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**ABSTRACT**

Twenty major activities in fiscal year (FY) 1984 fulfilled the Southern Rural Development Center's (SRDC) obligation to focus specifically on the rural problems of the region and to support the community development efforts of 29 land-grant universities in 13 southern states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. During FY84 SRDC had an active role in seven meetings involving training about community/rural development (leadership development, minority land loss, computer utilization, etc.), training rural clergy to minister to troubled families (problems of death and dying, money management, substance abuse), training Garden Club and community members for effective leadership, and facilitating improvement of the Kellogg Rural Leadership Program through co-sponsoring a national workshop for Kellogg Leadership Program directors. SRDC was also active in two networks, the National Network on Extension Community Leadership Programs and the Southern Region Business Management Network. SRDC cooperated with the other rural development centers in developing designs for in-service education of cooperative extension personnel. Six studies or projects were completed or are underway. The Center's information dissemination program resulted in training manuals for rural officials, a newsletter, conference materials, reprints of current awareness materials, a rural development training packet, six conference proceedings, and nine reports, directories, etc. (BRR)

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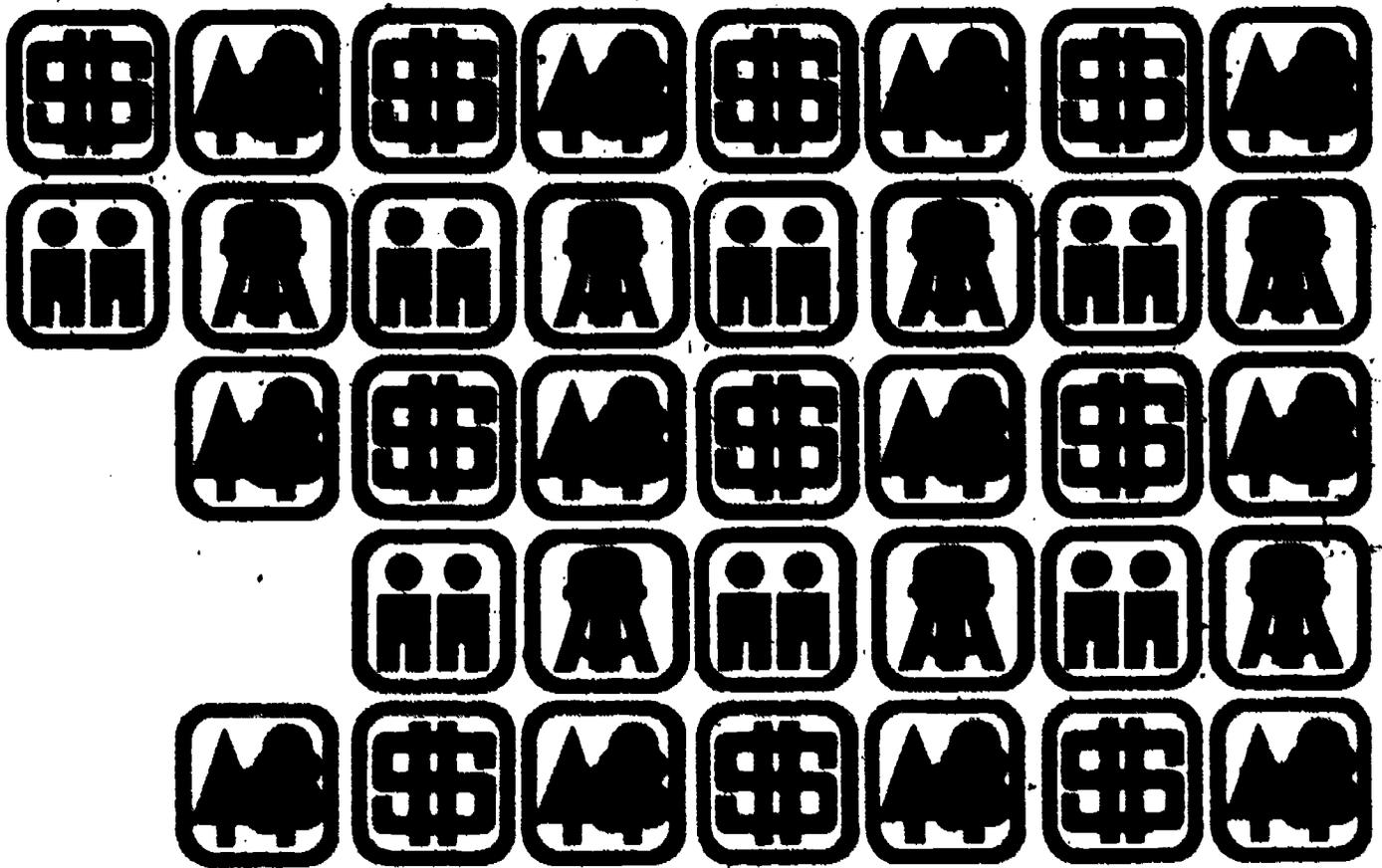
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# 1984 Annual Progress Report



