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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to measure the role perceptions of the Georgia Extension Service in rural counties as viewed by three relevant sample groups: members of voluntary associations, leaders of the Harris County community, and professional County Extension Service personnel serving rural counties. Mailed surveys were answered by 69 voluntary association members and 37 county extension agents from 15 randomly selected non-standard metropolitan area (NSMA) counties. Twenty-eight community leaders were interviewed. Data were examined by groups and compared, making some trends apparent: (1) there continues to be very strong support for Extension serving agricultural clientele from all three groups; (2) all three groups support a broad view of the Extension Service's role in NSMA counties; (3) county extension agents had a broader view of the role of the Extension Service in NSMAs in terms of the importance of various services for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification, and recreational services; (4) Harris County community leaders seemed to be less informed about all of the Cooperative Extension Service Programs, especially some of the nontraditional programs, and did not feel that the Extension Service should provide assistance in the area of leadership; and (5) all groups saw a need for the Extension Service to become more involved with the community resource development program area in nonmetropolitan counties. Recommendations were made for the Extension Service to continue to serve farmers, farm families, and homemakers in rural counties but to broaden its traditional role in the rural nonfarm counties to serve all types of client groups and to base programs on the needs of county residents. (KC)



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Table of Contents

			Page
Ackno	owle	edgements	. ii
List	of	Tables	. v
List	of	Figures	• vi
ı.	Ir	ntroduction	• 1
		Statement of the Problem	. 4
		Purpose of the Study	• 5
		Definition of Terms	. 7
II.	Re	elevant Literature	. 9
		Introduction	. 9
		Role Theory	. 9
		Role Studies	10
		Studies Involving Specific Groups	14
		Studies on Urban Extension Work	17
		Hypotheses	20
III.	Me	thodology	21
		Population and Sample	2]
		Sampling Procedure	22
		The Instruments	24
		Analysis of Data	25
IV.	Fi	ndings and Discussion	26
		Voluntary Association Member Data	26
		Community Leadership Data	28



Table of Contents (Continued)

			Page
		Non-Metro County Agent Data	. 31
		Test of Hypotheses	. 35
		Discussion	41
v.	Sumn	mary, Conclusions and Recommendations	44
		Summary	44
		Conclusion	46
		Recommendations	47
Append	ices	3	
	Α.	Leadership Interview Schedule	48
	в.	Voluntary Association Questionnaire	60
	c.	County Agent Survey	72
Refere	nces	5	78



List of Tables

[able		Page
1.	Importance of Services to Harris County Citizens	. 27
2.	Leader's Perception of Legitimate Areas of Involvement for Extension	. 29
3.	Leader's Perception of Appropriate Clientele	. 30
4.	Importance of Services as Indicated by Agents	. 32
5.	Appropriate Client Groups as Perceived by Agents	. 34
6.	Relationship between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of activities for Senior Citizens	. 36
7.	Relationship between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of Neighborhood Beautification Services	. 37
8.	Relationship between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of Recreation Services	. 38
9.	Relationship between Responses of Community Leaders, County Extension Agents and Need for Leadership Assistance	. 40



List of Figures

Figur	е		Page
1.		Administrative	



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In 1914, Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act. This act established a unique partnership between the United States Department of Agriculture, state land grant institutions, and local governments. This partnership formed the foundation of an educational effort known as the Cooperative Extension Service. All three levels of government, federal, state and local, contribute to the funding and programming of the Cooperative Extension Service. "The Cooperative Extension Service combines the resources of federal, state, and local governments and the resources of the land-grant universities in a comprehensive approach to help people confront and work toward solving local and community problems," (Vines and Anderson, 1976 p. 92)

As stated in the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 the basic purpose of the Cooperative Extension Service is:

"...to aid in diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects related to Agriculture and Home Economics and to encourage application of the same..." (Smith and Lever, 1914)

The Smith-Lever Act has been re-written several times since the original version was passed in 1914. These later versions changed Extension's role thus, making it broader



1

and more complex. Two new major program areas; 4-H and Youth and Community Resource Development have been added to the list of program responsibilities for the Extension Service.

With these additional program areas the list of clientele groups served by the Extension Service also expanded to include urban youth, low-income, and minority audiences. Part of this new direction was specifically aimed at better serving the needs of rapidly growing urban areas and other non-traditional audiences. "Extension is many different things to different people at different times." (Vines and Anderson, p. 226-227)

The Cooperative Extension Service has a unique educational mandate to serve all the people not enrolled in the state universities. The role of the Extension Service is to provide an informal, non-credit educational service to all the people of the United States. This is done by extending the resources of the universities, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other government agencies to the local people. County Extension personnel, university resource specialists, research personnel, and teaching faculty all help in the "Extension" of resources to people in the local community.

The Extension Service has always encouraged people to help themselves. Extension programs are flexible, and every effort is made to provide programs that meet local needs. Programming efforts are facilitated by involving local people in the decision making process when planning



extension programs. County Extension agents also live and work in their local communities, thus, making them more aware of local needs and more accessible by local clientele. By involving the county agent and local clientele in the program planning process, programs are designed which reflect the needs of the local community.

each county Extension Service must be aware of the local situation. Earlier expansion of Extension Service efforts to serve urban areas was warranted by the rapid growth of urban areas. In the 1960's and 1970's other trends became apparent. "Dramatic news came in the 1970's, from 1970 to 1973, but Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas grew in population by only 1.9%, while micropolitan areas grew 4.2%," (Vines, et. al. 1971). This decentralization taking place in the United States has implications for the Cooperative Extension Service and its programs.

Because of changes in society, the scope has broadened and additional Extension programs, based on research, have been developed. The need for the dissemination of research knowledge and the application of the knowledge to practical problems is as important now as it was in previous years. However, because of significant changes in the distribution and makeup of the nation's population, questions arise as to Extension's ability to maintain its broad base of services (Rohs, 1984).



In Georgia many rural areas are growing at a faster pace than are urban areas and some urban centers in Georgia have experienced decrease in population. Fewer people are now directly linked to Agriculture, which historically has been Extensions' major program area in rural counties.

These individuals have been Extensions' primary audience and political support base in rural areas since the passage of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914. These shifts in population will influence the Georgia Extension Service's plans for the future.

Although farm productivity, has increased, the number of farmers in Georgia has decreased significantly in the past thirty years. Some counties however, have experienced an increase in the total number of part-time farmers. This has been the case in Harris County, Georgia. Between 1960 and 1978, the number of farms in Harris County declined from 507 to 251 while the average size farm increased from 230 acres in 1960 to 288 acres in 1978. The proportion of land in farms has dropped from 39.1 percent in 1960 to 24.3 percent in 1978. Harris County's farm population declined from 473 to 340 during the same period, (Brooks and Bachtel, 1983). Despite these changes, rural communities such as Harris County, continue to grow. This growth has occurred primarily in the rural non-farm segments of the population.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

There has been a rapid decentralization of people to rural counties, of which Harris County, Georgia would be an



example. Most of these individuals are not directly linked to production agriculture and are classified as rural nonfarm residents. The Extension Service is mandated to take education to all the people of the state. Although residents of rural areas formed the primary clientele of the Extension Service until the recent past, efforts to reach urban audiences with extension programs are currently being considered. Rapid changes, now occuring in rural areas, suggest that the Extension Service re-evaluate its programming efforts in rural counties in order to better address the issues that are important to the residents of these counties. Since the Extension Service can not be "all things to all people", it is important to examine role perceptions of client populations as well as role perceptions of Extension personnel.

By examining role perceptions of Extension Service functions as perceived by specific audience and role perceptions of Extension personnel serving rural counties, the Extension Service can develop a clearer understanding of expectations that clientele have of the organization and, thus, be more efficient in serving the people.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of study is to measure the role perceptions of the Georgia Extension Service in rural counties as viewed by three relevant sample groups. Specifically the objectives of this study are to:



- Describe the role perceptions of the Cooperative Extension Service as these exist among members of various voluntary associations of Harris County.
- 2) Describe the role perceptions of the Cooperative Extension Service as these perceptions exist among certain positional leaders in the Harris County community.
- 3) Describe the role perceptions of the Georgia Extension Service as they exist among professional county Extension personnel serving rural counties.
- 4) Examine the significant differences using the nature of the existing relationships between the role perceptions of the three groups surveyed.
- 5) Give conclusions and make recommendations for purposive program planning.

