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REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY China  
SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, production

DATE OF INFORMATION 1951 - 1952

HOW PUBLISHED Yearbook

DATE DIST. 30 Jul 1953

WHERE PUBLISHED Shanghai

NO. OF PAGES 9

DATE PUBLISHED 1 Jul 1952

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Chinese

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SOURCE 1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e, pp 333-335.AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION PROGRAM FOR CHINA IN 1952

Comment: This report presents three documents on the agricultural production program for 1952 which appeared on pages 333-335 of the 1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e. The three documents show the development of the program from its inception on higher levels to implementation at lower levels.

The first document, Decisions on 1952 Agricultural Production by the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government, was issued on 15 February 1952. This document established the broad outlines of the plans for production. The second document, The Statement on the 1952 Production Competition Program by the Ministry of Agriculture, which appeared in a Hsin-hua release of 10 March 1952 helped to implement these plans. Rice, wheat, and cotton were designated as the basic crops for the nationwide competitive production.

The third document, reprinted in the Jen-min Shou-ts'e from an article originally in the Chung-kuo Ch'ing-nien Pao (Chinese Youth) of 4 April 1952, indicated specific activities to carry out the plans and directives issued by the authorities.

DECISIONS ON 1952 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION  
BY THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL

Outstanding successes were made in agricultural production during 1951 under the leadership of the people's governments on all levels and with the efforts made by the farmers as a whole. The total grain production has been restored to 92.8 percent of the prewar level; cotton production has surpassed the prewar level with a new record of a 13 percent increase; and the quotas or norms laid down in connection with the production of other items, including livestock, aquatic products, tobacco, hemp, tea leaves, and all sorts of oils, have been either fulfilled or surpassed.

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Following the restoration and development of agricultural productivity, the livelihood of the vast number of farmers has been improved, and national economic and financial conditions have improved and become favorable. For the time being, the urgent demands made by the farmers are that agricultural production activities be enlarged and further steps be taken to revive production. The general requirements of agricultural production for 1952 are that the prewar levels of production be reached or surpassed. However, there are different concrete demands for different norms in the different regions:

A great part of the old liberated areas and those new areas where the land reform has been brought to completion, and where the conditions of production are comparatively favorable, should raise production above the levels of the prewar period.

The newly liberated areas, where the land reform has been generally brought to completion, and a part of the old liberated areas should reach the levels of prewar production.

In the flooded areas and in the areas where the land reform has not yet been carried out, production should be close to that of the prewar period.

It is generally demanded that grains should be further increased by 8 percent over 1951; cotton by 20 percent; and that livestock, aquatic products, tea, silk, fruits, etc., should all be raised to fulfill the quotas, and that the quality should be improved.

To improve the livelihood of the farmers and to enable the nation to exploit its rich resources, it is necessary to increase the quantity of grains, industrial raw materials, and the export crops. The basic directive to be followed in 1952 is that efforts should be concentrated on raising the volume of production per unit of area. It is considered necessary to increase the production of grains in great volume, and the area under cultivation must not be reduced. The acreage of industrial raw material crops and export crops should be stabilized on the existing levels of 1951 without making further increase. Accordingly, the volume of production can be increased only by raising the production per unit of area.

To raise the output per unit of area, it is necessary to increase irrigation facilities on a large scale and to prevent natural catastrophes. In this connection, on 3 February 1952 this council promulgated the "Decisions Made on the Enlargement of the Mass Movement for the Prevention of and Resistance to Drought," and the people's governments on all levels should be strict in their observance of the instruction in carrying out their respective duties. In those places where flood damages have occurred, great efforts should be made to strengthen the dikes and levees and to dredge ditches and canals. Careful preparatory drainage work for flood prevention should be done. It is necessary to organize the masses to eliminate plant disease and insect pests. It is of particular importance that sufficient insecticides and equipment for their application be provided.

The increased application of fertilizers is at present the most feasible and effective method of raising production per unit of area. The masses should be mobilized according to prevailing conditions, to accumulate and process locally available fertilizers and to improve the techniques of their application. For the time being, the most effective method to accumulate fertilizers is to raise hogs, and the people's governments on all levels should draw up a workable plan to increase hog production by seeing that every farm family raises hogs and prepares places in which to accumulate fertilizer.

