

P L A N O F W O R K

AMHERST COUNTY VIRGINIA

July 1, 1962 - June 30, 1963

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A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PHASE: Agronomy - Forage Production, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation:

The agriculture of Amherst County is rapidly moving toward an animal agriculture. The value of livestock and livestock products sold increased 31% from 1954 to 1959. The value of crops sold decreased 20% over the same period. The economical production of forage is essential to successful livestock production. The yield of forage crops in Amherst County is as follows and are compared with the average yield of recommended varieties at all the experiment stations in Virginia.

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Amherst County's Average Yield per acre.</u>	<u>State Experiment Stations' Average yield per Acre.</u>
Alfalfa	2.4 tons	4.75 Tons
Red Clover and Grass Mixture	1.2 tons	3.75 tons
Lespedeza	1.2 tons	1.35 tons
Corn Silage	10.7 tons	20.00 tons
Corn Grain	43 bu.	88 bu.

The Specific Problem:

A low livestock carrying capacity on many farms due to low yield and quality of forage crops.

The Program Objective:

To increase the yield and quality of the forage crops in the county.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER	METHOD	WHEN	BY WHOM
1. To teach livestock producers and dairymen to harvest their hay and silage at the proper stage of maturity, using proper methods.	Circular No. 871 Circular No. 691 Leaflet No. 143	Method demonstration on farm.	July or August.	Agent; Elec. Power Supply Rep.; Farm Machinery dealer
2. To teach recommended alfalfa seeding methods.	Circular No. 685	Method demonstration on farm.	August	Agent
3. Inform seed dealers of recommended varieties of field crops and urge them to stock these varieties.	List of recommended varieties. Seed specialist	Meeting of seed dealers with seed specialist.	December	Agent and Specialist
4. Inform farmers of recommended varieties. Urge use of soil test and recommended fertilization practices.	Variety list Circular No. 541 Circular No. 685 Circular No. 886 Leaflet No. 108	Farmers meetings, circular letters and news articles.	January	Agent
5. To show result of carrying out recommended practices in alfalfa.	Circular No. 685 MS. 105 Circular No. 728	Tour of result demonstrations.	May	Agent or Agronomy Specialist.

EVALUATION:

By examination of forage determine if the general quality is improving. Determine if the yield per acre is increasing by checking with individual farmers and over a long period by comparing results of the 1964 Agricultural Census.

Visit seed dealers and determine if they are offering the recommended varieties.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PHASE: Forestry - Woodland Management, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation:

About seventy percent of the land in Amherst County is in forest. 71,553 acres of woodland is on farms. This is 52% of the total farm land. This land yields only 9% of the value of farm products sold. The Forestry Committee feels that owners are not aware of the potential increase in income which could be derived from their woodland through proper management.

The Specific Problem:

An unawareness of many owners of the potential value of their woodland.

The Program Objective:

Show woodland owners that through management they can: (a) increase their future woodland income
(b) enhance the value of their estate

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
Help owners to:		Demonstration and Tour. Arrange for County Forester to give demonstration of a "Timberland Examination."	July and August	Agent
1. Acquire more knowledge of recommended woodland management.	Bulletin No. 248. Virginia Forest Service publications.	Illustrate recommended practices. Observe sites planted for demonstration in 1958.		County Forester and Extension Forestry Specialist
2. Learn of service offered by Virginia Forest Service County Forester.	USDA publications	Have three or more of these "Timberland Examinations" demonstrations in various parts of the county.		
3. Show growth comparisons made by planted seedlings on two sites in 1958 -both in old hardwood stand; the hardwood having been poisoned on one site, the hardwood left untouched on the other.				

EVALUATION:

Compare the number of "Timberland Examination" requests for fiscal year 1962-63 with 1961-62.

By observation determine if there has been any increase in woodland management by owners. Compare the number of farmers who order pine seedlings in 1963 with the number who order seedlings in 1962.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: MARKETING AND UTILIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

PHASE: Livestock - Sire Placement, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation:

A big item of expense to commercial beef cow-cow herd owners is the bull cost. The County Extension Livestock Committee feels this expense can be reduced considerably if the proven good producing bulls could be retained for service in the county for their entire useful life span. Normally if a producer saves his replacement heifers he can only use a bull three years. If a good performing bull is sold for slaughter at the end of three years service it is a loss to the seller and to the county beef industry. If this bull could be swapped for a similar bull of proven equal quality the operator would get three more years service without the initial cost of a bull and two good bulls would be retained in service.

The Specific Problem:

The high cost of bull service.

The Program Objective:

Retain good producing bulls in the county for longer service and reduce bull service cost.

