

interesting classes were presented each day. Opportunities for recreation, i.e., swimming, softball were offered in addition to other activities geared to the needs of individual campers. The stimulation received from coming in contact with other youth from different backgrounds, locations and environments is bound to have been helpful in the development of character.

These youth have been goodwill ambassadors for our camp program on the local level, too. It will be interesting to see what our camp enrollment for 1962 is.

decided after a staff conference, that there were sufficient All Stars living here to have a County Chapter. The All Stars were polled through a circular letter to ascertain their interest in the formulation of a County Chapter. It was decided to have a family picnic as the first meeting and work from there. After much deliberation, the group decided to organize and elected officers. The next meeting will be to discuss candidates for recommended membership in the State Chapter.

### III. A-H Camp

#### Situation

At present, only a few club members are attending camp each year.

#### Objectives and Goals

1. Interest at least 10 club members to attend camp this year.
2. Develop character and skills of individuals attending camp.

#### Methods

1. Visit the parents of boys expressing desire to attend camp, pointing out that there will be adequate supervision at all times.
2. Help to develop camp program to include crafts as well as activities geared to the needs of most individual campers.

#### Results

1. A total of twenty-seven--twelve boys and fifteen girls-- Page County youth attended camp with other boys and girls from Clarke and Loudoun counties.
2. To attempt to measure the nebulous and intangible items such as development of character and skills from one weeks experience would be too much. However, constructive, educational and

B. Organizations

I. Honor Club

Situation

The Page County Honor Club has been inactive since 1955. There has been considerable interest among former members to re-organize this club. It is planned that at the first meeting election of officers and the initiation ceremony will highlight the program. The second meeting, scheduled in early March, will be devoted to drawing up the goals for the club.

Results

Through circular letters and personal conversation, interest in the reorganization of the 4-H Honor Club was stimulated. The Page County 4-H All Stars were called upon to help with this and responded nicely.

In January, the clubs officially reorganized with a starting enrollment of twenty-one members. To date, there are eighteen active members. Four more will be taken in at the County Achievement Program in December.

The major accomplishments of this organization this year have been helping to prepare our first 4-H Yearbook and purchasing a 4-H welcome sign.

II. 4-H All Stars

Upon review of the county situation with regard to number taken into the 4-H All Stars from Page, and the number now living in Page, it was

V. Dairy and Poultry

Only a few enrolled in both of these projects and will work with them individually.

Results

There has been a small but increasing interest in dairy projects. To date, our dairy projects are limited to one family, and individual project instruction has presented few problems. Information concerning feeding, selection, and care of dairy animals was presented at fairly regular intervals. Regular project visits were carried out.

The number of broiler projects has dwindled to zero. Therefore, no work was done in this area after late spring.

VI. Automotive Project

This project was started in May, 1961 with the formation of two new senior groups mentioned earlier in this report. To date, there are seventeen boys and girls--nine boys and eight girls enrolled in Unit I. Prospects and potential for more members in the near future are, I feel, good.

The utilization of visual aids, state troopers, training aids borrowed from G. E. Russell and E. B. Hale and general project instruction have been used to create an interest and awareness in changes in knowledge, attitudes and skills in connection with the automobile.

Project instruction takes place in a monthly meeting held at night for approximately one hour.

Leaders, four parents, have been secured to work with these two groups, and are functioning fairly nicely.

### Results

- 1,2. Three local older club members were utilized as leaders in this project. All three young men have practical experience in the maintenance and care of farm machinery. These three, along with local farm machinery dealers, conducted the twelve members enrolled through an excellent program. All meetings were held in the dealers' shop where machinery was available for practical application of newly acquired skills. Safety was stressed in the care and operation of farm machinery at each meeting.
3. Eugene Fox, one of the top 4-H'ers enrolled in this project, competed in the district contest and went on to enter state competition held at 4-H Short Course. A tractor operators contest was held in connection with the local fair in August. This event proved to be a real attraction and again served to stimulate interest in 4-H on the local level.

### IV. Soils

#### Objectives and Goals

To teach the importance of soil in our daily living and emphasize its importance in regard to soil type and crops to be grown.

#### Methods

1. Teach soil formation and makeup of soil by visual aids.
2. Use monoliths and soil box samples to teach the differences in soil types.
3. Take field trips to examine and identify soils in a wash-out or ditch banks to see differences in soil depth, texture, color and structures.

#### Results

- 1,2,3. Forty-four boys were taught something about soil formation, soil types, fertility and influencing factors therein, texture, color, and structure through the utilization of visual aids, monoliths, soil samples, and field trips. Each subject covered was, by necessity, kept short and relatively simple because of the average age level. Each meeting was conducted in the school—meetings held once monthly for nine consecutive months. The actual time allotted to project instruction amounts to an average of forty minutes. Therefore, project instruction is, at best, limited in a project such as this.

Methods

1. Project to be taken by interested club members.
2. Interest club members to put on demonstration before club members and complete record books.

Results

1. Eighty-eight interested elementary school 4-H'ers signed up to take this project as a group activity in their school club. The proper care, repair, and use of small electrical appliances were taught at regular monthly project sessions lasting for about one hour. Excellent project completion was noted here.
2. No one was sent to 4-H Electric Congress simply because none of our project members were old enough to meet the age stipulation. Several demonstrations concerning lighting were presented during the project year.

III. Tractor Maintenance

Objectives and Goals

1. Teach proper care and minor maintenance repair of tractors and farm machinery.
2. Hold project meetings at two local garages.
3. Stimulate awareness for safety when operating a tractor.

