MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATIO
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATIO
January 21, 19

The Agricultural Experiment Station meeting of the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by CHAIRMAN DONALDSON in Room 104, Capitol Building, Helena, Montana.

Roll call was taken, members present were Rep. Donaldson, Rep. Thoft, and Rep. Bengtson. All Senators were absent as excused and did return to the meeting at 9 a.m.

Those who gave testimony are as follows:

PROPONENT:

REP. AUDREY ROTH for the Big Sandy Station; Senator Larry Tveit for the Sidney Station; Rep. Glenn Roush for the Conrad Station; Rep. John Ryan for the Miles City Station; Russ Ritter, Director for the Montana Chamber of Commerce; Mack Quinn, President for the Farm Bureau; Linda Nelson, WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics) and CARE (Citizens for Agricultural Research and Extension); Ray Beck, Montana Association for Conservation Districts; Rick Rominger, Farmer in Chouteau County; Robert Jorgenson, Agricultural Advisory Council member for the Huntley Station; Forest Farris, Master of Montana State Grange; Joe Hamm, Sprinkler Irrigator Society of Montana; Howard Lyman, Secretary-Treasurer for the Montana Association of Farmers Elected Committeemen; Donna Foranfeist, member of WIFE AND CARE group; Bill Strain, Chairman for the Agricultural Experiment Advisory Board for Corvallis and Creston Stations; Clyde Peterson, Farmer for Kalispell Station; Ken Schellinger, Farmer; Bruce Benson, Farmer from Missoula; Bud Jones, Farmer from Petroleum and Musselshell County; James Shipstad, Farmer from Scobey; Larry Johnson, Farmer from Kremlin; Sig Millan, Farmer from Havre; Ross Fitzgerald, Farmer from Power; Frank Lock, Farmer from Dutton; Gordon McGowan, Farmer from Highwood; and Jack Iman, Rancher in Ravalli County, Past Master for Montana State Grange. (See attached testimony and witness sheets).

THE BUDGET OFFICE gave a handout (EXHIBIT A) with their recommendation.

DR. BILL TIETZ, President of Montana State University gave a general explanation of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

DR. JAMES WELSH, Director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station discussed the handout (EXHIBIT B). He explained the locations and system for the Main Station, Research Centers, and Cooperating Stations. The total land the Station owns is 66,000 acres, including 55,000 acres in the Miles City Station. There are four types of land: (1) irrigated; (2) dry land; (3) ranges; and (4) crops. The total livestock inventory to date is about 7,200 head which includes cattle, sheep and swine. The book value of the equipment is $3,500,000. This includes ap-

proximately 120 vehicles and 70 tractors. He stated that the scientists tend to work as teams of people, on any particular problem requiring inter-disciplinary efforts for solution.

CHAIRMAN DONALDSON asked if the federal moneys go to the range station.

DR. JAMES WELSH replied that the federal moneys do not come into the station at all. The Montana Agricultural Station owns all the cattle inventory. Money is transferred back into the Miles City station to pay for support staff. He continued to explain the Agricultural Experiment Station's budget request (EXHIBIT C). The Miles City Station is included in the budget request. He explained that they used the 1976 expenditure level of operation as a base point and moved that program forward to the present time to bring the station to what they consider to be a reasonable operating function.

He continued to explain that they were not taking the programs as such but are taking that level of expenditures to go by as a base. There are employees who are hired partially by the station and partially by the university. The motive of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station is to develop information which can benefit the people of Montana. As technology or new information is developed, the extension service provides the vehicle to distribute the information to the people of the state, who can use it.

DR. JAMES WELSH also explained how research projects are selected, carried out, and terminated. First projects are subjected to a review system by scientists. They determine factors such as whether the project is relevant to existing programs and to needs of the state. After they are reviewed they are then either extended or terminated. A project can take from three to five years to complete. The Personal Services have no faculty added. The 100.4 faculty FTE's are held constant. He discussed the difference between the Board of Regent's recommendation, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's recommendation and the Budget Office's recommendation.

DR. BILL TIETZ stated that the request for salaries for fiscal year 1982 is currently level at 12% and for fiscal year 1983 is currently level at 11%. They are requesting an additional 38 Support Staff members. He also commented that in order for Personal Services to be delivered in a quality manner they must have the money needed.

DR. WELSH explained a case study which was done in Kalispell, Montana, (EXHIBIT D) and another handout (EXHIBIT E) which listed the results of projects. There are a total of 135 projects. Testimonies were given at this time.

Meeting recessed at 11:10 a.m.

The Agricultural Experiment Station meeting reconvened at 3:10 p.m.

CURT NICHOLS, Fiscal Analyst reported on the dollar factor for the salary increase per year is $202,000 to bring the Agricultural people up to the Unversity level. This is a 10% increase in salaries. Their request is for 12% and 11% after the catch up is applied. The faculty are on contracts. The Hatch and Regional funds estimated at 5 1/2% per year would make it $1,525,276 for fiscal year 1982 and $1,609,167 for fiscal year 1983. The earmarked fund is subject to cattle prices. An estimate of $750,000 per year is projected. The budget recommendation as on EXHIBIT C includes the Range Station. The LFA did not agree. They recommend that the Committee fund the range station.

