ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1959

LOUDOUN
County

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III. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COUNTY ORGANIZATION

A. 4-H Club Organization

1. Nineteen 4-H clubs with 166 boys and 310 girls enrolled.

2. County 4-H Council with 165 boys and girls as members.

3. County 4-H Honor Club with 64 boys and girls as members.

4. County 4-H All Star Chapter with 41 boys and girls as members.

B. Young farmers with 20 members.

C. Farm Mechanics Class with 14 members.

D. FFA Federation with 1 Chapter having 99 members.

E. Farmers Clubs, 3 with 64 members.

F. Home Demonstration Clubs, 12 with 302 members.

G. Dairy Herd Improvement Association, 6 with 143 members.

H. County Home Demonstration Committee with 27 members.

I. Youth Committee with 11 members.

J. County Farm Bureau with 330 members.

K. One Cooperative Artificial Breeding Association with 297 members having over 5,500 dairy cows enrolled to breed artificially.

L. Northern Virginia Soil Conservation District with 450 cooperators in Loudoun County.

M. County A.S.C. Committee with 5 members and 18 community committeemen.

N. Number of farms in county - 1438.

O. Number of farm families visited - 831.

IV. GENERAL COUNTY SITUATION

Loudoun County is situated in the rolling Piedmont section of Northern Virginia, bounded by the Blue Ridge Mountains on the Northwest and the Potomac on the Northeast.

There are 517 square miles or 330,880 acres within the boundaries of Loudoun County. The last complete census reported 83.8% of the total land area as farm land. Since the census figures were released, approximately 9,000 acres predominately farm land, has been taken over by the Federal Aviation Agency, for the development of the Dulles International Airport at Chantilly and subsequently removed from agricultural production. Also, in the Broad Run District of Loudoun County, almost 6,000 additional acres have been purchased by speculators and are being held for immediate and future commercial and residential development.

Within another ten years, or perhaps less, most of the Broad Run District will come under commercial or residential classification. The population increase during the next ten years within the Broad Run District alone is antiticpated to be greater than the total present population of Loudoun County. Considerable light industrial development expected for the future will contribute to the taxible revenue; however, the increase in revenue from this source from personal property taxes, will not take care of the increase in cost to the county of providing adequate governmental, educational, health, and recreational facilities for this tremendous influx of people. Already the schools of Loudoun County are over-crowded to the extent that another high school isproposed for the county within the very near future.

Listed below are figures taken fromthe report of the Soil and Water Needs Committee which includes the adopted estimates of present land use, as well as the committee's frank appraisal of anticipated shifts in land use by 1975.

	Adopted Estimate '59	Expected Change '75
1. Cropland	111,093 acres	93,128 acres
2. Pasture land	96,667 acres	66,082 acres
3. Forest and Woodland	93,119 acres	78,590 acres
4. Other land*	14,624 acres	9,837 acres
a. in farms	8,818 acres	6,885 acres
b. not in farms	5,806 acres	2,952 acres

By 1975 the Committee estimates that 64,866 acres within the county will be used for urban and commercial developments and watershed developments.

* Includes farm roads, houses, barns, waste land, etc.

The last complete census reported 1438 farms in Loudoun County the average size being 192.8 acres. The census now underway will show less farms which, more than likely will average larger in size.

The fact that the county's present population of approximately 22,000 will more than double within the next ten years presents a definite challange to the Extension personnel in the county. It will mean a change in direction for us if we are to meet the needs of these urban people.

In spite of the inevitable change which is already underway, Loudoun County will remain predominately an agricultural county for years to come.

Within the next decade, we think there will be an increase in the number of dairy farms in the Lovettsville District which is currently composed largely of general farms. In spite of minor set-backs, the dairy business for Loudoun County looks very promising and we are expecting to see some general farms switch to dairying and we also expect that some of the dairymen who are being forced out of the Broad Run District will move into this area of Loudoun County, where soil types are ideal for an intensive type of farming.

Loudoun County is one of the state's leading agricultural counties. It was seventh highest among all counties in 1954 in the value of farm products sold, and ranked first in the state in income from sales of both dairy products and livestock. In 1954, the value of all livestock and livestock products sold amounted to 89.7% of the total agricultural income of the county. Of this total value of farm products sold, 41.8% was derived from the sale of dairy products; 4.8% was derived from the sale of poultry and poultry products; and 52.7% was derived from the sale of other livestock and livestock products. The value of all crops sold contributed 13% and the value of forest products sold contributed .4% to the total value of agricultural products sold in 1954.

The more than 16,000 dairy cows makes dairying the leading agricultural enterprise in the county, with beef cattle, swine, sheep, and poultry ranking, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th in the order named.

Orchard grass seed is produced on most of the farms in the western section of the county, and is an important cash crop. Loudoun County leads the State and ranks high in the nation in the production of orchard grass seed.

The soils of Loudoun County are extremely complex in nature. Several different soil types may often be found on an individual farm; each having a different range of adaptibility to crops grown in the area. This factor makes farm planning more difficult and a thorough knowledge of soils vital to the professional agriculture workers in the county. The soil associations range from the stony mountainous ones along the Blue Ridge Mountains to the produtive soils of granitic origin in the Loudoun Valley area. Moving eastward from Loudoun Valley, the soils change to the Myersville, Catoctin, Faquier soils located within the Greenstone belt along the Catoctin Mountain. East of the Catoctin ridge is located the triassic belt which composes approximately one -third of the county's area. Finally, forming the Northeast boundary, along the Potomac River, are the soils of the flood plains.

A total of 91 farmers have placed 7961 acres under conservation Reserve Contracts. A portion of this acreage is included in the acreage reported earlier which is being held for future development.

The shortage of farm labor, already a problem in Loudoun County, is likely to become more acute as a result of an anticipated increased demand for labor which will be brought on by the development of the Chantilly airport. Farmers will of necessity have to become even more efficient managers in order to meet this challenge of reduced labor supply, coupled with increasing costs of operation. Herein lies a challange; not only to the farmers, but to all agricultural workers on whom the farmer relies for professional assistance.

A severly cold and dry winter resulted in a substantial reduction in barley yields this year. Winter oats crops were almost a complete failure; however spring oat yields were much better than average. A bumper early hay crop made up for the reduced yields of late hay resulting from a prolonged drought during late summer and continuing into the fall months. Corn yields were significantly reduced over most of the county as a result of the drought.

V. COUNTY EXTENSION ORGANIZATION

To help plan and administer the Extension program in Loudoun County, the agents have the assistance of commodity committees for each of the major agricultural enterprises in the county; namely, agronomy, dairying and livestock.