Methods

1. Secure three leaders with practical knowledge of maintenance and care of farm machinery.
2. Secure cooperation of garage owners to hold project meeting in their garages.
3. Hold tractor operators contest at Fair for members enrolled in the Tractor Maintenance project. The winner in the senior division to represent the county in the District Tractor Operators Contest in May.

### Results

1. All eleven of the baby beef projects were shown and exhibited at the Page Valley Agricultural and Industrial Fair in August. Through an arrangement made with the fair officials, another section was added to one of the barns. This section was used for the steers and added a great deal in terms of local interest in this project.
2. The Page-Rockingham Baby Beef Show and Sale was planned and held in August. A total of twenty-nine steers were shown and sold, eleven coming from Page County. Three of the five prime steers in the show were fed in Page. Our steers sold for an average total price of \$294.67, or an average total price of \$14.72 higher than Rockingham County steers. After taking everything into consideration, I sincerely feel that this project had a very successful year. Most of the Parents were satisfied, too.
- 3,4. Two baby beef tours were scheduled and carried out. The first one stressed halter breaking, consisting of a demonstration by one of the 4-H'ers, a talk on feeding and fitting for show by Arden Huff, 4-H Livestock Specialist, a period for questions and answers, and a tour of each project at which time all projects were scored. The second tour was held in late Spring at which time each project was again scored. Parents were invited to attend each tour and most did attend.

As sale time approached, each project was visited more often to stress fitting and showing. Two weeks prior to the sale date, each steer was clipped with a local leader and older club member assisting the younger members needing special help.

Through the generosity of Page County Co-op. Farm Bureau, \$50.00 was used as prize money with this project. Each project was scored the third and final time the day of the show and sale. Then each score was totaled and averages were taken. The prize money was then awarded on the basis of final scores.

### II. Rural Electrification

#### Objectives and Goals

1. Teach the proper care, repair and use of small electrical appliances.
2. Send one boy to 4-H Electric Congress in Richmond.

Results

- 1,2. Four project members attended the annual sheep shearing school and several entered the district contest. One young man went on to the state contest in Blacksburg and placed fourth there. Interest in this event was stimulated through the usage of circular letters, personal conversation, and home visits. Each project was visited periodically at which time management practices were emphasized and questions were answered.
3. Seven project members participated in the 4-H Market Lamb Shows and Sales. The reserve champion single, reserve champion pen of three and grand champion single were exhibited by Page County boys. Both the June and May show and sale were a success from the standpoint of monetary return and changes in knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Livestock--Baby Beef Project

Objectives and Goals

1. Show all calves at local fair.
2. Develop combined show and sale with Rockingham County 4-H'ers.
3. Have 4-H'ers follow good management, fitting and showing practices.
4. Prizes to be awarded to outstanding feeders.

Methods

1. Make arrangements with fair officials to provide for baby beef exhibits.
2. Plan Page-Rockingham Baby Beef Show and Sale with extension agents concerned.
3. Hold baby beef tour during winter giving recommended feeding and management practices. Also show club members the proper techniques in fitting and showing their calves.
4. Have individual projects judged twice during the project year to determine the outstanding feeds.

Methods

1. Stimulate interest in pig chain during club meetings and farm visits.
2. Visit club members periodically and stress use of good management practices.
3. Encourage boys to feed out at least one of their pigs in first litter, pointing out that breeding is just one phase of hog production, and the knowledge of feeding is just as important.

Results

1. Interest in the pig chain was stimulated through discussions of this project, including the advantages, the merits, and educational aspects of this project. The resultant here being eight new pig chain members.
2. Each club member was visited an average of once per month at which time records were seen, questions were answered, and management practices were stressed.
3. Twenty-four of a total of thirty-two market hogs in the Page-Warren-Rappahannock Market Hog Show and Sale came from Page County. Many of these were produced by the 4-H'ers owning and showing them. This was accomplished by encouraging these project members to produce their own hogs from their sows. The champion pen of three U.S. #1 hogs were raised here in Page County. The total value of all hogs sold that day was \$1,499.30. Page County 4-H'ers brought \$1,153.77 of that back to Page County. I believe our boys and girls learned their lesson well.

Livestock—Sears Farm Flock Projects

Objectives and Goals

1. All flock owners to use good management practices.
2. All 4-H project members attend sheep shearing school in Spring.
3. All 4-H'ers to sell lambs through 4-H market show and sale.

Methods

- 1,2,3. Through circular letters, farm visits and programs at club meetings, influence club members to follow out and participate in the above objectives.

- (b) Place emphasis on oral reasons.

Results

1. Members were taught the rudiments of selection, proper feeding and management through special project instruction, tours, farm visits, and meetings at which the basic aspects of these programs were stressed.
2. Livestock projects were visited regularly and with increased frequency as the time for special shows approached.
  - (a) Livestock project members were informed of the date, time, and place of every available and appropriate show and sale through circular letters, newspaper articles and individual visits.
  - (b) Recognition of outstanding accomplishments by the individual was and is given constantly through newspaper articles, announcements at public events and general word of mouth.
3. All members carrying sheep projects were encouraged to attend the area sheep shearing school through usage of a circular letter, through announcements of this event at local club meetings, and through the local newspaper.
4. Five young men participated in livestock judging. Eight practice sessions were held to train these young men, including attendance at the judging school in Culpeper. Several practice sessions have been held since the district contest in the Spring, in connection with breed field days and sales.

