

PLAN OF WORK

RICHMOND COUNTY

1955

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RICHMOND COUNTY

This county (land area 192 sq. miles or 122,880 acres, water area 11 sq. miles) lies in the Coastal Plain on the narrow peninsula between the Rappahannock and the Potomac Rivers, and has long been called the Northern Neck. Altitudes run from sea level to no more than 170 feet. Normal precipitation is about 42 inches annually. There are no mineral deposits of commercial importance. Approximately 75% of the area is in forest. The soil types are principally Sassafras and Elkton.

The 1950 Census gave the population of the county as 6,180 and as being approximately 38% negro. The County seat is Warsaw, which is the largest and only incorporated town in the county. It has a population of 435. It is 55 miles N.E. of Richmond, and the same distance S.E. of Fredericksburg. There are no railroads. Good roads prevail throughout the county. Shipping of all commodities is done by truck transportation.

The chief industry has always been agriculture. There are 675 farms in the county, 142 of them being non-white. The farms are small, 27% of them are less than 30 acres, and 65% of them are less than 100 acres. There are only 16 farms over 500 acres. The average size farm is 106 acres. Field crops, corn, wheat and soybeans, bring in the great part of the farm income. Poultry and eggs are important, there are some livestock and dairy farms. Tomatoes are widely raised, and are sold to the local canneries and to southern buyers as "green wraps". A Creamery at Warsaw provides a local market for cream, and milk which is trucked to Fredericksburg for processing. Oystering, commercial fishing and wood products also bring in part of the total income.

The entire area has access to electricity, the area is served by the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative and the Virginia Electric and Power Company. Better than 95% of the farms have electricity. Telephone service is provided by the Tidewater Telephone Company, which has its headquarters at Warsaw. Approximately 1/3 of the farms have telephone service. Approximately 35% of the homes have running water.

There are no public parks or playgrounds in the county. The playgrounds and athletic fields of the public schools are available for community use. Recreational activities are sponsored for the most part by the civic clubs, churches, schools, 4-H clubs, and other organizations.

The average income per family in 1949 was \$1,383 as compared to the State average of \$2,172, with 66.8% having less than \$2,000 as compared to 46.5% for the State. (1950 U.S. Census based on 20% sampling)

There are three High Schools in the county - 2 white and 1 negro. The white schools are crowded. There are four Elementary schools, 3 negro and 1 white. One of the negro elementary schools was constructed in 1953. It cost \$150,000.00. Another is to be built to replace the other two at an early date. The total 1954-55 enrollment for white students was 747, and the negro enrollment was 590.

The Health Department staff consists of one health officer, one nurse and one sanitation officer, working on a 4-county basis. There is also a County Welfare office. We have located in the county 2 medical doctors, 1 dentist, and 8 registered nurses.

Six major religious bodies are found in the county, with Baptists leading in membership. Others follow in the order given: Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Christian and Catholic. Four ministers are located in the county. There are 15 white and six colored churches in the county.

The offices of the following agencies assisting farmers are located at Warsaw: Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, A.S.C., and the Farmers Home Administration.

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

The total area of Richmond County is 122,880 acres. The 1950 Census gives 72,098 acres as the total land in farms - of this acreage about 25,000 acres are cropland, of which 2,353 acres are used for pasture, leaving approximately 22,650 acres for crops. Total open land in pasture is 5,744 acres, with about one-half of the acreage qualifying as good grazing land. There are 533 white farm operators and 142 negro operators.

The 1950 Census gives the total value of farm products sold as \$1,008,973. This amount is broken down as follows: \$468,436 from field crops, chiefly soybeans, wheat and corn; \$176,825 from poultry and poultry products (chiefly eggs); \$117,029 from livestock and livestock products (calves, cattle, hogs); \$92,000 from dairy products (chiefly milk); \$75,078 from tomatoes.

We normally grow about 6000 acres of corn, 5000 acres of small grain, 6000 acres of soybeans, 1000 acres tomatoes, and 5000 acres of hay. Our yield of corn and wheat has increased per acre as follows since 1945: Corn from 36 to 45 bushels, wheat from 19 to 23 bushels, soybeans, a relatively new crop that developed during World War II, are averaging about 20 bu. per acre. Tomato acreage has dropped nearly 40% in the last 8 years, from 1880 acres in 1945 to approximately 1000 acres in 1954. The yield per acre has increased only slightly. The quality if poor - approximately 70% grading below U.S. #1.