The County Agents, with specialists help from V.P.I. carefully analyze all available statistical information supplied by the census and other sources, which seems vital to the agricultural economy of the county. Following this analysis, certain information is extracted and presented to each of the three commodity committees. It is a result of this presentation and each committeeman's knowledge of certain county conditions, the major problem in each of the three fields can be better determined. Through the use of these commodity committees in our program development meetings, the expressed problems and needs of the farmers can be more accurately determined; thus giving a much sounder basis for the development of our County Extension Plan of Work.

A Youth Committee was organized this year to assist with the planning and carrying out of the 4-H Programs.

VI. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

I. Agronomy

The Loudoun County Agronomy Committee is composed of the following members: E. C. Norman, Chairman, Jennings F. Potts, Contee Adams, Paul Stewart, C. J. Fletcher, and John Muncaster. Leslie King, Soil Conservation Service Work Unit Conservationist, serves the committee in an advisory capacity.

To the above mentioned group of men is due a large amount of credit, and a sincere vote of thanks from the Extension Staff for the vital role which they played in assisting the agents with the development and carrying out of the Extension Program of Work.

The Extension Staff realizes fully well that a sound agronomy program is essential to the success of any farming operation. With this in mind, major emphasis was placed on this phase of the Extension Program of Work.

A. Agronomic Needs as Determined by Agronomy Committee:

1. A need for increased yields of superior quality forage.
2. A need for increased yields per acre of superior quality grain crops.
3. A need for increased yields of superior quality orchard grass seed which will be more acceptable on the market.

B. Goals:

1. Continue goal established in 1958 to increase over a five-year period the carrying capacity of pastures from 2.54 acres to 2 acres per forage animal unit. This increase will be spread uniformly over the years.

2. Increase per acre yield of hay and grass silage 20%. This goal to be accomplished over a five-year period. Also improve quality of hay and grass silage each year during the five-year period.

3. Increase the average yield of orchard grass seed from 20 bushels to 30 bushels per acre, at the same time improving quality of seed produced. This goal to be accomplished over a five-year period.

4. Increase corn and small grain yields by 5% over a five-year period.

C. Recommendations:

Teaching activities will be conducted on the following recommendations.

1. The use of recommended pasture and hay mixtures and the proper fertilization and liming of same will increase yields.

2. Improved pasture management through rotational grazing and clipping will increase carrying capacity per acre.

3. A well balanced forage program based on a sound forage plan will furnish quality feed for the entire year and increase carrying capacity per acre.

4. Harvesting at the proper time will increase the quality of forage.

5. Improved methods of curing will result in higher quality of forage.

6. With cost of other items used in production going up, farmers can use fertilizer more profitably, since fertilizer use may improve the efficiency in the use of other production items.

7. Proper seedbed preparation will result in increased yields.

8. The use of recommended varieties of forage and grain crops will result in increased yields.

9. The use of certified seed will result in increased yields. If home grown seed is used, proper selection, cleaning and treatment will pay large dividends.

10. To obtain maximum yields, an understanding of the soils on which the crops are grown is important.

11. The proper understanding of methods, materials and timing for insect and weed control will increase forage and field crop yields.

12. Adequate and timely application of N.P.& K. will increase orchard grass seed yields and properly timed herbicidal sprays will help reduce weed problems.

13. Where soil conditions and other conditions permit, land devoted to corn, silage returns to the farmer high yields of excellent quality silage.

14. Chemical analysis of soils is a necessity for efficient farming.

15. Using excess spring growth of grasses and legumes for silage to be fed during dry summer months will pay large dividends.

D. Extension teaching Methods:

Certainly one of the best teaching tools used by the agents has been the annual agronomy tours held during the spring of each year. In addition to the direct benefit derived by the farmers attending the tours, the successful results achieved by these host farmers, through the use of Extension recommended practices, were given wide publicity through news articles, radio programs, farm and office visits and by those farmers attending the tours.

The first tour was held at the farm of W. C. Cole, Purcellville Virginia, on April 23. Here, the farmers saw excellent grass and legume mixtures being used flexibly for hay, silage and pasture. Mr. Cole related the advantages of rational grazing as practiced on his farm; stating that the result was increased carrying capacity and better quality forage, which meant extra profit to him.

The agents have been urging farmers, particularly dairy farmers, to make use of surplus spring forage growth to be used as a supplement to pastures during the summer months. Even on the best improved pastures, cows will not eat all they need for maximum milk production during the hot months of July and August. Extra silage or hay during these months will pay large dividends. At the April 23 tour, Mr. Cole related the benefits derived from his use of plastic silos for storage of excess spring forage which was used during the summer. He told the group that this silage, fed during June and July, resulted in a marked increase in milk production in spite of better than average pastures being used. (This fact was discussed with dairymen at the DHIA Herd Book Analysis Conference held in February.)

At the Cole farm, the group was shown an excellent alfalfa and alfalfa - orchard grass mixtures, and the host discussed his management of same. A discussion was held and a demonstration given on the proper time to harvest both alfalfa and orchard grass for quality forage. Samples of early and late cut orchardgrass silage were demonstrated and the fact was brought out that in a Virginia experiment the early cut orchard grass, fed to steers, was equal in food value to the late cut orchard grass plus 2½ pounds of grain a day per steer. The result of this experiment was given wide publicity by radio, newspaper and through farm and office visits. Also on the Cole farm, samples of excellent quality hay produced on the farm were demonstrated and a discussion was held concerning proper curing methods. A demonstration showing the benefit of including a small amount of orchard grass to alfalfa seedings as an aid to controlling chickweed made an impression on the group.

Results of a corn fertilization demonstration conducted in 1958 by the agents and a fertilizer company were discussed at this stop on the tour. As a result of this discussion as well as radio and newspaper publicity, a significantly higher amount of fertilizer was used on corn this year. A discussion on the result of a phosphate demonstration was also held and with the same mass media aids similar results were obtained.

The second stop on the tour was at the farm of Curtiss Wilson near Purcellville. Here the group saw superior stands of alfalfa and heard Mr. Wilson tell of his management practices which enabled him to obtain same. Proper seedbed preparation was discussed and demonstrated. Mr. Wilson told of his experiences with plastic silos and the group saw good quality silage removed from one of these silos which had been there for over six months.

A weed control demonstration was featured at the Wilson farm in which 2-4.D ester was used to control thistle, chickory, dandelion and other broad leaf plants. Allan Kates, Extension Weed Specialist from V.P.I. was present to comment on the above demonstration and to discuss weed control in corn as well as quack grass control in orchard grass and other weed problems. Specimens of quack grass were shown the group, and the poteitial seriousness of the quack grass problem as a threat to orchard grass seed production was discussed in detail.