Livestock—Pig Chain

Objectives and Goals

1. Increase the number of pigs reaching weaning age per litter.
2. Interest eight club members to join pig chain this year.
3. Have each boy show and sell a single and/or pen of three hogs in county show and sale in August.

Methods

1. Teach 4-H'ers selection, proper feeding and management practices through project work and farm visits.
2. Visit every 4-H'er taking a livestock project.
  - (a) Inform club members as to date and place of various sales and shows.
  - (b) Give recognition to members competing at shows and sales through radio, newspaper and announcing in club meetings.
3. Encourage all members enrolled in 4-H sheep projects to attend the area sheep shearing school.
4. Encourage all interested and qualified 4-H members to try out for the livestock judging team.
  - (a) Arrange for the following workouts:

<u>Farm</u>	<u>Livestock</u>	<u>Date</u>
Office	Organizational Meeting	February 18
Front Royal Exp. Sta.	Cattle	February 25
Axton Rothgeb	Market Hogs	March 11
David Shuler	Sheep	March 25
Judging Sc.--Culpeper	Hogs, Sheep, Cattle	March 31
C. P. Brubaker	Hogs	April 8
Cavalier Farms	Cattle	April 15
Bauserman Twins	Sheep	April 22
Gander Brothers	Sheep, Cattle, Hogs	April 29

4. Two senior clubs were organized--one in the Springfield Community and one in the Grove Hill Community. Both clubs have a combined membership of seventeen members. Both groups are working with the 4-H Automotive Program, Unit I. Leaders for both groups have been secured and are functioning.

Prior to September, 1961, one other senior club, the Stanley Sr. Club, had only girl members. Now this club has four boys and shows promise for an increase in both sexes. This group has a combined membership of eleven working with the Career Exploration Project. I envision great strides in achievement with this group.

A. Project Work

I. Livestock

Situation

The 4-H club members in Page County are primarily interested in livestock projects. The following projects are listed in order of their importance: sheep flock, market hogs, sow and litter, baby beeves and dairy.

Objectives and Goals

1. Improve the quality and increase the number of livestock projects.
2. Have more participation in area livestock shows:
  - (a) Winchester Fat Lamb Show and Sale--May 15 and June 12
  - (b) Page-Warren-Rappahannock Market Hog Show and Sale--August 17
  - (c) Page County Agri. and Industrial Fair--August 21--26
  - (d) Rockingham-Page Baby Beef Show and Sale--August 26
3. Have 4-H'ers enrolled in sheep projects attend area sheep shearing school and district sheep shearing contest.
4. Have a livestock judging team in competition at Short Course.

Objectives and Goals

1. Increase project completion from 70 to 80%.
2. Increase participation by 4-H club members in county events by stimulating interest among parents.
3. Interest club members to participate on dairy and poultry judging teams.
4. Increase participation of senior 4-H club members.

Methods

1. Between monthly junior 4-H meetings, leaders will be responsible to hold individual project record books until following meeting.
2. Have special program at Ruritan Club meetings throughout county showing slides of 4-H events which took place in the county this past year.
3. Hold individual competition open to all 4-H'ers in judging of livestock, dairy and poultry at our county fair this August.
4. Organize two senior clubs, one in Springfield area and one in Grove Hill area.

Results

1. Since there are no junior club project leaders at present, the agent was responsible for holding the group project record books. This was done because the agent recognizes the fact that little, if any, project work is done between meetings.
2. The only special program at Ruritan meetings to stimulate parental interest in 4-H was held in the Stanley Ruritan Club.
3. Individual competition open to all 4-H'ers in livestock, dairy and poultry judging at our August fair was not done because all Extension personnel were attending Agents Conference in Blacksburg.

XI. YOUTH—OVERALL PROGRAM

Situation

There are eleven organized 4-H clubs in Page County with an enrollment of 175 boys. Ten of the eleven clubs meet in school during school hours and hold nine monthly meetings during the year. The one community club holds twelve night meetings a year in the homes of the respective club members.

The 4-H County Council serves as the core of the county 4-H program. Two meetings are held annually; one in the Spring and one in the Fall to plan the 4-H program. The meeting in the Fall is primarily devoted to training newly elected club officers and planning the achievement night program. During the Spring council meeting, plans for the annual picnic and camp are made along with election of county council officers.

Problems and Needs

1. Failure of many individual club members to complete and turn in records.
2. Lack of participation in county 4-H events—camp, livestock events.
3. Few club members participating in judging teams other than the livestock judging team.
4. The one senior club not reaching all older 4-H'ers in the county.

Total farmers attending the 5 weekly school sessions--102.

Total number different farmers attending the 5 weekly school sessions--46.

E. Monthly News Letter

A monthly news letter entitled "Livestock and Crop Management Hints" was sent to all Page County farmers on the Extension office mailing list each month beginning in January and continuing through November. The months of June and July were omitted because I had no particular recommendations to make. These news letters were broken down into the six main headings, and current recommendations were given to each livestock and crop enterprise. The six main headings are as follows:

- (a) Beef Cattle
- (b) Sheep
- (c) Hogs
- (d) Crops
- (e) Dairy
- (f) Poultry.

PAGE COUNTY EXTENSION SCHOOL SCHEDULE

7:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M.

Stanley Elementary School  
Stanley, Va.

