

Our work with Feeder Calf Sales was our most important contribution to the livestock farmers in our county this year. We are proud of the showing made by our three participants in the Returns-Per-Ewe Contest. Earl Lantz of Mt. Williams won first place in his division and the other two farmers placed in the money. The outstanding event in our dairy program this year was a general dairy meeting in cooperation with the Clarke-Frederick DHA.

We are very proud of the accomplishments made in our 4-H club program this past year, and particularly proud that Frederick County was represented at the County 4-H Camp with the largest delegation of boys in the history of this camp. One of the delegates served as big chief of the camp which included members from three other counties as well as the Frederick County Delegation. We are also pleased with the fine group of young livestock boys who are trying out for the livestock judging team and demonstrating a great deal of interest and enthusiasm.

E. Farmers Home Administration

Work with the Farmers Home Administration was more this year due to the fact that David Headley, a local farmer in our county, served as supervisor for the area which included Frederick County. The supervisor's office was moved from the Clerk's Office to the County Agent's Office where he meets the borrowers to discuss various problems. During the course of these meetings, the extension agents are called on at various times for consultation where they were not before.

F. Vocational Agriculture

Of all the agencies we have worked with in the county, we have worked more with vocational agriculture. This is largely due to the fact that we come in contact with each other because of the 4-H club program. Many of the clubs are located in the schools and we have participated in a number of joint activities, such as the agricultural fair, livestock judging contests, Baby Beef Show and Sale, Pasture Contest, and others. The three agricultural teachers served on the district pasture committee this year and helped with obtaining participants and also helped select the winners. It is because of this understanding that the program for each agency has met with this success.

G. Banks and Business Groups

The banks and business people in the community have been very generous in the financial support of projects and programs for both adult and youth work. The amount of money made available for these different projects and activities amounted to approximately \$1500. In addition to this financial support, both banks and business representatives served on committees for adult and 4-H club work. In return for this cooperation and assistance, your extension workers have assisted in many of the activities carried on by the banks and business groups.

The three local banks sponsored the trip of the County Agent to the State Farm Credit Conference held at Natural Bridge in March.

H. Evaluation and Significance of the Year's Work

In reviewing the past year's work, I will attempt to itemize two or three items which we feel were most important. Our County Forage Program we considered one of our most outstanding accomplishments in our Agronomy work. Not only did we have enthusiastic participants in the Twelve-Month Forage Club, but due to the emphatic interest of our Agronomy Extension Committee, the Twenty-Ton Ensilage Club was continued this year. The Banquet at the conclusion of the year in which these people are recognized for their cooperation is indeed one of the most outstanding events of our Extension year.

The meeting with the fruit growers during the summer months was the most outstanding accomplishment as far as our fruit program was concerned. The average attendance at these meetings was over 80 and the enthusiasm of the growers at these three meetings has steadily increased.

A. Agricultural Stabilization Committee

Since the County Agent is a member of the County ASC Committee, he met with this committee at their monthly meetings and participated in setting up the Agricultural Conservation Program for Frederick County. A meeting was held at the beginning of the sign-up period in the Agricultural Conservation Program, at which time the County Agent explained some phases of the program along with the Soil Conservation Technician and the Area Forester.

Your agents cooperated with the Frederick County ASC Office in staging an education meeting to acquaint farmers with the advantages of ACP practices. This meeting was held at the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music in cooperation with Clarke County. Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer dealers from Frederick and Clarke Counties sponsored a luncheon in conjunction with the meeting at the Lee Jackson Restaurant. One hundred sixty-three people attended the affair and heard representatives from the V.P.I. Agronomy Department, Virginia Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, State ACP Representatives, and speakers from Commercial Industries discuss advantages which can be obtained from participating in the ACP Program.

B. Soil Conservation Service

As has been customary for many years, we cooperated with the soil technicians and others from the Soil Conservation Service in preparing and working out recommendations for conservation plans for farmers. This proved to be very helpful because in working together, we were able to do a much better job in providing farmers with good sound plans for their farm operations. Our greatest contribution was with livestock and farm management in general.

C. Soil Conservation District

The agents attended meetings of Lord Fairfax Soil Conservation District. The district made many school accomplishments during the year a few of which were: Sponsored school essay contests, school poster contest, entered the Good Year Nation-Wide Soil Conservation Awards Program and gave two radio broadcasts and publicized news articles alerting the public to the importance of conserving the soil. This was particularly highlighted during Natural Resources Week.

D. Farm Credit Administration

During the year, we had more calls on matters of farm credit and therefore many farmers were referred to the Farm Credit Administration for their credit needs. The representatives of the local Farm Credit Office have been exceedingly cooperative in the various programs of the Extension Service. They rendered considerable help with the feeder calf sales. J. A. Everly, Secretary-Treasurer of our local Farm Credit Administration, has served on the program at our Annual Pasture and Fruit Banquet.

K O D A

Your agent acted as camp director for county camp which was held in Powell's Fort Valley, and was attended by 60 4-H club members from the county. Frederick, Rappahannock, and Warren Counties attended camp at the same time. The campers received instructions in leather craft, copper tooling, song and game leadership, forestry, home nursing, and Civil Defense. The week of camping was enjoyed by both the club members and adults attending and was considered a success. This year's delegation of 23 boys was the largest to ever attend 4-H camp.

The "Share-The-Fun" Program and the Achievement Program will be held at the Robinson Memorial School on December 8.

Two attractive banners have been purchased for the outstanding school club and the outstanding community club by the county council. These banners are awarded on the basis of the Score Card in our 4-H handbook.

Two 4-H County Council meetings were held in the past year and attendance was excellent. At our last meeting held in October, approximately 40 4-H club members throughout the county attended. Five dollars was given to one girl and one boy attending Short Course. The County Council also voted to give \$15 to one man leader and one woman leader who attended the annual Leaders Conference at Natural Bridge.