1953 and 1954 were drought years. Crop yields have been very poor - another dry year will leave our farmers in a very bad financial condition. Soil moisture is very short - we were approximately 8" short in 1953, 12 " in 1954, and 2" for January 1955. Our small grains were planted late and are not looking good as of February 12th.

COUNTY BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Chairman of each Agricultural Community
Chairman of the County A.S.C. Committee
Chairman of the County H. D. Committee
Chairman of each Community Improvement Project
Chairman of the Adult 4-H Club Committee
Chairman of the Young Adult Organization
President of the 4-H Club Council
Chairman of County Board of Supervisors
1 Agricultural Instructor
County S.C.S. Conservationist
Chairman of Special Committees
Key Banker and 1 Minister

The County Agricultural Board is composed of one representative from each of the above Agencies and Organizations. The County Agent serves as Secretary of the Board.

The Board meets twice yearly - the first is a planning meeting at which the Program of Work for the coming year with the main objectives to be stressed, are drafted. The second meeting is a Dinner Meeting of all farm and home leaders, 4-H club, and other contest winners. At this meeting short progress reports of last year's work are given by the Chairman of the County Board of Agriculture, the County Home Demonstration Committee, and the 4-H Club Committee. All project winners are recognized and awards made to them. The Agents give their major projects for the year and explain how the leaders can help to put them over in the County. The Supper Meeting is sponsored by the Northern Neck State Bank.

There are four special Committees that develop the actual Program of Work for the County, they are: Agronomy, Livestock, Forestry and 4-H Club.

FORESTRY RESOURCES

Richmond County has approximately 76,200 acres of Forest, and of this area the Forest Service estimate the species as follows: 10,000 acres are pure pine, 5000 acres 50% - pine, and 61,200 acres less than 50% pine - mostly hard and off woods. They further state that we have 16% less pine than we had in 1940, and that hardwoods and off woods are rapidly taking over some of the good pine land. There are very few tracts of good saw timber in the county.

PASTURES

The past two dry years have hurt our pasture greatly. Most of the Ladino Clover-Orchard Grass sods have thinned out to such an extent that they will have to be reseeded. Ladino clover will also have to be reseeded on the Fescue sods.

The two past dry summers have taught us all the value of our native Bermuda grass, and many farmers will utilize this grass more in their over-all pasture needs for beef cattle.

LIVESTOCK

The livestock industry has about stabilized itself. There are 11 fluid milk producers in the county, and it is doubtful whether there will be any increase in dairying in the near future. Beef cattle expansion has reached it's peak. There is much room for improvement in the quality of all the herds. The 1950 Census gives Richmond County 2700 head of beef cattle and 1293 head of dairy cattle.

In the fall of 1954, due to the drought, the beef herds were rigidly culled. Most small farmers were forced to sell part of their dairy cows and some sold their entire herd. Cattle are on very scant and poor rations

CORN

This is our largest crop in acreage and we feel that the yield can be increased considerably. Our larger farms are getting good yields in normal seasons, but most of our small farms are not. We believe that through the use of high quality adapted hybrids, and proper fertilization, the county average can be materially increased.

THE 4-H CLUB PROGRAM

There are six 4-H Clubs organized in the county, three in the Warsaw High School, two in the Farmham High School, and one in the Newland Grade School. There were 212 children enrolled last year. According to school enrollments there are approximately 432 boys and girls through grades 5 to 12. There, we were reaching about 49% of the children with 4-H club work in 1954.

OLDER YOUTH WORK

There is one organized group operating in the county. The membership is largely young married couples. They are very much interested, but the membership is rather small, and probably not over 10% of the eligible group is being reached through the organization.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT WORK

There are two organized communities in the county embracing 220 families. They are doing a remarkable job. Business men are 100% behind this work and other areas in the county are visiting these two communities to see the good work being done. There is a need for more of this work in the county.

THE WEED SITUATION

Wild Vetch has become quite a problem to some of our small grain producers. Some acreage is lost each year to this pest.