In order for programs to be effective at the local level, Extension educational programs must be relevant to the needs of the local people. If significant differences in perceptions of the role exist between Extension personnel and local clientele ineffective programming tends to take place. Thus, the Extension Service may be delivering the inappropriate or non-functional programs to clientele in local communities.

Citizen involvement facilitates clientele understanding of the organization. Effective citizen involvement
ultimately effects programming, legitimizes program efforts,
and facilitates good public relations. "Providing such



groups the opportunity for continual input to the program determination process helps ensure that programs are effectively balanced between felt needs, emerging problems, and new knowledge," (Ladewig and Ebling, 1982 p. 23). By investigating the role perceptions of the Extension Service as perceived by specific audiences, valuable information will be obtained and can be utilized in planning and establishing effective programs for the 80's.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Certain terms and phrases used throughout this study are defined below to aid the reader in understanding the meaning the author had in mind when using them.

<u>Clientele</u>: Those special interest groups of individuals who participate in or who could potentially benefit from the Georgia Extension Service educational programs and information.

Cooperative Extension Service: An outreach organization whose purpose is to provide informal education to the people of the United States in the broadly interpreted areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Community and Rural Development, Home Economics and Family Living, 4-H and Youth, and related subjects.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): A large population area and the surrounding counties which have a high degree of economic and social integration with the population nucleus.



Non-Metropolitan Statistical Areas: Those areas outside of the recognized MSA areas. Typically rural counties with little economic and social integration with large population centers.

Land Grant Institutions: A college or university set up for the purpose of teaching agriculture and the mechanical arts. The 1862 Morrill act provided land for the colleges and experiment farms.

<u>County Extension Agents</u>: A professional employee of the United States Department of Agriculture, a land grant college, and a local government.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The study of the role, function, and the purpose of the Cooperative Extension Service has been a major focus of investigation and interest by both Extension professionals and other social scientists. Studies have also been mandated by the United States Congress to help develop a clearer role definition for the Extension Service. Social scientists have studied the nature and scope of the Extension Service and have measured its effectiveness, along with Extension personnel who have studied various aspects of the Extension Service which are related to this organization's role in American Society. Developing countries have studied Extension's organization, structure, and role as a model for implementing similar programs in their own countries.

The first part of this chapter deals briefly with role theory and the remaining part of the chapter will be concerned with an examination of various role studies and their relationship to the mission of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Role Theory

Performing an individual role, is simply living up to the expectations that people have for persons holding that



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position. Theodore Sarbin defined a role as a patterned sequence of learned actions performed by a person in an interaction situation. (Sarbin, 1954).

Role expectations are important to the person occupying a position that has a status. Roles are more likely to
be linked to the position rather than to a person temporarily filling that position. Bennett and Tumin defined role as
what the society expects of an individual occupying a given
status. (Bennett and Tumin, 1948).

For the purpose of this study role is simply defined as a set of expectations as perceived by specific audiences. The study will deal with measuring the organizational role of the Extension Service in rural counties. It is necessary to point out that some overlap exists between individual Extension agents roles and the organizational role(s) that they occupy.

Role Studies

In 1968 a joint USDA-NASULGC Extension study committee issued a report, "A People and a Spirit." This report sought to define the appropriate organizational role of the Cooperative Extension Service for the next decade. The Committee's recommendations were based on data gathered from interviews with Extension administrators, Land Grant University presidents, the Secretary of Agriculture, Extension specialists, and county Extension personnel. It was the consensus of this group that there exists "A need for a more precise definition of the role of the Cooperative Extension



Service in relation to the university and the USDA," and that "future program emphasis should be broadened reaching additional clientele in both rural and urban areas." (Watts, 1968).

"A People and a Spirit" also identified a catalytic role for the Extension Service citing the need for the Extension Service to work with community groups by bringing them together to study community needs, thus being more responsive to local environments. In 1968, the joint USDA-NASULGC Extension study committee stated:

"The local Cooperative Extension Service office should be a place where the individual citizen can obtain information about the total array of programs and services available from federal, state, and local agencies of government, including those of the land-grant universities and colleges." (Watts, 1968).

A referral function is implied in that statement. Another recommendation made by this committee was for the Extension Service to broaden its role in the areas of social and economic development that affect the quality of life.

In a more recent study 590 Extension employees and 61 community leaders in Georgia responded to a survey investigating programming issues facing Extension in the 1980's. Results from this survey indicate that Agricultural productions and marketing continues to be the most important program area effort of the Cooperative Extension Service in Georgia, (Rohs, 1983). Community Resource Development and Natural and Environmental Resources were listed as being least important of all program areas.



Christenson and Warner (1982) studied the Extension
Service and proposed an assessment model for the agency by
investigating who the Extension Service was serving. They
found that the Extension Service has a broad role especially
in rural areas. "Extension seems to serve a broad range of
the general public, touching the lives of at least one
quarter of the population. At the same time, Extension
appears to reflect its historical mission of serving farmers
and people in rural areas. While no major difference could
be ascertained in specific social, economic, or demographic
comparisions, clear occupational and locational variation
is apparent in Extension Service." (Christenson and Warner,
1982).

Nolan and Lasley (1979) investigated Extension usage patterns of full-time farmers and small or part-time farmers. Nolan and Lasley report that if the trend in U.S. agriculture continues toward fewer family farms and more part-time farmers this could have significant implications for Extension's expected role. "If Extension takes as its principal concern the production of food and fiber, then working exclusively with large-scale commercial farms might be an appropriate choice. On the other hand, Extension could choose to focus its effort on farmers, regardless of their contribution to the total production of food and fiber." (Nolan and Lasley, 1979). Nolan et. al., (1979) indicated the need to fit Extension programs to the local situation so that the Extension Service could fulfill its role.



In a study of various social background factors of users and non-users of Extension programs in Kentucky.

Christenson and Warner (1981) reported "No statistically significant differences existed between users and non-users on the basis of age, education, sex, income, race, marital status, length of residency, and employment status of men. Significant differences however existed between users and non-users of women on the basis on employment status, place of residence, whether the client was a farmer or not, and the size of the farm.

Christenson and Warner also surveyed users and nonusers in specialized groups such as small farm operators,
racial minorities, elder y, rural non-farm residents, and
displaced homemakers were studied to see if Extension was
meeting the challenge to serve these groups that have been
identified in earlier research as under served or as a group
with a special need. The survey results indicated that
Extension is reaching slightly more females, a higher proportion of older people, and the same proportion of blacks
that were present in the non-user category. Therefore
they concluded that Extension was reaching these special
audiences.

Lionberger and Pope pointed out that the high achievement of county agents can be explained by their performance of many roles. An exhaustive study of Extension roles was made by Lionberger and Pope. Several major roles were identified, they included: conveyors of information,



teacher-trainer, information funneler, facilitator, translator-adaptor, consultant, problem diagnostician, resource finder, objective observer, and client protector. In terms of importance they found that generally, Extension workers cite roles that were conducive to developing the managerial and problem solving skills of their clients first, and the role of conveyor of information second. No distinctions were made between clientele types or demographics of the communities served. Only role designations were made by the study.

Gallaher and Santopolo (1967) looked at the role of a county Extension agent in a different perspective. They suggested that an Extension agent works in a social system which consists of two parts: a knowledge center and a client group. They focused on the idea that Extension agents function as professional change agents, and considered only roles which linked the knowledge center to the client groups. They concluded that a change agent is expected to play, either singly or in combination, the roles of analyst, advisor, advocator, and/or innovator. Studies Involving Specific Groups

J. D. George (1968) studied county agents views of Extension's role in North Carolina. County Extension Agents were asked whether the Extension Service should be an agricultural agency committed to helping those involved in the production and marketing of food and fiber or a general adult education agency for conducting diverse



education programs for all segments of society (farm, rural, non-farm, and urban).

