoma High School Vocational Agriculture Departments

---

<sup>1</sup>Figures obtained from the Office of the Dean of Agriculture, O.S.U.



are taking up farming as an occupation or are entering the rapidly expanding field of "Agribusiness." In brief, to what extent are these graduates using their vocational agricultural training?

Third, an attempt was made to determine the relationship between the degree a boy attained in F. F. A. work and his present occupational status and the relationship between a student's location of residence--on the farm or in town--and his present occupational involvement?

#### THE SCOPE OF THIS STUDY

This study involves one-third of all Oklahoma high schools having a program in Vocational Agriculture and includes every graduate in vocational agriculture of those high schools over the past five years--classes 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963.

#### THE METHODOLOGY

As a means of conducting this investigation, it was decided that a study of one-third of all Oklahoma high schools with vocational agriculture departments would be sufficient to produce conclusive or sufficiently indicative results. Such a sample was chosen on a random basis determined by the indiscriminate drawing of a number from one to three. The number "three" being drawn, every third school thus listed on the alphabetical list of high schools with vocational agriculture in Oklahoma, was chosen. Thus, from the total of 383 schools, 127 were selected. Of this number, however, four were found to be new departments in operation for only one to four years. Resultingly, these were removed and four other schools randomly chosen to complete the total of 127.

TABLE I

## NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS INCLUDED IN THIS STUDY BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS IN EACH DIST.	% OF TOTAL	NO. OF SCHOOLS IN THIS STUDY BY DISTRICT	% OF TOTAL SCHOOLS IN STUDY	NO. OF STUDENTS BEING STUDIED BY DISTRICT	% OF TOTAL STUDENTS IN STUDY
NORTHEAST	85	22.19	33	25.98	1,285	27.75
NORTHWEST	75	19.58	18	14.17	679	14.45
SOUTHWEST	92	24.02	34	26.77	1,188	25.65
SOUTHEAST	89	23.24	26	20.47	956	20.64
CENTRAL	42	10.97	16	12.60	523	11.36
TOTAL	383	100.0	127	100.0	4,631	100.0

Table I shows the results of this random sampling procedure. The data indicate the number of schools chosen for this study and their distribution over the State by Districts. Also included in the Table is the total number of graduates involved in this study and their distribution among the five districts.

A questionnaire was created (See Appendix) to obtain the following information: What each graduate is now doing occupationally, when each individual was graduated, to what extent the student participated in F. F. A. work (the F. F. A. degree he attained) and the location of each individual's home - on the farm proper or in town.

The names of each school's graduates over the past five years were subsequently obtained from the State Office of Vocational Agriculture and typed on the questionnaire by classes. This information along with a concise list of instructions was then mailed to the Vocational Agriculture instructors by name.

The questionnaire was so constructed as to require only the simple checking of the appropriate box to indicate the information being sought. This was an attempt not only at facilitating the processing of this questionnaire but also to help keep it as objective as possible.

A letter from Mr. J. B. Perky, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, explaining the nature and importance of this study was included with each questionnaire. Ninety-two percent of the questionnaires were returned.

The students were studied on the basis of four different classifications: Vocational Agriculture District, Year of Graduation, F. F. A. Degree Attained and Type of Student. This latter classification involved the location of the student's home and whether or not he or his family was farming any land. This category was further broken down into four

subdivisions: Country Farmer, Town Farmer, Country Nonfarmer, and Town Nonfarmer.

A "Country Farmer" includes those graduates who had lived on a farm and farmed the land while a "Town Farmer" includes those who lived in town but were actively engaged in farming. The other two classifications were just the opposite. A "Country Nonfarmer" graduate was one who had lived on a farm but did not farm the land; and, the "Town Nonfarmer" includes those who lived in town and did not farm.

The five Vocational Agriculture Districts are designated: Northeast, Northwest, Southwest, Southeast and Central. The five years include those graduating classes of 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963. And, the three F. F. A. Degrees are: Chapter Farmer, Junior Master Farmer and American Farmer.

## CHAPTER II

### SURVEY OF LITERATURE

On the subject of the Occupational Status of Former High School Vocational Agriculture Students, there is a wealth of material from several states. However, the great majority of work done in this area in Oklahoma was found to be conducted either before 1959 or not specific and applicable enough to be considered in this study. In addition and of notable importance, of all the studies consulted, not one involved a total population even approaching the number of students included in this survey. As a result, it seemed wise to refer to a few studies from other states as well as the ones most applicable from Oklahoma.

According to Grimes<sup>1</sup> in a study of 104 Virginia high school graduates over the ten year period, 1951 to 1960, 26% were in the Armed Forces, 12.5% in farming, 51% in non-agricultural occupations and 8% working as day laborers. A study conducted by Nelson<sup>2</sup> covering 453 Minnesota graduates six years after graduation indicated 75% of them in non-farm occupations including military and educational programs. He further isolated the fact that the majority of those leaving the farm left within three years of graduation. Less than 33% attended any kind

---

<sup>1</sup>Melvin W. Grimes, "Occupational Status of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture of the Russell Grove School, Amelia, Virginia, from 1951 Through 1960." (Paper, The Pennsylvania State University, 1961).

<sup>2</sup>Theodore M. Nelson, "The Occupational Status of Minnesota Farm Male High School Graduates," (Thesis, University of Minnesota, 1961).

of post high school educational institution.

Reid<sup>3</sup> conducted a study in 1960 of 159 Colorado graduates of the years 1945 to 1954. He found only 10.7 % farming, 53.4 % in nonfarming occupations and the remaining 35.9 % in military service, college or other miscellaneous activities. A 1961 study by Wyatt<sup>4</sup> of Iowa Former F. F. A. "Chapter" and "State" Farmers (100 of each) indicated that roughly 35 % more "State" Farmers entered post high school education than did the "Chapter" Farmers while 71 % of the former group attended agricultural colleges as compared with only 33 % of the latter group.

