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This officer inquired relative to the interest farmers were showing in keeping accurate production records and it was found that hardly any producer was.

It was then suggested that to establish the best possible production cost statistics, that 4-H Club members in each farm family be encouraged to take up farm account-keeping. The group will consider the problem at an early meeting.

If farmers keep on accurate record of their labor it was estimated that labor costs alone for one koku of rice for the current crop would cost approximately ¥6,000. This would boost the overall cost per koku to nearly ¥7,000.

The Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry land reform program has done an immeasurably amount of good for farmers generally, it was reported by extension committee leaders.

Conference held at Miyoshi-machi office on 8 September at 0800. Local extension officials reported that the two local 4-H Clubs were members of the Futami Gun 4-H Federation which was organized 7 August 1950 at Takaichi.

On 30 August, each club in the Gun sent one member to attend a training course sponsored by the Federation. Officers of the Federation include a chairman, two vice-chairmen, four auditors and six consultants, who include Gun Officials and Municipal leaders. The Gun Economics Chief at Takaichi is serving as the chief adviser of the Federation. Extension officials said that the Federation was organized by members and should bring better cooperation for all member clubs.

Conference held at Hiroshima Prefectural Government at 1400 on 8 September in Economics Department chief's office. Those present included Mr. Kawai, Economics Chief of Prefectural Government, Mr. Hiruta, Agricultural Improvement Section Chief and representatives Miyamoto and Nakamura from the Yamagata Gun area of Prefectural Assembly.

The conference had been arranged by the Prefecture Assemblymen to obtain further information on the recommendation of Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry that a High Altitude Agricultural Research Station be established at Casa-mura when the Kisa Branch of the Saijo Experimental Station is closed.

Mr. Kawai explained that Prefectural Government officials wanted to ask the Assembly for a special budget of ¥12,000,000 to establish the proposed Casa Station if this Headquarters would support such a request.

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This officer stated that the establishing of the new station was entirely a Prefectural Government matter but that Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers was anxious to determine what the difficulties of such a plan might entail. It was pointed out that Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers feels that the Kisa Station, recommended for closure in 1949 when the Experimental Stations in Japan were investigated prior to the reorganization of these stations, should still be closed as soon as possible.

If sufficient Prefecture funds are available in the 1951 budget, the Oasa Station should be established at once. Otherwise, the entire problem should be referred to the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry for further instruction.

The Assemblymen were in agreement with the Economic Department's plan for Oasa and thanked this officer for his assistance.

4. Conclusions:

a. Extended drought in parts of Tottori, Shimane and Hiroshima Prefectures which is unseasonal generally will aggravate the usual loss to the 1950 rice crop from diseases and insects. While a very small number of paddy fields may have as high as 50% loss of production from these causes, the overall drop in yield is not expected to be more than 12 to 15%.

b. Hiroshima Prefectural Government Economic Department officials will try hard within the next few months to obtain a special budget of ¥12,000,000 to establish a High Altitude Station for agricultural research at Oasa-mura as recommended by Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

c. Miyoshi 4-H Club members and leaders are hopeful that the new Futami 4-H Gun Federation will prove practical, all officers except consultants are 4-H members. Better cooperation among local clubs is the goal of the Gun group which recently held a leaders' training course at Tokaichi.

5. Recommendations:

None.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR, GS-9
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

A-12-G

26 August 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Okayama, Tottori, Shimane and Yamaguchi - 20-24 August 1950

TO : Chief
Economics Section

1. Purpose of Trip was 3-fold:

a. To conduct a survey of agricultural communities as requested by CAS, GHQ to determine advisability of consolidating the 3 committees now administering agricultural affairs.

b. To encourage local offichls to take necessary action to liquidate the assets of the few remaining Nogyo Kai and also to expedite registration of assets already liquidated.

c. To advise prefectural food officials of the need for squeezing the last ounce of advantage out of the present favorable food situation by 100% crop collection and then 100% over quota and then some more.

2. Background:

None.

3. Discussion:

Joint meetings of the Local Land Commission, Agricultural Adjustment Committee, Agricultural Improvement Committee and the local mayor of six villages in 5 prefectures were held for the purpose of determining the reaction of local people to the MAF's proposal to combine the three committees mentioned above. Although most of the conferees felt that it is a little too soon to combine the three, they were generally in favor of consolidation. The findings in this survey do not support the MAF's contention that the same people are currently serving on all three committees. A consensus of opinion sets 21 as the desirable number for the proposed committee and the cultivation of 4 tan of land as the basic requirement for membership. Farmers, local and prefectural officials were unanimous in their plea for the continued autonomous operation of three separate committees at prefectural level. They fear, and quite justly, that a central committee at

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prefectural level would have too much power and might even control the prefectural assembly. A more extensive commentary on these meeting is incorporated in a telephone extract of a conversation between Mr. Tom and Mr. O'Brien dated 25 August.

In order to preclude a possible relaxation of efforts in the crop collection program which might result from easing of the food situation, conferences were held in all prefectures for the purpose of encouraging food officials to squeeze the last ounce of advantage out of the present favorable food situation and collect every possible grain of staple food against the time when conditions might not be so favorable. With a good mugi crop and the promise of a better than average rice crop, conditions in the region indicate that an opportunity to stockpile food might be imminent.

During this trip an investigation in all prefectures was made in order to determine the reasons for the slow progress in the registration or liquidated Nogyo Kai assets. Although the fact that many former Nogyo Kai were not registered properly when they were originally incorporated is delaying registration of their liquidation, the real reason for delay appears to be the taxation aspect. As long as the liquidation of Nogyo Kai assets remains unregistered, the Agricultural Cooperative which took over their assets does not have to pay certain taxes on them. This is quite an inducement to delay registration as long as possible. Prefectural officials throughout the region were encouraged to expedite registration in order to close out for good this phase of the agricultural reform program.

4. Conclusions:

a. Farmers in general favor the consolidation of the Local Agricultural Adjustment Committee, Local Agricultural Improvement Committee and the Local Land Commission but are definitely opposed to consolidation of these agencies at prefectural level.

b. Registration of the liquidation of Nogyo Kai assets will be slow if the tax office doesn't get after the responsible persons.

c. Prefectural officials will cooperate in the drive to collect every possible grain of food despite the fact that the food situation has eased considerably.

DOUGLAS G. O'BRIEN
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section, CCAR

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NND NO.

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FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME M. S. COLEMOUR (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL BLYTH #5

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 21 August 1950 TIME 0068 (5) RETURN DATE 25 August 1950 TIME 0830

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Okayama City	21 August	0900	Prefectural Ag. Extension officials	To discuss Home Improvement Program in Ech.
b.	Okayama City	21 August	1030	Prefectural Ag. Affairs officials.	To discuss Fertilizer, Use & Distribution, since it was placed on open sale 1 Aug.
c.					
d.	Okayama City	21 August	1330	Prefectural Forestry Admin. officials.	To discuss New Forestry Extension organization.
e.	Tottori City	22 August	0900	Prefectural Ag. Extension officials	To evaluate current progress in Extension & Research program.
f.	Tottori City	22 August	1030	Prefectural Experimental Station Staff	To obtain latest reports on damage to 1950 rice crop.

(7) REMARKS: See attached report.

Nat. Res. Division File No. 4-12-9

(Instructions on reverse side)

Signature

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3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME _____ (2) SECTION _____ (3) MODE OF TRAVEL _____

(4) DEPARTURE DATE _____ TIME _____ (5) RETURN DATE _____ TIME _____

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Tottori City	22 August	1330	Pref. Agr. Affairs officials	To discuss fertilizer use & distribution.
b.	Tottori City	22 August	1500	Prefectural Forestry Dept. officials	To discuss Forestry Extension organization.
c.	Matsue	23 August	0900	Prefectural Extension officials	Discuss Extension and Research Program.
d.	Hirosemura	23 August	1000	Prefectural Extension and Public Health officials	To discuss coordination of village Pub. Health nurse's work with that of gun Home Improvement Advisor.
e.					
f.	e. Yamaguchi City	24 August	0900	Prefectural Forestry Department officials	Discuss Insect Control and Forestry Extension program.

(7) REMARKS: See attached report.

_____
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

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FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Bicycle

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 21 Aug TIME 0058 (5) RETURN DATE 25 Aug TIME 0830

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Yamaguchi City	24 August	1330	Prefectural Extension officials	To discuss fruit Research & damage to 1950 rice crop.
b.	Yamaguchi City	24 August	1530	Prefectural Ag. Affairs officials	To Discuss use and distribution of fertilizer.
c.					
d.					
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS: See attached report.

Morris S Colehour

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR, DAC
Signature
GS-9
Natural Resources Div.

(Instructions on reverse side)

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

25 August 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip Report of Mr. Colehour, Natural Resources Division to Okayama, Tottori, Shimane and Yamaguchi Prefectures - 21-25 August 1950

TO : Chief
Economics Section

1. Purpose:

a. Forestry

(1) To evaluate progress in the Pine Bark Beetle Control Program in the Region as required by Japanese Central Government Law No. 53.

(2) To evaluate progress in establishing the Forestry Extension Program in all prefectures to implement the MAF plan for aiding forest-owners.

b. Agriculture

(1) To discuss mid-season damage to 1950 rice crop by noxious insects and plant diseases in Region.

(2) To discuss coordination activities on Farm Home Improvement Program between Public Health Civil Education, Civil Information and Agricultural Improvement Sections of each prefecture in Region.

2. Background:

a. Forestry

(1) Central Government Law No. 53 and MAF Ordinance No. 35 (NRS Weekly Summary No. 245, Pages 24 - 30) provides a long-needed enforcement measure to control Pine Bark Beetles and other noxious insects which have seriously damaged forest lands throughout the Region since V-J day.

(2) The most serious Insect Control Program is in Okayama Prefecture where 182,111 koku of private forests

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as of 5 Aug 50 are damaged partially or extensively. (1950 fiscal estimate - 455,700 koku, Of this amount the MAF will maintain direct control over 99,000 koku besides maintaining direct supervision over the Insect Control Program at all times.

(3) Forest-owners will receive approximately 50% of the cost of eliminating the noxious insects from their forests in the form of a subsidy, 40% of which will come from the Central Government and the balance from each prefecture concerned. Okayama-ken will receive ¥32,831,390, the largest amount of any prefectural allocation in Japan.

(4) Forestry Associations in Shimane, Tottori and Okayama Prefectures have claimed that lumber inspectors received special consideration in being appointed as forestry extension advisors.

3. Discussion:

a. Agriculture Extension

This officer suggested on 21 August that Okayama Kencho officials arrange an informal conference with the Dean of the Agricultural Department of Okayama University next month to discuss the current outlook for prospective farm extension advisors and specialists.

Mr. Taki stated that 80 students normally complete their agricultural studies every spring. In the past, most of the graduates have taken the Prefectural examination for extension agent with 40% of them qualifying and approximately 70% of the qualifiers actually getting positions as agents.

Conferences held at 1330 on 21 August at Prefectural Experimental Station in Okayama City.

Rice blast damage in the Ken as of 10 August had affected 6,272 cho partially or in more severe intensity. This figure is slightly smaller than last year at the same period during the growing season.

The staff entolomogist at the experimental station estimated that the current outbreak of stem borer damage is about 3 or 4% generally in the Ken with some of the more severe areas having as much as 20% of rice plants infested by the pest. Control measures are quite effective. Damaged stems will be pulled out of paddy fields by hand starting in the first week of September. This step is taken when the nearly-mature plant is infested by the second generation borer (moth) and use of insecticides is not considered practical.

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The black beetle, banded chlorosis and the white-tip disease have also been reported as spotty infestations to the rice crop in the Ken. However, none of these diseases or insects are causing very heavy loss at present.

Newest models of power sprayers with 60-foot hose attachment, were inspected by this officer at the station during this conference. The demonstration of the use of the sprayers was arranged by the Ken-cho Improvement Section and the Station for representatives of a large number of fruit growers in the Prefecture who participated in an all-day conference on insect control and fruit research.

The station's farm implement specialist, Mr. Tsukiyama, was in charge of the power sprayer demonstration. He explained that Ken fruit growers voluntarily sought the assistance of the Station in arranging the demonstration because of their desire to develop disease-resistant strains of peaches, pears and other fruit.

Similar demonstrations were planned by the Ken-cho Improvement Section the latter part of this month in Tsuyama, Kurashiki, and Takabashi.

Various insecticides are used in controlling fruit diseases and noxious insects. They include Bordeaux Mixture, Fermate, Nicotine Sulphate, Lead Arsenate, BHC, DDT, Derris and Pyretherum.

Fruit specialists of the Ken-cho Horticultural Expiremental Station near Okayama City believe that this year's peach crop will approximate 1,200,000 kan, slightly smaller than last year. Before the war, the annual yield in the Ken was 2,600,000 kan. Wartime restrictions greatly curtailed the Ken's fruit production but the Ken-cho and farmers are now cooperating to gradually reach the pre-war figure.

Mr. Taki, Ken-cho Improvement Section Chief, the Experimental Station chief and this officer attended the conference on fruit research held the same afternoon at the station. This officer was asked to make a brief address to the fruit-growers present.

Early application of insecticides was stressed by the Region's representative who also commended the growers for their desire to use modern agricultural techniques in producing high-quality fruit. Mr. Osaki, chief of the Ken's Fruit Experimental Station, gave a short discourse on fruit research in the Ken after which he explained to this officer how the 20th Century variety from which it was produced. This new pear was started as an experiment several years ago and is now grown by a representative number of fruit-growers in the Ken, although in limited quantities.

Tottori Prefecture

Conference held at 1030 on 22 August with representatives of Agricultural Extension Advisors from 16 districts in Ken at Ken-cho.

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Mr. Wada, Improvement Section Chief, introduced this officer to the group which had assembled for the first time at the suggestion of the Region's representative to discuss the overall Extension program.

