

members and displays and exhibits were made on 4-H club activities.

B. State 4-H Shortcourse and Wildlife Conference

Four (4) 4-H club members represented Dinwiddie County at the State 4-H Shortcourse at Virginia State College from June 27 to July 1, 1960. Two senior 4-H club members were representatives to the State Conservation conference which was held in August. These delegates were selected on the basis of their outstanding work in the 4-H program. They made a joint report at the Annual Achievement Day which was held November 9th. This further acquainted the public with the aims and objectives of the 4-H program.

C. 4-H Day of Recreation

The 4-H Day of Recreation was held on Saturday, July 30th, at Prince Edward State Park. 4-H club members, their parents and friends joined together for this annual affair. The group enjoyed games, swimming and a picnic while there. This activity was planned and sponsored by the County Junior 4-H Council.

Summary

After evaluating the plans, the activities and results the indications are there is still a great deal of planning and work to be done in trying to meet the needs and desired of the people and to adjust to the changes that are taking place.

Hogs were exhibited in the market Hog Show and Sale which was held in connection with the Southside Virginia Fair Petersburg, by six 4-H club members enrolled in the market hog project. This project stimulated a good deal of interest among the 4-H members participating because of the fact they were competing with each other and also because of the expected reward, at the time of sale. The main objective of the project however is to teach boys and girls efficient production methods along the lines of selection, feeding and marketing. This project also created interest among adult especially the parents of the 4-H club members enrolled in this project. In many instances the entire hog production program on the farm was improved due to the fact that the children were enrolled in the hog project and were putting to work more improved practices.

### III. 4-H Activities

#### A. National 4-H Club Week

National 4-H club week was observed during March, 5 - 12th, by all 4-H clubs in the county. During this time the clubs made an effort to acquaint the public with the slogan "Learn, live and serve through 4-H." The first step was for each 4-H club member to acquaint the parents with their program and then extend this to friends and well wishers of the 4-H program. Letters were sent to all parents of club

## II. h-H Projects

The h-H slogan "Learning to do by doing" is carried out in connection with h-H project work. Each h-H club member must agree to carry a project. These projects are carried out under the supervisions of the project leaders and the extension agents. The h-H projects are resulting in changes being made not only with h-H club members but in the overall agricultural program and serves as teaching aids in the entire program as well.

The two hundred twenty (220) enrolled and worked with the following project this year:

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>No Members Enrolled</u>	<u>No. Members Completed</u>	<u>No. Units</u>
Electric	111	60	109
Tractor	10	4	4
Corn	1	1	1
Peanuts	1	1	1
Tobacco	5	4	2
Calf	1	0	0
Garden	25	15	12
Potatoes	9	5	2
Home Ground Beau.	98	52	
Hog	18	10	12
Safety	14	7	

leaders of all the 4-H clubs in the county. This group represents the 4-H clubs as a group on the county level. They help in planning the overall 4-H program and activities on a county-wide basis. Group training meetings are held in order to acquaint the members with their duties as council members and 4-H club officers. This is done in order for the members and 4-H club officers. This is done in order for the members to be more effective in helping to carry information concerning 4-H club work. The group met 3 times this year and committee meetings were held whenever necessary to take care of certain phases of program. This group is represented in the county Advisory Board in order that both groups will have a better knowledge of the workings of the county-wide extension program.

B. 4-H Clubs

There are eleven (11) organized 4-H clubs in the county this year. The total enrollment in these clubs consist of (220) boys and (209) girls. These clubs meet monthly to discuss 4-H club business, project activities and other matters pertaining to 4-H work. There is also a period of recreation during each meeting. The meetings are under the guidance of the 4-H club officers, leaders and extension agents. Much of the training gained in 4-H club meetings are carried over into other organizations and activities and results in improving their effectiveness and working.

VI. County-wide Achievement Day

The Dinwiddie County-wide Adult and 4-H Achievement Day was held at Southside High School on November 9, 1960. Highlights of this program included reports by delegates to the state 4-H Shortcourse, 4-H Wildlife and Conservation conference which were held at Virginia State College during July and August, District H. D. meetings and the State Agricultural Advisory Board meeting that was held in Franklin county. All of these delegates summarized the activities of the meetings and brought to the local people information that should be helpful to all in planning and carrying out local activities. Another highlight of the program was a fashion show by 4-H club members. Each member exhibited and modeled garments that were made by the members in connection with project work.

