

- b. Use county council, Honor club, and all-star members to assist in completions.
- c. Have club members turn in records at close of school year
- d. Have club member set definite time to work on records

E. Judging Teams -

Teams to participate:

- a. Livestock
- b. Dairy
- c. Egg Grading
- d. Soil Appreciation
- e. Tractor Driving
- f. Public Speaking
- g. Forestry

All of the above teams will receive training prior to the district contest.

F. Overall 4-H Club Participation -

4-H Club members taking a livestock or a dairy project will be encouraged to participate in the following:

1. Southern Piedmont Dairy Show
2. Danville Baby Beef Show and Sale
3. Lynchburg Farm Show
4. The Atlantic Rural Exposition

G. National 4-H Club Week -

All of the 4-H clubs will participate by assisting in the following:

1. School bulletin boards
2. Radio and television programs
3. 4-H Club Programs and Assemblies
4. By submitting articles to the Chatham and Danville Newspapers

H. Summer Activities -

1. State Short Course - Goal - 21
2. Senior 4-H Club Camp at Holiday Lake - Goal - 8
3. Junior 4-H Club Camp - Goal - 120
4. Conservation Camp - Goal - 4
5. Senior 4-H Club Camp at Camp Farrar - Goal - 15
6. Electric Congress - Goal - 5

I. Long-Time Objectives for 1962-

1. Increase overall 4-H membership.
  - a. Goal - From present 2330 members to 2500
- A. Encourage leaders to be more active in project and program planning.
  - a. Organize a leaders club
  - b. Continue to offer more recreation
  - c. Encourage members to recruit new members
- B. Organize three community clubs
  - a. To be set up in communities where no senior clubs exist
  - b. Solicit former 4-H members as leaders
  - c. Offer leader training schools for potential leaders
- C. Increase Project Completion -
  - a. Continue to encourage members to select projects of interest to individual.

## 4-H CLUB PROGRAM

### A. 4-H Situation and Extension Methods

1. Eighty-one 4-H clubs will be organized in Pittsylvania County by March 1 with a total membership of 2330; 1315 girls and 1015 boys.
  - a. Seventy-eight of these clubs are organized in the schools
  - b. Three are organized on a community basis with a definite meeting place.
  - c. Sixty-seven clubs meet during the school hours in the classroom with both members and non-members present.
  - d. Fourteen of the clubs meet during school hours, but outside of the regular classrooms.

2. Personal Improvement is the major project being conducted by the 4-H club members.

- a. Sixty-nine clubs are enrolled in this project
  - b. Twelve clubs are enrolled in "A 4-H Club Project"
- Programs for the above projects will be centered around health, grooming, and certain social activities that interest 4-H club members.
- Demonstrations will be given at each of the 4-H club meetings by the members that volunteer to take part on the program. Most of the demonstrations will be centered around the previous programs that were presented by the agents.

### 3. Other Projects -

- a. Club members will be encouraged to take home projects of their course and interest.
- b. A series of special interest meetings will be held in three different areas of the county for members enrolled in electric projects.
- c. Two tractor maintenance programs will be operated in two areas of the county.

### B. Completion of Records -

Definite plans will be made to encourage 4-H club members to complete and turn in their record books.

- a. By member competition
- b. Contests between clubs
- c. Awards Program

### C. County Council -

The county council will continue to meet two times each year.

- a. A training meeting will be held for 4-H club officers
- b. Members to make plans and suggestions for the overall county 4-H club program.

### D. Honor Club -

The Honor club is composed of approximately 33 members

- a. Four meetings will be planned
- b. All Star-Honor Club Banquet will be held jointly to invite and initiate new members
- c. One meeting will be designated to plan definite objectives similar to the fair exhibits and road signs project conducted the past year.

