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This study was made possible by the cooperation of county extension workers and volunteer interviewers in the 10 sample counties. The study involved the cooperation of the Ohio Cooperative Extension Service, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at The Ohio State University, and the Ohio Farm and Home Safety Committee, Inc.

Extension Bulletin 500 — Research Bulletin 1016 describes the 1967 accidents to farm and nonfarm people, Extension Bulletin 439 describes the 1962 study, and Extension Bulletin 385 describes the 1957 study. Special credit is given to G. Howard Phillips, Bond L. Bible, and R. H. Baker for co-authoring the previous publications on rural accidents in Ohio.

Accidents to Farm and Rural Nonfarm People in Ohio—1972



ALBERT R. PUGH, W. E. STUCKEY, and G. HOWARD PHILLIPS¹

In Ohio in 1972:

- One out of six farm families in Ohio had an accident.
- One out of eight rural nonfarm families in Ohio had an accident.
- In 100% of the reported accidents involving farm people and 99% of the rural nonfarm accidents, a doctor's care was required.
- In 22% of the reported accidents involving farm people and 20% of the rural nonfarm accidents, hospitalization was required.
- 63% of the reported accidents involving farm people and 68% involving rural nonfarm people occurred to men and boys.
- 44% of the reported accidents involving farm people occurred on the job, 10% off the job, and 43% during recreation and leisure activities.
- 19% of the reported accidents involving rural nonfarm people occurred on the job, 17% off the job, and 45% during recreation and leisure activities.
- 26% of the injuries to farm people and 29% of the injuries to rural nonfarm people resulted from a fall.

INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth in a continuing series of studies on the number and nature of accidents to rural people in Ohio. Studies have been conducted every 5 years, beginning in 1957. Rural nonfarm families living outside incorporated places were added to the study in 1967.

Information secured from these studies has provided: up-to-date information on accidents to rural people for use by organizations planning safety programs, basic data for comparison with rural accidents in other states, information for engineers to use in the design and manu-

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facture of farm machinery and equipment, and facts to assist legislators when considering safety legislation.

The word *accident* means different things to different people. To more than 17,000 farm people and 93,000 rural nonfarm people in Ohio in 1972, an accident meant a variety of things. For example, to the child who was only slightly injured in a fall from a tree, it meant a trip to the doctor and a loss of playtime. To the farmer who broke a leg in a fall from a tractor, it meant a great deal of pain, weeks of recuperation, medical and hospital bills, and possibly permanent injury.

Projected U. S. census figures indicated a 1972 Ohio farm population of 349,728 and a rural nonfarm population (living outside of incorporated places) of 2,300,172.² Farm people were involved in 17,029 accidents and rural nonfarm people were involved in 93,258 accidents which required professional medical care or loss of one-half day or more of time from normal activities.

The number of accidents to farm people between 1967 and 1972 declined by 25%, even though the farm population declined only 11% for the same period.³

In comparing 1967 and 1972 rural accident patterns in Ohio, the number of accidents involving all age groups in the area of recreational activities and leisure time continued to increase. Data in this study for farm work tend to support the trends set in the 1967 study. Accidents involving farm machinery, farm tools, and farm animals continued to make up a smaller percentage of accidents to farm people, but a larger percentage of accidents involved motorized vehicles. Accidents continued to increase for younger members of the rural family participating in recreational and leisure activities.

Accidents will continue to take lives and destroy property in rural Ohio. However, the number and severity of accidents and property damage can be reduced with the help of rural organizations. They are urged to study this publication and determine a course of action which will further reduce accidents to farm and rural nonfarm people. All rural organizations should be involved in some type of safety program. Information in this publication can be used as a basis for discussions, demonstrations, displays, talks, news releases, and radio and TV programs.

²Based on same rate as for the 10 years 1960-1970, according to Census of Population. ³Stuckey, W. E. and A. R. Pugh. Sept. 1973. Accidental Injuries to Ohio Farm People 1957-1972. MM 338, Ohio Coop. Ext. Serv., The Ohio State Univ., Columbus.

