

South Dakota State University

Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange

SDSU Extension Special Series

SDSU Extension

8-1980

Good Neighbors: Cooperative Extension Service 1980 Annual Report

Cooperative Extension Service
South Dakota State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_ss

Recommended Citation

Service, Cooperative Extension, "Good Neighbors: Cooperative Extension Service 1980 Annual Report" (1980). *SDSU Extension Special Series*. 113.

https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_ss/113

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the SDSU Extension at Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in SDSU Extension Special Series by an authorized administrator of Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. For more information, please contact michael.biondo@sdstate.edu.



Cooperative Extension Service
South Dakota State University

SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

MAY 01 1984

1980
Annual Report

LIBRARY

good neighbors



EXTENSION: A LOOK FROM THE INSIDE

Your South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is the non-formal educational arm of our Land Grant University, South Dakota State University. Extension provides educational assistance to farmers, ranchers, homemakers, youth, and community leaders—a function which has continued in South Dakota through about four generations. Extension has built-in characteristics which assure its response to both local needs and those of all levels of government and public decision makers.

CHALLENGES IN THE 80's....

Farmers, ranchers, businessmen, homemakers . . . they're all faced with challenges unlike anything we've experienced in recent memory. Energy supplies and prices are uncertain, and inflation is making it difficult to make necessary decisions.

When Extension's clients face a new set of problems, so do the agents, some economists, specialists, and administrators who serve them. They all face the challenge together.

The remote computer terminal now at many county offices and at county meetings is one approach to solving problems. It is used to develop least-cost feed mixes, to sort out alternatives in purchasing or leasing equipment, and to streamline farm operation budgets. It helps with home budgeting, formulating family diets, and planning for investments. It's useful for water scheduling in irrigation systems, conserving energy through proper insulation, and many other purposes, and it's now at the fingertips of Extension's public.

Several remote terminals are available for loan to county offices without them, but about ten county offices have purchased terminals for their permanent use.

Another tool for delivering information is the telelecture or tele-conference. It's not new, but high energy costs indicate its time has come. Using telephone lines with special telephone equipment, this approach allows a specialist to speak to groups at one or more locations across the state—but without ever leaving his office. And when the delivery of information is cheaper, we can do more for the people.

Not only are delivery methods changing as energy costs rise, but subject matter also is changing. New information is continually being gathered in areas including the conservation of energy, alternate fuels, fuel production from farm crops and livestock residues, converting farm machinery, and minimizing fuel costs in production practices.

There also will be more packaging of information for agents to use in their meetings and training sessions, and there will be more technical training for the agents themselves to enable them to deliver a wider range of topics and use a wider range of delivery systems, including educational and commercial radio and television.

PROGRAM EMPHASIS

South Dakota's Extension agents, specialists, and program assistants serve their neighbors statewide through four educational program areas of emphasis: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Living and Nutrition, 4-H and Youth, and Community Resource Development.

In 1979, the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service's 211 professional and 38 para-professional employees devoted their time to these programs in the following amounts:



PROGRAMS: SERVICE IN FOUR DIRECTIONS

By legislative mandate, Extension offers four areas of service: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Living and Nutrition, 4-H and Youth development, and Community Resources Development. By taking this approach, the legislature assured informational services to virtually every citizen of the state.

Through the areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Extension provides educational programs in the production of livestock and crops, conservation of natural resources, marketing of farm products, and the management of various farming enterprises.

Families are provided information through the Family Living and Nutrition area on basic human nutrition, managing the home, and meeting the various needs of the family.

The 4-H and Youth Development area is a focus for service which promote and develop vocational, avocational, and leadership skills for South Dakota youth and is aimed toward preparing them for their role in agriculture, business, government, and community life.

The educational programs of the Community Resource Development area are designed to aid not only general citizens, but also elected and appointed decision makers of the state. The overall goal is to strengthen the agricultural, business, and industrial base which supports community commerce.



EXTENSION... South Dakota's Good Neighbor

We put the question to several of our friends: "How would you define a good neighbor?" The responses came without hesitation.....

"Well, a good neighbor is someone who's always there when you need him."

"A good neighbor is just like a member of your own family."

"If you keep going back to him for advice when you're in trouble, he's probably a good neighbor."

"He minds his own business, but he's quick to lend a helping hand."

"When he knows you're in trouble, he'll jump right in there."

South Dakotans indeed know what a good neighbor is.

Since it began in this state in 1912, your Cooperative Extension Service and its people have striven to be good neighbors to those they've served.

They were there when the Hessian Fly devastated South Dakota wheat fields. They've demonstrated their concern for youth through 4-H. They've been

quick to respond to the thousands of individual questions asked over the years—questions which often arose from situations which meant economic survival or failure of a farm family.

Extension folks haven't played the role of all-knowing, all-seeing big brother by forcing their ideas down the throats of others; rather, they've demonstrated, shown, and discussed these ideas while leaving the options up to the individual.

And they've always been ready to "jump right in there" when called.

We think Extension's story is a *people story*. It isn't one that can be told with cold, hard figures alone.

This, then, is Extension's Annual Report, a report told in the words of people who could call it their "good neighbor."

—Hollis Hall, Director
South Dakota Cooperative
Extension Service



“4-H GOT US STARTED...”

By Jerry Leslie, Extension Information Specialist

Leonard Cook, 47, and his wife, Estelle, have 1,500 sheep today—all because their children started a 4-H sheep project 14 years ago.

The Cooks' ranch on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation 15 miles from Glad Valley, S.D., and they say that sheep are profitable.

“If it hadn't been for sheep the last three years we probably wouldn't be sitting here right now,” Mr. Cook said.

He is quick to point out that 4-H “got us started in the sheep business.”

In 1965, a neighbor gave their children three “bum lambs to use as a 4-H sheep project. They registered the Rambouillet lambs and raised them, building the flock to 60 ewes before they bought more. “As the girls got married, they took their share of the sheep, or we bought them out,” Cook said.

The Cooks' six children all have had sheep as one of their many 4-H projects. They all have won purple ribbons and exhibited sheep at the State Fair. Two daughters also won enough points in a show at Lemmon, S.D., and at the Western Junior Livestock Show at Rapid City, S.D., to attend the Denver Stock Show twice.

Cook acknowledges that the three “bum” lambs came from good Rambouillet stock, and this helped earn all those ribbons.