George summarized his findings based on a continium representing a narrow definition on one end and a broad definition on the other end of the scale. Thirty-three percent of those responding felt that Extension's mission to be primarily agricultural, 38 percent had a moderate view, while 29 percent had a broad concept of the Extension Service's role.

Horne found both agreement and disagreement between county agents and county commissioners when he compared the two groups perceptions on the Extension Service. The two groups agreed on the objectives and the program areas of Extension. Horne, however, found significant differences in the perception of the various roles county agents should perform. County commissioners saw the Extension Service as a "farm agency" or through a narrow perspective, while county agents saw Extension as an agency with a broader scope, trying to meet the needs of all the people. County commissioners also felt that the Extension Service should provide information to people on specific farm and home problems while the county agents felt that it was important to train local leaders who could then help to provide the information to other people.

Kelly (1973) compared the perceptions of county commissioners from the fifteen rural counties and the fifteen urban counties in Florida. Kelly concluded that,



with a few exceptions, county commissioners had a favorable image of Extension and the relevancy of its programs and information regardless of whether they were in rural or urban areas.

Perkins studied the perception of the Virginia

Extension Service by interviewing the city council members in cities of 50,000 or more. The city council members were unfamiliar with many of the programs the Extension Service offered that could benefit urban residents. However they felt that the Extension Service was relevant to meeting the needs of the people in cities. The city council members felt that the Extension Service's highest priority should be providing assistance to city residents with individual and social needs associated with urban living.

Moss (1974) studied community leaders perceptions of Extension in three small communities. Moss found that the leaders viewed the worth of the local Extension programs through an economic screen. When asked about which of ten programs areas the local Extension office was programming in most leaders named only a few. Those named were important to the economic health of their communities.

Moore (1962) interviewed county Extension program planning committee members to determine their perceptions of the Montana Extension Service. The committee members interviewed by Moore named youth development, improving agricultural efficiency, improving urban residents understanding of Extension, and the teaching of management of



natural resources as the four most important objectives for Extension. Planning committee members were relatively poorly informed concerning the organization of the Extension Service. Committee members also saw Extension as a service agency rather than an educational agency. Extension In Urban Areas

Several studies have investigated the expansion of extension programs into urban areas.

Yep (1981) points out several differences between urban areas and rural areas. Yep states that urban Extension programming cannot operate under the same basic Extension philosophy, organizational structure, and program development process as in rural areas. For urban extension programs to be successful Yep recommends: an adequate organizational resource and research base be developed, staff be divided into subcommunities, a central office be designed to provide overall planning, coordination, and support services to smaller urban field offices, and a well organized publications and resource distribution center be established.

Paulson (1973) investigated the "Status of Extension's Urban Programming." Paulson surveyed the top Extension administrators at all fifty 1862 Land Grant institutions. Thirty-nine institutions responded, some with multiple responses for a total of 46 completed surveys from the middle management to the State Extension administrator level.



Paulson was unable to determine how much urban programming was being done. Paulson (1972) stated that "Until urban Extension has a developmental period comparable to agricultural Extension, with significant federal legislation and with a track record of universities extending their resources into the urban community, we can hardly expect urban Extension to match agricultural Extension's current level of effectiveness."

Harris (1970) projected a role for the Extension
Service in urban communities. This study shows a need for
more emphasis on tailor made programs to fit the urban
situation. Harris recommended that Extension address
problems in urban areas that are not traditionally served
by the Extension research based information. This can be
done only by having access to resources outside the
traditional subject-matter areas of Cooperative Extension
according to Harris.

Further recommendations by Harris included changes in personnel staffing and training programs. Harris suggests that in urban areas the Extension Service employ professionals with expertise in human development, recreation, sociology, psychology, educational media, and health education. He also suggests that Extension do some staffing of faculty with "urban" value orientations and skills requisite to understanding the urban social structure and types of educational programs needed. Further recommendations include that Extension do some retraining of



individuals that are presently assigned to urban areas so that they could more easily make the transition from agricultural orientation to a more wholistic approach to urban development. "If the Cooperative Extension Service is to continue to capably provide educational assistance to society, it too must change with society and societal needs," (Harris, 1970).

Bishop compared the role of the Extension Service by comparing the findings and recommendations from two major national reports. One issued in 1909 and the latter in 1968. Bishop feels that Extension must adapt to continue to be effective in its public service mission.

emphasis by the Extension Service on developing human resources. "The increasing value of the human resource in our society implies some specific changes in program emphasis in Cooperative Extension." (Bishop, 1969). Bishop believes the recommendations of the 1968 study committee can only be achieved by broadening the role of the Extension Service to meet the needs of the general public.

Zurcher reported on Extension agents role from the professional psychologist viewpoint. "No one knows better than the Extension worker that his occupational role is broadening with every passing year," (Zurcher, 1966). Zurcher pointed out that the job of the Extension agent has been and still is in the process of changing.



No studies were found that measured the role perceptions of the Extension organization as perceived by voluntary association members in rural counties. Research on the Extension Service role in the changing rural areas is very limited.

HYPOTHESIS

In pursuit of the objectives of this study the following hypotheses are presented:

- 1) There is no association between the services offered by the Cooperative Extension Service, as indicated by Agents, and the services voluntary association members perceive the Cooperative Extension Service provides.
- 2) There is no association between the assistance county Extension agents and community leaders feel the Cooperative Extension Service should provide in their community.



CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

Population and Sample

This study uses data gathered in 1) interviews with community landers in Harris County, Georgia 2) a questionnaire survey of voluntary association members in Harris County, Georgia and 3) a mail questionnaire survey of Extension agents (located in fifteen rural Georgia counties).

The study uses Harris County as an example of a rapidly changing rural county. Harris County serves this purpose well since it is relatively large in size, 473 square miles, and is sparsely populated with 15,464 people on the basis of the 1980 census. The population in 1980 represented a 26 percent increase over 1970 thus giving it a fast rate of growth during that time period. Much of the growth is direct mirgation from the neighboring Muscogee County metro area. No signficant growth can be directly attributed to agriculture and/or the forestry industry. This increase in population growth will be referred to as rural non-farm growth.



21

Sampling Procedure

A list of county organizations was obtained from the Department of Family and Children Services. The list contained organizations such as the American Business Women's Association, Kiwanis Clubs, Lion's Clubs, garden clubs and fraternal organizations. A purposive sample of twelve organizations was selected that would represent all social/ethnic groups and members of both sexes. Sixty nine members or 34 percent, responded to the survey.

The leadership sample was derived from a modified reputational/positional approach. Twenty eight individuals, were interviewed which included both appointed and elected local government leaders. These leaders included mayors and council members; the county manager and county commissioners; the school superintendent and school board members. Additional persons interviewed were selected from those in top leadership positions in the county Farm Bureau, American Legion, and other state governmental agencies.