**SOUTHERN RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

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**ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY 1984**

**S O U T H E R N R U R A L D E V E L O P M E N T C E N T E R**

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Virginia**

**DR. WILLIAM W. LINDER**  
Director

**DR. JEROME L. BURTON**  
Associate Director

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**"Agriculture is much more than three million farmers plowing their land. Agriculture includes all of rural America."**

**--John R. Block  
Secretary of Agriculture**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**October 1, 1983 to September 30, 1984**

### **A. BACKGROUND**

The Southern Rural Development Center is one of four regional rural development centers in the nation. Each center provides support staff to community development efforts of land-grant university Extension Services and Experiment Stations throughout the nation. The Southern Rural Development Center was formed in 1974 and located at Mississippi State University. Other regional centers are located at Iowa State University, Oregon State University, and Cornell University.

The Southern Center focuses specifically on the rural problems of the region and supports the community development efforts of 29 land-grant universities in 13 Southern states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

The SRDC receives funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Extension Service and Cooperative State Research Service. Although located at Mississippi State University, the Center is jointly sponsored by Alcorn State University and Mississippi State University.

The Southern Center exists primarily to provide the best possible information and assistance to extension and research staffs within the South as they respond to rural development needs in local communities. This is accomplished through such means as the following:

1. Provide a central point for regional information gathering, interpretation, analysis and dissemination.
2. Communicate research findings and successful extension programming ideas through conferences, workshops, seminars publications.
3. Serve as a linking mechanism for improved communication between states.
4. Facilitate interaction between research and extension personnel.

5. Provide staff training at regional and subregional levels.
6. Provide funding for development of programming ideas with widespread regional application.

## B. ORGANIZATION

Effective regional participation is a critical factor in the success of the Southern Rural Development Center. While the Center is physically located at Mississippi State University, the organizational structure has been designed to permit active involvement of other states in program determination. To insure the opportunity for strong regional participation, three elements have been included in the organizational concept.

First, the Board of Directors includes membership from not only 1862 and 1890 institutions but also members from both the Experiment Stations and Extension Services throughout the South and a representative of the private sector.

Second, the SRDC continually seeks advice and guidance in determining program needs, program direction and program implementation from rural development professional groups such as the Southern Community Development Committee, the 1890 Community Resource Development Committee, the Southern Natural Resource Economics Committee, the Southern Extension Public Affairs Committee, and the Southern Rural Sociology Committee.

Third, the Center funds and provides support to teams of researchers and educators from several universities in an effort to concentrate on pressing rural problems. Through such projects as small farm operations, health care, rural industrialization, etc., the Center establishes regional cooperation in gathering, summarizing, and disseminating research knowledge about critical rural needs. It also identifies rural programs of each state and shares the features of that program with other states.

## C. ADMINISTRATION

The Center is directed by a nine-member Board of Directors with each member serving a three-year term. The membership is composed of four representatives from the Extension Service (three from 1862 institutions and one from an 1890 institution), four representatives from Experiment Stations (three from 1862 institutions and one from an 1890 institution), and one representative from the private sector.

The extension representatives are appointed by the Southern Association of Extension Directors and the Association of 1890 Extension Administrators. The research representatives are appointed by the Southern Association of Experiment Station Directors and the Association of 1890 Research Directors. The chairman of the board seeks nominations from every state Extension Service Director/Administrator and every state Experiment Station

Director/Administrator for the private sector representative.  
After the nominations are received, the board selects a private sector representative.