The Cooks own a section of land and lease 19 other sections, mostly rangeland, on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation west of Timber Lake, S.D., and east of Bison, S.D. Cook has 200 commercial whitefaced cows and 600 ewes, 250 of which are registered Rambouillets. He sells registered Rambouillet rams. The lambs bring the flock to 1,500.

He also raises 160 acres of oats and 320 acres of alfalfa, all for feed.

The Cooks have six children, Ethel, 22, Dawn, 21, Judy, 20, Lenny, 19, Carol, 18, and Daniel, 17. The daughters all are married.

Cook, who is one-fourth Sioux Indian, began ranching in 1957.

In addition to sheep the children also have had such 4-H projects as cattle, gardening, rabbits, arts and crafts, sewing, range management, and fleeces. They have exhibited the grand champion rams and ewes at Lemmon, S.D., and Ethel won the champion junior sheep showmanship award at the State Fair.

Mrs. Cook was leader of the West River Wranglers 4-H Club for 11 years. She also was secretary of the County 4-H Leaders Association. Mr. Cook was president of the 4-H Leaders Association for two years.

Cook has been a member of the County Extension Advisory Board for five years. In this capacity, he helps choose the Extension agents and home economists that serve the county.

Cook also serves on the board of directors of the Western Junior Livestock Show as a 4-H leader director.

He helped establish the South Dakota Ram Testing Station at Highmore S.D., and recalls working on that project with Herley Miller, Extension sheep specialist, Hollis Hall, South Dakota Director of Extension, Bill Paynter, Hyde County Agent, the late Robert Schubloom, former Hand County Agent, Jim Likness, Former Hughes County Agent, and others. The Ram Testing Station provides information on what new ram will produce in offspring. A ram is tested for its wool production, daily gain, and other points.

Cook has had other contacts with Extension personnel.

“The Extension Service taught me how to figure feed rations and better utilize them,” he said. Specialists and County Agents would use a hall in Glad Valley or Dupree to conduct night classes.

Extension personnel that come to his mind from the classes are Arnold Reickman, Wally Kohers, Neal Vollmer, Joe Minyard, Mick Crandall, Charles McPeake and others. He recalls working with Extension 4-H Youth Specialist Ken Nelson on the Western Junior Livestock Show.

Four-H was beneficial to both parents and children.



Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Cook, Glad Valley, inspect their flock of Rambouillet sheep. Cook acknowledges that "4-H got us started in the sheep business."

Besides providing the beginning of a sheep herd, "we learned how to raise them together." Cook said that neither he nor his wife were in 4-H as children. Through 4-H, the Cooks and their children "learned how to better evaluate livestock," he said.

"I'm sure 4-H taught the children to be around other people. It also taught them responsibility. Our rule was that they had to do their own work on their 4-H projects. They raised the sheep they've shown. We've never bought any for the kids to show in competition."

"Should Extension and 4-H be abolished or cut back?" Cook was asked.

"That's the worst thing that could happen. What else would my kids have had? If it hadn't been for 4-H we wouldn't have 600 ewes today. We learned with our kids. When the neighbors were lambing, we went over and learned. I didn't know anything about sheep

until we moved out here." He concluded, "No. If anything, it should be increased. There are a 'jillion' little programs you could eliminate other than the Extension Service."

The Cooks sat in their new home, looking out the window at Thunder Butte, contemplating how the S.D. Cooperative Extension Service had touched their lives. And they agreed they were friends of Extension.



"BEING PART OF AN EXTENSION CLUB HELPED BRING ME OUT OF MY SHELL..."

By Dave Bartels, Extension Journalism Intern

A new Extension Homemakers Club, the Touch-Tones, was organized in Sioux Falls, S.D., last summer by the Minnehaha County cooperative Extension Service. The club does not differ from the 59 other Extension Homemakers Clubs in the county, except all its members are legally blind.

Mrs. Dwayne Hartmann, president of the new club, got the idea of starting a club for the visually handicapped two years ago, after spending several years in the Crafty Crew Extension Homemakers Club in Sioux Falls.

"At first I felt very insecure in the Crafty Crew Club because of my handicap," said Mrs. Hartmann. Since joining, she has held every office in the club at least once.

"Being part of an Extension Homemakers Club helped bring me out of my shell, I guess you could say," Mrs. Hartmann said. "I decided to start the new club because I knew there were other people in the community with the same handicap who could benefit from the Extension program like I have."

There are six women in the club now and several other prospective members, said the president.

The Touch-Tone Club is the newest, but not the only group of handicapped people that the Minnehaha County Extension Service directly or indirectly works with.

The Cooperative Extension Service in Minnehaha County also has responded to the needs of area deaf people. The Extension Office has a teletypewriter (TTY) machine, the telephone of the deaf person.

With the machine, deaf persons can use many services offered by Extension. The caller can ask questions about nutrition, lawn and garden problems, can-

ning, or family communications just like anyone else.

Handicapped people in Minnehaha County also benefit from the youth-education part of the Cooperative Extension Service, the 4-H program.

The South Dakota School for the Deaf in Sioux Falls is the home of the Pheasant Girls 4-H Club. This year, the girls learned basic sewing skills, gave demonstrations, and built a plant hanger for the school.

Darlene Runyan, leader of the club, said, "The girls are getting a lot out of 4-H. They're learning parliamentary procedure at the meetings and are learning to communicate better by giving demonstrations and working together on projects."

The leader added, "We're at a disadvantage because the school is not in session during the summer, which is the most active time for a 4-H club."

The club is planning to help older deaf people in Sioux Falls as a community service project.

At the Crippled Childrens Hospital and School in Sioux Falls, 21 children are members of the Mapleton Beavers 4-H Club.

Marian Nilsson, club leader, said, "The kids enjoy working on the projects we have for them during the meetings."

The club needs more leaders, the leader said. "These kids need extra attention, and a male leader or assistant would be a big help to my daughter and me and would draw more boys at the school into the club too."

Bernie Eirenberg, 62, Sioux Falls, has multiple sclerosis. He also benefits from 4-H in Minnehaha County, but in another way.



The Crippled Children's Hospital and School in Sioux Falls is the home of the Mapleton Beavers 4-H Club. "The kids enjoy working on the projects we have for them during the meetings," said Marian Nilsson, club leader

The Having Fun 4-H Club, lead by Marv Selnes, was started 10 years ago in Sioux Falls. As a community service project, the club wanted to help someone in the neighborhood. They picked Eirenberg.

For the past 10 years, the Having Fun members have done all the yard work at Eirenberg's house,

have put up and taken down storm windows, and have done other chores for the man.