4-H Short Course in Blacksburg was attended by a full quota of both boys and girls.

Plans have been made in cooperation with the local Fruit Research Laboratory and your agent to put into effect the new horticulture project in the coming year. The local Rotary Club has very generously contributed \$50 to be awarded as prize money. I feel that this will be a very worth while project due to the large number of orchards in the county.

With the cooperation of J. V. Sumption, leader of the Armael 4-H club and the local State Trooper's Office an automobile club was formed on a club basis. Ten members participated and gained considerable knowledge while also enjoying the program.

Frederick County is acting as the Pilot County in the Town and Country 4-H Business Project. Dale Blaser and Harry Ridgeway are acting as organizational leaders. The first meeting on Marketing was held on November 6. The meeting was well attended and club members participated actively.

VI. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES, BANKS AND BUSINESS GROUPS

The splendid cooperation of all the agricultural agencies, and the financial support given by the banks and business people in general, has been a great help to the Extension Program. There has been no problem in our working relations because everyone is interested in building a sound program for agriculture in the county. A brief statement covering the cooperation of each group will illustrate how effective this mutual cooperation has been.

F. Dairy

Participation in the Frederick County Fair by younger members, especially, was very good. There was also a great deal of interest in the Winchester Black and White Show, and it is thought by your agent that this show was excellent and will afford club members in Frederick County a fine chance to exhibit their dairy animals.

The 4-H Dairy Judging Team participated in the Northern District Contest this past year and it is felt that these judging team members have made definite progress.

G. Forestry

One of the most unique and worth while programs that I have been associated with since being in the county, has been entered into with the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Department. And also the Home Demonstration Clubs in the county. Through their cooperation, approximately 200 4-H club members, both boys and girls received "blight resistant" chestnut trees. The members were given instructions as to planting them and in most cases they were started successfully. Several youngsters in the 4-H program were starting a grove of nut trees consisting of Chinese Chestnuts, black walnuts, and other nut trees.

Other Activities

The county livestock judging team consisting of Leon Strosnider, Robert Carpenter, Willis Belford, and James Seal finished 6th in the Northern District judging contest.

In addition to the three boys mentioned above, a second team of boys that were ineligible because they were not old enough, judged in the district contest and made a very creditable showing. These boys consisting of Larry Brumback, Wayne Phelps, and Leon Owens should form the nucleus for a fine livestock judging team in the future.

The 100 bushel corn contest was conducted for 4-H and FFA members and the awards will be made in this contest at the Annual Pasture and Fruit Banquet scheduled for December 9. Several 4-H boys participated in this contest and three of them will receive certificates for their yields of 100 bushels per acre or better.

Manuel Knighting received the county award in electricity for the past year and attended the State 4-H Electric Congress held in Richmond.

The Frederick County Agricultural Fair was held in September with 4-H members participating and was considered a success. Over 450 4-H exhibits from 80 club members were on hand due to the participation of our boys 4-H clubs in the county with a very large representation of livestock. In addition to livestock, apples, field crops, garden vegetables and other farm produce were exhibited.

Due to the high price of feeder calves and the lower sale average, several boys who had been feeding steers in the past are not feeding this year. However, several club members who had not fed in the past are starting this year.

Every effort was made this year to secure the steers at the lowest possible price, and club members have been urged whenever possible to feed home grown grain to lower feeding cost.

Your agent also helped several boys secure purebred heifers for beef projects. In most cases these boys will carry these projects on a commercial basis.

Several planning meetings for the Glenwood Park Cattle Show were attended and assistance was given to the show on April 1. Four club members from the county exhibited, and Larry Brumback showed his light-weight shorthorn to the champion shorthorn steer.

C. Swine

The Sears Roebuck Pig Chain again continued to be the high point of the 4-H swine program. Five boys in the county received pigs this year. The program was again altered slightly by the fact that all of the pigs were not consigned to 4-H club members in one particular area of the county. It was decided that boys who are outstanding young 4-H club members interested in livestock, would receive these pigs regardless of where they lived in the county. I think this created more interest and resulted in a much better job being done in raising the pigs.

D. Sheep

Ever since I have been in the county, I have urged club members to carry sheep as a project with out much success before last year. However, this past year several club members started sheep projects and results were excellent both financially and in the knowledge they gained.

Two lamb shows were held in Winchester at the Farmers Livestock Exchange on May 15 and June 12. Your agent assisted with the shows and 4-H club members from Frederick County exhibited in the second show.

E. Poultry

Poultry projects were at an all time low in Frederick County in 1961. I think this was a direct reflection of the poultry industry as a whole.

Judging team members who had been previously trained refused to judge due to a conflict with school athletics and other members who were contacted showed no interest and declined to attend judging workouts.

However, it is planned to work with poultry projects and keep encouraging participation where possible.

Tommy Crabill and Freddy Grim submitted achievement records for the past year and received a blue and red award.

Three participants were state winners in the Return's-Per-Ewe Contest. Records helped them very much.

5. To assist ten participants in analyzing their farm activities.

It was attempted to average one study per month. However, only eight were studied. We have found that it takes some time to gather data on the farm. The largest dairy farm in the area is being studied at this time, but data is not complete yet.

Additionally, as mentioned in other sections in the report, participants were encouraged to attend extension sponsored tax meetings, fruit growers meetings, poultry conferences, DMLA meetings, pasture tours, and the like held in the county. Some of these events were held on participant's farms.

More people were acquainted with the Farm and Home Development phase through talks to home demonstration clubs, individual contacts, and limited radio programs. This public relations phase continues to need more emphasis during the year.

Continued emphasis is needed on developing a well planned farm by each participant, together with improvement in keeping farm records.

V. 4-H CLUB PROGRAM

The 4-H Club Program was planned by the Frederick County 4-H Club Committee consisting of Kenneth McDonald, E. W. Adams, III, Nelson Carpenter, J. V. Sumption. Two members of this committee were recent 4-H club members and both were national winners. It was felt by having several younger people on the committee it would be able to get a more representative idea of what the 4-H club members wanted in the way of an overall program.