A much more favorable report agriculturally was conducted in Ohio by Bender<sup>5</sup> who found that out of 1,335 graduates 66 % were engaged in farming and farm related occupations during their first year out of school. This figure dropped to 60 % at the end of five years out of school. Of this number 25 % were farming full time and almost that many were farming part time. This drop indicates that in some instances part time farming is an interim engagement pending the entrance into full time employment.

Finally, in an Oklahoma conducted survey, Best<sup>6</sup> found 19.06 % of a study of 42 boys to be engaged in farming. These results compare most

<sup>3</sup>Richard A. Reid, "Occupational Status And Values In Vocational Agriculture Training." (Master's Report, Colorado State University, 1960).

<sup>4</sup>Windol Lee Wyatt, "Occupational Status Of Former "Chapter" and "State Farmers" in the Iowa Association, Future Farmers Of America." (Thesis, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, 1961).

<sup>5</sup>Ralph Edward Bender, "What's Happening To Ohio's Vocational Agriculture Graduates." (Nonthesis study, The Ohio State University, 1961).

<sup>6</sup>Marvin G. Best, "A Study of Former Vocational Agriculture Students of the Whitaker State Home." (Report, Oklahoma State University, 1959).

favorably with studies done by former Oklahoma State University students.

Hamburger<sup>7</sup> in "A Study of Occupational Distribution of Agriculture Graduates of Chilocco Indian Agricultural School" found 26.7 % of the former graduates farming.

Lefors<sup>8</sup> found that 21.0 % of the former students of Checotah High School were farming.

Adams<sup>9</sup> studying four eastern Oklahoma High Schools found 19.5 % of the former agriculture students farming.

Joyner<sup>10</sup> in a study of the Mountain View High School determined that 16.4 % of that school's agricultural graduates were farming.

Gaines<sup>11</sup>, in a study of four western Oklahoma high schools, found 20.1 % of their former agriculture students farming.

---

<sup>7</sup>John James Hamburger, "A Survey of Occupational Distribution of Agriculture Graduates of Chilocco Indian School." (Problem report, Oklahoma State University, 1954).

<sup>8</sup>Neill Lefors, "A Study of 322 Former Vocational Agriculture Pupils Relative to Marks Received, Supervised Farm Training and Leadership, Present Occupation and Income Received." (Master's Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1952).

<sup>9</sup>Otis Steele Adams, "A Study of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Four East Central Oklahoma High Schools." (Thesis report, Oklahoma State University, 1942).

<sup>10</sup>Olen Joyner, "A Study of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture." (Thesis report, Oklahoma State University, 1942).

<sup>11</sup>G. E. Gaines, "A Study of the Activities of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Four West Oklahoma High Schools." (Thesis report, Oklahoma State University, 1942).

### CHAPTER III

#### THE RESULTS OF THIS STUDY

In the State of Oklahoma there are a total of 383 senior high schools with vocational agriculture departments of which one-third or 127 were used for this study. During this five year period a total of 13,658 students was graduated from Oklahoma's Vocational Agriculture Departments of which 4,631 or 33.91 % are involved in this study.

TABLE II

#### NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE GRADUATES BY YEAR

YEAR	NUMBER <sup>1</sup>	GRADUATES IN THIS STUDY BY YEAR	% OF TOTAL BEING STUDIED
1959	2,200 <sup>2</sup>	893	-
1960	2,621	875	33.39
1961	2,914	961	32.98
1962	2,949	952	32.38
1963	2,974	950	31.94
TOTALS	13,658	4,631	33.91

---

<sup>1</sup>Figures provided by the State Office of Vocational Agriculture, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

<sup>2</sup>This figure is an estimate only.



The figures presented in Table II would tend to indicate that somewhere along the line we are losing our young men from the realm of agriculture. For while the number of fourth year vocational agriculture students has been increasing year by year, the agricultural enrollment at Oklahoma State University, for instance, has been decreasing. Certainly this can not be considered due to any extent whatsoever to an academic inadequacy of this Institution.

TABLE III

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF GRADUATES OF HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN OKLAHOMA FROM 1959 - 1963

STATUS OF STUDENTS	NUMBER		% YES <sup>3</sup>
	NO	YES	
FARMING	3,790	841	18.16
AG. OCCUPATION	4,126	505	10.90
AG. COLLEGE	4,062	569	12.29
OTHER COLLEGE	4,012	619	13.37
OTHER SPECIAL ED.	4,422	209	4.51
ARMED FORCES	3,870	761	16.43
NONAG. OCCUPATION	3,108	1,523	32.89
UNEMPLOYED	4,484	147	3.17
STATE RESIDENCE <sup>4</sup>	1,226	2,926	63.18
DECEASED	4,609	22	.48

<sup>3</sup>This does not add to 100 % because many students are in more than one category.

<sup>4</sup>Those "Out of State" are represented in the "No" column and those "In State" in the "Yes" column. Also, all those listed as being in the Armed Forces whose residential location was not indicated, were placed in the "Out of State" group - which would tend to keep this relatively high percentage from being quite so significant.

The data in Table III are the complete results of this study of 4,631 graduates with regard to their present occupational status, location of residence (in State or out of State) and those deceased. This information will be considered in the following sections of this chapter in each of the four classifications of this study including a specific study of those employed in off-farm agricultural occupations.