At the suggestion of Mr. Wada, the Region's representative briefly sketched the development of the Agricultural Extension Service in America and also pointed out the close relationship between the farm advisor, the Home advisor and 4-H club activities in the States. The importance of Agricultural research to farmers in Japan was also pointed out by this officer who closed his brief talk by commending the advisors for their many contributions to post-war farming progress.

An open forum on coordination between American and Japanese agricultural programs followed. Mr. Tanaka of Kitaka Gun's East District reported that he had just concluded sponsoring a 1-day 4-H club summer camp for 61 boys and 29 girls in his area. The Tottori City Branch Secondary School was utilized for many of the meetings. The same advisor together with two apprentices from the Kurayoshi Experimental Farm attended the National 4-H club camp held 26 July at Yatsukudoke in Nagano Prefecture.

A research demonstration reporting meeting was held under the auspices of the Nishi-mura 4-H club in Kedaka Gun, the district representative reported. He added that local 4-H clubs favor the plan of organizing a Gun 4-H Federation.

During the forum, it was learned that practically all of the 17 districts will also form 4-H club Federations by 1 October 1950. Research report type of meetings are being held in several districts.

The Seihaku Gun representatives reported that rice blast has threatened the current crop in their districts - South and Minokaya, but the damage will not become severe unless the drouth is prolonged. They also requested more movie projectors for the Extension Service, adding that difficulty has been experienced quite often in obtaining both projectors and films.

Several of the more conservative villages and towns in the prefecture need more information and enlightenment on the value of the Farm Extension program. Several of the advisors declared it would be desirable if this officer could visit some of the communities where progress in extension development has been very discouraging.

Additional steps in the reorganization and consolidation of various Agricultural research activities at the Prefecture's Main Experimental Station in Tottori City will be considered when the Ken's Extension Committee meets about 5 September. Livestock and agricultural management will be among new departments to be added to the station's overall research mission.

A conference on Mugi production methods will be held by the Ken in three central areas on 15 September. Extension agents

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throughout the Prefecture will attend these meetings, designed to obtain maximum wheat and barley deliveries in 1951.

Conference held at Prefecture Main Experimental Station at 1330 on 22 August. The station chief reported that generally, this year's rice crop would be better than the 1949 production.

Stem borers were more extensive generally in the first generation survey recently than at the same time a year ago. Based on pests found in light traps, the staff entomologist estimated that borers are infesting approximately 10% of the paddy field plants as of 20 August compared to only a 7% damage at the same time in 1949.

The Yonago area, especially along the Japan Sea, is one of the most severe infestations of borers. Leaf spot disease is also quite rampant in Tohaku Gun. The Sendai river valley, especially the southern area near the mountains, has a very severe infestation of rice plant insects and diseases.

This officer made tentative arrangements to visit the Yonago area on 6 September at 1300 to inspect the rice crop infestations and to discuss counter-measures with Yonago Extension officials.

An attendance of 10,000 is expected for the Prefectural Agricultural Exposition to be held at the Main Prefectural Experimental Station in Tottori City on 26-28 September.

Prizes will be given to farmers who have invented farm machinery.

Shimane Prefecture

Conference held at 0900 on 23 August in Agricultural Improvement Section of Ken-cho. Mr. Tanaka, Chief of the Extension Sub-Section and Miss Nigata, subject matter specialist in charge of Home Improvement activities, were present. This officer asked Miss Nigata if she had contacted any farm women in regard to canning instructions as suggested by Mr. Blackwood on his recent visit to the Ken.

She stated that three lectures on preservation of vegetables and fruit have been held recently in the prefecture, stressing the canning principally of tomatoes and beans. Preservation of food will be stressed during the prefecture's annual Agricultural Exposition to be held this fall at Izumo Experimental Station. Miss Nigata to attend a Coordination conference on Public Health Nurse and Home Improvement activities at the Nogi Public Health Clinic in Hirose-mura, Nogi-gun, at 1000 on 6 Septmeber 1950.

A brief discussion of the proposed Coordination conference was held with Dr. Shimizu, chief of the Public Health Department of

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the Ken-cho, on the same date. Dr. Shimizu had previously been contacted by Dr. Barrett with reference to the conference at Hirose, which was originally scheduled for 23 August.

As he was busy on this date, he had contacted this officer by telephone and a new date, 6 September, had been suggested. Dr. Shimizu stated that the arrangements were very satisfactory to him and he suggested that all 16 Public Health Village Nurses in Nogi Gun be invited. This officer said, that if such arrangements were not difficult, it would be satisfactory.

Yamaguchi Prefecture:

Conference held at 0915 on 24 August in Agricultural Improvement Section of Ken-cho. Mr. Ozaki, chief of the Section, and Mr. Higashibara, entomologist, and subject matter specialist in charge of Insect and Plant Disease Control, were present.

Mr. Higashibara reported on current damage to the rice crop in the Prefecture. On 10 August, 948 cho, 7 tan of paddy fields were infected with rice blast. However, this damage is not quite as severe as last year. Infestation by the black beetle to rice plants is 10% generally in the Ken.

The rice stem borer damage in the Ken as of 20 August, affected 3,100 cho. The infestation is also less than last year. Leaf hoppers had damaged 230 cho of rice fields on 10 August with the figure expected to double before the end of this month. Despite the damage by insects and disease to the rice crop, Ken-cho officials believe that the 1950 rice harvest will be very good unless unfore-seen developments occur.

An attendance of 25,000 is expected at the Ken's Agricultural fair in Ouchi, starting 15 September. It will be the first time since 1937 that the prefecture has had a farming exposition. On 18 September all extension committee members throughout the Ken will be present at the fair for the first time. Approximately 1,100 committee-men will attend the special conference on extension that day at the Prefecture's Main Experimental Station.

Mr. Isobe, chief of the Agriculture Improvement Section of the MAF, Tokyo, will address the committeemen.

Miss Miyazaki, Home Improvement subject matter specialist, joined the conference and stated that despite economic difficulties, farm women are being encouraged to participate in the Home Improvement program. Projects which do not require any money or the barest possible outlay for materials or equipment are stressed.

This officer suggested that Miss Miyazaki contact the chief Public Health Nurse in the Ken-cho Public Health Department in

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regard to planning a Coordination conference on Home Improvement activities between Ken-cho Public Health and Home Improvement officials.

b. Agriculture - Fertilizer Distribution

Okayama Prefecture - Okayama City

Conference held at Ken-cho Agricultural Affairs Section on 21 August at 1100. Incomplete price lists on commercial fertilizer since open sale began on 1 August, were reported by Ken-cho Fertilizer Distribution officials. Ammonium Sulphate is expected to be the largest type of fertilizer bought by Ken wholesalers in August. Purchase estimates are too incomplete to be used until later.

As of 21 August, the Ken has received notices from 689 Cooperatives and private firms, stating they will distribute fertilizer. Indications point to 40 wholesalers being included in this figure, with 425 being Cooperatives. Of the approximately 264 private firms, two-thirds are entering the fertilizer business either for the first time or resuming this business since the war.

Tsuyama City

Conference held at 2000 on 21 August aboard "Blyth" at Tsuyama City. Those present included Tomada District and Municipal Agriculture officials.

One hundred farmers from Cooperatives in the district were expected to attend the all-day conference on Use of Fertilizer on 24 August in Tsuyama City. District officials stated that approximately 20% of the district's spring quota of fertilizer had been rejected by farmers, principally because of the high prices.

Five Cooperatives and four private firms have been distributing fertilizer in Tsuyama City. Incomplete surveys show that sales of fertilizer will drop considerably in August due to the price increases under open sale.

During a discussion of the cost of production of rice, Mr. O'Brien asked district officials for the estimated local cost of producing one koku of rice. A figure of ¥5,200 was given for costs previous to open sale. Since 1 August, the cost is expected to rise to approximately ¥6,500 per koku. The latter figure is based on the higher costs of labor and compost in the northern area of the Ken.

A recent demonstration of power sprayers was held in the Tsuyama area under the supervision of Ken-cho Experimental Station and district technicians. Extension agents from several neighboring communities attended the gathering.

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Tottori Prefecture

Conference held at 1030 on 23 August at Ken-cho Agricultural Affairs Section. Most recent figures show that 238 Cooperatives and private firms will engage in the fertilizer business under open sale. This figure includes about 25 new private firms. On 1 August, the Kodan reported it had 400 tons of Nitrogenous fertilizer, 800 tons of Phosphatic and 800 tons of Potassic fertilizer.

Conference held at 1600 on 23 August at Ken Purchase Federation of Cooperatives in Tottori City. Mr. Ito, Fertilizer Superintendent for the federation, a Ken-cho representative and this officer were present.

Mr. Ito estimated that purchase of fertilizer in August by his federation would total 550 tons. It will include 300 tons of Ammonium Sulphate, 200 tons of Super Phosphates and 50 tons of Potassium.

Next month, the Federation will probably purchase 2,360 tons of fertilizer of which 1,550 tons will be ammonium sulphate, 720 tons will be phosphates and 90 tons will be potassium. This will be approximately 70% of the September figures a year ago.

He declared that the local Cooperatives generally add 4% service charges to the wholesale cost of fertilizer to make it as reasonable as possible for farmers.

This officer contacted officials of the Omokage-mura Cooperative and Mr. Nishio, manager of the Maruishi Sangyo Co., Tottori wholesalers and retailers, the same afternoon to determine field developments on distribution of fertilizer.

The Cooperative official declared that there was no stock of fertilizer remaining from the control period. He said the Buraku representatives of the organization were contacting farmers to obtain orders for September delivery at prices which are fluid because no official price list had reached this village, about 5 minutes by jeep, from Tottori City as yet.

He estimated that delivery could be obtained of any type of fertilizer from the Federation within ten days. The closing date for August orders was 25 August, he added.

Mr. Nishio, the first large private firm, contacted on this trip, estimated that he had 4,000 kan each of Nitrogenous and Phosphatic fertilizer in stock as of 1 August with 350 kan of potassium also available on that date. The recent price increases under open sale, led the firm's president to go to Osaka to confer with fertilizer manufacturers in an effort to adjust the prices before fall orders are placed.

The Maruishi firm has been purchasing fertilizer from the Shimetsu Chemical Co. in Toyama, (Tokai Region), and the Nishin

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Chemical Co. of Shikoku Region, and the Befu Chemical Co. of Hyogo Prefecture. The Tagi Co. of Hyogo Ken may also sell the company Phosphates this fall, he added.

Generally, private wholesalers and dealers are quoting higher prices than their competitors, the Cooperatives. However, until a more comprehensive survey is made, this is probably no indicator under open sale.

Shimane Prefecture

Conference held on 23 August at Ken-cho Agricultural Affairs Section at 1100.

Mr. Naguchi, chief of the section, and his Fertilizer Technician, were present. Present estimates show that 300 dealers will be selling fertilizer, including Cooperatives, in the Ken under open sale. Of this number, 50 are private firms. Several large manufacturers plan to establish branches in the Ken for distribution to retailers.

Mr. Naguchi raised the question of quality of the fertilizer being distributed now to farmers, adding that farmers have demanded that because of previous conditions, mostly pre-war, that an analysis be made of various shipments.

He will ask the Prefectural Assembly for a special fund of ¥300,000 this fall to establish an assaying service in the Ken-cho to protect farmers in their fertilizer purchases. The Izumo Experimental station is now analyzing various fertilizers for the Ken-cho but it was pointed out that since it is not convenient for the majority of farmers visiting the Ken-cho, it would be best to have a separate test made in Tottori.

Ken-cho officials estimate that it costs farmers in the Ken about ¥5800 - ¥6,000 to produce one koku of rice. This includes the new price of fertilizer but is purely an estimate and may go even higher when a more accurate sampling is obtained.

Yamaguchi Prefecture

Conference held on 24 August at 1100 at Ken-cho Agricultural Affairs Section. Ken-cho officials reported that 245 Cooperatives including two wholesale federations, and 122 private firms are engaged in fertilizer distribution in the Ken as of 21 August. The latter includes 73 new dealers. Approximately 15 of the private firms will engage in both wholesale and retail merchandising.

Purchases during August are expected to approximate 420 tons of fertilizer by both Cooperatives and private firms of which 300

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tons will be of ammonium sulphate. However, with considerable interest being reported in sales late this month, Ken-cho officials believe that 200 additional tons of fertilizer may be ordered by Ken wholesalers before 1 September.

A considerable increase in sales during September is expected with October as the key month for the trend in sales for the fall delivery period.

c. Forestry - Insect Control

Okayama Prefecture

Conference held with Ken-cho Forestry Affairs Chief at 1100 on 21 August at Ken-cho.

Approximately 50,000 farmers who own forest land in the Prefecture, will receive orders from the Governor very soon to take action within three months to eliminate Pine Bark Beetles and other Noxious Insects from their timber stands. This is the new MAF-Prefectures' Coordinated Control program to ride Japan of the timber pests.

District offices of the Ken have been empowered by the Ken-cho Forestry Department to maintain very close coordination with famrers and forestry associations for the next 60 days. This will enable the Ken-cho to determine how many farmers want to use unemployed labor to launch an all-out campaign against the Beetles as Mr. Blackwood had suggested in last month's visit.

For the present, farmers will be asked to hire outside labor voluntarily but if they have not taken any action on the control plan themselves or with the help of neighbors within a couple of months, the district offices will report to the Ken-cho.

Ken-cho officials assured this officer that drastic action will be taken to follow up the Central Government Law requiring Prefectures as well as forest owners to take more aggressive steps to eliminate the beetles and other noxious insects. A conference on the entire Insect Control plan for the Ken is planned on 20 September at 0900.

Tottori Prefecture

Conference held at 0900 at Ken-cho Agriculture and Forestry Chief's office. With Pine Bark Beetles practically eliminated in the Ken, the Insect Control program is now centered on eliminating the chestnut gall fly.

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Ken-cho officials estimate that as of 1 August, 9,816,000 chestnut trees, most of them of the wild-growing variety, are infested. This represents 1,195,000 koku. Intensity is about 40% in the areas reporting damage from the pest but in many parts of the Ken, wild trees have as much as 90% damage. Yazu Gun has the heaviest infestation of the gally fly.