Johnson Grass has taken over small areas on several farms - it is spreading rapidly.

Pig Weed or Red Root, Smart Weed and Jimson Weed are very troublesome weeds in some of our lowland farms - especially in soybean and corn fields.

HOME GARDENS

The 1950 Census shows that out of the 675 farms, 618 had gardens. Our own observation leads us to believe this is about correct, but most of them are spring gardens only.

POULTRY

The farm flock is an important source of income and food for the farm family. Farm women are almost entirely dependent upon it for their money to run the table and to provide the family's spending money.

The 1950 Census reports that 569 farms had some poultry. The average size farm flock is approximately 80 hens.

LONG-TIME OBJECTIVES SET UP ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Farm Crops

Corn: 1. To increase the corn yield from 45 to 55 bushels per acre by 1960.

Hay Crops: 1. To get livestock producers to grow at least 50% of their hay during the winter and spring months.
2. To increase the acreage of alfalfa and red clover.

Soybeans: 1. To increase the yield of soybeans per acre from 20 to 24 bushels.
2. To discourage the planting of soybeans after the wheat crop.

Pastures: 1. To get 25% of open land in permanent pasture by 1960. (This is estimated by the S.C.S. as the amount that should be in grass according to good land use)
2. To get all farmers to provide winter grazing for their livestock by 1960.
3. To get all commercial hog growers to provide year-round grazing for their hogs.

Livestock: 1. To improve the quality of the livestock in the County.
2. To get all farmers to adjust the herd to the farm carrying capacity.
3. To keep the herds culled of poor producers.

Poultry: 1. For all farm women to have a good flock of laying hens.
2. To reduce mortality rate of poultry on farms.

Forestry: 1. To increase the productivity and income producing ability of our woodlands.
2. To reforest land found to be better suited to forest than to other uses.
3. To promote better harvesting and marketing practices.

Special Tomato Quality Program:

1. To increase the percentage of #1 tomatoes grown.

4-H Club Work: 1. To develop a better 4-H Club program in the County.
2. To try to reach 75% of the eligible youth with our program by 1960.

Older Youth Work:

- 1. To increase the active membership of the organization.

Community Improvement Work:

- 1. To organize Community Improvement projects in other areas of the county as quickly as deemed practical to do so.

Farm and Home Development

- 1. To work with individual farm families to help them develop plans that will produce the maximum in terms of economic returns and family satisfactions.

Weed Control:

- 1. To inform farmers on how to control wild vetch, Johnson grass, pig weed and Jimson weed.

Home Gardens:

- 1. To get every farm family to grow a good year 'round garden.

MAJOR PROJECTS FOR 1955

The County Board of Agriculture has requested that major emphasis be placed on the following this year:

- 1. Increased Corn Yields
- 2. Pastures - 12 a.c. grazing program
- 3. Hay crops
- 4. A Better Quality Livestock Program
- 5. Forestry
- 6. 4-H Club Work
- 7. Farm and Home Development

MINOR PROJECTS FOR 1955

The minor projects are:

- 1. Soybeans
- 2. Weed Control
- 3. Home gardens
- 4. Tomato Quality program
- 5. Older Youth Work
- 6. Community Improvement Work
- 7. Poultry

1955 Objectives

The Agronomy Committee has developed the following objectives:

Corn:

- 1. To increase yield by 3 bushels

How to accomplish:

- a. To conduct 100 Bu. Corn Contest, and to recognize the winner as Corn King for 1955. (Northern Weck State Bank to furnish Trophy)
- b. To get farmers to plant good high yielding hybrids.
- c. To get farmers to properly fertilize for maximum yields.
- d. To get local seedsmen to carry the recommended hybrids.
- e. To urge farmers to properly prepare land before planting.
- f. To get farmers to seed Crimson Clover in late planted soybeans, and lespedesa sods to provide nitrogen and organic matter for corn.
- g. To get farmers to have soil analyzed.
- h. To urge farmers to treat seed corn for soil insects.

Educational Media:

- a. Radio talks by Committee members and Agent
- b. Newspaper articles
- c. Circular letters, leaflets, etc.
- d. Special meetings
- e. Field meeting held at local Experiment Station
- f. Personal contacts by Agent and Committee members
- g. Hold meetings for fertilizer salesman and other professional workers to discuss proper fertilization, how to use soil test analysis, etc.