#### A STUDY BY DISTRICTS

TABLE IV  
OCCUPATIONAL STATUS BY DISTRICT

STATUS OF STUDENTS	DISTRICTS				
	N.E.	N.W.	S.W.	S.E.	CENTRAL
FARMING	168	174	260	128	111
AG. OCCUPATION	112	65	135	128	65
AG. COLLEGE	147	110	166	87	59
OTHER COLLEGE	137	140	203	95	44
OTHER SPECIAL ED.	52	49	50	39	19
ARMED FORCES	240	79	184	174	84
NONAG. OCCUPATION	454	193	351	327	198
UNEMPLOYED	69	21	17	25	15
STATE RESIDENCE	739	470	831	535	351
DECEASED	4	5	4	4	5

TABLE V  
NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN FARMING BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
NORTHEAST	1,285	1,117	168	13.07
NORTHWEST	679	505	174	25.63
SOUTHWEST	1,188	928	260	21.89
SOUTHEAST	956	828	128	13.39
CENTRAL	523	412	111	21.22
TOTALS	4,631	3,790	841	18.16

The data in Table V reveal that the areas of Oklahoma with the largest and most profitable farms are also those that have the largest percentage of graduates returning to the farm. The eastern part of the State has smaller farms and a larger number of the farm boys fail to find the units economically large enough for them to return. This has helped increase the unemployment in this area of the State.

Table VI indicates that slightly over thirty percent of all the graduates are presently in some type of post high school education. The western and central parts of the State had a higher portion of those in college enrolled in Colleges of Agriculture while the western areas had a larger number in other types of colleges. The western areas also had a substantially larger number enrolled in higher education.

TABLE VI

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES CONTINUING IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS	IN AG. COLLEGES			IN OTHER COLLEGES			IN SPECIAL ED.			TOTAL % IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	
NORTHEAST	1,138	147	11.14	1,148	137	10.66	1,233	52	4.05	26.15
NORTHWEST	569	110	16.20	539	140	20.62	630	49	7.22	44.04
SOUTHWEST	1,022	166	13.97	985	203	17.09	1,138	50	4.21	35.27
SOUTHEAST	869	87	9.10	861	95	9.94	917	39	4.08	24.12
CENTRAL	464	59	11.28	479	44	8.41	504	19	3.63	23.32
TOTALS	4,062	569	12.29	4,012	619	13.37	4,422	209	4.51	30.17

TABLE VII

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN MILITARY SERVICE AND STATE RESIDENCE BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS	IN ARMED FORCES			LOCATION OF RESIDENCE				
	NO	YES	% YES	UNKN.	OUT OF STATE	% OUT	IN STATE	% IN
NORTHEAST	1,045	240	18.68	162	384	29.88	739	57.51
NORTHWEST	600	79	11.63	89	120	17.67	470	69.22
SOUTHWEST	1,004	184	15.49	69	288	24.24	831	69.95
SOUTHEAST	782	174	18.20	92	329	34.41	535	55.96
CENTRAL	439	84	16.06	67	105	20.08	351	67.11
TOTALS	3,870	761	16.43	479	1,226	26.65	2,926	63.18

Table VII indicates that larger numbers of graduates from the eastern portion of the State are in the Armed Forces than the western area. This is also true with the numbers whose residence is out of Oklahoma. This is probably due to the smaller number of employment opportunities in eastern Oklahoma.

There was little difference, as indicated by the data in Table VIII, in those in nonagricultural occupations throughout the State. However, the eastern portion of the State was somewhat higher. The northeast was slightly higher in unemployment with the northwest next.

STATE  
 DISTRICT  
 COUNTY  
 CITY  
 ZIP  
 PHONE

TABLE VIII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS, UNEMPLOYED AND DECREASED BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS	NONAG. OCCUPATION			UNEMPLOYED			DECREASED		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
NORTHEAST	831	454	35.33	1,216	69	5.37	1,281	4	.31
NORTHWEST	486	193	28.42	658	21	3.09	674	5	.74
SOUTHWEST	837	351	29.55	1,171	17	1.43	1,184	4	.34
SOUTHEAST	629	327	34.21	931	25	2.62	952	4	.42
CENTRAL	325	198	37.86	508	15	2.87	518	5	.96
TOTALS	3,108	1,523	32.89	4,484	147	3.17	4,609	22	.48

## A STUDY BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

TABLE IX  
OCCUPATIONAL STATUS BY YEARS

STATUS OF STUDENTS	YEARS				
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
FARMING	145	164	166	173	193
AG. OCCUPATION	119	110	84	113	79
AG. COLLEGE	74	80	105	146	164
OTHER COLLEGE	96	101	124	156	142
OTHER SPECIAL ED.	19	30	42	63	55
ARMED FORCES	171	175	170	133	112
NONAG. OCCUPATION	373	284	333	273	260
UNEMPLOYED	16	15	40	29	47
STATE RESIDENCE	298	267	261	213	187
DECEASED	8	4	6	1	3

As indicated by Table IX, the results of looking at this group of graduates on the basis of their year of graduation is primarily one of a comparison of extremes divided between the first and last years - 1959 and 1963.

Agriculturally, as shown by Table X, the lowest ratio in farming is 16.24 % in 1959 and the highest - 20.32 % - in 1963. This would tend to



indicate that the further out of school a graduate becomes, the less he is involved specifically in farming. This item of information is coupled with 1963 having the highest percent enrolled in agricultural colleges - 17.26 %, which descends to 8.29 % in 1959, appears to suggest that while in post high-school education, a graduate continues farming as a side line occupation. Presuming the class of 1959 to have graduated from college prior to this study, it is to be expected that 1959 would have the lowest percentage in agricultural colleges. In further support of this are the figures of those involved in off-farm agriculture occupations: 13.33 % - the highest - in 1959 as opposed to only 8.33 % - the lowest - in 1963. Also, it is reasonable that employers would be reluctant to hire a boy just out of high school, hence, the low percentage of those 1963 graduates employed in off-farm agricultural occupations and the high percent attending agricultural colleges.