A. Enrollment

Frederick County has a total of 14 boys 4-H clubs, seven of which are community clubs and seven school clubs. The total enrollment of the boys is 317 members.

B. Beef

The 4-H Baby Beef Show and Sale which is held jointly with Clarke County and is sponsored by the Winchester Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, was held on April 24. A total of 31 baby beeves were shown and sold for an average of \$32.61 per cwt. The average selling price per head was \$279.96 and the sale total was \$6,999.00. The price of this year's steers was \$3.73 lower than last year. Dr. Robert Boyd, Harry Ridgeway, Bobby Edwards, and Pink Arthur made up the 1961 Sale Committee.

Individual attention was given to the boys as to the fitting and showing for several months previous to the show and sale. The steers were visited at least once every two weeks. In some cases where the club members expressed difficulties as to fitting or feeding of their steer, he was visited more often.

Contacts have been made with the city and county officials regarding Civil Defense which includes mainly the city council and county board of supervisors, and we hope that during the coming year a real effort can be made to coordinate all persons working on Civil Defense in the county as well as the city of Winchester.

Your agent attended the meeting on Civil Defense in Richmond on June 6 and 7, at which time we were given much information concerning the part that extension will play in the county Civil Defense program.

IV. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

The latest census data indicates that farmers in Frederick County can improve their farm productivity and farm income in most enterprises to surpass the averages statewide and areawise. Changes in managerial and cultural practices can often add much to the net income of individual farmers.

Forty-one farm families receive individual attention in farm development during the year. This included eight new participants.

The following goals were recommended by the advisory committee:

1. To assist 15 new farm families in analyzing their resources, goals, records. With the committee's assistance eight new persons were assisted, with four others planned for later work.
2. To keep participants up to date on farm information, including selection of stock, seeds and fertilizer, and farm records. Besides personal contacts, farmers were advised through several radio programs weekly on two stations and some news articles on farm management topics. When applicable, participants were encouraged to attend and participate in extension meetings.

Information was also supplied via bulletins, building plans, and demonstrations. I.B.M. records on one farm were studied and analyzed with the farmer.

3. To aid the family as much as possible on plans, projects and problems that might occur. This included selecting machinery, harvesting and storing crops, improving and marketing livestock and crops, land use, credit needs, farm buildings and others.

V.F.I. specialists in agronomy, dairying, poultry, and economics came to the county on request to assist with these farm problems, also.

4. To encourage participating families to take advantage of and participate in the various extension activities in the county.

Families were informed of 4-H, Home Demonstration, livestock, fruit and poultry activities as they occurred. Youngsters were encouraged to participate in 4-H club programs.

by your agent in cooperation with the Clarke County Agent.

F. Farm Labor

For the past several years, our county has been short of apple pickers during the harvest season and the situation looks about the same for the future. Almost 900 migratory and Bahamian workers housed at the Frederick County Fruit Growers Labor Camp to pick apples, peaches, and cherries in Frederick and Clarke Counties. The extension agent cooperated with the Frederick County Fruit Growers in many ways in the operation of this camp. Over two million bushels of fruit was harvested by these workers housed at the camp.

III. OTHER ADULT ACTIVITIES

A. Farm Credit Conference

Your agent attended the Farm Credit Conference held at Natural Bridge, March 5-6. This meeting was attended also by three of our county bankers and your agent has been attending this conference for several years. I would like to state that the program is most informative and is very helpful to me in my extension work because it offers a lot of information concerning outlook subject matter and farmer banking problems. We had many requests regarding land values during the year and some of the information received from the conference was most helpful.

B. Farm-City Relations

Your agent cooperated with the Agriculture Committee of the Winchester Rotary Club in staging their Rural Urban Meeting in 1961. Approximately 100 farmers attended this affair. Also your agent worked with the agriculture and conservation committee of the Kiwanis Club of Winchester in observing Farm-City Week.

Your agent cooperated with the Junior Chamber of Commerce in the selection of the outstanding young farmer. Your agent presented this award to Eugene Larrick at the annual awards dinner held on January 21.

The Extension agents are called on from time to time during the year for cooperation in Civic Club affairs where it involves farm people.

C. Civil Defense

The county agent is serving as Chairman of the USDA Civil Defense Committee. Several meetings have been held with members of the committee during the year. The men agents cooperated and assisted the Home Demonstration Agent and the home demonstration members of our county in calling a general information meeting on Civil Defense for the county in March. The meeting was held at James Wood High School with approximately 80 people attending, at which time they saw slide films which gave them general information on radioactivity and the dangers of the fallout and what could be done in case of an atomic attack.

The Annual Meeting of the Frederick County Fruit Growers was held on April 7, at the Winchester Golf Club with dinner being furnished by the Farmers & Merchants National Bank. Over 200 fruit growers and others attended and heard the annual reports for the association and reports covering the fruit educational activities held during 1960. The group also heard reports given by representatives of the State Apple Commission and saw slides of the summary of the promotion work which has been done during the past year with the tax money collected.

D. Quality Apple Production Contest

The Frederick County Quality Apple Production Contest was conducted again this year to stimulate more interest in the improvement, marketing and production of apples. We consider this year's contest to be one of the most successful ones we have held thus far. Participation remained about the same as last year with approximately 45 growers participating. The contest included three different sections, apple production, processing, and apple show. Banks and various business firms contributed money to be used for awards for the winners in each of the three sections. Prizes totaling more than \$700 will be awarded the winners in the different classes at the annual banquet scheduled for December 1. This is held in conjunction with the pasture club. The annual Apple Show was held at the Farmers & Merchants National Bank during National Apple Week observance, October 12. There were 33 exhibits consisting of boxes, baskets, and four orchard displays which consisted of two bushels and eight plates, five apples each. Fourteen growers participated. Dr. C. H. Hill, Entomologist from the Winchester Fruit Research Laboratory, judged the show. Cash awards, ribbons, and a trophy were made available for the show by fertilizer and spray companies, and the four local apple processing plants. Approximately \$15 will be awarded the contestants at the annual Pasture and Fruit Banquet which will be held in December. The Farmers & Merchants National Bank presented a special award to the exhibitor of the best box in the show, which went to J. K. Robinson, and to the best basket which went to James Richard. J. Douglas Butler acted as chairman of the show and was assisted by Harry Ridgeway and the extension agents.