Hay Crops:

- Objectives: 1. To build up a hay supply as quickly as possible.

How to Accomplish:

- 1. To get all livestock owners to seed oats this winter or spring for hay.
- 2. To get livestock owners to seed lespedeza in their wheat crop instead of double-cropping with soybeans.
- 3. To get 5 dairy farmers to seed alfalfa this fall.
- 4. To get 10 farmers to seed Red Clover with Lespedeza in their small grain.
- 5. To get 20 livestock owners to seed a few acres of Pearl Millet to be used for hay or pasture as needed.

Educational Media

- a. Newspaper articles by Agent and others
- b. Circular letters, leaflets, etc.

- c. Radio talks by Agents and Committee members
- d. Personal contacts by Agents and committee members
- e. Special meetings - use of Specialists

Features:

- Objectives:
1. To get 300 acres seeded to permanent pastures
 2. To get 25 new farmers to provide winter grazing ('new' - in addition to those who normally do it)
 3. To get 25 farmers to provide summer supplemental grazing.
 4. To get 25 farmers to "control graze" their pastures.
 5. To increase the carrying capacity of our present pastures.
 6. To get 2 commercial hog growers to provide year 'round grazing for their hogs.

How to accomplish:

- a. Conduct Pasture Contest - which will include new seedings, reseeding, winter pastures, summer supplemental pastures, good management, fertilization and carrying capacity.
- b. Help farmers to plan their farms for correct land use.
- c. Assist farmers in selecting grass mixtures for their pastures according to livestock to be grazed.
- d. To conduct educational campaign on importance of year 'round grazing, also on good pasture management.
- e. To conduct three fertilization demonstrations.
- f. To conduct two Bermuda grass-crimson clover-rye grass mixture demonstrations.
- g. To conduct pasture renovation program - reseeding, fertilization, etc.

Educational Media:

- a. Radio talks by Committee members and Agent
- b. Newspaper articles
- c. Circular letters, leaflets, etc.
- d. Special meetings - Specialist to be used
- e. Pasture tours - Specialist to be used
- f. Personal contact by Agent and Committee members.

Livestock:

The Livestock Committee has developed the following program for 1955 -

Objective: To improve the quality of the livestock in Richmond County.

How to accomplish:

- a. To conduct an educational campaign on the benefits that will accrue from the service of the Artificial Breeding Association.

- b. To move out of the county five scrub dairy bulls, and to replace them with the service of the artificial breeding service.
- c. To help get five commercial dairymen to rigidly cull their herds of poor producers.
- d. To get two additional herds to use the service of the BMLA, or to do simple testing on their own.
- e. To urge small farmers to grow out good dairy heifers for herd replacements.
- f. To conduct a campaign on the control of external and internal parasites, and disease control.
- g. To get five scrub beef bulls replaced with good type purebreds.
- h. To get two beef herd owners to keep simple performance records on their females so that poor producers can be culled.
- i. To get all farmers selling calves through the Feeder Calf Sale to creep feed their calves if we have a short grass summer.
- j. To develop a program so that all good proven beef sires can be kept in the county as long as they are good breeders.
- k. To urge all livestock producers to do a better job of feeding their young stock.
- l. To urge all livestock producers to build cattle chutes and a bull pen.

Educational media:

- a. Radio programs
- b. Newspaper articles
- c. Circular letters
- d. Farm tours (Specialist to be used)
- e. Special meetings - Specialist to be used
- f. Personal contacts by Agent and Committee members.

Forestry:

The Forestry Committee has planned the following program:

1. To encourage 10 farmers to seek the help of the Extension Forester or the State Forest Service in developing a management plan for his woodland.
2. To continue the Forestry Contest for adults and juniors.
3. To conduct two woodland improvement demonstrations.
4. To get two farmers to set trees on land that should be returned to forest.
5. To urge all timber owners to seek the advice of a qualified forester before selling or cutting his timber.
6. To secure forestry exhibit for display in public places, Bank, News office window, schools, etc.