REP.BENGTSON asked about the balance the Range Station had.

CURT NICHOLS explained that they had a balance of $800,000. The station projected revenue for fiscal year 1982 and fiscal year 1983 is $600,000 each year. Based on their request for the biennium, they would spend that and still be $150,000 short. The LFA recommends less expenditures.

DR. JAMES WELSH discussed the Range Station and how it operates. It has been a self-supporting system, but if the revenues do not arrive accordingly, we get into the position of not enough income. We are predicting approximately $600,000 in revenues. The other problem is unless there is moisture we will be faced with some inventory decisions. We have a spring bull sale.

DR. WELSH suggested that the program stay the same and they would try to get the range station through this next biennium. It would give them enough time to see what kind of program development occurs.

REPRESENTATIVE DONALDSON questioned why they have the shortfall with no cost for grass, etc.

DR. WELSH explained that the reason for the abnormal amount of expense is due to picking up the support staff. The reason for the shortfall is the personnel that has been built in. The personnel cost for the range station is projected for fiscal year 1982 to be $747,350 and for fiscal year 1983 to be $829,558. This is for 42 people and is based on the 11% and 12% recommended by the Board of Regents.

DR. TIETZ stated that last year there were liquidations of cattle as a result of the drought. That is the amount of the balance.

JERRY SUTTON gave a list of fund carryovers from 1975 thereon: In 1975 a drop in revenue of 30% from 1974, the fund balance for that year was $317,000; in 1976 there was an increase of 9% which left a balance of $213,000; in 1977 an increase of 9.6% which left a $205,000 balance; 1978 an increase of 21% a balance of $254,000; in 1979 a 19% increase with a $393,000 fund balance, and 1980 was a 52% increase which resulted in $863,000 fund balance.

REPRESENTATIVE THOFT asked; what is the dollar difference between the LFA and the request?

CURT NICHOLS stated that the costs contained in the Regent's recommendation are $1,022,647 for fiscal year 1982 and $1,132,427 for fiscal year 1983.

The LFA's recommendation for the Range Station is $906,160 for fiscal year 1982 and $1,048,997 for fiscal year 1983. With this there is a 9% per year increase in salary.

GLEN LEAVITT commented that they sold 900 head of livestock this year. They will not have as many calves to sell next year.

DR. WELSH stated that at the Range Station there are approximately 1,923 head of cattle.

CURT NICHOLS stated that his projected revenue over costs is about $50,000 for fiscal year 1982 and about $90,000 for fiscal year 1983.

CHAIRMAN DONALDSON asked about the Plant Funds.

JERRY SUTTON explained where they come from but that they would not be getting those funds this next biennium.

CURT NICHOLS explained that the regents used a 10% salary increase to get up to the University level. Salaries will actually increase 24% in fiscal year 1982 and an 11% increase in fiscal year 1983 under the reports proposed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

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REP. GENE DONALDSON, Chairman