(see next page for chart)

MARKETING AND UTILIZATION
OBJECTIVES

	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
1. Place good sires in commercial herds	Purebred breeders of the county; breed associations; animal husbandry specialists; ROP sales; feeder calf sales.	Visits to breeders' farms; attend sales.	As requested.	Agent breeders & association representatives.
2. Refer commercial breeders who are interested in exchanging sired to each other.	Commercial breeders	Farm visits; bulletin board in County Agent's office; news articles	As requested.	Agent
3. Keep an up-to-date record ¹ of registered bulls available for exchange.	Commercial breeders	Bulletin board and file	As requested	Agent; Extension Secretary

EVALUATION:

By observation and examination of the records determine the number of good performing sired that are exchanged and kept in service for a longer period.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS

PHASE: Clothing, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation:

Almost all of the homemakers buy their hats. A good slice of the clothing budget often goes for the purchase of hats. Homemakers are concerned about the price they have to pay for a good hat. Often they cannot afford, or in some cases, find the one needed to complete the costume.

The Specific Problem:

Homemakers lack knowledge of how to select a hat style suitable for the individual and how to construct hats.

The Program Objective:

To have more homemakers construct hats suitable for them or their daughters, thus, decreasing the amount of money spent for hats and increasing the number of coordinated costumes.

<u>TEACHING OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
A. To inform home demonstration club members: 1. Of principles to follow when selecting a hat style that will be suitable for the individual and the garments with which it will be used. 2. Of materials and equipment needed for constructing a hat.	Materials and information furnished by specialist at a leader-training meeting during the previous year.	Method demonstrations at home demonstration club meeting.	July	H.D. Leaders.
B. To teach steps and skills in constructing a hat.	Information presented by specialist. Information by agent - gained at a previous agents' training workshop.	Hold a county special interest meeting, at which each person attending will make a hat.	Sept.	Specialist and Agent

EVALUATION :

The number of hats made at the county meeting will indicate the number who received training in hat making. These women will be contacted in April to find out how many made additional hats following the special interest meeting. Questions asked will reveal whether the women have enjoyed wearing the hats and the average amount of money saved as a result of home construction.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS

PHASE: Household Equipment, Fiscal Year: 1962-62

The Situation:

Laundry service charges increased 2% in 1961. Prices of washing machines and detergents have declined. More and more families do their own laundry. Many homemakers are adding dryers in their homes and converting to automatic washers.

The Specific Problem:

Homemakers lack information on how to shop wisely for laundry equipment and supplies, and how to care for the equipment.

The Program Objective:

To have homemakers become better informed buyers of laundry equipment and supplies; and learn the care steps required for satisfactory service of equipment.

<u>TEACHING OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY :WHOM</u>
A. To inform homemakers of: 1. Types of washers and dryers available and some of the features. 2. Points to consider before buying a washer and dryer. 3. Important rules of care to observe.	Agent training workshop. Leaflets furnished by Home Management Specialist. USDA bulletin on Selecting washing machines. Virginia Farm and Home Electrification Fact Sheets.	1. Agent will attend training workshop. 2. Method demonstrations at H. D. Club meetings. 3. News articles giving subject matter will be written.	May Sept. Oct.	Home Management Specialist. Agent Agent
B. To inform homemakers of: 1. Soaps, detergents, bleaches, water softeners, and starches on the market.	Bulletins furnished by Home Management Specialist.	1. Leaders trained at leader training meeting. 2. Method demonstrations given at H. D. club meetings.	Sept. Oct.	Home Management Specialist. H. D. Ldrs.

<u>TEACHING OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
2. When and in what quantity each should be used.	Professional magazines	3. News Articles	Nov.	Agent

EVALUATION:

Questions will be asked on the Home Demonstration Club Check Sheet, to be completed at end of club year,. Answers will indicate whether members have used the information on selecting laundry equipment and supplies; also, whether they have followed recommended practices on care procedures.

PROJECT AEEA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS

OTHER FIELDS IN WHICH WORK WILL BE DONE:

A. Nutrition - Food Preservation and Food Preparation

Through the program planned by the County Extension Nutrition Committee, general nutritional information will be spread in the county.

B. Housing - Planning, Remodeling and Repair.

The agent, with the help of specialists will answer individual requests.

C. Furnishings

A special interest meeting on Copper Tooling of Planters will be held in October.

A demonstration will be given in the home demonstration clubs in November on Cleaning Utensils - Aluminum, Silver, Copper and Iron.

D. Other Work:

In May of 1962 a home demonstration club program for the new year will be planned by club members.