Educational media:

- a. Special meetings
- b. Radio talks by Agent and others

- c. Circular letters
- d. Personal contacts by Agent and Committee members
- e. Demonstration meeting - use of Specialist
- f. Newspaper articles - Special feature edition.
- g. Forestry Programs at civic club meetings, etc.

Farm and Home Development

In cooperation with the Home Agent.

Objective: To work with two individual farm families in giving them counsel and assistance that will enable them to improve their standards of living.

How to accomplish:

1. To help analyze effectively their major farm and home problems and opportunities.
2. To help determine a definite course of action which will produce the maximum in financial returns and family satisfactions.
3. To help determine how to put such plans into effect.
4. To keep in close contact with families to help make needed adjustments caused by changing conditions.

Educational Media:

Personal contacts

Minor Projects

Soybeans:

Objectives: To increase the average yield of soybeans per acre from 20 to 24 bushels.

How to accomplish:

1. To urge farmers to plant soybeans around May 24th.
2. To urge farmers to use the best varieties.
3. To urge farmers to discontinue the practice of seeding soybeans after June.
4. To urge farmers to plant only on a fresh well prepared seedbed.
5. To help secure the Lee variety

Educational Media:

- a. Radio talks
- b. Circular letters
- c. Special meetings using Specialist
- d. Personal contacts
- e. Newspaper articles

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Weed Control:

Objective: 1. To teach farmers how to control Wild Vetch, Johnson grass, pig weed, and Jimson weed.

How to accomplish:

1. To conduct one demonstration on control of wild vetch in small grain.
2. To conduct one demonstration on control of Johnson grass.
3. To conduct one demonstration on control of pig weed and Jimson weed in soybeans.
4. To try to get farmers to install weed seed catchers on combines.
5. To instruct farmers on how to control Johnson grass by management practices.

Educational media:

- a. Demonstrational meetings
- b. Radio talks
- c. Newspaper articles
- d. Circular letters and leaflets
- e. Personal contacts

Home Gardens:

Objective: To have every farm family raise a good year-round garden of sufficient size to produce the family's need.

How to accomplish:

1. By sending out timely garden suggestions on varieties, planting dates, disease and insect control, etc.
2. By Home Agent briefly discussing gardens at every H. D. meeting and the County Agent doing the same at his meetings.
3. Get Community Improvement groups to take this as one of their objectives.

Educational Media:

- a. Radio talks
- b. Leaflets and circular letters
- c. Personal contacts.

Tomato Quality Program:

- Objectives:
1. To increase the yield per acre
 2. To improve the quality of tomatoes grown

How to accomplish:

1. With the assistance of Specialists of the Extension Service, to conduct meetings on cultural practices, fertilization, prevention and control of diseases and insects.
2. Stress the importance of certified graded plants of a good source.
3. Conduct campaign on proper picking and handling of fruit.
4. To work with Experiment Station on new varieties, fertilization, etc.
5. Work with local farm supply stores on insecticides and fungicides, so that will be readily available to the grower when needed.
6. Try to work out a program with the canners and growers to improve the tomato canning situation.

Educational media:

- a. Grower meetings
- b. Radio talks
- c. Circular letters
- d. Field meeting at Experimental plots
- e. Personal contacts

The tomato canning industry of the entire Northern Neck area is in a very bad situation, probably brought about by both the canner and the farmer. Very few canned tomatoes will grade "Extra Standard", and some are graded below "Standard" each year. The quality of the fresh fruit in general is very poor - most canners in the past have not paid a supplement bonus for good fruit.

We are seriously handicapped for lack of approved experimental information on tomato culture to give our farmers. This is a very important crop to our small farm owners.

Older Youth Work

Objective: To increase the active membership of the organization.

How to accomplish:

1. Have officers put on radio program, explaining their organization and program.
2. Organize a membership drive -
 - a. Secure help of civic organizations, PTA's, etc.
 - b. Personal contact of Agents and present members.

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3. Help to develop an interesting program for the entire year, and to assist in getting speakers, etc.
 4. Have publicity committee to publicize their work.

Community Improvement Work

Objective: To continue working with the two established Communities.

How to accomplish:

1. To help secure programs for the groups
2. To secure sponsors for contest on local level and area basis.

Educational media:

- a. Local radio
- b. Civic clubs
- c. Newspapers
- d. Personal contacts
- e. Letters - personal and circular

Poultry:

Objectives: For all farm women to have a good flock of laying hens.
To reduce the mortality rate of poultry on farms.