4. Use correct analysis and amount of fertilizer
5. Use correct fertilizer placement
6. Follow recommended insect and disease controls
7. Produce ample supply of good healthy plants

Cultural Practices:

1. Space properly - 22 to 24 inches in row (4 ft. rows)
2. Use sucker control measures
3. Top plants to number of leaves that suit variety for quality tobacco
4. Plant crop early
5. Harvest only ripe tobacco

Plantbed Management - 1958

1. Control blue mold
2. Control insects
3. Properly water plantbeds
4. Water plantbeds before drawing plants for transplanting

The 1958 program has already gone into effect. All media available will be used for the publicity of this plan throughout the entire year. Community meetings will be used more this year to get individual contact with the growers so they may get their problems solved more easily.

Aromatic Tobacco -

Aromatic tobacco is being suggested as one of the crops for use by county farmers to supplement income. The agents have been busy since early January holding meetings, visiting farms, checking soil types, inspecting possible curing buildings, distributing seed, and making fertilizer recommendations. More interest has been shown in this project in 1958 possibly due to the success of eight growers in 1957. This year 14 farmers have agreed to produce 20.5 acres of Aromatic tobacco.

It is felt by the extension personnel and tobacco growers that aromatic tobacco has real possibility and is a good crop to produce on farms with small flue-cured allotments and abundance of family labor. This year all assistance to growers will be from the county extension personnel and agricultural engineering specialists at VPI.

All practices outlined for flue-cured production will be stressed for Aromatic tobacco. Information will be provided for growers throughout the year from plantbed preparation time to the date of marketing. All producers have been contacted by the extension agents and have been told that they must strictly follow recommendations in order to grow a successful crop. The extension agents supervising this project will assist throughout the year.

## AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

The agents in the county are being called upon more every year for plans for farm structures, location of buildings, some problems in electrification, and farm machinery. Surveys made for pond sites and irrigation layouts and surveys for water systems are being requested and technical assistance is being provided to help solve more of these problems.

## AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

More information is being provided county farmers on the agricultural situation, market conditions, supplemental crops that could be grown to boost overall farm income. Meetings are held from time to time to discuss these problems with the people. News articles and radios are used for informing the public regarding the agricultural economic situation.

## HORTICULTURE

The long time goal is to have every farm family produce a good family garden. A good garden will help to greatly reduce the out-of-pocket expense for the family food supply.

Interest is gradually increasing in small fruit culture. Some for local market, but mainly for home use. Work will be continued along this line.

Some interest is being shown in commercial peach production in the county. From 200 to 500 peach trees will be set in the county this year which is enabling two established sites.

## TOBACCO

Situation - Tobacco is the most important agricultural enterprise of Pittsylvania County from both the acreage and financial point of view. This year the county allotment is 17,498.32 acres. Tobacco is responsible for about 87% of the cash income of the county. The tobacco situation is becoming critical in Pittsylvania County with the continued reduction in acreage. This year 819.75 acres of the tobacco allotment was put in the soil bank. As in the past, each year presents numerous problems intobacco production. The demand for certain types of tobacco has caused much concern to the growers. Last year the tobacco companies requested a heavier type tobacco, but the price for this type was considerably lower than for the lighter grade. This year the farmers are advised to produce a medium crop rather than either all heavy or all light. The improvement of cultural and management practices on tobacco farms need much work to be improved.

All the extension work on tobacco was planned either directly or indirectly by the county tobacco advisory committee. This committee consists of one farmer from each of the seven magisterial districts in the county. The following plan is an outgrowth of their work.

The goal for 1960 is to produce the highest possible yield of quality tobacco. The committee feels that no set figure can be put on this goal. It is hoped that this goal will encourage farmers not to sacrifice good quality tobacco for yield.

This year farmers will be urged to:

1. Establish 3 to 5 year rotation on farms with Black Shank and other diseases.
2. Plant cover crops
3. Have tobacco soils tested for fertilizer and lime recommendations

## POULTRY

In 1958 the agents are very much interested in the program being offered farmers by some of the major feed companies in stimulating interest in commercial egg production. Meetings have been held for the purpose of introducing the program to business and professional people and follow up meetings to be explained to selected farmers. As a result, several farmers have indicated that they are interested in the program and some houses are under construction. Others are being started in the near future and chicks will be ordered as needed.