Demand for tung oil is increasing in the prefecture with prospects that hardly any insect damage has been reported.

Shimane Prefecture

This officer in company with Ken-cho and district forestry officials, visited a large Tung Tree grove in a hilly area near Ito-mura at 1400 on 23 August. Insects were very numerous on the leaves and all over the trees inspected. Various specimens were taken to complete the Region's Natural Resources museum.

Insect damage has become so severe that owners are only getting three bales of dried tung nuts from trees in the Ito area instead of 60 bales as the custom was several years ago. Since a bale brings ¥3,000 to owners, the economic loss because of the infestation, is quite severe. If conditions are not too bad this year, owners may derive 10 bales from the Ito grove. The trees inspected averaged about 35 years but may not survive too long, because of the infestation.

This officer was invited to attend a brief meeting of directors of the Ito Forestry Association at the Ito School following the inspection. Questions on the future of forestry were asked the Region's representative, especially in the matter of the new Forestry Cooperatives.

Assurance was given the group that the MAF and SCAP will not launch a forestry land reform program for the present, and probably, not at all under the Occupation. The owners replied that if this is true, they will be glad to actively support all forestry activities.

Yamaguchi Prefecture

Conference was held at 1030 on 24 August with Forestry Affairs chief at Ken-cho. Plans were made to inspect infested Pine tree area near Bofu and to see a small nursery near Ogori.

At 1400, representatives of Bofu Agriculture and Forestry Section escorted this officer on a visit to a large hilly tract about 10 minutes from Bofu, where an extensive insect control program involving ¥300,000 had recently been launched. The cedar leaf pine

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beetle had been attacking the leaves of the pine seedlings planted in a 33-cho area being reforested by Bofu municipality.

The prompt action of the Bofu officials has saved the entire tract and is an example of effective insect control.

Bofu municipal authorities planted 45,000 trees in the tract which had been clear cut during the war. Until the effective control measure of spraying the young trees with DDT and lead arsenate was undertaken, the greater part of the tract was endangered by the outbreak of beetles.

This officer briefly inspected the Ken's forestry nursery at Ono-mura in Asa Gun. The 3-tan tract was covered with a bush clover type of foliage which is used in reforesting barren areas. Every March, the young seedlings from the nursery are placed in the barren soil and usually survive in any type of soil and climate.

4. Conclusions:

a. Agriculture

(1) Farmers generally are making few fertilizer purchases this month, partly because they bought rather large amounts before open sale started 1 August and also due to the economic stringency facing most of them.

(2) Fertilizer price increases which will be about 20% higher than under Kodan control last month, will further aggravate the hardships farmers and their families are facing. The cost of producing one koku of rice generally in the Region is estimated at ¥6,000 to ¥6,200, a loss of approximately ¥1,200 to ¥1,400 from the government regulated price of ¥4,800 which farmers receive when the rice is harvested.

(3) Damage to the rice crop is nominal throughout the Region with effective control measures being taken in all prefectures.

b. Forestry

(1) Okayama Prefecture Forestry officials have instructed district officials in the Ken to maintain very close liaison with Forestry Associations and forest owners to ensure an all-out attack against noxious insects. Since Okayama has the worst damage from these pests in Japan, the Ken hopes to use unemployed labor, with the owners' cooperation, possibly within six weeks to expedite the Bark Beetle control program.

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(2) Shimane Forestry officials have conducted extensive indoor tests to determine control measures against the yellow, turtle-beetle which is causing heavy damage in the Ken's tung trees. However, actual control measures on the infested trees is just starting and tests will probably not be completed for 60 days or more.

5. Recommendations:

a. Agriculture

(1) Ken-cho officials in Tottori and Yamaguchi were advised to stress Insect Control measures as much as possible for staple foods and fruits, at their respective agricultural fairs next month. While examples of effective control have been noted in regional inspections, widespread use of insecticides is still the goal of most prefectures. It was pointed out that education of farmers on insect control should be a continuing process with follow-ups to determine degree of coordination in various Cuns.

(2) The Civil Information Section of this Headquarters has been contacted and agreed to furnish available displays on American agriculture at both of these fairs. Farmers throughout the Region are vitally interested in all farming techniques in America.

b. Forestry

The MAF Insect Control program is being launched very effectively throughout the Region. However, Okayama Ken, especially should speed up its control program faster than other prefectures because of the extensive area now infested and should take advantage of the supply of unemployed labor in the Ken to complete the huge task within two to three months. MAF officials are expected to attend a conference on 20 September at Okayama City at which time this officer will outline the Region's suggestions on checking the spread of the pine pests before the damage gets more severe.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR, GS-9
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section, CCAR

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNBG NO.

Nat. Res. Division
File No. A-12-G

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

17 August 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip through Okayama, Tottori and Shimane Prefectures. 7 - 10 August 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose of trip was to conduct routine surveillance of Agriculture and Forestry Programs with special emphasis on written rental agreements, amalgamation of cooperative federations and forestry extension.

2. Background:

None.

3. Discussion:

Areas were visited and conferences held as per attached schedule. Shimane Prefecture is further along with rental contracts than other prefectures. They are using a standard form which is complete to the last detail, legally binding yet easy to understand. In other areas forms are being drafted but progress is slow. The undersigned was impressed with the utter lack of enthusiasm for completion of this program on the part of local land commissions. As in other areas, the advantages and security in written contracts were again reviewed. The statement that reluctance to sign a contract is a clear indication of intended chicanery seems to bring land commissions around quicker than anything else.

In Okayama Prefecture, particularly, unit coops are vociferous in their condemnation of federation activities. When asked their opinion on amalgamation, unit coops in Tsuyama stated that liquidation would be a better thing for the federations. In Tottori and Shimane the attitude among unit coops is more apathetic but they unaminously concur that amalgamation is a good thing. Although there is considerable talk on the subject not one unit coop has planned to call a general meeting to vote on the subject as required by law.

Tottori Prefectural officials responded to their 19,000 koku over quota delivery allocation in a matter quite inconsistent with their previous reaction to other and similar relatively severe requirements imposed on them. In short, they are highly inscensed at and openly hostile toward the central government

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for what they consider a grave injustice. They hold that because Tottori ken was first to complete other crop collections, first to complete land transfers, first to complete registration, first to complete Nogyo Kai liquidation and first to fulfill all other MAF requirements that the MAF thinks they can do anything. As a result, they believe that Tottori was called on to deliver the heavy end of the bulk reductions presented to other prefectures as a result of political shinanigans.

The chief of the Tottori Agriculture and Forestry Department queried the Ministry on the basis for a 64% over quota allocation and was told that the crop reporting office estimated production in Tottori to be capable of meeting that quota. When Tottori interposed objections on grounds that the survey was not accurate because production was not estimated by town and village, the MAF countered with the statement that the survey was based on town and village production estimates and figures were available. Tottori then accepted the 64% over quota but requested permission to use these figures as a basis for breaking down the over quota and same was granted by MAF. However, when Tottori Ken officials requested the food office for this data they were informed that no such figures were available because no survey of that nature was ever made. Result: a second trip to Tokyo and further delay in quota breakdown in Tottori.

The story as presented by Tottori prefectural officials is not in agreement with the proceedings at the Tokyo conference as reported by NRS, GHQ in Weekly Summary 250 page 5 par f. This descrepancy will be made the subject of a subsequent meeting with the Tottori officials concerned.

As a result of several conferences with unit cooperatives, federation representatives, and private fertilizer dealers, it looks very much like the purchase federations have missed the boat again in fertilizer distribution. Private dealers are way out infront, having made negotiations and arrangements for shipments, solicited business, established a price and begun delivery. Unit cooperatives still cannot even quote the farmer a price on fertilizer, still waiting for the federation to set a price. This, in a way, is bad for the cooperatives because they need the business badly at this time.

Over two months ago the undersigned contacted all of the purchase federations and advised them to get busy or they would be out of luck. At that time they stated that negotiations were completed for a substantial loan, arrangements were being made with manufacturers and that every thing was all set up to go.

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What happened in the meantime is not known but will be ascertained. It is a safe guess that the same sloppy inefficient management which has marked all purchase federation operations before was at its wishy-washy worst in this operation.

4. Conclusion:

a. The execution of written rental agreements will have to be pushed consistently.

b. Collection of the rice over-quota assigned to Tottori is going to be difficult.

c. There seems little hope for the unit cooperatives until some honest housecleaning is done in the federations.

5. Recommendations:

None.

Douglas G. O'Brien

Douglas G. O'Brien, DAC
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NND No.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colebeur (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 7 August 1950 TIME 0800 (5) RETURN DATE 8 August 1950 TIME 1700

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Cesa-mura Yamagata-gun	7 August	1300	Ken, Gun and Village Extension officials	To inspect proposed site of new Ken High altitude Experimental Station
b.					
c.	Fube-machi	8 August	1030	Ken, Gun and Town Extension officials	To discuss Agric. Home Improvment and other phase Extension program
d.					
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS: See attached report.

A-12-G

W. S. COLEBOUR
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

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INSTRUCTIONS

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3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

10 August 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip Report - Hiroshima Prefecture,
7 - 8 August 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose:

a. To inspect the Oasa-mura Municipal Experimental Farm in Yamagata-Gun, and make recommendations on the establishing of a High altitude agricultural experimental station by Hiroshima Prefecture at the same site. (applic. O.D. #12)

b. To discuss agricultural extension activities of Yamagata and Asa Guns with Ken-cho, Gun and Municipal officials. (Applic O.D. #12)

2. Background:

Two years ago, SCAP and the MAF completed a study of all agricultural experimental stations in Japan. (NRS Weekly Summary No. 176, page 11)

The Kisa-mura Branch of the Prefecture Ag. Experimental Station was among establishments listed for closure. Since then, Ken-cho officials have apparently proceeded alowly in complying with the joint SCAP-MAF directive that this branch station be closed because it performed similar functions to other experimental stations in the Prefecture and the Region.

The MAF granted Ken-cho officials, at their own request, a one-year extension to close the Kisa Station about 1 March 1950. SCAP-NRS and the MAF, acting on the recommendations of the former Hiroshima MG Team, have ordered Hiroshima Ken-cho officials to establish a High Altitude Ag. Experimental Station as soon as possible because cold weather/or high altitude farming is carried on in approximately one-third of the cultivated land area in the Ken. (30,000 cho).

Ken-cho officials have made several inspections of the proposed site for the High Altitude station at Oasa-mura and have prepared a tentative budget for the new establishment which totals ¥12,009,000. Of this amount ¥2,000,000 will come from tax funds in Yamagata-gun, mostly villages and towns adjacent to the present Municipally-operated Ag. Research Farm in Oasa.

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The MAF is not expected to allocate funds for the new station.

3. **Discussion:**

Conference held at 1100 on 7 August 1950 in office of Mayor Ishizu at Oasa-mura. Those present included the Mayor, Mr. Kosaka, representing the Chief of Economics Section, Yamagata Gun District Ken-cho Office, Kake-Machi, and Mr. Zengo Senior Extension Advisor for Yamagara Gun, also of Kake-Machi, and Mr. Yamada, Planning Engineer, Ag. Improvement Section, Hiroshima Ken-cho.

The Mayor summarized developments on the Oasa Station as follows:

"The Municipal Ag. Experimental Farm in Oasa formerly was operated by the Ken-cho Improvement Section but was discontinued as a High Altitude Experimental Station In 1948 when the MAF informed the Ken-cho that no further grants would be made for the establishment.

Since then, the Oasa-mura Village Assembly has operated the station with an annual budget of approximately ¥300,000. The Main Prefecture Experimental Station provides casual labor and certain chemicals to assist the Village conduct research on rice and other food crops grown by farmers in the high altitude area of the Ken."

The mayor added that the present experimental farm comprises more than 2 cho of land. The paddy field area totals 1 cho-7 tan while upland amounts to 5 tan. The remainder of the farm's tract, totaling 100 tsubo, includes the farm office, residence for the staff which totals 8 persons, and storage barns.

Mr. Yoshiwara, Oasa Extension Advisor, maintains his office at the experimental farm and usually spends his mornings there to direct the planning and operations of the establishment. The remainder of the time, he is travelling among the farmers in the Oasa area, explaining the experiments which are in progress at the Oasa Experimental Farm.

Three other technically-trained persons perform experiments at the Oasa Farm, assisted by three farmers and a woman employee. The farm stresses reasearch for food and fruit crops which grow in the mountainous area of the Prefecture (approximate altitude 500-1000 meters above sea level.)

The mayor submitted a brochure to this officer, containing various reports prepared by Oasa-Mura Municipality on the Agricultural Experimental Station.

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At 1330, a second conference was held at the Oasa Experimental Farm. The same personnel were present together with Mr. Nahamura, Oasa Extension Advisor. Mr. Nahamura stated that there are 700 farm households in Oasa-mura. He follows a plan of visiting approximately 20 to 30 families daily.

Experiments at the station included the growing of Irish potatoes in paddy fields along with rape plant which produces oil used by the Japanese for nutritional and industrial purposes.

Development of an improved type of rice for the mountainous area is also being carried out by the Oasa Experimental Farm.

The outlook appears good for the current rice crop which is expected to be harvested about 1 October 1950. Farmers of Yamagata Gun usually plant rice on 5,000 cho of paddy field annually. Of this amount, the forecast of damage from rice blast for the gun is 85.7 cho as of 1 August 1950.

Extension officials will closely watch the advent of the heavy rainy season in September to ascertain if any heavy loss will be suffered by rice farmers before the crop is harvested.

Stem borers are not expected to cause very heavy damage to the High Altitude area's rice crop this season, extension officials declared.

Drainage of paddy fields is one of the major problem confronting farmers in the High Altitude area. The Oasa experimental establishment is keeping in close touch with the Saijo Prefectural Station and MAF Research Station to obtain a variety of rice seed which will be able to resist damage caused by the cold water which flows into the paddy field from the nearby hills. In the past, loss from - severe shock which the cold water causes in the growing rice plants, has reduced the overall rice crop field in the mountainous area of the Ken by 30% annually.