Fifteen rural non-standard metropolitan area counties were randomly selected from a population of 122 rural counties. Although there are 125 NSMA counties in Georgia, Talieffero and Chattahooche counties have no county Extension personnel and were eliminated from the study. Harris County was eliminated because the author was stationed there. Figure 1 presents the location of



GEORGIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE DISTRICTS

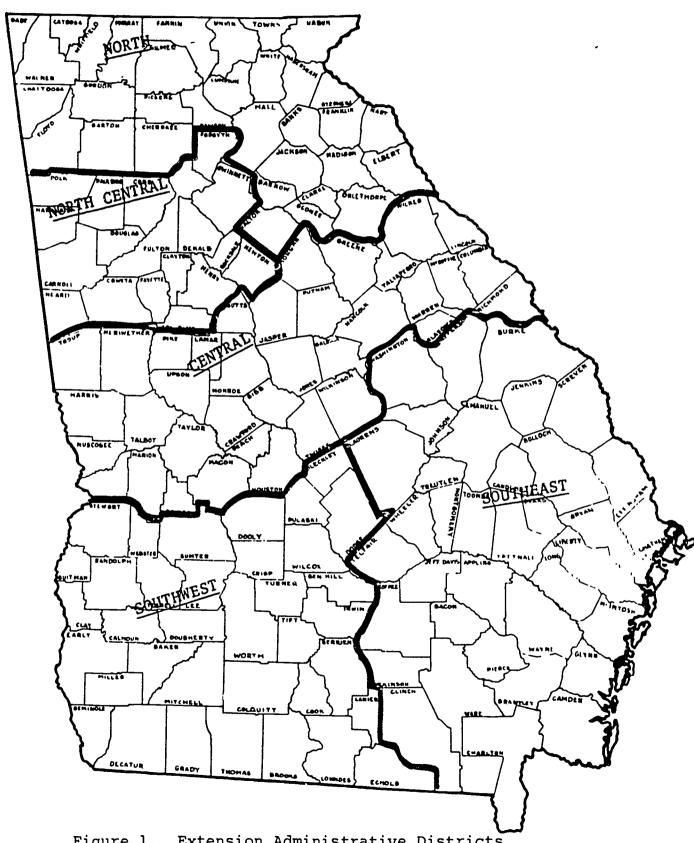




Figure 1. Extension Administrative Districts.

all Georgia counties and their corresponding administrative areas. Of the 42 agents surveyed, 37 or 89 percent responded to the questionnaire.

The Instruments

Three separate instruments were used in gathering data for this study. The instruments are described below.

Harris County leaders, identified through the positional-reputational approach, were interviewed at length regarding 1) the role of the Extension Service in meeting the needs of the county, 2) legitimate areas of involvement for the local Extension office, and 3) additional services and/or roles for the Extension Service in Harris County. Because of the cooperative funding arrangement and programming utilized by the Extension Service indepth interviews of county leaders are especially appropriate. (See Appendix A).

Members of voluntary associations completed questionnaires similar to leaders survey. The questionnaires were
designed to identify voluntary association member's perceptions of the Extension Service and to identify additional services and/or programs which they felt should be
offered by the Extension Service in Harris County. Voluntary association members were asked to respond to the questionnaires based on their own personal experiences and perceptions, while county leaders had been asked to respond on
the basis of their positions in the county. (See Appendix B).



County Extension Agents in rural (non SMA) counties were asked to complete the mail questionnaires. The Agent questionnaire was designed to measure the role perceptions of the Extension Service from the agent's individual perspective. Some questions similar to those used in the instruments were included so that comparisons could be made, (See Appendix C).

Analysis of Data

The questionnaires were pre-coded for computer tabulation. Upon receipt of the completed questionnaires
they were examined for completeness by the researcher.

Data were coded, entered into IBM coding forms and key
punched. Data were analyzed using the Statistical Analysis
System (SAS) of computer programs at the University of
Georgia's Computer Center.

Statistical techniques employed included frequency distributions and percentages. Chi Square and Cramer's V was used to test the significance and strength of relationships between the independent and dependent variables. Although several items were included in each survey instrument this study sought to analyze a selected few relating to role perceptions and service delivery.



CHAPTER IV

Findings

Findings are presented regarding the role perceptions of the Cooperative Extension Service as stated by voluntary association members in Harris County, Harris County Community Leaders and county Extension agents in fifteen non-metro counties. Relationships regarding the role perceptions between the voluntary association members, the community leaders, and county agents surveyed are also presented.

Voluntary Association Member Data

One of the objectives of the study was to describe the role perceptions of the Extension Service as stated by members of various voluntary associations of Harris County.

Table 1 shows the responses to the question "which five services do you feel are most important to citizens of Harris County?" The five most important services indicated were: 1) youth development 55 percent, 2) water purity and pollution 52 percent, 3) activities for senior citizens 46 percent, 4) community development 42 percent, and 5) garden information 39 percent.

Voluntary association members were then asked to rank the three most important services out of five previously selected. After combining the three most important choices youth development ranked first with 45 percent, water



26

Table 1
Important Services to Harris County Citizens*

Service	Number	Percent
Activities for senior citizens	32	46
Child Care	15	22
Landscaping	3	4
Nutrition Information	24	35
Pet Care and Training	0	0
Soil Testing	19	28
Pest Control	13	19
Water Purity and Pollution	36	52
Neighborhood Beautification	10	15
Food Preservation	16	23
Home Repairs	12	17
First Aid Training	11	16
Youth Development	38	55
Recreation	12	17
Garden Information	27	39
Home Safety	8	12
Medical Self-help	17	25
Consumer Information	17	25
Community Development	29	42
Other Services	1	1

^{*}Multiple Responses Allowed.



purity and pollution ranked second with 41 percent and activities for senior citizens ranked third with 25 percent.

Positional Leaders Data

Positional leaders in Harris County were asked to indicate types of assistance they felt the Extension Service should provide.

Eighty six percent of the positional leaders indicated education was an area where the Cooperative

Extension Service could provide assistance. Seventy nine percent indicated the need for community improvement assistance followed by 71 percent indicating community beautification and 53 percent indicating health as areas the Cooperative Extension Service should provide assistance in. The majority of those responding felt the areas of housing, family living, constructive leisure time, assistance and guidance, protection, community hospitality, leadership, religion and transportation/communications were areas where services should not be provided by the Extension Service.

Table 3 shows the responses by leaders to the question: "Who do you feel are the appropriate clientele of the Cooperative Extension Service." Fifty two percent of the respondents indicated that everyone or all the people in the county are appropriate clientele for the Extension Service. Another 9 percent felt that the Extension Service should serve only agriculturally related clientele. Two



Table 2

Legitimate Areas of Involvement for the Extension Service as perceived by Leaders*

Area of Assistance	Yes	No
Housing	12	16
Health	15	13
Family Living	13	15
Constructive Leisure Time	7	21
Education	24	4
Assistance and Guidance	11	17
Protection	8	20
Community Hospitality	10	18
Leadership	13	15
Religion		28
Community Improvement	22	6
Transportation/Communications	5	23
Community Beautification	20	8

^{*}Multiple Responses Allowed.



Table 3

Leader's Perceptions of Appropriate Clientele for the Extension Service*

Audience	Numbe	r Percent
Everyone (all people in the county)	17	52
Only Agricultural Sectors	3	9
Youth	1	3
County Officials	1	3
Consumers	1	3
Development Leaders	1	3
Business Community	1	3
Parents	1	3
Homemakers	1	3
Gardners	1	3
Farmers	1	3
Schools	1	3
Did Not Answer	2	6
TO	TAL 33	100

^{*}Multiple Responses Allowed.



leaders did not respond. Eleven other client groups were identified only once, these included: youth, county officials, consumers, development leaders, business community, parents, homemakers, gardners, farmers, and schools.

In an open-ended question leaders were asked to name new roles or additional services that the county Extension Service could provide for Harris County. The responses varied. Responses included statements such as "No-they shouldn't spread themselves too thin", "should more aggressively promote agriculture", "none-doing a good job already", "need to make their programs better known", "more community involvement", "need higher profile of agents", and "need recreation programs".

Non-Metro County Extension Agent Data

The third objective of the study was to describe the role of the Cooperative Extension Service as perceived by County Extension Agents in fifteen non-metro counties.

Table 4 shows the agents' responses to the question:
"Which five services do you feel are most important to
residents of your county?" The five most important services indicated were: 1) garden information, 73 percent,
2) youth development, 68 percent, 3) soil testing, 65 percent, and 4) pest control, 51 percent, both nutrition information 49 percent and food preservation 49 percent
ranked fifth.



Table 4

Importance of Services as Indicated by Agents

Service	Number	Percent
Activities for Senior Citizens	3	8
Child Care	2	5
Landscaping	5	14
Nutrition Information	18	49
Pet Care and Training	0	0
Soil Testing	24	65
Pest Control	19.	51
Water Purity and Pollution	0	0
Neighborhood Beautification	0	0
Food Preservation	18	49
Home Repairs	2	5
First Aid Training	0	0
Youth Development	25	68
Recreation	2	5
Garden Information	27	73
Home Safety	0	0
Medical Self-help	2	5
Consumer Information	11	30
Community Development	10	27
Other Services	12	32



Agents were then asked to rank the three most important services out of the five perviously selected. After combining the three most important choices the agents ranked youth development first, 60 percent, and soil testing, 38 percent, second. Both pest control, 32 percent, and nutrition information, 32 percent, ranked third.