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A very important element in increasing production per unit of area is to advertise the accomplishments of model workers in raising production. Agricultural technical organs and the state-operated farms ought to combine scientific techniques with farmers' experience to guide the farmers who are too conservative to make any advance in their techniques since they believe the peak of production has been reached. They should organize on a mass basis, technique study teams in villages, expand the seed-selection movement, and improve the existing plowing and cultivation techniques.

To increase the number of livestock and to improve their quality, it is desirable to get the masses to draw up their own plans for livestock increase and to sign pacts for animal protection. It is also desirable to provide guidance on the feeding and care of animals. To attain this objective, the development of breeding stations, the practice of preventive inoculation, and the organizing of veterinarians to improve their techniques of treatment, are important measures. Whenever there is a plague, it is necessary to disinfect, isolate, and quarantine sick animals and to dispose of the carcasses. Grazing lands for nomadic herds must be protected.

Great efforts should be made to expand fresh water fish production and to stabilize and improve marine fishing. To raise the efficiency of each operating unit it is desirable to organize the fishermen into mutual aid teams and production cooperatives and to improve fishing techniques. Each aquatic products enterprise under state management should exert its leadership in fish production and in marketing. Each enterprise ought to establish close cooperation with the coast guard so that the task of fishery protection along the coasts may be strengthened.

Throughout the country the organization of simple and seasonal labor mutual aid teams should be strongly promoted. Where the mutual aid movement has already been established on a sound basis, it is proper to enlarge the year-round and well-established mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives carrying on regular and supplementary agricultural production simultaneously. Where the masses have had considerable experiences with mutual aid teams, and where the cadres are strong in their leadership, it is desirable that agricultural production cooperatives be organized at key points under strong leadership, with the farmers pooling their land as shares of such cooperatives. Other mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives of a specialized nature ought to be promoted.

It is considered necessary to organize 80 or 90 percent of the existing peasant labor forces in the old liberated areas during 1952 - 1953. The newly liberated areas ought to strive to organize their labor forces within approximately 3 years. Accordingly, the people's governments on all levels ought to carry out their respective duties according to the following instructions. At the same time, the policy of voluntariness and mutual advantage should be maintained.

1. It is necessary to strengthen the leadership responsible for reorganizing mutual aid teams, to train and develop the cadres in charge of the mutual aid movement, and to strengthen the collective education of the farmers.

2. The mutual aid teams and the agricultural production cooperatives should sign future delivery contracts with supply and marketing cooperatives so that national economic planning will be combined and coordinated with the farmers' economy.

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3. The mutual aid teams should be directed to devote their extra labor forces to deep plowing and intensive cultivation, improvement of soils, installing irrigation facilities, planting trees, and developing supplementary activities and handicraft activities to expand production in general.

4. The large administrative areas and the provincial governments should establish, within their possibilities, farm implement factories to manufacture large quantities of improved new-type farming implements. The mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives should be given priority in the distribution of such implements so that the consolidation and the development of these two basic organizations may be brought about.

Every hsien, insofar as it is possible, should establish one or two successful state-operated farms. At the present stage of agricultural development, extensive mechanization of state-operated farms cannot be carried out on a large scale. Accordingly, in handling the state-operated farms under a hsien government, it is necessary to use improved horse-drawn farming implements as much as possible; to adopt advanced techniques in plowing and cultivating; to introduce and further develop improved seeds and livestock; to strengthen the management and control; to implement a budget system to assure that the volume of production from the state-operated farms will be above that of private farms; to proceed with collective education by giving the farmers some concrete examples derived from the advantages of the state-operated farms.

The key to the fulfillment of the production missions in 1952 is strengthening the leadership in the agricultural production. Accordingly, the people's governments on all levels below the level of the provincial governments ought to consider improvement of their leadership in bringing about the desired agricultural production, which is the chief mission to be accomplished in 1952.