	<u>AGRONOMY</u>	<u>LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>FARM MANAGEMENT</u>	<u>DAIRY</u>
October 17th	Working Knowledge of Soil and It's Management. G. R. Epperson	Factors Influencing Profitable Beef Cattle Herd Operation George W. Litton		Feeding and Management of Dairy Herd M. F. Ellmore
October 24th	Weed Control A. H. Kates	Sheep Flock Management G. A. Allen, Jr.		Prevention and Control of Mastitis M. F. Ellmore
October 31st	Fertilizing and Liming Different Crops G. R. Epperson	Parasite and Disease Prevention and Control Dr. Wm. R. VanDresser	Keeping Adequate Farm Records Robert K. Reynolds	
November 7th		Swine Production and Management Roy M. Godsey	Reducing Costs of Production K. E. Loope	Increasing Milk Production by Using DHIA Records V. L. Baldwin
November 14th	New Crop Recommendations W. W. Lewis J. O. Rowell	Using Individual Records As a Culling Tool—Beef Herd C. C. Mast		<u>FORESTRY</u> Forestry Management A. B. Lyon

D. County Extension School

1. Preparation

- (a) Members of the county Extension planning committees were contacted by letter asking them to indicate whether or not they thought this Extension School would be practical. Each of the thirty-three committeemen replied as follows--31 yes and 2 no.
- (b) Topics to be included in the Extension School were topics that were brought up by the individual commodity committees during their planning meetings in January and problems that they would like to have the answers to.
- (c) Extension Staff members were contacted to teach the classes.
- (d) The Elementary School in Stanley was to be used as this was the most centrally located to all areas in the county.
- (e) Publicity - Posters were placed in the four banks in the county, monthly news letter, news articles, radio announcements, and before each weekly session, mats of the individual instructors were printed in our local newspaper. Postcards were sent to many farmers each week reminding them of the school.

2. Program (Please see attached pink sheet)

3. Attendance

<u>October 17</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u> 18	<u>Soil</u> 15	<u>Beef Herd Q.</u> 15	<u>Dairy Herd Mgt.</u> 3
<u>October 24</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u> 25	<u>Weed Cont.</u> 23	<u>Sheep F. Mgt.</u> 6	<u>Mastitis Control</u> 13
<u>October 31</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u> 22	<u>Lime &amp; Fer.</u> 22	<u>Parasites</u> 21	<u>Farm Records</u> 1
<u>November 7</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u> 18	<u>Swine Prod.</u> 14	<u>Reducing Costs</u> 18	<u>DHIA Records</u> 4
<u>November 14</u> <u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u> 19	<u>Crop. Rec.</u> 19	<u>Beef Herd Records</u> 19	<u>Forestry</u> 0
<u>Total</u>	<u>102</u>			

2. Program

- (a) Outlook Situation on Broilers, Turkeys and Eggs--Denver D. Bragg
- (b) How Broiler and Egg Prices are Determined--  
H. C. Hisey, News Reporter
- (c) Modern Poultry Houses--G. D. Kite
- (d) Discussion Groups
  - Group I-----Broilers
  - Group II-----Eggs and Layers
  - Group III-----Turkeys

3. Attendance

Thirty-two farmers attended the Poultry School.

C. Weed Control Field Demonstration--Corn

1. Preparation

- (a) Selection of demonstrational farms.
- (b) Publicity--news articles, monthly news letter, radio announcements.

2. Program

- (a) Explanation to group of farmers attending regarding:
  - (1) Weeds killed
  - (2) Time of application
  - (3) Rate of application
  - (4) Danger of applying above rate recommended.
  - (5) Type of sprayer recommended
- (b) Actual demonstration on one-half acre plots

3. Attendance

Approximately 18 farmers attended the two demonstrations which were located in two different areas of the county.

X. SPECIALLY EMPHASIZED EXTENSION PROGRAMS

A. Silage Institute

1. Preparation for:

- (a) Publicity—Circular letters, posters, news articles and radio announcements.
- (b) Twelve samples, silage samples, were sent to the bio-chemistry lab for analysis.

2. Program

- (a) Producing high quality silage—W. W. Lewis
- (b) Using Silage to the Best Advantage in the Grade A Dairy Feeding Program—M. F. Ellmore
- (c) Summary of analysis of Page County Samples and Silage Research at the Middleburg Station—J. F. Shoulders.
- (d) Inspection, Evaluation and Discussion of Page County Silage Samples—V.P.I. Staff. The silage submitted to the bio-chemistry lab for analysis was some of the same silage brought to the Silage Institute for the visual analysis.

3. Attendance

36 farmers.

B. Poultry School

1. Preparation for:

- (a) Publicity—Circular letters, posters, news articles, radio announcements.
- (b) Rental of school building and refreshments provided by three local feed supply stores.

Results

- 1,2. Featured in two sessions of the County Extension School this year were classes on "Keeping Adequate Farm Records" and "Reducing Costs of Production." "Reducing Cost of Production" was divided into two producer groups--Dairy and Livestock. This class was attended by 14 livestockmen and 4 dairymen. Only one person attended the class on "Keeping Adequate Farm Records."

See Section X for complete details.

IX. FARM MANAGEMENT

Situation

The Farm Management Steering Committee, made up of two members from each of the commodity committees, is a newly organized interest committee. The main purpose of this committee is to initiate a farm management program centered around existing management problems which concern each of the five commodity committees.

Problems and Needs

1. High cost of production
  - (a) Crops—corn, and corn silage, alfalfa and permanent pasture
  - (b) Machinery
2. Adequate farm records.

Objectives and Goals

1. Show all interested county farmers how net returns can be increased with proper reduction of operating and production costs.
2. Interest county farmers in keeping detailed records so as to find even adjustments in enterprise may be necessary to increase their net farming income.

