EC64-730 Rural Civil Defense in Nebraska
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Rural civil defense is to help rural people plan to use their resources effectively in the event of natural or man-made disaster.

Civil defense is important for rural as well as urban people. After a nuclear attack, an adequate supply of food is essential to survival of all people.

Radioactive fallout is the big danger in rural areas. Rural people can survive fallout with proper preparation.

To survive fallout the farmer must provide shelter for himself and his family. He must also provide protection for key livestock and other items so that he can resume vital food production.

Knowledge and planning are keys to survival of farm people in case of nuclear attack.

Two types of plans are needed on the farm. The first is the family survival plan. It must provide for shelter, for a two-week reserve of food and water, sanitation, a battery radio, and other necessities.
Along with each family survival plan there should be a plan for the best protection of key livestock and farm production essentials. This is called a farm preparedness plan. Livestock can survive fallout too. The better their shelter, the better their chance. Fallout protection for livestock can be in barns, trench silos adapted for use as shelters, or other facilities already on the farm. Feed and water reserves should also be provided.

Deciding on fallout protection and what to do in an attack is just another factor in good farm management planning. Remember, after the warning of an attack comes there will not be enough time to decide what to do to protect your family and your livestock. There will be enough time, however, to put a preparedness plan into action. So it is important for everyone to learn of the danger and understand the facts and alternatives in fallout protection.

County extension agents, in cooperation with Civil Defense and other agencies and local leaders are stressing a rural fallout protection program to help rural people get and understand the facts. The goal is for each rural family to make survival and preparedness plans that best fit the family's needs and situations. Bulletins and other materials on rural civil defense are available at all county agents' offices in the state. Two bulletins especially helpful in making plans are, "Your Family Survival Plan" and "Your Farm Preparedness Plan". These bulletins give examples of plans and provide blank forms to use in developing your own plans.

You and your family can survive fallout from a nuclear attack if your plans are carefully made. All farmers should set goals, planning to meet problems and make the best of each opportunity.
It is good for all farmers to have fire, accident and other insurance. Your family survival and farm preparedness plan is your insurance for a nuclear attack, helping you to prepare for emergencies. Plan now so you will know what to do.

In the past, the Cooperative Extension Service has furnished agricultural and home economics information. Using this information, rural people have made decisions resulting in increased production and better living conditions. In the rural civil defense program, the Extension Service is supplying the facts and alternatives concerning survival. It will be up to rural people to decide how they can best use their resources for survival planning.