This is the type of program the county extension staff has been interested in for a number of years and the agents will assist in every way possible to help get this program underway.

Work has also been done in providing plans for building and plans for the proper location for building. It is expected that considerable time will be devoted to advising farmers in connection with the program.

## FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

The Farm & Home Development Program covers three areas, and 108 farms. The greatest interest for farm planning is on farms developing new farm enterprises. Goals for the year will include the following items:

1. Develop plans on 15 or more farms
2. Check each farm family with existing plans, and assist in keeping plans current.
3. Develop plans for 10 families in supplementing their income with new farm projects.
4. Furnish record books to each farm family in work areas, and assist with records where needed.
5. Use specialist assistance in major farm enterprises
6. Hold meetings and demonstrations in each area as needed
7. Mail two or more news letters to families in work area
8. Hold sheep and pasture meeting in Concord area
9. Organize Community Improvement Club in Concord Community

## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

In 1958 the county ACP received a request for cost sharing, approximately \$100,000 more than the county allocation. We feel that this is a healthy condition and considerable more interest is being demonstrated in conservation practices, especially for permanent vegetation coverage which includes permanent pastures, alfalfa and other hay and pasture crops.

The county agent is a member of the Blue Ridge Soil Conservation District Board and also serves as Secretary of the Virginia Association, Soil Conservation Districts. This requires several days a year to be devoted to conservation of the natural resources, and requires that a close working relation be maintained with SCS technicians in the county.

Forestry - 1960 goal is 600,000 seedlings. The 1958 figure will exceed 450,000. Interest in this program is increasing annually.

## FARM MANAGEMENT

Work will be done throughout the year on farms requesting assistance on farm management problems. This demand is gradually increasing from year to year. Since farmers are becoming more interested in working out an analysis of their farming operations determining the project most profitable to them.

- e. Offer a weigh-a-day program for producers not cooperating in the DMLA program.
- f. Use the press and radio throughout the year as one means of informing people of the use of milk as a food.
- g. Launch an educational program on the importance of dairymen participating in the dairy associations.
- h. Use every means possible to inform county producers on the importance of participating in the 12 month forage program. This means producing a variety of pasture plants on permanent or temporary; producing, harvesting and storing good quality legume hay; producing and storing silage to carry the herd through the winter feeding.

The county has already filed an application for the county-wide brucellosis program as soon as it can be launched by the state and federal agencies.

- i. Top dress hay and pasture annually with a maximum amount of fertilizer recommended.

#### LIVESTOCK

Since there has been an increase in the livestock price situations, it leads us to think that there will be an increase in the number of livestock producers in the county. The ones in this work are on a sound footing and will continue to improve the breeding practices and build toward a more efficient operation.

#### 1960

- 1. To expand the feeder calf program
  - a. By use of better sires
  - b. Encourage use of sires that have high rate of gain index
  - c. Improvement in use of better grade dams
  - d. Encourage importance of calves being born in January and February for feeder calf sales.
  - e. Belong to Breed Association
- 2. Feed Program -
  - a. Encourage use of supplemental grazing in summer months
  - b. Encourage pasture improvement
  - c. Encourage more boundary fencing
  - d. Encourage proper equipment for beef cattle herd.

#### 1958

- Encourage use of cattle stocks and bull lots
  - a. Good pedigree sires
  - b. The use of better grade cows
  - c. Support Baby Beef Project, Show and Sale and also sheep and hog show to be held with this show.

#### SHEEP - 1960

- 1. Increase number to 1,000 head
- 2. Encourage community shearing
- 3. Continue supporting the cooperative wool sale program

#### 1958

- 1. The main objective will be establishing small farm flocks
- 2. Hold shearing demonstrations during the spring shearing season

#### HOGS

- 1. Encourage meat type hogs
- 2. Take advantage of expected rise in hog market two years from 1958
- 3. Use farm grown feeds
- 4. Use ladino pasture
- 5. Visit farms that have pig parlors

2. Oats - Long time goal is to increase oat yield to 50 bu. for 1960. The acreage should be 5,000 by 1960.

a. Increase in yield will be realized by complete rotation of crops, and increased fertilization.