The members do more than household chores, though. Occasionally, they will stop to visit Eirenberg on their way to and from school or on weekends. They have taken him places and he, in turn, has taken them places. Eirenberg is more than someone to help. The members feel he is their friend.

"The kids have been just great," said Eirenberg. "It's nice to have someone to help when you need them."



“I MAKE USE OF EVERYTHING I LEARN . . .”

By Deanna Boone, Extension Information Specialist

Ruth Little Eagle's home near Bullhead, S.D., is a favorite for visitors. She's a good cook, and she makes everyone feel welcome. But, more than that, she usually has something new to discuss, to share, or to demonstrate.

It may be a recent upholstery workshop she attended or it could be a sewing class, an accessory demonstration, a gardening lecture, or a talk on canning, decoupage, or macrame.

Events like these, connected with the Standing Rock Indian Reservation Cooperative Extension Office, provide Ruth and others a continuing supply of ways to improve their homes.

She first attended such Extension-sponsored functions in March, 1975, at the invitation of her sister-in-law, Madeline Little Eagle—an Extension program assistant “And I make use of everything I learn,” Ruth commented.

Primarily because of great distances between neighbors, there aren't many Extension homemaker clubs in the Bullhead area. Instead, local Dakotah women gather each Thursday at nearby St. John's Episcopal Church for sewing club. The club is sponsored by Standing Rock Community College and features instructions on quilting and sewing aprons and dresses and an array of equipment and supplies for the homemakers to practice their new skills.

Both Ruth and her mother are diabetics, and she faces a continuing challenge in devising menus which not only meet their special needs, but which also taste good to other family members and guests. Dietary techniques acquired through the Extension Service have helped her a great deal, she indicated.

She not only welcomes friends and family to her table, but also offers her kitchen and home for homemaking demonstrations by Madeline or by Maryls Jundt, area Extension Home Economist.

“Ruth always has room for us to demonstrate techniques to other homemakers,” Madeline explained. “When I come unexpectedly and say that we have no place for a food demonstration, she always gives us the go-ahead.

Ruth's family and friends help promote the demonstration. A sister draws posters, and a neighbor distributes them around the community. A daughter prepares the family meal if the demonstration runs late.

Maryls notes, “Bullhead has the best adult attendance on the Reservation, thanks to Ruth's help.” Madeline also credits Ruth for furnishing part of the food used—especially when supplies run short.

And Ruth herself has earned a reputation as an innovative cook. Others have copied her recipe for Indian tacos using flour, shortening, canned meat, pinto beans, cheese, lettuce, and tomatoes—most of which are readily available foods in the community.

“I usually make a dozen of the yeast-dough tacos, and sometimes more to be ready for unexpected guests,” she said.

Madeline explained, “Everyone from out of town makes Ruth's house the first stop when they come



Ruth Little Eagle first attended Extension sponsored functions at the invitation of her sister-in-law, Madeline, an Extension program assistant. “I want to keep going to class to learn more and more each time,” stated Ruth.

here, and the hospitality of Ruth and her husband Cecil is a measure of prestige. It is an Indian tradition to be generous to friends and relatives, and that's just what this family is."

Cecil and Ruth are noted for their quiet leadership in the community, and they take great pride in their home constructed in 1970.

"I try to keep the house looking as nice as I can," Ruth said. And while Cecil has tried diligently to establish lawn, trees, and a productive garden, the grasshoppers and the hard clay soil make this a real challenge.

Grasshoppers cleaned out their radishes three times last season and left only the sweet corn, according to Cecil.

But the Little Eagle family has persevered, and they take pride in learning ways to improve their lives. They've taken an active interest in Extension Service instruction on the handling and preservation of food, control of household and garden pests, first aid, and consumer labels on food and clothing.

Their plans don't stop there, either. Next in line is refinishing furniture, making drapes, carpentry, and mechanics. "I want to keep going to class to learn more and more each time," Ruth stated.

The husband-and-wife team already has taken lessons on upholstery and have recovered a living room sofa and chairs for the kitchen. "It's so expensive to buy new furniture, so it's good to learn how to



Techniques acquired through the Cooperative Extension Service help Ruth in planning a menu that is suitable to her needs as a diabetic, and still tastes good to the rest of her family.

make the old seem like new," Ruth added. Cecil is a carpenter in the Comprehensive Employment Training Assistance (CETA) program on the Reservation—a skill that comes in handy during their reupholstery projects.

Meanwhile, the Little Eagle family continues to exert its quiet leadership in the community by acquiring new skills and demonstration and sharing those skills with others.



“NOBODY’S GOING TO GET THAT INFORMATION OTHERWISE . . .”

By Jerry Leslie, Extension Information Specialist

E.C. “Tommy” Thomsen, a Pierre, S.D., nurseryman, florist, and garden-center operator, believes he gets his “tax dollar’s worth” from his local County Extension Office and from an Extension horticulturist in Brookings, S.D.

Over the years, Thomsen has worked closely with both Hughes County Agent Bob Edwards of Pierre and Dean Martin of Brookings, Extension horticulturist at South Dakota State University.

They have relied on one another to answer questions and pass on knowledge to Pierre area gardeners and lawnkeepers.

The list of questions from the growing ranks of gardeners finally grew so long that the Extension Service hired a horticulture student as a summer intern last year to answer them. The horticulture intern in the Hughes County Extension Office greatly relieved the pressure of answering phone calls, said Thomsen.

Thomsen’s flowershop and garden center gets 10 to 15 calls a day during the growing season with questions about lawn and garden problems.

“A lot we try to answer ourselves, but there are a lot of questions we can’t answer without seeing the problem firsthand,” said Thomsen.

“We refer a lot of calls to the Extension Office. Besides referring calls, Thomsen ends up making three-to-five calls a week to the Extension Office.

Had hiring the intern taken a load off his staff? “You bet it did,” said Thomsen.

He told how the student intern, Janet Henderson, an SDSU junior, came to be hired. Thomsen and Edwards were talking over the caseload of questions one day and developed the idea. Edwards followed up. Extension Service Director Hollis Hall went to Pierre

and visited with the two “and we got it done.” Said Thomsen, “I think it is well worth it.”

Next, he would like to see Extension hire someone to service strictly greenhouse operators’ needs.



Pierre nurseryman E.C. “Tommy” Thomsen approves of Extension efforts in bringing research results to the public. “Nobody’s going to get that information otherwise—unless they go to SDSU for a week at a time.”