The Center is directed by a nine-member Board of Directors with each member serving a three-year term. Dr. Preston E. La Ferney currently serves as acting Chairman of the Board. Those members comprising the SRDC Board include the following.

Dr. Arthur L. Allen  
Administrator  
1890 Programs  
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Dr. Chester D. Black  
Director  
Cooperative Extension Service  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695

Dr. James R. Carpenter  
Director  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Mississippi State University  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Dr. Talmadge C. DuVall  
Director  
Cooperative Extension Service  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602

Dr. R. Rodney Foil  
Director  
Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry  
Experiment Station  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Mr. Jesse B. Holder  
Director of Agriculture Research  
Freeport Sulphur Company  
P.O. Box 61520  
New Orleans, LA 70161

Dr. Robert L. Hurst  
Vice President, 1890 Research & Extension  
South Carolina State College  
Box 1765  
Orangeburg, SC 29117

Dr. Preston E. La Ferney  
 Director  
 Agricultural Experiment Station  
 University of Arkansas  
 Fayetteville, AR 72701

Dr. A. W. Snell  
 Associate Director  
 Agricultural Experiment Station  
 Clemson University  
 104 Barre Hall  
 Clemson, SC 29631

Dr. Chester D. Black of Virginia was appointed to the Board after Dr. Michael Sprott, director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, resigned to accept a position in another state. Dr. B. D. Mayberry of the Tuskegee Institute of Applied Sciences completed a three-year term during 1984, and Dr. Arthur Allen of Arkansas was appointed as the new board member representing 1890 research programs.

#### D. SRDC STAFF

Staff members of the regional center include the following:

1. Dr. William W. Linder, Director
2. Dr. Jerome L. Burton, Associate Director
3. Dr. Charles J. D. Tillman, Rural Development Specialist
4. Sue H. Jones, Editor
5. Bonnie Teater, Administrative Secretary
6. Sheila Buckner, Administrative Secretary
7. David Miles, Printer (Part-time)
8. Jane Rendeiro, Editorial Assistant (Part-time)

Three SRDC staff members resigned in December to accept other positions or as a result of having completed short-term projects. These staff members include Research Analyst Gerry H. Williams, Editor Ann Spurlock and part-time Editorial Assistant Gregory Kemmis. Sue H. Jones returned to the Center in November and resumed her editorial duties. Mrs. Jones had worked with the Center for three years before her resignation in July 1983. Jane Rendeiro joined the staff in September to edit Capsules, the monthly newsletter.

The Center collaborates with many university faculty members throughout the region on research and extension projects. A close review of this report indicates the use of their expertise on a contributed-time basis.

#### E. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES SINCE OCTOBER 1, 1983

1. Southern CRD 1983 Triennial Training Conference: The SRDC director serves on the training subcommittee of the Southern

Community Development Committee. As a result, he assisted in planning the program for the triennial meeting of the Southern Regional CRD Training Conference October 11-13 at the Birmingham Hilton in Birmingham, Alabama. The training program included nine hours of instruction in five subject matter areas. In addition to providing some financial support for the meeting, the Center designed and printed advanced brochures, program, nametags, registration forms, receipts and notebook materials for the conference. The SRDC provided each participant with a three-ring notebook of instruction materials for each of the five mini-workshops. The SRDC staff coordinated registration for the conference and an evening reception. Dr. Linder served as moderator for one of the mini-workshops.

2. Second Annual 1890 CRD Program Leaders Workshop: The SRDC director served on the program planning committee of this workshop in order to provide subject matter training for participants on the prioritized topics of leadership development, minority land loss and computer utilization. The SRDC continually works with both the Southern Community Development Committee and the 1890 CRD Committee to provide personnel training and information to community development staff members throughout the region. The 1890 CRD Program Leaders Workshop was conducted October 9-10 at the Birmingham Hilton in Birmingham, Alabama. Workshop topics included "Accountability and Evaluation: Impacts of 1890 Community Resource Development Extension Programming," "Minority Land Loss," "Leadership Development," "Computer Training for 1890 CRD Staff -- Focus on Small Community," and a look at Community and Human Resource Development Programming of 1890 extension organizations. In addition to paying expenses for several speakers and participating in the program planning, the Center designed and printed programs, registration forms, receipts and nametags for the workshop. In September 1984, SRDC Associate Director Jerome Burton represented the Center at the third annual 1890 CRD Program Leaders meeting in Washington, D.C.
3. Farmland Retention in the Southeast: The SRDC cooperated with the Southern Natural Resource Economics Committee, the Southern Extension Public Affairs Committee, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Farm Foundation in promoting and conducting a regional workshop highlighting farmland retention. About 70 persons attended the workshop March 22-23 in Knoxville, Tennessee. The workshop was designed to provide a forum to explore the implications of national, state and local farmland retention policies. Papers presented at the workshop discussed the motives for farmland retention policies, reviewed the policy tools for farmland retention and suggested research and educational strategies for the successful implementation of farmland retention policies in the Southern region. The SRDC provided financial support for the workshop and designed and printed advance brochures,