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

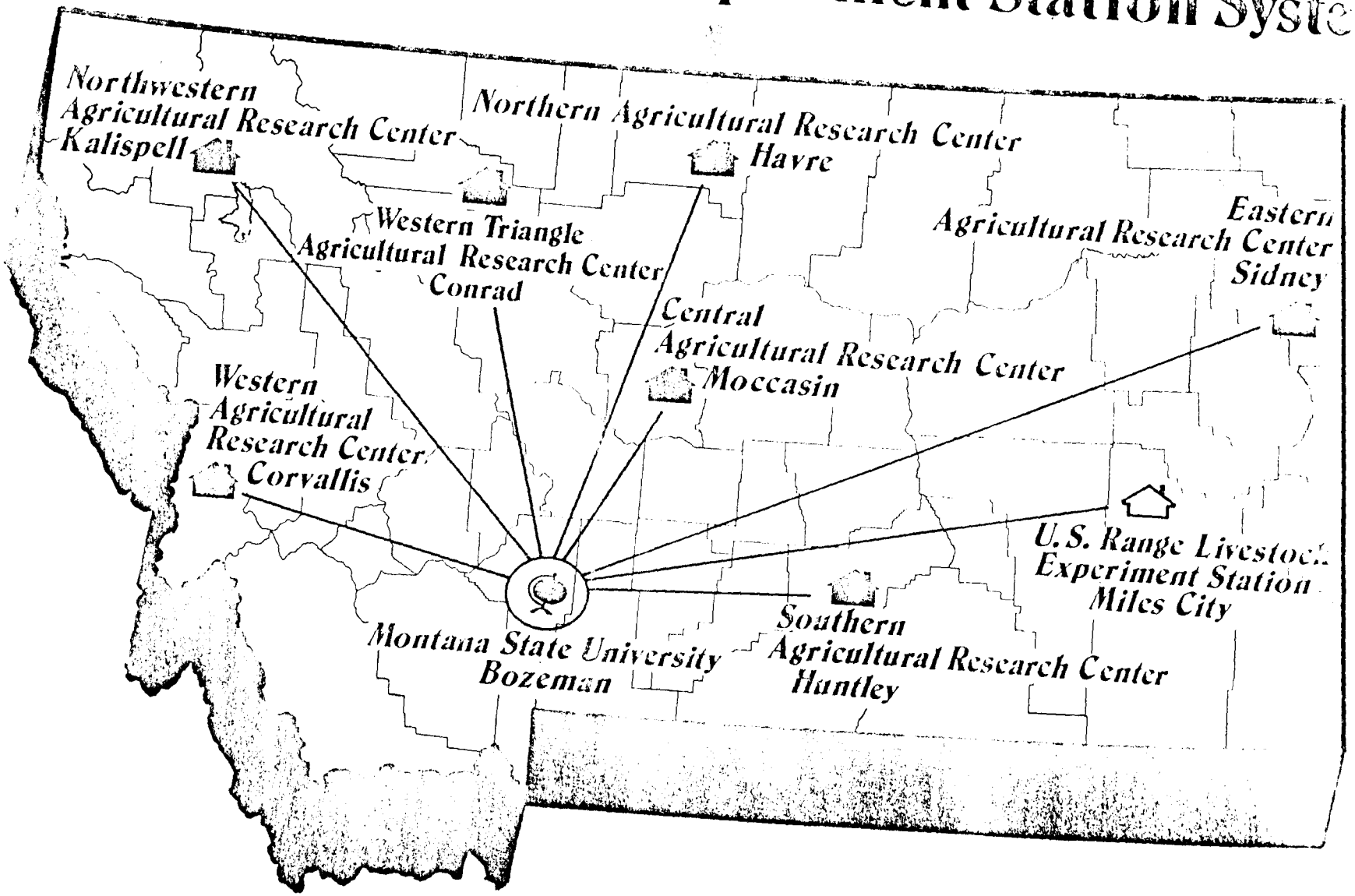
SUMMARY

	Actual FY 1980	Estimated FY 1981	Recommended FY 1982 Current Level Services	Recommended FY 1982 Modified Services	Recommended FY 1982 Total	Recommended FY 1983 Current Level Services	Recommended FY 1983 Modified Services	Recommended FY 1983 Total
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	283.98	285.61	285.61	.00	285.61	285.61	.00	285.61
PROGRAM SUMMARY :								
Organized Research	5,668,036	6,136,712	6,344,539	0	6,344,539	6,510,582	0	6,510,582
Academic Support	16,062	17,206	17,283	0	17,283	17,283	0	17,283
Institutional Support	439,630	434,749	450,311	0	450,311	460,332	0	460,332
Operation and Maintenance	163,221	227,234	226,199	0	226,199	259,292	0	259,292
TOTAL BY PROGRAM	$6,286,949	$6,815,901	$7,038,332	$0	$7,038,332	$7,247,489	$0	$7,247,489
CATEGORY SUMMARY :								
Personal Services	4,597,153	4,998,405	5,021,668	0	5,021,668	5,021,668	0	5,021,668
Operating Expenses	1,493,788	1,594,662	1,820,656	0	1,820,656	2,029,813	0	2,029,813
Equipment	195,186	222,834	195,186	0	195,186	195,186	0	195,186
Total Operating Costs	6,286,127	6,815,901	7,037,510	0	7,037,510	7,246,667	0	7,246,667
Capital Outlay	822	0	822	0	822	822	0	822
TOTAL BY CATEGORY	$6,286,949	$6,815,901	$7,038,332	$0	$7,038,332	$7,247,489	$0	$7,247,489

FUNDING SUMMARY :

General Fund	Gen Fund	3 907 676	4 045 793
Current Unrestricted	ERA	800 000	800 000
	REGIONAL	467 122	485 722
TOTAL BY FUND	HATCH	960 248	989 048
	US RANGE	903 286	926 926
		7 038 332	7 7 489

Montana Agricultural Experiment Station System



Main Station Agricultural Research Center Cooperating Station

Agricultural Experiment Station Recommended Budgets

(SBR-State Board of Regents; LFA-Legislative Fiscal Analyst)

EXPENDITURES	1981	1982		1983	
		SBR[1]	LFA	SBR	LFA
Personal Services					
Faculty	2,411,488	2,991,013	2,619,667	3,319,956	2,855,432
Support Staff	2,528,265	3,446,462	2,890,325	3,810,179	3,150,460
Total	4,939,753	6,437,475	5,509,992	7,130,135	6,005,892
Operations	1,443,724	2,082,022	1,749,206	2,312,056	1,905,176
Capital	200,491	493,476	137,710	517,339	162,039
TOTAL	$6,583,968	$9,012,973	$7,396,908	$9,959,530	$8,073,407

[1]Includes $1,215,613 in 1982 and $1,312,862 in 1983 for program modifications to improve research capability.