Presently, he said, the Extension horticulturist serves the rank-and-file gardeners. He also would like to see a professional green house operator hired by the Extension Service to serve greenhouses.

Besides dealing with the County Extension Office, Thomsen has worked with Extension Horticulturist Martin. "We work garden club meetings and education shows together.

"For example, I used to obtain the Pierre National Bank basement for a garden program. Merchants would advertise, and people would come to hear Martin and learn what they could."

Besides seeing the benefits of one facet of the Extension Service, Thomsen helped secure new greenhouses for SDSU after meeting three times with the Joint Appropriations Committee of the South Dakota Legislature.

Said Thomsen, plans are being made for a new head house and greenhouses to replace the present ones at SDSU.

Asked why he made this effort, Thomsen replies, "to get some students interested in the horticulture business so we might have some chance to get some young people to work for us. We now have one SDSU grad working for us fulltime."

He added, "There is no end to the experimental research work that can go on in this business."

He also said that many of the present SDSU greenhouse buildings "are about ready to fall down, and they can't afford to heat them the way they are."

Thomsen said he believes in the Extension method of disseminating results of research to the public around the state through county agents and Extension specialists. "Nobody's going to get that information otherwise—unless they go to SDSU and stay a week at a time."

Should the county agent and the Extension specialist become a thing of the past? Of Dean Martin and Bob Edwards, Thomsen said, "I know some of my taxes are going to pay their salary. I don't resent that. I get more for my money there than most any other place."



“THEY KNOW WHAT THEY’RE DOING . . .”

By Angie Karn, Extension Journalism Intern

Forrest H. “Shorty” Ireland had some good cattle when he started his ranch 33 years ago but not the outstanding quality found in the Ireland Angus Ranch herd today. It took years of learning, breeding, and experience to earn his reputation as a top cattleman, and he has found his Cooperative Extension Service always ready to help.

Ireland has spent nearly all his life in South Dakota ranching. He married his wife, Betty, in 1942, and bought his land from his father in 1956. The land is located near Belvidere, S.D., in what was formerly Washabaugh County. Ireland’s two eldest sons still live on the ranch and are partners with their father. Jerry and his wife, Dorothy, have three children, while Howard and his wife, Kathy, have five. The wives help with the bookkeeping, and the grandchildren, according to Ireland, help a little with everything.

The Irelands have four other children: Kenneth, Connie, Harold, and Ronald. They are all married and have 12 children among them, making a total of 20 grandchildren for Mr. and Mrs. Ireland. Except for Connie, who lives in Denver, all the children live on ranches near the home place.

The Ireland ranch is 3,492 acres, with 1,000 planted to alfalfa and forage crops, and the remainder in range and improved pasture. Ireland leases 1,615 acres of rangeland.

The Irelands increased their involvement with the Cooperative Extension Service when Jerry started in 4-H 25 years ago. They then heard more about the programs being offered and attended classes such as “10 Steps to Planning the Farm and Ranch Business,” which they say were very helpful.

Ireland began with Herefords but switched to Angus cattle in 1953. He credits the Extension Service with providing him the guidelines for his entire livestock improvement program—a program which has developed into one of the finest in the country.

Following Extension advice, he began production testing his herd in 1961; the cows have been artificially inseminated since 1964. Ireland keeps excellent records on every cow and bull in the herd, allowing him to keep close track on their performance. “In the breeding profession, you’ve got to breed cattle that produce pounds,” he said. Ireland selects for more efficiency and faster gaining cattle in his program. His steers have out-gained competing steers by an average of a half-pound per day in four steer tests, and in eight bull tests the Ireland bulls also were the top gainers.

Ireland follows a rigid selection program, culling a percentage of each age group in the fall to keep the size of the herd constant. He said he is more interested in a better cow herd than a larger one, so the herd has always been kept at about 250 head. He fattens all culled cattle to sell locally, and keeps about three of the top bull calves every year.

The Beef Handbook provided by the Extension Service also is an important tool for the Irelands, because it keeps them current on research progress.

In 1977, Shorty was honored as “Commerical Breeder of the Year” at a national convention in Bozeman, Montana, for the excellence of his cattle operation and his deep involvement in community and state organizations.

He held offices in several of these organizations. He was chairman of the State Cooperative Extension



Forrest H. "Shorty" Ireland has utilized Extension publications, classes, and specialists' recommendations as aids in improving the outstanding quality of his cattle. "We work with

our county agent and use a lot of program specialists from South Dakota State University," Ireland said.

Service Advisory Board in 1973 and was a member from 1972 to 1975.

He was Chairman of the Jackson-Washabaugh County Extension Board from 1970 until its recent reorganization.

The other Irelands also are involved with Extension. Kenny and Howard both have been 4-H leaders; Howard presently is vice president of the State 4-H Board. Nearly all the grandchildren are in 4-H and have won purple ribbons for showing Ireland Angus calves.

One can count on seeing at least one Ireland at nearly all of the field days, workshops, meetings, and other activities hosted by the Extension Service, according to Mick Crandall, area Extension specialist. Betty said she has seen Extension offer many programs she would like to attend, such as upholstery and sewing classes, but being a full-time grandma for about 20 youngsters seems to take most of her time. "We work with our county agent and use a lot of the program specialists from South Dakota State University," Shorty said. "They know what they're doing."

The Cooperative Extension Service helped many people, including the Irelands, during the 1979 grasshopper plague in South Dakota. Grasshoppers literally covered entire plants and even clung to the side of the house, eating the paint. The Irelands worked with their county Extension agent and participated in the spraying program then offered. It saved their ranges from being devastated, Ireland said.

By working together, both the Irelands and the Extension Service have benefitted from the cooperative relationship. The Irelands have received some valuable help and advice, and the Cooperative Extension Service has received their support and enthusiasm.



“I COULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH MORE MILK THE COWS GAVE...”

By Alan Moreland, Extension Journalism Intern

Beverly Burnham's dairy operation near Winner, S.D., is getting better all the time, and she thinks that is just fine. Her operation improved so much between January and December, 1978, that she received the Dairy Herd Improvement Association's 1979 Most Improved Award in the owner-sampler category.

“I knew we had improved, but I never dreamed we would be recognized for helping ourselves. We still have a long way to go, but as long as we keep going forward, we are all right,” she said.

The secret to her success is simple: hard work by Mrs. Burnham and her three children, excellent help from her hired man, Gerry Garner, and a willingness to use the services provided by the Cooperative Extension Office.