The fall of 1957 was very unfavorable for seeding grain during the month of November. As a result many farmers failed to seed any grain at all. No winter oats were seeded in February. All oat acreage seeded this spring will be to some variety of spring oats.

3. Barley - Objective for 1960 is 2,000 acres and a 45 bu. county yield. In 1958 recommended varieties will be well publicized. Increased fertilization recommended and information will be provided as to the feeding quality as compared to corn. The crop can be produced and harvested with mechanical equipment, followed by a fall hay crop.

4. Alfalfa - The 1960 goal is 10,000 acres in the county with at least 2 tons yield per acre or better. Quality will be the main objective for 1958.

In 1958 the program will be directed mainly toward alfalfa production and its value as a major hay crop. Work will be done on the following objective to help producers provide maximum fertilizer at seeding time. Soil samples, the use of lime, borated fertilizer, and certified seed will be the strong talking points in securing good quality hay and above average yields.

Field meetings will be held to study the proper stage for cutting the crops.

5. Clover and Grass - Red clover and grass acreage should be increased to 2,000 acres by 1960. In 1958 the agents will use every method possible to inform county landowners on the importance of including this mixture in rotation.

6. Permanent Pasture - The 1960 goal is increasing improved pasture acreage to 15,000 acres. In 1958 the plant food demonstration will be continued and from reports from the ACP Program, large acreage of permanent pasture will be seeded this spring. It is indicated that more interest is shown in pasture improvement than has been demonstrated for the last several years. More interest is shown in top dressing this winter. Livestock and dairy producers request the agents to plan a tour to the Middleburg Experiment Station in early June and probably the tour will continue to the Beltsville Station.

Work will continue on pasture management and the agents will inform producers through newspapers, radios, and field meetings on the importance of rotational grazing.

7. Dairying - The approximately 45 grade A dairy farms seem to be on a sound footing. During 1957 two producers started after buying small herds that were going out of business. In 1958 we do not expect any new grade A producers to be established.

In 1960 the goal is to have at least 50% of the dairy population bred artificially.

a. Emphasis will be placed on securing a county technician again this year. No technician was available to the county producers last year.

b. That every family have a family cow.

c. At least one acre of alfalfa per cow be produced.

d. Publicize the importance of weed and insect control in alfalfa. Point out the importance of the control of chickweed and alfalfa weevil. Demonstrations will be held at the proper time for the purpose of displaying the right type of equipment for demonstrating the proper use of applying materials.

## 1958 PLAN OF WORK - PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Pittsylvania County, Virginia is located in the south-central section of the state in the Piedmont Area bordering the North Carolina line, with Danville being the only city in the county. There are 1,002 square miles in the county with a population of 57,000, 100% rural, with 5,715 farm units with an average size of rivers. Blue-cured tobacco is the main crop produced and dairying and livestock are second in importance.

The 1958 Extension Program is planned by farmers serving as members of Commodity Committees. Each committee meets annually, normally at the beginning of the year. They discuss plans for improving production, use of latest data available. This year emphasis is on sufficient production. The commodity committees consist of agronomy, tobacco, livestock, dairying, poultry, forestry and conservation. Membership on the commodity committees consist of from 3 to 7 leading farmers. Each year they revise the long time program, making adjustments where needed and outline jobs for the year. They will move the county program closer to the long time goal.

Field meetings will be held during the year to study the various phases of production and farm management. Tours, both local and to the Middleburg Experiment Station will be conducted.

Publicity for the county program will be conducted through the two weekly newspapers, a daily paper and three local radio stations. Other agricultural agencies, Chambers of Commerce, nurseries are very cooperative and assist in certain phases of the agricultural program.