FUNDING	1981	1982		1983	
		SBR	LFA[2]	SBR	LFA
General Fund	3,480,666	6,062,973	4,044,711	7,009,530	4,538,590
Federal Funds	1,253,737	1,470,000	1,433,420	1,470,000	1,512,220
Income	1,849,565[1]	1,480,000	1,918,777	1,480,000	2,022,597
TOTAL	$6,583,968	$9,012,973	$7,396,908	$9,959,530	$8,073,407

[1]Appropriated in HB 483. However, estimated 1981 income will be only $1,500,000.

[2]The LFA assumes a reserve drawdown of $93,533 in 1982 and $97,006 in 1983.

Economic Returns

to Investment in Montana Agricultural Research

A CASE STUDY

Location:	Northwestern Agricultural Research Center, Kalispell, MT.
Management Option Studied:	Control of the weed: field gromwell by fall spraying of winter wheat
Study Time:	1964-68
Total Project Cost:	$30,000
Time for adaptation by farmers:	6-8 years
Acres of wheat production:	12,000
Current adaptation rate:	90%
Current acres treated:	10,800
Average increase in yield:	10 bu/acre
Annual increase in gross agricultural income:	10 bu/acre x 10,800 acres x $4.00/bu = $432,000 (or 14.4 times the original investment).
Annual increase in state economic base:	$432,000 x 3 = $1,296,000 (or 43.2 times the original investment).

Montana Agriculture Research Results

EXAMPLES

1. Crop varieties with improved yield on dryland.
2. Improved fertilizer use.
3. New cropping practices for irrigation and dryland.
4. Cull cow marketing.
5. Line 1 cattle breeding.
6. Wool core testing.
7. Scours vaccine for cattle.
8. High moisture barley use.
9. Improved heifer productivity.
10. Barley strip mosaic testing.
11. Contour furrowing and fertilization of range land.
12. Improved soil testing.
13. Performance testing in livestock
14. Stocking rates and grazing management.
15. Genetic improvement for wool production.
16. Disease resistant crop varieties.
17. Zinc application for beans.
18. Vibriosis vaccines for cattle and sheep.
19. No-till corn planting.
20. Use of livestock feed additivies.
21. Introduced and improved forage species.
22. Improved irrigation management.
23. Development of malting barley industry.
24. Sulfur fertilization of hayland.
25. Study of prostaglandins for artificial insemination under range conditions.
26. Study of dwarf smut in winter wheat to remove China market restrictions.
27. Development of barley syrup industry through genetics and biochemistry.
28. Chemical and cultural practice weed control studies.
29. Biological control of musk thistle.
30. Identification of saline seep cause.

To Chairman Gene Donaldson and the members of the Appropriations/Finance and Claims Joint Education Subcommittee:

My name is Jack Iman. I am a rancher on 800 acers, owned and rented, in Ravalli County.

"America's Agricultural Future Mortgaged by Research Cutbacks," was the headline of an article I read in Farmland News, publication of Farmland Industies. Among the things in the article that caught my interest was the statement that it takes 10 to 12 years of diligent effort on the part of a team of agricultural scientists to develop new and productive crop varieties, while animal breeding experiments to increase productivity take even longer. When you add that time to the 13 years estimated lead time between the discovery of new technology in food and agricultural research and its adoption and use, I really get worried about research for agriculture.

When I read that kind of report, backed up, as the article was, by a survey of the land grant universities and experiment station officials throughout the midwest and west, and then I see the pitiful kind of support that Montana has been giving agricultural research and Experiment Stations and the Cooperative Extension Service budgets, I know why I lost a third of my calves to something called 'weak calf syndrome' in 1969, and despite the huge losses that have continued to occure for ranchers in the years since then, so that we still have to approach every calving season with dread, THERE IS STILL NO ANSWER TO WHAT CAUSES THE CALF DEATHS.

I know why county after county in Montana is being overwhelmed with leafy spurge, canadian thistle, spotted knapweed and many other weeds, AND WE STILL HAVE NO WORKABLE CONTROLS FOR THE WEEDS.

I know why the acres and acres of good Montana land is still being lost to saline seep, AND THERE STILL IS NO ALL-OUT EFFORT TO DEVELOP CROPPING SYSTEMS THAT WILL PREVENT THOSE LOSSES.

I know why the work isn't being done; no funds, but I don't understand why it took us, the farmers and ranchers in Montana, who have provided the largest portion of the general fund through most of Montana's history, to get a clear message to the Legislature that in a state whose major industry is agriculture, it is just good business to invest in agricultural research.

I'm not here begging for food stamps or welfare. I'm here saying that we in agriculture are hard working people whose product enriches all of Montana. Investment in research that gives us a chance to produce better, gives our state more tax money to meet the social service needs in the state, although it seems to us that the Legislature is more willing to fund those services that it is to invest in its productive industies. Any enterprise, ranch or state, that fails to put money into its productive operations will eventually fail.

Every study made indicates that investment in agricultural research averages a 25 to 50% return. Further, a study made by Dr. Keith Huston, director at large of the

North-Central Experiment Station Directors Association, shows that a cut-back of research funding would return about $[illegible] to taxpayers on a per-capita basis, but in six to seven years, food prices will escalate to 10 or 15 times that much. His study dealt with the national picture, but it would doubtless holdtrue in Montana.