Exhibits, adult and 4-H were judged by Mrs. E. S. Lively, Local Home Agent of Chesterfield county and Mrs. L. A. Crawley retired teacher of Dinwiddie. Ribbons were awarded to the winners. Approximately one hundred fifty (150) people attended this meeting.

4-H Club Work

I. Organizations

A. County Junior Council

The county-wide organization for 4-H club work is the county junior council. It is composed of the officers and

demonstration project that was carried out on this farm before produced 2500 pound per acre acre that sold for an average of more than 60 cents per pound.

Water conservation (farm pond), corn, cattle demonstrations was observed on Mr. J. Boose's farm. The farm pond supplied water for livestock and also recreation for the family and community.

On Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Blackwell's farm home improvement soil and water conservation projects were observed. A meadow strip in one field had solved an erosion problem and was furnishing this farmer a supply of hay also.

On the farm of Mr. & Mrs. Ragsdale the following were observe: a new modern farm home, pasture and livestock and a freezer for storage of farm produce. This family is one of the farm and home development demonstration families in the county.

During the visits to each place the demonstrator told the group how they planned and carried out these projects and answered questions concerning their operations.

Mr. S. E. Marshall, District Agent, summarized the tour and gave the group information on the outlook of the Agricultural program.

These activities serve as teaching aids in helping to put the program over.

The next stop was on the farm of J. Bradley where field crops, irrigation was observed. The final stop was at the home Mrs. Glayds Wynn where a picnic lunch was served and the tour was discussed and summarized.

Farm and Home Tour

A farm and home tour was held Friday, August 15th in Dimiddle County. The purpose of this tour was to observe some of the projects that are being carried out in connection with the county agricultural extension program.

The first stop was made at the farm of Mr. James Shands, Hog improvement and adequate home garden projects were observed here along with home improvements.

Community projects were observed at Gravel Run and Zion churches. At Gravel Run church new screens and a new floor had been completed; at Zion church a new portion was added consisting of class rooms, assembly room, lounges, modern toilet facilities and water under pressure.

At the home of Mr. & Mrs. Willie Harvell's a lawne demonstration was observed along with home improvements and water under pressure. This lawn was established on area where formerly brairs and ~~woods~~ prevailed.

On the farm of Mr. A. G. Edwards, soybeans, peanuts, and tobacco projects were observed where improved recommended practices were being carried out. A flue-cured tobacco

change was made after the family reviewed their program plans and other obligations.

This was one of the methods use in accomplishing one of the long time goals. This family as well as the other demonstrators have not accomplished all of their goals and furtherplanning will be carried on with these families in order to try to reach their desired goals. These demonstrators are serving as teaching aids to help stimulate the overall farm and home development program.

V. Tours

Community Tour

July 19th was tour day in Darvills community. This community is participating in the Community Improvement program sponsored by the State Advisory Board. The tour started from the community church where the people observed church ground improvement.

The second stop was at the H. Steward farm where field crops and beef cattle were observed. The third stop was at the E. Gilliam farm where a yard improvement demonstration was observed.

During the next stop at the W. H. Hardy farm, a water conservation program with farm pond, crop production and home improvement was observed. A new home in the community- Mrs. Brazil, was toured to observe the modern home conveniences and labor saving devices.

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Jiggetts of Center Star Community have four sons at home ages 13,15,16 and 18. Three are in school and members of the 4-H club. Mr. Jiggetts works off the farm part-time since the allotted acreage is small.

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Ragsdale of the Mckenney community have five (5) daughters, ages 5,6,9,11 and 13, three are in school and members of the 4-H club. Mr. Ragsdale works off the farm part-time.

All of these families carry on a general type of farming with tobacco being the major <sup>Cash</sup> crop produced by all three.

The long and short time goals for these families are centered around developing the farm and home to meet the needs of the families.