When asked to identify appropriate clientele groups of the Cooperative Extension Service, 100 percent felt that farmers, farm families, and homemakers were appropriate clientele of the Extension Service (Table 5).

The majority of the agents responding felt that garden clubs, agribusiness, low-income, civic/service, youth and county leadership groups were appropriate clientele groups for the Cooperative Extension Service. The least appropriate clientele groups were the elderly, minority and other agency personnel with only 73 percent of the agents indicating the elderly and minority groups as appropriate clientele and 62 percent indicating other agency personnel as an appropriate clientele group.



Table 5

Appropriate Client Groups as Perceived by Agents

Client Group	Number	Percent
Farmers	37	100
Farm Families	37	100
Homemakers	37	100
Garden Clubs	31	84
Agribusiness	36	97
Elderly	27	73
Minority Groups	27	73
Low-income Groups	32	86
Civic/Service Groups	30	81
Youth Groups	35	95
County Leadership	35	95
Other Agencies	23	62
• Others		



Tests of Hypotheses

It may be recalled that the first hypotheses of this study states that there is no association between the importance of various services as perceived by County Extension Agents and Voluntary Association members. These services include activities for senior citizens, child care, landscaping, nutrition information, pet care and training, soil testing, pest control, water purity and pollution, neighborhood beautification, food preservation, home repairs, first aid training, youth development, recreation, garden information, home safety, medical self-help, consumer information and community development.

Tables 6 to 8 report the relationships, significant at the .001 level, and were found between the groups and importance of service. An examination of these tables indicates the first hypothesis can be partially rejected. Significant relationships were found between the groups, Voluntary Association members and County Extension Agents and the importance of activities for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification, and recreation. County Extension Agents felt that activities for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification and recreational services are of more importance to the community than did Voluntary Association members. Although significant relationships were found between the two groups and the importance of the services identified the strength of the relationships,

T: = .311, .386 and .305 respectively, was moderate.



Table 6

Relationship Between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of Activities for Senior Citizens. (Percent in parenthesis)

Group	Mentione	d Services
	<u>Yes</u>	No
Voluntary Association Members	21 (19.6)	49 (45.8)
County Extension Agents	23 (21.5)	14 (13.1)
$\frac{\chi^2}{\xi'} = 10.341$	DF = 1	P < .001



Table 7

Relationship Between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of Neighborhood Beautification Services. (Percent in parenthesis)

Group	Mention	ed Services
	<u>Yes</u>	No
Voluntary Association Members	21 (19.6)	49 (45.7)
County Extension Agents	26 (24.3)	11 (10.3)
$\chi^2 = 15.937$	DF = 1	P < .001
5 ' = .386		



Table 8

Relationship Between Responses of Voluntary Association Members, County Extension Agents and Importance of Recreation Services. (Percent in parenthesis)

Group	Mention	ed Services
	<u>Yes</u>	No
Voluntary Association Members	16 (14.9)	54 (50.4)
County Extension Agents	22 (20.5)	15 (14.0)
$\chi^2 = 14.160$	DF = 1	P < .001
o ' = .305		



The second hypotheses of this study states that there is no association between the assistance County Extension Agents feel the Cooperative Extension Service should provide and the assistance community leaders feel the Cooperative Extension Service should provide. The kinds of assistance the study identified were in the areas of housing, health, family living, constructive leisure time, employment and job training, education, assistance and guidance, protection, community hospitality, leadership, religion, community improvement, marketing information, transportation and communication and beautification.

Only one significant relationship was found between the groups community leaders and County Extension Agents and the need for various kinds of assistance, thus partially rejecting the second hypotheses.

Table 9 reports the relationship, significant at the .01 level, between community leaders, County Extension Agents and the need to provide leadership assistance. County Extension Agents felt that the Cooperative Extension Service should provide assistance in the area of leadership while local community leaders did not. Although the relationship was significant between the two groups and the need for leadership assistance, the strength of the relationship, $\mathfrak{F}' = .300$, was only moderate.



Table 9

Relationships Between Responses of Community Leaders,
County Extension Agents and Need for Leadership
Assistance.

Group	Should Provide Assistance		
	<u>Yes</u>	No	
Community Leaders	13 (20)	15 (23.1)	
County Extension Agents	28 (43)	9 (13.8)	
$\chi^2 = 5.854$	DF = 1	P < .01	
<u></u> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			



Discussion

The findings from this study indicate that members of voluntary associations, community, and non-metro Extension agents feel that the Extension Service has many programs and services that are relevant to rural (non SMA) counties.

The first objective of this study sought to describe the role perceptions of the Extension Service as perceived by members of voluntary associations. Three of the five most important services named by the voluntary association members are services offered by the local Extension office. From this it is easy to see that voluntary association members feel that the Extension Service programs are relevant to Harris County. Several services offered by the Extension Service rated high in importance to the association members. From the five most important services offered the association members selected the three most important. Youth development, a major program thrust area for the Extension Service rated as the most important service offered according to the Harris County voluntary association members responses.

Over half of the Harris County leaders felt that the Extension Service should be assisting with education, community improvement, community beautification, and health issues. It is important to point out that 86 percent of the leaders surveyed felt that a legitimate assistance area for Extension is education, while community



improvement, and community beautification ranked 79 percent and 71 percent respectively as appropriate assistance Fifty-two percent of the leaders in Harris County think that everyone or all the people in the county are appropriate clientele for the Extension Service while only nine percent felt that only the agricultural sector was appropriate clientele. Ten other client groups were also named by the leaders. These facts suggest that Harris County leaders have a broad view of Extension's role in their county. Non-traditional client groups mentioned by leaders included development leaders, business community, parents, schools, and county officials. Harris County leaders felt that new roles for the Extension Service should include community involvement and recreation pro-Again, this suggests that leaders view Extension's role as a general educational agency rather than strictly an agricultural agency.

Non-metro Extension agents surveyed rated services provided by the Extension Service the highest when asked the most important services offered to citizens in their county. When selecting appropriate client groups for Extension non-metro Extension agents rated all client groups at 62 percent or higher. Every agent surveyed (100 percent) felt that farmers, farm families, and homemakers were appropriate clientele for the Extension Service. These responses indicate that the agents have a broad view of the role for Extension in their county, with there being



absolutely no question about the appropriateness of the Extension Service in serving farmers, farm families, and homemakers.

The fourth objective of this study was to determine the relationships between the three groups surveyed. Although statistically significant relationships were found to exist between the Voluntary Association members, County Extension Agents and community leaders and the importance of specific services, the strengths of these associations are not strong. County Extension Agents viewed activities for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification and recreation services as more important then did Voluntary Association members. This would suggest that, from a role perspective standpoint, County Extension Agents have a broader view of the role the Cooperative Extension Service then do Voluntary Association members. A statistically significant relationship also existed between County Extension Agents and community leaders perceived need for leadership assistance provided by the Extension Service. County Extension Agents felt the Extension Service should provide assistance in the area of leadership, community leaders however, were less likely to indicate the need for leadership assistance.



Chapter V

Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

Summary

The Georgia Extension Service is mandated to serve a large group of people with a seemingly endless list of programs and services to help them solve their individual and local problems. Informal, ongoing education for all people is the mission of the Georgia Cooperative Extension Service.

The Extension Service has been very effective in carrying out its mission in non-metropolitan counties over the past 70 years. This study and a vast amount of research supports the idea that Extension should serve rural residents. National studies mandated by congress along with research by Christenson and Warner, Harris, George, Kelly, and Perkins support the idea of Extension serving all people. Many of these studies pointed out changes that could be made by Extension so that they could better serve urban residents. However research is very limited on clearly defining the role for Extension in fast changing rural counties. Many of these counties, while still rural by most measurements, are not presently agricultural counties.



