

CIVIL DEFENSE BULLETINS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: Home and Garden Bulletin No. 77 and Farmers' Bulletin 2107



Home and Garden Bulletin No. 77, titled, "Family Food Stockpile for Survival," is a 16 page booklet that was issued in 1961 and reissued in '66. It features storage tips, rationing guidelines, and no-cook or limited cooking meal plans for survival in the event of a nuclear incident. Home and Garden Bulletins were geared towards private citizen, and featured emergency management tips in case of nuclear attack. This installation was designed to make families self-sufficient in times of national crisis, so that citizens could survive if communications and supplies were cut off and it was unsafe to go outdoors.

Farmers' Bulletins were issued on the understanding that clean food supplies would be essential for the nation to recover from a nuclear attack. Farmers' Bulletin 2107, "Radioactive Fallout on the farm," is designed to help farmers cope with a nuclear crisis so that livestock and livestock feed and water are protected from radioactive fallout. It covers the basics of fallout and explains why it's important to protect livestock and crops. The pamphlet also provides tips for sheltering livestock, storing feed, and even decontaminating livestock exposed to minimal radiation, if advised to do so by the Civil Defense Authority. This pamphlet was issued in 1961.

During the Cold War years, American citizens were taught how to respond to nuclear crises by the Office of Civil Defense and Mobilization and its daughter agencies. Pamphlets such as this and motion picture versions of similar material were made available in libraries for use by schools and families. Other topics included fire fighting, first aid, and even plans for building a proper home fallout shelter. They represent the uncertainty felt by Americans awaiting a cataclysmic event.

