

In the first category, either mechanized ground spraying or aerial spraying can effectively be employed where substantial contiguous areas are planted. Because expensive equipment and central facilities are required, these activities fall logically under the purview of the project area administration.

In the second category, the direct responsibility must be assumed by the individual farmers. Widespread distribution of simple equipment, and a supply of insecticides and pesticides down to the village level will be required. The requirements are directly analogous to the distribution problem with fertilizers and seeds. Advantages would accrue if the distribution systems could be closely coordinated, carrying the joint depot to the smallest possible unit of the supply services.

According to current plans, the bulk of the pesticides and spraying equipment will continue to be obtained abroad. Allocations in the second five-year plan call for increasing imports to cover 19 percent of the acreage planted in major crops by 1965.

Improved Practices

In the initial years of each area of concentration, there are severe limits to the range of improved practices that can be introduced. In essence, the realistic objectives must fit within the present pattern of land holding, with bullocks as the main field power source to assist the farmers. Substantial improvements are possible, as outlined in Chapter 2, but once more a two-fold approach must be taken.

The immediate steps must deal with better soil preparation, land leveling, line sowing (where appropriate), weeding, and better planning. These aspects are all of primary concern to the extension effort, and require a minimum of additional tools and supplies. Further improvements require research and development of simple tools. These will not be available for widespread use for some years.

Intensifying Agricultural Production

The Frontline Services

Our plan for increasing agricultural production in West Pakistan is based upon concentration on areas, integration of effort, and developing momentum to overtake the increasing gap between food supplies and population. The success of the plan will stand or fall with the success