TABLE X

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN FARMING BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

YEAR	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
1959	893	748	145	16.24
1960	875	711	164	18.74
1961	961	795	166	17.27
1962	952	779	173	18.17
1963	950	757	193	20.32
TOTALS	4,631	3,790	841	18.16

TABLE XI

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES CONTINUING IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

YEAR	AG. COLLEGE			OTHER COLLEGE			OTHER SPECIAL ED.			TOTAL % IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	
1959	819	74	8.29	797	96	10.75	874	19	2.13	21.17
1960	795	80	9.14	774	101	11.54	845	30	3.43	24.11
1961	856	105	10.93	837	124	12.90	919	42	4.37	28.20
1962	806	146	15.34	796	156	16.39	889	63	6.62	38.35
1963	786	164	17.26	808	142	14.95	895	55	5.79	38.00
TOTALS	4,062	569	12.29	4,012	619	13.37	4,422	209	4.51	30.17

Educationally, from Table XI, it is easily understandable that the lowest percentage in each of the three academic categories would be found in the year 1959; and conversely, that the highest rates would be found in the last one or two years. The highest percent in agricultural colleges is 1963 - 17.26 % - with 1962 having the highest rate of those in other colleges and other specialized education.

From Table XII there are two further facts that would tend to support this conclusion. The class with the lowest nonagriculturally related occupation group is 1963 - 27.37 % - while 1959 has the highest - 41.77 %. The year with the highest rate of those living in the State is 1963 with 68.84 % while 1959's class had only 55.54 % living in residence. This indicates that the graduates may tend to move out of state after they have been out of school for a few years.

The data in Table XIII shows that the class with the highest percent in the Armed Forces was 1960 with 20.00 % while 1963 had only 11.79 % serving, probably due to the 1963 graduates being too young to be drafted. The latter is also in keeping with the classes of 1962 and 1963 having the largest ratios in higher education.

Otherwise, the remaining statistics are incidental. The lowest percentage of unemployment was 1960 with 1.71 % while 1963 had the highest percent - 4.95 % - which may be due to two or three years being required for some students just out of high school to locate employment.

TABLE XII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS AND  
STATE RESIDENCE BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

YEAR	NONAG. OCCUPATION			LOCATION OF RESIDENCE				
	NO	YES	% YES	UNKN.	OUT OF STATE	% OUT	IN STATE	% IN
1959	520	373	41.77	99	298	33.37	496	55.54
1960	591	284	32.46	77	267	30.51	531	60.68
1961	628	333	34.65	97	261	27.16	603	62.75
1962	679	273	28.68	97	213	22.37	642	67.44
1963	690	260	27.37	109	187	19.68	654	68.84
TOTALS	3,108	1,523	32.89	479	1,226	26.47	2,926	63.18

TABLE XIII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN MILITARY SERVICE, UNEMPLOYED  
AND DECEASED BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

YEAR	IN ARMED FORCES			UNEMPLOYED			DECEASED		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
1959	722	171	19.15	877	16	1.79	885	8	.90
1960	700	175	20.00	860	15	1.71	871	4	.46
1961	791	170	17.69	921	40	4.16	955	6	.62
1962	819	133	13.97	923	29	3.05	951	1	.11
1963	838	112	11.79	903	47	4.95	947	3	.32
TOTALS	3,870	761	16.43	4,484	147	3.17	4,609	22	.48

## A STUDY BY F.F.A. DEGREE

TABLE XIV  
OCCUPATIONAL STATUS ON THE BASIS OF F.F.A. DEGREE

STATUS OF STUDENT	F.F.A. DEGREE		
	CHAPTER FARMER	JUNIOR MASTER FARMER	AMERICAN FARMER
FARMING	641	192	8
AG. OCCUPATION	474	30	1
AG. COLLEGE	356	207	6
OTHER COLLEGE	535	82	2
OTHER SPECIAL ED.	188	20	1
ARMED FORCES	742	18	1
NONAG. OCCUPATION	1,462	60	1
UNEMPLOYED	140	7	-
STATE RESIDENCE	2,550	368	8
DECEASED	22	-	-

From Table XIV it can be seen that the consideration of the relationship between the present occupational status and the F. F. A. Degree received requires an approach somewhat different from the other three points of investigation. To begin with, the percentages presented here must be understood in light of the fact that there is only a total of 455 who achieved the level of F. F. A. "Junior Master Farmer" and only ten who became "American Farmers". The most obvious indications of this category of the study are to be found with regard to the ten men who attained the "American Farmer" Degree. In virtually every case, those attaining only the F. F. A. "Chapter Farmer" Degree were at the low end of the scale of agricultural desirability.

TABLE XV  
NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN FARMING BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
CHAPTER	4,166	3,525	641	15.39
JR. MASTER	455	263	192	42.20
AMERICAN	10	2	8	80.00
TOTALS	4,631	3,790	841	18.16

It is significant that eight of the ten "American Farmers" are engaged in farming as shown in Table XV. Apparently they continue to farm while they are attending college. This seems only reasonable in light of the background and capital they must have accrued to attain the "American Farmer" Degree.

TABLE XVI  
NUMBER OF GRADUATES WITH STATE RESIDENCE BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	RESIDENCE				
	UNKN.	OUT OF STATE	% OUT	IN STATE	% IN
CHAPTER	444	1,172	28.13	2,550	61.21
JR. MASTER	35	52	11.43	368	80.88
AMERICAN	-	2	20.00	8	80.00
TOTALS	479	1,226	26.47	2,926	63.18

Table XVI indicates, as might be expected, that the vast majority of those receiving the two higher degrees are still State residents. This is probably due to their having to meet the certain amount of

TABLE XVII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES CONTINUING IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	AG. COLLEGE			OTHER COLLEGE			SPECIAL EDUCATION			TOTAL % IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	
CHAPTER	3,810	356	8.55	3,631	535	12.48	3,978	188	4.51	25.54
JR. MASTER	248	207	45.49	373	82	18.02	435	20	4.40	67.91
AMERICAN	4	6	60.00	8	2	20.00	9	1	10.00	90.00
TOTALS	4,062	569	12.29	4,012	619	13.37	4,422	209	4.53	30.19



capital required for their degrees, thus, more prone to stay with their investment.

From Table XVII it can be seen that the "American Farmers" had the highest percent attending each of the three categories of higher educational institutions while the "Junior Master Farmers" were lowest in the category of specialized education - 4.4 %.