Methods

- 1,2. Hold county meeting in Fall with program centered around cost of producing corn for grain and silage, alfalfa and permanent pasture as they relate to the livestock and dairy enterprises. Also at this meeting, explain the farm record keeping system available to all county farmers.

Objectives and Goals

- 1,2. Make available to all dairymen information on types of silage, their feeding values and the amounts recommended in feeding.
3. Reduce the number of cows infected with Mastitis.

Methods

- 1,2. Hold "Silage Institute" during March emphasizing the following topics:
  - (a) Comparison of different crops used as silage
  - (b) Feeding silage to our modern dairy cow
  - (c) Visual and chemical analysis of silage samples produced here in Page County.
3. Make available to all dairymen information regarding the control of Mastitis through monthly bulletin, farm visits and news articles.

Results

- 1,2. In March, a "Silage Institute" was held with 36 farmers attending. Comparisons were made of different crops used for silage; feeding silage to the modern cow and analysis of silage samples submitted from the county were the main topics discussed. Members from the agronomy, dairy Extension staff conducted the Institute.
3. Monthly mastitis bulletins were sent to county dairymen.

See Section X for complete details.

VIII. DAIRY

Situation

According to the latest census report (1959) there were a total of 2,520 dairy cows in Page County. Below are some characteristics of our Grade A Farms:

No. Grade A Farms-----	28
No. Grade A Cows-----	935
Average Cow Per Farm---	33

Market Shipped to:

Front Royal-----	6
Harrisonburg-----	15
Washington-----	7
Stanchion:-----	17
Elevated Stall-----	11
Pipe Line-----	11
Bulk Tank-----	11
Artificial Breeding---	20

On the Grade A farm survey made during March of 1958, the following was the situation on 92% of our Grade A farms also:

Pounds of hay fed per cow-----	19.2
Pounds of Grain, and conc. fed per cow-	8.2
Pounds of silage fed per cow-----	25.2

Problems and Needs

1. Need additional information regarding comparisons of different crops used as silage according to yields, TDN, etc.
2. Keeping cows on feed
3. Control of Mastitis.

Objectives and Goals

1. Reduce the number of birds condemned for bare-backs.
2. Lower present production costs.
3. Influence broiler producers concerned to modernize existing houses or build new houses using recommended plans.
4. Make available to all broiler producers information regarding how broiler prices are determined.
5. Reduce the number of broiler chicks being susceptible to disease.

Methods

- 1,2,3,4,5. Hold county meeting this Spring featuring information on the following:

- (a) Bare-backs
- (b) Costs of production
- (c) Proper broiler house construction
- (d) Factors determining market price
- (e) Disease control

Results

- 1,2,3,4,5. A Poultry School was held in April and the program included discussions on the following topics suggested by the Extension Poultry Committee.

- (a) Reducing the number of birds.
- (b) Condemned for bare-backs
- (c) Reducing cost of production
- (d) Proper broiler house construction
- (e) Factors determining market price
- (f) Disease control

See Section X for complete details.

Objectives and Goals

1. Furnish all egg producers with information available regarding profitable working unit for their enterprise.
2. Reduce cost of production.

Methods

- 1,2. Hold county meeting of egg producers, this Spring emphasizing answers to labor and cost of production problems.

Results

- 1,2. A poultry school was held in April and two of the topics presented for discussion were "Economical Units Per Man" and "Reducing Costs of Production Through Proper Management." Thirty-two farmers from the county attended this school.

BROILERS

Situation

A drop of some 30,500 broilers have been noted from the 1959 census over the previous census figure of 1954.

At our local dressing plant during the month of October, an overall percentage of condemnation on 191,103 birds was only .70%.

Problems and Needs

1. Bare-backs continuing to be a problem.
2. Increasing production costs.
3. Improper heating and construction of many broiler houses were noticed.
4. Many broiler producers are in a quandary as to how broiler prices are determined.
5. Increased disease rate found in many broiler flocks.

VII. POULTRY

General Situation

According to the most recent census report (1959, the following is the poultry picture in Page County.

	<u>Farms</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>1954</u>
Broilers Sold-----	129	2,500,000	242	2,150,000
Eggs Sold-----	315	750,182dz.	562	366,721
Turkeys Raised-----	11	57,853	59	299,361

These figures indicate a sizable drop in broiler numbers as we all have realized. A drop of 30,500 broilers and a drop of 113 farms formerly keeping broilers may be noted since 1954. An increase, however, is noticed in the number of eggs sold between the 1954 and the 1959 census; 383,461 increase. Turkey raising has decreased appreciably. A reduction of 48 farms raising turkeys and a drop of 241,500 turkeys on farms since the 1954 census.

LAYERS

Situation

A sizable increase in the number of eggs sold has been noted from the above figures. The size of many flocks, however, are still under 500 birds.

Problems and Needs

1. Labor--qualifying unit per man.
2. High cost of production

2. Show major hog producers in county how they can reduce feed costs.
3. Reduce the number of pigs lost up to weaning time.
4. Impress upon all swine producers the need for periodic treating of internal and external parasites.

Methods

1. Through circular letters, farm visits and news articles announce purebred sales to all concerned.
- 2,3,4. Feeding, disease and parasite control to be featured on farm management meeting this Fall open to all interested farmers.

Results

1. When making visits to hog producers the importance of using good sires was stressed. News articles were written announcing purebred sales for all those concerned.
- 2,3,4. Included in our County Extension School this Fall was the topic "Parasite and Disease Prevention and Control." Twenty-one farmers attended this session.