How to accomplish:

1. Continue to recommend general purpose breeds for farm flocks.
2. Continue to stress better housing conditions
3. To conduct healthy chick campaign
4. In communities where there has been outbreaks of Newcastle in the past, to urge all farmers to buy Newcastle vaccinated chicks or vaccinate upon arrival.
5. To encourage all farmers to vaccinate pullets between 8 and 12 weeks of age for pox.
6. Continue to stress good feeding practices.
7. To urge a continuous culling program.

Educational Media:

- a. Circular letters
- b. Newspaper articles
- c. Radio talks
- d. Farm meetings
- e. Personal contacts

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4-H CLUB WORK

- Objectives:
1. Develop a better 4-H Club program in Richmond County
 2. Enroll 75% of the eligible youth in the 4-H and Young Adult program by 1960.

Methods

- By use of the
- a. County 4-H Adult Committee
 - b. County Council
 - c. Leaders and parents

4-H Club work in Richmond County is conducted cooperatively by the County Agent, Assistant Agent, and Home Agent. Planning meetings are held year year in order to coordinate the 4-H program with that of the County Agent and the Home Agent.

The County 4-H Club Adult Committee meets on the 4th Friday of each month to train leaders in the various project fields, check the progress of work being done, give reports, and plan for future activities. This adult committee is composed of project leaders for each of the Home Economics and Agricultural 4-H projects.

The County 4-H Junior and Senior Councils meet regularly for the purpose of setting up objectives and making plans for carrying out the 4-H Club program.

Council members will attend the 4-H Adult Committee meetings twice during the year. Discussions of the 4-H program will be heard at the meeting.

The County Goals as set up by the Council for 1955, are as follows:

1. Put on exhibit for National 4-H Club Week
2. Contact Ministers of all denominations to arrange a program for Rural Life Sunday
3. Plan for exhibits to be put up for Rally Day in May
4. Keep the people of the county informed about 4-H activities through newspaper articles, radio talks and regular correspondence.
5. Strive for 80% completion of 4-H projects.
6. Get at least 25 4-H members to attend 4-H Camp.
7. Have 4-H members exhibit articles or livestock at Northern Neck Fair.
8. Have a county 4-H exhibit at the N. H. Fair.
9. Ask 4-H Council members to meeting of Adult Committee at least twice this year.
10. Send one 4-H Adult leader to the State Short Course as a representative of the County Council.

Recreation and Rural Arts Project

Each boy and girl enrolled in 4-H club work for 1955 is to bring this project. The aim of this project is to teach each member one new game or party procedure and to have each member make at least one handicraft article of their choice.

Schedule

- October - Organizational meeting
- November - Games and stunts for all occasions
- December - Making Christmas decorations
- January - Leather craft
- February - 4-H'ers Grow Graciously
- March - Planning a party - display of homemade invitations
- April - Talent Show
- May - Setting up Craft Exhibits
Judging of individuals and clubs

Purebred Swine Project

Objectives:

1. To place registered purebred pigs with selected 4-H club members in the communities where most needed.
2. To encourage use of recommended practices in selecting, feeding and raising purebred swine.
3. Use the 4-H club purebred swine project as a means of demonstrating to the public practical and economical methods of raising swine.

How to accomplish:

1. Place 5 purebred registered gilts and one purebred registered boar, donated by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, with 4-H club members in selected communities each year.
2. Recognize and award prizes to 4-H club members who have used the best practices of selecting, feeding and raising purebred swine.
3. Have tours, method demonstrations, and shows to demonstrate to the public practical and economical methods of raising purebred swine.

Dairy Club Project

Objectives:

1. To place selected dairy calves with 4-H club boys and girls who have the required facilities for dairy animals, but do not have funds to purchase good dairy cattle.
2. Encourage 4-H club boys and girls to select proven dairy stock and use recommended feeding and management practices in raising dairy animals.
3. Enter dairy project animals in the N. N. Fair each year.
4. Maintain dairy breed standards.

