

October:

1. Working with 100 bushel corn club projects.
2. Checking 4-H club projects.
3. Holding 4-H Achievement Program
4. Attending Annual Agent's Conference
5. Checking small grain seeding.
6. Attending 4-H club meetings
7. Attending Community Club meetings

November:

1. Closing out year's reports.
2. Complete Annual Reports
3. Check and score Community Improvement work.
4. Checking final 100 bushel corn reports.
5. Meeting 4-H clubs
6. Attending Community Club Meetings.

Calendar of Activities Cont'd

May

1. Checking on 4-H club projects.
2. Checking with leaders on Community Improvement Program
3. Arranging for delegates to 4-H Short Course.
4. Working with 100 bushel corn club members.
5. Holding community club meetings.
6. Work with Home Ground Improvement groups.
7. Observe Rural Life Sunday.
8. Work with Farm & Home Unit groups.
9. Hold 4-H club meetings

June:

1. Arrange for 4-H Picnic
2. Send delegates to 4-H Short Course.
3. Send out information on side dressing corn.
4. Check on Community Improvement work.
5. Check on project work with 4-H & Adult members.
6. Check with Farm & Home Unit Demonstrators.
7. Hold 4-H club meetings
8. Hold Community club meetings.

July:

1. Conducting County Fair.
2. Trip to Experiment Station
3. Visits to 4-H projects
4. Start work on Winter Gardens
5. Plan for delegates to Wildlife Conference.
6. Hold 4-H club meetings.
7. Hold Community club meetings
8. Visit Community Club projects.

August:

1. Compiling report for State Advisory Board Meeting.
2. Checking on Education Exhibits for Fair.
3. Checking on fall crops and pasture needs.
4. Sending Delegates to Wildlife Conference.
5. Taking Annual Leave

September:

1. Plan for closing 4-H project record books.
2. Checking small grain program.
3. Taking delegates to State Advisory Board Meeting.
4. Assisting at Annual County Fair.
5. Estimating corn yields.
6. Holding 4-H club meetings.
7. Holding Community Club meetings.

Calendar of Extension Activities

December 1958:

1. Reorganize 4-H clubs.
2. Check Winterpock Community Improvement work
3. Writing 1959 Plan of Work
4. Hold Adult Achievement Program
5. Taking some Annual Leave

January 1959:

1. Holding Advisory Board Meeting
2. Holding Agronomy Committee Meeting
3. Holding Horticultural Committee Meeting
4. Checking on Community Improvement work
5. Checking with farmers on ACP Program
6. Holding 4-H club meetings.

February:

1. Livestock & Poultry committee meeting
2. Leaders meeting
3. Checking on Pasture Program
4. Checking Small Grain for top-dressing.
5. Holding 4-H club meetings
6. Holding Community Club meetings
7. Checking Garden work
8. Holding 100 bushel corn club meeting

March:

1. Attending Annual Fair Meeting
2. Holding Junior Council meeting
3. Holding 100 bushel corn club meeting
4. Making plans for Rural Life Sunday.
5. Checking Pasture Projects
6. Holding 4-H club meetings
7. Arranging for participation in National 4-H club week.
8. Sending circular letters on timely garden suggestions.

April:

1. Checking on Community Improvement work.
2. Checking on Farm & Home Development work.
3. Work with 100 bushel corn club members.
4. Check with farmers on lime and fertilizer needs.
5. Holding community club meetings.
6. Holding regular 4-H club meetings.
7. Planning for Rural Life Sunday in May.
8. Work with farmers on hay needs and plan for supplementary feeds.
9. Work with groups on Home Ground Improvement.

Goals for 1959

- 6 Pasture demonstrations.
- 12 100 Bushel Corn Club member demonstrations.
- 6 Garden demonstrations.
- 2 Small Grain demonstrations.
- 2 Poultry demonstrations.
- 1 Beef Cattle demonstration.
- 3 Market Hog demonstrations.
- Educational work on Pasture situation.
- 4 Farm & Home Development families
- 1 Community Improvement Program
- 6 Home Ground Beautification demonstrations.

In the community clubs, the H.D. clubs and the 4-H clubs a number of the members are taking Home Ground Beautification as their projects or a goal in the long time program.

2. Goals:

- (a) To give the owner an opportunity to learn to develop and care for the home grounds.
- (b) To help them learn to identify and develop a greater appreciation for some of the flowers, shrubs, and trees commonly used in landscaping the home grounds.
- (c) To help them learn to control the insects and diseases commonly found in the home ground area.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Have owner grow plants from seed or cuttings.
- (b) Learn to put on paper a landscape plan for the home or the flower border.
- (c) To have them develop game area in yards.
- (d) Help them learn to care for plants and grasses.

