

## Job surplus

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The pay averages \$7 to \$8 an hour, considerably lower than the United Auto Workers' pay scale, but the cost of living is also lower in small towns than in the cities where auto plants are located.

Said Carl Luther of Luther Equipment in Greeley, Colorado, "I'd hire a man today if he had his own tools and a knowledge of tractor motors, it's the same principal as a car, but on a larger scale."

There are unique employment opportunities in agriculture for the physically handicapped.

Seed analysis is an employment opportunity particularly suited to the handicapped, according to James Echols, Professor of Agronomy at Colorado State University.

After conducting a survey of seed companies in the U.S., Echols

learned that employee turnover is extremely high because of long hours of sitting while examining seed. At present, there is no training program for seed analysts, but Echols has been working with the Colorado State Vocational Training Center in Fort Collins to develop such a program which will begin this year.

The program is not limited to Colorado residents. Graduates of the 12-week course have a good chance of finding a job, Echols believes, because the companies responding to the survey were enthusiastic about the possibility of hiring trained analysts. Beginning salaries for seed analysts range from \$10,000 to \$12,000 and up to \$18,000 to \$20,000 for experience personnel.

Agriculture offers more overseas job opportunities than almost any other industry ex-

plained Sutton of Colorado State University. Some American agricultural firms do even more business abroad than at home.

Commodity associations, such as the Soybean Association, also have overseas representatives to build demand for American agricultural products and to participate in international trade agreements.

Agricultural development has become one of the few job areas for people who want to work in agriculture but do not want to work for government or corporations.

Maria Pollack answered a job announcement on a college bulletin board to work on a family farm in Brazil. Much later she had been an

agronomy student and was committed to working in agriculture, she did not want to work in agribusiness. She is now managing a vegetable farm in Central America.

The international relief programs hire people for Peace Corps — like jobs consulting with farmers in other countries.

Gary Nabhan, who works for the Meals for Millions Foundation

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