

# WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

MARK T. BUCHANAN

Director-at-Large

May 5, 1976

TO: Western Directors

FROM: Mark T. Buchanan *MTB*  
Director-at-Large

SUBJECT: Minutes of WDA Meeting, February 25-27, 1976

Subject minutes are enclosed. Please take note of the following:

All Western Directors: item 21.1.6.2, page 45 (re W-140)  
item 21.1.6.2, page 45 (re WM-61)  
page 55 (re pesticide registration requests)  
item 25.2, page 73 (re NAS committee)

All Administrative Advisors: pages 51-52 (discussion of regional research procedures)

MTB:jm  
Enclosure

DISTRIBUTION LISTArizona

G. R. Stairs (2)  
D. B. Thorud  
R. R. Rice  
L. W. Dewhirst

California

J. B. Kendrick, Jr. (2)  
L. L. Sammet  
W. E. Waters  
C. E. Hess  
W. M. Dugger, Jr.

Colorado

J. P. Jordan (2)  
D. D. Johnson  
R. E. Moreng

Guam

W. P. Leon Guerrero

Hawaii

W. C. Mitchell (2)  
L. D. Swindale, C. P. Wilson

Idaho

R. J. Miller (2)  
A. M. Mullins

Montana

J. A. Asleson (2)  
M. J. Burris

Nevada

D. W. Bohmont (2)  
R. A. Young

New Mexico

P. J. Leyendecker (2)  
M. L. Wilson

Oregon

J. R. Davis (2)  
W. H. Foote  
D. P. Moore

Utah

D. J. Matthews (2)  
C. E. Clark

Washington

J. M. Nielson (2)  
D. L. Oldenstadt  
D. J. Lee

Wyoming

N. W. Hilston (2)  
L. C. Ayres

CSRS

T. S. Ronningen  
J. D. Sullivan  
E. H. Cobb  
R. L. Lovvorn

ARS

H C Cox  
R. L. Olson

ERS

L. E. Juers

FS

R. W. Harris

EPA

J. MacKenzie

Extension

J. R. Cox, Jr.

Regional Directors

G. M. Browning  
H. R. Fortmann  
J. E. Halpin

NASULGC

R. C. McGregor

Home Economics

B. E. Hawthorne

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF  
THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS

Tucson, Arizona  
February 25-27, 1976

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

February 25-27, 1976

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Approved August 1975 minutes as distributed with substitution of pages 6 and 33.	1
2. Acted on the Executive Committee's recommendations which:	
a. endorsed re-evaluation of CSRS's role within context of USDA overall role; requested western ESCOP representatives continue to press for USDA Assistant Secretary for Research	4
b. endorsed proposal that ESCOP meet a month prior to land grant	5
c. approved Section by-laws dated 2/6/76	5
d. supported position that ESCOP be designated Board of Directors for the Experiment Station Section	5
e. denied funding request of AOAC, and recommended funding be requested through state regulatory agencies	5
f. requested WD's continue to send participants to WRRRC Collaborators' Conferences	5
g. terminated policy of holding a WDA meeting every other year at WRRRC	6
h. denied WRPC membership to Farm Foundation, recommending Farm Foundation participation on task forces	6
i. set policy for reimbursing Executive Committee travel from WD Special Fund	6
j. requested CSRS prepare materials on regional and national planning and implementation system	6
k. requested C/9 representatives seek change in official policy regarding administrative advisors for RRF projects	6-7
l. approved staff support, duties and budget in office of DAL	7
m. approved salary increase for DAL	7-8
3. Approved motions to terminate WAERC, WSWRC, WSRAC, WHEREAC as official bodies of the WDA; to not discourage department chairpersons meeting together, perhaps in conjunction with professional society meetings; to invite western representatives of home economics, forestry, and veterinary medicine to become affiliated with the WDA	8-9
4. Heard CSRS Report and moved to commend the language of the Executive Budget request	14-16
5. Heard DAL Report (17-21), ESCOP Report (23) and ESCOP Legislative Subcommittee Report (23-25), moving to support the inclusion of increased costs of doing research in the Executive budget (25)	
6. Heard Committee of Nine Report (25-26), National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee Report (26-27), Report of Extension/Station Liaison Representatives (28), and Western Rural Development Center Report (28-29), approving the actions of the WRDC Board of Directors	

7. Heard report on BLM Analysis of Federal Range Resources in the West and requested WRPC consider establishing a task force to coordinate states' participation in development of EIS's on federal lands under BLM management 29-31
8. Heard reports on Findley-Humphrey, Title XII Amendment (32-33), ARS (33-34), FS (34-35), and EPA (35-36)
9. Acted on recommendations of RIC which:
  - a. approved termination September 30, 1976 for W-114, W-115, W-119, W-121, WRCC-10, WRCC-16 36-38
  - b. requested extension of IR-5 to September 30, 1980 and assigned J. P. Jordan as AA 37
  - c. submitted proposed revision of W-116 to Co-chairmen of RPG's 5 and 6 for evaluation 38
  - d. approved proposed revision of W-118 38
  - e. denied proposed revision of W-121 and recommended termination September 30, 1976 39
  - f. approved proposed revision of IR-4 39
  - g. approved proposed project on "Use of Soil Factors and Soil Crop Interactions to Suppress Diseases Caused by Soilborne Plant Pathogens" with C. M. Gilmour as AA 39-40
  - h. revised AA policy to allow department heads and federal administrators to serve 40
  - i. approved proposed project on "Climatic and Phenological Models for Resource Planning and Management" 40
  - j. Granted extensions to WRCC-1, WRCC-13, WRCC-17, WRCC-22 40-42
  - k. terminated WRCC-18 September 30, 1976 41
  - l. changed title and objectives of WRCC-21 41
  - m. requested circulation for participation of WRCC requests on "Pests of Grape Crops" and "Pests of Landscape Plants" 42
  - n. evaluated in-depth 28 regional projects and coordinating committees 43-45
  - o. reviewed AA reports on all other projects and committees 46-47
  - p. approved off-the-top funding for W-6, W-84 and W-106 47
  - q. requested western C/9 representatives sit with RIC when regional research projects and coordinating committees considered 48
  - r. requested western C/9 representatives inform C/9 their actions in regard to proposed inter-regional project on atmospheric deposition were inappropriate 49
  - s. made several reassignments of AA's 49
10. Heard RIC guidelines for administrative advisors and moved to commend RIC on its performance 51-52
11. Heard discussion of minor use pesticides research (53-59), RIC's proposed method of operation (59-60), WRPC report (60-62), NPC Report (62-63), ARPAC Report (63-64), Report of Ad Hoc Work Group on Kansas City (64-65), discussion of payoffs from research planning and coordination (65-69), report on OMB by Grumbly (69-72), report on NASULGC committees on private consultants (72-73), NAS committee (73), IR-5 (73), and summer WDA meeting (74), approving elimination of all but pertinent hand-outs from official minutes of WDA meetings (74)
12. Passed eight Resolutions 74-77

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ADDITIONAL HAND-OUTS

The materials listed below were handed out at the February 1976 WDA meeting but have not been included in the Minutes. Copies of the hand-outs can be obtained from the Office of the DAL.

1. Draft of H.R. 11609 introduced by Congressman Brown of California
2. Team List of US-USSR Delegations of Agricultural Scientists and Specialists Exchange (CSRS)
3. Agenda of CSRS Research Management Workshop, May 5, 1976
4. List of PL 89-106, EPA Grants by CSRS, FY 1975
5. Statement on Status of Brucellosis (CSRS)
6. Statement on Coordination of Pass-Through Funds (CSRS)
7. World Food and Nutrition Study: List of Steering Committee Members, Chairmen of of Study Teams
8. Developments Since Kansas City (CSRS)
9. Charter of Committee on Food Research, Federal Council for Science and Technology
10. Testimony in support of Wampler Bill by D. G. Aldrich to House Committee on Agriculture, February 18, 1976
11. Testimony in support of Wampler Bill by J. H. Anderson to House Committee on Agriculture, February 18, 1976
12. Cooperative Agreement between University of California and CSRS for support of IR-4 Leader Lab at Davis



WESTERN ASSOCIATION  
OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF SPRING 1976 MEETING

Braniff Place Hotel  
Tucson, Arizona

February 25-27, 1976

Present: Arizona	- L. W. Dewhirst - M. A. Massengale - D. S. Metcalfe - R. R. Rice - G. R. Stairs - D. B. Thorud
California	- W. M. Dugger, Jr. - C. E. Hess - J. B. Kendrick, Jr. - L. L. Sammet - W. E. Waters
Colorado	- D. D. Johnson - J. P. Jordan - R. E. Moreng
Hawaii	- W. C. Mitchell - L. D. Swindale
Idaho	- R. J. Miller - A. M. Mullins
Montana	- J. A. Asleson
Nevada	- D. W. Bohmont - R. A. Young
New Mexico	- P. J. Leyendecker - M. L. Wilson
Oregon	- J. R. Davis - W. H. Foote
Utah	- C. E. Clark - D. J. Matthews
Washington	- D. J. Lee - J. M. Nielson - D. L. Oldenstadt
Wyoming	- N. W. Hilston
OWDAL	- M. T. Buchanan - J. E. Moak
AID	- G. Beck
ARS	- H. C. Cox - C. E. Evans - W. D. McClellan - A. I. Morgan, Jr.

## ARS

- J. B. Pate
- R. D. Plowman
- D. A. Price
- R. J. Reginato
- F. Strauch
- J. M. Vetterling
- K. C. Walker
- W. J. Whorton

## CSRS

- T. S. Ronningen
- J. D. Sullivan

## EPA

- J. MacKenzie

## Extension Liaison

- J. R. Cox, Jr.

## FS(Research)

- R. W. Harris

## OMB

- T. Grumbly

## Guests

- W. W. Kilgore
- J. E. Swift
- G. W. Ware
- C. P. Wilson

## 1.0 Call to Order

Chairman J. M. Nielson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 25, 1976.

## 2.0 Introductions

Director J. M. Nielson welcomed Dr. T. S. Ronningen and Dr. J. D. Sullivan of CSRS, Mr. J. R. Cox, Jr., Extension Director at Oregon State University, and Dr. Glenn Beck from AID.

Director G. R. Stairs introduced Dr. L. W. Dewhirst, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Associate Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Arizona; and Dr. R. R. Rice, Director of the School of Home Economics, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Associate Director of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station.

## 3.0 Announcements

Director Massengale announced local arrangements and activities.

Director Nielson announced the members of the Resolutions Committee -- R. A. Young (Chairman), N. W. Hilston, J. A. Asleson -- and requested the Directors submit their proposed resolutions to the committee chairman.

Director Nielson announced the impending retirements of several members of the Association and others -- Dr. R. L. Lovvorn of CSRS; Mr. J. R. Cox, Jr., the Extension liaison representative; Dr. P. J. Leyendecker, Director of the New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. R. W. Henderson, Assistant Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station.

## 4.0 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without additions, and is attached as Appendix A .

## 5.0 Approval of Minutes, Meeting of August 6-8, 1975

The minutes were approved as distributed with the corrections noted on pages 6 and 33.

## 6.0 Report of Chairman/Report of Executive Committee - J. M. Nielson

The Executive Committee has met three times since the WDA meeting in Coeur d'Alene in August: in Houston on November 11, 1975; in San Francisco on February 2, 1976; and in Tucson on February 24, 1976. The following report covers actions taken at all of these meetings.

### 6.1 Information and Interim Actions

#### 6.1.1 Plans for spring meeting

The Chairman worked with the Executive Committee in making arrangements for the spring meeting, selecting topics for discussion, and inviting participants. This included

consideration of the following: expanding the meeting by one-half day; a workshop for Administrative Advisors; discussion of minor uses of pesticides and IR-4; WRPC and RIC reports; discussion of Title XII, Findley Bill; invitation to federal research administrators and Tom Grumbly of OMB to attend the spring meeting. It was agreed that the planning and coordination of research would be the major thrust of the spring meeting.

#### 6.1.2 Plans for the summer WDA meeting

The summer meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, July 21-23, 1976. It has been agreed that part of the meeting will be joint with Extension Directors. Tentative plans are for a three-fourths day joint session starting at noon on Thursday, July 22.

Some preliminary planning for the joint Extension/Station Directors session was started by J. B. Kendrick, Jr., J. R. Cox, Jr., J. M. Nielson and M. T. Buchanan. Further planning will be conducted during the spring meetings of both WDA and WDE. J. B. Kendrick, Jr., as liaison person from the WDA to the WDE, previously circulated a request for suggestions for the joint agenda from all Western Directors. Further suggestions will be welcome.

#### 6.1.3 Regional publications

The WDE has had a regional publications committee consisting of Bob Frary (WY), Lowell Watts (CO), and Carl Hoffman (MT). J. B. Kendrick, Jr. and Lloyd Ayres have been appointed to represent WDA in further exploration of regional publications.

#### 6.1.4 Ad Hoc Working Group to Follow-up on ARPAC-sponsored Kansas City Food Conference

ARPAC passed a motion to arrange for a detailed follow-up study of the top 101 problems identified in the Kansas City Food Conference. The study has been made by an eight-person group (four federal agency representatives and four SAES representatives), who worked in Beltsville for about six weeks. Western SAES representation, as authorized by the Executive Committee, was divided among C. P. Wilson, L. F. Rogers (WA), and M. T. Buchanan, each of whom spent about two weeks in Beltsville working with the committee. The results of the study will be reported back to ARPAC at its March 16 meeting. The purpose of the study will be for SAES and USDA research agencies to jointly develop and support a top priority food research budget package.

#### 6.1.5 P.L. 89-106 Special Grants

The Executive Committee appointed J. M. Nielson to serve as the western representative on a CSRS committee investigating

special grants. The actual research proposals will be screened by peer review panels. However, the members of the ad hoc committee were asked to continue monitoring reactions from each of their regions.

#### 6.1.6 Western Rural Development Center

The Executive Committee appointed J. A. Asleson and D. L. Oldenstadt to serve on the WRDC Board of Directors with J. R. Davis, J. R. Cox, Jr., J. L. Graves (ID), and Eugene Ross (NM). The Board of Directors and Advisory Committee met in Portland on February 3-4.

#### 6.1.7 Evaluation of Cooperative Extension Service project on Western Livestock Marketing Information

The Chairman has notified WDE Chairman Cox that Station Directors would be willing to aid Extension Directors in their evaluation of the Western Livestock Marketing Information project.

#### 6.1.8 ARS Potato Workshop

The Executive Committee appointed E. W. Owens (ID) to serve as the western SAES representative to the ARS Potato Workshop to be held in Beltsville on March 2-4, 1976, and requested Dr. Owens circulate a report on the workshop to the WDA.

#### 6.1.9 Federal Register monitoring

CSRS has begun a newsletter on pesticides which will be issued as items of interest appear. This will be circulated to Western Directors in an effort to keep Directors better informed of actions and new regulations regarding pesticides.

#### 6.1.10 Western Governors' Conference

There will not be a 1976 Western Governors' Conference on Agriculture.

#### 6.1.11 Wampler "National Agricultural Research Policy Act of 1976" Bill, H.R. 11339

A first draft of this bill has been circulated with OWDAL-117 (January 23, 1976). The bill has since been revised to provide for a USDA Assistant Secretary for Research. A staff of specialists is proposed to assist in research planning and coordination activities. There will be hearings in late February for representatives of the major input areas (CAHA, Division of Agriculture, ARPAC, ESCOP, ECOP, RICOP) to make further suggestions.

6.1.12 The Executive Committee invited Dr. C. P. Wilson to attend the WDA spring meeting and the WRPC April meeting, authorizing the office of the DAL to pay Dr. Wilson's travel expenses.

6.1.13 NASULGC has appointed an eight-person committee to review and suggest changes in the structure of the Division of Agriculture of the Association. The Committee members are: Elmer R. Kiehl (MO), Jack B. Claar (IL), Robert E. Dils (CO), Herbert L. Everett (Cornell), David A. Hamilton (TN), James B. Kendrick, Jr. (CA), Lois A. Lund (MI), and William E. McDaniel (DE).

#### 6.1.14 MAPS

The ARS has developed and now published a new Management and Planning System (MAPS), despite the fact the CRIS subcommittee of ARPAC recommended a single system be used by ARS, FS, etc. The Executive Committee has requested copies of MAPS be sent to the Western Directors as soon as possible, so Directors may begin to compare the MAPS and CRIS systems.

#### 6.1.15 ESCOP ad hoc work group on international programs

ESCOP is considering creating a committee to advise on the implications of Title XII. The Division of Agriculture has established an ad hoc work group to develop proposed strategies and procedures for the Joint Committee on Country Programs. The Co-chairmen, J. S. Robins and A. White (AID), invited the WDA to designate a representative to this group. The Executive Committee has appointed David Moore (OR) to the ad hoc work group.

6.1.16 The Executive Committee appointed D. B. Thorud (AZ) to replace M. A. Massengale on WRPC and RIC from March 1 to July 23, 1976, at which time the vacancy will be filled during the regular WDA elections.

6.1.17 The Executive Committee appointed Lowell Lewis (CA) to replace M.A. Massengale as western representative on the Cotton Research Coordinating Committee.

6.1.18 ESCOP Chairman Mahlstedt asked Regional Associations to suggest possible replacements for Administrator Lovvorn, who will be retiring at the end of the 1976 fiscal year. The Executive Committee passed along names suggested by Western Directors at the NASULGC meetings in Houston.

Wynne Thorne's report for CSRS has recommended substantial changes in the direction of CSRS. Others have even recommended the abolition of CSRS. The Executive Committee recommends the WDA adopt a position of favoring a re-evaluation of CSRS's role, but only within the context of the overall role of USDA. The western ESCOP representatives should be alerted to keep the WDA informed in this regard, and to continue to press for an Assistant Secretary for Research within USDA.

## 6.2 Actions Recommended

### 6.2.1 Actions related to ESCOP

6.2.1.1 Former ESCOP Chairman Doyle Chambers has recommended that ESCOP meet sometime during the month preceding Land Grant for its final meetings of the year rather than on the Sunday immediately preceding the Land Grant meetings. The Executive Committee recommends the WDA endorse the proposal that ESCOP meet far enough in advance of the Land Grant meetings to allow for the circulation of information on the issues discussed and the actions recommended.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

### 6.2.1.2 Section By-Laws

The Executive Committee recommends the WDA approve in principle the 2/6/76 draft of the Experiment Station Section By-Laws which has been distributed with OWDAL-118 (February 6, 1976). The Executive Committee also recommends the WDA support the position that ESCOP should become the official Board of Directors for the Experiment Station Section of the Division of Agriculture of the Association.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

6.2.1.3 The Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC) has requested financial support from Experiment Station Directors for the continuance of their program of setting official analytic procedures and standards. Support previously came from the FDA in the amount of \$150,000 per year plus facilities, but this support has been discontinued. The Executive Committee recommends the WDA inform ESCOP Chairman Mahlstedt that this is not an area of responsibility of SAES Directors, and a much more appropriate method of funding AOAC would be through state regulatory agencies.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

### 6.2.2 Western Regional Research Center (WRRRC) Collaborators' Conferences

WRRRC Director Morgan has requested the continuance of the Collaborators' Conferences from FY 1977 onward, with the understanding that participants' travel must now be paid by their respective institutions. The Executive Committee believes the Conferences are worthwhile, and the expenditure of travel funds for attendance at the Conferences is appropriate. The Executive Committee recommends Western Directors continue to send their participants to those Conferences which will be interesting and useful for the participants.

The Executive Committee further recommends that the WDA officially end the practice of holding one meeting every other year at the WRRRC, with the understanding that items of interest to the WRRRC can be placed on the agenda for regular WDA meetings.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.3 Representation of Farm Foundation on WRPC

Membership on WRPC for the Farm Foundation was discussed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee recommends that the Farm Foundation not be assigned membership on WRPC, but recognizes the valuable contribution that the Farm Foundation has made and will continue to make in supporting research coordinating efforts in the social sciences. The Executive Committee requests WRPC encourage Farm Foundation participation on an invitational basis on functioning task forces and/or on RPG's 5 and 6.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.4 Executive Committee meeting travel

The Executive Committee discussed the question of whether Executive Committee travel should be reimbursed from the Western Directors' Special Fund. In the event Executive Committee members must attend more than five meetings in one year (three in conjunction with WDA and land grant meetings, and two additional meetings), the Executive Committee recommends travel to such additional meetings may be reimbursed from the Western Directors' Special Fund.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.5 The Executive Committee recommends the WDA ask CSRS to prepare training materials for Administrative Advisors and other individuals on the Regional and National Planning and Implementation System to explain the process both internally and externally, and to prepare materials for the April 19, 1976 WRPC meeting for the benefit of the western delegates to the Kansas City Conference. These materials may include, but are not limited to, television videotapes, written materials, brochures, etc.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.6 Committee of Nine Policy on Administrative Advisors

The Executive Committee was informed by RIC that the federal agency administrators and department chairpersons serving as Administrative Advisors have performed well in these positions. Chairman Nielson received a letter from Dr. R. L. Lovvorn dated December 30, 1975 informing the WDA that the Committee of Nine had declared federal agency administrators ineligible to serve as Administrative Advisors under current regulations. The Executive Committee recommends



the WDA reaffirm its support of the policy of effecting closer coordination between USDA and SAES programs by allowing federal agency administrators and department chairpersons to serve as Administrative Advisors. The Executive Committee also recommends the WDA request their representatives on the Committee of Nine develop, present and support a statement that reflects the philosophy of RIC and the WDA concerning the appointment of federal agency representatives and department heads as Administrative Advisors to regional research projects.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.7 Office of the DAL

The Executive Committee recommends that staffing in the DAL's office consist of the DAL, a planning/administrative assistant, and a secretary or typist/clerk. The DAL's budget would remain at \$68,000 per year, and the W-106 funds would be increased to \$41,000 per year. The proposed OWDAL organization, duties of the planning/administrative assistant and secretary, and budget are on pages 10-13.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 6.2.8 Salary and compensation for DAL

In recent years the WDA has attempted to provide for an increase in the DAL's base for retirement income as well as to provide modest salary increases for the incumbent, Mark T. Buchanan. Funds for the retirement income supplementation purpose were put into an escrow account at Montana. For the years 1974-76 the outcome was as follows:

Item	Fiscal Year		
	1974	1975	1976
Salary	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$37,100
Escrow account	0	1,080*	1,113*
Total compensation	36,000	37,080*	38,213*
Increase in compensation	0	3%	3%

\* Plus interest accumulations on escrow amounts.

The Executive Committee recommends that Buchanan's salary be increased by five per cent, effective July 1, 1976. The Executive Committee also recommends that the funds in escrow at Montana be transferred within a two-year period to a University of California Retirement System (UCRS) account for Mark T. Buchanan. The procedure required involves an apparent additional increase in Buchanan's salary during FY's 1977 and 1978 sufficient to utilize the funds presently in escrow, plus interest. These apparent salary increase funds (actually transfers) would be deposited to UCRS.

The effect of all of this, in tabular form, is as follows:

Item	Fiscal Year				
	1974	1975	1976	1977**	1978**
Salary	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$37,100	\$39,000 (+1,080*)	undetermined (+1,113*)
Escrow	0	1,080*	1,113*	-1,080*	-1,113*
Total	36,000	37,080*	38,213*	39,000*	undetermined
Increase in compensation	0	3%	3%	2%	?

\* Plus interest accumulations on escrow accounts.

\*\*In effect, during 1977 and 1978 the funds in the escrow account at Montana will be transferred to the DAL as additional salary payments which will then be put into a UCRS account.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### DISCUSSION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Director Nielson reviewed the history of the proposal that the four WDA research advisory committees (WAERC, WSWRC, WSRAC, WHERAC) be terminated. RRC recommended to the WDA in February 1975 that the councils, excluding WAERC, be terminated. This recommendation was tabled until the August 1975 WDA meeting. In August, the WDA referred the matter to the WRPC, requesting WRPC look at the whole structure of regional planning and see how WAERC, WSWRC, WHERAC and WSRAC might fit into it. WRPC in turn asked for counsel and advice from RIC and from administrative advisors and chairpersons of the councils.

RIC recommended to the WDA Executive Committee that all four of the councils be terminated. Their principal reasoning was that the Regional and National Planning and Implementation System (PAIS) is representative of state, federal and private research interests. The councils are official bodies of the WDA only. The PAIS is primarily problem and program oriented, whereas the councils are oriented primarily to disciplines and to administrative units. The four councils represent less than half of the number of disciplines and departments that might be needed to represent all the organizational entities in agricultural research. In the judgment of RIC and WRPC it would be wise to obtain the advice of representatives of disciplines and of organizational-administrative units informally, as given either by members of RP task forces, Research Planning Groups (RPG's), or WRPC (all of whom are also members of organizational entities), or by ad hoc groups established by WRPC for this purpose. In their opinion, this would be better than establishing 15-20 formal, disciplinary committees or councils as has been done in the North Central region.

It was moved by Director Jordan, and seconded, that the following statement be passed by the WDA:

In recent years, the WDA has enjoyed the counsel and advice of several advisory groups. The focus of that advice has been on research needs, priorities and research strategy. Indeed, the Western Social Research Advisory Committee (WSRAC), the Western Agricultural Economics Research Council (WAERC), the Western Soil and Water Research Committee (WSWRC) and the Western Home Economics Research Administrators Council (WHERAC) have performed their functions well and have constituted forerunners of parts of the new Western Regional Planning Committee (WRPC) structure.

These groups, especially those involving administrators, have used the mechanism of their advisory councils to coordinate not only research but also instructional and extension efforts and related service functions. Recognizing the value of these special advisory functions and the need for more comprehensive planning in research, the Regional and National Planning and Implementation System (PAIS) has been developed and is now functioning. Additionally, the system is expected to develop not only plans but to improve the communication between the scientist-researchers, their administrators, and the state and federal budgetary authorities.

In view of this evolution of the planning and implementation process, it is the intent of the WDA to incorporate appropriate elements of the existing advisory councils into the regional planning structure.