Gun officials stated that approximately 700 koku of rice is imported annually from Shimane Prefecture to implement the retention quota allowed farmers in the Gun. This is necessary because the Central Government bases the annual rice quota for the Gun on a larger acreage than is actually cultivated. A recent land survey made by the Gun revealed that 5,300 cho of land, including paddy field and upland, is normally used for rice production.

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However, Gun officials insist that rice production figures are quite variable and also pointed out that the farmers are delivering a much higher percentage of rice every year to the Government than they should. As a result, they must import other rice for sustaining their daily diet.

Apples are beginning to take their place with persimmons as another source of income for the one-crop farmers in the Yamagata area.

The mayor stated that Oasa's Village Assembly is allocating ¥63,000 annually to the Village Extension Committee for various Ag. Research Activities.

This officer made an extensive inspection of the Oasa establishment including ground to determine whether the present area is large enough for the proposed Prefectural High Altitude station.

Gun and Municipal officials declared they had been told by Prefectural officials that the land area of the establishment was sufficient for the present to establish the new station.

Several new buildings will be erected at the site if it is selected by the Prefecture. Construction of these buildings together with practically all new facilities comprises the largest share of the proposed ¥12,000,000 budget.

Conference held at Oasa Hotel at 1630 on 7 August. Mr. S. Miyamoto, Prefectural Assembly member from Nakano-mura and Mr. Uemoto, Oasa, chairman of the Village Assembly and also head of the Extension Committee joined the others in a general discussion of the Oasa establishment. Mr. Miyamoto declared that he never had received complete information on the reasons for closing the Kisa Station and establishing a new station at Oasa.

Mr. Uemoto said that the rice quota for farmers in the Oasa area generally has been too high. Since the Oasa Co-op has frozen deposits totaling ¥8,000,000 for the present because of stringent financial conditions, many farm families are eating vegetables and other foods because they have no cash to use for their monthly rice ration.

The Ken-cho representative said that the normal budget for the Oasa Station would be approximately ¥4,600,000 annually. It is estimated that new construction at the proposed station ~~moved~~ would require three months to complete.

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It may be necessary for the staff to use the Village Hall if the present Establishment's facilities prove inadequate.

Conference held at Kake District office of Ken-cho, Yamagata-Gun, at 0930 on 8 August. District Officials including District chief and Miss Nokage, new Home Improvement Advisor in Kake office.

The District chief explained that Yamagata-gun groups have been trying for three years to have a High Altitude Experimental Station established at Oasa. He said that a conference of mayors throughout the Gun which was held at Kake recently, asked Ken-cho officials to do everything possible to expedite the establishing of the proposed station.

Miss Nokage explained her orientation program, stating that she had only been working in the position about two weeks. She is visiting model municipalities in the Gun to become acquainted with problems relating to Rural Family Living.

Conference held at 1130 on 8 August at Kabe District office of Ken-cho. Those present included Mr. Yokata, chief of the Kabe Experimental Station Mr. Fumoto, chief of the Asa-Gun Extension office, and Miss. Takemoto, new Home Improvement advisor at Kabe.

Miss. Takemoto who also just assured her duties, explained that she is beginning to work with women's groups in the Kabe area. She hopes to begin visiting farm homes sometime next month.

Mr. Fumoto explained that the Gun Farm Youth Federation was the only organization at present in which farm boys and girl are very active. The 4-H club program is expected to develop gradually from this nucleus.

Mr. Yokota related some of his recent experiment at the station. He declared that his staff had discovered that tomato plants to thrive - must be grown in fairly deep soil which has good drainage.

The station chief added that some farmers in the Ken have lost as much as 50% of the potential field from tomato plants for the past few years because of improper cultivation.

He added that the station is badly in need of additional space for a conference room for farmers and other visitors and also to conduct extensive research in vegetable and fruit cultivation. The station has sought an increase of ¥2,000,000 in the establishment's budget but has never been able to get it from the Ken-cho.

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4. Conclusion:

a. The establishment of the proposed High Altitude Station at Oasa-mura, while it is quite important to the farmers of the Prefecture, is strictly a decision for the MAF and the Ken-cho Economics Department.

b. If the Kisa Branch Station is to be continued indefinitely instead of being closed as recommended, it is essential that more practical High Altitude research be accomplished to the greatest good to farmers in the Ken's High Altitude area.

5. Recommendation:

a. Home Improvement advisors generally should talk in simple language to farm wives, stressing the easy, inexpensive projects which can be carried out to improve Rural Living.

b. Further conferences should be held by personnel of Chugoku Civil Affairs Region to study the closing of the Kisa Branch of the Prefectural Experimental Station.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS. S. COLEHOUR, DAC
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NARS NO.

File Index No. 5

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 1 August TIME 0800 (5) RETURN DATE 2 August TIME 1700

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Hiroshima	1 Aug	0900	Ken-Cho Forestry Affairs officials	To discuss setting up of Forestry Extension Division
b.	Hiroshima	1 Aug	1300	Ken-Cho Ag. Improvement Officials	To discuss Fertilizer Dist. under open sale
c.	Hiroshima	2 Aug	1030	City Extension Agents and officials of City Extension committee	To discuss Vegetable farming and related problems
d.					
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS: See attached report.

Morris S Colehour
MORRIS S. COLEHOUR
GS-9

Nat. Res. Division File No. 4-12-G

(Instructions on reverse side)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NARS NO.

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

3 August 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip Report - Hiroshima Prefecture, 1 - 2 August 1950

TO : Chief Economics Section

1. Purpose:

To evaluate current progress in all Agriculture and Forestry surveillance programs (O.D. #12 and 14)

2. Background:

None.

3. Discussion:

Agriculture conference held at 1100 on 1 August at Ken-cho Economic Chief's conference room. These present were: Mr. Hirayashu and Mr. Matsuoka of the Ken-cho Extension Division and Mr. Miyake entomologist of the Saijo Pref. Exper.Station.

Fifteen home improvement agents, 13 of them recently employed, will attend a training course held by the Ken-cho Agriculture Improvement Section about 25 August.

Mr. Miyake reported that the use of BHC dust on rice stem borers at the experimental paddy field tract near Chitaka-mura had killed approximately 33 1/3% of the larva infecting the plants.

This was a first generation experiment. A similar test with power sprayers will be carried out by the Saijo Station in Cooperation with NRS, SCAP, on 15 August to determine what effect BHC dust has on the pests in the second breeding period.

The 4-H club training courses, being conducted on a gun level, are expected to be finished about 15 September.

Conference held at 0930 on 2 August at Hiroshima City Prefecture Federation of Co-ops' Building. Those present included:

Mr. Nakamura, Chairman of the Hiroshima-shi Co-op. Assn.
Mr. Hiruta, Chief of Ken-cho Agriculture Improvement Section.

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Mr. Ogawa, Chairman of the Hiroshima-shi Extension Committee
Mr. Kyobashi, Senior Extension Agent in Hiroshima-shi.

Mr. Matsuoka, Ken-cho Agriculture Improvement Section

This officer in company with Prefectural and Hiroshima City extension and co-op. officials, visited the Hiroshima City Central Market where all types of seasonal farm products (fruit and vegetables) were being processed.

Mr. Tomotani, president of the Market, operated by Hiroshima City, joined our group for a brief inspection of the area. He explained that farmers deliver products to the wholesalers who grade the vegetable and fruits and then sell them the same day to dealers in a different area at the market.

Wholesalers generally are not making more than 10 - 20% of a profit at the market.

Typical wholesale prices prevailing on 2 August 1950 were as follows:

No. 1 - Tomatoes - Approx. ¥60 per kan (Paid to producer)
No. 1 - Tomatoes - ¥100 per kan (Price paid by dealer)

No. 1 - Watermelons - Approx. ¥45 - 50 per kan (Paid producer)
No. 1 - Watermelons - Approx ¥60 per kan.

The current supply of vegetables taken to the Hiroshima Market this month is about the same as a year ago, Hiroshima City Co-op and Extension officials stated. However, several items of garden products are considerably cheaper on the wholesale market than in 1949.

Co-operative shipping of egg plant and cucumbers is being carried out by the Hiroshima City Co-op to stabilize local market prices for all vegetable farmers in Hiroshima City. However, after brief discussion, Co-op officials indicated that generally the plan of exporting vegetables and fruits to Kyushu and other part of Japan, had not been too profitable for the shippers.

Egg plant delivered at Kyushu points by train is selling for ¥45 - 55 per kan, the same price quoted farmers at the Hiroshima Central Market.

Conference held at 1300 on 2 August 1950 at Hiroshima City Federation of Co-ops' Building. Mr. Takubo, Chief of the

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Agriculture and Marine Division of Hiroshima City Government, joined the discussion at this time.

Hiroshima City Extension officials reviewed the history of truck gardening in the city and declared that all of the 54 greenhouses which provided outstanding varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers during the winter season before the war, were razed by the A-Bomb. The loss of these hothouses had made it necessary for Hiroshima City wholesalers to import practically all superior varieties of vegetables and fruits from other areas during the cold weather.

The Hiroshima City Extension Committee has received unofficial assurance from city officials that municipal aid will be extended to farmers and the city co-op to rehabilitate the hothouse business.

City extension leaders stated that they hope to build at least 15 greenhouses at an average cost of ¥800,000 - ¥1,000,000 - within the next three to five years.

Efforts will be made to secure long-term loans from the city government to make it easy for vegetable farmers to pay for the new greenhouses out of accumulated earnings.

Financing of the greenhouses will be requested of the city assembly by the city extension committee during the next meeting sometime this month.

Hiroshima City Extension officials also are urging City Government leaders to consider the establishment of a Municipal Gardening Guidance Station.

If approved and financed by City officials, the project will cost approximately ¥5,000,000. It will be located on a city-owned tract of approximately 6-tan of land. Seven persons, mostly specialists on growing of vegetables and fruits, will be employed.

A model, standard-size greenhouse, averaging 90 tsubo, will be included in the plan. This hothouse will serve as the pilot model for the others to be built by Hiroshima City vegetable producers.

It is hoped that the greenhouses and possibly over or more special upland plate can be used to grow superior vegetable and fruits for tourists and the occupation if allied personnel are still residing in Japan during the next few years.

The City Extension Committee has a current budget of ¥500,000. Half of this amount came from City Government tax funds and the rest was contributed by the City Co-op.

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City Extension leaders stated that these funds are used for travelling expenses of the extension agents and also to finance training courses for 4-H club members.

In discussing pre-war economic conditions with those of today, prefecture and city extension leaders stated that generally - because of the A-Bomb and the war that most farm families in Hiroshima city have a lower standard of living at present.

Fertilizer Distribution:

At a conference on 1 August at 1430, Mr. Fuji, technician in charge of Fertilizer Distribution at the Ken-cho, reported on the status of the spring quota of commercial fertilizer.

As of 25 July, farmers in the Ken had received the following quantities of fertilizer for the January - July period:

	Nitrogenous (Metric tons)	Phosphates (Metric tons)	Patassic (Metric tons)
Prefecture quota from MAF	29,049	16,417	5,404
Farmer-level purchases	21,443	10,937	2,916
Percent of ken spring quota	74 %	66 %	50 %

Mr. Fuji stated that a spot check that morning with Co-op stores in Hiroshima City disclosed that the new price of fertilizer - which went on free sale as of 1 August was not available.

Control of Power Sprayer Fuels:

At a conference held at the Ken-cho on 1 August at 1530, Mr. Chisaeda, technician in charge of rationing of fuels for power sprayers in the Materials Section of the Economics Department, reported that the second quarter allocation of fuels for the sprayers was the same as reported to CCAR from ESS, SCAP.

He assured this reporter that in cooperation with the Purchase Federation of co-ops, the Ken-cho maintains very close surveillance over all Gun offices in the distribution of sprayer fuels and similar materials used by farmers.

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Forestry:

A conference was held at 0930 on 1 August at Ken-cho.

Extension:

Seven subject matter specialist out of an MAF quota of 9, are attending the Forestry Guidance Shool for Chugoku and Shikoku Regions being held now at Tokushima in Shikoku Region.

Two other specialists will be added to the - Extension or Guidance Section before 1 September. Forty forestry Extension agents comprise the MAF quota for the Ken. They are expected to be employed about 1 September.

Mr. Amano, at present chief of the Forestry Research and Guidance Office at the Ken-cho, will be the new chief of the Combined Guidance and Extension office.

A training course for the new agents is tentatively planned by the Ken-cho to start about 24 August.

Mr. Okada the department chief reported that the budget for the forestry extension program is approximately ¥5,796,054 for 1950. of this, ¥1,978,375 will come from the MAF.

Ken-cho officials have not prepared the extension budget yet for items other than salaries. This will probably be a bigger job than they anticipated as general funds in the Department are quite limited at present.

4. Conclusion:

a. Agriculture:

(1) Some Hiroshima City vegetable producers may be adversely affected if the reported low prices of seasonal products such as egg plant, should continue.

Generally, prices of wholesale farm products are considerably lower than a year ago.

(2) Rehabilitation of the Hiroshima City vegetable-producing area especially hothouse grown varieties of vegetables, is slowly underway after being destroyed by the A-Bomb.

a. Prefectural and City Extension, Co-op and Municipal officials are cooperating in a plan to establish a model vegetable

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guidance station at a cost of approximately ¥5,000,000 to be financed entirely by the Municipality.

b. Reconstruction of approximately 15 greenhouses at an average cost of ¥1,000,000, is being sponsored by the Prefecture and City Extension groups in cooperation with the City Co-op and the Municipality. Loans for all or most of this amount will be sought from the Municipality to aid vegetable growers get the project started as soon as possible.

b. Forestry:

(1) Extension Organization:

The operation of the new Forestry Extension program is expected to be in full swing about 15 September.

Financial difficulties are expected in the 15 district offices where the 40 new agents will be assigned after attending a training course late this month.