programs, nametags, registration forms and receipts for the workshop. The Center is in the process of printing a proceedings of the workshop for distribution to participants and other individuals and organizations concerned with farmland retention.

4. Mississippi Rural Development Symposium: The SRDC cooperated with the Mississippi Governor's Office of Voluntary Citizen Participation and the Governor's Office of Community Development to sponsor the Mississippi Rural Development Symposium April 29 through May 1 at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Jackson. More than 400 persons from the public, private and volunteer sectors met in Jackson to develop rural development directions, plans and priorities to present to the governor, the legislature and other key decision makers within the state. The Center director served as co-chairperson for the symposium advisory council. SRDC staff members prepared the printed material for the symposium including advance brochures, programs, registration folders, nametags, meal tickets, posters and covers for the summary document. The SRDC editor served as a recorder for one of the workshop sessions and assisted in writing the summary statements. The SRDC director met with the advisory council in follow-up efforts designed to encourage implementation of directions and priorities pinpointed by symposium participants.
5. Rural Clergy Conference: The SRDC cooperated with the Cooperative Extension Service at Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee, the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville and Pine Bluff), Alcorn State University and Mississippi State University in sponsoring a tri-state workshop designed primarily for rural, bi-vocational ministers. This workshop -- "Ministering to Troubled Families" -- was planned as a means of introducing conference participants to information and resource people they can refer to as they minister to rural families coping with the problems of death and dying, money management, and alcohol and drug abuse. In addition to providing financial support for the conference, the Center director assisted in planning the program and securing speakers for the conference. More than 140 persons attended the meeting April 26 at the Shelby County Extension Center in Memphis. The SRDC provided printed material for the conference including an advance brochure, program and nametags. Community development specialists at Tennessee State and the University of Arkansas prepared a program evaluation that was printed by the SRDC and distributed throughout the region.
6. Effective Leadership Seminar: The SRDC cooperated with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service; the Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.; and Sears, Roebuck and Co. in sponsoring an Effective Leadership Seminar for club and community leaders throughout Mississippi. More than 100 participants attended the leadership seminar June 19 at the Metro Ramada Inn in

Jackson. The Southern Center not only assisted in providing financial support for the seminar but also planned the program and secured the speakers and workshop leaders. Topics covered during the one-day seminar included "Selling Yourself and Your Programs," "Bloom Where You're Planted," "Holding an Audience Without a Rope," "The Gentle Art of Saying No," and "You Are the Catalyst." The Center provided all of the printed materials including an advance brochure, program, nametags, registration form and receipt. In addition, the SRDC staff prepared a three-ring notebook containing instructional material for each of the concurrent workshops and reprints of leadership materials useful to club and community leaders. A notebook and printed materials were distributed to each CRD leader in the South as an example of a community leadership training program that can be replicated in other states.