See Section X for complete details.

2. "Reducing Cost of Production" pertaining to the beef herd operation was featured at one of the sessions of the County Extension School held this Fall. Fourteen farmers were in attendance for this session led by Kenneth Loope, Extension Farm Management Specialist.
3. One of the topics discussed during the class, "Factors Influencing Profitable Beef Cattle Herd Operation" at the County Extension School was the topic of selecting growthy herd bulls. Fifteen farmers participated in this session led by George Litton.
4. The County calf sale committee and agent secured three additional consignors from the county to the Page-Warren Feeder Calf Sale this year.
- 5,6,7,8. "Parasite and Disease Prevention and Control" was another session featured at our County Extension School this Fall. Twenty-one farmers attended this class instructed by Dr. Wm. Van-Dresser. (See Section X for complete details.)

#### SWINE

##### Situation

There are approximately 7,400 hogs and pigs on Page County farms as reported by the 1959 census.

##### Problems and Needs

1. Better quality breeding stock needed.
2. Feed cost high.
3. Death loss high.
4. Internal and external parasites.

##### Objectives and Goals

1. Impress upon all hog producers the need for better quality breeding stock in many of their herds.

Objectives and Goals

1. Increase weaning weights from 435 lbs. to 500 lbs. over a three year period by cow and calf producers.
  2. Reduce cost of wintering cows to more nearly meet reductions in calf prices.
  3. Impress upon all farmers the importance of purchasing clean, pedigreed bulls.
  4. Increase the number of feeder calves sold through the organized feeder calf sales.
- 5,6,7,8. Stimulate awareness to these management practices.

Methods

1. Hold field demonstration on farm already keeping records to up-grade weight their herd.
  2. Topic to be included in one of the extension programs held during the year.
  3. Publicize through individual farm visits, circular letters and news articles.
  4. Members of committee to talk to those not consigning calves to feeder calf sales, influencing them to consign calves during 1961.
- 5,6,7,8. Topics to be included in one of the extension program meetings to be held this Fall for all interested county farmers.

Results

1. The results of one farmer keeping records on his herd were discussed at our session of the County Extension School. Curtis Mast, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, led the discussion, "Using Individual Records As A Culling Tool." Nineteen farmers were in attendance at this session.

VI. BEEF CATTLE AND SWINE

General Situation

There are 753 farms, out of the county total of 886 farms, that report having beef cows, calves, steers and bulls on these farms, according to the 1959 census. Also, there are 671 farms reporting swine being raised on these farms.

Situation

There are approximately 15,000 beef cows, heifers, steers and bulls on Page County farms as reported by the 1959 census. Only 330 calves were consigned to the Page-Warren Feeder Calf Sale this past Fall. There are 50 farmers currently feeding steers and heifers for market.

Problems and Needs

1. Weaning weights too low.
2. Wintering cost of cow too high.
3. Too many dwarf calves.
4. Many calves sold through local auctions rather than through organized feeder calf sale.
5. Calf death losses high.
6. External and internal parasites.
7. Cancer Eye.
8. Weaned calves keeping colds.

Methods

1. Members of this committee to meet with wool pool committees from surrounding counties to schedule wool pool for 1961. County committee and county agent's office will publicize the established wool pool.
2. Committee to request governing body of county to enact law regarding dogs running in packs over many of our county farms.
3. County agent to request marketing service to release weekly lamb reports of local market to county paper.
- 4,5. Hold management meeting during year stressing problems encountered by our county farm flocks.

Results

1. Forty-eight county farmers consigned 9,750 pounds of wool to the county wool pool held the first week of June this year. Last year (1960), there were 34 consignors to our county wool pool for a total of 5,569 pounds. Thus, this year, there were 14 additional consignors and 4,181 pounds of additional wool were consigned to the county wool pool.
2. Members of the committee, along with pressure applied by the local Farm Bureau, have been responsible for the County Board of Supervisors' looking into the possibility of hiring a full-time dog warden for this county.
3. As a result of a request made to the Virginia Department of Markets, releases of weekly lamb market reports were made available to our county newspaper.
- 4,5. Included in our County Extension School held this Fall was a session on "Sheep Flock Management" presented by George Allen, Sheep Specialist. Only six farmers were present at this session.

In the monthly news letter during the year, the following management recommendations were stressed:

- (a) Lambing time
- (b) Shearing
- (c) Control of internal parasites.

V. SHEEP MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

In an effort to build up the sheep numbers in the county, to promote marketing of wool through cooperative wool pools, and to encourage present producers to do a better job of sheep flock management, this sheep management and marketing committee was formed. This committee was formerly part of the livestock committee.

Situation

According to the most recent census report (1959), there were 2,633 sheep and lambs on 78 Page County farms. In 1959, a total of 12,564 pounds of wool was received by our county producers. In 1960, only 5,569 pounds of wool were marketed through the county wool pool. A total of 2,308 sheep and lambs were sold during 1959.

Problems and Needs

1. Marketing of wool
2. Sheep killed by dogs
3. Knowing when to sell lambs to the best advantage
4. Lambs reaching market too late
5. Ewes not settling after first service

Objectives and Goals

1. Have all sheep flock owners consign their wool to the county wool pool.
2. Reduce greatly the number of sheep killed by dogs each year.
3. All flock owners receive information on market trends during market lamb season.
- 4,5. All sheep flock owners to become acquainted with the recommended management practices.

Objectives and Goals

Stimulate awareness that the type of soil will govern in most cases the yield of a particular crop.