Therefore, with sincere appreciation for the enormous past contributions to the responsibilities of the Western Directors, the WDA discharges the advisory councils as official bodies of the WDA. The WDA assures the members of these groups that their programmatic interests will be included in PAIS.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

Director Kendrick moved, and it was seconded, that the WDA adopt the following policy statement:

In view of the recent questions presented to several directors of western agricultural experiment stations to sanction official meetings and organizations with discipline orientation and comprised for the most part of department chairpersons, the WDA wishes to state that the existing policy related to implementation of the regional planning system encourages inter-disciplinary participation and research problem identification. This policy in no way is intended to discourage department chairpersons from meeting together to discuss planning and coordination of teaching, research and extension programs, but such meetings are not to be construed as official functions of the WDA. If such meetings are held, the WDA strongly urges they be held in conjunction with professional society meetings.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

Director Bohmont noted that home economics, forestry and veterinary medicine represent a somewhat different set of circumstances, because their administrative linkages are likely to extend beyond experiment stations and colleges of agriculture. Director Bohmont moved, and it was seconded, that home economics, forestry, and veterinary medicine groups be invited to become affiliated with the WDA, attending and participating in WDA meetings (without vote), through their western representatives to ESCOP subcommittees. Since forestry and veterinary medicine groups do not have at present ESCOP subcommittees, affiliation could be accomplished through a western representative from ASCUFRO, and a western representative of the deans and directors of veterinary medicine.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

## ORGANIZATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

The Executive Committee has recommended that the staff in the office of the Director-at-Large for the Western Directors Association consist of the DAL, a Planning/Administrative Assistant, and a Secretary, with the addition of a reserve fund to be used for special projects. Included herein are the proposed duties and budgets for this office configuration.

The duties and responsibilities of the DAL are contained in the original cooperative agreement establishing the DAL position and are further elaborated in the February 1972 review of the DAL position.

The primary emphasis of the DAL's activities has been representing the Western Association in all matters relating to regional and national plans and goals, including relationships with and/or participation in ESCOP and its subcommittees, ARPAC, NPC, WRPC and CSRS. In addition, the DAL plays a leadership role for the staff and secretariat of WRPC, RIC, the WDA and the WDA Executive Committee.

The determination of priorities and activities within and by the staff of the office of the DAL:

1. The major determinants shall be the programs and budgets recommended annually by the Executive Committee as passed by the WDA.
2. Special projects shall be cleared by the Executive Committee
3. The DAL is expected to communicate frequently with the Chairman of the WDA. Together they will:
  - . monitor on-going efforts
  - . settle minor questions of interpretation
  - . decide on the comparative importance of competing meetings, whether or not the DAL should accept assignments proposed by ESCOP, ARPAC, NPC and other bodies, and so forth
  - . refer these and other questions to the Executive Committee and/or the WDA at the discretion of the Chairman

While the principal thrust of the activity of the office of the DAL is regional, there are in addition, however, opportunities for the office to serve subregional groups of and individual SAES. Examples have included, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Preliminary consultation regarding the need for and alternate types of information and management systems. Examples: California, Colorado, Nevada, Washington.
2. Provide or arrange for consultants for more specific assignments. Examples: Oregon, Wyoming.
3. Special studies. Examples: Case studies for Colorado and Washington now in publication.

Requests for special studies may be generated internally, by groups of or individual western SAES Directors, or by outside agencies. Requests must contain specific proposals for study and approval by the Executive Committee before any special studies are undertaken. Each approved special study will be reported on separately. In certain cases, the office of the DAL may seek to obtain additional grants from CSRS, NSF, etc. to help finance such studies.

## DUTIES OF THE STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

SECRETARY

## I. General Duties

- . Receive and route mail
- . Organize and maintain filing system
- . Telephone reception and referral
- . Provide support services for local meetings

## II. Duties for DAL

- . Typing general correspondence, including typing from dictation machine
- . Making DAL travel arrangements and follow-up
- . Maintaining DAL appointment calendar and follow-up
- . Assistance in preparation of reports to the WDA, CSRS and other USDA agencies, commodity organizations, etc., including checking for accuracy, developing format, and keeping mailing list current
- . Typing, reproduction and distribution of above reports
- . May involve some collection and tabulation of data and other information from library and other secondary sources

## III. Duties for Planning/Administrative Assistant

- . Making Assistant's travel arrangements and follow-up
- . Maintaining Assistant's appointment calendar and follow-up
- . Assistance in preparation of minutes, reports to the WDA, WRPC, RIC and NPC
- . Typing, reproduction and distribution of these and other reports

PLANNING/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## I. General Duties

- . Office supervisor: in charge of office when DAL on travel status, supervises secretary and makes work assignments, dispenses information on University regulations and policy
- . Accounting and budget: handle employment and personnel records; purchase of office equipment, supplies and services; preparation of travel vouchers; payment of invoices; ledger reconciliation; preparation of financial statements and budget reports; preparation of annual reports on grants
- . Prepare and distribute annually a listing of WDA officers and Record of Service of Directors on regional and national committees
- . Prepare and distribute annually an updated list of WDA members

## II. Recording Secretary

- . Develop and distribute tentative program and agenda for WDA, RIC and Executive Committee meetings; solicit and gather additional information for agenda, prepare and distribute final program and agenda
- . Assist in developing and distributing reports to be presented at WDA meeting on behalf of DAL, Executive Committee, RIC, WRPC, etc.
- . Assist in making meeting arrangements; provide support for local meetings
- . Prepare annual report on regional project W-106
- . Record, prepare and distribute minutes and reports of meetings of WDA, RIC and Executive Committee
- . Remind Chairman, committee members and others of follow-up items resulting from meetings.
- . Maintain official WDA files
- . Maintain complete files on all current regional research projects and coordinating committees

- . Prepare and distribute annually a "Status of Western Regional Research Projects and Coordinating Committees"
- . Remind Administrative Advisors annually of deadlines for submission of reports on projects; collect and distribute reports for review by RIC, including preparation of "loose-leaf" binders on projects
- . Forward approved projects to the Committee of Nine

### III. Research Planning

- . Assist WRPC staff in development and preparation of reports to WRPC and NPC
- . Prepare and transmit requests for State Station projections; monitor, receive, edit and summarize State Station projections; coordinate with WRPC staff in preparing WRPC's report to NPC
- . Analyze trends and shifts in the use of agricultural research resources
- . Coordinate planning structure elements: draft information documents; serve as liaison among western states and between the western region and others; generate mechanisms for information exchange
- . Analyze alternative research resource allocations and probable consequences and benefits
- . Assist in development of theory, methodology and application of agricultural research planning and implementation

BUDGETS  
July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977

DAL ACCOUNT

Salary:		
DAL current salary	37,100	
plus possible 5% increase	1,855	
40% of Assistant's salary	<u>4,800</u>	43,755
Supplies and Expense:		
travel	12,500	
duplication	900	
mailing	800	
telephone	1,200	
miscellaneous	700	
Storehouse	700	
printing	<u>300</u>	17,100
Equipment		1,000
Benefits:		
DAL and Assistant		<u>6,145</u>
		<u>\$68,000</u>

RECORDING SECRETARY ACCOUNT (W-106)

Salary:		
60% of Assistant's salary	7,200	
100% of Secretary's salary	<u>7,500</u>	14,700
Supplies and Expense:		
travel	1,400	
duplication	1,000	
mailing	500	
telephone	600	
miscellaneous	400	
Storehouse	<u>400</u>	4,300
Benefits:		
Assistant and Secretary		<u>2,000</u>
		21,000
Special Projects:		
as approved by Executive Committee		
with possible increments from CSRS, NSF, etc.		<u>20,000</u>
		<u>\$41,000<sup>1</sup></u>

<sup>1</sup> This represents an increase of \$8,500 over current appropriation (\$32,500), necessitated by the addition of a Secretary in the office of the DAL.

TOTAL

\$109,000

## 7.0 CSRS Report - T. S. Ronningen/J. D. Sullivan

### 7.1 1977 Budget

#### 7.1.1 Hatch Act

The Executive Budget proposes a total increase of \$8 million. However, an additional \$13 million will be requested under the Hatch Act to "provide for significant new fundamental research ultimately aimed at increasing the efficiency of agricultural production." Increased costs of doing research are not included. Several assumptions may be made.

- (1) The increase is substantial at a \$6 million program increase. The smallest mainland station can support an additional .5 SY. This would permit useful concentration of effort.
- (2) It is hard money.
- (3) It seems desirable to respond constructively toward the allowances. In recent years, there has been a close correlation between the allowances in the Executive Budget and in the final appropriations figures.
- (4) The Northeast and Southern Directors, at their spring meetings, moved to respond constructively to the earmarks that survived the appropriation process and separately moved to request reinstatement of the item on increased costs of doing research.

#### 7.1.2 McIntire-Stennis Program

No increase is provided for the McIntire-Stennis Program. The 17 percent carry-over of McIntire-Stennis funds may have been a deterrent. CSRS has requested a maximum of 10 percent carry-over.

- 7.1.3 Senate Hearings were held on February 19. They were short. We were asked to supply information on all requests at all stages of the budget process including the increased cost item.

### 7.2 CSRS Staff Changes

#### 7.2.1 Additions

7.2.1.1 Clarence Grogan, Professor of Plant Breeding, Cornell University, now occupies the Crops Agronomy position vacated by the retirement of Harlow Hodgson.

7.2.1.2 John Okay is the first occupant of a new position in Program Evaluation and Analysis. We anticipate the two main areas of activity will include:

- (a) assisting the State client institutions individually and collectively, and



(b) helping CSRS communicate with OMB, OMB-USDA, etc., in analytical terms.

Dr. Okay, who holds a Ph.D. in resource economics from Michigan, came to us from the Soil Conservation Service where he had been doing similar work.

#### 7.2.2 Inactivation of Assistant Administrator Position due to Personnel Reductions (5 percent in the Washington area)

7.2.2.1 Dr. Paul Schleusener will reoccupy his earlier position as agricultural engineer on the CSRS scientific staff.

7.2.2.2 Dr. Lovvorn has delegated supervisory responsibilities to leaders of three groups of scientists

- (a) Plant Sciences - Aubrey Wylie
- (b) Animal Sciences and Agricultural Engineering - Earl Splitter
- (c) Social and Food Sciences - Paul Jehlik

#### 7.3 The wisdom of many is being applied to your problems

7.3.1 The Science and Technology Oversight Hearings are over but the after-effects are becoming evident. Copies of H.R. 11609, introduced by Mr. Brown, California, were distributed along with supporting information from the Congressional Record.

7.3.2 The NAS Food Research Study is proceeding. Copies of leadership assignments were distributed and can be obtained from the DAL's office.

7.3.3 The Office of Technology Assessment is planning a modest study of agricultural research processes. CSRS has gotten Jim Anderson, Chairman of the Legislative Subcommittee of ESCOP, in touch with Walter Wilcox, of the OTA group.

7.3.4 There may be other studies or agricultural research bills besides the currently active Wampler Bill.

#### 7.4 Interactions with NSF-RANN

ARS, ERS and CSRS representatives have been meeting with NSF-RANN. Steps are being made to identify activities which could be jointly sponsored by USDA and NSF or promising leads which could be enhanced through NSF support. We have encouraged NSF to deal with the State stations as single and groups of institutions in much the same way as they deal with other Federal agencies in view of the fact that such a large proportion of publicly supported agricultural research is under their leadership.

#### 7.5 Substitution of Federal for State Funds

Senator McGee, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee, asked about this problem again. Let us know if we can be of assistance in any way.

- 7.6 The District of Columbia Agricultural Experiment Station has been established, currently under the Washington Technical Institute. Dr. Robert Bradford has been named Acting Director. The D.C. Agricultural Experiment Station was invited by the Northeast group to join them and it has accepted the invitation. The Washington Technical Institute, along with two other institutions of higher learning in the District of Columbia, will become parts of a University of the District of Columbia with Land-Grant status, probably by September 1, 1976.
- 7.7 Management Workshop
- A provisional agenda was distributed. Ronningen requested that experienced as well as new Directors consider attending and participating. Involvement of experienced administrators from State stations will add very much to the participatory parts of the sessions.
- 7.8 Sullivan described the proposed use of standing Cooperative Agreements between CSRS and the individual institutions to cover travel and per diem for university personnel engaged in activities requested by CSRS. These agreements provide for periodic reimbursements to the university involved which should simplify paperwork for the scientist and reduce the apparent travel budget for CSRS. The Directors were requested to sign the agreement or to modify it as appropriate for their state regulations and to return the agreement to CSRS.
- 7.9 A summary of the current position of IR-4 was passed out. This is contained as appendix B.
- 7.10 The current status of the 1976 Special Grants program was described. Over 400 proposals have been received in CSRS and peer panels have been formed. It is expected that all grants will be made by the middle of April. The ad hoc Committee on Special Grants was instrumental in developing the review process and will participate in a review of the entire process at a later time. The Directors were requested to make suggestions to their representative on the ad hoc committee, Jim Nielson.

#### DISCUSSION:

After discussion of item 7.1.1(4), it was moved and seconded that the WDA is pleased with the recommended increase in Hatch funds for FY 1977 and its intent of expanding basic agricultural research.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

(See also motion under ESCOP Legislative Subcommittee Report, page 25.)

## 8.0 DAL Report - M. T. Buchanan

In my perception, the most important challenge we face is that of establishing and then maintaining meaningful communications among ourselves, with our associates and cooperators, with the publics we serve, and with those who control the resources we hope to have come our way. One problem is that actions we perceive to be to our advantage individually and in our particular organizational and institutional entities may be the direct opposite of those that are viable for agricultural research as a whole. This is not an unusual situation at all within our economy and in our society in which the behavior of the individual frequently is the opposite of that of advantage to all.

I am reminded of the reactions of the 32 groups that were established to consider the recommendations of the "long-range study". You will recall that each group said essentially the following: A 78% real increase in support for agricultural research is quite appropriate for the average, but what has been recommended for our important area is far below needs.

The reason, I believe, is endemic in our culture. We emphasize freedom, individual initiative, freedom of speech, competition, and we tolerate conflict. The Founding Fathers established a government that provided for adversary roles among the executive, congressional and judicial branches. There was no provision for the resolution of conflicts among them.

A current expression of all of this as it applies to agricultural research includes the following elements, among others: Scientists complain that they are not represented adequately in the decision-making arenas, but there are few scientists who are willing for other scientists or administrators to represent them. Each is satisfied only if the final outcome is as he would have advised. This same type of thing is evident for each of the disciplinary groups, each of the departmental alignments within the Experiment Stations, each Experiment Station as related to others, the Experiment Stations as a group related to USDA agencies as a group, USDA agencies with each other, and so forth. Furthermore, there is a great deal of reluctance on the part of all concerned to put together the necessary organizational machinery and staff with needed resources to facilitate the development of appropriate over-all answers for the Agricultural Experiment Stations, for the USDA agencies, and for both together.

In a recent speech, Bob Long stated: "Teamwork between USDA research agencies --Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research Service, Economic Research Service--has seldom if ever been better. Cooperation between the Department of Agriculture research agencies and research arms of the Land Grant institutions is greatly improved. The overall Agricultural Research Policy Advisory Committee is increasingly helpful in the advice it gives to state and federal research agencies and we are geared up for more basic research than we have had in recent years."<sup>1/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> Robert W. Long, An Entomological Appraisal, annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, December 3, 1975.

I think this possibly is so. Certainly we have been working at it. But we have a long ways still to go.

I am reminded of the request in Senate Report No. 156, Committee on Appropriations, April 9, 1965, which states as follows:

"It is now recommended that the Secretary of Agriculture give immediate consideration to the establishment of an appropriate research review committee comprised equally of representatives from the Land Grant Experiment Stations, departmental research activities, affected producer organizations, and with appropriate industry representation, to examine fully each and every line of agricultural research conducted by the Department and by the State Experiment Stations.

"The Committee recommends that the Secretary of Agriculture in close cooperation with the appropriate representatives of the State Experiment Stations, develop and submit to the Committee within the next sixty days a program proposal setting forth the general outline of the content and scope of such a review of the research programs conducted by the Department, by the states, and financed by cooperating industry contributions which would be directed toward the general objective of making recommendations on the respective roles, responsibilities and areas of cooperative effort that should be examined to arrive at an overall evaluation as the basis for future recommendations involving the realignment and reassignment of research responsibilities for existing programs, and also to be used as the basis for projecting agricultural research requirements for the next several years."

The outcome of this, not within sixty days but within a year and a half, was the report A National Program of Research for Agriculture, October, 1966, that has come to be known as the "Long-Range Study". While the committee that worked on this study made a number of useful contributions including projected research needs programmatically by research areas, they did not really tackle seriously the matter of "who should do what." There was a recommendation that further and continuing joint effort was needed toward this objective. Since that time the following activities, among others, have been undertaken toward this goal: Creation of the four Regional Directors positions; the establishment of a committee to make recommendations on SAES-USDA research relations; the creation of the initial ARPAC; development and initiation of the regional and national planning process; modification of ARPAC and the creation of the National Planning Committee; study and report on accountability; the Kansas City Conference on food research needs as a part of the planning process including in-depth evaluation and follow-up of the high priority recommendations; a motion passed within ARPAC to the effect that the high priority items from the Kansas City Conference become the basis for a jointly prepared and jointly recommended budget package for the USDA research agencies and the State Agricultural Experiment Stations. The last, underlined, topic will be a first if it comes off.

A lack of enthusiasm for real cooperation also may be observed among the State Agricultural Experiment Stations. We talk a pretty good game, but when it comes right down to it there are a lot fewer subregional research specializations and trade-offs than there might well be, at least on the criterion of efficiency in the use of research resources. ESCOP is jealous of ARPAC, the Directors accuse the Deans of not keeping them informed (and vice versa), the Legislative Subcommittee continues in its traditional mold despite assurances from friends within OMB that this approach is counterproductive, and various groups from within and without make recommendations for major changes re the organization and funding of agricultural research that have not been checked with the rest of the community and that are at odds with the thinking of significant others within the community.

Meanwhile the research and education budgets of USDA continue at less than one per cent of the total for the department, and we are told that this is a pretty good showing, under the circumstances. Yet at the same time we observe that funds within USDA for the food stamp program have gone from less than one per cent to more than 75% of USDA's total funding!

One wonders what our national priorities are and how they are determined. One does not know what would have happened if there had been consensus on recommendations for agricultural research. It is certain, however, that real support for agricultural research has declined, not increased, in total.

It is at this point that I come back to where I began--the need to develop and maintain meaningful communications among ourselves, with our associates and cooperators, with the publics we serve, and with those who control the resources that come our way.

In my opinion success towards meeting this challenge will come more from reliance on open, direct, honest, objective analyses and appraisals than from the use of the hard-sell approach. Maneuvering to maintain or improve advantage, status, or competitive positions of individuals, groups and institutions could be negatively productive for those who do so. Almost certainly it will be so in the aggregate. Success also will be related to the degree to which we can come to some general agreements and all support them.

Particularly since our last meeting in Coeur d'Alene, I have been involved on your behalf in efforts toward some reasonable accommodation of our desires to be assertive with respect to our initial and institutional needs on the one hand, and our need to develop significant, overall approaches on the other. Of these efforts the one resulting in the ARPAC motion to jointly develop and jointly sponsor a budget package could be the most significant.

I have discussed these matters from time to time in further depth with Chairmen Kendrick and Nielson and with the Executive Committee. There will be further discussion at the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for February 2 in San Francisco. Some parts of the Executive Committee report at the spring meeting in Tucson likely will be the outcome of such conversations.

I have endeavored to keep you generally informed of some of my more specific activities since Coeur d'Alene in OWDAL's 111-116, the subjects of which are as follows:

- 111 (1) Preliminary Regional Summary of 1979 SAES Projections  
(2) Paper on "Regional Differences in the Rate of Return to Agricultural Research and Extension"  
(3) Summer Meeting 1976  
(4) Symposium on "Research Needs to Anticipate Environmental Impacts of Changing Resource Usages"
- 112 ARI - NISARC and Other Activities and Observations, October 7-17, 1975
- 113 Pesticides, Environment, etc.
- 114 (1) HR 8814 - To Extend FIFRA as Amended  
(2) CSRS Pesticides Newsletter  
(3) Significant Actions of ARPAC  
(4) Mark T. Buchanan's Participation in Meeting of Home Economics Administrators  
(5) CSRS Conference III
- 115 (1) Science for Citizens  
(2) More on Ad Hoc Work Group on Most Important Problems (Follow-up of Kansas City Conference)  
(3) Pesticide Programs, Memo from Administrator Train
- 116 (1) Analysis of Recent National Academy of Science Reports, by C. P. Wilson  
(2) Written Reports for Spring WDA Meeting, February 25-27, to be Distributed by February 6, 1976  
(3) Executive Committee Meeting, February 2, 1976  
(4) Western Directors Association Personnel List

In addition, I have corresponded directly with many of you and visited some of you. One general letter related to attempts to develop an acceptable set of By-laws, another of the specific efforts aimed toward improved communications channels for the SAES, the Division of Agriculture and NASULGC. Also, of course, I have communicated from time-to-time with the Executive Committee and especially with the Chairman concerning these and other matters.

On your behalf I have attended the following meetings since the WDA meeting in Coeur d'Alene:

#### August

- 5-8 Trip to Coeur d'Alene for WDA summer meeting
- 11-15 Trip to Columbus, Ohio for annual meeting of American Agricultural Economics Association, and to Atlanta, Georgia for Centennial Film Committee meeting

#### September

- 17-19 Attended International Food Delivery Systems Symposium at University of California, Berkeley

October

- 7-11 Trip to Chicago to meet with Regional Directors, and trip to Seattle to attend Wheat Utilization Conference
- 13-16 Trip to Washington, D.C. for ARI and NISARC meetings
- 21-24 Travel to Phoenix for Agricultural Experiment Station Centennial celebration; trip to Fort Collins and Reno for AES visitations and consultations
- 31-1 Attended WSRAC meeting in San Francisco

November

- 2-6 Attended meeting of Home Economics Administrators in Salt Lake City, and ARPAC meeting in Washington, D.C.
- 8-12 Trip to Houston for NASULGC annual meeting, including meetings of ESCOP, Experiment Station Section, and WDA Executive Committee
- 23-26 Attended and participated in CSRS Conference III, Luray, Virginia

December

- 3-4 Meeting of Ad Hoc Work Group on Most Important Problems in Washington, D.C.
- 5 Met with Extension-Station liaisons in Portland to plan summer WDA meeting
- 16-17 Trip to Reno, Nevada for RIC meeting
- 30 Attended Milton Friedman lecture in San Francisco

January

- 5-8 Trip to Las Vegas to attend Beltwide Cotton Production-Mechanization and Research Conferences
- 22 Talk on Regional and National Planning to Organization of Professional Employees (OPEDA) of the USDA at the Western Regional Research Center, Albany
- 26-27 Travel to Phoenix for meeting of ANCA research committee

February

- 2 Travel to San Francisco for meeting of WDA Executive Committee
- 8-14 Travel to Beltsville, MD for participation in Ad Hoc Work Group on Most Important Problems
- 9 Attended meeting of ESCOP Legislative Subcommittee in Washington, D.C.
- 18-19 Travel to Washington, D.C. to attend NISARC meeting and ESCOP Interim Committee meeting
- 22 Presented talk at OPEDA meeting at Western Regional Research Center in Albany, CA
- 23 Travel to Washington, D.C. to attend NPC meeting
- 24-27 Attended WDA meeting in Tucson

Finally, I have enjoyed very much the opportunity to work closely with C. P. Wilson on planning, RIC and related matters, and to participate with him in philosophical and policy discussions. In my opinion, he has made a major contribution toward our continuing program and its potential for the future.

## 9.0 ESCOP Report - J. M. Nielson

Items related to ESCOP will be covered in the Executive Committee report and on other agenda items.

All SAES officers will receive a copy of the Minutes of the ESCOP meeting held at Houston on November 9, 1975. Following are summaries of selected ESCOP items:

- 9.1 Commended Assistant Secretary Long for recommending that the Federal Council for Science and Technology establish a Subcommittee on Food Research, and pledged ESCOP's support in implementing the proposal. FCST established the new committee, with Secretary Long as Chairman and David Ward as Executive Officer. A copy of a letter from Assistant Secretary Long containing the charter of the new committee can be obtained from the DAL's office.
- 9.2 Took steps to organize an interagency group to plan an interagency workshop on Marketing research and its coordination (SAES, CSRS, ERS, ARS, FS and FCS).
- 9.3 Emerson Babb (IN) is evaluating Hatch Marketing research under a grant from CSRS.
- 9.4 The CRIS Operations Council has been established, with one SAES representative from each region and representatives from each USDA agency. The IR-5 Interregional Research Project on CRIS has been established at an annual rate of funding of \$125,000.
- 9.5 The National Academy of Sciences entered into a contract with EPA to undertake studies related to the environmental regulatory decision process. EPA established an Environmental Research Committee to conduct "a broad-based study of basic and applied research needs in the environmental sciences."
- 9.6 Future meetings
  - 9.6.1 The next meeting of ESCOP will be in Mobile, AL on April 28-29, 1976.
  - 9.6.2 The fall meeting will be in Washington, D.C. on October 12 to permit preparation and circulation of ESCOP recommendations prior to the NASULGC meeting in November.



## 10.0 ESCOP Legislative Subcommittee Report - A. M. Mullins/M. T. Buchanan

### 10.1 Wampler Bill

The Legislative Subcommittee met with Congressman Wampler in his office on February 9, 1976. The committee expressed appreciation to Mr. Wampler for his leadership. Mr. Wampler, in turn, commended the committee and asked for our help.

Subsequently, following considerable, favorable discussion of the draft of the bill re-introduced on February 5, an ad hoc subcommittee of the Legislative Subcommittee was designated to review the latest draft and make recommendations for its improvement. (There was a desire to keep ARPAC or something like it as a means of fostering continuing communication and cooperation among the agencies involved.) The ad hoc group was comprised of R. C. McGregor, G. M. Browning and M. T. Buchanan. The group worked well into the night of 2/9/76.

The report of the ad hoc group was accepted in concept by the Legislative Subcommittee on February 10 with a request that all concerned work towards its realization.

Among the items recommended by the ad hoc group and adopted in principle by the Legislative Subcommittee for follow-up, in testimony, and support, are the following:

- (1) Support the increases in funding and in funding authorizations as provided in the draft of 2/5/76 with added emphasis to Hatch.
- (2) Substitute for the large, cumbersome, representative and administrative committee proposed in the draft a small, policy Board which would be assisted in its activities by a modified ARPAC and by the existing joint Federal Council on Science and Technology Committee for agricultural sciences chaired by Robert Long.
- (3) Provide that the Board report annually to the President and the Congress on progress toward achieving ten-year goals to be established (or modified) each five years.
- (4) Provide for staff support.
- (5) Suggest rewording throughout (with the recognition that the specific wording may be changed many times before final adoption).

It is understood that Dr. McGregor will take an active, leadership role in fielding witnesses, correlating their testimony, etc.

Director Nielson circulated copies of statements presented to the House Committee on Agriculture on February 18, 1976 by Dr. D. G. Aldrich, President of NASULGC, and Dr. J. H. Anderson, Chairman of ESCOP. Copies of these statements can be obtained from the DAL's office.

## 10.2 Review of 1977 Executive Budget

The provisions of the 1977 Executive Budget dealing with agricultural research were compared with the recommendations of the Legislative Subcommittee as adopted by the Association. The question was raised, "Why the significant shift from specific grants to Hatch?" The answer, "Because that is what Secretary Butz held out for in line with recommendations he received from Deans and Directors." There is a footnote that would require that additional Hatch funds be used for basic research.