7. National Workshop for Kellogg Leadership Program Directors: By providing a time and place for sharing success stories as well as frustrations, this workshop established a base for, improving all the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programs and particularly for strengthening the newer programs. The SRDC cooperated with the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Winrock International and the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service to sponsor a national workshop for directors of all Kellogg Rural Leadership Programs, selected state program participants, representatives of potential funding agencies, regional rural development center directors, resource persons, and representatives of the Arkansas Agricultural and Rural Leadership Advisory Council. The Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation hosted the workshop November 28-30 at Winrock International, the Foundation's conference facility at Petit Jean Mountain, Arkansas. The SRDC provided logistical support and chaired the conference planning committee composed of representatives of the cooperating groups. The Kellogg Foundation reviewed and approved the program design and provided guidance and financial support. The SRDC also designed and printed a program for the three-day workshop.
8. Electronic Feasibility Study: The Center completed a study originally funded in 1982 to determine the need for a regional research-extension electronic technology center. The final phase of this study included a survey of each dean and director of research, extension, and resident instruction at the divisions/colleges of agriculture at 29 Southern land-grant institutions. The survey inquired about each institution's current computer capabilities and programming efforts. The results of this survey were compiled by Research Analyst Jane Rendeiro and published in a recent report entitled Status of Computer Applications in the Southern Land-Grant Institutions. This publication provided a means of resource-sharing among institutions. The SRDC has written to Southern CRD leaders at both 1890 and 1862 institutions to ask their cooperation in inventorying and maintaining a current listing of available CRD software. In addition, the Center has

requested a listing of instructional personnel concerned with computer applications in CRD programming. The software inventory will be forwarded to Dr. Robert Strain of Florida in order that the national computerized listing of Extension CRD software might be updated. The results of both the software inventory and the personnel listing will be printed by the SRDC and forwarded to each Southern state.

9. Special Needs Grant -- Designs for In-Service Education of Cooperative Extension Personnel: The SRDC cooperated with the other rural development centers and with ES-USDA in designing a system for in-service education to improve extension's effectiveness in comprehensive educational programming. Each center provided travel expenses for two regional representatives to meet periodically as part of a training design team. Originally appointed two years ago, Dr. O. W. Cundiff of Virginia Tech and Ron Williams of Kentucky State University represented the Southern region. Dr. Cundiff, however, died before completion of the project and another representative was not appointed. Design team members participated in the project through one-on-one discussions, small group meetings, and three meetings of the design team. Although the project originally was intended to develop designs for in-service education in community development programming, the design team recognized a need for a shift in emphasis to include the total extension program. An Executive Summary and Project Report were distributed in May. Current efforts are underway to implement the ECOP approved recommendations.
10. National Network on Extension Community Leadership Programs: The SRDC cooperated with other rural development centers in forming a national extension Community Leadership Network with the goal of helping improve extension educational programs in organizational and community leadership development. This effort evolved from an earlier project sponsored by the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development. The main objective of the North Central project was to develop an inventory of ongoing community leadership materials. The North Central group extended an invitation to other regional centers to send representatives to a meeting October 5-7 in Washington, D.C., to discuss the possibility of expanding into a national network. This expanded network was formed and a second meeting was convened March 7-9 in St. Louis. J.B. Williams of the University of Arkansas and Ron Williams of Kentucky State University were the Southern representatives to these meetings. The purposes of the National Extension Task Force for Community Leadership are as follows:
- to identify appropriate extension staff in all program areas, research staff, and non-extension persons who are involved in community leadership programs.
  - to give leadership to establishing an ongoing system of sharing information on community leadership programs of interest to extension.

-- to identify and recommend to state Extension Services, regional community resource development committees, and the ECOP-CRD/PA subcommittee potential areas for program development and evaluation.

-- to seek out possible sources of private or public funding support for development of the network.

Permanent Southern representatives on the task force are Dr. Bob Soileau of Louisiana State University and Ron Williams of Kentucky State University.

11. Water Law and Water Rights in the South: This bibliography and synthesis is intended to serve as a time saver for individuals who have no training in law and need information about law as it pertains to state and regional water policy issues. Prepared by Dr. Roy Carriker of the University of Florida, the research publication is being proofed prior to publication and distribution throughout the region.
12. Impact of Population and Economic Growth on the Demand for and Cost of Public Education in Rural America: Dr. Brady J. Deaton and Mr. Kevin T. McNamara of Virginia Tech directed this SRDC research project to provide an annotated bibliography and synthesis that would identify research findings concerning the effects of population and economic changes on the supply and demand for education in rural communities. The resulting publication presented these research issues and sought to help school policy makers and community leaders perceive the implications of this research for practical decision making at the local level.
13. Rural Crime in Florida -- A Victimization Study of the Rural Nonfarm Population: This research study comprehensively examined the extent and pattern of criminal victimization occurring in rural Florida in order that the information might be used as a data base for the following: (1) describing the nature of the rural crime problem; (2) selecting appropriate crime prevention strategies for rural areas; (3) developing and testing explanatory models of rural crime patterns; and (4) communicating with policymakers at local, state, and federal levels of government. Dr. Keith A. Carter and Dr. Lionel J. Beaulieu of the University of Florida directed this project. They distributed a questionnaire to 6,024 residents in 33 rural, small-population counties and received a 66.6 percent response rate from more than 3,100 households. The published report contained the findings of this rural household victimization study.
14. Southern Region Business Management Network: The Business Management Network was formed to complement the efforts of the North Central Region Business Management Interest Network for