4. General Educational Activities:

This information will be gotten to the members through group discussions in meetings, circular letters and personal visits to homes.

County Wide Activities

(a) Advisory Board Meeting	January
(b) Agronomy Meeting	January
(c) Horticultural Committee Meeting	January
(d) Livestock & Poultry committee meeting	February
(e) Leaders meeting	February
(f) Junior Council Meeting	March
(g) Annual Fair Meeting	March
(h) 100 Bushel Corn club meeting	March
(i) 4-H Picnic	June
(j) Trip to Experiment Station	July
(k) County wide tour	July
(l) 4-H Achievement Day	November
(n) Adult Achievement Day	December

Specialist Help needed:

- (a) Pasture Field Meeting - Mr. M. T. Carter May

Other Federal Agencies

- (a) Will work with other Federal agencies as much as possible in carrying out the County program of work, as Soil Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration - ACP and State Forestry

J. Community Improvement Program:

1. Situation:

The Winterpock community has participated in the Community Improvement contest for quite a few years. We feel that they have been worked with long enough to keep the work going themselves. Since there are other communities we feel could benefit more now by having the program located among them, we are contemplating switching the work to another community. This will be taken up in our next County Advisory Board meeting and final decisions made then.

2. Goal: To participate in the Community Improvement Program in order to improve Agriculture and Home Economics and the level of living among Farmers of Virginia by:

- (a) Strengthening H.D., 4-H, 4-H, and Community Clubs.
- (b) To teach better farm management and farming practices.
- (c) To improve family living and home surroundings.
- (d) To develop a more informed and active community leadership.
- (e) To develop better communities by strengthening the economic, educational, and social activities.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Consult with community clubs and Advisory Board members for community problems, and work with them on solutions of problems.
- (b) Select adults and 4-H members to assist in checking problems and working out solutions.
- (c) Leaders and Agents distribute blanks for checking, give information to patrons when necessary, collect and assemble information, and summarize results.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational activities will be conducted through community club meetings, method and result demonstrations, circular letters, tours and personal visits.

K. Home Ground Beautification

1. Situation:

Chesterfield County is fast becoming urbanized. Many people have quit farming and taken work else where, or are farming on a part-time basis. Small communities or neighborhoods are being developed, and as new homes are being built and old ones re-modeled frequent calls are made on the farm agent for information or assistance in developing and maintaining the outside area.

2. Goals:

To conduct an educational campaign to make farmers aware of the Forestry situation, and recommend practices to improve conditions.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Give information on Forestry situation to farmers in clubs, in general meetings and farm visits.
- (b) Use the assistance of good forestry leaders and demonstrators.
- (c) Have Forestry Specialist come in and discuss situation with farmers.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational activities will be carried on through club meetings, circular letters, and personal visits.

Farm and Home Development:

1. Situation:

(a) Four families are enrolled in the Farm & Home Development program. Two are full time farmers and two are part-time farmers holding out side jobs. One has just about given up farming because of lack of time after holding his other job. He is interested in improving his home and the home surroundings. He moves in a new home soon and has to develop the out side area around the home. The agents are working with him on the projects.

2. Goals:

- (a) To work with the four families to improve the farm & home program.
- (b) Assist in recommending and working out adjustments to meet the changing conditions.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Analyze each farm and home situation and aid in recognizing main problems, and to aid in working out solutions to problems.
- (b) Assist in adjusting plans when necessary to meet changing conditions.

4. General Educational Activities:

The general educational activities will be conducted through group discussions, and individual visits, conferences with specialists and other interested agencies.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Furnish farmers with information from Extension recommendations, and from the demonstrator on practices used and results obtained.
- (b) Work closely with farmer to see that recommended practices are carried out.

4. General Educational Activities:

General educational activities will be conducted through club meetings and general meetings, circular letters, county tours, and exhibits at the fair.

G. Hogs -

1. Situation:

Less than 7% of the cash farm income comes from hogs but part-time farmers would do well to grow home supply, and a few for market purposes, if time and space are available.

2. Goals:

To conduct three market hog demonstrations to teach the type of hog desired for market and to give proper management practices.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Confer with cooperators as to breeds desired and local market demands.
- (b) Give recommended information on feeding, pasturing and disease and parasite control and other recommended cultural and management practices.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational activities will be conducted through group discussions, circular letters, personal visits, farm tours and exhibits.

H. Forestry -

1. Situation:

- (a) Only around 5% of the farm income comes from forest products, but from observation and conferences with club workers and individual farmers, there is some land that would do better if planted to trees.
- (b) According to Va. Forest Service estimates, the annual growth amounts to 32,222,000 board feet while the annual drain is 33,530,000 board feet.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Intensify educational work on top-dressing small grain.
- (b) Encourage seeding of winter and spring oats and barley.
- (c) Emphasize recommended practices.
- (d) Supervise closely enough to see that recommended practices are followed.
- (e) Hold Field meeting at proper stage of development.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational meetings will be held to discuss proper time and method of top dressing small grain and other recommended practices, circular letters will be sent to farmers, and field meetings at proper stage of development.