## 10.3 Development of 1978 ESCOP Request

The Legislative Subcommittee developed a set of budget tables and supporting materials for recommendation to ESCOP (and the Division Legislative Committee, Section, Division, Subcommittee of Executive Committee, etc.). At this stage these items are prepared under the assumptions that the FY 1977 Executive Budget will be realized and that a "cost of research" item of seven per cent will be allowed.

An item for Rural Development - Land Use of \$1,000,000 is included under Specific Grants; nothing for Rural Development Title V, P.L. 92-419, was included for FY 1977 in the Executive Budget. An item of \$500,000 is included under Specific Grants at the request of the Home Economics subcommittee for "Reallocation of family resources; alternative energy use patterns."

Further details are available from the DAL.

## 10.4 Development of Analytical Data for OMB

There was recognition within the Legislative Subcommittee of an urgent need to develop analytical models, and to utilize them, for the preparation of analytical data for OMB, for the Congress, and for other uses related to budget justification and support. There also was discussion of the probable desirability of a major change in the manner in which the Legislative Subcommittee addresses itself to the whole subject of budget preparation, justification and support.

These items likely will receive continuing attention. We are asked to give our best thought to improvements that might be made.

## DISCUSSION:

DAL Buchanan pointed out the organizational "pluses" of the Bill: (1) an Assistant Secretary for Research and Education, (2) staff to implement the program, (3) a policy board which will prepare a ten-year plan to be modified every five years, (4) an annual report presented to the President and the Congress.

Director Kendrick noted that NASULGC contains many non-land grant institutions with agricultural programs who would be unlikely to support a bill proposing large increases in formula funds. For this reason, the Wampler Bill provides for large increases in special grants. He also noted that up to this time the Bill has been opposed by the USDA, partly on the basis of not wanting the Congress to dictate what Assistant Secretaries there should be.

Dr. Ronningen discussed negotiated overhead rates required by circular A-95, pointing out that Hatch formula funds are exempt from these rates, but special grants may very well be subject to them.

Dean Mullins moved, and it was seconded, that the WDA strongly support the inclusion of an item on increased costs of doing research in the Executive Budget request.

(Action of WDA: PASSED) (See also motion at end of CSRS Report, page 16.)

#### 11.0 Committee of Nine - M. L. Wilson

This is a brief synopsis of the actions taken at the December 3-4, 1975 meeting of the Committee of Nine.

##### 11.1 The Advisory Council for IR-5 consists of:

W. E. Urban, Jr. - New Hampshire  
 S. P. Wilson - Alabama, Chairman  
 H. R. Lund - North Dakota  
 L. D. Swindale - Hawaii

The Committee of Nine has related to the Chairman of IR-5 their concern about getting better service from CRIS at lower costs.

##### 11.2 The Committee of Nine recommended approval of each of the project proposals for activation January 1, 1976.

NE-100 Recreation Marketing Adjustments in the Northeast.  
 New. January 1, 1976 through September 30, 1979  
 S-77 Preservation and Utilization of Germ Plasm in Cotton.  
 Revised. January 1, 1976 through September 30, 1980.  
 S-107 Soybean Production and Management Simulation Models.  
 New. January 1, 1976 through September 30, 1980.  
 S-108 Development of Hydrologic/Water Quality Models for  
 Agriculture and Forestry. New. January, 1976 through  
 September 30, 1980.

- 11.3 The Committee of Nine recommended approval of each of the project proposals for activation October 1, 1976.

NC-137 Evaluation of Alternative Rural Freight Transportation Storage and Distribution Systems. New. October 1, 1976 through September 30, 1981.

S-10 Breeding Methods for Beef Cattle in Southern Region. Revised. October 1, 1976 through September 30, 1981.

S-49 Genetic Methods of Improving Dairy Cattle for the South. Revised. October 1, 1976 through September 30, 1981.

- 11.4 The Committee of Nine Subcommittee on the revision of RRF Manual of Procedures noted in their September 29-30 meeting that the action of the WDA conflicts with 2.9 of the Manual of Procedures. Motion carried that the Committee of Nine reaffirm their support of the present policy set forth in the paragraph 2.9 of the Manual of Procedures for Cooperative Regional Research which places responsibility for the administrative direction for the planning and operation of each cooperative regional project on a research administrator (Administrative Advisor) selected from one of the State Agricultural Experiment Stations of the region.

- 11.5 "The Role of Air Transported Materials Precipitated onto Land in the Performance of Plants."

Dr. Cowling of North Caroling briefed the Committee on work underway worldwide to measure changes in the chemistry of atmospheric deposition. He presented a proposed interregional project to establish an Experiment Station network to measure these changes. The motion was made and carried that \$6,000 be approved off the top and allocated to S-65 at North Carolina to provide funds for the planning and development of an IR project dealing with this subject.

- 11.6 A motion was made and carried that the Committee of Nine recommend to CSRS that consideration be given to changing the reporting year for Station projects to April 1 - March 31.

## 12.0 National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee - M. A. Massengale

The National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee has met twice since I last reported to you. The first meeting was held on October 1, 1975 in Washington, D.C., and the second on January 15, 1976 in New Orleans.

At the October meeting, the agenda consisted primarily of three items: (1) a review of ARS and ERS research work on cotton; (2) updating of the committee on consulting firms evaluation of CI program; and (3) discussion of responsibility of the committee.

Drs. Preston LaFerney and Dick Jones reviewed the ERS program relating to cotton and Dr. James Pate summarized the ARS work. Major thrusts in the ERS program include (a) situation and outlook, (b) cotton production costs, (c) cotton production systems, (d) economics of processing, handling and merchandising cotton and other fibers, (e) quality, demand and utilization, (f) analysis of agricultural programs and policies affecting the cotton production sector, and (g) performance and national impact of the fibers industry.

Dr. Pate reviewed the ARS research program according to the following categories: (a) genetics, breeding and taxonomy, (b) fiber quality, (c) cotton physiology, (d) pathology, (e) weed control, (f) irrigation and soils research, and (g) harvesting and engineering.

Mr. Alvin Deck of the Agricultural Marketing Service of USDA discussed the evaluation of Cotton, Inc. He indicated that the evaluation program was initiated about one year ago. The Hadley-Ford consulting firm of New York was selected to conduct this evaluation. Mr. Peter Noonan of the Hadley-Ford firm was in attendance at the meeting and visited with a number of committee members. He indicated that it would be about five months before their firm would complete the report.

There was considerable discussion about the duties, responsibilities, and authority and how the committee was functioning. It was decided that the committee would organize into subgroups to give further attention to cotton research needs and the coordination of these needs. The following subgroups were developed: (1) cotton insects, (2) diseases, (3) weeds, (4) mechanization, (5) improvement, (6) pollution, and (7) marketing and economics and utilization. Each subgroup was chaired by a member of the National Committee. I served as Chairman of the Improvement subgroup.

Chairmen of the subgroups were instructed to obtain other representation from the cotton industry for their subgroups and to review where we are in cotton research in that area, establish priorities for future research, and make recommendations as to which agencies should initiate the new work.

The subgroups all met during December and early January and reported at the National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee meeting in New Orleans on January 15, 1976. At the New Orleans meeting, it was decided that the subgroups needed further work and that it would be desirable if they could all follow the same format in reporting. The subgroups agreed to continue their work and present their final reports at the March meeting of the NCRCC.

Dr. James Pate, Assistant Area Director for Arizona-New Mexico, ARS, USDA, will become the new Chairman of the Improvement subgroup, and Dr. Lowell Lewis, Associate Dean for Research at the University of California at Riverside will become the WDA representative to the NCRCC.

Thank you for the opportunity of representing the WDA on the NCRCC.

### 13.0 Extension/Station Liaison Representatives - J. R. Cox/J. B. Kendrick

Extension Director Cox reported on several items of concern to Extension directors.

#### 13.1 Executive Budget request

ECOP has planned a strategy to attempt to get \$48 million restored to the Executive Budget request for extension activities. ECOP established priorities among the funding areas, which included, among others, (a) a 6.3% request for increased operating costs, (b) penalty mail, (c) money for small farms and part-time farming, and (d) Title V Rural Development funds.

Director Kendrick noted that the Division Executive Committee had been very pleased with the manner in which ECOP had developed the budget package and identified priority items.

#### 13.2 Western Marketing Information Project

Lowell Watts is in charge of this evaluation, and the Extension Directors will be meeting in a couple of weeks to finalize a proposal. They will undoubtedly need some help from Experiment Station Directors, and the WDA Chairman may be asked to appoint some people to help in this evaluation in the near future.

#### 13.3 Federal legislation has been proposed to establish an energy extension service within ERDA. ERDA could contract with CES to implement this program, and will likely be soliciting proposals from states in the near future in an effort to develop contractual arrangements. Extension Directors are receptive to this proposal.

#### 13.4 Summer joint WDE-WDA meeting

There is currently a joint Extension-Station committee on regional publications which may be able to make a report at the summer meeting.

Director Kendrick noted that the program committee is trying to develop a program for the summer meeting that will be productive as well as provocative, emphasizing coordination and closer linkage between agricultural programs in research and extension.

### 14.0 Western Rural Development Center Report - J. R. Cox

The new Board of Directors met February 3-4 in Portland, together with the old Advisory Committee. The Board will make nominations and organize a new Advisory Committee, which will meet henceforth. The Board feels the Center has operated more smoothly since the reorganization of the lines of responsibility.

At the February meeting, the Board gave some specific direction to the center activity, including: (1) the social marginalization project as outlined in the proposed plan of work should be completed by September 30, 1977; (2) future WRDC activities will be confined to supporting

extension education and extension activities in the western states; (3) P.L. 89-106 funds and part of Title V research funds will be used for performance contracts to facilitate research in the west; (4) since the funding for the Assistant Director position is uncertain at the present, the Board decided not to fill the position which will be vacated by Dr. Sorenson until financial resources are available.

Director Davis added that the intent of the Board's actions was to externalize the Center's research program by contracting with various institutions rather than developing a large in-house research program.

The Center is currently operating under \$75,000 from P.L. 89-106 funds, \$75,000 from Title V, a small Rockefeller Foundation grant, and Oregon State University pays some of the salaries.

Director Cox will be contacting Extension and Station Directors in the near future for nominations for the Advisory Committee.

Dean Mullins moved, seconded by Director Mitchell, that the WDA approve the actions of the WRDC Board of Directors.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 15.0 BLM Analysis of Federal Range Resources in the West - D. W. Bohmont

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 required federal agencies to file Environmental Impact Statements (EIS's) on all major actions. A federal court ordered study (NRDC vs. Morton) will require the preparation of 212 separate EIS's over the next 13 years. The process that will be followed is summarized on page 31.

Because the majority of Nevada's land is federally-owned, these actions will have a great impact within that state. A news release on the actions Nevada has taken is contained below.\*

"A new University of Nevada, Reno, project to represent Nevada interests in the Bureau of Land Management's upcoming series of grazing EIS's was recently announced by Director Bohmont of the College of Agriculture. The project will be carried out by the Cooperative Extension Service under the direction of John L. Artz, Extension Range Specialist. 'The project is designed,' according to Bohmont, 'to keep the public informed of the processes, alternatives and issues as they develop so Nevadans can intelligently and effectively make their interests and concerns known.'

"A federal court ordered study (NRDC vs. Morton) is currently underway by BLM which will require the preparation of 212 separate EIS's over the next 13 years. The focus of these statements will be the impact of livestock grazing on lands administered by BLM. In Nevada there will be 18 separate studies starting with the Tonopah Resource Area which is now in process. The studies will effectively establish land use policy over 69% of the land area of Nevada. Directly affected by these studies is the

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\*By John L. Artz, Extension Range Specialist, University of Nevada, Reno

\$100 million livestock industry which is dependent on the federal lands for about 30% of its year-round forage supplies. Less directly affected but equally impacted will be the future of the State's watersheds, fish and wildlife, mineral resources, recreational opportunities, open space and space for growth and development. Since these are federal lands, it is appropriate that a federal agency conduct and be responsible for the studies. It is equally important, however, that such studies are carefully reviewed by informed Nevadans to insure that they are based on the best available information and fully consider State and local interests.

"Initial stages of the project, which officially began on January 1, were developed by the University with the advice and support of the Bureau of Land Management and the Central Committee of Nevada State Grazing Boards. An advisory committee is to be organized representing other concerned State agencies and local governments. Central Committee funds are being contributed to the University to provide temporary backup assistance so the Extension Range Specialist can work nearly full time on the project at least through June 1976. Artz has identified four major areas of effort to be pursued during the first months of the project:

- (1) Become directly involved in the inventory and planning processes now being conducted by BLM. This will involve appropriate Colleges and other available expertise when possible. Resultant recommendations will be made directly to BLM where appropriate. This effort will be primarily directed towards the Tonopah Resource Area since this is the first area scheduled for completion. However, data collection is also proceeding in other BLM districts and we must attempt to keep abreast of any and all developments as they occur.
- (2) Secure cooperation by organizing an advisory committee of State agencies and local government. This committee will provide a way for other agencies and organizations to become better informed and more effectively involved.
- (3) Provide information to the general public and encourage citizen involvement. This will include educational activities to acquaint and involve local communities and organizations directly in the inventory planning and public input processes.
- (4) Develop the financing, cooperation and procedures to continue an effective program as long as necessary. The court has allowed a thirteen-year period for completion of the EIS's.

"We are pleased with the encouragement and support of the individuals and groups that have made it possible for the College to react quickly in this important activity. Plans are still flexible and we encourage comment, questions and suggestions."

It was moved by Director Bohmont, seconded by Director Jordan, that WRPC be requested to consider the establishment of a task force under an appropriate RPG with representatives of each of the western states for the purpose of coordinating and reviewing the states' participation in the development of environmental impact statements on federal lands under BLM management.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)



## THE BLM LIVESTOCK GRAZING EIS PROCESS

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 - requires federal agencies to file Environmental Impact Statements on major actions.

NRDC vs MORTON - Final judgement of 6/75 requires BLM to file 212 separate EIS's (18 in Nevada) covering environmental effects of livestock grazing on Specified Resource Areas (groupings of Allotment Management Plans) in accordance with a 13 year schedule.

THE BLM PROCESS for

URA - Unit Resource Analysis - maps, physical profile, identification of management opportunities

SEP - Social/Economic Profile

PAA - Planning Area Analysis - combines URA and SEP

MFP - Management Framework Plan - Objectives multiple-use recommendations, management policy decisions.

AMP's - Allotment Management Plans - Specific application on-the-ground which complements MFP.

EIS - Environmental Impact Statement reviewing impacts of livestock programs developed through above processes.

Draft Statement - Preliminary statement for public and "in-house" comment. 4 mos. allowed for field preparation and 2 1/2 for "in-house" processing, 1 1/2 for public hearings, comments and review (Challis Plan)

Final Statement - Modifications based on draft comments, approved by top management & filed with Council of Environmental Quality.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AMP's or legal actions to prevent

X

Continuing process on all BLM Districts - Largely informal public participation. Technical input by College of Agriculture will be made here.

by District personnel

X

X

Conducted by non-district personnel. Formal public participation procedures over 1 1/2 month period. State & interest groups take formal action here.

X

Little or no public participation

X

Public participation primarily through courts or individual participation in AMP implementation.

16.0 Findley-Humphrey, Title XII Amendment - Glenn Beck (AID)

16.1 What is Title XII?

This is an amendment to the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975. It is entitled "Famine Prevention and Freedom from Hunger" and is referred to as the Findley-Humphrey Amendment. It passed both Houses of Congress in December and was signed by the President on December 20, 1975.

Essentially Title XII is an authorization to strengthen the role of U.S. universities in international agricultural development. It is primarily designed for the Land-Grant University, but may also include other universities having a demonstrable capacity in agricultural teaching, research and extension (all three, not just one).

To assist in the administration of programs authorized by this title, the President shall establish a permanent Board for International Food and Agricultural Development. The Board consists of seven members, not less than four to be selected from the universities. Provisions are made for the Board to name two joint committees, a Joint Research Committee, and a Joint Country Programs Committee. These are joint in the sense of having representation from both A.I.D. and the Universities.

Title XII is authorization legislation only. It does not appropriate funds to support new programs. This must be done by the appropriation committee.

16.2 When will Title XII be Implemented?

Implementation of Title XII awaits the appointment of the Board and the two Joint Committees. Board nominees will go forward to the President this week. It is anticipated that his selections will be announced within the next month. All universities in the Land-Grant system have had an opportunity to submit candidates for consideration. The probable make-up of the Board will be three from the Land-Grant Universities, one from a non-Land-Grant University and three from the private sector.

16.3 What may be expected under Title XII?

The answer to this can only be conjecture. Title XII authorization is very broad in scope. Its specific activities will depend to a considerable extent on programs advanced by the Board and the Joint Committees. Also on appropriations. At this time the most important feature to keep in mind is the "jointness" of effort that this legislation provides. For the first time there can be a true partnership between A.I.D. and the Universities.

Some preliminary thinking has been done both within A.I.D. and the Universities. This is more advanced in conceptualizing research involvement than in technical assistance programs in the developing countries. Following is a list of special features relative to research planning that will be proposed to the Board.

- (1) A.I.D. should increase its support for agricultural research designed to increase food production and utilization in the LDCs.
- (2) The national research systems in developing countries must be strengthened.
- (3) Programs of research should be built around the major constraints to LDC food production and utilization.
- (4) These programs should be designed on a problem solving basis including adaptive research with a considerable outreach effort.
- (5) Mechanisms for linking universities together in a cooperative effort with collaborative linkages to the LDCs and the international centers should be established.
- (6) Research should be supported on a grant basis for minimum periods of five years.
- (7) In selecting universities to become involved in this programmatic research, emphasis should be placed on seeking states where there would be mutuality of benefit.
- (8) Strong efforts should be made to build strength on strength, thus evolving a cost sharing principle.

#### 17.0 ARS Report - H C Cox

Director Nielson introduced Dr. H C Cox, Deputy Administrator, Western Region ARS and formerly Associate Deputy Administrator, Southern Region ARS.

I would like to concentrate my remarks on my hopes and goals in relation to ARS and the SAES. People are becoming aware that agriculture and agricultural research needs more support. What our scientists do with our limited resources in the next few years will determine how well the world's people eat and are clothed. How well our scientists perform is dependent upon what we as research administrators do. We can work better together. Working together requires a readiness and willingness to have real communication and real dialogue.

I was disturbed to read in Wynne Thorne's report that "in all of the states contacted there have been no regular and open discussions of program plans, budget requests, or other matters of mutual interest between SAES and ARS Administrators." He suggests that each SAES director invite ARS area directors and other federal administrators for regular conferences, i.e. institute a more formal approach to communications. I hope my area directors won't wait for an invitation before contacting you.

My goals are (a) effective and productive agricultural research conducted by ARS and SAES working together, and (b) effective communications to enhance and expedite meaningful research.

We need to communicate what resources are needed to continue or augment important research programs in both ARS and SAES. We need to know when one of our programs is vital to a program within your state, so that when we sit down to make up our budgets we have an accurate idea of our respective needs.

Some people see no difference between the research programs of ARS and SAES. I feel ARS does have some unique roles, especially in the area of serving the action agencies of USDA. Hopefully with better dialogue we will be able to develop a more cooperative, less competitive approach to agricultural research.

#### DISCUSSION:

In response to a question, Dr. Cox noted that the 300 research programs of ARS have now been reorganized into 67 National Research Programs. The NRP's are now in draft form and will be reviewed during the coming months. Within ARS itself there was a great deal of discussion of the advisability of setting up a new nomenclature rather than using CRIS, but the prevailing view was the the new system could be easily cross-walked to CRIS.

#### 18.0 FS Report - R. W. Harris

##### 18.1 Personnel changes

Bob Buckman, formerly Director of the FS Station in Portland, is the new Deputy Chief of Research in the FS. He has been replaced at Portland by Bob Tarrant, formerly a soil scientist at the PNW Station.

##### 18.2 FY 1976 Budget

Forest Service has just finished a massive reorientation of goals and objectives by Congressional dictate, ending \$3 million of old research programs and instituting \$4.6 million of new research. Most of the reductions were ones that were planned for eventual termination anyway, but it did have a decisive impact on the people involved. Forty-five scientists and 14 work units were involved in the shift.

Some of the areas of new research, related to recent legislation, are: (1) \$1 million more for threatened and endangered species, offset by a reduction on fish and wildlife habitat work; (2) a substantial increase to the programs supported by the Eisenhower Consortium; (3) substantial program increases in Alaska related to environmental impacts of development activities, offset by reductions in California of fire research.

##### 18.3 FY 1977 Budget

The only change from the 1976 budget represented in the President's budget request is a modest increase in forest resources evaluation research, with increases to the FS Stations in Fort Collins, Ogden and Portland.

#### 18.4 Resources Planning Act

FS has completed an assessment of forest rangeland resources and developed a program for FS responsibility with respect to these lands as required by the Resources Planning Act. The FS national research program will be available by April, and I hope to have ASCUFRO, WRPC and RPG-2 work with this program in an attempt to identify what portion of this national program can be supported by the research community in the west.

Resources Planning Act documents were delivered to the President on January 16. The law requires the President submit the documents to Congress together with a program, but this has not yet been done. This has some significance because the Organic Act has been challenged in the courts, giving rise to the possibility of a shutdown of timber harvesting. Some people had hoped to remedy this situation by using the Resources Planning Act as the vehicle to amend the Organic Act.

#### DISCUSSION:

Dr. Harris indicated that he didn't feel research conducted by FS was uniquely different from research conducted at the SAES and ASCUFRO. In the west the emphasis has been on close cooperative efforts, developing common goals and objectives, in order to be able to use manpower and resources most effectively. ASCUFRO has now developed regional organizations, and the four FS directors in the west meet with ASCUFRO at least once a year. There is a possibility that in the future the regional foresters will also meet with ASCUFRO.

#### 19.0 ERS Report - L. E. Juers

An ERS report was not presented because Dr. Juers was unable to attend the meeting.

#### 20.0 EPA Report - J. MacKenzie

There are three regional offices in the western region--San Francisco, Seattle and Denver. I am liaison representative to the WDA from Region 9, headquartered in San Francisco, and will do my best to communicate your concerns to EPA administration.

EPA's actions, particularly in the area of pesticides, have come under considerable Congressional review during the past year, and EPA has taken heed of this in program planning for the coming year. EPA is a regulatory, enforcement agency, and does not have a charge to perform research. But it is obvious that without the technology being developed by research groups, we would not be able to perform our regulatory functions. EPA has made small sums of money available for grants to research on a short-term, ad hoc basis. The only long term funding in this region is the partial funding of the IBP program at Berkeley, which receives funds from EPA and USDA that NSF distributes to the various states for crop specific projects.

Individuals or agencies seeking to develop or propose cooperative research projects with EPA should go first to the R&D officer in the nearest regional office. The officer can then put you in contact with the appropriate person or office for developing the proposal.

#### DISCUSSION:

Director Miller asked how EPA evaluates the economic impact of some of its actions. Dr. MacKenzie noted that under FIFRA, if the EPA administrator cancels or bans a pesticide product or uses thereof, he is required to consider the economic and social costs and benefits of such an action. There is a group of scientists and economists in the Office of Pesticide Programs which prepares such an evaluation, utilizing data from a large number of research scientists. Dr. MacKenzie offered to make available to the Directors copies of the EPA administrator's order banning chlordane and heptachlor, which outline his reasons for reaching this decision.\*

Director Kendrick inquired whether the new Administrator's Pesticide Advisory Committee will have any impact on the administration of EPA programs. Dr. MacKenzie replied that Administrator Train instituted the committee in order to open up channels of communication with the agricultural research community, and the membership of the committee represents a broad cross-section of people whose interests or businesses are influenced by EPA policy. The committee advises over a broader range of topics than the implementation of FIFRA. Dr. MacKenzie offered to send the Directors information on the activities of this committee.\*

#### 21.0 RIC Report - D. D. Johnson

RIC met December 17, 1975 in Reno and discussed proposed methods of operation. RIC met again February 24, 1976 in Tucson. Present at this meeting were D. D. Johnson, R. J. Miller, W. M. Dugger, Jr., M. A. Massengale, D. B. Thorud, H C Cox, R. W. Harris, L. E. Juers, J. D. Sullivan, T. S. Ronningen, J. M. Nielson, M. T. Buchanan and J. Moak.

#### 21.1 Regional Research Report

##### 21.1.1 Regional Research Projects and Coordinating Committees Scheduled to Terminate September 30, 1976

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Adm. Advisor</u>
W-114	Institutional Structures for Improving Rural Community Services	L.L. Sammet
	<u>RIC recommends this project terminate as scheduled.</u>	
	(Action of WDA: PASSED)	
W-115	Western Region Area Development Research Center	D.L. Oldenstadt
	<u>RIC recommends this project terminate as scheduled.</u>	
	(Action of WDA: PASSED)	

\* These materials are now available upon request from the office of the DAL.

- W-116 Nutrition and Food Acceptance as  
Related to Selected Environmental  
Factors P.J. Leyendecker  
This project is discussed under item 21.1.2.1.
- W-118 Economic and Social Significance  
of Human Migration for the Western  
Region D.L. Oldenstadt  
This project is discussed under item 21.1.2.2.
- W-119 Evaluation of Alternative Land Uses  
on Forest, Range and Other Wild-  
lands G.R. Stairs  
RIC recommends this project terminate as scheduled.  
(Action of WDA: PASSED)
- W-120 Economic and Social Impact of  
Adjustment in Use of Chemicals  
in Agriculture D.W. Bohmont  
This project is discussed under item 21.1.2.3.
- W-121 Clean West: Decision-making  
Framework Involving Environ-  
mental Planning in the West R.A. Young  
RIC recommends this project terminate as scheduled.  
(Action of WDA: PASSED)
- IR-4 Evaluation of Current Data and  
Needed Research to Determine  
Tolerance Limits of Chemicals for  
Minor Uses on Agricultural Products W.M. Dugger, Jr.  
This project is discussed under item 21.1.2.4.
- IR-5 Current Research Information System L.D. Swindale  
RIC recommends this project be extended for an  
additional four years, to September 30, 1980,  
and that Director J. P. Jordan be appointed the  
Administrative Advisor.  
(Action of WDA: PASSED)
- WRCC-1 Beef Cattle Breeding J.A. Bennett  
This committee is discussed under item 21.1.4.1
- WRCC-10 Diseases and Insect Pest Management  
of Beans and Other Edible Legumes A.I. Morgan, Jr.  
RIC recommends this committee terminate as scheduled.  
(Action of WDA: PASSED)
- WRCC-13 Seed Production and Technology  
Research J.R. Cowan  
This committee is discussed under item 21.1.4.2.

