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Millard Gipson

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Gipson, Millard, "UA3/3/1 Comments on Activities at the Western Kentucky State College Farm" (1966). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 3232.
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COMMENTS ON ACTIVITIES
AT
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE COLLEGE FARM

By Millard Gipson
March 1, 1966

In the past the farm has been used very little as a laboratory in farm management classes. We have worked out some plans attempting to utilize the available resources. It has been most difficult to obtain satisfactory results. Our farm plans have looked absurd in terms of returns, or the farming program that has been followed has looked absurd. Perhaps our difficulty has been a combination of the above.

Realizing that the farm needs to be used for instructional purposes and that it should not be a financial burden on the school, we in the department have discussed it many times. Our idea is that it can be operated profitably and that it can be better utilized for instructional purposes. We know that there is much to be done in the above mentioned areas.

Mr. Mutter will spend some time with my class during the last half of the spring semester where we will work on a farm plan. We hope to obtain some good ideas from this work. The University of Kentucky would be most nappy to work with us and would make computers available to analyze data.

We realize that there are some highly subjective values involved when managing a school farm. There is very little material available that will be useful to us. Our idea is that we will have to decide on what enterprises we should have for instructional purposes and attempt to produce them at least cost. This is not negative reasoning since we think that the diversified operation necessary for educational purposes would not be most profitable. Certainly we should be able to come up with a profitable farm plan, however. Mr. Mutter and I will consult with all members of the department prior to deciding on the enterprises to be considered. We would like to think of it as a departmental study. We would appreciate any suggestions that you might have.

I have no activities scheduled for the school farm as such. I am interested in the farm being more fully utilized and think that it has a lot of potential.