44

The rapid decentralization of people back into nonmetropolitan counties is accounting for the rapid growth
rates in some rural counties. If Extension is to continue
to be effective in meeting the needs of rural residents
in these fast changing counties role perception must be
clearly defined. Extension cannot be "everything to
everybody", they must meet the needs of the communities
they serve.

The purpose of this study was to describe the role perceptions of the Georgia Extension Service in non-metropolitan counties, as perceived by voluntary association members, county leaders, and rural county agents. Relationships between the responses of the three groups were also studied.

Summary of Methodology

Sixty-nine Voluntary Association members in Harris County responded to a mail questinnaire. Twenty eight positional leaders in Harris County were interviewed to get their perception of the Extension Service. Thirty seven County Extension Agents from fifteen randomly selected non-metropolitan counties were surveyed to determine individual perceptions of the Extension Service role in their county. Data were analyzed by groups. Descriptive statistics such as frequency distributions and percentages, were computed to summarize the data regarding each groups perception of the Cooperative Extension Service. Chi-square (X²) test for independence



and Cramer's V () statistic for strength of association were calculated to describe and test the statistical hypotheses about relationships between groups.

From examining the responses of the three instruments some trends became apparent. There continues to be very strong support for Extension serving agricultural clientele from all three group responses. All three groups support a broad view of the Extension role in non-metropolitan counties. County Extension agents had a broader view of the role of the Extension Service in non-metropolitan areas in terms of the importance of various services for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification and recreational services. However Harris County community leaders seemed to be less informed about all the Extension programs, especially some of the non-traditional programs and did not feel that the Extension Service should provide assistance in the area of leadership. All groups saw a need for Extension to become more involved with the community resource development program area in nonmetropolitan counties.

Conclusions

Extension programs must be relevant to the needs of the local people.

Extension must continue to serve agricultural clients but must also serve other rural non-farm residents.

Extension should be an informal adult and youth educational service.



Some voluntary association members and county leaders were not well informed about the total Extension programs.

County Extension Agents had a broader view of the role the Extension Service in terms of the types of programs and assistance it should provide than did community leaders.

County Extension Agents felt that such non-traditional services such as activities for senior citizens, neighborhood beautification and recreational were more important to local communities than did local voluntary association members.

Recommendations

- 1) Extension should continue to serve farmers, farm families, and homemakers in rural counties.
- 2) Extension should broaden its traditional role in the rural non-farm counties to serve all types of client groups.
- 3) Programs should be emphasized based on the needs of the county situation.
- 4) Extension agents in rural counties should give more program emphasis to community and rural development programs.
- 5) Further studies on Extension in rural non-farm counties is recommended.



APPENDIX A

LEADERSHIP

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE



48

Role Of The Cooperative Extension Service In ____ County

Department of Sociology

The University of Georgia

in conjunction with

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Introduction

My name	is and I am involved in a survey
of community	leaders in order to determine their opinions regarding the
	the Cooperative Extension Service in County.

The information we request from you is <u>confidential</u> and you, as an individual will not be identified. After each person's reports has been combined all names will be destroyed and numbers will be substituted for identification purposes.

We have tried to simplify this form wherever possible. In many cases your ideas and opinions are solicited and we hope that you will express these freely and openly. Also, please feel free to make any other comments that you feel are appropriate. We appreciate your thoughts, ideas and time.



Part I

a.	
ъ.	
c.	
	ch individuals and/or groups do you believe are most respondelivering these services that you have just named?
	Individuals
a.	
ъ.	
c.	
	Groups
a.	
ъ.	
c.	
	our knowledge what kind of services can citizens ofCounty get from the Extension Service and its staff?
b	
c	
	additional services should your County Extension Service a staff provide? Probe.
a	



Part II

1.	Which o	f the following services idents of	do you County?	think £	are available to			
				None	Some	<u> </u>		
	a. Agr and	iculture, Natural Resour Related Subjects	сев					
	ъ. Нож	ne Economics						
	c. You	th Leadership						
	d. Com	munity Development						
2.	service if prov Good, F	the best of your knowless are provided by the Co rided, please rank them a Fair, Poor, Very Poor, an se particular service.	operativ	e Exter follow	ring sc you a	elvice de la	milia	ent.
			Not Provide	d E		rovided <u>F</u> P		DK
	Res	iculture, Natural cources and Related jects						
	i.	Agricultural information for farmers						
	ii.	Information for urban homeowners						
	iii.	Information for land- scape planning						
	iv.	Information for home safety and sanitation						
	v.	Assistance in the development of outdoor recreation facilities					. 	
	vi.	Soil tests						
	vii.							
	viii.							



Part	II,	# 2	continued	Not		Pro	viđe	đ		
	ь.	Home	Economics	Provided	E	G	F	<u>P</u>	<u>vp</u>	<u>DK</u>
		i.	Information about food							
	:	ıi.	Information about money management and consumer competency							
	ii	ıi.	Information about family planning	/			_			_
	1	lv.	Programs for development of homemaking skills	<u> </u>			_			
			Programs in purchase and care of home appliances and equipment	1			_			
	v	71.								
	с.	Yout	h Leadership							
			Out-of-school youth programs			_	_		_	_
	1		Opportunities to develop leadership skills and abilities			-			_	
	11		Opportunities for leadership training for limited resource groups							
	i		Opportunities for young people to learn the value of work							_
		v. ,								
	v	1.				_			_	_
	vi	i.		-				_		_
,	d.	Comm	unity Development							
			Information for citizens and leaders					••••		



d.	Community Development
	you see any advantage in establishing contact with the count
	YesNo
If	Yes, Why?
If	No, Why not?
Dur	ing the past year, have you had any contact with the county
Cir	Yes No
	he best of your recollection, have any of your friends, nei or associates had any contact with the county agent?
	YesNoDon't Know
	umstances, if known



Part	II, # 2 continued			
	d. Community Development (continued)	Not Provided	Provided E G F P VP	DK
	ii. Assistance in mutual concern areas			
	iii. Non-partisan involve- ment			
	<pre>iv. Technical assistance to low-income groups</pre>			
	ν.			
	vi.			-
 	Housing Education Health Assistant Family living guidance Constructive Protecti leisure Communit time hospita Leadersh	ce & e on y lity	Religion Community improvement Transportation & communication Beautification	
4. A. fa a.	re there additional services the cooperate of the coopera	rative Extens	sion Service.	ve
b.	Home F.conomics			



l'art Il continue

				Yes			No_					
If	Yes, kind	d of	agen	су								
yo	w, let us u consider mmunity ar	r to	be t	he mos	mmunity t impor	tant n	eeds a	nd p	Count roble	ty. ems :	What In th	t d
Ne	ed or Prob	lem								I	Rank	
_										_		
										_		
Wou	uld you pl	ease	e rani	k thes	e needs	and p	roblems	s you	ı hav	 ve ju	ıst I	າລານ
in The to Ver	ere are se rank thes	rvice al	ir imp ces an	ortan nd prop	ce? grams i llowing	n the scale	communi	ity a	and v	ve wo	uld Fair	as
in The to Ver	terms of	rvice al	ir imp ces an	ortan nd prop	ce? grams i llowing	n the scale	communi; Excel amilian	ity a ilent	and w L. Go th th	re wo ood, he pa	uld Fair	as , ul
in The to Ver	ere are se rank thes	rvice all	ir imposes and in its i	oortan nd pro the fo Know i	ce? grams i llowing f you a	n the scale	communi; Excel amilian	ity a ilent	and w L. Go th th	re wo ood, he pa	ould Fair	as , ul
in The to Ver	ere are se rank thes ry Poor, o	rvice all	ces ar long t pon't h popport	oortan nd pro the fo (now i	ce? grams i llowing f you a	n the scale re unf	communi; Excelanilian	ity a ilent	and w L. Go th th	re wo ood, he pa	ould Fair	as , ul
The to Ver	ere are se rank thes y Poor, o vice. Employme	rvice all r Do	ces ar long t con't b	nd prophe for the formula in the constitution of the constitution	grams i llowing f you a	n the scale re unf	communi; Excellanilian E	ity a ilent	and w L. Go th th	re wo ood, he pa	ould Fair	as , ul
The to Verser	ere are se rank thes ry Poor, or vice. Employme Vocation in High Voc. Ed.	rvice all r Do	ces ar long t con't h copport	nd prophe for the formula in the for	grams i llowing f you a	n the scale re unf	communi; Excellanilian E	ity a ilent	and w L. Go th th	re wo ood, he pa	ould Fair	as , ul