the basic purpose of developing and/or sharing business management extension programming materials. The Southern network is directed by Dr. Dennis U. Fisher of Texas A&M University. Prior to this fiscal year, the network developed a list of extension business management contacts in the Southern states and selected and distributed extension business management training materials used in other states. These materials served as the basis for a nine-hour small business training session led by Dr. Fisher in October at the triennial meeting of the Southern CRD staffs. In September, SRDC Editor Sue Jones met with Dr. Fisher at Texas A&M and spent three days collecting workshop materials Fisher has developed as a result of his work with downtown merchants in Texas. This material will form the basis of a small business management guidebook. In September, Dr. Fisher and Mrs. Jones made plans to travel to Reno, Nevada, in October 1984 to meet with CRD specialists from 11 states. These specialists represented each of the four regional rural development centers. This meeting resulted in acceptance of the guidebook as national small business management programming material to be made available to CRD units throughout the nation. Each of the four centers will cooperate in the effort, although the Southern Center has the lead role in developing the materials. The format for the materials will be a large three-ring notebook that will include such aids as teaching outlines, student worksheets, slide sets, overheads, and discussion materials for 10 topics essential to good business management. These topics include customer relations, developing a business plan, forecasting profits and cash flow, time management, visual merchandising, computer use in business, financing a business, analyzing your market, personnel management and starting a new business. The small business guidebook will be available in late spring 1985.

15. Rural Community Water Resources Management Under Conditions of Price Sensitive Demand: Under the leadership of Dr. Dean F. Schreiner of Oklahoma State University, this research project is designed to improve existing rural water services planning procedures. Specific objectives include the following: (1) identify existing procedures used in planning water services for rural areas; (2) develop and estimate residential, business, industrial and municipal demand functions for water in rural areas; (3) develop and estimate investment, operations and maintenance cost functions for water services in rural areas; (4) examine the effects of alternative water pricing policies -- including grants and subsidies -- on the use and conservation of water in rural areas; and (5) propose modifications to improve existing water services planning procedures based on results of the above objectives. The mail survey instrument developed to obtain data on socioeconomic conditions of rural water users has been tested in one rural water district. This data was combined with actual water consumption and billings data available for each household at the water district level. This verified

that the researchers would be able to obtain data from rural businesses. During the summer months, researchers have taken the pre-tested survey instrument to a sample of rural water districts covering the entire state of Oklahoma. This survey effort included rural households, rural businesses and water district management. An estimation of water demand and water cost functions will follow after all the survey results are obtained and analyzed. Using the water demand and water cost functions they have been able to determine thus far, the researchers prepared a paper on alternative pricing strategies for rural water systems. This paper was presented at the Soil Conservation Society of America annual meeting. These results will be modified on the basis of new survey information still being obtained. Dr. Schreiner expects that water demand and cost functions will be estimated by January 1985 and programming results and analysis of pricing strategies will be ready by May 1985. As a parallel activity, the researchers are developing a microcomputer software package for analysis of community investment planning of water systems.

16. Impact of Agricultural Districts on the Retention of Agricultural Land Property Tax Distribution: A Case Study in Virginia: This grant names Dr. Sandra Batie of Virginia Tech as the principal investigator. The project objectives include the following: (1) development of a definition of "prime" agricultural land which includes economic as well as physical attributes that can be related to agricultural land retention goals; (2) identification of the economic factors influencing agricultural land conversion; and (3) analysis of the effectiveness of agricultural districts in terms of changes in property values, tax revenues and tax incidence. The research team completed the economic modeling required for the first objective, development of an economic definition of prime land. They completed model specification and identified data requirements for this objective. Three Virginia counties were chosen as the project study area for objectives two and three. Progress on objectives two and three included behavioral and economic modeling and selection of appropriate economic estimation procedures. The research team also surveyed county administrators across the state to elicit information about their county's decision to authorize the formation of agricultural districts. Researchers are conducting a mail survey of Board of Supervisor members in 96 counties across the state and a sample of landowners including members and non-members of agricultural districts in Culpepper County. The project has been extended to March 15, 1985.
17. Support for S-193 Crime and Victimization Technical Committee: The SRDC offered its facilities as a meeting place for a regional "Survey and Questionnaire Planning Workshop" April 4-5. About 20 members of this regional technical committee met at the Center for the two-day meeting.
18. Arkansas Rural Crime In-Service Training: Rural crime is big business in Arkansas. On a per capita basis, livestock theft