Several radio broadcasts were devoted to discussions of various fruit topics during the year and George Williams, Associate Extension Horticulturist at the Winchester Fruit Research Laboratory, has been most cooperative and helpful in the county fruit program this year, and several individual orchard visits have been made with Mr. Williams.

E. Weather Bureau Meeting

Your agent attended a Weather Bureau Meeting held in Martinsburg, West Virginia, on August 11, at the request of the extension director. The purpose of this meeting was to improve on the weather forecast as far as people interested in agriculture are concerned. Weather Bureau officials conducted the meeting to get suggestions from professional agriculture workers on how they could improve the weather forecasting service. The weather bureau officials announced they plan to set up a weather station at Kearneysville which would serve the following counties in Virginia: Frederick, Clarke, Warren, Shenandoah, and Rockingham. A complete report of this meeting was sent to Dr. Wilson B. Bell, Associate Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, V.P.I., upon request

B. Two-Lite Orchard Meetings

At the beginning of the year, the fruit planning meeting decided to hold three summer two-lite meetings in orchards because three were held last year and were well attended. Many growers requested that these meetings be continued in 1961.

The first in a series of three Two-Lite Fruit Meetings was held on June 15, at J. E. Butler and H. W. Butler, Jr.'s orchard located on the Welltown Pike in Stonewall District. One hundred twenty-five fruit growers and others attended the meeting and the program consisted of the following: Disease Situation - by A. B. Groves, from Winchester Fruit Research Station; Insect Situation - by Dr. C. H. Hill, also from the Research Station. Dr. H. A. Rollins discussed the Fruit Problems for 1961. Refreshments were furnished by the Commercial & Savings Bank of Winchester.

The second in a series of summer two-lite meetings was held July 13 at the J. H. McDonald & Sons' Orchard. At this meeting which was made up primarily of an extended tour which covered not only the McDonald orchard but also orchards owned by Fred L. Glaise & Bro. Several growers had requested that our meetings be varied and that they would like to see more orchards. The attendance of this meeting was approximately 100 with refreshments being furnished by the Frederick County Fruit Growers Association. In addition to the tour, the Insect Situation was discussed by Dr. C. H. Hill, and the Disease Situation was discussed by Joe Barrat, Extension Spray Specialist from the Kearneysville Experimental Station, filling in for Dr. Groves during his illness.

The third Two-Lite Fruit Meeting was held on August 10, at the Winchester Fruit Research Laboratory. The program consisted of a tour of the laboratory and the station plots conducted by George Williams, Associate Extension Horticulturist. Also a report was heard on the promotional program of the Virginia State Apple Commission by Purcell McCue. Dr. Howard A. Rollins made a brief talk on the fruit situation, Now The Crop is Shaping Up. Over 100 fruit growers attended this occasion, and the Shenandoah Valley National Bank provided the refreshments for the occasion.

C. Monthly Meetings

Periodic meetings were held throughout the year for Frederick County Fruit Growers. The Extension Service cooperated with the Frederick County Fruit Growers Association in all their meetings and at each of the meetings, some educational topics were presented. The topics at these meetings for this year included discussions pertaining to disease and insect control, marketing, and general management and production problems. Leading authorities were secured to discuss these different topics.

Several of our growers, professional workers and bankers, and others interested, attended the annual Horticulture Society Meeting held in Roanoke. It seems each year more growers attend the annual meetings and the County Agent has attended three times and plans to attend in 1962.

Your agent, at the request of several of the growers, arranged through our Congressional Representative, Burr F. Harrison, an appointment with officials in the USDA to enlighten them on the views shared by our county poultrymen. A committee of three growers held a conference in Washington with an official in the USDA and discussed the poultry situation at length regarding possible controls, and they felt that they accomplished much by doing this.

Your agent was contacted by some of the poultry producers in the county concerning cooperation on a poll of the county poultrymen concerning government controls. The Director of Extension was informed of this matter and Charles S. Bish, who is acting as spokesman for the county poultry growers was informed that the agents would be able to cooperate along certain lines in form of educational meetings if desired.

5. Fruit

The production of apples, peaches, and cherries is the major type of agriculture in our county. This past year we experienced a little higher prices for both processed and fresh fruits, but the crop was about 30% of 1959 in quantity and the size of the fruit was cut somewhat by dry weather.

Fruit production is a very specialized field and fruit growers must keep up to date on the latest growing and management recommendations. With fruit being the leading agricultural enterprise in our county, our Fruit Committee outlined a well rounded program, we think, to meet the needs of fruit growers from an Extension Program standpoint. The fruit committee has considered these factors plus the many precautions to be considered when making new plantings. Fruit growing is expensive because of the many insect and disease measures which must be used in order to produce quality fruit.

A. Fruit Growers Short Course

The Annual Fruit Growers Short Course was held on the 2nd of March at the Winchester War Memorial Building, with approximately 190 people in attendance. The topics covered at the Fruit Short Course included a talk by H. A. Rollins, Jr., Associate Horticulturist from V.P.I., who discussed "The Fruit Industry of the Future." A panel of professional fruit workers discussed "Current Trends in Apple and Peach Production." "Ground Spraying for Nests and Control of Destructive Orchard Animals," was discussed by Dr. Frank Horsfall, Jr. Other subjects discussed by professionals were: "Apple Insect Control," "Fire Blight and Late Summer Rots," "Spray Information for 1961," and "Air Blast Spraying Technique."