One of the long time goals of the Ragsdale family was to work toward purchasing a freezer. Two years ago 2 calves were purchased by the Ragsdales for \$30.00. Their plan was to graze the calves on farm pasture for about 2 years and then market one and kill the other for meat. The plan was revised later on an after feeding the calves for 23 months both were sold for \$325.00 and a freezer was purchased for \$270.00. This money covered the original cost of the calves and some for maintenance. The decision to make the

Fall and winter gardens are still being stressed with some growers. Again this year kale seed for fall planting was made available to all growers who wanted them. This is resulting in more families growing greens in the garden throughout the year than ever before. This is also contributing to better eating habits among the families.

Plans have been made and are still being worked out with families on proper storage. The project was started after it was found that far too much farm produce was being lost due to improper storage. In area where this program of proper storage was carried out it resulted in more families saving their produce and thereby having more for home consumption as well as some for market.

IV. Farm and Home Development

The farm and home development program is being conducted in Dinwiddie county with three (3) families serving as demonstrators. These families are surveyed each year and plans both long and short-time are worked out and set up with each family in order for them to work toward accomplishing their needs and desires.

Mr. & Mrs. James Bradley of Darvills community have one daughter 17 years old in high school and a member of the 4-H club. Their farm consist of twenty-five (25) acres, and they rent additional farm land.

area sales during the year, due to the fact that they produced the type of pigs the market demanded.

Another system that is being carried out with hog production is the exchanging of boars from one community to another in order to bring in new blood lines, and thus to improve the hogs.

Several beef type bulls and some heifers were purchased during the year to improve the type of animals that are being marketed. This whole program is another means of trying to increase the overall farm income along with providing adequate feed for families.

#### E. Home Gardens and Truck Crops

Truck crops and home gardens are an important part of the agricultural program due to the fact that they are the major sources of food for the family and they also provide a source of income. Many of the truck crop producers find a ready market for their produce in and around the Petersburg area. This type of production fits well in the program of part-time farmers and producers with limited acreage.

Some of the problems are controlling diseases and insects, meeting market demands and storage of produce. Demonstrations are conducted and meetings held in an effort to solve these problems.

Along with providing the necessary feed for livestock this type of production is a big factor in conserving the soil and plant food on most of the farms.

D. Livestock

Livestock production is carried out to some extent on about every farm in the county. This production is important due to the fact that it provides the major source of meat, and dairy products for the family and in other cases is providing a much needed source of supplemental income. The nearby livestock markets provide an outlet for livestock produced beyond the needs of the family. The sale of livestock also provides a source of income when other crop production is not being marketed.

The major problems in connection with this program are controlling diseases and parasites and improving the breed. Demonstrations are being carried out in order to show producers the value of improving their program in order to realize more from their efforts along this line. Outlook information is being used in connection with this program especially with marketing and market demands.

During the year several farmers purchased purebred or improved type animals for breeding purposes. This resulted in some producers being able to sell feeder pigs at the

for their area along with other information on production. This resulted in many cases in more efficiency in production.

Small grain production is still an important part of the agricultural program in the county. It is another service of food and feed and provides a product for market in some cases.

One of the major problems, as in the past, is getting small grains seeded on time in the fall. This is due largely to the fact that tobacco growers are usually working on tobacco about this time. Planning the farm program of work in such a way that these grains will be seeded on time is being worked out with individuals and groups. The results have shown that when the farm activities are properly planned these crops can be planted on time and better results are obtained.

Pastures and cover crops are a part of the program that is stressed from year to year. This is carried out in connection with the livestock production program. Adequate fertilization is one of the major problems with this production along with good management.

Pasture demonstrations that were started several years ago along with the present ones are serving as teaching aids to show farmers the results of carrying out improved practices.

of recommended varieties, good rotations, proper fertilization and cultivation, better harvesting methods and controlling insects and diseases. These are some of the activities that will be carried on in order to reach our goal of higher productivity.

#### C. Other Crop Production

Corn and soybean production is another phase of the agricultural program that is being stressed since these crops are used in various ways in various ways in connection with the farm program. An nearby market provides a ready outlet for these crops and they are also used in the feed program on most of the farms. With livestock on the increase, the production of these crops are important.

Increasing the yield per acre is one of the major problems with corn and soybean crops. Early in the year, during one of the agronomy committee meetings, an illustrated discussion was held on the cost per bushel of producing these and other crops according to the yield per acre. It was pointed out and discussed that it cost much more per bushel when the yields are low to produce these crops. This committee assisted the agricultural program in helping to get this information to all farmers. In addition to this each farmer was furnished with a list of recommended varieties

with the extension agents explained the tobacco practices that were carried out in connection with the foregoing demonstration and other tobacco crops on the farm. This group was very much impressed with the overall farm program.