⁴Phillips, G. Howard and W. E. Stuckey. June 1968. Accidents to Farm and Rural Nonfarm People in Ohio. Ohio Agri. Res. and Dev. Center, Wooster, Res. Bull. 1016; and Ohio Coop. Ext. Serv., Ext. Bull. 500.

Each family should inspect the farm and home for accident hazards and remove or minimize those found. The safety of a family depends on each member being alert to hazards and following safe practices.

PROCEDURE

The purpose of this study was to measure the incidence of accidents to Ohio rural people during 1972 and to describe the situations in which these accidents occurred.

A stratified random sample of 10 of Ohio's 88 counties was selected. One county was randomly chosen from each of the 10 Cooperative Extension Service areas representing various topographic and climatic conditions and types of farming. The counties selected and the boundaries of the 10 Extension areas used in the study are shown in Figure 1.



Fig. 1.—Geographic distribution of sample counties.

Cluster samples of 10 or fewer farms and rural nonfarm families living outside incorporated places were selected randomly in each of the 10 counties. Volunteer interviewers were trained and the sample families were interviewed every 3 months during 1972 to get a cumulative record of accidents. Four contacts were made during the year to assure that all accidents were reported.

Interviewers participated in a 3-hour county interviewer training meeting where each was assigned the families he or she would contact during the year. The initial interviews of selected families for the basic data and first-quarter accident reports were made the first 2 weeks of April 1972.

During 1972, 4,662 farm people and 3,675 rural nonfarm people living outside incorporated places were interviewed four times on a quarterly basis. The farm sample represented 9.6% of the farm population in the 10 sample counties and 1.3% of the total farm population in the state. The rural nonfarm population living outside incorporated places was represented by 1.5% of the rural nonfarm population in the 10 sample counties and 0.16% of the total rural nonfarm people of the state. The total farm population in the 10 sample counties represented 13.9% of Ohio's 349,729 farm population and the total rural nonfarm population in the 10 sample counties represented 10.3% of Ohio's 2,300,172 rural nonfarm population.

To test the representativeness of the sample for the two groups, the sample (2,166 families) population was compared to the total state rural population by sex and age groups as shown in Table 1. These selected categories were statistically tested and no significant differences were found between the sample population and the state's total rural population.

The sample (2,166 families) was also compared to the total rural population in the 10 (sample) counties and then to the total rural population in Ohio by age categories. No significant differences were found between the sample and the rural population. Additional tests of the sample population were conducted on a farm and nonfarm basis. Since no significant differences were found, it was concluded that the sample size was adequate to represent the rural population.

Definition of Terms

The terms used throughout this report are comparable to the National Safety Council's Farm Accident Surveys. Definitions of rural and rural nonfarm residents are the same as those used in the 1969 Census of Agriculture.

- Rural Farm Family—A family living on a place operated as a unit of 10 or more acres from which annual sales of agricultural products total \$50 or more (places of less than 10 acres operated as a unit are counted if the sale of agricultural produce is \$250 or more). This includes part-time farmers.
- Rural Nonfarm Family—A family living outside an incorporated area, which includes all the remaining rural population.
- Accident—An injury which requires professional medical care (doctor, hospital, nurse, x-ray, etc.) or one resulting in the loss of one-half day or more of time from normal activities, regardless of where the injury occurred.
- Reportable Accident—An accident resulting in an injury to a family member, regardless of where the injury occurred, or to hired help doing farm work, or to any person visiting the residence.
- Severity of Injury—A fatal injury is one resulting in a death during the survey period. A permanent injury indicates loss of hand, finger, eye, use of a limb, etc. A severe injury includes a broken leg, cut ligament, sprained back, etc. A slight injury includes minor cuts, sprains, burns, etc.