As a result of this second stop on the tour, those farmers attending were made aware of the advantage of a proper seedbed preparation in obtaining superior stands of alfalfa. They also saw in the weed control demonstration that 2-4D does an effective job in controlling many weeds present in most Loudoun County pasture fields; and does so without serious or permanent damage to legumes included in most Loudoun County pasture mixtures. They also saw that plastic silos are satisfactory for temporary storage of forage, and that the cost per ton is low. Those attending the tour learned to recognize quack grass, and three of the farmers present, as a result of this learning, realized that quack grass was present on their farms and were able to control it before it became much of a threat.

Timely circulars and bulletins were distributed at both stops on the tour.

The second agronomy tour was held on June 26, the first stop being at the Ashburn Farm of the Church of Jesus Christ of the latter Day Saints. Here we demonstrated the results of chemical weed control in corn with Simazine 50-W and also pre and post emergence Ester 2-4D applications. Unsprayed check rows were left for comparison. Excellent results were obtained with all three methods, but expecially noteworthy was the excellent control of grass obtained with pre-emergence Simazine and pre-emergence 2-4D. I feel confident that as a result of this demonstration, and the publicity which it has and will recieve, many more Loudoun County farmers will use pre-emergence sprays next year on corn.

Excellent grass-legume mixtures were observed on the above stop, and a newly installed forced hot air grain dryer was shown. Those present were very much surprised at the low cost of the drying unit.

The second stop on the tour was at the farm of Nelson Craun in Pleasant Valley. This farm is located in the triassic area of the county where soil types are generally unsuited for alfalfa production, making maximum legume forage yields difficult. At this stop, the group saw a comparison of Chesapeake and Kenland red clover. The Chesapeake clover, in its third year, had consistantly yielded one-third or more per acre than the Kenland. It was harvested twice the stubble year, three times the second year and three times this year. This fact has been given wide publicity in feature news articles in local newspapers and as a result the demand for Chesapeake clover will be materially increased next year. Similar results have been obtained by other farmers in the county. Seed dealers have been informed of the anticipated demand and are getting orders in early.

At this stop, Mr. Craun discussed his flexible program of green chopping, rotational grazing and summer silage feeding in his dairy herd management program. He gets more roughage into his cows than most any other dairyman in the county; thereby reducing total feed costs, increasing milk production and returning a greater profit to him. Mr. Craun discussed his corn fertilization program which allows him top yields when the season is good. He disucssed the advantages of his forced hot air hay dryer which he has proven conclusively to be very profitable insurance. He supported this claim with factual figures. Samples of hay cured on and off the dryer were shown and quality differences noted.

Quack grass, mentioned earlier, presents a potential serious threat to the orchard grass seed business which is big in Loudoun County. In addition to the methods previously discussed in combating this problem, mounted and actively growing specimens of quack grass were displayed at local seed dealer establishments and at the office. Chemical control demonstrations have been set up in the county. The newspaper and radio have given excellent support in presenting this problem to producers and most of them are on the lookout for this pest.

Extension circulars, leaflets and bulletins containing the latest recommended practices relating to agronomy were given all professional agricultural workers in the county, and kept attractively displayed at the office. They were also taken to seed and fertilizer establishments where they were displayed and made available to the public. Checks were made several times during the year at which time the material was replenished and kept timely.

Realizing the potential benefits of the agricultural conservation payments program to our farmers in assisting them with the establishment of maintenance of improved forage mixtures, the agents used every available media in informing farmers of the A.C.P. Program. Various phases of the program were mentioned on eight radio programs and in numerous news articles. Notations were made on soil analysis reports suggesting that farmers request A.C.P. assistance in complying with recommendations.

Approximately 1500 acres were seeded under the A2 practice and almost 5000 acres of pasture and hay were treated with fertilizer and lime through the B-1 practice. Also more than 3000 acres received lime applications through the A-4 practice .

A July tour of the Middleburg Pasture Research Station was not held due to the extremely dry season at the station and also due to other pressures on the agent relating to the dairying phase of the Extension Program. A number of Loudoun County farmers did attend the February meeting conducted at the station and at the Middleburg Community Center.

The Experiment Station staff has been most cooperative and helpful to the agents, and are frequently used as a source of information. The agents keep informed on the work underway at the station and frequently discuss same with the public.

Results of soil analyses made in the county were analyzed and discussed with farmers at meetings held during the year in an effort to make them more aware of the need for increased fertilizer and lime usage.

Proper taking of soil samples was discussed at all agricultural meetings, on six radio programs and in three news articles during the year, in addition to the personal contacts made by the agents. Far too many samples were being improperly taken.

Fertilizer and lime dealers were supplied with soil analysis sheets and with containers for collecting soil samples. An excess of 1000 samples were taken by dealers for analysis at V.P.I. and on which the agents made recommendations.

The seedbed preparation demonstration planned for July and August was held in April.

In making fertilizer and lime recommendations on soil analysis sheets, copies of Extension leaflet # 40 "Here's How to Seed That Pasture" and "Alfalfa Seeding Suggestions" were mailed with the reports to farmers indicating seedings would be made. Supplies were also taken to the A.C.P. Office to be sent to applicants for A-2 practices. These suggestions were an aid to the farmers in establishing better stands.

Copies of the recommended Varieties list for the Northern Piedmont area were mimeographed and mailed to all persons on our mailing list and copies were sent to all seed dealers and kept on display at the office. The information was also published in the county paper.

The Extension Agronomy Plan of Work was discussed with other professional agricultural workers in the county in an effort to coordinate teaching activities.

A Soils and Fertilizer School was held in February with the assistance of Mr. H. C. Porter and G. R. Epperson of the V.P.I. Agronomy Department and Leslie King, local S.C.S. technician. A portion of the program was held for the benefit of the planning commission, Health Department, Commissioner of Revenue, County Board of Supervisors, and highway officials in an effort to make them more aware of the value of the available soil survey information to them in planning for the tremendous population and commercial expansion anticipated for Loudoun County. The Soil Scientist employed by Fairfax to interpret the soil survey data to the same officials in that county was also on the program to explain the uses made of the information there. As a result of this meeting, the County Board of Supervisors visited Fairfax County with the agent and reviewed first hand the many uses made of the soil survey data in that county and learned of the substantial savings to the taxpayers resulting from its use. The Loudoun County Supervisors were convinced beyond doubt that Loudoun County should also have the information available, and the agent is currently getting bids for having the soil survey data enlarged and coorelated with the tax assessment sheets so that in addition to the many engineering and agricultural uses to which the information may be applied, that it may also be used as a fairer method of tax assessment in the future.