I have looked over the Fiscal Analyst's recommendations on the budget for the Experiment stations. One thing really hit me. We don't run a big ranch, but with our place already paid for, our operating loans are sometimes as large as the reserve that is being allowed for the Dean of Agriculture to manage eight stations. When the purpose of stations is research, not money-making, and yet they can be as badly hit by drought, cold, or wet seasons as any rancher is, yet he cannot go to a bank to get a loan to tide them over a bad season, any of you who are ranchers know that the reserve is totally unrealistic.

Research done in other states won't answer for Montana. The taxpayers in other states aren't going to pay to have their people develop crops that do well in our particular climate. Montana has to invest in its own future. The farm and ranch people in counties all over this state have studied the budget proposed to, and approved by the Board of Regents. I, along with other people here, and those in my county whose livestock kept them at home, support the budget as presented to you by the Dean of Agriculture, and respectfully urge you to fund the Experiment Station budget at that level.

January 21, 1981

Statement by Gordon McGowan
Before the University Joint Sub. Committee

Chairman Donaldson
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee.

It is a real pleasure to appear here before this important Committee. I wish to thank you for the oppurtunity. And thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

I believe you have had some facts and figures dealing with the situtation both before and after the general election. So I will not go into the dollar and cents figures that are proposed.

All of the people and organizations here are in the agriculture field and reporting that we have deep rooted problems. Agriculture has always been the largest contributor to the Montana tax base and I dare say always will be. To often in the past agriculture has been treated as a step child.

Times ~~and~~ changing fast and the need for research in agriculture are perhaps more important now then ever before. Research for improved weed control are a must. Canadian Thistle, Wild Oats, Leafy Spurge, Wine Weed and many other types of weeds are costing the state of Montana millions of dollars each year. Sprays that are being banned or illegal to use are becoming a real worry to agriculture. And legislation to ban there use add more concern. All this in addition to the millions of dollars per year

the agriculture people spend trying to control the spread of these crop robbers. Research is the answer for weed control ... Research is the answer to improve seed varities.. And it takes research continually for agricultrue to peep abreast in many areas of Farming and Livestock production.

There was a feeling in Great Falls, Montana some years back by the main street business man. That the smelter would always keep Great Falls going. Then the air base came in and they knew for sure they had it made.

Today the smelter is shut down and the air base is now one third of what it once was. So lets not kid ourselves it has been all the time the triangle area. The agriculture base that has kept the city of Great Falls in business.

In the past 50 years with improved machinery, improved seed varities, improved fertizlers, improved know how. Agriculture has had made more advancement in food and fiber production then in previous two thousand years. And we can't stop now. I will predict in the next ten years we will see changes on the horizon that may equal the past fifty years.

We need the results of research.... We need the computor out put and we need the advancement of information from all states everwhere, where research is being done with livestock and farming. And the Agnet Program will speed it up and out where it can be used.

Thank You

January 21, 1981

My name is Rick Roninger. I farm in Choteau County. Just prior to returning to our incorporated family farm, I was employed by Texas A & M University and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station as a forage physiologist. I was responsible for conducting a forage research program in South Texas.

Because of my farming and academic background, I feel I am in the unique position of being able to recognize and appreciate the needs of both the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station research staff and Montana's farmers.

First I would like to address the concerns of the Experiment Station research staff. Underfunding research programs could possibly cause 2 major problems: 1. inefficiency and 2. frustration. Inefficiency could result because when there isn't enough money to hire necessary laborers, researchers are forced to do menial jobs which takes away valuable time from some of their more important activities such as evaluating research data and writing up research results in the form of scientific articles or research bulletins. Also underfunding could cause frustration because without necessary equipment that is in good shape and adequate research support facilities, it is difficult to do all the research that should be done and do a first class job while doing it.

There is also a problem with salaries that are way too low when compared with other out-of-state Experiment Station research staff performing comparable tasks. If we want to have a high quality and continuous agricultural research program, we must be willing to pay our research staff a competitive salary. Otherwise, they're going to be forced by inflation to find higher paying jobs in other states.

The other needs that I want to address are the most important. They are the needs of Montana's farmers. Inorder for farming to remain profitable in the future, we [illegible] we need more [illegible]

cultural management techniques used when producing high quality and high yielding crops with a special emphasis on alternate crops; we need more information on how to use our applied fertilizer more efficiently; we need more information on cropping systems that will allow us to cut our fuel costs; and I could go on and on.

Presently, we are faced with a terrible cost-price squeeze. Inorder to remain profitable in the future, Montana's farmers and ranchers need the help of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station research staff.

Agriculture is Montana's number one industry. We can only keep it healthy and economically viable by adequately funding an agricultural research program that will help us all. We all know or should know that when agriculture is prosperous the entire state benifits.

I urge this committee to join me in supporting the Board of Reagents budget request for the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station.