TABLE 1.—Comparison of the 2,166 Rural Families in the Sample with the 1970 Census of Rural Population in Ohio by Sex and Age.

| | Cens | sus | Pero | :ent |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|--------|---------|
| Age | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Male | | | | |
| Under 5 | 117,049 | . 4.5 | 299 | 3.6 |
| 5-14 | 308,511 | 11 <i>.7</i> | 972 | 11.7 |
| 15-24 | 206,445 | 7.9 | 830 | 10.0 |
| 25-44 | 311,587 | 11.8 | 864 | 10.4 |
| 45-64 | 261,935 | 10.0 | 910 | 11.0 |
| 65 + | 107,954 | 4.1 | 321 | 3.9 |
| Female | | | | |
| Under 5 | 111,552 | 4.2 | 281 | 3.4 |
| 5-14 | 290,224 | 11.0 | 989 | 11.9 |
| 15-24 | 211, 7 91 | 8.0 | 713 | , 8.6 |
| 25-44 | 320,703 | 12.2 | 985 | 11.9 |
| 45-64 | 258,971 | 9.9 | 845 | 10.2 |
| 65 + | 122,410 | 4.7 | 283 | 3.4 |
| TOTAL | 2,629,132 | 100.0 | 8,292 | 100.0 |

Chi Square=138.4261; df=11; <.001

RESULTS

Types of Injuries

The most frequent injuries recorded by this study were cuts, fractures, sprains, and bruises (Table 2). Cuts, fractures, and bruises accounted for 67% of the injuries to farm people. In comparison, a Louisiana study reported that 70% of the accidents resulted in cuts, fractures and bruises.⁵ A 10-state accident survey shows only 41% of the accidents resulted from cuts, fractures, and bruises.⁶

Cuts, fractures, and bruises (most common injuries) represented three of four rural nonfarm accidents. Cuts continue to be the major type of injury to both farm and nonfarm residents.

Severity of Injuries

The greatest number of accidents reported were in the *slight* category. These accidents involved minor cuts, bruises, abrasions, and sprains. As shown in Table 3, 51% of the reported farm accidents and 54% of the rural nonfarm accidents were listed as slight.

The more serious injuries (fractures, cut ligaments, sprained backs, etc.) made up 40% of farm and rural nonfarm accidents reported. In comparison, a study in Wisconsin classified 34% of all farm accidents as severe.⁷

⁷Jenson, Donald V. March 1972. Rural Wisconsin Accidents. Univ. of Wisconsin, Coop. Ext. Bull. A-2375.

TABLE 2.—Types of Injuries Occurring to Ohio Farm and Rural Non-farm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| Type of Injury | Far | m | Rural Nonfarm | | |
|----------------|--------|---------|---------------|---------|--|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Cut | 5,402 | 31.7 | 36,928 | 39.6 | |
| Fracture | 4,276 | 25.1 | 25,036 | 26.9 | |
| Sprain · | 2,176 | 12.8 | 12,518 | 13.4 | |
| Bruise | 1,725 | 10.1 | 7,511 | 8.1 | |
| Eye Injury | . 600 | 3.5 | 1,251 | 1.3 | |
| Infection | 450 | 2.6 | 626 | 0.7 | |
| Burn | 375 | 2.2 | 2,504 | 2.7 | |
| Bite | 225 | 1.5 | | | |
| Poison | 75 | 0.4 | 1,251 | 1.3 | |
| Miscellaneous | 1,725 | 10.1 | 5,633 | 6.0 | |
| Total | 17,029 | 100.0 | 93,258 | 100.0 | |

⁵Paterson, Karen W., Joseph A. Novock, and Alvin L. Bertrand. Sept. 1972. The Distribution and Characteristics of Farm Accidents in Louisiana. Bull. 665, Louisiana State Univ.
⁶Ten-State Accident Survey. Farm Safety Review, National Safety Council, Chicago, Vol. 31, No. 3, May-June 1973.

TABLE 3.—Seriousness of Injuries to Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Far | m | Rural Nonfarm | | |
|--------------------|--------|---------|---------------|---------|--|
| Severity of Injury | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Slight | 117 | 51.5 | 81 | 54.4 | |
| Severe | . 98 | 43.2 | 60 | 40.2 | |
| Permanent | . 8 | 3.5 | 7 | 4.7 | |
| Fatal | 4 | 1.8 | 1 | 0.7 | |
| Total | 227 | 100.0 | 149 | 100.0 | |