How to accomplish:

1. Dairy calves of good quality are placed with A-H club members who have the facilities to properly raise them. No charge is made for a calf if the club member agrees to replace the same quality calf within three years.
2. A-H club members are given instructions in judging, fitting, and showing of dairy animals. Records are kept on feeding and management practices. Outstanding dairy club members are given awards and recognition.
3. Cash prizes, ribbons and trophies are awarded to winning A-H club members who exhibit their dairy animals in the Northern Neck Agricultural Fair. All dairy project members are required to exhibit their animals at the Fair each year.
4. Dairy project members are given junior membership in their dairy breed organizations. Senior club members are encouraged to join Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.

1955 Calendar of A-H Club WorkJanuary

1. Attend meetings of A-H clubs, assist club officers in conducting meetings and give instructions in group and individual A-H projects.
2. Make farm and home visits to A-H club members and their families.
3. Write newspaper articles and make radio talks on A-H club work.
4. Ask Extension Specialists for material and demonstrations in Dairy and Beef projects, to be given at selected times during the year.
5. Work with senior and Junior A-H club leaders to set up County A-H club program for 1955.
6. Organize Judging Teams for Dairy and Poultry contests.
7. Work on A-H club records for District Contests.

● February

1. Distribute A-H project record books and materials to each club member.
2. Make farm and home visits.
3. Fill out applications for pine tree seedlings to be planted by A-H Forestry project members.
4. Attend A-H club meetings.
5. Make recommendations for membership in State All-Star organization.
6. Discuss final project selection with A-H club members.
7. Select gilt pigs for placement with A-H Sears-Roebuck Pig Project members.

March

1. Complete work on project records for District Contests.
2. Invite 4-H club members to attend pasture tours, Forestry demonstrations and Area Fruit Growers School.
3. Prepare publicity and work with 4-H club committee on plans for observing National 4-H Club Week. Have a 4-H membership drive.
4. Conduct training classes for the Dairy and Poultry Judging Teams.
5. Complete County 4-H Club enrollment.
6. Give 4-H club members, taking crops or garden projects, instructions on taking soil samples and selecting varieties of seed adapted to this area.

April

1. Work with Dairy and Poultry Judging teams on use of terms and systems in placing Dairy and Poultry entries.
2. Have a County Talent Show to select contestants for the "Share the Fun" Program.
3. Select a committee to score progress made by 4-H club members carrying Sears-Roebuck Pig Projects.
4. Make farm and home visits to help 4-H club members with any problems concerning their 4-H club projects.
5. Enter Poultry Judging Team in Area Contest.

May

1. Check project record books of 4-H club members
2. Make Farm and Home visits
3. Make plans for 4-H Club Camp
4. Help 4-H club members enrolled in crops and garden projects to select adapted varieties of seeds to be planted.
5. Give a demonstration on how soil samples should be taken.
6. Write a newspaper article and radio talk on the State Short Course.
7. Conduct a Leader Training meeting on the Dairy project.

June

1. Collect project record books from members completing their projects.
2. Teach a course in Entomology to help identify harmful insects on crops, fruits and vegetables.
3. Lay out a Tractor Driving Course for the Tractor Maintenance project.
4. Work with 4-H club members enrolled in a Tomato project.

July

1. Attend 4-H Club Camp
2. Have a Fitting and Showing Demonstration for Dairy and Beef Cattle project members.
3. Conduct a Chicken Culling demonstration
4. Make farm and home visits
5. Have a 4-H Rally Day.

August

1. Arrange a Land Appreciation School.
2. Take crop project 4-H members on a tour of the Warsaw Experiment Station and to farms using chemicals for weed control.
3. Help Dairy and Beef cattle project members get their animals ready for the Northern Neck Agricultural Fair.

September

1. Help with 4-H club exhibits at the Northern Neck Fair.
2. Have 4-H club organizational meeting in the three schools of the county.
3. Outline the 4-H projects that can be carried by members.
4. Use newspapers and radio for a 4-H membership drive.

October

1. Contact the parents of 4-H club members.
2. Appoint committees to carry on 4-H club objectives adopted by the County Council.
3. Have a project leader training meeting.
4. Have a 4-H club officer training meeting.
5. Have Sears-Roebuck Pig Project members breed their gilts to the selected boar.