Mick Kominger, Ph.D

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

BLAINE COUNTY

Chinook, Montana 59523

January 19, 1981

House Appropriations/ Senate Finance & Claims
Joint Education Subcommittee

Dear Members:

I would urge you to support additional funding for the Extension Services and Experiment Station work. As a result we could expect higher quality in both personnel and programs thus bringing our standards up to meet those of other Agricultural states. There is much work to be done in the research field, plant breeding, Agnet, to mention a few. We need better qualified people to help in this and that funds.

Sincerely,

Ordell C. Klindworth

Ordell C. Klindworth
Blaine County Commissioner

EXPERIMENT STATIONS

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee: [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

The tax dollars that go for agricultural research are one of our best investments. Good crops...whether plant or animal...don't just happen. They are the result of years of research and perfecting. When the pay-off comes it is in the form of higher crop yields, fewer livestock losses, more nutritious food products, and more efficient use of energy.

Agricultural research has meant millions of extra dollars to Montana. Yet with inflation, our Montana Experiment Stations are barely able to operate on the amount they are now getting.

From the time Montana Experiment Stations began in 1893, they've been earning big dividends for the Treasure State. Their areas of research include: Crops, Crop Diseases, Soils, Livestock, Livestock Diseases, Economics, Range Reclamation, Insects, Environment, Wildlife, and Forest.

Since [illegible] to North Dakota, I have the liberty of making a fair comparison. The Experiment Station for Northeast Montana is in Sidney. The Experiment Station for Northwest North Dakota is in Williston...just 50 miles apart.

The Montana Station receives $2900 annually for new equipment and maintainance of old equipment. North Dakota receives $2[illegible],000 annually for the same thing...a far more realistic figure.

There are [illegible] stations in North Dakota. Each year, on a rotating basis, one station gets a new building. Thus every six years one of their old buildings is replaced, the only stopping about [illegible] maintainance. Montana has no similar program. In Sidney the buildings are in deplorable condition. They are World War II buildings with dozens and dozens of patches. They need to have a seed processing and storage building in [illegible] and new research [illegible]!

Four percent of the wheat planted in North Dakota is winter wheat. They spend $[illegible] - $60,000 [illegible] research. Montana has [illegible] recent winter wheat and spends less than $[illegible] on research.

North Dakota [illegible] a dumb. They figure that each one dollar's worth of research in durum breeding returns $[illegible] to their producers and the economy of the state. Fortunately the durum producers of Montana have been able to benefit from their [illegible].

We in Montana [illegible] North Dakota neighbors as being somewhat backwards. However in this instance, I wonder who will have the last laugh?!

The impact in our area makes it difficult to keep employees. Salaries must be allowed to be comparable. Even a small increase would indicate concern and help to keep employees, but this request was turned down. Much time is lost in training new help, only to lose them when they become knowledgeable.

Keeping pace with tomorrow's food demand, requires investing more money today in agricultural research. [illegible] well spent. Every dollar trimmed from ag research is estimated to cost us [illegible] due to higher food costs, lower farm productivity and [illegible].

EXPERIMENT STATIONS

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee: My name is [illegible]. I am representing [illegible], the state of Montana, and [illegible] Farm Bureau + NFO + MT Cattlemen's Association.

[illegible] Montana's Experiment Stations. [illegible] of the income generated by our Montana agriculture and yet we find ourselves [illegible] tax or [illegible] agricultural industry.

To the farmers and ranchers of Montana the [illegible] research are one of our best investments. Good crops...whether plant or animal...don't just happen. They are the result of years of research and perfecting. When the pay-off comes it is in the form of higher crop yields, fewer livestock losses, more nutritious food products, and more efficient use of energy.

Agricultural research has meant millions of extra dollars to Montana. Yet with inflation , our Montana Experiment Stations are barely able to operate on the amount they are now getting.

From the time Montana Experiment Stations began in 1893, they've been earning big dividends for the Treasure State. Their areas of research include: Crops, Crop Diseases, Soils, Livestock, Livestock Diseases, Economics, Range Reclamation, Insects, Environment, Wildlife , and Forage.

Since I live so close to North Dakota, [illegible] of making the comparisons. The Experiment Station for Northeast Montana is in Sidney. The Experiment Station for Northwest North Dakota is in Williston...just 70 miles apart.

The Montana Station receives $[illegible] for new equipment and maintenance of old equipment. North Dakota receives $24,000 annually for the same thing...a far more realistic figure.

There are six branch stations in [illegible]. Each [illegible] rotating basis, the Station gets a new building. Thus every six years one of their old buildings is replaced or remodeled, thereby [illegible] of the maintenance. [illegible] has no similar program. In Sidney the buildings are in deplorable condition. They are [illegible] 11 buildings with doors and windows rotting. They requested [illegible] processing and storage building in '[illegible] and have heard nothing yet!

Four percent of the wheat planted in North Dakota is winter wheat. They spend $[illegible] - $60,000 on winter wheat research. Montana has [illegible] percent winter wheat and spends less than $7000 on research.

North Dakota does a lot of research on durum. They figure that each one dollar's worth of research in durum breeding returns $[illegible] to their producers and the economy of the state. Fortunately the durum producers of Montana have been able to benefit from their findings.