The farm machinery, chemical dealers, and other business organizations of Winchester provided a free lunch. The machinery dealers of Winchester displayed the latest orchard equipment which gave the fruit growers an opportunity to view it.

Virginia Artificial Breeding Association. Jack Krouse, Holstein Fieldman, made a short talk on the activities of the American Holstein Association. The meeting was attended by approximately 25 dairymen.

The extension office cooperated with the Frederick-Clarke Artificial Breeding Association in holding their annual meeting on January 27. The annual meeting was held at the Berryville High School with dinner being furnished by the two local banks in Berryville. The Association showed an increase in service again this year.

In addition to the dairy work outlined above, radio programs were devoted to timely dairy topics and some farmers were visited who expressed interest in going into the dairy business. Also some requests were filed regarding purchasing of dairy cattle.

4. Poultry

Prices received for both live poultry and eggs was the greatest problem this year which our poultrymen faced. The Poultry Committee at their planning meeting early in the year decided that most of their efforts should be spent on trying to improve efficiency. Also the low prices were discussed, and it was felt that everything possible should be done to improve this situation with government help to be considered.

A. Poultry School

A general educational poultry school was held on the 22nd of February at the Lee Jackson Restaurant with the Farmers and Merchants National Bank supplying the lunch. Twenty growers and commercial men attended the meeting. The program consisted of discussion on the Outlook for 1951 including broilers, turkeys, and eggs, by Denver D. Bragg, Dr. Arthur Ringrose, and R. H. Burtner, V.P.I. Poultry Specialists. Other topics included Improved Management in Broiler Production emphasizing how to cut down losses through condemnation, increasing profits in the Laying Flock and Turkey Management.

B. Poultry Tour

Denver Bragg, Poultry Specialist from V.P.I., was most cooperative in lining up a tour for our Frederick County poultrymen. Much effort was spent trying to interest the growers in participating in the tour which covered the Richmond and Westmoreland area. Three of our largest growers participated in the tour along with Mr. Bragg and your agent. On the tour the growers visited broiler, layer, and breeding establishments.

C. Other Poultry Activities

In addition to the above outlined meetings, many visits and individual conferences were held with growers.

Several laying flock owners were assisted on equipment problems and in record keeping.

Mr. Jon Gudmundsson, a poultryman from Iceland, spent 2 1/2 days in the county visiting poultry farmers and processing plants. Mr. Gudmundsson came to Frederick County upon the request of Mr. F. H. DeHart.

An Annual DHIA Analysis Meeting was held jointly with Clarke and Warren Counties on February 14, at the Lee Jackson Restaurant in Winchester with lunch for the group provided by the Shenandoah Valley National Bank in Winchester. We invited other Grade A Dairymen to this meeting and I think it was one of the best attended of any dairy meeting ever held in our county. The program included topics of pertinent interest by William Griffith, Associate Extension Dairyman from V.P.I. Mr. Griffith emphasized the importance of making proper use of DHIA records. Mr. Griffith also emphasized the importance of proper feeding pointing out that most dairymen do not feed the cows enough. Also there is a need for striving for better quality. The afternoon session was devoted to the analysis of individual membership records and the Shenandoah Valley Bank has informed us that they will be glad to cooperate with us again in this activity next year.

B. Artificial Breeding

We know that many more of our farmers could improve the quality of their dairy cows through artificial breeding. Some farm visits were made to farms where artificial breeding was not being practiced and the goal was to encourage more people to use the service. There are two artificial breeding associations operating in our county and we feel that more farmers should be using one of these breeding services. We will continue to promote artificial breeding any way we can during 1962 because we feel that we have a lot more dairymen to convince in using this service.

The Extension Agents from Clarke and Frederick Counties cooperated with the Board of Directors of the Frederick-Clarke Artificial Breeding Association to hold for the third year a barbeque for the members and other dairymen. This barbeque was held at Fort Collier Dairy Farm in August and was attended by about 135 people and we feel did encourage some farmers to use the artificial breeding service. This is indicated by the fact that the number of cows in this association has increased again this year.

Three of our Holstein Dairymen exhibited dairy cattle at several fairs in our locality. The herds did very well in the competition and several newspaper articles appeared in the local papers in regard to the Frederick County winners in these dairy events. Several radio programs were devoted to dairy discussions regarding feeding and management.

C. Dairy Show

To promote interest in the dairy industry and improve dairy cattle, a dairy show was held locally in August in cooperation with Clarke and Shenandoah Counties. Two dairymen and six 4-H members exhibited from Frederick County and won several awards.

The County Agent's Office assisted with activities of the Northern Valley Holstein Club which was organized last year. Your agent cooperated with the Northern Valley of Virginia Holstein Club and held a Two-Lite Meeting on May 4, at Haven M. Wolfe's dairy farm. Mr. Wolfe has the only Herringbone Milking Parlor in the county. This afforded the dairymen to see this new type milking operation. In addition to the tour of the milking parlor, a Type Demonstration was put on by George Miller, from the

reduced to not more than one per cent of the cattle in not to exceed five per cent of the herds as indicated by official testing and other approved procedures conducted under the cooperative State-Federal program. The extension agents cooperated with the veterinarians in helping line up the testing work until it was completed and after completion, the list of herds was checked and correct addresses for these farmers were given.

Topics of current interest were provided from time to time throughout the year such as the use and location of better sires, bangs control through calfhooed vaccination, fly control, control of internal and external parasites in all types of livestock, and furnishing of building plans for all types of livestock production.

Livestock recommendations and activities were publicized through radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, circular letters, and personal contact to help insure results. Periodic letters were written on seasonal, timely livestock subjects.

3. Dairy

The greatest problem of the dairy farmer in our county this year was the problem of increasing production through more efficiency in feeding and management practices in order to meet the higher cost of production. Our Dairy Committee centered its attention mainly toward the problem of increasing production through better feeding and management practices.