Mrs. Burnham took over the sole operation of the farm in 1974 when her husband died.

Presently, she has 100 head of dairy cows in her herd, a size with which she is comfortable. Garner has 13 cows which he runs with the herd. Mrs. Burnham farms more than 2,000 acres, 680 of which are rented. Except for having to buy some corn, the family raises all necessary feed.

Dave Wonnenburg, Tripp County Extension Agent, described the Burnham dairy operation as “progressive.” He said Mrs. Burnham does not hesitate to seek outside assistance when it is needed, and that she is always willing to try something new if it will help.

“You can always count on either she or Garner being at the informational workshops we have,” Wonnenburg added.

“We usually try to attend all of the classes, and we are always ready for something new. We often go in to the county office to pick up the latest fact sheets,” she said.

The habit of using the Extension services was learned early, according to Mrs. Burnham. She said that when she and her husband moved to their farm from Nebraska in 1952, they used Extension informa-

tion to help move and renovate an old school house which now is part of the family home.

In 1977, she was concerned that the milk production was not what it should be. “We had been doing artificial breeding and were working with third and fourth generation cows, yet we had no improvement. We had our feed analyzed several times, and there was no problem there, so we contacted the Extension Service at South Dakota State University for assistance,” she explained.

Acting on her request, Myers Owens, Extension dairyman, and Dr. Clyde Kirkbride (DVM) of SDSU's Veterinary Science Department, went to the Burnham farm to evaluate the operation.

“When they saw the milking machine, they laughed. They said it was awful,” she explained with a smile. “Basically, there was not enough vacuum. They said we were doing well to get as much milk as we had been.”



Since acting on recommendations made by Extension specialists, Beverly Burnham has witnessed great improvement in her dairy operation. “I think a big problem facing Extension is getting people to recognize its worth and use it.”



Hired man Gerry Garner also approves of the Extension Service, and believes it should expand. "The Extension people are overworked and they can't get around as quickly as they would like because of the shortage of help."

Owens and Kirkbride recommended a new system which included new vacuum pumps, larger two-inch vacuum and milk lines, and a receiving jar. The changes cost about \$7,000 and took some time to complete, but, by February, 1978, they had a new milking system.

"We noticed an improvement immediately. I couldn't believe how much more milk the cows gave. The milk went up an average of ten pounds per cow. Before, the cows were not milking like they should, and had only one-to-two months of peak production. Now, they average four months," she said.

"We really appreciated the specialists coming down, but I hated to invest the money at first. But we had tried everything else we could; we had good cows and good feed. The new machinery paid for itself twice over in the first year, though," she added.

Using DHIA figures on Beverly's herd, Owens said that, with the new system, the herd's 1978 output increased by 2,114 pounds of milk and 144 pounds of fat per cow.

"Our recommendations may have been related to her success, but she deserves most of the credit because recommendations are worthless unless someone acts on them," Owens said.

Mrs. Burnham said that though she had been involved with the Extension Office for many years, she did not really realize how much help they could provide until she had her milking machine checked. She now has several more projects in mind for Extension Service assistance.

One problem is losing calves to a still-unknown form of viral pneumonia. "We have lost about a third of our calves this year, and even the vet couldn't figure out what the problem was. So Gerry took one of the calves to the University, and their veterinary scientists developed a vaccine especially for our herd. We are trying what they recommended and are waiting to see what happens," she said.

Other projects include starting a swine operation and putting up a new milking and free-stall barn.

Though running the farm keeps everyone busy, there is still time for other activities. Mrs. Burnham has been a member of the local Extension Club for nearly 20 years and says she has been involved in nearly all of the home economics projects available during that period.

Her three children, Brian, 18, Bonnie, 16 and Bretta, 13, have been involved in 4-H. "They are all very competitive, and have won several awards," she said.

She is a whole-hearted backer of the Extension Service, and she is concerned when she sees other people not using it as it should be used. "I think a big problem facing Extension is to get people to recognize its worth and to use it. It's already paid for, but most farmers are very independent and set in their ways," she said.

Gerry Garner also thinks Extension is a very worthwhile service. "The Extension people are overworked, and they can't get around as quickly as they would like because of the shortage of help. I believe it is important for Extension to expand and get more people out into the field to work with the farmers," he said.

Mrs. Burnham is a planner and very enthusiastic about her farm. "I thought, after my husband died, that if I could stay in the same spot, I would be doing all right. Well, I found out that in this business, you don't stand still, and I'm not about to go backwards."

With lots of hard work and some help from the Cooperative Extension Service, she and her family plan to keep moving ahead.



“NUTRITION REALLY COUNTS...”

By Deanna Boone, Extension Information Specialist

Nutrition really counts in the John Nelson family at Aberdeen, S.D., after their experience with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

Mrs. Nelson, Mary Jane, prepares balanced meals and keeps nutritious snacks on hand: apples, plums, German fried bread, and ice cream.

“You know, the girls aren't sick very often and we get few colds,” Nelson said.

Helen, 7, and Cheryl, 5, were the reason why their parents became involved in Extension's EFNEP program. When their youngest child was a baby, John learned about an Extension-sponsored baby clinic through which Cheryl got preventive shots.

From that beginning, Fay Anderson, Brown County Extension program assistant, convinced Mary Jane to attend monthly EFNEP meetings for homemakers.

Although the emphasis is on nutrition, Mary Jane also learns about food preservation, making jam and sauerkraut, the use of a pressure canner, use and care of a sewing machine, gardening, budgeting, color schemes, human development, games for children, poison prevention, and fire prevention.

“The meetings are so good that I take friends with me to acquaint them with Extension,” Mrs. Nelson explained.

The Nelson husband-wife team have an interest in improving their lives and those of their children. After a fire prevention meeting, Mary Jane passed on the cautions to John, and the two purchased two smoke alarms, three fire extinguishers and a fire escape ladder for their two-story home, “all with the hope that we will never need them,” Nelson added.

The service part of the Cooperative Extension Service is what impresses the two Brown County residents.

“We have had questions, and, within a week, the Extension agents have an answer that satisfies our needs,” they agreed. “We aren't afraid to ask questions when we don't know an answer, and I think it helps others when we do,” John said.

After Mary Jane preserves the foods which she raises in her backyard garden, cooks meals for the family, keeps house, and participates in the Extension lessons, she also finds time to clean for a downtown business and to run a day-care center. Licensed for two years, she has an additional seven-year-old girl Monday through Friday who reaps the



Through participation in EFNEP, the John Nelson family has become more aware of good nutrition. “The meetings are so good, I take friends with me to acquaint them with Extension,” explained Mrs. Nelson.

benefits of the Extension training with the rest of the family.