Methods

Hold meeting emphasizing the importance of suitability of a soil to produce certain crops and proper management to keep these soils producing.

Results

1. Included in our County Extension School held this Fall was a class on "Working Knowledge of Soil and Its Management." This class was presented by G. R. Epperson, Extension Agronomist. Fifteen farmers attended this session of the County Extension School.

Specific Recommendations of Committee

1. Hold farm tour in summer with emphasis on the following:
  - (a) Chesapeake Red Clover demonstrational plot
  - (b) Weed Control in Pasture
  - (c) Weed Control in Corn

Results

It was found advisable to take slides of results obtained and show them to farmers attending the County Extension School rather than holding a tour during the busy summer time.

2. Hold agronomy school during Fall of 1961 or Winter of 1962-- suggested topics: soils, weed control, insect control, phase of economics, forestry management, fertilizing different crops.

Results

The idea of the "Agronomy School" was incorporated into the County Extension School held this Fall. All of the suggested topics given by this committee were included in the County Extension School.

### Results

1. Three demonstrational plots on two county farms were set up for the purpose of showing the results of using chemicals to control weeds in corn--Atrazine and 2,4-D. These demonstrations were conducted by Allen Kates, Ext. Weed Specialist, on two farms at different ends of the county. Approximately 18 farmers attended these two sessions. News articles, radio announcements and special emphasis placed in the monthly news letter were responsible for the acceptance of the new chemical atrazine for weed control in corn. It is known that at least 15 farmers in the county used atrazine this year as compared to only one last year.

Approximately 500 pounds of the atrazine was used. Farmers in the county are very well pleased with this new weed control chemical.

At intervals during the growing season, slides were taken to show the results of the use of the new chemical. During the "weed control" class at our County Extension School, the results obtained were shown to twenty-three farmers attending this class. The results of using 2,4-D were also shown and it was easily seen where grasses were a main problem, the use of atrazine was a must.

2. In the March news letter sent to all county farmers, the results of corn varietal test were included. "New Fertilizer Recommendations" bulletin was sent to interested farmers in January.

### D. Soils

#### Situation

In the past, not too much emphasis has been put on soils in the overall management of the farm. Many farmers could greatly increase their yields in many crops by just producing the crops on a suitable soil type.

#### Problems and Needs

Lack of understanding by many farmers in regard to the suitability of soil to produce certain crops.

C. Corn

Situation

According to the last census report (1959), 480 farmers planted 5,890 acres of corn for all purposes. This was a reduction of about 500 acres from the 1954 report. 5,167 acres were harvested for grain in 1959, yielding a total of 273,584 bushels or 53 bushels per acre.

Also in 1959, a total of 89,514 bushels of corn was sold which was an increase of 63,000 bushels sold in 1954. A decrease in the tonnage of silage produced on Page County farms in 1959 was reported in the last census by 800 tons and 600 acres. The per acre yield of silage during 1959 was approximately 10 tons.

Problems and Needs

1. Weeds
2. Poor Stands

Objectives and Goals

1. Promote use of chemicals to control weeds.
2. Have all farmers seeding corn follow recommended fertilization practices. If total amount of fertilizer is not broadcasted on land prior to seeding, emphasize the possible detrimental effect of sowing more than 150 lbs. of the high analysis fertilizer in the row.

Methods

1. Set up demonstrational plot using atrazine and/or 2,4-D to control weeds.
2. Publicize proper fertilization practices through circular letters, news articles, farm visits and radio programs.

2. (a) Have all farmers take soil samples prior to top-dressing and emphasize use of 0-30-15, 0-14-14 or 2-12-12, depending upon results of tests.
- (b) Promote chemical weed control by all farmers concerned.
3. Promote use of small grain for winter pastures by livestock and dairy farmers.

#### Methods

1. Publicize the availability of funds through the ASC office for pasture maintenance and improvement, ie. farm visits, news articles, radio.
2. (a) Publicize proper fertilization methods through circular letters, news articles and on radio.
- (b) Hold weed control demonstration on at least one farm-- results to be shown on slides. These will be shown at agronomy meeting to be held this Fall.
3. Supply information to farmers regarding advantages of including winter pastures in the overall farm planning program.

#### Results

1. Through farm visits, news articles, monthly news letter and radio programs, information was made available to our farmers regarding the availability of funds through the ASCS office for pasture maintenance and improvement. A special program for thistle control was included in the monthly news letter of July and November.
2. (a) Special emphasis was placed on top-dressing pastures in the monthly news letter for September and news articles written last March, April and August.
- (b) A weed control demonstration was set up on one farm in the county and the results of which were shown during the class on "Weed Control" at our County Extension School held this Fall.
3. Special emphasis on including winter pastures in the overall farm management program was stressed in the September news letter to all county farmers. Included in the news letter also were mixtures and seeding rates.

shown on slides at one of the sessions of our County Extension School held this Fall. A part of the "new crop recommendation" class was devoted to the production of Chesapeake Red Clover.

3. Through news articles, monthly news letter and farm visits, the need for top-dressing alfalfa stands were made known to our alfalfa producers.

#### B. Pasture

##### Situation

According to the latest census report(1959), there were 45,905 acres used for pasture, and of this total acreage, only 6500 acres were fertilized during 1959. The amount of lime used is not differentiated between the lime applied on cropland; however, the totals are as follows: 137 farms applied 4,710 tons on 2007 acres. No acreage of supplemental pasture was available.