TABLE 4.—Percent of Accidents Reported According to Activity of Victims and Location of Accidents, Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | | | | | | Location o | f Accident | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| | | otal dents | | ne or ryard | | ling or nyard | | ld or ane | | y From Residence |
| Activity of Accident Victims | Farm 17,029 | Rural Nonfarm 93,258 | Farm 3,226 | Rural Nonfarm 31,294 | Farm 4,501 | Rural Nonfarm 11,892 | Farm 2,025 | Rural Nonfarm 3,129 | Farm 7,277 | Rural Nonfarm 46,943 |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| On the Job | 44.1 | 18.8 | 9.3 | 2.0 | 80.0 | 36.8 | 81.5 | 20.0 | 26.8 | 25.3 |
| Off the Job | 10.1 | 17.4 | 44.3 | 40.0 | 3.3 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 20.0 | 2.1 | 0.0 |
| Leisure | 42.7 | 45.0 | 39.4 | 44.0 | 13.4 | 26.3 | 18.5 | 40.0 | 59.8 | 50.7 |
| Other | 3.1 | 18.8 | 7.0 | 14.0 | 3.3 | 10.6 | 0.0 | 20.0 | 11.3 | 24.0 |

Permanent or fatal injuries continue to account for only 5% of the total reported rural accidents.

The severity of accidents to rural people was anticipated. In a Michigan study, 66% of all reported injuries were listed as slight, 30% severe, and 5% permanent or fatal.8

Where Accidents Occurred

Forty-four percent of farm accidents occurred on the job, compared to about 19% for rural nonfarm mishaps (Table 4).

Leisure time pursuits accounted for 43% of the farm accidents, the same as for the 1967 study.

Forty-three percent of the accidents to farm people occurred away from the farm, while 51% of the accidents to rural nonfarm people occurred away from their residence. A high percentage of these were leisure time accidents. This reflects the increase in leisure time available to both farm and nonfarm people. Youths in both groups were injured while participating in athletics or unorganized play.

How Accidents Occurred

Victims struck against an object or struck by a falling or flying object accounted for 33% of reported accidents (Table 5). Similar findings were reported in the 10-state accident survey compiled by the National Safety Council.⁹

TABLE 5.—How Accidents Occurred to Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Fan | m | Rural N | lonfarm |
|------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Struck by Object | 3,601 | 21.1 | 16,273 | 17.4 |
| Fall, Same Level | 2,025 | 12.0 | 13,144 | 14.1 |
| Fall, Different Level | 2,401 | 14.1 | 14,396 | 15.4 |
| Struck Against | 2,025 | 12.0 | 11,892 | 12.8 |
| Caught in, under, or between | 2,101 | 12.3 | 8,137 | 8.7 |
| Collision | 1,726 | 10.1 | 10,014 | 10.7 |
| Slip | 1,275 | 7.5 | 7,511 | 8.1 |
| Burn | 300 | 1.8 | 2,503 | 2.7 |
| Inhaling | | | 1,252 | 1.4 |
| Ingested | 225 | 1.3 | | |
| Firearm | 225 | 1.3 | | |
| Lifting | 75 | 0.4 | 5,633 | 6.0 |
| Other | 1,050 | 6.1 | 2,503 | 2.7 |
| Total | 17,029 | 100.0 | 93,258 | 100.0 |

⁸Hofmeister, Kenneth M. and Richard G. Pfister. Nov. 1968. Michigan Farm Accident Study, Rural Manpower Center Report No. 14, East Lansing, Mich.

⁹Farm Safety Review, Loc. Cit.

Farm people in collisions or caught in, under, or between various objects accounted for 22% of all accidents.

The relative frequency of how accidents occurred in 1972 was similar for both farm and rural nonfarm people. In comparison, the percentage distribution on how accidents occurred to both groups was much the same as in the 1967 study.¹⁰

Victims of Accidents

Male members of a family are usually the most active and most likely to be involved in accidents. Men and boys (51% of the rural population) accounted for 61% of the reported accidents. More than

¹⁰Phillips, Loc. Cit.