The County Agronomy committee aided in carrying out the tobacco program as well as other agricultural programs with crop production.

B. Peanuts

Another important crop produced in the county is peanuts. Some of the major problems with this crop is: controlling diseases and insects, increasing the yield per acre, land preparation and fertilization and better handling and marketing. The work on controlling stem rot, blight, etc. was continued this year since these are giving the peanut growers a good deal of trouble. Information on methods of controlling these were furnished to all growers. In addition demonstrations were conducted on land preparation and cultivation to control this disease. Where these practices were put to work good results were noticed in most cases.

Yield per acre is another one of the major problems with this crop. After making surveys, contacts and compiling results it was found that the yield per acre on many farms was far below the average. Some of the methods that are being used to improve this situation are soil testing, use

from this plot:

<u>Basket No.</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	300	.71	\$ 213.00
2	292	.71	207.32
3	294	.72	211.68
4	300	.71	213.00
5	300	.72	216.00
6	212	.72	152.64
7	220	.74	162.80
8	260	.75	195.00
9	182	.71	129.22
10	286	.71	203.06
Total	2656		\$1903.72

This is the results where recommended practices were put to work.

Four agricultural officials from Jamaica, West Indies, C. V. Adkinson, secretary, Jamaica Agricultural Society; R. H. Burke, President Jamaica Agricultural Society; H. B. Crawford, member of Board of Management Jamaica Agricultural Society and I.H. Tamlinson, Director of Agricultural Extension visited Dinwiddie County on September 13th. These ~~men~~ were interested in Agricultural Production practices especially with flue-cured tobacco. They toured the A. G. Edwards farm to observe tobacco production practices. Mr. Edwards along

with the idea of helping the growers to do a better job of handling and marketing their crop in order to meet the market demands and thereby receive a higher price for their product.

Mr. Roy R. Gordan, USDA Tobacco Branch, aided in conducting the grading demonstrations. Meetings were held in various sections of the county where tobacco is produced and the farmers had a chance to participate in these demonstrations and to ask questions on the problems they had with their tobacco crops. After participating in these meetings most of the farmers felt that they could do a better job on handling and marketing their crop.

Since tobacco is the leading cash crop produced in the county the foregoing activities, along with others are stressed continuously with this crop. The aim behind all of this is to get the growers to get best possible results from their production.

An example of this was on the farm of Mr. A. C. Edwards of Dinwiddie. Soil test were made early on all fields to be planted to tobacco. On one of these fields consisting of 5 acres; 1400 pounds of 3-9-9 fertilizer was applied per acre. The tobacco yield was 1915 pounds per acre. The acreage price per pound was 67.2 cents. Average price per acre was \$1287.31. The following is one tobacco sale

tobacco farmer is interested in getting the best possible yield and price from every acre of tobacco that is produced.

Some of the major problems with this crop is controlling diseases and insects, selecting the right varieties, proper preparation and marketing and labor management. In trying to solve some of these problems demonstrations are conducted from the time plant bed is seeded to the time the crop is marketed. These demonstrations will usually be on such things as; plant bed management, land preparation, fertilizer placement, sucker and insect control and preparation for market. During the demonstration meetings the tobacco producers have a chance to see and ask questions concerning various phases of the program.

In order to help tobacco producers with diseases problems, demonstrations are carried out using disease resistant varieties. Another method is to collect specimen from disease affected fields and send them to the laboratory for analysis. After the disease is identified ways and means of controlling the disease are worked out with the producer. In most cases these problems are solved or improved to a great deal. Bulletins, circular letters and other materials are sent to all tobacco farmers in an effort to keep them informed on the overall program.

Demonstrations were held again this year on handling and preparing tobacco for market. These meetings were held

problem solving during the meetings in order to work out and find solutions to their problems. This type of group activity usually results in a more effective approach since many ideas and suggestions are discussed.