Also included on the program was a discussion with fertilizer and lime dealers, farmers and others on the relationship of soil types to fertilizer and lime usage. The recommended varieties list was also reviewed and discussed.

The agent requested and has received a revision of the preliminary soil survey report to include engineering phases of the many soils types found in the county. This information will be of great value to the Sanitation Authority, Health Department, Planning Commission, developers and others interested in engineering problems relating to soil types.

All alfalfa producers were informed by radio, newspaper, letters and personal contacts of the latest recommended controls for alfalfa weevil and other pests and the relative merits of the different type controls were explained.

Loudoun County produces more orchard grass seed than any County in the U. S. A special news article was prepared and a radio program was presented reminding producers that if Loudoun County was to remain on top, more emphasis would have to be placed on quality seed production and that seed production would have to become more a specialty and less a sideline.

A twenty ton silage club was organized with 8 members. Yields were not measured, however, due to the wide variation in rainfall and the drought conditions on some of the farms.

The advantageous use of certified seed and cleaned and treated home grown seed was emphasized on radio programs and in news articles. A demonstration was set up in the fall of 1958 to compare certified home grown cleaned and treated, and home grown cleaned but untreated wheat. The results, highly in favor of certified seed wheat, were written up and used locally on radio and requested by the agronomy department at V.P.I. to be published in a news article from the college.

The corn fertilization demonstrations were conducted in cooperation with local fertilizer dealers. The result of one was not used due to a severe drought condition. The result of the other was mimeographed and mailed to all fertilizer dealers in the county and used on a radio program. Copies of the results are also displayed at the County Agent's Office.

A total of 1121 fertilizer and lime recommendations were made by the agents based on the results of analyses made by the Soil Testing Laboratory at V.P.I. on soil samples sent V.P.I. from Loudoun County farmers.

In addition to writing fertilizer and lime recommendations on the sheets, the agents would often make other suggestions such as seed mixtures to use, how to get clover back into stands when it went out, etc. Very often we receive calls concerning comments written by the agents on the soil analyses reports.

The agent worked with the S.C.S. personnel very closely in the development of several conservation farm plans, as well as on numerous other farm problems relating to agronomy.

The agents attended a Soils School conducted by members of the V.P.I. Agronomy Department in Fauquier and Culpeper Counties May 9 - 12.

2. Dairy

Loudoun County is the leading dairy county in Virginia with over four million dollars worth of milk being sold each year from 350 farms and over 15,000 dairy cows. Dairying is the largest agricultural industry in the county. More than 200 of these farms sell Grade A milk on the Washington and Baltimore markets. The nearness of these markets and excellent soil types in most of the county are important factors in maintaining the dairy industry of the country.

The main problems of dairy farmers as set up by the dairy committee are a continuation of two factors:

1. Failure to cull rigidly enough to maintain higher average production per cow.

2. Increasing herd size beyond capacity of the farm unit when buildings, labor and production capacity of the farm are considered.

The following goals were set up and results for the year are as follows:

1. Increase DHIA production to 10,500 pounds of milk over a five-year period. Increase to be spread uniformly over years.

   Preliminary DHIA summaries indicate that the average production for 1959 will be about the same as for 1958 when the average for the year was 10,053 pounds. More emphasis needs to be placed on the intelligent use of DHIA records to cull low producers. The DHIA supervisors have indicated that many of the farmers who could profit most by using feed charts are not using them to an advantage.

2. Increase the use of artificial breeding by 5% in 1959 with a long-time goal (five years) to have 50% of the total dairy cow numbers bred artificially.

   There was a slight decrease in the use of artificial breeding in 1959. Figures from Loudoun Breeding Association with whom approximately 85% or more of all artificial breeding in the county is done show 4120 first services through October of 1959 as compared to 4321 first services through October of 1958. Figures are not available from the other two studs with technicians in the county, but an estimate of 1000 cows bred artificially during 1959 seems to be in reason. This will put the total number of cows bred artificially in 1959 at a minimum of 6000. This is 40% of the total dairy cattle population.

   A better educational job by the dairy specialist on the advantages of artificial breeding and more advertising and promotional work by the local breeding association are needed to increase the use of artificial breeding in the county.

3. Maintain the DHIA program at a level to provide a satisfactory living for six supervisors.

Six DHIA associations are still maintained in Loudoun. They average 21 herds and 1150 cows per association for a total of 133 herds and 6900 cows. This is 69% of the total Grade "A" cows in the county and approximately 14% of the total DHIA cows in the state.

Three new supervisors started in the county as of November 1. One association had been without a supervisor since May, but with each remaining supervisor and two out-of-county testers each taking a few herds, the association was held together until a man could be found.

Osborne Myers, former supervisor in Association #4, assumed the position of State DHIA Federation Fieldman on November 1, 1959.

4. Reduce the instances of Mastitis by five percent. Cooperate fully in State Mastitis Control Program.

Very little work was done on the mastitis program due to the lack of a dairy specialist during much of the year. There was no concentrated effort made on the mastitis problem. Considerable time will be devoted to this area of work in the coming year.

5. Have Loudoun County declared modified-certified Brucellosis free in 1959.

Loudoun has been declared modified-certified Brucellosis free for the period from November 15, 1958 to November 15, 1961.

6. Fifty percent of all dairy cows on some form of production testing in five years.

At present, there are 6900 cows on DHIA test which is 46% of the total dairy cows in the county. The owner-sampler possibilities in the county have not yet been explored. There are still between 70 and 80 Grade "A" herds in the county not on test in addition to more than 100 manufacturing milk shippers.

Three herds are now on EDPM. One herd has completed one full year on the program. Several other dairymen have expressed a definite interest in the EDPM program, and there should be an impressive increase shown next year in the number of dairymen using this new system of dairy record keeping.

The following teaching activities were carried out during the year:

1. A panel discussion was held in February in conjunction with the annual DHIA meeting. Four farmers, with the county agent serving as moderator, discussed various phases of herd management including mastitis control, quality forage, breeding, and feeding.

2. Individual conferences were held with 17 DHIA members in March at the herdbook conference.

   W. S. Griffith, dairy specialist from VPI, assisted with these activities. There has been very good response to these conferences and they will be held again in 1960.

3. Two fitting and showing demonstrations were held in July prior to the Black and White Show and the 4-H Fair. Approximately sixty 4-H club members and interested parents and dairymen attended these demonstrations. They were received quite well and were especially helpful to the younger 4-H club members.

