

Four 4-H members showed hogs on the Atlantic Rural Exposition Fair in Richmond. These members were awarded with premiums. Good prices paid by local packers plus the educational experiences gained in growing and fitting their animals for the show. Additional 4-H members attended the Show and Sale for the purpose of stimulating them to participate.

Two boys of Franklin community carried Sweet Potato projects. Both boys exhibited samples on Tidewater Fair and on the Show and Sale in Newport News. The two boys accompanied the agent to the Sweet Potato Show and Sale held in Richmond last year.

Of the 352 4-H members enrolled, 296 satisfactorily completed projects in livestock, crops and vegetables. All boys enrolled participate in vegetable projects. Other projects are in addition. Members are encouraged to carry garden projects jointly with the family garden, supplying the family with the latest recommendations on fertilizer, insect control and cultural practices.

Monthly meetings offer opportunities for giving information on research findings to 4-H members and leaders. Judging teams are trained as incentive to stimulate interest for personal development as well as for preparing products for market. Citations and awards are used in motivating individuals to greater participation.

Twelve 4-H leaders were presented certificates of award for service rendered over five years. We keep 4-H members mindful of state awards as an incentive to keeping records of project activities.

Projects involve economic objectives. The number of people on farms is becoming smaller without a corresponding increase in land. This creates for better understanding of technology. With the interchanging population between urban and rural people skill, knowledge and desirable character traits learned in 4-H club work should carry over other vocations and life experiences in order to make wise decisions. 4-H activities should supplement any career counseling services available as it works with rural youth.

4-H activities are being broadened and becoming more meaningful. Other than the general routine of work we are getting better response and participation in county-wide activities and support of state-wide and national programs as Rural Life Sunday and National 4-H Week. Most of our clubs participate in Rural Life Sunday programs. Leaders take an active part in arranging the 4-H program so that it fits into the church services.

More than three hundred 4-H members, leaders, parents and friends witnessed our National 4-H Week program sponsored at the Training School. The activities further publicized National 4-H Week with the theme "4-H Salute to Parents".

Twelve clubs participated in the program. Leaders and parents were extended oral recognition. Carol Joe, an older 4-H member, told her story of her three years activity in 4-H work. The purpose of 4-H club work was told by 4-H members. 4-H members gave demonstrations in culling and grading farm products.

Mr. Herbert Spruell, 4-H leader and sponsor of the 4-H council presented certificates of awards to 4-H members for their achievements in Junior leadership.

Six Southampton 4-H members participated in the Annual Junior Market Hog Show and Sale sponsored at Tidewater Fair in Suffolk.

4-H Program of Activities

We are expanding our 4-H program and projects to meet their interest, and needs and challenge their abilities. Effective leadership is one key to success in 4-H work. 4-H work needs to be more challenging and not just added duties. The 4-H principle of learning to do by doing is of prime importance. Projects provides avenues through which the power and energy of teenagers can be put to practical activities for achievements. It is a matter of program organization and leadership.

Other than project activities, other questions and problems come into the mind of 4-H'ers. They need some one to listen with sympathy and discuss with them their problems on their own level. 4-H'ers have favorite leaders ready to talk to them about their problems and expresses interest in understanding them. This counselling in turn encourages the club members to learn to listen and respect the rights of others. Young people tend to adopt the philosophy of leaders whom they admire. Other qualities of leadership is that leaders have a sense of humor, a fine example of behaviour and attitudes, a special skill and a sense of fairness in dealing with people. Leaders should listen to the young people's ideas, answer their questions and explain their mistakes, making instructions clear and concise. Young people should have praise when they deserve it. They have learning ability but lack judgement.

We need to do a better job of helping 4-H members select projects that interest them and are suited to their situations. Club members should be allowed participation in planning programs and events.

Sweet Potatoes

Growing of sweet potatoes is becoming an interesting enterprise. The lack of available market is the handicap. A new potato curing house established in Ivor community is a part solution to the problem. Farmers can store their potatoes and dispose of them on delayed market when demands increase.

Poultry

Poultry flocks for eggs and table use are considered an economical item in the family food budget. Chickens and eggs fit so well in family budgeting. With milk and butter, juices and vegetables, food bills and better health are assured.

Livestock

Hogs are one of our substantial enterprises as well as resources. We have breeders who participate in our semi-annual swine sales. We also participate in our "feeder pig sale". Our breeders consign hogs on fairs in and out of Virginia. Good animals are distributed to neighboring farmers. Farmers are informed how by selection and breeding he can arrive at number one hogs. Most of our local buying stations grade hogs before purchasing.

Contract farming is being developed with both poultry and hogs. Contract arrangements vary with varied systems.

Watermelons

Production of watermelons is growing in population. Watermelons sold well during the past summer.