in the state is equivalent to livestock theft in Texas. Other Arkansas farm and rural non-farm crimes also rank high in crime statistical categories. The Arkansas CRD faculty will conduct a one-day, in-depth crime prevention training program for county faculty. To enhance the program's quality, the SRDC will pay the expenses of Dr. Joseph F. Donnermeyer of the National Rural Crime Prevention Center to attend the training program as a featured speaker. Dr. Donnermeyer will report on current research suggestions about rural farm/non-farm crime, the status of crime prevention work in other states, and current feelings among extension directors about rural crime prevention work.

19. Analysis of Employment Changes in the Rural South and Their Economic and Educational Implications: The SRDC is working cooperatively with the Southern Growth Policies Board and the Ford Foundation to (1) examine differences in employment trends between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas in the South by sectors of the economy, (2) identify a panel of experts to interpret trends and suggest explanations and policy implications, (3) bring the information to the attention of the governors, legislators and other decisionmakers of the Southern states through the Southern Growth Policies Board in order to generate strategies that will insure continued rural economic growth, and (4) establish a continuing network of Southerners to monitor rural development issues. The network of experts and other citizens concerned with rural development policy will provide a continuing forum for discussion of issues to ensure that the region considers the effects of policies and programs on nonmetro economic growth, particularly in depressed areas. The panel will be extended to include representatives in each state to continue the discussion of how to address rural development and related rural poverty. The work of this network is expected to inform the Board's 1986 Commission on the Future of the South and to set the stage for a possible task force on rural issues. In addition to the Center director, members of the advisory network include Rusty Brooks, University of Georgia; Arthur Cosby, Mississippi State University; Brady Deaton, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Fred K. Hines, USDA-ERS; Jim Hite, Clemson University; Daryl Hobbs, University of Missouri; Sheron Randolph, Tennessee State University; Helen Roberts, American Association of State Colleges and Universities; Jonathan P. Sher, Rural Education and Development, Inc.; Barbara Smith, Southeast Women's Employment Coalition; Alton Thompson, North Carolina A&T University; Mike Woods, Texas A&M University; Ed Bergman, Carol Fulreader and Mu Xinming, University of North Carolina; and Stuart Rosenfeld and Andi Reynolds, Southern Growth Policies Board.

20. **Public Use Microdata One Percent Sample:** In FY 1984 the Center laid the groundwork for a joint effort with other regional centers to prepare a special public use microdata one percent sample from the 1980 Census. At a meeting of the four center directors in June, Dr. Linder presented the S-184 Technical Committee's request for financial assistance in developing the sample. The Economic Research Service has contracted with Dr. Charles Tolbert of Florida State University to delineate a national sample of about 250 units of rural labor market areas on a multi-county basis. What is now needed is the approval to draw a one percent public use sample from these same areas. This data set would link individuals and households to multicounty labor markets and allow researchers to analyze characteristics of labor markets and allow researchers to analyze characteristics of labor markets and persons who reside within them. This will be the only existing data set that will allow the identification of rural labor markets, and it will include data from all states including Alaska and Hawaii. The data will offer a unique opportunity for comparative analyses across regions as well as between urban and rural areas.