TABLE XVIII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN MILITARY SERVICE AND NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	ARMED FORCES			NONAG. OCCUPATIONS		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
CHAPTER	3,424	742	17.81	2,704	1,462	35.09
JR. MASTER	437	18	3.96	395	60	13.19
AMERICAN	9	1	10.00	9	1	10.00
TOTALS	3,870	761	16.43	3,108	1,523	32.89

The data in Table XVIII show that only one "American Farmer" is in a nonagricultural occupation as well as only one in the Armed Forces.

TABLE XIX

NUMBER OF GRADUATES UNEMPLOYED AND DECEASED BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	UNEMPLOYED			DECEASED		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
CHAPTER	4,026	140	3.36	4,144	22	.53
JR. MASTER	448	7	1.54	455	-	-
AMERICAN	10	-	-	10	-	-
TOTALS	4,484	147	3.17	4,609	22	.01

Easily anticipated is the data in Table XIX indicating that none of the "American Farmers" are unemployed or deceased and that only 1.54 % of the "Junior Master Farmers" are unemployed and none deceased.

#### A STUDY BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TABLE XX

#### OCCUPATIONAL STATUS ON THE BASIS OF RESIDENCE WHILE STUDENTS

STATUS OF STUDENT	RESIDENCE LOCATION			
	FARM FARMER	TOWN FARMER	FARM NON-FARMER	TOWN NON-FARMER
FARMING	748	49	16	13
AG. OCCUPATION	815	103	165	407
AG. COLLEGE	413	56	28	50
OTHER COLLEGE	358	59	43	139
OTHER SPECIAL ED.	113	35	20	38
ARMED FORCES	373	60	79	212
NONAG. OCCUPATION	815	103	165	407
UNEMPLOYED	58	2	33	49
STATE RESIDENCE	1,871	211	247	564
DECEASED	11	3	3	3

From the study of these students on the basis of the type of residence they had, it would appear that the extent to which they were associated with farming greatly determines their future relationship with it occupationally.

From the data in Table XXI it can be seen that the boys who have come from a background of on-the-farm farming show by far the greatest rate - 27.53 % - of those entering farming as an occupation. At the

other extreme was the town-non-farming category which had only 1.29 % involved in farming. However, this is the second largest number enrolled.

TABLE XXI

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN FARMING BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TYPE OF STUDENT	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
COUNTRY FARMER	2,717	1,969	748	27.53
TOWN FARMER	341	292	49	14.37
COUNTRY NONFARMER	420	404	16	3.81
TOWN NONFARMER	1,004	991	13	1.29
UNREPORTED	149	134	15	10.07
TOTALS	4,631	3,790	841	18.16

TABLE XXII

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES WITH STATE RESIDENCE

TYPE OF STUDENT	RESIDENCE				
	UNKN.	OUT OF STATE	% OUT	IN STATE	% IN
COUNTRY FARMER	234	612	22.52	1,871	68.86
TOWN FARMER	38	92	26.98	211	61.88
COUNTRY NONFARMER	42	131	31.19	247	58.81
TOWN NONFARMER	101	339	33.76	564	56.18
UNREPORTED	64	52	34.90	33	22.15
TOTALS	479	1,226	26.47	2,926	63.18

From Table XXII it can be seen that the on-the-farm farming group had the highest ratio of those yet located within the State - 68.86 % - while the town-non-farming group was at the opposite end of the scale.

TABLE XXIII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN MILITARY SERVICE AND NONAG. OCCUPATIONS  
BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TYPE OF STUDENT	ARMED FORCES			NONAG. OCCUPATIONS		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
COUNTRY FARMER	2,344	373	13.73	1,902	815	30.00
TOWN FARMER	281	60	17.60	238	103	30.21
COUNTRY NONFARMER	341	79	18.81	255	165	39.29
TOWN NONFARMER	792	212	21.12	597	407	40.54
UNREPORTED	112	37	24.83	116	33	22.15
TOTALS	3,870	761	16.43	3,108	1,523	32.89

From Table XXIII the data indicate that the on-the-farm farming group had the lowest percent serving in the Armed Forces - 13.73 % - while the town-non-farming group was again at the opposite end of the scale with 21.12 %. It is surprising, however, that while the on-the-farm farming group had the highest ratio - 11.82 % - of men in agriculturally related occupations, the second highest was this latter group.

TABLE XXIV

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES UNEMPLOYED AND DECEASED BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TYPE OF STUDENT	UNEMPLOYED			DECEASED		
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES
COUNTRY FARMER	2,659	58	2.13	2,706	11	.40
TOWN FARMER	339	2	.59	338	3	.88
COUNTRY NONFARMER	387	33	7.86	417	3	.71
TOWN NONFARMER	955	49	4.88	1,001	3	.30
UNREPORTED	144	5	3.36	147	2	1.34
TOTALS	4,484	147	3.17	4,609	22	.48

The town-farming group, as shown by the data in Table XXIV, had by the lowest rate - .59 % - unemployed (quite possibly due in part to high rate in institutions of higher learning), while also ranking best - .88 % - in the number of those deceased.

As can be seen from Table XXV, this group also rated highest in each of the three categories of higher education. The group with the poorest record showing was the country-non-farm group. It had the lowest total percentage of those seeking education beyond high school as well as the best level - 7.68 % - of those unemployed.