- WRCC-16 Growth of the Agricultural Firm R.W. Schermerhorn  
RIC recommends this committee terminate as scheduled.  
 (Action of WDA: PASSED)
- WRCC-17 Control of Fruiting O.E. Smith  
 This committee is discussed under item 21.1.4.3.
- WRCC-18 Management of Wild Bees for the  
 Pollination of Alfalfa D.P. Moore  
 This committee is discussed under item 21.1.4.4.
- WRCC-22 Transportation for Agriculture and  
 Rural America R.J. McConnen  
 This committee is discussed under item 21.1.4.6.

#### 21.1.2 Project Revisions

##### 21.1.2.1 W-116 Nutrition and Food Acceptance as Related to Selected Environmental Factors

A request for revision of W-116 was received from  
 Director P.J. Leyendecker.

RIC recommends that a decision on this project be  
 deferred, and that the proposal be sent to the  
 Co-chairmen of RPG's 5 and 6 for evaluation as to  
 extent of effort necessary and the priority of  
 this type of research. RIC recommends the RPG  
 Co-Chairmen report back to RIC by June 1, 1976.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

##### 21.1.2.2 W-118 Economic and Social Significance of Human Migration for the Western Region

A request for revision of W-118 was received from  
 Director D. L. Oldenstadt.

RIC recommends the revised project outline entitled  
 "Impacts of Human Migration Flows and Population  
 Dispersal on Nonmetropolitan People and Places in  
 the Western Region" be submitted to the Committee  
 of Nine, commends Director Oldenstadt on the  
 quality of the proposed project outline, and  
 recommends that Director Oldenstadt continue to  
 serve as the Administrative Advisor for this  
 project.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)



21.1.2.3 W-120 Economic and Social Impact of Adjustment  
in Use of Chemicals in Agriculture

A request for revision of W-120 was received from Director D.W. Bohmont.

While RIC believes this is a high priority research area, particularly in the minor use of pesticides category, RIC recommends this proposed revision be rejected because the outline is poorly written, there is little indication of methodology, and there needs to be more biological science, statistical and legal in-put. RIC recommends that project W-120 terminate September 30, 1976, as scheduled.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

21.1.2.4 IR-4 Evaluation of Current Data and Needed Research  
to Determine Tolerance Limits of Chemicals for  
Minor Uses on Agricultural Products

A request for revision of IR-4 was received from Director W.M. Dugger on behalf of Director J.P. Mahlstedt.

RIC recommends the project revision entitled "A National Agricultural Program for Clearances of Pesticides for Minor or Specialty Uses" be submitted to the Committee of Nine, and that Director W.M. Dugger continue to serve as the western administrative advisor.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

21.1.3 Project Proposals

21.1.3.1 W- Use of Soil Factors and Soil Crop Interactions  
to Suppress Diseases Caused by Soilborne Plant  
Pathogens

A proposed project bearing the above title was received from Dr. C. M. Gilmour on behalf of WRCC-12.

RIC recommends the proposed project entitled "Use of Soil Factors and Soil Crop Interactions to Suppress Diseases Caused by Soilborne Plant Pathogens" be approved and submitted to the Committee of Nine, to be effective from October 1, 1976 to September 30, 1981.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

RIC recommends that the WDA amends its policy with regard to Administrative Advisors so that both federal research administrators and land grant department chairpersons may serve as Administrative Advisors to regional research projects and coordinating committees. In the case of department chairpersons, their respective SAES Directors will serve as their liaison with the WDA so that they will receive the benefit of the policies established at WDA meetings.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

RIC recommends Dr. C. M. Gilmour serve as Administrative Advisor of the proposed project on "Use of Soil Factors and Soil Crop Interactions to Suppress Diseases Caused by Soilborne Plant Pathogens".

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 21.1.3.2 W- Climatic and Phenological Models for Resource Planning and Management

A proposed project bearing the above title was received from Director J.A. Asleson.

RIC recommends the proposed project entitled "Climatic and Phenological Models for Resource Planning and Management" be approved and submitted to the Committee of Nine, to be effective from October 1, 1976 to September 30, 1981, and that Director Asleson serve as Administrative Advisor.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 21.1.4 WRCC Extensions and Revisions

##### 21.1.4.1 WRCC-1 Beef Cattle Breeding

A request for a three-year extension of WRCC-1 was received from Dr. J.A. Bennett.

RIC recommends WRCC-1 be extended from October 1, 1976 to September 30, 1979, and that Dr. J. A. Bennett continue as the Administrative Advisor.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

##### 21.1.4.2 WRCC-13 Seed Production and Technology Research

A request for a three-year extension of WRCC-13 was received from Dr. J. R. Cowan.

RIC recommends WRCC-13 be extended from October 1, 1976 to September 30, 1979, and that Dr. J.R. Cowan continue to serve as the Administrative Advisor, and endorses WRCC-13's request to RPG-3 to consider the establishment of a task force on Seed Production and Technology.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 21.1.4.3 WRCC-17 Control of Fruiting

A request for a two-year extension of WRCC-17 was received from Dr. O.E. Smith.

RIC recommends WRCC-17 be extended from October 1, 1976 to September 30, 1978 (which would keep it in sequence with project W-130), and that Dr. O.E. Smith continue as the Administrative Advisor.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 21.1.4.4 WRCC-18 Management of Wild Bees for the Pollination of Alfalfa

A request for a three-year extension of WRCC-18 was received from Director D. P. Moore.

RIC recommends that WRCC-18 terminate as scheduled September 30, 1976, and that its participants be encouraged to merge their activities with project W-139, "Maximizing the Effectiveness of Bees as Pollinators of Agricultural Crops".

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

#### 21.1.4.5 WRCC-21 Massive Displacement of Land from Coal and Shale Mining

A request for a slight change in objective and title of WRCC-21 was received from Director M.L. Wilson.

RIC recommends that the title of WRCC-21 be changed to "Mine Waste Reclamation on Land Displaced by Coal, Oil Shale, and Other Mining Activities," and that the objective be changed to read "to coordinate research on the reclamation of mine waste resulting from mining of coal, oil shale, heavy metals, uranium, and other mine resources."

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

21.1.4.6 WRCC-22 Transportation for Agriculture and Rural America

A verbal request for extension of WRCC-22 was received from Dr. R. J. McConnen.

RRC recommends WRCC-22 be extended to September 30, 1977, and that Dr. R. J. McConnen continue as Administrative Advisor.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

21.1.5 WRCC Petitions

21.1.5.1 WRCC- Diseases and Pests of Grape Crops

A petition for a WRCC in the above entitled area was received from Director J. M. Nielson.

RIC recommends that the petition, re-entitled "Pests of Grape Crops", be submitted to the Western Directors and federal agency administrators for polling of possible participants, and that the petition together with a list of possible participants be resubmitted to RIC by July 1, 1976. Director Johnson will conduct the polling.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

21.1.5.2 WRCC- Diseases of Landscape Plants

A petition for a WRCC in the above entitled area was received from Dr. L.W. Moore, plant pathologist at Oregon State University.

RIC recommends the petition be returned to Dr. Moore in order that the objectives be broadened to include diseases, pests, and weeds, and that Western Directors be polled for possible participants. RIC recommends Dr. Moore resubmit the petition to RIC by July 1, 1976.

After discussion, it was decided that RIC Chairman Johnson will handle this request administratively with Dr. Moore and Dr. Foote, and that by July, RIC will finalize a policy statement concerning WRCC's.

(Action of WDA: TABLED)

## 21.1.6 Project Reviews

21.1.6.1 The following projects and coordinating committees were scheduled for in-depth review by RIC and appear to be progressing satisfactorily with good publication records, adequate resources, and the technical committees are following project objectives:

- W-6 Introduction, Multiplication, Maintenance, Evaluation and Cataloguing of Plant Germ Plasm
- W-67 Application of Information on Water-Soil-Plant Relations to Use and Conservation of Water
- W-82 Dissipation and Degradation of Herbicides and Related Compounds in Soil and Water Systems  
No written reports on this project were received, but Director Thorud assured RIC that this project was progressing satisfactorily.
- W-121 Clean West: Decision-making Framework Involving Environmental Planning in the West
- W-124 Soil as a Waste Treatment System
- W-125 Soil Interpretations and Socio-Economic Criteria for Land Use Planning
- W-126 Physiological Criteria for Forage, Range and Pasture Plant Breeding
- W-134 Research, Development and Use of Nematode Pest Management Systems
- W-135 Limiting Stress of Food Producing Animals to Increase Efficiency
- W-136 Poultry Production and Environmental Quality
- W-139 Maximizing the Effectiveness of Bees as Pollinators of Agricultural Crops  
No written reports on this project were received since the committee planned to meet February 23-24, 1976.
- IR-1 Introduction, Preservation, Classification, Distribution and Evaluation of Solanum Species
- WRCC-19 Drainage Design Research
- WRCC-20 Virus and Virus-like Diseases of Fruit Crops
- WRCC-21 Mine Waste Reclamation on Land Displaced by Coal, Oil Shale and Other Mining Activities

21.1.6.2 The following projects were also reviewed in-depth:

- W-68 Soil Water and Its Management in the Field  
Unless the 1976 annual report and Administrative Advisor's evaluation indicate that there has been

a greater degree of coordination, planning and prioritizing, RIC will recommend this project terminate September 30, 1977 or become a WRCC.

W-84 Environmental Improvement Through Biological Control and Pest Management

Unless the 1976 annual report and Administrative Advisor's evaluation indicate that there has been a greater degree of coordination, planning and prioritizing, RIC will recommend this project terminate September 30, 1977 or become a WRCC. RIC encourages the technical committee to draw in scientists from plant pathology and nematology.

W-122 Discovery and Control of Natural Toxicants in the Food Chain

RIC recognizes this is an important, consumer-oriented, area of work, but unless the 1976 annual report and Administrative Advisor's evaluation indicate that there has been a greater degree of coordination, planning and prioritizing, RIC will recommend this project terminate as scheduled on September 30, 1977 or become a WRCC.

W-123 Evaluating Management of Predators in Relation to Domestic Animals

No written reports on this project were received, but RIC assumes the project is progressing satisfactorily.

W-131 Development of Integrated Strategies for the Management of Mosquito Populations

Unless the 1976 annual report and Administrative Advisor's evaluation indicate that there has been a greater degree of coordination, planning and prioritizing, RIC will recommend this project terminate September 30, 1977 or become a WRCC.

W-132 Genotype-Environment Interactions Related to End Product Uses in Small Grains

RIC notes from the Administrative Advisor's evaluation that there needs to be greater concentration on just a few of the project's objectives, and recommends that this be done during the coming year or RIC will recommend this project terminate on September 30, 1977 or become a WRCC.

W-133 Determinants of Choice in Outdoor Recreation

RIC recommends this technical committee actively seek participation by western Forest Service recreation specialists and resource economists.

- W-137      Increased Efficiency in Marketing of Lamb and Mutton
- RIC notes this project's need for additional resources, and strongly recommends the technical committee sharpen its focus and actively seek participation by agricultural economists and sociologists.
- W-138      Herbicidal Modification of Plant Environment and Its Prediction
- RIC notes this is an important area of work and encourages the technical committee members to improve the coordination of their efforts in order to make this a more truly regional project than has been evidenced in the past.
- W-140      Energy in Western Agriculture--Requirements, Adjustments and Alternatives
- RIC notes that the progress of this project may lag this year due to the planned sabbaticals of several technical committee members, and encourages Western Directors to continue assigning resources for research in this area. This project has had the additional assignment of serving as a task force for RPG-1.
- W-141      Distribution Among Rural People of Benefits and Costs of Selected Government Programs
- This area was identified as a high priority research area by a task force of RPG-5. RIC recommends the technical committee broaden its efforts in order to encourage greater participation by other scientists, and also recommends the technical committee establish a closer working relationship with ERS.
- WM-61      Impact of Changes in World Food Supply-Demand Conditions Upon Selected Agricultural Factor Markets
- RIC recognizes the importance of this area of work and the fact that it is one of only three western region marketing projects. RIC recommends Western Directors encourage the project's participants to devote a greater percentage of their time to this effort.
- WRCC-8      Range Livestock Nutrition
- RIC recommends this coordinating committee seek participation by more range scientists.

21.1.6.3 RIC reviewed the Administrative Advisor's evaluations on all other regional research projects and coordinating committees and concludes they are all progressing satisfactorily. RIC notes the following:

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| W-102 | Biological Protection of Livestock Against Internal Parasites   |
|       | No Administrative Advisor's evaluation was received.  |
| W-110 | Relationships and Interactions Between Pathogens, Their Hosts, and Attacks by Bark Insects                                    |
|       | RIC encourages the Administrative Advisor in his attempt to get closer coordination with Forest Service efforts in this area. |
| W-116 | Nutrition and Food Acceptance as Related to Selected Environmental Factors  |
|       | No Administrative Advisor's evaluation was received.  |
| W-119 | Evaluation of Alternative Land Uses on Forest, Range and Other Wildlands  |
|       | RIC notes the technical committee intends to submit a proposed revision of this project.                                      |
| W-120 | Economic and Social Impact of Adjustment in Use of Chemicals in Agriculture   |
|       | No Administrative Advisor's evaluation was received.  |
| W-127 | Stand Establishment as Related to Mechanized Production of Vegetables   |
|       | RIC notes the Administrative Advisor has expressed concern that progress is limited due to limited resource support.          |
| W-129 | Salinity Management in the Colorado River Basin   |
|       | RIC notes the Administrative Advisor's evaluation of this project's function as essentially a coordinating one.               |
| W-130 | Improving Stability of Deciduous Fruit Production by Reducing Freeze Damage   |
|       | RIC notes the Administrative Advisor has expressed concern that progress is limited due to limited resource support.          |
| W-143 | Nutrient Bioavailability--A Key to Human Nutrition  |
|       | RIC notes the Administrative Advisor's recommendation that additional scientists need to be involved in this project.         |



- W-145 Impacts of Relative Price Changes of Feeds and Cattle on the Marketing of U.S. Beef  
RIC notes that this technical committee is organized differently than most, and will be interested in watching its progress.
- WRCC-10 Diseases and Insect Pest Management of Beans and Other Edible Legumes  
No Administrative Advisor's evaluation was received.
- WRCC-15 Systems for Mechanized Harvesting of Lettuce (Including Technological Assessment)  
RIC recommends this coordinating committee terminate September 30, 1976, and that its participants merge their activities with those of W-127, "Stand Establishment as Related to Mechanized Production of Vegetables."  
(Action of WDA: PASSED)
- WRCC-16 Growth of the Agricultural Firm  
RIC notes this committee is preparing a regional project outline.
- WRCC-22 Transportation for Agriculture and Rural America  
No Administrative Advisor's evaluation was received.

21.1.6.4 RIC notes that a number of Administrative Advisor's evaluations and annual project reports were not recieved in time for RIC review. RIC recommends that in the future, all projects and coordinating committees whose reports are not received by the stated deadline be terminated at the end of the current fiscal year.

(Action of WDA: TABLED)

#### 21.1.7 Off-the-Top Funding

RIC recommends approval of the requests for off-the-top funding as follows:

<u>Project &amp; State</u>		<u>FY 1976 Allotment</u>	<u>FY 1977 Funds Requested</u>	<u>FY 1977 Funds Recommended</u>
W-6	Oregon	500	800	800
	Washington	102,394	129,962	129,962
		<u>\$102,894</u>	<u>\$130,762</u>	<u>\$130,762</u> 1/
W-84	California	\$18,000	\$18,000	<u>\$18,000</u> 2/
W-106	California	\$32,500	\$41,000	<u>\$41,000</u> 3/

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

1/ Total increase of \$27,868 for increased salaries (\$18,268), an inflationary cost increase for supplies and services (\$2,100), equipment (\$7,200).

2/ For support of Albany and Riverside insectaries.

3/ For support of DAL's office.

#### 21.1.8 Follow-up of "on line" projects

##### 21.1.8.1 W- Regional Climatic Models for Environmental Resources Planning and Management

RIC has recommended that the project outline entitled "Climatic and Phenological Models for Resource Planning and Management" be submitted to the Committee of Nine.

##### 21.1.8.2 W- Worker Safety Re-entry Intervals for Pesticide-Treated Crops

This project proposal has been submitted to the Committee of Nine for action at its April meeting.

##### 21.1.8.3 W- Relationship Between Factors for Disease and Insect Resistance and Nutritional Value in Phaseolus Vulgaris

WRCC-10 has been charged with developing a project proposal in this area.

#### 21.1.9 Committee of Nine Actions

##### 21.1.9.1 Eligibility for Administrative Advisorships

At the December 3-4, 1975 C/9 meeting, the C/9 reaffirmed support for the current policy of allowing only SAES Directors, Associate and Assistant Directors to serve as Administrative Advisors.

RIC supports the Executive Committee motion that the western representatives to the C/9 develop, present and support a statement that reflects the philosophy of RIC and the WDA concerning the appointment of federal agency representatives and department heads as Administrative Advisors to regional research projects.

RIC recommends that western representatives to the C/9 be asked to sit with RIC on an ex-officio basis when regional research projects and coordinating committees are considered.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

## 21.1.9.2 Guam

RIC notes from the C/9 December minutes that Guam has submitted a contributing project to W-84 and W-128, and that the C/9 has approved the contribution to W-84. RIC wishes to inform the C/9 that Guam has not yet submitted a request for a contributing project to the W-128 technical committee.

## 21.1.9.3 Proposed Interregional Project on Effects of and Measurement of Atmospheric Deposition

RIC feels the expenditure of off-the-top RRF funds to pay the expenses of regional representatives attending a meeting to prepare an inter-regional project proposal in the above-entitled area of work was inappropriate for the reasons listed below, and requests the western representatives to the C/9 to so inform the Committee:

- (1) The project has not surfaced regionally or nationally through appropriate planning and priority assignment systems, such as RPC;
- (2) The proposed project is not appropriate to the Agricultural Experiment Station mission--the area of concern is more appropriate to EPA or NOAA;
- (3) As presented, the effort is in monitoring, not in research;
- (4) The proposed project was circulated in a manner which gave no more than a selected few Directors an opportunity to evaluate, participate or reject it.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

## 21.1.10 Personnel Reassignments

RIC recommends the following personnel reassignments:

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| W-125  | Soil Interpretations and Socio-Economic Criteria for Land Use Planning -- R. A. Young (NV) |
| W-127  | Stand Establishment as Related to Mechanized Production of Vegetables -- J.M. Lyons (CA)   |
| W-128  | Trickle Irrigation to Improve Crop Production and Water Management -- J. R. Davis (OR)     |
| W-138  | Herbicidal Modification of Plant Environment and Its Prediction -- C. E. Hess (CA)         |
| IR-5   | Current Research Information System -- J.P. Jordan (CO)                                    |
| WRCC-8 | Range Livestock Nutrition -- L. W. Dewhirst (AZ)   |

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

## 21.1.11 Personnel Assignments

Asleson, J.A.	W- Climatic and Phenological Models for Resource Planning and Management
Ayres, L.C.	W-133
**Bennett, J.A. (UT)	WRCC-1
Bohmont, D.W.	W-120
*Brooks, S.N.	W-126
Burris, M.J.	W-112
Card, C.S.	W-102
Clark, C.E.	W-122
**Cowan, J.R. (OR)	WRCC-13
Davis, J.R.	W-68, W-128
Dewhirst, L.W.	WRCC-8
Dugger, W.M., Jr.	IR-4, WRCC-15
*Evans, C.E.	W-67
Foote, W.H.	W-132, IR-1
Gifford, E.D.	WRCC-23
**Gilmour, C.M. (ID)	W- Use of Soil Factors and Soil Crop Interactions to Suppress Diseases Caused by Soilborne Plant Pathogens, WRCC-12
Gledhill, V.W.	W-141
**Hackett, W.P. (CA)	WRCC-11
Hess, C.E.	W-131, W-138
Johnson, D.D.	W-129
Jordan, J.P.	W-143, IR-5
*Kendrick, E. L.	W-134
Kendrick, J.B., Jr.	W- Worker Safety Re-entry Intervals for Pesticide Treated Crops
Lee, D.J.	W-45
Leyendecker, P.J.	W-116
Lyons, J.M.	W-127
Matthews, D.J.	W-123
*McClellan, W.D.	W-130
**McConnen, R.J. (MT)	WRCC-22
Miller, R.J.	W-124
Moore, D.P.	W-139, IR-2, WRCC-18

Moreng, R.E.	W-136, W-142
*Morgan, A.I., Jr.	WRCC-10
Mullins, A.M.	W-137, W-145
Nielson, J.M.	W-106, WM-61
Oldenstadt, D.L.	W-115, W-118
*Plowman, R.D.	W-135
Rice, R.R.	W-144
Robins, J.S.	W-109
Sammet, L.L.	W-114, W-140
**Schafer, J.F. (WA)	WRCC-20
**Schermerhorn, R.W. (ID)	WRCC-16
**Smith, O.E. (WA)	WRCC-17
Stairs, G.R.	W-119
Thorud, D.B.	W-82
*van Schilfgaarde, J.	WRCC-19
Waters, W.E.	W-84, W-110
Wilson, M.L.	W-6, WRCC-21
Young, R.A.	W-121, W-125

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\* ARS personnel

\*\* Department Head

## 21.2 Discussion of Regional Research Procedures

RIC formulated the following guidelines to aid Administrative Advisors in the performance of their duties:

### 21.2.1 Preparation of a project proposal

- . It is advisable for the appointed Administrative Advisor to get together with several scientists to draft a pre-ad hoc technical committee meeting statement of the objectives for the proposed project, including if possible identifying desired participants. This could then be circulated to Western Directors and federal research administrators to help them in selecting participants to attend the ad hoc technical committee meeting.
- . At the ad hoc technical committee meeting help the committee draft truly regional objectives, which can be accomplished in the five-year time period, even at the expense of rejecting contributing projects which may not contribute to the main thrusts of the project.

### 21.2.2 Conduct of an annual technical committee meeting:

- . Plan the session so there is sufficient time for planning future work, setting priorities and assigning research responsibilities--make the meeting more than just a reporting session. Assure that there is a great deal of coordination of effort.
- . It is advisable not to hold the technical committee meeting in conjunction with some other meeting, although if this is done try to make the technical committee meeting first.
- . It is not necessary to change the committee chairman every year -- if the chairman is effective and willing to continue in the position, encourage the committee to reappoint him or her. In the past, some committees have even used full-time project coordinators.
- . If the objectives of the project outline are obviously too broad to be completed in the allotted time, direct the committee to limit their efforts to narrower objectives.
- . Discourage the committee from assuming that if the work is not completed within five years they can automatically get an extension of time.
- . Discourage the committee from accepting new contributing projects which are really not geared to the stated project objectives.
- . If in-put from other disciplines is needed to accomplish the project's objectives, resolicit participation from the Western Directors and federal research administrators.

### 21.2.3 Reporting on regional projects and coordinating committees:

- . Provide the extent of direction necessary in order to get annual reports and minutes submitted to RIC and CSRS by the February 1 deadline. RIC has recommended that in the future, projects whose reports are not received on time should be terminated at the end of the current fiscal year.

### DISCUSSION:

Director Jordan moved, and it was seconded, that the WDA commend RIC on the performance of its responsibilities.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

## 22.0 Minor Use Pesticides Research - Moderator: W.M. Dugger, Jr.

The participants in the discussion included: Dr. W. M. Dugger, Jr., Associate Director of the California Station and western administrative representative on IR-4; Dr. W. W. Kilgore, Chairman of the Department of Environmental Toxicology at U.C. Davis and Director of the Davis IR-4 leader laboratory; Dr. J. E. Swift, Statewide Pesticide Coordinator for California and coordinator of the western IR-4 project; Dr. G. W. Ware, Chairman of the Department of Entomology at the University of Arizona and a member of the Executive Committee of the western liaison officers; Dr. K. C. Walker, Assistant to the Administrator, Emergency Program Staff, Agricultural Research Service.

### Dugger:

Each state has a designated liaison representative to the IR-4 project, who is responsible for setting up priority lists for minor crops pesticide use for his/her respective state. In this way we hope to eventually have a priority list for the region. The 1975 contract between the western leader laboratory at Davis and CSRS was unsatisfactory to the liaison representatives because it did not allow them in-put on the priorities assigned to work handled by the leader lab. The USDA originally found the contract unacceptable because it allowed the lab to contract out to the various states much of the analytical work. However, this provision is now acceptable to USDA and the other leader labs are following suit. A new contract was drawn up and a copy can be obtained from the office of the DAL. The west was also unique in assigning a coordinator to the project, Dr. J. E. Swift, to assist the leader lab director and the liaison officers in developing the protocols and procedures to be followed in submitting registration requests to the IR-4 headquarters at Rutgers, which in turn submits the requests to EPA. A diagram of the western IR-4 leader lab program is contained on page 54. A summary of the progress of the IR-4 program prepared by CSRS and distributed by Dr. Ronningen is contained as appendix B.