E. Poultry-

1. Situation:

Poultry is the leading source of cash farm income and supplies over 40% of the total.

2. Goals:

To encourage the full time farmers, and the part-time farmers who have sufficient time at home to consider poultry as a part of the farming program.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) To furnish farmers with out-look material on poultry situation.
- (b) Furnish farmers with information from Extension Service poultry department of practical and successful results and recommendations.
- (c) Give practices used by the most successful farmers.

4. General Educational Activities:

General educational activities will be carried on through Educational meetings of clubs, visits and circular letters.

F. Beef Cattle -

1. Situation:

(a) Beef Cattle account for only 10% of the total farm income for the county, yet people who have good pastures and abundance of feed could do well to add a few beef cattle to the farming program.

2. Goals:

To conduct one demonstration to teach breeding, feeding and management practices to farmers who are in a position to handle a few beef cattle.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational activities will be conducted through community clubs, circular letters, leader discussions, press releases and county tours.

C. Gardens -

1. Situation:

A large number of the county residents are working at industrial plants in the county or in the near by cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Hopewell and Colonial Heights or at other non-agricultural work. Many of these families have available time and space to raise a good home garden but are not taking advantage of the opportunity.

2. Goals: (a) To have families with available time and space produce a home garden to reduce living expenses and to improve the family diet.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) To have garden demonstrations in each neighborhood of the cooperating communities.
- (b) Provide workers with information on recommended practices, seed bed preparation, seed, insect and disease control.
- (c) Supervise closely enough to see that recommended practices are followed.

4. General Educational Activities:

Educational procedures will be carried out through club meetings, circular letters, conferences, tours, personal visits, and exhibits.

D. Small Grain -

1. Situation:

In many instances there is a feed shortage for livestock here in the county. A little wheat is grown but much less of the other small grains. From my observation and analysis a larger production of small grain would be an advantage and desirable for livestock farmers.

2. Goals:

- (a) To initiate a program to help alleviate the feed shortage through increasing the small grain yields already grown.
- (b) To promote a small grain program to meet farm needs.
- (c) Include more varieties of small grain in the planting program.

Demonstrations:

A. Pastures -

1. Situation:

(a) Cattle, hogs and poultry are grown in small numbers by our farmers but good pastures are limited. As pastures are our cheapest source of livestock feed, we feel that it should be recommended and grown.

2. Goals:

To conduct six pasture demonstrations to teach:

- (a) The value of a good pasture.
- (b) Good culture and managerial practices.
- (c) The use of good recommended seed.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Urge practices as recommended by Va. Agricultural Extension Service, including soil test for lime and fertilizer needs.
- (b) Hold Field meetings at demonstrations and have demonstrators discuss practices used and results obtained.
- (c) Give publicity to practices used and progress made.

4. General Educational Activities:

General Educational activities will be conducted through discussions at community club meetings, field meetings, through circular letters, and County or Community Tours.

B. Corn -

1. Situation:

- (a) Corn is the basic feed crop in Virginia and Chesterfield County. Even though there are a few farmers with high corn yields the county average is still low.

2. Goals:

- (a) To emphasize the use of good recommended hybrid seed through the 100 bushel corn club.
- (b) To emphasize good cultural and managerial practices.
- (c) To increase corn yields throughout the county.

3. Methods to be used:

- (a) Have a 100 bushel corn club in 1959.
- (b) Make available to farmers a list of the best recommended varieties of hybrid corn for the county.
- (c) Give recommended practices for seed bed preparation, fertilization and cultivation and other cultural and managerial practices.
- (d) Supervise closely enough to see that proper practices are followed.

(e) The 100 Bushel Corn Club

This group is organized to give direct information to interested farm families on increasing production of corn in the county by means of better seed, adequate fertilization, and by using recommended cultural and managerial practices. They plan for carrying objectives and information to interested farmers in their different communities. They carry corn demonstrations or arrange for them to be carried.

(f) Junior Council:

The purpose of this organization is to sponsor good 4-H club work, good leadership, good clubs, and to develop boys and girls into good citizens. Its membership is around 80, made up of all club officers, and leaders, and the Adult Advisory Committee.

(g) 4-H Clubs:

The 4-H clubs are organized to train rural boys and girls how to carry on club work through action and to develop its members into better citizens. They learn to do by doing. About 160 boys and girls and 25 leaders are connected with the county clubs.