Forestry Dept. officials have assured this officer that generally the program should reach the forest owner level rapidly and should greatly improve the deteriotated condition which now exists in most of the Region.

5. Recommendations:

a. Agriculture:

(1) Construction of a model gardening guidance station for Hiroshima City farmers will be a boon to the vegetable - growing business there.

While it may duplicate minor research work now carried out at the Saijo Experimental Station, generally the program will be new and will be one of the newest guidance station of this type in Japan.

Farmers are in favor of the plan and believe it will rehabilitate the hot-house type of gardening which made Hiroshima City the Center for southern Honshu before the A-Bomb raid.

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b. Forestry:

(1) Forest owners in the ken should benefit greatly once the new Forestry Extension program is in operation. The Ken-cho Forestry Dept. hopes to have a staff of 40 agents and 9 specialists aiding forest owners with general forestry problems about 15 September.

Elimination of noxious insects such as Pine Bark Beetles, and the chestnut Gall Fly, should have the top priority in the extension program to protect the rapidly dwindling forests from further heavy damages.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR,
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

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A-12-G

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

21 July 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Okayama and Hiroshima Prefectures 16-20 July

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose: To evaluate progress in all Agriculture and Forestry programs at village level and to make specific recommendations to Co-operatives relative to economic recovery.

2. Background:

a. Co-operative Federation officials have consistently commented on the inadvisability of amalgamating federations at this time under the new co-op law. They have formed a "mutual protection society for superanuated officials".

b. The assets of the Nogyo Kai in Kamo village Okayama-ken have still not been liquidated. The town mayor in league with the officials of one co-op have fought a delaying action in order to deprive a newly established young co-op of its just share of the assets and thus starve them into returning to the mother co-op. Representatives of both factions have been in the office several times.

c. Because of the scarcity of contacts with prefectural and local land commission in recent weeks this branch suspected that they had ceased to function after completion of registration.

3. Discussion

Agricultural Cooperatives were visited at Fukuwatari, Kamo, and Numi in Okayama and at Tojo and Mukaihara in Hiroshima. The most significant finding is that unit Co-ops are very desirous of amalgamation of the prefectural federations and have taken specific action to force amalgamation. Unit co-op representatives in Okayama at a general meeting refused to approve the budgets of the federations until the latter submitted a plan for amalgamation. Unit co-ops at present are

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paying membership fees and buying stock under pressure in seven and eight different organizations some of which render little or no service to the Unit Co-op. The undersigned stressed the importance of Federation policy being established by member Co-ops and forced on the Federation in preference to policy being established by Federation officials and forced on the Unit Co-op. In those areas where unit co-ops were apathetic toward the dictatorship of Federations, local officials were encouraged to make their voice heard. Those getting a particularly raw deal were incited to everything short of riot.

The general financial picture looks even better this month, at least in Okayama and Hiroshima prefectures. Of four co-ops in one county which had stopped withdrawals 2 have recovered and the third will soon resume payments. Deposits are up even in the one-crop areas. It would be presumptuous to say that the crisis is over but conditions in general are definitely better.

Co-ops which were visited expect no competition from private distributors in the fertilizes business. They have surveyed the field and are quite sure of themselves. Although they believe that estimates of price increases in fertilizer are far in excess of the amount of increase which will actually occur, they believe that sales and use will drop off somewhat. Co-op officials were urged by the undersigned to profit from their earlier mistakes in purchasing commodities when they make fertilizer purchases.

4. A special trip was made to the village of Kamo to expedite the liquidation of the former Nogyo Kai which is one of two in that prefecture still not liquidated. The background of the case is summarized in paragraph 2 above. During a series of conferences with individuals concerned from both sides it was obvious that a small progressive group had revolted against the established feudal authority and were being made to pay through the nose for their impertinence by the village chief and the chief of the large Kamo Co-operative both of whom are against the formation of a second co-op and both of whom are giving the most fantastic excuses for not liquidating the old Nogyo Kai and giving the new co-op its share. At a general meeting the following morning the undersigned spoke to the entire group and expressed the following:

a. The law states that any 15 or more people may form an agricultural co-operative. If their right to form into a group is denied them by withholding certain assets from them then the spirit of the law is being violated.

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b. The dissolution of the Nogyo Kai and the liquidation of its assets is an integral part of the agricultural reform program of the Supreme Commander. The time required to liquidate this Nogyo Kai is far in excess of any reasonable delay and the excuses for delay are without foundation.

c. This might be interpreted as non-compliance with a Directive of the Supreme Commander to the Japanese Government.

d. A word to the wise is sufficient."

Conferences were held with several local land commissions to ascertain the extent of their activities, encourage written rental agreements, and evaluate progress in the land consolidation program. Although the land reform program is virtually completed, local land commissions continue to meet at least once a month to arbitrate disputes, approve land transfers, and plan consolidation. Small bits and pieces of land are reverting to former owners but this amount is negligible. In one village 14 applications were made for the transfer of land back to the original owner and only one approved. Over half of the villages visited had from 1 to 5 land transfer cases still pending in court.

Progress in the universal adoption of written rental agreements is extremely show. Some land commissions have forms in preparation and others have done nothing about it. The land reform program will only be solidified when land still under tenancy is covered by written contracts. Japanese in rural areas are reluctant to execute written rental contracts for some esoteric reason. The advantages of written contracts and the protection they accord the individuals concerned were explained in detail at each meeting. This matter will be made the subject of subsequent conferences with prefectural officials.

4. Conclusions:

a. Local co-ops are aware of the need for complete reform in the Federations to which they belong. However, drastic action will be necessary in order to unseat certain officials and make amalgamation a reality.

b. Interest and activity among local land commissions has not died out as suspected. They are continuing to operate as designed and have grown into an integral part of rural village life.

5. Recommendations: None

Douglas G. O'Brien
Natural Resources Div.
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NARS DATE

File Index No. A-12-G

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL "Blyth" #2

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 9 July 50 TIME 2400 (5) RETURN DATE 14 July 50 TIME 0930

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a. Okayama	10 July	0830	Ken-cho Extension officials	To visit farm families with Home Improvement Specialist and discuss Better Farm Living program
b. Tottori	11 July	0845	Ken-cho Extension officials	To visit Pref Experimental Station and obtain latest information on rice plant diseases preliminary to visit on 14 July of Mr Summers from NRS SCAP
c. Matsue	12 July	0830	Ken-cho Extension officials	To visit Izumo Experimental Station and discuss current research program

(7) REMARKS: Outstanding program on Home Improvement activities held in conjunction with Ken-cho officials at Oshima-son in Asaguchi-gun, Okayama ken. Program included demonstration of proper diet preparation by Miss Ishii, Home Improvement field worker, a special exhibition of square dancing by girl members of the Improvement club and inspection of five medium-class and lower-class farm homes.

Resale of Paddyland and upland in Okayama is 99% complete. Two of Prefecture Co-op Federations, Sales and Crop Distribution, are considering merger.

Sales Co-op and Purchase Co-op Federations in Okayama are advancing plans to begin distribution of commercial fertilizer to local Co-ops sometime in August.

Marvin S. Colehour
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL "Blyth" #2

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 9 July TIME 2400 (5) RETURN DATE 14 July TIME 0930

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.					with Pref Station chief and Branch chiefs.
b.	Yamaguchi	13 July	0830	Ken-cho Forestry officials	To discuss current extension and insect control program
c.					
d.	Yamaguchi	13 July	1030	Ken-cho Extension officials	To dicsuss Home Improvement work in field and to visit farm women.
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS:

~~Attended conference at Tottori Ken-cho with~~ Mr. Summers, NRS-Agriculture, ~~SCAP entomologist, who~~ later inspected farms in ~~Tottori and other parts~~ of Ken to see insects ~~and disease damaging~~ current rice crop. Special reports on early damage to rice plants ~~submitted to this officer~~ and Dr. Summers.

~~Interviewed approximately~~ 25 farmers in the Matsue area of Shimane Pref to determine their reaction to contribution plan for paying extension agents' salaries. This was done at request of CA Section, SCAP, to further check on how the Ken will raise ¥3,600,000 for paying 100 new extension agents to be hired this month from local co-ops.

Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NND NO.

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Further check at Honjo-mura indicated that village assembly is now paying ¥16,000 per year for pro rata share of total expenses of two extension agents serving four-village area including Honjo. Village mayor told this officer that the village assembly would be asked to increase the extension agents' budget to ¥25,000 per year, probably in Sept to pay the PRO RATA share of a third agent to be assigned to the 4-village area.

Ken-cho officials stated that the revised plan to obtain the ¥3,600,000 for the 100 new extension agents would come from the village tax funds.

However, the collection plan is being supervised entirely by the Gun and Village officials and it is possible that some farmers may be asked to make private contributions to the project.

Employment of eight Forestry Extension specialists is hearing completion in Yamaguchi-ken.

Names of the appointees have been submitted to the MAF and if approved, these specialists will begin thdr duties about 15 August 50.

Very successful Home Improvement conference held with village officials, farmers, farmer's wives, and 4-H club members at Suzenji-mura in Yamaguchi. Ken-cho and village Extension leaders were present and thanked CCAR for assisting in such a project.

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

15 July 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Okayama, Tottori, Shimane and Yamaguchi Prefectures on 9-13 July 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose of trip:

a. To evaluate current progress in all phases of Agriculture & Forestry programs in Region.

b. To make further investigations in Shimane Prefecture for CA Section, SCAP, relative to possible contributions from farmers to help pay for expenses of 100 new Extension Agents to be employed this month.

2. Background:

This headquarters reported in the May 1950 Activities Report to SCAP that Shimane Prefecture planned to employ 100 Co-op Technicians in July as Extension Agents under a mutual financing agreement with the Village Improvement (Extension) Committees. SCAP, fearing that farmers would be forced to make arbitrary donations to such a project, asked for a complete investigation on 26 June 1950.

This officer has made two field trips to Shimane Ken since then and has submitted field reports dated 28 June - 1 July in connection with this request. Several telephone memorandums have been given the CA Section, SCAP, at their request to expedite the information obtained. SCAP has informed this Headquarters that further surveillance of this project is desired.

3. Discussion:

Okayama Prefecture: Agriculture Extension

A very successful conference was held at Oshima-son, Asaguchi-gun, at 1100 on 10 July. It was sponsored by one of the 62 Home Improvement clubs in this remote village. The highlight of the program was a demonstration on preparation and serving of proper diets by Miss Ishii, an apparently outstanding Home Improvement Advisor stationed in that locality.

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Prominent village officials and the prefectural press were present and took several photographs of the program. Before inspecting middle-class and low income type homes in Oshima, this officer witnessed a special exhibition of Square Dancing staged in the same school where the Extension program was also held. The Home Improvement club is encouraging such forms of recreation to stimulate interest in farming among young people.

That afternoon, this officer held a brief conference with the chief of General Affairs Section at the Ken-cho and urged that consideration be given for merging the MAF and Prefectural Main Stations in the Ken when the 1951 budget is discussed by the Assembly late this year. SCAP has requested that the merger of these establishments be completed not later than 1 April 1951 as recommended in a joint MAF-SCAP plan sent to all Prefectural officials two years ago.

This officer further urged the General Affairs chief to bring to the attention of the proper Prefectural authorities the need for more Home Improvement advisors to strengthen the Better Rural Home Improvement project.

Land Reform:

A conference was held with officials of the Ken-cho Farmland section to discuss current developments in the Land Reform program, that same afternoon.

Farmland officials stated that the purchase of Paddy and Upland by farmers has been very successful. As of 10 July, 99% of the land purchased by the government to aid farm ownership has been sold to farmers.

Agricultural Co-ops:

Merging of Ken Co-op Federations has not progressed too far because the Sales Federation which is expected to consolidate its activities with one or more other Co-op Federations, has a debt of ¥60,000,000. However, all Federations are rationalizing their activities and hope to keep overhead at an absolute minimum until the future trend of these organizations is developed.

A special report on the sale of Firewood and Charcoal by local Co-ops was submitted as a result of an earlier request made by Mr. O'Brien.

An agricultural stimulating committee has been established in all guns, cities, towns and villages to aid farmers with agricultural management problems. Farmers whose income is insufficient normally to provide even a marginal standard of

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living for their families have been urged to grow vegetables which can be harvested earlier than normally or later than the periods when truck farmers usually deliver their produce to markets.

Tottori Prefecture: Agriculture Research

This officer devoted most of the morning on 11 July, conferring with Ken-cho Improvement Section and Prefectural Experimental Station officials relative to the visit of Dr. Summers, NRS-Agriculture, SCAP, to Tottori on 11 July at 1135 hrs.

Special reports howing the damages to rice plants, fruit trees and other crops which were prepared for Dr. Summers were handed to this officer on his arrival at the Prefectural Experimental Station. Wheat rust was quite severe in the "mugi" crop recently harvested. Use of chemicals to kill rice plant diseases and insects is still quite nominal. Quite a few farmers believe that light traps which are considered useless by SCAP, are still somewhat effective in reducing the number of insects which plague rice farmers.

Damage to the 20th Century Pear crop last year from various causes was quite heavy but it appears to be much lighter this season.

Tottori University scientists and Ken-cho officials attanded a conference for Dr. Summers at the Ken-cho Agriculture & Forestry chief's office at 1400 on 11 July. The university scientists informed the SCAP specialist that rice blast was quite serious throughout the Ken this year. They recommended that the rice seed be treated with a fungicide to control the blast problem which has harassed research men and producers alike in Japan for many years.

Dr. Summers said he had recently received a new type of Fungicide from America and would distribute it to Tottori officials.

The Tottori officials informed Dr. Summers that the "sinking blast" was quite unusual and was probably limited to the Ken. The SCAP official agreed and indicated that he would keep a close check on the problem. It is attributed mainly to the lack of sunshine in the mountainous areas of the Ken.

Land Reform:

A conference was held at 1500 on 11 July with the chief of the Ken-cho Farmland Section to discuss developments in Land Reform. He stated that portion (e) of the Ken's June Report on Retention of Land applying to small farmers should

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have read: 126.84 cho. A special report correcting same is to be sent to the Region.

