

VIRGINIA  
PLAN OF WORK  
1958

J. E. Flora, Full time District Agent  
West Central District

#### THE PROGRAM SITUATION.

District agent will make an intensive effort to assist agents in planning phases of their program. The approach will be to get the counties to realize the need for assistance and to get the agents to make the request. The supervisory group within the district will have frequent conferences on planning, developing and executing programs of joint concern. Joint visits will be made to counties on administrative supervisory problems. Efforts will be made to get personnel to see the importance of a unified program in the counties and one team working on that program.

#### THE SUPERVISOR'S SITUATION.

West Central District is composed of sixteen counties: Alleghany, Bath, Bedford, Botetourt, Campbell, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Halifax, Henry, Highland, Montgomery, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Roanoke, and Rockbridge. There are 16 county agent, 18 assistant county agent and 19 1/2 secretary positions. An effort will be made to keep all positions filled in each of the sixteen counties. A check will be made on the office equipment and repairs needed.

District agent will schedule needed educational and planning meetings after consultation with specialists. When problems of a district-wide nature arise, the specialists will be invited to district semi-annual meetings to discuss the matter. Specialists

and district agent will visit counties together to talk over needed work with agents, work with commodity groups on planning, attend educational meetings and further strengthen work already begun.

District agent will arrange meetings of small groups of extension workers and specialists to give the agents increased knowledge on the over-all extension program in their county.

The agent will cooperate with State and Federal agencies by attending meetings and accepting committee assignments, etc. District agent will work with chambers of commerce, television and radio stations, the press, industries and others who sponsor district events such as the community improvement club program, 4-H Club contests, fat stock shows and sales, farm shows, 4-H club pig chains, 4-H heifer chains and others. The district agent will encourage agents to participate in out-of-county activities when they are beneficial to their county people and county extension program and to cooperate with agricultural agencies, business and industry.

District agent will work with county personnel in improving extension program methods to develop a unified extension program. At district conferences, county staff conferences and leader training meetings encourage emphasis on the importance of extension workers relying upon the county leaders to develop, execute and publicize the county extension program.

Work closely with county officials, especially Boards of Supervisors, in each county in district.

MAJOR SUPERVISORY PROBLEMS.

District agent will hold training meetings with agents, discuss problems and situations with agents and key leaders of the county extension board, use meetings, radio, television and the press in publicizing the decisions of the local county committee for the following problems:

Supplementary income activities.

Marketing.

Farm and home lighting.

Water Systems Program.

Virginia Livestock Improvement Association.

Weigh-a-day-a-month program.

Artificial breeding of dairy cattle.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS.

Will serve on committees requested by the director such as the committee for training conference for new Extension agents and the Water Under Pressure Committee.

F. B. DOUGLAS PLAN OF WORK

FOR

Calendar Year 1958

Major phases of project of subdivisions of <u>project covered</u>	<u>Name of Worker</u>	Percentage of time devoted to entire <u>project by worker</u>
Southwest Virginia District	P. B. Douglas	100%

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ 1958      Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project Leader

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ 1958      Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
State Director of  
Extension

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ 1958      Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of  
Extension Work  
U. S. D. A.

Prepared in Accordance with:

Suggested Supervisory Plan of Work Outline (Agriculture)

Mo.-276 (10-57)

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## II. The Program Situation

The Southwest Extension District is made up the 15 counties in the extreme western end of the state extending from New River west to the North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia state boundary lines. There are 461,781 people living in the area according to the 1950 census.

The soils of the area vary greatly. Carroll and Grayson Counties are all within the Blue Ridge Mountains (Mountain Piedmont) where the soils are from granitic origin. Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise Counties are almost entirely within the soft coal fields. The western edges of Scott, Russell, Lee, and Tazewell Counties are also in the coal fields. All the remaining counties are between these two extremes where the mountains run generally in a Northeast, Southwest direction. The soils are derived from limestones, sandstones, and shales with all other types coming from alluvial and colluvial deposits in the valleys.

Forests cover about 70 percent of the total land area. The majority is privately owned but large areas in the mountains are in national forest holdings. Of the remaining 30 per cent about three-fourths is in permanent pasture and one-fourth in field crop production. There were 14,468 farms (1954 census) in the district with an average size of approximately 100 acres.

### Income

The estimated gross income from the sale of coal is \$50,000,000 per year.

No figures are readily available on gross dollar value of off farm income from industrial employment but the total value far exceeds the combined total of all farm income and coal sales.

The gross dollar value of all farm income sales from the 15 counties is \$37,140,012 (1954 census).