A. Dairy Herd Improvement Association

We have six DHIA participants in the Frederick-Clarke DHIA Association. W. R. Bierer, the local supervisor since 1955, continued this year to do an outstanding job working with all 24 herds, which comprise the association from Frederick, Clarke, and Warren Counties.

Three summer meetings of the DHIA were held on dairy farms in each of the three counties just mentioned. The attendance at these meetings this year were better than previous years. The DHIA Board of Directors, along with the County Agents involved, selected the type of program they wished presented at each of these twi-light meetings. These programs included talks on pasture and forage, seedings and management, showing and fitting demonstrations and a tour of the three farms on which the meetings were held. The proper methods of using milking machines was demonstrated at two of the Twi-Light meetings by representatives from the manufacturers of the Surge and the local companies. The dairymen felt they received a lot of helpful and worthwhile information from these demonstrations. We find that our dairymen like to meet on fellow dairymen's farms and inspect their cow herds and discuss various problems and activities with them concerning their dairy operation. At each of these twi-light meetings, the other Grade A Dairymen in the county were invited and usually some of them attended. We are hopeful that we can get other dairymen in the county to join the DHIA because we feel that they need this service to improve their dairy operations. We have had much difficulty in getting new members, but we will continue to strive to get them to join.

The Annual Winchester Purebred Ram Sale was held on July 3, with 17 rams selling for an average of \$46 per head, which we thought was exceptionally low and most of the consignors were disappointed. Other sales in which farmers in our county participated are the Suffolk and Staunton Hog Sales, Annual Registered Shenandoah Valley Polled Shorthorn Sale, all of which were held at the Farmers Livestock Exchange and assisted with by the extension agents in Frederick County.

B. Bull Grading Demonstration

The livestock committee decided that more emphasis was needed on improving the type of sires being selected by our county farmers. Many of our farmers have been buying bulls through the local auction markets and sacrificing quality with these cheap bulls. We invited all beef cattle producers in our county to attend the bull grading demonstration held in conjunction with the Virginia Hereford Bull Sale and the Second Shorthorn Bull Sale at the Farmers Livestock Exchange in February. Many farmers attended and observed the grading committee. It is hard to measure just how much the farmers received from attending this demonstration but we feel that it will tend to influence them to buy better quality sires. The methods used in making this demonstration known to the farmers were through radio programs, newspaper articles, and personal contacts.

C. Wool Pool

Your agents assisted with the Clarke County Wool Pool held on June 14, in Clarke County. Approximately 15 wool producers from Frederick County consigned their wool to the pool. The farmers received 50¢ for clear tied wool. Your agent cooperated with the Frederick Cooperative Farm Bureau in setting up their wool pool this year, and there has been quite a bit of contact with the Farm Bureau directors and Farm Bureau manager. For the first time, the Farm Bureau handled their wool sale similar to the other wool pools in the Shenandoah Valley.

D. Educational Livestock Meeting

The Extension Livestock Committee felt there was a need for a general livestock meeting to discuss recent developments in management practices pertaining to beef cattle, sheep, and swine.

A general educational livestock meeting was held on March 9th in cooperation with Clarke County. The three banks of Winchester, and the two banks of Berryville supplied a free lunch for the attendants. Approximately 85 people attended the meeting at which time they heard discussions by specialists from V.F.I. covering "Managing the Cow and Calf Herd For More Profit," "Sheep Management," and "Feeder Pig and Swine Production," discussions. We have heard complimentary remarks about this meeting throughout the year from farmers who were in attendance.

E. Other Livestock Activities

Frederick County was declared a modified Certified Brucellosis area by virtue of the fact that the Brucellosis testing program in the county was completed in April of this year. This means that Brucellosis has been

The Annual Feeder Calf Sale was held on April 14, with 2,309 calves and yearlings which sold for a total of \$374,144 which was an increase of \$65,000 over last year's sale when 1,818 brought \$309,582.

The average price per head this year was \$162 and an average per cwt of \$27 this compares to \$170 and \$29 last year. Approximately 300 head were consigned by 15 Frederick County farmers.

The Yearling Sale was held on September 22 with 1,212 cattle bringing a total of \$216,060 as compared to last year's 1,285 which brought \$220,332. The steers brought \$1.23 more per cwt and the heifers \$2.18 more per cwt compared to the 1960 sale. The average increase for the total sale was \$1.33 per cwt over the 1960 sale. There was a total of 1,158 which sold for \$179 per head and \$25.14 average per cwt. The 34 heifers consigned averaged \$148 per head and \$22.94 per cwt.

The first of the Annual Winchester Feeder Calf Sales was held October 5, at the Farmers Livestock Exchange. 2,371 feeder calves were sold for an average of \$27.48 per cwt as compared with last year's average of \$26.15 per cwt. The calves averaged \$125.48 per head compared with \$100.22 per head last year.

The second of the annual Winchester Feeder Calf Sales was held on October 27, at which time 1,434 calves were sold for an average of \$126 per head as compared with \$111.23 per head last year. The cattle averaged \$27.46 per cwt as compared to \$25.13 per cwt last year.

This was the second year that two sales have been held at Winchester, and the prices received at the second sale was almost as high as the first sale which was not true last year. Everyone was well satisfied with the second sale this year and feel that it is established and will continue.

Your agent assisted Bill Davidson and Hank Davis with the Seventh Annual Winchester Shorthorn Feeder Calf Sale which was held at the Farmers Livestock Exchange on October 20. Five hundred seventy-six head were sold of which the steers averaged \$28.44 per cwt or an average of \$137.46 per head as compared to \$26.38 per cwt per cwt or \$135.45 per head last year. The heifers averaged \$24.03 per cwt and \$101.74 per head as compared to \$21.96 per cwt and \$96.25 per head last year.