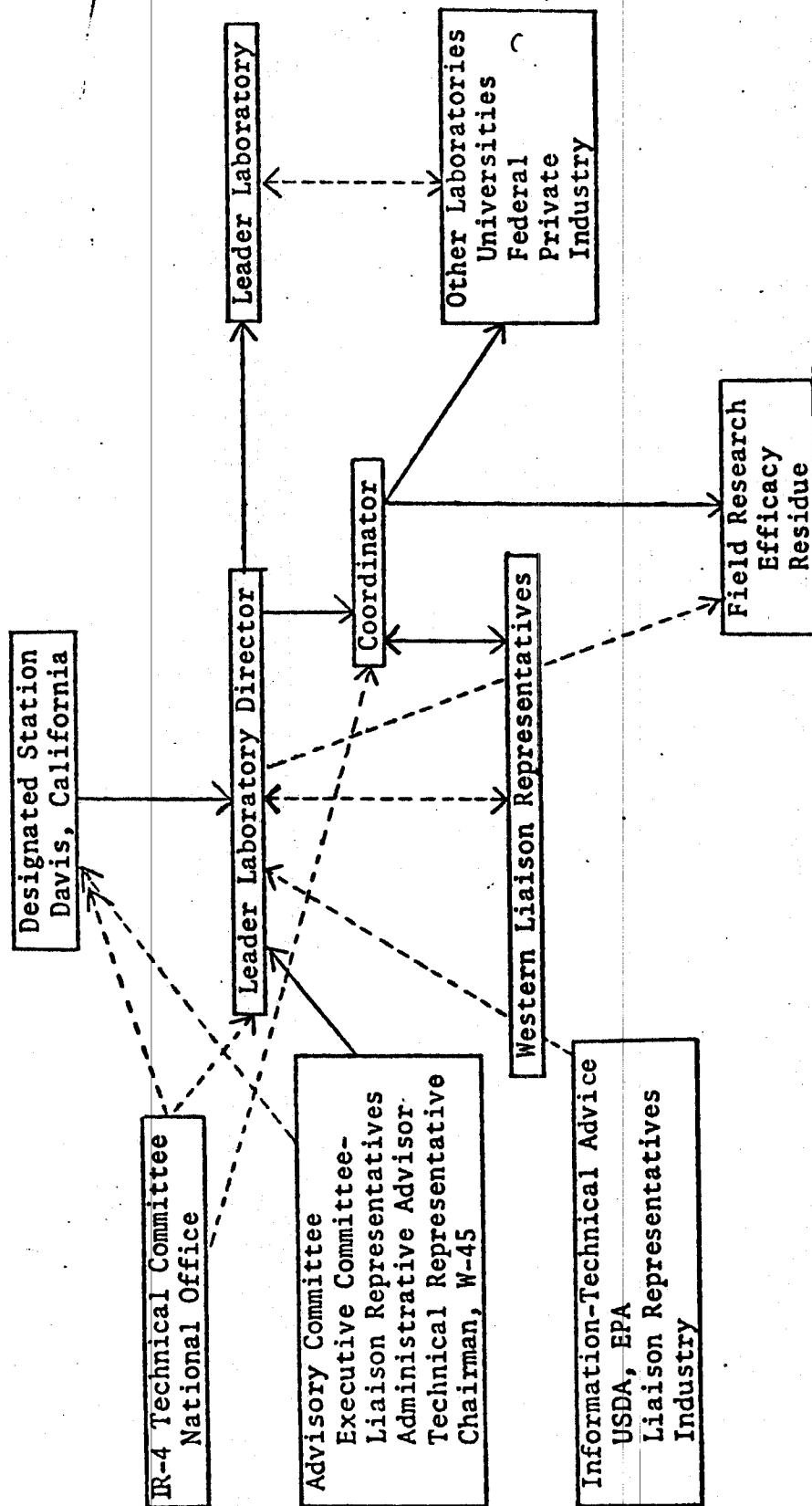
### Kilgore:

The leader lab at Davis will do the analytical work as needed and requested, but the intent is to keep as little money as possible for work at the lab and contract with the various states to do the required analyses. The leader lab will contact the liaison officer in a state and make the officer responsible for the residue or field work and the contractual negotiations for the analytical work. It is the state's responsibility to determine its needs and priorities with respect to pesticide use on minor crops, and then perform the sample plot work. The leader lab will assist in getting the analytical work done.

### Ware:

The Advisory Committee to the western leader lab consists of the executive committee of the liaison officers, the western IR-4 Administrative Advisor (W. M. Dugger), the western IR-4 technical representative (V. H. Freed), the western IR-4 coordinator (J. E. Swift), and the chairman of the W-45 technical committee. The function of the Advisory Committee is to advise and consult with the coordinator and the director of the leader lab, and to develop the priority list of pesticides needing registration.

## IR-4 Leader Laboratory Program - Western Region



11/21/75



If a company is not interested in assuming the liability for a minor crops registration, the crop cannot be registered. In a few cases, grower groups have assumed this liability. If there is an economic advantage, the company will do the sample and analytical work itself and obtain the registration. Other times, the company is willing to assume the liability but unwilling to pay for the sample and analytical work. These are the cases that can be handled by the IR-4 program. With the new registration regulations, many pesticides which have been registered for years on minor crops will be coming up for re-registration soon, the companies will be unwilling to assume the liability or do the residue work, and therefore a great number of the smaller crops will lose their registrations.

Walker:

Reiterated the concern with smaller crops losing their current registrations. The greatest problem right now is determining national needs for pesticide use on specialty crops. The pesticide industry has indicated it would help if we can present them with a national program, but they are unable to help on a case-by-case basis. A large number of the needs already submitted were on food and feed crops, with very few on environmental plants, forestry, turf, roadsides, rights of way, and home gardens. There is under consideration in USDA a one-year program to determine each state's needs and develop a nationwide program. Another program IR-4 hopes to be able to undertake is to make available nationwide lists of all the pesticides registered for use on a particular crop.

By late 1975 Rutgers had received 2200 requests. Rutgers returned the requests together with a form to the initiating liaison officers asking that the information required on the form be obtained and resubmitted as soon as possible. By December only 500 of the forms had been returned. Please encourage your liaison officers to return these forms since the requests cannot be submitted to EPA without the required information. The IR-4 requests are going to be competing with 20,000 state and 30,000 federal reregistrations which must be completed by October 21, 1977.

Drew Baker of EPA has been working with the Rutgers staff to filter out those requests which are unrealistic. So far, 150 protocols have been established and sent to EPA for a first review. Since IR-4 was established, about 2500 clearances have been obtained.

Swift:

#### IR-4 Western Region Objectives

- (1) Clearances for minor use or specialty use pesticides.
- (2) Maintain current information on minor use clearances especially for the west.
- (3) Determine pesticide clearances requirements both for tolerance and registration.
- (4) Develop and maintain a priority list of minor uses clearances needed in the west.

Problem:

- (1) With the 1972 amendments to FIFRA many intrastate uses and other state registrations are no longer possible. A pesticide cannot be used contrary to labelling. This has magnified the problem from something desirous to a point of being a necessity if we want to keep using certain of these chemicals.
- (2) Now that it is mandatory that a use be included in the label some companies no longer want their product used because the return is insignificant to the possible liability.
- (3) The seriousness of the problem is not recognized by many people. In some cases a full time person could be used during parts of the year until this situation is brought under control.

Approaches to Problem:

- (1) Establish a federal tolerance and obtain a registration.
- (2) Use 24c of FIFRA - "Special local needs."
  - (a) Cannot use it if a number of states involved - not local.
  - (b) Only certain states now certified to do this. In the west they are: California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Others will have to get this or work only on basis of federal registration.

IR-4 can help in the following:

- (1) Assist in the design of residue plots so that data will be acceptable and sufficient for EPA to make a decision.
- (2) Determine whether other groups have a program which will complete the registration ahead of when you could do it.
- (3) Arrange to pool the work from several states or other groups to facilitate registration.
- (4) Determine, at the highest levels, whether a company is willing to have such a registration on their label, even if all the work is done by others.
- (5) Assist in preparing residue data, efficacy data, safety data, application data, etc., into a proper form to be submitted as a petition.
- (6) Submit the petition to EPA and represent the petition on the scene. Shepherd the petition to ensure that it receives timely attention.
- (7) Search other sources (i.e., the company or other universities) for additional information if required by EPA.
- (8) Obtain waiver of registration fees by the EPA.
- (9) In some cases, IR-4 may obtain the actual chemical analyses for the residue data through regional leader laboratories or other laboratories.

IR-4 cannot help in the following:

- (1) Call the EPA and "get a registration". They must submit all the same data that a company would be asked to do.
- (2) Get a registration just because you ask for it. Someone has to get all residue, efficacy, and treatment data. In some cases they may be able to help you arrange for the production of the needed data.

- (3) Help to obtain a registration unless they can prove it is needed. Someone must bring to their attention legitimate minor crop needs.
- (4) Obtain a registration when there are other pest control registrations which are adequate.

Information necessary for IR-4 Tolerance Registration and a Petition

- I. Chemical Identity
  - A. The common and chemical name of the pesticide.
  - B. The exact formulation being tested, including concentration of the active ingredient, impurities or product composition, and solvents or diluents and EPA registration number.
- II. Proposed use
  - A. The identity of the pest (by species) and the crop.
  - B. The dosage rate, volume of application, and exact method of application.
  - C. Timing and frequency of application, including approximate calendar dates, growth stage of crop, and days before harvest.
  - D. The exact directions for use.
  - E. Any limitations, such as "no grazing" or "do not feed certain by-products".
- III. Statement of need
  - A. The acreage and value of the crop.
  - B. The nature of damage by the pest and the result of not utilizing the proposed control measure.
  - C. What other chemicals or alternatives are available and why the proposed use is needed.
- IV. Efficacy of proposed treatments
  - A. Dates and locations of tests
  - B. Variety of cultivars of crop included in tests (if several varieties are common, tests should include more than one).
  - C. Plot sizes and replicates
  - D. Performance data - percent control: should include description of infestation as being light, heavy, etc. as well as counts
  - E. Tests should include some 2X plots for phytotoxicity (and residue) reports
  - F. Yield and quality data on treated and control plots; may require comparison with alternative
  - G. If a soil application, identify soil type
- V. Toxicology
  - A. Normally already on file, but include any data on mammals or wildlife which has been requested.
  - B. Include any observations on human or wildlife effects that you have observed in your tests; if none occurred, state that also.
- VI. Residue data (if this work is done at your laboratory)
  - A. Identify the analytical method (including subsampling, extraction, cleanup, detection) by a literature citation if possible. Otherwise, include complete method. Note any changes from published method.

- B. Include results of at least 10 recovery samples at 3 fortification levels.
- C. Include results of fortifications made at time of receipt of samples and at time of extraction.
- D. Plots are to be in triplicate for 1X and 2X treatments in addition to the control plots.
- E. When the nature of the crop permits, samples should be taken so that a decline curve can be produced in addition to results on harvest samples.
- F. When gas chromatographic data is used, sample chromatograms must be included.

#### VII. Proposed Tolerance

- A. Include a clear statement of the tolerance requested.
- B. Include an exact statement of use directions which would be on the label.

#### Leader Laboratory

##### Procedure:

1. Review and evaluate the feasibility of each clearance proposal submitted by the liaison representative of the Western region states.
2. Coordinator for leader laboratory will determine:
  - a. Previous work done on the compound selected
  - b. EPA registration requirements
  - c. Capabilities of the leader laboratory or other laboratories in the region
  - d. Funding required to carry out project
  - e. Field research adequate to furnish proper samples for residue analysis and development of efficacy data
  - f. Negotiate for financial support, with consent of the director, as needed from leader laboratory for performance of work at other laboratories.

Specific project selection will be advised by executive committee of western IR-4 liaison representatives, chairman of W-45 technical committee, IR-4 western Administrative Advisor and technical representative, the director of the leader laboratory and the consultant to the committee from the west.

The coordinator works with liaison representatives in establishing priority lists.

With approval the director may award "grant in aid" or contracts for field or laboratory work necessary to obtain data necessary for registration and establishing tolerances. Maximum for field work - \$500.

The director has the responsibility and authority for entire program; based on advice and consultation provided by the advisory committee.

Although a priority has been established each project for the leader laboratory, these will be reviewed again before being accepted as a project for the leader laboratory program.

Projects Underway:

Chemical: Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban)

Crop: Crucifers (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, turnips, turnip greens, radishes)

Pest: cabbage maggot

Leader laboratories involved: New York, Michigan, California

Field work: Dr. Louis Getzin, Washington State University

Place of the work and researcher: Department of Agricultural Chemistry, WSU--Dr. Robert Foster

No. of samples: 120

Cost per sample: \$60.00

\* Total: \$7,200.00

23.0 Planning, Coordinating and Financing Research - Moderator: M. T. Buchanan

23.1 RIC: Proposed Method of Operation - D. D. Johnson

RIC is to serve as a research implementation committee. That does not mean it will implement research projects or programs. Rather RIC will try to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of research by evaluating alternative means for implementing high priority research among and between SAES and USDA research units and make recommendations to WRPC.

The modus operandi for RIC would be as follows:

- . As the task force reports are submitted to and approved by WRPC, priority areas of research can be identified with greater specificity than has hitherto been possible. These priority areas will provide the basis upon which RIC can make recommendations on which of the various methods of regional research could best accomplish the needed research.
- . If the regional research project mechanism is selected, RIC would appoint an Administrative Advisor, from among research administrators of SAES and USDA, and charge the Administrative Advisor in accordance with the Supplementary Manual of Procedures.
- . If the WRCC mechanism is selected, RIC would appoint an Administrative Advisor, from among research administrators of SAES and USDA, and charge the Administrative Advisor in accordance with Attachment C, Supplementary Manual of Procedures.
- . If a formal memorandum of agreement between two or more SAES and/or USDA agencies is recommended as the appropriate mechanism, RIC would so notify the interested research unit administrators and suggest a course of action.
- . Each individual state or agency may of course engage in the needed research on its own. It may be necessary for RIC to occasionally prepare informational newsletters on just what individual and regional efforts are being made in a specific research area.
- . RIC would be responsible to WRPC for its actions and WRPC, in turn, would be responsible to WDA and USDA administrators.

\* Additional information on the operation of IR-4 from John Mahlstede is available on request from the office of the DAL.

- . In no case will the existence of WRPC or RIC preclude individual initiatives to establish informal or even formal arrangements between research units to coordinate research or to conduct research. It is the intent to provide through WRPC and RIC a formal coordinating and facilitating mechanism to serve the SAES and USDA research agencies.

Part of RIC's function will be to operate as a RRC in connection with regional research projects and coordinating committees, and in this function RIC will report directly to the WDA for approval of its recommendations and subsequent submission of them to the Committee of Nine. It is believed that the presence of USDA administrators on RIC will increase the probability of ARS, FS and ERS participating in or proposing regional projects. This is vital for improved coordination of regional research efforts. In addition, RIC may from time to time ask the various RPG's for advice and evaluation of proposed projects with respect to the technical competence required and the priority of the area of research.

#### 23.2 WRPC Report - R. W. Harris/J. P. Jordan

Dr. Harris reviewed the WRPC report previously sent to the Directors and included herein as appendix C. The report also contains an updated status and membership of the various task forces.

C. P. Wilson:

I would like to comment on six summary statements on page 2 of the WRPC report to the Western Directors.

1. Social welfare measures the degree to which society moves toward or achieves its goals. Social goals change over time and the degree to which society is moving toward its goals cannot be objectively measured. Kaldor states that "the social objective function should emerge from the operation of our political system of representative government." It seems to me that any set of social goals would include an adequate supply of a wide variety of nutritious, healthful food at a reasonable price. It also seems reasonable to assert that one of the means of moving toward that goal is an adequate agricultural research program. The content of the agricultural research program should be determined by agricultural research administrators, taking into account information inputs from (a) research scientists and (b) users of research information including farmers, agribusinesses, and consumers. SAES directors and USDA research administrators have, or should have, better and more continuous access to these sources of information than anyone else including legislators. I, therefore, conclude that agricultural research administrators are in the best possible position to render judgments as to the content of the state, regional and national agricultural research programs in order to make progress toward society's food goals.

2. The CRIS classification contains approximately 50 RP's and 100 RPA's. Potentially there would be 5000 "cells" in an RP x RPA cross-classification. Many of these would be "nonsense" cells. Actually there are about 500 "usable" cells. Analysis of the 1974 base year data shows that in the Western Region only 375 cells were used. In the Western Region, there were some 2500 SY's in 1974. By arbitrarily picking one-half of one percent of the SY's as a minimum "critical mass" for any one cell, we would have 12 SY's as a minimum number. Fifty-six of the 375 cells have 12 or more SY's. 319 cells have less than 12 SY's. The 56 cells account for 75% of all the SY's in the Western Region. I suspect the same general picture holds for each state and for the nation. Hence, we can express the "guts" of our program with relatively few elements. If we can focus the attention of OMB, Congress and State Legislatures on the 56 elements (in the Western Region) rather than on the 319, the 375, or the 500 elements or the 20,000 individual projects, it seems to me we can display a coherent agricultural research program. This is not to say that a small number of SY's in one of the 319 cells is unimportant. Far from it. In fact, some of the most important work may come from .5 SY in a given cell. Also, it may be perfectly reasonable to identify this work as a priority area for expanded work and for budgetary increases.
3. If we accept my contention that the judgments of agricultural research administrators are the best possible indicators of regional and national research priorities, we need to exercise some care as to weighting the judgments of individual administrators in arriving at priorities. Just because one administrator has five times as many SY's at his disposal as another is not a valid reason for giving that administrator's judgment a weight of 5 in arriving at a decision on priorities.
4. There is definite evidence that the content of the research program in the Western Region has been changing since the inception of WRPC. For example, the number of SY's in the Western SAES were increased sharply between 1970 and 1974 for RP 5.03 (Social Factors) and RP 3.14 (Environment). With a static or a declining budget during these years, if some categories are increased, others must decrease. In this case, the decreases occurred in RP 4.03 (Poultry) and RP 3.10 (Cotton).
5. Since the Hatch Act specifies that consideration is to be given to "having due regard to the varying conditions in the States and Territories," there is considerable divergence in the research program content among the Western State Stations. There appears to be as much divergence among the individual

SAES as there is between the Western SAES as a group and ARS in the West. Consideration might be given to selecting State Stations or ARS units that have a high current effort in a particular RP x RPA cell as "lead agency" in coordinating research within the region for a particular research area.

6. There are some RP's for which no Station has high input but all Stations have some input. In this situation, there may be value in establishing WRCC's rather than regional research projects.

### 23.3 NPC Report - M. T. Buchanan

NPC activities in recent months have been handled by the Co-Chairmen and staff with the assistance of selected members and co-opted other members of the agricultural research community.

A major effort has been the preparation of testimony and follow-up answers to questions for the House Science and Technology Committee. A Committee print (No. 11, June 25, 26, 1975) contains the record of the initial testimony. Much more, and much more extensive, information has been supplied, subsequently, to the Committee. There are copies of all of this in the DAL's office.

Another major effort has been follow-up to the Kansas City conference which is reported on separately. This is an important part of the Regional and National Planning effort. It is seen as an aid toward several things in this connection: (1) increasing the input from scientists, research users, consumers and the general public; (2) improving the transition from "regional" to "national" needs and priorities; and (3) relating the needs to the budgeting process.

The usual projections from the four Regional Planning Committees are in and are being studied preparatory to correlating them with the results of the in-depth Kansas City review. There will be much for NPC to do toward implementing ARPAC's motion that a budget package be jointly developed and jointly supported (by USDA and SAES).

The projected allocations in the 10% increase category were more meaningful in terms of priority determination. The pattern of allocation indicated in the 10% increase exhibited substantial regional differences -- the West increased RPG-1 27%, the South increased RPG-1 10% but increased RPG-3 39%, the North Central Region increased RPG-3 22%. However, there is considerable comparability between federal and state projections within each region. Nationally the largest projected increase was 92 SY to RP 3.09 (Forage, Range, Pasture). Beef, food and nutrition, and soil and land use also had large increases.



NPC requested the RPC's to submit suggestions for improving the projection cycle, and 9 such suggestions were received. They are: (1) go through the projection cycle every other year, rather than every year; (2) keep the base data current; (3) include the allocation of administrative SY's; (4) should ERS and national labs be included on a regional or a national basis; (5) using dollars vs. SY's as measures; (6) improve the time scheduling of the projections; (7) use a 20% increase rather than a 10% one; (8) RPC's should meet with industry groups and delegates to the Kansas City food conference; (9) place greater emphasis on those elements of the planning process that would improve its usefulness in implementing research--the task forces. On a trial basis, the first suggestion was accepted, and there will be no projection cycle in 1976. The other eight suggestions were returned to all the RPC Co-chairmen for further discussion and in-put.

#### DISCUSSION:

Dr. Ronningen explained CSRS's philosophy with regard to its special review services. The special review services have in effect been assistance to local planning processes. CSRS now intends to perform reviews involving more than one state or a state station and some unit of ARS. In the past, the most successful reviews seem to have been ones where (1) there was a felt need by the director for some change in an area of research, (2) there was some flexibility to make changes, and (3) the scientists understood both factors. CSRS wants to know what directors think will be of the greatest assistance in these reviews, in order to provide a process that directors feel will best accomplish the purposes they want served.

Dr. C. P. Wilson emphasized that the individual Directors are responsible for implementing the recommendations emerging from the projection cycles and planning process. All NPC and WRPC can do is take the Directors' projections and their citing of priorities, and try to put them together in some meaningful way.

#### 23.4 ARPAC Report - J. S. Robins/M. T. Buchanan

Mark Buchanan, Jim Kendrick and Jack Robins attended the November 6, 1975 meeting of ARPAC in Washington, D.C. In addition to a number of routine status reports on agency activities, status of appropriation, and budget development, other NPC business and status of implementation of the CRIS report, the following items were discussed and the actions indicated were taken:

1. Assistant Secretary Long reported on the authorization of a food research committee by the Federal Council on Science and Technology to be chaired by Mr. Long and to be advisory to the Department, to OMB and others on research activities relating to food problems. Establishment of this committee is perceived to be of substantial significance and relates to the concerns of the Congress as enunciated in the Wampler Bill.

2. Roy Lovvorn reported on status of National Academy of Science activities in response to the President's request for information on food research needs. The so-called Wittwer Report from the BARR unit of NAS which was the catalyst for the Wampler legislation and which has subsequently been distributed, was reviewed and the framework of the broader NAS study projected for release in about 18 months was discussed. These reports, along with the special hearings on agricultural research conducted last summer, indicate the intensity of interest in the food problem and present opportunities for developing additional support if we can find the ways to capitalize on them.
3. Dean Kiehl, of Missouri, reviewed the status of Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1975 which is now law. This subject is scheduled for further discussion at this meeting of the Western Directors.
4. Status of the output from the Working Conference on Research held in Kansas City in July 1975 was reported. Documents summarizing the rating of the 1,000 plus problems identified at Kansas City have been distributed.

As reported by Mark Buchanan in OWDAL-114, December 5, 1975, two significant actions as follow-up were put in motion. The first of these was for an 8-man team working with Dr. Ned Bayley to get on with in-depth analysis of the top 10% of those problems identified, the team to be composed of 4 federal and 4 state representatives. The output from this analysis will be reviewed at the next ARPAC meeting in preparation for further review by ARPAC and recommendations therefrom.

The second and most significant action was to recommend to the two parent bodies of ARPAC (NASULGC and USDA) that there be joint preparation and joint support of a top priority research budget package based on the Kansas City Conference followup efforts as indicated above. This budget package would include recommendations regarding who would do what and in what time frame and could be the basis for a major budget impact in fiscal 1978.

23.5 Ad Hoc Work Group on the Most Important Problems Identified at the Kansas City Food Conference - C. P. Wilson/M. T. Buchanan

The assignment to the ad hoc Work Group was to evaluate the adequacy of current research in relation to the needs for each problem and to make recommendations for additional action.

The procedure was to pull from the CRIS system, on the basis of keywords, those projects that appeared to relate to each problem. Titles, objectives, procedures and 1975 progress reports, including publications and FY 75 fundings were reviewed and evaluated against the identified research needs. Judgements were made on the adequacy of current research to meet those needs.

Problems were encountered in the evaluation process, including:

- (1) The validity, quality and adequacy of the input information in the CRIS system.
- (2) The difficulty in relating information in a structured, mutually exclusive set of categories in the CRIS classification system to a set of less highly structured and overlapping problem statements.
- (3) The difficulty of sorting out appropriate keywords to enter the CRIS system to obtain the project print-outs needed without getting massive numbers of irrelevant print-outs.

One observation is that if one who is not intimately familiar with the agricultural research system of SAES and USDA were to go through the same process, say a member of the staff of OMB or a Congressional committee, he would have reason to conclude that the agricultural research program is very fragmented and uncoordinated. Notable exceptions are Regional Research Projects and certain programs between and among USDA agencies and SAES which are covered by memoranda of agreement. Those of us familiar with SAES and USDA research know that there is a great deal of communication and informal coordination among researchers in different research units or at different locations but this is not obvious to outsiders from the information that comes out of CRIS.

The follow-up committee's report is still in draft stage and a copy of a summary of the draft report's recommendations is contained as appendix D. The final report should be ready by the end of April. Some of the conclusions of the committee are: Nearly 80% of the publicly supported dollars in SY for food research are allocated to the top half of the priority areas identified at Kansas City. More than 50% of these resources are used on the top one-quarter of the Kansas City priorities. Only 8% of the resources are being used on the lower one-quarter of the priority areas. This is the evidence that current food related research is strongly oriented toward the high priority areas identified at Kansas City.

One of the results of this activity is the creation by a sub-committee of the ARPAC follow-up committee of a food data base from CRIS which deals not with the keyword and scientific information part of CRIS, but with the mutually exclusive part.

23.6 Payoffs from Research Planning and Coordination - J. P. Jordan/  
C. P. Wilson/M. T. Buchanan

Director Jordan reviewed the approach the Colorado Station used in dealing with the Colorado State Legislature this year. The first basis of the presentation was focusing on calculations based on a differential since 1950 vs. 1975 of utilizing the amount of disposable income of the average Colorado citizen spent on food, compared with what that amount would be if we had not had research to keep production costs down. The second basis was changes in productivity in agriculture as a result of research. The

third basis, and the one which had the greatest appeal, focused on the price of a market basket of food comparing 1975 with 1950 data, deflated by the consumer price index. They asked the question "what is it worth to the citizen of Colorado to keep the price of food production down," pointing out that in some areas such as housing there has been no real impetus to keep production costs down. The data indicated that in Colorado in 1975 it was worth \$324 to the average citizen. The data was developed at CSU but is currently being validated by Denver University, a private institution. If validated, it will receive widespread distribution to the people of Colorado through the State District Attorney's Office.

The payoffs and benefits: the benefits of low production costs accrue to all citizens but especially those who spend the largest portion of their income on food. There would also be an increased level of confidence on the part of the public and the legislators that the administrators know what they are doing. Additionally, administrators can do a better job if they have a solid base of data about their near neighbors and others in the region.

C. P. Wilson:

I would like to restate the nine concluding suggestions to the Western Directors contained in my report "Agricultural Research Planning and Management" distributed in OWDAL-116 (January 8, 1976):

- (1) Reaffirm the commitment to the evolution of an effective Regional and National Research Planning and Implementation System and move rapidly to make it fully functional.
- (2) Strengthen the planning system within each State Station by formalizing a program planning structure, involving both the scientists and the users of research results, and making more visible the procedures for developing and implementing program priorities and the rationale for making research resource allocations.
- (3) Develop further the methodologies and procedures to be used in evaluating sub-regional, regional and national priorities.
- (4) Support the Research Implementation Committee as it develops its procedures for broadening the scope of and strengthening the mechanisms for coordinating and implementing multi-station and multi-agency research programs.
- (5) Continue to press for a research mission in USDA.
- (6) Engage with USDA in joint development, joint submission and joint support of budgets to implement programs that are planned through WRPC and NPC.
- (7) Urge CSRS to give more emphasis to assisting State Stations in research program planning and management rather than research project management.
- (8) Work toward better communication and liaison between the SAES-USDA establishment and other federal agencies and national organizations including the National Academy of Science.

- (9) Build on the emerging interest on the part of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Science Foundation, the Executive Branch of the federal government and the Congress as a basis for increasing federal funds for the support of SAES research.

To these two points I would add two more -- one a suggestion and the other a word of warning.