4. An artificial breeding tour was held on November 11. Approximately forty dairymen attended. Three herds were visited when a total of 73 artificially sired daughters were inspected. There were 24 daughter-dam comparisons. Dr. Vernon L. Baldwin, dairy specialist from VPI, assisted with the tour. He also discussed some of the new methods now being used to evaluate sires. George Miller and Gene Weaver of the Virginia and Maryland bull studs respectively, were also present and discussed the various bulls being used in the herds on the tour.

5. DHIA testing was conducted in different herds during the year.

   The building of Dulles International Airport and the consequent buying of land by real estate concerns in the lower end of Loudoun have forced several herds to sell and will undoubtedly force out quite a few more in the next few years. However, cow numbers have been maintained fairly well in spite of a slight decrease in herds.

The dairy specialist again assisted the local artificial breeding association in organization and promotional problems and activities during the year. The dairy specialist worked closely with the board of directors to secure a new technician for lower Loudoun. The new technician will assume his duties as of January 1, 1960. The association provided lunch for the artificial breeding tour in November.

The dairy specialist has continued to work closely with the County Holstein Club in all of its activities. A twilight meeting was held again this spring. At the Black and White Show held in August, 115 head were shown by 22 different exhibitors. The quality of the animals were excellent, in fact some of the animals later placed well in other shows in Virginia, North Carolina and at the National Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa.

Loudoun County was without a dairy specialist from February 1 through June 30, 1959, a total of five months. Because of this, many phases of the dairy program did not receive much attention. Much of the present dairy agent's time has been spent getting to know the people in the county, orienting himself with the situations, resources, problems and needs of the total dairy program in the county, and attending to the day-to-day extension problems and activities in the county.

bjh

With several months of experience now behind him, it is hoped that the dairy specialist, with the help of the other members of the Extension Staff, the dairy committee and all of the dairymen in the county, will be able to develop and carry out a useful and effective dairy program in Loudoun County for 1960.

3. Livestock

This year brought a general reduction in prices received for all classes of livestock. There were more market cattle on grass and on feed in the county this year than at any time in recent years. A bumper corn crop in 1958 and a lot of grass early in the 1959 grazing season caused farmers to stock heavier than usual.

In spite of lower prices received for slaughter cattle during the year, and even lower prices predicted for next year, feeders are stocking heavily again this fall. Many of them have quite a bit of feed on hand, and corn is cheaper this year than last.

Increased competition from out-of-state feeders for Virginia feeder and stocker cattle is forcing local feeders to pay more than what they consider a comfortable price for stocker and feeder cattle.

A larger number of Loudoun County calves and yearlings were marketed through the organized, state graded sales this fall. Prices received, though below last year, were very good, and consignors were well pleased with the results. A total of 31 Loudoun County consignors sold 653 calves in the October Feeder Calf Sale. Thirty-three percent graded "Fancy and Choice", 38% "good" and 29% "medium". Last year, 54% graded Fancy and choice, 30% graded "good" and 16% graded "medium" out of a total number of 557 calves consigned by 30 producers. This would appear to be a step backward in quality, but generally speaking, this is not true. New consignors and a poor pasture year, coupled with stricter grading, made much of the difference. There is a need for better quality bulls in many Loudoun County herds. The better calves go into the organized sales, and the average quality of all calves produced in the county is considerably lower than that of those consigned and marked through the state graded sales.

Realizing that still the many steers are being fed beyond the desired market weight, and also realizing that feeders and producers must take advantage of all possible research available on feeding, marketing, and other management problems, a beef cattle field day was held on August 6. Curtis Mast, Extension Animal Husbandman and George Litten, Head of the VPI Animal Husbandry Department, were present to discuss the latest research information available. The use of stilbesterol, antibiotics, and tranquilizers as related to beef cattle feeding was discussed and the advantages and disadvantages were outlined. The relative merits of the various sytems of buying, feeding, and marketing cattle were informally discussed and various opinions and experiences were related. The host farmer, a successful feeder, discussed his feeding and management program.

External and internal parasite control measures were given, as well as recommended controls for pink eye. Pink eye has plagued many producers during the past two years. A tour of the host farm included a look at his feeding operation and a look at the steers on feed at the farm.

In the afternoon, one of the pioneer BCIA herds in the state was visited and the herdsman told of the many advantages of BCIA membership insofar as this herd is concerned. One of the top purebred herds in the state, the owner has been successful in marketing bulls and heifers on performance records alone, often leaving pedigrees out of his sales catalogues.

The agents have put considerable effort on getting more county herds on performance testing, realizing that it is the best tool available to cow and calf owners in helping them improve their herds. Producers were invited to attend the weighing and grading demonstration conducted in the herds of county BCIA members during the year. Two news articles and portions of two radio programs were devoted to the subject during the year, and the agents discussed the program with several farmers.

In spite of our efforts, only one new BCIA member was secured this year, bringing out total number members in the county to 10.

Three news articles explaining the BCIA program and its advantages were prepared during the year and portions of four radio programs were devoted to the subject.

Internal and external parasites are a serious concern to livestock producers in the county. The agents' educational program was based on the following recommendations:

1. All sheep should be treated with phenothiazine four times a year in addition to the use of phenothiazine salt. A form letter was mailed to producers in which the information on worm control was included. The agents discussed parasite control with several producers during the year and worked with three producers in ridding their flocks of scabies.

2. The control of parasites in swine by good sanitation practices and the proper use of new worming agents will increase profits for swine producers.

   One news article and a portion of two radio programs were devoted to a discussion of recommended worming agents for swine. Relative merits of each of the recommended controls were discussed. A meeting on swine production planned for November was not held, as the agent felt the one day alloted by the Swine Specialist could be more profitably spent in working with a local purebred producer and others who had run into difficulty as a result of feeding Hygromycin in pig creep rations. The farmer had definitely established that deafness had occurred in their herds as a result of feeding Hygromycin as recommended by the feed company and the pharmaceutical company who manufactures and distributes the product.

The agent and swine specialist have corresponded with the manufacturer and distributor of the problem, and both were previously aware of the fact that the problem existed. The agent also discussed the problem with the feed regulatory agency of the Department of Agriculture in Richmond. The agents discussed parasite control in swine with approximately twenty farmers during office and farm visits, and 4-H members carrying swine projects were given complete information concerning parasite control.

3. The use of systemic insecticides for control of cattle grubs and lice will result in increased profit for producers and feeders alike.