(h) The County Agricultural Fair:

The County Agricultural Fair Association is organized with a membership of about 200 persons living in the county and who are acquainted with all phases of the County Extension Program. The purpose of this association is to promote Agricultural production and to hold County Fairs.

County Problems:

- (a) County is fast becoming urbanized and most people have turned to industrial work or work other than farm work.
- (b) The average farm is too small for general farming and to support the average size family.
- (c) Lack of proper farm equipment.
- (d) Poor practices followed in many cases.
- (e) Insufficient farm help.
- (f) Poor marketing practices.

Demonstrations:

Agriculture does not play a major role in the county's economy, but there are excellent poultry, dairy and livestock farms.

Poultry is the leading source of cash farm income and supplies over 40% of the total, milk ranks second with 20% of the total, flue cured tobacco provides about 16%, cattle and calves over 10%, hogs about 7%, forest products nearly 5%. Most corn crops, small grain hay and pastures for livestock needs are grown, but not for commercial uses.

Commercial farms comprise only one third of all farms and the remaining two thirds are classified as residential or part-time farming.

The number of farmers in the county is gradually decreasing. The drought for the past five or six years caused many people to leave the farm and seek work elsewhere. Many of them have remained away from the farm.

Organizations:

(a) County Advisory Board:

The County Advisory Board membership consist of 36 men and women representing all of the County Extension organizations. This group is organized and serves as the directing agency for all County Extension Organizations.

(b) Agronomy Committee:

The object of the agronomy group is to meet and study the county situation as it relates to field crops, gardens etc, and to offer recommendations to farmers on suitable seed, lime and fertilizers, managerial and cultural practices through its local organization and leaders. Quarterly meetings are usually held.

(c) Livestock Committee:

The object of this committee is to meet and study the situation as it relates to livestock and poultry and to present its findings to the interested farmers through the local organizations and leaders.

(d) Community Clubs:

Community groups are organized in clubs. Meetings are held monthly to work on community problems. Two men and a woman are delegated from each club to represent them on the County Advisory Board.

County Situation

Chesterfield County lies in central Virginia between the James and Appomattox Rivers, just where the Tidewater plain meets the Piedmont plateau. The land area is 465 square miles or 279,600 acres. Water power is easily available at the fall of Swift Creek, Falling Creek and the two large rivers. Altitude runs from 20 feet above sea level to 360 feet, generally from 150 to 200 feet. Average temperature is about 39° in January and 78° in July. Annual precipitation is about 42 inches.

Chesterfield is closely tied to the adjoining large cities of Richmond and Petersburg but has few urban centers. Colonial Heights became an independent city in 1948.

About two thirds of the area is wooded and produce such lumber and pulpwood. The commercial mining of coal in Virginia and in the United States started here about 1775 and large bodies of coal still remain, though unexploited at present. Granite, sand and gravel, and clay are present.

The soil is adapted to general farming; poultry, nursery and green house products, dairying, and livestock are important.

Industry has long been significant in Chesterfield. The first iron furnace in English America was built here in 1619. Though iron is no longer a local product, many of Chesterfield people are engaged in manufacturing and trade. Some work in the manufacturing, trade, and service establishments of the nearby cities. Large numbers are employed in the plants of the DuPont Company which have been developed in the County since 1928 and in the new Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation Plant. In addition to chemicals, (rayon fiber, cellophane and cellulose sheeting, sulfuric acid, carbon bisulfide), Chesterfield manufactures include bricks, clay and concrete products, and basic wood products.

Deep water frontage along the James and Appomattox provides good shipping by vessel through Norfolk. The Southern, Seaboard, and Atlantic Coast Line Railroads cross the County.

Pocahontas State Park is in the central part of the county. Virginia State College at Ettrick is a large, well equipped institution, in connection with it the Virginia Department of Agriculture conducts an Experiment Station.

According to the 1954 census of Agriculture there were 910 farms with 148 being operated by colored, averaging 86.4 acres in size and \$10,679 in value of land and buildings. Total population 48,400, which I understand has now increased to 56,000.

County Advisory Board Officers

Edward Friend, President Rt. # 15, Richmond, Va.
Mrs. Maude P. Berry, Secretary . Rt. # 1, Colonial Heights, Va.
Grover C. Crawley, Treasurer ... Rt. # 1, Winterpock, Va.

Junior Council Officers

Cleveland Harris, President Rt. # 1, Winterpock, Va.
Marie Bland, Secretary Rt. # 1, Chester, Va.
Mr. Edward Friend, Treasurer Rt. # 15, Richmond, Va.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Virginia Polytechnic Institute &
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Cooperating

EXTENSION SERVICE
County Agent Work

PLAN OF WORK

COUNTY Chesterfield

YEAR ~~1958~~ 1959

Name M. J. Edwards
Local Farm Agent

Date Mailed Dec. 12, 1958