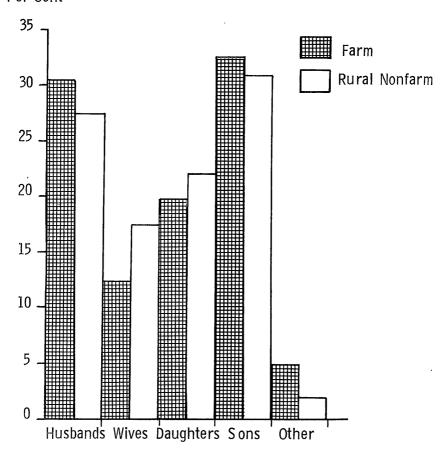


Fig. 2.—Percent of family members who had accidents, Ohio farm and rural nonfarm people living outside of incorporated places, 1972.

30% of all persons injured were sons, followed closely by husbands (Figure 2).

- The large differences in reported accidents, when comparing husbands, wives, sons, and daughters, suggest different work situations and environments. The pattern of accidents (Figure 2) reflects the importance of recognizing the environment. Males are usually involved in work situations which may influence the farm and nonfarm accident rates.

Hired help accounted for only 1.8% of the farm accidents. In comparison, the 10-state accident survey reported that hired help accounted for 11% of farm accidents. This difference may be accounted for, in part, by the varying number of persons working as hired help in the 10 states.

Many people believe children and oldsters are the most frequent accident victims. Data in Figure 3 tend to bear this out for children but not the elderly. Persons 65 and over made up 7.3% of rural population but had only 6.7% of the reported accidents. However, those under 15 accounted for 31% of the rural population and had 36% of the reported accidents. In fact, the 5 to 14 age category had the highest percentage of reported farm and rural nonfarm accidents.

Farm residents had 49 accidents per 1,000 people, compared to 41 per 1,000 for the rural nonfarm population. The rural population between 5 and 14 had 55 accidents per 1,000, the highest rate for both farm and nonfarm people.

Accident Sources

Motorized vehicles continue to account for the highest percentage of reported rural accidents. The automobile was involved in one of eight reported accidents (Table 6). The 10-state accident survey compiled by the National Safety Council recorded a similar rate.¹²

Farm machinery (tractors, wagons, combines, etc.) accounted for 14% of the reported accidents. Tractors and wagons were responsible for about 40% of reported farm machinery accidents.

Hazards associated with recreational activities (organized and unorganized play) were responsible for 8.8%. Bicycles were involved in 4.4% of the reported accidents to farm people.

Animals continue to be involved in farm and nonfarm accidents. It was interesting that the percentage of horse accidents to rural nonfarm people exceeded the accidents to farm people. The number of horse accidents reflects the increasing horse population in Ohio for riding and other leisure activities.

¹¹Farm Safety Review, Loc. Cit.

¹²Farm Safety Review, Loc. Cit.

Hand and power tools were responsible for a number of rural accidents. The percentage of accidents was actually greater for the rural nonfarm people, possibly reflecting the influence of the weekend handyman working with tools. People continue to be injured when working with ladders, nails, glass, stairways and steps, lumber, and other people.

Comparing the frequency of rural accidents, the farm population had a lower percentage of reported accidents involving farm machinery, tools, and animals in 1972 (28.1%) than in 1967 (29.2%).¹³

Time of Accidents

The time of day may provide answers to why some accidents occur. One can speculate that fatigue, long hours, and rush periods may play

¹³Phillips, Loc. Cit.

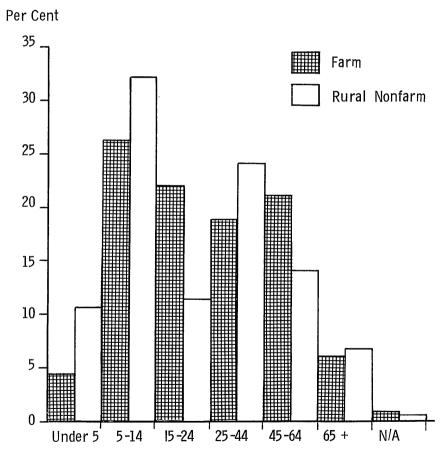


Fig. 3.—Percent of Ohio farm and rural nonfarm people living outside of incorporated places having accidents by age groups, 1972.

an important part in causing accidents. More than 53% of farm accidents occurred between noon and 6:00 p.m., whereas more than 55% of the rural nonfarm accidents happened between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. (Table 7). The highest percentage of accidents for both groups was during the early afternoon. In support of these findings, an Ohio study of 60 cases involving disabling farm accidents reported 67% of them occurred between noon and 6:00 p.m.¹⁴