November

1. Have the County Council members meet with the Adult Committee to set up a 4-H club program.
2. Help 4-H club members arrange a money raising campaign.
3. Have a 4-H club party.
4. Make farm and home visits.
5. Collect pictures, newspaper articles and information pertaining to 4-H club work for a special 4-H club newspaper edition.

December

1. Teach Safety in the home during the Holiday Season.
2. Have a Christmas Party for 4-H club members and their parents.
3. Tabulate the results of 4-H club work in county for the past year.

Calendar of Work

This Calendar is to be used to keep before the Agent the main objectives of the major projects.

January

1. Hold County Board of Agriculture meeting to discuss program for the year.
2. Organize Co-operativity Committees.
3. Contact all local seedsmen on adapted Corn Hybrids.
4. Prepare two radio programs on Livestock parasites, winter feeding, etc. Also on timely farm work - top dressing small grains, etc.
5. Judge Community Improvement Projects.
6. Pasture Fertilization Demonstration (High Analysis Fertiliser)
7. Forestry work - visit forestry contestants to give advice on reforestation practices, etc.
8. Get out Forestry Feature in local newspaper.
9. Help livestock owners with feeding problems.

February

1. Hold three Tomato Cultural and Outlook meetings.
2. Have commodity Committee meetings to develop Corn and Pasture contests.
3. Make plans for Community Improvement Awards meeting.
4. Attend Community Improvement meetings and help develop programs for the year.
5. Write Plan of Work for the year.
6. Make plans for Forestry Demonstration in March.
7. Prepare radio programs on hay production, fertilization of small grains and pastures.
8. Attend District Meeting.
9. Get Pasture Demonstrations lined up.
10. Make plans for DEMA meeting.
11. Get soil samples sent to laboratory.
12. Work on reforestation practices.
13. Stress importance of early hay.
14. Help livestock farmers with feeding problems.

March

1. Have meeting of Livestock Committee to discuss Livestock Program for year.
2. Have meeting of Pasture Committee.
3. Hold Forestry Demonstration - hardwood killing, setting of trees, and scarification.
4. Get out information on corn, tomatoes, home gardens and livestock program.
5. Do field work on pasture, corn and livestock programs.
6. Probably hold vetch killing demonstration - depends on season.
7. Stress importance of producing early hay.
8. Hold meeting of professional workers to write premium list for this year's Fair.

- 9. Help farmers with Forestry problems.
- 10. Help develop plan to increase membership of Older Youth organization.
- 11. Contact farmer supply stores about stocking insecticides, fungicides, etc.
- 12. Work with Community Improvement groups.
- 13. Hold Annual Dinner meeting of all volunteer workers and 4-H Award winners.
- 14. Stress importance of Home gardens.
- 15. Stress importance of producing early hay.
- 16. Stress importance of supplemental summer pastures.
- 17. Work on soybean program.

April

- 1. Have meeting of Livestock Committee to discuss Livestock program.
- 2. Do field work on pasture, livestock and corn programs.
- 3. Work with Young Adult group - increase membership, etc.
- 4. Urge tomato and corn producers to properly prepare the seedbed before setting and planting. Discuss fertilization of both.
- 5. Work with the Community Improvement groups.
- 6. Prepare radio talks on home gardens, corn and livestock programs - have chairman of committees to appear on program.
- 7. Stress control of internal and external parasites of livestock.
- 8. Soybean program - seedbed, weed control, etc.

May

- 1. Work with Dairymen on making grass silage.
- 2. Work on pasture program: management, utilization, supplemental pastures, etc.
- 3. Work with Community Improvement groups.
- 4. Work on corn program.
- 5. Work with beef producers on performance records.
- 6. Stress home gardens.
- 7. Hold 4-H Poultry Judging School.
- 8. Work on 4-H Camp attendance.
- 9. Fly control program.
- 10. Weed control program.
- 11. Work on soybean program.

June

- 1. Pasture Program: management, supplemental pastures, fertilization, etc.
- 2. Bull exchange program.
- 3. Poultry program - vaccination, etc.
- 4. Corn Program: fertilization, weed control.
- 5. Livestock program: fly control, salt boxes, better bulls, etc.
- 6. Make plans for Pasture Tour in July.
- 7. Work on forestry program - woodland management, etc.