Portions of four radio kprograms and two news articles were used in getting this recommendation across to farmers. Local farm supply dealers were informed concerning the advantages of systemics and most of them carry the product. The advantages were discussed during the tour on August 6 and the results of a demonstration with systemics conducted during the fall of 1958 in a county herd were discussed on the tour as well as on a radio program and dairy farm and office visits. Most farmers are now aware of the advantages of systemics.

4. Worming of cattle going into the feedlot and worming of calves at weaning time will often result in increased profits.

This recommendation was discussed at the August tour and on two radio programs. One news article published in October carried the recommendation. As this practice is somewhat questionable, often depending upon source of replacement of feeder cattle and end-stocker cattle and upon individual cow herd situations, it was not given as a general recommendation.

Due to existing cost-price squeeze, it becomes increasingly more important for farmers to take advantage of research results if they are to continue farming; especially in Loudoun County where land values have sharply increased during recent years. In an effort to assist farmers during the current cost-price squeeze, the agents have made the following recommendations:

1. Swine breeders should make use of meat-type boars with certification litters.

Through our 4-H Bears Pig Chain, and through several local purebred breeders, an excellent supply of foundation gilts and good meat-type boars are always available to county swine producers. The agents have been able, through radio and personal contacts with farmers, to place quite a few registered gilts and boars throughout the county. The agents have worked with 4-H and FFA members, as well as other adult purebred breeders, in registering litters and individual pigs.

The agents keep a supply of registration forms available at the office at all times as well as a list of purebred swine breeders in the State. We have quite a few requests for this service.

2. With hog prices down, cheaper feeding and management is a must.

   Through the normal mass media channels and through numerous personal contacts, the agents have attempted to assist farmers in raising more pigs to market weights as cheaply as possible. In addition to improved breeding, the agents have stressed cheaper feeding through use of balanced rations, varying the amount of protein from weaning to market weight, and also varying the source of protein with cost. We have also recommended, with fair results, that swine producers make use of more home grown feeds supplemented with animal and vegetable protein and that they include good quality legume hay and pasture in their feeding program. After too many pigs are lost as a result of mashing and chill, we have emphasized in our educational program the necessity of providing adequate farrowing facilities. Quite a number of plans for farrowing houses have been distributed by the agents during the year. All 4-H swine project members are sent a list of balanced rations, and the agents have prepared balanced rations for five adult producers during the year.

   In spite of our efforts to encourage farmers to market hogs between 180 and 240 pounds, a number of smaller producers continue to carry market hogs to weights in excess of 250 pounds. We think that the reduced prices received this for these heavy hogs, and which will likely be even greater next year, will provide the best educational tool available in persuading farmers to market hogs at desired weights.

3. We have attempted to encourage more farmers to include a flock of wheep as a supplement to farm income. We have pointed out to farmers of Loudoun that the climate and topography over much of the county is desirable for sheep production and that sheep, with proper management, will consistantly return a fair profit to owners. We have been able to provide through our 4-H sheep shearing schools adequate shearers at reasonable rates. Four 4-H and former 4-H members, trained through 4-H sheep shearing schools, are available to local wool producers. The agents worked closely with the local wool pool in securing bids and in marketing 17,392 pounds of wool for local producers. The agents spent two days in working with the United Wool Growers Cooperative of Harrisonburg in an effort to assist in keeping this marketing outlet functional. It has, in the past, directly resulted in local wool growers receiving much better prices for their wool than would have been possible had the Coop. not been in existence.

Producers and potential producers were supplied with available sources of foundation and replacement ewes as well as purebred rams and we strongly emphasized in news articles, radio programs, and personal contacts the necessity and advisability of using good purebred rams.

A letter outlining recommended feeding and management practices for profitable sheep production was sent to all known producers in the county.

Market information was supplied the local newspaper and radio station weekly and the agents discussed marketing with numerous producers during the year.

4. The agents used every method at their disposal in pointing out to cattle feeders that they could not afford to not use stilbesterol in their feeding program; at the same time cautioning them against overdose.

   As mentioned earlier, stilbesterol feeding was discussed at the August tour. Portions of 5 radio programs, four news releases including one feature news article, in addition to over thirty personal contacts and a letter to all feeders were methods used by the agents in getting this recommendation across to farmers. I think that all feeders in the county know of the product and many of them are using it in dry lot feeding. Not as many as we had hoped or expected used the ear implants on cattle going on pasture. We will give this phase more emphasis during the winter and early spring months.

5. Antibiotics used two to four weeks on newly purchased cattle will usually pay large dividends and the use of same in creep rations for wintering calves will help control digestive disorders.

   This recommendation was discussed at the August tour as well as on two radio programs, one news article, and numerous personal contacts.

6. In lieu of the current price spread between heifers and steers as a feeder source, feeders equipped to do so would profit by feeding heifers.

   This recommendation was also discussed at the August tour. Two news articles, including one feature article and portions of three radio programs were devoted to this recommendation. We emphasized that the heifers would have to be fed seperately from steers and finished at weights of 750 to 900 pounds. This recommendation was discussed with numerous feeders during the year. More heifers are on feed in the county this year, quite a few being kept by cow-calf producers for feeding due to lower prices paid for heifers at feeder sales during the fall.

General.

The agents directly assisted six farmers in locating good quality registered bulls this year. Others were indirectly assisted through information on sales provided by the county agent's office.

A total of 21 days were spent by the agents in assisting 67 consignors market a total of 1296 calves and yearlings through the three state graded sales, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Livestock Producers Association, Inc. at Winchester, Virginia. The agents assisted eight other feeders in selecting cattle for market.

Market prices and outlook information was regularly supplied and used by the local newspaper and radio station. This information was always available at the county agent's office and was frequently discussed with farmers.

Four farmers were assisted by the agents in locating suitable foundation stock with which to start in the cow-calf business.

The agents worked with several cow-calf producers who had lost cows as a result of tetany. Little is known about the "disease" except that it is related to magnesium deficiency. The individuals concerned were supplied with the latest research available, and the agents have written the University of West Virginia for information assembled by the College as a result of a symposium held there during the summer. As soon as this information becomes available, as well as the result of research being conducted by V.P.I., the farmers will be informed of the findings.

Not as much was accomplished in the livestock phase of the County Extension program as was hoped for or expected. This was largely due the loss in January of Harold Roller, the County Dairy Specialist. A replacement was not secured until July, and in the interval between the county agent spent a large amount of time with the Extension Dairy Program. Also, considerable time was spent during July and August with the new dairy specialist in familiarizing him with the County Extension Program.

