

**1955****Newspaper, 'Measures to Alleviate Farmers' Plight Urged'****Citation:**

"Newspaper, 'Measures to Alleviate Farmers' Plight Urged'", 1955, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-016-039, Official Correspondences, President Rhee's Correspondences, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.  
<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/123001>

**Summary:**

Chayu Shinbo accuses the Korean Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of not responding to the plight of starving farmers.

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan



Cha Yu sh. Bo, Feb. 12, 54

MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE FARMERS' PLIGHT URGED

Although the farmers of those areas which were hard-hit by drought and other calamities last year have reportedly run out of their stock of food, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, which has been receiving reports on the plight of farm villages, has not shown any sign of taking appropriate counter-measures to remedy the situation, thus inviting criticisms from various circles.

According to reports sent to the Ministry from the provinces, the farmers destitute of food throughout the country number 948,725 with the households comprised by them numbering 191,405. On a provincial basis, this figure is broken down as follows:

Province	No. of farmers	No. of households
Cholla Namdo	650,000	131,000
Cholla Pukdo	187,000	37,000
Kyongsang Pukdo	32,000	5,700
Kyongsang Namdo	—	—
Kangwondo	79,725	17,705
Total	948,725	191,405

Although the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry has previously stated that the Government's "reserve rice" will be released to help alleviate the plight of needy farmers, as of February 9th his Ministry took no measures whatever in this direction. In particular, in the case of Kangwon Province, despite the fact

*Translation*



that already a month's time has passed since the report on the critical situation facing the farmers in the province was tendered to the Ministry, so far no measures have been taken to remedy the situation. Such an insincere attitude taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry toward the poverty-stricken farmers is, therefore, evoking bitter criticisms among the public. (Chayu Shinbo)