

FARM MANAGEMENT AREA STUDIES

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The Cooperative Farm Management program is completing its fourth year. Last year vocational agriculture took over the major responsibility for making the farm analysis. Three analysis centers were set up at Thief River Falls, Mankato, and Austin. The area vocational schools provided this service for clerical cost only.

Last years (1955) reports show distinctly different farming patterns in the four areas making analysis reports. One years records do not justify any sweeping generalities. The average Northwest Minnesota cooperator had a larger total acreage but a smaller total investment than did the others. This area showed two distinct types of farming.

The central and southeast areas showed similarity in some of the analysis averages. Other comparisons disclosed rather striking differences. Crops, beef and hogs contributed about two-thirds of the income on the average south central area cooperators farm. Southeast cooperators were dependent upon dairy and hogs for more than three-fifths of their cash income. Size of business and accomplishment per worker were higher on the average southeast Minnesota farms than in other areas.

In the Southeast area there were pronounced differences between the high one-third and low one-third of the cooperators. The high income group had a labor efficiency of 333 work units per worker while the low income group had only 229 work units per worker. Building power and equipment costs per work unit were \$9.53 for the high income group and \$12.24 for the low group. The high income group was 23% above the average in feeding efficiency. The high third of the hog producers got back \$150 for every \$100 worth of feed. The low third got back \$93. The high group got back \$220 for every \$100 worth of feed fed to dairy cows.

The Winona and Duluth area schools will also assume responsibility for analyzing the 1956 records making six analysis centers this year.

A Summary of the 1955 Analysis is included. Vocational agriculture departments participating in the program were:

Alexandria	New Ulm	Stephen
Alberta	Mankato	Karlstad
Cyrus	Watertown	Fosston
Elbow Lake	Waterville	Blackduck
Ivanhoe	St. Peter	Northome
Lake Benton	St. Clair	Austin
Madison	Sherburn	Owatonna
Morris	Lake Wilson	Kenyon
Redwood Falls	Worthington	Byron
Tyler	Thief River Falls	Rochester
Wood Lake	Greenbush	Lake City
Madelia	Roseau	Winona
Lake Crystal	Lancaster	Rushford

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THE FOUR AREA STUDIES

	50 Farms N.W. Minn. (T. R. Falls)	59 Farms S. Cen. Minn. (Mankato)	38 Farms W. Minn. (Morris)	44 Farms S.E. Minn. (Austin)
Acres in Farm	433	211	265	235
Total Farm Capital Dec. 31	\$26245	\$49844	\$39886	\$43095
Work Units	389	335	356	419
Total Farm Receipts	\$ 9774	\$18427	\$12385	\$18078
Total Farm Expenses	\$ 9145	\$16568	\$10709	\$16065
Operator Labor Earnings	\$ 629	\$ 1859	\$ 1676	\$ 2013
CROP YIELDS—				
Oats	39.8	51.9	40.9	50.3
Corn	44.	65.8	45.1	53.7
Wheat	18.4	31.3	24.8	*
Soy Beans	*	25.3	19.8	20.
Percent of land in high return crops	48.6%	65.7%	52.4%	61.6%
Livestock Units per 100 acres	8.4	32.5	14.4	33.9
Work Units per Worker	270	238	254	291
Power, Mach., Equip., and Building Cost per Work Unit	\$ 8.55	\$ 14.24	\$ 9.40	\$ 10.62

SOURCES OF INCOME—

Dairy	\$ 2918	\$ 2664	\$ 2744	\$ 5583
Beef	\$ 261	\$ 3582	\$ 1291	\$ 2362
Hogs	\$ 227	\$ 4359	\$ 2312	\$ 4702
Poultry & Eggs	\$ 473	\$ 1178	\$ 754	\$ 1941
Crops	\$ 3225	\$ 4397	\$ 3626	\$ 2468

* Not enough grown to be reported.

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

The following have paid their MVAIA dues since the last issue of the AG MAN:

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE—

William Alexander	-	-	-	-	Blue Earth
Milton Froelich	-	-	-	-	Sandstone
Anthony Grebenc	-	-	-	-	Cook
Conrad Hauge	-	-	-	-	Hitterdal
Edgar Persons	-	-	-	-	Hoffman
Erling Rognli	-	-	-	-	Le Center
Melvin Salmela	-	-	-	-	Albert Lea
Bertrum Winger	-	-	-	-	Jordan
Herman Winkels	-	-	-	-	Waterville

VETERANS AGRICULTURE—

Hector Hauge	-	-	-	-	Hector
Ralph Jacobson	-	-	-	-	Adrian
Herman Tebben	-	-	-	-	Clara City

AFFILIATE MEMBERS—

Harold Mattson	-	-	-	-	Waseca
Tom Raine	-	-	-	-	Winona
John Soderholm	-	-	-	-	Windom

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS—

Harry Peterson	-	-	-	-	St. Paul
Dean Portinga	-	-	-	-	Willmar
Stanley Sahlstrom	-	-	-	-	St. Cloud