With the approach of spring the people's governments on all levels should carry out detailed surveys and inspections and give advice in order to guarantee that spring plowing and sowing will be done in time. This is the most important problem. To concentrate the human effort to get the work of spring plowing and sowing done well, it is necessary to make preparations and assign cadres to handle the work, paying particular attention to the Fourth Section of the "Decisions Made by the Government Administration Council on the Mass Movement for the Prevention of and Resistance to Drought." All of the instructions given in the decisions should be strictly observed and duly acted upon. At those place where land reform is being carried on, the reform should be completed before spring plowing and sowing. Even if land reform cannot be completed at that time, efforts should be made to bring the reform to a certain stage of completion. The land-reform program cannot be allowed to interfere with the spring plowing and sowing.

The land-reform movement, the Resist American, Aid Korea Movement, and the Movement for Suppression of Counterrevolutionaries, and the three main factors which have liberated the productive powers of the masses and encouraged them to be enthusiastic about the patriotic, production-increase movement. In addition, these movements have laid the foundation upon which increased production is possible. At present, the Anti-corruption, Anti-bribe, and Anti-bureaucratic Movement is in full swing. This is of great help to the expansion of the movement for production increase and austerity.

All of these movements are considered to have created unprecedentedly favorable conditions for the fulfillment of the mission in grain production in 1952. Accordingly, the people's government on the lower levels must strengthen their leadership in the field of agricultural production, expand the patriotic, production-increase movement, and strive to meet and surpass production quotas in 1952.

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STATEMENT ON 1952 PRODUCTION COMPETITION PROGRAM  
BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

The patriotic production increase competition sponsored by the Li Shun-ta Mutual Aid Team in 1951 has been warmly echoed within the country as a whole by more than one million mutual aid teams and many individual farmers. Those individual farmers who took part in the competition were all successful in increasing their production. The experiences derived during more than one year from the patriotic production-increase movement prove that the movement has been a formula of production acceptable to the farmers. It is also a very good method by which the vast number of farmers may be led to combine their warm feelings of patriotism and their enthusiasm about production increase, thereby raising the production per unit of area. In response to the appeal of Chairman Mao, to support the Chinese Volunteers by increasing production and by acting on the principles of simplicity and frugality, it is desirable popularize and enlarge the scale of the patriotic production competition.

The launching of the competitive movement ought to be by the mutual aid teams and the agricultural production cooperatives with the help of nonmember farmers who may participate individually in the movement. The state-operated farms should enlarge the competitive movement among themselves as well as compete with the farmers.

The competition for production increase ought to vary in its forms and types, and thus, a vast number of farmers can be brought to participate in one of the types of competition. To stimulate farmers to raise their production on a mass basis, it is necessary, first of all, to organize multicrop competition. In addition, to improve and raise several of the chief crops to their highest volume of production, and to eliminate local and regional prejudices, it is desirable to select certain crops for increase and competition. This year, 1952 only rice, wheat, and cotton have been selected for the production increase competition. Various places and different localities should be free to organize other types of competition according to the prevailing local circumstances.

Competition should be concentrated on one point, namely, raising the production per unit of area. The elements of competition should be made concise, concrete, and easy for comparison. In deciding the results of a full-fledged competition, the total production of the most common crops will be added together and from the sum total an average production volume per mou will be derived, and the amount and ratios of production increase will be computed. The highest production of the crop under consideration will then be ascertained.

Accordingly, the necessary conditions for computation of the results of a competition program for the three chief crops listed above will consist of: the average volume of production per mou; the quantities and the ratios of increase over 1951; and the highest production records. The acreage apportioned for creation of the highest records in production must not be too small. Generally speaking, an individual farmer ought to have at least one shih mou one shih mou equals 0.1647 acre/ to be able to create a record; while a mutual aid team or an agricultural production cooperative must have an acreage of not less than 3 shih mou. A state farm ought to have 10 mou or more for competition. An individual farmer or a state farm may choose any one of the three crops for competition.

To launch the competition according to plans and under the leadership of the government, it is expected that some mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives, well-known in the country as a whole, will jointly offer challenges for competition. For example, Li Shun-ta, Han En, Li T'ien-ying,

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P'u Chung-chih, Su Tien-hsun, and others, are considered qualified to offer challenges for competition in increasing production; Ch'en Yung-kang, Li Ch'eng-kuei, Liu Chang-wen, and others have already offered their challenge under a joint declaration for a record production of 1,500 catties per mou of irrigated rice paddy; Ch'u Yao-li, Wu Hsuan-wen, Chang Te-fang, and others, under their joint signature, have offered their challenge to compete for a record-breaking cotton production of 1,000 catties per mou. Shih An-fu has issued a challenge for the increase of wheat production. In response to these challenges, the patriotic emulation program can be extended by farmers, all over the country, who accept the challenges.