Extension agents spent a good deal of time working with these sales and we consider this time well spent because of the prices received at this sale. They were \$3 to \$4 per cwt higher than local auction market prices. The quality of our commercial herds of cattle and the sires kept on farms continues to improve and our farmers are bringing calves to these sales that grade higher each year than they did the year previously. We feel that the farmer has benefited by consigning to the feeder calf sales because it has demonstrated to him the value of producing top grade calves. He has learned that it costs no more to feed and produce top quality calves than it does lower grades.

Much publicity was given the Four State Farmers Meeting held in Winchester for the first time, on January 21. Our county was represented on the planning of this meeting with E. W. Adams, Jr. and R. W. Hockman who cooperated with the local farm representative from the Northern Virginia Power Company. Several folks attended this meeting from our county along with farmers from several of the nearby West Virginia Counties and the Northern Virginia Counties. The meeting was highly successful with 175 persons attending which we thought was very good for the first time in Winchester.

All extension men agents attended the Forage School in Harrisonburg, and as a result of this meeting your agent and the Clarke County Agent met with W. R. Crabill, Area Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, and Robert Prettyman, Farm Representative from the Northern Virginia Power Company, and discussed plans for presenting the information received at the Harrisonburg meeting to our local people in Clarke and Frederick county. It was decided to visit the farm machinery dealers personally and ask them to attend a county meeting on November 27, for the purpose of outlining a Forage School for Frederick and Clarke Counties. All the machinery dealers were visited and the meeting has been set for November 27. We hope to carry out an educational program for farmers recording production and handling during the winter months in 1962.

Your agent participated in the Feed Grain Program Meeting held in Harrisonburg on April 6, at which time this Program was discussed and outlined in detail. Your agents helped plan and participated in four meetings held in the county for the purpose of informing the Frederick County farmers of the Feed Grain Program. Also many conferences have been held with individual farmers to discuss the Feed Grain Program.

Your agent cooperated with the Lord Fairfax Soil Conservation District in selecting an outstanding Soil Conservation Cooperator to be recognized by the district. Elliston Luttrell from Gainesboro was awarded a certificate at the Lord Fairfax District Supervisors Meeting held on May 3.

2. Livestock

This year as was true in past years, more time was spent on the marketing of livestock than any other project dealing with the livestock farmers. Beef cattle prices this year were about 10% higher than last year with lambs and wool lower, and hogs about the same as last year. With livestock numbers remaining about the same, but with many of our farmers depending on livestock as their main source of income, the Extension Livestock Committee attempted to develop a program to be carried out with the extension workers to help improve the situation in management and marketing of livestock.

A. Livestock Sales

Approximately 50 farmers from our county consigned to the spring and fall feeder calf sales which were held and participated in by six Northern Virginia Counties. Approximately 1,200 calves were consigned to these sales by Frederick County farmers which was somewhat under last year due to direct sales to mid-western feeders by some of our previous consignors.

visits were made during the infestation of these two pests and also information for their control was sent out to farmers. Also, warnings were publicized in the newspaper and over the radio. The infestation of alfalfa weevil was exceedingly heavy this year, and I would say that 95% of the alfalfa was sprayed or treated with methoxachlor or malathion or granulated heptachlor for control. The spraying treatments were not too successful and had to be repeated more than once to get fair results. Where the treatments of granulated heptachlor was used at the recommended rate, excellent results were obtained.

Curly and Bull thistles have become quite a problem in many of our bluegrass pastures and we have received many calls for the past three or four years on control measures of these pests. Most farmers in the county have received very poor results using 2-4D spray because they have used it at the wrong time or year after the thistle has completed too much growth.

Due to recommendations by the County Agents in Frederick and Clarke Counties to the county ASC Committees, a request that the spraying of thistles be included and approved as an ACP cost-share practice was sent to the State ASC Committee for consideration. This was done with your agent helping to write the practice request and the practice was approved by the state ASC committee and added to the approved ACP practices for Frederick and Clarke Counties. Over 30 farmers completed this practice in Frederick County and the extension workers inspected the fields for approval for payment. We feel if the practice had not been included in the approved practices for Frederick County not one, six or eight of these farmers would have sprayed. Also your agent recommended the time to spray and all the farmers got excellent results and were very pleased. We hope these folks will spray again in 1962 and get the thistle population down to a minimum. Also we hope to encourage more farmers to spray their pasture for control of thistles.

Chickweed infestation in alfalfa this year was very troublesome and many fields were sprayed for control but due to the high cost of the spray material, not enough acres was treated.

E. Agronomy Tour

The Annual Pasture Tour in cooperation with the three Ruritan Clubs and the Extension Agronomy Committee was held on June 22. The tour was held on Hayfield Farms owned by Stuart Perry, Inc., and at which time the group saw one of the most outstanding shale farms in the county. W. W. Lewis Extension Agronomist, assisted with the tour and was the principle speaker after the dinner following the tour. Approximately 150 attended the dinner and 60 participated in the tour.

F. Other Agronomy Activities

Agronomy recommendations and activities were publicized through radio, newspaper, circular letter and personal contact to insure results. In addition to the activities mentioned previously, many farm visits were made on crop recommendations, fertilizer, etc.

B. Alfalfa Result Demonstrations

The agronomy committee at the beginning of the year discussed the average yield of alfalfa for Frederick County and felt that there was need to try to do something to increase the production per acre. Our alfalfa yields are considerably below the average and our committee felt we should strive to increase our yields by 1/2 ton per acre. Robert S. Boyd, located in the northern section of the county and Vernon White, located in the southern section of the county, cooperated by marking 2/10 of an acre off in their seedings for the demonstration. These two plots of alfalfa were sprayed by specialists from V.P.I. for the control of chickweed using Chlor IPC. Also these plots were treated for alfalfa weevil control by V.P.I. Specialists using granulated heptachlor. One of the fertilizer companies applied fertilizer to these two plots at the rate of 1/2 ton per acre to study reactions of fertilizer to these demonstrations. Several farmers visited these plots and discussed these demonstrations with the farmers cooperating and the results were very successful in that the chickweed and alfalfa weevil were controlled almost entirely. These demonstrations were publicized over the radio and we think did a lot of good in these sections of the county where they were conducted to encourage these recommended practices for alfalfa. These demonstrations will be in effect for at least three years and we should be able to see more profound results from the fertilizer next year.