- (1) A suggestion: I note in recent discussions the implication that all publicly supported research should be directed toward national priorities. This is hogwash. Less than 30% of all SAES research is supported from federal funds. State legislatures provide well over 60% of the support. We must never lose sight of State and local priorities some of which may have only a remote relationship to national priorities. Perhaps we in the SAES should make explicit the percent of federal funds in our budgets and the percent of our total program that is focused directly on national priorities.
- (2) A warning: For more than four years now the Regional and National Planning System has been in the process of being organized and placed in operation. We have not yet had any real impact in terms of setting priorities that have been recognized in support of budgets in the Executive Branch or in Congress. The people involved in the BARR Report have been organized for less than a year and their report has already had impact. If we in SAES and USDA will get the Regional and National Planning and Implementation System fully functioning we can take the initiative, have an impact and gain some control over our own destiny. Otherwise we will continue to be just responders to initiatives from elsewhere and we may lose control of our own destiny.

We could think of the purpose of this planning system as developing a library of information at the top which can be tactically used by ARPAC, etc. in providing information at hearings and initiating or influencing legislation. Our system cannot respond on its own to the immediacy of legislative inquiries and so forth.

M. T. Buchanan:

I have stated in my "Criteria for a Successful Planning System, Difficulties and Benefits" (appendix E) that one of the major benefits of the planning system is the collection, ordering, analysis and distribution of information. Insuring that this information gets to the right people at the right time to be effective is still a matter of development. I would like also to propose an alternate model for comparison with what we are doing now.

Let's extract from some of the suggestions of the Wampler Bill and some of the institutional or organizational arrangements we already have. We are talking about federal funds for agricultural research (not extension or teaching). The USDA would be designated the lead federal agency. A board, such as that outlined in the Wampler Bill, would help legitimize the decisions of the Secretary, Assistant Secretaries and their staffs. The staff would be at a high level and would contain expertise in economic analysis, program reviews, and political savvy--people who would know which representatives in Congress or in the administration to see about particular issues and who from the institutions would be best to make the contact.

We could divide the programs of agricultural research into two components--science and technology. I separate the two to indicate there are two different treatments appropriate to each. Sixty per cent of federal funding could be allocated to technology and 40% to science. Within the science component, there would be an expanded program of competitive grants that anyone could apply to, a portion for USDA in-house research, and a portion for SAES (but not distributed by the anachronistic formula of the Hatch Act). Within the technology component, 45% would go to SAES by some formula, 45% would go to USDA in-house research, and 10% would go to competitive grants.

This model is simply to stimulate your thinking about possible alternatives with structural changes such as those involved in the Wampler Bill discussions. I plan to do further work on this and to prepare written materials to aid your further study.

#### DISCUSSION:

Swindale: We are seeing that lobbying Congress has been developed into a very fine art, and most of us know how to do it. But lobbying the Executive Branch is a very imperfect science at best. This year in Hawaii we have taken a big step forward in getting the executive and the legislative branches to work together and develop joint programs. Our national system seems to work very well all the way up to ARPAC, but that is where it is getting jammed.

Kendrick: Some of us feel that ARPAC should have a broader governmental or agency participation. It only represents the land grant institutions and USDA with representation from ARI. Agencies other than USDA have a new interest in foods -- NSF, NAS, the State Department, Commerce, Interior, etc. Unless there is an effective linkage between ARPAC and these other agencies, we are not going to be the exclusive source of information or participation on national issues. A proposal for a broader-based committee or board is contained in the Wampler Bill. In addition, ARPAC, or its successor, needs an operating budget of at least \$100,000--it is currently a voluntary organization with no budget and little staff support. In addition, USDA needs to immediately stake its claim to being the lead agency in dealing with food and fiber.

Nielson: I get the impression that ARS and FS get the job done much more effectively than land grant universities with the Congress. Within land grant the two arms that have been most visible are ESCOP and ECOP Legislative Subcommittees. Maybe we should link ARPAC with those subcommittees or create a new organization to do this.

Grumbly: The reason you see research money coming to you from a number of agencies is that USDA hasn't really defined its mission and projected this to the Congress and the Executive Branch. If this were done, most of that money would go back to USDA.

#### 24.0 OMB Report - T. Grumbly

The text of Mr. Grumbly's presentation is contained in appendix F .

##### DISCUSSION:

C. P. Wilson: One of the problems is that people cannot agree on the relative weights of the evaluational criteria you have enumerated. Do you have any suggestions as to how to resolve this issue?

Grumbly: You shouldn't let any one criteria outweigh to a great extent any other. You have to resort somewhat to the principles of majority rule. If a program generally meets a majority of the enumerated criteria then that is probably sufficient. You also have to use an intuitive, common-sense approach, asking "if I use these criteria, do they give me solutions on which programs are good that correspond with my common sense?". When you get into evaluational sessions with other people, it is important that you have an intellectual framework with which to deal with the problems. You should have definite points of deliberation where you can focus conversation. If you do that, you can generally reach a consensus much of the time on most projects. Obviously, there are going to be times when you either have to make unilateral decisions or no decision at all. It may be that if you cannot come to a consensus on a research program or its worth, you would be better off not having the program. In a tight resource situation, the benefits of a particular program better outweigh the costs of it by a very substantial amount before you get involved.

C. P. Wilson: The problem with research is that you don't know the possible payoffs of an area of research until after the research has been accomplished, and sometimes even years afterward.

Grumbly: Only one of the criteria related to possible benefits of research. No one is advocating that you not fund highly uncertain types of projects. In fact, the federal government has been playing a role in providing risk capital to fund this sort of research. But if the project meets none of the criteria, for instance the management ones, then perhaps you should think twice before funding it.

L. L. Sammet: The administration of research, particularly at universities, has to be carried out in an atmosphere where you encourage a great deal of individuality. How does this relate to your criteria?

Grumbly: This is a very difficult problem. The reason so many economists or public administrators talk in terms of cost-benefit analysis is that they are simply trying to find some kind of conceptual framework for evaluating programs. But these aren't the only methods that can be used. If in your evaluation of a program you apply some of the criteria intuitively, and can explain in a detailed fashion what you are doing, and where you hope to go, then that is a perfectly valid type of an evaluation. You may need to utilize different approaches for the different classes of research.

J. M. Nielson: I would like to ask a two-pronged question. First, many research scientists and administrators these days are very demoralized about the lack of federal support. Do you agree? I would like to know the basis of your optimism that sometime in the near future there will be significant increases in appropriations for agricultural research. Secondly, we seem to expend our greatest time and energy fighting the immediate battle, the current budget (and frequently losing), when we ought to be developing a plan for 4 or 5, maybe 10 years down the road, and letting the immediate battle go by.

Grumbly: To answer the second part of your question first, I think you can do both at the same time. If you make some progress in convincing people that you have evaluated your programs thoroughly, demonstrating the criteria used, then you will defeat the argument used against cost increases, which is "we don't have enough information so we'll just leave it". At the same time, by evaluating and deciding on your criteria, coming to some kind of an agreement on the future shape of your programs, you are in fact planning. I am not a great believer in five or ten-year plans, but in research at least, you can identify your objectives in such a way that you can measure your progress. I think five years is the maximum time period you should look at.

As for my optimism, I think people generally are thinking more about the food problem these days. And action on such matters is as much attributable to mood as anything else. The proposed budget increases and the Wampler Bill arising from the BARR report came about largely because of the timing of the BARR report, and to some extent therefore it is unfair to say that your planning system operated for four years without achieving anything while the BARR report took one year and got immediate results. In addition, I think the director of the new Office of Science and Technology will be very interested in food problems. The remainder of the NAS study will have an impact. The fact that the administration is considering supporting the Wampler Bill in an election year is important.

I hope you never have a 3 or 4 billion dollar program, because it won't be necessary to have that kind of a program. But I hope you have a system and structure in place that is ready to effectively use the increases that are going to come, and be able to explain adequately how the increased funds were spent.



L. D. Swindale: In some big research, such as aerospace, there are economic benefits derived from doing the research, apart from the benefits of the results of the research, such as employment of large numbers of people. Do these issues get discussed only in the Congress, or do they get discussed with the President as well?

Grumbly: I think you have to be dealing with a certain economic threshold first before these issues become important, but some people do look at these kinds of research as public works projects. Frankly, I would not use this generally as a research criterion.

W. M. Dugger: In your evaluational criteria, you don't consider the element of faith that an administrator must put in an individual scientist who is performing "sky blue" research. Sometimes it is just impossible to say what the benefits of research will be.

Grumbly: As I said before, many of these things must comport with your common sense. If you have a brilliant scientist who has performed well in the past, then of course you should give him free rein to pursue "sky blue" research. However, the vast majority of scientists are not in this category. They are good, solid scientists whose work should be evaluated more rigorously.

W. M. Dugger: I guess our concern is that this issue is not appreciated by the administration. Perhaps with the new Office of Science and Technology this issue will again receive attention. A separate point concerns the fact that we are awarded federal monies to engage in agricultural research, but as a result of rules and regulations imposed by other federal agencies, such as EPA, we are forced to expend our research monies performing a service function. Is there some way we can begin building into our budgets these separately identified service functions?

Grumbly: That question concerns the relationships between and among federal agencies and the the land grant institutions. There is a great deal of conflict between the institutions. If EPA and agriculture had a better relationship among their scientists and their administrators you would find more of the money for pesticide research becoming available from EPA. Until each side abandons its adversarial position there is unlikely to be a resolution of this type of problem. You have come a long way in your environmental research in the last few years, but you have not come very far in your relationships with regulatory agencies.

J. B. Kendrick: Actually, the conflict is also within EPA itself, between the science component and the regulatory component. This mirrors the philosophical conflict on campuses between science and humanistic interests. Is it in the national interest to support the creativity of mankind? We need the understanding of the public, the Congress, and the Executive Branch that we are trying to manage and evaluate within an essentially creative society. One of our most important tasks as administrators is to foster an environment that stimulates creativity, and this necessarily means that our research results are not predictable.

Grumbly: Perhaps the evaluational criteria are most applicable to the technological component of your research. Perhaps with basic research it is simply enough to explain why you decided to fund the research, or why you chose one project to fund over another. I think the government has learned that its emphasis on immediate payoffs in the last few years has been at the expense of other things. I think there is a definite shift back in the federal establishment toward funding high risk types of research. But you still have to be able to explain why you funded one research project and not another.

C. E. Hess: I think that one of our contributions to world and national food production is that we do have a viable agriculture. We need to recognize that increased costs of production, due to meeting environmental concerns and maintaining economic viability, mean there will be higher food prices. We should not try to "sell" people on a cheap food policy, since I am not sure that such can be maintained. Another developing phenomenon I see is the concern for the small farmer.

Grumbly: Clearly a cheap food policy is still a very attractive selling point to the Congress and to legislatures. People are used to having cheap food; they are not used to having cheap medical care, and that is why they don't scrutinize as closely the research going into health delivery systems. In terms of overall social policy you have to consider all the other things that people could spend their money on besides food. You also have to note that a cheap food policy has greater benefit for the poorer segments of our population, and thus frees some of their money for things which are necessities to them. There is some question about whether a prime objective should be food at or below the price that we now pay, when we consider what the other choices are.

Currently the small farmer is directed toward rural development. But until we get a consensus on what rural development is, we are not going to see a great deal of funding for that area. There are several studies now which show that the greatest benefits of extension programs accrue to small farmers. Perhaps we should be directing more of our extension resources toward the small farmer. On the other hand, there is no consensus that it is good to have small farmers. What are you saving them from?

You do not pursue credibility in one budget document presented once a year. Your credibility depends to a certain extent on incremental progress being made in dealing with such issues as research planning and management-- issues with which you have been grappling today and for the past few years.

## 25.0 Other Business

### 25.1 NASULGC Committees on Private Consultants - J. S. Robins

The Division Committee initially appointed by Dean Kiehl and reappointed by Dean Legates has had no substantive activities since the National Association meetings in Houston. At that meeting, we reported on interactions with the private consultants and among our group up to that time as follows:

There is concern on the part of the private sector with certain institutional involvements in contractual work which they perceive to be a form of competition to the private sector and with at least some cases of individual faculty consulting activities.

Our stance has been that faculty consulting, given proper administration in terms of the framework within which it is done, charges imposed, and appropriateness of activities to the expertise of individual faculty, is mutually beneficial to agricultural industry and to the faculty member. In general we believe that institutional policies are adequate to assure conformance to these principles. We agree that institutional contracting for service work should be carefully assessed in order to assure appropriateness to institutional objectives.

Finally, we recognize that institutional policies with regard to both of these matters are substantially broader than the College of Agriculture since they are institution-wide in scope. Thus we believe it may be desirable for our committee and subsequently the Division of Agriculture to bring the matter before the Executive Committee and the Senate as matters of concern to both the institutions and our constituents.

25.2 National Academy of Science - C. E. Hess

I have been named chairman of the NAS subcommittee on U.S. Research Organization. If you have any suggestions or responses to the BARR Report or the Interim Report, please let me know. I will try to keep you informed as this subcommittee progresses.

25.3 IR-5 - L. D. Swindale

A project proposal is being prepared to submit to the Committee of Nine. We have a budget of \$125,000 off-the-top right now. John Myers of CSRS will be submitting a budget for our approval in the \$130,000 - \$135,000 range. We hope to hire a person for one or two years in a non-operational capacity (so as not to interfere with the operations of CRIS) to analyze CRIS, its operations and the way in which it does and should relate to such agencies as ARS and FS, and hopefully improve the rate of accuracy of input and output. This will help implement the recommendations of the CRIS subcommittee, but also provide new input on improving the various situations which have arisen. CSRS may be able to provide the funds for this new position, rather than using IR-5 funds.

It has also been proposed that CRIS go on-line with the Dialogue program of the Lockheed Aircraft Company in Palo Alto, California. The information on ongoing research would then be available to anyone who wanted to contract with Lockheed, and the turn-around time for getting information would be 2 or 3 days instead of 2 or 3 weeks. It would be the scientific and technical information part of CRIS, which also goes to SSIE.

25.4 Minutes - M. T. Buchanan

It was moved and seconded that all of the hand-outs at the WDA meetings need not be included in the official Minutes, provided the DAL's office keeps them on file and enumerates somewhere in the Minutes the hand-outs that are available on request.

(Action of WDA: PASSED)

25.5 Summer WDA Meeting - J. M. Nielson

The summer WDA meeting will be July 21-23 in Salt Lake City at the Howard Johnson's Hotel. There will be a three-quarters day joint meeting with Extension Directors. The Executive Committee will probably meet sometime in mid-June, and Directors are invited to submit items for consideration by the Executive Committee.

26.0 Resolutions - R. A. Young

The Resolutions Committee consisted of R. A. Young (Chairman), N. W. Hilston and J. A. Asleson.

Resolution 1:

WHEREAS, the Western Directors Association, USDA administrators, their spouses and guests have completed a successful and worthwhile meeting in Tucson, Arizona, and

WHEREAS, the hospitable arrangements made by our hosts at the University of Arizona have facilitated the work of the Association, and created an atmosphere conducive to creative activity, and

WHEREAS, members of the Association, USDA administrators, their spouses and guests have been graciously entertained by their hosts as evidenced by a luncheon and show at the University of Arizona planetarium, a chuckwagon dinner and program, a rodeo breakfast, an expedition to Mexico and other interesting activities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association and representatives of the USDA and their spouses and guests express appreciation to Dean and Director G. R. Stairs, Associate and Assistant Deans and Directors M. A. Massengale, L. W. Dewhirst, R. R. Rice, D. B. Thorud and D. S. Metcalfe, and Mrs. Grace Baker, secretary in the College of Agriculture, to their spouses and other staff, faculty and ARS cooperators of the University of Arizona, for the excellent planning, warm reception and hospitality which culminated in this successful meeting and its related activities.

Resolution 2:

WHEREAS, Dr. Roy L. Lovvorn, Administrator, Cooperative State Research Service from 1969 to July 1, 1976, has served the State Agricultural Experiment Stations in a patient, highly effective, and professional manner, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lovvorn served as Chairman of ESCOP while Director of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, and was the first chief of the Weed Research Branch of ARS, which has had a major impact on weed research in the West, and

WHEREAS, as Administrator of CSRS Dr. Lovvorn furthered a policy in the use of CSRS resources of giving priority to providing direct service to State Agricultural Experiment Stations, and

WHEREAS, he promoted interaction and coordination between ARS, SAES and CSRS, and

WHEREAS, he has a high regard for the Western Directors Association and the individual Western Directors,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Lovvorn for his dedicated efforts to agriculture and agricultural research, grants him lifetime membership in this Association, extends best wishes to him and his wife Virginia, and cordially invites them to spend their retirement years in the Western Region.

#### Resolution 3:

WHEREAS, Mr. Joseph R. Cox, Jr., Executive Director of Cooperative Extension at Oregon State University, has served the Western Directors Association with distinction as liaison representative of the Cooperative Extension Service, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox has provided leadership in joint Extension Service - Experiment Station programs with diligence and a real spirit of cooperation, with special competence and effort in the area of rural development, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox has fulfilled his responsibilities with the Cooperative Extension Service with the well-being of agriculture and rural people always uppermost in his mind, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox will retire on June 30, 1976,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association and USDA research administrators express appreciation to Mr. Cox for his contributions to and encouragement of our joint efforts as well as his accomplishments in his Extension work, and wish for him and Mrs. Cox a long and rewarding retirement.

#### Resolution 4:

WHEREAS, Dr. Phillip J. Leyendecker has served as Director of the New Mexico State Agricultural Experiment Station, and has made lasting contributions as a scientist and as a research administrator to the advancement and stability of agriculture in both New Mexico and the nation, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Leyendecker has served the Western Directors Association as an advisor, a participant, a leader, and while representing the Association on the national level, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Leyendecker will retire on June 30, 1976,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association and USDA research administrators express appreciation for his contributions, congratulations on his accomplishments, thanks for his stimulation and wish him and his wife a long and relaxing retirement.

Resolution 5:

WHEREAS, Dr. Les Swindale has served as Associate Director of the Hawaii State Agricultural Experiment Station for the past five and one-half years, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Swindale has served as Chairman of the Western Directors Association, a member of the Association's Executive Committee, and as Co-Chairmen of RPG-1 Natural Resources, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Swindale has made valuable contributions to the Western Directors Association, and

WHEREAS, he will become Professor of Soil Science at the University of Hawaii beginning May 1, 1976,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Directors Association expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Swindale for his contributions to the Association and extends best wishes to him in his new assignment.

Resolution 6:

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Massengale has served as Associate Director of the Arizona State Agricultural Experiment Station from March 1974 through March 1976, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massengale has provided valuable leadership to the Western Directors Association as Administrative Advisor to regional research projects W-128 and W-138, has served as a member of RPG-3 Crops, and has represented the Association on the National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee and the Research Implementation Committee, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massengale effectively coordinated arrangements for the 1976 spring meeting of the Western Directors Association,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association expresses appreciation to Dr. Massengale for his contributions to the Association, congratulates him on his new position as Vice-Chancellor at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and extends best wishes to him and his wife.

Resolution 7:

WHEREAS, Dr. Robert W. Henderson has served as Assistant Director of the Oregon State Agricultural Experiment Station, and has made important contributions to the administration of agricultural research programs in Oregon and the Western Region, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henderson has developed and carried out a highly successful agricultural public information program in Oregon which could well serve as a model for other states, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henderson will retire on June 30, 1976 after 32 years of service,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association expresses appreciation for his contributions and wishes him and his wife a long and enjoyable retirement.

Resolution 8:

WHEREAS, Dr. C. Peairs Wilson participated as Planning Associate in the Office of the Western Director-at-Large during his sabbatical leave from the University of Hawaii, and

WHEREAS, he made many contributions to the programs of the Western Directors Association as detailed in his Termination Report dated December 19, 1975, and

WHEREAS, he, on invitation, reviewed the agricultural programs at the University of Wyoming and made valuable suggestions, and

WHEREAS, he served on the Ad Hoc Work Group on the Most Important Problems Identified at the Kansas City Working Conference on Research to Meet U.S. and World Food Needs and prepared an analysis and advised the Western Directors Association on policy and administrative matters, and

WHEREAS, his performance in all these activities was outstanding,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Directors Association expresses its appreciation to Dr. Wilson for his contributions to the programs of the Association and extends to him its very best wishes.

(Action of WDA: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED)

27.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 1976.

WESTERN ASSOCIATION  
OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS  
Braniff Place Hotel  
Tucson, Arizona  
February 25-27, 1976

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 25, 1976  
Western Directors Executive Session

- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 9:00  | 1.0   | Call to Order   |
|       | 2.0   | Introductions   |
|       | 3.0   | Announcements   |
|       | 4.0   | Adoption of Agenda  |
|       | 5.0   | Approval of Minutes, Meeting of August 6-8, 1975              |
|       | 6.0   | Report of Chairman/Report of Executive Committee - Nielson    |
|       | 7.0   | CSRS Report - Ronningen, Sullivan                             |
|       | 8.0   | DAL Report - Buchanan   |
| 12:00 | GROUP LUNCHEON, University of Arizona Planetarium |   |
| 2:00  | 9.0   | ESCOP Report - Nielson  |
|       | 10.0  | ESCOP Legislative Subcommittee - Buchanan                     |
|       | 11.0  | Committee of Nine - M. Wilson                                 |
|       | 12.0  | National Cotton Research Coordinating Committee - Massengale  |
|       | 13.0  | Extension/Station Liaison Representatives - Cox, Kendrick     |
|       | 14.0  | WRDC Report - Davis   |
|       | 15.0  | BLM Analysis of Federal Range Resources in the West - Bohmont |
|       | 16.0  | AID Report; Findley-Humphrey Bill, Title XII - Beck           |
| 5:30  | ADJOURNMENT                                       |   |



Thursday, February 26, 1976  
Western Directors and Guests

8:00	17.0	ARS Report - Cox
	18.0	FS Report - Harris
	19.0	ERS Report - Juers
	20.0	EPA Report - MacKenzie
	21.0	RIC Report - Johnson
	21.1	Regional Research Report
	21.2	Discussion of Regional Research Procedures
12:00	LUNCH BREAK	
1:00	22.0	Minor Use Pesticides Research - Moderator: Dugger
	22.1	Minor Use Pesticides Research Needs - Walker
	22.2	Western IR-4 Project - Dugger
	22.3	Western IR-4 Leader Lab - Kilgore, Swift
	23.0	Planning, Coordinating and Financing Research - Moderator: Buchanan
	23.1	NPC Report - Buchanan
	23.2	ARPAC Report - Buchanan
	23.3	Ad Hoc Work Group on the Most Important Problems Identified at the Kansas City Food Conference - Buchanan, C. P. Wilson
	23.4	WRPC Report - Jordan, Harris
	23.5	RIC: Proposed Operation - Johnson
	23.6	Payoffs from Research Planning and Coordination
	23.6.1	Increased Efficiency in the Use of Research Resources - Jordan, Buchanan
	23.6.2	Budget Documentation - C. P. Wilson, Buchanan
4:15	ADJOURNMENT	

Friday, February 27, 1976  
Western Directors and Guests

8:00-9:15	23.0	Planning, Coordinating and Financing Research - continuation of discussion
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## Western Directors Executive Session

9:30	24.0	OMB Report - Grumbly
	25.0	Budget and Other Items from Executive Committee
	26.0	Other Items
	27.0	Resolutions

12:00 ADJOURNMENT

PROGRESS TOWARD A NATIONAL PROGRAM  
FOR MINOR AND SPECIALITY USE REGISTRATIONS

In August, 1973 a report prepared by The University-EPA-USDA Ad Hoc Subcommittee entitled, The Development of Data Required for Registration of Pesticides for Speciality and Small Acreage Crops and Other Minor Uses made a number of recommendations. The report suggested that the IR-4 mechanism be considered for expansion. Particular emphasis was placed on the states to develop the research information-efficacy of control data, toxicity data when the company cannot supply it, analytical methods if necessary, and the residue data.

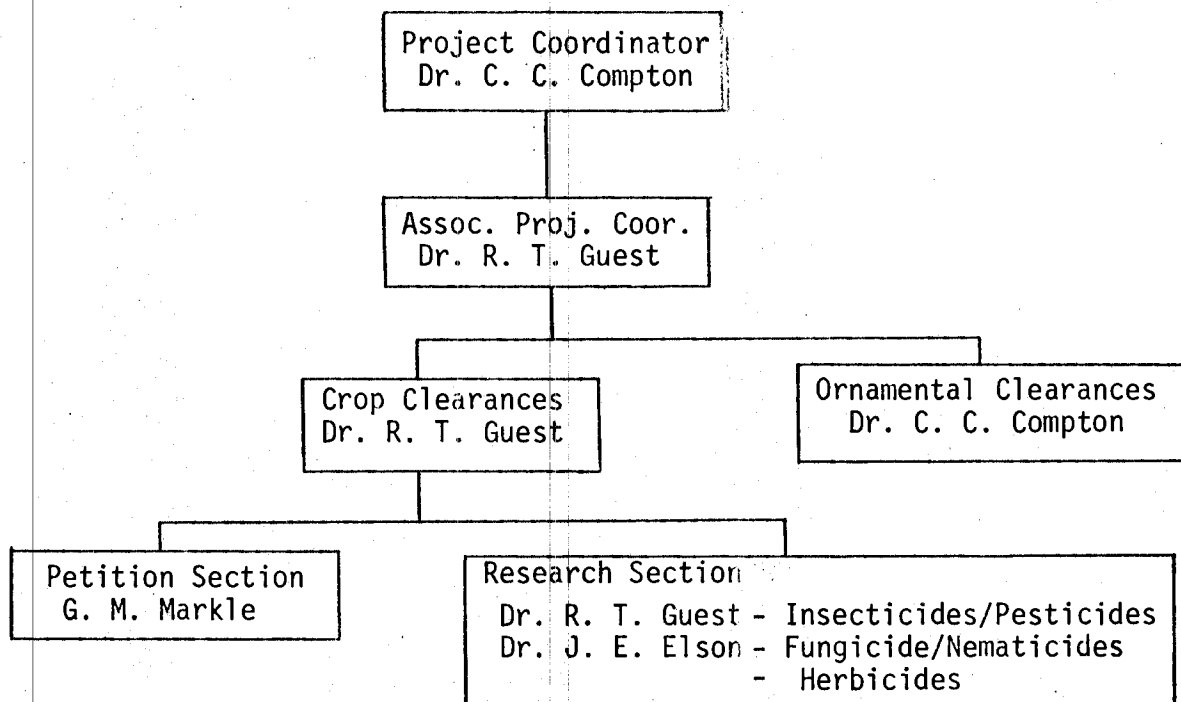
The Committee of Nine in June of 1973 requested the administrative advisors of IR-4 to develop a proposal for the creation of a national program for speciality and minor use registrations. Further the Committee of Nine at their April 17-18, 1974 meeting supported the concept of increased funding for IR-4, recommended that other agencies should participate and indicated that a broader plan is needed.