To strengthen the Patriotic, Production-Increase, Competition Movement, it is necessary to strengthen the patriotic education of farmers. In this way the farmers' production efforts and their political struggle will be combined, thereby helping the production competition. In the process of implementation it is necessary to mobilize great numbers of the masses; to make a full study of the competition program; to conduct discussions on the subject; to draw up an active and workable plan for production increase; and to devise some concrete steps to be taken in the fulfillment of the plan. Local authorities may, in addition, launch some undertakings in the nature of constructive production measures, such as making preparation to combat drought, pests, and floods, so that farmers may battle to conquer natural calamities, to fulfill the plan, and to achieve an abundant harvest.

Vigorous publicizing of previous experiences in farming is important in the competition plan. Local authorities may organize the farmers who have participated in the competition movement, to study the experiences of Ch'u Yao-li, Shih An-fu, Ch'en Yung-k'ang, and Li Ch'eng-kuei. This should help to overcome their conservatism, improve their plowing and cultivation techniques, and raise the quality of crops.

Surveys, examination, and evaluation will prevent the error of formalism in farming. When the competition movement is underway, local authorities ought to conduct thorough seasonal surveys and examinations of farming activities. In addition, a movement of criticism and comparison may be launched or developed among the masses so that new experiences may be summarized as guidance in the direction of farming. Before the harvest it is necessary for the local authorities to check and register the quantity of production. After the autumn harvest is completed, realistic criticism and rewards should be made.

#### AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION CHALLENGE, 1952

On 31 March 1952, many state farms and the agricultural production cooperatives and mutual aid teams under the leadership of agricultural labor models, in response to the appeal of the Central People's Government for the enlargement of the agricultural, patriotic, production competition throughout China, presented their challenges, in a joint declarations, to the farmers in the country as a whole and to the state farms for competition. These challenges are a clarion call for a nationwide advance on the agricultural production front.

The challenges offered are as follows:

1. The Shuang-ch'iao Experimental Farm of the Mechanized Farming School, and the Wu-li-t'ien State Farm, both directly under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Central People's Government, the September Third Mechanized Farm in the Northeast, the mechanized farm located in the Yellow River inundation zone in Hsuan Province, the Kuang-pei Mechanized Farm in Shantung Province, the August First Farm of the Sinkiang Military District of the People's Liberation Army, the Agricultural Experimental Station of Hopeh Province, the Yun-ch'eng

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Special Administrative District Farm in Shansi Province, the Yang-ch'u Hsien Farm in Shansi Province, the Lai-wu Hsien Farm in Shantung Province, the Ch'ang-te Rice Farm of Hunan Province, and the Ching-hui Farm in the Northeast.

2. The agricultural production cooperatives and the mutual aid teams under the leadership of nationally famous model workers like Li Shun-ta and Keng Chang-so of North China; Han En, and Chin Shih-lung of the Northeast; Lu Hung-ping and Miss Li T'ien-ying of East China; Su Tien-hsuan of Central-South China; P'u Chung-chih of the Northwest; have challenged the agricultural production cooperatives, mutual aid teams and the individual farmers of the country to an all-out production competition.

3. Those who have been rewarded as model workers by the national Ministry of Agriculture in the production of paddy rice and the agricultural production cooperatives and mutual aid teams which are under their direction -- for example, Yang Chen-ju and Tsou Yu-pin of Hopeh, Ch'en Yung-k'ang of South Kiangsu Province, Li Cheng-kuei of Hunan Province -- have challenged the rice raising farmers and organizations of mutual aid teams and the productive cooperatives to compete for an increase in rice production.

4. Shih An-fu of Han-ch'eng Hsien, Shensi Province, who is well-known in the country as a model worker in the production of wheat, and the mutual aid team under his leadership, challenged the mutual aid teams and the agricultural production cooperatives within the country as a whole, as well as individual wheat farmers, to compete in the increase of wheat production.