The sale of farm products in rank of importance in the area is first, fresh and manufactured milk; second, beef cattle, sheep and hogs; third, Burley Tobacco. All other products sold are of a minor nature such as apples, timber, poultry, etc. One unique fact is that Burley Tobacco uses less than two percent of the available cropland to produce about one-fourth of the total gross agriculture income.

#### Trends

Modern means of transportation and other improvements associated therewith is causing a rapid increase in urbanization (residential type of farm). Farms under 100 acres in size are being sub-divided very rapidly or else incorporated into larger adjacent farms. Farms over 200 acres in size are becoming more numerous and larger in average size.

4-H Club enrollment increases each year. In fact, total enrollment in the district has doubled in the past ten years.

Mechanization of all phases of farming operations still

continues at a rapid rate. This factor plus the trend of increased size of farms are the two greatest economic operating pressures concerning farm management in the district.

An all grassland type of farming has been encouraged and emphasized in this district for the past twenty years. A recent Extension study confirms the fact that this is the most profitable management system on our Southwest Virginia livestock farms.

Dairy cattle for the production of fresh milk and manufacturing purposes is increasing more rapidly than any other type of livestock. Beef cattle and sheep numbers are about stabilized.

The average Burley Tobacco allotment is .6 per acre. This has ~~been~~ continued downward, but tends to slow up now as yield per acre has about doubled in the past 20 years. Marketing problems with all types of farm products have continued to become more important. These problems are now being solved more and more on a trade area, crop area or livestock area basis.

Forestry production and management is receiving more attention each year. Progress in fire control is the greatest achievement. Wood lot management is the next great field for improvement. Thousands of acres of land formerly cleared for crop later pasture use is now returning to timber by natural reseeding. A small acreage of replanting is being done each year in every county.

Locating and establishing all types of new and old industries large and small goes on at a steady rate. This offers the best solution to increasing the family incomes for families in our district.

Emphasis on Various Phases of Extension Programs

The entire district is engaged in county programs designed to increase the total number of sheep on farms.

Better quality year round forage production and preservation for livestock with particular emphasis on pastures, alfalfa, hay, and ensilages of all types.

Special interest committees on "water systems" to increase the number of pressure water systems in homes and on farms.

Special interest committees on "Better Farm and Home Lighting" to improve the lighting facilities on the farms and in the homes.

More time will be devoted to "Farm and Home Management Assistance", to farm families.

4-H Club work, contest participation in all phases will be increased.

The adoption of "The Virginia System" on county program development is underway in all counties. This will be pushed hard in 1958. Every county will continue to write the "long time" county program.

The major special interest committees counties organize and work with in our district are: Agronomy, Livestock,

Dairy, Forestry, and Youth.

All counties started this year toward setting up a forestry management result demonstration (5 year or longer) in every magisterial district in each county. The major position of agent time devoted to assisting farmers with marketing problems will be with beef cattle, sheep, some hogs, dairy cattle, milk, and Burley tobacco. All counties are cooperating in the unit-test demonstration program with the TVA. The goal is an average of twenty cooperating farms per county. We will reach that goal in 1958.

III. The Supervisory Situation

A. Personnel

Personnel Table for 1958

<u>County</u>	<u>Agt. or Asst.</u>	<u>Name of Ext. Agt.</u>	<u>Percentage of time devoted to position by each agent</u>
Eland	County Agent	T. E. Mallory	100%
Buchanan	County Agent	S. D. Woods	100%
Carroll	County Agent	G. C. Price	100%
*Carroll	Asst. Co. Agt.	H. S. Widener	100%
**Carroll	Co. Agt.-at-Large	G. M. Adams	100%
Dickenson	County Agent	F. N. Fletcher, Jr.	100%
Giles	County Agent	T. E. Starnes	100%
Giles	Asst. Co. Agt.	A. C. Holpp	100%
Grayson	County Agent	C. F. Simpson	100%
Grayson	Asst. Co. Agt.	R. L. Shaw, Jr.	100%
Lee	County Agent	J. P. Lyle	100%
Lee	Asst. Co. Agt.	Franklin D. Brown	100%
Pulaski	County Agent	R. M. Meek	100%
Pulaski	Asst. Co. Agt.	C. M. McBride	100%
Russell	County Agent	A. L. Eller, Jr.	100%
Russell	Asst. Co. Agt.	T. W. Clark	100%
Scott	County Agent	J. E. Delp	100%
Scott	Asst. County Agt.	S. W. Southerlin, Jr.	100%
Smyth	County Agent	H. B. Eller	100%
Smyth	Asst. Co. Agt.	H. M. Jones	100%
Smyth	Asst. Co. Agt.	E. C. Reynolds	100%