Perhaps one of our greatest achievements during the year culminated as a result of several years of persistant appeals through letters, cards, radio, and news articles, and finally, personal contacts which resulted in Loudoun County becoming declared a modified-certified brucellosis free county ghis year. This declaration will result in a tremendous saving to owners of beef and dairy herd owners in the county.

4. Poultry

Poultry numbers dropped from 106,439 in 1940 to 80,054 in 1955. Poultry members continue to decrease, as fewer farm flocks are being kept. In 1949, poultry and poultry products accounted for 6.1% of the farm products sold as a percent of total sales in the county.

This percentage has dropped since 1949. Two large turkey producers went out of business in 1958, and the largest egg producer in the county discontinued his operation this year.

There are in the county still quite a few small flocks kept for family use. Fifty to around 500 chicks are purchased in the spring and the males are sold or killed for home consumption. A number of these persons sell eggs in his immediate neighborhood during peak production months. By farm, the major portion of the agent's time devoted to poultry is with these small producers. They were assisted with feeding and management problems, but mostly with disease and culling.

The agents assisted approximately twenty-five different poultry producers with management problems during the year; mostly disease problems. The Extension Agricultural Engineer from V.P.I. assisted one of our producers in providing proper ventilation for his poultry house. Before the situation was corrected, the poultryman had lost considerable money over the years from coccidiosis as a result of faulty ventilation.

All 4-H poultry projects in the county were visited by a member of the V.P.I. POultry Department at which time the projects were scored and helpful suggestions were given the club members. This action proved to be of considerable value to the young poultrymen in increased profits from their projects.

5. Horticulture

Three large orchardists own approximately 90% of the remaining fruit trees in Loudoun. As these orchardists all employ capable orchard managers, the bulk of the agent's time spent on fruit management problems is with the few residents who have a few fruit trees producing primarily for home consumption. Many of these persons were supplied with disease and insect control recommendations, and a few were assisted with fertilization problems and disease diagnosis. Approximately fifty spray bulletins and leaflets were distributed during the year.

Most of the agent's time devoted to the Horticultural phase of the Extension program was directed to general problems of home owners dealing with problems and relating to ornamental horticulture.

Two news articles and portions of two radio programs were devoted to presenting useful information to home vegetable gardeners.

Copies of bulletins containing recommended varieties of seed, seeding dates and rates, fertilizer and liming recommendations and recommended disease and insect control measures were supplied all 4-H garden club members and were mailed to numerous others. Copies were left at local seed dealers for distribution and were attractively displayed at the county agent's office.

Time devoted to ornamental horticultural problems increased this year. An excess of 50 home visits were made by the agents to render assistance to home owners with landscaping problems, disease and insect control problems in shrubbery and lawns, lawn establishment and maintenance and other similar problems.

A specialist from V.P.I. assisted several home owners with ornamental horticulture problems.

The agents collected tree specimens from approximately twelve different persons to have laboratory diagnosis made for disease, and gave tree fertilization recommendations to as many more.

Portions of three radio programs and two news articles were prepared on ornamental horticulture subjects.

Local garden clubs were sent bulletins and other useful information relating to ornamental horticulture.

Over 250 bulletins and leaflets were distributed thru the County Agent's Office during the year on subjects relating to ornamental horticulture.

Forty-seven 4-H club members were enrolled in the Home Grounds Beautification project. In addition to instruction given at club meetings, these club members were supplied with information concerning ornamental horticulture.

6. Farm Buildings and Equipment

The agent visited eight farms with the Extension Agricultural Engineer to render assistance to farmers on problems dealing with farm structures. Over 150 plans for farm buildings and structures were provided farmers thru the County Agent's Office.

7. Forestry

The agent secured help for twelve landowners thru the local forester on forestry problems; mostly timberland markings for harvest, recommendations for tree seedling sites and varieties to pland and stand improvement.

In working up farm plans, the agent recommended that areas unsuitable for farming be planted to trees.

The availability of tree seedlings through the Virginia Forestry Service was made known to landowners thru several news articles and radio programs. Tree seedling applications were always available at the county agent's office and the public is so informed. Assistance available thru the ACP in timberland establishment was given wide publicity through news articles, radio program, office visits and posters distributed by the agents.

Forestry was given considerable emphasis in the 4-H program, and 1,000 tree seedlings were secured and planted by 4-H forestry club members.

VII. 4-H Club Work

The 1959 4-H program of Loudoun was one of the strongest phases of the Extension program. This was due largely to the adult leaders of Loudoun County who are willing to spend their time and effort in assisting the Extension agents in carrying forth the 4-H ideals to our youth.

In an effort to build a stronger program, the following goals were established by the agents and several adult leaders. These goals, the methods of achieving them, and the results are given below.

1. The establishment of a youth council.

This council was established in September and was composed of selected leaders and the presidents of the senior 4-H clubs. Certain statistical data was presented to the council by the agents and the projects were reviewed one by one. The council agreed that Loudoun County was still principally agricultural and that livestock - and agricultural projects should be stressed; however, the type of project the club members take should suit the individual home situation. The council adopted the following objectives to guide the extension agent in the Loudoun 4-H program:

1. Improve the quality of publicity about 4-H program in local paper and through local radio station.

2. Improve 4-H records, percentage of completions and submit more State records.

3. Increase tenure of 4-H membership.

4. Improve training for local leaders and more effective use of leaders.

5. Increase number of exhibits at local, nearby state, and national livestock shows and fairs.

6. Increase participation in special 4-H events, such as a judging demonstration contest and share-the-fun programs.

7. Increase participation and special interest in clubs such as baby beef, dairy, and swine.

8. Secure more confident project organizational leaders.

9. Organize a youth council composed of adults and club members.

10. Increase the number and effectiveness of home project visits.

11. Help 4-H club members secure as much local and government aid as possible.

2. Increase the percentage of project completions.

The percentage of members completing projects fell off a little last year because the club members voted against taking club projects. Several things were done last year to encourage project completion by the agent, leaders and County Council:

A. The agents and leaders emphasized the necessity of completing the projects at club meetings and during home visits. The record books were fully explained and instruction was given on the proper way of completing the project and filling in the record book. The 4-H club member must complete his project in order to enroll the following year. Considerable time was spent last year making home project visits. While in the home the record books were closely checked as well as the project work. These visits helped all phases of the club program as the agent became acquainted with the club member, the parents, and their home situation.

B. The Council Council set a goal of 100% completion for each club in the County. They also awarded more points for this goal than any other goal toward the championship banner that is awarded each year to the champion junior and senior 4-H club.