TABLE 6.—Objects Involved in Accidents to Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Far | m | Rural Nonfarm | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------------|---------|--|
| Objects | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Motorized Vehicles | | | | | |
| Auto | 2,101 | 12.3 | 11,892 | 12.8 | |
| Truck · | 450 | 2.7 | 626 | 0.7 | |
| 2-Wheeled | 75 | 0.4 | 1,251 | 1.3 | |
| Other | * | , | 626 | 0.7 | |
| Total | 2,626 | 15.4 | 14,395 | 15.5 | |
| Farm Machinery | | | | | |
| Tractor | 450 | 2.6 | | | |
| Corn Combine | 150 | 0.9 | | | |
| Corn Picker-Sheller | 375 | 2.2 | | | |
| Combine (Small Grain) | 75 | 0.4 | | | |
| Wagon | 450 | 2.6 | | | |
| Disk | 150 | 0.9 | | | |
| Baler | 150 | 0.9 | | | |
| Elevator | 150 | 0.9 | | | |
| Othe r | 450 | 2.6 | | | |
| Tota! | 2,400 | 14.0 | 2,504 | 2.7 | |
| Recreational Activities | | | | | |
| Organized Play | 675 | 4.0 | 2,503 | 2.7 | |
| Unorganized Play | . 826 | 4.8 | 7,511 | 8.0 | |
| Total | 1,501 | 8.8 | 10,014 | 10.7 | |
| Animals | | | | | |
| Cow | 450 | 2.6 | | | |
| Horse | 300 | 1.8 | 3,129 | 3.4 | |
| Other | 225 | 1.3 | | | |
| Total | 975 | 5.7 | 3,129 | 3.4 | |
| Tools | | | - | | |
| Axe | | | 1,252 | 1.3 | |
| Knife | 300 | 1.8 | 1,252 | 1.3 | |
| Other | 375 | 2.2 | 2,503 | 2.8 | |
| Total | 675 | 4.0 | 5,007 | 5.4 | |

¹⁴Stout, Thomas T. and Bruce I. Darbee. Nov. 1972. Sixty Cases of Disabling Farm Accidents. Ohio Agri. Res. and Dev. Center, Res. Bull. 1056.

TABLE 6 (Continued).—Objects Involved in Accidents to Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Fari | n_ | Rural N | onfarm |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Objects | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Power Tools | | | | |
| Saw | 225 | 1.3 | 3,129 | 3.3 |
| Lawnmower | 300 | 1.8 | • | |
| Other | 225 | 1.3 | 626 | 0.7 |
| Total | 750 | 4.4 | 3,755 | 4.0 |
| General Objects | | | | |
| Person Himself | 1,351 | 7.9 | 3,755 | 4.0 |
| Windows, Doors, Walls, Furnitu | re 750 | 4.5 | 6,885 | 7.4 |
| Bicycle | 750 | 4.4 | 2,503 | 2.7 |
| Another Person | 675 | 4.0 | 5,007 | 5.4 |
| Ladder | 600 | 3.5 | 1,252 | 1.3 |
| Nail | 525 | 3.1 | 1,252 | 1.3 |
| Sidewalk, Stones, | | | | |
| Concrete Blocks, Lumber | 525 | 3.1 | 3,755 | 4.0 |
| Glass | 375 | 2.2 | 1,878 | 2.0 |
| Stairways and Steps | 375 | 2.2 | 6,259 | 6.7 |
| Ice | 300 | 1.8 | 3,130 | 3.4 |
| Industrial Equipment | 225 | 1.3 | 5,633 | 6.1 |
| Gun | 225 | 1.3 | | |
| Household Chemicals | | | 1,252 | 1.3 |
| Other | 1,426 | 8.4 | 11,893 | 12.7 |
| Total | 8,102 | 47.7 | 54,454 | 58.3 |
| Grand Total | 17,029 | 100.0 | 93,258 | 100.0 |