Tazewell	County Agent	James McDonald	100%
Tazewell	Asst. Co. Agt.	E. W. Eller	100%
*Tazewell	Asst. Co. Agt.	R. K. Reynolds	100%
Washington	County Agent	W. H. Groseclose	100%
Washington	Asst. Co. Agt.	J. W. Derting	100%
Wise	County Agent	J. L. McCormick, Jr.	100%
Wythe	County Agent	P. E. Bird	100%
Wythe	Asst. Co. Agt.	Joseph P. Gillespie	100%
	Co. Agt.-at-Large	Ashton W. Sinclair	100%

\*Farm and Home Development Positions

\*\*Rural Development Position

### B. Finances

#### Five year history of county appropriations.

County	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	To be requested 1958
Bland Co. Agt.	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1230
Buchanan Co. Agt.	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	2100
Carroll Co. Agt.	1680	1680	1680	1680	1800	2200
Secretary	120	120	120	120	none	none
Dickenson Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	2100
Giles Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	2200
Asst.Co.Agt.	700	700	700	700	1400	1700
Grayson Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	2100
Lee Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	2100	2100	2300
Asst.Co.Agt.	1520	1520	1520	1520	1600	1700
Pulaski Co. Agt.	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	2100
Asst.Co.Agt.	-	-	1400	1400	1400	1700
Russell Co. Agt.	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	2100
Asst.Co.Agt.	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1500

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Scott						
Co. Agt.	1800	2000	2000	2000	2200	2400
Asst.Co.Agt.	1200	1400	1400	1400	1600	1600
Smyth						
Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	2300
Asst.Co.Agt.	1200	1200	1200	1400	1400	1800
Tazewell						
Co. Agt.	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	2700
Asst.Co.Agt.	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	2220
Washington						
Co. Agt.	1400	1400	1400	1400	1800	1800
Asst. Co.Agt.	1200	1400	1400	1400	1800	1800
Wise						
Co. Agt.	1600	1600	1600	1600	1900	2200
Asst.Co.Agt.	1200					
Wythe						
Co. Agt.	1860	1860	1860	1860	1860	2260
Asst.Co.Agt.	1360	1360	1360	1360	1360	1760

No. Counties	1957 Co. Appropriation Averages	Average Amount Requested Per Co. to be made-58	Co. Requests
15 Co. Agents	\$1741	\$395 aver.	\$5,930
Asst. Co. Agents (9 positions)	\$1440	\$312 aver.	\$2,820

If funds become available and requests are made by counties for the employment of additional assistant county agents the first assistant county agent added will be placed in Grayson County. Next in priority will be Bland and Wise.

#### C. Offices and Equipment

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Remarks
Bland		X			
Buchanan			X		
CARROLL		X			

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Remarks
Dickenson			X		Too small space
Giles		X			
Grayson			X		Too small space
Lee		X			
Pulaski		X			
Russell		X			
Scott		X			
Smyth		X			
Tazewell		X			
Washington		X			
Wise			X		Ext. offices in different building
Wythe			X		Ext. offices in different buildings

#### D. Training Agents

A one week Inducation Training Short Course will be held at VPI for training new assistant county agents.

A two weeks "Annual In-Service Training" Short Course for agents will be held at Blacksburg. A quota of approximately one-fifth of the agent personnel from the county level will be selected to attend and receive this training.

Two men agents will attend the 3 weeks In-Service Training Short Course held annually at the University of Arkansas.

Three agents will enroll in special 3 weeks soils school to be held in the district in the summer of

1958.

A one week training conference for all county Extension agents will be held at VPI in August. A special 4 day district school in Communications to be held in February for all agents. The present system of training new assistant county agents is to be continued which means placing them in a county with an experienced county agent.

E. Coordination with Specialists

Assistance to counties and Extension agents is brought about through administrative staff planning conferences, individual conferences with specialists and agents, and on district and area planning basis.

F. Public Relations

All agents are required to submit copies of their county narrative reports with highlights of the statistical reports to county Boards of Supervisors in person. Copies of this report are placed in the Boards of state legislation and each congressman receives copies. Local and area newspapers publish a copy of this county report in most counties.

G. Cooperation with other organizations and agencies

Excellent cooperation is maintained with the TVA in Unit-Test Demonstration work in all watershed counties and three counties outside of the watershed. The county agent serves as secretary to the Soil

Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

The county agent is an Ex-officio member of all  
County ASC Committees.

Excellent working relationships exist between all  
Federal and State Agencies working with our County  
Extension Agents.