The 1957 farm income was reduced approximately 1/3 from the 1956 crop income. This situation places many farmers in a squeeze and will be very limited in funds to finance a 1958 crop program. It is very necessary that major emphasis be placed on more efficient production.

### AGRONOMY

The 1958 agronomy program is directed toward higher yields and toward increasing acreage yield.

1. Corn - The longtime county goal is 60 bu. per acre by 1960.
  - a. The objective for the year is the use of a 3 or 4 year rotation with corn, small grain, hay for one or two years.
  - b. Use adapted hybrids for the area. Increase the use of fertilizer to a average of 600 lbs. per acre.
  - c. Recommend the use of insecticide to control corn root, webworm, wireworm, and other soil-borne insects. In certain sections last year heavy losses were experienced from the insect. Demonstrations will be put on for treating soil for control of these insects.
  - d. Harvest and store dry, sound grain.

The committee approved the TVA Program for Pittsylvania County and authorized the county agent to start the program to include three pilot test demonstrations this year. After careful consideration, they suggested the three farmers that they felt would more nearly represent all major types of farming in the county. If interested, the three demonstrators will represent tobacco, general farming, dairying, and livestock production.

COUNTY FARMERS AND HOMEMAKERS SERVING ON COMMODITY COMMITTEES OF THE PITTSBURGH  
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

AGRONOMY

E. W. Ceeke, Gretna, Va.  
O. O. Smith, Java, Va.  
Carter Layne, Gretna, Va.  
B. M. Beckham, Route 1, Danville, Va.  
H. P. Cundiff, Route 2, Chatham, Va.  
Leslie Mahan, Route 3, Chatham, Va.

LIVESTOCK

O. T. Farmer, Route 3, Gretna, Va.  
Winfred Terry, Ringgold, Va.  
Thomas T. Adams, Hurt, Va.  
Fulton Cakes, Gretna, Va.  
R. J. Lester, Axton, Virginia  
B. M. Beckham, Route 1, Danville, Va.  
J. S. Thompson, Jr., Rt. 3, Danville, Va.

POULTRY

Tom Davis, Sutherland, Virginia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thomas C. Adams, Chairman  
Hal Norman, Jr., Vice-Chairman  
J. F. Blair, Secretary

TOBACCO

Claude Neal, Java, Virginia  
W. C. Mayhew, Gretna, Virginia  
Lindy Hammock, Chatham, Va.  
R. M. Anderson, Route 3, Chatham, Va.  
George Pollock, Dry Fork, Virginia  
Joe W. Davis, Sutherland, Virginia  
L. H. Carter, Blairs, Virginia

DAIRY

Hal Norman, Route 1, Chatham, Va.  
Guy Yeatts, Ajax, Virginia  
W. B. Buckolls, Rt. 4, Chatham, Va.  
John Baggerly, Rt. 5, Danville, Va.  
Jack Clark, Ringgold, Virginia  
Frank Moorefield, Hurt, Virginia

FORESTRY & CONSERVATION

Willard Hutcherson, Gretna, Va.  
A. B. Dodson, Ringgold, Va.  
George Peery, Va. Forestry Ser.,  
Chatham, Va.  
E. R. Hart, S. C. S., Chatham, Va.  
J. L. Trammel, Vandola Rd., Rt. 1,  
Danville, Va.

EXTENSION STAFF

J. F. Blair, County Agent  
S. S. Nylton, Assistant County Agent  
R. W. Blanton, Assistant County Agent  
H. S. Reynolds, Assistant County Agent  
L. Dale Higginbotham, Assistant County Agent

(Miss) Patricia Simpson }  
(Mrs.) Betty D. Winn } Extension Secretaries

PITTSBURGH COUNTY

PLAN OF WORK - 1958

James F. Blair, County Agent

S. S. Hylton, Assistant County Agent  
(Farm & Home Development)

R. W. Blanton, Assistant County Agent  
(4-H Club Agent)

H. S. Reynolds, Assistant County Agent  
(Tobacco Agent)

L. Dale Higginbotham, Assistant County Agent  
(Livestock Agent)