The cultivation of that portion of Miho Air Base which has never been released by the Occupation is a pressing problem, Mr. Nakashima stated. He stated that 1,000 people are believed living on the fringe near the air base in the following towns: Nakahama-son, Oshinozu, Sakitsu and Watari-son. He stated that the Ken had applied two weeks ago for release of this portion of the tract controlled by the Occupation at Miho.

Purchase of land by farmers i sprogressing favorably with 99.1% of the land acquired by the government under Land Reform now in the hands of farmer-owners.

The exchange of land project at Hiokidani-son is nearing completion byt the one clerk cannot handle all of the administrative details.

Agricultural Cooperatives:

Merger of Co-op Federations is making some progress, Co-op officials of the Ken-cho reported. The Educational and Publications Federations in the Ken are considering a merger plan. This project led to the possible merger of the independent Tohaku-gun Educational Federation with the Ken organization.

The Sales, Fertilizer and Merchandising, Livestock and Sericulture Federations are considering a merger into one central Ken Federation.

However, the ¥34,000,000 debt of the Fertilizer Federation, is slowing negotiations. Members of these organizations want the merger accomplished speedily but selfishness by the Ken Federation leaders may delay the plan.

Co-op officials stated that a recent report from the Central Bank of Agriculture & Forestry shows that total credit obligations of Ken farmers as of 30 June 1950 were ¥63,332,000 compared to ¥73,933,000 for the same period last year. However, the number of farmers using the agriculture security notes to stabilize their finances between crops, has increased since 1949.

The Co-op officials indicated that approximately 150 techniciane are employed at present in Local Co-ops with the average salary for such personnel being from ¥4,800 to ¥5,000 monthly.

Shimane Prefecture: Agriculture Extension

This officer started out at 0600 on 12 July to interview farmers near Matsue in connection with the SCAP request for individual opinions from the rural areas regarding contributions - if sought - for the payment of the new extension agents.

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Ten farmers were interviewed before 0730, most of them in the paddy fields. They had not heard anything about the possibility that village officials might ask them or force them to make contributions to the Extension fund, but with few exceptions, stated they would be willing to make small donations.

A conference on Home Improvement matters was held at the Ken-cho at 0900 the same day with the Economics Section chief and Miss Nigata, Home Improvement Subject Matter Specialist. Miss Nigata stated that 10 new Home Improvement advisors will be sought for the field organization within a month.

Mr. Okubo, Economics Chief, stated that the Prefectural Coordination committee was stressing Home Improvement in its current discussions. He objected to the request of the Ken Sanitation Department to seek funds from the Ken Assembly for teaching Nutrition to farm families. He contended that this was strictly an Extension matter and asked this officer's opinion. He was informed that the project should be coordinated as much as possible but that if the Ken Public Health department tried to accomplish other missions which are strictly within the scope of Home Improvement advisors that this headquarters should be notified.

A conference was held with Mr. Sawai, chief of the Ken-cho Improvement Section, during an examination of applicants for Farm Extension positions. The meeting occurred at a school in Matsue and started at 1315. Mr. Sawai had been ill and was not available for comment since this officer visited him last in May 50.

Mr. Sawai explained that the financial condition of Ken Co-ops had prompted Pref. Assembly leaders to suggest that some plan be worked out to take all of the Co-op Technicians from these local units and place them in more permanent jobs in the Extension Service.

He strenously objected to such a move because he felt that despite the experience of most of the technicians, that they should be tested both orally and by written quiz, to determine their qualifications. The plan was later referred to the 61 district extension committees and they were assured by the village headmasters and Gun officials that they would personally guarantee payment of the ¥3,600,000 needed to balance the budget for the new extension workers.

Mr. Sawai stated that the Ken-cho agreed to pay all of the expenses to avoid any financial difficulty but would expect the district extension committees to meet their respective allocations promptly before 1 April 1951.

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This officer visited the village of Honjo, 15 miles from Matsue, that afternoon and was informed by Mr. Matsumoto, the mayor, that ¥16,000 is already appropriated for the two extension agents who work in a 4-village area which includes Honjo. He said that with the addition of one new agent to the villages now served by the area extension office, an additional ¥9,000 will be recommended to the village assembly to pay for the village's pro rata share of the extension program.

He indicated that no objections were anticipated to the small increase in the budget. His statement was substantiated by the comment of a member of the assembly who told this officer that most of the members of the village organization are strong supporters of the extension program.

Yamaguchi Prefecture: Forestry Extension

Conference was held at 0900 on 13 July with the Forestry Department chief in Ken-cho. The eight applicants for the Forestry Extension Specialists' positions are expected to be hired within two weeks if the MAF approves the list.

Pine Bark Beetle Control:

Forestry officials suggested that this officer visit Kaminoseki Island in the Inland Sea - off the Oza-Yama penisula to study current outbreaks of Pine Bark Beetle damage. The Iwakuni area is also quite heavily infected with the beetles, according to current surveys.

Agriculture Extension:

A special report on outstanding farm homes was submitted to this officer by Mr. Ozaki, chief of the Ken-cho Agriculture Improvement Section. Due to the limited time available, it was decided to visit only homes in the Yamaguchi-shi and Suzenji areas.

The first home inspected, that of Mr. Nakano in Ochi-mura, was an outstanding example of how farmers can do most of their home improvements themselves. Mr. Nakano completed several major improvements in his kitchen, dining room and bathroom which cost only ¥2,500. A special report will be submitted on this home by Ken-cho officials later.

An interesting conference was held at the Suzneji school with farmers, farm wives, 4-H club members, extension and Home Improvement officials and municipal officials to stress the Better Living program for rural families. Several medium-class and low-income type homes were inspected during that afternoon to see what changes have been made in the households visited.

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Generally, Ken-cho officials select the wealtheir type of homes as examples of better living. Homes of war-displaced persons and others in the very low income class were visited but they were so untidy that little can be accomplished to improve their standard of living.

4. Conclusions:

Agriculture

a. Extension - Home Improvement activities are progressing but few examples can be found of marked improvements in the living standards of most farm families. The Shimane plan to have farmers contribute to the Extension Agents' salaries appears to be erroneous. The money will come instead from village tax sources, Ken-cho officials stated.

b. Land Reform - The sale of land to farmers generally by the government is practically complete. The Nino Air Base has 1,000 farmers cultivating land on the fringe of the tract controlled by the Occupation. Ken-cho officials are trying to get SCAP approval to release this portion of the land for these families.

c. Co-op Mergers - Generally, the merger of Co-op Federations will be slowed because of heavy debts which some of the larger Federations involved in such a consolidation, must liquidate or amortize in an equitable manner to all parties concerned.

Forestry

a. Pine Bark Beetle damage is quite heavy throughout Yamaguchi Ken. Forests in the Iwakuni and Kaminoseki Island areas need special attention because of the area infected.

5. Recommendations:

Agriculture

a. Extension - SCAP has advised this headquarters that further survillance is desired at Shimane to prevent village or gun officials from forcing farmers to contribute any amount to the expenses of new extension agents. It is planned to check new areas in the Ken to determine additional farmers' opinions and also to check further with the Ken-cho on the allocation of the pro rata share of extension costs to the villages. Since villages generally are now paying a small share of the extension expenses, it is believed that no difficulty will be experienced in obtaining the ¥3,600,000 fund to supplement the extension agents' budget for the balance of this year.

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b. Land Reform - This headquarters should check closely with SCAP to dete mine if the 1,000 persons living in villages near the Miho air base will become a special problem in view of the Korean war.

Forestry

Closer checks are needed on the Pine Bark Beetle program in the Region. Okayama-ken is very inefficient apparently in controlling the beetles despite repeated warnings from SCAP and this headquarters. Yamaguchi officials need more guidance in controlling the insect. This officer plans to make a thorough study of the forest areas in Iwakuni and Kaminoseki Island sometime in August.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR
Agriculture & Forestry Branch,
Natural Resources Div. GS-9

Nat. Res. Division
A-12-G
File No.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Index
No. 2

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Rail & Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 18 June 50 TIME 2000 (5) RETURN DATE 22 June 50 TIME 0900

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Okayama shi	19 June	0900	Chiefs of Exten' work in all guns of Ken, Exper Station staff, Ken-cho officials.	To discuss emergency projects of extension service in Ken (Applicable O.D.#12).
b.	Okayama shi	19 June	1300	Ken-cho officials, Exper Station officials.	To discuss consolidation of Exper Stations & current research program in ken (Applicable O.D. #12).
c.	Tottori shi	20 June	0830	Ken-cho Agri Section officials.	To evaluate current progress in Agri Exten (Applicable O.D. #12).
d.	Kedaka gun	20 June	1030	Exper Station officials, Ken-cho officials, Gun Extension agents and officials.	To discuss emergency projects on extension & agri research.
e.	Matsue shi	21 June	0900	Ken-cho Agri Sect. officials.	To evaluate current progress in Agri Extension.

(7) REMARKS: Successful Conference held in all Pref.

a. Further investigation of non-sprouting rice seed in Okayama ken revealed that none of farmers whose seed was damaged by rat poison as reported previously, will be handicapped very much in 1950 growing season.

b. Farm management needs further stress to encourage some marginal-area farmers on whether they are successful or not.

c. At request of Mr O'Brien this officer held special conference on Forestry matters in Okayama Ken-cho. The opinion of both Forestry Dept and Agri Co-op Section officials indicates that marketing of timber products for small forest owners (those with 5 cho or less of land) may be better handled by the Co-op in the villages, towns and cities at present, 90% of the volume of most timber products sold by

Marvin L. Colehour
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402(NND) NO.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDC No.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Rail & Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 18 June TIME 2000 (5) RETURN DATE 22 June TIME 0900

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
f.	Yatsuka gun (Exact place to be designated by Ken-cho)	21 June	1100	Farm Women, Home Improvement Subject Matter Specialist, Extension officials of Ken-cho.	To attend a village or town meeting on Life Improvement activities (Applicable O.D.#12)
g.	Yamaguchi shi	22 June	0900	Ken-cho Agri Improvement Section officials.	To evaluate current progress in Agri Extension.
h.	Yamaguchi shi	22 June	1300	Ken-cho Forestry Dept officials.	To evaluate current progress in control of Pine Bark Beetle and Forestry Extension programs.
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS: the small forest owners is hendled at present through the Co-ops. On the question of operation of nursery beds by private forest owners in the future instead of obtaining seedling trees from the Prefecture Nurseries, it appears that no decision can be reached on the matter until early this fall.

Mr. Wada, who has been chief of the Agri Co-op Guidance Federation in Okayama, has been appointed chief of the Agri Improvement Section of Tottori Ken-cho.

Home Improvement activities were especially notRworthy during the visit to Shimane Ken-cho. A total of 162 families in four guns are being studied for better rural living in three seperate projects. One concerning 38 families, will

Marion L. Colehour
Signature

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relate to the cultural and educational backgrounds of farm wives. Another project concerns the efficiency of farm kitchens the third will determine toilet and bath room facilities, and the fourth will investigate the bedding used by members of farm families, what night clothes are preferred, and proper airing of bedding and night-clothes.

An enthusiastic meeting was held with members of the Kawatsu 4-H club near Matsue-shi. One of the young farmer-members of the group invented a hand-operated weed-remover which appears to be more efficient for paddy fields than most of the weed-removers manufactured in Japan.

A weevil-type insect known as thrip, has caused quite severe damage to rice nursery beds in Yamaguchi. However, prompt application of chemicals and sufficient wet weather before 1 July 50 is expected to keep the actual loss to the rice crop at a minimum.

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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182 (Kure, Honshu)

26 June 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Okayama, Shimane, Tottori and Yamaguchi Prefectures, 18-22 June 1950

TO : Chief Economics Section

1. Purpose of trip:

a. To evaluate current progress in all phases of Agricultural Research and Extension in Okayama, Tottori, Shimane and Yamaguchi Prefectues. (Applicable O.D. #12)

b. To determine whether current high prices of commercial fertilizers will force very many farmers in the Region to use more than an efficient amount of night soil, compost and other home-made fertilizers for cultivating 1950 crops. (Applicable O.D. #12)

c. To evaluate current progress in establishing the Forestry Extension program and to evaluate current progress in the control of Pine Bark Beetle in the Region.

d. To obtain comments from Okayama Prefectural Forestry Department officials on following questions:

(1) Will it be feasible for District Forestry Associations, probably two or more, to operate nurseries instead of having them operated by the Prefectures as at present?

(2) Is it feasible for the small forest owners (those having 5 cho or less of timber lands) to have their timber products sold exclusively by the Agri. Co-ops in the Region instead of having the Co-ops and the Forestry Associations compete with each other in the sale of these products as at present?

2. Background:

a. The dissolution of the Government Fertilizer Kodans, expected to occur about 1 August 50, and the Central Government's announced intention to place commercial fertilizers, now rationed, on the open market, and also to discontinue national subsidies to fertilizer manufacturers, will increase the price of fertilizers by approximately 70%. As a result, extension ~~programs~~ officials fear that

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the current rice crop and possibly the new "mugi" crop may not reach the yields set in the pre-planting quotas for these staple foods because farmers generally are financially anable to pay any additional production costs.

b. Mr. O'Brien advised this officer that generally, local co-op sales out lets in the Region are in direct competition with the local Forestry unions or associations in the selling of timber products owned by small forest owners who usually earn the greater share of their income from agricultural pursuits.

3. Discussion: Okayama Prefecture:

Conference held at 0900 on 19 June 50 at the Okayama Pref. Experimental Station. Mr. Wakabayashi, chief of crop culture section at the Station, in responce to this officer's question on further developments in the non-sprouting rice seed incident at Kurashiki and Tohaku areas, stated that only 1 cho, 3 tan of paddy fields had been affected seriously.