Convinced of the value of the Extension program, Mary Jane willingly serves on a planning committee which meets annually to determine future programming. "I'd like to see lessons on entomology and the growing, care, and arranging of flowers," Mary Jane suggested.

Interested as Mary Jane is, she'll work to get those programs that will have a value to her fellow South Dakotans, Fay believes.

Even the children have an interest in learning things that will help them lead good, healthy, and safe lives. Brown County children aged 7 to 14 are invited to attend "Food 'n Fun," where they learn to work with and appreciate foods. Helen and Cheryl have

prepared radish roses, carrot curls, celery fans, fruit gelatin, and shaped buns.

"We had a couple boys with us in day care who really didn't want to go when I first suggested Food 'n Fun," Mary Jane said, "but they went and ended up getting a lot out of it."

The chance to learn—at any age—is what Extension offers . . . a service to the people of South Dakota, Fay said.



“TOURISM NEEDS EVEN MORE OF THE SERVICES . . .”

By Angie Karn, Extension Journalism Intern

If it is important to the people of South Dakota, it interests South Dakota's Cooperative Extension Service. That helps explain why Extension—most often associated with agriculture and home economics—also has done extensive work and research in tourism, one of the state's major industries.

Before 1977, there were three tourist-oriented organizations in South Dakota: the Restaurant Association, the Innkeepers Association, and the Campground Association. Ed Glasgow, Rapid City, S.D., was executive director of all three organizations, and he felt the tourist industry would be better organized and coordinated if an “umbrella” organization was formed. The Hospitality Association resulted, and Glasgow was made its president.

The Cooperative Extension Service in Rapid City had a Community Development of Recreation and Leisure program, but Glasgow wasn't then aware of it. Arnold Bateman, area Extension Rural Development Specialist, contacted Glasgow, and the two have cooperated on projects ever since.

“Arnold has done some tremendously significant studies for the South Dakota tourist industry,” Glasgow said. He named various projects they have worked on together, such as helping individual owners of motels and campgrounds determine accurate rates, motel management workshops at five locations across the state, and a series of energy management seminars for restaurants and motels.

The Hospitality Association convention, held each February in Rapid City, has been well-attended in the two years the Association existed, and Bateman has played a key role in aiding Glasgow and others make it a productive experience for members.

Richard Kirsch, owner of the KOA campground in Interior, S.D., said he attended a trees and grasses seminar at the 1978 convention and felt he learned enough there alone to justify the expense of his trip. Kirsch is now chairman of the seminar committee and was involved in originating the Hospitality Association. He is also the first vice president of the South Dakota Campground Owners Association and says the Extension Service has helped the campground business considerably through periodic statistics on campgrounds that show others the significance of the travel industry to South Dakota.

Ted Husted, owner of the famed Wall Drug store, also has attended the conventions. “I didn't have to be asked. I was glad to participate,” Husted said. “It was a good step forward.” Husted plans to stay involved with the Hospitality Association, saying that tourism needs even more of the services and strengths it offers.

In Rapid City, the Chamber of Commerce was aided by the Cooperative Extension Service in organizing a hospitality training program with the theme, “Friendly Rapid City.” In it, waitresses, service station attendants, and others who deal with the public attended classes to learn more about their city.

According to Rosemary Knecht, administrative assistant in the Chamber, the program has been very successful. Mayor Art LaCroix thought the program was such a good idea that he had all city employees take the course. Firemen even painted the "Friendly Rapid City" slogan on their new fire station.

Mrs. Knecht said Extension also helped by providing research brochures used in the classes.

State Travel Director Bill Honerkamp commended the Extension Service for its part in the hospitality training, and added that Extension also played an important role in trade promotion and research.

Honerkamp credited Arnold Bateman with doing some excellent studies in the tax revenue area. "The tourist is a very slippery fellow to measure; he spends his money in the same places you and I do," he said. "Extension has made good efforts toward isolating the tourist portion of our revenue from other income."

In the trade promotion area, Honerkamp said Extension has done well in helping citizens of tourist attraction areas to understand tourism. He said citizens often have a hard time making the distinction between the colorful brochures put out by the attractions and the "nuts and bolts" of the tourist industry. "It is important that they make this distinction," he said, "that's what the tourist industry is: money, not just fun."

"The Extension Service also provides good public relations through speeches, brochures, and press releases," Honerkamp added.



“SMALL FAMILY FARMERS REALLY MATTER . . .”

By Jacqueline Ullery, Information Specialist

Dale Wiitala, Deuel County Extension agent, pulled his truck into Earl Wilson's barnyard. Wilson slid in beside him, and the truck bumped along Wilson's pasture road. They talked buckbrush, American wormwood, and alfalfa. They agreed the pasture had improved. Small family farmers like Wilson really matter to the S.D. Cooperative Extension Service.

Back at the house again, Wilson's wife, Doris, brought a new calf from pasture for Wiitala to see. Later, Wilson revved up his new chain saw for the agent's benefit.

Wilson, who farms two quarter sections near Revillo, S.D., is proud of that saw, the trees that line his creek, and a lot more. Yet, new fancy feedlots, machinery fresh from the implement dealer, and corporate balance sheets are not a part of Wilson's farm. Wilson and a third to a half of the total farmers in South Dakota, live the life of the small family farmer.

Central to that life for the Wilsons is 4-H, an Extension sponsored youth organization.

"We live 4-H," according to Mrs. Wilson, who began 4-H work as a small girl when she walked many miles to attend 4-H meetings. A volunteer 4-H leader for 16 years, she enthusiastically tells about the 4-H'er who said, "I feel like I have two mothers," and about another child so impressed with making and eating chocolate pudding at a 4-H meeting that she asked if she could stay all night at the leader's house.

When her husband thinks back over his six years of 4-H leadership, he envisions smudgy-janed 4-H'ers draped in, around, and under a car or tractor in need of repair.

"And the youngest kids always got to wash the parts," he says with a chuckle. "But what better way is there for them to learn to know a valve gasket from a piston?"

That's how his own children learned vehicles, too, explains this man who treasures do-it-yourselfing.

"My three children haven't had new cars handed to them," Wilson says. And washing parts led to

something more for them. Son Martin, a junior at South Dakota State University, Brookings, is majoring in mechanized agriculture. Older son Kenneth graduated from SDSU and is an instructor at a technical institute in Watertown.