^{*}Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 7.—Time of Day Accidents Occurred to Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Far | m | Rural Nonfarm | | |
|--------------------|--------|---------|---------------|---------|--|
| Time of Day | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | |
| Midnight-6:00 a.m. | 225 | 1.3 | 626 | 0.7 | |
| 6:00-9:00 a.m. | 1,500 | 8.8 | 7,511 | 8.1 | |
| 9:00-12:00 noon | 3,301 | 19.4 | 24,410 | 26.2 | |
| 12:00-3:00 p.m. | 4,726 | 27.7 | 27,539 | 29.5 | |
| 3:00-6:00 p.m. | 4,351 | 25.5 | 16,273 | 17.4 | |
| 6:00-9:00 p.m. | 2,401 | 14.2 | 12,518 | 13.4 | |
| 9:00-midnight | 525 | 3.1 | 4,381 | 4.7 | |
| Total | 17,029 | 100.0 | 93,258 | 100.0 | |

The highest percentage of farm accidents occurred in July (13.7%) and October (12.8%) (Figure 4). In fact, 90% of the reported farm accidents occurred in June, July, September, and October. This is to be expected because these months are peak activity periods for farmers.

Rural nonfarm accidents reflected a higher incident rate (54%) in the spring and summer months (March, April, May, June, July).

The day of the week had little effect on the number of reported accidents to farm people. Accidents varied from a low of 11% on Saturday to a high of 19% on Friday and 17% on Tuesday. Rural nonfarm accidents varied from 9% on Thursday to a high of 20% on Tuesday.

Cost of Accidents

The annual cost of farm accidents amounted to \$5,592,141 in 1972, compared to \$4,943,140 in 1967. All farm people and 99% of the rural nonfarm people required the services of a doctor after an accident. In addition, 22% of the farm and 20% of the nonfarm people involved in accidents required hospitalization.

The average cost per accident for farm residents was \$329.83, while the cost for rural nonfarm people was \$332.04 (Table 8). This cost includes medical, property damages, and hired help to replace the injured person. The cost figure may be low because all age groups were included in the average cost per accident. If only adults were included

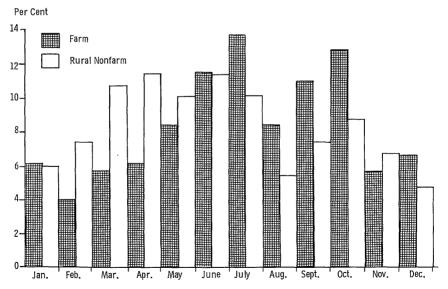


Fig. 4.—Accidents to Ohio farm and nonfarm people living outside of incorporated places by months, 1972.

TABLE 8.—Accidents Involving Ohio Farm and Rural Nonfarm People Living Outside Incorporated Areas, 1972.

| | Farm | | Rural | Nonfarm |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Total | per Accident | Total | per Accident |
| Number of Accidents* | 17,029 | | 93,258 | |
| Days Lost Due to Accidents | 156,567 | 9 | 294,966 | 14 |
| Cost of Accidents (Total)† | \$5,592,141 | \$329.83 | \$30,341,269 | \$332.04 |

^{*}Based on the ratio of reported accidents to population (one farm accident in survey represented 75.02 accidents to Ohio's farm people and one rural nonfarm accident represented 625.89 accidents to rural nonfarm people).

†Cost of an accident includes medical, property damages, and hired help to replace person injured. This total cost includes all persons reported having an accident regardless of age.