He further stated that ten farmers in 5 villages of the above areas were effected by the accidental poisoning (steriliza-tion) of high-quality rice seed at co-op stores in some of the villages concerned. Station officials further stated that new seed, all of prime quality, had been distributed free by the Station, to all affected farmers in the Kurashiki-Tohaku areas.

Wakabayashi continued, stating that the replacement seed had been sown in nursery beds by most of the farmers and that no loss was anticipated in the new rice crop among farmers whose first rice plants failed to sprout sufficiently.

Conference was held at 1015 on 19 June 50 at Ken-cho, Okayama. Mr. Taki, chief of Ken-cho Agri. Improvement Section, explained to this officer that extension agents, representing the 72 districts of the Ken-cho, were attending on all-day conference in Okayama-shi and suggested that panel discussions be held with small groups of the agents.

The first topic submitted to the agents concerned farm management and daily account-keeping. Two of the panel replied that only 2% of farmers they contact regularly keep suitable management books. The others replied that farmers in their areas generally showed little interest in keeping profit and loss records of their farming operations. The highest percent reported was 5 in the first panel interviewed.

An agent from Tamashi-Machi, Asakuchi-gun, replying to the second question, on how much damage the 1949 rice crop suffered in his area, said that rice blast topped all the cause of damage.

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He added that the loss to the crop appeared to be so high that several numbers of the village adjustment committee resigned, claiming that the village could not fulfill its scheduled delivery quota. However, with the aid of Ken-cho and Civil Affairs officials, the village had no difficulty in reaching the original quota and was highly-commended by the Governor for its fine record.

On commenting on the current rice crop, the same agent said that all farmers in his area generally were taking necessary steps to prevent any heavy loss to their paddy fields again. Hand-operated spray machines are quite in evidence with a chemical solution (Bordeaux) used against recurrence of rice blast and DDT applied with the duster to check the growth of noxious insects this early in the growing season.

Conference with Extension Advisers resumed at 1300 on 19 June 50 at Okayama Ken-cho. Three additional panel discussions were held before 1500 to get a cross-section opinion from agents generally to show specific technical and economic problems which farmers of the Prefecture are facing.

It was brought out in the first panel that a large number of farm advisers work Sundays to help farmers and to handle necessary administrative matters which accumulate from long periods spent in aiding farmers outside of the office. It was also stated that approximately 75% of the agent's weekly activities are devoted to on-the-spot guidance to farmers, with six% of the time devoted to attending technical lectures at the Pref. Experimental Station, Ken-cho or in other areas, and the balance, 20%, devoted to office duties.

The discussion also disclosed that February and March usually are the only months throughout the year when the busy farmers and their families get much rest from their rigorous daily chores.

During a discussion with the second panel on damage to food crops from disease and insects, one of the agents stated that in his locality, three villages are cooperating with experimental station and extension officials to insure effective control against loss to staple food crops. The village assemblies or directors are assuming the entire cost of the control work, according to this agent from the northern section.

Hand-dusters are in general use in most of the areas where rice and mugi crop losses were very high last year. Power-operated sprayers are also used occasionally but the high cost of these machines prevents most farmers from getting any benefits from them.

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Generally, agents from the northern sector of the Ken stated that more than 80% of the nursery rice beds had been transplanted to paddy fields as of the early part of June with the balance expected to be completed about 25 June.

Commenting on one-crop farmers, the agent from Atetsu-gun which is in the mountainous section of the Ken, stated that many of these marginal-type farmers depend on forestry products of their own land to stabilize their incomes. Those who need additional money work in the off-season periods for the large forest owners and usually are able to manage their family financial problems, even tho they may have a rather low standard of living.

One agent, from Akaiwa, reported that last year's rice crop was quite heavily damaged by rice blast. This area is near the Inland Sea in the southeastern part of the Ken. Excessive rainfall and over-doses of ammonium sulphate when the rice seedlings were still in the nurseries were partially blamed for the nearly 70% damage from rice blast in that area.

It was the consensus of the advisers and Ken-cho officials that the best approach to farm management will be through the Co-op Guidance Unions. Most of the field extension representatives agreed that extension workers can assist the farmers in proper bookkeeping to aid him stabilize his income, but believed that because of the fear of having to pay excessive property and personal taxes, farmers are not very cooperative in this very important farming project.

Forestry Affairs:

Conference was held at 1515 on 19 June 50 at Ken-cho with representatives present from Forestry Dept. and Agri. Co-operatives' Section. Forestry officials were somewhat reluctant to express an opinion on whether it will be feasible or not to have the Agricultural Co-operatives exclusively retail (distribution to consumer) timber products from individuals having 5 cho or less of forest lands. Ninety per cent of the forest owners in the Ken are in this category. After considerable discussion, between the Co-op officials and the Forestry representatives, it was generally estimated that the Co-ops because of the defunct Agricultural Control associations, now distribute about 60% of the forest products in the Ken.

Forestry associations will likely be reluctant to see any plan adopted which will curtail a sizeable volume of the funds presently handled by them. However, in the interests of sound economy, especially since these small forest owners have a larger income from agricultural pursuits, it is believed that eventual steps must be taken to assure the farmer-forest owner of the best possible price for his products instead of making him the "victim" of business competition between the Co-ops and Forestry associations.

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In discussing the question about possible operation of forest nurseries by several forestry associations or groups of farmers, Forestry officials at the Ken-cho indicated it was too early to make a suitable commitment. They added that when forest owners in the Ken have completed filing for government grants for Reforestation as provided in the new Forestry Law, that a better picture can be given of Reforestation under private management. This is expected to be finished about 15 August 50.

It was pointed out that the Reforestation program is better stabilized with the provision that owners who fail to meet their alloted Reforestation quota annually, must forfeit the right to plant this number of seedlings. Instead, the governor designates a neutral party to take over the responsibility for the Reforestation program on that particular tract of land until the actual owner is once more able to assume his share of Reforestation work.

Tottori Prefecture:

Conference held at 0900 on 20 June 50 at Ken-cho Agri. Department Chief's office. Those present included Mr. Tanaka, acting chief of the new Agri. Improvement Section. It was announced that Mr. Wada, who has been working with the Agri. Co-op Guidance Federation in Okayama-ken, has been appointed chief of the Agri. Improvement Section. He was scheduled to assume his duties 21 June.

Orientation classes for 30 new extension advisers are scheduled to be held in Yazu-gun (Kamo-mura), Tohaku-gun (Kuroyoshi-machi) and Hino-gun (Neuma-machi) on the 28th, 29th, and 30th of June, respectively. When the new farm advisers have assumed their duties, the Prefecture will have a total of 87 working in the 17 district offices.

Two home improvement advisers are also slated to start work late this month with other women advisers expected to join the field extension organization late this year or in 1951. These new home improvement advisers are slated to work at Kawamura in Yazu-gun and Hamamura-machi in Kedaka-gun.

Ken-cho and Experimental Station officials are striving hard to improve the financial status of a large number of farmers in the Prefecture who have only 5 tan or less of productive land. A study of five households in Agei-machi, Tohaku-gun, started 19 June and will continue until 19 July 50 to determine what is the proper diet for feeding farm workers in the busy rice-planting season. A follow-up survey will be made by the Home Improvement adviser and the Ken-cho subject matter specialist on the same families from 20 January 1951 to 20 Feb. 1951 to obtain nutritional data on what farm families should eat during the slack farm season.

Mr. Kishimoto, technician in the Agri. Affairs Section in charge of Insect Control, reported that 8,900 cho of land were affected in the 1949 rice crop from plant disease, insects, droughts,

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floods, and other natural cases. This represents 3.3% of the total acreage listed in the pre-planting quota. (30,154 cho).

Conference was held at the Prefectural Experimental Station at Yoshinari, Tottori-shi, at 1300 on 20 June 50. Those present included Mr. Noda, chief of the station, Mr. Tanaka, representing the Management section of the Chugoku-Shikoku Agri. Experimental Station of the MAF in Mizoguchi and Mr. Mizunuma, chief of the Tohaku Agri. Improvement Laboratory, MAF, at Agei-machi.

Mr. Tanaka explained that the Chugoku-Shikoku Experimental Station had been established by the MAF under the name of the Chugoku Branch Reclamation Research Institute. The present name was adopted on 9 Feb 1949 when a new function of utilizing live-stock on reclaimed land and related research problems was assigned to the establishment. The MAF, however, did not announce the change in title of the station until 28 April 1950.

The station at Mizoguchi also is striving to use uplands in portions of Japan for feeding livestock. Grasses such as green manure, are encouraged and every effort made to increase the productivity of the soil. He added that the current budget had been reduced considerably over last year.

Mr. Tanaka said that if arrangements could be made, an English copy of the 1950 annual report submitted to the MAF, would be forwarded through the Ken-cho to the CCAN. Total employes at the station are 29, the same as last year. Several other stations with similar missions are maintained in Japan by the MAF.

Dr. Brown, SCAP-NRS soils analysis expert, visited the Mizoguchi station last year.

The representative from the Tohaku Institute said that the establishment conducts studies for the area extending from the Japan Sea in Yamaguchi Prefecture to Tohaku Region in northern Honshu. These studies are mainly to study wheat and "mugi" seed cultivation with the view of attempting to get better production of staple food crops.

The station was established in 1935 to carry on research on cotton crop and was operated at that time by the Tottori Ken-cho. It became an MAF experimental farm in 1947 and was designated at that time as the Tohaku Agricultural Experimental Station. In August, 1949, the name was changed to the present title. Several other MAF stations in Japan have similar functions. Last year's budget totaled ¥2,009,717. So far, the sum of ¥475,424 has been appropriated only for the first quarter of 1950 by the MAF. The station is devoting considerable attention now to farm management in an effort to give farmers more money for their products. At present, there are four workers employed, one of whom, the chief, is of engineer category.

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The Pref. station chief reported that Dr. Summers, SCAP entomologist, expected to visit the Station on 11-12 July to study noxious insects, plant diseases and related problems. He added that the current rice crop is affected with insect damage somewhat earlier than normally and will submit a detailed report on rice crop damage at the next conference scheduled in July with this officer.

Conference was held at 1530 on 20 June 50 at the Kunoikuna-mura office of Extension Agents in Yazu-gun, about 15 miles from Tottori. Those present included the four agents stationed at Kunoikuna-mura. Mr. Sumimura, chief agent, was the spokesman.

He stated that the office serves 3,300 farm families with the advisers devoting four to five days weekly in the field and the remainder of the time including Sundays in the office. Many farmers visit the office, he said, and if none of the agents are there, they leave suggestions which are promptly followed when the agents return.

The most distant area served by the office was 18 kilometers away. The area included 18 demonstration farms with "mugi" and white potatoes being stressed in research. This area is quite cold because it is in the mountainous section of the Ken. Mr. Sumimura estimated that approximately 13% of the farmers served by his office have only single crops, usually rice with rape, rush, and vegetables such as cabbage grown as other sources of income.

During this visit, this officer also inspected a large fruit orchard nearby where 20th Century type of pears are grown by 20 farmers. The fruit was covered with paraffin paper to protect it against insects. The extension agents thanked this officer for the Occupation Forces' assistance in the control of damage to fruit crops since V-J day.

Shimane Prefecture:

Conference held with Shimane Ken-cho Agriculture Improvement Section officials at 0915 on 21 June 50. Those present included Mr. Tanaka, deputy section chief, Miss Nigata, Home Improvement Subject Matter Specialist, and other staff members of the section, and Mr. Okubo, chief of the Economics Section.

During a discussion of Farm Management, those present stated that 15,000 copies of farm account forms had been distributed throughout the Pref. by the section with the assistance of the Pref. newspaper, "Shimbun".

Mr. Okubo declared that during a recent survey of 50 farm families, only one farmer replied that he was quite familiar with farm management procedure and was quite consistent in keeping income and expenditure entries for his farming activities. Those

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present stated that fear of being taxed too much keeps most farmers from being efficient in the use of management procedures.

This officer assured them that since the income tax representative estimates what the farmer's property value is by an appraisal of his crops, that it would be foolhardy to try to expect much reduction from government or prefecture taxes.

The section chief, Mr. T. Sawai, who is also chief of the Pref. Experimental Station, submitted a special activities report which stressed the following:

a. Twenty-seven additional farm area advisers were employed on 10 June and have already assumed posts in the field offices.

b. The Extension exhibition held at the Ozumo Prefectural Experimental Station on 24-26 May, attracted 8,000 visitors, most of them farmers from many parts of the Ken. Nine classes of agricultural technique aids were displayed including improvement of staple food crops, soils, fertilizers, farm management and sanitation, produce processing, agrarian chemicals, inventions and discoveries, electrification of farms, technical films, and conferences on farming problems.

Some of these displays are also being shown at Ochi-gun by the Gun Extensive committee since 20 June 50.

c. The fifth coordination conference to effect better coordination between agricultural education and extension work, was held at the Experiment Station at Izumo on 19 June and was attended by 31 persons including Ken-cho officials, Pref. Station staff, Pref. Extension Committee, Pref. Board of Education, Pref. Agriculture College and High Schools.

Problems discussed included:

(1) Experiments on Climatic differences of Plant Varies on Yield.

(2) Checking recreational facilities for farm youths.

(3) Distribution of farm labor potentiality.

d. Shimane's 4-H clubs have been rapidly increasing and now number 293 as of 20 June. Total membership is 6,922 of which 1,035 are girl and women members. Yatsuka-gun led the Pref. in new 4-H clubs formed since 1 May, organizing 21 groups. Hikawa and Ochi-guns each reported seven new clubs for the same period.

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Conference held at 1330 on 21 June at Grammer School in Kawatsu ward of Shimane-shi. Mr. Tochigi, representing the Matsue Municipal Agriculture Section, said that the food situation in his area had improved in recent years. It was easier for farmers to cultivate their crops, thanks to Occupation assistance, with the result that they are able to devote more efforts to diversification of farming.

Mr. Okuno of the Kawatsu Co-op association stated that single crop rice farmers are quite hard-pressed financially. Efforts are being made to get them to engage in other types of farm work with a view to obtaining additional income. Asked whether any distribution problem was expected when the Government Fertilizer Kodan is discontinued in August, he replied that farmers generally would be better off in the future.