#### F. OTHER LIAISONS

In addition to groups and organizations mentioned in the previous section, the following liaisons have significantly impacted on the work of the Center during the past year:

1. **TENNESSEE - TOMBIGBEE PROJECT AREA COUNCIL** -- The Center director is a member of the executive committee of this council.
2. **SOUTHERN GROWTH POLICIES BOARD** -- The Center is a member of the Southern Growth Policies Board and receives information of particular concern to community developers. This information is passed on to extension and research personnel throughout the region. A research project jointly sponsored by the Board and the SRDC is currently underway.
3. **SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS** -- The Center director attended the annual meeting of this group in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### G: INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

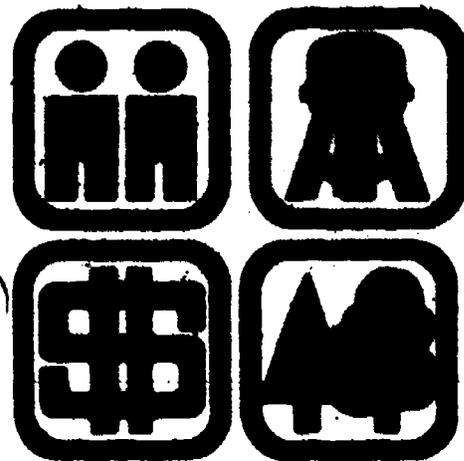
Recording and disseminating what is taking place and what is being established in rural development throughout the region is one of the priorities of the Center. One way this task is accomplished is through a constant publishing effort that includes the following:

1. **Training Manuals for Rural Officials:** The SRDC cooperated with the federal Extension Service and the Rural Governments Coalition to publish eight training manuals for rural officials throughout the nation. The manuals were written by members of the Coalition, but the SRDC editor designed and prepared the manuals for publication. Titles of the publications include the following: Tapping Federal Know-How, Hazardous Materials Transportation, Making Management Improvements, Rural Economic Developments, Sharing local Costs, Financing Rural Development, Managing Rural Natural Resources, and Working With Your State. The entire set of eight manuals was distributed to every CRD unit in the nation and made available to local government officials.
2. **SRDC Newsletter - CAPSULES:** Capsules is intended as a newsletter designed to disseminate information in brief form. Each issue of the newsletter is sent to more than 1,600 persons involved in community development, civic improvement, recreation, planning, government, education and a variety of organizations and agencies working in rural development. Publication of the newsletter was temporarily interrupted in January when the SRDC editorial assistant resigned to accept another position. Another assistant was not hired until September, and a 16-page issue of Capsules was published before the end of the fiscal year.
3. **Conference Materials:** Since the SRDC uses workshops and conferences as an integral part of its program, some staff time must be devoted to preparation and printing of such conference materials as preconference advertising brochures, programs, nametags, banquet tickets, registration folders, press kits, etc.
4. **Reprints:** The Center constantly monitors publications of interest to rural development professionals. In order to help both researchers and extension specialists stay current in the area of rural development, the Center forwards copies of articles and publications dealing with rural issues.
5. **Training Packet:** The Center exhausted its supply of rural development training packets and had to print additional copies of some of the publications included in the packets. The training packet was originally introduced in 1978 as a "do-it-yourself" approach to rural development. This fiscal year the Center sent packets to any 1890 or 1862 CRD program that did not have a training packet or needed additional sets, and more than 20 packets were sent to other individuals making requests. Several hundred additional student texts were printed for use by the South Carolina CRD program in cooperation with the Governor's Leadership Conference.

6. Conference Proceedings: The Center has published the following proceedings during the 1984 fiscal year:
- a. Nonmarket Valuation: Current Status and Future Directions, Feb. 1984
  - b. Rural Crime in Florida: A Victimization Study of the Rural Nonfarm Population, Feb. 1984
  - c. Proceedings of the 2nd Annual 1890 CRD Program Leaders Workshop, March 1984
  - d. Proceedings of the Joint Workshop on Computer Applications Southern Land Grant Institutions, Nov. 1983
  - e. Increasing the Involvement of Minorities and Women in Renewable Natural Resources, July 1984
  - f. Retention of Farmland (in progress)
7. Other Publications:
- a. Directory of Rural Development Researchers in the South, March 1984
  - b. Southern Rural Development Research in the Land Grant System Since 1970, Jan. 1984
  - c. 1983 SRDC Progress Report
  - d. Education in a Changing Environment: Impact of Population and Economic Change on the Demand and Cost of Public Education in Rural America, Feb. 1984
  - e. Estimating the Effects of CRD Upon County Quality of Life, Dec. 1983
  - f. SRDC Brochure, Dec. 1983
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