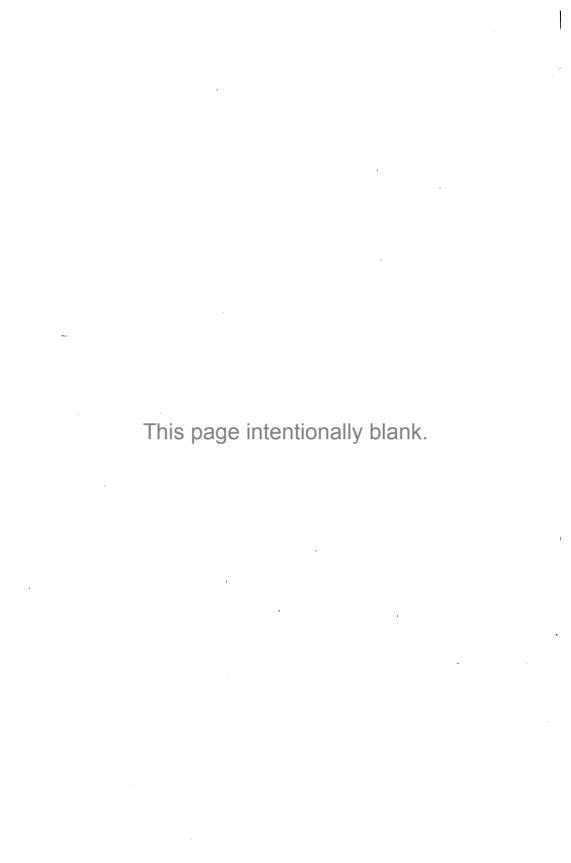
in this study, the cost per accident would increase greatly due to the cost of extended medical care, hired help, and property damage.

Work days lost continue to be a major problem for accident victims. Farm people lost an average of 9 days per accident and nonfarm people lost an average of 14 days. In comparison, the Wisconsin study reported an average of 10 days lost per accident to rural farm family members.¹⁵

This study revealed that in 1972 one of six farm families and one of eight rural nonfarm families in Ohio had an accident requiring the services of a doctor or causing loss of one-half day or more of time from work or play. In Minnesota, a similar study of rural accidents reported that one of five farm families had an accident.¹⁶

¹⁵Jenson, Loc. Cit.

¹⁶Hanson, Wayne and Clarice Olien. 1970. Rural Accidents in Minnesota. Minn. Agri. Ext. Serv., Special Report 30.



BETTER LIVING IS THE PRODUCT

of research at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. All Ohioans benefit from this product.

Ohio's 110,000 farm families benefit from the results of agricultural research translated into increased earnings and improved living conditions. So do the families of the thousands of workers employed in the firms making up the state's \$8 billion agribusiness complex.

But the greatest benefits of agricultural research flow to the millions of Ohio consumers. They enjoy the end products of agricultural science—the world's most wholesome and nutritious food, attractive lawns, beautiful ornamental plants, and hundreds of consumer products containing ingredients originating on the farm, in the greenhouse and nursery, or in the forest.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, as the Center was called for 83 years, was established at The Ohio State University, Columbus, in 1882. Ten years later, the Station was moved to its present location in Wayne County. In 1965, the Ohio General Assembly passed legislation changing the name to Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center—a name which more accurately reflects the nature and scope of the Center's research program today.

Research at OARDC deals with the improvement of all agricultural production and marketing practices. It is concerned with the development of an agricultural product from germination of a seed or development of an embryo through to the consumer's dinner table. It is directed at improved human nutrition, family and child development, home management, and all other aspects of family life. It is geared to enhancing and preserving the quality of our environment.

Individuals and groups are welcome to visit the OARDC, to enjoy the attractive buildings, grounds, and arboretum, and to observe first hand research aimed at the goal of Better Living for All Ohioans!

The State Is the Campus for Agricultural Research and Development



Ohio's major soil types and climatic conditions are represented at the Research Center's 13 locations. Thus, Center scientists can make field tests under conditions similar to those encountered by Ohio farmers.

Research is conducted by 15 departments on more than 6500 acres at Center headquarters in Wooster, nine branches, Green Springs Crops Research Unit, Pomerene Forest Laboratory, and The Ohio State University.

Center Headquarters, Wooster, Wayne County: 1953 acres

Eastern Ohio Resource Development Center, Caldwell, Noble County: 2053 acres

Green Springs Crops Research Unit, Green Springs, Sandusky County: 26 acres Jackson Branch, Jackson, Jackson County: 344 acres

Mahoning County Farm, Canfield: 275 acres

Muck Crops Branch, Willard, Huron County: 15 acres

North Central Branch, Vickery, Erie County: 335 acres

Northwestern Branch, Hoytville, Wood County: 247 acres

Pomerene Forest Laboratory, Keene Township, Coshocton County: 227 acres

Southeastern Branch, Carpenter, Meigs County: 330 acres

Southern Branch, Ripley, Brown County: 275 acres

Western Branch, South Charleston, Clark County: 428 acres