This officer then addressed members of the Kawatsu 4-H club at a special meeting arranged especially for him at the school. Mr. Ikeda, chief interpreter of the Pref. kindly served as interpreter during the conference was continued until 1530.

This officer complimented the young farmers on their fine work in 4-H activities and assured them that they would be well-rewarded for any sacrifice they make in the interests of better farming or improved farm living. Numerous projects were discussed in an effort to learn more about the actual technique which young farmers obtain on their parents' farms.

Some of them had engaged in raising pigs but due to the low price of wholesale pork, they discontinued the project. One of the group displayed a hand-operated weeding machine which he had invented and which accomplishes three times as much work in a paddy field as the standard machines available on the market.

Miss Nigata addressed the group, pleading for the young men to interest their sisters and other girls of the area in the 4-H program. The club has no women members at present.

Yamaguchi Prefecture:

Conference held at 0915 on 22 June at Ken-cho. Those present included Mr. Ozuki, chief of the Agricultural Improvement Section, Mr. Higashihara, Spec. in charge of Insect Control, and Mr. Saito, in charge of Insect Control and Preventative Measures in the Agri. Affairs Section.

Mr. Ozuki submitted a report on current outbreaks of plant disease in the new rice crop.

Damage from Thrips, a weevil, was quite heavy in the Pref. when the report was prepared early this month. This insect feeds on the young leaves in the nursery beds, making it necessary to cut off the tips of the tender rice plants at time of transplanting.

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However, most recent estimates indicate that control measures have been quite effective. As a result, actual loss to the new rice crop may not be as high as expected.

Dry weather during May had aided the thrip larval to emerge sooner than expected. But the recent wet weather had come to the rescue of the farmers.

Those present stated that quite a large number of farmers want to use light traps to kill the moths which destroy the rice plants. However, the Ken-cho officials do not agree with them.

Indications pointed to a loss of about 15% in the Pref. "mugi" crop. Much of this damage occurred in the naked barley crop which to date has not proven very strong in resisting prolonged rainy periods.

A short conference on Home Improvement affairs was held with Miss Nakamura, assistant to Miss Miyazaki, subject matter specialist at the Ken-cho. It was suggested that this officer visit Miyano to see some of the improvements made to farm homes in that area.

Conference held at 1330 on 22 June 50 at Prefectural Experimental Station at Ouchi-mura. Those present included Mr. Ogori, Mr. Kuboi, station chief, Mr. Takesue, in charge of noxious insect research, and Mr. Koga, research engineer, both of whom are on the staff of the station.

Mr. Koga reported on latest developments in the research on farming methods conducted at the station since 1947. He declared that all-out efforts were being directed towards aiding farmers to increase the crop production per tan.

Improvements recommended included use of improved varieties of seed, proper use of the right amounts and kinds of fertilizers, and reducing the daily labor production of farm workers.

Station officials declared that compared to the national average of 2.08 koku per tan of crops, the farmers of the Prefecture have had an average yield of only 1.76 koku of rice per tan for the past 18 years.

He added that the Ken's average for naked barley was even lower, being 1.1 koku per tan. The average for sourthern Japan for naked barley is 1.3 to 1.5 koku per tan. In the submarginal areas of the Ken, the naked barley average had dropped as low as 0.8 of koku per tan.

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Mr. Koga further stated that during the survey, one technician was assigned to study an area comprising 20 cho. To date 3,600 of the 3,800 research center's designated in the project, have completed obtaining data. Those yet unfinished are mostly the island areas on both sides of the Ken.

The Ken-cho Land Improvement Section is striving hard to make low-producing soil give greater crop yields. Extension agents have done much to encourage farmers to plant better seed but there are still some farmers who need additional information on improved farming methods.

Irrigation is another project being studied intensity by the Station.

Mechanization of farms is proceeding slowly but some farmers are using labor-saving devices. However, the project is not expected to show much in the way of freeing the farm worker from his tedious tasks for several years.

During the discussion on fertilizer research, station officials said they had completed experiments showing the possible effectiveness of night soil, compost, and other soil-stimulants which are not commercially manufactured.

Conference held on Pine Bark Beetle Control, and Forestry Extension at 1530 on 22 June 50 at Ken-cho Forestry Department. Those present included Mr. Okamoto, chief of Forestry Affairs Section, Mr. Kiichiro, technician in charge of Forest Nurseries, Mr. Koko technician in charge of insect control and Mr. Matano, chief of the Forestry Management Section, who will supervise the new Extension program in the Ken-cho.

Mr. Okamoto reported that the Forestry Extension program will not be in full swing until 1 August 50. This will be partly due to the fact that no prefectural applicant took the specialist's test for Erosion Control given recently at Shimane Prefecture and because only one candidate took the specialist test for utilization of forest products.

As a result, successful applicants for three of the eight specialist posts in the new Forestry Extension Section, will be obtained in other Prefectures. They are not expected to reach Yamaguchi-shi until the early part of August.

Some of the five other specialists are expected to be assigned to duties about 1 July 50.

The MAF has allocated 20 extension agents to Yamaguchi-ken with all of them scheduled to work in the 10 district offices now maintained by the Forestry Department. Applicants expected to take the extension agent test on 26 June in the Ken-cho number 172. Nine of the candidates have already been certified for

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employment by the MAF by virtue of the required experience.

The MAF's new system of reporting for forest lands infected with the pine bark beetle is proving quite effective in giving CCAR and SCAP NRS a more accurate picture of the actual damage to timber in the various prefectures.

A report on pine bark beetle damage compiled as of 5 June 50 at the Ken-cho showed that 9,029 trees and 6,583 koku had infestations from the insect. The Ken-cho officials stated that the early spring period, beginning in March, always reveals the voracious beetle but even the most intensive inspections at this time and even prior to the emergence of the insect, usually proves fruitless.

4. Conclusions:

Okayama - a preliminary check, which appears accurate, indicates that few, if any rice farmers in the Kurashiki - Tohaku areas, will lose much from non-sprouting rice.

First reports of the incident appearing in the Okayama Japanese newspaper stated that the anticipated loss due to the use of rat poison on the rice seed, would be quite heavy.

However, Pref. Experimental Station officials believe that the situation has been adjusted by the distribution of new seed to the affected farmers.

Most farmers in the Ken need considerable assistance in maintaining management records. Extension officials believe that this phase of farming operations should be handled by the Federation of Guidance Co-ops which is reported to be assisting them in this project at present.

Extension agents are working seven days a week in many cases but it appears quite unlikely that they will get much reduction in their working hours. Some of them are probably more eager to help the farmer than actually necessary so the only solution seems to be to have the Ken-cho regulate their hours some way.

One-crop farmers are making fair progress in stabilizing their incomes, partly with the aid of money from their forests and also through money obtained by working for the large forest owners.

A preliminary discussion of whether co-ops or Forestry Associations should sell forest products of small forest owners, indicates that the farmer will probably be the more logical outlet. The Co-ops are now handling approximately 60% of the teimber products' volume for the small forest owner.

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Forestry officials will be able to make a better prediction on the eventual operation of nurseries by Forestry Associations after 1 Sept 50. At that time, those owners wanting to cooperate in the Reforestation program, will have filed for Government subsidies.

Home Improvement work is progressing favorably in the Region but the program will be impeded by the delay in the hiring of very many field workers. Further conferences are necessary with Pref. Improvement Committee leaders to make certain that a satisfactory ratio between farm and home advisers is kept all the time.

Liaison should be maintained with the Kure office of Internal Revenue Division, GHQ, SCAP, to assure farmers that they will not lose too much if they keep accurate income and expense records. At present, many of them believe that "pocket or indefinite filing", with no certain data available, is the most suitable means of determining management of the farm.

4-H club activities are progressing quite rapidly throughout the region. In Shimane Prefecture the total membership of these valuable youth groups is now 6,922 of which 1,035 are women.

In Yamaguchi, damage to the new rice crop from Thrips, a weevil, is quite severe, but effective control measures under the supervision of the Experimental Station, will reduce the loss considerably. An extended period of rainy weather also was credited with somewhat alleviating the condition.

Some farmers in Yamaguchi are still advocating the use of light traps despite the belief of SCAP experts and most MAF and Pref. specialists that they are not effective in killing rice borers (moths).

Slow progress is being made by the Yamaguchi Experimental Station in increasing the yield of staple food crops. The Prefecture has the lowest average for koku per tan of food in Japan.

Pine Bark Beetle damage is still quite severe in Yamaguchi where 6,583 koku of timber were infected as of 1 June 50.

5. Recommendations:

a. Control measures against all farms of rice plant disease must be more effective this year than formerly as many of the insects and other factors are causing quite heavy damage very early in this growing season. SCAP NRS experts appear to be aware of the conditions and have warned all Prefectures to take strong counter-measures early.

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b. Home Improvement workers are not conducting a sufficient number of field meetings with farm women. More contacts are needed to help the new home improvement advisers when they start their duties within the next few months.

c. Ken-cho Extension officials should discourage all field agents from working too much overtime. Many agents are spending evenings as well as week-ends assisting farmers but since they are not receiving any extra pay, it is necessary that they have sufficient time off for personal matters.

d. Pref. and MAF Experimental Stations should devote more time to aiding one-crop farmers. This is a slow program but quite a few farmers in the Region will be seriously affected financially if further costs in production are not offset by a similar increase in income.

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Rec. Division
No.

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 248 (Kure, Honshu)

22 May 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip to Okayama, Tottori, Shimane and Yamaguchi, 14-19 May 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose: Although the main purpose was to exercise surveillance on all Agriculture & Forestry programs special emphasis was placed on the following:

a. Financial condition of Agricultural Cooperative.

b. Capacity of nurseries to meet reforestation needs.

c. Completion of 1950 rice quota breakdown.

2. Background:

a. Agricultural Cooperatives in general have been on the financial downgrade since February.

b. Reforestation plans throughout the region are greatly expanded over recent years.

c. The 1950 pre-planting quota for rice should have been broken down to farmer level on March 31.

3. Discussion

a. Agricultural Cooperatives

A meeting with prefectural Agricultural Co-op officials in Okayama was held at the Ken cho on 15 May. In answer to questions on the financial condition of Co-ops in Okayama, prefectural officials stated that the situation had improved considerably over the previous month and although Cooperatives are by no means secure, the trend is toward recovery. For example, last month 5 co-ops had stopped withdrawals and 6 were limiting withdrawals, at present only 3 are not permitting withdrawals. Moreover, according to the prefecture, savings have started to increase again. As a temporary expedient the prefecture appropriated ¥40,000,000 for deposit with the credit federation in order to bolster its working funds. Prefectural officials were advised by economics personnel that efforts should be directed toward correcting the Co-ops ills at the source. Attempts to

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salvage the co-ops by granting large loans or outright appropriations serve only as an expedient and accomplish nothing in terms of long range operations and ultimate financial security.

One unit co-operative in Okayama and one in Tottori were visited for the purpose of ascertaining the degree of interest and participation by the farmers in Co-operative management. In both cases it was obvious that farmers give tacit and blanket approval to whatever the co-op officials elect to do. Although opportunities for questions and discussions at co-op meetings are granted, the farmers do not take advantage of same.

In Shimane prefecture it was learned that the management advisory teams previously reported by the undersigned as operating in Shimane have not yet begun operations. Whether this inaccuracy resulted from misinterpretation or misrepresentation is still understudy. Nevertheless, prefectural officials were advised to get the program in operation without delay since they already have the allocation of money for its implementation.

b. Staple Food Production and Collection

The chiefs of the Food Sections in Okayama, Tottori, and Shimane were interviewed on two subjects: (a) progress in 1950 rice quota breakdown and (b) attitude of farmers and prefectural officials toward decontrol of staple foods. Progress, comments, and attitudes on these subjects was consistent in all three prefectures. Except for a few villages in each prefecture, the 1950 rice quota has been broken down to farmer level. These villages are receiving special attention and 100% completion of the breakdown can be expected by the end of the month. In regard to decontrol of staple foods prefectural officials agree that continued control is necessary if the farmer is to be ensured of an adequate income. Decontrol would mean the advent of rice merchants who could control the price of rice by hoarding and dumping when the price was right. The farmer would be the ultimate looser if rice is decontrolled.

c. Land Reform

An entire day was spent in Yamaguchi investigating the problem arising from the purchase and allocation to repatriates of parcels of land which were former military property and have never been released. Control of this land still rests with the local commander who has agreed to establish a definite and permanent line of demarkation between that area to be used by the military and that land which may be cultivated.

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However, some compensation or restitution will have to be made by the govt to the farmers who reclaimed this land in good faith. The error was made by the prefectural govt which is now trying to blame the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry for allowing them to purchase this land for reclamation purposes.

d. Forestry

Conferences with Forestry officials in Okayama, Tottori, and Shimane and visits to forest nurseries in Shimane indicate that seedling requirements for this year will be met without difficulty. Moreover, withdrawal of the subsidy for nurseries will not affect the execution of present reforestation plans, according to prefectural authorities. Those prefectures which depend on outside sources for seedling supply were advised to check those sources again to make sure that the greatly expanded reforestation schedule on a national scale would not jeopardize their expected seedling procurement.

If the nursuries visited in Shimane are typical, it can be definitely stated that nurseries under private management are far superior to those under prefectural management. In all respects, the seedlings in the private nurseries were healthier, stronger and better cared for than those in the prefectural nursery.

4. Conclusions:

a. Although Agricultural Cooperatives are not yet out of trouble, they are moving in the right direction instead of slipping further down in the hole.

b. The 1950 pre-planting quota for rice will be broken down to farmer level well in advance of planting time.

c. Prefectural officials and farmers do not favor decontrol of rice at this time.

d. Seedling requirements for this years reforestation plan will be met.

5. Recommendations

A very thorough and extensive survey should be made to determine the effects on the farmer of decontrol of staple foods before any decision relative to decontrol is reached.

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