TABLE XXV

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES CONTINUING IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TYPE OF STUDENT	AG. COLLEGE			OTHER COLLEGE			OTHER SPECIAL ED.			TOTAL % IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	NO	YES	% YES	
FARM FARMER	2,304	413	15.20	2,359	358	13.18	2,604	113	4.16	32.54
TOWN FARMER	285	56	16.42	282	59	17.30	306	35	10.26	43.89
COUNTRY NONFARMER	392	28	16.67	377	43	10.24	400	20	4.76	31.67
TOWN NONFARMER	954	50	4.98	865	139	13.84	966	38	3.78	22.60
UNREPORTED	127	22	14.77	129	20	13.42	146	3	2.01	30.20
TOTALS	4,062	569	12.29	4,012	619	13.37	4,422	209	4.51	30.17

## A STUDY OF OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

Of the 4,631 students involved, 505 or 10.9 % were listed as being engaged in some off farm agricultural occupation on either a part time or full scale basis. Included with the questionnaire was a list (See Appendix) of sixty-three suggested occupations for identifying the student's type of "Agribusiness". Table XXVI shows the distribution of the 505 graduates among the major areas of off-farm agricultural occupations.

TABLE XXVI

## THE DISTRIBUTION AND NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN THE MAJOR AREAS OF OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

AREA	NUMBER	AREA	NUMBER
ANIMAL SCIENCE	95	FARM MECHANICS	154
PLANT SCIENCE	148	AG. SERVICES	24
SOIL SCIENCE	18	AG. LABORERS	66

The data included in Tables XXVII and XXVIII give the distribution of these 505 graduates by each of the four major classifications of this study. Nine of the occupational choices were checked twenty or more times: Feed and hammer mill employee, Farm machinery mechanic, Welder, general repairman, blacksmith, Farm implement agency employee, Farm hardware/equipment store employee, Farm "Co-op" employee, Lumberman/sawmill employee, Farm laborer and the miscellaneous group of "Other". Because they were not used, thirteen of the choices are not listed in Tables XXVII and XXVIII but may be found in Table XXXIV in the Appendix.

Surprisingly, not one of the 4,631 graduates is employed in the fertilizer business or the field of insecticides/pesticides though four were placed in the "Crop duster, sprayer" group. This seems rather unusual in light of the emphasis and extensive use being made of these today.

DISTRICTS	OCCUPATION NUMBER																
	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	18	20
NORTHEAST	3	1	5	0	7	1	5	17	2	3	1	1	5	2	1	0	8
NORTHWEST	0	0	2	0	7	0	6	5	5	3	7	0	1	0	0	0	1
SOUTHWEST	0	0	5	2	7	0	9	13	6	7	17	0	3	0	1	1	5
SOUTHEAST	1	0	3	2	11	0	7	19	5	7	1	0	3	0	1	0	3
CENTRAL	1	0	1	0	0	0	11	7	5	8	2	0	6	0	1	0	1
YEARS																	
1959	0	0	2	2	8	1	12	14	7	12	7	1	2	0	0	1	5
1960	0	0	5	2	9	0	9	11	6	4	10	0	9	0	2	0	1
1961	1	0	5	0	6	0	3	11	4	5	4	0	2	0	1	0	4
1962	1	0	3	0	6	0	8	12	2	4	4	0	5	2	0	0	7
1963	3	1	1	0	3	0	6	13	4	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	5	1	16	4	32	1	38	61	23	28	28	1	18	2	4	1	18



## DISTRICTS

## OCCUPATION NUMBER

	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	33	34	36	37	38	39	40
NORTHEAST	6	5	0	3	2	2	0	11	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
NORTHWEST	3	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SOUTHWEST	1	2	0	0	1	4	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
SOUTHEAST	0	4	0	1	0	0	1	26	1	4	2	2	1	0	0	4	0
CENTRAL	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## YEARS

1959	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	8	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1960	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	5	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
1961	2	2	1	2	0	4	1	10	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
1962	1	4	1	0	1	3	1	14	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
1963	2	4	2	1	0	1	0	6	3	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	10	13	4	4	3	9	2	43	15	6	2	4	1	1	1	4	2

DISTRICTS	OCCUPATION NUMBER															
	41	43	44	45	46	47	50	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
NORTHEAST	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	9	0
NORTHWEST	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	8	1	0	0	1	2	0
SOUTHWEST	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	12	1	4	1	3	2	1
SOUTHEAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	10	0
CENTRAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	4	0
YEARS																
1959	1	4	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	6	1	0	0	0	7	0
1960	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	2	2	1	11	0
1961	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	3	0
1962	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	10	1	1	0	3	2	0
1963	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	5	0
TOTALS	1	5	4	2	1	5	1	1	4	31	3	4	2	7	29	1

THE DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS BY DEGREE AND TYPE OF STUDENT

DEGREES	OCCUPATION NUMBER																
	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	18	20
CHAPTER	5	1	16	4	32	1	36	60	21	27	25	0	18	2	4	1	17
STATE	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1
AMERICAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TYPE STUDENT																	
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FARM FARMER	4	0	7	2	15	0	30	42	14	24	22	0	12	0	3	1	8
TOWN FARMER	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	3	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
FARM NON-FARMER	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	3
TOWN NON-FARMER	1	1	7	0	12	0	2	12	4	3	3	0	4	1	1	0	7
TOTALS	5	1	16	4	32	1	38	61	23	28	28	1	18	2	4	1	18

DEGREE	OCCUPATION NUMBER																
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	33	34	36	37	38	39	40
CHAPTER	10	13	2	4	3	9	2	42	11	6	2	4	1	1	1	4	2
STATE	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AMERICAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TYPE STUDENT																	
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FARM FARMER	6	6	3	3	3	4	2	19	12	4	2	1	1	0	1	2	0
TOWN FARMER	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
FARM NON-FARMER	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
TOWN NON-FARMER	3	4	0	0	0	2	0	13	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
TOTALS	10	13	4	4	3	9	2	43	15	6	2	4	1	1	1	4	2

## DEGREE

## OCCUPATION NUMBER

	41	43	44	45	46	47	50	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
CHAPTER	1	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	3	29	3	4	2	6	27	1
STATE	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
AMERICAN	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TYPE STUDENT																
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
FARM FARMER	0	3	3	2	0	4	0	1	3	21	2	3	0	6	16	1
TOWN FARMER	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0
FARM NON-FARMER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
TOWN NON-FARMER	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	6	0	1	2	1	6	0
TOTALS	1	5	4	2	1	5	1	1	4	31	3	4	2	7	28	1

TABLE XXIX

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS  
BY BRANCHES OF AGRICULTURE

BRANCH	NUMBER	BRANCH	NUMBER
DAIRYING	19	BEEES	1
BEEF CATTLE	47	SOILS	18
MACHINERY	154	FORESTRY	51
CROPS	84	HORTICULTURE	13
POULTRY	12	AG. SERVICES	29
VETERINARY	11	AG. LABORERS	66

The data in Table XXIX are a breakdown of these sixty-three off-farm occupations into the various branches of agriculture.