We in Montana have a tendency to laugh at our North Dakota neighbors as being somewhat backwards. However in this instance, I wonder who will have the last laugh?!

Oil impact in our area makes it difficult to keep employees. Salaries must be allowed to be comparable. Even a small increase would indicate concern and help to keep employees, but this request was turned down. Much time is lost in training new help, only to lose them when they become knowledgeable.

Keeping pace with tomorrow's food demand, requires investing more money today in agricultural research. It's money well spent. Every dollar invested through research is estimated to cost consumers $2.00-$6.00 due to cheaper food costs, lower farm productivity and reduced agricultural exports.

I urge you to consider [illegible] .

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

To: Joint Education Subcommittee of the House Appropriations /
Senate Finance Claim Committee

RE: Agricultural Experiment Station Budget Proposal

Montana's economy has been hurt by shutdowns of Milwaukee Railroad, Anaconda Copper Smelter, and others who found they could no longer operate at a reasonable profit. I believe to cushion the blow Montana should encourage ~~a~~ diversified economic ~~base~~ DEVELOPMENT WITH OUR VAST RENEWAL NATURAL RESOURCES

I see Agriculture as a opportunity towards economic stability in Montana. Agriculture is involved with production of food, fiber, and fuel products which have a reasonably steady demand. We can get more out of our agricultural resources if we are progressive.

Agricultural technology is rapidly changing. New plant varieties, Animal breeds, crop and livestock care practices and products are becoming available faster than the individual producer can try them out. Individuals often lack time or resources to do adequate agricultural research and when they do there can be wasteful duplication of efforts.

Montana Agricultural Experment Stations offer the opportunity for producers to take advanage of new technology. These stations have developed, tried and adapted to local conditions products and practices the individual producer would not have done on his own.

In order for the staff of the research centers to do their jobs adaquate funding is required.

I believe those who are involved with the research centers in western Montana are capable and dedicated people worthy of the additional appropriations as requested by the State Board of Regents.

Bruce A. Benson
2418 So. 7th West
Missoula, Montana

January 21, 1981

My name is Rick Rominger. I farm in Choteau County. Just prior to returning to our incorporated family farm, I was employed by Texas A & M University and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station as a forage physiologist. I was responsible for conducting a forage research program in South Texas.

Because of my farming and academic background, I feel I am in the unique position of being able to recognize and appreciate the needs of both the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station research staff and Montana's farmers.

First I would like to address the concerns of the Experiment Station research staff. Underfunding research programs could possibly cause 2 major problems: 1. Inefficiency and 2. frustration. Inefficiency could result because when there isn't enough money to hire necessary laborers, researchers are forced to do menial jobs which takes away valuable time from some of their more important activities such as evaluating research data and writing up research results in the form of scientific articles or research bulletins. Also underfunding could cause frustration because without necessary equipment that is in good shape and adequate research support facilities, it is difficult to do all the research that should be done and do a first class job while doing it.

There is also a problem with salaries that are way too low when compared with other out-of-state Experiment Station research staff performing comparable tasks. If we want to have a high quality and continuous agricultural research program, we must be willing to pay our research staff a competitive salary. Otherwise, they're going to be forced by inflation to find higher paying jobs in other states.

The other needs that I want to address are the most important. They are the needs of Montana's farmers. Inorder for farming to remain profitable in the future, we need higher yielding varieties of the crops we grow; we need more information on

cultural management techniques used when producing high quality and high yielding crops with a special emphasis on alternate crops; we need more information on how to use our applied fertilizer more efficiently; we need more information on cropping systems that will allow us to cut our fuel costs; and I could go on and on.

Presently, we are faced with a terrible cost-price squeeze. Inorder to remain profitable in the future, Montana's farmers and ranchers need the help of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station research staff.

Agriculture is Montana's number one industry. We can only keep it healthy and economically viable by adequately funding an agricultural research program that will help us all. We all know or should know that when agriculture is prosperous the entire state benifits.

I urge this committee to join me in supporting the Board of Reagents budget request for the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station.

Rick Rominger, M.D

January 21, 1981

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ick Roninger, M.D

Representative Forest Fire Northern Montana State Range.

One of the objections to the change is the abundant production of forest [illegible] in areas which are fail to [illegible] and [illegible]

The bill that has just passing of the Montana Expenditure Research budget of the Portland State University is necessary for achieving this objective. The approach and hesitation should be [illegible] [illegible] reconsideration [illegible] [illegible] the change below that [illegible] [illegible] any program should be [illegible] to share in the [illegible] [illegible]

I wish in full support of the budget [illegible]

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Funding needs for out-patient [illegible]

[illegible]

FORM CS-34
1-81

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Support ? _____

Representing _____ Oppose ? _____

Which Bill ? _____ Amend ? _____

Comments:

Please leave prepared statement with the committee secretary.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name Rep. Audrey Roth

Date 1-21-81

Address Big Sandy, Mt.

Support ? ✓

Representing Myself

Oppose ?

Which Bill ? Rg. Ry. Station

Amend ?