Among demonstrations selected will be those for December through June.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: 4-H and OTHER EXTENSION YOUTH PROGRAMS

PHASE: Training Leaders, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation:

A community 4-H club will be organized in the Town of Amherst. Organizational and Project Leaders will be needed. The Virginia 4-H Club Leaders' Handbook has not been distributed nor introduced to present leaders.

The Specific Problem:

Leaders insufficiently trained in scope of 4-H Club program.

The Program Objective:

To train leaders to give leadership and guidance to 4-H members in carrying out an effective 4-H program.

<u>TEACHING OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>SOURCE OF SUBJECT MATTER</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
Inform leaders of:				
1. 4-H objectives	Cir. 677 -Join a 4-H Club Today Bull. 238 - A Guide for 4-H Club Officers	Conduct Leader Training School - 3 classes	April July August	Agents
2. Responsibilities of organizational leader.	Cir. 27 - 4-H Secretary's Book Bull. 239 - 4-H Book of Fun Joyfully We Sing			
3. Steps involved in planning a yearly program.	Cir. 877 - The Community 4-H Club Cir. 724 - 4-H Facts Suggestions for Recreation and Rural Arts 4-H Activities.	Visit a Community Club in Nelson County	Sept.	Agents and Leaders
4. Available projects, activities, awards, events and organizations.	PA 95 - Parents and 4-H Club Work 4-H Demonstrations 4-H Leadership Project for Senior Members - RB 30	Leaders' Conference	Nov.	

EVALUATION:

Observation of club meetings and club program. Note increase in members' tenure, project work and activity participation.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: 4-H AND OTHER EXTENSION YOUTH PROGRAMS

PHASE: Community 4-H Clubs, Fiscal Year: 1962-63

The Situation

There are 19 4-H clubs organized in the schools of Amherst County. A good program is completed in one in-school project during the school year in these clubs. To hold the interest of the club members, and compete with the many high school activities, more 4-H projects and activities must be planned and offered. In 1960-61 there were 145 seventh graders enrolled in 4-H. The eighth grade enrollment in 1961-62 is 35.

The Specific Problem:

The high percentage of drop-outs among 4-H members upon completing 7th. grade and entering 8th. grade.

The Program Objective:

To organize Community Clubs in an effort to keep members for a longer tenure. The 1962-63 goal is one club in the Town of Amherst

<u>ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
1. To organize a community 4-H Club in the Town of Amherst that will provide instruction and guidance in:	Mimeographed and Multilithed materials from the State 4-H Club Department.	Hold staff conference. Secure leaders. Train leaders.	*March April April	Agents Agents Agents
a. several project areas.		Invite 7th. graders and parents to organizational meeting.	May	Agents
b. demonstration and achievement contest.				
c. recreational activities.				
d. community improvement projects.		Complete organization, appoint committees and plan program.	June	Agents Leaders

cont'd.

ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCT	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
2. To organize a Community 4-H Club that will inspire boys and girls to develop their skills and leadership abilities, thereby increasing their usefulness as citizens.		Secure and train project leaders.	July	Agents
		Hold regular monthly meetings.	Aug. thru. June	Agents and leaders.
		Send organizational leaders to Leaders' Conference.	Nov.	

(The above will be repeated in the Monroe Community beginning in March, 1963)

*1962 - The time schedule has been advanced on this because the agents feel if the club is disbanded when school is out, contact will be lost and the members will be out of k4-H.

EVALUATION:

Compare the percentage of 4-H drop-outs, which occur when the 1961-62 7th. graders advance to the 8th. grade for the 1962-63 school year, with the 76% which dropped out when the 1960-61 7th. graders advanced to the 8th. grade.

A MAJOR EMPHASIS - ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PHASE: Rural Area Development, Fiscal Year: 1962-62

The Situation

The initial RAD organization as outlined by the Program Development Leader and District Agents, having been completed, the key leaders of the county feel the need of a RAD Committee.

The Specific Problem:

The problems being created by the urbanization and the expanding population of the county need clarification and solutions made by the people of the county.

The Program Objective:

Complete the organization of a RAD Committee and sub-committees to analyze the county problems and determine solutions.

<u>ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
To take the leadership in: the organization the orientation the function the maintenance of a RAD Committee and sub-committees	District Agents	Select RAD Committee	April	All county staff and technical panel
	Program Leaders			
	Technical Panel	Organizational meeting of RAD Committee	May	County Staff RAD Comte.
	RAD printed materials	Establishing and organiz- ing sub-committees	May June	County Staff and Technical Panel
		Continue work with RAD Committee and sub-committees	July Aug Sept.	All County staff