ESCOP resolved on April 5, 1974 that ESCOP consider (1) ways and means for the establishment of a national coordinated program devoted to minor and speciality use registrations and, (2) the identification of funds adequate to permit the initiation of such a program on a continuing basis.

The purpose of this report is to indicate what progress has been made toward the development of a national program and problems still remaining.

IR-4 Project Headquarters Staff Enlargement and Operation

The IR-4 project headquarters staff in New Brunswick, New Jersey, has been enlarged to four technical staff members, secretarial support and temporary personnel. The staff composition and approximate assignments are indicated in the following flow chart. An additional weed scientist technical staff member is required.



The IR-4 project headquarters program is designed for interaction with the expanded IR-4 regional programs.

#### Regional Program Enlargement

Each region designated a leader laboratory in 1975 and a director of the leader laboratory. The function of the leader laboratory is to arrange for the residue analyses for required regional registrations. The residue analyses will either be conducted at the regional laboratory and/or satellite laboratories arranged through the leader laboratory. Each regional leader laboratory has a regional advisory group to provide assistance and guidance to operation of the regional program.

In 1976 each region is also requested to develop a minimum of a half time regional coordinator. This request came by resolution of the IR-4 technical committee in November 1975. The function of the regional coordinator is to lay on regional assignments for residue applications and efficacy/phytotoxicity evaluations and to provide a regional liaison, in conjunction with the leader laboratory director, with the IR-4 project headquarters.

#### IR-4 Format of Operation

The format of operation consists of: (1) receipt of a registration request and accompanying available data, (2) determination of potential registration status, (3) development of a research protocol when additional data is required and registration is feasible, (4) review of research protocols by EPA, (5) review of research protocols by regional liaison committee and assignment through the

regional coordinating structure, (6) receipt in IR-4 project headquarters of new data as outlined by the research protocol and preparation of clearance petitions for submission to EPA in response to previously agreed upon research protocols.

#### Anticipated Progress of the IR-4 Program During 1976

The following item appeared in the January 16, 1976 Experiment Station Letter Number 1337. The item reflects the anticipated progress of the IR-4 program in 1976.

"A total of 2200 minor use pesticide clearance requests on agricultural crops have been turned in to the Interregional Technical Committee IR-4. These have been processed and returned to the regions for completion. About 300 of these were returned by Nov. 15 and a total of about 500-550 were returned to IR-4 headquarters by the end of December 1975. Additional returns are continuously received by IR-4 headquarters. The staff expects to process requests according to the following timetable: (1) about 150 research protocols will be submitted by Jan. 15 to EPA for review; (2) 50 petitions will be submitted to EPA by Jan. 30; (3) research protocols will be distributed to regional IR-4 groups for review and approval during February; regional minor use pesticide coordinator positions will be set up in all four regions by March; educational programs for regional coordinators and State liaison staff will be carried out; and approved research protocols will be assigned to appropriate research groups via regional coordinators--in time for the 1976 cropping season. Additional steps and progress are being planned."

#### ARS Involvement

ARS has designated 3 interdisciplinary scientists per region to cooperate with IR-4 State Liaison Representatives. Moreover ARS has a continuing budget item initiated in FY '76 that will provide for the participation of ARS scientists in the generation of data for the registration process.

#### Interregional Project Outline

The revised project outline has been largely rewritten to reflect the present structure and operation of the interregional program. Members of the past technical committee have requested to be removed from the technical committee to provide room for leader laboratory and/or regional coordinators to be voting members of the technical committee. This voluntary action provides for the future guidance of the registration program by those scientists most closely associated with the expanded program.

#### National Level Registration Activities

Whereas the IR-4 program has made remarkable progress to date in organizing for carrying out a national program of pesticide minor and speciality registrations, there remain a number of areas that require additional study, evaluation and action.

- For instance, does the 2200 clearance requests reflect an accurate assessment of the national registration requirements? If this is an accurate appraisal, then why has the IR-4 project headquarters only received approximately 25 percent returns when additional information has been requested?
- Have all States through their IR-4 liaison representatives made an accurate appraisal of their state clienteleregistration requirements? Have some minor and speciality use registration requirements been overlooked that will create future repercussions?
- How can the minor and speciality use registration program data requirements be reduced through potential mechanisms of crop groupings on other schemes that would facilitate the registration process? This is especially important to the large number of required ornamental registrations.
- Do we have adequate mechanisms at the State level for rapidly and accurately determining the status of label registrations in a period of rapid transition through cancellation hearings, reregistrations etc.?

It has been proposed by the chairman of the IR-4 Administrative Advisers and others that a USDA-EPA work group be established under the USDA Pesticide Coordinator in the Office of the Environmental Coordinator of the Assistant Secretary for Conservation, Research and Education. The purpose of the work group would be to assist in minor and speciality registration requirements at the National level of activity. One of the first assignments envisioned and proposed by Mr. K. C. Walker, ARS is a mechanism for examining and evaluating the total registration requirement.

WRPC Report to Western Directors  
February 1976

During 1975, WRPC has been extremely busy in the formulation and encouragement of task forces, completing projections for 1974-79, and responding to your request for WRPC to form a Research Implementation Committee (RIC) as a replacement for RRC. During the year we lost the staff services of Dr. Joe Roop, who has moved to a position with ERS; and Ed Gaines, who retired from the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Both these gentlemen's services have been sorely missed. Peairs Wilson assumed staff responsibility for WDA, under a sabbatical arrangement, until the first of this year. Peairs did his usual commendable job and provided real staff leadership during a critical time period. Dick Hubbard replaced Ed Gaines as Forest Service staff man and Bob Olson and Bob Enochian have continued to function as ARS and ERS staff respectively.

Projections 1974-79

The 1974-79 projections were submitted by WRPC on schedule and you should have each received a copy. To review, we submitted a list of 17 high priority research areas in three categories, with Category A as the highest priority. These items were:

Category A (Highest)

1. Develop Energy Conservation Measures in Agriculture and Evaluate Environmental Impacts of Energy Resource Development
2. Improve Food Safety and Human Nutrition
3. Increase Red Meat Production Through Improved Range Resources
4. Improve Timber Production and Utilization
5. Improve Land-Use Planning Capability
6. Improve Beef Cattle Production and Management Systems

Category B

1. Improve Employment Opportunities and Quality of Living in Rural Areas
2. Reduce Erosion of Forest, Range, and Crop Lands
3. Improve Production Efficiency and Protection of Wheat and Other Cereal Crops
4. Improve Performance of the Marketing System, Reduce Prices to Consumers and Improve Farm Incomes

5. Expand Foreign Markets for Agriculture and Provide Technical Assistance to Less Developed Countries
6. Reduce Pollution and Recover Energy From Waste Agricultural Products

Category C

1. Improve Production Efficiency and Protection of Vegetable Crops
2. Improve Production Efficiency and Protection of Fruit and Nut Crops
3. Improve Methods of Control for Forest Insects
4. Improve Fish and Wildlife Habitat
5. Protect Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals

Staff analysis of the 1974-79 projections resulted in the following conclusions:

1. There is no objective measure of social welfare. Conceptually, we can replace social goals with commodities such as beef, poultry, etc. The staff report suggested that the administrators' judgments may be as good a measure of social welfare as we have.

2. The SAES data does not indicate that we put a significant number of resources into any single RP. In other words there is no concentration of effort.

3. California overshadows other states in terms of total SY's. California's 10% increase is greater than for the rest of the western states combined.

4. There are some indications that research direction is changing since the inception of WRPC.

5. There is as much divergence between state stations as between SAES and USDA. Staff suggested that it might be possible to say that states having the greatest current effort should be considered as lead stations for a particular research area.

6. There are some RP's for which no station has high input but all stations have some input. In this situation there may be a value in establishing WRCC's rather than Regional Programs.

At our September 25, 1975 meeting, WRPC requested staff to prepare position statements on three items related to the projection process which have been forwarded to NPC. Copies of these statements are appended. The first statement recommends that the annual projection process be speeded up by several months to permit meeting reporting deadlines.



The second statement expresses concern at using SY's as the role planning units. WRPC fears that this use of SY's implies--at least to the uninformed--simply adding staff when actually what may be needed is increased support for the SY's already available in the SAES and USDA. The statement suggests three alternative solutions to the problem.

The third position statement suggests a procedure for updating the CRIS Base to a more current level. In the summer of 1975, SY projections for FY 79 were made from the FY 74 base. We were already into the second year (FY 76) after the base year (FY 74). Often this resulted in "projections" for FY 79 that reflected program adjustments already accomplished.

#### Task Force Formulation and Operation

WRPC believes that the projections, which are best estimates by the Directors and Administrators, are important--and will continue to be important. These projections are used by the ASCOP legislative sub-committee in preparing their annual budget requests. In addition, the projections become an information source for all agricultural research administrators. However, we are convinced that the real value from regional planning will come from the scientific task forces. As the task force reports become available, WRPC will be in a stronger position to recommend priorities in more specific terms.

WRPC has to date authorized 13 subject matter task forces ranging across all RPG areas. The purpose, status, and staffing of these forces are summarized in an appendix to this report.

Two task forces have already reported. The RPG-4, Dairy-Forage Task Force, reporting as the western segment of a national task force recommends significant increases (40 SY's) for the following:

1. Improvement of agronomic management of forages (legumes, grasses, and corn and sorghum for silage), including maintenance of stant, irrigation regimes, insect and weed control, tillage practices, and cropping systems.
2. Developing better methods of forage quality evaluation for equitable marketing of forages to dairymen.
3. Developing complete rations, possibly through growing and harvesting combinations of crops, or by combining forages, grains, and by-product feeds into acceptable rations that can be group fed efficiently and profitably.

4. Improvement of methods of harvesting, processing, and storing forages to provide more continuous uniformity of quality and quantity.
5. Improvement of management practices for large dairy herds to overcome problems of lower reproductive efficiency, feeding according to need of individual cows, group handling, disease, and waste disposal.
6. Developing economic optimums for location of dairy farms in relation to feed supply, waste disposal, milk markets, climate, facility costs and other economic and sociological considerations.
7. Reducing environmental stress on both dairy animals and forage crops.
8. Improving seed technology to make readily available the quantity and quality of seeds of desirable forage varieties and/or species.
9. Utilizing by-products as feed for dairy cattle.
10. Reevaluating pastures, green chop, and silage as economic methods of feeding dairy cattle.

RPG-6's Production and Marketing Economics Task Force reports recommended significant increases in the following areas:

1. Identifying the causes and effects of large increases in agricultural input prices and develop recommendations for minimizing these.
2. Estimating export demand for U. S. agricultural products and the impact of trade policies on terms of trade, value of the U. S. dollar, and domestic food prices for providing policy guidance.
3. Estimating the impact of the increased price instability that can be expected due to the virtual disappearance of U. S. Government stocks of agricultural commodities and provide decision makers with more effective planning tools for efficient utilization of agricultural resources under uncertain prices.
4. Estimating levels of future demand for agricultural products and U. S. agricultural productive capacity at alternative price levels and evaluate the effect of technology on productivity of U. S. agricultural resources.

#### Research Implementation Committee

At its summer meeting at Coeur d'Alene, August 6-8, 1975 the WDA gave its authorization to expand the responsibilities, roles, and functions of

the WRPC. Specifically, the WDA asked WRPC to form a Research Implementation Committee (RIC) which would replace RRC. At its September 25, 1975 meeting, WRPC formed RIC with Don Johnson as chairman. WRPC expects RIC to focus on:

1. Incorporating USDA agencies more fully into the regional research process.
2. Developing mechanisms for: phasing RIC's activities into WRPC; identifying research appropriate for regional cooperation; and implementing recommended research.
3. Determining whether the information generated by WRPC is useful to RIC in making decisions on what kinds of research should be done.
4. Defining and improving communications related to describing current research in priority areas and identifying the scientists involved.

RIC held its first meeting at Reno, Nevada on December 17, 1975 and its second at Tucson, Arizona on February 24, 1976. Don Johnson will report on both of these meetings. To improve coordination, USDA personnel have been appointed as Administrative Advisors to Regional Research Projects in a few instances. We understand that some legal questions have been raised concerning these appointments. Hopefully, a fully operational RIC will be able to resolve this type of legal block as well as other operational blocks.

In addition to asking WRPC to create RIC, the WDA at its meeting in Coeur d'Alene, August 6-8, 1975 asked WRPC to consider creating Research Advisory Committees (RAC's) consisting of first-level research administrators to evaluate and advise on research needs in their specialized subject matter area. The WDA recognized that newly constituted advisory committees (under WRPC) might obviate the need for one or more of the WDA advisory councils. They suggested, however, that an existing advisory council, if properly constituted, might serve as one of WRPC's advisory committees. The WDA agreed that its advisory councils would continue until such time as WDA takes specific action regarding their future.

At its September 25, 1975 meeting, WRPC concluded that there was a need of further discussion on the question of research advisory councils or committees and referred the question to RIC for study.

WRPC believes that disposition of current WDA Advisory Councils is a WDA matter. WRPC may need to incorporate individual advisory council members--or even a group of members--into the RFG structure. However, we think it is entirely inappropriate for WRPC to recommend termination or continuation of councils which are advisory to the WDA. Only the WDA should take such action.

April 19-21 WRPC-RPG Co-chairmen Meeting

WRPC meets with the RPG Co-chairmen in Berkeley, April 19 to 21. Our meeting has been expanded by 1 day to provide time to meet with the western delegates to the ARPAC Kansas City Food Conference. This addition to our Agenda is in response to WDA's request that WRPC maintain and strengthen communication ties with these delegates.

Other critical agenda items include a critique of 1975-79 projections, plans for the 1976-80 projects and RPG reports. We expect that RPG reports this year will provide major input into the 1976-80 projection cycle.

Summary

At your last annual meeting Peairs Wilson reported that many of the parts of the WRPC and NPC system were just beginning to be put together--and that it was too early to make a judgment about the results. During the past year a few more parts of the system have gone on line. It may still be too early to say what the results will be. But we are encouraged--and enthusiastic--about the high level of cooperation and communication between SAES, USDA, ASCUFRO, and others which the planning process has generated. WRPC appreciates the tremendous support of WDA for WRPC and will do everything in our power to be worthy of that support.

POSITION STATEMENT  
ON  
TIME SCHEDULE FOR PREPARING WRPC REPORT TO  
NPC ON PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND PROJECTIONS

Problem:

In preparing the 1974-79 projections, WRPC staff operated on a less than optimum time schedule. More specifically:

- a. July and August, traditional summer vacation months, are not a good time to get prompt responses from SAES and USDA administrators to requests for SY projections and program priority information.
- b. Final guidelines, including blank table forms, did not arrive in the Western Region until after July 1.
- c. CRIS printouts of RP-RPA SY's by states did not arrive until after July 1.
- d. Due to time constraints preliminary drafts of projections and priorities could not be sent to WRPC members in advance of their September 25 meeting.

Proposed Solution to the Problem:

- a. NPC guidelines, including blank tables, should be provided by NPC staff to WRPC staff by March 1.
- b. CRIS printouts of RP-RPA SY's by states should be made available to WRPC staff by April 1.
- c. Requests from WRPC staff to Directors-Administrators should be sent out by April 15 and returned by May 15.
- d. Draft summaries of projections and program priorities should be mailed to WRPC members by September 1, prior to the WRPC meeting during the last half of September.

POSITION STATEMENT  
ON  
THE USE OF SY's (ONLY) AS PLANNING UNITS

Problem:

The past procedure of using SY's as program planning units can lead to misunderstanding. If, for example, a high priority topic is selected for more intensive effort, we indicate this by increasing the SY's. To the uninformed, this implies adding staff. Actually, what may be needed is increased support for the SY's already available in the SAES and USDA. This is particularly true since we have lost so much ground due to inflation. Recognizing the present constraint on federal agencies which prevents presentation of dollar budgets until approval is received from the Executive Branch, we should explore alternatives that will avoid the implication that we are requesting more "warm bodies".

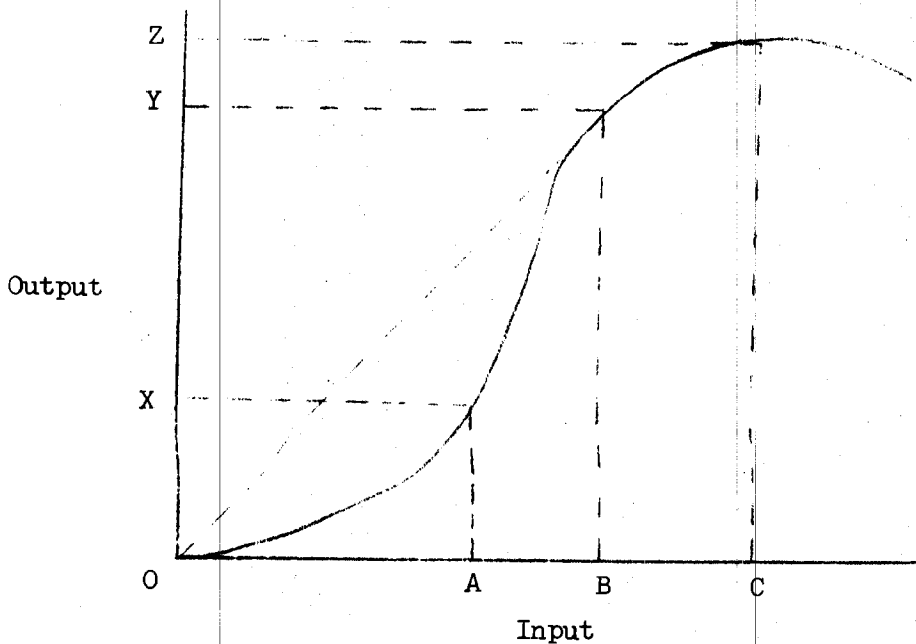
Proposed Solutions to the Problem:

Alternative A: Ask NPC to seek exemption from, or removal of, the constraint that we cannot put dollar signs on priority program proposals.

Alternative B: Present SY and dollar costs of the current level of allocations and indicate percentage increases in level of program activity without specifying either SY or dollar amounts.

Alternative C: Exploit the proposition that, given the existing SY's and fixed costs, the public agricultural research establishment is operating below optimum efficiency and that with small increases in inputs, a substantial increase in output can be achieved as illustrated in the diagram.

The Case for Increased Operating  
Funds for Agricultural Research



It is assumed that the agricultural research establishment has a production function, just as any other enterprise. Given the fixed costs, including the cost of maintaining the existing physical facilities, services (utilities, etc.) and salaries and fringe benefits of existing scientists, what is the optimum budgetary input for operating costs? A line from the origin tangent to the production function identifies the optimum input at OB. Output would be OY. The agricultural research establishment finds itself operating at something less than the optimum input, say OA, with output at OX. A small percentage increase in input will yield a relatively larger increase in output until input of OB is reached.

POSITION STATEMENT  
ON  
UPDATING THE BASE FOR SY PROJECTIONS

Problem:

Ideally, projections should be made from the current-year base. In the summer of 1975, SY projections for FY 79 were made from the FY 74 base. We were already into the second year (FY 76) after the base year (FY 74). Often this resulted in "projections" for FY 79 that reflected program adjustments already accomplished.

Research administrators generally make resource allocations well in advance of the end of the fiscal year. The allocation of SY's for FY 75 were known (or were knowable) prior to June 30, 1975. This would have provided a base one year later in time than the CRIS base for FY 74.

Proposed Solution to the Problem:

Table 1 should carry a column for entering the CRIS base for SY's by RP. A blank column for the next fiscal year should be provided and research administrators should be asked to enter their SY's by RP for that year. These entries would be "soft data" but would reflect program adjustments already accomplished and would be usable for their 5-year projections. Hence, if in the spring of 1976 we used the FY 76 SY allocations as the base, we would project to FY 81 instead of using the FY 75 base to project to FY 80.



## WRPC CHECK SHEET FOR

## PROGRESS ON TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES

	Task Force authorized	Membership named	First meeting held	Report submitted to RPG	Report submitted to WRPC	Report approved by WRPC	Report distributed	Task Force status determined
RPG - 1 Natural Resources								
RP 1.05 Weather and Climatology	X	X	X					
* Energy	X	X	X	X	X			
RP 2.06 and 3.09 Range (National)	X	Co-chm named						
RPG - 2 Forestry								
RP 2.02 Timber Management	X	nom.						
RP 2.03 Forest Protection	X	nom.						
RP 2.06 - 2.07 (Range) Wildlife and Recreation	X	nom.						
RPG - 3 Crops								
RP 3.03 (Small Grains) Wheat	X	X	X	Due 3/76				
* Tropical Agriculture	X	X	X	Due 3/76				
RPG - 4 Livestock								
RP 4.01 Beef	X	X	X	Due 4/76				
RP 4.02 and 3.09 Dairy - Forage (National)	X	X	X	X	X			
RPG - 5 People, Communities and Institutions								
RP 5.01 and 5.02 Quality of Food	X	X	X	Due 1/76				
RP 5.03 Quality of Life	X	X	X	X				
RPG - 6 Competition, Trade, Adjustment, Prices and Income								
RP 6.01 - 6.02 - 6.03 Production and Marketing Economics	X	X	X	X	X	X		
* Externalities and Interfaces	X							

\* Not a recognized RP in the CRIS system.

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STATUS OF WESTERN TASK FORCES

RFC 1 Applied Meteorology in Agriculture Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems related to the accumulation of weather data and analysis, effects of weather and climate on crop yields, pest management and erosion, prevention of and protection from frost, and the ecological effects of weather modification.

Date authorized by WRPC: January 30, 1974

Status: A report is currently being drafted

Persons involved:

Co-chairman L. D. Swindale, Associate Director  
Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Co-chairman L. E. Myers, Associate Deputy Administrator  
Western Region, Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
2850 Telegraph Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94705

N. K. Whittlesey  
Dept. of Agricultural Economics  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington 99163

N. A. Evans  
Dept. of Agricultural Engineering  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

R. S. Ianier, Leader, SW Resource Group  
Economic Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
301 Tioga Bldg., 2020 Milvia Street  
Berkeley, California 94704

R. L. Hubbard, Assistant Director  
U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Experiment Station  
P. O. Box 245 (1900 Addison Street)  
Berkeley, California 94701

M. D. Openshaw, Extension Soils Specialist  
Cooperative Extension Service, U.S.D.A.  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

## RPG 1 Applied Meteorology in Agriculture Task Force

Kenneth P. Dubrovin, Director  
Agricultural Research Center  
Great Western Sugar Company  
P. O. Box 539  
Longmont, Colorado 80501

Arthur S. Newman  
Cooperative State Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Staff days expended: 15

Accomplishments or changes in the research programs that were directly related to the study: None pending completion of report

RPG 1 Energy Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate research needed to:

- a. Guide in the selection of policies and technologies leading to optimum agricultural production under conditions of limited energy availability.
- b. Increase the opportunities for, and likelihood of, adoption of energy efficient technologies.
- c. Allow projections of energy requirements and supplies so that wasteful and disquieting interruptions of agriculturally related activities can be avoided.
- d. Evaluate the utility of agriculturally related energy resources such as solar energy and agricultural by-products which are feasible for future development and use.
- e. Serve as a source for incorporating energy considerations in the process of guidance for the directions of future agricultural research.
- f. Assess the impact of energy development on agricultural production and resource use.
- g. Assess the impact of all these aspects on human and community development.

Date authorized by WRFC: January 30, 1974

Status: Report prepared and submitted to RPG 1 on November 26, 1975. RPG 1 has accepted the report and recommended to WRFC that the report be printed. Title of report: Report of the Research Program Task Force on Energy, October 7, 1975.

Persons involved:

L. L. Sammel, Associate Director  
Agricultural Experiment Station  
University of California  
Berkeley, California 94720

H. W. Ayer, Assistant Professor  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

W. E. Johnson, Associate Professor  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

## RPG 1 Energy Task Force

R. C. d'Arge, Chairman ✓  
 Department of Economics  
 University of California  
 Riverside, California 92502

J. R. Hamilton, Assistant Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Economics  
 University of Idaho  
 Moscow, Idaho 83843

N. K. Whittlesey, Associate Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Economics  
 Washington State University  
 Pullman, Washington 99163

J. A. Miles, Assistant Professor ✓  
 Dept of Soils, Water and Engineering  
 University of Arizona  
 Tucson, Arizona 85721

W. J. Chancellor, Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Engineering  
 University of California  
 Davis, California 95616

C. Gopalakrishnan, Associate Professor  
 Department of Agricultural Economics  
 University of Hawaii  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Neil Patrick  
 New Mexico State University  
 Box 3 AG, University Park Branch  
 Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001

Lloyd Halvorson ✓  
 Cooperative State Research Service  
 U. S. Department of Agriculture  
 Washington, D.C. 20250

Staff days expended: 40

Accomplishments or changes in the research programs that were  
 directly related to the study: None pending distribution of the report

RPG 1 Forage, Range, and Beef Cattle Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems related to western range and forage requirements to meet the national need for red meat production.

Date authorized by WRPC: July 17, 1975

Status: Chairmen appointments for task force membership currently being selected.

Report: None

Persons involved:

C. Wayne Cook, Head  
Department of Range Science  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Dixie R. Smith, Deputy Director  
Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station  
U. S. D. A., Forest Service  
240 West Prospect Street  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Staff days expended: 10

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None

## RPG 2 Timber Management Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems related to the biology, culture, and management of western forests and timber-related crops; the genetics and breeding of forest trees; and improving the biological efficiency of forest plants.

Date authorized by WRPC: July 17, 1975

Status: Co-chairmen appointed. Task force membership currently being selected.

Report: None

Persons involved:

L. H. Davis, Professor  
Department of Economics  
Utah State University  
Logan, Utah 84321

George Staebler, Director  
Forestry Research Center  
Weyerhaeuser Company  
Centralia, Washington 98531

Staff days expended: 3

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None

RPG 2 Forest Protection Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems related to the control of western insects, diseases, parasites, and nematodes affecting forests, and also the prevention and control of forest and range fires.

Date authorized by WRFC: July 17, 1975

Status: Co-chairmen appointed. Task force membership currently being selected.

Report: None

Persons involved:

Donald Fuquay  
Northern Forest Fire Laboratory, U.S.D.A.  
Forest Service  
Drawer G  
Missoula, Montana 59801

Staff days expended: 2

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None



## RFG 2 Range, Wildlife, and Recreation Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems relating to the improvement of western range resources, including management practices that will harmonize grazing with timber growing, wildlife, recreation, and other land values, and problems associated with fish, other aquatic life, furbearing animals, and other wildlife so as to maintain and increase the supply of wildlife.