lû. Con	itinued	
	•	E G F P VP DK
8.	Appearance of Downtown	
9.	Organized Effort to Plan and Develop the Community	
10.	Housing Availability	
11.	Variety of Consumer Goods Available	
12.	Variety of Consumer Services Available	
13.	Fairness of Prices of Consumer Goods	
14.	Fairness of Prices of Consumer Services	
15.	Acceptance of Newcomers	
16.	Acceptance of college students	
17.	Acceptance of Change	
18.	Acceptance of Government Communications Development Programs	
19.	Street Conditions	
20.	Downtown Parking	
21.	Traffic Corditions	
22.	Public Transportation	
23. (Carbage Collection	
24. 0	Garbage Dispusal	
25. S	Sewage Disposal	
26. W	'ater Supply	
27. F	ire Protection	
28. H	ospital Facilities	
29. A	irport Services	
30. 1.	BW Enforcement in the city	
31. La	or Enforcement in County	



Part II continued

. Basic Attitudes or Values:
. Way of Life:
. Types of People:
Other:
turning to the Cooperative Extension Service and keeping in me services, programs, needs and problems of County agent in: (Probe)
Providing Information:
Providing Technical Assistance:
Developing Leadership:



Finally, I would like to ask you some questions about yourself, not to identify you as a person, but in order to determine the opinion of broad classes of people.

Part III

ABOUT YOURSELF

Sex	2. Race	3.	Age
What is the highes (Please check	t grade (or de one.)	gree) you comi	pleted in school?
Some high school graduate College graduate	ool raduate or special tra: ate (4 years)		_
Residence: Do you suburbs, or o	live within the coun	ne City of?	, in the
How long have you l	ived in	_County?	(Number of years)
If you have lived i what location have	n Count you spent the	y for less the most signification	an 10 years, then in ant part of your life?
Large citySmall townRural area, buOn a farm	t not on a far	וע	
Have you ever partic Programs?	cipated in 4H	or other Exter	nsion Leadership
	Yes	Ro	
Do you have other ec	onomic involve	position (with ements such as	nin en organization)? s farming, landlord,
Occupation		Position	-Organization
		•	
	What is the highes (Please check	What is the highest grade (or de (Please check one.)	What is the highest grade (or degree) you come (Please check one.)



	What is the nature of your job?								
11.		est associates (business, so their occupations and posit							
	Name	Occupation	Position						
	a								
	b								
	d								
	Ρ.								



APPENDIX B

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION QUESTIONNAIRE



yo Se ca qu	community. The questionnaire consists of a few general items about our background and more specific questions about your attitudes oward your community and its needs and the Cooperative Extension ervice. There are no right or wrong ensuers; please, answer as indidly as possible. If you have any comments about individual sestions or the questionnaire itself, feel free to write in the lumis or on the page for "additional comments." To insure your conymity, please do not write your name on the questionnaire.	•
	PART I	
1.	Which five of the following services do you feel are of most importance to the citizens ofCounty?	
	activities for senior citizens home repairs child care first aid training youth development nutrition information, recreation economical meal planning garden information pet care and training home safety soil testing medical self-help pest control consumer information water purity and pollution community development neighborhood beautification rood preservation other (please specify)	
2.	Of those five services you indicated in question 1, which three do you consider to be the most important?	
	Rank in order of importance: (1)	
	(2)	

This questionnaire is part of a study concerning the contributions the Cooperative Extension Staff make to the _____County



responsible for delivering the se	
Adult Education Center	YTICA/YWCA
Board of Commissioners	Chamber of Commerce
County	County Health Center
Planning Commission	Public Works Department
County Humane	County Cooperative
Society	Extension Service
Recreation and Parks	Euman Resources
Housing and Community	- •
	Other
Development	
Development Community Council	(please specify)
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services	(please specify) lo you feel the Cooperative
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of the Extension Service provides the co	(please specify) lo you feel the Cooperative
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the co- County? Check as many as apply.	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative ltizens of
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of the Extension Service provides the co	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative Itizens of home repairs first aid training
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizens	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative lizens of home repairsfirst aid trainingyouth development
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizenschild care	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative lizens of
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizenschild carelandscaping	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative Itizens of home repairs first aid trainingyouth development recreation
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizenschild carelandscapingnutrition information,	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative ltizens of home repairs first aid training youth development recreation garden information home safety
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizenschild carelandscapingnutrition information, economical meal planningpet care and trainingsoil testing	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative ltizens of home repairs first aid training youth development recreation garden information home safety medical self-help
Community Council on Aging Which of the following services of Extension Service provides the company? Check as many as apply. activities for senior citizenschild carelandscapingnutrition information,economical meal planningpet_care and training	(please specify) do you feel the Cooperative ltizens of home repairs first aid training youth development recreation garden information home safety



PART II

the	res	idents of	County? Available			wha llab	t le	No A	ot vailable
8.		iculture, Natural Resour Related Subjects		_				_	
ъ.	Home	Economics		_					
c.	4-H	and Youth Work		-					
d.	Com	numity Development		_					
F - unf	Fair amili	rank them along the follog, P - Poor, VP - Very Polar with the service or check the DK category.	oor and DK -	Don out	't th P	Kno e q	w. ual: : de	ity d	of
			Provided	<u>E</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>VP</u>	DK.
8.		cultural, Natural Re- ces and Related Subjects	3						
	(1)	Agricultural information for farmers	m m	_	_	_			
	(2)	Information for urban homeowners		-	_		_		
	(3)	Information for land- scape planning	- Control of the Cont	_	_	_	_		
	(4)	Assistance in developme of outdoor recreation facilities	nt			_	_		
	(5)	Soil tests		_	_	_			



			Not		Prov	/ided		
_			<u>Provided</u>	<u>E</u>	G	<u>F</u> 1	P VP	DE
ŀ	• Ho	me Economics		_	_			
	(1	Information about	food					
	(2)	Information about a management and conscious competency						
	(3)	Information about family planning						
	(4)	Programs for develo of homemaking skill						
	(5)	Programs in purchase care of home applian and equipment	e and					_
c.	4-H	and Youth Work						
	(1)	Out-of-school youth programs						
	(2)	Opportunities to dev leadership skills an abilities						
	(3)	Opportunities for le ship training for li resource groups			-			
	(4)	Opportunities for you people to learn the of work					_	
d.	Commi	unity Development						
	(1)	Information for citiz and leaders	ens					
		Assistance in mutual concern areas				_		-
	(3)	Non-partisan involvem	2nt		· —			
		Technical assistance low-income groups	to				_	



cl		-	
	Housing	Education	Religion
-	Health	Assistance &	Community
	_Family Living	Guidance	Improvement
	_Constructive	Protection	Transportati
	Leisure Time	Community Hospital-	
	_Employment & Job	1ty	Beautificati
	Training	Leadership	
Αr	e there additional	services that you can thi	nk of that you
		vided by the Cooperative	
8.	Agricultural, Nat	ural Resources and Relate	d Subjects
			
ъ.	Home Economics		
b.	Home Economics		
	Home Economics		
	4-H and Youth Work		
c.			
c.	4-H and Youth Work		
c.	4-H and Youth Work		