5. Ch'u Yao-li of Shansi Province, Wu Hsuan-wen of Kiangsi Province, Chang Te-fang of Hopeh Province -- all of whom are well-known in the country as model cotton producers -- and the mutual aid teams under their respective leadership, challenged the mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives throughout in the country, as well as individual cotton farmers to compete in the increase of cotton production.

According to the "Decisions on Agricultural Production in 1952," which was promulgated in February 1952, by the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government, the government asked for an 8 percent increase in grain production and 20 percent in cotton production to surpass prewar production. In addition, in the decisions it was clearly pointed out that the basic policy to be followed in the fulfilling the production norms is to raise the volume of production per unit of area. The chief purpose of the patriotic, production-increase competition is to raise the production of all sorts of crops throughout the country, but particularly the production per unit of area of the three crops -- paddy rice, wheat, and cotton.

As far as the state farms are concerned, it was proposed that the average production per mou should exceed that of 1951. It was further proposed that the average production per mou on state farms be brought 20 percent higher than that of the same crop in the same locality under private farming. Li Shun-ta and the mutual aid team under his leadership, and other model workers and the mutual aid teams under their leadership, have proposed that the average production from both the paddy fields and dry farming be increased 20 percent over 1951. They have set aside a part of their land as abundant production areas, thereby creating high records of production in one crop or in several crops. The objectives laid down by the agricultural production cooperatives and mutual aid teams for paddy rice, wheat, and cotton production are as follows:

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<u>Crops</u>	<u>Average Production</u>	<u>High Production</u>
Irrigated paddy rice	Above 1,000 catties	From 1,500 to 1,800 catties per mou
Wheat	600 catties	900 catties from irrigated fields 300 catties from nonirrigated fields
Cotton	600 catties	Over 1,000 catties

If all the farmers in the country fulfill the conditions laid down by the production cooperative under the leadership of Li Shun-ta or the mutual aid teams under the leadership of other model workers, and increase production by 10 percent, then the 1952 plans for agricultural production will be more than fulfilled. If 20 percent of the rice farmers in the country are able to fulfill the conditions laid down by the mutual aid team under the leadership of Ch'en Yung-k'ang as well as other teams under other leadership; if 9 percent of the wheat farmers in the country are able to fulfill the conditions proposed by the Shih An-fu mutual aid team; and if 10 percent of the cotton farmers can fulfill the conditions set by Chu Yao-li's mutual aid team; then the total volume of rice from irrigated fields, wheat, and cotton will be double that of 1951. Consequently, these challenges to increase the volume of production per unit of area are of great significance in the fulfillment of the 1952 plans.

The chief methods by which the objectives of production may be attained are:

1. Improve the Techniques of Plowing and Cultivation

Model workers, and the mutual aid teams and production cooperatives under their leadership, have been able to create new high production records because they have acquired rational, advanced, productive experiences for a number of years. These experiences include thorough plowing and careful cultivation; the use of new farming implements; additional applications of fertilizers; the improvement of soils; rational irrigation; sound measures to prevent drought and inundation; seed selection, the prevention of crop diseases and pests; the improvement of techniques; and close planting. All of these experiences have been listed in the conditions proposed by the model workers in their challenges. Moreover, they have proposed that some land set aside for special high production and for experiments to improve the techniques of plowing and cultivation.

2. Consolidation of Mutual Aid Teams and the Agricultural Production Cooperatives

Chairman Mao has said: "The way leading from poverty to wealth can be paved by organizing." For example, in the village of Hsi-k'au-tsun, since the farmers have been organized, they have been able to make rational use of their labor force, capital, and land. Accordingly, through efficient use of labor and a combination of regular agricultural products and by-products, the poor village has become a rich one.

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The patriotic, production-increase, competition movement is of great significance. It has not only given the farmers as a whole a concrete objective to be attained in agricultural production in 1952, thereby strengthening their enthusiasm for production, increasing production per unit of area, and safeguarding the fulfillment of plans for national agricultural production, but also it will bring about a further development and consolidation of mutual aid teams and cooperatives as movement gains momentum. As a whole, the advanced productive experiences will be widely adopted, and the political consciousness of the farmers will be greatly elevated, thereby facilitating the performance of various tasks in the villages.

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