3. Increase the number of exhibits at the county fair.

We have alwayshad a high percentage of our club members exhibiting at the County Fair, but now that a large part of the Loudoun County citizenry has a part in our fairgrounds, either by a donation or labor, the number of exhibits by club members have increased in the last two or three years. This has been particularly true in the baby beef anddairy classes. The club members have the attitude that they are determined to show the people of Loudoun County that they are worthy of their support. The agents have conducted several showing and fitting schools as well as stressing the importance of showing at the Fair at club meetings and home visits.

4. Continue improvements of our newly acquired 4-H Fairgrounds.

The acquisition of our new fairgrounds is now history. Its improvement is an everyday process. During the summer the bleachers were built in our 96' x 49' show pavilion and a much needed 5,000 gallon water reservoir was built. A door to door fund drive was conducted last fall by 4-H parents, leaders, and supporters who realized the importance and particularly the 50 x 50 two-story auditorium that will be built this winter, according to the plans as they now stand.

The improvements now existing on the fairgrounds are as follows:

A. Three-quarter miles of roadway.
B. 24 hours of bulldozing for building sites.
C. Two 12' x 36' cattle sheds.
D. One 96' x 49' show pavilion with bleachers
E. Water system, pump house, and a 5,000 gallon water reservoir,
F. Wash rack, and unloading facilities.
G. A boundary fence on the east boundary.
H. Approximately two hundred pine seedlings on the north boundary.

5. Obtain additional 4-H leaders.

The problem of obtaining and retaining 4-H club leaders is a continuing thing. The problem is always present because it always seems that you can never have enough leaders. Many people are contacted annually about becoming a leader. Much of this personal contact work is done during project visits, office calls, chance meetings, demonstration and social outings. Several leaders were obtained this year, some for project work and some as club leaders and for social occasions.

Our leaders are continually recognized at club meetings, county council meetings, achievement programs and clover pins are awarded at the spring County Council Banquet. This year, one of the Leesburg merchants, Mr. and Mrs. Reed Johnson, proprietor of Leesburg Restaurant, is again sending the National 4-H magazine to all of our leaders.

At the present time, we have 27 recognized 4-H leaders.

6. Increase the number of livestock projects.

The youth councilfeels that this is necessary to maintain our standing as one of the leading livestock counties of the State. The number and quality of livestock projects were increased during 1959. Last year, the importance of the livestock industry to our county was stressed during club meetings and home visits as well as instruction on selection, feeding, and management practices of the different types of livestock.

The animal exhibits at our county fair has done much to bring about this increase in livestock projects. This is particularly true in the baby beef and dairy projects.

7. Hold more leader training meetings.

This goal was not accomplished in that we held formal leader meetings, but more time was spent in providing training aids and information to individual leaders.

8. Club work to be made more meaningful and interesting to club members.

A. Realizing the added value of a properly conducted club meeting, the County Council held a meeting in October devoted to training officers in parliamentary procedure and their duties as officers at the meeting. The club officers adopted club goals for the year. Points were awarded for the obtainment of each of these goals, and both the junior and senior clubs having the greater number of points at the close of the club year were awarded a banner at the annual Achievement Night program.

B. Dairy

This project continues to have the largest enrollment of any individual project. Here, as in the regular dairy program, the scope and activities of the dairy project were rather limited due to the lack of a dairy specialist.

The following activities were held this year.

1. Two fitting and showing demonstrations during the summer months. Approximately sixty club members, leaders and parents attended.

2. Ninety percent of all projects were visited at least once and many were visited twice. Approximately eighty-five percent of the dairy projects were completed. The dairy specialist will strive to see that 100% of all projects are visited and that there is at least 90% record completion in 1960.

3. Fifty-five dairy animals were exhibited at the Loudoun 4-H Fair. One breed championship and two of the four Fitting and Showing awards were won by Loudoun members at the Northern District Show. Breed championships were also won in the junior division at the Atlantic Rural Exposition, and the Prince William County Fair. Two Loudoun animals went on to the show circuit in North Carolina, showing at the North Carolina State Fair and the Dixie Classic. One animal went to the National Dairy Cattle Congress in Waterloo, Iowa. This was the first time that any Virginia Holstein had ever made the trip to Waterloo.

C. Baby Beef

The baby beef club increased its membership by five members last year. The club started out the season with 20 members and 25 steers and six heifers on feed. The highlight of the baby beef year was the Harold Menken award. Mr. Menken offered a $50 Savings Bond to the winner of the Baby Beef Scoring Project. The projects were scored in the fall by Sam Paylor, Dave Brower, John Gerken, and Larry Blair.

They were scored on feeding practices, feeding a balanced ration, care and management, record books, and interest. They were scored again on these same points during the summer and a third time at the 4-H Fair. The award was presented at the Achievement Night program.

A Fitting and showing school was conducted during April and individual instruction was given during home visits.

Mr. George Tener again gave a baby beef to one of our club members.

The Loudoun Baby Beef Club participated in the following livestock shows in 1959.

A. Glenwood Park Cattle Show, Middleburg, Virginia
B. Richmond Spring Fat Stock Show, Richmond, Virginia
C. Loudoun 4-H Fair, Leesburg, Virginia
D. State Fair of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia
E. Pennsylvania National Livestock Show, Harrisburg, Pa.
F. Clark County Fair, Berryville, Virginia
G. Jefferson County Fair, Charles Town, West Virginia
H. Eastern National Livestock Show, Timonium, Maryland

D. The agents trained a livestock, dairy, poultry and soil judging team. All of these teams represented the county in District contest and the livestock and poultry earned a right to participate in the state contest. George Washington won the State Sheep Shearing Contest. Johnny Stowers was sixth in the state in livestock judging. Loudoun had an entry in the District Public Speaking Contest and an entry in the State Share-the-Fun Contest. Loudoun had two members taken into the Virginia All Star Chapter.

E. Loudoun sent 16 club members to short course, 60 to Powell's Fort Valley 4-H Camp, three to Conservation Camp, 250 to the annual County picnic, and eleven club members attended the Virginia Leadership Camp at Jamestown, Virginia.

The Loudoun 4-H Club year came to a successful close when approximately 250 4-H club members, parents, and supporters attended the annual Achievement Night program when 50 project medals were awarded.

VIII. GENERAL

The county agents have made a special effort to bring the various agricultural agencies in the county closer together; united in but one purpose--to help the farmers of Loudoun County do a better job of farming.

To the Administrative Staff at V.P.I., the District Agent, the Extension Specialists, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, the commodity committees, and the various agricultural agencies in the county, the county agents are deeply grateful for the assistance which they rendered in helping us do a better job.