The sales are much welcome as supplementary income. Farmers produce them by the thousands. After the mellons are harvested, they seed other crops on the land.

Peanuts left in the soil that could be considered a waste provide excellent grazing for hogs. Peanut vines provide a good quality of hay for livestock. Peanut wilt and stem rot are diseases that were pronounced this time. The wilt requires repeated applications of sulfur dust. The stem rot is a result of covering parts of the vines with soil in the process of cultural practices.

Rye grass is seeded in peanut land at harvest time. Rye grass is excellent grazing for livestock. Rye grass provides an excellent cover crop as well as late winter and early spring grazing and is turned under as a good soil conditioner.

Pastures

The "pig parlor" idea has given compromise practice. Farmers are hard surfacing feeding places in shady places in the pasture and sheltering for economical feeding, which in turn improves sanitary conditions. Pastures are economical sources of feed. Added participation is influenced by demonstrations. Rotational grazing and other good management practices are followed.

The "feeder pig sale" which occurs at least monthly in the county encourages this practice. Good pigs are consigned to the feeder pig sale. Remaining pigs have luscious pasture to finish on. It is encouraging to see acres of pastures being grazed by cows, hogs and sheep.

Gardens

Year-round gardens are major factors in our farm management program. Added minutes pay wonderful dividends spent in the garden. We stress preparing good seed beds using reliable seeds and recommended fertilizers in abundance and combating insects and diseases.

Larger varieties, culling and grading for quality products pay off. We still need to be careful of the insecticides used, because of poison residues.

Ivor community. The family is active in Church work, 4-H Club work and community affairs.

The farm consist of 170 acres, forty-eight of which is cleared. Additional land is rented. The home is in fairly good living conditions. Appliances are television, telephone, deep freeze, refrigerator, washing maching, wood stove, electric iron and running water in the kitchen.

Plans are to increase the productivity of the farm and inspect woodland for timber possibilities, educate the children, repair the porch and gradually landscape and install running water. This family does a good job in keeping farm and home records and sponsoring their children in 4-H activities.

Corn

Corn is definitely a seasonable crop, depending on climatic conditions. It is an all important crop in this area. Acres of corn have been supplemented with milo. Farmers have also put acres seeded to corn in the soil bank program. With the development of the feeder pig sale in this area, farmers are privileged to alternate their feeding practice. In case of low price corn, pigs are fed out. In case of favorable prices, pigs are sold as feeders and the farmer profits from corn sale. At the maximum point of a corn failure, this summer climatic conditions reacted favorable and resulted in a good corn crop.

Peanuts

Peanuts here are an all purpose interprise and maybe considered our outstanding cash crop. It has been reported that although this year's crop is 15 to 20 per cent short of last years, the quality is good, which should cause a rise in price. Harvesting has been handicapped by weather conditions, but it is expected that harvest will be over before Christmas. Peanuts are grading high. Prices range from around 9 to 10 cents per pound.

a field meeting on the college farm, Petersburg, Virginia. Mr. M. T. Carter, Manager of the station, explained the variety of seeds, time and rate of seeding, amount and kind of fertilizer, cultural practices and production of the various crops. Southampton made a brief visit to the pig parlor and to the breeding herd of hogs.

Farm Tour - Ivor Community

A group of thirty-five farmers and Farm Agent of Edgecomb County, North Carolina along with neighboring farmers of Ivor community, toured two farms on June 27th. The group was particularly interested in the management of the hog herds. The group also questioned farmer T. B. McClenny of the care and management of his sheep herd.

Farm and Home Development Work

The farm and Home Development work is a unit approach. The family, the farm business and the home are considered as one. The first step in planning is to consider where the family is. This includes what they have in resources, land, labor, equipment and capital against their obligations. Next is objectives and goals, where they want to go. In discussing ways and means problems are identified, which most times present opportunities. Final decisions are made by the farm family. Plans are then made with the family. Such plans are flexible plans made for readily adjusting when changing conditions demand.

The purpose of the Farm Home Unit Development Program is to get results of research in action more readily. Results of the Farm Home Unit Demonstrators are used for the benefit of other farm families.

Lemuel Earl Warren, Sr., age 39, family of Ivor community is enrolled in Farm and Home Development Work. Mrs. Warren is 35. They have six children ranging from 4 to 14 years. Four children are attending school and are enrolled in 4-H Club work. Parents are members of the Young Farmers Club of the Ivor

delegates from small areas are basic to the progress of extension work. Members of these groups stimulate interest and encourage participation in the respective areas. They help in identifying problems and offering solutions for the same. They make recommendations and assist in evaluating for accomplishment. Meeting with these groups and other key people makes it convenient for changing decisions in changing situations. Plans and programs are adjusted to the demands of the situations objectives to be obtained.