##### Problems and Needs

1. Failure of farmers to fertilize and lime permanent pastures.
2. Poor Management
  - (a) Not using recommended fertilizer analysis according to results of soil tests.
  - (b) Need to control weeds.
3. Need for more winter pastures on many of our livestock and dairy farms.

##### Objectives and Goals

1. Have farmers use 50% of the county ACP allotment for top-dressing, liming and seeding permanent pasture.

Objectives and Goals

1. Maintain present alfalfa acreage.
2. Promote seeding of the new red clover variety, Chesapeake.
3. Promote the practice of taking soil samples on all farms prior to top-dressing alfalfa.

Methods

1. Promote recommended management practices on existing stands of alfalfa through current news articles, circular letters and radio programs.
2. Set up demonstrational plot in Spring on farm seeding Chesapeake red clover. Take slides of progress of seeding to be shown at agronomy meeting to be held in the Fall.
3. Recommend top-dressing with 0-10-20 plus borax where needed as a result of soil tests.

Results

1. The following information at the times indicated was made available to our alfalfa growers in the county through news articles, circular letters, monthly news letter and announcements on the radio.
  - (a) Chickweed control--February, March, November
  - (b) Alfalfa Weevil Control--March, April, June, July, September
  - (c) Top-dressing--February, August
  - (d) "Alfalfa Seeding Suggestions"--Circular sent to all producers--July.
  - (e) Fertilizing new alfalfa seedings--September
2. Two demonstrational plots on growing Chesapeake Red Clover were set up on two farms in the county. The results obtained were

IV. AGRONOMY

General Situation

According to the latest census report (1959), there were 886 farms in Page County which comprise a total of 100,472 acres of farm land with the average size being 113.4 acres. Crops were harvested from 24,574 acres and 45,905 acres were used for pasture.

A. Alfalfa

Situation

In 1959, 278 farms reported a total of 3,754 acres in alfalfa cut for hay yielding 8,960 tons or 2.3 tons per acre. This was an increase over the 1954 figures as indicated: increase by 24 farms, of 1,018 acres, by 4,599 tons, and .7 tons per acre. Even with this apparent increase in the production of alfalfa, only 31% of the farms in the county were raising alfalfa in 1959. Sales of alfalfa hay off the farm amounted to 631 tons from 39 farms in 1959 against 112 tons by 12 farms in 1954.

Problems and Needs

1. Cost of insecticide causing many farmers to discontinue seeding new stands.
2. Insects, alfalfa weevil and aphids, not being controlled 100% by recommended insecticides.
3. Established stands not being top-dressed each year with recommended fertilizer analysis.

III. PROGRAM COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>Program Committees</u>	<u>Members</u>	
Agronomy	Todd Burner John A. Miller Lynn Keyser Kermit Kibler Dave Shirley Cletus Lamb	Glenn Dale Foltz Paul Shuler Clark Spitler Jim Huffman J. T. Modisett
Sheep Management and Marketing	Max Foltz Joey Gander Charles Fake	Blackburn Clark Clark Long
Beef Cattle and Swine	Thomas Jennings Robert Mims Robert Long Henry Gander Axton Rothgeb	Irvin Foltz Maurice Grove Jack Hite John Shuler
Poultry	Randolph Sours Wilson Kite C. H. Price Franklin Strickler	Roscoe Baker Elbert Shuler Frank Keyser
Dairy	Nelson Long Richard Long Archie Freeze W. N. Comer, Jr.	Ernest Long Walter Yancey Floyd Eppard, Jr. William Broy
Farm Management Steering	David Shirley Max Foltz Maurice Grove C. H. Price Ernest Long	Paul Shuler Blackburn Clark Irvin Foltz Randolph Sours Richard Long
Youth	Robert Mims James Gander John Brubaker	Harry Huffman Lynn Keyser

II. THE COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM

The county Extension program in Page County was developed for 1961 by meeting with special interest committees. The committeemen selected by the county agent were asked to serve on the committee which best suits his main agricultural ability and interest. Each committeeman picked to serve on a committee came from different areas of the county, so as to better represent the entire county on the individual interest committee.

In addition to the already standing Extension committees, poultry, dairy, beef cattle and swine, three additional committees were formed and started functioning this year. The three committees added were the youth committee, the sheep management and marketing committee and the farm management steering committee.

Following are the extension programs that were completed this year developed by the individual interest committees:

I. COUNTY STATISTICS

Page County is located in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley and is bounded on the West by the Massanutten Mountains and on the East by the Blue Ridge Mountains. The total land area is approximately 202,240 acres of which 100,472 acres is in farm land. There are 886 farms in the county with an average of 113.4 acres. According to the 1959 census, the farm land was devoted to these uses: 28,989 acres in woodland, 45,905 acres in pasture, and 24,574 acres in crops.

The county population in 1959 was 15,572. The three largest towns in the county had the following population: Luray 3,014, Stanley 1,039, and Shenandoah 1,839.

Out of the total number of farms in the county, 886, eight hundred and four of the farm operators resided in the county. A large percentage of the farms are operated entirely with family labor. Approximately one-third of the farm operators worked off the farm for 100 or more days during 1959. Five hundred and ninety operators reported income from non-farm sources during 1959. With approximately 50% of our farms under 50 acres, it is quite evident that low farm income is the major farm problem. Broilers and laying flocks of poultry offer the best opportunity to increase the farm income on farms of this type. For the farms over 50 acres, increase in the following enterprises will offer the best opportunity to increase farm income for this group: dairy, poultry and beef cattle.

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# ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

## ● COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

### ● *Virginia Agricultural Extension Service*

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