TABLE XXX

PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES IN OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
NORTHEAST	1,285	1,173	112	8.72
NORTHWEST	679	614	65	9.57
SOUTHWEST	1,188	1,053	135	11.36
SOUTHEAST	956	828	128	13.39
CENTRAL	523	458	65	12.43
TOTALS	4,631	4,126	505	10.90

The study of occupations by districts quickly shows, as indicated by the data in Table XXX, three districts, Southeast, Central and Southwest, have slightly more employment in off-farm agricultural occupations

than the Northwest and Northeast. The Southeast District has the highest rate which is possibly due in part to the State's large concentration of commercially and recreationally valuable forests in that area. Exactly 25 % of all those employed agriculturally in that district are engaged in lumbering, forestry or wildlife management.

TABLE XXXI

## NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS BY YEARS

YEAR	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
1959	893	774	119	13.33
1960	874	765	110	12.59
1961	961	877	84	8.74
1962	952	839	113	11.87
1963	950	871	79	8.33
TOTALS	4,631	4,126	505	10.90

A very similar breakdown occurs when looking at those in "Agribusiness" on the basis of the year of graduation as shown in Table XXXI. Three of the five years, 1959, 1960 and 1962, are slightly higher.

A comparison on the basis of F. F. A. Degree achieved shows a surprisingly high 11.38 % of the 4,166 "Chapter Farmers" in off-farm agricultural occupations as shown in Table XXXII. On the other hand is the "Junior Master Farmer" group with only 6.59 % in off-farm agricultural occupations. Further conclusions are difficult to make since there were only ten "American Farmers" in this entire group of 4,631 graduates involved in this study.

TABLE XXXII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL  
OCCUPATIONS BY F.F.A. DEGREE

DEGREE	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
CHAPTER	4,166	3,692	474	11.38
JR. MASTER	455	425	30	6.59
AMERICAN	10	9	1	10.00
TOTALS	4,631	4,126	505	10.90

TABLE XXXIII

NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL  
OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE OF STUDENT

TYPE OF STUDENT	TOTALS	NO	YES	% YES
COUNTRY FARMER	2,717	2,396	321	11.82
TOWN FARMER	341	312	29	8.80
COUNTRY NONFARMER	420	376	44	10.24
TOWN NONFARMER	1,004	899	105	10.46
UNREPORTED	149	143	6	-
TOTALS	4,631	4,126	505	10.90

As revealed by the data in Table XXXIII, an interesting set of close percentages turned up when these 505 men in off-farm agricultural occupations were studied on the basis of the location of their home while they were students. Those in the category of on-the-farm farmer had the highest percent in agricultural occupations. But surprisingly, the men in the two groups of country-nonfarm and town-nonfarm followed by less than two percentage points.



1 but five of those listed as agriculture laborers went only as the "Chapter Farmer" Degree in F. F. A. work with the majority being located in the Southwest District - possibly due to the type labor employed in that area. This majority also had an farm farm background.

## CHAPTER IV

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study involves one-third or 127 of the 383 high schools in Oklahoma with vocational agriculture departments. Every graduate over the past few years, Classes 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963, is included. A questionnaire was mailed to each vocational agriculture instructor of these schools to determine the following information: What each graduate is now doing occupationally, when each individual was graduated, to what extent the student participated in F. F. A. work (the F. F. A. degree he attained) and the location of each graduate's home - on the farm proper or in town. Ninety-two percent of the questionnaires were returned providing a study of a total of 4,631 graduates.

The 18.16 % of the graduates found to be farming is in keeping with the information derived from past surveys. However, it appears to fall on the low side of previously determined percentages (See Survey of Literature, pages 5 and 6) which tends to indicate a gradual downward trend over a period of several years.

There is a point of possible concern with regard to those remaining or leaving the State following graduation. Inasmuch as a boy, listed as serving in the Armed Forces and whose residential location was not marked, was placed in the "Out of State" group, the 36.82 % given as living out-of-State might be reduced somewhat in significance. Nevertheless, it is rather apparent that a minimum of 25 % are leaving the State for employment elsewhere following high school graduation.

The Northwest District appears to be the district with the largest percentage of graduates farming and in continuing their education. This is very likely due to the larger farms and greater incomes for farmers in Western Oklahoma when compared to the Eastern half of the State.

The percent of those in farming in 1963, 20.32 %, drops to 16.24 % for those graduating in 1959 which indicates that some of the graduates stay at home on the farm for a few years before entering the Armed Forces or seeking employment elsewhere. This is further illustrated by the fact that as the graduates became older a larger number of them were found in off-farm agricultural occupations.

The higher the F. F. A. Degree achieved, the greater chance there is of the graduate entering farming as well as a post high school educational institution. Also, it seems to be as well that the higher the F. F. A. Degree achieved, the more likely a graduate is to remain a State resident and be employed.

The type of residence background a graduate had is apparently quite determinative of his future agricultural relationship. Those with a background of a country farmer had by far the highest percentage not only of those entering farming but those in agriculturally related occupations as well. Opposite to this was the group with the town nonfarming background. The Country nonfarm category was the weakest group agriculturally.