Date authorized by WRFC: July 17, 1975

Status: Chairman appointed

Persons involved:

James O. Klemmedson  
Department of Watershed Management  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Staff days expended: 2

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None

RRG 3 Task Force on small grains with emphasis on wheat

Purpose: To develop recommendations on the precise needs for a program of regional research on grains in the western states with special emphasis on wheat.

Date organized: October 1, 1974

Date Completed: To be completed March 1, 1976

Report: None

Persons involved:

E. L. Kendrick, Area Director  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
2000 East Allen Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85719

W. G. Dewey  
College of Agriculture  
Utah State University  
Logan, Utah 84321

B. C. Curtis  
College of Agriculture  
Colorado State University  
Ft. Collins, Colorado 80521

J. R. Cowan  
College of Agriculture  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Francis H. McNeal  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, Montana 59715

J. D. Prato  
Agricultural Extension Service, U.S.D.A.  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

RFG 3 Task Force on small grains with emphasis on wheat

G. W. Bruehl  
Department of Plant Pathology  
College of Agriculture  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington 99163

D. A. Reid  
Department of Plant Sciences  
College of Agriculture  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Staff days expended: 56

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None

RFG 3 Task Force on tropical agriculture primarily food production

Purpose: To review other reports on research needs for tropical agriculture, particularly as they relate to the Food for Peace Act of 1964 (Section 407 P.L. 89-808) to identify research needs and to make recommendations for meeting these research needs.

Date Organized: October 2, 1975

Date Completed: To be completed March 1, 1976

Title: None prepared as yet

Persons involved:

Coy C. Brooks  
Chairman of Animal Sciences  
College of Tropical Agriculture  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

John Brekke  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Hawaii Fruit Laboratory  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Ray Jackson  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
U.S. Water Laboratory  
Phoenix, Arizona

Peter van Schaik, Co-chairman  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Fresno, California

C. Peairs Wilson, Co-chairman  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dave Williams  
Del Monte Agricultural Research Center  
San Leandro, California

Margy Woodburn  
School of Home Economics  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon

RFG 3 Task Force on tropical agriculture primarily food production

Yukio Nakagawa  
Horticultural Department  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Staff days expended: 52

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None

RFC 4 Livestock research overview task force

Purpose: To broadly review the current animal husbandry research thrust and recommend reallocation of research effort.

Date authorized by WRFC: July 17, 1975

Status: The task force has had one meeting. The report is scheduled for completion by April 1976.

Persons involved: All department heads of animal science and veterinary science in the western SAES and investigation leaders of U.S.D.A. animal husbandry research.

Staff days expended: 60

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None pending completion of the report.

## RPG 4 Dairy forage task force

Purpose: To evaluate all research problems related to the western dairy industry with specific attention directed to the interface between dairy management up to the point where the milk is delivered to the bulk tank on the farm and forage systems starting with established forage stands.

Date authorized by WRFC: January 30, 1974

Status: The western task force provided input for the national task force on dairy-forage's report of February 1975. The WRFC, on July 17, 1975 requested the Western Task Force to remain active to assess more specifically western dairy-forage problems.

Title of report: Dairy-forage research and research facilities: a national review; the current situation; recommendations for the future. February 1975

Persons involved:

R. C. Lamb  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Dept of Dairy Science  
Utah State University  
Logan, Utah 84321

J. Ritchie Cowan  
Dept of Agronomy  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Donald L. Bath  
Dept of Animal Science  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

R. W. Stanley  
Dept of Animal Science  
University of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

O. Joe Hunt  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Dept of Soil, Plant and Water  
University of Nevada  
Reno, Nevada 89507

Marion W. Pedersen  
Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
Dept of Plant Science  
Utah State University  
Logan, Utah 84321

RIG 4 - Dairy feeding back force

Fred Keller  
Northwest Dairymen's Assoc. Inc.  
P. O. Box 392  
Redmond, Washington 98052

Mel H. Ehlers  
Dept of Animal Science  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington 99163

Gary H. Stott  
Dept of Dairy/Food Science  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Vern L. Marble  
Dept of Agronomy  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

Alvin Groppetti  
Pacific Dairymen's Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 646  
San Joaquin, California 93660

Staff days expended: 90

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
The WRFC has not as yet defined this.



## RPG 5    Quality of life task force

Purpose: To survey broadly the social science research related to the human environment with emphasis on interaction with agricultural research and recommend major thrusts of research and formation of more specific task forces.

Date authorized by WRPC: January 30, 1974

Status: Report in final draft--awaiting approval by RPG 5.

Persons involved:

George M. Briggs  
Dept of Nutritional Science  
University of California  
Berkeley, California 94720

Harlan Padfield, Director  
Rural Development Center  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Or Don Sorenson  
Rural Development Center  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Sylvia Lane  
Dept of Agricultural Economics  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

L. E. Juers  
Economic Research Service, U.S.D.A.  
c/o Dept of Agricultural Economics  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

B. D. Gardner, Head  
Department of Economics (Agri. & Business)  
Utah State University  
Logan, Utah 84321

Beverly Driver  
U. S. D. A., Forest Service  
Rocky Mountain Experiment Station  
240 West Prospect Street  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Anne Williams  
Dept of Sociology  
Montana State University

RFG 5 Quality of life task force

Staff days expended: 40

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None pending approval and distribution of report.

## RPG 5 . Quality of Food Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate all research in the food quality and food safety areas and recommend regional research programs.

Date authorized by WRPC: January 30, 1974

Status: Draft to be submitted to RPG 5 by January 1976

Report title: Quality of food (draft)

Persons involved:

D. A. Corlett  
Microbiology  
Del Monte Foods  
San Leandro, California

Jim McGregor  
Toxicology  
Western Regional Research Laboratory  
800 Buchanan Street  
Albany, California

Gertrude G. Blaker  
Dept of Food Science & Nutrition  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Mary A. Kight  
School of Home Economics  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

H. W. Schultz  
Dept of Food Science & Technology  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Jane Wyatt  
Consumer Affairs  
Oregon State Department of Agriculture

B. S. Schweigert  
Dept of Food Science & Technology  
University of California  
Davis, California 95616

Roy Teranishi  
Toxicology  
Western Regional Research Laboratory  
800 Buchanan Street  
Albany, California

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RPG 5 Quality of food task force

Staff days expended: 60

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
None pending completion of report

RPG 6 Economics of production, processing, and distribution;  
consumer welfare

Purpose: To evaluate and recommend reallocation of the research effort directed at understanding the economics of western agricultural production, processing, and distribution--and the impact of this economic system on the consumer welfare.

Date authorized by WRPC: January 30, 1974 (organized in 1973)

Status: Final report completed and approved by WRPC for printing and distribution. Now awaiting printing.

Report title: Production and Marketing Economics

Persons involved:

R. S. Firch  
Dept of Agricultural Economics  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Herbert Stoevner  
Dept of Agricultural Economics  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

Roger Fight  
U.S.D.A., Forest Service  
Pacific Northwest Experiment Station  
P. O. Box 3141  
Portland, Oregon 97208

Thomas A. Miller  
U.S.D.A., Economic Research Service  
Economics Department  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

A. Harrington  
Dept of Agricultural Economics  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington 99163

John Harvey  
U.S.D.A., Agricultural Research Service  
Horticultural Field Station  
2021 South Peach Avenue  
Fresno, California 93707

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RIG 6 Economics of production, processing, and  
distribution; consumer welfare

Staff days expended: 149

Accomplishments or changes in research programs directly related to the study:  
The WRPC has not yet assessed this.

KANSAS CITY FOLLOW-UP  
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Ad Hoc Work Group evaluated the adequacy of current research in relation to needs for each of the 101 Most Important Problems identified at the Kansas City Conference. The Work Group also evaluated 33 problem areas recommended for increased research by the BARR Report of the National Academy of Sciences.
2. Based on their findings, the Work Group recommends that current levels of research be maintained on 15 of the reviewed problems. They found that most of these 15 were adequately supported in regard to needs. However, recommendations on a few of them were based on the necessity to obtain additional information before estimating their additional requirements, if any.
3. Expansion of the research effort by the USDA and State agricultural research agencies is recommended on 114 problems. Substantial expansion on four is supported for Federal agencies other than USDA. One problem required action rather than research.
4. An expanded effort would put special emphasis on:
  - Determining the nutrient requirements of the growing child, the elderly, the pregnant and lactating woman and on stress conditions affecting nutrition.

- Developing energy conserving alternatives for the inputs of food production and on the use of agricultural wastes and other sources of biomass for producing power and heat.
- Completing the soil resources inventory, increasing the efficiency of the use of nitrogen fertilizers, obtaining more adequate information on land and water policies, and enlarging research on soil and water management.
- Expansion of basic research in crops with particular thrusts on photosynthesis efficiency, nitrogen fixation, cell studies, and improved breeding methods.
- Improved crop protection, especially regarding weed control, genetic vulnerability, and crop resistance.
- Developing basic new methods for improving yields of soybeans and vegetables, and improving vegetable varieties for mechanized production.
- Increasing the productivity of harvested forages, pastures, and rangelands.
- Controlling diseases in livestock with particular emphasis on respiratory and enteric diseases of cattle, diseases of young animals, mastitis of dairy cattle, and diseases associated with



animal transport and concentrated populations.

- o Increasing the rates of reproduction and genetic improvement in livestock, especially for cattle and swine.

5. Over a period of four years the increases recommended for all 114 problems would amount to 2012 SY's and \$151 million. This increase is 27 percent of the total food-related effort by the USDA and State agricultural research agencies. Table 1 shows these increases by the research need areas of the Kansas City Conference. The recommendations on individual problems reported in Volume II, indicate the subsequent budget year for which each increase is proposed. These budget year schedules were aggregated by major areas and reviewed for feasibility in regard to manpower and facility availability.

The recommendations also support substantial increases for the Soil Conservation Service of the USDA to expand soil survey efforts and for the U.S. Department of Commerce in fisheries research.

6. In addition to the program increases, the level of Federal funding for agricultural research should be raised sufficiently to restore the 1966 level of effort for ongoing research.
7. Special appropriations and enabling legislation, if necessary, should be provided to correct the inadequacies of agricultural research facilities. This need is particularly critical for the

SAES and the Land-Grant Colleges of 1890. First priority should be given to modernization and renovation for both the universities and USDA.

8. Recommendations for increased coordination are made for 68 of the 134 problems reviewed. For most of these, coordination mechanisms and groups are already available. Of the problems for which newly established coordination is recommended, NPC, in consultation with the RPC chairmen, should select several for comprehensive planning by scientist steering committees. Eight general areas are suggested from which these problems might be selected.

CRITERIA FOR A SUCCESSFUL PLANNING SYSTEM,  
DIFFICULTIES AND BENEFITS\*

- I. Criteria for a workable planning system
  - A. A charter and composition for the planning body that will guarantee freedom of research and independence of judgment.
  - B. A focus on overall goals rather than on any one goal or any aggregation of or combination of the programs or goals of the individuals or groups involved; a global perspective on the part of all participants.
  - C. Such relationships with other units and parent bodies as will permit the conclusions of the planning body, if adopted, to become operational.
  - D. Long-range plans eventually emerge as budgets or clear regulations.
  - E. Protection from attacks by those whose private, individual or agency interests conflict with those adopted.
  - F. Adequate, competent staff.
- II. Difficulties
  - A. The constitution of the United States was carefully written to establish adversary relations among the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, not to bring them together and diminish their differences. Liberties for individuals were to be protected from government, not limited by its agencies. These liberties were reinforced by a stringent Bill of Rights.
  - B. The philosophy of independence (human nature?) expressed in the Constitution continues as a pervasive force in our society. It makes cooperative planning difficult not only for the United States economy and society but for any sub-element thereof. We criticize more than we improve or create; we attack and defend more than we work together; we compete more than we cooperate; we tear down as well as build.
  - C. Each of the requirements for a workable planning system is repugnant to those whose activities may be limited, whose autonomy may be threatened. Hence, there is difficulty in obtaining the charter needed as well as in meeting the other criteria for a workable planning system.

- B. Improved knowledge via the discipline of getting together to review the information and to consider action thereon.
- C. The road toward "wisdom" may be paved by the planning process.

OMB AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH\*

I have three major purposes in meeting with you today: (1) to explain in greater depth the role of the OMB in agricultural policy-making, and particularly how this is related to agricultural research; (2) to outline my perspective of where we are presently in agricultural research policy, how we got there, and perhaps where we are going; (3) to communicate with you the perceptions of OMB about what is required of the agricultural research community in order to compete more effectively for resources at the national level.

What is OMB's role? Our four major roles are (1) budget, (2) management, (3) legislative clearance, and (4) policy analysis.

The formulation of the President's budget is our best-known role. We are assisted in this process by the agencies of the USDA, and provided guidance and recommendations in this process by the Office of the Secretary and the Secretary himself. Many people fail to understand the manner in which the budget is formulated, and hence they jump to conclusions that the outcomes are not only irrational but also arbitrary, and that somehow there are unknowing, unfeeling people who are making decisions on matters about which they know very little. I would like to trace a little bit of the budget formulation process.

After the budget is formulated by the USDA Secretary, and there is an agreed-upon position within the Department about the amount of money that will be requested, the request goes to the energy and food division of OMB. It is reviewed in the division by myself and by my division chief, and we make some initial recommendations. We then go before a director's review board, which

with Domestic Council activities and other kinds of economic policy, members of the Council of Economic Advisers, and other officials. At that point the recommendations are either ratified, adjusted, or sent back for more review. About a week later the President sits down with each one of our detailed recommendations in each area and ratifies the Department's budget decision-by-decision. Only at that point are the actual figures and the decisions relayed to the USDA.

At this point the Secretary, his assistant secretaries, and the agencies are given a chance to appeal those areas in which they feel they have been done an injustice. The Secretary is selective about which areas in which he will appeal and thus place his prestige on the line. At this point the politics and strategy begin to take precedence over the analysis of the situation. The Secretary and his undersecretary meet again with the director, and they try to work out all the major issues, trading back and forth in areas where they feel there has been some disagreement. Issues they are unable to settle can then be taken personally by the Secretary to the President. The Secretary decides which areas he wishes to bring to the President's attention, and presents his views of the case with no one else around. The President obviously has the benefit of OMB's views as well as the USDA's views, but if a Secretary chooses to fight hard enough for any particular item, there is a good chance that he can succeed.

It is only then that the budget goes to Capitol Hill as the President's budget, and as a result I think throughout the process there is an attempt to provide due process to the agency. It is a fairly complex process out of which the Secretary establishes some priorities about what he thinks is important. There is also a fair amount of "gaming" that goes on, so that often numbers which finally appear in the budget don't bear very much relation to the numbers which came into the system in the first place. Sometimes administrators are

willing to take a budget cut in a particular area because they know the Congress will restore it.

Our second, and perhaps most controversial, role is that of management. It is unclear to us, and it is unclear to the agencies. No one really knows what the "M" in the OMB represents. It is OMB's job to insure that the programs of the President, whatever they may be, are carried forth in a relatively effective and efficient fashion. We are not designed to take over the line authority of the Department or the Department's assistant secretaries. However, we are tasked with making sure that those assistant secretaries know what the White House position is on a particular subject, and with sometimes taking responsibility for unpopular decisions they would rather not make. In the Ford administration, at least, I think that we do attempt to be backstage gadflies.

The third major role is that of legislative clearance. I think we all understand some of the interest group nature of American politics and the extraordinarily wide panoply of forces that come to bear upon the Secretary and upon the Department at a given time. To a great extent the positions of some of the agencies or cabinet departments reflect the interests of those closely connected with those departments. Because the OMB is somewhat insulated from these types of interest group pressures, we have a responsibility for attempting to assure that the legislative programs of the agencies and their positions on the wide variety of bills that come forth, are consistent with what the President wants to do, and with the wishes of other independent agencies that might have some interest in the bill. So we have a coordinating function in clearing legislation as well as a line function. We provide a backstop in this and practically all other aspects. I suppose in summation you could say that we have a kind of a combination conflict-common interest

relationship with the agencies. We are designed to be insulated from some of the pressures, and hence we are designed to be questioners and gadflies. The legislative clearance process is probably the least liked and the most poorly worked out, on a day to day basis, of our roles due to a number of factors. Obviously, the agencies are often very intimately involved in the formulation of legislation, because they may have written the bills in the first place; then all of a sudden they are pressured into the position at some point of opposing the bill. Legislative clearance is not a very well-liked process, but I think it is a necessary one.

The final role that we have is that of policy analysis. Even though OMB is not supposed to be a policy agency but a "management" agency, that dichotomy is a false one. We are involved on a day-to-day basis with giving views to the President and his immediate staff about what position the White House should take on a particular issue. One of the reasons why we can do this is because we are the only people other than the agencies themselves in the whole Executive Office/White House complex who know anything about what the government is doing on a day-to-day basis. Most of the people who are inside the White House are tasked with political roles which insulate them to a great extent from what the agencies are actually doing. So we provide the analysis on the issues from both the agency's perspective as well as dealing actually with the specific policy issues that are involved.

I think that U.S. agricultural research policy is in transition. Worldwide shortages of food during 1972 and 1973 convinced the academic community, and the research community at large, that substantially increased



efforts in research were necessary if the U.S. were to meet its international humanitarian commitments as well as its international political commitments. I think you also saw this world food shortage as an issue on which to take the funding offensive after a decade of declining real agricultural research funding by the research establishment. I think this relative stability of funding was initially caused by the seemingly endemic domestic "overproduction", and was further exacerbated later on in the 1960's by allegations that agricultural research had either precipitated or ignored social problems of dislocation that stem from increasingly capital-intensive agriculture, i.e. Hard Tomatoes, Hard Times.

In sum, I think you all see the world food problem and the U.S. role in it as a given, and I must tell you that the United States government both in Congress and in the Executive branch, has not yet moved that far in defining what our role is going to be in meeting a world food problem. The reasons for this are fairly simple: the perceived shortages do not appear to affect our domestic food consumption in the near future. In fact, there is not a consensus in the government that somewhat higher prices for consumer products would be a bad thing. Some people think higher food prices would put the public in touch with what the rest of the world spends on food, and some of these people are taken seriously. Thank God that we do not have a food crisis in this country, and your success has obviously contributed to that fact. I think you must understand, however, that the absence of a crisis generally means that dramatically increased research budgets are unlikely. It is crisis atmospheres that create the really intensive demands for massive funding in a particular area, as for example the Energy Research Development Administration. The perceived problem of world food production has also come up at a time when there is a public demanding greater government economy, and when the current

President is attempting to narrow the budget deficit. Even though agricultural research is a very small part of the federal budget, it cannot escape the scrutiny or the bureaucratic pressures to keep all federal budgets down.

Consequently, the OMB position has been constantly to encourage the USDA and the land grant institutions to construct budgets that are capable of meeting international problems within a spending ceiling dictated by our domestic situation, and the only way you can do that is to reallocate. Needless to say, reallocation of resources when you have already been pressed to the wall in years past is not a very popular policy.

I think the result has been that there is unhappiness and frustration on the part of every one who is involved in the process at this point. The research community lobbies in Congress for all manner of bills and increases, sometimes with some success. But Mr. Whitten or some one else then earmarks the increased funds to some extent in a way you would rather not have. I think the earmarking sometimes results in economic misallocation. I think you believe that OMB fails to understand the magnitude of the world food problem, and that OMB is populated by green eye-shaded accountants who are only concerned about narrow efficiencies and who don't have any compassion for the human problems that are involved. For our part, we see you often as men and women who are more concerned with narrow institutional concerns with no vision of the magnitude of the myriad of problems that are facing the nation and that make demands on our resources. Congress sees the research agencies as attempting to avoid its earmarking; the scientists struggle to meet their own research priorities within this kind of earmarking situation; and every one seems unable to agree on the relative priorities or objectives of the ongoing research. I think a resolution of this situation requires that the research establishment

USDA, OMB, and Congress come to some kind of a greater consensus on the nature and the scope of the problems that are facing us. This brings me to my last task: how do we agree on a kind of consensus, and how do you compete for resources?

First, I want to emphasize as strongly as I possibly can that the federal government is not interested in controlling the research that the land grant universities are undertaking. This administration has constantly emphasized through the budget and through its legislative proposals the need for state flexibility in the way you use money that comes from the federal government. I believe the 1977 budget proposals adequately displayed this philosophy and our commitment to making states work for the nation as well as for themselves. We have attempted to give you the flexibility to use money via the Hatch Act and other acts. At the same time, we would ask you to do some other things -- providing better information on where we are now as a nation in agricultural research, and where we desire to go. Relating all of this to budgets, I think you have two tasks: (1) protecting the base, so as to justify the kinds of cost-of-living and other cost increases which you have supported in the past with varying degrees of success; (2) justifying increases that you want in budgets.

This first task of protecting the base requires some effort in systematic evaluation on your part, and the second a greater explication of information than we have heretofore received from you.

Evaluation admittedly is a primitive art and conceptually it is a very difficult one in research. Nonetheless, some attempt must be made to do it at the national level if we are to know what you are about and what you are doing. You need to present some indication of the specific reasons that you want the money -- the specific problems that cause you to ask the federal government for money. In an atmosphere where people help each other, once

you have identified areas in which you want the money, we give it to you. If you decide thereafter that the situation demands that you use the money in other ways, no one is going to claim you violated the trust. We merely ask that you come back next time and explain why you shifted from your planned program. I believe that a committee on program analysis has been formed within the land grant association, Division of Agriculture, to address some of these problems. The NPC is attempting to address some other problems. The four Regional Directors are struggling mightily to come to grips with a number of these questions. But I think that at some point you all have to be able to sit down and reach a consensus nationally on which of your programs have national objectives, which have regional objectives, and which have local objectives, be able to relate your resources on a specific problem-by-problem basis to those particular areas, and make some attempt to define what the potential payoffs are in each of those areas.

I think you basically have three important tasks in this program analysis undertaking: (1) create a description of the experiment station programs that reflects the diversity of your efforts while still being manageable on the national scene; (2) create criteria for judging the appropriateness of ongoing research for federal financing; (3) relay how you go about in your own community obtaining consent on these things. I would suggest the following evaluational criteria:

- (1) Is the research being carried on in an area in which a federal role is granted? A federal role does not mean simply national objectives. It does mean that there is an appreciable difference in either the amount or the quality of the research produced by the private market and that demanded by some broad spectrum of public opinion. A broad spectrum does not mean that it has to be either

multi-state or limited geographically. What it does mean is that you cannot simply fund research wanted by one narrow group of people who have a direct financial interest in it. There has to be some evidence that there are going to be benefits which flow not only to a particular commodity group or a particular set of farmers, but which go to the public at large in some direct fashion.

- (2) Does the research bear upon at least one of the missions, as now defined, of the USDA at the national level? Specifically, can the research be demonstrably shown as contributing to any of the following:

(a) the provision of food or fiber for domestic consumption at prices near the present levels; (b) the minimization of government subsidization of production and other government interference in the market place; (c) the maximization of diplomatic flexibility in helping the United States achieve its foreign policy objectives; (d) the minimization of environmental and other externalities resulting from agricultural production in this country.

- (3) Since the above missions can be conflicting at times, do the research programs reduce or at least not exacerbate the conflicts among these things? Are you sure that the research you're doing in some areas isn't going to contribute to environmental problems at some future time? I do not mean simply conforming to EPA regulations, but a real substantive indication on your part that work on pesticides or work on particular types of fertilizers is not going to have some great impact on water pollution three or four years down the road.

- (4) Does a scientific consensus exist concerning the technical importance of the problem being addressed, and are the applications, however far off, of successful research broad enough to warrant federal spending on it?

- (5) In those areas where you can estimate economic benefits, do the prospective discounted economic benefits of the specific research program under review substantially exceed the costs? This is a simple criterion, but often it is not one that is attempted.
- (6) Are the technological problems involved widely considered to be attackable with available expertise and available conceptual frameworks? Or if there's substantial conceptual innovation involved in a research program, do the new concepts convincingly refute or reasonably flow from previous theory in this area?
- (7) Is the research being carried out in an efficient fashion by researchers and immediate management? Can any managerial program problems that have shown up in a research program be overcome in a reasonably short period of time?
- (8) Is the research that's been ongoing in a particular area generally well received in the scientific community as evidenced by the appearance of results in some recognized kinds of scholarly journals, or other forums in which feedback from a section of the scientific community is obtained?

Those are fairly general types of criteria, but I think they can be refined on a specific program-by-program basis. If you answer these questions honestly for a particular set of research programs, and we are not asking you to evaluate every single program that you have every year, you will go a long way toward increasing the credibility of your current programs.

The task of justifying additional research increases flows directly from this kind of evaluational structure. (1) You have to state the problems you want to attack next; (2) you have to state the research objectives to meet those problems; (3) in those areas where it's amenable, you have to state the expected

payoffs; (4) you have to use these evaluational criteria to set your priorities. The planning that you all have undertaken to some extent obviates the necessity for using any particular evaluational criteria. But we would like to see some type of intellectual criteria imposed or integrated in with the kind of consensus way in which you now set your priorities.

If all this sounds difficult, I suppose that's because it is. But I think it must be done, at least for the Executive branch. The kind of material that is effective for the Congress and the types of things that congressmen sit up and listen to, are not the same types of things that will appeal to economists, public administrators, or other varieties of bureaucrats. The process may consist of gaming and trading and be decided ultimately on non-analytical criteria, but the analysis has to come first. If we can understand what you want to do well enough so that we can go out on a limb and defend ourselves in bureaucratic forums, then there is a much greater likelihood that we will. We have to be honest and frank with the types of officials with whom we deal, and more and more these are officials who don't have agricultural experience -- who didn't grow up in rural areas, weren't exposed to extension programs, and don't understand the land grant system. Unless you can specifically, on a problem-by-problem basis, show that you are effectively looking at what you are doing and have a good, clear plan for what you want to do in the future, we have a problem. It also seems to me that regardless of the kinds of funding increases that you are likely to get through the legislative process, because of the pressures that are being brought to bear it would be in your best interest managerially to develop better systems to evaluate what is going on-- not simply to plan, but also to be able to state what your objectives are in ongoing research and research that you want to undertake in the future. It seems to me this will help you with the state legislatures you have to work with, and it will help you discuss your programs with your own scientists.

I think that's about all formally I have to say. I only have one more thing. About 250 years ago, the English philosopher John Locke said "in the beginning all the world was America." He was talking about innocence, freedom and land. Our innocence is obviously gone. Our freedom is still with us but is constantly under attack from within and from without by radicals and governments, sometimes our own government. We have our land -- our productive, beautiful, resilient, and yet very fragile land. As mortals entrusted with this land for only a short time, we all have to try to work together in the task of insuring that that land which made us free will continue to keep us free. To paraphrase another famous American, we are not bureaucrats, we are not scientists-- we are all Americans.

Thank you.