Darvills community serves as the demonstration community for Dinwiddie county. A program of work is set up by the people of the community each year based on the needs and desires of the community people. A check on the program is made at the beginning of the year and again at the end of the year to see what progress was made along certain lines and also to see the trend and changes that are taking place. The community club meet once a month to discuss problems affecting the county. Progress reports on various activities are made during these meetings also. This community is represented each year in the State Community Improvement Program. The agricultural extension program for this community as well as the other communities is planned and built around the needs and desires of the people.

### III. Project Activities

#### A. Tobacco

Tobacco is the leading cash crop produced in Dinwiddie county. Since this is one of the controlled crops and the acreage per farm is small in many instances just about every

6. Improve the farm and home as a unit.
7. To sponsor a county-wide Achievement Day.
8. Controlling diseases and insects of crops and animals.
9. Maintaining the community improvement program.
10. Putting to work more conservation practices.

Ways and Means of reaching these objectives:

1. Conduct method and result demonstrations that will ~~serve as~~ teaching aids in helping to put the program over.
  2. Keep leaders well informed about the county extension program in order that they may be able to pass on to the people accurate and current information concerning the program and also changes that are taking place.
  3. Give practical information and assistance in solving farm and home problems.
  4. Use of specialist in various fields.
  5. Secure services of related organizations.
  6. Farm and home visits, discussions and surveys.
  7. Use of outlook information.
  8. Constant evaluation of the overall program.
- B. Community Clubs

The community clubs are groups organized on the community level and they concern themselves mostly with problems of their respective communities. Since most of the people of a community have similiar problems, these groups concern themselves with discussions, planning and

by the people of the community that they are to represent in this county-wide organization. This is the major group organized to help formulate and carry out the overall extension program for the county. Since the members are from sections of the county they are familiar with the problems of their area and have first hand knowledge of the needs and desires of the people in the communities they represent. After this information is assembled they attempt to work out a program whereby these needs and desires can be met. This type of information proves valuable in planning the county program.

The County Advisory board met twice this year to discuss, plan and to evaluate the program of work. Sub-committees are formed in this group to work on certain phases of the program. These committees meet whenever it is necessary to work on and discuss various phases of the program.

Some of the objectives that were set up by the county advisory board are:

1. Increase the overall family income.
2. More efficiency in agricultural productions.
3. Sponsor a county farm and home tour.
4. Encourage keeping of farm and home records.
5. To supplement family income by increasing livestock production etc.

in and around the Petersburg - Hopewell areas. A few small industries such as lumber mills, pulp wood and other businesses employ some of the **people** in the county.

Two major highways U.S. 1 and U.S. 460 pass through the county. U.S. 1 highway passes through the center of the county running north and south and U.S. 460 passes through the nothern part of the county running east and west. In additions there is large number of secondary roads and state arteries. Three railroads, The Seaboard Air line, The Atlantic Coast line and The Norfolk and Western pass through the county.

## II. County Organizations

The main extension service organizations in the county consist of the County Advisory Board and the Community Clubs. These groups are organized to help in determining the needs of the people, to help carry to the people information on various phases of the program, to help in planning the program and to help evaluate the overall extension program in order that it may be carried out in the best possible way in trying to meet the needs of the people.

### A. County Advisory Board

The County Advisory Board is composed of men and women from various sections of the county. The people are selected

## ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

### I. County Situation

Dinwiddie county is located in Southside Virginia and lies partly in the coastal plain and partly in the Piedmont area. The land are is 507 square miles. The surface is generally level, slightly indulating in some parts. The soil is adapted to a general type of agriculture and such crops as tobacco, both flue-cured and dark, peanuts, corn, soybeans, cotton and small grains are produced. In recent years there has been an increase in livestock production but tobacco is still the leading cash crop produced in the county.

The trend in crop and livestock production in county is changing. The crop acreage for most crops decreased due to controls on some crops, larger yields per acre and the decrease in farm labor working full time on the farms.

According to the population census, there are one thousand eight-hundred twenty-five (1,825) families in the county. Of this number there are seven hundred eighty seven (787) full time farm operators. The rest are part-time and non farm families living in the county.

As can be noted from previous statements a number of people living in the county must seek employment other than farm work. The majority of these people are employed

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# ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

### *Virginia Agricultural Extension Service*

S. J. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**

Local Farm \_\_\_\_\_ **Agent**  
**Title**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Assistant Agent**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Assistant Agent**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Assistant Agent**



1960

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Director**  
**County**