	Yes	
b. If "yes" wi	ast was the nature of the conapply.	tact? Please check
Radio TV Newspaper 4-H Club Other	Telephone Call Sp Visit by you Pe	ir or other exhibit ecial interest clubs rsonal visit by member the extension staff
(please spec	ify)	
Overall, how sa	tisfied were you with the as nsion staff?	sistance provided by
Very satisfi	edSatisfiedDissati	sfiedVery Dissation
and/or associat	res No	county extension staff?
Concerning our of consider to be to community as a second	the most important needs and	County, what do you problems in the
Need or Problem:		Rank



8.	of	re are a variety of services and progratine County Community. A to rank those listed in terms of the ft, C - Good, F - Tair, F - Foor, VF - Vw.	t tr	nis t vin:	ine,	le:	roui	Excel-
			E	<u>c</u>	F	F	<u>vp</u>	<u>DI.</u>
	а.	Employment opportunities						
	ь.	Vocational educational opportunities in high school		_	_			
	c.	Recreation for adults		_	_			
	ď.	Recreation for teenagers						
	e.	Recreation for pre-teenagers		_				
	f.	Appearance of industrial areas		_		_		\
	٤٠	Appearance of downtown						
	'n.	Organized effort to plan and develop the community		_	_			
	i.	housing evailability inCounty			_			
	j.	Variety of consumer goods available			_			
	l.	Variety of consumer services available						
	1.	Fairness of prices of consumer goods						
	n.	Fairness of prices of consumer service	s	_	_	_		
,	n.	Acceptance of newcomers				_		
	٥.	Acceptance of change			_			
•	р.	Acceptance of government community development programs						
(q.	Pond and highway conditions						
;	r.	bountoun parking						



			E	G	F	<u>P</u>	<u>VP</u>	DK
٤.	Traffic conditions							
t.	Public transportation			******				
u.	Garbage collection							
v.	Garbage disposal							
v 7.	Water supply					_		_
x.	Fire protection							
y.	Hospital facilities		_				خسيب	_
z.	Airport services							
88.	Law enforcement in city		_	_				
b.	Law enforcement in	County						



PART III

ABOUT YOURSELF

This last section contains some Questions about yourself. The purpose is not to identify you as an individual, but to determine the opinions of broad classes of people.

1.	Personal information:	a. Sex liale Female b. Race c. Age last birthday d. Married Divorced, Separated
		Single e. N:=ber of children f. Level of education: Sth grade or less Some High School High School graduate Some college or special training beyond High School College graduate (4 years) Advanced college degree (Master's, Ph.D., M.D., etc.)
2.	What is your annual income? less than \$5000\$5000 to \$9000\$10,000 to \$14,000	\$15,000 to \$19,000 \$20,000 or more
3.	What is your current occupation?	Please be as specific as possible.
4.	How would you characterize the arresiding?	ea in which you are currently
	rural/farmrural/nonfar	Esuburbcity
5.	How many years have you lived in	County?
	less then 5 years	2C to 29 years
	5 to 9 years	30 years or more, but not
	10 to 14 years	all my life
	15 to 19 years	all my life



6.	If you have not li you best describe of your life?	ved in Coun the area in which	ty all your life, how would you spent a significant portion						
	rural/farm	rural/nonfarm	suburbcity						
7.	Have you ever part Programs?	icipated in 4-H or	other Extension Leadership No						
	a. If yes; are yo this organizat		g a leadership position in						
		Yes	No						
	b. If no; have yo organization?	u ever held a lead	ership position in this						
	-	Yes	?:o						
	questionsHave	e you ever contacte in developing a pr Yes box	to either of the above ed the county extension rogram or to present a v satisfied were you with eir assistance? Very satisfied Unsatisfied						
			Very unsatisfied						
	_	No							
8.	Returning to the Coadvantage in estable	ooperative Extension ishing contact with Yes	on Service, can you see any th the county extension staff? No						
	Please use the space below to explain your answer:								



a.	Providing information:
ъ.	Providing technical assistance:
c.	Developing leadership:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!



APPENDIX C

COUNTY AGENT
QUESTIONNAIRE



1.	Which five of the following services do you feel are of most importance to the residents of your county?
	activities for senior citizens home repairs
	landscaping youth development recreation
	HUCITCION ANACAMOCACHY
	CCONOMICE TO THE PARTY OF THE P
	por care and training
	SULL CESCING
	pest controlconsumer information
	neighborhood heautification
	(please specify)
2.	Of those five services you indicated in question 1, which three do you consider to be the most important? (Please rank in order of importance.) (1) (2) (3)
3.	Which of the following services does the Cooperative Extension Service provide the residents of your county? Check as many as apply.
	activities for senior citizensyouth development
	child care recreation
	estden information
	nutrition information, home safety
	economical meal planning medical self-help consumer information
	3011 60364116
	reter purity and pollution agricultural production information
	neighborhood beautification marketing information
	food preservationagricultural economics
	home repairsother
	first aid training (please specify)
١.	What kinds of assistance do you feel the Cooperative Extension Service
	should provide for people in your county? Check as many as apply.
	Housing Assistance & Guidance Transportation &
	- Housing Communication Communication
	Community hospitality Beautification
	Constructive leisure Leadership Pesticide training
	time Religion agricultural pro-
	Employment 6 Job Community and a second seco
	Training
	Education



	Very High	High	Moderate	Low	
Housing					
Health					
Family Living					
Constructive Leisure Time					
Employment & Job Training					
Education					
Assistance & Guidance					
Protection Services					
Community Hospitality					
Leadership					
Religion		*			
Community Improvement & Planning					
Transportation & Communication	·				-
Beautification			 		
Agriculture			1 1 1	13 ovo e	h.
Are there additional scrvices that be provided by the Cooperative Exa. Agricultural, Natural Resourc	tension Ser	vice:			
. Home Economics:					
. 4-H and Youth Work:					_
. Community Development:					_



	Very				Very
	High	High	Moderat	e Low	Low
Personal visits to clients					
Office visits from clients					
Personal letters		-			
Telephone calls					
Bulletins & Leaflets					
Newsletters					
Newspapers					
Radio					
Television					
Contact with clubs/associations					
Fairs					
Meetings, demonstrations, etc.					
Special interest classes, short courses, etc.					
Contact with church organizations					
Contact with civic and service organizations & clubs					
Contact with public agencies					
Contact with county leadership Farm/Agribusiness tours					
What do you feel are the major need whole and rank them in order of imp	s and proortance?	oblems i	n your o	county a	
				 2na	i
				3rc	ì
				411	1



9.	(Continued)	Very Frequently Frequently	Occasionally Seldom Neve
	Elderly		
	Civic/service clubs		
	Youth groups		
	Minority groups		
	Low-income groups		
	County leadership		
	Other agencies		
	Agribusiness		
	Others (please specify)		
10.	Which of the following group the Cooperative Extension S	ps do you feel are the a ervice and its agent.?	appropriate clientile of Check as many as apply.
	Farmers	Elderly	Youth groups
	Farm families	Minority Groups	County leadership
	Homemakers	Low-income groups	Other agencies
	Garden clubs	Civic/service clubs	Others (specify)
	Agribusiness		
11. 12.	In your opinion, does the Coin urban areas? Yes If yes, what is that role?	No	
14.	11 <u>yes</u> , what 15 that 1010		
13.	Ii no, why not?		
			- "
•			رود در
·			



This last section contains some questions about yourself. The purpose is not to identify you as an individual, but to determine the opinions of broad groups of individuals. To assure your anonymity, please do not put your name on the questionnaire.

1.	Sex:	Male	Female				
2.	How old	were you o	n your last b	irthday? _			
3.	Where d	lo you spend	most of your	life prior	to enter	ring the Extension Service	e?
		a large ci		In a	rural ar	rea but not on a farm	
	In	a small to	m	On a	farm		
3.	Please area, a	indicate the	e degree(s) y	ou have ear	ned, your d year de	major subject-matter gree was conferred:	
	Degree		ior		nor	Year degree conferred	
				. 			
		<u> </u>					
4.	How many	y years have	you been in	Extension v	ork?		-
5.	How many	y years in)	our present	county?(if	applicab	le)	-
4	You many	v vears in v	our present			·	_



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