Daughter Paula, a high school junior, has followed in her brothers' footsteps by being heavily involved in 4-H. In her years of 4-H, she completed more than 250 exhibits for the county fair.

According to Wiitala, "Paula is so involved with 4-H work all year that she completes several projects a week."

Ask Paula about almost any of the hundreds of possible 4-H projects available and she's ready to tell an experience—like the time her brother said, "I gotta go now," when offered her Farmer's Hawaiian Sandwiches. Or how her brother refused to take her



Theentire Wilson family has been involved withthe Extension Service. Mrs. Wilson, a volunteer 4-H leader for 16 years,has used home economics, horticulture, and other information, and daughter Paula has completed over 250 4-H projects for the county fair.

4-H chickens to the fair in his car, but somehow, when he arrived at school that day, he heard clucking in the trunk. Of course, to keep his car neat he then had to deliver the chickens to their cages at the fair.

Before the county agent prepared to end his visit that day, Mrs. Wilson pulled her son's 4-H weed project from a high cabinet. Years ago, that project "got us all so weed conscious around this place."

The Wilsons know that the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is the guiding force behind 4-H, and they've also used many other Extension resources.

Ken Wilson worked in Wiitala's office as county weed supervisor and became skilled in using Extension and other materials about this subject. Through Extension, the elder Wilson discovered Travois alfalfa and became the first in his county to establish it in his pastures. Mrs. Wilson grows and cans food for her family and has used home economics, horticulture, and other information time and again, not only for herself but for 4-H groups.

That's not to imply that the Wilsons only take from Extension; they also have supported it as in their combined 22 years of volunteer 4-H leadership. The Wilsons are not alone in such involvement, however. Last year, 4,000 adult leaders worked with South Dakota's 22,000 4-H'ers.

No two small family farmers, or any other farmers, would manage the same land and resources in exactly the same way. But, collectively, small family farmers have been voicing some special needs and, as in the past, the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is responding.

Last year, Extension—with the Farm and Home Administration, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Soil Conservation Service and the Community Services Administration and Action Agency—joined a new effort for small farmers called the Small Farm Assistance Program.

Laurel L. Howe, who heads South Dakota's Extension efforts in this program, explains that one of the problems small farmers have expressed is "what agency does a small farmer contact—and for what need?" The state committee for this program has published "Small Farm Opportunities," a quick reference for the services available from these agencies. A copy can be obtained from their county offices.

For example, under the Extension section, readers can find help with crop varieties, soil management, weed control, livestock, farm buildings, forestry, safety, food, and family housing.

According to Howe, another part of the program begun last fall was the establishment of a demonstration project in Charles Mix County which later was selected as one of 10 areas in the nation to try a model program. Initially 50, and eventually 300, interested families may participate.

In this county, each of the involved agencies has stepped up assistance to small farmers.

The Farm and Home Administration will provide additional funds targeted for farm ownership and operating and housing loans. Extension will maintain its ongoing farm resources management, and other areas.

SCS has expanded its services by adding a soils technician to this district, and ASCS has earmarked additional funds for cost sharing of conservation practices. The South Central Community Action Agency will provide emergency fuel assistance, help with home weatherization, and family-need outreach program.

This project is planned to continue through fiscal years 1980 and 1981, according to Howe.

In another part of the new program, small farm advisory boards have been named in each of 57 counties of the state. Each consists of five couples, representing the small farmers of the county, who will act as a "sounding board" for better communication to local, state, and national leaders.

According to Tom Yaggie, a small farmer advisory member near Mission Hill, S.D., his board is so new that its members are still considering several approaches.

"But I'm quite curious about it," he says. "We're discussing a lot of different ideas... This program could lead to something important for us."

Whether it's a new program or Dale Wiitala encouraging Earl Wilson to try a new crop variety—Extension cares about small family farmers in South Dakota.



“WE JUST WEREN'T GOING TO TAKE 'NO' FOR AN ANSWER . . .”

By Jacqueline Ullery, Information Specialist

A Clear Lake, S.D., couple knows well the special brand of give and take that often characterizes the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service and the people who use that service.

Leon and Elizabeth (Liz) Begalka, owners and operators of Sodak Gardens Floral and Nursery, have found help through Extension for getting their Easter lilies to bloom at the right time, curing leaf scorch on apples trees, solving heating problems in the greenhouse, and more.

And Extension has found some experienced floral and nursery judges, volunteer 4-H leaders, and facilities for an educational tour by visiting nurserymen from Finland at the Begalkas.

This special relationship between Extension and the Begalkas started many years ago, even before they began their nursery near Clear Lake in 1954.

“This is how we started,” says Mrs. Begalka as she holds up a photograph of the first sign post of Sodak Gardens originally surrounded by flat barren prairie.

Those beginnings weren't easy.

“But Leon has a do or die attitude about establishing this business,” says Liz, a former school teacher from Pennsylvania. And they went to work.

Indeed, a stop at their well-cared-for facilities is quick proof of that. They offer nursery, greenhouse, and floral services to an area of the state which might not otherwise have these services with its limited population.

Though more employees help out now, the business began as a family one and remains with a family atmosphere. Follow Liz to the front of the floral shop in

the summer, and she may stop to gather your opinion about two pots of red petunias.

“Which of these two reds do you like best?” she asks and then goes on to explain that she's deciding which varieties to offer to customers next year.

The Begalka children know the life of the family nursery operation, too. Though now Dorothy is a speech-theater major at South Dakota State University, Tim is in horticulture, and Kathy is a sophomore in high school—they've all been interested in hor-



Leon and Elizabeth (Liz) Begalka have had a give-and-take relationship with the Extension Service for many years. They have taken advantage of Extension publications, classes, and 4-H participation, and have served as 4-H leaders nursery judges, and have lent their facilities for an educational tour. “I send a lot of people with nursery-type questions to Leon,” explains county agent Dale Willala.

ticulture and won 4-H honors in that and other interest areas.

The parents remember the time young Dorothy answered the phone with, "Sodak Gardens and Nursery *Rhymes*," and, at age 10, Kathy was making long distance orders and getting such comments as, "Your daddy sure has a good helper."

Tim works full-time at his parents' operation in the summer. His parents say he's especially particular about all the records they must keep.

Through the years, the Begalkas have had many of the same kinds of problems that farmers and others experience with variations in plants, soils, water, and climate.