Comments:

Please leave prepared statement with the committee secretary.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name RICK ROMINGER Date 1/21/81

Address FLOWEREE, MT Support ? ✓

Representing Farmer Oppose ?

Which Bill ? Ag Exp. Station Amend ?

Comments:

Please leave prepared statement with the committee secretary.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Support ? _____

Representing _____ Oppose ? _____

Which Bill ? _____ Amend ? _____

Comments:

Please leave prepared statement with the committee secretary.

NAME [illegible] BILL No. _____

ADDRESS [illegible] DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: Support with [illegible]

FORM CS-34
1-81

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

FORM CS-34
1-81

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE APPROPRIATION ON EDUCATION SUB COMMITTEE

BILL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION Date Jan 21, 1981

SPONSOR

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOS
KIM HANSEN	HARLEM	FARMING & RANCHING	✓	
Fuss Ritter	Helena	Director Mont Chamber	✓	
Elmer & Marie Heiland	Gt. Falls	Ranching	✓	
Bruce A Benson	MISSOULA	FARMING	✓	
Emil A Shipstead	Sidney	farmer	✓	
Barbara J Shipstead	Sidney	" + WIFE	✓	
Gale Manger	Great Falls	Conservation Dist.	✓	
Ray Beck	Helena	MACD	✓	
Shirley Manger	Great Falls	farmer wife	✓	
Rodney Vanney	Greenough	Rancher	✓	
Patricia Vanney	Greenough, Mont.	Rancher wife	✓	
Paul Vanney	Greenough Mont.	Student	✓	
Frank Loch Jr	Dutton, MT	Farmer	✓	
Gerald Fetveit	Kalispell, MT	Farmer	✓	
Ross H. Fitzgerald	Power, MT	Farmer	X	
Faye Johnson	Ronan MT	Rancher	✓	
Moses Rodinger	Flowree, Mont.	Farmer + W.I.F.E.	✓	
Rick Rodinger	Flowree MT	Farmer	✓	
Jerry J. Melby	Molt MT	CENEX	✓	
Glen R. Mattson	Chester, MT 59522	farmer W.I.F.E	✓	
[illegible]	Gt Falls 59405	MAFEC	✓	
[illegible] Hall	Lodge Grass 59540	farmer W.I.F.E.	✓	
Marian Pimpsted	Choc 59412	W.I.F.E	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

BILL _____ Date _____

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOS
Pat Sweeney	Victor	Home & Ranch	✓	
Diane Gardner	Hammond	Powder River Co. Bd Comm's Pres - WIFE	✓	
Donna Fornfist	Choteau	Individual	✓	
Ed T. Hamm	East Helena	Smelter Investigation desc of mont	✓	
Arnold Gettel	Power	Farming Self	✓	
Lorna D. Frazier	Geraldine	W.I.F.E	✓	
Marvin Quinlan	Helena	ASMSU	✓	
Jim Morrow	Bozeman	ASMSU	✓	
Patty Sirsog	Scobey	WIFE	✓	
Annette Rasten	Bodeman	Broken Wonderful	✓	
Kenneth Schillinger	Circle	Dry-Farmer	✓	
Susan Clark	Broadview	WIFE	✓	
Mary Lou Heiken	Broadview	Wife	✓	
Don Hedges	Antelope Mt	Farmer/Rancher	✓	
Herb Vassen	Havre	Farmer	✓	
Deanna de Yong	Kalispell	Farmer	✓	
Sharon Peterson	Winifred	Farmer	✓	
Jerrine Thomas	Kalispell	WIFE	✓	
Alice J. Brooten	Bigfork	WIFE	✓	
Floyd Kaercher	Havre	Farmer	✓	
Audrey Kaercher	Havre	Farmer's wife	✓	
Esther Rand	Malta	M.S.F.E.	✓	
Mack Lewis	Big Sandy	Mont. Farm Bureau	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

BILL _____ Date _____

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPP
Jim DeWolf	Helena	Lee Newspapers		
Nancy Espy	Boyes	WIFE	✓	
John Mengel	Bozeman	Bozeman Chronicle		
Larry Johnson	Kremlin	Self		
Robert Jorgenson	Roundup	Self		
James R. Jones	Roundup	Self	✓	
John Crist	Missoula	U of M		
Cathie Nelson	Helena	Commissioner of Higher Education		
Eulene Quiring	Nashua	WIFE	✓	
Shirley Ball	Nashua	WIFE	✓	
Emarlyn Winchester	Nashua	WIFE	✓	
Charley Johnson	Wibaux, Montana	Self No Testimony	✓	
Mons Teigen	Helena	M Stockgrowers Assn	✓	
Patsy Reinsch	Nashua	WIFE	✓	
Ethel Parker	Ft Shaw	Self	✓	
Jim Espy	Boyes	Rancher self	✓	
Shirley Tutvedt	Kalispell	farmer	✓	
Debbie Snyder	Helena	" daughter	✓	
Clarence Leller	Havre	Farmer	✓	
Delores Schillinger	Vida	Housewife	✓	
Don Krasche	Havre	Farmer	✓	

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