C. Twenty-Ton Ensilage Club

The agronomy committee at the planning meeting early in the year decided to conduct a Twenty-Ton Ensilage Club for the second year. Seven farmers were contacted and asked to participate, which they did, as compared with three participating the first year. The corn was measured by the agents and the yields were as follows for the three top winners:

Grover Teets	34.2 tons per acre
John F. Good	28.9 tons per acre
Vernon White	23.0 tons per acre

The Finance Committee for the 12 month forage program decided to offer \$50 in cash awards to the contestants in the ensilage contest again this year. These awards will be made at the annual Fruit and Pasture Banquet scheduled for December 1.

The reason the Ensilage Club was formed was that many of our farmers still grow corn where the land is suitable for ensilage and the committee felt that through the contest it might stimulate farmers to improve their yields by using the latest recommended variety fertilizer and management practices. Also, more emphasis is being put on corn ensilage because it is the best ensilage available for net energy per ton.

D. Diseases, Insect and Weed Control in Forage and Pasture

The major problems which our alfalfa producers faced for the sixth year was alfalfa weevil and chickweed infestations. A number of farm

of the county. Fall grazing was decreased due to dry weather which began early in August. The fruit crop was estimated to be a little greater than the 1960 crop. Size of the fruit was cut by dry weather, but the quality of the fruit was generally good, and we did not experience any severe weather damage during the season. The prices received by the fruit growers this year was a little higher for processed apples and much better in the fresh fruit outlet. We feel that the fruit growers have experienced a fair season as far as prices received.

II. COMMODITY PROJECTS

I. Agronomy

The problem of producing ample amounts of feed the year round for livestock was the primary reason for developing an Agronomy Program for the county. The other major problem was controlling insects and diseases in producing this ample feed supply. This program covered pasture improvement, diseases and insect control of forage crops and grass ensilage.

A. Pasture and Forage Improvement

The County Pasture and Improvement Contest was conducted again this year with 27 farms participating. The main object of holding the pasture and forage contest was to conserve forage for a 12 month feed supply through seedings of improved grasses and legume mixtures to be used three fold for ensilage, pasture and hay. The goal was to get as many farmers as possible to use latest recommended management practices. Rotation on pastures was especially emphasized because many of our farmers do not practice this procedure. The pasture committee met early in the year and the pasture contest was set up on a district basis similar to the five previous years. A committee functioned in each district and signed up the participants in the contest. All five of the magisterial districts were represented with participants. A committee visited the farmers and scored them in this contest. Cash awards will be given the winners on a district and county basis at the annual banquet scheduled for December 1. By conducting the contest on a district basis, we have been able to encourage more farmers to participate because they receive recognition by districts and are competing with farmers on the same type soil. Soil types vary over the county and participation in the contest had declined some because farmers on light type shale soil felt that they did not have much chance of participating against farmers living on heavy limestone soil.

The awards for this contest and banquet are secured by a committee of six members including three bankers and three agricultural businessmen. It is through the fine support of banks and business people that makes this event possible.

Our county entered the pasture program for the Northern Virginia District which is sponsored by the National Plant Food Institute. The county has been recognized in this contest three previous years.

I. PLAN OF WORK

1. How Organized

In preparing the plan of work for the year, meetings of the Commodity and Special Committees were held in December and January. These committees included Agronomy, Dairy, Fruit, Livestock, Poultry, 4-H Club, and Special Committees. The members of these committees were selected by the County Agricultural Council and the County Agricultural Extension workers. In addition to the farmer members of the committees, representatives of the County Public Agricultural Agencies were included. These committees also included businessmen and bankers.

2. Type of Agricultural and General Situation

Before taking up each major and minor line of work for the year, some reference should be made to the type of agriculture and the present situation in the county. The agriculture in the county in the past few years has undergone a trend toward more diversified farming. The principle income from agriculture comes from fruit, livestock, and poultry operations. There are 1,003 farms with an average of approximately 175.2 acres. The population of the county is approximately 20,000 and the population of the county seat, Winchester, is approximately 15,000. Winchester is located near the center of the county and the population of both the county and city has been growing in the past few years. Many new homes are being built in and around Winchester which has increased the number of urban families, thereby adding to the extension work.

The topography of the county varies a great deal making possible many different types of farming operations. This is shown in evidence in that now approximately 100,000 laying hens, 1,000,000 broilers and approximately 250,000 turkeys. In the past ten years the number of commercial broiler growers has decreased from over 500 to less than 25 but production has remained about the same. The income from poultry is only exceeded by that of fruit and livestock. There are more than 15,000 beef cattle on Frederick County farms, a sizable increase from the 2,229 listed in 1930. In our county, we have approximately 40 Grade A dairy herds, and we feel that the trend is toward more in the future. The fruit industry is a dominant factor in the economic life of this area. Apple tree numbers have steadily decreased in the past few years and at the present time, this decrease has been curtailed and almost as many young trees are being set out as old orchards are abandoned.

Of the other types of agriculture, there is still a trend toward more grasses and forage clubs on farms in our county, but not as much as the last few years. More alfalfa and improved pastures are being seeded each year because of the increased numbers in Beef and Dairy cattle. With the economic situation constantly changing, it has been necessary for the farmers to increase their volume in order to keep up with this changing trend. We experienced a good early growing season and a very dry period late in the fall. Grain yields were good this year particularly oats. The yield of corn was good in most sections of the county except in scattered sections of northern and western section

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

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