Leon knows many horticulture and other Extension specialists at SDSU; he graduated from there in horticulture himself. He visits with them about problems, and when a nursery or greenhouse related educational meeting is scheduled at the university, Leon almost always is there.

In his own Deuel County, he has helped with local landscape clinics and volunteered time with dozens of other 4-H and Extension activities.

"I've had a lot of help from Dale Wiitala, our county agent," says Begalka.

"And I send a lot of people with nursery-type questions to Leon," explains Wiitala.

"I'm somewhat protective of these Extension publications," says Begalka as he pulls a sample from a high rack. "Some of these are not even printed any more, but they come in pretty handy sometimes when people come in with puzzling questions."

Begalka's energy extends beyond the business to personal gardens, which represent a large collection of fruit and vegetable varieties for the area.

But the Begalkas obviously are very active in other ways too. Leon, who was born in Clear Lake, probably was the first in his county to send ominous samples of elm trees to the Extension pathologist for examination. He's been watching and promoting the care of Dutch Elm disease for the past 20 years.

Past president of both the South Dakota Nurseryman's Association and the South Dakota State Horticultural Society, Begalka has been a long-time promoter for the recently authorized horticultural facilities to be added to South Dakota State University.

And when the state's 4-H program was in legislative jeopardy not long ago, the Begalkas were writing and visiting legislators in support of it.

"We just weren't going to take 'no' for an answer," says Mrs. Begalka about 4-H. "It's extremely important to get to children with 4-H offerings while they are young."

She has been a volunteer 4-H leader for 10 years, and her husband for seven years. Mrs. Begalka has participated in her local Extension homemakers' club for 24 years. In addition to other community activities, the Begalkas often cooperate in programs involving the University, Extension, the Department of Agriculture, and the state horticultural societies.

And, indications are, they intend to keep right on taking from and giving to Extension.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Funding for Cooperative Extension services in your state primarily come from three sources: county, state, and federal appropriations. County Funds Support....

- 1) the salaries of county office secretaries and summer work-study students;
- 2) travel expenses for County Agents and Extension Home Economists;
- 3) county office and educational supplies;
- 4) county office operations such as rent, telephone, and equipment;
- 5) part of the salaries of Extension Home Economists.

State Funds Support....

- 1) salaries of Specialists, County Agents, Extension Home Economists, and county summer student assistants;
- 2) state and area office secretaries and summer work-study students;
- 3) travel costs for state and area staff;
- 4) state and area office operations including rent, supplies, equipment, and telephone;
- 5) publications and other training material including radio and television programs.

Federal Funds Support....

- 1) the same services as state funds, plus;
- 2) salaries and travel expenses of program assistants (i.e., para-professionals), and
- 3) postage.

The sources of funding in 1979 for the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service totalled:

Source	Dollars	% of Total
Federal	2.7 Mil.	43.6
State	2.5 Mil.	40.3
County & Other	1.0 Mil. ¹	16.1
Totals:	6.2 Mil.	100.0

¹ Includes \$800,000 spent locally by counties in support of County Extension program

Among the four program areas, the following percentages of total budget were spent:

(45.5%) Agriculture & Nat. Resources	(20.2%) Fam. Living & Nutrition
(7.6%) Comm. Res. Development	(26.7%) 4-H & Youth

Of these amounts, personnel salaries and benefits totalled 83.2%, travel totalled 8.5%, and supplies and equipment totalled 8.3%.

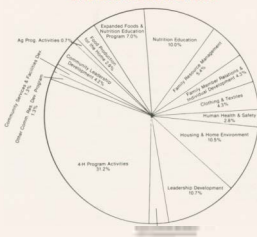
BUSY PEOPLE....

County Extension Agents and Home Economists throughout South Dakota wear many hats, and their talents and fields of knowledge are as wide-ranged as the needs for service among their clients.

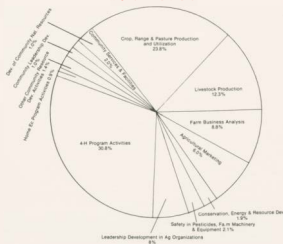
It may not be generally known, but everyone who works in Extension accounts for their time—all of it. These reports enable one to see the exact amounts of time each person spends working in a given area of service.

While the amounts of effort vary from one county to another as the demands for service vary, statewide averages indicate what the "typical" agent or home economist does for the people and what portion of the working year is spent in the various areas of service:

HOW A COUNTY EXTENSION HOME ECONOMIST'S TIME IS DIVIDED AMONG ACTIVITIES



HOW A COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT'S TIME IS DIVIDED AMONG ACTIVITIES



RESEARCH: THE FOUNDATION OF EXTENSION SERVICES

Land Grant Universities have three basic functions: research, extension, and teaching. The research of the Agricultural Experiment Station is the base for the extension, or non-formal educational assistance, provided to the people by the Cooperative Extension Service. Extension has as its mission the dissemination of unbiased, research-proven information to the people through methods which avoid requiring them to personally travel to research sites on campus or the various experiment stations across the state.

Extension Specialists and Agents also search out research information from other states and further develop and adapt it for use by the people of South Dakota.

DECENTRALIZATION: A KEY STAFFING PATTERN

It is not by accident or circumstance that the majority of key Extension personnel are located in the field and not on campus of the University. Extension services are made handy to all citizens of the state through county and reservation offices. There, County Agents and Extension Home Economists provide day-to-day information and help to area citizens as well as conduct workshops, tours, and other types of meetings within the county. Specialists, usually located on campus, are a corps of Extension workers whose job is to be in close contact with researchers and quickly disseminate that information to the field staff through area meetings and various educational events, but usually when these are on an area or multi-county level.

PARTNERS: COUNTY, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

When the original Smith-Lever Act established the Extension Service on the federal level in 1914, it also laid the groundwork for the present partnership between county, state, and federal governments. Funding for Extension comes from these three levels of government, and Extension's program is given through County Commissioners, the State Legislature, and Congress. This partnership is unique in that it not only assures the stability of the Cooperative Extension Service, but also its programming direction toward county, state, and national needs and concerns.

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT: A FACT, NOT A PROMISE

In South Dakota, there are 21,000 citizens who form a corps of volunteers which work hand-in-hand with the professional staff of 135 County Agents and Home Economists, 76 Specialists, and 113 para professionals and support staff. Volunteers work to extend the information of conduct educational activities throughout the counties of the state. Volunteers give their time and resources unselfishly and continue to be an important factor in the successes of the Cooperative Extension Service. They are good neighbors whose efforts have been central in making Extension your good neighbor!