Field Meetings

May 14th the agent accompanied by two families attended the Tucker Award Program in Greenville County. Local progress reports were made. A group of teen agers furnished music for the occasion.

Mr. Mitchell of Washington's office paid tribute to the early extension workers giving them credit for having laid a firm foundation. He referred to the changing agricultural situation and the vertical intergration aspect. He commended the present administration on the good job being done and praised the Tucker family for their strides in improvement.

Soil Study

Tuesday, March 31st, farm agents of Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Sussex and Southampton flanked by Mr. S. E. Marshall, District Agent, accompanied by Mr. H. C. Porter, Soils Specialist of Blacksburg, experienced facinating study of a series of soils in the areas of Courtland and Sebrell in Southampton County. The group made five major stops and was privileged to see and examine the texture of different soils and examine the structure and drainage of the same. The purpose of the study was to enable agricultural workers to teach better management based on soil characteristics for more efficient crop production.

Field Meeting at State College

Wednesday, September 9th, the agent accompanied by three farmers attended

Improvement in Southampton Farming Situation

Because of the changing agricultural situation farms are expanding but getting fewer. Because of acreage control row crops are decreasing. Supplemental cash crops as watermelons and soybeans are being established. Corn is being supplemented with milo. Increase pastures are being established and the number and variety of livestock are on the increase. Telephones and Televisions are on the increase which means timely available research information.

Farmers are no longer attempting to mine the soil to improve their level of living. Soils are being tested. New opportunities lie in increasing farm productivity with the use of larger amounts of plant food. The use of proper plant food and seeding crops on land better adapted to its production means the difference between success and failure.

Building and repairing homes, farm buildings, machine shelter, fences and repairing machinery is on the increase. Adding conveniences and time saving devices in the home and on the farm and home and farm record keeping of activities are definitely on the increase. Farm families are being stimulated to a growing participation in educational meetings and other cultural activities.

Status of County Extension Organizations

County Extension Organizations are the County Advisory Board with a membership of thirty-six families, nine organized communities with a membership of three hundred twenty families, Junior 4-H Council with a membership of fifty-two and the Agronomy and Livestock Committee. Leaders in these organizations and small area committees are active sponsoring extension work.

County Advisory Board

The County Advisory Board is an overall organization controlling county wide activities. Community organizations, Councils, committee members and

tors as; insect, disease, weed control, and timely cultural practices such as planting, cultivating and harvesting.

With the changes in the Agricultural situation it will be necessary to bring new industry into farming areas, expand what is already there and encourage commerce. The purpose being to provide more jobs, thereby establishing new payrolls. This puts additional dollars into circulation and each worker share in the increase wealth. Industrial development is good for bankers, business and everybody.

Larger farmers who accept recommendations and use them and are willing to make changes are increasing the size of their operation, purchasing additional machinery, introducing livestock and seeding new cash crops. Producing watermelons in this area is a part solution to supplementing farm income. An increasing number of farmers are supplementing their farming operations through off-farm employment. Progress in extension work is predetermined by the quality of leadership available. A sizable share of extension activities is to identify leaders and provide training and experience opportunities for them.

Farm families success depends largely on their ability to make wise management decisions. Frequent decisions must be made with respect to the use of money, ^{time} _{resources} Along with efficient production comes the necessity for efficiency in marketing. Farmers must be more efficient in processing, handling and distributing products. Wise selection of food, goods and other materials is as important as grading and packaging to sell. Extension function is educating, enabling people to help themselves. Even with acreage control, farmers continue to increase their possible output. This is apparent in fields of high yielding quality crops and quality livestock grazing improved pastures. Nutrition is almost in the farmer's mind with both food and feed.

Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics, cooperative understanding between land grant colleges, the United States Department of Agriculture, with local people and their government. It should be a unique service permitting maximum participation for the betterment of the people. The extension program should be built by the people to fit their specific need. The program should be direct training to enable the people to identify their problems. The people should be stimulated to group action in light of their own desires and obligations. Working together should be stressed in planning the program and in directing their efforts.

The Department of Agriculture backed by land grant colleges, experiment stations, other sources of research and practical experiences, are pertinent sources of information to be taken to the people. Production control creates a farm problem. An assured stable market is necessary for farm economy.

Farm purchasing power is weakening. Farm share of the consumer's dollar has dropped. Farmers have no way of measuring needs. With the adoption of recommended cultural practices, farmers produce an abundance. This is accomplished with below average weather conditions. Agricultural problems make Agricultural teachings more meaningful. Farmers are pressing information into use.

Soil, climate, crop and management influence production. In crop production the farmer should be principally interested in quantity and quality of the yield in relation to inputs required. This means that he should be mindful of good crop varieties, good stands, good soil conditions, good climate and good management. Management in this sense includes a number of fac-

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

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