This study indicates that with 29 % of the graduates of vocational agriculture either farming or employed in off-farm agricultural occupations and 12 % enrolled in colleges of agriculture, with the total being 41 %, that our present type of program is serving the needs of this group. It also indicates that we are not meeting the needs of a larger group of the students. Our present day programs in vocational education for the rural youth need to be strengthened in order that they may be better

trained. More studies need to be undertaken in the areas of off-farm agricultural occupations to determine the needs for persons employed in these occupations.

Different types of programs of vocational agriculture are needed in the various areas of the State to meet the specific needs of the individuals concerned. Many of these are due to economical and geographical differences in the areas.

There is also an indication of a special need for that rural student without the farm background. Our present day programs have failed to train him in occupations which are available.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adams, Otis Steele. "A Study of Activities of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Four East Central High Schools." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1942.
- Bender, Ralph Edward. "What's Happening to Ohio's Vocational Agriculture Graduates." Columbus: Ohio State University, 1961.
- Best, Marvin G. "A Study of Former Vocational Agriculture Students of the Whitaker State Home." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1959.
- Gaines, G. E. "A Study of the Activities of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Four West Oklahoma High School." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1942.
- Grimes, Melvin W. "Occupational Status of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture of the Russell Grove School, Amelia, Virginia, From 1951 Through 1960." State College: Pennsylvania State University, 1961.
- Hamburger, John James. "A Survey of Occupational Distribution of Agriculture Graduates of Chilocco Indian School." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1954.
- Joyner, Olen. "A Study of Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in the Mountain View High School." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1954.
- Lefors, Neill. "A Study of 322 Former Vocational Agriculture Pupils Relative to Marks Received, Supervised Farm Training and Leadership, Present Occupation and Income Received." Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1952.
- Nelson, Theodore M. "The Occupational Status of Minnesota Farm Male High School Graduates." Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1961.
- Reid, Richard A. "Occupational Status and Values in Vocational Agriculture Training." Fort Collins: Colorado State University, 1960.
- Wyatt, Windol Lee. "Occupational Status of Former "Chapter" and "State Farmers" in the Iowa Association, Future Farmers of America." Ames: Iowa State University of Science and Technology, 1961.

APPENDIX

LIST OF OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

- A. Farm Service Occupations
  - 1. Artificial inseminator
  - 2. Auctioneer
  - 3. Butcherer
  - 4. Crop duster, sprayer
  - 5. Feed and hammer mill employee
  - 6. Field supervisor (A.S.C.)
  - 7. County agent
  
- B. Farm Machinery Sales & Service Occupations
  - 8. Farm machinery mechanic
  - 9. Welder, general repairman, blacksmith
  - 10. Farm implement agency employee
  
- C. Farm Supplies & Equipment Occupations
  - 11. Farm Hardware/equipment store employee
  - 12. Farm "Co-op" employee
  
- D. Livestock Industry Occupations
  - 13. Apiary inspector
  - 14. Dairy plant employee
  - 15. Egg grader, inspector
  - 16. Livestock auction employee
  - 17. Disease control worker
  - 18. Milk sanitarian/inspector
  - 19. Poultry and egg broker
  - 20. Packing plant employee
  - 21. Poultry processing plant employee
  - 22. Stockyard employee
  - 23. Veterinarian
  
- E. Crops, Forestry & Soil Occupations
  - 24. Field crop, fruit, vegetable inspector
  - 25. Fruit and vegetable produce broker
  - 26. Grain elevator employee
  - 27. Irrigation management employee
  - 28. Lumberman/sawmill employee
  - 29. Soil conservationist/specialist
  - 30. City/State/National forest employee
  - 31. Fertilizer expert/salesman

F. Ornamental Horticulture, Wildlife & Recreation Occupations

32. Florist
33. Game management employee
34. Garden center employee
35. Golf center employee
36. Greenhouse employee
37. Grounds maintenance employee
38. Landscape gardener
39. Nursery employee
40. Tree pruner, surgeon

G. Professional Agricultural Occupations

41. Agricultural chemist
42. Agricultural economist
43. Agricultural teacher/educator
44. Agricultural engineer
45. Agricultural journalist and communications
46. Agronomist
47. Animal scientist
48. Bacteriologist
49. Botanist
50. Entomologist
51. Plant pathologist
52. Rural sociologist
53. Zoologist
54. Insecticide/pesticide expert/salesman
55. Agricultural insurance agent
56. Agricultural banker
57. Farm, ranch worker/laborer

H. Occupations Suggested By The Questionees

58. Rural Electric Co-op
59. Cotton gin employee
60. Veterinarian helper
61. Agricultural truck operator
62. Miscellaneous
63. Custom Combine fleet operator

TABLE XXXIV

CHOICES OF AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS NOT LISTED  
IN TABLES XXVII AND XXVIII

A. S. C. field supervisor	Bacteriologist
Disease control worker	Botanist
Poultry and egg broker	Plant pathologist
Fertilizer expert/salesman	Rural sociologist
Florist	Zoologist
Golf center employee	Insecticide/pesticide
Agricultural economist	expert/salosman





VITA

Ronald Edward Hill

Candidate for the Degree of

Master of Science

Report: THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS AND TRENDS OF OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE GRADUATES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS, CLASSES 1959 to 1963

Major Field: Agricultural Education

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, June 23, 1932, the first son of Earl C. and Freida Craig Hill.

Education: Attended school at Lincoln and Edgemere Grade Schools, Harding Junior High School and Central Senior High School, all of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, graduating in June, 1950; received the Bachelor of Science degree from the Oklahoma State University, with a major in Dairy Production, in June, 1954; studied for a year, 1954-'55, at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, as a Rotary Foundation Fellow; received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey, in May, 1959; and, completed the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in May, 1964.

Professional experience: Worked for a summer (1956) in Peru with the Wycliffe Bible Translators during which five weeks were spent living in total jungle isolation in extreme Eastern Peru, in the heart of the headwater's area of the Amazon River Basin, with three tribes of primitive Indians. Served as Associate Minister/Minister of Christian Education at the First Presbyterian Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 1, 1960 to August 31, 1963.