Appendix L: Self Reliance

This section illustrates relationships among agricultural production and WWC campus population over the past century. Total production is reduced by a factor of 1000 to bring it to scale with the others. Particular emphasis is on the past 35-40 years, before which information was sparse and, potentially, less accurate.

Figure K1: WWC population and agricultural productivity since 1900\textsuperscript{11}. Reductions in total yield since 1970 have resulted from the discontinuation of the College’s licensed dairy and butchery in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and moves away from unsustainable farming practices (heavy use of chemical inputs, silage production, and crop cultivation on steep slopes) in the 1990s. Increases in production since 2000 have arisen primarily from streamlining overall production systems and steadily increasing output of garden produce. Units on the x-axis are lbs (for productivity and yields) and number of students & faculty (population).

\textsuperscript{11} Data extrapolated from WWC archives and records
Figure K2: Proportion of students involved directly in WWC food systems since 1900. The sharp decline around 1930-1935 represents the change from Asheville Farm School to Warren Wilson College. Other steep declines in the 1970s and ‘80s indicate the period when WWC transitioned from in-house catering to contracted providers, discontinued its butchery and phased out the once-prominent dairy operation. Increases in the early 1990’s are due to the creation of Cow Pie Cafeteria and the Garden work crew, but further increases in campus population have all but negated these gains since 1995.

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12 Extrapolated from WWC archives and historical records.